

## Councillor Eek loves community engagement

**By Avia Eek**

**Councillor, Ward 6**

One of the things I absolutely love about being a municipal councillor, is the engagement with our community of communities here in King Township, and the ease with which people approach me.

Every year our mayor and ward councillors are happy to participate in an informal meet and greet ??four of them are organized from February to the end of April, where residents, business owners, Farmers etc. can gather in one spot and discuss local issues and concerns, and ask questions about the goings-on in King. Of course, we are always available to hear from folks, not just on these four occasions.

April 14 found Mayor Pellegrini and myself greeting 15 residents and farmers from the Ward 6 community (mostly from our hamlet of Ansnorveldt), with one resident from Schomberg, and two from the most south-western corner of Ward 6 by the 19th Sideroad/Hwy. #400.

In Ward 6, we do not have the same issues to deal with as are found in other wards in King, such as subdivision matters, full municipal servicing (other than the municipal water in Ansnorveldt), severances, street parking, etc.. The most common issues for our Ward 6 residents, farmers, and business owners are roads (King St., Miller Sideroad, South Canal Bank, Woodchoppers Lane and Pumhouse Road top the list), ditch and culvert maintenance, various and on-going bylaw infractions, vacant/dilapidated houses, timelines for the Graham Sideroad Bridge reconstruction (which enquiries include asking about the possibility for traffic lights at Bridge St. and Pumhouse road when the Graham Sideroad bridge is being reconstructed), what is happening with the old Holland Marsh District Christian School (moving the Library over there and creating a community hub), safe access to Highway #9 and when the next (and final) 300 metres of sidewalk in Ansnorveldt will be completed (it was started in 2014).

We enjoyed fulsome conversation regarding all of the above matters, and Mayor Pellegrini and I were able to provide answers to many of the enquiries.

I took particular pleasure in announcing that traffic lights will be installed this year at the intersection of Highway #9 and Dufferin St. That made a lot of folks happy! The sidewalk will also be completed this year.