

**We Offer:**  
 Art Gallery  
 Portrait studio for people  
 & pets & custom fantasies  
 Digital fine art printing

**Tumaxco**  
 Turning Memories Into Art

1561 St. Clair Ave. West,  
 Toronto, Ontario  
 Phone: 416.762.2227

**HOW DO I PROMOTE MY**  
 announcement  
 THE BEST WAY

CALL TME  
**TCN**  
**CLASSIFIED TEAM**  
 416.493.4000

Print Editions | Mobile Apps | Movies | Contests | Photos |  
 Contact Us | Buy A Photo | Sponsorship

OVERCAST 9°C | WEATHER FORECAST

Login with Facebook | Login/Register

Articles Topics Photos Movies Videos Businesses

Enter Search Text ...



Home News Sports What's On Opinion Community Announcements Jobs Used Cars Real Estate Rentals Classifieds Flyers

**HOT TOPICS** PAN AM GAMES BEHIND THE CUTS CHRISTIE PITS JUNCTION REVIVAL KINGSTON ROAD LAKESHORE LAWRENCE HEIGHTS NORTH ETOBICOKE YOUTH

Home » Opinion » Editorial » EDITORIAL: Learn to...

Small - Large | Print | Email | Add to Favourites |

| Oct 14, 2011 - 6:00 AM | | [Report a Typo or Correction](#)

## EDITORIAL: Learn to be an engaged citizen from the example set by youth

We say our children are the leaders of tomorrow. But what if they're already leading by example?

As a society, we push for equal opportunities for all students so they may gain the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. They're being groomed to one day give back to our community - help define our city, set its priorities and shape its social agenda.

That's always been the plan. However, there's a change happening among our younger generations that's been particularly evident this first term back at school. At a young age, these kids are already contributing to society. And in many ways they're setting an example that even their parents would do well to learn by.

We've seen kids embrace the democratic process after students in 2,200 schools across the province participated in mock elections last week. They studied party platforms, learned about the voting process and cast ballots for the real candidates in their ridings. Organized by Student Vote, the program engages youth in politics and teaches them early on about the importance of voting, with the hope that they'll maintain that interest through to their adult lives. You can bet many of them went home to ask parents if they planned to cast a ballot.

Students in elementary and secondary schools are also learning about poverty and the effects it can have on a child's nutrition. Last week was Feeding Toronto's Hungry Students Week and high school students took to subway stations to inform commuters about student hunger and solicit donations for nutrition programs. Grade 1 students at St. Anthony Catholic School even had a chance to learn how to pack their own nutritional lunches in a lesson with a real chef - a lesson, they were encouraged to take home to mom and dad.

And next week, students will become environmental activists during Waste Reduction Week when schools challenge them to bring in waste-free lunches and to recycle their old cellphones to make sure they're diverted from landfills.

Thanks to what's becoming an empowering curriculum across the school boards, students aren't so much preparing to be engaged citizens, as they are already. If it encourages them to ask questions, take action and inspire the rest of their family and peers - then take note. The next time you ask a student what it is he or she learned at school that day, it could very well be a lesson for you too.

Small - Large | Print | Email | Add to Favourites |

### More Stories

#### Opinion

**Residents misinformed about LRTs, reader writes**

**EDITORIAL: Standing up to bullying: parents must lead the charge**

**BUT SERIOUSLY:** Time to change the clocks again  
 SUB-URBAN ARTS AND CULTURE Nov. 3 to 9

**FRONT ROW CENTRE:** 'Love and Other Stresses' relieves tension through laughter

Toronto zoo needs more than a street name change  
 TTC out of touch with riders

**URBANANIMAL:** Fun-loving Huskies are a lot of work

Grievances too numerous for Occupy Movement

Cane returned, owner grateful

#### Editorial

**EDITORIAL: City must examine how zoo should operate**

**Mayor needs to show support for Toronto's Pan Am Games**

**EDITORIAL:** Looking for an understanding of what Toronto truly needs

**EDITORIAL:** Thanking our carriers for a job well done

**EDITORIAL:** Cracks starting to show in mayor's power base

**EDITORIAL:** Convince us. Please.

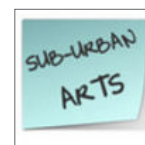
**EDITORIAL:** Ridings to watch in the provincial election

**EDITORIAL:** Where have the provincial candidates gone?

**EDITORIAL:** A jumping off point for change at city hall

**EDITORIAL:** Recognizing youth in our community a great opportunity

### Featured



| Nov 03  
**FEATURES TO GO -**  
**Sub-Urban Arts & Culture**  
 Get your fresh featured content of sports, lifestyle, arts and traffic.

### Featured Video



**Bamboo Flooring**  
 Only \$1.99 sq. ft.  
[click here for more info!](#)  
**DANFORTH LUMBER**  
 We Have It All At Your Friendly Neighbourhood Lumber Yard

Select a City

- [ABBOTSFORD](#)
- [61% off Custom-Printe](#)
- [ALLISTON / INNISFIL](#)
- [50% off Half Leg and B](#)
- [AURORA / NEWMA](#)
- [93% off Unlimited Laser H](#)

**REGISTER WAGJAG NOW - FREE!**

### Toronto Top Jobs

[Click for More LocalWork.ca Toronto Jobs](#)



HomeFinder.ca  
Find a place to call home

View local **real estate listings**



Whccs.ca

View local **car listings**



flyerland.ca

View local **flyers & coupons**



LocalWork.ca  
YOUR BEST SOURCE FOR LOCAL JOBS

View local **job listings**



Find a place to rent  
gottarent.com

View local **apartment rentals**

## InsideToronto.com

### Inside Toronto

[About Us](#)  
[Advertising Media Kit](#)  
[Buy a Photo](#)  
[Company Directory](#)  
[Contact Us](#)  
[Newsletter Signup](#)  
[Submit A Story / Photo](#)  
[Sitemap](#)  
[Terms of Use](#)  
[Work for Us](#)

### Local Info

[Announcements](#)  
[Jobs](#)  
[Used Cars](#)  
[Real Estate](#)  
[Rentals](#)  
[Classifieds](#)  
[Flyers](#)

### Local Sites

[BramptonGuardian.com](#)  
[DurhamRegion.com](#)  
[InsideHalton.com](#)  
[Mississauga.com](#)  
[MyKawartha.com](#)  
[NiagaraThisWeek.com](#)  
[Simcoe.com](#)  
[YorkRegion.com](#)

### Affiliates

[DailyWebTV.com](#)  
[Goldbook.ca](#)  
[Insurance Quotes](#)  
[Leasebusters.com](#)  
[MyHolidayHomeRental.com](#)  
[OurFaves.com](#)  
[Save.ca](#)  
[Toronto.com](#)  
[Wagjag.com](#)

### Daily Newspapers

[The Guelph Mercury](#)  
[The Hamilton Spectator](#)  
[The Toronto Star](#)  
[The Waterloo Region Record](#)

