

April 2014

Volume 14 Issue 54

<http://www.paulainslie.com/>

Dear Friends,

Spring is finally here! The City of Toronto is continuing in its efforts to get the debris cleaned up from the storms this past winter, and now it's visible a rapid and thorough effort is being used to pick up the debris. Therefore, I ask for your consideration as the municipal government works through all the streets with our mechanical equipment and in some instances, manual crews. Please continue to prepare remaining wood debris from the ice storm for collection with leaf and yard waste regular biweekly collection. You can find additional information in section [15 of this report](#).

I am very happy to report that City Council has granted authority for the City to enter into a Letter of Intent (LOI) to renovate the former Guild Inn. The LOI is the next step in the process is to sublease the Bickford Residence and operate a restaurant and event/banquet/conference centre. This approval is one in many steps in creating the restaurant and banquet feature the community has long desired and planned for.

Dynamic Hospitality and Entertainment Group has been negotiating with the City of Toronto since last July, when City Council approved their application to move

I have been working with the community for a number of years to help shape a revitalization of the site to serve the community and respect the grounds, I would like to thank all the residents, the Guildwood Village Community Association, the Guild Renaissance Group, the Friends of Guild Inn Park & Gardens, and the Friends of Elizabeth Simcoe Park, for their input and advice given to myself and City Staff throughout this process.

Down at City Hall, City of Toronto Election Services is hosting two contests to give Toronto residents the chance to show off their creative side and share their opinion on the importance of voting. The Design Your Vote poster contest is open to youth between the ages of 13 and 24 and the Your Voice, Your Vote video contest is open to all ages. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three posters and videos; \$250 for first, \$150 for second and \$100 for third.

The winning poster will also be used as the brand for our youth engagement campaign.

The deadline to enter is Sunday, May 4, 2014 at 11:59 pm. Visit our website for more information www.toronto.ca/elections/contests

Sincerely,

Paul Ainslie,
City of Toronto Councillor
Ward 43, Scarborough East

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- 1. Calendar

Here are some of the April events and meetings I'll be attending. Feel free to join me!:

- April 1 – Toronto City Council
- April 1 – Guild Renaissance Group Meeting
- April 1 -Coronation West Hill Community Association Meeting
- April 2 – Toronto City Council
- April 3 – Toronto City Council
- April 3 - Toronto Hydro Open House – *Guildwood* Village Hydro upgrades
- April 4 - Constituency Mobile Office 4301 Kingston Road
- April 7 – Guild Emerald Ash Borer Forestry Staff Community Update Meeting
- April 8 -Scarborough Community Council
- April 8 – ILEN Meeting – KGO community
- April 8 - Guildwood Village Community Association Meeting
- April 10 - 2nd Annual Spotlight on Literacy Forum
- April 11 – Mobile Constituency Office 110 Mornelle Court
- April 15 - Public Open House - Re: Proposed Changes to Zoning By-Law Regulations for Group Homes
- April 17 - Long-Term Care Homes & Services' Excellence in Volunteering Ceremony
- April 18 – Good Friday
- April 20 – Easter Sunday
- April 21 – Easter Monday
- April 22 – Toronto Social Service Benefits Card Awards
- April 24 – Don Watershed Regeneration Council meeting

April 25 – Toronto Region Conservation Authority Meeting
April 26 – Clean Up Day - 7th Annual KGO - BBQ
April 28 – 4000/4100 Residents Association Meeting
April 28 – Toronto Public Library Board of Directors meeting
April 29 - Community Meeting - Guild Park and Gardens Management Plan Consolation and Site update
April 30 - Toronto Public Library Campaign to Increase Awareness of Workplace Violence

Community Events and Meetings

April 15 Public Open House - Re: Proposed Changes to Zoning By-Law Regulations for Group Homes
5pm – 7pm Scarborough Civic Centre Committee Rooms 1&2

April 26th KGO Spring Clean Up. Meet at Giffen-Mack 4115 Lawrence Ave East
10am - 12pm Followed by a community BBQ

April 29th Guild Inn Park and Gardens management plan & Guild Inn redevelopment meeting
7pm – 9pm Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI, 145 Guildwood Pkwy.

May 1 Town Hall Meeting – Panam Aquatic Centre recreational programming discussion
7pm – 9pm West Hill CI

May 10 43 Division CPLC Community Picnic and Open House will be held on
12 pm -3 pm 43 Division station.

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2. Council items for Ward 43

Here is a list of some of the legislation I put forward at this month's City Council:

Adopted 2014.GM28.10 - Guild Inn - Revitalization and Development of Restaurant and Banquet Centre Facilities

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.GM28.10>

2014.SC31.17 - Parking and Traffic Regulations on Bonspiel Drive, Tams Road and Schmirler Terrace

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.SC31.17>

Adopted 2014.SC30.25 - Business Community Sign Installation - Ward 43

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.SC30.25>

Adopted 2014.MM48.1 - 150th Anniversary of Canadian Confederation - by Councillor Paul Ainslie

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.MM48.1>

Adopted 2014.MM48.4 - Official Declaration of March 6th as City of Toronto Day - by Councillor Paul Ainslie

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.MM48.4>

Adopted P2014.MM48.6 - Street Renaming to Celebrate Sir John A. Macdonald - by Councillor Paul Ainslie

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.MM48.6>

Received 2014.RM47.3 - Petitions Petition concerning Fire Station 215, submitted by Councillor Paul Ainslie, Ward 43 – Scarborough East, containing the names of approximately 200 persons.
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.RM47.3>

Apr-03-2014

Proposed Public Sector and MPP Accountability and Transparency Act, 2014: Implications for Toronto's Ombudsman Function

1b - Motion to Amend Item (Carried)

That Councillor Ainslie and Councillor Carroll be authorized to make written and oral submissions on behalf of City Council to the Provincial Standing Committee that is considering the government bill to enact the Public Sector and MPP Accountability and Transparency Act, 2014 as required.

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3. Seven Oaks

Neilson Road Resurfacing

Expected Project Start Date: Spring 2014

Expected Completion Date: Fall 2014

The City of Toronto will be undertaking construction work along Neilson Road. The work includes road resurfacing, curb and sidewalk replacement in order to improve the roadway and boulevard condition. This project is part of the Transportation Services 2014 Capital Works Program.

This work will take place between the north side of Ellesmere Road and the north side of Tapscott Road. Further notice will be given prior to construction with a more accurate start date and other information regarding the work. Your co-operation and patience during the construction period is crucial and appreciated.

Project Details: The work includes resurfacing of the pavement structure, replacing deteriorated curb and sidewalks, and restoring boulevard. During construction, temporary lane closures and parking restrictions adjacent to the construction zones will be enforced, as required. Construction staging requirements will result in traffic being reduced to one lane in each direction in various phases of work. Business access and emergency traffic will be maintained at all times.

There may be planted landscaping, fences, irrigation systems or other physical features which are within the City property limits. These may be in the way of the construction. In such cases, residents are advised to remove these items prior to the beginning of construction in order to avoid unnecessary damage. The City will not be responsible for damage to any privately owned items installed on the City's property.

For more information:

Project website: www.toronto.ca/improvements/ward43.htm

Contact: Thomas Yeung, Sr. Engineer tyeung@toronto.ca 416-396-7779

24 Hours: General Inquiries 311 TTY 416-338-0889

85 Keeler Road Development

I will be holding a second community meeting with area residents to discuss the proposed development on the Brooks Road Public School site. At our last meeting residents raised concerns, one of which was water pressure. Toronto Water did attend the area and conducted testing to measure the water pressure, they also

visited homes. It was noted that the water pressure in the community normal to above average, the same was noted for the homes visited. Resident who abut the site also had questions regarding the trees on their and the school site. An additional onsite meeting is being scheduled with the residents and Forestry to address these questions.

Toronto Water staff will be attending the upcoming community planning meeting as will an engineer to discuss grading, the assigned Planner and staff from the Forestry department. A meeting notice will be delivered to each home.

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4. Curran Hall Community

website: <http://www.curranhall.ca/>

Northfield Road_ Traffic Speed & Volume Review

[Study link](#)

Transportation staff have completed a review for Northfield Road between Thornbeck Drive and Orton Park Road in response to a request to lower the speed limit to 40km hr. Classified as a local road with a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h. Sidewalks are located on both sides of Northfield Road.

The results from 24-hour vehicle volume and speed studies revealed that the recorded daily vehicle volume on Northfield Road is 359 vehicles per day. The vehicle volume range for a local road classification is less than or equal to 2,500 vehicles per day. The existing traffic volume on Northfield Road is well below the volume range for a local road and is not considered problematic at this time.

In addition, the speed study revealed that the 85th percentile (speed at which 85 percent of motorists travel at or below) on Northfield Road was 50 km/h for northbound vehicles and 46 km/h for southbound vehicles. The 85th percentile speeds are at or below the existing speed limit of 50 km/h.

Based on the results of the "40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant" study, the reduction of the existing speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h is not warranted. The warrant was not met in both the "Pedestrian Environment" and the "Road and Traffic Environment" categories.

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision records revealed that there have been no reported speed related collisions on the subject road in the previous five year period.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding our review, please contact my office.

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5. Coronation and West Hill Community

Website: <http://www.coronationca.com/>

Request for Pedestrian Crossing Protection – 235 Galloway Road at St. Margaret's Public School

[Staff Study link](#)

Further to a request from the Toronto Police Service 43 Division, on behalf of Michelle Mayers the former principal of St. Margaret's Public School (P.S.), we have completed our review of the above-noted matter. Specifically, we reviewed the pedestrian crossing patterns on Galloway Road north and south of the subject

school in regards to installing a pedestrian crossover (PXO) at this location. Based on our review, we have concluded that the installation of a PXO is not justified at St. Margaret's P.S.

Staffs conclusions are based on a Pedestrian Crossover Warrant study using traffic volumes recorded over the peak eight hours of a typical weekday. The results of our studies indicate that the technical warrants for the installation of a pedestrian crossover are not met. These warrants are shown in the technical summary of this memo.

There is the possibility that a school crossing feature could be installed at this location. School crossings are signed zones but are not provided with illumination like PXO's. However, prior to the installation of a school crossing we require written confirmation from both school officials and the Toronto Police Service that they will agree to support the operation of a school crossing through school patroller volunteer provision and training on an ongoing basis. If written confirmation is received then the City of Toronto would then pursue installing a school crossing feature.

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision records has revealed that in the preceding five-years (from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2013) there have been no reported collisions involving pedestrians on Galloway Road between Lawrence Avenue East and Weir Crescent and also no reported vehicle collision on the portion of roadway along the school frontage.

Please note that many similar locations exist throughout the City that do not meet the minimum requirements for the installation of pedestrian crossing protection. At these locations, we encourage pedestrians to wait until a suitable safe gap occurs in the traffic flow to safely cross the road.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding our review, please call my office.

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6. Cedar Ridge Community & Cornell Community

Cedar Ridge Creative Centre
225 Confederation Drive
(two streets south of Lawrence Ave. E, off of Scarborough Golf Club Rd.)
To register or for information: 416-396-4026 or crcc@toronto.ca

Cedar Ridge Studio Gallery Current & Upcoming Exhibits

Bernice Harper & Friends – April 12 to April 29

A longtime painter in watercolours, Bernice also is also a talented ceramicist. Join Bernice and her friends for the show Second Childhood in Paint and Clay. Opening Reception: Sunday, April 13, 1-4 p.m. Closing Reception: Sunday April 27, 1-4 p.m

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7. Guildwood Village

Guildwood Village Community Association website: www.guildwood.on.ca
The Guild Renaissance Group (GRG): <http://guildrenaissancgroup.com/>
Friends of Elizabeth Simcoe Park- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsof.ElizabethSimcoePark/>
Friends of Guild Park & Gardens- <http://www.guildpark.ca/>

Guild Inn (Bickford) Update

As mentioned in my cover letter, we are on our way to revitalizing the Guild Inn. This news is very exciting to all of us who have been working on this file for over 10 years. The proposal may be viewed on my website at www.paulainslie.com as well as at Guild Inn - Revitalization and Development of Restaurant and Banquet Centre Facilities

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.GM28.10>.

Unanimously supported by City Council on April 1, 2014 this is the first time we have approved an Letter of Intent LOI for the property. The City of Toronto has been negotiating with Dynamic Hospitality and Entertainment Group since last July upon receiving approval from City Council to commence negotiations. Although lengthy the City must ensure that the agreement is fair. This marks a milestone as we now move forward to revitalize this beautiful site in the centre of the community. I would encourage you to all attend the April 29, 2014 meeting from 7pm – 9pm at Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI where the Parks Management Plan consultations will take place. This meeting will bring you an update on the site and also allow you to partake in the management plan. The City has been working on the park components with all the community groups for some time. I look forward to see you there.

Guild Inn Park and Gardens Emerald Ash Borer EAB Meeting Update

I would like to thank all the residents who attended the April 7, 2014 meeting to update the resident on the EAB infestation in the Guild Inn Park and Gardens. The meeting was very well attended and hosted by the City Forestry Department, several staff were on hand to answer all the residents questions.

The park will be replanted this Spring with several different species of trees and shrubs to maintain the canopy on the site. Residents advised that they would like the large piles of shrubs and logs cleared from the areas, staff advised that some would be wood chipped while some would remain as nutrients for the forest bed. Staff were however directed to not leave large piles on the site, they will comply with the residents request. Staff also updated residents on their efforts to treat a number of trees on the site. Many residents volunteered to help with the replanting or other volunteer opportunities. I have spoken with Staff and will connect with residents to ensure that they will be called upon to contribute.

Should you have any further questions or concerns regarding the work currently taking place, or Emerald Ash Borer Management please contact either:

Beth McEwen bmcewen@toronto.ca Manager Natural Environment & Forestry Management or

Cara Webster cwebster@toronto.ca Natural Resource Specialist

Or you can contact me directly at the Scarborough Constituency Office 416 396-7222.

To view the presentation given at the public meeting for Ash Management Plans for Guildwood Park & South Marine Park was held on January 9th, 2014 and April 7, 2014.

[Guildwood South Marine EAB Public Presentation Jan 2014.pdf](#)

[Guildwood South Marine EAB Public Presentation Jan 2014 accessible.pdf](#)

Additional information, including City of Toronto Emerald Ash Borer Map, Link to CFIA quarantine zones, as well as EAB Public Presentation can be found at the following link: Forest Health Care & Pests and clicking on Invasive Pest.

Toronto Hydro Upgrades

Held there meeting on April 3, 2014 where residents were updated on their planned work to upgrade their system from north of Guildwood Parkway to Westlake, Livingston Road east to Galloway Road. The plans will be posted on my website at www.paulainslie.com.

The project will include burying the current wires underground, bringing the overhanging wires from the rear yards to the front yards. The work will be extensive and will be done in 3 phases

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8. Mornelle Court Resident's Action Coalition & Tenants Associations in Ward 43

Mornelle Court Residents Action Coalition...Working together to make a change... Be the Change you want to See...

www.mornellecourt.webs.com
Mornellecourtcoalition@yahoo.ca
mornellecourt@facebook.com

Walk to school Program and After School Homework Club

The two programs are being very well attended and do have room for new participants. Volunteers are always needed especially for the walk to school program. Volunteer for your neighbours by helping them ensure their children arrive at school safely. To volunteer please email Mornellecourtcoalition@yahoo.ca.

Mobile Constituency Office

I am continuing to have my mobile constituency staff visit all the buildings in the Ward. A notice will be posted in the lobby of your building 1 week prior so please visit the mobile office and bring your issues for us to address.

Upcoming Visits:

April 4---4301 Kingston Road
April 11---110 Mornelle Court
April 25---90 Mornelle Court

We have been very fortunate to have wonderful visits with the residents and are happy to assist with any issue or simple just to meet you. Thank you for your hospitality.

KGO Safety Committee is looking for new members

KGO Safety Committee meeting @ Residents Rising 4117 Lawrence Avenue East is always looking for new members or resident attendance for the Community Safety Audits which will occur in the late Spring. If you are interested please contact Suzanne at my office 416-396-7222.

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9. Lawrence Avenue East Major Arterial Road Resurfacing

Lawrence Avenue East - Major Road Resurfacing and Watermain Lining
(Markham Road to Kingston Road)
Expected Project Start Date: Summer, 2014
Expected Completion Date: Fall, 2014

The City of Toronto will be resurfacing the pavement, replacing deteriorated curb and gutter and sidewalks on Lawrence Avenue East between Markham Road and Kingston Road. As part of this project the existing watermain will be structurally lined between Orton Park Road and Kingston Road.

Further notice will be given prior to construction with a more accurate start date and other information regarding the work. Your co-operation and patience during the construction period is crucial and appreciated.

Project Details

- Scope of work includes the resurfacing of the pavement, replacing deteriorated curb and gutter and sidewalks and boulevard restoration.
- Watermain and the large water services will be structurally lined; sub-standard small water services and fire hydrants will be replaced.
- Lane closures will take place adjacent to construction zones as required. Business access and emergency traffic will be maintained at all times. Note: traffic staging requirements will result in traffic being reduced to one lane in each direction in various phases of work.

There may be planted landscaping, fences, irrigation systems or other physical features which are within the City property limits. These may be in the way of the construction. In such cases, residents are advised to remove these items prior to the beginning of construction in order to avoid unnecessary damage. The City will not be responsible for damage to any privately owned items installed on the City's property.

For more information:

Project website: www.toronto.ca/constructioninfo
 Contact: Shams Khan skhan5@toronto.ca Senior Project Engineer 416-396-7152
 24 Hours: General Inquiries 311, TTY 416-338-0889
 Councillor Paul Ainslie councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca 416-396-7222

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 10. Council Highlights

Council Highlights
 Toronto City Council meeting of April 1, 2 and 3, 2014

Council Highlights is an informal summary of decisions made by Toronto City Council. The City Clerk provides the formal documentation at <http://www.toronto.ca/council>.

Billy Bishop Airport

Council authorized City staff to negotiate with the Toronto Port Authority and Transport Canada on a plan/phased framework to manage growth at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport. Council's discussion and actions are in the context of a Porter Airlines' request for an exemption from the existing ban on commercial jets and the prohibition of runway extensions at Toronto's central waterfront airport. Council passed a variety of motions after debating the subject on April 1 and said the authorization of negotiations should not be interpreted as a position either for or against airport expansion/introduction of jets.

Street food in Toronto

Council approved new rules for street vending that will take effect May 15. The resulting city-wide bylaw will achieve a balance in addressing the City's need to manage competing uses of streets and sidewalks while responding to popular demand for greater access to street foods. There will no longer be any restrictions on the types of food sold from carts or trucks as long as health regulations are met. The new rules expand vending locations beyond private property and special events to include streets and commercial parking lots.

Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020

Council designated 31 neighbourhoods as Neighbourhood Improvement Areas under the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020. The 31 neighbourhoods have the lowest overall neighbourhood equity scores – their scores are below the equity benchmark. The score is a number designed to capture the total weight of inequities faced by neighbourhood residents in five key areas, such as economic opportunities and social

development. The City will work to improve equitable outcomes in the 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas through a range of strategies and investments.

Renovation of BMO Field

Council authorized staff to negotiate agreements pertaining to the planned renovation of the BMO Field sports stadium at Exhibition Place. Council approved a City capital investment of \$10 million toward the project – recoverable during the term of the agreement with Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Ltd. BMO Field is a 21,566-seat stadium owned by the City of Toronto and currently managed by Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment. The expanded stadium will increase the seating capacity substantially and reconfigure the field so the stadium can host Canadian Football League games. The Toronto FC soccer team is currently the stadium's principal user.

Gardiner Expressway rehabilitation

Council approved the use of an accelerated method of construction for the rehabilitation of the Gardiner Expressway and addressed related financial matters. The accelerated approach, designed to rehabilitate the expressway within about 10 years, involves scheduling work on the expressway's at-grade section together with work to replace the elevated deck using prefabricated sections. A motion was adopted for the City to look into the possibility of Infrastructure Ontario becoming involved in the expressway's rehabilitation.

Rail line safety and transparency

Council voted in favour of asking the federal government to require railway owners to inform municipalities about hazardous materials carried as freight through cities – and to make the information readily available to the public. Related City actions approved by Council include asking the federal government to restore to 2009 levels its funding for the inspection of dangerous rail cargo. Council also supported taking various steps to address questions of safety that pertain specifically to the Canadian Pacific Railway line and its cargo within Toronto.

Emergency response capacity – Enbridge pipeline

Steps addressing concerns about Enbridge's Line 9 oil pipeline that passes through parts of Toronto received Council's support. Actions include asking the Ministry of the Environment to order an environmental assessment of Enbridge's proposal to increase the pipeline's capacity and reverse the flow of oil from westward to eastward. Another action by Council addresses the matter of ensuring the financial ability of pipeline operators such as Enbridge to cover the costs of any damage caused by their pipeline operations.

Grace period for parking offences

Council approved amendments to the City's parking bylaws to provide a 10-minute grace period for on-street pay-and-display parking locations when pay-and-display parking is in effect. The longer grace period, which is now in effect, replaces a five-minute grace period that the Toronto Police had observed before issuing a ticket for expired pay-and-display offences. Expanding the grace period to 10 minutes will reduce the number of tickets issued by an estimated 60,000 tickets a year, reducing the City's annual parking ticket revenues.

Poverty reduction strategy

Council adopted a recommendation for staff to work on creating a City of Toronto poverty reduction strategy to bolster work the City is already doing to address poverty and related problems. The strategy initiative will involve broad participation and consultation. Several other large Canadian cities are in various stages of creating and implementing anti-poverty strategies.

Training on fraud prevention

Council directed the City Manager to make available to City agencies and corporations e-learning training that is already available to other City staff on ethics, conflict of interest, fraud prevention and whistleblower protection. The directive was made as Council received the Auditor General's report on operations of the fraud and waste hotline program in 2013. City employees apart from those of agencies and corporations of the City were required to complete the online training by the end of 2013. Members of the Toronto Public Service are

expected to know how to identify suspected incidents of fraud or other wrongdoing and know how to report them.

Metrolinx

Council decided to ask the Province of Ontario to review the governance structure of the Metrolinx board of directors and consider including municipal political and citizen representation. Metrolinx – Ontario's transit agency for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area – is currently governed by a board with no direct accountability link to municipalities and their local transit authorities. Council also agreed to ask the province to restore its funding of 50 per cent of municipal transit operating expenditures, and to give municipalities flexibility in setting local transportation priorities to be funded by the portion of Investment Strategy funds that is to be dedicated to local transportation infrastructure.

Proposed legislation and Toronto's ombudsman

Council decided to ask the Province of Ontario to exempt Toronto from the jurisdiction of the Ontario ombudsman as proposed in new provincial legislation on public sector accountability and transparency. Under the City of Toronto Act, Council is required to appoint its own ombudsman. Council authorized Councillors Paul Ainslie and Shelley Carroll, along with the City Manager, to make submissions on this matter on behalf of Council to the provincial standing committee that is considering the government bill to enact the new legislation.

Honouring Nelson Mandela

Council authorized the preparation of a report on dedicating a prominent street in honour of Nelson Mandela. The 20th anniversary of Mandela's election as President of South Africa is coming up on April 27. City Council made Mandela an honorary citizen of Toronto when he visited Toronto in 1990 shortly after his release from prison. The people of Toronto joined the rest of the world in mourning the passing of Mandela on December 5, 2013.

Construction staging areas

Council asked staff to prepare a report on initiatives pertaining to the impacts of staging areas that are often established during the construction of large buildings. Construction staging areas provide unloading zones and places to store construction materials. The staging area usually occupies the curb lane and sidewalk adjacent to the building under construction. A motion was adopted for a report on the feasibility of establishing a standard for the amount and proportion of space allocated for community art on construction hoarding.

Review of expenses

Council adopted recommendations designed to strengthen the City's control of expenses incurred by elected officials and staff for training and conferences. The steps taken are connected with an Auditor General's report on training, conferences and related travel expenses. The review did not identify any significant non-compliance with policies and procedures but it identified opportunities for improving controls.

Revitalization of the Guild Inn

Council authorized work by a private operator to revitalize the Guild Inn's main building – Bickford House – as a restaurant and event/banquet/conference centre. The City closed the building in 2001 but the surrounding grounds have remained open as public parkland. The City is working with local residents and the arts community to develop the parkland around the Bickford House as a cultural precinct that makes use of other historic buildings on the site as well as the new banquet/event centre.

Zoning for marijuana production

Council approved zoning changes needed to permit a medical marijuana/cannabis production facility in Toronto consistent with federal regulation of marijuana production for medical purposes. The facility would produce, process and distribute medical marijuana. The federal regulations cover facility operation, site security, product distribution and client registration.

Improving building inspections

Council adopted a report specifying steps to take in order to improve the operational efficiency and effectiveness of building inspection services provided by the Toronto Building division. The opportunities for improvement were identified in an Auditor General's review of building inspection services.

World cities forum on culture

Council affirmed the City of Toronto's continued participation in the World Cities Culture Forum and directed that the City is to make use of the forum's findings when creating cultural policies and projects. The World Cities Culture Forum is a group of 21 major cities such as London, New York, Shanghai, Paris, Tokyo, Sydney and Toronto that are collaborating on researching the role of culture in each of the cities and devising policy responses to challenges they face.

Volume 17 Issue 2

Council Highlights, a summary of selected decisions made by Toronto City Council, is produced by Strategic Communications.

Formal documentation of City Council decisions: <http://www.toronto.ca/council>

Questions about Council meetings and decisions: clerk@toronto.ca or 416-392-8016

Information about distribution of this summary: stratcom@toronto.ca

Previous editions online: <http://bitly.com/1cmCQXI>

The Council Highlights summary is also made available as a podcast shortly after the email distribution of Council Highlights: <http://www.toronto.ca/podcasts/>

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11. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto seeks volunteers aged 55 and over in Ward 43!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto seeks volunteers aged 55 and over in Ward 43!

For only 1 hour a week during the school day, you could help change the life of a young person just by being a friend! Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto (BBBST) is looking for adults aged 55+ to mentor a child at an elementary school in their community. The program requires a weekly commitment during the school day for one school year, where volunteers take part in activities such as playing board games, reading, drawing, building model planes, learning a craft or just getting to know their Little Brother or Little Sister. Mentoring means changing lives, including your own. It's a rewarding way to give back through becoming a special friend to a child in your community.

Big Brothers Big Sisters facilitates life-changing relationships that inspire and empower children and youth to reach their potential. BBBST relies on volunteers and donations in order to continue to ensure that every child who needs a mentor, has a mentor. For more information, or to start the application process, please contact Max Beaumont at max.beaumont@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca, or 416 925 8981 ext 4118, or visit www.bbbst.com

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12. Community Bus

Community Bus

On March 26, I along with many residents address the Toronto Transit Commission on the need for a Community Bus Service (CBS) in Ward 43. After being approached by many community members a committee was struck to develop a route for Ward 43.

Through consultations with residents and community groups working with a TTC Transit Planner a route was proposed.

The Commission recommended that staff report back in 2015 on the need for Community Buses, I requested that Ward 43 be included in the pilot project in order for the 2015 report include usage in our community.

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13. April Flag Raisings

April Flag Raisings 2014

April 1 Dig Safe Flag
Toronto City Hall, Podium Roof Flag Pole
No ceremony

April 2 Autism Ontario Flag
World Autism Awareness Day
Toronto City Hall, Podium Roof Flag Pole
Ceremony at 12:00 pm.

April 7 Flag of Rwanda
Toronto City Hall, Podium Roof Flag Pole
Ceremony at 11:00 am.

April 9 Half - Mast of the Canadian Flag to mark the National Day of Remembrance of the Battle of Vimy Ridge
Toronto City Hall, Official Flag Pole

April 22 to 24* Trillium Gift of Life Network Flag
Toronto City Hall, Podium Roof Flag Pole
No ceremony

April 25 Parental Alienation Awareness Organization Flag
Toronto City Hall, Podium Roof Flag Pole
Ceremony at 1:00 pm

April 28 Half - Mast of the Canadian Flag to mark the
National Day of Mourning
Toronto City Hall, Official Flag Pole

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14. Community Award for Ward 43 Champion

Congratulations Anne Gloger and Angela Brackett

I am very pleased to share with you that Anne Gloger, the Executive Director of East Scarborough Storefront was awarded a Toronto Community Foundation Vital People's award!

<https://tcf.ca/stories/anne-gloger-east-scarborough-storefront>

Congratulations to Angela Brackett, the recipient of the 2014 recipients of the Ontario Leading women In communities Award. The Leading Women, Leading Girls, Building Communities Awards acknowledges and celebrates women and girls who demonstrate exceptional leadership in working to improve the lives of others in their communities.

Angela's work as a community leader has been inspiring. She has helped many youth in the Mornelle Court Community with the Mornelle Safe Walk Program, the Mornelle after school program through her work with the Mornelle Court Residents Action Coalition.

Thank you for your contribution to our great work Building.Community.Together

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15. Spring Clean Up 2014

Transportation Services' Action Plan for the 2014 Spring Clean Up

Residents will see a number of roadway sweepers running routes on Arterials, Collectors and then Locals. The City has activated extra mechanical sweepers this Spring due to the heavy grit and twig debris left on the roads after the harsh winter.

Sidewalk sweepers are running prescribed routes, cleaning mostly along Arterial and Collector roads, including boulevard areas. Hand crews are bagging and removing litter at various locations, including boulevards with significant winter debris and without property frontage. Crews are also performing Graffiti Removal on a daily basis.

For details view: [MAP](#)

<http://wx.toronto.ca/inter/it/newsrel.nsf/7017df2f20edbe2885256619004e428e/97ab479a1e54827185257ca20063d002?OpenDocument>

For website information:

<http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vgnextoid=4ddf0afbbf353410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD&vgnnextchannel=03ec433112b02410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD>

Residents and businesses are advised that the City of Toronto's ice storm protocol is no longer in effect for the removal of tree hazards resulting from ice storm damage.

Returning to regular practice, the City again requires property owners to obtain a permit or Confirmation of Exemption from the Urban Forestry branch of the City's Parks, Forestry and Recreation division prior to removing or injuring trees.

A permit is required if the tree on private property is regulated and protected by the City's various tree protection bylaws. A Confirmation of Exemption is issued if the tree is not regulated and protected – for example, if the tree is diseased and is a hazard. A permit is not required to prune a tree in accordance with good arboricultural practices, including removing cracked or broken branches.

Where an imminent tree hazard is present, property owners are required to submit an arborist report and digital photographs of the subject tree by email, mail or fax, or can drop them off in person. Where appropriate, the City will issue a permit or a Confirmation of Exemption to proceed.

To apply for a tree injury or removal permit, or to obtain a Confirmation of Exemption, residents should contact their Urban Forestry Tree Protection and Plan Review District Office. Details about the four locations:

Scarborough District: Nashdene Yard, 70 Nashdene Rd., Toronto, M1V 2V2
Fax: 416-396-4248 or email: tppreast@toronto.ca

More information about Toronto's tree bylaws and related matters is available at <http://www.toronto.ca/trees>.

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16. Join the Close the Housing Gap campaign in 2014

Safe, affordable housing is a key contributor to people's health and success and thus to Toronto's economic and social well-being.

That's why residents are being encouraged to add their voice to the Close the Housing Gap campaign. You can get posters, buttons, postcards, petitions and brochures and information on how you can take action by visiting: www.putpeoplefirst.ca.

The two-year campaign is focussed on persuading the federal and provincial governments to pay their fair share for affordable and social housing.

Now is a great time to get involved - with a possible provincial election this year and a federal election in 2015. Your voice is essential to convince Ottawa and Queen's Park that they must step up, not step back, and support social and affordable housing.

This includes each government investing \$864 million over 10 years to match the City's contribution of one-third of Toronto Community Housing's \$2.6 billion capital repair needs. It also means both governments should commit to a long-term plan to address Toronto's housing crunch.

Your actions will support other events in 2014 and grassroots activities such as community- and city-wide rallies.

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17. Community Consultation into the proposed zoning changes to Group Home regulations

The City's Planning and Growth Management Committee has directed Planning Staff to hold open house across Toronto to get public feedback into the proposed zoning changes to Group Home regulations in all zoning by-laws across the City

The City of Toronto is proposing changes to zoning by-law regulations for Group Homes and Residential Care Homes throughout the City. The proposed changes are:

- the elimination of a 250-metre separation distance requirement,
- the elimination of references to the minimum number of people in a Group Home.

The meeting for Scarborough is:

Tuesday, April 15
Toronto City Hall Scarborough Civic Centre
100 Queen Street West 150 Borough Drive
Committee Rooms 3 & 4 Committee Rooms 1 & 2
4 - 8:30 p.m. 4 - 8:30 p.m

A short staff presentation on the proposed changes will be made at 5 p.m. and repeated at 7:30 p.m.

Further information on the Open House, including requests for special assistance, can be obtained by calling Hailey Toft at 416-392-0170.

Information on these proposed changes is available on the City's website at:
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013> PG27.6

Information on the proposed changes may also be obtained by calling Klaus Lehmann at 416-392-0175.

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18. Nominate for the Access, Equity and Human Rights Awards

Do you know someone or a community group who is making a difference in Toronto by reducing barriers to civic participation? Celebrate their accomplishments – nominate them for an award!

The Access, Equity and Human Rights Awards recognize significant efforts of Toronto residents who are working to build a city in which all residents are full and equal participants in the social, cultural, economic, recreational and political life of the city. Each year, the City celebrates the contributions made by nominated citizens or groups at an awards ceremony.

Deadline for submitting nominations is Monday, May 12, 2014.
Nominees must be residents of the City of Toronto.

To nominate and for more information: www.toronto.ca/civicawards

Each year, the City of Toronto's Equity, Diversity and Human Rights Division administers the five Access, Equity and Human Rights Awards. The awards are:

- Aboriginal Affairs Award
- Access Award for Disability Issues
- Constance E. Hamilton Award on the Status of Women
- Pride Award for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Transsexual and Two Spirited Issues

- William P. Hubbard Award for Race Relations

These awards recognize the ongoing work of volunteers and community groups in eliminating the barriers to full civic participation.

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19. StART Support Mural Program

The City of Toronto has launched a new program to help property owners who are victims of graffiti vandalism. The StART Support Mural Program will provide materials for the creation of art murals and graffiti art on walls visible from city streets that have a history of repeated graffiti vandalism.

The City will provide exterior paint in a full colour spectrum, application materials like brushes, rollers and paint trays and artistic quality spray paint, available in a variety of colours.

Property owners must hire an artist independently and pay for any other costs related to the project, like equipment rentals or permits, if they are required. The StreetARToronto Artist Directory www.toronto.ca/streetart may be a helpful tool to find an artist.

More information about StART Support, including the preliminary application form and eligibility criteria, is available at: www.toronto.ca/startsupport

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20. Quote of the Month

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success" Henry Ford

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21. Websites for Community Use

<http://kidsspace.torontopubliclibrary.ca/programsandeventsadu.html>
Toronto Pubic Library Kids Space and Programming

www.toronto.ca/frozenpipes
frozen pipes

www.toronto.ca/water
Toronto Water home page

enterprisetoronto@toronto.ca
Enterprise Toronto

<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/recordsmanagement/crimereporting.php> -Citizens Online Crime Reporting

<http://www.toronto.ca/golf> -Toronto's golf courses

<http://www.torontohydro.com/peaksaver> - peaksaver PLUS

<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/thebadge/> Toronto Police newsletter "The Badge"

<http://www.scarboroughsoftballassociation.com> - Scarborough Softball – Scarborough Dragons

<http://www.thestorefront.org/contact.php> - East Scarborough Storefront

www.facebook.com/TheTorontoZoo - Toronto Zoo's first official Facebook page

www.toronto.ca/eventcalendar - City of Toronto Events Calendar

<http://onthedon.createsend2.com/t/r/l/tlwukt/bhdtdkrth/e/> - TRCA – The Don

<http://www.toronto.ca/seniors/index.htm> -City of Toronto Seniors

http://www.seniors.gov.on.ca/en/seniorsguide/emergency_4.php -Province of Ontario Seniors

<http://www.dementiatoronto.org/0303.asp> - Toronto Dementia Network

http://aging.utoronto.ca/sites/aging.utoronto.ca/files/Section6_Eng%5B1%5D.pdf - Service Directory for Seniors

www.toronto.ca - City of Toronto

www.toronto.ca/city-update - What is happening in our City

<http://wx.toronto.ca/festevents.nsf/> - City of Toronto Festival Page

www.seetorontonow.com/ - Tourism Toronto – Official website

www.222tips.com - Crime Stoppers

www.ourkgocommunity.com - Kingston Galloway Community Network

www.torontopubliclibrary.ca - Toronto Public Library

www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca - Toronto Botanical Gardens

www.toronto4kids.com - Great ideas for what the kids can do in Toronto

www.ago.net/gallery-school - Ontario Art Gallery

www.starfall.com - Star fall – great to get the little ones reading

www.coronationca.com - Coronation & West Hill Community Association

www.curranhall.ca/ - Curran Hall Community Association

www.guildwood.on.ca - Guildwood Village Community Association

www.mornellecourt.webs.com - Mornelle Court Action Coalition (Mornelle CAN)

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22. E-News Policy and Contact Information

eNews is a monthly news communication from Paul Ainslie. 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. Please contact me by email at councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca, phone me at Error! Hyperlink reference not valid., or send a fax to Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.. Alternately you can visit my Constituency Assistant on the second floor of the Scarborough Civic Centre located at 150 Borough Drive (Ellesmere & McCowan)

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