

## SAVE THE DATE

### RHA AGM

Annual

General Meeting

OCTOBER 21, 2020,

Venue to be confirmed

See Pg. 2

## Henny Penny the sky has fallen *But the sun and the people can start coming out!*

When the last edition of *The Rockwood Times* hit the street, March break was a few days away. It was a given that there was some possibility that Covid-19 would come our way. Before heading out of the country, families were debating whether or not they should leave. At that time, isolation was already being considered for those returning from international travel. The opening of school was going to be delayed.

On March 17th, a day after the first Covid-19 death was reported, Premier Ford initiated the first State of Emergency. At this time there were already 185 confirmed cases. The public, particularly Seniors, were warned to "stay at home and stay informed." By March 23, everything but essential services were locked down.

The population with the highest risk of infection was identified as those over 70 and people of any age with pre-existing conditions such as heart or lung disease and immune deficiencies. Keeping people home to stop the spread gave hospitals time to prepare for the inevitable. However, it soon became apparent that our hospitals and nursing homes did not have the supplies they needed to handle this infection or stop the spread. Without the proper protective coverings, nurses and doctors were infected and the disease devastated long term care facilities. The Government had to scramble but eventually managed to fill the voids.



Ninety days later, we are slowly working our way to a "new normal". Grandparents can hug their grandchildren once again; three months of roots can be dyed and hair cuts are also permitted. But opening up many other venues of the life we once knew will be up to everyone. Social distancing, wearing face coverings and washing hands must be an integral part of life or we could find ourselves back in phase one. The pandemic is here to stay until there is an effective vaccine. *RW*

*The demographics of Rockwood Village indicates that 25% of our population is over the age of 65 and there are 2 nursing homes within our boundaries. Be a good neighbor, follow the rules and keep our community safe. If you see something, say something.*

**Call 3-1-1 to report violations**

**Do the right thing**  
Your actions matter



[mississauga.ca/coronavirus](https://mississauga.ca/coronavirus)

 MISSISSAUGA

**What will  
School be like  
in September?  
See Pg.4**



**TMFB Neighbourhood  
Food Banks  
Hours of Operation during  
COVID-19** - To keep you safe and informed, visit our website at [themississaugafoodbank.org](https://themississaugafoodbank.org) for regular updates .

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Your actions matter



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 MISSISSAUGA



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# Let's Keep in Touch

If nothing else, the past few months have taught us that staying in touch in difficult times is important. We encourage all residents to get on our e-mailing list, or follow us on Twitter, in order to provide you with important information. While you may have sent us an e-transfer in the past, we do not have your e-mail to either thank you for your support or to send you information that may be important.

We do maintain a strict privacy policy and do not share any information with anyone outside our organization.

Please take a minute and send us an e-mail at [RHAexecutive.com](mailto:RHAexecutive.com), or use the contact form on our website at [www.rockwoodvillage.ca](http://www.rockwoodvillage.ca). We promise we won't bug you with a lot of unwanted messages.

While we have a website, we are sometimes a little slow in getting information posted in a timely fashion.

We are working on this and hope to be able to provide more information, more quickly, moving forward. We are also looking into the possibility of an on-line newsletter, to replace our door-to door delivery. This can be done regardless of whether the printer is open or if the delivery service is working. It would also be more cost effective for our advertisers and could even be done more regularly than the quarterly newsletter we currently publish.

If you would like to help us out with the website, please let us know. **RW**

Email: [rha.executive@gmail.com](mailto:rha.executive@gmail.com)

## Save Another Date! - Oct. 21/20

With every hall closed, the AGM (Annual General Meeting) has been postponed tentatively, until October 21st. It will still be at 7:00 pm but at a location to be confirmed. While meetings are generally held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, next to Sts. Martha and Mary Church, due to physical distancing, and capacity issues, we are looking to potentially use the Community Centre. Unfortunately, until the announcement is made that City facilities are opening, we cannot book a date.

In the event that we cannot use either facility, we will move forward with a virtual meeting. In this case, we will provide a link for residents to stay home and join the meeting on line.

In either event, we will still have special guests, and your input will still be welcome. Provided that we do not have any set-backs, and we can still have the newsletter published and delivered in October, we will confirm arrangements at that time. In the event that we are back in stay home mode, we will provide details on our website: [rockwoodvillage.ca](http://rockwoodvillage.ca)

## Letters to the Editor

Hello all.

I always enjoy and appreciate getting the RHA newsletter. As one of those whom you thank for paying more than the required membership fee, I am demonstrably a supporter. It is in this positive context that I wish to provide some constructive feedback regarding the article "What's Going On with the Teachers' Strike?".

While the article is generally very informative and balanced, the author starts the third paragraph with, "We all recognize that teachers are well paid." Really? Who is this "all"? It certainly does not include me - and I am a retiree, and have never been a teacher. I strongly object to such language, making blanket statements with no factual evidence.

Personally, I believe teachers

are grossly underpaid for what they do, and, more so in recent times, for what they have to tolerate. When I was in grade school in the 60's, there was discipline in a classroom. Nowadays, kids in grades two and three tell teachers [in VERY explicit language!] to f\*ck off. Grade two and three! But that's not the worst of it. Teachers are often physically attacked by students in grade school! And the teachers have no recourse. God forbid they smack one of these little brats. They'd end up in jail for child abuse - such is the lunacy of modern society, and one of the main reasons why we're cranking out so many delinquents: there are no longer consequences for actions.

In my day, we dared not even talk back to our teachers, knowing the implication was a trip to the principal's office, which meant the dreaded strap. And then we had to take a note home to our parents, and when mom saw that note, we got even worse punishment meted out. But the good news was that we did not misbehave without thinking very hard about those consequences - was it really worth it to be that jerk?! Today's trip to the principal's office entails the "dreaded" punishment of a "think paper" - a scrap of paper whereon the children are to write some gibberish about how their actions made others feel, etc etc. Problem is, they collect these like trophies, and laugh at the system. Their parents aren't even involved.

Yet, through all this, and all the resultant stress and trauma that teachers endure, they persevere in their tasks, and somehow manage to educate at least some of the students who are receptive to learning. And what do they get paid for this? Your author claims that "We all recognize that teachers are well paid." Well, a little research shows what that must mean ...

The average Teacher Elementary School salary in Ontario is \$62,568 as of February 26, 2020, but the range typically falls between \$51,253 and \$74,211 (<https://www.salary.com/research/salary/benchmark/teacher-elementary-school-salary/ontario-ca>)

Anyone who thinks that this is being "well paid" must be smoking some of that marijuana that Justin made legal, because they certainly aren't living in the real world. And please shelve the arguments about summers off. I think soldiers in combat zones often have less stress in their jobs - because they are trained for that type of environment! - and they need leaves every once in a while. Teachers deserve every day they get out of the war zone of the classroom.

So, let me suggest a little tighter editing, to omit such sweeping unfounded statements. You do your credibility damage in making them, and you very likely alienate the neighbours you'd like (and we'd all like) to get to join the RHA, to support the good work that it does.

*Best regards , Steve Pozgaj*

## EDITOR'S NOTE

First, Mr. Pozgaj, we would like to thank you for your generous support of the RHA and your kind words in regard to our community engagement. The editorial was published in our last edition just prior to the Covid-19 shutdown. If we learned nothing else, parents have a new respect for the role of teachers and their value. We acknowledge that this comment appears to have overstated reality.

We will do our outmost to ensure the accuracy and intensity of our comments going forward. *RW*


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# What will School Look Like in September?

According to a white paper from Sick Children's Hospital, going back to school in September is imperative for the emotional well being of children. Children need the social aspect of school. Parents are frustrated with home schooling, and they too need to go back to work. Recently, the Ministry published the following three possibilities for September:

**1. Normal school day routine** - with enhanced public health protocols, i.e., students going to school every day, in classes that reflect standard class size regulations.

**2. Modified school-day routine** - Based on public health advice, an adapted delivery model has been designed to allow for physical distancing and cohorts of students. Under this model, school boards are asked to maintain a limit of 15 students in a typical classroom at one time and adopt timetabling that would allow for students to remain in contact only with their classmates and a single teacher for as much of the school day as possible. This model would require alternate day or alternate week delivery to a segment of the class at one time.

**3. At home learning** - If the school closure is extended, or some parents choose not to send their child back to school, school boards need to be prepared to offer remote education. Remote education should be delivered online to the greatest extent possible, including the establishment of minimum expectations for students to have direct contact with their teacher at the same time on a regular basis, also known as synchronous learning. Synchronous learning can be used as part of whole class instruction, in smaller groups of students, and/or in a one-on-one context.

It does not appear that number one is a good probability. Some parents may decide that they do not want their children to attend school in the fall. Living with older and/or immune deficient family members would be a reason for



keeping children away from any potential infection and opting for at-home learning. That leaves us with option 2. How will families manage to go to work either one week on and one week off, or 3 days one week and 2 days the next? Some will have families that can step up to help, but many won't. Some parents may be able to work at home, but some may not. Some may have understanding employers, but some will not.

Perhaps as a neighborhood we can help by matching up families that need day care help with residents who may be prepared to help. If you need help, or can provide help, please contact us at [www.rockwoodvillage.ca](http://www.rockwoodvillage.ca)



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# Property TAXES Deferred

If you are wondering why your property taxes are still in your account, the City has announced that they have deferred tax payments by 90 days.

If you pay by installment, this means that the April payment will not be due until July, the May payment not due until August, and the June in September. No cheques will be cashed until the new due dates. The payments for July, August, and Sept. have also been extended to October, November, and December respectively.

There will be no late payment charges and no interest will be assessed until December.

If you pay your taxes monthly, the April, May and June payments may not be taken until July, August and September. However, as the City is not forgiving what was due to them, it is probable that it will be catch up (double payments) time in the last three months. This is not clear on the City website, how and when the deferred months will be handled. Check with

your financial institution or call the City for clarification.

If you pay your taxes by automatic (post dated) e-transfers, you must make the adjustment to the deferred dates manually, otherwise they will be sent to the city on the original date you provided.

As City Hall is closed, you will have to mail your payment, use the drop box at City Hall or remit by e-transfer for the time being. **RW**

## Nayper Arrested

As we reported in our last newsletter, the police and the neighbourhood were on the lookout for a vandal who was painting "Nayper" branded graffiti throughout our community.

We are happy to report that the Peel Police made an arrest on April 6, after a search warrant was executed at a Mississauga residence. According to the police, they have been investigating multiple reports of mischief, in the form of graffiti on both private and public property, since 2019. This vandalism proliferated in the latter part of the year and early 2020. Although the majority of reported incidents were in the area of Rathburn and Fieldgate, there were also reported incidents in Etobicoke.

The accused man was charged with nine counts of mischief over \$5,000. He was then released into the custody of Toronto Police, where he was charged with additional counts of mischief over \$5,000. **RW**

Officers are asking anyone with information on this matter to contact Sgt. Baker #2111 of the 12 Division Neighborhood Policing Unit or call 905-453-2121, ext. 1200.

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## RHA Membership Dues

If you have not already sent us your \$10 annual dues, please do so by e-transfer to [RHA.executive@gmail.com](mailto:RHA.executive@gmail.com). Please remember to use a security question for which we can guess the answer or membership 2021. Better still, send us an e-mail with the question and answer! If you prefer, you can also drop off your cheque at 1734 Chalkdene Grove.

**We appreciate your support! **RW****



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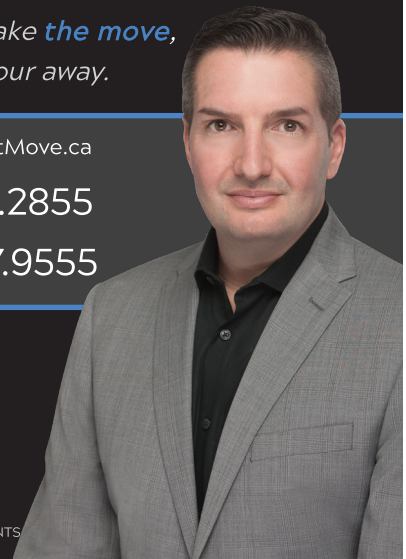
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## REAL ESTATE

# Buying or Selling a Property During Covid-19

The rules for Real Estate have changed drastically to protect all parties in the purchase and sale process.

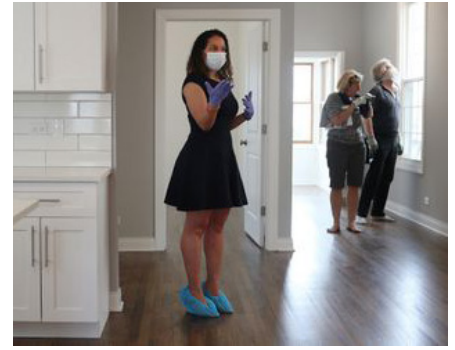
For those selling, your agent should be marketing your home primarily with a virtual tour and pictures posted on your listing. The paperwork should be done electronically to minimize personal contact. Stagers, Photographers, Home Inspectors, potential buyers and their agents are required to follow social distancing, and wear protective coverings while in the home. Everyone entering your home should provide a vulnerability screening form which identifies if they have been isolated or have symptoms.

The Agent is responsible for ensuring the visitors do not touch anything. However, to ensure your peace of mind, you should wipe down surfaces

following all visits. Open Houses during this period are not allowed.

Before listing your home, ask your Agent: what procedures they have in place to adhere to and support physical distancing; how they intend to market your home virtually; what protocols they have instituted for private showings and what processes they are using to limit in-person interactions, such as signing paperwork.

Buyers will be required to complete a vulnerability screening form, wear a mask and gloves and refrain from touching any surfaces. Your agent should provide you with online agreements and walk you through the process by phone or online conferencing. Most money



lenders are available by phone and your agent can send all materials required electronically. House inspectors are now back to work. *RW*

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# Remember Those in Need

While we do not see images of long line ups for food in Canada, as in the U.S., it doesn't necessarily mean that there are no food-deprived families right in our neighbourhood. While the shut down has been at least an inconvenience for most, for others less fortunate, it has been a crisis.

Many food banks depend on local donations, both of money and foodstuffs from corporations, restaurants, bakeries, churches, and the general public. During the pandemic, the supply chain for the food banks all closed, leaving the vulnerable in a particularly bad situation. To add to a bad situation, the loss of jobs, reduced hours and the wait to receive assistance, put even more strain on the food bank as more first time users needed help.

In April, Mayor Bonnie Crombie sent out a message to the community advising that the Food Bank was in crisis and asked for assistance. At the same time we received this message, a Rockwood resident from the St. Vincent de Paul Society, associated with Sts. Martha and Mary Church, also called for help in this regard.

The RHA met shortly after the April cry for help and approved a \$1,000 donation on behalf of the residents of Rockwood Village to our local St. Vincent de Paul Society, for the Food Bank.

As it may take some time for everyone to get back to work; the need for food is likely to last for some time. If you have the means, a cash donation to the Food Bank would be greatly appreciated. [www.themississaugafoodbank.org/donate/donate-funds/](http://www.themississaugafoodbank.org/donate/donate-funds/)

## Many Thanks for your Generous Donation!

With the onset of the pandemic, the RHA Board decided to contribute to a local charity that provides support to our vulnerable neighbours. \$1,000 was donated to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP), which operates out of Saints Martha and Mary Church on Burnhamthorpe Road. This charity provides gift cards to be used to buy food at the Food Basics store, Rathburn Road. SSVP responds to all calls for assistance, regardless of creed or beliefs.

SSVP depends on the generosity of the church parishioners, and particularly on weekly contributions to the 'Poor Box'. With church closures, our only source of funds dried up. At the same time, members of the SSVP were aware of the increased financial demands on our neighbours in need. We decided to continue delivering food cards and to increase our monthly contributions during these hard times for so many.

Your generous donation has made all the difference on our ability to respond to calls for help. It means so much to us to know that we have the support of the community and that the RHA truly cares about its vulnerable neighbours.

Thank you, thank you for your support to our neighbours in need,

Nora McAuliffe, President

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

## Stay Connected!



Ward 3 Councillor  
**Chris Fonseca**

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# Summer Parks **OPEN NOW** for Family Fun!

## **A new playground is on its way for Rockwood Glen Park**

Like Beechwood Park this park is a hidden gem that is tucked away from the major streets of the neighborhood, leaving it pretty much unknown by most residents. Without divulging the exact location and potentially raising the ire of the local users, we can say it is near Bacchus and Hartfield,

A new totally accessible playground is on its way! Installation is scheduled for mid-July completion. The bad news is that, although the new playground will be in place, the children will not be able to use it right away as Mississauga playgrounds will not open until Phase 4.

tennis courts are open for singles only, the basketball pad, now being used for pickle ball, is open, even the bathrooms are open, but the playground is still closed.



When the park opened, around the 1st of June, the parking lot barriers came down and for some reason the signage on the playground came down too. Unfortunately, this caused some distress for parents who knew that the playground was not open,

but their children could see others using the equipment. This has now been corrected and the signage has been re-posted.

Although playgrounds are closed, splash pads and public pools have opened. There will be some limited City sponsored day camps opening in July.

The City will be redeploying full-time staff (Park Ambassadors) to work in pairs at major parks across the City. They will be clearly identified as City staff and will engage with residents to educate them on physical distancing requirements and closures within the parks.

## **Garnetwood Park is Open**

However, the playground is still closed. With the exception of the playground, Garnetwood Park is open for business once again. The dog park is open, the

*If you see something, say something! Large gatherings are still not permitted. Call 3-1-1 if you see the rules being broken. It is up to each of us to ensure we do everything possible to prevent the spread, in order to move on to the next phase. RW*

# Have a Happy & Safe Summer!



From your Member of Provincial Parliament

## **Kaleed Rasheed, MPP**

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Ontario

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