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## Crombie, Fonseca and Kuess headline AGM

*The Rockwood Homeowners' Association (RHA) held its AGM on May 22, 2019 at The Knights of Columbus Hall at Sts. Martha and Mary Church. Along with the regular business, including election of the Board, three keynote speakers: Mayor Bonnie Crombie, Councillor Chris Fonseca, and Mark Kuess from CASS addressed the members. The minutes for the meeting that include expanded content will be posted on our website: [www.rockwoodvillage.ca](http://www.rockwoodvillage.ca)*

### Crombie Defends Secession

Mayor Bonnie Crombie announced the Ernst and Young Report had just been received for the Regional Governance review. It confirmed that Mississauga would save \$84 million annually through separating from Peel Region. As a single-tier city, Mississauga would incur transition costs of \$40 million, which would be covered from the initial savings of \$84M. However, over 10 years Mississauga could save \$840 million. Upon separation, there would not be any financial compensation to Brampton and Caledon. However, the City of Mississauga would have to assume a debt of one billion against

assets of nine billion. This includes 122 public housing mortgages which would be paid off over time. Only a small fraction of this debt would be passed on to taxpayers.

Mississauga's request for independence arose when The Premier wanted to review regional governance and efficiencies. Mayor Crombie reported that so far, Mississauga has saved \$60 million dollars through a program called LEAN. However, the Province wants the City to save even more money, which could include converging departments.

The Mayor recounted Mississauga's desire to separate dating back to 2003-4 when Hazel McCallion was Mayor and wanted Mississauga to be one city instead of its current status of a two-tiered city. At that time, Mississauga was paying \$32-40 M to Peel Region. Now that this number has risen to \$84M, Crombie feels that as the third largest city in Ontario, the sixth largest in Canada, it's time to make our own decision, govern the city's affairs, and reinvest this money in Mississauga.

At the end of the day, the premier and

*continued on page 7*



## 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*

Catherine Mason • *Director*

Sumit Kapur • *Director*

Lisa Portolese • *Associate Director*

Boris Swedak • *Advisor LM*

Stephen Roscoe • *LM*

*LM - (Life Member)*

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*Homeowners' Association*

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# We need your support

You ask for our support to your questions and we do our best to get you answers. We ask for you to support us and we get no response.

The membership drive for 2019 was, to say at best, a poor. Fewer than 75 households paid their 2019 dues, and some of those were actually for the past year. This is only 40% of the membership we had last year.

Your membership entitles you to have your say and ask for our support in your causes. We keep you informed on issues that concern our community. Your \$10 membership confirms that you care about your neighbourhood. Right now it looks like 97% of the community does not care.

We feel that you do care, therefore,

those of us who also care do the following on your behalf,

- attend meetings
- plead your concerns to all levels of government
- send you e-mail alerts
- prepare a newsletter
- maintain social media platforms

Possibly, you just forgot, or maybe we did not do a good job of reminding you that your annual membership was due. So we remind you now, in order to move forward, you need to show us that you also care about your neighbourhood, Rockwood Village.

We made it easy for you to send us your membership fees. Please see Page 7 of this issue for instructions. Use "membership2019" in your e-transfer. *RW*



A group of concerned citizens have come together to address climate change with the formation of Mississauga Climate Action (MCA). Mississauga Climate Action is a non-partisan organization that puts people and local issues first, looking to deal with issues close to

home first, while keeping a long-term, global perspective.

MCA meetings are held every other Wednesday in The Great Hall at the Unitarian Congregation in Mississauga (84 South Service Road) and are open to the public. You can sign up for their newsletter at <https://www.mississaugaclimate.ca> to discover what educational programs and activities are on the agenda or contact them at [mississaugaclimateaction@gmail.com](mailto:mississaugaclimateaction@gmail.com).

MCA is working closely with staff of the City of Mississauga to increase community engagement in its Climate Change Project. In mid-September, the city is scheduled to release its Climate Change Action Plan, and begin a month long consultation with the general public in town hall settings. During this consultation stage, MCA will host two public workshops to provide feedback and help prioritize actions for its implementation. On December 4, 2019, Mississauga City Council will vote on the plan, which will be put into effect in 2020. *RW*

For information on the City plan and timelines and to engage in the public consultations, go to <https://yoursay.mississauga.ca/climate-change>

For more information on MCA you can access their social media links: Facebook @MississaugaClimateAction, Twitter @MissClimateAct and Instagram: mississaugaclimateaction



# RHA Report Card

At the Annual General Meeting held in May, the Rockwood Homeowner's Association presented a report on accomplishments for the past year and initiatives for the future.

At the AGM, members voted to accept three additional clauses to our constitution: *a Code of Conduct for Board members, a disclosure of conflict affirmation and a privacy policy.*

The inclusion of these articles was required to meet City standards for acceptance into the Mississauga Community Group. Membership in the group provides free meeting rooms and insurance. We were also required to incorporate as a not for profit organization. You can review our constitution on our website at: [www.rockwoodvillage.ca](http://www.rockwoodvillage.ca)

Your RHA Board worked actively on the following:

- initiated dialogue with our new MPP in light of some controversial topics

*that will affect our neighbourhood. We will be keeping abreast of the following issues:*

- Full day kindergarten and potential changes in classrooms
  - Status of the new Trillium Hospital
  - Transit expansion • Development Fees
  - Represented Rockwood at both the GTAA and CAAS
  - Provided a quarterly newsletter to keep you informed as to issues relevant to this community
  - Provided a website and an email address where we have responded to many questions and requests for assistance in a variety of issues from our members
  - Parking and traffic issues
  - Traffic calming
  - Cross-rides
  - Garnetwood Park security
- In the coming year, we will be looking into*
- Municipal Government - should we stay in Peel or go it alone.
  - Traffic calming issues

## NEW Board Elected

As a part of our AGM held in May, elections for the Rockwood Homeowners' Association (RHA) Board of Directors were held. All previous Board members will retain their positions.

One Director position was vacant. Three volunteers stood for nomination. Sumit Kapur, a resident since 2000, described himself as a passionate, restaurant entrepreneur, experienced in marketing and manufacturing, who was part of BIA in downtown Toronto. He indicated he would bring these skills to the RHA, and he was elected.

In order to utilize the skills and interest of the other two volunteers, it was motioned and passed that the RHA would add the role of Associate Director. Lisa Portolese, a long time member of the RHA and previous Vice President, was confirmed as an Associate Director, along with Bill Wilson. *RW*

- Proposed changes to the Rathburn Bus Route
- Security in Garnetwood Park
- Bill 108 and the implications on funds currently allocated to Rockwood *RW*


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# Changes to #20 Rathburn Bus Route



When the construction on Burnhamthorpe was completed, the two bus stops east of Ponytrail had disappeared. This was no mistake. They have been permanently removed from service. This change has made it a long trek to an alternate bus stop for everyone who previously used these stops.

According to Mississauga Transit, future plans for the #20 Rathburn bus do not include travelling along Burnhamthorpe to the subway, as this portion duplicates the route being taken by the Burnhamthorpe

bus. Also, there is a lack of parking spaces at the subway. Current plans are to send the bus north on Fieldgate to the Tahoe Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) station where passengers can transfer to an eastbound bus to Renforth where they can pick up a direct bus to the subway.

In August, representatives of the RHA met with Mississauga transit. It was pointed out that ending service at Fieldgate would have an



adverse affect on the many riders currently boarding the bus between Fieldgate and Burnhamthorpe, not to mention the proposed residents of Chelsea on the Green. It might also mean that riders would walk an extra block to save a fare and use TTC at Mill Rd.

The RHA proposed that the Rathburn bus continue east on Rathburn to the dead end at the creek before returning to Fieldgate and going north. This service would provide bus access to all the apartments and townhomes east of Fieldgate. It would also provide better access to the BRT, and a full range of other transit options which will be available at Renforth. Mississauga Transit has agreed to look into this and may even do trial runs to ensure a bus can navigate a turn at the dead end. They have committed to get back to us on the results of their due diligence. *RW*

## Do you smell gas at your meter?



by Frank Medoro

*I have been informed by a couple of Rockwood residents of gas fumes emanating from the bottom of their gas meter and seeping into the house. Apparently, the problem is not at the meter but below the ground, way down, at the junction of the main line to the pipe that leads to the meter.*

*Most homes in Rockwood were built in the 70s and 80s, and now the underground pipes are corroding and deteriorating. If you smell gas by the meter, please call Enbridge immediately and report the problem. Enbridge: 1-866-763-5427*

Your Member of Provincial Parliament

## Kaleed Rasheed, MPP

Mississauga East-Cooksville

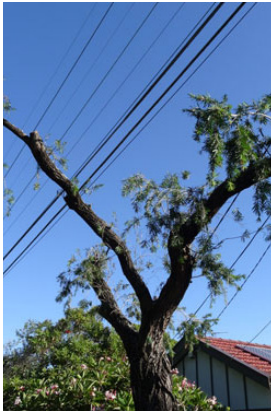


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kaleed.rasheedco@pc.ola.org | 905-238-1751





## “Ask Joe” Your Neighbourhood Handyman

Dear Joe,

A few years ago the cable company ran a temporary line from the street to our house and hung it from a tree in the front of our house to keep it off the lawn.

It is really an eyesore. There are others on my street who have the same problem.

What should we do?

Larry

Hi, Larry,

First, call the cable company and take your complaint as far up the ladder as you can. You know the old adage about the squeaky wheel.... If you do not get results, let Councillor Chris Fonseca know. She is working on similar issues with other residents right now and I am sure she would be happy to add you to her list. I suggest you email her at: [chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca](mailto:chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca)

Please submit your questions to “Ask Joe” [rha.executive@gmail.com](mailto:rha.executive@gmail.com)



### The Mississauga Miracle 40th Anniversary Exhibitions and Event, Bradley Museum, The Grange

Do you remember the 1979 train derailment? November 10th marks the 40th anniversary of the Mississauga Train Derailment, also known as the Mississauga Miracle. Over 240,000 residents were evacuated; the largest peacetime evacuation in North America at that time. Fortunately, there were no deaths in the incident. To commemorate the anniversary, please join us for exhibitions and events taking place throughout Mississauga.

For more information; dates and times, visit [culture.mississauga.ca](http://culture.mississauga.ca)

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# Fonseca's Door is always Open

Councillor Fonseca thanked the RHA for inviting her to attend the AGM and congratulated the new directors on the board who will challenge her to work with the Mayor and Council on how to improve the community, Ward, and city. She encouraged residents to continue raising their voices when needed. She advised that her door is open for residents to share ideas and ask tough questions.

## Road Reconstruction

Several staff members accompanied the councillor and spoke about the Ponytrail project and future plans for restoration. While apologies were extended for the construction delays, a timeline was given for completion. In the discussion of restoration, it was noted that this would be a temporary fix. Rockwood is scheduled for a major restoration of roads and curbs in 2021. The recent work was for infrastructure paid by the Region of Peel. The roads are paid for by the City and are already budgeted. There will be public consultation prior to the next phase. It was noted by several residents that this construction was not only chaotic but also dangerous. There were continual changes to lanes without clear signage, and in the absence of traffic marshals, the roads were difficult to navigate. It was generally expressed that the region did a poor job of ensuring safety and communicating status to residents.

## Traffic Calming

Councillor Fonseca reported that the speed bumps were successful in calming traffic on both Fieldgate and Bough Beeches. Prior to installation on Fieldgate, the average speed was 67 km/hr with only 35 % complying with the speed limits posted. After introducing the speed bumps the average speed dropped to 45 km/hr and 89% compliance. Similarly, on Bough Beeches in front of Sts. Martha and Mary School, the average speed fell from 57 to

30 km/hr and compliance increased to 70%.

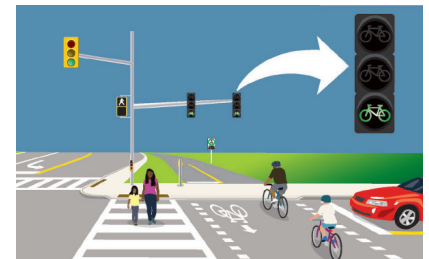
Members expressed that the bumps north of Rathburn on Fieldgate are too steep and dangerous. Councillor Fonseca agreed to contact city staff to look into shaving it down. Another suggestion was to make the warning signs more visible.

Upgrades for Burnhamthorpe Community Centre Councillor Fonseca announced redevelopment of the community centre will include a swimming pool, additional programming rooms, a fitness centre, boxing centre and a soccer field. It is hoped this will be completed 2021.

## Cross Rides

Several residents expressed concerns regarding the three cross-rides that are now functioning. It was generally felt that without significant public education for drivers and cyclists, there is a significant risk to cyclists, particularly from motorists making right hand turns and not noticing approaching cyclists. Those who attended were given a flyer containing an explanation of the rules for cross-rides.

This will also be sent to all residents by mail.



## Hydro Corridor Upgrades

The City has taken over maintenance of the Hydro corridor from Eglinton to the Lakeshore. Once there is an agreement as to who will pay for the installation of protective netting around the towers, the City will commence cutting the grass and installing paths and benches. *RW*

Full details of the Councillor's update and questions from the floor are posted on our website: [www.rockwoodvillage.ca](http://www.rockwoodvillage.ca)

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## CAAS is Making Progress

Mr. Kuess stated that in April 2017, the airport announced they were going to expand and double their capacity from 45 to 90 million. Since the airport was classified as at capacity in 1994, residents have become increasingly concerned and CAAS was created. Since then, CAAS has received the attention of all levels of governments, industry experts and even airport workers to address and put pressure on GTAA and hold them accountable.

Kuess believes the greatest accomplishment in two years was organizing a diverse group of communities whose message is safety. They have taken a no-nonsense, fact-based approach, formed a board of directors from many communities, created a brand/logo and a strong voice for the community. Within months, they started getting the attention of the stakeholders from the airport, Transport Canada. Two years ago, Transport Canada didn't want anything to do with CAAS. Now they are meeting with CASS. CAAS is pro-business and pro-growth. They do not want to shut down the airport but want responsible growth for the airport.

*Kuess says CAAS has also connected with resident associations, and anyone who is concerned can be a part of their cause.*

Putting the GTAA on the defensive for safety infractions, fines have increased from \$150,000 in 2018 to \$350,000 in 2019. In the spring, Transport Canada admitted that the fines don't meet the problem/severity of infractions and are looking into dealing with it.

In response to questions from residents regarding environmental and noise issues, Mr. Kuess informed that CAAS only focuses on safety issues. He stated that, "Unfortunately, there is no interest for noise and environmental issues produced by the airport." There are other organizations for environment issues and noises produced by the airport. He encouraged residents to continue submitting noise complaints to the airport's complaint line.

Mr. Kuess reminded residents that they are welcome to join CAAS, or donate to its GoFundMe page. *RW*

*Crombie continued from Page 1*

the provincial government have their say. A decision was anticipated at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario that met in August. However, as of this date, no decision has been announced and it is possible that this will be on hold until after the federal election.

The Deloitte report says that Mississauga has very good financial metrics and can do well in a separation. Bonnie Crombie notes that Mississauga is a mature city compared to Brampton and Caledon and she is hopeful that the premier will see the information and agree that it is time for Mississauga to go its own way. *RW*



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## RHA Membership Drive

The *Rockwood Times Newsletter*, together with our Website, Twitter Feed and Facebook Page continues to provide information relevant to our community.

*Your support assists the RHA administration and the many volunteers in ensuring that Rockwood Village remains the most desirable residential community in East Mississauga.*



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## Upcoming Events:

### ■ Ward Telephone Budget Session

Thursday October 17, 2019 • 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

This meeting is part of the larger citizen plan intended to consult with residents about the budget, collect feedback and input into topic and issues related to it. For more information, visit: [www.mississauga.ca/portals/cityhall/budget](http://www.mississauga.ca/portals/cityhall/budget)

### ■ Coyote Awareness Session

Wednesday October 23, 2019 • 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Bantamshope Community Centre, Flecknell Village Room  
Please join Animal Services Staff and myself, to learn more on Coyote behavior, diet and strategies on keeping families and pets safe and, the City of Mississauga's response to coyote concerns.



**CHRIS FONSECA**

Councillor, Ward 3

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