



St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association Community Meeting

Held on Wednesday, November 29, 2023 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Hosted on the Zoom Videoconferencing Platform

SLNA President welcomed 75 community members and delegates to our monthly community meeting and delighted us with his carefully composed “Today in History” presentation:

- In 1899 FC Barcelona was founded, the winningest Football Club in Europe, including three world cups.
- In 1947 the UN passed a resolution to partition Palestine, it was not implemented. Tragically 75 years later, we are where we are.
- In 1972 Atari released the first video game which was called Pong.
- In 1981 Natalie Wood drowned and that case is still open.
- In 2001 George Harrison passed away.
- If your birthday is today you’ll share it with Louisa May Alcott and the Hall of Fame Yankee closer Mariano Rivera.

For the land acknowledgement tonight Stewart is going to share what he knows about the Haudenosaunee Confederacy – also called the people of the long house.

- It was called the Iroquois Confederacy by the French and the League of Five Nations by the English.
- It was initially comprised of the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and the Seneca. Since the beginning other nations have joined and the Tuscarora made it six nations.
- The Confederacy was created at an unknown time by the prophet Peacemaker and aided by Aionwatha. It is evidently one of the world's first participatory democracies and there is some indication that the US Constitution is modelled in some parts on the structure of the governance model of the Confederacy. What is notable about it is that it blends both law and values in equal measure. They have a hybrid governance model, the individual nations are governed for internal functions by themselves and there is a Grand Council which they used to manage issues of shared interest. Their emblem includes a bear and the arrows depict the original five nations.
- The American Revolution caused a split in these nations, some of whom fought on the side of the British and others who fought on the side of the Americans from 1775 to 1781, and when the British were defeated many of those who fought with them moved to Upper Canada. The Crown provided them with the Grand River Tract in the 1784 Haldiman Proclamation, to offer back some of the lands that had been lost in the American Revolution. The proclamation was issued and signed by Frederick Haldeman who was then then the Governor of the Province of Quebec.
- The original tract of land extends from Lake Erie North to Woolwich on either side of the Grand River. Between 1781 and 1842 much of that original land was lost for various reasons. In 1842 the Indian Reserve No. 40 Six Nations was recognized. Currently the reserve includes 46,000 acres around Brantford, originally it exceeded 950,000 acres. It is the only reserve in North America where all six of these nations live together – each of them have other places where they live, much of which is treaty land, some of it purchased, and the population is 27,276 members, with 12,848 living on reserve 2017.

We have not always respected those that came before us and the Land Acknowledgement itself is intended to commit to paying more attention to that history and the respect of the peoples that came before us.

Motion

The budget for 2024 was circulated to delegates prior to this meeting. It was reviewed by the Finance Committee (thank you to them) and approved by the Board. Delegate Jamie Capelli made the motion to approve the 2024 Budget as presented. Suzanne Kavanagh seconded. There were no objections.

Toronto Police Services, 51 Division

PC Alexander and PC Osmond reported that things have gone down crime-wise in the area, but the traffic problems in the area have increased. Traffic from the Distillery, road closures going on in the area, there has been an issue with the Esplanade one-way traffic, numerous complaints about cars going down the wrong way during rush hour traffic. In terms of crime statistics – break and enter has gone down because we have had units working night shifts, there has not been too much disorderly conduct going on. Whenever we have community complaints in that regard we follow up and see where we can help with those issues.

Our 51 Division Toy Drive is currently underway, we are encouraging people to drop off toys at 51 Division for the less fortunate and during the month of December we go and distribute those within the community. President Linton added that 51 Division have nicely wrapped empty boxes which you can drop in your lobby to allow residents to drop toys for the Toy Drive. There was a question in the chat – what caused the decline in crime? Apart from good policing, of course. PC Aleander responded that they have simply been out in numbers and with a lot of crime happening you get repeat offenders and they have been monitoring that. Also the community has been very responsive with calling in and sending a photo which enables us to act on those tips.

Ausma Malik – Deputy Mayor and Councillor, Ward 10, Spadina-Fort York

Deputy Mayor Malik reported that she has been out in the community at many events and consultations and staying in touch at many key priorities that are important to the neighbourhood. She is indeed very proud to be Deputy Mayor as of August of this year and equally proud to be City Councillor for Fort York. The first priority for her and her team is to be present, available and connected to our communities and the residents that we represent, as well as the new exciting responsibility, the privilege of being Deputy Mayor. In a city like ours we should have everything that we need to strive and we should also see ourselves reflected in the leadership of the city and to know that we are dealing with our most urgent challenges with the drive and the urgency that they do require.

She has had many conversations with residents about the need for secure and affordable housing in the city, reliable and safe transit on the roads, making sure that our public services are strong and making sure that people who work in the city are people who are able to live in the city. Decent work is such a high priority.

In addition to the responsibility of being Deputy Mayor there are a number of agencies, boards and committees that she serves on, one of them is the Striking Committee. With the start of the term with Mayor Chow she was appointed as Chair of the Striking Committee, quite a responsibility as they re-jigged some of the appointments when it comes to the agencies, boards and committees as far as giving leadership to that decision-making and that work and continuing to keep that work strong as different roles and appointments come up. She served on the board of Exhibition Place and is now the Chair. She is also the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee in her role as Deputy Mayor, and also Vice-Chair of Toronto and East York Community Council where Councillor Moise is the Chair. She was previously a member of the Planning and Housing Committee and is now a member of Community and Development. Alongside that she is continuing her work at the Board of Health, chairing the Drug Strategy Implementation. Just this week they approved at the Board our new Strategy on Mental Health, Substance

Use, Harm Reduction and Treatment. That really builds on the work that has been done over the last few decades in the City of Toronto. What is really exciting about that strategy as well is what Public Health can do, what the responsibilities are from the City of Toronto. It is also comprehensive on how we do that work alongside the Provincial government, the Federal government, community agencies, all the way to the role that individual Torontonians can play to bring those key pieces of work forward, and she was really proud that they had the implementation and the accountability mechanisms needed to hold that work in the right way over the next five years.

She also sits on a number of local boards – she continues as the Mayor’s Designate on Waterfront Toronto and serves on the board of Harbourfront Centre. Ontario Place – there was an announcement on Monday about the new deal struck by the Mayor and the Premier. It means billions in new money and will impact the lives of people across the City in terms of delivering transit, housing and critical services that we need. It was really remarkable that Mayor Chow was able to bring that spirit of collaboration, but also making sure that the City’s interests were firm and primary in that negotiation, achieving a result that mayors in past years have not been able to do. This new deal recognizes the structural needs of the City, providing a better financial footing as we move forward. \$1.2 billion for support on the operating side of the City’s budget and up to \$7.6 billion on the capital side for the next 10 years, and a critical piece of that is the uploading of the Gardiner and the DVP. That allows us to imagine so many more of our resources being freed up for necessary infrastructure and services, for affordable housing, operating and expanding public transit, investing in our public spaces and recreating programs. It also means achieving that really urgent priority around shelter and housing in our city. This is just the first very important step in that process.

What was also raised on Monday is how important it is for the federal government to also join the Province and the City as a partner. They have a responsibility to address some of the issues that we have seen building up over the last few months when it comes to the refugee shelter crisis and transportation and housing infrastructure. It is really important for the Deputy Mayor to share the results of the new deal and how does that sit alongside some

of the news around Ontario Place. All of the advocacy we have been doing around Ontario Place is so important and has been so critical. It has been an important concern for the Deputy Mayor and a priority for our work together. One of the really critical pieces for her about our work together in that regard to keep it green, public and accessible, is that the Province has had the power to impose its development plans at any point in this process. They agreed to cooperate with the City in our development process when we submitted the application and it was her hope that they would see that through to the December 31 deadline. Collectively we have achieved that. Ontario Place has well-loved and well-used public lands. The Province made a choice to use extraordinary legislative powers to discontinue that agreed-upon development process to take city-owned lands not to an agreement but to expropriation and to proceed with their development proposal with no environmental assessment which every level has said is necessary to this process. I want to be very clear that they are taking this position because of our powerful organizing and action that we have taken together to show that this is a bad use of public money to prepare public land for private development with an outsize parking structure and also that this process we have been a part of together, through public consultations and the work that city planning has done, has shown that it does not belong on our waterfront. They wanted us to rubberstamp this development application and this definitely did not happen. The Province and Therma are still able to make a different choice. We have to continue to put that public pressure on and use every tool that we have through taking this fight to Queen's Park to win. It is her commitment to push forward.

As our neighbourhoods continue to grow we have to make sure that the critical infrastructure that we need is coming alongside it and that the communities are going to be as livable and as vibrant as they can possibly be. We have to have the appropriate social infrastructure to meet those needs. The Toronto Public Library is now using the site of the temporary North Market building after the Province's expropriation of the First Parliament site and the plan now is to deliver a District Library with programming for all ages and to deliver as much public benefit as possible, i.e. what else can be co-located on that site and what those plans are. Right now we are finalizing some of the pieces of information. The SLNA

Development Committee, Stewart and Suzanne, has had a chance to meet with us.

The Deputy Mayor was excited to see some of you at the pop-ups that we had over the last several months. The City of Toronto hosted two public information sessions on the David Crombie Park revitalization in October to present some of the conceptual park design and integration of the bicycle track improvements on The Esplanade. Again, as our City in this neighbourhood continues to grow and evolve we want to make sure that it can thrive with amazing public and green spaces. We want to make sure that this cherished gem is being revitalized in a way that meets our needs now and also for the future. The Community Stakeholder groups will be meeting in the next months to hammer out the collective design and her thanks go to everyone who has and continues to collaborate with this process. We are building on what is most beloved about his park and implementing some of the needs that we have as we look to the future of this development. The timeline we have for this is early to mid-2024 to hire a construction team. So that will mean the wrapping up of some of the detailed design, the construction documents for the park, the cycle tracks street improvements ahead of that, and then construction for the bicycle tracks and street improvements in early 2024, construction being complete in 2025, and in Spring and Fall of 2025/2026 for the construction of park improvements until they are completed.

The Esplanade/Mill bikeway. There has been a lot of positive feedback about the new phase of installation. There are still understandable concerns about the proposed changes and staff have been working with us to continue to taking feedback from residents on ways to improve the installation to align with the project goals and the needs for the community. This is all to improve safety for everyone – walking, cycling and taking transit is the irresistible option when it comes to being in our downtown and to maintain access locally and city-wide when we are trying to get around. The project upgrades that are planned for 2024 between Yonge Street and Jarvis include watermain replacement, adding a raised bikeway and accessible loading zones at 140 and 115 The Esplanade. That was shared at the public meetings. This is also tied into the revitalization of David Crombie Park that she just mentioned.

Toronto Fire Services – Jade Wang, Fire and Life Safety Educator

Jade is a public educator and her job is to go out into the community every day, speaking about fire safety to children and seniors and all of us. There are three areas – Prevention, Detection and Escape. Prevention is what you can do to prevent the fire from starting in the first place, and Detection are things that we have in our buildings, our units, in our home that are protecting us every day. You might walk by them every day and not even notice them. Here are the kind of protection devices we have in our buildings - Smoke and CO Alarms – It's the Law. And lastly Escape – if a fire does happen how do we get out.

The #1 cause of Home Fires is Unattended Cooking. Don't let this happen – Stay in the Kitchen & **Look While You Cook!** Don't start chit-chatting with your neighbour and completely forget that you are in the middle of preparing a meal. Try to stay in the area and if you do have to leave turn off the stove.

Here are a couple of fire safety tips in terms of cooking:

- Wear short sleeves or tight sleeves – don't wear a nightgown with flowing sleeves
- Keep burners and counters clear, make sure that everything that could burn is away from the stove area
- Check that everything is OFF before you leave your suite
- Keep a pot lid or baking sheet nearby. There is a myth going around that says that water will put out fire. It could be true – but not every time. Water cannot put out a grease fire. Let me show you an example of what a half cup of water will do to a grease fire – and there goes your kitchen cabinets! Never put water on a grease fire. How to we deal with it? The best thing is to cover it with a baking sheet or a pot lid so you are eliminating all the fresh oxygen coming in. When the fire consumes all of the oxygen within it will go out on its own.

- If you are making pop-corn in the microwave and a fire starts the best thing is to turn off your microwave and just leave the door closed. If necessary, you can call 911 anytime and our crews will come in to check that the fire actually went out in whatever appliance you are using.
- Let's say we are making Thanksgiving turkey and the turkey has been in the oven for 5 or 6 hours and a fire starts, turn off the oven and the fire looks like it went out. However, the minute you open the oven door and fresh oxygen goes in it might re-ignite the fire. If you are not sure call us, we will not charge you for this kind of 911 call.

The #1 cause of Fatal Fires (somebody dying in a fire) is Smokers' materials. If you smoke, please smoke OUTSIDE and when you are butting out your cigarette please use an ashtray or a can with water or sand inside. If you live in a highrise building, please don't dispose of your cigarette through flicking it outside a window, that's how we get balcony fires, the cigarette can land on someone else's patio and cause a fire.

And lastly, keep matches and lighters out of reach from young children. Kids will not necessarily tell you right away that they did something wrong. Try to keep matches and lighters away from children by putting them on a high place. Those are pretty much the prevention tips, now I am going to talk about detection devices. The detection device you will need in your home is a Smoke Alarm. We call it a life-saving device, it gives you early notification if a fire happens in your home. You all have a legal responsibility. As a home owner your responsibility is to provide yourself with a working smoke alarm, and if you are a landlord your responsibility is to provide your tenant with a working smoke alarm. As a tenant your responsibility is not to tamper with a smoke alarm by either removing it or taking the battery out.

It is not enough to just have a smoke alarm installed on the ceiling. We need to do some maintenance work to it. A smoke alarm does have a life expectancy of 10 years, so we need to replace the smoke alarm every 10 years and also change the battery. We recommend changing the battery twice a year, and also we need to check our smoke alarm once a month. Lastly, whenever we are vacuuming our home, give the vacuum chamber a little vacuum as well. Sometimes dust can

sleep in which can affect the sensitivity of the smoke alarm. Most of us live in a building and the property management will take care of the smoke alarm maintenance for you as part of the Fire Alarm Testing, but if they are not it is your responsibility to maintain that device.

There is another device we need in Canada, it's called a Carbon Monoxide Alarm. Carbon Monoxide is what we call a silent killer. It is a product of combustion. Your vehicle produces carbon monoxide, your gas furnace, your gas stove, all of them produce carbon monoxide. If we live in a home, a low-rise or in a house, everybody is required to have a carbon monoxide alarm. So you either have a vehicle or you have a gas furnace. But for those of us living in a building the situation is different. Only the top floor and the ground floor will need a carbon monoxide alarm. The reason why we need it – on the ground floor you are one level above the parking garage where there are vehicles parked. And the reason why we need carbon monoxide alarms on the top floor is because gas furnace rooms are on the roof level. Therefore only those two floors are required to have carbon monoxide alarms. Nowadays a lot of condos and apartments put in combo devices for extra protection. We need to maintain it, replace it when required, change the battery and also carry out annual testing. These are the basic devices you have in your units or in your home.

A lot of us live in a highrise building. Highrises are built differently than low-rises or houses. In my opinion highrises are the safest place to be because we build highrises with concrete and cement. If a house catches on fire the worst scenario is that everything goes up in flames, it buckles down, and eventually the house disappears after a fire. But you never see a highrise building losing its integrity. If a fire happens in an apartment building or a condo the structure remains. It is safer.

How to engineer/design a highrise building? The building is designed with fire separation. Meaning that you are separated from your neighbour, the hallways, the floor above and then the floor below. Let's say if we live in Apartment A you are completely separated from Apartment C, the hallway and also the stairwell. That means you have a two hour fire resistant rating on your floors, walls and ceiling. If a fire is burning in an apartment next door it would take at least two

hours to burn through that wall to enter your unit. But we have a problem here. We can't live in a concrete shoebox, we need a door to get in and out. So how do the engineers solve that problem? They install fire-rated doors. So your unit door is different than your bedroom door. Your unit door is a metal door. It's there for a purpose, it is protecting the integrity of that opening. On your unit door you also see this "door closer". The reason we have door closers installed on all unit doors is because let's say you had a fire in your unit, you left, and you forgot to close the door. So all the smoke would travel through the hallway and your neighbours are in danger. And also, by not having the door closed, you are constantly introducing fresh oxygen into your unit which will make the fire bigger. So this is why self-closing devices are required on all suite doors. They should never be propped open, it is a life-saving device as well. It stops the spread of smoke and also limits oxygen. If this was not the case – no door closure – leads to limited survivability for yourself and for your neighbours. Sometimes the self-closing device gets pretty annoying, especially when we are struggling with groceries, but please don't temper with the self-closing device.

Let's talk about your fire alarm system in your building. Firstly there is the Smoke Alarm, alerting our unit, and only our unit. The smoke alarm is a battery-operated off-line device. The smoke alarm detects smoke in your unit and only you will be notified, your neighbour unit will not go off. However, we also have a central fire alarm system in our building. The following devices are connected to that: firstly we have a heat detector and we also have sprinkler systems. If you live in a building that is built after 2018 you will have a sprinkler system in your unit. If you live in an older building then you will probably see a smoke alarm. And you will have a smoke detector device, it is similar to a smoke alarm but it does different things. The smoke detector is connected to the fire alarm system. So when this device detects smoke it will send a signal and the whole building will go into alarm. Where do we see this device? You will see this in your hallway common area. So this is why we ask you when you are cooking, and you burnt some toast, creating smoke, and your suite smoke alarm goes off, please do not open your unit door to ventilate that smoke. Always open your window to ventilate to the outside. The reason we ask you to do that is because when you open your unit door smoke will travel to the hallway. What do we have in the hallway? The smoke detector. So when that smoke detector detects smoke it will

send a signal to the whole building. When you are cooking please always ventilate smoke to the outside, not through your unit door.

There is one more device that is connected to your fire alarm system, it is called a pull station. You will see them near your exits, usually installed before you enter the stairwell. The purpose of this is that if you have fire in your unit and keeping the door closed we are going to ask you to pull that pull station. By doing that you will send a signal to the fire alarm system. That will automatically dispatch the Fire Department. We will know exactly which floor had a problem.

Let's talk about escape. A couple of things can happen in a high rise building, number 1 is that there is fire in your unit and number 2 is that the fire alarm is ringing. What do we do in each situation? If the fire is in your unit you must leave your suite immediately! Close the door behind you, use the nearest stairwell, pull the pullstation and exit. Call 911 from outside, never go back inside your unit at that point.

What to do if there is no fire in my unit but the smoke alarm is going off? Then you have a choice to make. You can choose to go or you can choose to stay. Due to the fire separation it is very safe for you to stay. We actually recommend that people stay in their units if the fire alarm is going off. We have 83 fire stations in the City of Toronto and we have around 200 firetrucks on the road every day. Our response time is less than 3 minutes, especially in downtown. Even if the fire is burning right next door we will have enough time to get you out safely. Whatever your decision is, stick with it, do not leave your unit and then decide to return to it. What is the case if I choose to stay but I see smoke coming in through my unit door? Our unit doors have a fire-resistant rating. Some will travel through the gaps underneath the door and also through the hinges. If you see smoke coming in use duct tape around the door, or you can put a wet towel underneath which will prevent smoke from coming in. You should stay in a room with a window or balcony and call 911 right away. Let us know that you choose to stay and that there is smoke coming through your unit. Once the fire truck arrives they will go to your unit first to get you out. As I mentioned before fire will not travel from suite to suite.

I know that there are a lot of seniors in this area and I want to promote the “in case of emergency call 911” form. In this form you can fill out your information, your emergency contact, medical history, the drugs you are currently taking, and we can put this in an envelope and tape it to your door or your fridge. Let’s say there is an emergency and while you are waiting for paramedics you become unconscious. This form will travel with you to the hospital and doctors will be able to ascertain what measures to take. We recommend that seniors fill in this form. There is also an app called “in case of emergency” available for you to download.

In response to an audience question, Toronto Fire does not recommend the use of any extinguisher. They have an expiration date. When you are ready to use it they might be out of service. Also, we would have to look for it causing delay. Also, a small can of fire extinguisher will only last you about 10 seconds. The chemical that they use in a fire extinguisher will ruin everything. Yes, it will put out a grease fire but the chemical used will stick to your oven and you literally have to get a new oven eventually.

SLNA Development Committee – Suzanne Kavanagh, Chair

Development is one of the strategic priorities of the Association. Areas of strategic focus:

- advocates for responsible development in the neighbourhood which
 - preserves its unique nature and heritage character
 - conforms to City policies and
 - is supported by adequate infrastructure

Suzanne introduced the members of the Development Committee:

- Robert Sharon, past Chair of the Development Committee
- Debra Corey, also past Chair
- Alana ???
- Stephen Casey
- Mark Van Elsberg, BIA
- Al Smith, BIA

- Stewart Linton, SLNA President

The Councillors' Office are very good at attending the Development Committee meetings. We normally deal with Ward 13 under Councillor Moise. Every once in a while we get a file with Deputy Mayor Malik. We are also lucky enough to have a city staff person, Christine Chow, who helps us organize our meetings. Rather than talking about specific development applications Suzanne wants to talk about the process. Pre-covid we used to meet at City Hall. We try to meet on the first Thursday of the month and the developers come in with their proposals.

Through the services of the city services staff we are meeting through Webex which facilitates our meetings. We work with the developers and hear their presentations. We walk through them with them and ask them some questions and in the old days we would then discuss the applications at committee level only. The guidelines as far as what we would like to see are still listed on the website. We used to send a letter to the Community planner with what the opinion was of the Committee and not necessarily discussing the individual voices. Participant status means we have to write a book and send it in without seeing the evidence of the proponent. We are doing what's called a party status and we want to be in mediation with these developers and try to influence, and it is always better to be inside the tent. It is making a difference. One is 45 The Esplanade – this is in Deputy Mayor's Malik's ward, Ward 10, – they wanted two tall towers and we were able to convince them to have one tower more in keeping with the surroundings after they presented their suggestion. Another one was at 55 Yonge, corner of Yonge and Colbourne where the flight centre is, and they wanted to have their entrance on Colbourne. For safety reason we convinced them to have their entrance at Yonge. The other one was for the folks who live on King's Court. The building is on 234 King Street and we made some changes as far as the streetscape and materials are concerned. At 109 George Street we were able to make sure that they kept the heritage buildings in situ. But they were also able to bring in affordable housing units with Woodgreen for single moms.

We often talk to developers that our poster child is a building on King Street which is called King George Square. That's the building that we use as an example of good city building. Another example is 88 Scott – by working with the

developer and moving the tower around in such a way that when you walk by Wellington or Scott you can't tell that you just walked by a 57 storey tower. We feel that this is where we can have the influence and can make a difference as far as working with the developers is concerned.

We are in mediation quite a bit now, both private and with the Ontario Land Tribunal. That is a situation where we are actually at the table with the developer and the City where we can figure out how to have some movement. Oftentimes it's called Without Prejudice which means we can't talk to anybody about the specific details, but we can say that we are working with the City and the proponent on the project. We still have the same shopping list and Section 37 monies which is the money we would get because of the development going into the community. That legislation has changed and it is now called Community Benefits. Our working with the developers allows us to get our wish list more often than not. Our list is affordable housing, better streetscape, public realm, art, heritage. If you wish to become involved – the first Thursday of the month in the afternoon – great, you can email the SLNA. You could also write letters to the Councillor and the Planner about concerns you may have. You can certainly reach out to our Committee for some talking points as far as what are the issues that we are concerned about. You can also go to the AIC website and that has all of the submissions from the developers.

Transform TO: City Initiatives Regarding Climate Change – Chaim Koff

Toronto's Net Zero Strategy – reduce community wide greenhouse gas transmissions to net-zero by 2040.

Chaim Koff is Project Manager, Existing Building Public Energy Initiatives, City of Toronto. Delivering low carbon building programs for residents, including retrofit loan and financing initiatives, net zero building guidelines.

Accomplishing these goals is not something that the City can do on her own, it is a collaboration with members of the public. TransformTO is Toronto's strategy to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, improve our health, grow our economy, improve social equity and increase climate resilience. Everyone will have a part to

play in transforming Toronto into a low-carbon city. Our net zero goal is for 2040. We have set some interim targets for 2020 (30% reduction), 2025 (45%), 2030 (65%). We still have a lot of work to do to get there, but we are hopeful. The challenge really comes when you start to hit your 2030 target. We have already reaped some of the low-hanging fruit and now we are looking for the deeper carbon-saving opportunities. Hitting net zero by 2040 will take a lot of effort. Toronto surpassed its 2020 target of a 30 percent reduction in GHG emissions from a 1990 baseline. However, 2020 was an anomaly year due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Continued ambitious climate actions and programs will be critical to reaching the City's 2025 target of 45 percent GHG emissions reduction. Further, these efforts must be scale up to reach Toronto's future targets of a 65 percent reduction by 2030 and a net zero by 2040.

2020 GHG Inventory: 55% of Toronto's emissions come from residential homes and buildings. 33% come from Commercial and Institutional, and 12% come from Industrial.

BetterHomesTO is the City of Toronto's home energy efficiency program and your guide to making your home more comfortable and climate-friendly.

Specifically, we seek to:

- Help residents take action on climate change by improving the energy efficiency of their homes.
- Educate residents on the EnerGuide home evaluation and energy efficient upgrades to achieve net zero emissions.
- Connect residents to utility rebates/incentives and related partner information

It not only improves energy costs, it also improves the comfort in your home. It's more holistic and not just focused on energy and carbon reduction. We aim to provide education and financial support. We offer a navigation support for building owners for navigating the process of improving energy efficiency, it is in

actual fact a hand-holding program. We really aim to provide a holistic upgrade support service.

Another one of our programs is called the Deep Retrofit Challenge. Competition to support deep energy retrofit projects cross the city and serve as case studies to accelerate market adoption. Minimum 50% reduction in GHGs and total energy use intensity. Payback period of 20 years or better. The program has 8 participants:

- 350 Bay Street
- 723 Bloor Street West
- 88 College Street
- 1-15 Field Sparroway and 2-10 Tree Sparroway
- 633 Northcliffe Blvd.
- 177 St. George Street
- 145 Woodward Ave.
- 61 Yorkville Ave.

We wanted to show that all of the strategies and the goals of the City are attainable. Achieving the net zero goal for 2040 is completely attainable and the City is working to provide the support services that are necessary to achieve the goal.

Community Updates – Ward 13 – Sherwin Lau, Participatory Budgeting

The following projects have gone through to the next stage:

1. Public realm beautification - \$50,000
2. Café Tables and guards for St James Park Plaza - \$30,000
3. Beautifying City of Toronto Garbage Receptacles - \$20,000
4. Proposal for seating and plaza at 109 Front Street East - \$150,000
5. Replacing dead or near dead trees - \$400,000
6. Heritage Street Signage - \$45,000
7. Additional Streetscape Public Realm Improvements - \$80,000
8. More bikeparking needed at St. Lawrence - \$800

- 9. Heritage Conservation District Signage - \$1,500
- 10. More bikeparking needed Berkeley/Esplanade - \$800
- 11. More bikeparking needed St. James Park - \$800
- 12. More bikeparking needed at Berczy Park - \$800

Macy Parakh has recently joined Councillor Moise's office and will be responsible for Constituency work in the St. Lawrence neighbourhood. Welcome, Macy.

The Board is planning to have a meet and great community gathering in the New Year at the Novotel Hotel. The date is February 12 and of course you will be receiving further information. This is the last meeting of 2023. Thank you to all of you who have been faithfully attending and we'll see you in the New Year.

