

Congratulations

Mayor Dave Ryan

Now go fishing !

You can't change the people around you, but you can change the people around you

Vol. 9 Issue 5

MAY

May 2022

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A salute to Mayor Dave Ryan:



Thank you and congratulations Mr. Mayor !



Snippets, messages and notes relating to Mayor Dave Ryan

Mayor Dave,

'Like a good neighbour!' All politicians should emulate Mayor Dave.

When my Scottie, Fermo, and I do our nightly promenade, often we meet Mayor Dave doing his nightly walk with his wife and some grandchildren. He always stops to exchange pleasantries, nothing deep, nothing political...just "How ya doings" and "How are yas." It may be light conversation but it has meaning. The mayor engages us as if he was a next door neighbour, a short conversation, but it's a highlight of the walk.

Arguably, the most important man in the city in terms of political power, public recognition having a conversation with a relative nobody and the conversation is meaningful, the mayor names, Fermo's name and even what we talked about last encounter.

More politicians should be like Mayor Dave, owning a dog and walking the pet through their neighbourhood encountering the voters as neighbours. This is a politician I not only like, but who I respect highly: no scandals, no corruption, no embarrassments. He seems to be a down-to-earth, honest man who cares about his family and his neighbours.

As Spock on Star Trek would say,

"Mayor Dave....Live long and prosper."

Richard S.

Mayor Dave,

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to Mayor Ryan for proudly serving the residents of Pickering for twenty-eight years, nineteen of those as Mayor. His dedication, commitment and love of our city has been unwavering and he's always done what was in the best interest of the residents. Through Mayor Ryan's leadership, integrity, enthusiasm and optimism, Pickering has thrived and grown. His vision for the City of Pickering's redevelopment has set us on a path that will ensure that Pickering continues to be a world-class city. I personally have benefitted from Mayor Ryan's mentorship and we have all learned from his innovative and inspiring leadership. I know he will continue to have an impact on the City of Pickering long after he retires. It has been an honour and a privilege working with Mayor Ryan.

I wish him all the best as he begins a new chapter with Anne and his family.

Kevin Ashe

Mayor Dave,

Following the Mayor's announcement that he will not seek another term we are going to hear many comments about the Mayor being a wonderful community booster, a visionary leader, and an excellent representative of resident for his 28 years serving on Council. All of these accolades are true and well deserved. However, I though I would focus on a different perspective, Dave Ryan the person. I have known Dave and Anne about 30 years, during that time we have been guests in each other's homes and got to know each other's families. Dave and Anne are a wonderful couple and have a wonderful family that they love to talk about, they enjoy their time with their children and grandchildren and speak about them often. I note on the evening of Dave's announcement not to run again, he first noted it was also their wedding anniversary that same evening and he thanked Anne for all her love and support over the years. I recall my wife and I going over to the Dave and Anne's home one day for a BBQ, Dave was in shorts and sandals on his deck watching and playing with their grandchildren and their dog. You could see Dave's and Anne's facing light up with smiles as they enjoyed some down time with all the kids. I trust and hope this is how they will enjoy their time at the end of this Council term. Oh, and by the way, Dave and Anne are great hosts and he's magic on the BBQ., Anne is a wonderful conversationalist and cook, a delicious meal and some cold beverages, and great friendships were enjoyed that day.

Dave Pickles



Mayor Dave,

On our daily walk, we occasionally meet Mayor Dave Ryan, and have an enjoyable exchange, a friendly neighborhood chat. It's always a pleasant encounter to meet the mayor outside of city offices.

Enjoy retirement in the company of your family, friends and Riley.

Na Gi

Other bits and bytes...

Nearly two decades, almost twenty years, Dave Ryan has been part of the City of Pickering's political council. Like Abraham Lincoln, Ryan suffered defeat before successfully winning an elected office. He struck political gold in 1994 and again in '97, 2000. Then, he hit the bull's eye in 2003, become Mayor.

Since becoming Mayor, he has seen many city projects come to realization:

- ☐ Frenchman's Bay Harbour Entrance reconstruction
- ☐ new Fire Headquarters
- ☐ world's longest enclosed pedestrian bridge
- ☐ Durham Live
- ☐ securing \$7.8M in non-tax gaming revenue for the City via Pickering Casino Resort
- ☐ Seaton
- ☐ world-class businesses relocating to the Innovation Corridor
- ☐ Canada's largest filming backlot
- ☐ Pickering Soccer Centre
- ☐ expansion of high-speed broadband across the city
- ☐ state-of-the art Operations Centre
- ☐ Durham College/Centennial College Joint Learning Centre
- ☐ Mayor's Gala raising \$2.6M for the Ajax-Pickering hospital
- ☐ Canadian Centre for Nuclear Sustainability
- ☐ Jerry Coughlan Health & Wellness Centre

What a list!

A 28-year political career with no scandals, no embarrassments, no corruption tainted issues. He has been a model for politicians to emulate. A man of the people who worked for his constituents, ceaselessly, cleanly and consistently.

He leaves office

He retires with many projects still on Pickering's 'to do' or 'to be completed' lists: more industries; ongoing lobbying for a hospital; housing development and growth, continued modernization and municipalization of the City.

Ryan's retirement is a bitter-sweet end in the City's history. We lose a great major, a

great city councillor and a great politician. However, his departure is an opportunity for new people to consider stepping into the office of Mayor. Stepping into Ryan's shoes may be underselling his career, but they are shoes that a new major should use on his/her path as the new Mayor of Pickering.

As for Dave Ryan, we wish him the very best in his retirement, health, energy and vigour in living the new chapter in his life.

Farewell Mr. Mayor.

Source: City of Pickering News Release

After a 28-year career in municipal politics, 19 of which spent as Pickering's longest serving mayor, Mayor Dave Ryan announced at last night's City Council meeting that he has decided to officially retire at the end of this term of office when the new Council is sworn in on November 21st.

For nearly three decades, Mayor Ryan has provided strong, steady, progressive, and visionary leadership helping Pickering evolve from a little bedroom community into a dynamic, diverse, thriving, and sustainable city.

During his mayoralty, the City has seen many key and transformational projects come into realization, including the Frenchman's Bay Harbour Entrance reconstruction; new Fire Headquarters; the world's longest enclosed pedestrian bridge; Durham Live; securing \$7.8M in non-tax gaming revenue for the City via Pickering Casino Resort; Seaton; world-class businesses relocating to the Innovation Corridor; Canada's largest filming backlot; Pickering Soccer Centre; the expansion of high-speed broadband across the city; the state-of-the art Operations Centre; the Durham College/Centennial College Joint Learning Centre; the Mayor's Gala raising \$2.6M for the Ajax-Pickering hospital; the Canadian Centre for Nuclear Sustainability; and the Jerry Coughlan Health & Wellness Centre, to name a few.

In addition to the quote below, Mayor Ryan has penned a fulsome and heartfelt 'open letter to residents', which can be read in the digital edition of Pickering's Your City Magazine [here](#).

Quote:

“It has been an absolute honour and privilege to serve the residents, businesses, community groups, and stakeholders of this great city. Looking at Pickering’s evolution, I can’t help but marvel at all that we have accomplished together.

Pickering is recognized as one of Ontario’s elite municipalities, and with that knowledge, I am choosing to step away from my role as mayor after this term so that I can focus exclusively on my health and most importantly, my family.

This was not an easy decision to make, as my heart and soul is still fully invested in our community. However, I am at peace with my decision to step down, as I am fully confident that my Colleagues on Council, our CAO, and dedicated staff will continue the leading work we are doing in building a more modern, vibrant, progressive, and inclusive city.

I have so many fond memories to look back on, but what truly made my time as mayor special was getting to know so many of you. I have enjoyed all of our interactions, chats, discussions, and meetings that we’ve shared, whether it was in a boardroom, at a community event, shopping at a local store, or just out in the community. These wonderful moments are indelibly etched into my being.

From the bottom of my heart – thank you and God bless!”

Mayor Dave Ryan

Source: Pickering’s Your City Magazine

A open letter Pickering Residents

My Dear Friends and Neighbours,

Serving the City of Pickering as your Mayor for the past 19 years has been one of the greatest privileges of my life. But as many of you are now aware, I will be stepping down at the end of this term of office.

This has been one of the most difficult decisions that I’ve ever had to make.

Many hours of personal contemplation and discussion with family and close friends have led me to the conclusion that after 28 years of serving our community, it is time to focus exclusively on my health and most importantly, my family.

My first political decision in 1991 was equally as difficult. You see, I had never imagined entering politics. At that time, I was active in my community and on the board of our local community association. When approached by association members to run for local Council, I was honoured, but declined, as Anne and I were busy raising a family and we both held jobs we enjoyed.

However, they were very persistent in their efforts, and increasingly, I felt an obligation to answer the call of civic duty. With Anne's support I agreed to run for Council, but unfortunately lost that first try. However, with the continued encouragement of the community I ran successfully in 1994, and again in 1997 and 2000. In 2003, I retired from a 33-year career at IBM when I was voted in as Mayor. With your support I have served in that capacity for 5 consecutive terms and over 19 years. THANK YOU!

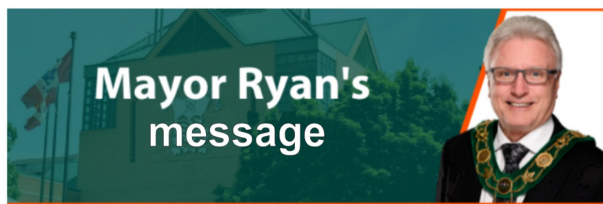
This all began, because my family and I had an emotional investment in this place we called home. We actively participated in our community and paid attention to and engaged in issues that we felt were important

I want to thank you and encourage you and your neighbours to become actively engaged in die civic discourse and more importantly, take the time to vote. I cannot overstate the importance of voting, and I believe that we have a personal obligation to exercise this fundamental democratic right Each of us makes a difference in the fabric of our community either by what we do or don't do.

I want to make a special call out to our diverse communities and those equity-seeking individuals to become actively involved in municipal government by either joining a municipal committee or running for Council_ City Hall needs to better represent the community it serves and with your active involvement, it can 'Pickering Proud' is not just a slogan to me It embodies everything that has energized me, motivated my commitment, and anchored my resolve Over the years, you, my Council colleagues, and the wonderful Pickering staff have embarked on an epic journey that has seen our home, our Pickering, evolve from a suburban town, and a little bedroom community into an active, thriving, ambitious city looking to the future.

Mayor Dave Ryan

City Desk



Normally, we include a message from Mayor Ryan in this section of the newsletter. This month, we are replacing his message our dedication to him as he announces his retirement.

Mayor Ryan we salute you and wish you the very best in your well-earned and well-deserved retirement.

**Councillor Maurice Brenner
City Councillor Ward 1**



Councillor Maurice Brenner writes...

Have you ever asked yourself what's easier, focusing on what's bad or focusing on what's good in our lives.

With all the negative in the news, this month I want to focus on all that's good. OK, it snowed last week, but within hours the sun was back out and the fresh powder on the ground disappeared. Spring is here and summer is awaiting.

Positive 1:

The Declaration of Emergency has been lifted in Pickering, and our Facilities are fully Open. Our long-awaited renovation of the Chestnut Hill Development Recreation Centre is complete and an official ribbon cutting will take place on **May 14th, 10:30 am.**

Positive 2:

Pickering's trails are open, our beautiful waterfront is our jewel, Enjoy a brisk walk, great for the heart while fantasizing about being on a tropical Island. Soon, you will see a buzz of work as we start preparing for the construction of Permanent Washrooms Approved for Frenchman's Bay West. These washrooms to be located north of the Beachpoint Promenade Parking lot are to be opened in early fall and are being designed to be accessible all year.

Positive 3:

CRA (Canada Revenue Season) ended in April with you being obligated to file your T1 Tax Return.

Positive 4:

The 2022, \$525 Pickering Property Tax Grant for eligible Seniors and Persons with disabilities has been implemented. To learn more about how to apply, click: [HERE](#)

Positive 5:

The long-awaited NEW Pickering Pickering Animal Shelter is in the final planning stages. Designs will be completed later this year followed by a groundbreaking. The Shelter will be a state-of-the art facility for the temporary housing of lost and abandoned pets and rehoming through adoption. It will be a showplace focusing on sustainability such as geothermal heating, solar power generation, green roof and all-wood construction. The interior will include socialization zones to enable assessments of cats, a stimulation area for dogs including exercise runs along with education/training rooms providing forums on topics such as responsible pet ownership.

As they say:

Life is short. Why not focus on what's good in our lives.

Maurice Brenner
Councillor Ward 1
Pickering

Councillor Christine Doody-Hamilton writes...

**Councillor Christine Doody-
Hamilton**

City Councillor Ward 2



cdoody-hamilton@pickering.ca

Hello everyone,

“April showers bring May flowers”, or so the expression goes!

April has been cold, mostly overcast, and we even had big, fluffy snowflakes on April 18th! Not what I expect from Spring!

As City Councillor for Ward 2, I have had a lot of interaction lately with residents regarding potholes. Yes, once the snow finally melts, the damage to our neighbourhood streets is evident. They are a nuisance and a safety hazard, so if potholes are a problem on your street, please call *Pickering Customer Care* (905-683-7575). Still, I do love this time of year, because the days are progressively warmer, the days are progressively longer, and all the buds are coming out! We are already harvesting onions and chives from our backyard garden. And in our front yard, our perennials are starting to pop up: chamomile, and who would have guessed – petunias!



My nephew's wife, Linda, is an artist and a florist, and she creates beautiful 3-dimensional paper flowers. This Spring, she created a new line of miniatures contained in recycled Covid vaccine bottles. I love the purple Iris below. For me, the bottle symbolizes all we have had to endure these past two years, and the flower reminds me that we must always remain courageous and hopeful, because there is still beauty all around us, and Life will always find a way! If you like Linda's work, you can reach her at: <https://www.daydreamflowers.ca/>



Sincerely,

Councillor Christine

Political Stuff

Canadian campaign rallies...“how to sit on your hands...”



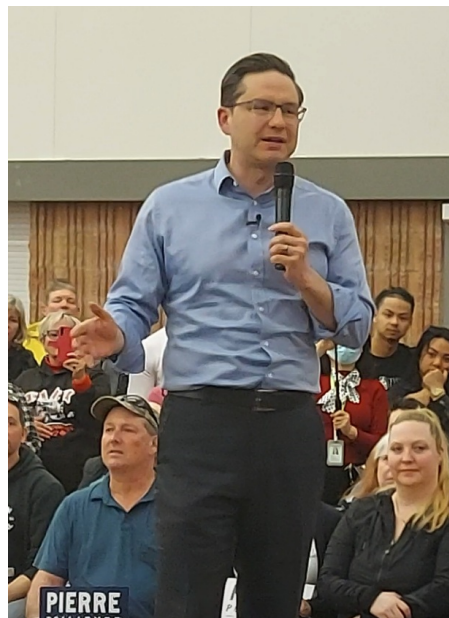
Political campaigns have changed since the days of Mackenzie King, Laurier and John A. But in many ways they have not: people assemble, hopes and expectations rise, candidates delay and stall entry to build anticipation, excitement, energy, and expectation. And the pfff...the hot air leaks out of the political balloon.

The crowd Pierre Poilievre political campaign rally at the City of Pickering’s recreation centre filled the meeting hall, about 2000 people, a decent crowd for a Friday night in small city Ontario. Media from CBC and Metroland News were trolling the crowd like media sharks hunting for sound bites.



Finally, a lead-off speaker, in this case, failed local federal Conservative candidate, Jacob Mantle, looking like a time traveler from the past, Haight-Ashbury, Woodstock perhaps. Mantle introduced the next speaker, local provincial Conservative MP, Collin Carrie.

Colin Carrie stumped out a few campaign promos to recruit more members for the Conservative Party, electors who will determine its next leader. Then, “without further adieu. . .’Your next Prime Minister, Pierre Poilievre.”

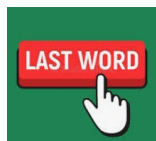


Pierre Poilievre is arguably the front runner for the leadership of the federal Conservative Party. His closest rival, Jean Charest’s expiry date may be passed. The other leadership hopefuls, though none should be dismissed, are not likely to obtain enough votes to displace Poilievre and Charest but one can treat unlikely possibilities lightly in politics.

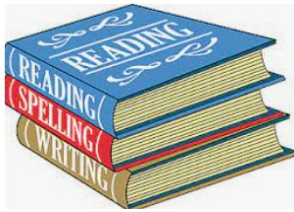
Poilievre has demonstrated a chameleon-like political face. He has been placed on both ends of the political spectrum, left and right. He has even been touted as Canada's version of Donald Trump.

Regardless of political labels, political spectrum positioning, Poilievre is a seasoned political pro. He has been around for years now, almost decades. Yet he looks young, energetic, fresh and charismatic. He seems to really have a winning image. But...other strong candidates with 'winning images' were unexpectedly shocked with losses in their leadership bids...Peter MacKay, Maxime Bernier. A pro like Poilievre knows not to assume anything in a political campaign.

Poilievre's speech contained the expected tropes of any 2022 political campaign: inflation, rising food costs, unreachable housing prices, gas prices, rising cost of living. Understandably Poilievre emphasized national issues rather than local ones but the content of what he said was not as important as its delivery. In that regard, Poilievre is a master.



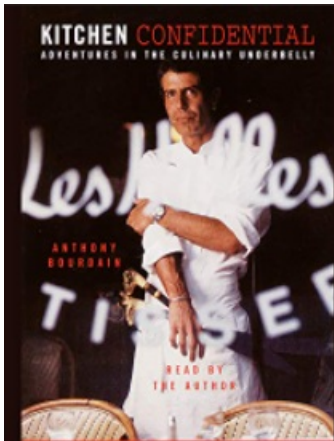
A curious observation: the crowd sat on its hands for much of this rally, particularly when the political leader failed to begin the rally punctually. Ten minutes, 15, 25...finally thirty minutes late, Poilievre took to the stage. Meanwhile, one lone person clapped a criticism but ignored by the crowd or maybe ostracized as being a nut-bar. A sad commentary on the acquiescence and submissiveness of Canadian voters.



BOOKz:

Recently read, recently reviewed...

Anthony Bourdain, Kitchen Confidential



Anthony Bourdain, renowned chef, raconteur, travel writer and cinematographer, suicide at 61 on June 8, 2018 in France while filming an episode his Emmy-winning *CNN* series “*Parts Unknown*.”

Synopsis, click: [Anthony](#)

Richard says:

Writing this review was challenging and very difficult as I find suicide very upsetting, very disturbing based on not understanding: *Why? Why? Why?*
To read more about what I think about this whole situation, click [Bourdain](#).

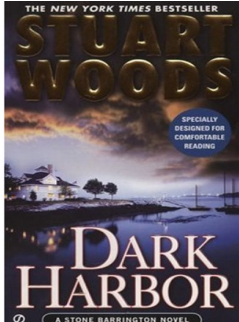


Jody Wilson-Raybould: ["Indian" in the Cabinet: Speaking Truth to Power](#)

Just started reading this book and my first impressions are this politician-author is writing with sincerity and honesty. She seems to be quite put off by Trudeau Junior, and maybe justifiably so as she may have been railroaded out of cabinet by taking an ethical stand against a political one.

The book also seems to praise Indigenous ethical values and

principles not just as being praiseworthy but also as ones all politicians should review and consider for incorporation into the political lives. *More next month.*



Stuart Woods has been one of my favourite authors for many years.

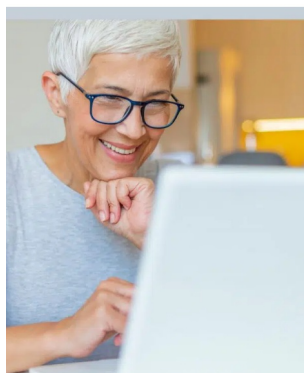
Dark Harbor is standard Stuart Woods. Listed as a New York Time Bestseller, it shouldn't be so listed unless its criteria and standards are in serious decline.

A murder mystery with the usual good dialogue and enjoyable engagement. No more, no less.

It's a decent time-waster that will entertain anyone who likes this genre of writing.



Computer Stuff

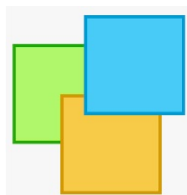


Seniors and technology

Oh give me a break...think like that, then leave. I refuse to think like that. I'm likely older than many of you but I am not sailing that "I'm too old to be able to do that" ship.

Still reading, good...then click Leo Notenboom's piece about seniors using technology: [LEO NOTENBOOM](#)

Source: [Leo Notenboom](#)



Notezilla

I have touted and promoted *Notezilla* for a long time now but I feel this promotion is very justifiable. The app is outstanding in so many ways: navigation, management of information, sophistication of data management. I belabor the point in promoting here but e a computer a lot? Archive a lot of material? Save many files somewhere on your computer? Then you should be using *Notezilla*, an electronic sticky notes application that will have you keeping records is a very manageable and practical way. Read our full review at [notezilla](#)



Writers' Stuff

My website has a special section in it dedicated to writers where more than 2 dozen tips are posted to help writers in their endeavours.

Writers deserve much respect and recognition. Every work they produce is the result of a lot of creative energy, great effort and consideration and much research and exploration.

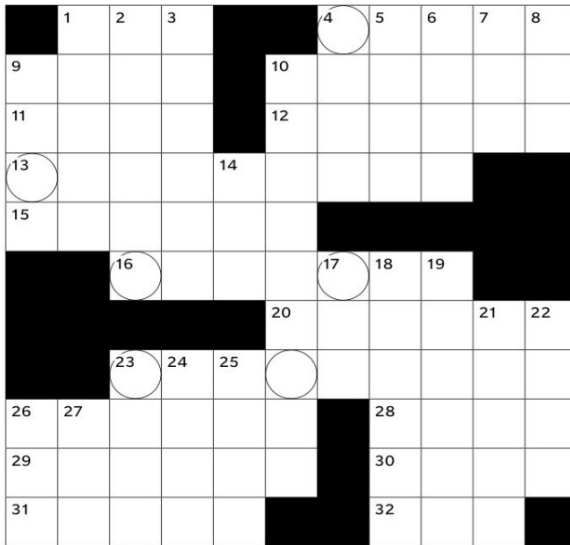
For more detail about my writers section, click [***Writers' Aid***](#)



FUN STUFF

Clock Wise

BY Barbara Olson



ACROSS

- 1 Lip on a glass
- 4 * ___ time (most viewed TV hours)
- 9 Prefix meaning "trillion"
- 10 Provides lodging
- 11 "___ a roll!"
- 12 B-flat equivalent
- 13 *Certain preachers
- 15 Banishes, as Napoleon
- 16 *Is fasting, sav

- 20 Montreal indie band ___ Fire
- 23 *No matter which topped tortilla chips
- 26 ___ Nenshi, former mayor of Calgary
- 28 Martin who directed *Norma Rae*
- 29 "___ we speak" (currently)
- 30 Articles in *Le Devoir*?

- 31 See 9-Down
- 32 Ramadan's wrap-up festival

DOWN

- 1 Song's update
- 2 Like "rain on your wedding day" in an Alanis Morissette hit
- 3 Type of brown envelope
- 4 Prepare to be shot?
- 5 German industrial valley
- 6 "Your guess ___ good..."
- 7 It's *bleu* in an atlas
- 8 Fortune teller's forte
- 9 With 31-Across, what the phrase formed by the starred answers helps you remember (Hint: see circles)
- 10 Display racks in a millinery shop
- 14 Ottawa NHLer, to fans
- 17 Significant period in history
- 18 Build up, as bank interest
- 19 Sesame-based paste
- 21 Fussed over, with "on"
- 22 Superlative suffixes
- 23 "Two owls and ___...": Edward Lear limerick line
- 24 Goose of Hawaii
- 25 Parliamentary yesses
- 26 Pince-___ (clip-on eyeglasses)
- 27 Main ingredient in guac

Source: [Readers Digest](#)



BY Jeff Widderich

8					3		9	7
	5			6				
	1				4		5	
5				9			6	8
2	9			4				5
	6		2				4	
				5			3	
4	8		7					2

SOLUTION

4	8	9	7	3	6	5	1	2
1	2	7	4	5	9	8	3	6
3	6	5	2	1	8	7	4	9
2	9	8	6	4	1	3	7	5
6	3	4	8	7	5	9	2	1
5	7	1	3	9	2	4	6	8
7	1	2	9	8	4	6	5	3
9	5	3	1	6	7	2	8	4
8	4	6	5	2	3	1	9	7

Source: Readers Digest



MONEY STUFF:

Publishing all this stuff costs money...
So we look for donations and ask you to visit z

OUR SUPPORTERS PAGE “Our Supporters Page” at [Supporters](#)



Writers Tool kit

Every writer should have a tool kit.

We offer you access at our

“Writers Kit” at [WRITERS TOOL KIT](#)



“WILL-mate”

A few years ago when my mother-in-law passed away, this **“WILL-MATE” (ESTATE ORGANIZER)** was a *Godsend*. All the contact information, the needed professionals, the essential services and the ‘must-do’ list were all in one place, easy to access, convenient to use and a tremendously useful assistance. Get more information about the “WILL-mate” (Estate Organizer) at [Estate Organizer](#)



Upcoming events

May 4 [Introduction to the Birds of Pickering - Webinar](#)

Wednesday, May 4, 2022 - 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Address: [Pickering, Ontario](#)

Many birds live in and around Pickering but how can one see them? Long time naturalist James Kamstra will present.

May 6 *Mom-osa Celebration* in Pickering. Click [MOM](#)

May 14 Click [Recreation Complex Grand Reopening](#), 10am - 4pm

May 28 Click [Compost giveaway](#), 8am - noon

Stay healthy, save and wear your mask.
Best,

Richard  & Fermo 

and the "Boss"

Be sure to visit our website  *at:* www.szpin.ca