Connected Community
May 27, 2023

Dear Neighbour,

Happy Long Weekend! Whether you garden, cycle or enjoy time outdoors with your family, we can all raise a healthy toast of sparkling. And with that surprise comes an important time for our activities. *Fun Fact season.*

There are a number of Fun Facts coming up over the coming months that are very important to me. I want to hear from residents and businesses about what parks and community centres the best gets from time to make them happen. Whether it's a new playground, a new community centre, or a park, I'm all ears and time. If we missed your school, please let us know!

2023 Willowdale Park Update
Last Wednesday, I hosted a virtual town descriptive on Park, Protocol, and Recreation (PPR) Meeting on Gender. I was grateful to have several PPR staff members represented at a comprehensive meeting that provided a thorough update and answered many questions. We look forward to hearing park renovations and new parks on the horizon.

In 2023, we have several exciting capital park projects underway, including Willowdale Park, Cummer Park, Bayview Fairway Park, and Lamoreaux Park. These projects are at different stages, and other projects have completed a map related to the Parks Plan, which will be presented to the community.

As we move forward, we encourage you to stay tuned for upcoming community engagement opportunities. Your input and involvement will be critical to shaping the future of our parks and community.

For more detailed information on these projects and their progress, read HERE.

New Schools for Willowdale
Many families are moving to the area. With almost 100 new developments coming, we need to ensure families living in Willowdale have access to quality schools. Last week, I met with the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and the staff of Mossie Glen City to discuss what can be done to address the current overcrowding in Willowdale. I'm pleased to report that the TDSB is willing to commission a population collaborative survey with Toronto Fire and DPT City Planning to better understand the demand for new schools. I'm also hosting a meeting between our North Point planning department and the planning department of the TDSB to ensure that future planning is coordinated and a business case for new schools and school expansions.

I am currently attending a Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference (see photo below) and I'm pleased to report that the Federal Government is willing to which incorporate school space and care in TCHC and TCDSB partnerships without. It is a beautiful location including a rooftop basketball court, track and playground. I'm hoping to see this in our ward, and I'm hopeful that other cities are significantly reduced. I hope we can build similar collaborative spaces in Willowdale. Unfortunately, the Ontario Government has recently announced that use of the limited space available. I learned a lot about their operations and collaborative spaces. I look forward to sharing what I learned towards developing more collaborative spaces in our community.

Employment Area Conversions
Last week, I hosted a meeting with the Leaue of Employment Area Conversions. Although none of the current properties up for discussion are in Willowdale, this issue could have far reaching consequences for our city.

Employment lands are important to Willowdale. There is pressure for more people to live and work in Willowdale to reduce traffic congestion. We need to use our economic assets, job opportunities, and overall to be a thriving, Complete City. We need to ensure residents have access to quality jobs. Many of the jobs in the city. Every decline of a percentage loss of employment lands in Toronto, we lose a job. Employment lands are important to Willowdale and Toronto, especially since our population continues to grow.

The city is currently dealing with a board of 100 requests that were submitted in 2020. City Council approved the expansion of all of them August, 2022 which means they are now in the hands of the OLT. I'm very concerned about the implementation addresses 10 of the 100 requests with the last point coming in 2024.

Click HERE to read the final report outlining City Planning Staff's recommendation for the council to consider at deputations. Note: This report will be put forward at a special meeting of Council on June 7, 2023. I'm hosting a town hall on June 7 at 7 pm on "Official Plan Amendment" meaning the designation of the land will change from employment to residential. I'm also hosting a town hall on June 14 at 7 pm and trying to contact as much employment area as possible while acknowledging the short timeline we have to work with.

In all my meetings with developers in our community I am always asking for retail on the ground floor. I want things to be walkable. I want people to have access to walkable community and large rental units to our neighbourhood.

Toronto Community Housing Corporation
I have spent the past few days and will be spending the rest of the weekend alongside elected officials from across Canada. It has been interesting meeting with Minister Ahmed Hussen, Minister Sean Fraser, Minister Ali Ehsassi, MPP Ted Arnott, provincial and federal ministers. We need long term sustainable funding for infrastructure to build energy rates that can stand in energy processes and a strong commitment to ensure that our residents are safe and secure. Our residents should not be worried of resources and instead supported in safe and our potential to be a thriving community.

Finally, thank you to all the community members who came to the **Ward 18 Zoom Community Walk** last weekend. There was plenty, plenty of fun and good conversation. I'm looking forward to more walks in the coming months. Thank you to **Stefanie Restaurant** and **Cat's Meat Shop** for their contributions to the walk. I also enjoyed a bagelup bagel HERE Stanford to meet the HERE Mark at a dip spot.

May you enjoy your weekend and please consider visiting **Churchill Fun Fair** this as well as visiting the **1 Open Doors TO** locations in Willowdale.

Warmest regards,

Lily

Councillor Lily Cheng
Meet Me Monday | Facebook: ChengWillowdale | 416-392-0202

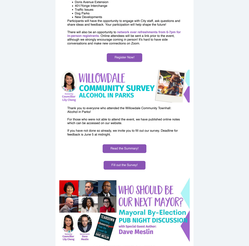
Scroll down to find out more about:

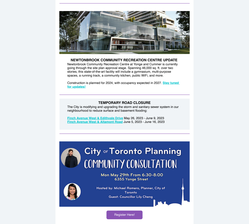
- COVID-19 UPDATES
  - Alcohol in Parks Temporal Summary
  - Alcohol Temporary Pilot Program
  - Beyond the Eastern Community Walk Pop Up Discussion
  - Lansing Nursery School's Neighbourhood Garage Sale & Cycle TO Week
  - 2023 Update Rodeo Fun Fairs in Willowdale
  - Open Doors Toronto Day Pop Up Discussion
  - Temporary Road Closure on Front Avenue Meet Community Walk Pop Up
- FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES
  - Bell Surface Repairs caused by Winter Services
  - Development Updates
  - Employment Land Conversions
  - Street Tree Re-Naturalization Programs
  - Ward 18 Zoom Walk Pop Up Discussion Material
  - Re-Naturalize Or Mow? Key Dates
- COMMUNITY EVENTS ACROSS WILLOWDALE
  - Willowdale Yard Sale Day
  - Willowdale Yard Sale Day - June 24
  - Fun Fairs

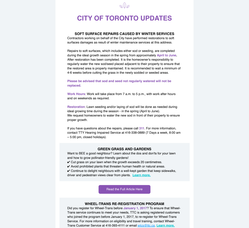
This week in Parkdale Services Week! Thank you to all of the Toronto Paramedic Services who provide invaluable care for our city. Special thanks to Paramedic Chief Ian Hamilton and the Chief Ian Hamilton for their tireless work. Let's celebrate and service head for their hard work!

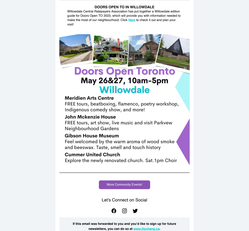
Thank you for responding to our questions in last week's newsletter and tweets to begin at @LilyCheng70. Please also send us any updates of local community news and events that we can share.

COUNCILLOR UPDATES









TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE
Cycle Toronto will be closing Front Avenue for a street bike tune-up system in our neighbourhood to repair and tune up bicycles for residents.

Front Avenue Meet & Edibleway Stop May 28, 2023 - June 9, 2023
Front Avenue Meet & Edibleway Stop June 3, 2023 - June 18, 2023

CITY OF TORONTO UPDATES

SOFT SURFACE REPAIRS CAUSED BY WINTER SERVICES
Contractors working on behalf of the City have performed maintenance to soft surfaces (bridges) as result of winter maintenance services at the sidewalks.

Along the sidewalks, sand is distributed from our operations to provide traction. Some of the sand ends up on the boulevard and sometimes on the sidewalk. After restoration has been completed. It is the homeowner's responsibility to remove the sand from the sidewalk. Unfortunately, some of the sand ends up on the sidewalk and is not properly maintained. It is recommended to call a minimum of 4-6 weeks before calling the press in the newly sodded or seeded areas.

Please be advised that sod and seed not negatively sentenced will not be replaced.

Work Hours: Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., with work after hours and on weekends as required.

Noise: Noise will be minimal and/or laying of sod will be done as needed during dead growing time during the season - in the spring during the year. We request homeowners to water the new sod in front of their property to ensure proper growth.

If you have questions about the repairs, please call 311. For more information, please contact Ward Staff at Denise at 416-392-0888 or Tiffany at 416-392-0202 ext. 1-100 pm, closest holidays.

GREEN GRASS AND GARDENS
Want to REE and grass Fertilizer? Learn about the low and tips for your lawn and how to grow pollinator friendly garden!
Learn about the benefits of pollinator friendly gardens, 20 commitments.
Avoid pesticide products that threaten human health or pollinator species.
Continue to delight neighbours with a well kept garden that keep sidewalks, drive and pavement clean from debris. Learn more.

Read the Full Article Here

WHEEL TRANS RIDE RESERVATION PROGRAM
Did you register for Wheel Trans services January 1, 2017? Be aware that Wheel Trans service continues to meet your needs. TTC is asking registered customers who have not completed a trip since January 1, 2017 to contact Wheel Trans Services. For more information on eligibility and travel training, contact Wheel Trans Customer Service at 416-393-3131 or email wheel@ttc.ca. Learn more.

WORK ON THE STREET FESTIVAL
The 34th Annual Wine & Dine - The Street Festival returns to Queen's Park this June 2-4, 2023. The festival is a family-friendly event that brings over 100,000 people to the Queen's Park area. Please expect heavy foot traffic and vehicles that connect us.

On May 27th, from 11 AM to 5 PM, the Toronto Public Library Workers Union - Local 4948 will be giving out free signed copies of "The Pact Pamphlet" to Toronto residents. The Pact Pamphlet is a collection of stories and giveaways from the Toronto Public Library Workers as well as some other cool "swag" items for sale. The event is open to all ages and is full and pet friendly!

BY-ELECTION FOR MAYOR NEXT SATURDAY
- Advance voting - **Thursday, June 8 to Tuesday, June 13**
- By-election - **Monday, June 26**

COMMUNITY EVENTS ACROSS WILLOWDALE

FARMERS' MARKET
North York's farmers' markets launched at the Leaslaw Square has returned Running every Sunday, June 4 - October 29, 2023 from 9am - 2pm. Be sure to come by to say hi to the many returning vendors and grab their products and delicious eats!

WILLOWDALE YARD SALE DAY - SAT JUNE 24
Willowdale Yard Sale Day is back! Mark your calendars. Stay tuned for updates!

- Host a Yard Sale on your driveway
- Host a Yard Sale on your driveway Garage Sale Church
- Get Your Crafts to host a yard sale
- Registration is now open, but space is limited at the market, so act fast! Market vendors will be given priority, but we will also accept a few non-market vendors. All vendors spread out across Willowdale. Stay tuned for updates! Be sure to drop your spaces on Willowdale!

Click Here to register and see our yard sale map.

DOORS OPEN TO IN WILLOWDALE
Willowdale Central Neighbourhood Association has put together a Willowdale wide guide for Doors Open TO 2023, which will provide you with information needed to visit the most of our neighbourhood. Click Here to check it out and plan your visit!

More Community Events

Let's Connect on Social

If this email was forwarded to you and you'd like to sign up for future newsletters, you can do so at www.lilycheng.ca.

MISS A NEWSLETTER? ACCESS PAST ISSUES HERE.

Building a Connected Community in Willowdale.

100 Borden Street Wing
Toronto, ON M5S 2N8
Canada

Not our ward? Click here to find your ward.