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Dear Neighbour,

Happy September! For students and city councillors alike, it is the launch of a new season. Much like our students, I am excited about the possibilities, but also taking a deep breath as the intensity of a hyper busy schedule kicks in. I hope that we can all strive towards finding that magical balance where we remember our humanity should not be defined by busyness.

Taste of North York - THIS WEEKEND!

I know for many families, fall lessons and extra curriculums will soon begin; however, I invite you to take a moment this weekend to connect with neighbours at the **Taste of North York** festival event happening at **Mel Lastman Square**. In particular I am excited for the **Meet & Eat** portion of the event happening on Saturday that will **showcase 25 local organizations** along with **Community Tables** where you can share food and icebreakers with neighbours! Taste of North York is not just about the food, but a taste of our community! [Click Here](#) for more details. **Mayor Olivia Chow** will be joining us at 5pm. Perhaps you will get a chance to eat with her!

Stabbing at Lee Lifeson Park

A stabbing was reported on August 27 at 11:43pm. Some were concerned this might be a result of the Alcohol in the Park pilot. We followed up with the police who told us the following:

- There is nothing to indicate that this occurrence is gang related.
- They were young adults.
- Lee Lifeson Park does attract numerous people based on its location (off Yonge Street and behind Empress Walk), however there is not an excess amount of incidents compared to other parks in 32 Division.

It is upsetting to hear there is violence of this nature happening in our neighbourhood. I will be requesting regular briefings from 32 Division to better understand the state of crime in our community.

Roadside Theft

A community member reported witnessing a theft committed by a person jumping out of a car that pulled up on Yonge St. Please be aware of your surroundings. If you are sitting outside, try to secure your belongings in a way that is not easily accessible. The police are aware of the incident and the Yonge St. Foot Patrol is keeping watch for the car described by the witness.

New Committees

During the month of August a Striking Committee meeting was held where our new mayor shuffled councillors and committees into a new formation to support the implementation of her vision for our city. I would like to congratulate **Mike Colle** who has been named **Deputy Mayor of North York** along with **Amber Morley**, **Deputy Mayor of Etobicoke**, **Ausma Malik**, **First Deputy Mayor** and **Jennifer McKelvie** who will continue as **Deputy Mayor of Scarborough**.

Here is my updated roster of committees and responsibilities:

1. Chair, Civic Appointments
2. Vice Chair, North York Council
3. Vice Chair, Corporations Nominating Panel
4. Budget Committee
5. General Government Committee
6. Toronto Police Services Board
7. Co-Chair, Toronto Police Services Anti Racism Advisory Panel
8. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
9. TO Live Board
10. Willowdale BIA Board
11. Service Excellence Committee

I am grateful for the opportunity to chair my first committee - especially because Civic Appointments is an important bridge for the voices of community members to shape our city. I look forward to strengthening community participation in our civic committees and advisory panels. After the shrinking of council in 2018, all councillors have had to participate in more committees. It is always a struggle to balance the work of serving the city at large and the work of serving Willowdale. I am grateful for my incredible staff team that support me in all of this work.

Toronto City Council

This week saw the launch of our first council meeting since an August break. With a relatively short agenda of 17 items, as opposed to sometimes 200, we were all surprised to find ourselves wrapping up the meeting after 12 hours of intensity! Here is a summary of the key 3 items discussed.

EX 7.1 [Updated Long-Term Financial Plan - Including Potential Revenue Tools](#)

This was the majority of our day with 34 proposed amendments, 4 of which were mine.

The briefing materials for this motion, the challenges the city faces along with the discussions that happened could unto themselves be a university course!

My takeaway: The City of Toronto has a big heart and wants to do kind, practical and visionary things, but lacks the authority and finances to do what is needed to best serve our people. Although we are the size of a province in terms of population and economic contribution, we are limited by an old fiscal framework that does not match the complexity and size of our city. There is much more to say on this in future newsletters, but we must acknowledge that the vision we hold to build an equitable, sustainable and visionary city - to truly be "Toronto the Good," does not match our financial capacity and decision-making authority. We will never fulfill our potential as a world class city without a new fiscal framework.

[Click Here](#) to read a summary of the motions passed including the 4 motions that I successfully passed.

EX 7.2 [Urgently Building More Affordable Housing](#)

This motion launches a report to determine how we can achieve a new target of 25K rent-controlled homes. While this is an ambitious plan, the finances for it will be the greatest challenge.

CC10.2 [Immediate Federal Government Support Required for Refugee Claimants in Toronto](#)

This motion does 3 key things:

1. Advocate for the Federal Government to implement a regional plan to support the growing influx of refugees.
2. Allocate funding to reimburse churches that have stood in the gap by taking in refugees who were on the streets because the city's shelters are full.

Councillor Stephen Holyday amended the motion (further amended by Councillor Alejandra Bravo) that makes a request of the Federal Government to pay the \$75K needed to reimburse the churches and community organizations that stepped up; however if there is no response by September 18, the city will pay the amount.

I was encouraged to hear there is a regular meeting between all three levels of government to work this out and hope the necessary resources and coordination across all three levels will result in a sustainable plan to face the continuing rise in refugees arriving at our borders.

North York Community Council

NY Community Council happened yesterday. We met virtually due to air conditioning issues at North York Civic Centre. Here are some of the Willowdale items discussed:

3 Developments in Willowdale

The following 3 large developments were brought to council. I have linked their addresses to Urban Toronto descriptions of what is currently being proposed.

- [150-160 Cactus Avenue](#)
- [5318 Yonge Street, 5320-5324 Yonge Street, 5330-5334 Yonge Street and 11 Churchill Avenue](#)
- [6212-6600 Yonge Street](#)

All three properties are in an appeal process and the motions passed support staff to continue negotiations.

Doris Avenue Parking Amendment

Many residents have been complaining about illegal parking on Doris that reduces both safety and flow of traffic. Staff recommended prohibitions for parking or standing on certain sections of Doris were passed. [Click Here](#) for details.

Meeting with Super Heroes

During the July Council Meeting, we declared Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) to be an Epidemic. This is a subject close to my heart due to my personal experiences and having walked intimately with several women in leaving abusive relationships. I now have the opportunity to work with the Mayor's office to advance this issue in collaboration with some incredible IPV leaders. Our goal is to hold a large roundtable towards a comprehensive plan to improve how women facing IPV are supported in the City of Toronto.

On Thursday, I had a meeting with leaders from:

- Carla Neto - Women's Habitat of Etobicoke**
- Marissa Kokkoros - Aura Freedom**
- Deepa Mattoo - Schlifer Clinic**
- Heather McGregor - YWCA**
- Pamela Hart - The Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto**

I was humbled by their dedication, passion and lived experience. I am excited at the change we can champion and am grateful to also be a bridge to the Police Services Board and Budget Committee which will both play a part in how we strengthen our work to protect women.

I hope you have had a great summer with wonderful memories to carry you into the fall season. My favourite memory from this past summer is fishing with my kids. We caught many small sunfish which were immediately released. Although our efforts did not result in a meal, it was lots of fun. I also overcame my fear of handling worms!

Warm Regards,

Lily Cheng 陳伶俐
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Councillor Lily Cheng

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Thank you to my colleagues Councillor Pasternak and Councillor Colle for hosting a Rosh Hashanah blessing for councillors and Mayor Chow. Thank you to Rabbi Cohen and Friends Of Simon Wiesenthal Center for a meaningful explanation and heartfelt blowing of the shofar! Shana Tova U'metukah!

Scroll down to find out more about:

~ COUNCILLOR UPDATES

- Taste of North York
- Silverview Park Community Consultation

~ CITY OF TORONTO UPDATES

- Application for New Housing Rights Advisory Committee
- EV Charging Public Consultations
- Noise Bylaw Public Consultations
- Night Economy Review Public Meetings

~ COMMUNITY EVENTS ACROSS WILLOWDALE

- Lansing Open Market
- Performing Artists Industry Connections
- RBC Race for the Kids
- York Arboretum and Notable Burials Tour
- Full Moon Festival: Celebrating East Asian Heritage
- North York Seniors Centre Fundraiser

COUNCILLOR UPDATES



TASTE OF NORTH YORK
FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL

SEPT. 8-10, 2023
MEL LASTMAN SQUARE

NeighbourLink NORTH YORK | STREET EATS

Featuring:

- 25+ Local Organizations
- 40+ Food Vendors
- Meet & Eat Patio
- Main Stage Performances
- Yonge Stage on Saturday
- Family Fun Zone

W/C Washrooms | NeighbourLink Tents & Food Drives

TIME	FRIDAY SEPT 8	SATURDAY SEPT 9	SUNDAY SEPT 10
12:00-12:30PM		HANTA & Svet Miru Korean Drummers & Dance	Welcome & Golden Maple Leaf Senior Association
12:30-1:00PM		Meet 25 Community Orgs.	Jungko Tae Kwon Do
1:00-1:30PM		Ale Nunez & Meet & Eat Lunch on the patio	Earl Halg K-Pop Dance
1:30-2:00PM		Jacob Soucy Jazz Band	Trash Pandas Brass Band
2:00-2:30PM		North York Trivia North York Historical Society	Starship Experience
2:30-3:00PM		Tumako Sponsored by TOLive	Gohla Ensemble Iranian Quintet
3:00-3:30PM		Speeches from Mayor Chow, Councillor Cheng, & MP Ehsassi	Dealan Dancefit Iranian Dance
3:30-4:00PM		Celebrate Ukraine	Rashmi Academy of Performing Arts
4:00-4:30PM		Toronto Korean Traditional Performance Association	Spread Dance Indian Dance Performance & Workshop
4:30-5:00PM		Dance Performances & Workshop With Star Dance Centre	
5:00-5:30PM	Luis Anselmi & the Gratiud Band		
5:30-6:00PM			
6:00-6:30PM			
6:30-7:00PM			
7:00-7:30PM			
7:30-8:00PM			
8:00-8:30PM			
8:30-9:00PM			
9:00-9:30PM			
9:30-10:00PM			
10:00-10:30PM			
10:30-11:00PM			

Celebrate UKRAINE



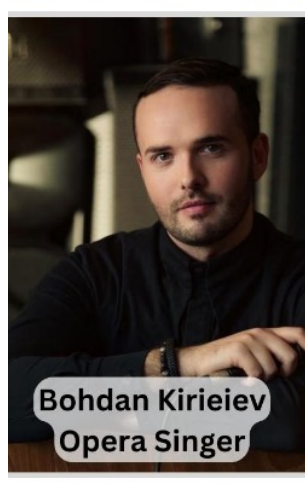
Ukrainians in North York



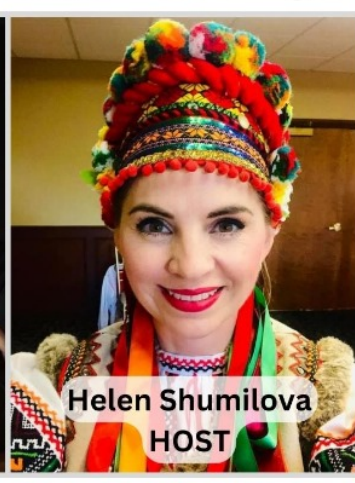
When?
Saturday, Sept. 9th
19:00-19:30

Where?
@Taste of North York
(Mel Lastman Square)
All day festival 12:00-23:00

- ◆ Learn something Ukrainian
- ◆ Professional singers & dancers
- ◆ Dance workshop for all the ages



Bohdan Kirieiev
Opera Singer



Helen Shumilova
HOST



Olga Posternak
Vladyslav Romashchenko
Ballet Dancers

www.neighbourlink.org/taste

TASTE OF NORTH YORK

NeighbourLink North York and Street Eats Market present the 1st Taste of North York Food & Drink Festival, **September 8-10 at Mel Lastman Square!**

Celebrate all North York has to offer with over 50 food vendors, live music, art, dancing, kids activities and NeighbourLink's Meet & Eat! Net proceeds support NeighbourLinks food bank and community care programs.

The Meet & Eat located at the Reflection Pond at Mel Lastman Square includes:

- A patio to enjoy food and meet neighbours all weekend long
- A Community Fair of 25 local charities, organizations and clubs on September 9th

[Learn More](#)

SILVERVIEW
Working for you
Community Association
SINCE 1974



Meet your
City Councillor
Lily Cheng



Saturday, September 16th, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

SILVERVIEW PARK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION



Join **Councillor Cheng** and the **Silverview Community Association** for a park potluck!

Bring your culinary creations and ideas for the future of Silverview Park. Let's connect to help shape our community together.

RSVP TODAY!
lilycheng.ca/events



www.lilycheng.ca

[@LilyChengTO](#)

SILVERVIEW PARK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Join Councillor Cheng and the Silverview Community Association for a park potluck! Bring your culinary creations and ideas for the future of Silverview Park. Let's connect to help shape our community together.

[Register Now](#)

CITY OF TORONTO UPDATES

APPLICATION FOR NEW HOUSING RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Are you passionate about housing in Toronto and committed to advancing the right to adequate housing? Help shape your city by joining the new Housing Rights Advisory Committee (HRAC). The deadline to apply is Oct. 13.

The HRAC is a new Council Advisory Body that will provide advice to Council to ensure that the interests and needs of those with living or lived experience of housing precarity, discrimination and homelessness are reflected in City policies, programs and service delivery. It will support the City's engagement with equity-deserving communities to help identify systemic barriers that prevent them from accessing and maintaining adequate housing. HRAC will also support the City's advocacy to other orders of government and make recommendations to Council to address systemic barriers to adequate housing which lie outside of the City's jurisdiction.

[Learn More](#)

EV CHARGING PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

The City is developing a Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Network Study to help ensure that public charging will be available where and when it is needed across Toronto as more people and businesses switch to electric vehicles. We're asking for input from all residents – current and potential EV owners, and drivers and non-drivers – to help us identify where and when public EV charging will be needed between 2025 and 2040 and to better understand how public EV charging fits into an equitable low-carbon transportation system in Toronto.

You can provide your input by responding to an online survey and/or by joining an in-person open house or virtual webinar to meet with City staff, ask questions and provide feedback.

Upcoming In-Person Meeting in North York:

Edithvale Community Centre – Banquet Hall (131 Finch Ave W)
Thursday, September 14, 2023, 6pm - 8pm

[Learn More & Take the Survey](#)

NOISE BYLAW PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

The City is reviewing the successes and challenges of implementing the Noise Bylaw, which was amended in 2019. Residents are invited to provide feedback at public consultations, starting Tuesday, September 12.

General noise (for example, unreasonable and persistent noise, power device noise and noise from waste collection):

- In-person: Tuesday, September 12, Metro Hall, 55 John St., Room 308/309, 7 to 9 pm
- Virtual: Tuesday, September 19, 7 to 9 pm

Amplified sound (for example, music from bars):

- Virtual: Wednesday, September 13, 7 to 9 pm
- In-person: Thursday, September 21, Metro Hall, 55 John St., Room 308/309, 7 to 9 pm

Motor vehicle noise:

- Virtual: Monday, September 18, 7 to 9 pm

Construction noise (for example, condo developments and residential infill):

- In-person: Wednesday, September 20, North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St., Meeting Room 101, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Amendment of the bylaw in 2019 resulted in the introduction of sound level limits for amplified sound and motorcycles, enhancements to the noise exemption permit process and the introduction of a dedicated noise enforcement team with late night coverage.

This review aims to assess the bylaw amendments and consider potential refinements. Key focus areas for the review include:

- Assessing the effectiveness of the current decibel limits and enforcement approach for amplified sound.
- Enhancing the City's response to excessive vehicle noise.
- Strengthening noise enforcement and strategies for the proactive mitigation of noise issues.

[Register Now](#)

NIGHT ECONOMY REVIEW PUBLIC MEETINGS

The City is exploring strategies to support Toronto's night economy - the social, cultural and business activities that occur at night. The goal is to create a vibrant, safer, and more inclusive night economy, with an updated approach to licensing and zoning bars, restaurants and entertainment venues in communities across Toronto.

On September 6 and 7, the City will be hosting public sessions to share an update on the review as well as a summary of proposed amendments to both the Zoning bylaw and Licensing bylaw as they relate to Toronto's Night Economy.

Upcoming Meetings:

- September 6 - 6:30 to 8 pm Click [Here](#) to Register
- September 7- 1 to 2:30 pm Click [Here](#) to Register

[Learn More](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS ACROSS WILLOWDALE

September 16, 2023, 11AM-5PM

LANSING OPEN MARKET

LIVE MUSIC - 40+ LOCAL VENDORS - PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS

49 Bogert Ave., North York

Open doors
Open market
Everyone welcome!

Visit Eventbrite, we're looking for vendors!

[Register Now](#)

NYA NORTH YORK

GROW NORTH
industry connections

TOES FOR DANCE

TORONTO

PERFORMING ARTISTS INDUSTRY CONNECTIONS

Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2023
 Time: 2pm – 6pm
 Location: Gibson House Museum (5172 Yonge St, at North York Centre subway station)
 Spots available: 30

Are you a performing artist learning to navigate the arts sector? Do you want to connect with peers and learn how to talk about your work? Are you seeking access to professional development opportunities to expand your artistic practice?

Join **North York Arts'** Industry Connections event, to participate in an in-person meet-and-greet with performing artists, arts organizations, and funders to gain access to information about opportunities to take your performing arts career to the next level.

[Register Now](#)

STEP FORWARD FOR YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Walk • Run • Fundraise
Join us September 23, 2023 • Mel Lastman Square

[Register now!](#)



[Learn More](#)



York
Cemetery and
Funeral Centre

Presents

THE ARBORETUM & NOTABLE BURIALS TOUR!

With Tour Guides:

*Daniel Chevalier, Lisa Williams, Mathew Chesney,
Imre Szabo & Jennifer Gregson-Jaime*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023
11:00 AM Funeral Centre Parking Lot
Rain or Shine, Dress for Outdoor Comfort

[Learn More](#)

HERITAGE TORONTO
PEOPLE.PLACES.EVENTS.

Full Moon Festival: Celebrating East Asian Heritage

Sunday, October 1, 2 pm-6 pm
North York Centre

Join us for a free celebration with food demonstrations, family-friendly activities, and prizes! All are welcome.

Food Demonstrations:
Matcha
Songpyeon

Activities:
Origami
Calligraphy

Hear community recipe stories and learn about East Asian food heritage.

Register early to receive a free mooncake at the event!*

Event Location and TTC access: Empress Ave., North York Centre, Yonge St.

Follow @heritagetoronto on social media for event updates and the chance to win prizes!

Mid-Autumn Festival

*Offer only available to the first 200 registrants. Limit of one mooncake per person.

[Learn More](#)



BETTER WITH AGE:

RELIEVE THE MOMENT!

ABBAMANIA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023
Doors Open at 5:30 pm

Bayview Golf and Country Club

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!
Ticket prices will increase on
September 1st.



**CALL THE ALC PROGRAMS TEAM AT 416 733 4111
TO GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

[Learn More](#)

Let's Connect on Social



If this email was forwarded to you and you'd like to receive such community updates, you can sign up for our newsletter at www.lilycheng.ca

Building a Connected Community in Willowdale.

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