# MAYOR FRANK SCARPITTI HOSTS IWD BREAKFAST

Dr. Gina Parvaneh Cody, keynote speaker

Sophia Sun and Yan Liu

Mayor Frank Scarpitti hosted an International Women's Day (IWD) breakfast at the Toronto Marriott Markham and the theme was Breakfast with Bright Minds. The keynote speaker was Dr. Gina Parvaneh Cody, who emigrated from Iran in 1979 and became the first woman to graduate with a doctorate in building engineering from Concordia University. Dr. Cody made headlines when she donated a historic $15 million gift to Concordia University's Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science. In honour of her professional accomplishments and generosity, the faculty was renamed as the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science, the first engineering faculty in Canada to be named after a woman. "We are very honoured to welcome Dr. Cody to Markham, in the heart of Ontario's innovation corridor on International Women's Day," said Mayor Frank Scarpitti. "As thought leaders and change makers, women are redefining key roles in various sectors such as science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health care, education and more. Together we will continue to innovate, remove barriers and advance gender equality in the workforce."

*Event by B and D Hein*
*Website code: pewahbt*

Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Marisa Sterling, Keeley Aird and Gillian Cai

Jarah, Saoirse and Nive

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT AT MARKHAM SOUTH WELCOME CENTRE

Moy Wong-Tam, Executive Director, Centre for Immigrant and Community Services (CICS)

Serena

Freda To, Cathy Li, Jane Chibuzo Anyaehie, Moy Wong-Tam, CICS Executive Director, Alice Cheng, Fanny Chan, Ivy Ho and Zhijun June Xue

Iris, Lolly, Caroline, Christine, Ada, Hong and Barbara

The Centre for Immigrant and Community Services held a celebration for International Women's Day at its Markham South Welcome Centre location at 7220 Kennedy Road, Unit 8. Over the past eight years, thousands of newcomer women have attended and benefitted from the newcomer women support programs offered at Welcome Centres and CICS' Immigrant Women Resource Centre. Many of them then took the initiative to give back and contribute to the community. In recognition of those efforts, the theme of the centre's 2019 International Women's Day celebration was "Women Empowering Women". The event recognized outstanding immigrant women and their impact on the community through volunteerism and leadership. In addition, those interested in becoming a volunteer learned about volunteer opportunities within the Centre for Immigrant and Community Services. The Markham Small Business Centre and several newcomer women entrepreneurs also attended hosting information booths.

*Event by B and D Hein*
*Website code: pewacja*