

# Living in Mississauga

## The Real Estate Market Watch

Spring 2015

### City of Mississauga Passes Future-Focused 2015 Budget

The City of Mississauga's 2015 budget will see local homeowners' property taxes increase by 2.2 per cent - with 1.3 per cent going to the City and 0.9 per cent to Peel Region - but according to the city's mayor and top manager, that extra cash will be instrumental in improving the desirability and value of Mississauga's neighbourhoods.

The city's key priorities for 2015 include investments in public transit, community centres, and neighbourhood safety initiatives - reflecting an emphasis on not only maintaining, but improving, public services available to residents of the city.

"Mississauga's 2015 Budget is a solid financial blueprint for our thriving city, and our promising future," said Mayor Bonnie Crombie shortly after the budget passed through council on February 11.

"Together, we have put forward a fiscally-responsible, balanced budget that respects taxpayers' hard-earned money, while safeguarding important investments for public transit, community centres and neighbourhood safety."



#### Mississauga Library poised to grow collection, overhaul two branches

An ambitious plan to increase the Mississauga Library's collection of materials by almost \$1 annually, per resident, by 2018, will begin to receive its first increases of funding in 2015. The collection currently consists of 1.7 items per capita - a total of roughly 1.27 million items.

Additionally, the continuing renovation of the Meadowvale Community Centre - which began in 2014 and is scheduled to continue through 2015 - includes construction of a brand-new library branch (replacing the one currently located at Meadowvale Town Centre).

#### Continued Work on the MiWay Transitway and Connecting Express Routes

Scheduled for full completion in 2017, the Mississauga Transitway is a dedicated rapid bus route, operated by MiWay, which runs mostly along Highway 403 and has been covered in two previous editions of Living in Mississauga.

While the project's first phase officially opened for business in November 2014, and currently provides service between Central Parkway and Tomken, the Transitway's second phase - which will extend the line to Winston Churchill Boulevard in the West, and Erin Mills Parkway in the east - will continue to be one of the city's major construction priorities in 2015. In addition to funding new express routes along the Transitway, the city's 2015 budget funding will also add 41,000 MiWay service hours, in order to meet growing demand from an increasingly eco-friendly population.



Alan Cheung\*\* - Manager  
Mississauga Branch



Thiet Tran\*



Sheldon Tsui\*



Andrew Chiang\*



Wei Guan\*



Susanna Kwok\*



Terrance C P Wong\*\*



Donna Mak\*



Frank Cheung\*



Helen Meng\*



Ken Tong\*



Kiew Mun Wong\*



Cindy Tu\*



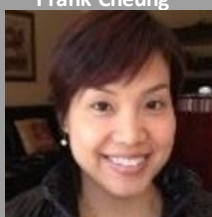
Alfred Lee\*



Alice Wong\*



Nixon Lau\*



Kola Lee\*



Naidan Wang\*



Paul Cheung\*

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Stronger traffic management through cutting-edge technology

For those who prefer to get around by car, the city also recently began working on a \$14.8-million Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS). Scheduled for completion in 2017, this state-of-the-art integrated network will be connected to all 757 of the city’s traffic lights.

Designed to replace a current traffic signal control system that is now 30 years old, the brand-new ATMS will utilize modernized tools such as traffic monitoring cameras, sensors, and vehicle detectors in order to help ease gridlock across the city - making its neighbourhoods more accessible, and easing the commute for residents.

Research for this article was completed using publicly-available budget details obtained at <http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/budget>, where you can also find information on additional projects and expenditures all over the city.

Prime Minister Harper Celebrates Chinese New Year in Mississauga

In Mississauga’s multicultural community, the beginning of the Chinese Lunar New Year is always a cause for special events all over the community. This year, one local celebration to kick off the Year of The Ram received a memorable honour: a visit and speech from Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Harper was joined by cabinet minister Jason Kenney and Brad Butt, MP for Mississauga Streetsville, in attending the Fo Guang Shan Temple of Toronto’s Chinese New Year Festival on Friday, February 20th (one day after the official start of the Year of The Ram).

After receiving the special gift of a personalized name scroll – a traditional Chinese art form dating back thousands of years – recognized the important contributions of Chinese-Canadians in communities like Mississauga.

“I would be hard-pressed to overstate the tremendous contributions that are being made by Canadians of Chinese ancestry, not just today but throughout our history,” Harper told the crowd.

“As we think about the times to come, you can be confident that our Government shares your optimism for this country and that we too believe there is an exciting future of expanding trade, growth, and development that lies before all of us as Canadians. As we ring in the Year of the Sheep, let us unite to wish us harmony, prosperity and success.”

The Year of the Sheep continues until February 8, 2016, which will mark the start of the Year of the Monkey.

IMAGE CAPTION: Prime Minister Stephen Harper, joined by Jason Kenney, Minister of National Defence and Minister for Multiculturalism, Brad Butt, Member of Parliament for Mississauga-Streetsville, and Abbess Venerable Yungku, delivers remarks during the 2015 Chinese New Year Festival at the Fo Guang Shan Temple of Toronto. (PMO photo by Jason Ransom)



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The Colours of Emerald City is a new condo development by Elad Canada currently in preconstruction at Sheppard Avenue East & Don Mills Road in Toronto. The development is scheduled for completion in 2017. Sales for available units start in the mid \$200,000's.



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Alan Cheung, Broker  
Manager - Mississauga Branch  
(905) 896-0002  
alancheung@livingrealty.com



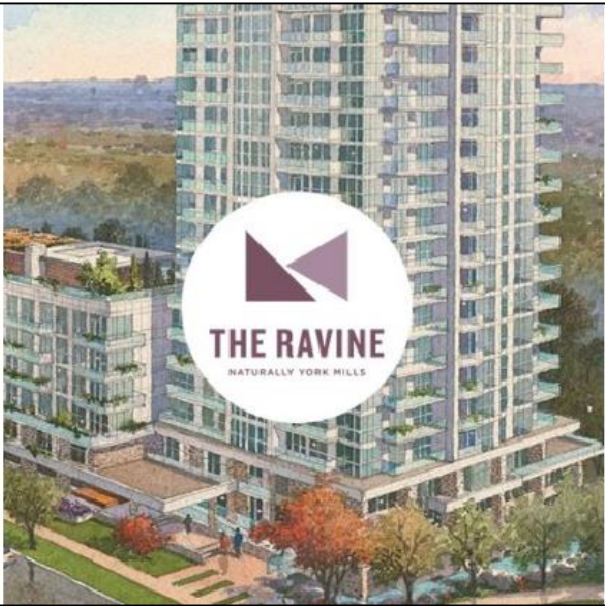




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