

Spring and Summer Construction Season

by Anne McLaughlin

We've been dreaming of summer all winter, but construction season is a nightmare that shortly follows. Peel has a number of major projects in the works to ensure regional roads stay maintained. Other initiatives include the widening of roads and expansion of bridges to accommodate annual growth.

Gary Kocialek, Peel Transportation Director, said there is no silver bullet for eliminating disruption to road users. "We take steps to minimize those impacts by providing significant advance notice and by staging work to avoid lane closures where possible. Night work is not always an option when residential areas are factored in." One of Peel's highest priority projects

is the reconstruction and widening of Mayfield, from Bramalea to Airport Roads, which is expected to commence in June and will take two years to complete. "Widening roads alone will not solve our congestion problems. We need to use the infrastructure we have better. More than 80 percent of cars on the road only have a single occupant. Carpooling, transit, walking, and cycling where possible are great ways to save on your transportation costs, help reduce congestion, and get active," said Kocialek.

The George Bolton Parkway, in Caledon, will be reconstructed from Hwy 50 to Nixon Road. It will include minor repairs to storm sewers, replacement of curbs, and road reconstruction. The road will be resurfaced to include bicycle

lanes and a left turning lane. This road will be a fully urbanized industrial road that acts as a collector road between Coleraine Drive and Hwy 50. Temporary lane closures are expected, however, two-way traffic will be maintained.

The Province's Highway 401 expansion project includes adding HOV lanes, while widening the existing six lane configuration to 12 lanes from the Credit River to Winston Churchill Boulevard, 10 lanes from Winston Churchill Boulevard to Highway 407 ETR / Highway 401 interchange, 12 lanes from Highway 407 ETR / Highway 401 interchange to James Snow Parkway, and 10 lanes from the James Snow Parkway to Region Road 25.

Ontario is committing over \$2.1 billion to repair and expand provincial highways and bridges across the province.

Game Changer in the field of home inspections



understand how their homes work.

Parish says OAHI currently has a membership of over 500, of which over half have earned the designation of Registered Home Inspector. The designation is awarded after successful completion of a comprehensive program involving mentorship, education, report verification and completing, through self-apprenticeship, 200 paid home inspections of at least 600 hours.

All OAHI members pride themselves on providing educated, professional service to homebuyers and will continue to advise buyers on their purchase.

In its book, *How to Buy Your Home*, the Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA) recommends using OAHI members.

Depending on variables, the rates for a home inspection range from \$400 to \$600 which can represent a good investment.

Whether you are a buyer or seller, an informed decision is important. "OAHI cultivates a thriving industry based on the highest standards of professional development and ethical standards while setting the gold standard for home inspectors, consumers, and the province," Parish said.

For more information, please visit www.oahi.com

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The Mississauga-based Ontario Association of Home Inspectors (OAHI) views soon-to-be mandatory home inspector licensing as a game changer for the home inspection world. No longer will buyers, sellers, or realtors need to wonder if their home inspector is qualified. Under the Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services Bill 59, any person providing an opinion on a home in Ontario must be licensed as a Home Inspector, an Engineer, or an Architect by 2019.

Murray Parish, President of OAHI says he "sees a real need for home buyers to protect themselves and their life's largest purchase before being caught up in the frenzy of buying and not vetting the condition of the houses they want to raise their family."

Home inspectors help buyers make an informed decision before undertaking one of life's biggest commitments.

For first-time homebuyers, that means education on the various systems of their home: heating, ventilation, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, septic, and more. As homes become more complicated, it is imperative buyers



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