



Dave Gittings

Town of Oakville

Town Councillor, Ward 3

Keeping you informed . . .



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Linbrook School for Boys



Town Council voted in favour of a proposal that would see the former Linbrook Public School (P.S.) become a not-for-profit private school for boys. The motion that was passed included direction that 'staff be authorized to negotiate with the proponent, the option to lease or the option to purchase the former Linbrook P.S. site for the purpose of a private boys school, and thereafter select whichever option will best maximize the financial value to the town, and afford the best protection to the local neighbourhood'.



SUBSCRIBE

UNSUBSCRIBE

As a private school use is not currently permitted on the former Linbrook P.S. site, the private school will need to seek that relief from the zoning by-law either through a minor variance or a rezoning application. The current zoning, which only permits private schools on roadways greater than 20 metres, was put in place as a result of a special study undertaken in the late 1980's.

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Cornwall Road DriveTest Centre



The recently erected For SALE or LEASE sign at the Drive Test facility says it all. After nearly a decade of Eastlake and Clearview residents having had their community used from morning to night, seven days a week as a test track for driving school instruction, the end is near.

After a concerted effort, the centre will be closing this Fall and relocating to an industrial area which provides a far better business location for the DriveTest Centre's activities, and is consistent with other locations located in non-residential neighbourhoods. The new location will result in less disruption to the public due to the industrial nature of the surrounding area... and eliminate the volume and safety concerns that have been so frustrating to so many Ward 3 residents.

Post Park Leash Free



There has been a lot of discussion recently about the leash free area at Post Park. There have also been many rumours and inaccurate information being circulated that the leash free area's closure was imminent, or that it would be closed this Fall without notice or the opportunity for input from the park's many stakeholders.

Here is the most up to date, accurate information from our Director of Parks & Open Space.

Earlier this year adjacent Post Park residents brought forward concerns to the Town with regard to the noise from constant dog barking, dogs off leash outside of the fenced leash free area, and dogs gaining access from the leash free area into private yards. Moreover, several residents brought forward concerns regarding dogs off leash in the park, of safety concerns for children using the playground equipment and soccer field due to dogs off-leash, as well as dog owners not picking up after their dogs. In addition, the Town received a large volume of correspondence from dog walkers who use the park, love the off leash area at Post Park and want the area to be retained.

In response to the concerns Town staff requested enhanced by-law enforcement from the Oakville Humane Society as well as Town By-Law Enforcement Officers. Since there was significant concern brought forward about the appropriateness of Post Park as a leash free area, as well as significant support for retaining the off-leash area, it was deemed in the best interests of all parties to bring forward a report to Town Council this Fall.

Over the last month or so, the increased enforcement of Town by-laws seems to have made a large difference in the use of Post Park. With the improved by-law compliance, coupled with

improved fencing between private lots and the leash free area, a report to Town Council may not be required. However, that determination is still being discussed between staff and the Ward 3 Councillors. If a report does go forward this Fall, anyone who has contacted staff or their Ward Councillor, or Town staff will receive notification of the meeting.

Chris Mark
Director, Parks and Open Space

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Park Play Structure Replacement Program



Play structure replacements in Lakeside Park, Lawson Park and Maple Valley Park have recently been completed as part of the Parks & Recreation ongoing replacement program that replaces outdated equipment with structures that meet new C.S.A. standards and are wheelchair

accessible. The response that I have been receiving from excited children (and their parents) who have tried the new equipment has been extremely positive!

What are all those markings on the trees?



I have received a large number of calls from residents regarding various markings on Town trees (examples above).

As a result of damage from the recent windstorm, ash tree identification/treatment, and annual maintenance, there are a lot of marked up trees. The green circle on the left tree indicates that this Town tree is to receive treatment for the Emerald Ash Borer. The orange dot on the centre tree identifies that it will receive pruning work from Town Forestry crews as part of regular maintenance or as a result of storm damage. The red 'X' on the right tree is the one that we hate to see. This tree is scheduled for removal as it is either already dead, has been severely damaged, or poses a threat to public safety. After the July 19th severe weather, our Forestry Department has received over 400 storm related calls for service.

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West Nile Virus



I have been receiving calls as to why sewer grates are being spray painted.

Ward 3 has had two positive West Nile Virus (WNV) sites identified to date this year compared to eight positive locations at the same time last year. Catch Basins and Storm Water Management Ponds are treated with larvicide to assist in the prevention of the WNV. The blue dot confirms that the catch basin was treated with larvicide the week of June 17th, the white dot represents the July 8th treatment, and the pink one shows that the July 29th treatment has been completed.

Mosquitoes that transmit WNV to humans most commonly breed in urban areas where items that hold water, including birdbaths, plant pots, old toys, and non-draining eaves troughs, are abundant. Residents are asked reduce mosquito breeding sites by getting rid of all water-filled objects and by changing the water in birdbaths at least once a week.

For further details on West Nile Virus please visit www.halton.ca/wnv.

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Active Transportation Master Plan Update



Cycling enthusiasts will be pleased to learn that plans are in place to build a new multi-use trail along the east side of Ford Drive from Sheridan Garden Drive north to Kingsway Drive and also along the south side of Lakeshore Road East from Allan Street to Morrison Road. The trails were recommended as part of the Town's 2009 Active Transportation Master Plan study, which included a full review of Oakville's pedestrian and cycling facilities network. The study developed an implementation plan to improve and expand the network, and promote cycling and walking in Oakville.

The proposed trail on Ford Drive is a three metre-wide wide multi-use asphalt trail along the east boulevard of the road, off the roadway itself, and is designed to serve both pedestrians and cyclists. The Town is planning to begin construction this Fall; however, this initiative is contingent on the Region of Halton's completion of their work on sanitary sewers in this area which is currently underway. There are also some issues with securing permission to encroach on lands owned by Hydro One and the Ministry of Government Services adjacent to the proposed path. The Town is hopeful to construct the new path later this autumn but, if these issues cannot be resolved, it may be delayed until the spring of 2014.

The trail on Lakeshore Road East is currently in the early stages of detailed design. There are issues to resolve with regards to existing utility poles and Town staff are planning to host a

public meeting with adjacent residents to review the proposed plans. This trail is scheduled for construction in 2014.

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The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) held meetings across the Province this summer in an effort to obtain public input on the future siting of power plants.

At the July meeting in Oakville, Citizens for Clean Air (C4CA) provided a very detailed presentation including feedback on the previously proposed power plant in Oakville and recommendations and strategies to improve the siting process.

Thank you C4CA for your ongoing efforts! C4CA's presentation is available on their [website](#).

Municipalities were also invited to make recommendations to the Province on Regional Energy Planning and Siting of Large Infrastructure Projects. Oakville Town Council's

recommendations are available at the following link, [item #6](#) of the July 8th meeting of Council.

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The Lighthouse Community



Any child or youth, between the ages 3 to 18, who has experienced the death of a loved one can join a group. The death may be that of a parent, primary caregiver, brother, sister, or close youth friend. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend the adult peer support groups that meet at the same time as the children's groups.

The Lighthouse community supports children, youth, and carers in their very personal experience of grief by providing a safe place to verbalize their difficult and often complex feelings and thoughts.

Often, family members wish to "protect" each other from their sadness at home. At the Lighthouse children and youths find they can comfortably express their feelings when they are with peers who have also experienced the death of a family member. This expression of feelings and thoughts helps them reach an understanding of their loss and healing, and also builds hope and encouragement for "a life after death".

For further details on Light House or for information on their upcoming Fundraiser, please visit their [website](#).

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Parks Recreation & Culture Fall/Winter Program Registration Now Open



Pick up your Fall/Winter Recreation Guide at community centres, seniors centres, libraries, pools, arenas and Town Hall. Or check it out at the Town's [website](#).

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The 4th Trafalgar Scouts



The 4th Trafalgar Scouts is inviting boys and girls in the South East and Clearview area to join Beavers (age 5-7), Cubs (8-10), and Scouts (11-13). Programs start in October 2013. In Scouting, kids have fun developing into capable, confident, and well-rounded individuals better prepared for success in the world.

You may obtain further details from 4thtrafalgar@gmail.com or register at through their **website**

Thank you,

