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Novæ Res Urbis

CITY OF TORONTO EDITION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2005 • VOL 9 • No 40

TORONTO TO HOST INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE

City boosts image as global leader

By Anne Marie Aikins

Mayor **David Miller** travelled to **Montreal** this week to participate in a panel discussion at an international conference on sustainable cities speaking about social cohesion as a factor of competitiveness and regional growth. Miller's visit happened just before Toronto is scheduled to host another contingent of international delegates. From October 17 to 21, the city will welcome close to 1,000 delegates—from 40 different countries—at the tenth annual Metropolis conference. This is a first for the City of Toronto, which is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the world, and an opportunity to really showcase itself as a world-class leader on global issues.

"The Metropolis conference is a real chance for Toronto to show the world that it is a leader on an international scale," said Miller spokesperson **Patchen Barss**. "This is such a boost for Toronto to raise our profile and acknowledge some of our best practices."

"People from all over the world can come to Toronto to live here in peace, even when they may be at war with each other in their homelands," he said.

The **Metropolis Project** is an international alliance of research and policy organizations. Its annual conference creates a forum for business, academic and government decision-makers from around the world to discuss immigration and integration issues.

Conferences have been held in **Milan, Copenhagen, Israel, Washington, Vancouver (2000), Rotterdam,**

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ST. CLAIR STREETCAR

Court derails right-of-way

By Blake Eligh

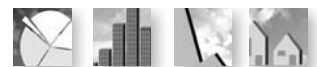
An **Ontario** divisional court decision short-turned the proposed St. Clair streetcar right-of-way earlier this week. Although the official reasons for the decision have not yet been released, there is speculation that the decision could have implications for the transit-friendly new official plan.

At the end of August, local opponents of the project—**SOS-Save Our St. Clair Inc.**—appealed to the divisional court to halt the proposed \$65-million right-of-way which was to run 6.5-km. along St. Clair Avenue, between Yonge Street and Old West Road.

A three-member divisional court panel was hastily convened at the end of September to hear the case before the agreement to freeze construction lapsed on October 12. In the end, justices **Ted Matlow, Susan Greer** and **Ellen Macdonald** sided with SOS and ruled that the right-

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Economics Matters



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MARK THESE DATES

OCTOBER 16 - OCTOBER 19

Wind Energy Conference & Trade Show, Canadian Wind Energy Association, Renaissance Hotel and Toronto Congress Centre, 1-800-922-6932.

MONDAY OCTOBER 17

World Expo Consultation, Metro Central YMCA, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., 416-554-2714.

Economic Development and Parks Committee, Committee Room 1, 9:30 a.m.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 18

Community Councils, 9:30 a.m.

World Expo Consultation – Site Specific, Downsview Park, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., 416-554-2714.

WEDNESDAY OCT 19

TTC Meeting, Committee Room 2, 1:00 p.m.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 20

World Expo Consultation, Toronto District School Board, 5050 Yonge St., 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., 416-554-2714.

World Expo Consultation, Etobicoke Collegiate Institute, 86 Montgomery Rd., 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., 416-554-2714.

World Expo Consultation – Site Specific, Central Waterfront, Harbourfront Community Centre, 416-554-2714.

Policy and Finance Committee, Committee Room 1, 9:30 a.m.

OCTOBER 17 - OCTOBER 21

10th Annual International Metropolis Conference, City of Toronto, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 416-221-6372.

OCTOBER 25 - OCTOBER 26

Toronto Regional Green Building Festival, Green Building Alliance, National Trade Centre, 416-364-0050 ext. 300, www.greenbuildingfest.com

TONKS TAKES ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES CHALLENGE

Continuity would help implementation

Toronto MP **Alan Tonks**, the current chair of the federal **Standing Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development**, has not been discouraged by a recent stinging indictment by federal environment and sustainable development commissioner **Johanne G elinas**.

She concluded in her annual report that there has been far too much talk and not enough progress on achieving environmental and sustainable development objectives. (*See NRU Toronto September 30.*) The harsh criticism, however, has not deterred Tonks one bit. Although

his term as chair of the committee is up, Tonks is hoping that he will be re-elected next week.

“It takes time to really understand these complex issues, but I have really enjoyed the work of this committee,” said Tonks in an interview from his constituency office. “A sense of continuity would help with the follow through, which was one of the commissioner’s recommendations.”

Tonks fully accepts G elinas’ harsh words in her ninth annual report, which charged that the

federal government does not follow through on implementation of important decisions on environmental issues.

“It is very important that we build institutional memory—to follow through with what we say we are going to do,” he said.

Tonks also sees the committee as building on the culture of oversight and likes to see his role as an “activist.” The federal committee will have a strong presence at the upcoming **United Nations** climate change conference. The 11th Conference of the Parties—known as COP 11—to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change will

“There will be people coming forward to tell us what we haven’t done well. We want to be open and transparent to ensure a culture of change because we have already lost a lot of time.”

- Alan Tonks

be held in **Montreal** from November 28 to December 9. It is the first meeting of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol, which came into effect on February 16.

Tonks, if he is re-elected on Tuesday, will host a meeting in **Ottawa** during COP 11 to showcase what Canada has done to cope with climate change, such as its green procurement strategies.

“That is a good story to tell,” Tonks said. “However, there will be people coming forward to tell us

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BROWNIE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

King Liberty project receives best large-scale prize

The **Canadian Urban Institute** announced the names of the winners in the 2005 CUI Brownie Awards competition, which is sponsored by **Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation** to recognize projects and programs that reflect leadership and innovation in brownfield redevelopment. The award for the best overall project was given to **Dockside Green**, a project co-ordinated by the **City of Victoria, B.C.** (Jack Basey director). The best large-scale project award went to the King Liberty project (**IBI Group** and director **Ewen Fisher**), a 45-acre redevelopment of a former industrial site in **Toronto**. The best small/medium scale project award was given to the Kaufman Lofts, the adaptive re-use of a former factory project by the **City of Kitchener** (senior planner **Terry Boutilier**).

Canadian Brownfields Network chair **Angus Ross** (**L & A Concepts**), an environmental activist living in Toronto, received the award for individual achievement.

"This award actually recognizes all the people that have been working on brownfield issues and what it means to communities," said Ross, who spoke with **NRU** shortly after been surprised with the honour in **Ottawa** yesterday at CUI's annual brownfield

conference.

For the first time this year, the awards committee, representing ten professional and industry organizations, chose finalists in each of six categories. Selected from 60 submissions nominated from both large cities and smaller communities in six provinces, the awards were announced by CUI president **David Crombie**, CMHC chair **Dino Chiesa** and **We Communications** president **Todd Latham**.

Other winners included, **City of Hamilton's** contaminated sites management program for municipal works (project manager **Mike Bingham**), **Chatham Kent** brownfield and bluefield strategy by **Marshall Macklin Monaghan Limited** (project manager **Stephen Wills**),

Wizen Homes Limited's Millcreek by the Grand—73 units in **Cambridge** (COO **Raymond Zenkovich**), and **Jawl Development Corporation's** Selkirk waterfront community project in **Victoria** (**Karen Jawl**).

"We were thrilled with both the quantity and quality of the nominations for this year's awards," said CUI VP **Glenn Miller**. "I believe that the CUI Brownie Awards truly reflect the high level of innovation expertise in brownfields redevelopment across the country." •

"This award actually recognizes all the people that have been working on brownfield issues and what it means to communities."

- Angus Ross

Tonks continued from page 2

what we haven't done well. We want to be open and transparent to ensure a culture of change because we have already lost a lot of time."

Some 7,000 participants from around the world—government, business/industry, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations—are expected at the conference in Montreal. A series of linked events will also attract thousands of people dealing with new technologies and business opportunities, climate change impacts on indigenous peoples, and ways to involve youth and civil society.

"There will be countries present, such as the U.S., which have not signed on to Kyoto," Tonks added. "We will be there to bump and nudge them to sign on."

Leading up to the conference in Montreal, the federal government announced this week a total of \$6.7-million in contributions to sustainable development research. **Environment Canada** has

increased its annual support to the **International Institute for Sustainable Development**, a **Winnipeg**-based research organization, from \$200,000 to \$1 million annually over the next three years. •

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Immigration conference continued from page 1

Oslo, Vienna and Geneva. Miller, as a city councillor, led the city's efforts to host the conference. Future conferences are planned for **Lisbon and Melbourne.**

"It's a great opportunity to feature many diverse voices," said Metropolis project manager **Robert Davis.**

This year's conference will focus on bringing together public, private and not-for-profit sectors to address challenges and opportunities of diversity and immigration.

"Centuries of immigration and settlement of people from all parts of the world have made Toronto into a vivid example of the benefits of immigration," Miller said.

IMMIGRATION AND ITS IMPACT ON CITIES

The unwavering pace of international migration is dramatically changing the world's cities. Immigrants, refugees, temporary workers and migrants primarily settle in urban areas where populations have become increasingly diverse with respect to culture, race, language, religion, and ethnicity. After Australia, Canada has the second highest proportion of immigrant population in the world.

By the end of 2005, it is expected that 245,000 permanent residents and 240,000 temporary residents will settle in Canada. According to the 2004-immigration report to the federal government, 94 per cent of immigrants will settle in major urban centres such as Toronto.

Toronto attracts the largest share of new immigrants, nearly 3 times greater than its share of the total population in Canada. A total of 792,000 people who arrived during the 1990s were living in Toronto in 2001, representing 43 per cent of all newcomers.

While some cities have embraced this rapidly deepening diversity as strength, even as a competitive advantage, others are struggling with the social and governance challenges that it presents.

Although national governments regulate entry to states, it is usually their cities that must respond to the resulting social changes, Barss said.

"Mayor Miller has a strong belief that cities are where the future business of governing is going to be done," he said.

When changes arise from large-scale immigration over a long period of time and from a wide range of countries, governments and

service providers must work exceptionally hard to develop the policy and program measures required for healthy and successful nations and communities.

All orders of government, as well as the many organizations of civil society active in the fields of immigration and diversity, face a range of dilemmas in

The conference aims to take the discussion beyond the familiar rhetoric to discern which policy and program measures can be beneficial and how they can be implemented in order to achieve the desired results.

addressing integration, diversity management, multiculturalism and social inclusion. At the same time, they face the delicate challenge of precluding social exclusion, discrimination, marginalization, and profiling.


The conference aims to take the discussion beyond the familiar rhetoric to discern which policy and program measures can be beneficial and how they can be implemented in

order to achieve the desired results.

Miller will be presenting, along with a contingent of other mayors from around the world, on diversity in contemporary cities. The panel moderator is Canadian journalist **Ann Medina.**

Other speakers include, former governor general **Adrienne Clarkson,** Ontario citizenship and culture minister **Mike Colle,** federal citizenship and culture

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Former Metro staff and pals spotted at zoo

Some had not seen each other in 25 years, others longed to get together since their team was involuntarily pulled apart, and one even came from as far away as **Vancouver** to see his old pals again. In total, 235 former Metro staff, both political and bureaucratic, and municipal politicians, both retired and not-so retired, appeared to have a great time at a recent reunion held at the **Toronto Zoo**.

“Food and drink were good, the zoo was fun and there was lots and lots of reminiscing,” said former Metro councillor and **TTC** chair **Paul Christie**, who was chair of the organizing committee, along with **Novina Wong** (secretary), **Joan King**, **Lois Griffin**, councillor **Brian Ashton**, **Scott Cavalier**, **Norm Gardner**, **Paul Godfrey** (honourary co-chair), councillor **Case Ootes**, **Peter Oyler**, **Ossie Doyle** (treasurer), MP **Alan Tonks** (honourary co-chair) and **Maureen Prinsloo** (vice-chair).

Ashton brought greetings from the city. Other speakers included Godfrey, Tonks, **John Kruger** and **Bob Richards**. A highlight of the event was when Lois

Griffin led the group in a rendition of her multi-versed composition, a “Metro Legacy.”

Although mayor **David Miller**, a former Metro councillor, planned to attend, city business pulled him away at the last minute. The party group, however, included many former mayors—**Barbara Hall**, **Mel Lastman**, **Paul Cosgrove**, **Joyce Trimmer**, **Willis Blair**, **Alan Redway**, MPP **Michael Prue**, **Fergie Brown**, **Gayle Christie** and Toronto councillor **Doug Holyday**.

Other party goers included, MP **Judy Sgro**, MPP **Mike Colle**, former Metro councillor **Ann Johnston**, **Maureen Quigley**, **Mike Thorne**, **Diane Young**, **Angelos Bacopoulos**, **Chris Roberts**, **Jack Pritchard**, **Peter Ferguson**, **Dave Kaufman**, **Craig Mather** (former CEO Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority), **Robert Bundy**, **Frank Horgon**, **Doug Floyd**, **Juri Pill**, **Richard Picherack**, **Barry Morrison**, **Heather MacVicar**, **David Guren**, **Jack Marks**, and **Carolyn Di Giovanni**. •

Immigration conference continued from page 4

minister **Joseph Volpe**, and **RBC Financial Services** president **Gordon Nixon**.

The conference will also examine how Toronto residents live, play, and work in their communities and neighbourhoods. Participants will take part in workshops held in several Toronto neighbourhoods, including Southeast Spadina / Kensington Market, Roncesvalles Village, St. Jamestown, Malvern and Rexdale, allowing them to experience firsthand Toronto’s model of a multilingual and multicultural society.

OECD SUSTAINABLE CITIES CONFERENCE

Miller travelled to Montreal yesterday to speak at the **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development** international conference on sustainable cities—linking competitiveness and regional growth with social cohesion. The high-level event brought together government leaders, policy makers and practitioners to examine and elaborate on the link between city

competitiveness and social cohesion.

The conference will be the third in a series of conferences organized by the OECD to examine the challenges faced by large cities concerned with improving their economic competitiveness while providing the social and environmental conditions that are also necessary to retain and attract skills and investment.

Toronto City Summit Alliance chair **David Pecaut** also spoke on a panel about the role of the private sector in enhancing social cohesion. •

Toronto at a glance

Population	2.5 million (5th largest city in N.A.)
Languages spoken	Over 100
Countries and regions represented	Over 200
New immigrants arriving annually	90,000 on average (and expected to rise)
Visible minorities	43 % (and rising)
Top languages spoken	Chinese, Italian and Tamil
Top home countries	China, India and Pakistan

Source: City analyst Harvey Low, and Statistics Canada

St. Clair streetcar continued from page 1

of-way should not proceed. The panel did not give any reasons for the ruling in the October 11 decision—formal details are to be issued at a later date.

SOS legal counsel **Eric Gillespie (Cunningham Gillespie)** told *NRU* that his client's case against the right-of-way was based on two arguments: that the environmental assessment process was flawed; and no official plan, existing or pending, supports the right-of-way.

The province approved the environmental assessment in June, so it seems that Gillespie's case against the official plan might be a little stronger. Neither of the existing official plans—*Metro Toronto* and



the former *City of Toronto*—permit the project. The city relied heavily on the new official plan to support the right-of-way, however, the plan is currently hung up in appeals before the **Ontario Municipal Board**. Aside from that, the OP maps show conflicting and confusing information about the line: the Higher Order Transit Corridor map shows St. Clair as a “transit corridor expansion element” running between Runnymede and Spadina, while the Surface Transit Priority Network map shows the Runnymede to Yonge Street stretch as a “transit priority segment expansion element” Strangely, both of those maps show the Spadina and Harbourfront dedicated streetcar lines as LRTs. Curious that the St. Clair line is not shown as a future LRT line, especially considering that parts of the existing line are already off-limits to drivers.

St. Clair was to have been the first major rapid transit project under the new official plan, but it is not the only one on the not-so-fast track to approval. Think of the proposed subway extension to York University, or the

proposal to run a dedicated streetcar line through the West Donlands.

“This may have significant implications well beyond St. Clair Avenue,” Gillespie said.

“The city and the **Toronto Transit Commission** preferred to assess the project exclusively under the new official plan,” Gillespie said. “If the court supports that the old plans are the governing official plans, than it is certainly conceivable that this could cause a second look

for other proposals also assessed under the new plan.”

According to Gillespie, the St. Clair transit improvements proposed by the TTC would have gone beyond surface improvements, and would result in a higher-order transit projects.

“If the court accepts this reason, then several routes may no longer be eligible for surface rights-of-way,” Gillespie said.

“If the court supports that the old plans are the governing official plans, than it is certainly conceivable that this could cause a second look for other proposals also assessed under the new plan.”

- Eric Gillespie

In the meantime, the streetcar tracks need to be replaced. This week's court ruling applies only to the proposed right-of-way, and does not prevent the TTC from repairing or reconstructing the existing streetcar line. Rehabilitation of the tracks, track bed and roadway—a \$22-million project—was to begin this year, but that was put on hold pending the right-of-way decision.

There are a number of options for what happens next. The city could proceed with the repairs and abandon hope of a dedicated line; it could amend the existing official plans to include the transit plan; or it could wait it out until the new official plan is approved by the board and the add in the necessary transit amendments then.

Whether or not it appeals against the court decision remains to be seen.

“We do not yet have the court's decision,” **Toronto** solicitor **Graham Rempe** told *NRU*. “The court is aware of the high level of public interest in the case. Where we will go from here depends on what the court has to say.” •

CITY IN BRIEF

Gowlings launches sustainable urban solutions program

In Ottawa yesterday, **Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP** launched *Sustainable Urban Solutions*, a national streamlined legal and advisory service geared at facilitating responsible urban growth and development. The new program connects municipalities, lenders and private project partners with funding opportunities associated with environmental improvement, infrastructure and sustainable development.

By combining the expertise of four key practice groups—municipal, environmental, energy and infrastructure, and government regulations and regulatory affairs—the program is designed to help municipalities create “flexible urban infrastructures that preserve environmental resources while accommodating continuing fiscal, social and cultural changes.”

Throne speech includes GTAA and new city legislation

Premier **Dalton McGuinty**’s throne speech this week included a repeated promise to “work with municipal leaders to establish the **Greater Toronto Transportation Authority**,” which will in turn, work

with “transit authorities to develop a single electronic ticket, good for a trip across the GTA.” He also said, “a new *City of Toronto Act* will, if passed, treat Canada’s largest city as a mature level of government.”

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario said the speech “did not offer communities any hope with respect to achieving fiscally sustainable municipal government in Ontario.” And although the speech was short on details, the Toronto Board of Trade said the speech promised to take Ontario’s economy in the right direction.

Godfrey addresses brownfields conference

On Thursday, Minister of State (infrastructure and communities) **John Godfrey** addressed the Canadian Brownfields 2005 Conference hosted by the **Canadian Urban Institute** in Ottawa.

Godfrey spoke about the new Green Municipal Fund brownfield remediation program for municipal governments, in which up to \$20 million in low-interest loans is being offered to communities across the country. The call for project proposals is now open and closes on November 28.

Watercourse launched

Federal minister for the Toronto waterfront revitalization initiative **Joe Volpe**, public infrastructure renewal minister **David Caplan** and mayor **David Miller** joined **Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation** CEO **John Campbell** and members of Toronto’s water-sport community this week to officially launch the construction of a new 600-metre multi-sport watercourse in Toronto’s Western Beaches.

The \$27-million course, which will be ready by the summer of 2006, will be located west of **Ontario Place**, fronting on Marilyn Bell Park. Improvements also will be made to the park, the Martin Goodman Trail, and to terrestrial and aquatic habitat.

The **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority** is carrying out the project on behalf of TWRC.

City losing war on litter

The **Toronto Board of Trade** says new figures from city hall show that the city cannot win the fight against litter alone. Mayor **David Miller** released a report saying that litter has improved by 4 per cent this year. Since the city’s first litter audit was conducted in 2002, the amount of litter in Toronto has been reduced by

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Toronto’s proposed watercourse



Source: Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation

STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PARKS COMMITTEE

The Economic Development and Parks Committee will consider the following at its meeting at Toronto City Hall on Monday, October 17 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Room 1.

PRESENTATIONS

9:45 A.M.

Toronto losing financial service jobs to GTA

A profile and update on the status of Toronto's financial services sector is to be presented in a report from the deputy city manager. A public-private initiative was launched in 2001 to enhance and promote the city's financial services sector. According to the report, over the past decade, Toronto has lost some ground in its ability to retain and attract new investment in the sector, which represents about 8 per cent of the city's overall employment. The report found that financial services growth is leaking to the 905 region; between 2000-2004, Toronto's financial services jobs grew 2.3 per cent, while in the 905 region, it grew more than 6 per cent. The report recommends developing further initiatives to reverse the trend.

REPORTS

Economic development international program policy

According to a staff report, the International Alliance Program requires more funding to develop international trade and investment relationships. In an earlier report, staff recommended that the city work to nurture international activities through program initiatives, and noted that the addition of new formal partnership and friendship cities would require funding of between \$5,000 and \$50,000 per city. The program works to promote international investment and trade with international cities. At amalgamation, Toronto inherited 26 formal international relationships, but the program was scaled back due to budget constraints.

In the current report, staff recommends \$89,000 to support an expanded partnership program with **Chicago, Chongqing, Frankfurt, Milan, Amsterdam and Warsaw**. The report also recommends adopting friendship agreements with **Kyiv, Sagamihara, Ho Chi Minh City, Quito, Thessaloniki and Volgograd** as part of the 2006 budget considerations.

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Policy and Finance Committee is scheduled to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 17 at Toronto City Hall. No agenda or meeting room information was available at press time. •

CITY IN BRIEF

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20 per cent. The board, however, is concerned that this rate of improvement may not be enough to reach Toronto's litter reduction goal of 50 per cent by 2007.

"The city is working extremely hard, but long-term and sustainable litter reduction will only be attained when individuals and organizations change their behaviour," said **Bruce McKelvey**, chair of the board's Can the Litter task force.

Annual vital sign report released

The **Toronto Community Foundation** will release its annual report card on quality of life in the

city, *Toronto's Vital Signs 2005*, today.

Chow celebrates 20 years with gala party

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of councillor **Olivia Chow's** first election to public office and her supporters want to celebrate her accomplishments by hosting a banquet in her honour at **Toronto Hilton** on November 17. The proceeds from the gala—tickets go for \$128 and \$228 a pop—go to the Trinity-Spadina NDP so that the next federal candidate (who might that be?) will have the money necessary to win this riding. Co-chairs for the

event are mayor **David Miller**, **June Callwood**, **Michele Landsberg**, Dr. **Joseph Wong**, **Avi Lewis** and **Winnie Ng**.

Dirty air report released

Companies across Canada emitted more than 4.1-billion kilograms of air pollution in 2003, most of it associated with respiratory illnesses such as asthma and bronchitis, said a new national pollution overview released this week by **Environmental Defence** and the **Canadian Environmental Law Association**. (See *NRU GTA October 12* for more information.) •

COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGENDAS

ETOBICOKE YORK COMMUNITY COUNCIL



At its 9:30 a.m. meeting on Tuesday, October 18, the Etobicoke York Community Council will hear the following in the Council Chambers at the Etobicoke Civic Centre at 399 The West Mall.

DEPUTATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

10:00 A.M.

Horner Avenue townhouses—A public meeting to consider a report recommending approval of OPA and rezoning applications by **Antonio Priori (Brookstone Developments Limited)** to permit eight-townhouses and two-semi-detached dwellings at **450 Horner Avenue**, west of Gamma Street. The original application proposed 11-townhouses. The applicant proposes to demolish the existing car dealership on the 1,532-sq.m. site.

7:00 P.M.

Lawrence Avenue OPA, rezoning—Continuation of a September public meeting regarding OPA and rezoning applications by **Reza Nasab (York Development Co.)** to permit a residential development at **1759 and 1761 Lawrence Avenue West**, west of Renfield Street. The applicant proposes one single-detached and four semi-detached dwellings, for a total of nine units on the site. **Cityscape Design Innovation Inc.** is consultant for the project.

REPORTS

Weston Road townhouses—A preliminary report regarding OPA and rezoning applications by **Ted Cymbaly (Weston Consulting Group Inc.)** to permit 54-townhouses at **1500 Weston Road**, north of Sidney Belsey Crescent.

SCARBOROUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



At its 9:30 a.m. meeting on Tuesday, October 18, the Scarborough Community Council will hear the following items in the Meeting Hall at the Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Drive.

DEPUTATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

10:00 A.M.

Scarborough Rapid Transit—Presentation of a report regarding the strategic plan for Scarborough's rapid transit line, as well as an amendment to a procurement contract. The report recommends increasing the strategic plan contract with consultant **Richard M. Soberman Limited** to \$136,815, from \$10,000. The study is to be undertaken jointly with Toronto planning staff, and is to examine cost-effective methods to rehabilitate or extend the Scarborough line.

2:00 P.M.

Crockford OPA, rezoning—Continuation of a July public meeting to consider a report recommending approval of OPA and rezoning applications by **Anthony Kiriakou and 1095999 Ontario Inc.** to permit vehicle repair and service garages in an existing industrial building at **15 Crockford Boulevard**, north of Bertrand Avenue. Architect **Heinz Mertins (Mertins Architect)** is consultant for the project.

7:30 P.M.

Markham by-pass update—An update on an environmental assessment study by **York Region** for the extension of the Markham By-pass from Highway 407 to Morningside Avenue. The report recommends that Toronto not endorse the technically preferred alignment, which is supported by York Region. This alignment would locate much of the new road south of Steeles Avenue in an industrial area west of the CP Rail line and along a new residential community. The report also recommends re-evaluation of the city's preferred alignment. Additionally, staff is to report back on legal and financial implications should the technically preferred route be approved. The proposed roadway is to be completed by 2012.

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REPORTS

Midland Ave. rezoning—A preliminary report regarding official plan and zoning amendment applications by **Parkshire Holdings Inc. (F.T. Reisman & Associates)** to permit mixed-commercial uses at **3250 Midland Avenue**, north of Finch Avenue East in the Milliken employment district. The applicant proposes additional uses, including retail, restaurant, personal service shops and financial institutions on the vacant site. Currently, office, recreational, industrial and educational training uses are permitted. **Lorne Ross Planning Services Inc.** is consultant for the project.

Lawrence Avenue apartments—A preliminary report regarding rezoning applications by **DM Precision Contractors** to permit an apartment building at **4097 Lawrence Avenue East**, east of Galloway Road. The applicant proposes a four-storey building with 38-affordable assisted-living units. **John Benczkowski (Sol-Arch Ltd.)** is consultant for the project.

NORTH YORK COMMUNITY COUNCIL



At its 9:30 a.m. meeting on Tuesday, October 18, the North York Community Council will hear the following items in the Council Chambers on the lower level of the North York Community Centre at 5100 Yonge Street.

DEPUTATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

2:00 P.M.

Dallimore condo proposal—A public meeting regarding a report recommending approval of OPA and rezoning applications by **Don-Greenbelt Developments** to permit a nine-storey, 201-unit condominium at **120 Dallimore Circle**, west of the Don Valley Parkway. **Atkins Group Corporation, Architects** is consultant for the project.

2:15 P.M.

Tisdale townhouses—A public meeting regarding a report recommending approval of a rezoning application by **1625521 Ontario Limited** to permit 24 three-storey townhouses at **78 Tisdale Avenue**, south of Eglinton Avenue East. **Carson Architects Limited** is consultant for the project.

2:30 P.M.

Buchan Court residential applications — A public meeting regarding a report recommending approval of official plan and zoning amendment applications by **Paulo Stellato (Cityzen Development Group)** and **Menkes Developments Ltd.** to permit two apartment buildings, 16- and 18-storeys tall, containing 650-units, and 45 townhouses at **25 Buchan Court**, north of **Sheppard Avenue East**. The current proposal is a revision to the previous proposal for three apartment buildings and 54 townhouses. **Sheppard Valley Holdings Ltd.** is the owner of the property. **Rafael + Bigauskas Architects** is consultant for the project.

REPORT

Lansing Residence expansion—A supplementary report regarding applications for OPA and rezoning by **Lansing Residence Inc.** to permit expansion of a seniors' residence at **258, 260, and 265 Sheppard Avenue West**, west of Senlac Road. Lansing proposes to expand the existing three-storey 180-bed nursing home to include a new five-storey, 50-suite residence. **IBI Group** is consultant for the project.

Ranee Road townhouses—A preliminary report regarding OPA and rezoning applications by **Norma Walton and 1304362 Ontario Limited** to permit 7-townhouses at **247 Ranee Avenue**, east of Flemington Road. **E.R.A. Architects Inc.** is consultant for the project.

York University secondary plan review—A report recommending a study to update the 1991 secondary plan for **York University**. The report notes that the university is nearing physical build-out. It cites

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGENDAS

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development activity on campus, proposed new transportation infrastructure, a review of **Vaughan** land uses north of Steeles Avenue, and issues raised by the university's appeal of the new Toronto official plan as reasons to proceed with the secondary plan review. Staff is currently determining the range and scope of work to be undertaken by transportation and urban design consultants. Recommendations are to be presented next summer.

TORONTO AND EAST YORK COMMUNITY COUNCIL



At its 9:30 a.m. meeting on Tuesday, October 18, the Toronto and East York Community Council will hear the following items in Committee Room 1, on the second floor of City Hall at 100 Queen Street West.

DEPUTATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

10:00 A.M.

Kimberley Avenue residential proposal—A public meeting regarding a revised rezoning application by **Keystone Trading Inc.** to permit seven-townhouses, a detached house, and maintenance of an existing historic house at **16-18 Kimberley Avenue**, between Lyall and Swanwick avenues. A related report recommends heritage designation for the historic building on the site—the **William Brown House and Coach House**—under *Part IV* of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Architect **William Holman** is consultant for the project.

Russell Hill refusal—A report recommending refusal of OPA, rezoning and site plan approval applications by **Russell Hill Investments Limited** to permit two apartment buildings at 70-200 Russell Hill Road. Russell Hill proposed four- and five-storey buildings, containing 22-condominium units. According to staff, the applications significantly exceed permitted use, scale, density and height.

Heritage inventory grows—Presentation of a report recommending inclusion of the following properties on the city's inventory of heritage properties:

- **S.F. Bowser and Company** factory at **68 Fraser Avenue**
- **Arlington Company of Canada** factory

buildings at **54 and 66 Fraser Avenue**

- **Bloor Street United Church** at **300 Bloor Street West**

11:00 A.M.

Heritage designation for Hollinger offices—A report recommending designation of the **Seventh Post Office** at **10 Toronto Street** under *Part IV* of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The 1853 building eventually became the offices of **Hollinger Corporation**. It is one of the city's earliest stone buildings, and is considered a landmark.

South Cabbagetown heritage district—A public meeting regarding a report recommending designation under *Part V* of the *Ontario Heritage Act* of the Cabbagetown South Heritage Conservation District, south of Carleton street, between Parliament Street and Bayview Avenue.

College Street heritage buildings—A report recommending inclusion of 40 **College Street** properties, between Bathurst Street and Ossington Avenue, in the city's inventory of heritage properties. The inclusion of the buildings is a result of a 2004 avenues and urban design study. Currently, five properties along College Street have been included on the heritage list.

REPORTS

9:30 A.M.

Yonge Street office addition—A preliminary report regarding OPA, rezoning and site plan approval applications by **Gar Liu (The Arcop Group)** to permit

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ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD NEWS

Don Mount decision: board gives development green light

In a decision issued October 7, board member **Robert Beccarea** allowed, in part, the appeals by **Intracorp/Marion Hill Don Mount Ltd.** and **Don Mount Court Development Corporation** to permit a new residential development at the former site of **Don Mount Court** in the **City of Toronto**.

The applicants propose to replace the existing 1969 Don Mount Court public housing project with 232 rent-geared-to-income units and a maximum of 255-market units in the form of stacked townhouses and row houses. The 7-acre property includes **825 Dundas Street**, **35 Carroll Street**, **46 Hamilton Street**, and 14-market townhouses on part of **120 Broadview Avenue**.

In 2003, the developers were selected through a city-initiated request for proposal process to redevelop the site, which is owned by **Toronto Community Housing Corporation**. Earlier this year, area residents, represented by the **Riverside Area Residents' Association** appealed against the proposed plan of subdivision, and rezoning and official plan amendments which were approved by council.

Frank Lewinberg (Urban Strategies Inc.) provided planning evidence for Intracorp, and **Denise Graham** provided planning evidence for the **City of Toronto**. Both planners gave the opinion that the proposed amendments and the draft plan of subdivision were appropriate, and conformed to the new official plan, as well as the existing plans currently in effect.

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGENDAS

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an addition to an existing commercial-office building at **1639 Yonge Street**, north of Glen Elm Avenue. The applicant proposes a four-storey, 3,220-sq.ft. addition on the back of the building. The official plan designates the site high-density residential. The **Canadian Cancer Society** is property owner and architect **Stephen Propst (Volgyesi +Propst Inc.)** is consultant for the project.

Adelaide office towers—A preliminary report regarding OPA and rezoning applications by **Mark Noskiewicz (Goodmans)** to permit three buildings at **40 Adelaide Street West**, between Bay and Yonge streets. The applicant proposes a 62-storey office-residential tower, a 53-storey hotel-residential tower, and a 53-storey office-residential tower on the 1.4-ha. site. The project is also to incorporate the historic façade of an existing building at 347 Bay Street. Architect **Carl Blanchaer (WZMH Architects)** is consultant for the project and **Exchange Tower Limited** is property owner.

Dawes Road townhouses—A preliminary report regarding OPA and rezoning applications by **Orlando Realty Corporation Limited** to permit 21-townhouses at **450-452 Dawes Road**, north of Gower Street. **Harry Kohn (Kohn Architects Inc.)** is consultant for the project.

Beaches townhouses—A preliminary report regarding OPA and rezoning applications by **Greyland Holdings** to permit 11-townhouses at **77, 79 and 83 Woodbine Avenue** and **3 Buller Avenue**, north of Kewbeach Avenue. Architect **William Holman** is consultant for the project.

Maughan Crescent residential proposal—A preliminary report regarding a rezoning application by **Matjaz Skube (Uni-Vative Designs Inc.)** to permit 18-townhouses and one single-detached dwelling at **19-29 Maughan Crescent**, northeast of Dundas Street East and Coxwell Avenue.

Minto Midtown Section 37—A supplementary report regarding *Section 37* contributions by **Minto Midtown Inc.** in relation to a mixed-use development at **2195 Yonge Street**. In 2003, the **Ontario Municipal Board** approved the contentious proposal for the 0.78-ha. site, which is located within the block bounded by Yonge Street, Eglinton Avenue and Soudan Avenue. The plans include two residential-retail buildings ranging in height from 160-m. to 118-m. atop a five-storey podium, and containing about 908-apartment units. There are two options for the proposed *Section 37* contribution—a private rent supplement program for seniors, or payment of \$1-million to the city for affordable housing for seniors in North Toronto. Council is to consider the issue at its October meeting. •

ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD NEWS

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The Riverside residents told the board that the inward-looking design of the former Don Mount Court development had historically made it difficult for police to enforce public safety issues, which in turn made it a “haven” for drug dealers and other undesirable uses. Citing the *Social Housing Reform Act*, they argued that new social housing units should not be replaced on the same site, and should instead be dispersed to other neighbourhoods.

Lewinberg told the board that the problems associated with the former Don Mount Court had resulted from the design, which he characterized as an “anomaly in the neighbourhood fabric, which had little relationship in character to the surrounding community.” Lewinberg gave the opinion that the Intracorp proposal would alleviate those problems by introducing a mix of housing types, better street configuration and a more visible park to provide for better neighbourhood supervision.

Michael Fenton (Intercom Security) provided environmental design evidence, with **Elizabeth Hawley (Toronto Police Services)**. They gave the opinion that the Intracorp plan would open up the development and put more “eyes on the street,” and would meet the expectations for crime prevention through environmental design.

The Riverside residents also argued that the city’s tree preservation plan might not provide adequate protection for area trees. Arborist **Ian Bruce (Bruce Tree Expert Company Ltd.)** and landscape architect **Robert Parker** told the board that the tree selection proposed by Intracorp would contribute significantly to tree cover in the area.

Mitch Cabrias and **Victoria Mascall** appeared at

the hearing to represent a city-initiated regeneration advisory committee, which was comprised of area residents, business owners and Don Mount tenants. Cabrias and Mascall told the board that the committee had worked hard to understand the root of the Don Mount Court problems, and find ways to overcome them. They said that they did not support the delays caused by the Riverside residents’ appeals, and urged the board to approve Intracorp’s proposal quickly.

Geri Kozorys-Smith (Marshall Macklin Monaghan) provided traffic impact evidence for Intracorp. According to Kozorys-Smith, the projected traffic volume created by the development would have minimal impacts on the surrounding community.

The board allowed the appeals, in part, and congratulated the city and the developers for acting collaboratively to “bring forward a development that will be a credit to the community.” It dismissed a motion by Intracorp for costs against the Riverside residents. The board acknowledged that Intracorp had incurred “considerable expense” as a result of the appeals, but said that the residents’ actions had not clearly constituted unreasonable conduct.

Solicitor **Gary McKay** represented the City of Toronto. Solicitor **Cynthia MacDougall (McCarthy Tétrault)** represented the developers. **M. Kelly** represented the **Riverside Area Residents’ Association**. (See OMB Case No. PL041087.) •

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CITY PEOPLE

After the **RCMP** executed a search warrant on the **Sorbara Group** this week, Vaughan-King-Aurora MPP **Greg Sorbara** stepped aside from his post as minister of finance and chair of management board of Cabinet pending a resolution of the investigation of a land transaction between 1996 and 2003. Energy minister **Dwight Duncan** becomes finance minister and chair of management board of Cabinet. **Donna Cansfield**, formerly the parliamentary assistant to the energy minister, joins Cabinet as the energy minister. **Jim Bradley** assumes responsibility of Government House Leader, while remaining tourism and seniors minister.

Essex MPP **Bruce Crozier** was appointed Speaker of the House.

BMO Financial Group president **Tony Comper** was this year’s recipient of the Canadian international executive of the year award presented today by the **Canadian Chamber of Commerce**.

Michael Langford has been appointed a part-time board member of the **Ottawa Congress Centre**. Langford is the director of the investment and development office of the provincial tourism ministry.