

point by point

JUNE 1990

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POINT NEWS

DAVID CROMBIE ADDRESSES POINT ANNUAL MEETING

North Toronto had a triple treat at POINT's Annual Meeting: the meeting and its impressive report on the past year's activities, a celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the incorporation of North Toronto with a short historical walk preceding the meeting, and a speech from David Crombie, North Toronto's favourite son (who maintains his roots are in Swansea!).

Nearly 50 people participated in a most interesting and informative historical walk organized and guided by members of the North Toronto Historical Society. This provided a suitable preamble to the meeting and the main address given by Mr. Crombie.

David Crombie reassured the audience on the future of Toronto's waterfront. His appointment by the federal government as head of the Royal commission on the Future of the Toronto Waterfront has allowed him to use his ingenuity in writing his own terms of reference for this Commission.

His investigation has taken several forms: informal discussions on the streets of Toronto; five work

groups of people from both public and private sectors; a think tank of planners on how to make the imaginative best of our waterfront, and public hearings from January to May 1989. From all this input, the Commission produced its first Interim Report in August 1989, early enough to push for a response from Ontario.

Mr. Crombie summarized the recommendations of this early report. The role and future mandate of the Harbourfront Commission should be to provide excellent programming but to relinquish their land development responsibility. The Toronto Harbour Commission, a body with no political accountability, should be confined to the running of the Port of Toronto.

Recommendations on the future use of the Island Airport were included and environmental concerns also made up an important section of the Report. Mr. Crombie explained that the provincial government alone has the power to regenerate the waterfront geography. So then it was agreed to study the watershed and river valleys feeding into the waterfront of Toronto as one



people and organizations in north toronto
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ecosystem, Mr. Crombie's commission became a provincial Royal Commission as well.

Waterfront planning is being influenced by four main things, Mr. Crombie explained.

1. People feel strongly about their waterfront today, therefore higher standards must be met.

2. Historical forces, which dictated that railways be developed along shorelines, are changing. As railways become less important to our urban areas, we now have a unique historical opportunity to improve our waterfronts - an opportunity which will not come again, cautioned Mr. Crombie.

3. The governing of our waterfront today is a prime example of "an institutionalized lack of accountability," said Crombie, with 35 different municipal governments, 37 commissions, plus a number of various boards involved in the process. This must change.

4. The final influence on waterfront planning comes from the environmental movement, "the secular religion of our time", as Mr. Crombie called it.

Mr. Crombie sees his mission as one of caring for the waterfront. A major report due this August will reflect the concerns of Torontonians, plus his own suggestions for reclaiming a "clean, green, accessible waterfront".

CAN WE LEGISLATE CARING?

What do we need to provide a humane and livable community? In response to the Metro Social Development Strategy Task Force, Councillor Anne Johnston and POINT Chairman Cynthia Luks co-chaired a meeting at POINT on May 22.

Many needs were identified, including:

- housing (social housing, including supportive housing, as a priority)
- community information and education
- support groups and crisis centres (including short term crisis housing for adolescents and others)
- continuum of care in the community for seniors (from home support, transportation and snow shovelling to nursing homes)
- affordable day care plus programs for "latch key" children and education for parenting
- means of generating neighbourliness

If you have further concerns, suggestions, solutions, contact:
Metro Toronto Ward Councillor
Anne Johnston
Council of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto
390 Bay Street, Suite 312
Toronto M5H 3Y7 (telephone 392-4090)

POINT HOLDS FIRST YOUTH ADVISORY MEETING

On May 17, several students and staff advisors from 10 secondary schools in the North Toronto area met with POINT Directors at St. Clements Church.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues affecting the youth in our community. The students highlighted several major areas of concern. These included: the management of their stress; the environment; dealing with drugs, alcohol, sex and AIDS; and the elitism of the North Toronto community.

This frank and valuable exchange

will be very useful when planning future POINT directions. A special thank you to these caring and articulate students along with their staff advisors who came from Bishop Strachan, Branksome Hall, Crescent, Forest Hill Collegiate, Havergal, Lawrence Park Collegiate, North Toronto Collegiate, Northern Secondary School, St. Clements and Upper Canada College.

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POINTERS

NEW LOCATION FOR POINT'S AGENCY MARKETPLACE

Date: Saturday, September 22, 1990
Time: 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.
Place: North Toronto Fall Fair in Eglinton Park
(Eglinton Avenue West and Oriole Parkway)
POINT will be in touch with member agencies re their participation in the Annual Marketplace.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

"GOOD NEIGHBOUR" PROJECT IS LAUNCHED

SPRINT, Senior People's Resources in North Toronto, is a neighbourhood organization which provides a variety of home support services primarily to frail, elderly persons. But SPRINT can only reach a fraction of the people needing support, and even then, is limited in what it can do.

One thing it clearly cannot do is strengthen the supportive networks within the neighbourhoods of North Toronto. That task belongs to the

neighbourhoods themselves. However, it can offer a boost to the process through its newly launched "Good Neighbour" project which it hopes will encourage many of our neighbourhoods to develop a more pro-active, supportive attitude towards their members.

Here's how it works: A group of neighbours who want their block to be more "neighbourly" band together. They identify the needs, the opportunities and the resources in the neighbourhood, with the circle widening as more neighbours are drawn into the warmth of their concerns.

The circle of neighbours, recognizing that for every one of us there are times that we need some help from our friends, sets out to link needs to supports and supports to needs, believing that in these natural, informal linkings everyone is served. In the process, some magic happens and the rumour spreads that this is a really healthy, vibrant neighbourhood to live in!

How does it begin? With just one person, one neighbour who cares. If you are interested in exploring ways of making your neighbourhood a better place for everyone on the block, call Geegee Mills, the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator at SPRINT - 481-6411.

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KEEPING TRACK OF TORONTO'S TROLLEYS

The North Toronto Historical Society is meeting on Wednesday, June 27, 7:30 p.m. at Northern District Library (second floor). All are welcome to attend and hear guest speaker Mike Filey talk about Toronto's streetcars.

And it's not too early to mark Sunday, September 23 on your calendar. That's the next scheduled Historical Walk sponsored by the North Toronto Historical Society. Departure point is the south-east corner of Yonge and Lawrence at 2:00 p.m.

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SUMMER IN THE PARK IS BACK

Once again, North Toronto families and their children will be able to participate in a summer program of special activities at Davisville Park, Davisville and Mount Pleasant. This program, designed for children (up to age 5) and their parents/caregivers, is offered daily (Monday to Thursday) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from July 9 to August 30, 1990.

Registration will be held on July 4 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Central Eglinton Community Centre, 635 Mount Pleasant Road. Cost is \$60.00 for 8 weeks, and \$35.00 for 4 weeks per family. Call 487-4096 or 392-0747 for further information. This is a joint program sponsored by Central Eglinton Community Centre and Maurice Cody Community Centre.

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CENTRAL EGLINTON COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENS SUMMER DAY CAMP REGISTRATION

There's sports, crafts, games, music, theatre arts, stories and lots more at Summer Day Camp for children 3 to 12 years old. The camp program begins July 3 and runs on a weekly basis until August 24. You may register for as many weeks as desired, and extended hours

(8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) are offered. The cost is \$90.00 per week. For more information contact: Linn McCullough, Program Co-ordinator, C.E.C.C. 487-4096.

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SPEECH AND STROKE CENTRE NEEDS VOLUNTEER HELP

Warm, outgoing people are needed to assist adult stroke survivors in recovering communication skills through discussion groups Monday to Thursday mornings at The Speech and Stroke Centre - North York. Experience is not essential and training is provided. Please call Linda at 226-3636.

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VOLUNTEERS SIGN UP FOR FALL CANVASS

The Arthritis residential Campaign is in September, and hundreds of leaders and canvassers are needed, including older students. Can you or a family member give a 2 to 3 hour "gift of time" in September or at the beginning of October? It's a worthy cause with over 70% of the funds going to medical research. Can Mary Em Kenner at 481-4815 (up to 11:00 p.m.)

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SPRINT NEEDS HOME HELP CO-ORDINATOR

SPRINT, a non-profit home support agency serving the frail elderly and disabled in North Toronto, needs a Home Help Co-Ordinator. Duties to include case co-ordination, human resource management and maintenance of program systems. Undergraduate degree in Social Work, postgraduate degree in Gerontology and/or

experience in the field of human services. Salary up to \$29,145. Excellent benefit package. Call B. St. Cyr at 481-6411.

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CONFERENCES SEMINARS WORKSHOPS

HEAR ABOUT HOUSING ON TORONTO'S MAIN STREETS

Have you heard about a City of Toronto initiative called Housing on Toronto's Main Streets? It's a City-wide project aimed at encouraging developers to build housing above stores on local shopping streets, where transit, utilities and community facilities already exist. In a nutshell, it has the potential for creating badly needed housing in the City, besides providing a practical solution for accommodating the growing numbers of single and two-person households.

As part of the Housing on Toronto's Main streets overall study, the City hired consulting firms to carry out specific studies on parking and economic feasibility. In order to provide the consultants from both studies with an opportunity to discuss their findings and recommendations, and encourage the public to discuss the project and ask questions, Planning and Development Department staff are holding Open House evenings, from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. North Toronto residents will want to attend a meeting at the North Toronto Site office, 40 Orchard View Boulevard, Tuesday, June 19. For further information, call Jane Davidson at 392-0101.

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SENIORS

SENIORS STILL NEED SUMMER HELP

Summer is here! Enjoy the sunshine, meet new people and help your elderly neighbour by volunteering to deliver Meals on Wheels or drive a senior to a medical appointment. Mileage is reimbursed. Call SPRINT today - 481-6411.

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ENVIRONMENT

LEARN ABOUT COMPOSTING IN TORONTO

SWEAP (Solid Waste Environmental Assessment Plan) held a series of workshops on Backyard Composting this spring. For those of you who missed these workshops, and who would like information on composting, please call the Toronto City Hall, Solid Waste Management Division at 392-9585. Residents of Metro Toronto may also buy a subsidized composter (maximum cost \$20.00) from the City.

SWEAP also publishes a newsletter full of all kinds of information about things like cloth diapers, recycling and the pros and cons of incineration, so put your name on the list for that too.

They also hold public meetings. Please call the SWEAP office at 392-3753 for this information.

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REMARKS

1. The first part of the report...

2. The second part of the report...

CONCLUSIONS

3. The third part of the report...

4. The fourth part of the report...

5. The fifth part of the report...

6. The sixth part of the report...

7. The seventh part of the report...

8. The eighth part of the report...

9. The ninth part of the report...

10. The tenth part of the report...

11. The eleventh part of the report...