

MARCH  
2014



KIDS EDITION

Dear Parents –

Have you had a chance to check out all the great Parkway-related information we have on Pinterest? There are ten different boards you might be interested in exploring. Our Kids Zone board has colouring sheets, crafts and puzzles for grade school kids and the Roundabout Education board has good driving tips for those students getting behind the wheel for the first time. Do you have a child interested in construction equipment? Our #MachineryMonday board is the perfect place to learn about all the different machines on the Parkway. Come visit us at [www.pinterest.com/hgparkway](http://www.pinterest.com/hgparkway).

We had a lot of fun at many different community events around Windsor & Essex County last year, and we can't wait until it warms up and we can do it again. Visit [www.flickr.com/hgparkway](http://www.flickr.com/hgparkway) to see where we were and keep an eye out for the Parkway team at community events in 2014.

If you're looking for something fun to do with the kids, visit our Parkway display at Canada South Science City – check out their website [www.csssciencecity.com](http://www.csssciencecity.com) for the hours. You can also stop at The Safety Village ([www.thesafetyvillage.com](http://www.thesafetyvillage.com) - for hours) and let the kids drive motorized toy cars and ride bicycles on a scale model of the Parkway roundabout.

Do you have any comments, questions or input on the Parkway? Please send an email to us at [hgp-plo@wemg.ca](mailto:hgp-plo@wemg.ca). Interested in receiving this bi-monthly newsletter electronically or in receiving updates on Parkway construction? It's easy to join our email distribution list. Send your information to us at [detroit.river@ontario.ca](mailto:detroit.river@ontario.ca).

**The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway (the Parkway) is one of the most significant single highway investments in Ontario's history - and it is being built right here in Windsor and Essex County's backyard.**

**Parkway Features by the Numbers**  
120 hectares of green space 20 kilometres of multi-use trails 15 bridges  
11 tunnels 7 pedestrian bridges 6 Highway 401 lanes 4 Highway 3 lanes 2 pedestrian tunnels

**How much does the Parkway cost?**

The Parkway's contract value is **\$1.4 billion**.  
1.4 billion loonies stacked on top of each other are **2730 km long**.

That is the approximate distance from **Windsor ON to Kapuskasing ON and back again!**



**Sports Analogies**

 **2,912,768 hours of work** have gone into the Parkway to date. This is equal to the number of **hours played in 780 regular hockey seasons**.

 **14,000 m3 of asphalt** have been used on temporary diversion roads on the Parkway. That is enough to fill **5.5 Olympic-sized swimming pools**.

 **4,700,000 m3 of earth** is being moved for the Parkway. That is **3 times the amount of dirt that would be needed to fill the Rogers Centre in Toronto where the Blue Jays play**.

**Let it Grow**

Did you know that the Parkway is being built in an area that has remnants of **Tallgrass Prairie - a globally threatened ecosystem**? Between 1 and 5 per cent of the original Tallgrass Prairie ecosystem in North America remains today. The Parkway's landscape will include **thousands of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses** as part of an extensive ecological restoration effort. This chart shows the types of **plants that will grow on the Parkway**.



**Deciduous** refers to a tree that sheds its leaves annually.  
**Coniferous** means any evergreen tree of a group usually bearing cones.

**Who is Herb Gray?**

On November 28, 2012, Ontario named the Parkway after the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray. Mr. Gray represented Windsor as a member of parliament for 13 consecutive terms. He is a Companion of the Order of Canada, the highest designation of the Order of Canada bestowed by the Governor General. Visit a bust of Herb Gray located at the foot of Ouellette Avenue near Dieppe Park in downtown Windsor.



**Fast Facts**

The smallest species at risk Butler's Gartersnake found on the Parkway weighed about as much as 3 dimes and was about as long as 9 paperclips.



In 2013, the project website – [www.hgparkway.ca](http://www.hgparkway.ca) – received 3.5 million hits. The top 10 places visitors to the site came from in January 2014 are:



All workers on site need: a hard hat, a safety vest, steel toed-boots, safety glasses and specialized training on safety and the Parkway species at risk.

Construction of the Parkway is ongoing throughout the corridor.

**Tunnels and Bridges:** Construction of Bridge 12, which will take traffic over the lowered highway on Howard Avenue, is ongoing. Pile driving began in February for this bridge. The piles are big metal beams that are hammered into the ground and hold the bridge up.

**Walls and Roads:** The crews will be constructing barrier walls in the west end of the project near E.C. Row Expressway. These walls are a mix of both regular concrete wall panels, big mounds of earth called berms, and in some cases, a wall on top of a berm. There is a lot of road construction going on in several areas including the Ojibway Parkway and E.C. Row Expressway/Huron Church Road area. Ojibway Parkway has been reduced to one lane in each direction so that crews can rebuild the road. The work on the Huron Church Road off ramp of E.C. Row eastbound means ramp access to be closed. This closure is needed to build a new ramp and connections to the improved E.C. Row and the Parkway. The timing and duration of the closure will be publicly communicated in the near future.

**Pump Stations:** Work on these buildings is taking place in locations throughout the corridor. They are important because they pull the water that runs along the lowered roadway up to ground level and into ponds called storm-water management ponds.

It's very exciting to see all the work going on for the Parkway but we ask everyone to remember safety when near the site. Please do not go into any construction areas or walk into the site.

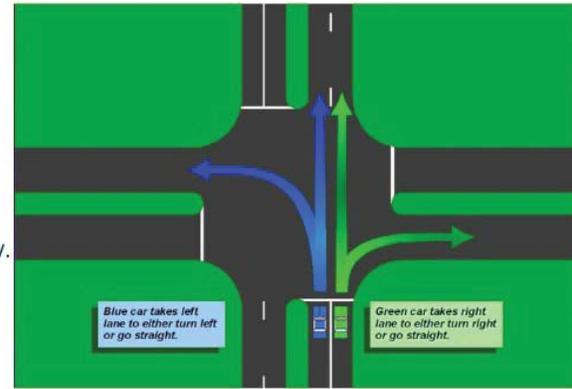
## Roundabout Driving Lesson

Driving in a roundabout is not that different from driving in a typical 4-way intersection. Follow these simple rules to make navigating a roundabout a breeze.

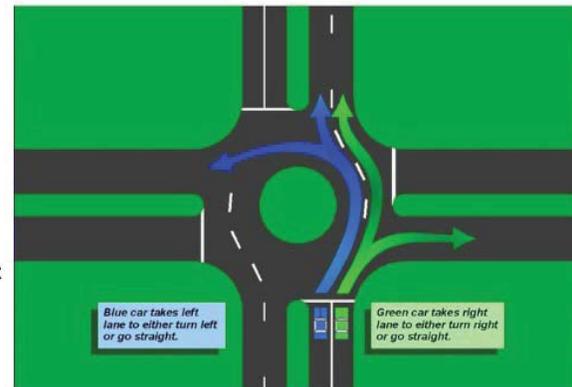
Typical 4-Way Intersection

### Rules for Roundabouts

- 1 Slow down as you approach the roundabout, keep to the right of the splitter island.
- 2 Use the correct lane for intended destination.
- 3 Watch for vehicles already in the roundabout.
- 4 Traffic in the roundabout always has the right-of-way. Entering vehicles must always yield.
- 5 Enter the roundabout when there is adequate gap in the circulating traffic.
- 6 In the roundabout, keep to the right of the central island and travel in a counterclockwise direction.
- 7 Do not stop, pass large vehicles or change lanes within the roundabout.
- 8 Use your right-turn signal when exiting the roundabout.
- 9 If you miss your exit, continue around the roundabout again and exit.



Typical 4-Leg Roundabout



For more information, visit the MTO Roundabout Website at [www.ontario.ca/roundabout](http://www.ontario.ca/roundabout).

You can also view an animated tutorial & other helpful roundabout videos at [www.youtube.com/hgparkway](http://www.youtube.com/hgparkway) or scan the QR code with your smart phone.



## Parkway Green Space Dessert

Here's a fun way to enjoy green space indoors.

### Ingredients

- 12 chocolate cream-filled sandwich cookies
- 1(3.9 ounce) package instant chocolate pudding mix
- 2 cups of milk
- Green sprinkles
- Gummy candies



### Directions

1. Place the chocolate sandwich cookies into a resealable plastic zipper bag, and crush with a rolling pin into crumbs.
2. Whisk together the chocolate pudding mix with the milk in a bowl, stirring for 2 minutes.
3. Sprinkle about 1/3 of the crushed sandwich cookie crumbs into the bottom of a serving bowl or smaller portions in mini plastic cups. Spoon the chocolate pudding over the crumbs. Smooth out the top of the pudding, then top with more chocolate cookie crumbs to resemble dirt.
4. Decorate the top layer with green sprinkles and place gummy candies that remind you of the outdoors on top. Refrigerate until serving.

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to see the steps on Pinterest

Visit: [www.pinterest.com/hgparkway](http://www.pinterest.com/hgparkway)



# JOBS ON THE PARKWAY

What are you going to be when you grow up?

Maybe working on a mega-project like the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway interests you.

Here are some descriptions of a few jobs people have on the Parkway and the educational background that is needed.

## Policy Advisor

**Education:** Undergrad BA in Public Policy & Administration

Carries out research and analysis to identify and address policy issues. Prepares reports and presentations that provide advice to managers and directors and helps the ministry to make government decisions.

Participates in project management and policy development meetings and works with people both within and outside the ministry to make sure that policies are implemented properly.

## Construction Engineer

**Education:** BA in Structural Engineering

Construction engineers inspect the construction and maintenance of new and existing buildings, bridges, highways and industrial construction to ensure that specifications and building codes are observed and monitor work site safety.

## Human Resource Specialist

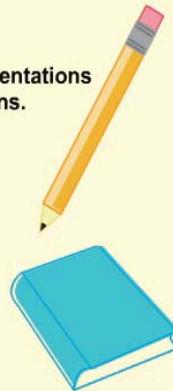
**Education:** BA in Business Administration/ Diploma in Human Resource Management

Plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate the operations of human resources or personnel departments. Plan human resource requirements in conjunction with other departmental managers, co-ordinate internal and external training and recruitment activities.

## Crane Operator

**Education:** College Diploma in Heavy Equipment Operation

Operate cranes or draglines to lift, move, position or place machinery, equipment and other large objects at construction or industrial sites, ports, railway yards, surface mines and other similar locations.



## Freddie's Corner

Freddie is still hibernating so this edition's column was guest written by Paul Pratt, Ojibway Nature Centre. Freddie will be back in the spring. Send your questions to [detroit.river@ontario.ca](mailto:detroit.river@ontario.ca).

### SIGNS OF SPRING

I have been searching for the first signs of spring lately, perhaps as a way of convincing myself that spring will come soon. On sunny days I can now hear the spring songs of Northern Cardinals, Song Sparrows, Tufted Titmice and House Finches; birds that have been silent all winter. American Robins have been present in large numbers all winter so their appearance can't be used as an indicator. The abundant berry crop of last fall encouraged robins to stay despite the deep snow and bitter cold temps this winter. Great Horned Owls are already nesting and a few hardy spring migrants such as Horned Larks and Red-shouldered Hawks have been reported.

Around the end of March spring advancement suddenly accelerates and signs are everywhere. Red-winged Blackbirds and the strong voices of Western Chorus Frogs can be heard from roadside ditches and wetlands, waterfowl return in numbers, the first wildflowers bloom and every week brings surprises. The endangered Eastern Foxsnake waits another month for emergence but warm late March day can have gartersnakes out en masse. The first few days these snakes are sluggish and can often be closely approached but refrain from disturbing their behaviour. Spring emergence is mating season for both the common Eastern Gartersnake and the endangered Butler's Gartersnake. A large group of males climbing over themselves and vying for the attention of a single female is a memorable spring event.

Visit Ojibway Nature Centre for March Break activities including:

**Monday, March 10**  
**Free Open House**

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

An afternoon of crafts and a creature feature.

[www.ojibway.ca](http://www.ojibway.ca)

## It's a bird, it's a plane, it's our Aerial Photographer

Have you visited our Flickr page ([www.flickr.com/hgparkway](http://www.flickr.com/hgparkway)) to view our aerial photos of the Parkway? Ever wonder how those photos get taken? Dan Reaume is a local photographer who specializes in aerial photography.

To capture those photos, he has to rent a small plane and a pilot. He usually spends about two hours 1100 – 1200 feet in the air and then six hours in his office sorting through the thousands of photos he takes. Dan uses a regular Nikon camera with a wide angle lens. He sets the camera at a high shutter speed and makes sure the lens stabilizer is on because flying that high up causes a great deal of vibration which could impact the sharpness of the photos he takes.

While he's in the plane, he opens the window, shoots the photos, and then shuts the window quickly. The camera never goes out the window, he just opens it to get a clearer shot.

Another great tool in taking these photos? Good weather. If there is too much sunlight or too much cloud cover it's hard for him to get the right photo and if there is any type of fog or low cloud cover, it's hard for the pilots to fly.

Dan was born and raised in Windsor and always knew he wanted to be a photographer. He began taking photos with an old Brownie camera when he was six years old. By Grade 7 he was processing his own photos at home on black and white paper. Dan attended the Banff School of Fine Arts.

So the next time you see a small plane flying low over the Parkway area, it could be Dan up there taking more photos for us to show you how construction is going.



# FINGER CRUNCHER

	<p><b>TRUTH</b></p>  <p>1 How many trail bridges does the Parkway have? a. 10 b. 3 c. 7</p> <p>2 The Parkway consists of: a. a below-grade freeway b. 300 acres (120 ha) of green space c. both</p>	<p><b>RESPECT</b></p> 	
<p>Colour your own picture here</p> <p>8 True or False? Thousands of workers built the Parkway.</p> <p>For answer go to number 4</p>	<p>1 Answer to question 7</p> <p>8 True</p> <p>Answer to question 4 b. The Parkway has one multi-lane roundabout near Howard Avenue.</p>	<p>Answer to question 6</p> <p>2 a. it has an eco-passage for animals</p> <p>3 True</p> <p>Answer to question 5</p>	<p><b>WISDOM</b></p> <p>3 True or False? The Parkway has approx. 20 km of trails.</p> <p>For answer go to number 5</p>
<p>1 True or False? The Parkway will connect to a new international bridge.</p> <p>For answer go to number 1</p> <p><b>BRavery</b></p> 	<p>1 Answer to question 1</p> <p>1 c. both</p> <p>Answer to question 2 c. The Parkway has 7 trail bridges.</p>	<p>Answer to question 8</p> <p>4 True</p> <p>5 Answer to question 3</p>	<p>4 How many roundabouts does the Parkway have? a. 0 b. 1 c. 2</p> <p>For answer go to number 8</p> <p><b>HONESTY</b></p> 
	<p>6 True or False? The Oakwood Tunnel is unique: a. it has an eco-passage for animals b. music plays in it c. it has traffic on top</p> <p>For answer go to number 2</p> <p><b>HUMILITY</b></p> 	<p>5 True or False? Eastern Foxsnakes are being protected</p> <p>For answer go to number 3</p> <p><b>LOVE</b></p> 	

**Instructions for folding:**

1. Cut along the blue dotted line.
2. Place face down and fold all four corners together so that they meet in the middle of the paper, crease firmly and leave them there.
3. Flip over. Again, fold all four corners together so that they meet in the centre of the paper, give a good crease and leave them there.
4. Fold in half in one direction, then in half in the other direction.
5. Finish – Stick your thumbs and first two fingers into the four pockets on the bottom of the cruncher and start crunching.

**How to play:**

1. Spell out your name, or count out the numbers of letters in your name, at the same time as you open and close your cruncher.
2. Choose a number from one of the inside triangles.
3. Count out the number you've chosen from the inside triangles, at the same time as you open and close your cruncher.
4. Again, choose a number from one of the inside triangles, but this time peek under the flap and read the question at the top. Take a guess.
5. The sentence under the question will tell you where to go to find the answer. Go there and see if you answered right! If not, see what you learned.
6. Go cruncher crazy and repeat the steps as many times as you want!