

February 2010

Issue 28

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Facebook - Councillor Paul Ainslie



Twitter - cllrainslie

Dear Ward 43 Residents,

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at my News Years Levee. Scarborough East has so much to offer including the Cedar Ridge Creative Centre where the event was held. The view from the building is a must see especially in the winter. I am very enthusiastic that the Guild Inn Property will soon be able to offer a similar space for future events for us all to enjoy.

I brought three motions to City Council in January. Two dealt with the restructuring of the Toronto Transit Commission and the other dealt with the restructuring of the City's Boards and Agencies. All three items were referred to the Executive Committee. Motion 1: Requested the composition of the Toronto Transit Commission Board of Directors be changed to appoint six members of the public to the Commission. Motion 2: Requested a Citizen Advisory Committee be formed to provide input to the TTC. Motion 3: Requested term limits be set for City Councillors who sit on agencies, boards, commissions and corporations. This provision would provide other Council members the opportunity to serve on these bodies. If you have any questions or comments on the motions please let me know.

Be sure to view section 12 which highlights how you may make a deputation or comment on the 2010 Operating Budget which is to be released on Tuesday February 16, 2010.

Congratulations to the Curran Hall Community Association on a job well done for their inaugural "Winterfest" which took place on Saturday January 23, 2010. The community really came out to mingle in the cold outdoors where there was so much to enjoy including an outdoor skating rink! I was proud to be part of the festival

Guildwood Park precinct meeting took place on Tuesday February 9th; Phil Goldsmith, Architect presented the precinct plan to the community. Phase I of the project is ready to commence this year as I was able to secure \$4.2 million within this years budget. The Guild Park Advisory Committee and I have been meeting since 2007 and are supportive of the precinct plan.

I receive a number of e-mails from residents on a daily basis offering their suggestions for our community and city. I welcome all of the comments and look forward to the dialogue.

Attached to this report is the Guild Renaissance newsletter for your viewing.

Sincerely,

Paul

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1. Scarborough East Community Calendar

- February 2nd, 2010 - RBC Grand Opening at Kingston Road and Lawrence Avenue
- February 3rd, 2010 - Community Development and Recreation Committee
- February 4th, 2010 - Toronto District School Board Accommodation Review Committee Meeting
- February 5th, 2010 - Rouge Park Alliance Committee meeting
- February 5th, 2010 - Rouge Valley Hospital "Buy a Bed" Fundraiser working meeting
- February 7th, 2010 - Councillor Ainslie's Skate Day
- February 8th, 2010 - Opening of artspace /community room: Lido Motel
- February 8th, 2010 - Off leash dog park meeting
- February 9th, 2010 - Scarborough Community Council Meeting
- February 9th, 2010 - Guildwood Park / Guild Inn Precinct Meeting
- February 9th, 2010 - Guildwood Village Community Association Meeting
- February 10, 2010 - Neighbourhood Action Partnership Safety Committee
- February 11th, 2010 - Book Lovers Ball
- February 12th, 2010 - V.O.I.C.E youth magazine Launch
- February 13th, 2010 - Rock the Turbines Fundraiser Dance
- February 14th, 2010 - Valentine's Day
- February 15th, 2010 - Family Day – Have fun with your loved ones!
- February 16th, 2010 - Introduction of 2010 Operating Budget

February 16th, 2010 - Toronto Public Library Board Meeting
February 17th, 2010 - Budget Meeting Committee Meeting
February 18th, 2010 - Toronto Zoo Board of Management Meeting
February 18th, 2010 - Space Committee meeting
February 18th, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting - Curran Hall Community: 20 Slan Ave: 7pm
February 22nd, 2010 - Toronto City Council
February 23rd, 2010 - Toronto City Council
February 23rd, 2010 - Parent & Agency Worker Session on Education Act Amendments
February 25th, 2010 - 2010 Operating Budget - Councillors Hearings
February 25th, 2010 - East Scarborough Storefront Festival Market 2010: Planning Meeting
February 25th, 2010 - Toronto District School Board Accommodation Review Committee Meeting
February 26th, 2010 - Toronto Region Conservation Authority Meeting
February 26th, 2010 - Rouge Valley Hospital "Buy a Bed" Fundraiser working meeting

2. Seven Oaks

Community Schools: Although a Provincial matter I sent out a flyer at the end of January to advise the community of the possible closing of two community schools: Highcastle PS and Brooks Road PS. I felt as the Local Municipal Councillor that it was proper for me to inform the community of this Provincial issue which could affect our neighbourhood. The next meeting is on February 25, 2010, 6:30 p.m. @ Brooks Road PS, 85 Keeler Blvd. The community needs to voice their concerns and attend meetings. Voice your concerns to your School representatives: Minister Margaret Best, MPP, mbest.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org, Local School Trustee Nadia Bello nadia.bello@tdsb.on.ca Hon. Don McLean, Superintendent of Education South East 3 Family of Schools 416-396-9190 Don.mclean@tdsb.on.ca, Colleen Russell, Superintendent of Education North East 4 Family of Schools 416-396-9178 Colleen.russell@tdsb.on.ca.

MPP Margaret Best mbest.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Local School Trustee Nadia Bello nadia.bello@tdsb.on.ca

Hon. Leona Dombrowsky, Minister of Education, ldombrowsky.mpp@liberal.ola.org,

Kevin Daniel Flynn Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education kflynn.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Kevin Costante, Deputy Minister of Education kevin.costante@ontario.ca

Don McLean, Superintendent of Education South East 3 Family of Schools 416-396-9190 Don.mclean@tdsb.on.ca

Colleen Russell, Superintendent of Education North East 4 Family of Schools 416-396-9178

Colleen.russell@tdsb.on.ca

Thank you again

Community Clean Up day has been scheduled for April 24, 2010 for the Lakeview Community. May 8th, 2010 marks my 2nd annual Seven Oaks clean up day in conjunction with the 1st Century Scouts. Details for both dates will be posted on my website at www.paulainslie.com

Watermain replacement on Neilson Road: the aging watermain infrastructure on Neilson Road is being replaced with a 1650mm new system from Ellesmere Road to Sheppard Avenue East. The work will be done in sections allowing each portion to be backfilled as the work progresses from Ellesmere Rd. north to Sheppard Ave. Construction is scheduled to be completed by February 2011. To ensure that your concerns and questions are acted on please contact me for assistance at 416-396-7222.

3. Curran Hall Community

Winterfest: Was a successful event. Brian MacFarlane the Association President, is to be congratulated for putting on such a great event. He has advised me that he is very enthusiastic and will be planning for the 2nd annual Winterfest shortly.

Off Leash Dog Park Meeting: Was held on February 8, 2010 at the Curran Hall Community Centre. I directed City Staff to send a meeting notice to all the homes in the Curran Hall area. This meeting was scheduled in response to an application for an off leash area within Botany Hill Park. The application was put forward by the Curran Hall Community Association. If you were not able to attend the meeting and would like to send me your comments please do so at councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca so that I may share them with City Staff.

Town Hall Meeting– Please join me on **Thursday February 18, 2010** 7:00 pm for my monthly Town Hall Meeting. This month the meeting will take place at 20 Slan Avenue. I welcome the community to bring forward any municipal issue for discussion. You may also bring any issues to my attention before the meeting by contacting my office at 416-392-4008.

Morningside Park: I have met with Parks Forestry and Recreation Staff to commence the formation of a committee for Morningside Park. As one of the biggest parks in the city I believe we are not using it to it's potential. Several community members have come forward interested in joining the committee. An invitation to join will also be extended to Live Green Toronto, University of Toronto, and Centennial College. If you have any suggestions for the park please forward them to me at Councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca with the subject matter: Morningside Park.

4. Coronation and West Hill Community

Toronto Hydro has informed me that they will be working in the Coronation / West Hill Community on a Rebuild project geared to improve their electricity system. The work is scheduled to begin in February and end in August 2010. It will involve the construction of the underground electricity system on the south side of Lawrence Ave East between Scarborough Golf Club Rd. (west) and Overture Rd. (east).

I have been advised that the 30 addresses will be affected and that a notice will be sent to residents by Toronto Hydro. The following addresses will receive upgrades: 567 **Scarborough Golf Club Road**, as well as addresses on **Lawrence Ave E**; 3785, 3801, 3817, 3827, 3837, 3847, 3855 – 3863, 3867, 3869, 3871, 3873, 3895, 3939, 3943, 3941, 3947, 3945, 3967, 4045, 4047, 4049, 4051. **Overture Road** 156 and 159

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project please contact: REBUILD project office at 416-542-3366 or capitalprojects@torontohydro.com. www.torontohydro.com/rebuild

Parking Prohibitions on Andover Crescent: Residents contacted my office last year to request that no overnight parking be permitted on Andover Court. A letter was sent to affected residents who submitted their comments back to my office. A majority of residents supported the prohibition. Scarborough Community Council on Tuesday February 9, 2010 approved the implementation of the parking prohibitions as residents were concerned with the excessive overnight parking along this street. This is great news for the residents of Andover Court who exercised their right to petition.

5. Cedar Ridge Community

Cedar Ridge Gallery: Cedar Ridge Gallery kicks off the 2010 gallery season with the annual Contemporary Art Exhibits. The first show of the season featured artists Amy Wong (oil/acrylic/mixed media) and Marcus Chan (pen/acrylic on canvas).

February 14 - 26, Gellien Lai (mixed media) and Mondy Stevenson (acrylic/mixed media) will show in the gallery. Opening reception: February 14 from 1 - 4 p.m.

February 28 from 1 - 4 p.m The Contemporary Art Exhibits close with an exhibition by Josef Kursky and Erik Bennink.

March 21 - April 2, the gallery features the Cedar Ridge Creative Centre Students Exhibit. Please contact Joy at 416.396.4112 for more information.

March Break Camp: Cedar Ridge offers its annual March Break Artstravaganza (March 15 - 19) for children ages 7 to 12. Campers will create and experiment with drawing and painting, printmaking and sculpture, arts and crafts, photography and pottery. Please call Cedar Ridge at 416-396-4026 for more information.

Spring Session: This Spring, we will be offering our usual roster of ten-week courses. As well, we have some special interest workshops booked. The Spring session begins March 27, 2010. Registration for Spring/Summer programs begins Sunday, March 7, 2010. You can register online, via telephone or at Cedar Ridge. Contact the main office if you have any questions.

6. Cornell Community

Event Planning Meeting: was well attended on January 25th, 2010, where residents brought their ideas to the table. The event planning committee is working with my staff to bring to the community the June 17th, 2010 annual Community Barbeque. This year the residents will be able to steer the theme and festivities to bring a fun filled day to the community.

7. Guildwood Village

Guild Inn Cultural Precinct Meeting: Was held on February 9, 2010 at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate. Phil Goldsmith, Architect presented the precinct plans to residents and City staff was on hand to answer resident's questions. \$4.2 Million is in place for phase I of the precinct plan which will move forward for implementation this year and will take three years to complete. I along with the members of the Guild Park Advisory Committee had reviewed the plan and are supportive of it. Residents are continuing to email me with suggestions for the precinct area, one being for the creation of a skating rink for pleasure skating only. I encourage residents to share their ideas. The precinct plan will be available on my website at www.paulainslie.com.

Rock the Turbines Dance will be held on February 13, 2010. The Dance is open to all residents with the goal to raise awareness for Toronto Hydro's proposal to install Wind Turbines in Lake Ontario off of the Scarborough Bluffs. Tickets are \$10 each: they may be purchased by contacting 416-261-0264 or torontowindaction@yahoo.ca.

New Stop Signs in the Guildwood Neighbourhood: City staff requested for the installation of stop signs at Scarborough Community Council on Tuesday February 9, 2010. The locations put forward were for the intersection of Poplar Road and Dearham Wood/Cumber Avenue, Lyncroft Drive north and south intersections and Forsythia Drive, Tivoli Court and Lalton Place, Tivoli Court and Morna Avenue, and Schubert Drive and Rossini Place. The request was approved.

Guild Inn & Centennial College: In August a Letter of Intent (LOI) was approved by Toronto City Council for Centennial College to construct a new home for their Cultural and Heritage Institute. The next step being worked on is

for both sides to sign a long-term lease. The multi-use development in the historic Bickford Residence will include a conference centre, restaurants, and office space.

Wind Anemometer Update: It was reported by Toronto Hydro that construction of the anemometer came to a halt last December as the high winds and cold weather did not provide good working conditions to install the device. I have been advised that the work will recommence when the weather settles and is expected to be completed in March 2010. I also spoke to Toronto Hydro in December regarding noise emanating from their generator as well as from their employees on site. The situation is being looked at by Toronto Hydro and I also reported to our Municipal Standards and Licensing Division. If you should experience any noise or disruption please advise my office.

Toronto Hydro Project: Residents have approached me wanting to know what they can do to oppose the Toronto Hydro's proposal, as I have advised through my numerous correspondence to the community your provincial representatives must be made aware of our position.

Let's all speak in one voice and speak to our provincial and federal representatives as well as the Toronto Hydro Corp Board and City of Toronto Councillors:

The listing for the City of Toronto Councillors e-mail are:

John McKay
MP Scarborough—Guildwood
Government of Canada
3785 Kingston Rd Suite 10
Toronto, ON M1J 3H4
jmckay@johnmckaymp.on.ca

Hon. Minister Margaret Best
MPP Scarborough—Guildwood
Ministry of Health Promotion, Government of Toronto
777 Bay St. 14th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1S5
mbest.mpp@liberal.ola.org

Hon. Minister Brad Duguid
Minister of Energy and Infrastructure
Government of Ontario
900 Bay Street 4th Floor
Hearst Building
Toronto, ON M7A 2E1
bduguid.mpp@liberal.ola.org

President and CEO
Toronto Hydro Corporation
14 Carlton St.
Toronto, ON M5B 1K5
dobrien@torontohydro.com

Getting in touch with all the Provincial Members of Parliament is also a way to have our voices heard. A link to their contact information is:

http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/go2.jsp?Page=/members/members_main&menuItem=mpps_header&locale=en

Following is a list of Scarborough and Toronto Members of Provincial Parliament.

[Arthurs, Wayne](#) Pickering--Scarborough
East

[Balkissoon, Bas](#) Scarborough--Rouge
River

[Berardinetti,
Lorenzo](#) Scarborough Southwest

[Best, Hon
Margarett R.](#) Scarborough--Guildwood

[Duguid, Hon
Brad](#) Scarborough Centre

<u>Phillips, Hon Gerry</u>	Scarborough--Agincourt
<u>Tabuns, Peter</u>	Toronto--Danforth
<u>Prue, Michael</u>	Beaches--East York
<u>Albanese, Laura</u>	York South--Weston
<u>Brotten, Hon Laurel C.</u>	Etobicoke--Lakeshore
<u>Cansfield, Donna H.</u>	Etobicoke Centre
<u>Caplan, David</u>	Don Valley East
<u>Hoskins, Hon Eric</u>	St. Paul's
<u>Kwinter, Monte</u>	York Centre
<u>Qaadri, Shafiq</u>	Etobicoke North
<u>Sergio, Mario</u>	York West
<u>Wynne, Hon Kath</u>	Don Valley West
<u>Zimmer, David</u>	Willowdale

8. The Residents Rising Community Association

Residents Rising Community Association: If you would like to get involved and help create a new vision for the Kingston/Galloway/Lawrence & Morningside Community, the Residents Rising Community Association is looking for new team members. Meeting monthly, the RR team helps to plan events, brainstorm ideas and works with local partners to improve the neighbourhood. Members represent many cultures, ages, economic levels and abilities. They are looking for local residents who care about the community and are willing to volunteer and participate. The office is located at 4117 Lawrence Avenue East, unit 100A or call 647-347-2342.

9. Mornelle Court Resident's Action Coalition

Town Hall Meeting: Was held at 90 Mornelle Court on January 28th, 2010 for the Mornelle Community. The meeting was very well attended, residents praised the Mornelle Coalition and all the work they have done in the past months. Residents were urged to volunteer in the community and join the association. Toronto Community Housing Corporation and management also attended.

CPR Training: I have arranged a training session for volunteer members in the Mornelle Community to receive CPR training. The session will take place on March 19, 2010 and will accommodate all those who are interested in learning CPR.

Walk to School Safety Program: Has been a great success. Many more children have joined the program which safely sees them off to school and back home.

The Mornelle Court Resident's Action Coalition: This association has been working tirelessly for it's community. If you would like to join please contact my office with your information.

10. Tenant Information

Property taxes have decreased by more than 2.49% for some: Notices were sent out to landlords and tenants of properties where the property taxes have decreased by more than 2.49%. Tenants are permitted to reduce their rents after December 31, 2009 as a result of this decrease, and the notices explain how to calculate the rent reduction amount.

If you should have any questions please contact my office at 416-396-7222.

Reminder of Heat for your unit: The landlord is to provide heat to a dwelling unit that is rented or leased and that is normally heated at the landlord's expense so that a minimum air temperature of 21 degrees Celsius is maintained in all areas of the dwelling unit from the 15th day of September in each year to the 1st day of June in the following year.

Municipal Standard issues? Dial 311 to be put forward to the Inspections - Apartment Standards Division. You may also email at 311@toronto.ca. You may also visit the apartment Standards webpage: <http://www.toronto.ca/apartmentstandards/faq.htm>

ML&S Apartment Standards Web Disclosure?: The City of Toronto has developed a Web site to facilitate public access to information pertaining to property standards orders issued by the Municipal Licensing and Standards (ML&S) Division. This disclosure also includes by-law and inspection information as well as deficiency details and order status with respect to multi-residential rental apartment buildings within the City of Toronto. However, no personal information about individuals (owners, tenants or complainants) will be disclosed.

11. Community Meetings and Events

February 18, 2010 – 7:00 pm Councillor Ainslie Town Hall Meeting Curran Hall Community 20 Slan Avenue

March 6, 2010 – 12 noon to 4:00 pm I am proud to support “Seedy Saturday” • Vegetable • Herbs • Flowers • Natives • Gardening workshops, prizes and kids’ activities for further information: www.tcgn.ca The East Scarborough Storefront, 4040 Lawrence Ave E.

March 18, 2010 – 7:00 pm Councillor Ainslie Town Hall Meeting Coronation of West Hill Community St. Martin de Porres Catholic School 230 Morningside

April 22, 2010 - 7:00 pm Councillor Ainslie Town Hall Meeting Cedar Ridge Community 225 Confederation Dr.

Sunday Serenades at the Scarborough Civic Centre

February 2010

14 Chinese New Year Celebration
21 Marie GOGO
28 George Lake Big Band

March 2010

7 Casablanca Orchestra
14 Eddie Graf Orchestra

- 21 Mike Danton Band
- 28 Michele Lawrence Quartet

April 2010

- 4 No Concert - Easter
- 11 Uptown Swing Band
- 18 North Toronto Community Band
- 25 Scarborough Music Lovers Orchesrtra

**Events at LIVINGSTON LODGE RETIREMENT RESIDENCE
65 LIVINGSTON ROAD, SCARBOROUGH
CALL 416-264-4348 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Foot Care Clinic

Second Wednesday of every month - \$20 - Call for appointment.

Community Bingo

Every Thursday 1:30 - 2:30 pm - 25¢ per card

Tune Up For a Toonie - PhysioFitness

Every Monday 1:30 - 2:30 pm - \$2 per class

Ballroom Dancing with Alex

Every Thursday, starting February 18th, 6:30 - 7:15 pm - \$15 per class

SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mardi Gras - February 16th 7 to 9 pm

Great entertainment & refreshments

Age Related Macular Degeneration - February 23rd - 7 to 9 pm

with Dr Michael Sebastian - hosted by Novartis - Wine & Cheese

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Senior Spelling Bee - March 3rd 2 to 4 pm

Patrick's Day Ceili - March 17th 2 to 4 pm

Fraud Prevention - March 24th 2 to 4 pm

Chilli Cook Off - March 26th 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

12. City of Toronto Council Highlights and 2010 Operating Budget

Toronto to introduce 2010 Operating Budget

The City of Toronto will present the staff recommended 2010 Operating Budget to Budget Committee.

WHEN: Tuesday, February 16

SCHEDULE:

9:30 a.m. - Budget Committee meeting begins. Toronto Mayor David Miller and Chair of the Budget Committee Councillor Shelley Carroll will make opening remarks. Toronto City Manager Joseph Pennachetti and Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Cam Weldon will present the recommended 2010 Operating Budget. **LOCATION:** Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W., Council Chamber

10:30 a.m. (or at conclusion of the Budget Committee meeting) - Toronto Mayor David Miller and Chair of the Budget Committee Councillor Shelley Carroll will hold a media availability. **LOCATION:** Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W., Members Lounge, Council Chamber

12:30 p.m. - Toronto City Manager Joseph Pennachetti and Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Cam Weldon and City finance staff will be available to provide background information and respond to media inquiries. This is a background briefing for media only and no cameras will be permitted. **LOCATION:** Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W., 7th Floor, East Tower

The introduction of the staff recommended 2010 Operating Budget is the start of the formal review process for the operating budget. After the recommended budget is presented, meetings take place where the budget is reviewed and public opinion is considered before it is finalized. Information about the City's Operating Budget is available at <http://www.toronto.ca/budget2010>. Detailed information on the proposed 2010 budget will be available on the website beginning February 16.

Members of the public and stakeholders may make their views regarding the staff recommended 2010 Operating Budget known to the Budget Committee or their City Councillor. The public and stakeholders may participate in the discussion through one of the following methods:

1. Make a public presentation at one of the two Budget Committee meetings being held for public deputations.

Meeting 1

Monday, March 1
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St. W.
Council Chamber

Meeting 2

Tuesday, March 2
1:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St. W.
Council Chamber

contact the Budget Committee at 416-392-7445, or e-mail buc@toronto.ca no later than 12 noon on February 26 if you wish to make a public presentation. There will be a five-minute time limit for each presentation.

2. Submit a written presentation concerning the 2010 Operating Budget to:

Budget Committee

Toronto City Hall
10th floor, West Tower
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
E-mail: buc@toronto.ca
Fax: 416-392-1879

3. Send a letter or e-mail concerning the 2010 Operating Budget to myself at councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca

BACKGROUND TO THE CITY'S BUDGET

The City has both an operating and capital budget.

The day-to-day operation of City services is paid for from the City's operating budget - the money dedicated to salaries and operating expenses such as rent, fuel, electricity and equipment. The delivery of City services such as police, fire, emergency medical services, TTC, employment services, the new 311 contact centre, waste collection and recycling, libraries, parks and recreation, child care, by-law enforcement and many others are paid for through the City's operating budget. Municipalities cannot have a deficit in their annual operating budgets and must balance their budgets each year - even during a recession - when the needs of the community increase and revenues remain flat or decline. In Toronto, almost half of the property taxes collected in the entire city go toward paying the costs of the three emergency services and the TTC.

In 2009, the City included measures within the operating budget to assist those most affected by the recession. The Your City Can Help program dedicated additional funds to assist residents in keeping their housing and finding work. The City also enhanced property tax assistance programs for eligible seniors and disabled persons.

The 2009 Operating Budget for the City of Toronto was \$8.7 billion.

In 2009, Toronto's residential property taxes for both homes and condominiums continued to be the lowest in the entire GTA. Toronto's government has also reduced the amount of taxes paid by city businesses. Since 2006, the City of Toronto has saved businesses \$190 million in business taxes as part of Council's policy to reduce the overall business tax portion of City-tax revenues.

Toronto City Council froze development charges for two years, 2009 and 2010. The freeze was implemented to support the construction and building industry in the city.

Toronto's government is also rolling out its 10-year \$16 billion capital plan that was approved last December. The plan approved by Council speeds up job creation and the maintenance of City infrastructure by moving more capital spending into the first five years of the plan. More than 50 per cent of the City's 2010 capital budget and 10-year plan will go toward the infrastructure required for the operation, maintenance and expansion of the TTC. The capital budget will pay the cost of major infrastructure for the TTC, including new streetcars. In total, the 10-year capital plan sets aside over \$11.7 billion for transportation in Toronto (including TTC) - more than 70 per cent of the total capital budget.

The City has also approved capital projects for Toronto Water and Solid Waste Management totalling an additional \$9.8 billion, bringing the total 10-year capital plan to \$25.8 billion. Over the 10-year period, these capital plans will create or maintain approximately 300,000 jobs.

Council Highlights

City Council meeting of November 30 and December 1, 2, 4 and 7, 2009

Toronto's sustainable energy strategy

Council adopted a comprehensive energy strategy for Toronto called The Power to Live Green, which follows through on the City's climate change action plan of 2007 (Change Is in the Air). The Power to Live Green strategy is based on conservation, renewable energy and smart energy distribution to achieve progressive targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions and improved air quality. The strategy involves a four-track process that consists of meeting the energy requirements of businesses and homes; reducing dependence on fossil fuels; investing in green technology and supporting the creation of green jobs and the global marketing of sustainable energy goods and services; and partnering with industry, businesses, institutions, non-profits, other governments, utilities and residents.

Next step for Union Station's revitalization

Council authorized the City's chief corporate officer to award contracts to proceed with work to revitalize Union Station, and approved the selection of Vanbots as general contractor and construction manager for the project. Council gave several directives, such as ensuring that an environmental assessment of Front Street take into account needs related to taxi operations at Union Station.

Regulation of outdoor signs

Council approved a new strategy to regulate outdoor signs in Toronto. The strategy includes a consolidated Sign Bylaw that replaces the current sign bylaws in effect across the city; a tax on third party signs; and administrative changes to improve the City's ability to regulate signs and enforce the regulations. This approach to sign regulation reflects the City's goals and objectives for improving what people see in the public realm.

Prime ice time at arenas

Council discussed the issue of allocating ice time in Toronto arenas and requested more information from eight City-owned arenas that are run by community boards. Council directed the arenas' boards of management to take the following steps: prepare 2010-11 ice time allocations in consultation with City staff; be consistent with the City's ice allocation policy that is adhered to by City-managed arenas; and ensure proportionate shares of prime ice time for various age groups and for girls and boys.

Solid Waste and Water budgets for 2010

On November 30, Council approved capital and operating budgets for Solid Waste Management Services and Toronto Water. The two capital budgets are part of the City's rollout of its 10-year capital plan for local infrastructure improvements. Details: <http://www.toronto.ca/budget2010>

Preserving the Canada Malting silos

Council approved a plan to preserve the Canada Malting silos on Toronto's waterfront. Site improvements will provide safe waterfront access to Ireland Park. The second phase of the project will entail creating a master plan for selling a portion of the site for private development and using funds generated by the development to pay for parkland improvements to the site and for the stabilization of the historic silos.

Special meeting December 2 - 2010 municipal election

At a meeting to discuss the October 2010 municipal election in Toronto, Council decided to implement a contribution rebate program for the election and approved a new bylaw prohibiting corporate and trade union contributions to candidates seeking election to Toronto City Council. In addition, Council adopted a bylaw authorizing the electronic filing of candidates' financial statements. Council also agreed to ask the Province of Ontario to conduct a study of municipal election finance models.

Special meeting December 8 -

City's 2010 capital budget and 10-year capital plan

On December 8, Council voted to continue investing in the infrastructure needed to keep Toronto moving, approving the City's 2010 capital budget and 10-year (2010-2019) capital plan. The plan approved by Council speeds up job creation and the maintenance of city infrastructure by moving more capital spending on infrastructure projects into the first five years of the plan. The 2010 capital budget and 10-year capital plan total about \$16 billion, with \$2.4 billion earmarked for 2010 and about \$2.5 billion budgeted for each of 2011 and 2012. More details:

<http://www.toronto.ca/budget2010>

13. Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church Celebrating It's 50th Anniversary

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the congregation of Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church, and the occasion will be marked by a year long celebration with the theme "Looking Back with Thanks, Looking Forward with Faith". Special events commemorating the past, present and future of the congregation will be held throughout the year, including a choir reunion, a bell choir reunion and an anniversary concert series. As well, many former Ministers will be preaching at special services.

For more information please visit www.guildwoodchurch.ca or contact the church office at 416-261-4037. All are invited to take part in the celebrations. Please watch for further information throughout the year.

14. Basement Flooding Protection Subsidy Program

This subsidy is only for the installation of flood-prevention devices such as: a **back-water valve**, a sump pump, back-water valve + pump ,downspout disconnection or pipe severance and capping. The City of Toronto is offering owners of single family, duplex and triplex homes a subsidy to implement flood prevention measures or install flood prevention devices. The program was made permanent via the 2007 Budget process.

Homeowners who have experienced basement flooding or who wish to undertake flood protection activities are eligible for subsidies. Subsidies are subject to available funding in the Capital Works budget and are provided on a first-come, first-served basis until funds become depleted.

Application forms are available at: <http://www.toronto.ca/water/sewers/pdf/brochure.pdf>

Each property owner should carry out a site assessment with a Toronto-licensed plumber to determine the suitability of isolating their property from the sewer system.

The following are eligible upon proper installation, for total subsidy up to \$3,200.00 per property.

The subsidy is only for the installation of flood-prevention devices such as: a back-water valve, a sump pump, back-water valve + pump ,downspout disconnection or pipe severance and capping. Refer to brochure for details:

<http://www.toronto.ca/water/sewers/pdf/brochure.pdf>

15. Tree maintenance in Ward 43

The City of Toronto Urban Forestry Branch, has developed a more pro-active approach to tree maintenance throughout the City.

Historically, requests for service were generated by residents for tree maintenance. In an attempt to work in a more efficient manner, an a maintenance program has begun in many Wards. This service focuses on removal of deadwood and split or damaged limbs, clearing sight lines that impede pedestrian and/or vehicular traffic.

Several streets in our community have seen the program in action: Guildwood Pkwy, Sealstone Ter, Oakmeadow Blvd, Eaglewing Crt, Silversand Pl, Creekwood Dr, Gillbank Cres, Pineslope Cres, Logstone Cres, Stonefield Cres, Grovenest Dr, Keeler Blvd, Military Trl, Misthollow Sq, Skyridge Rd, Stonecroft Pl, Trailridge Cres and Edenmills, Ellesmere Rd, Lawrence Ave., Scarborough Golf Club and Morningside Rd.

16. FUTURE OF THE GARDINER EAST

Gardiner EA and Integrated Urban Design Study Stakeholder Advisory Committee – SAC

The purpose of the SAC is a non-political advisory committee to provide an ongoing forum for advice, feedback and guidance to the Project Team at key points during the EA and urban design process. The Project Team includes representatives from Waterfront Toronto, the City of Toronto, as well as from a team of consultants led by Dillon Consulting. Specifically, the SAC will contribute input on the approach and alternatives defined by the Project Team in the *Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard EA Terms of Reference*, once approved by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

It is the shared goal of Waterfront Toronto and the City of Toronto to realize the full potential of Toronto's waterfront as a world-class location in which to live, work and play.

This study will examine how a potential reconfiguration of the Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard – from approximately Lower Jarvis Street to just east of the Don Valley Parkway – can contribute to the achievement of the Waterfront Toronto and City goals. The project includes an individual Future of the Gardiner East: EA and Integrated Urban Design Study Stakeholder Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

If you should have any comments to submit to the City of Toronto or the Stakeholders Advisory Committee, you may do so by visiting: www.waterfronttoronto.ca / <http://www.gardinerconsultation.ca/>

17. Sewer Rehabilitation Construction Project – Sewer Lining

Work has or will begin shortly on the following streets. If you should have any questions please contact my office at 416-396-7222.

1. CUSHENDUN ROAD from FORDOVER DR to FINTONA AVE
2. DEARHAM WOOD from DEARHAM WOOD to FORSYTHIA RD
3. LAUSANNE CRES
4. NEILSON RD
5. OAKMEADOW BLVD
6. POPLAR RD
7. CORONATION DR
8. WALDOCK ST
9. POPLAR RD

- 10. CORONATION DR
- 11. SCHUBERT DR
- 12. GALLOWAY RD
- 13. HAVENWAY GT

18. BICYCLE REGISTRATION

The Toronto Police Service would like to encourage the public, to take a few minutes to register their bikes with the free on-line registry.

The TPS continues to encourage bike owners to register their bikes. It makes it very easy to return them when they are recovered. As the number of bike-users increases, a few minutes spent registering your bike will increase the chance of having a stolen bike returned.

When you register on-line or via mail, a letter of confirmation will be mailed to you with a sticker to be placed on your bicycle advising that the bicycle has been registered with police. You will also find a pamphlet on safe cycling and theft prevention tips.

19. Winter Warmth Program Helps More Toronto Families Stay Warm This Winter

The United Way, Toronto Hydro and other local utility partners launched the 2009-2010 Winter Warmth program in early December.

Winter Warmth is an initiative that helps financially struggling families and individuals pay their energy bills during the cold winter months. The program is coordinated by the United Way and is funded by the participating utility companies.

For more information please contact my office at 416-396-7222

20. 2009 Holiday R.I.D.E. program, Final update

The Toronto Police Service 2009 Holiday R.I.D.E. program has finished. A total of 1,837 officers dedicated 5,167 hours to the Holiday R.I.D.E. program in Toronto. A total of 314 spotchecks were conducted with the following results:

Final spotcheck summary 2009 (day 36)

- Vehicles stopped: 99,850
- Drivers tested: 1,715
- Charged Over 80 (includes all Over 80 charges): 60
- Charged refuse (includes all fail/refuse charges): 16
- Charged impaired: 23
- Issued warn range suspension: 190
- Issued G1/G2 suspension: 3
- Issued 90-day suspension: 76

- Total suspensions issued: 269
- Vehicles impounded: 136
- Total people charged: 76
- Total drinking and driving charges laid: 99

For further information, please contact Constable Chris Cornford at 416-808-1954 or Constable Hugh Smith at 416-808-1920.

21. Fun at recreation and historic sites on Family Day

Skating: Leisure skating and casual "shinny" hockey will be offered at the City's outdoor rinks on Family Day. The outdoor rinks will be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and selected indoor arenas will be open from 2 to 4 p.m. Indoor ice permits will run from 4 p.m. to 12 midnight. All regular Monday skating programs will not be held on Family Day. Residents can call 311 or check online for details about their local rink or arena at <http://www.toronto.ca/parks>.

Shinny hockey at the outdoor rinks will be available for a variety of ages and groups. Approved hockey helmets are mandatory for shinny, and padded gloves and other protective equipment are recommended.

Swimming: People who would rather be poolside than outdoors on Family Day can make a splash and enjoy leisure swim at the following City pools across Toronto (listed by district below):

- Etobicoke York District: The Elms Pool; Etobicoke Olympium; Memorial Pool (all three will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. on February 15)
- North York District: Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre (2 to 5 p.m.) and Leaside Memorial Gardens (3 to 6 p.m.)
- Scarborough District: Agincourt Recreation Centre and Centennial Recreation Centre (both operating from 2 to 5 p.m.)
- Toronto/East York District: Mary McCormick Recreation Centre; St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre; East York Community Centre (all three will be open from 2 to 5 p.m.)

For more information, residents can call 311, contact their local pool directly, or check online at <http://www.toronto.ca/parks>.

Skiing and snowboarding: The Earl Bales Ski and Snowboard Centre (4169 Bathurst St., inside Earl Bales Park) and the Centennial Park Ski and Snowboard Centre (256 Centennial Park Rd.) will be open on Family Day. Operating hours will be 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Both ski and snowboard centres will offer lessons, but regularly scheduled programs will not be running. Helmets are required when participating in the programs and lessons. The City encourages all skiers and boarders to wear helmets.

Information for both centres is available by phoning 416-33-TO-SKI (416-338-6754) or visiting the web page at http://www.toronto.ca/parks/recreation_facilities/skiing/skiing.htm.

Signs will be posted at recreation facilities in advance to advise users of any programming changes on February 15. You can also check online at <http://www.toronto.ca/parks>.

Riverdale Farm: The many farm animals at Riverdale Park (in the Cabbagetown community) are waiting to see you on Family Day. In addition, visitors can read by the fireplace, play board games, try quilting, warm up with hot chocolate, check out community museum displays and visit the gift shop. Admission to the farm is free. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 416-392-6794 or check the website at <http://www.toronto.ca/parks/riverdalefarm.htm>.

Discovery Walks: Residents and visitors can explore the city on foot. The Discovery Walks program is a series of 11 self-guided walks linking ravines, parks, gardens, beaches and neighbourhoods. Ranging from 1.5 to 11 kilometres, the walks are designed to showcase Toronto's outstanding natural features and its cultural and historical attractions. Brochures and maps are available at civic centres or can be viewed online at <http://www.toronto.ca/parks>.

Historic sites: Three of the City's historic sites - Fort York, Gibson House and Scarborough Museum -- will be open on Family Day, with family-friendly programming February 15.

- Fort York National Historic Site, 100 Garrison Rd., will offer tours of the fort and presentations about Toronto's beginnings. Regular admission; free parking; open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Gibson House, 5172 Yonge St., will offer a hands-on activities and treats noon to 4:30 p.m.
- Scarborough Museum, 1007 Brimley Rd., will extend its weekend Family Days activities into Monday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day. Admission is "pay what you can."

More details about museum programming: <http://www.toronto.ca/museum-events>.

The Toronto Zoo will be open on Family Day. Details: <http://www.torontozoo.com/>

The City's childcare centres will be closed on Family Day. Toronto District School Board and Toronto Catholic District School Board schools will also be closed, as will the Toronto Public Library and all its local branches.

City Hall, East York Civic Centre, Etobicoke Civic Centre, Metro Hall, North York Civic Centre, Scarborough Civic Centre and York Civic Centre will be closed on Family Day.

The TTC will provide holiday service on most of its routes February 15. The website at <http://www.ttc.ca> provides details.

For those driving a motor vehicle, regular weekday traffic regulations as posted on traffic signs will be in effect on Monday, February 15.

22. New Toronto Public Health Dental Clinic at the Hub

There is a new Toronto Public Health Dental Clinic at 2660 Eglinton Ave East (Brimley/Eglinton). The clients will have to be those who do not have any dental coverage. The clinic will provide oral health treatment and preventive services to children (0 to 13 years) in low income families, high school students in low income families, high risk perinatal mothers enrolled in Toronto Public Health programs, and low income, independent living seniors 65 years and older (annual income of \$25,000 or less for a single person and \$30,000 or less for couple) The clinic will start seeing patients on Feb 1, 2010. This is the number to book appointment: 416 338 3764.

For additional information please visit: http://www.toronto.ca/health/dental/ds_seniors.htm

23. Winterlicious

The popular prix-fixe restaurant promotion and highlight of Toronto's WinterCity experience, Winterlicious presented by American Express, returns. Participating restaurants are offering three-course prix-fixe menus at \$15, \$20 or \$25 for lunch, and \$25, \$35 or \$45 for dinner.

There are 14 new restaurants on this year's lineup: Black Skirt, Forte Bistro, Il Fornaro, JAMcafé, Kamasutra Restaurant and Wine Bar, Latinada, Marquis Lounge & Bistro, Momo's Bistro, Peridot, Safari Bar and Grill, Tabulé, The Chefs' House, West 39th Bistro, and Yonge Street Grille.

More than 150 restaurants are participating this year. The full list can be found at http://www.toronto.ca/special_events/wintercity/2010/winterlicious.htm.

Winterlicious is part of Toronto's WinterCity Festival presented by RBC. A celebration of culture, creativity and cuisine, WinterCity is three festivals in one: the WOW! Series at Nathan Phillips Square; the Warm Up Series at Toronto's cultural and tourist attractions; and the ever-popular restaurant promotion, Winterlicious presented by American Express.

For more information about the three streams of WinterCity programming and other events produced by Toronto Special Events, call 311 or visit http://www.toronto.ca/special_events.

24. City accepting submissions for the 2010 Toronto Book Awards

The City of Toronto, in partnership with the Toronto Public Library, is now accepting submissions for the 2010 Toronto Book Awards. The deadline for submissions is March 31. The Toronto Book Awards theme - "Get a new read on Toronto" - gives the community an opportunity to discover Toronto's diversity through the eyes of authors.

The Toronto Book Awards were established by Toronto City Council in 1974 to honour authors of books of literary or artistic merit that are evocative of Toronto. To be eligible this year, books must have been published between January 1 and December 31, 2009.

Fiction and non-fiction books published in English for adults and/or children, and that are evocative of Toronto, are eligible. There are no separate categories. Novels, short story collections, books of poetry, biographies and histories, social studies, books about sports, children's books, and photographic collections are all judged together. Reprints, textbooks and manuscripts are not eligible.

Publishers must submit six copies of the book they consider eligible, along with their name, address, phone number, fax number and e-mail address to: Toronto Book Awards Committee, c/o Toronto Protocol, City Clerk's Office, 2nd floor, West Tower, City Hall, 100 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31, 2010. There are no entry forms to complete.

A five-member volunteer jury committee will select the finalists and the winner, announcing the selections in the fall. The Toronto Book Awards offer \$15,000 in prize money. Each finalist will receive \$1,000 and the winning author will receive the remaining prize money. For more information about the Toronto Book Awards, visit http://www.toronto.ca/book_awards.

Toronto Public Library is the world's busiest urban public library system. Every year, more than 17.5 million people visit the library's 99 branches and borrow more than 31 million items. To learn more about Toronto Public Library, visit <http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca> or call Answerline at 416-393-7131.

25. Office of the Ombudsman

The Toronto Ombudsman's office managed 1,057 complaints and enquiries in its first nine months of operation, processing and closing 91 per cent of them, according to its first Annual Report, released today by Toronto Ombudsman Fiona Crean.

The report, submitted to City Council as a legislative requirement under the City of Toronto Act, sets out the number of complaints, the most common type of complaints, and the areas of the city most complained about. The report also sets out the Ombudsman's strategic plan for the next three years.

Poor customer service was the most common complaint, followed by adverse impact of decisions on residents and a failure to communicate properly with a complainant.

Crean said that publicising the City's customer service standards would be a major step forward. She also noted that as an office of 'last resort' the Ombudsman relies heavily on the Toronto Public Service's own internal complaint processes to resolve issues before they move on to her office.

Of the 29 service areas that Crean reviewed, 13 had good complaints systems in place that were published, seven had good systems that were not published, and the remaining nine either shared no information with the Ombudsman, or had complaints procedures that were inadequate. Information about the City's internal complaints processes is available on the Ombudsman's website at <http://www.ombudstoronto.ca> under "How to Complain - Complaint Finder."

The two recommendations the Ombudsman is making to City Council for approval are: to ensure that every area of the Toronto Public Service that interacts directly with the public develops and publishes their own complaint systems in 2010; and that the Toronto Public Service publishes its customer service standards in 2010.

26. Toronto Zoo

Valentine's and Family Day with Love Bugs at the Zoo: February 12th to 15th, 2010
MARCH BREAK WEEK - Saturday, March 13th to Sunday, March 21st, 2010
VISIT AWARD-WINNING TUNDRA TREK. Visit torontozoo.com for details.

Celebrate Valentine's and Family Day with Love Bugs At the Toronto Zoo Friday, February 12th to Monday, February 15th, 2010

What/Why: Toronto Zoo LOVES families, so we are inviting you to come out and spend your Family Day and Valentine's Day weekend with us!

Children 12 and under, who bring a valentine for their favourite creepy crawly get in FREE (maximum of two children per adult). LOVE BUGS have taken over our Education Auditorium, so stop by to check out interactive bug exhibits, get up close and personal with some really cool bugs, create some bug-tastic crafts or get your photo taken at the Shutter-Bug station with a live insect from 11am to 1pm! When: Love Bugs: Friday, February 12th to Monday, February 15th, 2010 9:30 am to 3:30 pm Shutterbug Station: 11am to 1pm. Toronto Zoo Education Building.

Current Zoo hours - 9:30 am-4:30 pm. Last admissions one hour before closing. General Admission 13-64 incl. is \$21, Children 3 and under are free, Children 4-12 are \$13 and Seniors 65+ are \$15. Prices include GST. Parking is FREE until March 1st. Events and admission prices subject to change without notice. The Toronto Zoo is open year round (except Dec. 25th). For general information call (416) 392-5929 or visit torontozoo.com

27. Quote du Mois

“There's one good thing about snow, it makes your lawn look as nice as your neighbor's.” ~Clyde Moore

28. Websites for Community Use

www.secure.torontopolice.on.ca/tpsm1/ (sign up for your community reports)

www.222tips.com

www.ourkgocommunity.com

www.toronto.ca/city-update

<http://wx.toronto.ca/festevents.nsf/>

www.seectorontonow.com/

www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/pro_march_break.jsp

www.sportacularevent.com/leaside-GHL_2009.php

www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca/children/marchbreak.htm

www.toronto4kids.com/component/option,com_eventing/task,viewcatal/id,57/ <http://www.ourkids.net/march-break-camps.php>

www.ago.net/gallery-school

www.toronto.ca/parks/recreation_facilities/skiing/centennialski.htm

www.starfall.com/

29. ENews Policy and Contact Information

eNews is a monthly news communication from Paul Ainslie. If you are interested in subscribing, please email me at paulainslie@paulainslie.com. Each issue of the newsletter is sent only to those who have provided us with their email address for the purpose of corresponding on municipal matters. Email addresses will be kept confidential. If you wish to discontinue receiving our newsletter, please reply with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line. I welcome your comments on any municipal matter and the opportunity to be of service. My regularly updated website is located at www.paulainslie.com and contains information on local organizations, news and events at City Hall. You can also communicate by email at councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca, phone me at 416 396 7222, or send a fax to 416 392 4006. Alternately you can visit Joan Bannister, my Constituency Assistant on the second floor of the Scarborough Civic Centre located at 150 Borough Drive (Ellesmere & McCowan)