



Dam McConnell

2009 Spring Newsletter

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WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD FOR THE FUTURE

A New Co-op Coming to Our Community

Co-op housing builds strong and diverse neighbourhoods, and I am very proud that Ward 28 has 16 co-ops – more than any other ward in Toronto.

Working with CHFT, TCHC, City staff, and UNITE HERE Local 75, I am pleased that we will soon be opening the first new co-op built in Toronto in over 10 years. The co-op at 60 Richmond will provide 85 units of affordable housing for downtown hospitality workers and will feature a training facility to offer promotion opportunities in the hotel industry.



Pam on a site visit to 60 Richmond in December.

The award-winning design is certified to LEED Silver standards and includes a living wall with vines, terrace gardens, and a large atrium in the centre of the building. The units will have low flow fixtures and energy efficient appliances and lighting.

The co-op will be ready for occupancy by August 2009. The 60 Richmond co-op is part of the off-site Regent Park replacement housing.

Queens Quay Revitalization



Artist's concept of the revitalized Queens Quay.

Waterfront Toronto's Queens Quay Transit Environmental Assessment recently unveiled the preferred option to revitalize Toronto's waterfront boulevard.

If approved, the traffic lanes south of the streetcar tracks will be replaced with a tree-lined promenade and a fully connected

Martin Goodman Trail. Vehicles and parking will remain in the north lanes, ensuring that Queens Quay is used as a local road and not as a commuter thoroughfare. Bus parking will be improved to better meet the needs of residents and tourists.

The new Queens Quay is part of a larger redesign that will create a unified treatment and enhance the enjoyment of the waterfront, parks and open spaces. A continuous wooden boardwalk will run

along the water's edge with bridges and decks spanning the slips and quays. This design will link with the new East Bayfront neighbourhood that has begun construction with the Corus building, Sugar Beach and Sherbourne Park.

I have worked closely with the waterfront community on this revitalization initiative to ensure that it is inviting, dynamic and appropriate for both residents and visitors. For more information and to offer feedback, please visit www.waterfronttoronto.ca.



Visit the Riverdale Farm Organic Farmers Market

Every Tuesday from May 5 to October 27 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Pam McConnell

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE CITY

West Don Lands District Energy Centre

Our West Don Lands neighbourhood will be home to a spectacular and innovative District Energy Centre (DEC).



Designed by Steven Holl Architects, the DEC will provide all heating and cooling demands for the residents through a network of underground pipes. Initially the plant will be natural-gas fired, but it is designed for future conversion to use alternative fuels.

The DEC will be located on the east side of Cherry Street, just north of the railway, and will be a beautiful threshold to the West Don Lands. The building will feature terraced steps, allowing public access to the green roof that acts as an elevated park. The south side wall will be transparent, allowing pedestrians to view the interior machinery. The site will meet Cherry Street with a decorative pergola and reflective pool with a photovoltaic-powered fountain and aesthetic uplighting. The TTC turnabout for the Cherry Street streetcar will be part of a paved plaza, welcoming both transit users and pedestrians to this new neighbourhood.

Regent Park Community Energy System

In January I was pleased to help officially launch the new Community Energy System (CES) for the revitalized Regent Park. Located under 252 Sackville Street, this system will provide heating, cooling and hot water to all buildings in Regent Park. An important and innovative greening initiative, it is estimated that over 30 years the CES will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 400,000 tonnes – the equivalent of taking 66,000 cars off the road each year.

Congratulations to Ward 28's Finalists for Green Toronto Awards



Discover Toronto's hidden rainforest – the Cloud Gardens at 14 Richmond Street West.

SAS Canada – Energy Conservation Category

As Toronto's first LEED-certified office building, the SAS headquarters aimed to reduce energy consumption by 30%. In 2008, the project surpassed that target by 100%. Among the innovations, precipitation is reused for washrooms and the reflective white roof reduces air conditioning needs.

Green Thumbs Growing Kids – Environmental Awareness Category

Green Thumbs Growing Kids reaches Toronto's neediest communities through its "edible schoolyard", allowing children to watch seeds grow into food they actually eat. Its summer programming offers free healthy outdoor activities and served 3,000 children aged four to 12 in 2008.

Monica E. Kuhn, Architect Inc. – Green Design Category

Monica E. Kuhn, Architect Inc. specializes in green residential design, green roofs and the eco-friendly retrofit of existing homes. The firm showcased a green home and workplace out of a pair of 1889 semi-detached cottages in Cabbagetown.

For more information on awards, grants, programs and reduction strategies, please visit www.toronto.ca/livegreen.

Moving Forward to Achieve 70% Waste Diversion

The City continues to launch new strategies to achieve 70% diversion of waste from landfill.

Solid Waste has launched the Green Bin organic diversion in 50 multi-residential buildings in the St. Lawrence neighbourhood. This program allows residents of co-ops, apartments and condos to send organic waste to composting facilities. I have worked with Solid Waste to ensure the buildings in our ward are among first to come on-stream and have been assured that all buildings will be added to the program over the coming year.

The City is launching a hazardous waste diversion pilot project in 2 buildings in St. Lawrence. A drop off point will be created so that building residents can properly dispose of paint, batteries and other

hazardous waste. Following the pilot, the City will establish the program Toronto-wide.

Solid Waste continues to assist homeowners who have difficulties with their garbage and recycling bins. If you have problems storing or putting out your bins, please call **416-392-BINS (2467)**.



Pam at last year's Environment Day.

Pam McConnell

**CREATING A
VIBRANT AND
BEAUTIFUL
COMMUNITY**

Jarvis Street Promenade Plan Approved

Improvements to the corridor linking St. Lawrence Market and the new Sugar Beach Park have been approved by City Council. The Jarvis Street Promenade Plan follows the model for plans for Yonge Street, which is near completion, and York Street, which is underway. When I initiated these enhancements, the primary objective was to make pedestrians a priority.

Jarvis Street will receive new landscaping, tree plantings, street lighting, sidewalks and street furniture to make the street more inviting to pedestrians. New crosswalks and improved

signals at Lakeshore Boulevard will greatly improve safety.

The first recommendations will be implemented this spring with GO Transit's rehabilitation work on the railway underpass. This work will include additional pedestrian lighting, painting of the walls, and decorative wrought-iron fencing to create a welcoming gateway to the neighbourhood.

For more information, please visit my website at www.pammccconnell.ca.

Clean & Beautiful Projects Brightening Our Community



Pam with Mayor Miller at the opening of the University and Front Street Triangle.

Our community continues to benefit from a number of projects from Toronto's Clean & Beautiful program. Last year saw the completion of public space improvements on Sword Street, the beautification of the University and Front Street Triangle, the revitalization of Anniversary Park, and several projects along The Esplanade. A number of new projects are currently underway, in co-operation with community

groups, individuals and the private sector. Fudger House has received \$4,000 for landscape improvements on Bleecker Street. Boulevard reconstruction on Lower Yonge Street, which includes 54 new trees adjacent to the Gardiner ramps, is nearing completion. Preliminary planning is underway for installation of new concrete sidewalks and landscaping on Britain Street and Mill Street.

VISIT MY WEBSITE

Keep up to date on news, events, and meetings from City Hall and our community and sign up for my e-newsletter at www.pammccconnell.ca.

LET'S CELEBRATE! Don't miss these great community events

May 2

Environment Day
See back page for details

May 3

Forsythia Festival
Parade at 10 am at the Farm

May 23 & 24

Doors Open Toronto
For information: www.toronto.ca/doorsopen

June 5-14

Luminato
For information: www.luminato.ca

June 13 & 14

Woofstock
A festival for dogs
St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood

June 13

St. James Town Festival
Wellesley Community Centre

July 1

Canada Day in St. Lawrence
St. James Park

July 11

Sunday in the Park
Noon to 5 pm in the North Regent Ball Field

August 27-30

BuskerFest
St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood

September 11 & 13

Cabbagetown Festival
*Street entertainment, wine tasting, and more
Parliament and Carlton Streets*

September 11 & 13

Cabbagetown Arts & Crafts

September 12 & 13

Riverdale Farm Fall Festival

October 3

Nuit Blanche

Pam celebrating
spring at the
Forsythia Festival



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Councillor Pam McConnell's

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT DAY

Saturday, May 2, 2009

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Lower Sherbourne Community Park

171 The Esplanade

(at lower Sherbourne)

Purchase:

- Backyard Composter (\$15)
- Green Bin (\$18)
- Kitchen Container (\$5)
- Indoor Water Efficiency Kit (\$10)
- Rain Barrel (\$85)

Pick up for FREE:

- Green Bins and Kitchen Container (with proof of new residency in the last 90 days or in exchange for a damaged box)
- Leaf compost
- Rain gauges

Drop off for recycling/disposal:

- Cell Phones, Computers, Monitors, Printers, Fax Machines & Small Televisions
- Household Hazardous Waste (cleaning supplies and solvents, motor oil, paint, batteries, old/unused medication, mercury thermometers/thermostats, pesticides, fluorescent and compact fluorescent bulbs, etc.)
- Inkjet and Laser Cartridges
- Used tires (off the rim, limit of 5)

**Note: Plastic Shopping Bags and Polystyrene foam are now accepted in your blue bin. You can also recycle your empty paint and aerosol cans in your blue bin.*

Please do not bring: Construction waste, garbage, wood, cassette and video tapes, commercial/ industrial hazardous waste and scrap metal.

Donate for reuse:

- Art supplies (e.g. pencils, markers, crayons)
- Buttons, keys, and collectors' coins and stamps
- Clipboards
- CDs and cases
- Children's books
- Corks and cork boards
- Costume jewelry including broken/old watches
- Dress-up clothing (e.g. costumes, prom dresses, uniforms)
- Fabric pieces, yarn

**Please note that these items are donated to the public school board.*

More items to donate for reuse:

(Please keep separate from others)

- Sporting goods (e.g. skates, hockey helmets and jerseys)
- Books
- Medical equipment in good condition (e.g. eyeglasses, wheelchairs and walking aids, hearing aids)
- Non-perishable foods
- Small household items (e.g. dishes, ornaments)
- Textiles in good condition (e.g. clothing, linens)

**Please note that these donated items are for Goodwill only.*

Visit the Toronto Water information tent to learn about money-saving programs!

I will also be providing compost at the Forsythia Festival on Sunday, May 3rd at Wellesley Park.

Pam

Please do not bring: Construction waste, garbage, wood, cassette and video tapes, commercial/ industrial hazardous waste and scrap metal.



Questions? Call 416-338-0338 or visit toronto.ca/environment_days

