THE ROCKWOOD TIMES

FALL BACK

Don't forget to set clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.

ROCKWOOD HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015

Wishing You and Your Family Happy Thanksgiving!

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OCTOBER 16

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Cast your Ballot on October 19th



Peter Fonseca LIBERALS



Wladyslaw Lizon CONSERVATIVE



Ali Naqvi NDP



Tim Sullivan

MARXIST-LENINIST

PARTY

Monday, October 19 is the time for you to have your say and cast your ballot to determine the federal landscape for the next four years. It is an important one no doubt, as the Conservatives, Liberals, and NDP are mere percentiles apart in the polls, meaning your ballot could swing the vote.

In the Rockwood Village neighbourhood, we will be seeing two major changes when it comes to the federal election.

First, the election boundaries have changed and Rockwood Village will be part of a new electoral constituency known as Mississauga East-Cooksville. The boundaries will stretch from Mavis Road to Etobicoke Creek, and will run north-south from the 403, down Central Parkway, and along Burnhamthorpe Road across the top, while the south border runs along Queensway. The former constituency was amalgamated with the

City of Brampton in the riding known as Mississauga-Brampton South.

The second change we will witness in the upcoming election has to do with our local MP. We are currently represented by Eve Adams, who crossed the floor from the Conservative to the Liberal party earlier this year. Adams is not running in the Mississauga East-Cooksville riding after choosing to throw her name in Toronto's Eglinton-Lawrence neighbourhood nomination race. Adams lost to candidate Marco Mendicino.

On this year's ballot, Peter Fonseca is on the slate running for Trudeau's Liberals, Wladyslaw Lizon is running for Harper's Conservatives, Ali Naqvi is carrying the banner for Mulcair's NDP's and the candidate for the Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada is Tim Sullivan. RW

To ensure you are on the voters list, visit Elections Canada at www.elections.ca or call 1.800.463.6868.

ALL CANDIDATE NIGHT • THURSDAY OCTOBER 15TH • 7:00PM - 9:00PM

Meet our local candidates for the upcoming Federal Election on October 19

St. Sofia Separate School • 3540 Havenwood Drive



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LOCAL CONTACTS

RHA Executives

Boris Swedak Advisor LM
VACANT President
Joe Silva Vice President
Val Thomson Treasurer
Nicole Danesi Secretary
Dale Biason Director
Simi Kapur Director
Leszek Pisarek Director
Frank Medoro Director
Christine Ales Director
Stephen Roscoe LM
LM - (Life Member)

Airport/Noise Complaints

416-247-7682 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



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Mayor Crombie for the People or Developers?

With an upcoming election in the air, it may be a good time to review our expectations for any candidate we elect. The most important attributes are honesty and integrity. Next on the list is a commitment to looking out for the best interests of their constituents.

Last but by no means least is visibility.

In community politics, the fact that all our local politicians were all re-elected, in the last municipal election is a sign that they have been good public servants and were rewarded for their service to the community. They come to our meetings and Councillor Fonseca keeps the community engaged.

While our new Mayor Bonnie Crombie was invited to attend our AGM in May, she unfortunately declined. More often than not, her predecessor, Mayor McCallion, found time to attend our community meetings and happily addressed issues of concern. McCallion's attendance at community events kept her in touch with her constituents and built a strong bond that kept her in office for a historical term. This year we will chalk up the Mayor's unavailability to still learning the job. Next year we will consider it as a slight to those to whom she is accountable and to whom she should be making a connection.

On the other hand, perhaps Mayor Crombie was concerned that she would have to address some community issues that obviously are at odds with her agenda.



Mayor Bonnie Crombie

When our community had the opportunity to present our views against the Forest Park development to Counsel last May, the Mayor made it clear that she supports intensification. Clearly she is not opposed to amending the City plan to significantly increase density to allow this plan to move forward.

Hopefully, the Planning Department will see this as a poor fit for the community and decline to move the project forward.

It turns out that the Mayor is not a friend of seniors either. Although students at UTM receive a significant reduction on bus fares, and all Mississauga students received freedom passes at no cost, for the summer, the Mayor voted against a proposed discount for seniors. While Council passed a motion for a six-month trial to allow seniors to ride for \$1.00 in off-peak times, the Mayor and Ward 1 Councillor Jim Tovey voted against the motion. The Mayor indicated that this could be seen as cherry picking groups for assistance. She felt that other groups such as single parents and refugees might feel slighted. Unlike other groups, many seniors in our community are living on fixed incomes. Some seniors are living on modest incomes which include Government Pensions that are not even close to the subsidies given to other groups. RW

Letters to the Editor Have a comment? Send it to us at rha.executive@gmail.com or visit www.rockwoodvillage.ca.



The GREAT WALL of ROCKWOOD

After a much anticipated and long wait, Rockwood finally gets the much-needed noise reduction wall along Burnhamthorpe Rd. The work is being done under the City's beautification budget.

As with most changes to the landscape, you will either love it or hate it. While it gives a uniform appearance from the exterior, there is nothing stopping those who now have a piece of the wall in their yard from enhancing their property on the inside. Note how a 97-year-old resident transformed his yard with some cedars and a good day's work - Beautiful!!

Storm-Water Charges in 2016

By now you will have received a postcard from the City advising that a charge for storm water will be added to your water bill commencing in 2016. The levy is to offset the cost of maintaining and upgrading the storm-water system.

The charge for each home is based on the area of your roof which is measured using aerial photography. Charges range from \$50 to \$170 per year. A system of billing units ranging from .5 to 1.7 has been used to calculate the cost based on a unit rate of \$100/ unit. RW You can view the aerial photo of your home, showing the calculation of the area and the exact fee, by visiting: stormwater-charge.ca.

X SMALL	Towns with a roofto	p area of 26.7 - 99 m2
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Billing units .5 = \$50/yr

Semi-detached, links and small singles with a rooftop are of 99.1-151.0m2 **SMALL**

Billing units .7 = \$70/yr

MEDIUM Medium, detached homes with a rooftop area of 151.1 - 194.0m2

Billing units 1 = \$100/yr

LARGE Large, detached homes with a rooftop area of 194.1 - 242.0m2

Billing units 1.2 = \$120/yr

X LARGE Very large, detached homes with a rooftop area of 242.1m2 and larger

Billing units 1.7 = \$170/yr

WINDROW PROGRAM

Windrows are created when the snowplow clears the snow and deposits it on your driveway. Applications for the City's Windrow Clearing Program are being accepted until November 13, 2015.

The program is available for Seniors (65+) and those 64 and under with physical disabilities.

There is a fee of \$200 unless you meet the criteria for financial relief based on household income. The fee covers clearing 10' to allow one car access and will be done within 36 hours following a storm.

Applications can be found at mississauga/snow.ca or by calling 311. They are also available at the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre. The program is restricted to 300 homeowners.

PEACE OF MIND FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

For most homeowners, their mortgage is the single largest source of personal debt. Mortgage protection insurance is a life insurance policy designed to pay off that debt in the event of your death.

Through Desjardins Financial Security Independent Network you can obtain flexible mortgage insurance options which meet your needs. This is a comparison between an individually owned life insurance policy and mortgage insurance through a financial lender:

INDIVIDUAL POLICY:

- o Overall health is also taken into account and non-smokers receive premium discounts.
- You choose how much coverage you need and your coverage remains level throughout the term of your
- The policy belongs to you and is fully portable. You have the choice to change your mortgage provider or renegotiate a better deal with your current lender as market conditions change.
- You choose who you want to be your beneficiary and they decide how best to use the insurance proceeds.

BANK / LENDING INSTITUTION:

- The cost depends on your age only.
- o You are covered for the exact amount of your mortgage balance and coverage reduces as your mortgage is paid down.
- Coverage is not portable. You can't take it with you if your mortgage provider changes. The cost of a new policy will depend on your age at the time you apply, and you may have to requalify
- o If you die, your mortgage provider automatically uses your policy to pay off your outstanding mortgage. Your family has no choice.
- Full underwriting is usually done after a claim to determine your insurability; a process called "post-claim underwriting" or "underwriting after claim".



For information or a standard no obligation quote, please contact:

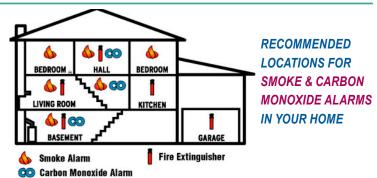


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Hi Joe.

We bought a new battery operated smoke detector and want to know if we have to

install them at the top of the stairwell or is there another acceptable spot? Since we want to change the batteries twice a year, we are concerned about how we can safely get up there.

Thanks, Harvey

Hello Harvey

Since smoke detectors have a life span of about 10 years, replacing older units is a good idea. The Fire Marshal recommends that you should install your smoke alarm in the hallway either on the ceiling, close to the ceiling, in or near the centre of the room.

- Do not install in the "dead space" which might be created in the corners.
- Do not install alarms near doors, windows, ceiling fans or vents.
- Don't forget to change the batteries annually. A good habit to adopt is to change them in November when you set your clocks back to Standard Time.
- Never paint Smoke Alarms

It is mandatory in Ontario to install a Carbon Monoxide detector in the basement and if you have a room over your garage, it is a good idea to install one there also.

Many carbon units are available as plug-in units and are usually installed, near the floor.

Carbon Monoxide Alarm

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a silent, deadly killer, its colourless, odourless, tasteless gas and weighs almost the same as air. CO is produced when fuels such as propane, gasoline, natural gas, heating oil or wood do not burn completely in fuel-burning appliances and devices.

Have a question about maintaining your home? Please submit your questions to "Ask Joe" rha.executive@gmail.com



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Annual General Meeting

About 100 Rockwood homeowners attended the 2015 AGM held on May 20, 2015, at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Although elections were held, the position of President remains vacant. Our long-term President has stepped down after five years of stellar service. The position will remain vacant until a resident looking for a rewarding challenge steps forward.

Two Directors, Steve Pascoe and Gord Crumble, have moved out of the community. Gord, a long-term member, was the Secretary of the RHA. Nicole Danesi was elected as Secretary, Val Thompson will remain as Treasurer. Joe Silva remains as Vice President and will take on some of the responsibilities of the President. We welcomed our new Board Member, Christine Ales.

Councillor Chris Fonseca, our keynote speaker, spoke to issues relevant to our community, including the status of the Audubon and Forest Park Developments. She reconfirmed her position of opposition to Forest Park, and encouraged the RHA to ask Beverly Homes to provide funding for community projects.

Councillor Fonseca announced that noise barriers were to be added to both sides of Burnhamthorpe Road. Also, she has requested that the lighting along Burnhamthorpe Trail

ROCKWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



be improved and that new benches be installed. The big announcement was that the City approved a public washroom for Garnetwood Park.

There was also a presentation from the Region of Peel regarding the new Waste Program. The new bins are scheduled for delivery in the next few months but should not be used until January 2016. RW

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Property Values Continue to Rise

Every four years MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corp.) re-sets the value of your home based on current market value for similar properties in your immediate area. This assessed value becomes the base for your property taxes. Fortunately, the increase is phased in over four years. The last property assessment was done in 2012. At that time the average market value for a 4-bedroom home in Rockwood was about \$692,000. The property taxes were adjusted on an annual basis for the past 3 years, to reflect the value in 2012, and next year the taxes will reflect the full values of the 2012 assessment.

In 2016 the property values will be assessed again to reflect current values. Unless there is a significant decline



in the market going into next year, that average 4-bedroom house will be valued closer to \$900,000, an increase of 30% since the last assessment. This would mean that you could expect your assessed value to increase about 7.5% per year for the next four years (2016-2020).

Unfortunately, MPAC does not know the market value of your home, i.e., what is it really worth if you plan to sell. Is it worth more or less than the selling price of the recent sales of similar homes? Are you upgraded to the same extent as the house down the street, or did it have an extra bath, or a fully finished basement with a fireplace. Or is your home basically in original condition? Do you need to spend money to get the same value as your neighbour?

Here is an example.

This year two homes in this neighbourhood with almost the same assessed values sold on the same street. One sold for almost \$100k more than the other. The higher priced home had a new kitchen and baths; otherwise, it was almost identical to the lower priced home in terms of lot size, square footage and other features.

The moral of this story is that, while the assessed value is used as a comparable to set your property taxes, it has nothing to do with the market value of your home. RW



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Speeding, Traffic & Safety Update



E f CHRIS FONSECA,
Councillor, Ward 3 905-896-5300
www.Chrisfonseca.ca
chris.fonseca@ mississauga.ca

Unfortunately, aggressive driving remains a common concern throughout the city. The most effective deterrent is strict, consistent police enforcement.

However, with limited resources, police tend to concentrate efforts on the major collector and arterial roadways where higher volumes and speeds can result in more severe collisions.

Since elected to Council in 2010, I have worked with Peel Regional Police, Mississauga Traffic and Ward 3 Residents to address speeding, traffic and safety issues. A member of Traffic Safety Committee for this term, to provide safety awareness to both the motorist and the resident, I have either initiated and continue to support:

- (NSW): Neighbourhood, Speed Watch
- · Speed Trailers · Road Watch

Council approved a traffic calming pilot program for the City of Mississauga. Please view Item 5 on www7.mississauga. ca/documents/agendas/committees/general/2015/01_14_15_ GC_Agenda.pdf.

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susan.lawton@peelsb.com www.peelschools.org As part of this pilot program, three locations have received physical traffic calming measures, and will be monitored by staff throughout the year. If this pilot is successful, Council may adopt this program on a full time basis which also may be expanded to evaluate other candidate locations.

The Province of Ontario is reviewing speed limits in urban areas and consulting with other municipalities. As part of this consultation, we want to hear from you to help make the right choice for Mississauga. Please take a minute to read the province's proposed options and take our short survey at app.keysurvey.com/votingmodule/s180/f/965275/6c73/mississauga.ca







Historic Halloween Fun

Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Road North Saturday, October 31st • 12:00pm - 4:00 pm

For More Information visit

museumsofmississauga.com or call 905-615-4860 ext. 2110

BURNHAMTHORPE LIBRARY

3650 Dixie Road Sunday Hours Return

All libraries open Sundays, 1pm – 5pm

Book Club for Adults

Oct.19, 10am-11:30am

Social Club at Burnhamthorpe Library

Oct.28 - 2pm-3pm

Chat with old friends or meet new ones and enjoy free refreshments!

CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

2016 BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Schedules are subject to change.* Visit the Council and Committee Calendar Listings for up-to-date information;

Fees and Charges

Wed. Sept. 23-10am - Public question period

Budget Overview Presentation

Mon., Nov. 23 - 9am - Public question period

Service Area Presentations

- Public question periods will take place: Tues., Nov. 24 at 9 a.m. - Mon., Nov. 30 at 9 a.m. Tues., Dec. 1 at 9 a.m. - Wed., Dec. 2 at 10 a.m.

Budget Approval Wed

Dec. 9 - 9am., *Public question period *PQP's will be limited to 15 minutes. For deputations, contact the Clerk's office.

. . .

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS

CENAC (COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT & NOISE ADVISORY COMMITTEE)

GTAA Administration Building, 3111 Convair Drive East, Boardrooms Pearson A&B, TO. Wednesday, December 2,

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Community Open House: Drop in to review informational story boards and speak one-on-one with the GTAA Team and CENAC Committee Members

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - CENAC Public **Meeting:** Ratification of minutes and any recommendations, formal presentations from guest speakers, and time for public questions to the committee as a whole.

COMMUNITY

Neil Simon's "THE SUNSHINE BOYS" Presented by the Mississauga Players Evening 8PM - Oct.29, 30, 31



Matinee 2PM - Oct.31, Nov.1

Maja Prentice Theatre (in the Burnhamthorpe Library), 3650 Dixie Rd., 647-895-5582

\$22 General, \$19 Seniors, \$5 Children Mississaugaplayers.com

ENVIRONMENTAL WORKSHOPS

FOREST GLEN COMMUNITY GARDENING **OPENING** - Hosted by Ecosource October 17, 2015 - 2pm - 4pm

3545 Fieldgate Dr.

RAINSCAPING – YOUR GREEN YARD Credit Valley Conservation Authority

October 22, 2015 - 7pm - 8:30pm

South Common Community Centre, Youth Room. Add beauty and interest to your yard with rain gardens, rain barrels and permeable paving!

FREE - Register (905) 670-1615 ext. 221 or kbannister@creditvalleyca.ca Creditvallevca/ca/events

PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA

Sat. Nov. 28 - 12pm - 4pm Leslie Log House - 4415 Mississauga Road with the Mississauga Animal Services

FAMILY PHOTOS WITH SANTA

Sun. Nov. 29 - 12 to 4 pm Leslie Log House – 4415 Mississauga Road

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Sun., Dec.13 - 12pm - 4pm Bradley Museum, 1620 Orr Road Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Rd Leslie Log House, 4415 Mississauga Road Explore the Museums of Mississauga and discover how early settler families celebrated the Christmas season. museumsofmississauga.com or

905-615-4860 ext. 2110

Admission: Donations of non-perishable food items will be collected for the local food bank in lieu of admission.

Send your special events to post on the RHA website to rha.executive@gmail.com NEXT HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -**NOVEMBER 13**

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www.lifelong-learning-mississauga.com or call 647-300-4878.

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