



If you see it, report it!

Things to look out for may include graffiti, illegal dumping, litter or vandalism. Help us take care of our community by reporting any of these activities. Call our Customer Care Centre at 905.683.7575 TTY 905.420.1739 or email: customer care@pickering.ca

Ash Tree Update

The Emerald Ash Borer is fatal to all Ash trees and has devastated Ash trees across Ontario. I previously raised the need to look at options for treatment of boulevard trees and the City has followed up by applying a pesticide treatment to trees that can be saved and many trees in the City have now been treated. Unfortunately, significant Ash populations on some streets and parks are too infested for treatment. Therefore, the City has and will be removing Ash trees in some areas and will be replacing them with a different variety of tree species. The health of these trees will be monitored in 2014. More information regarding the Emerald Ash Borer can be found on the City website at:



<http://www.pickering.ca/en/living/resources/EmeraldAshBorerInfo.pdf>

Attracting Jobs and Investment

I am pleased to have attended many of the over 40 business openings this year. These new businesses represent a good cross section of business sectors including engineering, telecommunications, personal services, retail and more. Of special note, watch for the new Moxie's and Pickle Barrel restaurants coming to Liverpool Road next to the Pickering Town Centre.

In 2013, industrial construction values have more than doubled from this same time last year, with more to come. These construction values translate into more job growth in our manufacturing sector. Pickering has been gaining about 1,000 new jobs per year. This also contributes non-residential taxes to assist with City services and projects and to off-setting residential tax increases. Pickering has been recognized by Profit magazine as one of the ten best cities in Canada for growth companies and received the FCM-CH2M Hill Sustainable Community Planning Award. More details on our website <http://www.pickering.ca/en/business/businessnews.asp>

Councillor Pickles Receives the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

"I was humbled and honoured to be awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013 for service in the community, both while serving on City of Pickering Council and for my past work in the community", noted Councillor Pickles.



MP Corneliu Chisu nominated David Pickles for the medal on recommendation of a Pickering resident which was approved by the Prime Minister's Office. I thank the Prime Minister, and MP Chisu for the nomination/medal. "Having so many notable deserving residents as medal recipients from Pickering, makes me proud to be a part of this great community" said Councillor Pickles.



Councillor Pickles with fellow Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal recipients Mayor Dave Ryan, John Nolan and Keith Falconer. The medal is awarded for community service.

David Pickles, City Councillor – Ward 3



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David Pickles



YOUR COUNCILLOR, WARD 3

Greetings Ward 3 Residents

In this newsletter, I take the opportunity to bring you news about a few initiatives in the City and wish you a happy and healthy 2014. I look forward to continuing to represent you on Council.

Visit www.davidpickles.com for other items of interest in the City.

As with many of the residents I represent, my wife and I are raising a family, own a home, pay a mortgage, home expenses, and property taxes. We too want value for our property taxes.

The 2014 Budget discussions are beginning early in the new year. If you have any comments or suggestions for the upcoming Budget, I would be happy to hear from you.

New Pickering Code of Conduct

In this term of Council, Mayor Ryan asked me to lead the establishment of a robust and accountable Code of Conduct for Pickering Council's adoption. I was pleased to accept this role. I prepared and introduced to Council a Code of Conduct. I am pleased to report that the Code was unanimously adopted by Council. The Code is now in effect and the City Integrity Commissioner has been hired. Highlights of the Code include the hiring of an integrity commissioner, prohibition on gifts other than moderate hospitality with fixed limits and disclosure requirements, rules for interaction with the public and staff, rules to ensure the protection of confidential information and clear rules on use of City property.

I based the Code on previous work done in 2007 by a task force on accountability and transparency, which was led by Mayor David Ryan. I also reviewed codes of conduct from municipalities across the GTA and sought input from Paul Bigioni, Director of Corporate Services and City Solicitor for the City of Pickering, and George Rust-D'Eye, a leading municipal law expert and integrity commissioner for the City of Mississauga. I also appreciate the specific suggestions on the content of the Code I received from Mayor Ryan and Councillors Dickerson and Ashe.

A lot of expert opinions and views went into this document and I think the adoption of the Code is an opportunity to send a collective commitment to the residents of Pickering. Visit my website for more information and to view the Code.

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

Regional Update: Police Making Neighbourhoods Safer

As part of my ongoing work with Durham Regional Police, I recently visited a number of neighbourhoods and discussed local safety and security issues.

A few tips to pass along:

- Don't be distracted by using electronic devices while driving
- Strengthen the entry points to your home
- Leave doors and windows locked whenever possible
- Invest in good locks and security bars
- Keep your garage door closed and locked
- Store garage door openers in the house, not the car
- Trim shrubs and trees to ensure doors and windows are in clear view
- Install adequate exterior lighting, consider motion sensors
- Never leave keys in secret places, instead leave a duplicate with a friend or neighbour
- Please don't drink and drive



The Durham Region Police Service (DRPS) West Division location at the Kingston Road/Brock Road station includes a team of 149 officers and eight civilian employees. Keeping with the 2011-2013 Durham Regional Police Services' Strategic Priorities, West Division has set local strategic priorities, which include reducing violent crime, such as street level robberies, providing extra police patrols in parks and greenbelt areas in order to reduce unruly behavior in those areas and working to improve road safety. For more information and tips visit www.drps.ca

Contact Customer Care

The Customer Care Centre provides an important link between members of the public, the Mayor, Members of Council, and City of Pickering municipal departments. Our main priority is to ensure that you, "the customer" receive prompt attention and service regarding any of your municipal concerns.

Pickering Customer Care

City of Pickering, One The Esplanade, Pickering, ON L1V 6K7

T. 905.683.7575

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www.Pickering.ca/CustomerCare

Regional Update: Brock Road Improvements

Many residents have raised concerns with traffic on Brock Road. I have been working with staff at the City and the Region to expedite improvements to Brock Road.

Here are the plans and schedule for Brock Road improvements:

- Brock Road widening to six lanes between Hwy 401 to Bayly Street (2015/16)
- An additional southbound lane and some widening of northbound lanes on Brock Road between Kingston Road and Pickering Parkway, and Pickering Parkway intersection rebuild (2014)
- Brock Road widening to 6 lanes between Kingston Road and Finch Avenue
- Brock Road/Kingston Road intersection improvement for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) (2014/15)
- Brock Road widening to 4 lanes between Third Concession Road and Taunton Road (2014)

Mayor Ryan and I worked with the Region of Durham to expedite the installation of full traffic signals at the intersection of Brock Road and Dersan Road/William Jackson Drive resulting in the traffic signals being installed one year earlier than originally scheduled. These traffic signals and the planned work noted above will address many of the existing traffic congestion and pedestrian safety concerns. I will continue to press the Region to proceed with these improvements as quickly as possible, given the current condition of the road.

Pickering Airport

Although I am pleased about the transfer of 5,000 acres to Parks Canada for the Rouge Urban Park, and less land held for a future airport, I have not and will not support an airport. I believe a public process to discuss an airport will show strong local opposition.

It is imperative that we fully consider the need, impact, cost and other aspects of an airport through a public process before the Federal Government proceeds. I will be formally raising these matters at Pickering Council. Please visit my website at www.davidpickles.com for further information and updates and a copy of my recent North Pickering Newsletter.



Seeking Casino Revenue for Pickering

After speaking with many residents, I brought forward a motion to Council to have Pickering indicate it is a willing host for a casino. It passed.

In 2006, Ajax made a wise financial decision to host a slots facility which earns them about \$7 million per year, (\$37 million since 2006) in non-property tax revenue.

Many Pickering residents have asked how Ajax manages to undertake more new facilities and road works for example. In part, it is because of this extra revenue.

The slots revenue is not presently shared with other adjacent municipalities, including Pickering. The Ontario Lottery and Gaming Commission is bringing in a new model where each zone will have one casino (our zone consists of Pickering, Ajax and Whitby).

Pickering has recommended that regardless of which municipality hosts the casino, the other municipalities should get a share, even if it's a lesser share than the host. The willing host motion was necessary to allow Pickering to consider proposals for a casino in Pickering, and also to position ourselves to share in casino revenue if the casino goes in Ajax or Whitby. The expansion of the present Ajax Slots being a possible option.

Of course, in considering a casino in Pickering it should be placed in a non-residential area, either an industrial area or employment lands such as those at Highway 407 and Brock Road area or south of Highway 401 in our commercial/industrial areas and be subject to public review. Perhaps it could have a conference centre, hotel and entertainment hub to create local jobs and business opportunities. We also need to ensure that support is in place for those with gambling problems.

Staff are to report back to Council on the financial benefits and residents will get a chance to voice their views. It is my understanding that the host community could get over \$10 million per year, and a non-host community, over \$1 million per year, in non-tax revenues. Pickering could certainly use such funds to reduce tax increases, fund projects such as community centres and road work, and build up cash reserves for future needs. I look forward to hearing your views.