



ward4news
SUMMER 2018

John Kovac

City Councillor
Ward 4



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Councillor's message

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

As we have approached the summer of 2018, I wish you all a sunny and successful few months ahead! I am also pleased to share with you my 2018 City Newsletter and trust that you will find it a beneficial read. I had thought it a useful idea to include a calendar inside for upcoming events at Celebration Square, which I have been proud to champion as our truly collective 'public space'; I have been successful, so far, in fighting-off waves of 'outside' requests to impose admission fees on our Square and would like to keep it free and always open to the public!

As a member of City Council, I must recognize first and foremost, the interests of our taxpayers, respecting your concerns and honouring your wishes while Council continues to govern efficiently. This starts from the bottom-up, which is why I have made every effort to spend low and in fact, my office remains the lowest spending throughout this term of Council.

Quality public services matter to residents, which is why our Government must continue to make infrastructure investments and local improvements, ensuring continued growth and city sustainability.

Over the course of this term, I have been involved in everything from sidewalk repairs

to road repairs (having even taken-up 'sidewalk inspection duty' last summer), to watermain and storm sewer installations, working closely with the teams from Transportation and Works and Community Services. I have presided over numerous park, trail and playground updates:

A brand new tennis court system now exists at Stonebrook Park while the playgrounds at Rayfield Park (with added safety-fencing), Brentwood Park, Greenfield Park, Syed Jalaluddin Memorial Park and Parkway Green have all been modernized. So too, have trails been modernized, at both Bishopstoke Park and Woodington Green. New trail reconstruction projects are also slated for Huron Heights Park and Gordon S. Shipp Memorial Park through 2018, as well as a new playground for Mississauga Valley Park. Zonta Meadows, meanwhile, is undergoing its own master plan, as are other parks in Ward 4, and has so far received a playground improvement and completion of its 'blue parkette' and 'linear park and trail'.

While I am proud of these successes, I am also delighted to have initiated the installation of Canada's first #boxedsoccerpitch (on Living Arts Drive) and have since gotten to work on securing Canada's second #boxedsoccerpitch (for Mississauga Valley Park) - Both in Ward 4!

I have actively engaged with our seniors' population, having helped found a new home (at Central Parkway Mall) for members of the Square One Older Adult Centre (now named

'Active Adult Centre') and am currently enrolled as a director of their board. I had also supported the "Seniors \$1 Cash Fare" motion in 2015, which has seen many more seniors take the bus, leading to an increase in ridership.

Safety is a number one priority, which is why I support the 'Vision Zero' initiative. Speed control devices have been set-up locally as have two new traffic lights. You may have also noticed newly painted 'yellow lines' down certain roads, the 'red paint' application on a number of our bus shoulder lanes as well as the much publicized, "Please Slow Down" lawn sign campaign. We need to continue to keep our streets safe.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your local representative and I would ask that you please feel free to contact my office at any time by phone at: **905-896-5400** or by email at: **john.kovac@mississauga.ca**. I remain excited by the challenges that await us and the progress we will realize together.

Have a great summer!

John Kovac
Councillor, Ward 4
johnkovac.ca

52nd Mississauga Scouts Annual Food Drive

Organized annually by their Cub Pack Leader, 'Akela', the youth from the 52nd Mississauga Scouts embark on an outreach campaign throughout parts of Ward 4. Councillor Kovac was delighted to again participate in the Food Drive, which was the 13th annual, by helping the scouts deliver flyers and bags to residences in the Ward. When all was said and done, 6,395 lbs of non-perishable food was collected, brought to Silver Creek Public School and then donated to the Mississauga Food Bank. Thank you to all residents who participated in this year's Food Drive. Great work by the boys and girls of the 52nd Mississauga Scouts!



Councillor Kovac is a member of the following committees and boards:

- Accessibility Transportation Master Plan Advisory Group
- Active Adult Centre Board - Ex-Officio
- Art Gallery Board - Ex-Officio
- Arts, Culture & Heritage Ad Hoc Committee - Chair
- Budget Committee
- Celebration Square Community Reference Group
- City Council
- Community Water Fluoridation Committee
- General Committee
- HLRT Ad Hoc Council Working Group
- HLRT Corridor Committee
- Living Arts Centre Board - Ex-Officio
- Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee
- Planning and Development Committee
- Public Library Board
- Public Vehicle Advisory Committee - Vice Chair
- Regional Council
- Safe City Mississauga Board
- Traffic Safety Council
- Waste Mgmt. Strategic Advisory Committee

Canada's 1st and 2nd Boxed Soccer Pitches in Mississauga's Ward 4

Over the last year and a half, Councillor Kovac has initiated the installation of Canada's 1st Boxed Soccer Pitch (Living Arts Drive) and the soon-to-be installation of Canada's 2nd Boxed Soccer Pitch (for Mississauga Valley Park). Neither pitch is taxpayer funded. The first pitch was funded via a private 'sponsorship agreement' while the second one will be installed as a result of a development contribution agreement via a 'community benefit.' Both soccer pitches will be permanently owned by the City of Mississauga and are German-engineered, made-up of a durable welded aluminum design soccer system that is 15m x 30m. They include artificial turf surfaces, soccer boards, goals and netting and will remain open to the public from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week. "We couldn't have hoped for a better response from the community", said Councillor Kovac. "Kids and youth are using it in almost all weather conditions - they're physically active, having a great time and making friends. It's been great for the downtown and promises to be a win for the Mississauga Valley community as well," he said. The first pitch has been so popular that it has received 33,800 visits



New boxed soccer pitch coming to Mississauga Valley Park



in between October 2, 2017 - May 11, 2018, based on data collected by our City's park's staff through the placement of a 'parkland counting technology' device on site.

Grand Re-Opening of "Syed Jalaluddin Memorial Park"

On Saturday, May 12th, Councillor Kovac hosted a plaque unveiling and grand re-opening of "Syed Jalaluddin Memorial Park" (490 Mississauga Valley Blvd.) in Ward 4. A once under-utilized, nearly forgotten park, it has since been rejuvenated thanks to a joint Municipal/Federal Government funding split. The improvements have included the addition of an outdoor fitness station and seating area and a full playground replacement, featuring accessibility enhancements. The playground's sand surface has been replaced with engineered wood fiber and paved pathway connections.

The park name commemorates the courageous act of Syed Jalaluddin, a Mississauga resident from Ward 4, who lost his life saving a 5-year old girl from drowning in the Credit River in 1979. Jalaluddin was only 24 years old at the time. At the Grand Re-Opening, Councillor Kovac welcomed residents from our community as well as members of the Jalaluddin family. It was a joyful affair!



Syed Jalaluddin



In The Community



with Father Peter of Saints Peter & Paul Parish



at opening of 'Active Adult Centre'



at 'Mississauga Writers Group' event

Free Events all Summer Long on the Square



Movie nights, fitness classes, festivals and much more this summer on the Square

The Mississauga Celebration Square summer event season begins on Victoria Day weekend and goes through to Labour Day weekend.

As you've come to expect from this vibrant, state-of-the-art venue, the Square will host a diverse mix of events this year that are both City and independently-produced.

This summer, visitors will be kept busy and entertained with both relaxing and energy-filled options. Festivities include:

- Fresh Air Fitness classes
- Movie Nights

- both new and returning independently-produced festivals
- Lions Farmers Market; and
- much more!

If you're looking for a place to unwind and people watch, don't forget about our free amenities including the fountain, huge lawn area, porch eating area and Library Reading Room.

See you on the Square this summer.



Food Trucks Coming to Mississauga Parks

If you accidentally leave the snacks at home this spring while visiting your favourite outdoor Mississauga green space, fear not. The City of Mississauga has your back.

Mississauga's Parks and Forestry Division is recommending a one-year pilot project to bring food trucks to nine parks including:

- Jack Darling Memorial Park
- Paul Coffey Park
- Erindale Park
- Mississauga Valley Park
- Dunton Athletic Fields
- R.K. McMillan Park
- Syntex Green
- Max Ward Sports Park
- Meadowvale Sports Park



Don't worry; food truck vendors located at Celebration Square will continue to be on site and ready to feed hungry visitors.

The pilot began May 1, 2018 and will continue through April 30, 2019. Food trucks will be permitted onsite during regular park hours, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Innovative Dog Waste Containers in Mississauga Parks

The City is launching a one-year pilot program that will convert dog waste into renewable energy and fertilizer. Fifteen in-ground dog waste containers were installed across eight City parks including the Animal Services facility and Community Common Park in Ward 4, this past spring.

These fully in-ground concrete containers can hold dog waste for up to six weeks.

The waste will then be emptied by a vacuum truck and taken to an organic waste plant where it will be safely converted into energy and fertilizer.

For more information, visit: Mississauga.ca/news

Upcoming Events Celebration Square

WEEKLY EVENTS ON THE SQUARE

Fresh Air Fitness: Zumba, Boot Camp, Yoga
Wednesdays, May 23 - August 29, 7 - 8 p.m.

Lions Farmers Market
Wednesdays, June 6 - October 24, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Movie Nights
Thursdays, May 24 - August 30, 8 - 10:30 p.m.

Amphitheatre Unplugged
In partnership with Mississauga Arts Council
Wednesdays, August 3 - 31, 8 - 10 p.m.

Make Believe Theatre
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
August 7 - The Paper Bag Princess: The Musical
August 14 - Peter Pan, Produced
August 21 - Memorable Munsch
August 28 - Princess Frownsalot

SPECIAL EVENTS

Pep Rally
Monday, May 21, Noon - 4 p.m.
Presented by: Pizza Pizza

National Public Works Week Family Fun Day
Saturday, May 26

Vesak: Buddha's Birthday Celebration 2018
Sunday, May 27

Mississauga Ukrainian Festival
Saturday, June 2

Celebrate Ramadan Iftar
Tuesday, June 5

Yoga Under the Stars
Friday, June 8

Mississauga Polish Day 2018
Saturday, June 9

Mississauga Halal Food Festival
Friday, June 15
Saturday, June 16

TD IRIE Music Festival
Friday, June 22
Saturday, June 23

Canada Day Celebration
Sunday, July 1, 2 - 10:30 p.m.
Fireworks presented by Tim Horton's
Performing Live: Magic!

Philippine Festival Mississauga
Saturday, July 7
Sunday, July 8

#BollywoodMonster Mashup
Friday, July 20
Sunday, July 21

Mississauga LATIN Festival
Saturday, July 28
Sunday, July 29

TD Mosaic 2018 - South Asian Festival of Mississauga
Friday, August 3
Saturday, August 4
Sunday, August 5

OSG 55+ Opening Ceremonies
Friday, August 10

Mississauga ITALFEST - Ferrogosto in the City
Friday, August 17
Saturday, August 18

Japan Festival Canada
Saturday, August 25
Sunday, August 26

MuslimFest 2018
Friday, August 31
Saturday, September 1
Sunday, September 2

Egyptian Coptic Festival
Saturday, September 8

Viet Summer Fest
Saturday, September 15

Tour de Mississauga
Sunday, September 16

Dragon Lion Dance Festival
Saturday, September 22

Community Crime Awareness Day - A celebration of Cultural Diversity
Saturday, September 29

Diwali RazzMatazz
Friday, October 12
Saturday, October 13

For more information and for more events happening at Mississauga's Celebration Square, visit: mississauga.ca/celebrationsquare



2018 Budget Approved

Mississauga City Council approved the 2018 Business Plan and Budget in December 2017. The impact of the budget is a \$141 increase on the property tax bill for an average residential property valued at \$604,000.

The 2018 Budget ensures local government programs and services continue to be delivered cost-effectively. The budget projects savings of over \$3 million. This means a savings of nearly \$52 million over the past decade.

Highlights of the 2018 Business Plan and Budget:

- continuing the MiWay service growth and adding 46,000 service hours
- increasing support to culture groups and local artists

- redeveloping the recently-acquired Small Arms Inspection Building
- hosting the Ontario 55+ Summer Games
- providing public education about the City's Active Transportation options to encourage the use of cycling and walking infrastructure
- improving the Library's collection to support the City's population growth



For more details on the City's budget and the budgeting process, visit: mississauga.ca/budget

Emergency Alerts on Your Smartphone

In addition to television and radio warnings, Alert Ready is now sending emergency alerts to compatible cell phones on LTE networks. This allows you to take the necessary precautions to protect yourself, your family, property and environment.

Alert Ready is part of a national service designed to deliver critical and potentially life-saving emergency alert messages to Canadians. For more information, visit: alertready.ca

Property Tax Rebate Program

Together with local municipalities including the City of Mississauga, the Region of Peel provides annual property tax rebates to eligible low-income seniors and low-income disabled persons to provide relief from financial hardship.

Eligible low-income seniors and low-income persons with disabilities must apply annually to receive the rebate. Application forms must be completed and returned to the local municipality in which the property is located.

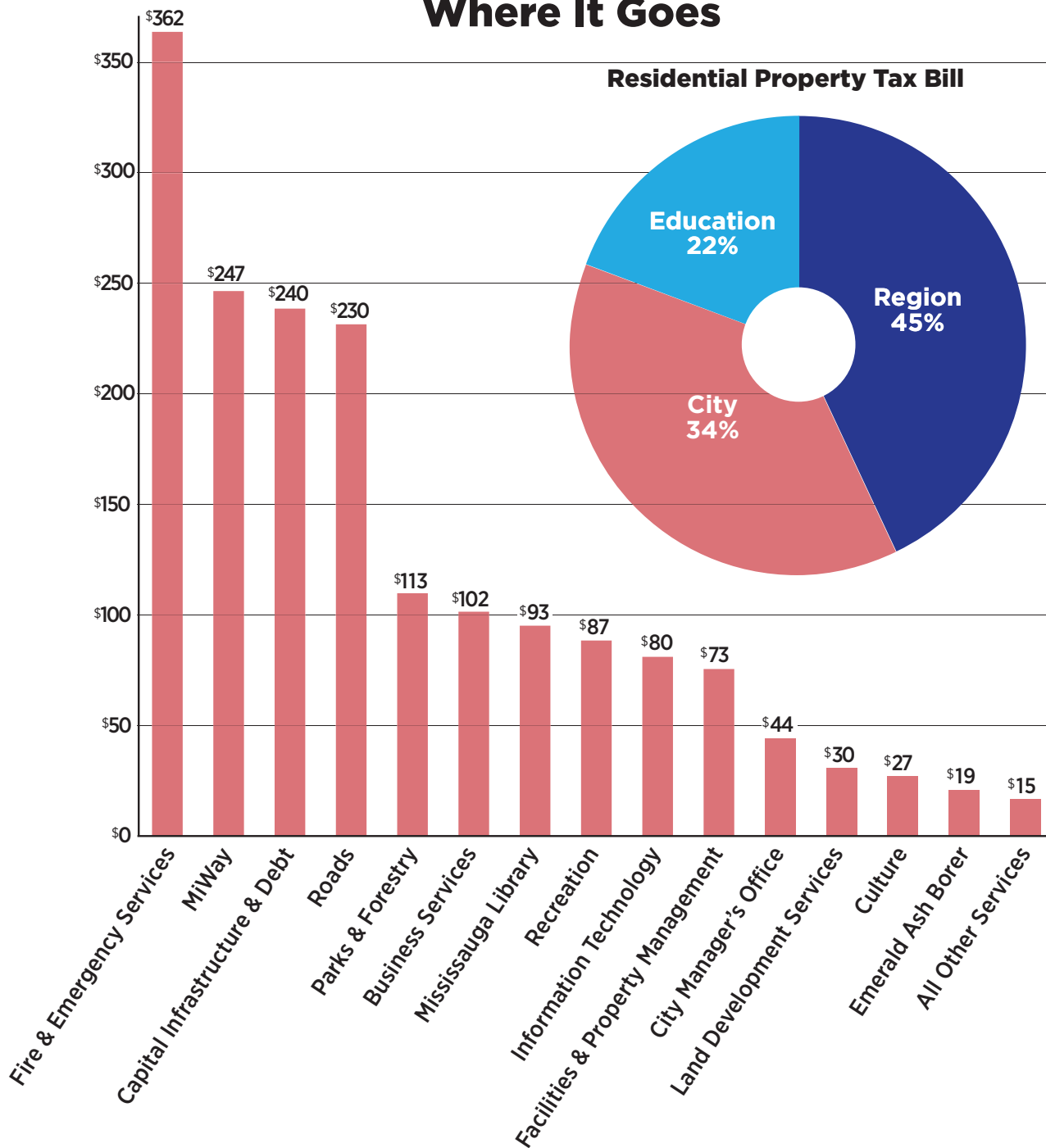
Eligibility requirements and application forms are available at the City of Mississauga Civic Centre, located at 300 City Centre Dr. They are also available online at: mississauga.ca/taxassistance

New Regulations for Door-to-Door Sales

There are new regulations that will restrict door-to-door sales for certain goods and services at your homes. This includes furnaces, air conditioners (including cleaners and purifiers), water heaters, water treatment devices (purifiers, filters and softeners), duct cleaning services and bundles of goods and services such as HVAC.

For more information, visit: ontario.ca

Where It Goes



Did You Know...

MiWay offers a high level of accessibility, including:

- a fully accessible fleet with low floor, kneeling buses equipped with ramps and two wheelchair/scooter securement areas
- both voice and visual announcements at all stops; and
- shelters at accessible stops have large entrance openings and platform areas to ensure enough room for maneuvering wheelchairs and scooters

KNOW WHO TO CALL

Visit mississauga.ca for more information.

3-1-1

provides residents with direct access to local municipal government programs and services in Peel:

- garbage pick up
- water billing
- recreation programs

2-1-1

is for confidential information and referral to non-emergency community, health and social services in Peel:

- employment leads
- doctors accepting patients
- social housing resources

9-1-1

is for life-threatening emergencies or crimes:

- a fire
- a crime in progress
- a medical emergency

You can sign up for City news by email at: mississauga.ca/keepmeposted. Receive up-to-date information on City programs, projects, upcoming events, engagement opportunities, important seasonal reminders and issues affecting Mississauga.