



DMRI NEWSLETTER- SUMMER 2025

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – SUMMER 2025 NEWSLETTER

It looks like summer is going to be a challenging one. Wildfire smoke is polluting the sky and the humidity is reaching record levels. I encourage everyone to take care and keep hydrated! The DMRI will be on vacation for July and August, but we will answer any enquiries as soon as we can.

Please note that due to rising costs, we have had to raise the yearly membership fee to \$30. This will take effect September 1, so renew now to get the old price! We are working hard to keep you informed through the newsletter, Instagram, Facebook and the DMRI website. We currently have a Connestoga College student, who is reviewing our online presence and will present the Board with suggestions to update and make our online presence more informative, easy to navigate, and aesthetically pleasing. We are looking forward to a Fall makeover!

The Macklin Hancock Park Committee will be meeting in July with Councillor Burnside and a representative from Parks and Recreation as a first step to make the park more accessible.

Have a fun and safe summer!

Vanessa Quinn





DMRI 2025 AGM

This year the DMRI finds itself at a crossroads. With the sheer volume of development in recent years, the DMRI has dedicated many hours by participating in and contributing to municipal hearings, attending City, developer, and tenant meetings, and helping residents navigate public hearings to try and ensure that Don Mills remains a garden community. While we haven't always been successful, it is important that the voices of our community are heard. This focus on development was necessary, but unfortunately very time consuming, which veered us away from involving ourselves in other community projects.

Realizing that we need to focus on other significant community areas, we are working to establish an off-leash dog park, regenerate Macklin Hancock Park, find alternative space for the Civitan hockey league and skaters until their rinks are ready, and hold safety town halls with Toronto Police Service, among other things. In Macklin Hancock Park, the heritage sign has been repaired and the trees have been pruned. The DMRI is working on creating better accessibility by installing park seating and creating access to the green behind the concrete wall. Our safety town hall on property, held in February, was very well received even though we had a freak blizzard days before. We are hoping to hold a safety town hall in the Fall focusing on personal safety.

We realize that informing the community is essential. However, that comes with a cost. We often receive requests for hybrid meetings. However, holding a virtual meeting with a large group of people requires equipment and usually an experienced moderator which involves a cost. We had to stop printing our newsletter due to the cost. We pay internet fees for programs to manage our membership database and online payments. We value your security, but again that involves a cost. So, unfortunately, the DMRI has had to raise the yearly membership fee to \$30.00. This change will take effect September 1, so renew now at the old rate!

Lastly, we held board elections. Dorothy Pestell has stepped down after serving the Board for many years. Her last job is helping to create this newsletter. We thank her for all her hard work and energy! We wish her good luck in her future endeavours.

Here is the list of elected Board Members:

Kevin Skinner, David Pike, Allan McKellar, Ursula Von Rainer, Scott Armstrong, Vanessa Quinn, Barb Silverberg, Terry West, Tom Yarmon, Ahmed Patel, Andrew Park, Vera Straka, Kisho Umar, Hamish Gilleland, Trish Lyle

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At the Board meeting on June 14, the following people were elected as Board of Officers:

President	Vanessa Quinn
Vice-President	Scott Armstrong
Vice-President	Kisho Umar
Treasurer	David Pike
Secretary	Kevin Skinner
Membership Secretary	Andrew Park

SIXPLEXES IN TORONTO

HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

All of us have heard about the housing crisis in our city and the lack of affordable housing. The City of Toronto is currently looking at alternate forms of housing aside from the traditional high rise towers and houses which we know. FONTRA, of which DMRI is a member, wants your voice to be heard by the City. Send a letter to the City using FONTRA's templates.

WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE?

The DMRI is not opposed to alternate housing models, but what concerns us is the City's proposal to make this housing As-Of-Right Zoning, when the City has not worked out all the potential problems. For example, under the plan, a sixplex is not required to provide any parking, so more cars could be parked for long periods on the road. Don Mills has limited sidewalks, so this could pose a hazard to pedestrians and cyclists on the street, not to mention that overnight street parking is illegal in North York. With As-Of-Right Zoning, residents have no recourse to solve potential problems as long as the sixplexes fall within the zoning plan. Be aware that city planners state that these alternate housing plans are not a solution to affordable housing. According to the City, the average rent of current duplexes and triplexes is \$3,300/month for a one bedroom unit.



MULTIPLEXES (Fiveplexes/Sixplexes)

What is a multiplex? Go to <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/planning-studies-initiatives/multiplex-housing/> to find out more.
FONTRA letter template: <http://ispeakup.ca/petitions>

AVENUES HOUSING PLAN

What is the plan? Go to <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/planning-studies-initiatives/housing-action-plan-avenues-mixed-use-area-study/> to find out more.
FONTRA letter template: <http://ispeakup.ca/petitions/1>

**THE CITY IS WORKING ON HOUSING PLANS AS WE SPEAK,
SO IMMEDIATE RESPONSES ARE CRITICAL!**

VERA

COUNCILLOR BURNSIDE ON THE SIXPLEX MOTION



VIDEO WILL BE POSTED ON WARD16.CA



Slightham family of Don Mills celebrated the family's 60th anniversary

WASN'T THAT A PARTY!!

An amazing celebration took place at the Liberty Grand in Exhibition Place on Friday June 6, when the Slightham family of Don Mills celebrated the family's 60th anniversary in the real estate business. Beginning in the mid 60s the Slighthams established a real estate dynasty, beginning with just one family member, to over 900 real estate professionals today.

Now known as Royal LePage Signature Realty, having purchased three Royal LePage franchises in the early 2000s, the third generation Slighthams now operate one of the largest real estate companies in Canada.

All the old time agents, as well as current, came to the party. Some are now in their 90s (many still working!) Over 800 realtors sat down to a delicious lunch and many reminiscences over the course of the next few hours. (That, in itself was a supreme feat - - try to get 800 realtors to sit down for lunch, all at once — took a while!)

It was magical! I myself, thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon, at a gorgeous location on a perfect day. Ted, Chris and Jeff regaled the crowd with many unforgettable and hilarious moments over the past 60 years.

Congratulations to all. Here's to another 60!

Dorothy Pestell (retired)
Royal LePage Signature Realty
DMRI Board Member (retiring)





A Guide to Disposing of your Household Hazardous Waste.

With the nice weather here now, Summer is often a good time to thin out various paints and solvents and other household hazardous waste (HHW) that has accumulated over time. The City will even pick it up from you!

HHW requires special handling because it can harm city workers and cause fires and explosions in collection trucks and at waste management facilities. Improper disposal of HHW also has negative effects on the environment and can be harmful to humans and animals. HHW is corrosive, flammable, explosive or poisonous and must not be put in the garbage, Blue Bin (recycling), Green Bin (organics) or poured down the drain, toilet or sewer.

Some examples of HHW includes:

- car and garage products,
- some personal care products,
- cleaning products,
- pesticides and garden products,
- lights (bulbs, tubes, lamps, etc.),
- paints, solvents, flammable liquids, and glue.

If in doubt, the City's Waste Wizard (see www.toronto.ca) is an efficient tool in helping determine how to dispose of various types of waste.

There are three options to dispose of HHW – arrange for a free pick up by the City's "Toxic Taxi", drop it off at a transfer station that accepts HHW, or save it for your local Community Environment Day.

Getting rid of your HHW is relatively straightforward. The City's instructions are:

- whenever possible, please return products in their original containers, properly sealed,
- liquid materials must be in a sealed, non-leaking container (e.g. paints must have a lid),
- containers must be clearly labeled with their contents,
- don't mix different products (e.g. paints) together in one container,
- don't leave products in your car trunk for long periods of time, particularly during hot weather.

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For free pick-up by the City (Toxic Taxi), call 311 or fill out an online service request to make an appointment. Here is what you need to know:

- minimum of 10 litres/kilograms and maximum of 50 litres/kilograms per pickup. This amount is based on the volume indicated on the containers, not on the estimated fullness of the containers.
 - liquid materials must be in a sealed, non-leaking container (paint cans must have a lid)
 - different material types need to be kept separate (e.g. batteries, paints and light bulbs should not be mixed in one container)
 - items must be placed in an open-topped container (e.g. cardboard box) not in a bag
 - fluorescent tubes (shorter than 8') must be set out in the original box or bundled/taped together in groups of 8.
 - items in container must be placed on private property, in front of residence on the street address side by 7 a.m. on the scheduled pickup day. Alternatively, your HHW can be taken to the Bermondsey transfer station at 188 Bermondsey Road (just south of Eglinton Avenue East). The transfer station accepts HHW Monday to Friday between 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday 7 am to 12:30 pm. It is closed on Sundays.
- A third method to use to rid yourself of HHW is to take it to one of the local Community Environment Days. Contact the office of either Councillor Rachel Chernos Lin or Jon Burnside to learn the date and location of these annual events.

Kevin

Toronto Police Service 33 Division Open House.

Save the date – Saturday, August 09 is 33 Division's annual Open House. From 11:00 am until 2:00 pm at 50 Upjohn Road, a large variety of informative and entertaining exhibits and activities are planned.

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Some of the events include:

- Crime prevention exhibits
- Kids' fingerprint station
- Station tours
- Police dogs and horses
- Special units and vehicles
- Free face painting
- Free barbeque

The Open House is a great way to meet and socialize with some of the people that serve and protect us in the Don Mills area.

Kevin

EVENTS



**DR. ADIL SHAMJI, MPP
INVITES YOU TO**

**SHAM
JAM 2025**
SUMMER BARBEQUE

**SATURDAY
JULY 5 | 1-3 PM | BROADLANDS PARK**
19 CASTLEGROVE BLVD
NORTH YORK, ON M3A 1K5

Celebrate Canada Day!

Join Stephanie Bowman, MPP and me for
fun, food and music.

Date: July 1, 2025

Where: Leaside Park

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Please R.S.V.P to rsvpdvw@gmail.com

To volunteer, please call 416-467-7275





33 DIVISION OPEN HOUSE

50/50 RAFFLE! FREE FACE PAINTING!
FREE BBQ! FREE PARKING!

 **SATURDAY AUGUST 9TH**
11:00AM - 2:00PM

 **50 UPJOHN ROAD**
TORONTO, ON

Crime Prevention Exhibits, Kids
Fingerprint Station & Activities,
Face Painting, Station Tours,
Police Dogs, Police Horses,
Specialized Units & Vehicles,
Music, Free BBQ!





Donate to The DMRI

Member support enables the DMRI to achieve our objectives and to maintain Don Mills as one of the best places to live in the City of Toronto. Members are encouraged to participate in the Annual General Meeting. The membership runs from the date of joining for one year. Automatic renewal notices are sent just before the anniversary of joining.

Membership fees are \$25.00 per household per year. Please also consider adding a donation when you join or renew your membership with the DMRI. Your support helps to pay for the legal and other costs associated with representing Don Mills and all its residents at the municipal and provincial level.

There are two ways to join Don Mills Residents Inc.

Payment via Canada Post

Return the membership form along with a cheque to:

DMRI P.O. Box 47528, Don Mills ON M3C 3S7

Online Payment

www.dmri.ca/become_a_dmri_member

Complete the form on the membership page.

Select and pay by credit card. If you'd like to make

a donation, please do so at the same time.

You can also scan this QR code with your cell phone and the web page will load automatically for you.



Note that the DMRI is not a registered charity, therefore, tax receipts are not provided.

If you have any questions, please contact membership@dmri.ca

DMRI Application/Renewal

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Phone # (____) _____ Email Address _____

☐ Annual Membership \$25.00 ☐ Donation \$ _____ Total Amount \$ _____ Date: _____

Please Note: The DMRI is not a registered charity. Tax receipts are not provided.

Comments: _____

The Newsletter is sent by Email to save costs.

DMRI P.O. Box 47528, Don Mills ON M3C 3S7

Or pay electronically via the DMRI website