

## President's Message

Having completed my first year as president of the BVA I would like to start by thanking everyone for coming out tonight. It is you, the residents, and members of the BVA who have made this a great neighbourhood for the last 63 years. I would also like to thank our dedicated team of executives and volunteers, who spend many hours working to keep our residents safe and informed. Your experience and advice have been invaluable to me.

This past year the BVA executive team issued a survey to all residents to find out how you the residents feel about the association, and what you would like us to do. The response was very encouraging as 278 residents responded. The survey results are posted on the website. Please login and look at the results and comments, if you have not already done so. The executive committee has taken note of your comments and concerns and these have formed the basis of our strategic plan for 2019/20. The following items are what the committees are focusing on:

### Communications:

- Regular website updates with important information like break ins and security. We also have been listing information from the city regarding events, hearings, talks, as well as community updates for BVA events or events at the schools in our area.
- E-blasts continue to be sent out.
- Newsletters are mailed every couple of months.
- We have good relationships and open communications with our elected officials.

We are currently looking at implementing a new website that will be easier to update and more user friendly. This will allow us to post updates frequently and send out more E-blasts. It will also allow us to limit access to members only. After all membership should have its privileges. There will be more information on this when we are further along in the process.

### Membership:

- Challenge in recruiting new residents (cultural, offshore owners).
- Provide value to members. Potential new website will restrict access to detailed information to members only. Charge non-members more for events.

### Neighbourhood Watch:

- Advise residents what to do if they have been victims of a crime.
- Advise residents what to do if neighbours rent to Airbnb and it turns violent.
- Set up speaker series on home safety, security and emergency preparedness.
- Set up a Google drive for residents to report on crime and suspicious activity. This started as an initiative in the Yonge Lawrence area, and our division 33 officers have encouraged us to set this up, as it could assist them in preventing or solving crimes.

#### Municipal and Government Affairs (MAGA):

- Focus has been and continues to be the Bayview Village Shopping Centre redevelopment. There have been many meetings with the developer and the city, as well as numerous hearings. The province is also changing the rules with bill 108 and with the use of section 37 money.
- Assisting residents with advice regarding residential development in the area.

#### Environment:

- Advocate to the city on the ravine erosion and invasive plants. We recently took our councillor and a forestry representative through the ravine to show them the damage.
- Advocate to the city on toxins from stone cutting and leaf blowers. Our chair Monty McDonald was recently interviewed on CBC radio on this topic.
- Ravine clean up, Tree for Me

#### Events:

- Get neighbours out to talk to each other
- Celebrate Canadian or cultural events
- Casual pub nights

#### Volunteers:

- Through the survey we received several residents offering to volunteer occasionally on our committees. We held a volunteer night for new volunteers and we appreciate the time they have offered in assisting our committees.
- We are always in need of volunteers for the executive and the committees. Please let us know if you can take on one of these roles.

I would also like to thank two of our outgoing executive members. Courtney Douldron and Jan Siegel, both past presidents, have been a large part of this executive for many years. Their knowledge and insight will be missed.

Thank you again to all our members. I look forward to our continued partnership and to meeting more of you.