

## Special Development Services Committee Minutes

**Meeting Number: 3**  
**January 16, 2023, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**  
**Live streamed**

Roll Call	Mayor Frank Scarpitti Deputy Mayor Michael Chan Regional Councillor Jim Jones Regional Councillor Joe Li Regional Councillor Alan Ho Councillor Keith Irish	Councillor Ritch Lau Councillor Reid McAlpine Councillor Karen Rea Councillor Amanda Collucci Councillor Isa Lee
Regrets	Councillor Andrew Keyes	
Staff	Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer Arvin Prasad, Commissioner, Development Services Adam Grant, Fire Chief Bryan Frois, Manager of Executive Operations & Strategic Initiatives Giulio Cescato, Director of Planning & Urban Design Michael Toshakovski, Deputy City Solicitor Renee Zhang, Event Coordinator Mislat Balogun, Senior Business Development Officer Tiffany Mak, Manager, Manager, Markham Small Business Centre	Joshua Mak, Economic Development Coordinator Huyen Hare, Senior Business Development Officer Erica Alligood, Election and Committee Coordinator Chris Rickett, Director, Economic Development, Culture and Entrepreneurship Rajeeth Arulanantham, Assistant to Council/Committee Niamh O'Laoghaire, Manager, Art Gallery Andrew Rosenfarb, Manager, Facility Production Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator

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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Special Development Services Committee convened at 1:07 PM with Mayor Frank Scarpitti in the Chair.

## **INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We begin today by acknowledging the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples and their commitment to stewardship of the land. We acknowledge the communities in circle. The North, West, South and Eastern directions, and Haudenosaunee, Huron- Wendat, Anishnabeg, Seneca, Chippewa, and the Mississaugas of the Credit peoples. We share the responsibility with the caretakers of this land to ensure the dish is never empty and to restore relationships that are based on peace, friendship, and trust. We are committed to reconciliation, partnership and enhanced understanding.

## **2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

## **3. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no written submissions.

## **4. PRESENTATION**

### **4.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE STRATEGIC PLANNING EXERCISE (10.16)**

Arvin Prasad, Commissioner, Development Services, briefly introduced Giulio Cescato, the new Director of Planning and Urban Design, advising that a more comprehensive introduction will be provided at tomorrow's Development Services Committee meeting.

Mr. Prasad advised that the City of Markham is currently undertaking the development of a new five-year Economic Development and Culture Strategy, and that this will be a strategic planning exercise to share economic and cultural insights into Markham and identify potential priorities that could be integrated into the strategy.

Chris Rickett, Director, Economic Development, Culture and Entrepreneurship, introduced the Economic Development and Culture Staff and spoke of the uniqueness of and importance of integrating Markham's Economic Development and Culture Strategy, as art and culture play a key role in attracting investment and talent to Markham.

Mr. Rickett provided a presentation titled "Economic Development and Culture Strategy Workshop". Mr. Rickett presented the Departmental Overview and Update.

Committee discussed the following relative to the staff presentation:

- The programs the Markham Campus of York University will offer, including the possibility of it having health related programs in the future;
- Markham's semiconductor and tech industry and the role ventureLAB has played in building a semiconductor supply chain in Canada;
- The role Markham could play in the renewable energy industry and how semiconductors play a role in this industry.

Paul Blais, Managing Director, and Evelyn Paul, Manager, Deloitte LLP, conducted the Economic and Development and Culture Strategy Workshop. They asked the Committee four questions to obtain Members of Council's input on what they think should be prioritized in the new Economic Development and Culture Strategy. Members of Council and Staff provided their input on a virtual whiteboard.

The Committee requested that Staff summarize the feedback received from today's session and email it to Members of Council.

Mr. Rickett advised that staff will report back at a future Development Services Committee on the feedback from the consultation sessions that will be undertaken on the new Economic Development and Culture Study.

Moved by Regional Councillor Alan Ho  
Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci

1. That the Economic Development and Culture Strategic Planning Exercise presentation be received.

**Carried**

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Ritch Lau  
Seconded by Councillor Isa Lee

That the Special Development Services Committee adjourn at 2:39 PM.

**Carried**