



ROCKWOOD HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

**FALL 2017** 

### VACUUM LEAF PICKUP PROGRAM

### WEEKS OF OCTOBER 23 AND NOVEMBER 13

- Rake leaves to edge of the grass by Sunday before your scheduled vacuum leaf pickup. Do not rake leaves onto the road.
- Reduce potential flooding by keeping curbside storm drains clear.
- Move cars from the street during leaf pickup days

Peel Region will also pick up leaves on your regular waste collection day until December 14, 2017

For more information call 905-791-9499 - visit peelregion.ca or mississauga.ca/leafpickup

. . . .

#### THE MISSISSAUGA FOOD BANK THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN ON NOW THROUGH

OCTOBER 13
Just \$2.00 provides 5
meals. To meet the needs
of hungry families in

Mississauga, we must raise \$125,000 and 225,000 lbs. of food by October 13. themississaugafoodbank.org/event/annual-thanksgiving-campaign/



PLEASE SLOW DOWN Keep our children safe...

### More Air Traffic Over Rockwood?



In May 2016, NAV CANADA commissioned Helios to undertake an independent review of the Toronto airspace with the objective of identifying opportunities to reduce community noise exposure while maintaining or increasing the number of flights. A preliminary report was presented in March 2017. Included in this report were alterations to the runway patterns to expand capacity.

Although Helios conducted four community outreach meetings, all were held well outside those communities most affected by the airport. As for the panel of concerned citizens, on which the Mayor assured we would have representation, not one resident of Rockwood or Markland Woods was selected.

After consulting with community groups and other stakeholders, Helios presented its final recommendations on September 18.

Among them were: retrofit of aircrafts to reduce noise, keeping flights higher

thus more quiet, alternating runways (noise sharing), and public consultation prior to any changes to flight paths.

To be clear, NAV CANADA and the GTAA want to double the number of flights in and out of Pearson. The independent study was to provide ammunition to approach Transport Canada to change the terms of the 1998 Air Traffic Management White Paper that maximizes the volume of flights on the north/south runways to 5%.

If GTAA and NAV CANADA get approval from the Federal Government to move forward with their plan, we could see air traffic over Rockwood increase to 30%, which equates to an increase of 600%.

But it is not just about noise and pollution. To implement such a significant increase in traffic, changes to the use and number of runways would be required. It is our position that this would also create a safety issue. During the renovations in April and May, as many as six near misses were reported.

continued on PAGE 3

THE R.H.A.... YOUR COMMUNITY VOICE

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### LOCAL CONTACTS RHA Executives

Joe Silva • President
Lisa Portolese • Vice President
Val Thomson • Treasurer
Kimberly Lulham • Secretary
Dale Biason • Director
Leszek Pisarek • LM Director
Frank Medoro • Director
Nicole Danesi • Director
Jason Haraschuk • Director
Boris Swedak • Advisor LM
Stephen Roscoe • LM
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The Rockwood Homeowners' Association

### www.rockwoodvillage.ca

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Rockwood Homeowners' Association



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Rockwood Homeowner's Association 2017 Annual General Meeting

## Mayor defensive at AGM

With Airport noise top of

mind, Rockwood residents

turned out in force to address



concerns directly to Mayor Bonnie Crombie, Councillor Chris Fonseca and GTAA representatives at the RHA Annual General Meeting in

Mayor Crombie

would be no further cause for utilizing the north south runways other than the approximately 18 days per year to which we are accustomed.

As a part of the AGM, a Board of Directors was elected. Joe Silva and Lisa





Joe Silva

Lisa Portolese

unbearable noise.

Councillor Fonseca spoke in detail regarding airport issues and was acknowledged and praised for her leadership role in taking the GTAA to task. She also addressed many local issues including local traffic to which, following the meeting, she sent a detailed response by e-mail and it is included in this newsletter.

May.

The mayor was challenged to defend her

"backseat" position of abdicating any role

on her part, leaving Councillor Fonseca

to assume the role of defender-in-chief for Mississauga residents, particularly

Rockwood, against a gruelling month of

Representatives from the GTAA expressed their full-throated apology for disruption to the quiet enjoyment of the community. While more runway work was planned for October, GTAA confirmed that all the work was completed and there

Portolese will remain as President and Vice President respectively. Kimberly Lulham was elected Secretary. Valerie Thompson was re-elected Treasurer. Nicole Danisi, Dale Biason and Frank Medoro will remain as Directors. Leszak Pisarek has been recognized as a lifelong member and will remain as a Director. Welcome to Jason Haraschuk, a new recruit to the Board. RW

As always, we welcome your comments, questions and any concerns you may wish to share in over 3000 newsletters distributed quarterly in your Rockwood nieghbourhood, please forward your information to rha.executive@.gmail.com

### Remember to change your Clocks!



#### November 5, 2017

Daylight Saving Time Ends
When local daylight time is about
to reach Sunday, November 5,
2017, **2:00:00** am clocks are
turned *backward* 1 hour to Sunday,
November 5, 2017, **1:00:00** am local
standard time instead.



continued from page 1

An accident over Pearson could spell disaster for our community.

We are not the only community with serious concerns about expansion at Toronto Pearson. To grow our voice, we have teamed up with 10 surrounding resident groups to provide a stronger voice against any change that would negatively affect our quality of life or flight safety. This newly formed group is CAAS (Community Alliance for Air Safety). To learn more, visit: www.caasafety.ca The bottom line is that, prior to NAV CANADA and the GTAA implementing changes at the airport, there will be opportunities for community involvement. Transport Canada will have the final say.

It is, therefore, up to each of us to ensure that our message is loud and clear. Keep the sky over our homes safe and maintain the level of traffic to the 5% as previously guaranteed. RW

• TORONTO PEARSON AIRPORT is the fourth largest entry port to North America.



#### TRANSPORT CANADA

is the Federal Ministry responsible for all airports, roads, waterways, railways and infrastructure in Canada.

- NAV CANADA is a private not-for-profit company that owns and operates Canada's civil air operations and is responsible for the safe and expeditious flow of air spaces. Their services include: Air Traffic Control, Airport Advisory and Flight Information, and Aeronautical Information.
- THE GREATER TORONTO AIRPORTS AUTHORITY (GTAA) is responsible for operating Toronto Pearson Airport.
- C.E.N.A.C—Community Engagement and Noise Advisory Committee—is a community outreach program spearheaded by the GTAA. cost of the Land Transfer fees.

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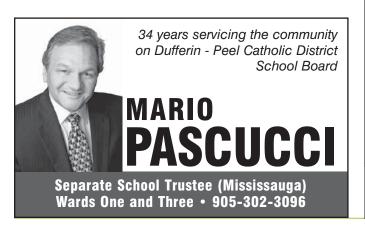
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### Home Sales have slowed slightly, but still moving

After record high prices in the spring, the Real Estate market took a turn downwards in May. Many seasoned Real Estate Agents saw this coming when anticipated bidding wars started to evaporate in April. With much media hype about skyrocketing prices, the drought on listings was broken as sellers in pursuit of the "big bucks" came on to the market in early May. Meanwhile, buyers were focused on the government's commitment to cool the market by implementing new taxes on foreign buyers and other measures, and took a "let's wait and see" position. Suddenly what had been a seller's market for over a year suddenly became a buyer's market. This correction did not come without consequences to those who bought and sold during the boom in the spring. As prices fell during May, June and July, many buyers who won

a bid by paying way over asking price, now experienced issues with mortgaging this property with a value now less than appraised, and selling a property for which they anticipated both a faster sale and a higher price.

Buyers now have options, as, for the time being, there is inventory.

Many buyers simply walked from their deposits leaving the sellers to resell at revised market pricing. In many cases these sellers had purchased based on the sale of their property initiating a chain reaction possibly impacting as many as 4--5 other properties.

Currently, August sales in the GTA were down 40% versus the same month last year. Only one detached home in Rockwood sold during this same period. As for prices, they

have fallen but not crashed. Sales of property over one million dollars have been slower; however, those under this watermark have been moving much more quickly and can be purchased with fewer financing restrictions.

If we compare the GTA market to Vancouver, where similar measures were made to cool their market, we can perhaps anticipate that buyers will accept that prices are not going to stay low forever; eventually, sales and prices will increase once again.

While sellers may have to postpone achieving the prices we saw early this year until next spring, buyers now have options, as, for the time being, there is inventory. If the market remains balanced, those crazy times of bidding wars will have ended. RW

Dale Biason, Salesperson, Royal LePage Signature Realty



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### Traffic Management concerns addressed

The following letter is Councillor Fonseca's response to questions raised by Rockwood residents at the last RHA Annual General Meeting.

The Transportation and Works Department has reviewed the concerns I brought forward from the RHA AGM regarding the pedestrian signal operation at the intersection of Fieldgate Drive at Rathburn Road and regarding the Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) at the intersections of Burnhamthorpe Road at Ponytrail Drive and Burnhamthorpe Road at Fieldgate Drive. Traffic System staff have reviewed these concerns and offer the following comments.

The majority of signalized intersections within the City of Mississauga operate in what is termed as 'semi actuated' control with predetermined timing plans. This is the case with the intersection of Fieldgate Drive at Rathburn Road. This means that when vehicles are detected on the side street (Fieldgate Drive) or a pedestrian pushes the push-button, the traffic signals will change after a certain amount of time. This is because the traffic signal on Rathburn Road belongs to a coordinated group which provides optimal signal progression along the roadway. In order to maintain this progression, a constant timing relationship between signals must be maintained. As a result, motorists and pedestrians waiting on the minor street may experience delay entering/crossing onto Rathburn Road or Fieldgate Drive. It should also be noted that there is no preference given to pedestrians activating the push button or vehicles being detected at the intersection with respect to the time it takes for signals to change.

As per the second concern regarding the Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS), the City of Mississauga is moving towards ATMS with the overall goal of pro-actively managing traffic and mitigating traffic congestion. The ATMS implementation plan has identified a number of projects to be carried out to deal with traffic congestion, as well as provide advanced operational strategies to meet the travelling needs of the public. Every traffic signal in the City will be transitioned to the new ATMS. These projects include the following:

- The replacement of the existing Central Traffic Computer with a state of the art Traffic Control System.
- A new Traffic Management Centre to implement a higher order traffic signal control strategy.
- Traffic cameras and vehicle detection devices to pro-actively monitor traffic conditions and, if required, to adjust signal timings.
- Traveller information to distribute the data to the public regarding traffic congestion.
- Variable and/or changeable message signs to provide reliable information to the public regarding route congestion.

Currently, the City is in the initial deployment phase of its ATMS projects. The advancement of our transportation management



system is expected to be phased over the next several years with the replacement of the Traffic Control System currently underway and the construction of a new Traffic Management Centre complete. The implementation of these projects will optimize the available signal and network capacity; however, it is important to note that congestion may still occur during certain peak periods once capacity is reached. Traffic congestion will not be eliminated but better managed and integrated with other modes of transportation (i.e. transit and cycling).

Respectfully,

Councillor Chris Fonseca, Ward 3 Telephone: 905-896-5300 chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca



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### To Seal or NOT to Seal...

Hi Joe.

My name is Arthur and I have been thinking of applying driveway sealer on my asphalt driveway and was wondering what is the best season to do this.

Hi, Arthur,

Thank you for asking this question, as this issue has bothered me for years. Asphalt is made of mainly three ingredients: sand, stone and tar an oil-based product.

As such, it is a flexible surface and it needs to flex and breathe. Sealing it will trap moisture in and in the winter this moisture will freeze promoting cracking. By sealing it with that stuff you buy in a five-gallon can or have applied by door-to-door people, you are actually reducing the ability of the asphalt to perform to its expected design and thus reducing its life.

My driveway is original from the mid 70's and has never been sealed; it only has one crack on it to which I apply a crack sealer to prevent water from going under the surface. By applying this sealer, I reduce the chance of the water freezing in the winter months.

By the way, there is no such stuff being used at Canada's largest airport as some of the manufacturers seem to suggest.

Therefore the best time is NEVER. RW

Joe



Often, with a poor quality sealing job, this could happen.



Tools needed to fix the driveway cracks



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# CURB Appeal



Have you noticed how many corner properties look just like this? What a great way to show our neighbourhood pride!

Are you peeved with your neighbor who does not cut his grass, pull the weeds and otherwise not maintain his property? You are not alone. Last year the City received 680 complaints about deadbeat neighbours and, as of the end of July this year, that number had already risen to almost 800 calls.

Good news. Now you can call the By-Law Enforcement Office (905-896-5655) and the City will get results one way or another.

An update to the City's bylaws now requires property owners to cut the grass, pull the weeds and pick up litter on any city-owned boulevard adjacent to their property. After 10 days notice, if the property is not cleaned up, City crews will step in to do the maintenance and add the cost to the owner's property tax.

While this update only applies to the City property, maybe while they have the weed-wacker out, those offenders will attack the rest of those weeds on their lawns and flowerbeds.

It seems almost unthinkable that someone living in a million-dollar home would not take some pride in their property and their neighbourhood, but, obviously, some do not. There are many examples in our community of gardens and boulevards running wild with grass and weeds, and this neglect has a detrimental impact on their own and their neighbours' property value.

Now that there is a path to ensuring your neighbour does his part to maintain at least the City property, the ball is in your court. RW

Do the right thing. Call the City and report offenders! (Mississauga By Law Enforcement Office at 905-896-5655).

### Glenforest School Update

In January 2017, The Peel District School Board announced that they would be closing Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. and moving the Vocational and Autism Spectrum Disorder students to Glenforest S.S. effective in September 2018.

In order to accommodate the new arrivals, the Enhanced Learning Program and will be moved, at the same timing, from Glenforest to either Woodlands or Lorne Park Secondary Schools.

Alterations planned to commence at Glenforest over the summer have now been postponed until next summer. As a result, the Gordon Graydon students will not be arriving until September 2019. RW



### **REGISTER NOW** for City's Driveway Windrow SNOW CLEARING PROGRAM

Registration Open until 9:00 p.m. Friday, November 10th, 2017

for all residents 65 years and over, and those with disabilities. The program provides assistance to eligible applicants by clearing windrows after snow plowing operations have ended.

Program runs from November 27, 2017 to March 30, 2018.



**HOW TO APPLY?** Applications available online or at all community centres, the Recreation Customer Service Centre (located at the Mississauga Central Library) and the Mississauga Seniors' Centre. Visit www.mississauga.ca for information.

### CHRIS FONSECA

Councillor, Ward 3

Region of Peel

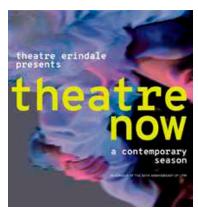




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Send your news and/or special events to publish and post on the RHA website to rha.executive@gmail.com

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