

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RUN FOR VAUGHAN IS PART OF BACK TO SCHOOL IN THE CITY ABOVE TORONTO

VAUGHAN, ON – Busy as they are adjusting to the new school term, Vaughan's students and teachers are finding time to focus on a significant extracurricular project – the city's second annual Run for Vaughan. Endorsed and supported by Vaughan City Council, this popular event raises funds to support the development of Vaughan's first hospital and health care facility.

Participants in the 10km run (or 3.5km walk), which takes place Sunday, September 26, canvass the community for pledges, with net proceeds donated to the Vaughan Health-Care Foundation Inc., a not-for-profit foundation.

Schools play an important part in the success of the event. Students can participate individually, or form teams of 10 or more students, teachers or support staff, and compete against other local schools. The school team that raises the most donation dollars receives the Run for Vaughan School Community Spirit Award.

"Not only is this a fun event, it's one that really pays off for the city's residents. We're proud of the part our teachers and students play in fund raisers like this," says Angie Furlin, principal of Kleinburg Elementary School.

Principals of other area schools are equally enthusiastic.

"Vaughan is growing quickly, and our population certainly warrants a local hospital," says Maple High School's Jim Orfanakos. "Our school is proud to help raise funds to make the vision a reality."

"We were pleased that so many of our students participated in last year's Run," adds J. Symington of Michael Cranny Elementary School. "It was a great opportunity for them to get involved with an important community cause."

Students who complete the Run (or the associated 3.5km Walk) will receive two hours credit towards the 40 community service hours they need to graduate. Guidance offices at local schools have full details.

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The Run's organizing committee also encourages local businesses and individuals across the GTA to get involved. The chance to compete and raise funds for a worthy cause attracted over two thousand participants last year, and they raised more than \$50,000 for the Foundation.

This year, the organizers have added yet another incentive. Every participant who raises \$300 or more in pledges will receive a free pocket watch with built in compass. It includes a handy clip that attaches to belt, backpack or golf bag.

The *Run for Vaughan* will take place on Sunday, September 26 at 10:00 a.m., starting from the Bait-ul-Islam Mosque, 10610 Jane Street, north of Major Mackenzie Drive. The event's interactive website, www.runforvaughan.com, includes full details, as well as online registration and donation forms.

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