

SUCA ADOPT-A-MAILBOX

Program Summary

The South Unionville Community Association and its members are committed to making South Unionville the best community and neighbourhood possible. As such, SUCA is actively involved in all community initiatives including new development, park design, park amenities, traffic issues, community cleanups and cleanliness. One of the issues consistently raised is the general state of the Super Mailboxes in the community. The main issues are:

- Litter in and around mailboxes
- Posters/Advertisements/Graffiti on mailboxes
- Physical state of mailboxes (on level surface, snow has been removed to allow convenient access)

Super Mailboxes are important features in our community. They are visited by virtually all residents, and are located in highly visible areas within the community. Therefore, it is a community priority to make the mailboxes as aesthetically pleasing as possible. In an effort to achieve this goal, SUCA is proposing the ADOPT-A-MAILBOX program.

The ADOPT-A-MAILBOX initiative depends on community volunteers to take on responsibility for their local mailboxes. ADOPT-A-MAILBOX volunteers would be responsible for cleaning the area in and around their mailbox on a regular basis. Most of the litter around the mailboxes is generated by community residents, and therefore we believe that it is appropriate that community residents take an active roll in addressing this issue. In the event that there is a mailbox issue that cannot be reasonably addressed by the volunteer (such as graffiti or perhaps the levelling of a mailbox), the volunteer is expected to work with Canada Post in order to get the issue resolved in a timely manner.

SUCA ADOPT-A-MAILBOX

Student Volunteer Initiative

SUCA believes that student volunteers would be an invaluable resource for the ADOPT-A-MAILBOX program. The program can provide students with much needed volunteer hours while allowing them to make a visible difference in the community in which they live.

Volunteer Commitments:

For the ADOPT-A-MAILBOX program, we are asking that volunteers make a 1 year commitment to the mailbox(s) that they choose to adopt. During this period, the expectation of volunteers is the following:

- Upon adopting a mailbox, take the necessary time to perform a full mailbox cleanup. This involves removing all advertisements from mailboxes and as much adhesive residue as possible. In addition, the initial cleanup involves removing all litter from in between mailboxes and the immediate area around the mailbox.
- On a weekly basis volunteers are asked to perform a maintenance cleanup of the mailbox. This involves the same things as the initial cleanup, but the time commitment should be substantially reduced.
- On an as needed basis volunteers are asked to inform Canada Post of mailbox issues that cannot easily be addressed by the volunteer. This includes items such as:
 - Graffiti on mailbox
 - Mailbox moved/shifted/tipped
 - Snow not being removed from mailbox area

For students who adopt their mailbox, SUCA feels that the following volunteer hours are merited.

- Initial Cleanup: 1 hour
- Weekly Maintenance/Contact Canada Post: 15 min/week

The total # of hours that a student would be able to earn through the ADOPT-A-MAILBOX program would be 13 hours per mailbox per year. SUCA is not opposed to students adopting more than 1 mailbox.

SUCA Commitments:

SUCA will work with the students to ensure that their commitments are being met, and that the ADOPT-A-MAILBOX program is successful. SUCA will monitor adopted mailboxes on a regular basis and provide students with feedback on their performance. In addition, SUCA is attempting to obtain funding for the ADOPT-A-MAILBOX program. Should the funding initiative be successful, then SUCA will be able to provide volunteers with a cleanup kit for each mailbox adopted which will make the job of removing advertisements and litter from the mailbox area easier.

SUCA will fill in required paperwork and provide necessary reports to the student volunteer coordinator regarding the volunteer work provided by students.