

2014 is a Municipal Election Year!

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 27TH

You may vote for the Mayor

You may vote for two Regional and Local Councillors

You may vote for your Ward Councillor

You may vote for your School Board Representative

But Please Vote!

**Are you on the voters list? Check the election website under "Voter Information"
RichmondHill.ca**

TOWN Budget 2014



Council's job is to manage the Town Budget in a fair and equitable manner and provide for all Richmond Hill tax payers. The Town provides facilities, services and programs for the public but does not operate as a 'profit making' business.

We do not create products to sell or trade, instead we collect and manage municipal tax dollars as governed by the Province, on behalf of the entire community.

Provincial laws dictate where and how we can get money to provide for the Town's needs. Richmond Hill receives 25% of your property tax. We also receive grants and donations from other government agencies and private sources. These sources aren't always reliable. They may only be short-term or they may come with expectations that we will take over the full financial responsibility for the facility or program at a later date. It's a balancing act more than a juggling one.

The Town's 2014 Capital Budget includes the completion of the Lake Wilcox Park Design and construction, VivaNext York Region transit Yonge Street Watermain and Sanitary Sewer Projects, managing the Emerald Ash Borer Woodlots, the architectural and engineering work required for the Ed Sackfield Arena twinning and another 218 projects across Town.

When it comes to operating costs, we look to user fees so that the majority of the cost is placed on those who benefit directly from the program or service. But before we calculate the taxes needed to provide the facility, delivery system, service, or program, we are informed by staff reports, resident surveys and other studies from agencies and orders of government. Then Council either approves the recommendations by our qualified staff, amends the recommendations, delays through deferral or outright denies the project or program.

Thank you for reading my newsletter.

If you have any comments or questions...

Please call 905-771-2498 or email: brenda.hogg@richmondhill.ca



Brenda



Newsletter 2014

Brenda HOGG

Regional and Local Councillor

Serving all residents of Richmond Hill



HERE'S YOUR DELETE WINTER BUTTON!



Hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter Spring has finally arrived! 2014 has delivered the most brutal winter weather in many years. Many stories have come out of this severe weather event. I would love to hear your story over coffee.

**Let's meet on Saturday, April 26 from 11 a.m. - noon
at the Galaxy Restaurant, Richmond Heights Plaza
Yonge Street at Leventdale Road, where I bought my Christmas dinner!**

To reserve, call my office at 905 771-2498.

ICE STORM CLEAN-UP

The Town and the Region have been working together to cleanup the mess left by the ice storm. Most of the cleanup has been completed on Regional roads and boulevards. Concerns? Call toll free: 1-877-464-9675 (Region of York).

Town cleanup of Ice Storm tree debris resumes **Tuesday, April 22**. Crews will be moving through town to remove tree debris (including branches larger than 1.2 m long and 10 cm in diameter) from the Ice Storm. Please place the branches with the cut edge or butt end towards the road and put it at the curb by Monday, April 21 and please place branches at the curb separately from your regular yard waste. *Thank you!*



YARD WASTE PICKUP

On scheduled Mondays until November 24. Please separate it from your ice storm debris. For more information: check out RichmondHill.ca

Together, we can do it.

TRANSPORTATION TOMORROW SURVEY

Every 5 years York Region surveys the travel patterns of residents. Through our Transportation and Community Planning Department, we collect information about the number of travelers in the Region; where they go during peak traffic periods and what mode of transportation they choose.

Here are some interesting facts: York Region's transit trips per resident has increased 41% since 1996. GO Rail use is up 498% from 1996-2011 and Local Transit use has increased by 98% over the same period of time. These changes are good but with better community design, we will be able to provide efficient, safe, economic public transit where we live, work, and play.



York Region invests another \$18 million in transit to keep people moving...

Investing in public transit is good for moving people, reducing gridlock, reducing gas emissions, improving air quality and our quality of life in general. York Regional Council has approved a contract to purchase 34 low-floor new conventional buses for The Regional Municipality of York's YRT/Viva fleet.

The 34 buses are being purchased from New Flyer Industries Canada at cost of \$521,000 each, for a total cost of \$18 million as part of York Region's joint bus procurement agreement with Metrolinx, the provincial government's transit agency. This procurement process with Metrolinx helps reduce the cost per bus and improves purchasing power for participant municipalities across Ontario.

These 34 buses are necessary to meet the needs of our growing transit ridership. YRT/Viva experienced a 2.4 per cent ridership increase in 2013 for a total of 22,709,612 riders. That number is expected to grow in 2014 and beyond.

MANAGING GROWTH WHILE PROTECTING OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Some of you will remember the huge confrontation between the development industry and suburban residents and environmentalists to protect the Oak Ridges Moraine in the late 90's. It was a very challenging time which resulted in new protective legislation not just for the moraine but many other areas of the natural environment including protection of our agricultural lands across Ontario.

Since the Province is required by law to review each of these plans, Regional Council has requested that the Province coordinate the reviews of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and 'Places to Grow'— the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. This makes sense. Each plan has a part to play in the overall protection of our natural environment. By directing growth and preserving our agricultural lands, we can design and build a more sustainable, economic, and healthy community.

Many have worked very hard over many years to determine where urban development should be located and to put limits on suburban sprawl. By making development more strategic, development will be more economic, and efficient in the delivery of urban services. The increasing costs of public transit, bridges, highways, water pipes, sewer pipes, stormwater, wastewater and waste management facilities are too expensive for the property tax base to bear without containment and well-planned efficiencies. Protection of our agricultural lands across York Region is essential to the health and well-being of our residents.



DATES TO REMEMBER AND ONES WE WILL NEVER FORGET

Richmond Hill's Annual Seniors' Fair

with

The Toronto All-Star Big Band

You're guaranteed a Swingin' Time!

Friday, May 30, 2014

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts

**Tickets for \$5 each are available at the
McConaghy Seniors' Centre
10100 Yonge Street Richmond Hill (905) 737-1818**



COME SEE HOW WE PLAY!

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK OPEN HOUSE AND HEALTHY YARDS EVENT

Saturday, May 24

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Richmond Hill's Operations Centre Elgin Mills Rd.
north side just west of Leslie St.**

Bring the family. This event is always a BIG HIT with the kids.



2014 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - A GREAT SUCCESS!

This year the Town celebrated International Women's Day with two dynamic and inspiring Richmond Hill women: Lois Hancey and the first female Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne.

The International Women's Day event featured the release of a 12 minute historic documentary about Richmond Hill's longest-serving female politician: Lois Hancey. The film encourages the participation of girls and women in the election process.

LOIS HANCEY, 'A STUBBORN POLITICIAN'

If your group is interested in viewing this film, I would be happy to arrange a showing.
Call me at: (905) 771-2498