

ARECA (Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association)
www.areca.info

SOGGY WET ANNUAL CLEAN UP DAY

A sincere thank you to the neighbourhood volunteers, ARECA board members and families who turned out on yet another cold and wet day for this year's EARTH DAY clean up of Eglinton Park. Helpers this year concentrated on the west slope and under the stairs leading from Oriole Parkway into the park where they collected broken bottles, paper, lighters, construction garbage and many other items we will not list.



GONE TO THE DOGS

For a number of years there has been conflict between dog owners and other users of parks. It now seems that the city is prepared to go forward with an initiative that in ARECA's opinion has not benefited from proper process and consultation.

Currently the City is unable to enforce the existing by-laws with regard to dogs and ARECA must determine if that which protects children in our parks is still enshrined in any change. ARECA does not see this as a "dog issue" but most importantly as an issue of public health and safety.

The committee of dog owners and non dog owners that has been meeting since last summer to try to find solutions for Eglinton Park has now been abandoned. "Unfortunately we have had no response from Sandy Straw the City Staff member responsible for the report and proposals", states Patrick Smyth, the

ARECA representative on the Committee. "We are trying to find out what the city is proposing but we can get no information."

Whether dogs should be allowed off leash as part of a pilot project is off the discussion table. The committee made up of both dog and non-dog owners met on April 5. Sandy Straw attended the meeting and advised everyone that the City was proposing a dogs in park strategy that would allow up to 6 dogs per walker to be off leash. Each park would decide whether it would allow dogs off leash or not. Councillor Stintz advises that By-Law Officers are still ticketing for by-law infractions. Eglinton Park is not an off-leash park.

The Dogs in Park proposal is scheduled before the Economic Development and Parks Committee on May 4th.

ARECA believes that there has been inadequate community input to this City proposal and that the individual communities and neighbourhoods need to have a say before a citywide bylaw is overturned. ARECA will be making a deputation before the Committee on May 4 requesting the decision be delayed until there has been a chance for community input. No communities in North Toronto have been consulted.

13th BIRTHDAY BASH AT NTMCC

There is still time to attend the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre Advisory Council AGM and 13th Birthday Celebration on Saturday May 6, 2006 at 2 p.m. in the Seniors' Lounge on the 2nd floor of the NTMCC. All interested in hearing about the initiatives and issues involved in the running of the Community Centre are welcome. Birthday Cake and Refreshments will be provided

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