

TOWARDS A Sustainable Region Symposium



Friday, March 3, 2006
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Kortright Centre for Conservation
9550 Pine Valley Drive
Woodbridge, Ontario



TOWARDS A Sustainable Region Symposium

We are pleased to invite you to York Region's first "Towards a Sustainable Region" Symposium on Friday, March 3rd, 2006.

This symposium will help York Region, its partners and stakeholders to identify key issues and develop an action plan for sustainable growth management in York Region.

York Region will continue to experience rapid and dynamic population and employment growth. The Ontario Government expects that over the next 25 years:

- The Region will add 600,000 people to its current population of more than 918,000 to exceed 1.5 million people.
- This growth will add 340,000 jobs to the current number of 440,000 to reach 780,000 jobs.

The Region has many important growth management decisions to make and would like to obtain your ideas and input to help us meet the challenges of:

- Creating Jobs and Strengthening the Economy
- Protecting and Restoring our Green and Natural Heritage Systems
- Improving Quality of Life
- Providing Human Services
- Developing Heritage and Culture

York Region has embarked on a long-term Growth Management Strategy that integrates the theme of **sustainable development** by incorporating the values of:

Sustainable Natural Environment
Economic Vitality
Healthy Communities.

These values will become important priorities for all our growth-related decisions. **Together**, with your help, we can elevate sustainability and quality of life to a higher level in all our communities for generations to come.

A cornerstone of sustainable development is **public engagement** and **government accountability**. Please join us on March 3rd.

YOUR INPUT IS VITAL.

Space is limited. Please register early.

Agenda

Master of Ceremonies
Mr. John Waller, Director, Long Range &
Strategic Planning, York Region

8:00 to 8:30 **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:30 to 8:35 **Welcome Greetings**

Mayor Michael Di Biase,
City of Vaughan

8:35 to 8:45 **Towards A Sustainable Region**

Mr. Bill Fisch,
Regional Chair and CEO

8:45 to 9:30 **Keynote Speaker**

Mr. Bob Willard,
Author of the "The Sustainability Advantage" and
"The Next Sustainability Wave"

9:30 to 10:30 **Panel Discussion**
The Triple Bottom Line in Action

Mr. David Wheeler,
Director, International Centre of Research Innovation
in Sustainability, York University

Mr. Tom Ryley,
Executive Vice-President, Sunoco Inc.

Mr. Brian Denney,
Chief Administrative Officer,
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)

Mr. Rahul Bhardwaj,
Chief Executive Officer,
United Way of York Region

Dr. Greg Baeker,
Vice President, Culture Division
The Corporate Research Group

10:30 to 10:45 **Coffee Break**

10:45 to 11:45 **Break-out Sessions**
Ideas for a Sustainable Future

11:45 to 12:40 **Lunch**

12:20 to 12:30
Feedback from Break-out Sessions

12:30 to 12:40
Closing Remarks and Next Steps
Mr. Bryan Tuckey,
Commissioner, Planning and Development
Services Department, York Region

12:40 **Adjourn**

Staff from the TRCA will be conducting optional
45 minute walking tours of the Kortright Centre
immediately following the symposium.

Registration Form

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please specify any dietary requirements: _____

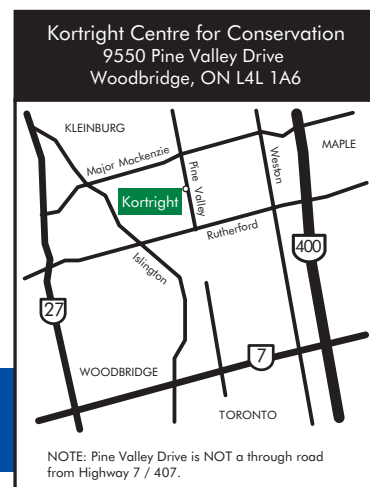
Please specify if you would like to participate in either of the
optional walking tours being conducted immediately following
the symposium:

- Earth Rangers Centre - Wildlife Rehabilitation Hospital
and state-of-the-art energy efficiency building;
- Power Trip Trail - Demonstration of renewable energy
and energy efficient technologies.

Please fax this form to:
The Regional Municipality of York
Towards A Sustainable Region Symposium
c/o Dawn Seetaram
Planning and Development Services
17250 Yonge Street, 4th Floor, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
Fax: 905-895-3203
Registration by fax only.

For more information
please contact:

Dawn Seetaram
905-830-4444 Ext. 1570
futureyork@york.ca





What Is SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?



Sustainable development is "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

- Brundtland Commission, United Nations, 1987.

What is Sustainable Development? Why is it Important to York Region?

- The basis of sustainable development is about legacy - what type of world do we want to leave for our children and grandchildren.
- The Region has laid the foundation with a number of sustainable development successes such as The Greening initiatives, Centre and Corridors, Water for Tomorrow, VIVA Rapid Transit and the Human Services Plan. However, we have more work to do.
- The Region is expected to exceed 1.5 million people by 2031 and has many important growth management decisions to make with respect to job creation, human services, the environment and overall quality of life.
- We need to take a new perspective, a sustainability perspective that simultaneously integrates the values of natural environment, healthy communities and economic vitality - the cornerstones of sustainable development.
- We need your help, input and ideas to take sustainability to a higher level across the Region.

What are the next steps for York Region?

1. Incorporate sustainable development principles into the Region's Growth Management Strategy.
2. Inventory international and national best practice examples of sustainable development to benchmark Regional performance.
3. Integrate the advice and input from our stakeholders and public into our sustainable development initiative and growth management strategy.
4. Develop a "Made in York" definition of sustainable development along with a set of criteria and indicators.
5. Engage in a Corporate and Community Wide Awareness Initiative to ensure information is shared about the meaning and importance of Sustainable Development across the Region.

Speaker Biographies



Bill Fisch

York Regional Chairman and CEO

Bill Fisch B.Comm, L.L.B., is the Chairman and CEO of the Regional Municipality of York and graduate of Queen's University and Osgoode Hall Law School. He is a driving force behind an innovative VIVA Rapid Transit system for York Region, and is a sought-after speaker at municipal and international conferences. While increasing service delivery levels, Mr. Fisch continues to enhance the Region's position as one of the best places in Ontario to live, work and visit.



Mayor Michael Di Biase

City of Vaughan

Michael Di Biase was appointed Mayor of the City of Vaughan in 2002. Under his leadership, the City of Vaughan continues to be one of Canada's fastest growing cities in terms of construction value and employment retention and expansion. As Chair of the Sustainable Communities Board of the Toronto and Regional Conservation Authority, Mayor Di Biase has been an advocate across the GTA for preserving our natural environment. Mayor Di Biase has BA from York University, and a BEd from the University of Toronto.



Bryan Tuckey

Commissioner, Planning &
Development Services Department,
York Region

Bryan Tuckey is the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services for York Region, the 6th largest municipal jurisdiction in Canada. Bryan held two positions with Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing: as the Director of Provincial Planning and Environmental Services, and most recently as the Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Provincial-Municipal Relations Division. In total, Bryan has more than 20 years of experience including a number of senior management positions. Bryan is a Registered Professional Planner and has a Masters degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo. Bryan is a member of several professional associations including the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, the Ontario Professional Planners Institute, and the Canadian Institute of Planners.



John Waller

Director, Long Range & Strategic
Planning, York Region

John B. Waller, Director of Long Range & Strategic Planning at the Region of York has been a practicing planner for over 25 years. In his 10 years with the Region as Director, he has been responsible for preparing York Region's First Official Plan, York Region Greening Strategy and Vision 2026 as well as the GTA Centres & Corridors Strategy. He has also been heavily involved in strategic planning and setting up the economic development function at York Region. John is a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners and the Ontario Professional Planners Institutes.



Bob Willard

Keynote Speaker

During his 34-year IBM career, Bob held leadership positions in marketing, technical support, education, and human resources, including 20 years in management. He is the author of *The Sustainability Advantage: Seven Business Case Benefits of a Triple Bottom Line* (New Society Publishers, 2002) on the business case for sustainability strategies and *The Next Sustainability Wave: Building Boardroom Buy-in* (New Society Publishers, 2005) on why some companies are committed to sustainability, why others are not, and how to overcome senior executive resistance to making that commitment. He has a BSc from McGill University (1964), an MEd from OISE/UT (2000), and a PhD from OISE/UT (2005).



David Wheeler

Director, York Institute for Research and Innovation in Sustainability (IRIS)

David Wheeler is Director and Erivan K Haub Professor in Business and Sustainability at the Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto. He is also the Founding Director of the York Institute for Research and Innovation in Sustainability - a strategic initiative of York University embracing all ten faculties. David received the 2003 Corporate Knights award for 'External Impact' as a faculty pioneer in Canadian business schools. David Wheeler has advised a variety of Governments, civil society organizations and businesses in developed and developing nations, is Visiting Professor in Sustainable Enterprise at Kingston University Business School (UK), and is a member of the board of the Laidlaw Foundation and a member of the advisory councils of DuPont Canada and SustainAbility (UK).



Tom Ryley

Executive Vice President, Energy Marketing and Refining - Canada, Suncor Energy Inc.

Tom Ryley joined Suncor in 1983 and is currently executive vice president, Energy Marketing and Refining - Canada. The Energy Marketing and Refining business manages the downstream parts of Suncor's business in Canada. He has held positions in a variety of Suncor departments, including strategic business development, planning and financial analysis, fuels and chemical marketing, supply operations, retail marketing, and government affairs. Tom holds a master's degree in public policy and administration and is a graduate of both York University and Carleton University. He serves as a board member of Pioneer Petroleum and the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute.



Brian Denney

Chief Administrative Officer, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Brian E. Denney, P. Eng. became Chief Administrative Officer of The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), where he has been employed in positions of progressive responsibility for 29 years, on May 19, 2003. He graduated from the University of Guelph in 1974 with a BSc (Eng) Water Resources major. His responsibilities include managing and overseeing all aspects of the organization in an effort to guide the TRCA to work with its many partners to make the Toronto region one of the most sustainable and livable urban communities in the world. He is a member of the *Towards Sustainability in York Region Advisory Group* and the *Rouge Park Alliance*. He is an active participant in Conservation Ontario, the association representing the 36 conservation authorities in the province.



Rahul K. Bhardwaj (L.L.B.)

Chief Executive Officer, United Way of York Region

Rahul Bhardwaj has a background in corporate law, strategic communications and community service. Prior to joining United Way of York Region as its CEO in the spring of 2004, Mr. Bhardwaj was a corporate lawyer with one of Canada's leading law firms, a Vice President of the Toronto 2008 Olympic Bid and President of a communications consulting company. Mr. Bhardwaj has extensive experience as a senior volunteer with a variety of organizations including, Chairman of the Toronto Downtown Jazz Festival, member of the Board of Directors of the Stratford Festival of Canada, the United Way of Greater Toronto as well as the Canadian Opera Company, Wellspring Cancer Support Foundation and World Literacy Canada, among many others.



Dr. Greg Baeker

Senior Consultant, AuthentiCity: Creating Urban Wealth

Dr. Greg Baeker has served in senior leadership positions in the cultural field in Canada for 25 years as a cultural planner, policy maker and academic. Greg is part of a team of professional consultants for *AuthentiCity*, an urban policy practice of Navigator. Led by former Winnipeg mayor and urban strategist Glen Murray, the team works with civic leaders to develop culture-driven economic development and urban renewal strategies. Dr. Baeker's educational background includes a Masters in Museum Studies (University of Toronto) and a PhD in Urban Planning (University of Waterloo).