



**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Councillor – Ward 7  
Tel: 905-896-5700  
E-mail: nando.iannicca@mississauga.ca

City of Mississauga • 300 City Centre Drive • Mississauga, ON L5B 3C1  
phone: 905-896-5700 • fax: 905-896-5463 • e-mail: nando.iannicca@mississauga.ca

Ward 7 • Fall 2008

**Dear Neighbours,**

As your representative at Regional Council, I am proud to serve you and remain committed to working on your behalf to meet the needs of our growing and diverse community.

With fall in full swing and winter to quickly follow, I would like to take this opportunity to keep you informed about some of the services and programs provided to you by the Region of Peel.

It is important that we all contribute to the well-being and health of our community by demonstrating a commitment to the environment and to each other through our social networks. Many of our Regional programs deal with human services and the environment, and I trust that you will source some valuable information and become more familiar with the many Regional services that are vital to the well-being of our community.

Should this newsletter prompt any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 905-896-5700 or email me at nando.iannicca@mississauga.ca. On behalf of Brenda Robertson, Barbara Johnstone and I have a safe and enjoyable season.

Best personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
City and Regional Councillor – Ward 7

**Human Services and our growth challenge!**

With 34,000 new residents each year, Peel is experiencing one of the highest population growth rates in the entire country – it will grow by almost 63% by 2031 to 1.6 million people.

Over the past several years, as demands for human services increased, managing the impact of “GTA pooling” has been a major challenge at Regional Council. Pooling is the name that the former provincial government gave to an initiative it put in place in 1998 to help Toronto pay for its social assistance (Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program) and social housing costs. For Peel, it meant transferring almost \$60 million per year of Peel property taxes to support the City of Toronto. For years, my Council colleagues and I were petitioning the government to end this unfair program while we in Peel had a growing list of unmet community needs to deal with.

Fortunately, in 2007, the province announced that it was going to phase out pooling, with 2013 being the first year that pooling won't show up on Peel's budget.

From this decision, Peel taxpayers will save \$12.1 million dollars in 2008, which will be reinvested in human services programs such as child care, social housing, health services and social services. This translates into a significant impact by ensuring that we maintain funding for the:

- 114,000 days of shelter for homeless individuals and families to meet increasing demand seen between 2001-2006;



- monthly social and employment assistance to 10,200 clients;
- subsidized child care to 4,600 children;
- 41,500 TransHelp trips;
- 7,008 additional Paramedic hours to respond to population growth and to maintain optimal emergency response times;
- enhancement of Peel's school-aged immunization program;
- expansion of the children's dental program to reach more than 7,650 children and a new dental program for low-income seniors over age 65; and,
- more nursing staff for Peel Long-Term Care programs to meet increasing needs of residents.

Regional Council is committed to making investments in human services that reap greater rewards for the economic, social and cultural health of our residents.

**Energy Conservation – a top priority in Peel**

Whether it's implementing a large-scale project or changing a small habit around your home, it's important that we all do our part to reduce our energy consumption, and more importantly, our energy waste.

Each one of us must play a role in conserving energy and doing all that we can to protect our environment.

The Region of Peel energy strategy works to reduce energy demand, diversify energy supplies with a focus on renewable technologies, decrease dependence on fossil fuels and take proactive measures to optimize energy use throughout facilities and infrastructure.

Do your part to reduce car emissions by simply not idling your car and by using energy efficient appliances. Conservationpeel.ca features the sustainable home, an interactive house that can navigate to find all sorts of energy efficiency pointers. Next time you're browsing the Web, I encourage you to visit [www.conservationpeel.ca](http://www.conservationpeel.ca).

It's surprising how significant an impact you can make with very little effort and a lot of common sense.



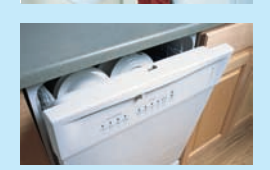
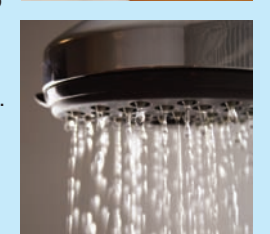
**Save water this winter – protect the environment and reduce your utility bills**

Taking action to be more water efficient is an important step toward protecting our environment. You will help sustain our natural resources and have the added benefit of a reduction in the cost of your bills.

Remember, when you reduce your water consumption you also use less energy too! By using one resource wisely, we achieve a range of environmental benefits.

Easy water conservation tips to apply at home:

- When purchasing a new toilet choose a water efficient Peel-Approved model from the Region's Toilet Replacement Program.
- Replace your toilet flapper every three to five years to prevent leaks.
- Install water efficient showerheads and tap aerators in the bathroom and kitchen.
- Reduce showering time to five minutes.
- Turn off the tap while doing the following activities: brushing your teeth, rinsing food, washing dishes, washing your hands or shaving.
- Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when full.
- Insulate your hot water tank and pipes to keep hot water hot, and to reduce the time you need to run the faucet.



For more information about water conservation and what you can do, visit [www.watersmartpeel.ca](http://www.watersmartpeel.ca) or call 905-791-7800, ext. 4499.

**REGION OF PEEL CONTACT INFORMATION**  
IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

**Councillor Nando Iannicca** 905-896-5700  
[nando.iannicca@mississauga.ca](mailto:nando.iannicca@mississauga.ca)

**Region of Peel** 905-791-7800 [www.peelregion.ca](http://www.peelregion.ca)

After hours dispatch 905-791-7800  
Health Line Peel 905-799-7700  
Peel Regional Paramedic Services (non-emergency) 905-791-7800, Ext.4620  
Region of Peel Water Billing 905-791-8711  
WASTELINE (recycling, garbage pick-up) 905-791-9499

**City of Mississauga** 905-896-5000 [www.mississauga.ca](http://www.mississauga.ca)

City after hours dispatch 905-615-3000  
Animal Control 905-896-5858  
Bylaw Enforcement 905-896-5655  
Cooksville Branch Library 905-615-4855  
Huron Park Recreation Centre 905-615-4820  
Cooksville Community Police Station 905-306-8222  
Mississauga Fire 905-615-3777  
Mississauga Transit 905-615-4636  
Parking Control 905-896-5678  
Property Taxes 905-896-5575  
Recreation and Parks 905-615-4100

**Other Important Community Contacts**

Aircraft Noise Complaints 416-247-7682 [www.gtaa.com](http://www.gtaa.com)  
Peel Regional Police 905-453-3311 [www.peelpolice.on.ca](http://www.peelpolice.on.ca)  
GO Transit 416-869-3200 [www.gotransit.com](http://www.gotransit.com)  
Enersource 905-273-9050 [www.enersource.com](http://www.enersource.com)  
Ministry of Environment 1-800-565-4923 [www.ene.gov.on.ca](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca)  
Ministry of Health 905-275-2730 [www.gov.on.ca](http://www.gov.on.ca)  
Peel District School Board 905-890-1099 [www.peel.edu.on.ca](http://www.peel.edu.on.ca)  
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board 905-890-1221 [www.dpcdsb.org1](http://www.dpcdsb.org1)  
Poison Control 416-813-5900 [www.sickkids.ca](http://www.sickkids.ca)  
Mississauga Crime Prevention Assoc. 905-615-6272 [www.mcpa.on.ca](http://www.mcpa.on.ca)

**Community Recycling Centres**

In addition to cooking oil disposal, the Region of Peel's Community Recycling Centres offer recycling, reuse and disposal services for Peel residents and small businesses.

I am pleased to announce that this past summer the Region opened its fifth Community Recycling Centre at 1126 Fewster Dr., near the intersection of Dixie Road and Eglinton Avenue. The facility operates Monday to Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and is open until 8 p.m. every Thursday from May to September.



The recycling centres are a great way to dispose of your household hazardous waste items such as paint, batteries and pharmaceuticals, motor oil and other chemicals, free of charge. As you know, these items should never be placed in your garbage or recycling containers, or poured down the drain or toilet. I also encourage you to use any of our Community Recycling Centres to donate your gently used items to Goodwill.

For more information on the Region's Community Recycling Centres, including locations, drop-off fees and other accepted materials, call 905-791-9499 or visit [www.peelregion.ca/waste](http://www.peelregion.ca/waste).

If you witness the improper disposal or dumping of any household hazardous waste, please notify the Region of Peel Spill Coordinator at 905-791-7800. All information is kept confidential.

The water system is ours to share. Together, let's keep it clean and safe.

**Organics Recycling: A Success Story**

In April 2007, the Region of Peel launched the Organics Recycling Program. More than 295,000 households in the Region who receive curbside waste collection services in Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon were invited to participate in this initiative.

As your Regional Councillor in Ward 7, I'm delighted to report to you that we've diverted 28,000 tonnes of organic material from disposal this year alone – that's equivalent to 933 less trucks sending waste to landfill!

As a result of the success of the Organics Recycling Program, the Region's waste diversion rate increased from 45 per cent in 2006 to 50 per cent in 2007, bringing us closer to reaching our goal of diverting 70 per cent of waste from disposal by 2016.

To reach our waste diversion goal as envisioned by your Regional Council, I encourage those who have been participating in the Organics Recycling Program to keep up the great work; we couldn't do it without you!



I also encourage anyone who isn't participating in the program to start using your kitchen container and green bin to collect and set out your food waste and soiled paper products. Participating in the program is an easy way to make a personal contribution by doing something good for the environment, our community and future generations.

**Cooking Oil Disposal: Keeping the Pipes and Waterways Clean**

The inappropriate disposal of cooking oil puts a strain on our environment and our already-stressed infrastructure. It's important to know and remember that used cooking oil must never be poured down your sink or toilet. Over time, it clogs the system within your home and neighbourhood causing serious backups within the system. What doesn't stay in the pipes is discharged, untreated into our picturesque creeks, rivers and lakes – the source of our drinking water.



In Ward 7, Asta Road and Shepard Avenue have seen significant infrastructure problems. Whether you live in a home or an apartment, we all need to do our part to preserve our water systems and to help them to stay healthy. Forward-thinking Peel launched a biodiesel program last summer that enables residents and small businesses to drop off up to 120 litres of used cooking oil per day at any of our Community Recycling Centres, free of charge. The oil is converted to biodiesel fuel for use in Regional vehicles.



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## Taking Control

by **Barbara Johnstone, Executive Assistant, Ward 7**

During his 70th birthday speech, Mark Twain said, “As an example to others, and not that I care for moderation myself, it has always been my rule never to smoke when asleep and never to refrain when awake.”

These words pretty much sum up the past 30 years of my life, and my addictive relationship with cigarette smoking.

When the Fairview Clinic opened, I seized the opportunity to seek professional assistance, and I signed myself up for the Stop Study. Being part of the study required a commitment on my part and one of the first questions I was asked was, “How motivated are you?” My answer rolled off my lips, “Very motivated!” Now that I’m over 50 I think it has finally sunk in – smoking is just dumb; I’m killing myself and it’s a waste of money, but my main reason for finally getting serious about giving it up for good was my five year-old grandson.

Mark Twain has also been quoted as saying, “Quitting smoking is easy...I’ve done it hundreds of times.” I obviously think Mark Twain was a clever man; however, I give more credence to his clever use of language rather than his wisdom. This time, I will quit forever! The professional support that I received from the public health clinic gave me the ability to state this with more confidence than ever before.

The study provided me with nicotine replacement therapy, professional one-on-one counselling, and an abundance of encouragement. Visiting Colleen, my health nurse-counsellor, was a joy. We measured my progress in baby steps and by the ever-decreasing levels of carbon monoxide in my lungs. I finally began to realize that I truly could, and would, conquer this addiction – forever! I’m not saying I’m there yet; it is a lifelong journey to “kick the habit,” but in all honesty, without the professional guidance and unconditional support of our local public health clinic, I would still be making myself promises instead of setting goals.

Although the Stop Study is now finished, regular stop smoking clinics have commenced, and nicotine replacement therapy is still available. If you are considering quitting smoking...just get started. It’s as simple as stopping by the Fairview Clinic to pick up a few of the brochures on quitting smoking, you will have taken the first, and most important step of all. Good luck and thank you to Colleen and the Fairview clinic.

*Barbara*

## Region of Peel Purchases Property for New Shelter

When structural problems were identified at the Mavis Homeless Shelter last November it was closed and residents were relocated to the Wilkinson Shelter in Brampton, the Peel Family Shelter in Mississauga and area hotels, as required.

The Region recently purchased a former Travelodge Hotel in Mississauga, allowing us to raise the number of shelter beds and programming supports without an increase in the overall number of facilities.

Renovations on this facility will begin shortly. In the meantime, the Region continues to provide emergency shelter services for residents, with services provided at alternative sites. Normal after-hours procedures remain the same and anyone requiring emergency shelter should call the Wilkinson Shelter at 905-452-1335, where all intake calls will be assessed and assisted.

## Fairview Peel Public Health Clinic

I am delighted with the opening of the Fairview Peel Public Health Clinic, located at 325 Central Parkway West in Ward 7. This much-needed addition to our community provides access to quality health services and healthier living for you and your family.

You can enrol in a quit smoking program, as did my Executive Assistant, Barbara Johnstone, use dental screening and prevention services, or visit a healthy sexuality clinic. The Fairview Clinic offers immunization, prenatal education classes and food handler classes. High-risk pregnant teenagers receive a healthy meal and learn about pregnancy and nutrition, labour and delivery, breastfeeding and personal care at the Teen Prenatal Supper Club. The new clinic is also a drop-off location for well water testing bottles and a vaccine pick-up location for local physicians.

The clinic was previously located at 3038 Hurontario Street. The new location provides more space and plenty of parking. You can get to the clinic on Mississauga Transit bus #6 and #28.

For more information about the clinic, please call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700.



## Street Helpline Peel

On June 25, 2008, the Region of Peel launched a new toll-free number for its Street Helpline, enabling clients to call without charge from any phone in Central and Southern Ontario.

Street Helpline Peel is now available by calling 1-877-848-8481. The new number connects callers to the Region’s Customer Contact Centre which provides information directly or connects callers to the appropriate supports.

The helpline is part of the Region’s outreach program for families and individuals. This collaborative effort between the Region’s Health and Human Services department; the Canadian Mental Health Association/Peel Branch; St. Leonard’s Place Peel; Peel Addiction Assessment and Referral Centre; and Catholic Cross Cultural Services provides supportive and caring assistance with a broad range of services



including, food, clothing, blankets, and mental health and addiction supports. Referral and advocacy is also available for housing, emergency shelter, medical care and employment.

## Peel’s Social Housing Wait List Continues to Grow

As the largest social housing provider in Peel, the Region of Peel manages the Peel Access to Housing (PATH) wait list. Currently, over 13,500 applicants have requested assistance in the form of rent-geared-to-income (RGI).



Demand for affordable housing in Peel has grown significantly over the last decade, especially demand from singles and families. In 2007, only six per cent (872) of all applicants on the Centralized wait list could be placed in RGI housing. To further assist applicants, PATH also works with other regional programs and community agencies that provide a range of support services to applicant households. This includes provincial rent supplement programs that provide subsidy directly to private landlords on behalf of qualified applicants.

Some developments are currently under construction that will serve to provide a few hundred affordable units in Peel within the next two years. Even with these projects underway, the substantial wait list demonstrates a great need for affordable housing. The Region of Peel continues to press for more funding from other levels of government to meet this increasing demand.

For more information, visit [www.peelregion.ca/housing/social](http://www.peelregion.ca/housing/social).

## Strong Demand for Home in Peel-Affordable Ownership Program



The Home in Peel program provides low-to-moderate income residents who are currently renting a unit the opportunity to qualify for down-payment loan assistance (5% of the purchase price to a maximum of \$10,000) to buy a home in Peel Region.

This program will assist eligible applicants who have a total annual income of \$75,800 or less to purchase a resale home in the Region of Peel (Brampton, Caledon or Mississauga) that does not exceed a purchase price of \$247,000.

Since the launch of Home in Peel in May 2007, over 673 applications have been received by the Region, with 157 currently on the waiting list. The strong demand and interest in this program shows a need for more affordable housing options in Peel. The Region continues to work with provincial and federal governments to meet Peel’s future housing needs.

For more information about Home in Peel, call 905-453-1300, or visit [www.peelregion.ca/homeinpeel](http://www.peelregion.ca/homeinpeel).

## Child Care in Peel

The Region of Peel’s Children’s Services division operates 12 *Learn.Play.Care. Child Care Centres* for children aged 18 months to 5 years. A full range of programs to optimize a child’s development are provided including parenting supports, education and an inclusive program for children with special needs.

For more information, please visit [www.peelregion.ca/childcar](http://www.peelregion.ca/childcar) or call us at 905-791-1585.



## Taking Steps to Help our Youth

The Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network, first initiated in 2006, took another significant step towards reducing youth violence in our community when we signed the Peel Youth Charter. Proudly displayed on my office wall, the Peel Youth Charter forms the foundation for safe and supportive environments for all Peel youth to ensure their safety, health, education and future employment.

The Charter was born from the recommendations contained in the Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network’s 2006 report “Toward a Bright Future for Peel Youth.” The report outlined recommendations for four key areas – services and support for youth, community development, working with families and education, policy and programs – to help develop an area-wide strategy to stem the rising tide of youth violence in Peel.



## Talk to Your Kids about Drugs - Start Early and Keep Talking

Believe it or not, parents are the biggest influence on a child’s decision whether to drink alcohol or use drugs. Talk openly with your child, express your concerns and let them know that you care about their health and well-being.

- Talk early and keep talking. Some kids have already tried alcohol by Grade 6.
- Be informed about drugs and their effects and risks.
- Be clear about family rules, expectations and consequences.
- Make sure conversations focus on positive things about your child.
- Create a two-way dialogue where your child can comfortably discuss their perspectives and talk about their experiences and the pressures they are feeling.
- Stay persistent and consistent. Just because they aren’t talking doesn’t mean they aren’t listening.

For more information, check out [www.TalkAboutDrugs.ca](http://www.TalkAboutDrugs.ca), a website created by Peel Public Health.

## Construction Projects in your Neighbourhood

To better communicate construction information to Peel Region citizens, the Environmental, Transportation and Planning Services Department has developed a mapping application to graphically show active Capital Works construction projects on Peel’s website. The user-friendly application retrieves information from existing data sources allowing access to current information.

You can access the data by visiting [www.peelregion.ca/gis/peelcapitalworks/default.asp](http://www.peelregion.ca/gis/peelcapitalworks/default.asp).