



# MWRRA

THE MEADOW WOOD RATTRAY RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

[www.meadowwoodratepayers.com](http://www.meadowwoodratepayers.com)

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## Spring 2009

### **President's Remarks**

#### **Welcome Spring**

The MWRRA has been busy since last fall monitoring development, planning, and changes to our neighbourhood. We have participated in delegations to the Peel District School Board, the Ontario Power Authority (OPA), and the city. Thank you to residents who helped get the message out and who voiced their opinion on issues affecting us.

With respect to the OPA, please read the petition inserted in this newsletter. I encourage you to sign it and gather more signatures.

We send thanks to retiring directors Dave Steele and June McPherson. Both have been strong contributors to the MWRRA for many years. We also say farewell to Cheryl Bradbee as she sets off in the fall to complete her studies. She has been a terrific resource reporting on development and the Clarkson Village Visioning process.

When filling out your membership, please consider providing us with your e-mail address for notification of upcoming important events and issues that impact our area.

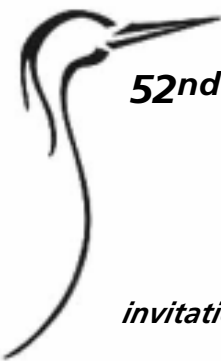
We look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting April 22. City officials will be there as well as a community liaison officer from Peel Region Police. Come out and meet your neighbours as well as the people who work to develop our community.

*Cheers,  
Jane Moore,  
President, MWRRA*

#### **Neighbourhood BBQ - June 13**

Come on out ~ 4 p.m. until dark ~ rain or shine! Meet your neighbours, new & old, on the grounds of Bradley House Museum. Live music, games, races, crafts & a campfire for the kids. Fabulous food and drink available to purchase as long as supplies last. This event is sponsored by MWRRA for all residents within the association boundaries. See you there!

If you can help, please call Mary Ann Stokke  
905-823-4705.



## **MWRRA**

### **52<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

**Green Glade School  
Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>  
7:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

*invitations have been extended to:*

**Pat Mullin, Ward 2 Councillor,  
City of Mississauga staff members and  
local developers  
Charles Sousa, Mississauga South MPP  
Peel Region Police**

**A great way to get informed and involved  
in your community!**

## ***Ratray Marsh***

The annual **Spring Clean-Up** will be happening on **Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**. Be sure to dress for the weather, wear sturdy boots, work clothes, work gloves (if you have them) and bring a few grocery bags to pick up litter (large garbage bags will be provided).

Also, on **Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>** and **Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>**, join us for the “**Uproot Uprise!**” We’re banding together to pull the invasive garlic mustard out by its roots! Plus, we might have a few pots of native plants on hand to plant in place of the garlic mustard.

## ***Sithe - Update***

Sithe has been approved by the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) to bid on an 850mW gas fueled electricity generating station. There were four successful bidders. The applicants can choose the location for their proposal. Sithe would almost certainly specify their Winston Churchill property. Any one of the others could also locate in the Southdown Employment District. From our viewpoint Sithe’s proposal is the least harmful. They are bound to honour the “Mitigation Agreement” negotiated by CTAC on behalf of and ratified by neighbouring resident associations. Many of the features of this agreement are designed to reduce pollution. The other proponents have only to meet the OPA’s pollution limits. Also, Sithe proposes “dry cooling”: the others wet cooling. Wet cooling reduces the capital cost but under most weather conditions, produces a significant moisture vapour plume and consumes a lot more water.

The Minister of Energy [MoE] has directed the OPA to procure 850mW specifically to be generated via natural gas. The “transmission alternative” [The Healthy Alternative] was abandoned by the MoE as being too expensive. It involved gas fueled generation in the Nanticoke area and a new 230kV feeder from Trafalgar Transformer Station [T.S.] into the Oakville T.S. The same injection point as proposed by Sithe.

The Ministry of the Environment [MOE] “Clarkson Air-shed Study” measured pollution levels in and around our community. The MOE stated in the report that the “Clarkson Air-shed” is taxed with respect to several pollutants. However the MOE has made no attempt to limit new polluting facilities from being constructed this area.

Mayor McCallion made an impassioned plea to the OPA not to locate another gas plant in Mississauga at the Town Hall meeting held in South Mississauga on March 3, 2009.

The Peel Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Mowat, stated that the existing Clarkson pollution levels are affecting human health. He explained that gas plants that frequently start and stop [peaker plants] emit significantly more pollutants than those running full time. The 850mW format proposed is only expected to operate 10% to 40% of the year.

Pat Mullin Ward 2 Councillor and Charles Sousa MPP both spoke against the OPA proposal. They are collecting signatures on a petition to the Ontario Legislature “requesting that no contract be awarded by the OPA for the operation of any gas-fired power plant that would impact the ‘Clarkson Air-shed Study Area’”.

There will be a vote on a motion against the proposal at the MWRRRA AGM.

## ***Peel District School Board LORNE PARK S.S. BOUNDARY CHANGE***

The motion brought forward by Don Stephens, our Ward 2 Trustee, to change the boundary of Lorne Park Secondary School to include the Watercolours development was passed at the Board of Trustees meeting on February 24, 2009. The change will be effective September ’09 for grades 9 & 10.

There were 2 Watercolours delegations in favour of the motion and 10 delegations opposing it from MWRRRA, Bexhill area and Lorne Park residents. Many concerns were raised, including over crowding, the resulting need for portables and the recent denial of access of qualified students to the Extended French Program. The importance of equality in dealing with a boundary expansion was also raised. Planning Department staff confirmed that 100% capacity is their goal, not 110% as stated by our Trustee in his letter to the Editor of the Mississauga News and that portables would be required to accommodate the additional students.

However, none of these concerns seemed to be of importance to Trustees, who all voted in favour with the exception of Trustee Ruth Thompson, who voted against the motion.

## **Clarkson Village Visioning - Update**

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Vision Group met to discuss the draft proposal put forth by city planners. This booklet describes the process of meetings and public consultations along with the results of special studies, case studies, and the group's conclusions. Group members will examine the draft document and return comments to the city planners by the end of March. It is expected then that a finished study will be out in June. It is expected that the process of moving recommendations into planning code be completed in the fall.

On February 4<sup>th</sup> the RioCan focus group met to discuss latest developments. At that time it was reported that RioCan had not offered a new proposal but was engaged in talks with the folks from the McDonalds site. It was understood that the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) meeting set for April 1<sup>st</sup> was still on and that group members needed to prepare the required paperwork permitting their testimony. Since then there is informal news that RioCan has successfully concluded their talks with McDonalds. This would require a new plan be submitted to the Planning Department. With no real word from RioCan, group members are still preparing for the OMB meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

For now the Vision study will have an informal effect on the OMB hearing if it goes forward. The city and group members can claim a long process of deliberation over the future of the village. However, since it is not yet law, it cannot formally be brought into a hearing process.

Updates are promised at the MWRRA AGM meeting.

## **Clarkson Public School News**

It has been a busy and rewarding year for our students at Clarkson P.S. Grade 4 & 5 students presented an original musical "The Granny Awards" and the entire school was involved in the percussion instrument workshop BOOM! The arrival of spring has our students enjoying the games painted on our blacktop last fall and we are looking forward to unveiling our "Stream of Dreams" fish mural. These are great additions to our playground for students and the local community to enjoy for years to come.

We welcome your participation in these upcoming events:

- **Education Week - Book Fair:** in the library - open to the public during regular school hours - April 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>
- **"Beauty and the Beast" an interactive storytelling theatrical production by DuffleBag Theatre group.** One of our "Toonie" concert series - guests are welcome. April 21<sup>st</sup> - 9:30 am
- **Annual Flower Fundraiser:** flats and hanging baskets of annual flowers - *high quality plants - great prices - orders due by April 29<sup>th</sup> with pickup at the school on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.* Order forms available at <http://qps.peelschools.org/clarksonps> or in the school office. For further details, contact Kim at [kmur17@hotmail.com](mailto:kmur17@hotmail.com). *Your Support is appreciated!*
- **Clarkson Fun Fair:** Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> 10am to 2pm - rides, games, silent auction, barbecue - *fun for the whole family! Silent auction donations welcomed.*

We look forward to welcoming our new kindergarten students in September and any new families to the area. To register your child or for more details about these events, please contact the school office.

Theresa Longlade - Principal  
Clarkson Public School  
888 Clarkson Road South  
905-823-4470

## **MIRANET**

Mississauga Residence Associations Network or “MIRANET” is thriving. As reported in the previous MWRRA newsletter MIRANET’s focus is to work with politicians and staff at various levels of government to advocate for issues, or concerns that affect all citizens of Mississauga. There is now a structured “Terms of Reference” and a formal membership process. As of early March, 2009 there were 13 official residents/ratepayers association members in MIRANET with evidence of further interest. Further growth is anticipated.

MIRANET operates through sub committees. There are operational standing sub committees to manage governance, finances and communications of MIRANET. In addition to these standing committees subcommittees are established to cover specific issues, or areas of concern, requiring ongoing monitoring. 2 such sub committees have been formed to date as described below.

**Municipal Finance Sub Committee (MFSC):** This committee was originally formed as the “Tax Levy Sub Committee” to confront the proposed 5% infrastructure tax levy (held to 1%). It has now morphed into an a body whose roll is to monitor the municipal budgeting process and financial accountability with a particular focus on funding plans for unfunded capital projects. Terms of reference and recent statements put out from this committee may be viewed on the MIRANET web site.

It is estimated that existing city infrastructure has a projected, currently unfunded, liability (infrastructure deficit) of 1.5 billion over the next 20 years (or about \$75 million per year). This covers the refurbishments and/or replacement of municipal assets based on life cycle projections.

While the MFSC recognizes that vital municipal assets must be retained and maintained, it is of utmost concern that there is clear accountability of capital spending. Mississauga has roughly \$300 million in capital reserves. These reserves are expected to be depleted in less than 2 years at which point the infrastructure funding deficit becomes an immediate and pressing concern.

To insure that Mississauga obtains a fair portion of federal infrastructure funds that may be forthcoming via recently announced economic stimulus measures, the city has put forward a list comprised of \$132 million worth of “shovel ready” capital projects. This is on top of \$25 million Mississauga received in 2008 from the “Build Ontario Fund”. The MFSC will be monitoring the allocation of the \$25 million and any funds received under the Federal Stimulus Plan.

As an adjunct to the MFSC an ad-hoc committee was developed to delve into the recent Enersource brouhaha. There had been some discussion, raised by some Council Members, of acquiring Borealis’s (100% owned by OMERS) 10% share of Enersource so that the utility would be 100% owned by Mississauga. As OMERS has expressed no interest in selling their 10% stake, and as there does not appear to be funds readily available to buy their stake, the idea appears to have drifted to oblivion. Borealis is a viable partner as they have expertise in operating utilities. The shareholder agreement between Mississauga and Borealis is currently being renegotiated. Enersouce is a good asset and a viable source of revenue for our city. The MFSC will keep abreast of any developments related to Enersource.

**MIRANET “Clean Air Sub Committee”:** The initial galvanizing issue for this committee is the proposed gas fired peak demand plant to be located in the south- western GTA. Specific articles on this subject are elsewhere in this newsletter as well as host of information and links on the MIRANET web site.

MIRANET encourages all citizens to take a more active role in municipal politics. This is the level of politics that has the largest impact on our daily lives yet ironically has highest voter apathy.

The MIRANET web site provides a host of information and links to subjects germane to our quality of life in Mississauga. Please visit it often. [www.miranet.ca](http://www.miranet.ca).

## Membership - Why Join

Becoming a member is the best way to show your support and lend strength to our association. Membership fees are the only source of revenue and are used to offset the costs of the annual meeting, newsletters, BBQ & welcoming material. A cash reserve is maintained to cover legal costs if required to protect our residential interests.

If we missed you when we delivered this newsletter, please take a minute to become a member. Thanks.

## Directors 2009

*Your newsletter was delivered by the director circled below. We are looking for directors, particularly in the Clarkson Road South and the Petrie Way neighbourhoods. Please volunteer. Please call with questions or comments. You can or email us at [mwrra@rogers.com](mailto:mwrra@rogers.com) or visit our website at [www.meadowwoodratepayers.com](http://www.meadowwoodratepayers.com)*

**Jane Moore - President**  
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**Naeema Degani**  
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905-823-8585

**Fraser Plant**  
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**Sue Shanly**  
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**Kelly Weinstein - Secretary**  
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**Brad McFater**  
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**Mary Ann Stokke**  
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**Kara Breen**  
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**Xavier Mesrobian**  
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**Larry Tasker**  
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905-822-7786

**Don Brown**  
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905-855-3535

**Joe Pagano**  
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905-823-4146

**Natalie Watson**  
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905-855-7783

**John Pegram**  
434 Apple Lane L5J 4T1  
905-822-8459

Your current membership status:  Member  Non-Member

### MWRRRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2009/2010

Please deliver or mail your completed application together with your membership fee to the director circled above or directly to our Treasurer, Don Harrington.

For your convenience and to reduce administration, you now have the option of joining or renewing for a two-year period. We hope to see you at the Annual General Meeting. Thank you.

April 2009 - April 2010 \$10 fee enclosed

April 2009 - April 2011 \$20 fee enclosed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: (not to be shared) \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions or Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

## **BRADLEY & BENARES MUSEUMS**

Dear Neighbours:

On behalf of the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga and the Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee, we'd like to sincerely thank you for your patience and support during our very successful March Break Maple Magic at the Bradley Museum. We had nine beautiful days, with almost 5,000 people enjoying tours of the sap line, pancakes with maple syrup, demonstrations and crafts, and horse-drawn wagon rides. Many neighbours came by to enjoy the event or volunteer.

We greatly appreciate your support and we do recognize that this busy week has an impact on the neighbourhood.

Thanks again, and we hope to see you soon at one of our upcoming events or programs. Consider joining the Friends of the Museums. And, as always, we look forward to hosting all of you at the Annual Ratepayer's BBQ, June 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Lawrence Cook, Chair*

*Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee*

*Fred Durdan, Chair*

*Friends of the Museums of Mississauga*

### **Museum Events**

*Exhibit: Preserving Streetsville's Past*  
*Bradley*  
*January 25 - June 15*

*Time Travellers - Digging Up the Past*  
*Benaires*  
*July 11*

*Exhibit: Magrath Family of Erindale*  
*Benaires*  
*April 18 - September*

*Teddy Bear's Picnic*  
*Benaires*  
*Sunday, July 26, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

*Exhibit: History Salvaged: The O'Neil Apple Farm*  
*Bradley*  
*July 1 - December 31*

*On the Verandah Concerts*  
*Benares - Friday Nights*  
*July and August*

*Exhibit: What's New in Old Stuff*  
*Recent Donations*  
*Benaires*  
*September 11 - December 4*

*Driftwood Presents*  
*'Shakespeare under the Stars'*  
*Bradley*  
*July 2009, Date & Performance TBC*

*Mother and Daughter Tea*  
*Benaires*  
*May 2 and May 9*

*Fall Festival*  
*Bradley*  
*September 19 & 20, 11:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

*Cooking Sweets and Sours for the Pantry*  
*Bradley*  
*May 23 and June 17*

*Historic Halloween Fun*  
*Benaires*  
*October 25, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

*Gallery in the Garden*  
*Benaires*  
*June 7*

*Home for the Holidays*  
*Museums*  
*December 13, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

For more information on locations and registration,  
call 905-615-4860 or go to [www.museumsofmississauga.com](http://www.museumsofmississauga.com)

***We care about the quality of life in our neighbourhood. That includes the quality of the air we breathe. Please use the enclosed petition to collect signatures and drop it off at Mr. Sousa's constituency office, 120 Lakeshore Road West.***

