

Letters to the editor

Change drivers' habits, not the road terrain

Re: Oct. 19 article "Resident says road to blame for many accidents on her property."

Simply put, drivers cause accidents by not driving according to road conditions, be they slick or winding, as in this case.

Mrs. Nurse lives on a rather picturesque part of Winston Churchill Boulevard with its S-curves. To straighten the road would be to radically alter its character.

Yes, improvements are needed to improve traffic safety. Paving (or maybe treating with a mix of tar and stone as they did to Heritage Road) the short upper portion of Winston Churchill would help alleviate the teeth-rattling ride on that stretch. However, some traffic

calming means— extended speed bumps (much as I despise them) or rumble strips— are needed north and south of that curve on Winston Churchill.

I would go further and suggest that traffic calming is also needed in several parts of Terra Cotta along Winston Churchill and King Street where it seems that traffic flow has not only increased, but also sped up over the last few years. Drivers pay little heed to the speed limit and hidden entrance or intersection signs.

Let's work on changing drivers' habits not the terrain.

Mike Bien,
Terra Cotta

Variety of cultures is what makes Canada great

Dear editor,
Re: recent letter "Being Canadian includes tolerance" and "Change is part of what makes Canada great."

I would like to say a big thank you to the two fine gentlemen (Don Scallen and Kevin Turner) for their beautiful letters of September 28. They summarized exactly what was on my mind but I have more to say about David Dods' letter of September 7.

I happen to be one of those beautiful visible minorities who is extremely proud of her cultural background and heritage. Before I became a Canadian, I was, and always will be, a Nigerian. I'm proud and honoured to be able to call both countries home. Not everyone is as privileged as I am.

I've never been more proud of a rich and vibrant culture and I choose to wear my traditional outfits at any blessed given opportunity, including wearing it to the mall just to give people like you, David, something to talk about. A word of advice: never judge a book by its cover.

Mr. Dods also implies that immigrants should "dress, act and speak like Canadians". Here's a little history for you: my beloved country Nigeria, just like so many other countries around the world, was colonized by the British, so if you're referring to English dressing, it is owned by the British and we've been wearing English clothing way before I was born (designer duds as a matter of fact).

Don't feel attacked David, as we're only trying to educate and enlighten you. The greatest part of living in Canada is there are so many varieties of people and trust me, variety is the spice of life.

Imagine a world full of people who all looked and dressed alike— what a boring world that would be.

Please David, wake up and smell the coffee and add a little spice to it. You just might find your world a much better place.

Eniola Abdul,
Georgetown



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