# **Essex News**



July 2011

Volume 8, Issue 4

DRIVE

CAREFULLY

IN THE

**GARAGE** 





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

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

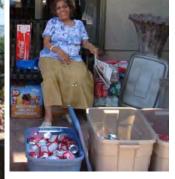
## BBQ Fun AT The Essex - Sunday July 17

Residents enjoyed their annual Essex Community Barbecue event under glorious sunny skies and 35C weather.

Complimentary *panago* Pizza was a hit, along with burgers supplied by Medium Rare.

Many thanks to Essex Social Committee cochairs, Carol Carbonaro and Belma Curovic and their cadre of diligent volunteers for another enjoyable neighbourly get together.

## **BBQ Volunteers And Residents Loading Up**





Be Aware of the Lighting Refit





## Not So Much Fun In The Dark

#### What's inside

Workers

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As you know, early in the morning of July 12, a Tridel contractor at its Parc Nuvo site mistakenly cut the power to a large area around The Essex. Mercifully, after a routine Ministry of Labour safety investigation, Toronto Hydro was allowed to restore power to the area by mid-afternoon.

However, when the power went down, the associated power surge caused the diesel driven emergency power generators in both buildings to fail to come on.

Much to the chagrin of residents, not only was power out in their suites, but also in the corridors and stairwells. There was also no emergency elevator service.

Both these generators are inspected and tested regularly by qualified external and internal personnel.

The Property Manager is conducting an operational review to uncover the cause of these emergency generator failures and how to avoid them in the future.

## **Too Hot To Handle**

More fires start in the kitchen than any other room in the home.

So says Toronto Fire Services in their series of Safety Tips published on the City Of Toronto website:

www.toronto.ca/fire/prevention/too\_hot\_to\_handle.htm Toronto Fire Services go on to say that careless cooking is one of the leading causes of fire-related death. So as a reminder to all Essex residents, we have included a

special insert in this edition of the Newsletter with tips for all of us on how to be fire safe in our kitchens.

Even when there is no fire, but there is smoke enough to set off your suite alarm, turn off the stove or toaster and turn on your exhaust fans, open a window or balcony door, but DO NOT open your suite door. That could set off the building alarm unnecessarily.

## **About Fire And Condominiums Towers**

On its website (www.toronto.ca/fire/prevention/fireinsky.htm) Toronto Fire Services publish a general guide on how residents should react to fire in condominium towers. Some of the material is offered here as a convenience to residents of The Essex.

Toronto Fire Services point out that buildings like The Essex are designed to be fire-safe:

- More fire-safe than an average single-family dwelling.
- Contain a fire alarm system designed to alert occupants when activated.
- Have interior fire-separated stairwell shafts.
- Contain an interior water supply system of fire hose cabinets on each floor for use by firefighters.

However, due to equipment limitations, firefighters cannot rescue people from an outside balcony or window above the seventh floor. Also, a rooftop helicopter rescue is too dangerous. Firefighters must do interior firefighting and rescue tactics.

**During a fire emergency**, never attempt to leave a building by an elevator. Heat, smoke and water can play havoc with elevator controls and you could become trapped. In addition, fire fighters require designated elevators to carry them and their equipment to the floor below the fire.

#### What steps do I take when fire is in my suite?

- Alert everyone in your suite.
- Leave immediately. Close, but don't lock, all doors behind you.
- Sound the fire alarm by activating a red manual pull station (when safe to do so).
- Call 9-1-1. Never assume that someone else has already done so. Make sure you give your name, the correct address and location of the fire.

# • Exit the building via the stairwells.

#### What steps do I take when I hear a building fire alarm?

 Wait for further instructions or information from authorized personnel over the building's internal speaker system.

- If you are asked or choose to leave the building:
  - o Leave as soon as possible.
  - o Before opening any door, feel the door handle and the door itself, starting from the bottom, moving to the top. If the door is not hot, open it slightly.
  - o If you see or smell smoke, or feel or hear air pressure or a hot draft, close the door quickly.
  - o If the corridor is free of fire or smoke, take your keys, close the door behind you, and leave the building by the nearest exit stairwell, again closing all doors after you.
  - o If you encounter smoke in a stairwell, consider taking an alternate stairwell. Be sure to crawl low under smoke. If the alternate stairwell is also contaminated with smoke, return to your suite.
- If you cannot leave your suite or have returned to it because of fire or heavy smoke:
  - o Close, but don't lock any doors to allow for possible entry by firefighters.
  - o Seal all cracks where smoke can enter by using wet towels or sheets. Seal ventilation outlets as necessary (a roll of wide duct tape is handy).
  - o Move to the balcony or to the most protected room and partially open a window for air. Close the window if smoke enters.
  - o Keep low to the floor. Heat and toxic gases rise.
  - o Signal firefighters by waving a white sheet or towel.
  - o Wait to be rescued. Remain calm. Don't panic or
  - o Listen for instructions or information from authorized personnel over the building's internal speaker system.

Remember to keep your information about needs for special assistance during an emergency up-to-date. You can do so at www.theessex.ca/Form\_Disability.htm



## Six Points Park

Essex Residents' concerns about the completion and maintenance of Six Points Park are continuing to be brought to the attention of the City through Councillor Milczyn and

follow-up actions are underway.

The features to discourage skateboarding are being manufactured and will be installed soon.

New playground equipment has been ordered and will get here sometime soon along with some benches.

Take heart, summer is not over yet.

#### Your Newsletter Team:

Anne Bisson, Cathy Kelly, Bill McDougall, Fred Reichl To offer a suggestion: Go to theessex.ca/Feedback.htm

## **Westwood Lands Update**

Courthouse cancelled: The previously announced provincial courthouse project has been shelved by the province.

The city is currently unravelling the 4 acre land deal for the courthouse. Councillor Milczyn had already set aside \$1,000,000 for the beginnings of detailed design for the necessary road network and is now seeking to take advantage of the engineering work on the roadway system done by the province.

YMCA plans active: The good news is that the YMCA remains the first anchor development and it is Councillor Milczyn's expectation that the property end of the deal will be finalized by the end of the year. After that, it is up to the YMCA to obtain the financing and complete the project. Typically it takes 3 to 4 years from a YMCA announcement to the completed project. The new YMCA is not dependent on the revamped Westwood roadway system, since it will be accessed directly off Kipling.

**Development plans:** The City (Councillor Milczyn) is actively pursuing additional development partners.

Conceptually, he would like to see a rich mixed use development, with 2 to 3 residential condominiums, some office towers, along with anchor partners like a large grocery chain and a movie theatre, all to be complemented by restaurants, etc.

His vision is a development modelled after the Empress Walk area in North York.

## **TRAFFIC TIP**

When entering the under ground garage from **Dundas** Street

**BE AWARE** 

\*\*\*\*\*\*

**STOP** 

## **Kipling Station Projects**

New TTC Kipling East Subway Station Entrance: We are informed that this project, supposed to be complete by February 2011, is now 90% complete, with completion in August.

We are aware that the city is unhappy with the contractor's slow completion.

Kipling Metrolinx Transit Hub Bus Project: We are told that Metrolinx should be ready to go (but not exactly when). Metrolinx has the money from the Province and Mississauga and all the necessary approvals from the City other than the actual building permits. However, they are having discussions with Hydro One about construction limitations under the power lines.

## **Auckland Road 13 Storey Condominium**

Essex residents recently received a notification about a public hearing with regard to a request for variance to the zoning bylaw for construction of the existing Essex a 13 storey condominium building at 3 Auckland Road.

This building has been approved for a number of years, subject to coming to a shared cost agreement with Condominiums and Tridel about access to the shared

roadway.

This latest request for a minor variance in the footprint of the building relative to the total lot was also approved. The timing of any actual construction remains uncertain.

At the mid-ramp Concierge Station

#### WAIT

for the **GARAGE DOOR** to fully open

## **Dundas West Development Applications**

There are two development applications regarding lands to the west along Dundas between the Canadian Tire site However, the coordinated and Shorncliff.

Councillor Milczyn believes the

revised plans will provide a very pleasant streetscape for Dundas West. applications are being put forward by the current property

owners of the land, and since the lands are not yet in the hands of developer(s), it could be some time before any construction takes place.

## **ALLOW**

\*\*\*\*\*\*

**ALL** cars to exit before entering

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## **About** The Essex

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For a wealth of information, To update resident data, To ask a question, To offer a suggestion.

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