

# Westlife

SPRING/SUMMER 2021 COMMUNITY LIFE IN WEST ROUGE



The RNUP Issue

Mowat Media Stars

Bio-Gas Plant Cancelled

Zoo Update



# RavineAuto.com

*"Come Say Hi to Rob Tucker  
& his team at Ravine Park Plaza"*

416-281-1334



*Make an appointment for the  
wheel alignment on your vehicles*



Tire Sales, Servicing, Repairs,  
& Replacements on site.

**GENERAL TIRE** 



**Continental** 

**BRIDGESTONE**

We Carry These Brands & Many More.

## Ravine Auto Repair Centre

**Keep Your Family Safe with a**

Spring / Summer Special Includes:



Oil & Filter change with multi-point inspection  
Visual brake inspection & tire rotation, if required  
Check steering and suspension  
Test battery & charging system  
Test cooling system operation  
Check fluid levels/condition  
Check lighting and tire pressures  
Road test Environmental fee applies

**\$54**.95+tax



## WRCA COMMITTEE REPORTS

33 Membership Report

## OUR LOCAL REPRESENTATION

- 8 Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP
- 12 Jennifer McKelvie, Toronto City Councillor
- 14 Gary Anandasangaree, MP
- 16 Anu Sriskandarajah, TDSB Trustee

## CLUBS AND COMMUNITY

- 22 The Royal Canadian Legion
- 25 St Dunstan's Crafties & COVID
- 30 Winners of the 2020 Photo Contest
- 31 West Rouge Sports & Recreation Association
- 51 Hidden Gems in West Rouge
- 57 Letters to the Publisher

## FEATURES & ARTICLES

- 18 Meet Your New Neighbours
- 19 Mowat Media Stars
- 23 Local Literature
- 26 Crime Prevention & Safety
- 27 Coronation Organics Withdraws Proposal
- 29 From The Archives
- 37 Rouge National Urban Park Update
- 32 The Zoo Report
- 44 WRCA Letter of Support
- 50 Our New Neighbourhood
- 52 From The Publisher
- 54 Pond Hockey...
- 60 Marketing Minutes

## IN EVERY ISSUE

- 5 President's Message
- 10 From the New Publisher
- 24 Pets Corner
- 62 Board of Directors
- 63 Community Directory
- 66 Index to Advertisers

## CREDITS

**PUBLISHER**  
Ken Kuzmich

**EDITOR**  
Diane Sherlock

**ART DIRECTOR**  
adarmygroup.com

**MARKETING CONSULTANT**  
Paul Cookson

**CIRCULATION**  
Fiona Wissborn  
Ralph Wissborn

**ADVERTISING DIRECTOR**  
Gita Viswanathan

**WEBMASTER**  
Kevin Narraway

**SIGNBOARD**  
Kevin Narraway

## WRITE FOR US! SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE

Please submit your article by e-mail to:  
Rose Morra  
EMAIL [wrlpublisher@gmail.com](mailto:wrlpublisher@gmail.com)

### DEADLINE FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

FALL/WINTER 2021 JULY 31, 2021  
SPRING/SUMMER 2022 JANUARY 31, 2022

West Rouge Life is published two times a year and delivered to every house in the community by volunteer West Rouge residents. We invite your letters and comments about material in this issue, or on any other matter of interest to West Rouge residents.

## ADVERTISE IN WEST ROUGE LIFE

To advertise in West Rouge Life, please contact:  
Gita Viswanathan, Advertising Director  
TEL 647-838-4447  
EMAIL [gitasv7@gmail.com](mailto:gitasv7@gmail.com)

### ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINES

FALL/WINTER 2021 JULY 31, 2021  
SPRING/SUMMER 2022 JANUARY 31, 2022

The views and opinions expressed may not necessarily be those of the West Rouge Community Association. The Association will not assume responsibility for malicious or libelous content. We assume no responsibility for the return or safety of unsolicited material. Please direct any editorial correspondence to the Publisher.

This magazine is produced by community volunteers.

## ON THE COVER

VOL.21 NO.1  
SPRING/SUMMER  
2021

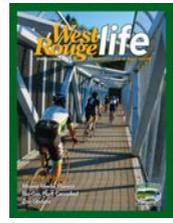


Photo Credit:  
Colin Winn  
[colinwinnphotos.com](http://colinwinnphotos.com)

# YOUR LOCAL BBQ STORE

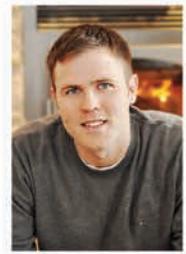


BBQ ACCESSORIES | OUTDOOR FIREPLACES | FIRE TABLES | PATIO HEATERS



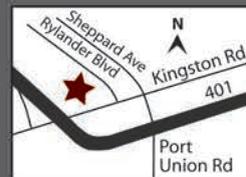
PRO500

Classic Fireplace has been providing quality products and reliable service to the West Rouge community for over 20 years. Family owned and operated, we look forward to creating your family's outdoor grilling and living oasis, right in your own backyard!



Josh Malcolm,  
Owner

(416) 283-2783  
[www.classicfireplace.ca](http://www.classicfireplace.ca)  
Check website for hours



Abbey Lane Plaza  
65 Rylander Blvd.  
(416) 283-2783

# President's Message

Kathi Loughran



Please feel free to contact me:  
loughrank@hotmail.com

I'm sure everyone can agree that it's been a tough winter. Despite the changing governmental restrictions which have impacted our lives, the dedication of our amazing community volunteers and our community spirit here in West Rouge have remained constant.

If you or a loved one has been struggling to maintain positive mental health, it's okay to not be okay. The pandemic has caused profound changes to our daily lives and many people have experienced isolation, financial uncertainty, and other hardships. There are supports available. The City of Toronto has created a website to make it easier to locate mental health resources and supports. Refer to the website for more information at [www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-protect-yourself-others/covid-19-mental-health-resources/](http://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-protect-yourself-others/covid-19-mental-health-resources/).

The past year has been challenging for small businesses. Several of the small business owners in our community advertise in West Rouge Life magazine. We thank them profusely for their continued support in spite of the pandemic. The advertisements pay for the cost of this publication, which is one of the tools the West Rouge Community Association (WRCA) uses to keep the community informed. Please continue to do what you can to support local small businesses.

While the West Rouge Sports and Recreation Association has not been able to host in-person events, they have found creative ways to encourage community members to have some fun. Their initiatives have included photo contests, a family Halloween costume contest, and a tallest snowman contest. Hopefully in-person events will be able to resume later this year.

Members of WRCA's Board of Directors have had ongoing conversations with Parks Canada, Friends of the Rouge National Urban Park, and residents, regarding the proposed Rouge Beach Improvements Project. There are opposing views about Parks Canada's plans to build a boardwalk that will connect social trails between Rouge Beach and Glen Rouge Campground.

Parks Canada has extended the public consultation period for the Rouge Beach Improvements Project until May 1, 2021. For more information on Parks Canada's plans and to provide feedback, visit the Rouge National Urban Park website at [www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/on/rouge/visit/projets-projects/plage-beach/info](http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/on/rouge/visit/projets-projects/plage-beach/info).

Joint advocacy efforts by WRCA, other local community groups, elected officials, and residents has resulted in the applications for the anaerobic digestion/biogas creation facility that was proposed for 633 Coronation Drive, Scarborough, to be withdrawn by the proponent, Coronation Organics. This is an incredibly positive outcome for Southeast Scarborough and is a testament to the power of collaboration and activism.

The City of Toronto continues to move forward with plans to widen Port Union Road to four lanes. Councillor McKelvie shared that the next step in preparing for this important infrastructure upgrade involves the completion of utility locates. A public information session will be held this spring and construction timelines will be communicated at that time.

As the nicer weather approaches, the West Rouge Community Association will be focusing our efforts on our membership campaign for 2021. You will see lawn signs around the neighbourhood, and if provincial regulations allow, our volunteer street captains may be coming to your door to request that you purchase a \$15 membership for your household.

Membership fees support WRCA's objectives including advocacy and event sponsorship. The fees collected are invested directly in our community. You can purchase or renew your WRCA membership online via PayPal, or you can mail in or drop off a cheque at the West Rouge Community Centre. For more details, refer to our website at [www.westrouge.org/membership](http://www.westrouge.org/membership). Thank you in advance for your support.

**ACCEPTING  
NEW  
PATIENTS**

**BY THE LAKE DENTAL**  
OVER 10 YEARS CARING FOR  
YOUR HEALTH AND YOUR SMILE



CONCIERGE  
EXPERIENCE



DIRECT BILLING TO  
BENEFIT PROVIDER



FULL SERVICE  
FAMILY CARE



CUTTING-EDGE  
TECHNOLOGY

Braces (Adults and Kids) • Invisalign® • Cosmetic Dentistry • Kids Dentistry  
Bad Breath Clinic • Silver Diamine Fluoride • Laughing Gas • Wisdom Teeth  
Sports/Mouth Guards • Crowns/Bridges • Root Canals • Oral Cancer Screening  
Therapeutic BOTOX® • Sleep Apnea Appliances • Implants • And much more!

**CALL TODAY TO BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT,  
AND ENJOY A NEW DENTAL OFFICE CONCEPT!**



**HIGHLAND CREEK 416-284-8282**  
371 Old Kingston Rd., Unit 4

**AJAX 905-428-2111**  
255 Salem Rd., Unit 7

[www.bythelakedental.com](http://www.bythelakedental.com)



To advertise with us, contact Gita  
**647-838-4447**  
[gitasv7@gmail.com](mailto:gitasv7@gmail.com)

**FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS...**

**CALL THE REALTOR YOU CAN TRUST  
to help sell your home for top Dollars**

*Our Service Includes...*

- FREE Home Staging
- FREE Professional Photography  
Virtual tour and brochure
- FREE Advertising in Newspapers
- FREE Advertising in Local Area  
"Just Listed" Cards
- FREE Social Media Exposure  
YOUTUBE | GOOGLE | KIJJI | CRAIGSLIST



**FREE Home Evaluation**



**HomeLife Today**  
Realty Ltd., Brokerage\*  
Off. 416-298-3200



**Nadia Negah** Sales Representative  
**416-886-5069**

[Nadia.Negah@hotmail.com](mailto:Nadia.Negah@hotmail.com)

\*INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

\*NOT INTENDED TO SOLICIT BUYER AND SELLERS, WHO ARE UNDER CONTRACT WITH ANY OTHER REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE





MORE THAN *JUST* A LISTING  
*Joanne Bolte*  
Sales Representative

**TOP 5% IN CANADA**

**A STRONG TRACK RECORD IN GETTING  
“TOP DOLLAR” FOR MY CLIENTS!**

**I OFFER YOU...**

- **My Proven Experience** built on personal trademarks of hard work, dedication, and unwavering perseverance.
- The **Knowledge** to simplify the process with a vast suite of **Resources** available to help alleviate any anxiety involved with selling your home.
- The **Expertise** and **Patience** to ensure you get top dollar for your home and the service that you deserve.

With more than 30 years’ experience in customer service, I know the importance of trust and honesty in any relationship. Let my energy, experience, and passion for results work for you!



Direct: 416-722-8416 | [www.JoanneBolte.ca](http://www.JoanneBolte.ca)  
Office: 416-284-4751 | [joannep@rogers.com](mailto:joannep@rogers.com)



*Not intended to solicit those already under contract*

# Vijay Thanigasalam

MPP Scarborough–Rouge Park



105-8130 Sheppard Ave. East, Scarborough, ON  
Website: [vijaythani.ca](http://vijaythani.ca) • Twitter: [vijaythani](https://twitter.com/vijaythani)  
416.283.8448 • [vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org](mailto:vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org)

Dear West Rouge Community,

I wanted to share with you all a very important update.

On February 17, 2021, the proponent notified the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks of their wish to withdraw their Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) of the proposed Coronation Organics Processing Centre and Anaerobic Digester. As a result of the gaps in municipal zoning approvals, the Ministry has stated that the proponent must work with the City of Toronto to address the zoning challenges before continuing with an ECA application. I had requested the proponent to provide the approval of local regulatory requirements, primarily municipal zoning and by-laws approved by the City of Toronto.

On November 25, 2020, the Ministry sent a letter to the proponent detailing the deficiencies in the application.

On November 27, 2020, the proponent advised the Ministry that they will not withdraw their application. The proponent also indicated that they were working with the City to address the zoning issue and public concerns with traffic.

On February 17, 2021, the proponent notified the Ministry of their wish to withdraw their Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) applications, stating they will be working with the City of Toronto on the zoning challenges before continuing with an ECA application.

On February 19, 2021, the Ministry officially closed the file.

If the proponent wishes to pursue the original proposal in the future, a new application with all required supporting information must be submitted. The Ministry will also ensure that any proposal, similar or revised, involves sufficient consultation with the public and members of the community, and that any concerns raised through the consultation are considered as part of the review of the applications.

Since last March, my office and I have been fighting to ensure that the voices of my constituents are heard. Constituents asked for an extension of the online consultation on the Environmental Registry and my office was able to get this extension for additional months allowing enough time for constituents to make their voices heard.

I want to thank all the residents and community organizations who immediately approached me with their concerns on this project. I have, and always will, stand with the residents of Scarborough-Rouge Park.

I once again want to thank all the residents for working with my office and educating residents through various campaigns to address the concerns regarding the proposed Coronation Organics Processing Centre and Anaerobic Digester. I encourage residents to continue to raise your concerns to the City about the zoning issues that exist in the Coronation Drive neighbourhood, so that applications like these are not a concern to the residents in the future.

I will continue to work with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to fight for the residents of Scarborough-Rouge Park and present my residents with up-to-date information.

If you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org](mailto:vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vijay T." with a stylized flourish.

Vijay Thanigasalam  
MPP, Scarborough-Rouge Park

Additional Resources:  
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1444>



# VIJAY THANIGASALAM

MPP, Scarborough-Rouge Park

**CONSTITUENCY OFFICE** | 8130 Sheppard Ave. East, Unit 105, Scarborough, Ontario M1B 3W3  
 (416) 283-8448 [vijay.thanigasalamco@pc.ola.org](mailto:vijay.thanigasalamco@pc.ola.org)

## HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

Please contact my office at (416) 283-8448 or [vijay.thanigasalamco@pc.ola.org](mailto:vijay.thanigasalamco@pc.ola.org)

If you need help with any provincial matters such as:

- Marriage, Birth, or Death Certificates
- Family Responsibility Office
- Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)
- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Driver's Licenses, Health Cards, or Photo ID Cards
- Health Care Issues
- Education Issues
- Senior Services

### Important Numbers:

Enbridge	1-877-362-8000
Grants Ontario	416-325-6691
Justice Ontario	1-866-252-0104
Service Ontario	416-326-1234
ODSP/Ontario Works	416-397-1000
FRO	416-326-1818
OHIP	416-314-5518
Toronto City Services	311
Toronto Hydro	416-542-8000
WSIB	416-344-1000



# HELP US HELP THEM

visit us @ [citystreetoutreach.com](http://citystreetoutreach.com)

## WEST ROUGE



### COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WE ARE VOLUNTEERS who take time out of our day to make life in West Rouge better for everyone in the community.

#### OUR PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS ARE:

- to distribute information of interest to the community,
- to promote and encourage participation in civic and community life, and
- to monitor and act on those issues before our governments of concern to residents.

The West Rouge Community Association relies on your support. Please contact your street captain or any WRCA Board member to learn more and to become a member!

# From the New Publisher

Rose Morra



I hope you have all stayed safe and well during these trying and unusual times. I am pleased to introduce myself as the new publisher for the West Rouge Life magazine. I have lived, explored and gained familiarity within West Rouge and our surrounding communities for over 30 years. My experience includes being part of various community boards and committees. I trust my passion to support community issues and events, along with demonstrating community spirit, will gain reward for all.

After joining the West Rouge Community Association Board over a year ago, I am delighted to be part of a dynamic, caring group, observing their strong partnership within West Rouge and our surrounding communities. There is no denying from this group that there are real issues out there, and all of the members hold the desire and aim to better our community.

It makes me feel proud to be a West Rouger!

Rose Morra

## **GOODBYE WEST ROUGE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS,**

After 5 years and ten editions of West Rouge Life, I have decided to hang up my pen. I believe that I have taken this magazine as far as I can take it and it's time for new blood. Rose Morra will do an excellent job. I came into this job wanting to exercise the right side of my brain and I did just that.

West Rouge Life was already a great magazine when I came on board. I feel proud that we were able to get more advertisers (thanks to our advertising director Gita Viswanathan), make it a little more financially self-sufficient, go from black and white to 100% colour, and improve the content. Although we can diverge

from this from time to time (like I did in my "from the publisher" article in this issue), it is important that the content always has a local angle. Over time, we have removed content that wasn't "local" and this is the thing I am most proud of. The rule should always be that if an article for WRL is understood in both West Rouge and Oakville (or anywhere outside our community), it should not be in the magazine.

These improvements could not have happened without a great team supporting the magazine, especially all the writers who submit content. I would like to thank the WRCA Board who provided incredible support for West Rouge Life.

I am merely a coordinator of the magazine. The real work-horses are our community of writers and photographers who provide 90% of the content. West Rouge Life is different from WRCA in that it is a business that serves our advertisers. I would like to thank our advertisers for their continued support and Gita Viswanathan who does a marvelous job of running the business-side of the magazine. I hate editing things, especially my own articles, and WRL could not get published without the editing talents of Diane Sherlock – thanks for putting a good system in place. Finally, Paul Cookson and Angus Wu from our local Ad Army advertising, web design, and graphics agency do all the work behind the scenes, to layout the magazine, making sure it looks good. Paul provides great added-value as a consultant to me on various magazine issues. Thank you, Team, for your support.

I am not going anywhere, as I will be in the background helping Rose get up to speed over the next couple of issues and maybe a bit beyond that.

Ken Kuzmich

# Quality childcare in the heart of West Rouge

- Full-time and part-time programs (18 months-3.5 years)
- Before and after school (4-12 years)
- School bus service to 6 local schools
- 'How Does Learning Happen?' curriculum
- Spacious fenced outdoor play areas
- Professionally catered meals



Call for details about Summer Programs

🏠 5-111 Island Road

✉ charlottetown@rogers.com

☎ (416) 724-0147

🌐 charlottetownblvdchildcare.com



Charlottetown Childcare Centre

## Your West Rouge Music Place

Piano Lessons  
Adult/Teen Piano  
Children's Group Piano

Online for  
2020-2021



647-453-6953

libertymusicstudio@gmail.com

www.libertymusicstudio.com

# Jennifer McKelvie

## Toronto City Councillor



Please feel free to contact me:

416.338.3771 • councillor\_mckelvie@toronto.ca

In January, I was delighted to be appointed Chair of the City's Infrastructure and Environment Committee by Mayor John Tory, along with an appointment to Mayor Tory's Executive Committee. These two new Committee responsibilities are in addition to my role as Chair of both Scarborough Community Council and the Toronto French Language Advisory Committee. I also serve as a member of the Budget Committee, Toronto Transit Commission Board and the Toronto Zoo Board.

Serving in these capacities will help deliver on my priorities to invest in Scarborough transit, our environment and community safety. Below is a snapshot of some of the projects we can expect in the West Rouge this year. To stay up to date on these projects and receive my newsletter, please e-mail councillor\_mckelvie@toronto.ca.

### INVESTING IN COMMUNITY SAFETY

Scarborough – Rouge Park is included in a three-year pilot to implement an alternative model of community crisis response, without the presence or intervention of the police. The pilot will test and evaluate a new response approach where two crisis workers from community agencies respond to calls together. This pilot serves as a first step towards improving our response to mental health crises.

The following measures will be implemented in 2021 to improve local road safety on East Avenue. William G. Davis Junior Public School will have new safety measures implemented as part of Vision Zero, including a permanent "watch your speed" digital sign, flashing beacons and a "school zone" stencil on the pavement. In addition, East Avenue will receive two new stop-signs at Golders Green Avenue and Broadbridge Drive. I would like to thank the WRCA and William G. Davis JPS Parent Teacher's Association for their local advocacy in support of these measures.

### INVESTING IN LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Work is progressing on the Port Union Road widening.

City staff are completing the detailed design and we will be coordinating a public information session this spring to share the final design and construction timelines.

Transportation Services has two local road resurfacings planned this year, on Greybeaver Trail from Bornholm Drive to Blueking Crescent and on Bornholm Drive from Ridgewood Road to Friendship Avenue. Residents will receive a construction notice in advance of the work beginning this spring.

### INVESTING IN PUBLIC TRANSIT

In February, Toronto City Council committed \$1.238 billion towards the Eglinton East Light Rail Transit (EELRT) project. This funding means we are one step closer to securing the \$4.2 billion needed to deliver this project for Scarborough. The EELRT would extend the Eglinton Crosstown LRT by 15 km from Kennedy Station through the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) to Malvern, with up to 21 stops and three connections to GO Transit. This reallocation of funds is possible as the provincial government has committed to fund and build a 3-stop Scarborough subway, without contribution from the City of Toronto.

Preparation for the Automated Shuttle pilot in West Rouge also continues. Local Motors and Pacific Western Transportation have been selected as vendors to deliver this shuttle. The shuttle will be 3D-printed, electric and self-driving. It will feature accessible seating for eight passengers and will have a customer representative on board at all times to monitor vehicle performance, assist users and answer questions about the pilot. I look forward to riding this innovative micro-transit pilot in our neighbourhood soon.

### INVESTING IN PARKS

Construction at the Bob Loftson Playground is planned to begin this spring. Thank you to the 700 respondents of the survey last year. The new playground will include new play structures, accessible features and additional seating.



## For now, let's daydream...

Don't curb your wanderlust, now is the time to daydream.

Our love of the world unites us, now more than ever.

We are all travelers. We are all dreamers.

We are all in this together.

**#StrongerTogether**

**The best memories are yet to come.**



**(416) 287 3387**

91 Rylander Boulevard, Unit 17  
Scarborough ON

[www.ExpediaCruises.ca/Scarborough](http://www.ExpediaCruises.ca/Scarborough)

TICO Registration No: 50025711

We will release the design in our e-news in the spring and I look forward to cutting the ribbon with you this year.

Thank you to the engaged residents that have reached out to us about litter and parking issues in Rouge Park. Our office conveyed your concerns to Parks Canada and we are continuing to work with them to address illegal parking concerns this year. Last year, we asked Transportation Services to report back this spring to Scarborough Community Council on improvements that can be made to address illegal parking concerns on our local roads.

Finally, thank you to those who have expressed interest in joining Scarborough – Rouge Park's Dog Owners Association. Forming an association is the first step to explore potential locations as we work towards building an additional dog off-leash area in our community, in the next few years.

### **WE'RE HERE TO WORK FOR YOU.**

For local updates, please sign up for my weekly e-newsletter at [www.jennifermckelvie.ca](http://www.jennifermckelvie.ca). You can also

follow me on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter, via my handle @McKelvieWard25. My office continues to serve our residents. Please email me at [councillor\\_mckelvie@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_mckelvie@toronto.ca).



*I had the opportunity to join MPP Andrea Khanjin, Parliamentary Assistant to the MECP (Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks) on TVOntario's Political Blind Date. It was wonderful to take her canoeing in the Rouge National Urban Park. You can view the episode at [www.tvo.org/programs/political-blind-date](http://www.tvo.org/programs/political-blind-date).*

# Gary Anandasangaree

## MP Scarborough-Rouge Park



3600 Ellesmere Rd, Unit 3, Scarborough, ON  
416.283.1414 • gary.anand@parl.gc.ca

Dear West Rouge,

With the arrival of Spring, our continued efforts to follow public health measures have helped ensure the continued decline of COVID-19 cases in our community.

However, without the enormous sacrifices of our brave women and men on the front lines, this would not have been possible.

To the healthcare workers who cared for the sick; grocery store workers who kept the shelves stocked; teachers and childcare workers who have comforted our children; volunteers who raised their hand to help those in need; thank you for putting the interests of your neighbours, your community, and your country, ahead of your own.

### VACCINE UPDATE

The Government of Canada worked hard to secure one of the most diverse vaccine portfolios in the world. With the approval of Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, and Johnson & Johnson, we can be assured that all Canadians who want a vaccine will get one by September 2021.

But until all Canadians receive a vaccine, we must continue to follow the advice of local health authorities. There is, undoubtedly, light at the end of the tunnel; but we all must continue doing our part to ensure that everyone gets there together.

### NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR LONG-TERM CARE

Last year, the West Rouge community was heartbroken to learn of the devastating impact of COVID-19 at the Altamont Care Community. From the outset of this pandemic, COVID-19 has torn mercilessly through our long-term care facilities, and taken the lives of thousands of our parents, grandparents, neighbours, and friends.

It has become increasingly clear that the long-term care system in Ontario, and across Canada, is broken.

Without significant reforms capable of addressing the inherent failures of these facilities, we will not cure the long-term care crisis.

Vaccinations will protect residents from COVID-19, but they will not protect residents against irregular staffing levels, insufficient hours of direct care, poor incident management planning, or facilities which do not keep up with the changing needs of residents.

Following the release of the Canadian Armed Forces report on long-term care, I have repeatedly called upon the Government of Ontario, and our provincial and territorial partners across the country to join the federal government and establish national standards of care.

There is no acceptable reason why long-term care residents in British Columbia are held to a higher standard of care than those in Ontario.

National standards will enshrine the decency our most vulnerable deserve.

### INVESTING IN CANADA

To date, the federal government has spent more than 8 of every 10 dollars in Canada to fight COVID-19.

These investments have ensured families can keep food on their tables, look after their loved ones in need of care, keep small businesses solvent, and ensure our economy is ready to come roaring back.

Our government remains committed to supporting Canadians during, and following this pandemic, but we cannot envision the way forward alone.

Listening closely to Canadians, and ensuring they have a say in the way we shape the future of our country, is essential to our collective prosperity.

Earlier this year, our office conducted an open consultation with over 50 Scarborough community organizations in advance of the 2021 federal budget. The four priority areas identified - transit, affordable housing, our environment, and building a more inclusive Canada - will help create jobs, protect our beloved greenspace, and create a more progressive and

# GARY ANANDASANGAREE, MP

SCARBOROUGH-ROUGE PARK



*"During the COVID-19 pandemic, my team and I, as always, are here to assist you with all federal issues. Whether it is COVID-19 related federal supports or other inquiries, we are here for you."*

## Constituency Office

3-3600 Ellesmere Road, Scarborough, ON M1C4Y8

**416.283.1414**

**GARY.ANAND@PARL.GC.CA**

resilient country for everyone.

As your Member of Parliament, I will continue advocating for responsible, sustained investment in each of these four vital areas, as our government builds Canada back better.

### CONNECT WITH US

Until it is safe to meet in-person, my team will continue to provide virtual support to the residents of

Scarborough - Rouge Park.

If you need assistance with any federal services, please do not hesitate to contact us at (416) 283-1414 or via email at Gary.Anand@parl.gc.ca.

Yours very truly,

Gary Anandasangaree



**Steve Donaldson**  
**PROFESSIONAL PAINTING**

Expert wall or ceiling repair  
Baseboard -Window &  
Door Casing Installed

Call Steve at 416-209-6311  
References Available!

**HEDGEHOG LANDSCAPING**

HEDGING AND EDGING IS OUR SPECIALTY

Phone: 416-986-9840  
HomeoftheHedgehog@gmail.com  
Scarborough, Ontario



# Anu Sriskandarajah

TDSB School Trustee - Ward 22,  
Scarborough-Rouge Park



Please feel free to contact me:

416.395.8787 • [anu.sriskandarajah@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:anu.sriskandarajah@tdsb.on.ca)

## STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

At the TDSB, busing service may be provided for elementary students (K-5) residing 1.6 km or more from their designated school. TTC tickets may be provided for middle school students (grades 6-8) residing 3.2 km or more from their designated school. The health and safety of students is our top priority, and the Toronto Student Transportation Group (TSTG), working with school bus operators, has put a number of COVID-19 protocols and precautions in place to help ensure the safety of students and drivers on the bus. Here are some resources for more information:

- For information regarding COVID-19 safety protocols and precautions, visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Return-to-School/Operations/Transportation>.
- To access information specific to your child's transportation, including route number, stop location, times and bus company contact details, visit <https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

Or you can contact the Toronto Student Transportation Group at 416-394-4287 or [transportation@torontoschoolbus.org](mailto:transportation@torontoschoolbus.org).

For delay notifications, visit <https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Cancellations.aspx>.

- Please review the Responsibilities and Safety sections of our website with your child <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Kindergarten/Transportation>.

Please note that the TDSB's Empty Seat Policy (PR504) has been put on hold for the 2020-21 school year to help promote physical distancing on school busses, as well as to help the TSTG and bus operators effectively plan bus routes and seating arrangements in line with the COVID-19 health and safety precautions. <http://ppf.tdsb.on.ca/uploads/files/live/101/276.pdf>

## LIVE WEBCAST OF MEETINGS

The Toronto District School Board is committed to developing opportunities for our wider school community to connect and engage in conversations about education issues. Check out the Live Webcast of Meetings (<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Live-Webcast-of-Meetings>) webpage to view upcoming regular board meetings and standing committee meetings that are live broadcasted to the public. These meetings are also recorded and uploaded to Webcast Archives (<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Live-Webcast-of-Meetings/Webcast-Archives>).

## TDSB CONNECTS APP NOW AVAILABLE!

TDSB has launched a new online app to help high school students stay connected and organized.

Phase 1 is designed with secondary students in mind, helping them stay organized with school work, see their daily school calendar and stay in touch with their school community. By logging in with their TDSB school ID, their timetable is automatically populated allowing them to easily add notes, goals and details to each course.

Schools can also share announcements, updates, local calendars and more to help students stay connected and informed.

Subsequent phases include features such as the student safety line, notifications and opportunities to share your voice, and also a version for elementary students and families.

The TDSB Connects App supports our commitment to be more digitally-friendly, reduce paper and find new and engaging ways to connect with students to support their success.

Download the app now at the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store.

**FRAMING DAMES** ART CLASSES  
ART GALLERY

*Open By Appointment*

To book email  
clhawthorn97@gmail.com

**R.C. ROSS  
GAS SERVICES**

*Specializing in ALL Your Natural Gas Equipment*

SALES • INSTALLATIONS, EMERGENCY SERVICE  
MAINTENANCE CLEANINGS • INSPECTIONS

- Gas Furnaces
- Gas Fireplaces
- Air Conditioning
- Pool Heaters
- Gas Lines
- Humidifiers
- Water Heaters
- Chimney Liners
- BBQs

Contact  
**Bill Waugh**  
416-283-8557  
24HR TEL

REASONABLE RATES, FAST & EFFICIENT SERVICE!  
LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED

SEDANS & EXECUTIVE LIMOUSINES

ANY DESTINATION, ANY OCCASION, ANY TIME!

**Airlift**  
Limousine SERVICE LTD

Download on the App Store  
Airlift Limo App

TORONTO EAST  
416.222.2525

TORONTO WEST  
905.624.5438

TORONTO NORTH  
905.707.6611

TOLL FREE  
1.800.368.LIFT(5438)

Limo@AirLiftLimo.com  
www.AirLiftLimo.com

24 HR. SERVICE  
FREE WAKE UP CALLS  
ALL ACCOUNTS ACCEPTED

MasterCard VISA

**NAILS for You**

Professional Nail Care & Enhancements, Waxing

Appointment & Walk-ins Welcome

11-735 Markland St.  
Markham, ON, L6C 0G6

(905)887-0227

MasterCard VISA

**ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT SELLING OR BUYING YOUR HOUSE?**

CALL ME FOR A FREE HOME EVALUATION!

**Eric Shnaider**  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

647.300.3742  
eric.shnaider@exprealty.com  
ericshnaider.ca

Get a reliable, honest and experienced real estate expert on your side!

**exp**  
REALTY BROKERAGE

**Your Neighbourhood Paint Store!**

**Sherwin-Williams Paints**  
Come visit us at **6 Rylander Blvd.**  
Port Union/Kingston Rd.  
Located in the Starbucks plaza

Call us at  
**416.283.7676**  
for all your paint inquiries

**SHERWIN WILLIAMS.**

# Meet Your New Neighbours

By Bob Hester | Photo: Paul James



Blue Jay

Spring is here and, as happens every year, West Rouge is welcoming a large number of new neighbours who plan to settle down among us and raise their families. Many were with us last year and have spent the past winter to the south. Others have spent the winter here but were seen far less often than they will be in spring and summer. What follows are brief introductions to some of our new neighbours.

The Northern Cardinal is a year-round resident of West Rouge. The bright red male cardinals begin singing on the first warm days in spring, often as early as late February. A nest is built in shrubbery

or a small tree 2 to 3 metres above the ground and contains 3 or 4 eggs that hatch in 12 to 13 days. We have had cardinals nest in the shrubs in front of our house many times.

When the weather warms up, the orange-breasted American Robins can be seen again on our lawns foraging for earthworms. Some of them have been here all winter but rarely seen, eating fruits to survive; most are returning from the south. The songs of the males on their breeding territories are a sure sign that spring has arrived. The nest location can be in a tree

or shrub about 3 metres above the ground, or even in a location on your house. Our neighbours once hosted a robin's nest on the light above their garage door. The 4 eggs per nest hatch in 13 to 16 days. A pair of robins raises more than one brood of young each year.

Northern Cardinal



With the onset of winter, Blue Jays shift south a few hundred kilometres, so the birds that we see in summer are not the ones that we see in winter. A Blue Jay pair build their nest in an evergreen tree 3 to 10 metres above the ground, sometimes close to buildings. There are typically 4 to 6 eggs that hatch after 17 to 18 days.

The European Starling, a non-native as its name suggests, is one of our most common breeding birds in West Rouge. Most migrate south in fall, but some stay here for the winter in small flocks. The starling has been very successful since it was introduced by displacing native birds that nest in tree cavities and nest boxes. A starling nest contains 4 to 6 eggs that hatch in 11 to 14 days.

Baltimore Orioles spend the winter in the southern United States or Mexico, returning to us in mid-spring. The male oriole has distinctive orange and black plumage. The oriole pair construct a bag-like nest hanging from a branch high in a tree. The nest can be up to 15 centimetres deep, with an entrance at the top. The 4 to 6 eggs hatch in 12 to 15 days. A few years ago, there was an oriole nest suspended from a branch overhanging Rouge Hills Drive.

This article provides brief introductions to only a few of the birds that raise their families in our neighbourhood each spring. Among the many others, the most common are Red-Winged Blackbirds, Black-Capped Chickadees, House Sparrows (a non-native), Mourning Doves, Northern Flickers and Common Grackles.

Pictures of all these birds and recordings of their calls can easily be found by searching the bird's name on the internet.

The nesting of birds in our neighbourhood provides an excellent opportunity to teach kids about the nature that surrounds them. How many of these new neighbours can you find?

# Mowat Media Stars

By Margaret Todoroska

*Margaret Todoroska is a grade 12 student at Sir Oliver Mowat, a Leafs fan, a reader and an aspiring writer. She has played a lead role on Mowat's Wellness team for years and is responsible for many great initiatives at the school. She is creative, bold and comfortable leading others. At the moment she is a member of MUV (Mowat's United Voices), a cultural council at the school, and is in the process of helping to launch a new digital student newspaper.*

## ADAM WYLDE

It's 4 a.m. and Adam Wylde is quickly getting dressed while scarfing down some breakfast. Wylde pulls out his laptop and listens to all the newest music that dropped after midnight while jotting down his opinions. He turns on the news to see what has happened in the world since reading a bedtime story to his daughter last night and rushes off to work. When the clock strikes 6 a.m., it is showtime. Broadcasting live from the iconic 299 Queen Street West, Wylde says good morning to Toronto and checks in with TJ, Jax, and his producer Jesse.

If you are a radio listener, you are probably very familiar with the name Adam Wylde. Wylde is a radio host on the morning show at Toronto's number one hit music station, as well as a hockey podcaster. He has dedicated his life to being a positive voice for Torontonians, as they drive to work or drink their morning Double Double.

What you may not know about Wylde, is that he was raised in the West Rouge area and is a Sir Oliver Mowat alumni. I had the pleasure of interviewing Adam Wylde about his experience growing up in West Rouge and his career path.

According to Wylde, "The West Rouge area was perfect for having everything at your doorstep; it was a great place to grow up." Wylde was a very active student at Mowat. He said that "Mowat gave him the opportunity to become whatever he wanted to be," so he used this opportunity to try out as many things as possible. He participated in sports, plays, and concerts, but found his passion on stage. With the help of his drama teacher Ms. Kish, Wylde and his castmates performed in a play that got into the third tier of the Sears Drama Festival competition and led them to perform in Ottawa. Ms. Kish "pushed and pushed us to be great. In grade nine and ten you do not want to be pushed to do anything, but Ms. Kish made us rehearse and rehearse. We're talking 5 to 6 times a week, intense rehearsing all the time and I used what



she taught me at the beginning of my career. I knew how to act in front of a camera, where to stand, and where to look." Surprisingly, Wylde did not at first get accepted into the radio program he applied to, which is a good reminder to today's graduating students that there are many paths to success when you pursue your passions. Instead, he studied philosophy at Ryerson and interned at a radio station on the side for 9 months. A university rejection did not dampen his drive for radio success, so he switched to Humber College for their radio program the following year. His on-air radio demos at Humber landed him a job at a Barrie radio station on weekends. Wylde's intuition led him to the path less traveled; he dropped out of Humber and hopped on a plane for Halifax, where he landed a radio host position. He loved the East Coast and carries fond memories of promoting the radio station to college students at 2 a.m. at local pizza places. Following this, he switched between other radio stations in Calgary and Toronto, and even worked for Breakfast Television,

# Mowat Media Stars

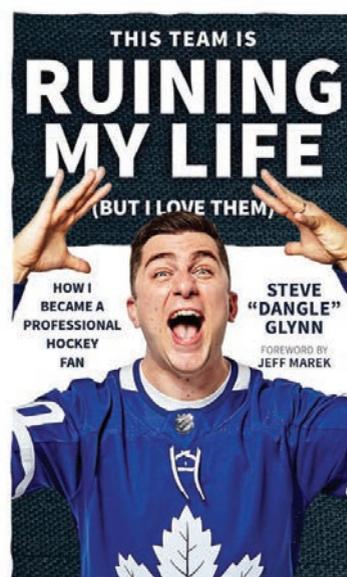
but now, he is in the place he always wanted to be, working for the biggest radio station in Toronto, 99.9 Virgin Radio. In 2013, Adam started a hockey podcast with his high school friend Steve Dangle whom he calls “the nicest person in the world”. Dangle is a successful sports analyst, hockey YouTuber, and author. Wylde and Dangle combined their talents and created The Steve Dangle Podcast. It started as a passion project, but after getting 1,000 listens overnight on their first episode, the success has led The Steve Dangle Podcast to become Wylde and Dangle’s side business. The podcast has almost 50,000 subscribers on YouTube and as a hockey fan myself, I am happy to report that it is one of the best hockey podcasts, especially if you are a Leafs fan.

Wylde’s advice to future media stars is, “Read. Read a lot. Read about what you’re interested in. Celebrity biographies, geography, history, whatever it is, but read as much as you can. It took me forever to get through books, but I flipped to audiobooks and it has been a game changer. Everything from Britney Spears, to Perez Hilton, to Winston Churchill, I’ve expanded my scope of the world. I would say, if you are going to talk for a living, you better have something intelligent to say. I hope that I do, and that starts with reading.”

When questioning Wylde about career highlights, I expected him to say one of the many celebrities he has interviewed, but to my surprise he responded, “The crew. Both the people I work with on the radio show and on my podcast are my best friends. When I explain to people who my friend group is, it is literally the people I am on the air with. Not every show gets to say that.” Whether it be his producer Jesse who he has been best friends with for 7 years, his co-hosts on Virgin Radio Jax and TJ, or his podcasting buddy Steve Dangle, Wylde is “genuinely friends off the air” with all of them. Although it was an unexpected response, after meeting Wylde, his stating that friendship was his career highlight made sense to me, as he is such a down to earth human being. Wylde is humble about his accomplishments and showed a genuine passion for media, instead of being in it for the glamour.

It’s hard to imagine one of the most successful and influential voices in radio not being accepted into Ryerson’s radio program. Although many would be crushed by this, Wylde did not allow a university admissions officer to stop him from achieving success in radio. I wondered how he was able to overcome setbacks along the way, but during our

interview he shared a story that shed light on this. “I used to landscape and I knew I did not want to do that for a living. But I did it for four summers because I knew it would motivate me to figure out what I wanted to do. When I was out there, I would hear the guys on the radio and I would think, man, that seems like a great job.” I guess his secret is listening to the right voices, the people who did succeed in radio, and his story reminds us all of the importance of knowing and pursuing your passions.



## STEVE DANGLE

Although sometimes the Leafs can’t score, their professional fan, Steve Dangle, never misses. If you are a Leafs fan and are not familiar with the name Steve Dangle, I am about to get you hooked.

Dangle often finds himself a little “too worked up” about hockey topics, but this is what makes his content so enjoyable. Dangle is a hockey YouTuber, sports analyst, podcaster, and self-proclaimed “professional hockey fan.” He is also a Mowat alumni, who although a busy new dad, kindly accepted a request for an interview with me.

Steve Dangle graduated from Mowat in 2006 and is remembered by many teachers for his fabulous Christmas Cheer performances. Dangle said “I got to write and perform in my own silly Christmas play for Christmas Cheer. It worked out exactly how I wanted it to; that’s something I’ll always remember as special.”

When asked about what he valued most about growing up in the beautiful West Rouge area, he said “It was wonderful having so many friends from so many different backgrounds, experiences, and stories. It’s also obvious to me years later that I grew up in an outgoing neighbourhood that knew how to value fun.”

Dangle went to Ryerson after high school for Radio & Television. A year later he started his YouTube channel. Although he was getting his undergrad and building his

# Mowat Media Stars

YouTube channel, Dangle built his expertise by interning at Fan 590, Leafs TV, and becoming a paid writer for Junior Hockey Magazine. When Dangle graduated from Ryerson in 2010, he got a paid position at Leafs TV, stayed there for two years and wrote highlights at the CBC for three years as well. In 2013, he began his podcast career with Adam Wylde, his longtime friend and fellow Mowat alumni. He was hired behind the scenes at Sportsnet a year later. Currently he is still working at Sportsnet, has almost 150,000 subscribers on his YouTube channel, and is still podcasting.

Although making a career out of talking about your favourite hockey team seems like a dream, it does not come without its challenges. Dangle explains that, “It’s hard to please everybody. In fact - you can’t. So, the goal is to figure out what you’re trying to say and be true to yourself. If you can’t please everyone, who are you trying to please? That’s who you want to make happy first.”

Being true to yourself, appealing to those who matter most, and not worrying too much about the naysayers is the hat trick or recipe for success that we would all do well to remember.

In 2019, Dangle published his book, *This Team Is Ruining My Life (but I Love Them): How I Became A Professional Hockey Fan*, an autobiography that goes in depth about his early life and how he created his media presence. In one anecdote in the book, he shares about his tenth-grade self calling into Jeff Marek’s Leafs Lunch show and saying, “I’m only sixteen and I don’t think I’ll ever see a Stanley Cup in my lifetime.” Here I am now at seventeen letting Steve Dangle know that I don’t think I will ever see a Leafs Stanley Cup in my lifetime.

Even though the team may spend more time shooting than scoring, Dangle’s passion for the Leafs is worthy of a Stanley Cup; his enthusiasm for the team and his work inspires the rest of us not to give up hope.

## THE NEXT FRESH FACE OF MEDIA FROM MOWAT: KIRSTEN JADE WONG

Being reminded of former Mowat students who’ve found success in the media industry sparks hope in those who are coming up the ranks. Kirsten Wong, professionally known as Kirsten Jade, is one of those. Currently a senior at Sir Oliver Mowat, she is already dabbling in the media industry. With both beauty and brains, she keeps up with style trends as well as being business savvy in the modeling industry.

During the school day you might see her at cheer practice or running the Mowat Athletic Council, but after school Kirsten is marketing her own brand to a whopping 5,000 Instagram followers and almost 20,000 Tik Tok followers.

“Ever since I was young, I just loved to be in the spotlight. I remember being in grade 7 when I hit 1,000 followers, I thought it was the biggest milestone. I think people think, oh it’s social media, but to me, it is my passion.”

Kirsten had her first photoshoot when she was just 9 years old. After finding interest in it, she continued to work with photographers. In grade nine, she had her first solo photoshoot and realized that this was the career for her. Last year, she worked with Tony Jorge who is the President and National Director of Miss Asia Canada. Jorge was helping Kirsten market herself by making her business cards, base shots, and getting her a placement at a Toronto luggage runway show, but then COVID hit.

The modeling industry has been greatly impacted by COVID, but Jade is not letting that stop her from building her audience. She keeps up with her Instagram and Tik Tok platforms, and is acquiring sponsorships from clothing brands such as Romwe and Shein. Every month they send her items that she advertises on her social platforms. Bali Body, a tanning oil company that Kirsten has been using for years, reached out to her as well to do brand deals.

Back at Mowat, Kirsten has decided to go to university for business. “I want to get into business because marketing and social media is like running a business for your own self. I am my brand. I will still do modeling part time.” She dreams of making it big and doing runway shows in Toronto, Europe, and New York someday.

If the success of our former Mowat alumni within the media industry is anything to go on, I have no doubt that Kirsten Jade will accomplish great things too.



Kirsten

# The Royal Canadian Legion

By Richard Vile, President Branch 258 | David Adamson, Past President Branch 258

## THE LEGION UPDATE

The Executive and Property Committee members of the R.C.L. Branch 258 continue to work diligently in preparation for the move to their new location at 305 Morrish Road. We are identifying items and furniture that we will be taking with us, as well as what will be left behind and auctioned off. Due to COVID-19 along with some minor by-law issues, there have been some delays in our relocation plans. However, if all goes well which we anticipate, work will commence in April 2021. When we are officially 'opened' for business, we will let the community know, so that they may visit and tour our new facilities. The Legion's primary concern is caring for its veterans along with their spouses and dependents. In addition, the Legion is a strong supporter of community

activities which will continue in its new location.

The Members of the Royal Canadian Legion, Highland Creek Branch 258 want to say THANK YOU - WE WILL REMEMBER THEM! to the residents and business people within our community who supported our 2020 Poppy Campaign. Through your generosity, we were able to raise a total of \$46,150. Thanks to your donations, we will be able to continue supporting our Veterans and their families in ways such as: purchasing mobility devices, providing for homeless veterans, educational bursaries, financial support for those in care facilities, installation of the necessary alterations to make a home accessible, the provisions of day-to-day comfort -- the list is endless.



**ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT SELLING OR BUYING YOUR HOUSE?**  
CALL ME FOR A FREE HOME EVALUATION!

Get a reliable, honest and experienced real estate expert on your side!

**Eric Shnaider**  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

**647.300.3742**  
eric.shnaider@exprealty.com  
ericshnaider.ca

**exp**  
REALTY BROKERAGE



**metrOptical** [www.metrooptical.ca](http://www.metrooptical.ca)  
T: 647.346.3937

**Prescription Glasses \* Starting at \$85.00\***

- Retinal Imaging, Digital Visual Acuity & Auto Refraction
- Free Contact Lens Fitting: Distance, Multifocal
- Eyeglasses, Frame Repair & Adjustments
- Licensed Optician for all your eyewear needs
- Quality Products & Excellent Service

**NEW LOWER PRICING** on all products!

**Eye Exams by Licensed Optometrist**

Centennial Plaza | 5502 Lawrence Ave East, Scarborough, M1C 3B2



**On-Site Jeweler!**

Port Union

**GOLDSHOP.CA**

Custom Diamond Engagement Rings & Bands  
Jewellery & Watch Repair ♦ Gift ♦ We Buy Gold

5502B Lawrence Ave. E. | 647.343.GOLD (4653)  
[www.portuniongoldshop.ca](http://www.portuniongoldshop.ca)

**Battery Replacement!**

# Local Literature

By Noelle Jack

In the fall/winter 2020 edition of WEST ROUGE LIFE, I introduced my new early teen book *Being Pete*.

I am happy to tell you that it is now available on Amazon, and Chapters Indigo and may be purchased through them. Be sure to write both *Being Pete* and my name, Noelle Jack, in the search bar for quickest access. It may also be ordered as an e-book.

My website [www.noelleauthor.com](http://www.noelleauthor.com) features both *Shire Summer* and *Being Pete* and will be updated regularly to include readings, reviews and news on my latest title.

Here is a short excerpt from *Being Pete*. If you still have the fall/winter 2020 edition of WEST ROUGE LIFE, on page 23, you can find the excerpt I posted earlier, which makes the following excerpt more meaningful.

-----

## CHAPTER THREE – DREAMING

Natalie decided she wouldn't say anything to Rhoda about the letter. Her best friend would have sixteen fits if she saw Uncle Billy's story being used that way. But phooey on all that; 'Pete' was going to win and that would be the most wonderful thing of all. When that happened, Natalie unreasonably reasoned, still in the grip of high excitement, nothing else would matter anyway.

Natalie skipped lunch and rolled on into the afternoon in a happy daze. She thought she'd prolong the fun by dressing up in something Western, pretending she could wear it on the day she met Tex Canyon. Rex 'helped' as she rummaged through her cedar dress-up box, but there wasn't much in it. She'd totally outgrown the cowboy outfit her dad had given her; nor were there any buckskin trousers or riding boots. A defunct cap gun lay at the bottom of the box, but she decided to give it a pass.

"Hey, you know what we need, Rex?" Natalie's face broke into a smile.

He cocked his head sideways, tail wagging, and looked at her expectantly.

"Music, old boy, Western music!"

Her record player sat on the top shelf of her bookcase, the cord conveniently plugged in behind, and the records stored in a row of wooden cubby holes underneath. Natalie immediately started flipping through her collection of 45 rpm vinyl records.

Rex sighed and lay back down. It appeared there wasn't going to be a walk after all.

Natalie pulled out a few of the hand-sized plastic discs, turning each of them to read the title until she found the right one. Slipping it out of its paper cover, she placed it on the turntable and clicked the dial to 45 to set it spinning. Hopefully, the old player could still do that at 45 revolutions per minute. Then she lifted the needle arm and set the pointed end in the groove. It scratched for a second until the voices of *The Sons of the Pioneers* began their dusky harmonizing of *Along the Navajo Trail*. Natalie, in seventh heaven, sang along while Rex took refuge under her bed. The strains of *Cool Water*, and *Tumbling Tumbleweeds* followed, filling her dull, urban bedroom with the intoxicating atmosphere of the 'Old Wild West'.

Natalie looked wistfully at the 'Wild Canyon' poster pinned to the wall. It had been a gift from Charlie for her eighth birthday. Now worn from four years of running her fingers over the speeding horse and rider, it would hardly be special to anyone's eyes but Natalie's. But it cast a spell on her. The heels of Tex's patterned leather boots gripped the horse's side. A spur twinkled. The cowboy, in the fringed leather jacket with his big-brimmed Stetson hat set at an angle, seemed to grin right back at her.

-----

Check out my website [www.noelleauthor.com](http://www.noelleauthor.com) for more excerpts over the coming days and weeks. Happy reading and stay well.

# Pets Corner



By Renée Petersen

## ONGOING TRAINING FOR YOUR DOG

In October, we welcomed Noelle (aka Nellie) into our home! A 4-year-old Standard Poodle, 18 kgs. of energy and fun who we adopted from the Lions Foundation Dog Guide program. Fully trained and working as a seizure alert dog - why isn't she working anymore at such a young age? For a reason I do not know, she developed leash aggression in the last year, making her unsuitable as a service dog. She is sweet, smart, fun and follows me around like a shadow. Playing ball is her favourite pastime and she even invents her own version, such as letting the ball roll down the stairs or a hill, so I can throw it back to her and repeat, repeat, repeat.

Ongoing training for your dog is important - we want our dogs to be comfortable walking to heel, meeting people, dogs, cats and squirrels! Which brings me to the discussion of leash aggression. Some dogs are very dominant and take exception to another dog coming toward them - after all face to face is issuing a challenge. Other dogs may be fearful or are guarding.

There are ways to work with this, positive reinforcement being the way to go. Yelling, yanking the leash only make things worse. With Nellie, an energetic playtime before a walk releases energy and a few commands like sit/stay before going out the door, establish some rules. I find that distraction works well when passing another dog (such as carrying on a conversation with her), especially if I hold a treat in front of her nose! Otherwise, sometimes turning around and changing my route works well, or a sit/stay - keeping distance and avoiding eye contact between the dogs also works. Some dogs she ignores and others invoke a reaction of lunging and barking. The trick is to foresee what may happen and nip it in the bud before your dog starts its rant.

So, yes, one must be on dog alert while still remaining calm, as one's stress and anxieties are passed down along the leash and your dog will sense them quickly. I take her to obedience school, which is very helpful for socialization and teaching

me how to handle situations and make training fun for both of us. In the 4 months Nellie has been with us, she has made huge strides in her behaviour. Mutual trust and understanding take time, kindness and patience are key.

## HAPPENINGS AT THE TORONTO ZOO

Our Toronto Zoo is alive and well! While the Zoo is still closed (at time of writing in March) one can visit Toronto Zoo Live on Facebook to see what is happening - videos of events such as celebrating International Polar Bear Day and other events are posted. As well, the following site <https://www.twitch.tv/torontozoolife> has cameras and a question/answer chat about various animals at the zoo - see how the giraffes interact, how much Amani has grown and visit the gorilla troop. It is fun for the whole family. One can choose to subscribe for a nominal fee to see more and at the same time support our Zoo. Check out the online Toronto Zoo gift shop as another way to support the Zoo.



Plans are ongoing for wonderful changes - some have already been initiated, such as an outdoor area for the beautiful, engaging and endangered orangutans.

Wishing everyone a great Spring and Summer, fun with your companion animal and catching up - stay tuned online to find out what is happening at our Zoo!

# St Dunstan's Crafties & COVID

By Anne Garland



For about 30 years, a group of ladies (the Crafties) have met at St. Dunstan's Church on Monday mornings for socializing and working on a large variety of handmade items for the annual bazaar.

Last March, we switched our focus and began making hats, scrub bags and ear savers for the Scarborough Health Network. In this endeavour, we were joined by members of the Pastoral Care Group who have been making different things for the hospitals for many years. Members of the community, many of them residents of West Rouge, were amazingly generous

with the donation of fabric (mostly sheets), buttons and elastic – and indeed with helping to make the items. It was a real community effort and became very streamlined. Some people laundered and cut out fabric, some sewed, some threaded elastic or sewed on buttons. And the many

ear savers which were knit or crocheted each needed two buttons.

This has all been coordinated by a weekly ZOOM session on Monday morning – led by Norma Campbell. There

we organized who needed what and when the next deliveries would be made. A number of husbands helped with masked deliveries, cutting out templates and one assisted in cutting many, many circles for mob caps.

In all, we contributed 2,768 caps of three different styles, 1,079 scrub bags, 4,272 ear savers and 185 head bands. Among other things, this included sewing on 14,594 buttons. In the fall when the hospitals had all they needed, we gave some supplies to long term care homes in the area. Only then did we return to making items for what became a Virtual Bazaar and then a Gift Boutique. There is an advertisement for the Gift Boutique in this magazine (by courtesy of the publisher). We would like to encourage you to shop there for one-of-a-kind gifts – hand knitted and crocheted baby clothes and blankets, scarves, hats, sweaters and afghans, as well as quilts, jewelry, home décor, seasonal items and much more. New things arrive every week and the proceeds benefit St. Dunstan's Church. Have a look at the variety of items that are available at <https://bethmacdonald0.wixsite.com/stdunstancrafties> or via St. Dunstan of Canterbury Anglican Church website where there is a link.

At the same time, we are making contributions to the All Saints downtown drop-in centre for the homeless – one of only seven open in Toronto during the COVID pandemic. They are most grateful, especially for warm hats, mittens and scarves.



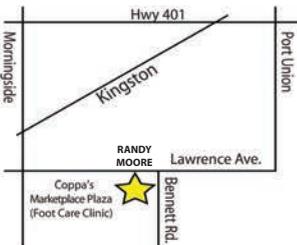


**Randy Moore**  
FOOT CARE CLINIC

- Conservative treatment for all ages
- Prescription Custom Plaster Casted Orthotics
- Corns, Calluses, Warts, Nail Problems
- Heel and Arch Pain
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Diabetic Foot Care

**Convenient FREE Parking!**

**New Patients Welcome  
No Referral Required**



**(416) 286-9044** [relief@randymoorefootcare.com](mailto:relief@randymoorefootcare.com)

**160 Bennett Road, Scarborough, M1E 3Y3**  
(Lawrence Avenue, just 3 lights east of Morningside, in the Coppa's Marketplace Plaza)







# Crime Prevention & Safety



One of the most effective ways to protect your property is through “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design” (CPTED). This is a thoughtful design process intended to influence how one may behave in their environment to improve overall safety and security.

To start, try to look at your house through the eyes of a criminal and ask yourself, how you would break into your home? Speaking from the perspective of home security, typically, burglars avoid homes that have the appearance of occupancy, barking dogs, active neighbours and alarm stickers.

Natural surveillance is directed at keeping potential intruders under observation and maximizing witness potential to decrease opportunities for criminal activity. Factors that affect natural surveillance can include design, landscaping, fencing and lighting. Keeping trees trimmed up from the bottom of the canopy four feet and having your property well-lit will act as a deterrent and can minimize criminal hiding spots.

Territorial reinforcement is important because it projects an overall sense of ownership. As a homeowner, you can reinforce your territory by your landscape, as it can be used to guide and influence movement, as well as define ownership. This includes the illusion of occupancy while you're away, as criminals don't typically take unnecessary risks. You can accomplish this by planning ahead to ensure your snow is shoveled, your lawn is maintained and mail, newspapers, and other deliveries are picked up. Ensuring your property is well lit prior to any trips away from home, including having your lights on intermittent timers or “smart” timers will also help your home look occupied.

Theft from vehicles has been on the rise, so please keep that in mind before and after you drive, to ensure you protect your valuables from being visible. Typically, criminals will go vehicle to vehicle checking for insecure

door handles that will allow easy access to rummage through a vehicle, as well as peering inside your locked vehicle to determine if it's worth forcing an entry by breaking a window or prying the door. They will usually take anything of value that they can conceal on their person or in a bag they're carrying.

Criminals will typically target items in plain view that catch their attention. Visible items like electronics, loose change, sunglasses, tools, jewelry, cell phones and their chargers are better stored away and out of sight. Criminals also target unlocked doors or trunk hatches and vehicles that have easy access to the trunk storage from the passenger area, as these methods are easy, fast and quiet.

When criminals are looking for an easy vehicle to steal, they look for vehicles that are left running -- especially during these cold months when it's more common for people to warm up their vehicles.

One of the most important things to do is to call the police to report a crime or if you feel something isn't right in your community. There are a number of ways to contact us at the Toronto Police Service:

If it's an emergency please call 911 or you can call our non-emergency number at (416) 808-2222.

If you wish to remain anonymous, please go to [222tips.com](http://222tips.com) or call 416-222-tips. All Crime Stoppers tips are 100% anonymous.

Follow me on Twitter @TPSSharonMiller for more Crime Prevention sharing and tips.

Take care and stay safe everyone.  
Police Constable Sharon Miller #9838  
43 Division – Crime Prevention Officer  
Toronto Police Service

# Coronation Organics Withdraws Proposal

By Kevin Narraway, Director of Planning and Development, WRCA

## CORONATION ORGANICS WITHDRAWS PROPOSAL FOR LARGEST WASTE TRANSFER AND BIO-GAS PLANT IN ONTARIO

Coronation Organics withdrew their Environmental Compliance Approval applications submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on February 24, 2021.

The company had proposed to construct and operate an anaerobic digestion/biogas creation facility at 633 Coronation Drive, Scarborough. Operations at the facility would have resulted in upwards of 100 heavy trucks per day driving through the Southeast Scarborough community. In addition, there were a number of environmental concerns related to noise and emissions from the facility.

In partnership with the local community associations in Southeast Scarborough, a dedicated group of local residents, and local politicians, the West Rouge Community Association was heavily involved in opposing the proposed facility.

There was strong community opposition to the proposal. A total of 882 comments were received by the Ministry through their online portal related to the Environmental Compliance Approval applications. In addition, an online petition opposing the facility garnered over 10,000 signatures.

This successful outcome is an excellent example of the strength and influence of a connected community. While it's possible that new applications may be submitted in the future, the Ministry has indicated that should the company wish to re-apply in the future, the Ministry will ensure that any proposal, similar or revised, involves sufficient consultation with the public and members of the community.

The West Rouge Community Association will continue to monitor this matter.

*The Medicine Shoppe*<sup>®</sup>  
PHARMACY

100% Pure Pharmacy™

Download Medicine Shoppe Canada app on your mobile device.

Prescriptions  
Compounding Centre  
Seniors Discount Every Day  
Regular Health Events

164 Bennett Road

Located in the  
Coppa's  
Marketplace



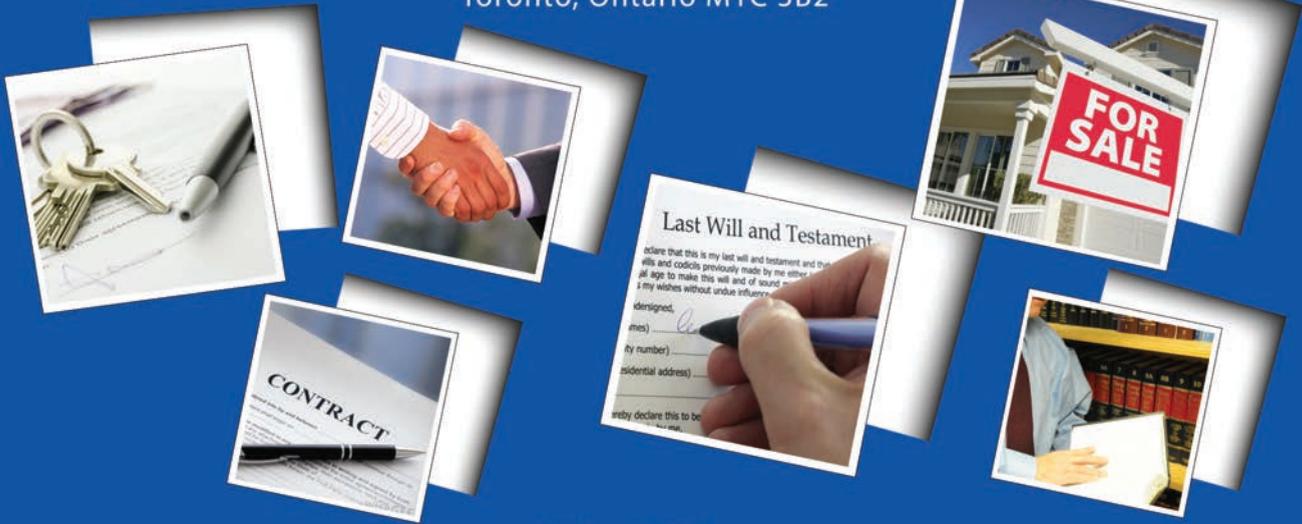
Call (416) 282-2004

Hours of Operation:  
Mon-Fri 10am - 6pm | Saturday 9am-1pm

# TATHAM, PEARSON LLP

Barristers & Solicitors

5524 Lawrence Ave. E.  
Toronto, Ontario M1C 3B2



William G. Tatham

Tel: 416 284-4749  
Fax 416 284-3086

416 284-4749 Ext 28  
wgtatham@tathampearson.com

Email: info@tathampearson.com  
Website: www.tathampearson.com

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1978  
BAKED DAILY AND CRAFTED WITH LOVE

[www.portunionbakery.com](http://www.portunionbakery.com)

287 Port Union Rd 416-281-5614

Freshly baked breads, donuts, empanadas, pastries  
and more!



**Buy 6 donuts and get 1 FREE!**

Limit of one (1) coupon per person or family. Please present coupon  
when purchasing. This coupon cannot be copied and must be  
relinquished at time of redemption. Offer expires May 31, 2021

## Port Union BAKERY

Freshly Baked Breads • No Preservatives or Nuts  
Filipino Pastries, Empanada & Donuts

**416.281.5614**

Ravine Park Plaza, 287 Port Union Road,  
Scarborough, ON

CONTACT: MAVIL REVESENCIO

[www.portunionbakery.com](http://www.portunionbakery.com)



**Your Neighborhood Paint Store!**

Call us for all your Paint Inquiries.

Come visit us at 6 Rylander Blvd. Unit # 1. (Port Union/Kingston Road)

Located in the Starbucks plaza. Call us at 416-283-7676.

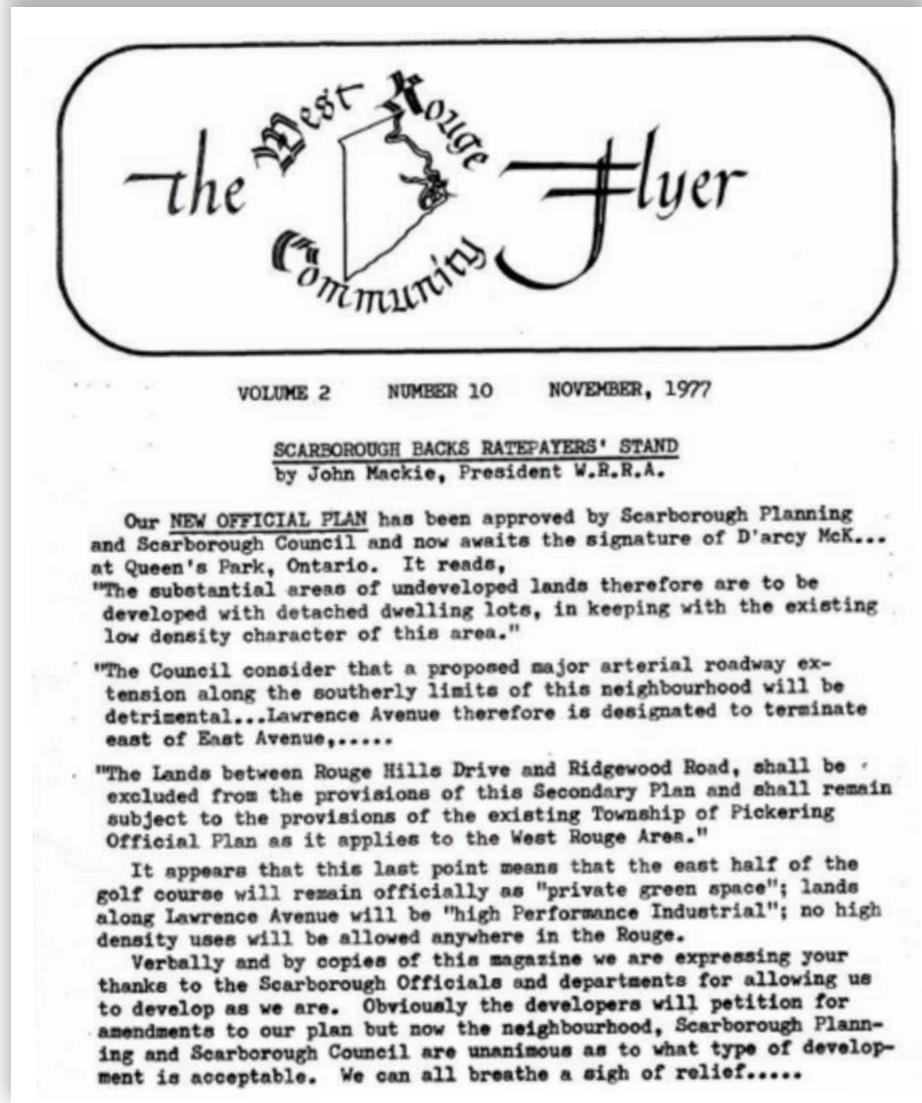


# From The Archives

Advocacy for responsible development has been at the core of WRCA's mandate from the very beginning ... and even before!

The article below is from the West Rouge Ratepayers Association (WRRRA), the predecessor of WRCA, and was published in the West Rouge Community Flyer, the predecessor of West Rouge Life, in 1977.

The objectives here were to preserve as much green space as possible resulting from the development of the former golf course and that residential developments be low density only. And WRRRA succeeded! Take a look.





Winners of the West Rouge  
Sports and Rec. Assoc.  
Youth Photo Contest 2020

Congratulations to  
Age 8 to 12 Winners  
Suhaib Shirazi Tegan Strano  
Chester Landa  
Ages 13 to 17 Winners  
Claire Taylor Akhil Chawathe  
Nathan Pereira

Thanks to all who entered!  
To see all the amazing entries  
visit our website [SportsandRec.ca](http://SportsandRec.ca)



# West Rouge Sports & Recreation Association



By Louise Redgers Bonnycastle, President

West Rouge Sports and Recreation Association is the group that fosters “fun” in the West Rouge community. Our mandate, as outlined in our bylaws is as follows:

- To develop and foster community spirit in the community known as the West Rouge Area.
- To promote and organize social, sporting, cultural and recreational events, programs and activities, in and for the residents of the community and to ensure an equal opportunity exists for all residents to participate in all such activities, programs and events.

While attempting to keep a sense of community spirit alive and well, we have over the past 60 years provided a wide range of activities for all ages.

A typical year kicks off with our Yuk Yuks Comedy Night and Dinner, which is also our biggest fundraising event. In the spring, we usually hold an Easter Egg Hunt for young children, as well as free movie nights held at the West Rouge Community Centre (WRCC). In early summer, we have hosted the ever-popular Parking Lot Sale at WRCC, and weather permitting, more movie nights held outside at the PUCC (Port Union Community Centre).

Our annual Family Day event usually takes place on the second weekend of September, with bouncy castles, games, treats, and much more. Our annual Ron Moeser Fun Run/Walk usually takes place in October, and showcases the beautiful Waterfront Trail from the Rouge River to Highland Creek. We also have had more movie nights at WRCC, and finished the month off with the Halloween Party geared towards children. In November, we have hosted the Artisan Market at WRCC, and usually end the year of events in December with Breakfast with Santa, including a pancake breakfast with activities for the children, while they eagerly wait to have their photo taken with Santa.

We have also co-operated with other community groups to assist with events such as Winterfest, Earth Day and the Pumpkin Parade.

The activities we run are organized and executed by a

very hard working and dedicated group of volunteers from our community.

Due to COVID-19, this past year has brought new difficulties and challenges to our mandate with our inability to run our usual events. We have risen to the challenge and began offering mostly virtual events. The youth photo contest that we started out with last summer was a great hit. The Annual Fun Run became a virtual event. When we could not provide a safe Halloween Party, we decided to hold a pumpkin giveaway in hopes of getting photos back from families of them dressed up with their pumpkins. We gave away far fewer pumpkins than we had budgeted for and got only a fraction of the photos we had been hoping for. The annual Pumpkin Parade, which we share with the Centennial Community and Recreation Association (CCRA) and the West Rouge Community Association (WRCA), was also held virtually. The event received great participation from the community. A video of the event is available at <https://sportsandrec.ca/pumpkinparade.html>. We launched our Ugly Sweater Contest at the start of winter, but did not receive many entries. We also put our Artisan Market online from our website.

As time goes by, the responses to our contests and virtual events continue to decline. We want to help our fellow residents weather this period of time and want to know how best to engage our neighbours. At the time this article was written in March, we have a Tallest Snowman Contest and a Winter Wonderland Youth Photo Contest underway. Information on these and any upcoming events can be seen at our website <https://sportsandrec.ca>.

If you have any ideas as to how we can best service our community until we can all gather in person again, please feel free to email, call me directly or leave a message on our website.

Louise Redgers Bonnycastle  
 President, West Rouge Sports and Recreation Association  
 website: <https://sportsandrec.ca>  
 email: [louise@wrsra.org](mailto:louise@wrsra.org)  
 phone: 416-283-1938

# The Zoo Report

## When did you last visit the Toronto Zoo?



By Dolf DeJong, Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Zoo

Hello Folks! Spring is just around the corner and I am sure we can all agree we are excited to welcome a new season and turn over a new leaf. COVID-19 continues to challenge us all at every turn and the global pandemic has meant we need to be nimble to serve guests in our ever-changing world. Oscillating between being open, being closed, open with restrictions, open as a drive through (or the many other operating models our incredible teams have developed) has changed the nature of our guest interactions and can make it difficult to focus on our mission and long-term strategic goals.



If you are like our Zoo over the past year, you have explored the key question - How do we adapt and find ways to keep our community, our guests and our supporters connected to the work we do? How do we reach out when the Zoo is closed to guests and we are unable to cultivate these important relationships in person?

For your Toronto Zoo team, in times of crisis our priorities are clear - we will do everything we can to protect the health, safety and well-being of our staff that still must come to the Zoo every day and our animals will continue to be cared for with the same high-quality standard. Once those non-negotiable needs were met, we could look at how we reconnected with our community.

Our conservation partners, the Toronto Zoo Wildlife Conservancy, have taken advantage of this time to take a deep dive into what our guests and the public are aware of when it comes to conservation, what it means to them, and the role their Toronto Zoo has played in their understanding. Their study on the public's awareness of wildlife conservation issues released in early February

had some revealing results on the importance of a visit to the Toronto Zoo and an individual's environmental literacy. One of the key findings was that respondents who frequently visited the Zoo had a far higher level of awareness of specific environmental issues. For example, frequent Zoo guests have a significantly higher level of understanding on the importance of electronic recycling on preserving gorilla habitat, or the impacts of unsustainable palm oil production on orangutan survival.

Armed with this new data, our challenge is to determine how we expand that knowledge to those who are not regular Zoo attendees and want to help wildlife? How can we work to expand our audience's understanding of the many environmental issues that exist globally, and not just in our Canadian backyards?

The study also showed that nearly all (85%) of respondents acknowledge that humans are at fault for wildlife extinction, but considerably fewer (52%) believe they personally can make a difference on wildlife conservation. But importantly, the report also showed that people who were more aware of conservation activities also believed they could personally make a difference for wildlife conservation.

The results of the study are exciting because they are a clear endorsement of your Toronto Zoo's role in conservation education, as well as a call to action to increase that educational role to a broader audience through digital programming. Even as we manage the COVID-19 closures, your Toronto Zoo will focus on how we can continue to develop clear messaging and calls to action for people to get involved and make a substantial difference in wildlife conservation through their daily choices.

We hope you continue to stay healthy through these challenging times, and take care of yourselves and each other (from a safe distance). We eagerly await when we can re-open our doors, and we look forward to welcoming you all back to your Toronto Zoo and continuing this important conservation work.

We are all in this together. Thank you for being part of our wonderful Zoo community and continuing to support your Toronto Zoo! #ClosedButStillCaring

To read the results of the 2020 Wildlife Conservation Awareness Survey, go to [www.wildlifeconservancy.ca](http://www.wildlifeconservancy.ca)

# Membership Report



By Larry Whatmore

## REIGNITING COMMUNITY LIFE IN A POST-COVID WORLD

Greetings, all. How are you doing in these crazy times?

West Rouge is normally a socially integrated community. We see each other often at local shops, restaurants and watering holes, community events and festivals, sports leagues, school events, and at the West Rouge Community Centre.

This has all been interrupted by this COVID nightmare. However, we are finally beginning to emerge from this prolonged social hibernation. And your community association wants to be a catalyst for neighbourhood renewal.

Here's how you can help.

**1. Become a member of WRCA.** Many of you have done so for years and we are so grateful, especially last year. Others had to skip last year and we understand that. If you are able to join this year, it will make such a difference to the vitality of your community association and our ability to be a financial catalyst for the relaunch of community programs and events that we have historically sponsored.

\$15 per household. Pay a little and get a lot in return, knowing that you are helping to reignite West Rouge out of social hibernation.

How do you do that? The fastest and easiest way is through PayPal. Visit our home page at [www.westrouge.org](http://www.westrouge.org). Or you can drop off your membership form and your payment at West Rouge Community Centre, when it's open. We have a mailbox inside at the front desk. Or you can pay your street captain, if you are canvassed by your street captain, although we don't know if COVID restrictions will allow us to do that in the coming months.

**2. Become a street captain or an area coordinator for WRCA.** Did you know that WRCA has almost 100 volunteer street captains? Some have been serving for ten, twenty ... even thirty years! Each street captain delivers West Rouge Life to about 30 households twice a year. Some knock on doors to update our contact information, so we can add as many people as possible to our monthly e-newsletter distribution list. Some canvass for memberships when they do their door-knocking, but that's entirely optional (and this year will be subject to COVID protocols). Street captains are also WRCA's eyes and ears in the community and help to keep the WRCA Board in-the-know regarding local issues.

Or maybe you'd like to become an area coordinator? Area coordinators oversee a group of about a dozen street captains.

How do you do that? If you'd like to find out more about being a street captain or an area coordinator, please contact me and we can chat. As always, many hands make light work.

**3. Volunteer in our community.** There are so many great volunteer-led organizations in our community and WRCA is just one of them. Contact me or our President, Kathi Loughran, and we'll find the right place for you.

West Rouge has a well-earned reputation for community involvement, social cohesion, and local pride. COVID has interrupted so much of this. Let's do all we can as life gradually returns to normal to reignite community life, so we can enjoy all that West Rouge has to offer ... in the company of our neighbours, once again.

Larry Whatmore  
 Membership Director  
[Larry.Whatmore@rogers.com](mailto:Larry.Whatmore@rogers.com)  
 (416) 562-2101



# **Guildwood Physiotherapy**

Formerly  
East Scarborough  
Physiotherapy

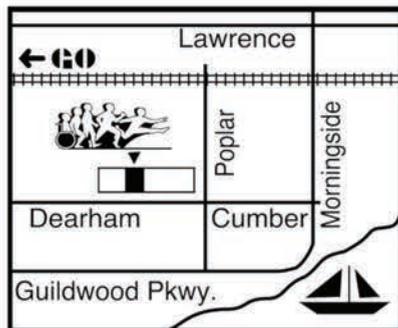
## **Post Surgical Recovery**

After discharge from hospital, many patients should be referred to a rehabilitation hospital or clinic to regain strength and return to independent functioning. It is very important that Physiotherapy begin as soon as possible after surgery to ensure a prompt recovery.

In our clinic we see patients after various types of orthopaedic surgeries, such as Rotator Cuff tears, Anterior Cruciate Ligament repairs, total and partial knee and hip replacements, back, foot, and hand surgeries, etc. Appointments are usually available in a day or two.

Our Physiotherapists follow standard treatment protocols or work closely with the surgeon's specific protocol for recovery. Passive exercises and gentle mobilization techniques are used first, and exercises are later introduced to gradually strengthen and return full function.

The exercise program is gradually increased based on the healing time of that particular surgery. We find that using modalities such as laser, ultrasound and Electro-Accuscope help to heal and repair the wound faster with less pain. Our treatments typically last from 45 minutes to 1-1/2 hours, depending on the condition being treated.



**Full Service Physiotherapy, Acupuncture,  
Massage Therapy, Orthotics and Braces**

**Since 1994**

**84 Dearham Wood. at Poplar Rd.  
Beside Poplar Rd. School**

**(416)283-6893**

**[www.guildwood.net](http://www.guildwood.net)**



# Singing PAINTER

## He SINGS, He PAINTS.

### Sometimes, he does BOTH!

A local West Rouge resident, the Singing Painter specializes in residential interior and exterior painting, plus drywall repair.

Hire his band for your weddings and parties too!



The Singing Painter prefers Sherwin Williams paint and can provide great trade discounts for you!

Call 416-282-1600  
or Email [BeesleyMusic@gmail.com](mailto:BeesleyMusic@gmail.com)  
[www.TheSingingPainter.Webs.com](http://www.TheSingingPainter.Webs.com)



## FOR SALE

### WEST ROUGE SWEATSHIRTS

## \$45<sup>00</sup>

The West Rouge Sports & Recreation Association are selling these unique sweatshirts. They make an ideal gift. These high quality long sleeve sweatshirts are available in black and have an attractive gold and plaid West Rouge motif on the front.

They are available in the following sizes: Small, Medium, Large and XXLlarge

To place an order contact  
Barbara Broadley at 416.724.0416



### Fleury, Comery LLP

Barristers & Solicitors

Edward R. Fleury, Q.C.

Gregory E. McConnell, M.A., LL.B.

Stephen P. Fleury, B.Sc., LL.B.

Donald C. MacVicar, LL.B., LL.M.



"Scarborough's Most Experienced Law Firm" estab'd in 1957

(Member of Lawyer Referral Service - initial consultation free)



**BRAKE SERVICE**  
 THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK  
Call today for a quote!

---

*Four-Wheel Alignment*  
 IMPROVE THE LIFE OF YOUR TIRES WITH THIS SERVICE!  
 Schedule an appointment today ▶

109 ISLAND ROAD | CALL US AT 416.284.8180



**YOUR ONE-STOP TIRE SHOP!**  
 LET US FIND THE PERFECT TIRE FOR YOUR VEHICLE.

109 ISLAND ROAD | CALL US AT 416.284.8180



## Emm Home Repair

High quality craftsmanship, fine attention to detail, excellent customer service, and great prices. Call, text or email to book your

- Bathrooms
- Kitchens
- Basement finishing
- Flooring/Trim
- Tiling
- Decks
- Glass and Aluminum railings
- Outdoor kitchens/Pergolas
- Power Washing & Staining

(905)-995-1701

Steve.Emm@hotmail.com

# Rouge National Urban Park Update



Rouge  
National  
Urban Park

## **ROUGE BEACH IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

Parks Canada began consultation for the Rouge Beach Improvements Project in early 2020. The main features of this project include the revitalization of the Rouge Beach Day Use Area, a trail, including a boardwalk, that will connect Rouge Beach and the Mast Trailhead north of Highway 401, and the revitalization of the Mast Trailhead area. The project is expected to be implemented in 2 phases, with phase 1 anticipated to be completed in 2022 and phase 2 expected to be completed in 2023. Phase 1 involves Rouge Beach enhancements and Phase 2 involves trail connections and ecological restoration.

**For more information, please refer to the project overview at [www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/on/rouge/visit/projets-projects/plage-beach/info](http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/on/rouge/visit/projets-projects/plage-beach/info).**

Although there has been opposition to the boardwalk trail component of the Rouge Beach Improvements Project, the West Rouge Community Association has taken a position in favour of Route Option 1, the middle route. This route will

provide the community with a direct connection to other Rouge National Urban Park trails and it will have the least impact on homeowners whose properties back onto the Rouge Marsh and Rouge River. The West Rouge Community Association has highlighted community concerns including parking, litter and bicycle storage to Parks Canada staff and will continue to work with Parks Canada to address these concerns on behalf of the community.

Several organizations have reached out to the WRCA to express either their support of or their opposition to the boardwalk trail. These groups have shared letters that have been published, along with the WRCA's letter of support.

**If community members have questions about this project or would like to provide feedback or request a meeting, please contact the Parks Canada project team at [pc.projetsrougerougeprojects.pc@canada.ca](mailto:pc.projetsrougerougeprojects.pc@canada.ca).**

The deadline to provide feedback has been extended until May 1, 2021.

# Restoring and Safeguarding Rouge Beach and Marsh for Future Generations

By Omar McDadi, Superintendent of Rouge National Urban Park – Parks Canada

As the Superintendent of Rouge National Urban Park, I have the great privilege and honour of working closely with the West Rouge community on a range of programs and initiatives. I know how passionate and caring the community is about the park, and how proud residents are to live near this national treasure.

As a keen park user and observer, my wife and I take our 18-month-old daughter to the park and beach each week. We love to watch the waterfowl gather along the shore, listen for ravens in the cottonwoods, and amble along the Waterfront Trail. Our curious toddler picks up just about everything she sees – which, sadly, includes far too much litter. Having worked for Parks Canada for many years in pristine national parks out west such as Banff, Kootenay and Yoho, I find it especially dispiriting to see the enormous amount of trash in our park and many signs of failing infrastructure – and I know the community finds these things equally disheartening – but this also provides great motivation to make the park, and how it's designed and cared for, healthier and safer for the generations to come.

## ROUGE BEACH IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

To this end, Parks Canada is working on a detailed plan to improve the environment and safety of the Rouge Beach and Marsh areas. Known as the Rouge Beach Improvements Project, the project aims to mitigate the impacts of flooding and erosion, improve resident safety and accessibility, and restore the environment while respecting the privacy of local residents.

Although Parks Canada assumed management of Rouge Beach area lands only in the summer of 2019, we are aware of and have been monitoring the West Rouge community's concerns for nearly a decade, in anticipation of these lands one day becoming part of Rouge National Urban Park. Prior to these lands coming under Parks Canada's management, our team closely monitored, studied and documented longstanding issues and challenges in and around the area. After nearly 10 years of listening to and working closely with the West Rouge community, we know just how much the community loves the park. We also know that the community is

deeply concerned about threats to the park environment and community safety.

My colleagues and I strongly share these concerns – indeed, they are the major impetus behind the project. We feel that much of the area is at risk unless we take action to help improve the situation.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Parks Canada is working with the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, West Rouge Community Association, the Friends of Rouge National Urban Park, the City of Toronto, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the Rouge National Urban Park First Nations Advisory Circle, the Pickering Accessibility Advisory Committee, the Honourable David Crombie, the Honourable Pauline Browes, the Oak Ridges Trail Association, and many other organizations, community groups and partners on this project.

A key project goal is to help maintain community access to this unique waterfront environment – something that hasn't always been possible due to increased flooding events over the past five years. The project will help flood-proof and safeguard beach infrastructure by raising the pedestrian access road to above the 100-year flood plain levels. This will help to reverse the current situation where when flooding events occur, toxins, salts and oils from the lower beach parking lot seep into sensitive wetland and marsh ecosystems, posing risks to waterfowl, fish, and freshwater invertebrates.

The project will also formalize a 2-kilometre trail and add new boardwalk and handrail components to help improve community connections and reverse the present situation where pedestrians currently wishing to connect from the beach to the Mast Trail must leave the park and negotiate crossing two Highway 401 on-ramps without the aid of a sidewalk or signalized crossing. This is dangerous and not an ideal situation for community residents and park users, which include children and people with disabilities.

Moreover, there are dozens of unofficial trails in the marsh and ravine that are wreaking havoc on species-

at-risk and rare ecosystems through erosion, trampling and, in some cases, even poaching and illegal harvesting of trees and other flora and fauna. By formalizing one official trail and incrementally restoring some of the more problematic unofficial trails, we stand to significantly improve the ecological integrity of the entire area and reduce the overall human footprint. As a comparison, the current informal park trails in the marsh area are a combined 13.5-kilometres in length and cover 6.67 acres of land. The proposed formalized trail would be built using the existing human footprint of these well-established informal trails and cover just 1 to 2 acres of land – a human footprint 67% to 84% smaller than the current one.

Another key feature of the proposed project is marshland restoration via decommissioning of the lower parking lot, creation of habitat for species-at-risk, planting thousands of trees and shrubs, and the addition of wildlife crossings. As part of preliminary work on this project, in 2020 Parks Canada biologists removed from the marsh nearly one hectare of phragmites, or the Common Reed, frequently referred to as Canada's "most invasive species".

In terms of routing options for the formalized trail, of the three routes under consideration, community support to date is strongest for the middle route which avoids going near ravine properties that back onto Rouge Hills Drive, Taylor Road and West Point Avenue.

Other project components include upgrades to the day use areas at both the beach and at the Mast Trail trailhead and a refurbished washroom at the lower beach.

Parks Canada will also be significantly increasing cleaning services at the beach, as well as increasing Parks Canada warden (law enforcement) presence. We are also planning to introduce monthly Parks Canada led litter and beach clean-up events from spring to fall, and beginning in the spring of 2021, Parks Canada will employ a team of nine compliance staff throughout the park, with particular emphasis on curtailing and eliminating garbage issues, illegal fireworks, and partying. Parks Canada will also begin implementing new, wildlife-proof waste receptacles at the beach and across the park beginning in early 2021. We are also asking for the public's help to report illegal dumping in the park and have set up a garbage and dumping tips hotline, where fines of up to \$1 million may be imposed under the Rouge National Urban Park Act. If you witness incidents of illegal dumping in the park, please call 416-282-1019 with any information. Tips may be left anonymously.

We've also heard a lot from the community about parking concerns. As part of this project, Parks Canada is proposing to significantly expand the upper parking lot to compensate for decommissioning the lower parking lot. We are also working with the City of Toronto to explore additional parking solutions to curtail illegal street parking issues on Rouge Hills Drive, add additional parking capacity, and help make neighbourhood streets safer. As part of these discussions, Parks Canada is proposing to expand parking capacity by adding additional parking on the north side of Lawrence Avenue, west of Starspray Boulevard. In addition to parking solutions, Parks Canada will not promote the Rouge Beach area as a car-based destination and will instead encourage active (walking/cycling) and public transportation (TTC and GO Train) as the primary means of visiting the beach area. We will also be expanding the Mast Trail parking lot off Kingston Road, which is the northern end of the proposed formalized trail with boardwalk components. We are also considering adding paid parking with time restrictions to the Rouge Beach area within 5 years, to help to reduce parking demands.

For more information on this project please visit: <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/on/rouge/visit/projets-projects/plage-beach/info>. Here you will find a detailed project overview, artistic renderings, and a detailed 17-page Frequently Asked Questions section.

To provide feedback or request a meeting with a member of our project team, please email us at [pc.projetsrouge-rougeprojects.pc@canada.ca](mailto:pc.projetsrouge-rougeprojects.pc@canada.ca). Detailed public consultations, including community walks, workshops and virtual household meetings with our project team began in February 2020. In light of COVID-19, the deadline for public feedback was extended in the fall by six months to May 1, 2021. The public will also have an opportunity to comment on a Detailed Impact Analysis (DIA) – the federal government's most robust form of environmental and cultural assessment, when the DIA is posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry's website (<https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/>) this spring.

We sincerely value and appreciate the community's input to restore our park's natural beauty, help park wildlife thrive, improve parking options and safety, and create a park accessible to all. My colleagues and I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the West Rouge community to create a park where future toddlers are no longer distracted by plastic bags, fireworks debris and unsafe infrastructure, but instead can marvel at the Blanding's turtles, toads and herons in our safe, accessible and pristine Rouge National Urban Park.

# Should Parks Canada Expand The Boardwalk Trail?

By Christyne Gauthier, Jim Robb, Friends of the Rouge Watershed

## NO...

### The Proposed Trail System Will Damage the Park - Has Parks Canada Gone Rogue?

The short answer is YES. Parks Canada is ignoring Rouge National Urban Park's legislated priority: "the maintenance or restoration of ecological integrity". Ecological integrity will be harmed if Parks Canada proceeds with its proposed construction of an 1,800-metre-long Boardwalk Trail, with three new bridges, through the Provincially Significant Rouge Marsh, Floodplain and Valley.

This major new Marsh Boardwalk Trail proposal, between Lake Ontario and Glen Rouge campground, is designed to attract 300,000 additional visitors each year to the Rouge Marsh and its surroundings. This proposed trail would cut-down Rouge Valley forests over a 1200+ meter length and damage the marsh with 400+ meters of boardwalk. This threatens to:

1. Damage the ecological functions of a protected area within a fragile ecosystem;
2. Alter and damage the habitats of rare and endangered birds, fish, turtles and plants;
3. Increase flooding, erosion, siltation, invasive species and water pollution problems; and
4. Significantly increase traffic, illegal parking, littering, trespassing, vandalism and noise.

Parks Canada's Website notes that trails built through sensitive habitats can "make them less able to support native plants and animals" and "open up the ecosystem to invasion by non-native species". Contrary to an inter-governmental agreement signed by Canada and Ontario, the Rouge Marsh Boardwalk Trail disregards Ontario's Greenbelt Plan and regulations which prohibit major new recreational developments within Provincially Significant Wetlands and Floodplains.

Although Parks Canada recognizes the "extreme

flooding events and erosion at this location", most of the Marsh Boardwalk Trail would be built below the three-metre-high flood level, risking costly and recurring damage and harm to visitors. The Boardwalk and bridges would increase log and ice dams; accelerate flood flows; increase erosion, siltation and channel shifts; and increase damage to fish and wildlife habitat, surrounding private properties and public infrastructure.

To date, Parks Canada has not lived-up to its federal agency requirements for transparency and meaningful public involvement. Parks Canada has not conducted, or made publicly available, a proper assessment of the ecological, fluvial, pollution, traffic, parking, noise and neighborhood impacts of the Rouge Marsh Boardwalk Trail. There is insufficient data to justify the Boardwalk Trail as a remedy for informal trails in the Marsh. The Rouge Marsh Boardwalk Trail and the upgrades to Rouge Beach are different projects but their combined visitor-use will have cumulative impacts on the Marsh and neighboring communities.

Parks Canada openly speaks of the Boardwalk Trail as a done deal and this has prejudiced their impact assessment. Therefore, Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change should require an Independent Review by Canada's Impact Assessment Agency. This assessment should consider less costly and less intrusive alternatives to the Boardwalk Trail, including:

- a shuttle bus between Rouge Hills GO Station, Rouge Marsh and Glen Rouge Campground.
- A path which utilizes existing roads and a new east-west trail near Hwy 401.
- Parks Canada led summer and fall canoe trips between

the Waterfront Trail and Glen Rouge.

Why is Parks Canada ignoring science? Scientists and Canada's Insurance Bureau are calling for more forest and wetland protection and restoration to control the flooding and pollution caused by climate change and urban growth. In stark contrast, Parks Canada proposes to cut a swath through Rouge Valley Forests and develop a Wetland for a non-essential Boardwalk Trail.

Parks Canada is also ignoring science by reducing reforestation by 75% on the park's public lands. Parks Canada is completely neglecting "due diligence" plans for reforesting the heart of Rouge Park – the 600-metre-wide and 25-kilometre-long Greenbelt and Rouge Park "main ecological corridor" between Lake Ontario and the Oak Ridges Moraine. The restoration of this "main ecological corridor" is urgently needed to:

- Combat Climate Change and flooding costs;
- Improve water quality at the Rouge Marsh, Beach and Lake Ontario;
- Restore ecological integrity in Rouge National Urban Park; and
- Spread visitor use over a larger area and thereby avoid over-use and environmental degradation within the lower Rouge Valley and Marsh.

Contrary to these public mandates, the Federal Government and Parks Canada have plans to tie up most of Rouge Park's public lands in long term private leases for a select number of tenants. If this occurs, it will:

- Block public access and reforestation plans;
- Allow pollution and flooding damages to soar; and
- Lead to over-use and damage in the Valley and Marsh.

We face growing climate change and biodiversity crises and soaring government deficits. Parks Canada will be aggravating these crises if millions of tax dollars are spent to build a Boardwalk Trail in the Provincially Significant Rouge Marsh, Valley and Floodplain where

"extreme flooding" occurs.

Funneling hundreds of thousands of additional visitors into the ecologically sensitive Rouge Marsh and Valley would be contrary to conservation science and Parks Canada's ecological integrity mandate. It would further harm surrounding neighborhoods which are already suffering adverse impacts from current visitor volumes.

Please let your Federal representative (MP Gary Anandasangaree), Provincial representative (MPP Vijay Thanigasalam) and Toronto Councillor (Jennifer McKelvie) know how you feel. Millions of taxpayer dollars should not be wasted on the development of this Boardwalk Trail which will harm the Provincially Significant Rouge Marsh and cause serious problems for surrounding communities.

Christyne Gauthier  
West Rouge Resident, LLL, LLB, LLM

Jim Robb,  
General Manager, Friends of the Rouge Watershed & Former Ontario Environmental Assessment Board Vice Chair

*Friends of the Rouge Watershed (FRW) coordinates hands-on environmental projects with visible and lasting ecosystem, watershed, and community benefits. From our office at Hillside Outdoor Education School in Rouge Park, FRW proudly serves the culturally diverse communities of the GTA. Christyne Gauthier is a West Rouge resident. She is a triplet mom, a retired commercial lawyer, a former hockey mom, now a jewelry designer who enjoys nature and paddleboarding on the Rouge – she can be reached at mpchristyne@gmail.com . Jim Robb has worked with thousands of volunteers to help create and implement Rouge Park, Watershed and Greenbelt Plans, and to help create a 79 square km Rouge National Park with ecological integrity as its legislated priority - he can be reached at jimrobb@frw.ca .*

# Should Parks Canada Expand The Boardwalk Trail?

By Pauline Browes, Friends of the Rouge National Urban Park

## YES...

### The Improvement Plan is a Major Step Forward

We are writing to express our strong support for the Rouge Beach Improvements Project as a major step forward for the implementation of the Rouge National Urban Park Management Plan.

For three decades, the regeneration efforts in the Rouge Valley were stunted by the lack of adequate and consistent resources. After years of advocacy by many people including our own members, the federal government announced that it would embrace the challenge and opportunity of the Rouge Valley by designating it as Canada's first National Urban Park.

Since then, Parks Canada has developed a Management Plan that encompassed feedback from over 20,000 Canadians, and 200 organizations including our own, which outlined a number of foundational actions to establish a new model for protected areas.

The Rouge Beach Improvements Project represents an exciting advancement for the Plan. Eleven expert ecologists have catalogued existing conditions that show the impact of years of neglect, flooding, and a piecemeal approach to remediation efforts. The Project will restore, protect and connect the marshlands and beach area of the Rouge Valley from the Glen Rouge Campground to Lake Ontario.

This Project will protect the area's native biodiversity, create fish and wildlife habitats, and address flooding. The lower beach parking lot will be decommissioned and restored to a natural state, improving ecological integrity and managing accessibility in the face of the region's growing population and popularity. It will also improve and expand much needed amenities, both in the campground and at the beach, such as, accessible public washrooms, and a canoe/kayak launch zone.

As an essential part of the Rouge Beach Improvements Project, Parks Canada will formalize a trail and include a boardwalk component to replace a web of social trails that are destroying the natural environment. The trail with a boardwalk component will manage human activity, steering it away from sensitive habitats, and protect the privacy of adjacent homeowners. It will achieve both by creating stunning nature oriented trail experience that is accessible for all Ontarians. Of the three trail alignments proposed, we support the middle alignment for this connection as it will follow an existing trail for 80% of the way.

The formalized trail and boardwalk plan in the Project, includes three bridges to directly connect the vast northern part of the Rouge National Urban Park with the Marshlands Road.

The Project will also establish a crucial connection, where none currently exists, between the Oak Ridges Moraine (Ontario's Greenbelt) and the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail (Lake Ontario). The resulting park-wide trail network will serve the community and it will disperse the flow of trail users throughout the massive Park, while fostering a deep respect and appreciation for the marshlands, forests and the Rouge River.

Point Pelee National Park, Petrel Point Nature Sanctuary, and Rattray Marsh are just three of the many successful examples where organizations such as Parks Canada, Ontario Nature and conservation authorities have constructed trails and boardwalks to restore and conserve sensitive natural areas and safely connect people to them. This approach is particularly necessary given that the Rouge Valley is situated in one of Canada's largest urban regions. Managing this reality is essential to protecting and restoring the Rouge Valley ecosystem, and this can only

be achieved by developing a way for people to interact in a responsible way. Further, the trail and boardwalk will better facilitate enforcement in this area.

Friends of the Rouge National Urban Park (FRUP), together with Waterfront Regeneration Trust (WRT), have met with West Rouge Community Association (WRCA), the Ravine Property Owners Association (RPOA), the Pickering Accessibility Advisory Committee, and local elected representatives to share our views and support for the Project, as well as our confidence in Parks Canada's expertise to execute the Project in the most environmentally responsible way possible.

We are pleased to share that our partner, the WRT supports both the Management Plan and the Rouge Beach Improvements Project. The WRT has played a significant role in the protection of the Rouge Valley over the past 25 years. The WRT recommended the establishment of the Rouge Park Alliance, and has supported hundreds of natural heritage projects to protect and conserve the

Rouge Valley. The WRT is also the leader in the creation of the 3,600 km Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, which passes through the southern part of the Rouge National Urban Park and which will be connected to the new trail and boardwalk.

We acknowledge the long-standing parking issue in the area, which the City of Toronto and Parks Canada are working to address, and we have corresponded with the City to urge their cooperation and to underline that the parking issue should not delay progress on this Project.

We look forward to working with Parks Canada to realize this Project and the tremendous benefits it brings to Canada and our community. Thank you for your expertise and outstanding work to date.

Sincerely,

Pauline Browes  
Chair, Friends of the Rouge National Urban Park



**Formalizing One Trail with Boardwalk Components and Incrementally Restoring the Most Damaging of the Informal Trails Will Significantly Reduce the Human Footprint in the Marsh and Ravine.**



Middle Route Option = **Approx. 2111 metres long**

With a 2-metre wide trail, the footprint would be: **4222 m<sup>2</sup> or 1.04 acres (15.6% of current footprint)**

With a 3-metre wide trail, the footprint would be: **6333 m<sup>2</sup> or 1.56 acres (23.4% of current footprint)**

With a 4-metre wide trail, the footprint will be: **8444 m<sup>2</sup> or 2.1 acre (31.4% of current footprint)**

**Total Current Approximate Human Footprint**

Total length **13,499 metres long**

Square Meters = **26,998 m<sup>2</sup>**

Acres = **6.67135 acres**

**The current footprint is 68.6% to 84.4% larger than one of the proposed formalized trails.**

# WRCA Letter of Support

## Enhancements to the Rouge Beach and Marsh Area of Rouge National Urban Park

By Reza Khoshdel, WRCA Director of Environment and Conservation and Greg Long, WRCA Vice President

*The following is the content of a letter that was sent from the West Rouge Community Association (WRCA) Board to Rouge National Urban Park to express support for the Rouge Beach Improvements Project, but also to raise some concerns that still need to be addressed.*

There has been increased interest and discussion taking place regarding the Rouge Beach Improvements Project. This project features a revitalization of the Beach Day Use Area, a new trail that will provide an in-park connection from Rouge Beach to the existing Mast Trail, and a revitalization of the existing Mast Trailhead, which will be the northern limit of this new trail.

The core pillars of this project include: the mitigation of climate change, flooding, and erosion in the surrounding area; improving safety, stewardship and connectivity for all visitors and residents; restoring the ecological integrity of the surrounding area ecosystem; and respecting the rights of neighbouring community and ravine property owners. These features will provide greater protection of the natural habitat by limiting pedestrian use to a dedicated area, whilst creating a new experience for visitors.

Out of the three proposed options available for this project, the West Rouge Community Association is in support of Route 1 (West Bank). The West Bank route runs south from the Highway 401 underpass and transitions into a raised boardwalk that crosses the Rouge River twice, then continues along the river's west bank. The boardwalk trail follows the pattern of the river and features two lookouts. Route 1 ends with a bridge connection from the west bank to the proposed pedestrian plaza at Rouge Beach.

Although we are in support of Route 1, we would like to see the following concerns addressed:

**1. Parking:** Residents of the surrounding area are well aware that parking for park visitors is very limited and this project will undoubtedly exacerbate the problem further as more interest in the trail will result in a higher number of patrons visiting the park than current levels. It has been well

documented that due to the limited capacity of parking available for visitors, vehicles have used the narrow street space available on Rouge Hills Drive as a parking alternative, which not only creates a safety hazard for visitors and residents, but also an inconvenience for home owners that live on this street and the surrounding area. Furthermore, this proposed revitalization entails the removal of the lower parking area at Rouge Beach, which will only intensify the scarcity of parking available in the area. There are currently no provisions in place to ensure that these parking spots will be replaced elsewhere. In talks with Parks Canada, and with the support of the Friends of the Rouge National Urban Park, we have proposed that additional parking spots be made available to offset this issue on the north side of Lawrence Avenue, just west of the Starspray Blvd.

- 2. Accessibility Issues:** Due to the loss of the lower parking spaces at the base of Rouge Beach, we are concerned that patrons with accessibility needs may not be able to fully utilize the new space because of a lack of infrastructure that would support their needs. The ramp from the entrance of the beach to the bottom of the parking area has a steep grade and is not suited for those that may need assistance coming down the pathway. Removing accessible parking from the lower parking lot will limit people with disabilities from accessing the beach.
- 3. Pedestrian-Only Boardwalk:** Based on our latest discussion, the boardwalk is anticipated to be approximately 2 to 4 metres in width. With a 4-metre-wide boardwalk, and assuming that this pathway would be separated based on directional traffic, we believe there would be safety concerns associated with this space being shared by both cyclists and pedestrians. Such concerns would only be alleviated by a wider path, which may not be in the best interests of the ecological habitat of the surrounding area. Based on these concerns, we are advocating for a pedestrian-only boardwalk in which cycling traffic would be prohibited.
- 4. Bicycle Parking/Storage:** There are currently no plans in place to accommodate a dedicated area where bicycles can be safely stored. Incorporating this in

the design of this project would provide two benefits. First, it would provide cyclists the opportunity to safely store their bicycles as using them on the boardwalk would be prohibited (assuming the final design excludes cycling). Second, it would alleviate some of the pressures that would exist regarding parking capacity. By providing infrastructure that would allow visitors to store their bicycles safely, it would incentivize patrons to use other means besides vehicle transportation to visit the park.

**5. Garbage and Other Debris:** The issue of sanitation is also of great importance. The lack of garbage bins and the growing concerns regarding littering along the surrounding areas of the beach have been of

concern for a long time. We want to ensure that an adequate plan is in place to ensure that the park is able to effectively manage the increased visitor traffic and the subsequent garbage/debris that this will undoubtedly create. How frequently these bins are serviced and their location is something we would like clarification on to ensure that the integrity and beauty of the surrounding area is protected.

There are significant benefits with the completion of this proposed project as previously mentioned. The WRCA will continue to work with Parks Canada to address the aforementioned issues.



**Chiropody • Physiotherapy • Massage Therapy**

- William Jacob, D.Pod.M.*
- Anney Chih Chun Liu, D.Ch.*
- Raj Sarangarajalu, Reg.Pt. (Physio)*
- Stephanie Belle, R.M.T. (Massage)*
- Bobo Chih Huey Liu, R.M.T. (Massage)*



**in step**  
FOOT CLINIC  
Exceptional Care with Integrity

- We Treat All Foot Conditions**
- Foot Pain
  - Heel Pain
  - Ingrown Toenails
  - Callus/Corns
  - Diabetic Foot Care
  - Fungal Nails
  - Warts
  - Pediatric Foot Problems
  - Custom Orthotics
  - Minor Surgeries

No referral necessary. Weeknight/Sat appts. Covered by most insurance plans. Free parking.  
**Book an appointment: 416-203-8563 | 6758 Kingston Rd. (Sheppard/Port Union) | instepfootclinic.ca**

# Boardwalk Trail Expansion

Parks Canada response to NO from Friends of the Rouge Watershed

By Omar McDadi, Superintendent of Rouge National Urban Park, Parks Canada

## RNUP BOARDWALK TRAIL INFORMATION

### A RESPONSE TO FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE WATERSHED (FRW) BY PARKS CANADA

Due to a high level of interest in the Rouge Beach Improvements Project – and the need to ensure accurate information is shared with the community – West Rouge Life offered Parks Canada the opportunity to comment on the article written by the Friends of the Rouge Watershed (FRW). Parks Canada invites the public to visit the project's website for the most authoritative info at: <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/on/rouge/visit/projets-projects/plage-beach/info>. The project's deadline for feedback has been extended to May 1, 2021.

FRW: “This proposed trail would cut-down Rouge Valley forests over a 1200+ meter length and damage the marsh with 400+ meters of boardwalk.” This is incorrect. Parks Canada has not proposed to cut down any forests – the trail would be built largely on existing informal trails and routed to avoid sensitive habitats. Parks Canada aims to avoid removing any trees (and if any trees do need to be removed, they would be replaced at a minimum three-to-one ratio).

FRW: “[The trail will] alter and damage the habitats of rare and endangered birds, fish, turtles and plants”. This is incorrect. A primary project objective is to improve habitat for endangered species by restoring degraded and contaminated ecosystems. The project will result in a significant increase in marshland, forest and aquatic habitats by decommissioning a failing parking lot and by incrementally restoring the most damaging of the area's informal trails. The proposed trail would be built using the existing footprint of an informal trail. By keeping visitors to a defined trail, trampling and degradation of rare habitats and species will be reduced.

FRW: “[The trail will] increase flooding, erosion, siltation, invasive species and water pollution problems”. This is incorrect. The main purpose of this project is to decrease flooding, erosion, siltation, invasive species spread and water pollution. Decommissioning the parking lot (which will be done with sediment protections in place) will increase the marsh's capacity to store water during storm events and absorb and filter urban run-off. The possible addition of carp exclusion barriers will improve water quality, clarity and vegetation growth in the marsh, which in turn will improve habitat for rare species like Blanding's turtles. Erosion and siltation will be improved through restoration plantings and regeneration of native vegetation, which will reduce water pollution by allowing the area to have higher filtration capacity. More than 20 invasive species will be targeted and managed to improve habitat quality.

FRW: “[The trail will] significantly increase traffic, illegal parking, littering, trespassing, vandalism and noise. This is incorrect. The trail would be designed to streamline pedestrian traffic to reduce the damage currently caused by trampling of species-at-risk on unmanaged informal trails. The boardwalk would “float” above the landscape, with all of the impact confined to the supporting piles that can be designed to avoid or minimize impacts. In Parks Canada's experience, the addition of handrails helps to achieve close to 100 percent compliance in terms of keeping visitors within a defined trail area, thereby significantly reducing the likelihood of trespassing. As part of this project proposal, Parks Canada is working with the City of Toronto to increase on-site parking capacity to curtail illegal parking.

FRW: Contrary to an inter-governmental agreement signed by Canada and Ontario, the Rouge Marsh Boardwalk Trail disregards



Ontario's Greenbelt Plan and regulations which prohibit major new recreational developments within Provincially Significant Wetlands and Floodplains. This is incorrect. There are many trails and boardwalks in the Greenbelt – and Parks Canada views the project as harmonious with the Greenbelt Plan. The proposal also aligns strongly with the park's main legislation, The Rouge National Urban Park Act, and fulfills a commitment made in the 2019 Rouge National Urban Park Management Plan. Moreover, the project has been endorsed by the Honourable David Crombie, founding chair of Ontario's Greenbelt Council and one of Canada's most respected environmental leaders.

FRW: Most of the Marsh Boardwalk Trail would be built below the three-metre-high flood level, risking costly and recurring damage and harm to visitors.

This is incorrect. The boardwalk would be built in line with 50-to-100-year flood levels, which are closer to 3 feet – not 3 metres, and Parks Canada has commissioned extensive geomorphological and hydrological studies to make this scientific determination.

FRW: Parks Canada openly speaks of the Boardwalk Trail as a done deal and this has prejudiced their impact assessment. This is incorrect. Parks Canada has twice extended the public consultation period to ensure all perspectives can be heard – no final decisions have been made for any aspects of this project. Parks Canada has been conducting detailed public consultation on this project since February 2020. By May 1, the close of the public commenting period, Parks Canada will have completed 15 months of public consultations, including hundreds of meetings, workshops, walks, phone calls and virtual forums. The public will also have an opportunity to comment on a Detailed Impact

Assessment (DIA) – the federal government's most robust environmental and cultural assessment – when the DIA is posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry's website (<https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca>) this spring.

FRW: Why is Parks Canada ignoring science? ... Parks Canada proposes to cut a swath through Rouge Valley Forests and develop a Wetland for a non-essential Boardwalk Trail.

This is incorrect. Parks Canada's 11 biologists use the most-up-to-date science and have never proposed to cut a swath of forest – most of the trail would be built on existing informal trails.

FRW: Parks Canada is also ignoring science by reducing reforestation by 75% on the park's public lands. This is incorrect. Parks Canada has significantly increased ecological restoration in the Rouge Valley. Since 2015, Parks Canada has restored more than 70.5 hectares of wetlands and 28 hectares of forest habitat. Parks Canada has also planted more than 123,000 native trees and shrubs and released nearly 400 endangered Blanding's turtles back into the park. An additional 45,000 trees are expected to be planted in 2021 alone.

FRW: “[The trail] is designed to attract 300,000 additional visitors each year to the Rouge Marsh and its surroundings.” This is incorrect. The trail is meant to better accommodate the visitors and residents that already visit the area while improving the park's ecological integrity. Parks Canada has no intentions of promoting the area as a major destination and is planning to reduce and work towards eliminating visitation on the most damaging of the unmanaged informal trails in the marsh area.

# From The East Bank

## Restoring and Safeguarding Rouge Beach and Marsh for Future Generations



By Timothy J. Higgins

Rouge National Urban Park and the Pickering community are poised for unprecedented change over the next few decades. Local population, demographic diversity and public expectations for accessibility accommodations are expected to grow exponentially over this timeframe. The Pickering Accessibility Advisory Committee therefore strongly supports the proactive Rouge National Urban Park Rouge Beach Improvements Project.

The City of Pickering is committed to creating an accessible community for all of its residents by providing accessible facilities, programs and services, based on the principles of universal access and removing barriers for people with both visible and non-visible disabilities. Accordingly, Pickering's Accessibility Advisory Committee is pleased to have been consulted by representatives of the Rouge National Urban Park with respect to plans for the Rouge Beach Improvements Project with a view to ensuring exemplary inclusion and accessibility practices consistent with the core principles of dignity, independence, integration, and equal opportunity.

Specific features/attributes of the proposed boardwalk trail and the pier design that appeal to the Pickering Accessibility Advisory Committee members include:

- enhanced overall accessibility to exceptional natural vistas and a rare sense of beauty and tranquility during stressful times;
- improved community connectivity and safety;
- balanced respect for the rights of ravine property owners and people with disabilities;
- reduced illegal dumping, vandalism and safety hazards by closing socially created trails;
- minimized disruption during construction;
- restoration of the wetland habitat, and beach; and,
- flood and erosion mitigation.

In the opinion of the Pickering Accessibility Advisory Committee members, it will be an exciting day when the Rouge Beach Improvements Project is completed and the accessibility community will finally have equal access to the Rouge River from the Waterfront Trail

and Rouge Beach. This will provide southern access to the Mast Trail, Glen Rouge Campground, and other trails to the north in Rouge National Urban Park. It will improve safety in not having to cross Highway 401. Accessible washrooms at Rouge Beach will further enhance the experience, and the entire project will demonstrate care for the environment by restoring fragile ecosystems.

Yours truly,

Timothy J. Higgins, B. Com., CPA, CGA  
 Coordinator, Pickering Accessibility Advisory Committee (PAAC)  
 Support for the Rouge Beach Improvement Project

Making  
a move.



Together we can identify the home financing solution that meets your needs.



**Contact me today**

Emmanuel Tidd  
 Manager,  
 Mobile Mortgage Specialist  
 T: 416-938-0613 | F: 1-833-676-8422  
 emmanuel.tidd@td.com



# Bennett Gastle <sup>PC</sup>

Litigation Lawyers



The Richardson House  
27 Old Kingston Road  
Toronto, ON M1E 3J6

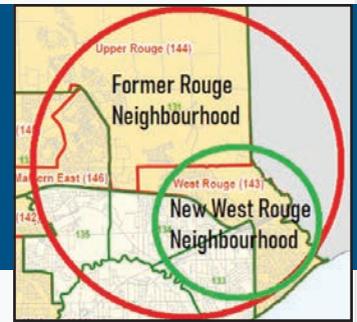
Bennett Gastle is an east end boutique law firm headed by former partners of a downtown Toronto firm who have been practising together for more than 20 years. We are a team of professionals with extensive litigation and dispute resolution expertise. Driven by a results-oriented and personalized approach we provide services best suited to the needs of each case and client.

[www.bennettgastle.com](http://www.bennettgastle.com)

Contact Elizabeth Bennett-Martin at 416.361.3319 ext. 224 • [ebm@bennettgastle.com](mailto:ebm@bennettgastle.com)

# Our New Neighbourhood

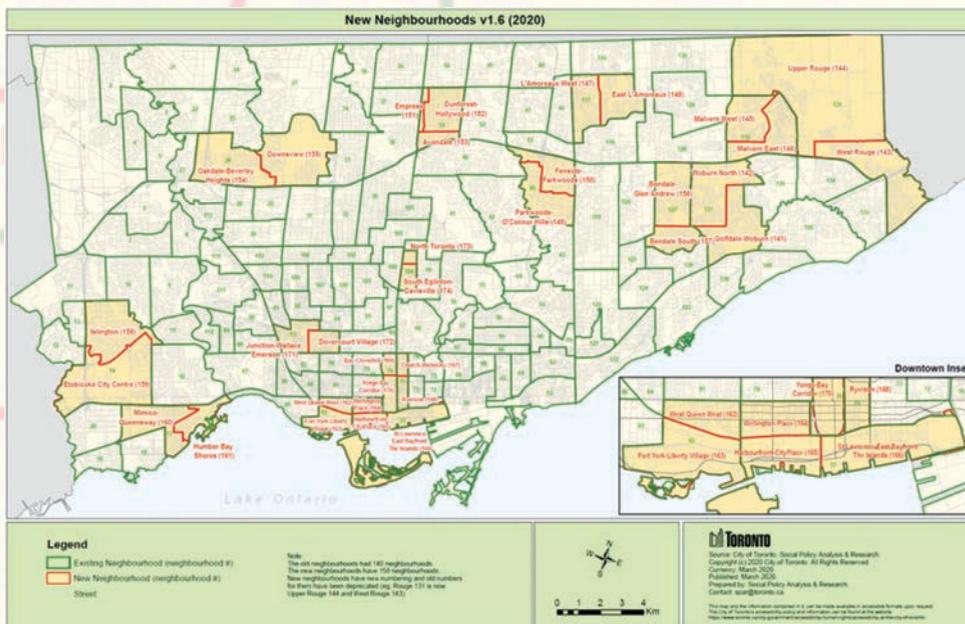
By Kevin Narraway, Past President, West Rouge Community Association



You may have heard that the City of Toronto is updating their neighbourhood boundaries. The City is planning to increase their number of Social Planning Neighbourhoods from 140 to 158, the first change to these boundaries since the late 1990s.

and wellbeing statistics, they are not the authoritative source on what defines a community. A distinct community is about a shared identity which is often reinforced by physical boundaries. In the case of our community, we have clear physical boundaries on three of our four sides, being

Lake Ontario to the south, Highway 401 to the north, the Rouge Valley to the east, and a less apparent boundary of Port Union Road to the west. These boundaries, coupled with our connectivity as neighbours are why West Rouge is so identifiable as a distinct community. With that said, our overall neighbourhood in the eyes of the City has become much smaller and more reflective of West Rouge which should allow for more accurate data about our community, even though it's still not perfect.



As can be seen in the image below, the former neighbourhood of Rouge highlighted in dark yellow was very large and was bounded by Lake Ontario to the south, Steeles Avenue to the north, the community of Malvern to the West, and by the Rouge Valley to the east.

The newly created Social Planning Neighbourhoods of West Rouge and Upper Rouge, identified by the red line in the above image, split the former Rouge neighbourhood into two pieces and should allow the City to collect more accurate data about West Rouge going forward. Interestingly, the City has included a section of homes and businesses north of Highway 401 and south of Sheppard Avenue in the West Rouge neighbourhood.

It's important to note that while the City defines these Social Planning Neighbourhoods for the purposes of collecting demographic information, socio-economic data, and health

of the service area and membership of the West Rouge Community Association will not change, unless we want them to. The service area for the Community Association is enshrined in our constitution which can be viewed at [www.westrouge.org/constitution](http://www.westrouge.org/constitution). Section 1.0 (2) defines the community boundaries as Highway 401 to the north, Port Union Road to the west, Lake Ontario to the south, and the Rouge River to the east. Changing these boundaries requires an amendment to our constitution which involves a detailed process amongst the Board of Directors followed by a majority vote of the membership at an Annual General Meeting.

On a final note, the West Rouge Community Association service area hasn't been changed since the Association was formed in 1983. If there is a desire to explore changes to these boundaries, we would be interested to hear community feedback and would invite your comments by through our website at [www.westrouge.org/contactus](http://www.westrouge.org/contactus).

# Hidden Gems in West Rouge

Hidden in West Rouge are artisans and home-based businesses trying to be found. This page offers two free ads (at the discretion of the Publisher) to help build awareness. Contact Rose Morra at [wrlpublisher@gmail.com](mailto:wrlpublisher@gmail.com) to request your free ad. Open to home-based businesses that have not advertised in WRL before.

## ST. DUNSTAN'S CRAFTIES GIFT BOUTIQUE

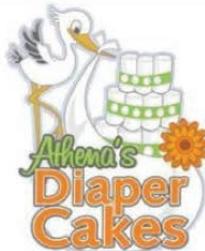


One of a kind handmade knitwear, baby clothes, and quilts, afghans, jewelry, home décor, seasonal items, and much more. We sincerely ask you to check out our website when shopping for gifts. Our stock is one of a kind, and new items arrive every week.

<https://bethmacdonald0.wixsite.com/stdunstancrafties>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stdunstancrafties/>



General Construction; Home remodeling, Decks, Landscaping, Garage building and more. Get Your Free, No-Obligation Quote Today! 100% Free Estimates. Call Alex (416) 459-6809 or email [marouservicegeneral@gmail.com](mailto:marouservicegeneral@gmail.com)



Athena's Diaper Cakes specialises in custom diaper cakes, handmade crochet hats and hair accessories for children. We have been proudly serving the West Rouge Community for over a decade. Consider us for your baby showers and gift giving needs ! Find us at: [www.athenasdiapercakes.com](http://www.athenasdiapercakes.com) @athenasdiapercakes (Instagram) [www.facebook.com/athenasdiapercakes](http://www.facebook.com/athenasdiapercakes)



The Bent Witch is an Eclectic online shop for one-of-a-kind jewelry, art, and products made with natural ingredients. Services for Readings through Tarot, Oracle, and Runes are available. Book The Bent Witch for your next social event [Www.thebentwitch.ca](http://www.thebentwitch.ca)



Instagram: @alexpropertymanagement  
 Facebook: @aproertymanagement



Alex² Property Management is a new property management company servicing West Rouge and Pickering . APM offers a wide array of property-related services including lawn/ garden, snow removal, and fence/deck construction. We love our Rouge customers and they love us. Contact us for any property maintenance or for any project you have in mind.

# Pond Hockey..

The Rouge Pond, along with some good ice making weather, has been a godsend this past winter of COVID. Thank you to the pond for refreshing our mental health. A big thank you to Dan Granner for his aerial drone footage, Blog TO for their post, and Julia Kuzmich for her photos.



# This Toronto beach has transformed into a massive skating rink



# JEAN SKAPURA TEAM

WWW.SKAPURASELLS.COM

*"We treat people the way we like to be treated...with honesty, integrity and professionalism".*

## Selling with Jean is Highly Recommended!

### THINKING OF A MOVE?

## Call Me Today of your Free No Obligation Consultation!

### It's still a STRONG SELLER'S MARKET!

Jean, Thank you so much! You have been outstanding. We are so happy with everything! You have totally outperformed any agent we have ever dealt with. It was impressive and extremely helpful the way you dove in and took care of all the extra things for us. That was a huge weight off our shoulders! We will keep you in mind for any future real estate dealings we may have. Fantastic price you got us as well! You have really exceeded our expectations!

- Dr. Howarth, M.D

Fantastic is the best word I can think of to describe having you as my Realtor! You saved me time, money and stress by dropping off all the packing materials and you even arranged a wonderful handyman who did a great job on the repairs for a reasonable price. I loved the attractive staging, the professional photographs and the beautiful marketing pieces you created. I really appreciate everything you did. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for selling my home for a record high price and in such a short time despite the pandemic! I highly recommend Jean!

- Helen Ritchie

My partner and I felt that home ownership would never be possible for us, let alone during a pandemic. Immediately, Jean made us comfortable and confident with her research-based approach, helping us unpack all the details as we viewed listing by listing. More shocking to us that we could see the homes in person during a quarantine. Jean was extremely transparent and upfront about all the specific COVID-19 protocols, paperwork, and even drew out clearly how and what is different during this period. I cannot say enough about how supported and respected we felt by Jean during our process in finding our first home! What a dream! Thank you to Jean and her excellent team! We could not have done it without you, and I would not have changed a thing.

- Lindsey and James

## Serving OUR Community of over 30 Years!



Direct Line **416-737-8300**

[jean.skapura@gmail.com](mailto:jean.skapura@gmail.com)

416-284-4751 / 905-427-6522



**Jean Skapura**  
Broker, B.A.

Not intended to solicit those already under contract

# Letters to the Publisher

## THE BUTTERFLY PROJECT ASSISTANCE NEEDED

The West Rouge Community Association newsletter reaches a large number of people and I am hoping that you would be willing to support my volunteer efforts as a Butterflyway Project ranger. The Butterflyway Project is a citizen-led effort to create more native plant gardens to support our pollinators. I live in the CCRA community and am thrilled to be volunteering with the David Suzuki Foundation on this project. I want to share the knowledge and resources I receive from them with neighbours, organizations, schools and businesses in both Centennial and West Rouge. We know that our neighbourhood is on the monarch butterflyway each fall, and with our vicinity to Rouge Park and ravine systems, having more native plant gardens to support our pollinators is even more important. You may contact me at 416-262-7894 or at the email address given below if you have any questions or concerns. I have an introductory letter on letterhead if that would be a suitable 'article' to introduce the project and gain interest in the neighbourhood.

Karen Heisz  
416-262-7894  
karen.heisz@gmail.com

## COYOTE EDUCATION NEEDED

Dear Coyote Watch Canada,

Last year, you were scheduled to give a talk at the West Rouge Community Centre. That never happened due to COVID. This year, I think that Coyote Watch needs to send out volunteers to post education signs, to counteract any negative signs that residents are posting. I would also like Coyote Watch Canada to work with the West Rouge Community Association to set up a virtual education session. The coyotes are living at the West Rouge Pumping Station. I love them living here, and I would like the neighbours to respect, but not freak out over the coyotes.

Please reverse the negative messages of these signs. It is our SHARED street, and I feel this means it belongs to the coyotes, as much as it does to the human residents.

Sincerely,

Nicole Corrado  
www.nicolecorradoart.wordpress.com

*Publisher's note: go to [westrouge.org](http://westrouge.org) for more information about coyotes.*



THE HOME TEAM TORONTO

**Louie Saradin & Sylvia Huizinga**  
Sales Representatives

office: 416.461.9900 | [thehometeam.to@gmail.com](mailto:thehometeam.to@gmail.com)  
direct: 416.301.3462 | [websitesite: thehometeamtoronto.com](http://websitesite: thehometeamtoronto.com)

840 Pape Avenue Toronto, ON M4K 3T6



**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
urban realty

It's more than real estate, it's real life.



info@toproofers.ca

416-333-8527

@TopRoofers416

We are Toronto's Top Roofers and  
**We Are in Your Neighbourhood!**

Serving the Rouge & eastern Toronto for **over 25 years**, Top Roofers has been providing your neighbours with **personal service and professionalism** while caring for the roof over their head.

We offer our clients,

- Roof Repair, Replacement & Maintenance
- Chimney Repair
- Eavestroughs
- **Firm Quotes in Writing**
- **WSIB & Liability Coverage**

Visit our website for more information and a quote:  
[www.toproofers.ca](http://www.toproofers.ca)



Licensed  
&  
Insured

**Home Improvements**

Metro  
Licence  
#B10024

- **Kitchens**
- **Bathrooms**
- **Basements**
- **Plumbing**
- **Doors & Locks**
- **Windows**
- **Fences & Decks**
- **Electrical**
- **Roofing**
- **Eavestroughing**
- **Downspout Disconnections**
- **Custom Fireplaces**

*For a no charge estimate call Alan Megahy at:*

**416-266-3434**

**info@husbandforhire.com**

**41 Holmcrest Trail Scarborough, ON, M1C 1V6 • Follow us on Instagram @husbandforhire1**

**West Rouge is my home.  
It is a wonderful community  
to live in, to raise a family  
and to run a business.**

**For over 30 years I have been  
helping families in the West Rouge  
find their special home or  
sell their current home.**

**If you are planning on making a  
move, or just want to know what  
the Real Estate Market is doing,  
please reach out. I would love  
to chat with you; perhaps show  
you what I do that helps  
my clients make their next move  
with as little stress as possible.**

**Check out what my clients  
have to say on "rankmyagent.com"**

**I'd love to help you  
make your next move!**

**www.georgianawoods.com  
georgiana@georgianawoods.com**



*Georgiana  
Woods*  
Sales Representative



**ROYAL LEPAGE**

Connect Realty

INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

416-209-6220 | [georgiana@georgianawoods.com](mailto:georgiana@georgianawoods.com) | [www.georgianawoods.com](http://www.georgianawoods.com)




By Paul Cookson, Marketing Consultant, paul@adarmygroup.com, 416-271-7994



*Credit: goodfreephotos.com*

**MARKETING IS WAR**

To win the Marketing war you need to think of Marketing like you are going to war and the only way to win a war is to have multiple assets in the fight.

For war, you'd have boots on the ground, tanks, artillery, fighter jets, bombers, aircraft carriers, destroyers, subs and so on to get winning results.

It's impossible to win a war with one of the above and you should think of the marketing of your business the same way, except you're trying to win the minds of your target audience.

For example, if the only marketing you do is wrapping one car with your logo or mailing out the odd flyer then don't expect earth shattering results.

But, if you have 4 partners and each of you wrap your car, do social media, sponsor a few teams in the same neighbourhood you are advertising in, do 8 hours of cold calling a week per partner, advertise on 6 bench ads, plus do flyers or direct mail to opinion leaders in a meaningful, constant and targeted way then expect results.

Familiarity breeds confidence which triggers sales. The more familiar someone is with what you do the more likely they will become a customer.

Good Luck,



Paul Cookson  
Marketing Consultant  
416-271-7994

# NEED HELP WITH YOUR BUSINESS?

I've been a key player in multiple start ups & business turn-arounds! One company I took from 2 million to 42 million in yearly sales. Another, I implemented a strategy that took it from 300k to 15+ million in yearly sales.

I successfully launched the Muskoka Equipment Company ski-wear line that flew off the shelves at Canadian Tire plus created many many other general merchandise items including a bunch of NHL licensed products.

My products have been sold in Canadian Tire, Loblaws, Sobeys, Metro, Shoppers Drug Mart, Food Basics, Lawton Drugs, Needs and CVS in the US.

One of my marketing clients was recently voted one of the fastest growing companies in Canada by Maclean's Magazine.

Besides being an expert in sales and marketing I'm also well experienced in product design, sourcing & manufacturing goods in China.

I'd love to discuss your business with you and help you create opportunities for growth.

I'd even consider investing time and energy in your business in return for a share in the profits.

Give me a call at +14162717994

**PAUL COOKSON**  
MARKETING CONSULTANT  
BUSINESS ADVISOR

**ADARMYGROUP.COM**  
WEB DESIGN & MARKETING LEADERS

CALL 416.286.2860 FOR DETAILS  
116 ISLAND ROAD, SCARBOROUGH

# Board of Directors

<b>COMMITTEE/POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
President	Kathi Loughran	loughrank@hotmail.com
Vice President Director, Crime and Safety	Greg Long	greg.long9@yahoo.ca
Treasurer	Sharon Stoute	sistoute@gmail.com
Secretary and Director, Website Advertising	Sonya Barclay	sajbarclay@gmail.com
Director, Advertising, West Rouge Life	Gita Viswanathan	gitasv7@gmail.com
Communications Lead Director, Membership	Larry Whatmore	larry.whatmore@rogers.com
Director, Environment and Conservation	Reza Khoshdel	reza.khoshdel01@gmail.com
Co-Director, Social Media	Ash Khan	westrouge@hotmail.com
Co-Director, Social Media	Rose Morra	rosemorra2002@yahoo.ca
Director, Rouge Park	Deb Kravis	pdkravis@gmail.com
Director	Tiago Do Couto	tiago.docouto@gmail.com
Director	Jon Mendoza	jonjamesmendoza@gmail.com
Past President, Website Editor Director, Planning and Development	Kevin Narraway	knarraway@gmail.com



# Community Directory

WEST ROUGE



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Emergency (property or people at risk)	9-1-1
Rouge National Urban Park	416-264-2020 pc.rouge.pc@canada.ca
Toronto's Municipal Information Hotline (for problems in the community)	3-1-1
Toronto Fire Services (general inquiry)	416-338-9050
Toronto Paramedic Services (general inquiry)	416-392-2000
Toronto Police Services (non-emergency)	416-808-2222
43 Division Non-Emergency Police (Community Response)	416-808-4308
Toronto Animal Services	416-338-7297 toronto.ca/animalservices
Toronto Wildlife Centre	416-631-0662 torontowildlifecentre.com

## COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Toronto Public Library (Port Union Branch)	416-396-8885
Port Union Community Centre (PUCC)	416-396-4031
West Rouge Community Centre (WRCC)	416-396-4147

## ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES:

Gary Anandasangaree, MP, Scarborough - Rouge Park	416-283-1414
Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP, Scarborough-Rouge Park	416-283-8448
Jennifer McKelvie, Toronto City Councillor	416-338-3771
Anu Sriskandarajah, Public School Trustee	416-395-8787
Garry Tanuan, Catholic School Trustee	416-512-3408

## CLUBS & ASSOCIATIONS:

West Rouge Mature Adult Day (MAD) - Henny Bernards	416-396-4147
Optimist Club of Rouge Valley - Roy Leslie	416-518-5665
Port Union Seniors	416-396-4034
Beavers / Cubs / Scouts - Scouts Canada, Ontario Headquarters	416-512-2461
Sparks / Brownies / Guides - Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council	1-877-323-4545
The Dukes of Harmony - Ron Brown	416-759-8901
Pickering Rouge Canoe Club	905-767-3330
West Hill Baseball League	416.500.6190 gregblazina@gmail.com
West Rouge Basketball	www.westrougebasketball.ca
West Rouge Community Association - Kathi Loughran	416-458-9408
West Rouge Soccer Club	416-281-3989
West Rouge Sports & Recreation Association - Louise Bonnycastle	416-283-1938
West Rouge Tennis Club	westrougetennisclub.com
Scarborough Softball Association	scarboroughsoftballassociation.com
West Hill Minor Hockey Association	whmha.goalline.ca
West Hill-Highland Creek Lions Club	lionsclub.ca

## SCHOOLS:

Joseph Howe Senior Public, 20 Winter Gardens Trail	416-396-6405
Sir Oliver Mowat Collegiate Institute, 5400 Lawrence Avenue East	416-396-6802
St Brendan Catholic - 186 Centennial Road	416-393-5359
West Rouge Junior Public - 401 Friendship Avenue	416-396-6635
William G. Davis Junior Public - 128 East Avenue	416-396-6650
École élémentaire catholique Saint-Michel	416-393-5421

# BACK TO SCHOOL QUESTIONS?



## YOU NEED OXFORD LEARNING

- ✓ Math
- ✓ Reading
- ✓ French
- ✓ Homework
- ✓ Writing
- ✓ Better Grades

**NOW ENROLLING!**



All Ages. All Grades. All Subjects. **ENROL TODAY!**

Scarborough East 647.496.5697

[oxfordlearning.com](http://oxfordlearning.com)

Member - Canadian Investor Protection Fund

## You work hard for your money. Make it work hard for you.



**Shiv Klair, CIM<sup>®</sup>**

Financial Advisor

91 Rylander Blvd.

Unit 1-8

Scarborough, ON M1B 5M5

416-286-8826

**Edward Jones<sup>®</sup>**

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

[www.edwardjones.ca](http://www.edwardjones.ca)

# Jill's TEAM

YOUR REAL ESTATE CONCIERGE 

## Jill's TEAM ADVANTAGE

**PROVEN RESULTS\*** + **SUPERIOR MARKETING** + **AREA EXPERTISE** + **TEAMWORK**

- Average selling price 104% of list price
- Average 6.4 days to sell
- 97.3% of listings sold
- Professional floor plans and photography
- Extensive marketing materials for buyers
- Custom websites
- Social media
- Live and work in neighbourhood
- Respected monthly Real Estate report to 6900 homes in neighbourhood
- 4 full-time agents at your service
- Friendly client care team to assist you
- Excellent trades people to give you a hand



Considering a move?  
Wondering what your home is worth in today's market?  
**Contact Jill's TEAM for a complimentary, confidential home evaluation.**



*Jill's*TEAM.CA  
416-443-0300  
INFO@JILLSTEAM.CA



JILL FEWSTER-YAN  
BROKER

JENNIFER FEWSTER-YAN  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

LARRY YAN  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

RICARDO AGBAY  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

ERIN GREGORY  
BROKER

ROYAL LEPAGE SIGNATURE REALTY, BROKERAGE. NOT INTENDED TO SOLICIT THOSE ALREADY UNDER CONTRACT WITH ANOTHER BROKERAGE.

\* Toronto Real Estate Board (TREB) figures are averages based on MLS sales activity from 2016-2020. \*\*Jill's TEAM figures are averages based on total MLS listing activity for Jill's TEAM from 2016-2020.

# Index to Advertisers



PAGE#	ADVERTISER	PAGE#	ADVERTISER
61	Ad Army Group Marketing Services	27	The Medicine Shoppe
17	Airlift Limousine	17	Nails For You
49	Bennett Gastle	64	Oxford Learning
6	By The Lake Dental	28	Port Union Bakery
11	Charlottetown Childcare	17	R.C. Ross Gas Services
9	City Street Outreach	25	Randy Moore Foot Care Clinic
4	Classic Fireplace	59	Royal LePage - Georgiana Woods
36	Emm Home Repair	65	Royal LePage - Jill's Team
64	Edward Jones - Shiv Klair	56	Royal LePage - Jean Skapura
17	EXP Realty Brokerage	7	Royal LePage - Joanne Bolte
13	Experia Cruises	57	Royal LePage - Urban Realty
35	Fleury, Comery LLP	36	Secure Tires
17	Framing Dames	17,28	Sherwin-Williams Paints
15	Gary Anandasangaree	35	The Singing Painter
34	Guildwood Physiotherapy	15	Steve Donaldson Professional Painting
15	Hedgehog Landscaping	36	Sure Stop Tire and Auto Centre
6	HomeLife Today	28	Tatham, Pearson Barristers & Solicitors
58	Husband For Hire	48	TD Emmanuel Tidd
45	InStep Foot Clinic	58	Top Roofers
11	Liberty School of Music	9	Vijay Thanigasalam
22	Metroptical	35	West Rouge Sweat Shirts

**Inside Back Cover**

RE/MAX Rouge River Realty - Sophia Tan

**Inside Front Cover**

Ravine Auto Repair Centre

**Outside Back Cover**

RE/MAX Rouge River Realty - Trish French

Advertise in  
West Rouge Life  
Magazine or online at  
[www.westrouge.org](http://www.westrouge.org)

**WHEN YOU ADVERTISE IN THE WEST ROUGE LIFE MAGAZINE & ON THE WRCA WEBSITE, YOUR BUSINESS BENEFITS FROM:**

- Reaching a targeted audience of 3400 households in the West Rouge Community
- Having your ad in a highly regarded, quality publication
- Reaching a global online audience
- Excellent advertising prices

If your ad contains pictures or graphics, it must be completely assembled and ready to print.

For Ad Creation and Ad Submission contact Gita Viswanathan:  
[gitasv7@gmail.com](mailto:gitasv7@gmail.com)

**For next issue we need your artwork/ad by  
JULY 31, 2021**

For more information or to book your advertisement for the next issue, please contact:

**GITA VISWANATHAN**  
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR  
647-838-4447  
Email: [gitasv7@gmail.com](mailto:gitasv7@gmail.com)

**For Advertising  
PLEASE CONTACT GITA FOR DETAILS**



# Sophia Tan Broker

FINE HOMES DIRECTOR

My Focus is to Make the Process of Buying or Selling  
Your Home as Efficient and Stress-Free as Possible.  
Imagine That!



416-417-4488

416-286-3993

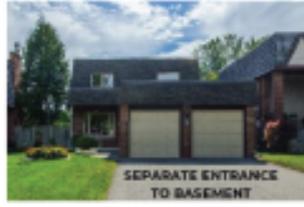
## SOME OF THE HOUSES **SOLD** BY SOPHIA TAN



### 24 McMillan Ave

Listed At \$1,688,800

**SOLD** \$2,225,000 in 4 Days  
March 2021



### 343 Lawson Rd

Listed at \$950,000

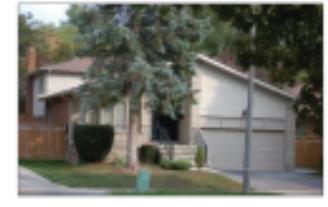
**SOLD** \$1,275,000 in 6 Days  
February 2021



### 50 Golders Green Ave

Listed at \$750,000

**SOLD** \$901,000 in 5 Days  
November 2020



### 35 Feagan Dr

Lawrence/Bathgate

**SOLD** \$1,300,000  
October 2020



### 19 Calthorpe Ave

Highland Creek

**SOLD** \$1,227,000  
October 2020



### 2 Delbeatrice Cres

Listed at \$1,249,800

**SOLD** \$1,400,800 in 2 Days  
September 2020



### 24 Satchell Blvd

Listed at \$949,800

**SOLD** \$1,085,000 in 2 Days  
September 2020



### 23 Delbeatrice Cres

Meadowdale/Lawrence

**SOLD** \$1,331,000 in 7 Days  
August 2020



### 11 Haviland Dr

Listed at \$998,800

**SOLD** \$1,125,000 in 1 Day  
August 2020



### 202 Lawson Rd

Represented Buyer

**SOLD & Closed**  
July 2020



### 1 Milroy Cr

Highland Creek

**SOLD** \$1.1 Million 2 Days  
June 2020



### 53 Portsmouth Dr

Represented Buyer

**SOLD** \$905,000  
April 2020



### 57 Ravine Park Cres

Listed At \$899,800

**SOLD** \$1,060,000 in 3 Days  
March 2020



### 86 Portsmouth Dr

Listed at \$899,800

**SOLD** \$1,050,000 in 2 Days  
February 2020



### 37 Invermarge Dr

Meadowdale/Lawrence

**SOLD** \$1,200,000 in 5 Days  
February 2020



### 23 Winding Crt

Listed At \$1,249,900

**SOLD** \$1,275,000 in 1 Day  
January 2020

**FREE**

### *CURRENT MARKET EVALUATION CERTIFICATE*

This Certificate entitles a residential property owner to one market evaluation. If you are interested in finding out the current value of your home, please call me to arrange an appointment without cost or obligation.

**SOPHIA TAN**, Broker

Email: [sophiatan@sympatico.ca](mailto:sophiatan@sympatico.ca)

RE/MAX ROUGE RIVER REALTY LTD BROKERAGE

Website: [www.sophiatan.com](http://www.sophiatan.com)

Office 416-286-3993 Cell 416-417-4488

17 Durawaton Dr., West Hill, Ontario M3C 3L9 Not intended to solicit properties already listed for sale

## Sophia Tan

416-417-4488

416-286-3993

SEE MY WEB PAGE

[WWW.SOPHIATAN.COM](http://WWW.SOPHIATAN.COM)

Email: [sophiatan@sympatico.ca](mailto:sophiatan@sympatico.ca)



**Trish French & Team**  
Salesperson



Office **416-286-3993** Cell **416-970-0880**

Sold by Trish in the past 22 years



RE/MAX ROUGE  
#1  
Salesperson  
in Rouge E10  
2018 - 2020

Thank you...

*It has been an honour and privilege to serve so many families here over the past 35+ years. Thank you for your trust.*

*Trish*

**2020 SOLD BY TRISH**



**60 DONSHIRE CRT.**

SOLD OVER LIST • 1 DAY  
MLS LIST \$/188,800



**391 EAST AVE.**

SOLD OVER LIST • 2 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$1,080,000



**35 GREYSILVER TRAIL**

SOLD OVER LIST • 2 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$175,000



**4 HARTSVILLE AVE.**

SOLD • 7 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$199,800



**101 KIRKDENE DR.**

SOLD • 12 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$175,000



**36 RAVINE PARK CRES.**

SOLD • 6 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$175,000



**534 ROUGE HILLS DR.**

SOLD • 8 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$199,800



**385 DECIMAL PLACE**

SOLD BY TRISH!  
EXCLUSIVE LIST \$182,000



**43 BIRDSILVER TRAIL**

SOLD BY TRISH • 10 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$1,195,000



**6229 LAWRENCE AVE E.**

SOLD OVER LIST • 6 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$/295,800



**41 GREYSILVER TRAIL**

SOLD OVER LIST • 6 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$199,800



**105 WINTER GARDENS TRAIL**

SOLD OVER LIST • 6 DAYS  
MLS LIST \$199,800



"Rosewood" French Family Cottage on the river 1935-1966  
"Rosewood" French Family Homestead 1953-2011

**35+ Years  
West Rouge  
Realtor...**

Born and raised  
with family roots  
here since 1935



Contact me for your  
**FREE** market evaluation.

soldbytrish@gmail.com 416-970-0880

**For \$\$ SOLD prices ... visit trishfrench.com**