



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

**The Crystal Palace**

ARECA has been attending meetings with other local community associations about an anticipated application from RioCan to redevelop the NW corner of Yonge and Eglinton, “The Crystal Palace”. There has been much advance warning of this and some concern that the new owners of this property will be seeking to enclose some of the publicly accessible open space at this important location.

ARECA joined with Karen Stintz, Councillor Ward 16, when this matter was first raised by the previous owner, in suggesting that this space not be closed in. The open space required by the City Bylaw has already been reduced by one third following two previous applications and it is ARECA’s belief that no further reduction should be approved. While the open space may not look very attractive at times, ARECA feels there are options other than closing in to render it more inviting for the public and local retailers.

**Water Service Upgrade**

ARECA has been kept well informed about the incidents arriving from the water service upgrade project. Residents are now concerned with the onset of winter and the waste of water due to the requirement to have taps left open to prevent the surface hoses from freezing. Residents need to be cautious of the danger of overflowing. There is also a concern about loss of water supply to homes if snowplows, either private or public, damage the surface hoses due to them being covered with snow and ice. The water project in our neighbourhood was shut down for 2 days, and work was stopped for a further 3 days in another area, due to religious holidays. Apparently, project supervisors were asked if work could be transferred to Catholic areas instead. It seems religious profiling is now being applied to Toronto neighbourhoods with no evidence that this is City policy.

**St James Bond**

There appears to be a lack of activity at the 1066 Avenue Road Site. The local councillor believes that minor issues concerning trees have delayed the project. The former church on the site was topical again recently when the building was identified incorrectly as connected with Ian Fleming’s fictitious character James Bond.

**ARECA AGM**

ARECA would like to thank all who attended the AGM on November 10 with particular thanks to MPP Mike Colle, Toronto District School Trustee Howard Goodman and Constables Ron MacKay and Tom Leney from 53 Division.

MPP Mike Colle reported on a number of areas of interest including his Bill to Stop Unlawful Firearms In Vehicles and the new Eglinton to Kennedy Crosstown LRT to Pearson Airport. The \$11.5 Billion investment means 31 kilometres of new LRT linking Kennedy station in the East with Pearson Airport and Mississauga Transitway in the West.

### **Soccer Dome**

Howard Goodman, Toronto District School Board Trustee talked about the proposal from North Toronto Soccer to enclose Memorial Park on Chaplin Crescent with a dome so that soccer can be played all year. To date no formal proposal has been submitted from North Toronto Soccer.

### **53 Division**

The officers stated that there was a decrease in most categories of crimes; however thefts from cars had increased in North Toronto. They advised that 911 should be used to report a crime in progress. Other police telephone numbers are 416 808 2222 for other than crimes in progress and 416 808 5300 if the question is related to 53 Division.

The officers also advised that 40% of those caught speeding on Avenue Road in the recent speeding crack down are locals.

The following is feedback from a new member of ARECA following the AGM.  
*....."meeting motivated me to join, because none of the members acted as rubber stamps to the presentations by the officials. It was refreshing to be part of it."*

*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 2009 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).*