



## Provincial Review of the OMB

The Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) is a provincially-appointed body that has final say over our city's planning decisions. The provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Attorney General are beginning a long overdue review of the way the OMB operates. While the Province has stopped short of eliminating the OMB altogether, there are a number of very positive reforms proposed in the consultation document that would significantly improve it. The deadline for public feedback is December 19, 2016. Call for information: 1-855-776-8011  
Email : [OMBReview@ontario.ca](mailto:OMBReview@ontario.ca)  
<http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page14965.aspx>

## Toronto Local Appeal Board ("TLAB")

The City of Toronto will soon be introducing its own Toronto Local Appeal Body which will be charged with hearing appeals of Minor Variance and Consent decisions made by the City's Committees of Adjustment ("COA"). The OMB will no longer hear appeals of COA decisions in Toronto although decisions of the TLAB may still be appealed to the Divisional Court. LPRO believes that with this new regime, it is particularly timely to review and improve the operation of the COA and work with the city and other stakeholders to provide terms of reference for the new TLAB.

## LPRO's AGM – You're Invited!

If you live in the Lytton Park area you are welcome to join us on Thursday, February 9th at 7pm at Eglinton St. George's Church (@ Duplex and Lytton Blvd).

## Historical Listing

We are pleased to announce that on November 8<sup>th</sup> City Council approved the inclusion of two Lytton Park heritage properties – the Capitol Theatre (c. 1918) and the Village of Eglinton's first brick one-room schoolhouse (c. 1850) on the City of Toronto's List of Heritage Properties.



The Capitol Theatre building is one of only a few remaining original vaudeville/movie houses built in Toronto and has been an anchor on the northwest corner of Castlefield and Yonge for 97 years. Eglinton School, which was later the first St. Clement's Church and then the first Eglinton Presbyterian Church, has been for many years the Loyal Orange County Lodge of Toronto, Eglinton L.O.L. 269. It is located on a private laneway behind St. Clements School.



## **Lawns – Shifting our View**

It's time to embrace sustainable gardening and view lawns differently. Other cities impacted by water shortages and poor air quality have mandated a shift to promote better health and sustainability.

A new perspective means:

- ✓ Reducing and replacing lawns with native plants requiring less mechanized maintenance and water.
  - ✓ Reducing gas powered lawn and garden equipment ("GLGE") use.
- GLGE's which emit pollution and generate excessive noise are unhealthy for equipment operators, neighbours and pollinators (bees and butterflies).

In April 2015 Dr. Jamie Banks stated at the International Emissions Inventory Conference in San Diego that<sup>1</sup>:

"Adverse health effects from (GLGE) emissions are well known. Benzene, butadiene, and formaldehyde are listed among the four top ranking cancer-causing compounds. They cause lymphomas, leukemias, and other types of cancer. Ground level ozone (formed by VOCs and NOx in the presence of sunlight) and fine PM (particulate matter) cause or contribute to early death, heart attack, stroke, congestive heart failure, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and cancer. Growing evidence suggests these pollutants also contribute to developmental and neurological disorders.... mounting evidence on the dangers of even short term exposure are especially concerning."

Dr. Sheela Basrur, Toronto's Medical Officer of Health stated In July 2001: <sup>2</sup>

"Greater regulation of leaf blower use within ..... Toronto is warranted for the following reasons: (a) Air Pollutants and Fugitive Dust Emissions ..... In addition to the air pollutants emitted in the exhaust, fugitive dust (blown dust) emissions from leaf blowers are of concern. ...The high wind speed and volume of leaf blowers can result in small particles being blown into the air. Substances such as fecal material, fertilizers, fungal spores, pesticides, herbicides, pollen and other biological substances are believed to be contained in the dust that is re-suspended by leaf blowers... (b) Regular use of leaf blowers in dense urban centres does raise concerns regarding potential health impacts, especially in sensitive populations such as children. ...."

Automotive researcher Edmunds, in its online article [Emissions Test: Car vs. Truck vs. Leaf Blower 12/05/2011](#) concluded that a leaf blower emits 6.2 times more nitrous oxide, 13.5 times more carbon monoxide and 36.4 times more non-methane hydrocarbons than a 2011 Ford Raptor! <sup>3</sup> Despite Toronto's anti-idling by-law for motor vehicles, GLGE can operate unrestricted between 7AM-7PM (9 -7 Sunday & stat holidays) 365 days a year.

Other cities have encouraged and mandated a shift in thinking ...it is time for Toronto to rethink lawns, restrict GLGE use and more effectively promote sustainable gardening.

---

<sup>1</sup> National Emissions from Lawn and Garden Equipment, Jamie L Banks, PhD, MS\*Quiet Communities, Inc., PO Box 533, Lincoln, MA 01773, Robert McConnell, Environmental Engineer US Environmental Protection Agency

<sup>2</sup> Toronto Board of Health, Staff Report, July 3, 2001, Dr. Sheela V. Basrur, Medical Officer of Health

<sup>3</sup> Emissions Test: Car vs. Truck vs. Leaf Blower 12/05/2011, Jason Kavanagh, Engineering Editor

## **Mandatory Downspout Disconnection**

Across Toronto, it's mandatory for property owners to disconnect their downspouts from the city's sewer system – doing so reduces the risk of basement flooding and overloading of sewers.

Mandatory downspout disconnection has been in effect throughout Lytton Park since Nov. 2011. Toronto's disconnection program will be fully implemented as of Dec. 3, 2016. For more information: <http://www.toronto.ca>. Call 311 or the Councillor at 416-392-4090.

## **Lawrence Park Playground - Now Open!**

The playground renovation in the Lawrence Park (behind Locke Library) is now complete! After two years of working to secure the funds and battling water drainage problems in the park, our community can enjoy an improved and revitalized park. This newly animated green space has swings, slides and picnic tables, as well as a brand new shaded sandbox and improved walkway lighting.

## **Exploring the Indigenous History of Toronto**

Toronto is situated on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Haudenosaunee and Huron-Wendat Nations and the Metis Nation of Ontario. On Nov. 30th, join Brian MacLean of First Story Toronto as he presents the history of the indigenous presence in Toronto, including the Huron-Wendat site in the Eglinton area. This free, NTHS session is Nov. 30th at 7:30pm, at the Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd.

## **Winter Sidewalks: "Be Nice, Shovel Your Ice".**

A reminder to homeowners - you are responsible for keeping your sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Let's all help to keep the community walking safely! Adults 55+ or with disabilities can get help with snow shovelling, yard work, and odd jobs by calling Better Living Health and Community Services, Four Seasons Connections Program 416-447-5074, or visit [betterlivinghealth.org](http://betterlivinghealth.org)

## **Neighbour Renovating?**

See the "Lessons Learned" flyer on LPRO's web site: <https://lpro.wordpress.com>.

## **LPRO in Action**

LPRO is working with the other Ward 16 Resident Associations on common issues such as basement flooding, preserving trees, parking, traffic, noise, infill housing, planning and construction.

LPRO submitted letters to our Councillor & the City requesting: 1) general improvements to the COA process and 2) the removal of the Waiver process for COA applicants. See LPRO's Web site <https://lpro.wordpress.com> for more information and copies of the letters submitted.

Two meetings have been held with Madison Homes and community stakeholders to discuss the proposed condo development site that stretches from Yonge to Duplex (Capital Theatre site).

## **North York Harvest Food Bank: 2016 Fall Food Drive**

Support the North York Harvest Food Bank's annual Fall Food drive - help them raise \$100,000 and 100,000 lbs of food: <https://northyorkharvest.com>.

**LPRO MEMBERSHIP –2017**

If you haven't already done so, we encourage you to become (or remain) a member of the Lytton Park Residents' Organization, especially if you care about protecting and advancing the community's interests and fostering a sense of neighbourhood in our area. LPRO's membership year extends from January to December, so it's time to renew your membership for 2017.

Your support helps us vigorously represent our shared neighbourhood interests. Our collective voice has impressive impact and effectiveness in matters affecting our community. Thank you for your unflinching membership support. It's pivotal for our representative credibility and funding needs.

There are approximately 3,000 households in the Lytton Park area, bounded by Avenue Road, Lawrence Avenue West, Yonge Street and Roselawn Avenue.

Thank you in advance for your community mindedness and your membership support.

Membership cheques with this form can be mailed to **Lytton Park Residents' Organization Inc., Box 45031, 2482 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont. M4P 3E3** or dropped off at any one of these addresses:

- ◆ 96 Chudleigh Avenue
- ◆ 235 Glenview Avenue
- ◆ 8 Glencairn Avenue



**2017 Membership Form**

Annual membership is **\$20 per household**. The LPRO's mission is to maintain and enhance the character of our neighborhood as a safe and desirable place to live by presenting a strong and unified community voice on key issues. To do this we need your support. Please make cheques payable to **Lytton Park Residents' Organization Inc.**

**Membership Type:** New / Renewal

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address to receive E-Newsletters:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like more information about the LPRO:** Yes / No    **I am available as a community volunteer:** Yes / No

**I would like to help in the following areas:** \_\_\_\_\_