Essex News™



November, 2009 Volume 6, Issue 5



Annual Essex Holiday Gathering

Thursday
December 3
Party Room
7 – 9 pm



Halloween Fun

Garage
Power Wash Days
November
18, 19, 20
Please move your
car on your
designated day
Watch for Bulletin
Board Notices





Essex 1 - TSCC #1577 Essex 2 - TSCC #1723

5229/5233 Dundas St. West Etobicoke, Ontario M9B 6L9 / M9B 6M1

New HST Impact Built Into 2010 Budgets

When you get your 2010 Budget packages, part of the increase in your maintenance fees will be the 3.0% due to half-year effect of the new Ontario HST. Inflation and other factors will add to that. As reported earlier, in the face of intense lobbying, the Ontario Government continues to maintain that it is moving ahead with the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) in July 2010.

Your Boards of Directors have had no choice but to reflect the new tax in the 2010 budgets.

Thank you to the many Essex residents that participated in our own lobbying program this summer. Unfortunately, it appears we have been unsuccessful in moving the government to make amendments to reduce the burden on condo owners.

Kipling Station Improvements - Underway

As reported earlier this year, the Kipling Station Improvement Project is now a Metrolinx project to create a major transit hub for GO Transit and Mississauga Transit adjacent to the Kipling Station.

Once construction is complete in 2011, Mississauga Transit and GO Transit bus services will operate from a new 14-bay inter-regional bus terminal at Kipling Station. Details on the schedule and final design of the transit hub portion of the project at the northwest side of the station have not yet been announced.

However, work by the TTC is underway on the new east entrance (under the Kipling overpass) and Passenger Pick-Up and Drop-Off at the east end of the station. Completion is scheduled for 2010. The station will remain open during the period of construction.

A pedestrian walkway will connect the new east entrance building to the existing Kipling station bus terminal level.

Improvements to the existing bus terminal include addition of one bus bay and the reconfiguration of one bus bay plus the expansion of the bus layover area.

Hopefully, these changes will significantly improve the existing conditions at the street level and the additional layover areas should reduce the frequency of buses idling on St. Albans in front of Nuvo.





Pictures: Courtesy TTC Website

New Essex Site Administrator



Welcome Rhonda Brooks to The Essex.

She joined us in September as our new Essex Site Administrator.

Rhonda's primary role is the provision of exemplary customer service in response to residents' questions and processing business transactions at the Management Office service counter.

She also provides a full range of administrative support to the Property Manager, Caroline Graham.

Rhonda brings with her extensive experience in the commercial real estate business.

Essex Park - Under Construction

As you may have noticed, work is underway on the **New Essex Park** to the east of Essex 1.

The City official in charge of the project reports that a substantial part of the work done by year end 2009 with the remainder completed in the spring of 2010.

As reported earlier this year, the final design reflects input from Essex residents as expressed by the Essex and Nuvo Boards of Directors in meetings with city officials.

There will be more park space to the east in the future when the planned Six Points Street Reconfiguration is completed.

Key features of the current phase will include:

- Amphitheatre Plaza
- Dry Fountain (user/timer activated, no pond)
- Lawn (Leashed Dog Area) to the north side
- Play Area to the east
- Downward-focused lights on concrete walkways
- Some bench and wall seating
- Existing trees along Dundas remain, for now.

Pictorial: Courtesy City of Toronto DUNDAS STREET W Pedestrian Crossing Lawn (Leashed Dog Area) Seal wall Lawn Bloswale Play Area Amphilheatre Dy Foundain Seal wall Sealing Circle Sealing Circle

Neighbourhood Watch - Report Suspicious Tailgaters

A recent incident, in which two cars were broken into in the late evening in visitors parking, suggests again that residents need to be vigilant about cars that seem to be sneaking in behind them.

If you feel that a strange car is sneaking in, stop off and tell security.

They will follow up as necessary. In the most recent case, the culprit left just a minute or two before a security patrol.

The incident was reported to police. The culprit has been caught on video surveillance cameras and the footage has been provided to police.

We are happy to report that police have made an arrest regarding some of our break-ins and thefts.

The suspect is facing 30 odd charges relating to our building and others in the area.

Please Observe Pool Hours

A gentleman and a boy recently enjoyed a swim in our pool on a Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. This, as you may know, is an Adult Swim time. We kindly remind you that children should not be using the pool during Adult Swim times, which are reserved for adults only. Adult Swim times are 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., noon to 1:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. to midnight daily. Children are welcome to use the pool during Family Swim times, which are

10:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily.

Your thoughtfulness and cooperation in respecting the designated Adult and Family Swim times are sincerely appreciated.

Is Your Faucet Dripping...Or Maybe Gushing?

Water usage in our Essex buildings has gone up by 10% over the past year. Unless residents have taken to keeping wading pools, water beds or large scale fountains in their units, this dramatic rise is a bit of a mystery and a big concern.

As reported in our June issue, the City of Toronto has been steadily increasing the cost of water by an average 9% a year. This means higher fees for all of us. Furthermore, it is not very "green" to

waste water under any circumstances.

Please remember not to run your washing machine or dishwasher unnecessarily.

Try to re-think your bath, shower, shaving and tooth brushing routines to be more water wise. Keep plumbing in good repair to avoid drips and leaks and do not leave water running for pets or for any reason.

Salmon So Pink, Don't Clog Up My Sink

It is well worth noting that food scraps should never be washed down your sink. Quite simply, they badly clog our drains.

Apparently, fish bones were a recent culprit for causing this problem. Let's be careful to place all food scraps down the garbage chute in a securely tied bag.

Also, please avoid pouring grease down the sink. Grease is another notorious drain clogger. Bacon grease, for example, can be cooled until it is solid and then discarded with your other

kitchen garbage in a bag down the chute.

Cat litter deserves a special mention. Even though some brands advertise their litter as being flushable, all kitty litter is a potential serious drain clogger, especially in multi unit buildings, such as ours.

Please dispose of ALL kitty litter in securely tied bags and drop them down the chute.

Together we can keep our drains flowing clearly and help us avoid costly plumbing repairs.

Alert

The 2010 **Budget and** Maintenance Fees package will be mailed to Essex 2 owners on Nov. 16 and to Essex 1 owners on Dec. 1. There is a form in the package to fill out to adopt automatic monthly maintenance fee payments.

Most owners are already enjoying this convenient way to pay their maintenance fees.

The process is safe.

You can stop the process anytime you wish.

Toronto Hydro completed the two sets of repairs to their equipment servicing our buildings.

Hopefully, now when there is an outage we will no longer have to suffer an extended brownout.

Stay Healthy This Winter And Remember

Keep your hands away from your face. Flu viruses enter the body through the eyes, nose or mouth.

Cough and sneeze into your arm, not your hand. If you use a tissue, dispose of it as soon as possible and wash your hands.

Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds to help remove bacteria and viruses. Wash before and after eating, after you have been in a public place, after using the washroom, after coughing and sneezing and after touching surfaces that may have been contaminated. An alcohol-

based hand sanitizer is also effective in killing viruses.

Keep common surface areas clean and disinfected. Doorknobs, light switches, telephones, keyboards, TV remotes, fridge door handles and other surfaces can become contaminated with all kinds of bacteria and viruses. Regular cleaning and disinfecting of these surfaces with normal household disinfectants can help. Viruses can live on hard surfaces for up to 48 hours.

Get immunized.

Get your H1N1 and seasonal flu shots.

May I Borrow Your Mona Lisa?

Art can say a lot about you and have a big influence on the atmosphere of your home or work environment.

Arts Etobicoke strives to engage residents with the arts and artists in their community. It offers a variety of programs and services including the opportunity for the public to rent or buy art from Canadian artists.

If you're trying to "stage" your unit for resale, or if

your office needs something to provide that wow factor, check out www.artsetobicoke.com and scroll down a bit to the green list to "Rent or buy art".

There's an online gallery or you can go in person to 4893A Dundas Street West.

The hours are Monday to Saturday 11:00 till 4:00. You can check out their other programs and services or consider joining or donating.

About The Essex

Essex Website: For a wealth of information, to update resident data, ask a question, or to offer a suggestion, go to our website at www.theessex.ca

Concierges (24 hours a day): <u>Essex 1</u>- 416 239-0685 or Essex 2 - 416 239-2286.

Moves/Deliveries:

Essex 1: (Mon - Thu: 11am to 8 pm; Fri: 8am to 8 pm; Sat - Sun: 8 am to 5 pm) Essex 2: (Mon - Thu: 11am to 8 pm; Fri: 8am to 8 pm; Sat: 8 am to 5 pm)

Essex Club Recreation Centre hours (5 am - 12 midnight)

Call your Concierge to book ALL Moves, Deliveries, Virtual Golf, Billiards and BBQs.

Property Manager: 416 239-9786 Mon. 10 am - 6 pm; Tue. – Fri. 9 am - 5 pm

Your Essex **Communications Team:**

Anne Bisson, Carol Goldman, Cathy Kelly, Bill McDougall, Fred Reichl

To offer a suggestion: Go to www.theessex.ca/Feedback.htm



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