



GOVERNOR'S BRIDGE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

NEIGHBOURHOOD

UPDATE

September 2017

GBRA Board 2017-18

Chris Fraser - President

Jason Jessel - Vice President

Jeff Hanemaayer - Secretary-Treasurer

Kathryn Langley Hope - Director

Alan McFarland - Director

Keith Nash - Director

George Paradi - Director

EVENTS

It's Canada's 150th Anniversary and the 50th Annual Governors Bridge Community Picnic & Barbeque on Sunday, September 24, 3-8pm.

Please join us to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday and our Semi-Centennial – the 50th Annual Governors Bridge Community Picnic and BBQ in Nesbitt Park – sponsored by the GBRA. Please feel free to invite past neighbours to attend and to enjoy great food, professional face painting and Henna artist, balloons, games, races for the kids, a raffle, live music and “guaranteed” fun for all ages. If you want to make a day of it, start by checking out Evergreen and City of Toronto's new art installation in the Don River Valley Park; invite current or past neighbours over for lunch and come and join us for a great 50th celebration. If you'd like to help or donate, please contact Karri Paradi, at 416-944-1227 or karriparadi@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

2017/18 membership dues are now due. The Board and volunteers are very active in working to make Governors Bridge a better place in which to live. Please contribute \$40 to help support all that the GBRA does in the community. Bring your dues (cash or cheque) to the Picnic, or drop them off or mail your cheque to GBRA Treasurer Jeff Hanemaayer's home at 15 Governors Road, M4W 2E9 or send an e-transfer to jeffhanemaayer@gmail.com.

PUBLIC SPACES

“Triangular” Park

The GBRA Board has been working with Councillor Fragedakis and her team to improve the small park located at the northeast corner of Governors Road and Douglas Crescent. Councillor Fragedakis is working with Parks and Recreation and the Partnerships Office to improve and rename the park - with key input from all Governors Bridge residents.

Orphan Property at Bayview & Nesbitt

This property, on the northwest corner of Bayview is owned by Metrolinx. Being the eastern gateway to our neighbourhood, the GBRA has been working with limited success to get the weeds

cut down and the property cleaned up.

The Board is now working with Councillor Fragedakis to look for ways to get Metrolinx to transfer this orphan property to the City of Toronto so it can be landscaped and properly looked after - like our parks and rotary are.

In the short term, the Board is getting a cost analysis of what it would cost to do an initial clean-up of this property - which will be presented to Metrolinx to act upon.

Chorley Park Trial Construction

In case you haven't noticed, the City has cleared vegetation and erected fencing to prepare for construction of the main trail down the slope. Construction of the natural surface trail on the south side of the site is planned for 2018-2019.

Don River Valley Park

Thanks to Evergreen and the City of Toronto, The Don River Valley Park Art Program features new temporary sculptural installations, murals, billboards and performance, including dance and sound, along the Don River, created specifically for this site by local, Canadian and international artists. The first artwork, a series of concrete gargoyle sculptures by acclaimed Omaskêko Cree artist Duane Linklater, will be unveiled on September 23, 2017. Check it out before the BBQ.

Bike Share in Chorley Park, at Summerhill Market

Bike Share Toronto stands are now located nearby to make travel by bicycle more convenient and easy to enjoy.

Bayview Avenue Functional Study

Scheduled to start in 2017, Councillor Fragedakis has confirmed that City staff are suggesting this important study be deferred to 2019. Recognizing the densification of the Lower Don and on Eglinton, the GBRA Board is working closely with Councillor Fragedakis to find a way so that this all-important study is started in 2017. The Board has established a BAFS sub-committee for this project and to assist with the development of the Don River Valley Park. **If you'd like to join this committee as a volunteer, please reach out to Chris Fraser.**

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PUBLIC SPACES (continued)

Rink in Nesbitt Park

The GBRA purchased a new rink liner with the hope that this winter will be a good one to create ice in Nesbitt Park. **If you'd like to help, please email Jason Jessel.**

OTHER MATTERS

Transportation Analysis (Area Traffic Study)

Working with Councillor Fragedakis' office, the GBRA Board is asking the City of Toronto staff to study local traffic and parking and provide solutions for:

- Speeding on Governors Bridge and Nesbitt Drive;
- Lack of stopping on Nesbitt Drive at Douglas Crescent T intersection;
- Lack of stopping on Governors Road at Douglas Crescent T intersection;
- Heavy truck traffic in Governors Bridge.

Bayview Avenue Bus (#28)

The GBRA Board is working with Councillor Fragedakis' office to install a "proper" bus shelter at the northbound stop at Nesbitt and Bayview – to improve safety and comfort for local residents waiting for the bus. To get the new shelter, the TTC must do a land assessment and then link up with City staff to install the bus shelter.

New Private Facebook Group for Governors Bridge Residents

A new private Facebook group will be introduced for GBRA members and residents on September 24th. Both GBRA members and residents will be able to use this site until the end of 2018, at which time it will become a GBRA Members Only site. This Facebook site is being created for neighbors and content will be shared by Governors Bridge neighbors. Terms and conditions to access the Facebook site will be presented to GBRA members and residents when they sign up and are approved to participate.

History of Governors Bridge

If you have a few spare moments, why not learn more about Governors Bridge and area history by visiting our website - www.governorsbridge.net - managed by Gary Stothers.

New Grants Available for Tree Planting on Private Property

The Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation and the City of Toronto have launched a campaign to support the City's target of achieving 40% tree canopy cover in Toronto. Please apply at EveryTreeCounts.ca.

Toxic Taxi & reBOOT

The City of Toronto provides a service that picks up household hazardous waste. It is offered through 311. Go to toronto.ca for more details. The GBRA board is trying to arrange a "neighbourhood pick-up" for Spring 2018.

Looking to recycle old computers or digital devices? www.reBOOTcanada.ca is now at the Brickworks and doing free electronics recycling. (416) 534-6017 ext. 2.

Call for Directors

Do you have 10 hours a year (4 meetings), that you can use to join the GBRA as a director or committee member?

If you can spare the time, and want to join the neighbourhood improvement process, please come to our AGM, our Community BBQ, or drop any one of the Directors below an e-mail saying you'd like to join. If you're new to Governors Bridge, joining the GBRA is a terrific way to meet your neighbours.

Have an Issue or Idea?

If you have an issue that needs resolution or an idea (a reading club, or a desire to learn coding, etc.) on how to improve the quality of life in Governors Bridge, please contact Chris Fraser. If your idea or issue relates to the City of Toronto, please call 311 or contact Councillor Fragedakis (councillor_fragedakis@toronto.ca).

Do we have your email address?

If you didn't receive this newsletter by e-mail, we don't have your e-mail address. Most GBRA information is sent by email. If you want to be included, please send your email address to jeffhanemaayer@gmail.com.

Board Member Contact Info

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