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Business

Seasonal Flu Shots

Even if you don't normally get a seasonal flu shot, health experts are advising that this year you definitely should not only consider it, but act on it as soon as it is available.

With doctors seeing fewer patients, consider getting your shot at your local drug store. This year, Shopper's Drug Mart will also carry the "senior" flu shot.

Flu vaccines should be available by mid October both at drug stores and medical offices. *RW.*

Do the right thing Your actions matter



Wear a non-medical mask
when physical distance
cannot be maintained

mississauga.ca/coronavirus



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Trick or Treat? *should Halloween be cancelled this year?*

As Halloween approaches, there is much uncertainty as to whether or not it will or should be cancelled this year.

Over the years, Halloween has become a much larger event than just tricks and treats. Five years ago, maybe a few homes were decked out for the event; nowadays, many of our neighbours put in a great deal of effort and expense to deck out their properties with displays that rival Christmas. Costumes and decorations have become a major part of the economy, as children compete for the best outfits and adults for the scariest looking house on the street. Halloween is also a big night for parties.



Unfortunately, with the Covid-19 restrictions, this is no longer a possibility. Neither house parties nor gatherings at bars and other venues will be an option to show off a great costume. Due to the uncertainty this year, people are perplexed as to whether or not to purchase the Halloween candy prominently on display in stores.

We have a dilemma: Will parents still bring their children door to door, or do we just turn out the lights? Is it possible to safely dole out treats? If the City does not ban trick or treating, and parents are willing to take their kids around the neighbourhood, here are some thoughts on spreading happiness and

continued on page 2

ZOOM in to the AGM OCT 21

The world is changing and The Rockwood Homeowners Association (RHA) is keeping up! This year, our **Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on October 21.**

Councillor Fonseca will be our keynote speaker. Joining the councillor will be City staff who will be available to speak to many issues of interest to our neighborhood including: improvements to Rathburn, traffic calming on Bough Beeches, coyotes, and the redevelopment of the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre.

To attend the meeting please e-mail us at RHA.executive@gmail.com and we will send you the link and password that you will need to join the meeting. For security reasons, please provide your name and the street you live on (not your full address). We will send a reminder and the link a few days prior to the meeting to everyone that is on our e-mail list.

If we do not have your name on the list of attendees, you will not be allowed to enter the meeting.

If you have a specific question for the Councillor, please include it in your e-mail; one of the Board members will present it during the question period. *If you are new to Zoom this website can help you get started: www.tomsguide.com/news/how-to-join-a-zoom-meeting .*

Of course, the other option is to ask your grandchildren.





LOCAL CONTACTS

RHA Executives

Joe Silva • President

Dale Biason • Vice President LM

Val Thomson • Treasurer LM

Kimberly Lulham • Secretary

Leszek Pisarek • Director LM

Frank Medoro • Director

Richard Schwarz • Director

Jason Haraschuk • Director

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Lessons Learned

Dale Biason

Our last newsletter heralded Phase Three in the return to recovery. We are now on the verge of slipping back into phase two, or worse, unless we all do our part to ensure that does not happen.

We seem to have adopted the part about wearing face masks when shopping and when it is not possible to physically distance. This is a good thing.

Where we did not do a good job was avoiding gatherings, period! Once the concept of circles evolved, things seemed to spiral out of control. Somehow, we lost the concept that my circle and your circle were not supposed to be combined. Nor did we do a good job at communicating to the younger generation that they too had to be socially responsible.

As the numbers increased for gathering inside and outside, the spread, not surprisingly, began to rise. However, it was still low enough to allow schools to re-open and a small sense of normality to return to some households. Many, however, are still dealing with home schooling to avoid the potential for bringing home the dreaded virus to family who may not survive the disease.

My children made the decision that all five of my grandchildren were going to return to school. I supported their decision, as I personally believed that going to school is important for emotional health, not to mention the education itself. However, I also realize that this has put

family gatherings in jeopardy, but with some planning and some precautions, they can be possible. This will of course be dependant on what the Provincial Health Advisors have to say about a family "unit".

To me, the family unit means the immediate family. It does not include the aunts, uncles, cousins, and family friend—it certainly does not include bringing grandma who lives in a nursing home. If there are more than three cars in your driveway that are not being driven by those in your household, you are probably over the guidelines.

This year, our Christmas dinner might be served at four distanced tables, and the presents may be opened with everyone being physically distanced and wearing masks—but it would still be Christmas!

This will, however, depend on all of us doing our part to bring down the curve. Let's do our best to avoid another lock down and the devastating results.

We have already been there and done that, let's move forward. **RW**



.....
continued from Page 1

and not COVID 19. • Place your treats in a basket or bowl at your door and let the children select the treats, maintain your distance, and wear a mask. Don't forget to wipe down the doorknobs and doorbells at the end of the night.

• Avoid crowded doorsteps. One family at a time. This is not a year for taking your children around with your neighbours.

• Parents should bring hand sanitizers along and use it every few doors.

• Before your children go out, pack a bag of goodies that they can eat for the next few days while the collected treats are in quarantine.

• When the children return home, place the night's haul in the garage, or out of reach for 48 hours. Research indicates that the virus cannot survive longer than this period of time. Afterwards, the treats should be safe.

Watch for any Public Health advisories with regard to Halloween. If it's still on, have a safe and happy Halloween. **RW**

A Disappointed Senior

A few days ago, a Rockwood Village resident came over to me and said, "It's going to be easier to drag my cart to Food Basics. They're finally constructing a sidewalk down that steep path reserved for cars only." She was referring to the east entrance to Rockwood Mall off Bough Beeches. Residents on the east side of Bough Beeches (between Maple Ridge and Rathburn) who do not drive use this



entrance to the mall rather than walk all the way to Rathburn on the north side of the mall, or to Burnhamthorpe Road on the south side of the mall; both are rather long distances for pedestrians carrying a load of groceries. It is shorter than using the other entrances, but it is steep, slippery in winter and really does not provide safe access for pedestrians.

After my encounter with the resident, I drove to the referred spot where I met two hydro workers and I asked them if in fact there was going to be a new sidewalk laid there. Unfortunately, their response was that they were repairing existing underground cables, and those cables negate any possibility of a sidewalk.

On closer examination I noted that, at one time, there must have been some thought about providing a pedestrian entrance to the mall at this site.

On the opposite side of where they are burying the hydro cable you will clearly note from the picture that the sidewalk, if completed, would provide pedestrians a safer walk to Rockwood Mall. It would simply require continuing the approaching piece of sidewalk that ends at the top of that lane.

Can the City do something to rectify this long-standing thorn in the side of the local residents? It may be that this entrance to the mall is on private property. If so, why can't the owners be persuaded to provide a safe pedestrian access to the mall, just as the other accesses (on the west side at Dixie Road and on the north side at Rathburn Road) clearly provide sidewalks on either side of the road entrances?

Frank Medoro

A huge **THANK YOU** to our health care workers, teachers & first responders!



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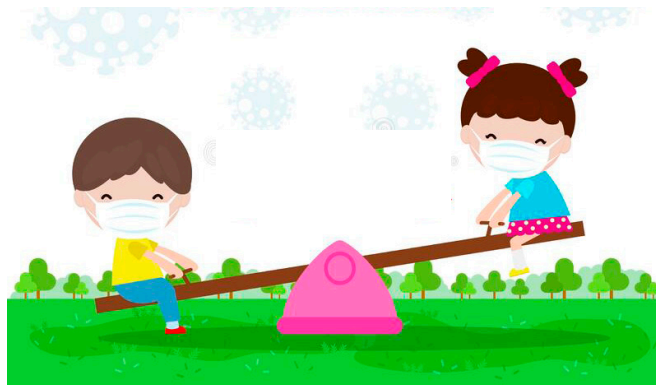
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COMMUNITY

"Let's Remember our Masks! Especially at Crowded Playgrounds!"

At the time of writing this article, it's a warm autumn afternoon and I'm walking from my home in Rockwood Village to pick up my kids at Sts. Martha and Mary School. The school has been working very hard in making sure all students are social distanced from one another in the schoolyard, released from school in staggered format, and most importantly, students are wearing their masks. Ontario's Ministry of Education mandated masks for ALL children from grades 1 to Grade 12. This is to ensure that, if students cannot properly distance from one another, they have the added protection of masks to slow the spread of Covid-19.

As I looked around at the parents in this designated pick up zone on school property, I noticed that almost all parents were wearing masks. This is great because every parent seems to not only be following the rules but also following the guidelines of Peel Public Health, which reads "wear a non-medical mask where maintaining physical distancing is difficult...." (peelregion.ca/coronavirus/prevention/) However, steps away from the school is Bough Beeches Park. At this park, there is a playground;



and when you look at these young people's eyes, there is excitement and happiness because the new rigors and reality of school have prevented these children to do what children are supposed to do—run free!

As my kids and I started walking home, I noticed that many children at Bough Beeches Park removed their masks and ran to the various play structures at the crowded

*In this crowded playground of
what looked like about 50 kids, only
approximately 3 or 4 had their masks on.
This is a major concern!*

playground next door to the school. Children playing at a playground is excellent because playgrounds promote exercise and getting fresh air; but I couldn't help see the irony of this almost total disregard to social distancing and mask wearing. In this crowded playground of what looked like about 50 kids, only approximately 3 or 4 had their masks on. This is a major concern!

Every parent knows that social distancing is almost impossible, especially after kids get out of the confines of school at 3:30. However, the lack of wearing masks during a global pandemic cannot be condoned. Furthermore, there is research on the Federal Government website that states that mask wearing cuts down significantly the spread of coronavirus! With the daily numbers skyrocketing, today for example (September 22), the case numbers have risen to 478 in Ontario. Parents, please remember to mask your children in a crowded playground. At this point, there is no law in Ontario to prevent people from not wearing a mask outside, but we in Rockwood Village have been doing a great job in slowing down the spread of coronavirus! So let's remember to mask the kids in crowded playgrounds! It will save lives.... **RW**

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Rathburn Speedway

In 1972 when Rockwood was just in the planning stages, there was optimism that Rathburn Road would be a major access route into Etobicoke. For that reason, it was planned as a major four-lane road. Since there was not, and probably will never be, any interest from our neighbors to the east to "bridge" the Creek, now Rathburn Road, east of Ponytrail, is a dinosaur.

The only purpose this road to "nowhere" has served over the years is that it makes a great "drag strip." With the change in the seasons, and windows now open at night, the roar of the engines has brought the decades old issue to the forefront again.

The City has plans to redevelop this stretch of road. If you have any ideas, please drop the RHA an e-mail at: rha.executive@gmail.com. or, better still, join us on October 21st at our Annual General Meeting. Details of the AGM are on the cover page. The City Planners will be in attendance to provide up-dates and hear your feedback.

If you witness any aggressive or dangerous driving, you can now report such incidents, online, directly to Peel Police at: peelpolice.ca and select "road watch". This is a community initiative to allow residents to report infractions such as excessive speeds, failure to stop for school busses

and running red lights or stop signs. The offender's licence number is not required. If you do have the licence plate, call Peel Police directly at 905-453-3311. **RW**

Mandatory Face Covering By-law

Wearing a face covering or face mask in indoor public spaces is required under a City By-law until January 20, 2021. You must also wear a face covering or face mask while using **MiWay Transit**.

Your face covering or face mask should:

- Be easy to breathe through
- Be at least two layers of tightly woven cotton or linen
- Cover the nose, mouth and chin without gaping
- Fit securely to the head with ties or ear loops
- Maintain its shape after washing and drying

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Tips to Prepare your Home for Winter NOW

- Keep gutters clear of fall leaves, twigs and acorns to keep snow and ice from flowing freely, which can cause clogging gutters which can lead to water damage to your home and termite nesting.
- Turn off and drain outside taps, turning off water from inside your home. Consider covering with an insulating cover, if you don't have a turn-off valve inside.
- Power wash outside patios, decks and walkways to remove “summer” dirt.
- Wash windows, inside and outside, inspect seals. Caulk where necessary. Remove screens (optional)
- Plan snow removal BEFORE the first snowstorm arrives.
- Buy ice melt BEFORE the ice arrives. (Pet friendly where possible) It is recommended

to use sand for traction instead of salt on new concrete.

- Cut grass to at least 4 inches to protect from snow. Apply a winter fertilizer to lawns to

!!!!!!

Test your Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Most house fires happen in the winter, when we're blasting the furnace and building fires. We are much more likely to have our home closed up tight, so carbon monoxide is a huge hazard. Please Make sure your detectors are working and install new batteries!

encourage thicker root growth.

- Drain and blow out irrigation systems.
- Protect shrubs. Install burlap covers around cold-sensitive shrubs, especially those near roads to protect from road salt damage.
- Have Deer? Treat plants with your favorite deer repellent such as a spray that contains egg yolks because deer dislike protein.
- Let grasses stand. Don't prune ornamental grasses until spring. If you cut it back in fall, snow, ice and cold may damage the crown.
- Mow over leaves and let them decompose in place. Or bag chopped leaves with your mower and use them as mulch or add to your compost pile.

Please submit your questions to “Ask Joe”
rha.executive@gmail.com

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More Bumps in the Road?

There is no doubt that the “traffic calming” measures implemented on Fieldgate have been effective. There is less traffic, and speed has been reduced.

Unless you are willing to lose the underbody of your car, it is impossible to take the speed bumps over 30 km/hr. If you are new to the area and take the first hump just south of Bough Beeches at the posted speed, you are in for a big surprise. If you were travelling a little faster, it is not inconceivable that surprise might result in loss of control of the vehicle.

The fact that there is less traffic may point to defensive driving measures. In order to avoid the speed bumps, many drivers are taking alternate routes and in so doing have actually diverted traffic to other routes, primarily Bough Beeches.

The “traffic calming” on Bough Beeches is an entirely different situation. These bumps, in front of Sts. Martha and Mary School are not slowing the traffic. They only present an obstacle to motorists who now just negotiate around them. This practice could actually make them dangerous in a school zone.

On September 21, Councillor Fonseca announced a public engagement session with regard to “traffic calming” along Bough Beeches Blvd. According to the diagrams



provided, the project would place speed bumps at regular intervals from Rathburn Road, across Fieldgate and ending at Burnhamthorpe. We are including the proposed diagrams; however, for clarity you might want to check this out by viewing the proposal at: www.chrisfonseca.ca – Traffic Calming Bough Beeches Blvd.

If you would like to participate the public engagement, simply send your comments—either for or against—and any comments on the proposal to Chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca before November 1, 2020. Your email should include your name and complete address. The Councillor has committed to taking all feedback into consideration before a final decision is made. **RW** rockwoodvillage.ca

ONLINE Public Engagement Sessions

Participate in an On-line Public Engagement Session for the proposed traffic calming on Bough Beeches Blvd.

Slides are available for viewing at www.chrisfonseca.ca under Traffic Calming On-line Engagement.

Whether you are in favour, opposed or require more information, please take a moment to e-mail me your feedback before November 1, 2020. at chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca



Ward 3 Councillor
Chris Fonseca

Please include your full name and address to ensure your comments are part of the official record.

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I love DOGS...

in fact, everywhere my wife and I have lived, we've had a dog or two. For the last many years, though, we have not had a dog.

It's fun interacting with dogs, but what's not fun is interacting with dogs' poop, especially when it's not from your own dog!

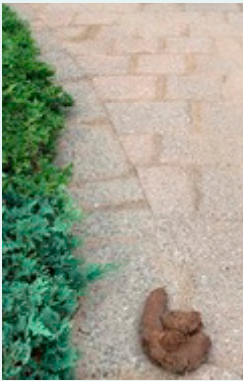
It's hard work to keep landscaping looking neat and attractive. Dog owners should have more common consideration for their neighbours than to allow their off-leash dogs to foul up another person's lawn, or even worse, walkway.

Also, if you're caught, it can be downright costly. Here's some advice from the internet:

www.mississauga.ca › portal › residents › animalservices

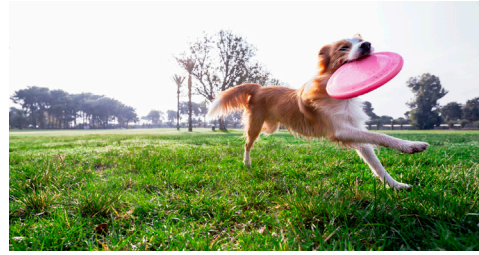
Frank Medoro

"Dog owners and walkers are responsible for picking up after their dogs. Please carry a scoop and bag when you walk your dog off your property. Owners who fail to "Stoop & Scoop" their dog's excrement can be fined. All offences are subject to a fine of \$90.00 plus a \$20.00 service charge."



Park By-Law Revised

The City has recently updated the Parks By-law. Here are the highlights and changes for those who use the parks, leash free zones or trails in our neighbourhood:



- Parks will be open from dawn to 11 p.m.
 - Children under 12 years of age are not allowed to enter Leash-Free Zones.
 - Commercial dog walkers with an approved permit can use Leash-Free Zones Monday to Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. only.
 - Smoking and vaping are prohibited in all public outdoor spaces. Additional to these changes are the Covid-19 rules that include wearing a face mask when it is not possible to be physically distanced, this is particularly important in the playgrounds.
- You can review the whole by law on the City of Mississauga website. <https://www.mississauga.ca/wp-content/>



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