



September 2025 Newsletter

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LPRO Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, October 21
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Avenue
Come out and learn about your Lytton Park Community!

Agenda:

- President's Report and Business Matters
- Councillor and Deputy Mayor Mike Colle, Ward 8
- Q & A

Everyone is welcome! If you wish to vote, you must be a paid-up member of LPRO. Membership is only \$30/year. [Become a member](#) today!

Join LPRO



Important - Call for Nominations

Lytton Park Residents Organization Board of Directors

New Board members and volunteers are essential for LPRO to continue advocating for our community.

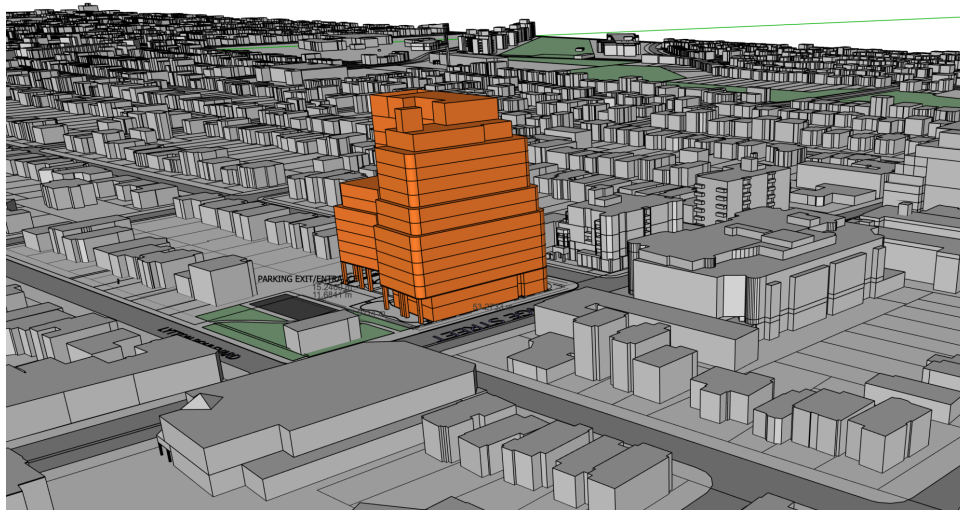
Please consider being a LPRO director or volunteer. If you want a nomination, or to nominate a Board member, submit an email to: lyttonparkresidentsorg@gmail.com with *Nomination* in the Subject line, along with a brief biography of the nominee.

Volunteers collaborate with the board to improve the overall character of the area and encourage good government for our community and the City. LPRO is a strong community voice.

Our activities include:

- Organizing community events (e.g. Yard Sale)
- Communicating information about issues of interest to members and subscribers through our website and regular e-newsletters
- Encouraging involvement by community members on issues that impact our neighbourhood
- Advocating on a variety of local and city-wide matters
- Liaising with elected officials and staff from all three levels of government
- Working with other residents' groups in North Toronto and other areas
- Communicating with the local Uptown Yonge BIA
- Coordinating with diverse advocacy groups for better planning, traffic safety, noise reduction and a more sustainable neighbourhood
- Liaising with Community Policing
- Participating with Construction Hubs at major development sites
- Participating with design of new local parks
- Management of administrative functions: member database – treasurer role - secretary

Developments in our neighbourhood



Approved – 56-metre (184-foot) high building at former Trull site (2674-2704 Yonge Street & 19 Alexandra Blvd.)

A seniors' residence could be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood. The building as approved, however, has some aspects that are not compatible with this mid-block location.

Height: At its July 23-24, meeting, City Council approved a Zoning By-law amendment to permit a 13-storey (50.4 metres, plus 6.0 mechanical penthouse) seniors' residence building. This height is out of scale compared with other new and planned buildings mid-block between Eglinton and Lawrence. Current zoning permitted a maximum height of 36.1 metres. The two local councillors, Colle and Chernos Lin, whose residents will be most impacted, voted no to the approval.

Rental Units: An existing rental building on Yonge Street will be demolished. The new seniors' building will include two storeys with 31 replacement units. Tenants of the rental units will not need to be provided with access to any amenities.

Alexandra Gates: The owners are committed, in consultation with the Ward Councillor and the Lytton Park Residents' Organization, to the reconstruction and restoration of the historic gates and columns located at the northwest and southwest corners of the intersection of Alexandra Boulevard and Yonge Street.

Yonge Street Frontage: There is little setback from the Yonge Street sidewalk. Pedestrians will face a building rising straight up from the Yonge Street sidewalk for 6 storeys to a height of 41.6m (136.6ft), at which point there is a setback of 1.5m. A further 2.4m setback above the 8th storey extends to the top of the 12th storey. (per the plans entitled ISSUED FOR REZONING, which bear the date 2025-05-26, and are listed on the AIC website as being posted on JUN 5, 2025)

Intrusion into neighbourhood street: The residential home at 19 Alexandra is included in the plans, and moves the building site more deeply away from Yonge and into the residential side-street.

Parking is minimum; public transit is not convenient: This seniors' residence building intends to provide independent residential suites, assisted-living suites and memory-care suites. This will require a large staff to be on site. The building has only 24 stacked parking spaces. The owners said that they expect their staff to use public transit. The building is located approximately 1 kilometre from the nearest subway stations at Eglinton and at Lawrence; the TTC 97 Yonge bus runs infrequently and often erratically, with waits of up to 30 minutes in all sorts of weather (frigid, rainy, sweltering hot). Staff and visitors using public transit will have a 1-kilometer walk to the subway, or a long wait for a bus in rain, heat, and snow.

See more details on this [application for development](#) at the City of Toronto website. The city planner on file is [Ben DiRaimo](#).

Check the LPRO website for more [information and updates on this development](#).

Community News and Events



Field resurfacing at Lawrence Park Collegiate

In the spring of 2025 the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and the Toronto Scottish Rugby Football Club (the Club) signed a partnership agreement to build a new playing field at Lawrence Park Collegiate (LPCI). The Club will be a tenant, renting the field, and the TDSB will retain full control of the field and all of the LPCI site. The Club will loan \$1.5M to help build a state-of-the-art field to replace the current one which is in poor condition.

The new field is for school use foremost: every school day from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Students will be the main beneficiaries of the new field in terms of usability, a longer season, and a top quality surface that should reduce injuries. In exchange the Club will have access to the new field several evenings per week for practices and on Saturdays for games. Under the agreement TDSB retains 100%

ownership and management of both the field and the track. The Club is effectively pre-paying rental fees.

In late June TDSB disclosed for the first time that the 400m track surrounding the field would be reduced in size due to the new field's design. As a result of this and other issues raised by the community and LPCI Parent Council, TDSB agreed to review the design of the field. LPRO hopes that upon the conclusion of that review, TDSB will offer up satisfactory solutions to these concerns so that this important project can proceed with the support of all stakeholders.

LPRO will provide an update once TDSB has made the results of its review public.



Have your say:

Neighbourhood Retail and Services Study

The City of Toronto is considering zoning changes that would allow businesses to open in residential zones across the city. The initiative is the final phase of the Expanding Housing Options in Neighbourhood (EHON) program aimed at increasing housing density in Toronto.

This is a complex proposal with a broad impact and City Planning staff have engaged in a number of outreach activities including a city survey which is open until September 30 and provides some clarity. See [EHON Neighbourhood Retail and Services Study - Consultation Poster Boards](#) for an excellent summary of what is proposed.

Fill out the survey



City plans to postpone Eglinton bike lanes

After years of LRT construction disruption, Eglinton communities were ready for real progress: safe cycling and a complete street.

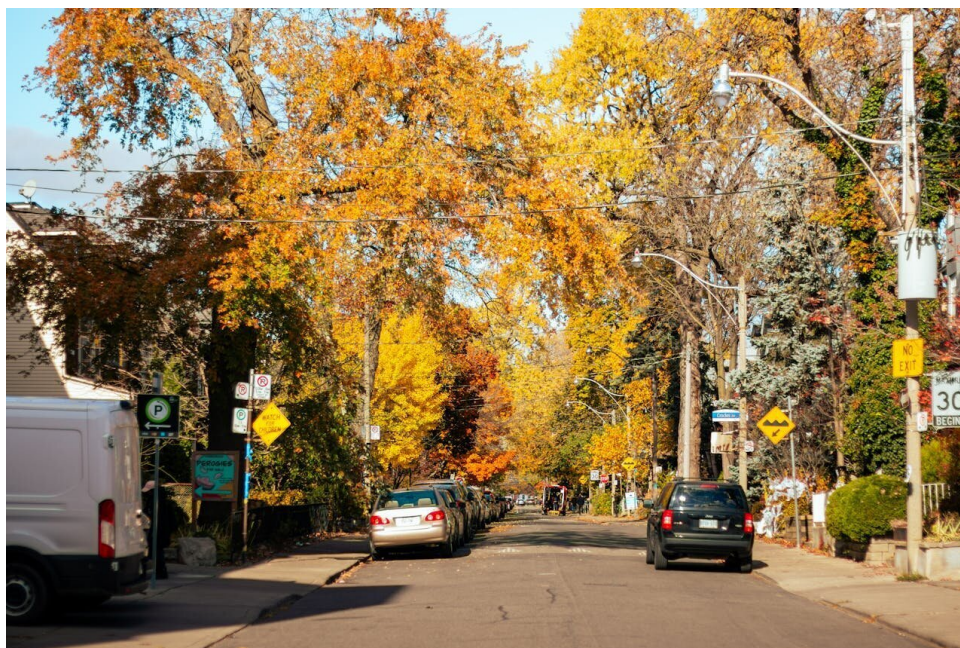
Instead, the [City plans to resurface Eglinton between Keele and Mount Pleasant now](#), without the bike lanes, only to rip it up again later. This wastes money, doubles traffic chaos, prolongs unsafe conditions, and risks provincial interference or cancellation under Bill 212. Eglinton has already waited long enough — the time to act is now.

Bike lanes are too often scapegoated for congestion, but Cycle Toronto's legal victory confirmed what we've long known and [what research has consistently shown](#): they're part of the solution. The City's completely avoidable delay will worsen gridlock by subjecting Eglinton residents and businesses to two rounds of costly, disruptive construction instead of one.

Right now, the Province has left behind scattered fragments of bike lanes—disconnected, confusing, and unsafe. Metrolinx delivered their portion; now the City must complete its share.

It's simple common sense: building the lanes now reduces disruption, prevents political interference, and could save lives. Eglinton deserves a complete street, not another broken promise. Tell the City to stick to the plan - add your name to the letter which will be sent to the Mayor, your councillor, the councillors along Eglinton, and City of Toronto staff.

Complete Eglinton Now



Protecting and enhancing the tree canopy while supporting infill housing

New infill housing development requires proactive solutions to ensure the city's existing tree canopy is supported and that there is growing space for trees as land is developed and new housing is built. Policies through the EHON initiative have included provisions to help protect trees and growing space during development of specific infill building types. There are, however, other development scenarios to be addressed.

Iceberg homes may have impacts on the tree canopy and soil permeability, thereby affecting drainage, groundwater and stormwater management and the capacity for planting new trees. They may also have construction impacts on adjacent properties, and can require large amounts of concrete (which is high in embodied carbon).

Consultation Process:

City Planning Division has been consulting on proposals to better protect and enhance Toronto's tree canopy while supporting infill housing development in neighbourhoods and also addressing concerns about the impacts of "iceberg homes."

See more information on the [proposed amendments](#).

City of Toronto: Have Your Say: Updating Toronto's Tree Bylaws

To protect our urban forest and support the goal of increasing Toronto's tree canopy by 40 percent by 2050, the City of Toronto is reviewing its Tree Bylaws.

As part of the review, the city is exploring:

- Lowering the size threshold for trees protected on private property
- Increasing penalties for violations

- Adding protections for large, healthy trees, building on the former Heritage Tree Program.
- Offering incentives for private property owners to maintain large, healthy trees
- Allowing more flexibility in home design to preserve protected tree
- Share your input through an online survey and in-person or virtual public consultations.

See the city's [Tree Bylaw Review](#) to learn more.

Take the tree by-law review survey



Kristen Aiello, local LPRO resident and violinist with NYCO

NYCO to Make Eglinton St. George's United Church Their Home Venue for the 2025–26 Season

Classical music finds a home in Lytton Park! North York Concert Orchestra will launch its 2025–26 season at a wonderful new venue: Eglinton St. George's United Church!

Located in the heart of the Lytton Park community, the church offers a warm and welcoming space — the perfect setting for an unforgettable season of music. Whether you're a longtime supporter or a first-time concertgoer, this season has something special for you.

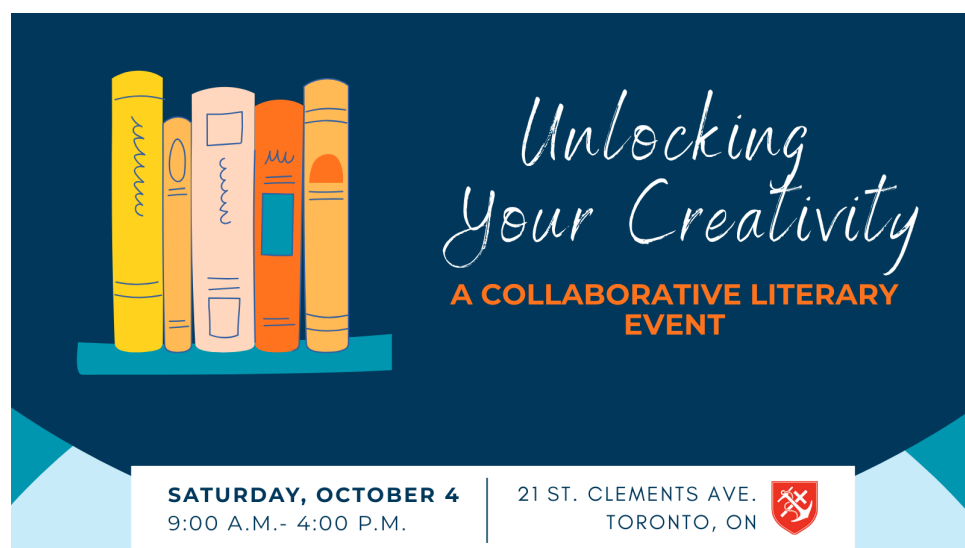
"I'm excited to share that we've found a new home at Eglinton St. George's Church. This beautiful space in the heart of midtown, with easy transit access, is the perfect setting for NYCO's 51st season. When

we performed there to a sold-out audience in March, it was a truly special night. Both our musicians and the audience loved the sound, the atmosphere, and that sense of connection. Now we're ready to bring you even more unforgettable concerts. Don't miss the chance to experience music in this inspiring space — I hope to see you there!"
— **Rafael Luz, Music Director**

*"As a violinist with the North York Concert Orchestra for the past five seasons, I'm especially excited that we'll be presenting our 2025–26 season at Eglinton St. George's United Church, which is right in my neighbourhood," said **Kristen Aiello**. "The church is beautiful and it has amazing acoustics. We look forward to sharing our music with family and friends as well as members of the local community."*

This year's program features a mix of timeless classics, fresh discoveries, and exciting guest artists, all performed in a space that truly brings the music to life.

🎵 Explore the full 2025–26 season lineup and ticket details at nyco.ca.



Unlocking Your Creativity. A Collaborative Literary Event

St. Clement's School has a long history of literary prowess and are very excited to showcase and share the talents of our community members including alums, past parents, past staff, and friends!

Please join SCS for *Unlocking Your Creativity: A Collaborative Literary Event* on **Saturday, October 4 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** This fun day of learning, celebration, and literary camaraderie will feature keynote speakers Anne Michaels and Sheila Heti '85, interactive workshops, and a book fair highlighting works from our participating authors with thanks to Ben McNally Books!

Tickets are \$25 per person and include lunch. See the day's [agenda](#), [speaker bios](#), [workshop details](#), and [register](#).



Democracy and the Imperative of Engagement

Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.

Eglinton St George's United Church
35 Lytton Blvd., Toronto, ON

J.D.M. Stewart

Historian, Teacher, and Author of *The Prime Ministers* (2025)

Democracy is only as strong as the people who are engaged in it and Canadian history has been marked by both successes and failures on the path to building a better one. J.D.M. Stewart, one of the nation's foremost historians and author of the new book, *The Prime Ministers*, draws on his experience as a writer, commentator and former Civics teacher to explore the importance of civic engagement. Stewart will argue that education and an understanding of our past remain keys to a strong democracy and a sense of who we are as Canadians.

[Compassionate Justice Speakers Series](#)



SNIDER FAMILY



Colourized photo of veterans of the War of 1812, October 1861. Jacob Snider is fourth from left.
Toronto Public Library



The Snider House, 744 Duplex Avenue, 2023. William and Nancy Snider built this Regency Cottage in 1828 and added a second floor in 1865. Designated as a heritage building in 1979 under the Ontario Heritage Act, it is among the oldest buildings remaining in North Toronto.
Courtesy of Eli Aaron

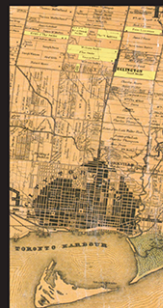
Sentenced to death for his loyalty to the British during the American Revolution, Martin Snider was given clemency and allowed to leave the United States. He married Sarah Armstrong in 1789 in New Brunswick, and they had 11 children, nine in New Brunswick and two in Upper Canada.

They moved to Upper Canada in 1811 and bought this partly cleared 200-acre lot on the west side of Yonge Street. They arrived in what is now Toronto — then York County — six years after the signing of Treaty 13 (the Toronto Purchase) by the British Crown and the Mississaugas, which included their farmland.

Martin and Sarah Snider's sons served in the War of 1812 against the Americans and supported the rebels at Montgomery's Tavern in the 1837 Upper Canada Rebellion. In 1837, Yonge Street was an unpaved rural road. However, it rapidly evolved into a thriving farm community dominated by a small number of interrelated families.

The Sniders were related by marriage to the Lawrence, Anderson, Jackes, and Ward families, and the Cummers in Willowdale. By 1860, the Snider family owned, directly or by marriage, six large farms fronting Yonge Street in the Eglinton–Lawrence area, two more on Bathurst Street, a shop on Eglinton Avenue, and a sawmill in the Don Valley.

As Toronto expanded, Martin and Sarah Snider's descendants gradually sold their Yonge Street properties and farmed elsewhere. Their son Elias Snider sold the last piece of the family farm in 1888.



Detail of Tremaine's map of the County of York, Canada West, 1860. The yellow highlights in the Yonge and Eglinton area indicate land owned by the Snider family directly or through marriage.
Toronto Public Library

Produced with the support of the North Toronto Historical Society

HERITAGE TORONTO 2025

You're invited!

Join us for the unveiling of the Snider Family Heritage Plaque.

Where: Snider Parkette, 2672 Yonge St. Toronto

When: Saturday, September 27, 2025, 11 a.m.

North Toronto Historical Society

Established 1975



Lawrence Station bus terminal reopening, regular service to resume

Effective August 31, the bus terminal and main entrance has reopened.

Routes 52 Lawrence West, 124 Sunnybrook, 162 Lawrence-Donway and 952 Lawrence West Express will return to their regular routes and service, picking up and dropping off customers in the terminal.

52 Lawrence West and 952 Lawrence West Express buses will no longer divert to Eglinton Station. For further information, please see the

Join or renew your membership

We do as much as we can with the work of volunteers. However activities such as website maintenance, newsletter formatting, yard sale signs, annual general meeting venue rental, and insurance need to be paid for. Membership fees cover these operating expenses.

When LPRO retains consultants such as a planner or a lawyer to assist us in OLT appeals or mediation with the City and a developer, these costs are paid from funds raised specifically for development issues.

Please support our work through an annual membership - it's only \$30 per household (Jan 1 to Dec 31). To become a member or renew, please go to our website.

Join or renew your membership

If you aren't sure whether you have paid for 2025, please email us at membership.lyttonparkro@gmail.com and we will let you know.

Together we DO make a difference!

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PO Box 1348 Stn K
2708 Yonge St
Toronto, Ontario, M4P3J4
Canada

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