

The Villager



The Voice of the Highland Creek Community Since 1976

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The Villager XLV No. I

FALL 2020 EDITION

FREE

Altree Developments Proposes 8-Storey Midrise Condos at Military Trail PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOVEMBER 3RD

By: Annoj Thavalingam

Highland Creek may find itself with its first pair of mid-rise condos as early as 2023. Altree Developments has purchased a 3-acre plot of land at 1625 Military Trail and 6000 Kingston Road, seeking approval from the City to build two condos on the southern tip of Military Trail, overlooking the Highland Creek Ravine. Since their original submission in October 2019, Altree has requested a zoning amendment to increase the condos' proposed heights from 6- to 8-storeys.

To open dialogue between the developers and concerned community members, a joint meeting was held on October 7 between the Highland Creek Community Association and Altree Developments. The President and CEO of Altree, Zev Mandelbaum, provided a powerpoint presentation outlining his vision for not only the condos themselves, but as well their footprint on the Village as a whole.

Heralded by Zev as an "architectural masterpiece", his condo proposal is in fact quite grand. He presented a number of possible amenities for the condos, such as a swimming pool, kids centre, sports pavilion, fitness centre, co-working spaces and pet spa. Just across from the condos on 1650 Military Trail, Altree has purchased land where they hope to build a trail leading to the Morrish parkette. The parkette would serve as an outdoor oasis for their tenants, proposed to include pavilions, benches, trellises and playground space. It would not only serve as a meeting place for community residents, but also a physical link between the condos and the Village.

To top it off, Altree also intends to open a coffee shop in the vicinity called Creek Coffee and Co., a place to chat, relax, and of course, drink coffee. The Village plaza, found on the north side of Old Kingston Road and also recently acquired by Altree, will be renamed the Shops of Highland Creek and repopulated with small businesses that best serve the community's needs.

These ambitious plans were outlined during the first segment of the meeting by Zev, after which the floor was opened to questions from HCCA members. A



From the number of submissions received (THANK YOU!) we know Highland Creekers love their furry friends! Visit the centre spread for more cute pet photos submitted by locals.

Above: Pet Model Mr. Luigi

91.2 % respondents answering the HC Development survey say they do not want buildings higher than 6-storeys. Do you want the city to allow 8-storey buildings in HC Village?

Speak Up Now!

Take Action - Call - Email

City Planner Sophie Knowles
Sophie.Knowles@toronto.ca
#416-396-4157

Councillor Jennifer McKelvie
Councillor_McKelvie@toronto.ca
#416-338-3771



A rendering of the condos proposed at Military Trail and Old Kingston Rd.
Reprinted with permission from Altree Developments.

concern raised more than once was if these condos were meant to serve primarily as student housing, in light of studio and single bedroom units comprising three-quarters of the total units.

"It's not student housing," assured Zev. "When we design the amenities, we design them for a very diverse community."

Another concern was of an environmental nature, as the condos would be less than 15 metres away from the ravine's top-of-bank, raising concerns of impact on the landscape, wildlife, vegetation and the Highland Creek itself. Zev responded that water levels and temperature would be carefully monitored during construction, and shoring would be employed to ensure the slope of the ravine doesn't shift.

A broader concern is that the construction of twin 8-storey condos, against the original zoning restrictions of 6 storeys, will set a precedent for similar development in our historic Village. Future condo developments in this vein may overshadow and eventually replace the heritage elements of Highland Creek. Altree's zoning amendment application to build up to 8-storeys is currently under review with the City.

Looking ahead, the timelines for commencing construction are unclear due to COVID, but Zev is anticipating the earliest start date to be Spring 2022. In the meantime, Altree will be offering more opportunities for the public to better get to know of this development.

The first opportunity is an Open House to be set up in the Village plaza on October 28th 6:30 to 8:30 pm and November 11 6:30 to 8:30pm. Here, Altree representatives would be available to present images and answer questions. The second opportunity is a public meeting to be held virtually on November 3rd from 7:00-8:30 pm. The information to join the meeting (online or by phone-in) can be found on page 11.



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Councillor Jennifer McKelvie
Ward 25 Scarborough-Rouge Park
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In June 1976, the first issue of The Villager, a community newsletter, was born under the auspices of the East Highland Creek Community Association and soon thereafter the West Highland Creek Community Association joined in as co-publisher. The Highland Creek Community Association (HCCA) carries ‘the torch.’ The Villager serves as a medium for listing community events and activities, providing information to and from residents of Highland Creek as well as updates on matters affecting the well-being of our beautiful community.

The Villager is published 5 times per year by the Highland Creek Community Association volunteers. Our newspaper is available free of charge. 5,200 newspapers are distributed to Highland Creek households and businesses.

Letters to the Editor, Article Submission?
Email the Editor of The Villager,
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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 Joy Loewen, Annoj Thavalingam, Vienna Bombardieri, David Adamson, Elma Todkill, Doug and Marja Phillips, Norma Campbell, Richard Dravid, students at HC Public School, Debbie Maunder, Dolf DeJong, Dr. Karm Hans, MP Gary Anandasangaree, MPP Vijay Thanigasalam, Councillor Jennifer McKelvie, TDCSB Trustee Garry Tanuan, and TDSB Trustee Anu Sriskandarajah.

20/21 Submission Deadlines:

Issue	Deadline for Submission	Delivered
Late Fall	November 20th	1st week of December
Winter	February 28th	March

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Dear Readers,

I am thrilled to present the Fall edition of The Villager, your local newspaper for all matters concerning Highland Creek. We have a wide variety of material for your perusal, from pet photos to dry cleaning to accounts of socially-distanced schooling. I'd like to particularly highlight our newly elected board members to the Highland Creek Community Association (see pg. 14-15). They are volunteers serving to ensure that your needs and concerns are brought to the attention of authorities and elected officials. I encourage you to learn more about your HCCA 2020/22 Council!

Looking ahead, one of our hallmark celebrations is just around the corner: Halloween! Like almost everything else this year, it will not be same due to COVID-19. In the best interest of our collective health, I would ask that parents and children reconsider trick-or-treating this year. Dressing up and eating chocolates are the greatest pleasures of this special, spooky night, and these activities may also be enjoyed indoors, perhaps with videoconferencing for support. Send photos of your carved pumpkins or decorated house to virtualpumpkinparade@gmail.com by 7pm on October 31st. The Virtual Pumpkin Parade goes live at www.myhighlandcreek.org 6pm on November 1st. I look forward to hearing of the inventive ways Halloween is celebrated this year!

Best wishes,
Annoj Thavalingam
Editor, *The Villager*



President’s Report
David Adamson

Fall weather is now upon us and certainly due to the pandemic, it will be much different in the way many people will observe Thanksgiving, Halloween and Remembrance Day this year. Let’s hope and pray for a quick resolution to this pandemic. The HCCA continues to act in the best interest of Highland Creek residents, with support from our elected representatives in dealing with the various issues that are presented.

COVID-19

When we had been previously advised by government officials that there had been a significant decline in the COVID-19 cases, I am sure we were all pleased with this news. Unfortunately, cases have steadily increased, particularly with those 40 years and younger. It cannot be emphasized strongly enough that we must still maintain safe distancing practices, wear face coverings in public and avoid large crowds in limited spacing until this pandemic is eradicated. Once again, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all the frontline and health care workers and those working behind the scenes for their dedication and commitment during this pandemic.

SPEEDING

Automobile drivers, please drive safely and adhere to the posted speed limits not only within school areas but on all our roads. Police from 43 Division have been notified of infractions and are monitoring accordingly. Residents are encouraged to contact the HCCA Police Liaison designate Joy Loewen or 43 Division directly of any concerns. Speeders, you have been warned.

HCCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The HCCA’s annual general meeting was held in the banquet hall of the R.C.L. Branch 258 on October 23, 2020, with 29 people in attendance. Thanks to the Legion and President Richard Viles for making the premises available for our meeting. A number of interesting items were introduced for discussion that will be commented on in more detail in this newsletter. A motion was made and approved to increase the number of Board of Directors from 10 to 12. A profile of each Director is included in this newsletter. During discussion amongst the Directors elected, it was agreed that each Director will take on a portfolio pertaining to issues within Highland Creek and report accordingly. Congratulations to those elected and to those now joining the board for the first time.

HIGHLAND CREEK VILLAGE

On September 29, 2020, Bill Yarn and I met with Altree representative Zev Mandebaum, Councillor Jennifer McKelvie, and their respective staff to discuss future plans for the Village. Bill outlined the concerns expressed by residents regarding the proposed height and number of units to be built, and also enquired about the overall plans for the Village. Zev provided a detailed overview that included diagrams depicting future plans for development. It was concluded and agreed that Altree would attend and make a presentation at the upcoming meeting of the HCCA Board of Directors.

Accordingly, on October 7, 2020, the HCCA Board of Directors met and portfolios were assigned to each Director. Following this, Zev did a powerpoint presentation depicting building plans for the Village. Altree staff along with Zev addressed many questions and concerns expressed by board members. In addition, Councillor McKelvie was present along with staff that included a virtual link with City Planner Sophie Knowles, who as well responded to questions. In addition, Altree is prepared to create an open house in a unit of the Village Plaza

within the next few weeks for residents to review the proposed development plans. I thank Zev and Councillor McKelvie along with City staff for their attendance and participation. A further virtual discussion with City staff is scheduled for November 3, 2020 from 7:00-8:30 pm, to allow residents an opportunity to provide their input. Details to join this virtual public meeting will be later disclosed through Councillor McKelvie’s online newsletter as well as social media accounts.

METROLINX—BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT)

On October 2, 2020, a joint meeting was held with HCCA representatives (Douglas & Marja Phillips, David Adamson and Bill Yarn), Metrolinx representatives (Kristen Demasi, David Hopper and Margaret Parkhill) along with elected officials (MPP Vijay Thanigasalam and Councillor Jennifer McKelvie). The purpose of the meeting was to obtain updates and to discuss and clarify information on the proposed Scarborough-Durham Bus Rapid Transit. Reports from the HCCA and Metrolinx outlining their respective positions are included in this newsletter.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION—HIGHLAND CREEK BRANCH 258

The Legion has a long and distinguished history of not only supporting Veterans and their dependents but also participating in and contributing to the community. Branch 258, for example, has held Canada Day celebrations, St. Patrick Day entertainment, poppy campaigns, Remembrance Day services, New Year Eve dinner/dances, and supported Cadet, Youth and Education programs to name just a few. Due to the pandemic some of these programs have had to be cancelled, although Remembrance Day services will be performed virtually.

Branch 258’s Planning and Executive Committee members continue to do their due diligence in preparing for its eventual move to the new location at 305 Morrish Road (previously the Salvation Army) in Highland Creek. Hopefully, reconstruction work will receive approval by year’s end and Branch 258 will be able to relocate in the spring of 2021.

At this time, Branch 258 is looking for new members and for existing members to renew their memberships. First of all, anyone can become a member of the Legion. All Canadian citizens or citizens of an Allied nation over the age of 18 are welcome to join, regardless of whether you have served. You can join or renew your membership by visiting Branch 258 (at 45 Lawson Road) on Friday, Saturday or Sunday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. and speaking with the Bar Stewart. Alternatively, you may contact the Membership Chair, June Viles, at (416) 287-1314. The membership fee for 2021 is \$55.00 for the year; a great Christmas gift for a friend or relative and supporters of the Legion.

TONY STACEY CENTRE FOR VETERANS CARE

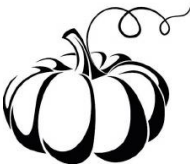
The Stacey Centre, located at 59 Lawson Road, is a 100-bed long-term care facility that provides exemplary care to its residents. The Stacey Centre has an ambitious vision for the future that includes the redevelopment of the current 100 beds along with a proposed 92 additional beds in order to continue to serve the community in East Toronto. Future rebuilding is planned for at its current location. As with other long-term care facilities, the Stacey Centre continues to face challenges due to the pandemic. However, through proactive and vigilant steps, there have been no reported cases of COVID-19 with residents or staff.

CONCLUSION

Thanks to all who contribute towards making our community a safe and desirable place to live. There is no doubt changes do and will take place, and hopefully for the best. Be assured, the HCCA Board of Directors and Committee members are dedicated to serving your best interests. I would like to request that you support our local businesses every chance you get; they are depending on us for their survival.

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

Thank you all and God bless.
David Adamson, President
Highland Creek Community Association



Show Love – Shop Local – Support the Highland Creek Village
Jennifer McKelvie, City Councillor for Ward 25, Scarborough-Rouge Park

On 1625 Military Trail and 6000 Kingston Road: “the City of Toronto will host their virtual public engagement meeting for this project on November 3”

In order to limit the spread of COVID-19, Toronto Public Health uses current evidence and local data to inform decisions about measures to keep our residents safe and healthy. This summer, the City of Toronto launched the COVID-19 monitoring dashboard, which is updated daily and provides a progress assessment of the local COVID-19 response in our City. The COVID-19 dashboard is available by visiting www.toronto.ca/covid19. Active cases are displayed by neighbourhood on the website.

I would like to thank all the residents in Highland Creek who have helped one another by donating to our local agencies and food banks. I am proud of how our community has come together during this challenging time.

Highland Creek Playground
In September, the City of Toronto completed a survey to improve the playground in the Highland Creek Community Park. The redesigned playground could include new play elements, accessible play features and additional seating. Thank you to the families and young playground users who completed this survey. Construction is planned for spring 2021 and I look forward to

cutting the ribbon with you.

Supporting Local Restaurants
This month, in partnership with Destination Toronto, the City announced a fall restaurant program called DineOutTO, which aims to encourage residents to try different local eateries. From September 23 to October 30, visit www.DineOutTO.com to see special offers, signature dishes and unique culinary experiences offered by Toronto restaurants. The local food community is incredibly important to Toronto's economic recovery and the vitality of our neighbourhoods. My office is celebrating local restaurants through **#TakeOutWednesday**. Each week, I feature a different restaurant on my social media. To date, I've featured Amigos, Fratelli's, Mark's Pizza and Six Social in Highland Creek. I encourage you to join me and suggest some of your favourites and support local, independently-owned restaurants!

Development Update
University of Toronto Scarborough Student Residence
Construction will soon begin on the new UTSC student residence at 3300 to 3316 Ellesmere Road. The residence will have rooms for 750 students, along with a dining area and other student amenities. The residence will be the largest Passive House residential building in North America and will use 85% less energy for heating and cooling than a traditional building. The Passive House technologies being used include triple-glazed windows and heat recovery systems to improve thermal efficiency. The project requires the contractor and subcontractors to train and employ local youth through pre-apprenticeship and trades programs.

ment proposal of 1625 Military Trail and 6000 Kingston Road. The revision maintains two eight-storey buildings but decreases the number of units from 620 to 578, including 116 studios, 319 one-bedrooms, 88 two-bedrooms, and 55 three-bedrooms. Previously proposed surface parking spaces are now planned as car-share spaces and all visitor parking has been moved underground (a total of 439 residential and 86 visitor parking spaces).

Although I have strongly advocated for an in-person consultation by the City of Toronto, provincial legislation permits virtual statutory meetings. Due to COVID-19, Dr. Eileen de Villa, the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto, has advised the Planning department to host public meetings virtually. As a result, the Planning department is now hosting Committee of Adjustment hearings, public consultations and statutory meetings virtually across the City. I have been informed that the City of Toronto will host their virtual public engagement meeting for this project on November 3.

Recognizing the need for additional community engagement for this project, on September 29th, I met with newly re-elected President David Adamson and Vice-President Bill Yarn of HCCA, City of Toronto staff and Altree Developments. In this meeting we discussed additional community engagement options regarding the development.

As a result of this meeting, Altree agreed to open an installation about the development in the Highland Creek Shops. Altree will post pictures and artist concepts of the proposed development and give the community an opportunity to give feedback about the proposal. City of Toronto staff have agreed to attend the open houses to collect feedback.

To receive more information about the City of Toronto virtual meeting, and Altree's open houses, please sign up for our e-newsletter at www.jennifermckelvie.ca or by emailing councillor_mckelvie@toronto.ca. You can also follow me on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter at [@McKelvieWard25](https://twitter.com/McKelvieWard25).

1625 Military Trail and 6000 Kingston Road
Altree has revised their develop-



Councillor McKelvie visited Amigos in the Highland Creek for #TakeOutWednesday, an initiative aimed at supporting our local restaurants and hard-working entrepreneurs during this difficult time.

Lawn Wizard

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Letter from Minister Jeff Yurek RE: Coronation Biogas Plant Proposal

Dear Mayor Tory and Councillor McKelvie:

I am writing to you regarding the proposed Coronation Organics Processing Centre and Anaerobic Digester Facility by 2683517 Ontario Inc. in the City of Toronto.

As you may be aware, the company has voluntarily completed a Traffic Impact Study, which was received by the ministry on July 15, 2020. The study was also sent to the local MPP and posted on the Coronation Organics Processing Inc. website. The ministry officials also encouraged the proponent to discuss their project with the local MPP and community leaders, and a Zoom call was held between them to discuss the submission with these stakeholders on July 18, 2020.

To clarify how the process for these applications work, I wish to detail the roles and responsibilities of both the ministry and the City as they pertain to this project and the related traffic study.

My ministry is responsible for reviewing the company's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) application to ensure the project does not impact the health and safety of the public or the environment.

With respect to the traffic study, the ministry will review the report, but our role is limited to a review of the on-site truck traffic and ensuring the traffic study is aligned with the project proposal. In an ECA, the Director may impose terms and conditions around truck traffic related to both noise and odour resulting from emissions from the facility, or trucks movements and storage on-site.

I understand that ministry staff, in discussion with the City on August 26, 2020, advised the City that they are responsible for the review of the Traffic Impact Study as it pertains to local roads, and that they should provide comments on that report directly to the proponent.

With respect to off-site truck traffic, the City has the authority to:

- Assess whether road improvements are necessary to accommodate the increase of truck traffic and size of trucks;
- Assess whether proposed traffic routes need to be adjusted to address traffic impacts on roads;
- Pass by-laws or take other actions to address truck traffic and nuisance impacts from truck traffic while travelling on municipal or provincial roadways; and
- Identify to the owner any other potential impact on the municipal roads and highways that the City would like the proponent to address.

The ministry has already asked the proponent to work with the City to resolve any issues with zoning and development. Please note that the ministry sent a letter to the City on March 10, 2020 seeking confirmation of proper zoning of the proposed facility and to raise any other concerns the City may have; however, to date, the ministry has not received a response. This was also mentioned at the August 26, 2020 discussion and in the reply to Councillor McKelvie's correspondence on September 8, 2020.

To be clear, it is up to the City to determine permitting responsibilities such as land-use policies, zoning by-laws which conform to land-use planning policies, and building permits. The applicant will be required to obtain any necessary municipal site plan approvals and building permits necessary to construct the proposed facilities.

If the facility's use is new and is not currently permitted under the zoning by-law then the proposal would require a zoning by-law amendment; as part of the amendment process the municipality can require the studies that it would need to make an informed decision—such as an odour impact study, noise impact study, a traffic operations assessment and a transportation impact study. These studies can inform revisions to the proposal or, if necessary, can help provide a basis for not approving the zoning change.

Under the Planning Act, municipalities have the ability to control the design and development of certain types of developments and, if it applies, may control some design aspects such as loading or storage areas. If the City requires site plan control for the Coronation Drive site, this must be confirmed with the municipality, and we have yet to receive confirmation from the City on this matter. The Municipal Act provides authority to municipalities to pass by-laws respecting traffic, odour, vibration, noise, and vibration. Under this Act, the municipality may be able to institute a noise or traffic by-law relating to the facility, for example, hours of operation. Consistency with rules applying to other similar facilities or other facilities in the area may be a factor the municipality considers.

To address your request regarding compelling the proponent to conduct an additional traffic study, the ministry does not have the authority to include terms and conditions within an ECA for a traffic study to assess off-site traffic impacts. The ECA under review is solely about the operation of the facility and the movement of trucks on-site. Trucks bringing waste to this site are subject to a separate approval held by the municipality or a waste management company.

My ministry continues to review the application and will be connecting with the proponent regarding outstanding questions on this application; therefore, a decision will not be made on this submission until further information is provided by the applicant.

If you have further questions, you can contact Heather Malcolmson, Director, Environmental Permissions Branch, at heather.malcolmson@ontario.ca or 416-302-4063.


Sincerely,


Jeff Yurek

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Bennett Gastle ^{PC}

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Messages from our School Board Trustees



TCDsB Trustee Garry Tanuan
Garry.tanuan@tcdsb.org

I express my heartfelt gratitude for the extraordinary leadership and contribution of our TCDSB school staff: custodians, administrators, superintendents, teachers, support staff, parent councils, and community leaders (MPs, MPPs, City Councillors), in addressing all the concerns and anxieties of our students, staff and their families, and all frontline workers who have supported our City in these recent months.

Thanksgiving Day (October 12)

Let us continue to thank God and give special appreciation to the hard-working school staff for their tireless effort to re-open our schools and ensure a safe and loving environment for everyone!

Director of Education



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Brendan Browne as the new Director of Education, effective September 1, 2020. He joins us from the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), where he most recently served as an Executive Superintendent.

Virtual School

The TCDSB has launched the opening of the St. Anne Catholic Academy, School of Virtual Learning that was approved on September 17. View the Personal Devices for Students document online for more information, including important features to look for when purchasing a device.

Three-Year Pastoral Plan

The 2020-2021 school year marks the third year of our board’s three-year pastoral plan - Rooted in Christ: We Belong, we Believe, we Become. Throughout this year we will explore the theme Rooted in Christ we Be- come, celebrating our belonging as members of God’s family, our belief in God through our vision and mission, and the invitation to become all God has created us to be.

Proposed Biogas Waste Treatment Plant to affect Local Schools

On August 27, 2020, leaders of three community associations (Presidents Kathy Rowe, David Adamson and Kathi Loughran) and three local School Trustees (Dr. Anu Sriskandarajah, Garry Tanuan and Nancy Crawford) sent a letter to Premier Ford and Environment Minister Yurek requesting a meeting to discuss the proposed large-scale waste transfer and biogas plant on Coronation Drive. If approved, it would be the largest waste transfer and biogas plant in the Province. The facility will emit a number of toxic and greenhouse gases, and operations would result in several hun- dred heavy trucks increasing traffic through our local schools and residen- tial streets daily, creating dangerous conditions for residents, students, and their families through noise, smell, and pollution.

Schools directly affected by this proposal are St. Brendan, St. Malachy and St. Martin de Porres. Communications are underway to hold school parent councils and town hall meetings to discuss the potential environment, congestion, health, and safety impacts of the proposed wet waste facility.




TDSB Trustee Anu Sriskandarajah

The TDSB is keeping track of confirmed COVID-19 cases at the TDSB. The link be- low will allow you to get the most up to date information on confirmed case numbers: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Return-to-School/covid-19-advisories>. A question I often get asked from con- cerned community members is the screening process in schools. For the first two to four weeks, all staff and students were expected to conduct self- assess- ments, verifying them based on direction from Toronto Public Health. A self- assessment for students was verified in two ways: A parent or guardian signed the TDSB HEALTH PASS daily and the stu- dent showed it to the staff member at the entrance. Alternatively, the parent or guardian were able to complete the as- sessment on the TDSB Health Screening App. If a student did not have the verifi- cation to show their self-assessment was completed, they were asked if they were feeling well. If the student was feeling well they were allowed into the class- room. Their names were noted down and their parents were contacted to pro- vide verification. If they said no they were brought to the Wellness Room. High school students were responsible for their own screening.

Mental Health

The Toronto District School Board has released some videos to help provide support for the mental health and well- being of students and parents/guardians. You may find the videos on the website : <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Return-to-School/Resources-During-Covid-19/TDSB-Mental-Health-Video-Series>



Guildwood Physiotherapy

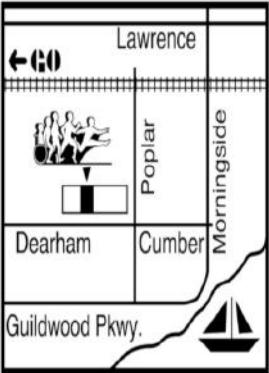
Car Accident Injuries

At Guildwood Physiotherapy we are experienced in car accidents. We have seen many types of injuries from car accidents, from hundreds of patients, including head injuries, serious fractures, etc. The majority of injuries that we see, however, are whiplash associated disorders. These injuries are the result of your head being thrown back and forth during an impact.

The severity and type of injury in these accidents varies widely depending on the speed and direction of impact, the position of your head at impact, and the presence or absence of safety equipment (such as head rests or air bags). Because there are so many variables in an accident, some relatively minor accidents can cause serious problems while more serious impacts can sometimes result in little or no injury.

If you are involved in an accident and are injured, you need to start treatment as soon as possible. We can usually get you in within a day or two. We will submit a treatment plan to the insurance company and can usually start treatment almost immediately. We will do all the billing for car accidents directly so you do not need to pay us.

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Don't forget to wear a mask! Wearing a mask protects you and everyone around you.



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you have all had a pleasant Thanksgiving. While I usually have my extended family over, this year I, just like so many of you, had to scale our celebrations back. Nonetheless Thanksgiving gave us an opportunity to remember what this pandemic has taught us all; ultimately what's important in life is our friends, family and loved ones. As such, in many ways, this Thanksgiving was perhaps one of the most meaningful ones I have had in many years.

As we navigate our way through this second wave and new restrictions, let's not give up on our common fight against COVID-19. We have made it this far together,

and we must stay united as there is much to do. I ask all of you to stay vigilant and listen to the rules of social gathering, mask wearing and physical distancing. This is also why I wish to encourage everyone to download the COVID Alert App, which is one of the easiest ways to protect yourself, your loved ones, and our community. More than 3 million fellow Canadians have already done it. The app uses Bluetooth technology to alert you if anyone you have been in close proximity to has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 2 weeks. The app is free to download in Apple and Google app stores, easy to use, and safe, while protecting your privacy and personal information.

If you haven't done so already, I wish to also encourage everyone, young and old, to get a flu shot, to immunize our population and reduce emergency department visits and wait times, preserving hospital capacity for any surges in COVID-19 patients. Our government is investing almost \$70 million to deliver flu shots to every Ontarian who wants it. The shots are available through your family


doctor and nurse practitioner offices, public health units and participating pharmacies. Let's help keep Ontarians safe.


Furthermore, the government realizes how COVID-19 has hit many of our small businesses hard. This is why our government is helping them by introducing the Main Street Recovery Plan, which will help struggling small businesses get back on their feet and jumpstart our economic recovery. The plan will ensure that Ontario and Main Street businesses are able to reopen safer, rehire faster, and rebuild stronger than ever before. This plan includes a one-time grant of up to \$1,000 for eligible street small businesses. It would also establish Ontario's Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Network, to link Small Business Enterprise Centers across the province as places where small businesses can access tailored advice and information.

As Ontarians, we are strong people and so are our small businesses, who form the backbone of our economy. While they pick themselves up and dust themselves off, our government will have their back, every step of the way.

Friends, we have truly come a long way. Let's finish the work we have started, and ensure we will beat this virus together. But as we do so, let's also not forget the most vulnerable in our community. While it may not be safe to go see your elder parents or grandparents, please keep them in mind and try to connect with them as much as possible. Consider setting up a zoom meeting, give them a call or even put pen to paper. As Ontarians, we will never leave anyone behind.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office at 416-283-8448 or alternatively via email at vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org. If you are looking for supports concerning COVID, please visit <https://www.covidsupports.ca/rougepark/> to get more information.






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



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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

Toronto Zoo:
The Outdoor Orangutan
Habitat Project

Greetings folks and happy fall!

For 46 years your Toronto Zoo has been committed to saving endangered wildlife and species at risk in Canada and around the world. It is so important to us to be living our mission, to connect people, animals and conservation science to fight extinction. We are so pleased to share that we have been joined in this mission by the Toronto Zoo Wildlife Conservancy! Established in 2019, the Conservancy is working to build support and to secure financial resources for the Zoo’s conservation programs, educational initiatives and capital projects. Our first major project together is the building of a new outdoor habitat for our resident Sumatran orangutans.

Wild orangutans spend almost all of their lives high up in the trees. Tragically their forest homes are being cut down or burned at an alarming rate to make way for the planting of oil palms. According to a recent article in The Guardian, “the Sumatran rainforest could disappear in 20 years.” Every day acres and acres of rainforest – the orangutan’s natural habitat – is lost due to deforestation, and brings orangutans closer to extinction. It’s clear that we need to do more to protect orangutans from extinction. That’s why your Toronto Zoo is embarking on a bold new initiative - The Outdoor Orangutan Habitat Project - that will mean a brighter future for orangutans here, and connect Zoo guests to the issues facing orangutans in the Sumatran rainforest.

The outdoor habitat that is now under construction, with climbing structures, hills, streams and towers, will be three times the size of the orangutans’ current space. This new habitat will support their physical, social and intellectual needs, and enrich their daily lives. Our six orangutans, including 53 year-old female Puppe, will be able to climb high and feel the breeze on their faces as they look out over the treetops of the Rouge Valley.

Integrated into the new orangutan habitat will be a research station where animal behavioural experts can study these majestic tree dwellers. What we learn here with researchers in Toronto will be shared globally to help restore the Sumatran orangutan population. Our new habitat will also provide educational opportunities to learn more about the factors impending orangutan survival, and the positive actions each and every guest can take to fight extinction of these critically endangered animals.

Amazing new projects like this are a significant investment, with the cost of the new orangutan habitat at \$9.9 million. This is an important investment to enrich the daily lives of the orangutans in our care and a fantastic opportunity to improve our Zoo guest experience with connecting people, animals and conservation science to fight extinction. We are receiving amazing support for the project and there is still much to be done! The City of Toronto has committed \$4.7 million to the habitat, and dedicated supporters have already provided \$2.1 million. The Toronto Zoo Wildlife Conservancy now is raising the additional \$3.1 million needed to make this project a reality!

We are looking to partner with visionary individuals, foundations and corporations that care deeply about the success and well-being of the animals with which we share our planet. We invite you to take part in this unique opportunity to support a premier project that

Image: Rendering of proposed Orangutan habitat

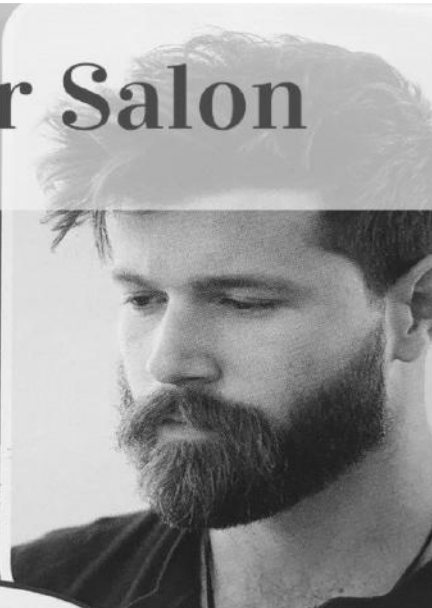
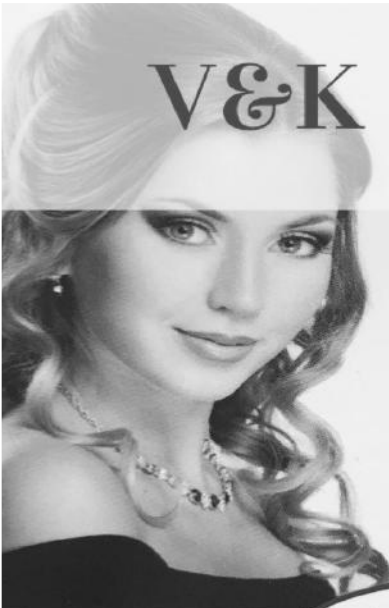


will enrich and inspire; that will demonstrate your commitment to the well-being of the orangutans in our care, and the survival of orangutans in the wild. Please visit wildlifeconservancy.ca for more information about the Toronto Zoo Wildlife Conservancy and how you can help.

Looking forward to crossing paths with you at our Zoo or in our Community this fall! Thank you for all of your support!

Dolf Dejong,
CEO, Toronto Zoo

V&K Hair Salon



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43rd Division Community Police Liaison Report

By: Joy Loewen

The Community Policing Liaison Committee (CPLC) met virtually on September 10, which is the first meeting since February (pre-Covid). We were introduced to the new Superintendent, Mr. David Rydzik.

Covid Update

There is no change in police service other than stations remain closed and there is currently no community outreach.

Speeding Cameras

These are in place and are moved regularly. Please visit Toronto.ca website for current locations, watch your speed and ensure your stickers are up to date.

Break and Enters

There has been a decrease in residential B&E's due to Covid, but has resulted in an increase in commercial B&E's. Ensure you do not leave cash in your stores overnight. If you're going away, leave a radio and/or lights on to discourage would-be robbers. Get to know your neighbours and be aware of who has security cameras. Vehicle robberies are up due to Covid. Ensure your car is locked and keep the interior clean. Very few robberies have involved forced entry. If anyone attempts a break-in of your home or car, please report it to the police at the non-emergency number 416-808-2222, even if you accidentally left your car unlocked.

Car Theft

Slightly higher year-over-year. It will be getting colder so don't leave your car running. Key fob devices can have their signal picked up if you leave your keys too close to the front door. Honda CRVs 2018 – 2020 are currently the vehicle of choice for car thieves.

Report Suspicious Activity

Reporting to the non-emergency line 416-808-2222 allows the police to link crime.

You can reach out to me at joyloewen.cplc@gmail.com if there are any community issues you would like brought to the attention of 43 Division.

The Highland Creek Public Library is open for business!

It's not totally business as usual at Highland Creek Library, but many services are back. Computers can be booked for limited time periods and there are some seats available to use Wifi and study. Printing, scanning and copying are also available. All online services are available on the website and new content is regularly being added.

What's different at the library?

Computer use in the library is limited to one hour time slots to allow for sanitizing between uses. Returned items are held in quarantine for 4 days before being checked in from a library card. This means there is a delay in the time an item is returned and the library card is cleared. But there are no fines at the moment! Magazines and newspapers have been suspended but they can be borrowed from online services through the TPL website. No in-person programs are being offered at the library; however there are a variety of online programs being offered on the website. Everyone is welcome to come to the library, as long as a mask is worn and sanitizing and social distancing are practiced.

We hope to see you back in the branch again soon!

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PROJECT INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE

1625 MILITARY TRAIL &
6000 KINGSTON ROAD

Location:

382 Old Kingston Road
Scarborough, ON
M1C 1B6

Date & Time:

Wednesday, October 28th, 2020
6:30pm to 8:30pm

Wednesday, November 11th, 2020
6:30pm to 8:30pm



AL TREE

Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit Notice of Public Information Centre #3



Metrolinx, an agency of the Province of Ontario, is working to transform the way the region moves by building a fast, convenient and integrated transit network. Part of this plan is to bring more frequent and reliable transit service, known as Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit, along Highway 2 and Ellesmere Road.

Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit is one part of the planned Frequent Rapid Transit Network. An Initial Business Case was completed in Spring 2018 to define the corridor and identify initial project costs and benefits, which will be refined as the project progresses.

Two rounds of public consultation were held in 2019. You can review the material on the project website: www.metrolinxengage.com/dsbrt

The next round of public consultation is planned for November 2020. Due to COVID-19, consultation will be conducted on-line. Information boards and narrated videos will be posted on the project website. The on-line event will run for four weeks.

If you have any questions, would like to be added to the project mailing list, or would like to provide input at any time, you can reach the project team at DSBRT@metrolinx.com.

mends maintaining the same number of general traffic lanes (2 lanes per direction, total of 4) **and widening to add one dedicated transit lane in each direction.** In other words, Ellesmere Road would have a total of 6 lanes (3 in each direction: 2 for general traffic and 1 for transit) from Military Trail to Meadowvale Road.

Between Meadowvale Road and Kingston Road, the team recommends maintaining the same number of general traffic lanes (1 lane per direction, total of 2) and widening to add one dedicated transit lane in each direction. In other words, Ellesmere Road would have a total of 4 lanes (2 in each direction: 1 for general traffic and 1 for transit). Note that the existing two lanes east of Meadowvale are already wide, so the widening needed to accommodate the dedicated transit lanes is minimal.

“We look forward to more constructive conversations with the Highland Creek community.” - Metrolinx

A Message from Metrolinx:

Metrolinx is working to bring more frequent and reliable transit service to Ellesmere Road.

Metrolinx is advancing the planning and design of the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project, together with the City of Toronto and the Toronto Transit Commission. The purpose of the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project is to improve reliability of transit services for people who live, work and study in Scarborough and Durham Region. The bus lanes will be used by TTC, DRT and GO buses to get people to where they need to go efficiently and reliably. Residents of Highland Creek and Scarborough who rely on the TTC today will benefit from the bus lanes which will provide a more reliable level of service, as well as drivers who will not be delayed by buses in the curb lanes.

The project team appreciates the Highland Creek community's interest in this project, including articles in the The Villager editions of March/April, June/July, and August 2020. The project team would like to take this opportunity to clarify certain aspects of the project. The Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project team recognizes the unique character of the Highland Creek community. In fact, the area along Ellesmere Road from Military Trail to Kingston Road, including the Highland Creek area, was identified as an area requiring detailed study. This section of Ellesmere Road was specifically evaluated in 2019 and technical work continues. Our objective is to find the right solution which provides transit reliability and remains sensitive to the local context. Projects of this size take time to develop the concept from planning to detail design, before the bus lanes can be implemented. The planning and preliminary design for the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project is ongoing.

The public will have more opportunities to review and comment on the preliminary design concept this fall. Once the preliminary design and Environmental Assessment is completed in 2021, the project will be considered for funding and implementation.

Ellesmere Road is not proposed to be widened to 7-lanes.

The recommended solution for Ellesmere Road from Military Trail to Kingston Road was presented in November 2019. The preliminary design also includes continuous sidewalks, cycling facilities, and enhanced transit shelters.

Where possible, space within the right-of-way is being dedicated for trees, grass, street lighting and other features.

Between Military Trail and Meadowvale Road, the team recom-

Left-turns will be protected at signalized intersections.

At all signalized intersections, dedicated left-turn lanes will be added with a dedicated left-turn arrow signal to improve the operations and safety of turning vehicles. **We understand that changing driveway access is an inconvenience.** We are looking at options to mitigate this as much as possible. Once we have this information we will make it available.

Dedicated bus lanes can be used by emergency vehicles to bypass general traffic.

Emergency service vehicles, including police, fire and ambulance, will be able to use the dedicated transit lanes. Emergency vehicles will be able to by-pass general traffic and minimize response times. The detailed design will include input from emergency services.

Impacts to mature trees and private properties are being avoided as much as possible.

Property impacts are still being determined as the preliminary design is developed. Most of the proposed design for Ellesmere Road will fit in the existing right-of-way.

Impacts may occur around signalized intersections.

After this study concludes, property owners that are directly impacted will be contacted. A detailed tree inventory, as well as environmental investigations looking at vegetation impacts and proposed mitigation measures are being completed. This information will be available for the public's review as part of the fourth round of consultation in Winter 2021.

The preliminary design is in development and is not yet final.

The project team is busy completing technical studies to determine potential impacts and propose mitigation measures. Due to COVID-19, the meetings we had planned for Spring 2020 were delayed to Fall 2020. We are planning virtual events, which will allow the Highland Creek community to engage with the project and review the preliminary design and technical studies at your convenience.

The pandemic has highlighted the need for reliable public transit. We look forward to more constructive conversations with the Highland Creek community.

For more information, please visit the project website at: www.metrolinxengage.com/dsbrt

Rebuttal to Metrolinx’s Article By Marja Phillips

Paragraph 1
The TTC is already a reliable and efficient service. Metrolinx plans to have BRT diesel polluting our air, and mostly empty buses running as often as every 5 minutes, or even every 2 minutes during rush hours. We will now have to put up with GO buses as well. Everyone’s health could be severely affected with air pollution. They have no plans for hybrid or electric buses.

Paragraph 2 – see The Villager at www.myhighlandcreek.org/the-villager.html

Paragraph 3
There is still no resolution to the Kingston Rd/Ellesmere Rd “pinch point”. How will GO buses turn here?

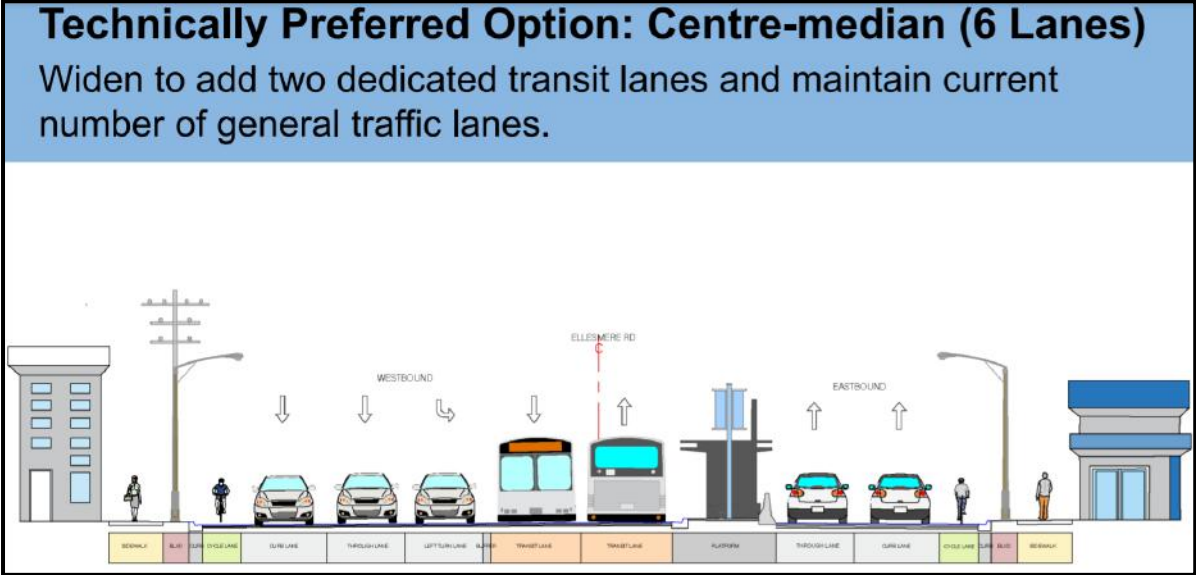
Paragraph 4
On June 4, 2020, Metrolinx did a virtual presentation on this project, but the quality was extremely poor. How will Metrolinx ensure the community of Highland Creek have a fair and clear understanding of this project, and when will their proposed study be completed in 2021? We pointed out to Metrolinx during our meeting on October 2, 2020 with the Highland Creek Community Association that communications on this project have been very poor, and we have asked Metrolinx to update and keep everyone on Ellesmere in constant touch with their plans.

Paragraph 5
Per comment by Metrolinx on October 2, 2020, our mature trees on the boulevards “will come down.” To accommodate road expansion, including sidewalks and cycling facilities, a great deal of land will be needed. Metrolinx prefers the word “negotiate” instead of “expropriate.” People will have to pay for their own land appraisal, but Metrolinx will still **TAKE** the land they require. Where will all the **current** infrastructure be **relocated**? Medical experts have raised health issues about hydro lines too close to homes.

Paragraphs 6+7
Metrolinx insists there will not be 7 lanes, but a turn lane **must** be accommodated. However, Metrolinx says a ‘turn lane’ is not a lane! So where does the land for this come from?

Paragraph 8
Homeowners along Ellesmere Road will still **not** be able to do left-hand turns from their property.

Paragraph 9
When there is a steady stream of buses in the dedicated lanes, how can emergency vehicles possibly use them? This will add more stress to the emergency drivers. Fire engines, ambulanc-



Proposed Ellesmere Road schematic, from Military Trail to Meadowvale Road. Cross-sections are conceptual. Source: Durham Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit Public Information Centre #2 Boards (Metrolinx)

es and police **all** go to an emergency.

Paragraph 10
Considering their plans, Highland Creek will need explicit explanations for this study – and as with all their studies, nothing has yet been completed. What are we getting for the \$10 million they were given for Durham BRT study?

Paragraph 11 – see again Paragraph 4.


Note: Metrolinx will use a similar model to the one in Newmarket. This was very costly and took 7 years to build, and it goes nowhere. They refused to provide any information on the cost of the Newmarket project. Why has Metrolinx not selected Sheppard Avenue as a viable route? It meets **all** of their requirements – no “pinch points”, trees, homes, and infrastructure are all well set back from the road. Sidewalks and cycle paths are already established. It would connect with the proposed Line 3 extension to McCowan & Sheppard, and include drop off points at the Pan-Am facility, Centennial College and UTSC, accommodating riders from Malvern as well. This is the **BEST** solution, and the **MOST** cost effective route. There is **no need** to spend millions, and more, of taxpayer’s money on **destroying** the Highland Creek community.

Notice from the City of Toronto RE: Condo Development

1625 Military Trail and 6000 Kingston Road


Virtual Community Consultation Meeting

Meeting Details:



Date: November 3, 2020

Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm



This meeting will be online and phone-in only. Information and participation instructions are provided on the next page.

How to participate:

Visit the Application Information Centre to review the application material before the meeting. The presentation slides will be available at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Join Online:

The session will take place on November 3, 2020 from 7:00-8:30 pm. A link will be provided on the City Planning Consultations webpage at <http://www.toronto.ca/cpconsultations> before the session to be used for joining the meeting online.

For more information about how to join the meeting, how to participate and code of conduct visit: <http://www.toronto.ca/cpconsultations>.

Join by Phone:

Before the meeting:

Participants by phone will not be able to ask live questions during the meeting. Submit your comments in advance by contacting the City Planning Staff or the Councillor’s Office.

During the meeting:

On November 3, 2020 from 7:00-8:30 pm. The call-in number and meeting number will be provided on the City Planning Consultations webpage at <http://www.toronto.ca/cpconsultations>.

*Note that you should be able to join the meeting a few minutes before it starts.

Please visit myhighlandcreek.org for full notice.

highlandcreekvillager@gmail.com



Edward R. Fleury, Q.C.

Gregory E. McConnell, M.A., LL.B.

Stephen P. Fleury, B.Sc., LL.B.

Donald C. MacVicar, M.B.A., LL.B.

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Barristers & Solicitors



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Fall Edition



In our Summer edition, we asked our readers to share photos of their furry and fluffy local friends. Enjoy the pics of these furry and fluffy local friends from your neighbours.

"Our pet family members have kept many of us grounded and feeling loved" ~LT

Our beloved four- and two-legged (not to forget the tiny ones) inspire warm feelings in us in so many ways. This year, our pet family members have kept many of us grounded during these most uncertain of circumstances.

Featured above is Charly, nicknamed Charlygirl. She was in her final moments catching rays.

Thank you to all you Highland Creekers who took the time to send a photo or two, and thank you for the notes filled with love for your furry friends.





SEDNA



BELLA BEE



CHARLIE



REILLY



OGGIE

Share photos of pets for this Fall
als; perhaps you'll recognize a
rhood walks!

ounded and

wo-finned) friends
r in particular, our
and feeling loved
nces.
spent her recent

time to send us a
pride and love for
end.

HCCA Corner

SOCIAL MEDIA

HCCA Villager News is looking for a
Social Media Coordinator
to join our volunteer team.
Email us at highlandcreekvillager@gmail.com

THE VILLAGER NEWS IS LOOKING FOR AN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR TO JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM



Volunteer + Bonus Hour of Exercise!

The Villager is in search of volunteer distributors
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bours, please contact Mr. Blair Anderson at
longsam1943@sympatico.ca

JOIN THE HCCA: Clip and mail in Membership Form with cheque for \$10 to:
HIGHLAND CREEK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (HCCA)
371 Old Kingston Road, P.O. Box 97501, Highland Creek, ON M1C 4Z1
Or pay online at www.myhighlandcreek.org

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Please print

I enclose payment of \$10 (one year) or \$20 (two years)

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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MEET THE HCCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2020/22

How the HCCA helps you:

- ◆ Provides representation to all levels of government.
- ◆ Advocates for the residents on Highland Creek proposed developments.
- ◆ HCCA volunteers create and deliver for free The Villager 5 times a year to keep the community engaged and involved in our beautiful community.
- ◆ Plans and coordinates annual family events to bring community together to celebrate and enhance our community culture and sense of belonging.
- ◆ Participates in and financially supports community activities such as: Highland Creek Heritage Festival, Spring Clean-up, I Love Highland Creek Social, Pumpkin Parade, Winter Festival of Lights, and Port Union Waterfront Festival.



David Adamson, President

I am a long term resident of Highland Creek and over the years have been actively involved in community activities. I have served as President of the West Hill/Highland Creek Lions Club, Chair of the Highland Creek Heritage Festival, President of the R.C.L. Branch 258, Vice Chair of the Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care and currently serving as President of the HCCA. The HCCA and the community of Highland Creek face a number of interesting challenges such as development projects, multi-tenant housing and speeding concerns. The HCCA has a strong and dedicated team of directors, and along with support from our local elected representatives, it is hoped that satisfactory conclusions will be reached for the aforementioned matters. Most importantly, thanks to my wife Barbara and family for their support and understanding over the years.



Bill Yarn, Vice President

A resident of Highland Creek for nearly three decades, I’ve served on various committees to support Highland Creek’s growth. This includes my participation in the Highland Creek Festival Committee for several years, management of three fundraising events for the community, and 2+ years serving as a Board Member with the HCCA. Outside of community work, I am the President and Founder of a transportation logistics company, Fast Links Transportation. I look forward to seeing Highland Creek thrive, and deeply appreciate the support we receive from community members.



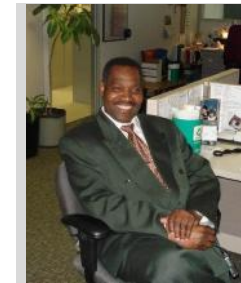
Elma Todkill, Treasurer

I became a Highland Creek Community Association member when the Association assumed ownership of the Highland Creek Wesleyan Cemetery. The Cemetery, in the heart of the village, was part of Centennial-Rouge United Church which closed in 2010. As well as being secretary and treasurer of HCCA, I have a team of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain the cemetery as the showpiece of Highland Creek.



David Atlas, Secretary

I was born and have lived my entire life in Scarborough. I bought my first, and hopefully only, house in Highland Creek 25 years ago. I’ve spent my entire career – now 35 years – working for CIBC (starting at what was then Morningside Mall). I enjoy cycling on the terrific trails in our community, keeping fit at the gym, and baking for friends and family (hence the need for the gym!). Additionally, I am a member of the Highland Creek Heritage Festival Committee where I hold the position of Treasurer.



Josh Allen

I am a retired Probation and Parole Officer. I will be connecting and co-ordinating with local Highland Creek schools to maintain communication and provide updates to the larger community via the HCCA.



Blair Anderson

I was born and grew up in Highland Creek. When I retired I returned to the village and decided to become involved in the community. I joined the Highland Creek Community Association in 2005 and have been involved ever since. At one time, I produced the Villager and still look after distribution as well as being the former treasurer. I now take care of grass cutting and overall care of the Highland Creek Wesleyan Cemetery.

Join the HCCA
Your membership in HCCA ensures that we have a strong voice to best represent the interests of our residents.

Your Community Association needs financial support. You can help by becoming a member.
Membership is only \$10 per year, per household.
Go to page 13, or pay online: myhighlandcreek.org under HCCA Memberships to sign up!

Endorses the beautification and restoration of the Highland Creek Village.

Plan and attend meetings, provide community input, and report on local issues such as rooming houses, Metrolinx Bus Rapid Transit proposed for Ellesmere Rd, proposed largest waste transfer and Biogas plant In Ontario, Altree Developments' amendment proposal for 2 x 8-storey condo buildings on the Highland Creek Ravine.

Permit and building submissions.

Members of HCCA provide regular maintenance to shared spaces, such as Wesleyan Cemetery plus community cleanup of Highland Creek Village and area parks.



Brian Blakeley

Together with my spouse, I have lived in Highland Creek since 2003 on Milroy Crescent. We love the community and its closeness to nature. The diversity of the neighbourhood is a key element of our vibrant community, which is celebrated in many annual events that are a source of spirit and strength for all of us who call Highland Creek our home. I am looking forward to meeting more of you, as we work together to grow and sustain Highland Creek through the work of the HCCA.



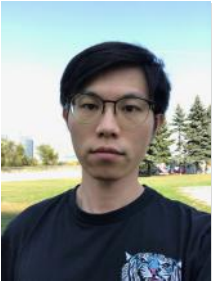
Chris Goethel

I have lived in Highland Creek for over 22 years, moving from the Guildwood area. I retired from the Ontario Government as a Senior Policy Advisor and Economist, with experience in both Fiscal Policy and Energy. I now use my time and expertise to give back to the community. I am a former editor of the Highland Creek Villager and still occasionally provides articles for the Villager, often about businesses in the Village.



Neil Jaikaran

For almost 50 years I’ve lived in many neighbourhoods of the GTA. Over 27 of these years I resided in Highland Creek, where I raised a family of four kids. I served as Chair of the Parents Council at Morrish P.S for two years and community member at Cardinal Leger and Pope John Paul II. I’ve served as a member of the HCCA for over ten years and also served on the Festival committee, hoping to continue in both areas going forward. I am also a Real Estate Sales Representative with over 30 years of experience.



Eric Lin

I have been living in Highland Creek for 8 years. I went to the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus for the Management Co-op program and I specialized in Finance. I hope I can contribute to improving community involvement at Highland Creek.



Joy Loewen

I have lived in Highland Creek for 9 years with my husband and our daughter. I am on the Community Policing Liaison Committee representing Highland Creek and I look forward to working with the HCCA.



Anna Tsirakidis

I moved to Highland Creek with my husband Peter, now deceased, from East York 35 years ago and raised our family, a son and a daughter. I retired from American Express after 30 years and helped support and grow our family business in Richmond Hill, ON — A.P.T. Custom Carpets — my daughter continues to operate and run the business. I am very passionate about Highland Creek: It’s beautiful trails, ravines, mature trees and the Heritage and village atmosphere. I care deeply about controlling the development within and around our community. We need to bring life and beautification back to our Village and enhance its presence without losing our Heritage within the greater GTA.

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Scarborough-Rouge Park

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Emergency Wage Subsidy to next summer, rebuild an EI system that works for all Canadians, and introduce further support for industries that have been hit the hardest, including travel and tourism, hospitality, and cultural industries like the performing arts.

MP Scarborough-Rouge Park, Gary Anandasangaree

The COVID-19 pandemic has been an unparalleled test to Canadians, bringing sweeping change to every facet of our lives. From public health measures keeping us from our loved ones to widespread business closures and layoffs threatening our livelihoods, the last six months have shown just how important it is to come together and support each other during these trying times.

It is now clear that the impacts of COVID-19 will be felt for generations, and that we can no longer walk the same road we first mapped out less than a year ago. In order to rebuild a stronger Canada and ensure the safety of Canadians, we must look to the future and take bold action.

During the Speech from the Throne on September 23rd, the Governor General revealed the four foundations of our government’s plan to build back better together.

The first foundation of this plan is to fight the pandemic and save lives, by doing everything we can to protect Canadians’ health. This will include creating a federal Testing Assistance Response Team to meet surge testing demands, efforts to deploy faster tests as soon as they are approved in Canada, and targeted financial support for businesses that have to shut down due to a local health order. We also stand ready to continue building domestic PPE capacity while securing more future vaccine candidates, so that every Canadian has access to treatment once it is available.

The second pillar of the Speech from the Throne is to do whatever it takes to support Canadians and businesses through this crisis, for as long as it lasts. To rebuild from job losses and strengthen our economy, we will launch a campaign to create more than a million jobs, extend the Canada

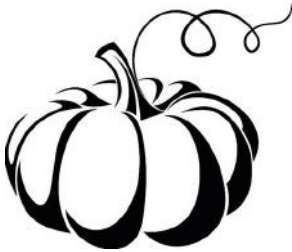
Furthermore, the pandemic has also deepened pre-existing inequalities affecting women, who largely shoulder the burden of unpaid care work at home. To combat this challenge, we will be creating a new action plan to help more women get back into the workforce and ensure a feminist intersectional response to our economic recovery.

The third foundation of the pillar is to Build Back Better, creating a stronger, and more resilient Canada. By continuing our efforts to strengthen the middle class and help people working hard to join it, we will address gaps in our social systems, invest in healthcare, and build a stronger workforce. Our government also recognizes that building back better means creating a more sustainable future for the next generation. Our long-term competitiveness strategy will focus heavily on clean growth, while addressing the issues that matter most to Canadians like climate change.


The final foundation of our plan is to continue shaping the Canada which defends our shared values. Here in Canada, we take care of one another. Together, there is more work to do to achieve progress on gender equality, walk the road to reconciliation, and address systemic racism. We will stand up for the values that define our country, from embracing our two official languages, celebrating the contributions of LGBTQ2 communities, and welcoming newcomers and supporting family reunification.

As always, if my team can be of any assistance to you or your family, please do not hesitate to send us an email at gary.anand@parl.gc.ca or give us a call at 416-283-1414.

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Welcome Back!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our students and families to a new school year at Highland Creek. We are sure your child is excited to get back to school. We had a very busy two weeks prior to school start, working collaboratively with staff to prepare for Highland Creek’s Safe Return to School. We hope you all found some time this summer to enjoy the outdoors and spend time virtually with relatives and friends. One thing we know for a fact is that school life will not look the way it did before. Our month went smoothly and we thank our parents for cooperating with the new safety measures we have in place. Our student reporters were excited to have an opportunity to share their views of Returning To School. We are so proud of our students and how fast they adjusted to this new reality. We look forward to a successful year for each of our students. Together as a community, we can ensure Highland Creek is a safe, caring and supportive learning environment where each of our students, staff, parents and family members feel welcome. We look forward to the many successes that await us this school year!

Stay well, safe and connected,

M. Halabi

Principal

Returning to In-School Learning, September 2020

Written by: A.K., M.A.S., A.K.

Ellen Pompeo, one of the world’s highest paid actors and producer once said, “The expected is just the beginning. The unexpected is what changes our lives.” This quote is very relatable this year, since we can all agree that none of us saw this pandemic coming, and it has most definitely changed our daily lives. So many things have changed over the years at school, but this year is the most different, as a result of COVID-19. As our teachers and principal have mentioned many times, “This school year will be like no other.” It does not mean that we cannot continue learning, it just means that there are now many safety measures and new and improved protocols that allow us to learn safely. Like most classes this year, we had the opportunity to reflect on our feelings during this unprecedented time. During this time of reflection, we found that all three of us had similar feelings about coming back to learn in-school. Compared to remote learning, the first week back to school, we felt more productive. We had a routine to follow and things were organized in a different way. We were excited to engage in learning in the classroom at school rather than from our bedrooms. We felt as if our brains were ready to learn. We remember when we first entered the school we were excited about meeting our friends, communicating with them face to face, and catching up on what they did over the quarantine period.

On the first day of school, we felt nervous when first entering the school, but as we got settled in, we felt more comfortable and relaxed. Over the first couple of days, we had mixed feelings. It was very intriguing and exciting; we got to play a lot of new games and went over important safety protocols and rules. The next few days were more interesting, as we settled into our academic focus of learning. However, we still played games, which made the work more fun. After two weeks of doing in-school learning, we were glad that our learning has gotten back to a new normal.

We had very positive feelings regarding in-school learning over the past two weeks, and were curious to know how the rest of the school felt. So we set off to find out if our peers shared the same perspective. During our interviews with different students we found that they faced some

challenges in attending school during this pandemic. When coming back to school, we knew that there would be strict expectations about wearing masks and sanitizing. A grade 3 student, M.S said, “It’s tiring to wear,” referring to her mask. There are also a lot of measures in place to keep us safe. M.I, a grade 7 student said, “It feels different because our field is now split up and we can only play with our classmates. We have to bring our own water bottle and we can fill it in our new water filling station, but I feel safe because everyone is wearing a mask and practicing physical distancing.” Group work is different due to social distancing. We are finding creative ways to collaborate with our classmates.

Through our interviews, we learned that even though sometimes students needed to adjust to wearing a mask, sanitizing their hands, and physically distancing from their peers, like us they had positive feelings about returning to in-school learning. If a student needed a break from wearing a mask, we have opportunities during the day to be outdoors and take it off, remembering to keep two meters apart from others. As one grade 2 student said, “I’m fine with it ‘cause when I take it off at the end of the day it feels nice.” A grade 7 student, L.R said, “I don’t really mind it and at least I’m at school and I’m safe.” We feel safe because most people cooperate, wear a mask and maintain physical distance. Our principal, May Halabi, reminds us about these very important rules every day during morning announcements, to stay physically distant. The teachers in the hallways are always reminding students to stay six feet apart at all times. In class they are always reminding us to not share anything and not to touch other people’s belongings.

Overall, based on our interviews we found that most students have a positive mindset about returning to school and the measures that are in place to keep us safe as we continue to learn. Some students find wearing a mask for so long challenging, and are getting used to the extra routines in place; however, everyone is still doing their part so we can all remain safe. None of us expected this much change, but we have been able to move forward and we are overjoyed to return back to school.

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



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Dedicated Handcrafters Donate

By Norma Campbell

For the last 30 years, the St. Dunstan Pastoral Care Group has donated handmade gifts to patients in Centenary Hospital, and more recently Scarborough General and Birchmount sites. These items include emergency teddies, demonstration dolls, lap blankets, bed blankets, fidget blankets, chemo shawls, chemo turbans. For the neonatal bereavement program, special items included pouches, blankets, teddies, receiving blankets, blankets and hats and booties. Each item is lovingly made in an attempt to bring comfort and relief to patients and families going through stressful times.

When the pandemic began, the Volunteer Manager, Florence Edebiri, requested that the Pastoral Care Group change their focus from patients to making items for frontline workers at all three sites making up SHN. After reviewing the request, I realized that we would need assistance and so another St. Dunstan group, The Crafties, rose to the challenge and together we became the SHN Support Group. We now have 27 dedicated handcrafters who have donated 2035 hats, 886 scrub bags, 2953 Mask Mates, and 97 headbands.

Each Monday the members meet on Zoom for planning updates and developing new strategies. Some group members work alone finishing the complete item while others work as a virtual team with procurers of materials, fabric cutters, machinists, button sewers, elastic slotters and knitters. They have sewn on a total of 9976 buttons. I deliver to the Centenary site every two weeks, where items are prepared and packaged for delivery to staff. We are hoping to continue our work until there is no longer a need.

We are requesting donations of fabric, 3/4 to 1” buttons, elastic and sheets, which can be dropped off at St. Dunstan. Church, 56 Lawson Road.



Above:
Craftie
Norma
Campbell

Right:
Craftie
Beth
MacDon-
ald

Above: Craftie Louise Gough
Top left to bottom left: Various
crafted donations



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MENOPAUSE: A NATUROPATHIC APPROACH

“Symptoms are the result of the hormonal imbalances in the body.”
Dr. Karm Hans

Official menopause is defined as an absence of a period for 12 consecutive months. The transition prior to menopause is termed perimenopause - meaning around menopause. Average age for menopause is about 50 but perimenopause can start in your 40s. During this time you may experience a variety of symptoms.

Some of the common symptoms associated with perimenopause and menopause include the following:

- ◆ Hot flashes
- ◆ Insomnia
- ◆ Anxiety/depression
- ◆ Memory issues, difficulty with concentration or brain fog
- ◆ Weight gain
- ◆ Reduced libido (sex drive)
- ◆ Urinary tract infections
- ◆ Painful/stiff joints
- ◆ Hair loss or thinning

One important thing I would like to emphasize - although the above symptoms are common THEY ARE TREATABLE. I meet too many women who feel there is nothing that can be done and they need to live with their symptoms and spend years suffering. This absolutely does not need to be the case. These symptoms are the result of the hormonal imbalances in the body

When seeking support for menopausal symptoms here are a few considerations:

- Get the appropriate blood work
- hormone blood work: estrogen, FSH, LH, testosterone, prolactin
- full thyroid panel
- lipid/cholesterol panel
- blood sugar levels
- kidney and liver function tests

- Assess your cortisol levels - looks at how your body deals with stress
- Do a full body detox - this can be done in many different ways (consider speaking with a health care practitioner who can guide you with a detox to suit your needs)
- Take some herbs to support you - common ones include black cohosh, maca, dong quai, sage, vitex, licorice root, ashwagandha etc.
- Eat well and focus on nutrition - no need to follow any trends or fads - focus on intuitive eating and getting the nutrients your body needs
- Lift weights - building lean muscle mass has so many benefits - helps with bone density as well as disease prevention

There are a few areas I focus on when working with women experiencing menopausal symptoms. In addition to hormonal changes occurring within the body we want to consider if detox pathways are working optimally and if stress and thyroid hormones are in balance. Everything in our body is connected. When you want to make change, it is imperative to consider all of these systems. This is when we are truly able to achieve the outcomes we are looking for.

Dr. Karm Hans is a Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine at Equilibria Health Centre. more information email at karmhans@gmail.com.

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POETRY CORNER

LOVE

I cannot tell you what love is for it is not tangible like cement
but I can tell you this, you cannot beg for it borrow it nor rent
I never did quite figure out what makes it come what makes it go
one thing I know for sure is this, when I near it I begin to glow

Love is not an easy word to whisper in the thick of angered rage
nor is it something you can slip between the lines of a written page
Love is to be lived without devour from patience to understanding you need
to treat it like gold, if it's to be your Lancelot of everlasting

I could never pin the moment of love's conception nor when it died but the
one thing I did realize with age is this, if its real its bona fide
if life is a gift, love is the all enduring essence of all that is good in me and I
cannot imagine giving it to someone, without giving it for free

I cannot tell you what love is for sure, but I can tell you its all I need love is a
two-sided sword, it makes you happy or it makes you bleed
I never did quite figure out what makes it come what makes it go
but one thing I know for sure is this, when I near it I begin to glow.

By Vienna Bombardieri

ANGELS IN MY HEAD

Dreams are made of fairy dust and gold my mom once said
as she tucked me in real tight and kissed my sleepy head
you will see stars of bright and little angels baking bread
there upon a cloud, a Pegasus with wings of finest thread
Dreams are made for human bodies full of goodness, light
you can get there if you try and wish with all your might
you'll see blueberry moons with eyes that wink so bright
magic swords with pixie dust, that never fear the night
Fairies will rock you in their cradles by their garden nook
while you sleep five winks and create with just one look
up here you can be a butterfly lost in the winds of chinook
reveal most anything, be transparent as an open book
Dreams are made of fairy dust and gold my mom once said
as she tucked me in I fell asleep, with angels in my head.

By: Mystic Rose

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Fall 2020

DRY CLEANING DURING COVID

By: Richard Dravid

Cleaning your garments is especially important now as it kills germs and helps to keep you safe. Having managed a dry cleaning and garment care business for over 20 years, people often ask me how to identify and choose a good dry cleaner. I always suggest they consider the following:

- 1. **Trust & Dependability:** This is most important as you are depending on them to clean and care for your personal items with products that are safe for you and your garments. They should demonstrate that they can provide your garments on the agreed day.
- 2. **Communication & Relationship:** Being able to understand and communicate clearly builds good relationships where your needs are understood. If there is a problem, it's easier to resolve with minimal conflict.
- 3. **Price & Quality:** Cheap prices should not be your main priority. Good garment care requires the right cleaning agents, machinery, and skills, these result in higher prices. Cheap prices usually mean poor quality and should be avoided.
- 4. **Problem Resolution:** Accidents do happen, but good dry cleaners have policies in place to compensate customers.

Each year many dry cleaners shut down and people lose their garments. Reach out to your dry cleaners to discuss your needs and what measures they are taking to ensure your well-being. Stay safe and stay clean.

Richard Dravid in the Owner of Klassic Dry Cleaners & Bubbles and Stitch Mobile Dry Cleaners
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Next edition featuring your favorite Holiday Eats. Highland Creekers, share your recipes! Pass along Grandma’s Cookie Recipe, share that simple and delicious appetizer recipe, pass along a li'l festive cocktail mixture for all to enjoy. The magic of winter holidays is all about good food shared... SHARE those recipes with the neighbourhood, and give us a taste of your favorite holiday recipes. Send your complete recipe along with a photo of your holiday treats to highlandcreekvillager@gmail.com by Nov 20th, 2020.

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