



GOVERNOR'S BRIDGE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

NEIGHBOURHOOD

UPDATE

September 2016

GBRA Board 2015-16

Alan McFarland - President

Chris Fraser - Vice President

Jeff Hanemaayer - Secretary-Treasurer

Kathryn Langley Hope - Director

Jason Jessel - Director

Keith Nash - Director

George Paradi - Director

The GBRA Board and volunteers have been working hard on many important matters on your behalf.

EVENTS

Community Picnic, Sunday, September 25, 4-8pm

Please join us for the 49th Annual Governors Bridge Community Picnic in Nesbitt Park sponsored by the GBRA. Enjoy great food, games and races for the kids, raffle, balloons, face painting, music, fire truck, police car, and good conversations - a great time for all ages! Past raffle items have included tickets to sporting events (Go Jays Go), wine, food baskets, books and gift cards. If you'd like to donate something special, please contact Karri Paradi at 416-944-1227 or karriparadi@gmail.com.

Wine & Cheese Reception and AGM

Last May 19, 34 of you attended this event, a new record! Existing and new directors and officers were elected (see the header above). For other details on the AGM, see the minutes which were emailed shortly after.

HIGH WATER PRESSURE IN GOVERNORS BRIDGE

On August 3rd, the City completed repairs to a broken water main in front of 12 Governors Rd. Within 24 hours, two board members experienced plumbing problems due to very high water pressure (measured up to 135 PSI when normal is 50 to 80 PSI). We immediately contacted the City. We warned all members to check their plumbing for leaks and report them to 311, and provided a link to where they can make claims against the City. Some members who were away had neighbours check who found leaks. This minimized the damage before the owners' return.

As a result, we learned that over 20 members' homes had anything from small leaks and fixture failures to burst pipes and major flooding, some causing thousands of dollars of damage. Councillor's staff made the City aware that this was a neighbourhood wide problem. They escalated this major issue to Senior staff.

Since then we have been in regular contact with the City and our councillor's office while they have been working to resolve the

problems. A high pressure incident occurred again on September 13. Reaction from the City was prompt this time.

Equipment to finally resolve the problems was installed September 15. We will continue to monitor the situation.

We also encouraged the City to make improvements to their 311 incident recording systems. They were unaware of the multiple reports of high water pressure problems in the same neighbourhood until we brought it to their attention.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

2016/17 membership dues are now due. The board and volunteers spend countless hours each year for the whole community's benefit. Please do your part by contributing \$40 to support our efforts. Bring your dues (cash or cheque) to the picnic, leave at or mail to Treasurer Jeff Hanemaayer's home at 15 Governors Rd., M4W 2E9, or send an e-transfer to jeffhanemaayer@rogers.com.

PUBLIC SPACES

Nesbitt Park Improvements

As a result of requests by the GBRA to Councillor Fragedakis' office, the City installed new chips in the playground and will be aerating and seeding worn, burnt and damaged grass areas in October. We also asked if the water source is up to standard (it is), if we can use it to water grass in park (no clear reply), and for a water fountain in the park (no reply yet).

Potential Ping Pong Table in Nesbitt Park

At the AGM, a committee was formed to consult with the community at large (not just GBRA members) to gather ideas, comments, feedback, etc. This feedback will be consolidated into one document to fairly present the pros and cons of adding a concrete ping pong table to Nesbitt Park. After broad distribution of these documents, hopefully residents will be well informed when it comes time to sign (or not) the petition.

NEIGHBOURHOOD UPDATE

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GOVERNOR'S BRIDGE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC SPACES (continued)

Maintenance of Misc. Public Property

As a result of requests by the GBRA to our Councillor's office to tend to the rotary, the area around the tree was restored with new plantings and chips.

We determined that Metrolinx owns the property at the northwest corner of Bayview and Nesbitt. Since it is part of the gateway into Governors Bridge, we asked the City how to encourage Metrolinx to maintain their property (at least keep the grass cut and do some clean-up).

Post Hydro One Midtown Project: Restoration

The restoration project has been completed including some additional work that we requested. The trees will be maintained for 2 years.

Safer Access to Crothers Woods from Nesbitt

Long before the start of the current resurfacing project on Bayview, we asked Councillors Fragedakis to ask the City add to this project improved access to Crothers Woods: a continuous sidewalk on the east side of Bayview heading south from Nesbitt to the access point where people park their cars, with a barrier to protect pedestrians and cyclists from traffic.

Unfortunately improvements will not be part of the current project because the contract was already let. They may come from the Functional Planning Study for the potential reconfiguration of Bayview Avenue from Moore to River, but it's not due for completion until June 2018.

Don River Valley Park

We sent a letter to Evergreen Brick Works expressing support for the general concept and that we want to better understand the details as they become available. For more info, visit donrivervalleypark.ca.

Don Valley Brick Works Park North Entrance Construction

The City and TRCA will begin construction on a new north entrance trail connecting the Beltline Trail to DVBW Park. Work is scheduled to begin October 3 and expected to last until the end of the year. Existing official entrances will remain open during construction. For more details, go to toronto.ca/brickworks.

PARKING & TRAFFIC ISSUES IN GOVERNORS BRIDGE

Instead of proceeding with "no parking" in the first two bends from the traffic circle on both Nesbitt and Douglas based on the survey results, a committee was formed at the AGM to consult with the community at large to identify the problems related to parking and traffic, potential solutions, and the associated pros, cons and risks of these solutions. These will be consolidated into one document for broad distribution. After distribution, we'll determine the committee's next steps.

BAYVIEW AVENUE BUS (#28)

In case you're not aware, this bus from Davisville/Yonge St. station to the Brick Works stops at the Nesbitt traffic lights while going north on Bayview but not when it's going south. We are asking the City if the bus can stop at Nesbitt while going south.

Have an Issue or Idea?

If you have an issue that needs resolution or an idea on how to improve life in Governors Bridge, please send it to a Board member. If it relates to the City of Toronto, please also send it to Councillor Fragedakis (councillor_fragedakis@toronto.ca).

Do we have your email address?

If you didn't receive this newsletter by email, we don't have your email address. Some GBRA communications are distributed only by email. If you want to be included, please send your email address to jeffhanemaayer@rogers.com.

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