

City of Brampton MAYOR NEWSLETTER



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Mayor of Brampton

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Municipality	Net Levy Per Capita
Whitby	\$1,995
Oakville	\$1,899
Guelph	\$1,882
Burlington	\$1,850
Cambridge	\$1,792
Mississauga	\$1,776
Caledon	\$1,771
Vaughan	\$1,753
Hamilton	\$1,744
Oshawa	\$1,724
Average	\$1,680
Toronto	\$1,678
Windsor	\$1,628
Halton Hills	\$1,627
London	\$1,589
Markham	\$1,518
Kitchener	\$1,456
Brampton	\$1,396
Milton	\$1,169

Building The Brampton Advantage: 2024 City Budget

The City of Brampton's 2024 Budget supports the needs of a growing population, while making record contributions to reserves and priority investments in infrastructure, transportation, recreational amenities, health care and community safety.

At 1.9%, the City of Brampton delivers a tax increase on the City portion of the tax bill that is below the September 2023 rate of inflation (3.8%).

This is the lowest tax increase in the Greater Toronto Area -- less than half of the Region of Peel increase (4.5%) and lower than the City of Mississauga's (2.3%).

City of Brampton Maintains Strong AAA Credit Rating

In October 2023, S&P Global Ratings affirmed its AAA long-term issuer credit rating -- the highest credit rating a municipality can receive -- on the City of Brampton for the eighth consecutive year.

Highlights from the S&P Global Rating report:

- Compared with its peers, Brampton has strong socioeconomic and demographic characteristics, a younger-than-national-average population, sounder population growth, and a diversified economy that benefits from its advantageous location near major highways and central markets.
- Brampton continues to meet the high demand for industrial land by building out infrastructure. It continues to attract new businesses and many existing ones are expanding.
- Brampton has strong financial management practices. It has infrastructure and transit levies and dedicated contributions to several reserves and reserve funds built into the operating budget, such as a debt service.

This endorsement from S&P demonstrates our steadfast commitment to transparency, fiscal responsibility and our focus on economic growth.



Record Reserve Contributions

The City's 2024 Budget marks record contributions of \$139 million to reserves. This is the largest ever annual contribution to reserves, inclusive of levies to keep City buses, roads, recreation centres, public spaces and other infrastructure assets at sustainable levels. The majority will go towards sustaining and enhancing Brampton's infrastructure.

We have already built up \$74 million in reserves and we are continuing the one per cent health care levy towards the construction of a second hospital and a new cancer care centre.

SPRING 2024



Opening 2025: GTA's First New Medical School in 100 years!

Last year, the City of Brampton, Government of Ontario and Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) announced the City's Bramalea Civic Centre will be home to the new Toronto Metropolitan University School of Medicine in Brampton.

The Civic Centre is strategically located within the City's health and life sciences cluster and was selected for its proximity to both the Brampton Civic and Peel Memorial Hospitals as well as its accessibility to municipal transportation, GO Transit and highway systems. The site also meets the space requirements to build a school of medicine that will require 250,000 square feet for classrooms, offices, research facilities and an integrated health clinic.

The City of Brampton will invest \$20M of funding to support building renovations required for programming and operations of the school of medicine.

Scheduled to open in 2025, the TMU School of Medicine marks the first new medical school in the GTA in over a hundred years and will make Brampton the home of a community-centric medical school focused on inclusivity, innovation and primary care!



Health Care: Our Fair Share

The City has reserve funds of over \$74M (as of September 30, 2023) and will continue the 1% hospital levy to support the construction of a second hospital for Brampton and a new cancer care centre.

- 90%: Provincial share of costs
- 10%: Local share

The City's 2024 Budget reaffirms our commitment to health care:

- \$125M from reserve funds
- 1% hospital levy

Comprehensive Cancer Care Centre at Brampton Civic Hospital

Given local service gaps and high-risk factors for cancer in Brampton, William Osler Health System is developing a state-of-the-art, comprehensive Cancer Care Centre. Plans include bringing more services, including radiation treatment that is currently not available in Brampton, closer to home for the community. In addition, expanding Osler's cancer care program will attract more highly-skilled clinicians and specialists, create new medical and health education opportunities and spark more research opportunities.



New Züm Bramalea

Investments in Transit are a key priority and City Council approved budget for the preliminary design of the future Züm service expansion on Bramalea Road. This service is anticipated to launch in 2026, in conjunction with the enhanced GO Transit service between Downtown Toronto and the Bramalea GO Station.

Züm is an initiative of the City of Brampton to introduce enhanced, uniquely branded Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service on the City's key north-south and east-west arterial corridors. It is intended to significantly improve the reliability, speed, frequency, and quality of transit service providing better connectivity within and beyond Brampton's boundaries.

New Operators and Service Hours

Brampton Transit is the fastest-growing transit system in Canada; our ridership has grown by 30 per cent since the pandemic, a testament to the value our services bring to our community and the trust our residents place in us. Thousands of people commute safely and efficiently every single day in Brampton.

As part of the 2024 Budget, City Council approved **136 new Transit Operators and an additional 108,500 hours of service** – the largest service increase in almost 20 years to meet growing demands. Learn more at bramptontransit.com



Brampton Board of Trade State of the City. (Feb 2024)



Premier Doug Ford announced the Province will be investing \$25.5 million in Brampton through the Building Faster Fund. (Feb 2024)



I was pleased to welcome Olympic Gold Medalist Donovan Bailey to the Rose Theatre for Black History Month celebrations. (Feb 2024)



I was pleased to welcome Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to City Hall to thank the federal government for \$114 million in funding through the Housing Accelerator Fund. (Oct 2023)

Recreation Investments

In Brampton, we take pride in providing residents -- from our youth to seniors -- with dynamic recreational amenities.

The 2024 Budget has allocated more than \$125 million toward providing citizens with most up-to-date parks and recreational facilities.

This investment will include enhancing cricket infrastructure, expanding youth programs like the Century Gardens youth hub and improving outdoor amenities such as playgrounds, shade shelters, pickleball and tennis courts. Collaborating with the Peel District School Board, Brampton will jointly fund projects like the Collaborative Learning Technology Centre, an artificial turf field at Central Peel Secondary School and a cricket pitch at Turner Fenton Secondary School.

Exciting News for Seniors!

Beginning June 1, 2024, Brampton residents 70 years old and older can enjoy a free City of Brampton Annual Recreation Membership. Membership access includes:

- fitness centre membership
- racquet membership
- swimming and skating membership
- walking track membership
- most general programs
- swimming and skating group lessons
- aquafit drop-ins
- fitness drop-ins
- public swims and skates
- shinny and shoot around drop-ins
- sports drop-ins
- dance drop-ins
- most general interest drop-ins (some drop-ins require additional fees)

To sign up for the new free 70+ Annual Recreation Membership and review eligibility requirements, visit brampton.ca/memberships.

Building a Greener Future

Brampton has adopted federal targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 per cent by 2050.

Work is underway at Susan Fennell Sportsplex to remove 100 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions, making it a pilot project to transition all City facilities toward zero carbon and serve as an exemplary model across Canada. We are also conducting deep energy audits at Cassie Campbell Community Centre, Save Max Sports Centre and Chinguacousy Wellness Centre to determine how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at these facilities as well.

Brampton has installed energy-efficient LED lighting at the Brampton Curling Club, Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre and we are in the process of installing LED lighting at Memorial Arena and Central Public School.

In March, the Province of Ontario announced \$2.5 million in funding to support the Etobicoke Creek Wetlands Enhancement Project, which will improve the shoreline at Loafer's Lake and enhance pocket wetlands in the area.

We are focusing on nurturing and protecting our environment for a sustainable future.



SPRING 2024

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