



SPRING 2011







George Carlson

Councillor Ward 11



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Councillor's Message

Dear Friends,

It's an honour to have been re-elected to serve as your Ward 11 Councillor for the next four years. Part of my commitment to you is to keep you informed and involved with local issues and events. This newsletter helps me to do that.

This edition contains a large section devoted to Seniors' issues and services. The Region and the City have numerous programs aimed at keeping seniors healthy, active and living independent lives. If you are a senior, I urge you to read over the information and call if you have any questions.

If you would also like to receive my regular e-newsletter, just let me know. It's a brief report which keeps you up to date on issues and seeks your input on a variety of matters affecting our community. As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office at george.carlson@mississauga.ca or (905) 896-5011 if there is anything we can do to help you.

Yours very truly,

Contact Information

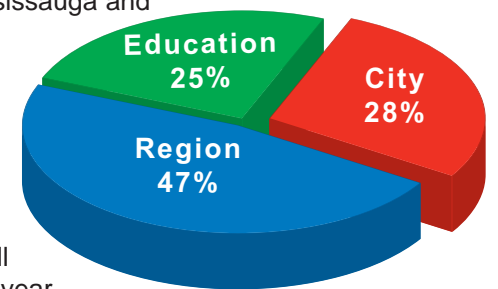
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2011 Budget at a Glance

After months of careful review and debate, the 2011 City of Mississauga and Region of Peel budgets have been finalized. The 2011 City budget includes the following new and enhanced services:

- 30,000 additional annual hours of transit service
- Expansion of the collection in 18 libraries to include library materials in multiple formats and languages
- Therapy tanks at recreation facilities
- Implementation of the Cycling Master Plan, which will add over 30km to Mississauga's cycling network per year

Where do your property tax dollars go?



Impact on \$400,000 Home	\$ Increase	% Impact on Total Tax Bill
City Operating Budget	\$53.26	1.34%
City Infrastructure Levy	\$11.10	0.30%
Total City Tax Increase	\$64.36	1.64%
Regional Tax Increase	\$46.37	1.18%
Total Tax Increase	\$110.73	2.82%

In 2011, the City's portion of the property tax bill will increase by 5.8% (a 1.64% impact on your total property tax bill). To keep Mississauga's infrastructure in good repair, City Council voted in favour of adding a 1% infrastructure levy this year. The Region's portion of the property tax bill will increase by 2.5% (a 1.18% impact on your total property tax bill). For a home assessed at \$400,000, the City increase equals \$64.36, while the Regional increase equals \$46.37, which brings the total City and Regional tax increase to \$110.73 or a 2.82% impact on an average 2011 property tax bill. The City's portion of your tax bill represents 28% of your total property tax bill, the Region's represents 47%, and the Province's education portion represents 25%. This means that for every property tax dollar you pay, the City receives 28 cents.

2011 Bread & Honey Festival

How sweet it is! The 2011 Bread & Honey Festival is coming to town and promises to be the biggest and best yet! The Bread & Honey Festival is a long-standing tradition in Streetsville. The first festival was held in June of '73 to celebrate the founding of the Village. It was such an outstanding success that it became an annual event. The theme of Bread & Honey originated from the importance of commerce in the community. The historic backbone of Streetsville's local economy was its five major mill sites along the Credit River; honey was included to reflect the many small apiaries existing locally at the time.



The 2011 festival will be held on the weekend of June 3, 4, & 5, so mark your calendars! The parade is back again on Saturday, from 10am-12pm, going south on Queen St., from Britannia Rd. to Old Station Rd. If you're craving some bread and honey, stop by the Bread & Honey Booth at Streetsville Memorial Park on Saturday and Sunday for a free sample! Head over to the Island on Saturday and Sunday for the Busy Bee Children's Island Stage, featuring a petting zoo, delicious food, magic show, children's

bouncers, magicians, pig racing, an obstacle course, and much more! As always, the main stage will come alive with an amazing line-up of local musical performers. Also, don't forget to check out the Rotary Consumer Market on Saturday and Sunday at Streetsville Arena, from 10am-6pm, as well as the Art, Crafts & Hobbies Marketplace at the Island on Saturday (12-6pm) and Sunday (12-5pm).

The success of this festival would not be possible without the work of its volunteers. If you would like to volunteer at the 2011 festival, please contact 905-816-1640 or info@breadandhoney.ca. For more information about the festival, please visit www.breadandhoney.ca.

SENIORS IN THE KNOW: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR SENIORS



Seniors and Disabled Persons Tax Rebate

The City of Mississauga offers a \$400 tax rebate on annual property taxes for low income seniors and low income persons with disabilities who own and occupy their own home. This rebate is applied to your account to offset your property taxes.

You may apply for the City's tax rebate if you are:

- 65 years of age and receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) from the Federal Government
- Receiving an allowance, benefits, or income support from the Province under the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

Applications must be submitted by December 31st of the year for which a tax rebate is claimed, and no more than one application may be submitted for a property in any year. For more information about this tax rebate program, please contact 905-615-4311 or tax@mississauga.ca.

Seniors' Dental Program

The Region of Peel's Seniors' Dental Program assists seniors who have no dental insurance and cannot afford the cost of dental care. The program offers FREE basic dental care for low-income seniors living in Peel Region. Basic dental care services covered under this program include cleanings, fillings, dentures, and other basic dental care services. The Seniors' Dental Program does not cover all dental services, and it is not an insurance plan. This program is fully funded by the Region of Peel and administered by Peel Public Health. To qualify for this program, you must:

- Be 65 years of age or older, **and**
- Live in Brampton, Caledon, or Mississauga, **and**
- Demonstrate that you have financial hardship that prevents you from paying for dental care

Please call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700, prior to having any dental treatment, to confirm whether you are eligible to receive assistance under the Seniors' Dental Program.

Active Assist Fee Assistance Program

The City of Mississauga's new "Active Assist" program, launched in May 2009, is designed to help eligible low income families and individuals in Mississauga participate in the City's Recreation and Parks programs. The program provides eligible families and individuals with a fee credit of \$275 per person, per year, deposited into their Recreation and Parks program account. This credit can be applied to activities such as swimming, skating, fitness, and summer camps. "Active Assist" can accommodate 4000 individuals per year.

To be eligible for "Active Assist" fee assistance, you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a resident of Mississauga
- Have a total net individual / combined family income below the Low Income Cut Off (LICO) amounts established by Statistics Canada.
- Be able to provide current documentation that shows total family net income

Applications for "Active Assist" may be completed at any Recreation and Parks Community Centre or the Customer Service

Centre on the ground floor of the Central Library. For more information about this program, please call 905-615-4100 or visit www.mississauga.ca/activeassist.



Driveway Windrow Snow Clearing Pilot Program

The City of Mississauga's Driveway Windrow Snow Clearing Pilot Program is a City-wide pilot program to clear snow windrows from the driveways of older adults (65 years of age or older) and individuals who are physically disabled. A windrow is the snow that is left at the bottom of a driveway after a snowplow has cleared a road. This pilot program provides snow clearing service after every snow plowing.

Participation in the program is FREE for:

- Older adults (65 years or older) who are eligible for financial assistance (net individual income or combined family income below the Low Income Cut Off amounts)
- Individuals who are physically disabled (as verified by a health professional) who are eligible for financial assistance (net individual income or combined family income below the Low Income Cut Off amounts)

Participation in the program is \$200 for:

- Older adults (65 years or older) who are **not** eligible for financial assistance
- Individuals who are physically disabled (as verified by a health professional) who are **not** eligible for financial assistance

Participation in this program is available on a first come, first serve basis. The FREE program is limited to 2500 households and the \$200 program is limited to 1000 households. You can apply for the program at any City of Mississauga Recreation and Parks Community Centre during regular business hours. For more information about this program, please call 905-615-4311 or please visit www.mississauga.ca/snow.

Older Adults in the Know

The City of Mississauga has developed a specialized website for older adults living in Mississauga, called *Older Adults in the Know* (www.mississauga.ca/olderadults), to provide older adults (55 and older), their families, and caregivers with a wide variety of resources, information, and key services that will help older adults stay active and engaged in their communities. The website was created to improve access to community resources that are essential to personal health; community and neighbourhood development; and the overall quality of life of older adults in Mississauga. The website is geared to assist older adults with aging at home by providing information and services online that can be accessed from home. This website provides older adults with information and resources in the following areas:

- **Active Aging** (recreation, parks, trails, and libraries)
- **Health** (services to keep older adults healthy and active)
- **Transportation** (convenient and safe traveling options for older adults)
- **Support & Safety** (services that support aging at home)
- **Housing** (housing services and options for older adults)
- **Government** (government-provided services and assistance for older adults)

For more information about this website, please contact Jayne Culbert at jayne.culbert@mississauga.ca or 905-615-3200 x3718.



Earth Week 2011 Events

Earth Week is the largest and most celebrated environmental event worldwide. More than 6 million Canadians join 1 billion people in over 170 countries to participate in Earth Week activities. Earth Week 2011 is fast approaching and there are many great Earth Week events that will be held throughout the city. Earth Week is a great opportunity for you to get your family, friends, colleagues, and neighbours together to do something good for the environment and to help keep Mississauga clean and green. There are plenty of great events that will be held throughout the city, and I hope you enjoy participating in one or more of them. This year, Earth Week runs from April 17 – April 23, 2011. If you and your family are looking for fun Earth Week events to participate in, check out the following local events:

20-Minute Makeover- Friday, April 15th at 2pm

Take 20 minutes out of your day to pick up litter around your workplace, school or community. To participate in the 20-Minute Makeover, choose a location in your community and form a clean-up group with family, friends or colleagues; you can also participate individually if you wish. Garbage bags will be available at your local community centre, while supplies

last. Register your clean-up group by Monday, April 11th. For more information about this event, visit www.mississauga.ca/earthdays.

Community Clean-Up Day- Saturday, April 16th

Organize a clean-up group with your family, friends and neighbours and tackle the litter on your local streets, boulevards, parks or woodlots.

Garbage bags will be available at your local community centre. Register your clean-up group by Monday, April 11th. For more information about this community event and to register your clean-up group, please visit www.mississauga.ca/earthdays.

Streetsville Secondary School Zonta Club and Streetsville B.I.A. LitterNOT Clean-Up- Tuesday, April 19th and Tuesday, May 31st at 2:30pm

Join Streetsville Secondary School's Zonta Club and Charge Club, as well as the Streetsville

B.I.A. for their LitterNOT Clean-Up event. This year, these groups will be cleaning up Streetsville Secondary School's interior courtyard. They will be planting a butterfly garden, grooming existing shrubs/flower patches, and freshening up the front flower beds with new colors for spring! For more info, call 905-819-1195, ext.148.

"Scoutrees" Annual Tree Planting Day- Saturday, April 30th at 9am

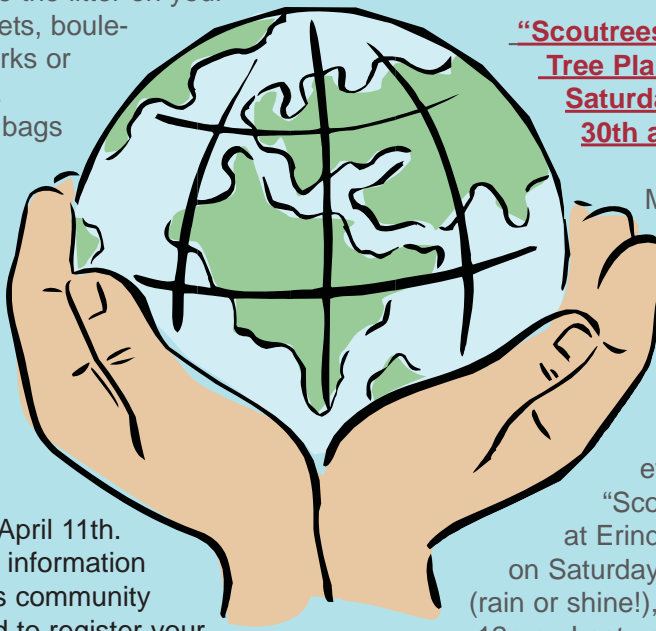
Mississauga Scouts will be holding their annual tree planting event, "Scoutrees," at Erindale Park on Saturday, April 30th (rain or shine!), from 9am-12pm. Last year, over

400 Scouts, volunteers, City of Mississauga staff volunteers, and Credit Valley Conservation volunteers helped to plant over 2000 trees in Hewick Meadows Park. "Scoutrees" is a Canada-wide environmental program, run by Scouts Canada that provides Scouts with the opportunity to demonstrate, through tree planting, their concern for the environment and to help build a cleaner, greener community

that is less susceptible to flooding. Any funds raised from "Scoutrees" events are used to support Scouting in the local community and develop campsites. 15% of funds raised are donated to the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund, which assists Scouting members in developing countries with running self-help and community betterment programs that are adapted to local needs and conditions. For more information about this "Scoutrees" event, please contact Jeremy Johnston, Group Commissioner, 4th Meadowvale West Scouts, at 289-997-1934 or scoutrees@m.scouters.ca, or please visit www.m.scouters.ca

Sierra Club Peel 2011 Tree Planting- Saturday, May 7th at 10am

On Saturday, May 7th rain or shine, from 10am-12noon, join Sierra Club Peel, the City of Mississauga, and Credit Valley Conservation at Richard Jones Park (181 Whitchurch Mews, at Dundas Street and Cooksville Creek) for the Sierra Club Peel's 2011 tree planting. Don't forget to bring a shovel, gloves, and insect repellent, as well as clothing and footwear that are suitable for tree planting. For more information about this tree planting event, please visit www.sierraclubpeel.ca or call Peter Orphanos, at 905-567-7425.



Share-IT: Computers for Community

Do you have used information technology equipment (computers, printers, cell phones, scanners, etc.) that you no longer need? You can now donate your used IT equipment to help those in need and do something good for the environment, through the Share-IT: Computers for Community program. The Share-IT program, run by the Community Environment Alliance of Peel (CEA), is an initiative that collects used computers and IT equipment and distributes refurbished units to low income families and individuals in the community. To be eligible to receive IT equipment from the Share-IT program, you must belong to one of the following groups:

- Low income families and new immigrants in need
- Low income seniors

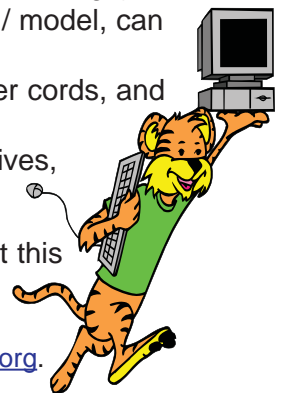
- Students in need
- Persons with disabilities
- Qualified start-up ventures
- Non-profit / community-based agencies

In addition to providing those in need with access to quality IT equipment, this great program also works to reduce e-waste generation through community-based reuse and recycling of electronics. Electronic waste generation has grown into a pervasive global environmental problem. Globally, an estimated 20-50 million tonnes of electronic waste is generated annually. In fact, approximately 47.5 million computers and 100 million cell phones are thrown out every year— nearly 70% of the heavy metals in landfills comes from electrical equipment waste. When electronic waste is disposed of in a landfill, the toxins contained in this waste (e.g. lead, mercury, arsenic, and cadmium) can leach into the soil, contaminat-

ing groundwater and creating health risks. If you would like to make a donation, the Share-IT program accepts the following types of used equipment:

- Computers / laptops (motherboard intact)
- Monitors (>= 17 inches in working condition)
- Printers (in working condition, with power cord, adapter, and used cartridge)
- Cell phones (any make / model, can be broken/ working)
- Keyboard, mouse, power cords, and adapters
- Hard disk drives, CD drives, and floppy drives

For more information about this program, please call 905-463-9941 or please visit www.communityenvironment.org.



2011 Streetsville Canada Day Celebrations

If you're looking for something fun to do on Canada Day, why not celebrate our nation's 144th birthday in the historic Village of Streetsville! Canada Day celebrations in Streetsville are always great fun for the whole family, and the 2011 celebration promises to be the biggest and best yet! The 2011 Canada Day celebrations will be held on Friday, July 1, 2011. This is the 19th annual Canada Day celebration in Streetsville, and it will feature a spectacular parade and fireworks display, as well as more fun activities, events, and performances for everyone to enjoy! The event is free of charge, and celebrations will begin at 6pm on Main Street. Get the party started with a wide variety of fun and exciting children's activities, such as face painting, balloon animals, mascots, clowns, magicians, kiddie and adult striker games, craft tables, children's entertainers, painting and artwork stations,



and much, much more! Also, be sure to grab a bite at the Rotary BBQ and catch the many amazing musical and dance performances, as well as an outdoor concert on the main stage. At 7pm, join in for the traditional Lion's Club Cake cutting and singing of "Happy Birthday!" At 9:30pm, join the Streetsville Pipes & Drums for the Flag Raising Ceremony and spectacular parade to Memorial Park. Last but not least, kick back and enjoy the amazing fireworks display at Memorial Park at 10pm. The outstanding success of Streetsville's Canada Day celebrations would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of community volunteers. This event is completely run by community volunteers who organize all of the venues, events, and activities. If you would like to volunteer at the 2011 Canada Day celebration, please send an e-mail to info@villageofstreetsville.com or call 905-858-5974.



The City of Mississauga has developed a comprehensive new Cycling Master Plan, which will triple the number of roads and trails devoted to cycling from 374km to 909km across Mississauga increasing the number of workday bike trips from 3% to 10% over the next 20 years. This landmark cycling plan will make Mississauga the first large suburb in the country to make a major commitment to cycling. The Cycling Master Plan envisions Mississauga as a city where "people choose to cycle for recreation, fitness, and for their daily transportation needs." Over 1,000 Mississauga citizens

and stakeholders contributed their thoughts, ideas, and suggestions to help develop this comprehensive master plan. The Cycling Master Plan establishes 3 key goals for supporting and developing cycling in our city:

- **Foster a culture where cycling is an everyday activity**
- **Build an integrated on-road and off-road cycling network as part of a multi-modal transportation system**
- **Adopt a "safety first" approach for cycling in Mississauga**

Some of the key recommendations emerging from the City of Mississauga's Cycling Master Plan include:

- Establishing a Cycling Office to oversee the implementation of the plan
- Promoting cycling to schools
- Increasing awareness of cycling among Mississauga residents
- Adding an average of 30km to Mississauga's cycling network per year, over the next 20 years
- Connecting all major natural and cultural destinations by the cycling network
- Providing cycling routes within 500m of all residents and schools
- Ensuring that 95% of the population are within 1km of a primary cycling route where possible

For more information about the City of Mississauga's new Cycling Master Plan, please visit www.mississauga.ca/parks.

Credit River Parks Strategy

The City of Mississauga is presently in the process of developing the Credit River Parks Strategy, which will promote the preservation and enhancement of over 1500 acres or 20% of our city's parkland situated along the Credit River and determine its future uses.

The Credit River has had a long-standing importance and significance to people of Mississauga. Historically, the Credit River served as a source of food, water, and method of transportation that was vital to the founding of Streetsville, Meadowvale, Erindale, and Port Credit. Presently, the 27km of the Credit River that flows through our city is a natural habitat for thousands of animal and plant species and has the potential "green" infrastructure to support a strong natural heritage system, as well as all-season recreation,



credit river parks strategy

leisure, and educational activities. The main goal of the Credit River Parks Strategy is to develop a sustainable, innovative, and environmentally responsible master plan to guide the planning, development, conservation, and management of the City of Mississauga's parkland and natural areas. Strategy considerations will include protecting / enhancing natural heritage features and functions; enhancing connectivity; increasing the natural habitat for plants and wildlife; fostering community stewardship; protecting, enhancing, and celebrating cultural heritage features and landscape; and supporting eco-tourism in the area.

If you would like more information about the City's Credit River Parks Strategy, please contact 905-615-3200 x4498, creditriverparks.strategy@mississauga.ca, or please visit www.mississauga.ca/creditriverparksstrategy.

mississauga living green

The City of Mississauga is in the process of developing the Living Green Master Plan (LGMP), which is the City's action plan for doing business, decision-making, and providing services in an environmentally sustainable way. This plan will enable us to achieve our environmental goals and provide a way to measure progress.

The LGMP will provide an overview of the current state of Mississauga's environment and will function as an important decision-making tool to guide policies and actions, based on environmental performance. It will also include short, medium, and long-term actions with timelines and performance indicators.

City staff and environmental key stakeholders attended preliminary workshops held in July and October 2010 to share ideas and brainstorm concepts for the LGMP. Feedback from these workshops indicated that people want an environmental plan that is innovative, bold, and puts our environment first and foremost. Additional workshops will be held in spring 2011. In the meantime, if you would like to share your ideas for the LGMP or register for LGMP e-mail updates, please visit the LGMP website at www.mississauga.ca/environment.

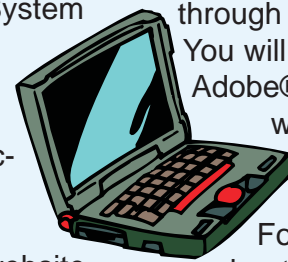
If you would like more information or have any questions about the City of Mississauga's Living Green Master Plan, please contact Mary Bracken, LGMP Project Leader, at 905-615-3200 x4918 or mary.bracken@mississauga.ca, or please visit www.mississauga.ca/environment.

Important Numbers

Aircraft Noise Complaints	416-247-7682	Park Lights (City)	905-615-4999
Animal Services	905-896-5858	Parking Control	905-896-5678
By-law Enforcement	905-896-5655	Peel District School Bd.	905-890-1099
City (after hours)	905-615-3000	Peel Regional Police	905-453-3311
Courtneypark Library	905-615-4745	Poison Control Centre	416-813-5900
Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board	905-890-1221	Property Taxes	905-896-5575
Enersource (Hydro)	905-273-9050	Recreation & Parks Region of Peel	905-615-4100
GO Transit	416-869-3200	River Grove CC	905-791-7800
Health Line Peel	905-799-7700	Safe City Mississauga	905-615-4780
Ministry of Health	905-275-2730	Snow Removal	905-615-6272
Mississauga 311	3-1-1	Streetlights (Enersource)	905-615-7669
Mississauga Ambulance	905-844-4242	Streetsville B.I.A.	905-566-2718
Mississauga Fire	905-615-3777	Streetsville Library	905-858-5974
Mississauga Transit	905-615-4636	Transhelp	905-615-4785
		Vic Johnston CC	905-791-1015
		Waste Management	905-826-3011
			905-791-9499

Mississauga Library Launches Digital Library

The Mississauga Library just got even better...and digital! The Mississauga Library System has launched its new digital library, which allows residents to download a vast selection of e-books and audio books from the Mississauga Library website 24/7 all absolutely FREE! The new digital library online catalogue offers over 1,000 digital materials, including best sellers, classics, fiction, non-fiction, children's collection, youth collection, and much more! To



access the digital library collection, you will require internet access, a valid Mississauga Library card, and downloadable software that is available through the Library website. You will need to download Adobe® Digital Editions software. This software is available FREE through the Library website. For more information about the Library's digital collection and other library programs and services, visit www.mississauga.ca/library or call 905-896-5000. To access the digital collection, visit <http://mississauga.lib.overdrive.com/>.

Contact Your Ward 11 Councillor, George Carlson

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