

# Dave Gittings

Town of Oakville  
Town Councillor, Ward 3

Keeping You Informed



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## Council moves Downtown Plan into its next phase

Next steps defined for downtown cultural hub and streetscape

At its July 7th meeting, Town Council was presented with updates on the Downtown Plan project including the Downtown Transportation and Streetscape Study and the Downtown Cultural Hub Study. In reviewing the staff reports, Council gave staff the go ahead for the next phase of the Downtown Plan.

The Downtown Transportation and Streetscape Study staff report outlined three options for Lakeshore Road ranging from keeping the roadway and boulevards the same size as they are today, to adding bike lanes to Lakeshore Road, or creating wider boulevards to accommodate patios and outdoor merchandise space. The study focused on redesigning Lakeshore Road first.

"Lakeshore Road is nearing the end of its service life and will need to be reconstructed in the near future," said Dan Cozzi, director, Engineering and Construction for the town. "Developing a Streetscape Master Plan for all of the downtown streets and a concept plan for Towne Square is included in this next phase of the Downtown Transportation and Streetscape Study."

The preferred Lakeshore Road option will be presented to Council in early 2015 with the potential for construction during the next term of Council.

The Downtown Cultural Hub Study looked at opportunities to create a downtown cultural and performing arts space including: a performing arts centre, art gallery, library, outdoor program space, and indoor cultural space or digital hub. The staff report defined the cultural needs and wants of the community and set parameters around size and possible locations for the cultural facilities. A new outdoor riverside park was also illustrated in the theme drawings. Additional residential and office space also played a role in the cultural hub layout.

Town staff will continue to define the cultural facilities and outdoor programmable spaces and take them through evaluation criteria to present options to Council in 2015.

### Vision

To create an attractive, active, animated and vibrant downtown where people come together to live, meet, work, interact and engage.

It will be the cultural, social and economic heart of our community where citizens and visitors can celebrate and experience the natural setting, heritage, culture and the arts.

### Objectives

To contribute to an economically successful vibrant downtown



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- To create a cultural focus for the town in the downtown area
- To provide facilities and infrastructure that meet existing and future needs
- To protect and enhance the natural environmental and cultural heritage of downtown
- To develop solutions that are financially sustainable

**The evaluation criteria will focus on five themes:**

- Considering economic vibrancy
- Creating a cultural focus
- Developing facilities and infrastructure that meet existing and future needs
- Conserving and enhancing the natural environment and cultural heritage features
- Finding solutions that are financially sustainable

The full report to Council, background reports, and options are available at [Downtown Plan](#).



## The Halton Regional Police Service



The Halton Regional Police Service is looking for feedback on identifying Parks and Trails in the Town of Oakville that require extra police attention.

Members of the Community Mobilization Unit (CMU) will be patrolling the parks and trail systems to increase police visibility and cleanliness of the parks and to reduce the number of crime-related incidents.

Please submit any issues or areas of concern to [Oakville Parks Project](#). This mailbox is not live-monitored 24/7 and does not replace contacting either 9-1-1 for emergencies or 905-825-4747 for immediate police assistance.



## Canada Post Community Mail Box (CMB) Update

Further to my last e-update, Canada Post (CP) is moving forward quickly with their plans to install CMBs in Oakville's older areas. As the placement of many CMBs are on narrow 100 year old streets, the proximity to residents' windows may in some cases be 2 meters. Many other proposed CMB placements selected by CP are adjacent to homes with steep ditches or areas without sidewalks, curbs, or streetlights. According to CP, our residents' survey feedback identified smaller mailbox locations as the preferred choice in our neighbourhoods; instead, many residents have been advised that four or five mail boxes are to be placed directly in front of or adjacent to their homes. Your local Residents Associations and I are in the process of working with CP to suggest possible alternative locations for their consideration that make use of open town space in an effort to lessen the impact of CMBs.



## Are you registered to vote in this Fall's municipal election?

On Monday, October 27, 2014, Oakville residents will be heading out to cast their vote in the municipal election. You can vote in the municipal election if you are a Canadian Citizen, at least 18 years old, a resident of the Town of Oakville, or a non-resident owner or tenant of land in the Town of Oakville or their spouse. Being on the Town of Oakville's voters' list ensures that you will receive a Voter Information Notice that will tell you when and where to vote.

The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) creates a preliminary voters' list that will be provided to municipalities later this summer to be used to create a final voters' list. Residents can take advantage of MPAC's new online Voter Lookup tool to quickly confirm and/or update the accuracy of their information on the preliminary voters' list. To find out if your name is on the preliminary voters' list, or to add your name, go to the online [Voter Lookup](#).

Oakville residents will be electing for the next 4 year term the Halton Regional Chair and the Town of Oakville's Mayor, Regional and Town Councillors, and Public and Separate School Board Trustees. Candidate nominations close on September 12, 2014. Full details may be found at [2014 Municipal Election](#).

## Town accepting applications for election officials



**Oakville  
Municipal  
Election**  
October 27

The Town of Oakville is now accepting applications for assistant deputy returning officers and greeters to work this year's municipal election on October 27, 2014.

Job descriptions and application forms are available at [Elections Employment](#). Completed application forms must be submitted online or returned to the Clerk's department by July 31, 2014. All applicants will be required to complete a

brief written test and attend an interview. Please call 905-845-6601 to make an appointment. For information on the election, visit [2014 Municipal Election](#).



## What is That?

I receive calls on a daily basis from residents asking for information on an incredibly wide range of items.

The following three items are some of the more commonly asked questions since my last e-letter. Have a question? Please let me know!

## Lymantria Dispar or Gypsy Moth (GM)



I have been receiving a large volume of concerns from residents who are worried about the recent appearance of caterpillars that have invaded their properties. According to a town study, Oakville and surrounding municipalities are at the onset of a potential GM outbreak. Based on the multi-year cycle that GM populations historically tend to follow, the current cycle is expected to peak within the next two years.

European GM (*Lymantria dispar*) is an invasive pest from Europe and Asia that primarily feeds on leaves of deciduous hardwood trees during the caterpillar (larval) stage. With a preference for oak trees, a GM caterpillar can eat an average of one square metre of foliage during the larval stage. Severe infestations often lead to tree death. These caterpillars may be picked off of the trunks, the

trees may be treated with TreeAzin, or physical barriers around the trunk can be installed to stop the caterpillars from reaching the tree's canopy. More info can be found at [Invasive Species](#).



## Morrison-Wedgewood Diversion Channel

After much of south Oakville between Chartwell and Maple Grove was developed in the 1950's, residents were subjected to serious flooding as a result of a series of creeks and rivers that flowed down from upper Oakville. Based on a town study in the early 1960's, Conservation Halton constructed the Morrison-Wedgewood Diversion Channel. Opened in 1968, this water diversion channel travels from the area between 8th line and 9th line, westwards to 16 Mile Creek. It is easily seen where it crosses under Trafalgar Road just above Iroquois Shore Road.



## Dumping



I have been receiving a large number of complaints from residents reporting the dumping of yard waste and building materials along town roads and in green spaces.

What starts as a small pile of rubbish often becomes a massive pile of garbage as people 'add' to the pile. We have had several instances of piles becoming so large that the town must send a front end loader and dump truck to remove the rubbish caused by uncaring landscape companies and residents.

If you are able to identify companies or anyone using our green spaces as their waste site, please let me know.



## Save the Dates



**Friday, July 18, 2014, 6 pm - midnight**

Enjoy Oakville's largest retail event of the year!

Featuring food, live music, entertainment and lots of community spirit. With over 6 blocks of family-friendly entertainment and incredible deals available right through to midnight, this is a great street fest for the whole family!

Shop, dine and enjoy all that downtown Oakville has to offer.

**Sunday, July 27, 10 am – 4 pm**

The Town of Oakville and Tim Hortons are proud to present the first-ever Oakville Children's Festival. Coronation Park will be transformed into an arts and culture playground for kids of all ages, with free live performances and fun events. Confirmed performers include: Sharon, Bram & Friends; Sheesham & Lotus; Jack Grunsky; and Corpus – Les moutons. There will also be

interactive building and art activities, yoga and dance lessons, reptile, magic and science shows, kids' play zone and obstacle course, face painting, food vendors, and more! The aim of the Oakville Children's Festival is to introduce children to arts and culture in an engaging and interactive way. Face painters, balloon artists, characters and storytellers are sure to capture the curiosity of young minds, while the interactive activities will encourage participation and discovery.



**Welcome to the 2014 TD Downtown Oakville Jazz Festival,**

**22nd edition on August 8th and 9th!**

The Downtown BIA is excited to present some of the finest artists and legends from all the roots and branches of Jazz including, Acid, Latin, Dixieland, Smooth, World Music, Ragtime, Swing, Blues, Fusion and much more. You will find music appealing to every member of the family, with plenty of opportunities to tap your feet and move to the vibe. Remember, the next time you are in Downtown Oakville, stop and thank the store owners, restaurant owners, and services that present this free event to you, for the love of music outdoors! For more info, visit [Downtown Oakville Jazz Festival](#).





Our family has fostered ten dogs in training through Dog Guides. We have experienced the incredible difference that these partners make in their clients' lives. This is a picture of our 11th charge, Yuri, who will be a member of our family for the next 10 months at which time he will be recalled for formal training. In an effort to recognize the efforts of all service dogs, Oakville will be proclaiming the week of August 3–9 [International Assistance Dog Week](#) and will reaffirm Oakville's commitment to respect, and celebrate and recognize assistance dogs and their partners.

Thank you,

  
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