Dear Residents,

Welcome to the second edition of the Ward 6 Oakville newsletter. As you know, Council is continuing its work towards its Livable Oakville vision. We are working to protect and expand on what makes Oakville stand out by controlling growth to what fits, maintaining high-quality infrastructure and services, keeping our finances healthy, and preserving greenspace.

Controlling growth and planning complete communities

The Ontario government introduced changes to land use plans which require GTA municipalities to plan for increased growth in residential and employment lands. In this regard, Halton Region and the Town of Oakville are undertaking reviews of their official plans to manage growth to the year 2041.

We continue to focus on managing growth to what fits economically and environmentally, as well as building complete communities with the infrastructure and greenspace necessary to meet Oakville’s high standards of livability. Oakville’s plan directs growth to several nodes and corridors to protect existing stable neighbourhoods from unexpected development applications.

Protecting nature

Council continues to focus on preserving greenspace, growing our green canopy and protecting Oakville’s natural landscape. We are managing the effects of the emerald ash borer, planting more trees and working to bring additional natural lands into public ownership.

Building and renewing infrastructure

Council continues to focus on building and maintaining infrastructure that improves the livability of our communities. We continue to increase the funding for road resurfacing projects to ensure Oakville’s roads are smooth, safe and less expensive to maintain in the future. Council recognizes the need to control the speed of traffic in high-pedestrian areas, so be on the lookout for new speed limits and pedestrian features in your neighbourhood.

Keeping our finances healthy

Council remains committed to its goal of keeping tax increases at or below inflation, as it has for nine budgets in a row. We will work diligently to maintain the title of being the municipality with the healthiest finances in Ontario, presented to the Town of Oakville by Dr. Enid Slack of the University of Toronto.

It’s important to us that we be accessible to our constituents. If you have any questions or concerns with anything in your community, or in the Town at large, we’re only a call or a click away.

In the meantime, we wish you all the best this winter!

Best regards,

Tom and Natalia
2018 Budget – Your Opportunity to Get Involved

Council continues to work towards keeping overall property tax increases in-line with inflation. Opportunities to learn about and give feedback about the proposed 2018 budget are available at a series of upcoming Budget Committee meetings at Town Hall (1225 Trafalgar Road):

- Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2017, 9:30 a.m. — Release of the 2018 budget documents, plus proposed rates and fees
- Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, 9:30 a.m. — Staff presentations
- Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017, 9:30 a.m. — Public delegations
- Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017, 7 p.m. — Public delegations
- Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017, 9:30 a.m. — Budget Committee deliberations and recommendations
- Monday, Dec. 18, 2017, 7 p.m. — Final budget approval by Council

Councillor Tom Adams, Chair of the Budget Committee, invites members of the public to attend two open houses to ask questions and share feedback on the budget:

- Saturday, Nov. 25, at Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre — main lobby — from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 5. at Iroquois Ridge Library — Creation Zone — from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Enjoy a Theatre Experience in Northeast Oakville

Not interested in fighting traffic, paying exorbitant parking fees and high ticket prices, but want to enjoy a night out at the theatre? Then consider Theatre Sheridan! The 2017-2018 season of Theatre Sheridan, located at 1430 Trafalgar Road, kicks off November 28. This season consists of six high-quality musicals to be performed over the next year by talented Sheridan students. Check out show times online at theatre.sheridancollege.ca or order tickets by phone (905-815-4049).

Oakville’s Snowplows Ready for Winter

With winter on its way, Oakville’s fleet of snowplows are ready to take on the nearly 2000 kilometres of roadways and get residents where they need to go quickly and safely.

When the snow arrives, don’t forget that the first priority for our snowplows are primary and secondary roads. Primary roads are major arteries like Trafalgar, while secondary roads include White Oaks Boulevard, Glenashton, Northridge Trail and other connecting roads. We prioritize these roads to ensure emergency service vehicles can move around town. If more than 7.5 centimetres of snow falls and both primary and secondary roads have been cleared, plows then shift their focus to clearing residential streets.

Looking for a map identifying primary and secondary roads around town? Want to use our snowplow tracker to check the snow removal progress in your community in real time? Visit us at oakville.ca.

Just a reminder — our plowing activities can sometimes result in snow piles forming at the end of your driveway. To minimize this, pile snow on the right-hand side when shovelling your driveway.
Transportation Plans for Midtown Oakville

The population of Midtown Oakville, with its centre at the Oakville GO Station, is expected to grow by an estimated 12,000 residents, and 8,000 jobs, by 2031. This will require major infrastructure changes, some of which will affect those of us living north of the QEW.

After a two-year environmental assessment, a number of infrastructure updates to the Midtown Oakville Plan have now been approved, including:

- The addition of a new north-south crossing of the QEW to the east of Trafalgar Road; and
- The extension of Iroquois Shore Road which will connect it to Royal Windsor Drive.

The timing of these projects is still to be scheduled.

Mark Your Calendars for the 3rd Annual Northeast Oakville Fair!

Over 1,200 residents came out to enjoy this free family event in our ward last year. It was so successful that a group of Ward 6 residents is now fundraising and making plans for the 3rd Annual Northeast Oakville Fair! This fair will be held on Sunday, May 27, 2018 (11 a.m.-5 p.m.) at Glenashton Park next to the Iroquois Ridge Community Centre. The Northeast Oakville Fair will have something for everyone, from the little ones, to the young at heart. If you would like to assist, please let us know. We encourage you to check out the fair website at https://www.northeastoakvillefair.com/ as the scheduled date approaches. Hope to see you there!
Glen Abbey Golf Course Update

On September 27, Council voted unanimously to refuse ClubLink’s application to redevelop Glen Abbey Golf Course lands to permit housing, retail and office commercial space on almost half of the golf course. ClubLink had applied to the town for an official plan amendment, a zoning by-law amendment and approval of a plan of subdivision to permit 141 detached dwellings, 299 townhouse dwellings, 2,782 apartment dwellings with retail and office commercial uses, parks and open space and natural heritage uses.

Council found that the developer’s submissions do not represent good planning for this site and are not consistent with or in conformity with applicable provincial, regional and town policies.

The Town’s Livable Oakville Official Plan sets out the vision for our community to preserve the stability of residential neighbourhoods and identify specific areas where growth should occur. ClubLink’s proposal did not adhere to the official plan, nor did it conserve the golf course which is subject to a Notice of Intention to Designate as a significant cultural heritage landscape issued by Council under s. 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

ClubLink has since appealed Town Council’s decision of September 27, 2017 (to refuse their application to redevelop Glen Abbey Golf Course) to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

The town is prepared to vigorously defend Council’s decision that ClubLink’s applications do not represent good planning for this site and are not consistent or in conformity with applicable provincial, regional and town policy.

For more information, visit the Town’s Glen Abbey information page.

Pickleball at Glenashton Park

If you have not heard of pickleball, you are not alone. It is a racquet sport that combines elements of badminton and tennis. Up to four people can play together, using solid paddles to hit a perforated ball. While it’s easy enough to learn, the sport can bring out some strong competition. Pickleball is starting to generate a lot of interest among our residents and this past summer, two of the three tennis courts at Glenashton Park received a makeover with the addition of pickleball line markings. Judging by the heavy use of the dual purpose courts, it seems that residents are embracing the opportunity to stay fit and healthy!

Ward 6 Leash-Free Park

The Ward 6 leash free dog park at Eighth Line and Glenashton Drive is a wonderful gathering place for residents and their furry friends. We thank you for your feedback about park upgrades, such as improved drainage and seating areas. Groups of residents who visit regularly at the same time often become good friends and know each other’s dogs well. It’s good to see that camaraderie is alive and well in Ward 6.
After extensive renovations earlier this year, the Iroquois Ridge branch of the Oakville Public Library has reopened with a dramatic new take on patron services. Chief among the changes is the addition of a Creation Zone. It provides space and tools for library patrons to work on various projects using new technology, such as state-of-the-art programming and design software, as well as videography and photography programs.

The Creation Zone also includes a hands-on children’s learning station which allows youth to get active with math, science, engineering and technology. Iroquois Ridge library patrons also now have access to digital camcorders, a green screen, editing software, and microphones. Workstations with access to computers that have been equipped with Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint mean the library can provide a broader range of services to businesspeople, students and other residents.

Upgrades to Iroquois Ridge Library

ServiceOakville: Committed to Customer Satisfaction

Last year, ServiceOakville handled nearly 90,000 phone calls and 10,000 emails. ServiceOakville staff are trained to provide residents with information on everything from garbage at parks, to recreation and parking, and everything in between and they continue to seek ways to provide an even wider range of customer service.

We know how valuable your time is, and we recognize that call wait times reflect the quality of your customer service experience. Data tracked by the Town’s Customer Relationship Management application shows that 83 per cent of calls were answered within 30 seconds.

If you wish to report an issue, raise a concern or ask a question of ServiceOakville staff, you can visit www.oakville.ca/services, email serviceoakville@oakville.ca, or call 905-845-6601.

Free Holiday Public Skate

“Winter is coming” is not just a famous phrase in the popular TV show “Game of Thrones”, but an invitation for Oakville residents to enjoy a favourite past time – ice skating! Between December 31 and January 6, everyone will have the opportunity to sharpen their skills on the ice, as the Town hosts free public skating over the holidays! In Ward 6, Joshua’s Creek Arenas will hold free public skates December 31 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and January 2-5 from 1:30 p.m.-3 p.m. each day.

The free public skate schedule at participating Town rinks is available at https://www.oakville.ca/culturerec/public-skating.html.
Catholic School Board Votes to Combine Schools

Earlier this year the Halton Catholic District School Board voted to consolidate three Oakville elementary schools: Holy Family, St. John and St. Michael Catholic Elementary Schools.

Two options on how this would occur were approved. The school board's preferred option was to consolidate all three schools into a rebuilt school at the St. Michael location, but this option required provincial funding which was not obtained.

The second (alternate) option, that is now expected to proceed, will see St. John and St. Michael Catholic Elementary Schools consolidated at the St. Michael site for 2018/2019. The school board also approved a motion to consolidate Holy Family and St. Marguerite d’Youville Catholic Elementary Schools at the St. Marguerite d’Youville site for the 2020-2021 school year. This would also include building an addition to St. Marguerite d’Youville to accommodate the additional students.

Please contact the Halton Catholic District School Board at (905) 632-6300 for further information.

Coronation Drive School Site Update

The Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) declared its Coronation Drive site surplus in 2015 and intends to sell the land for residential development to Menkes Development Ltd.

The HCDSB and Menkes Development have submitted an application to the Town of Oakville to rezone the land to allow low-density residential housing consisting of 49 detached dwellings with a single public street accessing onto Coronation Drive at the south end of the land. The majority of the lots will front onto the new street interior to the land, while 7 lots would front onto the existing Coronation Drive.

The proposed application is undergoing review and analysis by the Town's planning department, with a report providing a recommendation expected early next year.

Findings of the Helios Aircraft Noise Report

Helios aviation consultants were appointed by NAV CANADA, Canada's civil air navigation services provider, to conduct an independent review of aircraft noise in the air above Oakville. This Toronto Airspace Noise review resulted in a number of recommendations being proposed to significantly alleviate the noise issues over Oakville from Toronto Pearson flights.

Among the many Helios recommendations are that NAV CANADA should ask Transport Canada to require a low cost modification to Airbus A320s that would reduce the noise they generate.

The Helios report further noted that aircraft noise can be reduced if pilots use lower engine power and minimize drag for as long as it is safe to do so. Additionally, aircraft can reduce noise by maintaining as high an altitude as possible for as long as possible. With this in mind, the Helios report recommended better collaboration between pilots and air traffic controllers, as pilots and air crew will be able to optimize their descent from a noise perspective using more precise information.

The review also recommends that NAV CANADA, Air Canada, Rouge, WestJet, Jazz, the National Airline Council of Canada, the GTAA and possibly the Canadian Airports Council and Transport Canada, form an Industry Noise Management Board. The goal of the Board would be to develop a cross-industry code of conduct to reduce arrival and departure noise through the improvement of aircraft.

For more information regarding aircraft noise reduction visit:
https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/PgAZjfxz06/
Tom and Natalia in the Community