



The Kingsway Park Ratepayers Inc. (KPRI) Newsletter

Representing the Sunnylea & Kingsway Areas

Fall 2001 Issue

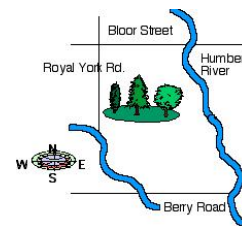
Wider and Uglier for the Next 50 Years!

The KPRI brought the design issue of this reconstruction forward in January 2001. Given the architectural art deco style of the old bridge, an entrance into Thompson Orchard, The Kingsway, and Sunnylea neighbourhoods, we were concerned what would be built in its place. The KPRI could not be more disappointed in the new standard bridge. There is no design element whatsoever. It is not an entrance but a mere function of the roadway that has been WIDENED, a prelude to the reconstruction of Royal York Road? Prior to its completion it attracted Graffiti Artists. Hopefully this trend will not continue.



The KPRI Represents.....

Residents from Dundas St. W. to Berry Rd. & from Mimico Creek/Royal York Rd./Montgomery Rd. to the Humber River.
To become a member see page 5 or call 416-232-2243.



Log Onto the KPRI Web Site!

<http://www.kingswayratepayers.com>

Click on "New Updates" to read the latest news.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

ROAD SAFETY

On November.2nd 8:30am on Prince Edward Drive South, a child was struck by a car while crossing the road on his way to Parklawn School. Please remind your children to stop and look before crossing any street, and PLEASE SLOW DOWN during morning rush hour: the roads are full of hurrying children!

PENNY MOLES RECEIVES AWARD FOR PARKETTE

Penny Moles received special recognition for her efforts in planting and taking care of the parkette at King George's Road and The Kingsway at the City of Toronto West District Garden Awards Ceremony. Congratulations Penny!

PLANT WORLD DONATES TREES TO SCHOOLS

The Reeves Family have been in Etobicoke since the 1880's and have supported innumerable good causes through Plant World, their family business. In Sept. Paul Reeves donated a native maple and an oak tree to Sunnylea Junior School, and an oak tree to John G. Althouse Middle School. The trees commemorated the sad events of Sept.11 and were planted by young children. Principals Valerie Greenfield and Oryssia Perun extend their thanks for the generous gift.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 *President's Overview*
- 4 *Traffic Issues Affecting The Kingsway and Sunnylea*
- 5 *Why You Should Become a KPRI Member!*
- 5 *KPRI Membership Form*
- 6 *Kingsway Park Heritage Designation in Jeopardy!*
- 6 *Renovation Updates*
- 8 *KPRI Executive*

President's Overview

By: Mary L. Campbell

MAXIMUM 40 Km/h Campaign

The KPRI will meet with 22 Division Staff in the Autumn and anticipate a Campaign launch late Spring/early Summer 2002. We are investigating signage and T-shirts for school children to help educate the next generation of drivers and place "little police people" in the back seats of parent's cars as "reminders" of the posted and safer speed limit.

Community Safety Zones & Police Ghost Cars

The KPRI continue to remind Councillor Milczyn that we would like to see the return of these zones where fines are doubled, as well as the return of the "Ghosts Cars".

Traffic Management Studies for The Kingsway and Sunnylea

To date, no action response from City staff.

Heritage Designation for The Kingsway

Refer to the article on Page 6 of this newsletter.

Mimico Bridge at Royal York Road

Refer to the article on Page 1 of this newsletter.

Royal York Road and Berry Road

Refer to the article on Page 4 of this newsletter.

Note: The KPRI have written Etobicoke Council to request that the design for Berry Road to Parklawn Road be exactly the same design as Prince Edward Drive South. It is the same road with the same function/character, and drivers should receive a consistent message. Given the intense process that finally established consensus on the road design for Prince Edward South, Berry Road should not receive a less appropriate design.

Berry Road & Prince Edward Drive South Zanini Townhome Project

Zanini applied for a demolition permit October 2001. The KPRI support in principle the appropriate application for townhomes.

Bloor Street Urban Design (East of Prince Edward Drive)

No meeting has taken place yet. An update will be provided when the working group has met. If you would like to join the working group, please email campbell@the-wire.com.

Bloor and Royal York Roads—Advanced Green Traffic Light

The KPRI have requested an advanced green for the traffic light at the intersection for traffic flowing north on Bloor Street up Royal York Road and wishing to continue westward. This will help alleviate the rush hour congestion at the intersection (westbound traffic presently blocks traffic wishing to continue north). The KPRI have written Councillor Milczyn regarding an extension of the white lines to guide drivers to the correct position on the street—Please if you are turning right, stay to the right, not in the middle of the road.

THANKS To Our Advertisers!

The KPRI would like to thank its advertisers. Without the extra revenue we would not be able to keep the entire neighbourhood informed twice a year.

Do You Want To Be Kept Informed?

If you have an email address, send an email message to campbell@the-wire.com, and the KPRI will keep you updated regarding local meetings and events.

Do you Want to Voice Your Opinion?

Paid members may attend KPRI monthly meetings for the first ½ hour. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Call Mary Campbell at 416-231-0180 for location.

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Important Traffic Issues Affecting Kingsway and Sunnylea: Safety and Residential Character Threatened!

1. ROYAL YORK ROAD TO BE WIDENED

The KPRI anticipates that the City Transportation Department plans to widen Royal York Road from Dundas Street to Lakeshore Boulevard in Spring 2002. This will encourage more high-speed traffic on Royal York Road and throughout the neighbourhood. It is also a certain threat to the unique canopy of trees along Royal York Road and the historic/residential character of the street: damage to these mature trees is inevitable.

The KPRI has requested City Council to only approve a reconstruction of Royal York Road between Dundas Street and Mimico Creek Bridge at 28 feet 'curb-face to curb-face'. We have requested that the same successful design specifications as the recently reconstructed Prince Edward Drive South, including the restoration of the original boulevards to sustain new plantings and existing trees.

2. BERRY ROAD TO BE WIDENED

The KPRI anticipates that the City Transportation Department plans to widen Berry Road in Spring 2002. This will encourage more high-speed traffic and increased heavy truck traffic on Parklawn Road, Berry Road, Prince Edward Drive, and throughout the entire neighbourhood.

The KPRI has requested city council to only approve a reconstruction of Berry Road from Prince Edward Drive to Parklawn Avenue at 26 feet 'curb-face to curb-face' with all the EXACT same successful design specifications as the recently reconstructed Prince Edward Drive South (including the restoration of the original boulevards and new tree plantings) as both roads are of the same character, carrying the same traffic loads.

Note: Both sections of road should include BIKE ROUTE designation, but should NOT be widened by 10' to include bike lanes.


VOICE YOUR OPINION:

c/o KPRI

39 Meadowvale Drive, Etobicoke ON M8Y 2P1

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Email: campbell@the-wire.com



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Traffic Island

The KPRI would like your views on a traffic island at Berry Road and Parklawn Road as part of the design for the Berry Road reconstruction. This would add a beautiful design element.

Forward your comments to Mary Campbell at campbell@the-wire.com

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Why You Should Become a KPRI Member!

By: Fiona Campbell

KPRI—Director

Do you remember the day when you moved into the neighborhood? Once the truck had left you with your jumble of possessions, you could hardly wait to put up the curtains, put pots of flowers on the porch, hang the wreath on the front door, and make the house look like you'd lived there forever.

The next order of business was to grab your equally mortgage-bound spouse for evening walks to go out and admire the neighborhood you spent so much money to join. Every lovely garden was admired: handsome redecorating or clever architectural modification was critically assessed. You made careful but pleasant overtures towards the neighbors and went to see the shopping amenities and the schools. You went to garage sales and street events. Once you got a handle on garbage and recycling days, you were pretty much integrated.

Having kids in the local school is the primary social access for most of us, followed by the local churches. Most people want to connect with their neighborhood- it's a village in the literal sense of the word. We seek a common good. The Ratepayer Association completes the good neighbor responsibility by

watching what government departments have in mind for our future. The Ratepayers bring to your attention changes that may not be welcome by the time you notice the bulldozers on the street widening the road, or when the school closing is a done deal, or the local plaza is razed to make way for a multi-storied apartment building that stares right into YOUR backyard. We also let you know about the great teams of neighbors who restore parks and improve schools, run church events, and keep the shopping district vital.

There are really pleasant benefits to being a ratepayer member. When we hear of interesting changes we can send you immediate notification via email. The information also goes onto our website www.kingswayratepayers.com. Twice a year we publish a newsletter that highlights the past six months, and looks to the future.

We have monthly meetings that are sociable, unstructured, and highly informative. It's a great place to make new friends and to get started on making a great idea reality. The people who are faithful ratepayer members are absolutely committed to keeping the neighborhood the fantastic place YOU CHOSE when you shopped the GTA and decided to bring your money and your family home HERE. To keep the area gracious, welcoming, and steadily improving, we need your support. Please become a member. We have a very great deal in common.

Cut Here

KPRI Membership Form (June 2001 — June 2002)

Renewal

New Member

Name: _____ Address: _____

Tel: _____ Fax#: _____

Email: _____

Membership Fee: \$20.00/year—Make cheques payable to: The Kingsway Park Ratepayers Inc.

Mail to: KPRI c/o Mary L. Campbell, 39 Meadowvale Drive, Etobicoke, ON M8Y 2P1.

Can You Volunteer Some of Your Time?

Secretary Member of the Executive Roads & Traffic Development & Overbuilding

Other _____

For more information, please call Fiona Campbell at 232-2243.

Kingsway Park Heritage Designation In Jeopardy!

By: Lynda M. Kelly

Heritage Park Designation Committee—Member

Why Should You Support the Designation?

TO PRESERVE: There are no provisions under The Planning Act to preserve the unique character of this architecturally significant neighbourhood. Our built heritage, an irreplaceable resource, is one of our most visible cultural assets that we can pass on to future generations. Kingsway Park is only what it is today because of Home Smith, the original developer, who placed guidelines on the original development that ran for 30 years (maximum allowed at the time). The history can be found in “Kingsway Park, Triumph in Design”, by Elizabeth Ingolfsrud & Alec Keefer.

TO PROTECT your investment from inappropriate development and severances that will negatively affect your property value. What would be the impact of 25’ lots on your street? A 50’ lot on Government Rd. was just subdivided into 2 lots and a lot on Queen Anne was split into 3 lots (an appeal by neighbours to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) reduced the allocation to 2 lots). 54 other designated Ontario neighborhoods have realized it is necessary to protect their areas. South Rosedale & Cabbagetown are currently working to be designated while East Annex is already designated. Heritage Preservation Services of Toronto has a streamlined approval process that works with residents to find acceptable solutions to address their needs.

How Will the Designation and Guidelines Protect Kingsway Park?

The official Heritage Designation will identify the area for special consideration at the OMB and Committee of Adjustment when decisions are being made that would have negative impact on the neighborhood’s special character. Guidelines deal only with external portions of the property that can be viewed from the street and with new homes being built if a demolition or severance is granted. Every effort is being made to ensure minimal impact on residents while reminding developers they must consider the neighbourhood’s architectural heritage.

No application is required for alterations to architectural features not visible from the street, repair of existing features in same material, re-roofing in same materials, painting wood, metal, stucco or trim, weatherproofing, interior alterations, landscaping (driveways, walkways, plantings), or re-cladding walls in same material. Designation does not require restoration to original condition or to appearance in an earlier period.

So What's the Problem?

Unfortunately residents received a flyer with a petition against designation that was not supported by facts. The flyer mentioned Heritage Police, Heritage Inspectors, and fines. The city has never had Heritage Inspectors or Heritage Police, and Preservation Services staff are not aware of fines ever being levied in any of the City’s 4 heritage districts. This flyer was designed to frighten those who had not read the guidelines.

The proposed guidelines have been sent to each home involved. Four years of work has been done to insure the impact of Designation will be positive for area residents.

Note: *We are hoping at press time to have this item deferred at the Nov.21st council meeting so that consensus can be confirmed.*

The KPRI continues to facilitate the flow of views and information (both positive and negative) on this important issue.

**Please forward your comments to
Fiona Campbell (416-232-2243) or
Mary Campbell (campbell@the-wire.com).**

Renovation Updates

By: Fiona Campbell

Replacing OLD WOOD FLOORS can be difficult if you need to match up over-wide boards or unusual species. We found elm cut over a century ago and recut into 8 inch planks, tongue and groove, at Century Wood Products (519-787-3768). They carry oak, pine and maple as well as specialty items. They also take custom orders and deliver to your door.

TARNISHED AND CORRODED METALS: Replating old floor lamps, door hinges and knobs, vintage fixtures including tea services, baby shoes, copper pans, boat hardware, old car parts, brass antiques that have tarnished to the point of no return? Visit Mayfair Plating (416-461-4435). They replat items for Toronto antique dealers—in gold, silver, copper, chrome, nickel and brass. They will buff up tarnished pieces, lacquer them, remove rust, repair, and replat anything!

LEADED WINDOWS start to fail after about 70 years as the elasticity of metal components slowly breaks down. Restoration Glass (416-766-6045) takes old leaded windows, repairs them and sandwiches them between thermal panes (which reduces heating bills). They can also convert them into casements windows, and match them to existing architectural features. They also repair Tiffany lamps and anything glass.

The classic OLD STONE WALL that was restored and extended at Reid Manor and Prince Edward is the beautiful handwork of Josef Stepien: call 416-657-0875 for a quote. For more information call Fiona Campbell at 416-232-2243.

The Warmth of Winter

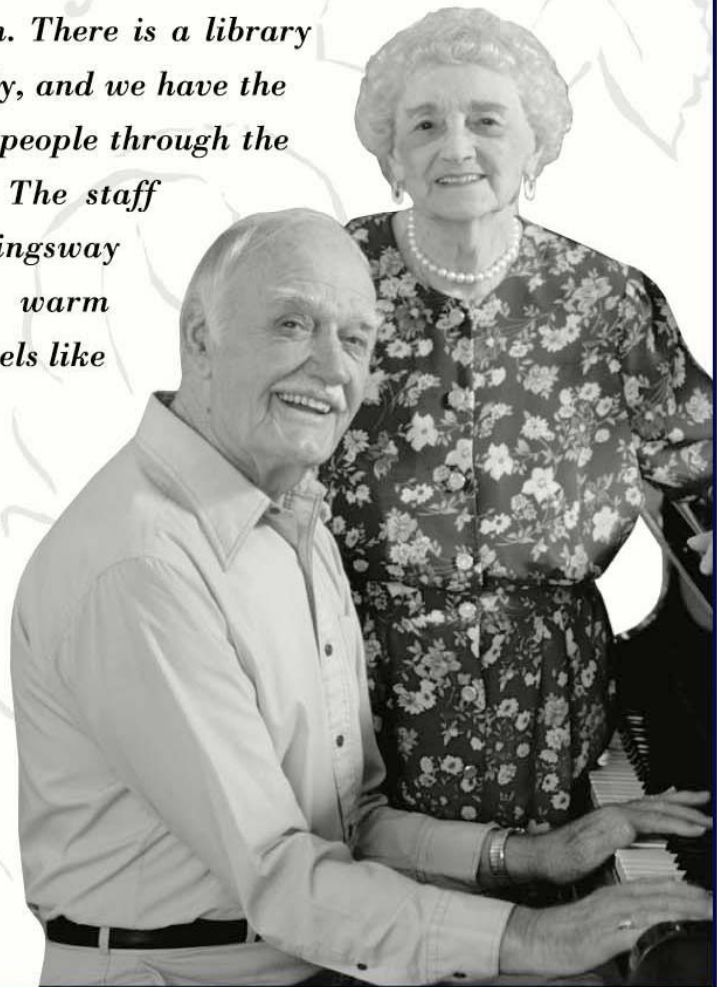
“ All of the things we cherish about winter can be summed up with one word: warmth. We love a slice of hot apple pie after a good meal, and relaxing by the fireplace or spending an evening in the company of good friends. We’re enjoying all of these things at the Kingsway Retirement Residence. The delicious food is served in a very elegant dining room. There is a library where we can read quietly, and we have the opportunity to meet new people through the daily activity program. The staff and residents at the Kingsway have given us such a warm welcome that this truly feels like home. ”



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