

The Standard

Annual General Meeting—the Danforth BIA

Monday, September 26, 2005—7:00 PM

The Willow Restaurant, 193 Danforth Avenue

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and introductions
2. Approval of 2004 AGM minutes
3. Treasurer’s Report
4. Chairman’s report on work undertaken in 2005
5. Proposed programs for 2006
6. Approval of 2006 budget
7. New Business
8. Adjournment

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The purpose of this meeting is to decide on the BIA budget for 2006 and general program. This program is paid for by a special levy charged to you as well as other commercial / industrial property owners and businesses in the Business Improvement Area. The best way to participate in the decisions being made by the board of the Danforth BIA is to get involved.

Please let the Administrator know by Friday, September 22, 2005 if you are planning to attend.

For more information and/or to confirm your attendance, please contact Judy Worsley—Administrator, the Danforth BIA at 416.429.4479

BOARD MEETING INFORMATION:

The next Board of Management meeting for the Danforth BIA is Sept. 12, 2005 at 6:30 PM at the BIA office located at 253 Danforth Avenue, 3rd floor. Please confirm with the Administrator by Thursday, Sept. 8th if you are planning to attend.

If you are interested in getting involved and helping to shape the future of your neighbourhood, why not drop in one of our board meetings just to get an idea of how we work. The meetings are usually held on the first Monday of each month (unless it’s a holiday).

Thank you!

Taste of the Danforth Members Session

On Tuesday, September 20, 2005 the GreekTown on the Danforth BIA Board of Management will be holding a meeting open to all members of the GreekTown and Danforth BIAs, dedicated specifically to Taste of the Danforth. This meeting will take place from 7 pm until 9 pm at Frankland Community School, 816 Logan Avenue.

Over the years, this festival has become one of Toronto's largest and most successful celebrations that garners the Business Improvement Area international media attention. Organizing an event of this magnitude is an epic undertaking and in GreekTown's efforts to plan this event they do their best to accommodate the known concerns of the multiple stakeholders. However, unforeseen challenges and issues do arise.

We would encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to voice your opinions directly to the Board and items that are brought forth at this meeting will then be incorporated into the Taste 2006 Policies and Procedures. If you are unable to attend this meeting but have an item you would like addressed, please fax (416-469-8200) or email bia@greektowntoronto.com the BIA office before 5 pm on Friday, September 16th. Please send a copy of your emails to the Administrator of the Danforth BIA at bia@thedanforth.ca so we can be aware of your concerns as well. Faxes can be copied to 416.429.9840 for the Danforth BIA office.

"Eucan" decide if they stay!

The new, test Eucan bin is currently located right in front of 253 Danforth Avenue. It's a recycling / garbage container that the City of Toronto is trying out and we'd like your feedback on it. The unit, called an EcoMupis, is hard to miss as it stands over 7' high, over 5' wide and is 2' deep. Some of the comments overheard have included: "it should be parallel to the street, not perpendicular to it", and "it's too big". There is a smaller version, called an EcoBox, being tested at the Chester subway station. It measures less than 5' high and is placed parallel to the street. Please have a look and let us know what you think about them. Both the EcoMupis and the EcoBox feature bins at both ends to collect garbage, cigarette butts, and recyclables. While the Danforth BIA is supportive of any initiative that will keep our city streets cleaner, we are equally concerned about how this will affect you, our members. We want to hear your opinions about these bins: good; bad; or indifferent. Apparently if City Council approves the use of the EcoMupis, Eucan will be installing 1,500 of them throughout the city and at locations of their choice. This means you might end up with one right in front of your store so please, send your comments to bia@thedanforth.ca or by fax to 416.429.9840. We will compile a report to send to our City Councillors.

Incoming:

J.L. Jewelry has opened at
315 Danforth Avenue
Tel: 416.839.2202

Pizza Nova is opening in Sept. at
240 Danforth Avenue

Joy of Dance Studio coming soon to
95 Danforth Avenue
Tel: 416.406.DANCE
Web: www.joyofdance.ca

Moving:

Yoga Sanctuary now at
95 Danforth Avenue
Tel: 416.461.6161
Web: www.theyogasanctuary.net

Outgoing:

Great Canadian Bagel from
353 Danforth Avenue

Blue Moon from
128 Danforth Avenue

N.B. If you notice some new
neighbours moving into our BIA,
please let the Administrator know
about it. We would like to welcome
them to our area. Likewise if a
neighbour is suddenly missing!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sidewalk Sale—late Sept or early Oct

Halloween on the Danforth—Oct 31

Last year, GreekTown on the Danforth BIA and the Danforth BIA worked together to produce a directory of all our members. The directory was distributed to 20,000 homes in the local community and was very well received. We are currently in negotiations with a new publishing company, Think Postcards, and will be producing a 2006 directory that will be ready for distribution to the neighbourhood at the end of November. We will also have enough directories left to provide our own businesses with enough to give out to their customers.

Think Postcards has created a timeline for us to ensure that the Danforth Directory goes out on time at the end of November 2005. We will be asking for your help in adhering to these timelines. Packages will be dropped off at your businesses starting next week and there will be an email sent out to ask for advertising in the new directory and the prime positions will be sold on a first come-first served basis.

We are pleased to note that the prices for advertising will be sold at a very slight increase over last year's rate although the quality of the paper has improved tremendously. Think Postcards will accept your ads as submitted or they can help you prepare your ads for a slightly increased fee—your choice!

We are currently updating our membership data and need your assistance. If your establishment was not included in last year's directory or you feel you were placed in the wrong category, first, please accept our apologies and second, send the correct information to the BIA office so we can adjust our records. You can send it by email or fax—your choice. We will also be including your website addresses in the 2006 directory so please send your website link to bia@thedanforth.ca.

EDITORIAL

I don't normally jump on the bandwagon and use a publication to express my opinion but I thought it necessary given some of the goings on leading up to and including during the Taste of the Danforth this year. First and foremost, the Board of Management of the Danforth BIA would like to express our many thanks to Linda Yielding for keeping on top of the rules & regulations and for monitoring the adherence to the permits. Linda does an amazing job for us here for any event she gets involved with on behalf of the Danforth BIA and we appreciate that she keeps her good humour throughout it all! We also want to express our appreciation to Sheila at Another Story Book Store who, although she was preparing to close her store, gladly allowed us to use her power source for one of the restaurants located on Broadview Avenue.

For those of you who might not be aware of this fact, the Danforth BIA extends to Broadview Avenue as far north as Pretoria and south to Fairview Blvd. The restaurants located on Broadview need a place to set up and plug in each year during the Taste since only Danforth Avenue is closed. This year, getting power seemed to be unusually difficult as the building and/or business owners were looking for exorbitant amounts of money to allow access by the Broadview restaurants to their hydro for the weekend. Unfortunately I got in the middle of this when I was trying to help out some of our BIA members by asking for assistance from other members of our BIA. It was quite an unpleasant eye-opener for me! I did what I thought was best for all considered in finding locations and then turned it over to Linda for the weekend.

During the weekend, there were grumblings and complaints from a couple of the businesses about their placements. Some of the arrangements made to accommodate two or more businesses were conveniently dismissed when it came to settling the cost of providing power. Some businesses tried to sell items not shown on their permits with the City of Toronto. Others moved their locations on the Sunday only to be directed back to their original spots by Linda, thank goodness! There were permits pulled from some of the businesses during the weekend but with Linda keeping track of all of you, and you listening, none of them were ours.

The Taste of the Danforth was originally conceived to showcase our restaurants and their usual offerings. It was designed to encourage people to sample our wares with the hopes that they will return to our area to spend their money in your stores. Please remember this next year when someone comes asking you for help.

Please remember that the Danforth BIA exists to try and encourage people to come to our area to shop and dine. We have prettied up the neighbourhood to make it a more attractive environment for people to wander through during the day and the evening. The Board does this for you all on a volunteer basis but it is difficult to keep up the enthusiasm when what we receive back from our members is apathy and complaints. Please put forth constructive criticisms only if you can accompany them with a viable suggestion. I think we need to get "back to basics" with the original idea of businesses helping businesses in our BIA.

Well, that's out of my system, thank you! As usual, please direct your comments, questions or concerns to the BIA Administrator by email to bia@thedanforth.ca or by fax to 416.429.9840. Please note that the opinions expressed in the Editorial do not necessarily reflect those of the Board of Management of the Danforth BIA.

NEW IDEAS WANTED:

The Board of Management of the Danforth BIA is always looking for fresh ideas and is accepting applications for a position on the board. If you are interested in getting involved and helping to shape the future of your neighbourhood, why not drop in one of our board meetings?

Check out your website
www.thedanforth.ca