



Greening Vaughan has taken off -- YOU are doing great!

This summer Greening Vaughan students are travelling around the city educating residents about our waste management program and informing everyone of Phase Three, scheduled to begin this September. As the students do their education job they are also keeping track, on a house by house basis, what is taking place. Their findings are beyond expectations. It is important to remember that Greening Vaughan only began two years ago. At that time there was no green bin and we were only recycling somewhere around 19% of our waste in the City.

As we enter our next phase -- based upon 2000 plus residences visited:

86 - 88 percent of all homes are using a blue box

67 - 68 percent of all homes are using a green bin

On average households are putting out 1.8 items for garbage

Congratulations to all !!

The Vaughan Building Boom Continues

Last year Vaughan set a record with over \$1.3 billion in construction taking place. This year it looks like we are once again going to set a record. As of June 30, based upon building permits that we have issued, we are at \$823 million. Last year, at the same date the value of the permits issued was \$509 million. Over \$551 million of this activity is residential in nature, but all sectors are showing increases.

Taxes, Taxes

Nobody loves taxes, least of all municipal councillors who have to make decisions that often impose tax increases on residents. Over the course of the year, as we work through our budget process, every effort is made to hold the line without compromising our services. We recently received a listing of the tax rates for 26 GTA municipalities. **Based upon our 2007 tax rate Vaughan is ranked as having the second lowest rate** after Milton at .255117%. The highest single tier tax rate is Oshawa at .700358%. Markham is ranked 3rd and Richmond Hill, 4th.

Web Links

[City of Vaughan](#)

[RoadWatch](#)

[York Region Police](#)

[YRT](#)

[Greening Vaughan](#)

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Upcoming Meetings:

Committee of the Whole

September 4, 2007

Council September 10, 2007

Committee of the Whole

September 17, 2007

Council | September 24, 2007

So What Does a Muncipal Councillor do in the Summer?

Council does not hold regular, scheduled meetings during July and August. It is felt that holding meetings when many people are on holiday would compromise our ability to receive input on the issues before us. Instead, members of council do a variety of things during our hiatus.

Of course there still are meetings. There are always meetings!! These meetings include immediate issues that just can't wait, such as the Vaughan Community Health Centre and planning for Communities in Bloom. As well there are great opportunities to meet with community groups and individuals who have issues to discuss.

Summer is also a time to step back and review what has been going on over the last number of months and plan for the upcoming year. It is a time for both reviewing and recharging.

Road Improvements

Residents living around the Mullen and Conley areas will be pleased to know that the roads in their neighbourhoods will be getting a range of improvements over the next few months. Not only will the roads be resurfaced, but curbs will be rebuilt where required and drainage will be improved. While everyone sees the resurfaced roads as a big improvement, the upgrading of our drainage system is just as important at the improvements will help guard against future flooding in a major storm event.

Ward 5 BBQ - Summer Fun!

On July 10 the first annual Councillor Alan Shefman community BBQ was held at York Hill Park in conjunction with a City Concert in the Park. From all reports, everyone who attended had a great time with free hot dogs, ice cream, face painting and displays by our fire department, York Region Police and Greening Vaughan. On top of all that there were door prizes and an opportunity to meet some of your neighbours. Both Member of Parliament Susan Kadis and Member of the Provincial Parliament Mario Racco attended allowing residents to meet and talk with representatives from all three levels of government.



Tell everybody about the NEW!!! W5Update!!!

We want to be able to let more Ward 5 residents know about what's going on in their neighbourhood and across the city. Please forward your copy of W5Update to your friends, or, if you prefer, send us their email address and we will send them a copy for their consideration.

Missed an edition of W5Update? View current and past editions and sign up for W5Update on the Vaughan website <http://tinyurl.com/295ybc>

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