

# Vaughan Business and Entrepreneurship Centre 2025 Year in Review

## ABOUT US

The Vaughan Business and Entrepreneurship Centre (VBEC) offers comprehensive support for aspiring and existing entrepreneurs in Vaughan, including business information, resources, training and hands-on assistance to start or grow businesses.

## VBEC SERVICES



**Business advisory services**  
Planning, resources and opportunities



**High-quality entrepreneurship programs**  
Training, mentorship and funding opportunities



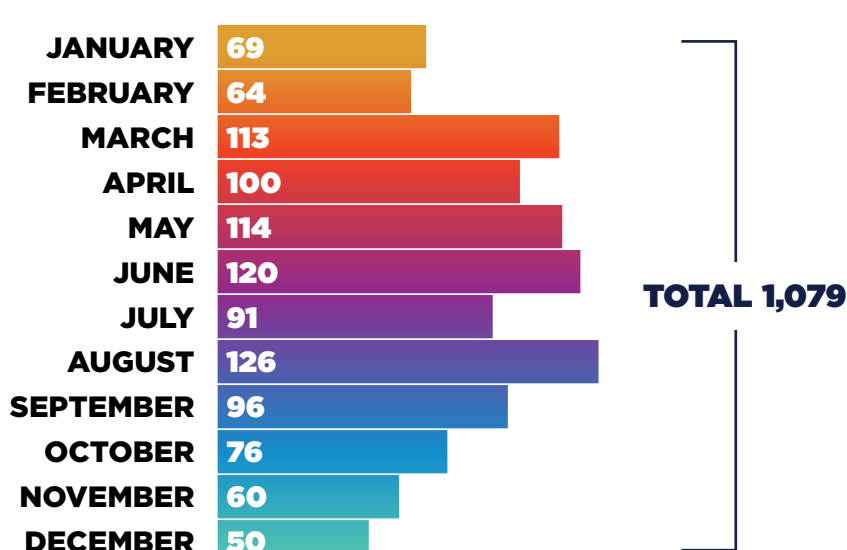
**Seminars and workshops**  
Exploring best practices across industries



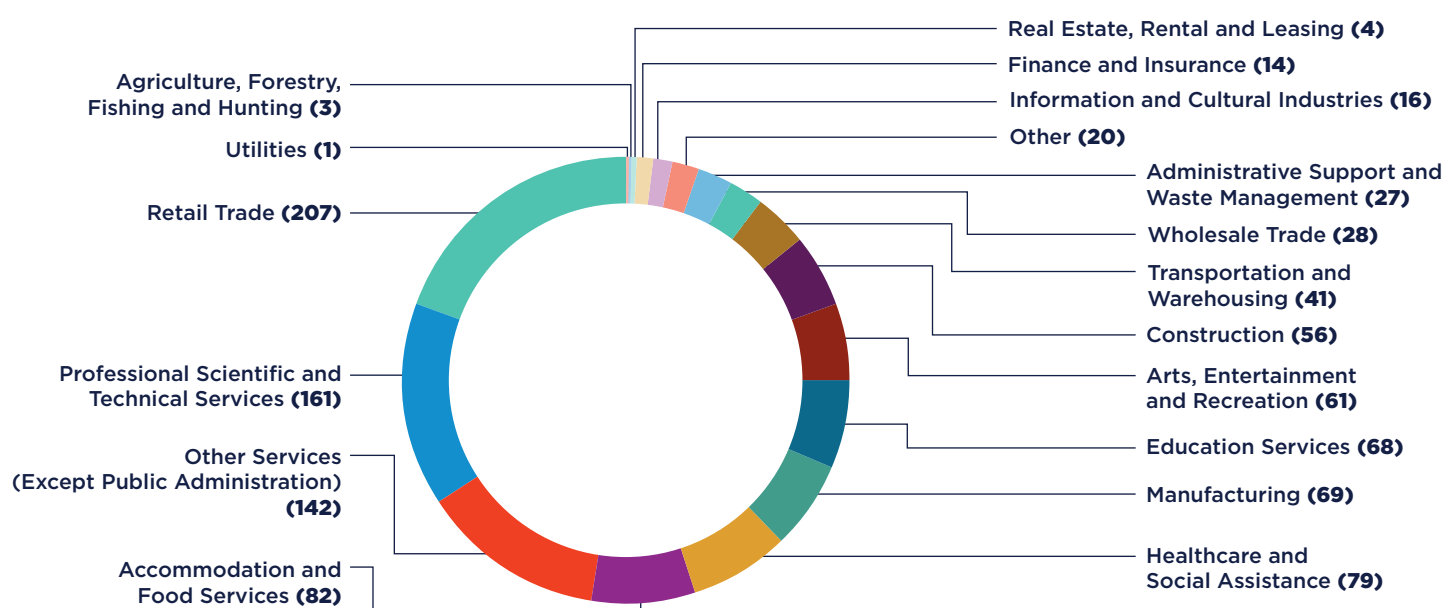
**Strategic partnerships and collaborations**  
Leveraging expertise and networks from educational institutions, business accelerator and incubator programs

In 2025, VBEC conducted **1,079 BUSINESS CONSULTATIONS** and addressed **4,583 INQUIRIES**, making it a leading resource in the province.

## CONSULTATIONS BY MONTH



## CONSULTATIONS BY SECTOR



## PROGRAMMING

**BUSINESS PLANNING LAUNCHPAD SERIES**  
**454 residents** received business planning support

**BETTER YOUR BUSINESS**  
**Two strategic social and environmental sustainability plans** completed

**TAPCANADIAN2 WIN CONTEST**  
**Six-week national campaign** encouraging residents to shop local

**More than 600** Vaughan-based businesses were visited

**1,830 entries** to the contest from Vaughan-based purchases

**\$50,949** incremental spending in Vaughan during the contest

**\$2,000 cash prize** was awarded to a Vaughan business plus **\$10,000** awarded to one of their loyal customers

## SEMINARS AND WORKSHOP SERIES

VBEC provided **59 seminars** to **985 participants** through collaborative partnerships.

During Small Business Week 2025, **126 participants** attended eight seminars, workshops and networking events delivered.

## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

**YORK UNIVERSITY'S YSPACE**  
VBEC provided programming for **46 entrepreneurs** through YSpace's Food and Beverage and Venture Catalyst programs.

**TECHCONNEX**  
VBEC delivered seminar content to **46 businesses** through the 'Future of Technology' series.

## FUNDING

Over the past three years, Vaughan's small businesses and entrepreneurial community has received nearly **\$1 million** in provincial funding from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, administered by the Economic Development department.

**STARTER COMPANY PLUS PROGRAM**  
**\$185,000** in grants directly invested into local businesses

**More than \$3.9 million** in direct economic spending generated because of investment

**SUMMER COMPANY PROGRAM**  
**\$42,000** in grants directly invested into local student businesses

## SUCCESS STORY PROFILES

**Yalda Jamasi, Adore & Amore Designs**  
Participant of Summer Company Program

Yalda Jamasi, a biochemistry student at the University of Toronto, founded Adore & Amore Designs, a bespoke wedding and event stationery studio inspired by romance, artistry and meaningful celebration. Launched in 2025 as a heartfelt passion project, the brand specializes in custom wedding invitations, signage and event stationery that bring a timeless, romantic charm to modern weddings. Through the program, Yalda was able to invest confidently in materials, branding and client experience. The business has generated \$27,000 in revenue and proudly served more than 100 customers over the summer. Reflecting on her experience, Yalda said, "The Summer Company grant has helped ease the initial investment burden that I was anticipating paying out of pocket. Another objective was to build a brand of trust and customer care which we were able to achieve after serving more than 100 customers during this summer. I do see entrepreneurship in the future. This experience has taught me a lot to better set myself up for success."

**Cristina German, You've Got This Clinic Inc.**  
Participant of Starter Company Program

Cristina German is an accomplished executive, board member, advisor and entrepreneur with a passion for technology and healthcare. Based in Vaughan, she empowers people to gain agency over their health through technology, empathy, and innovation. Cristina is the founder of You've Got This Clinic Inc., among the first multidisciplinary clinic in North America focused on urinary tract infection diagnosis, treatment and chronic management.

You've Got This Clinic Inc. operates from Vaughan and combines medical consultation with multidisciplinary allied health care support including advanced nursing, dietary guidance, mental health support and more, all available virtually. Through innovative, client-centered care, the clinic serves individuals directly and through referrals from clinics and sole providers worldwide, supporting a global client base across Canada, the United States, Europe and Australia, while empowering people to better manage their chronic illness. Reflecting on her experience, Cristina said, "The Starter Company Plus program was fantastic and really helped us grow both personally and in our business."

