



Sarah Doucette

City Councillor
Ward 13

Spring 2015

Dear friends and neighbours,

Thank you for reading my first print newsletter of the new term of Council! Since the fall election, the City has been moving at full speed to get back up and running. Our new Mayor has been installed, committees have been chosen, and the 2015 budget has been passed. The City is moving in a more stable direction, as we all work together to build a better Toronto.

In addition to returning to the Library Board, Parks and Environment Committee, Board of Health, Heritage Committee, and the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, this term of Council I have been appointed to three new committees. First, I am a founding member of the new Climate Change Subcommittee, which will be looking at how the City can prepare for and deal with the effects of climate change. Through this committee I hope to ensure the city can both improve our environment, and be better prepared for the extreme weather which has affected our ward. Second, I joined the Etobicoke Preservation Panel, which works to preserve heritage properties in our community. Third, I will also sit on the School Boards Task Force, which works with all four Toronto school boards to create a better working relationship between the City and our schools. With changing demographics, new development, and aging infrastructure, it is vital that the City and our school boards work together to protect our youth and provide opportunities for other uses in our public school buildings.

Locally, one of my top priorities during the fall campaign was ensuring reasonable development in our ward. I am thrilled to share that since the election, we have had a number of positive updates in this regards. At the March City Council meeting both the Bloor West Village and Baby Point Heritage Conservation Districts were approved for study in 2016. We are also now starting work on the planning study for Bloor West. If you are interested in joining the steering committee for this study please contact my office, and we will send you an application.

Finally, as you may know, our City budget only allows for two or three print newsletters a year. To stay informed please visit my new website at www.ward13.ca, and sign up for my updated bi-weekly e-newsletter. There you can see the latest on community events, development updates, council decisions, and local issues facing our ward.

Councillor Sarah Doucette

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416-392-4072

**See my new website and sign up
for my bi-weekly newsletter at:**
www.ward13.ca

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**With residents at the Green 13
Earth Hour Walk**

Building Our Community

1. High Park Splash Pad

At a public meeting on a chilly January afternoon, I was delighted to see the plans to enhance the wading pool area in High Park with a splash pad. At the meeting residents of all ages shared their comments with staff and had fun choosing their favourite water play features. Work is to start in early fall this year with a grand opening in time for summer fun in 2016.

2. Traymore Park

Following community consultation throughout the past year, the revitalization of the Traymore Park playground and green space will begin construction this summer, with the work to be completed by the fall.

3. 209 Mavety

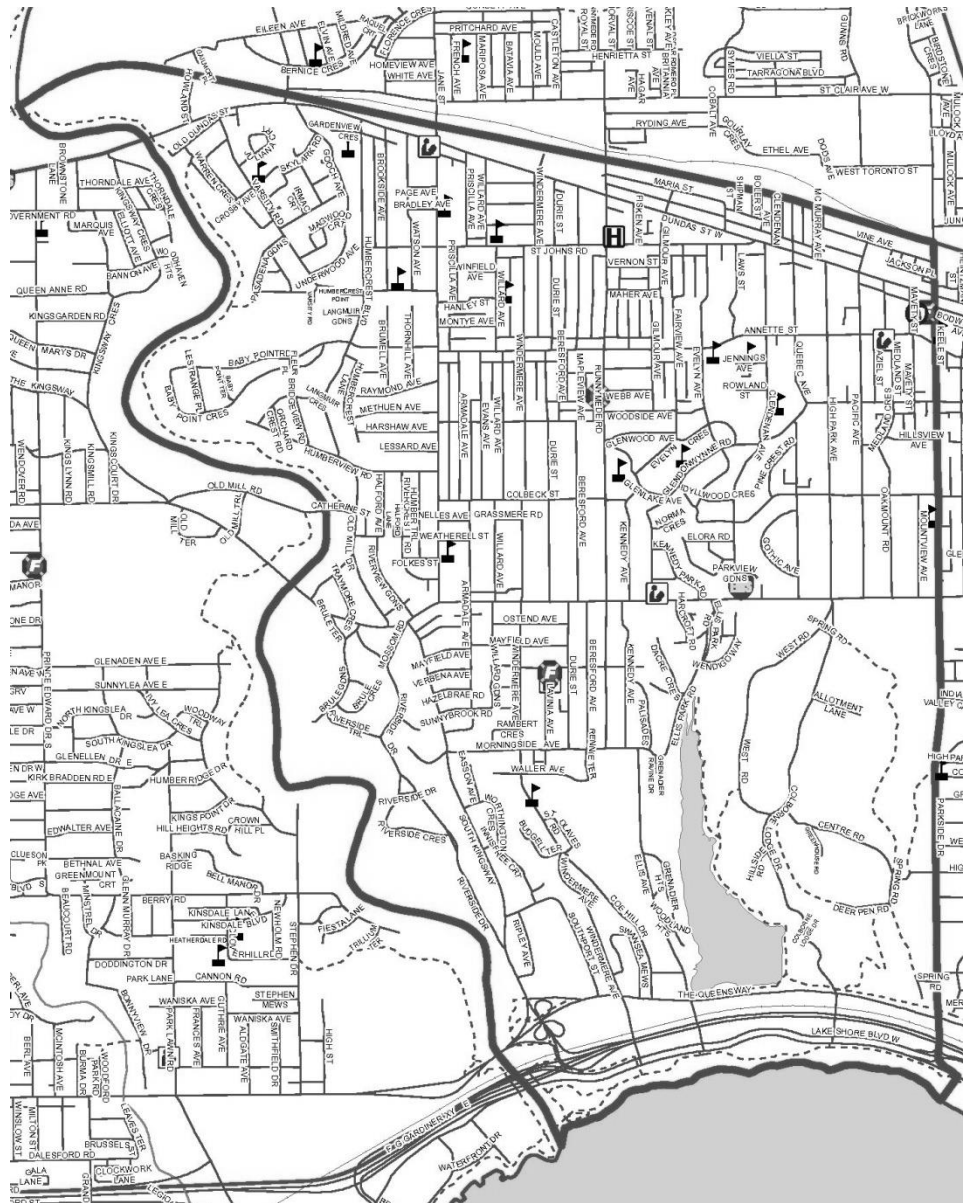
The Junction Commons Project is still moving along with help from many dedicated volunteers and community agencies. We are working with them on turning the vision of a Community Hub in the old police station into a reality.

4. Ellis Park Roadwork

I would like to thank the residents living on Ellis Park Road who have endured a great deal of inconvenience with all the various projects that have been ongoing in their neighbourhood for several months. These projects should be completed by May but the speed bumps will not be put back until after the Pan Am Games. I ask all residents of the Ward who use Ellis Park Road to be mindful of the 30km/hr speed limit because resident safety should always be paramount.

5. Skating on Grenadier Pond

In February I put forward a motion to return approved skating on Grenadier Pond. Parks staff are currently preparing a report on how we can have safe, legal skating on the pond, which should be implemented for the 2015-2016 season.



Did You Know?

- Unless signed otherwise, the speed limit within the City of Toronto is 50 km/hour, and on-street parking is limited to three hours
- Toys are allowed to be in City park sand boxes, however they must be removed before the first snow fall. Plastic can crack and become sharp in the cold, and toys become a tripping hazard when buried under snow.
- People who require electricity for medical equipment can be put on a registry for alternative sources during a power outage. Contact Hydro at 416-542-8000 for a registration form.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For a full list of upcoming events in Ward 13, visit my website and sign up for my bi-weekly e-newsletter. Does your not-for-profit group have a community event? Let us know and we would be happy to help promote it!

6. Gardening Open House and Compost Pick-Up

I will be hosting a Gardening Open House on May 23, 2015 at Runnymede Collegiate, 569 Jane Street, from 12:00 to 2:00 pm. Please join me to learn more about urban gardening and take home free city compost.

7. Malta Park Plaque Unveiling

On June 13, Heritage Toronto will be unveiling a plaque in Malta Park to recognize the heritage and cultural importance of Toronto's Maltese community. Help celebrate Maltese culture by enjoying the day in one of the Junction's busiest parks.

8. Movie Nights

This summer our ward will be hosting two CUPE Movie Nights. The first will be in Magwood Park on July 15. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to the park at dusk, and enjoy a free screening of a popular family film with your neighbours. Visit my website for the second location later in the summer. 1

9. 400th Anniversary of Étienne Brûlé's Journey

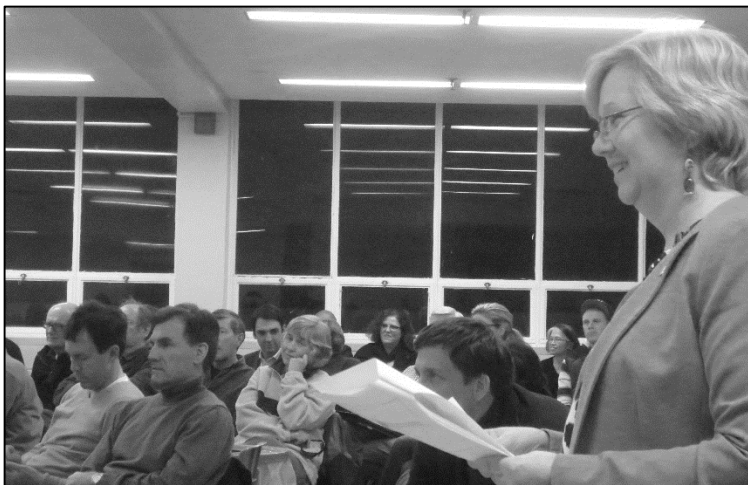
This September will mark the 400th anniversary of Étienne Brûlé's journey from Orillia along the Humber River. A number of our community groups have teamed up to mark this special event on Sunday, September 13 with their own journey along the Humber. Stay tuned for more information!

BIA and Community Events:

Baby Point Summer Fest: Saturday, June 20

Junction Summer Solstice: Saturday, June 20

Ukrainian Festival : September 18 to 20



With residents at the Bloor Street Planning Town Hall.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

A. 2265 Bloor Street West (at Durie Street)

A proposal for a 30 meter (including mechanical) building at this corner brought residents out in force to have their say in how Bloor Street West grows. I moved a successful motion to bring the City to the table, and the area Neighbourhood Associations, the City, and the developers came to an agreement on a lower building that is better for the neighbourhood. Many thanks to the efforts of the Bloor West Village Residents' Association, the Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association, and the many others who dedicated themselves to better neighbourhood building.

B. 2114 Bloor Street West (at Kennedy Park Road)

The Working Group for 2114 Bloor has been restarted to help guide next steps for the development. The applicant has appealed to the OMB, and City Staff, area residents and my office are working together with the applicant to try to come to a settlement in advance of the hearing. I'm hopeful that this collaborative approach will lead to a smoother, more cost effective process for both residents and the applicant, and a great building for the neighbourhood.

C. 2978 Dundas Street West (at Pacific Avenue)

A community meeting was held in summer 2014 to review a proposal for a 7-storey building (with partial 8th storey to access shared space). The applicant is now making revisions based on City and community input.

D. 200 Keele Street

After the OMB upheld the City's refusal of the application in November 2013, the owner has been quiet until recently, when interest has started again in developing this location. We will let the community know as new information comes in.

E. 77 Quebec Avenue (Grenadier Square)

In September, 2014, residents, City Planning staff and my office attended the Ontario Municipal Board hearing in opposition to a proposal for two 26-storey towers. I moved motions to have City Staff there to support the residents' and City's position that the buildings are inappropriate for the neighbourhood. We are still awaiting a decision from the OMB.

F. 2117 Bloor Street West (at Harcourt Road)

The applicants at this property have been following a pre-application working group process, and have recently submitted an application for an 8-storey building. A public meeting and more working group meetings will follow. The applicants have been working very closely with residents since the beginning of the process, and we have all appreciated the collaborative effort.

Preparing for the Pan Am Games

This summer the Pan Am and Para Pan Am Games are coming to Toronto! From July 10 to 26 the Pan Am Games will bring over 6,000 athletes from 41 countries to our city, then two weeks later the Para Pan Am Games will run from August 7 to 15.

Ward 13 will be hosting two sports, affecting our streets and park lands. The marathon will be using High Park as its turning point before returning downtown along Parkside Drive. The road cycling events will also be using High Park, along with Ellis Avenue, Ellis Park Road, Olympus Avenue, Harcourt Road, Bloor Street West and Parkside Drive. Cycling and Marathon events will take place on Saturday, July 25 for the Pan Am Games, and the ParaPan Am cycling will be on Saturday, August 8. If you live on an affected street and have not heard from the Games, please contact my office, or contact the Games organizers directly at residentinfo@toronto2015.org.

For more information on the games, maps of event locations, and how our ward can prepare, please visit my website or www.toronto2015.org.



Patchi, the 2015 Games mascot, visiting our ward.

Services for Seniors

There are several programs available to help defray property taxes and water costs for low income seniors and low-income persons with a disability. These programs include property tax increase deferrals, property tax increase cancellation program and a water rebate program. All of these programs have eligibility criteria and must be applied for every year. To receive an application please contact my office and we will mail out a copy. Please note that the deadline to file an application for any of these programs this year is August 31, 2015.

The City also offers one-time tax assistance to persons who are unable to pay their property taxes due to sickness or extreme poverty. Residents can make an application to the City Treasurer who will forward the application to the Assessment Review Board, an independent tribunal established by the Province of Ontario asking for a cancellation or reduction of property taxes.

A program that a number of you may be aware of is the senior snow removal program. Once an application is received by Transportation a city crew will clear the public sidewalk in front of the resident's home. This program is also available for disabled persons. You must apply every year to maintain this service.

Front and side door collection of garbage, recycling and green bin is provided to residents who are not physically able to carry their materials to the curb for pick-up, and who do not have an able-bodied person living with them to assist them in doing so. Eligibility is not based on age, however an application form must be completed by the resident living at the address and by the resident's physician. Applications can be obtained by calling 311. All applications are subject to an approval process, which involves an on-site inspection by Solid Waste to assess the viability of the residence for the program.

In order to be prepared for a medical emergency, Toronto Paramedic Services has developed an "In Case of Emergency" information sheet that allows you to provide important medical details for paramedics and hospital staff should the need arise. These sheets are easy to read and provide critical information to healthcare providers at times when communications may be hindered due to illness or language barriers. These sheets can be found on the Paramedic Services website at www.torontoparamedicservices.ca, or if you do not have access to a computer please contact us and we can mail out a copy. Once the form is filled out, the form should be placed in a safe place, where next-of-kin or caregivers can have easy access to it.

Contact Information



Contacting My Office:

My office can be contacted Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 5:00 pm, by emailing councillor_doucette@toronto.ca or by calling 416-392-4072. You can also visit my web site at www.ward13.ca, where you can sign up for my e-newsletter. You can also find me on Twitter [@doucetteward13](https://twitter.com/doucetteward13) or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/councillordoucette.

My office staff:

Chris Haskim, Executive Assistant
Rebecca Keenan, Executive Assistant
Katherine Trimble, Constituency Assistant
Irmgard Hees, Administrative Assistant

3-1-1:

My staff and I have had very good experiences using 311 and recommend calling them for issues such as potholes, water main breaks, traffic light outages, missed solid waste collections, parks maintenance, tree pruning, noisy businesses, reporting graffiti, and street cleaning/snow removal.

311 staff can often connect to front line City staff more directly than we can so matters requiring immediate attention (such as traffic light outages) are best referred to them.

TTY: 416-338-0TTY(0889)

Other Elected Officials

MP Peggy Nash: 416-769-5072
MPP Cheri Di Novo: 416-763-5630
TDSB Trustee Robin Pilkey: 416-395-8787
TCDSB Trustee Barbara Poplawski: 416-512-3410
Neighbouring Councillors:
Gord Perks (Ward 14): 416-392-7919
Frances Nunziata (Ward 11): 416-392-4091
Mark Grimes (Ward 6): 416-397-9273
Justin Di Ciano (Ward 5): 416-392-4040

Police Services:

11 Division: 416-808-1100

Parking Enforcement: 416-808-1618.

Blocked driveways: Call Toronto Police Services at 416-808-2222 and tell the dispatcher that you have a "driveway obstruction".

Elder Abuse: 416-808-7040

Toronto Hydro Services:

Main number: 416-542-8000

Trees on Hydro wires: 416-542-8000, choose option 1 and speak to a dispatcher

Street Light Outages: 416-542-3195 or fill in the service request form on their Web site at www.torontohydro.com. There's a link in their Helping You at Home section.

Other Services:

Fire Services (General Inquiry): 416-338-9050

Health Hotline: 416-338-7600

2-1-1: access to over 60,000 community, social, health and related government programs and services in Ontario.

Silver Circle (Seniors' Services): 416-653-3535

Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868

Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000

Landlord and Tenant Board: 1-888-332-3234

Ontario Works (Social Assistance): 416-397-1800

Animal Services: 416-338-PAWS(7297)

Tax and Water Bills: 416-338-4829

TTC Schedules: 416-393 INFO(4636) or www.ttc.ca

TTC Customer Service: 416-393-3030

Toxic Taxi (for hazardous waste pick-up): 311

Building Permit Status: www.toronto.ca/building - click on the Building Application Status link.

Bike post request: www.toronto.ca/cycling