

February 2012
Volume 12 Issue 38

Dear Residents of Ward 43,

I would like to extend a Happy New Year to you and your family for good health and prosperity.

Scarborough Community Council hosted a budget consultation evening session on January 10, 2012. The evening was well attended giving residents a further opportunity to speak directly to their local Councillor on the 2012 budget. I would like to thank all the residents who took time to speak. Budget Highlights are listed in section 10 of this report.

This month the Scarborough LRT has been highlighted in the media. TTC Chair Karen Stintz made her views public last week, stating that the Scarborough LRT should be built above ground, I disagree.

In response to the TTC Chair's views I put forward the following letter which was signed and supported by seven City Councillors representing Scarborough: Councillor Paul Ainslie, Councillor Gary Crawford, Councillor Michelle Berardinetti, Councillor Del Grande, Councillor Norm Kelly, Councillor Ron Moeser, Councillor Michael Thompson.

As Toronto City Councillors representing the people of Scarborough, we wrote to express our concern that there may be a change to current plans to build the Eglinton-Scarborough Crosstown Line.

Scarborough is home to 625,000 people and is the largest and fastest-growing region in Toronto. The people of Scarborough are one-quarter of Toronto's population and are major contributors to our economy. They work across the city and, yet, are the most poorly served by our current transit system. Scarborough is the only one of the city's four community council areas with no access to real rapid transit.

The Scarborough SRT was a compromise solution that never met its expectations. It is fast approaching the end of its useful life and must be replaced by a rapid transit solution that will meet our community's needs - and the city's needs - over the next 50 to 100 years. Another "make-do," interim solution that will last, at best 20-30 years, is not the answer.

The old "Transit City" plan did not offer a rapid transit solution for Scarborough. While it was the best of the then-available options, Councillors of the day insisted plans continue to build a proper, rapid, underground subway to Scarborough. Having now seen the devastating impact the St. Clair Ave. transit project had on local communities, it is difficult to support such construction on Eglinton.

In 2011, Mayor Ford worked with Premier McGuinty to finally address Scarborough's need for rapid transit. Their plan converts the planned Eglinton LRT into a truly rapid transit line reaching from Scarborough City Centre clear across to Etobicoke, fully interconnects with Toronto's subway network.

A Metrolinx analysis showed this plan, envisaged in their Memorandum of Understanding, will move four times as many people up to twice as fast. This is exactly the type of rapid transit Scarborough needs.

With construction of the current Eglinton-Scarborough Crosstown Line already underway and plans to move forward on a Sheppard subway extension to Scarborough Town Centre, Scarborough will finally be part of Toronto's rapid transit network.

We cannot afford to delay this project - or to risk changing it in a way that fails, once again, to meet Scarborough's need for rapid transit. We ask you to lend your support to this current plan to provide truly rapid transit for our residents.

Three representatives did not support to keep the LRT underground: Councillor Raymond Cho, Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, and Councillor Chin Lee.

There will be a special City Council meeting on Wednesday February 9, 2012 to address public transportation.

During the January Government Management Committee meeting, which I chair contained agenda items focussing on civic engagement and reforms to create a more accessible City Hall. I invite you to view the Government Management Committee agenda, <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/decisionBodyProfile.do?function=doPrepare&decisionBodyId=366#Meeting-2012.GM10> , if you would like to comment on the agenda items please contact me.

Don't hesitate to contact me on any municipal matters. My Constituency Office is located in the Scarborough Civic Centre located at 150 Borough Drive, 2nd flr; residents are welcome to drop in between 8:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m.

Thank you for your participation with the "Your Feedback" section on my website www.paulainslie.com. Many residents have filled out the survey giving me a view of what is on your mind. (If the above link does not work, please visit my home page and click on surveys www.paulainslie.com)

Sincerely,
Paul

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1. Calendar

February 1 - War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Steering Committee
February 2- Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo
February 3 - H&R Block Grand Opening 259 Morningside Avenue
February 6 - Toronto City Council
February 7 - Toronto City Council
February 7 - Coronation of West Hill Community Association Meeting
February 7 - Guild Renaissance Group Meeting
February 8 - Special Toronto City Council - Public Transportation Meeting
February 8 - Kingston Galloway Orton Park Safety meeting
February 9 - The Book Lover's Ball
February 9 - Community Police Liaison Committee
February 10 - Rouge Park Alliance Meeting
February 12 - Guild Renaissance Group Strategic Planning Session
February 13 - Executive Committee Meeting
February 14 - Scarborough Community Council
February 15- Guildwood Village Community Association Meeting
February 22 - Guild Alive with Culture Festival Meeting
February 23 - Government Management Committee Meeting
February 23 - Community Town Hall Meeting - Seven Oaks - Tam Heather Tennis and Curling Club
February 24 - Toronto Region Conservation Authority AGM

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2. Seven Oaks

Town Hall Meeting

Please join me on Thursday February 23rd 7:00 p.m.as I host a Community Town Hall Meeting - For the Seven Oaks Community - Tam Heather Curling and Tennis Club, 730 Military Trail. The discussion will feature guest speaker City of Toronto Ombudsman Fiona Crean. ``Local government has a responsibility to provide services that are fair and equitable to all of Toronto's residents. Unfortunately, this does not always happen. Despite the excellent work of many public servants, too many residents find that they have not been treated as they deserve.`

Seven Oaks Playground Park Enhancement

This project is schedule for construction this year. The playground will feature a senior play area with climbing structures for the community children. I have asked that the project aim for a completion date in late June so the children may enjoy the structure this summer.

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3. Curran Hall Community

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

Curran Hall Community Centre

Visit the website to view a number of programs for the entire family. March Break activities, adult programs and more. <http://www.toronto.ca/parks/prd/facilities/complex/782/index.htm>

Thursday Afternoon Lady's Knitting Club

On Thursday afternoons from mid September to June, stop by the Curran Hall Community Centre at 277 Orton Park Rd. from 1pm to 3pm for an afternoon of craft and conversation. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and share in the fellowship of neighbours in this long running program in the Curran Hall Community. Anyone may attend, for more details <http://curranhall.ca/contactus/contact.asp>.

Skating at Botany Hill Park

I would like thank the Curran Hall Community Association and all the skate rink volunteers who have worked diligently on the natural rink this year. Mother Nature did provide a few good cold days for the rink to be in full service. Thank you also to the City of Toronto's Parks Forestry and Recreation Department for their ongoing support and in supplying the water source for the rink.

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4. Coronation and West Hill Community

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

Request for Pedestrian Crossing: 4130 Lawrence Avenue East

Transportation Services was requested to explore the possibility to install a pedestrian walkway at this location.

Below is the report from staff:

Staff initiated what is called a Traffic Control Signal Warrant study and a Pedestrian Crossover Warrant study using traffic volumes recorded over the peak eight hours of a typical weekday. The results of their work indicated the technical warrants for the installation of a traffic control signals or a pedestrian crossover are not met at the subject intersection at this time.

To support the installation of a pedestrian crossover, both the Pedestrian Volume and Pedestrian Delay Warrants must be satisfied to the extent of 100%. Neither warrant was met. In order to satisfy the Pedestrian Volume Warrant, 200 pedestrians are required to cross Lawrence Avenue East in the vicinity of 4130 Lawrence Avenue East (a total of 180 pedestrians were observed crossing). To satisfy the Pedestrian Delay Warrant, 130 pedestrians must be delayed greater than 10 seconds (only 85 pedestrians were delayed greater than 10 seconds).

Transportation staff also conducted a review of the guidelines for a Pedestrian Refuge Island, which reveal that the technical warrant is not met. Specifically, the number of travel lanes must be less than five lanes. Currently, at this location there are seven travelled lanes (three eastbound and three westbound lanes with one shared turning lane). As such the installation of a PRI at this location is not suitable.

Traffic Operation Requests - Request Southbound Left-Turn Priority Feature

Transportation staff reviewed the Kingston Road & Morningside Avenue during the morning and afternoon rush-hour periods to look at adding another advance green signal. Based on the review, it is concluded that a southbound left-turn advance green arrow features are not justified for the a.m. and p.m. peak periods at the intersection of Morningside Avenue and Kingston Road.

To identify existing conditions, southbound left-turn queue and delay studies were conducted during the

a.m. and p.m. peak traffic periods. The results of the studies confirmed that during the a.m. peak period, no vehicle experienced any cycle delays when completing southbound left turns. During p.m. peak traffic period southbound left-turn received minor delays (four).

4121 Lawrence Avenue East - Rezoning Application

During Scarborough Community Council a request for a report was denied at Scarborough Community Council. There report request wanted to look at turning the current office building into one which would be full of self-storage units instead. The applicant has since filed with the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board) for approval. The land owner had made application to convert the existing building on site into a self storage facility. The application also applied for the retention of two office or commercial units on the ground floor and a small residential apartment unit for the self storage manager.

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5. Cedar Ridge Community & Cornell Community

Artstravaganza March Break Art Camp

Cedar Ridge Creative Centre offers its annual March Break day camp for children ages 7 to 12 years. Campers will have an exciting opportunity to create and experiment with drawing and painting, printmaking and sculpture, photography, arts and crafts and pottery. Please Note: Transportation, lunches, and snacks are not included in the registration fee.

Artstravaganza is a nut-free camp. Please do not send any products containing nuts with your child. Extended hours are available for an additional charge from 8-9 am and 4-5 pm.

Artstravaganza does not allow registration for children outside the 7 to 12 age range.

Camp (7-12 yrs) \$152/1 wk

Start: 12-Mar - Code 1862371

Time: Mon-Fri 9:00am-4:00pm

Extended Care AM (7-12 yrs) \$12/1 wk

Start: 12-Mar - Code 1884379

Time: Mon-Fri 8:00-9:00am

Extended Care PM (7-12 yrs) \$12/1 wk

Start: 12-Mar - Code 1884380

Time: Mon-Fri 4:00-5:00pm

Cedar Ridge Creative Centre News

To March 9, 2012: Contemporary Exhibits featuring a series of two-week shows. Artists are juried into the gallery. For a list of artists on exhibit, call 416-396-4026.

Gallery hours are: Monday to Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Thursday to Sunday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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6. Guildwood Village

Guildwood Village Community Association website: www.guildwood.on.ca

The Guild Renaissance Group (GRG): <http://guildrenaissancegroup.com/>

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Pool

Discussions on the City's 2012 budget listed the swimming pool serving the Guildwood community at Sir

Wilfrid Laurier C.I. as being the lowest city programmed pool . I held many discussions with the school officials, school trustee and City staff. It was determined because there is not another pool closer than 3km and that moving the programming would mean losing some programming spots, that the city would continue it`s programming at Sir Wilfrid Laurier for the 2012 year. We now need your help in increasing the programming at the pool. Section 14 of this report speaks on what resident can do to keep city run programs at this location.

I would like to thank the students, Principal and teachers at Sir Wilfrid Laurier C.I. for their collection of over 2000 signatures requesting that city programming continue at this location. I have stressed to the school and community association representatives that registration and requests for additional programming at this location needs to increase in order for the city programming to remain for the years to follow.

Elizabeth Simcoe Park Skating Rink

It was amazing to see all of the neighbours working together and the weather co-operate in helping them complete the outdoor skating rink. A number of community residents approached me in late summer to propose a community run and constructed outdoor skating rink. A special thank-you to Hillary Wardle, Dave Hogan and the community volunteer team.

Toronto`s Architectural History

I have put forward a motion to the Economic Development Committee recommending that the city mandate that any significant architectural structures in buildings undergoing demolition or renovation be restored and showcased in public spaces. The Guild Inn Gardens are a prime example of architecture on public display which could be repeated across the City.

Community Members in Action

I would like to thank those community members who contacted my office regarding the waste receptacles in the parks. City staff have placed both a recycling and garbage basket at the Guildwood Park entrance off Livingston Rd. These baskets will be placed closer to the street during the winter season as this path to the entrance does not get ploughed during the winter season. As for the Guildwood Village Park, we currently have two sets of baskets placed at the following two entrances of the Park: at Livingston Rd and Toynbee Trail.

Request to Install an All-Way Stop Control at Prince Philip Blvd & Sylvan Ave

Transportation staff have completed our review of the above-noted matter. Based upon the review, it was concluded that the installation of an all-way stop control is not warranted at the subject intersection at this time. An All-Way-Stop Control Warrant study conducted on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at Prince Philip Boulevard and Sylvan Avenue. Traffic volumes were recorded during the morning and afternoon peak hours, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The results of our study indicate that the technical warrants for the installation of an all-way stop control have not been satisfied.

Currently, southbound traffic on Prince Philip Boulevard is required to stop at Sylvan Avenue. The posted speed limit on both Prince Philip Boulevard and Sylvan Avenue is 40 km/h. For a full copy of the report, please contact my office.

Guild Inn

Following the termination of the letter of intent with Centennial College, the City has been designing a revised strategy for the revitalization of the Guild. The first issue that is being addressed by the City is the condition of the Bickford wing of the Guild Inn. A condition report was completed in November 2011 and the City is working on a plan to keep the building safe and secure. At the same time, City Real Estate Services; Economic Development and Culture; and Parks Forestry and Recreation are working together to hire a consultant to advise on the search for a private sector proponent to build and operate a restaurant/banquet facility at the Guild. The RFP to hire this consultant has been issued and will close

on February 24th. For the time being, the City's plans for the Cultural Precinct are being reviewed so that they can be coordinated with the plans for a restaurant/banquet facility.

Stop Sign Regency Square Area

During an operational review in the community east of Livingston Road, west of Galloway Road between Guildwood Parkway and the C.N.R rail lines, Transportation Services staff has identified five uncontrolled three-way intersections within this area.

It was recommended and now approved that minor street stop signs be installed at the subject five uncontrolled three-way intersections to provide stop sign uniformity, clearly define the right-of-way, and to regulate traffic flow.

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7. The Residents Rising Community Association

Committee members belong to a number of committees to bring your issues to the community table. The safety committee is one ensure that your safety concerns are brought to the forefront to community leaders. If you have any issues you need to discuss with the committee please do not hesitate to contact them.

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.

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8. Mornelle Court Resident's Action Coalition

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](https://www.facebook.com/mornellecourt)

Rent Reductions

Almost 40 per cent of Toronto tenant households are receiving notices from the City of Toronto this week that mean they can automatically reduce their rents. All tenants should check their daily mail and take action if they receive a rent reduction notice.

Addressed to the Current Tenant, clearly marked Rent Reduction Notice Enclosed, and in an envelope with the City of Toronto logo, the letters contain all the customized information a tenant requires to start paying a lower rent as early as December 31.

More than 167,000 households are eligible this year for a rent reduction under provincial legislation because the property taxes on their buildings have been lowered by more than 2.49 per cent. This is 32 per cent more than last year's 128,000 households.

Ontario's municipalities are required to send notices about the tax decrease and resulting rent reduction to landlords of affected buildings by September 15 and to tenants by December 15. Notices are based on assessment information provided by Municipal Property Assessment Corp. (MPAC), an independent organization established by the provincial government.

In Toronto, the number of tenants who receive the letters about an automatic rent reduction is growing because the City decided a number of years ago to more closely align business and residential property tax rates. This results in a lowering of business rates and rental properties are considered to be businesses.

Tenants of buildings with more than six units generally pay about 20 per cent of their rent toward property taxes, so if taxes go down, they are entitled to reduce their rent by 20 per cent of the reduction. For buildings with six or fewer units, the percentage is 15. All rules are established by the province.

The overall tax reduction on residential rental buildings in 2011 is 3.83 per cent which translates to a rent reduction, overall, of 0.61 per cent. Apply that to the average rent on a two-bedroom apartment in Toronto (\$1135 a month), and the saving is about \$6.90 a month.

The rent reduction provisions in the Residential Tenancies Act apply only to private rental buildings occupied as residences before November 1, 1991. Newer apartment buildings, including rental condos, are not covered. A number of other exemptions apply, including social housing and housing owned by educational institutions.

Tenants in buildings with property tax reductions of 2.49 per cent or less may be eligible for a rent reduction if they make an application to the Landlord and Tenant Board. The website <http://www.toronto.ca/housing> has more information, as well as a link to a searchable database that provides information about 2011 property taxes for all rental residential buildings in Toronto.

Tenants can contact 311 with any queries, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This is a multi-lingual service.

The Landlord and Tenant Board has a telephone information line, 416-645-8080, for inquiries, including those about the rules for calculating rent reductions and for above-guideline rent increase applications, as well as exemptions and rent reduction procedures for people living in buildings with tax reductions of 2.49 per cent or less. The Boards website is <http://www.ltb.gov.on.ca>.

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9. Scarborough Associated Groups Liability Insurance Process

The January Scarborough Community Council session also spoke on my motion addressing the changes to the Scarborough Associated Groups liability insurance process. Last summer a notice was sent out to community groups advising them that they would no longer be covered under the city's insurance policy, the letter I felt gave little opportunity for groups explore their options. The notice also did not give an opportunity for discussion. The motion requested staff to allow for discussion from community groups and explain the reasoning of staff's decision. The January decision has requested the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report back to Scarborough Community Council: to comment on issues

raised by the community groups, to outline of detailed options for organizations to mitigate costs; and an explanation of what mechanisms are being utilized to explain these options for the effected groups. The cost of Scarborough Associated Groups policy for the year ending August 31, 2011 was \$41,000.

Background Information

(October 12, 2011) Scarborough Associated Groups Liability Insurance Process

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2011/sc/bgrd/backgroundfile-41577.pdf>)

Background Information

(October 12, 2011) Scarborough Associated Groups Liability Insurance Process

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2011/sc/bgrd/backgroundfile-41577.pdf>)

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10. Budget Highlights - 2012

Toronto City Council approved a balanced 2012 Operating Budget of \$9.4 billion and a 2012-2021 Capital Budget and Plan of \$14.8 billion.

In 2012, the City will fund its everyday expenses such as fuel, salaries and utilities through its Council-approved Operating Budget that includes a 2.5 per cent property tax increase for residents, a 0.83 per cent tax increase for businesses and a 10-cent fare increase for TTC customers.

The 2.5% residential tax rate increase translates to an increase of \$60 for the average residential household assessed at \$447,090 in 2012 with the final 2012 municipal taxes on such a home being \$2,459.89.

City Council has also approved a 0.83 per cent tax increase on the non-residential class, fulfilling its commitment to enhancing Toronto's business climate by bringing the non-residential tax rates closer to the target of 2.5 times the residential rate by 2020 - an initiative that began in October 2005 in accordance with provincial legislation.

Toronto's 2012 Operating Budget was balanced through a combination of \$271 million in budget reductions and efficiencies, \$56 million in service level adjustments, \$327 million in increased revenue. The cost savings from base budget and service efficiencies have limited service impacts, enabling the City to maintain the core services that residents value.

The 2012 Budget marks the first decline in gross expenditures since amalgamation with a \$20 million decrease in gross expenditures - reaffirming Council's commitment to building a sustainable, affordable and well-managed city.

The 10-year capital plan approved by Council achieves a proper balance between maintaining existing City assets in state of good repair and accommodating Toronto's growing population. The addition of \$700 million in new funding expected from operating surpluses, asset monetization and expected future federal and provincial capital programs has solved the TTC's capital budget shortfall that was reported last year.

" For more information, visit: <http://www.toronto.ca/budget2012>.

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11. Council Highlights

City Council meeting of November 29 and 30, 2011

2012 Solid Waste and Water budgets

Council approved the 2012 operating and capital budgets for Solid Waste Management Services, covering the delivery of waste collection and disposal, and for Toronto Water, covering water and wastewater treatment and delivery. The budgets provide for continued investment in infrastructure renewal and solid waste management diversion while supporting fiscal responsibility and customer service. These budgets are funded by rates that correspond with usage. The 2012 Solid Waste budget consists of an operating budget of \$345.8 million and a capital budget of \$103 million. The 2012 Toronto Water Budget includes an operating budget of \$381 million and a capital budget of \$607 million.

Sponsorships and naming rights

Council approved policies for the sponsorship of City of Toronto programs and events, and for naming rights involving City-owned properties. The intention of the policies is to enhance revenue the City receives from sponsorships and naming rights, and to establish a fair, transparent and consistent review process for proposals. Council also adopted an honorific and street naming policy. Proposals for naming rights are subject to Council's approval. Certain properties and assets such as City Hall and community council locations are not available for naming rights.

Toronto's child-care system

Council discussed the impact of Ontario's full-day early learning kindergarten program on Toronto's child care system when fully implemented in 2014, and decided to communicate to the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Education about the urgent need for a child-care stabilization and transition plan that ensures the availability of a sustainable child-care system. Analysis by the City's Children's Services shows that without the necessary provincial resources, the supply of licensed child-care spaces in Toronto will decrease.

Traffic control at construction sites

Council approved a new memorandum of understanding with guidelines for traffic control at City of Toronto construction sites and street events, replacing the previous memorandum. The new memorandum eliminates the earlier requirement for hiring paid duty police officers, though police may still be hired in certain circumstances. It is estimated that removing paid duty officer requirements for traffic control could save the City about \$1.3 million in 2012.

Sale of City assets

Council voted in favour of directing the board of Enwave Energy Corporation to take steps to solicit proposals for the sale of Enwave through a competitive auction on behalf of the City and the other owner, BPC Penco. The City owns a considerable number of marketable assets, including real estate and government business enterprises. Sale/monetization of assets has the potential to offset some of the spending and debt pressures in the City's capital budget.

Side guards on trucks

Council requested the preparation of a report on the feasibility of the City of Toronto installing safety side guards on the City of Toronto's fleet of large trucks to help protect cyclists and pedestrians. The report will also address whether or not it is feasible to establish a policy that favours the City doing business with companies whose large trucks are equipped with side guards.

Voluntary financial contributions

Council supported establishing a voluntary contribution option to be offered on property tax bills. Toronto residents will be able to make donations to a specific City of Toronto service or direct a donation to general revenues. The voluntary contribution option on property tax bills will augment donation opportunities already available to residents. Last year, the City received 10,400 donations with a total value of \$1.2 million benefiting about 40 programs.

Backyard hens

A councillor's motion on the viability of allowing Toronto residents to keep a limited number of hens in their backyards to produce eggs for personal consumption was not discussed by Council. Instead, the motion was referred to the Licensing and Standards Committee for its consideration.

Outdoor ovens in parks

Council approved a policy that will guide the City's handling of requests to install or use outdoor ovens in City of Toronto parks. The policy, which includes safety requirements, was developed by the Parks, Forestry and Recreation division in consultation with community operators of bake and tandoor ovens that are already established in several parks.

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12. February is Black History Month

Details about Black History Month events are available at <http://www.toronto.ca/blackhistory/events.htm>. and <http://blackhistorytoronto.com>.

Toronto Museums will host film, theatre and children's activities. Montgomery's Inn presents the true story of Joshua Glover, who escaped slavery and ended up working at the inn. Mackenzie House gives visitors an opportunity to learn about the 19th century Black press in Toronto.

Fort York, in partnership with the Ontario Black History Society, is presenting the documentary Underground Railway: The William Still Story. Visitors can also tour Fort York and learn about the contributions of early Black settlers in the defence of Upper Canada during the War of 1812.

The Toronto Public Library will feature visits and interviews involving authors, spoken-word poets, musicians and journalists. The library's Rita Cox Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection holds more than 16,000 items.

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13. Seniors Strategy

Minutes for the December 12, 2011 meeting of the Seniors Strategy Subcommittee are now available <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/decisionBodyProfile.do?function=doPrepare&meetingId=5671>

Checklist of Essential Features of Age-friendly Cities:

This checklist is based on the results of the WHO Global Age-friendly Cities project consultation in 33 cities in 22 countries. The checklist is a tool for a city's self-assessment and a map of charting progress. More detailed checklists are found on the WHO website.

http://www.who.int/ageing/age_friendly_cities_guide/en/

The checklist is intended to be used by individuals and groups interested in making their city more age-friendly, to be effective older persons must be involved as full partners in assessing the cities strengths and deficiencies.

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14. Sir Wilfrid Laurier Pool - Needs Registrations!

With no community centre in the area the swimming pool at Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI is essential. We managed to save the city programs for the 2012 year. It is now time for the community to increase the usage at the pool during the evenings and week-ends.

I encourage you to email me your swimming needs so that I may present a case to our recreation staff that increased programming is needed. The spring summer registration dates will be up on our City site in March, register in a swim program to raise our usage during these times.

At this time we need more programming on Saturday and Sundays as well as later times during the evening. Times which are currently scheduled are for earlier in the evening 5:30 pm, it would be beneficial to have programming later in the evening. The week-end programming is also minimal at this time, and increased interest in registering for swim lessons or adult classes or an all girls class would help the pool increase its usage.

Contact my office for any further details and to advise me what you would like to see programmed at this location. 416-396-7222.

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15. Policing in Our Community

Families of Homicide Victims

Launch of Financial Assistance for Families of Homicide Victims by Ministry of Attorney General. This new time-sensitive program provides financial assistance to eligible parents and spouses of victims of homicide. The homicide must have occurred in Ontario during the period January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2011. The deadline to apply for this financial support is February 29, 2012.

The workshop will also cover other resources and support available to the victim, witness and families of victims of critical incidents.

You must register: No fee required space is limited

For more information please contact:

Scott Mckean (Centre District), Stephen Linton (East District), or Saleha Nahdi (West District) Email: snahdi@toronto.ca; smckean@toronto.ca; slinton@toronto.ca

Ontario March of Dimes

Last year, the Ontario March of Dimes through their advocacy and service celebrated 60 years of having improved the lives of Canadians with disabilities. Once again, the Toronto Police Service is asking residents to donate their Pop Can Tabs so that a sizeable contribution can be made to the Ontario March of Dimes.

The Pop Can Tabs can be dropped off at 43 Division at 4331 Lawrence Ave. E.

Please put the tabs in an envelope clearly marked Pop Can Tabs and address it to the Attention of Donna Wood by Tuesday, April 10, 2012

Car Seat Clinics

Attendance is by appointment only. Please call the car seat clinic line at 416-808-4324 or by email, amin.hafiz@torontopolice.on.ca to make a reservation for any of our upcoming clinics.

43 Division 4331 Lawrence Avenue East Dates:

February 12, 9 am - 2 pm

February 25, 8 am - 1 pm

March 18, 9 am - 2 pm

March 31, 8 am - 1 pm

April 22, 9 am - 1 pm

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----- 16. It`s Tax Time -----

Tax Clinic at the East Scarborough Storefront

Income tax clinic will officially run between Saturday March 10th and Saturday April 28th .

H&R Block new Scarborough Location

Located in Morningside Crossing Plaza at 259 Morningside Ave Unit #B7. For more information about the new H&R Block grand opening, please call (416) 282-9844 to speak directly to the office.

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----- 17. Sanitation of Indoor Play Areas Within Eating Establishments -----

I presented a motion to the Board of Health Committee on January 20th, 2012 asking that the City of Toronto establish regulations to ensure that a healthy environment is offered to children utilizing the play areas in eating establishments. The Medical officer of Health is to report back on how these measures could be implemented.

The board's recommendation allows Toronto Public Health to investigate possible regulations in the form of a "check list" for eating establishments who operate an indoor play area to ensure that a healthy environment is offered to children utilizing the play area. Currently there are no policies/procedures, or legislation in place to govern the play areas which are most often located in a separate room from the food serving area exempting them from the food safety inspection process.

"Creating a procedure for all establishments to follow would create a consistency giving caregivers some sense of security knowing that regulations are in place" noted Councillor Paul Ainslie. "Having young children I understand first hand how important is it to know that a policy is in place to ensure that the areas are clean"

The recommendations to the board included that the Toronto Board of Health work with Food Safety and Infection amend the requirements set out in the DineSafe program to include indoor playgrounds within, eating establishments. Having the playground area included with the existing by-law is a natural addition as the procedures and staff, are already in place, inspectors would add the new policy during their area visits as per the Dinesafe requirements.

The Board of Health Committee is to receive a report from the Toronto Board of Health at their next Committee meeting.

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18. Reminder - Spring & Summer General Programs Begins March 4

Date

Registration for Spring & Summer general programs, Spring skating & swimming lessons, Summer camps begins online at 7:00 am on: Scarborough District - Sunday March 4

Times

Online registration begins at 7:00am on the registration start date. Please note that Toronto FUN Online is not available from 4:00am to 7:00am daily. During peak registration days, the system is shut down from 12:00am to 7:00am.

Touch Tone Registration (TTR) is available from 7:00am to midnight

Operated assisted registration is available from 7:00am to 4:30pm on the initial registration day and from 8:30am to 4:30pm on the day following registration.

For In Person and Drop-Off Registration using cash payment.

Locations

Browse programs and register online from any computer connected to the internet!

On registration day, the locations listed below are available for In Person registration. You may visit any Customer Service Office listed below or any Community Recreation Centre (except in the North York District) to transfer between programs, and obtain an Advanced Account Credit.

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19. Bicentennial of the War of 1812

<http://www.toronto.ca/1812/index.htm>

I am a member of the Bicentennial War of 1812 Steering Committee which is organizing the celebrations to celebrate the War of 1812 as a defining moment in our history. In June 1812, the United States declared war on Great Britain. A month later American troops invaded Upper Canada.

Signature events have been organized to commemorate the war, a range of events and programs will ensure that the War of 1812 and the bicentennial will be unforgettable. They will help us to honour those who died and to understand the impact and outcomes of the war from historical and contemporary perspectives. Excellent events and programs, organized by the City and many partners, will take place throughout 2012 and 2013, and listings will begin in January 2012. To view a list of the signature events please visit <http://www.toronto.ca/1812/events.htm>

Please view this short film to view 1812 Short is live on our website. Check it out

<http://www.toronto.ca/1812/index.htm> Drew Hayden Taylor speaking about the 1812 Aboriginal story.

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20. Quote of the Month

"Energy and persistence conquer all things. Benjamin Franklin

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21. Websites for Community Use

<http://www.toronto.ca/culture/museums/camps.htm>

March Break Programs across the city

www.facebook.com/TheTorontoZoo

Toronto Zoo's first official Facebook page

www.toronto.ca/eventcalendar

City of Toronto Events Calendar

www.toronto.ca/wbey/subscribe.htm.

We've been expecting you

<http://onthedon.createsend2.com/t/r/l/tlwukt/bhdtkrth/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/transportation/snow

City of Toronto Winter Operations - Snow

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 Coalition

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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 you 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 416 396 7222, or send a fax to 416 392 4006. 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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