

Board Talk

March 2024

Fire Safety in High-Rise Buildings

On February 21, Shannon from the City of Richmond Hill Fire Department gave a presentation on fire safety to over 50 residents.

Some key points:

- A fire could happen to you – the odds are thousands of times greater than winning the lottery;
- 85% of fires are preventable; and
- the No. 1 cause of fires is cooking.

The question of what to do in case of an alarm – whether to leave or stay – is entirely up to **you**; the FD declined to make a recommendation.

However, a couple of things should be noted:

- make a decision quickly and stick with it;
- if you choose to stay and if you **seal your apartment door** against smoke using duct tape and wet towels you would probably be safe for “30 to 60 minutes” by which time any fire should be under control; and in this case
- call 911 to let the Fire Department know where you are.

If a fire breaks out in your apartment:

- leave;
- **close your apartment door behind you**;
- pull the fire alarm – these are located by the emergency staircases; **and**
- call 911.

The Fire Department left behind two-page information sheets with valuable advice on fire prevention and what to do in case of a fire. Copies are available from the Management Office.

Safety Initiatives at Observatory II

It may be worth mentioning some of the things that the Corporation already undertakes with the aim of fire safety. These include: the dryer vent lint cleaning programme, smoke detector inspections, suite door closer inspections, maintaining a list of residents needing evacuation assistance, the Fire Safety Appendix to the Rules and Regulations, and safety systems maintenance conducted by Vital Safety, our safety contractor.

Coffee Morning

Our next Coffee Morning is Friday, **March 8** at 10:00 a.m. in the Party Room. Bring your own mug and your one dollar fee.

St. Patrick’s Day Pot Luck Dinner

There will be a Pot Luck Dinner on Saturday, **March 16** starting at 5:00 p.m. Lois Kay will be in the Lobby on Monday, **March 11** between 5:00–7:00 p.m. to record your proposed dishes and take your two dollars per person fee.

CHATS Presentation

On Monday, **March 21** at 10:30 a.m., CHATS will give a presentation on navigating the healthcare system entitled “What to expect from your doctor and what your doctor expects from you.” This will take place in the Card Room.

Fan Coil Maintenance

Spring fan coil maintenance will be happening soon. Please look for notices and make sure your units are clear and accessible.

Environmental Committee

The City of Richmond Hill will hold *Clean Up Green Up* weeks this year from April 19 - May 3. The Environmental Committee organizes a clean-up in our neighbourhood and is seeking volunteers to help out for one hour. We encourage families with school-age children (accompanied by a parent) to consider helping out. Dates and times will be provided later. Please contact me for more information and/or to volunteer.

The City's web page is:

<https://www.richmondhill.ca/en/clean-up-green-up-event.aspx>

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CondoControl

CondoControl is the name of the new web portal for connecting with Management. It offers Announcements, Events, Documents (presently our Bylaws), and the means to book Amenities such as guest suites, the party room, and the moving elevator, and to submit Service Requests of various kinds.

You will have received an invitation by e-mail to connect to and register with *CondoControl*. Subsequent access is via this link:

<https://app.condocontrol.com/>

A townhall session is planned at which a thorough introduction to *CondoControl* will be given.

We hope that residents and owners will find *CondoControl* useful and convenient but it is not intended to replace the personal interactions with the Management Office that some will no doubt prefer.

Security Awareness Message

Please: Do not allow unauthorised people into our building. Do not open doors for strangers or people claiming to have "Amazon deliveries," especially if you are not expecting one. Do not use the electric door opener when exiting the building; do check that the door closes behind you when coming in. Consider using the door on the other side of the garage entrance ramp as an alternative if someone is loitering at the main entrance. **NEW:** Do not leave your keys unattended in the pool changing rooms.

Management Plan for March

- Budget Preparation for Fiscal 2024/25
- Suite Door Closer Inspection
- Confirm & Schedule Annual Garage Washing
- Arrange Tennis Court Inspection & Repair/Cleaning Quotation
- Place Spring Display in Lobby Vestibule