



MARKHAM NEWS

NEWS FROM YOUR
MARKHAM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

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Don Hamilton
Unionville Ward 3 News

Working with our community
for our community.



A recent realignment of Markham's ward boundaries has left Ward 3 Unionville as it was before. 😊😊😊

Upcoming Events

- Thursday Nights at the Unionville Bandstand
- Unionville Festival
- Doors Open Markham
- The 2014 Election

Contact Information

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Arena Decision

At the time of writing this newsletter, the final decision for the MSECC Arena proposal has not been made.

While there was a near derailment of the financial framework a few months ago, the City of Markham remains involved in this project.

I expected that a decision by Council would have been taken by the end of January but that was not to be.

The majority of Unionville Ward 3 residents have told me that they **do not want to be responsible for \$325 million in debt** for an NHL sized arena with NO guarantee of an NHL team. They continue to be worried about possible future municipal tax increases that could be needed to support the building if it is not successful.

Continue to let all Council members know how you feel about this arena proposal.

Warden Avenue Construction

Get ready for major construction disruption if you use Warden Avenue north of 16th. It will be widened to 4 lanes, with work to commence very soon.

There will be new curbs, storm sewers, sidewalks, a multi-use pathway, street lights and three new bridges.

The project will take two years to complete and will involve Warden Avenue being **closed completely** from June to December of 2013.

For further information contact:

Jamal Ahmed or David Atkins
jamal.ahmed@york.ca
david.atkins@york.ca

Ray Street Park South Unionville

This park is scheduled to be completed by fall of 2013. Watch for the grand opening!



\$66 million Community Centre for South East Markham

Markham Council has recently given the go ahead for the construction of a new community centre in the Middlefield Road and 14th Avenue area.

The state of the art facility will include a 20,000 square foot library, six lane swimming pool, large fitness area including gyms and an indoor track as well as a multi-use area and lots of community use space. The total square footage will be 121,000.

This exciting building will offer teen and youth space, artist studio space, computer rooms for programmes and camps, large rental spaces for community events, a stage for community performance and art, multi-media rooms, and an incredible exterior civic and park space for large gatherings.

This community centre building will be a multigenerational family destination with seniors most welcome. Diversity will be shown in programming, library materials and space design.

We will showcase culture through food performance and the arts. We will also be respectful of cultural privacy requirements in pool and gym areas.

Construction is scheduled to begin in October 2013 and be ready for use in late 2015.



The beautiful new South East Markham Community Centre

We live in a red-light district!

Yes we do! Recently the Region of York approved the installation of red light cameras in 20 locations within the Region. Four of those are located in Markham.

Be careful if you are at any of the following intersections. You may end up with an expensive ticket coming to you in the mail.

- Kennedy Road & Major Mackenzie Drive
- McCowan Road & Major Mackenzie Drive
- Highway 7 & Bullock Dr.
- 9th Line and 16th Avenue

For information on the other locations of these red-light cameras send me an email request.

dhamilton@markham.ca

Say good-bye to the Fred Varley Drive plaza.

The Ontario Municipal Board decision has been rendered.

After a long battle at the OMB, the City lost. All of the matters under adjudication went in favour of Tribute properties.

So where are we now?

The site plan for the building will be submitted very soon. The residents currently occupying the apartments will be allowed to stay until spring of 2014. A sales office will be set up this summer. Unit sizes are expected to be 700 square feet and up.

Many of the stores hope to relocate in close proximity to Main Street. Will the new building be a good fit for the neighbourhood? Many residents have serious doubts. Time will tell.



Pan Am Centre is under construction.

Operation Kidsafe a F-R-E-E service

Long time community partner Don Valley North Toyota Scion is located at 3300 Steeles Avenue East, just east of the Don Valley Parkway.

They currently offer a wonderful **free** service to help protect your children.

Operation Kidsafe is a digital fingerprint and photo safety program. It is available to all your children any day that the dealership is open for business.

They will capture your child's picture and fingerprints using a digital video device, digital ink-less fingerprint device and special software. The data is then printed on 8.5 by 11 inch quality paper for parents to use should the need ever arise.

No database or record of any child is maintained. The only record goes home with you, the parents, for safekeeping.

Call today! 905 475-0722



Pan Am pool and badminton facility to be completed in 2014.

Pan Am building underway!

I can tell you that the new construction at the foot of Main Street Unionville and Enterprise Drive is causing a lot of excitement in our badminton and swimming communities.

This facility will host the Pan Am games from July 10-26 and the Para Pan Am games from August 7-14 in 2015.

The Olympic sized 50 metre pool will have 10 lanes with a movable floor for kids lessons post Pan Am. It will seat 2000 people on the deck and have touch pads, timers, clock and competition lane ropes.

The badminton section of the building will have a triple gymnasium, 17 metre ceiling height and will also hold 2000 spectators.

There will also be multi-purpose rooms for community meetings, dance, yoga, arts and crafts, as

well as a two level fitness centre. How do you say **world class facility**?

The City will need lots of **volunteers** to make these games successful. Watch for your opportunity to get involved.

Only 10% of Markhamites are potential organ donors

In the old days I carried a small signed card in my wallet that identified me as a potential organ donor.

While I still carry the card in my wallet, I had to recently complete an on-line consent form through Service Ontario. One donor can save up to 8 lives and enhance 75 others.

Why not join me and become a potential donor? Discuss it with your family. **BE A DONOR!**

www.beadonor.ca

New Lighting for Unionville Library

I am pleased to advise that enhanced lighting is being added to the east side of the parking lot and also in the treed pathway area of the Unionville Library.

I received a number of concerns from residents about safety especially during the winter months when darkness arrives earlier.

I worked with our staff to bring a brighter, safer environment for you and your family members.

Doors Open Markham

Coming this fall to Unionville-Markham is "Doors Open". This provides an opportunity to see inside venues that you would not normally be allowed to see. Check the Doors Open website www.doorsopenmarkham.ca for more details. Circle September 28th on your calendar!

Having Trouble Getting Your Recycling To The Curb?

If you have a temporary or permanent physical challenge, you may be eligible for free assistance from the City. Don't hesitate to call my assistant Marina and she will help you. There is a short form to complete.

mantonoglou@markham.ca

905 415-7528



Stiver Mill Phase I will be ready for use by March 2014.

Stiver Mill Restoration

When first elected, residents asked me what could be done to restore the decaying Stiver Mill. It had become a home for several families of raccoons and squirrels.

Well, thanks to a lot of hard work and support from community and our staff, and the vision of Jeanne Ker-Hornell and Bob Stiver, I am pleased to report that the building will be restored.

We are fortunate to have obtained a Federal Grant from CIIF for \$622,339.

Our thanks to **MP Paul Calandra** for his part in securing that grant.

This will be a \$1.9 million restoration and renewal. There will be a boardwalk by the railway track and a public realm area with seating. This will be a beautiful space for all to enjoy.

The Markham Food Bank Needs Your Support

The Markham Food Bank serves over 1,000 individuals every month, providing much needed food supplies to supplement family nutritional requirements.

Markham residents and businesses continue to provide valuable support to the food bank to help meet the needs within our community. But we need more help.

Non-perishable food items are gratefully received at our food bank location. We also accept financial donations to help with the purchase of perishable items such as milk and produce.



Markham Food Bank
190 Bullock Dr. unit 11, Markham
905-472-2437
www.markhamfoodbank.ca

Hours of operation
Tuesday: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Thursday: 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

A registered charitable organization
89084 6066 RR0001

Have your say!

Send us an email on any municipal matter ... from the arena to street light replacement. We are here to try and help!

dhamilton@markham.ca



www.markham.ca