

## **ARECA (Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association)**

[www.areca.info](http://www.areca.info)

### **Ontario Municipal Board continues unfettered**

ARECA and FONTRA (Federation of North Toronto Residents Associations) which includes 16 residents associations are very discouraged with the changes to the City of Toronto Act that do not address the issues and long standing problems with the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). Prior to the last Provincial election the current Liberal Government promised radical changes to the OMB if they got into power. This has not happened. The status quo continues. The OMB continues to be a quasi-judicial board of patronage appointees who tend to support the large developers rather than the residents of Toronto neighbourhoods. The odds are stacked against the homeowner and indeed against Community Associations. The developers have deep pockets for lawyers, planners and all the other professionals that are needed to take a case to the OMB. The cost of this simply gets passed on in house prices. The Community Association is staffed by volunteers and depends on the contributions of its members when opposing undesirable development. ARECA and especially FoNTRA have worked long and hard at developing the changes that are required to the OMB to make it a fair and equitable appeal board. Much of this input has been ignored by our Provincial Government.

### **North Toronto Memorial Community Centre**

Security Cameras have been successfully installed in the Community Centre. These are being monitored and are proving to be extremely helpful in securing the Centre. Centre staff are currently researching the need to install pads on the walls of the basketball court to reduce incidents of players bumping against the walls.

### **Off Leash Dogs in Eglinton Park**

Whether dogs should be allowed off leash as part of a pilot project continues to be discussed by both dog and non-dog owners. The committee is striving to consider the entire needs of the community and that includes both dog owners and non-dog owners alike.

Councillor Stintz has included this issue in her website and states that, “the existing by-law that requires dogs to be leashed at all times is currently being enforced in Eglinton Park.” Visit <http://www.karenstintz.com/dogs> to send your comments. All comments will be summarized and posted on the issues page of the website.

Dog owners/guardians who are interested in this issue should contact the Eglinton Park Dog Owners Group. If interested in joining the group, please contact [EPdog@hotmail.ca](mailto:EPdog@hotmail.ca)

### **ARECA says no thanks to offer from Guardian Angels.**

ARECA was asked for input on whether it felt that the Guardian Angels would be a beneficial addition to Toronto. ARECA responded by stating that our association

believed that support should be provided to our Police. Our city supports and funds social and support services where they are most needed.

### **St James Bond Church Sale Concluded**

St James Bond Church change of ownership occurred on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The new owner/developer has so far not shared his plans for the development of the site with the Community Association.

The Church had a contents sale on February 18<sup>th</sup> when assets such as pews were sold off.

*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 2006 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).*