

# CONNECTIONS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF GWL REALTY ADVISORS INC  
MARKHAM PROPERTIES



SUMMER 2011 • VOLUME 20

## Summer's Here... Well Almost!

**Anabela Domingos, Property Manager**

With June 21st arriving in just a matter of days, glorious Summer is on our door step. Already I can feel the rhythm of the day beginning to change as thoughts of cottages, golf and BBQs begin to push work aside. While Summer is always a season for outdoor fun and adventures, it's also the time of year when things seem to happen: bee stings, sprains and heat related inconveniences. In this issue of Connections we provide an important article on how to create your very own portable and practical first aid kit. It's all about being prepared no matter what the Summer brings.

In this issue we also profile Grant Thornton LLP, a tenant in Allstate Corporate Centre. Grant Thornton has built its reputation on exceptional client service and staying two steps ahead of a rapidly changing global marketplace. As a service provider, we at GWL Realty Advisors are always interested in learning more about how our tenants remain unique and responsive to customer expectations and demands. If you would like to have your firm profiled in an upcoming issue of Connections, please let me know.

With leisure time more abundant over the next few months, I recommend that you take a look at the Eservus offerings and visit their website. They offer everything from movie ticket discounts to trip packages to concert and live theatre tickets. And remember, GWLRA tenants receive a sizable discount on many items!

As we continue to do maintenance work in and around various properties, we'll do our best to minimize any disruption or inconvenience to your daily routine. It's important that we complete this work in order to maintain a first class work environment. We thank you for your cooperation.

**Have a great Summer.  
See you on Ice Cream Day!**

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## Not Your Typical Accounting Firm



What makes a firm stand out from the competition? Whether it's accounting, law, manufacturing or telecommunications, long term success obviously depends upon consistently providing a great service or product, but also upon an organizational desire to grow and sometimes change to meet the expanding needs of customers. Innovation and change are not often words associated with accounting firms, but Grant Thornton LLP, a valued GWLRA tenant in 15 Allstate Parkway, defies traditional descriptions.

Grant Thornton LLP is the Canadian member of the firm Grant Thornton International Ltd., one of the world's largest networks of independently owned and managed accounting and consulting firms. Each member firm is a separate, self governing national firm, but part of the umbrella organization Grant Thornton International, a highly cooperative network of 489 offices

worldwide. An organization that brings like-minded, highly established firms together from around the world to create a service network for clients that require a global perspective as well as a strong local presence and expertise.

Grant Thornton LLP provides a broad range of services for the Markham and greater GTA regions, as well as across Canada. Their philosophy is simple and unique. It's not about being the biggest or having the greatest number of Top 100 firms as clients. It's all about understanding and servicing the needs of each and every client and keeping the priorities of the organization in line with the greater community. Their vision as an organization can be summed up in one sentence.

"To establish Grant Thornton as a distinctive leadership brand by creating sustainable advantage for our clients, our people and the communities across Canada in which we work and live."

**Success in business depends upon so many factors. Grant Thornton LLP attributes its Canada-wide reputation to the following organizational and people strengths:**

- Accessibility and Personal Attention
- Partner-led Teams
- Responsive and Proactive Service
- An Integrated and Team Approach
- Broad Industry Knowledge and Proprietary Research
- Great People Going the Extra Mile

**Grant Thornton LLP Service Areas**

- Audit and Review
- Complex Accounting Matters
- Corporate Finance
- Financial Statement Preparation
- Forensic Investigations
- Security Consulting
- Governance Risk and Compliance
- Information Technology
- Tax Services
- And more

## Summer Solstice and Ice Cream

June 21st or the Summer Solstice, marks the transition to Summer in the Northern Hemisphere, but it also means that Ice Cream Day has arrived at GWLRA!! Each year GWLRA celebrates the arrival of Summer with tenants right across the country by indulging in a little ice cream passion. It's our way of saying congratulations for surviving 6 months of

cold, rain and gray skies. As always, your building's Ice Cream Day will either fall on June 21st or 22nd. Stay tuned, we'll be announcing which day the ice cream wagon will be visiting your building.

### Summer Solstice Facts

In the Northern Hemisphere Summer Solstice begins on June 21st. Sol + Stice derives from a combination of Latin words meaning "sun"

+ "to stand still." As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher and higher until it seems to stand still in the sky.

As a major celestial event, the Summer Solstice results in the longest day and the shortest night of the year. The Northern Hemisphere celebrates in June, but the people on the Southern half of the earth enjoy their longest summer day in December.

Reference: [www.chiff.com](http://www.chiff.com)



# The Small Things Add Up

An interesting conservation fact: In North America, 30 to 35% of all electricity produced is used to run commercial properties. With our growing reliance on technology in the workplace, that percentage is expected to grow steadily over the next decade unless people make a real effort to conserve. At GWL Realty Advisors, we're proud of the conservation success we've had in partnership

with our Markham area tenants and how we've reduced consumption wherever possible. In keeping energy consumption down on a building and tenant level, the little steps we take do matter. Turning off lights, computers and reducing non-essential lighting are just a few examples. Managing technology allows us to manage consumption. Thanks for your help.

## Summer First Aid Tips

With the summer season now in full swing that usually means a lot of outdoor fun, whether it's backyard gardening, camping, cycling or traveling.

But along with the exhilaration of being outdoors or on the move, comes the potential for a few more bumps, bruises and close encounters with nature.

The best way to have peace of mind this summer is to be prepared. If you're planning a vacation with family or friends, take a bit of time to think things out. Run through a list of possible situations that at best may just need a cold compress and at worst, a trip to the closest emergency room (allergies, heat stroke, heart problems, bee stings, etc.). A great way to begin thinking preventatively is to put together a traveling emergency kit. Hopefully it will stay in the car, cottage or boat and never be used; but if an emergency does arise, you'll be glad you took the time to think ahead.

**Below are what experts consider the top 20 items that every first-aid kit needs:**

- sunscreen (SPF 15 minimum)
- insect repellent
- absorbent cotton
- adhesive strips/assorted sizes
- adhesive
- calamine lotion
- cotton-tipped swabs
- painkillers, such as acetaminophen or ASA (not to be given to children)
- disinfectant
- rubbing alcohol
- triangular bandages, for tying splints
- safety pins
- sharp needles, for removal of splinters (sterilize)
- scissors
- sterilized gauze bandages
- sterilized gauze pads (100mm sq)
- thermometer

- tweezers (to remove insect stingers)
- antihistamine tablets of choice
- antibiotic and anti-inflammatory creams

If you're hiking or cycling, put together a mini first aid kit and take it with you along with a bottle of water and your cell phone. Another great tip from the experts when traveling to a new remote location and especially to a foreign country, is to take the time to familiarize yourself with 911 availability and the location and phone number of the nearest emergency room. Being prepared is half the battle. Have a safe and fun summer season!



## Construction, Maintenance Update

To ensure that a building performs to a first class standard over its life span and provides tenants with the many services and amenities they rely upon to conduct their businesses, strategic maintenance, repair and occasional upgrades must be part of the annual operations calendar. The work for 675 Cochrane has entered phase 2 which is expected to run until 2012. As well, we have been busy tendering a number of miscellaneous upgrades and repairs for buildings in the Markham portfolio. Tenants should see work crews out in full force throughout the Summer. Below we've outlined current work underway by property. Depending upon the size the project, work schedules will vary, but we assure you that we will continue to do everything possible to minimize disruption and schedule work in off hours wherever possible. If you have a question about anything listed below, please contact your property management office.

### 675 Cochrane Drive - Phase 2 work commenced May 26

- South Side Expansion Joint Repairs**
  - Remove and replacement of South side expansion joints including all overburden and new gland seals underway.
- Localized Podium Deck Repairs**
  - Localized removal of podium deck overburden at North and South, including asphalt and concrete.
  - Sidewalk, curbs, landscaping and new waterproofing membrane and localized concrete repairs underway.
- Ramp No. 3 Repairs**
  - Removal and replacement of Ramp No. 3 concrete topping, asphalt topping, concrete curbs, heating cables and waterproofing membrane underway.
- East Tower**
  - Surface P1 level; construction repairs on entrance ramp and shipping and receiving ramp.

### West Tower

- Commencing work on the retaining wall shared with 625 Cochrane.

### 600 Cochrane Drive

- Repairs and maintenance on ductwork to commence.

### Allstate Corporate Center

- The paving/interlocking project is in its preliminary stage. The areas that will be affected are in front of 11 -15 -19-27 Allstate Corporate Centre.
- The project includes the removal and disposal of existing asphalt, re-compacting existing interlocking, releveling walkways, localized concrete curb work and grade remediation, which includes the removal and replacement of existing granular materials with new compacted material.
- Repairs and maintenance on ductwork (19 Allstate Parkway).
- Upgrades to CO2 monitoring systems and exhaust fans (11 Allstate Parkway).

## What's New at:



Let Eservus help with your plans as warmer weather rolls in! Check out our great deals below or visit [www.eservus.com](http://www.eservus.com).

### ATTRACTIONS

#### Art Gallery of Ontario

ADULTS: \$17.85 (reg. \$19.50)

#### Laser Quest

ALL AGES: \$7.75 (reg. \$9.00)

#### Ontario Science Centre/ OMNIMAX Theatre Combo

ADULTS (18-64 yrs.): \$24.80 (reg. \$28.00)

YOUTHS (13-17 yrs.)/SENIORS (65+ yrs.): \$19.50 (reg. \$22.00)

CHILDREN (4-12 yrs.): \$17.00 (reg. \$19.00)

#### Playdium Mississauga

Playcards (150 credits): \$19.50 (reg. \$28.25)

#### Putting Edge

ALL-AGES: \$9.90 (reg. \$11.87)

#### Royal Ontario Museum

ADULTS: \$21.80 (reg. \$24.00)

SENIORS 65+ yrs: \$17.25 (reg. \$21.00)

CHILDREN 4-14 yrs: \$12.60 (reg. \$16.00)

### ON STAGE

#### Billy Elliot (Extended to September 2011)

\$62.00 - \$99.45 (reg. \$73.00 - \$115.00)

#### National Ballet of Canada's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (Select dates in June)

\$53.00 - \$204.00 (reg. \$58.59 - \$234.87)

### FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

#### Mariposa Brunch, Lunch and Dinner Cruises (Season Opens May 8, 2011)

BRUNCH/LUNCH: \$55.00 (reg. \$58.80)

DINNER: \$79.00 (reg. \$86.27)

#### Fallsview Indoor Waterpark, Niagara Falls ON

ALL-DAY WATERPARK PASS: \$33.50 (reg. \$52.32)

### GIFT CERTIFICATES

#### WaySpa

Eservus clients save 10% on WaySpa gift certificates.

### PLAN A GETAWAY

#### Sandman Hotels - Over 30 locations across Canada

Eservus clients save 10% on best available web rates.

#### Choice Hotels - Over 280 locations across Canada

Eservus clients save up to 20%.

#### SellOffVacations.com

Get the lowest online travel prices with SellOffVacations.com.

#### Thrifty Car Rental

Enjoy low rates and no additional driver fee.

## We're Moving!

Effective July 25th, GWL Realty Advisors will be moving its offices to:

15 Allstate Parkway, Suite 103  
Markham, Ontario L3R 5B4

We'll send out a reminder notice just prior to the move.

Every issue of Connections is printed on quality recycled stock.