From the Trust Board and the TICA Executive

Rogue Wave 2018 – Thank You

Thank you to all the amazing artists who created the exciting art installations. All 40 of you!


Thank you to Rick Simon who came in at the last moment and created the fantastic brochures, posters and postcards.

Thank you Sean Tamblyn for the amazing photo of our own Island Rogue Wave.

Thank you Baye Hunter for keeping the web site.

Thank you Jeremy Kesten, owner of Park Agency print shop in Parkdale and co-founder of Electric Island, for your donation of all the printing.

Thank you Artscape Gibraltar Point for the Rogue Wave Vibe party.

Thank you to all you Islanders who supported the art and told great stories about how the art made them feel.

Rogue Wave will return in 2020. A year of “Clear Vision.”

Leida Englar
Film Liaison Information

I am currently your Toronto Island community film liaison.

In this role, I am forwarded information regarding filming that may affect the community on the Island as well as across the water if it involves bright lights, pyrotechnics or sound effects such as gunfire (a little alarming if one does not know it's for a film). In my discussion with the film company, I might suggest that a flyer be sent round to households, depending on the information I receive.

I try to accommodate the needs of the film company with minimal inconvenience to the community.

From time to time, the film companies have donated money to the Island community. That money has gone into TICA’s account.

Please contact me directly if you have concerns.

Alice Norton
416-500-1648

Kale News

I am pleased to report that the Stop Community Food Centre on Davenport (www.thestop.org) has been accepting our Island-grown organic kale for distribution in its food bank. For the last several weeks I have been biking loads of kale up to the Stop. Lots of rain and relatively mild temperatures have meant that I’ll likely be able to keep picking and delivering to the STOP until the end of the month, or longer. There is enough for everyone – please let me know if you’d like some and I’ll come and help you pick!

Maura McIntyre
416-203-6345

The Toronto Island/ Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Friendship Group

We formed this group after the 2017 TICA AGM with the support of the community. The community members are: Carol Bigwood, Bronwyn Clement, Leida Englar, Martha Farquhar-McDonnell, Simon Pope, David Smiley, Lindsay Stephens and Shawn Vanderhayden.

Our primary contact with the Mississaugas has been Caitlin LaForme who has been wonderful in developing this initiative. Supporting her efforts have been Chief Stacey LaForme, Carolyn King, Garry Sault and Margaret Sault.

Sarah Cullen flagged an opportunity to apply for a $2,000 grant from Parks People, which we received and used to help pay for three events.

Raising the Mississauga Flag

The first event was a raising of the Mississauga flag at the WIA, incorporating a water ceremony and feast on May 20. Islanders welcomed the Mississaugas to Toronto Island and Chief Stacey LaForme welcomed us to their traditional territory. The event was appreciated by over 60
people who attended. This was only possible with the support of the WIA, the Island Café, Back Door Bakery, A Good Fork, numerous Islanders and the MNCFN as well as the Park People’s grant.

A Tour of the Island
The second event was a tour of the Island followed by a social gathering at the Shaw House featuring Christopher Pinero’s famous three sister soup. Over 100 people participated.

The first stop was at the Hanlan’s beach that looked much like the Islands would have in the 1600s when “menecing” (the Ojibway word for island) was considered a healing place. While Margaret Sault talked about those times and the “Toronto Purchase,” we had a glimpse at the wild life at the clothing optional beach on the other side of the fence.

Due to time constraints, our next stop at Centre Island was reduced to a roll through on the tram with Jimmy Jones’s commentary about life at Centre when the town and houses were still there. His long history on the Island and his knowledge about what it was like was much appreciated by all.

The third stop was on Snake Island. Garry Sault talked about its spiritual importance and use up until the present and amused and taught us some life lessons with tales of Nanabush and the buzzard and the ducks.

The last stop was at the Algonquin bridge where Liz Amer recounted the confrontation with the sheriff on July 28, 1980. The events at the bridge showed that our community too struggled for survival.

This event was a great opportunity for members of both communities to meet because so many Mississaugas were interested in checking out Toronto Island and we were interested in meeting them. We all got to know one another a bit better.

The committee wants to extend a special thanks to Jimmy Jones and Liz Amer for their presentations.

The Moccasin Identifier Project
The third event was the Moccasin Identifier Project led by Carolyn King. On October 14, over 40 people gathered at the WIA for this project. As explained by Carolyn, its purpose is to help make more tangible the historic presence of the various aboriginal peoples in the province by tracing moccasin prints in the places where First Nations peoples lived and travelled. We practiced stenciling the moccasins and then went out to lay down the stencils on the roads.

Our group feels that the events of the last year have been successful at building understanding and friendship between our communities. Other interested people have joined us at the events in the Island park and have expressed support for us to continue in the future and so we shall.

None of this would be possible without the political, moral and financial support of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Thank you again to Caitlin LaForme, Chief Stacey LaForme, Carolyn King, Garry Sault and Margaret Sault as well as to the Island community, the WIA and Island Café for their support of the friendship committee. Finally, thanks as well to Parks People for the grant.

The November 7th issue of NOW newspaper has an article about our friendship group by Debra O’Rourke.

David Smiley
Toronto Islands Residential Community Trust Corporation/
Toronto Island Community Association
Community Meeting
Thursday October 18, 2018
WIA Clubhouse

MINUTES

Attendees:
Trust Board of Directors: Lorraine Filyer (Chair), Tony Farebrother (Treasurer), Jim Adams, Heather Black, Alison Rogers, Jesse Rosensweet
TICA Executive: Valerie Cook (chair), Peter Freeman, Sarah Miller, Karen Rothfels, Peggy Sleeger, Jesse Rosensweet, Tony Farebrother, Sharona Freudman, David Smiley, Alison Rogers
Administrator: Amanda Street-Bishop

1. Welcome and Introductions

The chair welcomed community members to the meeting, introduced Trust board and read the acknowledgement to the Mississaugas of the New Credit. The chair made special mention of the friendship committee, which has been working with the Mississaugas and has organized several community events that have been welcomed and well received.

The chair announced that this would be the last official community meeting that she, Jim Adams and Heather Black would be attending as board members as their terms will be up on March 31, 2019. The chair thanked all the Ontario public service board members for their contributions to the Trust, including Corwin Troje who was unable to attend the community meeting. The chair thanked all past committee members for their support and a special mention was given to Paulette Pelletier-Kelly for her work in professionalizing the Trust and assisting with the hiring of a Trust administrator.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Tony Farebrother, seconded by Mary Middleton, that the community approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED

TRUST BUSINESS

3. Trust Motion: “That the community approve the Toronto Islands Residential Community Trust Corporation’s 2017/18 Audited Financial Statements”

4. Audit Presentation, Discussion and Vote

Auditor Roger Chaplin was unable to attend. Treasurer Tony Farebrother presented the independent auditor’s report and the audited financial statements and opened the floor for questions.
MOVED by Tony Farebrother, seconded by Jane Davison-Neville, that the community approve the Toronto Islands Residential Community Trust Corporation’s 2017/18 audited financial statements. CARRIED

5. Manager’s Report

The Trust manager gave a brief presentation on her activities since the last community meeting and thanked the community and the many volunteers for their assistance. She reminded leaseholders that levies were due on September 30, 2018 and interest would accrue as per the levy collection policy.

The manager made a special mention, thanking Lorraine Filyer for her work with the Trust and for her support and guidance for the last six years.

6. Trust Committee Reports

Properties

Committee chair Heather Black gave a brief report from the properties committee. Activities have centred on the green space initiative with meeting on each space complete. A draft of the guiding principles was shared with the community. Concerns were raised by a community member. The committee agreed to take back all concerns for discussion at its next properties committee.

ACTION: Properties Committee

Governance

Committee chair Jesse Rosensweet gave a brief report from the governance committee. Both the organizational by-law and the governance by-law are being reviewed and changes will be brought to the community in 2019. Currently the committee is working with the Trust lawyer to develop a transfer by-law that will act as an internal guidance model for permitted transfers. This will be brought to the community for approval with the other by-laws in 2019.

TICA BUSINESS

7. Brief Committee Reports

Ward’s Dock Renewal

Mary Partridge reported on the progress of waiting shed and the interpretive panels project. The temporary waiting shed will remain in place until the spring of 2019. (see page 17 for a further details)

Emergency Preparedness

Sarah Miller reported on the work of the emergency preparedness committee. Health impacts of the flood, seed sandbags, AED and a naloxone kit availability were all discussed. (see page 10 for a further details)
Friendship Committee

David Smiley reported on the work of the friendship committee. Three events took place in the last few months: flag raising, a tour of the Island and the moccasin project. (see page 2 for a full report)

Transportation

Karen Rothfels reported for the transportation committee. The KPMG report regarding the new boat has yet to be submitted, delaying the process further. The community was reminded that the cage storage area at the ferry docks must remain orderly and that nothing should be locked to the fence. Security is not responsible for anything stored in the cage. (see page 8 for further details)

Stewardship

Tony Farebrother reported for the stewardship committee. Remediation of Gibraltar Point is to begin in late October, cisterns have been strategically placed in the park for future flooding prevention and the waterfront secretariat is looking at the sea wall as a possible shipping hazard. Tony Farebrother thanked Pam Mazza for her on the submission to Transport Canada regarding TICA’s concerns with Ports Toronto management. (see page 10 for further details)

Waterfront For All

Anna Prodanou reported briefly on her involvement with Waterfront for All. Thirty associations make up the organization and a questionnaire has been developed for councillors and the mayor about Toronto waterfront issues.

Noise

Lynn Robinson reported briefly for the noise committee. Noise issues this past summer were at a minimum. Outdoor amplified sound has been prohibited at Rebel nightclub, but both the city and Powerhouse (owners) have appealed the ruling. Lynn reminded the community to continue submitting noise logs.

8. Other Reports

Finance

Peter Freeman, treasurer, presented the current financial statements. TICA plans to transfer its accounts from Scotiabank to Alterna Credit Union. The current balance of $8,495 includes a recent $2,500 film company donation that is earmarked for the Ward’s dock renewal project.

Police Liaison

Alison Rogers reported as the police/fire/ambulance services liaison. A recent “slow and confused” response by emergency personnel was discussed. Remedies in place include: new GPS in trucks, guaranteed at least one person on duty has Island knowledge, and a detailed map to be posted in the firehall. The community was reminded about proper signage (visible street numbers) to assist emergency personnel with getting to their destination. (see page 16 for further details)
Event Liaison

Sharona Freudmann reported as the new events liaison. A meeting has been scheduled with Parks for January 15, 2019 to discuss all upcoming events and community concerns. (see page 8 for further details)

9. Chris Wilson Memorial

Sarah Miller discussed efforts to plant a tree in honour of the late Chris Wilson, the first Trust manager who was instrumental in the founding of the Trust. A location has been chosen for the tree and donations can be forwarded to TICA in order to fund this memorial.

10. Call for Nominations for TICA Executive

Valerie Cook, TICA chair, noted the following members have one year to complete on the TICA executive.

   Alison Rogers
   Karen Rothfels
   Sharona Freudmann
   Sarah Cullen
   David Smiley

Current executive members Valerie Cook, Peggy Sleegers and Jesse Rosensweet announced their retirement from TICA. The members were thanked for their service.

Tony Farebrother, Peter Freeman and Sarah Miller were nominated to serve a further two-year term.

Cheryl DeGras, Melodie Harris, Jeffrey Kearns and Barry Lipton were nominated from the floor for new two-year terms.

As the executive requires a minimum of seven people to be appointed and there were no further nominations, the chair declared the nominations closed and those nominated appointed by acclamation.

Cheryl DeGras expressed an interest in joining the Trust board.

11. Closing Statement and Motion to Adjourn

The chair thanked all those in attendance.

MOVED by Valerie Cook that the Toronto Islands Residential Community Trust Corporation/Toronto Island Community Association community meeting be adjourned. CARRIED
TICA Event Liaison

TICA has established a new event liaison function.

I will be meeting with city representatives and event organizers to identify and review events planned to take place on the Island in 2019 that may have an impact on our community. We hope to develop a clear list of such events each year. We want to identify activities that may restrict resident use of streets or other areas within the community to ensure minimal obstruction to residents, to maximize planning and to assure that all reasonable safety measures are taken.

Sharona Freudmann

Transportation Update

KMPG/fleet update
- The final KMPG report, expanded to include considerations of a green fleet and possible elimination of vehicle transport through City ferry docks, is still not submitted to the City.
- The report is now expected mid-to-late November, after which city staff will prepare a response; city staff have said staff response will be made public.
- The timeline is likely to be delayed by the municipal elections.

Ongiara dry-docking
- The Ongiara is in dry dock for its five-year inspection and will be out of service for anywhere from one to two months.
- During this time, passenger service will be on the William Inglis or the Thomas Rennie—dress warmly! And hope for no ice.
- Vehicle transport during Ongiara dry docking will be through the airport, with priority for emergency and essential vehicles; Billy Bishop will bring vehicles across on a first-come, first-served basis from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Islanders requiring vehicle access during dry-dock period can request permits through City docks as usual.

“The Cage”
- The ferry docks was recently issued a written citation by Transport Canada after the cage was found unlocked during a inspection.
- In light of this, Islanders should expect to find the cage regularly locked, and are asked to take this into consideration and to exercise patience if there is a brief delay unlocking the cage.
- Islanders are reminded that the ferry docks are not responsible for the security of items left in the cage; use at your own risk.
Please be considerate and as tidy as possible when using this shared space, and remember not to lock anything to the cage itself, particularly the back fence as this obstructs operation of the automated gate and is a safety hazard.

Resumption of paving work in front of the Jack Layton terminal

While paving is underway, please use caution approaching and leaving the ferry terminal along the east side close to the Westin to avoid collisions at the blind corner; cyclists are advised to dismount.

Docking safety

Docking can be rough, especially in windy and wavy conditions; for safety, JLFT reminds passengers to remain seated until boats have docked and ramps are lowered.

Communication

To streamline communication, Islanders are encouraged to submit their comments and concerns about the ferry service through our transportation point person, Peggy Sleegers (peggy.sleegers@gmail.com).

Karen Rothfels

YOUR TICA EXECUTIVE

contact: ticaexecutive@gmail.com

Sarah Cullen – Co-Chair
Cheryl De Gras
Tony Farebrother – Co-Chair, Stewardship
Peter Freeman – Treasurer
Sharona Freudman – Parks Event Liaison
Jeff Kearns
Melodie Kramer
Barry Lipton
Sarah Miller – Emergency Preparedness, Airport Community Liaison
Alison Rogers – Emergency Services Liaison
email at TICAesliaison@gmail.com
Karen Rothfels – Transportation Committee, Communications Committee
David Smiley – Friendship Committee

TICA Affiliates

Susan Roy – Communication Committee
Lynn Robinson – Noise Committee
Alice Norton – Community Film Liaison
Lindsay Stevens, Anna Prodanou – Waterfront for All
Tony Farebrother, Lorraine Filyer – Toronto Island Advisory Committee
Mary Partridge – Ward's Dock Renewal Initiative
Frances Ford – Jack Layton Ferry Terminal Stakeholders Group

Karen Rothfels
Emergency Preparedness Committee Report

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Call 911

CALL 911, NOT THE FIREHALL, IN AN EMERGENCY.

AED = Automatic External Defibrillator
Located OUTSIDE next to the front door (Fourth Street side) of 11 Channel. (Mike and Inese’s place on Ward’s Island.) It’s user friendly, as a voice walks you through steps that need to be taken.

Naloxone Kit
Located just INSIDE the front door (Fourth Street side) of 11 Channel Ave. Look to the immediate right – it is on a peg inches from your face. (Mike and Inese’s place on Ward’s Island.)

For an overdose of fentanyl and other painkillers like morphine or codeine, Naloxone blocks effects of opioids. If needed, post-surgery patients are given these kits in case of an accidental painkiller overdose.

The kit is user friendly as it involves dosing nasally. Instructions are inside the kit.

Anyone who feels they need to have this kit in their home can go to the Loblaw’s Pharmacy on Queen’s Quay and get one – they are free.

Recluse Spider Sightings
Given anecdotal reports, they may been on the Island for a few years and seem to have a big presence at the yacht clubs, and on boats. Be mindful.

CHECK YOUR PROTECTIVE DEVICES
WE are responsible for knowing how our carbon monoxide devices and smoke detectors work in our homes. The Fire Department has said on more than one occasion that they will start charging if they show up and are there merely to replace a battery. Electricity and a back-up battery now power most devices.

If a device starts to signal, it may be the backup battery is signalling that a new battery is needed. That is not an emergency. Please be accountable and learn about your devices.

Thanks to Vivian Pitcher for this thought: we can appreciate that if folks are charged for calling the fire department, this may deter individuals from making that 911 call.

Call if you don’t understand what is happening.

Finally, given that firefighters have bigger fish to fry (like the tree that went down on Fifth Street and tore down live wires as it fell) please support every family member – elder and child – so they know how the smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors work in your home. It just makes sense.

Inese Gravlejs

The Stewardship Committee Report

The stewardship committee was re-established in April 2017 to work with the city on a master plan/management plan for the Toronto Island Park. With the flooding of last year and remediation needed, we also added monitoring and providing input into that necessary work. As the committee continued to meet we recognized that harbour operations, the airport and the nearby waterfront community have such an
impact on the park that the committee should also monitor the airport developments and the management of the harbour. As well, we are developing a working relationship with the larger waterfront community.

**Master/Management Plan**
There is little to report at this time. The parks department has recognized that a management plan will not be enough due to the complexities of the Island park so a master plan is needed. We hope they'll be new developments soon on the stakeholder engagement part of this process.

**Migrating Birds Sanctuary**
We were involved in supporting the city motion to explore establishing a migrating bird sanctuary on the Toronto Islands by the federal government. We are monitoring the process but have nothing new to report now.

**Remediation in the Park**
The cisterns for the sump pumps have been installed and soft berms added along Bayview and Seneca. Work has started on protecting Gibraltar Point. Stone has been stockpiled and the first phase will be off shore, creating the outside perimeter of the near shore reef.

Future remediation work for other parts of the Island is still being planned. It includes the possible raising of some roadbeds next year. Of course priorities can change with a new council.

**Eastern Gap Sea Wall**
Ports Toronto, while still denying ownership and responsibility for the eastern gap sea wall, has removed 120 meters off the pier that extended into the harbour from the Island. 40 meters or so will remain and be rebuilt to protect the Island from wave action. The remaining wall is also in bad condition and needs to be replaced.

A committee has been formed by the Waterfront Secretariat of the City of Toronto (part of Parks Toronto) to look into a longer-term plan of what to do with the remaining 45 meters of the pier and the rest of the seawall. TICA has representation on this stakeholder group. Nothing will happen soon as there are very limited financial resources and there is the outstanding ownership/legal liability issue to resolve.

**Airport Developments**
The airport has spent $35 million to raise and pave their runways to better protect their operations in the event of future flooding. The airport continues to plan to expand and Ports Toronto is consulting on its Airfield Rehabilitation Program that can be viewed at www.BillyBishopAirfieldProject.com.

We understand that additional hangers will be built close to the Hanlan’s entrance to the airport and consideration is being given to allow private plane operators to enter from the Hanlan’s side of the airport. These developments will definitely have an impact on the park and wildlife. Stewardship has not been monitoring airport developments until now but realize we need to do so. Sarah Miller has been attending Ports Toronto Billy Bishop Toronto Centre Airport (BBTCA) Community Liaison Committee.

**Ports Review**
Transport Canada initiated a review of the operations of all ports in municipalities in Canada. There are nine such ports. TICA has decided to add our voice to this process as we have many concerns about the governance, accountability and operations of Ports Toronto. Ports Toronto has neglected the management of the harbour while focusing its resources and interest in running the Billy Bishop Toronto Island Airport instead.

Many thanks to Pam Mazza for leading this effort and writing the submission. The final version is not yet complete, but we can make copies available to community members when it’s been submitted.

**Other items** for the future include our relationship with the Mississaugas of the New Credit in stewardship of the Toronto Islands and management of the six environmentally sensitive areas on the islands.

**Tony Farebrother**

TICA 11 TRUST
Toronto Islands Flood Characterization and Risk Assessment Study – Site Visit Notification

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), in collaboration with the City of Toronto, is working with W.F. Baird & Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd. (the consultant) to complete a flood characterization and risk assessment study for Toronto Island.

This study is the result of the successful National Disaster Mitigation Program application TRCA submitted in September 2017. This project will serve to characterize the lake-based flood hazard on Toronto Island, and will help facilitate an understanding of the community and infrastructure vulnerabilities, potential impacts and risk to residents and municipal assets, provide flood maps and response plan to supplement the City’s Emergency Management Plan, as well as inform future structural and non-structural flood mitigation investments.

As part of this study, the consultant will be conducting site visits on the Island before the 2018 year end to verify building inventory data. Site visits will be conducted to confirm the location, approximate size, number of stories, building use, materials and approximate year of construction for each structure.

Access to resident properties is not required. The consultant will be taking photographs from the street. Information collected from the site visits will feed into the flood risk assessment report portion of this study.

If you have any questions regarding this project please contact: Danny Moro, Senior Project Manager, Restoration Projects | Restoration and Infrastructure.

T: 416.661.6600 ext. 5372
E: dmoro@trca.on.ca
A: 9755 Canada Company Avenue, Woodbridge, Ontario L4H 0A3

Questions about your Responsibilities as a Homeowner and Leaseholder?

The Trust Office and members of the TICA executive receive enquiries from residents about items related to the management of their leased property. Currently, trees and who is responsible for them is a subject on many people’s minds.

In 1994, Islanders were granted ninety-nine year leases for the lots that their homes sit on. The leases that were signed outline what the responsibilities of leaseholders are. The next few newsletters will include articles about some of the items that the Trust office and members of the TICA executive are asked about.

In the meantime, if you have questions about your responsibilities as a homeowner and leaseholder, take some time to review the lease you signed back in the day. As well, there are City of Toronto by-laws that outline homeowners’ responsibilities.

www.torontoisland.org – Land Trust has information about the Act and some of the by-laws related to Island zoning.

Here are some City of Toronto links you can check out:

City of Toronto By-Laws
https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/bylaws/lawhome.htm

By-laws related to trees
https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/municode/1184_813.pdf

Information about calling 311
https://www.toronto.ca/home/311-toronto-at-your-service/311-frequently-asked-questions/

Susan Roy
Community Water Monitoring Results

On November 7, 2018 the non-profit Lake Ontario Waterkeeper hosted its third annual Toronto Harbour Report release event.

This is the first year the report contained the citizen-science data contributions of Island volunteers.

Five members of our community were trained early last summer to do volunteer community monitoring of the lagoon water between the Algonquin and Snake Island bridges.

The overall lagoon water testing area included monitoring locations at small beaches, docks, natural shorelines and even out to the harbour-side retaining wall on Algonquin.

Once trained, our water quality tests were done weekly on Tuesdays by early afternoon, with results available 24 hours later, from June through end of August.

The results were posted by the (ahem) umbrella organization Swim Drink Fish on its public data website and app called Swim Guide (along with other beaches already listed).

Many times the results for the overall site were within the City of Toronto’s standards for swimming/recreational use for E. coli levels.

The harbour report included six other sites along the harbour, with the most vulnerable site being at Bathurst Quay, which happens to be right next to the Harbourfront Neighbourhood Centre where the November report launch event took place.

Each day that the city-side Bathurst Quay site was tested, which was twice weekly and not just within the safety guideline of 48 hours of rain events, the water tested far beyond safe levels for recreational activities.

The highest levels of E. coli were measured, not surprisingly, after the Tuesday, August 7, 2018 flash flooding event that affected so much of Toronto’s downtown underpasses and other low-lying areas and structures, including along much of the waterfront.

The after-effects of this storm event and related sewage discharges were evident Island side and the next week during testing, when the Island’s Outer Sunfish Cut harbour-side test site failed recreational water safety levels.

There were some positive developments that have happened since this summer’s community water testing:

- unrelated to our group, there was a collaboration across several organizations and jurisdictions to clean up more than the usual beach locations, including Mugg’s Island, Donut Island, the Fairchild Towers and the Cove (see TRCA’s reports on their Shorelines website and blog)
- related to our family, there was a sharing of learning and with a class of Island Public School students
- related to my co-monitors, there was sharing of water stewardship efforts with various community and eco-based business networks
- beyond, there is a flourishing of ongoing care and protection of the water by so many visitor and resident guardians.

The 2018 report also highlights five actions recommended to the City to address the concerning issues that still remain.

Read more and find link to report here:

http://www.waterkeeper.ca/blog/toronto-harbour-report

Water quality for the Island lagoon areas added to the Swim Guide in 2018 now have a rating of
“Yellow: Passed water quality tests 60-95% time” and can be found listed as:

Outer Sunfish Cut
https://www.theswimguide.org/beach/8867

Inner Sunfish Cut
https://www.theswimguide.org/beach/8866

Algonquin Bridge
https://www.theswimguide.org/beach/8865

Historical data is also archived in Open Data standard framework, and can be requested as well.

Interested in volunteering for this project, either on the Island or across the Harbour next year? Have questions?

Get in touch with one of the trainees listed below and we can assist in connecting you and/or sign up to join the 2019 Lake Ontario Waterkeeper Community Monitoring Program at:

http://volunteer.waterkeeper.ca/

Your Summer 2018 volunteer “Water Protectors”: Leida Englart, Julian Ganton, Ele and Shawn Vanderheyden, Georgia Ydreos

Georgia Ydreos

It is with sadness we announce the death of Jean who died peacefully at Sunnybrook’s Veterans Residence. Jean’s husband Ted, the love of her life, also resided at the Veterans Residence, he predeceased her on May 7, 2017. They leave behind their children Jim, Brian, Peter, Deborah and Marianne and grandchildren Joshua, Jonah, Hayley, Adam, Alison and Tim.

Jean was born in England where she served in the WRENS during WW11. At the end of the war she moved to Canada initially settling in Nova Scotia. She then moved to Toronto where she lived for the rest of her life, more than 55 years on Ward’s Island.

Jean was an unsung humanitarian, always there to lend a helping hand and quietly doing acts of kindness for many. She had a long career working in social services for the City of Toronto and in later years was very involved as a volunteer for more than 25 years with Ronald McDonald House. Jean was true to her passion to help people to the end. Therefore there will be no funeral as Jean is too busy helping at the University of Toronto School of Medicine with research.

Jean was loved by many people of all ages, from all walks of life. The world was a better place with her in it and she will be greatly missed by her many friends and family.

Our family would like to acknowledge the special companionship of Shauna who brought so much joy into Jean’s life for the last several years, which wouldn’t have been the same without her. We would also like to thank all the amazing staff of LTSE3 at the veterans residence for the exceptional and loving care Jean received in her time there, she always felt well cared for.

Memorial donations can be made to Sunnybrook, designation Veterans Residence at https://donate.sunnybrook.ca/tribute or Toronto’s Ronald McDonald House at https://2060.thankyou4caring.org/pages/tribute-gift-form

JEAN DANNIELS
November 22, 1924 – October 31, 2018
Islanders in Halifax

A few islanders were in Halifax for the pre-opening party at the end of September. Left to right: Rick Temporale, Allyson Woodroffe, Kate Pepler, Charlotte deHeinrich, Jordan Hill

Kate Pepler recently opened The Tare Shop, a package-free bulk store, coffee shop and community hub in Halifax’s North End. Customers bring their own containers for bulk food purchases and their own travel mugs if they want a coffee to go (they can also stay and enjoy their drink in the store) with the result that in the three plus weeks they’ve been open, over 1,500 disposable coffee cups and over 1,600 plastic bags have been prevented from entering the waste stream.

A crowd-funding campaign in the summer helped Kate with some of the start-up costs. She wanted us to convey her deep gratitude to the many Islanders who supported the campaign. She hopes you can check out the store if you’re ever in the neighbourhood!

You can follow her on Instagram at @thetareshop or visit thetareshop.com if you’d like to learn more.

Allyson Woodroffe

Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs)

The Stewardship Committee recently met with Janette Harvey, a Natural Environment Specialist with Urban Forestry at the City of Toronto, to discuss and better understand the environmentally significant areas on the Island, how they are currently being monitored and how Islanders could be involved in the stewardship of ESAs.

The City’s monitoring of the ESAs on the Island has focused on restoration (of dunes and beaches, primarily at Hanlan’s), education and stewardship. This work has included planting native trees, shrubs and grasses; formalizing access points to the beach such as boardwalks and fencing, primarily at Hanlan’s and controlling invasive species.

The Stewardship Committee is considering holding a community meeting to further assess how the community could support the monitoring and managing the Island ESAs. For now, we gently remind the community to respectfully enjoy the ESAs.

What are ESAs?

Environmentally significant areas are spaces within Toronto’s “natural heritage system” that are acknowledged as having environmentally significant qualities and contributing to the city’s biodiversity. Each ESA has unique qualities that include one of more of the following: they are home to rare or endangered plants or animals; they are large, diverse and relatively undisturbed; they contain rare, unusual or high quality landforms and they provide important ecological functions that contribute to the health of ecosystems beyond their boundaries (such as serving as a stopover location for migratory wildlife). ESA designation restricts development and site alterations and limits activities to those that are “compatible with the preservation of [the ESA’s] natural features and ecological functions, such as managed trails.”

There are a total of 85 ESAs across the City of Toronto; the island is home to six of these. They include: Ward’s Island meadow and beach (includes both wet and dry meadow), Algonquin
Island meadow, Snake Island, Mugg’s Island, Centre Island meadow and wildlife sanctuary (near Park’s HQ), and Hanlan’s Beach dunes. All the island ESAs are noted as serving a unique ecological function for water storage and as songbird stopovers.

Bronwyn Clement

Trust Manager Report

November 1, 2018 was my six-year anniversary here at the Trust and what a ride it’s been. Over the last six years I have worked with some fantastic volunteers, but one has played a very significant role (and is the main reason I still have hair). Lorraine Filyer will be retiring from the Trust Board on March 31, 2019 and no one will miss her more than me. Her knowledge of the Trust and its history, her dedication to its mandate, (despite how difficult that could be) and just the sheer amount of hours she has given to this organization truly makes her an Island hero. This year she even managed to schedule two knee surgeries so she wouldn’t miss a board meeting.

Reporting to her has been one of the best experiences of my working career. The support she has given to this position and to me personally is immeasurable. She has taught me so much over the last six years and I am very grateful to her and the other retiring board members (Jim Adams, Heather Black and Corwin Troje) for allowing me to hang out here on the Island.

Now back to business – Levies were due on September 30, 2018 and second notices will be in your mailbox (I hope) soon. Don’t forget, payment plans are welcome. Just give me a call or drop by and we can make the arrangements. The purchasers’ list will not be opening this year and renewals will be due March 15, 2019 for those of you on the list.

The new proprietors at the Rectory have had a great summer and I have enjoyed sharing the building with them after a very quiet winter.

The annual report has been posted on the Trust website for anyone who may have missed the community meeting and wants to review the audited financial statements.

Remember, copier and fax services are available during office hours. We also have an LCD projector for Islander use.

Happy holidays everyone!!

Amanda Street-Bishop

TICA Emergency Services Liaison Report

In mid-September, a community member who was in serious medical distress placed a late night call to 911. Help did not arrive for over 30 minutes while firemen ran up and down the wrong streets and even went to the wrong house.

What happened that our 911 responders couldn’t find a house? The short answer is that the entire crew from our local station had been swapped out for a crew of firefighters and paramedics who were totally unfamiliar with the Island. Obviously, this was an unacceptable level of service. The silver lining is that many good things have come out of this occurrence. A letter of complaint from TICA was well received by Toronto Fire Services. The fire chief made time to come to the Island to better understand the issues and the deputy chief is actively working with the community to address the issues we have identified. A number of problems were solved within a few days of receiving our complaint.

Most importantly, the Toronto Fire Service has officially recognized that the Island is a unique place that requires emergency responders with local knowledge. TICA has been assured that the staffing policy for the Island has been modified so
that at least one firefighter with thorough local knowledge will be scheduled for each and every shift on the Island.

Our fire trucks have also now been outfitted with GPS maps and the wall map at the fire station has been updated to include Channel Avenue! The fire service has advised that they are in the process of replacing all the wall maps at fire stations across the city and our new map should be arriving sometime in the spring of 2019. Perhaps we should inspect it!

A big thank you and our appreciation goes to Captain Peter Gutenburg. He was away on vacation at the time of this incident but when he heard what had happened he launched an investigation and reported back quickly. He also expressed concerns about the difficulty sometimes faced in finding people in distress, particularly 911 callers who are not Islanders and who cannot provide their locations. Captain Gutenberg has been working closely with TICA in recent weeks to identify solutions and to push those solutions up the hill.

Another by-product of the September incident is that TICA has been working with the fire department to improve its GIS system (GPS map system). In dissecting wayfinding challenges, it became clear that Islanders often use names for locations that are different from their official names. For example, Pirate Park is officially known as Cibola Playground. During the week of November 4, Islanders were asked for their help and input to infuse the maps with some local knowledge and nomenclature. Thank you to all who came out. Someday your contributions may save a life!

Alison Rogers

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Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative – Update November 2018

When the Ward's Dock Renewal Initiative (WDRI) formed in 2016, it identified as a key issue the lack of information about Toronto Island that is available to visitors who arrive at the Ward's ferry dock. Since there is no visitors' centre or information desk, most visitors wander around the Island with very limited knowledge of them story of the Island (the current community; indigenous peoples; etc), and the flora and fauna they'll see.

In 2018, the WDRI committee initiated two projects:

1. In May 2018 the committee installed weatherproof boxes for the Discover Toronto Island brochures. During the summer, visitors, enriching their experience on the Island, picked up about 5,000 brochures. For more information, please review this page on our website https://wardsdock.weebly.com/brochures-at-the-dock.html

2. The second project is the creation and installation of six interpretive panels that explain the history of the Island. The committee is now in negotiations with Toronto Parks and Heritage Toronto, to produce and install the panels at or around Ward’s Dock. The topics on the six panels are:
   - History of First Nations on Toronto Island
   - Toronto Island community
   - History of Ward’s Island and Tent City
   - William Ward and Ward’s Hotel
   - The Algonquin Island Community
   - The Waiting Shed

Meanwhile, the restoration of the waiting shed is underway in Parks' yard down the Island near the school. It's expected the work will be finished by Christmas or soon thereafter.

This part of the project will include restoration of the wood exterior clapboard and trim, and the interior benches, single-pane windows, auto-
The Rectory would like to thank all the Island residents for helping make our inaugural year a huge success!! We would also like to invite you to our final two events of the season.

**Friday November 23**
Ladies Night
7 pm to close
Special Cocktails, Hors d’oevres and a DJ
Come for a fun evening

**Sunday November 25**
Drain the Keg Party
Come help us to close out the season with a bang!!
All beer and bar rails $5
Plus complimentary appetizers and buffet

Rectory closed
November 26 until February 2019

Thanks again!!

Happy Holidays

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opener on the door, heaters to maintain minimal heat and finials on the roof. The asphalt roof will not be replaced as it is in good enough shape for now. There will be five heaters in total to maintain just-above-zero temperature. There is some question about the value of heaters, since there will be no insulation in the building and heat will leave the building when the auto-door swings open. While acknowledging this may turn out to be the reality, it was agreed we should put the heaters in and see how it goes for one winter.

The clapboard will be painted to match the original cream colour. Trim will be "Tarrytown Green," – the building's original colour.

The foundation will also be built this fall: as per recommendation of the TRCA, the building will be set on beams across helical piles.

The building will be to its new location as early in spring as possible. Then Parks will take on the grading, decking, guardrails, stairs, ramp, interlocking bricks and landscaping. The finials will be added after the building is moved into place.

**Mary Partridge**
Chair, The Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative