



Message from our President

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

As you are aware, the Sir John's Homestead Review Committee has grown-up and formally became The Sir John's Homestead Ratepayer Association. I was elected to be its first President at the meeting on August 12, 2009. I am honoured to have had your trust placed in me. Rest assured that I will work very hard for our Community. The first order of business is to represent our community at the Ontario Municipal Board. As yet, the dates for this have not been set but it is expected that this will take place sometime in the Fall.

There is one item that needs to be attended to immediately. I wish to say, "Thank You" to all the members of the Sir John's Homestead Review Committee who so selflessly gave their time, effort and expertise to get a Bylaw enacted by the City of Mississauga. A special note of appreciation goes to Michael Arts, Maria Arts, Darlene Cancilla, Sharon McCarthy and Sharon Pancott who continue to support us but not in an official capacity. They have passed the torch to new hands and we hope that we can match their high standards.

If at anytime someone has a question, needs clarification or wants to bring something to the attention of the Association, please feel free to contact me personally or any member of the Executive Committee. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome and vital to the continued success of the Sir John's Homestead Ratepayer Association.

Thank you for allowing me to represent this vital and unique community.

Respectfully,
Alina Zogala, President
Sir John's Homestead Ratepayer Association

Membership Fee

At our founding meeting on August 12, 2009 there was considerable discussion regarding the appropriate amount to charge as an annual membership fee. Suggestions ranged from a low of \$10.00 to a high of \$50.00. Eventually, the meeting settled on an initial annual fee of \$25.00 as a reasonable amount.

The challenge the attendees faced in establishing the amount was the unknown nature and extent of the first year's expenditures. We know we will incur basic administrative costs for supplies and banking charges. There will also be some costs for incorporation and the purchase of liability insurance for the executive committee. Currently, we are piggybacking on another website and may soon have to incur the cost of establishing our own site. Beyond the initial, and obvious, expenses not much is known with certainty. On one hand we do not wish to create a large reserve, but on the other hand we do not want to be in a position whereby we have to go back to the membership for additional funds during the year.

Some may ask about the \$50.00 per household that was contributed by some homeowners last winter to pay the legal fees of Virginia MacLean. You may recall those cheques were made payable to "Virginia MacLean in Trust". Accordingly, the unused portion remains trust funds and is not available to the association.

At the first regular meeting of the Executive Committee, the committee established July 31st as the fiscal and membership year end.

As we believe that a strong ratepayer association is essential, and start-up funds are required immediately, we respectfully request that you join the association to help keep our voice strong. To do so, please make your \$25.00 cheque payable to **Sir John's Homestead Ratepayer Association**. You can

deliver it by hand to one of the following Executive Committee members:

Lorne McDonald - 3231 Sir John's Homestead
Tom Zakrzewski - 3049 Sir John's Homestead
Carol Nolan - 1815 Solitaire Court
Colleen Close - 3197 Sir John's Homestead
Craig Finlayson - 3248 Sir John's Homestead

If you wish to **pay by cash**, please hand deliver it to Lorne McDonald, Treasurer, or Craig Finlayson, Membership Chairman, who will issue a receipt for your membership immediately. **Cheques** may be mailed to Lorne McDonald, SJHRA Treasurer, 3231 Sir John's Homestead L5L 2N7 ON. You may also pay by **Interac Email Money Transfer** – here are the details:

- Log into your Online Banking website (press the appropriate buttons to proceed as you go)
- Select Payment Transfer
- Select Interac/Email Money Transfer and follow the prompts - typically as follows - do not type the ""
- Input your own email address (the one you use to receive SJHRA newsletters)
- Input the name of the SJHRA Treasurer "Lorne McDonald"
- Input the email address of the SJHRA Treasurer "treasurer@sjhra.ca"
- Input the amount of the membership fee "\$25.00"
- Input the message to the recipient "SJHRA Membership Fee"
- Input the security question "What is the name of our city"
- Input the security response "Mississauga" twice

Lorne McDonald, Treasurer
Craig Finlayson, Membership

Weed Control?

Given the recent ban on pesticides for weed control, what are the alternatives? My personal favorite for my own lawn which is relatively weed-free is to manually dig out any new dandy-lions. However this does not easily address crab grass or clover. Reading a flyer, I noticed that Dr. Green is using Sarritor so I decided to check it out on the web. www.sarritor.ca states that Sarritor is a naturally occurring weed control product which was developed in collaboration with McGill University. Does anyone know more about it? Where can it be purchased by individuals?

Constitution

At the General Meeting held on Tuesday evening, August 12, 2009, at the South Common Community Centre, about 35 of our neighbours attended. The draft constitution had been circulated ahead of the meeting and six amendments were proposed before the meeting. At the meeting three more were proposed. All were discussed and approved. The draft and approved constitution – along with a report on the motions to amend the draft constitution are posted on our website.

Community Crime Awareness Day

"*Citizens In Action For Crime Prevention*" will be the focus of the 9th Annual Community Crime Awareness Day, which will be held on Saturday September 19, 2009 at the Living Arts Centre Park (300 Civic Centre Drive) Noon – 4 p.m. Free.
<http://www.peelpolice.on.ca>

Reporting Problems/Getting Help

We have added a new page on our website which will list resources we all can use to report problems or get assistance. The first two entries are for community policing and registering aircraft noise complaints.

Email Addresses/Your Neighbours

We currently have email addresses for about 70% of the homes in our area. We would like to approach 100%. You can help. Please ask your neighbours (on either side of you) if they receive these newsletters. If they don't, please ask them for their email address and send it to webmaster@sjhra.ca along with their names and house number/street name. We want to send our newsletters to all our ratepayers – please help your executive.

Golf Outing Anyone?

If anyone is interested a SJHRA golf outing, send an email to webmaster@sjhra.ca and use "Golf" in the subject field of your message.