





ROCKWOOD HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2014

SAVE THE DATE RHA AGM THURSDAY

MAY 8, 7:00 PM Sts. Martha & Mary Church,

The Rockwood Homeowners' Association (RHA) will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the Knights of Columbus Hall. Look for more details in the May newsletter or visit our website at http://www.rockwoodvillage.ca

Forward 1 HOUR March 9th



Congratulations! Boris Swedak

On behalf of the Rockwood Residents of Ward 3 and Members of Council, I express my sincere congratulations to Boris Swedak in his appointment as Life Member to Traffic Safety Council.

> Chris Fonseca Councillor, Ward 3



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Association



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Cleaning up after Mother Nature

While neighbourhood accounts and stories of "the Flood of 2013" are still going strong, a new disaster, "the ice storm of 2013," is now sharing the spotlight. Hey, Mother Nature, what the heck did we do to you?

Fortunately, because we have underground power lines, there was no power loss here in Rockwood even though the storm caused damage to many mature trees. For those who did have damage, the City has cleaned up most of the debris from their property, and, commencing mid-February, will be removing city trees and debris

that have fallen onto properties. If the tree or debris is not a City tree, you will need to deal with it yourself by contacting a landscape service or a contractor to remove damaged trees or fallen branches from your property. Please note that depending on the damage, you may need City approval to remove a tree from your property if it is not completely felled as a result of the storm.

In order to assist residents with the removal of excess wood and brush debris, the Region of Peel has begun collecting small bundles of wood and continued on page 6

Audubon Zoning Application goes before City

The application for a zoning approval for Beverly Homes to move forward with a townhouse development on Audubon and Fieldgate is scheduled to go before the City Planning Committee on **March 24th.** At that time, residents will have the opportunity to provide their input to the Planning and Development Committee. Councillor Fonseca, will be voicing her support of upholding the current designated zoning for Residential Low Density housing. Beverly Homes is requesting a zoning change that will allow the construction of 30 townhomes. If you would like to be heard at that meeting, contact Mumtaz Alikhan, Legislative Co-Ordinator at Mumtaz.Alikhan@mississauga.ca or 905-615-3200 x5425.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

LOCAL CONTACTS



RHA Executives

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

Airport/Noise Complaints 416-247-7682

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

www.rockwoodvillage.ca

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Hello Rockwood Residents!

Simi Kapur

In what has been termed one of the coldest winters of the last few years, I wish you good health and positive spirits as we move on from a year of tumultuous weather with the expectant vision of spring flowers to come!

In November, RHA attended the meeting at the GTAA offices for CENAC (Community Environment and Noise Advisory Committee). NAV Canada made a presentation on their Airspace and Services Review focusing on safety in the airspace as well as improved tracking procedures for flights. In December 2013, GTAA launched WebTrak, an online tool that provides near-real time and historical flight data so residents can investigate aircraft operations from any computer with internet access. It's accessible 24/7 and is now more convenient to register a noise complaint. Try it at www. torontopearson.com/webtrak All CENAC meetings are open to the public. Details of upcoming meetings are listed in the Calendar of Events, found on the back page.

In response to a Rockwood resident's request earlier this year, for a 4-way stop at the intersection of Corkstone Glade/Rowntree Court and Fieldgate Drive, City of Mississauga's Transportation and Works Department conducted a feasibility study on traffic volume in that area. In conclusion of the review, Transportation and Works Department did not recommend the installation of an all way stop at this intersection. Driver compliance in stopping, zero collision history in a three year period as well as the immediate signal lights located within 250m from the suggested intersection were some of the factors which resulted in the decision that a 4-way stop at that intersection was not warranted. The Traffic Safety Committee has been requested to provide information to parents of Sts. Martha and Mary School about using caution when crossing the street while walking children to school.

In the past 10 years, Mississauga has seen much of its available land developed. With building sites becoming scarce, developers are looking for

infill and smaller tracts of land for development or expansion. Currently Rockwood is the target for several developments. Two years ago, a plan was approved for a new Condominium project at Rathburn and Boughbeeches. This year Forest Park has approached the City to develop a large project on its land at Ponytrail and Rathburn. Yet another development is potentially about to be reviewed at Audubon and Fieldgate. All of these proposed projects are for either apartment buildings or multiple family dwellings.

It is important to note that in order to move these projects forward, the developers need The City to approve changes to the zoning to either change current usage or the density or both. If the City is too slow to react, or the developer does not like the decision rendered by the City, they can appeal the decision to the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board).

Throughout the planning process, residents are given a voice to speak via the Ward Councillor, Community Public meetings, Planning and Development meetings, written submissions and continuous dialogue. In the absence of strong communication from the community and the City, developers will take their plan to OMB, and in the end will probably be successful in getting the OMB to approve the project, forcing the City to allow the project.

The RHA is committed to listening to the concerns of our community, and communicating their expectations to the relevant parties. To this end, at a scheduled Board Meeting last November, Lormel homes requested and was permitted to address the RHA Board with regards to their proposal at Forest Park. It was an opportunity to speak frankly with the developer without the passion or emotion sparked from open forum meetings. We believe that further face to face dialogue with all stakeholders should continue and welcome any opportunity to connect and converse in various issues in order to maintain the integrity or Rockwood Village as a premium community.RW

Remember to save the date for our next AGM!
Last year's venue was enjoyed by all in attendance
so we've booked it again at the Knights of Columbus
Hall, adjacent to Sts. Martha and Mary Church.
As always, we welcome your comments, questions
and concerns. Reach us at rha.executive@gmail.
com or through our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Mississauga Bus Rapid Transit in Final stages

The Mississauga Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is in the final stages of completing step one of the muchanticipated Mississauga Transitway.

The first stations to open will be Dixie, Tomken, Cawthra, and Central Parkway. These stations will be serviced by express routes in and out of a revamped terminal at Square One. From each station, commuters will be able to connect with a full range of routes.

All four stations will offer accessible access, Wi-Fi, and heated waiting areas. All stations will also offer "kiss and ride" areas. However, parking will only be available at Dixie and Cawthra. Dixie will have 170 spaces and at Cawthra 60 will be provided. While the BRT is scheduled to open the first four stations this year, Rockwood residents can look forward

to ongoing construction along Eastgate Parkway and Eglinton for another two vears when Tahoe, Etobicoke Creek, Spectrum, and Orbitor are scheduled to open. When complete, the 18-kilometre transitway will have twelve stations beginning at Winston

Churchill Boulevard in the west and ending at Renforth Drive in the east. Construction of the Mississauga Transitway is being funded by the Federal and Provincial Governments, Metrolinx, and the



City of Mississauga. The transitway is a key component of Ontario's Smart Growth Program for development of the Greater Toronto Area, and will connect to a 100 km wide initiative that will create a dedicated bus corridor from Oakville to Pickering. RW



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2014 Predicted to be a Seller's Market



All indications are that 2014 will be a banner year for those looking to sell. While there have been relatively few sales in Rockwood over the winter months, the selling prices are already reflecting strong growth over last year.

The prediction for 2014 is that we will experience a seller's market in the 1st half of the year, followed by a more balanced market in the 2nd half of the year. According to Phil Soper, President of Royal Lepage;

"We predict continued upward pressure on home prices as we move towards the all-important spring market. In addition to normal demand, housing prices in Canada this year will be influenced by buyers who put off purchase plans in the very soft spring of 2013.

Talk of a 'soft landing' for Canada's real estate market in the new year is misguided. We expect no landing, no slowdown, and no correction in the near-term. Conditions are ripe for as strong a market as we saw in the post-recessionary rebound of the last decade."

Falling interest rates, will also increase demand in the market. Affordability coupled with an absence of sufficient listings to satisfy demand should put upward pressure on prices to the delight of sellers. As more homes come on the market, midyear, expect prices to cool down and level off for the back half of the year.

While home sales this spring are anticipated to bring record highs for Rockwood, unfortunately this is not a "carte blanche" for sellers.

Properties which are tastefully renovated and in good condition will be the hot properties. However, buyers will still consider purchasing and renovating to taste if the asking price plus the cost of renovation is within the market value of the neighbourhood. RW

Dale Biason



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- Cross the road at intersections and/or pedestrian crossings

www.mississaugacycling.ca www.mississauga.ca/roadsafety

Report graffiti, vandalism and littering in public areas to facility. facility.watch@mississauga.ca



CHRIS FONSECA

Councillor, Ward 3

www.Chrisfonseca.ca chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca



CALL 905 • 896 • 5300 chris.fonseca@mississauga.ca

Residental Secondary Units are now Legal

Effective January 2014, Secondary units are now allowed in all residential areas of Mississauga. To be legal, there is of course some paperwork and some inspections.

A secondary unit is a separate unit in a home, which can be a nanny suite, an in-law suite or an apartment within any detached, semi-detached, or townhome. If it has a separate entrance, a kitchen a bathroom, and a living space, it qualifies as a secondary unit. For the suite to be legal, you must meet the zoning requirements, get electrical and fire inspections and then apply for a licence.

If you currently have a secondary unit in your home, whether or not you are renting it, if someone lives there it must be licensed. Should the City suspect that there is a secondary



unit in your home, they do have the authority to enter your home to establish compliance with the by-law. If you do not have a licence, there will be penalties, and probably "cease and desist" orders.

The zoning conditions are fairly simple: you must provide a parking space on the property without adding an additional driveway (i.e. you have to give the tenant a portion of the existing driveway), entrances cannot be added which face the street, and

side entrances must allow clearance of 1.5 m.

The more difficult part of the process is ensuring the unit meets current building code requirements (if retrofit was done after 1994) and can pass the fire and electrical inspections. Since the inspections must be done within 30 days of applying for the licence, make sure you have already requested a Certificate of Occupancy from the City before proceeding with the inspections. NW

For more information on the by-law and the process for applying for a Second Unit Licence, visit mississauga.ca/secondunits



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brush from the curb since January 13th on regularly scheduled collection days.

- Bundles of wood and brush must not exceed 1.2 m (4ft.) and 76 cm (30 in.) in diameter and weigh no more than 20 kg (44 lbs.) to ensure collector safety.
- Individual branches and tree limbs must not exceed 1.2 m (4 ft.) in length and 7.5 cm (3 in.) in diameter and weigh no more than 20 kg (44 lbs.)
- Leave small bundles of yardwaste at the curb as the Region of Peel anticipates yard waste collection may not coincide with residents regularly scheduled collection day

In order to mitigate the cost of this most recent disaster, the City has joined forces with 19 Mayors and 3 Regional Chairs in the GTA. They are collectively requesting the Provincial and Federal governments to share an estimated consolidated



cost to GTA municipalities and Hydro of \$275 million. Similar individual requests for flood relief last summer were denied. Without Federal and Provincial assistance, the taxpayer will bear the brunt of the cost through increases to property taxes or special assessments.

Trees--the loss of, protection for, or damage to--will be a big part of our future tax bills. We are already looking at a hit of \$58 million for the Emerald Ash Borer Blight, and now, post ice storm, the cost of cleaning up and replacement of City trees.

City Tree

The removal of public city trees that have fallen into residents' backyards has now started.

Residents also have the option to take debris to Regional Community Recycling Centres at no cost. For more information on yard waste and Christmas tree collection, please visit

www.peelregion.ca



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The Rockwood Times is pleased to announce a new regular feature. Ask Joe, our local handyman, jack (or Joe) of almost anything, will answer your questions about home maintenance. Do you have a question about maintaining your home? Ask Joe! Please submit your questions to rha.executive@gmail.com Use the subject "Ask Joe"

Hi Joe

We are not sure if our humidifier is working. We have it turned on but we are getting shocks when we touch things. Should we turn it up to a higher setting?

Thanks, Amanda

Hi Amanda

Generally, getting shocks when you touch surfaces in the home means your humidistat is set too low. However, in this very cold weather, you really should be lowering the setting. The rule of thumb is that as temperatures fall, it is easier for condensation to form on cool surfaces like windows. Should you notice your windows fogging up, you definitely have raised the setting too high! Here are the recommended humidity levels for your home: A humidity monitor can also help you manage humidity in your home. You can find one in any building supply or hardware store.



Outside Temperature	Recommended Humidity
-20°F	15%
-20°F to -10°F	20%
-10°F to 0°F	25%
0°F to +10°F	35%
+10°F and above	40%
Summer months	Off

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COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, JOHN F. KENNEDY COUNCIL 5523, the first council in Mississauga, will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on March 16, 2014.

To mark this important milestone of the council's having received its charter, His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins will celebrate a special Mass with Father Darrin, the parish priest, at 3 pm on Sunday, March 16th at Sts. Martha & Mary Church.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

CITY OF MISSISSAUGA, 300 City Centre Dr., 2nd Floor March 24, 2014

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PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

HURONTARIO-MAIN LRT (Light Rapid Transit) Wednesday, March 26, 3pm - 8 pm Mississauga Civic Centre, 300 City Centre Dr., Great Hall

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF MISSISSAUGA, 300 City Centre Dr., 2nd Floor **April 2, 2014**

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GREAT LAKES, GREATER STAKES RIVERWOOD CONSERVANCY

Chappell House, 4300 Riverwood Park Lane www.theriverwoodconservancy.org

Saturday, March 22, - 10AM -11:30AM

Demands on the Great Lakes basin are escalating. Stresses include invasive species, algal blooms, toxic contaminants and climate change. Drs. Gail Krantzberg and Harvey Shear will highlight opportunities to regenerate ecosystem excellence.

COOKSVILLE SPRING CRAFT SHOW & SALE

Royal Canadian Legion, 456 Hensall Circle, Dundas & Cawthra 905-615-4635.

Sunday, March 30 2014, 10am-4pm

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Apr 17, Apr 24, 6 pm

Weekly series of documentaries and a freeform discussion circle exploring connected issues like the environment, gardening, developing sustainable communities, food and nutrition.

• • •

INSPIRATION LAKEVIEW OPEN HOUSE on Master Plan Framework

Tue, March 18, 6:30pm – 9:00pm
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- Carnival Rides 11am 9pm
- FREE Face Painting and Children's Activities & Performers 1pm-4pm.

Send your special events to post on the RHA website to Simi or Dale at rha.executive@gmail.com

