

City of Brampton

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Fall & Winter 2020 Edition



Michael Palleschi

Regional Councillor
WARDS 2 and 6

905.874.2661

michael.palleschi@brampton.ca



Doug Whillans

City Councillor
WARDS 2 and 6

905.874.2606

doug.whillans@brampton.ca



Welcome to the Fall and Winter Edition of the Wards 2 and 6 Community Newsletter. It is important to us to have the ability to connect directly with you to provide some updates on exciting projects and initiatives within our community.

First and foremost, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the residents, businesses and first responders throughout our neighbourhoods for working collaboratively during these unprecedented times. We must continue to diligently follow the advice of Peel Public Health and practice the Core Four to ensure the safety of all.

Recognizing the need for food security for individuals and families during these trying times, the Backyard Garden Program was launched to encourage people to be active and involved. This initiative was met with great enthusiasm and local food banks received a variety of vegetables for distribution to those in need.

As safety is always top of mind for us, the enactment of Automated Speed Enforcement and Community Safety Zones throughout our Wards is paramount to safeguard the wellbeing of our children and families. This year, City Council approved the implementation of ASE throughout 200 locations annually, to reduce speeding and traffic-related incidents and enhance road safety for all users in Brampton.

To enhance the experience of residents within our recreational facilities and green spaces, we are excited about the renovations at Loafer's Lake Recreation Centre and the establishment of a leash-free dog park located within Camden Park. Providing a wide variety of user-friendly amenities is key to the health and well-being of our residents.

In keeping with our commitment to the environment, innovative and sustainable community planning, the City has partnered with Credit Valley Conversation and Toronto Regional Conservation Authority on initiatives that will deliver positive impacts. The creation of an exciting new greenspace project near the corner of Bovaird Drive and Heritage Road will generate a world-class, publicly-accessible centre for environmental learning and outdoor recreation. The Conservation Drive Park Stream and Wetland Restoration project in Snelgrove supports a number of local and regional planning initiatives spanning Brampton, Peel and TRCA.

We hope you enjoy the articles contained within this newsletter, we trust you'll find something interesting, something useful and something innovative about our City that makes you proud to live in Brampton.

As always, we are here to provide assistance. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions, suggestions or requests - community involvement is essential in building strong and connected communities.

Michael and Doug

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

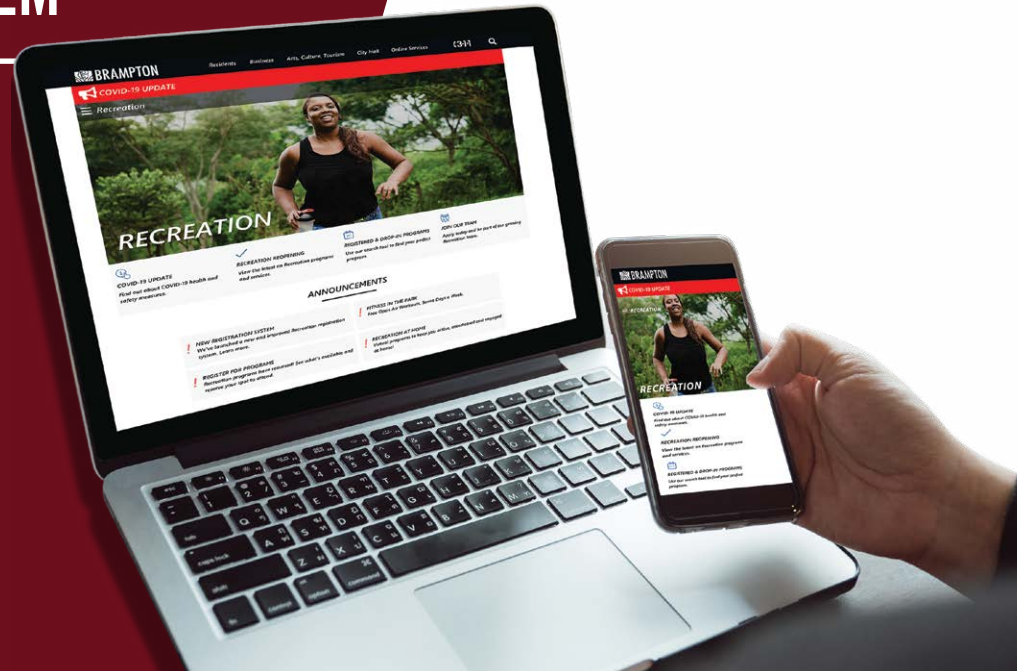
For more details, visit
www.brampton.ca

905.874.2000

NEW RECREATION REGISTRATION SYSTEM

Brampton Recreation has upgraded its registration system, providing users with improved online functionality and more convenient access to programs and services. There are many improvements coming with the new registration system that will enhance the way residents access Recreation programs and services, including easier navigation, a mobile-friendly interface, online registrations, and enhancements to account management.

More information is available at www.brampton.ca/recreation.



BRAMPTON'S NEWEST LEASH-FREE DOG PARK

Work is progressing in Camden Park East, where a 1.5 hectare leash-free dog park is being constructed. The leash-free area is located in the centre of the park, mostly surrounded by open park areas and flanked on the west side by a picturesque woodlot.

To date, decorative boulders and logs have been placed in the leash-free area to provide visual interest and jumping opportunities for dogs. A safety fence has also been installed to separate the leash-free zone from the existing playground in the northeast corner of the park.

As summer temperatures are becoming cooler, 250 native trees and 1,200 shrubs have been planted in and around the leash-free area to provide added tree canopy cover to the park.



Construction is expected to be completed in late October, and will then be open to residents for use.

This new leash-free dog park is the fifth in Brampton, joining:

- Bramalea Ltd Community Park
- Chris Gibson Park
- Duggan Park
- White Spruce Park

Safety guidelines

The leash-free park will follow the same standards as in other leash-free dog parks. Dog owners must have vaccinated, licensed and neutered or spayed their dogs before they can use the leash-free parks. The City does not allow dogs that are aggressive to humans, other animals or have a history of biting in leash-free parks. To protect children, young children less than ten years old are not permitted in leash-free parks.

TRAILHEAD ECOPARK



The City of Brampton and Credit Valley Conservation are partnering on an exciting new greenspace project in Ward 6. Together, we plan to create a world-class, publicly-accessible centre for environmental learning and outdoor recreation near the corner of Bovaird Drive and Heritage Road. Known as Trailhead EcoPark, the landmark environmental learning centre will include a mix of city park amenities and natural areas such as forests and deep valleys. It will serve as an indoor/outdoor basecamp for school groups, tourists and residents to explore nature trails, educational programming and other passive recreation opportunities on the property and into the Credit River valley via the connected Credit Valley Trail.

Trailhead EcoPark will be a rich natural asset that will provide Brampton residents with pristine natural habitat, generous greenspace and valuable ecological services for present and future generations. This natural oasis in the heart of the city will allow residents to be immersed in a natural setting, experience the great outdoors close to home, restore their physical health and mental wellbeing, and interact with nature and each other, all while learning about the local environment and how we can all care for it.

Preliminary work on the project has already begun, with more detailed project planning and design in the coming years. When completed, this natural jewel will place Brampton and Credit Valley Conservation on the international stage as leaders in innovative and sustainable community planning.

RECREATION REVITALIZED: Loafer's Lake Recreation Centre Renovations

Loafer's Lake Recreation Centre will be reopening this fall after extensive renovations to the fitness area, swimming pool, and general program and community rooms. This reopening brings another community centre back to Heart Lake. New design features of the building include more natural light in the lobby, dedicated change rooms for the fitness and squash area, larger accessible washrooms and a specialized calming room.

CONSERVATION DRIVE PARK RESTORATION PROJECT & OTHER PROJECTS OCCURRING WITHIN WARDS 2 AND 6

TRCA and the City of Brampton are excited to be collaborating on a number of joint projects that will have positive impacts in Wards 2 and 6. Both organizations are currently working on the Conservation Drive Park Stream and Wetland Restoration project in Snelgrove.

As part of these projects, residents will eventually benefit from:

- the restoration of a stream bank and wetland;
- the replacement of a trail culvert and a section of park trail; and
- the planting of native species throughout the area.

This project supports a number of local and regional planning initiatives spanning Brampton, Peel and TRCA.

So why these projects you may ask? Well, agriculture and the urbanization of this watershed over the last 25 years has resulted in many streams being channelized, the draining of wetlands, the installation of flood control structures, loss of wildlife, and forest destruction.

When completed, 100 m of stream will be restored, ultimately reducing further impacts to a pedestrian bridge. In addition, a one-hectare riverine wetland will be restored by enhancing drainage features. Also 0.9 hectares of riparian plantings will be added to Conservation Park Drive.

TRCA and the City of Brampton have been working together since 2005 on projects in this area. Though they may seem small, the impacts are felt throughout the region's ecosystem.

Located at 30 Loafer's Lake Lane, next to Cyril Clark Library, the now modernized centre will provide residents with family and fitness programming activities for every age group and interest. The refreshed pool with family-style change rooms offers residents the opportunity to enjoy the City's Learn to Swim program, aqua fitness classes and various public drop-in swimming options. For residents interested in fitness activities, an improved cardio/weight room, group fitness classes and squash courts will be available. Additional featured programs at Loafer's Lake will include full-year preschool, dance classes, drop-in billiards, and photography.

To learn more about the new improvements and programs offered at Loafer's Lake, including details regarding the reopening timeline and how to register, visit brampton.ca/recreation.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The last few months have been filled with many challenges, accomplishments and setbacks. At times it has felt like we have moved one step forward, and two steps back. As this pandemic continues to evolve, we urge you to be mindful and continue following the rules and suggestions by Peel Public Health, to avoid any more setbacks. Do this for your parents, your grandparents and the other vulnerable people in your network.

Keep in mind that frontline health care workers, first responders, enforcement teams, staff, essential services employees and volunteers have sacrificed time away from their families to protect our community and have not asked for much in return. All they have asked is that we follow the rules and maintain physical distance so that we can move on from this terrible pandemic and get on with our lives once again. Let's be respectful, thank them for their kindness, and show them our sincerest gratitude by following the simple rules of good hygiene and social distancing.

SUPPORT LOCAL BRAMPTON

COVID-19 has had an unprecedented impact on small and local businesses, and now more than ever, they need our help. We encourage our residents to come together to show their support for the businesses that make up our community by shopping and dining local!

You can also show your support for Brampton businesses on social media by promoting your favourite businesses with the "Support Local" image and hashtag #SupportLocalBrampton, and engaging with local businesses through their social media accounts.

To learn more, visit www.brampton.ca/supportlocal

MENTAL HEALTH CARE DURING COVID-19

Navigating through the uncharted territory of COVID-19 has been stressful on our entire community and this crisis has had an affect on many peoples' mental health. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed and in need of mental health support, we urge you to take advantage of the resources that are available in our community.

In addition to the CMHA listing below, more Social Support resources are available through the Region of Peel: <https://www.peelregion.ca/coronavirus>

Canadian Mental Health Association Peel and Dufferin, Mental Health Mobile Crisis Centre of Peel

Changes to services

Limitations to in-person services, but increase in phone services.

Contact: 905.278.9036

Hours of operation: Phone services operate seven days a week, 24 hours a day

Services: Crisis support for those going through health and/or addiction crisis to assist in bettering the wellbeing of callers through phone support and also referrals to other essential services.



BACKYARD GARDEN PROGRAM

Showcasing Brampton Fire's Community Gardens

In early April, everyone was settling into the new reality of the COVID-19 pandemic. With residents isolated at home, Mayor Brown and City Councillor Whillans and the Parks Maintenance and Forestry division launched an eco-friendly initiative to support food security and encourage residents to get active.

The City already had a robust Community Gardens program in place, but due to the physical distancing measures in place, the program was cancelled. It was only fitting that we bring the garden program to residents directly.

The City partnered with local corporations on the distribution of seeds and soil, and is grateful for the support of: Scotts, Mattamy Homes, Paradise Development, TACC Holborn Corporation, and Fieldgate Development.

Brampton Fire and Emergency Services heard about the initiative and was eager to participate. Seven fire stations volunteered to plant vegetable gardens. Over the summer months, volunteers picked up produce from the garden twice a week to donate to local food banks.

Brampton is the first municipality in Canada to launch a citywide initiative to support residents in growing their own gardens in response to COVID-19. In total, more than 6,000 residents registered for the program and an additional 8,000 were added to the waitlist.

To learn more about this program, which is now closed, and see residents' community garden photos, visit www.brampton.ca/parks.



BRAMPTON ENTREPRENEUR CENTRE (BEC) AND CO-WORKING SPACE

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the important role BEC plays in the Brampton business community and created an opportunity to restructure services.

BEC will continue to serve clients according to their needs. Virtual programs and new services are being offered to further support local businesses, including:

- Virtual business advisory services at no charge, to support with registering a business, business planning, accessing government assistance programs and more.

- Supports, programming and micro financing to ensure Brampton's small business community are embracing the latest in technology and adoption of digital tools.
- eNewsletters to keep businesses up to date on government announcements, funding, and relevant programming.
- Connect with business leaders and entrepreneurs in Brampton via the Brampton Entrepreneur Centre Café.
- Online resources such as the #SupportLocalBrampton campaign and Back to Business tools and resources you need to weather these unprecedented times.
- Access to all events and webinars hosted virtually for businesses.

To learn more, visit www.brampton.ca/bec or contact us at bec@brampton.ca

COVID-19 ONLINE RESOURCES FOR RESIDENTS

There is a lot of information available pertaining to COVID-19 and it can all be overwhelming. To help you navigate through it all and be up to date on the most reliable information, take a look at these resources available online:

1) City of Brampton:

www.letsconnect.brampton.ca

This site provides the most updated information about COVID-19 management by the City of Brampton, as well as information about access to City services.

2) Peel Public Health:

www.peelregion.ca/coronavirus

This site provides the most updated information about COVID-19 in our community, as well as information about where to get tested for the virus.

3) Government of Ontario:

www.covid-19.ontario.ca

This site provides the most updated information about COVID-19 management as mandated by the province.



ELECTRIFYING TRANSIT IN BRAMPTON

The City of Brampton is planning two first-of-its kind environmentally friendly, electrification projects. First, the largest single global deployment of inter-operable battery-electric zero tailpipe emission buses and chargers, and second, constructing one of North America's largest transit facilities supporting electric buses.

Eight electric buses are expected to go into service in 2021 on routes 23-Sandalwood and 26-Mount Pleasant.

The new facility is targeted for construction in two phases, with Phase 1 starting in 2022 and completion in 2024.

Brampton is a Green City looking to equalize all forms of transportation, implement a green framework, sustainable growth and lead environmental innovation.

CREDITVIEW ACTIVITY HUB

Located at Creditview Road and Sandalwood Parkway, Creditview Activity Hub has been open to the public since Spring 2018 and is still a hidden gem in Brampton. This activity hub is fully compliant with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and provides a safe play space for individuals with physical, mental and emotional challenges and disabilities. In addition to educational signage and wheelchair accessibility to the activities, this park includes a splash pad, outdoor fitness equipment around the pathway, soccer and cricket fields, and walking trails.

The Hub itself has been designed to leave a low impact environmental footprint. There are no draining sewers in the park and instead it has been designed to naturally infiltrate rainwater back into the ground. Approximately 2,500 trees and shrubs have been planted throughout the park and finally, water from the splash pad is recycled to irrigate the surrounding soccer and cricket fields.

The City of Brampton has set the standard with this innovative and inclusive Activity Hub and while you must practise the prescribed safety protocol related to COVID-19, we encourage you to visit the park and explore this hidden gem.

For more information, please visit <https://www.brampton.ca/EN/residents/parks/Pages/Creditview-Activity-Hub.aspx>



AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT AND ROAD WATCH PROGRAM

On July 8th, 2020 City Council unanimously approved the implementation of **Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE)** for up to 200 Community Safety Zones annually to reduce speeding, traffic-related incidents and enhance overall road safety. The first five ASE cameras were operational to coincide with the start of the new school year. Those caught speeding will receive

a stiff fine. The registered owner of the vehicle will be fined regardless if they were driving at the time, however there will not be any demerit points assessed for the infraction. Please slow down and help keep our community safe!

The City of Brampton was one of the first municipalities in Ontario to implement Automated Speed

Enforcement (ASE). The program increases road safety, reduces speeding and raises public awareness. Wards 2 & 6 ASE cameras update - Active: Richvale Dr. (Kennedy Rd. and Sandalwood Pkwy.). Coming soon: Brisdale Dr. (Bovaird Dr. W and Wanless Dr.), Clementine Dr. (Steeles Ave. W and Mavis Rd.), Conservation Dr. (Huron Ontario St. and Kennedy Rd.), Heart Lake Rd. (Bovaird Dr. E and Sandalwood Pkwy.).



ROAD WATCH is a community initiative giving residents an opportunity to report dangerous and aggressive drivers. Police will review the citizen report and contact the plate owner with details of the reported incident and act, as necessary. You will remain anonymous unless you choose to pursue a detailed police investigation that may result in charges being laid and require a court appearance.

If you see dangerous or aggressive driving, fill out an Online Citizen Report Form. Or you can fill out a hard copy of the Citizen Report Form email, mail or fax to a Peel Regional Police Division.

Earlier this year, City Council approved the implementation of Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras. ASE cameras have been installed throughout the City for the safety of our community, please be mindful on the roads. Note: This photo was taken prior to COVID-19, which is why there are no masks present.



Councillor Whillans delivering food to Regeneration from his garden in support of the Backyard Garden Program and to assist in providing food security to individuals and families in our communities.



Councillor Palleschi delivering much needed PPE to Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness to ensure the safety of front-line and essential workers.



CITY EVENTS - join us online

November 11 | **Remembrance Day Service - ONLINE**

November 20 - 22 | **Winter Lights Festival**

- Nov. 20 | **Tree Lighting Ceremony - ONLINE**
- Nov. 20 - 22 | **Christmas Market**
- Nov. 21 | **Brampton Santa Claus Parade - VIRTUAL**
- Nov. 20 - 22 | **Drive-thru Light Festival**

December 31 | **New Year Celebrations**

Recreation events

Please visit [Brampton.ca/recreation](https://www.brampton.ca/recreation) for event information and updates.

Disclaimer:

Please note that with the current conditions, it is assumed most events will be online this year and beyond. 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.

We Want to Connect With You

If you have an upcoming community event or special occasion, we want to hear about it. There are a number of ways we can provide assistance and show our support. Reach out to our office with details and we can discuss.

Councillor Palleschi

- @councillorpalleschi
- @COBMPalleschi
- councillormichaelpalleschi

Councillor Whillans

- @CouncillorWhillans
- @DougWhillans
- councillorwhillans

Executive Assistants

Julie Lozinski
905.874.2602
julie.lozinski@brampton.ca

Anjan Sohi
905.874.5949
anjan.sohi@brampton.ca

Subscribe for e-newsletters and get community updates by visiting [brampton.ca](https://www.brampton.ca) and visiting the Council Office page