



MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2018

King launching online resident engagement platform

Easy-to-use tools will help residents make their voices heard

King Township is encouraging residents to speak up.

That's the main force behind SPEAKING, King's new online engagement platform where residents are invited to get involved in key Township projects that are important to them.

The new platform features a wide range of tools that make it easy for residents to voice their opinions on a variety of projects. The tools include surveys, discussion forums, crowdsourcing maps, question and answer forms and a robust amount of resources and information on key projects. The feedback provided will help King make thoughtful, resident-involved decisions concerning issues that are important to sustaining a healthy and thriving community.

"We know people are busy these days," said King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini. "The more traditional ways of providing feedback – like reading through reports and then attending council or public meetings – are not practical for people already overloaded with work and family commitments. We think their opinions are important so we've created this platform to make it easier for them to provide their feedback."

The refresh of King's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) – which is reaching the end of its first five-year cycle – is the first project to be featured on SPEAKING. Residents can use the platform's tools to tell King which of the ICSP's priorities are most important to them and what they want to see in an updated plan.

"We want to make decisions armed with the feedback of our residents," said King's Chief Administrative Officer Susan Plamondon. "You can't build a healthy and thriving community without listening to the needs of the people who live and work here. This new platform will help us collect that feedback in a meaningful way. Best of all, it will allow us to also report back to the community as we make decisions using that feedback."

Continued on next page

Lying in the heart of the Greater Toronto Area, King Township is located within York Region, one of the fastest growing and diverse economies in Canada. More than 60 per cent of the Holland Marsh, also known as Ontario's salad bowl, lies within King Township. Though predominantly rural, most of King Township's 20,000 residents live in the communities of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. Residents and visitors are drawn to King because of its rural lifestyle, village atmosphere and quality of life.

For more information visit us at www.king.ca



MEDIA RELEASE



Continued from previous page

Residents can access SPEAKING starting July 11 from the main page of www.king.ca.

Two main projects will be featured at the launch – the ICSP refresh as well as village streetscaping. More projects will be launched throughout the year.

Residents can register at the site to receive custom notifications as projects are updated.

The online software platform behind SPEAKING – called EngagementHQ – was created by the global firm Bang the Table. Bang the Table works with over 500 organizations around the world – and almost two dozen municipalities in Ontario – including Niagara Falls, Kingston, Brampton and Centre Wellington.

- 30 -

Media contact

Jason Ballantyne, Communications Officer
Phone: 416-559-5093
Cell: 416-559-5093
E-mail: jballantyne@king.ca

Lying in the heart of the Greater Toronto Area, King Township is located within York Region, one of the fastest growing and diverse economies in Canada. More than 60 per cent of the Holland Marsh, also known as Ontario's salad bowl, lies within King Township. Though predominantly rural, most of King Township's 20,000 residents live in the communities of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. Residents and visitors are drawn to King because of its rural lifestyle, village atmosphere and quality of life.

For more information visit us at www.king.ca