



“Working to enhance the value and quality of living in historic Shaughnessy”

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Angus	Graham Kedgley	William Lim	William Steen	Angela Woo
George Chow	Sandra Kelly	Katherine Reichert	Tony Tang	Phil Yacht
Bruce Douglas	Peter Kwok	Michael Roburn	Yasmin Virani	
Kilby Gibson	Julia Lai	Frank Shorrock	Zoe Wise	

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 550 AND GROWING !

“Season’s Greetings”

**York House School Expansion Rezoning
Application**

York House School is asking the city for a rezoning in order to build a major expansion, including a 300-seat performance theatre, and further increasing their site density. This is a major concern not only for the neighbours of York House School, but for all of us living in Shaughnessy as well. We value the peace and tranquility of living in Shaughnessy, yet York House School wishes to reserve the option of using its proposed theatre for commercial purposes in the future, which will bring excessive traffic and parking into an already extremely congested area. Furthermore, it will set a precedent of allowing a high density development right in the center of Shaughnessy, where no neighbouring property is anywhere as densely built up as what the school proposes to do. At the very least, the additional traffic and parking problems around the school as a result of the expansion are likely to spill out to a wider neighbourhood, especially if the city puts in resident-only parking in the immediate vicinity of the school. Therefore, we must unite and help the York House neighbours preserve the livability of their neighbourhood, because in doing so, we will be preserving the livability of Shaughnessy for all of us and our future generations.

Over the summer, York House School proposed a revised Good Neighbour Pledge, and amended their expansion plans to include 22 additional underground parking spaces. While the new Pledge looks good on the surface, there is still a wide gap between what the school

is willing to do and what the neighbours need to protect the livability of their neighbourhood. Primarily, the commitments made by the school in the revised Good Neighbour Pledge, including their proposed Traffic Management Plan, have no enforcement mechanisms built in, despite the fact that the last time around (1992), the school made certain promises to the neighbours and never lived up to all of them. Furthermore, if the neighbours have a problem in the future, there is no binding arbitration mechanism either.

Please visit our website:

www.shaughnessyowners.com

It is continuously updated and contains the most up-to-date information on the various issues facing our community. Our members have also been receiving emails from us if a matter requiring urgent action comes up. IF YOU HAVE NOT GIVEN US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS OR FAX NUMBER, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE by emailing us at shpoavan@hotmail.com, or contacting us by fax or mail as listed at the end of this newsletter.

In the future, we hope to be able to send general meeting notices to you by email or fax, but that will involve a slight amendment of our bylaws. We are awaiting the release of the new Societies Act by the government, which may have an effect on our bylaws, before we make any further amendments.

The proposed school theatre remains the biggest concern, because its seating capacity is high in demand these days by commercial production groups, so that the lure of renting it out will be very tempting. The amount of on-site parking, even with the additional proposed spaces, will be grossly inadequate, and the traffic brought to the neighbourhood will be unacceptable.

Some time in the new year, city staff may decide to put this matter to a public hearing. Please look out for such a date in the newspapers, and attend the public hearing to support the York House neighbours!

Meanwhile, because this matter is of such importance to Shaughnessy, our board has approved a \$2,500 matching fund to the York House Neighbours Steering Committee for legal consultation to protect the interests of the York House neighbours.

Filming Activities in Shaughnessy

At the last AGM, some members complained about excessive filming activities at some locations in Shaughnessy. We talked to the city staff responsible for approving where film crews could work, and obtained assurance that they would try to avoid overly disturbing the same neighbourhood over and over again. If you have a problem with the film crews or their shooting schedule in your area, please directly contact Ms. Muriel Honey, Manager, Film & Special Events Office, City of Vancouver, phone: 604-871-6447, fax: 604-871-6139, or email: Muriel_honey@city.vancouver.bc.ca. You may also obtain from her the City's guidelines for approving on location filming.

Street Tree Replacement

A member also commented that the city is not replacing deceased street trees with new ones of the original species, thus upsetting the uniformity on certain streets. We found out that the City has a new policy of striving for variety rather than uniformity, and part of the rationale is that if a fatal disease hits a certain kind of trees (as is now happening on King Edward), not all the trees on the same street will die if there is a variety of species.

Our Input to the Police Department

On March 27 this year, the Vancouver Police Department and the Vancouver Police Board co-hosted a workshop called "Community Dialogue". The purpose of this workshop is to seek input on what the top community safety issues are, and the preferred methods of police service delivery. They invited participants from 23 geographical communities from the city to participate, including SHPOA. Our directors Sandra Kelly and George Chow represented us at this workshop and voiced the safety and security issues in our neighbourhood.

This workshop was meant to help determine the priorities and goals of the Vancouver Police Department in striving to improve community safety, and help formulate their 2004-2008 Strategic Plan, which has now been released and can be found at:

<http://vpd.harbour.com/StratPlan/StrategicPlan.pdf>

Proposal to make Angus Park dog off-leash

Parks Board staff has proposed to make Angus Park dog off-leash and invited comments from us and from the park's immediate neighbours. A majority of the feedback they received was against the proposal. It is not known at the moment when Parks Board will make a final decision on the proposal.

New SHPOA bylaws

The new bylaws adopted by our members at the last AGM are now posted on our website. If you would like to have a hard copy of the new bylaws, please contact us.

Contact Us

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Peter Kwok, President (tel: 604-730-8223, fax: 604-730-2979), or email us at shpoavan@hotmail.com.

Our mailing address is: P. O. Box 62059, #147 - 4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver, B. C., V6J 1Z1.

"Happy Holidays"

(Chinese Translation of the complete Newsletter will be available upon request)

(如有需要取得此份會訊的中文翻譯版，請與我們聯絡)