



Inaugural Council Meeting

Minutes

C#35-22

**Monday, November 21, 2022, 7:30 p.m.
Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
10268 Yonge Street
Richmond Hill, Ontario**

The Inaugural Meeting of the Council of the City of Richmond Hill for the term of office November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2026 was held on Monday, November 23, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, Richmond Hill.

Council Members Present:

- Mayor West
- Regional and Local Councillor Chan
- Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola
- Councillor Davidson
- Councillor Thompson
- Councillor Liu
- Councillor Cui
- Councillor Cilevitz
- Councillor Shiu

Council processional was led by Piper Jeff Capp of the Richmond Hill Centennial Pipe Band and members of the Richmond Hill Fire and Emergency Services Honour Guard.

1) Call to Order

Stephen Huycke, City Clerk, called the Inaugural Meeting of the 2022 to 2026 Council of the City of Richmond Hill to order.

S. Huycke welcomed everyone in attendance and the public watching online, and introduced and extended congratulations to the Council Elect of the City of Richmond Hill for the 2022 to 2026 term.

S. Huycke welcomed and acknowledged various persons in attendance.

2) National Anthem

Vanessa Wang performed the National Anthem.

3) Declarations of Office

His Worship James Ecker, Justice of the Peace, administered the Declarations of Office to Mayor West, Regional and Local Councillor Chan, Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola, Councillor Davidson, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Liu, Councillor Cui, Councillor Cilevitz and Councillor Shiu.

4) Presentation of the Chain of Office

Stephen Huycke, City Clerk, extended congratulations to each Member of the 2022 to 2026 City of Richmond Hill Council, and presented the Mayor with the Chain of Office.

5) Mayor's Inaugural Address

Mayor West welcomed all those in attendance and acknowledged the importance of bringing the community together to the social health of the community and to himself as an elected official.

Mayor West, on behalf of the returning councillors, welcomed the new members of Council, noting that he looked forward to working together to create a better future and to make the community the very best it could be. Mayor West acknowledged the growth of the community and the benefits and challenges that it will bring, and that he looked forward to working collaboratively with Council. Mayor West recognized the implementation of several City policy documents during the last term of Council, highlighted the upcoming plans and policies that the new Council will pass and noted the importance of those plans in improving the quality of life of Richmond Hill residents.

Mayor West acknowledged the help and support of his campaign team and volunteers, and thanked the voters, and his family for their continued support. He also extended his gratitude and noted the importance of those in attendance, and welcomed everyone to visit in Council Chambers during the next four years

Mayor West advised that Council would be signing the first ever Richmond Hill Council Pledge, which was intended to express Council's commitment to residents, staff, and to Council itself, that supports a positive path forward for Richmond Hill.

Mayor West remarked that the next four years was a journey with bumps along the way and that the first step on the journey began this evening.

6) Richmond Hill Council Pledge

Mayor West introduced the historic Richmond Hill Council Pledge

Moved: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Chan

That Council adopt and sign the following Richmond Hill Council Pledge:

We recognize the honour and privilege bestowed upon us by our residents to represent our community as Members of Richmond Hill Council. We acknowledge we are but momentary caretakers in our city's ongoing history and that our actions, words and decisions have an impact. We understand we must work constructively and collaboratively to improve the quality of life of all those who call Richmond Hill home.

From this day forward, we pledge to:

- Represent Richmond Hill with pride
- Treat each other, City staff and all those who come before us, with respect and dignity
- Abide by the Code of Conduct and all policies that apply to Members of Council
- Promote inclusion, compassion and the acceptance of diverse voices
- Encourage meaningful connection and engagement with all citizens
- Strive to leave our city better than it was when we took office – environmentally, culturally, economically and socially
- Govern to the best of our ability, with transparency, responsibility and accountability
- Demonstrate behaviour consistent with the City's core values of care, collaboration, courage and service
- Cultivate confidence and trust in municipal government
- Encourage innovation and progress, while honouring history and heritage

By signing this Pledge, we, the elected Members of Council, vow to uphold this commitment to our community and to each other so we can work collectively to build a vibrant, prosperous Richmond Hill – one we can all be proud of today and for generations to come.

Carried Unanimously

Each Member of Council signed the Richmond Hill Council Pledge.

7) Members of Council Inaugural Remarks

Members of Council delivered their Inaugural remarks in the following order:

Regional and Local Councillor Chan

Regional and Local Councillor Joe DiPaola
Councillor Davidson, Ward 1
Councillor Scott Thompson, Ward 2
Councillor Castro Liu, Ward 3
Councillor Cui, Ward 4
Councillor Karen Cilevitz, Ward 5
Councillor Shiu, Ward 6

8) Closing Remarks

Mayor West thanked Office of the Clerk, Events and Theatre staff, musicians that performed, Jeff Capp of the Richmond Hill Centennial Pipe Band, members of the Richmond Hill Fire and Emergency Services Honour Guard, his office staff, and past Council members in attendance. Mayor West also thanked staff and the entire corporation for their efforts.

9) By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council at this Meeting

Moved by: Councillor Davidson
Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

That By-law 146-22, A By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at this meeting, be passed.

Carried Unanimously

10) Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Cui
Seconded by: Councillor Shiu

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Council recessional was led by members of the Richmond Hill Fire and Emergency Services Honour Guard.

David West, Mayor

Stephen M.A. Huycke, City Clerk