

## INVESTING in Essential Daycare Services in Ward 17



Cesar and MPP Cristina Martins celebrating the announcement of New Childcare Spaces coming to St. Nicholas of Bari Catholic School

Over the last several years, my office has worked with Children Services, government officials, service providers and community partners on ways to preserve and expand affordable child care spaces to meet the needs of the young families in Davenport. I'm delighted to announce the following updates:

- Daycare capacity in Ward 17 has been increased from 721 to 1,167 spaces!
- St. Nicholas of Bari Catholic School, located at 363 Rogers Rd., has recently been approved for more than \$1.5 million dollars investment. This will include 1 infant room, 1 toddler room and 1 pre-school room; this will total 49 new affordable child care spaces. Children Services will be working in partnership with the School Board until the child care is constructed.
- Blessed Pope Paul VI Catholic School, located at 270 Loughton Ave., was approved for Provincial capital funding to renovate 1 toddler room and 1 pre-school room. This is a capacity increase of 15 toddlers and 24 preschools; 39 spaces in total.
- I am happy to report that within the Davenport Village community, I have been able to secure, as part of development phases 6, 9 and building 15, a NEW licensed daycare operated by the City. This will be a tremendous addition to the hundreds of families within this community!

The following locations have been expanded over the last four years:

Daycares	Locations
Ascot Avenue Community Day Care	Oakwood Collegiate & Regal Rd. P.S.
Carleton Village Early Learning Centre	Carleton Village P.S.
Centre de la Petite Enfance - Les Amis du Monde	Charles-Sauriol Elementary School
Fairbank Memorial Day Care Centre	Fairbank Memorial Community School
General Mercer Early Learning Centre	General Mercer Public School
Harmony Childcare Centre	St. Clare Catholic Elementary School
Little Angels Childcare Learning Centre	1695 Dufferin St.
Macaulay Child Development Centre	FH Miller Public School

Together, we will continue advocating for this essential service, lobbying hard for increased capacity and creating a support system that benefits young families in Ward 17.

## Ward 17 Community Safety Forum with Toronto Police Chief Mark Saunders

Our annual Community Safety Forum was held on Thursday, April 12, 2018. Safety Forums create an opportunity for all residents to discuss problematic locations, illegal activities, crime prevention strategies and most importantly, they provide you with an opportunity to speak directly to our dedicated law enforcement officers including our Police Chief - this is a proactive way you can get involved in keeping our community safe. I assure you that community safety continues to be one of my top priorities and I will do everything in my power to ensure that you, your families, friends and neighbours are safe.

### Traffic Calming Measures Update

Traffic calming measures are being implemented throughout Ward 17, which include:

- Installation of a new traffic control signal close to the intersection of Geary Avenue and Dovercourt Road, scheduled to be completed this fall.
- Installing a traffic control signal at the four-way intersection of Dufferin St. and Rosemount Ave., approved at the January 16th Etobicoke York Community Council meeting.
- Transportation Services, at my request, is currently assessing the following locations for traffic calming measures:
  - Davenport Road and Dovercourt Road: A proposed traffic control signal that will be before Etobicoke York Community Council (EYCC) July, 2018.
  - Rogers Road and Chambers Avenue - Proposed new pedestrian crosswalk (PXO) will be going before the EYCC.

### Update on St. Clair / Silverthorn Public Library Branch

The St. Clair / Silverthorn Library is now closed for reconstruction and expansion. The NEW library will be reopened in 2020 and will offer a completely new layout, barrier free access to the second floor, additional quiet space for studying, barrier free washrooms and an elevator. Conceptual renderings of the new façade and street improvements are displayed below. As a former member of the Toronto Public Library Board, I was able to secure funding for this much cherished library in our community.



Conceptual design of New St. Clair Silverthorn Library

### Unsolicited door-to-door sales are prohibited

As of March 1, 2018, it is 100% illegal for someone to knock on your door to sell you unsolicited products or services! If they come to your door—you can call the police.

This new legislation effective March 1, 2018, does have an exemption and that is, if a resident contacts a company ahead of time (i.e. they are invited) for the explicit purpose of signing a contract - which would then be deemed a legal contract.

Any contracts that violate this new legislation will be considered null and void.

Some of the products/services this new legislation applies to includes: air cleaners, air purifiers, air conditioners, furnaces, duct cleaning services, water filters, water purifiers, water treatment devices, etc.

#### Penalties for violation:

Individuals caught canvassing neighbourhoods to sell products like the above-mentioned, will be charged up to \$500 - first offence, \$1,000 - second offence, and \$2,000 - third offence, Corporations will be charged up to \$25,000 for similar offences.

## It is imperative that we continue to add additional green spaces and recreational spaces so that our community has a safe and enjoyable place to play and enjoy the outdoors!

### Earls court Park- New Staircase Project COMPLETED

#### Great news!

The installation of a NEW staircase located at the southeast corner of Earls court Park (Davenport and Caledonia Park Rd.) has been completed.



This is in addition to the existing staircase and accessibility ramp located on the south side of Earls court Park between Lansdowne Ave. and Caledonia Rd.

### Bike Share Station

Ward17 will soon have a Bike Sharing Station at Earls court Park (Davenport and Lansdowne)! I have been working with the Toronto Parking Authority to identify and acquire other locations within Ward 17, for additional bike stations. Please stay tuned for more information.

### Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA)

The improvements to the Earls court DOLA are scheduled to begin late spring/early summer, 2018. The fence on the south side of the DOLA will be elevated to keep dogs from jumping over the fence, in an effort to maintain public safety.

Good news for dog owners! I have been working with Parks and Hydro One to create a new dog off leash area for the area bounded by Union Street, Rogers Road, St. Clair Avenue and Prescott Avenue, abutting the Community Allotment Gardens immediately west of Old Weston Road. I have been informed that the new dog off-leash area should be open to the public by the summer of 2019. I would like to express my thanks to the residents of the SADRA park neighbourhood for their petition to acquire a NEW dog off-leash area.

### Marble Hill Parkette

New playground equipment is coming to the Hatherley and Harvie area! I was able to secure Capital funding for a new playground to be installed by the summer/fall, 2018.

### Bert Robinson Park

Get ready to cool off this summer! I am pleased to announce that City Parks and Recreation staff anticipate completing the construction of a beautiful "splash pad" by the end of summer/fall, 2018. Renderings of this new splash pad can be accessed at [www.cesarpalacio.com](http://www.cesarpalacio.com). A public community meeting was held on April 3, 2018 where the community viewed renderings of this proposed state-of-the-art splash pad and overwhelmingly supported this project.



### Earls court Park- Playground Enhancement

At our community meeting on November 2, 2017, the Davenport community expressed concerns with the proposed playground improvements - one of the concerns was for additional equipment, as well as better distribution of the equipment. Subsequent to the meeting, I've asked City staff to revisit the vision for this playground. I will be sending out a public meeting notice to share new renderings and proposed plans for this playground.

### St. Nicholas of Bari School- Amphitheatre and Playground Upgrades

Improved Design! Since my last newsletter, I have been able to secure funding for improvements to the St. Nicholas of Bari schoolyard. Working closely with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), we have been able to incorporate a 30-seat Amphitheatre for outdoor classes, two raised planters with shrubs and trees to increase greenspace, improve the existing play structure and add additional play-base elements. I am sure these new upgrades will serve the school and community well in the years to come.

### 177 Caledonia Road - New Parkette

Coming soon NEW Parkette in Ward17! In co-operation with the City, Parks & Recreation staff and the developers' landscape consultants, we have ensured a new, larger family-friendly parkette will be built at the corner of Caledonia Road and Innes Avenue. A public community meeting was held on April 3, 2018, where the community viewed renderings of this proposed parkette and overwhelmingly supported the proposed design.



### Charles Caccia Park

The Charles Caccia Park, named late last year, features beautiful landscape entrances and well-lit walking paths combined with new playground equipment, splash pad, ample seating, and plenty of green space to enjoy - this naming was the result of years of lobbying to recognize the former MP of Davenport and his tremendous contribution to the Davenport community.

### Green Line Vision along the Hydro Lands

Since being elected City Councillor, I have been working relentlessly in partnership with City staff, Hydro One and local community groups to convert the hydro corridor lands into a green line complete with parkettes, social gathering spaces, dog off-leash areas and community allotment gardens.

- Geary Avenue Parkette
- Bartlett Parkette
- Bristol Avenue Parkette
- Primrose Avenue Parkette
- Beaver Lighthouse Parkette Gardens
- Chandos Park North
- Chandos Park South
- Don Panos Parkette
- S.A.D.R.A. Park
- S.A.D.R.A. Allotment Gardens

At my direction, City Council has asked the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to finalize a master lease agreement with Hydro One, in order to complete the implementation of this Green Line vision; creating much-needed additional green and recreational spaces, with better connectivity.

A public information meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 23, 2018, at City of Toronto Archives, 255 Spadina Avenue. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to discuss the implementation of this Green Line vision. Hope to see you there.