



# VIEWPOINT 50



NEWSLETTER  
SPRING 2010

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## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT...



When we circulated the legally required Form 15 notice of Future Funding of the Reserve Fund we did not clarify that the "average increase in contribution per unit..." of \$21.60, is only related to the Reserve Fund portion of the Common Element Fees. This rises when we increase our Reserve Fund contribution, as we are doing this year (and most years.) However, as we were able to make a decrease of an

equivalent amount in the Operating Expenditures your individual common element fees, which, as you now know, did NOT INCREASE for the 2010/11 year. By the time you read this in ViewPoint 50 our Treasurer will have explained this at the Budget Meeting but I need to repeat it here for the benefit of those who may not have been able to attend the Budget Meeting.

You probably won't believe this but balconies are NOT my favourite subject! That said there are still two matters on which I must comment: Regarding "care of the waterproof membrane". You should have recently received a second information sheet responding to your further questions on this. If it has somehow missed you, please go to the Management Office and ask Isan for a copy. Regarding painting the balcony walls and ceiling: Our rules require that owners obtain prior Board approval and only the "approved paint" must be used. Many owners have already had their balcony walls and ceilings painted (as we have) and ALL the owners who have contacted me have been very pleased with the "colour match" of the approved paint with the membrane. Ask your neighbours, who have already done it, to let you have a look and I think you will be very pleasantly surprised.

I am not sure exactly when this will reach you but as I am writing Aline and I have already spent some hours out on our balcony enjoying this remarkably warm sunny weather. We have also had several trips into the Park where the blossoms have been spectacular. We are SO LUCKY to be living here!

Thank you for your patient and positive support throughout the year...

Bill Henderson, Your President.



**PROPERTY MANAGER'S  
REPORT**  
**Fire Safety – In Case of Fire**

Fire Safety is a crucial issue for residents and seniors who live in high rise condominium buildings.

Fire is an **emergency**, which causes immediate danger to health, life, property or the environment.

When the fire is discovered size it up fast! In case of fire activate the closest fire alarm located on each floor by the fire exit or call 911.

Remain calm, turn off all appliances, and don't forget to take an apartment key, close the door behind you and exit the building via stairwells. Don't use the elevators. If the fire or smoke is in the corridor or stairwell it may be safer to stay in your suite and follow the firefighters' instructions or building staff on the voice communication system. If the smoke has already entered your suite remain calm and keep low, below the smoke or use the balcony.

If you are physically unable to exit the building please remain calm, do not panic or jump. Call 911 and tell them your location. In the building fire safety plan there is a priority list for firefighters with the residents to be rescued first if you are physically unable and you require assistance in case of an emergency. If you are not registered please do so as soon as possible to update the list of persons who require emergency assistance. (Please fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and drop it in the management office).

If you leave the building don't come back until the firefighters declare the building is safe.

The fire department recommends checking your smoke alarm regularly and replacing the batteries as necessary. Avoid careless smoking and use ashtrays and never smoke in bed.

Avoid unsafe cooking practices. Use caution when frying and keep a lid close by to cover a pot of hot grease in case it catches fire. Avoid storing unnecessary flammable liquids or propane cylinders. Do not use unsafe electrical appliances and do not overload circuits.



Isan Murat, CPM, R.C.M.  
Property Manager

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**SMOG ALERT!**



Spring has arrived and so has the beginning of smog season. The Ontario Ministry of the Environment has published a "Smog and Your Health" pamphlet that provides information on the hazards of bad air. Some copies of this pamphlet are available in our Meeting Room Library. Included in the pamphlet is an Air Quality Index chart for easy reference. AQI information is also available by phone: 1-800-387-7768 (toll free), or 416-246-0411. Two websites are also available:

[www.airqualityontario.com](http://www.airqualityontario.com) and  
[www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca)



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**BOOK CLUB**

The list of books for the next set of Book Club meetings has not yet been established. Please check bulletin boards and the next edition of VP 50 for details.



**WHATS NEW IN THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD?**



**ROWE FARMS** is a recent addition to the Village, offering a variety of fresh and prepared meats. This shop specializes in organic meats

and produce and is located just west of Runnymede at 2230 Bloor Street West.  
[www.rowefarms.ca](http://www.rowefarms.ca)



**SWEET FLOUR**

Made to order gourmet cookies, party and catering needs, fresh baked cookies, party favours, cookiegrams and gift baskets.

2352 Bloor Street West.  
[www.sweetflour.ca](http://www.sweetflour.ca)

**CAFÉ NOVA**

Just around the corner is the new Café Nova. This is a combination coffee shop, patisserie as well as a teashop. The owners are Sadie and Elizabeth and they bring an entirely new management approach to this site that has seen several incarnations over the years. It was always Elizabeth's dream to open her own coffee shop and along with Sadie, who is a pastry chef, the dream has materialized. The coffee is organic and fair trade. The pastries are baked in house and are also available in gluten free and vegetarian. Drop by and check out the "people watching bar" in the front window and the street side patio between 7 am and 5 pm (currently). The shop is closed on Wednesdays.



**BENNETT PARKETTE**

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the former Gothic Parkette was renamed the Bennett Parkette. The late Eunice Bennett and her daughter Winifred Bennett were instrumental in saving 50 structurally sound homes that were slated for demolition to make way for a proposed 30-storey apartment tower.



**BRIDGE ANYONE?**



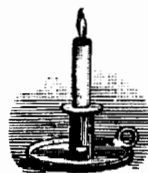
Throughout the spring and summer a friendly group of bridge players will continue to get together every Tuesday afternoon from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm in the Meeting Room. They cordially invite new players to come and join in. The only requirements for you to attend are that you know the basic rules of the game and that you bring along a deck of cards. So please join us. We'd love to have you!

**BALCONY GARDENING**



Now that spring has sprung so early you maybe thinking of starting a new balcony garden. Balcony gardening is unique and requires some special knowledge to be beautifully successful. If you "google" balcony gardening you will find many sites to help. One example is:  
[www.lifeonthebalcony.com](http://www.lifeonthebalcony.com)

**NOW WAS THE HOUR**



On Saturday March 27, 50 Quebec celebrated Earth Hour. Several people gathered to meet in candlelight to draw awareness to the importance of energy conservation. The group enjoyed treats plus making new friends with similar interests.



**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT DAYS**



Reuse, Recycle and Dispose. Please mark these dates and locations:

June 19 – Etienne Brule Park

July 11 – Dufferin Mall.

It's Community Environment Days and it is coming to a location near you. This is our chance to drop off computers, old electronics such as cell phones, printers, TV's VCR's and much more. You can also donate to local schools. Items such as dress up clothing, art supplies and even glasses and hearing aids, C.D.'s, children's books and much more. And that's not all; you can pick up free kitchen containers to help you recycle.

For details please see the flyers on P1 and P2 and the Meeting Room. The web site is: [www.toronto.ca/environment\\_days/index.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/environment_days/index.htm)



**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

The editors of VP 50 are grateful for your response to our request for feedback in the last issue of the newsletter. The chart below summarizes the Q and As, as received from the 27 of our suites.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Occasionally</u>
Do you read it?	25	1	1
Do you save it?	11	11	5
Interest/Value?	25	1	1

The comments section included the desire to have VP 50 via website/email rather than paper copy. We are looking into that and should have a decision by our next issue. We would need to know how many residents would prefer this method.

Other comments were positive about including new and interesting neighbourhood businesses (restaurants, markets, boutiques etc.) and asked that we might go further afield to include High Park, Dundas West, Old Mill, Humber River Park.

If any residents have particular interests in our community life and would agree to be an occasional reviewer, the editors of VP 50 would be pleased to receive written contributions. We only ask that submissions be in their own words and avoid taking items directly from existing publications/sources. If required your anonymity is guaranteed. Please understand that everything you read in VP 50 is first vetted by our Board of Directors.



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**AT LAST!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Repairs to the Bloor West sidewalks and sewer system began on May 25, 2010. While this news is long overdue and welcomed, there is a downside thanks to our local Business Improvement Association (BIA) and our Councillor, Bill Saundercook. A recent letter from the Bloor West Village Residents Association states:

**“However, an opportunity to widen the sidewalks, create bump outs and enhanced tree planters and possibly establish bikes lanes – is being passed on. The City and Urban Planning and Public Realm sections say these have long been discussed as part of a long-needed renewal of the look of Bloor West Village. But, they note that the BIA declined to become a partner in these enhancements. So, it will be the standard concrete and asphalt repair job as needed. It is hard not to agree with the City Staff who worked on re-making the Village that this is an opportunity sadly lost, if Councillor Bill Saundercook advocated for a vision beyond the standard he has not shared it and not engaged the community in helping to drum up support for a better Village.”** This is such a shame as we have waited patiently for so long.



Please let the BIA and Mr. Saundercook know about how disappointed we are in their lack of imagination and caring about the Village and its residents after such shameful neglect of the sidewalks over the years.

Ward 13 Community Office  
17 John Street, Toronto, Ontario M6P 1T7 - 416-338-5165  
councillor\_saundercook@toronto.ca  
or the BIA at: [info@bloorwestvillagebia.com](mailto:info@bloorwestvillagebia.com)



**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS UPDATES**



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Please fill out and take to the Management Office:

RESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SUITE: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical or physical disabilities concerning yourself or a family member who would require assistance in an emergency situation:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST PETS LIVING IN YOUR SUITE: \_\_\_\_\_