THE ROCKWOOD TIMES

ROCKWOOD HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER SPRING 2019

Runway Work Rescheduled

In January 2019, the resurfacing of runway 15L/33R was announced. 15L/33R is one of two north/south runways at Toronto Pearson.

The majority of this project has now been rescheduled to 2020, with only limited sections of taxiway work expected between April 25 and mid-June 2019.

www.mississauga.ca/portal/stormwater/residential-charge

SAVE THE DATE

RHA AGM

Annual General Meeting
May 22, 2019, at the
Knights of Columbus 1870
Burnhamthorpe Rd. E.,

Hop on over for a fun Easter Egg Hunt. Bring the Kids for a Day of Fun! Face Painting, Games, Crafts, Prizes.

Egg Hunt Every Hour
Free Parking
Sunday, April 21, 2019
10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Symphony Banquet Hall
959 Derry Road East
Mississauga,

No Mary Jane for Mrs. Auga

Retail cannabis stores will not be permitted in Mississauga. On December 12, 2018 Council voted 10-2 to opt out of allowing private retail stores to open in Mississauga. While residents will be able to purchase online via the Ontario Cannabis Store, they will have to drive to a Toronto or Brampton location to purchase in person.

All privately owned cannabis stores come under the jurisdiction of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission, who also set the rules and regulations, including where stores can be located. The fact that municipalities have no control in decision within their communities was a major concern among councillors.

The decision to opt out will also have a financial implication. Instead of a full share in the $40M Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund, the city will only receive $324,442 over the next two years from the province.

In her address to Council, Councillor Fonseca made the following remarks:

I have heard from the Residents of Ward 3, at their doors, in schools, in the very neighbourhood plazas where the Province is proposing this concerning distribution model be focused and I am not prepared, the families in Ward 3 are not prepared to have these private retail cannabis stores proliferate, infiltrate through and in our cherished neighbourhoods. This Provincial Retail distribution model is one sided and weights very heavily on a free market approach to distribution where the marketing, promotion, the sale and profits are clearly the focus. Where the local community, residents,

our very Council will have no control of where these private businesses will be located. I, Madame Mayor, the residents of Ward 3, our Council, our City are very proud of the care and commitment that has gone into the planning of our neighbourhoods, communities, our City. We have often times stood proudly to tell the Province and the Federal Government that we know our communities and want to be able to control planning our City of Mississauga. This Provincial distribution model will give us no control of the current and future planning process of how our neighbourhoods develop. In fact, the focus for the Province in this distribution model is clearly on locating these cannabis retail stores right in the heart of our neighbourhoods, within 150m of neighbourhood grade schools,

high schools, family residential neighbourhoods and parks and absolutely no limitations from daycare, child care, community centres, youth shelters and youth facilities. This Provincial distribution model places retail in as close proximity as physically possible to our most vulnerable children, youth, young adults, with no say for us as a municipality in the zoning and planning and no limitations in the number

continued on page 3

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*
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Provincial Issues to be Reviewed

MPP, Khaled Rasheed,

Generally, the RHA focuses on municipal issues, as these tend to have the most impact on a daily basis in our community.

However, airport issues are Federal, and we have been active on these issues as well.

When our new MPP, Khaled Rasheed, had an open house, one of our Board Members attended. It was pretty obvious that not only did Mr.Rasheed not know where RHA is located, but also he did not know about the basic issues here, like the airport. While the province is not in charge of the airport, we do need to have strong, informed representation at the provincial level as well.

Mr Rasheed has accepted an invitation to attend our Board meeting on April 8,2019. We now have a list of things that we have informed the MPP we would like to discuss:

1. Full day kindergarten: This could be an economic disaster for parents in this community. Is there a plan to increase the availability of day care and to ensure that it is affordable?

2. Changes to Health Care: It is rumored that a two tier system is proposed that will allow the rich to go to the front of the line. How will this benefit young families and seniors?

3. Trillium Hospital: Prior to the Conservative government taking power, a deal was in place for a very needed expansion to our major hospital. Is this still moving forward or have things changed?

4. Transit Expansion: Ontario is talking about taking ownership of the TTC. Will Mississauga be a destination on any new lines?

5. GTAA: Is the MPP up to speed on airport issues? Will he support our concerns for safety? Is he on board with CAAS?

6. Development Fees: The Ontario government is considering scrapping the ability of municipalities to collect developers' fees. What will be the impact of allocations we have received from the City for neighborhood improvements?

7. Municipal Government: A review of Municipal Government is in process. We believe that the City of Mississauga, as the 6th largest city in Canada, should be recognized as a stand-alone entity.

8. Retail Cannabis Locations. Mississauga has spoken clearly that Municipalities have been ignored in the decision as to where stores can be located. Is the Province listening?

Members of the RHA are welcome to attend any Board Meeting. If you wish to attend, or have a question for the MPP, please contact us at RHA.executive@gmail, as space will be limited. RW

RHA to Incorporate as Non- Profit

The Rockwood Homeowners' Association has applied for incorporation as a not-for-profit association. While the costs of incorporating are minimal, the change is necessary to allow us to participate in the Mississauga Community Group. One of the benefits of belonging to the Community Group is acquiring a meeting room at no charge. The saving from having two free meeting rooms will cover the cost of incorporating. Membership also includes access to the City's Affiliate Insurance Program.

In order to comply with the guidelines set out by the City, we will have to make some minor amendments to our constitution. These will be presented to our membership at our AGM in May.

No Mary Jane

continued from front page

of retail outlets and no cap in locations frequented every single day by children, youth, young adults, seniors and families. The legalization of cannabis was intended to take away the sale of cannabis from organized crime and gangs and to address the alarming concerning use of cannabis by youth. The provincial distribution retail model clearly does not regard the public health goal, in fact is the polar opposite of the public health goal of delaying when people start to use cannabis.

The Province could have chosen to have retail locations far away from the most vulnerable, children, youth, young adults instead the Province emphasizes in this retail distribution model no limitations. The Province could have proposed municipalities to have a voice, a say in the decision of where these private retail locations will be located. Instead we will have no control.

If people need access, ordering on-line is readily available and those in need for medical, medicinal purposes have readily available access.

The monies that the Province is proposing to provide municipalities is also concerning, a faction, a pittance of the costs we will, as a municipality incur to address this distribution model. I am proud, Ward 3 residents are proud, we as a City are very proud of the City of Mississauga, family, friendly neighbourhood. Were residents enjoy value and hold to the highest regard our commitment to public community safety, public health and community building.

Councillor Fonseca

This concerning Provincial distribution model of private retail cannabis clearly does not place a focus on public health, public safety or community building, nor does it hold to any regarding municipalities to have control in the current or future development of our neighbours. With this Provincial distribution model there are too many unknowns. For these reasons, I will be voting to opt out. RW

Taxes to Rise, *Of Course*

With the cost of everything rising, no one should be surprised that property taxes will also be going up. This year, property owners will be looking at a 2.9% increase. According to Mayor Crombie, our tax rate is not only competitive, but is below the average in the GTA.

In a letter to the RHA and other stakeholders, the mayor explains, "The net property tax increase for 2019, when combined with the Region of Peel, is 2.9% (1.3% from the Region of Peel + 1.6% City of Mississauga). To put this in perspective, a home valued at $645,000 will see an increase of roughly $83 in 2019." RW

For more information on the budget and how your tax dollars are being spent, you can review the entire budget at www.mississauga.ca/budget.

RHA Annual General Meeting Scheduled for MAY 22

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on May 22, 2019, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, JFK Council, situated next to the front entrance of Sts. Martha and Mary Parish, 1870 Burnhamthorpe Rd. E., near the corner of Ponytrail.

Look for details in our next issue or visit our website: rockwoodvillage.ca

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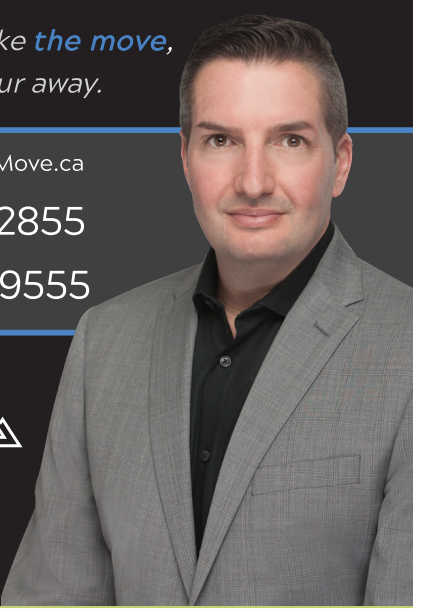

"How to Kill a Snow-Day"

By Jason Haraschuk (RHA Director)

It's the evening of February 12, 2019, and at the time I am writing this, both the Dufferin-Peel District School Board and the Peel District School Board have just completed their third Snow Day in three weeks. Today also marks the first snow day in eight years for the Toronto District School Board, where 250, 000 students received a day off because of the dreadful winter weather conditions.

Therefore, the GTA social media feeds were "a buzz" with much happiness and celebration for another day off! There were even two administrators from Lumen Christi Catholic Elementary School in Milton who posted a "Snow Day Song" on the school's Twitter feed, to the tune of "Folsom Blues" by Johnny Cash. So if you were one of the "lucky ones" who got a snow day, this usually meant sleeping in, staying in one's pajamas all day and binge watching whatever show on your favourite streaming service right? WRONG! Let me qualify why that's wrong—because if you have small children, like I do, you have to find a way to kill a snow day.

What many parents who stayed home with their children probably did was check out what other "moms and dads" were doing with their kids that day. I saw parents doing a variety of activities with their kids: tobogganing, building snowmen, making paper hearts on GOOS paper (Good On One Side paper), etc. However, a neighbour of mine in Rockwood Village summed it up best on her Instagram feed: "…. Waffles, 3 cups of coffee, 20 stair laps, lunch, cooking-baking, painting, board games, stories, TV, laser tag, dance party, treadmill, snowball fight, hot lava island jumping, baths, making chili, more stories. Bedtime!! Phew. #snowday" (@shark_and_squid, Instagram Post, Feb 12, 2019) This is INDEED an exhausting task—to entertain your "over-entertained" children. In fact, my neighbour's post truly encapsulates the amount of energy parents expel on a snow day. Through my own experience, I don't necessarily find them "rest days". I find them high-octane work days instead.

So, if you don't use social media, or perhaps you just want to know what my family does to occupy a snow day here in Rockwood Village—this is it. On Snow Day two, "the ice storm day", my children and I went to a local swimming pool that was open in the afternoon to participate in the public swim, and for about an hour, we forgot about the "snowmageddon" occurring outside and instead enjoyed the warmth of the pool. Another idea is a PLAYDATE. Why not go over to the house of another Rockwood Village neighbour whose kids are also out of school for the day and have the children play together. You could walk there if you are afraid of getting into a car accident and pretend you are reenacting the scene from Planet Hoth in "Star Wars Episode 5: The Empire Strikes Back"; fun stuff indeed!

Finally, if you're willing to spend a little money, have your neighbourhood 15-year-old babysitter come over as "someone new" for your children to play with. It doesn't have to be for long. We had our Rockwood Village babysitter come over for about an hour. In the meantime, we put together the family dinner, tidied our house a little bit, and had a breath of air by going for a quick walk in the freezing rain. I tell you, it was a much-needed reprieve, and it capped off a nicely killed snow day. RW

WARD 3 Family BBQ

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Wednesday, June 12, 2019
5pm – 7pm at Jaycee Park
1520 Gulleden Dr.

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CENAC Retired

GTAA has launched the Toronto Pearson Noise Management Forums to replace CENAC (the Community Environment and Noise Advisory Committee). The purpose is to "provide a more inclusive approach to working the community and industry in the interest of managing noise." While noise is an important factor in Rockwood Village, the greater concern to the community is safety.

An accident in the airspace over our homes is unthinkable. For this reason, the RHA will not only keep an eye on how the GTAA moves forward on reducing noise, but will also support CAAS to ensure any changes at the airport do not affect our safety.

For more information visit www.torontopearson.com/NMF

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"Ask Joe" Your Neighbourhood Handyman

Please submit your questions to "Ask Joe" rha.executive@gmail.com

Hi, Joe,
I just moved into Rockwood and my home has all of its original electrical switches and receptacles. I also have aluminum wiring and would like to upgrade the switches and receptacles to the new rectangular style (decora) but do not want to re-wire the house. Would this be possible and are there any concerns I should have. Brad

Hi, Brad,
The short answer is yes it's possible. You need to be very careful when doing this because at present no manufacturer that I know of makes a decora switch or receptacle compatible to aluminum wire. In other words you need to pigtail all the switches and receptacles to copper wire and use a specialized compound on the joints.

You could also purchase the old style receptacles or switches, which are still available at most electrical wholesalers. Please look for the letter (AL) on the switch or receptacle to ensure it is compatible to aluminum wire. This way you would have all new switches and receptacles. In my opinion they should have been replaced years ago due to their age and usage.

Please note: a certified and qualified electrician who is familiar with your type of wiring that was used in the mid 70's should do this type of work.

Joe RW

RHA Membership Fees *NOW DUE*

Our thanks to the many residents who have sent in their membership fees over the past few months. We now have 121 members. There's still a long way to go, but we are working hard to reach out to the other 2,800 potential members.

In the past, the only way we could receive membership dues was in cash at the Annual General Meeting or by members dropping off the payment at the home of our treasurer. However, with the availability of e-transfers, those who cannot get to the AGM have a much easier way to make their payment.

Membership for 2019-2020 is due in May at the AGM, but you can avoid the wait and send us an e-transfer today using "membership2020". We are looking forward to your support! RW

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Mississauga Crossrides on hold pending safety review

The City of Mississauga has temporarily deactivated all crossrides across the municipality until a safety review has been completed.

Recently installed in Rockwood Village along the Burnhamthorpe Trail, crossrides permit cyclists to ride through intersections when the crossride signal is green, instead of requiring cyclists to dismount at each intersection and walk safely across. According to the City of Mississauga, crossrides "...may be located where multi-use trails or cycle tracks cross a road. Crossrides are identified with a line of painted squares on both sides of the crossing, and may also include painted bicycle marks."

The Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee—an official committee run the by the City of Mississauga and made up of citizen members and Ward 3 Councillor Chris Fonseca--brought concerns to members of City Council in January.

According to a post on the Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee's website, the group was not consulted by the City of Mississauga prior to the installation.

"It is indeed harder for car drivers at an intersection to see cyclists because the crossride is set further back from the central intersection, and cyclists can move so quickly into the crossride, even after the driver has checked prior to a turn (assuming the driver even notices there is a crossride)," says the Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee on their website. "Cyclists, for their part, will see the green bike signal and assume that crossing is safe, unaware that a driver may be about to make a right turn across their path, or even a left turn through the intersection after only checking the closer (and more familiar) pedestrian crossing."

Crossride lights across the City of Mississauga have been concealed until the City of Mississauga completes a safety review. Timelines on when the review will be completed are not clear. RW

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