



E-Newsletter 19 April 2021

<http://www.lyttonparkro.ca/>

The Lytton Park Residents' Organization ("LPRO") is an incorporated non-profit association, representing residents living in the area bounded by Lawrence Avenue West to Roselawn and Briar Hill Avenues, Yonge Street to Saguenay and Proudfoot Avenue. We care about protecting and advancing the community's interests and fostering a sense of neighbourhood in our area. We work together to make our community stronger, sharing information about our community issues and events.

"Together we DO make a difference!"

Keeping Our Community Connected:

➤ Check out LPRO's Website! Click [HERE](#)

➤ Follow us on Twitter! Our Twitter handle is [@LyttonParkRO](#)



➤ LPRO's Community E-Newsletter - It's FREE!

If you do not already receive the LPRO's E-Newsletter and would like to receive it directly, please register your email address at www.lyttonparkro.ca/newsletter-sign-up or send us an email to LyttonParkResidentsOrg@gmail.com. If you are a Member, you will automatically get LPRO's Newsletters. Please share this newsletter with neighbours!

LPRO's AGM

Lytton Park Residents' Organization held its annual AGM virtually on March 30, 2021.

LPRO President, Arlena Hebert reviewed highlights of LPRO's activities in 2020, including:

- ✓ LPRO's Website <https://lyttonparkro.ca/> underwent a major upgrade.
- ✓ LPRO is now on Twitter - follow [@LyttonParkRO](#) to keep even more up to date with community issues and news.
- ✓ E-newsletters were distributed almost every month and are available on LPRO's website - [CLICK](#).
- ✓ Letters were sent advocating on numerous community-related concerns and are posted on LPRO's website - [CLICK](#).
- ✓ Community Spirit Award winners were recognized – see Newsletter article below.



Members elected to be Directors on the LPRO Board for 2021 are: Eli Aaron, Judi Denison, Alicia Du, Adrienne Fisher, John Gleason, Arlena Hebert, Maureen Kapral, Michael Kehoe, Robert Murray, Harold Smith, Tom Worrall.

Updates were provided by Michael Kehoe and Eli Aaron on the following development sites – see LPRO’s [website](#) for details:

- 2908 Yonge Street (at Chatsworth Ave)
- Avenue Rd and Lawrence (north-east corner)
- 2674-2704 Yonge (at Alexandra Blvd.)
- 3180-3202 Yonge (at Bedford Park)
- 41 Chatsworth (west of Yonge St.)
- 2400-2444 Yonge (south of Roselawn Ave.)

Tom Worrall touched on cycling highlights made in 2020 – see Newsletter article below.

Councillor Mike Colle, Ward 8 Eglinton-Lawrence, spoke to some of the issues in Ward 8, and responded to questions.

Cycling is booming in Toronto!

Cycling saw a dramatic rise in popularity as we looked for safer alternatives as a leisure activity, commuting to work, or everyday shopping.

New bikes became scarce in the shops and a brisk and lucrative trade ensued in the used-bike market. Our local bike shops had sold most of their affordable bikes by May of last year.

e-bikes outsold conventional bikes. This not only enabled commuter and recreational riders to travel further, but also enabled novice cyclists to join in on the fun.

We saw 25 km of new bike lanes almost instantly installed in Toronto, on the Danforth, Bloor St, and University to the south. This was unprecedented for our city!



We have seen Complete street makeovers coming to Yonge Street in North York and Downtown as both the Transform Yonge and Yonge Tomorrow projects were overwhelmingly green lit by our Mayor and Councillors. Closer to home in Lytton Park, Council approved by a wide margin of 23-1 to add ActiveTO to Yonge St, which includes bike lanes from Bloor to Davisville for implementation by July 1st. City staff will also be studying north of Davisville to Lawrence once this installation is complete.

Further, instead of replicating the Quiet Street concept introduced last year, staff is recommending year-round traffic calming with speed-limit reductions, implementing school, senior and community safety zones, speed enforcement and neighbourhood cycling routes.

Thankfully, City Council has shown a very progressive attitude in making our main streets safer and more enjoyable for shopping and dining experiences and there is no bigger champion of this vision than our Councillor Mike Colle. Mike has been a very proactive and influential voice in these changing and challenging times, stay tuned for more exciting developments coming very soon to our streets!

Local Community Spirit Awards

At the recent LPRO AGM, winners of the 2020 Community Spirit Awards were announced. These Awards recognize people who make a special contribution to our neighbourhood by making it a more attractive and inclusive place to live. A special thank you Mel Laucke, one of last year's recipients, for his help with the Garden Awards. **Congratulations to this year's recipients:**

Best Front Garden - a tie between neighbours Julie Prentice and Kevin Fong of St. Clement's Avenue.

Best Small Front Garden - John McMillan of Rosewell Avenue



Best Halloween Decorations - The Southam family of Lytton Boulevard

Best Street Party (Distanced this year) - Albertus Avenue, represented by Christine LeLacheur Mihailidis and Julie Thompson.

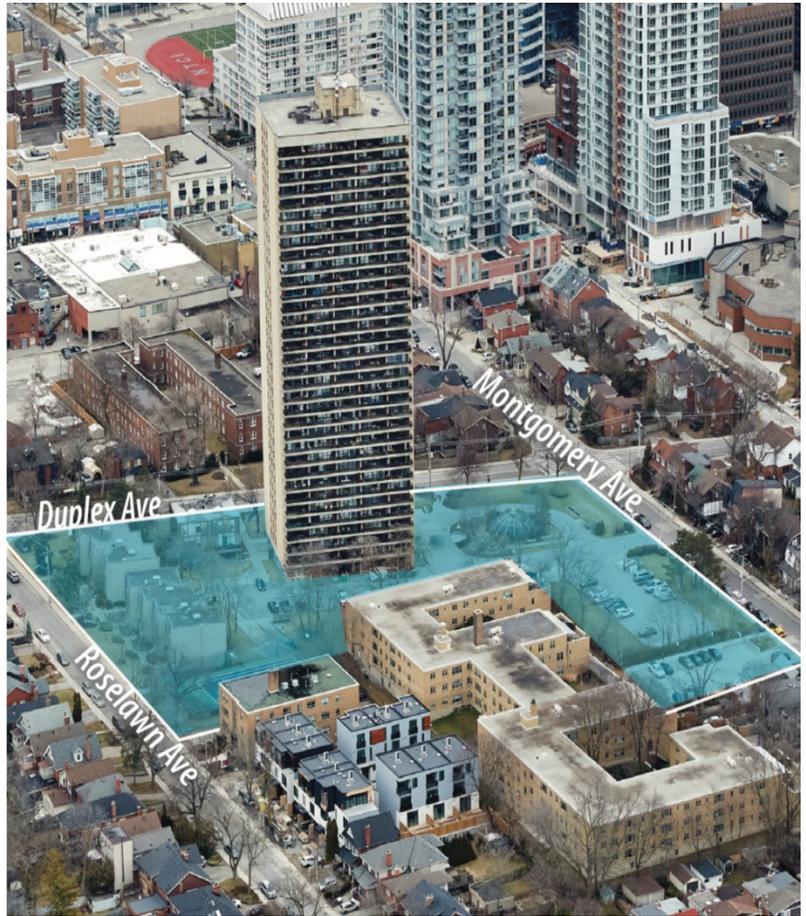
Keeping the Spirits Up Award (during COVID) - Kelly Monaghan of Briar Hill Avenue



500 Duplex: Past, Present and Future

With a full block of frontage on Duplex Avenue from Roselawn Avenue south to Montgomery Avenue is 500 Duplex, a 2.5-acre site that consists of a high-rise apartment building, townhouses, a tennis court, a landscaped area, and surface parking. LPRO's involvement with the site dates back half a century.

The site was the subject of a 1969 rezoning application. According to residents, a notice was sent to homeowners stating that a development proposal had been submitted at 500 Duplex for a building with a density of 2.325 times the lot area, but made no reference to the height of the building. It was not until 1971, two years after approval, that the Lytton Park Residents' Organization was made aware that a 37-storey tower would be constructed on a fraction of the site, thus allowing a high-rise building within the approved density.



By this time, the foundation was already under construction. LPRO appealed to City Council's Buildings and Development Committee. After more than two months of negotiations between the Lytton Park Residents' Organization and the Developer, a deal was reached wherein the height of the tower would be reduced by four storeys in exchange for townhouses on Roselawn and Duplex which the association much preferred. The townhouses would bring a more "human scale" to the site and create a buffer between the tower and houses opposite the site on the north side of Roselawn.

Since its completion the tower has been an anomaly, surrounded by low-rise development on all sides. Today such a proposal would likely not be permitted as it has no frontage on a main road and is surrounded by an area zoned for low-rise development.

Today, LPRO's southern boundary is Roselawn Avenue, with the Eglinton Park Residents' Association (EPRA) covering the area from Roselawn to Eglinton. In the Summer of 2020, EPRA discovered that the entire 2.5-acre, 500 Duplex site was listed for sale as an opportunity for redevelopment or additional density. The site has since been purchased by a Developer, and we expect to learn more about any potential redevelopment plans in the coming months. LPRO will be working closely with EPRA. Once an application is submitted, we will be involved in the development process - just as we were 50 years ago.

Garden Suites and City of Toronto Survey

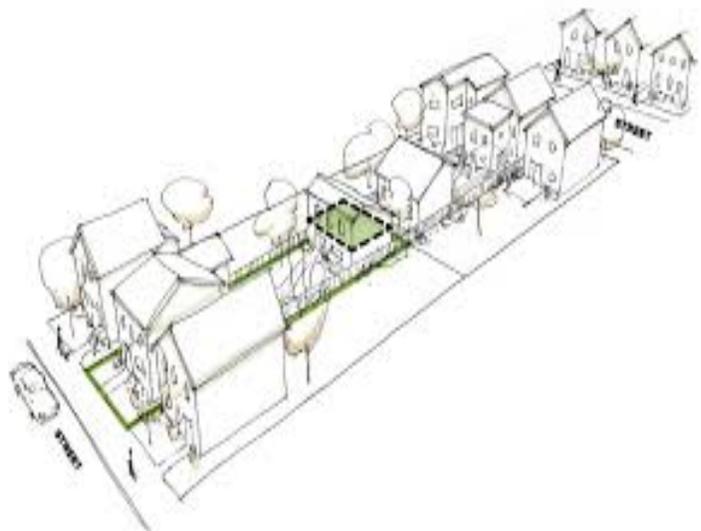
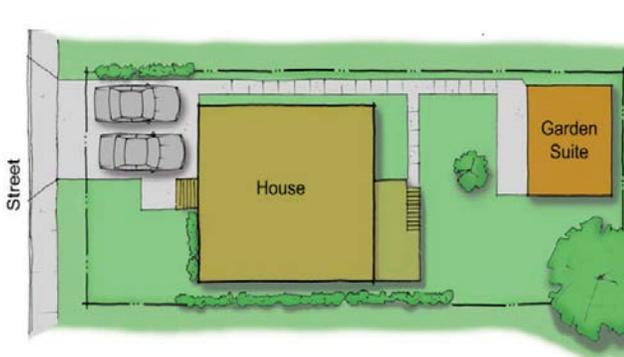
Garden Suites are similar in form and function to Laneway Suites and will generally be located in the rear yard of detached houses, semi-detached houses, townhouses or other low-rise dwellings. The word suites is used instead of houses to reflect the smaller, secondary, rental nature of the intended buildings. One difference between Garden Suites and Laneway Suites is that the main property is not required to be located on a laneway, making garden suites more flexible for lots and neighbourhoods within the city.

The City of Toronto initiated consultations with interested stakeholders on potential permissions for Garden Suites in early 2021, and is aiming to report to the Planning and Housing Committee with recommendations by the end of Q2 2021. Like Laneway Suites, Garden Suites are expected to be as-of-right. That means straight to building permit. No variances (and contentious Committee of Adjustment meetings) required.

Garden Suites are part of the initiatives the City of Toronto is leading through its Expanding Housing Options in Neighbourhoods initiative with the hope to add gentle density to the city's low-rise residential neighbourhoods, to increase rental supply and to provide flexibility for multi-generation families. However if they are permitted as-of-right, they might cause potential problems like privacy, shadowing, reduced green space, loss of mature trees, traffic, noise, and waste, among many others. Moreover, this might increase land value and speculation which may further increase already expensive housing prices.

LPRO sent a [letter to Councilor Mike Colle in March 2021](#) asking for a City-Wide Consultation prior to implementation of such zoning changes across the City.

The City has commissioned a study which seeks public input from current and future residents of low-rise neighborhoods, and other stakeholders, to understand these important matters. The Garden Suites survey is open until April 30, 2021. Virtual public consultations will begin in April 2021. LPRO members are encouraged to participate in the survey with link: [CLICK](#)



Development Proposed - 3180 Yonge @ Bedford Park

Community Meeting Scheduled for May 3 @ 7pm

A City-led Community Consultation Meeting has been scheduled for the development application proposed at 3180-3202 Yonge Street, on the west side of Yonge, north of Lawrence. The meeting will take place on May 3 at 7pm on WebEx. This development proposes a by-law amendment to permit a 46.1m tall building. The Mid-Rise Guidelines permit a maximum of 27m in this location. The proposal does not include appropriate neighbourhood transition or step-backs. Seven local resident associations, the City Planning Department, and Councillor Colle all have serious concerns with the development as proposed.



A week prior to the Community Meeting you can register to attend through the [City's website by entering the Yonge St. address.](#)

Mount Pleasant Cemetery - Petition to Keep Public

Mount Pleasant Cemetery, located between Yonge and Bayview, is a large green space where people have an opportunity for veneration of deceased family members, quiet contemplation, exercise, and enjoyment. Under a provincial statute from the 1800s, the cemetery was set up as a public trust, and run that way for over 150 years. More recently the cemetery, together with the nine other GTA cemeteries which make up the trust, have been operated like a private corporation by the Mount Pleasant Group. A recent Ontario Court of Appeal decision confirmed the existence of the public trust, but removed all public oversight of its operation, overturning a lower-court decision that the cemetery was a charitable trust - while noting that the province has the power to change it. Friends of Toronto Public Cemeteries asks the province to update the legislation governing the trust. The cemetery should be treated as a substantial public asset, not be governed privately, and be subject to public oversight and transparency. Please consider signing their petition at: [CLICK](#).

Toronto Island Park Master Plan

The Toronto Island Park Master Plan will be a long-term planning framework that will guide decision-making and future investment in the park. Three phases of public engagement are planned. The first phase, called "Towards a Vision", begins now and extends through to the end of April 2021. The public is invited to share their thoughts, ideas and feedback online [here](#). For more information please read this [news release](#).

New Park Coming on Glengarry Ave.

A new park is being designed on Glengarry Avenue, east of Avenue Road and directly adjacent to both the Douglas Greenbelt and a condo at 250 Lawrence Avenue. An early concept design has been developed for this new park using community and stakeholder feedback.



-  New park
-  Privately-Owned Publicly Accessible Space

Resist the urge to clean up your garden

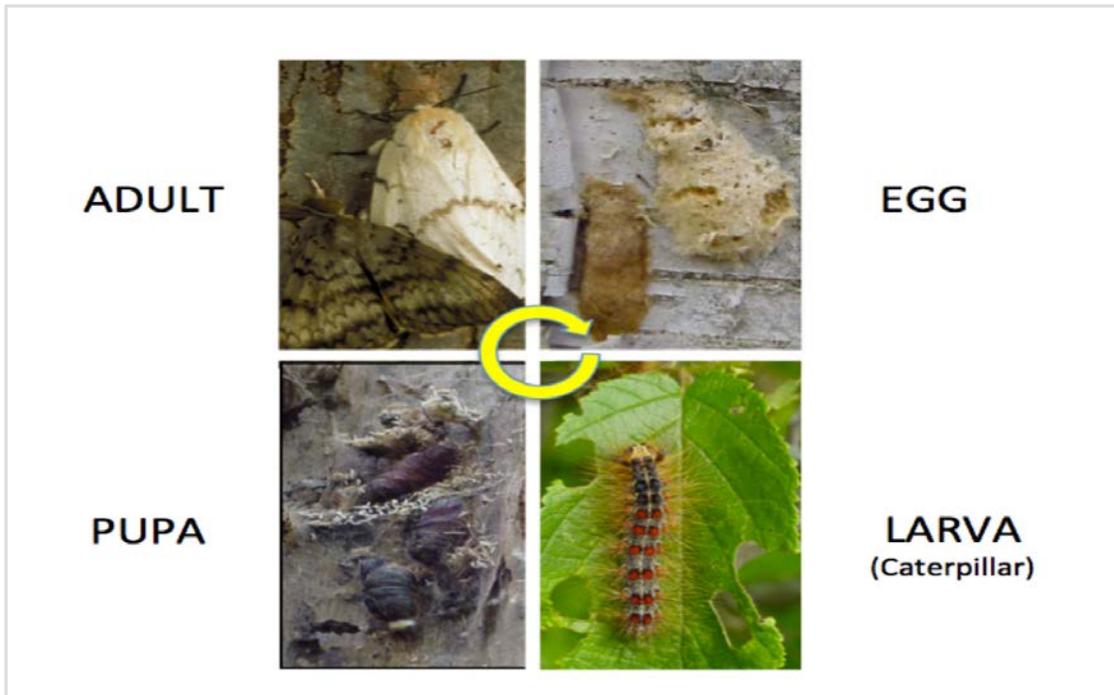
From City of Toronto Live Green April Newsletter:



Did you know that some butterflies, moths, and bees overwinter or lay eggs in leaf litter and hollow stems? This spring resist the urge to clean up your garden until temperatures are consistently above 10 degrees Celsius. By this time, most insects have had the chance to safely emerge. Yard waste put out for collection too early will often contain the next generation of pollinators. **Tip:** If you can't resist the urge to cut down your dead stems, leave the bottom eight inches in place and bundle the cut stems and place them in your garden. [More pollinator-friendly garden tips.](#)

Gypsy Moth Eggs: Seek & Destroy

European Gypsy Moth infestation reached new heights last year and caused damage in many parts of Ontario, including some areas of Toronto that had not experienced the defoliating caterpillars before. You can mitigate some of this damage by removing and destroying egg masses before they hatch in May. Gypsy Moth can't be eradicated but they can be reduced. Look for egg masses on your private property. [Learn what you can do.](#)



Free Trees - Help Build Toronto's Canopy

From the City of Toronto: [Sign up for a free tree through the Community Canopy Program.](#)

The City is investing in tree planting and stewardship on private land to help enhance and expand our urban forest, and to improve the health of the environment. With some of the greatest potential on private land, everyone's help is needed to reach our 40% canopy cover target.

These programs support partnerships and collaborations with homeowners, landowners and not-for-profit organizations that advance the City's strategic priorities to invest in people and neighbourhoods, and to tackle climate change and build resilience.

Jane's Walk - May 7th to 9th

[From Jane's Walk Toronto 2021:](#)

Jane's Walk returns from May 7-9 with virtual citizen-led walks and a variety of exciting online events and activities.

"Jane Jacobs (1916-2006) was an urbanist and activist whose writings championed a fresh, community-based approach to city building. She saw cities as ecosystems that had their own logic and dynamism which would change over time according to how they were used.

With a keen eye for detail, she wrote eloquently about sidewalks, parks, retail design and self-organization. At the core of her work and thinking was the need to get out and walk your city and observe how people, through their actions and interactions, create communities with a strong sense of belonging."

THE MOVEMENT JANE INSPIRED...

"Jane's Walk was founded in Toronto in May 2007 as a living, walking commemoration of Jane and her legacy. Annually, tens of thousands of people all over the world take part in Jane's Walk during the first weekend in May to coincide with her birthday.

Jane's Walk is a grassroots movement to city building that uses volunteer-led walking tours to make spaces for people to observe, reflect, share, question, and re-imagine the places in which they live, work and play; giving agency to and championing the voices of everyday people.

A Jane's Walk is a walking conversation that can be about anything. These walks hold space for the perspectives of anyone who has a story to tell."

Find out About Events: [CLICK](#)



Spring Frogs - Listen & Watch

Each spring, male frogs and toads of the 13 species (11 frogs and two toads) found in Ontario sing a song to attract a mate (and you thought only birds could sing!). Each species has a unique song and specific temperature and time during the spring that you hear them. They actually share the calendar, so they are not competing for audio time in the wild.

The first two species we hear, typically in April, when daytime temperatures reach a balmy 5 degrees Celsius, are the [Wood Frog](#) and the [Spring Peeper](#). The Wood Frog sounds like a duck quacking and the Spring Peeper sounds like sleigh bells. When all the frogs sing together, scientists refer to this as a 'chorus'.

[Free TRCA Webinar – April 29th](#)

Listen to the sounds of spring! Learn about Ontario's frogs and toads and how to identify them by their unique calls. We'll also show you how you can get involved with FrogWatch, a citizen science program dedicated to monitoring amphibian populations across Ontario.

COVID

City-Operated Immunization Clinics - [Vaccine Information](#).

Toronto Public Health Hotline

8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Call if you have questions about COVID-19.

Telephone: 416-338-7600

TTY: 416-392-0658

Email: PublicHealth@toronto.ca

Ontario Public Health - [All Ontario: Case numbers and spread](#)

FEELINGS OF STRESS AND ANXIETY ARE NORMAL DURING COVID-19

<p>Stay connected. Play a virtual game, check in on a neighbour, have a video chat.</p> 	<p>Be active & take care of yourself. Exercise, eat well, get enough sleep.</p> 	<p>Take time to engage virtually or by phone with friends, family & loved ones.</p> 	<p>Learn something new. Try a new hobby or take an online course.</p> 	<p>Help someone else. Doing good can feel good.</p> 	<p>Reach out for help. Talk to someone you trust or seek professional support.</p> 
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TORONTO.CA/COVID19

 TORONTO Public Health

Spring in the Hood



Lytton Park Residents' Organization
Annual Membership \$30.00 per household
Join or Renew for 2021!

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 2021**. Your support helps us vigorously represent our shared neighbourhood interests. Our collective voice has an 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., MAILING ADDRESS PO Box 1348, 2708 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4P 3J4";

2) or even easier - donate via **Credit Card/PayPal**: visit <http://www.lyttonparkro.ca/join-volunteer-donate>, please be sure to provide your address; or

3) Cheques with this form can also be dropped off at **235 Glenview Avenue**.

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2021 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!