

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

March 9, 2014

Toronto mayor alludes to his littering and urinating in a city park, then pooh-poohs it



The infamous Rob Ford has finally commented on charges raised in our 2013 Annual Progress Report, "Litter Control In Ontario: No Time To Waste." On March 6 the Toronto Star reported Ford's remark in the body of a front-page story on his highly public family feud with Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair. Police surveillance notes from an ongoing criminal investigation involving Ford reported last summer that he left behind a vodka bottle and juice cartons after a drinking binge in a public park. In his first public comment on the matter Wednesday Ford belittled the seriousness of his littering, which in Toronto carries a \$365 fine. He mocked the idea that such behaviour warranted a penalty. "Charge for what? What, an empty vodka bottle or urinating in a public park? Which one, I'm not quite sure," Ford said. The Star said he was referring to "minor information" from the detailed surveillance notes in documents released by the courts. Note: Littering is not minor. You will find our first annual report on the home page of www.litterpreventionprogram.com.



Pictured above: In Marlboro and other South African suburbs in Sandton a new program to cut litter, Pikitup, promotes "Trash to Treasure" public space recycling.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAR 2 - 9)

Some of what made our News Reel this week litterpreventionprogram.com/news-reel.html

Weekly roundup - good things brewing (3/8)

'Litter Free NC' kicked off this week in North Carolina. *Clean Up Australia Day* happened March 2 and 6,387 sites registered in 2014 for the twentieth annual event. Some Barwon coastal town councils in AU can crow. They celebrated less litter following a three-month campaign.

Ever have the feeling you're being watched? (3/7)

Eyes from above will show you no love if you litter in Grantham, UK. Cameras on telephone poles, beefed up litter patrols and the promise of a £75 fine seem to be nudging people to find the appropriate home for their used chewing gum, cigarette butts and other waste.

Mountaineers to weigh in after Everest treks (3/3)

Future treks up Mt Everest will require climbers to bring 8kg of garbage back down with them for weighing in addition to their own litter and waste. The new rule replaces an extra \$4,000 litter permit fee, which was proving hard to enforce.

Gull sacks in Carlisle City aren't for the birds (3/3)

Out to stymie seagull invaders, Carlisle, UK invested £65,000 to supply each household with a gull-proof trash sack.

Watch your step where dogs are involved (3/5)

Wigan, UK has introduced a £50 fixed penalty for dog fouling.

New Zealand's smoke-free bus stops, not yet (3/5)

A new study showing high rates of smoking around NZ bus stops has federal lawmakers contemplating a ban similar to Auckland's announced move to ban smoking at bus stops.

CATCH THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT
Downtown Arlington unveils a 'fetching' new logo (right).



"Catch the Community Spirit"



Canada Post mailboxes (left) will replace home delivery across Canada by 2019. Cities should consider ways to force the crown corporation to fund, install and maintain litterbins at each new site.

DID YOU KNOW?

Zimbabwe's message to fast food chains has global application. Harare city council members are pushing for mandatory litter prevention education at point of sale to compel retailers to proactively push messages encouraging customers to bin their food waste, 25% of the city's litter.