

Toronto City Councillor

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WARD 41 E-NEWS REPORT



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October 2015 Issue

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Elections Canada October 19 - Make your vote count

A friendly reminder to cast your **vote on October 19, 2015** or at the **advance poll on October 9, 10, 11 and 12**. I encourage everyone to get involved in our democratic process.

Voter turnout has been trending downward for many decades. Many of us take our voting right for granted – the same right many people in other countries are fighting for. To learn everything you need to know about casting your ballot, visit Elections Canada's website <http://www.elections.ca/home.aspx>.

HOUSE KEEPING:

Catch up on keeping catch basins clear of debris

Catch basins are an integral part of Toronto's storm water management system. In our area, these grates along the side of the road carry rain water and melting snow and ice

away from our homes and directly into local rivers and streams, thus reducing the risk of flooding to our properties. This is why it is important that we all do our part to keep catch basins clear of debris.

Now that autumn is upon us, the leaves are changing colour from **green** to magnificent shades of **red**, **yellow** and **orange**. As we all know, this brilliant display of colour is temporary because the leaves eventually fall from the trees to the ground. This creates a problem because the leaves can block the catch basins that are so important to preventing flooding in our communities. But there is something you can do to help solve this problem!

Please take the time to clear catch basins in front of your property from debris such as fallen leaves. Also clear your window wells and possible catch basins on your property as well. If you have a catch basin on your property. City waste management crews will collect leaves on garbage collection days until December. For more information, go to <http://tinyurl.com/qbp3yta>.

In the winter months, the city's snow clearing efforts result in snow covering catch basins after very heavy snowfall. Clearing catch basins of snow and ice is also important during the colder months to prevent flooding in the spring when melting occurs. Chin demonstrates how to mitigate this problem in this YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDodeFzrZtY>.

COMMUNITY SAFETY:

Sniffing out marijuana grow houses

According to the Toronto Police Service, 42 Division, "a marijuana grow house is a home which has been physically altered to produce marijuana." In many grow houses, modifications are made to steal electricity from the power grid. Filtering devices are installed to negate the smell produced from the marijuana plants and high wattage lights are put in place to help the plants grow.

So how does this criminal activity affect you? When grow operations steal electricity from the grid, it costs all of us money. The high wattage lights used to help the marijuana plants grow are a fire hazard. The heat and humidity produced by these operations causes structural damage to these 'grow-op' houses. This translates into higher insurance premiums and lower home values for everyone living in the area.

There is something you can do about it though. If you suspect a marijuana grow house is operating on your street, report it to Toronto Police at (416) 808-4200.

But how does one spot a grow house? There are a few telltale signs. To learn how to spot a marijuana grow house and the dangers associated with these illegal operations, visit: <http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/d42/growhouse.pdf>.

Hear the BEEP where you SLEEP

The week of October 5th is Fire Prevention Week and Toronto Fire Services is hosting open house events across the city with the theme "Hear the BEEP where you SLEEP". Station 243 at 4560 Sheppard Ave E is located in our ward and its open house event will be held on **Wednesday, October 7th, from 5:30pm to 8:00pm**. Participants will learn the importance of having working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and how to prepare and practise a home fire escape plan.

Have you checked your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms at home for working batteries yet? Now that we are well into fall and approaching the end of day-light saving (remember to turn your clock back an hour on **November 1st**), fire safety becomes extra crucial as we start turn on our furnaces and heaters. We strongly encourage residents to test the alarms and replace old batteries when necessary.

AROUND THE CITY:

Every boil and ghoul invited to enter our Halloween contests

Children (and adults who want to get in touch with their inner child) are invited to enter Chin's first ever Halloween contests. There are three different contests you can enter. Keeping reading if you dare to find our more...

Best costume

Nothing screams Halloween more than people dressed up as ghosts and goblins as they go trick-or-treating for candy. Send us photos of your Halloween costumes for a chance to win a prize. The boils and ghouls with the best costumes will be featured on our website (www.chinlee41.wordpress.com) and will receive a prize. To enter, send your photos to councillor_lee@toronto.ca.

Best Outdoor Halloween Decorations

As the days grow shorter and the nights get longer, residents are busy creating a chilling atmosphere on their front lawns for Halloween. We're interested in seeing your macabre outdoor Halloween decorations. Send your photos to councillor_lee@toronto.ca for a chance to be featured on our website and to receive a prize.

Colouring contest

Can you manage to keep a steady hand and stay within the lines when colouring these frightful pictures? You can download, print and colour one of the three spooky graphics attached to this e-Newsletter. The three images are separated into three skill levels that are clearly labelled: easy (kindergarten to grade 2), medium (grade 3 to grade 6) and hard (grades 7 and 8).

Once you're done you can drop off your completed colouring project at our drop box at the Scarborough Civic Centre to enter the contest. Remember to include your name and parental contact information so we can contact the winner. The winner will receive a prize. The drop box will be located on the second floor of the Scarborough Civic Centre at the Council reception desk.

Conquering 1776 steps in United Way CN Tower Stair Climb

The City of Toronto is "stepping up" for thousands of families in need across the city. Chin and his staff are embarking on a quest to conquer all 1776 stairs in the United Way CN Tower Stair Climb. We're also engaging other Scarborough Councillors offices to get involved in this noble cause while showcasing to the entire city what Scarborough can do.

The CN Tower Stair Climb is considered by some to be the hallmark of the United Way campaign as this event is known to raise significant money to help support their work in assisting those less fortunate. The **public stair climb** takes place on **Saturday, November 7, 2015**. Our office will participate in the **corporate challenge** on **Sunday, November 8, 2015**. For more information on how you can register or support this event please visit the following link at <http://www.unitedwaytyr.com/climb>, or by telephone at 416-777-2001.

Without you there would be no way.

Construction & Notices

Road and sidewalk construction

Nugget Ave. is being reconstructed between Shorting Rd. and Markham Rd. and a new sidewalk will be installed on the north side of Nugget Ave. Substandard water service pipes will also be replaced. This work will start in early October and end in December 2015. Please keep in mind that this construction timeline is an estimate and is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Road reconstruction and sidewalk installation

The City of Toronto will build new sidewalks and reconstruct the road on Emblem Court. The construction period will last from mid-September to December 2015. Please keep in mind that this construction timeline is an estimate and is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Pavement Repair of Markham Rd – Sheppard Ave E to Steeles Ave E

In October, City contractor will undertake the pavement repair of Markham Rd from Sheppard Ave E to Steeles Ave E and work activities are as follows:

- Milling and paving of asphalt surface
- Catch-basin and maintenance-hole adjustment
- Re-instatement of detector loop at intersection

- Installation of pavement marking
- Traffic control includes proper signage

Paving operation will take place on nights, including weekends. If you have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to give our office a call.

Gas Station under construction at McCowan and Middlefield

Our office have received a number of complaints about the inactivity at this construction site. Our building inspectors are following up, and since this is a private company, there is no restriction on how long it takes for them to complete the project. I will also try to contact the developer. The same applies to residential homes – I know of a home that has been under construction for the past 10 years.

Thanksgiving – What are you thankful for?

As we look towards this coming holiday weekend we are reminded to reflect upon all the blessings that have been bestowed on our lives and those of our loved ones. With the changing of the seasons and the coming together of family and friends, we would like to invite others to share what they are thankful for.

There are many angles one could consider as response to this question and we are encouraging willing ward residents, young and old, and from all ethnic backgrounds to showcase what Thanksgiving means to you. Please send us your thoughts and encourage your children to do the same to councillor_lee@toronto.ca. On behalf of Councillor Lee, his family and staff, we wish you and yours a **Happy Thanksgiving!**

Go BIG at Enterprise Toronto's Small Business Forum

Enterprise Toronto is an entrepreneur's one-stop source to grow his or her small business. They provide assistant online, by phone or in-person at one of their 3 small business centres. The closest centre is located at the Scarborough Civic Centre at 150 Borough Dr. You can give them a call at (416) 396-7169 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Enterprise Toronto is hosting a Small Business Forum at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Thursday, October 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can register for free at www.toronto.ca/smallbizforum.

Recruitment Opportunity of Part-time Board Directors for Central East LHIN

The Ontario Government is seeking local citizens interested in, and qualified for, service on the Central East Local Health Integration Network's Board of Directors for the positions of Director available in 2015 and 2016. For more details, please visit <https://www.pas.gov.on.ca/scripts/en/AdvPosDetails.asp?num=19>.

EVENT LISTING:

Nuite Blanche Toronto 2015

Sunset October 03 – Sunrise October 04, 2015

For event details, go to <http://www.scotiabanknuitblanche.ca/>

Pumpkinland Harvest Festival

September 24 – October 31, 2015

Whittamore's Farm (8100 Steeles Ave. E.)

For event details, go to <http://www.whittamoresfarm.com/pumpkinland.html>.

Ghost Walks

Every Friday in October

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Exhibition Place (200 Princes' Blvd.)

For more information and to register call (416) 263-3658. Not suitable for children under 10 years of age.

Hear the beep where you sleep

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

4560 Sheppard Ave. E.

Enterprise Toronto – Small Business Forum

Thursday, October 15, 2015

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Metro Toronto Convention Centre (222 Bremner Blvd.)

Café and Outdoor Marketing Information Sessions

Thursday, October 15, 2015

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Scarborough Civic Centre, Committee Room 1

Scarborough Walk of Fame Unveiling Ceremony

Saturday, October 17, 2015

11 a.m.

Scarborough Town Centre, Centre Court

Children's Halloween Party

Saturday, October 24, 2015

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Milliken Park Community and Recreation Centre

4325 McCowan Rd. (just south of Steeles Ave. E.)

This event is hosted by the Milliken Park CRC Advisory Board. Please note that adults who are not accompanying a child will not be permitted entry.

Boo at the Zoo

October 24 – 31, 2015

Toronto Zoo (2000 Meadowvale Rd.)

For more information, visit <http://www.torontozoo.com/Events/?pg=boo#evt>.

Black Creek Ghosts Walk

Saturday, October 24, 2015

Black Creek Pioneer Village (1000 Murray Ross Parkway)

For event details, go to <http://www.toronto.com/guides/halloween/events/black-creek-ghost-walks/>.

Cybercrime Seminar

Sunday, October 25, 2015

2 p.m.

Milliken Park Community and Recreation Centre
4325 McCowan Rd. (just south of Steeles Ave. E.)

So much fun its scary face painting!

Saturday, October 31, 2015

2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Woodside Square (1571 Sandhurst Circle)

Your little ones can get their faces painted for free to transform them into ghouls and goblins for a night of trick-or-treating. This event is for children 12 and under while supplies last.

Spooktacular trick-or-treating!

Saturday, October 31, 2015

5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Woodside Square (1571 Sandhurst Circle)

Your little ones can trick-or-treat in a safe and enjoyable environment at Woodside Square. Pick up your goodie bag at centre court! This event is for children 12 and under while supplies last.

CN Tower Climb for United Way!

Saturday, November 07 & 08, 2015

CN Tower

Councillor Lee will be climbing the 1776 steps.

Scarborough Civic Centre Tree Lighting

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Scarborough Civic Centre (150 Borough Dr.)