



City of Brampton | Summer 2023 Edition

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

ROWENA SANTOS

Regional Councillor
Wards 1 & 5
905.874.2605
rowena.santos@brampton.ca

PAUL VICENTE

Regional Councillor
Wards 1 & 5
905.874.2601
paul.vicente@brampton.ca



Summer is here, and I'm excited to share the latest updates from our vibrant city.

Safer Streets: We're implementing effective traffic calming measures across Brampton to address speeding and enhance safety. With an increased budget, we're using a comprehensive approach that includes traffic cameras, road diets, speed bumps, flexi-signs, and speed reductions. We've already seen significant speed reductions in piloted neighbourhoods and are committed to expanding these measures.

Youth Hub Grand Opening: Brampton's first youth hub has opened at the Susan Fennell Sportsplex! This exciting space provides our youth with leadership programs, recreational activities, and engaging opportunities. With state-of-the-art technology and a focus on mental health support, the youth hub is a safe and inclusive environment where our youth can thrive. Furthermore, we are already working on the development of our second youth hub, the Century Gardens Youth Hub, which will be located in Wards 1 & 5!

Supporting Seniors: We want to keep our seniors active and engaged, especially those on fixed incomes. We're moving forward with a phased approach, starting with free recreation for those aged 70 and older in 2024, followed by those aged 65 and older in 2025.



Stay tuned for updates on events, programs, our Youth Council, and exciting initiatives happening this summer by visiting [CouncillorSantos.ca](https://www.councillorsantos.ca) or scanning the QR code. Your involvement and feedback is crucial in shaping our community.

Have an extraordinary summer season!

Councillor Rowena Santos, Wards 1 & 5

Happy summer! I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and high spirits. Wishing you and your family a fun and safe summer.

All summer long, there will be exciting activations happening in downtown Brampton and across the city. There is something for everyone happening, so be sure to follow [@BramptonOnStage](https://twitter.com/BramptonOnStage) and [@ExperienceBrampton](https://twitter.com/ExperienceBrampton) on social media for event schedules.

One of my personal favourites, the Brampton Farmers' Market, has returned to downtown Brampton. Be sure to visit every Saturday from 8 am to 1 pm, until the Thanksgiving long weekend. Don't forget to [#ShopLocal](https://twitter.com/ShopLocal) and support the great businesses in the downtown area that **remain open** during the Region of Peel watermain construction happening along Main St. and Queen St.

After visiting the Farmers' Market, make sure you check out the **Diplock Lane Community Market!** The market celebrates the community by bringing together small businesses, art, music, and entertainment. The market will be taking place on select Saturdays throughout the summer! Check out their Instagram page [@diplocklane_community](https://www.instagram.com/diplocklane_community).

Did you know that Brampton has its first-ever food district located in downtown Brampton? Follow McArter Lane, near Main St. and Queen St. to the **Downtown Brampton Food District** to experience a world of food all in one spot! Indulge your taste buds in a culinary adventure as you can immerse yourself in flavours from around the world.

As always, you can reach me by telephone or email, my office is always open to you. Sign up to stay up to date on what's happening in Wards 1 & 5 and across the city at www.standup4brampton.com

Wishing you a fantastic summer ahead!

Councillor Paul Vicente, Wards 1 & 5



GARDENS OF BRAMPTON: FRONT GARDEN RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Brampton is home to many front gardens, and we know residents take pride in keeping them green and beautiful. From July 1 to August 1, show us your front garden for a chance to be recognized! The City, in partnership with the Brampton Horticultural Society and Chinguacousy Garden Club, will judge and select the best gardens in Brampton. Those recognized will be announced in September, featured online, and will receive a recognition sign. Submission criteria and registration details are available at www.brampton.ca/parks



ADOPT A PET

Pets reduce stress levels, improve health, increase happiness, and offer companionship. If you're ready to bring an addition to your family, consider adopting a pet.

- Adopting a pet is more economical than buying one or even receiving one for free when you factor in the cost of shots, spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, and dewormer that are included in the adoption fee.
- Adopting gives an animal a second chance at life in a loving home.
- Many animals at the shelter are social and well-behaved and are there due to unrelated reasons.

Learn about the pet adoption process and associated fees at www.brampton.ca/animalservices

BRAMPTON RECREATION FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ActiveAssist is a fee subsidy program to help low-income families and individuals access Recreation services and programs. Participants receive an annual subsidy amount of \$275, per person, valid for a twelve-month period. Once approved into the program, participants qualify for a two-year period. The account credit can be applied to program registrations and camps. There are three easy ways to apply - online, in-person or by mail. Learn more at www.brampton.ca/activeassist



REDISCOVER THE RIVER

Riverwalk is a key City initiative that intends to provide long-term flood risk solutions along the Etobicoke Creek. The project also aims to unlock the downtown development potential and create places for residents to access nature and enjoy public spaces. The City has begun working with the consultant, AECOM, on a detailed design for the downtown Brampton flood protection area. This design will be informed by the work completed as part of the Environmental Assessment, which includes flood protection for the community and looking at how the proposed flood mitigation solutions impact the natural environment and ecology. Construction is still a few years away, but this is an exciting next step for the project. Learn more at www.brampton.ca/riverwalk

BRAMPTON RENTAL LANDLORD REGISTRATION/LICENSING PILOT PROGRAM

The City has seen an escalation in complaints related to rental housing, with the highest number of service requests of property standard violations concentrated in Wards 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7. From 2018 to 2022, Enforcement received 8,800 property standards complaints. On April 5, 2023, Council directed staff to report back in Q3 2023 on an implementation plan for a two-year pilot (beginning Q1 2024) for a 'Brampton Rental Landlord Registration/Licensing Program'. The main objectives of the pilot are to protect health and safety, as well as the character and stability of residential areas. Stay tuned for more details later this year.



YOUTH HUB IS NOW OPEN AT SUSAN FENNEL SPORTSPLEX

The new Youth Hub at Susan Fennell Sportsplex offers a dedicated space for young people to access programming and supports, all while building meaningful friendships and connections.

The space includes a variety of unstructured spaces that allow youth to freely socialize and connect. Other amenities include an eSports area, sponsored by Sheridan College, a creative space, ideation rooms, and lounge area. This space will add to the growing amenities available for young people in the city, creating safe, inclusive and supportive communities. Learn more at www.brampton.ca/recreation



CITY OF BRAMPTON FIREWORKS BAN

Under the new Fireworks by-law, the use, purchase, discharge, possession, display, sale, and offer to sell of fireworks is strictly prohibited in Brampton. This includes all fireworks such as sparklers, roman candles, rockets, ground spinners, fountains, flying lanterns, bombshells, etc.

The safety of residents is the City's top priority. A ban on fireworks:

- Mitigates the risk of fires, injury and damage to residents, pets, and properties.
- Reduces air pollution and debris keeping the City clean and green.
- Reduces excessive noise causing stress to children, veterans, and pets.
- Protects animal habitats.

Penalties for failing to comply range from \$500 to \$1,000, and may reach up to \$100,000 if a court summons is issued.

The City of Brampton is dedicated to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment. Residents are invited to celebrate Canada Day, Diwali, and New Year's Eve at City-led events with Pyrotechnics.

To learn more, visit www.brampton.ca/fireworks



MAINTAIN YOUR YARD

Help keep our beautiful city clean, green and safe year-round.

- Keep your yard free from all garbage and debris.
- Grass and weeds should be cut regularly. If your grass is taller than a soccer ball, it's time to cut it.
- Do not dump waste items on someone else's property, along the roadside, or at another undesignated area.

Read more at www.brampton.ca/bylaws

BULK WASTE

Bulk waste is any large item that is too big to fit into a bin or garbage bag such as furniture, mattresses, and barbecues. The Region of Peel collects acceptable bulky items from the curb free-of-charge on your regular collection day. Help maintain a safe and attractive environment for everyone – don't dump waste on public or private property. Learn more at www.peelregion.ca



SUMMER FIRE SAFETY

Brampton Fire and Emergency Services wants to help ensure all Brampton residents protect their home, loved ones, and summer memories from the impacts of fire.

Make sure to:

- Install working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Create an escape plan with your family.
- Always stay in the kitchen while cooking.
- Use barbecue grills only outdoors, positioned away from combustible objects.

For more safety tips, visit www.bramptonfire.com



PARKING DOS AND DON'TS

- Do not park your vehicle on the street between 2 am and 6 am or for more than 3 hours.
- Do request a parking consideration to park on the street for up to 14 days each year, per vehicle licence plate.
- Do keep sidewalks clear. When vehicles overhang the sidewalk, they can be an obstacle and unsafe for others who walk or use a stroller on sidewalks.
- Do not park in a designated bike lane.

Learn more at www.brampton.ca/bylaws



NOISE BY-LAW

As residents spend more time outside, they are asked to keep excessive noise down. Under the City's Noise By-law, persistent and recurring noise that causes disturbances to other Brampton residents can be enforced. Be a courteous neighbour, do your part. Learn more at www.brampton.ca/bylaws



LOCAL GEM OF THE SEASON

DESI ROAD RESTAURANT

185 Fletchers Creek Blvd, Unit #1
289.499.1000
www.desiroad.ca

(In picture: Councillor Santos (left), Owner & Chef Hitesh (right) at Desi Road Restaurant)



I had a blast visiting and indulging in the delicious cuisine at Desi Road! The cool urban vibe and great atmosphere set the stage for an unforgettable evening. Every dish, crafted by their talented chef and owner Hitesh, showcases the vibrant flavours of Bombay. The food was not only authentic and delicious but also beautifully presented. I highly recommend indulging in their traditionally inspired, modern take on Indian street food. You won't be disappointed!



(Left to right: PDSB Trustee Kathy McDonald, Councillor Santos, Vice Principal of Jean Augustine S.S. Skye Bowen, Executive Director of One Voice One Team Orlando Bowen)

EMPOWERING YOUTH IN BRAMPTON: THE JEWEL PROJECT AND ONE VOICE ONE TEAM

Two organizations in Brampton are making a remarkable impact on the city's youth. The Jewil Project provides support to participants ages 15-29 in the cybersecurity field, offering financial, academic, and networking opportunities. One Voice One Team, a non-profit, focuses on nurturing leadership skills through dynamic workshops and community programs, guided by inspiring athletes, leaders, and speakers. Both organizations address challenges like unemployment, mental health, and negative influences. The Jewil Project creates cybersecurity job opportunities through DiGITP (Digital Impact Transformation Program), while One Voice One Team empowers youth for a better future. I recently had the pleasure of reuniting with Orlando Bowen, the Executive Director of One Voice One Team, at an Eid Celebration hosted by Jean Augustine Secondary School.

BRAMPTON'S SENIOR AFFILIATED GROUPS: ENRICHING LIVES AND EMBRACING COMMUNITY

In Wards 1 & 5, the senior affiliated groups are essential community organizations dedicated to empowering seniors and fostering community connections. These not-for-profit volunteer groups play a crucial role in combatting isolation, providing leisure opportunities, and promoting active participation for Brampton's seniors. The City of Brampton recognizes their significance and provides granting streams through the Advance Brampton Fund, which funds projects aligned with the city's priorities. Learn more at www.brampton.ca/abf

It is a pleasure to engage with these groups, acknowledging their dedication and the positive impact they have on the lives of seniors and the wider community. Embracing Brampton's multicultural identity, the affiliated groups create inclusive spaces where seniors can connect, share experiences, and celebrate diversity. Through a range of activities and events reflecting Brampton's cultural richness, these groups foster intercultural understanding and promote a sense of belonging.

Additionally, they prioritize the well-being of seniors by offering fitness classes, workshops, and educational programs, while also promoting sustainable practices and environmental awareness.

I want to thank our senior affiliated groups for positively impacting the lives of Brampton's seniors and enhancing the overall vibrancy of the community.



Top photo

Councillor Santos with members of Creditview Seniors Club at Punjabi Fashion

Left Photo

Councillor Santos with members of Senior Clubs at Jennings Park

ADVOCATING FOR BRAMPTON

I was pleased to attend a day of advocacy for Brampton at Queen's Park with Mayor Patrick Brown, Deputy Mayor Harkirat Singh, along with City staff. We advocated to the Deputy Premier, Ministers, and Brampton MPPs on funding matters related to transit (e.g. LRT extension, rapid transit), youth mental health, health care, and unlocking the potential in Brampton's downtown via the Riverwalk project. To learn more about the Riverwalk, visit www.brampton.ca/riverwalk for more information.



ART ACTIVATION IN DOWNTOWN BRAMPTON

While out in downtown Brampton, I bumped into local artist and Arts Acclaim Award 2023 recipient, Abiola (Biola) Iwodu, activating our laneway spaces with bright, colourful ground murals. This is Abiola's second year working with the Downtown Brampton BIA to add art to some of the spaces in our downtown area. You can visit Abiola's creations in McKinney, Vivian and McArter Lanes! To see more of Abiola's work, check him out on Instagram [@AbiolaIwoduArt](https://www.instagram.com/AbiolaIwoduArt).



HIGHLIGHTING COMMUNITY

Did you know? Harnek Rai is a Bramptonian living in Wards 1 & 5 and is a member of the Brampton Sports Hall of Fame, and the Ontario and Canadian Powerlifting Hall of Fame. Harnek has built a storied career as a power lifter for over forty years. Harnek represented Canada as a lifter, coach, referee, and team manager at many world championships. This summer, Harnek will be a respected judge at the International Powerlifting Federation Championship event in Malta and he is the only Canadian judge at this international event. Congratulations to my good friend Harnek on his incredible achievements! Good luck to the Canadian team and wish you luck with bringing medals home.



GOLDEN GRAINS CAFÉ AND BAKERY

389 Main Street North
905.459.5641
www.goldengrains.ca

Did you know June is Portuguese Heritage Month? I had the pleasure of visiting businesses to commemorate the rich culinary culture and history of Portuguese-Canadians. Mayor Patrick Brown and I visited Golden Grains Café and Bakery where Susana and Constantino welcomed us. This year, they celebrate their 5th business anniversary and we wish them many more years of success. Golden Grains specializes in homemade Portuguese breads and baked goods; they also offer imported meat and groceries directly from Portugal.



FEATURED BUSINESS

CITY EVENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE IN GARDEN SQUARE

July 7 to September 1

GARDEN SQUARE MOVIE NIGHT

Every Wednesday and select Saturdays until September 2

BRAMPTON FARMERS' MARKET

Saturdays, 8 am - 1 pm until October 7 in Gage Park

JAMBANA (IN CELEBRATION OF EMANCIPATION DAY)

August 7

HOCKEY NIGHT IN BRAMPTON

August 23

LATINO HERITAGE MONTH

September

GARBA

September

COMMUNITY EVENTS

VIBRANT BRAMPTON

July 21-22

CHUTNEYFEST

July 29-30

JAMAICA DAY

August 26-27

WORLD OF JAZZ FESTIVAL

September 9-10

This is a selection of events, to see the full list visit www.brampton.ca/events

CHECK OUT

CITY MATTERS



Sign up to City Matters to stay up to date with the latest news and events happening in YOUR city.



ROWENA SANTOS

✉ rowena.santos@brampton.ca

☎ 905.874.2605

📘 @RowenaSantosBrampton

🐦 @RoweSantos

📷 @RowenaSantosBrampton

PAUL VICENTE

✉ paul.vicente@brampton.ca

☎ 905.874.2601

📘 @StandUp4Brampton

🐦 @PaulVicente

📷 @PaulVicenteBrampton

Alternate formats available upon request. To request, email accessibility@brampton.ca