



**CITY OF MARKHAM  
CULTURE POLICY & PLAN  
2012**

## **Presentation of Final Draft of Culture Plan**

- In June 2012 an overview of the culture plan was presented to Council.
- The building a Creative Markham Advisory Committee was consulted in October.
- George Brown College's Institute without Boundaries was engaged to do the edit, design and layout.

# Cultural Assets



## The Heritage Numbers



- 33% of Markham land area is natural heritage.
- 1613 private designated structures.
- 24 city owned buildings.
- 4 plaques.
- 4 districts.
- 37 historic cemeteries.

# Culture and Creative Industries Numbers

## Creative Activity

- 141 Musical groups, and artists, visual, crafts, writers;
- 14 festivals over 5000 attendance;
- 100 cultural, social and civic organizations with cultural purpose or activity;

## Creative Businesses

- 193 Architectural, engineering, design, research;
  - 203 Computer and related design 203;
  - 18 research;
  - 41 Music and dance schools;
- Over 12,000 employment.



# The Challenge

## MARKHAM'S GROWTH FORECASTS

**50%** OF THE GROWTH WILL BE IN  
HIGHER DENSITY BUILDINGS

Single  
Semi/City/house  
Apartment

2009



2031



# A Cultural Policy for the City of Markham

Culture is a vital part of a vibrant and liveable community. Creative expression in its many forms is core to both our individual and collective identity. Cultural participants, audience members, volunteers, artists and practitioners all contribute to the economic and social health of our community.

As the City of Markham grows, so do the expectations of its citizens for access to quality cultural programming, products, facilities, and for opportunities for personal cultural expression. The City of Markham manages significant cultural assets and provides an array of programming for its citizens and visitors. The long-term strategic development and management of Markham's civic cultural assets and the fostering of community-based cultural assets is crucial to the City's future development and its success as a welcoming, liveable and prosperous place for all. Culture is linked, both socially and economically, to the broad policy directions for Markham as a globally competitive, sustainable and creative community.

## **Vision**

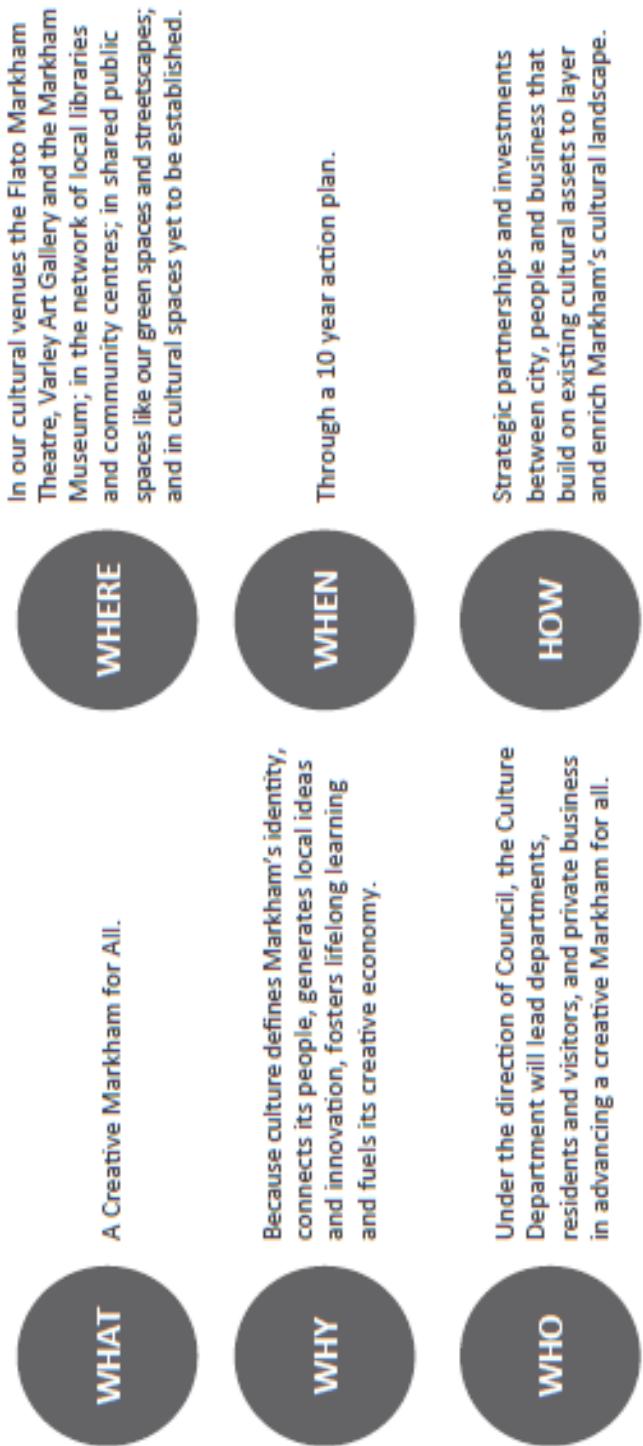
A Creative Markham For All.

## **Mandate**

To enhance and promote artistic and cultural expressions, to share diverse experiences and to engage people through culture.

## **A Creative Markham For All**

- A city where creative expression is valued, welcome and shared.
- A city where all citizens have an opportunity to participate as audience, creator, consumer or patron.
- A city that makes places together and experiences creativity synonymous with its growth.
- A city that brings people together to define their neighbourhoods and to build resilient and engaged communities.
- A city that embeds creativity and lifelong learning into its identity.
- A city with global connections that stimulate the creation of new ideas that contribute to long-term economic stability.
- A city with strong cultural assets that act as focal points for innovation and invention.
- A city that attracts the brightest and best using its global connections and supportive entrepreneurial environment.



# MARKHAM CULTURE PLAN: AT A GLANCE



Defining Markham's Identity through Arts & Culture



Generating Ideas & Innovation in Markham



Connecting Markham's Communities through Cultural Activities



Building a Cultural Foundation for Lifelong Learning in Markham



Using Arts & Culture to Create Economic Growth



Partnering to Build a Strong Cultural Core for Markham

Flato  
Markham Theatre   Varley Art Gallery   Markham Museum   Libraries &  
Community Centres   Greenspaces &  
Streetscapes   Festivals & Events   Heritage



## **67 Actions**

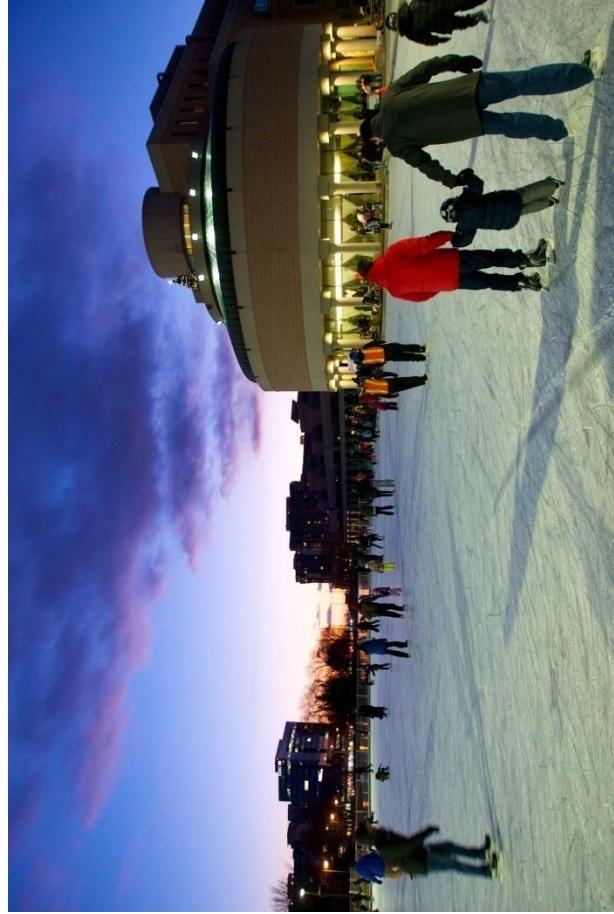
- **51 % for integrated planning i.e. the way we do business.**
- **22 % for cultural engagement and outreach.**
- **27 % for sustaining cultural services in a growth environment.**



# Defining Markham Strategy

## Key Actions

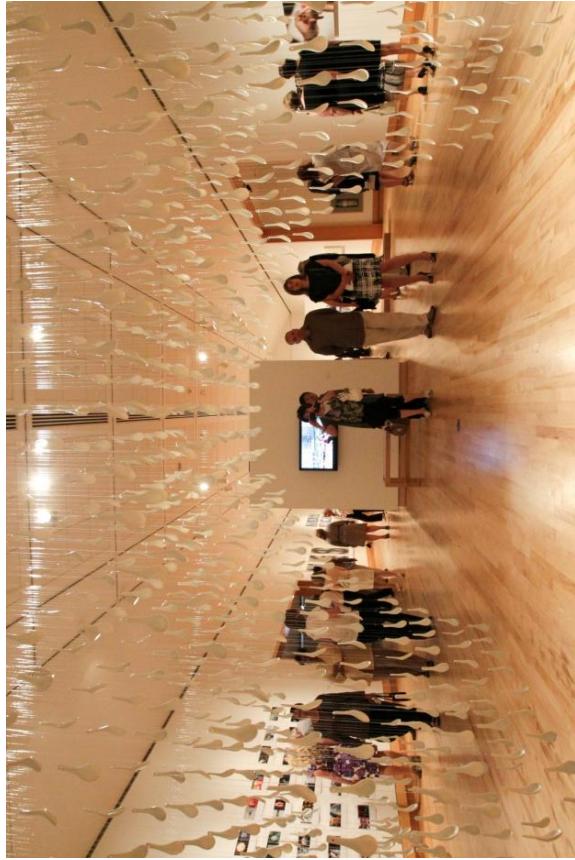
- Community activity in public spaces.
- Public realm policy.
- Implementing public art policy.
- Cultural density.
- Adaptive re-use of heritage.



# Generating Ideas and Innovation Strategy

## Key Actions

- Cultural content development and presentation of content.
- Capacity to distribute content.
- OP inclusion of culture.
- Entrepreneurial friendly - zoning and permitted uses.
- Current technology for access to content.



# Connecting People and Ideas Strategy

## Key Actions

- Preliminary investigations on larger theatre and community centre consultation.
- Pan Am.
- New Canadians access.
- Cultural mapping.



# Contributing to Lifelong Learning Strategy

## Key Actions

- Incorporate life long learning into municipal processes and decisions.
- Build capacity and expand outreach services and programs.
- Collaborations with business and post secondary for mentoring, post secondary resources, community and health services.



# Create Economic Growth Strategy

## Key Actions

- Strategies to attract and retain young people and entrepreneurs.
- Film and media friendly.
- Support cultural tourism initiatives.



MY Community

# Partnership Strategy

## Key Actions

- Work with private sector to expand cultural space options.
- Attracting professional arts to Markham.
- Core fund the Markham Arts Council.
- Celebrate cultural achievement.



# Measurement

- Province wide study – we were one of five partners to develop metrics for culture planning in Ontario.
- Regular community input.
- Annual report on results as noted on next slide.



## Key Metrics

- Community and program participation rates.
- Volunteerism.
- Public art installations.
- Mapping: Benchmarked organizations , business, occupations and festivals and events.
- Integrated planning with Development Services formalized.
- Input output metrics KPI's cost per resident, budget targets, project completion.
- Outcome measurement study and implementation to align with new trend in social services and cultural funders.
- Database analysis –look for indicators without spending e.g. Living in York Region annual report.
- Expanded surveying and continuous feedback mechanisms in portal for business units and department.

## Tools for Change



- Use all the municipal tools available e.g. Section 37.
- Advocate for Development Charges to include culture to keep pace with growth.
- Solving space needs model.

## Financial Implications

- 2013 no budget allocation to the Plan.
- 2014 -2016 – Pending Council review and approval:
  - Studies, outreach coordinator position, part time support , sustainable Markham Arts Council.
  - Projected \$139,000 operating by 2016.
  - Projected studies \$150,000 by 2016.



## What does success look like?

- Sustainable cultural services growing with Markham.
- Engaged and participating community through education and outreach.
- Integrated planning- culture input in decision making.

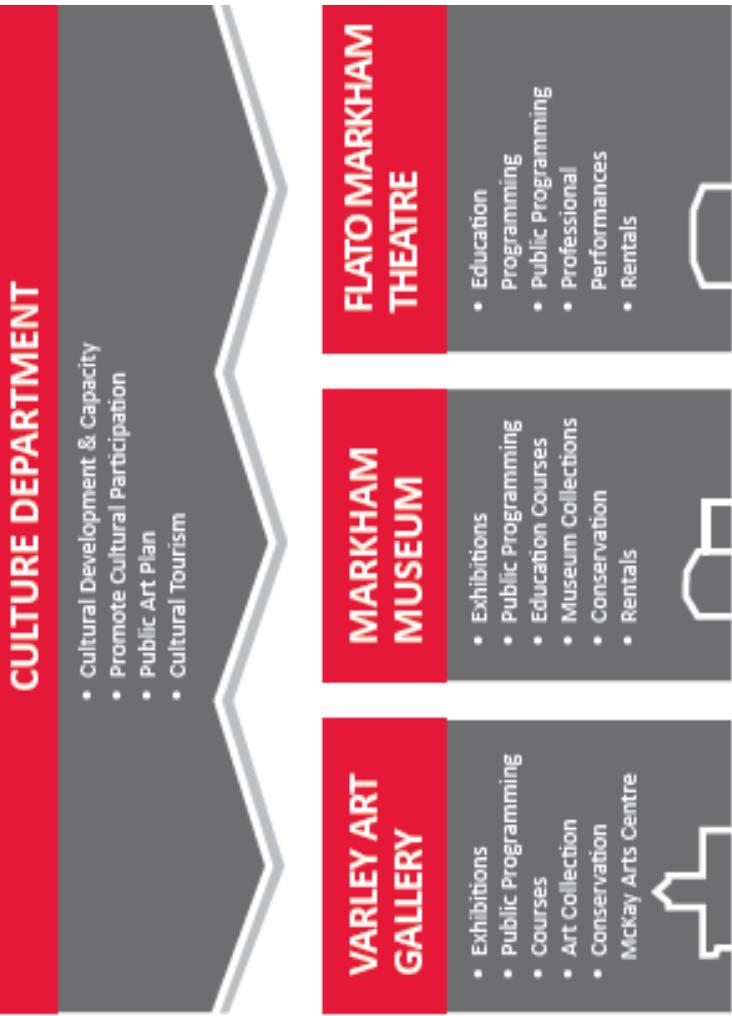


A **CREATIVE CITY FOR ALL**

# ROLE OF THE CULTURE DEPARTMENT

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The implementation of cultural priorities is primarily led by the Culture Department.



## Next Steps

- Council approval December 18, 2012.
- Community outreach to inform the implementation plan Feb to April 2013.
- Report to Council May 2013 on the implementation plan.
- Launch of the Cultural Plan and celebration - date to be determined.

