



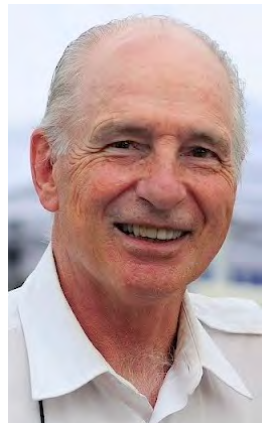
Harbord Village Residents' Association

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Chair's Message

RORY "GUS" SINCLAIR



Hello wonderful residents of Harbord Village.

This will be my last letter to you as chair. HVRA is one great organization, which tries hard to be responsive to you by reporting regularly on important areas of interest, such

as our work within the community and dealings with the City, various panels and tribunals, Committee of Adjustment, and the Ontario Municipal Board. As some

of you may know, I was the chair of HVRA from its early days in 2000 up to 2009, so this short term has given me a lovely coda to my HVRA leadership experience. I will now slide, somewhat quietly, into the position of past chair, but promise to remain active in assisting Gail Misra, who, with your approbation, will become chair this October.

My one-year mandate was premised on making sure there were few bumps on the road in implementing the far-reaching constitutional changes adopted last year at the HVRA. I am happy to report that the board has settled well into the new way of doing things. In particular we have a very strong Planning & Development

This newsletter is produced twice a year by the Harbord Village Residents' Association (HVRA) serving the part of Toronto bounded by Bathurst Street, Bloor Street West, Spadina Avenue, and College Street

Visit us at harbordvillage.com.

Don't Miss Our Wednesday, October 18 Annual General Meeting 6:30-9:00 p.m., 45 Brunswick Avenue

Guest Speaker: Andrew Farncombe, City Planning, "Harbord Village in the Vision of the New Downtown"

Find out what's new and newsworthy, and reconnect with fellow neighbours after the summer! Agenda highlights include reports from various HVRA committees and officers, election of a new board, announcement of the Community Builder Awards, Councillor Cressy's semi-annual update, and more. Join us for an informative and enjoyable evening!



Committee (PND) comprising Sue Dexter, Carolee Orme, Bob Stambula, Gail Misra, and me. Before establishing the committee, development files were handled by individuals with occasional assistance from others. Under the new system, all files pass through the group for comments while one individual remains the lead. Sue Dexter still assumes a huge part of the workload, and we are all in her debt.

This leads to another change that will come before you at the October AGM. The role of Communications Director outlined in the new changes was impossible to fill because of the particular skill set defined in the job description. Instead, the role of the Communications Director has been replaced by a committee, similar to the successful model of the PND. Margaret Procter as webmaster, along with Regine Schmid, Merrill Swain, Ann Eyerma, and Anne Kerekes, are helming this new committee, which by all accounts is functioning very effectively.

In this issue you will also find an update on the tree inventory. We were the first community in Canada (that we know of) to take on a project of this size and attempt to create data on every tree in an area the size of Harbord Village. We now have an accurate count of the number of trees and quite a bit of data on the majority of them. What remains to be done is completion of the data gathering, and this will be part of the new board's mandate.

There is of course much more to this great organization than these highlights suggest. We are fortunate to live in such a vibrant and exciting community.

It is a pleasure to serve you. As the informal slogan of HVRA—penned, I believe, by Gord Brown—says, “HVRA: Good Neighbours Building a Great Neighbourhood!”

The Harbord Village Residents' Association Needs You!

RORY GUS SINCLAIR

HVRA needs people with new ideas and new perspectives to add to our roster of great volunteers. The hard work and dedication of volunteers have kept HVRA alive and relevant. *You* can become part of this vibrant association.

As a resident of Harbord Village—whether a homeowner, business owner or long-/short-term renter—you can become more involved in your neighbourhood through volunteer opportunities with your residents' association. Volunteering for HVRA is an excellent way to get to know your neighbours and learn more about the day-to-day issues of concern to all of us. You can tailor involvement to our

current areas of interest or introduce something new to the association.

Here are just a few ways to get involved: organizing the Fall Fair, Pumpkinfest, the spring Yard Sale, or the Gardening Group's Plant Fair.

HVRA always needs more hands on deck for these events. Those hands could be yours!

If those events don't turn you on, how about helping out with our website, the biannual **newsletter**. Enjoy photography? We could use your talents. HVRA's standing committees span a whole gamut of neighbourhood interests: **Heritage, Planning & Development, Environment, Communications**—perhaps joining one of these interests you.

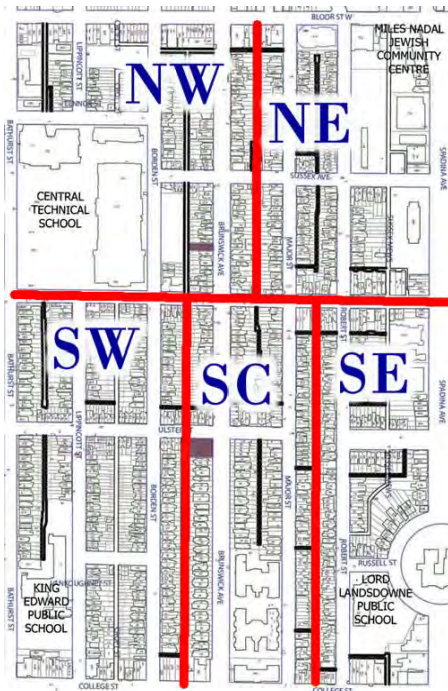
There are also opportunities to become an **officer of the board** or an **area representative**. To find out more, check out the position descriptions on the HVRA website. You can also contact the Search Committee with any questions.

To volunteer:

1. Write a few lines about yourself and your interests, and, if you know, your area(s) of volunteer interest.
2. Send this and contact information to search2017@harbordvillage.com.

Please consider joining us and helping to make a difference.

Area Reports



Northeast

A new publicly accessible green-space is coming to the Village. The owners of the apartment building at 666 Spadina have applied for a twelve-storey infill development, and were willing to adjust their plans to retain the greenspace along Sussex. Watch for Councillor Cressy at Community Council on this file, October 17, 2017.

A bike share stand was installed in the Metro parking lot.

Concerns continue about cars driving the wrong way on our one-way streets.

Northwest

Changes along Bloor! In addition to massive development at the Honest Ed's site to the west, our stretch of Bloor is also on the cusp of change.

The trial period for the Bloor bike lane is almost over. Preliminary studies (toronto.ca/bloorbikelanes) indicate they have created a more welcoming environment for cyclists and pedestrians, with three-quarters of local residents surveyed approving of it. Yet many drivers found the bike lane challenging. The City created a new Green P parking lot off Brunswick Avenue to help parking concerns, and is considering other tweaks to improve the experience of drivers. Council will decide the fate of this lane in the fall.

At Bloor and Brunswick, the transformation of the old Brunswick House into a Rexall was finally completed, but across the street at 296 another redevelopment is planned. A consortium purchased the building that houses Tilt and The Green Room and will transform it into a boutique hotel. A lawsuit opposing the purchase has concluded, and all but one of the tenants living on the upper level have agreed to leave. Harbord Village stands to gain an exciting new cultural hub, along the lines of the Drake or the Gladstone ... but at a cost: the loss of several long-time residents, who were able to stay here only because of the sub-market rents they paid.

South-Central

Residents can cheer for themselves as they benefit from three public projects completed this summer. Margaret Fairley Park and the new Doctors' Parkette provide spaces for rest and recreation, and the speed humps on Major Street make walking safer by slowing down traffic. Each of these projects took years of discussion and planning among residents and City officials. They represent real improvements, and they're definitely ours.

Southeast

Summer was quiet in the southeast. A new French bistro, Café Cancan, has opened at the old Harbord Room site at 89 Harbord. The Waverley Hotel project will soon move forward, with slight, benign changes in the setbacks. HVRA has concerns about two houses within the Heritage Conservation District Part 2 that are clear cases of demolition by neglect. Major parts of one roof are open, offering ample access for raccoons.

Southwest

Croft Street greening built momentum as improvements from last year have taken hold and been enhanced this season. Thanks to the many people who have made this happen.

We are voicing concerns about sidewalk patios. As a result, one prospective patio was approved (with enhanced rules) while another was denied. This experience helped



HVRA in its submission regarding a new draft City bylaw concerning sidewalk clearways and patio rules. A response to suggested parking changes on Lippincott resulted in nearby residents providing input to HVRA responses to the City. Lippincott residents expressed concern about parking changes suggested for the King Edward Public School area. As a result, the City has not announced any plans for changes.

Recent late night events in the College and Bathurst bar area have raised the need to better engage the Toronto Police Service and those businesses.

A Great Dragon Boat Season in 2017



Harbord Village dragon boating team all decked out in their brand spanking new bright green jerseys courtesy of our sponsors on Harbord Street: The BIA, Wright Real Estate, Rasa, and Her Father's Cider Bar + Kitchen.

The Pumpkin Fest Is Just around the Corner

ANNE KEREKES

Always held on November 1, the day after Halloween, the Harbord Street Pumpkin Fest draws a few thousand adults and children lining up to view hundreds of unusual and original candle-lit pumpkins along Harbord from Spadina to Borden. Join in the creativity by carving your own pumpkin for Halloween and leaving it on your porch the next morning for one of our crew to

pick up for the evening display. Or just come out to mingle with your neighbours, enjoy a nibble or drink at one of the many wonderful establishments on Harbord, and of course take photos for your enjoyment and sharing on social media! If you can help with publicity during Halloween, or collect pumpkins and light candles November 1, please contact chair@harbordvillage.com.



Elaine Ford

HVRA's 2017 Yard Sale

JAMES MURDOCH

The 2017 HVRA yard sale took place on June 3. But it actually got underway long before that. Art, furniture, appliances, books toys, clothing, and other donated items were stacked in Carmen Gauthier's basement and garage after gathering there for months. Then the week before, items began appearing on her doorstep. Her living room began to fill up, and her dining room. Carmen was counting the days to the yard sale!

A group of happy volunteers, made up of neighbours and friends and their unsuspecting visiting relatives arrived Friday night. They emptied Carmen's house and filled a large truck with all the items. Bets were taken on whether everything would fit, but the door closed on a packed truck. Barely!

Saturday morning, another group of happy volunteers, including returnees from the night before, unpacked the truck at the corner of Harbord and Robert.

The sale had begun by 9 a.m. with early birds eager for a deal on the more prized and expensive items. The weather was fantastic.

Sales continued all day, but by the afternoon, there was still a mountain of bargains up for grabs. By closing time, the unsold items went back into the truck along with the folding tables and clothing racks.

The clothing racks were returned



James Murdoch

Something for everyone.

to their rental company in Mississauga Sunday morning, and the folding tables to Knox Church.

Most of the remaining items were dropped off at Value Village. The rest was placed at the curb and disappeared within a day or two. The money was counted, and although we didn't reach last year's record, each of our charities, The Stephen Lewis Foundation and the Scadding Court Scholarship Fund, received a tidy sum.

Over five years, the community has been able to donate well over ten thousand dollars to charities. Congratulations! Thank you to Hutoshi for letting us set up once again in her

parking spots, to Knox Church for the loan of their tables, and to Marilyn Martin for her inspiration and unfailing support. And thank you to all who helped to make the 2017 edition a true community effort.

But the sale has to change its format, as the current process is no longer practical.

We need your ideas to help keep this important event going. Over the next few months, we will be asking for your input to help us devise a novel and above all sustainable plan that will continue to benefit deserving charities. Please email me at jamesmurdoch@sympatico.ca with your suggestions.



All photographs by Graham Rempe

Another Stunning Fall Fair

RORY GUS SINCLAIR

Sunday, September 10 dawned warm and bright—perfect weather for the annual HVRA Fall Fair. The fair has run nearly every year since the early 1990s when Catherine Cragg, president of our predecessor, the Sussex Ulster Residents' Association, launched the event.

As always, the Fall Fair had something for everyone, young and old, with food, entertainment, kids' activities, a silent auction, heritage information, and plenty of opportunities for socializing!

A lot of work goes into mounting the Fall Fair. We would be nowhere without lots of very smart and dedicated volunteers in front of and behind the scenes, to make all aspects come to life. A big thank you to everyone involved (see list on the next page for all who made this a great success).

For me, the payoff becomes obvious somewhere around 4 p.m. when all the kinks have been ironed out and everything is ticking along nicely. Then I look at the crowd of people with kids running about between the legs of their moms and dads and their grandparents. There isn't an unhappy face in the crowd. That is always the thing that motivates me and others to put on the event in the first place ... and



Carmen and Gilbert Gauthier at the ticket table



Lineup for the burgers with Michael Jones and Michael Kerman flipping burgers and Celia Denov on service



Let the festivities begin!



The Turnups in full flight

year after year. It's community building at its best.

Not least, we added over \$6,000 to the coffers of one of the best residents' associations in the city.

Thanks and see you next year!

Thank You 2017 HVRA Fall Fair Volunteers

Co-chair: Anne Kerekes

Permits and insurance: Christian Mueller

Food procurement: Wendy Trueman, Hari Rathod, Gilbert Gauthier

Food prep and service: Caitlin Smith, Michael Jones, John Biggs, Michael Kerman, Celia and Robert Denov, Tamara Bukhanov, Lynn Connell, Gina and Amelia Buonaguro, Leslie Carlin, Gabriel and Talia Carlin-Coleman, Simon Coleman

Ticket sales: Carmen Gauthier, Gilbert Gauthier

Music: Gus Sinclair

Silent auction and raffle: Anne Kerekes, Christian Mueller, Coleen Whyte, Miriam Ticoll, Rita Elias, Rebecca Wittman, Kate Lushington, Gord Brown, Kanan Patel, Gail Misra, Katherine Lilley, Lillian Faria, Charlotte Bull, Jackie Solway

Set-up and breakdown: Carolee Orme, James Murdoch, Gail Littlejohn, Tim Grant, Matt Hoff-

man, Hanna Gavendo, Michael Betcherman, Claudette Jaiko, David Halloran, Andrew Sliwa, Darryl Christoff, Simon Coleman, Leslie Carlin, Hari Rathod, Katherine Lilley

Bake sale: Mary Newberry, Coleen Whyte, Jo Velacott

Heritage table: Leslie Thompson, Ann Eyerman

Solid waste table: Mary Newberry
Beer and wine: Gus Sinclair, Brock Shepherd, David Booz, Susan Dubeau, Patricia Chisholm, Lucy Orme

Kids' activities: Lidia Monaco, St Stephen's

We have done our best to list everyone who helped at this event. Apologies if we missed your name.



Fun for everyone!



Thank You to Our Fall Fair Auction and Raffle Donors

Akai Sushi
 Alex Cuts
 Almond Butterfly Bakery
 Anne Roper
 Annex Photo
 Aunties & Uncles
 Bakka Phoenix Books
 Bata Shoe Museum
 Blackbird Bakery
 BMV Bookstore
 Body Invest
 Caspar Haydar Design
 Caversham Booksellers
 Cheese Magic
 Clay Design
 Cobbs Bread
 College Street Optical
 Crafty Coyote
 Crêpes à GoGo
 Dirty Bird Waffles
 East of Brunswick
 Elchi Chai Shop
 Famoso Pizzeria
 Fancy Franks
 Fiesta Farms
 Flock Rotisserie & Greens
 Free Times Café
 Gardiner Museum
 Global Cheese
 Good for Her
 Greg's Ice Cream
 Grippéd Publishing
 Harbord Bakery
 Harbord Convenience
 Harbord Dentistry
 Harbord House

Harbord Street BIA
 Harvest Kitchen
 Her Father's Cider Bar
 Hooked Seafood
 Hutoshi
 Independent City Mart
 J's Apron
 Jelly Modern Doughnut



Graham Rempe

Jimmy's Coffee
 JUMP+
 Juxtapose
 Karen Millyard
 Kensington Brewery
 Kilgour's
 King's Landing Barber Shop
 Listening Centre
 Lotus Yoga
 Peter Macaulay
 Magic Noodle
 Manic Coffee House
 Margaret Procter
 Mars Diner
 Metro
 Miles Nadal JCC
 Myo Medical Wellness

Mary Neumann
 Nu Bagel
 Parentbooks
 Pet Valu
 Piano Piano
 Pya's Boutique
 Queen Video
 Randolph Academy
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 RBC, Spadina
 Rexall, Bloor
 Risque
 River Tai
 Rowe Farms
 St. Louis Bar & Grill
 Sanagan's Meat Locker
 Shopper's Drug Mart, Bloor
 Sivananda Yoga
 Solo Hair Salon Yorkville
 Swiss Chalet
 Tafelmusik
 Tarragon Theatre
 10 Editions
 Textile Museum
 Things Japanese
 312 Optical
 Tom's Place
 Top Cuts
 Toronto Popcorn Co.
 Torreira Imports
 Urbane Cyclist
 Wanda's Pie in the Sky
 Wiener's Home Hardware
 Workin Moms Productions
 Wrapido
 Wright Real Estate

Please show your appreciation for our generous donors by patronizing their businesses.

In-Street Planters on Target for 2018

JENNETTE BOEHMER

In-street planters (a.k.a. curb extensions or bump-outs) are a step closer to becoming a reality in our community! Initiated last fall as part of the Harbord Village Green Plan, this neighbourhood-City collaboration will see our concrete street planter boxes replaced by street-level in-ground plantings (curb extensions). Phase I implementation, on target for 2018, will include the intersections at Lennox/Borden, Sussex/Major, Ulster/Borden, and Ulster/Major. Phase II is scheduled for subsequent years.

Phase I design specifications are being finalized, based on neighbourhood input and the City’s need for stormwater management. The goal is to manage traffic flow, retain more stormwater, and beautify our streets. And, following neighbourhood suggestions, the two T-intersections, Lennox/Borden and Ulster/Major, will each have a single large V-shaped planting (abutting Borden and Major respectively, replacing the two existing planter boxes at each intersection) to improve traffic management and extend the planting surface. The City will also build new ramp-corners at these intersections.

Look forward to beautiful and environmentally beneficial planter

gardens, including shade trees, low shrubs to enhance street stormwater retention, and many of the perennials that grace the existing planter boxes.

This project is a tribute to the many neighbours who have tended the concrete street planters over the years, and to those who take an active and thoughtful interest in neighbourhood planning. We are also grateful to our City partners for their willingness to engage with us and consider our suggestions. Together, we are ensuring that these in-street planters will enhance the visual appeal and livability of our neighbourhood.



Planter in full bloom

Harbord Village Tree Inventory Wrap-up

SANDY SMITH & NICOLE PINTO

The Harbord Village tree “re-inventory” project is winding down this summer. The two people responsible for this work—Christian Rempe and Nicole Pinto—were able to identify which trees have been lost and which have been planted since the original inventory 10 years ago. While they will be unavailable to return next year to finish the project, we hope to raise enough funds next spring to hire a graduate student from the U of T Faculty of Forestry. By this time next summer, we will know whether our tree canopy has improved over the past decade. It will provide the first such snapshot of urban canopy change over time in the history of Toronto.

Great thanks and appreciation go to these two tree lovers who dedicated their summer to this task. Thanks, too, to U of T, which covered Nicole’s salary while she worked on the project and the federal summer-job grant that supported Christian’s work. We’d also like to thank all those who donated funds to enable us to extend by a few weeks this fine work. Lastly, our thanks go to the Lion’s Club of Central Toronto, which provided tax receipts to residents who contributed to the project.

Merrill Swain



New Park Spaces for Harbord Village

MARGARET PROCTER

Harbord Village now has four more places where we can play without joining a team, or relax without ordering a latte. The reconstructed Margaret Fairley Park is full of kids and adults from morning to night, enjoying the array of new and inventive playground equipment, making water gush out of rocks by the wading pool, or using the quirky log seating to watch what's going on.

Doctors' Parkette at College and Brunswick provides well-positioned benches, handsome pavement and light fixtures, and newly planted trees and garden beds. Locals and visitors can relax there between medical appointments or take a break from a busy workday.

The newly landscaped space at Bathurst and Harbord provides benches and plants as a refuge from traffic.

Another refurbished public space off Borden just north of the main Central Tech building is open for a variety of uses by students and others.

All these were built with public funds, but they didn't just happen. Residents' groups and committed individuals shaped these new green spaces by participating in planning and then monitoring construction.

Local parents formed the Friends of Margaret Fairley Park in winter 2011. They started by getting families together to sketch out what they wanted from a new park, then spent



Margaret Procter

Lots to do at Margaret Fairley Park

almost six more years urging the City to move forward with planning and construction. We all benefit from their strong vision and hard work.

The Doctors' Parkette took almost as long. Neighbour Richard Longley was at the forefront of a formal architectural competition in 2011–12 and then persisted through years of questions, reminders, and comments to the City. The final stages of construction in 2016–17 incorporated several last-minute changes such as the curb-cut at the north edge for visitors with walkers, wheelchairs, and strollers. The park sign is now finished, but a few other details are incomplete. The City has just taken over maintenance from the con-

struction company, and we can now hope for—and perhaps keep asking for—more consistent garbage clean-up and care for the plantings.

The triangular parkette at the southwest corner of the Central Tech field is a bonus from mediation between neighbourhood associations and the builders of the dome. As yet unnamed, it contributes new plants to the greening of the neighbourhood as well as a pleasant place to wait for a bus or eat a quick lunch. Read on page 13 about the evolution of the fourth redesigned public space at the northeast edge of Central Tech. Again, residents worked with a public institution to gain benefits for all.

The Greening of Croft

JANE PERDUE

Croft greening continued to flourish this year. We were delighted to see that the industrial barrels, donated by the David Suzuki Foundation, lasted through the (mild) winter of 2016. Many of the plants purchased last year also survived the winter. Hostas, grasses, coreopsis, milkweed, and other plants returned; ivy and sedums came back in the cinder blocks; and annuals such as portulaca and cosmos reseeded themselves. Thanks to Councillor Cressy’s office, the City’s Parks Department donated rich compost and soil. We have three rain barrels installed along the two blocks, and the wet summer assisted with watering as well. Neighbours and local artists painted more garage door murals, additional barrels were distributed, and owners provided individual containers. Thanks to Barbara Donaldson, Rochelle Rubinstein, and Jane Perdue for organizing this fun initiative, but its success is also due to the dedicated participation of the many homeowners on Lippincott and Borden.



Merrill Swain



Merrill Swain



Merrill Swain



Planning and Development

SUE DEXTER & CAROLEE ORME

Mirvish Village Construction

The redevelopment of the Honest Ed's site, by Westbank, likely a three-year process, is now underway.

Representatives from the HVRA board and other adjacent residents' associations, BIAS, and local residents are now attending monthly construction management meetings convened by Councillor Mike Layton. Our mandate is ensuring that neighbours are taken into account during construction. So far, we have communicated local concerns about potential noise, parking, and traffic problems, and the need to provide us with up-to-date information. Meeting minutes will be posted on the project website, once it is in place.



Anne Kerekes

As one of the first actions, Westbank allowed Harbord Village gardeners to rescue abandoned perennials on Markham Street. These plants

now grace many gardens in Harbord Village, including Croft Street.

The Westbank team, led by George Riopelle, has been receptive to our input. They are attempting to minimize inconvenience to neighbours while also completing the project as quickly as possible. They have assured us that they will work on-site only during the hours allowed by the City, and are working closely with City Transportation to ensure the least disruptive vehicular access to, parking on, and egress from the site for contractors. They provided a hotline for residents to contact the construction management team directly for emergencies: 1-888-805-2003.

As part of the City's comprehensive approval, Councillors Layton and Cressy assured HVRA and the other communities that they can participate in consultations with

Westbank regarding elements such as the public park, public realm and the site plan detailed approval process, and offer suggestions to Westbank on their commercial business plan.

Sussex-Spadina Student Residence

The proposal to develop a twenty-three-storey, 549-bed student residence at the corner of Sussex and Spadina was appealed to the OMB by the University and Daniels Corporation. City Planning opposes the proposal, and on September 6, 2017, Community Council directed City Legal and appropriate staff to attend the OMB hearing to support this opposition. A hearing date has not yet been set. Parties, including HVRA, have agreed in principle to mediation at the OMB to seek an acceptable settlement. Concerns include height, density, demographic mix,

Construction Essentials

Phase	Duration	Activity
1	7-8 mos	Abatement, demolition, shoring, excavation
2	18 mos	Footings, foundation, waterproofing, central plant, glazing start
3	9-10 mos	Above ground, precast, glass, interiors, park, landscape, market

Hours of operation: 7 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

Construction vehicle access: from Bloor south onto Markham

Construction vehicle exit: initially Markham to Lennox, then Honest Ed's Alley to Lennox

Trucks/day: 20 in the early phases to a maximum of 200/day

Working staff: maximum of 800

Parking: workers not allowed to park on side streets

greenspace, and heritage preservation, among others.

The University has also appealed the heritage designation of the Ten Editions Bookstore building at Sussex and Spadina. Despite initial objections by the University, the Conservation Review Board granted HVRA party status to enable us to participate fully in the hearing process, including mediation. A second pre-hearing has been scheduled for the end of November.

University of Toronto Secondary Plan

The University is engaged in identi-

fying sites and establishing parameters for future developments on campus. It appears that the preferred sites for new construction are largely between St. George and Spadina, and College to Harbord, while the historic campus, centred on King’s College Circle, will remain intact. But the University has also identified other development sites. At the Community Liaison Committee and public consultations, representatives of HVRA and nearby residents’ associations have expressed concerns about the latitude requested by the University. Discussions are ongoing.

Planning Study Appeals

New planning and zoning rules for College, Bloor and Spadina (Bloor Block Study), and Bloor and Bathurst (Four Corners) have all been appealed to the OMB. HVRA participated in all these files and will represent the community’s concerns at these hearings. We will be supporting the new City rules.

For more detailed information, please visit harbordvillage.com.

Members of our association are also on an email list and receive bulletins as developments occur.

Resolving Skateboarding Issues at Central Tech

MIRIAM TICOLL

As close neighbours of Central Tech, we were startled this spring to suddenly hear cracks of sound—like gunshots or loud firecrackers—every 15 seconds. Lined up to do “tricks” in the newly redesigned outdoor platform along Borden Street were dozens of skateboarders and BMX bikers.

My partner and I decided we had to take back our peaceful community space with an old-fashioned, 35-hour sit-in on the July 1 long weekend. We informed neighbours,

boarders, and bikers, and then arranged plastic garden furniture and plants along the edges of the eastern platform.

Over the weekend, with neighbours, friends, Lisa, Gus, and Christian, we hung out and documented the action, sending updates and photos to Councillor Joe Cressy, Central Tech principal Lisa Edwards, TDSB trustee Ausma Malik, HVRA chair Gus Sinclair, HVRA rep Christian Mueller, and TDSB reps.

Within days TDSB installed temporary fencing around the platforms. A few weeks later, damaged edges were replaced, with clips added to discourage boarding. Summer students and neighbours started using the green space once again, and peace was restored for the rest of the summer.



Lynn Brophy

With school back in session, most of the fencing was removed. But we are hopeful the other deterrents put in place will continue to discourage boarders and bikers from using this space, allowing students and neighbours to enjoy this area as it was intended.

Now, if only we could just build a world class skatepark in Toronto away from where people live...



This issue of the *HVRA Newsletter* was edited by Jane Auster. Anne Kerekes is managing editor. Layout by Ian MacKenzie.

HVRA Board 2016–2017

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SE	Lena Mortensen	416-934-1961	lenamich@yahoo.com

HVRA Membership & Renewal Form

Please check one:

- Voting member (individual) \$10/one year; \$20/two years
- Supporting member (to support HVRA activities) \$20/one year; \$40/two years
- Fanatical member (to really support HVRA activities!) \$50/one year; \$100/two years

Payment can be made online at harbordvillage.com/membership.

Or mail a cheque payable to *Harbord Village Residents' Association* at HVRA, PO Box 68522, 360A Bloor Street West, Toronto M5S 1X1.

Name

New Renewal

Address

Telephone..... Email.....