

## Councillors' Message

Welcome to our Spring/Summer newsletter! Brampton is focused on building a city that's a global leader, shaping itself as a hub for jobs and innovation with a focus on six key initiatives identified within the <u>2016-2018 Strategic Plan</u>. We hope these six "gamechangers" referenced in the above graphic, will become more familiar to you as Brampton builds: Regional Connections, a University, Health Partnerships, the Riverwalk, Urban Centres, and focuses on our long-term Planning Vision.

Brampton remains a leader in exploring and implementing environmental green initiatives. Some subdivisions have been deliberately designed with open rather than paved or gravel ditches along the roadway that assist in improving water quality, which is essential requirement of the Conservation Authority. Asphalt ditches do not provide for improved water quality and are contrary to the environmentally friendly concept of recharging ground water. If these ditches are along your property in your subdivision, we encourage you to do your part in helping keep them litter free. As spring quickly turns to summer, we would like to remind residents that there are a number of road repair or construction projects throughout the city. Please be patient while crews work on projects such as road resurfacing, intersection improvements including street lights and traffic signals, bridge rehabilitation or sidewalk construction. A full list of upcoming projects can be found on the city's website at www.brampton.ca/roadworks.

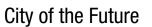
As well, summer means celebrations! There are many family activities that are either free or very affordably priced often almost every week in the city. Please consider bringing the family and joining Canada's 150th birthday party with the celebration on Canada Day. Read more about activities for keeping kids (and those young at heart) busy this summer at our recreation centres.



## University for Brampton

The process to bring a university to Brampton continues to progress. Recently, the Province revealed that Ryerson University, in partnership with Sheridan College, submitted an application to establish a new facility in Brampton. The Province will work with Ryerson and its partners over the coming months to refine its proposal. The City is excited to continue its discussions with Ryerson University, the Province and all stakeholders to develop a unique centre that combines education with innovation and collaboration – something beyond a traditional university campus. We're still in the early stages. Stay tuned for more details.

## Electric buses in Brampton by Spring 2018



In a comparison of 75 mid-sized cities across the Americas, Brampton was ranked among the Top 10, and came second for Business Friendliness and Foreign Direct Investment Strategy. The city was also recognized among the Top 10 for Connectivity. <u>The Mid-Sized American</u> <u>City of the Future 2017/18</u> was ranked by fDi Intelligence, a division of the Financial Times (UK). More than 400 cities around the world were analyzed for this bi-annual ranking.

**How did Brampton get there?** During 2016, Brampton saw a 4.8 percent increase in new businesses, representing 2,400 additional jobs in our community.



Up to 10 battery-electric buses and four high-powered overhead on-street electric charging stations are coming to Brampton. The new 100 per cent battery electric buses will be launched on two existing routes in Brampton, 23 Sandalwood and 26 Mount Pleasant, with new overhead charging stations at the Mount Pleasant Village terminal, the Queen Street/ Highway 50 Züm station, and the Sandalwood Transit Facility.

The fully electric buses could hit Brampton's streets as early as spring 2018.

Better understanding of battery electric bus technology will help prepare Brampton Transit to meet the future growth demands of the city, while reducing fuel costs and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

## Update on 443 Centre Street North

Our office has received numerous inquiries from residents across the city regarding the structure at 443 Centre St N. Be assured that the City of Brampton is pressing for a timely resolution to this long standing issue. Given the ongoing court cases associated with this property, the Superior Court is best positioned to resolve this matter and avoid the potential for

additional unnecessary delays by the owner. As such, an application for a demolition order for the unfinished house was filed by our Chief Building Official on April 26, 2017 through the Superior Court. A hearing date has been set for August 21, 2017. The City will continue to seek the Court's full assistance in moving this case forward.

## Widening driveways

Are you thinking of widening your driveway? Here's what you need to know:

- If you are cutting the curb or widening the boulevard portion (the land located between the road and the sidewalk), you may require a permit from the City.
- If you are changing the landscape or grade of your property, you may also require a Fill Permit from the City. This is for the materials that will be used on your driveway, such as soil, stone, concrete, sod, etc.

Whether or not you require a permit, there are driveway width restrictions based on the size of your property. You must also leave at least 0.6 m (two feet) of permeable landscaping between your driveway and your side lot line. Visit brampton.ca or call the City's Zoning department at 905.874.2090 for details.





## Grow Green Eco Pledge

The Brampton Environment Advisory Committee is one of the key teams helping bring Brampton Grow Green to life by taking action in six goal areas – **people, water, land, energy, air and waste**. And they want you to get involved too, by taking the Grow Green Eco Pledge!

Taking the eco-pledge is simple and free – it's just about committing to simple, eco-friendly actions for a specific period of time. Launched on Earth Day earlier this year, the program runs until the end of September.

Visit www.brampton.ca/ecopledge to learn more and sign up.



Wondering how to keep the kids busy this summer? Choose from any of the Recreation Centres' summer day camps for kids of all ages and interests. Campers can learn about business, science and math, practise their art, dance or music skills, play sports, and enjoy the outdoors. Camps run for one-week sessions, so try out a bunch of activities this summer!

Summer camps begin July 3. Most camps run 9 am – 4 pm, with extended day care available for a nominal fee. Check the Spring/Summer 2017 Recreation Program Guide for a full list of the programs available and sign up online, by phone, or at your local recreation centre. To find the camp that's right for you, create your own personalized recreation guide at **www.brampton.ca/recreationsearch** 

If camps aren't for you, drop-in programs are available across the city all summer long. For up-to-date schedule information, visit **www.brampton.ca/dropinfilter** 

## Flower City Seniors Recreation Centre Open House

#### August 14, 12-3 pm

Come for a visit and sample a variety of programs offered at the centre. Take a tour, view or participate in program demonstrations and meet the instructors. Entry is free and refreshments and door prizes will be available. Bring a friend!

8870 McLaughlin Road at Queen Street. 905.874.3500



## Ombudsman encouraged by City's procurement practices

A report from the <u>Ontario Ombudsman "commends</u>" the City's proactive initiatives to improve municipal processes.

Since 2015, the City took a number of steps to enhance procurement practices, such as updating technology for a more user-friendly bidding process, better internal automation and improved business intelligence. A new Director of Purchasing was appointed to provide elevated strategic procurement expertise. Improved independence of the Internal Auditor through functional reporting to City Council as well as enhanced education for employees across the City involved in procurement, also helped strengthen processes.

## Fireworks safety checks in place

Safety is not only important for those using fireworks, but also for those selling them. This is the principle behind Brampton introducing a mandatory annual course for fireworks vendors before they are licensed to sell. Launched earlier this year, the annual course will cover the types of fireworks allowed for sale; rules for storing, displaying and selling; customer ID requirements; and safety guidelines for distributing to buyers.

Vendors who could not attend the course in April this year, can register for the fall session, September 18 or 28. Details available on www.bramtpon.ca.

Residents are also reminded that only short-range fireworks (those that reach up to three metres when set off) are allowed on their property four times a year - Victoria Day, Canada Day, Diwali or New Year's Eve.



## Your home, your street

There are a number of City by-laws that help keep Brampton attractive, liveable and safe. Here are some quick tips to guide you this summer:

- Maintain your lawn by keeping your grass cut to 20 cm (8 inches) or shorter, and be sure to remove stagnant water
- Street parking is allowed for a maximum three hours. So what do you do if you're hosting family or friends for summer backyard parties and they require street parking? You can apply for a free permit that allows street parking for more than three hours and between 2 6 am. Apply online or through the Pingstreet app.
- Not sure where to store <u>waste carts</u>? You can keep them in the garage, side yard or the back yard. By not storing waste carts at the front of the house, you help keep up the visual appeal of your neighbourhood.

# Events

#### June

<u>CeleBrampton</u> Saturday, June 10, 11 am onwards Downtown Brampton

#### **Farmers' Market**

Saturdays, June 17 – Oct 7 7 am to 1 pm Downtown Brampton

#### **Mount Pleasant Market**

Thursdays, June 22 – October 5 5 to 9 pm

#### July

Celebrate Canada Day Brampton Saturday, July 1, 12 noon to 10 pm Chinguacousy Park

#### September

Animal Shelter Open House and Adopt-a-thon Saturday, September 16 475 Chrysler Drive

<u>Culture Days</u> Friday, September 29 – Sunday, October 1 Various locations

#### **Brampton Arts Walk of Fame**

Saturday, September 30 Garden Square

#### Doors Open Brampton

Saturday, September 30 Various locations

#### October

#### **Downtown Harvest Market**

Saturdays, October 14 – November 4, 9 am to 1 pm Downtown Brampton

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#### www.brampton.ca TTY: 905.874.2130

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## Message from the Mayor

Brampton has a lot to be excited about. Our City is the 9<sup>th</sup> largest in Canada, and the second fastest growing. We are an emerging innovation hub on the Toronto-Brampton-Waterloo Region Innovation Super Corridor, the second largest high tech cluster in North America. Your Council is focused on building a future ready city, and has recently approved our <u>2016-2018 Strategic Plan</u>. The new plan will help move Brampton forward as a connected city that is innovative, inclusive and bold with a focus on six priorities:

planning vision, health partnerships, university, regional

connections, urban centres and Riverwalk.

What truly sets us apart is our people; we have a young, diverse and highly educated population looking to be players on the provincial, national and international stage. Together as a team, we are working to realize the full potential of our City, and we are looking forward to hearing more from residents like you. A robust community requires an active citizenry and your local Councillors are looking for your feedback and suggestions – be active in your local government, in your local community, and on your local issues. We are on the cusp of something great in Brampton, and together we can bring about the change required to push our City forward.

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Linda Jeffrey



## Trail and playground improvements

Through the support of the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, the City is making improvements to a number of playgrounds and trails throughout Brampton.

Improvements in Wards 1 and 5 include:

- Playground equipment at Winterfold Park, Talbot Park, Koretz Park and W.A. Russell Parkette will be replaced, with a focus on improving the accessibility of outdoor play spaces and structures.
- The outdoor facility at Earnie Mitchell Park will be enhanced.
- Some sections of 21 recreational trails at Robwill Parkette, Valleydown Park, Sheffield Park and Hansen Parkette will be updated for more convenient pedestrian and cycling access.

For a full listing of playgrounds and trails being improved, visit www.brampton.ca/parks

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