

City of Brampton

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Fall & Winter 2020 Edition



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Message from Regional Councillor Gurpreet Singh Dhillon:

Residents of Wards 9 and 10, I would like to sincerely thank you all for your continued support and confidence in me as your representative at the City of Brampton and Region of Peel. This year presented our community with many unique challenges as the Covid-19 pandemic significantly impacted the lives of Brampton residents. Nonetheless, I am proud to say that during this time, we were able to come together and support one another through this unprecedented time.

The pandemic put the health and well being of our most vulnerable populations at risk. As co-chair of the City of Brampton's Seniors Support Task Force, I donated personal protective kits to seniors across the city. In order to further protect residents and to prevent the spread of the virus, my fellow councillors and I enacted several by-laws including: a mandatory mask by-law, and a social gathering limits by-law.

As well, community safety and driver safety have been key concerns that residents have shared with me. To address these issues, we were able to host town halls prior to the City shutdown with Peel Police, where residents conveyed their issues directly. Additionally, I consulted with City staff to have traffic signals, crosswalks, and various stop signs installed throughout Wards 9 & 10 to ensure safety for both our pedestrians and drivers.

Lastly, this year was the second year in a row where Brampton was able to achieve a ZERO percent tax increase on the City portion of the tax bill.

Connecting with you all, and ensuring that your voices are heard, has been and remains my top priority. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or e-mail me at anytime.

Sincerely,

Gurpreet Singh Dhillon
Regional Councillor, Wards 9 & 10

Message from City Councillor Harkirat Singh:

Dear residents of Wards 9 & 10, I hope you all are doing well and staying safe during this time. Due to the nature of the pandemic, the past few months may have undoubtedly been difficult, unusual and at many times, isolating. I encourage you to check in on your loved ones and ensure you are checking in on yourselves as well.

In March, we promptly took action to find solutions to barriers placed by our new reality to ensure that we are still conducting business as usual for our residents. Our Council meetings were made completely virtual to ensure our Council members continued to meet bi-weekly to make important decisions for the City of Brampton. Around this time, we also launched many task forces to deploy resources to areas in need during this crisis. I am the co-chair of the Youth Task Force, you can find some more information on what we're doing through our task force on the fifth page of this newsletter.

As always, one of my biggest priorities is connecting with the residents of Wards 9 & 10 on a personal level. I believe it is very important to make your local government accessible and I hope my office is providing an avenue for you to do that. Since my election, we have been contacted by over 1000 residents through email and phone. I remain committed to raising the concerns of our local residents and making decisions that improve the quality of life for Brampton residents. Should you wish to contact me, my contact information can be found at the back of this newsletter.

Stay safe,

Harkirat Singh, MSc, MBA.
City Councillor, Wards 9 & 10

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.



STREET PARKING

Parking on the street is not permitted between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m., and anywhere for longer than 3 hours. To provide longer parking to overnight guests, apply for a parking consideration at www.brampton.ca. It is free and could be issued for up to 14 days in a year per licence plate.

Remember that a parking consideration will not prevent you from getting a ticket for obstructing snow clearing or road maintenance operations. Your vehicle may be tagged and/or towed even if you have obtained a parking consideration. In addition, parking considerations will not be issued during winter weather events.



LRT EA UPDATE

Increasing opportunities to travel by rapid transit within the city and surrounding communities is essential for supporting the evolution of Brampton to a sustainable city that embraces a high quality of life for all citizens. Light rapid transit investment will play an important role in changing how people get from place A to place B and the transformation of the urban environment. The LRT Extension Environmental Assessment (EA) will be recommending a preferred Main Street alternative to extend light rail transit from Brampton Gateway Terminal to Brampton GO station in Downtown Brampton. A virtual open house was conducted in June and there will be more opportunities for residents to have their say in the coming months. Learn more at brampton.ca/lrtextension.



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.



BRAMPTONU PROPOSAL

This summer, the City released a preview of the strategic elements of a proposal for a fully accredited university in Brampton. Details of the academic and economic strategies and governance structure are available on www.bramptonu.ca. The full proposal will be submitted to the Province by end of the year. Programming focus will prioritize key growing sectors, including in Digital Transformation, Innovation and Sustainability.

To develop postsecondary plans, the City has worked closely with stakeholders and internationally-renowned educational institutions like Ryerson University, University of Guelph-Humber, The London School of Economics and Political Science, Queen Mary University of London, D2L and Algoma University.





WORKING FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Throughout the course of this year, the COVID-19 pandemic posed a significant challenge to families. However, Councillor Dhillon worked and continues to work tirelessly to advocate and fight for residents to ensure their safety. During this time, residents are urged to continue to follow City, Regional, and Provincial health protocols.

FOOD DONATIONS

Councillor Dhillon attended and organized several non-perishable and hot-meal donations to community agencies and to frontline workers. Notably, he organized a hot meal drop-off to a local youth shelter, the Knights Table food bank, and to Brampton Civic Hospital with Toronto Raptors Superfan Nav Bhatia.



COVID-19 SENIORS SUPPORT TASK FORCE



Seniors were identified from the onset of the pandemic as one of our most vulnerable and at-risk populations. During this time, Councillor Dhillon took on the role of co-chair with the Seniors Support Task Force, and worked hard alongside task force staff to protect our seniors. Councillor Dhillon purchased, prepared and delivered hundreds of personal protective equipment kits to seniors and seniors clubs from Brampton. The kits included sanitizer, gloves, and reusable face masks.



COVID-19 & YOUTH TASK FORCE

During this time, providing information and support to our residents has been of the utmost importance. Mayor Brown hosts weekly covid-19 press conferences to provide our City an update on our cases and charges laid for gatherings. I have on many occasions joined the Mayor to provide some information on the City's actions and on our Youth Task Force. Through our task force, our members have been creating engaging social media challenges, staying in touch with local youth-serving community groups and our school boards to ensure we are all working together to address the needs of our youth during this trying time.

GORE MEADOWS PHASE 3

Work is underway on the Gore Meadows East Community Park. Featuring modern design and construction, the park will provide increased access to innovative play structures and recreational amenities for residents of all ages and abilities. In August, residents were asked to provide feedback on the skate park, including specific features they would like implemented. Next steps include the overall design of the park, including the new innovative and fully accessible Activity Hub. The new outdoor full-size cricket field is now complete and future plans include two more lit cricket fields with turf wickets. One of those fields will have stadium-style seating and a clubhouse!



IN THE COMMUNITY

We are so thankful to have such resilient and driven community groups in the City of Brampton. During a time of need, many of these groups stepped up where they were needed to provide support in coordinating food donations, donating supplies to local hospitals and did everything they could to make sure our healthcare heroes were recognized. As a Council and as a City, we did our part to help coordinate many of these donations through our task forces. We are thankful to each and every organization that stepped up and continue to step up to provide support during this time.



COOK WITH CARE



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 loved ones safe while cooking.

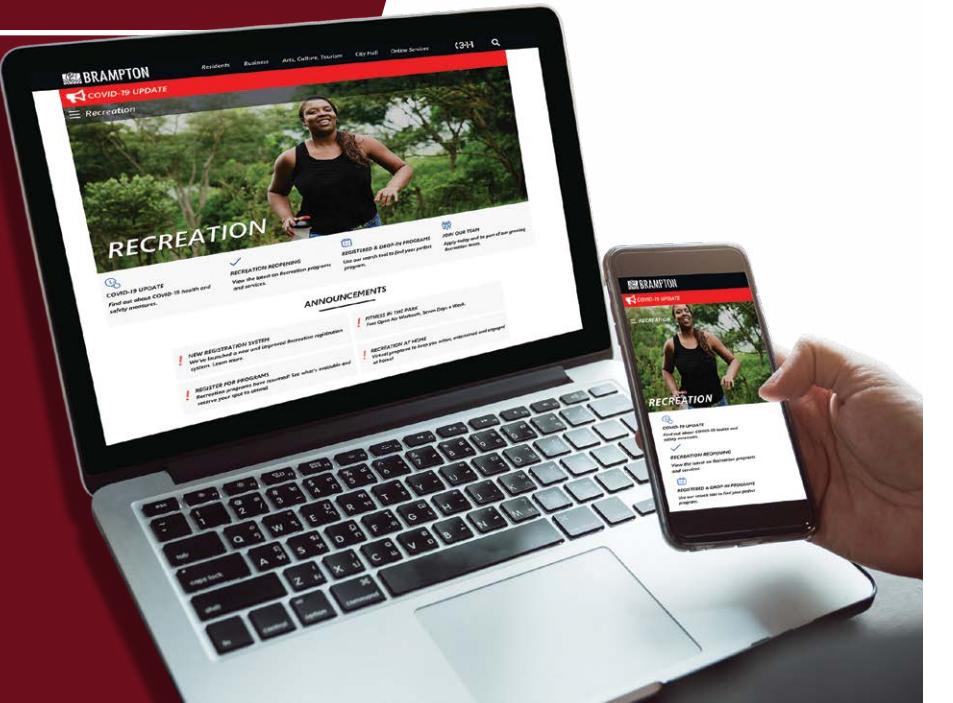
For more information scan here: 

**BRAMPTON FIRE
EMERGENCY SERVICES**

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.



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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.

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.



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.



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.



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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