



Lynn Foster
Councillor, Ward 4



NEWSLETTER

Ward 4

Special Points of Interest

Mill Pond Park

Yonge & Trench Streets

Home of the popular
"Concerts in the Park"
during July and August

Richmond Hill Centre
for the
Performing Arts

Mill Pond Art Gallery

York Central Hospital

Annual Richmond Hill
Winter Carnival

M.L. McConaghy
Senior's Centre

Elgin West
Community Centre

Mill Pond Splash
May 31, 2009

Beautiful parks, trails
and so much more...

Town of Richmond Hill

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Ward 4 Spring/Summer '09



GOING WILD IN WARD 4

Lately it seems we are welcoming back into our community the appearance of coyotes and foxes and I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that it is a rare and uplifting experience to see these predators back, as it indicates that Nature is in balance and thriving in our suburban environment. It is imperative that we resist feeding them. Coyotes and foxes generally stay hidden due to their nocturnal habits and use of vacant or open

land, however the frequency of their sightings is growing and it is important to remember that it is not wise to feed them or to leave pet food outside for dogs or cats. As John Trout, Jr. says in his book, "Solving Coyote Problems", once a coyote loses its fear of humans, it becomes dangerous and a problem coyote. The only real **long term** solution is to remove possible coyote food sources and strictly practice coyote prevention measures.

If you love the idea that we can coexist with coyotes and foxes then it is imperative that you are careful not to feed them, leave pet food out or in any way encourage

them to visit into the residential area.

How can I help to reduce or avoid problems with coyotes?

- Don't approach or feed coyotes.
- Secure your property.
- Clean up your compost, garbage and other potential food sources.
- Don't store food outside.
- Clean up around bird feeders.
- Clean up fallen fruit.
- Keep pets on a leash, in your enclosed property, or inside your home, especially at night.

RICHMOND HILL 2009 BUDGET

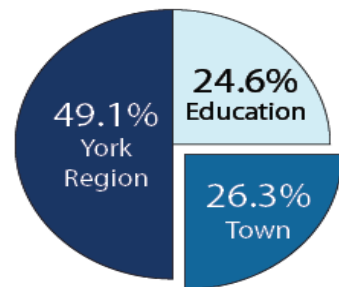
Following a series of meetings and careful consideration, Council approved the 2009 Budget at its April 6 meeting with an operating component of \$111.8 million and a capital plan of \$29 million.

This results in a 2.1 per cent property tax increase. *For an average Richmond Hill residential property assessed at \$411,000, the increase translates into \$24 annually or \$0.07 per day.*

Council understands the pressure that the current recession creates for taxpayers and, as such, has worked hard with staff in conducting a very thorough and responsible budget process that encouraged public feedback through both consultation sessions and online.

The Town remains debt free and well positioned to withstand the recession. The Town follows a prudent, four-year budget planning process to predict long term trends and projects, and remains committed to not compromising the quality of life in Richmond Hill.

Tax Bill Breakdown



Town Services for 26 Cents

(for the average home assessed at \$411,000)

Cost	%	Town Services
6 cents	23%	Fire Services
3 cents	12%	Town-owned Buildings
2 cents	9%	Parks maintenance & operations
2 cents	9%	Library services
2 cents	8%	Road & related maintenance
2 cents	7%	Organics, recycling & waste collection
2 cents	6%	Contribution to reserve funds
1 cent	3%	Recreation & special events
1 cent	3%	Winter maintenance & snow clearing
1 cent	3%	Tax rate funded capital
4 cents	17%	Other (including general government and repair & replacement)
26 cents*	100%	TOTAL

*Town's portion is actually 26.3 cents. Amounts have been rounded to equal \$0.26.

DOORS OPEN In Richmond Hill

Burr House and Guild Hall

528 and 530 Carrville Road, Richmond Hill

Burr House, a stuccoed, plank-on-plank Ontario cottage built in 1820 by Rowland Burr, is now an inviting craft shop and tea room. The Guild Hall, built in 1857 by the Evangelical Association of North America, was moved to this site in 1978, and now serves as a studio for the Hill Potters and the Spinners and Weavers guilds.

M.L. McConaghy Seniors' Centre/Fomer Richmond Hill Public School

10100 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

In 1957, the former Richmond Hill Public School, built in 1915 in the Queen Anne revival style, was renamed in honour of a devoted teacher, Mary Lillian McConaghy, who had retired in 1944 at age 82. The school closed in 1979, but reopened in 1985 as the M.L. McConaghy Seniors' Centre. Once again, it is alive with activity and learning.

Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts

10268 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Opened in February of this year, this multi-use centre for the performing arts brings new vitality to the village's downtown core. At 43,000 square feet, it is the largest facility of its kind in York Region. Anchoring the centre is the restored Richmond Hill High School, built in 1897, featuring red bricks, a grey stone foundation and two main entrances.

Richmond Hill Heritage Centre/Amos Wright House

19 Church Street North, Richmond Hill

This well-preserved example of an Ontario Regency cottage was built in 1840 by Amos Wright, the first Reeve of Markham Township. Its distinctive features include a low-pitched, broad-hip roof; low, massive profile; Georgian sense of balance; and large front windows. Now home to the Richmond Hill Heritage Centre, it sits in picturesque Amos Wright Park.

Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church, Dead House and Cemetery

10066 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Built in 1880 in the high Victorian Gothic revival style, the church is constructed of white brick, with contrasting red-brick accents and white decorative details. The cemetery, behind the church, has grave markers dating from 1806 to the present, and is the location of the octagonal "dead house," used to store caskets over the winter when burials were not possible.

Richmond Hill United Church

10201 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Built in 1880, originally for a Methodist congregation, this high Victorian Gothic revival white-brick church boasts the tallest steeple of the historic churches in the village core. With the union of Methodists, Congregationalists and Presbyterians in 1925, it became part of the United Church. Note the church's picturesque asymmetrical silhouette.

Robert Holland Interpretive Centre and Phyllis Rawlinson Park

Leslie Street (north of Elgin Mills Road), Richmond Hill

This large Oak Ridges Moraine park was a bequest from Phyllis Rawlinson on condition that it be managed for conservation purposes. The interpretive centre, known historically as Shaw House, was donated by Robert Holland of the Rouge Valley Foundation, and moved here. Built between 1801 and 1834 and restored, it hosts historical displays and educates youngsters to be environmentally conscious.

Vanderburgh House

376 Church Street South, Richmond Hill

Built in 1833 by Richard Vanderburgh, this two-storey, yellow and white Georgian-style clapboard house has a salt-box shape, and is typical of many of the grand houses built in New England at that time. Now it's home to the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce and the Book Arts Guild of Richmond Hill. Tours and demonstrations of antique printing presses.

Village Wagon Tours

Southwest corner of Yonge and Centre streets, Richmond Hill

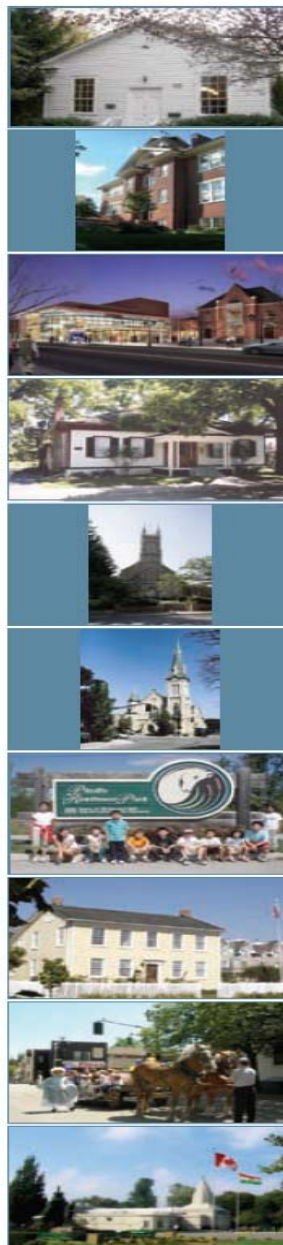
- Noon to 3:30 p.m.

Join members of Heritage Richmond Hill for a horse-drawn wagon ride and guided tour. Take this journey of discovery along the historic village streets and enjoy the distinctive and charming architecture, lovely front gardens and interesting stories from the past. Tours depart from the southwest corner of Yonge and Centre streets.

Vishnu Mandir

8640 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Experience the world's oldest civilization at Vishnu Mandir. Learn about the evolution of the Hindu temple and the rich heritage of the Hindu culture at the interactive Canadian Museum of Hindu Civilization. Vishnu Mandir, built in 1992 and also home to the Sangeet Academy and a Montessori school, is a cultural gem in Richmond Hill.



The Ontario Heritage Trust – the Province's lead heritage agency - and the Town of Richmond Hill invite you to take part in the first annual **Doors Open Ontario** in Richmond Hill on **Saturday, June 13 from 10 a.m. to 4p.m.**

What is Doors Open?

In 2002, the Ontario Heritage Trust - the Province's lead heritage agency - launched Doors Open Ontario, the first province-wide event of its kind in Canada. Doors Open Ontario continues to bring together communities across Ontario. Throughout the Province, there is a growing pride in heritage. Communities boast of their commercial buildings, courthouses, places of worship, gardens and natural heritage. Richmond Hill is no exception and is pleased to open the doors to some of our most unique and intriguing heritage sites for everyone to experience.

Admission is **FREE**.

2009 "Concerts in the Park" at Mill Pond Park

Performance Date	Performer	Music Genre
July 9	Katmandu – Bob Seger Tribute	Rock
July 16	Jack Grunsky* (*Note: This performance takes place from 7 – 8:15 p.m.)	Children's
July 23	Dick Smith & Syncona	Caribbean
July 30	Pauly & the Goodfellas	1970's Music
August 6	CF Toronto R&B Band (and the Richmond Hill Centennial Pipe Band)	Rhythm & Blues
August 13	Dan the Music Man* (*Note: This performance takes place from 7 – 8:15 p.m.)	Children's
August 20	The Good Brothers	Country
August 27	Fleetwood Nicks – Fleetwood Mac Tribute	Rock

FREE

Redeemable for one free drink at the July 9 Concert at Mill Pond Park

Compliments of Councillor Lynn Foster

"Quantities Limited"

Please bring this coupon to the BBQ ticket table to exchange for your free drink ticket.

July 9, 2009

Expiration Date:

"FRONT GARDEN RECOGNITION 2009"

Don't forget the "Front Garden Recognition 2009" program. The most beautiful front yards will be rewarded.

To nominate a garden you feel is worthy - even yours, please call 905-884-8013 ext. 4477, via e-mail to parks@richmondhill.ca, or you may submit an online nomination form - visit www.richmondhill.ca or by mail to

Front Garden Recognition

1200 Elgin Mills Road East,

Richmond Hill, ON L4C 4Y5