

Councillor SANDRA YEUNG Racco Annual Report

Greetings

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Dear Friends:

Thank you for giving me the privilege to represent you at the City of Vaughan. I am both humbled and honoured to serve you and to fight for our community. It is my husband, Mario G. Racco's, effort, commitment and loyalty to his constituents that have inspired me to continue the improvement that he has brought to Thornhill/Concord at every opportunity possible and to provide the stability that we have enjoyed in the past.

Thornhill/Concord has seen many positive additions over the years, with many parks, sports facilities, community centers, entertainment and shopping facilities and other city services; all of which are tremendous assets for us.

While our community is a comfortable one, there are still many challenges ahead of us, such as solutions to gridlock, public transit, ensuring the best level of municipal services for our residents, all the while, keeping a hold on taxes.

My exposure to the inner workings of the City of Vaughan, its residents, staff and issues, gives me an edge to represent your interests at the municipality.

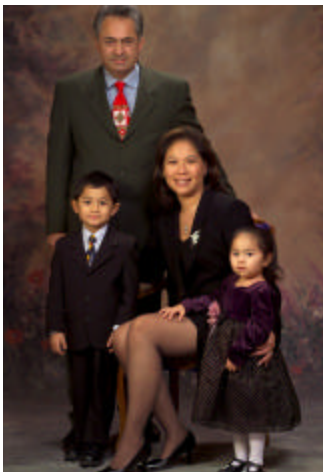
I promise to continue to provide the high level of services, which we have enjoyed in Thornhill/Concord, and to put the best interests of my constituents at the forefront, and to keep moving forward to enhance the quality of life for everyone in Thornhill/Concord and the City of Vaughan.

Best wishes,

Your Councillor



Sandra Yeung Racco

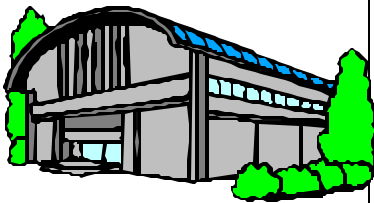


Mario, Alexanderr, Katrina &
Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco



Councillor
Sandra Yeung Racco

For the Community



Concord/Thornhill Sports Park

The community helped in the official opening of the City of Vaughan's Sports Park, located at Racco Parkway and Dufferin Street, at the beginning of Summer 2003. While we are all very proud of it, we are still performing additional work, including installing a children's water play area, washrooms and a concession booth. Work for all of these items is expected to begin in the spring. As well, there is still on-going discussion about an indoor sports facility which would make the park an even greater asset to our community.

Future Community Centre

We are currently looking at building a new community centre in Block 10 at Dufferin Street, between Hwy. 7 and Rutherford Road. The objective is to have a community centre centrally located to the people, the schools and to outdoor sport facilities for everyone to enjoy.

A public meeting on the issue took place back in September 24, 2002 and a second meeting took place on Thursday, September 25, 2003. The City has approved funding for consultants to prepare a design concept. This project is paid for with lot levy money that is collected from new construction in the City. The City has/will collect \$22 million for the community centre with an anticipated construction start in 2004.

Park Improvements

We are constantly making improvements to city parks so that we can respond better to the needs of our residents and to add to our community's worth and beauty. Newer sub-divisions have also seen new parks built for their residents. If you need more information about the facilities in your specific area, please contact me at (905) 832-8585 Ext. 8342 or the City of Vaughan Parks & Recreation department at (905) 832-8500.

Centre Street Study

I am very pleased to announce that the City of Vaughan is preparing the Thornhill Centre Street Land Use Study. The purpose of the study is to provide an appropriate and up-to-date Planning and Urban Design Vision and Policy Framework to guide development in the corridor of Centre Street located between Dufferin and Bathurst Streets. This is due to recent requests for changes that, in my opinion, are not acceptable.

I attended a meeting held on January 14, 2004 to listen to issues and concerns from residents, as well as landowners, business owners and other stakeholders, regarding the Centre Street Study lands. We will continue to meet with stakeholders to develop a future planning and urban design vision for Centre Street. Another Public Open House will be held in April to display the planning ideas and listen to the feedback and comments of residents.

I look forward to sharing my ideas for Centre Street with all of you and to listen to your comments as well.

Public Open House

for the

Centre Street Study

Thursday,

April 22, 2004

7-9:00 pm

Rosemount C.C.

1000 New Westminster Drive



Councillor
Sandra Yeung Racco

For the Community



Spadina York Subway Extension

Gridlock remains the top issue across the City of Vaughan and York Region.

Continuing the effort my husband had started, I have been appointed to the Spadina-York Subway Extension Committee in January. I believe the extension of the Spadina subway line up to Steeles Avenue and north into Vaughan will eliminate a large number of vehicles off of our overloaded roads and alleviate some relief for the motorists along the major arterials. Bringing a subway line up to Vaughan will be, in my opinion, a major economic benefit and the solution to gridlock.

As a community, we must work together and communicate to the elected officials of the three levels of government the importance of this subway extension and to make them realized that our tax dollars must be spent with our future in mind.

If you would like more information on the Committee's plans or have comments regarding this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 905-832-8585, ext. 8342.

Interesting Statistics

The York Region Planning Department just released the latest statistics on the population estimate as of December 31, 2003.

Municipality	Population July 1, 2001	Population Dec. 31, 2003	Percentage Increase
Aurora	42,235	45,415	7.5%
East Gwillimbury	21,512	21,909	1.8%
Georgina	41,585	43,927	5.6%
King	19,302	19,973	3.5%
Markham	220,545	248,443	12.6%
Newmarket	69,164	73,725	6.6%
Richmond Hill	139,993	158,536	13.2%
Vaughan	193,509	230,488	19.1%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	23,213	24,417	5.2%
York Region	771,057	866,833	12.4%

New Civic Centre

The City of Vaughan has been conducting a selection process for the design of the proposed new Civic Centre. In the Fall of 2003, Council requested a short list of four architectural firms to submit designs for a new Civic Centre. The design was to include a provision for municipal use, a resource library and an administrative head office space for Hydro Vaughan.

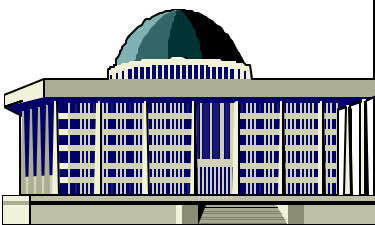
All four designs were submitted anonymously, and after a 3-day deliberation by a Jury composed of the Mayor, three Regional Councillors, the City Manager and three representatives from the Architectural profession, a recommendation was made to the Committee of the Whole. On Tuesday, February 3, 2004, a special Committee of the Whole public meeting was held in order to present the staff report and to consider recommendations from the public. On Monday, February 9, 2004, the Council ratified the Committee's recommendation.

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WINTER MAINTENANCE

*For updates on the City's
Snow Clearing operations
during a storm, please call
905-879-SNOW*

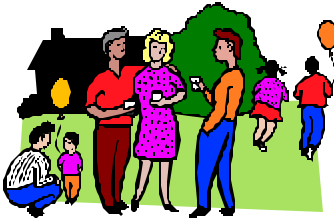
*For snow clearing
information, please check
our FROSTY FACTS section
at www.vaughan.ca*





Councillor
Sandra Yeung Racco

For the Community



Ratepayers' Associations

The area I represent currently has four ratepayers' associations registered with the City:

- ◆ Beverly Glen Ratepayers' Association—Maxim Zavet, President
- ◆ Brownridge Ratepayers' Association—Aurelia DeLara, Acting President
- ◆ Concord Ratepayers' Association—Cathy Ferlisi, President
- ◆ Glen Shields Ratepayers' Association—Gino Muia, President

The associations help keep me up to date on matters pertaining to their respective communities and our City as a whole. They are comprised of neighbours who volunteer their time to update the community and the politicians on matters that may be important to you. They host meetings to discuss community issues and act as a liaison between the elected politicians and the community.

I am very pleased with the co-operations I have experienced with the ratepayers' associations. If you wish to contact your respective association, you may obtain information through the Clerks Department at the City of Vaughan at (905) 832-8504 or via my office at (905) 832-8585 Ext. 8342.

New Civic Centre (cont'd from p. 3)

There is still much work to be done between the selected Architect and the City of Vaughan before the finalization of the project. The cost and where the money will be coming from is still a very important factor to me. If you need additional information, please visit our website at www.vaughan.ca.

Who to Contact



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Sandra Yeung
RACCO**

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Vaughan, Ontario
L6A 1T1

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Ext. 8342

Fax: (905) 832-8578

E-mail:
Sandra.Racco@vaughan.ca

Contacting the City of Vaughan

Main Switchboard (905) 832-2281

By-Law Dept.	(905) 832-8505
Clerks Dept.	(905) 832-8504
Engineering Dept.	(905) 832-8525
Fire Inquiries	(905) 832-8506
Licensing Dept.	(905) 832-8504
Meeting Information	(905) 832-8600
Parks Development	(905) 303-2069
Public Works Dept.	(905) 832-8562
Recreation Dept.	(905) 832-8500
Snow Hotline	(905) 879-snow
Tax Dept.	(905) 832-8502
Vaughan Hydro	(905) 832-8533
Waste Collection	(905) 832-8562
York Region Transit	(905) 762-2100

Useful Telephone Numbers

Emergency	911
Animal Control	(416) 213-7176
Canada Post	(800) 267-1177
Ministry of Environment	(800) 376-4547
Ontario New Home Warranty Program	(800) 263-1299
Police (Non-emergency)	(905) 881-1221
York Central Hospital	(905) 883-1212

For more
information, please
visit vaughan.ca