

# City of Brampton

## COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021 Edition



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Dear Friends,

We are now more than two years into the 2018-2022 term of Council, and it has been an honour to serve as your area Regional and City Councillors. While the COVID-19 pandemic has shifted priorities at the City of Brampton, we have still accomplished much together.

Automated Speed Enforcement cameras were launched across the city to help reduce speeding, several located in Wards 3 and 4. We have welcomed a new Police substation in Downtown Brampton, and have begun planning for a Youth Hub at South Fletchers Sportsplex. Council has implemented three consecutive zero per cent tax increases, and have launched four new partnerships within the Innovation District to enhance economic presence in Downtown Brampton. The City of Brampton has also secured funding for the Riverwalk project and several transit projects.

The City of Brampton has also recently welcomed the Province of Ontario's announcements to fund the expansion of Peel Memorial into a new hospital that will include more than 250 net new beds and expand urgent care to 24/7 operations, in addition to financial support for the development of a new institute of medical education in Brampton in partnership with Ryerson University.

Our COVID-19 task forces have done exceptional work supporting Brampton residents. Our COVID-19 task forces have done exceptional work supporting Brampton residents. Our Social Support Task Force has coordinated over 3,000 grocery and meal requests, while the Seniors Support Task Force arranged 388 grocery deliveries and managed 418 inquiries for grocery support and referrals to government and community agencies. The City also facilitated 51 Digital Café meetings for seniors. Our Youth Support Task Force continues to work with more than 40 community youth groups/organizations to provide youth access to programming and resources, our Economic Development Task Force connected with over 10,000 small businesses, and our Reopening and Recovery Working Group engaged with more than 8,000 residents during the recovery-specific Tele Town Hall. With the vaccine rollout currently underway, we encourage you and your family to get your vaccination when made available to you. Please continue to wear a mask, keep a social distance and wash your hands regularly.

Jeff Bowman

Martin Medeiros

City Council meetings take place every other **Wednesday at 9:30 am.**

For more details, visit [brampton.ca](http://brampton.ca) (select City Hall in the menu, and click on Meetings and Agendas in the Council section).





The City is building an innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, in the heart of downtown Brampton, branded the Innovation District.

The district offers an array of supports for entrepreneurs, businesses and start-ups at every stage of their journey. These supports are allowing us to capitalize on partnerships with educational institutions to provide education, talent development, and start-up incubation and accelerator space.

There are more than 10 existing partners, ranging from co-working spaces, accelerators, incubators, and a national centre for innovation and collaboration in cybersecurity – and still more to join, including BHive, a soft landing pad for international entrepreneurs.

The continued evolution of our Innovation District is a key piece of our Economic Recovery strategy. Learn more at [bramptoninnovationdistrict.com](http://bramptoninnovationdistrict.com)

## COVID-19 UPDATES AND VACCINATION ROLLOUT

Please continue checking our website [brampton.ca](http://brampton.ca) for COVID-19 updates and safety measures to keep you, your family and friends safe. In line with the Province's COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan, the Region of Peel is working diligently to deliver the COVID-19 vaccine safely and quickly to our community. For updates on vaccine appointments, eligibility, priority groups and distribution, please visit Peel Region's website [peelregion.ca](http://peelregion.ca)



## BRAMPTON TRANSIT GOES GREEN!

Brampton Transit is a proud participant in the first-of-its-kind electric bus pilot project. The unprecedented initiative has brought multiple levels of government, bus and charger manufacturers, system integrators, academia, and funding partners together to implement electric buses in Brampton.

This project is the largest single global deployment of standardized and fully interoperable battery electric buses and high-powered overhead on-route charging systems.

Brampton Transit unveiled the new electric bus brand and introduced buses into service earlier this spring.

Brampton is a Green City and these zero-emission, state-of-the-art vehicles will save approximately 235 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, per bus, contributing to Brampton's goal of reducing emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050.





## STAY ACTIVE AND HAVE FUN



There is no shortage of activities to keep fit, active and engaged this season. The City of Brampton's Recreation team have a number of things on the go for residents of all ages including virtual fitness, inclusive activities, on-demand Rec at Home programs and more.

Visit [brampton.ca/recreation](https://brampton.ca/recreation) for updates throughout the summer, and get ready for your next activity and challenge!



## BRAMPTON PLAN Official Plan Review Engagement

The City of Brampton began developing a new Official Plan "Brampton Plan" in late 2019. An Official Plan guides how a city develops and affects virtually every aspect of daily life. It guides the location and type of housing, industry, offices, stores, as well as the infrastructure needed to support a growing city – including streets, parks, transit, schools, and recreational facilities.

The Brampton Plan Engagement Strategy provides the opportunity for fulsome engagement by residents, stakeholders, staff, community groups/agencies, vulnerable communities, and more.

To learn more, register for virtual events and to take our survey, visit [brampton.ca/bramptonplan](https://brampton.ca/bramptonplan)



## THE NURTURING NEIGHBOURHOODS PROGRAM CONTINUES ONLINE IN 2021!

Our teams are excited to continue exploring and learning as we plan tours of 15 new neighbourhoods. Videos of selected neighbourhoods will be posted with welcome messages from Mayor Brown and area Councillors. Residents can explore destinations within each neighbourhood, complete surveys and pin areas with comments as we cover themes of community safety and well-being, open spaces and the environment and more!

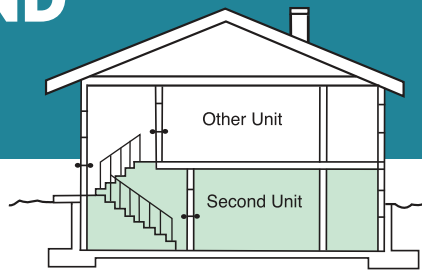
Our program partners are motivated to continue connecting with more residents across the city.

If you would like to see the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Program visit your area or want to stay up-to-date with what's happening in your neighbourhood visit [brampton.ca/neighbourhoods](https://brampton.ca/neighbourhoods)





## SECOND UNITS



Registering second units (basement apartments) with the City ensures that they are safe, legal and livable. It helps the City provide the unit with its own municipal address. This information is shared with Brampton Fire, in case of an emergency, they will know there is a second unit in your house before they arrive. This can save precious seconds in a life-or-death situation. The registry is also available on the City's website allowing residents to confirm if a property is legally registered. For illegal second units, fines could go up to \$25,000.

## KEEPING BRAMPTON CLEAN AND GREEN

Until November, residents and businesses are encouraged to register for self-led clean ups at one of our many parks.

If you collect recyclables during your cleanup, please remember to recycle them. To learn more about how to sort your waste, visit the Region of Peel's website at [peelregion.ca](http://peelregion.ca). Together, we can keep Brampton clean and green!

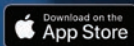
Share your cleanup photos with us by emailing [bramptongreencity@brampton.ca](mailto:bramptongreencity@brampton.ca)

For more information, including any restrictions that may be in place, visit [brampton.ca/cleanup](http://brampton.ca/cleanup)



## QUICK AND EASY WAYS TO REACH 311 BRAMPTON!

- Download the **311Brampton app**
- Visit [311Brampton.ca](http://311Brampton.ca)
- Call 311 within city limits  
(905.874.2000 outside city limits)



## BRAMPTON RELEASES UPDATED ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER PLAN

On March 24, 2021, Brampton City Council unanimously approved the update of the Brampton Grow Green Environmental Master Plan (EMP), building on its commitment to being a Green City. The update of this pivotal document highlights the City of Brampton's environmental successes and how the environmental priorities have evolved since the EMP was first released in 2014, and provides a refreshed Action Plan to drive these goals forward. The Action Plan features 60 high-impact actions that chart the course for a greener city over the next decade, and will accelerate Brampton as a healthy, resilient, and environmentally sustainable community.



## CREATING SPACE FOR BRAMPTON'S YOUTH

On March 5, the Government of Canada, Government of Ontario and the City of Brampton announced funding for the Community Youth Hub at Susan Fennel Sportsplex (formerly South Fletcher's Sportsplex). This initiative will provide Brampton youth with a safe and accessible space to participate in youth-specific programs, services and activities.

Enhancing access to youth-centric spaces is part of the City of Brampton's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The City of Brampton plans to convert space at two recreation centres – Susan Fennel Sportsplex and Century Gardens Recreation Centre – into Community Youth Hubs, offering youth safe and welcoming spaces that act as one-stop shops for services and activities for young people across the city.



## BARBEQUE SAFETY

Now that the weather is warming up, it means barbeque season is upon us. Follow these tips to make this a fire-safe barbeque season:

- Clean, inspect and test all connection lines
- Never leave a lit BBQ unattended
- Never BBQ inside your garage
- Do not place the BBQ close to anything that can burn
- To avoid a fire, make sure grease does not build up on the burners or at the base of the BBQ
- Keep children and pets a safe distance away
- Turn off all fuel sources after use and leave the lid open to let it cool before you safely store it away

Learn more at [bramptonfire.com](http://bramptonfire.com)

## YARD MAINTENANCE

By-laws help everyone enjoy a clean, safe neighbourhood and shared public spaces. On your private property, keep grass cut to 20 cm (8 inches) or shorter, and trim trees and hedges to avoid overgrowth. Remove stagnant water (often accumulated in wading pools, pool covers, buckets, etc.), and be sure not to store damaged or partially working items or debris on your property.

[brampton.ca/bylaws](http://brampton.ca/bylaws)



## USING FIREWORKS FOR VICTORIA DAY, CANADA DAY, DIWALI AND NEW YEAR'S EVE?



Only short-range fireworks, those that tend to travel less than three metres (10 feet) when set off, are allowed on Victoria Day, Canada Day, Diwali and New Year's Eve. Examples include fountains, wheels, ground spinners, sparklers. All other fireworks are banned in Brampton, and no fireworks are allowed on sidewalks, at schools, parks and other public properties.

[brampton.ca/bylaws](http://brampton.ca/bylaws)

### SAFETY TIPS:



**Keep a container of water or a hose line that's filled with water available to extinguish fireworks**



**Never light a firework or hold a lit firework in your hand, other than a sparkler**



**After using sparklers, place them in a container of water to fully cool before disposal**



## ACCESSIBLE PARKING

One in seven Ontarians has a disability, and not all disabilities are visible. Be mindful of accessible parking spots. If you park next to an accessible parking space, don't park over the yellow-striped access aisles. They provide additional space for those with disabilities to get in and out of vehicles with ease. Drive slow when you are near accessible parking areas and close to building entrances.





The COVID-19 pandemic has hit everyone very hard – and that's why we are especially thankful for our anchor organizations that specialize in helping our community's most vulnerable. Please join us in recognizing the following groups and their volunteers for their extraordinary work over the past year.

## REGENERATION OUTREACH:

With humble beginnings to provide support to a few, Regeneration has transformed the lives of many. Established in 1999, this community-based organization provides daily hot meals and essential care services such as showers and laundry, to health and wellness to spiritual fulfillment. During COVID, their drop-in programs and centres provide socially-distanced meals and support to Brampton's downtown homeless and displaced populations. Their food market is open by appointments only; but the thrift store remains closed until the stay-at-home order is lifted. Donations are always welcome and more information can be found at [regenbrampton.com](http://regenbrampton.com)



## KNIGHTS TABLE:

Created to help alleviate hunger in the Peel Region, Knights Table has been tackling poverty and homelessness for over 27 years. With a staff of 10 people and over 3,200 volunteers, they assist anyone who walks through their doors. During COVID, they have continued to work hard to feed the hungry throughout the day and operate a mobile service to deliver goods to vulnerable seniors. They are always looking for more volunteers and donations so they continue to help others. More information can be found at [knightstable.org](http://knightstable.org)

## SEVA FOOD BANK:

An initiative of Sikhs Serving Canada, the Seva Food Bank addresses the challenges of food security and underlying poverty issues in Peel Region. In addition to the food bank locations, they also provide settlement and resource services, healthy living workshops, dental screenings and tax clinics. Their approach is developed on cultural sensitivities and inclusion that is thoughtful and engaging. Driven by their mission to ensure that all families have access to safe, nutritious and culturally appropriate food.

Seva Food Bank serves almost 3,000 individuals each month through a range of programs and initiatives. Learn more at [sevafoodbank.com](http://sevafoodbank.com)



## UNITED SIKHS:

From distributing food, cleaning supplies and masks to using contactless delivery methods, United Sikhs has stepped up during the pandemic to provide assistance and support to the Region's vulnerable. They have also been preparing meals on a large scale to distribute to shelters and other organizations for delivery.



## People Against Littering (PAL):

Now that the snow has melted, the accumulation of garbage over the winter months can be seen. And let's admit it, it's sad to see that much waste just carelessly thrown on the ground, dumped in ravines or left behind at parks. The amazing volunteers with PAL help clean up our community and are always looking for new members to join and pick an area to tidy up. For more information, please send an email to [peopleagainstlittering@gmail.com](mailto:peopleagainstlittering@gmail.com)

## COUNCILLOR MEDEIROS

Dear Friends,

As Regional Councillor and lead of the Reopening and Recovery Working Group, I would like to thank you for your resilience and patience during this difficult time. I know we are eager to return to normal but we must continue to follow Peel Public Health guidelines for the safety of our family, friends, and community. I encourage you to visit [peelregion.ca](http://peelregion.ca) for regular vaccination and COVID-19 updates.

I am thrilled the City of Brampton has successfully advocated in a number of key areas including healthcare and youth services by securing investments from our provincial and federal partners towards a Community Youth Hub at South Fletchers Sportsplex and a second hospital in Brampton.

Wards 3 and 4 will also receive a Campus of Care facility operated by Golden Age Village for the Elderly (GAVE) at Flower City Community Campus. This will include

a 160-bed long-term care home and a 140-unit affordable housing unit. I am proud to have worked with GAVE on this project over the past year.

Recently, Council passed a number of my motions including directing City staff to:

- Consult with Metrolinx on the potential electrification of the Downtown Brampton Transit Hub
- Report to Council with a plan to publish the City's organizational chart to increase openness and accountability
- Make our GeoHub Open Data Portal more accessible and user-friendly
- Enter into discussions with Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst at Ryerson University to establish a Police Cybercrime Training Centre in Brampton

I will continue to work hard for the residents of Wards 3 and 4 and move Brampton forward.



**Councillor Medeiros sworn in as a member of the Peel Police Services Board (January 2021).**

## COUNCILLOR BOWMAN

### ILLEGAL & UNSAFE SECOND UNITS



The issue of illegal and unsafe second units continues to grow in the city, especially in our Wards. The revolving door of tenants crammed into one home in our family-friendly neighbourhood is becoming a sprawling rental zone, with cars parked on expanded driveways, the front lawn or up and down the street at all times of the day and night.

I've been very vocal and active on fighting this issue with our staff. In 2018, Brampton's Second Unit Task Force was created to investigate illegal dwelling units in multi-unit homes. Since then, I have reached out to and connected with multiple members of government including Premier Ford outlining the concerns of increasing illegal and unsafe second units, and your local MPP and MP requesting international enrollment so we can properly account for the number of housing units needed to support these students better. I also met with Solicitor General Jones and Minister Steve Clark to discuss this issue. I will continue to voice my concerns to ensure that all residents, tenants and property owners are safe.

## THANK YOU TO OUR CITY EMPLOYEES



The City of Brampton employs around 6,000 people in various departments and facilities. Due to COVID, many have been forced to work from home – which is tough, but an added stress when dealing with little ones or young children doing online classes. We thank you for your continued commitment to the City and our residents while finding your work-life balance during these difficult times.





The City of Brampton remains ready to respond to shifting circumstances and adjust events to ensure community safety during COVID-19. Events and their respective dates are subject to change.

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| June 1 – 30      | Pride in Brampton            |
| June 2           | Italian Independence Day     |
| June 10          | Portuguese Independence Day  |
| June 12          | Philippines Independence Day |
| June 19 – Oct 23 | Brampton Farmers' Market     |

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| June 21      | National Indigenous Peoples Day          |
| July 1       | Canada Day                               |
| July 23-25   | Arts & Culture Initiative of South Asia* |
| July 24 – 25 | Canadian Indo-Caribbean Festival*        |

\*This event is supported through the City of Brampton Marquee Festival & Event Fund

**Regional Councillor Martin Medeiros and City Councillor Jeff Bowman invite residents to a**  
**WARDS 3 & 4 COMMUNITY TOWN HALL**

**Tuesday, June 15 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.**  
 • ASE cameras  
 • Second units  
 Join by WebEx: <http://ow.ly/YwzE50EiPSE>

**Disclaimer:**

Please note that with the current conditions, it is assumed most events will be online this year. Please mark these dates in your calendar, and check in at [brampton.ca](http://brampton.ca) for details closer to event dates. Note all event information is subject to change.

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For additional City updates, subscribe to the City Matters email at [brampton.ca](http://brampton.ca).