

Spring 2013

Moore Park News

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IDENTIFYING, ADVOCATING AND ACTING ON NEIGHBOURHOOD CONCERNS
IN ORDER TO ENHANCE MOORE PARK.

Annual General Meeting

April 2nd, 2013, 6:30 pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

1 Garfield Ave.

Neighbourhood Watch: Time for Renewal

At our Annual General meeting on April 2nd, we will have as a guest speaker, Janet Sherbanowski, Executive Director of the Crime Prevention Association of Toronto ("CPAT") – the people who run Neighbourhood Watch in Toronto.

CPAT is a community-based, community-lead organization that makes people more aware about what they can do to prevent crime in their community. CPAT works in cooperation with,

but independently of, Toronto Police Services.

Although Neighbourhood Watch was established in Moore Park many years ago, it is only successful if you and your neighbours:

- get involved;
- watch out for one another; and
- Call 911 if you see any suspicious behavior.

Please come to our Annual General Meeting and learn how we can re-invigorate Neighbourhood Watch in Moore Park.

If you are unable to attend, please complete and return the Proxy on the last page of this newsletter.

For more information on Neighbourhood Watch, please visit CPAToronto.org

Moore Park Lawn Bowling Club



The Moore Park Lawn Bowling Club is in its 88th year. The club has twenty-six members currently. It has a strong historical tie to Moorevale Park and the community. The lawn bowling green also provides an aesthetic value to the park.

Over the past fifteen years the role of the Parks Department in relation to the club has steadily diminished. At one time it had the responsibility to maintain the green and surrounding structure. Gradually the cutting of the lawn and the spring and fall aerating, seeding, and maintenance has

declined. The club has now contracted out the cutting and other maintenance to a specialist.

At the end of June, 2011 the club received a letter from the Director of Management Services Parks and Recreation informing the club that beginning in 2012 the club would pay a fee of \$3,000. Additionally the club had received a \$3,000 per annum grant from the Department of Parks and Recreation which ceased at the end of 2011.

The abrupt change in the support from Parks and

Recreation has strained the club's finances. The club's entire reserve is gone. Members now have to pay approximately \$115 more than they did in 2011.

Although Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam recently assisted in getting the license fee removed for this coming year, the Moore Park Lawn Bowling Club needs to explore possibilities to tackle its financial needs through some form of long term endowment, or a charitable giving project. Ideally the club would like to have more members as well.

'Our park is great, but it could be made so much better...'

Moorevale Park Improvements

Ella Rebanks thinks Moorevale Park needs some improvements, and she is not alone.

She has put together a small working group to do some brainstorming on what could be done to improve our park. A few ideas include: playground renovation, wading pool to

splash pad transition & upgrade, addition of interior programming space to the clubhouse and assessing the demand for some sort of dog area, recognizing this is an issue that has been examined before but not yet resolved to the liking of dog owners.

Ella is working with Councillor Wong-Tam's office regarding funding for the improvements and working in cooperation with Toronto Parks & Rec.

Please watch our website for progress reports.

Hydro One – the big dig off Mt. Pleasant



The big dig continues for Hydro One's and Toronto Hydro's Midtown Electricity Infrastructure Project - a tunnel from Leaside Transformer Station (TS) via Birch Junction to Bridgman.

Excavation of the 60m deep main shaft is complete.

The tunnel boring machine was installed the first week of March and is drilling eastward at a speed of 10m per day towards Bayview Junction.

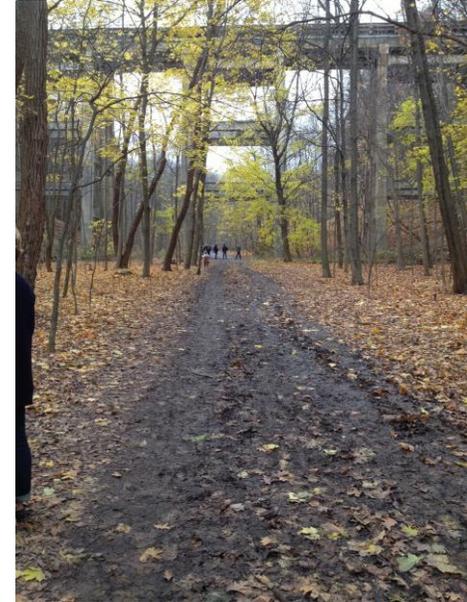
They expect that it will arrive at Bayview Junction sometime in the fall 2013.

Kay Gardner Beltline Study

The City, in association with the Toronto Regional Conservation Authority and the Bateman Foundation, is engaged in a project to improve the Beltline Trail which includes the ravines adjacent to homes in Rosedale, Moore Park, Bennington Heights and Governors Bridge.

The public consultations are done and we can expect to see a report with a plan for some priority action in the coming weeks. MPRA has made some recommendations to the City to ensure that the trail drainage is improved without losing the natural qualities of trail that we all enjoy.

For more information, please visit http://www.toronto.ca/involved/projects/kay-gardner_beltline/index.htm or contact Chris Lowry or Bill Rosenfeld



Poor drainage of the path along Mud Creek make people walk on the edges thereby widening the path.

Ravine Hillside Remediation Group

Much of the land on the slopes of these ravines – Mud Creek and Yellow Creek – is privately owned. Storm water management, erosion control, and habitat restoration efforts on public land will be much more effective for long term stewardship if all of the landowners on the adjacent hillsides engage in their own efforts to protect and improve their properties.

Recently MPRA organized a meeting with representatives of all five residents associations along the Mud Creek and Yellow Creek sections of the Beltline Trail – Moore Park, North Rosedale, South Rosedale, Bennington and Governors Bridge, to talk about issues of erosion and the poor state of the forests in the ravines. We have formed a Ravine Hillside Remediation

Working Group to develop a common approach to encourage stewardship of the ravines. We are developing a list of recommended practices and other resources which will be available soon.

For more information, please visit <http://209.59.212.204/reports/view/54>

or contact Chris Lowry or Bill Rosenfeld

Casi-no or Casi-yes?



The Moore Park Residents Association has taken no position for or against a casino for Toronto.

Your Board has discussed the issue and considers it to be very complex, involving planning, land use and social issues.

We encourage our members to educate themselves on the issue and contact our City Councillor, Kristyn Wong-Tam to let her know how you feel.

For information on the casino, visit:

toronto.ca/casinoconsultation

For information on No Casino Toronto, visit:

nocasinotoronto.com

Mount Pleasant Cemetery Crematorium Issues



300 m from crematorium

“... other regions like Mississauga and Vancouver require a 300 meter setback.”

For more information on our research and findings please contact the Crematorium Working Group, Moore Park at bettertoronto@gmail.com.

In response to long-standing concerns about MPGC's governance and more recently new crematorium applications, the Friends of the Toronto General Burying Grounds has been created as a vehicle for community concerns. The group is undertaking a membership drive and fundraising campaign.

Representatives will be present at the MPRA AGM or you may contact them at bettertoronto@gmail.com for more information or to find out more information and how you can be involved.

The 40 year-old Mount Pleasant crematorium continues to operate within a stone's throw (16.5 meters) of nearby homes in our community without any emissions controls. In June 2012 the company, Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries, applied to MOE for approval for a new crematorium on the same site. This new facility would scrub some emissions and gather these in containers to be stored on site until they are ultimately removed to toxic waste facilities. The new facility will have the capacity for considerably more cremations.

This sounds like an industrial process, one that would best be carried out in an industrial area, where it can occur at a greater distance from houses, playgrounds etc. Certainly Moore Park has had more than its share of toxic fallout.

A committee of concerned neighbours, the Crematorium Working Group, asked the Minister of the Environment in July 2012 to require Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries to move the crematorium to a safer distance, but they are still waiting for a meaningful response. The group also asked Kristyn Wong-Tam, our City Councillor, and

City Planning to come up with a by-law that would set minimum distances from these types of facilities and residential housing.

At a meeting at Metro Hall in December, Planning told the public in attendance that they had not consulted with Public Health, and were not mandated to consider health risks, or to look for best practices where crematorium siting was concerned, and proposed 30 meter setbacks for the “nuisance factor,” though other regions like Mississauga and Vancouver require a 300 meter setback. A new provincial law now allows these facilities to be built outside of cemeteries, so the crematorium can now be re-located on land zoned for such an industrial use.

Cremation is dramatically on the rise in Toronto, as is the population, and this is a city wide issue that needs best practice planning with the input of Public Health. This is a growing issue, and as we know, once approvals are granted, these facilities tend to be grandfathered to operate forever under the laws that applied at the time. Do we want to see another 40 years of industrial incineration in the heart of the

neighbourhood?

With the assistance of Councillor Wong-Tam, on March 6, 2013, the City of Toronto Planning and Growth Management Committee passed a motion directing that the draft City-wide Zoning By-law in the form dated November 8, 2012 be amended so as to:

- Impose a minimum 300 meters minimum separation distance of crematoriums from residential and other sensitive land uses to protect public health;
- Remove the requirement of siting crematoriums in cemeteries to allow for competitive expansion of the sector in the public interest; and
- Permit crematoriums in designated areas zoned for industrial use and adequately separated from residential zones.

The resolution passed by the Planning and Growth Management Committee still needs to be approved by City Council, but is a large step forward in protecting our neighbourhoods from risks associated with increased use of crematoria in residential areas. Whether the Mt. Pleasant cemetery crematorium will be grandfathered has yet to be determined.

Planning, Zoning and FoNTRA – Jeremy Gawen

This has been a relatively quiet year for Committee of Adjustment (COA) applications for Moore Park. We had one house on which major renovations were begun without the required COA approval which was eventually settled amicably. A house on Harper was demolished and an application made to build a house significantly larger than allowed; this was refused and the owner then decided to build within the Zoning Bylaw. We currently have two outstanding applications which, together with neighbours, we are opposing; both applications have been deferred.

The one on Moore Ave. is particularly interesting; there are very few 50 foot lots on Moore east of Mount Pleasant and, according to the City Zoning Map, a minimum frontage of 25 feet is allowed on this stretch which is unusual for Moore

Park. The owner of 182 Moore therefore made an application to the COA to sever the lot into two lots, each with a townhouse built on it. The neighbours were generally opposed to a number of the variances requested and were in negotiation with the owner when a very astute neighbor, Kathleen Morrison, discovered that, back in the 80's, at the request of all the owners on the street, the City had enacted a special bylaw to prevent such subdivisions by increasing the minimum frontage to 30 feet; unfortunately, the City had failed to put this change onto the Zoning Maps. We assisted the residents of Moore Ave. in engaging a lawyer to fight this case. The other activity relates to the operation of the COA. Working with FoNTRA, the Federation of North Toronto Ratepayer Associations, we have made a number of proposals to the City's Planning Committee to improve the operation of

the COA. We asked for a better process of appointment to the COA panels which rule on applications; the caliber of the panels has improved immensely with the last round of appointments. We asked for a longer time period between the notification of an application and the hearing to allow a reasonable review time; the time has been increased from 14 days to 20 days. We have also asked the City to take over the role of the OMB in the final appeal process and it has now agreed to request this of the province. MPRA has also advocated that the City provide guidelines for the term "minor" as in "Minor Variance" to try to stop the huge variances being asked for and approved and reduce the number of applications to the COA; this too is under active consideration along with a number of other suggestions for streamlining the activity.

**Moore Park
Driving Etiquette 101**

Stop signs ask you to stop, not slow down a little.

For the safety of all in our neighbourhood, please come to a complete stop at every STOP sign. You could save someone's life.



**Join MPRA & attend our
AGM**

Learn what your community association is doing for you.

Meet your neighbours; ask questions; elect your Board of Directors and stay in touch with relevant issues.

Membership Form

Name / Resident(s): _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Home Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Fees: \$40 for one year (until Dec. 31/14) OR \$100 for three years (until Dec. 31/16)

Moore Park Residents' Association, P.O. Box 25, 1531 Bayview Ave. Toronto ON M4G 4G8

Moore Park Residents Association

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1531 Bayview Ave.
Toronto, ON M4G 4G8

membership@moorepark.org

www.moorepark.org

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Notice of Annual Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 2nd, 2013

6:30 pm, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, 1 Garfield Ave.

Agenda

1. President's Report
2. Official Business:
 - a) Approval of Minutes;
 - b) Financial Report;
 - c) Election of Directors for a term of 2 years until the 2014 AGM:
David Larock, Cynthia Henderson, Brian Pel, Charles Zimmerman, Ian Osler, Don Cameron, Angela Lianos, Christopher Lowry and William Rosenfeld
3. Guest Speakers: Janet Sherbanowski, Crime Prevention of Toronto
4. Introduction of other guests
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

PROXY

The undersigned member of the Moore Park Residents' Association (the "Corporation") hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints Don Cameron, President of the Corporation, or failing him, PJ Gordon, Treasurer of the Corporation, or _____, as proxy of the undersigned to attend, act and vote in the name of the undersigned in all matters presented before the members at the annual meeting of the members of the Corporation to be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2012 at 6:30 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, 1 Garfield Ave., Toronto and any and all adjournments thereof.

Without limiting the generality of the power hereby conferred, the undersigned hereby directs the said proxy holder to vote the shares represented by this form of proxy in the following manner:

1. FOR or WITHHOLD FROM VOTING FOR an ordinary resolution electing a number of directors of the Corporation for a two year term;
2. FOR or WITHHOLD FROM VOTING FOR an ordinary resolution accepting the financial statements presented by the Corporation;
3. FOR or AGAINST an ordinary resolution approving the minutes of last year's annual general meeting;

4. At the discretion of the said proxy holder, upon any amendment or variation of the above matters or any other matter that may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

DATED at _____, the ____ day of _____, 2013.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

FILE ONE (1) COPY OF THIS PROXY FORM WITH THE MPRA BY SENDING IT:

by Post: to P.O. Box 25, 1531 Bayview Ave. Toronto, ON M4G 4G8

by email: scanned copy by email to membership@moorepark.org.

by dropping it person to: Don Cameron at 44 Old Bridle Path, Toronto.