

## MINUTES OF YQNA MEETING #104 Tuesday March 18, 2025

Live at Radisson Blu hotel with approximately 70 participants

Co-chaired by Ed Hore and Neal Colgrass

[Full video here](#) on YouTube

### 1. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Wendat, the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Chippewa, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. We pay tribute to their legacy and the legacy of all First Peoples of Canada. Today the traditional meeting place of Toronto is still home to many Indigenous People from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work in the communities that have grown in the treaty lands.

### 2. Ed Hore & Neal Colgrass – Co-chairs

- Introduction of YQNA's newly elected co-chairs and volunteers' roles:

**Co-chairs:** Neal Colgrass, Ed Hore; **Airport Expert:** Hal Beck; **Chief Technical Officer & Secretary:** Didi Wu; **Communications:** Ulla Colgrass, Neal Colgrass; **Environmental and lake issues:** Jennifer Lewis; **FoSTRA liaison:** Liz McGroarty; **Harbourfront Centre liaisons:** Lalita Krishna, Carl Laffan; **Marine Police liaison:** Stephen Cooper; **Police liaisons:** Julie Breen, Mark Stern; **Social Media:** Leah Lambert; **Traffic:** Julie Breen; **Treasurer:** Carolyn Johnson (now replaced by Margarete Akens). (See more details [here](#).)

- Great thanks to the [Radisson Blu Hotel](#) for generously providing meeting space for our YQNA meetings.

### 3. Carolyn Johnson – Treasurer

- Carolyn updated attendees on the [demolition](#) and the potential future plan for the former garage at 200 Queens Quay West.
- Carolyn reported that YQNA has just over \$2,000 in the bank and suggested people donate to YQNA by clicking on the "[Make a Donation](#)" button at the YQNA website.

#### **4. Tom Davidson (on behalf of Ausma Malik – Deputy Mayor and City Councillor)**

- On the Runway End Safety Areas (RESA) at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport: a new amendment to the Tripartite Agreement project agreement, which allows a minimal landmass extension under the most essential safety requirement, was [signed in January 2025](#). The Deputy Mayor will ensure the ensuing construction process for the RESA project has proper engagement with local community.
- In the next phase of Waterfront revitalization, a \$1 billion investment plan was [announced in January 2025](#), aiming to create over 14,000 new homes at Quayside and Ookwemin Minising, and [extend](#) the public transport system including East Waterfront LRT.
- The city is transferring the Toronto island ferry management from the Parks, Forestry and Recreation department to its fleet services division, as a third-party report finds the current ferry system [falls short](#) of industry standards.
- Infrastructure Ontario has withdrawn the [unpopular sewage plan](#), which would have allowed a combined sewage pipe discharge into The West Channel for the redevelopment of Ontario Place. But the future plan is unclear.
- Sign up for Ausma Malik's newsletter [here](#).

#### **5. Chris Glover – MPP**

- Chris thanked all for being elected MPP representing Spadina—Fort York again.
- Chris mentioned the coyote attacks on dogs increased after 850 trees were cleared out at Ontario Place, and the City is looking for a solution.
- Against the backdrop of the US tariff threat, Chris pitched to cancel the \$2.2 billion taxpayer subsidy to American and Austrian corporations, and contract Ontario companies to redevelop Ontario Place and showcase Ontario innovation.
- Sign up for Chris Glover's newsletter [here](#).

#### **6. Michael Conway – Associate Partner at Hariri Pontarini Architects**

- Michael presented on King and Portland Centre and The Well.

**6.1. King and Portland Centre** (1.5 acres): Mixed-use development with strong pedestrian network.

- o What's interesting and unique about the King west neighborhood is that there's a very strong porous pedestrian network that ends up running through it.
- o The popular restaurant BUCA in the King west neighborhood had no main entrance off the main street.
- o That became the start of our master plan: focusing on the pedestrians and ways of being able to move freely to all of the main streets internally within the block.
- o Part of this idea is pushing internal to the block, having a very strong connection linking these laneways with restaurants as a way of providing light and safety within the center of the block.
- o The final project fits into the neighborhood: people can see the heritage building of 602 King St. right at the corner and how it is scaled up.

**6.2. The Well (7.6 acres):** Large mixed-use development with deep lake water cooling and public engagement spaces.

- o The difference between one side of Spadina and the other side of the street is quite profound. The idea of the project is addressing this gateway condition to and from the Financial District to King St. W. and really having that strong relationship between the two.
- o Defining what the project is not: it's not a shopping mall and it's not the Financial District.
- o Meetings with community groups helped us come up with three main ideas for the project: it's an extension of King St. W. ; it connects the parks; and it links Draper Street to Spadina.
- o One noteworthy part of the project is the deep lake water cooling, which uses a large tank at the bottom of the Well, allowing for not only the heating and cooling of the 3 million square feet for the development, but also another 17 million square feet of future development to plug into it.
- o The city didn't want to see any additional shadowing on Clarence Square, so we ended up providing no additional shadow between noon and 2pm but allowing for 22 extra minutes of daylight on the park in March.
- o Another unique aspect of this project is that the client really wants to engage people and bring people into the building, so not only can you go into the lobby, but you can also go up to the rooftop restaurant and see the beautiful view of Toronto.

## 7. Cathy Loblaw – CEO, Harbourfront Centre

- Cathy updated on Harbourfront Centre's revitalization, including upcoming festivals, farmer's market, summer camps and other exciting events. Check out Harbourfront Centre's website [here](#).
- Queen's Harbour restaurant with over \$14 million invested will open in June 2025.

- Significant investments will be required for the aging campus, including marine & dock upgrades, HVAC systems, benches, Amsterdam bridge, fire and sprinkler systems, a light pole replacement, drainage and sewer, and walkway repairs.

#### **8. Dorsa Alizadeh – Manager of Operations at The Waterfront BIA**

- Dorsa invites attendees to join Waterfront BIA for Waterfront Community Cleanup on Earth Day, Tuesday, April 22. Participants will meet in Love Park from 10am to 1pm to grab free cleaning supplies. [See details here.](#)
- See more at [Waterfront BIA's homepage.](#)

**The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 13 at 7pm on Zoom.**