



GOVERNOR'S BRIDGE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

NEIGHBOURHOOD

UPDATE

September 2019

GBRA Board 2019-20

Chris Fraser - President

Jason Jessel - Vice President

Jeff Hanemaayer - Secretary-Treasurer

Kathryn Langley Hope - Director

George Paradi - Director

EVENTS

52nd Annual Governor's Bridge Community Picnic & Barbeque on Sunday, September 22, 3pm to 8pm.

Please join us to celebrate our annual Community Picnic and BBQ in Nesbitt Park – sponsored by the GBRA. Come enjoy great food, professional face painting, Henna artists, balloons, games, races for the kids, prizes, a raffle, live music and “guaranteed” fun for all ages. **If you'd like to help, please contact Karri Paradi at 416-526-3838 or karriparadi@gmail.com.**

University-Rosedale Federal Candidates Debate

On October 2 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, five area residents associations (North Rosedale, South Rosedale, Moore Park, Governor's Bridge and Summerhill) are hosting a “Candidates Debate” (NOT an “All Candidates Debate”) in the Sanctuary of Rosedale United Church at 159 Roxborough Drive in Toronto.

Candidates include Chrystia Freeland (Liberal), Helen-Claire Tingling (Conservative), Melissa Jean-Baptiste Vajda (NDP) and Tim Grant (Green).

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

2019/20 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 for the community. **Bring your dues (cash or cheque) to the Community Picnic on September 22nd; or drop them off or mail to GBRA Treasurer Jeff Hanemaayer, 15 Governors Rd, M4W 2E9; or send e-transfer to jeffhanemaayer@gmail.com.**

PUBLIC SPACES

Revitalization of GB Lookout at the Brick Works

In collaboration with the Board, Jeffery Smyth and Richard Brightling (project managers of the original GBRA Millennium Lookout Project in 2000), the City of Toronto and Toronto Region Conservation Authority have undertaken a project to revitalize the Lookout at the Brick Works Park.

Members of Governors Bridge attended a consultation meeting on September 12 to review and provide feedback to the

preliminary concept design to make the Lookout more accessible, safe, attractive, visible, enjoyable and durable; less likely to be vandalized; and recognize the funders of the original Lookout Project. Cheryl Post from Toronto Parks and Recreation will be at the Community BBQ to share the initial design for the Lookout.

Once the concept is finalized after consultation with other stakeholders, the project will enter a detailed design/approvals phase that will last through 2020. Implementation is contingent on available capital funding from the City of Toronto and members of the community.

Mural Art on Bayview Underpass

Gary Stothers is working with the City of Toronto to restore and reface the facades underneath the train overpass on Bayview just north of Nesbitt Drive and then initiate a mural art program charette to improve the look of this structure.

Supplementary Water Spigot on True Davidson

The GBRA Board worked hard to try to get a second water spigot installed at the western end of True Davidson to enable more effective watering of the boulevards on both sides as you enter Governors Bridge Estates.

However, the City declined to install the spigot or pay for the water. It will be up to GB Estates residents to continue to irrigate with the one spigot or plant more drought resistant trees and plants. Contact Kathryn Langley Hope (kelanglehope@bell.net) for more details.

“No Dog Poop” Stickers Still Available

The Board received complaints of people leaving dog poop bags in others' green or waste bins. This is offensive when the bins are empty, especially in the summer or when returned to the owner's garage. So the Board printed stickers for members to apply to their bins to encourage others to be considerate of their neighbours and bring their dog's waste home with them.

If you missed the email and want two, please email jeffhanemaayer@gmail.com. (First-come first-served, while the remaining limited quantity lasts.)

NEIGHBOURHOOD UPDATE

September 2019



GOVERNOR'S BRIDGE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS

Bayview Avenue Functional Study

Despite the best efforts of our past and present Councillors and the Board, this important study has been deferred again - and is scheduled to start in 2020. Given the tens of thousands of people moving into the Lower Don and on Eglinton over the next 10 years, it is important that this study not be delayed even further. Traffic safety, transit, sidewalks, area walkability, access to the ravines and Brick Works must be studied on this major thoroughfare. The GBRA has joined with other residents associations to ensure that the functional study is completed and recommendations implemented in this term of Council.

In the meantime, Councillor Layton requested that a "Surface Road Safety Review" be conducted as part of the City's Vision Zero program to eliminate road fatalities.

City Proposal to Extend On-Street Permit Parking in East York

Councillor Layton has come through on this file. There will be no blanket coverage for the expansion of residential on-street permit parking for areas of the Ward where permit parking currently does not exist. (His office will continue to assist those residents who want permit parking.)

Digital Speed Sign

The GBRA Board has researched the installation of a digital sign that displays the approaching vehicle's speed and records speeding data for use by the GBRA, City Transportation Department and police. The sign would be rotated through different locations where speeding is a problem. While the Board is willing to fund the acquisition, we hope to work with the City to pay a portion of the cost and take care of ongoing maintenance and installation.

New Construction in Governor's Bridge

The GBRA Board arranged and participated in two meetings with nearby interested neighbours along with the owner's architect to provide feedback on the proposed design and associated variances of a new house at 4 Douglas Crescent. Unfortunately the parties could not come to a mutually agreeable design before the Committee of Adjustment hearing on August 14. The GBRA Board and interested residents attended the hearing and objected to the variances. The application was rejected.

Neighbourhood Response Framework

The GBRA is developing a "Protect and Connect/Street Captain" program - a "Neighbourhood Watch" like program that includes enhanced efforts to prevent crime and also help neighbours more effectively respond to natural events (like severe weather) that cause peril to persons and property. Please drop by the Protect and Connect/Street Captain table at the Community BBQ on September 22.

Great Way for People to Get Together

If you're looking for a reason to get together with your neighbors, family and or friends, please check out www.genwellproject.org. Or better still, invite friends or past residents to the Community BBQ on September 22 and make it a GenWell event.

GBRA Private Facebook Group "Governors Bridge Community"

The GBRA's private Facebook group was created to help you and other Governor's Bridge residents connect more easily with other members of the community. All Governor's Bridge residents will be able to use this private Facebook site until September 30, 2020, after which time it will become a **GBRA Members Only** group.

Join the GBRA. It's easy.

If you have the time, and want to join the neighbourhood improvement process, please come to our Community BBQ on September 22 or drop any one of the GBRA Directors an e-mail saying you'd like to join and participate in making Governor's Bridge a better place to live. If you're new to Governor's Bridge, joining the GBRA is a terrific way to meet your neighbors and connect to what truly makes this neighbourhood very special.

Call for Directors & Volunteers

Do you have 10-12 hours a year (4 to 5 meetings) that you can use to join the GBRA as a Director, or less time to join as a committee member? If so, please contact Chris Fraser, chris@moveable.com.

Have an Issue or Idea?

If you have an issue that needs resolution or an idea on how to improve the quality of life in Governor's Bridge, please contact Chris Fraser.

If your issue relates to the City of Toronto, please call 311 or contact Angela Surdi in Councillor Mike Layton's office (Angela.Surdi@toronto.ca).

Board Member Contact Info

Chris Fraser, President
chris@moveable.com

Jason Jessel, Vice President
jjessel@rogers.com

Jeff Hanemaayer, Secretary-Treasurer
jeffhanemaayer@gmail.com

Kathryn Langley Hope
kelangleyhope@bell.net

George Paradi
george.paradi@gmail.com

Visit us online at
www.governorsbridge.net

or in Facebook private group
"Governor's Bridge Community"