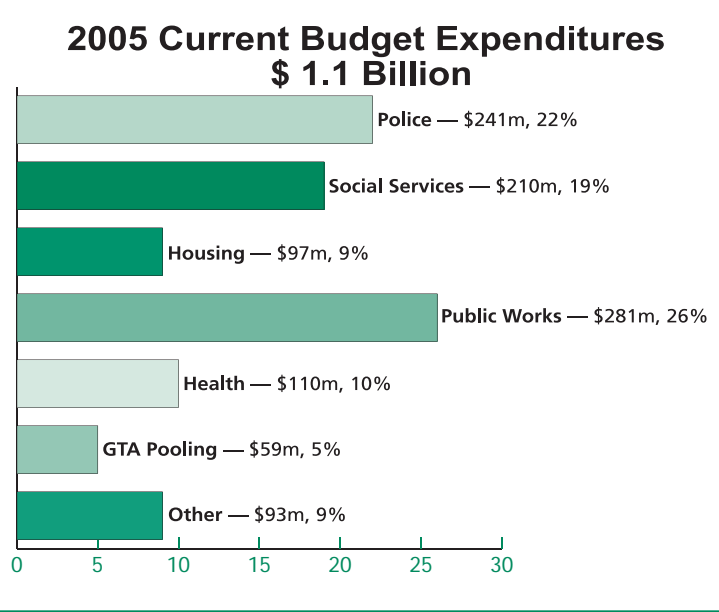




300 City Centre Dr., Mississauga, ON L5B 3C1
Tel: 905-896-5900, Fax: 905-896-5463
E-mail: pat.saito@mississauga.ca • Web site: www.ward9.ca



Did you know that for the past seven years, a portion of your local tax dollars has been going to the City of Toronto with no accounting for how it is spent?

The province established pooling to help Toronto finance some of its human services and downloaded a portion of its social assistance costs to the surrounding regions. As a result, Toronto is able to maintain the service levels they provide to their residents while we struggle to provide services to our own citizens. To date, Peel Region has paid \$426 million of the \$1.25 billion that Toronto has

received and we have budgeted a further \$59.1 million as our estimated share for 2005. In effect, we are paying for our own programs and services and part of Toronto's as well.

One of my main concerns about pooling is the lack of accountability and the impact it has on our financial planning. Although we have asked for an audit of how our money is used by Toronto, we have yet to receive it. We have no way of knowing what our tax dollars are being spent on or whether the amounts we are told to send are appropriate. In addition, as there is no common service standard for programs, we may be

supporting service standards in Toronto that are different than those available to our residents.

Council has told the province numerous times that human service programs should be supported by income tax and not property tax. All municipalities, including Toronto, want pooling to be terminated by the province and for Toronto's special needs to be provided by the province through sustainable and predictable funding. Here in Peel, we should be able to decide how to re-invest our pooling contribution for the benefit of our own taxpayers.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How can I get help with assisted daycare?

A: Information about subsidies and an application form to apply for subsidy is available on the Region's Web site, www.peelregion.ca or call Children's Services at 905-791-1585.

Q: Where are the locations for Peel Child Care Services in Ward 9?

A: The closest locations are the Ridgeway Child Care Centre at 3595 Ridgeway Drive and the Streetsville Child Care Centre at 114 Falconer Drive. Vacancies are posted on the Region's Web site. You can also call Children's Services at 905-791-1585, Ext. 3847.

Q: What does the Meadowvale Health Clinic offer for seniors and what are the hours?

A: The Meadowvale Health Clinic offers general clinics which seniors can access, including smoking cessation, seasonal flu clinics and healthy sexuality clinics. It is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and at other times for special clinics. The Region of Peel also offers Adult

Day programs for seniors through its long-term care facilities. For more information on this program visit www.peelregion.ca/ltc/centres/adultdayprogram.htm or call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700.

Q: What service is offered at the New Entrant Clinic?

A: Services are provided to school-age children who need immunization to register, but who do not have an immunization record or Ontario Health Card Number. For more information call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700.

Q: How do I apply for the Ontario Works Program in the Region of Peel?

A: Call 905-793-9200 and Press "2". You will speak to an Intake Screening Worker who will ask you about your family, job, rent, income, assets and status in Canada. This takes about 45 minutes.

Q: How can I "up" my subsidy (get more money)?

A: The Ontario government decides how much money you receive depending upon the size of your family, how much you pay for

living expenses and any other money you receive. Participants who do not agree with a decision can send a letter to the Internal Review Adjudicator at the Millcreek Office of Ontario Works (6715 Millcreek Drive, Unit 1 Mississauga, L5N 5V2) requesting a review within 10 days.

Q: How can I get on the assisted housing waiting list? How long is the wait list now?

A: To get more information on social housing or apply for a social housing unit in Peel, call 905-453-1300 or send an E-mail to Info@peelaccessstohousing.on.ca. The current waiting list for subsidized housing is five to 10 years.

Q: I am being threatened by my estranged spouse/partner. How can I get help?

A: Call Peel Regional Police at 905-453-3311 or Peel Victim Services at 905-568-8800. For more information visit their Web site at www.vsspeel.org

Q: When our garbage/waste recycling is not picked up on our scheduled day, what do we do?

A: Wait a day; then, if it still has not been collected, bring it indoors and call the Waste Line at 905-791-9499.

Q: Who do I call if the traffic signals are off?

A: Call Peel Regional Police at 905-453-3311 to report the signal is out.

Q: What is the new smoking bylaw?

A: Bill 164, the Smoke free Ontario Act, will prohibit smoking in all work places and enclosed public places in Ontario by May 31, 2006 and will eliminate designated smoking rooms.

Q: Who pays for my ambulance, if I need one?

A: Designated hospitals currently bill the user of the ambulance service \$45 for each ambulance response. In some instances certain insurance plans will cover the fee. Some individuals under social assistance may also be covered. Contact the Ministry of Health for more details or visit the Web site at www.health.gov.on.ca

Dear Neighbour:

I'm pleased to inform you that the Provincial government passed Bill 186, The Region of Peel Act in June. This bill, for the first time in many years, gives you fairer representation at the Region of Peel. Since the Region was formed in 1974, Mississauga has had less than 49 per cent of the vote while we have 66 per cent of the population and assessment.

The bill provides for two additional Councillors for Mississauga bringing us to 12 at the Region (including the Mayor) and one additional for Brampton increasing them to seven. Caledon will remain the same with five. This means Mississauga will have 50 per cent of the votes at the Region after December 2006, and while this does not provide Mississauga with full representation by population, it is a move in the right direction.

As your Councillor representing almost 100,000 people in Ward 9, it has been very frustrating to have only one vote at Regional Council while my colleagues in Caledon have five votes for less than 60,000 people. It was definitely time for something to be done and while it is not a perfect solution it is much better than what we had before.

This will have a major impact on Ward 9. In order to add the two new Councillors, we had to redefine the ward boundaries to take affect for the November 2006 elections. Rather than change the boundaries across the entire city, it made more sense to divide Wards 6 and 9 which each have populations of about 100,000. The new Ward 9 will include the communities of Meadowvale and Central Erin Mills and all of the Meadowvale Business Park. This is the area that I will continue to represent.

I will continue to work for all of the residents in the current Ward 9 and I encourage you to contact me or my staff on any issues related to either the

Region of Peel or the City of Mississauga services. My work at the Region relates mainly to those services that affect your health, social well-being, housing, regional roads and traffic, waste management and public safety but as your representative at both levels of government, one call to my office will get you assistance for any of the local government matters.

In addition to dealing with the day to day work at the Region, I also serve on various committees including the Peel Regional Police Internet Safety Committee; the Greater Toronto Airport Authority Liaison Committee (alternate to the Mayor); Joint Peel-Caledon Accessibility Advisory Committee; Peel Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Committee (Chair); Peel Housing Corporation; Public Works Committee (Vice-Chair) and Waste Management Committee. These are in addition to the Mississauga Committees I am involved in.

In this summer newsletter, I have included information on many of the Regional programs and services I am dealing with. I encourage you to find out more about those that interest you and also to check the Ward 9 Web site for more information at www.ward9.ca. I also encourage you to join my E-mail newsletter group to receive up to date information on everything affecting Ward 9. You can join on the Ward 9 Web site. Please let me know if there are services that you would like to know more about for future newsletters. Your feedback is always appreciated and welcome.

Pat Saito, Councillor Ward 9

We're Going Organic in 2006

Waste management issues have always been a priority with me and I have served as Chair and Vice Chair of the Public Works committee since I was first elected to Council in 1991. Over the years we have brought in new programs such as Grey Box recycling, as well as composting for Caledon residents. Now we are ready to expand the composting program to the entire region.



As of April 2006, Mississauga residents will be able to recycle organic waste including meats, vegetables, etc. at the curb as we start up our organics/composting program. At the same time, we are moving from a separated recycling system to a single stream system. This means you will no longer need to separate your Blue Box materials from your Grey Box materials, making recycling easier for you.

Over the next year, you will receive information about these programs and, closer to the start date, we will deliver to each home a large curb side organics bin and a small kitchen bin with detailed instructions for their use.

We are preparing for these new programs by constructing an Integrated Waste Management Facility on Torbram Road at Hwy 407. It is expected to be operational later this year and will feature a state-of-the-art, single-stream processing system for recovering recyclable materials, a compost processing facility and a waste transfer station. We are also continuing to review new technologies that will allow us to produce energy from waste.

Each new initiative takes us one step closer to our goal of diverting 70 per cent of waste from disposal by 2016. Thanks to your collective efforts, we're already 2/3 of the way there and are diverting more than 45 per cent of Peel's waste from disposal.



Battleford Community Recycling Centre (CRC)

The Battleford CRC, located on Battleford Road east of Erin Mills Parkway provides recycling and disposal services to augment your weekly curbside and apartment collection programs. It offers you an opportunity to dispose of your excess waste conveniently right in the neighbourhood.

The recycling centre accepts a wide variety of items including*:

- Household hazardous wastes – items that are toxic, flammable, explosive and corrosive
- Recyclable materials – all Blue and Grey Box items, scrap wood and metal, yard waste, drywall, tires
- Electronic goods – old computers, monitors, phones, VCRs, etc. (No TVs)
- Reusable goods - gently used furniture, clothing and household items, as well as appliances and TVs in working condition
- Non-recyclable waste material

*This list serves as a guide only. For a complete listing of services and items accepted, call the WASTELINE at 905-791-9499 or visit the Region's Web site at peelregion.ca/pw/waste

Location and Hours of Operation

Battleford Community Recycling Centre
2255 Battleford Rd., Mississauga
Hours: Mon-Sun., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Evening Hours: Thurs. until 8 p.m. *

* Evening hours during Daylight Saving Time only (April-October)

Fee Structure

The following items are accepted **Free of Charge**:

- Household hazardous waste (daily limits apply)
- Reusable goods
- Dedicated loads of Blue and Grey Box material

The following fees apply to all other loads:

Weight of load*	Drop-off fee
Up to and including 25 kg (55 lbs)	\$2 flat rate
Greater than 25 kg (55 lbs)	8¢ per kg
*up to a maximum load weight of 750 kg (1653 lbs)	

No tags required!

Garbage exemption days

The next exemption periods when you may place unlimited quantities of acceptable waste at the curb on your scheduled collection day are:

- Two weeks after Labour Day: Sept. 6-16, 2005
- Two weeks after Christmas: Dec. 26, 2005 - Jan. 6, 2006

REGION OF PEEL CONTACT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND WEB SITES

Councillor Pat Saito	905-896-5900	www.ward9.ca
Region of Peel	905-791-7800	www.peelregion.ca
After hours dispatch	905-791-7800	
Health Line Peel	905-799-7700	
Peel Regional Ambulance Services (non-emergency)	905-791-7800, Ext.4620	
Region of Peel Water Billing	905-791-8711	
WASTELINE (recycling, garbage pick-up)	905-791-9499	
City of Mississauga		www.mississauga.ca
City after hours dispatch	905-615-3000	
Animal Control	905-896-5858	
Bylaw Enforcement	905-896-5655	
Erin Meadows Community Centre and Library	905-615-4750	
Meadowvale Library	905-615-4715	
Meadowvale Community Centre	905-615-4710	
Meadowvale Four Rinks	905-615-4730	
Mississauga Fire	905-615-3777	
Mississauga Transit	905-615-4636	
Parking Control	905-896-5678	
Property Taxes	905-896-5575	
Recreation & Parks	905-615-4100	
Other Important Community Contacts		
Aircraft Noise Complaints	417-247-7682	www.gtaa.com
Peel Regional Police	905-453-3311	www.peelpolice.on.ca
GO Transit	416-869-3200	www.gotransit.com
Enersource	905-273-9050	www.enersource.com
Ministry of Environment	1-800-565-4923	www.ene.gov.on.ca
Ministry of Health	905-275-2730	www.gov.on.ca
Peel District School Board	905-890-1099	www.peel.edu.on.ca
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board	905-890-1221	www.dpcdsb.org1
Poison Control	416-813-5900	www.sickkids.ca
Mississauga Crime Prevention Assoc.	905-615-6272	www.mcpa.on.ca

Water Wise Wednesdays

Your participation makes a difference!

Although we have ample water supply in Peel, we are committed to conserving water wherever possible.

Peel's Water Wise Wednesdays is intended to raise awareness of proper lawn watering and to discourage overwatering of lawns.

With the theme of 'give yourself a break from watering the lawn on Wednesdays', the campaign demonstrates that it's okay to water less.

Learn more about proper outdoor lawn watering and maintenance at www.watersmartpeel.ca

Ward 9 Gets New GO Station!



Councillor Saito and MPP Bob Delaney introduce plans for the new GO Station

When I was first elected in 1991, one of the first projects that I was involved in was the provincial Environmental Assessment for construction of a GO station at Tenth Line and Argentea in the Meadowvale Business Park. Finally, thirteen years after the EA process ended, the province announced this year that it will proceed.

The City maintained the land use designation until 2004 when we moved it from the east side of Tenth Line to the west side. Finally after many years of urging GO Transit and the province to build the station, I got overwhelming support from our MPP Bob Delaney, who worked with GO Transit and the Minister of Transportation to get this project into the budget. I appreciate his help and support in this endeavour.

The new station will be named Lisgar GO and is the first new GO station in Mississauga in

25 years. Construction on the building and 600 parking spaces is scheduled to start this year and commuters will be riding the train from Lisgar by early 2007. Bob and I will be working with GO Transit on the design of the station and are continuing to work towards getting the third track and all-day service that was also part of the original plan in 1991.

By the time the new Lisgar station opens, the vision of a seamless transit fare system in GTA will become a reality in Peel. The City of Mississauga and GO Transit will replace our current paper ticket-based fare collection system with a Smartcard-based electronic fare collection system. The Smart Card will eliminate barriers to taking public transit in the Greater Toronto Area.

Child Care Services



Ward 9 has a high percentage of young children which results in a need for child care services. While there are no Region of Peel Child Care Centres in the ward, the Ridgeway Child Care Centre at 3595 Ridgeway Drive and the Streetsville Child Care Centre at 14 Falconer Drive offer the High/Scope curriculum and high quality care provided by trained early childhood educators. Both centres have capacity for 58 children and vacancies at these and all of the Region's Child Care Centres are posted on the Region of Peel Web site at www.peelregion.ca.

In addition to operating 11 Child Care Centres in Mississauga and Brampton, Children's Services also provides 3,000 families with fee assisted access to centre and home-based child care in over 350 licensed programs throughout the Region. A provincial government policy change in 2004 means more parents in the Region can access subsidies for early learning and child care services.

The new provincial policy eliminates restrictions on child care subsidies for parents who hold RRSPs and/or RESPs. As a result, more families may qualify for fee subsidies, and some families already receiving subsidized child care may qualify for more hours of care.

Residents can now call one number for all special needs information. Peel agencies that provide resources that help pre-school children with special needs to participate in child care are now making their services more accessible to families. Child Care Special Needs Access Point-Peel (Child Care SNAP-Peel) is a partnership of seven regional agencies that are collaborating to make it easier for parents to get services that will enable their children to participate in licensed child care programs. The service will be managed within the Children's Services Division of Social Services at the Region of Peel. Just call **905-791-7800, Ext. 7627 (SNAP)**.

Affordable Housing - Still Not Enough

One of my roles as your Councillor is being a member of Peel Living, the Region of Peel's non-profit housing company. Our responsibility is to provide non-profit housing throughout the region to meet the needs of our citizens.

Today, Peel's waiting list for rent-geared-to-income housing remains at 13,000 households. The demand for affordable housing has simply outstripped the supply, especially since the mid 1990's when senior governments stopped funding social housing. About 2,300 seniors' households still remain on our social housing waiting list, with average waits of five years for an available unit. As well, even if enough housing units were available, provincially-funded rent supplements still fall far short of the need.

As your Councillor and as a member of Peel Living, I will continue to advocate for more involvement from the senior governments and the private sector to create more opportunities for affordable housing.

Breaking Down Barriers

As a member of the Region's Accessibility Advisory Committee as well as the City's AAC, I welcome the opportunity to promote the understanding that everyone has the right to access all facilities, programs and services that we as a government provide and I look forward to seeing people with disabilities fully enjoy our services and programs.

The Joint Peel-Caledon AAC deals mainly with issues pertaining to Regional facilities as well as

TransHelp services. We review relevant site plans and make recommendations regarding accessible transportation, Regional policies and bylaws among other duties.

On May 10, 2005, new provincial legislation known as the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) was passed in the Ontario Legislature, replacing the existing Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001. The AODA is intended to improve access to

workplaces, customer service, transportation and communications for people with disabilities in public and private sectors.

The provincial standards set in the Act will enforce province-wide consistency for both public and private sector organizations. It will also require audit and enforcement mechanisms to be put in place along with accessibility planning to ensure compliance with the provincial accessibility standards developed by the various standards

development committees established by the province.

Working on both of the AACs allows me to work to ensure that we have the proper policies in place to adhere to the requirements of the AODA.

Did you know...

TransHelp provides 215,000 trips annually to people with physical disabilities and will be adding more TransHelp buses in 2006.

Meadowvale Group Leads Anti-Bullying Movement

Bullying is a major concern in our schools and our communities. Here in Ward 9, a group called the Meadowvale Community Partnership (MCP) has been doing something about this for the past eight years. The MCP has been recognized for its proactive approach to youth issues and its leadership in the anti-bullying movement. MCP initiatives support Peel Public Health's anti-bullying programs and have proven to be a great benefit to our children.

I have been a member of the MCP since its inception and meet monthly with members of the Meadowvale community including those who have businesses in or near it, representatives from both school boards, Peel Regional Police, the Dam Youth Drop-in, Peel Public Health, the City's Community Services, Peel Peace Campaign, various church organizations and social service agencies.

With a focus on creating awareness and providing education about issues related to keeping youth safe, the MCP works closely with parents in the community. Our programs have included an anti-bullying conference; presentations on parenting by leading thinkers such as Dr. Debra Peplar; panel presentations involving young people from the community; and this January, a presentation by Jane Hoy on "Parenting with a Difference".

Everyone is welcome at our meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at Edenwood Middle School, 6770 Edenwood Dr. at 5:30 p.m.

Parents or young people who want to learn more about strategies to defeat bullying or about the MCP can also visit the Region of Peel's Web site or contact Sandy Mactavish, R.N., BSc.N., Peel Health, 905-7791-7800, Ext. 2026. (sandy.mactavish@peelregion.ca)

Meadowvale Community Police Station

Ward 9 is fortunate to have Peel's first community police station at Meadowvale Town Centre beside the library. This was a favourite project of mine and I am glad that the program expanded across the region.

The officers at our station know the community, the people who live here and the issues. They are better able to respond and be proactive in working against crime. They also take reports of property damage/graffiti, thefts, lost and found items, disorderly conduct, neighbourhood disputes, minor motor vehicle accidents, driving/traffic complaints, suspicious persons, suspicious activities/loitering, landlord tenant disputes and problems at local schools.

When we expanded the Meadowvale station in 2003, we included a shared 40-person meeting room with the library. It has been used for neighbourhood issues meeting and the recent Crime Prevention Academy.

Our local officers welcome drop-in visits. I encourage you to visit the station to meet and discuss your concerns with them. More information is on the Peel Police Web site at www.peel.police.on.ca/locations/community_station/meadowvale. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Officers on Wheels

The Peel Police bike patrol started up again on April 25 and continues throughout the summer. If there is a park area that you are concerned about, let the Meadowvale station know about it and they will alert the bike patrol.

Is Your Child Cyberproofed?

The Internet Safety Committee, of which I am a member, is a collaboration of Peel Police, both school Boards, Council and other Crime Prevention Associations.

The program "Cyberproofed?" has been in Peel schools since 2001. It is intended to teach children how to remain safe while using the Internet. Despite these programs, exploitation of children is still evident. Peel Police's Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit recently charged a university student here in Mississauga with possessing, accessing and distributing child pornography from an Erindale Campus residence. If you have any information on child pornography, contact the ICE unit at 905-453-3311, Ext. 3490 or report online at www.cybertip.ca.

There are simple things parents can do to protect their children. Keep computers in an open

area of your home. Even if you have told your child to not speak to strangers online, there are predators out there that can persuade any child to meet them. Also keep Web cams out of bedrooms. Many young people have posed suggestively in hopes of receiving gifts and attention from potential suitors.

Know the identity of every person on your child's contact list. It is recommended that parents join MSN and talk to their kids once in a while online. This is the best way to learn about the technology and keep tabs on their activities.

Have your child come to you for Internet access. Tell your child if you see them minimize their screen when you enter or



delete their web history that they will lose Internet access.

These measures may sound strict but when there have been 75 people charged in Canada with luring a young person over the Internet, it's not too much to ask. For more guidelines pick up the Cyberproofed pamphlet at your Community Police station or go online at www.peel.police.ca or www.bewebaware.on.ca

Your Kids are Listening: Promoting Health for the Whole Family

As Peel's Board of Health, Council is responsible for ensuring the wellbeing and good health of our citizens. Current trends show that a growing proportion of adults and children are becoming overweight and obese. Obesity usually has its beginnings during childhood, when life-long eating patterns, physical activity habits as well as body image and self-esteem are established. It is a health concern because of the risk of developing certain chronic diseases and poor self-esteem.

Peel Public Health and Toronto Public Health have recently initiated a campaign to combat obesity. Your Kids Are Listening is a campaign to raise awareness of the critical role parents and caregivers play in forming and shaping children's attitudes about themselves and the choices they make regarding healthy eating and physical activity. In addition, it encourages parents and caregivers to make simple, yet effective changes to support children to feel good, be active and eat healthy.

What caregivers and parents say and do have a direct and long-term impact on a child. Embrace this window of opportunity. Take action and try some of the many tips Peel Public Health has to help you encourage your child to eat healthy, be active and feel good.

Encourage healthy eating habits:

- Eat meals together as a family. Start with a healthy breakfast.
- Offer the same healthy foods to everyone in your family. Try new foods together.
- Listen to your children. They know when they are hungry and when they are full.

Help your child be more active:

- Walk your child to daycare or school. Make sure your child's caregiver plans active time.
- Encourage outdoor play. Make balls, skipping ropes and hula hoops available.
- Plan active weekends. Go swimming or skating. Play soccer or play in the park. Discover free activity programs in your neighbourhood.

Boost your child's self-esteem:

- Let your child know he/she is special and important. Using positive language goes a long way in raising a confident, healthy child.
- Praise your child's actions and abilities often.
- Do not criticize your own body, your child's body or the bodies of others.

For more ways to help promote your child's wellness call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700 and ask for the Your Kids are Listening brochure or visit www.peel-obesity.ca.

Ambulance Funding Must be Increased

Council has been grappling with many challenges as we work to provide the best possible service by the Peel Regional Ambulance Services (PRAS). Along with hospitals, we have been dealing with rapidly increasing costs for managing the ambulance service, huge call volumes and hospital delays.

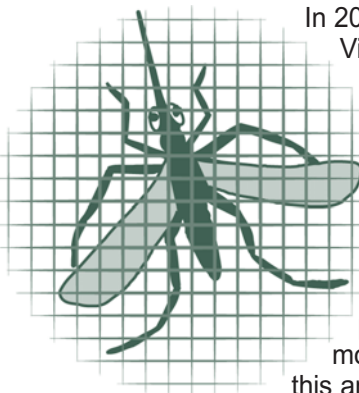
When the province downloaded the management of ambulance services to the Region in 2001, it made a commitment to share 50 per cent of ambulance costs. However its funding has dropped to 29 per cent in 2005. This is a shortfall of 80,000 hours of ambulance services that remain unfunded and end up being covered by property taxes. In order to provide the level of service we need to our citizens, we had to virtually triple our annual investment in the ambulance service to \$35 million over the past four years adding 100,000 additional service hours, which is the equivalent of adding 12 ambulances operating on a 24/7 basis.

Along with emergency calls, hospital delays have also increased significantly. Provincial legislation requires a paramedic crew to remain until the hospital accepts the patient. It is not uncommon for a paramedic crew in Peel to wait two to four hours to transfer their patient to the care of the emergency room. These long delays add up to the equivalent of three ambulances being taken off the road on average, each hour of the day.

We have brought the gross under-funding of our ambulance service to the attention of the Minister of Health who committed to have his staff follow up. Peel was also invited to be part of a broader provincial task force to look at ways to reduce off-load delays at hospitals.

I believe that the province fully appreciates the issues facing ambulance services in our community today and is willing to partner with us to come up with solutions. Regional Council is committed to protecting the health and safety of the residents in our community and will continue to work closely with the province to identify ways to make improvements to the system.

West Nile Virus



In 2004, West Nile Virus (WNV) activity in Ward 9 was low. One dead crow tested positive for the virus but there were no human cases and no WNV-positive mosquitoes found in this area.

We will continue in 2005 with our public education campaign to raise awareness about WNV and prevention measures. We will also implement our preventative plan which includes surveillance to identify human WNV cases, location of positive mosquito batches, positive dead crows and blue jays. In addition, Peel Health will larvicide municipal roadside catch basins and surface water sites.

- To reduce mosquito breeding sites on your property:
- Recycle/dispose of containers that can hold water
 - Drain pool covers
 - Ensure eaves troughs, flowerpots, window boxes drain properly
 - Change bird baths and wading pools weekly
 - Drill drainage holes in recycling and trash containers
 - Turn over wheelbarrows, canoes, toys and plastic wading pools
 - Cover rain barrels with a screen to prevent mosquitoes breeding

Collecting of dead crows and blue jays began on May 9 and ends September 30. If you find a dead crow or a blue jay, call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; weekends and statutory holidays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For more information about WNV and how to protect yourself, call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700 or visit www.peel-bugbite.ca

Meadowvale Public Health Clinic

- Service Close To Home

Since it opened in November 2004, the Meadowvale Public Health Clinic in the Meadowvale Town Centre has been bustling with activity.

As a result of overwhelming requests, Peel Public Health is offering the Quit Smoking Program at the clinic. This is a free service available to residents 18 years and older. At the clinic, clients receive one to one counselling from a public health nurse, quit smoking literature, carbon monoxide measurements, ongoing support and referral to other supportive services as needed. Day and evening appointments are available.

The Meadowvale Clinic also provides one stop access to an array of services including a needle exchange program, breastfeeding support, a healthy sexuality clinic, immunization, dental screening and prenatal classes. It is one of the greatest assets in our community and I encourage residents to take advantage of its services.

To access the Peel Public Health Quit Smoking Program or any of the services offered, call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700.



Councillor Saito receives her flu shot

Moving Traffic

I am always concerned about traffic issues within this community. I am committed to ensuring the most efficient and effective traffic operations are obtained on our roadways and at signalized intersections within Ward 9 and I work closely with Peel staff to initiate traffic studies at intersections on Regional roads.

These include signal optimization on the major roads such as Britannia, Derry and Erin Mills Parkway. Often when adjustments are made to improve traffic flow on these major roads, side street traffic experiences increased delays. When I am told about these delays, I have traffic staff review the location and make the necessary changes to minimize these impacts. It is important that we conduct intersection studies so that we can find the best solution based on real data, so please let my office or Regional staff know of your concerns.

An example of a recent location review is Ninth Line and Britannia. Based on resident concerns, I asked staff to review the timing. As a result, signal timings were adjusted so that the Ninth Line traffic has fewer delays. Traffic staff is also reviewing speed limits on Derry Road east of Millcreek Drive to see if the 60 kph should be increased to match the speed on Derry east of Mississauga Road. In addition, we have installed countdown walk signals at Glen Erin and Britannia and audible signals at Derry and Rosehurst/Lisgar.

Most of these issues are brought to my attention by residents. It is important that you let us know about problem locations. For any traffic related concerns, please contact Peel Traffic and Transportation specialists Jim Carrick at 905-791-7800, Ext. 4558 or Jim LeSarge at 905-791-7800, Ext. 4588 or call or E-mail my office.

Drinking Water Quality

Many new residents have told me they have been approached by companies telling them that their tap water is not good to drink and urging them to have it tested. I want to assure you that, in providing your water, the Region of Peel complies with the Safe Water Drinking Acts as set out by the Ministry of the Environment.

You can be assured that we take our responsibility for providing safe, clean and affordable drinking water very seriously. The water you drink is tested continuously and comprehensively. In fact, you will find our bottled Peel tap water at many ward events.

You can review water quality results by visiting www.peelregion.ca/pw/water or call Peel's Water Quality Analyst at 905-791-7800, Ext. 4685.

Toilet Rebate Program Coming Soon!

Did you know the toilet is considered to be the biggest water user? Although the building code specifies all new homes must be installed with low flow toilets (6 L), inefficient toilets (13L) are still sold.

I have had many requests for a toilet rebate program for Peel and I'm pleased that, in order to encourage residents to replace old, inefficient toilets with water-wise ones, Council has committed to the creation of a Toilet Rebate Program. Specific program details are presently being considered and pilot tested towards a launch in fall 2005.

For a list of Peel approved toilets visit www.watersmartpeel.ca or for information on how to apply and qualify for a rebate this fall call 905-791-7800, Ext. 4455.