Dear Resident,

I hope you enjoyed the long weekend as much as I did. A busy month has passed at city hall and regional council. One important decision was for the City of Burlington to declare a climate emergency. On its own, a declaration does not mean a lot. However, the motion requested staff to come up with Burlington’s first Climate Action Plan to ensure concrete steps are taken to deal with climate change. There will be opportunities for you to share your ideas and opinions; I will let you know through a future version of the newsletter.

Another important item is the ongoing work to update the official plan to better reflect your views development, especially downtown. We are holding a workshop this week on the issue – more details below. This work becomes all the more important as the provincial government has introduced legislation returning the appeals process on developments to the previous, more developer-friendly model. In this environment it is critical that our official plan is done right.

Finally, I will be taking part in my first Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Meeting at the end of this month. These meetings give us councillors a chance to meet with our colleagues from around the
country and to build momentum on issues of common interest, to then lobby the federal government on your behalf. For example, the $5-plus million gas tax increase for 2019 had been requested by the Federation.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rory Nisan
Councillor, Ward 3

WARD 3 DROP-IN SESSION

Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2019
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Location: THiNKSPOT, 6210 Lowville Park Road

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mindfulness Drop-In Session

Slow down, take a breath, and be present in your community. Participate in a FREE, drop-in mindfulness session.

These sessions are weather-permitting. You will meet in the park and enjoy a session outdoors. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat. Mindfulness activities will be facilitated by community volunteers and will be inclusive and secular. All are welcome.

Date: Sunday, May 26, 2019 and Sunday, June 9, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 10:25 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.
Location: Mountainside Park, 2205 Mount Forest Drive

Sound of Music Festival

“Sound of Music has exploded in size since its modest beginnings in 1980 as a marching band parade. Operating as a not-for-profit corporation, the organization stages Canada's largest free music festival every year in June.

“From our ticketed Kick-off Concert, to our Sound of Music Club Series that brings local talent to the spotlight one show at a time, and of course our Grande Festival Parade, an ongoing tradition since 1980,
there’s no shortage of entertainment on every corner. The Downtown Streetfest, Children’s Village, carnival, vendors and FREE concerts on Father’s Day Weekend.”

Date: Saturday, June 8 to Sunday, June 16, 2019
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Location: Spencer Smith Park, 1400 Lakeshore Road

For more information, please visit https://soundofmusic.ca/

Father’s Day Pancake Breakfast

Treat dad to a unique outdoor pancake breakfast set in a historic backdrop at Ireland House Museum. Pancakes will be made on the historic woodstove! Breakfast is $5.00 and includes 2 pancakes plus a drink. First come, first served.

Date: Sunday, June 16, 2019
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Location: Ireland House Museum, 2168 Guelph Line

For more information, please visit https://www.museumsofburlington.ca/

UPDATE: SCOPED RE-EXAMINATION OF THE ADOPTED OFFICIAL PLAN

On February 7, 2019, Burlington City Council voted to re-examine the policies in Burlington's Official Plan, adopted in April 2018.

The motion, approved by Council, directs Burlington’s Director of City Building to immediately commence a process to re-examine the policies of the Official Plan adopted April 26, 2018 in their entirety related to matters of height and intensity and conformity with provincial density targets.

Council and staff discussed the scope of work for further study related to the Official Plan at the March 18, 2019 Committee of the Whole Council Workshop.

Council will consider a staff report title PB-47-19 Work Plan for the scoped re-examination of the Adopted Official Plan at Planning and Development Committee - Public Meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2019.

To access the report and its appendices please follow this link to the Agenda for the Planning and Development Committee - Public Meeting.
ANALYSIS
This meeting is the next step in the critical process of redeveloping the city’s policies and plans to meet residents’ expectations for future development, especially by protecting the downtown from high rises that are too high and in the wrong places. I expect that the downtown will be the primary focus of the scoped re-examination of the official plan, yet there may be other areas where we need to take another look.

FREE TRANSIT FOR SENIORS 65+ STARTS JUNE 3: LOAD A FREE65 PASS ONTO A PRESTO CARD AT ONE OF 16 PRESTO SERVICE LOCATIONS

Starting June 3, 2019, seniors, age 65 years and older, can ride Burlington Transit for free, weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The new 18-month pilot program, approved by Burlington City Council as part of the 2019 city budget, will run from June 3, 2019 to December 31 2020.

Seniors can take part in the program by loading a Free65 pass onto a PRESTO card at one of 16 PRESTO service locations in Burlington, including:

- Downtown Burlington Transit bus terminal at 430 John St.
- All Shoppers Drug Mart locations in Burlington
- Aldershot GO Station at 1199 Waterdown Rd.
- Appleby GO Station at 5111 Fairview St.
- Burlington GO Station at 2101 Fairview St.

PRESTO cards can be purchased for $6 at any of the PRESTO service locations. There is no fee to load the Free65 pass. Seniors who already have a PRESTO card can choose to load the Free65 pass onto their existing card at one of the PRESTO service locations or online at www.prestocard.ca.

Free65 passes will be available for loading beginning May 21, 2019 and can also be used for the specialized transit service (Handi-Van).

ANALYSIS
I pushed for this service through the budget process because we need to increase our ridership on Burlington Transit and because I think that seniors have merited the support. Many seniors who ride the bus are low-income and putting a bit more money in their pockets will go a long way. Meanwhile, have more riders means securing more funding from other levels of government. I also hope this service will encourage those over 65 to try leaving the car in the driveway in favour of the bus – give it a shot!

CITY OF BURLINGTON LAUNCHES CITIZEN ACTION LABS TO STUDY CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The City of Burlington is reviewing Council-appointed Citizen Advisory Committees to determine the best way to use the knowledge and diversity that citizen advisory committees can bring to the city.
Throughout May, staff will be seeking input online and in-person from current citizen committee members and members of the public as well as researching how other municipalities use citizen groups for feedback and advice.

**Citizen Action Labs**

Citizen Action Labs are where people work together in small, welcoming groups to engage, discuss, share and explore new ideas.

Three Citizen Action Labs are planned. Current and past citizen advisory committee members and members of the public are encouraged to attend. Registration is required as there is a maximum capacity of 80 people at each session.

The registration link can be found at [Burlington.ca/AdvisoryCommittees](http://Burlington.ca/AdvisoryCommittees).

Saturday, May 25, 2019
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Mainway Auditorium, 4015 Mainway

Wednesday, May 29, 2019
2 to 4:30 p.m. or 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Burlington Public Library, Central Branch, Centennial Hall, 2331 New St.

**About Citizen Committees**

The City of Burlington citizen advisory committees play a key role in providing advice and feedback to Council and staff on a variety of issues in the City.

**City of Burlington Council Appointed Citizen Advisory Committees:**

- [Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee](#)
- [Burlington Cycling Advisory Committee](#)
- [Burlington Downtown Parking Advisory Committee](#)
- [Burlington Inclusivity Advisory Committee](#)
- [Burlington Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee (ITAC)](#)
- [Burlington Seniors’ Advisory Committee](#)
- [Burlington Sustainable Development Advisory Committee](#)
- [Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee](#)

**Other:**

- [Audit Standing Committee](#)
- [Burlington’s Best Committee](#)
ANALYSIS
I serve on the Mundialization Committee, Heritage Burlington and the Greater Bay Area Sub-Committee. I have been impressed by the valuable advice given by Heritage Burlington towards preserving our city’s heritage. The Mundialization Committee focuses on events related to our twin city relations and is a fast-moving fun group of engaged Burlingtonians. Many committees are working well yet there is room for improvement and I look forward to learning how committee members as well as other residents feel about citizen engagement in Burlington.

KICK-OFF THE MONTH OF PLAY WITH THE KITE FESTIVAL AND MUCH MORE

The Burlington Kite Festival, presented by the Rocca Sisters Team, is being held on Sunday, June 2, 2019 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Brant Hills Community Centre, 2255 Brant St. Festival participants can build their own kite (while supplies last) or bring their own kite to fill the sky with dancing colours.

This year’s event will feature the Curiosity Cube which involves interactive, hands-on science experiments using the latest technology to inspire curiosity in the next generation of scientists. There will also be face painting, balloon animals, stilt walkers and much more. All are welcome.

Spray Pads
Community Park Spray Pads will be opening on May 18.

Summer Outdoor Pool Openings
- Nelson Pool and Splash Park opens June 1
- LaSalle Outdoor Pool and Splash Park and Mountainside Pool and Splash Park open June 15

Please note, Nelson Pool and Splash Park will be closed June 9 and July 6 to 7, and Angela Coughlan Pool will be closed after May 31, 2019 until Spring 2020 for pool renovations.

Learn more about swimming lessons and recreational swimming schedules at burlington.ca/swimming.

ParticipACTION’s Community Better Challenge
Help Burlington become Canada’s Most Active Community. All you need to do is track your activities during the challenge. The challenge takes place from May 31 to June 16.
Burlington Walks the Talk

Burlington Walks the Talk is a community program that encourages people to create or join neighbourhood walking groups year-round. The program offers a “how to create a walking group” guide and a place on the City of Burlington website to share information about upcoming community walks to invite others to participate and learn more about walk meetup times and locations in Burlington. The first 10 groups to post their community walking group on the community walk meetup calendar will receive up to 10 t-shirts for their walking group (while supplies last).

Pop Up n’ Play

Popping up in City of Burlington parks throughout the spring and summer is our Pop Up n’ Play experience where children can explore, create, imagine and play in their own way.

Yoga in the Park

Each week will feature a fully qualified instructor in a different park. Bring your yoga mat and/or towel, water, and wear appropriate clothing. All experience levels are welcome.

NEW-Pop Up n’ Play Fitness

Parents can join free Yoga in the Park every Sunday morning in May and June from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., while kids get their move on at our free Fitness Pop Ups. Encouraging children to be active and have fun in non-traditional activities. Build a ninja course, find a new way to balance or swing, create a strength challenge or make up a new game. Ages 4-14. Parents are to be in the park during the program.

Play Streets

The community program offers the opportunity for weekly, local street closures which encourage the use of neighbourhood streets for safe, active play and social interaction between neighbours of all ages and is available all year.

Concerts in the Park

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy an evening of music under the open sky at the Central Park Bandshell. Concerts begin June 16 and run every Wednesday and Sunday until the August 18. We offer music for every style and age.

100n1 Day Burlington

A festival of citizen engagement, 100n1Day Burlington is part of a growing global movement that is changing how people interact with their cities. 100n1Day Burlington inspires residents to activate 100 innovative, thought-provoking ideas into activations to transform our city, all on one day, June 1.
City of Burlington encourages people of all ages to get outside and enjoy the many parks, outdoor spaces, playfields and recreational play experiences that support active living and a healthy lifestyle for all ages, abilities and cultures. Learn more about recreational experiences and where to play at burlington.ca/play. Get Outside. Live & Play Every Day.

**HAVE YOUR SAY: VIEW AND GIVE FEEDBACK ON PUBLIC ART SHADE STRUCTURES FOR CIVIC SQUARE**

The City of Burlington is inviting residents to provide feedback on three design concepts for functional public art shade structures for Civic Square. The artwork concepts will be presented from May 13 to 27 at City Hall in the lobby atrium and at Burlington Public Library - Central Branch. The concepts will also be available online at www.burlingtonpublicart.com.

Civic Square is being renewed this year to improve accessibility, update its infrastructure and to continue to be a small gathering and event space for the community and local downtown businesses.

As part of this renewal project, the City of Burlington public art program is planning a series of public art shade structures.

The public art shade structures will:

- Provide cooling and shade to Civic Square,
- Complement existing uses and programming of the space, and
- Create a playful space that brings people together.

**Artist Selection**

A community jury made up of residents, business owners, artists and arts professionals selected three artists to develop preliminary artwork concepts. The preliminary concepts will be shared for public feedback and comment. The jury will consider public feedback when they select the winning proposal.

The selected artists are:

- Louise deLorme
- RAW Design
- Ron Baird

**ANALYSIS**

Have a look – the designs are quite interesting and I would like to hear your feedback directly – ward3@burlington.ca.
The City of Burlington is removing the wood gazebo at Amherst Park. The supporting structure of the gazebo has deteriorated to the point that it is no longer repairable. To ensure the safety of park users, the City has made the decision to remove the gazebo.

The proposed 2020 capital budget will include a funding requested for the proposed renewal of the pathways and a new shade structure to replace the gazebo. Pending approval of the capital budget by Council in late 2019, the new shade structure is expected to be installed in summer 2020.

**ANALYSIS**

I was quite sad to learn that the gazebo was at the end of its life and had become a danger to residents. Unfortunately it was clear that it could not withstand a strong storm and so it was time for replacement. My goal will be to ensure that what replaces the wood gazebo provides a similar experience to the cool, wood structure. Don’t hesitate to send me your feedback on the future gazebo, and note that council will need to approve this structure.
Ward 3 News

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LET’S KEEP IN TOUCH

In compliance with Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation, recipients of this newsletter may unsubscribe at any time. Please feel free to forward this newsletter on to friends, family, neighbours and colleagues so that they can sign up as well. Please add  rory.nisan@burlington.ca  to your address book so that my Ward 3 newsletters arrive in your inbox.

To receive these newsletters in your inbox, please send an email with “Add Me” in the subject line to  ward3@burlington.ca

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