Report from the TICA Executive

The executive held elections at a recent meeting; here’s the outcome:

- Co-chairs – Val Cook and Susan Roy
- Treasurer – Peter Freeman
- Secretary – minutes are taken on a rotating basis

This is what the executive has been working on and/or keeping track of through its subcommittees. There are fuller reports on some of these items in this newsletter.

- permitted parking on Freeland and Cooper during redevelopment of 1 Yonge
- cycling infrastructure on John Street
- hearings regarding the application to the AGCO by Powerhouse
- the Community Liaison Committee meetings of the Billy Bishop Airport
- the 2017 Parks People Summit
- planning session for TO Core – the development of a new official plan for the city
- design of the proposed new ferry (ies)
- security at the Island and City docks
- permitted parking on the Island
- emergency planning for the community
- consultation process for the proposed master plan for the Toronto Island park
- Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative
Great big thanks to . . .

- The Toronto Island Noise Committee: Lynn Robinson, Martin Mittelstaedt, Kate Shepherd, George Prodanou, Bob Tanner
- Inese Gravlejs and Mike French for work on emergency preparation
- Pam Mazza, Anna Prodanou, Fran Ford, Adam Zhelka, Annette VanLeeuwen for ongoing work with various waterfront committees
- Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative Committee: Mary Partridge (chair), Anne Barber, Jim Belisle, Kathleen Doody, Leida Englar, Daniel Hall, Pam Mazza, Frank Meyer, Shawn Vanderheyden
- Jacque Malcolm for organizing the various votes at community meetings
- The Cycling Committee: Steve Cooper, Alan Heisey and Baye Hunter

Permit Parking on Cooper and Freeland Streets in the Face of New Development from Yonge to Jarvis

Jesse Rosensweet and Peter Freeman have been in touch with Pam McConnell’s office on this issue. TICA sent a letter a year ago, followed by another in this January, with no response to either. Jesse recently spoke to Tom Davidson in Pam McConnell’s office who advised that a process is underway and that a TICA representative will be invited to attend a planning meeting on the subject.

Islanders who value their right to hold a parking permit are encouraged to add their letters to ours. A larger community response will help to draw attention to this issue.

Peter Freeman

Java Moment? at Ward’s Dock

Wondering what the Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative (WDRI) committee has been up to? Come to the dock on Good Friday (April 14) between 11 and 2pm for a one-day “Java” event. In addition to coffee (donated by The Rectory), baked goods, and music, members of the WDRI committee will be on hand to discuss the project. Java moment? We’d love to get your feedback and ideas. You can also follow our progress on the project website: wardsdock.weebly.com.

Here’s a summary of recent activities:

- Relocation and restoration/rebuild of the Waiting Shed
  We recently received a feasibility study for the Waiting Shed from Steven Burgess Architects via Jo Ann Pynn, City of Toronto – Museums and Heritage Services. It was Jo Ann and SBA who oversaw the restoration of the Landing Stage at Willow Square. The study looks at phased and costed options for the rehabilitation of the structure inclusive of heritage, site and barrier-free accessibility parameters. Parks is 100% behind the project and has designated funds to get things going later this year; indeed, they’re telling us that something must be done to get the building to a “state of good repair” and accessible. The committee is organizing a community meeting (late April or early May) to get feedback on the project, and there will be information about it at the “Java Moment” event.

- The long-term vision for Ward’s Dock
  We reported last year that the City of Toronto is embarking on a master plan
for Toronto Island, to begin in 2017. As a key stakeholder, the community is to be consulted.

To prepare for our part in the plan, the committee is developing three or four distinctly different drawings that demonstrate the potential for the Ward’s Dock area. These “schemas” incorporate feedback from the “Think Outside the Dock” brainstorming session last year, plus ideas generated in numerous head-scratching committee sessions. We’ve tried to demonstrate options for pedestrian/traffic circulation; shelter (the Waiting Shed and perhaps a new visitor centre); ground cover (reduce asphalt, replace with brickwork, etc.); use of the “east wing” beside the ferry slip; touching the water (e.g., tie-ups for small boats, or steps to the beach); bicycle/cart/scooter storage; structures that provide information about the Island and nearby amenities; features that welcome visitors; Island art; etc., etc.

Our goal is to present these drawings at a community meeting where perhaps an entirely new option will evolve!

- **Fundraising**
  Although Parks has committed the bulk of the money for the Waiting Shed restoration and relocation, the committee is seeking additional funding for ancillary items such as information boards, Wi-Fi, etc. (Unfortunately neither of our grant applications last fall was successful.) Please get in touch with us if you’d like to help, or if you know of specific funding opportunities.

  As reported last year, the Waiting Shed project is now on the Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation website: http://www.tptf.ca. All donations through this portal will be held in trust for the restoration of the Waiting Shed. Tax receipts are provided for donations over $10. To date, donations total $1,270. To contribute, please go to the Current Projects section on www.tptf.ca

- **Improvements at the dock**
  What a friend we have in Island Park Supervisor Warren Hoselton. He arranged for new bike racks, a new bicycle tire pump and a bulletin board. Then, in November, he approached the WDRI committee and asked if we thought Ward’s Dock could use some better lighting. Did we ever! Since then Warren’s staff has installed LED lights that vastly improve safety at the dock. In the next month or so, Warren will be adding lighting at the waiting shed and over the map beside it.

  Thank you for your interest in the Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative. We look forward to hearing your feedback and ideas at the community meetings.

**The Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative**

- Mary Partridge (chair), Anne Barber, Jim Belisle, Kathleen Doody, Leida Englar, Daniel Hall, Pam Mazza, Frank Meyer, Shawn Vanderheyden

**Goals of the Ward’s Dock Renewal Initiative**

- To improve the facilities at Ward’s dock for everyone who comes to the Island
- To create a more aesthetically pleasing and welcoming entrance to Ward’s Island, the only gateway to Toronto Island in the off-season
- To enhance the visitors’ experience by providing information about the park

**Shaw House AGM**

Sunday April 30, 2017, 2:30 pm - tour the premises and refreshments, 3 pm meeting begins
Toronto Island Noise Committee

The Powerhouse hearing is on! To protect our community and the waterfront, we need your help.

The March sessions are over, but there are more in June. Please attend if you can. And please give as generously as you can to our legal fundraising campaign rolling.

**Powerhouse Liquor License Hearing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time: 9:30 am</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates: June 12, 14, 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place: The Licensing Appeal Tribunal's offices 20 Dundas St W, Ste 530.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is the Atrium building on the north side of Dundas between Bay and Yonge. Take the elevators at the Yonge and Dundas corner.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Powerhouse, a new company with major shareholder Charles Khabouth, has applied for a new liquor license at the Docks/Polson site. TINC/TICA have opposed this application, as well as QCYC, the City and the York Quay Neighbourhood Association.

Mr. Khabouth ran The Government and Polson Cabana, and his clubs have not been good neighbours. Many of you have sore memories of being awakened by the Guvernment Skybar. And many of you close to the cove have been pounded by Cabana far too many times. We've got three city bylaw noise charges for Cabana in the pipeline, and have reason to fear what could happen at the Docks/Polson site.

The application is for capacities of 7,548 indoors at REBEL (the new name for the Sound Academy), and 7,721 outdoors. This is about double the current size.

The real threat though, is the potential loss of protections on the current liquor license for Polson. We worked hard in 2008 to get conditions preventing outdoor musical events, including concerts, as well as an 11 p.m. cutoff for outdoor amplified sound. If Powerhouse succeeds in this hearing, we'll likely lose those conditions.

Double the capacity, allow outdoor musical events including live concerts, lose the time cutoff, and you see where this could go.

Fortunately, we're getting immense support from Waterfront for All, which includes many waterfront associations, as well as waterfront planners like Ken Greenberg. WFA has also got the developers Hines and Tridel on board. None of us want a huge club dominating the harbour with outdoor concerts. We've all put much effort into avoiding a hearing and looking at possible settlements, but so far, to no avail.

It will be a hard struggle to keep our community and the waterfront safe from noise. We can't do this without you. Please pitch in as best you can.

Lynn Robinson, Noise Committee

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Spring Cleaning

**Trees**

- The Trust has a professional arborist provide us with a tree audit every January in preparation for our budget talks. This audit provides the Trust with a list of pruning and tree maintenance costs for the upcoming year. This of course does not include emergency tree maintenance, but does allow us to prevent possible issues going forward. This audit includes all empty lots, the cove and land around each of the Trust owned buildings (Shaw House, AIA, WIA, Canoe Club and the Rectory Café).

- It is up to leaseholders to maintain the trees on their property. If you are not sure who is responsible for a tree in need of maintenance, please call the Trust office for clarification.

Happy Tree Trimming.

Amanda Street-Bishop, on behalf of the Trust properties committee
Emergency preparedness

Hello folks! Your emergency preparedness committee has met this winter and again offers you our best advice regarding emergency services. Please keep in mind that we are not immune to emergencies on the Island, many of our green spaces are the result of past fires, and we do have the dangers of fluff season every summer.

Reader’s Digest version: Community member responsibilities for safe emergency services delivery.

Every household must:
1. Keep one foot extending beyond our sidewalks clear of rocks, plants, shrubs, walls and garbage containers so the mini pumper firetruck can get through the narrow streets on Ward’s.
2. Clear overhanging trees and bushes that impede the 10-foot high mini pumper fire truck from getting easy access to our homes on either island.
3. Ensure emergency personnel can get easily to your front door. Getting access involves bringing equipment, supplies, a stretcher as well as personnel. If anything is in the way please move it.
4. If your home is not clearly numbered emergency services will not find it.
5. If you have a hydrant on your property please remove any shrubs and vines. If the hydrant is not working then call Toronto Water at 311.

Emergency services has not taken a position on enforcing inadequate numbering of homes or inadequate providing of right-of-way, even though these issues are enforceable with fines. We have been made aware and educated – time to take action folks! (Its $115 charge if you do not have a regulation size house number according to: Municipal code 598-7). Please see the sidebar for the regulations about the house setback and the size of the numbers that should be not only be attached to your house, but positioned so they can be seen from the street (in winter and summer).

Other projects underway by your emergency preparedness committee:
1. Finding an accessible location for the AED (defibrillator) for easy access to community members in an emergency.
2. Dedicating a part of our community noticeboard (attached to the piano shed) for specific emergency preparedness information.
3. Organizing another St. John’s ambulance first aid course this summer.
4. Locating some reflective regulation-size house numbers for sale at Island events.
5. Remember if you need emergency services call 911 first, no need to call the station as they will be alerted by 911 operators. We recommend that if you are calling 911 you identify the unit of your home that needs emergency support. More and more of our homes now have more than one apartment within them. The station number for other needs: Fire station #335 @ 416-338-9335.

Inese Gravlejs, Emergency Prep Committee

Size Requirements for House Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single Family Residential Properties:</th>
<th>Maximum setback from curb</th>
<th>Minimum number size</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Metres</td>
<td>Yards (approx.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>40</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Easements

Spring is approaching and when you start spring cleaning your yard, make sure you are in compliance with the easements required. Below is a list of streets on Ward’s Island and the easement for each. Please note that the measurements should be taken from the centre of the street you are fronting. Easements are especially important for emergency vehicle access. Please ensure you are compliant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Easement in feet from the centre of the street</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Street</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Street</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Street</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Street</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Street South</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Street North</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sixth Street</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lakeshore Avenue East</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Avenue</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayview Avenue</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Avenue</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withrow Avenue</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakeshore Avenue West (boardwalk)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenore Avenue</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

This notice was emailed to *myneighbours* in mid-March

March 17, 2017

Toronto Island Residents

RE: Household Hazardous Waste Collection on the Toronto Island

SAVE YOUR HAZARDOUS WASTE

Special Island Pick up Days

Solid Waste Management Services is responsible for the collection and proper disposal of residential "special" or hazardous waste from all households within the City of Toronto. Items such as paint, batteries and oil, all fall into the hazardous waste category. A full listing can be found below.

In 2016, 29 pickups of hazardous material occurred on the island. Eleven (11) of the calls took place in the months of January to April; 8 calls came in between May and August; whereas September to December, accounted for the last 10 calls. Servicing the island for hazardous waste collection in this manner is a costly service and on many occasions we have been sending a truck over for only one call.

For 2017, we would like to propose a twice per year pickup for hazardous waste from all island residents. The Toxic Taxi would be sent over to pick up at the roadside of every resident's home the hazardous waste they would like to dispose of. Please note, that the items cannot be mixed together. For example, household batteries cannot be in the same container as compact fluorescent lightbulbs. Items must also have a legible label, and be sealed with no container damage.

At this point in time we are considering the dates of May 31 and September 06, 2017, as the Toronto Island Hazardous Waste Event Days. I would also ask that you hold on to any hazardous material until these dates. If this program is deemed a success we will look at continuing in
2018, and perhaps adding an additional date, or
days as required.

Please forward any comments or concerns to
Carolyn McSkimming at
Carolyn.McSkimming@toronto.ca or 416-395-6363.

ACCEPTABLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS
WASTE ITEMS:
Batteries
Syringes & needles
Car batteries
Drain cleaners
Lighter fluid
Turpentine
Gasoline
Aerosol containers
Cleaning fluids
Pesticides
Medications
Fluorescent tubes
Compact Fluorescent bulbs (CFLs)
Helium & Propane tanks
Cooking oil

For further information see the City webpage:
http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly
?vgnextoid=04d3e37d81215510VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD

Shoreline Cleanup

This year Ward’s and Algonquin Islands will
be part of the City of Toronto’s Community
Cleanup program:
toronto.ca/cleantoronto /Community Cleanups

The cleanup will focus on shoreline,
but will also
tackle inland areas if
turnout is
good.
Please plan to
spend some
time on Sunday April 23 between 9 a.m. and 2
p.m. to help clear some of the debris that washes
up on our shores. I have identified in particular
the area west of the ferry dock in the lagoon, as
well as east from the dock all along the shore to
the crumbling concrete of the federal breakwater
at the Eastern Gap. The dogwood grove/willow
farm east of Willow Square is also a catchment
area for airborne trash.

We will be working in co-ordination with
Warren Hoselton and City Parks who will be
supplying bags and work gloves as well as
arranging for pick-up of our collections. We will
separate recyclables from garbage wherever
possible.

It would be very useful if we had access to
small motor/row boats to collect items too far to
reach from shore. If anyone could provide a boat
for even part of this time, Warren will supply us
with long poles/nets to scoop up floating plastic,
mainly along the First Street beach area. Please let
me know.

Also let me know if you can suggest other
areas in need of attention, or if you want to help
out in any particular way. I will be happy to sign
off on any student wishing to accumulate
community volunteer hours. Feel free to extend
the invitation to QCYC members, friends, and
anyone else who wants to join the fun.

So please save the date.
Kathleen Doody 416-203-0829

Green Space Initiative Update

The Trust properties committee has been
meeting with neighbours of the Trust green spaces
(all are on Ward’s Island) over the past few
months to develop a plan to move forward on the
removal of encroachments. St. Stephen’s
Community House has provided the Trust with
two volunteers to facilitate the meeting using a
circle format. We have had four meetings and are
planning another for the end of May for those
who were unable to attend the previous meetings.
The meetings are by invitation only (limited to
residents of the “green-space streets”) and a full
report on progress will be given at the next
community meeting.

Thanks for everyone’s input into this valuable
exercise.
Amanda Street-Bishop on behalf of the Trust
properties committee.
A Reminder to All

There are lots of crutches (too many) in my Rubbermaid large green/beige bin in the corner of my backyard, and lots of raised toilet seats, rollators, walkers, bath stools, etc. in my back wooden shed.

Also, wheelchairs in my solarium as well as in Hank Hanger’s shed 10 First Street, Eliza Moore’s shed 11a Fifth Street, and Fulton’s’ shed 5 Ojibway Avenue. Please help yourself when needed, and simply leave me a note.

I may also soon have spare community electric scooters available for temporary use, including a light one that can be lifted into a van or car trunk for special escorted expeditions! We normally expect $5 per day or $100 per month, to keep the scooters going.

Bruce Weber 3 Oneida Avenue 416-203-0911

Trust Update

It has been a busy couple of months at the Trust office. The purchasers’ list renewals have now been complete; twelve people did not renew this year. The list will be approved at our April board meeting and my summer student will be updating members of their new place on the list late May or early June.

We will have two house sales this spring and one in the early summer. Open houses will be scheduled soon for those purchasers’ list members in the top 150.

Our spring community meeting has been tentatively scheduled for early June. There will be updates on the Green Space Initiative, Lease Breaches and of course the Trust budget is to be approved. Look forward to seeing you all there.

Amanda Street-Bishop, Administrator

Toronto Island Advisory Committee (TIAC)

On March 27, Island representatives attended the spring TIAC meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting in October are appended at the end of the newsletter. Here is a brief report on some of the agenda items at the March meeting:

- Update on ferry design and procurement
  
  James Dann introduced two representatives from Concept Naval, a Quebec-based firm of naval architects and marine engineers. To our surprise, they presented very complete-looking designs for the new ferry. We had been told many times that there would be public consultations about the design; in fact the request for proposals (RFP) for the design firm specified four consultations with stakeholders, the public and City councillors.

  We knew from the RFP that the ship would be large – the proposed ferry is to hold up to 18 car-sized vehicles and 1,300 passengers (600 with a full vehicle complement). It is 50 metres long and is 12.8 metres at its widest (the Ongiara is 20m x 11m; the McBride, 36m x 10m). It had to be designed to fit all of the existing docks and will to be able to make its way through pack ice about a foot deep. This was all in the specifications that had already been laid out in the RFP.

  While there is much to admire about the new design (speaking as a complete layperson), there are major deficiencies from a passenger’s point of view. For example, there is absolutely no weather-free seating (or standing) on the bottom deck; there are sheltered stairs that take you to an enclosed salon and three family (non-gender specific) washrooms on the second deck and open stairs that go to open spaces on that deck. There is a small elevator (one wheelchair) from the main deck to the second. Does anyone see problems with this? We did.

  We managed to get the promise of a public consultation – it will be held sometime in April. TICA will send out flyers to the
community and make sure the school and the two daycares have the information as well. We will also try to identify other stakeholders as well. After all, the ferry is not just for Islanders, but for the public as well and we want to make it clear that we are keeping everyone’s interests in mind.

One problem with making major design changes is that the new ferry is scheduled to be in service in spring 2019. But we are hoping the consultants will go back to the drawing board; after all this is the first ferry to be built since 1963 and there has been talk of a subsequent ship based on this design. It has to be done properly to meet the needs of all users.

- **Shoulder season service and ticketing review**
  
  James Dann is attempting to get rid of all belt lines beginning, he hopes, with the spring schedule that starts on Easter weekend. There may be tweaks to the ferry schedules, but there will be the same number of trips every day.
  
  The fall schedule will be extended by two weeks, but the spring and summer schedules will have the same duration.
  
  Ticketing – The IT people at the City are redesigning the scanning systems; it is unlikely any new technology will be introduced during the high season. If you have an opinion on this subject, please contact Bruce Chochinov, manager of information services for Parks and Rec. His phone number is 416-392-8150.

- **The Island master plan**
  
  We touched briefly on the Island master plan and were assured, once again, that there will be lots and lots of public consultation. Strategy meetings will begin sometime in the fall.

- **The Algonquin bridge**
  
  Well, after all of the consultations about the bridge and the proposal for a brand-new bridge, we have been told that the City is now looking at rehabilitation rather than rebuilding. Faster, easier and cheaper, but still addressing the issues raised in the consultations such as decking, handrails, etc.

The renovation may involve stripping the bridge down to its foundations, but we were given no details. TICA (not TIAC) will attempt to find out what is proposed and when and report back to you all.

- **City-side parking**
  
  Councillor McConnell reported she has not been successful in finding on-street parking to replace the anticipated loss of the Cooper and Freeland Streets permit parking. She is now looking at spaces in the proposed new buildings. See Peter Freeman’s article elsewhere in the newsletter if you want to add your voice to the cause.

- **New security infrastructure at the Ward’s dock**
  
  We had heard that there is to be an electronic fence at the Ward’s dock – yet more security measures to answer to Transport Canada. Because of the Ward’s Dock Initiative (reported on elsewhere in this newsletter) we were concerned about how this would affect any new design and, indeed, the work that has already been done.
  
  We did not dwell on this issue at the TIAC meeting, because TICA and some members of the Ward’s Dock Initiative committee had already scheduled a meeting with City corporate security a couple of days later.

  At that subsequent meeting we raised some issues about the electronic gate. Is it a sliding gate that will take space from the newly designated bicycle racks? How will the gate be opened in the case of an electronic failure? Can the existing fence and proposed gate be painted another colour? What if there is a fire on the boat or some other emergency and the gate does not work? Why the heck do we need a fence and a gate anyhow and why an electronic gate?

  Again, blame Transport Canada, or rather the spectre of terrorism that makes the Island ferries one of the top sixteen spots in North America for a likely attack! One of the standards of security is having visible deterrents (guards, fences, etc.) that give potential attackers pause. And, it seems that the staff does not always remember to lock
the gate, hence the need for electronics. The alternative is permanent staff members at the Ward’s dock, much like at Centre Island. The Hanlan’s dock will also receive an electronic gate.

The good news is that the fence can be painted to be less obtrusive, it will swing open much as it does now and there will always be a method of opening it in case of failure.

The other interesting thing we learned is that in case of any emergency, ferries are directed to go immediately to the dock at the eastern gap, where emergency services and police are much more readily available.

Lorraine Filyer for Fran Ford, Karen Rothfels, Pam Mazza, Mary Partridge and Susan Roy

In Memoriam for Bill Ward

There are few who could match the man that William Ernest Ward was – handsome, tall and strong, while also kind and a caring person who went out of his way to help people.

Many Islanders will remember him for doing the legal work on their ownership papers at the time they purchased their homes. The price was right too – zero. Bill also had a way with pets. He would call out their names and they ran towards him with their tails in full wag. A pat and a biscuit was the final touch. His own pets were beyond special!

One always knew where they stood with Bill. He was black or white about subjects with no gray zones – just one honest, good man. What he said is what he meant.

We spent seventeen years together. Every day was dear. He was so bright, witty and had such a good sense of humour. He’d put arm around my shoulder, give me a kiss and my world was glorious. Sometimes we’d take a walk downtown and it was interesting who we’d meet along the way. After working for the City of Toronto as a lawyer for forty years, he knew many people! He didn’t talk about it all that much, but you know that Bill was one of the key persons in putting the real estate deals together that created the Eaton Centre.

When we think of Durnan we think of Ward and their friendship over the years. Then a case of beer on a hot sunny day, a ride out on to the water, and take a dip and add Ross to the dip!

Bill was the fifth generation son, last Islander of the Ward family that came to the Island in the 1840s. That family watched Toronto grow up into the fabulous city it is today.

I was proud to be his wife and I adored him. His last words to me were “Kiss me.” I did, but it was also kiss me goodbye.

Miriam Ward
In Memoriam for Mare Laende, An Islander Since 2004

Mare died at home on January 12, 2017. Her passing was peaceful and dignified. Mare was of Estonian descent, grew up in Toronto and developed an early love of Toronto Island. As a child of seven, she occasionally took her four-year-old brother to Centre Island by public transit – by herself – when her parents were at work! At least until her explorations of Toronto islands were discovered. Her willingness to risk and explore started early.

Mare was fearless about challenges. She mastered piano and guitar; soared as a rhythmic gymnast (performing in the Mexico Olympics); studied fashion design and worked in Toronto’s rag trade; earned a university degree and taught secondary school in Toronto. She liked the outdoors and photography and used those skills for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, mapping and evaluating provincial recreational and water facilities in central Ontario and Manitoulin Island.

She put her career aspirations on hold for my career progression with Environment Canada. During our time out West in the eighties, she taught at the Manitoba School for Developmentally Challenged and then began a real estate career in Edmonton. Upon return to Toronto, she continued in real estate and took on a new challenge as well: to build a new home on a downtown Toronto lot inherited from her parents. The three-storey house was semi-detached, with a side for Mare and I and a side for her brother and spouse and was built entirely by the four of us, based Mare’s design.

On our half, Mare took on responsibilities for bricklaying, kitchen design, flooring, dry walling, patching and painting. Each skill was learned through reading or trial and error. While bricklayers can lay 80 bricks per hour, she would lay half of that – in a day! However each brick would be perfect in each dimension with perfect mortar spacing.

In 1994, news about the Toronto Island community caught her attention. Little did I know that she would again jump into a new adventure by putting us on the purchasers’ list. Luckily by 2004, we succeeded in purchasing on Ward’s. We demolished an existing (but condemned) house and planned for a new two-storey. The design in her mind’s eye was based on images of some homes that were torn down on Center Island with gazebos on the second floor. By 2011, our new home was ready for full time occupancy. Seven years from start to finish, you ask? Nobody said it was going to be easy or quick.

Even now as I glance around, her efforts are evident in many design choices. She herself laid four tonnes of tile on the floors and bathrooms, in addition to patching and painting walls. What, you may wonder, did I do? Let’s say there was more than enough, so that we stayed happily married.

Mare loved the Island, I loved her, ergo I also ended up loving the Island as much as she did. We were very lucky throughout. That luck began to change as her illness was diagnosed in 2015. However, even in the sorrow and difficulties related to her illness, we were buoyed by the community, which continually surprised us in the amount and depth of the physical and emotional support we received, especially from our neighbours who transformed themselves to friends and never changed back at midnight.

On Mare’s behalf, a heartfelt thank you to the community as a whole and especially our neighbours – with a commitment from me, to somewhere in the future, pay it forward.

Dejan Ristic and Monte
22 Fifth Street
The Kale Project

An exciting pilot project happened this 2016 growing season on City of Toronto parkland on Ward’s Island.

This was an initiative of the Island Café and the City of Toronto. The goal was to experiment with small-scale organic crop production on Toronto Island. We planted four types of kale on a 1/100 acre plot (436 square feet) located immediately north of the Island Café patio on City parkland.

Volunteers kept the garden weed free, well maintained and watered. We began harvesting the kale every Tuesday (starting May 31st). Each week we weighed and documented the amount picked and gave bunches of kale to visitors to the park and islanders.

By the end of September 476.75 pounds of kale were produced!

At least twenty, and as many as fifty people came out to each weekly harvest—adults, children, youth, local and international visitors to the park and island residents. People helped pick and bundle kale for the weekly harvest; they watered, hoed, weeded and chatted. Harvest evenings became a lovely diverse social gathering of people around a shared activity in the park. People shared kale recipes with each other and us. Island Public School students, their teacher and a volunteer spent a June morning with us at the Kale Pilot Project working in the garden and talking about agriculture. Other successes and surprises included: terrific photos by Jim and Sheila, excellent media coverage by CBC Metro Morning, and a video about the project started by the City of Toronto. Rick Simon designed and donated a Kale Pilot Project postcard that we gave out with the free bunches of kale and Mary Anderson designed a kale block print and printed wrappers for the kale bouquets beside the garden on a mail cart! City parks staff not only worked with us on the heavy digging—they helped out in the garden after hours and participated in the weekly harvest.

The Kale Project 2017

You are invited to participate in each or any part of the process! In mid-April we will be digging the compost, replenishing the soil and planting four types of kale in rows as a crop.

Please join in! Everyone welcome!

Weeding, watering and other tending tasks every Tuesday 5-7 pm Starting May 23rd and/or Drop by for your FREE KALE!

Just show up and we’ll show you what to do! But PLEASE don’t pick your own!

A Garden to Honour our Roots

Together with the City of Toronto, The Island Café is installing a one season (2017) garden that both produces food and has symbolic and cultural value in the context of Canada’s 150. This garden will provide the public with the opportunity to pause, reflect and consider the questions:

What are our roots? What are we growing?

The project will culminate with a free harvest dinner in the park to celebrate the vegetables produced. The garden will be located on a 1/100th acre plot in the triangle of open space right near the ferry on Ward’s Island. In this way, we are continuing to experiment with small-scale crop production in the Toronto Island Park.

The centerpiece of the project will be a “3 Sisters Garden”, a trio of companion plants (corn, beans and squash) to acknowledge and honour First Nations people and First Nations cultivation. Small plots of crops such as bok choy, tomatoes and peppers will be planted adjacent to The Three Sisters garden. These foods are associated with the diverse multicultural landscape that is Canada today.

We are inviting broad public participation throughout the project. Come and dig, plant and tend the garden and/or watch the garden grow! Contact us to find out about digging dates (end April) and planting dates (early May)!

www.islandcafeto.com
Maura McIntyre 416 203-6345
maura@islandcafeto.com
# Toronto Islands Advisory Committee Meeting

October 19, 2016 – 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
City Hall, 2nd Floor, Committee Room 1

## Minutes

### Present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Department/Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lorraine Filyer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Toronto Island Community Association</td>
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<td>Susan Roy</td>
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<td>Toronto Island Community Association</td>
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<td>Pam McConnell</td>
<td>Councilor</td>
<td>City of Toronto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Davidson</td>
<td>Senior Advisor, Planning and Projects</td>
<td>Councilor McConnell’s office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ed Hore</td>
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<td>York Quay Neighbourhood Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Woolford</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Island Public Natural Science School</td>
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<td>Fran Ford</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jack Layton Ferry Terminal Working Group</td>
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<td>James Dann</td>
<td>Manager, Waterfront Parks District</td>
<td>Parks, Forestry and Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>William White</td>
<td>Supervisor, Marine Services</td>
<td>Parks, Forestry and Recreation</td>
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### Regrets:

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<tr>
<th>Person</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carol Jolly</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Waterfront BIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Beasley</td>
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<td>Centreville Amusement Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Connolly</td>
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<td>Recreation boat user group</td>
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### Item | Notes | Action

#### 1. Review of Agenda

- Councilor McConnell chaired the meeting
- The Agenda was approved on consent.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

- Councilor McConnell – The Minutes of the meeting of July 27th, 2016 were approved on consent.

#### 3. Update on Ferry Design and Procurement

- James Dann
  - The tender for the naval architect/designer has been awarded but City Legal staff continue to work through details before signing the contract that will begin work.
  - Some parameters of the new design were set in the Request for Proposals for the architect: 1300-1500 passengers, capacity for both vehicles and passengers, viewing areas on main deck and second deck, fit within current city and Island docks.
  - Public consultation is a component of the design process.
  - Q- Could the old Rochester Ferry dock be used by the new ferries?  
    A- The Rochester Ferry dock is custom built and not interchangeable.
  - Q- The Master Plan may provide insight on how ferries will be used. The Docks may need to be different based on plans for the future 
    A- There are many different solutions, but funding is in place and staff do not want to slow down delivery of much needed ferry replacement.
  - Q- How can we improve dock infrastructure to deal with issues such as ice catching? 
    A- The Master Plan must address dock issues as a priority, including ice blockage.

- James Dann
  Will bring ferry designer to a meeting of TIAC in advance of a public meeting
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<td>4. a. Status of Trillium ferry</td>
<td><strong>James Dann</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;li&gt;Trillium in dry-dock shortly for a 5 year safety inspection&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;A report on assessment of the boat will likely come to Parks and Environment Committee&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Expectation is there is hull damage that would require hull replacement. New engineering standards may require reconstruction that would compromise the heritage features of the boat.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Q- How will the absence of the Trillium affect service?&lt;br&gt;A- The Trillium has been used only on a few occasions this past summer as a stop gap. Service is mostly planned without it, so the impact will be limited.&lt;/li&gt;</td>
<td><strong>James Dann</strong>&lt;br&gt;Will update TIAC as Trillium assessment is made.</td>
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<td>4. b. Shoulder season ferry service discussion</td>
<td><strong>James Dann</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;li&gt;Presented statistics on yearly, monthly, and daily passenger trips&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Statistics demonstrate that shoulder seasons require greater service levels.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;The summer seasons are at maximum service levels with current boats. Early and later parts of the year can be expanded.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Staffing requests by management for the ferries are submitted in February which leaves little flexibility to expand in-season based on unpredictable conditions.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Parks staff are committed to increasing the number of shoulder season trips. Fall is the most likely period to have more boats operating.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Q- Late in the season after service has been reduced there are days with large crushes of people trying to return to the city.&lt;br&gt;A- Many people return at the same hours during the fall. Makes the case for expanded service.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Q- Can staff be used to help manage crowds? School groups are prioritized and leave other passengers waiting.&lt;br&gt;A- Security can be organized on a few hours’ notice to help keep crowds organized.&lt;/li&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Tom</strong>- Will circulate ferry passenger statistics&lt;br&gt;<strong>James Dann</strong> will update TIAC on additional service.</td>
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<td>5. Jack Layton Ferry Terminal Master Plan update</td>
<td><strong>Councilor McConnell</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;li&gt;Section 37 public benefit funds have been assigned to JLFT improvements from 141 Bay ($4 million) and 1 Yonge ($1 million). These funds will be available when the developments draw their above grade permits.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Pam will meet with Waterfront Toronto to discuss funding strategy for buildout of the Master Plan.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;A combination of Section 37 funds, City Parks Capital Parks funds, private fundraising, and cost sharing with other levels of government is a framework could be pursued.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;A first phase of the plan will be built in 2018. The scope of that work will be presented at a meeting of the JLFT Stakeholder group by Waterfront Toronto in November.&lt;/li&gt;</td>
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<td>6. Update on Additional Bus for Alternative Bus service</td>
<td><strong>Pam McConnell</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;li&gt;The TTC has not agreed to maintain any surplus bus that is acquired by Parks for use on the Island&lt;/li&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Pam</strong> will address with TTC contacts.</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Discussion of second ferry terminal location</td>
<td><strong>Ed Hore</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;ul&gt;&lt;li&gt;There is considerable chaos during period in the summer with massive lineups and waits.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Problems spill out onto Bay Street and create bottlenecks.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;A second ferry terminal, federally owned is available (old Rochester Ferry terminal)&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;This infrastructure could be used to provide relief from the pressure at the existing ferry terminal. Could be a possible source of revenue, with additional facilities.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;It was noted that there are many complications to using this facility, particularly that it is not owned by the City. Other projects may be in the works. If Expo 2025 bid goes forward it certainly could be put in play.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;It was suggested that this idea be kept as a running brief for TIAC, with no action at this time.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;/ul&gt;</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Discussion of Water Taxi use and agreements</td>
<td><strong>James Dann</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;ul&gt;&lt;li&gt;Water taxi docking fees are being updated and increasing.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;A water taxi business will only be issued a permit to dock Island side if it has secured a docking location on the city side.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;New docking locations for water taxis are being made available at Yonge slip.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Parks staff will set up a system to measure number of people returning from island to measure how many people are using taxis to get to Island and ferries to return.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;It was noted that ferry revenues are being fed back into funding new ferries. It was suggested that water taxi fees could also be fed in to funding the ferries.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Q- Speed of water taxis is a concern for some users of the harbour. A- Parks staff are meeting with Harbour Master and water taxi management is on the agenda.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;/ul&gt;</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Ticketing technology implementation discussion</td>
<td><strong>James Dann</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;ul&gt;&lt;li&gt;A number of issues were raised with the recent ticketing technology implementation. Online ticketing has not functioned at times. Only one lane is available for online ticket holders/pass holders. Scanners are not working efficiently. Crowd management becomes an issue when slowed down by scanners.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;The new technology was introduced in the busy summer, with little time to work out operational issues. More troubleshooting will take place before summer.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;/ul&gt;</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Issues related to vehicular parking and tracking</td>
<td><strong>James Dann</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;ul&gt;&lt;li&gt;Towing of unauthorized vehicles on Island has begun. Derelict vehicles have been removed.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;A new fee system for vehicles is being developed&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;Tracking of vehicles will be coordinated between ferry staff and corporate security.&lt;/li&gt;&lt;/ul&gt;</td>
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The Rectory, now in its 14th year, serves the community and provides visitors with unique travel memories. We are the best restaurant on the island and the New York Times’ rave reviews don’t hurt either. Right???

Hours

**Till May, 31**  Wednesday to Sunday 11 am – 5 pm (Kitchen stops cooking hot meals at 4:30 pm)
**From Jun, 1**  Wednesday and Thursday 11 am – 5 pm. Friday, Saturday, Sunday 11 am – 9:00pm
**From June 19 to Labour Day**  Sunday to Thursday 11 am – 9 pm, Friday and Saturdays 11 am – 10 pm

Old Friends, New Roles

**General Manager** – Ken McAuliffe returns to the position vacated by Val Cook. Our gratitude to Val.

**Interim Front of House Manager** – Shauna MacConnell, now in her second season with The Rectory, enjoys a 16 year career managing and working in hospitality. Places like Seasons Bistro (Halifax), The Hamachi Group (Halifax) and Ame “Rain” Restaurant (Toronto)

**Chef** – Our Red Seal chef, Richard Chambers had an amazing opportunity requiring him to say good bye on March 17. Chef Chambers was outstanding at developing and leading his staff so his recommendation to promote our sous chef, Scott Cooney to the chef position carried a great deal of weight. It is always gratifying to promote from within. Chef Cooney is about to acquire his Red Seal designation. Already chef Cooney has produced one of the best spring menus we have had to date. The menu was soft-launched April 5th and has some amazing choices. See some items below.

**New Spring Menu as of April 5th**

Have a look at some sample spring menu choices

**Pecan crusted Goat’s Cheese Salad**
Spring mixture of fresh greens and romaine lettuce, grape tomatoes, Strawberries, tossed in balsamic vinaigrette topped with a warm pecan crusted goats’ cheese puck’ – He shoots, he scores.
Yeah Chef Cooney.

**The Twisted Greek Salad**
Romaine with grape tomatoes, mushrooms, & avocado tossed in a buttermilk ranch dressing topped with feta cheese & a corn tortilla chip crumble for texture.

**Guajillo & Sesame Edamame**
Steamed soy beans tossed in a mild guajillo and sesame seasoning

**Returning**...Labneh Yogurt Spread, Sweet Mustard Pulled Pork and our famous tender Grilled Calamari.

**Other new items**...Vegetable Curry with seasonal veg and coconut milk and a Vegetarian Spring Pasta

**Sergio’s Sinful Sumptuous Deserts**
Apple Peach Crumble Cake, Hazelnut Brownie, Toffee Blondie, Flowerless Mint Chocolate Tort

Lots of vegan and Gluten free choices.

Thank you to all of our neighbours who support us and - for those who have been away for a while, please drop by and see how year 14 feels.