



LILY CHENG

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Hi Neighbour!

Thank you to all who came to say hi at our **1 year Anniversary Open House Party!** It was great to see our diverse community come together. Several newcomers were especially excited to be able to come into our office and to feel like their representative can be so accessible, which is not always the case in many of their home countries.

I am so grateful for the meaningful Remembrance Day ceremony held at the Cenotaph at York Cemetery (on Beecroft). It was both beautiful and honourable to take a moment together to remember the many sacrifices that have been made to protect our country, democracy and freedom. At a time when it feels like war and violence are multiplying, how precious is the life we get to live here in Canada. It was an honour to speak on behalf of the City of Toronto, to lay the wreath and to meet 102-year-old Veteran Ed Stafford. Thank you to the Governor General's Horse Guards, 32 Combat Engineer Regiment, 32 Service Battalion and all the cadet corps who attended. It was a very meaningful morning with many tears shed. We even received a fly over of vintage planes to mark the moment!

Warming Centre at Willowdale Baptist Church (WBC)

We received a petition and many letters of concern about the City's plan to open a warming centre at 15 Olive Ave. from November 15 to April 15 anytime the temperature goes below -5. This past week we held a stakeholders meeting for condo board representatives, business owners, and neighbourhood leaders from the surrounding area to discuss their concerns. Here are some takeaways from our meeting:

- Dixon Hall, the operator, is piloting a small group of volunteers to help at the warming centre. This is the first time volunteers are part of a warming centre implementation and I hope this can be expanded in the future to provide a supportive warm welcome to those who come into our midst to stay with us during the winter.
- We will be working on an intake system that supports the unhoused who currently reside in Willowdale to ensure they are prioritized for bed spaces before it is opened to the general public.
- The warming centre will have on-site 24/7 security in addition to a pair of Community Safety Staff who will be patrolling the surrounding area 24/7. The team is trained in de-escalation, identifies hot spots in their patrol and supports any unhoused residents in distress in the area, regardless of whether they are a client of the warming centre or not.
- When asked about the reason WBC is hosting the warming centre, Dawn, a representative from the church said, "We want to follow Jesus and be a welcoming place of love and compassion."
- Jane Farrow is the community engagement facilitator who can answer any questions or concerns: WeatherResponseTO@gmail.com
- Jane and my team are working on an "FAQ" including a contact list for any questions or concerns that arise during the winter season.
- The warming centre is not a long term solution. The city is looking at expanding long term shelter infrastructure as well as deeply affordable housing. Both of these goals will take some time, so warming centres will still be in our suite of supports for the unhoused for the foreseeable future. We have approximately 9,183 shelter beds which are full on a nightly basis. Thus far in 2023, 4760 people have been moved into housing. Despite this success, there is also a growing population of refugees in our shelter system, which means we are still running out of shelter beds on a nightly basis.
- One of the biggest needs for the unhoused is socks. [Streets To Homes](#) is asking if our community can help run a sock drive. Please let our office know if you are interested in helping run a sock drive.

Yonge North York BIA AGM

This past week the BIA held their AGM. It was a chance to reflect on the successes, opportunities and challenges faced by businesses along our main strip. Office towers continue to struggle with growing vacancies, which means there is great opportunity for affordable office space in our neighbourhood. The BIA has grown in visibility and impact. In addition to supporting the first ever night market in Willowdale, they also participated in many of the festivals that filled our square. The BIA will be launching an exciting Enchanted Lights Festival that will fill Mel Lastman Square with beautiful lights!

We Love Willowdale Christmas Market and Walking Parade with FIRST EVER Mel Lastman Square Christmas Tree Lighting!!!

Anyone who has attended the market in previous years can attest to the warmth and festive spirit it brings. This market is unique in that it supports community vendors, some of whom would not necessarily have the means to have a booth at Mel Lastman Square without the support of NeighbourLink North York. This year, we will have the first Christmas Tree Lighting brought to us by the Yonge North York BIA! There will be caroling, hot chocolate and lots of great opportunities to buy some special gifts! It will be especially beautiful to see all the lights filling up our square into the evening! I'm also excited about the TINY TIM DONUTS FOOD TRUCK! [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP and consider a donation that supports the incredible work of NeighbourLink North York including the 415 Food Hub, programs for seniors, programs for youth and events that bring our neighbourhood together!

Arts in North York

This past week I met with Luminato and was pleased to learn that there will be an installation next year at Mel Lastman Square. I'm still trying to advocate for something to come to North York for Nuit Blanche. Being part of a large city means we are always competing for activations and activities to come to our neighbourhood. I have been proactive about inviting organizations to Willowdale. We have a great community with the highest residential density walkable to our local square! We also have a delicious variety of food available for people who travel to our neighbourhood. I always try to sell these points to organizations when trying to invite them to animate our spaces.

I also met with the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts this week to discuss the importance of investing in the arts for the return generated, both in revenue and social benefits for the community. We agreed that allowing Toronto to benefit from the economic growth resulting from our investments would help us to strengthen arts in the city.

FLIP Kitchen

This past week I found out the 3 vendors at FLIP Kitchen had been evicted with very little notice. This is upsetting for many community members including myself. I am currently working with the Mayor's office and city staff to find the best resolution. I will keep the community posted on the outcome.

We are Hiring a Communications & Events Coordinator

We are looking for someone who is passionate about words, creative content (graphics & video) AND community building. This role will be pivotal in helping us foster connectivity and inspire engagement in our neighbourhood. [Click here](#) to read the job description and how to apply.

Behind the scenes of the Budget Committee

The Budgeting Process for 2024 has begun. As part of the Budget Committee I have several high level briefings by various departments across the city. This week I had the Engineering & Construction Briefing as well as Toronto Public Health. These briefings provide an overview of the overall trajectory of the budget, efficiencies that have been found and comparisons to past budgets. I look forward to learning more about the nuts and bolts of the operations of our city and more importantly, finding a viable path forward as we map out the 2024 Budget. I hope to see everyone at the consultation opportunities listed below! This is OUR city. It is also OUR budget!

Ways to Get Connected!

Stephen Hawking once said, "Showing up is half the battle!" Showing up to any of the invitations below is a way for us to connect to our community and in some cases shape the future. Each person brings a unique lens and story - which makes each person an invaluable participant. I hope to see you at one of the many opportunities listed below.

THIS WEEKEND:

- [Toronto K-Art Art Show](#) - Friday-Sunday, 12-6pm, Meridian Arts Centre
- [Danish Lutheran Church Christmas Bazaar](#) - Sat. Nov. 18, 10am-3pm
- [Willowdale Presbyterian Church Bazaar & Bake Sale](#) - Sat. Nov. 18, 9:30am-2pm
- [Senlac CommuniTEA](#) - Sat. Nov. 18, 2pm
- [Sound of St. John's Concert](#) - Sat. Nov. 18, 2:30-4:30pm

NEXT WEEK + WEEKEND:

- [Newtonbrook East Spaghetti Town Hall](#) - Thurs. Nov. 23 - Dinner at 5:30, Town Hall at 7pm.
- [TTC Willowdale Consultation](#) - Fri. Nov. 24, 6-8pm
- **HOLIDAY FUN!** [We Love Willowdale Christmas Market & Walking Parade](#) - Sat. Nov. 25, 2-9pm. Parade at 5pm.

HAPPENING SOON!:

- **MUST ATTEND! [City of Toronto 2024 Budget Consultation](#)** - Mon. Nov. 27, 7-8:30pm OR 8:30-10pm.
- **[North York at the Centre Public Meeting \(Secondary Plan Refresh\)](#)** - Tues. Nov. 28, 6:30-8:30pm
- **[Willowdale East Spaghetti Town Hall](#)** - Thurs. Nov. 30 - Dinner at 5:30, Town Hall at 7pm.
- **[St. Luke's Christmas Market](#)** - Fri. Dec. 1 at 6pm
- **[Lansing Holiday Market](#)** - Sat. Dec. 9, 12-5pm

Warmest Regards,

Lily Cheng 陳伶俐
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Councillor Lily Cheng

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



THANK YOU to everyone who joined us at our Open House Party to celebrate our 1 YEAR at our Constituency Office. It has been a year since we embarked on this marvelous journey of serving Willowdale and the City of Toronto. So happy to have seen familiar faces and met some new neighbours! My dream is to build a Connected Community where everyone has a voice and a sense of belonging. I would not be able to do it without your support and participation!

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

~ COUNCILLOR UPDATES

- [Senlac South CommuniTEA](#)
- [Newtonbrook East Townhall and Community Spaghetti Dinner](#)
- [Willowdale East Townhall and Community Spaghetti Dinner](#)
- [TTC Pop-Up Consultation for Willowdale](#)
- [Fight For Cummer Station](#)
- [Petition: Save Ontario's Science Centre](#)

~ CITY OF TORONTO UPDATES

- [City Of Toronto 2024 Budget Consultation](#)
- [Public Meeting for North York At The Centre](#)
- [EHON- Major Street Study Consultation Survey.](#)
- [Ontario Rental Registry](#)
- [City of Toronto Warming Centres](#)
- [Speed Enforcement](#)

~ COMMUNITY EVENTS ACROSS WILLOWDALE

- [Toronto K-ART art show](#)
- [Willowdale Presbyterian Church Bazaar & Bake Sale](#)
- [Sound of St. John's Concert](#)
- [Danish Lutheran Church Christmas Bazaar](#)
- [Christmas Market and Walking Parade](#)
- [Holiday Fair Supporting Epilepsy Toronto](#)
- [St. Luke's Christmas Maker's Market](#)
- [Lansing Holiday Market](#)

COUNCILLOR UPDATES



“ **Senlac South COMMUNI TEA**

Tea & Pastries – Meet Your Neighbours & Get To Know Your Councillor



COUNCILLOR CHENG

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS! If you live in the Senlac South Area, we are hosting a special **CommuniTEA** to Meet Your Neighbours and Get To Know Your Councillor! Please join us! Special thanks to Chartwell Retirement Residence for supporting this great opportunity to connect.

[RSVP Now!](#)



“ **NEWTONBROOK EAST TOWN HALL WITH COMMUNITY SPAGHETTI DINNER**



WELLSPRING WORSHIP CENTRE CHURCH
89 Centre Ave, M2M2L7



THU, NOV 23, 2023
Spaghetti Dinner 5:30-7:00pm
Town Hall 7:00-9:00pm



lilycheng.ca/events

COUNCILLOR CHENG

[RSVP Now!](#)



WILLOWDALE EAST TOWN HALL WITH COMMUNITY SPAGHETTI DINNER



SPRING GARDEN CHURCH
112 Spring Garden Ave, M2N3G3



THU, NOV 30, 2023
Spaghetti Dinner 5:30-7:00pm
Town Hall 7:00-9:00pm



lilycheng.ca/events

COUNCILLOR CHENG

[RSVP Now!](#)

LET'S JOIN

TTC POP-UP CONSULTATION



“ Help shape TTC's 5-Year Service Plan and Customer Experience Action Plan ”



NORTH YORK CENTRAL ATRIUM
5150 Yonge Street, Toronto



NOV 24, 2023
Friday, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

HOSTED BY:

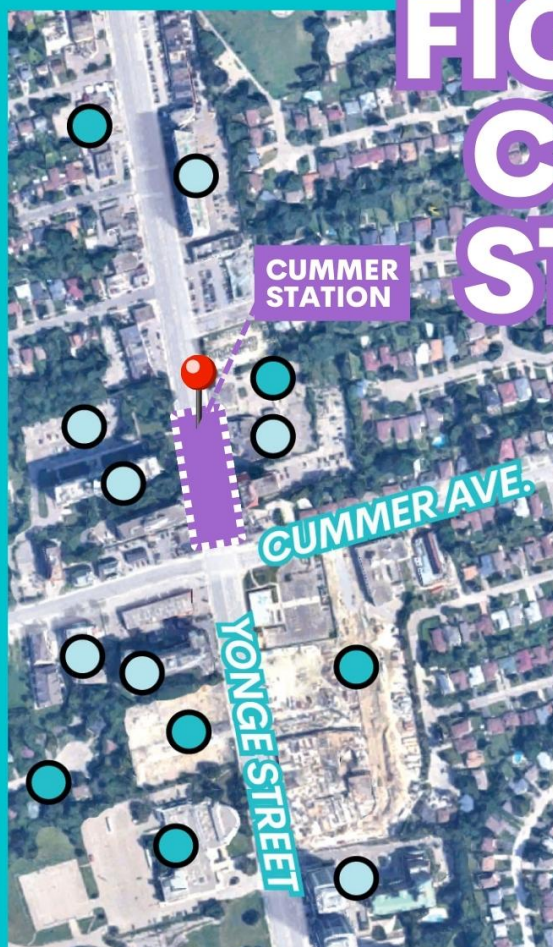
LILY CHENG

CITY COUNCILLOR WARD 18, WILLOWDALE

RSVP AT

[LILYCHENG.CA/EVENTS](https://lilycheng.ca/events)

[RSVP Now!](#)



FIGHT FOR CUMMER STATION!

10,400+

PEOPLE COMING*

... AND MANY MORE EXPECTED

5,000+

PEOPLE

CURRENTLY LIVE THERE*

ACT NOW!

*0.8km radius surrounding Yonge and Cummer

Thank you to all who came out to support our 'FIGHT FOR CUMMER STATION' RALLY, and to all those who sent their Cummer Station Advocacy Letters to our provincial officials. We need continued support from our community for our voices to be heard loud and clear! Our provincial government should take urgent action to include Cummer Station in the Yonge North Subway Extension Project. Let's fight for Willowdale's future. **CUMMER STATION NEEDS TO BE BUILT.** [Please continue to send your letters!](#)

[Email Now!](#)

PETITION: SAVE ONTARIO'S SCIENCE CENTRE

Save Ontario's Science Centre needs your help to send a message that Ontarians care about the Ontario Science Centre. Send a letter to provincial officials, our Mayor and my fellow City Councillors. Demand that proper investments are made in the Ontario Science Centre so that it continues to be a world class educational institution that Ontarians can be proud of and enjoy for decades to come.

[Act Now!](#)

CITY OF TORONTO UPDATES

PUBLIC MEETING FOR NORTH YORK AT THE CENTRE

A review of the North York Centre Secondary Plan is underway. As part of the review, the City will engage with the community to refresh the vision and planning framework that will help shape the Centre as an inclusive, resilient, and complete community.

Date: November 28, 2023

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Location: North York Memorial Community Hall, 5110 Yonge Street

[Click here](#) to learn more.

[RSVP Now!](#)

CITY OF TORONTO 2024 BUDGET CONSULTATION

From November 1 to 30, you are invited to join Mayor Olivia Chow, Councillor Shelley Carroll (Don Valley North), Chair of the Budget Committee, Members of Council and other Torontonians to share your ideas about the City's 2024 Budget at virtual and in-person consultations and through an [online survey and tool](#).

Learn the City's [budget basics](#), including key budget terms and how the budget is approved. You can join an online conversation, attend a virtual or in-person meeting or host your own discussion.

[Learn More!](#)



EHON Major Streets

The public consultation period for 'The Expanding Housing Options in Neighbourhoods: Major Streets Study' has been **extended to December 14, 2023**. [Click on the button below](#) to participate in the online survey.

Details on the Major Streets Study:

The report proposes official plan and zoning by-law amendments to permit townhouses and small-scale apartment buildings city-wide, in Neighbourhoods, along Map 3 Major Streets. The amendments propose to permit townhouses and small-scale apartment buildings on all properties, along major streets, designated Neighbourhoods across the city and set out built form criteria in policy and zoning. The proposals contribute to the 2023 Housing Action Plan goals to remove exclusionary zoning and to increase housing opportunities in a range of housing forms.

Take the Survey!



Defending rent affordability is everyone's responsibility.

The Ontario Rental Registry is an online database where tenants can anonymously register their rents. The purpose of the registry is to track rising rents across the province. This will lead to better, publicly-available housing data that can help protect and create more affordable housing. Click the button below to access the registry.

[Register Now!](#)

CITY OF TORONTO WARMING CENTRE

WARD 18 WILLOWDALE

WILLOWDALE BAPTIST CHURCH
15 Olive Ave, North York

NOV 15, 2023 - APR 15, 2024

COUNCILLOR CHENG

[Learn More](#)

speed enforcement in effect

MAXIMUM 40

Doris Avenue, North York

100 km/h

In response to the numerous speeding complaints received, divisional traffic officers along with the Traffic Services officers (Vision Zero) are enforcing the speed within 32 Division, as well as on Doris Ave.

In the picture: Divisional Traffic Police Constable SHARMA spotted a car speeding 100 KM/H in the 40 KM/H zone on Doris Ave, North York. The driver was charged with STUNT DRIVING and received a 30-day license suspension, and a 14-day car impoundment. Once convicted, they would receive 6 demerit points, a fine of \$2000 to \$10000, potential jail time, as well as loss of license for a minimum of 1 year.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

YOU MEET THROUGH K-ART

NOVEMBER 16 - 19

MERIDIAN ARTS CENTRE GALLERY

5040 YONGE ST, TORONTO, ON M2N 6R8

[Buy Tickets!](#)

WILLOWDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH BAZAAR & BAKE SALE

It's that time of year again for our Church Bazaar.

Hi folks, its Willowdale Presbyterian Church bazaar and bake sale.

Saturday November 18, 2023
From: 9:30 am to 2:00 pm
Small lunch for \$5 will be available.

JOIN and support the **Willowdale Presbyterian Church** this Saturday, November 18 for a fun Bazaar and Bake Sale from 9:30AM to 2PM. There will be light lunch available for a small cost and the opportunity to showcase as a vendor. **For more information, contact the church directly at (416) 221-8373.**

50th Anniversary Concert
五十週年堂慶音樂會



SOUNDS of ST. JOHN'S
樂韻歡聲 聖約翰堂

Performances Include:
Organ & piano duo • Sunday School children • Worship Team • Vocal Ensemble • Choir • Flute • Saxophone • Vocal Groups

表演項目包括:
風琴和鋼琴二重奏 • 詩班 • 歌詠團 • 主日學兒童 • 英文崇拜樂隊 • 長笛 • 薩克斯風 • 聲樂小組

This concert is raising funds for food banks
這音樂會是為食物銀行籌款

Free Admission
免費入場

Date: November 18 (Saturday)
Time: 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Place: St. John's Anglican Church
1087 Lillian St., Willowdale

日期: 11月18日(週六)
時間: 下午2:30-4:30
地點: 聖公會聖約翰堂



All performers at the Sounds of **St. John's concert** are excited to show you what St. John's has to offer! Donations of non-perishable goods and financial donations will be collected in benefit of the **NeighbourLink North York 415 Food Hub** and **Flemington Park Ministry's Common Table Farm**.



DANISH BAZAAR
TORONTO

[Register Now!](#)

WE ♥ WILLOWDALE

Christmas
Market & Walking Parade

Saturday, November 25
Mel Lastman Square

FESTIVE TREE LIGHTING **60+ LOCAL ARTISANS** **FOOD, DRINKS & ENTERTAINMENT**

Learn More & RSVP
neighbourlink.org/christmas



Hosted By: **NeighbourLink NORTH YORK**
Tree Presenter: **Yonge North York Business Improvement Area**
Lead Sponsor: **GWL REALTY ADVISORS**

[RSVP Now!](#)

CALLING SCHOOLS & BUSINESSES!
JOIN NEIGHBOURLINK NORTH YORK'S
CHRISTMAS PARADE ON NOV 25



Join NeighbourLink's Christmas Market & Walking Parade featuring a Festive Tree Lighting presented by the Yonge North York BIA! Happening at Mel Lastman Square on Saturday November 25th, with a walking sidewalk parade along Yonge St at 5:30pm.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more and register your business, school or organization or email Event Manager Sebastian at sebastian@neighbourlink.org

JOIN US FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

HOLIDAY FAIR
mel lastman SQUARE
Supporting Epilepsy Toronto

DEC 1 - DEC 23

Fairinthesquare.ca



The most wonderful time of the year is just around the corner, and Epilepsy Toronto is thrilled to invite you to the spectacular Holiday Fair in The Square, right here in our community! The event promises to be the most enchanting holiday event in North York.

What to Expect: Winter Wonderland, Santa's Village, 65+ Artisans, Polar Point Bar, Holiday Midway, Roaming Performers, Fireside Lounge.

[Learn More!](#)

VENDOR OPENINGS FOR OUR
Christmas
MAKER'S MARKET

Friday, December 1st at 6pm

For more information
and to book your vendor space, email:

treasurer@stluketoronto.com

3200 Bayview Ave
(the church with the three crosses)



[Learn More!](#)



[Register Now!](#)

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