

# Message from Councillor Richard Whitehead

Reporting to the Citizens of Caledon – Wards 3 & 4

18820 The Gore Rd. • Caledon, ON • L7K 2M7  
905-880-0911 • Fax: 905-880-2385  
E-mail: richard.whitehead@caledon.ca

## Two bag standard



On Oct. 1, the Region of Peel moved from a three bag to a two bag standard for garbage collection.

Households that receive curbside waste collection services may place a combined total of two garbage bags, garbage containers, or small bundles of wood for collection at the curb each week.

Each additional item must have a Region of Peel garbage tag attached to it to be eligible for collection. Tags are available for \$5 for a sheet of five tags, and can be purchased by visiting [www.peelregion.ca/waste](http://www.peelregion.ca/waste) or by calling 905-791-9499. You can also purchase tags at the locations listed on page 13 of your 2007 *Waste Management Guide*.

Meeting the two bag standard is easy - simply recycle all your blue box and green bin material to help reduce the amount of garbage you set out. I'm pleased to say that 90 per cent of Peel households are already meeting the two bag standard on a weekly basis.

Keep up the great work!

### DEAR RESIDENTS OF WARDS 3 & 4,

*The Region of Peel plays a very important role in the life of our community in Caledon. From this level of government, we receive our police services, public health, social services, supportive housing, paramedic services, municipal water and sanitary sewer services, waste management, regional high volume roads, planning, environmental protection and debt management.*

*The Region is one of the most successful municipalities in Canada with no tax-supported debt. With substantial financial reserves, Peel stands ready and able to manage our future of rapid change and economic expansion. Stability and progress lie in the creation of strong local communities built and sustained on a foundation of fairness, equity and opportunity for all people.*

*We are also in a position to provide leadership in environmental protection and resource management. We need to continue our commitment to the protection and enhancement of our natural environment.*

*New provincial policy initiatives are having a pronounced effect on how we deal with our rural green space, agriculture, rural and estate housing, villages and hamlets, and the future urban expansion areas of south Albion.*

*The decisions that we make in the next few months and years will influence our quality of life and community living for the next generation. We are on the threshold of change that will have a profound effect on our future.*

*It's time to abandon the reactive approach when dealing with issues and challenges and be more proactive in finding real solutions. It's time for us to look forward to the task at hand with the confidence that we can really make a difference.*

*It's time for us to set our own objectives and manage our future in a way that is beneficial to our local economy and ecosystem. I look forward to our continued partnership in shaping Caledon and Peel. Together we can continue to build a happy, healthy and sustainable community. Together we can make a difference.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Whitehead".

Richard Whitehead

# WATER

## Toilet Replacement Program

Did you know that out-of-date toilets can use up to 30 per cent of the water consumed in your home? That's one reason why it's smart to switch to a more water efficient model.

Need more incentive? The Region of Peel will reimburse residents who have purchased Peel-Approved toilets on or after Sept. 1, 2005 for \$60 on the 6-litre model and \$100 on toilets that flush with 4.8 litres or less. Be Water Smart and watch your bill shrink this year.

For more information and tips to save water, visit [www.watersmartpeel.ca](http://www.watersmartpeel.ca).



## Ground water improvements

### Municipal Wellhead Protection Issues

In 2007, the Region of Peel completed provincially-funded studies to refine mapping of wellhead protection areas and assess vulnerabilities around all active Regional wells located in the Town of Caledon. These studies constitute part of the ongoing technical work carried out by the Region of Peel and its conservation authorities to produce science-based drinking source-water assessment reports and protection plans to meet legislative requirements of the Clean Water Act, 2006 (Bill 43).

### Upgrades to Water Treatment Facilities in North Peel

With the exception of Caledon East Well #4 Pumping Station where the construction is entering the commissioning stage, the Region of Peel has completed upgrades to its water treatment facilities in the following North Peel communities: Alton, Caledon East, Caledon Village, Cheltenham, Inglewood and Palgrave. The upgrades were implemented in response to new regulation requirements of the Ministry of Environment's Safe Drinking Water Act. The new water treatment components include greensand filters to remove iron and manganese, ultraviolet disinfection systems and chlorine contact facilities. The treatment methods depend on raw water characteristics of each well. The approximate cost of the upgrades is \$23M. The Region of Peel will commence cleaning water mains of iron and manganese sediment in spring 2008. In combination with the new treatment processes, this will improve the aesthetic quality of water residents receive.



From our farm  
**TO YOU!**

### WHY BUY LOCAL?

Local produce is picked fresh and tastes great. Foods imported from other locations are often picked before they are ripe and are forced to ripen during shipping.

Buying foods from local farmers will help your family understand where their food comes from and will connect you to people who produce the food you eat.

Buying foods from local farms supports the local economy and helps keep them in business. It also helps create local jobs.

Buying local helps make Peel a better, more liveable place!



# CONSERVATION

## Watching Ospreys on their platforms at Palgrave Pond

The Palgrave Pond is a defining natural feature within the Palgrave community because of its heritage, central location, environmental significance and natural beauty. Over the years, this area, through community-based initiatives, boasts multiple accomplishments, including the installation of a fish ladder to bypass the dam, trails, pedestrian bridges and tree and shrub planting. To further enhance the natural attributes of the area, the community has constructed an Osprey platform near the fish ladder and is working towards constructing a second Osprey platform closer to the pond as well as a gazebo.



The area will serve as a community meeting place and viewing area. Ospreys are unique raptors (or birds of prey) in that they eat fish almost exclusively; therefore, maintaining close proximity to clean bodies of water is a central habitat requirement for them. Ospreys are under stress due to toxics found in fish and may be further impacted by the negative impacts of climate change. Community initiatives such as those described above help ensure successful future population growth of this special bird by providing essential habitat structures for them in areas that naturally suit their daily needs. The Region of Peel is providing funding to the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) to assist with this and many other projects to protect, enhance and restore the natural environment in Caledon.

## Connecting the Caledon East Wetland to the Community

The Caledon East Wetland is a natural attraction for residents, providing opportunity for recreation and nature appreciation right in the heart of the community. The wetlands also includes Centerville Creek, an important coldwater stream that serves as the aquatic and terrestrial home for several species. Concerns have been raised in the past over the degradation and destruction of this natural feature due to surrounding urbanization, and as a result, much action has been taken over the years. Work to date includes assisting with the implementation of the TRCA's management plan, titled *Legacy: A Strategy for a Healthy Humber*. Accomplishments include wetland enhancement, tree and shrub planting, fish habitat improvement and a boardwalk for recreation and educational purposes. To further the objectives of this Community Action Site, an expansion of the existing boardwalk is proposed in 2008. The boardwalk will span the entire width of the wetland, with trail connections provided to adjacent roads. Developing and maintaining a system of properly sited inter-regional trails through accessible greenspace helps safeguard the community's significant natural wonders. The Region of Peel is providing funding to the TRCA to assist with this and many other projects to promote a culture of conservation in the community.

## Peel Region Official Plan – Get Involved

The Peel Region Official Plan Review is underway, and I'd like to encourage you to provide your input into the process.

For more information, visit [www.peelregion.ca/officialplan](http://www.peelregion.ca/officialplan) or contact Arvin Prasad, Director, Planning Policy and Research at 905-791-7800, ext. 4251.

A screenshot of the Peel Region Official Plan website. The page features a blue header with the Peel Region logo and navigation links for News/Notices, Regional Government, Health Services, Public Works, Social Services, and Housing. Below the header, there is a search bar and a main content area with a large heading "Peel Region OFFICIAL PLAN". A list of links is provided for "About the Peel Region Official Plan", "Amendments", "Reviewing the Official Plan", "Monitoring and Evaluating our Plan", and "Download the Official Plan". A sidebar on the left contains links for "Planning", "About Us", "Services", "Projects", "Regional Official Plan", "Peel Data Centre", "Grown in Peel", "News", and "Your Comments?". At the bottom, there is a brief description of the Region Official Plan (ROP) and its purpose.

# HEALTH

## What's the hold up?

### Peel Regional Paramedics working with partners to decrease hospital delays



Peel paramedics are out on the streets 24-hours a day, 7 days a week working to save lives and promote community safety. Paramedics are trained and dedicated professionals who are ready to respond with rapid pre-hospital emergency care.

Regional Council recognizes, however, that they are working within a system that needs some changes to make it better for both the paramedics and the residents they serve. We are working closely with key emergency medical services (EMS) system stakeholders to develop solutions.

## New paramedic station in Caledon

The Valleywood Station (Station 12 and the third station in Bolton) is the newest paramedic station in the Town of Caledon. Located at 2 Snelcrest Dr., Station 12 is staffed 24 hours, 7 days a week and is a sister station to the Bolton Fire Station and Caledon Fire station on Charleston Side Road. The closest major cross streets are Highway 10 and Mayfield Rd. which affords excellent access to both south Caledon and north Brampton. Valleywood is a designated post within the Region's deployment plan. The interaction at all three Caledon stations demonstrates continued effort by both Caledon Fire and Peel Regional Paramedic Services to provide the best emergency response to the community we serve.

## Four easy ways to report your child's immunization records to Peel Public Health

Immunization is important to your child's health and contributes to a healthier environment for the school population and the community. In Peel, all children attending schools, with few exceptions, must be immunized against these six diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella (German Measles). Vaccinations against these diseases are free.

Peel Public Health is mandated by law to keep immunization records of all school-aged children in Peel. I want to remind all parents/guardians to be sure your children have all the required vaccinations and to provide an update to Peel Public Health every time your child gets another vaccination. Your family doctor does **not** provide these records to Peel Public Health.

Peel Public Health offers four easy ways for you to report immunization records and updates. They include:

- Calling 905-799-7700 (in Caledon call free of charge at 905-584-2216);
- Faxing immunization report to 905-789-0597 or 905-458-9217 (Attention: Immunization Records);
- Mailing/delivering a copy of the records to: Immunization Records, Peel Public Health, 44 Peel Centre Dr., Suite 102, Brampton, ON L6T 4B5; or
- Reporting them online at [www.immunizepeel.ca](http://www.immunizepeel.ca).

If you have questions about immunization records, vaccine-preventable diseases or other health matters, please call 905-799-7700, and Peel Public Health will be happy to help you. In Caledon, call free of charge at 905-584-2216.

## Human Services Underfunding

While the Region of Peel remains committed to excellence in human services delivery, the ability to do so is in jeopardy. For Peel to meet current human services needs and accommodate forecasted growth, the Region needs:

- A provincial commitment to phase out GTA pooling over four years, not seven;
- A more realistic and equitable funding formula for human services that reflects the high population growth in Peel; and
- A shift of human services funding from property to income taxes to provide relief for low income residents.

Human services are an important part of building a strong community that offers residents economic, social and cultural opportunities. Learn more at [www.peelregion.ca/news](http://www.peelregion.ca/news).

I encourage all of you to become more informed about this critical issue. Speak to your Members of the Provincial Parliament to encourage them to support the provincial funding we so desperately need.

## HOUSING

### Walker Road affordable housing development under expansion



Located at 20 Walker Rd. E. in Caledon East, Peel Region's Walker Road affordable housing development is a 25-unit expansion of an existing seniors building. The new expansion will meet an increased demand for affordable seniors housing in Caledon.

Funded by a partnership between the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation, and the Region of Peel, the Walker Road housing development provides affordable, mixed-income rental units for seniors, and is scheduled for completion in September 2008.

Peel Living, the Region of Peel's non-profit housing company, provides affordable housing through subsidies and rent geared-to-income. Peel Living buildings are well-maintained, safe and clean, with Walker Road designated as a seniors-only residence.

If you are interested in an application for the Walker Road seniors building, please call Peel Access to Housing at 905-453-1300.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES!

To keep you updated on the current construction activities taking place at the Walker Road expansion, notices will be sent to the local community during construction of the new addition.

Construction work recently began on-site in September 2007 and will continue for approximately one year. Construction work will occur on weekdays only, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The expansion will be attached to the existing building and will feature a new elevator. A large activity room with common space for residents will also be constructed. This room will be able to accommodate resident activities and space for leisure and group socializing. Local seniors' community groups will have the opportunity to use this new community room as a place to meet, and to hold activities and events.

For more information and to watch ongoing progress of this site, visit [www.peelbuilds.ca](http://www.peelbuilds.ca).

## Gore Road reconstruction

Structural repairs and rehabilitation for The Gore Road is planned as part of a program to improve the arterial road network in the Region of Peel. A Structural Assessment Study was completed for The Gore Road, a two lane roadway from King Street to Patterson Sideroad. Improvements include addressing:

- Embankment slope and guide rail rehabilitation;
- Intersection improvement at Gore Road and King Street;
- Pavement rehabilitation;
- Retaining wall repair;
- Storm water management enhancement; and
- Culvert replacement.

The project is now in the design stage to plan and resolve the best method and approach. Actual road work and improvements are anticipated to begin in late 2008 or some time in 2009.

## Caledon O.P.P. Update

The Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P) in Caledon continues to grow and improve with the Town of Caledon. In April 2007, the Caledon detachment, formerly a member of the Highway Safety Division, became a member of the O.P.P. Central Region, a move which has no impact on the way the O.P.P. polices in Caledon, but rather entails a change in reporting structure at the General Headquarters in Orillia. In 2007, Caledon O.P.P. also introduced the Community Response Unit. The Unit performs foot patrol, RIDE spot checks, warrant apprehension, and alternate tasks as they arise. The Unit also includes two high school liaison officers who work exclusively within Caledon's three secondary schools. The high school liaison officers have proven to be a great asset to the community, working closely with school administrators and facilitators to consider all available options when working with youth in conflict.

Caledon O.P.P. continues to work with the community to ensure the safety and security of all residents. For more information, please call Caledon O.P.P. at 905-584-2241, or visit [www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca).

## Snow Removal Service

Peel provides a 24-hour immediate response bare pavement policy after a snowstorm so you can travel safely with routes you can count on. The Winter Road Maintenance team operates seven days a week, 24-hours a day. Scheduled snow clearing routes take no more than two and a half hours to complete, and the Region also has 24-hour road patrols and weather monitoring when road conditions are unsafe.

Remember to do your part when icy road conditions arrive by listening to traffic reports and driving with caution during or after snowstorms.

For more information on winter road maintenance, visit:

[www.peelregion.ca/pw/roads/winter-maint/](http://www.peelregion.ca/pw/roads/winter-maint/) or [www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/snowclearingoperations](http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/snowclearingoperations).



## Councillor Whitehead's Committees

Richard is an active member of a variety of Regional and local committees, boards and subcommittees, including:

- Peel Regional Council;
- Town of Caledon Council;
- Peel Audit (Chair);
- Peel Management (Vice-Chair);
- Peel Older Adults Working Group;
- Peel Living Board;
- Conservation TRCA Board and Executive;
- Humber Watershed Alliance;
- Conservation action committees for Palgrave, Caledon East, and Bolton West; and
- Physician's Recruitment Committee.

## 9-1-1: Know when to use it.

Call 9-1-1 to report a medical emergency, fire or crime in progress. An injury or illness that threatens a life and a person's long-term health is a medical emergency.

If you call 9-1-1 for a non-medical emergency, paramedics responding are no longer available to respond to a real emergency. Paramedics are also required to stay with the patient in the emergency department until hospital staff takes over their care. Patient offload delays average two hours at Peel area hospitals 90 per cent of the time.

This brings us to the second issue – patient offload delays and hospital wait times. If your medical concern can be handled at a later time by your family doctor, at a walk-in clinic or through Telehealth Ontario, going to the emergency department should be avoided.

## Let's Talk

### RICHARD WHITEHEAD

Regional and Town Councillor, Wards 3 & 4



Good two-way communication is an essential component of accountable government. I believe very strongly in a process that's open, transparent and inclusive. I, therefore, invite you to contact me any time.

Here are a few questions to help get the dialogue going:

- What is your priority Regional Service?
- Should water be our number one resource?
- Do we have adequate police services?
- Are you getting value for our tax dollar?

Phone: **905-880-0911** Fax: 905-880-2385

E-mail: [richard.whitehead@caledon.ca](mailto:richard.whitehead@caledon.ca)

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