

Volume 1 - Issue 1 | March 2023

# Catch da Flava

REGENT PARK MONTHLY MAGAZINE



Cover Photography  
Aniqa Al-Basith

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## Want to Contribute To The Next Issue?

If you would like to submit content to Catch da Flava's monthly Regent Park newspaper, contact us at [info@focusmediaarts.ca](mailto:info@focusmediaarts.ca)

# Editorial - Catch da Flava Returns!

Welcome to the very first issue of Catch da Regent Park Monthly News! Catch da Regent Park Monthly News is a new on-line and print newsletter serving the Regent Park community. It is published by the FOCUS Media Arts Centre, in partnership with the Communications Table of the Regent Park Social Development Plan. Catch da Regent Park Monthly News takes over from the Centre for Social Innovation (CSI) and the great volunteer team made up of Denise Soueidan-O'Leary, Maya Kurup and Marguerite Jack which bought you the former Regent Park Monthly News. Of course, it is with sadness that CSI has, as you will soon read about, ceased its operations of the CSI Community Living Room and is reducing its presence in the Regent Park community. Nevertheless, the news must carry on and Focus is pleased and honoured to pick up the torch.

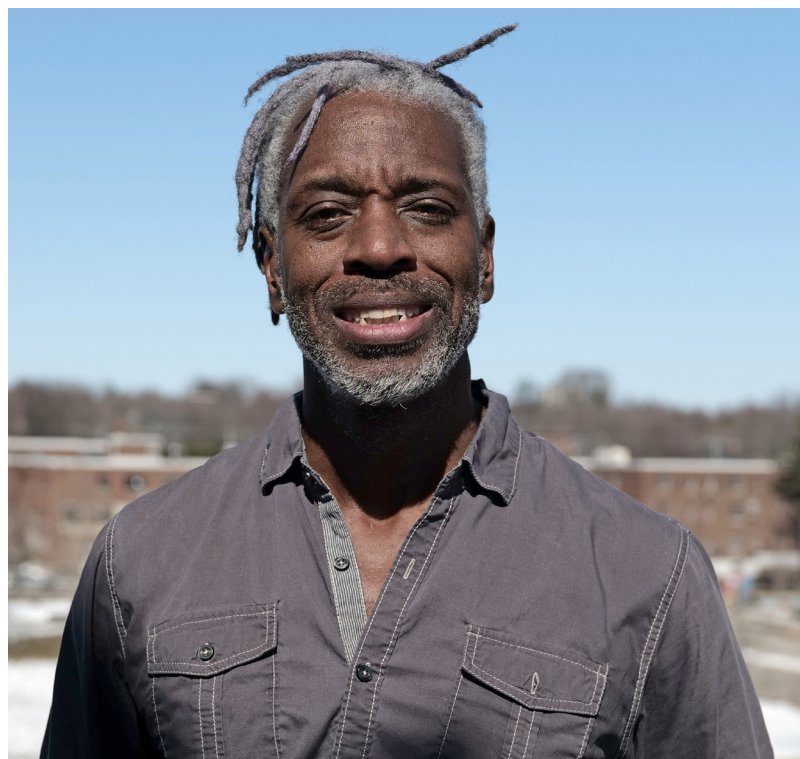
As far as the name goes, long time residents of Regent Park may remember Catch da Flava, a newspaper that was published by FOCUS Media Arts (formerly Regent Park Focus). Beginning in the early 1990s until 2011, it was written by youth living in Regent Park. With this new opportunity to engage in a print newsletter, we want to incorporate the same spirit of community voice as the former Catch da Flava and Regent Park Monthly News, but this time include more journalistic content. Whenever we can we will also use this opportunity to provide links to audio/visual content produced by Radio Regent and Regent Park TV.

So, with a nod to the name of the old publication and still committed to creating opportunities for youth and community members to contribute, we begin this new chapter of covering the news from a Regent Park perspective.

In this very first issue we feature stories about Black History Month, CSI's departure from the community, a disagreement between the City and the SDP community on funding related issues, a soccer program's struggle for funds, an

interview with recently elected MPP Krysten Wong Tam, the dropping of charges for Miguel Avila-Velarde and City Councils decisions on keeping Warming Centre's open 24/7. Finally we have two contributions related to body shaming from our FEMME media collective.

If you like what you see or have ideas to make us better, consider joining the SDP Communications Table and/or our FOCUS team of journalists and contributing an article or two. In any case reach out to us via email to [regentparkfocus@gmail.com](mailto:regentparkfocus@gmail.com) I look forward to your participation and readership.



*Adonis Huggins*

Executive Director  
Focus Media Arts Centre

# Charges Dropped for Regent Park Resident Involved In Toppling Sir John A. Macdonald Statue

By Dimitrije Martinovic

Regent Park resident, Miguel Avila-Velarde, who was arrested following his participation in the removal and destruction of the Sir John A. Macdonald statue from Gore Park in Hamilton, has had his charges dropped.

In August of 2021, Miguel Avila-Velarde was one of approximately 200 demonstrators who had gathered in Hamilton's Gore Park to protest the Hamilton City council's decision not to remove the statue of Sir John A. Macdonald. Protesters pulled the statue down using ropes tied to the statue's neck. The statue was further vandalized by a grinder, hammer, red paint and finally was beheaded.

John A. Macdonald, was Canada's inaugural Prime Minister, and considered by many to be a key architect in the creation of the residential school system. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2007), has since declared that residential schools were a form of "cultural genocide" against First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

Following the release of his photo and a warrant for his arrest, Miguel Avila-Velarde surrendered to Toronto police, and was charged with mischief exceeding \$5,000.

Although Avila-Velarde was one of four people suspected in the incident, which the Hamilton Police were investigating originally as criminal mischief, he was the only one charged.

In the final episode of the case against Miguel Avila-Velarde, Charles Spettigue a Hamilton defense lawyer (who represented Miguel), confirmed that the Crown has determined that "it wasn't in the public interest to proceed" with the case against his client.



# City Council Rejects the Call to Open Warming Centres 24 Hours A Day, Seven Days A Week

Written by Fred Alvarado

Despite an open letter to City Council sent by the Health Providers Against Poverty and Shelter Housing Justice Network and a Board of Health motion urging city council to provide around the clock access to warming centres for people living on the street, Toronto City Councilors still voted (15-11) to reject a call for council to declare a public health crisis and to open warming centres 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Coun. Michael Thompson, introduced amendments rejecting the motion from the Board of Health arguing that it will cost an estimated \$400,000 to run a single 24/7 warming centre for one month.

Coun. Alejandra Bravo, was among those opposing Coun Thompson's amendments countering that the issue is one of priorities, not funds, given the city came up with the money to deploy 80 Toronto Police Services officers a day to patrol the transit system last month.

As a result of the vote, warming centres will continue only to open when the city's Medical Officer of Health issues an extreme cold weather alert. An alert is issued if Environment and Climate Change Canada forecasts temperatures at -15 C or lower.

Since the Board of Health motion last month, calls from advocates and healthcare providers to keep centres open 24/7 have only grown and among the recommendations advocated by the Health Providers Against Poverty and Shelter Housing Justice Network are:

1. Open warming centers between September 15 and June 1 every year when the forecasted temperature for the day is 0°C or below, and ahead of inclement weather including freezing rain or snow and create a minimum of 250 spaces downtown, with access to alternative spaces granted through TTC fare or taxi.
2. Reinstate low-barrier 24/7 respite space until the shelter capacity is below 90%, as per the Toronto Shelter Standards (8).
3. Keep existing hotel-shelter spaces open, and add at least 2700 more non-congregate shelter spaces.
4. Stop the eviction of encampments and the destruction of survival gear.
5. Collaborate with all levels of government to build 10,000 rent geared-to-income units immediately and 90,000 additional units to address the growing wait-list.



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# A Conversation with Kristyn Wong Tam - MPP Toronto Centre

By Lawrence Rodriguez and Tyrone MacLean-Wilson

MPP for Toronto Centre discusses a broad range of urgent issues facing area residents.

In a wide-ranging interview, Member of Provincial Parliament of Ontario (MPP) for Toronto Centre representing the New Democratic Party, Kristyn Wong Tam sat down with Focus reporter, Allanis Inguillo, to discuss some of the key concerns that residents in the Downtown East neighbourhoods are facing.

**Allanis:** As the new MPP for Toronto Centre we would like to speak with you about some of the key issues that people in this neighbourhood are facing in the early part of 2023, and we were hoping to get your thoughts on some of the most pressing issues currently grabbing the spotlight.

For example, the long-proposed Moss Park Revitalization was planned to begin, however with Metrolinks moving in with their own plans to develop the new subway station, what is the status of the revitalization?

**Kristyn:** That's a great question and it's one that I'm also very curious about as a present member of the Provincial Parliament but also as a former city councillor of the area. That project is a much needed and important capital project for the city, for our communities we're talking about building a brand-new state-of-the-art recreation facility. The recreation centre for our community.

So, as I understand it, it's going ahead. There is money in the 2023 budget that is also carried forward from the 2022 budget and the city staff have actually been doing consultations. Some of the work was disrupted because of the COVID



pandemic but as it's explained to me, they are going to go ahead and build it [the recreation centre] along with the full refurbishment of the Moss Park arena, as well as the rebuilding of Moss Park the Green Space., So, that's good news for the community even if Metro links is coming along the south end of Moss Park.

**Allanis:** Today we are in a time of economic turmoil where the prices of just about everything have risen, how do you see the recent announcement by the TTC to raise the regular fare by 10-cents?

**Kristyn:** I just don't think people can bear that costs to be quite honest. Our community members that I am speaking to are already feeling the financial crunch. The housing cost has risen, their food cost is through the roof and now their fuel cost is through the roof. Now there is one more thing for them to bear. You know it is one thing if the TTC service is getting better and they're raising the fare, but they're actually raising the fare and they are reducing service. So, there will be more crowding on buses, more crowding on street cars, more crowding on subway trains and less frequent service, so I really am struggling to understand

how the mayor and city council could even possibly push this forward when people are asking for financial accountability. I'm very passionate about this because the working people need to have access to public services including transit that is safe, reliable, connected and affordable. Unfortunately, the city is going the wrong way, fares should not be increasing while they are decreasing service.

This is where the provincial government has a role to play because the TTC is overwhelmed and we do not have enough operational subsidies, but we don't have a provincial partner. The Ford government has not adequately invested in the operating of the TTC. So yes, the Ford government likes to talk about shiny new subways, but when it comes to operations, the day-to-day maintenance of the fleet, making sure that the vehicles are safe, and the tracks are safe they have not done that work. And that's the work that you don't get to cut a ribbon on, but that's the work that is going to be felt by our riders day in and day out. The provincial government has to step in with proper operating subsidies because the TTC is the operating system in North America that has the least amount of provincial subsidies. So that also has to be corrected.

**Allanis:** The Toronto Police Service is proposing a \$50 million increase, do you think this measure will be an effective solution to the rash of gun violence we are now seeing? And what would be a better alternative solution?

**Kristyn:** That is a great question and a question that we should be brave enough to answer directly. It's not just \$50 million for the police. By the time you add in the provincial operating dollars, which will be over \$10 million, the police budget is going to go up by \$61 million. So, the Toronto Police is getting a hefty bump in their budget and this is because of the mayor who led this conversation wants more community neighborhood officers. We all want more community-based policing. I think so. Not everybody, but it's a good use of our investments because we get a great return. Officers that are embedded in the community doing community work building community trust, that is

good.

What we are mindful of is that the police are already the largest line item on the city's budget and as they continue to grow, as they continue to increase their budget, we are also seeing crime come down. So violent crime has been coming down statistically across most boards and so why is it that they are asking for or why is it they're accepting an increase in their police budget?

What we need is to foster community safety which is, interesting enough, tied to the social determinants of health. So therefore, when people have access to adequate housing, access to adequate education opportunities and a life free of violence and all those other things that we know will lead people through a healthier life, they will reduce crime and it will improve people's well-being and also increase our sense of safety and security. That's what we should be investing that money in as opposed to more ammunition and more, you know, hi-tech technology that doesn't necessarily reduce crime because crime has already fallen down and time and time again. We've seen reports about what it would take for us to build safer communities, safer neighborhoods, and time and time again it's always investments in youth and investing in high quality recreation and art and cultural programs for young people, as well making sure that there's a mental health and adequate supports for families especially if they live with harm. Those are the things that will bring us more safety.

So, John Tory can place a police officer in every single corner of Toronto, should he choose to, he's the mayor. He's got super strong powers. He can do just about anything he wants since this is his budget. He could do that and it still will not keep our communities safe.

So, residents should get involved with the budget consultations, it's so critically important to be heard. Residents have every right to talk about how the government is spending their money and the services that are produced and delivered by government agencies. They are government employees, let us not forget that they work for us.

# Stop Body Shaming!

In this article, I want to talk about a very serious and huge problem that is happening to almost every girl in this world, especially teenagers. Today a lot of girls wish to be in the best shape and get fit bodies. Unfortunately, there is a lot of social media influencers such as BlackPink, that make a lot of girls want to get a body exactly like theirs.

Unfortunately, there are many different body types and many of us, no matter how much one might try, will never look the way some of these social media influences do.

The problem is a lot of girls who are overweight and don't have the perfect bodies are getting body

shamed by other people at school, in public, and even on social media. This makes them want to eat less and lose a lot of weight to look skinner, even if this makes them less healthy.

The point of this article is to tell girls that no matter how skinny or overweight you are, it is not going to make you any better or any worse. All girls look beautiful in their own ways and it's not about the body being skinny or fat that makes you feel great or prettier. Love yourself and your body, and don't worry what people say or think about your body because the way you look doesn't make you a good or a bad person.

By Shams A. - Shams is a member of Regent Park FEMME – a young women's collective of the FOCUS Media Arts Centre

## Beauty Standards

Her eyes are blue while your eyes are brown, hers represents the ocean while yours represents the ground, you never liked your eyes and wanted them to be blue. This is what society made us do. What do I see when I'm looking at me? I see a girl that wants to be free.

It's not about the straight hair, I don't have the thighs, my lashes aren't perfect, and I feel so shy. "Slim down, eat less, suck in, have chests," all these words are constantly whispered down my neck. It makes me ask myself, am I good enough yet?

Does my skinniness offend you? Do my curves affect you? Society is like a game, always telling me to change. Now all I'm left with is some pain.

What do I do because society tells me I'm not pretty if I don't overdue. Let me be that voice inside your head, that says don't be a Barbie nor a Ken. You are so precious, you are a gem, I see your beauty, the end.

By Fatima - Fatima is a member of Regent Park FEMME – a young women's collective of the FOCUS Media Arts Centre



# Unheard Voices: A Video About Criminal Harassment in Canada

In honour of International Women's Day, Focus Media Arts Centre in partnership with the Unheard Voices Committee has released an educational video entitled Unheard Voices: Criminal Harassment in Canada.

Criminal harassment, or the commonly referred term "stalking", is a form of abuse that takes a heavy toll on the lives of people who are victimized. Criminal harassment is one of the less visible forms of abuse making it difficult for the victims to access support and assistance. In fact, victims are often reluctant to report incidents of criminal harassment because they do not recognize stalking as a form of abuse or consider it illegal since no actual physical violence or assault has taken place. Additionally, victims have no awareness of their rights and are afraid that police and the criminal justice system would not take their allegations seriously. Although criminal harassment can be experienced by both men and women, in most cases, men are the perpetrators and women are the victims. The impetus for developing a project focused on criminal harassment first came from a Focus Media Art Centre (FOCUS) youth radio show on the topic of healthy relationships. In this show, a young woman described her experience of dealing with a former boyfriend who continued to text, Facebook, email and stalk her at school, regularly since breaking up a year before. She was surprised to learn from the public health professional being interviewed alongside her, that this behaviour constitutes criminal harassment and is against the law.

**You can watch the full video on YouTube on our channel [Regent Park TV](#).**



# NO!!! HE SHOULD HAVE STAYED

I feel that Mayor John Tory's extramarital affair and issues of consent are a private matter and should not affect his position and profession. Yes, it is true that he engaged sexually with a fellow staffer. This staffer, with whom he engaged, is rightfully shrouded in mystery. I understand and respect that the media did not "out" this woman and reveal her identity. Such an action could be unsafe and have long-term consequences against her, as culture tends to demonize women in such situations.

Nevertheless these are personal matters for both parties. People speak of an abuse of power, but the woman he engaged with was a willing participant. She knowingly engaged with Mr. Tory, and we do not have all the details and may never have them. There is a possibility that the young woman used her own power to her advantage.

If ex-mayor Tory, in some way, coerced the fellow worker into having sex to gain money, power, or position, then that is another matter and grounds for disciplinary action or resignation, but we do not have all the details. From a societal point of view, we need to stop instantly blaming men. The MeToo movement is real, and sexual abuse is real, but it is not fair, nor is it democratic, to be the judge, jury, and jail as citizens.

Toronto has been going through many crises since the pandemic, including debt, homelessness, city violence, racism, and antisemitism, which are prevalent issues in our city. This is a terrible time for our mayor to have left as we need consistency of power. Although I have strong opinions on Mayor John Tory's decisions for our city, I still feel it is more detrimental for him to have left during this difficult economic and social time. He does more harm than good with his abrupt and unexpected departure.

Ryan Field - Ryan is a volunteer journalist with FOCUS and a student at George Brown College.

## Face off! "Should John



"I took a picture with John Tory, where we talked a lot about Regent Park. I think he's a very nice person. I think he's very pleasant with the city."

- Mohammed

John Tory have resigned?”



“I’ve not been a fan of the mayor’s time in office. He’s done things like vote to close warming centers. He hasn’t supported the city’s homeless or affordable housing on TTC. A lot of his policies have led to some of the problems we’re facing now. So I’m actually glad to see that he’s resigning. But, you know, if we look at the mountain of issues that have led to this, frankly, should it come sooner?” -

Dan

## YES! HE SHOULD GO

Elected officials are held to a higher standard of ethics and morality as they are responsible for representing the values and beliefs of their constituents. Toronto Mayor John Tory’s alleged affair has been deemed by some as a breach of public trust, potentially contradicting the values commitment and honesty that he campaigned on. Such actions can raise serious doubts about an elected official’s ability to govern effectively.

Moreover, an elected official’s personal conduct can directly affect their capacity to govern. Engaging in behavior that undermines integrity can prompt questions about an official’s capability to make decisions in the best interest of their constituents. The potential loss of public trust and confidence, resulting from the scandal surrounding Mayor Tory’s alleged affair, could hinder his ability to govern effectively.

While an individual’s private life should typically be respected, public officials must be held to a different standard of accountability due to their role in serving the public. Their conduct, both private and public, is subject to scrutiny as it reflects their ability to serve effectively, impact their reputation, and credibility. If an elected official violates the public’s trust, they must be held accountable. For some, this could mean resignation, as it demonstrates responsibility and accountability to the public and a commitment to the principles of public service.

In summary, the personal conduct of elected officials can have significant implications for their ability to serve in public office. Mayor Tory’s alleged affair could be interpreted as a violation of public trust, which could undermine his effectiveness as a leader. Some people believe that he should resign from his position, as it would demonstrate his commitment to ethics and accountability, serving the best interests of the public.

By Claudia - Claudia is a TCDSB Student.

# Understanding The Regent Park Social Development Plan (SDP)

The SDP was created in consultation with Regent Park residents and stakeholders to preserve the spirit of the neighbourhood through the revitalization process and to stimulate social cohesion and positive social change in the community. The SDP outlines social / economic strategies and mechanisms that will lead to a renewed community and is organized around the four pillars, each represented by a working group. They are Communications, Community Building, Employment and Economic Development, and Safety. The SDP is also supported through various committees including a SDP Planning Committee that guides the work. All working groups and committees are governed by the SDP Stakeholders Table.



# The Monthly Regent Park SDP Report



## City Staff Defends their decision to allocate 2023 SDP funds without consulting the SDP Planning Committee

By Fred Alvarado

The Social Development Plan is built around 4 areas of priorities of the SDP. Each priority area is represented by a different committee. The SDP committees are Safety, Communications, Employment and Economic Development and Community Building.

In addition to the four committees, there is a SDP Planning Committee, comprised of members and stakeholders that meets weekly to help guide the activities of the SDP.

The first SDP Planning Committee of the 2023 year took place on January 12, 2023.. The meeting was chaired by Greg Gary, an agency chair of the SDP.

The January 12, 2023, planning committee meeting focused almost entirely on concerns related to the SDP funding, namely the City of Toronto's staff decision to allocate 2023 funding resources, without prior consultations with the SDP. The invited guests for the meeting were Jenifer Hoffman, and Oleg Segin, from the City of

Toronto Community Funding Unit.

Adonis Huggins from Focus Media Arts Centre and an agency member of the SDP Communications Committee began the meeting by outlining the SDP's year-long deliberations that were held with the City prior to the call for proposals. Adonis pointed out that at the end of these year-long deliberations, the City and the SDP came up with a mutually agreed upon process for the 2022 funding application. Adonis argued that at no time was there a discussion about allocating 2023 funds to groups that applied for the 2022 call for funding applications.

By not consulting the SDP, Adonis argued that the City violated its agreement to work collectively with the SDP. "If this idea suddenly came up, why didn't the City come back to the SDP and say, 'Hey, we are considering using the 2023 allocations to fund more of the 2022 applications...what do you think of this idea?'" argued Adonis.

In response, Jennifer Hoffman stated the view that the SDP Planning Committee is in conflict of interest as many of its members had applied for the 2022 call for proposals. Jennifer argued that the City could not come back to the SDP without violating its conflict of interest policy. Richard Kirwan, from City Development Unit, reiterated Jennifer's position, that City can't come back in the middle of a funding review process to talk to

people that have applications in the process.

Adonis refuted the City's conflict of interest claim by arguing that there was no need to release any information about any of the applicants that were conditionally approved. The only information that the City needed to inform the SDP about, was that the City was proposing to use funds earmarked for 2023, to fund some of the 2022 applicants. In these discussions the applicants would remain nameless.

Jennifer Hoffman argued that the City did consult with the jury panel, which comprised of Regent Park community members, about the idea of using 2023 funds to resource more of the 2022 applicants. To which Adonis argued that instead of working with the SDP, the City empowered an ad hoc grant review panel of residents to make decisions about matters that should have been addressed at the SDP Planning Committee meetings.

Adonis also pointed out that the SDP Planning Committee had scheduled meetings in December precisely to hear from Oleg and the City Community Funding Unit on how the process was going. Unfortunately Oleg Segin, for whatever reason, did not attend these meetings. Additionally, the City development staff who were present (Richard Kirwan and Daniella Castello) indicated that there was no need to reschedule Oleg, as there was no issues for the SDP to be concerned about.

In the January 12th meeting, Oleg Segin from the Community Funding Unit argued that he didn't think he had to go back to the SDP, dismissive of the fact that the SDP Planning Committee had been holding a review of the funding in partnership with the City for the past year.

At the meeting, Ismail Afrah, one of the SDP Resident Co- Chairs, raised questions of transparency, reminding everyone that the City communicated a call for proposals in the amount of \$500,000 dollars, and not a call for proposals for 1 million dollars! In response, Jenifer Hoffman indicated that she did not see any negative consequences to the decision as more community groups would be funded, including groups involved

in the SDP.

Ismail argued that if community members had known that this was the City plan, more members would have made submissions.

At the meeting, Walied Khogalli, a resident and co-chair of the community building working group, forcibly argued that there was an expectation to consult with the SDP. City staff cannot make decisions unilaterally. Oleg again indicated that there was no broken promises.

Walied continued to press his point asking Oleg to show him a public document that the City or the SDP committed to a million dollars.

Gail, a resident member of the SDP, wanted to know what the City's idea of collaboration is? She indicated that she was tired of fighting with the City in meetings after meeting.

The meeting ended without any clear resolution between the City and the SDP on whether or not City staff had the right to unilaterally make decisions without consultation with the SDP on funds earmarked by City Council for the SDP.

One thing that did come out through this conflict is that it's now perfectly clear that the City and the SDP Planning Committee hold two very different views on the purposes of the SDP funding, as well as to: Who the SDP funds are accountable to? What transparency means? What is conflict of interest?; and what partnership and collaboration means?

It remains to be seen how the City Staff and SDP will work together without a common understanding of these issues.

## The SDP Funding Task Group is critical of the City's Community Funding Unit

The Funding Task Group which was formed by the SDP Planning Group on January 17, 2023, initially in response to the City Community Funding Units failure to inform the SDP about their decision to allocate 2023 funds to 2022 applicants. The Funding Task Group reported back at the February 16, 2023, SDP Planning Committee.

The presenters were Sarah Jane, a market resident member of the SDP, and Adonis Huggins, an agency member of the SDP.

Adonis began the presentation of the report by stating that, after a review of the 2022/2023 allocation, the Funding Task Group has come to the conclusion that the City of Toronto Community Funding Unit, redirected the SDP funds from the SDP network to the wider community and that the SDP Stakeholders Table no longer has control of the funds that was allocated to SDP network. Adonis went on to say that the task group conclusions were based on four actions that the Community Funding Unit carried out related to the 2022 funding.

The first action was the opening of the SDP Funds to non-involved groups. Adonis Huggins explained that in the past all funded projects derived from an applicant's involvement in the SDP network as part of a collaborative process for determining how funds should be spent. In 2022, the Community Funding Unit insisted that the SDP funds should be open to any applicant operating in Regent Park regardless of their involvement in the SDP. Furthermore the Community Funding Unit opposed the view that all successful applicants had to join the SDP.

The second action, presented by Sara Jane, was the use of an independent panel to decide SDP funds. Using the argument of conflict of interest, Sara Jane explained that the Community Funding Unit was not interested in any communal process enabling the SDP network to self-determine the

allocation of the SDP funds as was done in the past. Instead, they insisted on the establishment of an independent review panel made up of non-SDP residents of Regent Park. Only after objections did the Community Funding Unit agree to add four SDP members, provided that they were not involved in the development of the project applications. These members were not allowed to disclose their participation on the panel or seek council from the SDP on any of the applicant projects they were reviewing, or get advice on how aligned an applicant's project was to the SDP. Although all members would undergo a training session, the Community Funding Unit resisted the SDP involvement in co-designing or co-participating in the training session.

The third action was the lack of attention paid to the importance of the SDP Priority Areas. Here, Adonis reminded the members, that the SDP revolved around four priority areas each represented by a working group. The initial 2022 draft application that the Community Funding Unit released for consultation with the SDP had no mention about funded projects needing to be aligned to the four priorities of the SDP. This criteria was only added to the application after much opposition by the SDP.

The final action that the Community Funded Unit did was making a decision to allocate the 2023 SDP funds to 2022 applicants without consulting with the SDP. Sarah Jane explained that this was in total disregard of the SDP network and the year long review that the SDP Funding Committee undertook with the Community Funding Unit.

Sarah Jane concluded by stating that whether CFU staff realizes it or not, their actions have in the view of the Funding Task Group, diminished the effectiveness of the SDP and reduced the network's ability to identify funding priorities and to undertake collective action strategies that respond to community needs.

The meeting ended with the committee voting in full support on a motion to direct the co-chairs and SDP Funding Task Group to hold discussions with the City to resolve these issues.



## WELLNESS HUBS

Every Wednesday (Walk-in only)

Cold, Flu, Covid Testing & Treatment Clinic  
(Fever, Cough, Sore throat, Runny nose, etc.)  
Blood Pressure & Diabetes Check-up  
3:00-6:00 pm  
40 Oak Street, Toronto M5A 2C6

Every Thursday (Walk-in+ Appointments)

Flu, Covid and Catch-up Vaccines  
Cholesterol, Blood Pressure & Diabetes  
Check-up and Follow up and more  
1:00-6:00 pm  
465 Dundas St. E., Toronto M5A 2B2



Every Saturday (Walk-in+ Appointments)

Flu & Covid Vaccines  
Blood Pressure & Diabetes  
Check-up  
9:30 am-12:30 pm  
40 Oak Street, Toronto M5A 2C6



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DOWNTOWN EAST TORONTO  
ONTARIO HEALTH TEAM

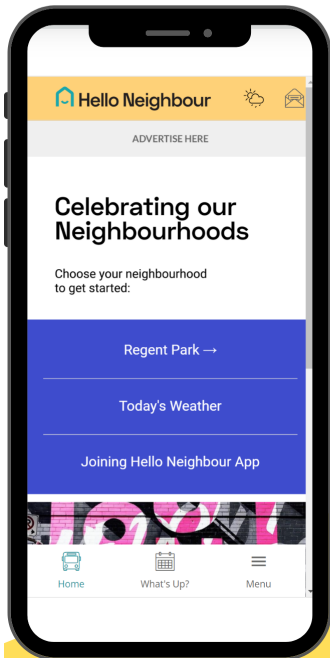


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## Tune In To Radio Regent!



Radio Regent features a diverse array of original programming including music, spoken word and news shows with an emphasis on social justice, promoting local artists, and providing relevant community news to the Downtown-East neighbourhoods, City of Toronto residents and beyond.

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