

CREDIT RESERVE ASSOCIATION

Preserving Your Neighbourhood



www.credit-reserve.com

April 2009 NEWSLETTER

Chairman's Corner

Welcome, finally to Spring, and our traditional Spring Newsletter. Please take a moment to review it, as it highlights items of significance for our neighbourhood and for you.

Currently, there is significant residential construction activity in our neighbourhood. Most of these projects meet development guidelines, and have not required Committee of Adjustment applications. We have seen a decrease in commercial development activity, especially along Hurontario Street, perhaps as a reflection of the economic slowdown. Although the City does forward notices of impending hearings to our executive, we would encourage you to investigate any notices you become aware of and contact us with any significant concerns.

There are local community as well as City-wide issues that the executive is following and your executive is participating as required. Locally, we continue to work with the City to monitor the Gypsy moth status, development applications, and other issues as they arise. City-wide issues include the new power generating plant and the Hurontario Street rapid transit plan. There are articles included in the newsletter on these items. Also significantly, the City is currently updating the master plan for Port Credit and Lakeview. They have formed a citizen advisory panel to work with them on this process and representatives from our executive will contribute on this panel. This is a complex process, and could have long term implications for the success and livability of the Port Credit community.

Our 2008 membership campaign was a resounding success. The main vehicle for membership renewal was the response form in the newsletters. We plan to use the same process this year. Please take a minute and renew your membership for 2009. It is the most important action we need all residents to take. The greater our membership levels, the more effective we are with all levels of government in having our views listened to and acted upon.

Finally, a reminder that our Annual General Meeting is at 7.00PM on April 27, 2009 at Kenollie Public School. Please mark your calendars and join us there. We will be honouring the long-time significant service to our organization of Doug Watson.

CRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Mon., April 27, 2009
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

Location:

Kenollie Public School Gymnasium
1376 Glenwood Drive

Agenda Highlights:

Ward 1 Update:
Councillor Carmen Corbasson
Charles Sousa- MPP
QEW Interchange and Hurontario
Developments

And much more...

We encourage all members to attend!

LOG ON AT:

www.credit-reserve.com

CRA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2009

The 2008 CRA Membership Drive was a huge success! The main reason for the success was the help we received from our Street Captains. As always, your enthusiasm and commitment is greatly appreciated by all of the CRA Directors.

Can we count on your support this year?

The CRA has dealt with numerous community issues over the last few years including the OMB hearings on Hurontario Street, the FRAM/SLOKKER development and the QEW/HURONTARIO Interchange, to name a few. Your membership fees have been put to good use dealing with these important issues.

As we ramp up for our 2009 Membership Drive, we will be implementing the campaign in two phases:

The first phase is our **mail in campaign**- we ask that you fill out the membership form below and mail it in at your earliest convenience. This first wave of membership dues helps us determine how much help we will need in the following months.

During our second phase of campaigning, we will be asking again for volunteers to **drop off** envelopes on their streets.

Your part: If you can spare a few hours to drop off Membership letters on your street, please check the box below that says "Can you help?" These few hours multiplied by a handful of volunteers determines the overall success of the campaign.

Again, thank you for your continued support ...we couldn't do it without you!

Susan Douglas, Marlene Baur Larose - Membership Directors



CRA Membership Form 2009

Name _____ Telephone (905) _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

Fee Enclosed _____ (\$15 per household, \$10 for seniors)

Please make cheques payable to: Credit Reserve Association

WHAT'S UP WITH THE TREES?

Spring is here and at that time most people once again come out of hibernation and start to wander around in their gardens. Fortunately for those of us within the Credit Reserve boundaries, as we wander our gardens, we are among our trees. The trees help to define our neighborhood and their continued health is always of concern.

Unfortunately, trees in Southern Ontario, especially in the urban areas, are the target for a host of problems. We have seen our fair share of them here. This article is a quick spring review of several current or impending tree issues to be aware of.

Gypsy Moth (*Lymantria dispar*) – This is a pest that we are all quite familiar with. The City took a proactive approach when the populations of this defoliator reached critical levels and where the predicted damage was no longer cosmetic but threatened the survival of affected tree species. The oaks, a dominant species in our local forest composition, are a favoured host of this pest. In 2006 and 2007 the City employed an aerial spray program with BtK that effectively knocked back the populations and prevented a serious outbreak and the ensuing damage to trees. There was no programme in 2008 and none planned for 2009. The egg masses of Gypsy moth are easy to spot; a quick search on the internet will give good photos to confirm identifications. If you see high concentrations of the egg masses you may want to call a reputable arborist to assess the need for any control actions. A few egg masses or insects should not be a concern.

Fall Cankerworm (*Alsophila pometaria*) – Over the last two years the City has observed an increasing infestation in the Erindale area to the north and west of Port Credit. We have seen this pest before in our area in the late 1990's when it also did considerable damage by defoliation. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) provides the following information: “*Infestations of the fall cankerworm appear very suddenly, are short lived, and quickly collapse. Typically, infestations begin as small, widely scattered pockets that soon coalesce, and cover large areas. They feed on a wide variety of hardwoods, but prefer elm, basswood, maples, red oak, and apple. The larvae are often referred to as loopers or inchworms.*” Watch for this pest over the next season.

Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) – The emerald ash borer (EAB) is perhaps the most problematic recently introduced tree pest in Ontario. First found in Windsor in 2002, the insect has subsequently spread throughout Ontario moving rapidly in any direction where an ash tree can be found. They have killed millions of trees in the US and Canada already. The pest has been found in virtually every GTA municipality and its population is on the rise in all these areas. The Credit Reserve has many majestic mature ash trees in both landscaped and natural areas. Currently there is only one product registered to protect ash trees by stem injection. More effective products are also being considered for emergency use in the near future. For more information about this pest please see:
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/pestrava/agrpla/agrplae.shtml>

White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) dieback – One of the most striking conifer species in the Credit Reserve area is the white pine, the provincial tree of Ontario. Over the last decade, many of the white pines in our area have been in decline and many have died. While I have pondered the cause and tried to identify a pest or disease that is contributing to this decline, I have been unsuccessful. White pine blister rust has infected some trees but this could only explain a few cases with the correct symptomology. In the end, it seems most likely that the species is responding to the repeated droughts that we have experienced since the mid 1990's. The white pine is more susceptible to damage from drought. The best thing that we can do for the pines (and for any tree for that matter) is to create extensive mulch beds in the tree root zones. In conjunction with the mulch beds, trees should be watered once a week and deeply during drought periods.

These are just a few of the prominent tree insects on the radar for 2009. If you have any issues with pests and diseases, make sure to contact a consulting or certified arborist to help you properly identify the problem, let you know if it is a concern and options for treatment.

Phillip Van Wassenaer, B.SC., MFC

Phillip Van Wassenaer is a consulting arborist and a 30 year resident of the Mineola East area. You can contact Philip at 905 274-1022 or at pwassenaer1022@rogers.com

HURONTARIO RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM

The Cities of Mississauga and Brampton have recently completed the first phase of a high-priority joint transportation and land use study for Hurontario Street. This study encompasses Hurontario and the immediate areas east and west of the street from Port Credit to downtown Brampton. The Cities' ultimate goal is to develop a bus or surface train rapid transit system for this portion of Hurontario. This corridor was also identified by the Province's Metrolinx plan as a key route for a higher order of transit.

The study and the plan involve various current and future land uses along Hurontario. The planners are very aware that there are very different communities and land uses along this length of the street. The direction is to encourage significant growth in 'centres' along Hurontario. The success of the transit plan will depend on significantly more density in these 'centres', in particular, but also throughout the corridor.

The first phase of the study included consultation with residents in the various communities and other key stakeholders by the

project consultants, MMM Group. These consultations have led to a very preliminary plan which will be developed into alternatives for further public input by mid 2009.

The preliminary assessment for the portion of Hurontario corridor traversing Mineola was that it was a well-established area where no significant change should be required in land use. Although there are no recommendations at this point, it seemed that the consultants favoured a bus system with dedicated lanes. Some adjustments may be required to the street layout in order to accommodate the potential stations. The required loop in Port Credit and the underpass under the train tracks were identified as challenges.

It is anticipated that the overall implementation of the plan will take approximately 15 years. We should however see some of the work commencing within 5 years. Please watch for public meetings in 2009 to update the community and solicit further resident input.

POWER GENERATING PLANT IN SOUTHWEST GTA

While the Ontario government's commitment to closing coal-fired power generating plants and the recent closing of the Lakeview power plant is wonderful news for the environment and south Mississauga, it has left a problem for the Ontario Power Authority (OPA). Replacement facilities are required which must not only fill the gap for the closed plants but also accommodate the anticipated future growth in demand in the GTA.

The Lakeview plant was operating to supply power only at peak demand periods and as such was operational infrequently in recent years. The OPA needs to replace this variable power source. They plan to build a new gas fired plant somewhere in the southwestern GTA in south Etobicoke, south Mississauga or southeast Oakville. The plant would be operational 15%-40% of the time.

The government has a commitment to renewable green energy production such as wind and solar. However these sources by their nature are not dependable to be productive at the times when required. The OPA's position is that gas fired 'peaking' plants compliment the green energy production and can be available part time and importantly 'on demand'.

The OPA maintains that the plant should be in close proximity to the market it serves. Their argument is that natural gas is an expensive source of energy and transmission losses should be minimized by proximity. Utilization of existing transmission facilities and reduction of transmission line upgrades make the initial cost less onerous.

The OPA has commenced the process of selecting a location and a developer/operator for a new 850MW facility. At this point no location has been selected. The process is expected to result in a successful applicant by mid 2009.

Clarkson area residents are very concerned that a site near the intersection of Winston Churchill and Royal Windsor is a frontrunner in the process. Their concern is not based on NIMBYism but on the fact that the Clarkson airshed is already very stressed. The existing industrial area and the proximity to the major highways are the contributors to the already high pollution. The Ministry of Environment had recently commissioned a Clarkson Airshed Study which confirmed the high air pollution. Their concern and our concern is that a potential additional pollution contributor be located upwind of a major urban centre.

A recent town hall meeting in Clarkson hosted by the OPA was standing room only. MPP Charles Sousa, Mayor McCallion and local Councillor Pat Mullin were united with the audience against a power facility in the area.

On April 2, 2009 the OPA announced that the RFP process had yielded four sites which would now be considered for the site. Three of the sites were in southwest Mississauga (west of Southdown Rd and south of Royal Windsor) and one was in southeast Oakville. If you would like to be heard on this issue, please send an e-mail or letter to MPP Charles Sousa. He will forward to the Minister of Energy and the OPA.

THEN AND NOW...



Photo of 201 Mineola Road West – circa 1938. One of the original homes built by Milton and Victor Skinner in the West Mineola area. The home has had a complete state of the art interior renovation, yet retains its original character and details.

'Then' photograph courtesy of Don Skinner and the Skinner family archives.

FINAL PHASE OF QEW/HURONTARIO REBUILD STARTS

With great relief we can now safely say that spring is upon us. As Canada's most famous season fades, our other season, road work, is sure to begin. This spring will see the relaunch of QEW/Hurontario interchange project, which will start up very shortly for the third and final season of work. It is hard to believe the redevelopment work is now in its third year.

By the time work stopped for winter, much of the work to create the new layout for the on ramps and off ramps was complete. The configuration that is evident now is close to what the final result will be.

The new ramp from southbound Hurontario to eastbound QEW will soon be constructed while traffic utilizes the existing ramp. A new designated on ramp from southbound Hurontario St. to Westbound QEW, similar to the previous conditions, is currently being constructed and will replace the current on ramp configuration for southbound traffic.

The major work now relates to finishing the bridge deck, which along with the girders, are in the process of being replaced. Two stages of work on the bridge were completed last fall, with another two stages planned for this year. As in the fall, demolition works for each stage will be done at night, with minimal interruption to the flow of traffic.

As a reminder, the bridge work requires adjustments to the sidewalks. Pedestrians will not be able use the sidewalks under the bridge while the bridge deck work is being done. Pedestrians can continue make use of the tunnel to the east of Hurontario.

The project will be completed this year, between November and December 2009, just in time for the return of our more famous season, winter!

OUR DIRECTORS

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