

F-04-21, SD-07-21 correspondence from Don Gerrard regarding
2021 operating budget review and approval

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Mailbox_Clerks](#)
Subject: Fwd: Your March 2021 Newsletter
Date: Tuesday, March 02, 2021 9:55:07 AM

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Dear Clerk

Pursuant to Hannelie's recommendation below please ensure comments in the attached email thread are addressed on record before council at the Mar 3 special meeting.

Will you please ensure ea. Council member is given a copy of this thread and it's addressed at the meeting?

Thank you

Don Gerrard

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mailbox, Office of the Mayor" <mayor@burlington.ca>
Date: March 2, 2021 at 9:29:42 AM EST
To: Don Gerrard [REDACTED]
Cc: "Galbraith, Kelvin" <Kelvin.Galbraith@burlington.ca>
Subject: RE: Your March 2021 Newsletter

Hi Don,

Thank you for your response.

The best way to get any comments on record for the Council's awareness and consideration would be to share it with our Clerks department.

You are welcome to email Clerks@Burlington.ca

Kind regards,

Hannelie van Niekerk | Executive Administrator & Constituent Liaison
Office of the Mayor Marianne Meed Ward | City of Burlington

From: Don Gerrard [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:06 AM
To: Mailbox, Office of the Mayor <mayor@burlington.ca>
Cc: Galbraith, Kelvin <Kelvin.Galbraith@burlington.ca>
Subject: Re: Your March 2021 Newsletter

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Hannelie

Thank you for your response on behalf of the Mayor.

While you claim that the City fully understands the impact the pandemic is having on residents, defense of an ill timed proposal to increase resources for tree preservation and Planning staff causes me to think otherwise.

Regarding Tree Preservation

Is this a case of not being able to see the forest for the trees?

Here are the facts;

Trees don't get covid. People do.

Trees won't suffer from the pandemic. People will and are.

Tree preservation is a multi year initiative. Pandemic sufferer's needs are immediate.

Trees will continue to thrive in their normal course. Some Burlingtonians will not.

I well understand the merits of the City's multiple programs to maximize the health of our natural resources and to some extent agree for the benefit of long term sustainability. As it is, the City's programs are robust and recognized across the province for their advanced state. For the time being there is no need to further increase related resources. We are experiencing a one-time pandemic that is certainly worthy of a one-time halt in discretionary spending for the benefit of those who are already having trouble making ends meet.

Please confirm that these thoughts will be introduced at this week's Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services Committee meeting.

Regarding the addition of Planning staff.

No doubt the influx of applications created by pandemic affected residents is real and requires attention. Is it really necessary to increase staff? Are they being hired on a temporary basis? What happens when things go back to normal? Hiring additional staff potentially has the effect of adding long term inefficiencies within the system. While the pandemic has created an increase in Planning staff requirements I understand there are other departments (i.e., Recreation) with reduced loads. Temporary redeployment of administrative staff from non-busy areas to support professional Planning staff is an alternative worthy of consideration to meet the City's temporary pandemic related requirement. Full time hiring cannot be a solution for a temporary problem.

Please ensure the inputs herein are presented to Marianne and others involved in the decision making process in a timely manner prior to the March 3 special council meeting.

Marianne has gone on record stating that delivering the highest tax increase of her term is not her goal for our community, particularly amidst a pandemic where people are suffering. She doesn't have to.

Discretionary spending is just that.

Please show discretion.

Don Gerrard

[REDACTED]

From: Mailbox, Office of the Mayor <mayor@burlington.ca>
Sent: March 1, 2021 2:56 PM
To: Don Gerrard [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Your March 2021 Newsletter

Hi Don,

This is Hannelie from the Mayor's team. Thank you for reaching out to the Mayor to share your thoughts.

You have highlighted a few items that I would like to share more information around, to perhaps provide a better understanding about the tax increase, and will address each of them individually below. We fully understand the impact that the pandemic had and is still having on our residents, but at the same time, the City needs to ensure that we remain able to provide the services our residents deserve and expect, while still ensuring we are sustainable. The city can't stop maintaining our facilities, roads and infrastructure. As we all know, a rebuild later costs a lot more than maintaining what you already have, which in essence is placing the welfare of our residents first, not only today, but also in the future.

With regards to tree preservation: [Tree Protection Standards](#) provide guidelines for developers and the construction industry to follow in order to protect existing trees. Tree Maintenance Programs are delivered by the city to maximize the health and structure of public trees, including programs to manage [Tree Pests and Diseases](#), which can threaten the city's tree canopy. The city also provides a [Tree Planting](#) program to replace and replenish the city's urban forest. Trees play an important role in our everyday lives – they provide oxygen, provides shade to limit the warming of the surfaces they cover (which in turn decrease the amount of time an aircon would need to cool down a building, due to the reduced heat radiating from the area surrounding a building for example, which means reduced energy bills). The City of Burlington has recently been [recognized for its Climate Action Plan efforts](#), as we strive to leave a better environment for future generations. This will be among the topic for discussion at this week's Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services Committee. [Please follow this link](#) if you would like to view the meeting in real time.

With regards to [Planning Staff](#): Planning affects everyone. It determines where you will live, shop, gather, work or go to school. For example, changes made to the City's [Official Plan](#) and [Zoning Bylaw](#) can impact the height and density of new development and [design guidelines](#) can impact the architecture and design elements you see on buildings and structures. The biggest function of the Planning department is to handle the increasing and ongoing [development applications the City receives](#). When the City receives an application for a new development, we are legally bound to provide the developer with a decision on the application within 120 days. This has not been different during the Covid-19 pandemic, and staff are still very much working full time to process these applications within the set time frame. Should the city fail to provide a decision to the developer within the 120 day time frame, the developer has the right to approach the LPAT to request them to make a decision on whether or not they are allowed to proceed with their plans. When this happens

it will not only cost the city money by means of legal fees and representation at the LPAT, but it also takes all the decision making away from the City and City Council – in other words, projects that are not acceptable to our residents could go ahead and the residents would not be able to provide any input on how their neighborhoods are structured. It is the city's obligation to its residents to ensure we are able to provide them with opportunity to be a part of the planning process for the neighborhoods they live in, and without enough Planning staff, this would not be possible. To learn more about the Planning Process, please visit the [Burlington Planning Process](#) site, which may provide further insight.

Another function of the Planning department is to review applications made by residents. As is the same with any other year, the City has been receiving applications from residents wishing to upgrade their properties in a variety of ways. One such an example is the massive influx of applications to install pools, last summer. Our residents expect a reasonable turnaround time for these applications.

With regards to staff being at home while collecting full pay: as I have mentioned to you in May as well as June of last year, there are no City staff collecting any form of payment while not working. From your email below it seems that you have spoken to someone who claim they do no work and still collect payment, and if this is so, I would like to urge you to reach out to our Human Resources department to confidentially report this. During the pandemic, staff do work from home to limit the congregation and contact at City Hall and other offices, but all normal KPI items for all staff are still in place and have to be delivered on.

I trust that the above will serve as a testament that our Mayor and Council is prioritizing the welfare of our residents above all else, and are looking ahead to be ready for not only the year of 2021, but also the short and long term future of our beautiful city. When the day comes that Covid-19 is no longer the threat it is today, I am confident that we will all look back with immense gratitude and recognize the countless hours, selfless dedication and inspiring leadership our Mayor and Council gave to the city during these unprecedented times.

Kind regards,

Hannelie van Niekerk | Executive Administrator & Constituent Liaison
Office of the Mayor Marianne Meed Ward | City of Burlington

From: Don Gerrard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 11:01 AM
To: Mailbox, Office of the Mayor <mayor@burlington.ca>
Subject: Re: Your March 2021 Newsletter

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Marianne

Thank you for the heads up on a completely unacceptable proposal.

Any increase at this time is wholly unacceptable.

There is a pandemic going on. This is no time for business as usual.
Many are out of work and having trouble making ends meet. Housing related payments are tough for many as it is let alone a tax increase that affects both owners and renters.

How dare you add resources for tree preservation when humans in the City are suffering. Yes, tree preservation has its place. It's not however in the place of the very basic human needs your constituents are struggling with. Put it on hold Marianne.

How dare you consider additional planning staff when for the most part your existing staff have been taking full pay while sitting at home and being wholly ineffective since the pandemic started. It's not uncommon to hear word on the street of your staff bragging of the easy life. I urge you to seek out more staff efficiencies first.

You should consider any possible increase whatsoever a blemish on your tenure as Mayor. You are only endorsing the fact that you're a tree hugger and constituents are secondary.

I urge you to slash every possible increase that does not have an immediate and direct effect on pandemic related relief. Please go back to the drawing board immediately. Any attempt at presenting the initiative described below is a slap in the face of every Burlingtonian.

You are not prioritizing effectively Marianne.

This is not putting constituents first.

This is not how to govern.

Zero increase is the only alternative.

Please call me direct to discuss.

Also, please have my council representative contact me directly.

Don Gerrard

[REDACTED] . (and many other commercial and residential properties in "our" City)

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 26, 2021, at 10:12 AM, Mayor Marianne Meed Ward <mayor@burlington.ca> wrote:

Your guide to influencing City Hall and staying informed

MARCH2021 NEWSLETTER

Message from the Mayor

Hello Burlington,

Council is in the final stages of 2021 budget discussions and is currently sitting at a proposed increase of 4.14% city-only portion that translates to a 2.5% overall tax impact when blended with regional and boards of education taxes.

City of Burlington staff and Council all

worked very hard to find ways to reduce the impact while still delivering on direct services to residents.

We shaved approximately \$1.49 million off the initial proposed operating budget while adding resources for tree preservation, extending the seniors free transit pilot, additional planning staff and more.

That said, delivering the highest tax increase of our Council term thus far is not my goal for our community, particularly amidst a pandemic where people are still struggling. We received millions in funding from our upper levels of government over the past year and have been presented with reasonable and thoughtful options for reductions that were brought forward by our City staff. The divided vote yesterday at committee was 4 members of Council in support, and 3 opposed, myself included.

The recommendations for the proposed 2021 operating budget head to a virtual special council meeting on March 3 for a final vote. With just a little bit more work and discussion, I'm hoping Council can come together to close the gap for a lower tax increase closer to 3.99% and deliver a budget that most, if not all, of us on Council and in the community can support.

You can still have your say on the budget. Contact members of Council (links can be found at the very bottom of this newsletter) or register to delegate at the Special Council Meeting here: burlington.ca/delegate. For a recap of the budget discussions we had earlier this week at committee, please check burlington.ca/calendar, as the minutes from the Feb. 23 and 25 meetings will be posted there.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

I'm very excited to be hosting two inspirational women as guest panelists on March 8 for a free virtual [Lunch & Learn event in honour of International Women's Day 2021](#). More information, including how to register, is available further down this newsletter or by clicking the link.

ONTARIO'S COVID-19 RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

On Feb. 16, [Halton Region and the City of Burlington re-entered the Red-Control Zone of the Province's COVID-19 Response Framework](#) and I know this was welcomed news by our residents and businesses. As this will have been our second week in this zone, we can expect an announcement from the Province soon as to whether our Region will remain in

the Red-Control Zone for another two weeks, or if we'll be moved to the Orange-Restrict Zone. Please look to my social media channels, as I will share any news and updates we get on there.

VACCINATION PROGRAM

Halton Region announced earlier this week the [locations of the 4 initial vaccination centres](#) across Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville -- the location in Burlington is the Compass Point Bible Church, 1500 Kerns Rd. I have already received some feedback via my office and on social media with some residents concerned with the location and accessibility. Planning is underway at Halton Region, and their staff are looking at options to ensure how everyone can reasonably access the site. As soon as more information and details are available, I will share them across my channels.

Retired Gen. Rick Hillier, who is leading the Province's program for vaccine distribution, also recently announced the expected timelines for the start of vaccinations by age group at available clinics. They are as follows, so far:

- Third week of March -- 80+ age group;
- April 15 -- 75+ age group;
- May 1 -- 70+ age group;
- June 1 -- 65+ age group; and
- July -- 60+ age group.

I encourage all Burlington residents to continually follow the dedicated COVID-19 vaccinations page the Region of Halton has launched at [halton.ca/covidvaccines](#) and to sign up there for email updates so as soon as new information is posted, you'll get it directly in your inbox. I will also continue to share any news on vaccinations on my website at [bit.ly/COVIDVaccineUpdates](#) and on my social media platforms.

COMING UP AT COMMITTEE:

The full agendas are out for the March committee cycle -- that starts next week (on Tuesday, March 2) -- and are available for viewing further down this newsletter under the 'What's Coming Up At Committee' header, as well as online at [burlington.ca/calendar](#).

Here are some items that are coming up that may be of particular interest:

- **CPRM Committee - March 2:** Brownfield Focus Community Improvement Plan
- **CSSRA Committee - March 3:** Burlington lands partnership update
- **EICS Committee - March 4:** Climate Adaptation Plan

COVID-19 RESPONSE LINKS and RESOURCES:

- My website: [bit.ly/mayormeedwardCOVID19updates](#)
- Vaccine Updates: [bit.ly/COVIDVaccineUpdates](#)
- Halton Region COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage: [halton.ca/covidvaccines](#)
- City of Burlington: [burlington.ca/coronavirus](#)
- FAQ page: [bit.ly/COVID19BurlingtonFAQ](#)
- Halton Region: [halton.ca/coronavirus](#)
- Halton Region Reopening Schools Resource webpage: [halton.ca](#)
- Government of Ontario: [ontario.ca/coronavirus](#)
- Government of Canada: [canada.ca/coronavirus](#)
- Joseph Brant Hospital: [josephbranthospital.ca/covid-19](#)
- Team Burlington Business Supports: [burlingtonchamber.com/team-burl-supporting-](#)

[burl-business-duringcovid-19/](#)

- Burlington Food Bank: call 905-637-CARE (2273) or visit [burlingtonfoodbank.ca](#)
- Food for Life: call 905-635-1106 and press 7, or visit [foodforlife.ca](#)
- Canadian Mental Health Association - Halton Branch: call 289-291-5396, or visit [halton.cmha.ca](#)

TOP STORIES

Halton Announces Initial Vaccination Clinic Locations

Halton Region recently announced the 4 initial vaccination clinic locations across its municipalities. It's readying these locations in preparation for more vaccine supply. [READ MORE](#)

MY TAKE: *Our Region is ready to carry out Canada's and Ontario's vaccination program, and the City of Burlington is ready to assist in its rollout, as soon as supplies are available and provided.*

Halton Enters Red-Control Zone — What That Means for Burlington

On Feb. 16, Halton re-entered the Red-Control Zone in the Province's COVID-19 Response Framework. [READ MORE](#)

MY TAKE: *I know residents & businesses welcomed this announcement. This reopening comes with restrictions & stringent protocols to ensure the health & safety of all. We'll continue to be guided in our decisions by physical & mental health, social & economic considerations.*

Working Towards a Diverse & Wholly Inclusive City of Burlington

February is Black History Month & a time to reflect on our local Black history; continue to talk about the historical injustices people of colour in Canada have endured & continue to be pervasive today; & continue working to create a community without racism, where every person feels valued & is treated fairly & with respect. Please click the link for my full statement: [READ MORE](#)

City of Burlington's Asks as Province Prepares its 2021-22 Budget

As the Province of Ontario prepares its 2021-2022 budget, I sent a letter on behalf of the City of Burlington to the Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance outlining some considerations that would support our City as we continue working through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Click the link to read the full letter. [READ MORE](#)

Halton Mayors Outline COVID-19 Relief Measures & Priority Requests for Federal and Provincial Governments

Halton's Mayors met earlier in Feb. to discuss several issues jointly affecting

our communities. We appreciate our partnership with the Fed./Prov. governments, & COVID-19 has created numerous challenges for all levels of government. There are many factors we all must consider & balance with our decision-making. We continue to call on our partners on several matters.

Click the link to [READ MORE](#)

MORE NEWS:

- [Register for Mayor's International Women's Day Virtual Lunch & Learn](#)
- [Highlights from Mayor's 2021 Virtual State of the City Address](#)
- [City of Burlington Recognized for Climate Action Plan Efforts](#)
- [Greenbelt Foundation to Build on 16 Years of Work with Renewed Provincial Funding](#)
- [Ontario's Big City Mayors Address Ontario Budget Priorities, Support Vaccination Roll-out](#)
- [Premier Announces Plan to Gradually Return to COVID-19 Response Framework](#)
- [Statement from BERN Chair Regarding Fairness for Local Businesses During COVID-19](#)
- [Mayor's Statement: Supporting Ontario's MOHs' Message That Reopening Schools is Essential](#)
- [Mayor's Statement: Dog-Grooming Essential to Pet Health](#)
- [Ontario Provides Clarity on Pet Grooming Exceptions in COVID-19 Provincial Regulations](#)

WHAT WE DID AT COUNCIL

Recommendations Approved by Council Highlights

Council approved numerous recommendations from this month's cycle of committees at the Feb. 16 regular meeting, such as updates on Meridian Quarry, City Service Interim

Redesigns, & more.

Please click the link for highlights, My Takes and the full post-meeting minutes for all the recommendations that were approved. [READ MORE](#)

MORE NEWS:

- [City & Team Burlington Calling for Renewed Funding to Support Future Proofing & Digital Adoption for Local Businesses](#)
- [Halton Regional Council Asks Province to Update COVID-19 Framework Restrictions on Restaurant Indoor Dining Capacities](#)
- [Regional Council to Fight Federal Approval of CN Truck-Rail Hub in Milton](#)

WHAT'S COMING UP AT COMMITTEE

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to precautions being taken amid COVID-19, in-person delegations cannot be accommodated during this time. Written or requests for [virtual delegations for City committee and Council meetings](#) can be made to the City Clerk at clerks@burlington.ca. Written delegations for Regional Council meetings can be submitted by email to the Regional Clerk at regionalclerk@halton.ca.

Watch live webcasts of virtual Committee and Council meetings at burlington.ca/calendar.

Community Planning, Regulation & Mobility (CPRM) March 2

- [CPRM-March02-2021 agenda](#) — 9:30 a.m.
- **STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETING:** Burlington Brownfield Focus Community Improvement Plan / Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendment and Plan of Subdivision for 2155 Country Club Drive & 4274 Dundas Street (*NOTE: This item will be discussed at 1 p.m. and continue at 6:30 p.m.*);
- **CONSENT ITEMS:** Proposal to Discontinue Tag Day Program / Authorize Requester Agreement (ARIS).

Corporate Services, Strategy, Risk & Accountability (CSSRA) March 3

- [**CSSRA-March03-2021 agenda**](#) — 9:30 a.m. (Special Meeting of Council immediately following committee meeting if needed)
- **CONSENT ITEMS:** Vision to Focus (V2F) integrated reporting update / Financial status report as of Dec. 31, 2020 / 2020 retained savings / Operating budget performance as of Dec. 31, 2020 / 2021 proposed budget and tax levy for the Burlington Downtown Business Improvement Area / 2021 proposed budget and tax levy for the Aldershot Village Business Improvement Area / Remuneration and expenses paid to Council and appointees for 2020 / Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software procurement process update / Highlights from Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) virtual conference 2021;
- **REGULAR ITEMS:** Health, safety, wellness and human resources staff presentation / COVID-19 emergency response verbal update / Burlington lands partnership verbal update (**NOTE:** Item referred from Feb. 3 committee) / Corporate project status updates - Q4 2020 / Proposed Council Workshop governance sessions;
- **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS:** COVID-19 emergency response verbal update (if required) / Confidential contingency report as of Dec. 31, 2020 / Confidential litigation update - Oct. 1-Dec. 31, 2020.

Special Council Meeting March 3

- Agenda released at [calendar.burlington.ca](#) closer to date of meeting.
- 2021 Operating Budget Approval.

Environment, Infrastructure & Community Services (EICS) March 4

- [**EICS-March04-2021 agenda**](#) — 9:30 a.m.
- **CONSENT ITEMS:** Public tree removal report - 4417 Spruce Ave. - Plan of Subdivision File No. 520-06/18;
- **REGULAR ITEMS:** Climate Adaptation Plan / City Hall - One Window design update.

Regular Council Meeting March 23 (1 p.m.)

- Agenda released at [calendar.burlington.ca](#) closer to date of meeting.

[READ MORE](#)

CITY NEWS

Recreation Programming Re-opening Safely

City facilities and programs started re-opening with a phased approach on Feb. 16. [READ MORE](#)

MY TAKE: We're excited to slowly & safely reopen, & welcome back folks to City recreation facilities & programming. Not all programs & facilities will be opened immediately as the City's re-staffing and facility preparations are underway. We appreciate the public's patience.

MORE NEWS:

- [Join Virtual Launch of Burlington Housing Strategy on March 8](#)
- [Public Meeting for Millcroft Greens Application set for March 2](#)
- [Infrastructure Minister Speaks to Improving Rural Broadband, Cell Services in Letter to Mayor](#)
- [Some City Services Set to Resume as Burlington Moves to Red-Control Zone](#)
- [Burlington COVID-19 Task Force Meeting 18](#)
- [Burlington COVID-19 Task Force Meeting 17](#)
- [Halton Moves into Red-Control Zone With Revised Instructions for Businesses from Medical Officer of Health](#)
- [ROMA 2021 Virtual Conference Highlights: Burlington, Halton Delegations meet with Provincial Ministers on Variety of Issues](#)
- [LPAT Approves Clearview Application & Reduced Parking in Burlington](#)
- [City Reinstates Parking Enforcement of 5-hour Limit](#)
- [Mountainside Outdoor Pool Revitalization & Community Input](#)

IN THE COMMUNITY

Give Feedback on Playground Projects

The City will be replacing 13 playgrounds over the next 2 years & encouraging families to complete a survey to pick their favourite features. [READ MORE](#)

MY TAKE: Playgrounds add to the enjoyment of visitors to our parks --

particularly our little ones. Let us know what new features and what you'd like to see in the parks selected for upgrades.

MORE NEWS:

- [Library Offers Free Community Access Passes to Several Sites Across City](#)
- [Mundialization Committee Awarded Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation](#)
- [Burlington Public Library Update: Re-entering Red-Control Zone](#)
- [Residents Invited to Share Feedback on Proposed Designs for Regal Road Bridge Public Art](#)

MEETINGS

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->Due to COVID-19, Statutory Public Meetings will be conducted virtually. If you would like to delegate remotely, you can (in advance by noon the day before the meeting) complete the online delegation registration form at burlington.ca/delegate or email a written request to clerks@burlington.ca.

During the virtual meeting, you can also request to make an oral submission by emailing clerks@burlington.ca. A tickertape will also be visible with instructions onscreen during the live webcast.

- Statutory Public Meeting (virtual): March 2 (9:30 a.m.) -- [Burlington Brownfield Community Improvement Plan](#)
- Statutory Public Meeting (virtual): March 2 (1 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.) -- [Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendment and Plan of Subdivision for 2155 Country Club Dr. & 4274 Dundas St.](#)

BURLINGTON MATTERS ON YOURTV

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--> My *Burlington Matters* show has shifted to a Zoom call-in format while we continue to face COVID-19.

YourTV Halton airs the program on Cogeco cable -- channel 700 (check your local listings for dates/times) and on their [YouTube channel](#).

FEBRUARY 2021 EPISODES:

• **Guests:** Andrew Balahura, Director of Housing Services, Social and Community Services, Region of Halton, & Alison Enns, Manager of Policy and Community, City of Burlington; **Topic:** [Affordable Housing](#).

• **Guests:** Chris Glenn, Director of Recreation Services, City of Burlington, and Amber Rushton, Community Emergency Management, Burlington Fire Department; **Topic:** [Changes to Recreation services and programs in Province's COVID-19 Response Framework / Burlington's Vaccine Task Force and potential impacts of vaccine rollout to City's facilities](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->

Under the current Provincial and Public Health regulations, outdoor spaces, such as the Burlington Rotary Centennial Pond, toboggan hills, artificial outdoor rinks, parks & neighbourhood outdoor rinks, **ARE ALLOWED** to be open & Winter Play Equipment Lending (curbside pickup) can continue.

According to the Provincial stay-at-home regulations, outdoor activities are exempt as exercise is an essential part of both physical & mental health. Please continue to follow all COVID-19 precautions and regulations.

For more information about City of Burlington recreation programming, please visit [burlington.ca/recreation](#).

Public festivals and event listings in the City's online [calendar](#) should still be cancelled. Please contact the event provider directly to confirm.

MAYOR'S SNAPS

I was delighted last month to have been asked to read virtually to the JK/SK class of St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Elementary School on the first day back to in-person learning!

I chose a book from my family's collection that my three kids loved when they were tiny tots growing up.

Similarly to Olivia, my kids didn't much like naps either!

ABOUT & CONTACT

City Council (click name for info)

Ward 1 Councillor

[Kelvin Galbraith](#)

Mayor's Team

General inquiries: mayor@burlington.ca

Phone: [905-335-7607](tel:905-335-7607)

[Executive Administrator](#)
[and Constituent Liaison:](#)

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Hannelie van Niekerk

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Ward 3 Councillor

[Rory Nisan](#)

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[Paul Sharman](#)

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Shelby Dockendorff

Shelby.Dockendorff@burlington.ca

Ward 6 Councillor

[Angelo Bentivegna](#)

Don't know your ward? View the [City of Burlington's ward divisions map](#).

Want more news from your ward? Sign-up for your Councillor's newsletter here: [Ward 1](#), [Ward 2](#), [Ward 3](#), [Ward 4](#), [Ward 5](#), and [Ward 6](#).

About A Better Burlington:

A Better Burlington started in 2006 to let you know what's happening at City Hall before decisions are made, so you can influence outcomes for A Better Burlington.



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