



E-Newsletter 5 October 2021

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 to get community updates, 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!

New Park - Council Approves Converting Castlefield Green P to Parkland



Toronto City Council approved an Official Plan Amendment on October 1st, amending the permitted land use on the Castlefield Parking Lot site from “Neighbourhoods” to “Parks and Open Space.” This site is located on the northeast corner of Duplex Ave. and Castlefield Ave. The approval will allow for the creation of a future park, which was envisioned through the Midtown Parks and Public Realm Plan in 2018. The park will be up to 3,700 m² (40,000 sq. ft.) in size, which is more than 7 times the size of the nearby St. Clements Parkette.

LPRO strongly supports creating a large new park on the entirety of this site. A new park of this size is welcome news given the population growth and shortage of parkland in the Yonge-Eglinton Area. The creation of the new park is expected to be coordinated with the adjacent condominium project at the former Capitol Theatre. LPRO will provide the community with more information when the design process for the new park begins. Thank you to Councillor Mike Colle for his work on this project over several years.

The future park was recently the subject of an [article](#) in the North Toronto Post.

Federal Candidates Meeting

LPRO, in partnership with seven other Eglinton-Lawrence residents’ organizations, took the lead in hosting a very successful federal candidates’ meeting on September 14. Five hundred and seventy four (574) residents registered to learn more about four candidates, Eric Frydman (Green), Marco Mendicino (Liberal), Geoff Pollock (Conservative), and Caleb Senneker (NDP) and their parties’ positions on some key issues. Ably moderated by Eglinton Park Residents’ Association Chair, Tom Cohen, the candidates spoke about their motivation for running, and how they would represent Eglinton-Lawrence if elected. Candidates also took turns answering questions on the climate emergency, inequality and affordability, and the pandemic recovery.

Thanks to everyone who attended our first ever virtual candidates’ meeting, to our technical expert John Hiddema, to the LPRO organizing team, and to the participating residents’ organizations Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association, Bedford Park Residents’ Organization, Eglinton Park Residents’ Association, South Armour Heights Residents’ Association, Stanley Knowles Housing Cooperative, Upper Avenue Community Association, and York Mills Heights Residents’ Association.



Local Heritage Home

City Council Approves 22 Lytton Blvd. Heritage Designation



On October 1, City Council approved designating 22 Lytton Blvd. under the Ontario Heritage Act for its Cultural Heritage Value. This followed a report from Heritage Preservation Staff which evaluated the property and recommended its designation.

Located on the north side of Lytton Blvd. between Yonge Street and Duplex Avenue, the house was built in 1913 and is one of the oldest on the street. It is designed in the Tudor Revival Style with Craftsman elements. Former owners include Novelist and Maclean's Magazine Editor Thomas B. Costain, and internationally celebrated nature photographer Janet Goodwin. The current owner had submitted plans to demolish the house but has now placed their application on hold.

The heritage designation was supported by the North York Community Preservation Panel, North Toronto Historical Society, Councillor Colle and LPRO. Heritage Preservation Staff determined that the house at 22 Lytton Blvd is important to supporting and maintaining the character of the Area. LPRO is a strong advocate of maintaining the character of the neighbourhood and agrees with this assessment. We are thrilled that the house is now a protected heritage building.

The full heritage report can be read [here](#).

City Planning Staff Recommend Opposing 3180 Yonge Street at the Ontario Land Tribunal



This site is located on the east side of Yonge Street and includes all properties between Bedford Park Avenue and Woburn Avenue, with the exception of the TD Bank at Yonge and Bedford Park. The development was submitted by NYX Capital LP in November 2020, proposing a zoning by-law amendment to permit a 46.1m tall building. The proposed building height is the equivalent of approximately 14 storeys.

City Planning Staff have prepared a report for the proposed development at 3180-3202 Yonge Street, which is on the October 13th North York Community Council Agenda. The Developer appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (formerly LPAT/OMB) in the Spring of 2021 as they are permitted to do so if the City does not make a decision within 90 days.

City Planning Staff and numerous local resident organizations have been raising concerns about this proposal since it was first submitted nearly a year ago. The Developer has refused to make any meaningful changes to the proposal.

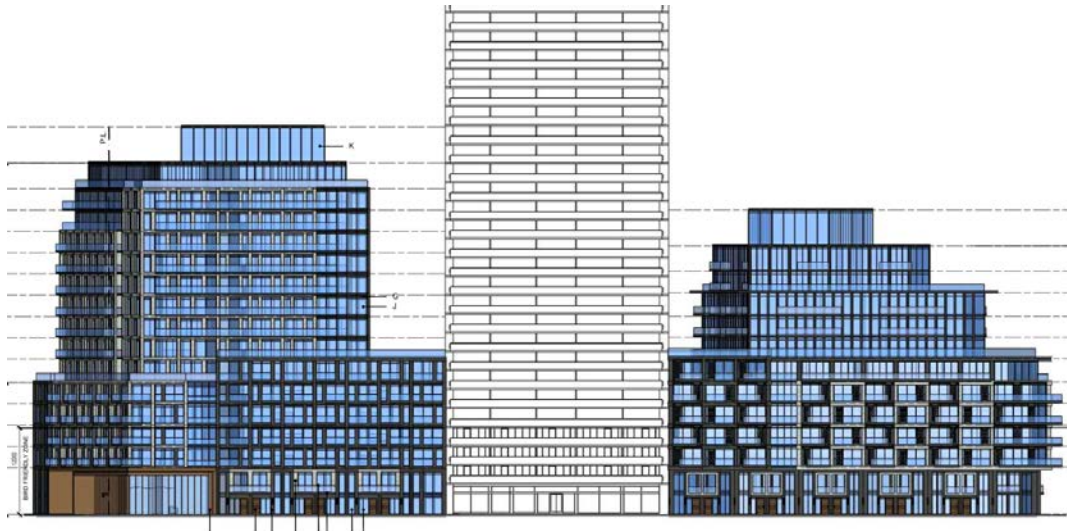
The City Planning Report, which will be presented to North York Community Council, recommends that the City of Toronto Legal and Planning Staff attend the Ontario Land Tribunal in opposition to the current proposal. The City Report echoes many of the concerns raised by community members. The report states "...the height and massing of the proposed development is not appropriate and cannot be supported by staff" and the proposal "does not fit into the existing or planned context of the neighbourhood nor transition appropriately to neighbouring properties." Once the report is adopted by North York Community Council, it will be on the November 9th Toronto City Council Agenda.

We will continue to update the Community through future newsletters as this application progresses. [Click here](#) to visit our 3180 Yonge Street webpage.

Other Local Development Updates

Stay up to Date with Active Development Applications on LPRO's Website.

- Avenue and Lawrence (North-east corner) [click here](#)
- 2674 – 2704 Yonge Street (at Alexandra Blvd.) [click here](#)
- 500 Duplex Avenue (at Roselawn/Montgomery) [click here](#)



500 Duplex Proposal - Looking west with existing building shown in white

Crime Update & TIPS

Division 53 – Crime Report, 2021

January 1- October 1	2018	2019	2020	2021	LPRO Area 2021
Auto Theft	139	143	210	327	25
Break & Enter	383	523	545	378	16

The Toronto Police Services website (www.torontopolice.ca) offers excellent information about crime prevention. On their link, CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) the following information is available:

Holiday Season Safety

We all have the potential to be victims of crime. Each of us can REDUCE THE RISK of our homes or property being victimized by eliminating the opportunity.

Outdoors

- Tell others where you're going and when you are expected to return
- Walk the safest route possible
- Avoid over burdening yourself with parcels – carry your purse close to you but DO NOT wrap the purse strap around your neck or wrist. Forcible removal can cause serious injury

While shopping

- Carry only the cash and credit cards that you will need for the day
- Never leave your purse unattended in a change room or shopping cart – EVEN FOR A SECOND!

In your car

- Look inside the vehicle before entering and keep your doors locked at all times
- If you have car trouble, raise the hood, get back in your car and lock it. If someone offers assistance, remain in the car and ask that person to call the police
- Do not leave parcels and packages in plain view in your vehicle – lock all valuables in the trunk!

At home

- Arrange to have your driveway/walkway cleared of snow, especially when you are away from home
- Cancel all deliveries and arrange for a neighbour to pick up your mail when you are away from home
- Packaging from major ticket items should be discarded carefully – Cardboard boxes should be bundled to conceal the nature of the contents

Helpful hints

- Keep a record of your valuables
- Identify your property by engraving an identifying mark - proper identification makes it easier for the police to return personal property
- When engraving, hold the engraver straight up NOT on a slant
- The identification should be readily visible without marring the appearance of the item
- Be a good neighbour and report any suspicious activity to the Police

If a crime has occurred

- DO NOT enter your home - the criminal may still be inside
- Use a neighbour's phone and call the police
- DO NOT touch anything or clean up until the police have inspected for evidence
- Note the licence number of any suspicious vehicles
- Note the description of any suspicious person(s)

Leaf Blowers & Health Impacts

Medical and scientific research attributes leaf blowers to serious health issues. Toronto Public Health's [2001 Staff Report](#) concluded that gas leaf blowers emit noise, and pollute the air with fine particulate matter and fugitive dust that adversely impacts human health and the environment. The emissions contribute to poor air quality and noise pollution.

It is over a year since Toronto City Council passed motion MM23.3 stating:

“request the City Manager, in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, to report back in the first quarter of 2021 on the environmental and associated health impacts of gasoline-powered two-stroke engine leaf blowers and other similarly operated garden equipment, including the feasibility of a year-round ban or a ban from May to September”

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2020/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-152694.pdf>

Toronto has ratified the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and thus recognized that 2-cycle engines discharge harmful noise and pollutants.

- Numerous jurisdictions, including Washington DC, Burlington VT, Vancouver and Beaconsfield, already ban or substantially restrict this equipment.
- Significant medical and scientific research exists justifying these bans/restrictions.

- Numerous progressive and entrepreneurial lawn maintenance contractors already use battery equipment.
- Adopting low noise, low impact practices will protect the health of workers, children, the public and the environment.

Councillor Shirley Carrol recently said that the study of the ban on leaf blowers was delayed due to staff being deployed in many other directions during the pandemic, but that a report is expected in the next month or two. The report, when received, will go to City Council for consideration. Those who have concerns about the health effects, can write to the [Mayor John Tory](#), and cc [City Manager Chris Murray](#), [Board of Health Chair Councillor Joe Cressy](#), [Medical Officer of Health Dr. Eileen de Villa](#), [Director Environment and Energy Nancy Ruscica](#), and your councillor (e.g. [Mike Colle](#)).



Gas-powered leaf blower creating ear-splitting noise, and spreading fumes and fine particulate matter in a park, summer 2021.

PollinateTO Funding

Would you like to create a new pollinator garden or rain garden, add native pollinator-friendly plants to an existing garden or convert a lawn area or hard surface to a pollinator garden? If you answered yes to any of the above, apply to PollinateTo, for funding to a maximum of \$5000. PollinateTO is open to all resident-led and non-profit groups. Groups must have at least three residents (from separate households) as part of the group. Applications close November 1, 2021, and gardens will be planted in 2022. For more information, click on this [Link](#).

Say “no” to Plastic Grass

The environmental drawbacks of fake grass are outlined in Toronto Public Health’s 2015 Report, [Health Impact Assessment of the Use of Artificial Turf in Toronto](#) .

Issues with fake grass include:

- 1) most synthetic lawns are made with non-renewable petroleum
- 2) insects and birds are deprived of beneficial habitat
- 3) it does not absorb carbon dioxide and does not release oxygen to perform photosynthesis
- 4) natural rainwater is prevented from flowing naturally to trees and plants
- 5) heat emanates to the surroundings rather than having a cooling effect
- 6) contaminants may be released into the ground water or air

For a history of lawns and sustainable garden tips go to LPRO’s website – [Click](#).

Ontario Place Development

The News Release on August 30, 2021 on the Ontario Place Development advised that the province is launching the next phase of engagement, which will include both an online survey and virtual public information sessions.

The public survey is available online through [Ontario.ca/OntarioPlace](https://ontario.ca/ontarioplacelocation), along with information about the Ontario Place site and the redevelopment process, including the three successful participants. The survey will be **open for nine weeks, closing in late October**.

In addition to the survey, there will be two provincewide virtual public information sessions on **October 13 and 27**, which will provide additional opportunities for the public to learn about the planned redevelopment and provide input. More information about the virtual sessions, including how to pre-register, is available on the website.

Dog Waste Diversion

Have you noticed a change to street litter bins across the GTA? Last month, the City of Toronto announced the pilot expansion of collecting dog waste in street litter bins through a new bin compartment. 40 bins in areas with high concentrations of dogs will contain compartments which accept dog waste, reducing the amount going to landfills.

Collected organic material is processed to create compost for soil nourishment and biogas to power vehicles/facilities as a renewable gas. If a street bin does not have a dog waste compartment, the waste can be placed in the resident's organics bin. [Click here](#) for more details on green bin contents.



Understanding Urban Rivers

Join the [TRCA webinar](#) on Thursday, October 14th 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, about the river watersheds in the Toronto Region and learn about the challenges facing the water resource system and the species that rely on it.

Decluttering?

Here are some options for those interested in recycling, reducing, and reusing -- all good for the environment!

[Goodwill Donation Centre](#) - 2837 Dufferin Ave. (just south of Glencairn & Dufferin)

[Habitat ReStore](#) - 1120 Caledonia Rd, North York

[Ingram Transfer Station](#) (Household Hazardous Waste) -50 Ingram Drive, Toronto

[Secondhand Sunday](#) is an event supported by the City of Toronto, that encourages residents of single-family homes to leave unwanted reusable items on their front property for neighbours to take for free. Any resident can participate. To learn about bringing Secondhand Sunday to your community, visit the website for the latest information, future event dates, resources, and support.

Community Spirit

Know someone in the LPRO community who has practiced “random acts of kindness” during COVID? From organizing food or clothing drives, making masks, running errands for vulnerable seniors, preparing meals, to providing tech help, we’d love to hear your stories. Please email lyttonparkresidentsorg@gmail.org, *attention Community Spirit*.

North Toronto Historical Society Notices

Century Home Plaques

Do you live in a Century Home?

Treat it to a plaque from Heritage Toronto

APPLY: <https://tinyurl.com/2cjt5w2n>



Upcoming Live-Stream Programmes

To Register, email memberships@northtorontohistoricalsociety.org and they will send you an invitation with details. You can join on Zoom or by phone.

Wednesday, 27 October, 7:30 p.m. [registration open as of 1 October]

The Missing Millionaire: The true story of Ambrose Small and the city obsessed with finding him.

Author **Katie Daubs** tells the gripping story of the disappearance of Ambrose Small.

Wednesday, 24 November, 7:30 p.m. [register after 1 November]

Toronto's Lost Villages

Author and popular speaker **Ron Brown** brings to life the stories of the many small communities that once dotted our region.

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!**