

Your Kitchener

Drivers ignoring signs endanger workers

Close calls happen all the time for workers in construction zones on roadways. Even though the signs say 'road closed,' drivers often drive around the barricades into the construction zone.

"Sometimes they drive up on the sidewalks. We have even had occasions where vehicles have ended up in our excavation," said Scott Berry, manager of maintenance operations for the city.

He notes the traffic control measures the public will most commonly see include:

- signs that state road closed,
- traffic control person holding sign,
- barricades saying the road is closed.

"Depending on the length of time needed to do the work, sometimes there isn't a detour sign," said Berry. "It is common sense and the law for drivers is to obey the signs so our workers can work in a hazard-free environment."

Fatalities can happen. Locally, unfortunately a privately contracted employee was struck and killed recently while setting out pylons around his truck. The situation is enough of a concern that the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, and the Region of Waterloo have teamed up to raise awareness of the dangers their workers face every day they're on a construction site.

Berry said Kitchener has responded to the challenges of keeping workers safe by changing its approach to identifying construction areas, to discourage drivers from even entering the zones.

"We attempt to do full closures of roads now whenever possible," said Berry. "We're actually using more physical barriers now instead of just signs. Also, city workers will contact police when an incident arises. And the police will contact that driver."

In 2006, the Province of Ontario passed amendments to Bill 169, giving municipalities new power under the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) to designate construction zones on roads in their jurisdiction. The legislation doubled fines for speeding in a designated construction zone when there are workers present and made it easier for municipalities to reduce the enforceable speed limits



FOLLOWING THE SIGNS -- Safety is paramount for roadworkers on municipal streets and regional roads. The cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, and the Region of Waterloo are raising awareness of the dangers their workers face from drivers in construction zones.

in construction zones.

The fine for exceeding the posted speed limit in a construction zone where workers are present is \$9 per km/h, and three demerit points.

The HTA fines for traveling 30 to 34 km/h over the speed limit is \$14 per km/h over the limit, and four demerit points.

It is also an offence to disobey a traffic control person's 'stop' and 'slow' sign. Fines are between \$60 and \$500 and penalties of three demerit points for this offence.

The Ontario Road Builders' Association launched a Facebook campaign (www.facebook.com/SafetyATwoWayStreet) this spring to highlight the issue of safety in construction zones.

"We had close call after close call last year," said Berry. "The attitude from the public is an issue. They are ignoring the signs."

To plan your route to avoid construction in Kitchener, please see www.kitchener.ca, search words "construction schedule."

Need to ask a question about city services? Call 519-741-2345

One number. One call.

By the numbers, the City of Kitchener has made it easier to answer questions residents might have on a number of topics, from snow removal and leaf collection, to reporting potholes and parking complaints, to asking questions about marriage licenses.

One number: 519-741-2345.

That's the city's corporate contact centre (CCC) number, which has become the general enquiry line for most things related to the city and beyond.

The hours of the CCC are Monday to Friday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"The phone is still the preferred method of contact for Canadians when dealing with government," said Matt Mannell, supervisor of the contact centre.

"About 80 per cent of our callers are assisted start to

finish by our contact centre staff. Our goal at the CCC is that citizens or visitors looking for information can get what they need with one phone call, but if necessary we transfer once and to the right person."

"This is a progressive model," Jeannie Murphy, manager of corporate customer service, explained. "It was the wish of city council to improve customer service across the corporation. These improvements included a new set of corporate customer service standards, a welcome centre located in the rotunda of city hall, and a corporate contact centre where citizens or visitors could call, reach a live voice, and get the service they needed."

Murphy adds public servants need to provide good customer service.

"Very simply, governments exist to serve our citizens. There is solid evidence to confirm that satisfaction with services has a direct relationship to the confidence and trust that citizens place in government," she said. "Municipal government has the closest relationship with its citizens, therefore we have a greater obligation than other levels of government to provide the best possible service that we can."

Mannell, who worked as a dispatcher with Kitchener Utilities before joining the CCC as a customer service representative and then a seconded position as supervisor, said the five full-time and two part-time customer service representatives often research and share information with each other.

"We're constantly building our library of resources," he said. "Every day we learn something new. Improving processes, updating procedures, one-on-one coaching, service level monitoring, and connecting with our internal customers are just some of the day-to-day duties required when supervising a contact centre — it is a public service that requires constant attention."

Contact centre customer service representatives are rotated through the welcome centre to gain experience in other areas of the corporation. The CCC will continue to expand and provide service for frontline areas, most recently engineering, fielding potential enquiries about street reconstruction.

Mannell notes the CCC is a "work in progress" and a "living, breathing" entity that is constantly changing.

"We're doing our best to improve our knowledge of how the different areas within the city function so that we can provide the most current and correct information in a timely manner to our customers," he said.

August opening planned for McLennan Park

The city is celebrating the completion of McLennan Park with a free family-friendly grand opening on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The grand opening of McLennan Park will feature a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by representatives from all levels of government. The new piece of public art, *Moments* by Gerry Houghton, will also be unveiled during the official opening ceremony.

McLennan Park is the city's largest park and boasts a large number of new amenities and opportunities for active use that are different from the typical active sportsfield complex.

"This is a park like no other in Kitchener, certainly even in the region," said Dan Ritz, supervisor of design and development for the city's parks. "There are so many things to do here, whether your kids are four, 14 or 40."

The grand opening will also feature facepainting, sport-focused inflatables and a geocaching site. This will be a chance to try out or be introduced to the park's high-paced amenities, such as:

- BMX bike park
- Skateboard park
- Beach volleyball and basketball courts.

The bike park offers a four-cross (4X) section, a pump track section, a jump park, and a free-ride course.

See 'active park', page 8

Previous phone numbers still routed through CCC

All of the original divisional phone numbers that are now routed through the CCC have remained the same. These original numbers are still published in the blue and yellow pages. Citizens using these numbers are automatically routed to the CCC. These phone numbers include:

SEWERS:	519-741-2515
TRAFFIC:	519-741-2715
PARKS:	519-741-2557
ROADS:	519-741-2514
CLERKS:	519-741-2285
MARRIAGE:	519-741-2286
BYLAW:	519-741-2330

VICTORIA PARK THEN AND NOW PAGES 6-7



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

There are lots of events through the summer to keep you busy.

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DELIVERING SMILES

Kitchener firefighters put smiles on children's faces.

page 8

HARRY CLASS POOL

An old building gets a new look. So do a few other aquatics facilities.

page 10

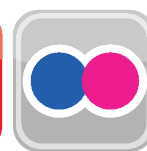
ON THE STREET

Behind the scenes with the Rangers Street Team.

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Connect with Kitchener



Messages from the mayor and council



Coun. Paul Singh picks up garbage around city hall during the 20-Minute Makeover in April.



MAYOR CARL ZEHR
 519-741-2300
 carl.zehr@kitchener.ca

Once in a while, we learn something new and say to ourselves, “That changes everything.” Daily, we make decisions and set priorities based on our own values and views of the world. Of course, how we see the world changes over time and our thinking shifts with new information and perspective.

Over the past 10–20 years, my understanding of environmental issues has grown and shaped my thinking about my impact on the world. In the same way, the people I’ve met, from all walks of life locally and beyond Kitchener, have shared their stories with me and influenced how I see the world.

I have seen just this kind of change in thinking about who we are, where we live and quality of life in our community. It is reflected in the priorities and directions our citizens are choosing, and in the approach to community building Kitchener supports.

In this issue of *Your Kitchener*, you will see features on McLennan Park and the clean-up of Victoria Park Lake. The various aspects of McLennan Park reflect the needs of our citizens today. While the toboggan hill at this location has been a favourite for many years, the BMX bike park and the leash-free dog park are features that may not have been considered important 20 years ago. Today, they are highly valued by park users.

As well, long a victim of historic environmental ignorance, Victoria Park Lake will be cleaned and revitalized with up-to-date methods following thorough studies and assessments. While residents have recognized the value of this gem in our city centre for many decades, the decision to make its water quality and upkeep top priorities have only been strongly demonstrated in the last couple of years. Awareness of the importance of these features has spread across our city.

These examples demonstrate how environmental concerns can be channelled into projects and our daily work. Business and municipal approaches to large and small scale projects today are different than they were even just a couple of decades ago.

Thinking about transportation has changed over time and with new information. Today, everyone expects their car to have a catalytic converter, and undergo emissions testing. When I was a new driver many years ago, these were not among my expectations. Today, I see transportation differently.

So too, particularly with gas pricing at such a high level, people are rethinking modes of transportation. Although at the time of submission for this publication, decisions surrounding rapid transit have not been finalized, I know that a higher order of public transit is wanted by our citizens and is seen as something to help protect our environment.

Some reasons for having and using rail transportation in the last century remain the same today, but our awareness of our environmental impact has increased significantly. The need for rapid transit is directly connected to our region’s increasing population.

How we think about our community is experiencing a leap-of-the-mind. People’s needs, for today and for tomorrow, include social and environmental factors not considered decades ago.

I hope we will continue to expand our perspectives and ideas about the world and our place in it, for many years to come.

You can reach me at 519-741-2300 or by email at mayor@kitchener.ca.

Council, committee meetings open to public

Kitchener city council meetings and standing committee meetings are held in council chambers at Kitchener City Hall. Upcoming council and standing committee meetings include:

AUGUST 2	Special council
AUGUST 15	Committee
AUGUST 29	Council

NOTE: Council and committee meetings are suspended for the month of July.



COUNCILLOR SCOTT DAVEY
 Ward 1
 519-741-2784
 scott.davey@kitchener.ca

Speed bumps

Traffic calming is the complete review process and installation of speed bumps, or other measures, that aim to slow the speed of traffic. Slowing vehicles on residential streets continues to be an issue within Ward 1, and throughout Kitchener.

It seems like a simple task at first look: identify a busy street, install some speed bumps and be home in time for Jeopardy.

If only it were that simple. I’ll take “complications” for \$2,000, Alex.

For starters, emergency service vehicles are negatively affected by traffic-calming measures put in place for those who do not obey the speed limit. These measures increase emergency response times, replacing one safety issue—speeding — with another, increased response times.

Speed bumps don’t work well with snow plows either, as they slow the speed at which the plow can drive, delaying the time to clear our streets. This can potentially add costs as we try to maintain our snow clearing standards.

While on the topic of costs, traffic calming is fairly expensive to implement and the studies consume a considerable amount of staff time. As a result, the city has accumulated a backlog of some 35 streets to date.

Daily double

At budget time in March, on motion by Coun. Galloway, council chose to double the number of traffic-calmed streets that we could complete per year, and council just recently reaffirmed that commitment. The result is that the current backlog could be worked through in as few as nine years, as opposed to the previous 18-year wait.

To be clear, your ward councillor has no say in which street benefits from these measures. There is a very clear system that prioritizes each city street and reviews them according to a statistically based need.

For more information on traffic calming, or other issues, please contact me by phone at 519-489-9056 or via email at scott.davey@kitchener.ca. If you would like to follow up-to-date actions or concerns, please visit my blog at www.scottdavey.info.



COUNCILLOR JOHN GAZZOLA
 Ward 3
 519-741-2790
 john.gazzola@kitchener.ca

Revised bylaw for backyard fire pits

Council is in the process of revising the bylaw relating to backyard fires and fire pits. I believe the regulations take a common sense approach by allowing citizens to still enjoy this form of recreation in their backyards without infringing on the rights of their neighbours. The revised rules are now in place, and will be further reviewed next year.

Full details on the revised bylaw can be obtained by contacting our property standards division at 519-741-2330.

Kingsdale Community Centre

Come out and visit our new Kingsdale community centre, located at 72 Wilson Ave. The centre is now open to the public for enjoyment and can be reached at 519-741-2540. There will be an official opening celebration, so watch for the date to be posted.

Stormwater management fund credits

City staff is currently preparing a “credit system” to be set up for the benefit of those property owners who use measures to minimize stormwater runoff from their own properties. This should also act as an incentive for others to make these changes to their properties in order to benefit from the credit system.

Recommendations on how to administer this credit system will be presented to council this fall, and will be retroactive to Jan. 1, 2011. I urge property owners to make your thoughts known when this issue is discussed by council.

Summer holiday traffic

As you begin your summer vacationing, and weekend excursions, please watch out for the many youngsters who will be out playing on our city streets. Please be extra attentive to your driving speed for the safety of our citizens this summer.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience should you require my assistance with any matters affecting you and the city. Also, I do appreciate receiving your comments and concerns regarding issues under consideration by city council. Your opinion is important! Thank you for your help in the past! I can be reached at 519-741-2790 (city hall); 519-744-0807 (home); 519-498-2389 (cell); 519-741- 2385 (TTY); john.gazzola@kitchener.ca



COUNCILLOR BERRY VRBANOVIC
 Ward 2
 519-741-2243
 berryv@kitchener.ca

Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Having just returned from the annual meeting of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, I was humbled and honoured to be elected president by my colleagues to represent this great organization over the next year.

As the first person from Waterloo Region to represent this organization, which has been the voice of Canada’s cities and communities since 1901, I believe it will be a great opportunity to share with municipal colleagues and other Canadians the unique barn-building approach we take here in Kitchener and throughout the region.

The conference brought together more than 2,000 mayors and councillors from cities and communities across the country to learn, network and begin to move forward our advocacy agenda in this new era of a return to majority government in Ottawa.

I know that today, all parties in the House of Commons recognize the economic importance of cities and communities, and the value of working more closely with us. It is important for all of us to work together in partnership to deliver a vision for the citizens we represent that focuses on safer communities, renewed economic strength and balanced budgets that protect essential services.

During the coming year, I will serve as the organization’s principal spokesperson leading advocacy efforts we emphasized during the recent federal election, including infrastructure (roads, waste water and public transit), policing and community safety, affordable housing and the environment. I will also be chairing a new national infrastructure working group, which will be working towards the development of a national infrastructure strategy.

I also look forward to learning from my colleagues across the country and bringing some of the best practices other municipalities have developed back to Kitchener to benefit the citizens of our community.

While the coming year will be very busy, I continue to look forward to looking after your needs and some of the great initiatives we are working on at the City of Kitchener.

I welcome any thoughts and ideas you want to share with me about issues in Ward 2, in Kitchener or in municipalities across the country. I can be reached via email at berryv@kitchener.ca or at 519-741-2243.



COUNCILLOR YVONNE FERNANDES
 Ward 4
 519-741-2779
 yvonne.fernandes@kitchener.ca

Water restrictions

Hot summer weather can cause us concern with the appearance of our lawns. From May 31 to Oct. 30, the Region of Waterloo enforces a lawn-watering restriction to help us conserve water, ensuring ample supply for our essential services’ function. Using precious water to wash our cars and to water our lawns can strain our water resources.

It is my hope that our awareness and efforts to conserve water will offset the increasing costs of going deeper underground to find clear, clean water.

Walter Bean Trail pedestrian footbridge

I am excited to see that after months of planning, the construction of this footbridge will begin later this year. Crossing the Grand River at the Doon Valley Golf Course and Highway 8, the bridge will extend the Walter Bean trail from the Pioneer Tower community to the trail’s limit in Kitchener.

I understand the many concerns expressed about the bald eagle, whose winter habitat is in the area of this bridge. It is my hope that residents will respect the reason for the bridge closure during the winter, as it is very special to know that we are home to such an amazing and threatened species.

Emerald ash borer (EAB)

Unfortunately, we have been notified that the EAB has been found in some trees in the southwest area of Kitchener. This pest can quickly destroy trees in our city. Our staff is doing their utmost to be proactive in eliminating the affected trees and the EAB. Visit www.kitchener.ca for up-to-date information.

Summer entertainment

During the summer, our city comes alive with a wide variety of festivals. Whether it is the Kitchener Blues Festival, the K-W Multicultural Festival, Ribfest, Cruising on King or Kidspark, there is something for everyone. For more information, visit www.kitchener.ca, key word search, “festivals.”

I hope all of you have a safe and relaxing summer. If you would like to contact me about anything, you may reach me at city hall 519-741-2779, my home office 519-895-1569 or by email at yvonne.fernandes@kitchener.ca.



Huron Road update

Construction on Huron Road has started. The major part of this project is the creation of a roundabout at Strasburg Road and Huron Road. It is anticipated to be completed prior to the start of the school year in September. The entire project has a projected completion date of October 2012.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact me or Rick Bohnsack, the construction site rep, at 519-588-1695. It's exciting to see the work has begun and I ask for your patience throughout the project as we work towards a wider, safer street with lighting and a multi-use trail.

Festival of Neighbourhoods

Have you hosted an event for the Festival of Neighbourhoods? There are many fun and easy events that you could host: a barbecue, a community tree planting, coffee hour, a street hockey tournament or a fun fair. Hosting an event is a great way to meet or reconnect with your neighbours, and you will be entered to win a \$10,000 grant. Entries must be submitted by Oct. 5. The grant must be used for capital improvements in your neighbourhood. There are many ways to get entry details, general information or to contact organizers:

- Email: entries@festivalofneighbourhoods.ca
- Online: www.kitchener.ca, keyword search "neighbourhoods"
- Phone: 519-579-1096
- Facebook: search for "Kitchener's Festival of Neighbourhoods"
- Twitter: follow @FONkitchener

Downtown festivals

Downtown Kitchener and Victoria Park will be home to some great festivals again this summer. The K-W Multicultural Festival, June 25-26, will showcase international cuisine, traditional folk song and dance and crafts. Check out the Downtown Kitchener Ribfest and Craft Beer Show from July 15-17, with at least seven rib vendors, and lots of other tasty treats available. Make sure you catch a show at the Kitchener Blues Festival, Aug. 4-7, at numerous locations throughout downtown Kitchener. For a complete list of festivals, visit www.kitchener.ca, keyword search "festivals."

I always look forward to your questions and comments, so please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at 519-741-2791 or via email at kelly.galloway@kitchener.ca



Keeping it green

With all the rain and sunny weather we have had, everything including the weeds have sprung up quickly. Please keep in mind that this is the City of Kitchener's third year of maintaining city greenspaces without pesticides, so weeds like the dandelion will be more abundant.

And, the weather does determine how quickly grass will grow, so please be patient when waiting for your neighbourhood park to be cut; the city does work to maintain a two-to-three-week cutting cycle.

To combat dandelions and other weeds, your best defense is a healthy lawn. Try some of these tips for results: lightly rake to remove any excessive thatch; have your lawn aerated to allow water, air and nutrients to penetrate the soil to the roots; apply a slow release fertilizer to help feed your lawn, and don't cut your lawn on the lowest setting. A thicker and longer grass will help to keep weeds from finding a place to grow in your yard.

Backyard fires

Many residents have questions or concerns regarding backyard fires/fire pits. An outdoor fireplace may be operated without a permit between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. provided there are at least five metres between the fireplace and any structure, property line, fence, tree, roadway, overhead wires or combustible material.

Keep in mind that you have neighbours who want to enjoy their property as well, so even though the backyard fire may comply with all other regulations, it cannot interfere with or create a nuisance to neighbouring residents.

To report a nuisance fire, contact the Waterloo Regional Police at 519-653-7700; to find out more about the bylaw, call 519-741-2330.

If you have any further questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me at paul.singh@kitchener.ca or at city hall 519-741-2793. You can also follow me on Twitter @paulsinghward6 and meet with me at the Country Hills Community Centre on the third Wednesday each month between 5-6pm. It's always a pleasure to deal with your questions and concerns in person.



Outdoor fireplaces

When enjoying your outdoor fireplace this summer, remember that although you are enjoying it, you need to be respectful of your neighbours. Kitchener bylaws state that outdoor fireplaces may only be used between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. They must be enclosed containers designed to contain a fire and cannot be located closer than five metres from any building, structure, property line, tree, hedge, fence, roadway or overhead wire.

Full guidelines on outdoor fireplaces can be found at www.kitchener.ca, search "outdoor fireplace." Complaints about the use of an outdoor fireplace can be made by calling 519-653-7700, and a bylaw officer will be dispatched to investigate your complaint.

Kitchener golf courses

Get outside this summer, and while you're at it check out Kitchener's two affordable and professional golf courses. Doon Valley Golf Course offers an 18-hole and a 9-hole course, a 9-hole pitch and putt and a practice range, while Rockway Golf Course offers a mature 18-hole course with a lush tree-lined fairway.

Visit www.kitchenergolf.ca for course details, to book tee times, rates and more.

Summer building

Summer means starting projects in and around your home. If you are installing a deck on your house, putting in a swimming pool, building a shed, or one of many other summer projects, you will require a building permit. If you are putting up a new fence this year, you must ensure that it meets height and location regulations.

For information on permits and zoning, visit www.kitchener.ca, keyword search "permits," or call 519-741-2433.

To assist those who will need a permit this summer and are not able to come in during regular business hours, the City of Kitchener building division has extended its hours of service to 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday until the end of August.

Do you have questions or concerns that you would like to discuss? Feel free to call me at 519-741-2783, or email me at bil.ioannidis@kitchener.ca. I look forward to hearing from you.



Kitchener council's debate on LRT

City council held a public meeting on May 26 for Kitchener residents and businesses to seek public opinion on the rapid transit option proposed by the Region of Waterloo. About 50 people attended, half of whom made presentations, offering their comments and opinions both in favour and against rapid transit, with a 3:1 preference towards rapid transit.

Although rapid transit is a regional responsibility, council felt it was important to hear from our citizens, businesses and community organizations since we are the largest municipality in the region and Kitchener taxpayers would be making the largest contribution through their tax dollars.

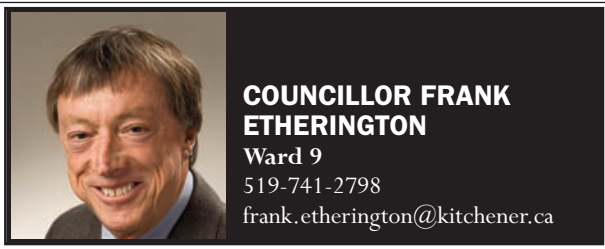
At the city's public meeting, all of the delegations from businesses supported rapid transit, while only half of residents who gave presentations were in favour. This is a huge contrast from when I was campaigning last summer/fall when the vast majority of the residents I spoke with, about 90 per cent, were opposed to rapid transit.

Many businesses, especially in the high-tech sector, support rapid transit. This may be due in part to the fact that many of the employees in this sector are young and commute to Kitchener-Waterloo from Toronto, although a number do live locally.

What's up with Zyg

Check out my website at www.zyggjanecki.com to see what I've been up to at city hall and for information on Ward 8 and around the city.

Questions or issues? Contact me. I'm here to serve you. By phone: 519-741-2796 (office); 519-579-4052 (home); 226-750-3053 (cell), or email me at zyg.janecki@kitchener.ca.



A limited GO train service is finally a go for Kitchener. On track to start in early December, the long-overdue train service means it will take two hours to travel from Kitchener to Toronto's Union Station.

To ride GO, an adult will pay \$29.20 for a return fare, an unquestionable bargain considering rip-off gas prices and a traffic-choked Highway 401. A monthly Kitchener-to-Toronto pass will cost \$482.

A GO schedule is expected soon and, once the service starts, we will have two trains leaving Kitchener every morning from Monday to Friday and two returning in the afternoon and evening. No weekend trains are planned.

In mid-May, against a backdrop of graffiti-covered walls on industrial buildings adjacent to rail tracks near Victoria and King at the end of Joseph Street, GO vice-president of operations Greg Percy and local politicians wielding shiny shovels completed a gravel-turning ceremony.

In between the speeches, construction moved ahead on the \$5-million facilities that will accommodate GO trains when they are parked every night between King and Park streets.

Percy again predicted that noise and odours from GO diesel engines warming up in early mornings will be "a non-issue" for nearby Ward 9 residents. Percy and other GO officials know that even though homeowners are separated from the facility by a retaining wall and several industrial buildings, they are requesting improved transparency and communication from GO because of concerns about potential noise or smells from idling engines.

Future GO passengers will board trains at the VIA Rail station at Victoria Street North and Weber Street, and overflow parking will be made available on vacant land at Victoria and King that is being assembled to become a future transit hub for trains and inter-city buses.

I hope GO quickly adds more trains to the route and modifies the regional transportation service to accelerate what will be a very welcome but snail-rail service between Kitchener and Toronto.

Contact me about this or other city issues at frank.etherington@kitchener.ca or 519-741-2798.



Car-free Sundays

Kitchener City Council has approved a pilot car-free Sunday event taking place on Sunday, July 17 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This event, coined "Square2Square," partially closes King Street to traffic between the Kitchener and Waterloo civic squares. At this event, you can enjoy a walk or bike ride down the length of King Street, some great entertainment between Young and Victoria streets, and our local restaurants, and participating vendors.

I not only welcome everyone to come out and play on King Street, I challenge everyone to see what all the excitement is about!

After your car-free Sunday experience, if you find you have not smiled most of the time out there, I want to hear from you. As a matter of fact, I want to hear from you if you do like it and have some ideas to improve the event, or some other community-building project you have dreamed about.

Our hope is to emphasize pedestrian power over car power, activity over our tendency towards couch-potato comfort, and the relationship between Kitchener and Waterloo.

Chat with Dan

Chat with Dan at the Kitchener Market starting Saturday, June 11 at 7 a.m. for an hour. Each following Saturday, I will move the time slot forward by one hour until I am starting at 1 p.m., then I will start the cycle over again and move the time slot back to a 7 a.m. start.

I will be located downstairs by the flower and newspaper vendors, and will have a couple of chairs there if you would like to stop and chat about your concerns or suggest a great idea.

If you can't make it out to the Kitchener Market, again, I am always interested in hearing from you, whether it is for assistance with an issue or to share an exciting idea that you feel would benefit our community.

You can reach me at home 519-576-3501, city hall 519-741-2786, or by email at dan.glenn-graham@kitchener.ca.

Downtown Kitchener

Digital media hub expands months after opening



The Tannery is home to the Communitech Hub digital media and mobile accelerator, a centre for innovation which the city supported through EDIF.

The Communitech Hub digital media and mobile accelerator, a digital media innovation centre that officially opened for business at the Tannery last October last year, is already expanding to occupy another 12,000 square feet of space on the first floor of the building by early 2012.

The City of Kitchener began identifying needs for digital media companies in the area by bringing together representatives from the post-secondary educators, and organizations such as Communitech and CTT (Canada's Technology Triangle).

Initiating discussions and networking events in 2005, the digital media business community, represented by small startups and large companies in content for all types of devices, across fields as diverse as health, gaming or 3D film, identified their greatest need for a place where start-ups could

thrive through networking and access to shared technology, business services and space.

In 2009, the city allocated \$500,000 from its economic development investment fund (EDIF) for specialized equipment and technical resources; combined with provincial and federal funding to support a digital media hub in downtown Kitchener. Communitech, a regional technology member organization that champions innovation and commercialization, has now made that vision a successful and growing reality at the Hub. The Tannery Communitech Hub supports businesses at all stages of their growth, and enhances the technology sector. The expansion will accommodate more Peer2Peer program space, expands strategic partner space, and provide more room for established companies.

"With EDIF support, it is very exciting that innovative projects like The Hub are bringing investment, economic vitality and international attention to Kitchener," said Silvia Di Donato, the city's manager of business development. "Our economic development strategy continues to pay off significantly for our city."

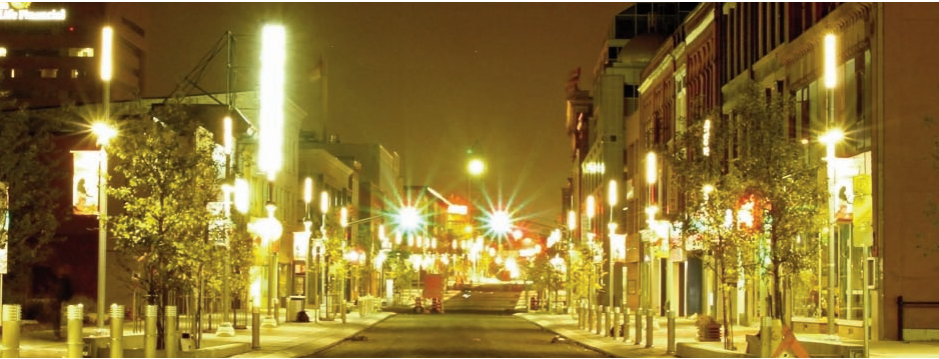
The Hub is the headquarters of the Canadian Digital Media Network, and currently occupies 30,000 square feet at the Tannery; strategic partners at the Hub enable research, commercialization, and job creation in mobile computing, digital asset management and healthcare information technology.

The Hub currently houses a mix of tenants that include:

- 28 start-up companies, and growing
- five leading tech multi-nationals

- 14 innovation partners, including legal, advertising and accounting firms
 - three post-secondary institutions: Conestoga College, Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo
 - provincial and federal government partners.
- Communitech is a not-for-profit member organization focused on technology innovation. They operate the Hub as a "clubhouse" for digital-media companies and entrepreneurs where business creation and expanding employment opportunities are brought to Kitchener and the Waterloo Region.
- For more on Communitech and the city's economic development strategy, please see story on page 8, or look under Business in Kitchener at www.kitchener.ca

Downtown photo crawl next free workshop by artist-in-residence



Spend a few hours exploring an urban streetscape through the lens of a camera, when the city's artist-in-residence, Sean Puckett, guides a walking tour of downtown Kitchener on Sunday, July 17 at 10 a.m. until about 3 p.m.

The downtown Kitchener photo crawl explores fascinating local architecture, back alleys and the natural splendour of Victoria Park. The walk starts at 10 a.m. in the Kitchener City Hall rotunda for introductory notes, and then the tour begins at 10:15 a.m., rain or shine.

Bring a camera and a picnic lunch, or grab something at the tents at Ribfest in Victoria Park.

Puckett has been photographing people and places for over 30 years. His project as the city's artist-in-residence is to take 1,000 portrait photographs throughout the year. These photographs will be exhibited at local events, posted online and published in a book entitled *A Portrait of Kitchener, 2011*.

Learn more about Puckett at his website, <http://SeanMPuckett.com>.

Local young artists featured on Cube Gallery for summer

A new outdoor art gallery in the downtown core will highlight the works of local artists on rotation for the months of July and August.

The artists' work will be exhibited on The Cube, atop Kitchener City Hall. The Cube Gallery will showcase new young visual artists:

July

- Amy Ferrari,
- Carina Francisco,
- John Rula,
- Meghan Sims.

August

- Jakki Annerino,
- Laura DeDecker,
- Amy Ferrari,
- Stela Topolcic.

In addition, a selection of photographs from the Kitchener Public Library's amateur photo contest will also be shown.

"It's a completely new way to showcase local artists," said Cheryl York, the city's arts and culture co-ordinator. "This gallery adds to the quality of the summer experience in downtown Kitchener while also promoting local talent."

The program schedule for The Cube is from dusk to 10 p.m. every day during the year, except during city-sponsored events.

York adds that although this is a test year for the program, artists who are interested in participating in the future can provide their contact information to: Carrie Kozlowski, program assistant, arts and culture unit, at 519-741-2912; fax: 519-741-2723; TTY/textnet: 1-866-969-9994.

For more information on the Cube, please visit www.kitchener.ca, search word "cube."



DOWNTOWN LIVE

ON THE SQUARE. ON THE STREET

Live entertainment
11:30am-1pm on Civic Square and various downtown locations. **4:30-6:30pm** on the KOOL FM stage on King Street, between Young and Ontario. Visit downtownlive.ca for a full schedule.

Cruising on King
Friday, July 8, 3-10pm
Downtown Kitchener Show and shine from **3-6pm**, parade at **7pm** and live entertainment from **8-10pm**. cruisingonking.ca

Downtown Kitchener Ribfest & Craft Beer Show
July 15-17, Victoria Park
Barbequed ribs and chicken, great craft-brewed beer, live entertainment and more. kitchenerribandbeerfest.com

Kitchener Blues Festival
August 4-7
Downtown Kitchener
Featuring Greg Allman band, Jimmie Vaughn, Johnny Winter and more. kitchenerbluesfestival.com

 Connect with Kitchener       **DOWNTOWNLIVE.CA**






WHO WE ARE

Your Kitchener is distributed to 67,000 homes in Kitchener, six times a year. If you have questions or comments about the publication, please contact:

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This publication is available in alternate formats. For more information, call the city's inclusion co-ordinator at 519-741-2226 or email access@kitchener.ca.

For more information on downtown events, or to sign up for the Downtown E-News, go to www.downtownkitchener.ca

Take a look at what's on this summer...

Cruising on King Street shows off classic cars



On Friday, July 8 the City of Kitchener will be holding its 21st annual Cruising on King Street Parade. You don't have to be a car enthusiast to appreciate this glimpse into the past. Everyone from car enthusiasts, families, and children attend this event, one of Canada's largest classic and antique car parades.

Kitchener Market and Downtown BIA present music on Cruisin's east end stage starting at noon. Come have lunch at the market, sit on the piazza and listen to some tunes from the '50s, '60s and '70s.

This event generates a crowd of 50,000 people to inspect the shining chrome and steel on display during the show-and-shine at Victoria Park from 3

to 6 p.m.

The cruise itself starts at Victoria Park at 7 p.m. After cruising the streets of downtown Kitchener, these classic cars will be parked on King Street for a show-and-shine from 8-10 p.m. Dance the night away to music on Civic Square and on the piazza at the market, also from 8-10 p.m.

New this year, watch a movie under the stars on Benton Street, presented by the *Waterloo Region Record*, beginning at 8 p.m.

Celebrate your classic and antique cars with an evening of entertainment and family fun!

For more information, please see www.cruisingonking.ca

Unity Jam features youth

Young, local performers from all musical genres who are between the ages of 14 and 25 are getting ready for Unity Jam, an exhibition of local performers, sponsored by the City of Kitchener. Unity Jam will be held on Friday, Aug. 19 at Civic Square (with the rotunda as a back-up in the event of rain).

Whether it's hip-hop, screamo, country, rap, rock, metal, blues, R&B, DJing, spinning . . . anything goes at Unity Jam.

The Unity Jam concert will run on Friday, Aug. 19 from 5-11 p.m. For more information, call 519-741-3400 x3588 or e-mail unityjam@hotmail.com

Soccer road show added to Kidspark



A traveling interactive soccer road show for youth and families will form a new component for Kidspark children's festival in Victoria Park on Sunday, Aug. 14.

Play Soccer, presented by Rogers, is a community-based program designed to connect, grow, and celebrate soccer participation from the grass roots level up.

The PlaySoccer road show spans 140x180 feet and includes interactive zones courtesy of Sport Chek, BMO, Toronto FC and Rogers.

Savour the flavour at Ribfest

If barbecued ribs and chicken, great craft-brewed beer and live entertainment are part of your summer weekends, savour the flavour at the Downtown Kitchener Ribfest and Craft Beer Show in Victoria Park, July 15-17. The event runs Friday from 5-10 p.m., Saturday noon-10 p.m. and Sunday noon-6 p.m.

"The event is focussed around the experience of great craft-brewed beer and barbecued chicken and ribs. People return year after year," said Guy Exley, organizer. "They have such a good time, they bring friends with them the following year."

Enjoy samples from more than 50 different brands from a dozen Ontario craft breweries. Live entertainment will be running all weekend to add to the atmosphere.

Some of the best ribs-and-chicken barbecuers will be on-hand to tempt tastebuds:

- Blazin BBQ
- Boss Hogs BBQ
- Camp 31 BBQ
- Crabby's BBQ Shack
- Fire Island
- Jack The Ribber
- Ribs Royale BBQ

Food prices range from \$7 for a pulled pork sandwich to \$20 for a full-rack of ribs.

Other food and drink options include, corn on the cob, ice cream, cotton candy, waffles, coffee,



MMMMM – Barbecued ribs are just one of the savoury menu items available at the Kitchener Ribfest and Craft Beer Show at Victoria Park, July 15-17.

pretzels, colossal onions, lemonade, kettle corn and soda. The midway will also be running, offering fun activities for children of all ages.

Admission to the event is free but donations to the Food Bank of Waterloo Region will be accepted at the gate.

Please note that due to the nature of the event, anyone under the age of 19 must be accompanied by an adult to be admitted.

For questions or more information, please visit www.KitchenerRibAndBeerFest.com



JIMMY VAUGHN



DIANA BRAITHWAITE

Don't let the blues get you down

A tribute to blues legend Pinetop Perkins, who died in March, and Jimmie Vaughan, founder of the Fabulous Thunderbirds, headline the 2011 TD Kitchener Blues Festival, which takes place in downtown Kitchener Aug. 4-7. The festival, celebrating its 11th year, features 60 performances on seven stages over the four days.

Last year, the blues festival added a large fifth tented stage area, located on the common in Victoria Park. There are also stages at the Boathouse in the park, the main stage on King Street in front of city hall, the Downtown Kitchener BIA Tent Stage at the corner of King and Frederick streets and the children's stage at THEMUSEUM. New workshop sites have been added at McCabe's Pub and Little Bean Coffee Bar on King Street West.

Vaughan, who is scheduled to headline on the Saturday night of the festival, was one of the leading Austin guitarists of the late '70s and '80s who paved the road for gritty roadhouse blues and R&B. Vaughan will be receiving the Mel Brown Award on the main stage just prior to his appearance.

Also featured over the weekend are John Mayall, founder of John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers, and Canadian

blues-rock legend Pat Travers. Mayall is an English blues pioneer who fostered Eric Clapton and Jack Bruce, both of whom left the Bluesbreakers to form Cream; Peter Green, John McVie and Mick Fleetwood, who left to form Fleetwood Mac, and Mick Taylor, who later joined the Rolling Stones. Mayall is scheduled for Sunday.

A young blues upstart from Peterborough, Jimmy Bowskill will take the main stage with his band on Friday night. Just 20, he already has four acclaimed albums under his belt, a rapidly growing international fan base and the respect of peers. He performs on the festival's main stage on Friday night.

Also appearing on Friday is Kitchener's Miss Angel, a strong woman with a powerful, soulful voice. Her singing is rooted in the peaks and valleys of life and love, including the loss of her husband, legendary bluesman Mel Brown.

Other performances include the Edgar Winter Group; Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley; Johnny Winter; Bettye LaVette; Alvin Youngblood Hart; Blackburn; Manitoba Hal, and many others.

For a full schedule of performances, please see www.kitchenerbluesfestival.com



Tooney

Tuesdays

Tuesdays in July • 6-8 pm • Rain or shine!

Join us at Kitchener City Hall for free, fun, toe-tapping entertainment.
Donations for Family and Children's Services of Waterloo Region are gratefully accepted.

www.kitchener.ca/eventsandfestivals
















Kidspark

Sunday, August 14
11am-5pm • Victoria Park

Children and their families enjoy hands-on activities, interactive entertainment, storytellers and musicians. New this year, check out Play Soccer presented by Rogers.

www.kidspark.ca

To volunteer for this and other events
email volunteer@kitchener.ca

















VICTORIA PARK

THEN AND NOW

As the city prepares to begin work on rehabilitating the lake in Victoria Park, we're taking a look at the park's origins, and what's ahead for the lake.

Victoria Park: a piece of history

Victoria Park is the diamond in the city's parks system. Nestled in the heart of our downtown, and just a short walk from city hall, the park has undergone many changes since its official opening in 1896.

The park, which is designed in the Romantic landscape style with a serpentine lake, three islands, footbridges offering picturesque vistas and winding footpaths, is the heart of the neighbourhood. Most of the housing surrounding it was built between the opening of the park and the end of the 1920s.

Roos Island, in the middle of the park's lake, features many unusual trees, such as ginko, mulberry, tulip and Katsura. The lake itself was a draw for recreation, including canoeing and ice skating, for many years.

Another defining feature of the park is the historic clock tower located near the Gaukel Street entrance of the park. The clock tower of the old city hall, which was built in 1924 and demolished in 1973, was reassembled in this location in 1995 after being in storage for 22 years.

Victoria Park Athletic Grounds

Victoria Park was the central outdoor entertainment location in Kitchener, formerly known as Berlin, for more than 80 years.

Starting in 1888, the area that is now known as "the Common" was privately owned and used for sports activities such as baseball, soccer (football), cricket and lacrosse, music, fireworks, political rallies, and many other major community events.

Beginning in 1894, proponents for a new park in Berlin suggested purchasing part of Samuel Schneider's farmlands, creating a lake and adding private athletic grounds to create a new recreation area in Berlin. Gradually, the Town of Berlin acquired the lands and used it for many community events. A wooden grandstand was constructed near Richmond Avenue, but was moved to David Street in 1919.

In 1921, Jack Dempsey fought a boxing match here.

Two short operas, *I Pagliacci* and *Cavalleria Rusticana*, were presented within its walls.

In September 1908, William Lyon Mackenzie King began his political career when he appeared at a rally in Victoria Park's athletic field with then prime minister, Wilfrid Laurier.

Military parades and playground championships, fireworks and many other major events attracted the community to this area of the public park.

In 1952, the old wooden stands were removed, and new modern seating was installed. Fourteen years later, everything was demolished and a new sports facility was constructed at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium site. Jack Couch Baseball Stadium and Centennial Stadium were completed in Canada's centennial year.

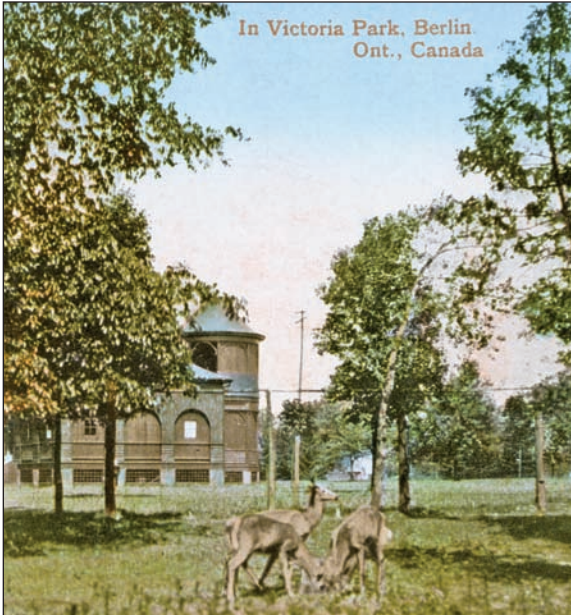
At the turn of the century, the park was also home to a number of penned animals, including four deer from Muskoka, squirrels, porcupines, raccoons and even two bear cubs in 1913. A selection of birds were also penned in the park; by 1911, there were eagles, owls, chickens, peacocks, pheasant and loons, as well as a couple of swans, some ducks and geese.

Today, the park does not host any organized sports events, and does not have any penned animals, but it does serve as a venue for the K-W Multicultural Festival, Cruisin' on King Street, Kidspark, The Word on the Street, and many other public events throughout the year which tens of thousands of visitors attend. It is also a launch site for hot-air balloon rides.

The history of the park and ongoing importance of the neighbourhood adjacent to it are unique and valuable assets that have grown, transformed and evolved over more than 100 years. The City of Kitchener recognized this significance, and in 1997 the area was designated as a heritage conservation district. Victoria Park also offers:

- A picnic shelter and an adjacent summer kitchen
- Creative accessible playground and splash pad
- Horseshoe pits and basketball court
- Historic clock tower entrance, including walkways, new lighting, flower gardens, public art (The Luggage Project, by Ernest Daetwyler), a pond and water features
- The Boathouse on the lake
- Victoria Park Pavilion: fully licensed rental banquet hall with a stage.
- Winter rinks and open spaces for soccer/football games
- Victoria Park Gallery: open mid-May to October on weekends.
- Access to the Iron Horse Trail, a biking/hiking trail that runs along former railway lines

Written in collaboration with Rych Mills. Photos provided by the Victoria Park Historical Committee. For more on the history of the park, visit the Victoria Park Gallery at 83 Schneider Ave., beside the pavilion, or call 519-742-4990.





LAKE OF WOES – At top left, a consultant measures the creek depth.

Top right, old shopping carts litter a number of the watercourses feeding into Victoria Park lake.

Above and at right, muddy water carrying sediment through the lake.

At left, accumulation of sediment affects the aesthetic beauty of the lake in Victoria Park.



VICTORIA PARK LAKE: *under construction* . . .

Victoria Park, located in the downtown core of the city, is one of the city’s oldest parks. A key feature of the park, Victoria Park Lake was created as part of the original park design more than 100 years ago. “The lake is not just an important historic and cultural feature of the park but also provides stormwater management for Schneider Creek,” said Melissa Ryan, the city’s design and construction project manager for the rehabilitation of the lake. “It accumulates sediment and the shallow water combined with high nutrients result in water quality problems such as algae blooms and odours which affect the recreational enjoyment of the lake as well as the natural environment.”

In 1987 and again in 1999, an outbreak of avian botulism caused the death of numerous waterfowl in the park. Improvements over the past 30 years have included adding a flood control structure at the lake outlet, reinforcing the lake’s edge using stone and gabion baskets, and dredging the silt. The lake was last dredged in 1995.

In 2008, the city initiated a class environmental assessment (EA) to explore options to address the lake’s water quality, minimize sediment accumulation and costly sediment dredging. The assessment was completed in July 2009. Emerging from the assessment was a recommendation to reconfigure the lake to improve its function, and this is what city council endorsed.

“The city’s intention with this project is to solve a problem that neighbours and park users have asked us to address for years,” said Ryan. “For instance, the design will look at ways to focus the majority of sediment accumulation to one area of the lake for easier clean outs in the future. There will be short-term pain for long-term gain, as construction will involve removal of a large amount of sediment, resulting in increased truck traffic, noise and mess. Combined with the future improvements we will be undertaking in the areas that drain and ultimately flow into the lake, the neighbourhood can expect a much improved park and lake.”

The dredging process for this project will be very different from the dredging process used at the lake in the mid-1990s, she notes, because new legislated requirements, as well as modern technology and state-of-the-art equipment, will ensure an effective, efficient and safe process.

Reconfiguring the lake

As required under the Environmental Assessment Act, the EA for Victoria Park Lake improvements considered and assessed various alternatives for fixing up the lake, including the option of doing nothing.

Public involvement included three public information centres (PICs), a one-day public workshop and developing a project mailing list. A steering committee — including representation from various city departments, the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) as well as the consulting team — provided technical and expert advice to the project team. A public advisory committee included members of the public.

Under this plan, the lake would be conserved as an open, uninterrupted body of water and the water quality would also be monitored and maintained in a healthier condition. A number of criteria regarding the lake edge and views of the lake, including its landscape setting, will be considered in the final design. These assessments played a significant role in defining and evaluating the proposed alternatives and in selecting the preferred alternative.

“Maintaining the lake and park’s historic and cultural significance is an important process,” said Ryan. “The lake design must also contribute to improving the water quality and managing the sediment in the short and long term.”

Ryan adds there will be at least two public information centres, one part

way along the detailed design, and one just before construction starts. “The park that the community knows and loves will not fundamentally change,” she explained. “At the end of this project, the park will still feature those key elements that make it a destination for residents and visitors to the city.”

A large portion of the reconfiguration project will be funded by the city’s new stormwater management user-fee program, which was implemented in January. The intent is to start construction during the winter months, when park use is low.

Ryan adds a wildlife rescue plan to relocate wildlife during construction is also in the works. Regular site inspections will also take place to ensure construction impacts to wildlife are minimized and that proper sediment and erosion controls are used.

THE PREFERRED OPTION

Based on public consultation, an evaluation of the impact of various alternatives for restoring the lake, and a series of sensitivity analyses, the preferred solution was to reconfigure the lake and undertake a number of strategies in upstream catchments.

The preferred alternative involves reconfiguring the lake by deepening it, adding a sediment forebay at the upstream end, undertaking shoreline modifications to discourage waterfowl use, creating a wetland area as well as modifying the outlet structure.

The benefits of reconfiguring the lake include:

- minimizing the distribution of sediment accumulation within the lake,
- improving the water quality,
- maintaining the aesthetics and heritage values associated with the lake,
- opportunity to improve debris management and operations and maintenance.

Other project enhancements may include:

- lake-edge improvements,
- a new bridge,
- a new fountain,
- reconstructed piers, patio and dock.

Maintaining the historic and cultural significance of the lake and park, improving the water quality and managing the sediment in the short term as well as the long term must be at the forefront of the lake design.

Stakeholder input key part of new economic development strategy

Consultation with community stakeholders will play a key role in finalizing the city’s economic development strategy -- a document that is intended to help shape the local economy for the next five to 10 years by establishing the city’s direction for the investment of human, financial and physical resources.

“We’re developing a plan for the entire city, one that reflects the different sectors of the local economy, and the emerging ones,” said Rod Regier, executive director of economic development for the city. “It’s a much broader picture than just the downtown core.”

The strategy is the third in a series, building on the 2004 Urban Investment Strategy, which laid the foundation for the economic

development investment fund (EDIF) and Our Future is Now, the 2007-2010 economic development strategy. Both initiatives have helped guide and support the dramatic revitalization of downtown Kitchener, which includes the development of:

- the University of Waterloo Health Sciences Campus
- the Communtech digital-media hub
- the Kaufman Lofts
- The Tannery District
- numerous other private, public and institutional projects.

Previous plans also drove projects such as the development of the Grand River West Business Park and the Manufacturing Innovation Network, an online community for manufacturers

in the Waterloo region.

“These projects completely redefine Kitchener as a hot bed for innovation and identify the city a key partner in one of Canada’s top performing metropolitan economies,” said Regier.

The new economic development strategy will build on the momentum already established. It will be refined through further consultation with stakeholders from business, arts, culture, tourism, local government, education sectors and the economic development and the downtown advisory committees, as well as Compass Kitchener.

A series of consultations with the city’s downtown and economic development advisory committees informed a discussion paper on

economic development for the 2011-2015 draft of the strategy.

During May and June, consultation will take place through a stakeholder symposium, including representation from all of the city’s community advisory groups, business organizations, education and industry representation. Further input will be gained through online comments, emerging industry specialists and a public meeting.

The final strategy is scheduled to be presented to city council for consideration this fall.

For more on the current strategy for the city’s economic development, please look under Business in Kitchener at www.kitchener.ca

Firefighters team up to deliver smiles in Waterloo Region

When Kitchener Fire Captain Bill Duncan passed away as a result of a career-related illness, his family wanted to direct donations to a program called Our Everyday Heroes, led by the Kitchener Professional Firefighters’ Association (KPFFA) and the Kitchener Knights of Columbus with the help of the Kitchener Fire Department.

“Local firefighters felt that children facing personal challenges are the true heroes of our community,” said Kitchener Fire Chief Tim Beckett. “The donations made in Captain Duncan’s name have jumpstarted this program well ahead of its planned launch date.”

Duncan was past president of the KPFFA, and as such he was involved with the children’s memorial at Williamsburg Cemetery and the Kitchener Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial.

“He was well known within the firefighting community and an avid hockey fan, whether Maple Leafs, Kitchener Rangers, or Team Canada. He wore it on his sleeve,” said Kevin Schmalz, fire prevention officer with the city. “Following his untimely death, his family’s decision to have donations directed to Our Everyday Heroes was not a surprise.”

The KPFFA, the Kitchener Knights of

Columbus and the Kitchener Fire Department all have more than 100 years of history serving the local community, and have raised millions in charitable funds. The partnership for Our Everyday Heroes allows the three organizations to work together to provide encouragement and support to children facing illness and other challenges.

The program gives toys, games, and entertainment equipment to sick children in hospitals and to those who live at home but require support, said Beckett.

“We’ll continue this program throughout the year,” he said. “Currently in its early stages, the program has already received some significant support made possible by the Duncan family, in honour of an individual who spent much of his life supporting the local community himself.”

Those individuals or organizations who wish to contribute to the Our Everyday Heroes program can do so by visiting www.oureverydayheroes.ca, in person at any Kitchener Fire Department fire station, or by mailing a cheque payable to ‘Our Everyday Heroes’ to Kitchener Fire headquarters, 270 Strasburg Rd., Kitchener, ON N2A 3M6.



Kitchener’s “active” park

Continued from page 1

There are two full-size basketball courts and one half-size court. There is a large, exciting splash pad, while the playground provides a large variety of accessible play opportunities.

The most visible feature is a huge hill that in winter becomes a toboggan hill. Other amenities include:

- Spray pad
- Accessible playground
- Pedestrian trails
- A lookout
- A washroom building
- Picnic shelter
- Larger lawn area
- Leash-free dog park.

Located on the south side of Ottawa Street South, McLennan Park is a 39-

hectare (97ac.) former landfill site that is the first in the province to offer a bike park of this size.

“This park is living proof that an old, forsaken property can be transformed into a fun, active destination for children, adults and families alike,” said Ritz.

The event is associated with Active Kitchener, which raises awareness about the programs the city’s athletics and aquatics unit offers. Active Kitchener also aims to change attitudes around exercise by linking to other city events and programs where physical activity, recreation and sport are the focus.

The event is part of a weekend of free family events, including Kidspark in Victoria Park on Sunday, Aug. 14, and Soccerfest, also in Victoria Park as part of Kidspark.

Nice designs...
Watch your fence lines!

No one should erect, or construct a fence that obstructs visibility and traffic.

Everyone's life tells a story.

Learn how to help others tell your story.

Attend a free pre-planning seminar where we will help you plan your final tribute that celebrates your life.

We'll also provide you with a special workbook to help you with your funeral preparations.

Wed., September 7, 5:30-7pm
Tue., September 27, 12-1:30pm

Weather permitting there will be a walking tour of the cemetery.

Complimentary light lunch provided.

Please RSVP to 519-741-2880 or kitchener.cemeteries@kitchener.ca

Williamsburg Cemetery

1541 Fischer-Hallman Road, Kitchener, N2R 1P6

www.kitchenercemeteries.ca

Owned & Operated by the City of Kitchener

Clotheslines reduce energy use

Next to the refrigerator, the clothes dryer is the appliance that uses the most energy in the house. A family of four using an electric dryer four hours per week will spend \$240 more on electricity in a year.

Instead of using an energy-guzzling clothes dryer, hang up clothes to dry either outside in warm weather, or inside in the winter and on rainy days. Drying clothes naturally can save more than 200 kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions.

“Air drying your laundry is not only environmentally friendly, but easier on your pocket book,” said Carrie Musselman, senior environmental planner.

Some tips to consider when drying clothing include:

- Rig up a clothesline in your backyard, and equip the laundry room with dry racks, hangers or a small line.
- Hang up clothes to air dry as often as you can. Clothes will dry more successfully if they’re washed early in the morning and left on the

line for the entire day. Put the load in the dryer to fluff for five minutes to soften them up.

- When using the dryer, always clean the lint filter; this can increase energy use by 30 per cent. Run loads back-to-back, as energy goes into warming up the dryer each time. Avoid opening the door, as it takes five to 10 minutes for it to warm up to full heat again. Use the cool-down cycle to take advantage of residual heat to dry your clothes.

In April 2008, Ontario removed local bans on the use of outdoor clotheslines. Prior to this, some developers had prohibited the use of clotheslines, deeming them unsightly. The new regulation was made under Ontario’s Energy Conservation Leadership Act (2006), which allows for the removal of barriers to conservation, including municipal bylaws and other covenants.

For other tips on being a steward of the environment, check out www.kitchener.ca, search word “environmental tips.”

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Connect with Kitchener

Knowing neighbours can make all the difference

It's often true that many of us meet our neighbours in less than ideal circumstances. At times such as these we often experience a strong sense of community. We band together to deal with a crisis, a natural disaster, or help one another in difficult times.

The fact is, it's easier to help or ask for help from neighbours we know. In a medical or other emergency, a friend even 10 minutes away can be a friend too far. That's why taking the time to meet your neighbours can be time well spent.

Getting to know people in your neighbourhood takes some effort. For some, time is so valuable that just thinking about doing anything formal to "get to know our neighbours" feels overwhelming, while others wouldn't know where to start.

Festival of Neighbourhoods (FON) offers resources and guidance, and helps celebrate the efforts of neighbours connecting with neighbours. In addition to all the benefits of neighbourhood

connections, this initiative offers the chance to win a \$10,000 grant for a neighbourhood that fosters good relationships.

Over the past 40 years, significant environmental and social changes have reduced the connectivity between neighbours that our parents and grandparents enjoyed.

- Most households require all adults to work to pay the rent or mortgage and stay afloat, which means there are fewer people at home during the day.
- More time is spent in front of the television, computer or video game.
- Larger homes mean we are farther apart.
- Our lives and towns reflect increasing dependence on cars, and the isolation it brings.
- Front porches have largely disappeared as a place for social interaction.
- The fence in the backyard is no

longer considered unfriendly but a normal component of new homes.

Is there an expectation that we will all be self-sufficient, and live without relying on others? In fact, not only do we need each other, we're often happiest when we are connected with one another, share experiences and know that if we needed to, we can rely on one another.

Neighbourliness is a valuable part of everyone's life, and though modern life may be making community difficult to maintain, with the right supports we can enjoy its benefits.

We don't have to be best friends, but there are compelling reasons to know your neighbours.

Building friendships and good relationships among neighbours is an important part of creating a resilient community. Getting to know the people who live around you makes the community safer, one where people look out for each other. It's much

easier and environmentally friendly to borrow something from the neighbours; vanilla or sugar or lawn equipment. It's much easier to create, agree on, and apply neighborhood boundaries when neighbours know each other and the children as well.

This is what FON promotes and supports, helping people to take the lead and bring their neighbours together in their neighbourhood. While only you can get to know your neighbours, FON can help you in clearly defining what you see as your neighbourhood, making sure your gathering is easy and inclusive for all ages and abilities, and actually involves activities that really help people get to know one another.

Only you can get to know your neighbours and build the safe connected community where you want to live.

For more information on the grant criteria for FON or to apply, please visit www.kitchener.ca/fon

Nominations for Kitchener in Bloom due July 18

There's still time to nominate a property in your neighbourhood, or in your favourite shopping area, for Kitchener in Bloom. The deadline to receive nominations is July 18.

Nominations are taken for homes, businesses and for environmental categories.

Properties are evaluated on curb appeal, design features, maintenance and environmental considerations.

"An easy and affordable way to get active is to go for a walk in your neighbourhood. While you're doing that, make note of the front yards you like in your neighbourhood, and nominate those properties for Kitchener in Bloom by telling us the address. It's as simple as that," said Janice Ouellette, volunteer resource facilitator.

Owners of selected properties will be invited to a Kitchener in Bloom celebration in September. Awards are given for:

- **Residential front yards:** All nominated properties receive a certificate recognizing their contribution to making Kitchener beautiful. Up to 100 properties (up to 10 per ward) are selected for a Special Bloom Award and finale attendance.
- **Environmental practice:** One property per ward is selected for the environmental award, which recognizes outstanding environmental practices such as the use of drought-resistant plants, native plant species and compliance with watering restrictions and pesticide-free lawns and gardens.



- **Business:** honours businesses that make a contribution to the visual quality of Kitchener through the beauty of their property. There are three categories in which businesses can be nominated:
 - **Large-scale business** (roadview frontage larger than 5,000 sq. ft.) includes neighbourhood retail,

community or regional chopping centres, big box retail, office buildings and corporate developments, hotels, and industrial properties.

- **Small-scale business** (road view frontage up to 5,000 sq. ft.) includes small frontage locations of individual retail or commercial service properties such as retail stores, shops, restaurants, taverns, service stations and small offices.
- **Multi-residential:** townhouse, condominium or apartment developments (more than three units), private nursing homes or residential care facilities.

"Whether it's a home in your neighbourhood, a business or someone you know who is environmentally conscious and has planted native or drought-resistant plants, we'd like to know about it," said Ouellette. "There are a lot of people in our community who take great care of their gardens. They deserve some recognition."

Government properties and places of worship are not eligible.

Category nominations are evaluated by a panel of local business and municipal judges, including members of the horticultural society, Landscape Ontario and Kitchener Master Gardeners.

To nominate – only the Kitchener property address is required - email the property address to kitchenerinbloom@kitchener.ca, call it in to 519-741-2224 or fill out a nomination form online at www.kitchener.ca/bloom



www.kitchenergolf.ca

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Tel: 519.741.2939



Rockway Golf Course
625 Rockway Dr.
Kitchener, ON N2G 3B5
Tel: 519.741.2949

Making a splash for fixing up pools in Kitchener

Walk into Harry Class pool at 45 Woodside Ave. and you might think you're in the wrong place. The pool has been transformed from a 1930s tribute to one of Kitchener's famous swimmers, into a 21st century state-of-the-art facility.

This year is the facility's 80th anniversary. The pool was the largest project of renovations to a number of the city's aquatics facilities, using more than half of \$2.9 million worth of improvements to the Breithaupt pool, Centreville-Chicopee spray pad, Wilson/Kingsdale splash pad and Harry Class pool. The facilities are now open for use after their renovations.

The aquatics facilities were revamped with infrastructure stimulus funds in a three-way partnership among the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the city.

The Harry Class renovations included creating a family changeroom and replacing the concrete deck, as well as:

- Resurfacing the pool with an epoxy finish.
- Upgrading change house.
- Replacing piping.
- Upgrading filtration system.

The Breithaupt project included upgrading the pool filtration system and piping, and repairing leaks in the pool.

The Wilson/Kingsdale facility project included installing a splash pad and filtration system, and upgrading changerooms and public washrooms.



NEW LOOK – Harry Class Pool, the city's oldest public pool, got a facelift, thanks to infrastructure stimulus funding. Pictured above, the deck of the pool has been replaced with concrete and new features.

Centreville-Chicopee Community Centre also got a splash pad and filtration system.

For more information about the stimulus projects,

including these aquatics facilities, please visit www.kitchener.ca, search word "stimulus projects."

Join thousands who volunteer with the city

Did you know that there are nearly 3,000 people who volunteer through direct programs or through neighbourhood association programs?

Add in the number of people who volunteer with minor sports organizations associated with the city, and that number rises to about 7,000.

"We try to match the interests and talents of new volunteers with the positions we have available, or create a unique opportunity that matches the goals, talents and schedule of the potential volunteer," said Leslie Bamford, the city's volunteer co-ordinator.

The city welcomes volunteers from age 14 to 100. There are opportunities for youth, adults, seniors, families, new Canadians and people with disabilities, said Bamford, adding that some positions have age minimums.

Volunteers are needed for a number of positions, including committees of council.

Openings are advertised in the Waterloo Region Record in September for citizens to sit on committees of council.

Opportunities

People who volunteer with the city have the opportunity to:

- Chair meetings
- Help people learn to swim
- Assist with children at summer playgrounds
- Serve at snack bars
- Greet visitors to centres and at special events
- Assist peers in retirement and bereavement programs
- Prepare and serve meals
- Serve coffee and socialize at the day program
- Coach and keep score for minor sports groups
- Fundraise
- Sit on advisory councils

As well, there are a number of specific needs to be filled. For example, **centres for adults 50+** need volunteers to assist in making meals for seniors, serve in snack bars making sandwiches, coffee and soup, sit at welcome desks greeting people as they come into the centre, make crafts for sale to benefit the centres, and help

others through the peer helping programs and in the day program for older adults needing assistance helping staff to run the program.

KW Boccia program seeks sports assistants to assist physically disabled athletes at weekly practices this fall on Monday evenings at Blessed Sacrament School, 367 Country Way. Individuals are also needed to help someone with a disability to take part in the programs.

Special events require volunteers throughout the year, including Cruising on King Street on July 8, Kitchener Blues Festival Aug. 5-7, Kidspark on Aug. 21, and Word on the Street on Sept. 25.

Aquatics and adapted aquatics has opportunities, starting in the fall, for people with swimming skills to assist staff with swimming lessons and assist people who have a disability in selected city pools.

The **Youth Crew** welcomes new volunteers, 12-17 years old, throughout the year. Youth can volunteer at summer youth drop-in programs taking place in community centres across the city.

The **Kitchener Natural Area Program (KNAP)** offers volunteer opportunities for people who enjoy the outdoors and improving their environment. Positions include trail maintenance reporting, tree planting, event days like Earth Day in April.

Minor sports groups and neighbourhood associations are other areas where citizens can volunteer in various interesting positions. Individual sports groups and associations recruit volunteers directly, rather than through Bamford.

In the fall, the city recruits **winter rink** volunteers to assist with rink maintenance in their neighbourhoods. There are several hundred dedicated people making neighbourhood rinks possible every winter in Kitchener, but the city is always looking for more volunteers in this area.

Major events come to **The Aud** every year requiring a team of dedicated volunteers to make them a success.

For more on volunteering with the city, please see www.kitchener.ca, search word "volunteer."

Six weeks of summer fun



BRING IT ON – Summer playground staff are ready to stack kids' days with fun, games, sports, crafts and so much more.

Games, songs, sports, science, crafts, drama and much more — summer playgrounds is the place to be for children aged three to 12, for six weeks in the summer.

Summer playgrounds run from July 4 to Aug. 12.

Programs are offered to children ages three to 12 years in three groups: pre-school (ages 3-5), junior (ages 6-8) and adventure (ages 9-12).

The program provides low cost, accessible, safe, fun and quality summer recreation in community centres, parks and schools all over the city.

There are half- and full-day programs available at more than 40 sites around the city.

Playground leaders are trained in

Standard First Aid and police-screened. A volunteer committee also works closely with the playground leaders to provide support and neighbourhood-specific recommendations.

One-week sessions cost \$25-40 per week and there are full-day options for \$90 per week as well. Fee assistance is also available.

There is still time to register. Registration is at community centres in person or online at www.kitchener.ca and click on WEBreg under eServices to register.

Find more information on the City of Kitchener website at www.kitchener.ca, in *Leisure* or at your local community centre, or call the summer playground hotline at 519-741-2871 or TTY: 1-866-969-9994.

Outdoor pools and splash pads open

Don't pass up the opportunity to swim and relax in the sun with your family regularly over the summer months, particularly on weekday evenings or for a few hours on a Saturday between the kids' soccer games when you don't have time for a full-day family outing to the beach.

A simple solution is to buy a summer swim pass, which is valid at all indoor and outdoor City of Kitchener pools until Sept. 18. Passes will be available at all indoor pools until July 15.

Take the family swimming at any City of Kitchener outdoor pool, which are now open for the season.

- Kiwanis Park and pool, 1000 Kiwanis Park Dr.
- Harry Class Pool, 45 Woodside Ave.
- Idlewood Pool, 5 Thaler Ave.
- Wilson Pool, 78 Wilson Ave.

Aquatics staff have undergone intensive training to ensure that all swimmers are safe, and aware of what it takes to keep families safe around water. In addition to four outdoor pools, the city also operates a number of spray pads, located throughout the city:

- Breithaupt Park spray pad, Union Ave.
- Chandler Mowat splash pad, 222 Chandler Dr.
- Doon Pioneer sprayground, 150 Pioneer Dr.
- Victoria Park splash pad, Courtland Ave. W.
- Vanier Park splash pad, 329

Vanier Dr.

- Centreville Chicopee splash pad, 141 Morgan Ave.
- Kingsdale splash pad, 80 Wilson Ave.

For full swim schedules, see www.kitchener.ca. Outdoor pool information is available at any of the city's indoor pools. Outdoor pools will not open daily if the weather is cold, raining or storm warnings are in effect.

Safety in and around water is key to a safe and fun summer. City of Kitchener pools have swimming guidelines that outline the importance of staying within arm's reach of poor or non-swimmers.

The city is committed to educating patrons on water safety while they are at our facilities to ensure that they have the knowledge to keep their family safe, no matter where they swim.

While the city keeps swimmers' safety at the forefront at its public pools, it is also committed to helping residents who own their own backyard pools ensure their friends and family are safe while enjoying a swim at home.

The city's aquatics unit has teamed up with the bylaw division to provide owners of backyard pools with a pool safety package that includes information on fencing requirements, suggested guidelines and other safety issues.

For more information on the city's pools and splash pads, see www.kitchener.ca, search word "pools."

Be cool...
get a permit for your pool!



www.kitchener.ca/poolpermits

KITCHENER MARKET

Every reason. Every season.

Owned & Operated by  KITCHENER

The Kitchener Market offers a friendly and warm atmosphere where families, co-workers and friends can enjoy tasty lunches from our food vendors. Enjoy authentic Italian, Caribbean, Croatian, German, El Salvadorian, Greek or Mexican meals. Take-out is also available.

Author of new cookbook signing books at the Marketplace

Lynn Ogryzlo knows what farmers have known for centuries: connecting with the land is good for the soul and you don't have to travel far to taste good food.

Ogryzlo, who put Niagara food on the culinary map, will be stopping by the Marketplace at the Kitchener Market on Saturday, July 9 as part of a tour to promote her latest book, *The Ontario Table*, a cookbook designed to introduce the people, food and culture of Ontario's local food.

The recipes – more than 100 of them – reflect 20 culinary destinations throughout the province through amazing scenery, people, animals, fields, gardens, orchards, vineyards and of course, food.

According to Ogryzlo, who championed the *Buy Local, Eat Local, Drink Local, Think Local Niagara Challenge*, eating locally is about more than food; it's about knowing the people who grow it.

The Ontario Table introduces more than 100 Ontario farmers and food producers and recipes such as a slow-cooked, aromatic winter wine roast or a mushroom bread pudding.

Ogryzlo worked with Inniskillin Wines for 10 years before pursuing a career as a food, wine and travel columnist. She has created more than 1,400 recipes, mostly dedicated to the seasons of Niagara and its food. Her food column, Just a Taste, runs in Niagara This Week newspaper. She is a trained sommelier and a wine columnist, as well as culinary host on CHCH-TV's Niagara Express, focusing solely on Niagara's culinary wealth.



The challenge

Buying, eating, drinking and thinking local is about keeping our dollars circulating in our community.

- Buy local in season whenever you can.
- If you can't buy local, buy organic.
- If you can't buy organic, buy Fair Trade.
- Buy locally made products whenever you can.
- If you can't buy locally made, buy from a local retailer.
- If you can't buy from a local retailer, buy Canadian.

Expand your cooking horizons . . . at the Marketplace

Learn the secrets of preparing special dishes and meals (and taste them, too) at cooking classes in the Marketplace on the upper level of the Kitchener Market. Watch experts as they demonstrate the steps, and then you can impress family and friends. In addition, you will receive a Kitchener Market gift bag and a few recipes that you can try on your own. All classes take place from **6:30-8:30 p.m.**, unless otherwise noted. Cost is \$35 unless otherwise noted. To register for a class, please call Kirstan Howells at 519-741-2297, visit the Kitchener Market office, or register online at eclass.kitchener.ca. For more details on upcoming classes and events, visit www.kitchenermarket.ca.

Cooking 101

This series is designed for those taking their first steps into the kitchen.

Classes will include: knife skills, basic sauces, cooking techniques and cooking staples.

Cost: \$100 per series, per person (incl. tax)

July 5, 19, Aug. 2, 16 6:15-7:15 p.m.

Cooking 201

Already have the basic skills covered? Then come put them to the test in this intermediate cooking class.

Cost: \$100 per series, per person (incl. tax)

July 5, 19, Aug. 2, 16 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Cooking for Babies

Join Tania Heinemann (RHN, RNCP and post partum doula) as she guides you through the steps to preparing your own homemade baby food. Participants get to make their own jar of baby food.

Cost: \$40 per class, per person (incl. tax)

Tuesday, July 26 12:15-1:45 p.m.

Farmhouse to Table

Learn from local farmers. Each week a local farmer will show you how to prepare dishes featuring a local in-season ingredient that they grow.

Cost: free.

Every Saturday 10:30-11:15 a.m.

International Series

Add some interest to your meal plan. Learn how to prepare internationally inspired meals.

Cost: \$35 per class, per person (incl. tax)

Wednesday, July 6	Egypt
Wednesday, July 20	France
Wednesday, Aug. 3	African
Wednesday, Aug. 17	Caribbean
Wednesday, Aug. 31	Madagascar

Toddler Food and Snacks

Join Tania Heinemann (RHN, RNCP and post partum doula) as she shows you how to prepare healthy food and snacks for your picky toddler.

Participants get to prepare their own meal and snack.

Cost: \$40 per class, per person (incl. tax)

Tuesday, July 12 12:15-1:45 p.m.

Kids in the Kitchen

Kids in the Kitchen introduces children aged 5-10 years to the wonder of cooking, while having fun and meeting new friends. Every participant gets to make their own meal!

Cost: \$5

Every Saturday 9-10 a.m.

The Marketplace




Experience cooking – at the Market



Take some time for yourself and join us in our Marketplace for one of our exciting and informative cooking classes:

- Cooking 101 & 201 • Pasta! • Cooking for Babies • Toddler Food & Snacks • Farmhouse to Table • International Series

Visit kitchenermarket.ca for more information and a full listing of classes.



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FREE FUN FOR CHILDREN AT The Kitchener Market

Kids' Hop

Local musicians entertain your child! Join us for Kids' Hop on Tuesdays AND Thursdays, from 11 a.m. to noon.

<p>JULY</p> <p>July 5 - Erick Traplin July 12 - Music by Jake July 19 - Erick Traplin July 26 - Music by Jake</p>	<p>AUGUST</p> <p>August 2 - Erick Traplin August 9 - Music with Brian August 16 - Erick Traplin August 23 - Music with Jake August 30 - Erick Traplin</p>
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Kids' Club

Our Kids' Club offers FREE crafts, interactive activities and demonstrations the first Saturday of each month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join the storytellers from the Kitchener Public Library for wonderful story times and crafts.

**For more family fun visit
www.kitchenermarket.ca**



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Rangers’ street team gives back to Kitchener

Come to Kidspark, Tooney Tuesdays or other events around the city and you may see the Kitchener Rangers Street Team, an interactive event team that aims to bring the excitement of Rangers’ hockey to the fans.

The team, which started in 2009, is one way Kitchener’s favourite Junior A hockey team gives back to the community who supports them every hockey season, said Arlaine Clayford, special projects coordinator.

“We are lucky and grateful to have amazing community support every year and want to make sure that we provide that same support to the community,” said Clayford. “The Rangers have always prided themselves on being involved in the community through player appearances and charitable donations. Through the street team, we are able to continue to



give back to the community through the off-season.”

The team appears for free at local street fairs, festivals, schools and

hockey tournaments, featuring sports cages, where participants can take a shot on net, throw a pass and test out their pitching skills.

Rangers players and coaches do not attend the events with the street team, Clayford stressed.

“We are strictly a summer events team that provides activities and giveaways for local community, charity and school events,” she explained.

Bookings are made on a first-come, first-serve basis, and events must fall under one or more of the following categories:

- Charitable organization
- Educational group
- Community group
- Non-profit organization

The Rangers Street Team, whose season runs from May 1 to Oct. 31 each year, requires a minimum of four weeks notice for all event requests.

For more information, please see www.kitchenerangers.com

Rain delays home opener

The Kitchener Panthers had hoped to play their season home opener in May, but the rain spoiled their party.

“The team has been anxious to get out and play, especially in front of their home crowd, but haven’t had the chance to,” said Tieja MacLaughlin, communications coordinator for the Panthers. “The weather has been frustrating for the team and the fans. We played four out of 10 games through May on account of rain. Many teams throughout the league are affected by the same problem.”

The team picked up players from the Guelph Royals, which suspended operations for 2011, including: Jeremy Ware, Nathan Grant, Shaun Valeriote and Andrew Van’t Wout.

The Panthers also signed Kevin Pigott and Keith Hoefel out of NCAA Division III Whittier College.

“The Panthers’ greatest asset is their team chemistry,” said MacLaughlin. “We wanted to add depth to the bullpen and improve at the plate. With a strong core of returning players plus the new additions, the team is confident they will be able to do so.”

The fans are an essential part of the atmosphere at Jack Couch Park, said MacLaughlin.

“Their enthusiasm and energy is well received, most especially by the players,” she said. “Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons are a great opportunity to come out for good baseball and good fun.”

The Aud hosts ball hockey tournament

The Aud and Activa Sportsplex will be a hotbed for ball hockey the weekend of July 15-17, when Tricities Ball Hockey hosts the Ontario Ball Hockey Association’s (OBHA) 2011 Atom/Pee wee and Girls under 18, 16 and 14 provincial championship competition.

“We will be hosting close to 90 teams and our seven local teams will have a very tough road to provincial supremacy,” said Dave Leitch, president of Tri Cities Ball Hockey League. “After our best year ever, receiving medals in all but one division in 2010 and the hometown crowd cheering us on, we are expecting a great event and hopefully a few podium visits from the KW teams.”

Ball hockey brings Canada’s beloved game of street hockey indoors. Formed in 1974, the OBHA now offers the most comprehensive

program in Canada.

What started as a simple game played by youngsters and young-at-heart on asphalt flats or neighbouring roads, schoolyards and local parking lots has become a competitive sport played in manufactured concrete structures, governed by administrative authorities with established rules and regulations in highly organized leagues that provide participants with local, provincial and national championship competitions.

The OBHA is a registered non-profit organization officially recognized as the governing body of the sport in Ontario by the Canadian Ball Hockey Association, International Street & Ball Hockey Federation, the Canadian Hockey Association and Sport Canada.

For more information, www.ontarioballhockey.ca

Something for everyone at Kitchener’s arena facilities

With summer and warm weather finally here, the last thing you likely want to think about is the fall and what you will be doing to stay warm during the cold winter months. However, the silver lining to the fast-approaching drop in temperature is that there are lots of activities and programs to get involved in at Kitchener’s arena facilities.

In addition to renting your own ice time for a skating party or playing a game of pick-up hockey with friends, there are a number of programs that are open to accepting new members and teams. Here is a list of some of the programs:

Community programming

Free skating programs are available for all ages. Skating at Civic Square (outdoors) is weather dependent. Paid programs include adult shinny (18+) and public skating. Visit www.kitchener.ca/skatingschedule for more information, times and pricing.

Dinkel Power Skating

Dinkel Power Skating has been in operation since 1979. The program teaches students all fundamental skills used in hockey and ringette, such as forward and backward cross-cuts, strides, turns, stops, starts, balance, agility and co-ordination exercises. To register or for more information, please contact Gary Dinkel at 519-579-8365 or email at

dinkelpowerskating@gmail.com.

Ice-Tech skating programs

Learn To Skate and skill development. One of the lowest skater-to-coach ratio; all ages from two to adult. We have enthusiastic coaches. Register or access more information about programs at www.ice-tech.ca.

Pond Hockey League (PHL)

The PHL, a combination of skills development and shinny, gives kids a chance to experience hockey (some for the first time) in a faith-based environment. The PHL is non-competitive hockey for boys and girls aged five to 13 years. The PHL has been delivering the same faith-based message for many years. For more information, contact the PHL via email at pondhockeyleague@rogers.com or visit our website at www.pondhockeyleague.ca.

Kitchener Adult Hockey League (KAHL)

Groups for ages 19+, 30+ and 40+, online stats and schedules, 28 games at Sportsworld Arena. For more information, contact Gord Mast at 519-829-9591 gmast@sportsworld.on.ca (see ad below).

Kitchener Minor Hockey Association (KMHA)

Affiliated minor sport organization

Goals are:

- To provide a hockey program that promotes the importance and understanding of work ethic, good sportsmanship, discipline, team work and the fair treatment of others under all circumstances and all conditions;
 - To teach respect for others, regardless of race, place of origin, family circumstance, gender or creed;
 - To encourage players to uphold these principles and to become fine young adults, contributing to the community after their playing involvement is over.
- For more information, please visit www.kitchenerminorhockey.com or call office phone: 519-579-2229.
- Kitchener Ringette Association**
- Affiliated minor sport organization
- www.kitcheneringette.com
- KW Shop League**
- www.kwshopleague.ca
- KW Skating Club**
- Affiliated minor sport organization
- Recreational and competitive skating programs. From pre-school learn to skate programs to competitive programs, whose enrollment includes the current Canadian national figure skating pairs champs, the KW Skating Club has something for everyone. For more information, visit www.kwsc.org or call 519-886-5972 x229.

Kitchener Waterloo Oldtimers’ Hockey Club Inc.

Opportunity for adults aged 35 + to play oldtimer “organized” recreational hockey. The cost is about 50 games per season at an average cost of \$8 per game. We play in first-class facilities in Kitchener and Waterloo. There are five age and ability “categories” (30 teams) that cater to everyone from the novice player to the seasoned pro. There is no slap-shots nor body contact nor fighting allowed. Check www.kwoldtimers.ca

Kitchener Waterloo Women’s Masters Hockey League (KWWMHL)

Recreational hockey league for ladies over the age of 37 years. Must be over 37 years; the format is a pick-up style as opposed to a formal game with referees. Contact Paula Feddema at pfeddema@conestogac.on.ca.

Kitchener Waterloo Women’s Recreational Hockey League (KWWRHL)

Recreation women’s hockey league for ladies over the age of 21. Encourages all levels of hockey skills to play, from beginner to skilled. Formal games with referees/timekeepers. New teams are drafted each year to have balance skill levels on all teams. Registration forms can be found on www.kwwrhl.ca.

For more information events at The Aud, please go to www.theaud.ca



FALL/WINTER 2011-12

KITCHENER ADULT HOCKEY LEAGUE



- ★ 28 games guaranteed - Including Playoffs
- ★ Season runs September through March
- ★ Games at Sportsworld Twin Pad
- ★ Certified referees
- ★ Online schedules, standings & stats
- ★ **Monday:** 19+ (18 teams)
- ★ **Tuesday:** 19+ (24 teams)
- ★ **Wednesday:** 40+ (10 teams)
- ★ **Thursday:** 30+ (18 teams)
- ★ **Sunday:** 19+ (8 teams)



BEST LEAGUE VALUE IN THE AREA! PLEASE COMPARE!

To register, contact Gord Mast @ 519-829-9591

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Call 519-741-2699 or visit www.theaud.ca