Winter in Markham

Markham Village Wedding March

Feb. 6-7, 10 - 5pm Main Street Markham

The Sweetest Street for Brides and Grooms. Fill out your Wedding March Passport and enter a draw for over $3,000 in prizes.

Hosted by Kate's Garden

Outdoor Ice Rinks

Markham Civic Centre
101 Town Centre Blvd

The City works with groups of volunteer residents to install and maintain ice rinks, where winter water services exist, in public parks. An Ice Rink application form must be filled out. Please contact Nory Takata at ntakata@markham.ca for more information.

Unionville Theatre Company

Flato Theatre, Feb. 17th to Feb 21st 2016.

8 fabulous, fun shows for the whole entire family.

Markham at the Movies

January 26th, February 23rd and March 29th
Box Office: 905-305-SHOW
markhamatthemovies@yahoo.ca
Flato Theatre 7pm

Markham Little Theatre

Assisted Living - A comedy by Deirdre O'Connor
February 10-13, 2016 at 8pm.
Charity Begins - A comedy by Ireland Woods
April 13-16, 2016 at 8pm,
Flato Theatre

Crime Prevention Workshop

Thank you to YRP staff for hosting a very successful workshop, and to Markham Home Hardware for supplying door prizes along with my neighbour Rick. If you would like to attend future meetings please contact us via email and we will add you to our mailing list.

Thank you for making the Ward 4 BBQ a great success! We couldn't have done it without you.

City of Markham Fire Dept., Dairy Best Ice Cream, Carlo Bianchini, Green & Ross, Markham District Vets Hall, Milliken Unionville Soccer Club, Upper Unionville, Flato Home Products, Markham Bowl, Enbridge Gas, Glenn Rodger, Elaine Charal, Youth Ambassadors

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For general inquiries contact the City of Markham Contact Centre
customerservice@markham.ca
905-477-5530

ward4news

Update from your Markham Council Representative Karen Rea

Winter 2015

Residents have taken the initiative to place these signs around Ward 4 and Ward 5, to help remind all of us to be more careful driving.

Please obey stop signs and SLOW DOWN, for the safety of all residents!

Developing Innovation members Ethan Thompson, Tyler Beer and Aidan Aird.

Members of the Unionville-Milliken Soccer Club's Scholar Athlete Program, with their prehistoric fossils and exotic bugs collection at the Ward 4 BBQ

Karen Rea
Councillor Ward 4

101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario
L3R 9W3

905-479-7751

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Dear Residents,

Time has gone by so quickly that I have already been on Council for one year. We have had a busy 12 months and a few of the highlights are:

The hiring of MNP LLP to be appointed as the Auditor General for a four year term effective Jan 1st 2016. The role of the Auditor General is to aid accountability by conducting independent audits of government operations and value for money audits to ensure more accountability and transparency.

My first appeal to the Information Privacy Commission regarding the reports for the Arena has been completed and the reports are available on my website: Raymond James and the BDR report. We are still waiting on an order for the second appeal that was filed.

Committee of Adjustments and Zoning changes now have a wider boundary and notices are mailed out 14 days in advance of the public meeting. Weekly agendas are now available on our City website on Tuesdays for the meetings scheduled for the following week. This allows residents time to review, ask questions or show up at our meetings when there is something of interest on.

Council just passed a motion 9-4 to support the election of the Regional Chair as proposed by the private members bill in the legislature to amend the Municipal Act in this regard. Bill 42 seeks to require the Regional Chair to be elected by a general vote beginning in the 2018 election. A similar motion was tabled at York Region and has been deferred to their meeting on Feb 18 th 2016.

I send out an e-newsletter every other month to try and help residents stay informed on important topics. If you would like to be included please email Rose, my Executive Assistant rmittelholzer@markham.ca to be included on our email list.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Regards,

Karen

Batman visiting Main St on Halloween

Snider Re-alignment Project

The Transit Project Assessment Process will not be moving forward with the station improvement and realignment as planned.

Metrolinx has received the results of a preliminary draft report looking at system-wide rail-to-road crossings that could potentially be grade separated meaning that either the road or the tracks would be lifted above or below the other.

The study identified Snider Drive as a rail crossing that requires further consideration and until this work is completed, Metrolinx will not be moving forward with the station improvement and realignment as planned. As a result, the TPAP has been terminated. If Metrolinx decides to move forward with the project once the grade separation analysis is complete, they will file a new Notice of Commencement and Public consultation process

Property Taxes

Please be advised that interest will be charged on the 4th day after the Tax installment Due date on all property tax bills effective January 1st 2016 at the rate of 1 percent. Interest at a rate of 1.25 per cent will continue to be added for the first day of the following month if any taxes remain unpaid.

Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS)

City of Markham approved the implementation of AMPS. Parking violations of $100.00 or less will be processed under this new system. Appointments will now be required to dispute any parking tickets in Markham. This customer service enhancement allows residents to schedule an appointment to dispute their ticket instead of having to wait in line. Those wishing to dispute their tickets will no longer be faced with lengthy court delays, as the hearings will be conducted on site at the Civic Centre by a Hearing Officer. Further information is available at www.markham.ca/amps. Please note that Councillors are not allowed to interfere with this process and have no authority to waive or reduce ticket amounts.

Ward 4 BBQ

Markham Zoning By-law project

The City of Markham is undertaking a comprehensive review of its zoning by-laws and existing zoning framework. As part of Markham's New Comprehensive Zoning By-law Project, the City's primary zoning by-laws will be reviewed, consolidated and updated. The end result will be a new and interactive web-based comprehensive zoning by-law, to regulate land use and development in the City. Topics include: Minor Variances, Home Occupations, Parking Standards, student housing, Basement Apartments, drive through facilities and much more. More information is available on the City website and check the local newspaper for dates on when the public meetings will be held.

Anti - whistling on the Stouffville Go Line

City Council re-confirmed and passed a resolution that Metrolinx implement the safety measures that achieve whistle cessation prior to the implementation of all day train service.

City Staff provided an update to Development Services Committee on November 16th. Staff has met with Metrolinx and York Region staff to move forward on the safety audit, cost estimates and cost assessment for the road/rail crossings upgrade, in order to stop the train whistle. City staff has requested our consultant to expand the scope of work and undertake a similar exercise for the Richmond Hill Line within the City of Markham boundaries. A new rail safety expert has been retained by the City to determine if additional safety measures beyond the Federal safety regulations are recommended. We will be meeting with senior Metrolinx staff to discuss cost sharing and implementation. Staff has been directed to report back in January 2016 with a work plan and implementation plan. Please see Council meeting minutes of November 24 for more information.

Access Markham Mobile App

The City of Markham's app provides instant mobile access to information on the City's parks, recreation and library programs, waste collection schedules, major city projects, culture and entertainment opportunity, and submit a service or complaint request on line.

NEW AVL – Automatic Vehicle Locator - Find out what roads have been plowed during a winter storm. Status of winter maintenance on both roads and sidewalks will be refreshed hourly.

Winter Parking during Snow Clearance

Parking on both sides of all City streets is prohibited during snow clearing operations. Existing parking permits and overnight exemptions held by residents are not valid during snow clearing operations. Residents can expect snow clearing to begin at the start of any snowfall and continue for up to the next 24 hours. Vehicles parked on a city street during snow clearing operations will be ticketed and/or towed. The fine for "Interfering with Snow Removal" is $100.