

FALL BATTERY COLLECTION

The Region is collecting single-use A, AA, AAA, C, D, 9 volt and button cell batteries from the curb.

On your battery collection day (*the same day as your recycling*), put the batteries in a sealed bag on top of your closed and locked organics cart (green). If you don't receive organics collection, place the sealed bag beside your recycling bag(s). For more information visit www.mississauga.ca



SATURDAY, OCT. 29 NOON -3PM
CELEBRATION SQUARE
mississauga.ca/celebration-square

Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE
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Blast Rocks Neighbourhood

On Tuesday, June 28, 2016 a blast in a home on Hickory Drive was strong enough to be felt here in Rockwood. The explosion killed two people, injured nine others and forced hundreds from their homes. While many people have since been able to return, 37 residences are still deemed structurally unsound and are off-limits to residents.

Three months after the blast, there are no conclusive results on just what caused the blast or the motive. Not knowing why and how is creating a lot of anxiety for those who have returned.

For those who have been forced out of their homes, some are being supported by their insurance companies, while others are facing struggles in finding suitable temporary housing while awaiting the long road

to returning home. These residents face a process of filling in paperwork, determining and quantifying their losses, getting architectural plans prepared to rebuild or repair, and applying for Building Permits.

To add to the misery, many of the older homes have been found to contain asbestos. This adds another layer of removing hazardous materials which will slow down the process even further.

As the community rebuilds, United Way of Peel Region, the City of Mississauga and The Region of Peel are partnering to make it easier for concerned Peel residents to help those impacted by the explosion on Hickory Drive. The first community fundraiser, a barbeque, was held on September 17th with proceeds donated to the Hickory residents in need.

Continued on Page 2



LOCAL CONTACTS

RHA Executives

- Boris Swedak • *Advisor LM*
- Joe Silva • *President*
- Lisa Portolese • *Vice President*
- Val Thomson • *Treasurer*
- Nicole Danesi • *Secretary*
- Dale Bason • *Director*
- Leszek Pisarek • *Director*
- Frank Medoro • *Director*
- Christine Ales • *Director*
- Stephen Roscoe • *LM*
- LM - *(Life Member)*

Airport/Noise Complaints

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 torontopearson.com/webtrak

The Rockwood Homeowners' Association
 1734 Chalkdene Grove,
 Mississauga ON L4W 2C3

www.rockwoodvillage.ca
 Email: rha.executive@gmail.com

 **Rockwood Homeowners' Association**

 **Twitter @rockwood_rha**

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Mayor Crombie Attends the Rockwood Homeowners' Association's AGM.

An enthusiastic group welcomed Mayor Bonnie Crombie on her inaugural visit to the 2016 Rockwood Annual General Meeting held on May 17, 2016. Residents were not shy to press on a variety of issues, all of which the Mayor navigated skilfully.



Mayor Bonnie Crombie speaking at the RHA Annual General Meeting

Mayor Crombie's message focused on two major themes: the value of partnership within the Region of Peel and transportation. Crombie acknowledged that the City has commissioned a study to weigh the value of remaining as part of the Region of Peel. The last study, conducted in 2006, showed the City was paying \$25M to stay in the regional government. With the passage of time, that cost is now being questioned by Council as to the value of this less than equitable representation versus population. At the time it was formed, Mississauga, like Brampton and Caledon, was only a bedroom city, but much has changed now that Mississauga is the 3rd largest city in Ontario and the 6th largest city in Canada. Crombie questioned the value to Mississauga residents who have little in common with issues facing Caledon. She feels that Mississauga is now large enough to stand on its own merits, as do Ottawa and Hamilton. Council will review the results of the study, and if there is an economic benefit to withdrawing, the City will put forth a referendum for citizens to have their say prior to setting the political wheel in motion.

The Mayor lauded the first-class Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system now almost complete along Eastgate Parkway and spoke on intentions to move forward with an LRT line along Hurontario. However,



during a question period, armed with the fact that there is little or no visible ridership and empty parking lots on the BRT, Dave Street, a former RHA Board Member, asked, "Is this ever going to turn into something viable?" The Mayor responded that the whole route is not yet completed and ridership should pick up on completion of the final four stations to open in 2017. Since 23% of the budget is allocated to transit, this answer was far from acceptable to those who feel that our tax dollars are being spent on a white elephant.

Crombie insisted that Uber would not be welcome in Mississauga, pointing out the fact that we are not as progressive a city as Mayor Crombie would have us believe.

Brent Sommerville challenged Mayor Crombie saying the City was doing a poor job in managing taxpayer dollars, and stating that his property taxes have skyrocketed but that he has not seen any bang for his buck. He, as a stakeholder, felt that the Mayor, as CEO of the City, was not doing a good job in keeping costs down. The mayor assured him that the City was always looking for efficiencies.

Mayor Crombie also responded to challenges from the floor that the storm water levy was an unfair tax grab. Other questions included the lack of electric vehicle charging stations and the potential for Square One to become a transit hub. Crombie assured everyone that changes were coming, some more slowly than others.

Although the issue of the Forest Park Development had just been resolved to the dismay of Rockwood residents shortly before the AGM, the Mayor did not have any comment on the Council's decision to approve the two new buildings. Of course the Mayor did not express her opinion at the hearing and was not a part of the vote as she had pressing business requiring her exit from the Council Room prior to the vote.

Surprisingly, there was no mention of Forest Park from those in attendance, and particularly notable was the absence of those who were so fiercely opposed to the project. *RW*

Continued from page 1

Based on initial resident consultations, United Way of Peel Region is setting a goal of raising \$50,000 from the community to support those residents in crisis. 100% of donations through United Way of Peel Region will be used to respond to the immediate and long-term needs of the residents as they rebuild their lives. *RW*

RHA Elects New President and Vice President

Approximately 100 Rockwood residents attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on May 17, at the Knights of Columbus Hall.



This year Mayor Bonnie Crombie accepted our invitation to address residents for the first time since her election. Councillor Fonseca provided information on initiatives and projects of interest to our community. Sabrina Salvaggio, from the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), also spoke about a sustainable action plan.

As part of the meeting, the Officers of the Association were elected. Long-term President of the RHA, Simi Kapur, stepped down this year and Joe Silva, former Vice President, was elected President. Lisa Portolese, a newcomer to the Board, but a long-term Rockwood resident, was elected Vice President. Valerie Thomson, Treasurer, and Nicole Danesi, Secretary, will remain in the current roles. The Directors are Frank Medoro, Leszek Pisarek, and Dale Biason. The RHA is always looking for residents who can spare a few hours a month to come out and join our executive. Meetings are once a month. *RW* If you are interested, please contact us at www.rockwoodvillage.ca.

The 2017 Budget Process has begun... The online Budget Allocator, Meeting Schedules and Q&A is active and available at

www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/budget

The Budget Committee is a Standing Committee of Council Members which includes the Mayor and all 11 Ward Councillors. All meetings are open to the public. Finance staff presents an overview of the City's current and projected finances and business areas present their current service levels, cost pressures, efficiencies and new initiatives for the Committee to consider. Once the Committee approves the proposed budget, it goes to City Council for a vote.



How can YOU get involved?

- Attend or live stream scheduled Budget Committee Meetings.
- Email your Budget questions or comments to budget@mississauga.ca
- Tele-Town Hall meetings are proposed to take place between October 4 and November 4. One Tele-Town Hall for every two Councillors will be organized. In addition, a City-wide Tele-Town Hall will be arranged with the Mayor.
- Presentations to schools will be organized including University of Toronto, Mississauga, and Sheridan College.



Chris Fonseca
Councillor, Ward 3



[chris.fonseca.mississauga](https://www.facebook.com/chris.fonseca.mississauga)



chris_fonseca3

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Neighbours Watching out for Neighbours

Generally speaking, we enjoy a relatively safe neighbourhood. But there is always room for improvement. Currently, the majority of crimes we see in Rockwood are break and enter, and car thefts.

Studies show that neighbourhood programs can reduce crime by as much as 60%. In a test study, commissioned by the City, crime was reduced 36% in watch streets compared to streets that were not in the program. However, by determining and reducing risk factors on a street or area, the City believes that property crime could be reduced by as much as 80%.

SafeCity Mississauga is a neighbourhood watch program that provides services, programs and activities that increase crime prevention knowledge and skills among all members of the community. It provides inspiration for citizens to get engaged, and then provide support on crime prevention initiatives. They also provide individuals with accurate and relevant information, resources, and research regarding crime and crime prevention.

Here are some instructions from *SafeCity Mississauga* on how you can get involved in starting a Watch Program on your street and how *Safecity Mississauga* will assist you.

If you are interested in the program, and would like further assistance, contact us at www.Rockwood Village.ca. RW



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1. Fill in the form on the Safecity website
[safecitymississauga.on.ca/programs/
neighbourhood-watch](http://safecitymississauga.on.ca/programs/neighbourhood-watch)

2. If you live on private property, you will require Board approval prior to implementing a Watch. Safe City Mississauga Staff will contact you with additional information. You will receive a canvassing form and reference letter from our office to canvass door-to-door. Should you require accessibility accommodation for canvassing please contact us.



3. Canvass your area, and sign up at least 50% of the dwellings on your street, apartment, or complex. Once completed, send *SafeCity* the forms – and they will take it from here!

4. Our CPTED specialist will conduct an audit of your neighbourhood. The results will be discussed at your Set-Up meeting.

5. A Neighbourhood Watch Set-Up meeting will take place at a nearby Community Centre/Library. We will provide a presentation on the Program, and Peel Police will present on home security. We will distribute crime prevention materials at this meeting.

6. The City will install signage in your neighbourhood, denoting your area as a Neighbourhood Watch (may take up to 4 weeks for installation).



7. Your neighbourhood, now trained in crime prevention and safety, will report crime to both the police and Safe City Mississauga. Crime reported to Safe City Mississauga will be emailed out to all residents in the Watch list to keep them informed.

Please SLOW Down...

We love our children and animals!

If traffic on your street seems to be dangerously fast, these City initiatives may appeal to you. In an attempt to encourage drivers to slow down and ensure safety of residents in the community, a number of public education safety campaigns have been rolled out.

The City is distributing "Please Slow Down" lawn signs that can be obtained free from Councillor Fonseca or you can drop us a note at the RHA.

Another great tool offered from the Neighbourhood Watch is the Neighbourhood Speed Watch. This is a free program that will loan a City speedometer for your neighbourhood to record and report speeders as they pass by.



The City is committed to "develop and support programs that educate residents and all road users to keep their communities safe," said Geoff Wright, Commissioner of Transportation and Works. "The lawn signs, among other initiatives, aim to encourage all road users to be responsible and obey traffic rules so we can travel safely in and around the City. The safety of all road users is a priority for the City of Mississauga." *RW*

Mississauga is AAA!

Standard and Poor's has awarded the City of Mississauga its highest "AAA" Credit Rating for the 13th consecutive year. In its assessment, they cited the City's "very strong, diversified economy, exceptional liquidity and very low debt burden" as key success indicators. Other points included Mississauga's competitive tax rates, proximity to major markets, and an extensive transportation network. These have also aided its economy and helped attract and retain investment.

A high credit rating should indicate that the city has the ability to meet its financial commitments,

The S&P report states that the City benefits from its strong budgeting practices, and the report also rated the City's outlook as stable. *RW*



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“Ask Joe” Your Neighbourhood Handyman



Nasty Weed Solution?

Hi Joe

We have an interlock driveway that pretty soon we are going to have to mow because there is so much weed and grass growing between the bricks. I liked your eco-friendly solution for greening our grass. Do you have a magic mixture for my driveway?

Thanks Joe
Margaret on Maple Ridge

Hi Margaret

Instead of using a harsh chemical like “Round-up”, I recommend this mixture you can use safely even around pets and children. Try this on your driveway, sidewalks, patio and even those weeds that like to grow on the roadside of the curb.

It is not for use on your lawn as it will kill your grass.



1. Pour 1 Gallon of white Vinegar into a bucket
2. Add 1 cup of table salt and stir until the salt dissolves
3. Stir in 1 Tablespoon of Liquid Dishwashing soap. Blend thoroughly,
4. Funnel liquid into a pump sprayer or spray bottle
5. On a sunny day, drench weeds
6. Repeat as required

Your driveway will look great!

Joe

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

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VACUUM LEAF PICKUP PROGRAM

October 20 – 24 and November 10 – 14

Please assist the City’s crews with Fall cleanup:

- Rake leaves to the boulevard or into the ditch
- Reduce potential flooding by keeping curbside storm drains clear of leaves
- Move cars from the street during pickup days

The Region of Peel will also pick up leaves on your regular waste collection day until December 15, 2016.



For more details visit mississauga.ca/leafpickup



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Low Inventory = Big \$Price\$ Gains

The laws of supply and demand are playing out as promised on property values this year. Sellers are reaping the Benefits.

While there was more inventory in the spring, by June the market fell off providing a windfall for the few homes that did come on the market. This was evident across all varieties of homes and towns.

The spring market saw 26 homes come on the market and sold at an average price of \$842,500. From June to September, only 16 sales were recorded, but the average price rose 6% to \$889,050.

Looking at year against year from January to September the average price of a detached 4 bedroom home rose from \$878,000 to \$901,900, for an increase of 5%. However, as this is only an average, it does highlight the fact that there have been many sales well over the million dollar mark.

In terms of town homes, there were 31 sold from January to September 1st, 2015 at an average price of \$439,000. During the same period this year, 28 towns sold at an average price of \$516,000 representing an whopping increase of 18%. According to market information, there is little doubt that prices will hold into next year. The only unknown is how many homes will be listed. However, if listings remain low, there is a good chance that these prices will not only hold but move higher. RW

Dale Biason, Salesperson, Royal LePage Signature Realty, Brokerage

Driveway Windrow Snow Clearing Service for Seniors

Program runs November 28, 2016 to March 10, 2017.



The City of Mississauga's "Driveway Windrow Snow Clearing Program" will be accepting applications until 9:00 p.m. on November 11, 2016. This program is available to residents over 65 or who are disabled. The cost is \$200 or may be waived if financial criteria are met.

Applications can be picked up at the Community Centre or downloaded from the City's website www.mississauga.ca/snow. Completed applications can be returned to the Community Centre. <http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/drivewaywindrowprogram>



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\$40 per series or \$10 per single.

FALL 2016 LECTURES:

Know Ourselves: Great Canadian Art, with Ken Carpenter, professor of visual arts at York University, on Tuesdays October 11 to November 29

Notes and Frames: The Neglected Art of Film Music, with Bob Bryden, musician and music historian, on Thursdays October 13 to December 1

Visit our website: www.lifelong-learning-mississauga.com or call 647-300-4878. Register now.

THE MISSISSAUGA FOOD BANK THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN - NOW THROUGH

OCTOBER 14

Will you help 'Set the Table' for our neighbours this Thanksgiving? To meet the needs of hungry people and their families in Mississauga, we need to raise \$100,000 and 200,000 pounds of food by October 14.

www.themississaugafoodbank.org/event/annual-thanksgiving-campaign/



FALL AT THE MUSEUMS

The Museums of Mississauga host tours, exhibitions and events across three sites including the *Bradley Museum*, *Benares Historic House* and the *Leslie Log House*. Highlights this fall include a *Walk Back in Time Halloween* tour of Springfield Cemetery and Catherine's Creed interactive show. For Details visit culture.mississauga.ca/content/fall-museums



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Upcoming Performances

- *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, October 27 - 30 & November 4 - 6 2016
- *The Devised Project*, November 10 - 13 2016
- *The Beck Festival*, December 15 - 17 2016

BURNHAMTHORPE LIBRARY BOOK CLUB - FALL 2016

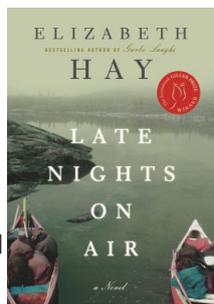
3650 Dixie Rd. Suite 101 L4Y 3V9. Meet the third Monday of each month from 10:00-11:30a.m. For more information call: 905-615-4635

October 17,16

Author's Visit, Hal Niedzviecki
 Join us for a morning discussion with Toronto author Hal Niedzviecki on his new novel *The Archeologists*

November 21,16

Elizabeth Hay: Late Nights on Air
 Harry Boyd, a hard-bitten refugee from failure in Toronto television, has returned to a small radio station in the Canadian North. There, in the summer of 1975, he falls in love with a voice on air, though the real woman, Dido Paris, is both a surprise and even more than he imagined.



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For dates, times, and location of Future Classes visit www.peelpolice.on.ca/en/crimeprevention/cyberacademy.asp