

The Villager

The Voice of the Highland Creek Community Since 1976

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The Villager XLVI No. II

Festival of Lights EDITION

November 2021

‘Ontario Premier Ford Praises Highland Creek Community’

by LT

Ontario Premier meets with members of the HCCA on October 8th, 2021 to recognize food donation efforts.

The Highland Creek Community Association (HCCA) in partnership with Italtasta have donated 394, 150 lbs of food to the Daily Bread Food Bank. Early in 2021, Billy Yarn and members of the HCCA with the support of MPP Vijay Thanigasalam, took on a year-long initiative committed to raising 400, 000 lbs. of food donations for those in our community experiencing food insecurity.

The initiative coordinated food donations with transportation to Daily Bread Food Terminal located in New Toronto, where volunteers sort and distribute donations to food banks throughout the GTA, with 33% distributed to Scarborough food banks .



PHOTO L-R : Lawrence Goldberger, Bill Yarn, MPP Christine Hogarth, CEO Daily Bread Food Bank Neil Hetherington, Premier Doug Ford, Lora Tomasino, Mike Marchese, David Adamson and MPP Vijay Thanigasalam at the Daily Bread Food Terminal, New Toronto on October 8, 2021

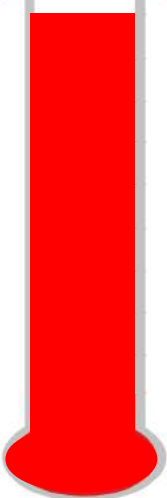
The HCCA gives special Thanks to

Mike Marchese from Ital Pasta for the generous food donations,

Lawrence Goldberger, President of The Aldgate Group, for covering the Thanksgiving transportation costs and Dave Cattapan, President of Mitek Industries, a Berkshire Hathaway Company for donating transportation costs for recent loads of food donations. ~ THANK YOU ~

*Community Food Drive in Highland Creek on December 3rd & 12th, please consider donating. See details inside.

400,000 lbs



394, 150 lbs. To Date!

Highland Creek
Festival of Lights &



December 3rd

Let's Light Up Our Village with
Warmth & Generosity!

Details on pgs. 12/13

HELP feed the hungry. Please donate non-perishable food items into the Daily Bread bins located in front of the Wesleyan Cemetery on DECEMBER 3rd. TOGETHER WE CAN BRING THE TOTAL TO 400, 000 LBS

Altree Developments Proposal Approved by Toronto City Council

By Annoj Thavalingam

Twin condos have been approved for construction by Scarborough and Toronto City Councils, overseeing the Highland Creek Ravine. Spearheaded by Altree Developments, the condo proposal sought zoning amendments to build two storeys beyond the 6-storey maximum allocated to the area. This request was met with staunch opposition from the community last summer. An online survey circulated by the Highland Creek Community Association (HCCA) found that among the hundreds of responses received, 91.2% of respondents did not wish to see an extension of the condos' height from 6 - to 8-storeys.

Councillor McKelvie was made

well aware of the survey results, and is no stranger to the HCCA's unwavering objection to this zoning amendment. Concerns with the proposal include shadowing on local homes, accelerated erosion of the ravine, reduction in water runoff during heavy rains, and traffic exceeding the capacity of our single-lane roads. Altree Developments has submitted documents addressing these issues, but some environmental issues have yet to be resolved with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Prior to the Council hearings which took place Oct 15 and Nov 9, 2021, HCCA's Vice President Bill Yarn, and Robert Brown, Advisor at the Committee of

Adjustment and Local Appeal Body, engaged in discussions with Altree and the City for several months, with the intent of reaching a conclusion favourable to the Highland Creek community. This hope was ultimately dashed when Councillor McKelvie presented a favourable report of the condominium proposal to Scarborough Community Council, leading to a unanimous vote in favour of the proposal and zoning amendment. Previously the Councillor had assured their support for the community's wishes in refusing the zoning amendment from 6- to 8-storeys. This was not the case during the City Council meetings.

Continued on pg 4


Editor’s Note

Dear readers,

Autumn is flying by, with winter now just around the corner. Highland Creek is celebrating the occasion with the return of its annual Festival of Lights. Bring your family, masks and holiday cheer to the Wesleyan Cemetery on the evening of Friday, December 3rd to witness the lighting of the community Christmas tree!

Cheer goes hand-in-hand with charity, and so this year there are two clothing/food drives set up. The first is a food drive on Dec 3rd at the Festival of Lights, and another a clothing/food drive on December 12 from 12-3 pm at 371 Kingston Road.


I’d like to take this moment to thank the HCCA board and committee members for their tremendous work tackling the many issues afflicting our community. This includes the BRT



proposal from Metrolinx and legalization of rooming houses from the City, both of which have dedicated sub-committees comprised of local resident volunteers. If you’re also interested in fighting these issues, please let us know at myhighlandcreekcommunity@gmail.com

Since this is the final Villager issue of the year, I’d like to wish you all a safe and merry holiday season. Happy reading, and see you all on the brighter side in 2022.

Annoj Thavalingam
Editor, *The Villager*



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The Villager is published 5 times per year by the Highland Creek Community Association local volunteers.

Our newspaper is available free of charge. 5,200 copies are distributed to Highland Creek households and businesses by local volunteers.

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<u>Next Editions 2022</u>	<u>Deadline for Submission</u>
Winter	January 20th
Spring	March 20th
Late Spring/Summer	May 20th

Ward 25 Scarborough-Rouge Park Elected Officials

MP Gary Anandasangaree MP
416-283-1414

MPP Vijay Thanigasalam MPP
416-283-8448

Councillor Jennifer McKelvie
416-338-3771

Please Note:

Although every effort is made to review the content of each and every article prior to publication, The Board of Directors want it be known that comments published are that of the authors and do not necessarily represent that of the Highland Creek Community Association.

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HCCA President’s Report



Once again, a good Samaritan who happens to be a neighbor came and cut my front lawn without being asked. He obviously noticed that I have experienced difficulty in walking due to a knee and hip problem. This gentleman does not speak English although we communicate through a smile and handshake. Words alone cannot express my appreciation. It is certainly nice to live within a community where there are those who are willing to assist others and to get involved in local issues that impact our community.

Also a note of thanks to my sister Marilyn who delivered the last Villager Newsletter on my behalf.

Highland Creek Community Association (HCCA)

It was a personal pleasure to attend the Food Distribution Centre of the Daily Bread Food Bank on Friday, October 8, 2021 with Bill Yarn and Lora Tomasino. Our local MPP Vijay Thanigasalam and Premier Doug Ford were present.

I had an opportunity to see the process involved in receiving and the delivery of food to those less fortunate. Over 300,000 pounds of food has been collected so far under the umbrella of the HCCA, which was a project initiated by Bill and Vijay and continues to expand with the assistance of others. Thanks so much to all those involved .

The HCCA continues its involvement in dealing

with the Metrolinx/BRT along Ellesmere Road and many meetings and discussions have taken place in dealing with this ongoing matter. Thanks to Douglas & Marja Phillips, Blair Anderson, Pauline Platt along with Board Members and residents for your participation.

Multi-tenant dwellings and house rentals are an issue of concern currently under review by City Council. Thanks to Anna Tsirakidis for her assistance and perseverance in dealing with this.

An application submitted by Altree for development within the Village of Highland Creek was addressed by Scarborough Council on October 15, 2021. Bill Yarn and Brian Blakeley presented submissions during the virtual discussion.

In addition to our monthly board meetings, the executive consisting of myself as President, Bill Yarn as Vice President, Elma Todkill as Treasurer and David Atlas as Secretary meet to review and discuss issues and to bring forth matters before the board.

The Villager

Our local community newsletter, The Villager, requires a lot of work to put together and distribute. Thanks to our Villager News Team under the auspices of our Editor, Annoj Thavalingam, for their efforts in producing an excellent newsletter.

Pumpkin Parade

Members of the HCCA participated with the CCRA and WRCA in the Pumpkin Parade on November 1 at the Port Union Community Centre. The weather cooperated and many people came out (lots in costume) to view the 100 plus unique pumpkins. It was a great evening!

Festival of Lights & Community Food Drive on December 3rd

The HCCA is pleased to announce the return of our beloved annual outdoor gathering as neighbours, family and friends come together in the Highland Creek Village at Weselyan Cemetery and welcome the Holiday Season, countdown to lighting up the village, enjoy a cup of Hot Chocolate, carollers, Santa arrives on a Fire Truck to spread cheer as he walks.

This year the HCCA is coordinating a Community Food Drive. An opportunity for our community offer support to those in need. On Friday December 3rd Bring a bag of canned and dry food and the Daily Bread Food Bank will distribute the food on your behalf.

*Current protocol in effect. See front and center pages for more details.

R.C.L. Highland Creek

At this time, the Legion has just received final approval of all permits so that it can commence reconstruction work at its new location – 305 Morrish Road. Many months have gone by and the Legion executive is pleased that work will commence very shortly.

Thanks to all HCCA Board, Committee members, and volunteers for their support, hard work, commitment and the many hours put in dealing with issues in the best interest of our residents. It has been a challenging time for all of us, especially during the pandemic. We look forward to the time when we can again meet with our residents to hold face to face community town hall meetings.

Should you wish to contact me on any items in this report I can be reached at email: dw.adamson@rogers.com or telephone (416) 281-7758.

All the best,
David Adamson
President
Highland Creek Community Association

Thank You so much!

Thank you Highland Creek community for your invaluable submissions. Your stories, poetry, events, community reports and news are of continued interest to our readers.

Special Thank you to our contributors Brian Blakeley, Rick Schofeild, Joy Loewen, Annoj Thavalingham, Vienna Bombardieri, LT, Dr. Karm Hans, David Adamson, Doug & Marja Phillips, MP Gary Anandasangree, MPP Vijay Thanigasalam, City Councillor Jennifer McKelvie, Ms. May Halabi & HCPS, Debbie Maunder and Dana Saccoccio

Thank you to our dedicated Distribution Volunteers! We couldn't do this without you!

Liz Hills, Samuel Jacob , Rick Jamieson, Susan Lamb, Bozeman Mathlin, Manny Mattam, Alan Maynes, John McCall, Doug & Marja Phillips, Sujeev Ruban, Randy Sefton, Elma Todkill, Sonja Vrbanic, Lydia Lampers-Wallner, Billy Yarn, Christine Yip, Nancy Yue, Anna Tsirakidis, Brian Blakely, David Atlas, Joy Loewen, Ekua Bamfo, Eric Lin, Maria Boccardi, Patricia Kelly, Neil Jaikaran, David Adamson, Josh Allen, Blair Anderson, Sandi Burden, Lynn & Roy Findlay, Chris Goethel, Marg & Dave High.

Altree continued from pg. 1

All the same, negotiations between Altree, the HCCA and the City led to a few positive outcomes. These include a reduction in the number of units, redistribution of unit sizes (see table above), and 1.35 million dollars set aside by the City for community benefits in Ward 25.

It must be said here that Altree has made misleading statements to the HCCA in the past. This includes during a presentation to the HCCA late 2020, where they assured that their condos do not cater to the university student demographic. This hard-to-believe claim was laid to rest earlier this month when their advertisement, indirectly advertising student housing, circulated through mailboxes in Highland Creek.

Data adapted from City of Toronto files:

	Studio	1-Bedroom	2-Bedroom	3+ Bedrooms	Total Number of Units
Proposal as of July 8, 2020	116	319	88	55	578
Proposal as of Oct 20, 2021	82	238	169	60	549
Percent change	-29%	-25%	+92%	+9%	-5%

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Outstanding Environmental Issues for 1625 Military Trail Condo Development

By Brian Blakeley,
HCCA Environment Director

City Council has recently moved to accept the Aلتree developments proposal, but two issue of environmental concern remain.

Ground water testing by McCLYMONT & RAK ENGINEERS, INC. revealed one issue as they note in their GEOHYDROLOGY STUDY, which is Appendix F of the Functional Servicing & Stormwater Management Report (available on the City of Toronto Application Information Centre (AIC) website – Application Number: 19 237544 ESC 25 OZ)

3.8 GROUNDWATER QUALITY

“The groundwater samples collected from MW 2 on August 22, 2019 were analysed for the City of Toronto Sewers By-Law criteria. The results of chemical analysis (Table 2) indicate that the sample complies with the Table 1 Limits for Sanitary & Combined Sewers Discharge for all parameters analysed. The following exceedance was recorded for the Table 2 Limits for Storm Sewer Discharge: Total Manganese (0.250 mg/L vs. 0.05 mg/L).”

3.9 GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE ASSESSMENT

“Presently, the groundwater onsite can be discharged to the City sanitary or combined sewer system with no additional filtration or treatment. A filtration/treatment system for manganese would be required prior to discharging to the storm sewer system. A de-

watering contractor should be approached to explore the possibility of treatment if discharge to the storm sewer is required."

Manganese is an essential metal, but is toxic in excessive levels.

The development proposal also includes a significant drawdown of the ground water level for the site during construction as also noted in the GEOHYDROLOGY STUDY of Appendix F:

4.1 GROUNDWATER DRAWDOWN AND TEMPORARY DEWATERING ASSESSMENT

“The excavation for the proposed three level underground parking structure will extend into native silty sand till/sandy silt till. In order to protect the sides/bottom of the excavation from being disturbed by excess groundwater pressure, i.e. to prevent quicksand/dilating silt conditions, the groundwater table must be lowered 2.0 m below the bottom of the footing/shaft excavations.”

The risks of this significant groundwater drawdown are summarized as follows:

5.2 POTENTIAL SETTLEMENT CONTROL

“Potentially, the largest settlement could occur at the following points: C at 255 Old Kingston Road and C & D at 1620 – 1622 Military Trail. For details see Drawing No. 4 and Appendices A and C.

As a precautionary measure, settlement gauges should be mounted at points: C at 255 Old Kingston Road and C & D at 1620 – 1622 Military Trail. The purpose of the monitoring is to define the magnitude of the settlement due to dewatering drawdown.


At present, drawings with underground services identification are not available. Based on assessment of potential impact on surrounding ground surface/road structures, buried services will likely be located within the zone of settlement ranging between 0 to 1.8 mm for the proposed development.


We recommend that all underground services be accurately located within the ZOI. Settlement monitoring should be carried out at frequent intervals during and immediately after completion of temporary site dewatering. Any adverse impact, if detected, on adjacent building/structures must be reported to the project developer, planner/architect/city immediately. Corresponding actions must be taken to mitigate any adverse impact."


Our community has been concerned about the environment impacts of the development proposal, and based on the information available on the City of Toronto's AIC website it would appear that our concerns are well-founded and will require continued monitoring of this project.

Bennett Gastle ^{PC}

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How To Get The Best Sleep

By Dr. Karm Hans Connect with Dr. Karm via email at karmhans@gmail.com.

It is amazing how many people have trouble falling asleep or staying asleep or find their sleep is not refreshing. Not enough good sleep can negatively affect our energy levels, mood, concentration, memory and libido, can lead to weight gain, headaches, lower immune function and much more. Sleep is a foundations on which a refreshed state is built.

There are many causes to sleep issues but in this article I will discuss a few key elements which must be addressed to ensure we get the best sleep possible:

Routine Those of you with kids know how important a sleep routine is to make sure they are at their best. As we get older, sleep routines start to get more relaxed. Our body craves routine even if we don't. Set a reasonable bedtime and stick to it.

Wind down 30-60 min before bedtime, start your wind down routine. Here are a few suggestions:
Have a warm shower
Journal
Listen to relaxing music
Have a cup of calming herbal tea
Meditate

Sleep Environment Our sleep environment is very important to ensure we get a good night's rest. Here are a few factors to take into consideration.

No electronics *The light emitted from electronics (eg. phone, tablet, tv etc) is very stimulating for the body. For those of us who like to relax while watching TV or scrolling through social media, you will want to stop an hour or two before going to bed to help with sleep.*

Temperature *In general, keep the room slightly cool and keep warm under the covers.*

Block out light *Use blackout curtains and an eye mask to block light.*

Proper pillow and mattress *Having a comfortable pillow and mattress can make a big difference in the way your body is supported as you sleep. I recommend trying different options before investing in one that can work for you.*

Use your bedroom only as a bedroom *Often our bedrooms start to serve multiple functions. For example, we may use it to watch tv, an area to do our work, bring out meals etc. Keeping an ideal bedroom environment allows our brains to associate sleep with the bedroom.*

Supplements & Herbal Support*
There are many supplements which can be used to help with sleep.



Magnesium *Great to help with relaxation of muscles, anxiety, and sleep. Comes in a capsule and powder form.*

Valerian root *A very common herb used for insomnia or sleep disturbances. A tea with valerian root can be very helpful before bedtime.*

Chamomile *Another wonderful calming herb. For those with seasonal allergies to the ragweed, you will want to stay away from this herb as it belongs to the same family*

Ashwagandha *This herb helps with sleep by addressing our stress hormones. This can often be a big reason why our sleep is not the best. Using this in tea form in addition to the other herbs before bedtime can also be helpful.*

Sleep can be a tricky issue to address, but if you start to implement the above recommendations you will definitely see an improvement. Like anything else it will take time, but a good night's rest can be worth its weight in gold. Invest in a great night's sleep.

**Note: Please consult with your health care practitioner to see if these supports are right for you.*

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Pumpkin Parade



A lovely November 1st evening for the 4th Annual **Pumpkin Parade**. Families came out in numbers to admire local jack-o-lanterns displayed on a path at the Port Union Community Centre. This annual outdoor event is brought to the community by the HCCA, CCRA and WRCA.

Pictured above: L– R Gary Anandasangaree MP, with HCCA Board Members David Atlas, Anna Tsirakidis, Blair Anderson and Billy Yarn.

Remembrance Day

November 11, 2021 marked 100 years of the poppy as a symbol of Remembrance and hope for a better future. A large crowd gathered at the Royal Canadian Legion Highland Creek Branch 258 for a Remembrance Day Ceremony to honour those who fought for freedom. Member of the Branch read poems commemorating loved ones who died in wars. Our elected officials each spoke as well, and the honour guard raised the flags. Highland Creek neighbours and friends stood together remembering.

The Canadian Tamil Remembrance Organization presented the legion with a cheque for \$1000.00 (see below).



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DSBRT And The Environmental Act

by Douglas Phillips,
Committee Chair – DSBRT

We have engaged with Metrolinx to find a solution and now we are down to the last 90 days.

Despite the public Walk and Talk event with representatives of Metrolinx on September 28, 2021, a summer campaign and other communications, Metrolinx **refuses to acknowledge** that the residents of Highland Creek have said **NO** to their plans.

Our MPP Vijay Thanigasalam at the Walk and Talk told Metrolinx to find an alternative. Metrolinx is **NOT** listening.

Highland Creek is a strictly residential community, and the Metrolinx plans will cause **great harm and damage** to what is at present a beautiful and safe community.

There is **NO** benefit to Highland Creek from these plans.

NEXT STEPS

- The Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP) commenced on October 14, 2021, with online engagement open until November 11, 2021.
- The project team will consider input on the design from technical agencies, stakeholders, and members of the public from this fourth round of consultation.
- The Environmental Project Report (EPR) will be available for public review and comment at the end of the Transit Project Assessment Process planned for January 2022.
- The Notice of Completion will provide details on when and how to access the EPR during the 30-day review period.
- A Preliminary Design Business Case will be refined to reflect adjustments made to the recommended design. The Business Case will be used to clarify the scope and cost of the project, and request construction funding for the project.

The TPAP process is regulated by ONTARIO REGULATION 231/08

TRANSIT PROJECTS AND METROLINX UNDERTAKINGS.

In Highland Creek it is important that the studies and reports include:

- ♦ **How the transit project potentially affects navigable waterways or permanent or intermittent watercourses – Highland Creek has a conservation area encompassing Centennial Creek, which runs from the 401 down to Ellesmere Road and then under Ellesmere and Meadowvale Roads to the large pond beside Meadowvale.**

This conservation area, called the William Alexander Dempsey Echo Park, is home to much of the local wildlife including insects and fish. This conservation area should be taken into consideration and carefully studied.

Also, the Highland Creek flows into Lake Ontario, which contains numerous fish and wildlife and has an annual salmon run.

- ♦ **How the DSBRT potentially affects groundwater.** Highland Creek has a very high-water table level, and this should also be studied with regards to ground stability. In particular with regards to the number of buses Metrolinx plan to implement.
- ♦ **How the DSBRT potentially affects fisheries or fish habitat – see above.**
- ♦ **How the project potentially affects air quality, noise, or vibration.** The residents of Highland Creek have already advised Metrolinx how the DSBRT buses will affect their quality of life, with the proposed no-left turns from driveways, and frequent diesel buses.

These issues can potentially cause serious health issues by making Ellesmere Road a ‘toxic tunnel.’

- ♦ **How the DSBRT project potentially affects ornamental or street trees.** Every tree in the community is needed to fight the effects of the diesel buses and climate change.
 - ♦ **How the project impacts recreational areas.** Highland Creek has a park on Ellesmere Road which is very important to the community as a recreational area.
 - ♦ **How the DSBRT may undermine cultural heritage.** Highland Creek is over two hundred years old and is designated a Heritage Village. Some properties are over one hundred years old, including the United Church on Kingston Road. This was built in 1891 and is now the Shri Swaminarayan Temple.
- The Environmental Project Report, to be released by Metrolinx in 2022, shall contain the following:
- 1) Purpose of the transit project.
 - 2) Final description of the transit project.
 - 3) A description of other methods that were considered.
 - 4) A description of the local environmental conditions at the site of the transit project.
 - 5) A summary of all data collected or reviewed, and a summary of all results and conclusions.
 - 6) A description of mitigation proposals.
 - 7) A description of approvals or permits required.
 - 8) A description of consultations carried out.
 - 9) List of local residents who participated in the consultations.
 - 10) A description of what Metrolinx did to respond to concerns expressed by local residents.



METROLINX DURHAM BUS RAPID TRANSIT ON ELLESMERE RD.

Send your comments and concerns to MPP Vijay Thanigasalam, and Councillor Jennifer McKelvie.

Vijay.thanigasalamco@pc.ola.org
416-283-8448

mckelvie@toronto.ca
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Stay up to date by signing-up for the project mailing list:
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Visit the project website:
www.metrolinxengage.com/dsbrt

- 11) How Metrolinx will advise the communities of the environmental project.
- 12) How Metrolinx will ensure the public may examine the environmental project and obtain copies.

Thank you to all our volunteers and residents of Highland Creek for your help and support.

The signs and banners have been removed for storage over the winter but will be back in place in the spring. We plan to have a Spring Campaign.

I have also requested Town Hall Meetings for the residents of Highland Creek and Metrolinx.

Introducing Local Cannabis Retailers

By Joy Loewen



The Good Cookie

371 Old Kingston Road, Unit B
Open 7 days a week, 9am – 11pm

Mo Mirbabaei transitioned from the film industry to this family-like store in June of 2020, when she opened up Good Cookie in Highland Creek.

Mo is very personable and wanted to provide a sense of community and familiarity when she opened and staffed the store. The goal with Good Cookie is all about convenience; quick service with a broad menu, and staff who knows what they’re talking about. The average client visit is only 2-3 minutes so she is certainly delivering on the convenience aspect! Mo and her staff, including Assistant Manager, Jenna Bayinika, listen to their clients and take note of what they want.

Good Cookie is also highly competitive with one of the more competitive price points. All prices include taxes so the price you see on the menu is what you pay when you leave the store, all rounded to the nearest dollar.

The client list includes everyone from young adults to a large demographic of elderly clients, and most purchases are completed in store. Good Cookie’s menu includes fresh flower, pre-rolls, vaping options, edibles, concentrates, topicals, beverages and CBD options.

Good Cookie has done so well that Mo opened up a second location on Ellesmere and a third location is planned at 5741 Finch Ave East. Mo likes to keep it local to the Scarborough neighbourhood.

Good Cookie gives back to the community during the holiday season, collecting food donations by the storefront and dropping those donations off at the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities on Lawrence Road.



The interior of Fiore Cannabis.

Fiore

382 Old Kingston Road
Sun – Thur: Noon to 8pm
Fri – Sat: 11am – 9pm

Salvatore Pocchi, owner of Fiore, has had a longtime passion for cannabis. So when he knew it would become legal, he pursued the licensing to get a retail store. He successfully opened Fiore on September 21 of this year, and it is located right next to his restaurant, Fratelli Village Pizzeria.

There is a lot of competition in the cannabis space so Salvatore focuses on education. He trains his staff to educate the client, and that education around the products and the use of those products is what sets his store apart from the competition. Salvatore is attracting clients aged 45 and over with no exposure to cannabis so education is key. The staff take the time to help the client choose the right product and make sure they know how to use it. Fiore sells a full range of products including CBD oils, creams and drinking products, topicals, flower and pre-rolls as well as other products which are fully displayed on monitors and screens around the store, and include the amount of THC and CBD in the products. All products are displayed on plates and the environment is warm and friendly.

Fiore is all about wellness and education. They even have Daily specials so go onto their website at fiorecannabis.ca to find out more.

Salvatore has been a contributor to the Highland Creek Festival through Fratelli’s and he is looking forward to continuing that tradition with Fiore.

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Disney+ mini-series 'Culprits' on Watson Street in Highland Creek

By LT

The ‘Culprits’ mini-series filming for Disney + channel took place in Highland Creek over 6 to 7 weeks, through October and November. The filming crew and equipment took over the Village, with the main filming taking place at a residence on Watson Street.

The Character 7 production company donated \$3500 to the Highland Creek Community Association, as a production of this size created discomfort for some residents with late night filming, noise and increased traffic.

Curious members of the neighbourhood made their way to view the happenings, trying to get a peek at the filming; one night in particular, a large crowd gathered to view the special effects and gun fight simulation that took place on the street.

Perhaps some of you will catch Culprits when it airs on Disney +. The HCCA sends a shout-out and Special Thanks to Assistant Location Manager, Hassan Kamall for all their on the spot assistance.



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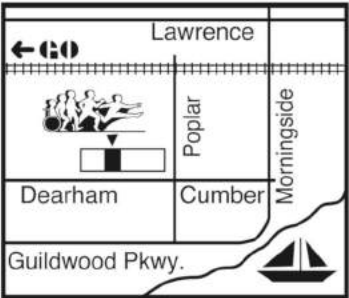
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Rooming House Update

On October 1, Toronto City Council voted to **defer** the decision to legalize multi-tenant dwellings across the city. 16 out of 25 councillors voted in favour of deferral, a number of whom were suburban councillors. This subject matter will return to Council in 2022

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Highland Creek Festival of

Friday, December 3rd
6:30-7:30pm Wesleyan Cemetery on
Old Kingston Rd
7pm Countdown to Tree Lighting
Food Donations accepted from 12-8pm



**Enjoy hot chocolate & sweet treats while carolers sing,
 and Santa & Mrs. Claus visit the village.
 Countdown to Lighting Up the Village at 7pm**

***Please Donate if you can. The HCCA is collecting non-perishable food
 donations (from 12-8pm) to support those among us in need. *The Daily
 Bread Food Bank distributes food to local food banks on our behalf
 Monetary donations also accepted**

Where can I drop off my food donations?

Donations can be dropped off on December 3rd between 12pm & 8pm
 Daily Bread Food Bank Boxes will be located in front of the Wesleyan Cem

What are most-needed food items? Food Banks appreciate all donated food
 but there are certain items in need because of their high nutritional value.

- Baby food and formula
- Peanut butter
- Canned fish and meat
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Rice, grains, lentils, beans
- Dried pasta
- Pasta sauce and canned tomatoes
(whole or crushed)
- Cans of soup and stew,
- Powdered, canned and tetra pack



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I ♥ Highland Creek

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- ~ MPP Vijay Thanigasalam handing out Candy Canes!



Locals with Frosty Sporting their 'I Love Highland Creek' Collectors Pins!
~Festival of Lights, 2019

Highland Creek Festival of Lights is presented and organized by Volunteers from the Highland Creek Community Association (HCCA). Get involved in your community association, join the board and support the volunteer work of the HCCA when you become a member for \$10 a year.
Easy online sign-up at:
[HCCA Membership - HIGHLAND CREEK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION \(myhighlandcreek.org\)](https://myhighlandcreek.org)

Merry Christmas, Highland Creek!

Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

Dear Neighbours,

Thank you to the Highland Creek Community Association for facilitating the donation of food from Italpasta to the Daily Bread Food Bank. It is wonderful to see the community come together to raise funds for food delivery. Toronto fire halls continue to accept food donations to help families during the Holiday Season.

We'll be celebrating the beautiful Christmas decorations in our community again this year. If you would like to nominate a home, please send the address to councillor_mckelvie@toronto.ca.

School Vaccination Program

Toronto Public Health has restarted its publicly funded school vaccination program to protect students in grades 7 and up from hepatitis B, human papillomavirus and meningococcal disease. Students can receive these vaccinations by appointment only at City-run immunization sites. The closest site to Scarborough – Rouge Park is at Scarborough Town Centre. Appointments can be booked at www.tphbookings.ca.

Altree Development Update

The development proposal for the site at 1625 Military Trail/6000 Kingston Road was approved by Scarborough Community Council on November 9th. The approval included my amendments to further decrease the number of studio units and further increase the community benefits.

This development has been substantially improved since it was first brought forward in October 2019, as follows: i) The number of units was reduced from 620 to 539, with a greater mix of those 2- and 3-bedroom units; ii) The setback from Military Trail was increased and the built form was improved to limit shadow; iii) The setback from the valley edge was increased and it will be naturalized and conveyed into public ownership; iv) Land will be conveyed to the City to expand and enhance Morrish Park by 1,086 square metres (a 33% increase in size); and v) The proposal now includes \$1.35M in community benefits to enhance streetscape and public realm in the Highland Creek Village.



Thank you Toronto Fire! You can drop off non-perishable food to Toronto Fire Stations in support of the Daily Bread Food Bank.

My many thanks to the residents and HCCA for participating in this process. Thank you for advocating on behalf of the Highland Creek community.

Ending Illegal Rooming Houses

On October 23, another fire occurred in an illegal rooming house in our community, this time on Calverley Trail. No one was injured. However, 16 people are now without a home.

We have many illegal rooming houses in our community and we must take action. In October, Toronto Council referred the proposal to create a regulatory framework for multi-tenant homes back to City Staff for more work. I have always maintained that the best way to end the proliferation of illegal rooming homes is to create a regulatory framework that establishes safety, parking and property standards, coupled with increased enforcement. I will continue to monitor the development of this policy carefully and will keep you informed in my e-newsletter.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year!

As always, please feel free to email us at councillor_mckelvie@toronto.ca with your questions or concerns.

Merry Christmas

FROM COUNCILLOR

JENNIFER MCKELVIE

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Hear it from Highland Creek Public School

We had a successful start to the school year. Our staff are always exploring new and innovative ways to continue engaging children in learning while keeping our distance and abiding by Covid-19 safety measures. We are so excited to have our students participate in outdoor activities right here in the Highland Creek community or with educators from Hillside.

Our School Council meetings continue to run virtually and we welcome all our families to join our monthly meetings.

With winter around the corner and slippery road conditions, we would like to remind drivers to do their part to keep our students safe. Parents can also help keep their children safe by reminding them to be aware of their surroundings when they are on or near school buses. Always leave space around school buses and avoid blocking school bus loading zones so children can enter and exit safely. Be prepared to stop for a school bus at any time, not just during school hours. Always obey the rules of the road (adhering to speed limits) and watch for children, especially in school zones. Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and school crossings. Together we can keep children safe.

Our student reporters were so excited to take this opportunity and share how the start of the school year went from the perspective of both students and staff.

We look forward to a successful year!

May Halabi, Principal

Do you think anyone would have been able to predict what happened these past two years? With COVID-19 around, the first month of school had flown by quicker than ever. “It’s been different because we have to wear masks. It’s hard to talk to people with masks on. We also have to be physically distant. I feel really sad because of all this.” says S.Z, a grade 4 student. All these new regulations have certainly been hard for all of us here at Highland Creek, but our teachers are helping us through it.

“As a new teacher in the building, I must admit that I was nervous about changing schools, especially in the middle of a pandemic, but I am happy to say that the staff and students at Highland Creek have made the transition a very smooth one! Everyone has been very welcoming, and it is obvious that safety is the number one priority. It is also very nice to be in the classroom again, seeing students interacting in person socially, as well as academically,” says Mme.Fioravanti.

“We’ve had a very busy start to the school year, working collaboratively as staff to prepare for Highland Creek’s Return to School.” says principal of Highland Creek PS, Ms. Halabi. “We are proud of how well students have adjusted to all the safety measures we have in place. We greatly appreciate the abundance of caution that our families have shown in regard to following Public Health guidelines. Our partnership plays a key role in keeping our school community safe.”

Despite the continuing implementation of COVID-19 restrictions this year, we still have been able to participate in various school activities. Some of the activities we participated in centered around the first ever Truth and Recon-

ciliation Day, Terry Fox Run and The Hillside Outdoor Education Program.

Truth and Reconciliation Day is a day of remembrance in honor of Phyllis Webstad and all Indigenous people who went through the residential school system. On September 30th, in order to highlight this day at Highland Creek, students made different crafts to speak up about our history with residential schools. “For Truth and Reconciliation Day, I learned about the horrific things that children in residential schools went through. Canada doesn’t have a perfect history but we can address the problem by supporting Indigenous communities.” says A.M, a grade 8 student.


The second week of October, Hillside educators came to Highland Creek. They took classes on a nature walk, and taught us to appreciate the world around us. “When we were at Hillside, we made animal restaurants for the squirrels and deers! The best part was when we went to the creek and saw the salmon.”

Finally, Terry Fox’s story is one that we’ve heard many times, but it will never fail to inspire us. Our classes ran around the school and we had an online fundraiser.

Throughout the school year, we will continue to explore the world around us and collaborate with our peers. We will adapt with time and continue to persevere and adjust to our “new normal”. Despite our current situation, we will continue to work towards our goal of becoming socially responsible students and Global Citizens.

Written by: H.N., J.C. & K.M.

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A review of the earliest history of Highland Creek – Part 1 First Arrivals

By Brian Blakeley

Winds of change started to blow across the ice, ice that reached across the land. Ice that stretched south of present-day Highland Creek and was many metres thick on the land. Ice in a vast ice field so large that the oceans were hundreds of metres below their levels of today.

The ocean level was so low that large animals migrated across a land bridge from the east to the west and then south and east over time.

This migration of life continued until people started to arrive in the new lands.

Then the air started to warm up and the lands started to change. The ice melted and the oceans rose until the bridge was gone. The new land was on its own path.

In time modern Ontario came to be home to Mastodons and then Mammoths as the climate changed and the land came to support life where the ice had once been the only presence.

Modern discoveries of teeth and tusks from Mastodons and Mammoths have been found in many locations in the land we call Ontario. These relics have been catalogued and map by researchers at places such as the University of Waterloo's Earth Sciences Museum. The number of sites is truly astonishing:

To date, 98 mastodon, 32 mammoth and 30 indeterminate proboscidea sites have been recorded in Southern Ontario. The largest concentrations of these are mastodon sites along the north shore of Lake Erie.

The finds are mapped here:

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=217176330353083021115.00046d931977b95fd7e6d&msa=0&hl=en&dg=feature>

This abundance of life came over time to include the first human visitors to the lands we know.

Evidence of these arrivals was found nearby in the areas of modern-day Markham and Toronto.

An elementary school student found a spear head that was of the type attributed to the Clovis peoples and was dated to about 8,000 B.C.E. (Before Common Era) or about 10,000 years ago.

Another Clovis artifact was found near the Rouge River in Markham. (Toronto Star article <https://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2018/06/16/mapping-torontos-indigenous-roots.html>)

As the local climate continued to warm the large mammals began to disappear. This extinction event has been attributed to human hunting and climate change by many researchers. (see: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mastodon>)

Part 2 of this series will appear in the next Villager...



Settler History of Highland Creek

Although the Thomson family can arguably be considered the first European family to settle in the old Township of Scarborough at Bendale, and the first post office was opened at Scarborough Village, the first 19th century “community” to be established was at Highland Creek.

Prior to this settlement, Elizabeth Simcoe, in describing the Township of Glasgow (as Scarborough was first called by the British), referred to "the high lands of Toronto". New settler communities were soon established and their history began. However, the government in Ottawa, with one stroke of a pen, can alter the history of many original communities. Post offices were closed and names such as Mortlake and Strangford disappeared. With the another stroke of the pen and no community consultation, the federal postal authorities created one of the biggest community rivalries in Scarborough's history when they split Highland Creek. The community originally stretched along both sides of the Kingston Road, from Galloway Road east to the Pickering Town line. But now the river divided the community into West Hill and Highland Creek.

Back on July 6, 1852, William Chamberlain obtained a post office for the village of Highland Creek, a community whose history dates back to the first years of the 19th century.

William Knowles may have been the community's first European settler when he arrived from England in 1803 and established a blacksmith shop. He was followed by many others, including John Closson, a tanner and shoemaker who came north from New York in 1805.

Cont. on page 15

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Settler History of Highland Creek continued

As the Kingston Road, the old Danforth Road and the Highland Creek came together in one location, the village grew rapidly in the early 19th century. Saw millers, grist millers, cobblers, merchants, coopers, tanners, blacksmiths, ship builders, and a host of other tradesmen helped build the community, and in time it boasted churches from all major denominations including the first Roman Catholic and first Anglican churches in Scarborough. Having the post office would help draw traffic to the area and its new businesses.

There were several stores and hotels along the heavily traveled highway and Chamberlain was granted the community's first post office located in Helliwell's hotel in the valley. Thus, in 1852, the "official" village of Highland Creek was created.

The early years of the office were somewhat shaky. Chamberlain resigned after two years as postmaster and his successor, John Page, absconded in 1856. William Helliwell took over but was dismissed in 1861. The following year Eli Shackleton was appointed and apparently moved the post office from Helliwell's Valley Inn to the Shackleton Hotel on the west side of the valley.

The residents on the east side of the valley objected and in 1867, when William Tredway succeeded Shackleton, the post office was moved back to the east side of the valley in Tredway's Golden Teapot store. This upset people on the west side who were now compelled to walk across the valley to post letters.

In 1879, John H. Richardson appealed to the government and succeeded in opening a new post office on the west side of the valley, officially known as West Hill. Meanwhile, Tredway continued as Highland Creek postmaster, operating on the "east hill". In 1887 James Duncan replaced Tredway at Highland Creek, but even after William Knowles replaced Duncan in 1907 the post office remained in the old store.

At West Hill, Richardson continued as postmaster from 1879 until 1917, operating the office first from Eade's store and later from Pritchard's Waiting Room when the radial cars were in operation along Kingston Rd.

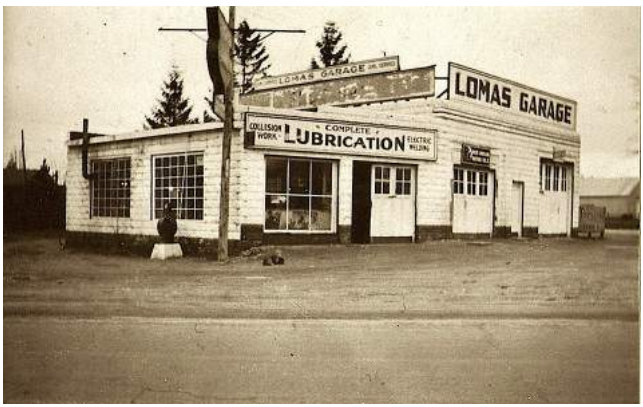
The Morrish family kept the Highland Creek Post Office alive from 1918 until 1956. William and Una Morrish and her sister-in-law, Mabel, ran the office from the family store across from the old

Tredway Store. Today, the Golden Teapot has been demolished but the frame of the Morrish store can still be seen and makes up the pub on the corner of Old Kingston Rd. and Morrish Rd.

Some maintain that the Highland Creek Post Office died in 1960 when G. R. Haughton was appointed the joint postmaster of the Highland Creek-West Hill office. However, the Highland Creek Postal Outlet continued to operate from the Highland Creek Pharmacy until recently when the postal outlet in the Pharmacy closed permanently.

However, long established community names can still be used today. Even after Toronto Amalgamation in 1998, Scarborough Community Council has retained its name and the use of long-established postal names are still acceptable. Names such as Scarborough, Agincourt, West Hill and Highland Creek are still in use today. For mailing, any address beginning with "M1C" can use the Highland Creek name, with "M1E" being used for West Hill.

By Rick Schofield, Archivist,
Scarborough Archives,
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Letter to the Editor re: Toronto Star Article on DSBRT

On Tuesday, November 9, 2021 the Toronto Star published an article on Highland Creek’s resistance to the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (DSBRT) proposal set out by Metrolinx. In response to this article, local commercial property owner and business owner Dana Saccoccio sent the following letter to its author, Ben Spurr.

Hello Ben,

I read your article today about the DSBRT project. I have pasted a few of your paragraphs below in italics.

A dedicated busway in Scarborough may be exactly what the region’s transit needs. Although experts believe the BRT is exactly the kind of project the region should be aggressively pursuing to tackle traffic congestion and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, many of the 12,000 residents of Highland Creek, where incomes are higher than average and few people rely on transit, are dead set against it.

I am not sure what gave you the impression that the residents in Highland Creek are opposed to or dead set against this Metrolinx project in their neighbourhood because their incomes are higher than average. Notwithstanding that, people with lower than average incomes may be equally disappointed to

know that the low ridership and the low traffic volumes along Ellesmere Road between Kingston Road and Military Trail are not being reported by Metrolinx and do not support this section of the project. Perhaps the need for the Metrolinx project within Durham can be supported by current and projected passenger numbers, but the ridership along the Kingston Road to Military Trail section of Ellesmere Road does not support the plan that Metrolinx has for road widening, exclusive bus lanes and increased frequency of PULSE bus service.

My partner and I own and work in the commercial office building located at 6534 Kingston Road, constructed in 2010 on the north east corner of Ellesmere Road and Kingston Road. For many years, we have observed Durham PULSE buses that pass in front of our building on a frequent and regular schedule traveling east and west on Ellesmere Road and remarked, long before the public was made aware of the DSBRT project, on how few passengers were on these buses. It actually became a joke in our office, there goes the empty bus again! And then one day we noticed that the single bus had been replaced with a double-articulated bus at certain times of the day. In reality, we know that the empty bus is not funny at all, but a very sad wasteful situation. As recently as this morning at 9 am I noticed a PULSE

bus turning onto Ellesmere from Kingston Road travelling west and there were 6 passengers on a double-articulated bus. At 11.35 am the PULSE bus travelling east had three people on it. At 12.40 the PULSE bus travelling east had two people on it. At 3.20 pm the double-articulated Pulse bus travelling west had four people on it. At 4.40 pm the Pulse bus travelling east had one person on it.

Metrolinx, the provincial agency in charge of the Durham-Scarborough BRT, has concluded the project would deliver substantial benefits. With buses operating in their own lanes every five minutes or less at the busiest times, Metrolinx predicts the 49-stop BRT would carry more than 38,000 passengers a day by 2041. That capacity will be needed to serve the 215,000 people and 66,000 jobs the corridor is expected to add in the next two decades, and the agency predicts the BRT would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 162 kilotonnes.

The 38,000 passengers per day by 2041 and the 215,000 people and 66,000 jobs predicted by Metrolinx to be added by the corridor

Cont. on pg. 19



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Letter to the Editor continued

the next two decades can't possibly be expected to all be travelling to the UTSC. The prediction of reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 162 kilotonnes is definitely a welcomed and responsible goal. Metrolinx could begin this reduction of carbon dioxide emissions now by putting a stop to their proposed expansion of the duplicated transportation services for an extremely underutilized transportation route from Port Union Road to Scarborough College. The rideshare public parking lot recently constructed west of Port Union on Kingston Road could be used as a transfer station for the few PULSE passengers to the TTC buses that already provide service to the UTSC.

The Metrolinx project, DSBRT Bus Rapid Transit along Ellesmere Road is very problematic on many levels, economic, environ-

mental and from a common sense perspective.

1. **Ridership.** During the many years that we have observed the PULSE bus, we have noticed the number of people on the buses, often 0 passengers and sometimes 1-6 passengers. The number of people on the PULSE buses passing in front of our building has not changed since the service began in 2013. What has changed is that the bus size was increased to a double length articulated bus in spite of the fact that the single bus was never full, in fact sometimes empty. It seems to be a reasonable and simple expectation, before so much time and energy and money are spent with so many negative impacts, that a ridership and traffic volume study would be conducted and made available.

2. **Duplication of Service.** The TTC also operates a bus running in both directions along Ellesmere with service to the UTSC. Durham passengers also currently use the GO Train and transfer to a TTC bus at Rouge Hill GO station which takes them directly to the U of T Scarborough campus. The GO Bus also travels Kingston Road Hwy 2 between Durham and Scarborough.

We fully support good access to public transportation when there is a need. In this case the very low PULSE ridership along Ellesmere and the duplication of public transportation between Metrolinx PULSE, GO Bus, and GO train, does not warrant the dollar cost, environmental cost and private property disruption caused by road widening and an exclusive bus lane. There simply has been no ridership or traffic volume evidence of need for a road widening or an exclusive bus lane on Ellesmere from Kingston Road to the UTSC nor on Kingston Road from Port Union Road to Ellesmere.

We should not have to live with a virtually empty bus travelling this route every couple of minutes. How does this factor favourably into reducing greenhouse gas emissions or spending public funds responsibly. The main point that should be driving the decision whether to continue the Ellesmere Road section of the project is...How many people are on the bus?

Ben, I think you should visit the area for a few hours and make your own personal observations and actually count the passengers on the PULSE buses in this neighbourhood. The experts may not have witnessed what we have and you will in terms of ridership. You should come out and watch what we see every day. Full size and double articulated PULSE buses travelling back and forth on Ellesmere on a frequent schedule serving 0-6 passengers at any time of day or evening.

Dana Saccoccio

"We're still standing" and as soon as it's permitted to fully open safely, there will be celebrations. Namaste.



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Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP

Dear Highland Creek Community,

I would like to wish the entire Highland Creek community a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season. I hope you spend it with family and friends while following all COVID-19 guidelines.

Please note that the below information might have changed since the time of writing. Please feel free to reach me by email at vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org or by phone at 416-283-8448 for the most up-to-date information.

In-Person Remembrance Day Ceremony

This year I was incredibly honoured to attend Remembrance Day ceremonies in-person at the Toronto Zoo and Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258.

It was great to meet veterans and their family members in person this year, remembering the heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice and honouring the brave men and women who served and continue to serve in the armed forces.

Investing \$1.6 Million in Long-Term Care facilities in Scarborough–Rouge Park

One pillar of our government’s plan to fix long-term care is increasing staff so they can provide more high-quality care to residents. This will make Ontario a leader in direct care.

That is why I am proud to announce that we are investing more than \$1.6 million in long-term care homes in Scarborough–Rouge park, which includes: Altamont Care Community, Ehatare Nursing Home, Extendicare Rouge Valley, and Tony Stacey’s Centre for Veterans’ Care.

This is part of the province’s commitment to ensure long-term care residents receive—on average—four hours of direct care per day by 2024-25.

Booster Shots

The provincial government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, has expanded eligibility for booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to additional groups of high-risk individuals, providing them with an extra layer of protection against the Delta



Photo: MPP Thanigasalam speaking to World War 2 veteran John Bow, member of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258.

province is currently offering booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to the following vulnerable populations if at least six months have passed since their last dose:

- Individuals aged 70 and over (born in 1951 or earlier);
- Health care workers and designated essential caregivers in congregate settings (including long-term care home and retirement home staff and designated caregivers);
- Individuals who received a complete series of a viral vector vaccine (two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine or one dose of the Janssen vaccine); and
- First Nation, Inuit and Métis adults and their non-Indigenous household members.

To book your appointment please visit: Ontario.ca/bookvaccine

\$12.4 Million for Mental Health and Addictions Supports for Frontline Health Care Workers

Ontario’s frontline health care workers have been unwavering in their dedication to protect the health and safety of Ontarians throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Just as they are there for us, we need to be there for them.

I have heard from many frontline workers in Scarborough-Rouge Park about how much of a toll it has been on them and their families during the pandemic. That is why we are investing \$12.4 million over two years to provide existing and expanded mental health and addictions supports for frontline health care workers across the province. The province is partnering with five hospitals, the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division and the Ontario Psychological Association to offer these mental health and addictions supports.

If you have any questions or concerns, my office is always here to help. Please reach out by email at vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org or by phone at 416-283-8448.

Vijay Thanigasalam

Member of Provincial Parliament for Scarborough-Rouge Park



VIJAY THANIGASALAM
MPP, Scarborough-Rouge Park

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE | 8130 Sheppard Ave. East, Unit 105, Scarborough, Ontario M1B 3W3
(416) 283-8448 | vijay.thanigasalamco@pc.ola.org

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

Please contact my office at (416) 283-8448 or vijay.thanigsalamco@pc.ola.org

if you need help with any provincial matters such as:

- Marriage, Birth, or Death Certificates
- Family Responsibility Office
- Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)
- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Driver's Licenses, Health Cards, or Photo ID Cards
- Health Care Issues
- Education Issues
- Senior Services

Important Numbers:

Enbridge	1-877-362-8000	FRO	416-326-1818
Grants Ontario	416-325-6691	OHIP	416-314-5518
Justice Ontario	1-866-252-0104	Toronto City Services	311
Service Ontario	416-326-1234	Toronto Hydro	416-542-8000
ODSP/Ontario Works	416-397-1000	WSIB	416-344-1000

Gary Anandasangaree, MP

Dear Highland Creek,

As I was being sworn into the 44th Canadian Parliament, I felt a deep sense of humility and gratitude for the residents of Scarborough-Rouge Park for re-electing me for a third time as your Member of Parliament. I would like to thank you all and pledge to remain your voice in Ottawa and to never waiver from championing the issues close to your heart: Ending the battle against COVID-19, climate change, affordable housing, \$10 a day childcare, and a stronger economy. The solemn swearing-in ceremony, made small due to pandemic restrictions, served as an important reminder of the work still ahead of us.

I am pleased to report that our government is dedicated to addressing many of the concerns we have collectively raised here in Scarborough-Rouge Park, particularly addressing inequality and setting National Standards for Long-Term Care homes. Since 2015, our government has remained responsive to the needs of Canadians – but there is still so much more to do. By working together, I know that we as Canadians can overcome the challenges we face and create a better future and country for everyone.

One Million Jobs Restored:

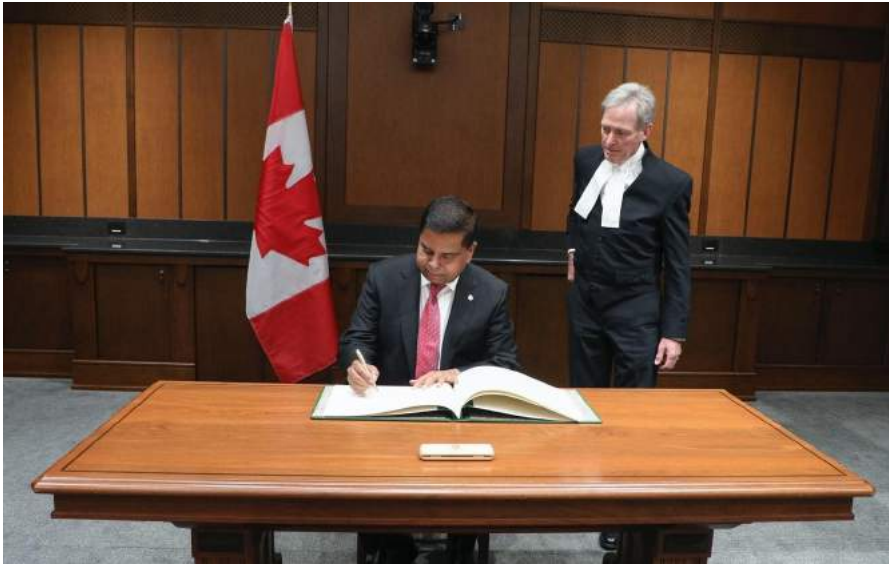
As part of our pandemic recovery effort, we launched a campaign to create over one million jobs, while also making major investments in supports and assisting people and businesses with transition. I am pleased to report that thanks to our emergency programs and the hard work of Canadians, we have restored one million jobs, returning

Canada back to pre-pandemic levels. In September, numbers released by Statistics Canada showed that Canada’s labour market gained 157,000 jobs, lowering our unemployment rate to 6.9%, the lowest since the start of the pandemic. As Canadians return to work and the recovery grows, we recognize that now is the time to go beyond a million jobs and ensure the

jobs created are good and well-paying. Furthermore, our government remains aware that some regions and sectors of the economy continue to face challenges. This is why we have announced new and targeted supports for individuals and businesses in need while continuing to manage government finance. Our government will always be there for Canadians and will make sure workers and businesses have the support they need as we finish the fight against COVID-19 and build a better Canada.

Cabinet:

In September, millions of Canadians chose to move forward with a bold and progressive vision. As an elected representative, I know that our team and that our government is ready to deliver on all of this. As announced by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in October, the new Cabinet will remain gender balanced, and will continue to deliver and find real solutions to the challenges of today and tomorrow. Indeed, the new Cabinet will continue to work with provincial and territorial partners to achieve \$10-a-day child care across Canada, work to put home ownership back in reach for Canadians, and work towards reconciliation with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada. I look forward to returning to Ottawa to represent the people in SRP and continue to voice your concerns in Parliament. With our government’s recent mandate given to us by the people, I look forward to making Canada a more fairer and inclusive place and help move Canada forward.



MP Gary Anandasangaree was sworn in as Member of Parliament for Scarborough Rouge Park on October 22nd on Parliament Hill, Ottawa.

Take Your Kids to Work Day:

For this year’s Take Our Kids to Work Day, our office had the pleasure of hosting youths around Scarborough Rouge-Park to an array of talented professionals from Scarborough, each a captain of their industry. Presenters included a senior economist, an associate lawyer, a journalist, a city councillor, and an international aid worker. I was delighted to watch an energetic and engaging discussion unfold, as the kids expressed their own the interests and aspirations with the panellists and I. As always, the students continue to amaze me with their knowledge and the quality of the questions they ask. They truly are the leaders of tomorrow, and we are lucky for it. The kids were also given a tour of our constituency office, and walked through the day-to-day work we do to serve Scarborough Rouge-Park. It was an inspiring opportunity to expose our youth to the different types of careers available and to show them that anything they dream is possible.

Child Vaccinations:

Even as we continue to recover jobs and rebuild livelihoods damaged by the pandemic, this government realizes that keeping us safe and finishing the fight against COVID-19 requires Canadians to continue getting vaccinated. In combination with our robust vaccine strategy, Canadians have overwhelmingly done their part by getting vaccinated to protect themselves, their families, and their communities. With more than 83 percent of eligible Canadians fully vaccinated, our government has begun rigorous vaccine trials and testing for Canadians between the ages of five and 11. I can assure you that the utmost caution is going into paediatric vaccines, with safe clinical trials and thorough testing by age group. If approved by Health Canada, our government stands ready to rapidly receive and distribute 2.9 million paediatric vaccine doses. By immunizing our young against COVID-19, we will be able to rest assured knowing that our children are protected. This pandemic has been hard on many, but as Canadians, we know that nothing is insurmountable when we work together.

GARY ANANDASANGAREE
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
SCARBOROUGH-ROUGE PARK



My office is here to assist you with any Federal issues



- COVID-19 Federal Supports
 - Immigration
 - Citizenship
- Passport Canada
- Revenue Canada
- Canada Pension Plan
- Old Age Security
- Canada Child Benefit
- Employment Insurance
- Veterans Affairs and more....

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GARY.ANAND@PARL.GC.CA

Constituency Office
3- 3600 Ellesmere Road,
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What Is This Love

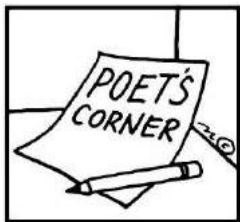


viennabombardieri

What can it be this act
so grand that one can taste it through dark skies and even
when a baby dies love beats inside a mother's cries

What is this love of Heroes
that when the world has gone insane
it rights the wrongs inside your brain
and fills your soul like rain

What is this thing that we all love
that gives us breath and life
is it a tool that ends all strife
or acts of God under a knife



What can it be this word so deep
that seeps you to the bone
its LOVE alone
that saves, then brings you home.

Madrina And Her Baby Angels

Draped in diamonds like the starlit heavens
she walks through the milky way and shines
like a burning candle in the thick of night

She is Madrina the sky Princess of love
her sparkling eyes of green dance soft
beneath the blue palatial loft

Golden voices of angels echo through the halls
as she glides in and out of clouds wearing a Celestial shawl drenched with
dew from God's floral garden

Godmother to all innocents who die before their time she rocks their cradles
and sings them lullabies
here in a heaven where no babies die;

Imbued diamonds on a crocheted silver dress
she anoints their little heads then with an angel's bless, she takes them to
her bosom and rocks them,
All Night Long...



1					2		7	
9				5				
3		5					1	
				8				
		2					1	
		6	9	4	7	8		
				9		4		5
				6				7

The classic game Sudoku consists of a grid divided into nine large squares, each containing nine cells.

The rules of the game are as follows: Fill in numbers 1-9 into each cell, but each number can only appear once in any given row, column or larger square.

Christmas WORD SEARCH

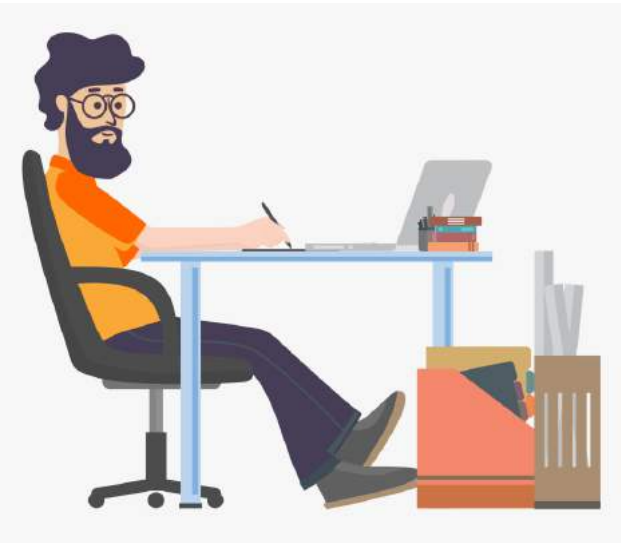
I	K	M	M	D	N	O	D	G	Y	M	A	S	B
J	O	S	A	A	C	L	E	I	T	A	E	N	H
A	C	A	A	E	T	N	D	M	I	N	Y	O	D
C	T	M	E	R	S	M	C	A	V	E	N	W	E
K	F	T	F	B	S	E	O	N	I	G	S	F	C
F	R	S	A	R	E	R	C	G	T	I	A	L	O
R	I	I	M	E	N	R	R	E	A	F	N	A	R
O	E	R	I	G	A	Y	A	R	N	T	T	K	A
S	N	H	L	N	C	C	C	Y	E	S	A	E	T
T	D	C	Y	I	Y	S	K	A	I	N	C	Y	I
E	S	R	N	G	D	E	E	A	A	C	L	G	O
R	G	G	K	O	N	T	R	E	E	L	A	N	N
F	J	E	N	I	A	S	S	S	O	O	U	L	S
A	N	G	E	L	C	F	M	J	N	A	S	A	I

CANDY CANES
TREE
JOLLY
JACK FROST
GINGERBREAD
SNOWFLAKE
CRACKERS
MANGER
CHRISTMAS
MERRY
FRIENDS
DECORATIONS
NATIVITY
SANTA CLAUS
GIFTS
FAMILY
ANGEL

Looking for a Local Volunteer to assist with Design/Layout of our Newsletter a few times per year.

If interested, send an email to:

HighlandCreekVillager@gmail.com



Highland Creek Branch

Our spaces and services might look a bit different at this time but these changes are in place to keep everyone safe. We have increased the number of people allowed into our branches while maintaining physical distancing of two metres.

Library branches have regular operational hours and many are open on Sundays. Proof of vaccination is currently not required to enter library branches. Most library branches are open for indoor contactless holds, pick-up and drop-off of library materials, computer services including printing, photocopying and scanning, and washrooms. You can browse physical collections, sign up for a library card, use our quiet study spaces and access quick information services at most branches. Some of our children’s areas and Youth Hubs are open with limited access.



Make this a warm and happy holiday season for those in need in our neighbourhood

Donate gloves, mittens, socks, and non-perishable food items.



Help support the initiatives by CRU/NCO Team 2 - 43 Division.

Drop off: Dec. 12, between 12-3PM at 371 Old Kingston Rd. (parking lot)

Santa, Elves, and local Police Officers. Pizza, hot chocolate, and cookies. Prizes, music, cheer... and much more!

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Things are changing rapidly, check with your local library about new and reopened services.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!



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See centre pages for details!



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