

**Toronto City Councillor**

**Chin Lee**

**WARD 41 E-NEWS REPORT**



**Call: (416) 392-1375    E-mail: [councillor\\_lee@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_lee@toronto.ca)**

Dear Neighbour,

My staff and I would like to extend best wishes to those in our community who celebrate the Hindu festival, Holi. Holi is a celebration that marks the beginning of spring. It is also a celebration of good defeating evil.

On March 3rd, 4th and part of 7th, I attended the Ontario Municipal Board hearing to represent our community's views on an OMB appeal. A developer has proposed constructing 20 townhouse units and 2 semi-detach homes on 2 adjoining single dwelling properties on Midland, just north of Donald Crescent in Ward 41. Members of the community and I have objected to this proposed development. The City of Toronto planners were also NOT supportive of this development. The community members raised some funds and engaged an architect to provide elevation views (what the proposed would look like from different directions) and help community members to build their arguments against the proposed development at the OMB Hearing. The OMB Hearing went for the full 5 scheduled days. It was very emotionally draining for the community participants. The Chair of the OMB Hearing took copious notes and now will review all his notes, evidence given by all parties and participants, and make a ruling on the application. That decision is in the hands of that 1 person, and speaking to our city planning staff, it will likely take more than a month for him to make his decision.

There are 2 other proposed high-density developments close by, one at 23 Glen Watford Drive and another at 4181 Sheppard Ave E, the south-west corner of Sheppard and Midland. There will be pressures for higher density developments along Sheppard due to proposed higher order of public transit coming in the future. The higher the order of transit, the denser the proposed developments. The approved (but not yet started) Scarborough Subway extension will also mean additional development pressures around Sheppard/McCowan area. But to build higher orders of transit, we will have to raise revenues to fund these infrastructure improvements. The decision to fund each individual transit project and raise the needed revenues is in the hands of the majority on City Council, the Provincial Parliament, and Federal Parliament.

As always, if you have any comments, questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at [\(416\) 392-1375](tel:4163921375) or [councillor\\_lee@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_lee@toronto.ca)

Sincerely,

# Chin Lee

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Ward 41 - Scarborough Rouge River

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## National Energy Board Approves Line 9 Flow Reversal - FYI

On March 6, 2014, the National Energy Board (N.E.B.) approved Enbridge's proposal to reverse the flow and increase the capacity of line 9 – a pipeline that runs from Sarnia, Ontario to Montreal, Quebec. The energy company also received approval to transport other oil products through the pipeline such as diluted bitument (dilbit). The N.E.B. added conditions to the approval, including directing Enbridge to take steps to ensure the integrity of the pipeline and to develop an emergency response plan.

Oil products such as light crude oil and dilbit will now flow in a west-east direction as opposed to the former east-west direction. This will allow Enbridge Inc. to transport crude oil from the Alberta Tar Sands to oil refineries in Montreal.

The pipeline has been in operation since 1976 and has had its flow reversed in 1998. For more information on Enbridge's plans, visit the company's website: <http://www.enbridge.com/line9>  
The Toronto Coalition Against Line 9 opposed Enbridge's proposal and expressed concerns about the potential impacts on the environment and human health in the case of an oil spill due to a pipeline rupture. You can read their report for more information on their concerns: [http://chinlee41.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/neb-hearings-summary-report-on-line-9\\_not-worth-the-risk\\_feb14.pdf](http://chinlee41.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/neb-hearings-summary-report-on-line-9_not-worth-the-risk_feb14.pdf)

## Clean Toronto Together 2014

Every spring, the City of Toronto invites residents, community groups and businesses to clean Toronto. Get together with friends, family, coworkers and classmates to clean a park, laneway or any other space that needs your help. The Corporate & School Clean-up Day is on Friday, April 25 and the Community Clean-up Days are on Saturday April 26 & Sunday April 27. Participants can also plant a new tree, apply some mulch or assist a community garden. Working together we can keep Toronto clean and green. To register your event, find out where to obtain garbage and recycling bags and learn more, please visit [www.toronto.ca/cleantoronto](http://www.toronto.ca/cleantoronto) or call 311.

**If you and your friends and family participate in Spring Clean-up Day, it is important to remember these litter pick-up **safety tips**:**

- Do not pick up dangerous articles (needles, metal, chemicals, medical waste) – report the location of these items to 311.
- Report suspicious items to the Toronto Police Service's non-emergency telephone number [416-808-2222](tel:4168082222).

- Do not pick up litter on a road. When near or adjacent a road – be mindful of vehicles at all times.
- Do not handle any hazardous wastes (batteries, paints, motor oil or chemicals) – report the location of these items to 311.
- Do not work on unstable or slippery ground (ravines, river banks), in tunnels, or near stormwater management facilities.
- Wear appropriate and protective clothing (gloves, boots, rain jacket, hat).
- Do not pick up or move heavy tree limbs and objects

## **City Service Levels: Ploughing Driveway Snow Windrows**

The City of Toronto contracted out road and sidewalk ploughing and driveway windrow clearing to the private sector. The contract specifies winter maintenance service levels that the contractor has to provide to the City and its residents.

Local residential streets are ploughed after the accumulation of 8 cm of snow. Driveway windrow clearing follows closely behind local streets ploughing but there are caveats regarding the conditions under which the former service is provided.

Driveway windrow clearing work will commence only when the windrow height is greater than 25 cm or 10 inches. Furthermore, contractors are not obligated to clear the windrow across the entire driveway. The service levels specified by Transportation Services dictates that a sufficient space (3 m) must be cleared to allow a small car to navigate safely.

My office have received complaints about the windrows left by the sidewalk ploughing on both sides of the sidewalk in your driveways, and have complained to City Transportation who managed the contractors, and the response is that the clearing of these windrows were never anticipated and never included in the contracts, and I am challenging that and asking the supervisor to go look to see if what is left behind is acceptable.

I have also gone to measure the height of the snow windrow that contractors leave behind to determine whether or not they are in compliance with service levels.

P.S. Hopefully we have seen the last major snowfall for this winter

## **Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow**

Governments are us and community safety is everyone's responsibility. For your family's safety, please keep fire hydrants clear of snow (and other debris). If a fire hydrant is not visible or is buried, it will delay emergency fire calls which could mean life or death for community members in your vicinity. Please visit my website to see an example of how to keep fire hydrants clear of snow: <http://chinlee41.wordpress.com/2014/02/19/keep-fire-hydrants-clear-of-snow-and-ice/>

## **Mitigating Basement Flood Risk When the Snow Melts**

It is important to prepare for the coming spring thaw in order to mitigate the risk of basement flooding when the snow melts. For more information, watch this video on my YouTube channel: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDodeFzrZtY>

## TTC Service Changes

### 85 Sheppard East

This seasonal service change will see the last bus leave the Toronto Zoo at 7:00 P.M. on weekends and holidays.

## Events

### **March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 – Registration for Camps and Recreation Programs.**

Registration for summer camps and programs offered by Parks, Forestry and Recreation are currently open. For more information, [click here](#).

### **March 13<sup>th</sup> – March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Moving On: Ryerson University Students Explore Urban Transport.**

Ryerson students embark on a photographic documentary project on the subject of urban transportation. For more information, visit the City of Toronto's [website](#).

### **March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – St. Patrick's Day Parade – Sunday, March 16, 2014 – Noon to 4:00 P.M.**

The Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will start at Bloor St. and St. George St. [Click here](#), for more information.

### **March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Lost Rivers Walk – Sunday, March 16, 2014 – 2:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.**

This free walk explores the lost tributaries, farms and orchards of Garrison Creek. Interested participants can meet the tour guide outside Ossington subway station. For more information, visit the City of Toronto's [website](#).

### **March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Committee of Adjustment Public Hearing Notice – Thursday, March 20, 2014 – 9:30 A.M. – Scarborough Civic Centre (150 Borough Dr.)**

The Committee of Adjustment will hear deputations on minor variances to the zoning by-law requests for two properties in Ward 41. One of the properties is on Canham Cres. and the other is located on Fulham St.

### **March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Macaron Day Toronto – Various Locations**

Participating patisseries across Toronto are offering customers free macarons in support of the Red Door Family Shelter. Twenty-five percent of macaron sales will be donated by the participating bakeries to the Red Door Family Shelter. For more information, visit <http://macarondayto.com/>.