



Karen Ras

COUNCILLOR WARD 2 NEWS



FALL WINTER 2015

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Dear Friends and Neighbours

Welcome to my Fall/Winter 2015 Newsletter providing information that will affect you, your family and our neighbourhood.

Your tax dollars work hard to maintain and improve our quality of life across our beautiful and diverse City and Region.

We have many changes coming our way and I want to ensure that you are kept totally updated. With so much happening, it can be a challenge to provide timely and up-to-date information, so I encourage you to visit my website at karenras.ca and follow me on **Twitter @RasWard2** or **Facebook at Karen Ras**. You can also visit the City of Mississauga website at mississauga.ca for direct access to numerous online services.

This past year, I held community office hours and had the pleasure of meeting with many of you. Please contact my office at **905-896-5200**, for information on the next round of community office hours for 2016.

On behalf of my Executive Assistant, Helena Francisco and my Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Waye, we look forward to being of service to you.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to represent your interests on Council.

Kind Regards,

Karen Ras,
Councillor Ward 2

New \$46m investment in Sheridan Park

I am excited that Slate Office REIT recently announced that it is investing approximately \$46 million to revitalize two key properties in Mississauga's Sheridan Park, which will house SNC-Lavalin's nuclear sector, a major long-term tenant in the park that is committing to extending its lease on a long term basis in the newly refurbished, contemporary facilities.

In connection with the revitalization project, Slate has entered into an agreement with SNC-Lavalin that will lease approximately 215,000 square feet of research, development and office space in Sheridan Park that will house upwards of 1,200 employees!

As City Councillor for Ward 2, I know that businesses and residents eagerly anticipate the much needed revitalization of Sheridan Park with announcements such as this. I believe the City's vision is closely aligned with this initiative which encompasses goals of sustainability, innovation, collaboration and growth.

We look forward to working with both parties to ensure a seamless rejuvenation of Sheridan Park. Sheridan Park is one of North America's first corporate research parks. In total, more than 2,700 scientists, technicians, engineers and support staff are employed within Sheridan Park's boundaries.

Clarkson Village Study

Since my last update to the community on the subject of the Clarkson Village Study, I have had numerous contacts with residents passionate about this issue. These residents have expressed to me a variety of positions and, as your Councillor, I am doing my best to take all of these views into account.

The appeals of the Clarkson Village Study OPA 9 are scheduled to be heard by the OMB on November 23, 2015.

The Provincial Government's "Places to Grow Act" and accompanying Growth Plan require that official plans have intensification in certain corridors and, in particular, near transit hubs. The nearby Clarkson GO station is a critical transit hub and Clarkson was identified as a Community Node capable of accepting greater density by professional City planners. That is why, in 2010, City Planning Staff recommended through the

Clarkson Village Study that there be up to a six storey built-form in the area. In 2014, the previous Council voted to cap the height of all buildings up to four storeys, setting the stage for the appeals by some of the land owners to the OMB.

The City retained outside independent legal counsel to meet with the property owners to attempt to reach a compromise and failing that, to prepare for the hearing in November. City Council has accepted the terms of a negotiated settlement for the RioCan site. One part of the proposal calls for an eight storey residential building, which would be at the street and support ground-level commercial retail uses. The building would be stepped back to overcome any shadowing concerns for neighbours to the north. The settlement plan also calls for the development of a community square on the site that would become a hub for the

entire Clarkson Village. RioCan has also agreed to narrow their appeal from the entire study area to their specific site. It is important to note that in 2010, the OMB issued a decision approving an eight storey retirement residence containing ground floor commercial uses. This development did not proceed at the time, but from a legal perspective, it is difficult for the City to now argue for four storeys on the entire property when the City had agreed to eight.

City Council felt there was a greater planning merit to defend its previous decision to limit the height on the south side, west of Meadow Wood Road. This will be defended at the OMB.

This matter is far from completed and at this point, the future is uncertain but I am determined to ensure that we get this right and build a Clarkson village that is worthy of the neighbourhood we love.

Let's Talk TRASH

Most people aren't that keen on having to change their daily routines.

There will be a new program in place that will affect how and when you put out your garbage, compost and recycling. Starting January 4, 2016, those residents who currently receive curbside waste collection services will experience several changes:

- garbage and recycling will be picked up on alternating weeks (one week garbage, the next week recycling);
- organics or your green bin will be picked up every week;
- you will need to use the carts provided rather than ones you have used in the past for your waste;
- **Monday** will be the collection day for all of Ward 2 residents.

You will be receiving your three new carts between October 21 and December 5, 2015. Please don't use them until January as the current waste collection trucks cannot pick them up just yet.

There are a few condominium townhouse locations in Ward 2 that will be on a bag-based program until further notice.

In early 2016, once the program has been rolled out, the Region will offer a collection program for your old blue boxes and green bins. Where possible, please consider repurposing your old bins for items such as garden waste.

If you are not happy with the size of your bins, there will be an opportunity to exchange them after March 31, 2016. There will be no charge to exchange the carts for the month of April.

This new waste program will be affecting over 1.4 million residents in the Region of Peel. Like any new program, we will likely experience some bumps along the way. We are all going to need some patience as we transition to the new collection system.

We won't be without our challenges but the Region of Peel team and I will be there to help out. If you have questions, comments or concerns, please contact regionofpeel.ca/waste or myself at karen.ras@mississauga.ca.



Recycling Cart

Garbage Cart

Organics Cart



Residents were invited to celebrate the 50th Anniversary for Clarkson Library located in Clarkson Community Centre on October 3, 2015

(L - R): Paul Mitcham, Commissioner, Community Services; Councillor John Kovac, Ward 4; Councillor Matt Mahoney, Ward 8; Mayor Bonnie Crombie; Brad Hutchinson, Chair, Mississauga Public Library Board; Councillor Karen Ras, Ward 2; Nokha Dakroub, Peel District School Board Trustee, Wards 9 & 10; former MP Stella Ambler, Mississauga South; Raj Chopra, Mississauga Public Library Board; Rose Vespa, Director, Library Services.

H.L. Blachford Limited Open House

H.L. Blachford Limited opened their doors to the community to show them what they do and the processes in place. The Open House was held on October 7, 2015 and the invitation was open to the public, the Ratepayer Association and neighbouring businesses.



(L - R): H.L. Blachford Chemists, Victoria Quirino, Svet Pavlovsky

2016 budget

Mississauga's annual Business Plan and Budget lays out what the City of Mississauga is doing as well as why and how much it costs.

Business planning and budgeting ensures the City's resources are spent wisely. It brings the City's strategic plan to life by providing the necessary funds to move action plans forward. The detailed 2016 proposed Business Plan and Budget will be available online November 17, 2015. Budget Committee is scheduled to discuss it during the last week of November and first week of December.

Learn more about the City's 2016 budget at mississauga.ca/budget:

- share opinions about funding for 10 service areas using the online budget allocator;
- review the detailed 2016 proposed Business Plan and Budget;
- attend a Budget Committee meeting in person or watch online;
- email opinions directly to the City at budget@mississauga.ca.

Follow the City on Facebook ([facebook.com/citymississauga](https://www.facebook.com/citymississauga)) and Twitter (twitter.com/citymississauga) for budget updates as they happen.

Residential Senior's TAX REBATE

A tax rebate program is available in order to assist low income seniors and low income persons with disabilities. Under this program, a \$400 tax rebate on annual property taxes is offered to eligible seniors and persons with disabilities who own and occupy their own home within Mississauga for at least one year.

The rebate is applied to your account to offset property taxes. To be eligible, you must:

- Be 65 years of age and receiving benefits under the Guaranteed Income Supplement Program; or
- In receipt of an allowance, benefits or income support as a person with a disability under the Ontario Disability Support Program.

Only one rebate per household is eligible in any year. A separate application is required for each year in which the rebate is claimed. Application forms must be submitted by December 31, of the year for which the rebate is being claimed.

For additional information or an application form, contact Mississauga 3-1-1 or visit our website at mississauga.ca/tax.

WINTER Maintenance

The City of Mississauga is preparing for the winter season. There are many operations and steps the City takes to help people travel safely during the winter months including:

- clearing roads;
- clearing priority sidewalks, bus stops and pedestrian crossings;
- removing snow;
- salting and brining of roads;
- offering a windrow program for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Keep Up-to-Date on Plowing and Salting

- download the Mississauga Roads App (from the Apple Store or Google Play) to track plows/salters travelling routes and receive alerts;
- follow us on Twitter [@MississaugaSnow](https://twitter.com/MississaugaSnow) for current conditions and progress;
- visit mississauga.ca/snow for live updates, details, routes and maps;
- call the information Snow Line 905-615-SNOW (7669) to hear recorded information about plowing and salting during a snow event, available 24/7.

If there are concerns with road conditions 12 to 24 hours after a snowstorm ends please contact 3-1-1 or (905-615-4311 outside city limits).



Snow Clearing and Salting

The City uses a priority route system to clear and salt roads, bus stops, priority sidewalks and pedestrian crossings. Following a snowfall the City's priority is to ensure that emergency vehicles and transit buses have safe access to routes on major roads.

During a snowstorm, priority roads (major roads, arterial roads) and local collector roads such as Burnhamthorpe Rd. or Dundas St. are cleared first. These roads are salted if the snow is less than eight cm (three inches) or plowed and salted if snow is more than eight cm (three inches).

Following the clearing of priority roads, local residential roads, bus stops, pedestrian crossings and priority sidewalks (those around hospitals, schools and major transit routes) are cleared.

Levels of Service

- priority roads are cleared within 12 to 24 hours after the end of a snow storm (back to back storms will extend this timing);
- local residential roads, bus stops, pedestrian crossings and priority sidewalks (those around hospitals, schools and major transit routes) are cleared (bare pavement is not guaranteed);
- priority sidewalks, bus stops and pedestrian crossings are cleared within 24 to 36 hours after the end of a snowstorm. Back to back storms will extend this timing;
- cul de sacs, roads with 90 degree bends and dead end streets are at the end of the snow clearing operations.

Snow Season Parking

Roads with parked cars take longer to plow or salt. Please remove vehicles from roads during heavy snowfalls. A winter on-street parking restriction is in effect in Mississauga from November 1 to March 31 between 2:00 to 6:00 am. This restriction will be enforced in accordance with the Traffic By-law and vehicles left on city streets will be issued a penalty notice and are subject to towing and storage fees at the expense of the owner.

During snow removal, temporary parking permits (parking considerations) will not be issued and current ones will be cancelled.

Keep up-to-date on cancellations with [@MississaugaSnow](https://twitter.com/MississaugaSnow), the Winter Maintenance page at mississauga.ca/snow or download the Mississauga Roads App for free.



Winter Maintenance Service Standards for the City of Mississauga

SNOWFALL ACCUMULATION:	Less than 8 cm (3")	8 cm to 15 cm (3" to 6")	15 cm to 30 cm (6" to 12")	More than 30 cm (12") or back to back storm
Major/Priority Road	Salting only	Plowing and salting Cleared within 12 hrs after the end of a snowfall	Plowing and salting Cleared within 24 hrs after the end of a snowfall	Plowing and salting Cleared within 24 hrs after the end of a snowfall
Residential/Secondary Roads, Priority Sidewalks, Bus Stops, Pedestrian Crossings	Salting only	Plowing and salting Cleared within 24 hrs after the end of a snowfall	Plowing and salting Cleared within 36 hrs after the end of a snowfall	Plowing and salting Cleared within 36 hrs after the end of a snowfall

Protecting Our TREE CANOPY

With more than two million trees on public and private property, Mississauga’s urban forest is a valuable asset to the city. Trees provide economic and environmental benefits including absorbing pollution, saving energy and adding beauty to our neighbourhoods.

In 2012, the City of Mississauga Council passed the Private Tree Protection By-law (0254-2012). This by-law protects and enhances Mississauga’s existing tree cover while respecting a landowner’s right to make changes to their property in an environmentally responsible manner.

When do landowner’s need a permit to remove trees?

YES	NO
Three or more trees 15 cm (6 in) or more in diameter per calendar year	All trees 14 cm (5.5 in) or less in diameter
Three or more dead, dying or hazardous trees over 15 cm (6 in) in diameter per calendar year	Up to two healthy trees with diameter greater than 15 cm (6 in) per calendar year

Dead, Dying or Hazardous Trees

The removal of three or more dead, dying or hazardous trees 15 cm (6 in.) or more in diameter must be approved through the permit process and the condition of the trees verified by City Forestry staff.

No fee is required for dead, dying or hazardous trees and no replacement trees are required.

Ash Trees

For residents with Ash trees, a certified arborist can sign off on the application form to confirm that the trees are dead or dying due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). This will help streamline the application approval process for Ash trees.

As with any dead or dying tree, there will be no fee and no replacement trees are required.

We have ongoing challenges with respect to how trees are dealt with for re-development. Council will be revisiting this issue in the near future.

Visit the Private Tree Protection By-law page at mississauga.ca/privatetreebylaw to find the Tree Permit Application Form and information on permit fees.



Hillside Community Garden Expanded

With support from PCL Construction and the City of Mississauga, Ecosource expanded our Hillside Community Garden in spring 2015, with 35 raised beds and a brand new garden shed.

MULTI USE TRAIL Update

The City and its Consultants have been working with Hydro One Network Inc. (HONI) to design a multi-use trail within the Royal Windsor Hydro One Corridor. The final revised set of drawings were submitted to HONI October 2015. Subject to their approval, construction commencement is anticipated for Summer 2016 and the trail is expected to be open to the public in the Summer-Fall 2017. The Royal Windsor Hydro One Corridor Multi-Use Trail project is a 50/50 cost sharing collaboration with the Region of Peel’s Active Transportation Program. Further information will be available in 2016.

Vacuum Leaf PICKUP PROGRAM

During the fall, the City provides Vacuum Leaf Pickup service to streets that are more than 35 years old and contain many mature large trees. Streets included for Leaf Pickup have received a direct-mail notice that indicates when leaves will be picked up in that area.

Collected leaves should be raked off the roadway onto the City grassed boulevard or into the ditch for pickup. Please make sure that storm drains are clear of leaves as placing leaves on the roadway or over top of storm drains can block drainage which may cause flooding or water pooling on the road.

For more information visit, mississauga.ca/leafpickup

If a resident on the street does not want to participate in the program, they can bag the leaves for pickup from the Region of Peel Yard Waste. For more information, call 2-1-1 or visit, peelregion.com

Celebrating NATIONAL FOREST WEEK, September 26, 2015

Residents joined Staff to learn about our urban forest and to plant 150 trees in the Rattray Marsh Conservation Area. Exciting activities for all ages included the tree planting and a guided walk hosted by LEAF (Local Enhancement & Appreciation of Forests). Partners of the event included; The Credit Valley Conservation Authority; LEAF, Ecosource and Forests Ontario.



(L - R): Mayor Bonnie Crombie; Jean Williams, Chair, Rattray Marsh Protection Association; Barkley, LEAF mascot; Councillor Karen Ras.

SPRUCE UP the City by Participating in One Million Trees

As an important piece of Mississauga’s health and quality of life, the urban forest also provides economic and environmental benefits that include absorbing pollution, saving energy, managing stormwater and adding beauty to Mississauga neighbourhoods.

In an effort to maintain, conserve and enhance Mississauga’s open spaces and forested areas for future generations, the One Million Trees program launched in 2013. The goal of the program is to plant one million trees by 2032.

So far, more than 155,000 trees and shrubs have been planted across the city.

The program has been a great success thanks to residents, local businesses and partners including Credit Valley Conservation, Evergreen, Credit River Anglers Association, Toronto and Region Conservation Association and the Association for Canadian Educational Resources.

To learn more about community events, tree planting on residential property, planning a local neighbourhood event or to sign up for an upcoming planting led by the City and/or partner organizations, visit onemilliontrees.ca. Follow the City’s Parks & Forestry division on Twitter (twitter.com/mississaugapf) and on Facebook (facebook.com/MississaugaParksandForestry)

Stormwater Charge Billing Begins in 2016

The stormwater charge is a new, dedicated source of funding that will be added to your Region of Peel water bill beginning in 2016. The charge will help the city minimize potential risks to you, your property and the environment. It will also keep Mississauga's stormwater infrastructure in good working order and help to avoid costly repairs in the future.

The City, with the Region of Peel, are working together to ensure residents are aware and understand the new stormwater charge.

The total annual stormwater charge for your property will be divided into a daily charge. Each time you receive your water bill, it will show the stormwater charge for the number of days that have passed since your last bill. The Region of Peel will send out bills on the same schedule they do today. As the number of days billed may vary from bill to bill, and charges are accrued daily, you may see varying stormwater charge amounts on each bill.

If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to use the City's estimator tool, available on the website stormwatercharge.ca, to look up the stormwater assessment for your address, including the calculation of your estimated 2016 charge and daily charge.

You can learn more about the City's stormwater charge program by visiting the website stormwatercharge.ca.

The site offers educational material and information regarding the City's stormwater charge program, including understanding how your property drains; practices for homeowners to help reduce the risk of flooding; and actions that can be taken to help reduce the water quantity and quality entering into the City's stormwater system.

Residents are also encouraged to learn more about stormwater reducing programs available through other City initiatives, the Region of Peel, local conservation authorities, public agencies and not-for-profit organizations including:

- rain barrels, soakway pits and rain gardens;
- Region of Peel fusion landscaping consultation and learn-to-build workshop;
- rain barrel purchase from the Region of Peel;
- your Green Yard Program (workshops, incentives and educational resources by Credit Valley Conservation (CVC);
- natural gardening resources in Peel (Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA);
- Rain Gardens Fact Sheet (TRCA);
- Low Impact Development FAQs and Resources (CVC);
- Need to Know: Ontario One Call System.

Multi-residential and Non-residential Credit Program

The City's Stormwater Charge Credit Program has been designed to provide a stormwater charge reduction to multi-residential and non-residential properties whose stormwater practices provide a direct benefit to the City's Stormwater Management Program.

Multi-residential and non-residential properties make up 70 per cent of the hard surface area in the City. These sectors have the greatest opportunity for stormwater improvements and reduction.

In October, I introduced a motion that would look at the implementation of a residential credit system. Council has established a working committee to consider a separate credit program for residential properties that utilize volume control measures. The Committee will report back to Council by the spring of 2016. Stay tuned for more information.

Detailed information about the Stormwater Charge Credit Program can be found on the website stormwatercharge.ca under the My Charge multi-residential and non-residential sections.

Culham Trail Grant Announcement

On the Culham Trail near Credit Valley Conservation's administration office in Mississauga, delegates announced a \$100,000 grant from the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation to support development of a master plan to develop a continuous 110-kilometre trail along the Credit River.



Celebrating at the announcement were (L - R): Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) CAO Deborah Martin-Downs, Orangeville Councillor Gail Campbell, Caledon Councillor Johanna Downey, Mississauga Councillor Karen Ras, Township of Amaranth Mayor Don MacIver, MPP Mississauga Brampton-South Amrit Mangat, CVC Foundation Chair Jim Muscat, Erin Councillor John Brennan, CVC Chair and Mississauga Councillor Nando Iannicca, Oakville Councillor Tom Adams, Friends of the Greenbelt VP of Communications Susan Murray, Halton Hills Councillor Bob Inglis, Brampton Councillor Martin Medeiros, Mississauga Councillor Ron Starr, CVC Manager of Community Outreach Dave Beaton and Credit Valley Heritage Society President Susan Robertson.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES For information on development applications in Ward 2, please go to my Ward 2 website and click on Planning, then Ward 2 Major Development Applications. karenras.ca



MacArts Festival on Celebration Square Councillor Karen Ras and Ken Jones, President, Mississauga Arts Council attended the first ever MacArts Festival which was free to all at Celebration Square, September 19, 2015. MacArts celebrates Mississauga's artists of all disciplines. The festival will be back next year as part of MAC's 35th Anniversary celebrations.

HAPPENINGS at the Museums of Mississauga!

WRAPPED, TIED AND TUCKED South Asian Textiles of the everyday

October 3, 2015 - January 17, 2016

Benares Visitor Centre and Bradley Museums

By raiding the closets of Mississauga residents and borrowing exceptional pieces from Museum Collections, this exhibition explores both the shared and personal, utilitarian and decorative traditions of wrapped fabric in South Asia. Whole pieces of fabric have been worn over the centuries as sashes, saris, shawls and turbans. These vibrantly coloured and beautifully patterned fabrics from India, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan are not cut, sewn, or pieced together instead they are draped, knotted, tied and tucked into various forms of dress. Pieces are on loan from Ryerson University Fashion Collection, Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) and Textile Museum of Canada.

THE FAMILY CAMERA PROJECT ROM comes to the Museums of Mississauga The Royal Ontario Museum – Curator Deepali Dewan

Saturday, November 28, 2015, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Benares Historic House, Summer Kitchen by appointment – please contact Museums of Mississauga 905-615-4860, ext. 2109

Share your family photos and family histories with ROM Senior Curator Deepali Dewan and other photography experts as The Family Camera Project comes to Mississauga.

The Family Camera is a community archive project to collect and preserve family photographs and their stories in the ROM's collection. This archive will preserve your family history in a Canadian institution for future generations and serve as source materials to write new kinds of histories of Canada. In this phase of the project, we are specifically looking for family photos that have some link to Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam, as well as the Black Diasporic community in Canada.

Bring one photo or bring a whole album. Simply share them with photo experts or consider contributing them to the project. Both old and recent photos are welcome. Copies and digital files will be provided to each family in return.

For more information visit museumsmississauga.com



THERAPEUTIC Recreation Programs

Everyone should have the opportunity to be active in a way that suits their abilities and comfort levels. If you are someone living with a chronic disease, recuperating from an injury or surgery take some time to learn more about therapeutic recreation programs. The City has many programs that are specifically designed for those living with:

- a chronic disease;
- an existing physical disability or limitations;
- an injury;
- a required rehabilitation after surgery;
- instructions to be physically active by a medical professional.

Individuals can participate in therapeutic recreation activities led by certified instructors that can help develop new recreational skills and maintain existing ones to enhance health, independence and well-being.

Memberships

The City now offers therapeutic memberships so residents can take advantage of both on-land and in-water therapeutic programs and swim times.

Therapeutic pools

Therapeutic pools can increase relaxation, reduce pain, improve circulation and help with range of motion while building or increasing exercise tolerance. The City's therapeutic pools are fully accessible with wheelchair ramp access, pool lift and full body sling support lift.

Other accessible features include a private change room with ceiling lift and height adjustable change table, washroom with ceiling lift, vertical pole and wall bar which ensure that persons of all abilities can enjoy the pool's benefits of warm water exercise and movement.

Equipment

Treadmills, elliptical machines, resistance bands, stability balls, light hand and ankle weights are all pieces of equipment used in both rehabilitation and post rehabilitation exercise programs.

Programs

Take advantage of one of the many registered programs offered at one of the City's community centres.

For more information on therapeutic recreation, wellness and exercise programs, pool locations and membership options, please visit a local community centre or mississauga.ca/therapeutic or speak to a City customer service agent at 905-615-4100.

KNOW WHO TO CALL

Visit mississauga.ca for more information.

3-1-1 provides residents with direct access to local municipal government programs and services in Peel:

- garbage pick up
- water billing
- recreation programs

2-1-1 is for confidential information and referral to non-emergency community, health and social services in Peel:

- employment leads
- doctors accepting patients
- social housing resources

9-1-1 is for life-threatening emergencies or crimes:

- a fire
- a crime in progress
- a medical emergency

Interested in receiving city news by email? Sign up and receive up-to-date information on City programs, projects, upcoming events, engagement opportunities, important seasonal reminders and issues affecting Mississauga. Sign up at mississauga.ca/keepmeposted.