

# Chris FONSECA

City Councillor • Ward 3



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## Hello Residents of Ward 3

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

I'm honoured to have the opportunity to represent you on both Mississauga City Council and Peel Regional Council. As we embrace the vibrant energy of the spring/summer season, I'm excited to share with you the latest updates in my newsletter filled with news and events happening in Ward 3, and across the city.

Summer is around the corner and it's been wonderful connecting with many of you through various Ward 3 events, community gatherings and meetings. Your openness, insights and feedback mean a great deal to me. They continue to guide my work, as I strive to provide effective programs and services that enhance the safety, connectivity and overall well-being of our neighbourhoods. My goal remains to improve both Ward 3 and Mississauga, ensuring it's a place where all residents can thrive.

This edition of my newsletter focuses on the ongoing work to preserve and enhance our parks, and green spaces.

These shared spaces are vital for the health and enjoyment of everyone who calls Ward 3 home. I'm pleased to report that we've been busy making improvements!

Behind the scenes, my team and I have been planning a few upcoming events to bring the community together. Please save-the-date for my Ward 3 Community BBQ and Free Swim on Friday, July 18. I'm also excited to announce that Gulleden Park will be reopening soon with new developments. In addition, I will be hosting a Free Fun Swim on Friday, August 22. Finally, look out for a fun Dog Swim event in early fall!

I encourage you all to take advantage of the wonderful recreational opportunities available in our city - from exploring our parks and trails to attending festivals or trying something new. Don't forget

to check out our libraries and indoor sports facilities, too!

Stay connected with me by signing up for my e-newsletter and on social media, where I'll continue to provide updates on what's happening in our community and the broader region.

As always, I value your feedback and ideas. Your input is important in helping us shape the future of our neighbourhoods and city.

On behalf of my team, I wish you all a wonderful, healthy and enjoyable spring and summer!

Warmest regards,

Chris Fonseca, Councillor, Ward 3  
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## You're invited!

### Join me for our Ward 3 summer events

*As we gear up for the warmer months, I'm pleased to invite you to a few community events that I'm hosting.*



### Ward 3 Summer BBQ and Free Fun Swim

Friday, July 18  
from 4 to 9 p.m.

4 to 7 p.m. - BBQ to take place at Jaycee Park located at 1520 Gulleden Dr.

7:30 to 9 p.m. - Free indoor fun swim at Burnhamthorpe Community Centre - 1500 Gulleden Dr.

### Free Fun Swim at Burnhamthorpe Community Centre

Friday, August 22  
from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Burnhamthorpe Community Centre - 1500 Gulleden Dr.

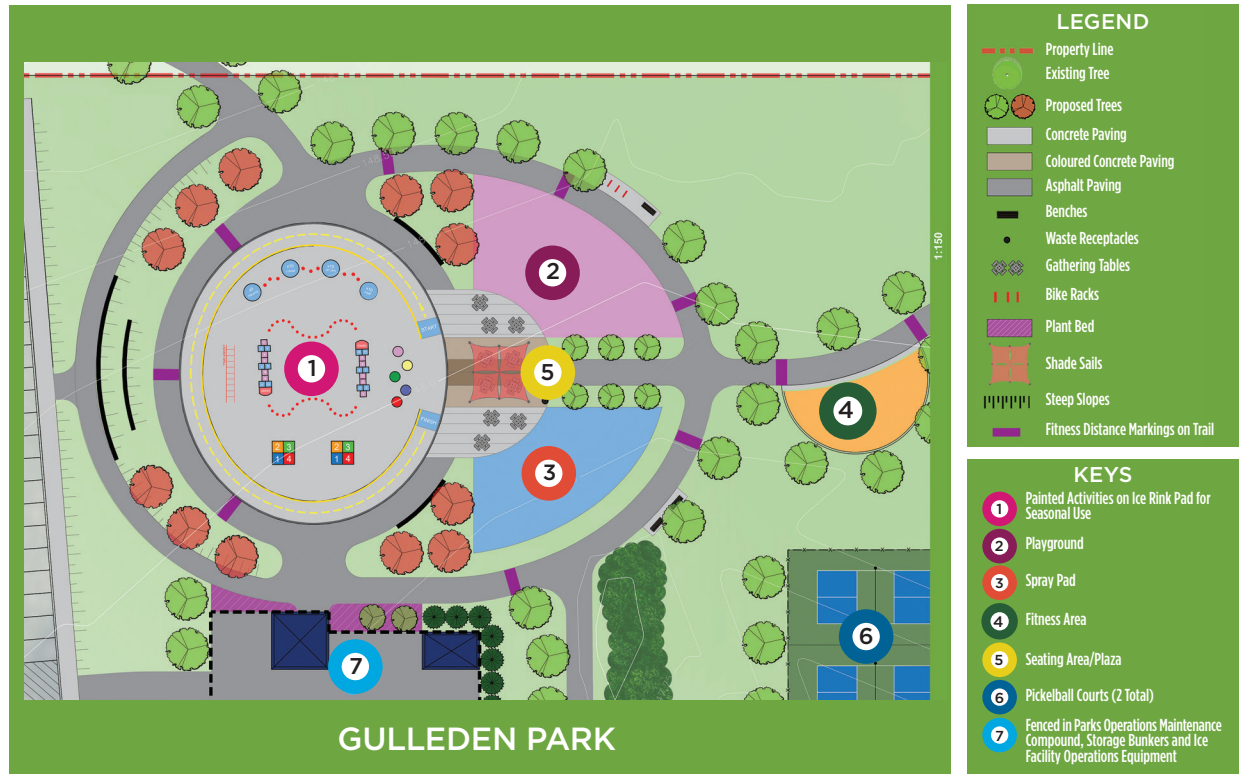
# Maintaining Mississauga's Parks and Trails

## Gulleden Park

Following community public engagement, the park design has been finalized and construction is underway. This work is scheduled to be completed by summer 2025.

The renewed park will feature recreational activities, such as a central seating area, passive open spaces, a spray pad and playground, accessible trails and fitness areas, two dedicated pickleball courts, a multi-purpose court, junior skateboard feature and an outdoor refrigerated ice-skating rink in the winter.

I look forward to the successful renewal of Gulleden Park and celebrating with you by hosting an event once complete! For a complete list of park features, visit [mississauga.ca/gulledenpark](http://mississauga.ca/gulledenpark).



## Burnhamdale Park

Recent improvements include a reconstructed park trail, new multi-purpose court and pickleball court. With these improvements, community activities and experiences have become a key focus - all within a short walking distance of the neighbourhood.

This spring, additional construction will begin to bring a spray pad with a shaded seating area designed for accessibility and social gatherings, along with upgrading the park's two tennis courts.

Reconstruction is planned after the 2025 tennis season and will take place in phases. A temporary trail connection will be installed from Cardross Rd., running between the sports courts and will continue west to connect with the existing trail at St. Alfred Separate School. The sports courts at Burnhamdale Park will remain accessible.



## Parks and Trails Update continued

### Bethesda Common Park

Construction of the playground expansion and new shade structure is complete and open to the community to enjoy.



### Applewood Heights

The basketball court has been completely reconstructed after reaching the end of its lifecycle. The new design offers space for both full-court games and exciting 3-on-3 matches.



## Free fares for seniors ages 65+ and children under 12 with PRESTO

Council has approved free fares on MiWay for seniors ages 65 and over using a PRESTO card set to a senior fare type - effective July 1, 2025. Children 0-12 years of age can ride MiWay for free by using a PRESTO card set to a child fare type or by travelling with a parent/guardian if you are 0-5 years of age.

Seniors can set their fare type by visiting any of the following locations: a PRESTO Customer Service Outlet, any Mississauga community centre, the City Centre Transit Terminal at Square One Mall or at their local Shoppers Drug Mart. **Note:** proof of age must be presented to confirm eligibility.

When boarding, eligible seniors must present a PRESTO card set to the senior fare type to receive the free fare, otherwise, they will continue to pay the \$1 cash fare. PRESTO cards can be used on all transit agencies in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), including Ottawa.

Questions? Contact MiWay Customer Service at 905-615-4636 or visit [miway.ca](http://miway.ca) for more information.



## Play in the Park is back

I'm thrilled to share that the Play in the Park Program is coming to Kennedy Park this summer!

This free, supervised outdoor program is perfect for kids ages 6 to 12 and offers a fun mix of games, sports, crafts, theme days and special events—all in your local neighbourhood park. It's a great way for children to stay active, make new friends and learn valuable teamwork skills, while having a blast.

For more information, visit [mississauga.ca/recreation-and-sports](http://mississauga.ca/recreation-and-sports) or email [letsplayinthepark@mississauga.ca](mailto:letsplayinthepark@mississauga.ca).

With these improvements, community activities and experiences have become a key focus - all within a short walking distance of the neighbourhood.

## Mississauga launches 65+ Fit membership

Mississauga is proud to launch the first-ever 65+ Fit membership for residents, where participants can enjoy a wide range of fitness programs at no cost beginning April 1.

This free and flexible membership aims to help the City's older adult residents stay healthy and get active. Enjoy these offerings at 13 locations across the city, including the Mississauga Seniors' Centre.

The membership offers:

- Access to more than 400 drop-in group exercise classes across City fitness centres, including the Mississauga Seniors' Centre
- One 45-minute fitness consultation
- Fully-equipped weight and cardio equipment rooms, fitness studios and squash courts
- Unlimited drop-in recreational swims and recreational skates (some exclusions apply)

For more information, please visit [mississauga.ca/memberships](http://mississauga.ca/memberships).

## The Sauga Summer Pass is back

Youth ages 12 to 16 can make the most out of their summer by accessing free MiWay rides, drop-in fun swims and fitness centres (available for ages 14 to 16 only) from June 27 to September 1, 2025 with the Sauga Summer Pass.

This pass is free and makes it easier for youth to spend time in Mississauga all summer long, without having to worry about transportation or memberships.

Starting April 28, passes will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, until the program reaches capacity.

I encourage eligible youth to apply online or visit select community centres to obtain their pass.

For more information or to learn about the application process, please visit [mississauga.ca/summerpass](http://mississauga.ca/summerpass).

## Glenforest Youth Hub is back



I'm excited to share that a new youth hub will be built on the site of Glenforest Secondary School. With data highlighting a strong need for youth support in the Dixie-Bloor area, the hub will provide programs and amenities designed to meet their needs. This will be the City's second youth hub - the first being the Malton Youth Hub.

The City completed an extensive community engagement process gathering valuable input from youth, residents, local school principals and local youth-serving agencies. The process included focus groups, pop-up engagements and an online survey which received 617 responses - 54 per cent of which were directly from youth.

Key feedback from the engagement emphasized the importance of creating a fun and inclusive space where youth can connect and access a variety of programs and services including meals, physical and mental wellness resources, computers, cooking and nutrition classes, leadership development and career support.

This input will guide the design and layout of the hub, with construction anticipated to start in 2026.

For more information, visit [yoursay.mississauga.ca/glenforest](https://yoursay.mississauga.ca/glenforest).

## Wildlife in Mississauga



Mississauga's natural areas, rivers, creeks, forests and wetlands attract diverse wildlife. To enjoy these animals safely, follow these simple rules:

**Don't feed wildlife:** feeding animals can make them dependent on humans, causing them to neglect their natural foraging and attract pests, which can then bring around larger predators. It's important to know that under the City's Animal Care and Control By-law, feeding wildlife is illegal, with fines starting at \$365.

**Keep dogs on leashes:** having dogs run loose in parks or natural areas is disruptive for other park users and local wildlife. Please keep your dogs leashed, unless you're enjoying one of our leash-free parks.

**Stoop and scoop:** dog waste left behind in public areas can harm ecosystems and spread diseases. Please always clean up after your dog/pets and dispose of waste in the designated green waste container or regular waste bins.

Let's work together to ensure both wildlife and our community thrive.

Questions? Contact Animal Services at 905-896-5858 to report sick/injured animals, animals posing a safety risk or any animal-related by-law concerns.

## Support with Localized Flooding

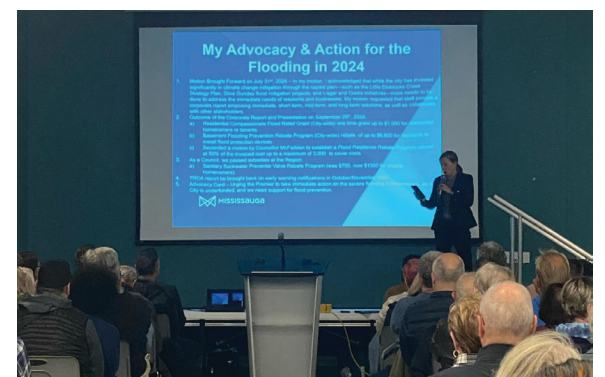
Last summer, Mississauga residents experienced historic and severe flooding. In response, I have advocated on behalf of residents and through these actions, Council has approved several measures to assist residents whose properties were damaged by localized flooding, including financial relief programs and the Region of Peel rebate.

- **Residential Compassionate Flood Relief Grant:** a one-time payment of \$1,000 to affected property owners and tenants who experienced basement flooding.
- **Basement Flooding Prevention Rebate Program:** provides rebates up to \$7,500 for eligible flood prevention improvements.
- **Flood Resilience Rebate Program:** offers rebates of 50 per cent of the invoiced cost, up to a maximum of \$3,000, for eligible water-resistant

materials and other measures taken to minimize flooding impact.

- **Region of Peel Sanitary Backwater Valve Rebate:** a \$1,500 rebate for eligible homeowners to cover the cost of installing a sanitary backwater valve to reduce basement flooding due to sanitary back-ups of wastewater from the sanitary sewer.

For more information, visit [mississauga.ca/flooding](https://mississauga.ca/flooding) and [peelregion.ca/water](https://peelregion.ca/water).



## KNOW WHO TO CALL

**211** is for confidential information and referral to non-emergency community, health and social services in Peel Region. Examples include:

- doctors accepting patients
- employment leads
- social housing resources

**311** provides residents with direct access to local municipal government programs and services in Mississauga. Examples include:

- municipal property taxes
- parking enforcement
- parks and forestry inquiries

**911** is for life-threatening emergencies or crimes. Examples include:

- a fire
- a crime in progress
- a medical emergency

Visit [mississauga.ca](https://mississauga.ca) for more information.

## Ward 3 Councillor Chris Fonseca



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Sign up to receive my e-updates at [chrisfonseca.ca](https://chrisfonseca.ca)

Chris Fonseca - City of Mississauga

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Sign up to receive my e-updates and to stay in touch with the Ward 3 community and more.

