



LILY'S WEEKDAY UPDATE

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Hi Neighbour!

Thank you to all who joined us for a full weekend of **Asian Heritage Month** activities along with our first-ever Pride Toronto event in Willowdale. The designation of 'Asian' is a pretty big umbrella under which 60% of the world's population can stand! As someone who grew up in a much less diverse community, it is meaningful to see Asian cultures being celebrated.

Part of my weekend included the privilege of attending the book release of Willowdale author **Edward Lee**. "[The Laundryman's Boy](#)," is a coming-of-age novel that describes the experiences of a young Chinese boy growing up in Sault Ste. Marie in the early 1900s. Edward told me that both his grandfathers paid the Chinese head tax making this story especially meaningful for him to share. I remember growing up reading Anne of Green Gables who was very much a role model to me. Her courage, gumption, and desire to do what is right and knack for getting into trouble resonated with me. As I pictured Canada in the 1900s, I did not see any Chinese people in the stories I read. I hope this book creates the opportunity for Chinese-born Canadians like myself to discover a piece of Canadian history that for many, has remained invisible.

I want to give special thanks to the **Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto** for bringing their Asian Heritage celebration to our neighbourhood. Performances from across a diverse range of Asian countries were represented. It was a real treat to have them, and also our first taste of the festival season in our square! Please come out and support the many activities coming to our neighbourhood this summer. It is exciting to see so much coming to our community, but they also need our support to succeed. So much effort is put into every weekend animation! If you haven't done so already, please [Click Here](#) and print up the calendar for your fridge so you can know what is coming up! As you make plans for the coming month, please keep these in mind:

June 6-8: Yonge North York Night Market with Illuminato!

June 15-16: Festival of the Philippines with Pinay Tayo

June 21-23: Taiwan Pride Night Market & Concert

June 29: Tabriz Multicultural Festival

July 1: Yonge North York Canada Day Celebration with Fire Show Finale at 10pm!

No Place for Hate

It was shocking and angering to hear of shots fired at **Bais Chaya Mushka Jewish School for Girls**. We are grateful to know nobody was injured, but can only imagine the psychological impact this terrible act is having on the student community at a time when many Jewish members of Toronto are feeling vulnerable and exposed. We must find a way to pull together. We may not agree with choices made by foreign governments, but we can all agree that as a multicultural community, we must find a way to live peacefully together. Let Toronto be defined by our kindness and the strength of our communities built on weaving the diverse threads we bring to the tapestry that can only be created when we are interwoven. Let's all fight hate in our respective corners of the city.

Over the past few months, I have watched my neighbouring colleague Councillor Pasternak's shoulders slump lower and lower as he carries the weight of the challenges of the conflict in Gaza and the impact on the Jewish community. I am grateful for his humble leadership and know he has gone the extra mile for our city to combat hate.

The grass is growing into a forest

Many constituents, including members of my team, have noticed the rapidly growing forest of grass across our community. Please be assured we are in regular communication with our Parks division who are actively working on this situation. There were some mechanical issues earlier this month that slowed the team down and they are now scheduling overtime shifts to work their way across the community. The team is prioritizing sports fields. Some residents have asked, "Why are there areas that are cut abutting areas that are not cut?" In some cases, it is because the city has wide area mowers that do the first pass-through. They are then followed by a turf crew that covers the narrower parts. This can happen a few days later. The team knows this is an issue and is actively working to resolve the many outstanding patches across Willowdale.

Participatory Budgeting

The journey begins officially **TONIGHT, Wed. May 29, 6:30-7:30** with a webinar where we will share a roadmap of how we will work together to decide how to spend \$300-500K per area of our ward. This is an opportunity where your ideas can directly impact our neighbourhood! Please join us! [Click Here](#) to register.

Neighbourhood Watch Webinar

TONIGHT we are also hosting a **Neighbourhood Watch Webinar** from **7:30-8:30pm**. The safest neighbourhoods are ones where people know their neighbours. I myself have experienced the benefit of having a WhatsApp group of my neighbours when a situation unfolded with police in my area and my neighbours and I were able to message each other directly. Guest Speaker Didi Cameron has spearheaded dozens of Neighbourhood Watch clusters and she will give us her best tips and experiences! We need champions across our community to take this important leadership and build a safer and more welcoming community. [Click Here](#) to register.

Do you live on Northtown Way and hear a constant hum?

A few residents living at one of the Northtown buildings have been struggling with a constant hum that is coming from one of the neighbouring buildings that has installed some sort of device that helps save energy. When measured from their balcony, it is just under the threshold that could trigger enforcement. They were wondering if anyone else has noticed the low hum that seems to be echoing off the parabolic shape of some of the buildings. Those who live on higher floors might register a louder sound. If you have noticed this sound, would like to support enforcement and are open to having bylaw enforcement take a measurement from your home, please let us know.

[ACTION REQUESTED] Do you hate Noisy Mufflers?

Vehicle noise disturbs people across the city night and day. Municipal Licensing and Standards is partnering up with **No More Noise Toronto**, a grassroots organization, to find out where you think they should test motor vehicles this summer against the new, stronger bylaws. [Click Here to take the 1 question survey!](#)

The **MLS/TPS Illegal Muffler Enforcement Location Submission Survey** deadline has been extended to June 4. The survey is anonymous and only has 1 question. The data will be analyzed with 311 and police data to determine final testing locations.

North York has had low uptake on the survey and therefore low representation. We know this problem is happening across our ward. Please fill out the survey so we can be included in testing vehicles this summer.

Once again, thank you to all who spend the time to read my updates. You are helping build a more empowered and connected community!

Have a great weekend!

Warmly,

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