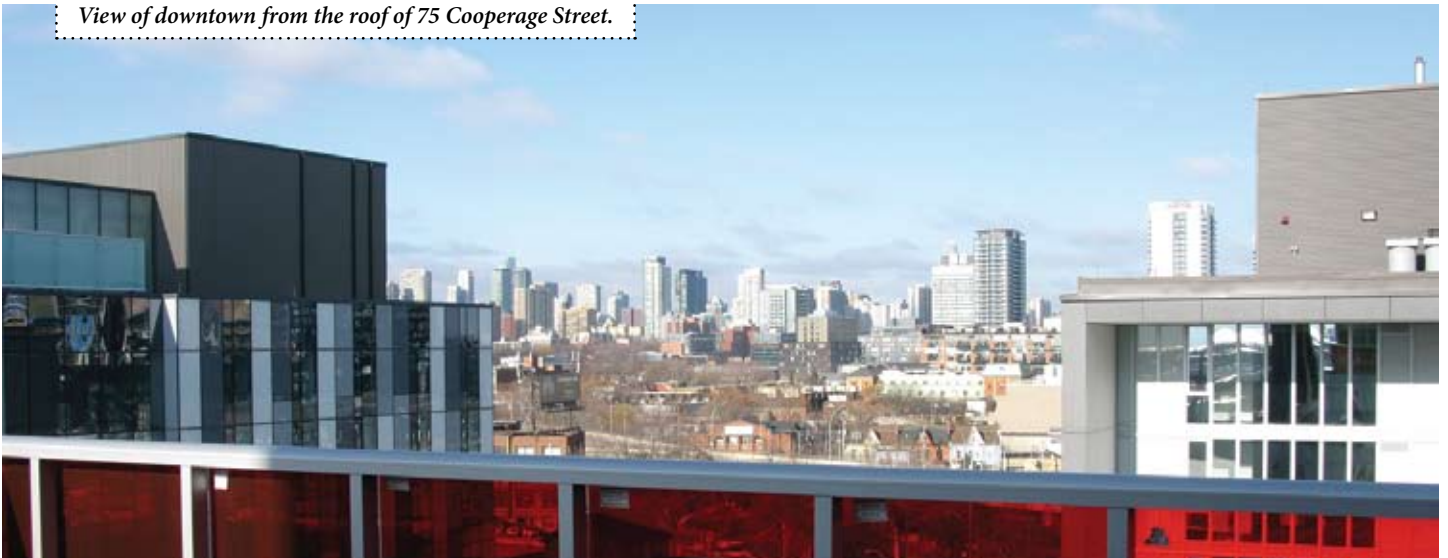




View of downtown from the roof of 75 Cooperage Street.



Wigwamen staff and board members touring the building site.

Wigwamen has been chosen to take over one of the Athletes' Village buildings after the Pan Am/ Parapan Am Games. In partnership with the Ontario March of Dimes and Accommodation, Information and Support we will be offering 145 new units of affordable housing to renters in the City of Toronto.

Thirty-one of these one, two, three and four-bedroom apartments will be fully accessible. Some of the family units will have both accessible and non-accessible wash-rooms. The 12-story building has green roofs, roof gardens, multiple play- and community-gathering areas, and an above-ground laundry room with a playroom attached. A row of townhomes stands next to the main building.



Wigwamen's new building as of 2016.

The new neighbourhood is planned for easy living with ready access to public transit, schools, shops, parks and playgrounds, economical fiber-optic cable for ultra-high-speed internet, and – of course – excellent sports facilities from the Games.

The West Don Lands area is bounded by Parliament Street, the Don River, King Street and the railway corridor. It's a 15 minute walk from downtown, just past the fashionable Distillery District neighbourhood. 🏠



March Break ACTIVITIES

Toronto children have the week of March 16th to 20th off school and, if the weather is poor, it can be challenging for caregivers to find low-cost activities to keep them occupied. [Here are a few tips:](#)

Most Community Centres add special drop-in programming during March Break for **indoor sports and arts & crafts**. For information about these programs, as well as Day Camps, download *The Fun Guide*, from www.toronto.ca, call 311, or drop in at your local Community Centre.

The Toronto Public Library will be offering over **100 free activities and events** for kids and teens during the holiday. Type in "March Break Programs" at www.tpl.ca or stop in at your local branch for a copy of *What's On* magazine to find out what's happening near you.

Or visit one of the City of Toronto's ten historic houses – like the Scarborough Museum, at 1007 Brimley Rd (near Dorcot). Admission to the **Scarborough Museum is pay-what-you-can** and there's always some fun activity for children on offer. For details call 416-338-8807. For information about the other historic houses across the city, go to www.toronto.ca

The Pan Am/Parapan Am Games NEED VOLUNTEERS

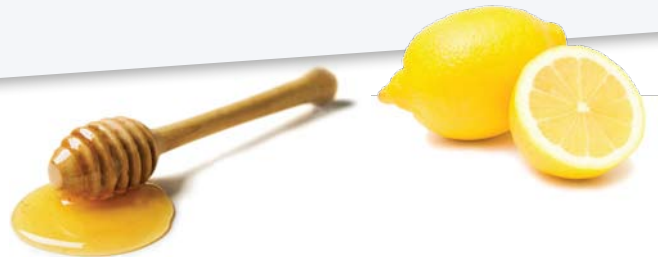
The Games will need more than 20,000 volunteers in July and August, but there are also many pre-Games volunteer opportunities. Pre-game volunteers will help with planning, events, transportation and community outreach. Volunteering is a good way to improve your job skills, to meet people who share your interests, and – in this case – to see some world-class sporting events for free! Find out more at www.Toronto2015.org

MAKE YOUR OWN LOW-COST, DIABETIC-FRIENDLY SPORTS DRINK



Shake well in a container with a tight lid:

- 1 cup cold water,
- 2 Tablespoons of lemon juice,
- a small pinch of salt,
- sweetener of choice (to taste).





Writers and Library-Lovers Take Note



The Toronto Reference Library at Yonge and Bloor now has a "Writers' Room" – a quiet space with 4 workstations, power outlets, and wireless internet access. If you have a library card and are writing something that requires access to the Library's collections, you can apply to reserve time in this room – your own little research and writing oasis, right downtown. For more information, call 416-393-7085 or go to www.tpl.ca and search "Writers' Room".

WHY AND HOW TO COMPOST

The City of Toronto's composting program will soon be collecting organic waste from apartment buildings as well as houses. Because older apartment buildings do not have a separate chute for organic waste, this means that to participate you will have to carry it down separately - in the same way that you carry down your recycling now.

Why should you bother? Well, about half of all household garbage is organic waste and this means that instead of going to landfill it can be turned into compost that can be used to nourish our parks. Also, organic matter that goes to the landfill decomposes without oxygen so it releases methane, a greenhouse gas, that contributes to climate change.

WHAT IS ORGANIC WASTE?

- ✓ Meat, poultry, fish products
 - ✓ Pasta, bread, cereals, rice
 - ✓ Dairy products, eggs and shells
 - ✓ Coffee grounds/filters, tea bags
 - ✓ Cake, cookies, candy
 - ✓ Diapers, sanitary products
 - ✓ Animal waste, bedding, cat litter
 - ✓ House plants, including soil
 - ✓ Paper packaging soiled with food
 - ✓ Ice cream containers
 - ✓ Popcorn, flour and sugar bags
 - ✓ Tissues, napkins, paper towels
- note: no paper towels soiled with chemical cleansers*



Had Enough of Winter? Visit Toronto's Greenhouse



Allan Gardens is located between Jarvis, Sherbourne, Carlton and Gerrard Streets. There have been botanical gardens here since 1879. The Palm House was built in 1910 and since then several other buildings have been added. The Cactus House, Tropical House, Cool House, and Children's Conservatory cover over 16,000 square feet. Plants from all over the world grow along paths that meander around decorative ponds, waterfalls and statues. Admission is free. Open daily, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Wheelchair accessible. Tel: 416-392-7288.



BUILDING SAFETY: ONLY BUZZ IN YOUR OWN GUESTS

If you live in a multi-unit building, remember that you are responsible for your guests' behaviour while they are on the property. Please only buzz in or open the doors for your own guests. If this makes you feel heartless, remember that if you see somebody who appears to require emergency shelter, you can call 311 and a street worker will be sent to offer that person assistance.

TIPS ON MONEY MATTERS



Go to www.ABCLifeLiteracy.ca and click on the button that says "Money Matters" and you will find a wealth of information about money management. There are also free activity books, tips, and advice to help you teach your kids how to budget.

LEARN TO FIX IT FOR FREE AT THE



Before throwing out your favourite broken household item, think about bringing it to a Repair Café event. Volunteer "fixers" with expertise in all sorts of repair will help you decide if your item can be repaired and will teach you how to do it safely. Tea, coffee, snacks and most of the tools you will need are available at the café, but parts are not provided. The next Repair Café will be held on Saturday, March 21st from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Skills for Change, 791 St. Clair West, near Arlington. For more information, visit www.repaircafetoronto.ca/events

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TUITION GRANT

Post-secondary students in Ontario can now apply for new funding to cover 30% of their tuition. This is grant money that you do not have to pay back. To find out if you qualify, fill out the short questionnaire at www.ontario.ca/30off

CALLING ALL ARTISTS



Professional exhibition space will be available at 12 branches of the Toronto Public Library for one-month shows from September 2015 to August 2016. This is a unique opportunity to gain exposure and gallery experience. Work in all media except for sculpture will be considered.

The deadline for submissions is April 10, 2015. Selected artists will be notified in June. The cost to selected artists (or groups) is \$20. For more information, call 416-393-7224; or e-mail: artexhibits@torontopubliclibrary.ca. You can download the "Art Exhibits Space Application Form" from www.tpl.ca

FREE BIRTHDAY COFFEE



Go to Jet Fuel on your birthday and they'll give you a free cup of their excellent coffee. All you have to do is show your I.D. The cafe is located at 519 Parliament (north of Carlton). Tel: 416-968-9982.

Happy Birthday to me!



Volunteers taking a break at the Sewells Road Tenants' Christmas Dinner. The hard work of staff and volunteers made both the Sewells and Terrace tenants' dinners a success again this year.



- ◆ GIFT BASKETS FOR NEW BABIES
- ◆ CHILDREN'S BOOK CLUB
- ◆ BACK-TO-SCHOOL PACKS
- ◆ WIGWAMEN POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS
- ◆ MONTHLY ZERO-BALANCE RAFFLE

For information about these Wigwamen tenant programs and contests, contact Amber Seager at 888-248-2104 x222.

Wigwamen has an After-Hours Emergency Maintenance Service that tenants can call during the night and on weekends: 416-481-4451. This is an emergency number, however, so if the maintenance concern is not urgent, please either wait until the next regular working day to report it, or fill out an online maintenance request form.

When to CALL Wigwamen's After-Hours Emergency Maintenance Service:

- ✓ you have no heat
- ✓ you have no water
- ✓ your toilet or drains are overflowing
- ✓ there is no electricity in your home, but the rest of the street has light
- ✓ there's been a break-in and a lock needs replacing

When NOT to Call Wigwamen's After-Hours Emergency Maintenance Service:

- ✗ you have heat, but would like your place to be a bit warmer
- ✗ your water pressure is poor, but functioning
- ✗ your toilet or drains are sluggish, but functioning
- ✗ there is a power failure in your neighbourhood
- ✗ your cable or phone are not working
- ✗ a lightbulb needs replacing
- ✗ your cat got out and vomited in the common hallway

Congratulations to the 200th monthly Zero-Balance Raffle winner, Jacques, from Place Perrault in Ottawa... and to other recent winners, Dianne, Lori & Maggie, and Justin!



JACQUES



DIANNE



LORI & MAGGIE



JUSTIN

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:



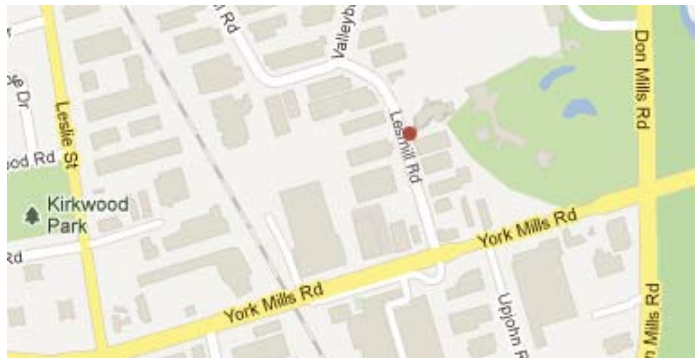
In person: at Housing Connections, 176 Elm St., near Dundas & University;
By mail: call 416-981-6111 to request; or
Online: at www.housingconnections.ca

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: 416-481-4451
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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