

City of Brampton

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Fall & Winter 2020 Edition



Pat Fortini

Regional Councillor
WARDS 7 and 8

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Dear Residents,

I would like to thank you for continuing to do your part to stay safe during this pandemic. The City is working hard to protect the health and wellbeing of our community and I urge you to continue following all safety measures by maintaining social distancing, wearing masks and washing hands often.

During this time, we know that our seniors continue to have many questions and need reassurance. As Co-Chair of the Seniors Task force, we will continue to support our seniors through the City's referral program by helping to guide you through the resources available. For more details visit, letsconnect.brampton.ca

To assist local business during this pandemic, I tabled a resolution for the temporary extension of outdoor patios on public and private property. This was important for local restaurants to help mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. Please continue to support your local restaurant to help them stay in business.

Road safety is important to me and that is why I advocated for the installation of Automated Speed Enforcement camera in community Safety Zones, which include schools, day care centres, playgrounds, parks, hospitals and senior citizen residences. The Camera will capture and record images of vehicles travelling in excessive speed and will issue a ticket to the plate holder.

After a slight delay due to COVID, construction at Riverstone Recreation Centre, Victoria Park Arena and Howden Recreation Centre are now back on track. The City has recently completed a number of road resurfacing in Wards 7 & 8, as well as replacing and resurfacing many of our playground structures to make them inclusive and accessible to all.

I will continue to advocate on your behalf both at the City and the Region on key issues and priorities that are important to you.

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

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

Councillor Fortini

Charmaine Williams

City Councillor
WARDS 7 and 8

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Dear Neighbour,

I hope that you and your families are well.

The year 2020 has been a year like no other and continues to challenge us all. We are still adapting to living with COVID-19.

Shortly before this newsletter was printed, the Ontario Government announced that the City of Brampton would revert to modified Stage 2 health measures and restrictions. As a result, some businesses have temporarily closed or reduced the services they provide. Please continue to support local small businesses during this uncertain time. They need you.

The number of COVID-19 cases are increasing and we need residents like you to help us. To ensure you are aware of the current COVID-19 Emergency Measures By-Laws, I encourage you to visit: letsconnect.brampton.ca.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our By-Law and Enforcement staff have done a tremendous job investigating COVID-19 related by-law complaints, and will continue to protect the public. If you have questions about COVID-19 by-laws, or believe you are witnessing a violation, please call 311.

We recognize that this is a difficult and stressful time for everyone. The City's various task forces are ready to assist those in need. As co-lead of the Brampton Youth Task Force, we will continue to engage youth and provide information and support. For more information, email covid19youth@brampton.ca.

Please continue to wear a mask in public places, try to make only essential trips outside your home and when you do go out, remember to socially distance yourself from others.

If we work together as a community, we will get through this. My staff and I are here for you and will continue to support the residents of Wards 7 & 8. Please contact my office if you have any questions or concerns.

Take care and stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charmaine Williams".

Charmaine Williams

REOPENING SAFELY

On September 9, City corporate facilities reopened their doors for in-person appointment-based services. This includes, City Hall, Buildings Division and Enforcement and By-law Services located at Flower City Community Campus, Williams Parkway Operations Centre, Animal Services and Civic Centre. Select Recreation Centres are accessible by reservation for fitness, aquatics, skating and general interest programming. Walk-ins are not permitted. All appointments must be made at www.brampton.ca/skiptheline.

Services available include marriage and business licensing, tax and other payments, Service Brampton desk for inquiries, building and sign permits and zoning services, animal adoption and licensing and Public Works inquiries. Many services are available online. Please use these services first before booking an appointment.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BEFORE VISITING CITY HALL

Appointments are required before arriving at various City locations for in-person City services.

At this time, walk-ins are not permitted.

Please do the following in order to make an appointment and visit a city facility:

- Visit Brampton.ca/skiptheline in order to answer pre-screening questions and book your time slot
- Ensure you have all required documents before arriving to your appointment

- Arrive on time
- Missed or delayed appointments may need to be rebooked for a later date
- Use hand sanitizer when you enter the building
- Maintain physical distance of at least 2 metres (6 feet) between yourself and others
- Wearing non-medical facial mask in city facilities is mandatory

If you don't have access to the internet, please call 311 to book an appointment.

SAFE AND CONVENIENT CASHLESS PAYMENT

For safer financial transactions among residents, business-owners, and employees, effective January 1, 2021, the City will collect property taxes and Building Division fees through the following methods, as cash payments will no longer be accepted:

- Pre-authorized payments
- Online banking

- Phone banking
- In-person payments through personal banking branches
- In-person debit-card payments
- In-person credit-card payments (Building fees only)

At this time, to ensure accessibility to groups like youth and seniors, these changes will not apply to payment methods for other types of user fees, licences and charges such as for Recreation, POA court fees, Animal Services and Performing Arts.

PRE-AUTHORIZED TAX PAYMENTS

There are easier ways to pay property taxes without having to visit City Hall. Pre-Authorized Tax Payment Program (PTP) is one such option where the tax payment is an automatic withdrawal from your bank account. It's easy, saves time and there are no fees for enrolling in this plan and you have the flexibility to change or cancel the program through a written notice at least 30 days before the next withdrawal date. If you were enrolled in a PTP but withdrew from it due the tax deferral option, you can re-register for 2021.

Visit www.brampton.ca to find out more about eligibility and details on how to enroll.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Vodden Street - Dedicated Cycling Corridor

Vodden Street (Ken Whillans Drive to Howden Boulevard) is part of the east-west cycling route proposed across Brampton, linking the destinations such as Downtown Brampton, Duggan Park, Century Gardens Recreation Centre, North Park Secondary School, Chinguacousy Park and a number of other amenities. The cycling route will also connect with many existing north-south trails, such as the Etobicoke Creek, Esker Lake and Chinguacousy Recreational Trails for wider active transportation connectivity and access.

This project is one of the key priorities in building a Safe and Green city as outlined in Brampton 2040 Vision. By providing a continuous and connected east-west corridor of separated cycling facilities, the intent is to provide existing and future cyclists with safer and more comfortable cycling options.

North Park Drive Resurfacing - Dedicated Bike lanes

The resurfacing construction project along North Park Drive from Bramalea Rd. to Dixie Rd includes driveway access and repairs, parking, encroachments, network outages, and new sod. Dedicated cycling lanes are also being implemented along North Park Drive as part of the approved Active Transportation Master Plan.

Central Park Drive

The resurfacing construction project along Central Park Drive between Queen St and Clark Boulevard includes driveway access and repairs, parking, encroachments, network outages, and new sod. Dedicated cycling lanes are also being implemented along Central Park Drive as part of the approved Active Transportation Master Plan.

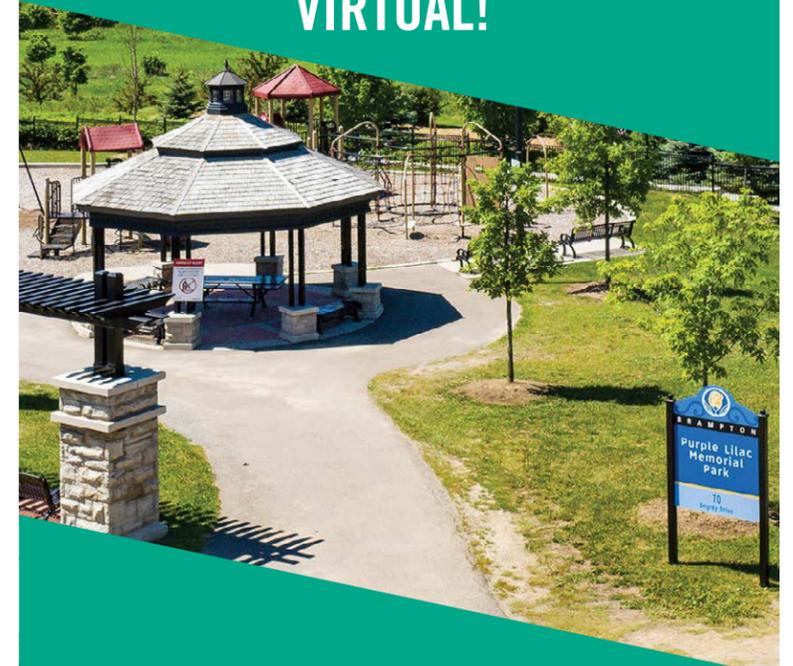
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING REVIEW, GROUP HOMES

The City recognizes the need to support and promote the provision of specialized housing for a diverse population, including persons with disabilities and those having special housing needs. Specialized housing is to be strategically located and integrated in the community to provide access to all public amenities, including transportation, parks, and open spaces. The process has entered stage 3. The Supportive Housing review is scheduled to be completed by October/November 2020. For more on the timeline, information on the upcoming meeting on Dec. 7th, 2020 and details of efforts, visit www.brampton.ca.

ASE & 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!

NURTURING NEIGHBOURHOODS PROGRAM HAS GONE VIRTUAL!



Since this summer's launch, we have been across the City and will have reached out to 15 neighbourhoods for 2020. Online, you will have access to walking route maps, your neighbourhood survey, and the interactive mapping tool to improve civic engagement, empower you to play an active role in enhancing your neighbourhoods and connect you to resources to make change happen.

The virtual program will be available to residents until the end of 2020. Go online to brampton.ca/neighbourhoods, fill out your neighbourhood survey and drop a pin to participate in the neighbourhood mapping activity.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS 2020 BOWLATHON

Earlier this year Big Brothers Big Sisters had their annual bowlathon. As the Councillor Rep. for the City of Brampton, I was able to raise \$30,000 for the 2020 campaign with the help of my Assistant.



Over the past 5 years, we've raised \$112,000 for the organization and continue to be the highest fundraiser for Peel Region. Big Brothers Big Sister mentors life-changing relationships to ignite the power of young people to thrive to their full potential.



(Above): Highest Fundraiser.



PROFESSOR'S LAKE CLEAN-UP

Making our space clean and green is important for our environment. Councillor Fortini was invited with Councillor Santos to join the clean up around Professor's Lake, along with volunteers and members of the Echo Movement Clean team. It was great to see so much positive energy with everyone pitching in and cleaning up around the lake.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Giving back to my community is always important to me. During the pandemic, Councillor Fortini donated and distributed over 1000 bags with PPE to various seniors groups in Brampton, including gloves, masks, hand sanitizers, and fire safety brochures.



Councillor Fortini has also donated and dropped off boxes of baby diapers, macaroni and cheese and juice boxes to the Knights Table to support our local food banks during the pandemic.



AUTOMATED SPEED CAMERA

Community Safety is important to the City of Brampton. I am proud that we were one of the first municipalities in Ontario to implement Automatic Speed Enforcement cameras. Currently, we have five Automatic Speed Enforcement cameras that are now issuing tickets. A reminder that we all need to slow down. Along with Peel Regional Police and my Council

colleagues, I am taking the pledge to SLOW DOWN for me, my family and my neighbours. Join us and take the pledge and together, let's build a safer community.



INTERIM PLACE VIRTUAL WALK

Steps to End Violence Against Women was held on Sunday, September 27th. I was invited to walk with the group Sole Shaped at Chinguacousy Park to help raise funds. Overall, \$44,025.00 was raised!



SCOOTY DEMO

At Chinguacousy Park checking out Scooty, a fun, environmentally friendly active transportation alternative to riding a bicycle.



IN REMEMBRANCE OF

The 50th Anniversary of AC Flight 621 crash which tragically claimed 109 lives. Mayor Brown, Councillor Fortini and I unveil the new sign for Purple Lilac Memorial Park in Ward 8. More information available at www.brampton.ca/bramptonremembers.

COMMUNITY KITS

Assisting the Social Services Task Force with assembling emergency and back-to-school kits at the Brampton Emergency Management Office.



EMANCIPATION PARK

Formerly known as Dixie/407 Sports Park, Mayor Brown, Councillor Santos, Fire Chief Bill Boyes, Gwyneth Chapman from the CAO's office, Brampton North MPP Kevin Yarde and I attend the park renaming ceremony during Emancipation Month in August.

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

Handing out cookies and greeting residents at the drive-thru Canada Day experience, held at Greenbriar Recreation Centre parking lot.



LAGOS, NIGERIA

Before the pandemic Mayor Brown, Frances Bradshaw and I visited the Governor of Lagos, Nigeria, to discuss a potential Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) agreement with the City of Brampton.



Presenting COVID-19 updates on CP24 during Mayor Brown's weekly press conference at City Hall.

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.

MARRIAGE LICENCES

Marriage licences are issued by appointment only and are valid for 90 days. Forms, and information on required documents are available on www.brampton.ca in multiple languages.



COOK WITH CARE



For more information scan here:



DRIVERS SHARE THE ROAD

Bike lanes are reserved for cyclists. They are typically marked by a solid white line. Sometimes you will need to enter or cross a bike lane to turn right at a corner or driveway. Take extra care when you do this.

- Watch for cyclists' hand signals. A cyclist may indicate a right-hand turn by extending their right arm.
- Try to make eye contact when possible with cyclist
- When turning right, signal and check your mirrors and the blind spot to your right to make sure you do not cut off a cyclist.
- Enter the bike lane only after ensuring that you can do so safely, and then make the turn.
- In bike lanes where the line is solid extending to the intersection, cyclists have the right of way. Vehicles must not enter the bicycle lane until they can safely turn into the opposing lane yielding to cyclists and pedestrians.
- Bike lanes that have a dashed line leading to the intersection allow drivers to fully enter the bike lane when it is safe and clear of cyclists. Cyclists must then pass the turning vehicle on the left or wait behind the vehicle until the lane is clear.

WILLIAMS PARKWAY UPDATE

A huge thank you to all those who participated in the Williams Parkway Review Survey. We received over 1300 responses and staff will be bringing a report to Council in October 2020 to seek final approval on the design option.



Brampton Fire encourages residents to ALWAYS stay in the kitchen while cooking. Unattended cooking is the number #1 cause of fires in Ontario and in the City of Brampton.

To prevent cooking fires:

- Always stay in the kitchen while cooking. If you must leave, turn off the stove.
- Be alert. Avoid cooking if you are sleepy, have consumed alcohol, recreational drugs or medicine that makes you drowsy.
- Keep anything that burns (oven mitts, cooking utensils, dish cloths) a safe distance from the stove.
- Wear short or tight sleeves or roll up your sleeves when cooking.

These simple but important actions can keep you and your love ones safe while cooking.

SNOW/WINTER OPERATIONS

When the winter weather hits, City crews are ready. Make sure you are too! Visit www.brampton.ca/snow for all the information you need this winter.

Please note crews cannot properly clear a street with cars parked on it. When it snows, please do not park on the street until it has been salted or plowed.

Our goal is to have all roads, sidewalks and trails looked after within 24 hours after the snowfall ends, but it might take longer if weather conditions are severe. Please be patient! Wait 24 hours before calling about your street.



2021 BUDGET PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT

The City's draft Budget for 2021 is expected to be released in early November, with Budget Committee deliberations taking place towards the end of November, and the final approval in early December.

Due to the financial impacts arising from COVID-19, the City's 2020 year-end operating budget deficits are estimated at around \$57 million. The City recognizes that residents and businesses have also been impacted by the pandemic. Against this backdrop, several scenarios could be discussed during Budget deliberations. The public are invited to provide input and feedback at budget@brampton.ca. Other opportunities to provide your feedback will be available later this fall.



ACCESSIBLE PARKING

Accessible parking is available throughout Brampton. The original permit must be displayed in a visible area of your windshield. Photocopies are not acceptable. Residents are reminded not to use accessible parking spots unless you have a valid permit.



Sidewalk SNOW CLEARING

The City only clears certain sidewalks – most are the responsibility of the property owner. To find out who clears your sidewalk, check out the new interactive map at www.brampton.ca/snow.

FIREWORKS SAFETY



On Diwali, New Year's Eve, Victoria Day and Canada Day, only short-range fireworks are allowed on private property, without the need for a permit, e.g. fountains, wheels, ground spinners, sparklers. All other rocket-type fireworks are banned. Fireworks are not permitted on the street, sidewalks, within City parks or on municipal or school properties.



EVENTS

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 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 for details closer to event dates. Note all event information is subject to change.

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