

## A Community with Heart

by Ingrid Gadsden



Bruce Roll

*It was an outpouring of generosity and goodwill, from a downtown community with heart, to one of its own who's in need... that's what it was all about.*

On February 13th, over 100 friends and family gathered in the back

room of the Dominion on Queen to raise funds to help out Bruce Roll, a long-time, much-loved Corktown resident and local 'guerilla gardener'. Recently diagnosed with neck cancer, Bruce was undergoing aggressive radiation treatments. Too weak to work, he needed financial help – and emotional support as well. He got both – in spades – and he deserves it.

A former CRBA board member for two years, Bruce is the only recipient of the distinguished "Silver Spade Award" – an honour initiated by

the CRBA in thanks for all his hard work in helping to beautify the neighbourhood. Because of Bruce, we have trees where we didn't have them before, and plants and flowers sprouting in all three local parkettes. He's a gardener through to his soul, he loves doing it and we benefited.

Thanks to everyone's incredible generosity, we raised enough to help Bruce through what's probably going to be a few more months of recovery – but he promises to fight hard, look after himself and get better. Spring is on the way and the gardens are calling to him.

Huge thanks go to all who donated such high quality items for auction – and a very special thanks to Sean Duranovich, owner of the Dominion, who gave us his back room and donated all proceeds from the bar at this CRBA sponsored event. Thanks too to the ladies who brought the munchies, which were delicious. And thanks to everyone who turned out for this uplifting event. Together, we did good! We wish Bruce a speedy recovery.

# Fundraiser for Bruce Roll



Martine and Susan

## Thank you so much...

On February 13th, you, the Corktown community, held a fundraiser on my behalf at the Dominion on Queen.

Family, friends, neighbours and even strangers came together to support me in a time of need. You brought gifts to be auctioned, you brought smiles and laughter and you brought heart. I was overwhelmed by your generosity and good cheer.

You reminded me of what a wonderful community I've chosen to call home for the past dozen or so years.

More importantly, you made me forget what ails me and you helped me more than you can ever know. What you have done will stay with me long after I've healed.

I wish all of you the very best. Thank you for what you did for me.

*Bruce Roll*



Marty and Ingrid



Pat and Joanne



Corktown Friends come together for a good cause

## Introducing your New 2009 CRBA Board Members

On February 3, 2009, a new slate of directors were elected to serve on the Corktown Residents & Business Association board. All directors either live in Corktown or operate businesses within the Corktown area. The voluntary jobs they've taken on until February of next year can – and hopefully will – positively affect all who live and work here.

*We urge you to attend every CRBA meeting this year, there's a lot of changes happening in our area and CRBA meetings are where you get to raise questions and receive answers.*

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month (except August), at 7:00pm in the back room of Dominion on Queen, at Queen St. E. and Sumach.

**2009 SLATE OF DIRECTORS:**  
 John A. Libby - President  
 Radford Cook - Vice President  
 Jonathan Martin - Treasurer  
 Francine Barry – Secretary

**MEMBERS AT LARGE:**  
 Cindy Wilkey  
 David Lloyd  
 Maria Hazel  
 James Caldwell  
 Bernard Lutmer  
 Philip Stoop

# Report on Current and Planned Activities Affecting Corktown – Spring 2009

*On February 3, 2009, Councillor Pam McConnell attended the Corktown Residents and Business Association Annual General Meeting. At that time, Councillor McConnell addressed local residents and provided the following updates.*

### DEVELOPMENT NEWS

- » A public meeting will be set for March regarding proposed townhouses at 51 River St.
- » Streetcar Developments Phase II – site plan submitted and moving to final approval.
- » Graffiti: The city's Municipal Standards department is now acting on complaints about graffiti in the area and is issuing notices to owners. The 51 Division Graffiti program can coordinate an organized blitz with the community.
- » A new traffic light to be installed at Trinity and Eastern by late spring 2009.
- » There is a new KIA dealership to go in at 2 Eastern Ave at Trinity St. A public meeting planned for February 2009 at Dixon Hall.
- » The Trefann sidewalks are to be reconstructed in 2010 as part of Clean & Beautiful City project.
- » St. Paul's St/Sackville St: City staff are set to clear the embankment between Richmond Street off-ramp and St. Paul's Street and in addition the land between the north edge of Sackville Park and the Adelaide Street East ramp.
- » Heritage Interpretation & Lighting: Analysis of existing conditions underway to provide template for lighting improvements to streetscapes and historic buildings throughout Old Town Toronto.

### UPCOMING ACTIONS

- » Environment Day – May 2nd at Esplanade and Sherbourne. Top soil will be available for free.
- » A full service bicycle station will be opening at Union Station in April. The first of its kind in Toronto.

### OFF-LEASH DOG PARK NEWS

- » 51 Power St/Orphan's Park: Funding now available for fencing and appropriate turf. Transportation will be issuing permits soon. Establishment of off-leash dog park to move forward in spring 2009. Section 37 funding from 330 King St. E., will be used for further improvements to the site.
- » Sackville Park is not recommended as an off-leash area due to proximity to playground and the small size of the park.

Residents who would like to be kept updated about Councillor McConnell's work at City Hall can do so by visiting her website at [www.pammccconnell.ca](http://www.pammccconnell.ca) and subscribing to her e-newsletter which is distributed every 6 weeks or so.

Advertisement



## Morning glory

Check out our daily lunch and breakfast specials at:  
[morningglory.ca/news.html](http://morningglory.ca/news.html)

M, T, Th, F	S, Su
8am - 3pm	9am - 3pm

457 King St. W. 416-703-4728

# A Huge Success – CRBA Christmas Fundraiser

*Yes, it truly was a holly, jolly kick-off to the Christmas Season – with lots of good food and fun for everyone from 9 months to 90 years. Eager Corktowners turned out in droves to meet old friends and new neighbours, and enjoy a roast turkey dinner for \$5 – all to the strains of classical music provided by the incomparable Corktown Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Paul McCulloch. What a wonderfully talented group they are!*

Loads of local businesses and residents donated items for auction – all funds going to CRBA coffers in aid of promoting the Corktown area and supporting local initiatives to better our neighbourhood. CRBA President John Libby took over as auctioneer and triggered competitive bidding from eager residents anxious to get a head start on their Christmas shopping list.

Kudos to Sean Duranovich, owner of the Dominion Pub, Radford Cook, CRBA board member and everyone else who worked so hard to arrange this exciting annual event. Be sure not to miss the Christmas 2010 Fundraiser – it promises to be even better!



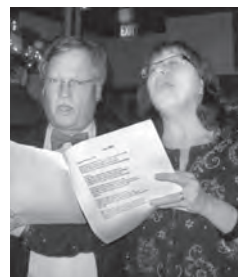
Corktown Chamber Orchestra – Please visit the CCO website at [www.corktownchamberorchestra.com](http://www.corktownchamberorchestra.com) for news of upcoming events.



Auctioning that wonderful Vistek camera



Shooting some pool



Christmas Caroling



Happy Corktowners



Baby's first Christmas



David and Janet



The Corktown Christmas Party is always a family affair



The Lloyd family enjoy the festivities

## Corktown Construction Update

*by Jason Garland, VP, Development & Operations*

Streetcar Developments has made significant progress since commencement of construction in late 2008. The scope of this effort includes 549 King St. E., 569 King St. E. and 52 Sumach and will see a blend of residential lofts and retail spaces take shape along King Street, as well as a total of seven new townhomes at Percy and Bright Streets. To ensure swift construction, the process is conducted sequentially, moving from one site to the next as each major step is completed. As of end of March, the majority of the excavation and shoring phases are complete at 52 Sumach and 569 King, and by the time this update reaches you, 549 King will be well underway – including preparations for the careful restoration of Percy Street.

Overall, we're pleased with the pace of construction, and while we understand that this process is not without its challenges and inconveniences, Streetcar is taking action to reduce the impact of construction on the Corktown community. Steps taken include clearly posting construction site rules and regulations, staffing sites with Streetcar management teams, leasing nearby municipal lots to keep our construction vehicles off Corktown streets to the greatest extent possible, implementing a more aggressive policy on street maintenance and dust control, regular meetings with adjacent neighbors, and continuing to keep our office location in Corktown so we're always available and ready to respond as necessary. We genuinely appreciate the collaborative relationships that have been formed with our neighbors and are thankful for the positive commentary we've received from the Corktown community throughout this process.

In the coming weeks, we will move to the next stage of construction: Foundations. This involves pouring concrete to form the base of our buildings and complete the work below grade. Afterwards the pace will escalate as we perform construction above grade of the structure and outside envelope of the building. The majority of work then takes place inside the building. In the meantime, we look forward to providing a further update on construction in the next edition of *The Corktown*.

### Thanks to our contributors

The CRBA and local residents wish to express grateful thanks to the following businesses for generously donating items for auction – and remind all readers to support these businesses.

#### Shop Local!

##### Sobeys

Front St. at Frederick St.

##### Morning Glory

457 King Street E. 416-703-9485

##### Linden Grove

365 King Street E. 416-530-2427

##### Cam's Auto Service

475 King Street E. 416-861-9511

##### Shoppers Drug Mart

351 Queen St. E. 416-368-2121

##### Vistek

496 Queen St. E. 1-800-561-1777

##### Nina Tatari Hair and Skin Care

521 Queen St. E. 416-861-9022

##### Nella Cutlery

433 Queen St. E., 416-847-1112

##### Fusilli Ristorante

531 Queen St. E., 416-214-5148

##### Gourmet Bun

506 Queen St. E. 416-865-9521

##### The Magic Oven

360 Queen St. E. 416-703-3555

# Queen West Fashion Comes to Corktown

by Francine Barry

*The most gorgeous window display grabbed my eye as I freewheeled past 380 Queen East last month!*

*A fabulous feathery blue hat, very sexy black gown, artistically arranged accessories. Where am I? I wondered momentarily. Why, lucky old Corktown!*

This wonderful ladies' shop opened its doors on March 1, 2008, on the north side of Queen across from St. Paul's Basilica. The owner, Sanghun Oh, is a petite and elegant lady who lives in the building with her husband and two young adult children. Also in residence is her greeter, Xela, who alternates her time between her post at the front door and the park with her canine friends.

Sang was proprietor of a successful women's boutique on Queen West until 1996, when she closed it to concentrate solely on raising her children. After a gap of twelve years, she has re-emerged in full glory, bringing funky classiness to a rather colourless stretch of Queen East.



Sanghun Oh, owner of 290 ION

Sang carries several well-known labels including Teenflo, Autumn Cashmere, my favourite Cut Loose, and many more. She also proudly flaunts talented Montreal designers Marie Saint Pierre and Veronique Miljkovith. Her amazing and often Canadian-made jewellery is quite breathtaking, and she can finish an outfit beautifully with a unique scarf or hat.

I popped in on Valentine's Day to check out her latest apparel and found the place rapidly filling with Sang's clients from her Queen West days, happy to see her back in business. Rosedale ladies mingling merrily with Corktown cycle-chicks. Whatever your taste, Sang's artistic eye and fine fashion sense ensure you will never walk out with something that doesn't look absolutely perfect on you.

290 ION at 380 Queen St. E. is open Thurs, Fri. and Saturday 12 – 6 pm. Weds. and Sun. by appointment only. (647) 283-5321

## If you care about Corktown don't miss these meetings!

If you're concerned about what's happening in the neighbourhood, be sure to attend the next few Corktown Residents and Business Association meetings. Special speakers have been lined up to keep us on track regarding on-going changes in the area, and new ways to deal with problems we often face on a daily basis. Bring your questions – bring your concerns – and speak up.

All CRBA meetings begin at 7pm, first Tuesday of every month but August.

Location: back room of the Dominion on Queen, at Queen St. and Sumach.

### April 7, 2009

**THE LATEST ABOUT REGENT PARK**  
Liz Root, Project Director of Regent Park Revitalization for Toronto Community Housing Corporation has agreed to talk about progress in the rebuilding of Regent Park. She will provide an update on Phase I and will also provide information about Phase II plans and schedules.

### May 5, 2009

**POLICE AND COMMUNITY RESPONSE**  
Staff Sgt. Bruce Kennedy of 51 Division's Community Response Unit will fill in residents on how police are dealing with community complaints in our area. He will also offer advice and counsel as to how deal more effectively with a wide array of problems local residents are facing.

## Latest News on the West Don Lands (WDL)

by Cynthia Wilkey, Chair, West Don Lands Committee

**Gardiner Expressway and Lakeshore Blvd. EA Reconfiguration & Design Study:** Downtown Open House and Public Forum #1 – April 2nd, 5-9pm, Harbourfront Community Centre, 627 Queens Quay West.

This is the start of a study regarding the feasibility of removing the elevated portion of the Gardiner between Jarvis and Logan, as a way of supporting waterfront revitalization and connections between communities to the north and the new waterfront precincts. The first phase is establishment of the 'Terms of Reference'. Corktowners have much to gain from improved waterfront access, but there are also potential impacts such as changes to local traffic patterns that we need to ask about. It's vital to get involved in this process at the 'Terms of

Reference' stage to ensure potential benefits and concerns for Corktown are fully explored. Check the Waterfront Toronto website <http://www.waterfronttoronto.ca> for up to date info on this study.

**Jane's Walk – May 3rd:** Start at 10:30 outside Balzac's Coffee Shop in the Distillery. Join us for a repeat of last year's successful guided walk from the Distillery District through the WDL, Corktown and along the lower Don River path. Experience the Don with paddlers taking part in the annual Paddle the Don. The walk ends with festivities at the Keating Channel where paddlers take their canoes and kayaks out of the river.

**West Don Lands Committee Meetings:** First Monday of every month, 39 Parliament, 11th fl., 7pm.

Next meeting: April 27th. Meetings are open to the public and provide information about progress on the WDL and in other parts of the waterfront. On March 23, we learned that the TCHC development at the former McCord site (King and River), will now include affordable seniors' housing – something the CRBA had previously asked Waterfront Toronto to consider. We are also closely watching the 2015 Pan Am Games Bid to see if the WDL is chosen as the site for the Athletes' Village. Our MPP, George Smitherman and the Pan Am Bid Corp. have assured us that, if the WDL is chosen and our bid is successful, the development will respect the WDL precinct plan and the WDLC would be actively consulted. The WDLC has an e-mail group that you can join by sending me an e-mail at [wilkeyc@lao.on.ca](mailto:wilkeyc@lao.on.ca).

Advertisement

It's a Small Town..  
Downtown...

# CORKTOWN



**David MacLean**  
Sales Representative  
Bosley Real Estate Ltd., Brokerage  
ph. 416.465.7527

### Poised on the brink of a major transition.

Corktown is truly a neighbourhood everyone is watching! With numerous condo, loft and townhome developments underway, and Real estate values are on the rise in downtown East, homes in Corktown are nicely situated at the epicentre of this downtown east Renaissance.

**Thinking of Selling** .. this couldn't be a better Time!

Let me use my marketing knowledge to help your property

**STAND OUT & SELL for Top Dollar!**

**BOSLEY**  
REAL ESTATE  
BOSLEY REAL ESTATE LTD., BROKERAGE

[www.livinginthegta.com](http://www.livinginthegta.com)