



**Welcome to the BRAND NEW!!, much better looking  
and very latest version of the W5UPDATE!!**

**W5UPDATE is the electronic newsletter about Ward 5  
and the City of Vaughan!**

In this much improved newsletter you will see a new masthead (look up!) and all the important numbers and emails are now on the right (look to the right). You will also find a new place to go if you want to change your subscription or, better yet, want to sign up to receive W5UPDATE on a regular basis (look at the end). Please let us know what you think by writing us at: [W5.eneews@vaughan.ca](mailto:W5.eneews@vaughan.ca)

We try to be leaders on new initiatives at the City in my office and this newsletter is just such an item. The City is planning to coordinate all of its bulletins and newsletters in a similar format with a common access point to subscribe based on the success of W5UPDATE. Stay tuned and we will let you know how things are progressing in the fall.



Councillor Alan Shefman with performers attending the Phillipine Independence Day Celebration at City Hall on June 9, 2007

## **WARD 5 Community BBQ**

**July 10 - 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

Come have a hot dog (Kosher available) with your neighbours and I and then stay and enjoy a concert in the park.

On July 10, I we will be having a community BBQ in York Hill Park,

### **Web Links**

[City of Vaughan](#)

[RoadWatch](#)

[York Region Police](#)

[YRT](#)

[Greening Vaughan](#)

### **CONTACT MY OFFICE**

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behind Garnet Williams Community Centre on Clark Ave. The BBQ will begin around 6:00 PM and end just before the **City of Vaughan Concert in the Park** at 7:30 PM

We are planning to have entertainment and displays by Greening Vaughan, Vaughan Fire Department and York Region Police. There will be giveaways, free ice cream for the first 500 people, face painting for the children and a raffle for gift certificates to the Promenade.

Look forward to saying hello on July 10!

### **A Second Vaughan Subway Being Planned!! City Supports Province's Rapid Transit Initiative**

On June 15, 2007, the government of Ontario announced its plan to expand rapid transit service across the Greater Toronto Area. The MoveOntario 2020 plan calls for \$17.5 billion in funding to complete 52 rapid transit initiatives over the next 12 years. Several projects included in the plan will provide improved public transit services in Vaughan. What is so important about this announcement is that it takes a long term approach to transit in the GTA.

One of the most exciting initiatives that was included, relevant to residents of Thornhill, is the extension of the Yonge subway line north from Finch station along Yonge Street to Highway 7. While few of the details are known at this time, this plan could result in a subway in our neighbourhood within the next 10 years.

### **Integrity Commissioner For Vaughan Approved**

Once again the City of Vaughan is taking a leadership position in the province by being one of the first municipalities to approve the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner. The Commissioner, who will be working on a part-time basis, will be responsible for ensuring that the City's Code of Conduct concerning elected officials is being practiced. This position will have four distinct functions: advisory, complaint investigation, complaint adjudication and education. It is expected that the position will be filled in the fall.

Another measure that Council has approved is to establish an Accountability and Transparency Committee. This Committee will be composed of Councillors and members of the public -- I have been appointed as one of the two Councillors along with the Mayor. This Committee will be responsible for hiring the Integrity Commissioner and establish the appropriate policies and procedures to support the highest level of integrity possible in our City.

### **City of Vaughan 2007 Budget**

Vaughan Council approved the City's 2007 Operating and Capital budgets in mid-June. This budget was delayed as a result of the election last fall and the public consultation process that took place in the Spring. The Budget provides funding for additional parkland, recreation facilities, the preservation of heritage areas, and expanded environmental programs. The budget includes the development of more

than 21 hectares of parkland, construction of the North Thornhill Community Centre, a heritage conservation district for Woodbridge, and the full implementation of the Green Bin organic recycling initiative. Council approved \$176.6 million in operating costs and \$69.5 million in capital projects. The residential tax increase contained in the City's 2007 budget is 4.43 per cent, which equates to approximately \$10 for every \$100,000 in a property's assessed value. The average residential property in Vaughan assessed at \$412,070 will have an approximate tax increase of \$44.64.

When you get your tax bill, it is important to note that seventy-five per cent of your total taxes that the City collects are collected on behalf of the Region of York and for education purposes. Only 25 per cent is under the control of the City of Vaughan and is used to provide services such as fire and rescue, road maintenance, snow removal, waste collection, recreation and other services.

### **Vaughan Approves Bylaw Protecting Trees on Private Property.**

Vaughan Council has passed a bylaw prohibiting the removal of trees from private property without a permit. The bylaw applies to any tree more than 20 centimetres in diameter on properties up to half a hectare in size. The removal of any tree more than 20 centimetres in diameter requires a City permit. The permit application process will be posted to the City's website and a public education program will emphasize the importance of protecting trees and the benefits they provide. Contravention of the bylaw by individuals can result in a fine of up to \$10,000 for a first offence. A subsequent conviction can carry a fine of not more than \$25,000. Any corporation convicted of a first-time offence can face a maximum fine of \$50,000. A further conviction can carry a fine of up to \$100,000.

#### **Tell everybody about the NEW!!! W5Update!!!**

We want to be able to tell 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>

