

Quayside Stakeholder Advisory Committee Members

July 2021

880 Cities, Lanrick Bennett Jr.

880 Cities improves the quality of life for people in cities by bringing citizens together to enhance mobility and public space so that together we can create more vibrant, healthy, and equitable communities. They believe that if everything we do in our public spaces is great for an 8-year-old and an 80-year-old, then it will be great for all people.

Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB), Bernard Akuoko and Neisha Mitchell

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind delivers innovative programs and powerful advocacy that empower people impacted by blindness to live their dreams and tear down barriers to inclusion. CNIB is made up of three distinct organizations: Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada, CNIB Deafblind Community Services and the CNIB Foundation. Each one plays a unique role in serving our community, but all are connected by an unwavering passion to change what it is to be blind today.

East Waterfront Community Association, David Chan

Established in 2020, the East Waterfront Community Association (EWCA) represents the interests of community members living in residential buildings from Yonge Street to Cherry Street and from Lake Shore Boulevard in the north to the water's edge in the south. The east waterfront is undergoing tremendous redevelopment and our fast-growing community is facing a desperate need for schools and parks and playgrounds for our young families, recreational sports facilities for our residents as well as effective public transit and PATH connectivity. We also must safeguard the peaceful enjoyment of our lakefront as with development comes construction noise, pollution, traffic congestion and safety concerns for visitors and our residents.

Gooderham and Worts Neighbourhood Association, Julie Beddoes

The Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association represents the interests of the community of residents in the Distillery Historic District situated on Parliament Street, north of the railway berm, very close to Quayside. We have worked to preserve the built and natural heritage of our special home and have supported inclusive, sustainable, affordable waterfront development since 2001.

Kehilla Residential Programme, Nancy Singer

Kehilla Residential program was established in 1982 as the UJA Federation's community housing agency. Kehilla's mandate is to identify and champion affordable housing initiatives responsive to the needs of the Jewish community in the Greater Toronto Area.

Nancy has been instrumental in creating new affordable housing opportunities for Kehilla's community and has worked on numerous affordable housing projects, organized workshops and events including debates and design competitions on affordable housing issues. She has been a strong voice advocating for non-profits' access to housing.

MaRS Discovery District, Alex Ryan

MaRS is North America's largest urban innovation hub focused on four key sectors: cleantech, health, fintech, and enterprise software. MaRS is expanding its Toronto footprint and will soon be joining many businesses on the waterfront at the Waterfront Innovation Centre. Alex oversees teams that are helping decarbonize electricity grids, design inclusive smart cities, improve community health and well-being, employ thousands of NEET youth (Youth not in employment, education or training), strengthen the impact investing market, and grow Canada's innovation economy.

St. Lawrence BIA, Mark Van Elsberg

A non-profit organization whose membership includes every business and commercial property owner within the St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood. It works to improve the public realm, promote the neighbourhood and events, and support local business. The group's mandate includes developing and implementing streetscape beautification including heritage lighting and signage, and promotional programs with a view to increasing business revenues and tourism in the area.

St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association, Suzanne Kavanagh

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA) is a non-profit resident association advocating for responsible development, promoting public and pedestrian safety, organizing events and celebrations, and championing the neighbourhood's interests with all levels of government. This neighbourhood is a mixed-income, ethnically diverse residential and commercial community adjoining the Central Business District. It extends from Queen Street East south to the rail corridor and from Yonge Street east to Parliament Street.

Toronto Centre for Active Transportation, Nancy Smith-Lea

The Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT) has a vision of vibrant cities with clean air, a healthy population, and a transportation system that prioritizes walking and cycling. Formed in 2006 as a grassroots coalition to give a unified voice to the many groups working for a better cycling and pedestrian environment in Toronto, TCAT's mission is to advance knowledge and evidence to build support for safe and inclusive streets for walking and cycling.

Waterfront BIA, Tim Kocur

Representing businesses along the Queens Quay corridor between Bathurst and Cherry Street, the Waterfront Business Improvement Area (BIA) supports the continued growth of the waterfront as a premier destination that is well-connected to the rest of the City and is beautiful, clean and vibrant year-round. The BIA engages in advocacy on behalf of the business community, supports targeted streetscape and on-street improvements, promotes the waterfront and its businesses through social media, and creates opportunities for activation in public parks and spaces.

Waterfront for All, Ed Hore

Waterfront for All is a citizens group made up of more than 30 organizations dedicated to preserving and enhancing the entire Toronto waterfront as a unique natural and cultural resource for all to enjoy. From Etobicoke to Scarborough, Waterfront for All invites citizens and groups from across Toronto to work together to keep the revitalization and beautification of the waterfront moving forward. It strives to represent citizens and groups from across Toronto.

West Don Lands Committee, Cindy Wilkey and John Wilson

The West Don Lands Committee (WDLC) is a coalition of community-based resident, business, service, environmental and heritage organizations, founded in 1997 and committed to positive, sustainable, inclusive development of the West Don Lands and Toronto's central waterfront. Our member organizations represent more than 40,000 residents and hundreds of businesses in the east downtown core of Toronto. The WDLC have been active contributors to the West Don Lands, East Bayfront and Keating Precinct Plans, the Lower Don Environmental Assessments, the Port Lands Acceleration Initiative, and many other community-building consultations in our area.

Member-at-large, Jane Pyper

Jane Pyper was the Chief Strategy Officer for the YMCA of Greater Toronto, an organization dedicated to igniting the potential in people, helping them grow, lead, and give back to their communities. The YMCA delivers a wide variety of programs including childcare, employment, newcomer settlement, emergency and transitional housing, camps, health and fitness, and youth programming. Previously, Jane was the Chief Executive Officer for the Toronto Public Library, one of the most loved and most used public assets in the city.

Jane is a Board member of the Wellesley Institute and on the Advisory Board of Kiinago Biinoogi Muskiiki/Our Children's Medicine, a charity dedicated to improving Indigenous representation in the Canadian workforce.