



**YOUR COUNCILLORS WORKING FOR YOU!**  
*Our Ward 3 Newsletter • Spring 2023*



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## Message from your Councillors

This is our first newsletter since the pause during the municipal election. We are honoured that Ward 3 residents chose to re-elect us as their Regional and City Councillors. This is our third consecutive term of Council as a team, serving Ward 3 residents. We thank our families, volunteers, and supporters. We would also like to note that all 4 incumbents running were re-elected, including new Mayor, Kevin Ashe. We also welcome three new Members of Council. We look forward to working with our Council colleagues in the coming term. Campaigning can be a demanding and hectic process, but it was a wonderful opportunity to speak with so many thoughtful residents, hear their ideas, comments, concerns, and learn about all the community activities and organizations they participate in. We recently spoke with former Mayor, Dave Ryan, and he expressed the shared sentiment of the many residents who thanked him for his service, and wished him and his family well in his retirement. We look forward to the challenges, opportunities and work ahead.

## Pickering Economic Development Highlights

Kubota opened their head office in 2022, and brought in 350 full-time jobs. Adjacent to the Kubota facility, Smart Centre purchased over 33 acres of employment lands that will house the many businesses. The first of those businesses is the new Lastman's Bad Boys head office and distribution centre, which will bring over 200 jobs. City staff are also in discussion with other key businesses regarding opportunities in the Innovation Corridor.

## Thank you, Christine Doody-Hamilton

When Pickering Council appointed Christine Doody-Hamilton to fill the Ward 2 City Councillor position vacated by the very sad passing of Councillor Ian Cumming, we made a big ask of her to embark on a steep learning curve and be a key contributor to Council and the City. Christine more than met this challenge. She completed extensive research on matters before Council, she spoke with all appropriate staff, all members of Council and the residents of Pickering. She was always prepared and informed during Council and voted independently. Her input was on point, relevant, and constructive. Councillor Doody-Hamilton decided not to stand as a candidate in the 2022 municipal election, but we thank her for her honourable, if brief service to our community.

## Pickering Casino Resort Update

In 2014, then Councillors Ashe and Pickles brought a motion to Council that passed and made Pickering a willing host for a casino and agreeing to share revenues with the Region of Durham. Revenue sharing was intended to support health and social services programs. The casino is a great success. In 2022, the City received \$20 million dollars in non-tax revenues which has been helpful in financing capital projects in the budget. Recently, the casino hotel has opened with 275 rooms and a theatre with 2500 seats. A Porche Experience Centre is also under construction. We look forward to the exciting growth, jobs and revenues that the Pickering Casino Resort contributes to Pickering.



## Invitation to Virtual Open House Comprehensive Zoning By-law

Join us on May 16, 2023 to learn about the draft Comprehensive Zoning By-law. All residents are welcome to join the session where we will discuss zoning related topics in North Pickering.

The purpose of the new Comprehensive Zoning By-law is to consolidate six existing land use By-laws and their site-specific exceptions into a single Zoning By-law. Zoning By-laws are regulations that municipal staff use to ensure structures are safe and our environment is protected.

**Date:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023

**Time:** 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**Please register at:** <http://letstalkpickering.ca/zonereview>

**An invitation and instructions will be emailed to you.**

For more information, the City of Pickering draft Zoning By-law Frequently Asked Questions and interactive map are also available on <https://letstalkpickering.ca/zonereview>

# STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE CONCERNS OF PICKERING AND DURHAM REGION!

## Whitevale Road Project Update

Public Information Center – for Whitevale Road and North Road Improvements as part of the Whitevale Master Drainage Plan Implementation Project.

The project includes: road resurfacing and road reconstruction (excavation, new granular road base and road asphalt), utility relocations, stormwater flow diversion and a new storm sewer system, sidewalk installation, retaining walls as required, complete with boulevard and driveway restorations.

Due to previous Covid-19 restrictions, City Staff, the consultant (AECOM), and residents were not able to adequately discuss the proposed design, and the impact to both the residents and the community.

### Meeting at the Whitevale Community Centre

**Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023**

**Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

## City Centre Update

At the Special In-Camera Council meeting of March 11, 2022, Pickering Council received a significant update related to the long-term fiscal and economic impacts of the City Centre project and decided to defer all work on the project pending further review.

The City retained KPMG and Hariri Pontarini Architects to complete this review and present options for the next phase of the City Centre Project, based on cost estimates and financial implications.

At the March 27, 2023 Special Meeting of Council, Council was presented with four City Centre options and endorsed Option D – Facilities on the Park Concept: The City connects Esplanade Park, an important component to establishing a City Centre, by relocating Esplanade South to the south and introducing the new Library and Seniors & Youth Centre adjacent to the park, creating a view from Glenanna Road. The first phase will see the construction of a community park on the Pickering Town Centre site which will showcase a water feature in the summer, and a refrigerated ice surface in the winter. The Seniors & Youth Centre, and new Library will follow. The performing arts centre will be sited adjacent to the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex at a future phase.

Visit [pickering.ca/citycentre](https://www.pickering.ca/citycentre) for more information.

## Tree Protection By-law

The City of Pickering (the City) is updating its Tree Protection By-law to provide greater protection to more trees in the community.

The City's tree canopy and urban forest play an important role in adapting to climate change. The City of Pickering's trees provide shade and cool the community, reduce urban heat island effect, decrease the volume of storm water run-off, improve air quality, sequester carbon, and contribute to a visually pleasing place to live, work, play, and learn. A vigorous tree canopy was also identified as a defining element of neighbourhood character through the Infill Study (<https://www.pickering.ca/en/city-hall/infill-and-replacement-housing-study.aspx>)

### Trees are currently protected by:

- The Region of Durham Woodland By-law 30-2020, and
- The City's Tree Protection By-law 6108/03, as amended

More information regarding policies, studies, guidelines and initiatives in relation to the City's Tree Canopy is available in Appendix I of Report PLN 23-22 (<https://corporate.pickering.ca/WebLink/1/edoc/243434/PLN%2023-22.pdf>)

### Existing Tree Protection By-law (By-law 6108/03)

The City's Tree Protection By-law 6108/03, as amended, was passed by Council on March 17, 2003, for the purpose of prohibiting and regulating the injuring, destruction or removal of trees in defined screening areas within the City. It also establishes a tree removal permit fee, and fines for violation of the by-law. The limited circumstances and areas where the felling of healthy trees would be permitted are also detailed within the Tree Protection by-law.

### What trees are not protected by the City's Tree Protection By-law?

Trees that are outside of the defined Tree Protection Area, identified in schedule A of By-law 6108/03, as amended, are currently not protected.

Trees that are dead, dangerous, diseased, severely injured, or stumps are exempt from the City's Tree Protection By-law. Other exemptions from the City's Tree Protection By-law include: activities carried out by the City, the Regional Municipality of Durham, or other local boards such as, the Conservation Authorities, or activities carried out under the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994, Surveyors Act, Electricity Act, 1998, and Aggregate Resources Act*, authorizations for tree removal granted through the development application approval process (i.e. rezonings, site plans, plans of subdivisions, and consents).

### What will the new Tree Protection By-law cover?

At this time, the Tree Protection By-law only covers trees within, "Environmentally Sensitive Areas," identified as the Tree Protection Area in Schedule A of By-law 6108/03, as amended. The focus of the new Tree Protection By-law is to protect the tree canopy and the urban forest, including trees on private properties, by expanding the scope of the tree protection areas under the new by-law.

The new tree protection area is proposed to consist of "Tree Protection Area A," associated with "Environmentally Sensitive Areas" such as significant woodlands, shorelines, significant valley lands and stream corridors, and wetlands. Conversely, "Tree Protection Area B," would be associated with all lands outside of Tree Protection Area A.

### Next steps and how you can participate:

A number of upcoming engagement opportunities, such as a Public Information Centre, will be offered during Earth Month for the sharing of background information to the community, in order to leverage input on the development of a new Tree Protection By-law.

Feedback received from the community will be reviewed in detail and included in future reporting to Council for consideration.

## Artfest

**Saturday, May 27, 2023**

**11:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**Esplanade Park**

The City of Pickering and PineRidge Arts Council are excited to bring the community together to celebrate art and culture by welcoming back Artfest to Esplanade Park for 2023. Please join us on May 27, 2023 from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm for a market highlighting 60 local artists and artisans, live demonstrations, fun hands-on activities, performances, and live music.

Come support talented local artists, view extraordinary art, shop our plant sale from Pickering Horticultural Society, and enjoy delicious food from one of our local food trucks!

**Apply Now** <https://www.pickering.ca/en/discovering/festivals-events.aspx>



## Exciting Changes Coming to Claremont Library this Year!

Upgrades to Claremont Library get underway this spring. The Library will be installing an accessible washroom, refreshing the flooring and updating the overall layout. The Library will modify its operations within the Tomlinson Centre for 8-12 weeks while this work is being completed and library services will continue to be available on site.

We'd like to thank the newly created Claremont Library Collaborative - a group of local residents that are informing the changes to the branch – and all other residents who have provided input over the past year.

Stay tuned for updates about the Claremont Library on social media and through our website [www.pickeringlibrary.ca](https://www.pickeringlibrary.ca).

### New to the neighbourhood? The library is open:

Tuesday 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Thursday 11:00 am – 7:00 pm

Saturday 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

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