

VOLUME 5  
ISSUE 4  
OCTOBER

NEWSLETTER FOR BIA  
MEMBERS AND THEIR  
STAFF

BUSINESS  
IMPROVEMENT  
AREA

# ALBION ISLINGTON

# SQUARE

[www.albionislingtonsquare.com](http://www.albionislingtonsquare.com)

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

# H

ope everybody had a safe and wonderful summer.

On October 5th we had a grand opening of our Green P Parking lot at 6 Barkwin Drive (behind India Bazaar). We understood the need of extra parking spaces and along with our Councillors made it happen. Kindly encourage your valued customers to please avail this facility. Side street parking is not permissible.

We are organizing our 1st Diwali beats 2011 live in concert. It is a free event. All businesses are encouraged to participate at this event. Call BIA office - 416-743-3267 to find how you can be a part of this event.

This is your BIA kindly keep it clean. Winter is fast approaching and we encourage all store/business owners to please fill in all pot holes. Please take pride in your business and property.

Hope to see you all at Diwali beats 2011

Take care and be safe

Shamsher Singh  
Chairman



## DIWALI GREETING FROM COUNCILLOR VINCENT CRISANTI

Dear friends,

It is a privilege to celebrate Diwali with the residents of North Etobicoke.

I wish to thank the Albion Islington Business Improvement Area for organizing these Diwali celebrations and for inviting our entire community to participate in this joyous event.

Diwali – the "Festival of Lights" – is one of the most important festivals in India. It brings people together and represents hope, peace and a triumph of good over evil. I hope that this Diwali allows you to reflect on the many blessings we share as a community and as Canadians.

The Indo-Canadian community has contributed much to Canada, and to the GTA in particular. You have created vibrant businesses, excelled in higher education and enriched our cultural fabric. This is a time to celebrate your contribution to North Etobicoke and the important role you play in creating the wonderful character of our community.

On behalf of my family and my staff at City Hall, I wish you a happy Diwali. Should you require assistance from my office, please do not hesitate to contact me at (416) 392-0205 or [councillor\\_crisanti@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_crisanti@toronto.ca).

Sincerely,

Councillor Vincent Crisanti  
Ward 1 – Etobicoke North



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chairman and Councillor Message	1
BIA News and Upcoming Events	2
Benefits For You!!!	3
For Your Information....	4

# BIA News and Upcoming Events

**connexions**  
"bigger and more..."  
1st Annual

**Diwali beats**

**Live in Concert**  
Live in Concert

Brought to you by  
**ALBION ISLINGTON SQUARE**

When: Sunday, October 23, 2011  
Time: 2pm - 8pm  
Location: North East of Albion Road on Islington Avenue, Etobicoke

Diwali Sales  
Garba/Dandiya  
Bollywood Divas  
Live Band  
Caribbean Music  
And a lot of FUN!!!

**Free**

Parichay  
Janet Naipaul  
Shweta Subram  
Nriya Kala Mandir  
Diva Diverse

For more information : [www.albionislingtonsquare.com](http://www.albionislingtonsquare.com)  
Call: 416-743-3267  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AlbionIslington](http://www.facebook.com/AlbionIslington)  
Twitter: [www.twitter.com/AlbionIslington](http://www.twitter.com/AlbionIslington)

Sponsors:

## Cavalcade of Lights

Date: Saturday, Nov. 24, 2011  
Time: 7pm-8.30pm  
Location: In front of Pizza Pizza, Intersection of Albion Road and Islington Avenue.

This year we are introducing  
**"TOY DRIVE"**  
More information will follow.

## Santa's Visit

Date: Saturday, December 17, 2011  
Time: 3pm onwards  
Location: All businesses within Albion Islington

Santa will be distributing candy canes to all shoppers.

More information will follow.

## Green P Parking Lot

Are you and your customer's fed up of less PARKING SPACES . *Well not anymore!!* Albion Islington Square BIA has made it convenient for all their valued customers. We believe that nothing is more satisfying than customer satisfaction.

*"If we don't take care of our customers, someone else will" - unknown.*  
*" Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning" - Bill Gates.*



Green P Parking is ready to be used by you and your valued customers at 6 Barkwin Drive, Behind India Bazaar.

The parking lot's official opening took place on October 5th, 2011, which was followed by light refreshments at Bangali Sweets and Restaurant

For more information call BIA office @ 416-743-3267



## Canada Get Your Business Online (GYBO)

The GYBO Roadshow is an RBC Royal Bank and Google initiative to help get small businesses online. The Roadshow consists of events in 9 major cities across Canada.

Google launched “Canada Get Your Business Online” in March 2011 with prominent Canadian partners, The Canadian Chamber of Commerce, The Canadian Internet Registration Authority, RBC Royal Bank, Rogers, The Globe and Mail and Silver Lining, to provide businesses with a fast, free and easy way to create their websites.

These events will provide insight and hands-on help to assist businesses in creating a free website, driving more traffic to it, and creating an effective online advertising campaign. More than 50,000 businesses have signed up since launch and near 10,000 have already published their websites.



**More details on [www.gybo.ca/events](http://www.gybo.ca/events) and [www.ecsel.ca/evenements](http://www.ecsel.ca/evenements)**

## Holiday Shopping

Public Consultation—As directed by City Council on May 11, 2010, the City of Toronto is conducting public consultations regarding Holiday Shopping regulations. The results of this consultation process will be summarized in a written report to Toronto City Council early in 2012. Pre-registration is not required.

Nov. 7, 2011; 7 to 9 pm, Etobicoke Civic Centre, Committee Room 2, 399 The West Mall, Toronto, ON M9C 2Y2	Nov. 23, 2011; 7 to 9 p.m., Toronto City Hall, 2nd Floor, Committee Room 1; 100 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2	Nov. 15, 2011; 4 to 6 p.m, Scarborough Civic Centre; Committee Room 1; 150 Borough Drive; Toronto, ON M1P 4N7	Nov. 29, 2011; 7 to 9 p.m, East York Civic Centre, Committee Room A, 850 Coxwell Avenue Toronto, ON M4C 5R1	Nov. 30, 2011; 7 to 9 p.m, North York Civic Centre; Committee Room 2; 5100 Yonge Street; Toronto, ON M2N 5V7
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### Holiday Shopping Overview:

The City of Toronto, Municipal Code Chapter 510, generally requires retail stores to be closed on the following designated retail holidays: New Year’s Day; Family Day; Good Friday; Easter Sunday; Victoria Day; Canada Day; Labour Day; Thanksgiving Day; and Christmas Day. However, there are a wide variety of exemptions by type of retail business and geographic areas within the City of Toronto.

**Holiday Shopping Public Consultation Purpose:** The purpose of these meetings is to gather input from BIA stakeholders.

### Options to be considered include:

- 1) Status quo. Maintain requirements for retail stores to close on Public Holidays with exemptions as currently permitted.
- 2) Remove restrictions and permit stores to be open on Public Holidays at the discretion of the owner/manager.
- 3) Identify specific geographic areas of the city to be exempted from Municipal Code Chapter 510.
- 4) Amend Municipal Code, Chapter 510 to permit retail areas to apply to the City for exemption.

**Additional consultations with other stakeholders will be conducted through this process. For further information: [www.toronto.ca/business](http://www.toronto.ca/business) / email:[holidayshopping@toronto.ca](mailto:holidayshopping@toronto.ca)  
Rob Berry, Manager, Economic Development and Culture; 416-392-3387**

## Basement Flooding protection Subsidy Program

Basements can flood for a number of reasons. Flooding is most likely to occur when there has been a heavy rainfall or snow is melting rapidly during a spring thaw.

**For more information :** web: [www.toronto.ca/water/sewers](http://www.toronto.ca/water/sewers)  
 email: [basementflooding@toronto.ca](mailto:basementflooding@toronto.ca); Municipal Licensing and Standards  
 (Plumbing/contractor license information)  
 web: [www.toronto.ca/licensing](http://www.toronto.ca/licensing); telephone: 416-392-6700 or  
 Call 311, 24 hours 7 days a week



## Mandatory Downspout Disconnection

Toronto City Council has approved a bylaw making it mandatory for property owners to disconnect their downspouts. It will come into effect across the city in three phases. Disconnecting downspout(s) from the sewer system can reduce the risk of basement flooding and releasing polluted rainwater into our local waterways.

### Everyone benefits from downspout disconnection

Rainwater runs off a roof, flows through the eavestroughs and discharges either onto the property (if the downspout is already disconnected) or into a downspout that carries it directly into the sewer system. During heavy rainfall, if the downspout is connected, the sewers become overloaded, increasing the risk of basement flooding and releasing polluted rainwater into our local waterways.

To help deal with the problem, the City has made downspout disconnection mandatory, city-wide. Beginning with the central area of the city, where stormwater and sanitary drainage are combined into a single pipe. Disconnecting your downspouts will help reduce the amount of stormwater sent through the sewer system. Less stormwater can help prevent wastewater from backing up and thus reduce your risk of basement flooding.

Find out what supplies you'll need and "how to" steps to follow if you plan to disconnect your downspouts yourself - rather than hiring a City-licensed contractor to do the work.

**For more information: contact 311 or visit [www.toronto.ca/water](http://www.toronto.ca/water)**



**Albion Islington Square BIA  
Board Executive**

**Chairman: Shamsher Singh  
Vice Chairman: Shaan Bola  
Treasurer: Prakash Khatri  
Secretary: Seema Sudhir  
Legal Advisor: Nabeel Haque**

**City Councillor  
Vincent Crisanti**

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Harpreet Brar  
Grace Awang  
Amrit Suhaag  
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**This newsletter is also produced electronically and can be found at  
<http://www.albionislingtonsquare.com/newsletter.htm>**