



Call: (416) 392-1375 E-mail: councillor_lee@toronto.ca

Dear Neighbour,

From my family and staff:

We Wish You and Your Family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

I believe that 2014 is ending on a good note, and 2015 will be very busy with the city moving forward in many areas, including planning of the Scarborough Subway, SmartTrack Rapid Transit, de-congestion of traffic gridlock, improved TTC service, hiring of a new Police Chief, new policy on carding, coordination of services and improve efficiencies.

With the start of a new term of Council, I have new appointments, and the list is below.

We fought the application to build 20 townhouses and 2 semi-detach houses on 2 residential large lots in the Midland and Donalda area. The applicant appealed to the OMB before the City even had a chance to report on the application. A group of us along with the City attended OMB hearings at the beginning of March, 2014, the OMB gave us an early Christmas present by dismissing the appeal, after taking more than 9 months to arrive at that decision. It was quite emotional for many participants, but at the end of the day, the battle was won with cool heads. The decision can be viewed at :
<https://www.omb.gov.on.ca/e-decisions/pl130919-dec-19-2014.pdf>.

Below are briefs on: Serving of the City's Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees; Ward Boundaries Review/Study; McCowan Road re-surfacing; Kindergarten Update; Scarborough Subway and SmartTrack Updates and Events.

As always, if you have any comments, questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at (416) 392-1375 or councillor_lee@toronto.ca

Sincerely,

Chin Lee

Toronto City Councillor
Ward 41 - Scarborough Rouge River

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CHIN LEE'S COMMITTEES

As part of my role as a Toronto City Councillor, I have been appointed to the following City of Toronto committees, agencies and corporations:

Scarborough Community Council, Chair

Audit Committee

Civic Appointments Committee

Committee of Revision

Employee and Labour Relations Committee

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

Toronto Atmospheric Fund Board of Directors

Toronto Police Services Board

Sheppard East Village BIA

As the Chair of Scarborough Community Council, I have the responsibility of running Scarborough Community Council's meetings in an impartial manner and keeping order is the main part of this position. Community Councils report to City Council but they also have delegated final decision-making power on certain items, such as fence by-law exemptions and appointments to local Boards and Business Improvement Areas. Historically, Scarborough Community Council has spent much time on dealing with fence exemptions and tree removal. As chair, I intend to tackle larger issues such as the completion of mass transit projects such as SmartTrack and promoting Scarborough.

The Audit Committee recommends the appointment of the City's external auditor and considers the results of the City's Auditor-General's reports and make recommendations to City Council, based on these reports.

The Civic Appointments Committee considers and recommends the appointment of citizens to the City's various agencies, boards and committees.

The Employee and Labour Relations Committee reviews human resource policy issues and is responsible for compensation, training and development, recruitment, retention, retirement labour relations and health and safety, etc.

The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee monitors and makes recommendations on Toronto's infrastructure needs and services.

The Toronto Atmospheric Fund is interested in combatting global climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and energy conservation and efficiency.

The Toronto Police Services Board is a seven member civilian board (with 3 from Toronto City Council) that oversees the Toronto Police Service.

GET INVOLVED - YOUR CITY is RUN with Expertise from It's Qualified Residents

There are plenty of ways to get involved with your city. The City of Toronto has numerous boards, agencies and corporations that you can help serve. Serving on high-profile, exciting and challenging boards of directors is a unique opportunity to build skills, gain experience and give back to your community.

Applications are currently being accepted for the City of Toronto's boards, agencies and corporations. For more information on citizen public appointments, visit: <https://secure.toronto.ca/pa/home.do>. You can also send an e-mail to appoint@toronto.ca or call (416) 397-0088.

DRAW THE LINES: TORONTO WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW

The number of residents who live in Toronto's 44 Wards vary from 45,000 to 94,000 people. New construction – driven by population growth – has led to some Wards having more residents than others. This leads to residents getting uneven representation.

Toronto's Ward Boundary Review is being undertaken to redraw the Ward boundaries to ensure that each Ward has approximately the same number of residents. This is to ensure that everyone has equal representation at City Hall. The review is taking a look at the size and shape of the Wards, neighbourhoods, geographic communities of interest, major physical and natural boundaries and population trends.

Meetings for Toronto's Ward Boundary Review took place in Scarborough from December 6 – 8, 2014. If you were unable to attend these meetings you can express your opinion on this topic by taking the survey at: <http://www.drawthelines.ca/survey/>.

SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION ON MCCOWAN ROAD

My office received a number of e-mails from concerned residents about sidewalk construction on McCowan Rd. from McNicoll Ave. to Steeles Ave. E. Residents were concerned about the impact of construction on pedestrian safety and access to nearby TTC bus service.

The City of Toronto's Transportation Division was contacted in regards to this issue. They took the proper measures to improve safety in the area for the remainder of the construction period, which was completed on December 5.

Contractors will return to the area in spring 2015 to plant sod and touch up the pavement lines markings. Transportation Services will try their best to minimize delays and disruptions while this ancillary work is completed.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Starting Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 10 a.m., parents can register their children for kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year. Children born in 2011 are eligible for kindergarten.

If you are sending your child to a Catholic school, there are 2 ways to register: online and in person. To register online, complete an application at SOAR.tcdsb.org. To register in person, visit your local school. Contact your local school for their operating hours.

Registration for Public school kindergarten programs begin in February. If your child will be 4 by December 31, 2015 he or she can start kindergarten in September 2015. To register your child for kindergarten, find your local school and bring the following documents:

- Proof of age (birth certificate or passport).
- Proof of address (two pieces of identification that show your address, such as a phone bill).
- Proof of immunization.
- Verification of date of arrival, if your child was not born in Canada. Families who are permanent residents and refugee claimants may register directly at the school.

For more information about registering your child for kindergarten visit:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Kindergarten/Registration.aspx>.

SCARBOROUGH SUBWAY and SMART-TRACK UPDATE

In October 2013, Toronto City Council confirmed its support for the Scarborough subway. This proposed extension of the Bloor-Danforth subway line will replace the aging Scarborough RT.

All electric transit vehicles reach the end of their operational lives after 30 years and must be replaced. This new subway will provide faster, reliable public transit service to Scarborough's 650,000 residents. The Scarborough subway line will consist of at least 3 new stations. TTC engineers are in the process of determining the alignment of the route. Initially, the line was projected to run east along Eglinton Ave. E. and then north on McCowan Rd. The City and the TTC will also work on determining station locations and construction methods to be used to minimize disruption to surrounding communities.

To stay informed on progress on the Scarborough subway, visit scarboroughsubway.ttc.ca.

On SmartTrack, City Council on December 11, 2014 approved and allocated an additional \$750,000 on various studies and report on Review of SmartTrack and Regional Express Rail Plans, in relationship to creating a transit network for Toronto and the GTA. View the decision at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2015.EX1.12>

EVENTS (for even more events, see www.toronto.ca/events)

December 13th, 2014 to January 3rd, 2015 – The Nutcracker – Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts

Every year, the National Ballet of Canada performs the Nutcracker in what has become a Christmas tradition. If you buy tickets to the ballet, make sure you arrive on time as stragglers won't be allowed in once the show begins.

December 13th, 2014 to February 21st, 2015 – DJ Skate Nights – Harbourfront Centre

Take a trip to Harbourfront Centre for a skate party every Saturday night from December 13 to February 21. The DJ will be on site from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

December 24th, 2014 to January 4th, 2015 – Blades on Stage – Princess of Wales Theatre

Blades on stage takes place on a frozen stage and stars Canada's greatest figure skaters such as Elvis Stojiko. For more information, visit: <http://www.toronto.com/events/blades-on-stage/>.

December 31st, 2014 – New Year's Eve at Nathan Phillips Square – Nathan Phillips Square

New Year's Eve and Nathan Phillips Square features a variety show, interactive exhibits and games. Join your neighbours outside City Hall to ring in the New Year.

January 1st, 2015, 2-4 PM – Mayor's New Year Day Skating Party at Nathan Phillips Square.

January 25th, 2015 – Eastern Canada Highland Dancers' Alliance Dancing Competition – 8:30 a.m. – 2395 Bayview Ave.

The Eastern Canada Highland Dancers' Alliance will be hosting a dancing competition on Saturday, January 25th. The novice dance competition will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the intermediate and advance competitions will start at 10 a.m. You must be a member to enter the competition. Membership fees cost \$50. Visit <http://echda.ca/events/> for more information.

February 21st, 2015 – Eastern Canada Highland Dancers' Alliance Dancing Competition – 8:30 a.m. – 2395 Bayview Ave.

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