



Nando Iannicca • Ward 7

Councillor's Report



Spring 2003

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Dear Neighbours,

I'm pleased to provide you with my Spring 2003 Report to keep you informed of ongoing concerns in our community, and also provide feedback on common concerns of the day. I hope you will find it informative and urge you to call my office should this Report prompt any questions. I also take this opportunity to extend a special word of thanks from all Ward 7 residents to my Administrative Assistant, Brenda Robertson, and my Executive Assistant, Barbara Johnstone, who do a tremendous job of assisting me in addressing the concerns of those who have blessed me with the privilege of public office.

Kindest personal regards,

Nando Iannicca, Councillor Ward 7



Barbara Johnstone, Brenda Robertson and Nando review site plan of Ward 7 development project.

Demystifying the Development Process...

Residents are commonly frustrated by the planning process and the rezoning of land. Given that planning decisions have long-lasting impacts on our community, I take this opportunity to try and clear-up some common misunderstandings of the process.

The roles and responsibilities of elected officials who sit on Planning Committees and vote on development applications do not always fulfill the democratic wishes of the broader community. While elections are the utmost exercise in democracy, the rezoning of land is anything but democratic. That is because it is entirely controlled by legislation; including the City's Official Plan, the Secondary Plan, the existing site zoning, the Planning Act, the Building Code, and the Ontario Municipal Board. In some instances even the courts or the provincial government get involved. The legislation results in the parameters being set well in advance of our public meetings for the site specific rezoning. For example, in the 70's the population projected in the Official Plan was 800,000 residents, and the Secondary Plans which deal with individual communities

developed and evolved to achieve this objective. An example of how this drove policy would be the recent reconstruction of Hurontario and Dundas Streets that was completed in the last few years, but planned more than 30 years ago to accommodate future planned growth!

The Official and the Secondary Plans and their subsequent revisions undertake a significant amount of public notification; however, very few citizens become informed and make representation to the municipality at these early stages, such that the process tends to be driven by the development community and planning staff. When the Official and Secondary Plans are approved many of the decisions regarding the parcel of land adjacent to your home or business have already been determined, even though an actual rezoning may be years away. Take for example, the vacant gas station sites along Dundas Street where the Secondary Plan evolved through the prescribed public process and subsequent approvals to permit alternative uses such as banks or professional offices. An owner would still require rezoning of the land for the already pre-designated use,

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Stay Tuned...Upcoming Public Meetings

Residents in specific areas of our ward are aware of ongoing concerns related to the following initiatives:

- Cooksville Creek Floodplain Study.
- Traffic Calming/Speeding/Cut-through Traffic Study at Old Carriage/Glengarry/Queensway West/ Stavebank Road and Premium Way.
- Huron Park Entranceway Boulevard Redevelopment.
- City Centre Development.

I am very pleased to advise you that in all the items noted above, staff studies and reports are now completed, or close to completion, and I will soon be advising you of individual public meetings on these topics. As with all of our public meetings, staff can advise you of their findings so that we can work towards a common goal and resolution of these outstanding concerns.

and is, in fact, working towards what was already envisioned and pre-approved. When a specific site comes forward for rezoning and the residents who did not take part in the Secondary or Official Plan discussions are concerned that they have limited recourse in preventing the development if it conforms to all municipal by-laws and site plan issues, it is imperative that they understand that as your local Councillor, I am unable to vote against a development that is in conformity with official documents and has already gone through a public process. To do so would mean voting against plans I have already voted for, while also upsetting residents who did take part in the original meetings and were expecting us to stick to our previous commitment.

Another example that causes me the greatest level of frustration is a large block of land, zoned for structures to be built over a period of several years such as the High Park Subdivision or the high density residential condominiums on the south side of Burhamthorpe Road. If you bought your home in Phase One, it was already determined what the rest of your subdivision would look like, including all municipal amenities such as road patterns, sidewalks, parkland, and lighted intersections. And yet people regularly express concern, and even anger, when they learn that Phase Two of their subdivision plan is coming forward, and they insist that I stop it when, in fact, the by-law that permitted the construction of their own home

also permitted and pre-approved these subsequent buildings.

Well-intentioned citizens often receive incorrect information from inappropriate sources, and do not ask the rights questions. If you ask "what is zoned next door to me?", you may find out that the lands are zoned 'agricultural', and have not been rezoned for several decades; however, the land has been designated for a high rise and could easily be zoned to conform to this designation. I often hear a disheartened resident reply that when they inquired "the real estate agent said..." While I don't want to disparage these professionals, I would suggest that you are asking the wrong person. Although the development process is cumbersome and fraught with 'red tape', one advantage is that it is well documented. Visit City Hall, drop in at the Planning Department counter on the 11th floor and scrutinize the Secondary Plans for potential, designated uses for a specific piece of land. I welcome calls from prospective purchasers and interested neighbours so that they may be fully informed. I also urge residents to get involved when all is calm, as opposed to when the earth mover arrives on the site next door - by this time it's too late! An excellent way to get involved at the 'grass roots' level is to support your local ratepayers association, of which Ward 7 has several. These groups have a profound impact as disseminators of information, a feedback mechanism to your elected official,

as well as a great deal of influence in the decisions I make.

All told, the planning process is really a lengthy novel as opposed to a quick snap shot. As such, it is very difficult for any elected official to change any single chapter if you have not been reading the book from the beginning. I genuinely need your input and assistance before the text 'goes to print' to ensure you and I both won't be disappointed with the ending.

The Queensway Hydro Corridor

A substantial portion of Hydro One transmission corridors were transferred to a separate provincial agency in 2002. The primary purpose of the lands is the safe, reliable transmission of electricity; however, legislation ensures that the corridor lands will continue to be available for public use. Should the province declare these lands surplus, the City and Region will be given top priority, and are already consulting with Community Services and other City departments to determine their best use. The Queensway Corridor traverses four City wards, including Ward 7, making it an excellent candidate for hiking and bike trails. Regrettably, we are still no further ahead since my last update on this matter, simply because Hydro One advises us that they have had a great many issues to deal with recently, and while this issue is of concern and we do share a mutual interest, its final conclusion is still some time away. Even so, I take great comfort in knowing that Council supported my motion to put a development hold on all these lands and declare them unsuitable for any use other than a utility corridor or recreational pathway. This will ensure that no unacceptable development will take place.

Did you know that one of the best ways to explore the City is by using the trails! Whether you bike, blade or walk there are approximately 150 kms of trails with more added every year. The Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee, of which I am a member, has recently introduced a number of new initiatives to assist you with your "trail adventures".

- The 2003 trail map is available at City Hall, libraries, community centres, and bike shops throughout Mississauga.
- Access a wealth of information on the web at www.mississauga.ca/cycling.
- Join a group ride by calling 905-896-5346 or e-mail trails@mississauga.ca

Ward 7 has begun trail development with the Cooksville Park Trail completed last year; the new Camilla and Gordon Woods Trails scheduled to open later this year, and the redevelopment of Huron Park Recreation Centre that includes many new and exciting trails for you to experience.

Enjoy the summer and "Happy Trails to you!"

Fighting Litter... Together!



During the winter months the snow helps camouflage the accumulation of litter, but once spring arrives, it isn't easy to ignore the litter problem. We all need to recognize that litter is a serious community issue, and if you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem!

There are a number of ways to join the battle against littering - ways in which we can all contribute. Make a habit of keeping your garbage with you until you find a suitable place to dispose of it. Secure garbage and items in your recycling

boxes to prevent them from being blown around your community. Your input is always welcomed and I would appreciate your letting me know where the litter "hot spots" are in Ward 7 by identifying inadequate litter clean-up in commercial areas. Of particular concern are fast food outlets, drive-through restaurants, schools, highway interchanges, new construction sites, and some common pedestrian areas. You can also report litterbugs online at www.mississauga.ca/litterbug.

With a new set fine in place, you will soon see road signs warning violators that the City's debris by-law will be enforced. We're letting the public know that littering is a fine-able offense with the message, **"Stash your trash or lose your cash."**

It will take time and effort to change attitudes towards littering. Be proud of our beautiful City and help spread the warning: **"Don't be a Litterbug!"**

I welcome your suggestions on how we can deal with this problem **Together...**

Because Even a Little Litter's a Lot...

The City's "LitterNot" Campaign encourages groups or individuals to work in partnership with the City to pick up litter on public property, such as along municipal street right-of-ways or within municipal parks. Through the "LitterNot" and "Adopt-a-Park" programs, environmentally-conscious citizens can make a personal contribution to a cleaner environment. The City will provide you with all the support you need by:

- Selecting a specific section of the street right-of-way or park which will be cleaned;
- Providing safety equipment, information and training;
- Erecting signage crediting the group with the litter pick-up;
- Providing, removing and disposing of filled trash bags.

For further information on the "LitterNot" program, contact Communications at 905-896-5056.



SMOG - How Can I Help?

Smog forms when ground level ozone and fine airborne particles mix with heat and sunlight. Smog has many harmful effects on humans, and is the cause of 1800 premature deaths a year in Ontario. From May to September, an Air Quality Index (AQI) value is issued on days when air pollution reaches dangerous levels that may affect human health. To lead by example, the City of Mississauga has implemented measures to conserve energy and reduce smog-causing and greenhouse gas emissions in their operational procedures. You too can do your part to improve air quality! Here are some ways how:

- Walk, car pool, or take public transit;
- Reduce energy use; turn lights off, and moderate the use of air conditioning;

- Drive smart - drive at moderate speeds and avoid quick starts and stops;
- Keep your car engine in good repair and avoid idling;
- Ensure your car has correct tire pressure (for every tire that is under inflated by two pounds per square inch, fuel consumption increases by one per cent);
- Avoid using pesticides and herbicides;
- Find alternatives to oil based paints, glues, and cleaners;
- Refuel your car before sunrise and after sunset during smog season (May to September).

For further information, please contact the Mississauga Air Quality Advisory Committee at 905-615-3217.

For daily Air Quality Index (AQI) values, call 416-246-0411 or 1-800-387-7768 or visit the Ministry of the Environment web site at www.airqualityontario.com.

West Nile Virus Update

The Region of Peel's 2003 West Nile Virus (WNV) Prevention and Control Program is the most pro-active plan in the Province of Ontario. The program details initiatives for surveillance, public education, reducing mosquito breeding areas, larviciding and a contingency plan for mosquito adulticiding (the killing of adult mosquitoes). Peel Health will continue to carry out surveillance in crows, mosquitos and humans, and will work cooperatively with other health units, the provincial and federal governments, and academic institutions.

Public education will emphasize personal mosquito protection, including the use of repellents containing DEET. Homeowners are encouraged to check the screens on doors and windows around their homes. The reduction of mosquito breeding areas is the most effective way of controlling the mosquito population. Private homeowners are urged to eliminate temporary standing water on their property. The most significant change in

the West Nile Virus Prevention and Control Program is the introduction of selective larviciding. The application of biological pesticides to standing water in roadside catch-basins and other breeding sites early in the season can reduce mosquito numbers with minimal environmental impact. Key decisions in implementing larviciding include the choice of a pesticide product, the selection of geographic areas and types of standing water to treat, and monitoring the effectiveness of mosquito control. Effective communication with the public will be essential for a successful program. A contingency plan for adulticiding will be implemented only in the event of a West Nile Virus health emergency.

For your convenience I have added a quick link to the Region of Peel's West Nile Virus web page on my web site located at: www.mississauga.ca/ward7 or call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday to Friday.



Solving the Problem of Aggressive Driving...

At a special General Committee meeting held on March 3rd, three major traffic reports prepared by the Transportation and Works Department were presented. The reports focused on curbing aggressive driving, minimizing collisions and maximizing the safety of all roadway users. Residents and interested groups presented their ideas on the issue of traffic safety, and the Ward 7 community was particularly well represented.

Engineering - The reports proposed a multi-phased approach beginning with ensuring that major roads be assigned appropriate speed limits so traffic can move efficiently, minimizing collisions, and ensuring that elementary school zones are appropriately identified with 40 km/h speed limits. Traffic calming measures such as speed humps on residential and collector streets where traffic infiltration and aggressive driving is a concern were also proposed.

Enforcement - Representatives from the Peel Regional Police were also in attendance at the meeting. Traffic violations are difficult to enforce since police officers cannot be on every street corner at all times. As concerned citizens, we can assist the police in their efforts to monitor driver behaviour. The Road Watch Program is a joint initiative between the City and the community which gives all residents the opportunity to report dangerous and aggressive drivers to the police. With your assistance, we can fight back against dangerous and aggressive driving!

Education - The efforts of our traffic engineering and enforcement programs are limited. When you get right down to it, it's up to us as drivers to practice safe and lawful driving. Observe all road signs, watch for pedestrians, and slow down! We must all make a commitment to driving safely, every day.



Huron Park Recreation Centre Redevelopment

After many months of diligent public consultation and detailed planning, the Redevelopment Project is well underway. The Centre was officially closed on April 1st with all alternative program locations up and running to service the Ward 7 community. The renovations address health, safety, and accessibility issues and will improve the condition and quality of sport and recreation by providing the same high standards offered at the newer centres across the City. I am confident that the renovations will create a renewed interest in recreation and better meet the needs of our increasingly diverse population by converting underused spaces into flexible, multipurpose areas. For your convenience, I have added a quick link to the project web pages on my web site located at: www.mississauga.ca/ward7 or call the Redevelopment Hotline at 905-615-4162. The centre is scheduled to re-open in September 2004, and I look forward to sharing the unveiling with you.

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions!

I have compiled a sampling of some of the most frequently asked questions that come to my attention. Should you require more information, please visit the City's web site or call the appropriate department.

Q. Do I need a building permit to build a shed, deck or to finish my basement?

A. To determine if a building permit is required for any construction project you are urged to contact the City's Building Division at 905-896-5619 or visit the City's web site at: www.mississauga.ca. In addition, you should contact the City's Zoning Plans Examination Section at 905-896-5581 to ensure compliance with permitted uses, sizes or setbacks of accessory structures, including decks.

Q. What is the maximum permitted fence height?

A. Fences may not exceed two metres (6 ft. 7 in.) above ground level under normal circumstances. However, certain restrictions may apply to fences in specific locations such as on corner lots, and in front yards. Contact our By-law Enforcement office at 905-896-5655 if in doubt.

Q. I want to widen my driveway. Do I need a permit?

A. The City's Zoning by-laws contain provisions restricting the width of driveways. Before widening your driveway, you must contact the Zoning Plans Examination Section at 905-896-5581.

Q. There is a three-bag limit for garbage! Where can I obtain additional tags to permit me to put out more bags?

A. Tags cost \$1.00 each and can be picked up at the Civic Centre,

300 City Centre Drive (Cashiers) on the ground floor, or they can be purchased by credit card by calling WASTELINE at 905-791-9499.

Q. Are there any exemptions to the three-bag limit?

A. Yes, three times per year – two weeks following Labour Day; two weeks following Christmas; and two weeks following Victoria Day.

Q. I need to dispose of large items, such as furniture and appliances. Can I dump them at the nearest dumpster?

A. Dumping on private property is a fineable offense. Furniture, bulky items, large appliances and large metal items are not considered part of the three-bag limit. For a list of depots where these items can be dropped off or to book an appointment for the Region to pick them up at your curb, contact WASTELINE at 905-791-9499.

Q. My neighbours leave junk all over their property. Is this permitted?

A. No. The City of Mississauga prohibits the storage of refuse or debris on private property.

Q. Can I park my car on the street overnight?

A. There is a three hour parking time limit on all City streets unless posted otherwise.

Q. If I have company staying overnight, can I obtain an exemption?

A. A 'Parking Consideration' can be requested to permit overnight parking, or under special circumstances, for several days. Call 905-896-5678 during regular business hours or 905-615-3000 after hours.

Q. Does my dog or cat need a licence?

A. Yes. All dogs and cats require a licence. A licence can be obtained in person from the Animal Services

Shelter or at the Mississauga Civic Centre (Cashiers).

They can also be purchased through the mail. Please contact Animal Services at 905-896-5861 for additional information or to obtain an application.

Q. Does a dog have to be on a leash?

A. Absolutely. All dogs must be leashed. No dog shall be allowed to run at large or trespass on private property. The fine for 'off leash' is an automatic \$125.00.

Although we have a leash by-law within the City of Mississauga there are several parks that offer the alternative of 'Leash Free' zones. For information on locations, please call the information line for 'Leash Free Mississauga' at 416-761-7667.

Q. Does the law require owners to clean up after their pets?

A. Yes. Owners must clean up after their pets. Failing to do so may result in a fine of up to \$5,000 under By-law 513-83. To report an infraction please call 905-896-5858.

Q. My neighbour's dog barks all the time. What can I do?

A. Excessive noise caused by a barking dog is contrary to the City of Mississauga Noise By-law 360-79. Call 905-896-5655 for more information.

Q. I do not get along well with my neighbour! Where can I go for help in resolving our disputes?

A. Peel Community Mediation Service, at 905-273-4884 Extension 204.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON BY-LAWS CALL 905-896-5449

FAQ

Before You Leave On Your Trip.....

When we leave for work or go out, we routinely check to ensure that we have turned off the coffee pot, unplugged the curling iron and locked the door. Why is it that when we go on vacation, we forget to complete a similar type of check-list? The following checklist will provide you with some suggestions of things to check before you leave for summer vacation:

- ☐ Have I made arrangements to have a trusted friend or family member look after the house while I'm away?
- ☐ Will they pick up the newspapers and mail?
- ☐ Did I cancel my newspaper subscription?
- ☐ Will they put out the garbage?
- ☐ Can they leave a vehicle in my driveway?
- ☐ Have I left them my travel information?
- ☐ Have I left an emergency number where I can be reached?
- ☐ Are my lights, radio and television on programmable timers?
- ☐ Have I set the outside lights on timers?
- ☐ Have I made arrangements to have my lawn cut and garden looked after?

For more information, contact:

PEEL REGIONAL POLICE Crime Prevention Services

7750 Hurontario Street
Brampton, ON L6V 3W6
Telephone: 905-453-2121 Ext. 4021
Fax: 905-453-4428

You may also want to visit the Peel Regional Police web site at:
www.peelpolice.on.ca



Neighbourhood Watch Youth Outreach

The Mississauga Crime Prevention Association, in partnership with Peel Regional Police, encourages communities to establish Neighbourhood Watch Programs. An active 'watch' encourages residents to work together effectively and assist the police in making their neighbourhoods safe from criminal activity. In their ongoing efforts to improve existing programs, the Mississauga Crime Prevention Association has identified the benefit of providing youth in our communities with the opportunity to become positive partners in the prevention of crime. The goal of the program is to provide youth ages 13-18 years with crime prevention training using the Peel Regional Police "Crime Prevention Academy" model. Once the selected youth have demonstrated competence in the program, these young adults will be made available within a Neighbourhood Watch Program to perform prescribed crime prevention tasks and community services. These services include engraving personal property with identification numbers, community support to seniors, and the reporting of evidence of high-risk crime potential. To my delight, Ward 7 was selected as one of the first communities to pilot this project sponsored by Mattamy Homes, and I believe that this project will significantly improve the sense of safety within our community while contributing to the social development of our youth. "The future strength of our neighbourhoods is embraced in the hands of our young adults!"

For more information on this, and other Mississauga Crime Prevention Association programs, please call 905-803-8118



Important Numbers

Aircraft Noise Complaints416-247-7682	Mississauga Transit.....905-615-4636
Animal Services.....905-896-5858	Parking Control905-896-5678
By-law Enforcement905-896-5655	Peel District School Board905-890-1099
City (after hours) dispatch905-615-3000	Peel Regional Police905-453-3311
Dufferin Peel Catholic	Poison Control Centre416-813-5900
Dist. Sch. Board905-890-1221	Recreation and Parks905-896-5342
Enersource (Hydro)905-273-9050	Recycling, garbage pick up.....905-791-9499
GO Transit.....416-869-3200	Region of Peel
Health Line Peel905-799-7700	(after hours) dispatch905-791-7800
Ministry of Health.....905-275-2730	Region of Peel Water (24 hours)905-791-7800
Ministry of the Environment 1-800-565-4923	Region of Peel Water Billing905-791-8711
Mississauga Ambulance905-844-4242	Traffic Signal Inquiries905-615-3022
Miss. Crime Prevention Assoc. ..905-803-8118	(Call Before You Dig)
Mississauga Fire905-615-3777	Utility Services1-800-400-2255
Mississauga Property Taxes905-896-5575	Water and Sewer Problems905-791-7800

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