



E-Newsletter 14 May 2020

<https://lpro.wordpress.com>

LYTTON PARK Supports ActiveTO Bike lanes on Yonge Street & Safe Curbs

Mayor Tory's May 6th press release launched the "new ActiveTO program being developed by Toronto Public Health and Transportation Services to provide more space for people walking and cycling as well as transit riders to allow for better physical distancing as part of the city's restart and recovery".



"More bike lanes will help people move around the city as the restart gets underway. This plan would see the cycling network expanded and temporary active transportation lanes installed. The City will expand and accelerate key parts of the council-approved Cycling Network Plan, that connect the cycling network, as well as bikeways that mirror major TTC routes."

"The City's CurbTO program is continuing to be rolled out to immediately address hot spots on sidewalks and streets. Primarily the hot spots are where there is sidewalk crowding and temporary parking concerns around essential businesses. Grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants/bars and community agencies are increasingly offering pick-up, take-out and delivery services and have created store access line-ups to maintain physical distancing requirements as recommended by Toronto Public Health."

Complete press release: [Mayor Tory News Release May 6 2020](#)

LPRO sent letters to Councillor Colle advocating for pedestrian and cyclist safety. LPRO letters: [LPRO Letter to Councillor Colle May 5 2020](#) and [LPRO Letter to Councillor Colle April 11 2020](#)

LPRO was one of fifty City organizations that sent a joint letter on May 14th to Mayor Tory supporting and encouraging ActiveTO initiatives including bike lanes on Yonge which would be a cycling transit spine. See the attached link: [Letter sent May 14 2020 to Mayor Tory](#).

Public Space (streets, sidewalks and parks) has become more important than ever.

Read the Globe and Mail editorial regarding public space: [Globe Editorial re Public Space May 2020](#).

Quote:

"Our streets are going to look different in many places in the post-COVID world. We will need more road space for walking. We will need quiet streets. We will need more bike infrastructure. We are going about this in a responsible, common sense way with Toronto Public Health, Transportation Services and local councillors all involved in making common sense, health-focused decisions which broaden out our transportation network."

- Mayor John Tory

Your Opinion Counts! Research survey: TTC and COVID-19

A team of researchers from the University of Toronto are working to support public transit for Torontonians during and after the COVID-19 crisis.

If you rode TTC more than once a week before COVID-19, you're invited to [take the survey](#), whether you still ride or not. **It takes about 15 minutes and participants can enter a raffle for one of thirty \$50 gift cards.**

All responses will remain strictly confidential and anonymous. Questions? Contact Dr. Matt Palm at matthew.palm@utoronto.ca.

[Take the Survey](#)

TTC Service Changes

The TTC has made many changes in service and routes, to find out more, check out this site.

<https://rocketmanapp.com/blog/a-directory-of-ttc-covid-19-service-cuts-and-changes/>

Spare Time? Get Gardening!

Community Gardens: The City will begin opening community gardens and allotment gardens, as the Province recently announced amendments that permit the use of these gardens.



To help increase the resiliency of and food security for Toronto's residents during the COVID-19 pandemic; the City will open its community and allotment gardens following a phased approach to ensure public safety while providing access to an essential source of fresh food.

Read more: [April 4 2020 City of Toronto News Release Community Gardens](#)

COVID Victory! Garden - Send LPRO a photo of your new garden!

"While so much of the province has shut down due to COVID-19, businesses like the Ontario Seed Company and garden centres are busier than ever as the pandemic has many people turning to growing their own food. Some say it's a trend reminiscent of the "victory gardens" that sprang up during the world wars."

CBC News: [Go to April 5 2020 CBC Article](#)

BEE Friendly

Plant Pollinator plants! For more info: [Toronto Master Gardeners - Pollinator Gardens](#)

Native Plants Grow here naturally!

The Carolinian Zone in southern Ontario is a hotspot for biodiversity, with more species of rare plants and animals than anywhere else in Canada, including the Blanding's turtle, southern flying squirrel, rusty-patched bumblebee and monarch butterfly. Follow link for more information: [In The Zone- Native Plants](#)

Leaf Blowers are a Health Hazard

Article excerpt from Councillor Josh Matlow's newsletter & Deer Park Residents' Association:



"The air propelled from a leaf blower pulverizes what it hits into fine dust. This dust contains pollen, animal fecal matter, mould, fungus, fertilizer, pesticides from lawns and gardens, carcinogens carbon black from tire wear and asbestos from brake linings off the street, which stresses our lungs and can get into our bloodstream.

Gas-powered leaf blowers run on 2-cycle engines. 30% of gasoline /oil fuel is unburned as it exhausts and stays in the air as an aerosol poison. Clouds of toxic exhaust dust particles from the blower can stay airborne for days for all to breathe in. If you smell fumes from gas powered leaf blowers, you have ingested them.

Many gasoline components are known carcinogens that penetrate our lungs and the blood stream compromising our ability to combat the COVID 19 virus."

Please consider this information before using a gas-powered leaf blower or allowing your landscaper to use one."

*"The intense, high frequency noise that leaf blowers generate can cause loss of hearing in the workers who operate these machines and can also affect hearing in children and other persons. The ears of infants and young children are especially vulnerable to the high intensity noise that leaf blowers produce because their auditory systems are undergoing rapid growth and development, and these developmental processes are easily disrupted.."**

*Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit Mount Sinai Hospital, Children's Environmental Health Centre NY, NY April 22, 2010:

http://www.lincolntown.org/DocumentCenter/View/733/PEHSU_Eastchester_letter_042210_1?bidId=

Support Our Local Shops

The **Uptown Yonge BIA** has updated their website to include live access to businesses' websites that remain open at the link www.uptownyonge.com.

The **Bedford Park Residents Organization** has compiled lists of restaurants, local businesses and basic needs retailers that are open in the neighbourhood during COVID-19. Please "shop locally" to support these stores. Link: [BPRO shop and restaurant list](#).

211 Toronto

211 Toronto connects people living in the GTA to over 4,000 programs and social services such as financial help, employment services, mental health, home care, housing, shelters, food and childcare. It offers a 24/7 confidential service in 150 languages, including online, text (21166) and chat services.

Spare Time at Home?

Amazing New City List!

For those who are home and looking for new challenges, the new [City of Toronto Stay, Play and Learn At Home webpage](#), has a list of free virtual programming and activities to help residents stay active, stay engaged, have fun and learn new things while practicing physical distancing or self-isolating at home. This includes dance, fitness, art activities, science, book clubs, live music, museum tours and so much more. There's something in the listing for every age group. It includes links to virtual programs from EarlyON centres for children, as well as from Seniors Active Living Centres.

Toronto Public Library - New Website

While library branches are temporarily closed, TPL has updated their homepage on tpl.ca to make it easier for you to discover all that they have to offer virtually, and find what you want and need. They will be updating the homepage regularly with fun activities, reading recommendations by their library staff, live event details and much more.

Arts at Home

Toronto's world-renowned vitality is strengthened by its creative and diverse arts sector. In challenging times, the arts play a vital role in building personal and societal resilience. Arts@Home brings Toronto's arts sector together for you – delivered straight to your home. Many of Toronto's leading arts organizations are reaching beyond traditional practice to come together and freely share digital content that brings the arts into your home.

Visit artsathome.ca to learn more.



Theatre at Home

Stratford Festival Free Streaming : <https://www.stratfordfestival.ca/AtHome/Watch>

National Theatre (London) Free Streaming : <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUDq1XzCY0NIOYVJvEMQiqw>

Globe Theatre (UK) Free Streaming : <https://www.youtube.com/user/ShakespearesGlobe>

Summer Events Cancelled ☹️

Virtual Canada Day on July 1, 2020

[CP 24 Article](#) excerpts "Based on the recommendations of the medical officer of health, to stop the spread of COVID-19 and save lives, the City of Toronto will join other municipalities across Canada in celebrating a national virtual Canada Day on July 1, 2020."

Pride Parade and the Toronto Caribbean Carnival

"The City of Toronto has cancelled all permit events through June 30 and previously announced that some major events this summer, including the Pride Parade and the Toronto Caribbean Carnival, will not go ahead.

"Believe me I'm as disappointed as you are about the cancellation of these events. I would like nothing more than to tell you that we can celebrate the birthday of our great country as we usually do with friends and family in many of the usual places but we just can't this year out of caution and out of an overriding concern for public health," Mayor John Tory said at a news conference at city hall on Friday. He added that "more details on the virtual celebrations will be released in the coming weeks."

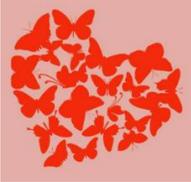
North York Harvest Food Bank

During these days of COVID-19, there are families and individuals in our area that are in need of food from the food bank. The North York Harvest Food Bank is the local food bank provider for our area

The North York Harvest Food Bank is in need of food and monetary donations. Click to see how you can help: [North York Harvest Food Bank](#) .

Local Healing Garden @ Duplex Parkette

From our archives....(LPRO Newsletter, 2002)



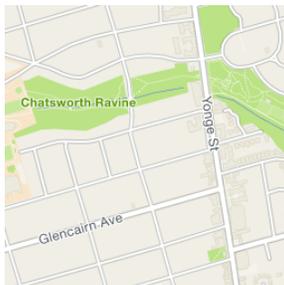
“Toronto area. The dedication and groundbreaking was on Sunday, May 26th, 2020.

The ceremony at Duplex Parkette, on the west side of Yonge Street, just south of Chatsworth, was attended by about 50 people representing families which have lost children, the City of Toronto, Lytton Park Residents’ Organization, and Toronto and area funeral directors, a major sponsor of the garden.

The garden, designed by Michael Didulka, will provide a place to remember departed family members and encourage the bereavement process. Bereaved Families of Ontario, is a support organization for people who have lost children or parents. “

For more information: [Bereaved Families of Toronto](#)

Did you know... that an annual Butterfly release event is held in September?



This garden abuts the site of the proposed development at 2908 Yonge Street, where the PetroCan service station had been located. LPRO is a Party to the LPAT appeal of the developer, and is working to have a development that adds to the value of the neighbourhood.

Signs in Lytton Park



Change of LPRO Mailing Address

Please note that Lytton Park Residents' Organization recently changed its mailing address
from Box 45031, 2482 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4P 3E3
to **PO Box 1348, 2708 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4P 3J4**

The manager of the former PO Box address has decided to discontinue his association with Canada Post.
LPRO has arranged for mail already sent to the old address to be forwarded by Canada Post to the new address.

Lytton Park Residents' Organization Annual Membership \$30.00 per household Join or Renew For 2020!

We encourage you to become a member or to renew your membership with 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 is time to renew your membership for 2020. 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 continued membership support. It is pivotal for our representative credibility and funding needs. There are approximately 3,000 households in the Lytton Park area. Thank you in advance for supporting your community.

Ways to Join or Renew: 1) MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: Lytton Park Residents' Organization Inc. and mail it with the completed form below to "Lytton Park Residents' Organization Inc., **NEW MAILING ADDRESS** PO Box 1348, 2708 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4P 3J4", 2) or even easier - donate via **Credit Card/PayPal**: visit <https://lpro.wordpress.com> & select "MEMBERSHIP". 3) Cheques with this form can also be dropped off at **235 Glenview Avenue.**

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2020 Membership Form - Membership Type: New / Renewal

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address 1: _____ Other Phone: _____

Email Address 2: _____

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: _____

Comments: _____

Questions? Email us at lyttonparkresidentsorg@gmail.com

Together, we **DO** make a difference!