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CITY OF TORONTO EDITION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2004 • VOL 8 • No 39

PARKS ACT JOINS LIST OF LEGISLATION REFORMS

Review avoids contentious issues

By Anne Marie Aikins

For the first time in 50 years, the Liberals are reviewing the *Provincial Parks Act*, which provides protection for the province's parks, conservation reserves and wilderness areas. The announcement went out in early September shortly before public consultations were scheduled to begin, joining a long line-up of provincial legislative reviews. But, environmentalists have accused the province of quietly rushing the process as a means of avoiding all the "contentious issues."

Activists with **Peaceful Parks Coalition**, a Toronto-based environmental group, worry that many people are unaware that an opportunity exists to demand stronger safeguards for the province's protected areas.

"What the premier is proposing in the new so-called protected areas legislation basically only protects the status quo with very few progressive exceptions," spokesperson **AnnaMaria Valastro** told *NRU*. "The Liberals have avoided all the contentious issues, such as logging in Algonquin Park, development, sport-hunting, commercial fur-harvesting and excessive use of motorized vehicles."

Valastro fears that the Liberals are rushing "yet another superficial public consultation" so they can declare an election promise kept. "But, this isn't good enough," she said. "The province's protected areas system is too important to be rushed through quickly and without thoughtful public input."

But, **Anne Marie Flanagan**, a spokesperson for natural resources minister **David Ramsay**,

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TRAIN GANG

Peer review team releases preliminary recommendations

By Blake Eligh

Transportation, preservation, revitalization, and a board to govern it all. Those were the main ideas presented by the peer review team as it released its preliminary recommendations at this week's public forum on the **Union Station** draft master plan.

Incorporating feedback from stakeholder meetings and an earlier public forum, the peer review is tightening down policies to guide future development of the station. Led by **Office for Urbanism, Robert Millward (R.E. Millward & Associates Ltd.)** and **Nick Poulos (Poulos & Chung)**, the consulting team offered their recommendations, fleshing out the original draft master plan submitted by **Union Pearson Group**. The future of Union Station seems a little less cloudy as the details begin to crystallize.

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where to find the solution.**

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MARK THESE DATES

SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 1

The Future of Canada's Infrastructure, Minister Andy Scott, Strategy Institute, The Old Mill, Toronto, 416-944-8833.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 1

Minister John Godfrey, New Deal for Cities and Communities: Potential for Toronto, Toronto Board of Trade, Downtown Centre, 7:45 – 9:00 a.m., 416-862-4500.

MONDAY OCTOBER 4

Planning and Transportation Committee, committee room 1, 9:30 a.m.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 5

Waterfront Sustainability Public Forum, TWRC, Novotel Hotel, 45 The Esplanade, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m., 416-214-1344 ext. 239.

Administration Committee, committee room 1, 9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 6

Works Committee, committee room 1, 9:30 a.m.

OCTOBER 6 – OCTOBER 7

Ontario Economic Summit, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario Chamber of Commerce, 416-482-5222, ext. 241.

MONDAY OCTOBER 18

Green Roofs, Canadian Green Building Council, tuition \$395, committee room 4, register on-line www.greenroofs.org.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 22

Sustainable Urban Systems Design, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, The Old Mill Inn, register on-line www.raic.org.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 27

David O'Brien, CEO Toronto Hydro, Toronto Board of Trade, power breakfast, Downtown Centre, 7:45 – 9:00 a.m.

September 28 – 30

Council overview

Although there were moments of nastiness and unruly behaviour, Mayor **David Miller** ran a much tighter ship this week during council's meeting. The debates were emotional at times, especially during election financing talk, which saw unusual divisions between the left and the right, but overall the meetings were productive and free of distracting stunts.

Mayor supports election financing reform

Councillor **Michael Walker** had to endure being called paranoid and out of control for championing the cause of election financing reform. But, with the long-awaited support from the mayor, who gave his support to a ban on corporate and union donations, council passed 35 – 8 a series of recommendations, albeit weaker, to forward to the province. Councillors **Maria Augimeri, Mike Feldman, Mark Grimes, Norm Kelly, Giorgio Mammoliti, Denzil Minnan-Wong, Case Ootes, and David Shiner** voted against the recommendations.

A motion by councillor **Adam Giambrone** that election financing report forms be posted on the city website was unanimously carried.

City prepares to defend itself in island airport lawsuit

Councillors received a staff report requesting approval to spend \$15,000 to hire lawyer **Alan**

Lenczner to defend the city in a \$500 million lawsuit over the cancelled Toronto island airport bridge. The **REGCO** lawsuit had lapsed over the summer, but the company has asked for an extension.

Public appointments announced

The police board representative is human rights consultant and mayor's advisor **Dr. Alok Mukherjee**. Council has asked the integrity commissioner **David Mullan** to investigate an apparent leak to the *Toronto Star* before Mukherjee's appointment was announced.

Board of health appointments include homelessness advocate **Cathy Crowe**, a recent recipient of an **Atkinson Economic Justice Award**, as well as **Nathan Gilbert, Rhonda Rhoffey, Valerie Sterling, Brian Hyndman and Fiona Nelson**. Toronto Atmospheric Fund appointments include **Guy Burry, Julia Langer, Rob McLeese, Beth Savan and Julie White**.

St. Clair right-of-way goes ahead

Council voted 36 - 7 in favour of the controversial \$65-million streetcar right-of-way on St. Clair Avenue. Councillors **Frank Di Giorgio, Doug Holyday, Mammoliti, Frances Nunziata, Ootes, Cesar Palacio, and Michael Walker** voted against the proposal after a long heated debate.

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Train gang continued from page 1

The recommendations use stronger language than that found in the original plan. For instance, the team is adamant in its vision of the station as a key transportation hub, a role it says should be strengthened by supportive land use and transportation policies. With **GO Transit, Via Rail** and the **Toronto Transit Commission**, all operating out of the building, this may seem like an obvious idea, but team consultant **Jennifer Keesmaat (Office for Urbanism)** says the current transit-focused proposal has come a long way from the shopping mall proposals of the 1970s. Strong language advises that ancillary uses should be allowed, but must not interfere with the “primacy of transportation.” The team also advises modernizing the station to help it accommodate projected passenger demands.

Air rights are another of the substantive review pieces added to the plan since the last forum. “We added a level of discussion in anticipation of the time when air rights need to be discussed,” Keesmaat says. The team outlines criteria about how air rights ought to be determined. Among them, that building over the station must not negatively impact the character of the civic setting along Yonge Street. The recommendations also make specific mention that important view corridors should be protected from future development at the station.

The team is very clear about the importance of preserving, restoring and enhancing heritage features of the station. The final master plan will have to address the train shed over top of the tracks, where passengers get on and off the train. “We included policy recommendations—what and how alterations to the train shed should proceed.”

“It’s sentimentality versus practicality,” Keesmaat says. “Some people see doing something modern and sophisticated in its place. Others want it restored.”

The heritage structure, once glass and steel, now concrete, is federally protected by **Parks Canada**, but owned by **GO Transit**, which

makes any proposed changes, from restoration to replacement, certain to be fraught with debate.

When the alterations do get started, a board may be keeping an eye on the progress. Throughout the consultation, concerns were raised over and over about how the public could have input into future concept plans. With the myriad operators in and around the station, no one organization has jurisdiction over the station’s future.

“Significant negotiation has to take place to bring the master plan details to fruition,” Keesmaat says. The team recommends the city establish a board to govern

implementation of the plan, balance public and private interests, and ensure that future development adheres to the plan.

Of course, there is more to come. “We have

to make sure that we all agree on high-level policies,” Keesmaat says. “But we think we’ve moved greatly towards consensus.” She’s hoping for more comments when the panels are posted on the city’s website this week. But there isn’t much time left. The plan is to be presented at a November 1 joint meeting of the planning and transportation and administration committees, and to council for approval at the end of November. •

Integrated space for pedestrians, cars, cabs, buses, bikes and all.



Source: OfficeforUrbanism



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City legislation working group sets terms of reference

The province has posted to its website the “final terms of reference” for the “**Joint Ontario – City of Toronto Task Force**” to review the legislation pertaining to Toronto. The housing ministry’s website has included city council’s decision in May 2003 endorsing the principles and components of an improved legislative framework drafted by staff and its request to the province to review the *City of Toronto Act*. It also says that Premier **Dalton McGuinty** accepted the invitation in May 2004.

Co-chairs of the “working group” are Toronto CAO **Shirley Hoy** and **John Burke**, deputy minister of municipal affairs and housing. Doing the day-to-day work will be **Rosanna Scotti**, **Phillip Abrahams** and **Tobias Novogrodsky** from the CAO office. **Dana Richardson** and **Peter-John Sidebottom** will be their provincial counterparts.

“We have spent the past few weeks fine-tuning the details of the scope of the project,” Novogrodsky told NRU. “It will include reviewing and analyzing the advantages and disadvantage as well as the limitations of the act.”

The working group’s terms of reference include: principles of municipal governance and city-provincial relations; municipal purposes, powers and spheres of jurisdiction; democratic control, public participation and council accountability; municipal government and procedures; financial management; revenue sources; intergovernmental relations; and legal proceedings and by-law enforcement.

According to the provincial website the new *City of Toronto Act* is scheduled to be introduced by December 2005. •

Parks act continued from page 1

told NRU that the province sent out a news release on *Canada Newswire* September 9 and has been placing advertisements in local newspapers prior to the meetings. Consultations began September 29 in **Sault Ste. Marie**.

“The open houses have been reasonably attended,” Flanagan said. “The ministry is reviewing the act as a whole and is not dealing with protection issues because they aren’t enshrined in legislation.”

“We won’t be dealing with all the small issues that would bog us down,” Flanagan said. “After 50 years, this review is very much needed.”

When the act was last reviewed in 1954, there were only eight provincial parks. Today there are 316 parks, 249 conservation reserves under the *Public Lands Act*, and 10 wilderness areas under the *Wilderness Areas Act* in the province. Protected areas are lands and waters with defined boundaries established primarily to permanently protect natural heritage features such as unique landforms, plant communities and animal life.

But, many of the measures that ensure the protection of “ecological integrity,” Flanagan said, are policies and therefore, can be changed without the approval of the Legislature. “For that reason, the act needs to enshrine the current policies.”

The ministry has put forward eight proposals regarding classification and zoning, administration and enforcement, and industrial and non-

industrial uses.

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority spokesperson **Deanne Rodrigue** told NRU that the authority would not be making a submission at this point as “they don’t see it having any impact” on area parks.

The city’s parks and recreation department apparently is unaware that a review of the parks act is taking place and did not know that the consultations would be in Toronto this month.

The only consultation taking place in the GTA is being held at the **Ontario Heritage Centre** on Adelaide Street East on October 13 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. •

A well-known Toronto-based land development company seeks a planner with at least 5 years experience in municipal planning. Experience in development applications, the approvals process, by-laws, and agreements is essential. Salary/benefits competitive. Please submit resumes in confidence by **October 14, 2004 to **Manager of Planning, iargpc@compuserve.com.****

MFP inquiry prepares to begin second phase

After hearing from former budget chief **Tom Jakobek's** family members, the **Toronto Computer Leasing Inquiry** ended on September 29 – one day short of its second anniversary. To date, the inquiry has cost \$8 million, less than the \$9.9 million budgeted by city council in September of 2003.

“I think it can be stated without reservation that the proceedings in the past two years,” commissioner **Denise Bellamy** said, “have focused valuable public attention on how municipal government works.”

The **Toronto External Contracts Inquiry** will begin October 18, though the witness list has not been released yet. The commissioner will not write her report until the second phase is completed. •

MFP Inquiry facts

- 70,000 pages produced
- 20,000 documents
- 12 parties with standing
- 46 lawyers
- 130 witnesses
- 180 days of testimony

Council overview continued from page 2

Taxis reforms

Council passed 22 – 8 new rules for aging taxis recommended by planning and transportation committee to improve the quality of cabs. Councillor **Karen Stintz** encouraged council to support the guidelines as not an attempt to “micro-manage” the taxi industry, but as a way to ensure that the vehicles are safe and well maintained.

Save the trees by-law

As council tussled over the proposed new tree by-law restricting the removal of trees on private property, developers were apparently seen around the city quickly chopping them down to make way for new buildings. •

CITY IN BRIEF

Glen Murray at Massey College

Former Winnipeg mayor **Glen Murray**, who lost the federal election in a close race to Conservative candidate **Steven Fletcher**, is now a Visiting Fellow at Massey College at the **University of Toronto**. Murray has been lecturing about the urban agenda to architecture students and public speaking.

City litter audit promising

Since 2002, Toronto's litter has reduced by 16 per cent, which represents “promising progress towards achieving the city's target of 50 per cent reduction by 2007,” said councillor **Jane Pitfield**, chair of the work's committee.

This year's audit counted a large quantity of cigarette butts and chewing gum suggesting, solid waste

general manager **Angelos Bacopoulos** told *NRU*, the need for a special litter receptacles may be warranted.

Mayor helps launch new housing book

Mayor **David Miller** and **TD Bank** chief economist **Don Drummond** will join co-editors **David Hulchanski**, a leading housing scholar, and **Michael Shapcott**, a long-time housing advocate, to launch *Finding Room*, a new book that provides answers to Canada's affordable rental housing challenges. The event will take place on Monday, October 4, at 11 a.m. in the members' lounge in council chambers.

“This book brings together two dozen authors from the non-profit, private and government sectors to

provide a realistic road map to resolve the nation-wide affordable rental housing crisis,” Shapcott told *NRU*. “The launch takes place the day before the Liberal's first *Speech from the Throne* after promising during the election to spend an additional \$1.5 billion on affordable housing.”

More election reform talk

Elections Ontario chief **John Hollins** tabled the report, *Access, Integrity and Participation: Towards Responsive Electoral Process for Ontario* on September 2. **Fair Vote Ontario** is holding a special two-hour briefing and discussion on October 7 at noon at the **Centre for Social Justice** on “impending electoral reform development” in Ontario.

STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDAS

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The Planning and Transportation Committee will consider the following at its meeting at Toronto City Hall on Monday, October 4 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Room 1.

REPORTS

Cash for by-law training program

The report summarizes the progress of the comprehensive by-law compliance program and seeks approval for the next stage of work which will introduce a dispute resolution process to the current enforcement strategy, to better streamline property standards and maintenance issues. Staff recommends adoption of the program and development of an implementation model. Implementation of the program involves gathering performance data, establishing target cost reductions, communication plans, training and developing assessment tools. The pilot phase will be completed this year. Full implementation will take another two years. Staff recommends funding of \$80,000 in 2005 and 2006 to train 170 investigation and enforcement officers.

Beautiful city and civic improvement program

A report outlining policy framework and describing how a civic improvement program could support the city's broader beautification objectives. The report recommends reassessment of the role of the \$1.5-million program to beautify public spaces, with revision of project and budget priorities. Staff recommends that council reaffirm its commitment to the program and suggests that an expanded program would require more capital funding. The report details specific criteria for considering projects to be included in the capital budget, from meeting the 'built form' objectives of the official plan to public/private partnerships and increasing community engagement.

Results of home reno forums

A report on the results of the city's 2004 home renovation forums. Through presentations and tradeshow-style displays, the public education session provided home renovation information on topics like zoning, energy efficiency, financing and working with architects and contractors. The report says that 1,530 people attended the seven forums hosted in the spring,

up slightly from last year. Urban development services is planning more forums, scheduled for next Spring, which are to include new topics covering electrical connections, ravines and physical accessibility. The schedule is to be available in November.

York University dedicated bus lanes

Communication from chair **Howard Moscoe** advising of the **Toronto Transit Commission** July decision to approve the conceptual design for bus-only lines from **Downsview** subway station to **York University**.

No property standards audits for TCHC buildings

A report concerning the staffing and budgetary implications of conducting proactive building audits for 57,500 **Toronto Community Housing Corporation**-owned buildings. The report recommends that staff do not proceed with the audits, but continue to respond to resident-initiated complaints. The report also recommends that the city ask the province to address maintenance funding needs for housing stock previously managed by the province.

Household income report

A report introducing a "Profile Toronto" bulletin that details changes to household incomes over the last 20 years. Using data from the 2001 census, the report compares Toronto incomes to households in other large urban centres, identifies trends and patterns of change across the greater Toronto area and describes the growth in income disparities.

Etobicoke parking ticket payment counter

A report recommending funding to establish a facility in the **Etobicoke Civic Centre** for payment of parking tickets. The report recommends \$70,000 for start-up costs and \$198,000 for annual operating costs, to be funded from the 2005 operating budget. Existing facilities are located in **Metro Hall**, the **York Civic Centre**, **1530 Markham Road** and the **North York Civic Centre**.

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STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDAS

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Administration Committee will consider the following at its meeting at Toronto City Hall on Tuesday, October 5 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Room 1.

2:00 P.M.

REPORTS

Restrictions on councillors seeking higher office unlikely

A report regarding the ability of council members to seek higher office. At the September 8 **Administration Committee** meeting, the clerk was requested to report on a motion to place restrictions on council members who run for higher office. The motion also proposed that municipal council candidates be required to swear in their nomination papers that they will serve at least half their term before seeking another office and face automatic dismissal if they fail to do so. After reviewing various provincial and federal legislation, including the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, staff reports that there is no legislation requiring municipal council members to resign or take a leave of absence to run for another office. Staff reports that in order to accomplish two other proposals set out in the motion, it would be necessary to amend the *Municipal Act* and possibly the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*. The report says it would be highly unlikely that provincial or federal governments would consider amendments seeking such restrictions.

Four-year term for municipal office

A report regarding a motion to extend the current three-year term to four years for municipal office. The report responds to a motion that requests the province to extend the municipal term to coincide with the new provincial term, and to offset the municipal election date. The report outlines the advantages and disadvantages of three- and four-year terms, identifies potential savings of joint election operations and describes the history of previous proposals.

“3-1-1” implementation plan

A report, not available at press time, on the implementation plan for the “3-1-1” customer service strategy.

WORKS COMMITTEE

The Works Committee will consider the following at its meeting at Toronto City Hall on Wednesday, October 6 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Room 1.

DEPUTATIONS

2:00 P.M.

Duplicate and triplicate street names

Deputations, deferred from the September 8 **Works Committee** meeting, regarding a report on the completion of the first phase to eliminate duplicate and triplicate street names. The report recommends approval criteria and process to derive the list and a revised policy and criteria for naming public and private streets and lanes.

REPORTS

Front-yard parking harmonization

A report regarding a policy review of residential front-yard parking and driveway widening. The report recommends that harmonization of parking provisions not commence due to inconsistencies with provincial legislation, zoning by-law requirements and other criteria in various city by-laws. The report also recommends that the issue be considered in the process to harmonize the zoning by-law.

York University dedicated bus lanes

Communication from chair **Howard Moscoe** advising of the **Toronto Transit Commission** July decision to approve the conceptual design for bus-only lines from **Downsview** subway station to **York University**.

Organic waste contracts awarded

A report, deferred from the last meeting, recommending approval to award contracts for processing of separated organic material to **Courtice Auto Wreckers Limited**, **All Treat Farms Group Ltd.** and **Halton Recycling Ltd.**

Power plants for city landfill sites

A report recommending approval to enter into an agreement with **Eastern Power Limited** for the expansion of natural gas-fired electricity

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STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDAS

continued from page 7

generation plants at the **Brock West** and **Keele Valley** landfill sites. This meets condition of a ministry of energy RFP for clean energy. The report outlines issues that require resolution before further commitments are made.

Report on summer green bin collection

A report on the feasibility of seasonal twice-weekly green bin organic waste collection during July and August. The report advises that the seasonal service would offer some benefits for residents, but the benefits would be modest relative to the significant costs of introducing additional weekly collection for just two months a year. It recommends that weekly service be maintained.

City to provide maps to Bell

A report recommending that the city execute an agreement to provide **Bell Canada** maps and related map conversion services, including parcel, topographic and aerial maps. The three-year contract will earn the city \$240,000.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PARKS COMMITTEE

The Economic Development and Parks Committee will consider the following at its meeting at Toronto City Hall on Thursday, October 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Room 1.

DEPUTATIONS

10:00 A.M.

Toronto design strategy

Deputations on a report concerning the results of a **Human Resources and Skills Development Canada**-funded study of Ontario's design sector. The study identifies Toronto as the hub of Canadian design and notes that there are more than 25,000 designers in the greater Toronto area. The report recommends that staff work with the design industry advisory committee and other partners to develop a promotion strategy for the city's design sector to increase the competitiveness of city businesses and the positioning of Toronto as a design centre.

REPORTS

City responds to proposed Heritage Act changes

A report outlining the city's response to proposed amendments to the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Council supports new procedures for controlling demolition of heritage properties and minimum standards for property maintenance, but opposes a clause that exempts provincially-owned heritage properties from municipal controls.

Botanical revitalization plan

A report recommending approval of a revitalization plan for the **Toronto Botanical Garden**, at **Leslie Street** and **Lawrence Avenue**, and authorization to enter into a construction agreement for execution of the plan. Council previously approved \$1.2 million towards the project, augmented by \$6 million to be raised by the Botanical Garden, which has raised \$4.1 million to date. Construction is to start in December.

Parks and recreation: revenue review and priorities

Two status reports, unavailable at press time, regarding a revenue review and service improvement priorities for parks and recreation.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services Committee will consider the following at its meeting at Toronto City Hall on Thursday, October 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Room 2.

RFP for Toronto Youth Job Corps program delivery

A report regarding administration of Toronto Youth Job Corps and Youth Employment Toronto programs. It recommends authorization of an RFP for delivery of the Job Corps program, in order to comply with **Human Resources Skills Development Canada** directives. •

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ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD NEWS

Board orders removal of CofA condition

In a decision issued September 10, board member **Reid Rossi** allowed the appeal by **Dinko Kordic** for variances to permit a new three-storey dwelling at **75 St. Clements Avenue**, northwest of **Eglinton Avenue West** and **Kipling Avenue** in Toronto.

Kordic applied for an increase in gross floor area and length of dwelling, a decrease in front yard setback and relief from certain landscaping provisions. He also applied to permit an integral below-grade garage facing the front lot line, a feature not permitted in the zoning by-law. The committee of adjustment approved the variances, but with conditions, including one that stipulated a maximum grade of 6 per cent for the driveway slope leading to the garage. This condition did not fit with Kordic's proposed driveway grade of 23 per cent. He appealed to the board against the condition.

Craig Hunter (Armstrong, Goldberg, Hunter) provided planning evidence for Kordic. Hunter told the board that 48 per cent of the homes on the street had below-grade garages, some with grades steeper than 6 per cent.

The board noted Kordic's revised plans to limit the grade slope to 16 per cent with a smaller proposed garage. The board found the proposed variance to be minor and a reasonable development of the land that would be compatible with the surrounding neighbourhood. The board also found the committee's grade-limiting condition to be unreasonable. With no specific zoning by-law or other requirement, the board found that there was no legal basis for the committee to limit the driveway slope. It ordered removal of the condition and authorized a maximum grade of 16 per cent. (See OMB Case No. PL040458.) •

CITY IN BRIEF

Liberals to review immigrant employment barriers

The McGuinty government has appointed former Ontario justice **George Thomson** to be an advisor to work with the province's regulatory bodies on ways to reduce barriers to help the internationally trained pursue their chosen professions.

Mayor toasts trees

Mayor **David Miller** and deputy mayor **Joe Pantalone** will host a cocktail reception to benefit the **Toronto Parks and Trees**

Foundation. The foundation works in partnership with parks and rec to support the city's parks and trees. Tickets for the October 4 event at the **TD Centre** are \$125.

Toronto tops cities in economic growth

Toronto is the fastest-growing metropolitan economy in Canada for 2004, according to the **Conference Board of Canada**. Growth is expected to reach 5.3 per cent largely due to "robust" manufacturing activity, a stronger service sector and "another banner year" in the

construction industry.

Hydrogenics partners with TWRC

Hydrogenics Corporation and **Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation** have announced a joint project to develop projects that support sustainable development.

City condo stock up

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation released the survey results from the 2004 stock of rented condominiums in Toronto, finding a more than 8 per cent increase.

CITY PEOPLE

Eric Carmona has joined **Stikeman Elliott LLP** as a partner in its real estate practice along with new associates **Corinne Pruzanski** and **Jonathan See**.

Former Newfoundland premier **Brian Tobin** has joined the firm of **Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP** as a senior business advisor.

Premier **Dalton McGuinty** appointed parliamentary assistants including **Richard Patten**, economic development and trade (innovation), **Khalil Ramal**, citizenship and immigration,

Caroline Di Cocco, children and youth services, **Mario Sergio**, seniors, **David Orziatti** and **Kathleen Wynne**, education, **Ernie Parsons**, community and social services (disabilities), **Dr. Kuldip Kular**, democratic renewal, **Jeff Leal**, training, colleges and universities, **Jean-Marc Lalonde**, transportation, and **Ted McMeekin**, consumer and business services.

Public infrastructure minister **David Caplan**'s communication staffer **Ross Parry** has been appointed to the position of executive assistant.