

City of Brampton

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021 Edition



Pat Fortini

Regional Councillor
WARDS 7 and 8

905.874.2611

pat.fortini@brampton.ca



Dear Residents,

I would like to thank all residents and businesses for your patience and understanding as we navigate this pandemic.

The City of Brampton along with the Region of Peel has continued to support the public's health, safety and well-being. This pandemic has affected families, businesses, our vulnerable residents, frontline workers and many coping with other challenges. Many of you have already received your COVID vaccine; I encourage everyone to get the vaccine to help protect yourself and your loved ones.

Our City is working towards the Brampton 2040 Vision by investing in businesses and employment, a new hospital, social housing, addressing homelessness, health, transportation and environment, and the arts. I will continue to work with Council to empower our diverse community and to ensure the safety and well-being of all Bramptonians.

I assure you I will continue to advocate at the City and Region to help support residents and businesses with the economic recovery. Fighting the pandemic is a team effort; I look forward to continuing to build a stronger, inclusive community and city.

As always, my staff and I are here to assist you with City or Regional matters.

Stay safe.

Pat Fortini

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pat Fortini'.

Charmaine Williams

City Councillor
WARDS 7 and 8

905.874.2671

charmaine.williams@brampton.ca



Dear Neighbour,

I am excited to report that Brampton is finally closing the health care gap. Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness will transform into a full service, in-patient hospital with 250 beds. This expansion will not only address the healthcare challenges Brampton has faced, but also help serve the city's aging community, with continuing care and rehabilitation.

To add to this great news, Brampton will also receive financial support for the development of a new medical school in partnership with Ryerson University. This provides local opportunities for post-secondary education and training for our future healthcare providers.

What will you be planting in your front garden this year? I've worked with both horticultural societies in Brampton and was able to bring back the Gardens of Brampton program. Growing season begins on May 23 and I hope you participate and make our Flower City heritage proud.

I know this continues to be a difficult and stressful time for everyone. My staff and I are here for you and will continue to support the residents of Wards 7 and 8. Please contact my office if you have any municipal questions or concerns.

Take care and stay safe.

Charmaine Williams

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'C Williams'.



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.

COVID-19 UPDATES AND VACCINATION ROLLOUT

Please continue checking our website 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 or William Osler Health System's website williamoslerhs.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 CO₂ 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 for updates throughout the summer, and get ready for your next activity and challenge!

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.

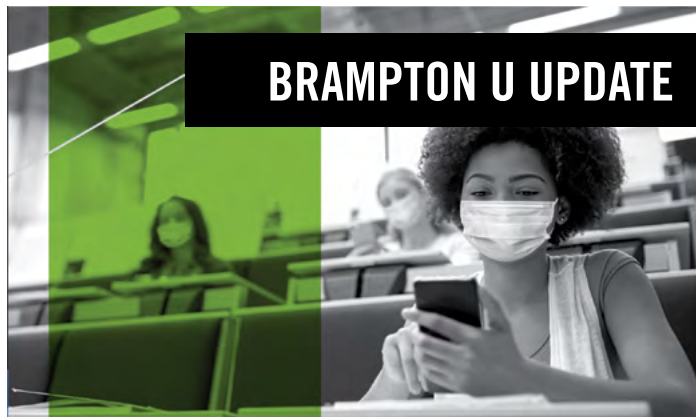
If you collect recyclables during your cleanup, please remember to recycle them. To learn more about how to sort your waste, visit the Region of Peel's website at peelregion.ca. Together, we can keep Brampton clean and green!

Share your cleanup photos with us by emailing bramptongreencity@brampton.ca

For more information, including any restrictions that may be in place, visit brampton.ca/cleanup



BRAMPTON U UPDATE



The City welcomes the expansion of more postsecondary opportunities including the budget announcement from the Provincial government to provide financial support for the development of a new institute of medical education in Brampton in partnership with Ryerson University.

Brampton continues to work on bringing a comprehensive university to the city. This is important because training and reskilling individuals with the most relevant skills and capabilities for jobs of the future will ensure our economy's resilience. In summer 2020, the City released critical components from its BramptonU proposal, including Academic, Governance, and Economic models for the development of BramptonU. The City has continued to build on stakeholder engagement, specifically with local businesses, through workshops to ensure there is awareness of the BramptonU project and determine how local stakeholders might become further involved in the development of the university. Currently the City continues to advocate to the Province to legislate BramptonU into existence by passing the Brampton University Act and discuss what the best path forward to doing so looks like.

Read more at bramptonu.ca

SUPPORT LOCAL BRAMPTON

As part of the Economic Recovery Strategy, the City launched a Support Local campaign in May 2020 to encourage residents to support our local businesses. We know that the pandemic has had a devastating impact on many of our local businesses, and we have been focused on encouraging our residents to support local since the onset of COVID-19.

From ordering takeout food and shopping local with curb-side pickup, to watching The Rose Theatre's online programming, you can safely experience Brampton's many local offerings. Learn more at brampton.ca/supportlocal

#SUPPORTLOCALBRAMPTON

SHORT-TERM RENTAL POLICY REVIEW

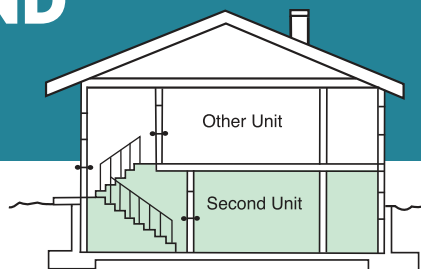
A short-term rental is a rental accommodation in a private residence that lasts for 30 consecutive days or less. A person can rent a portion or all of the premises (i.e. entire home or private room). As the number of Short-Term Rentals (STR) accommodations continues to rise in Brampton, the availability of long-term rental housing becomes more of a challenge. STRs have been associated with nuisance complaints, resident/public safety concerns if operators do not comply with Building and Fire Codes, potentially negatively impacting neighbourhood character if there is a high concentration in one area. The City is moving forward with implementing an annual licensing program for STR city-wide which, would limit STR accommodations to the principal residence, cap the maximum number of consecutive days for one stay and limit the number of days per year, etc. Please visit the project webpage for updates and upcoming public information sessions brampton.ca/STRAccommodations



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.

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.

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

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

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





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



GARDENS OF BRAMPTON

FRONT GARDEN RECOGNITION PROGRAM

As part of the Brampton Grow Green Environmental Master Plan, we are committed to being a Green City that is healthy, resilient, environmentally sustainable – and beautiful!

Brampton is home to many front gardens, and we know residents take pride in keeping them green and beautiful.

Beginning July 1 until August 1, residents are invited to share a picture of their front garden with us. The City, along with the Brampton Horticultural Society and Chinguacousy Garden Club, will be selecting the best six front gardens. Winners will be announced in September, featured online, receive a recognition card, and win a gift certificate to a local nursery.

Submission criteria and registration details are available at brampton.ca/parks.

QUICK AND EASY WAYS TO REACH 311 BRAMPTON!

- Download the **311Brampton** app
- Visit 311Brampton.ca
- Call 311 within city limits
(905.874.2000 outside city limits)

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

BRAMALEA SNAP

There are over 12 Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) neighbourhoods across Ontario with three now in Brampton - County Court, Fletchers Creek and now Bramalea! Bramalea SNAP is comprised of the K, E and F sections of Bramalea which will create a connected system of Eco Spaces and green infrastructure, a safe and active transportation network, a healthy local food system, and much more. For more information visit trca.ca/snap-bramalea

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.





COVID-19 VACCINATION TOUR

I had the opportunity to attend a tour with Minister Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Amarjot Sandhu, MPP, Dr. Lawrence Loh, Peel Medical Officer of Health, and representatives of WOHC to see the new William Osler Health System vaccination clinic at Chinguacousy Wellness Centre, as well as the Save Max Sports Centre (Formerly Brampton Soccer Centre). It was great to see the centres in operation and gain an insight of how the process works.



HELPING FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

Giving back to my community is important to me, especially helping the less fortunate. As the Fundraiser Chair for Families of Virtue, Knightsbridge Brampton, I was able to fundraise \$33,800 this year through donations for their Breakfast Program. The breakfast program is run solely by volunteers who prepare breakfast every morning for school aged children in the neighbourhood. Families of Virtue is a registered charity organization which was established and managed by Executive Director Doris Nketia, to help families such as the Knightsbridge communities, which have a high population of newcomers, single parents and families living below the poverty line.



BRAMPTON SET TO RECEIVE TRANSIT FUNDING

It was great to be part of the \$23.5 million transit cheque presentation from Queen's Park to the City of Brampton. This funding will help keep Brampton Transit's operations up and running during this pandemic.

The entire Transit team has done an incredible job at maintaining service during this challenging time. This financial support will help ensure there is reliable public transit for Brampton residents. The funding is part of the Safe Restart Agreement where municipalities are working with the province to explore options to ensure local transit is safe, sustainable, affordable and integrated, both during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

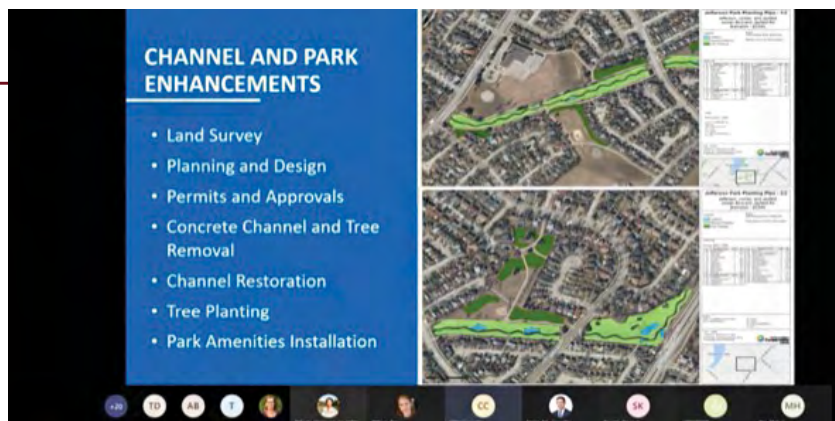


HOWDEN REC. CENTRE DEMOLITION

Finally, demolition of Howden Rec. Centre is underway. The Renovations were approved in 2017, and construction is set to begin in 2022. The centre is expected to be completed by end of 2023. The new facility will house several multi-purpose courts, playground, fitness studios, multi-purpose rooms, seniors area, a youth lounge, and preschool. The facility will also be leasing areas to YMCA daycare as well as the Special Needs Adult Program Services Organization (SNAPSO).

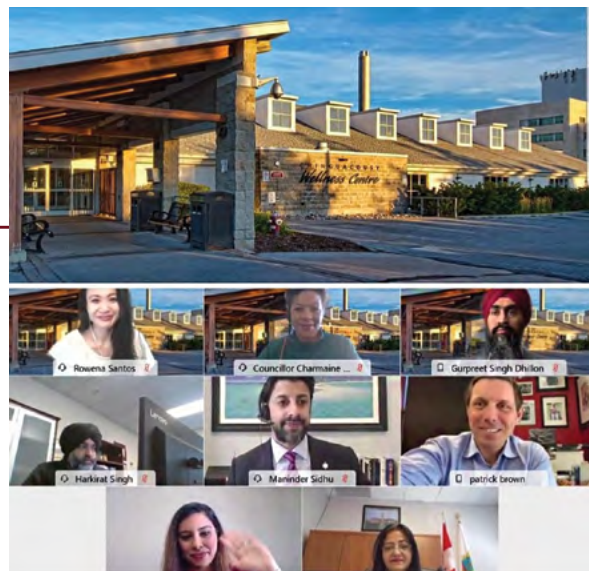
JJJ PARK PROJECT

The City of Brampton and the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) held a virtual public meeting to discuss the Jefferson, Jordon and Jayfield Parks Revitalization project and answer questions from residents. Once the channel work is complete, the TRCA will be re-naturalizing the entire corridor with more than 19,000 trees and shrubs, including a series of pocket wetlands. In addition, 400 mature trees will be planted along the trail and in adjacent parks. For more details, please visit brampton.ca/jjj



CHING PARK ON FAMILY DAY

Even during the grey-lock down restrictions, Bramptonians were able to enjoy some of the outdoor facilities for exercise. Residents that made reservations in advance, were able to get some ice time at the outdoor skating rink at Chinguacousy Park on Family Day.



WELLNESS CENTRE RENOVATION

Recently, the City announced that the Chinguacousy Wellness Centre is getting an upgrade. The Government of Canada is investing \$572,000 in this project through the Investing in Canada Plan and the Government of Ontario is providing \$476,619. The project consists of interior and exterior renovations to the recreation centre to improve accessibility and the overall user experience. The upgrades are part of the City of Brampton's Parks and Recreation Master Plan, a renewal plan for Brampton's recreation centres.



FREE MEALS FOR BRAMPTON RESIDENTS

The Berbatiotis Family, owner of Curbside Dogs, generously provided free meals to Brampton families in need just before the Christmas holidays. 2020 was a difficult year for many small business owners, however, Curbside Dogs generously donated their time, resources and food to the community. My staff and I worked with the Berbatiotis Family and the All People's Church (APC) to help distribute over 300 meals using a drive-thru system at the APC church parking lot. Thank you Curbside Dogs!

APC CHRISTMAS DRIVE-THRU

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the All People's Church (APC) has assisted a number of local families by providing weekly groceries. During the holiday season, the APC provided groceries to 93 families! My staff and I worked with the non-profit Keep6ix, to arrange the donation of toys and gift cards. By the end of the night almost 200 kids received a gift! Thank you Pauline Chiasson of APC, Richard Miller of Keep6ix and all the staff and volunteers who helped make this event a success!.





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

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](https://www.brampton.ca) for details closer to event dates. Note all event information is subject to change.

Pat Fortini

905.874.2611

pat.fortini@brampton.ca

 @Pat Fortini Regional Councillor

 @Pat Fortini

 @pat_fortini

 fortinipolitician

Executive Assistant

Ingrid Jagtoo

ingrid.jagtoo@brampton.ca

905.874.2607

Charmaine Williams

905.874.2671

charmaine.williams@brampton.ca

 @Charmomof5

 @Charmomof5

 Charmomof5

Executive Assistant

Eva Hara

eva.hara@brampton.ca

905.874.3619

Administrative Assistant

Julie Barrett

julie.barrett@brampton.ca

905.874.3432



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