

SAHRA eBlast – Mar 16 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Councillor Mike Colle is publishing Coronavirus Updates – see the attached. Listed below are websites and contact info for Telehealth and Public Health.

For Information:

www.toronto.ca/coronavirus - Contains regular city updates with information on how to protect yourself, virus symptoms and treatment.

www.ontario.ca/coronavirus - Contains twice-daily, province-wide updates on COVID-19.

www.canada.ca/coronavirus - Contains information on the federal response to COVID-19 and travel advice.

For questions:

Telehealth Ontario

For medical advice, you may contact Telehealth Ontario, a free, confidential service. A Registered Nurse will take your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Telephone: 1-866-797-0000

Toronto Public Health Hotline

Telephone: 416-338-7600

TTY: 416-392-0658

Email: PublicHealth@toronto.ca

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m. (closed on statutory holidays) / Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Translation is available in many languages.

Emergency After Hours

To report a public health emergency after hours and on statutory holidays, ask for the on-call Public Health Manager.

Telephone: 311 (416-392-2489)

Crime Update for our Area

The Upper Avenue Community Association (UACA) and the South Armour Heights Residents' Association (SAHRA) jointly participate in a Safety Committee covering the City of Toronto's Bedford Park-Nortown (BPN) Neighbourhood. Our two residents' associations cover 90% of this City neighbourhood. One of the goals of our Committee is to ensure that residents are kept informed on crime metrics for our area.

Since 2019 we have analyzed a great deal of crime data provided by Toronto Police Service (TPS). The data have illustrated that our two main areas of concern are "break and enter" and "auto theft".

We have now posted crime data on our website. This data will be updated monthly. Under the Information/Crime Prevention page (<https://sahراتoronto.com/information/crime-prevention/>) you will find the file Crime Data 2019 to end Feb 2020, which is attached. It contains information on:

1. Break and enter by month in 2019 and 2020 year to date.
2. Auto theft by month for 2019 and 2020 year to date.
3. Raw data showing incidents by major street intersection
4. Historical data on break and enter and auto theft by year (# of incidents)
5. Commentary

If you had a break and enter to your home and it is not listed in our raw data and you did report, it would be appreciated if you could email info@sahراتoronto.com so we can follow up with TPS.

THE GOOD NEWS!

Break and enter in 2019 was down approximately 50% over 2018 and is the lowest it has been over the past 6 years. (December data for 2019 was missed as TPS removed it from their website before we could tabulate - it will be added in April 2020 when the full year's data for 2019 becomes available again). For 2020, we continue to be trending **VERY POSITIVELY**. The data show 1 break and enter in January and ZERO in February.

(Note: There was one incident mentioned on social media that is not evident in the TPS data. We are following up with the person who posted).

For auto theft, although 2019 was down compared to 2018, as we move into 2020, we are trending upward. Historically it goes up and down and continues to be an opportunity. We have had 5 in total for January and February. If these levels continue, we will exceed 2019. The "historical data" sheet in the PDF file on our website illustrates our incident history with both categories.

Community Police Liaison Committee

Each of our Committee members is a member of the 32 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC). This committee meets monthly at 32 Division. Most months we will issue an email with notes of these meetings. They have allowed us to develop a relationship with Management at 32 Division as well as discuss what we are seeing in our area. It has been very positive.

Your Input is Requested:

We have been asked by 32 Division to identify what we feel are the top 3 burning issues for our neighbourhood. **WE WOULD LIKE YOUR INPUT**. Examples would include break and enters, theft, traffic safety, robberies etc.

If you would like to input, please email your response to info@sahراتoronto.com by **Saturday March 21st**. We will compile all the responses and update later in March.

Neighbourhood Watch Online Program:

In June of 2019, we launched our Neighbourhood Watch Online program. To date we have approximately 20 Group Captains covering a street or portion of a street in our area. It is a great program and we encourage people to get involved. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WORKS!** We provide training and assistance in getting set up. If you are willing to be a Group Captain for your street/portion

of street, or want to learn more about it, please email Bedfordparknortownwo@gmail.com.

For those who have signed up for Neighbourhood Watch, we would like to thank you. We believe the program is making a difference. We would like to really encourage others to participate. Safety is a community wide effort.

“Night Activity”:

We realize that our area (and the entire GTA) is experiencing a significant amount of “night activity”. Knowing about this activity is largely due to the amount of technology in use in our area (home cameras). By night activity, we are referring to people engaging in petty theft on your outside property. For the most part, this involves a person trying to open car doors. They are successful when the door is **unlocked** We have been working with TPS and in the next month will provide an update.

Safety Committee

Upper Avenue Community Association and South Armour Heights Residents’ Association

Updates from the Community Police Liaison Committee

Two members from SAHRA attend the monthly meetings of the Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) with 32 Division. The following are updates from the February, 2020 meeting:

Bank Robberies – The city was seeing a string of bank robberies over the past couple of months- 26 at last count. The perpetrators were heavily armed and would approach in the last hour of operation on a given day. As a result of this, several banks in the City including on Avenue Road, placed security guards at the front entrance. Recently the Police made several arrests relating to these bank robberies but work still continues.

Speed Enforcement Cameras – Cameras are being placed in 5 areas of 32 Division. The starting locations were focused on school zones in an effort to improve driving habits in these areas. School zones (speeding, illegal parking) continue to be a challenge.

Auto Theft at Yonge/Finch Transit lot – a high number of cars were being stolen from this lot. Undercover Police were positioned at the lot (continues to be ongoing). Arrests have been made relating to these thefts and 9 cars were recovered. The cars were being transferred to Montreal and loaded on containers for shipment overseas. The investigation is still ongoing.

Crime data – Key metrics:

Two of the key metrics we monitor for the Neighbourhood Watch Online program in our area, is break and enter and auto theft. We have placed on the Upper Avenue Community Association website, crime data for these two categories for all of 2019 and 2020 YTD. Each month we will post updated monthly data. This information is also discussed at the monthly CPLC meeting.

- Break and Enters are down over same period 2019 and 2018 for all of 32 Division. In our area, they are down considerably over 2018. (please see relevant data on website).
- Auto-theft is on the rise and is up over 2019. Auto theft has become very sophisticated with technology being used to enter vehicles. Several arrests were made in an auto theft organized crime ring however those arrested are quickly replaced with new people and the activity continues. Cars are

being stolen and shipped from Montreal via containers overseas. Lexus continues to be the #1 stolen vehicle make.

- Zero homicides YTD in 32 Division and zero in 2019. Across all 16 TPS Divisions in the GTA, only 2 had ZERO homicides in 2019 – 32 Division (our area) and 55 Division (the beaches). All other divisions had a minimum of 3 and a high of 9. We will continue to track this metric city wide as we move through 2020.

Additional Safety Update:

Event on Brookdale – February 16th-Recently there was mention on Next Door social media app regarding a break and enter on Sunday February 16th at 3:00 p.m. in the vicinity of Grey and Brookdale. We inquired about this incident at the CPLC meeting. What occurred was an outside robbery resulting from a social media purchase and sale. The meeting point for the purchase was in the vicinity of Avenue Road and Brookdale. When the purchaser approached the seller, they grabbed the goods and fled. Police were called and searched the area. No arrests were made.

Membership Contribution Campaign 2020

The 2020 campaign for Membership contributions was initiated on Feb 4. We need your financial support! We have a population of 823 households – last year 122 households contributed (15%) whereas we have 506 subscribers to our eBlasts (61%). We hope that you find our eBlasts informative and helpful such that you would be willing to support our costs. We have on-line payment capability on our website or you can mail/drop off a cheque. Please see the attached Membership Form for links and details.

Avenue Road interchange landscaping

We have been advised by the Ministry of Transportation Ontario that as the Avenue Road bridge replacement project is nearing completion, landscaping and cleanup is to be completed in Fall 2020. The Avenue Road interchange landscaping plan includes new trees and shrubs plantings within the interchange area. MTO is working with the Highway of Heroes Living Tribute for the last few years to implement their plan. The new landscaping will give us an improved gateway to our Upper Avenue.

Community Events:

Some of these events have been or may be cancelled due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation...please contact the event organizer to find out if the event has been cancelled.

PENDING Annual Book Sale

Fairlawn Avenue United Church (416-481-6848) will be holding their annual Book Sale with a huge selection of good quality books, vintage vinyl, CDs and DVDs on the following dates:

Thursday, April 23 6:00-9:00 pm
Friday, April 24 12:00-9:00 pm
Saturday, April 25 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE **Yoga with Erin**

Free yoga classes with Erin Stone on **Sunday mornings at 8:30 am**. See the attached for dates in March. Contact estone@armourheights.org or call 416-485-4000.

CANCELLED **Lunch & Learn – The Luck O’ The Irish**

Before pubs and St. Patrick, beyond leprechauns and shamrocks, join us for this exciting presentation by Lianne Harris sponsored by Mosaic and Armour Heights Presbyterian Church on **Tuesday, March 17 12:00-2:00 pm**. A journey into the history of the people and land of Ireland. RSVP to 416-485-4000 or estone@armourheights.org.

COMMUNITY CENTRE IS CLOSED **POINT'S Senior Walking Club**

POINT's Senior Walking Club is a biweekly event occurring Tuesday and Friday mornings at 11am at the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre indoor track. It is a great opportunity to stay active during the winter months, socialize with your peers and increase your agility and mobility. No matter your fitness level, all are welcome. If you have any chronic medical conditions, please check with your physician before attending sessions. For more information and to register please call 416-487-2390. Location: 200 Eglinton Ave W (at Lascelles blvd) 2 blocks west of Eglinton subway station.

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE **Lunch & Learn – Exploring Medical Cannabis**

Pharmacist Cinzia Cifarelli will discuss this complex botanical compound including the risks, benefits, stigma and much, much more at this Lunch & Learn at Armour Heights Presbyterian Church on **Tuesday, April 21 from 12:00-2:00 pm**. RSVP to 416-485-4000 or estone@armourheights.org.

Watermain Replacement

The City of Toronto is planning to replace the watermain and the City-owned portion of substandard water services **on YONGE BLVD FROM WILSON AVENUE TO SANDRINGHAM DRIVE** during the months of March and April 2020. This project is part of the Council-approved 2019 Capital Works Program to renew our aging infrastructure, improve water distribution and reduce the risk of watermain breaks.