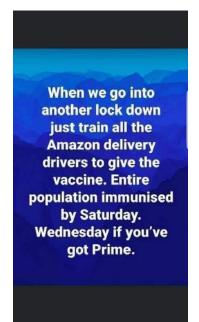




March 2021 Update

As we continue to distance ourselves from others, wear our masks and wash our hands may we stop to remember to connect with a family member, a friend and a person who would appreciate a chat. Meanwhile we anticipate our vaccines arrival soon and the opportunity to be together again.



\$50 Gift Certificates Donated by Sheppard East Village BIA

AVCA members are encouraged to shop or use a service on Sheppard Avenue between Midland Avenue to Markham Road. Thank you to the businesses of Sheppard East Village BIA for supporting AVCA. More \$50 Gift Certificates have been given to AVCA to be distributed to lucky members throughout 2021. *Let's continue to shop these local businesses if open for services, take out or parcel pick-up, and again when they open their doors!*

Ward 22 City Councillor Nick Mantas

Congratulations to Councillor Mantas our new councillor with whom AVCA works very closely. **City Hall Office:** 416-392-1374

Community Office: 416-321-2788

E-mail: councillor mantas@toronto.ca

Community Office Address: 3850 Finch Avenue East, Unit G7, Scarborough

(Office is currently closed for in-person appointments)

Subscribe to Councillor Mantas e-mailing list by sending an e-mail to hello@nickmantas.com

Stouffville Corridor Train Noise and Noise Wall Concerns

AVCA continues to voice to Metrolinx, the concerns of residents living along the train tracks between Sheppard Avenue to Finch Avenue. Train noise from diesel engines, brakes and bells remain detrimental to residents' health as db levels for the train increase are above acceptable World Health Organization db levels. Virtual meetings are ongoing, the latest in December 2020 and again in February 2021 with Randy MacDougall and Rhoda Potter pressing Metrolinx for valid noise testing and appropriate noise mitigation. AVCA's discussions will continue. You are encouraged to address your concerns regarding train noise to torontoeast@metrolinx.com.

Agincourt GO Station

Our new station will be opening very soon. Our station - loved by the Agincourt Adopt-A-Station Committee and our community - is no longer. This station had to be removed for installation of the second west train track. Though not yet operational, two pedestrian tunnels under the tracks have been installed for access at the north end of the tracks and at the station to the south. AVCA is working to have improvements made to the lighting and pathway access to the station. Landscaping, installation of two staircases on the north sidewalk of Sheppard Avenue and completion of the noise walls hopefully will happen soon. Agincourt GO Station completion is scheduled for Fall 2021 – those living close to the station are anxiously waiting for that day! Check out Agincourt Station stories in the *news* on our website <u>www.avcatoronto.ca</u>.

Note: Closure of Marilyn-Lockie Avenues Pedestrian Pathway

<u>Tentatively March 8-15, 2021</u> Metrolinx will close this well-used pathway which is frequented by school children and commuters. Metrolinx will be distributing information regarding the closure of this pathway. This closure is to accommodate the supports for the noise wall to be installed. During this time, the north sidewalk on Sheppard Avenue between the Agincourt GO Station entrance and Agincourt Drive will be reopened. *Please make arrangements during this time as the walk will increase by a kilometer or more for some pedestrians*.

Community Safety & 42 Police Division

On January 27, 2021, a virtual Community Safety Townhall was held with many residents in attendance. Residents are reminded to lock cars in driveways, leave porch lights on at night and look before opening doors to unknown persons. Never keep your smart fob near the front door or in a room that is near your driveway. If you like to keep keys at the front door, store them in a metal container. The metal acts as a barrier which interrupts radio signals to and from the smart fob. If you are out of town for a period of time, make sure someone is collecting your mail and removing the snow from the driveway and sidewalks. Police are also recommending external surveillance cameras or doorbell cameras be installed to further protect your property.

Our Community Officers Sergeant Julie Evans and Sergeant Renato Valdez are assigned to our community and 42 Division patrols in our area have been increased. AVCA continues to be in touch with 42 Division Community Police Liaison Committee, Shelter Support Services at The Delta and our neighbours at Metrogate on Village Green Square.

WhatsApp AVCA Neighbourhood Watch

Let's help each other and help 42 Division as well. Keeping an "eye" out for unusual happenings and reporting them to 311, 416 808-2222 or online at <u>torontopolice.ca</u> ensures a safe community for all. We are fortunate to have members who participate in our new WhatsApp AVCA Neighbourhood Watch. To join send an email to <u>avcatoronto@gmail.com</u> and include your cell number. We are proud of our close-knit community as one neighbor describes us – "a hidden village."

Safety Concerns on Lockie Avenue at Agincourt JPS

Many residents are very concerned for safety of children at the drop off time 8:30-9:00 am in front of Agincourt JPS during schooldays. *Parents please observe the No Stopping and No Parking signs!* Parking is available on side streets. 42 Division Parking Division has been alerted and will be issuing tickets to those who stop or park illegally and create an unsafe situation for children. Soon Donalda Cresent at Lockie Avenue will become a four way stop. AVCA has been in touch with Toronto District School Board Staff and our Councillor to discuss strategies to create a safer entry to the school.

Havendale Park & Donalda Park

Scarborough Parks, Forestry and Recreation has proposed changes to our two parks. Thank you to the many residents who have responded to the survey. The deadline for response has been extended to March 5, 2021. If you have not already done so please respond at:

Donalda – toronto.ca/DonaldaParkFitness Havendale – Toronto.ca/HavendaleParkPlayground

Where are we?

As you walk, snowshoe or cross-country ski through our neighbourhood you may happen upon the following:



If you guessed Tam O'Shanter Golf Course – you are correct! The golf course parking lot is open, washrooms are available and the scenery is refreshing! Send in your photos to **AVCA on Instagram:** /avcatoronto.

New Scarborough Co-op Market

A tip from an AVCA member - https://www.scarbcoopmarket.org/

The market is located at West Scarborough Community Centre at 313 Pharmacy Ave. The vegetables were great and inspiring. They deliver for \$2. in Scarborough. You order online between Saturday and Tuesday and delivery happens on Friday.

Membership Has Advantages - 2021 AVCA Membership

Thank you to the many residents who have paid their 2021 membership! Your names have been entered into the draw for March, April and May 2021 \$50 gift certificates.

As previously decided AVCA requests \$20 per household per year. These monies pay for meeting room rentals, printing flyers, business cards, signage, website host, Zoom membership, and various expenses. AVCA usually begins collecting our next year's membership at the AGM which was not possible this year. Cash or cheque *payable to Agincourt Village Community Association* can be dropped off to President Rhoda Potter, *38 Agincourt Drive, Scarborough M1S 1M3*.

AVCA Executive and AVCA Website

The AVCA Executive is working on behalf of our community as various changes, issues and impacts arise. Please check out our website at <u>www.avcatoronto.ca</u>. Please contact the Executive at <u>avcatoronto@gmail.com</u>.