

Notes for Remarks by
Dr. Stan Shapson
Vice-President Research & Innovation
York University

at the public launch of
The City Institute at York University (CITY)

Wednesday, May 31st 2006

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Good afternoon everyone.

I'm Stan Shapson Vice-President Research & Innovation here at York University.

I am pleased that all of you could join us for this wonderful event to launch York's 23rd research centre - The City Institute at York University.

We are expecting a few special guests and I would like to acknowledge them at this point.

[acknowledgements]

At York University our researchers are undertaking visionary research with local, national, and international significance. Our research spans science and biomedicine... social science and humanities...law, business, education, and fine arts.

But our real strength exists with our ability to cross those disciplinary silos and bring researchers together with varied expertise to tackle a single theme, a single challenge, or a single issue.

Today we continue that interdisciplinary hallmark by bringing dozens of our researchers together who share expertise on urban issues.

As you will hear in later remarks, York not only has a rich history of pioneering urban research, but currently has a critical mass of almost 100 scholars studying issues related to the city.

By bringing together many of these renowned researchers and providing a home for them to easily collaborate with each other - as well as to collaborate outside of the university with industry, community organizations, and government - I am confident that York University and The City Institute will quickly grow into Canada's pre-eminent centre for urban research.

In closing, allow me to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Profs. Keil, Isin, and Wood for taking the leadership to develop the Institute.

And to all of our urban researchers...both faculty and graduate students, we thank you.