

Orchard Heights Connections



Orchard Heights
Homeowners' Association

President's Message

I'm excited to share with you our Spring Newsletter! We have so much planned over the coming months and I hope you will feel inspired to join us. We start with an all candidates meeting to help you get informed about the upcoming provincial election. Next up is our AGM where we will report on the past year's activities and outline what we have planned this year. And in late June, our annual OHHA BBQ is back!

To keep you abreast on issues impacting us, this newsletter includes information about issues related to the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force report. I encourage you to click on the embedded links to learn more about the risks some of the report's recommendations pose to the character of single family dwelling zoned communities.

We've also included information on where to go to keep current about the QEW/Dixie Interchange project. The recent tree destruction is alarming and Councillor Dasko jumped into immediate action when he learned some trees were in the process of being cut that were outside the designated area. We will push for planting trees once the project is complete.

To assist with using the new reporting system for Neighbourhood Watch, I have invited a representative from Safe City to speak to us on this topic at the upcoming AGM. And, unfortunately our community is not immune to the city wide issue of car thefts. Click on the related links below to get the best prevention tips.

We'd love you to get involved and help us out. We are looking for a volunteer to set up a chess/checker club and volunteers to help with activities related to the BBQ. Volunteering is fun, rewarding and brings so much value to Orchard Heights residents.

Being involved with such an engaged community is what differentiates Orchard Heights from so many other neighbourhoods. It's why I love serving on the board of OHHA - and why I encourage everyone to become a member or renew their membership. We've had so many comments from new residents about how special this place truly is! I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events!

Tonya Elmazi
President, Orchard Heights Homeowners' Association



Photo credit:
Dominique Giliberti

OHHA Annual General Meeting

AGM 2022 - Save the Date - Thursday June 16th

We will be holding our **Annual General Meeting on June 16th**. Once again, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom. You will receive an email inviting you to register for the event. Once registered, you will receive a link to participate. The meeting will commence at 6:45 pm and end at 8:30 pm. We have invited our municipal, provincial and federal representatives. Only members in good standing will be allowed to vote on OHHA business, so please ensure your 2022 membership fee is paid up. (See how to renew or join OHHA below).

Stay tuned for more details a few weeks before the event via our official AGM Notice.

Park Beautification

Arrival of Community Bulletin Board and Chess Tables

Ron Searle Park will have a couple of new additions this summer that will encourage neighbours and family to gather and socialize. Thanks to Councillor Dasko we will have two new chess/checkers tables. A fun gathering spot for residents of all ages!



We also plan to have a double-sided Bulletin Board. We have contributions from Councillor Dasko, our holiday OHHA Poinsettia fundraiser and OHHA membership fees. We would appreciate donations to help us fund the balance of the cost. Please email orchard.heights.ha@gmail.com if you would like to offer a donation.

Want to Start a Chess/Checkers Club?

If you are a chess or checkers fan and would like to start a group - contact us at orchard.heights.ha@gmail.com. We will help you with promotion and getting organized.

Are you a local resident with a business? We will be reserving a section of the Bulletin Board for advertising. Contact us to learn more about advertising opportunities.

Neighbourhood Events

OHHA Annual BBQ in Ron Searle Park June 25th!

Yes! After two years of a hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions, our annual summer BBQ is back. Join us for a burger and make a bid on a service or product in our silent auction. Bring your kids or grandkids to enjoy activities like the bouncy castle, face painting, relay races and the bike parade. And make sure you go home with yummy treats from our bake sale. It's a great opportunity to mingle with neighbours, friends and family. Everything starts at noon on Saturday June 25th – and in case it rains, plan on coming Sunday June 26th!

Calling for Volunteers!

We need your help to run the BBQ. If you are interested in flipping burgers, contributing to the bake sale or helping with any of the many tasks involved, contact us at orchard.heights.ha@gmail.com. We could use your help!



All Candidates Meeting - May 25th

The Provincial election is fast approaching and we have teamed up with several other Ratepayer Associations to host an all candidates meeting. This event will be held on **Wednesday May 25th from 7-9 PM at the Army Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada, Lakeview Unit #262, 765 Third Street, Mississauga.** To attend virtually via Zoom, here is the link to live stream: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88568761327> (Meeting ID: 885 6876 1327; Passcode: 824602; One tap mobile +16473744685, 88568761327#, *824602# Canada)

Plan on attending to ask candidates questions about issues impacting our community!



Congratulations to 1582 Park Royale - Winners of Best Decorated House contest!

We searched high and low for a winner this year To locate the best decorated house with good cheer. There were inflatable santas, elves and reindeer too They all looked amazing, how would we choose?

But then on Park Royale we saw a hue of red lights A santa sleigh and decorations that lit up the night. With a unique, creative simple display, We didn't see others quite the same way.

It filled our hearts with the joys of the season So we chose this house for that very reason!

We saw so many beautifully decorated houses. Kudos to all for beautifying our wonderful neighbourhood this past holiday season.

Infrastructure

Are Single Family Dwelling Communities at Risk?

The Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force report includes recommendations that, if adopted, could result in a devastating impact on single family dwelling communities. If you want to preserve the character of our communities and single family dwelling zoning, get informed and contact your provincial representative. Link to Task Force report - <https://files.ontario.ca/mmah-housing-affordability-task-force-report-en-2022-02-07-v2.pdf>



We all know we're in the midst of an unprecedented housing crisis. In Mississauga the average sale price of a single detached home in 2021 was \$1.805 million and \$657,000 for condominiums. The Ontario government is now reviewing recommendations from their task force report.

The **City of Mississauga's official response to this report** outlines a number of concerns - such as, limiting all public consultation on future developments, lowering design standards, erasing heritage designations, and removing neighbourhood character considerations.

Links to City's response: <https://pub-mississauga.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=21218#page=5>

City's comments on recommendations: https://www.mississauga.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/10100624/Housing_Affordability_Task_Force_Recommendations_ReportCard.pdf

The province estimates that Mississauga will grow by 250,000 residents over the next thirty years and will be at almost one million by 2050. The City states that increased housing supply is needed, but the approach must be the right type in the right location and that a one size fits all approach will not work. Their website outlines multiple solutions. <https://mississauga.ca/council/council-activities/council-advocacy/housing-affordability/>

There are several media articles that cite issues with the report:

- <https://www.therecord.com/ts/news/gta/2022/02/08/critics-back-proposal-to-end-single-family-zoning-but-see-red-flags-in-provinces-housing-task-force-report.html>
- <https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2022/03/03/developers-limit-production-to-keep-home-prices-high-mississauga-report-says-a-claim-the-builders-association-calls-absurd.html>
- <https://theconversation.com/ontarios-affordable-housing-task-force-report-does-not-address-the-real-problems-176869>

Contact your MPP Rudy Cuzzetto to voice your concerns about this issue.

Source information and excerpts from - <https://mississauga.ca/council/council-activities/council-advocacy/housing-affordability/>

Project Details on Dixie/QEW Interchange

Our first notable sign of this project was the closure of the access ramp to QEW from South Service road. And now, it's not hard to notice all the trees chopped down to facilitate the infrastructure work required for phase two. To get updated on project details and timing, check out Councillor Dasko's website: <https://www.stephendasko.com/project-details-of-the-qew-dixie-interchange/> - or go to the project's website: www.qewdixiedetaildesign.ca.

If you want to contact the project team email ProjectTeam@QEWdixieDetailDesign.ca

How to Provide Support to the People of Ukraine

If you are looking for ways to support the people of Ukraine please consider the following verified fundraising organizations:

Canada-Ukraine Foundation: <https://www.cufoundation.ca/donate/>

Red Cross - Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal: <https://www.redcross.ca/>

Friends of Ukraine Defence Forces Fund - BCU Foundation: <https://www.fudffund.ca/>

Ukrainian World Congress: <https://www.UnitewithUkraine.com>

Ukrainian Canadian Congress: <https://www.ucc.ca>

If you want to help a new arrival, complete the survey stating how you want to help: <https://www.ucc.ca/>



Neighbourhood Watch

Get Neighbourhood Watch Alerts in REALtime!

Want more timely posting of notices about suspicious activities? Although we try to get them posted as fast as we can, it's definitely a challenge! That's why SafeCity has developed a new approach that enables notifications in **REALtime**. Just go to the SafeCity website to get registered: <https://safecitymississauga.online/signup/volunteer/saidjmyu86>



Car Thefts Happening in the Neighbourhood

We have experienced two car thefts in the past couple of months that have been reported. This is a city wide problem as there have been 395 vehicles stolen in Mississauga and Brampton in January/February. View this police map outlining crime activity in Peel. <https://peelpolice.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2abe72cc102540b5a134fadea0576e0c>.

Some prevention tips: lock doors, install motion detector lights, keep windows up, install a tracking system, don't leave valuables in your car. If your vehicle has been stolen contact Region of Peel: <https://www.peelpolice.ca/en/report-it/make-a-report-online.aspx>

Relevant links to keep you informed on this issue: CBC report - <https://youtu.be/gshyozP-GY8>
Toronto Police - <https://www.torontopolice.on.ca/crimeprevention/autotheft.php>

Membership

It's time to renew your membership for the 2022/2023 period. In preparation for our AGM, we are calling all current members to renew and all non-members to join us! Only paid-up members can vote at the AGM.

Why Join Us?

We enjoy a unique connection to our community. Last year's Plan Dixie survey indicated that 50 percent of our residents have lived in OH for twenty plus years and 75 percent for over 10 years. Ninety-two percent of OH residents indicated they like living in OH a great deal.

OHHA hosted community events and community involvement in issues impacting our neighbourhood help to foster this high level of engagement. OHHA membership fees are used to fund community events, publish our regular newsletter, host our website and handle administrative expenses.

Get engaged and become an OHHA member today - \$20/household/year (\$10 for seniors).

Simply:

- Send an e-transfer to ohhtreasury@gmail.com and include your email and street address in the comments section of your e-transfer
- Drop off a cheque at 1527 Rometown Dr. and include your email and street address
- Call 905-990-1877 and someone will drop by to collect your membership fee

OHHA Board of Directors

Tonya Elmazi - President	Dominique Giliberti
David Blakey - Vice President	Mike Kuliszewski
Janet Jackson - Vice President	Lawrence Pinkney
Zein Lavji - Treasurer	Stacey Reason
Andrea Amaro - Secretary	Raya Shadursky
Angie DeLuca	Grant Stidwill
Afsaneh Dhalla	Tisa Zabarylo

How to Contact us:

Email - orchard.heights.ha@gmail.com

Phone - 416-937-0697 Website - orchardheights.ca

Staying Connected and Informed

Would you like to continue to receive our newsletters and stay connected to what's going on in Orchard Heights? Then please send your email address to orchard.heights.ha@gmail.com.

Don't have online access and would like our newsletter delivered? Contact us at 416-937-0697.

Advertising Opportunities

We are calling out to Orchard Heights residents who own a business to consider advertising opportunities in our upcoming newsletters. We'd love to help promote local businesses, especially for those who live in the neighbourhood!

Call 905-278-2091 or email orchard.heights.ha@gmail.com

and book your ad space in our next newsletter!