### Councillor's Report - Winter 2012/2013

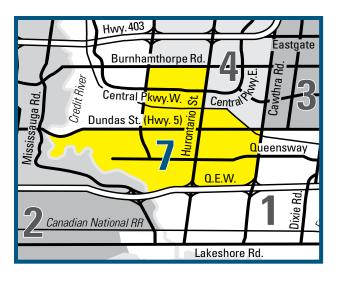


# Nando lannicca

Mississauga Councillor – Ward 7

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### Councillor's Message

#### Dear Neighbours,

I am pleased to bring you another edition of my Councillor's Report. I have highlighted issues and information that will be of interest to you and the many diverse communities that make up Ward 7. Should any of the articles or information prompt questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact my Office; our door is always open and our professional team in the Ward 7 Office would welcome your call. My Executive Assistant, Barbara Johnstone can be contacted at 905-615-4614 and my Administrative Assistant, Carmen Mach-Fell can be reached at 905-896-5700.

I hope you enjoy this Report, and based on your comments on past issues, I trust it will again be well received.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere thank you to Daniela Giansante who filled in over the spring and summer months while Carmen was on maternity leave. Daniela is a resident in Ward 7 and returned to her permanent position in our Finance Department. Always cheerful and professional, Daniela is greatly missed by the many residents who came to know and rely on her for the continued quality customer service my Office is known for.

Again, I look forward to being of service to you and having the opportunity to pursue more legacy projects that are of long-term benefit and contribute to the quality of life for all the residents in Ward 7.

Best personal regards,

### Pride in Our Past, Faith in Our Future

It is hard to believe that as I enter my 25th year of public service, thanks entirely to the privilege you have bestowed upon me, that I have never been more excited about what the future holds for the Ward 7 family. Those who know me well know that I am all about quality of life and liveable city issues and have often commented that we have built a very functional City but we now have to give it a soul. We need to create a vibrant place with great public spaces and great meeting places.

A very big piece of the vision fell into place when my constant prodding and urging led Councillors to rank the building of Čelebration Square as our number one request to the provincial and federal governments under the infrastructure stimulus funding program and with some surprise and tremendous delight the request was approved and this \$40 million public square has instantly become a legacy which has already entertained one million visitors.

The final piece of the puzzle that will leave a lasting legacy that will transform old Cooksville, our Ward and the entire city, is the implementation of a Light Rail Transit (LRT) corridor which will eventually run the entire length of Hurontario Street from the Lakeshore right up to Brampton. It truly is the centrepiece of much of my attention because of all the additional benefits that it will bring to the immediate area and well beyond. This \$1.3 billion initiative will rejuvenate the Highway 10 corridor particularly at the historic four corners of Highway 5 & 10.

The transformation is already taking place and the spill over will also enhance Dundas Street and the node that will be created at this historic Town Centre. We are already well underway on the south east corner where almost \$2 million of taxpayers' money received a very kind and generous boost from a \$500,000 contribution from the Fusillo Family of Ward 7 and a magnificent urban site will be nearing

completion by the end of the year. By early next year construction will also commence on the Old Cooksville Library site on the south east corner of Dundas Street and Confederation Parkway where we will see a community of town homes being built that will also include live-work units on the Dundas and Confederation frontage that will animate the street and perhaps give you and I a new place to have a cup of coffee or a meal, buy flowers, or cutting-edge clothes from the hottest new boutique.

This rebirth must include a new community centre - the finest facility this City has ever built which I would like to see constructed at the site of T.L. Kennedy Secondary School, as part of a reconstruction that would also include a brand new school. There are also some other surprises in the works but you get the bigger picture, and while I don't think I have ever met a single constituent who doesn't agree that old Cooksville could use this refreshening, I continue to stress that those in the Erindale Village, Gordon Woods or Cooksville Munden Park will benefit just as much but for two different reasons. First and foremost, the transformation will help beautify the area while creating jobs and services that we can all take advantage of while using the finest public transportation corridor in the City along Highway 5 or 10. But just as importantly, the new residences and condominiums that will sustain this new node are new homes and intensification projects that are otherwise not being built in our established communities.

So even though federal immigration policies and provincial legislation mandating intensification, Smart Growth, and Places to Grow (reinforced by the Ontario Municipal Board) all demand that our City must continue to grow, I have strongly fought for and preserved our right to maintain the character of established communities while managing the growth where it is appropriate.

Continued on page two



#### Pride in Our Past... (Continued from page one)

More than just preserving these communities we've had tremendous success in enhancing the quality of life where we live with the addition of the rebuilt and tremendously successful Huron Park Community Centre, soon to be opened Hancock Woodland property on Camilla Road, tremendous success of the Queensway Multi-use Trail, and this announcement that after years of discussion with our friends in the Erindale Village that through my efforts the City of Mississauga has acquired the Erindale Community Hall at 1620 Dundas Street West which will immediately get a \$250,000 facelift and become a city-run community facility to be maintained in perpetuity.

You all know what great pride I take in these and other legacy projects we have been able to achieve together that will have a lasting impact on the quality of life in the Ward 7 community long after all of us are gone. This is why I continue to need your help in the way of comments, questions, concerns and constructive criticism as we work towards achieving the LRT along Highway 10, the transformation of the T.L. Kennedy School site, and the continuing growth of the city centre core project known as Downtown21.

#### **Erindale Village Hall**

I am delighted that the Council of the City of Mississauga passed the governing bylaw to acquire, renovate and maintain the Erindale Community Hall.

At the time of writing this article, we are still finalizing the Agreement of Purchase and Sale and the Licensing Agreement with the Erindale Village Association to ensure that they will continue to have full use of the facility. I look forward to starting the necessary upgrades to the building.

Words cannot express how grateful I am to the Mayor and Members of Council who supported my initiative to pursue this course of action. I have to thank Brad Schneller and so many others for their ongoing support and their devotion and stewardship of the hall over many years.

As your Councillor, I am so proud to be able to add this magnificent historic building to the list of other 'legacy projects' that will serve the Ward 7 residents for generations to come.

#### The DAM Opens in Cooksville

I am so pleased to announce that The DAM, a safe community for youth, has opened a new facility in Cooksville at 3115 Hurontario Street. With a long history at their Meadowvale location, The DAM offers love, respect and dignity for youth through the development of positive relationships. They **D**evelop, **A**ssist and **M**entor youth along their journey towards reaching their full potential.

I was proud to share in the excitement on October 13th by co-hosting a barbecue for the community. Mississauga Fire and Peel Regional Police were on hand to meet the new neighbours. Students from T.L. Kennedy Secondary School provided the musical entertainment, while a friendly game of basketball took place in the side yard. The home is being renovated extensively to accommodate a stellar agenda of programs to engage our local youth. With the generous amenity space this well-chosen site offers, we are currently investigating sponsoring an outdoor skating rink this winter.

For more information please visit thedam.org/thedam/home

### **Celebration Square Hits One Million Visits**

I refer to it as the greatest Piazza in the GTA and Celebration Square is proving to be an overwhelming success. With more than one million visits since opening in June 2011 it can only get better! Our popular civic gathering place has been host to more than 200 planned events, with Canada Day alone attracting an estimated 120,000 Mississaugans.

I'm not a bit surprised by this success! All great cities of the world have a central square that provides a sense of community and our multiuse destination appeals to everyone; it's a place that attracts seniors, young families and youth all seamlessly enjoying the space together. This 6.6 acre site boasts a state-of-the-art sound and lighting system, two large digital screens, an expansive lawn, an amphitheatre and an

interactive water fountain that converts into a skating rink in the winter months.

The outdoor skating rink is the largest in the GTA and offers great ambience with seasonal lights, and with a new urban eatery C Café at ground level, folks can now enjoy a fresh lunch made with local ingredients or a heart-warming hot chocolate at the new take-out window. I predict this winter will be a banner year! The C Café is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and during festivals at the Celebration Square. Visit mississauga.ca/cuisine for more details.

Celebration Square has truly become a premier destination! The 'soul' of our City!

### Our Vision for Hurontario-Main: A Vibrant, Sustainable, Beautiful Street

A vibrant Hurontario-Main corridor is a central piece of Mississauga and Brampton's vision for the future with a Light Rail Transit (LRT) system providing key transportation connections, both north and south in conjunction with the GO Transit system. From downtown Brampton to the lakeshore in Port Credit a LRT system has been identified as a catalyst for sustainable, well-managed growth. This project is a major step in transforming our communities from 'suburban' to 'urban'.

Following the Master Plan process which identified the preferred option of design, Public Information Centres (PIC's) were held in Mississauga and Brampton in June 2012. These PIC's offered the public an opportunity to review the LRT route alignment, segregated lane options and stop locations.

The current phase which undertakes the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the preliminary design of the LRT is being referred to as the Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP) and will address issues such as the total cost for the LRT with preliminary estimates completed in 2008 that suggest the LRT will cost in the vicinity of \$1.3 billion to build. Metrolinx has identified this route as a priority project and has been included on an on-going basis in the funding discussions. In addition to the preliminary design and cost, this phase of the project will examine the overall congestion and traffic along the Hurontario-Main corridor; the integration for cycling and pedestrian facilities; connections to GO stations along the corridor; and, connections to existing transit along the routes such as MiWay and Zum (Brampton's Bus Rapid Transit system).

My Letter to the Editor in the March/April 2012 edition of Mississauga Life magazine, entitled "The \$1.3 Billion Elephant in the Room", spoke to the need for the residents of Mississauga to contact their Members of Provincial Legislature and Federal Parliament to let them know just how important the funding of our LRT system is to the future of this great city.



When the LRT is completed Hurontario will become the University Avenue of Mississauga.

### Councillor lannicca's Report - Winter 2012/2013



My late father Mario Iannicca arrived at the Cooksville Four Corners in 1954 and spoke the only two words he knew in English: "brick yard". He was quickly pointed in the right direction where he worked at the brickyard kilns for almost 40 years. That is why it is with great pride that I see the Cooksville Four Corners getting a new lustre, thanks in large part to Frank Fusillo, another Cooksville native and owner of Con-Ker Construction. Frank grew up just a few hundred yards from my own family home in Cooksville and is honouring his late father Matteo Fusillo by generously donating over \$500,000 in-kind towards the construction of the site.

"The Cooksville Four Corners is a place my late father would have been proud to construct for the community to enjoy," said Frank at the kick-off ceremony in August. "My father would have enjoyed the serenity this new design will provide in such a busy location."

This \$2.5 million project, which got a healthy boost when I drew another half million dollars from the Ward 7 redevelopment fund, is scheduled for completion in late November, with a formal official opening slated for spring 2013.

I am so proud to be given the opportunity to partner with Frank and pay homage to the people who helped build this great city.

For those history buffs, the village of Cooksville was originally known as "Harrisville" after Daniel Harris, who arrived in 1808. Jacob Cook acquired land here in 1819, and within a year was awarded the contract to carry mail between York and Niagara. By the 1840s he was operating a stagecoach and mail service throughout much of Upper Canada. Cook was awarded a tavern licence in 1829, and promptly built an inn on the Northeast corner, followed by a general store on the Southeast corner. The village was formally named "Cooksville" in 1836. Cooksville continued to grow until 1852, when a fire destroyed a large portion of the village. Cooksville rebounded and served as the early centre for civic, industrial, commercial and educational interests in Toronto Township. In 1968 Cooksville amalgamated with other villages in Toronto Township to form the Town of Mississauga, which in turn became the City of Mississauga

The "Four Corners" has seen a great deal of change over the years. It has always been one of busiest intersections in Mississauga. In addition to being the site of Jacob Cook's General Store, known later as the McClelland General Store, Scott's Grocery and Copeland's General Store and Post Office, this corner was later sold to the British American Oil Company which built a gas and service

station. We acquired the land some 15 years ago to accommodate street widening and further public space.

**Left**: How the Four Corners looked back in the day.

structure could be erected that would ensure your comfort and safety during inclement weather. Discussions are ongoing. **Iroquois Flats Park Soccer Field** The reconstruction of the soccer field at

PARK UPDATES

Expect big changes in the playground

equipment at John Bud Cleary Park on Webb Drive. In consultation with my Office, and in response to requests from local residents, we are pleased to advise that the final design plans are in the works for a major upgrade to this

park facility. The equipment to be installed will meet the City's new safety standards. Discussions are ongoing and we hope to be in a position to

install the new equipment in May 2013.

**Huron Park Picnic Shelter** 

We are currently in the early stages of

designing and planning for a new, large picnic shelter to be installed at Huron Park.

We have already chosen the area just north

of the outdoor bocce courts and are looking

at a design that will incorporate the existing

gazebo and walkway path. While Huron Park

has many areas where picnic tables are set up,

it has always been my hope that a permanent

**John Bud Cleary Park** 

Iroquois Flats Park on Paisley Boulevard West is now complete. Having reached the end of its lifecycle, the existing field received a full reconstruction with new drainage and sod. A plan to maintain the sod is being put into place in time for the 2013 soccer season.

#### **Hancock Woodlands**

Work continues on the Hancock Woodlands site remediation; temporary fencing has been installed to protect the existing significant trees and shrubs.

The extent of the remediation work includes the removal of two existing septic tanks and the removal of soil with pesticide residuals in two areas of the nursery beds and the removal of cinder block foundations associated with former cold frames.

We look forward to further consultation with the community on future plans for the woodlands, once the site remediation has been completed.



## **Naturalizing Ward 7**

Partnering with the Ward 7 school community has always been one of my favourite activities as Ward Councillor. Over the years, I have read books to students and presented lessons in civics both in the classroom and at City Hall. I have to admit that one of the most enjoyable opportunities I have to engage our young people is in tree planting projects. Students are given an opportunity to get out of the classroom and into the open air and become involved in naturalizing and rehabilitating an area within City parks, woodlots and green spaces by planting native trees and shrubs. Our Park staff is always eager to assist in teaching the students the value of naturalization and how to effectively plant and care for the saplings.

In the spring of 2012 I continued the tradition of partnering with the students at St. Jerome School - it was our sixth year! With the heavy lifting and digging done by the grade eight students, the younger children took great pride in backfilling and mulching the young plants and a record number of saplings were planted along the creek

bed at Huron Park, much to the delight of the students.

This past spring we were also able to implement a long-term plan to enhance the tree canopy in Brickyard Park. With the help of our Parks staff and the students from Father Daniel Zanon School the perimeter of the park which borders on the school grounds was planted with large specimen trees that delineate the park property and will add a future bonus of much needed shade to the area. To conclude the planting program a ceremonial tree was planted to celebrate Earth Week.

In addition, the first tree planting partnership with the fine students from T.L. Kennedy Secondary School was initiated. Students volunteered to enlarge a naturalized area at John C. Price Park in the heart of Cooksville. Most of the students have little opportunity to participate in a planting program and from the comments we received, I think many will be back next year to earn their volunteer hours.

Students from St. Martins Secondary School came out in full force to assist the Credit Valley Conservation Youth Team in expanding the naturalized area at Carriage Way Park. Many of the mature spruce trees around the perimeter of this park are in natural decline. These efforts will ensure that the new saplings will be well established before we lose the existing, mature tree canopy.

I was thrilled to participate with over 500 Boy Scouts who came out to kick-off the long-term planting program along the Queensway Trail. Eager to earn their badges, hundreds of young saplings and native shrubs were planted in the first phase of ongoing enhancements to the trail. The next several years will see annual planting along this corridor.

I take this opportunity to thank the enthusiasm shown by all the young people who participated in 2012. We look forward to many more opportunities to engage our next generation of leaders, in the stewardship of our local environment.

### **More Bicycle Lanes for Ward 7**

The City of Mississauga Cycling Office has identified several new areas in Ward 7 that can accommodate cycling facilities as part of the 2012 Cycling Network Program.

Studies as well as our experience with on-street bicycle facilities have indicated that on-street cycling facilities can serve as an effective traffic calming strategy. This is because a visual narrowing of the travelled portion of the roadway has shown to be effective in reducing a motorist's comfort and thereby reducing the speed most drivers find reasonable and comfortable.

Glengarry Road between Dundas Street West and Queensway West was proposed as a priority route. It was determined that the pavement area was sufficient for shared-use lanes by adding pavement markings/sharrow symbols and signage to the existing road profile. This route would have provided a logical and valuable connection from the Queensway Trail to destinations such as Westdale Mall and public transit but it would have been necessary to prohibit on-street parking. My office received overwhelming support for maintaining the on-street parking on Glengarry Road; therefore, we have put this project on hold pending further analysis and discussion with the community. I take this opportunity to ask the residents on Glengarry Road to share their opinions on this project with my Office.

Another new route is proposed for Grand Park Drive between Burnhamthorpe Road West and Central Parkway West. To accommodate bicycle lanes, staff determined that the centre-turn lane could be eliminated between Webb Drive and Central Parkway West as it had low usage, while the on-street parking will be maintained for regular use by church patrons and community park users. Some additional minor improvements will be required at the intersection at Grand Park Drive at Burhamthorpe Road West. This project is anticipated to be completed in spring 2013.

Grand Park Drive between Central Parkway West and Fairview Road was also identified as a good candidate for a signed bicycle route at a very low cost. Signed bike routes provide cyclists with a suggested route between destinations, generally on a local roadway. Bike route signs will be installed once the bicycle lanes are completed on Grand Park Drive north of Central Parkway West.

Finally, earlier this fall, bicycle lanes were installed on Kirwin Avenue between Dundas Street West and Hurontario Street. Previously, Kirwin Avenue had a 4-lane cross section. Staff recommended a minor lane conversion in each direction while maintaining the existing on-street parking. These bicycle lanes now provide a connection to the new bicycle lanes on Camilla Road and to the Cooksville Creek Trail.

#### **Second Units**

#### **Did You Know?**

1 in 3 Mississauga households have affordability issues (spending more than 30 per cent of their income on housing)

1 in 8 have severe affordability issues (spending more than half their income on housing)

### Housing Choices: Mississauga's Affordable Housing Strategy and Action Plan

Mississauga needs housing choices for everyone to feel they belong. Ontario laws now require municipalities to allow second units in homes. Second units are also known as in-law suites or basement apartments.

Second units have the potential to expand housing opportunities within established communities and provide much needed safe, healthy, housing choices. They can offer affordable accommodation to youth, older adults and new immigrants while providing additional income for homeowners, or older adults wanting to stay in their neighbourhood.

#### **Next Steps**

We are currently developing a made-in-Mississauga strategy for second units and recently held a series of public consultation workshops to gather thoughts and ideas on how best to allow them. I particularly want to ensure that if allowed they must pay their fair share of increased property tax. We will be bringing a report to Planning and Development Committee in late fall. It will be posted on the City's website. Please visit mississauga.ca/housingchoices for more information and undates. more information and updates.

Ward 7 continues to look at opportunities to incorporate bicycle lanes and shareduse facilities on our city streets that provide connections to popular destinations as well as the many outstanding trails; the City recognizes the importance of cycling as an active and environmentally sustainable transportation option and is actively working to improve our cycling facilities across the City.



A "complete street" is one that is constructed for all road users



Mississauga, like many other large, urban cities has seen a dramatic increase in cycling as a mode of transportation.

#### **Road Guidelines Cyclists**

- Learn and use proper hand signals when turning, changing lanes and stopping;
- Along with wearing bright or reflective clothing, your bike should have a front light or reflector and a red rear light or reflector – switch the light on between dusk and dawn. Bicycles should have reflective tape on the front forks and red reflective tape on the rear forks or fenders;
- Bicycles should have a horn or bell;
- It is highly recommended that cyclists wear a helmet that is approved by Canadian standards;
- Stay one metre from the curb or edge of the road and parked cars. Always ride in a straight line and don't weave between parked cars;
- Be prepared to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and always walk your bike at a crosswalk.

#### **Motorists**

- Bicycle lanes are reserved for cyclists, so avoid driving or parking in bike lanes;
- When driving beside or passing a cyclist, leave at least one metre between you;
- Check for cyclists before opening your car door;
- Signal lane changes and check over your shoulder before changing lanes or making turns;
- Scan the road for cyclists and be aware of their speed.



### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Animal Services	.905-896-5858
By-law Enforcement	.905-896-5655
City (after hours) dispatch	
Dufferin Peel Catholic	
District School Board	.905-890-1221
Enersource Mississauga	905-273-9050
Metrolinx	416-869-3200
Health Line Peel	905-799-7700
Mississauga Ambulance	905-844-4242
Mississauga Fire	.905-615-3777

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Mississauga	Fire905-615-3777
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Mississauga Property Taxes......905-896-5575 Mississauga Transit ..........905-615-4636 Parking Control ......905-896-5678 Peel Dist. School Board.....905-890-1099 Peel Regional Police ..... 905-453-3311

Poison Control Centre......416-813-5900 Recreation and Parks......905-615-4100

Recycling, garbage pick up ......905-791-9499 Region of Peel

(after hours)......905-791-7800

Region of Peel Water (24 hours) ......905-791-7800

Region of Peel Water Billing ......905-791-8711 Traffic Signal Inquiries ...905-615-3022

Call Before You Dig Utility Services ......1-800-400-2255

Water and Sewer Problems ......905-791-7800



#### CONTACT YOUR WARD 7 COUNCILLOR NANDO IANNICCA





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