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PASSOVER AND EASTER



In the next few weeks many residents will be celebrating important holidays. Both Passover and Easter often involve large family gatherings. While of course these events are wonderful times for people to get together, they also result in some challenges in the new era where we are trying to divert as much garbage from landfill to recycling/compost. If you haven't been using your Green bin for organic waste, this is the time to try it out. Here are some tips:

1. Use either small kitchen sized plastic bags or one large garbage bag lining the green bin – but don't use both! (and while you are at it, why not buy biodegradable kitchen size bags for your Green bin material – I bought them at Costco)
2. All kitchen waste, from lettuce to chicken bones to paper towel can be placed in the Green Bin
3. Lots of bathroom waste such as diapers and tissue can be disposed of in the Green Bin
4. Shredded paper can be placed in your Green Bin – Shredded paper is a major problem in the Blue Box, but can be diverted from landfill by putting into your Green Bin.

The Ward 5 team – Alan and Debi wish everyone a wonderful holiday!

Web Links

City of Vaughan - www.vaughan.ca

York Region Police - www.yrp.ca

www.yorkregiontransit.com

www.greeningvaughan.ca

ROADWATCH

<http://city.vaughan.on.ca/community/CitizenReportForm.cfm>

Have you ever called Access Vaughan?

Do you want to report a malfunctioning street light? Have you got a brilliant idea about a city service that you want to talk to someone about? Not sure about a city service? While you can always call my office, Vaughan has set up and is carefully implementing a central number, staffed by experts who can answer the toughest questions you pose to them.

The City of Vaughan has established a central information service to make it easier for residents to interact with the city. If you call **905-832-2281** You will be able to either have your issue dealt with immediately by the person you talk to, or will be transferred to one of our departments that can help you out. Next time you have an issue, call Access Vaughan.

So what does a Vaughan City Councillor do? #3 (*An ongoing series*)



So far we have talked about the first level committee responsibilities of a municipal councillor – if you missed these exciting!!?? stories then go to <http://tinyurl.com/295ybc> where you can see the earlier editions of W5Update with those articles.

So what does a municipal councillor do in his or her “spare time!” between Council and Council Committee meetings? Well, very often, you go to other meetings. At present I sit on 16 committees or boards. That doesn’t include the various public meetings that are held from time to time to allow community members to comment on city initiatives. At present there are three public consultations taking place; the Thornhill Drainage Study, the Thornhill Historic District Review and the 2007 Budget. Each of these issues involves at least two or more public meetings.

The 16 committees vary in their demands from regular monthly meetings of the Vaughan Public Library Board to occasional meetings of some of the others. The types of committees and boards also vary from very formal Board of Directors procedures for the City’s corporations such as Hydro Vaughan Energy Corporation to

much more informal community advisory committees such as the Greening Vaughan Advisory Committee. A complete list of the committees that I sit on can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/yrs5gn>,

The Budget Committee is one of the most important committees that I sit on. This committee is composed of the five Ward Councillors and the Mayor. It meets regularly over a number of months to consider the budgetary proposals put forward by staff. Ultimately, based upon its deliberations, this committee advises Council on what the City budget should be which then results in the Vaughan portion (about 25%) of your property taxes.

The Greening Vaughan Advisory Committee is composed of staff, Councillors and members of the public. It was established in 2006 as a result of our Greening Vaughan initiative to provide guidance to the City on the three year program to stream household waste from the garbage/landfill stream to recycling. It meets every six weeks or so to consider progress of the program and to dialogue with staff about the key issues that have arisen. It is scheduled to disband at the conclusion of the current program.

Stay tuned for the next exciting instalment of [So what does a Vaughan City Councillor do?](#)

Upcoming Meetings & Important Dates

March 28 – Budget Public Consultation Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Al Palladini Community Centre

April 2 – Passover begins (First Seder)
City Council Meeting 1:00 p.m.

April 6 – Good Friday,

April 9 – Easter Monday

April 11 – Budget Public Consultation Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Civic Centre

April 16
Committee of the Whole Meeting 1:00
Committee of the Whole Public Hearing 7:00

April 20 – 20 Minute Makeover

The 20-Minute Vaughan Makeover is back again this year and it's time to do your part! The Mayor and members of Council are asking all residents to stop what you're doing on Friday, April 20 at 2 p.m. and do a 20-minute clean-up blitz outside your office, school or in your neighbourhood. Participating in the 20-Minute Vaughan Makeover is a

great way to celebrate Earth Day, April 22. How do I participate in the 20-Minute Vaughan Makeover? Please check our city website in April for information.

April 23 – City Council Meeting, 1:00 p.m.

April 25 – Thornhill Heritage District Study Meeting
7:00 – 9:00
Thornhill Public School Library

April 26 - Ecopark Planting – Earth Week
Langstaff EcoPark
(park at Langstaff Soccer Fields, south side of Langstaff just east of Keele) – 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PASS IT ON!!

Tell everybody about W5Update!!

Do you know anyone in Ward 5 who is NOT getting the UPDATE – they should!!

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>

AND

All of Councillor Shefman's newsletters can be downloaded in PDF format from the Gallanough Resource Centre's web site at: www.gallanough.com.