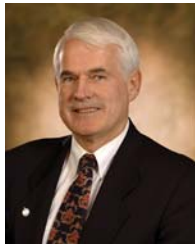




Mayor
Frank Scarpitti
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Jim Jones
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Jack Heath
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Tony Wong
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Gordon Landon
Town of Markham



Mayor
David Barrow
Town of Richmond Hill



Mayor
Linda D. Jackson
City of Vaughan



Regional Chair and CEO
Bill Fisch



Regional Councillor
Brenda Hogg
Town of Richmond Hill



Regional Councillor
Joyce Frustaglio
City of Vaughan



Regional Councillor
Vito Spatafora
Town of Richmond Hill



Regional Councillor
Mario Ferri
City of Vaughan



Mayor
Tony Van Bynen
Town of Newmarket



Regional Councillor
Gino Rosati
City of Vaughan



Regional Councillor
John Taylor
Town of Newmarket



Mayor
Robert Grossi
Town of Georgina



Regional Councillor
Danny Wheeler
Town of Georgina



Mayor
Phyllis M. Morris
Town of Aurora



Mayor
Wayne Emmerson
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville



Mayor
James Young
Town of East Gwillimbury



Mayor
Margaret Black
Township of King

A Message from Regional Council

We are pleased to present *Towards Accessibility: York Region's Fourth Annual Accessibility Plan*. *Towards Accessibility* continues to build on our past experience in identifying and removing barriers across all regional programs, policies, services and facilities and moves us further towards preparing for the standards being released under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)*.

The York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee continued to provide valuable input throughout the development of this Plan and in the implementation of our 2006 Plan. The committee has worked with staff, provided advice on our Accessibility Plans and has given freely of their time to support our efforts to make regional services and programs more accessible. We would like to thank these members for the past three years of hard work and dedication to the accessibility planning process.

Accessibility to our programs and services has been enhanced right across York Region, including improvements to buses, bus stops and crosswalks; buildings, housing and long term care facilities; policing services, policies, and procurement processes; training programs and York Region's website.

Our good work has not gone unnoticed. In 2006, York Region was selected for the 2006 Ontario Mainstreet Accessibility Award for our outstanding leadership and vision for improving accessibility within diverse communities. We would like to also acknowledge the good work of Regional staff, under the leadership of the Community Services and Housing Department, who through their collaborative efforts have made improved accessibility to programs, services and facilities a reality.

In 2007, we will continue to make improvements to regional government services and programs by identifying and removing barriers so that all residents can fully participate in all York Region has to offer.