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# *The York University Brief*

*January 2024*

## Government Relations Updates and Highlights



### **President Lenton Meets with Paul Chiang MP**

On January 9, President Rhonda Lenton was pleased to meet with Paul Chiang, MP for Markham-Unionville and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship. It was a great opportunity to discuss our new Markham Campus and York's international student community.



### **York U Team Meets with Councillor Jamaal Myers**

On January 16, the York U team was pleased to meet with Councillor Jamaal Myers, who represents Ward 23 Scarborough North and serves as Chair of the TTC Board. We were happy to give Councillor Myers a tour of the campus, show him our two TTC stations, and discuss York's social procurement policy.



### **York U and Southlake partner to create positive change in health care**

President Rhonda Lenton joined Southlake Regional Health Centre CEO Arden Krystal, Newmarket-Aurora MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy, and others in Newmarket for a signing ceremony. York and Southlake agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which commits both institutions to leveraging their collective strengths in health care and research to address pressing challenges in its communities and beyond. [Read More.](#)

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### **York University on the Move**

Congratulations to the following York University Alumni who have recently entered new positions:

- The Honourable Paulette Senior, Health & Social Science '90 becomes a Senator for the Province of Ontario
- The Honourable Toni Varone, LA & PS '80 becomes a Senator for the Province of Ontario

Thank you for being such wonderful ambassadors for York University, we wish you all the best in your new roles!

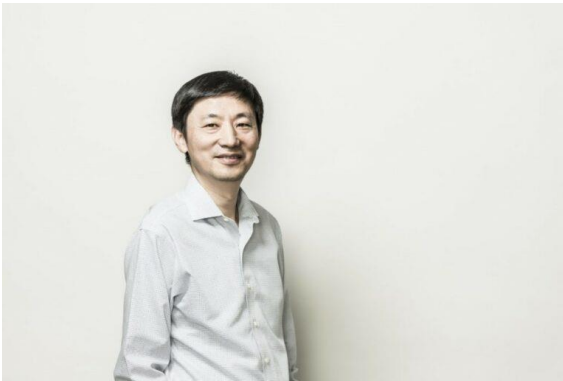
### **Research Stories and Institutional Highlights**





### **York University and the United Way partner to create positive change**

On January 10, York University and the United Way Greater Toronto built on a decades-long partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to advance shared goals to benefit the communities they serve across Peel, Toronto and York Region. President Rhonda Lenton joined United Way Greater Toronto CEO Daniele Zanotti and others for a signing ceremony and panel discussion held on the York campus. [Read More.](#)



### **Biomedicine innovator earns awards, leadership role**

York University Professor Yong Lian has earned recognition for his work in biomedicine, advancing circuits and systems to aid the development of in-home devices for disease prevention and detection. [Read More.](#)



### **York alumni-founded startup breathes new air into industry**

Founded by two York alumni from the Schulich School of Business, Giancarlo Sessa (BBA'19) and Aedan Fida (BBA'19), along with his brother Joseph Fida, Blade Air was recently named the fifth-fastest-growing company in

Canada for 2023 by the Globe and Mail. [Read More.](#)



### **Intellectual property services at York give startups innovation edge**

For more than a decade, the IP Innovation Clinic at York University has been helping inventors and entrepreneurs protect and grow their wide-ranging business ventures. Based out of Osgoode Hall Law School, the first-of-its-kind and now largest intellectual property (IP) legal clinic in Canada has provided pro bono legal support to hundreds of community members. [Read More.](#)

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**The York University Brief is York University’s monthly newsletter that showcases some of our latest research and institutional news. Although anyone can subscribe, our readership primarily consists of our government and community partners and is meant to provide insight into the work done at the University and its potential links to work done in government and in the community. The York University Brief is typically published monthly from September to June.**

**If you would like more information on any of the stories in this edition, please find the contact information for the members of our Government and Community Relations team listed below.**

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