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King Weekly Sentinel

King's Community Newspaper

Weekly Circulation: 10,200

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage. Canada
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Thursday, February 11, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 6

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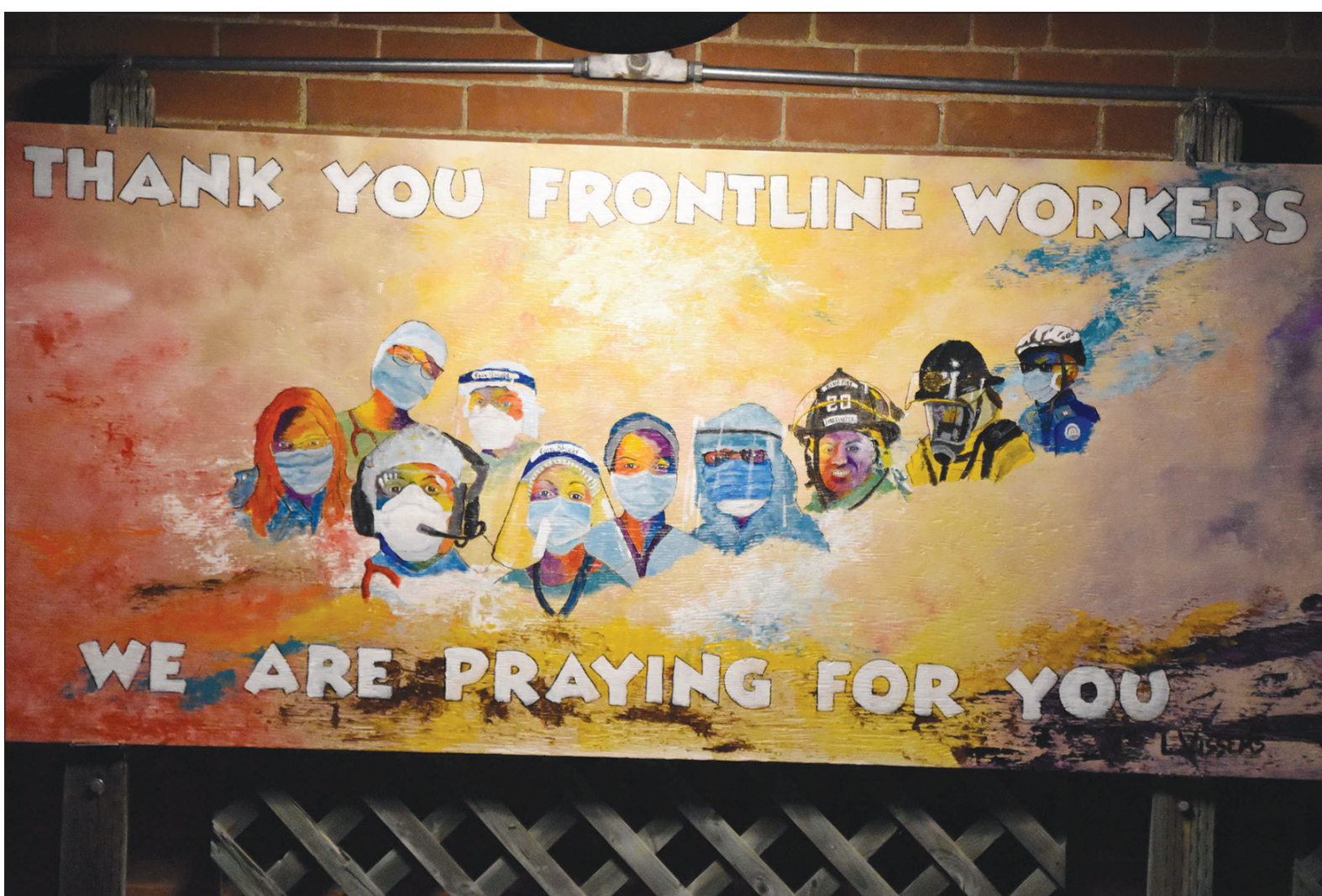
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St. Andrew's Church recognizes front-line workers

Residents are encouraged to stop by St. Andrew's Church in King City to see this amazing mural, dedicated to our front-line workers. It was the congregation's way of thanking the tireless efforts of our essential workers. The mural is located on the south wall of the church and it lighted at night.

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King launches first digital-only Community Guide

King Township is excited to announce its very first digital-only Community Services Guide for the 2021 winter season.

With a new online-only digital guide, Community Services staff are able to offer residents the most up-to-date information regarding King's programs, events and services while reducing the Township's carbon footprint. By moving to a digital-only format, King Township will continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by cutting down on potential waste and the destruction of trees for paper.

This digital guide is the first of its kind for King and will include information such as Township programs, events, municipal services and more, designed to be quick and easy to navigate for all residents. It will provide Township staff with the ability to make real-time changes to program and event information that wasn't possible before with a print guide. All of King's program, event and facility information will remain up-to-date and as accurate as possible.

"The Community Services department's mission is to continue to create and offer interactive programming that benefits residents of all ages," said Chris Fasciano, Director of Community Services. "Now more than ever it is important to continue being active and finding new ways to participate in recreational activities. We are excited to continue to offer these services to you from home or the outdoors."

As we embark on another season of recreation in King, it is important to remember that the safety of our participants, staff and the community is King's top priority. With new facility measures and procedures in place, you can feel confident knowing every effort is being taken to offer a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Township programs, events and services will operate in compliance with current Provincial guidelines and physical distancing measures to combat COVID-19. All programs, services and events are subject to change.

The digital guide is now live at <https://www.king.ca/communityguide>.

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	Classifieds	Page 18



Canadians break U.S. Navy world record.

See Page 14

Win! Open this issue to the Centre Spread to play our **Whose Door** contest for your chance to win a portion of **\$1,000 in Gift Cards** to local businesses!

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, February 17

6:00 pm – Committee of Adjustment (virtual meeting)

Monday, February 22

6:00 pm – Council and Committee of the Whole

Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

Monday, March 1

6:00 pm – Council Public Planning Meeting

Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

Monday, March 8

6:00 pm – Council and Committee of the Whole

Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

To view full Council and Committee of the Whole agendas, visit king.civicweb.net/filepro/documents

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Thursday, February 11

3:00 pm – Holland Marsh Drainage System Joint Municipal Services Board (virtual meeting)

Tuesday, February 16

6:00 pm – King Township Public Library Board (virtual meeting)

BID NOTICES

For all bid opportunities, please visit the Township of King's website www.king.ca, click **Popular Topics** and click **BID OPPORTUNITIES**.

Or visit on the following link

<https://king.bidsandtenders.ca/Module/Tenders/en>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit the Township website at www.king.ca for employment opportunities.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Family Day remote office closure

Although our municipal offices remain closed to the public due to COVID-19, all staff continue to work remotely and will be offline on Monday, February 15th, 2021 due to the Family Day Holiday. Staff will return to normal working hours on Tuesday, February 16th, 2021. For urgent matters, please contact our 24/7 after hours service at 905-833-5321.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX NOTICES

1st Interim Installment

Due Date: February 24, 2021

PROPERTY TAX NOTICES are due.

Please contact **Service King** at 905-833-5321 or serviceking@king.ca immediately if you have not received your bill.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Pre-Authorized Debit bank withdrawal (PAD) for installment due dates or over a 10 month period
- On-line with your financial institutions
- By Credit Card – Visit the Township Online Services Portal at www.king.ca
- By Mail (Must be stamped and mailed prior to due date and received on time)
- Drop off box located at Municipal Centre, 2585 King Road, King City

Due to COVID the Municipal office is closed and we are not accepting cash payments at this time.

If paying in person at a financial institution, please present the entire tax notice.

When making payments electronically, search for "King" and select **Tax**, enter your 15 digit roll number with no dashes (i.e. 000123456780000)

Pre-Authorized Debit Program (PAD): PAD program is available for **Property Tax** accounts. The enrolment form is available at www.king.ca (search for "PAD")

To ensure enrollment please apply prior to due date.

The deadline to enroll for the monthly PAD program is **June 1, 2021** in accordance with the Township By-law 2021-074 unpaid balances following the due date, a penalty of one and one quarter per cent (1.25%) per month, shall be levied on the first day of the next calendar month following the due date and each month until paid in full.

Please visit our website for details.

WATER BILLS

Due Date: February 16, 2021

WATER BILLS have now been mailed.

Please contact **Service King** at serviceking@king.ca or call 905-833-5321 immediately if you have not received your bill.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Pre-Authorized Debit bank withdrawal (PAD)
- On-line with your financial institution
- By Credit Card – Visit the Township Online Services Portal at www.king.ca
- By Mail (Must be stamped and mailed prior to due date and received on time)
- Drop off box located at Municipal Centre, 2585 King Road, King City

If paying in person at a financial institution, please present the entire water bill

Due to COVID:

- the Municipal office is closed and we are not accepting cash payments and;
- the water department cannot enter homes to check water meters.

When making payments electronically, search for "King" and select **Water**, enter your 10 digit account number with no decimal (i.e. 1234567800)

Pre-Authorized Debit Program (PAD): PAD program is available for **Water & Sewer** accounts. The enrolment form is available at www.king.ca (search for "PAD").

Please visit our website for details.

Please see more King Township notices on page 3

PUBLIC NOTICES



Due to the constantly changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects, this information may not be current. Please visit covid19.king.ca for the most up-to-date information.

With guidance from York Region Public Health and in an abundance of caution for both residents and staff around the COVID-19 pandemic, King Township is responding with the following changes in operations:

- King Township Public Library remains closed but is offering curbside pickup service. Visit www.kinglibrary.ca for more information.
- The Municipal Centre at 2585 King Rd. is closed to the public until the end of 2020.
- All essential services will continue, including Fire and Emergency Services, water, wastewater, waste collection and roads and sidewalk maintenance.
- Some non-essential services may be impacted. For a list of all services please visit www.king.ca.

Citizens can still do business with King on our website at www.king.ca, by phone at 905-833-5321 or by email at serviceking@king.ca.

LATEST UPDATES

The Province of Ontario has moved York Region and King Township into the Grey-LOCKDOWN level. It has also implemented a stay-at-home order. People should only leave their homes for essential trips for things like food, medicine or essential work.

All sport and recreational fitness facilities were closed as of Monday December 14th at 12:01 a.m. The Province has advised that the LOCKDOWN phase will last for a minimum of 28 days. In addition, the in-person by-appointment services offered at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre have also been cancelled for the duration of the Provincial LOCKDOWN.

For a complete list of all Grey-LOCKDOWN level restrictions visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-response-framework-keeping-ontario-safe-and-open#lockdown>.

The Township has, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, been offering all administrative services to our businesses and residents virtually. King Township remains open for business. Many services – including things like building permits, planning applications, garbage bag tags and the payment of water bills – can all be accessed online. We have also introduced virtual recreation programming and will continue to offer as many outdoor recreation programs as possible in the coming weeks. Learn more at www.king.ca.

All essential services have continued, including Fire and Emergency Services, water, wastewater, waste collection, by-law enforcement and roads.

King is encouraging residents to support local businesses during the lockdown as much as possible.

You can visit our website at www.king.ca, call us at 905-833-5321 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) or email us at serviceking@king.ca.

For the latest King Township COVID-19 related information, please visit www.covid19.king.ca or <http://bit.ly/yorkregioncovid19>.

COVID-19 information

The risk to York Region residents of acquiring the virus in the community remains low.

Visit york.ca/covid19 for more information or call Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653. You may also contact Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 for medical advice. Telehealth Ontario is a free confidential service you can call to receive health advice or information. A registered nurse will take your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING

pursuant to Section 28 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF KING

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

(Electronic Meeting pursuant to Section 238(3.1)(3.3) of the Municipal Act, 2001)

As the Municipal Centre is now closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this is an electronic meeting held remotely and live streamed via <http://king.ca/meetings>.

Purpose of the Public Planning Meeting

TAKE NOTICE that Council for The Corporation of the Township of King will be holding a virtual Public Meeting under Section 28 of the Planning Act to consider an updated Community Improvement Plan (CIP). The purpose of the virtual Public Planning Meeting is to provide the public with an opportunity to understand and comment on the proposed Plan, which relates to all lands located within the Township of King.

Purpose of the Community Improvement Plan Review:

A Community Improvement Plan is a document that is prepared in accordance with Section 28 of Ontario's Planning Act. This tool is commonly used by municipalities to promote community revitalization.

Council approved the Township's current Community Improvement Plan in 2014 for the commercial cores of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. This exciting action-oriented program is being used to promote beautification, property improvements and economic development in the three communities. The Plan includes programs to promote business façade/signage improvements; landscaping/property improvements; accessibility/cycling; as well as other matters.

Now that the Community Improvement Plan is approximately 6 years old, there is a need to review its relevance and effectiveness. In particular, there is an opportunity to make grants available within other areas of the Township, including the Hamlets and rural/agricultural areas. There is also an opportunity to consider grants that will help businesses adapt to the current pandemic and future trends. This Review will result in a revised Community Improvement Plan, including new financial grant programs and new Community Improvement Project Areas.

Public Participation

The public meeting is an opportunity for members of the public to learn more about the proposed Community Improvement Plan.

You are invited to participate in the public meeting by submitting comments and/or concerns via email to the Township Clerk at clerks@king.ca by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the day of the meeting in order that they can be circulated to Members of Council prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will form part of the public record.

Anyone wishing to speak to Council virtually (audio-telephone in) must register by contacting the Clerks Department at 905-833-4068 or email clerks@king.ca no later than **Monday, March 1st, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)**. When your registration is received, a confirmation message and instructions for participating in the virtual public meeting will be provided.

Please provide your full name, address, contact details and the item you wish to speak to when contacting the Clerks Department. **Please note that all comments will become part of the public record.**

Appeal Procedure

If a person or public body that would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal ("LPAT"), does not make oral submissions at a virtual public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of King before the Township of King the proposed Community Improvement Plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a virtual public meeting, or make written submissions to the Township of King before the proposed Community Improvement Plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal ("LPAT") unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

How To Stay Informed

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Council of the Township of King regarding the proposed Community Improvement Plan, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Township of King, 2585 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1A1, or by email at clerks@king.ca.

Additional Information

A copy of the proposed revised Community Improvement Plan and related information and material will be available for inspection via the Township's public engagement website, **SpeakKING** at: <https://speaking.king.ca/community-improvement-plan>, on **Monday, February 8, 2021**.

For further information contact Kristen Harrison by email at kharrison@king.ca by telephone at 905-833-4065. Written comments may be mailed or emailed to the Planning Division and will become part of the public record.

Dated at the Township of King this 4th day of February, 2021.

Kathryn Moyle
Director, Corporate Services
Township Clerk
Township of King
2585 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1A1

Comments and personal information (PI) are being collected in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.P.13 as amended, and become part of the decision making process of the application as noted on this form, also become part of the public record. Should you have any questions or concerns with regard to the collection of personal information (PI), please contact the Planning Department, Township of King at (905) 833-5321.

Back to school Feb. 16

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

York Region schools will re-open to students Feb. 16.

Education Minister, and King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce announced last week Ontario is ready to open schools.

“Safety is paramount,” and getting kids back in school is critical.

The downward trend in COVID-19 cases, combined with new, tougher measures, ensure schools will be safe. Lecce also pointed out that 8 out of 10 schools had no active cases in December.

The ingredients are all in place for safety, including smaller classes (high schools capped at 15), hiring more teachers and support staff and comprehensive actions for everything from filtration systems to bus schedules.

Lecce also told the public to be assured that testing capacity is ready. Screening protocols have been enhanced for staff and students. Masks will be mandatory outside as well.

The minister said he also wants to expedite vaccinations for education workers.

Dr. David Williams, Ontario’s chief medical officer, said the measures are aimed at not only opening schools, but keeping them open.

“Following the best medical advice, with the clear support of both Ontario’s and the local medical officers of health, we are reopening schools across the province knowing that we have taken additional steps and made additional investments to better protect our students and staff,” said Minister Lecce. “Nothing is more important than returning kids to school safely because it is crucial for their development, mental health, and future success.”

To support the safe return of in-person learning, Ontario has introduced new measures to continue to protect students and staff against COVID-19 in the classroom. These measures include:

- Province-wide access, in consultation with the local PHU, to targeted asymptomatic testing for students and staff.
- Mandatory masking requirement for students in Grades 1-3, and masking requirement for Grades 1-12 outdoors

where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

- Providing 3.5 million high quality cloth masks to schools as back-up supply for Grade 1-12 students.
- Enhanced screening for secondary students and staff.
- Guidance discouraging students from congregating before and after school.
- Temporary certification of eligible teacher candidates who are set to graduate in 2021 to stabilize staffing levels, following high levels of absenteeism.

“Reducing the transmission of COVID-19 is fundamental to keeping our communities and schools safe,” said Dr. David Williams. “Our collective efforts, like strictly adhering to all public health measures, in addition to the enhanced safety measures in schools, will help keep communities healthy and students learning alongside their peers in their classrooms.”

To further promote health and safety for students and staff, Ontario recently made an additional \$381 million in funding available for schools. Provided under the federal Safe Return to Class Fund, this funding will be used to improve air quality and ventilation in schools, support online learning, promote student mental health and hire additional staff. In total, Ontario has provided schools with more than \$1.6 billion to protect against COVID-19.

PHUs continue to reserve the authority to close schools to in-person learning based on local circumstances.

OPSEU/SEFPO President Warren (Smokey) Thomas said consulting front-line education workers on how to reopen schools safely is the best way to reduce the spread of COVID and save lives.

“We want to see our kids back to school, but we must do everything we can to keep our students and education workers safe,” said Thomas. “That should include speaking with all the different kinds of educational workers on the front lines, and their bargaining agents like OPSEU/SEFPO, about what they need.”

“Who’d know better how to make our schools safe than the people who’ve been working in them throughout the entire pandemic? I know the Premier realizes the value in tapping into the expertise of the front lines, I look forward to discussing it with him.”



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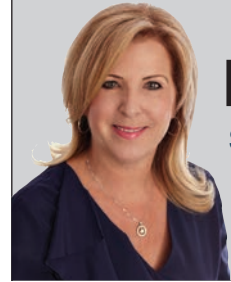
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Building Lot, Essa Township



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I don't really need help but I'm so scared because....

- I might fall again.
- I keep forgetting and mixing up my pills.
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- I'm taking up so much time every day from my Daughter and her family.
- I want to stay always in my home.

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- She'll forget to turn off the stove again.
- Mom thinks that she can still do everything by herself.
- I need more time with my own family and my life every day.
- She wants always to stay in her home.

Living Assistance Services can help you right now at an affordable cost.

www.laservices.ca

Contact now Brian Porter, Director, for advice and help at 905.758.2486 (cell) or 416.483.0070 (office); or, b.porter@laservices.ca

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Arts Society KING
KING'S HERITAGE & CULTURE CENTRE

JAN. 15 to FEB. 15 2021

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WINTER PHOTO CONTEST

Capture King's coldest, warmest, most mystic & funniest winter glories

Entries invited from January 15th to the February 15th closing date. Awards & Winners Show February 20th at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre

For contest details visit artsocietyking.ca

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Please see more King Township notices on page 5

Editorial, Letters & Opinion

"A newspaper is the center of a community, it's one of the tent poles of the community, and that's not going to be replaced by websites and blogs."

- Michael Connelly

Pandemic sidelines other important news

Many average citizens will say they're fed up with daily reports on COVID-19. It's headline news here, and in fact in every major city around the world. Everywhere you look, there's news about the pandemic.

From my point of view in the news business, it's important that residents have the best information available so they can make informed decisions. And yes, this is unprecedented, and yes, it commands a huge chunk of our daily serving of information.

At the moment, it dominates our lives.

But is it too much? What about other world events and happenings?

Has media coverage of COVID-19 put everything else on the back-burner?

To some extent, yes.

Given the overwhelming coverage of the pandemic, we have indeed missed out on discussing many important topics and issues. Our lives haven't returned to normal just yet, but our brains haven't shut off.

The anniversary of the Ukrainian air disaster is one such event. Just over a year ago, the Iranian military shot down Flight 752, killing all 176 people on board, including some 85 Canadians. Families of victims are still reeling because they don't have any closure. There's been little in the way of compensation and talks with the Iranian government have been less than fruitful.

These families want justice, in fact they demand it. Democratic countries - in particular all countries who lost citizens on that flight - should be actively pushing for action, and a resolution. The Ukraine, Canada, Britain, Afghanistan and Sweden should all be leading the charge.

It's the right thing to do.

Sure, the wheels of justice can turn slowly and international cases like this



Mark Pavilons

can prove quite challenging and problematic. But does that mean we simply give up, throw our hands in the air and move on?

A Sriwijaya Air jetliner carrying 62 people on board crashed shortly after taking off from Jakarta, Jan. 10, killing everyone on board.

Disasters like this are often headline news for weeks, yet there's been little in the way of reporting on this.

It was likely overshadowed by events in the U.S. leading up to President Biden's inauguration.

Following the official ceremonies in Washington, U.S. celebrities put on a Vegas-style show to mark the occasion. One would think it was the 4th of July.

What about post-EU Britain? The Myanmar military overthrew their government. Who knew?

Apparently, there's a rise in neo-Nazi organizations, which has caught the attention of the UN. Who knew?

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged coordinated global action to build an alliance against the growth and spread of neo-Nazism and white supremacy and the resurgence of xenophobia, anti-Semitism, and hate speech sparked partly by the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said the pandemic "has exacerbated longstanding injustices and divisions."

Our emphasis on battling COVID-19 has sucked up almost all of our resources.

The opioid crisis is worse than ever before. Homelessness is on the rise. Youth mental health has been hard hit, and suicides continue to climb. The number of domestic disputes have skyrocketed. There's little mention of systemic racism. World food prices have reached their highest level in years.

Have all of these issues magically disappeared, and been solved behind the scenes? Not on your life.

But all most of the matters receive is a small post, a footnote or paragraph somewhere.

Pressure to stay current, and whirlwind changes, have created havoc for journalists and newspaper editors. With daily announcements and updates, COVID-related issues change hourly. What was earth-shattering news Monday morning becomes moot by Tuesday afternoon. We dished out vaccines, then they stopped, then started again.

Water cooler conversations are so limited, people are running out of things to say.

Sports is still somewhat curtailed

and everyone has watched everything on Netflix or Amazon Prime.

Even in King, budget deliberations centred around staff re-allocation and more online services, again in response to the pandemic.

A recent report by RBC said spending was up this past holiday season. Whether in-person or online, total spending for average Canadians rose slightly.

It's difficult to know exactly the source of such giving. Maybe it was the amount of CERB that residents received. Maybe they simply wanted to feel better and spread joy over the holidays. Perhaps they wanted to make themselves feel better.

Hopefully the stay-at-home order will be lifted as planned. Schools are reopening.

And then, slowly, things can begin to move again. But still, our activities and gatherings will be severely limited. News of the day will centre around businesses, large and small, who reopen or close for good.

News will still be filled with updates on travel bans, vaccinations and outbreaks.

It has been a long haul so far and our work is far from over. Valentine's Day will be spent at home. March Break events are up in the air at this point.

We will remain vigilant to report the news on the latest COVID stories, as well as highlighting local achievement. But until things fully open and life resumes, success stories may still be few and far between.

Fingers crossed. Good news is on its way!

Letter to the Editor

Joy for dogs and us

Every time I have visited the newly-opened York Region Forest - Nobleton Tract, I have encountered happy dogs walking their humans on leashes, following the paths and leaving "gifts" for them to pick up. These same humans have dutifully disposed of the "gifts" properly, not left any litter at all and have enjoyed the quiet of nature laid out amongst the hillsides.

Thank you to all these responsible dogs for training their humans so well! Thank you to York Region for continuing to develop the Tall Grass Prairie here. I look forward to more progress and perhaps to seeing meadowlarks, bluebirds and bobolinks once more.

Take only pictures, leave only footprints.

Susan Beharriell



Quote of the Week



"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

- Benjamin Franklin

Trivia Tidbits

Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

We want to hear from you!

Your community newspaper wants to hear your views, opinions and ideas. We welcome letters to the editor. We also welcome story ideas. So you know someone who has accomplished a noteworthy feat? Have you witnessed some extraordinary acts of kindness? Is there an outstanding local business that deserves to be recognized. Email your submissions to editor@kingsentinel.com

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Are you upset about the travel ban to the Caribbean?

a) Yes **16.7%**

b) No **83.3%**

The results of this poll are in no way considered to be valid or infallible.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you please to see the kids going back to school?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

<p>KING Weekly Sentinel 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton ON L7E 5V1 Toll Free: 1-888-557-6626 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363 www.kingsentinel.com</p>	<p>PUBLISHER: London Publishing Corp. GENERAL MANAGER: Zach Shoub EDITOR: Mark Pavilons editor@kingsentinel.com PRODUCTION: Lisa Clendening ADVERTISING: Doug Sherritt doug@pcmedia.ca DISTRIBUTION: Cephise Cuming cc@cephisecuming.com OFFICE: Mary Cephise CREDIT DEPT.: Al Lord CLASSIFIEDS: admin@caledoncitizen.com</p>	<p>Advertising & Administration Head Office 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton L7E 5V1 Tel: 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363</p> <p><small>The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. Copyright King Weekly Sentinel 2021</small></p>	<p>Subscription rates: Within 65 km except towns with letter carriers - \$39.00 + G.S.T. Beyond 65 km and towns with letter carriers - \$67.00 + G.S.T. Single copies 94¢ + G.S.T. or \$1.00 (includes G.S.T.)</p> <p></p> <p>Funded by the Government of Canada We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.</p>
<p>Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Limited, publisher of the King Weekly Sentinel and the New Tecumseth Times.</p>		<p>Published every Thursday</p>	



www.king.ca



King Township
2585 King Road King City,
ON Canada L7B 1A1

Phone: 905.833.5321 Email: serviceking@king.ca

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KING

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Township of King passed Development Charges By-law 2021-002 (the "By-law") on the 11th day of January, 2021 under subsection 2(1) of the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997 c.27 (the "Act"), as amended;

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or organization may appeal the By-law to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) as stipulated under Section 14 of the Act, in respect of the By-law, by filing with the Clerk of the Township of King on or before the 20th day of February, 2021 a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons supporting the objection. (**NOTE:** If the final appeal date falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the appeal date will extend to the first Monday at 4:30 p.m., following the last appeal day.)

The development charges in the By-law will apply to all new residential and non-residential development, subject to certain terms, conditions and limited exemptions as identified in the By-law.

Development charges are levied against new development to pay for the increased capital costs related to the provision of such municipal services as Water, Wastewater, Services related to a Municipal Roadway, Public Works and Waste Diversion.

The development charges imposed by the By-law, which comes into effect on January 12, 2021, are as follows:

Service/Class of Service	RESIDENTIAL					NON-RESIDENTIAL
	Single and Semi-Detached Dwelling	Multiples	Large Apartments	Small Apartments	Special Care/Special Dwelling Units	(per sq.m. of Gross Floor Area)
Township-Wide Services:						
Services Related to a Highway	\$ 17,047	\$ 14,439	\$ 10,705	\$ 7,332	\$ 5,392	\$ 83.53
Fire Protection Services	958	811	602	412	303	4.74
Parks and Recreation Services	11,740	9,944	7,372	5,050	3,713	21.10
Library Services	1,587	1,344	997	683	502	2.80
Growth Studies	506	429	318	218	160	2.58
Total Township-Wide Services (A)	31,838	26,967	19,994	13,695	10,070	114.75
Urban Services:						
Stormwater Services	391	331	246	168	124	1.94
Water Services	2,748	2,328	1,728	1,182	869	13.24
Water & Wastewater Studies and Capital Improvements	315	267	198	135	100	1.61
Total Urban Services (B)	3,454	2,926	2,170	1,485	1,093	16.79
Area Specific Services:						
Wastewater Services - King City (C)	3,484	2,951	2,188	1,499	1,102	17.01
Wastewater Services - Nobleton (D)	3,976	3,368	2,497	1,710	1,258	4.41
Total King City (A + B + C)	\$ 38,776	\$ 32,844	\$ 24,352	\$ 16,679	\$ 12,265	\$ 148.55
Total Nobleton (A + B + D)	\$ 39,268	\$ 33,261	\$ 24,661	\$ 16,890	\$ 12,421	\$ 135.95
Total Schomberg (A + B)	\$ 35,292	\$ 29,893	\$ 22,164	\$ 15,180	\$ 11,163	\$ 131.54

No key map has been provided in this notice as the By-law applies to all lands located within the Municipal boundaries of the Township of King. Charges for water and wastewater are applicable where municipal services are available.

Due to the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-10, a copy of the By-law is available on the Township of King's website at www.king.ca

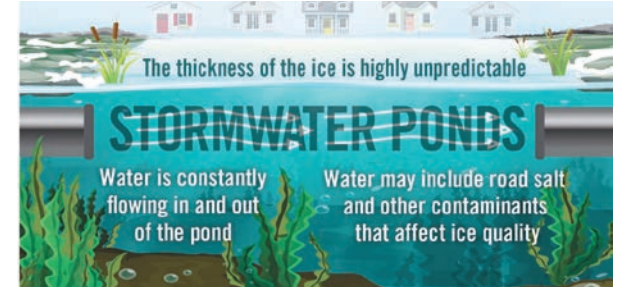
For further information regarding the 2020 Development Charges, please contact: Peggy Tollett, Director of Finance and Treasurer, ptollett@king.ca

DATED at the Township of King, 2585 King Road, King City, ON, this 14th day of January, 2021.

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services/Township Clerk
clerks@king.ca

Stay off stormwater ponds

Staff and by-law officers are reminding residents found using stormwater ponds for skating that this is prohibited and unsafe due to possible changing conditions. As indicated by the conservation authorities:



Stormwater ponds are designed to continuously collect stormwater from surrounding roads and neighbourhoods

No matter how deep into the winter or how thick the ice may appear, temperature changes and water flowing in/out can cause major variations in ice thickness

Air pockets are also easily formed under the surface and contaminants like salt weaken the ice Stormwater ponds are dangerous in winterAll these factors combined, create dangerous and unpredictable conditions that put your safety at risk.

You can book ice and use the four open municipal ice pads (King City, Nobleton, Schomberg & Cold Creek). More details can be found at king.ca/OutdoorRinks and booking can be completed at <http://townshipofking.perfectmind.com/>

Nobleton sewer works



Phase 2, Contract 3 sanitary sewer and concurrent works in Nobleton will take place in and around the following roadways: Sheardown Drive, Dobson Court, Cain Court, Hazelbury Drive, Chamberlain Court, Russell Snider Drive, Witherspoon Way, Mactaggart Drive, Holden Drive, Robb Drive and McCutcheon Avenue affecting approximately 200 homes. Weather permitting, work is scheduled to take about 27 months to complete.

LATEST UPDATES

- Sheardown Drive between Highway 27 and Holden Drive and all of Chamberlain Court have been completed up to base asphalt.
 - There are currently crews working on Sheardown Drive from Holden Court to Russell Snider Drive, Cain Court, Hazelbury Drive between Cain Court and Sheardown Drive and at McCutcheon Drive installing sewers north of Sheardown Drive.
 - Temporary road restoration will follow mainline sewer crews.
- Residents who have any questions about the project can visit <http://majorprojects.king.ca/> or contact ServiceKing at 905-833-5321 or serviceking@king.ca.

KING FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Stay Fire Safe While Staying Warm

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires in Ontario.



How do I keep myself and my loved ones safe?

- Ensure woodstoves, fireplaces and fireplace inserts are installed by a **qualified technician** according to **manufacturer's instructions**.
- Have your heating system, vents and chimneys inspected and cleaned annually by a **qualified service technician**.
- Ensure all outside heating vents are **not blocked**.

Install **smoke and carbon monoxide alarms** on every storey of your home.

- Allow ashes from your woodstove or fireplace to cool before emptying them into a **metal container** with a tight-fitting lid. **Keep the container outside**.
- **Always use a fire screen around the fireplace!**



For more information contact your **local fire department**.

King Fire & Emergency Services
905-833-2800



Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management
ontario.ca/firemarshal

PUBLIC NOTICES

We are seeking feedback on the Draft Site Alteration By-law! Join the conversation and have your say by visiting our Speaking page.

Site Alteration By-law Review

<https://speaking.king.ca/site-alteration-by-law>

KING TOWNSHIP RURAL ZONING BY-LAW REVIEW

Call for Participants: Hamlet and Agricultural Area Zoning By-law Review Workshops

The Township will be hosting two community workshops to discuss specific zoning issues and opportunities in the Hamlets and Agricultural/Rural areas of King Township. Members of the public are invited to register and attend!

Two community workshops are being planned for approximately late February 2021:

1. A workshop to discuss zoning within the **Hamlets** of the Township; and
2. A workshop to discuss zoning issues in the **Agricultural and Rural areas**.

How can I register to attend or find out more about the workshops?

Please visit speaking.king.ca and click on "Rural Zoning By-law Review" to register.

Alternatively, or if you require assistance, you may contact Kristen Harrison, Policy Planner, at kharrison@king.ca or 905-833-4065.

More details about the format and materials will be provided to registrants closer to the meeting date.

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WEATHER PERMITTING AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK

Pre-registration is required and spaces are limited NO DROP-INS PERMITTED

REGISTER UP TO 3 DAYS IN ADVANCE
Visit coldcreek.ca or email coldcreek@king.ca for more information

Visit townshipofking.perfectmind.com to check the status of upcoming time slots

Calling all residents of King Township. Help your local fire fighters help YOU with Adopt A Hydrant!

When Seconds count, which would you feel more safe with?
After a snowfall, check your nearest hydrants for a 3 foot (1 metre) radius of clearance

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DEPARTMENT

Valentine's Day Origami!

PA DAY PROGRAM

THE INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO WILL BE AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1**
www.kinglibrary.ca

Government needs to review real costs of online learning

I always read Mark Pavilonis's editorials. His tone is usually thoughtful, and I do enjoy his family perspectives. Almost feel like a relative! What a surprise to read his grim assessment of e-learning in the KWS edition of Jan. 21, including the F grades assigned to the Ministry of Education. How unlike this editor to make stern judgments. This is a first, I said to myself. Time to investigate!

Off I googled to find Education Minister Stephen Lecce's Open Letter to Parents, dated Jan. 4, 2021.

In this letter, Mr. Lecce informed parents, "To ensure a better learning experience, every teacher in this province received mandatory training on remote learning, before the school year began."

According to feedback from exasperated teachers (otherwise known as backlash in 'the industry'), that was a complete surprise because they have been struggling with the technology as much as parents who are helping their children. "What mandatory training?"

Trillium Lakelands secondary school union president Colin Matthew noted there was no mandatory training: "Teachers hired specifically for distance learning did receive training

Letter to the Editor

where necessary", but most teachers were directed to have some access to an online resource if needed, which is not equivalent to actual training. Apparently, many teachers opted to use Google Classroom, but the 'attendance feature' requires a separate costly plug-in, and there is no feature for compiling marks. Teachers learned attendance-taking and assignment marking required old-fashioned manual effort in tandem with Google Classroom's use.

In a letter to the Editor of the Toronto Star on Jan. 5, Burlington teacher Greg Kay described Lecce's mandatory training as wishful thinking: "To be clear, any and all preparations, resources, and lessons your child receives this week were completed and compiled by teachers on their holiday to comply with the government's erroneous directive for which absolutely zero implementation assistance or guidance was provided." Ouch. Sounds like another F.

Apparently, the Ministry of Education has tried to help students (and family budgets) with the costs of new tech-

nology demands by offering one-time financial aid through the 'Support for Learners' program, providing families with children aged 0 to 12 with \$200/child, and \$250/child up to age 21 for those students with special education needs. This program was expanded to include high school students, recognizing the added costs for technology associated with internet subscriptions for their parents during their children's e-learning. Applications for this one-time payment must be filed online by Feb. 8.

There was an online "Technology Survey for Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB) Families with In-Person Learners," to assess the technology needs of young learners during the Holiday Break, but it had to be completed by Jan. 5. The survey also warned, "Please note that filling out the survey does not guarantee that your child will receive a device, as need may surpass the number of devices available." For some reason, I am suddenly reminded of Premier Doug Ford's threat to use a firecracker on the President of Pfizer's Drugs at the Michigan facility for not providing all the COVID-19 vaccines that he wanted within the timeframe he wanted them. Might that firecracker be put to better use at the Ministry of Education in an effort to provide enough devices to students?

Not to sound ungrateful regarding the use of OUR tax dollars, but the government needs to get up to speed on the REAL costs of computers, software, and high-speed internet connections, which are still unavailable in communities located beyond main cities. Dial up? For parents with students living in distant communities, that translates to 'Riled Up.'

In fact, I'd wager the province would be smarter to invest in high-speed internet NOW, instead of the GTA West Highway, which is not needed nearly as much as reliable internet connectivity. Besides, highway experts on the GTA West Review Panel actually recommended against building that highway in their final report. Is that why the report was removed from MTO's website? Glad I got a copy before it went MIA. Another missed learning opportunity at Queen's Park? There's another good reason to transfer a chunk of those funds to building an electronic information 'super highway.' Probably with

better results, cheaper, too.

The funds for this 'Support for Learners' program were initially purloined by a now disgraced senior 'former' employee in the Ministry of Education's own Information Technology Services. Happily, on 22 January, the Toronto Star reported the \$11-million was recovered through corrective actions taken by the provincial government with the cooperation of TD and BMO banks, which had unwisely permitted the opening of hundreds of questionable accounts within a short period of time. Wow, talk about all the wheels falling off the 'security bus' almost simultaneously! Another golden 'learning opportunity' for government and banks! So many lessons from this pandemic! Time for heightened oversight at the banks, as recommended repeatedly by FINTRAC, and Canada's Information Commissioner over the years - plus stricter security within the Government's own Info Tech Services.

Lecce's letter also tried to reassure parents that schools were safe from COVID-19 because "based on board reporting, 99.64% of students have not reported a case of COVID-19." That might be because 100% of students were not tested for Covid-19 by the time of his letter's publication, and I'm not sure the Board of Education should rely on Covid-19 "self-reporting" from students, few of whom qualify as infectious disease specialists ... except for that 0.36% who reported COVID-19 positivity. It seems some might have benefited from instruction in microbiology and antibody testing through e-learning after all.

This pandemic does present serious challenges to Ontario. Could the Conservative government pause its rushed batch-processing of approvals of Ministerial Zoning Orders for developers, and concentrate on the needs of Ontario families first? Wouldn't that make for a refreshing NEW change? A Government For The People. Where have I heard that before? Must have been a dream.

I think Premier Ford should take that firecracker and use it to 'incentivize' service to the public among his own MPPs. He could even try it on himself first.

Vicki Hotte
King

Stay-at-home order extended to Feb. 22

The provincial government announced Monday that the Stay-at-Home order will continue to apply in York, Peel and Toronto until Monday, Feb. 22.

Final decisions will be subject to review of the trends in public health indicators at that time.

The government is moving to a regional approach and maintaining the shutdown in the majority of the public health regions in Ontario, including the Stay-at-Home order and all existing public health and workplace safety measures. When it is safe to do so, the province will gradually transition each region from the shutdown measures to a revised and strengthened COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open.

Enjoy the journey
I'll take care of the rest.



Contact me for an auto insurance quote today.

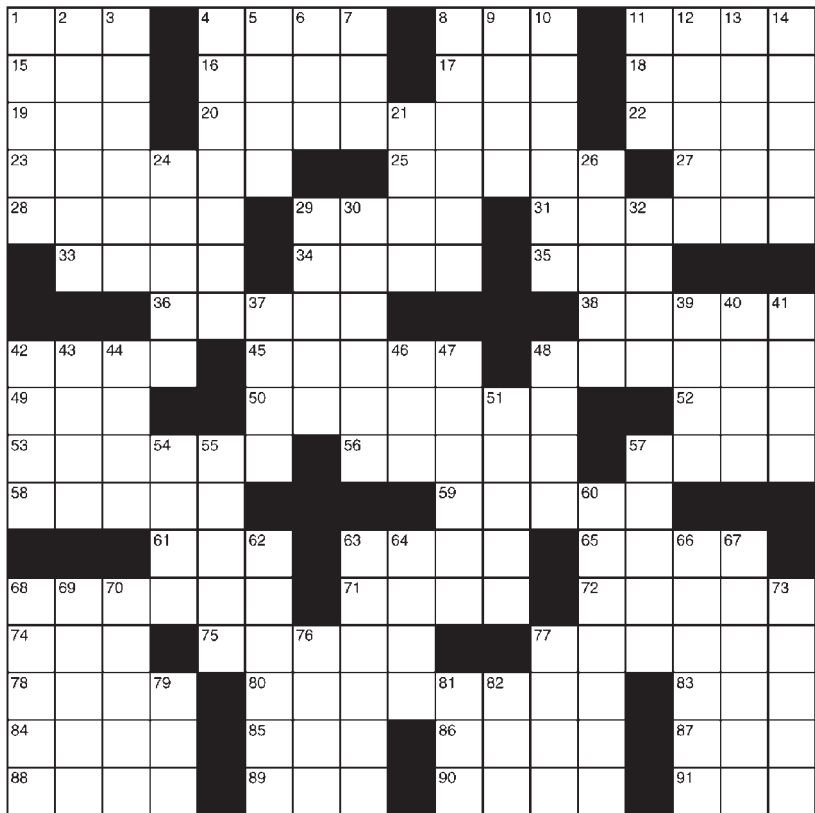


Richard Gong, Agent
905-727-6333



X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 431



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- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1. Chatter</p> <p>4. Big event</p> <p>8. Gear</p> <p>11. Ella's forte</p> <p>15. Operate</p> <p>16. Rueful word</p> <p>17. Previous to, in poems</p> <p>18. Tropical nut</p> <p>19. Superhero's chest letter</p> <p>20. Airship</p> <p>22. Spring bulb</p> <p>23. Seat for two</p> <p>25. Lasso</p> <p>27. Learn</p> <p>28. Nasal sound</p> <p>29. Will beneficiary</p> <p>31. Mountainous</p> <p>33. Ninny</p> <p>34. Approval word</p> <p>35. Mauna follower</p> <p>36. Skewered meat</p> <p>38. African animal, for short</p> <p>42. Jubilee</p> <p>45. Point _____, California</p> | <p>48. Certain oil</p> <p>49. _____, two, three . . .</p> <p>50. Songlike</p> <p>52. Gash</p> <p>53. Opposed</p> <p>56. Move smoothly</p> <p>57. Opulent</p> <p>58. Talking starling</p> <p>59. Peg</p> <p>61. Milk-giving animal</p> <p>63. Junket</p> <p>65. Minstrel's instrument</p> <p>68. Former Spanish coin</p> <p>71. Religious order</p> <p>72. Edit text</p> <p>74. Tiny hill-builder</p> <p>75. Soak</p> <p>77. Electrical unit</p> <p>78. Interval</p> <p>80. Current</p> <p>83. Light rap</p> <p>84. Go fast</p> <p>85. Female relative</p> <p>86. Nerve-cell part</p> <p>87. Conscientious being</p> <p>88. "_____ of Darkness"</p> <p>89. Drink cooler</p> <p>90. Sobbed</p> <p>91. Steep flax</p> | <p>DOWN</p> <p>1. Hypothesize</p> <p>2. Concur</p> <p>3. Confer an honor</p> <p>4. Newspaper</p> <p>5. Ship's position</p> <p>6. Track-runner's circuit</p> <p>7. Serpent</p> <p>8. Veggie stick</p> <p>9. Pavarotti solo</p> <p>10. Of the mind</p> <p>11. Take part in a biathlon</p> <p>12. Queen's dog</p> <p>13. Klaatu or E.T.</p> <p>14. "A _____ of Honey"</p> <p>21. Silk from Assam</p> <p>24. Tot rod?</p> <p>26. Honolulu hello</p> <p>29. White with age</p> <p>30. Actress Anita _____</p> <p>32. Nuisance</p> <p>37. Bundle, as of hay</p> <p>39. Little, in Milan</p> <p>40. +</p> <p>41. Solemn promise</p> <p>42. Bubbles</p> <p>43. Jealousy</p> |
|--|--|--|

Solution on page 19

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

To all persons who were Crown Wards in Ontario at any time from the period on or after January 1, 1966 until March 30, 2017 and suffered physical or sexual assault before or while a Crown Ward ("Class Members")

A proposed settlement has been reached with Ontario in this class action to provide compensation of up to **\$3,600** to Class Members who are former Crown Wards who suffered physical or sexual assault before or while a Crown Ward.

This lawsuit is not about seeking money from your abusers for the abuse you suffered. The lawsuit is about the government's alleged duty to consider and, where appropriate, apply for specific benefits on behalf of Crown Wards who were victims of crime, or to seek damages in civil actions on behalf of Crown Wards. The lawsuit, and this settlement, do not impact your ability to sue someone who abused you.

If you opted out of the class action, the settlement will not impact you.


There will be a court hearing on **May 12, 2021** to decide whether the proposed settlement of the lawsuit should be approved. The hearing will take place virtually.

There is no money available now. If the court approves the settlement and you are part of the lawsuit, you can then make a claim.

To obtain further information, please visit <https://OntarioCrownWardClassAction.ca> or contact Epiq Global at 1-877-739-8936, or by email at info@ontariocrownwardclassaction.ca.

The lawyers acting for the class are Koskie Minsky LLP. You may also contact Koskie Minsky LLP at 1-866-778-7985, or by email at OCWclassaction@kmlaw.ca.


If you approve of the settlement, and want it to proceed so you can claim money, you do not need to take any steps. If you want to object to the settlement, you must send an objection to Epiq Global by April 1, 2021.



King


7-Day

Weather Outlook



From Thursday, February 11 to Wednesday, February 17

THURS 11TH	FRI 12TH	SAT 13TH	SUN 14TH	MON 15TH	TUES 16TH	WED 17TH
Mainly Sunny High -8°C Low -17°C <1cm Wind N 13k	Scattered Flurries High -12°C Low -19°C ~1cm Wind NE 12k	Sun/Clouds High -12°C Low -17°C 2-4cm Wind N 11k	Scattered Flurries High -12°C Low -20°C ~1cm Wind N 12k	Mainly Sunny High -10°C Low -16°C - Wind NW 15k	Scattered Flurries High -7°C Low -8°C 1-3cm Wind SE 22k	Scattered Flurries High -3°C Low -11°C ~1cm Wind E 11k



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Hospital opens as a system solution to fight COVID-19

Mackenzie Health officially opened its Vaughan hospital – Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital – with an exclusive focus on creating additional ICU and acute care capacity to help address the surge in COVID-19 cases in Ontario. By opening in this way, Mackenzie Health will help alleviate capacity pressures faced by Ontario hospitals as they manage near full ICUs and increasing COVID-19 cases.

“Mackenzie Health is proud to provide a unique system solution in our collective fight against COVID-19,” said Mackenzie Health President and CEO Altaf Stationwala. “With the opening of Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, our exclusive focus at this time is on creating additional space to care for critical and acute care patients, and to provide relief to our overstretched health care system. The province needed us to open Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital in this way, and we’ve answered that call.”

Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital was slated to open as a full-service hospital Feb. 7, however, due to the alarming capacity pressures being felt by Ontario hospitals, the opening instead focused on adding 35 ICU beds and 150 general internal medicine beds to the system. The Emergency Department at Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital is closed at

this time and other programs and services planned to move to Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital – including Woman and Child, Inpatient Mental Health and Inpatient Integrated Stroke – will remain at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital for now. Once the system stabilizes, Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital will fully open to the community as originally planned. The Emergency Department at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital remains open to the support the community, as it always has.

“Mackenzie Health is able to take on this very important role today for our health care system because of the incredible staff, physicians and volunteers who have, without hesitation, stepped forward to make this a reality,” said Dr. Steven Jackson, Vice-President, Medical Planning and Chief of Staff at Mackenzie Health. “For years, they have been preparing to open our second hospital and because of all of their tremendous dedication, nimbleness, resilience and determination, we can adapt in this way to support other hospitals across the province during this pandemic.”

Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital was purposefully built with mostly single patient rooms which allow for enhanced infection prevention and control protocols and technological advances that



make it Canada’s first smart hospital. It is also located right off Highway 400, in close proximity to the hardest hit regions in the province – York, Peel and Toronto.

“I want to thank Mackenzie Health for stepping up to support our response to COVID-19 and taking pressure off other hospitals in the region at this critical time,” said the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario. “Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital is the first net new hospital built in Ontario in over 30 years and represents another important step towards ending hallway health care in the province.”

The Ontario government invested \$1.3 billion towards the \$1.7 billion Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital project. The local share, required to help cover costs for technology and medical equipment as well as a portion of the construction costs, continues to be supported by the generosity of the community through the Ultimate campaign. To date, the campaign has raised more than \$180 million of the \$250 million goal.

“I could not be more proud of the front-line staff on the Mackenzie Health Team, our city and the families of King-Vaughan for stepping up to save lives. Opening Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital remains our government’s most pressing local priority – delivering exceptional care in the heart of our community – while also supporting our province as we recover from this pandemic,” said King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce.

Mackenzie Health is a dynamic regional health care provider which includes Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital, Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital and a comprehensive network of community-based services. In March 2017, Mackenzie Health received its second consecutive award of Accreditation with Exemplary Standing from Accred-

itation Canada for its commitment to safety and quality patient care. This is the highest rating a Canadian health care provider can receive. Guided by a vision to create a world-class health experience, Mackenzie Health has an unrelenting focus on the patient and is dedicated to patient needs now and in the future. With more than 550,000 residents in western York Region, Mackenzie Health is proud to serve one of the fastest growing and most diverse communities in Canada. For more information, please visit mackenziehealth.ca

Funding helps municipalities improve delivery

The Ontario government is investing over \$40 million during COVID-19 to help small and rural municipalities improve the delivery of critical programs and services. The funding, under the Municipal Modernization Program, is part of the government’s \$125 million investment through 2022-23 to help small and rural municipalities become more efficient and save taxpayers’ dollars.

“Our government recognizes that COVID-19 has created challenges for everyone, including small and rural municipalities,” said Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “By working hand in hand with our local partners, we have ensured that vital services continue to be delivered to individuals, families and businesses. The funding ... will build on the progress we have made together and allow for further review and modernization of local services so we can get the best return on taxpayers’ dollars.”

The Municipal Modernization Program helps Ontario’s 405 small and rural municipalities find better, more efficient ways to operate and serve their residents. Municipalities can use the funding to conduct reviews of service delivery and administrative expenditures to find efficiencies or implement a range of projects, including developing an online system to improve the local process for approving residential and industrial developments or setting up new shared services with neighbouring municipalities.

Last year, Ontario funded 184 modernization projects led by small and rural municipalities, including service delivery reviews which found \$3 million in potential annual savings for Elgin County and up to \$5 million in savings over 10 years in the Township of Douro-Dummer.

The announcement was made during the 2021 Rural Municipalities of Ontario Association (ROMA) conference, where Premier Doug Ford, ministers, associate ministers and parliamentary assistants joined hundreds of municipal officials for the first-ever virtual ROMA conference. They held meetings with almost 300 municipal delegations and reaffirmed the government’s commitment to protect the health and safety of Ontarians, and work in partnership with municipalities to stop the spread of COVID-19.

“COVID-19 has highlighted opportunities for small and rural municipalities to modernize local services,” said Allan Thompson, ROMA chair and Caledon mayor. “This funding will help municipal governments to review processes and improve services to be more efficient and better meet community needs.”



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MPP for King-Vaughan

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SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

- 1. Reduced hydro rates** for the month of January to 8.5 cents-per-kilowatt-hour.
- 2. Introduced the Ontario Community Support Program**
The program provides food and essential item deliveries to low-income seniors and people with disabilities in need.
- 3. Implemented a rent freeze** for 2021, and temporarily **paused** residential evictions.
- 4. Redesigned Second Career Grant**
The government is providing \$77 million to help individuals laid off due to the impact of COVID-19 find in-demand jobs.

More details at: covidsupports.ca/king-vaughan



Hometown Guess Whose Door of King Contest

Win! \$1000 IN PRIZES

"Local Merchant Care Package"

Contest will run in the Jan 28th, Feb 4th and Feb 11th editions of The King Weekly Sentinel Newspaper.

Simply email a picture of your list of businesses, in the correct order, to: zach@lpcmedia.ca

Entries must be submitted by 5pm on Friday February 12th.

If your entry form has all 20 businesses matched to the correct door, you will be entered into a Draw for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes.

Winners will be selected and announced in the Feb. 18th King Weekly Sentinel Newspaper.

Top Prize: \$500 gift card bundle, 2nd & 3rd prize: \$250 gift card bundles.

All correct entries will be entered into a draw for the Care Package. Must be 18 years of age to win.

One entry per email address or person per week.

Match the Correct Door to the Participating Businesses

- | | |
|-----|-----|
| 1. | 11. |
| 2. | 12. |
| 3. | 13. |
| 4. | 14. |
| 5. | 15. |
| 6. | 16. |
| 7. | 17. |
| 8. | 18. |
| 9. | 19. |
| 10. | 20. |

PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

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Foodland Schomberg	Roost Café
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Good luck to all and what a great way to get up and go for a walk, drive, bike ride to make sure you have the right doors chosen for each business.

Contest sponsored by THE KING WEEKLY SENTINEL and the participating businesses.

Good luck!





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Win! Open this issue to the Centre Spread to play our **Whose Door contest** for your chance to win a portion of **\$1,000 in Gift Cards** to local businesses!

Ontario funding broadband for public libraries

The Ontario government is investing more than \$4.8 million to upgrade broadband at public libraries in underserved and underserved communities. By investing in improved broadband at public libraries, the province is providing greater community access to education and vital services, while creating more economic opportunity for residents.

“Ontario’s public libraries are an important part of our communities and provide a wide range of information, programs and services. Now more than ever, communities need faster and more reliable access to these resources,” said Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure. “Our investment will make it easier to use local libraries for learning, accessing services and connecting with others.”

This provincial investment will help many communities bridge the digital divide to ensure residents have access to online information and resources. The Ontario Library Service will oversee and deliver the project. As a first step in the broadband upgrade process,

site surveys and assessments will be conducted to identify eligible library branches, with priority given to those with inadequate broadband located within five kilometres of a secondary school.

“From supporting lifelong learning to providing access to resources that help to build strong, vibrant communities, Ontario’s public libraries make a real difference in people’s lives across the province,” said Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries. “Increasing broadband capabilities at public libraries will help provide Ontarians with better access to digital resources and services, including digital collections, online skills training and career development. I’m proud that our government is making this important investment to ensure people and communities across Ontario stay connected through improved broadband.”

This investment is part of Up to Speed: Ontario’s Broadband and Cellular Action Plan. On Nov. 4, 2020, the Ontario government announced an in-

vestment of \$680 million on top of its existing commitment to improve connectivity in the province, leading to a historic investment of nearly \$1 billion over six years.

“Robust broadband access through the public library is increasingly critical to the well-being of local communities,” said Andrea Cecchetto, President of the Ontario Library Association. “The Ontario government’s strategic investment will ensure that tens of thousands of people in small, rural and northern communities, as well as First Nations, will have the high-speed broadband necessary for fair access to the e-resources and learning opportunities they need to succeed.”

Through the Public Library Operating Grant, the government provides \$21 million in annual operating funding to nearly 400 public and First Nations public libraries.

Ontario has invested in several initiatives to improve connectivity for homes and businesses in Northern Ontario, including broadband projects through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and the Next Generation Network Program. This includes a recent \$10.9 million investment to help bring faster broadband to several towns and First Nation communities.

The province is providing the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN)

with \$71 million to improve access to cellular service and mobile broadband in Eastern Ontario and is investing more than \$63 million in the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) project to expand high-speed broadband in Southwestern Ontario.

On July 9, 2020, the province launched the Improving Connectivity for Ontario (ICON) program, a multi-year program that aims to support approved broadband and cellular projects as early as Spring 2021. Ontario also announced in November 2020, that it was doubling funding in the program to \$300 million.

Expanding access to broadband is part of Ontario Onwards: Ontario’s COVID-19 Action Plan for a People-Focused Government, which includes more than 30 projects that will change the way people and businesses interact with government.

As many as 12 per cent of households in Ontario – or about 1.4 million people – are underserved or unserved, according to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

As of April 2021, Ontario’s two library service organizations will amalgamate into a single library service board, the Ontario Library Service organization, which will streamline administrative functions and increase efficiency and consistency in the delivery of services across the province.

Funding will help offset lost revenue from cancelled fall fairs

The Ontario government is providing \$5 million to support the province’s agricultural and horticultural societies impacted by the pandemic. The funding is flowing through the Agricultural and Horticultural Support and Recovery Funding Initiative.

Programming details were announced by Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association annual general meeting.

“Agricultural and horticultural societies play a vital role in agricultural education while making significant contributions to the economy of rural Ontario,” said Minister Hardeman. “This funding will help support these societies during a difficult period so they can operate future fall fairs and exhibits and participate in our future economic recovery.”

Societies have been unable to hold revenue generating events over the past 10 months due to health and safety concerns around COVID-19.

This one-time initiative features two funding streams:

- \$1.8 million Base Support Funding will provide eligible agricultural societies with \$7,000, and eligible horticultural societies with \$1,140 in funding to support their continued delivery of agricultural and horticultural education across Ontario.
- \$3.2 million Hardship Funding for eligible agricultural societies will provide additional support, which will be based on their reported gate receipts from 2019. This will help off-set operating losses, liabilities, and fixed overhead costs.

Funding is expected to be completed before March 31.

“The Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies (OAAS), is grateful for the support from the Ontario Government,” said Vince Brennan, Manager, Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies. “Their investment shows the confidence and appreciation the government has for Ontario Agricultural Societies and their impact, especially during these challenging times. This funding will help support our Agricultural Societies and their communities.”

“On behalf of the 273 societies/clubs of the Ontario Horticultural Association, we extend our gratitude for your generous financial support,” said Katharine Smyth, President, Ontario Horticultural Association. “As you know, the societies/clubs have seen reduced membership numbers and have been unable to raise funds to continue their community involvements. Your consideration and response to their needs during the pandemic, by way of providing them extra finances will go a long way to support them through this crisis.”

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Optometrists willing to help administer COVID-19 vaccine

By Julia Galt

Increased access to the COVID-19 vaccine may soon be coming to Ontario from a rather unusual source.

The Ontario Association of Optometrists have announced their willingness to assist with the provincial government's rollout of the vaccine implementation plan, which they say will provide Ontarians a more accessible path to vaccination.

Optometrists would be a safe and efficient party to administer the vaccine, as many have undergone injection training as part of their professional curriculum. Those who need additional training could take a course, such as one offered by the University of Waterloo's School of Optometry and Vision Science.

Currently, Ontario optometrists do not have the authority to administer vaccines. However, amending the Optometry Act in this time of crisis would increase public access. Injections could be administered either in-office or in vaccination centres.

Though Quebec announced in December that it would be looking to optometrists and other health care professionals to increase their pool of potential labour, Ontario has yet to follow suit.

"Optometrists are the most accessible eye health and vision care professionals, and are available at the local level across the province," said Dr. Sheldon Salaba, president of the Ontario Association of Optometrists. "We can make a difference to help keep Ontarians safe."



King City Optometry's Dr. Sonia Postiglione says she would "seriously consider" taking part in the vaccine's rollout should the Optometry Act be amended.

"Right now, the problem is getting the vaccine," said Dr. Postiglione. "But once the vaccines do roll out, we may have an influx. If the problem then becomes how they can be administered, then I think it would be a great idea for optometrists to help out."

Other optometrists in King Township also indicated they would be open to exploring the idea.

"The Ontario Association of Optometrists has a survey asking if members would be interested in helping out with

the vaccine," said Dr. Postiglione. "So far it looks like more than half them are."

Dr. Postiglione, a member of the Ontario Association of Optometrists, reports they are in the early stages of requesting the provincial government amend the Optometry Act. Though success remains uncertain for the time being, allowing optometrists to administer the vaccine "makes sense", she says.

"We're dealing with a global crisis," said Dr. Postiglione. "While we feel discouraged dealing with a problem that's so big, we need to stick together. If we can help get everything back to normal, then we will."

Public engagement helps guide Lake Simcoe plan

The Ontario government is engaging with local partners, Indigenous communities and residents from the Lake Simcoe area to get their input on the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan. The plan is the roadmap to improve the lake's water quality, reduce pollutants such as phosphorus, support sustainable fisheries and address the impacts of invasive species. The feedback received will help determine if the document needs to be amended or updated.

"Thanks to the hard work of local environmental and conservation organizations, advocates and all levels of government, considerable progress has been made to restore Lake Simcoe over the past 10 years," said Andrea Khanjin, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and MPP for Barrie-Innisfil. "While this progress is encouraging, we know the watershed is under increasing pressure as the result of population growth and climate change. That's why we are inviting all our partners, including the general public to participate in the review of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep the lake beautiful for generations to come."

Members of the public can take part in the 75-day public review of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan by completing an online public survey between Dec. 18, 2020 and March 3, 2021 and participating in a virtual town hall early in the new year. For more information and other ways to get involved in the review, visit the Protecting Lake Simcoe webpage.

Based on the engagement and the findings from the review, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will consider making amendments to the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan by the summer of 2021.

Restoring Lake Simcoe and its watershed is a key commitment of the government's Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan.

Since 2009, the province's actions to protect and restore Lake Simcoe have been guided by the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan.

The province released the 10-year report on Lake Simcoe in July 2020, which highlighted progress towards the government's commitments and results of monitoring programs.

The province recently invested \$581,000 in four new projects to help find better ways to reduce the amount of pollutants and nutrients, such as phosphorus, from entering Lake Simcoe.

Over 450,000 people living in 22 municipalities depend on the Lake Simcoe watershed every day.



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King Weekly Sentinel

Arts & Entertainment

LSRCA completes new wetland project in King

The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) announced the completion of two wetland restoration projects located at Cawthra Mulock Nature Reserve in King Township, and Luck Conservation Area, Innisfil, adding to the 50,800 hectares of wetlands currently in the Lake Simcoe watershed.

"These two wetland projects will improve wildlife habitat, and once established, will reduce local flood risks and mitigate the effects of climate change, while providing a destination for nature seekers," explained Christa Sharp, manager of restoration for LSRCA. "Not only do wetlands play an essential role in keeping our communities safe from flooding, but they also serve another critical purpose – capturing and storing carbon."

Wetlands are often referred to as natural sponges. During a flood, they function like a tub that stores overflowing water, reducing the severity of down-

stream flooding. Wetlands also store carbon in their soils, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"As we face a climate crisis and more than 100 countries pledge to set net-zero emissions goals, wetlands offer a known, proven solution. Despite these critical functions, wetlands continue to be one of the most threatened natural features, with more than 70% of the world's wetlands degraded or destroyed," says Ms. Sharp.

In addition to the five acres of new wetland features, these restoration projects included tree and shrub plantings, native wildflower seeding, and the creation of new features such as habitat mounds, which will become homes for species like bank swallows.

Visit a local greenspace or conservation area close to home. See if you can spot a wetland on your walk or find out more about the Lake Simcoe watershed wetlands at [LSRCA.on.ca/watershed-wetlands](https://www.lsrca.on.ca/watershed-wetlands).



Within the past five years, LSRCA has partnered or led the creation of wetlands in locations such as Rogers Reservoir, East Gwillimbury, Pangman Springs, Whitchurch-Stouffville and Li-

on's Park, Newmarket.

It is the mission of LSRCA to work with our community to protect and restore the Lake Simcoe watershed by leading research, policy and action.

Society cancels 171st spring fair

The Schomberg Agricultural Society has cancelled its 171st spring fair.

The society has felt the challenges and difficulties over the past 12 months.

"Our safety and the safety of our family and friends has become more important than ever. COVID has changed the world as we knew it and we have all made changes to adapt to the 'new norm,'" according to the society.

The Agricultural Spring Fair was to be held this coming May 27 to 30.

"This decision was not an easy one, however, we feel strongly that we have made the right choice for our community, our friends, and families. The health and safety of all of you is, and always will be our top priority.

"We are however, working on a few events which will be announced in the next few weeks. They will be COVID safe events for the whole family to enjoy.

"As this will be our second consecutive fair cancellation, we are hoping that we can count on your support so that we can come back in 2022 with the biggest, best fair this amazing town we live in has ever seen!"

Calling small business owners

COVID-19 support could be available to you.

- Grants of up to \$20,000 through the *Ontario Small Business Support Grant*
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We're working to ensure small businesses can keep employing people and serving their communities now and when COVID-19 is behind us.

Visit ontario.ca/COVIDsupport to apply

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Canada plans to plant two billion trees

The federal government plans to plant two billion trees over 10 years, with an investment of \$3.16 billion. Meeting this commitment will help Canada address climate change by reducing carbon pollution and is a key part of Canada's efforts to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

There is no path to net-zero emissions that does not involve our forests. Planting trees is a natural climate solution that reduces emissions while providing other benefits such as improved air and water quality, particularly in urban settings; decreased risk of wildland fire to rural communities and support for biodiversity. It also provides spaces for recreational opportunities that improve quality of life and form part of our Canadian identity.

Canada's plan to plant two billion trees over the next 10 years is projected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 12 megatonnes by 2050. It will create up to 4,300 good jobs.

While planting a tree may sound simple, ensuring that it can be done on a large scale and in a sustainable, inclusive manner requires careful planning. The tree planting process takes several years, and begins with ordering the seeds of the desired tree species.

From there, we must expand nursery capacity; grow seedlings until they're big enough to plant in the ground; identify and prepare available land in both cities and rural settings for adequate access and soil conditions; and monitor the health and survival of the planted seedlings.

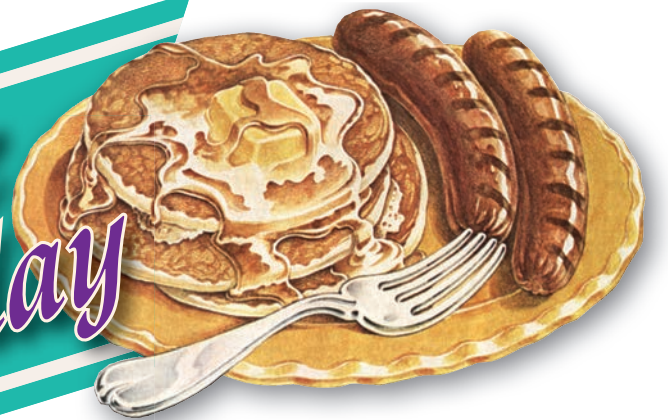
The government's plan will get trees in the ground starting this spring in urban areas across Canada. Ottawa has already begun building long-term partnerships so that Canada has the infrastructure, especially nurseries, to carry out the full tree-planting plan.

The government's plan also includes work to ensure we are able to monitor the trees planted for survival and report on the carbon they sequester.

Investing in nature is among the most affordable climate actions governments can take. Canada is fortunate to have a vast range of healthy and resilient ecosystems, including forests and urban parks, which support the well-being of Canadians. These ecosystems help absorb and store enormous amounts of carbon, which can mitigate the impacts of climate change and keep our air clean.

Natural Resources Canada is implementing this plan with support from Environment and Climate Change Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. This approach, which represents a 40 per cent annual increase in the number of trees planted in Canada, will include both urban and rural areas across the country. In 10 years, the additional two billion trees will cover over 1.1 million hectares, an area twice the size of Prince Edward Island.

Shrove Tuesday



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Learn more about EVs through two online webinars

By Susan Beharriell

Charge your ride!

King and the wider community have a remarkable opportunity this month and next to attend an on-line seminar on Electric Vehicles.

The first free webinar held in mid-January was well received. One participant observed that “The presenter made a great case for electrifying your mobility!”

Register at www.ClimateActionKing.ca for the Feb. 24 or March 24 sessions at 7 p.m. and learn from people who use electric vehicles every day. Consider the pros and cons, implications, costs, savings, range issues, charging options, availability, and day to day routines from real owners and experts.

“Within a decade, the internal combustion engine automobile is likely to look exactly like what it is – a machine that converts gasoline into much more heat than forward motion, a bizarre

antiquity.” Stephen Petranek. Learn what an impact you and your family and business can have on climate change in King by using an electric vehicle. EVs are on the way!

We can make a difference like we did back in 2009 when the Ontario government had just passed the Green Energy Act. This introduced a programme named Micro FIT through which homeowners could sign a 20-year contract, install solar panels, produce electric power, be paid for supplying that power to the grid and pay for their investment. It was exciting times, people had many questions, and a group organized an info session.

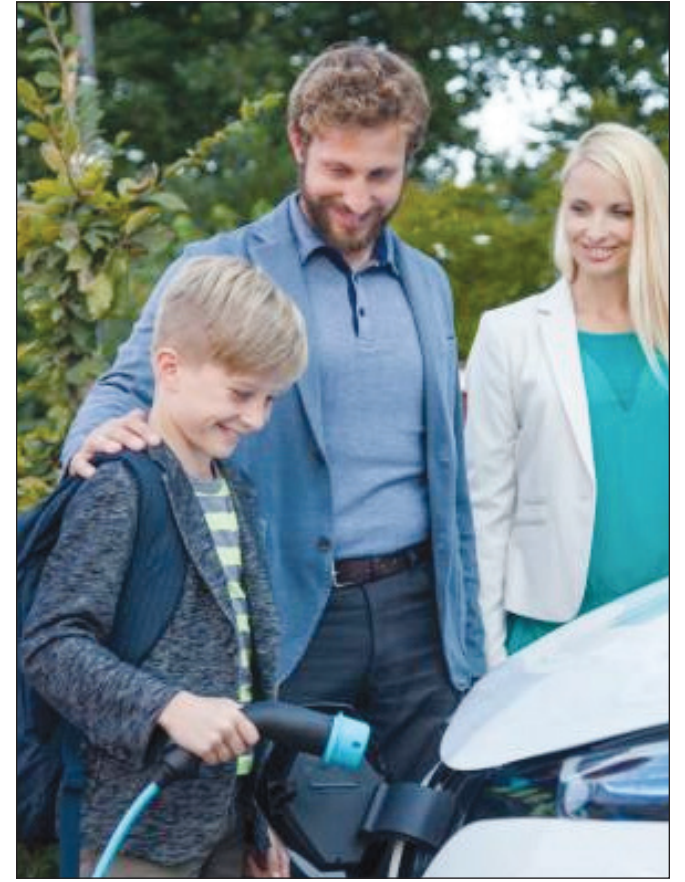
The King City arena hall was overflowing. Two local homeowners, proud new owners of Micro-FIT arrays, nervously checked their notes. Organizers tested the mikes and the computer projector. Industry reps finished setting up their booths and started their pitches. Volunteers set out more chairs

as the crowd continued to stream in. Excitement was building and there was soon standing room only.

What then unfolded was a remarkable example of a community coming together to inform itself about reducing its carbon footprint – one household and business at a time. Real examples, the pros and cons of participating and the bottom-line economics of solar arrays, were all explained with real life experiences. The event was a huge success! Many people and the Township went on to create Micro-FIT solar arrays and have been lowering their carbon footprints ever since.

Electric vehicles are the next big opportunity for you to make a difference.

Charge your ride! Attend the webinar and find out more!



King asking residents to stay off ponds

King Township residents are being asked to stay off both stormwater ponds and other ponds on public property for a variety of safety reasons.

This includes avoiding tragic events like the recent death of an 11-year-old boy who died after falling through the ice on a stormwater pond in Milton.

“Our intent is not to disappoint people, however, we do have an obligation to reduce the risk to people’s lives from either breaking through the ice on a stormwater pond or congregating in numbers not permitted under current Provincial guidelines on public gatherings,” said Jim Wall, Chief of King Township Fire and Emergency Services.

There are several reasons why skating on stormwater ponds is dangerous.

Stormwater ponds are designed to continuously collect stormwater from surrounding roads and neighbourhoods.

No matter how deep into the winter or how thick the ice may appear, temperature changes and water flowing in/out can cause major variations in ice thickness.

Air pockets are also easily formed under the surface and contaminants like salt weaken the ice.

The Township will be monitoring both stormwater ponds and other ponds located on land owned by King Township with the goal of educating people to get compliance.

“We know people have used the ponds on public land for many years,” said Chris Fasciano, Director of Community Services for King Township. “But this year is not like any year we have seen before. The pandemic has required we look at things differently. Since our indoor rinks are closed we’re seeing an increased number of people skating on ponds, which comes with risk associated with unknown conditions and is further exasperated by limits on the number of people that can gather. Our number one goal remains keeping people safe while offering recreational opportunities.”

Fasciano said in an effort to offset these challenges staff are operating four outdoor rinks that residents can register to skate on in King City, Nobleton, Schomberg and Cold Creek Conservation Area that are monitored and maintained by King Township staff. This is an increased effort in comparison to past years.

More details can be found at www.king.ca/OutdoorRinks and booking can be completed at <https://townshipofking.perfectmind.com>.

King Township is also maintaining some trails throughout the winter, in an effort to encourage our community to get outside and stay active during the colder months.

Please visit www.king.ca/trails to view an interactive online map of all the trails within King Township.

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Canadians team up to set U.S. Navy world record

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

It has taken 20 years, but a group of Canadians is ecstatic about achieving new heights in ballistics.

A Schomberg man is part of a team of Canadian ballistic experts who have shattered world records. In the world of munitions, even a slight edge or improvement is vitally important, especially for military applications.

Andre Milne of Unicorn Aerospace, and his colleagues have designed, crafted and tested new 9mm handgun bullets. Still in the final testing stages, data shows these have surpassed anything currently on the market, in terms of velocity, punch, accuracy and distance.

A recent live test in rural Simcoe County revealed some astonishing results.

The new and improved bullet – named P-51 – hit 2,350 FPS in recorded tests. This far exceeded the 1,454 FPS recorded from the standard U.S. Navy round. And it outperformed the civilian 9mm, which reached 1,339 FPS.

Not only that, this bullet travelled true and a had very small, two-inch drop in elevation at 100 metres. The Navy round dropped roughly 10 inches, while the civilian round fell almost 20 inches.

Even seasoned firearms experts say they've never heard of a 9mm hitting speeds like that.

Joining the team for the test was Milne's long-time friend and legendary photography Phil Pendry. He's an award-winning cinematographer and director born in England but based in Toronto. Pendry has shot documentaries, television series, short films, music videos, commercials and high-end corporate communications projects. As a documentary cameraman he has covered 30 conflicts in the Middle East, Africa and Vietnam.

Pendry has witnessed many "firsts" in his live, and this was the most recent.

The key for the P-51 is in the innovative design of the slug itself. The exact details of the design are classified.

What was surprising from the tests was that the bullets packed a noticeable wallop at longer distances.

From a military standpoint, this is ideal and any noticeable improvement



Andre Milne (left) and veteran photographer Phil Pendry get set to shatter some world records.

in ballistics makes this a game-changer. The latest tests show a massive 61.8% improvement in FPS. Previous tests showed consistent improvements above 35%.

This makes the team's accomplishments worthy of note. Military organizations, bullet manufacturers and civilian gun owners around the world will want to get their hands on the new bullets.

This is the group's "entry level" bullet and further improvements and designs with other calibres will set them miles ahead of the pack. For those seeking the best money can buy, this is definitely it.

What makes the Unicorn Aerospace P-51 ballistic munition so significant is that this extreme jump into higher velocities, intertwined with a near zero drop in kinetic energy during airborne travel over long distances, transforms this munition into an actual "aircraft platform" by being able to achieve a measure of self sustainable lift until impact to the target. This breakthrough qualifies the P-51 as now being a 4th generation ballistic munition.

It takes its name from the legendary

WW2 fighter plane, the P-51 Mustang, arguably one of the best aircraft ever made. The P-51 changed the tide of the war in Europe and helped the Allies establish air superiority.

Milne explained that the initial core aerospace design for the P-51 came to mind over 40 years ago when he was studying airfoil designs in a wind tunnel at Central Tech when he was a teenager. Then, some 20 years ago, Milne applied his aerospace engineering schooling to military technology development. The bullet's design was born and it really came to fruition over the past couple of years, thanks to the high-caliber design team that came together for this project.

In total, there are at least 36 world class experts who have had a hand bringing the P-51 to life. They include black ops snipers, CGI animators, 3-D modellers, 5 Axis CNC machinists and of course International patent lawyers.

The ramifications are that virtually every single caliber of bullet and artillery now being made anywhere on this earth is now technically obsolete with the invention of this now 4th generation ballistic munition.

Milne and others fear that another world conflict is brewing and being prepared is paramount.

"We need to continue more than ever to ensure that NORAD and NATO and all of our strategic partners have the best and most effective offensive and defensive firepower they will all need to prevail over what is fast becoming an unprecedented amount of adversarial warfare technology," he said.

Aside from the fact this 4th generation ballistic intellectual property Unicorn Aerospace owns is literally worth billions in revenue potential, the Unicorn team is only interested in getting the essential testing data into the right hands. This way, the core manufacturing tooling can shift seamlessly to have no impact on the current supply chain of the global military industrial arms complex in order to prepare for the cold hard truth of conflict looming just over the horizon.

Milne's expertise is also behind the trigger. He was taught by a special forces unit in the Canadian military how to be a long range sniper when he was a teenager as a cadet.

See 'Bullet' on page 15

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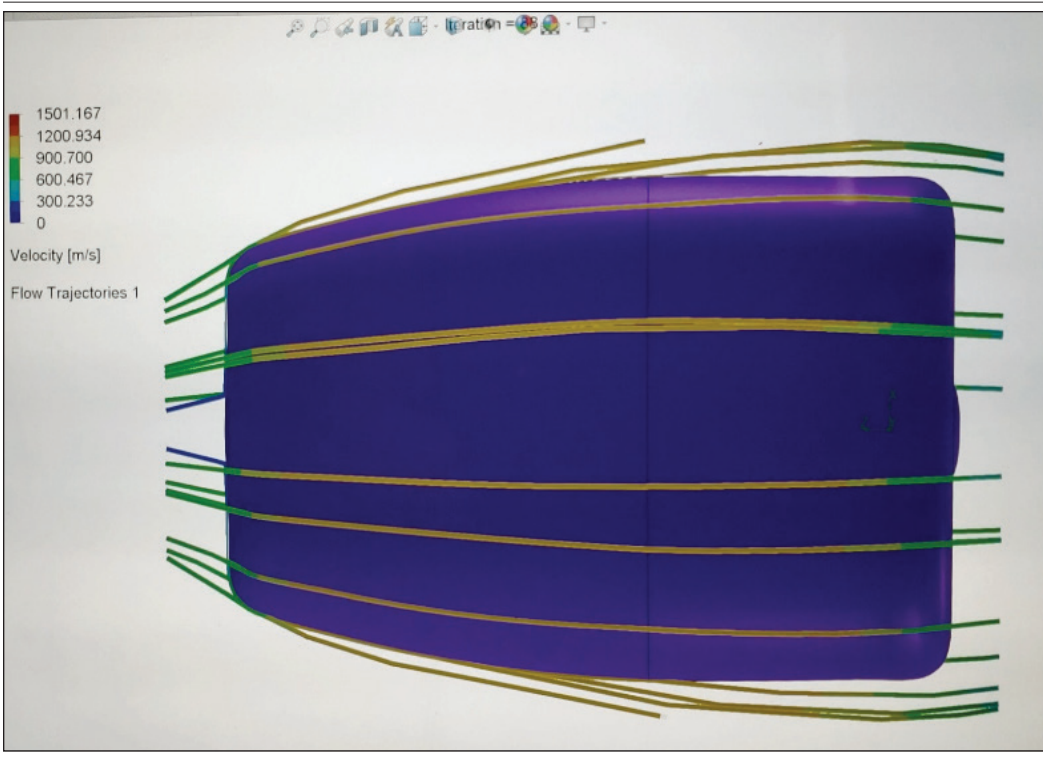
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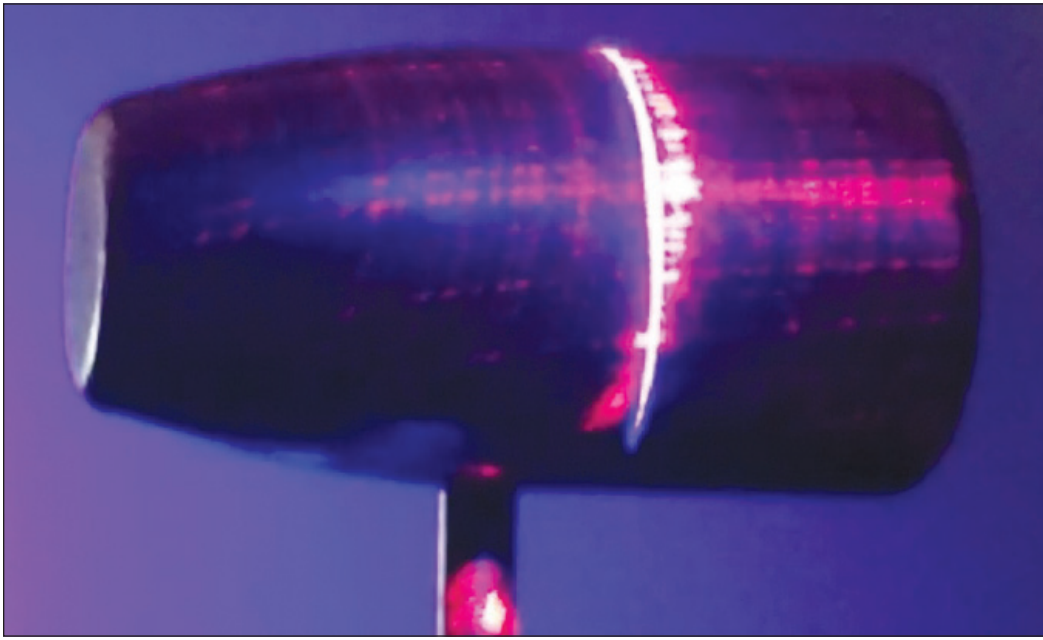


Bullet generating interest far and wide

From Page 14

Ballistics fascinated him back then and he said everything came together a couple years later when he was getting immersed in aerospace engineering. He formed what he knew would be a “ballistic concept breakthrough.” He parked the idea for a couple of decades before rolling up his sleeves and making it a reality.

The process is now at the stage of ironing out the timeline logistics to retool for a seamless shift for the sole licensed contractor of the P-51. Unicorn Aerospace is currently in talks with the Ministry of Defence in the United Kingdom to conduct extreme long range ballistic testing at an artillery range in northern Scotland. After receiving support from various members of the Canadian Forces at levels from special operators to actual commanders of live fire ranges, Unicorn Aerospace was put in direct contact with the key testing and research individual at NDHQ in Ottawa just over two months ago. While he was more than eager to ask for specs on the P-51, he has since gone “radio silent,” which is sadly one of the reasons Unicorn Aerospace is now going to be conducting essential military testing in other countries.



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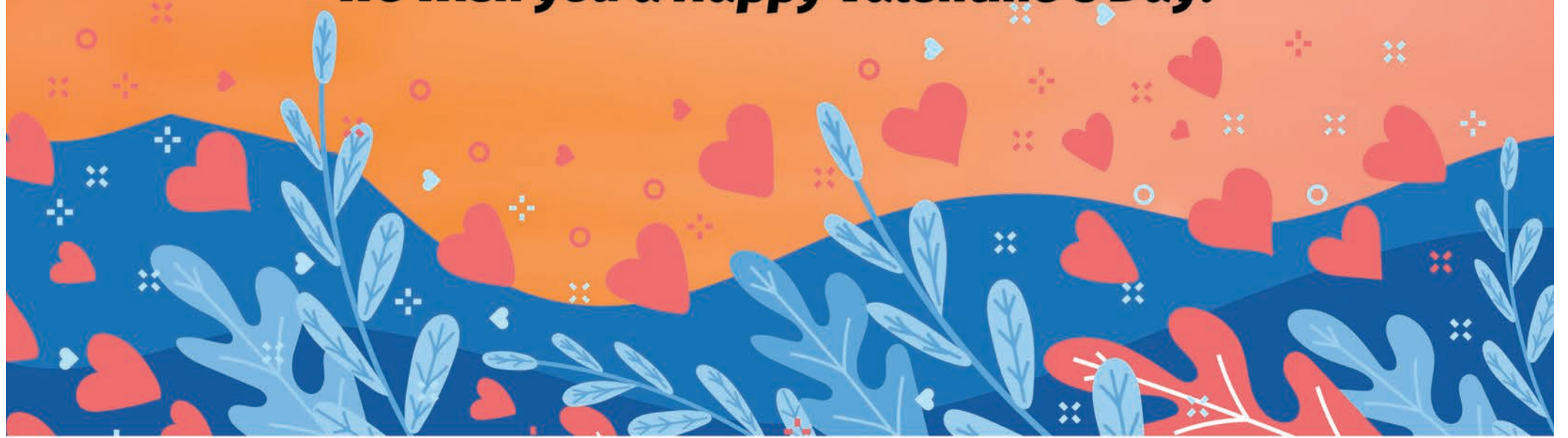
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King Weekly Sentinel SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events
Classifieds • At Your Service



Spray Lake hosting not-for-profit initiative

By Robert Belardi

President of the King Chamber of Commerce and of Trisan Construction Angelo Santorelli, along with King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini, officially unveiled a not-for-profit initiative in collaboration with Spray Lake Waterpark this past weekend.

Santorelli, who owns the property, built the initiative along with co-founders of Spray Lake Waterpark Scott and Jono Boysen to support local businesses in the township.

"Because all the ice rinks were closed, we had an idea to get the people out," Santorelli said.

"Then we had the idea to do this all and raise money for local businesses and charities to make this all come together."

This isn't the first time Santorelli has hosted an initiative to support local needs. Six years ago, all proceeds from a hockey tournament at the lake were donated to refurbishing an old fire truck in Schomberg.

Now, the S.L.I.P (Spray Lake Ice Pads) not-for-profit effort will hope to continue this annually.

"Because of COVID, we needed to do something. We wanted to do something for the local businesses and organizations and we wanted to do something for the food bank and other charities," Santorelli said.

On the property for this season due to COVID-19 only two rinks will be in use.

Spray Lake built one rink on the surface with boards and hockey nets for users to pass the puck around and take some shots. The other rink is on the lake itself. The ice is inspected daily and on average it is 10-inches thick.

Patrons can also freely skate on the



Co-founder Jono Boysen (far-left), Mayor Steve Pelligrini, Councillor of Ward 6 Avia Eek and President of the King Chamber Angelo Santorelli opened the ice pads at Spray Lake in King.

trail that has been designed which you can select on their website upon registration.

"We're seeing the demand with everything that is going on with COVID. People want to come outside and exercise," Jono Boysen said.

"It's been pretty busy on the weekends when kids are not in online learning. It was a good rest of the weekend and it was sold out the whole time. Having limited capacity, it was great.

We need to keep doing it and keep this opportunity available for everybody right."

Boysen said bookings are mandatory before entering the property.

Bookings can be made at spraylake.ca. It will cost \$20 per person for a one-hour session. Only five people at a time within the hour can be on the ice.

Boysen says this initiative has employed more than eight people who have lost their jobs from restaurants and other institutions due to the pandemic.

This has been an excellent way to employ those who previously lost their jobs due to COVID.

Traditionally, Spray Lake closes at the end of the summer until the next

year. However, Boysen says this is something he would like to continue annually moving forward.

He hopes next year, he can host a full-out hockey tournament in the community with a trophy and everything.

Santorelli and the Boysens would like to thank Beretta Farms, A&G Road Cleaners, Fireball, Humberview Parts and everyone else for their contribution to this cause.

Moving forward until April, Boysen says local businesses will be permitted to set up outdoor vendors on the premises.

Red Thread Brewing Co. is the only confirmed vendor thus far.

Spray Lake is located at 18205 Keele Street, King.

York United defender enjoying his first week in Sweden

By Robert Belardi

York United defender on loan with Swedish second division football club Vasalunds IF earned his first start in Saturday's 2-0 win over top-tier side Djurgarden.

"The team played great. We were able to beat a top Allsvenskan side which people probably weren't expecting," Zator told the Weekly Sentinel.

"I thought I had a solid performance for my debut so I'm pleased with that. It was just nice to be out playing games again."

The former Cavalry FC defender signed with York United last week. Just shy of 24 hours later, the club announced Zator had agreed to a six-month loan with the Stockholm based club.

In his first week in the Scandinavian nation, Zator says adjusting to life around him has been easy. He is currently living in a hotel just above the local mall and a five-minute walk from the stadium.

He will continue to learn everything he can about Swedish football. He says he is continuing to learn more about his teammates.

"The different styles of play. And also having to adjust to different styles of play and building that chemistry and that trust. Just the way the coach wants the ball to be played around. Different tactics," Zator explained.

"And also knowing how to adapt to different situations with the personnel you have in front of you. Kind-of try and pick up on those little triggers from other players to see that those are their benefits. If everybody can help each other and use everybody's strengths that's the best way to go forward."

The 26-year-old Calgary native has been one of the best defenders in the Canadian Premier League for the past two seasons.

As much as he is a brick wall he is also the greatest offensive centre back in the league.

According to Digital Content Editor

Marty Thompson from the Canadian Premier League, Zator is quit the magician on set pieces.

In combination of expected goals and assists from the dead ball – or as he put it, "expected chances" – Zator's 6.17 is double than the nearest defender close to him at 3.84.

Zator also leads the league with 3,325 minutes played in the CPL.

Even before his accolades became officially announced, Zator's play garnered the interest of the senior men's Canadian national team.

Zator says being in the dressing room of the national team was a dream come true. He thanks his parents – immigrants from Poland – and his brother, for the immense amount of support they have provided in his journey.

He modelled his game after Real Madrid stalwart and World Cup winner with Spain, Sergio Ramos.

In his youth, Zator was one of the smallest players on the pitch. He rotated between striker, winger and midfielder by all of his coaches. Until he hit his growth spurt and transitioned to the back line.

"I think always in my mind I always want to help the team going forward, If I'm still able to help from a defensive standpoint. Play defence and then right away help an attack be created. You win games based on scoring goals. That's where you get the most joy as well. For me, it's what can I do to help offensively?"

His six-month loan ends in June and Zator is expected to begin his two-year deal with York United then.

He hopes to take everything he has learned from his European excursion and bring the added experience to York. He also hopes to earn his way through the ranks and permanently represent Team Canada ahead of the 2026 World Cup.

York United fans can purchase a seat this season for just \$1. No charges will be made until a schedule is created and until it is for certain, fans can return to the stadium.



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Firefighter urges young women to find mentors

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

Seeking out female mentors is important in the profession, according to King firefighter Miranda Hussey.

Like many kids, she first wanted to be a firefighter when she was 3 or 4 years old because she thought "it looked really cool and exciting so I guess I never really grew out of that."

One aspect that makes King Fire and Emergency Services stand out is training.

"The fortnightly training is excellent and stays current with modern firefighting techniques. There are also other opportunities throughout the year to take other courses locally plus support for anyone who wants to take additional exterior courses," she said.

The camaraderie among King volunteers is excellent. Hussey said it's important because "we have to rely on one another in some tough situations."

Women who Serve

Hussey had no obstacles getting through training with KFES.

She previously went through pre-service at Seneca College. There, she found she had to adjust her fitness training to be more specific for the fitness test used for full-time firefighters.

"I have never encountered unequal treatment by fellow firefighters in King."

Having support from family is key to a volunteer firefighter.

Hussey said her husband is very used to her having to leave suddenly and calmly adjusting plans accordingly.

"After we had our first son, within a couple months he was regularly the one at home with the baby while I ran calls or attended training."

Hussey has some encouraging words for other female firefighters.

They can expect to encounter some casual sexist attitudes that still per-

sist in society, which is something that surprised her. While the comments aren't malicious, there are often off-hand comments.

Some top examples she's encountered include "do you just drive the truck," "do you just help around the fire hall?"

"You'll also sometimes feel like a novelty item when someone points you out to a young girl and says something to the effect of 'not just boys can be firefighters.'"

Hussey also recommends that young firefighters find another female firefighter as a mentor of sorts.

"Even if it's just for women's-only issues like questions around pregnancy and firefighting."

The "Women who Serve" series features female firefighters in King Township, and showcases their stories.



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Nobleton Notes

St. Paul's Church
By Linda Blydorp

It's not too late to register for our Alpha Course which will be running weekly every Wednesday 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Zoom until April 21. If you are looking for a virtual gathering that will provide a safe place for you to learn and explore, ask questions, discuss, share opinions, make friends and have fun, all in a Jesus-centred environment, please go to our website, stpaulsnobleton.ca, and check out the trailer and find the instructions for registration.

A Bible Study for Youth has also begun via Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Our current Bible study is aimed towards teen girls. If you are interested in joining, or know of someone that might be, please contact Jenna at jkddvm@gmail.com for more information.

Our women's Life Connect Group meets every Tuesday morning on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. On Thursday at noon the Women's Good News Fellowship meet every week. If you are interested in joining either of these groups, please go to our website, and check out these

LifeConnect Groups under Ministries. These are safe groups where we can just dig a little deeper into the Word, as well as encourage each other. If you would be interested in joining, please just email the church office at secretary@stpaulsnobleton.ca

This Sunday, Feb. 14, our student pastor, Christine, will lead us in worship. Her message is entitled, "A glimpse of the future." Due to the lockdown, our in-person gatherings are cancelled until further notice. Our live-streamed broadcasts are available directly on stpaulsnobleton.ca or on our YouTube channel each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. You can watch previous services or messages anytime, also on our YouTube channel (youtube.com/stpaulschurchnobleton).

St. Mary's Church

The celebration of the Sunday Holy Mass (Saturday Vigil Mass) this weekend was livestreamed from St. Mary's Church, Nobleton. We will advise if it will be next week.

If it is, we would ask that you go to our Facebook page to join us for this virtual celebration of the Sunday liturgy.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: You may also invite your children to join the Children's Liturgy of the Word on Zoom hosted by Rose Pallotto. For more information on how to join, please call Rose at 416-605-6843 or email rosepallotto@gmail.com

Life Teen Parish Youth Group: Calling all Teens Grades 7-12 to join our Life Teen - Life Night next Saturday at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. For Zoom link please contact our Youth Minister Zephania at 905-830-2644 or zephaniagangl315@gmail.com. Perfect for teens registered for the Sacrament of Confirmation!

Holy Rosary Group: Don't forget to join us every Monday at 7 p.m. to pray the Holy Rosary on Zoom - details on how to join in the bulletin.

Kindly share this bulletin with your families, friends, fellow parishioners, and councils, especially those who do not receive the bulletin via email.

If there is anything we can do to support you in these uncertain times, please call the parish office on 905-859-5522 or email us at: stp_stm_church@hotmail.com.

We will be checking emails and phone messages periodically as the Parish Office has been closed to the public as of Monday, Dec. 14, 2020.

For those who are preparing for the Sacraments in 2021, we will continue to keep you updated by email.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family during these uncertain times.

You will continue to be in our prayers, Rosary and Mass Intentions.

Nobleton, Schomberg United Churches

By Rev. Carol-Ann Chapman

Online services continue to be available via the Nobleton United YouTube channel, or on the Facebook page.

On Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. I will be hosting a Zoom Worship reflection meeting, where we will take a look at the previous Sunday's scripture to explore what it might be saying to you. If you'd like to join, please send me a message and I'll send you a link. You can also get a typed copy of the service, or links to some weekly music choices if you wish.

If you'd like to support the ministry of Nobleton United or Schomberg United, find us on CanadaHelps.org.

You can contact me, Carol-Ann at ministernobletonschomberg@gmail.com or leave a message at 905-859-3976. (messages are picked up weekly).

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King's Corners

King City United
By Sheryl Sinka

Last Sunday we were pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Bill Fritz to preside over worship and invite you to view the recorded service and his message "You are Wonderful" on our website kcuc.net.

Please join with us this coming Sunday morning for our online worship at 10 with Rev Andrew Lee presiding. On Feb. 17 there will be an online Ash Wednesday worship online as begin the season of Lent.

If you would like emails with the link to the worship please contact the church at kcuc@bellnet.ca to be put on the list for the Sunday morning worship link. Rev. Bruce Roffey is on a 3-month medical leave and will not be available for that time. Our thoughts and prayers are with Rev Bruce and his family as he recovers from a successful surgery. Any pastoral cares can be directed to Rev. Andrew Lee at this time.

Coming soon is a youth series on our YouTube channel. Youth and young adults were invited to share their questions about church and God and faith with Rev Lee. He will be discussing these questions and thoughts on a Thursday broadcast from the YouTube channel. Our YouTube channel is York United Ministries

The Women's Prayer Circle is still "open for business," and we can still pray together, even if not in person. Although our weekly Tuesday morning meetings at the condo building on Burns Blvd. are still suspended, they will resume as soon as the government rules are relaxed. Meanwhile, if you

need prayer, for yourself or a loved one, please call Deana at 905-833-5375 and your request will be shared by phone with other prayer sisters. Surely we all agree that prayer is needed now, more than ever. Be still and be well.

We wish everyone a happy and safe Valentine Family day weekend!

If you are in need of assistance or have any question please contact the King City office at 905-833-5181.

King Bible Church

Please join us online on Sunday, Feb. 14 at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Mark will be continuing our sermon series Living Between Two Worlds with a talk about "The Witness Godly Marriages."

Living Between Two Worlds: "Elect Exiles," this is the title Peter gave to the recipients of his first letter, Christ followers who found themselves caught living between two worlds, their earthly home and their eternal one. It is also the reality of every Christian that has ever walked this planet, the pressure of knowing that because of Jesus, we no longer fit in with the world around us, yet also knowing that while we are still here, we are called to be both salt and light to the world around us.

This brings us to the theme of the journey we are going to be taking through the letter of 1 Peter, to learn how to effectively live in this place between two worlds, to understand how our identity in Jesus, informs our actions so that we maintain both our calling to be to be holy and our calling to love others?

Would you commit to joining us in this journey?

All of our services are available through Facebook and YouTube. Missed it? You can also find previous

services and sermons on there too. Please visit our website for full details on our sermons as well as other online ministries. www.kingbiblechurch.com

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

St. Andrew's invites you to join us online as we continue to worship together, at standrews-kingcity.ca, Sundays at 10:15 a.m. We enjoyed having our Interim Moderator, the Rev. Paul Johnston with us last week, recording from his church in Markham and we look forward to his being with us at times in the future.

"Coffee Fellowship" is held after Sunday morning worship, so pour yourself a coffee or tea and click on your invite link. Get in touch with Lynn or Kathy at 905-833-0391 if you need the link or have any questions.

Virtual Art for the Soul is on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Contact Lynn for the Zoom link.

We hope you have a look at our new mural on the exterior south wall of the church when out for a walk or driving by the church at 13190 Keele St. It is St. Andrew's tribute to the front-line workers! We can't thank them enough and we are keeping them and their families in our prayers.

The King Township Food Bank is continuing with its safe food distribution each month. Need more information? ktfb.ca

For pastoral care, call or text Lynn Vissers, Director of Congregational Ministries at 416-998-4652 or the Rev. Paul Johnston, our Interim Moderator at 705-341-7738.

Should you need to contact Pastor Niyazi or Irada Bilgen of the Greater Grace Fellowship, call 416- 878-8499.

May God's presence of hope, peace, joy and love be experienced daily. God is with us!

Do keep in touch and we hope to see you soon.

All Saints Anglican Church By Patrick Gossage

Healing message of Christ - On Feb. 8, the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Fr. Michael preached on Mark 1.29-39 and how Jesus's message of the coming of the Kingdom of God can be seen in acts of healing that restore us to community and relationship with God and with one another. You can read the whole sermon at www.madpadre.blogspot.com.

Blessing of Candles - February includes several important dates in the life of the church. February 2 marked the presentation by Mary and Joseph of the infant Jesus in the Temple, where the aged prophet Simeon recognized Jesus as the light of the world. For this reason, Feb. 2 is also known as Candlemas, when the church blesses candles to be used in the year ahead. A small number of blessed candles have been left on the front steps of All Saints, and you are welcome to take one for your home prayers.

Shrove or Pancake Tuesday, is Tuesday, Feb. 16. All Saints' famous pancake dinner will be available for drive by pickup this year from 3-4 p.m. with a free-will offering - call the church at 905-833-5432 to book.

February 17 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. There will be a Zoom service that evening at 7:30 p.m. - call the church at 905-833-5432 for the Zoom invite.

More on Page 21

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Schomberg Should Know

By Wendy-Sue Bishop
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York Pines United Church

York Pines United Church has a new, updated website. Check it out at: www.yorkpines.ca.

It is full of information as well as a link to our weekly pre-recorded service. Send us a message via the website and let us know what you think and how you are doing in these challenging days. Are you using technology more? We would like to hear from you as we continue to develop and grow the York Pines site.

We all pray that in-church worship can soon resume, along with other as-

King's Corners

From Page 20

For those who wish, we will also be making available an "Ash Wednesday kit," containing blessed ashes that you may use to make the sign of the cross on your head at home during the service. You can pick these kits up from a basket that we will place outside the church on Monday, Feb. 15, or when you come to pick up your Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. The imposition of ashes is an ancient symbol of our mortality and of our dependence on our Lord Jesus Christ who saves us from sin and death.

pects of life pre-COVID. As we await more vaccine availability, stay safe and well everyone.

Schomberg, Nobleton United Churches
By Rev. Carol-Ann Chapman

Online services continue to be available via the Nobleton United YouTube channel, or on the Facebook page.

On Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. I will be hosting a Zoom Worship reflection meeting, where we will take a look at the previous Sunday's scripture to explore what it might be saying to you. If you'd like to join, please send me a message and I'll send you a link. You can also get a typed copy of the service, or links to some weekly music choices if you wish.

If you'd like to support the ministry of Nobleton United or Schomberg United, find us on CanadaHelps.org.

You can contact me, Carol-Ann at ministernobletonschomberg@gmail.com or leave a message at 905-859-3976. (messages are picked up weekly)

Schomberg Horticultural Society

Grow kindness.
In times like these we all need a little cheering up.

The Schomberg Horticultural Society wishes everyone a fabulous Valentine's week/month of February. Janice Crone, an executive member of the society, and her "Volunteer Valentines" created a fun display at the Centennial Garden for all the Community to enjoy.

Be safe, be well and most of all be happy!

Go have a look at the entrance of Schomberg, in front of the public school.




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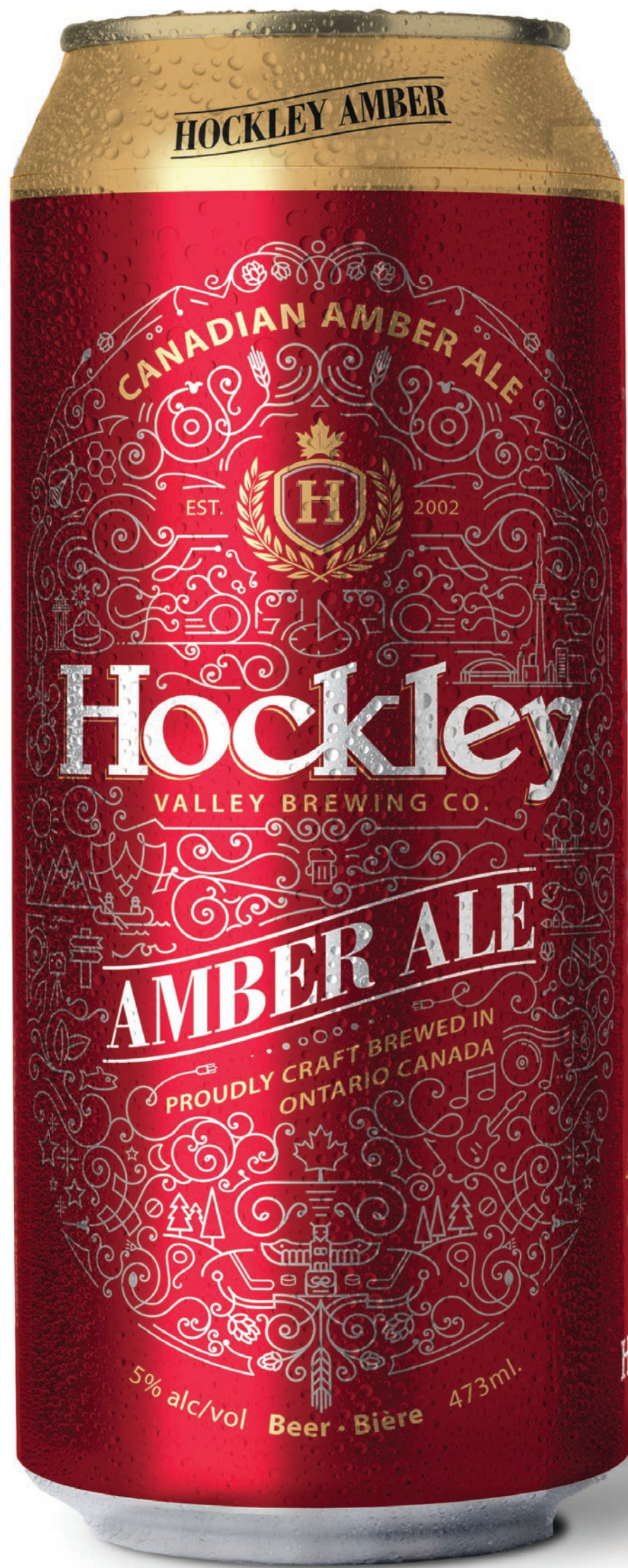
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Senior Account Executive
ZACH SHOUB
zach@auroran.com

Senior Account Executive
DOUG SHERRITT
doug@pcmedia.ca

Senior Account Executive
DIANE BUCHANAN
diane@auroran.com

Art Director
SARAH DIDYCYZ

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Interest rates are down – should you break your mortgage?

(NC) The pandemic is causing many of us to re-evaluate our finances. If you are thinking of renegotiating your mortgage to take advantage of a lower interest rate, be aware that this could mean having to break your mortgage contract.

If you break your mortgage contract you may have to pay a fee, called a prepayment penalty.

Before breaking your mortgage, make sure the benefits outweigh the costs. Far too many homeowners who have broken their mortgage contracts have been shocked by penalties amounting to tens of thousands of dollars, or other fees required to complete the transaction.

KNOW THE COSTS

Every mortgage contract contains different terms and conditions. Federally regulated financial institutions must provide you with key information in a box at the beginning of the mortgage agreement, including information about any penalties and fees that will apply if you break your mortgage contract.

As a consumer, you have the responsibility to read your mortgage agreement and understand the penalties and fees associated with breaking your mortgage contract. Call your financial institution to speak to a knowledgeable person for detailed information on prepayment penalties or check out the prepayment penalty calculator available on their website.

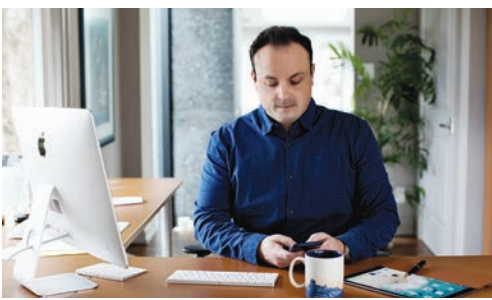
CONSIDER OTHER OPTIONS

Some mortgage lenders may allow you to extend the length of your mortgage before the end of its term to take advantage of a lower interest rate. With this option, you don't have to pay a prepayment penalty. Lenders call this option the blend-and-extend, because your old interest rate and the new term's interest rate are blended. Keep in mind that you may need to pay administrative fees.

Depending on the cost to break your mortgage, it may be best to wait until the end of its term and shop around for a new contract that provides a lower interest rate or more flexibility.

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada provides unbiased and fact-based information on mortgages you can count on. You can learn more about the costs of breaking your mortgage at canada.ca/money.

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By Julien Laurion
The Big Tuna of Real Estate

Hi Julien, I am a long-time reader, and I very much enjoy your articles and social media! Julien, I am a renter, and I am starting to look into buying a home. I've noticed some listings will say things like 'new composite decking' or 'new 25 year shingles'. Are these important to consider? Thank you in advance, Clara.

HI CLARA, congratulations on starting your home search! It can be both overwhelming and exciting.

Upgrades can be tricky and are subjective. They require consideration for both the seller and the potential buyer. It is no secret that certain upgrades, like updated kitchens and bathrooms, typically do add value to a home. However, some upgrades may actually decrease the value of the home and others just justify the asking price.

For example, as a long-time reader, you probably read my article about the shower beer fridge. This is a rather unique item that may not have a lot of appeal to other homeowners, so it would not likely increase the value of the home. In addition, if this shower fridge was not properly installed, or if it is difficult to remove, it could potentially decrease the value of the home. Pools are a great example of an improvement that does not increase the value of a home. Some buyers will be pleased to have a pool in the back yard and won't be put off by it. However,

some buyers are turned off by a house that has a pool and find a pool a burden and an extra expense they do not want to take on. In fact, I have a close family member who bought a house because of its great location and then had the pool filled in!

In your question, you mentioned composite decking. This is often a positive upgrade for a home.

When I see composite decking in a home, it tells me that the current owner cares for the home and has invested in it. Composite decking is expensive compared to wood alternatives. This is a feature I would point out to my clients as we are assessing the total package offered in the home if we were to extend an offer to buy it. But like everything, there is not a single perspective. One of the downsides to composite decking is that it tends to be warmer on the feet in the summer months. I recently had a client who stated that they did not like this feature.

Clara, it is pretty simple. If you walk into an unkempt home that has not been updated, the price

you pay should reflect this. Typically, a home that needs a lot of improvements is going to sell at a lower price than a fully renovated home. However, if the home is clean and cared for with thoughtful upgrades, then it may make sense for you to pay close to the listing price. As I said, upgrades are tricky and subjective, so it is best to work with a Realtor like myself to help navigate those waters. Happy house hunting!

Julien Laurion AKA Big Tuna is a local Real Estate Sale Representative with Royal LePage Your Community Realty in Aurora. I am a real estate agent who has expertise in both Real Estate and Renovations and has been involved in this community for over 20 years.

If you have a question for my monthly article or if you are considering buying, selling or leasing a home please feel free to call or email me directly at (416) 402-5530 or julien@bigtuna.ca or by alternatively visiting my website www.bigtuna.ca or Facebook page @bigtunarealty

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Why aren't more people selling if there is such high demand from Buyers?

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There are many reasons to sell a home, and it's ideal for Sellers now in a market with high Buyer demand and a low inventory of homes for sale.

What's missing from this equation is that the threat of COVID-19 is still ever-present. With added lockdowns, state of emergency and rising numbers continuing, there is no doubt some potential Sellers are extremely concerned about placing their home on the market and risking exposure to Buyer registrants and their clients and customers. Much can be done virtually with photos, floor plans, matterport and I-Guide technology, video walkthrough tours and virtual open houses, as well as detailed feature attachments and descriptions from the Seller's Registrant. Many Buyers prefer to experience homes in person in addition to all of the marketing and allow their senses to guide them through experiencing the home themselves.

As a Seller's Registrant it's crucial to listen to clients and their needs and concerns, to complete comparative market analysis frequently in a high demand market to understand the pulse of the home buyer's demand. Conversations including solutions to deal with how to manage showings at the home with the least exposure are crucial. Each Registrant showing homes should be completing COVID-19 form declarations of health. If any parties appear or feel unwell before a scheduled appointment: the appointment should be cancelled with the Listing Brokerage immediately with no exceptions. All parties should be wearing masks and sanitizing hands refraining from touching as much as possible. Sellers may consider leaving their homes for the day or a few days of showings but that idea has

become more complicated with so many closures including schools, shopping malls, sports facilities and more coupled with the extreme cold of winter. Real estate remains an essential service, along with real estate lawyers and the land registry office. Speak to a REALTOR® today to discuss what would work best for the needs of those in the home and develop a custom approach to get the home Sold.

– Written by Connie Power

Connie Power is Manager, Real Estate Sales Representative CNE® SRS® ABR® SRES® for RE/MAX Hallmark York Group Realty Ltd., Brokerage serving the York region area and beyond. Empowering you in real estate!

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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

DIY backyard shed ideas for some “me space”



(NC) Running out of room in your house? As home becomes more and more a comfy place of refuge, many of us are looking for ways to make the most of our property. A backyard shed can be the perfect solution to carve out some space just for you.

Gaining popularity among homeowners, livable backyard sheds or casitas can be used as cozy getaways that create some “me space.” They’re perfect for parents who want some breathing room away from the kids, those looking for a separate home office or anyone needing a space to call all their own for a hobby, reading or unwinding after a long day. One of the top advantages of transforming a shed into a livable part of your home is that’s super easy and affordable. Most small sheds don’t need permits and can be easily renovated yourself but stay informed about city permit requirements. A backyard casita is also fun to decorate and easy to personalize in your style – whether it’s rustic log cabin, farmhouse chic or bold and modern. You can also adapt the interior of your shed quickly to suit your changing needs, seamlessly switching from home office to virtual school hub to craft space.

Make sure your shed is comfortable and cozy so it’s a place you enjoy spending time in. Before you deck out your shed in your chosen décor, install a quality subfloor to keep out cold and moisture. Premium subflooring from Dricore is a great option, as it will keep your floors soft, warm and comfortable. Quick and easy to install, you can lay out the panels for your shed in less than an hour. Whatever design and materials you choose, be sure to use textures and items that encourage peace, joy and relaxation. Whether you hang photos of a quiet forest path or undulating waves on a serene beach, this is a space just for you, so outfit it with your favourite things. Think souvenirs from your last vacation, materials and supplies for your latest hobby, and blankets and pillows in soothing fabrics.

www.newscanada.com

Rooftop snow may be hazardous to your home

(NC) Snow-covered roofs may look nice in the movies, but in real life they can be somewhat problematic. This is because of a natural occurrence known as “ice damming.”

Ice damming can happen at any time during the winter season, and although it occurs on the exterior part of your home, it can end up causing damage to interior elements like the walls, ceilings and insulation. It can also lead to mould.

What is ice damming?

An ice dam is created by fluctuations in temperature, such as when snow melts during sunny days and then freezes up again at night, or normal winter temperatures are interrupted by a stretch of warmer days. This results in a barrier of ice around the edges of your roof or eavestroughs. As this barrier of ice gets larger, it prevents further melting snow from draining off the roof.

With no way of leaving your roof, water pools there and backs up under the shingles and into your home, where it can cause damage to the wood structure, insulation, ceilings, wall finishes, furnishings and personal belongings.

Outside, ice dams pose a safety risk to people, as large pieces can fall and cause serious injury. They can also cause damage to eaves and lead to the buildup of a white, powdery residue called “efflorescence” on concrete and brickwork.

What you can do?

The best thing to do is to prevent ice dams before they happen. Soon after a snowfall, use a roof rake to remove snow from the first metre of your roof. If you already have ice buildup and want it removed, consider hiring an experienced professional to do it for you.

What to avoid doing?

One thing you should steer clear of is climbing onto the roof to clear snow or ice – you can damage your home and seriously hurt yourself. Throwing salt or de-icing chemicals on roof ice is also a bad idea, as they may cause shingles to deteriorate.

Does your new home warranty cover it?

In most cases, damage associated with ice damming is not covered by Ontario’s new home warranty because it is a natural occurrence that can be prevented through proper maintenance. However, you may be entitled to coverage for up to two years if the water penetration into your home is the result of a defect in workmanship or materials.

Find more information in the construction performance guidelines at tarion.com.

www.newscanada.com



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4 ways to build a stronger neighbourhood in 2021



(NC) In recent years, the importance of a strong and connected community has taken a backseat to other priorities in our on-the-go lifestyles. But since the pandemic has forced us to stay local, our neighbourhood has taken on a whole new meaning, and the people and places surrounding our homes have become a vital part of our overall happiness.

Create new connections and engage with the world right at your fingertips with these tips:

1 Start by saying "Hi".

So often we focus on going about our day-to-day lives that we forget to make time to get to know those living right on our street. Introductions don't need to

be intimidating. Say a quick hello to those you see on a regular basis, like someone on your block who is walking their dog or doing their gardening.

2 Share recommendations.

Know a great local business or have a positive experience with a particular plumber? Share

your recommendations on Nextdoor, an app that helps you tap into your neighbourhood and connect with the people and places nearby. Not only will you help someone find what they're looking for, it's also an effective way to support local companies.

3 Find common interests.

From evening walks and puzzles, to baking challenges and knitting, if you have a particular passion, chances are some of your neighbours may too. Consider starting a group to connect with like-minded people in your community. These groups can be key in fighting the loneliness so often associated with the pandemic, while helping to strengthen the relationships within your area.

4 Welcome our differences.

Sometimes we have different views, and that's one of the things that make neighbourhoods great. Having an open mindset and positive attitude when it comes to unique differences can help you build stronger relationships. When it comes to neighbours, we're connected based on proximity, and that is important. Remember, when emergencies strike, your neighbours are often the people closest to you and most able to help.

Find more ways to connect with the people and businesses within your community by downloading the Nextdoor app.

www.newscanada.com

Real Estate Market Update – Aurora

Buyers Heat Builds Momentum

The push from Home Buyers continues while many Sellers may not feel ready to have their home placed on the market until they feel safer with the steady threat of COVID-19. As vaccinations get rolled out at a higher pace, coupled with lower daily numbers reported of new positive cases, this may help Sellers decide when to bring their homes to the market.

In January 2020, there were 32 sales of freehold homes of all descriptions in Aurora at an average price of \$1,055,274 compared to 52 freehold home sales at an average price of \$1,579,956 to start 2021. The average home pricing of this category improved by 50 percent based on the present demand coupled with low-interest rates and the number of buyers still looking for homes.

There were 29 condominium sales in the month of January at an average price of \$639,231 compared to 14 sales during this time last year, yielding on average 4.4 percent less.

Overall, there 76 percent more sales of all home types in January, and the push continues into February.

Many homes that have sold are additionally receiving multiple offers and pre-emptive offers before offer dates.

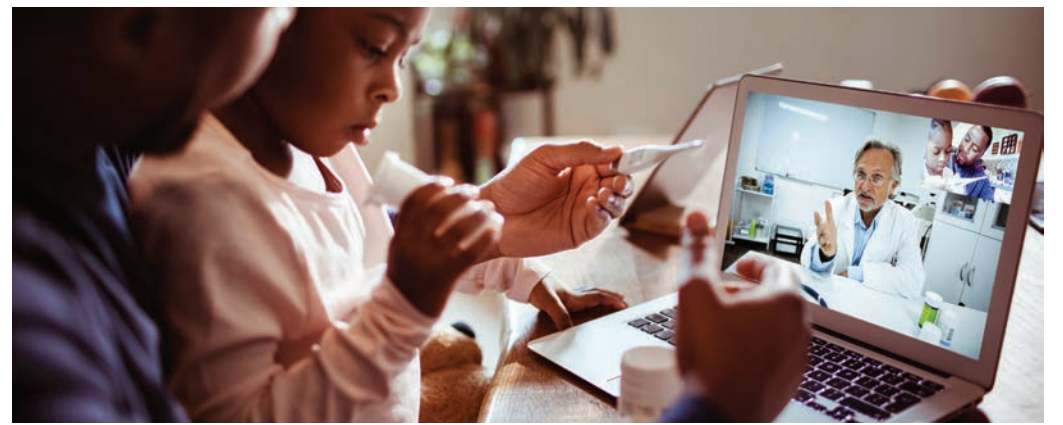
At the current demand, if homeowners are considering selling, the time is certainly strong to do so. Speak to a REALTOR® to build a custom plan and what COVID-19 protocols and precautions can be taken to minimize concerns.

– Written by Connie Power

Connie Power Manager / Sales Representative CNE® SRS® ABR® SRES® for RE/MAX Hallmark York Group Realty Ltd., Brokerage serving York region in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Empowering you in Real Estate, Call Connie today to make an appointment to discuss your next move at (905) 726-0856.

*The statistics provided herein were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board; Regional Housing Market Tables; York Region, Aurora for January of 2020, 2021.

***Not intended to solicit those currently under a real estate contract.



Faster internet means better quality of life

(NC) From better internet access, to vital social services, to keeping cross-country families in contact, fast and reliable connectivity is a necessity — now more than ever. As we all isolate to stop the spread of COVID-19 across Canada, face-to-face contact with family, school and work has gone online and come into our homes.

For many, even healthcare has moved online. Virtual healthcare offers a more convenient and safer alternative to hospital or clinic visits for many types of appointments, examinations and procedure follow-ups.

Now that visiting a healthcare center carries additional risks, virtual care is becoming a key quality of life improvement for many, especially in rural or remote communities. It connects people in those communities to health services quicker and more safely than ever before, but only if those communities have the high-speed internet the service needs.

Many rural communities are underserved when it comes to reliable high-speed internet access. Less than

half — about 40 per cent — have high-speed access that can enable remote learning, teleworking, and virtual healthcare; and that number drops to less than 30 percent in reservation communities.

But change, and connection, are on the way, thanks to the Universal Broadband Fund. As part of the government's Rural Economic Development strategy, the fund provides financing for internet infrastructure projects across the country. These projects are on track to connect 90 per cent of Canadian households by the end of 2021, with remote communities added by 2026.

As internet access continues to define the future of work, education, connection, and healthcare, the fund and the projects it powers will only become more important. You can check to see what projects are underway or coming to your area.

Find more information at canada.ca/getconnected.

www.newscanada.com

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**RESALE
HOMES
COLLECTIONS**

Tips for transitioning your home to warmer weather

(NC) It's been a challenging winter for everyone, and we're all looking forward to warmer, brighter days. But while our homes have provided a safe sanctuary over the last several months, they've no doubt taken a hit from the elements as they do every winter.

Months of wind, snow and ice take a toll which, if not addressed by regular maintenance, can have lasting negative effects on both the exterior and interior.

If you own a newly built home, seasonal maintenance is especially important because it helps protect your warranty. Newly constructed homes in Ontario come with a builder's warranty that lasts up to seven years from the date of possession. However, if you neglect to do the regular maintenance your home needs, any resulting damage may not be covered and could put your warranty rights in jeopardy.

To help you kickstart your spring maintenance, the following is a handy month-by-month checklist:

MARCH

- Clean the furnace filter (or replace if necessary), heat recovery ventilator and humidifier.
- Test your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors and replace the batteries if necessary.
- Check and reset the ground fault circuit interrupter once a month.
- Check the attic for roof leaks, water damage or insulation issues.
- Check the sump pump (if applicable).
- Remove snow and ice from the roof overhang and vents to prevent ice damming and water damage.

APRIL

- Check eavestroughs and downspouts for damage or blockage.
- Inspect the basement or crawlspaces for leaks.
- Check the roof for loose or cracked shingles.
- Check driveways and walks for frost damage.
- Check your water heater for leaks.
- Turn on the exterior water supply.
- Plan landscaping in a way that will avoid soil settlement and water collecting near your home's foundation.

MAY

- Inspect fences for weather-related or other damage.
- Check caulking for air and water leaks.
- Lubricate weather-stripping.
- Check exterior finishes for wear that requires attention.
- Check that windows and screens are operating properly.
- Check the septic system (if applicable).

Find more seasonal maintenance tips and warranty information online at tarion.com.

www.newscanada.com



Convert your garage into usable living space

(NC) With most of us spending more time at home, our lifestyle is forcing us to adapt and renovate. One of the most popular trends are garage conversions, which involve extending your living space by transforming your garage into much more than storage space for your car, bikes and kids' toys.

Spring is the perfect time to tackle this DIY project, as it will let you enjoy the warmer weather in your new space, which can then be transitioned into a winter refuge with proper heating and an insulated door. Here are some ideas for what you can do to your garage with just a little creativity:

ARTIST STUDIO

Some of us have responded to increased isolation by creating art to express ourselves. Whether you've taken up painting, crocheting or ceramics, you can create a private area that drives your creativity. You can even make a dark room if you've gotten into analog photography. Simply set up your supplies and decorate with your own creations or other artwork that inspires you.

GAMES ROOM

When we first transitioned to virtual school and work, we were so focused on creating spaces to accommodate these activities at home. But now it's time to find a place for fun. A games room can encourage you and the family to spend time together away from screens and enjoy each other's company. Stack your favourite board games on a recycled shelf, add a card, foosball or ping pong table and let the games begin.

SPORTS LOUNGE

Many of us had a hard time coping when our favourite sports went on pause last year. Celebrate the return of more normal seasons by designing a room to enjoy them. Install your big screen TV, some comfortable couches and a fridge or cubby for snacks and recreate the pub at home. You can even add a wet or dry minibar to enjoy fresh beer or prepare some cocktails.

RENTAL SUITE

A little extra income never hurts, and many are transforming their garages into rental apartments. You'd need heating and insulation for year-round use, but it's certainly doable. Check local tenant bylaws to see what the requirements are for your area.

START WITH A SOLID FOUNDATION

Whatever you want your garage conversion to be, it's important to lay the groundwork for a comfortable and cozy spot before you get to decorating. This starts with installing subflooring, an essential step that ensures floors are soft, dry and warm. Dricore premium subfloors are a popular choice for best results – they're designed with Air Gap Technology to help protect against moisture.

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**RESALE
HOMES**
COLLECTIONS

Dips from around the world

(NC) Finger foods are universally loved by kids and adults alike for their no-fuss, no-muss nature, but they could not exist without their trusty companion: the dip. Canadians may first think of ranch sauce or garlic aioli when asked about our favourite dips, but this staple can be as varied and creative as your imagination allows.

Typically made using local ingredients, dips can contain just about anything including vegetables, grains, dairy, oils and spices, elevating the taste of the foods they're combined with.

Middle Eastern cuisine sees dips being made with eggplant, chickpeas, yogurt and so much more. Their Indian counterparts are often loaded with veggies and spices, while East Asian cuisine offers a wide array of dips accompanying everything from rolls to edamame to dumplings and everything in between.

Get the full scoop on some of the world's most delicious cuisines by exploring their local flavours through dips.

Discover more dips and other recipes at tasteadventure.ca.

www.newscanada.com

TAHINI DIP

Prep time: 5 minutes
Serves: 4

Ingredients:

1/2 jar (80 g) Al'Fez Natural Tahini
4 tbsp (60 mL) cold water
1 tsp (5 mL) lemon juice
1 garlic clove, crushed
1/2 tsp (3 g) salt
Pepper, to taste
Parsley, to taste

Directions:

1. Combine tahini, water, lemon juice, garlic, salt, pepper and parsley in a small bowl and whisk together.

MANGO-COCO DIP

Serves: 2

Ingredients:

1/2 cup (125 mL) Patak's Sweet Mango Chutney
3 tbsp (45 mL) coconut cream

Directions:

1. Purée chutney in a blender or finely chop it on a cutting board.
2. Pour into a saucepan and stir in coconut cream. Cook on medium heat until most of the water evaporates.
3. Serve with naan bread.

LIME, PICKLE AND YOGURT DIP

Prep time: 5 minutes Serves: 2

Ingredients:

3 tbsp (45 mL) Patak's Lime Pickle
1/3 cup (100 g) yogurt
3 tbsp (45 mL) cream

Directions:

1. Mix all ingredients in a bowl and blend to a smooth dip. Serve with naan bread.

BAKED CAMEMBERT WITH SWEET CHILLI

Prep time: 1 minute
Cook time: 20 minutes
Serves: 4

Ingredients:

3 tbsp (45 mL) Patak's Lime Pickle
1/3 cup (100 g) yogurt
3 tbsp (45 mL) cream

Directions:

1. Mix all ingredients in a bowl and blend to a smooth dip. Serve with naan bread.

6 steps to make mealtime less exhausting

(NC) Making a healthy dinner every night can be tiring and tedious, and living with arthritis and other illnesses can make it much worse.

Here are six tips from the Arthritis Society to make mealtime easier.

1 PREPARATION Before you begin cooking, organize your workspace and make sure you have all the items and ingredients you will need close by.

2 ONE POT OR PAN Making your meal in one pot or pan will reduce the number of dishes you have to wash. Those that can be placed in the dishwasher (if you have one) are an added bonus.

3 PRE-CUT FRUIT AND VEGETABLES Today, there are plenty of options when it comes to fresh and frozen pre-cut fruits and vegetables. Removing the steps of washing, peeling and chopping can help you save time and energy.

4 HELPFUL KITCHEN GADGETS There are many kitchen gadgets on the market that are specifically designed for people living with arthritis.

5 BATCH COOKING Make many servings at a time, then store them in individual containers to help you save energy and eat healthy. By preparing meals only once, you'll prevent any unnecessary overexertion.

6 TRY A NEW RECIPE Make meal preparation something to look forward to by using it as an opportunity to try a new recipe or experience a new food.

Learn how to live well with arthritis and find healthy recipes at arthritis.ca.

www.newscanada.com

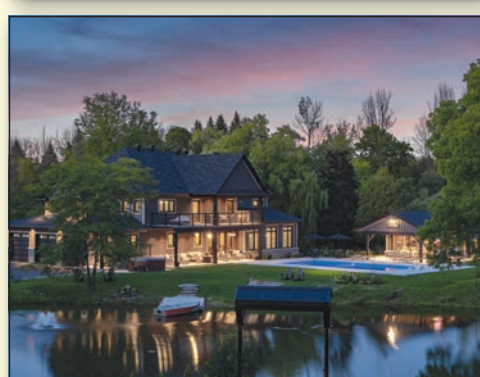


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1443 BASSINGTHWAITE, INNISFIL



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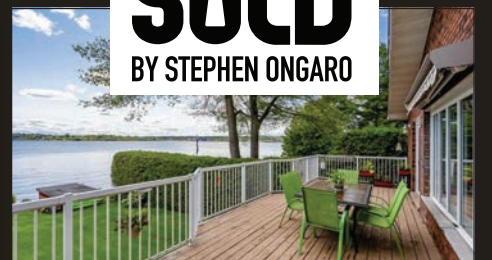


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