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City's Older Adult Plan Responds To Needs of Aging Population

In the next 20 years, the City of Mississauga will experience an unprecedented demographic shift. The proportion of our population 55 years of age and older is expected to increase from approximately 20 to 38 per cent.

Mississauga has a vision of itself as an age-friendly city where older adults will lead purposeful and active lives, live in their community with dignity, integrity and independence and be able to experience a diverse range of lifestyle opportunities to pursue their personal interests. The Older Adult Plan is the framework that helps to make this vision a reality.

The initiatives outlined in the plan are led by Council, City staff, community groups and older adults throughout the city. Since the Older Adult Plan was approved in 2008, the City has made significant progress in the following key areas:

- **Older Adult Advisory Committees:** Older adults, staff, agencies and businesses that have a vested interest in the older adult population are now engaged and active in committees that help implement the Older Adult Plan initiatives.
- **Access Policy:** Low income residents, including a growing number of older adults, are now able to access municipal leisure programs and services through "ActiveAssist," a new fee assistance program.
- **Communication:** A new website "Older Adults In the Know" now provides older adult residents, their families and caregivers convenient access to a municipal information resource at mississauga.ca/olderadults.
- **Transportation:** Understanding that transportation can be a barrier to older adults, the City introduced transit services that accommodate the needs of passengers of all physical abilities, as well as ensured roadways and pathways are accessible, safe and easily navigated by our pedestrians.
- **Volunteerism:** Older adults are becoming empowered and involved by volunteering in their communities. This reduces isolation by promoting social interaction and provides opportunities for older adults to share their knowledge and skills.

For more information about the Older Adult Plan as well as City programs and services for Mississauga's older adult community, visit the City's website at mississauga.ca/olderadults or call 3-1-1 (905-896-4311 if calling from outside city limits).

COUNCILLOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Ward 8 Resident:

In this spring and summer 2012 Councillor's Report I am pleased to provide you with updates about what has been happening in and around our community and to share information about the issues that affect our city. I hope you find this edition of my Councillor's Report informative.

I appreciate receiving your comments, so please feel free to contact me at katie.mahoney@mississauga.ca. You may also visit the City of Mississauga website at mississauga.ca for more information on City services and to access numerous online services. I also invite you to visit the Ward 8 website at mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/ward8

which is updated on a regular basis with featured articles and community information.

As always, it is a pleasure to work with the community to provide information, bring resolution, receive input and share dialogue and information on issues of concern to you.

I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

Katie Mahoney
Councillor, Ward 8

City of Mississauga's Youth Plan

The City of Mississauga's Youth Plan was approved in 2009. Community centres, libraries and community partners have been busy implementing the recommendations from a plan into a Youth Movement.



In 2011 South Common Community Centre and Library worked with their youth advisory teams and community partners to deliver a number of exciting youth programs designed to keep young people busy after school, entertained on weekends, informed about important topics and to provide opportunities for young people to volunteer and become involved in their neighbourhood. Here are some highlights from last year.

South Common Community Centre had over 2016 participants and 85 volunteers who put in 404 hours towards Youth Movement programs and events. Popular programs included after school drop in basketball, Chill Zone Friday night drop-ins and theme dances.

South Common Library had over 238 participants and 57 volunteers who put in 914 hours. Popular programs were gaming and videos.

The community centre and the library cannot do this alone, important partnerships assist in the delivery of free, drop in youth programming, these partners include;

Erin Mills Youth Centre
H.E.L.P (Humanitarian Experiential Learning Program)
Boys and Girls Club
South Common Community Centre Youth Advisory Team
South Common Library Teen Advisory Group

The highlight of the year was Common Grounds Intergenerational event in South Common woodlot that included a community tree planting, woodlot clean up, trail mulching, graffiti removal in the underpass, a barbecue and skateboarding. Volunteers participated from the immediate area including Credit Valley Seniors, Erin Mills Tennis Club, South Common Youth Advisory Committee, Boys and Girls Club, Forestry and H.E.L.P.

For more information and links to the Youth Movement: mississauga.ca/portal/residents/youth.

Did You Know?

Did you know that Mississauga has more than 170 km of trails for cyclists, pedestrians and rollerbladers? There are plans for an additional 300 km.

Replacing incandescent bulbs with efficient, ENERGY STAR compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) uses about 75 per cent less electricity, and they last about eight times longer than a regular bulb. Replacing one 60-watt incandescent bulb with a 13-watt CFL will save about \$37 over the 8,000 hour life of the bulb.

Did you know that our City has approximately \$6.7 billion in assets including: 6,700 acres of parkland, 5,209 kilometres of road, 25 ice rinks, 12 community centres, 18 libraries and 49,000 streetlights?

Did you know that a bicycle is considered a vehicle on the road? That means that you must follow the rules of the road just like a car. Also, remember to wear brightly coloured clothing while riding a bike. This makes you more visible to other people.

Second Units

The City needs a range of housing choices for everyone to feel they belong. Mississauga is working on Housing Choices: Mississauga's Affordable Housing Strategy. Second units, which are also known as basement apartments or in-law suites, is a part of that strategy.

A second unit is a separate living space inside a single family home. It could be in the basement, on the top floor, to one side or at the back of the home. It should have a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom/sleeping area and a separate entrance.

Last year, Ontario passed Bill 140, the Strong Communities through Affordable Housing Act, requiring municipalities to allow second units. It is part of the province's long-term affordable housing strategy.

In Mississauga, one in three households in the City have housing affordability issues that means they spend more than 30 per cent of their income on housing. Second units could help the City meet the needs of those who need more affordable housing options.

In late 2011, the City started consultations with stakeholder organizations. In February and March 2012, the City held five public consultation workshops across the City to talk to residents, and to get their thoughts and ideas about how to make second units work for everyone. Residents were asked to discuss how the City can allow second units while preserving neighbourhood character, ensuring safety and maintain public services at a reasonable cost.

More than 200 residents and stakeholder representatives participated in the consultation sessions and workshops, and provided City staff with a range of thoughts and ideas that will be considered as the City drafts its recommendations to Council.



Residents also had the option, if they were unable to attend a workshop, to watch the Civic Centre presentation and Q&A session on Rogers TV on March 6, and send their answers by e-mail, Facebook or Twitter.

The City's Housing Choices website has information about second units, the public workshops that were held, as well as the residents' survey used at the workshops. The survey was available online until March 31.

Please visit mississauga.ca/housingchoices for more information and updates.

Living with Wildlife: The Nature of Coyotes



Coyotes migrated to Ontario from the west more than 100 years ago. Since then, the coyote has adapted well to both rural and urban environments. It performs an important role as a predator in southern Ontario, helping to control the populations of rabbits, rats and mice. In the country, coyotes are commonly found in open, agricultural land that includes woodlots and areas covered with brush. In cities, coyotes prefer natural green space, such as parks, ravines and stream banks.

Avoiding Coyote Conflicts:

Conflicts can often be prevented by making changes on your property. For example, removing sources of food by protecting pets, fencing gardens, and securing garbage and compost, will help encourage coyotes to go elsewhere. Most importantly, never feed coyotes or other wildlife.

Coyotes are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible. However, they are

wild animals and should not be approached. People should never feed coyotes. Feeding them makes the animals less fearful of humans and habituates them to foods provided by humans. Never attempt to "tame" a coyote. Do not let pets chase coyotes as it could result in injuries to your pet.

Encounters With Coyotes:

People and wild animals live side by side in Ontario. We all share responsibility for preventing and handling human-wildlife conflicts. Coyotes find their way to residential areas where they may tear open garbage, cause concern for residents and even come into conflict with pets.

What To Do If You Encounter a Coyote:

Coyote sightings are commonplace. If you see a coyote, keep your distance and the animal will most likely avoid you. If you encounter an aggressive coyote, there are several things you should know and do.

- Never approach or touch a coyote.
- Do not turn your back on, or run from, a coyote.
- Back away from the coyote while remaining calm.
- Stand tall, wave your hands and make lots of noise.
- Carry a flashlight at night to scare off coyotes.
- If a coyote poses an immediate threat or danger to public safety, call 911.

Preventing Encounters

Limit attractants:

- Keep pet food indoors
- Use secure garbage containers with locking lids and store in an enclosed structure.

- Put garbage out the morning of a scheduled pickup.
- Use enclosed composting bins rather than exposed piles.
- Pick ripe fruit and seed from trees and remove fallen fruit from the ground.
- Protect vegetable gardens with heavy-duty garden fences or place vegetable plants in a greenhouse.

Discourage coyotes from entering your property:

- Clear away bushes and dense weeds near your home where coyotes may find cover and small animals.
- Use motion sensor lights.
- Close off spaces under porches, decks and sheds. Coyotes use these areas for denning and raising young.
- If you fence your property, install a two-metre-high fence that extends at least 20 centimetres underground as coyotes may dig under a barrier.
- Electric fencing can also help deter coyotes.

For more information contact Animal Services at 905-896-5858, Option 3, Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; after hours at 905-615-3000 or visit the City of Mississauga website at mississauga.ca/portal/residents/citywildlife.

Information on coyotes is also available by calling your Ministry of Natural Resources office or the Natural Resources Information Centre at 1-800-667-1940 or by visiting their website at mnr.gov.on.ca.

McHappy Day at the Sheridan Centre McDonalds

Katie serves up customers at the drive thru window at McDonalds, at Sheridan Centre on McHappy Day - May 2nd. Proceeds support Ronald McDonald houses across Canada.



Living Arts Centre Turns Fifteen

On September 15th your Living Arts Centre (LAC) will hold an open house celebrating its 15th anniversary. You are all invited to the Centre to celebrate such a vibrant and dynamic facility in our community.

The Centre opened in 1997 to provide a facility to help develop and celebrate arts, culture and entertainment in our community. The LAC is also busy conducting courses and camps for all ages, utilizing the in-house art studios. The versatility of the Centre also allows it to accommodate many Mississauga businesses for meetings, seminars, conferences and presentations. It also features Live Restaurant, open on most show nights and every week day for an affordable lunch buffet.

The 2012-13 performance season is around the corner and the staff at the Living Arts Centre are busy putting the final touches on the many acts that will perform in Hammerson Hall and the RBC Theatre. Stay tuned for a very interesting and powerful line-up you will hear about very soon.

The Living Arts Centre is truly your Centre, governed by a Board of Directors made up of community members including myself. I am actively involved in helping guide the Centre in its success and development of the arts for the entire community to enjoy.

Please join us September 15th to celebrate the 15th anniversary of your Living Arts Centre. There will be something for all ages to enjoy!

For more information about programs, shows or to book a facility you may call the Living Arts Centre at 905.306.6100 or visit their website at livingartscentre.ca.



Peel Regional Police 11 Division

11 Division is a full service operational division comprised of 300 officers and civilians, working out of the Uniform branch, Criminal Investigation Bureau and Neighbourhood Policing Unit. The station is located at 3030 Erin Mills Parkway, Mississauga.

The Neighbourhood Policing Unit is comprised of uniform officers whose primary responsibility is to create a safe environment within our schools. This is achieved by forming positive partnerships with students and school administration. It is encouraged that officers use a proactive style of policing and interact with youth in a non-enforcement manner on a regular daily basis. Officers also provide proactive policing in parks, plazas and other public places where youth are known to congregate.

This unit regularly partners with local high schools to participate in charity hockey, basketball and volleyball games to support Cops For Cancer, Toys For Tots and other worthy causes.

The Bicycle Patrol Unit deploys officers during the months of April to October to conduct their duties on bicycles, allowing them to patrol in areas normally inaccessible to vehicular patrol units, such as parks, bike and foot paths, school and plaza lots, etc. The officers are encouraged to work with neighbourhood communities by attending community and special events and liaising with area merchants, community groups, residents and school officials to target crime, lawless behaviour, traffic and any other concerns. During the off season, the bike officers are assigned to feeder schools within the Division.

The Community Liaison Officers (CLO) at 11 Division are Cst. Caroline Smith and Cst. Rebecca McCue. These officers are responsible for delivering crime prevention and community relations programs to the community as well as addressing community concerns and problems. The CLO is available to talk to your group and to all ages on a variety of issues, including crime prevention topics. The CLO works with local youth groups and organizations to increase the positive police presence in the community. Cst. Smith and Cst. McCue can be contacted at 905-453-3311, ext. 1160.

Members of the community are encouraged to report crime in their neighbourhood. For emergencies call 9-1-1. For non-emergency incidents you can report by calling 905-453-3311 or online at peelpolice.ca.



Playground Equipment Upgrades

Under the Playground Redevelopment Program, two playgrounds will be replaced this year along the Glen Erin Trail, and a new swing set at Trapper's Green. The playground for King's Masting will introduce barrier-free play features as a pilot project to improve accessibility in smaller playgrounds. The new playgrounds will include swings, slides, and spring toys meeting the current CSA Standard for playground safety.

The City of Mississauga promotes inclusion for all, and works to improve accessibility standards and to remove barriers to children with disabilities. For more information, contact Bill Montague, Project Coordinator, 905-615-3200 ext. 3676, or william.montague@mississauga.ca.

COUNTER-ACT: VANDALISM

First developed in the mid-1970's the Counter-Act program is founded on the principles of Developmental Crime Prevention, an approach which aims to prevent the development of a motivated offender.

Through the Counter-Act program, Grade 4's in Mississauga's elementary schools have the opportunity to obtain training through a 35 minute good citizenship presentation in which students develop the attributes of respect, responsibility and ownership. Students who possess these attributes understand how they, their families, and everyone in the community are hurt by vandalism and graffiti.

Engagement Tools Include:

- Neighbourhood Knight Superheroes
- Comic Book Line
- Colouring Sheets
- Hero Pin



For more information on Counter-Act please contact:
Safe City Mississauga
Phone: 905-615-6272
E-mail: alyons@safecitymississauga.on.ca
Web: safecitymississauga.on.ca

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Celebrate Summer on the Square!

Experience the magic of summer at Mississauga Celebration Square.

Enjoy a series of fun, free events from June to September, including concerts and movies under the stars, open air fitness classes, fountain days, festival weekends and tasty treats from food trucks onsite.

Mark your calendar for July 1! Catch amazing kids' shows, live performances, local talent, delicious food and fireworks as we celebrate Canada Day on the Square!

Soak up the fun this summer on the Square. It all starts here: mississaugacelebrationsquare.ca.

Updated Master Plan for UTM

The University of Toronto, Mississauga, (UTM), has recently updated its campus Master Plan. The initial plan, from 2000, has guided and informed the development of the campus over the past 10 years. During that period of rapid growth, UTM has added: Erindale Hall and Oscar Peterson Hall, (student residences with a combined total of 600 beds); the Communications, Culture and Technology building; the Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre; the Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC); the Terrence Donnelly Health Sciences Complex; and the Instructional Centre. In addition, a number of infrastructure improvement projects have been undertaken, including the construction of the Collegeway campus entrance, a 200-space parking deck and a two-meter wide sidewalk running from the north campus entrance to the RAWC.

While enrolment growth is not expected to return to the kinds of increases that were seen over the past eight years, UTM is expecting to grow as it continues on its path to becoming a comprehensive university serving the entire western GTA region. Additional facilities will continue to be needed to meet the needs of the existing and growing campus communities.

Two major projects that will begin in the summer of 2012 include the first phase of the re-construction of the north building, the oldest structure on the campus, and a new biology teaching laboratory in the Davis Building. Other construction activity is expected to materialize over the next few years.

In light of those expected developments, UTM has updated its campus Master Plan. That plan confirms a number of important planning and design principles related to the campus environment, land use, massing, balanced intensification, sustainability, accessibility and heritage preservation. Those principles will enable the continued development of the campus while protecting and building upon those features that make the UTM campus such a special place. While the updated Master Plan does not allocate future building sites to specific buildings, it does provide a clear sense of individual development sites and prescribes building envelopes that might be of use for each. It is expected that the updated Master Plan will guide development of the UTM campus for at least the next 10 year period. The updated Plan may be found on the university's website at: campusplanning.utoronto.ca/campus-master-plans.



Marking the Bicentennial of the War of 1812

From Heritage Mississauga



2012 marks the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. Although peace was concluded in late 1814, conflict continued into early 1815, and events and celebrations commemorating the bicentennial of the war, including tributes, dedications, anniversaries, re-enactments and publications will stretch over several years throughout Ontario. In commemoration of the bicentennial, many dedicated cultural heritage organizations, museums, historic sites and volunteer groups are focusing energies on significant events and research projects connected to the conflict.

While the City of Mississauga (formerly Toronto Township) has some connections to the War of 1812 in the form of past residents who served as militiamen during the war, largely along the Niagara frontier, no battles or events of note took place within the modern boundaries of the City of Mississauga. To the east, in York (now the City of Toronto), Fort York was a military bastion during the war, and was captured and destroyed by American forces in 1813. Fort York was rebuilt in 1814 and stands today as a National Historic Site in Canada. To the south and west conflict neared our borders as invading American forces were repelled at engagements ranging from Stoney Creek to Burlington Bay.

Heritage Mississauga is in the process of documenting and exploring our City's historic connections to the War of 1812, principally through the identification of individual militiamen. Future research will delve into the connections of the Native Mississaugas from the Credit River and their involvement in the war. Please visit heritagemississauga.com.

Within Ward 8 in the City of Mississauga, there are two significant (and adjacent to each other) historical cemeteries, namely St. Peter's Anglican Cemetery and the Erindale Cosmopolitan Cemetery, which are final resting places for several War of 1812 militia veteran and at least one British regular soldier who served during the War of 1812. Further articles will highlight these individuals and their contributions during the War of 1812.