

Flower Power

The judges of Wigwamen's annual Flower Power Competition found proud gardeners tending beautiful gardens in front yards...



... and beautiful gardens in back yards...



... as well as lovely flowers on porches.

There were gardens full of ornaments,



... big flowers, small flowers...

... and every colour of the rainbow!



Congratulations to all the contestants and winners!



Aboriginal Post-Secondary **Information Program**

The Aboriginal Education Centre is hosting this event near Dufferin Station from 9:30 to noon on October 16th. Representatives from a variety of Ontario colleges and universities will be available to answer questions for high school students and their parents or guardians. For more information visit www.apsip.com or e-mail kittv.sill@tdsb.on.ca to register.



Rivers to Success: Mentorship Program for Indigenous Youth

Indspire's mentorship program matches Indigenous students with experienced professionals in a wide variety of fields. Students preparing to leave high school get guidance and advice from mentors who are already doing the work that the student is interested in pursuing. Several scholarships are also available. The deadline for scholarship and mentorship applications is November 1st. Visit www.indspire.ca/rivers for more information.



Free Training in Digital Design Studio Basics

Why not learn something new? Free courses in web design and Photoshop are offered to adults at the Learning Centre of the Toronto Reference Library, near Yonge and Bloor. There are 4 to 6 classes per course, scheduled once a week. Call 416-393-7209 for course dates and registration information.



Book-a-Librarian for Personalized Research Assistance

All you need is a valid Toronto Public Library card to book a free private session with a librarian for up to an hour. You can ask for help with a specific research project, or finding your way around the library, or for help with e-books. Go to www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/librarian for details of this program.



Diversity Employment Fair: October 24

This event bills itself as "Toronto's leading recruitment event for Aboriginals, women, persons with disabilities and visible minorities". Human Resource managers in a wide variety of fields will be distributing applications, collecting resumes, and answering questions. It's free to attend, but you do have to register. Go to www.ccrw.org/wesp or call 416-486-2500 x8272 for more info or to register.



Cell Phone Contract Money-Saving Tip

The website www.cellclients.com is a listing of people who want to get out of their cell phone contract without paying large cancellation fees. They post the details of their plan so people who might want to take over the rest of their contract, and their phone, can often get a really good deal. The transfer is simple and you can keep your current number.

Spirit Pole Design Contest for Aboriginal Youth

The National Aboriginal Diabetes Association is offering prizes of up to \$500 for the best designs submitted for use on their Urban Poles exercise walking sticks. Contestants must be from 15 to 25 years and the deadline for submissions is October 15th. For details go to www.urbanpoling.com/urban-poling-2013-design-contest

ImagineNATIVE Film & Media Arts Festival



The 14th annual ImagineNATIVE Festival will run from October 16th to 20th, at various locations around downtown. The festival showcases Indigenous artists' films, videos, radio, and new media artworks. This will be the only chance to see some of the works in Toronto. Visit www.imagenative.org for descriptions and this year's schedule.

Fire Safety Notice for Multi-Unit Tenants

This is an important reminder for Wigwamen tenants who share common areas with neighbours. For fire-safety, pest-control, and personal-safety reasons, all common areas must be kept free of storage and clutter. That means no boxes in the laundry room, no bikes in the hallways, no cleaning equipment in the boiler rooms.

Aboriginal History Project at Wigwamen Terrace

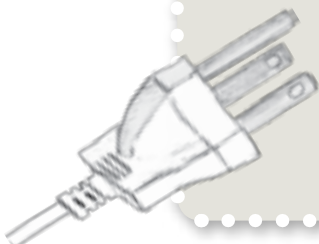
There's an exciting new event being held at Wigwamen Terrace. It's called the History Project and it's being presented by the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto and the University of Toronto's Faculty of Information. Historical crafts and artifacts from the NCCT's collection are brought out for participants to handle, examine and share stories about. The meetings are informal and fun. Anyone wanting to participate or know more about the project can contact Amber Sandy at the NCCT - 416-964-9087.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE UNITS

◆ Are you 59 years of age or older and of Aboriginal descent? Are you in a wheelchair, but able to live safely on your own? Are you looking for safe and affordable housing in downtown Toronto? Wigwamen may be able to help.



Contact the Property Manager at The Terrace for more information: Lisa Kristensen, 416-925-9165.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY COMPETITION

◆ Wigwamen Housing tenants now have a chance to win up to \$400 in unit upgrades, simply by being more careful about their energy consumption. The household that reduces their energy use the most in 2013 will be the winner.

Zero Balance Raffle Reminder

In order to qualify for the monthly zero-balance raffle, your rent must be paid on the first of each month. The names of all tenants that have signed up for pre-authorized payment are automatically entered each month. To sign up for pre-authorized payment, contact Head Office or your building manager.

Back-to-School Packs

One hundred and six elementary- and junior-high school students started school with backpacks from Wigwamen this year. The Back-to-School Program is open to tenants with children living in Wigwamen housing.

For information about the following Wigwamen tenant programs and contests, contact Amber Seager at 877-803-0222 x222 or aseager@wigwamen.com

- ◆ GIFT BASKETS FOR NEW BABIES
- ◆ KIDS' BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH
- ◆ BACK-TO-SCHOOL PACKS
- ◆ WIGWAMEN POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS
- ◆ MONTHLY ZERO-BALANCE RAFFLE



Setting up for the annual Sewells Road BBQ



A festive crowd at the annual Wigwamen Picnic



Recent gift basket recipient, baby Tayah, and her mom, Valerie.

WIGWAMEN MAINTENANCE

- ◆ If you have a maintenance issue, please contact your building manager. If you don't have a building manager on site, please call Head Office – 416-481-4451.
- ◆ Wigwamen's new website features an Online Maintenance Request Form: www.wigwamen.com/housing/maintenance-request-form/
- ◆ In event of an after-hours maintenance emergency – a flood, power-outage, or heating failure – call 416-481-4451 and Wigwamen's Emergency Service will send help.

WIGWAMEN HOUSING

- ◆ The Terrace (104 units for Aboriginal seniors)
14 Spadina Road, Toronto, ON, M5R 3M4
- ◆ 20 Sewells Road (92 units for Aboriginal & non-Aboriginal individuals & families) Toronto, ON, M1B 3G5
- ◆ 228 Galloway Road (60 units for individuals & families) Scarborough, ON, M1E 5G6
- ◆ Scattered Housing (for Aboriginal families)
230 homes located throughout the GTA

TO APPLY FOR WIGWAMEN HOUSING

Families & individuals of Aboriginal descent should fill out Wigwamen applications that are available: 

In person: at Head Office, at Wigwamen Terrace (14 Spadina), or 20 Sewells Road;
By mail: call 416-481-4451 to request; or
Online: at www.wigwamen.com

You must submit proof of legal status in Canada and a copy of either your Status Card or an Affidavit of Aboriginal Descent for Housing Purposes with your application. Affidavits can be obtained from Aboriginal Legal Services.

Non-Aboriginal Families & Individuals should fill out a Toronto Social Housing Connections application that is available:



In person: at Housing Connections,
176 Elm St., near Dundas & University;
By mail: call 416-981-6111 to request; or
Online: at www.housingconnections.ca

You must submit proof of legal status in Canada and your income with your application.



Wigwamen Head Office

23 Lesmill Road, Suite 106
Toronto, Ontario, M3B 3P6
Tel: 416-481-4551
Fax: 416-481-5002
E-mail: info@wigwamen.com



23 Lesmill Road is located north of York Mills Road, between Leslie Street and Don Mills Road.

To get to Wigwamen's Head Office by TTC:

From York Mills Station take the 122 bus, which stops directly in front of the building; or any 95 bus, which all stop at Upjohn, just 200 metres south of Head Office. Alternately, from Pape Station, take the 25 Bus, get off at York Mills and transfer to a westbound bus, or walk west for about 5 minutes.

This issue of Wigwam to Wigwam was written and compiled by Lisa Kristensen. Layout by Ellen Pauker.

MEEGWETCH

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