

Toronto City Councillor

Chin Lee

WARD 41 E-NEWS REPORT



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

Dear Neighbour,

My staff and I would like to extend best wishes to the Buddhist in the world who celebrate Buddha's Birthday which falls on May 6, 2014 with a "Happy Wesak" greeting. Buddha was about inner enlightenment and respect for our world and its inhabitants. To the Burmese, I wish them "Min Ga Lar Nit Thick Par", meaning Happy New Year.

In my 2013/14 Winter newsletter, I wrote about the "tempest in the teacup" at City Hall, and it has come to past that Toronto Mayor Ford has now decided to take a leave of absence to deal with his personal problems. And I assured you that there are enough responsible Councillors in the house to carry on the decision-making and governance of Toronto. I wish Mayor Ford and his family the very best to a speedy return to normal life.

In my 2014 Spring newsletter, which had been distributed to most homes and businesses in the Ward by Canada Post, I made a factual error. The factual error is that tree limb size for yard-waste pickup is now 3 inches, not the 6-inches that the city picked up in the aftermath of the December ice-storm. I am sure you know how to deal with those 6-inch limbs. There are still some remaining homes that my staff and I will have to deliver to tomorrow by hand. If you have not received a copy by Monday, please call my office and we will ensure you get a copy. It is also available on my website.

On April 22nd evening, I walked into a hornets' nest. I was working with some residents in the area who were opposed to the proposed development at 23 Glen Watford Drive. I had agreed to meet with them to provide information (and I brought the Planning Manager to provide information), if they will inform the interested residents. Many people do not understand the planning process and their rights, so this meeting was to provide them with the knowledge to proceed with their intended action. I later found out that a flyer had been distributed in the area (and I do not know by whom) showing a condo tower with all kinds of clothing hanging from the windows and balcony, with a caption "Do You Want This In YOUR AREA?" Let me assure you that that kind of clothes-drying CANNOT happen in Toronto. Do you see this anywhere in Toronto? If you do, please do let me know. I am interested in getting a hold of one of those flyers.

This past Saturday and Sunday, there was fantastic response from residents who brought in their old electronics for recycling, as RecycleYourElectronics.ca hosted a recycling event at Woodside Square. While at Woodside Square, I noticed renovations being carried out at the

vacant restaurant space, so there should be a new restaurant coming to our neighbourhood shortly.

In my 2014 March E-news, I had informed you of the approval by the NEB of the Line 9B oil pipeline reversal application, and I was informed that an updated report by the Toronto Coalition Against Line 9 is available and it can be found at http://risingtidetoronto.noblogs.org/files/2014/04/NEB_report_final_web_april3.pdf. I have always believed in my "right-to-know" information that can impact me, so that I can take any actions or make any decisions for me and my family. I am putting that belief into action, by letting you know both sides of this issue.

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

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Sincerely,

Recycle Your Electronics

Many of us hang on to our old, obsolete electronics because we are unsure of how to properly dispose of them. However, there are hundreds of drop-off sites across Ontario that include municipal depots, retailers and certified processors. The cost of dropping off your old electronics is \$0 - it's free!

These facilities have the capability of sorting, recycling or refurbishing end-of-life electronics. All of our electronic devices contain toxic chemicals that should never be thrown in the garbage. Electronics that end up in landfills pose an environmental hazard when the chemicals they contain contaminate the soil and ground water. For more information on this program, visit www.recycleyourelectronics.ca.

Business Inc.

The Toronto Public Library is running an 8-week business program for entrepreneurs looking to start their own businesses. The course costs \$125+ HST per participant and allows interested parties to prepare a business plan, network with entrepreneurs and get mentorship from business advisors.

The application deadline has already passed but anyone interested in this program can call [\(416\) 345-9437](tel:4163459437) to learn more about the program including if it will return next year.

Spring Thaws Can Lead to Basement Flooding

Melting snow, which is sometime accompanied by rain, can lead to basement flooding. Here are some tips to help:

- Keep melting snow and ice away from your foundation walls
 - Ensure your downspouts are not blocked and are draining properly, away from your foundation walls.
 - If it is safe to do so, clear debris from roadside catchbasins (the square sewer grates on the road) to help water enter the storm sewer.
 - If you are worried about an immediate threat of basement flooding, prepare your basement by moving valuables to shelves or upper floors. Cleaners, paint or chemicals should also be taken off the floor so that they do not further contaminate any floodwater that may get into your home.
 - If your basement has flooded:
 - Call your insurance company as soon as possible to report property damage caused by flooding.
 - Do not enter a flooded basement as you may be exposed to sewage or come in contact with water and electricity.
 - Be mindful of your health and safety when cleaning up a flooded basement – do not stand in flood water, call a professional for assistance.
 - Call 311 immediately to report basement flooding. During extreme weather call volumes will be high. Calls will be answered by the first available agent. 311 is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- The recent fluctuating temperatures can lead to an increase in [watermain breaks](#). They cause the soil to freeze and expand, leading to additional force on the watermains. If you spot a watermain break, call 311 to report it.
- Ongoing temperature fluctuations throughout the winter can also lead to frozen pipes. [Read here for more information](#).

Responding to Extreme Weather

As a result of the wide scale devastation caused by the December ice-storm, Toronto City Council asked the City Manager in consultation with the City's boards and agencies and Toronto Hydro to review Toronto's storm preparedness and emergency management capabilities.

The City of Toronto wants to hear from residents. You can provide your feedback on this issue on Monday, May 12, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber of the Scarborough Civic Centre - 150 Borough Dr. If you require accommodations to participate in this community consultation meeting hosted by the City of Toronto, please call 311 or send an e-mail to engagement@toronto.ca.

For more information, visit:

<http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vgnextoid=f688b1616a325410VgnVCM1000071d60f89RCRD>

Toronto is hosting an Emergency Preparedness Week Event on Monday, May 5th down at Nathan Philip Square, so I hope to see you there in the noon hour.

Booths (9 am - 2 pm)
Formal part of event (12:30 pm)
free BBQ hosted by Enbridge (11:30 am - 1:30 pm)

Design Exchange

The Design Exchange museum is located in the heart of Toronto's financial district at 234 Bay St. in the historic Toronto Stock Exchange building. The museum is dedicated to design excellence and the preservation of design heritage.

Design influences Canadians on a daily basis as well designed communities can lead to healthy and active neighbourhoods. The museum aims to educate the public on the importance and relevance of design in our everyday lives.

The Design Exchange is running the "This is Not a Toy" exhibit until May 19, 2014. This exhibit focuses on the toy as a unique medium for artistic expression and design. Designer toys are collectible items that intersect the fields of artistry, marketing, pop culture and design.

The Design Exchange is open from 10 am to 5 pm Mondays to Saturdays and noon to 5 pm on Sundays. The museum closes at 8 pm on Thursdays. For more information visit their website www.dx.org.

TTC Service Changes

85 Sheppard East

This seasonal service change will see the last bus leave the Toronto Zoo at 8:00 P.M. on weekends and holidays. Early morning weekday trips before 6:00 A.M. will start and end at Don Mills Station.

86 Scarborough

The last bus will leave the Toronto Zoo at 8:00 P.M. on weekdays to better match the Zoo's extended spring operating hours. The route will be extended to serve the Toronto Zoo on weekdays.

116 Morningside

Daytime service frequency will be reduced from every 7 minutes to every 7 minutes and 30 seconds on Sundays and holidays. The last eastbound/northbound bus will leave Kennedy Station at 2:30 A.M. instead of 2:25 A.M.

133 Neilson

Schedules will be adjusted to compensate for road construction. Service levels will remain the same.

134 Progress

Service will be reduced on the 134C Progress route to Centennial College because of fewer students travelling to campus during the summer. Morning rush hour service will be reduced from 5 minute intervals to every 6 minutes and 30 seconds. Midday and afternoon rush hour service will change from every 6 minutes and 30 seconds to every 8 minutes.

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

May 11th, 2014 – Mother's Day Brunch at Casa Loma.

Make a reservation and celebrate Mother's Day in style at Casa Loma. For more information, visit: <http://www.casaloma.org/>.

May 24th and May 25th, 2014 – Doors Open Toronto – Various Locations

Explore Toronto's buildings during Doors Open Toronto. During the May 24-25 weekend, the public has free access to explore close to 80 significant locations in the City. Visit www.doorsopenontario.on.ca for more information.

June 6th – June 15th, 2014 – Luminato Festival – Various Locations

Luminato is North America's leading multi-arts festival. The festival spans many locations across the City and runs for more than a week. For more information, visit <http://luminatofestival.com/>.