

Spring/Summer 2011

Pat Saito

Councillor's Report

Ward 9



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Dear Neighbour:

Welcome to the Spring 2011 Ward 9 newsletter. This edition focuses on City services and programs and also highlights important upcoming events in our ward.

I want to take a moment to thank you for putting your faith in me again and returning me to office with a large majority. I appreciate your support and I will continue to work hard for you and to be deserving of it.

The Council decision that affects you the most is the budget. Once the elections were over, I was at work reviewing the 2011 budget. As I do with all budgets, I spent a lot of time looking at all services and programs to see what reductions could be made to bring in a lower than projected tax increase. I asked a lot of questions and made many suggestions. In the end we found about \$3.7 million in reductions but I made sure we preserved programs that benefit our residents and are necessary. Details are inside the newsletter.

I encourage you to contact me at any time to discuss issues or if you need help. My door is always open and I can be reached by phone, mail or email. My office staff, Luisa and Michelle, can help you during office hours and I check my email every night.

I invite you to keep up to date on what is going on by signing up for the Ward 9 email newsletter. I have been providing this service for over 10 years as it is a quick way for me to get the word out to you. Visit www.ward9.ca for more information. This is the official Ward 9 website that I first started in 1997 and it contains valuable information. I will be working on improvements to the site this year with more links to important local services. Your suggestions are always welcome.

Also this year we will be proceeding with the design for the Meadowvale Community Centre renovations. Watch my website for more information on an upcoming community Open House.

Last year we celebrated the Meadowvale community's 40th anniversary. Check out the winning photos of the contest I ran to showcase our wonderful neighbourhoods at www.ward9.ca.

This year we celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of the Erin Meadows Community Centre and Library with a party on September 17 – mark your calendar and come out and join us.

Finally many thanks to the hundreds of wonderful Ward 9 residents of all ages who volunteer their time and skills to making our communities of Meadowvale and Central Erin Mills great places in which to live. We could not do this without you and your efforts are appreciated by everyone who lives here.

Pat Saito, Councillor Ward 9

Join the Friends of Wabukayne on June 4, 2011

Lake Wabukayne Park will soon undergo an environmental enhancement. This is due to the hard work of a dedicated group of residents and the support from Meadowvale Rotary Club.

Following a series of oil spills that contaminated the storm water pond and harmed wildlife, residents banded together to work with me and staff to undertake improvements around the lake and to protect it.

I allocated \$150,000 of Infrastructure Funding to the project and approached Mississauga-Meadowvale Rotary to partner with the group to obtain a Trillium Grant. Rotary had worked on a similar project in Ward 9 at Osprey Marsh and were very willing to partner with the community again. They were successful in getting a grant of \$85,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The two-year project kicks off with a community event on June 4th. Residents are invited to take part in activities including tree planting, mulching, garbage can painting, and litter clean-up.

Plans for the enhancement include new accessible benches, bird nesting boxes, bat houses, and a butterfly garden. Finally, a floating island installed in the storm water pond will add beauty, create a habitat and improve the pond's water quality.

The infrastructure funding will be used mainly to build a new viewing area as well as additional plantings. The City of Mississauga recently installed fencing along part of the lake to protect the area from soil compaction, soil erosion, littering, and habitat loss.

It will also keep residents safe from the steep slopes. All works are being done

in consultation with the steering committee to ensure they are in accord with the goals of protecting the environment, educating the public and promoting community spirit.

Educational signs about the history of the park, birds, habitat, and water quality will be installed for park users and a bulletin board will share information about public events and wildlife sightings.

The community will have many opportunities to get involved in this project. For more information visit the Wabukayne website at www.wabukayne.com.

Please mark June 4th in your calendar and come out to join us in helping protect one of Meadowvale's most important natural assets.



A photo of Lake Wabukayne submitted by Bill Hagan entitled: "Lake Wabukayne Early Morning October 2010"



(left to right, above): Gathering January 9th to receive the Trillium cheque are: Bill Thompson, Marilyn Nicol, Brenda Pratt, Councillor Saito, Jeff O'Leary, Nicky Hall, Julia Biondi, MPP Bob Delaney, Sam Cooper, Andy Wickens, Luz del Rosario and Alan Munro.



Councillor Pat Saito

www.ward9.ca



City's Older Adult Plan Responds to Needs of Aging Population

In the next 20 years, the population 55-years and older in the City of Mississauga will increase from 20 to 38%. Our Older Adult Plan will ensure older adults will lead purposeful, independent and active lives.

Since the approval of this plan in 2008, we have made progress in the following areas: Older Adult Advisory Committees; Access Policy (ActiveAssist); Communication (website for seniors, their families and caregivers); Transportation (accessibility improved) and Volunteerism.

For more information about the Older Adult Plan, programs and services, visit www.mississauga.ca/olderadults or call 3-1-1 (905-896-4311 if calling from outside city limits).

Plum Tree Park Update

The sale of Plum Tree Park to the Peel Board of Education is progressing with final closing slated for June of this year. In the meantime the board is proceeding with plans to add a gym addition to the school and has fenced off a portion of the parkland that will be within the construction zone as per safety regulations.

Although the park will be under the board's ownership, it will remain in public domain. At the same time the City is still in negotiations with Union Gas to purchase the pumping station lands on the corner of Aquitaine and Tenth Line. The plan is to develop the land into a new park for the community. The site may also house a new fire station in the future. Once negotiations are finalized I will hold a community meeting to discuss options for the park to ensure we develop it to meet the present and future needs of the local residents.

Animal Services and Leash Free Parks

Mississauga's Animal Service's staff are available to help residents with all issues concerning domestic animals. This department is responsible for enforcing the Animal Control by-laws and managing the licenses.

The Animal Services website at www.mississauga.ca/animalservices has lots of helpful information on domestic animal issues as well as how residents can deal with wildlife in your neighbourhood.

There are 2 leash free parks in Ward 9 – Totoredaca on the north end of Meadowvale Blvd. and Q. Park on Erin Mills Parkway north of Erin Centre. Information is on the Leash Free Mississauga website at www.leashfreemississauga.com.

These parks are successful due to the hard work and support of the many volunteers who spend hours maintaining the parks and organizing events.

Congratulations to the citizen volunteers at Toto Park who undertook fund raising to rebuild the agility ring. Volunteers at Q. raised funds for fencing and both hold activities throughout the year to educate dog owners and the community on responsible dog ownership.

Both clubs are an asset to our community and I thank them for all their hard work.

Celebrating Meadowvale's 40th Anniversary

In celebration of Meadowvale's 40th anniversary, residents captured the unique spirit and vitality of the area through photography. From local landmarks and buildings to beautiful natural areas and shots of residents enjoying their community, the **Meadowvale 40th Anniversary Photo Contest** that I ran in 2010, received 68 creative submissions. To view the winning photos, visit www.ward9.ca.



At right:
Top-voted
photo of beautiful
Lake Wabukayne
submitted by
Barbara Perez
entitled: "A Walk
to Remember".

2011 Business Plan and Budget Approved

After months of careful deliberation and review of services, Council approved the City's 2011 Business Plan and Budget in March. As your City and Region of Peel Councillor, I focus on providing the best level of service at the lowest cost possible and the overall impact of any increases.

This meant looking at all service levels and adjusting as necessary, cutting out duplication and eliminating unnecessary services. We can no longer bring in zero increase budgets as we did for many years as rising costs and reduced revenues have limited our options.

The final outcome was a total increase on your tax bill of 2.8%. This is a combination of the City and Region taxes. The approved City budget impacts your overall tax bill by 1.6%.

Full details of the budget and business plan are on the Ward 9 website at www.ward9.ca.

ActiveAssist

As your Councillor, I am a strong proponent for full accessibility to our recreation programs. These programs help build and enhance our health of our citizens and our neighbourhoods. They also provide opportunities for you to have fun, reduce your stress level, increase your energy level, express your creativity, learn new skills and meet new people.

In order to ensure accessibility to our programs, Council initiated the ActiveAssist fee assistance program to help low-income families and individuals in Mississauga participate in Recreation and Parks programs. This assistance is given in the form of a credit to your Recreation and Parks account and confidentiality is always maintained.

In 2010, 5,500 residents benefited from the ActiveAssist program. Applicants must meet eligibility requirements and once approved an account is activated. Each family member on your application will receive a credit of \$275 which is valid for one year. You may apply for and receive the credit once per year.

For more information visit www.mississauga.ca/activeassist or call 905-615-4100.

My Committees for 2011 – 2014

City of Mississauga

- Accessibility Advisory
- Advertising Review Panel
- Budget Committee
- Citizen Appointment Nominating Committee
- Economic Development Advisory Council
- Enersource Board of Directors
- Mississauga/Toronto West Tourism, Chair
- Meadowvale Theatre Advisory Board (ad hoc member)
- Planning & Development
- Road Safety Mississauga
- Safe City Mississauga
- Meadowvale Community Partnership

Region of Peel

- Arterial Roads Review Ad hoc Steering Committee
- Emergency and Protective Services
- Emergency Management Program
- Intergovernmental Relations Advisory
- Inter-Municipal Planning Subcommittee
- Ontario Traffic Conference
- Peel Police Services Board Nomination Ad Hoc Committee
- Peel Housing Corporation
- Waste Management Committee



PROJECTS

Six play equipment replacements are proposed for Ward 9 in 2011 including: Aspen Ridge, Duncairn Downs, Lake Wabukayne, Middlebury Green, Quenippenon Meadows and Windrush Woods.

Derry Road and Syntex Drive

Construction of southbound right turn lane on the north-west corner of Derry Road and Syntex Drive. Completion June 2011.

Derry Road and Argentia Road

Construction of westbound left turn lane, southbound right turn lane, northbound and southbound dual left turn lanes. Construction anticipated in 2012 to 2013.

Derry Road and Millcreek Road (Including works between Argentia Road and Copenhagen Road)

Construction is anticipated to start between July and August 2011 and end by November 2011, and will include the following:

- Adding eastbound and westbound through and turn lanes on Derry and Millcreek
- Shifting the median to accommodate designated southbound left turn lane on Millcreek Road
- Adding a multi-use path from 150 metres west of Montevideo Road to Argentia Road on the south side of Derry Road
- Adding a sidewalk from Millcreek Road to Copenhagen Road on the north side of Derry Road
- Installation of noise barrier from 130 metres west of Montevideo Road to Millcreek Drive

The following streets are scheduled for refurbishing/resurfacing in 2011:

- Aldergrove Court from Bayberry Drive to End
- Aspen Ave. from Danton Prom. to Doverwood Dr.
- Avalon Dr. from Tenth Line to Danton Prom.
- Bayberry Drive from Aspen Ave to WCB
- Cambourne Cres. from Danton Prom. to Danton Prom.
- Cloverleaf Ct. from Doverwood Drive to South End
- Corrine Cres. from Danton Prom to Danton Prom.
- Danton Prom. from Derry Rd. to WCB
- Doverwood Drive from Bayberry Drive to Aspen Ave.
- Collista Ct. from Ganymede Rd. to End
- Europa Ct. from Ganymede Rd. to End
- Farmstead Lane from Britannia Rd. to Miller's Grove
- Ganymede Rd. from Edenwood Dr. to End of Street
- Harlow Rd. from Edenwood Drive to End
- Keynes Ct. from Farmstead Lane to End
- Plumtree Cres. from Vanderbilt Road to Vanderbilt Rd.
- Plumtree Ct. from Vanderbilt Road to End
- Runcorn Row from Edenwood Drive to End
- Stevenage Ct. from Edenwood Drive to West End

2011 Ward 9 Watermain Projects

- Aldergrove Court to Bayberry Drive
- Plum Tree Crescent to Vanderbilt Road
- Battleford Road east from Glen Erin Drive (to be completed by May 31, 2011)

2010 Construction

Substantially complete with some restoration work pending on driveways and lawns

- Farmstead Lane from Britannia Road to Miller's Grove
- Keynes Court to the end of Farmstead Lane
- Miller's Grove from Tenth Line to Farmstead Lane
- Plum Tree Court to Vanderbilt Road
- Runcorn Row to Edenwood Drive
- Stevenage Court to Edenwood Drive
- Switzer Gate from Tenth Line to Miller's Grove

Meadowvale Mural Project



Photo above:

Pat (centre) joins students from St. Teresa of Avila school, Executive Direction of Volunteer MBC, Carine Strong and Parks staff Andrew Wight to plan one of the Meadowvale Murals.

Community murals are a proven form of crime prevention. They discourage graffiti and other vandalism of city property while helping to beautify neighbourhoods. I have long been a strong proponent of neighbourhood murals and I am pleased we are finally getting some projects underway in Ward 9.

Thanks to a grant from the Neighbourhood Development United Way, community members will transform the underpasses near Lake Wabukayne and Lake Aquitaine Parks from an area filled with graffiti, litter, and illegal activities to one beautified with mural paintings.

The project is a partnership between the City of Mississauga and Volunteer MBC and will engage local schools, businesses, youth, seniors and community groups to come together for the six week project.

Starting early May until June 17, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m to 4 p.m, volunteers will create paintings that reflect the heritage, community, parks, schools, businesses, and wildlife in our neighbourhood.

Locations for the new murals are:

- Lake Aquitaine Trail under Montevideo Dr. (by St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School)
- Lake Aquitaine Trail tunnel under Glen Erin Drive (near Meadowvale Community Centre)
- Lake Wabukayne Trail tunnel under Glen Erin Drive (near Inlake)

The Wabukayne mural is also part of the Wabukayne Stewardship project.

For more information please contact Hazel McColl, Parks and Forestry Program Coordinator at 905-615-3200 ext. 5346 or hazel.mccoll@mississauga.ca

Meadowvale Seniors Social Club

There is something for all ages in Meadowvale and I am proud to have one of the most active seniors' clubs in the City right here in the community.

Meadowvale Seniors Social Club has been meeting Mondays to Fridays for the past 28 years at the Meadowvale Community Centre. The excellent executive comprising of 16 volunteer members provides a variety of activities such as:

- Mondays:** Carpet bowling and Bridge
- Tuesdays:** Line dancing in the morning; Bridge & Euchre in the afternoon

- Wednesdays:** Bingo
- Thursdays:** Bridge and Cribbage
- Fridays:** Bridge and Euchre

All activities start at 1.00 p.m. except line dancing that starts at 10.00 a.m. Monthly trips are arranged to the casinos and in the summer there are river/lake cruises and theatre dinner and show evenings.

For additional information contact club President Bernard Jordaan at 905-858-0817.

Meadowvale Community Centre Redevelopment

The Meadowvale Community Centre was built in 1979 and had some small improvements made in the late 1980s. As I have previously advised we will be undertaking a complete renovation of the facility in the next few years.

A recent building assessment found many maintenance issues to be addressed over the next ten years including roof, electrical, mechanical and structural systems that would cost approximately \$3.9M. In addition, input from the public regarding issues with the current facility plus an analysis of utilization was used to develop a list of recommendations for the redevelopment of the community centre.

While final plans or services have not yet been approved, the renovations will likely include:

- New change rooms & family change room
- Improved accessibility into pool
- Therapy Pool

- Larger fitness centre
- Youth and seniors drop in space
- An increased number and size of washrooms
- A new Meadowvale Library
- A gymnasium

These are just a few of the improvements we are considering. Thanks to the many residents who took part in my online survey a few years ago and to those who have sent me suggestions and requests. All your comments are invaluable to helping us plan our new centre.

Once we have some more details I will be holding an Open House so you can come to the centre and view the proposals and provide further comment. We are also working to ensure that programming will continue to some degree during the construction.



Ward 9 Calendar of Events:

Peel Police 11 Division Open House

3030 Erin Mills Parkway
Saturday May 28 @ 11 am – 2 pm

Friends of Wabukayne Tree Planting & BBQ

Lake Wabukayne
Saturday June 4 @ 11 am – 2 pm

Neighbourhood Get Active Day

Meadowvale Community Centre
Saturday June 11 @ 11am – 3 pm

Quenippenon Leash Free, Fun Day

Sunday, June 19 @ 10 am – 1 pm

Canada Day

Mississauga Celebration Square, City Hall
Friday July 1 @ 1pm – 10 pm

The Dam's Annual 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament & Block Party

Meadowvale Community Centre
Saturday, August 27

Community Crime Awareness Day

City Hall
Saturday September 17

Erin Meadows Community Centre & Library 10th Anniversary

September 17

Meadowvale Library's Customer Appreciation Day

Saturday October 22 @ 12 - 4 pm

Safe City Mississauga 2011 Crime Prevention Conference

Friday November 4

For current event details, visit: www.ward9.ca

Accessible Transit

As a founding member of the City's Accessibility Advisory Committee, I am proud of the major changes we have made towards making city services barrier free. In particular we have made great progress in making Transit services more accessible.

Each year we increased the number of fully accessible routes and now approximately 63%, or 86 of existing routes are now accessible.

We also upgraded stops, shelters, bus pads and sidewalk connections. By the end of 2010, almost all City shelters were accessible while 350 new bus pads have made transit more accessible and convenient.

By summer 2011, all vehicles will announce and display pre-recorded route and stop information.

These changes make transit accessible to everyone. For more information visit www.miway.ca.

Road Safety Mississauga

One of my key priorities is to keep motorists and pedestrians safe. As a founding member of the City's Road Safety Mississauga committee (formerly Safe Driving committee), I am very involved in designing and implementing educational programs to help residents stay safe on our roads.

Some of the key programs we have produced include the Transportation Handbook now going into its second printing, the distracted driver questionnaire and our pedestrian and driver safety educational campaigns. We have also played a large role in implementing zebra crossings and use of the Speed Watch programs.

Most recently we have used portable signs to give key road safety messages to drivers. Our citizen members are very dedicated and spend much time representing all citizens of Mississauga and providing their input and ideas. For more information on our activities visit our website at www.mississauga.ca/roadsafety

Reporting illegal Signs

Did you know?

Sign Unit staff removed approximately 32,710 illegal signs from road allowances in 2010. Keep Ward 9 clean, register to remove illegal signs, visit:

www.mississauga.ca/signremoval



Streetsville Reservoir Expansion Project Update

The Streetsville Pumping Station, located at 5220 Erin Mills Parkway in Ward 9, is undergoing Phase 1 of its expansion which includes construction of a 24-mega-litre reservoir and other on site improvements.

The curb lane of southbound Erin Mills Parkway will continue to be shut down throughout the duration of the project to accommodate the movement of trucks to and from the construction site. The barriers will be removed and the roadway opened at the end of each day.

The project began in November 2010 and will continue until May 2012. This spring, the contractor will begin minor construction activities on Saturdays. The work will involve clean-up and preparatory activities and should have little impact on adjacent residents.

Work is on schedule. This spring's work will include excavation of the reservoir and the removal of material off site as well as concrete work for the new reservoir and valve chambers.

The Mississauga Cycling Master Plan

The Mississauga Cycling Master Plan is underway! The 20-year plan will design, construct and operate a safe, comprehensive and cost-effective cycling network in the City of Mississauga.

Developed with input from over 1,000 Mississauga citizens and stakeholders, the plan includes building an integrated on and off-road cycling network throughout the City. A signage system including destinations, directions and distances will support the network.

The Tenth Line bike lanes will be extended between Britannia and Derry in Ward 9 in

2011 and 2012 as part of the resurfacing project to complete a major north-south cycling route between Eglinton Avenue and the Lisgar GO Station.

The off-road network in Ward 9 is complete and includes extensive trails in parks and greenbelts. Improvements were made to many of our trails in Ward 9 in 2010 as part of the Infrastructure projects and including paving and new lighting.

These included Glen Eden, Lake Aquitaine, Lake Wabukayne, Meadow Green, Plowmans Park and Settlers Green.



Contacts

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Ward 9 Councillor
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www.ward9.ca
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Who does what?
Government Services link on www.ward9.ca



Non-emergency calls for direct access to **government services** (Region and City)



Non-emergency calls for information and/or referral to **community, health and social services**



City of Mississauga
300 City Centre Drive
Mississauga ON L5B 3C1
www.mississauga.ca
905-896-5000



Councillor Pat Saito

www.ward9.ca



Tree Planting



Pat received Cherry Blossom (Sakura) Trees from Takeda Canada. From left to right: Pat, MP Bonnie Crombie, Takeda president Paul Friel, Councillor Ron Starr and MPP Bob Delaney.

Keeping Safe This Summer

As the warm weather approaches, the potential for crime increases. We are all in and out of our homes more frequently with more chance of unlocked doors and many people will be on vacation, leaving their homes vulnerable.

As a founding member and board member of Safe City Mississauga, I work closely with Peel Regional Police and our Safe City staff to make sure you know how to keep you and your family safe.

The Neighbourhood Watch program is expanding in the city and I encourage you to talk to your neighbours about starting or restarting one in your neighbourhood. Information is available at www.safecitymississauga.on.ca.

Check out other important safety tips on the Peel Regional Police website at www.peelpolice.ca/crimeprevention.

Engaging our Youth

Making our youth feel welcome and engaged is a top priority of mine and of Council.

Council approved the Youth Plan in 2009 and we have been working on its implementation along with our key stakeholders – our young people.

Results have been very positive:

- 857 youth participated on 24 youth advisory groups that were established in the city's community centres and libraries (every one now has one of these groups, and Facebook groups too). These youth are creating a voice to help the City deliver youth-friendly programs and services, and are becoming involved citizens.
- 263 new youth drop-in programs and events attracted 21,634 youth in community centres and libraries.
- 127 new partnerships were developed between community centres/libraries and agencies and groups that serve youth. These partnerships have helped to attract and retain youth, and create new employment and leadership opportunities for them.

In Ward 9, the youth advisory groups at Meadowvale and Erin Meadows Community centres and Libraries have been working hard to ensure that their voices are heard. They have already contributed a lot to the betterment of our community. I am very proud of their contributions and enjoy working with them.

There are many more exciting initiatives planned for 2011 including a youth symposium; plans to increase participation in drop-in programs and youth events; a new youth concert at Celebration Square; additional youth events throughout the city; the launch of the Peel Youth Violence Prevention Initiative's youth strategic plan; and a re-design of the City's youth web page.



www.ward9.ca



Fire Training Centre



Photo at left: Pat (right) tours the new fire training centre with, Michael Lowe (far left), GWMC Construction Site Superintendent of Aquicon Construction Co. Ltd., and Commissioner Paul Mitcham (center).

Mississauga will soon have a new fire training centre! The Garry W. Morden Centre is currently under construction in Ward 9 on Ninth Line south of the 407 with the administration building close to completion.

The next stage will include the completion of the earthworks so fire props can be utilized for fire training. Training structures will include a burn house and a six level smoke tower. The centre is scheduled to be completed in early 2012.

The project is a partnership with Peel Regional Police who are building a driver training track on the site and the Department of National Defence.

Trim/cut here so flap is 6"

Lake Aquitaine Outdoor Fitness Circuit

The Lake Aquitaine outdoor exercise equipment facility is the first of its kind in Mississauga. Since we held our grand opening in September 2010, it has been used extensively by the community. The facility has six exercise stations around the Lake Aquitaine Park pathway loop and contains nine different pieces of fitness equipment including two accessible pieces, that provide for a balanced cardiovascular and strength training workout.

Each station incorporates instructional and way-finding information to assist users and enhance the functionality of the overall program as a fitness circuit.

This year City staff will be operating programmed workout classes using the outdoor equipment for various age groups. Information on these programs is in the 2011 Active Mississauga Guide



During these workouts, participants exercise on uniquely designed exercise machines and other accessories in a circuit format to increase muscle tone along with cardiovascular activities like brisk walking or jogging. An experienced trainer will guide the group through a variety of exercise routines to challenge fitness levels and enhance physical health.

The Active Mississauga Guide can be found at City of Mississauga community centres and libraries or can be accessed online at www.mississauga.ca/rec&parks.

Pat tests the equipment at Lake Aquitaine.



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