

# City of Brampton WARDS 1 & 5 NEWSLETTER



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We had a great start to the year and happily welcome spring!

In February, we celebrated Black History Month. While we celebrated the many accomplishments of our community, I wanted to give a special shoutout to the Brampton Racers. I was so proud to highlight these athletes at City Hall and cheer them on for their international competition in Jamaica.



In March, we celebrated International Women's Day by highlighting the incredible achievements of women in sports, arts, science, technology and business, and our collective journey for equality. It was an honour to participate in the Rose Orchestra's "She Will Be Heard" concert to conduct "Hockey Night in Canada", composed by Dolores Claman.

With spring comes significant events like Ramadan, Easter and Sikh Heritage Month. We embrace the incredible diversity of our city through many of our celebrations.

With Earth Day approaching in April, let's take collective action. Challenge yourself to pick up 10 pieces of garbage during your daily walks, organize a local park cleanup or join one of our park cleanup events. Together, we can create a significant impact and pave the way for a sustainable future. Keep informed of our upcoming events by visiting [councillorsantos.ca](https://councillorsantos.ca).

Best,

Regional Councillor Rowena Santos, Wards 1 & 5

As we welcome the warmth of spring, I am thrilled to share some exciting community updates that will be shaping the future of our city's transportation landscape!

The Province of Ontario announced the extension of the Hazel McCallion Light Rail Transit (LRT) line to downtown Brampton. The expansion marks a significant milestone in our City's journey towards sustainable and efficient transportation. This announcement is particularly special to me as I advocated on this matter prior to being elected for my first term in 2018. As Chair of Public Works and Engineering, and through collaborative efforts and relentless advocacy by Mayor Brown, Council and City staff, we have successfully extended the line to Brampton! Turn to **Page 3** for more information.



In addition to the LRT expansion, Ontario's One Fare Program launched in February and will revolutionize how transit riders navigate the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).

This initiative will enable commuters to pay only once when connecting to and from various transit systems, including Brampton Transit, GO Transit, MiWay, TTC, Durham Region Transit and York Region Transit.

Feel free to contact me via phone or email anytime. I would love to hear from you about the new transit updates coming to our city! Together, let's embrace these transformative initiatives and pave the way for a more connected, accessible and sustainable future for Brampton!

Regional Councillor Paul Vicente, Wards 1 & 5





## New! Free Recreation Membership for Seniors

Beginning June 2024, Brampton residents ages 70+ can access free recreation programs and services. Visit any recreation centre to complete the verification process and sign up for a free annual membership. Membership holders can enjoy free fitness memberships, registered and drop-in programs and more! Residents must provide a proof of Brampton residency, identity and age and Canadian citizenship or permanent residency at the time of signup. Eligibility will be reconfirmed every year. For full details, including terms and conditions, visit [brampton.ca/memberships](https://brampton.ca/memberships).

To learn about other supports and resources available for adults 55+, visit [brampton.ca/seniors](https://brampton.ca/seniors).



## Looking for a New Family Member? Adopt or Foster a Pet!

If you are looking for a new family member or companion, please consider adopting from the shelter or fostering a pet. Brampton Animal Services has a variety of animals that arrived through no fault of their own. They have been medically examined, vaccinated, microchipped, and spayed or neutered, and are now looking for loving homes. You may visit animals at the shelter during adoption viewing hours, ask staff about pet ownership responsibilities and the needs of a new pet. For more information and to view adoptable pets, visit [brampton.ca/animalservices](https://brampton.ca/animalservices).

## Chris Gibson Recreation Centre Construction Underway

New features at the facility will include a multi-sport gymnasium with a FIBA court and retractable bleachers, dance and fitness rooms, a new fully accessible NHL-sized ice rink and a child care facility. The existing building will be modernized with renovations to multi-purpose rooms, the auditorium and the customer service desk, along with a new main entrance. On the exterior, additional parking will be constructed and site improvements will include landscaping and pedestrian walkways. Learn more at [brampton.ca/cgconstruction](https://brampton.ca/cgconstruction).



## Parks Cleanup Program

Each year families, friends, community organizations, businesses and school groups participate in the Parks Cleanup Program helping keep Brampton clean and green. The program helps remove litter that has accumulated, promotes community engagement and creates healthy vibrant spaces. Register for a community or self-led cleanup at one of our many parks. All cleaning supplies are provided to participants. In 2023, more than 25,000 volunteers participated in a cleanup. Join the fun and do your part! For more information and to register, visit [brampton.ca/cleanup](https://brampton.ca/cleanup).



## Downtown Brampton LRT Extension

The Hazel McCallion LRT will bring 18 kilometres of fast, reliable, rapid transit along the Hurontario corridor between the Brampton Gateway Terminal at Steeles Avenue in Brampton and the Port Credit GO Station in Mississauga. Brampton City Council has unanimously endorsed the tunnel alignment for the LRT extension into downtown Brampton and earlier this year, approved advancing the tunnel alignment through the Transit Project Assessment Process. The City continues to advocate to both the provincial and federal government to fund 100 per cent of the LRT Extension into downtown Brampton and the Queen Street – Highway 7 BRT projects. For the latest project details, visit [brampton.ca/hlrt](https://brampton.ca/hlrt).

## RRL Pilot Program Update

In late February, more than 7,000 households joined Mayor Patrick Brown and Council members for a Tele Town Hall focused on the City of Brampton's Residential Rental Licensing Pilot Program. Residents participated in a lively discussion to better understand the program and share their feedback on the two-year pilot, which would require property owners with up to four residential rental units in select City Wards to register for a business licence. The majority of respondents (83 per cent) polled agree the City should crack down on illegal Additional Residential Units and take measures to ensure neighbourhoods are safe. Council will approve new criteria for the pilot program this spring. To look for an update, visit [brampton.ca/rrl](https://brampton.ca/rrl).





## Feeding Wildlife is Prohibited

Under the Animal Services By-Law, feeding wildlife is prohibited in Brampton. Store your garbage, green bin and recycling boxes inside a garage, shed or away from fences/rails that can be easily climbed by animals. Place your garbage out for collection only on the scheduled day of pick up, no later than 7 am.



## Fire Safety Tips

Brampton Fire and Emergency Services wants to help ensure Brampton residents protect their home, loved ones and spring memories from the impacts of fire. Make sure to:

- Install working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Create a home escape plan with your family.
- Stay in the kitchen while cooking.
- Only use barbecue grills outdoors, positioned away from combustible objects.

Find more safety tips [bramptonfire.com](http://bramptonfire.com).



## Spring Street Sweeping

During spring sweeping, crews clear salt, sand and debris accumulated over the winter on all streets, boulevards, parking lots and sidewalks to keep Brampton clean and green. This prevents dirt from clogging storm sewers and helps keep streets safer to drive on. Learn more at [brampton.ca/roads](http://brampton.ca/roads).



## Contact Service Brampton

Service Brampton provides direct access to all non-emergency municipal government information, programs and services provided by the City of Brampton and Region of Peel. Customer service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in over 150 languages. Connect with us through the 311 mobile app, website, email or in person. Between the hours of 12 am and 7 am, please call 3-1-1 for urgent inquiries only. Learn more at [311brampton.ca](http://311brampton.ca).



## Parking Dos and Don'ts

- Do not park your vehicle on the street between 2 am and 6 am or for more than three hours.
- Do request a parking consideration to park on the street for up to 14 days each year, per vehicle licence plate.
- Do keep sidewalks clear.
- Do not park in a designated bike lane.

Learn more at [brampton.ca/bylaws](http://brampton.ca/bylaws).



## Happy 50th Birthday, Brampton!

The City of Brampton marked its 50th birthday on January 1, 2024 (since being incorporated as a city in 1974). Celebrate this milestone by sharing your most memorable Brampton moments with us. Whether it's a cherished memory, a hidden gem or a transformative moment, share your tales at [brampton.ca/Chapter50](http://brampton.ca/Chapter50) or on social media using #BramptonChapter50.



## Community Corner

### In a Sea of Cadets!

It was an honour to host the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Illustrious for a visit and special tour of City Hall. The Cadet program invests in youth, cultivating community leaders with values like duty, loyalty and excellence. It aims to develop good citizenship, leadership skills, promote physical fitness and spark interest in sea, land and air activities of the Canadian Armed Forces. Learn more at [rcscillustrious.com](http://rcscillustrious.com).



## Featured Club

### Flower City Friends Club

Thank you to the Flower City Friends Club for inviting me to their Lohri event in January. It was a pleasure meeting everyone in attendance. I would like to acknowledge the ladies from the club who knitted 100 hats that were donated to cancer survivors at William Osler and Credit Valley Hospitals. The Flower City Friends Club wants to unite seniors in Brampton and neighbouring areas, fostering a welcoming and supportive community. To learn more about the club, visit [flowercityclub.ca](http://flowercityclub.ca).



## Flower City Friends Club

The Flower City Friends Club of the City of Brampton is an affiliated club dedicated to serving seniors through many community engagement events, day trips and workshops. Their events range from health workshops to networking events aimed at bridging connections with local businesses to support seniors seeking employment opportunities. To discover more about their initiatives, visit [flowercityclub.ca](http://flowercityclub.ca).



## Southlake Seniors Club Canada Foundation

The Southlake Seniors Club is an affiliated club that plays a vital role in fostering community engagement. They regularly organize activities at Century Gardens, nurturing a vibrant sense of community. Collaborating with partners such as the William Osler Health System, they inspire us with their dedication to promoting healthy and active lifestyles for all residents.



## Blessings for the New Year

Joined Deputy Mayor Singh, Councillor Brar and Councillor Toor at a Sri Sukhmani Sahib Paath prayer event they organized for the community. The event marked the new year with blessings and prayers.



## St. Roch's Silent Night Basketball Tournament

I attended St. Roch Catholic Secondary School's Silent Night basketball tournament as they showcased the senior boys basketball team. Congratulations to Julia, Jag and the students from the Athletic Leadership class for putting on an amazing event!



## Celebrating Black Excellence at Jean Augustine Secondary School!

I was pleased to join Hon. Jean Augustine and Kathy McDonald at Jean Augustine Secondary School for the school's Black Excellence Celebration hosted by the staff and students. It was a true honour to see so many young adults and future leaders recognized for their achievements.



## Mukti Foundation

Mukti Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to offering dignified funeral services to those experiencing financial difficulties by covering funeral costs. This organization collects matching donations from each member to help support with funeral costs. Their mission is to ensure every individual is honoured with respect, empathy and kindness, providing support to loved ones during the grieving process. Learn more at [muktifoundation.ca](http://muktifoundation.ca).



## Earth Day

April 22



## Brampton's 50th Birthday Celebration

June 29

## Celebrate Eid

April 27



## Canada Day Celebration

July 1

## Brampton Celebrates Pride

June 2



## National Indigenous Peoples Day

June 21

This is a selection of events, to see the full list visit [brampton.ca/events](https://brampton.ca/events)

CHECK OUT

# CITY MATTERS



Sign up to City Matters to stay up to date with the latest news and events happening in YOUR city.



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