

# The South Etobicoke News

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## Police patrols at centres and places of worship

### South Etobicoke on alert

Toronto Police have increased patrols around cultural centres and places of worship in South Etobicoke.

They have also set up two command posts in North York, to stem incidents of hate following the war after a Hamas attack against Israel.

The move comes as crime in Toronto are up more than 130 per cent since the October 7 deadly war began, police say. Toronto Police Chief Myron Demkiw said there have been 237 hate crime incidents to date this year, up from 192 by the same time last year. Demkiw said during the first days of the war,



**MOUNTED POLICE ON HORSES PATROL** parts of Toronto as Chief Myron Demkiw (center) talks to concerned community members (right) concerned about their safety and families back at home following a Hamas attack on Israel that led to a war between countries.

police saw more than 14 hate crimes reported compared to five incidents over the same period last year and just one in 2021. He said of the 14 recent reported hate crimes, 12 were related to anti-semitism, two were in connection

with anti-Muslim and anti-Islam events and ongoing demonstrations.

The concerns from community leaders led to police beefing up patrols around a dozen South Etobicoke temples, synagogues and mosques in the wake of the war.

Demkiw said police are aware of a number of physical and "global online threats" against Jews and Muslims after the Hamas attack.

"The Service is advising residents that there are currently no credible threats to Jewish communities in our city," the Chief said. There

have been several arrests, including three men accused of threatening students at the Max Tanenbaum Academy, and a death threat against a Jewish doctor at Trillium Health Partners Mississauga Hospital.

## Oldest tree in Etobicoke may soon be cut down

One of South Etobicoke's oldest trees, a 330-year-old white oak, is suffering from an infection of Sulphur Fungus and will be removed soon.

Dubbed 'Great 335 of Thorncrest', the tree at Islington Avenue and Great Oak Drive, is starting to show its age.

"Sadly it will have to be taken down soon," said Bill Zufelt, of Long Branch Neighbourhood Association History and Culture Committee. "The majestic white oak has watched over its Islington neighbourhood for centuries."

Its trunk measures five metres around and based on its circumference, he calculates that it is about 330 years old, Zufelt said. "It could have been a sapling in the late 1600s."

He said the land was leased by settler Jacob Smith in 1787 to build an inn — which was never built. In 1820, the property was rented for farming, with the tree as a natural landmark. A large branch broke off during a storm, Zufelt said.



**THIS MAJESTIC ETOBICOKE WHITE OAK TREE** (center, right) is 330-years-old and may have to be removed due to an infection of Sulphur Fungus (right). The tree was a sapling in the late 1660s and was on land leased by a settler in 1787 in a failed bid to build an inn. The Black Barn Maple in Long Branch is left. **Photos by Bill Zufelt.**

"It's a great tree, having survived not just for decades but for centuries," he added. "When I go up close to its trunk, I think about how much it has experienced in its 300 years."

Zufelt wants people to honour the tree before it reaches the end of its life. "It's a great tree, having survived not just for

decades but for centuries," he wrote in an e-mail. "You have to admire it, you have to respect it."

City staff said there are plans to remove the old oak even though it is considered to have heritage potential.

There are plans to save parts of the tree for historical and display purposes.

The Etobicoke Historical Society was asked to display part of the tree but declined because of space constraints, Zufelt said.

Former city Councillor Mark Grimes had arranged to have a huge tree cookie saved, which is now on display at the Mimico Library.

Zufelt has been cataloguing and trying to save old trees from being cut down for years in the Long Branch area.

He and the Long Branch Neighbourhood Association are also trying to save a 160-year-old Black Barn Maple, which a homeowner wants to remove in order to build a larger home.

That Maple, which stands in a back yard on James Street in the west-end Toronto neighbourhood, will be cut down if the owner's application to redevelop his property is approved.

Its fate is under appeal and a decision is pending.

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Remembrance Day is November 11

## Streetcar back on track to Long Branch Loop

Good news commuters. TTC streetcar service will roll again on Lake Shore Blvd. W., to Long Branch Loop next month after almost three years of bus service.



The TTC said the streetcar service to Long Branch Loop will resume on November 19. Its last run was in January 2021.

**STREETCAR** service to Long Branch Loop (top, bottom) begins on November 19.

The transit company said the 501 Queen streetcar is slated on October 29 to return to the Humber Loop, following the completion of infrastructure upgrades in the King Street W., Queen Street W., The Queensway and Roncesvalles intersection area.



Users will be able to get off at stops at Glendale Avenue, with access to St. Joseph's Health Centre.

The TTC said 501L Queen replacement buses will continue to operate from October

to November 19 both ways between Long Branch Loop and Humber Loop, via Lake Shore Blvd., Park Lawn Rd. and The Queensway. Customers can transfer between buses and streetcars at Humber Loop.

The 301 Queen buses will continue to operate between Long Branch Loop and Neville Park Loop in overnight periods seven days a week.

Customers at stops on Lake Shore Blvd., east of Park Lawn Rd. can board 501H/M Queen buses to access 501A Queen streetcars at Humber Loop, or access streetcars directly via walking through the tunnel leading to the loop. Morning peak period trips will be scheduled to depart from Long Branch Loop about every 20 minutes starting at 6:40 a.m. through 8:10 a.m. Afternoon peak period trips will be scheduled to depart from King Station every 20 minutes from about 4:25 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

## New police task force formed to crack down on Toronto and GTA car thefts and rising violence



**TORONTO POLICE SUPT. RON TAVERNER** (top) tackling auto thefts as brazen thieves (below) stake out a vehicle to possibly steal. **Courtesy photos.**

Some 228 people were arrested and 1,000 stolen vehicles seized, worth almost \$60 million, in a Toronto Police undercover operation.

Project Stallion, which targeted car thieves in north and South Etobicoke, ended in September, with more than 500 charges being laid.

There were about 10,000 vehicles stolen in Toronto so far in 2023, and more than 3,500 of them were stolen in South Etobicoke's 22 and 23 Division in Rexdale.

Toronto has been the scene of 200 of the 300 carjackings that occurred in the GTA so far this year, police say.

A joint police task force has been put together to stem the incidents of violence related to auto crimes occurring in Ontario, which has increased over the last several years.

More than 13 vehicles were reported stolen in Etobicoke West Mall in 2022. About 96 were stolen in Islington-City Centre West that same year, with 41 swiped in Mimico, 10 in New Toronto, 30 in Long Branch and 40 in Alderwood in 2022.

On October 18 two youths were arrested for stealing a 2023 Hyundai Elantra in Rexdale. The suspects bumped the vehicle from behind and when it stopped one youth pulled out a gun and stole the vehicle.

Police said the stolen vehicles are used to carry out other crimes or are shipped overseas for resale. The vehicle

identification numbers (VINs) are altered and the vehicles are sold domestically.

"Carjackings are a serious public safety issue, which have resulted in assault and even homicides," said OPP Supt. Paul Mackey, of the Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau (OCEB). "To evade police, thieves may drive dangerously, putting the lives of pedestrians, other motorists and police in danger." The newly-created Provincial Carjacking Joint Task Force (PCJTF) involves Toronto Police and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). It also involves police services from across the GTA, including York Regional Police, Halton Regional Police Service, Durham Regional Police Service, Peel Regional Police and other agencies, including Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario.

"The violence associated with auto thefts in Toronto and across the GTA is a concerning trend, and can be



incredibly traumatic for victims and their loved ones," said OCEB Supt. Steve Watts.

"Whether it be a carjacking, a home invasion, an assault, or other form of intimidation, the level of violence being used in the commission of these offences represents a new and evolving threat to public safety," police say. The purpose of the PCJTF is to disrupt the networks responsible for high-risk auto thefts, which increasingly involve violence, firearms and other weapons.

"Members of the task force will work to maximize enforcement efforts against criminal organizations involved in violent vehicle crimes who are operating within the GTA," police said.

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# Toronto Scottish Regiment ruck march to T.O.



MEMBERS OF THE TORONTO SCOTTISH REGIMENT (top, bottom) take part in a ruck march. Photos by Dominic Sobotka.

By CORP. DOMINIC SOBOTKA

Members of the Toronto Scottish Regiment took part in a demanding ruck march last month on the Lakefront Promenade trail. Military members were seen wearing Canadian Pattern (CADPAT) Camouflage with rucksacks along the Lakefront Promenade trail between Captain B.S. Hutcheson V.C. Armoury, in Etobicoke, and the CN Tower. Members of the public were encouraged on October 1 to say hello to the Regiment as they marched 13.2-kilometres with 35-pound rucksacks from their armoury on Birmingham Street to the CN Tower along



Lakefront Promenade. They ended up at the base of the CN Tower about three hours later. The Toronto Scottish Regiment is a Primary Reserve infantry Regiment of the Canadian Armed Forces based in Toronto. The Regiment has a distinguished history, having served in both World War 1 and World War II. It was formed in 1915 as the 75th Mississauga Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, and was later reorganized several times before being officially designated as The

Toronto Scottish Regiment, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's Own. The Afghanistan Battle Honour was presented in October 2015 to the Regiment and added to the Regimental Colour by Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex. The Regiment contributed an aggregate of more than 20 per cent of its authorized strength to the various Task Forces which served in Afghanistan between 2002 and 2014. The Canadian Army maintains sixteen Canadian-Scottish infantry regiments, and one Canadian-Scottish artillery regiment.



SCOTTISH REGIMENT at the CN Tower at the end of a demanding 13.2 kms ruck march from Etobicoke to downtown Toronto.

At Queen Elizabeth's funeral in September 2022, they were led by drum majors of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, 1st Battalion Scots Guards, 1st Battalion Irish Guards and The Royal Regiment of Scotland; all units in which the Queen was Colonel-in-Chief. For more on The Toronto Scottish Regiment visit <https://www.torscotr.com>.

## Remembrance Day Services in the area

NOVEMBER 11 is REMEMBRANCE DAY:

- SUNRISE SERVICE at 7:30 a.m. at the New Toronto Cenotaph, at Lakeshore Blvd. W., and Kipling Avenue.
- REMEMBRANCE DAY Service at 10:45 a.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 643, Flight Lieutenant David Hornell V.C., at 110 Jutland Road.
- REMEMBRANCE DAY service at 10:45 a.m. at the Etobicoke Civic Centre, at 399 The West Mall.

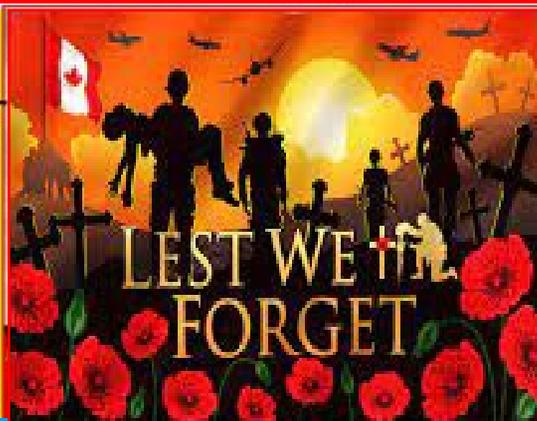


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## LAKESHORE VILLAGE BIA

**SANTA CLAUS & CAROLLERS** December 1 at Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Islington Ave. @ 6 p.m. Free treats. A tree-lighting ceremony



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**REMEMBRANCE DAY SUNRISE CEREMONY** on November 11 at 7:30 a.m. at the New Toronto Monument, at Kipling Avenue and Lake Shore Blvd. W.



**CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING CONTEST** for Lakeshore Village Businesses. The deadline is December 1. Win First, Second or Third Prizes for best decorated Christmas Trees in Planters.

**ETOBICOKE LAKESHORE SANTA CLAUS PARADE** ON December 2 at 10 a.m. and will run from Dwight Ave. to Thirty Sixth Street, Long Branch. Volunteers needed.

# Another iconic firm shut its doors after 92-years

Another large company has left the community as National Silicates shut its doors last month after 92-years in business.

About 100 employees at the 429 Kipling, at Horner Avenue, plant will be out of jobs with the closure. In its heyday, it had 168 manufacturing facilities in 19 countries and five continents.

The company goes back to 1815, when Joseph Crosfield and Sons in

Warrington, England; and 1831, with Joseph Elkinton and Sons in Philadelphia, started with the manufacture of candles and soaps, beginning a two-century story of innovation.

The firm grew to more than 1,500 employees and generated over \$800 million in revenue.

National Silicates has been serving customers in Canada since 1931, and was the first non-U.S. subsidiary of The PQ Corporation.

Lynda Ryder, president of Rotary Club Etobicoke, worked at the company for 47 years and said it is sad to see another large company leave the community.

"I describe the people that I worked with as friends and confidantes," said Ryder, a former board member with the firm.

"It's been very sad for everyone."

She cited companies like Canadian General-Tower, Goodyear Tire and Rubber, Campbell's Soup, Gilbeys Distillery and many others which have left the community, or shut down, over the years.

"Most of those presidents were also Rotarians who gave back to our community," she said. "Strong personal ties have remained at the core of National Silicates culture and this close-knit team has made it a great place to work."



THE NATIONAL SILICATES plant (top, below) has been a fixture in South Etobicoke for almost 100 years.

Ryder said the company, which won awards for business excellence, encouraged employees to volunteer in their communities, and was a supporter of the Santa Claus Parade, Tree Planting in Marie Curtis Park, LAMP, Dorothy Ley Hospice, Women's Habitat and the Jean

Tweed Centre.

"As we close our doors for the last time, we leave behind an amazing community," she said. "We are friends and most of us are, in reality family."

National Silicates was based in Toronto and had production and distribution facilities in Valleyfield, Quebec; Toronto, Fort Frances, Whitecourt, Alberta; Surrey and Parksville, B.C.

The company's Global Centre for Pulp and Paper Excellence was in Etobicoke and staffed by highly trained scientists who conducted research and development, as well as technical service. Its principal product is sodium silicate used in the bleaching of wood pulp for paper manufacture and water treatment, among its many uses.

The PQ Corporation and its affiliates were the world's largest producer of sodium and potassium silicates, according to the

company's website.

"It has built its business through a commitment to helping its customers be successful in their own businesses," according to the site. "This commitment ensures that customers consistently receive superior products and services accompanied by a high level of technical support." National Silicates had a team of competent, enthusiastic and talented people. connecting with customers every day, the company said.



THE COMPANY IN its heyday had 168 manufacturing facilities in 19 countries spanning five continents. It hired dedicated and professional staff who cared for customers.



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The South Etobicoke News is a free, independent monthly newspaper that serves Humber Bay Shores, Mimico, Lake Shore Village, Long Branch and Alderwood areas.

We live in the community and cover local news, amateur sports, business and civic life while honouring those who gave so much of themselves so we can have the lives we enjoy today.

Please feel free to drop us a line if you would like to advertise your business or leave any comments, tips or news of upcoming events.

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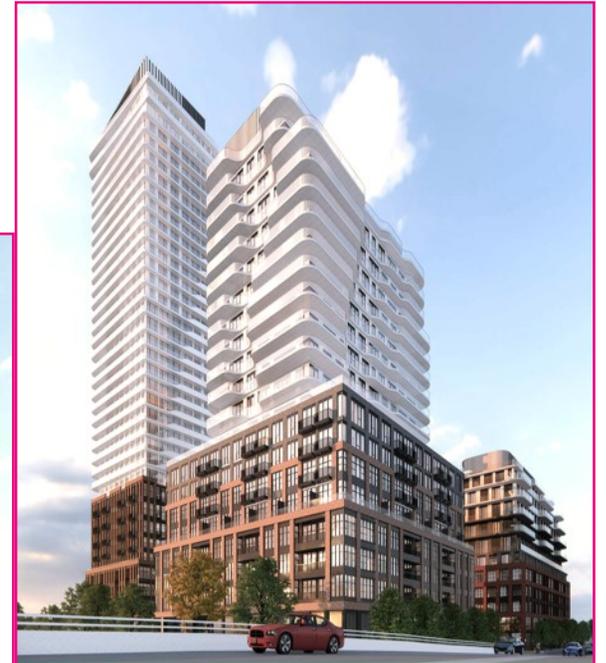
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# The site of Adamson BBQ to become condos



THE FORMER SITE OF ADAMSON BBQ will soon be a high-rise condo complex. Courtesy photos.

of amenity space, including 1,939 square metres of outdoor amenities. A podium for the west building would contain office space and a central courtyard that span Queen Elizabeth Blvd. There will be a green space in the centre of the buildings. The design also calls for a terrace wrapping around the



A PROPOSAL TO BUILD AT 522 Royal York Road will result in the demolition of 10 homes to erect four towers; one at 35 storeys, another at 20 storeys and the others at 17 and 10 storeys. (above, centre)

The site of the infamous Adamson Barbeque in Mimico will soon be a high-rise condo complex. Feisty barbeque pit owner Adam Skelly many may recall refused to obey provincial laws and was forced to shut the business at the northwest corner of Royal York Road and the Gardiner Expressway during the COVID-19 lockdown in the summer of 2021. He was arrested, hit with over \$180,000 in fees, which sparked a number of protests and later filed a failed constitutional challenge against the city. Now a proposal from Queenscorp Residences to build at 522 Royal York Road will result in the demolition of 10 low-rise buildings in the area to erect four towers; one at 35 storeys, another at 20 storeys and the others at 17 and 10 storeys.

The developer has submitted Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment applications which would result in the mixed-use buildings in a largely residential area. The former restaurant, at 7 Queen Elizabeth Blvd., an industrial property and 10 homes, will be demolished to construct the complex. The buildings that are designed by Turner Fleischer Architects, will have a total of 967 residential units and offer residents 3,880 square metres



east and north sides of the taller tower. The other buildings would also have multiple step-backs, as well as terraces on their fifth floors. The buildings that will take up 11 parcels of land, is just west of Royal York Road immediately north of the Gardiner Expressway and a block south of The Queensway. Buildings to the north would share an underground three-level garage with 858 parking spaces, with 75 of those for visitors. The building to the south

would have a separate parking garage with 217 parking spots. The development would have 741 bicycle spaces and is located next to two bus routes that connect to either Royal York or Keele subway stations. The site is located 850 metres north of the Mimico GO station. The area will be busy with construction activity for years as there are 23 active or recently approved development applications close to the site as of 2022.



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# Mimico residents fight planned road and condos



**MEGAPROJECT PLANNED** for 2405-2541 and 2417 Lake Shore Blvd. W., including an east-west road by the lake will change the face of Mimico. **Courtesy photos.**

Mimico residents are fighting a plan to redevelop a prime strip of Lake Shore Blvd. W., to include a new road, a 33-storey condo tower and other buildings. Letters have been sent to the City by the Mimico Residents Association (MRA) and Mimico Lakeshore Community Network (MLCN) opposing the megaproject planned for 2405-2411 and 2417 Lake Shore Blvd. W.

Etobicoke York District Community Planning officials are also against the project as it is now and an appeal of the application will be heard by the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) from July 8 to 19 next year.

Planning officials said in July 2022 an Official Plan Amendment, a Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of subdivision applications were deemed complete.

Proposed are the construction of a mixed-use 33-storey, 10-storey mid-rise building, and eight-storey base building including a mezzanine floor for the area.

The buildings will contain a total of 471 residential apartments, including 22 rental replacement units in various sizes.

An east-west road is planned behind Mimico Square and will run to Superior Ave. Further plans propose more towers south of the roadway facing the lake front.

The City said the owner has secured an acceptable Tenant Relocation and Assistance Plan addressing the right for tenants to return to a replacement rental unit or dwelling room.

A holding provision is included in the Zoning By-law Amendment and is not to be lifted until the owner has made satisfactory arrangements, including entering into agreements with the City for the design and construction of any improvements and the provision of financial securities, city officials said.

The MLCN wrote the proposal that will see the demolition of properties, including some small businesses and affordable housing.

“The development proposal far exceeds and is contrary to the secondary plan,” the MLCN said in its letter. “A major issue for us is not just the size of the development but the fact it



**A 33-STOREY CONDO** (above) is planned for the Mimico area.

is directly adjacent to, and intrudes on Amos Waites Park.”

The park abuts the popular Waterfront Trail, and features two playgrounds, a splash pad, an outdoor pool and a centre for seniors and the disabled, the group said.

They are concerned by plans by the developer to build an access road through the park, ‘as well as having a temporary construction road right beside the community square.’ The MLCN said both roads are planned to cross properties not owned by the developer, and along with safety concerns would result in noise and pollution in the park.

“We understand our community is a prime location for intensification,” the MRA said. “We do not feel the current iteration of this proposal would appropriately address the needs of our community.”

They said building heights do not conform to Mimico By The Lake Secondary Plan and trees will be removed.



## Legion

### Royal Canadian Legion Branch 643

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 643 would like to thank our community for contributing to the 2022 Poppy Campaign which raised \$150,781.55 for programs such as Operation Leave the Streets Behind (Homeless Veterans), Operation Service Dogs (Veterans with Operational Stress Injuries), Sunnybrook Veterans Comfort Fund, The Military Family Resource Centre and others that support Military Veterans and their Families.

This year's Poppy Campaign starts October 27, 2023.

Please wear a Poppy..

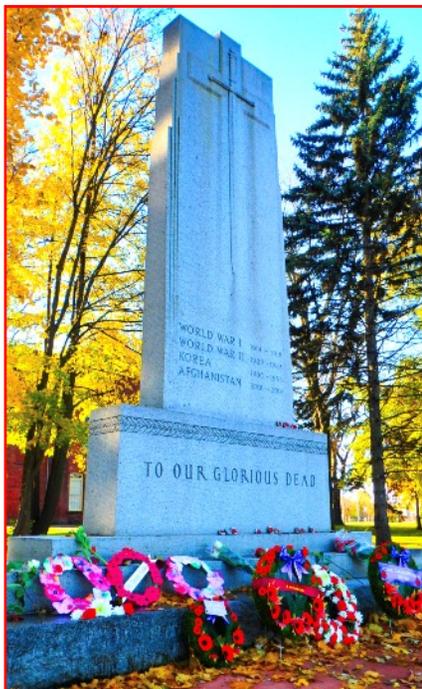
#### Branch 643 Remembrance

#### Day Services on Nov. 11:

7:30 a.m. – Sunrise Service at the New Toronto Cenotaph (Lake Shore Blvd W., near Kipling Avenue).

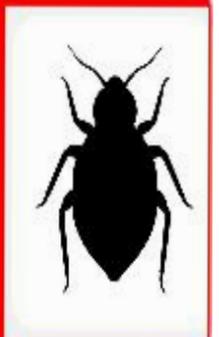
10:45 a.m. – Royal Canadian Legion Branch 643 (110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke).

10:45 a.m. – Etobicoke Civic Centre, (399 The West Mall, Etobicoke).



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# Goalie and best selling author Ken Dryden visits his roots



**BEST SELLING** author Ken Dryden.

Etobicoke native, six time Stanley Cup winning goalie and bestselling author Ken Dryden has released his latest book which is getting great reviews.

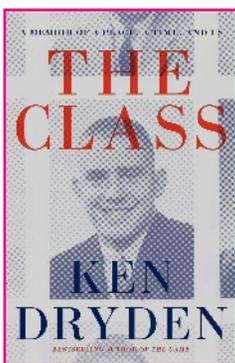
The book, called *The Class: a Memoir of a Place,*

*a Time and Us,* deals with him tracking down former classmates of Class 9G as a student at Etobicoke Collegiate Institute.

The 35 students of what was known as a Selected Class stayed together through high school and would spend more than 200 days a year together, according to a foreword in the book.

“Few had known each other before,” the book stated. “Few have been in other than accidental contact in all the decades since.”

Dryden was one the students, who all came from working class backgrounds. Other students of the 1,600 student school included Olympic gold medallist rower Marney McBean, famous musician Jeff Healy and Harold Shipp, founder of the former Shipp Centre. “In his varied, improbable life, he had wondered often how



he had gotten from there to here,” the foreword asked. “He decided to try and find his classmates, to see how they are, what they are doing, how life has been for them.”

The former president of the Toronto Maple Leafs said they (he and former classmates) talked for long hours and ‘most were married, some divorced, most had kids and many grand kids.’

Dryden, now 66, was a goalie for the Montreal Canadiens in the 1970s, during which time the team won six Stanley Cups. He also played for Team Canada in the 1972 Summit Series.

He displayed skill from a young age and was drafted in 1964 by the Montreal Canadiens. Focused on getting an education, he attended Cornell University in 1965.

After he graduated, he made his NHL debut with the Canadiens in 1970, playing in six winning games, which secured him a spot as a goalie for the playoffs.

He has been inducted as an officer of the Order of Canada, the Hockey Hall of Fame and the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame and was a former Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister. Dryden is the author of a number of best-selling books, including *The Game*, *Home Game* (with Roy MacGregor), *Game*

*Change*, and *The Series*. He retired in 1979 after winning six Stanley Cups to pursue a law degree. He turned his attention to writing and his most famous work *The Game*, which was released in 1983, is based on his career with the Canadiens became a hockey classic.

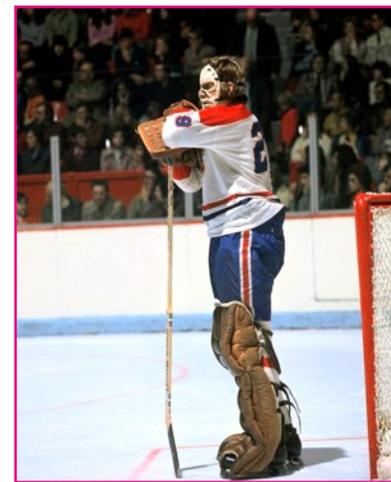
He and his wife, Lynda, live in Toronto and have two children and four grandchildren.

“It (*The Class*) is a book which asks us to consider, when almost anything seems within reach, what do we reach for?” according to promotional materials.

“Ken has analyzed the period of time and has now put it in writing,” Roger wrote in a review.

“Very true, and we of that era had respect for our elders and for each other,” said Miguel.

*The Class* can be obtained at Amazon.ca or Kindle.



**GOALIE AND AUTHOR** Ken Dryden in his hockey playing days with the Montreal Canadiens. **Courtesy photo.**

## Police arrest two men in Etobicoke home renovation scam

South Etobicoke residents are breathing a sigh of relief with the arrests of two brothers who are accused of ripping off property owners in a home renovation scam.

Police allege the men were going door to door between June and October to speak to homeowners in relation to exterior home renovations.

The suspects claimed to be from a company called ‘Town and Country Paving,’ and falsely advised homeowners of issues with their property, officers from 22 Division alleged.

The men would normally request a deposit for the renovations and would refuse to complete the job unless additional payments were made, police said in a news release.

The suspects are accused of leaving the jobs unfinished and properties damaged. Police have issued warnings to alert the public about renovation frauds occurring across the city.

“Suspects typically solicit door to door, handing out flyers for fraudulent or non-existent companies offering services for roofing, paving and fencing,” according to



### “The Undertaker”

*The midnight hour, the darkest hour  
That human grief may know,  
Sends forth its hurried summons-  
Asks me to come – I go!  
I know not when the bell may toll,  
I know not where the blow may fall,  
I only know that I must go  
In answer to the call.  
Perhaps a friend – perhaps unknown-  
‘Tis fate that turns the wheel  
–The tangled skein of human life  
Winds slowly on the reel.  
And I? – I’m the undertaker,  
“Cold-blooded,” you’ll hear them say,  
“trained to the shock and chill of death,  
With a heart that’s cold and grey.”  
Trained – that’s what they call it  
How little they know the rest-  
I’m human, and know the sorrow  
That throbs in the aching breast.*

*Bennett Chapple - 1903*

officers. “The work is usually never completed or is substandard and done with poor quality products.” Police said the suspects often target elderly and vulnerable citizens using high-pressure tactics to start work immediately.

Police warn seniors to be wary of unsolicited contractors going door to door using pressure tactics and demanding payment in cash, bank draft or a large down payment.

“Avoid impulse decisions to hire a contractor,” police warned. “Do your research either online, references or word of mouth.” Police are urging homeowners to select a reputable company and obtain a detailed written contract before any work is done.

Some residents have taken to social media to warn of a group of men going around the South Etobicoke area asking to do roof work since



**POLICE WARN** to check the work and background of those you plan to hire for home renovations.

they claim to be working in the area.

“Please beware of a scam that’s happening in/outside the GTA and most recently in the Islington and Royal York Area,” one resident wrote on social media last month. Domenic Ward, 30, and John Ward, 23, of Milton, have each been charged with two counts of fraud over \$5,000, mischief and damage to property not exceeding \$5000, mischief over \$5,000 and possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000. They appeared in court at 2201 Finch Avenue W, on October 6.



**DOMENIC AND JOHN WARD** (right) face fraud charges in connection with a home renovation scam in Etobicoke. **Police photo.**

they claim to be working in the area.

“Please beware of a scam that’s happening in/outside the GTA and most recently in the Islington and Royal York Area,” one resident wrote on

social media last month.

# New Mr. Puffs dessert shop on The Queensway



STAFF AND SUPPORTERS at opening of Mr. Puffs on The Queensway. Courtesy photos.

Some of the many glazes include a new Biscoff glaze and classics as sugar cinnamon, creamy caramel, chocolate hazelnut and Bueno. Vegans can choose from sugar and cinnamon, strawberry, blueberry, raspberry and wow butter. Their other offerings include Mount-Olympus, which is a combo of ice cream and Puffs, or dipped ice creams, creamy milkshakes, specialty coffees and velvety lattes. Mr. Puffs is a Montreal-based company that was founded in 2004 by Billy Siounis serving their very famous hot and fresh Puffs. The Queensway store opened its doors on September 30. The company has about 60 locations across Canada, and about seven in the Greater Toronto Area, including Brampton, Mississauga, Pickering and Oshawa. "The Puffs batter is all-natural, lactose, peanut, and egg-free," staff said. "Puffs are always served hot and fresh and glazed on order with delicious glazes as sugar cinnamon, creamy caramel, chocolate hazelnut and

A new dessert store that promises to 'to hit your sweet spot' has recently opened its doors on The Queensway. Mr. Puffs, which is located at 1557 The Queensway, insists all its sweet goods are made-to-order for that 'mouth-watering goodness and an absolutely must-try.' "Notably, the dough of their Puffs is free from dairy, eggs and peanuts," a company official said. "What sets them apart is their enticing range of glaze options." Staff said Puffs are deep-fried dough balls that are much like donut holes which are slightly crispy on the outside and soft on the inside. They can be customized with your choice of glaze. The shops even have syringes, available for an additional cost, for customer to add the glaze inside.



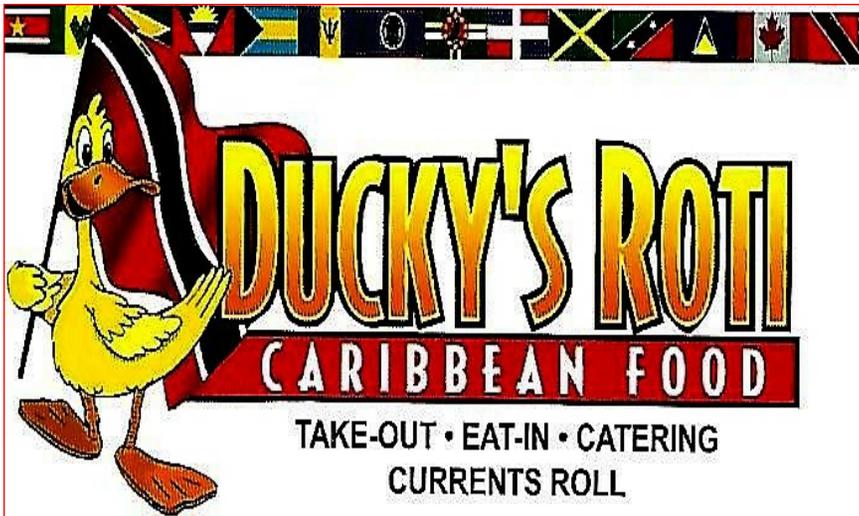
PUFFS COME in an assortment of tastes and styles as above and right.

Bueno." Their dessert bar offers ice cream cones dipped in rich Belgian chocolate, milkshakes, specialty coffees (hot and cold) and much more. "It is a great pleasure to be part of the Mr. Puffs team and to see our customers smile with every visit for over a

year. Nothing compares to Mr. Puffs, the atmosphere is great and the team is always willing to help," said Claude Philippon, of Mr. Puffs Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu.



MR. PUFFS (bottom) IS big in Quebec but just catching on in Toronto and surrounding areas. There are more than 60 Mr. Puffs (above) locations in Canada.



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## T.O. Scottish Regiment and BIA officials collecting dog, cat food for Santa Parade

Members of the Toronto Scottish Regiment will be lined up along the Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade on December 2 to collect dog and cat food for charity. The pet food collected will go to LAMP CHC to provide for those with dogs and cats. Parade goers are being asked to bring cans or bags of the pet food with them to support the Regiment and Lakeshore Village Business Improvement Area (BIA), who are sponsoring the event.



"The Canadian Army and Lakeshore Village BIA are joining forces to feed dogs and cats," said BIA Chair Chris Korwin-Kuczynski. "We will be along the parade route collecting the food."

The Etobicoke Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade started as an idea in 1990 as a collaborative effort between the Lakeshore Village and Long Branch BIA's to bring back a Christmas Parade after a 25 year hiatus.

It was created to draw crowds, support local businesses, and showcase that the Etobicoke Lakeshore area was a vibrant community to live, work and play. The parade attracts more than 60,000 members of the community every year, and is celebrating its 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary.

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# No more deals as Biway store to become condos

New Toronto residents looking for deals are wondering the fate of a decades-old family-run Biway Zone discount shop that abruptly shut last month. Locals said there were no signs on the door at the 2950 Lake Shore Blvd. W. discount store and have been trying to find out what happened.



**PROPOSAL TO** convert Biway Zone and building next door into a nine-storey building (right). **Courtesy photos.**

The proposal would contain 27 studio units, 37 one-bedroom apartments, 15 two-bedroom units and 16 three-bedroom units. The applicant proposes a total of 32 residential parking spaces in a one-storey underground garage. Access to the underground garage would be from Eighth Street by an existing private lane way on the north side of the building. The development would include a storage space for 73 bicycles, of which seven would be short-term and 66 long-term. The proposal was turned down by Etobicoke York Community Council, whose members were of the opinion that it did not conform to bylaws and the area's Growth Plan. The applicant was ordered to make some changes before the plan can be approved.



**PROPOSED NINE-STORY** apartment will occupy 2950 and 2970 Lake Shore Blvd. W.

The bargain store, which is slated to make way for a new condo development, isn't an official Biway outpost, but it used to be. It was one of a few Biways left standing. The store was taken over by a family in 2000 after the chain filed for bankruptcy. It was restocked and renamed Biway Zone.

"We have served the community for a long time, so leaving the community behind is sad and difficult," Anish Chopra, the owner's son told Blog TO. "But, at the same time, we are excited to finally retire and see where this new chapter in life will take us."

The popular store was operating on a monthly rental basis and frequented by many residents looking for a deal on clothing, household, kitchen ware and other goods.

The Biway site, along with an office building at 2970 Lake Shore Blvd. W., were the scene of many protests in 2020 by community groups who successfully fought against the City to prevent them from being converted into a 100-bed homeless shelter.

An application was submitted to the City of Toronto in 2019 to convert the jointly-owned 2950 and 2970 Lake Shore Blvd. W. properties into a nine storey mixed-use building

## Go Karts gone from Centennial Park

The popular Mini-Indy Go Kart track at Centennial Park has had its last lap.

The Go Karts Toronto Mini-Indy and a number of other amenities, like soccer fields and baseball cages, were ordered to shut down last October 22, their last day.

"We are saddened to announce the City has rejected our pleas to save the Mini Indy," owner Don Duggan wrote on the Indy website. "This is an end to an era, we thank each and every one of you who have supported us over the years."



**MINI-INDY** Go Kart track and other amenities gone from Centennial Park.

He said the Mini-Indy will be moving to a new location at 99 Rathburn Road, in Mississauga. The closure has affected about 65 employees.



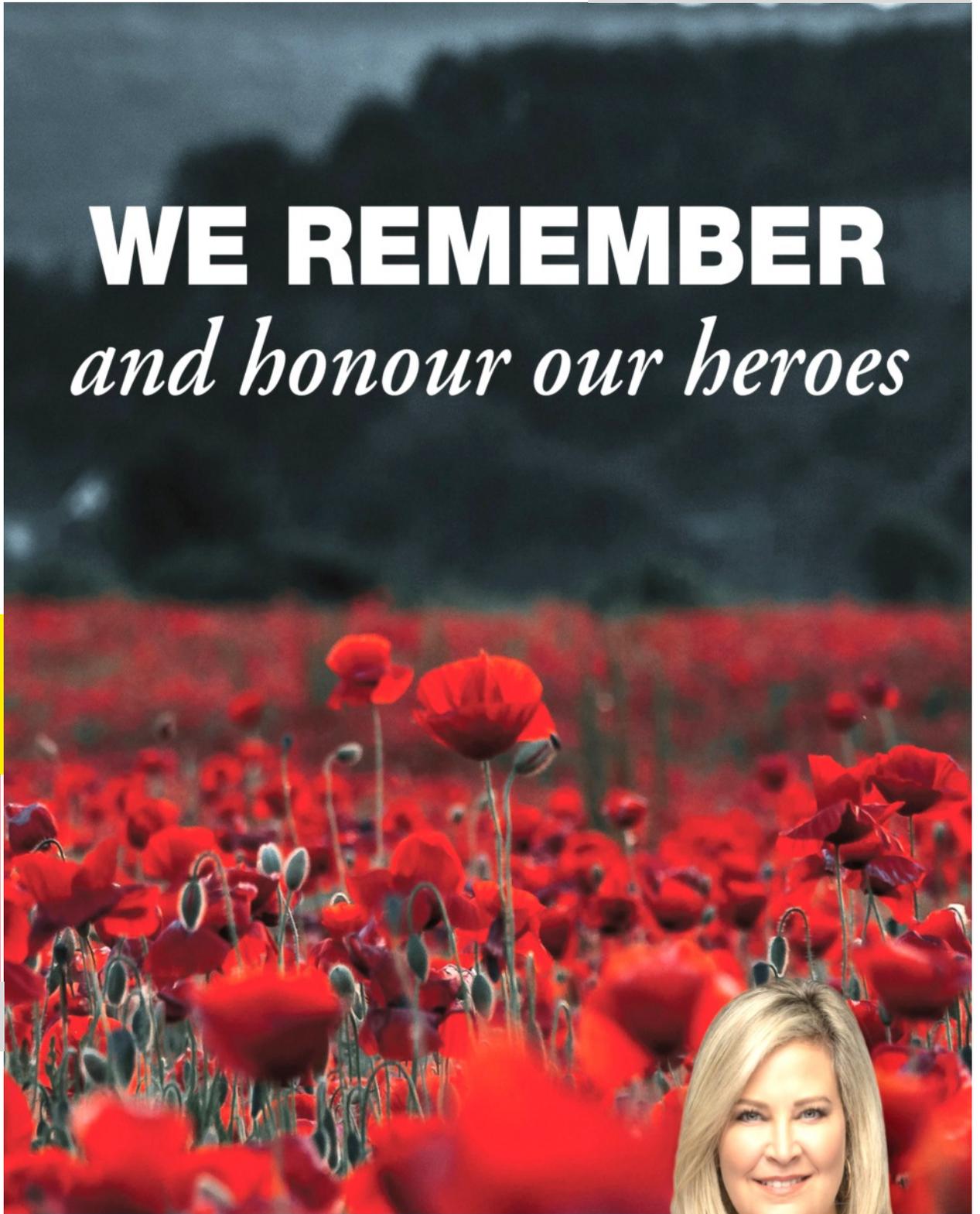
More than 11,500 people signed a petition to save the facilities. The Mini-Indy that sits on 11 acres of the 470-acre Centennial

Park was given an eviction notice after 36 years to leave to make way for new baseball diamonds.

City council in 2021 approved an updated master plan for Centennial Park based on consultations with over 1,300 community members.

As part of the master plan, the city is improving soccer and baseball parks, which includes a baseball area on the site of the Mini-Indy.

Under the plan, the batting cages and beach volleyball courts will be demolished. The changes will see the park equipped with new large playground, a new water play area, improved pathways, skate trail and skate area, new baseball and soccer hubs and new multi-use sport courts.



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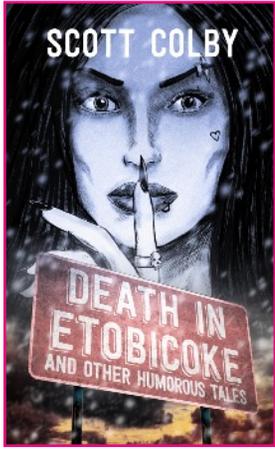
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## Death in Etobicoke book has many readers saying good things about the funny stories



The book *Death in Etobicoke and other Humorous Tales* is about a murder in the community that is hitting the stores soon. Written by best-selling New Toronto author Scott Colby, a long-time *Toronto Star* journalist, the book has been

receiving rave comments.

Colby said the book is a collection of six short stories, all of which have been published in the satirical Canadian magazine, *The Feathertale Review*.

“The first three stories are the *Death in Etobicoke* trilogy that feature a Goth temptress, Lucy Fehr (Lucifer), who finds ways to kill me in each story,” he explained. The first *Death in Etobicoke* story was my way of making fun of the Thomas Mann classic “Death in Venice” which I was reading in my book club at the time, he said, adding that he wrote a parody of it, called *Death in Etobicoke*, Inspired the Ultimate Sacrifice for my Book Club.

“I had so much fun with that that years later I wrote a sequel that was set in a creepy storage unit on Evans Avenue,” Colby said. It was “a real place that reminded me of the hallways in the hotel in ‘The Shining.’” The story *Silence of the Pigeons* is a mash up of “The Shining” and “Silence of the Lambs,” but set in a vacant storage unit on Evans Avenue during a blizzard and features passenger pigeons that return from extinction.

“The reason for that is the word *Mimico* is derived from the Indigenous word for “where the wild pigeons gather,” he said. “I struggled to understand why this species meant so much to a modern goth and a self-storage business in a South Etobicoke industrial park.”

The third installment, *Rebirth in Etobicoke: A Love Story*, is far from a love

story and is inspired by “Rosemary’s Baby.” “I play homage to some classic books in these stories with hopefully some comedic results,” Colby said.

He has lived in South Etobicoke for 15 years and is father to 11-year-old twins who helps coach their baseball and flag football teams. Colby wrote a best seller with NHL hockey dad Karl Subban in 2017, “*How We Did It: The Subban Plan for Success in Hockey, School and Life*.” Karl also raised his kids in Rexdale and many interviews were conducted at Maple Leaf House on Lake Shore Blvd. W., at First Street.

*Death in Etobicoke* was originally published in 2019 as *Tales from the North Shore*. The third instalment of the “*Death in Etobicoke*” trilogy has been revised for this edition.

The work has been getting some good comments before its release date.

“It’s a treat to read this book... The Thunder Bay stories are laugh out loud funny,” said Lisa Laco, of CBC Thunder Bay.

“My friend and I are reading ‘*Death in Etobicoke*’ to each other, laughing our heads off. Best thing I have read in ages ...” said Alexandra Gillespie, English Professor and Principal, University of Toronto Mississauga. “Shades of Stephen King, an undercurrent of Flannery O’Connor, wrapped in the best of Ray Bradbury, Scott Colby’s *Death in Etobicoke* takes us on a riveting romp through life’s irreversible moments,” wrote Jerry Levitan, an Academy Award-nominated and Emmy-winner and internationally acclaimed author.

“*Death in Etobicoke* is an eclectic collection of humorous stories, which is clearly valued by intelligent readers with a keen sense of humour,” said Charles Wilkins, author of bestsellers, *Paddle to the Amazon*, *After the Applause* as well as *The Circus at the Edge of the Earth and Walk to New York*.



AUTHOR Scott Colby lives in Etobicoke.

## Memorial for loved ones

About 100 people attended a memorial service to remember Canadian veterans and unidentified Indigenous people buried at the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Cemetery.

The service took place weeks before Remembrance Day, on November 11, to pay tribute to the thousands of Canadian soldiers who died protecting our country.

Local politicians were among the many attending the October 22 service at the Evans and Horner Avenues cemetery.

“The cemetery holds historical significance as a resting place for individuals who were once patients at the hospital including 24 WW1 veterans and more than 12 Indigenous persons,” said event organizer Hark Savinsky.

Those being honoured were at one time patients of the hospital who were buried at the cemetery. Many of the Indigenous people were unidentified and buried in unmarked graves.

“Sadly, over time, this cemetery has become neglected and lacks proper maintenance,” Savinsky said.

He and his group have launched an online petition, now signed by more than 330 people, to plant trees at the site.

“By allowing the planting of donated trees within its premises, we can transform this forgotten space into a



SERVICE GOERS at Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Cemetery.

beautiful memorial park that honours both nature and history,” he said. Those attending the service on a blustery day included Indigenous and faith leaders, MP James Maloney, MPP Christine Hogarth, Ward 3 Councillor Amber Morley and Rt. Rev. Riscylla Shaw..

“By allowing tree planting at the cemetery without unnecessary delays we can make a positive impact on Toronto’s overall green infrastructure,” Savinsky said.

Among those attending were; a senior trying to locate her grandfather’s grave, a paraplegic veteran, five LGBTQ refugees from Uganda, a senior who had been hospitalized 27 times and several whose ancestors fought in WWI.



WWI VETERANS and Indigenous people are buried here. Staff and Courtesy photos.

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Letters for Santa Claus are being picked up from students at three schools in the Philippines and answered by students at Etobicoke and Richview Collegiates and Upper Canada College.

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# Red Cross Meals on Wheels roll



# In the Community

By TOM GODFREY

It is no surprise that Marlene Smith is the coordinator of the Canadian Red Cross Etobicoke Meals on Wheels program since her grandfather was a volunteer driver for 30-years. Smith grew up linked to the program, volunteered and moved up becoming a person in charge. It's her job to ensure their roughly 80 volunteer drivers from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. assemble their lunches to take to about 200 clients, who include the elderly, convalescent, those with disabilities or facing challenges. The drivers cover 15 delivery routes in Etobicoke to take food to those in need. Sometimes the volunteers may be the only people the seniors see all day. "Since the pandemic the need for food has grown by 30 per cent for us," Smith said. "All the food is paid for and we have suppliers, caterers and volunteers who package the food."



RED CROSS volunteers Dave and Jan delivering food to those in need. Photos by Marlene Smith.

The hot meals contain soup, an entrée, salad, bread and desert that can include a cup cake or custard. Special diets and needs can be met with meals that are low fat, low cholesterol, minced, pureed and suitable for diabetics or culturally appropriate. "We lost many of our long-time volunteers due to the pandemic," she said. "We have a whole group of mostly younger people now." Smith said the program is in need of volunteer drivers to take the lunches to those in need. A driver must have a vehicle and are usually retirees, those with shift work and some police officers or firefighters earning volunteer hours. They deliver from five to 13 hot or frozen meals, special diets or culturally appropriate lunches each daily and are paid for mileage. The good-natured volunteers provide a safety check ensuring clients families that they are safe in their homes.

The program charges a small fee to residents to help them live their lives independently. Long-time driver Adrian Smith has been a Meals on Wheels volunteer for 27 years. "I love the people and the job," Smith says. "Sometimes we are the only ones the clients would see for the entire day. We check up on them to make sure they are fine." The Canadian Red Cross in Ontario offers an extensive network of programs and services that actively reach out and serve local communities. The Meals on Wheels program has been around since the 1970s and has grown over time. If you would like to be a volunteer driver or donate please call (416) 236-3180 or fill out a form at [www.redcross.ca](http://www.redcross.ca).



ADRIAN SMITH has been a Red Cross Meals on Wheels volunteer for 27 years.

It was only a matter of time before we start losing more of our long-fought for services considering a gaping \$1 billion hole in the City's budget. A little perk that we have enjoyed in Etobicoke for many years is no longer. And it could be the first service chopped of many to come. The City says it is no longer providing the Mechanical Vacuum Leaf Collection Program which enabled residents to rake leaves that had fallen on their property to the roadside for mechanical vacuum collection. The program was only available to a limited number of residents in Etobicoke, York and Scarborough and by aligning the service level to other parts of the city, will result in an estimated savings of \$2.3 million per year, which will be redirected to other critical road maintenance activities such as pothole repairs and street sweeping. City officials are urging residents to collect leaves that fall on their property and place them in paper yard waste bags and set them out with your other yard waste at the curb for pickup on regularly scheduled garbage collection days. City Council wrote in its Budget 2023 notes that mechanical leaf collection is a legacy service which is currently provided to seven out of 25 wards. "The residents who live in the service's geographical boundaries of Scarborough and Etobicoke will have to manually bag their yard waste for disposal," according to Council. "Overall this proposal will have an equity neutral impact as it will ensure an equitable approach for collecting yard waste city-wide." Many city residents may think this is only a concern in the 'burbs. But this is the first of many services we took for granted that will be chopped by the City as they try hard to balance an alarming budget with a deficit of \$1 billion and counting. And you can see the cutbacks everywhere. Just take a look around and see how much litter there are on our streets, graffiti on the many stores and lengthy wait time even for 911 calls. It is just the beginning. Usually I could take the noisy leaf blower and blow the piles of leaves to the curb for it to be collected by a crew of City workers and their machines. It took less time and energy than raking a mound of leaves on a lawn under a huge Maple tree. Next to go I think will be the snow clearing we now get on our sidewalks. How difficult will it be for seniors and those with mobility issues to get to their doctors or to their appointments. The many services is what once made the City of Toronto such a great place to live. We will become like another large U.S. city if the chops are to continue, as I think they will. Mayor Olivia Chow, and her councillors, have said the city is broke and they have to find funds elsewhere to cover basic costs like fixing roads, or to pay fire and police officers and others. City staff estimate nixing the program, which requires dispatching crews with front-end loaders and dump trucks over about four weeks every autumn, will save millions yearly, and "ensure an equitable approach for collecting yard waste city-wide." Mind you the leaf vacuum program was only conducted in Etobicoke, York and Scarborough, with folks in other places wondering why. Many have said if it is good for them it should be good for us as well. Residents have been complaining for years that it should be a city-wide service. Many of us, including the many seniors, are disappointed to see the mechanical leaf vacuuming go and are concerned, or fear, what cuts to service will come next. A billion dollar gap is a lot to fill and it can lead to residents losing much more of the services we are used to and have grown comfortable with. And costs is all that matter these day even though many residents argue that mechanical collection saves the city money because the loose leaves can cause floods from clogging sewers and form ice in the winter.

Tom Godfrey is Publisher of the *South Etobicoke News*, who lives in the community. He was a reporter at the *Toronto Sun* for many years before deciding to use his skills to work in community journalism.

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## Your Health

By MONIKA MEULMAN

If trees could talk what tales they would tell. But wait, trees do talk! In more ways than one.

On a recent visit through the Blue Ridge Mountains in

Virginia and North Carolina, I had the great opportunity to watch trees 'dance' as they moved with the increasing storm winds. I was camping under the stars amidst thousands of Aspen and Poplar trees that rose high up, right into the stars. In an established community of trees, these were definitely the elders: tall, strong and wise.

My neck craned, I looked up, stood calm and listened. The rustling of thousands of leaves and tall, swaying tree limbs in the wind was so similar to the sounds of the flowing rivers. When I closed my eyes, I was sure I was listening to a thundering river close by. But I knew the river in the valley was calm and smooth.

These rhythmic waves of shushing that lulled me to sleep in my little one-person tent. The swaying forest, bustling tree canopy was playing a symphony of sorts. It was mother earth's Town Hall of Autumn. And, it was magical. But then, in my drowsy sleepiness, I remembered even more fascinating earth wisdom (scientifically explored recently): trees actually talk to one another.

Did you know that the roots of trees continually send out information in the forest floor to neighbouring trees and near-by plants?

You thought phones were smart, well they have nothing on the fun and the fungi underground! Yes, the fungi have all the fun, especially under ground, in our forest floors. Fungi are one of our world's greatest renewable resources and the recent studies show that they are integral in vast biological systems.

Canadian forests are most beautiful in the fall offering stunning colours in the months of October to November (depending on our altitude and latitude). Well the colour artistry above ground is amateur-hour creative when compared to the information highways designs in our forest lands. The 'wood-wide web' (as Suzanne Simard, a Forest Ecology Professor at the University of British Columbia calls it), underfoot is vibrant, active and 'louder' than ever. The fungi, flora and fauna are so intertwined their information transfer rivals that of any super computer.

As you cross the cool paths in your local park or on your next hike through one of



the Kortright Centre trails, it may seem like the trees are dying off and slowing down for the winter. But now you know that in fact the underground communications are alive and well, operating at lighting speed. The 'talking' mycorrhizal networks interconnected with the trees' root systems keep our forests healthy and strong. They are even helping trees share resources, which can promote stronger growth in young saplings.

As elder trees share their wisdom underfoot with younger trees and all the underground flora interconnected, we can see how important our forest health is to our own health. A community of trees is very much like our own community: sharing resources is vital for survival. Sharing information is vital for us all to thrive. On a cool November day, I say you hug a tree. Hug it with all of your heart, with all of your might. Don't wait for Earth Day.

No need wait to share your love of trees at the next summer Boots and Hearts Festival or Fall Harvest. Do it today. Go out there, stand by your favourite tree.

You know you have one. Introduce yourself and choose kindness. Share your gratitude for this tree, this pillar of health in your community. Know that every drop of moisture, every change in the viral load this flu season, every bacterial growth in the environment is detected by this tree.

All it's wisdom is real. All information collected by the earth, through this tree, is shared with every other connected organism underground.

The earth is alive in so many ways. When you stand there with your favourite tree, on a cold, crisp November morning, hug it well and smile in your heart. You are showing the deepest, most profound love for this one place we all call our home.

Maybe after your November hugfest, you may even consider planting a tree as a Christmas gift. Grow a wise new world with your giving.

"Between every two pines is a doorway to a new world."

- John Muir

"Learn character from trees, values from roots and change from leaves"

- Tasneern Harneed.

Monika Meulman

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## Retired Judge Speaks

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI

Remembrance Day is near. We celebrate those who gave their lives to battle for Freedom and Canada. But today, especially now, let us remember those who sacrificed themselves for world peace and appreciate the reputation they earned for Canada from their efforts to stand between warring factions to protect innocent civilians. Their mandate was not to take sides but to protect.

Canada has a long history of peacekeeping, dating back to the post-World War II era. A new Cold War was emerging, marked by tension between the Western world and the Soviet Union. Amid this environment, Canada's then-foreign minister, Lester Pearson, proposed the idea of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) to resolve the 1956 Suez Crisis centred around the lands that are the current tensions.

UNEF was the first modern international peacekeeping force designed to monitor and enforce the ceasefire between Israel, Egypt, and other Arab countries. Pearson's plan was welcomed by both the United States and the Soviet Union, and he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957 for his contributions.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Canadian troops participated in numerous UN peacekeeping missions, including the Congo Crisis, the Cyprus Dispute and Gulf War. However, in the 1990s and early 2000s, Canada's involvement in international peacekeeping declined. The end of the Cold War and the emergence of new global conflicts shifted the focus to more complex and dangerous missions, including in Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, and now Israel and Hamas.

Hopefully, Canadians are still committed to this tradition of peacekeeping. The country's commitment to multilateralism, diplomacy, and humanitarian aid continues to be a cornerstone of our foreign policy.

Today, innocents in the Middle East call out for justice and protection. As Canadians, we must appreciate the World's need for this role. It's a precious skill more valuable than guns. It requires considerable tolerance amongst our citizens to balance our feelings to intervene in a war of beliefs, culture and revenge. We use civility to discuss these views.

"If you don't know both sides, you don't know anything."--Mills

Innocents on both sides have died. In Law, only those with 'clean hands' can seek the benefit of Justice. Biblically, "Only those without sin may throw the first stone."

Centuries of genocide entitle the Jews to a safe place to defend themselves. The claim 'Never Again' is significant. The Palestinians who have ended up in Gaza, not by their own doing, are entitled to have the World that created Israel provide them with a better life of hope and promise for their children. Any rationale never excuses murder, rape and starvation. Hamas and those Palestinians who accept their carnage are not victims.

Revenge leads only to a never-ending cycle of killings and is reserved for a higher power. No one can justify the past here. All children need a future of those who sacrificed themselves for world peace and appreciate the reputation they earned for Canada from their efforts to stand between warring factions to protect innocent civilians. All children need a future of peace and socioeconomic hope. The past shouldn't be theirs to own. It's the children, the innocent, we need to protect. We need our peacekeepers now. God bless our Veterans.

I speak here for humanity. I speak not for the militants but for the innocent. John Mills said "If you don't know both sides, you don't know anything."

Canada must first establish a clear and principled stance on the conflict. It should uphold international law and human rights for Israelis and Palestinians while holding both parties accountable for their actions.

Canada should work to bring both parties to the negotiating table and facilitate meaningful discussions. Canada should emphasize the importance of finding mutually acceptable solutions, focusing on shared interests and benefits—namely, peace for everyone and socio-economic development for the Palestinian children. Canada should prioritize the safety and well-being of innocent civilians caught in the conflict. It should work with local and international aid agencies to provide humanitarian support and assistance to those in need.

God bless our Veterans!

**Judge Lloyd Budzinski retired after 28 years and was a former Crown Attorney, Defence Counsel and Ontario's Assistant Deputy Minister of Criminal Law. He was Chief Prosecutor in the trial of ex-RCMP officer Patrick Michael Kelly, found guilty of murder for throwing his wife from a 17<sup>th</sup> floor balcony in March 1981. He can be reached at lbudzinski@talkjustice.info**

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# Beloved barber retires after 50 years



CHARLIE CALOGERO in his popular West Mall barber shop in its heyday. **Family photos.**

One of the longest-serving barbers in South Etobicoke has packed in his scissors after 50-years of making generations of residents look better. Generations of men and women still remember Charlie Calogero, now 92, and attending his Sabia's Barber Shop, at Burnhamthorpe Mall. The pleasant Calogero purchased the shop around 1967 and renamed it



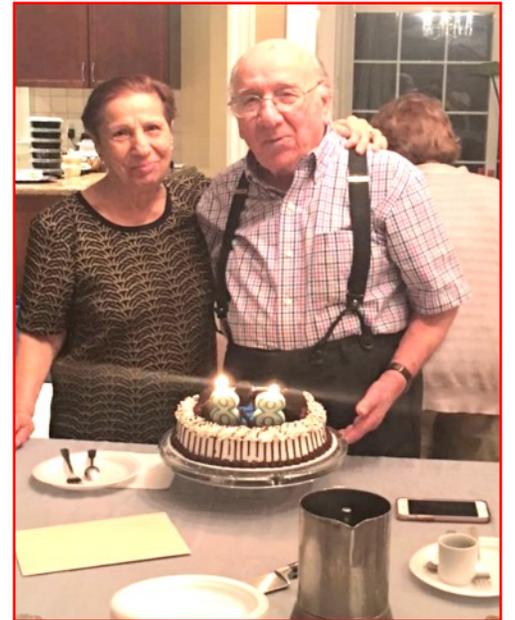
CALOGERO (left) with other barbers at another shop.

Calogero listened to his father and became a barber and his brothers were tailors. After leaving Sicily, he settled in Rome for 10 years, before arriving in Canada in 1962. He saved and managed to purchase Sabia's Barber Shop and has never looked back. "I

loved my customers and many became good friends," Calogero recall. "I loved to cut their hair and make them look better." His customers included firemen, police chiefs, military men and generations of families. Many of the youngsters he trimmed loved his work so much that they never left. "I loved the work," he said.

"I loved the routine and became close to many of my customers." He is proud to never have missed a day of work, except on holidays back to Italy and Mexico, Vito explained.

"He never wanted to leave his store or his



CALOGERO WITH his late wife Maria (above) celebrating a birthday. Below (left) with fellow barbers at a previous shop.

customers," Vito said. "It was a different generation back then." He said his dad rarely took a day off work and loved going to work. Calogero was a family man who worked hard to provide for his wife and children. He has since written an autobiography, his second book, and hopes to have it published one day. "I love retirement and that I can do other things," the barber said. "But I miss work and not going to work." Calogero, and another barber, ran a thriving shop, in a time when people got their hair cut every couple weeks, in an era before the Internet and e-mails, when life was simple. At almost 100, he is still cutting Vito's hair that of other family members. It's hard to keep a good barber down



*"At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning –*

## WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"



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# Looking after yourself and others in the community

**NOVEMBER 4 ASCENT GALLERY LAUNCH** 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at Etobicoke Civic Centre 399 The West mall. Free admission. The gallery is dedicated to early-career artists. Featuring the work of Hayley Chiu. Artist talk 1:30 p.m. For more information:

toronto.ca/ECCArtGallery or call 416-338-7256.

**NOVEMBER 7 SENIORS GROUP** presents Downsizing Made Easy; Your Guide to Transitional Planning, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Fairfield Seniors Centre, 80 Lothian Ave. Call 416-394-8686.

**NOVEMBER 8 to DECEMBER 27 THRIVING WITH MINDFULNESS** on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. via Zoom or free online session. **Corin De Sousa** provides programs and workshops in the GTA. She is a mindfulness teacher. To register e-mail norkyit@lampchc.org or call 416-252-6471 ext. 257.

**NOVEMBER 8 LAND TRUST JOIN** us on Zoom as we continue work on establishing a land trust to develop affordable housing in South Etobicoke. For more information, contact brig@lampchc.org or phone 416-252-6471 ext. 308.

**NOVEMBER 10 MEMORY SCREENING** - Are you aged 50-90 and noticing changes in your memory?

Register for our free memory screening service at LAMP CHC, presented by the Toronto Memory Program Fund for Education. To register call 416-252-6471 ext. 308 and ask for Jasmin.

**NOVEMBER 11 REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES** – First is a sunrise service taking place at 7:30 a.m. at the New Toronto Cenotaph, at Lakeshore Blvd. W., and Kipling Avenue. Second service at 10:45 a.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 643, at 110 Jutland Road. Third service also at 10:45 a.m. at the Etobicoke Civic Centre, at 399 The West Mall.

**NOVEMBER 14 TO DECEMBER 19** free 'Tis the Season Children's Art Show created by students of local schools. The works speak to the seasonal change from autumn to winter, to the cultural traditions they help shape. Taking place at the Assembly Hall, 1 Colonel Samuel Smith Park Drive. For more visit toronto.ca/assemblyhall or call 416-338-7255.

**NOVEMBER 15 and 22 DRUMMING SESSIONS** back by popular demand at LAMP CHC at 2:10 p.m. to create community and explore self-expression

through Samba-inspired drumming. No musical experience necessary. The group will invite participants into a playful and supportive space to learn to drum together. We will explore how music can be a powerful pathway to personal wellness, finding a sense of belonging and creating positive social change. For more e-mail jasmind@lampchc.org.

**NOVEMBER 16 MYSTERY BOOK CLUB** at Stonegate CHC, 10 Neighbourhood Lane, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. to discuss intriguing mystery *Gallows View* by *Peter Robinson*. Book, e-book or audio copy available at the Humber Bay Library and available through the library website at tpl.ca Call Stonegate CHC to register at 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or e-mail health.promotion@stonegatechc.org.

**NOVEMBER 20 UNTIL DECEMBER 15** WoodGreen's Community Services, at 2930 Lakeshore Blvd W., is seeking applicants for a Skills for Success for Experienced Workers (SSEW) program to train for jobs some 106 area residents, aged 45 and more. A five-day computer upgrading course will run from November 8 to 17. Those interested can e-mail mkabir@woodgreen.org or call at 647-201-5273.

**NOVEMBER 20 TO DECEMBER 8** you can drop off new unwrapped toys for the annual LAMP Annual Toy Drive at 185 Fifth Street, Main Reception, for children in South Etobicoke. Any age or gender is appreciated but there is greater need for kids aged from 12 to 18. Gift certificates are welcome for tweens. For more information contact Camisha Johnson at 416-252-9701 ext. 292 or e-mail camisha@lampchc.org.

**NOVEMBER 22 NATIONAL HOUSING DAY** to learn more about the impact of the housing crisis in South Etobicoke at Humber College G Building from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. We are also accepting pitch submissions from anyone with an idea to support housing in our community. For more or to submit your pitch, contact brig@lampchc.org or phone 416-252-6471 ext. 308.

**NOVEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Margaret New Toronto, 156 Sixth Street.

For more information phone 416-259-2659 or Instagram @smntanglican.

**NOVEMBER 25 INDOOR** Christmas Market at Franklin Horner Community Centre, at 432 Horner Ave., from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a wide range of amazing vendors and artisans in our gym and auditorium. There will be a bake sale and a BBQ for lunch. For more information phone 416-252-6822.

**UNTIL NOVEMBER 30 FREE** Toronto Juried Exhibition, at the Etobicoke Civic Centre Art Gallery, 399 The West Mall. The Federation of Canadian Artists Toronto presents the best new juried works by its members, offering fresh perspectives in fine art using oil, acrylic, watercolour and pastels. Phone 416-394-8628 or e-mail toronto.ca/eccartgallery

**DECEMBER 2 ETOBICOKE-LAKESHORE SANTA CLAUS PARADE** at 10 a.m. that will run from Dwight Avenue to Thirty Sixth Street, Long Branch. Volunteers are needed. For more information contact their Facebook page or e-mail lakeshoresanta@gmail.com

**DECEMBER 2 SKATE WITH SANTA** after the Lake Shore Santa Claus parade at the Colonel Sam Smith Skating Park, at Kipling Avenue and Lake Shore Blvd.

**DECEMBER 2 TORONTO SCOTTISH REGIMENT** and Lakeshore Village BIA members collecting cat and dog food for LAMP CHC pet owners at the Etobicoke Lakeshore Santa Claus parade. Attendees urged to bring some cat and dog food.

**THURSDAYS IS HATHA CHAIR YOGA** at LAMP CHC at 10:30 am with *Briar*. Stretch and enjoy some music and movement with Briar a certified Hatha Yoga instructor. Build your core strength and improve your flexibility. For more contact norkyit@lampchc.org

**SALVATION ARMY LAKESHORE COMMUNITY** church has a lunch program every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at 5 Thirtieth Street. Also Family Christmas Assistance registration is now open please register online at www.salakeshore.com or by calling 416-251-8372 ext. 104. Volunteers are needed for various programs call Jennifer at same phone number.



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# A WoodGreen program to retrain senior workers

WoodGreen Community Services has been helping less fortunate members of the community for some 85 years and counting. The South Etobicoke social services agency offers more than 75 programs for seniors, adults, youth, families, the homeless and newcomers to reduce poverty and promote community health. They provide safe and affordable housing options, disability support and a wide range of physical and mental health services.

“We also offer newcomer settlement programs, support for single mothers, child care, financial services and pathways to meaningful employment,” according to its website.

The agency has recently launched an innovative program called Skills for Success for Experienced Workers (SSEW) to train for jobs some 106 area residents, aged 45 and more.

The potential workers will be instructed in making a resume, including skills as writing a cover letter, searching for a job, interview and basic computer skills.

“This program will support experienced mature job seekers to enhance their skills, adapt to technology changes and excel in today’s job market,” said Malik Kabir, WoodGreen’s Supervisor of Workforce Development. “This program is cost-free and provides financial and tech supports to participants.”

He said interested participants are required to be proficient in English and have basic digital literacy.

The program provides a five-day computer skills upgrading course so those with low digital skills can qualify for the program.



STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS of WoodGreen Community Services take good care of their clients. Courtesy photos.

After four-weeks of skills training, participants are referred to WoodGreen’s Employment Services for job development, in which coaches connect them with potential employers who are hiring workers.

Clients in the program have the option to participate in five days of funded basic security guard training from Paragon Security, including obtaining an Ontario Security Guard Licence and two days Retail Council of Canada’s Customer Service Certificate training.

The program begins on November 20 and runs until December 15 at WoodGreen’s 2930 Lakeshore Blvd W. office. The five-day computer upgrading course will run from November 8 to 17, just before the start of the main program.

The agency provides individuals with disabilities, psychiatric survivors and people experiencing homelessness with safe and affordable housing. WoodGreen owns and manages 12 housing sites, where tenants can access a full range of services.

They help newcomers make a successful transition into Canadian society by offering access to affordable housing, employment opportunities, child care, language training and a range of other settlement services.

WoodGreen also help seniors and older adults with disabilities improve their health and live with dignity and independence. Their services include access to affordable housing, home support, medical escorts, counselling and recreational activities.

Those interested can e-mail the program supervisor at [mkabir@woodgreen.org](mailto:mkabir@woodgreen.org) or call him at 647-201-5273.



WOODGREEN staff and supporters take a break from their busy day.

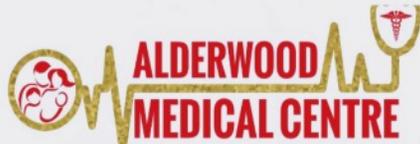


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# Remembrance Day

## November 11



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