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DEAR NEIGHBOUR:

We are saddened by the incident in Quebec and our deepest condolences to the families affected. Vigils were held across the City and I thank those who had come out to pay their respect to the victims.

Two weeks ago during Council, we sent out a strong message reaffirming City of Toronto as a sanctuary City and that we take pride in our diversity. It is during this difficult time that we need to stay strong and united as a nation. Diversity is our strength.

Also in the last Council meeting, the matter of curbside waste collection service east of Yonge St was referred to staff for further study and a later report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee before making a decision. There was no urgent need to address this issue at this time, as the city employee contract only expires at the end of 2019, and District 2 (west of Yonge Street) contract runs until August 2019. A study in 2015 stated that current balance of public and private services keeps both sides honest.

Council has also supported establishing Family Caregiver Day in Toronto, making the day on the first Tuesday in April each year to recognize the social and economic contributions made by family caregivers and offer support as a municipality.

February is Black History Month in the City of Toronto. I encourage you to participate in events held across the city which I've included in this issue of the e-News.

This coming Monday is Family Day and I wish you a great Family Day long weekend ahead.

Chin Lee

Your Ward Councillor

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROCLAIMED IN THE CITY OF TORONTO

February has been proclaimed as Black History Month in the City of Toronto, where a number of exhibits, lectures, events and other programming has been planned to take place at public centres, libraries and community centres across the City. Please visit the following links for activity schedules:

- Toronto Public Library: http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/blackhistory.
- Mackenzie House: http://ow.ly/bFF2308vFLC;
- Toronto Archive: http://ow.ly/jloj308vEQz;
- Community-based programming: http://ow.ly/WSU7308vF7y.

INCOME TAX CLINICS

The Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) of Ontario has partnered with two community agencies in Ward 41 to provide free electronic income tax preparation (EFILE) services to qualified low-income residents. They will be holding a number of sessions in March 2017. For schedule, locations and eligibility requirements, please visit the following links:

Centre for Immigrant & Community Services (CICS):

http://www.cicscanada.com/events/3380 (English); http://www.cicscanada.com/events/3381 (Chinese)

Carefirst Seniors and Community Services Association:

http://www.carefirstseniors.com/user_uploaded/tax_clinic_flyer_20170310_efiling.pdf.

MY CITY MY SIX - CANADA 150

In celebration of this year's Cultural Hotspot and Canada's 150, Toronto Arts and Culture in collaboration with the city's six local arts service organizations are inviting Toronto residents to send in a **six word story** that reveals something essential about themselves, to tell the story of the people of our city. In fall 2017, a city-wide exhibition on transit shelters, in transit and in public spaces featuring selected stories will be launched.

Here's an example of Toronto's Poet Laureate, Anne Michaels' six-word story,

"We belong where love finds us".

From February through May, Toronto residents of all ages can share their six words via email to culturalhotspot@toronto.ca and are asked to include their first name, the name of your neighbourhood and age. More information is available at https://tinyurl.com/zhjtfky and on social media using #mycitymysix.

What would your six words be?

CITY OF TORONTO SOCIAL PROCUREMENT PROGRAM

The City of Toronto wants to create jobs and drive economic growth. The Social Procurement Program has been introduced to provide diverse suppliers and social enterprises with equal opportunity to compete for City contracts. It also encourages companies already doing business with the City to work with diverse suppliers and suppliers who provide community benefits. The program also aims to increase employment and training opportunities for those living in poverty, newcomers and youth. For more information, please visit www.toronto.ca/citybusiness.

LOCAL JOB POSTING

Canada Goose is looking to hire Sewing Machine Operators for their North York and Scarborough sites. Accepting both experienced and inexperienced Sewers, where a training program is offered that develops dedicated and detail oriented employees. For more information please contact Gianna Minghella, HR Coordinator, via email at hr@canadagoose.com.

EVENTS:

Toronto Light Fest

Date: January 27th – March 12th, 2017 **Location**: The Distillery District

Details: A brand new winter festival at the historical Distillery District. This pedestrian-only neighbourhood will be transformed by light installations by both local and international artists. Free admission. For more information, visit http://www.torontolightfest.com/.

Toronto for All: Confronting Anti-Black Racism Initiative, a Community Conversation hosted by Tropicana Community Services

Date: Friday, February 17, 2017

Time: 6pm – 9pm

Location: Tropicana Community Services, 1385 Huntingwood Dr., Scarb.

Details: The City of Toronto has partnered with leaders, community organizations, and groups across the GTA to host community conversations that will aide in the development of an action plan to address anti-Black racism. For more information, visit www.tropicanacommunity.org.

Consumer Protection for Travelers – Free Seminar

Date: Friday, February 24, 2017

Time: 1:30pm – 3pm

Location: St. Paul's L'Amoreaux Centre, Recreation Room, 3333 Finch Ave E (Southwest corner of

Finch and Warden), Scarb.

Details: The purpose of this talk is to learn about the consumer protection available when you book with Ontario regulated travel agencies and websites, know your rights, protection available and other useful travel tips. To register or for more information, please call 416-493-3333.

Scarborough Seedy Saturday & Green Fair

Date: Saturday, April 1, 2017

Time: 11am – 4pm

Location: Blessed Cardinal Newman High School, 100 Brimely Rd South (South of Kingston Rd),

Scarb.

Details: Annual heirloom seed exchange/sale, gardening and environmental event with a special

focus on Bio/Diversity and Saving our Bees this year. For more information, contact scarboroseedysaturday@gmail.com or visit https://www.facebook.com/SSSGFair.

Councillor Lee's 2017 Community Environment Day

Date: Saturday, June 3, 2017

Time: 10am – 2pm

Location: Nashdene Yard, 70 Nashdene Rd, Scarb.