

November 6, 2008 Ward e-Update

e-Newsletter

from your City Councillor

PETER MILCZYN

Ward 5 Etobicoke-Lakeshore

Dear Residents;

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PLEASE ASK YOUR NEIGHBOURS & FAMILY TO EMAIL ME and HAVE THEIR EMAIL ADDRESSES ADDED TO THIS WARD 5 DISTRIBUTION LIST

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WARD 5 NEWS & EVENTS

West Kingsway Ratepayers Association (WKRA)

Date: Thursday, November 6th, 2008
Time: Social Time 7:15 p.m. - meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.
Place: Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 210, 110 Jutland Avenue
For Information: email Bill Reynolds at thewkra@yahoo.ca

The WKRA have invited me to attend this meeting. I will, along with Laurel Broten, M.P.P. be there to meet with current and potential new members of this Ratepayers Association.

Current Members, past members and other residents of the WKRA area are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The WKRA represents the area bounded by Bloor St. West to the north; Mimico Creek and Royal York Rd. to the east; Kipling Ave. to the west and the H.E.P.C. power line (below Norseman) and Titan Road to the south".

Give a Kid A Coat

Date: November 7 – 9, 2008
Where: Sherway Gardens, northwest Parking Lot, beside Holt Renfrew
For information: <http://www.chfi.com/events/>

Every year 98.1 CHFI's Bob Magee teams up with The Salvation Army & Sleep Country Canada to help 'Give a Kid A Coat'. For the 5th year in a row, **Bob will camp out for 3 days without a winter jacket** in an effort to help **raise coats for kids**. And we need your help! **I will be joining Bob Magee on November 7th at 2:30 p.m. to support this important cause.**

All Saints' Kingsway Anglican Church – A Remembrance Day Reflection

Date: Sunday, November 9th, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: All Saints' Kingsway Anglican Church
2850 Bloor Street West
For information: Shawn Grenke, Director of Music, 416-233-1125 or music@allsaintskingsway.ca
Donation: \$20 suggested donation

All Saints' Church presents the Toronto premiere of Karl Jenkins "Requiem". This performance will involve the All Saints' Choral Society, the High Park Choirs and Orchestra. Karl Jenkins' Requiem has been widely performed throughout his native U.K. and received international acclaim for its sensitive writing, stirring melodies and the combination of international culture. Jenkins takes the traditional Latin Text of the Requiem Mass (mass for the souls of the dead) and combines it with deeply moving Japanese Haiku texts, merging disparate sounds and emotive musical effect to challenge and uplift his audience. Jenkins' combination of eastern and western traditions symbolizes the shared outcome of war and violence. We all suffer, we all grieve, we must all remember.

Remembrance Day Services

Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2008
Time: 10:15 am
Place: 399 The West Mall, Cenotaph
For information: <http://www.toronto.ca/lestweforget/index.htm>

Public Information Centre for the Islington Avenue Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment

Date: Monday, November 17
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Place: Etobicoke Collegiate Institute
86 Montgomery Road, Toronto
For information: Please contact Mike Logan, Public Consultation Unit, 416-392-2962 (email mlogan2toronto.ca) or visit the website at http://www.toronto.ca/involved/projects/islington_major_rd_rehab/index.htm

The City of Toronto has scheduled the rehabilitation of Islington Avenue from Bloor Street West to Prince George Drive. As part of this work, limited streetscaping elements will be added to the boulevards and sidewalk areas where appropriate.

Rehabilitation will include the removal of existing asphalt pavement, followed by repair of the concrete road base, catchbasins, curbs, sidewalks and driveways where needed. Boulevard improvements and new asphalt road pavement will complete the construction.

This project is being undertaken in accordance with the planning and design process for 'Schedule A' projects as outlined in the Municipal Engineers Association Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process (October 2000, as amended in 2007), which is approved under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.

I invite you to attend the Public Open House in order to learn more about this project. The meeting will provide an opportunity to view displays and speak one-on-one with project staff.

Public Open Houses for the Yard Consolidation Study: Etobicoke York District

This November, the City of Toronto, Facilities & Real Estate Division will be hosting three Public Open Houses for the Yard Consolidation Study: Etobicoke York District.

The dates, times and locations of the Open Houses are as follows:

Thursday, November 20, 2008
Etobicoke Collegiate, Gymnasium
86 Montgomery Road (Dundas and Islington)
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 18, 2008
Humberwood Community Centre
850 Humberwood Boulevard (Finch and Humberline Drive)
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 19, 2008
York Civic Centre, Council Chambers
2700 Eglinton Avenue West (Keele and Eglinton)
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

The City's Yard Consolidation Study web pages will be available for public viewing as of November 7, 2008, at www.toronto.ca/yardstudy.

Email questions from the public about the Yard Consolidation Study should be directed to yards@toronto.ca. A voice mail box dedicated to the project will be available after November 7, 2008.

Kingsway Business Improvement Area Cavalcade of Lights

Date: Friday November 21st
Place: Kingsway B.I.A. at the corner of Royal York Rd and Bloor Street W
Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Exchange two of your old incandescent strings of seasonal lights at the Toronto Hydro-Electric System booth, for one new string of LED lights. Note: Available to the **first 500** families. **One exchange per family**. Offer is extended to City of Toronto residents only.

LED lights provide an energy-efficient alternative to traditional seasonal lighting. Not only do they use less electricity, they are tiny and unbreakable; produce virtually no heat in comparison to standard incandescent light sources. They also have a lifespan of 20 to 30 years and instead of suddenly burning out, they gradually fade to darkness.

For more information, please visit: www.torontohydro.com/SLED

Carolling in the Kingsway “Out of the Cold Program”

Date: Saturday, November 29, 3008
Place: Our Lady of Sorrows Church
For information: contact the Kingsway BIA at 416- 239-8243 or visit their website at <http://thekingswaytoronto.ca/index.php?id=2&content=Welcome>

Join the members of the KBIA and enjoy the 110 voice combined inter-faith choir from local area churches as they present a selection of beautiful Christmas Songs and Music.

Stonegate Holiday Bazaar

Date: Tuesday, December 2nd
Time: 4 – 7 pm
Place: 150 Berry Road , Stonegate Plaza
(Stonegate Community Health Centre, Annex)
For information: Please call the health centre at 416.231.7070

Browse the bazaar for food, crafts and holiday gift ideas!

Victorian Carollers strolling in the Kingsway

Dates: December 6th, 23rd and 20th from 1:00pm - 3:00pm
December 13th and 20th from 5:30 to 7:30pm on the 13th and 20th
For information: contact the Kingsway BIA at 416- 239-8243 or visit their website at <http://thekingswaytoronto.ca/index.php?id=2&content=Welcome>

Victorian Carollers will once again be strolling along the Kingsway, filling the air with traditional Yuletide favourites. Join the KBIA for this free entertaining and heartwarming experience.

Update on concerns expressed regarding the Taste of the Kingsway 2008 Event

On October 22, 2008 I met with Members of the Kingsway Business Improvement Area, Fire, Police, Parking, TTC, Health, Transportation and Litter Operations to discuss this year’s Taste of the Kingsway and to come up with an action plan for next year.

The following concerns were discussed:

- **discussions surrounded the large number of teens congregating after 7:30 pm**
- **residents became afraid / overwhelmed with situation with teens**
- **agreement reached that times/dates would be changed for next year's event**
- **illegal parking**

It was agreed that in order to help alleviate the above concerns that next year's event would be held only on Saturday and Sunday and would go no later than 8:00 pm.

Ward 5 Garden Contest Winners

I would like to extend my congratulations to 2 Wilmar Road who are the first place winners of the Traditional Residential Garden Contest. Also congratulations to the Iron Workers, 909 Kipling Avenue who placed third in the Commercial category.

Fresh Balsam Wreaths for Sale

Shipped fresh from New Brunswick to Royal York Road United Church! The UCW is selling fresh balsam wreaths, swags, candy canes and crosses perfect for Christmas decorating and gift giving. Priced from \$17 to \$29 wreaths must be ordered by November 17th. Pick up is November 26 at 851 Royal York Road. Call Kathy at 905-880-8570

Keeping our Parks Clean and Protected

Each year, I receive a few calls from residents concerned with the ongoing maintenance and protection of the trails / trees and equipment in our parks and parkettes. While our City Staff are scheduled to maintain them as often as possible, we do find that misuse, or overuse, or in some cases deliberate destruction of trees and the surrounding areas occur. One sport that seems to create calls and concerns to my office is skateboarding, and the damage that ramps created in some parks, can cause to public greenspace.

In the end, I believe a collective consciousness where we all are committed to protecting our parkland in Ward 5, for everyone to enjoy, is appreciated. Perhaps if all park users can do their share and pick up litter, keep them clean and protect the environment, we will all benefit.

On a side note - There is a new skateboard park at 134 Parklawn Road which some families may want to check out! Their website is: www.cjskateboardpark.com

Greening Ward 5 – New Trees for Ward 5

As part of the City's initiative to Green the streets, I am happy to report the following tree planting initiatives are in the works:

Trees to be Planted this Fall

Berry Road - Prince Edward Drive to Park

Stephen Drive - The Queensway to Berry - **except** west side from The Queensway to Canon Road - to be planted in the spring.

Norseman to Mimico Creek

Tree to be Planted Spring 2009

Earlington Avenue - Government Rd. to Dundas Street W

Thorndale Avenue - Earlington Ave. to Thorndale Cres.

ETOBICOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

Next Meeting Of EYCC (Etobicoke York Community Council)

Tuesday, November 18th, 2008

9:30 a.m.

Etobicoke Civic Centre, 399 The West Mall
Council Chambers

To view the entire Community Council Agenda or minutes from previous meetings, please refer to the following City of Toronto website link: <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2008/agendas/ey.htm>

NOTE – at the time of sending this update, the November Community Council Agenda is not public, and therefore I have not had the opportunity to review and list all Ward 5 items which will be voted upon in November. If you have questions about a previous Agenda or the upcoming Agenda, please refer to the above link or call my office for assistance.

PREVIOUS COMMUNITY COUNCIL DECISIONS

For more information on your Etobicoke York Community Council, the area profile, agendas or reports etc., please refer to the following weblink as I believe you will find it useful and informative:

http://www.toronto.ca/committees/council_profiles/torontowest.htm

CITY COUNCIL NEWS & TORONTO EVENTS

Flu Vaccination Clinics 2008-2009 – West Region

The City offers a number of Flu Vaccination Clinics. Please visit our website at http://www.toronto.ca/health/flu/flu_west.htm for more information.

Winter in Toronto: reason to celebrate

As the days get shorter and the nights get cooler, there's no better time to bundle up, beat the winter blues and get outside. The holiday season kicks off on November 29 with the opening of the Cavalcade of Lights at Nathan Phillips Square. The festival continues every Saturday night until December 20. Other seasonal events will include the lighting of the official Menorah, Christmas tree, a star-studded holiday concert and spectacular fireworks.

Then the popular WinterCity Festival, a 14-day celebration of culture, creativity and cuisine, heats up the Square, restaurants and attractions throughout the city from January 30 to February 12. Don't miss your chance to enjoy all that winter in Toronto has to offer.

www.toronto.ca/special_events

Toronto's 10-year Capital Plan – Have your say

This 10-year capital plan and forecast determines the capital projects the City will undertake to maintain and/or improve City assets such as roads, bridges, transit, community centres, libraries and more. The proposed budget includes an investment in new fire stations, new ambulances, public transit, green buildings and green technologies.

The proposed budget provides for investment in our facilities and infrastructure, renews our infrastructure and makes investments in reducing our backlog. It plans ahead for growth, and reduces our need for debt over time.

During the 2009 Capital Budget process, Torontonians can have their opinions considered in several ways:

1. Make a public presentation to the Budget Committee at its Capital Budget Hearing.

Capital Budget Hearing
Budget Committee
November 5, 2008
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor,
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West

Please contact the Budget Committee at 416-392-7337, or e-mail buc@toronto.ca no later than 12 p.m. on November 4, 2008 if you intend to make a public presentation. There will be a 5 minute presentation time limit.

2. Submit a written presentation to:

Budget Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
10th floor, West Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Fax: 416-392-1879 Email: buc@toronto.ca

3. Send a letter or email to me at 100 Queen Street West, Suite C51, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 or councilor_milczyn@toronto.ca

Toronto City Council will review and approve the final Capital Budget at the Council meeting on December 10, 2008.

For more information about the City Budget and the 2009 budget process please visit the website at <http://www.toronto.ca/budget2009/index.htm>

Toronto joins in tribute to those who died in First World War

Starting at 5 p.m. on November 4, and continuing each night until sunrise of Remembrance Day (November 11), the east tower of City Hall will serve as the backdrop for the projection of the names of all 68,000 Canadians who died in the First World War. The public is invited to attend the official launch on Nathan Phillips Square, starting at 4:30 p.m. on November 4.

The project - Vigile 1914-1918 Vigil - marks the 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War. Creators R. H. Thomson and Martin Conboy, together with Canada's National History Society, have spearheaded private and public fundraising in order to spread the vigil idea across Canada. Dusk 'til dawn projections will also take place in Fredericton, Halifax, Regina, Edmonton, and at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh will attend the launch at Canada House in Trafalgar Square, London, England.

In a 21st century twist, Canadians can log onto <http://www.1914-1918.ca> to look up the names of these fallen soldiers and confirm the night and the minute when their name will appear.

City report makes recommendations to reduce packaging

A report released today recommends new measures to reduce retail in-store packaging and to ultimately make it recyclable in the City's Blue Bin recycling program. The report, which goes to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on Nov. 12, primarily focuses on disposable hot drink cups, plastic retail shopping bags and plastic take-out food packaging. To view this report please visit to the website at <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pw/agendas/2008-11-12-pw20-ar.pdf>

City launches enforcement campaign on apartment buildings in need of repair

A special City inspection team will launch targeted enforcement Dec. 1 against apartment buildings that are in a state of disrepair. The enforcement will ensure proper maintenance is done so these vital pieces of Toronto's housing stock are maintained and are liveable for residents in the long term.

ML&S has built a 15-member team which will audit and where appropriate, issue orders against 176 buildings in its first year. Four buildings will be chosen in each ward (four in each of the 44 wards), two of those in consultation with the local City Councillor and two based on staff knowledge and experience. Both privately and publicly-owned buildings will be included in the audit (141 private owned, 35 public owned) reflecting the corresponding segment of the market. The audit will focus on common areas within buildings, parking garages, balconies, the exterior grounds, building electrical, hot water and heating systems. Building residents will be advised as to the team's presence at their building and will be able to bring forward any concerns that have gone unaddressed by landlords about apartment units to the team office, or the district ML&S office.

Orders issued against buildings are matters of public record. Audit results will be tracked and posted on the City's website at www.toronto.ca/licensing/mrab.htm.

The MRAB building audit team has been built using existing staff and budget resources. A fee of \$60 per hour will be charged to the building for each visit after the second inspection until an order is completed to meet bylaw or provincial requirements.

The MRAB building audit program aligns with Mayors Tower Renewal by working to preserve the existing building stock to help meet future housing needs, and to encourage reinvestment with a minimum amount of disruption to tenants. More information on Mayors Tower Renewal is available at www.towerrenewal.ca. The program also aligns with Housing Opportunities Toronto (HOT), the City's 10-year affordable housing Action Plan, which is to be released in 2009. More information on HOT is available at <http://www.toronto.ca/affordablehousing/hot.htm>

New corporations will improve Toronto's economic competitiveness

Toronto City Council has approved the creation of two new and innovative corporations to strengthen Toronto's position in the global marketplace and enhance its economic competitiveness: **Build Toronto and Invest Toronto.**

The two corporations will be closely aligned with City objectives, but will be able to act independently:

Build Toronto will engage private and public sector partners in the development of under-utilized City real estate to unlock value, stimulate the creation of desirable jobs and regenerate neighbourhoods, consistent with the City's broader economic, social and environment goals. The Blueprint for Fiscal Stability and Economic Prosperity (February 2008) recommended that the City establish a new structure and strategy for managing, coordinating, and maximizing the real estate holdings (conservatively estimated at \$18 billion) of the City and its Agencies, Boards, and Commissions (ABCs).

Invest Toronto will engage the private sector in promoting Toronto as an investment opportunity through marketing, conducting trade missions, and coordinating with other governments and business. The Agenda for Prosperity (January 2008) highlighted the need for a focused approach to internationalization and marketing efforts.

For more information visit: www.toronto.ca/toronto-competes/index.htm

Habitat for Humanity Events

20th Anniversary Party – Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity Toronto's is celebrating its 20th Anniversary and you're invited! Please join us for this special

event to thank Habitat for Humanity Toronto volunteers and donors on **Wednesday November 19th, 2008** at The Roundhouse at Steam Whistle Brewing. You don't want to miss this wonderful evening filled with food, music and award celebrations. We look forward to seeing some familiar faces from the past and present, and taking a look back at our success over the years and hopes for the future. Visit www.torontohabitat.ca for more information or register for this event by phone at 416-755-7353 ext. 225 or email at dgainer@torontohabitat.on.ca.

Gingerbread Build

Kick-off the holiday season by helping to build a 'home sweet home' for a family in need. Join hundreds of families **December 6th and 7th** as you decorate your own gingerbread house at Habitat for Humanity Toronto's 6th annual Gingerbread Build! While volunteers have to be 16 to participate in a Habitat build, children of any age can participate in this family-friendly event. By doing so, they are offering a 'hand up' to children in need of a simple, decent, affordable home. Once again, the Gingerbread Build will be held at The Habitat Toronto Home Building Factory (1627 Danforth Ave.). Contact Joanna at jmatthews@torontohabitat.on.ca or call 416-755-7353 ext. 228 for more information or to sign up today!

National Women's Show Habitat for Humanity Toronto is going to be at the National Women's Show during the weekend of **November 7-9** at the Metro Toronto Convention Center. Come on out and show your support as we rally women to join our Women Build movement. Corrie Dixon of Tomboy Tools will be on hand to give tool demonstrations and even teach you how to repair a hole in your wall! Participants will have an opportunity to swing hammers and write their name on a 2-by-4 that will be used in the construction of a Women Build home. There will also be a promotional draw with chances to win some great prizes! The National Women's Show is the Ultimate Girls' Day Out! For more information visit www.nationalwomenshow.com

Draft Regional Transportation Plan and Draft Investment Strategy

Metrolinx has released its Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Draft Investment Strategy (IS) entitled *The Big Move: Transforming Transportation in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area* for public consultation following approval by the Metrolinx Board of Directors on September 26, 2008.

The Draft RTP details the largest expansion of public transit in the region in more than a half century including 1,150 kilometres of new rapid transit lines and other initiatives that will more than double the number of trips taken on public transit every year. When fully implemented, 75 per cent of residents in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) will live within two kilometres of rapid transit compared to just 42 per cent currently.

The Draft RTP and Draft IS are now available on the Metrolinx web site at www.metrolinx.com for downloading. (Please see hyperlinks under attachments for direct internet access to these documents.)

Next Toronto City Council Meeting

Toronto City Council
December 1st and 2nd, 2008
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, Council Chamber

For more information Council agendas, please refer to the following City website link:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2008/agendas/cc.htm>

If you wish to make a submission to Toronto City Council, please review the following instructions and comments from the City Clerks office.

The City Clerk's Office may receive individual correspondence or other information containing personal information on an agenda item for a meeting agenda. It is our policy not to publish personal information on the Internet. If you wish to review or obtain a copy of any individual correspondence pertaining to an item on a meeting agenda, please contact the City Clerk's Office.

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The City of Toronto collects any personal information in your communication to Toronto City Council or its committees under the City of Toronto Act, 2006 and the City of Toronto Municipal Code.

The City collects this information to enable it to make informed decisions on the relevant issue(s). Individuals who submit letters and other information should be aware that any personal information in their communication will become part of the public record. The City will make it available to the public, unless the individual expressly requests the City to remove the personal information.

Please direct any questions to: City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 100 Queen St. West, Toronto ON M5H 2N2 or call 416-392-7032

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Sincerely,



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