

## **ARECA (Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association)** **[www.areca.info](http://www.areca.info)**

ARECA wishes to thank the City of Toronto for the \$600 for our community association. We acknowledged this first time ever financial support in this column last year.

We are very concerned with last month's Town Crier article headlined "City Councillors doling out thousands to their pet causes". It is also very disturbing that Eric McMillan the Editor attacked the support received and suggests that there is something underhanded occurring here.

We do not think this is responsible journalism. In fact, we resent the notion that our Community Association is a pet cause for anybody.

Our organization is run by volunteer board members who work on behalf of the residents. We give up our time to represent the residents on issues concerning the community. Our association gives help and support to all residents on community, neighbourhood and local issues. We use the funds received to communicate with the community through newsletters, mailings and our website [www.areca.info](http://www.areca.info).

The community and ratepayer organizations in Toronto are grass roots organizations that are cornerstones in the wonderful communities that exist in Toronto. Why the Town Crier would take this negative approach to councillors supporting democracy in their wards is astounding.

Financial support from a Councillor's budget is not buying votes as is the suggestion in the Editor's piece. It is simply support for grass-roots democracy. This financial support is channelling funds to help citizens work on behalf of the City of Toronto. The volunteers on the Board of ARECA do this work to try to make our city a better place for all of us to live. To suggest that 'rich' areas are undeserving is divisive and immature drivel.

Perhaps The Town Crier could write an article on the work done by Councillors and Resident and Ratepayer groups in trying to build a better Toronto instead of this self-serving negative journalism.

## **Community Barbecue**

Mark your calendars for Sunday June 26. Councillor Stintz is organizing a community barbecue in Eglinton Park on June 26, noon to 3 p.m. Although all events are not yet finalized there will be fun for all. A Police Booth will be promoting safety issues and there will be events for children. Enbridge Gas is supplying the barbecue. Come along and meet new and old neighbours. ARECA will be there.

*ARECA is a volunteer community association representing the views of residents in matters that affect our community in North Toronto. ARECA represents the area bounded by Eglinton Avenue West, Yonge Street, Roselawn Avenue, Avenue Road, St Clements Avenue and Chaplin Road. If you live in the ARECA area please join your community association. To join send a cheque for \$20 (\$10 seniors) for your 2005 membership, along with your name, address and phone number to Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association, c/o Membership Secretary 23 Elwood Boulevard, Toronto M4R 1B8. Note if you wish to receive fax or email updates from ARECA please include these with your membership details or email us at [information@areca.info](mailto:information@areca.info).*