

HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION Rockwood TIMES



SPRING 2022



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**ROCKWOOD & SAFE CITY
REKINDLES
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**
Details Page 2



**SAVE THE DATE
RHA AGM
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MAY 4TH, 2022**

MAY THE 4TH - BE WITH US

You are invited to join us for an earth reality zoom meeting, Costumes are optional.

The Rockwood Homeowners' Association will hold its annual general meeting via **Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on May 4, 2022.**

As is our custom, we have invited speakers who will be prepared to answer your questions on a host of issues that impact our community. The speakers will include: Mayor Bonnie Crombie, Councillor Chris Fonseca, Gerald Adad, (Safecitymississauga) and a Robyn Connelly from the GTAA. There will also be City personnel to answer some of the finer points being discussed.

Some of the topics to be covered will include:

- *Parks and Recreation: services, conditions, enhancements*
- *Rathburn Ponytrail reconstruction: timing and interim clean up, unresolved community concerns and requests for adjustments*
- *Safety – reduced speed signage, patrolling of parks and trails, response time for crimes, reset*

and relaunch Neighbourhood Watch

- *Specific impact to Rockwood of Alternative Housing Options.*
- *Airport closures and the impact on our neighbourhood.*
- *Rockwood Signage*

If you have additional topics you wish to have addressed, please advise us prior to April 27, to ensure that someone is available to speak to your issue, if possible. Additional topics can be sent to: RHA.executive@gmail.com

Due to time constraints and the volume of questions, please send any questions you wish to ask, when you request your Zoom link. A member of the Board will pose it in your name (or not) to the appropriate speaker. An E-blast invitation will be sent to our subscribers in late April.

If you are not a regular subscriber, you can receive the zoom request from our website: www.rockwoodvillage.ca

We are looking forward to seeing you on May 4th!

More Airport Construction Coming!

In April 2017, the Residents of Rockwood were under siege from what felt like unrelenting aircraft noise. It came without any warning and stole the quiet enjoyment from our community. It lasted almost two months, but it seemed like an eternity. In May of that same year, a GTAA representative attended our AGM to explain and apologize.

The explanation was that runway repairs were required and flights had to be diverted from the east-west runways to the north-south runways to accommodate the construction.



The apology was for not providing any notice to the residents of the affected areas.

Five years later, and following two years of bliss where there was barely any activity at the airport, GTAA has announced that major

continued on page 3

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Taking on Safety is up to all of us!

Over the past year, we at RHA have heard many complaints regarding safety in our community. They run the gamut from vandalism to burglary.

Last year, when Trail 11 was completed, there were concerns from residents about security issues. With park benches facing residential homes, they were an ideal opportunity for staking out potential criminal activity. While the City had promised regular cycle patrols on the trails, that are yet to be seen, they did remove all the benches and relocate them on street entrances. Other residents have reported issues with safety along the Creek Trail. Again, the City said they would use bicycle patrols to ensure the safety of both pedestrians and cyclists.

A year ago, there was a rash of brazen break and entry incidents and several car thefts were also reported. However, perhaps the greatest issue was lack of quick police response to break-ins within the neighbourhood. The police did not respond for many hours after an incident. Very recently, vandals caused major damage to the Garnetwood Park washrooms resulting in the temporary closure for repair.

While we can pressure the City to increase presence of special bike patrols, there is not much we can do to pressure the police. Generally, Rockwood is a safe neighbourhood. Crime is not currently a BIG issue, but we are not isolated from it either. New trails, a splash pad and bike lanes will be bringing strangers to our community. While we may receive police presence, chances are 9 in 10 when trouble arrives, they will not be around. But our neighbours have eyes and ears and can call for help or at least report what they see or hear. As residents of Rockwood, we all need to do our part to maintain, or, even better still, to reduce crime and the potential for incidents in our neighbourhood.

Neighbourhood Watch is an organized community of neighbours looking out for each other and each other's properties. It is one of Mississauga's most well-known and successful crime prevention programs, provided in partnership with the City of Mississauga and Peel Regional Police. It appears that our community members may feel falsely secure and may be under the misconception that there

is an active *Neighbourhood Watch* operating in Rockwood. There are signs in many doorways to advertise this alliance, but on closer examination, this appears to be a myth. We need to reactivate the *Neighbourhood Watch* in Rockwood.

Safe City Mississauga now manages the *Neighbourhood Watch* program. It is our local crime prevention organization and is looking to rekindle *Neighbourhood Watches* in the Rockwood community! It begins with securing a team leader to enlist a street or townhouse complex in the program, *Safe City Mississauga*. Many express an interest in making our community safer. This needs to be a team effort. We can't do it alone. We need your participation. Working together, we can make Rockwood Village an even safer community. **RW**

Lisa Portolese, RHA

Director Safety and Roads

The Program Focuses on:

- Reporting crime to *Safe City Mississauga*, *Peel Regional Police* and among neighbours
- Awareness of crime and suspicious activity that may be happening
- Crime prevention through education. Participation is completely FREE!



If you are interested in being a Team Lead and starting a Neighbourhood Watch on your street, please reach out to Gerald Adad (Neighbourhood Services Manager) at nsm@safecitymississauga.on.ca. You can also reach out to RHA.roadsandsafety@gmail.com

Make OUR neighborhood SAFER!

- Get to know your neighbours.
- Take necessary precautions when you are out of town or not home for a period of time.
- Close windows and blinds at night.
- Keep exterior lighting on and notify city if street lights are not working
- Install a security system.

If you see something....

.....say something!

Airport Construction continued from page 1

construction on the 06L/24R, the second busiest runway, will commence in April with a scheduled completion in October. In other words, all the traffic that normally would be handled on this runway will often be diverted, primarily to north/south runways, right over our neighbourhood for the next 6 months.

While the GTAA made good on their promise of providing notice to the affected communities, there is no apology for the disruption and anguish this will cause our residents over the course of the next six months. More distressing may be the fact that no mention has been made for plans to rehabilitate the busiest runway. As with the first closure in 2017, the current repairs may be another test run for what will probably be the mother of all disruptions; closure of the major east/west runway. **RW**

For more information, visit www.torontopearson.com/runwayrehab

Schedule of Timelines for the work and Community Impact



	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Dates	Early April to June, 2022	Late June to mid-September 2022	Mid-September to mid-November, 2022
The Work	West end of runway - full depth replacement and lighting upgrade of runway end and holding bay	Work on middle portion: full depth replacement and lighting upgrade of runway and adjacent taxiways	East end of runway - full depth reconstruction and lighting upgrade on runway, holding bay and adjacent taxiway
Runway Configurations	East/West runway usage expected; strong likelihood of increased North/South usage	East/West runway usage expected; possibility of North/South usage	East/West runway usage expected; strong likelihood of increased North/South usage

All Candidates Meeting

After a very lively and intense Federal All Candidates Meeting, the RHA will sponsor a Provincial Candidates Meeting, via Zoom, in mid May at a date yet to be confirmed.

Once a date is confirmed, we will send an Eblast to our subscribers and also post the details on our website: www.rockwoodvillage.ca.

If you have a question you would like to direct to one or all of the candidates, please forward your question to us and it will be asked by the moderator, or if you prefer, you can pose the question directly. Either way, the question must be sent to us first to ensure that the same question is not repeated. At the link shown below, you can include your question with your request to attend the meeting.

We are looking forward to another enjoyable evening. If you are not already a subscriber, sign up today to receive your Email invitation. **RW**

MAYis for Membership

Please support our community by renewing your RHA membership in May. The \$10 fee goes to fund the costs of our website, meetings, business expenses and the donations we make on behalf of the community. Most importantly, it says that you appreciate the work our volunteers do to ensure that Rockwood Village residents are kept up to date on issues that affect our community.

Please send your membership fee of \$10 by e-transfer to rha.executive@gmail.com or send us an email for a drop-off location near you. We will be sending an Eblast in May as a reminder. **RW**

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COMMUNITY

Income Opportunity for Seniors

Do you have a spare room in your home?

Partner with Canada HomeShare

Canada HomeShare has recently launched in Peel Region and is continuing to operate in Toronto! Run by the National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly (NICE), Canada HomeShare matches older adults, (55+) who have a spare room, with post-secondary students seeking safe and affordable housing. Students pay \$400-\$600 a month for rent and contribute 5-7 hours/week of companionship and/or assistance around the home.

Applications are open for both home providers and students. The entire process, from application to finding an appropriate HomeShare match, is carefully overseen by Canada HomeShare social workers in accordance with all COVID-19 protocols.

Learn more about Canada HomeShare at

www.canadahomeshare.com

or contact them by phone at 800-786-9773



Canada HomeShare
by NICE

Public Works 101



Chris Fonseca

Ward 3 Councillor



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Chris.Fonseca@mississauga.ca

Please join me for a **Virtual Town Hall**

**Thursday,
April 21, 6:30PM**

I have invited the Region of Peel Staff who are responsible for watermain projects in Ward 3, the Silverthorn Pumping Station Project and many other projects to provide updates to Ward 3 Residents.

It's an opportunity for you to share your priorities and learn more about these projects.

To register, please visit chrisfonseca.ca/publicworks101

WANTED

*Residents interested in
Improving our Community*

We are looking for residents with an interest in the community, and who want to preserve and improve the lifestyle and ambiance of Rockwood Village.

Our interests are diversified:

- Keeping our streets, trails, paths, and homes safe.
- Ensuring our parks receive sufficient funds to meet the needs of the community and identifying improvements.
- Helping our neighbours get answers to problems pertaining to their property.
- Keeping the community informed of actions that may have an impact on our neighbourhood; from the city, the province, or the Federal Government, such as airport traffic, noise, safety concerns and road construction.

If you share any of these interests and have a few hours a month to donate to your community, please consider joining our Board.

We currently have openings for Board members and hope to fill them at our AGM on May 4th. By joining our Board, you can share your voice as to the direction the RHA takes in the future.

No qualifications required other than you must live in Rockwood Village, be over 18 years of age and share our interest in ensuring Rockwood Village remains the most desirable neighbourhood in East Mississauga. **RW**

If you need more information as to expectations, please drop us a note at RHA.executive@gmail.com



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Volunteers Needed to Help Reduce Noxious Weed

The City's Forestry Section is looking for resident volunteers for its Garlic Mustard Task Force to help steward local natural areas by removing the invasive Garlic Mustard plant. Garlic Mustard is an invasive species that was brought to North America as a food source and for herbal medicine. In natural areas, Garlic Mustard outperforms native species by crowding out and displacing native plants such as Trillium flowers.

The City is currently taking measures to reduce the Garlic Mustard population in Mississauga, but since it can double in size in four years' time, the recruitment of interested volunteers is needed to help fight against the growth of Garlic Mustard.

Task Force volunteers will receive training and supplies, and will be assigned a designated park or natural area near their homes to complete a series of Garlic Mustard removal pulls during the spring each year.

If you are interested in joining the Garlic Mustard Task Force, please register on the City's Better Impact Volunteer Portal. If you have any questions about the program, please contact 311, or call 905-615-4311. RW



Flowering Garlic Mustard, a Class A noxious weed, is a biennial or winter annual herb that generally grows 2-3 (up to 6) ft tall. Lower leaves are kidney-shaped with scalloped edges. Leaves feel hairless, and the root has an "S" or "L" shape just below the stem base. In spring, new leaves smell like garlic, and small, four-petal white flowers appear clustered at stem ends, followed by long, skinny seedpods. This weed spreads by seed and can self-pollinate, helping it rapidly displace native plants along trails, in forests, and on riverbanks, among other areas.



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COMMUNITY

Garnetwood Park NEWS



Washroom Closed

Due to vandalism the Garnetwood Park washroom station will be closed until further notice. One accessible and two standard port-o-lets will be on site until all necessary repairs are completed. Updates to follow.



Right place... Right Time

I happened to be in the right place at the right time to glean some insight into park maintenance and inspection on February the 24 around 8:30 a.m. in Garnetwood Park and along the Shaver Trail. It was a bright sunny morning with frigid temperatures well below 0 when I got talking to a park staff member to find out what the crew was doing on that day, besides carefully salting the icy patches along walkways. I found out that all Parks staff are responsible for a basic list of inspections, and that they undertake proactive checks while at any of the over 500 Mississauga parks or green spaces.

Maintenance duties vary throughout the seasons. In terms of winter maintenance staff are watchful for:

- State of snow clearing/ including pathways
- Windrows & snow banks
- Run off areas, pooling, ponding, drifting, drainage

- Future pruning work required
- Sanitation cans in place & emptied

On that particular day an additional inspector, with a clipboard and inspection forms, was also perusing the park parameters as part of the Mississauga asset management program. These inspections are much more detailed and performed throughout the year for the many types of recreational facilities that exist in the parks.

For more information just type Mississauga asset management program into your search engine or take a walk in the park in the early morning hours.

*Iris Schweiger, RHA
Director Parks and Rec*



The rink is up and running...



Snowfall so high it can't be cleared to skate ...



but here comes summer!!! The splash pad will open hopefully, for the May holiday weekend!

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Marvelous Mississauga Movie Makers

A local couple is being recognized at international film festivals for their short film, "Corona Cuckoo", which was filmed right here in Rockwood Village, in and around their home.

Written, directed and produced by Stephen Roscoe, the 15-minute film stars his wife, Lucy Filippone, a very experienced professional actress with many film and television credits. Stephen has taught at Glenforest S.S. for 23 years. He also served for many years on the RHA Executive and earned recognition as a Lifetime Member.

According to Stephen, "Our short was the creative outlet, and labor of love, that kept us sane during the first year of the pandemic." The story is about Lucy, a kooky bird lover who lives alone during stay-at-home orders and feels the pangs of pandemic paranoia each passing day, hour, minute and ticking of the clock, amps up her anxiety. Trapped



Above: Rockwood Resident, Star Lucy Filippone has been nominated for Best Actress by the Kolkata India film festival!

like the bird inside a clock, she waits in worry that she'll become "Corona Cuckoo".

"Corona Cuckoo" is a comedic film, with poignant moments, that explores the themes of mental health, fear, loneliness, kindness and the perseverance of the human spirit. A pandemic point of view story that audiences will easily relate to, the film aims to evoke the viewers' memories of the good people whose kindness lifted them up when they were living in lockdown.

The production is now enjoying an international reception at film festivals in: Tokyo Japan, Rome Italy, Kolkata India (nominated for Best Actress and Best Original Music Score) and most recently in Rhode Island USA where it will screen April 4th - 10th, 2022 in the Roving Eye Film Festival (official sidebar of the world-renowned Rhode Island International Film Festival). **RW**



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