

Staying in touch!



Joan Branscombe, young at heart, and Councillor Pickles enjoy cake on her 90th birthday party in the Esplanade neighbourhood.

Race relations Chair David Pickles, Councillor Little and Mayor Ryan with Essay Contest Award Winners Hannah Dossa (far left) and Reem Hussain (middle), and family, at the award recognition ceremony March 2010.



The city's playgrounds have seen significant improvements including new equipment.



We are encouraging new businesses to Pickering. On site at the new office tower going up south of the Pickering Town Centre which will also include a pedestrian bridge over the 401 to the Go Station and additional GO parking.

Upcoming Events Calendar

- August 11th to September 9th – Ramadan
- August 14th - Pakistan's Independence Day
- August 21st - India's 63rd Independence Day, Esplanade Park
- September 8th - Rosh Hashanah
- September 10th - Eid-Al-Fitr
- September 12th - Terry Fox Run
- September 16th - Lailat-Ul-Quadr
- September 17th – Yom Kippur
- September 18th - Greenwood BBQ, Greenwood Community Centre
- September 18th - Anniversary Celebration of Pickering Recreation Complex
- September 29th - Legion Parade and Drumhead Ceremony, Civic Complex
- October 3rd - Fall Family Festival, Pickering Museum Village
- October 23rd - Take Pride in Pickering Day Tree Planting, Alex Robertson Park
- October 25th - Municipal Election Day
- November 5th - Diwali
- November 7th - Remembrance Day Service, Civic Complex, Branch 606, Bay Ridges
- November 7th - Remembrance Day Service, Branch 483, Clarendon Legion
- November 11th - Remembrance Day Service, Civic Complex
- November 13th - Santa Claus Parade
- November 16th - Eid al-adha
- December 3rd - Tree Lighting Event, Esplanade Park
- December 4th - Rouge Hill Seniors Christmas Bazaar, ESCC
- December 5th - Poinsettia Tea, Pickering Rec Complex
- December 5th & 12th - Christmas in the Village, Pickering Museum Village
- December 7th & 9th - Make a Joyful Noise, Civic Complex
- December 15th - Mayor's Light Tour, from Pickering Rec Complex
- December 31st - New Year's Eve Family Countdown, Pickering Rec Complex
- January 1st - Mayor's New Year's Day Levee, Civic Complex

City of Pickering's Customer Care Centre

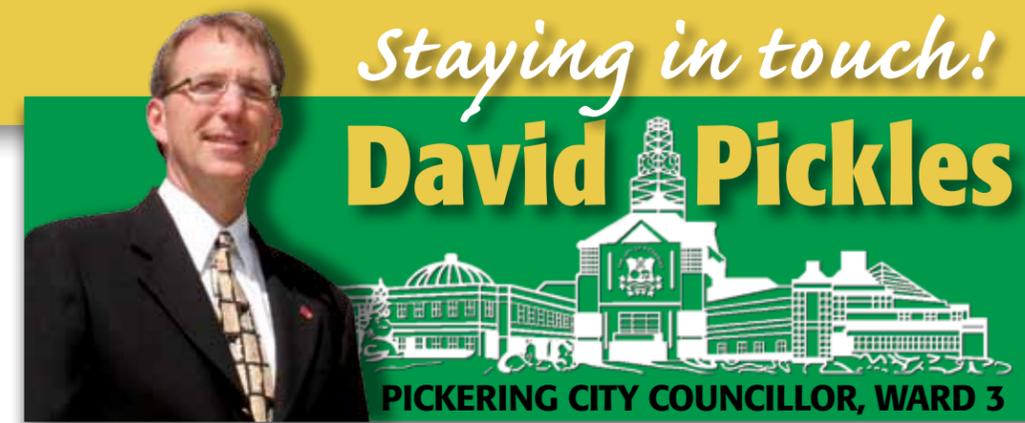
Our Customer Care Centre offers centralized customer service, receiving and responding to residents' enquiries and concerns, and ensuring that all customers receive prompt attention and service. Should you require any further assistance, contact any member of the Customer Care Centre by phone at 905.683.7575 or 1.866.683.2760 or by email at: customercare@cityofpickering.com

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Staying in touch!
David Pickles



Dear Ward 3 Residents:

I hope you enjoyed the summer! It's been a busy year in the City working with residents, road and sidewalk improvements, fighting the York sewer, considering new business and residential developments, the many City and community events and much more. I can note only a few things in my newsletter so please visit my web site at www.davidpickles.com and add it to your favorites list to get more information. It is my pleasure and honour to represent you on Pickering Council. Please feel free to contact me.

Stay in touch with Ward 3 at www.davidpickles.com or email me dpickles@cityofpickering.com and sign up for our electronic newsletter and more special events!



I am proud of and work with the many organizations and individuals that volunteer their time to serve the residents of Pickering

It is my privilege to serve as Chair of the Advisory Committee on Race Relations & Equity. I am very proud of the way community organizations, members of the Committee and City staff in Pickering celebrate their diversity and support us in the many good community causes such as the hospital and womens' shelter. I have worked with and attended many, many events in the city. An annual event, initiated since I was Chair, is the "In Your Words" Creative Arts Contest presented by the Committee and the Durham Catholic and Durham District School Boards. This involves your children submitting written, visual, and song entries on race relations and equity themes, that are then presented at an awards ceremony at City Hall to commemorate March 21st - the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Over 2000 very talented and insightful entries have been received over the 7 years we have held this event. See some of this year's participants inside. More photos and information is available at: www.davidpickles.com

New Election Day October 25, 2010
As a result of recent changes to the Municipal Elections Act, the 2010 municipal election will be held on October 25th.

David Pickles, staying in touch with the people and concerns of Pickering and Durham Region!



Councillor Pickles returning calls to residents at city hall.

Apart from the day to day business of running the City, Councillors have the opportunity to bring forward special matters to Council for consideration through a Notice of Motion. Ward 3 City Councillor Pickles recently initiated and Council approved his following Notices of Motion:

Direct Election of the Durham Regional Chair - In the 2006 municipal election, 89 per cent of Pickering residents voted in favour of direct election in a referendum. Council approved a motion brought forward by Ward 3 City

Councillor David Pickles that Pickering Council officially ratify the results of the referendum and request the Province to enact a regulation requiring the direct election of the regional chair. "Tonight the passing of my motion made it formal and official Pickering supports the election of the Regional Chair," Councillor Pickles said after the meeting.

Attracting More Investment to the City - The city is working to create jobs and attract new business and bring business taxes into the city, Councillor Pickles introduced a motion at Council calling for staff to create a development incentive program that will attract more business, jobs and sustainable elements to building in Pickering. "We need to look at possible City initiatives, without giving up any dollars the city would normally receive." Payments such as development charges, building permit fees and payments in lieu of parkland are usually substantial when it comes to large projects. That payment is currently required up-front and may act as a deterrent to projects getting underway. The plan is to still charge the same total amount of fees payable to the City, but to accept them through phased-in payment. "To help attract more business, more jobs and lessen taxes on residents," Councillor Pickles said.

Request for a Regional Integrity Commissioner - Ward 3 City Councillor David Pickles introduced a motion at Pickering Council asking the Region of Durham to hire an integrity commissioner to serve Durham and all of its municipalities. The idea is to get an integrity commissioner in place to work across the region on a common code of conduct for elected officials and to hear complaints. Pickering Council approved the motion unanimously. Hiring a shared integrity commissioner to handle complaints across Durham Region would allow for consistent rules, application and cost savings. Each municipality would be billed separately for the amount of service required, which hopefully would be very seldom.

Revamping of Municipal Election Finances - Pickering Ward 3 City Councillor David Pickles introduced a motion requesting the Province to undertake a review of the Municipal Elections Act to ensure rules regarding election expenses and financing are appropriate and transparent across all municipalities. It was passed unanimously by Council. He was glad to hear that the province adopted in legislation some of the changes discussed at Pickering Council and elsewhere. Changes included moving election day up by two weeks to the fourth Monday in October (the 25th this year); barring councillors from using campaign fund raising surpluses in future elections; requiring councils to appoint compliance and audit committees to oversee any public complaints about campaign violations; raising penalties for violating the Elections Act to; and closing loopholes in fund raising rules. "I'm pleased," he said after hearing the news. "I think a number of things they're looking at are going to help level the playing field."

Full Sidewalks the Entire Length of Pickering's Kingston Road

Pickering residents should be able to walk along Kingston Road comfortably and safely, from Toronto to Ajax. At present there are sections where there is no sidewalk - mothers pushing strollers, cyclists walking bikes, residents with mobility issues using wheelchairs and people of all ages from seniors to youth walk along the unpaved shoulder on Pickering's main street, Kingston Road. Council supported Ward 3 City Councillor David Pickles' motion that Pickering develop a plan to complete sidewalks, on both the south and north sides, making the entire road accessible for pedestrians throughout Pickering. Councillor Pickles said the City has waited long enough for the sidewalks to be improved along the regional road.



Councillor Pickles assessing work on widening Brock Road, including new sidewalks.

Updates from 2009 Newsletter

Sustainable Pickering - As a founding member of the Sustainable Pickering Advisory Committee I am very proud of the progress the city and its residents are making to reduce our environmental impact. Visit www.davidpickles.com for an update on Measuring Sustainable Report and other matters.



Claremont Fire Station Update - Further to my item in the last newsletter, now that there are full time fire fighters in Claremont, and some other improvements, Pickering will have a Fire Underwriters Survey completed this fall. We are hopeful that this will result in lower insurance rates in the area, be sure to check with your home insurer next time you renew you policy.

Pickering Reaches Settlement on York-Durham Sewer System - Although I am frustrated and also disappointed by the Minister of the Environment's approval of this project, as the legal proceedings unfolded, the City received a broad range of legal opinions indicating that it would find itself on the losing end of a costly legal battle. In 2009, the City initiated legal action against York Region over the twinning of the SEC and the location of its related odour control facility. Subsequently correspondence was received from the Minister of the Environment, which effectively approved the SEC, while essentially quashing the City's hopes of stopping the project. The City of Pickering and York Region have signed off on the Minutes of Settlement with respect to the Southeast Collector Trunk Sanitary Sewer (SEC) and Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant. In addition to the possibility of footing a multi-million dollar legal bill, the City of Pickering risked having York Region rescind its original agreement to fund a number of key community enhancements. It became evident that the City needed to settle with York Region to not only avoid a crippling legal outcome, but also renegotiate community benefits, environmental controls and safety commitments while it still had any leverage.

Note: The full news release is available at www.davidpickles.com

North Pickering Updates

Many residents are not aware that over 60% of Pickering is protected "green" either through the Greenbelt or many valleys and parks.

Federal Lands/Airport - As you know I have long opposed an airport. The good news is there is no news of an airport, or no news on the business case being released. I do remain concerned and lobby against the abandonment and demolition of homes on the federal lands.

Seaton - Plans for the development of Seaton are proceeding slowly. This is not bad as I want to ensure that good planning, design, and sustainable development and environmental protection occurs. As well, it is important that we stand firm on a "jobs first" approach to maximize local jobs and business taxes to help off-set residential taxes.

Northeast Pickering - I am working with residents of Greenwood to try to resolve concerns with the 407 extension and the Westney Road by-pass. Durham Region and the province are working to address future land use and timing in the area through the official plan. I am also hopeful that there will shortly be a significant land conservation announcement near Greenwood - stay tuned!

Capital Projects and Road Improvements

- Brock Road and bridge widening, sidewalks, Dellbrook to 3rd Concession
- Expanded recreation complex
- Leash free dog park, Valley Farm Road and 3rd Concession
- Rehabilitation of Don Beer arena
- Altona Road widening and urbanizing including bridge and sidewalks, Sheppard to Strouds
- Artificial soccer turf at Kinsmen Park
- Resurfacing 6th Concession, Westney Road to Hwy 7
- Restoration of Brougham Central Hotel, Pickering Museum Village
- Sideline 4 reconstruction, 5th Concession to Hwy 7
- Waterfront Trail improvement at mouth of Rouge River
- Reconstruction of sidewalk and amenities Valley Farm Road, Kingston Road to Esplanade North
- Resurfacing of William Street, David St. to Old Brock Road
- Resurfacing Glenanna Road, Pickering Parkway to Dixie
- Numerous park improvements at Brock Ridge and Diana Princess of Wales
- And many others!



Councillor Pickles helping with the restocking of the salmon population in Duffin's Creek in Greenwood.