



LILY CHENG

TORONTO CITY COUNCILLOR
WARD 18 WILLOWDALE

- 416-392-0210
- councillor_cheng@toronto.ca
- willowdaleactionhub.ca
- @LilyChengTO

www.lilycheng.ca

Hi Neighbour!

Black History Month

Every February, we honour the legacy of Black people in Canada by celebrating Black History Month. The 2024 theme for Black History Month is: **“Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build.”** This theme celebrates the rich past and present contributions and accomplishments of Black people in Canada, while aspiring to embrace new opportunities for the future. There will be a Black Vendor Market at Ethennonnhawahstihnen’ Community Centre February 16, 6 to 9 p.m. and February 17, noon to 3 p.m. There will also be celebrations of Afro-Caribbean cultures, through drumming, arts and craft activities. To find out more about activities happening in Toronto [Click Here](#).

We are very excited for the upcoming Winter Festivities coming to our neighbourhood. Many thanks to the **Yonge North York BIA** for bringing **Enchanted Lights** with beautiful lights that will animate Mel Lastman Square (including a dragon!) AND cultural celebrations from February 10 to March 9. There will be performances, cultural activities and food trucks! Here are some updated details:

February 10 - Korean Hosted Lunar New Year - Seollal Celebration with daytime indoor activities in the North York Centre Atrium and outdoor performances

February 17 - Celebrate India! - Outdoor Performances

February 24 - Lunar New Year Lantern Festival with daytime indoor activities at North York Central Library and North York Centre Atrium followed by outdoor performances including a Lion Dance at 6:30pm! [Click Here](#) to RSVP.

March 2 - Celebrate the Philippines! - Outdoor Performances

March 9 - Willowdale Celebrates Nowruz & Iranian Fire Festival with daytime indoor activities at North York Central Library and North York Centre Atrium and outdoor performances. Registration to come.

THIS JUST IN! Despite our community advocacy and support from council and Mayor Olivia Chow, the province still wants the city to pay for Cummer Station. We are not giving up! A vibrant Willowdale includes Cummer Station just as North York Centre station is a critical part of our community - the future density coming on Yonge Street needs Cummer Station! Please continue writing your advocacy letters and stay tuned for more of our efforts! [We will fight this into the next provincial election if necessary! www.lilycheng.ca/action](#)

[Click Here](#) to view the letter.

Budget Update

As you may have heard our Mayor Olivia Chow released her budget yesterday. The budget she has tabled reduces the originally proposed 10.5% increase to 9.5% increase. The average home in Toronto is valued at \$694,381. The tax rate in 2023 was 0.506079% This increase will result in \$281.87 additional taxes paid as opposed to \$317.02. Please see below for a comparison chart.

	2023 Taxes	9.5% Increase (8% Property, 1.5% Levy)	10.5% Increase (9%Property, 1.5%Levy)
Property Tax	0.00506079	0.0054656532	0.0055162611
Education Tax	0.00153	0.00153	0.00153
Building Levy	0.00007195	0.00007302925	0.00007302925
TOTAL TAX RATE	0.00666274	0.00706868245	0.00711929035
Cost for avg. House (\$694,381)	\$4,626.48	\$4,908.35	\$4,943.50
Difference		+\$281.87	+\$317.02

It is important to note that this is the Mayor’s Budget and due to Strong Mayor powers granted in 2022, councillors will not vote to adopt the budget, or the budget as-amended. Instead, the budget will be “deemed adopted” after the exhaustion of various rights held by the Mayor and Council following the meeting as follows:

1. If no amendments are passed by City Council, the budget will be deemed adopted after the completion of the meeting.
2. If amendments are passed by City Council, the Mayor has 10 days after the conclusion of the meeting to consider vetoing any amendments. The Mayor may shorten this period. If the Mayor does not veto any amendments, the budget will be deemed adopted at the conclusion of her review period.
3. If the Mayor vetoes any amendments passed by Council, City Council will have 15 days to consider overturning the Mayor’s veto by a two-thirds vote. As no meeting of Council is scheduled within this period, a special meeting of Council would need to be called by (a) the Mayor, or (b) a petition of a majority of Members. The budget will be deemed adopted at the conclusion of Council’s review period, regardless of whether it meets or not, unless Council meets and shortens that period by resolution.

Unfortunately, as the cost of living has increased, so has the cost to run our city. As a member of the General Government committee we often see increases in costs and contracts due to circumstances far beyond our control. For example, some of the chemicals purchased to treat our water are from Ukraine and Russia. The war has significantly increased the cost of those chemicals.

I will be spending the next two weeks connecting with my fellow councillors, the mayor and our Finance and Treasury Services team to discuss what is possible to address community concerns including the tax rate, windrows and the police budget request. The challenge for any councillor looking to decrease the property tax increase will be finding \$42 million in offsets for every percentage point. As I have written before, the time to find efficiencies and make cuts is not during the budget process because of the time and careful analysis that must be taken to make significant changes.

Supports for seniors with property taxes

If you are a senior who is unsure if you can cover the proposed tax increase you may be eligible for the Property Tax Increase Cancellation Program or the Property Tax Increase Deferral Program. [Click Here](#) for details. Please contact my office if you need support accessing these programs.

It’s not too late to provide feedback:

1. Please **fill out our Willowdale “City Budget” Survey**: [www.bit.ly/WillowdaleActionHub-BudgetSurvey](#)
2. **Submit your comments and feedback to the Budget Committee** by email at buc@toronto.ca or by mail to Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W., 10th floor, West Tower, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2. Note, written submissions to the Budget Committee become part of the public record.

The most significant (and challenging) part of my week

On Tuesday evening my team and I had the opportunity to visit the residents at the Willowdale Welcome Centre at 5800 Yonge St. We had nearly 20 one-on-one conversations where we heard the stories, concerns, and successes of asylum seekers from Singapore, Cameroon, Uganda, Nigeria, Kenya, Bangladesh, and Turkey. We are grateful for the trust they placed in us to share their deeply personal narratives. The courage and determination displayed by these individuals have deeply touched us, prompting reflections on how their lives unfold within our city.

A predominant concern, not exclusive to these newcomers, was the lack of affordable housing. Many residents shared they have difficulty sleeping in large communal settings paired with the stress of their circumstances. We could feel the weight of their struggles in our meetings. Another challenge for some of the residents included a prolonged wait for essential documentation, such as work permits and SIN, preventing them to commence their lives, search for employment, and secure housing.

There were also inspiring moments in our conversations including a woman who secured her first job after one year in the shelter and others who have found meaning through volunteering in the neighbourhood. One gentleman shared how he takes time to pastor his fellow residents and provide spiritual care.

Key Takeaways from our Conversations:

The residents need hope and encouragement. Amidst the many challenges and barriers they face, it would be great if more volunteer groups could bring joy and connection to the shelter. They also need meaningful ways to contribute. It is very hard to wait patiently through bureaucratic processes with the pressures of an unknown future. NeighbourLink North York will be connecting to Homes First to find ways to build more bridges to the community.

Documentation Delays: The prolonged duration required to obtain crucial documentation, including work permits and SIN, significantly hinders residents from embarking on their journey towards settlement in Canada. While some were able to secure these documents faster, we are unsure why others have encountered barriers. We will work with Homes First and our MP Ali Ehsassi to identify why some residents are able to get paperwork while others languish.

Insufficient Social Services and Support Personnel: The current array of social services within and around the shelter proves inadequate for the diverse needs of 420 refugees navigating the challenges of settling into Canada. With only one Internal Case Manager providing support for all residents, many find it challenging to navigate the system without the aid of a case manager or settlement worker. We will be raising these concerns with Toronto Shelter & Support Services (TSSS) for discussion.

Infrastructure Concerns: Residents have expressed grievances about the building's inconveniences, raising concerns that need attention for the welfare of those residing there. We will also be addressing these concerns with TSSS.

It was difficult to hear about problems we cannot easily solve. We hope that by amplifying their concerns we are able to bring some support. However, the core issue for all of them is housing. It used to be asylum seekers would stay in shelters for 3 months and transition to something more permanent. Now, many are staying beyond one year and still struggling to find a place. These industrialized shelters are not ideal settings for the wellbeing of these residents and the mental health impacts could seriously impact their ability to thrive and build a positive future. We need creative solutions that lead to community based supports and housing. Homes First is trying to find landlords to work with. I am also a proponent of community based models such the one hosted in multiple houses by **The Peoples Church** where refugee claimants are supported in and by community.

26-34 Nipigon Ave.

On Monday evening I attended a virtual consultation for 26-34 Nipigon Ave. near Yonge/Steeles. A neighbourhood of single detached homes will see a significant transition to towers due to the Yonge St. North Secondary Plan. Diamond Corp. plans to build a 50-storey tower with 569 units. [Click Here](#) to learn more about the proposal. Due to the placement of this project and proximity to potential mid-block connections within the plan, there were some concerns this project could hinder developments on adjacent properties. Participants of the consultation also expressed concerns on impact on Lillian Public School and St. Agnes Catholic School. I was disappointed to see there are no non-residential units on the ground floor, which could provide important community amenities as this area develops. Planning staff continue to work with the developer on improving the plan.

Upcoming Community Consultations:

February 5 - 461 Sheppard Ave. East

February 12 - 26-38 Hounslow Ave.

February 15 - 72 Church Ave.

[Click Here](#) to RSVP for any of them.

NEXT WEEK:

Feb. 6-8 - Toronto City Council. [Click Here](#) to read the agenda.

Have a great weekend!

Warmest Regards,

 陳伶俐
Lily Cheng 陳伶俐

Councillor Lily Cheng

Ward 18 Willowdale / Councillor_Cheng@toronto.ca / 416-392-0210

Click On The Links Below or Scroll Down To Learn More About:

~ COUNCILLOR UPDATES

- [Caswell Park Playground Improvements Survey](#)
- [Pemberton Parkette Playground Improvements Survey](#)
- [Willowdale Winter Warm Up BBQ with Sock Drive](#)
- [Youth Council Launch Pizza Party](#)
- [Willowdale Celebrates Chinese New Year Lantern Festival](#)
- [Construction Notice: Watermain Replacement on Lorraine Drive](#)
- [Sheppard East Park Path](#)
- [Updates from 5800 Yonge Street CLC](#)
- [Update on Warming Centre in Willowdale](#)
- [Harlandale Closure](#)
- [Toboggan Ban](#)

~ CITY OF TORONTO UPDATES

- [Join the TTC Board as a Public Board Member](#)
- [Share Your Thoughts to Shape TTC Policies](#)
- [Library Services Update](#)

~ COMMUNITY UPDATES

- [Edithvale Rink - Call For Volunteers](#)
- [Meals on Wheels and More - Call For Volunteers](#)
- [A Day Away\(Adult Day Program\)](#)
- [Lifting Voices For Belonging: Black History Month](#)
- [The digital project 'North York Recipes for Healing'](#)
- [The Greatest Love of Dance](#)
- [Enchanted Lights](#)
- [The Toronto Book of Love](#)
- [The Kindred Spirits Orchestra \(KSO\) Concerts](#)

COUNCILLOR UPDATES



YOUR VOICE MATTERS!
**CASWELL
PARK SURVEY**

WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS?

- NEW PLAY STRUCTURE
- ADULT EXERCISE EQUIPMENT
- SHADED SEATING
- PERENNIAL GARDEN

NEAR MAXOME & NEWTON

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 12

bit.ly/caswellsurvey

ACT NOW ➔

CASWELL PARK PLAYGROUND (near Maxome & Newton) is going to get an upgrade! Share your ideas and thoughts in this short **SURVEY**. The survey will close on **Monday, Feb 12, at 11:45 p.m.** Your input will help shape the future!

[Take the Survey](#)



YOUR VOICE MATTERS!
**PEMBERTON
PARKETTE
SURVEY**

WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS?

- NEW PLAY STRUCTURE
- ADULT EXERCISE EQUIPMENT
- SHADED SEATING
- PERENNIAL GARDEN

NEAR DUDLEY & PEMBERTON

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 12

bit.ly/pembsurvey

ACT NOW ➔

PEMBERTON PARKETTE PLAYGROUND (near Dudley & Pemberton) is going to get an upgrade! Share your ideas and thoughts in this short **SURVEY**. The

survey will close on **Monday, Feb 12, at 11:45 p.m.** Your input will help shape the future!

[Take the Survey](#)

Roll a Lawn Bowl* • Meet Your Neighbours

Willowdale Warm Up

**Willowdale Lawn Bowling Club
Winter Open House & BBQ
Feb 4, 2024 | 3:30-5:30pm**



CO-HOSTED BY:
WILLOWDALE LAWN BOWLING CLUB
COUNCILLOR LILY CHENG

***Participants can try rolling a lawn bowl. However, there will be no game play available.**

SOCK DRIVE!



WILLOWDALE WINTER WARM UP BBQ WITH SOCK DRIVE

Co-hosted by **Willowdale Lawn Bowling Club** and **Councillor Lily Cheng**. Join us on **February 4th, from 3:30 to 5:30 pm** for some neighbourhood fun! Meet your neighbours, enjoy a hamburger or hot dog (vegan options available) and learn more about the fabulous people and facility at the Willowdale Lawn Bowling Club. Please remember to bring a donation of new, unwrapped socks for those in need. Help Willowdale fill the Sox Box! Children are welcome: There will be one short mat out. There are smaller bowls for children in the bowls room, and they will be brought out so children can give it a try.

[RSVP](#)

WILLOWDALE YOUTH COUNCIL

Calling all Willowdale Youth aged 16-25

YOUTH COUNCIL LAUNCH PIZZA PARTY
February 15, 2024

RSVP
lilycheng.ca/events

Get your **Volunteer Hours** by committing to monthly council meetings!

Learn about politics and policy that shape our city!



YOUTH COUNCIL LAUNCH PIZZA PARTY

Calling all Willowdale Youth aged **16-25** for our **Youth Council Launch Pizza Party**, on **Thursday, February 15th, 2024, 5-7pm!** If you are a student interested in policy, civic matters, processes of municipal government or have ideas for a better Willowdale, consider joining the Youth Council where you can discuss and share with other young people with passion for our community. You can also get your volunteer hours by participating in the Youth Council monthly. This Launch will be a **FREE PIZZA PARTY** and a kick-start to forming a bright group of young minds that will gather monthly to form a unified voice and journey together in developing skills in the civic realm. Meet us at **North York Central Library Meeting Room #1 @ 5:00PM!**

Before coming to the meeting, please fill out the interests [SURVEY \(Click Here\)](#)

[RSVP](#)

2024 WILLOWDALE CELEBRATES LUNAR NEW YEAR LANTERN FESTIVAL

SAT FEBRUARY 24 • 1:00-10:00PM
Mel Lastman Square & North York Centre Atrium

1:00 - 6:00pm	Indoor Activities
6:30pm	Outdoor Lion Dance
6:30 - 7:30pm	Outdoor Show
5:00 - 10:00pm	Enchanted Lights & Roving Performers

Event Highlights

- Music
- Performances
- Tea Demonstration
- Children Crafts

For More Info: lilycheng.ca/events

Co-hosted by: Councillor Lily Cheng, Young Taiwanese Merchants Association of Toronto, The Taiwan Merchants Association of Toronto, Toronto Chinese Traders Association

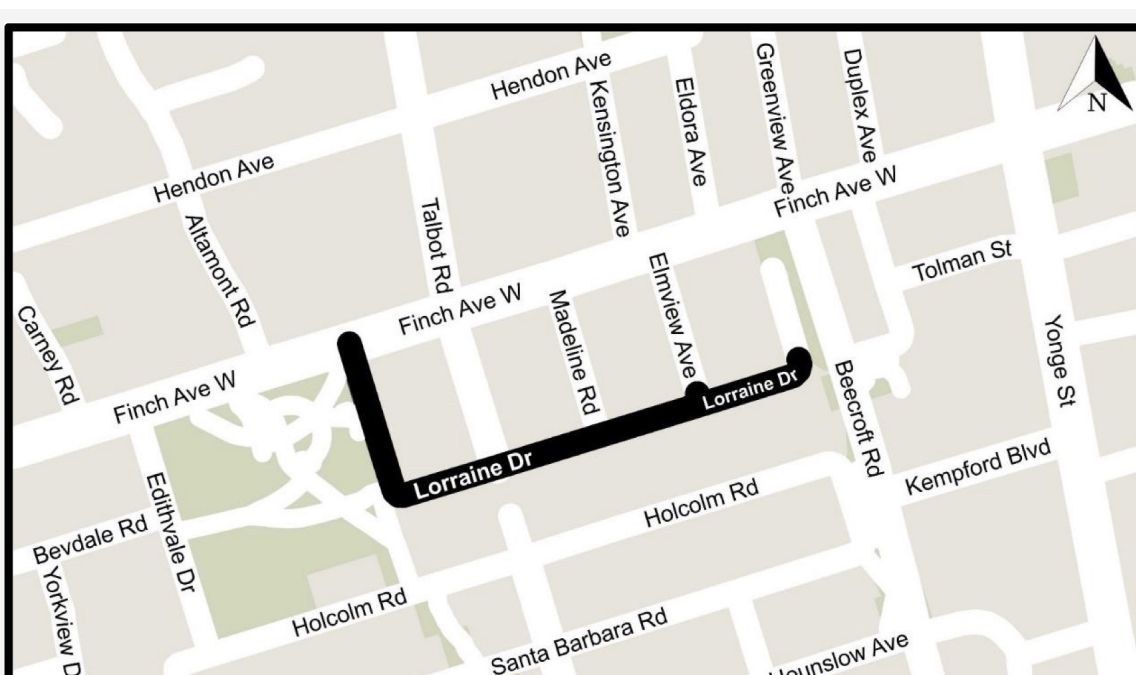
Partners: Toronto Public Library, GWL Realty Advisors, Yonge North York, Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto



LUNAR NEW YEAR LANTERN FESTIVAL - SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE for the **Willowdale Celebrates Chinese New Year Lantern Festival** at Mel Lastman Square and North York Centre on **Feb 24th** from **1:00-10:00pm**. **Indoor activities** will be held in **North York Public Library** and **North York Centre Atrium** and **Food Court** during the day that will feature various cultural performances, demonstrations, arts and crafts, and storytelling in English and Mandarin. More details to be released in the coming weeks.

[RSVP](#)



CONSTRUCTION NOTICE: WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT ON LORRAINE DRIVE

Watermain replacement for substandard water services on Lorraine Dr, from Finch West & Lorraine Dr going westbound to Beecroft Ave, will **begin Feb 2024**, with an **end project date of Dec 2024**. Please see attached construction notice for more details.

[Learn More](#)

SHEPPARD EAST PARK PATH

Maintenance for the path connecting Sheppard East Park to Wilfrid Ave has now been secured. Thank you for your patience and grace as we investigated this matter as soon as we were made aware, and worked towards resolving the confusion of responsibility for the area.

UPDATES FROM 5800 YONGE STREET CLC

In our first gathering of the year on January 17th, the dedicated **Community Liaison Committee (CLC)** for the Willowdale Welcome Centre convened to share highlights and plans. Homes First provided an overview of the recent events and services offered to our cherished clients over the past months. The property at 5800 Yonge Street is home to 278 residents in Building A and 132 residents in Building B, ensuring a safe and supportive environment, with separate accommodations for males and females.

During the meeting, our office announced some exciting developments:

1. TO Live Concert Support:

Following our request for assistance, TO Live has generously extended support by offering a total of 220 tickets across several upcoming concerts for the residents of the refugee shelter. We express our deepest gratitude for TO Live's commitment to enhancing our neighbourhood's cultural experiences.

- The Mirror (February 15-18, 2024): 50 tickets (25 pairs)
- Mrs. Krishna's Party (March 13-24, 2024): 50 tickets (25 pairs)
- Wildup on March 27, 2024: 50 tickets (25 pairs)
- Sing and Swing: A Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents Production on March 30, 2024: 20 tickets (10 pairs)
- Eve Egoyan's Longing and Belonging on May 09, 2024: 50 tickets (25 pairs)

2. Hydro One Land Safety Update:

There is a piece of land on the south side of our shelter which appears to impose some safety concerns for the public as well as the residents of the Welcome Centre. In response to our efforts, Hydro One is actively addressing safety concerns at their site at 5798 Yonge Street. Their team conducted a site visit on Friday, January 12th, reflecting our shared commitment to a secure community.

3. Community Support and Engagement:

Thanks to the incredible generosity of Willowdale residents and the concerted efforts of Homes First, we continue to receive a steady influx of donated clothes from designated bins at two locations within the community, at North York Public Library and Hullmark Building.

4. Coffee Time with Councillor

In our ongoing commitment to fostering community connections, our office is organizing a coffee time with the residents of the Welcome Centre during the coming week. This provides an opportunity for our team to engage in warm conversations, listen to concerns, and address any questions from those utilizing the shelter.

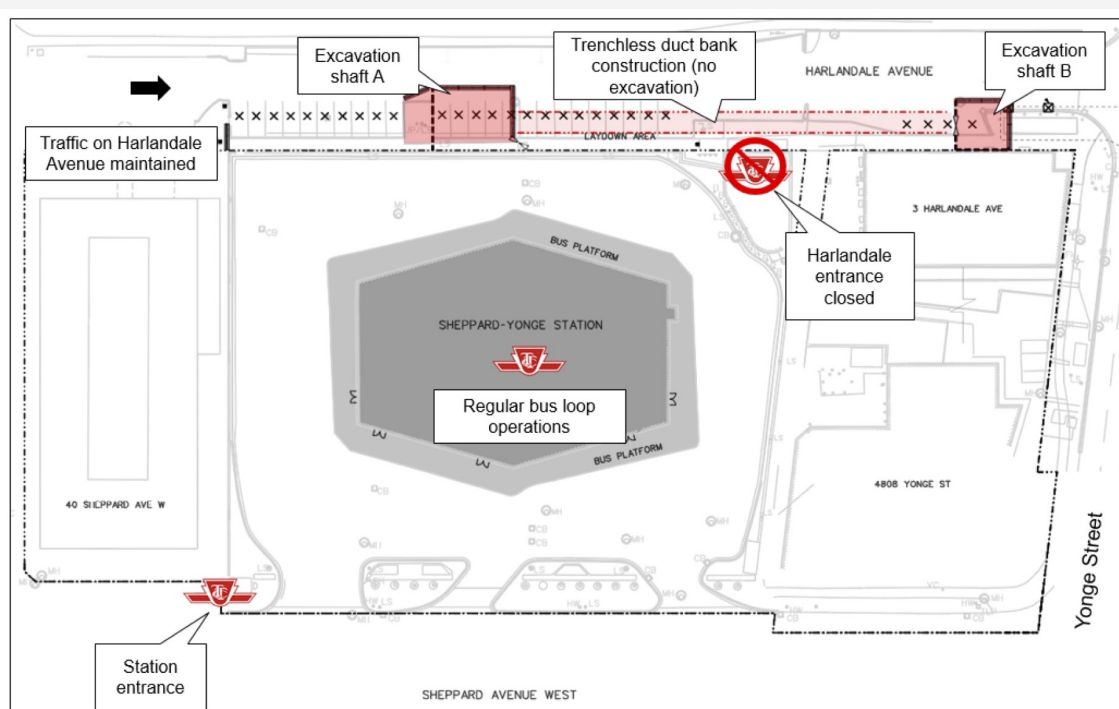
[Learn More](#)

UPDATE ON WARMING CENTRE IN WILLOWDALE - NAME CHANGED TO 12 HOLMES AVE:

The City acknowledges the recent challenges faced by clients due to confusion surrounding the address of our warming center. The amalgamation of the City of Toronto led to some street names being duplicated among the original six municipalities, leading to misunderstandings.

Specifically, the Warming Centre formerly known as 15 Olive Ave encountered issues as another property with the same address existed in downtown Toronto. Despite the City's efforts to discourage visits to the incorrect 15 Olive Ave, individuals consistently arrived at the wrong location, causing stress for both the resident of the downtown address and the individuals seeking assistance.

To address this issue, Toronto Shelter and Support Services (TSSS) has initiated the process of assigning a new dedicated address to the warming center: 12 Holmes Ave, North York, ON M2N 4L8. This change, necessitated by the confirmation of two legally assigned municipal addresses for the property, is expected to significantly reduce confusion. TSSS is confident that this adjustment will facilitate better access for vulnerable individuals to the correct address, ensuring consistent access to safe indoor spaces.



HARLANDALE CLOSURE

TTC will be working to improve the infrastructure at Sheppard-Yonge Station this year. Starting as early as January 26, a new duct bank will be constructed underneath Harlandale Avenue along the south curb lane. A duct bank is an underground reinforced concrete or metal container used for laying utility lines such as electrical. In the spring, TTC will also begin work to rehabilitate the pavement of the bus loop, requiring its temporary closure until late 2024. [Click here](#) to know additional details regarding the upcoming infrastructure improvements at Sheppard-Yonge Station.

What to expect during duct bank construction – January 26 to Fall 2024

- To facilitate work safely, the TTC entrance on Harlandale Avenue will be temporarily closed starting as early as January 26. Sheppard-Yonge Station has eight other entrances to serve customers during this closure.
- To ensure a safe work zone and to maintain one-way, eastbound traffic on Harlandale Avenue, existing on-street Green P parking stalls will be temporarily restricted.
- No westbound access to Harlandale Avenue from Yonge Street.
- Work will involve excavating two shafts as seen below. The duct bank between the two shafts will be constructed underground using a trenchless method, requiring no further excavation.
- Work will typically take place daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Access to the Green P parking lot on Harlandale Avenue will be unaffected.

TOBOGGAN BAN

Winter is here, snow has come, and along with that, fun times tobogganing outdoors! The City of Toronto wants to ensure everyone's safety, and have designated 27 amazing hills to ensure everyone's safety while enjoying this beloved activity. In **Willowdale**, there are **3 notable parks** where tobogganing has been prohibited because of various safety hazards - and these parks are:

- **Moore Park** (into the 'bowl', as there are soccer goals right at the bottom of the slopes in many spots)
- **Newtonbrook east of Willowdale Ave** (very many trees and branches where the slope becomes a naturalized area)
- **Dempsey Park** (on the little hill with play structures – there are many posts, branches, benches, etc. directly on the slope or at the bottom of the slope)

[Learn More](#)

CITY OF TORONTO UPDATES



TTC BOARD IS SEEKING A

PUBLIC BOARD MEMBER

Apply by February 9th

COUNCILLOR
LILY CHENG



JOIN THE TTC BOARD AS A PUBLIC BOARD MEMBER

Are you a seasoned professional with a background in audit and risk management, accounting, law, engineering, or other relevant fields? The **Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)** is actively seeking a dynamic individual to contribute their expertise as a **Public Board Member**. **Apply by February 9th** and play a vital role in enhancing Toronto's transit landscape.

[Learn More](#)

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS TO SHAPE TTC POLICIES

The **TTC** is asking for your input on three proposed policies related to **Special Constable** and **Fare Inspector enforcement activities**. These policies, created in response to Ombudsman Toronto's recommendations, cover topics such as the use of force, body-worn cameras, and discretion in enforcement decisions. Your feedback on interactions with TTC Special Constables and Fare Inspectors, as well as thoughts on these policies, is crucial. This input will help identify areas for improvement and shape the final report presented to the TTC Board. **Share your thoughts by taking the survey before February 14, 2024**. Your voice matters in making our public transit system better.

[Take the Survey](#)



LIBRARY SERVICES UPDATE

The **Toronto Public Library** is diligently working towards restoring normalcy. The website is slated for a return by month-end, providing enhanced information on library services and improved access to digital resources. Borrowing services are actively circulating, with notifications for held items expected by mid-February. Public computers are scheduled to be back online early in February. The restoration process is ongoing, with regular updates assured. The community's patience and support during this period are sincerely appreciated.

[Learn More](#)

COMMUNITY UPDATES



EDITHVALE RINK - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS! Edithvale Ice Rink needs your help! With cold weather approaching, the team has started working on creating the rink. They are an all-volunteer-driven group that builds and maintains the rink for the community's benefit. Duties include clearing snow and flooding the ice, and they are time-flexible. This is a great way to meet your neighbours, enjoy some exercise, and breathe in some fresh air! For students, it's a good way to earn volunteer hours. Reach out to **Edward** at edithvalerink@gmail.com if you'd like to join the team.

Latest update: Edithvale community rink is **OPEN FOR SKATING** !

DELIVERING SMILES ONE CLIENT AT A TIME



BECOME A MEALS ON WHEELS RUNNER VOLUNTEER TODAY!
GUARANTEE SENIORS A HOT MEAL

SEEKING CARING PEOPLE WHO:

- Can assist drivers in delivering meals
- Are available a minimum 1 shift per week between Monday to Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Beyond the food, Meals on Wheels volunteers can make a big difference by offering a safety check for Clients living alone, a little social interaction, and a smile.

• TRAINING AND ORIENTATION ARE PROVIDED



If you are interested, please contact our Manager, Elena Koroleva, at 416-225-6041 or ekoroleva@mowam.ca

DELIVER THE DIFFERENCE!



BECOME A MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVER VOLUNTEER TODAY!
DELIVERING A HOT MEAL TO PEOPLE IN NEED

SEEKING CARING PEOPLE WHO:

- Have access to your own vehicle
- Are available a minimum 1 shift per week between Monday to Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

FREE TRAINING AND RESOURCES ARE PROVIDED, INCLUDING MILEAGE.



If you are interested, please contact our Manager, Elena Koroleva, at 416-225-6041 or ekoroleva@mowam.ca

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Are you passionate about making a difference in the lives of seniors and individuals with disabilities? **Meals on Wheels and More** invites you to become a vital part of their compassionate team in the Willowdale area, North York. MOWAM offers hot meals (Western and Chinese), frozen meals, boxes with fruits and vegetables as well as milk to seniors and people with disabilities in Willowdale area in North York.

Be a part of something extraordinary—where every meal delivered is a moment of connection, care, and community. Contact **Elena Koroleva** at **416-225-6041** or ekoroleva@mowam.ca to start your journey of impact and kindness today. Together, let's deliver more than meals; let's deliver hope and warmth to those who need it most!

[Learn More](#)



A DAY AWAY Adult Day Program

A Day Away is a social/recreational program for seniors with physical frailties and/or cognitive challenges. Seniors can enjoy themselves in the company of their peers and caring staff in a safe environment.

What we provide?



Our program takes into account each person's cultural, social, emotional, physical and spiritual needs.

Contact us to learn more
416 733.4111
intake@nyseniors.org

Monday to Friday
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m

21 Hendon Ave, Toronto,
ON M2M 4G8

80 Sheppard Avenue West,
Toronto, ON M2N 1M2

A Day Away(Adult Day Program) designed for older adults facing physical frailties or cognitive challenges, allows seniors to spend a stimulating day with friends in a safe and caring environment. Led by trained and compassionate staff, the program offers lively group activities, light exercise, nutritious meals, special events, arts and crafts, and more.

[Learn More](#)



LIFTING VOICES FOR BELONGING: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Toronto History Museums honour and amplify Black voices during **Black History Month** through dynamic performances, immersive installations, hands-on workshops and themed tours. Enjoy free general admission to all historic sites and attend drop-in and ticketed Black History Month events.

[Learn More](#)



North York Recipes for Healing

The digital project '**North York Recipes for Healing**' has officially launched, highlighting the cultural connections of the East Asian community through food in North York. In 15 oral history interviews, community members share their pandemic experiences and contribute meaningful recipes, fostering a reconnection with North York's identity and heritage. It's a wonderful way to explore the ties that food creates and how it brings people together.

[Learn More](#)



Mark your calendar for an amazing night of dance at **The Greatest Love of Dance** on **February 10th at 7 PM in the Meridian Arts Centre Lyric Theatre, North York!** Watch talented dancers from around the world, including The National Ballet of Canada, National Opera of Ukraine, Mariinsky Theatre, and more. The event is organized by **Anna Kovarsky**, who wants to spread hope, light, and inclusivity through dance. Tickets are available now!

[Get Ticket](#)

ENCHANTED LIGHTS

Cultural Saturdays Schedule

SAT. FEB 10

Korean Canadian Cultural Association

SAT. FEB 17

CMR 101.3 FM

SAT. FEB 24

Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto

SAT. MAR 2

PINAY TAYO
(We are Filipino Women)

SAT. MAR 9

Iranian Fire Festival
(Chahārshanbe-Suri)

ENCHANTED LIGHTS

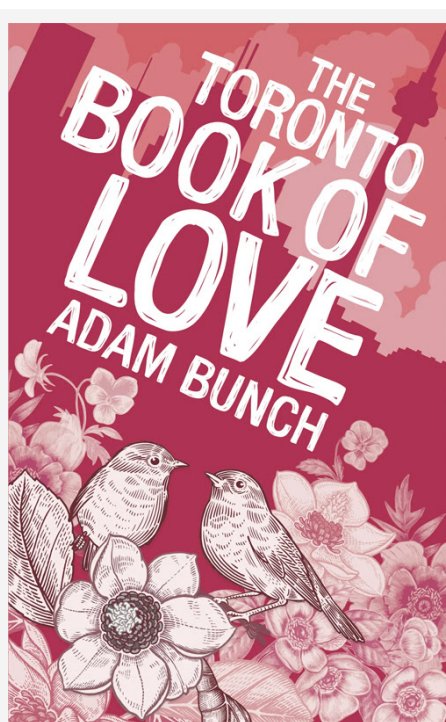
Come and enjoy a Celebration of Cultures every Saturday evening starting February 10 at Mel Lastman Square. Each week, diverse cultural groups will showcase their heritage through delicious food and entertaining performances. Let's come together to celebrate diversity and unity!

- Feb 10: Celebrate South Korea [KOR]
- Feb 17: Celebrate India [IND]
- Feb 24: Celebrate China [CHN]
- Mar 2: Celebrate The Philippines [PHI]
- Mar 9: Celebrate Iran [IRI]

- Mel Lastman Square
- February 10 to March 10, 2024

- Open daily from 5pm to 10pm
- Free Admission

[Learn More](#)



Join the **North York Historical Society** for an exciting evening as renowned author **Adam Bunch** presents "**The Toronto Book of Love.**" Dive into fascinating true tales of romance, marriage, and intrigue that have shaped Toronto's history. From scandalous love affairs among the city's early settlers to the prime minister's wife partying with rock stars, and from First Nations marriage ceremonies to one of Canada's first same-sex weddings, Bunch's storytelling captures the heart of Toronto's romantic evolution.

Where: [North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street - Room 1](#)

When: [February 21, 2024 @ 7:00 PM](#)

As seating is limited, please register for the event below. There is no charge for tickets.

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The **Kindred Spirits Orchestra** (KSO) is an award-winning orchestra that has been delighting **GTA** audiences for 15 years. Under the baton of Maestro **Kristian Alexander**, the KSO will be performing **a series of concerts** in North York for the first time, at the **Meridian Arts Centre – George Weston Recital Hall** on Saturdays March 16, May 11 and June 22nd.

The first concert, **Myths and Legends**, will take place **Saturday, March 16th at 8 p.m.** features internationally renowned pianist Li Wang.

Tickets start at \$15 and are available at [KSO Concert Tickets](#)

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