



West Toronto Junction Historical Society

2025 Annual Report

prepared for the 2026 Annual General Meeting

May 7, 2025

Prepared to record the calendar year 2025

FINAL

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	4
List of WTJHS Executive Members and Committee Chairs	5
Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting.....	6
President’s Report	8
Financial Statements	9
Corresponding Secretary’s Report	15
Membership Secretary’s Report.....	17
Committee Reports	18
Volunteer Coordinator’s Report	18
List of Committees and Volunteers	19
The Leader & Recorder Editorial Group Report	23
Archives Committee Report	25
Phone Crew Report	27
Nominating Committee Report.....	28
Web Report	30
Engagement Facilitator’s Report	31
Junction Heritage Conservation District Study Report.....	37
Buildings Proposed for Municipal Listing and Provincial Designation	38

Introduction

The 2025 Annual Report of the West Toronto Junction Historical Society documents the structure, leadership, volunteers and activities of the Society during the calendar year 2025, with some reference made to matters taking place in 2024 and 2026.

Much was accomplished during 2025. Activities conducted by the Society were responsive to, as well as embodied, current topics relevant to the West Toronto Junction neighbourhood and to the broader field of history, as indicated in the reports found throughout this annual report. This is to the credit of the Society's leadership and volunteers and to the continuing support of the membership and our broader community.

We also acknowledge with thanks the very welcome support of the Government of Ontario through the Heritage Organization Development Grant of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming and the continuing support of the Toronto Public Library, particularly the Annette Street Branch.

List of WTJHS Executive Members and Committee Chairs

Elected Executive Members

President – Vacant

Vice President – Yvonne Mazurak

Treasurer – Peggy Mooney

Recording Secretary – Hope Humphrey (January - April), Michael Bohdanowicz (May onwards)

Membership Secretary – Adrian Schincariol (January – April), Jim Lane (May onwards)

Corresponding Secretary – Christopher Ruddy

Standing Committee Chairs (also members of the Executive)

Nominating Committee – Leila Mirsafian (March - May)

The Leader and Recorder Editorial Group – (Editor) Cass Pollack, (Chair) Leila Mirsafian

Engagement Facilitator – Katy Whitfield (January – April)

Archives – David Bridge, Diana Fancher

Web Coordinator – Jacopo Stifani

Phone Crew – Michael Bohdanowicz

Event Display Coordinator – Kevin Brown (May onwards)

Volunteer Coordinator – Valeria Hernandez (May onwards)

Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

15 May 2025 – 7 PM, Annual General Meeting
Toronto Public Library – Annette Branch

In attendance: Yvonne Mazurak (VP); Diana Fancher (Archives); Leila Mirsafian (L&R); Richard Lundeen (Nominating committee); Christopher Ruty (Corresponding Secretary); Katy Whitfield (Engagement Facilitator); David Bridge (Archives) Jacopo Stifani (Web Coordinator); Cass Pollack (Editor); Hope Humphrey (acting Recording Secretary); plus 30 others

Minutes prepared by Hope Humphrey

Item	Description	Action
1	Welcome - The meeting was called to order by Yvonne Mazurak at 7:04 PM. Quorum was verified. The Exec and Committee chairs introduced themselves.	
4	Land Acknowledgement	
5	Agenda – Madeleine M. moved acceptance of the agenda. Seconded. CARRIED.	
6	Minutes of May 2 nd AGM meeting – Yvonne Mazurak highlighted from this meeting including the tribute to Gib Goodfellow, that the Treasurer shared that WTJHS will be seeking new revenue sources, and one book will be reprinted. Hope Humphrey moved approval of these minutes. Seconded. CARRIED.	
7	Treasurer’s Report & Budget – Diana Fancher shared summary of financial matters on behalf of Peggy Mooney, Treasurer. Diana moved to approve the 2025 Budget. Seconded. CARRIED.	
8	Motion to Approve the 2024 Financial Statements – Diana Fancher moved approval of the 2024 Financial statements. Seconded. CARRIED.	
9	Motion to Appoint Accountant – Diana Fancher moved to extend the appointment of Gallagher and Mannisto as the WTJHS accountant. Seconded. CARRIED.	
10	Motion to Accept Decisions and Actions of the Elected Officers and Executive since the last AGM. Christopher Ruty moved. Seconded. CARRIED.	
11	Motion to Rescind Bylaws 1+2 and to Adopt New Bylaws – Yvonne Mazurak shared that, as recently communicated to members, ONCA has replaced Ontario’s Corporations Act. Non-profits that ONCA applies to need to update their bylaws. Shared that these Bylaws are more robust than previous version, mainly to set out what is required by law or is best practice, as recommended by the Ontario Heritage Society. Among the changes is that the Bylaws bring the Society in line with typical language and structure of Directors and Officers.	

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

	Chris Ruty moved. Seconded. CARRIED.	
12	Committee Reports – Yvonne opened up the floor to any questions and comments. The AGM 2024 Report has been posted on the website. No questions.	
13	<p>Election of Officers – Richard Lundeen oversaw the election. Richard read out the list of candidates and asked three times for new appointments from the floor for the offices.</p> <p>Returning Directors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yvonne Mazurak • Peggy Mooney • Christopher Ruty • Diana Fancher • David Bridge • Leila Mirsafian • Cassandra Pollack • Jacopo Stifani <p>New Directors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Bohdanowicz • Jim Lane • David Rinaldo • Kevin Brown <p>Richard Lundeen called for a motion to appoint this slate of candidates. Seconded. CARRIED. Richard Lundeen motioned we authorize the executive to add, remove, or replace executives as required from now to the next AGM. Seconded. CARRIED.</p>	
15	Richard Lundeen moved a motion to thank retiring officers and volunteers for all of their hard work and efforts. Thanks to all who retired this year. Seconded. CARRIED.	
18	Yvonne Mazurak moved for adjournment of the meeting at 7:55 PM. CARRIED.	

President's Report

Yvonne Mazurak

Dear Members, Volunteers, and Friends,

As always, it is a pleasure to take this opportunity to reflect on the many opportunities we had to come together in the last year. Looking back on 2025 for WTJHS, the commitment and enthusiasm of our members and volunteers was as strong as ever. The time, energy, and care you bring to the Society is how we are able to do what we do.

Over the course of the year, we were fortunate to host a range of engaging speakers at the Library. We also had the chance to connect in person at community events like the Junction Farmers Market and our Holiday Sale. And after such a strong debut last year, our Haunted Pub Crawl returned for four nights and was once again a highlight of the season—quickly becoming a favourite tradition. We also launched our new t-shirts, which have been selling quickly (and remain available for purchase at the Archives).

As we look ahead, there's a lot to be excited about. We're seeing new energy and ideas emerge from both our growing membership and our Executive Committee. The Junction is a truly special part of the city, and we remain committed to celebrating its history while continuing to evolve and offer programming that is relevant and engaging. We are currently working on a number of new initiatives and look forward to sharing more with you soon.

We're always glad to hear from members who want to get involved—whether that means sharing ideas, volunteering, or helping shape future projects. If you've been thinking about taking a more active role, we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you again for being a part of this community and helping keep history alive in our neighbourhood.

Warm regards,

Yvonne Mazurak
Vice-Chair

Financial Statements

This section contains draft financial statements as they appear in the report from Gallagher & Mannisto.

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2025

(unaudited)

(SEE COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT)

Gallagher
& Mannisto
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL
ACCOUNTANTS

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

459 KING STREET EAST
TORONTO, ONTARIO M5A 1L6
TELEPHONE: 416.360.1010
FAX: 416.360.6802
WWW.GALLAGHERMANNISTO.CA

COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To Management of West Toronto Junction Historical Society

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the balance sheet of West Toronto Junction Historical Society as at December 31, 2025 and the statement of revenue, expense and members' equity for the year then ended, and Note 2, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information.

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, Compilation Engagements, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Toronto, Ontario
April 22, 2026

Gallagher & Mannisto
Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

*Gallagher
& Mannisto*
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL
ACCOUNTANTS

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025
(unaudited)

(SEE COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT)

ASSETS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 22,663	\$ 30,237
Term deposit	10,000	-
HST refundable	2,894	4,645
Inventory	<u>8,344</u>	<u>4,877</u>
	<u>\$ 43,901</u>	<u>\$ 39,759</u>

LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 2,948	\$ 1,050
MEMBERS' EQUITY	<u>40,953</u>	<u>38,709</u>
	<u>\$ 43,901</u>	<u>\$ 39,759</u>

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSE, AND MEMBERS' EQUITY
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025
 (unaudited)
 (SEE COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT)

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
REVENUE		
Membership fees	\$ 5,374	\$ 7,355
Contributions	1,950	3,175
Book sales	1,601	2,631
Grants	1,545	1,545
Events	3,710	1,144
Merchandise sales	2,188	757
Interest income	119	-
	<u>16,487</u>	<u>16,607</u>
EXPENSE		
Rent and occupancy	3,757	3,065
Newsletter	3,155	2,515
Office and general	1,649	1,274
Advertising	1,535	2,389
Insurance	1,163	267
Accounting	1,091	1,091
Cost of T-shirts sold	1,004	1,169
Cost of books sold	710	1,089
Memberships	111	206
Bank charges	68	96
	<u>14,243</u>	<u>13,161</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSE	2,244	3,446
MEMBERS' EQUITY AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>38,709</u>	<u>35,263</u>
MEMBERS' EQUITY AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 40,953</u>	<u>\$ 38,709</u>



WEST TORONTO JUNCTION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

(unaudited)

(SEE COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT)

1. NATURE OF ORGANIZATION

The Society was incorporated as a not-for-profit without share capital organization during 1981 and is registered as a Canadian Charitable Organization. The Society seeks to preserve and tell the history of Toronto's West Junction neighbourhood through its archives, tours, public lectures and publications. It is a not-for-profit organization and therefore is exempt from income taxes.

2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the financial information is on the historical cost basis, reflecting cash transactions with the addition of accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Inventory is valued at purchase cost. Revenue is recorded when received.

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

West Toronto Junction Historical Society
December 31, 2025

Adjusting journal entries	Debit	Credit
1) To adjust current year accounting fees to \$1,050		
525 Professional Fees	0.00	
Accrued liabilities		0.00
203 GST/HST Paid on Purchases		0.00
200 Accounts payable		
2) To record bank transactions for the year		
100 BMO #4890	0.00	22,692.89
425 Book Sales	0.00	1,801.37
430 Fundraising contribution	0.00	3,710.00
415 Membership fees	0.00	5,374.09
420 Contributions	0.00	1,949.45
416 Grants	0.00	1,545.00
405 Merchandise revenue	0.00	2,188.07
655 Special projects <i>advertising</i>	1,650.00	0.00
203 GST/HST Paid on Purchases	0.00	2,763.38
660 Newsletter	3,154.72	0.00
523 Industry Conferences/Events/Memberships	0.00	0.00
650 Insurance	1,162.50	0.00
525 Professional Fees	1,091.37	0.00
517 General and Office	1,435.31	0.00
522 Dues and Subscriptions	111.13	0.00
529 Internet	99.52	0.00
520 Bank charges	68.47	0.00
101 BMO #8141	15,000.00	0.00
102 Term Deposit	10,000.00	0.00
536 Costs of books sold	3,433.75	0.00
203 GST/HST Paid on Purchases	860.67	0.00
521 Occupancy cost	3,756.81	0.00
115 Inventory	0.00	0.00
3) To record inventory held at December 31 2025		
115 Inventory	2,724.21	0.00
536 Costs of books sold	0.00	2,724.21
4) To adjust T-shirts inventory to \$1,366.51 as at December 31, 2025		
536 Costs of t-shirts sold	1,004.14	0.00
115 Inventory	0.00	1,004.14
5) To account for interest income on savings account		
101 BMO #8141	118.60	
433 Interest earned		118.60
6) Record payable to Kevin Brown for purchase of T-Shirts		
115 Inventory	1,746.19	
203 GST/HST Paid on Purchases	152.21	
200 Accounts payable		1,898.40

Adjusting journal entries

160

Corresponding Secretary’s Report

Christopher Rutty

The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for monitoring correspondence of the Society received via the junctionhistorical@gmail.com email account and responding or referring correspondence to others more able to respond.

The account is also monitored by other WTJHS Executive members and thus the primary role of this position has evolved into being focused on managing correspondence related to facilitating and promoting speakers for WTJHS public meetings and then leading the meetings, including from a technical perspective.

Regular monthly public meetings (held on the first Thursdays of the month in February through June and October through December) held at the Annette Branch of the Toronto Public Library (basement auditorium) have remained in-person through 2025 and they have been video recorded, using my iPhone, to enable viewing by those unable to attend, via links included in the meeting postings on the WTJHS website. The video recordings are hosted in a WTJHS DropBox folder, which is part of a DropBox account I maintain primarily for my professional historical work.

During 2025, the following WTJHS public meetings were held:

- Feb. 6, 2025 – Pamela Houston – “Prominent Black Torontonians and Canadians”
- March 6, 2025 – Adam Waiser - “Muddy York: A Toronto History Podcast; Battle of St. Andrew”
- April 3, 2025 – Mark Vendramini - “Exploring Yonge Street’s Legendary Music & Pop Culture History”
- May 15, 2025 - Jim Adams - “Runnymede: The In-Between Neighbourhood” (+ Annual General Meeting)
- June 5, 2025 – Mima Brown Kapches – “The English Trip of 1910: Toronto, Sir Henry Pellatt, the Queen’s Own Rifles and the Press Gang”
- Oct. 2, 2025 – Joanne Doucette – “Golf, God and Green Spaces: A Social History of Golf in the Junction Area”
- Nov. 6, 2025 – Gary Christie - “Growing Up in the Shacklands”
- Dec. 4, 2025 – Chris Higgins – “The Gaol Carpenter’s Diary”

Another priority of the Corresponding Secretary during 2025 was focused on the development and support of social media content, principally via the WTJHS Facebook page, and also the WTJHS Instagram page. There have been several volunteers who have contributed Junction history focused postings during 2025, including 14 contributions in January by Olga Urbanova

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

(using the Facebook name of Terra Verrucosus), who concluded a remarkable series of postings that began in October 2024.

Special thanks to Richard Lundeen for contributing many interesting and popular postings during 2025, including a series of 6 postings: “James V. Salmon: Historical Photos from Near West Toronto Junction” (a 7th posting in Jan 2026), October 15, 24, November 2, 13, 22, and December 1) (followed by a 7th in January 2026).

Thanks also to Katy Whitfield for a variety of postings, especially about the “They Walk These Streets” Remembrance Day exhibits and events that she leads. Thanks also to Thomas Meikle and Hartley Rogers for their contributions to the Facebook page during 2025. I have also contributed postings that highlight interesting content from past and recent issues of the *Leader & Recorder*.

The Facebook and Instagram pages have also been effectively used (along with shared postings on a variety of local community-oriented Facebook Groups), for the promotion of our public meetings (and other events), followed by postings that report on the meetings with photos and links to the video recordings. Other postings have promoted WTJHS events, such as the Holiday Drop-In, Historical Pub Crawls led by Neil Ross, and showcasing the WTJHS Archives and its open hours on Mondays and Saturdays.

Special thanks also go to Jacopo Stifani for his dedicated work as WTJHS’s Web Coordinator through 2025. This position involves managing postings to the WTJHS website, facilitating communications to members via the MailChimp-based mailing list, as well as supporting social media postings, particularly on our Instagram page, which he has helped revive.

Membership Secretary’s Report

Jim Lane

This section contains membership data dated on December 31, 2025. The first table shown in the dashboard below shows the numbers of WTJHS members on that date with membership expiry dates falling on that date and those falling on December 31, 2026. The number of members with membership expiry dates in 2026 were largely comprised of those who had renewed their annual membership by that date as well as new members, who amounted to 10 in 2025.

Life memberships are also shown on the first table to provide a grand total of 173 members for the WTJHS. This figure is equivalent to the one reported for December 31, 2024, with a slight increase in the proportion of life memberships. Similarly, the breakdown of annual memberships by type, as seen in the second table, saw a slight increase in the proportion of family memberships.

The third table presents what method of payments were used to pay for annual memberships with 2025 expiry dates specifically. Internet-based payment methods (E-Transfers and PayPal) continue to be the dominant forms of payment.

Membership Statistical Dashboard

Expiry Year	Number of Members
2025 Expiry	102
2026 Expiry	34
Total Annual Members	136
Life Members	37
Grand Total	173

Type of Annual Membership	Number of Members
Individual	93
Family	41
Student	2

Payment Method for 2025 Annual Membership Payments	Number of Transactions
E-Transfer	73
PayPal	32
Cheque	26
Cash	9
Square	2

In addition to presenting this membership data through maintaining membership records, the Membership Secretary supports the work of the Leader & Recorder through labelling them for delivery, and the work of the phone crew for identifying annual members who have not renewed.

Committee Reports

Volunteer Coordinator's Report

Richard Lundeen

The Volunteers who are the subject of this report are mainly those in the non-Executive roles in the WTJHS, as shown in the following List of Volunteers. When Vandra Masemann retired as Volunteer Coordinator early in 2024, the Nominating Committee took responsibility for recruitment of non-Executive volunteers, including a replacement Volunteer Coordinator with a somewhat expanded role including record-keeping and ongoing support for our non-Executive volunteers. A candidate was identified and Vandra, Teresa O'Neill and Richard Lundeen provided an orientation, but the candidate was not able to continue because of personal circumstances. The record-keeping component of the Volunteer Coordinator role has not yet been implemented.

In April 2025, Valeria Hernandez was appointed as Volunteer Coordinator and took responsibility for recruiting volunteers to support Kevin Brown (Event/Display Coordinator) at the three farmers market booths in August, September and October 2025.

Many thanks to all volunteers for carrying out their tasks under evolving circumstances during 2025. We also thank the Executive members who took on extra volunteer roles. We appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and devotion to keeping the WTJHS a thriving organization.

Special mention is given to Chris Ruddy, Corresponding Secretary, who continued to arrange speakers and moderate the monthly public events at the Annette Street Library throughout 2025. Chris also recorded the presentations on his phone and made the video recordings available through wtjhs.ca to those who couldn't attend in person. We also appreciate the support of Branch Librarian, Alex Kourtzanidis, and library staff in arranging the library auditorium for our events.

List of Committees and Volunteers

Archive Coordinators

David Bridge (Archive Renewal)

Diana Fancher (Archive Operations)

Archive Volunteers for Public Hours

Kevin Brown

Diana Fancher

David Hulchanski

Richard Lundeen

Peggy Mooney

Chris Ruddy

Letty Snethen

Other Archive Volunteers

Corinne Flitton

Katelyn Law

Kyle Semeniuk

Jade Zhu

The Leader and Recorder Editorial Group

Leila Mirsafian (Chair)

Cass Pollack (Editor)

Michael Benedict

Hope Humphrey

Yvonne Mazurak (ex officio)

Madeleine McDowell

L&R Distribution

Gordon Craig (Coordinator)

Adrian Schincariol (Distribution lists and labels)

Diana Blake

Mary Collins

Ruth Dobb

Gillian Gallimore

Phyllis Goodfellow

Olga Goubar

Hope Humphrey

Jim Lane (Labels)

Richard Lundeen
Leila Mirsafian
Teresa O'Neill
Sophie, Vladimir and Alex Rasper
Barbara Titherington

Finance

Charlene Fisher (Bookkeeping)
Peggy Mooney (Treasurer)

Junction Farmers Market Booth (August, September and October 2025)

Kevin Brown (Event/Display Coordinator)
Valeria Hernandez (Volunteer Coordinator)
Ruth Dobb
Diana Fancher
Hope Humphrey
Yvonne Mazurak
Marilyn Miller
David Muir
Kaitlin O'Neill
Teresa O'Neill
Anne Ott

Social Media (Facebook & Instagram)

Richard Lundeen
Teresa O'Neill
Chris Ruddy
Jacopo Stifani
Olga Urbanova

Website and Email

Jacopo Stifani (Web Coordinator)

Nominating Committee (January – June 2025)

Richard Lundeen
Leila Mirsafian
Letty Snethen

Phone Crew (membership renewal)

Michael Bohdanowicz (Coordinator)

Mary Collins

Richard Lundeen

David Muir

Anne Ott

Sophie Rasper

Adrian Schincariol (Membership lists and updates – January to April 2025)

Jim Lane (Membership lists and updates – May to December 2025)

Jacopo Stifani (Membership renewal email campaigns)

Meeting Setup and Technical Support

Jack Noble

Ward Noble

Chris Rutty

Meeting Refreshments

Letty Snethen (Coordinator)

Mary Collins

Diana Fancher

Hope Humphrey

Madeleine McDowell

Peggy Mooney

Teresa O’Neill

Anne Ott

Barbara Titherington

Book Distribution/Sales/Management

Diana Fancher

Haunted Junction Pub Crawl (October 17, 18, 24 & 25, 2025)

Yvonne Mazurak

Neil Ross

Christopher Sears

Michael Bohdanowicz

True Crime Pub Crawl (April 11 & 12, 2025)

Chris Rutty

Jacopo Stifani

Holiday Drop-In & Sale (December 13, 2025)

Diana Fancher
Kevin Brown
Yvonne Mazurak
Anne Ott
Barbara Titherington

“They Walked These Streets. We Will Remember Them”

Please refer to the Engagement Facilitator’s Report for a list of thanks

Graphic Design / Posters

Khunkan Siripaiboon

2024 Annual Report Authors

Michael Bohdanowicz (Compiler)
Nathaniel Dadson
Diana Fancher
Richard Lundeen
Vandra Masemann
Yvonne Mazurak
Katy Whitfield
Adrian Schincariol
Teresa O’Neill
Leila Mirsafian
David Bridge
Olga Urbanova

The Leader & Recorder Editorial Group Report

Leila Mirsafian

The Leader and Recorder continued the tradition of publishing three issues a year in 2025, with the Editorial Group holding its virtual meetings and arrangements. The journal available in print only was delivered to the members thanks to the dedicated volunteers of the distribution team managed by Gordon Craig.

The main article of Issue 1, 2025 was written by David Bridge in remembering Raymond Kennedy, a founding member of the WTJHS who passed in late 2024. The next article in the issue was *Bagels and Eau de Cow: Recollections of a Junction Boy* by Barry Penhale, an old-time resident of the Junction. Monthly meetings were covered in this issue as usual: Battle of St Andrew presented by Adam Waiser, and Prominent Black Canadians by the Ontario Black History Society's Pamela Houston. A note mentioned the passing of Lois Broad, a long-time WTJHS member who had contributed to the Society especially through her stories of living in the neighbourhood. Hope Humphrey and Katy Whitfield wrote a report introducing five members of the WTJHS who had received King Charles III Coronation Medals in 2024: Madeleine McDowell, Michael DiTomaso, Ellen Moorhouse, Paul Thompson and Katy Whitfield. This issue contained the *Call for Nominations for WTJHS Board of Directors* and *Notice of Annual General Meeting* to be held on May 15, 2025.

The second issue of 2025 was published in colour. *George Chuvalo: His Junction Days* was the lead article written by Neil Ross, commemorating some aspects of Chuvalo's personal and professional life. Lois Broad's memory was honoured by Christopher Sears in his piece for this issue, *Lois Broad – What a Dame!* This colour issue also embraced a reproduction of various paper ephemera related to West Toronto Station, donated to the WTJHS (through Cass Pollack) by Dave Sherlock, a member of several railway historical societies. The Annual General Meeting report was prepared by Vice Chair Yvonne Mazurak. The most recent three monthly meetings summarized in this issue were Yonge Street's Legendary Music and Pop Culture History presented by Mark Vendramini, Runnymede – The In-between Neighbourhood by Jim Adams, and The English Trip by Mima Brown Kapches.

The last issue of 2025 featured *The Former Grocers of St. Clair* by Kyle Semeniuk as the lead article, mostly based on an interview with Gary Christie who was also a speaker of the monthly meeting on November 6, 2025. Barry Penhale shared more memories of his early years in the Junction. Pamela Mérey (1949-2025), a life member and treasurer of the WTJHS for several years, was remembered in an article written by Diana Fancher. Several WTJHS activities were also covered in this issue. Michael Bohdanowicz provided a brief of *Haunted Pub Crawl* performed by Neil Ross. Leila Mirsafian summarized the most recent monthly meetings: Golf, God, and Green Spaces, A Social History of Golf in the Junction, presented by Joanne Doucette, and Growing Up in the Shacklands presented by Gary Christie. The issue concluded with David Bridge's article, *New Energy at WTJHS Archives*, providing a brief account of the Archives activities and introducing the significant contributions of new volunteers, Corinne Flitton, Jade Zhu, Katelyn Law and Kyle Semeniuk, in helping the archives moving in "a professionally credible direction."

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

It should be mentioned that while monthly meetings are reported in the journal, a link to the recording of each meeting is made available on WTJHS website, thanks to Christopher Ruty.

In conclusion, I would like to offer sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to *The Leader and Recorder* in one way or another, whether in writing, editing, proofreading, graphic design and layout, producing address labels, or managing the stuffing, hand delivery, and mailing.

Special thanks go to Cass Pollack and Michael Benedict.

Archives Committee Report

David Bridge and Diana Fancher

Considerable progress was made in 2025 in consolidating our archives records on a single computer platform, as well as using the archives to further develop research and present findings from those endeavours.

A final production instance of the Access to Memory (AtoM) program was successfully loaded on a dedicated archives PC, ready to use. This free application is used internationally for small to medium sized archives, and records are formatted according to the Canadian “Rules for Archival Description” (RAD) standard used throughout the country.

Several activities commenced in 2025. After testing, and consultation on how to correctly format this data in AtoM, our volunteers made considerable progress in entering RAD descriptions of what we have in our historical file folders. Previous to this we have had no records of what we have in these folders. This task will continue in 2026, eventually providing data that can be made available online to researchers.

Scans of our journal, the *Leader and Recorder*, have also been entered in AtoM and are searchable there. A preliminary test of loading our wonderful Facebook posts was also successfully completed.

Our volunteer Kyle Semeniuk, a resident of the area north of St. Clair with a recent M.A. in history, has been updating our records on schools and churches in the northern regions of our area, as well as buildings at the corner of St. Clair and Old Weston Road, and using the material to create planning reports, newsletter articles, an oral history with a former resident, and basic files, both print and digital, as well as covering Monday archives hours when necessary.

Other volunteers have also been using their time at the archives to create new Facebook posts, research newsletter articles, and create reports on buildings or areas of particular interest to them. In view of the many hours volunteers have devoted to this in 2025, a second offsite AtoM computer was established to hold backed-up versions of our data, and for testing with new data types.

Throughout 2025 Diana Fancher went through the boxes and binders of unsorted and unfiled research accumulated during the last 10 or so years that were never officially added to the collection. She also went through digital files accumulated more recently, especially those of photos, research summaries and heritage listing requests for local buildings. Relevant material was added to the files and/or transferred to the archives computer for later addition to the AtoM system.

The most notable find was a 1908 West Toronto directory, although in very poor condition due to the poor quality of the paper it was printed on. With crumbling, darkened pages and rusted staples for binding, it was beyond the repair capabilities of the WTJHS. However, it was donated to the Toronto Reference Library on condition that they give us a digital copy of the restored

directory and it now appears, both in the TPL online directories, in the WTJHS digital collection, and also as a print version in our files. It is a names and business directory with many interesting ads for local businesses.

Phone Crew Report

Michael Bohdanowicz

The Phone Crew's primary role is to contact annual members who have not renewed their memberships for the current year (2025 for this report) in order to update them on the Society's activities and encourage them to renew. Set up in 2017 at a time when membership had been shrinking, the Phone Crew achieved an additional 50 renewals that year, helping to stabilize our membership numbers. Similar results were achieved in subsequent years.

Work on the 2025 renewal campaign began with a November 2024 meeting between WTJHS members Richard Lundeen, Michael Bohdanowicz (who replaced Richard as Phone Crew Coordinator), and then-Membership Secretary Adrian Schincariol which outlined a campaign strategy. Under this approach, an email was sent out in December 2024 to remind annual members that memberships expire on December 31st of each calendar year and encourage renewal for 2025, which generated 25 renewals between their expiries.

In January 2025 an email targeted to non-renewed members, numbering 82 at that time, was sent out, followed by another one in February 2025. These emailed endeavours contributed to the number of non-renewed members being reduced to 39 by March 2025, when the phone crew commenced contacting non-renewed members on an individual basis.

The stellar members of the Phone Crew for the 2025 renewal campaign were: Michael Bohdanowicz, Mary Collins, Richard Lundeen, Dave Muir, Anne Ott and Sophie Rasper. By the end of April 2025, when the phone crew's work was largely wrapping up, approximately 30 members had renewed their memberships. While there were a few non-renewals, some members who were contacted by the phone crew ultimately renewed their membership later on in the year.

Based on the success of the 2025 membership renewal campaign, a mass email to the society's membership that was set to expire at the end of 2025 (as identified through membership records supplied by new Membership Secretary Jim Lane) was sent out by Web Coordinator Jacopo Stifiani in December 2025. This email campaign contributed to the fact that over 30 membership renewals were made in that month and early January, helping lay a solid foundation for 2026 membership renewal efforts.

Nominating Committee Report

Richard Lundeen, Leila Mirsafian, Letty Snethen

The WTJHS Executive Committee was required under the Society’s by-laws that were in effect at the time to form a nominating committee at least sixty days in advance of the AGM. The mandate of the nominating committee was to present a slate of candidates for election to the Society’s six officer positions. In preparation for review and approval of new by-laws at the May 2025 AGM, the 2025 Nominating Committee was tasked with presenting a slate of thirteen candidates for a new board of directors.

The 2025 Nominating Committee process was led by Richard Lundeen. Leila Mirsafian was the direct link to the Executive Committee and canvassed the current members to confirm who would be continuing and what vacancies would require recruitment. Letty Snethen undertook significant recruitment roles. The committee members met biweekly on Zoom to review progress, confirm next steps and identify items to report to the Executive Committee.

Recruitment of Slate of Director Candidates for 2025 AGM

Based on the responses as of March 2025, Leila advised that five director positions of the anticipated thirteen directors would be vacant and would need recruitment in preparation for the 2025 AGM, as follows:

- Chair of the Board (previously vacant)
- Secretary of the Board (previously vacant)
- Membership Secretary
- Engagement Facilitator
- Event Display Coordinator

Although the new by-laws do not mention roles for specific directors (apart from the Chair of the Board, who must be a director), the Nominating Committee recommended, confirmed by the Executive Committee, that recruitment of the vacant director positions should focus on the skill sets for these vacant roles. The committee reviewed and updated existing role descriptions and developed new role descriptions as needed.

Recruitment activities for the five vacant director positions:

- Drafted a Notice of the AGM and Call for Nominations for *The Leader and Recorder*, on wtjhs.ca and via email to WTJHS members
- Updated existing postings on Volunteer Opportunities page of wtjhs.ca to highlight the five director role descriptions, also made brief posts on Facebook and Instagram pages, linking to the role descriptions on wtjhs.ca
- Reached out to all recent new members

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

- Contacted ten+ current members to ask them consider the five new director positions
- Announced the vacancies at April monthly public meeting
- Arranged for all contacts about volunteer opportunities to be forwarded to the Nominating Committee, including those made to junctionhistorical@gmail.com
- Arranged phone calls and then in-person meetings with potential new directors.

Candidates for four of the five vacancies (no candidate found for Chair of the Board) were confirmed and a slate of nominee directors (including the continuing directors) was approved by the Executive Committee by early May. The slate was posted with other material for the May 15 AGM and was approved by WTJHS members at the AGM.

The nominee for Engagement Facilitator subsequently withdrew, leaving two of the thirteen director positions vacant for the balance of 2025 and early 2026.

Recruitment of Other Volunteers

The Nominating Committee recruitment process led to identification of potential volunteers for other roles with the Society. While this is not the primary role of the Nominating Committee, it was an added benefit of our activities.

Future Nomination Committee Role (2026 and beyond)

Under the new WTJHS by-laws in effect as of the 2025 AGM:

“The Board may establish a Nomination Committee. The Nomination Committee shall establish all criteria and procedures in selecting nominees for election or appointment to the Board, subject to the Board’s approval. The Nomination Committee shall present the slate of nominees to the Members at the annual Meeting of Members for election.”

Web Report

Jacopo Stifani

Web Statistical Dashboard

Website		Email Communications	
Views	15,077	Subscribers	231
Visitors	5,818	Contacts	288
Views per visitor	2.59	Email campaigns	34
Blog posts	12	Open rate	68.18 %

Website

As illustrated in the Statistical Dashboard above, in 2025, the WTJHS website (wtjhs.ca) garnered significant attention with a total of 15,077 views and 5,818 visits, which were both increases over 2024. Impressively, each visitor engaged with an average of 2.59 pages, reflecting a high level of interest and interaction. Throughout the year, we published a total of 12 posts, contributing to our dynamic online presence and fostering ongoing engagement with our audience. These statistics underscore the effectiveness of our content strategy in attracting and retaining visitors, as well as the continued growth and impact of our platform.

Email Communications

Throughout 2025, our MailChimp email distribution service executed a total of 34 email campaigns (including reminder emails) targeting 231 subscribed Society members with an open rate of ~68%, in line with 2024 figures. These campaigns aimed to disseminate important information, promote events, and foster engagement within the Society.

Engagement Facilitator’s Report

Katy Whitfield

They Walked These Streets...We Will Remember Them 2025 Report

“They walked these streets... We will remember them” is an innovative and interactive community Remembrance week commemoration in Bloor West Village, High Park, Junction, Junction Triangle and Humbercrest that has been running since 2020. The project helps community members to learn about the contributions and the sacrifice of soldiers who served in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War (1950-1953) and who never returned. The project is the vision of two Toronto District School Board teachers, Katy Whitfield and Ian Da Silva, both residents of Bloor West Village and former students at Runnymede Public School and Swansea Public School and graduates of Humber College. The project is coordinated by Katy Whitfield, former Engagement Facilitator for the WTJHS and current member, who is also a history teacher at Bloor C.I. with the generous support of community volunteers whose physical labour, financial donations, and sharing of the project in the media and other educational spaces has helped grow the program incrementally each year.

Learning about the stories of soldiers who served in the World Wars in an innovative and engaging way!

2025 was the 6th year of the project which expanded to tell the stories of over 1350 soldiers in the army, air force, navy in innovative and engaging ways. The research for the project continues to use military records and source materials accessed from the Canadian Virtual War Memorial and the Canadian Great War project, as well as the Service Files in the Library and Archives of Canada to identify community connections the soldiers had to local schools, churches and community organizations they were a part of.

The growth of They Walked These Streets in 2025

The scope of the project’s research was extended east toward Dufferin Street to include Bloor C.I. and now stretches from the west at the Humber River and extends east to Dufferin Street, and from Lake Ontario to the railroad tracks north of Dundas in the Junction-it encompasses the stories from Humbercrest, Bloor West Village, the Junction, High Park, Swansea, Roncesvalles and Parkdale.

In 2025 there were 13 locations: 285 Durie Street (Whitfield Family home), 104 Colbeck Street (Da Silva Family home), Runnymede United Church, 432 Runnymede Road, St. Olave's Anglican Church, 360 Windermere Avenue, Annette Public Library, 145 Annette Street, St. Paul's Anglican Church, 404 Willard Avenue, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Avenue, Humbercrest United Church, 16 Baby Point Road, Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Avenue, Runnymede Presbyterian Church, 680 Annette Street, Morningside High Park Presbyterian Church, 4 Morningside Avenue, Dundas and Roncesvalles Peace Garden (intersection of Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue) and Bloor Collegiate Institute, 90 Croatia Street.

The commemorative displays are generously set-up by community volunteers whose names are listed in the thank yous below. On the memorials, each soldier's story is told on an individualized info-card that documents their military service. Scanning a QR Code on the info-card using a Smartphone connects passersby to a link on the Canadian Virtual War Memorial Website which provides more detail and documents about the soldier's war experience. The logos of the schools and/or churches the soldiers attended have also been included on the info-cards to show their community connections.

Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands

In May, 2025, TWTS partnered with the Dundas-Roncesvalles Peace Garden and its coordinator Abby Bushby and students from the Museo Archives from Bloor Collegiate Institute to host a memorial event to commemorate 60 soldiers who lived in Taiaiaiko'n-Parkdale-High Park and served in the Liberation of the Netherlands, 80 Years ago. A memorial made up of placards was posted in the Peace Garden with details about their story, where they lived and where they went school.

A formal program including readings and speeches was shared to a crowd of ~40 people in the pouring rain. Attendees were given Dutch flags, commemorative pins, and stroopwaffels generously provided by the Consulate-General of the Kingdom of Netherlands, thanks to the generosity of Mickey McLaughlin. On May 8th, 2025, Abby invited me and MP Karim Bardessy to a community gathering and poppy seed planting event which engaged the local community in commemoration of the Liberation of the Netherlands. The gathering of neighbours was popular and engaging for people to learn about the history of the community and the work of the TWTS project.

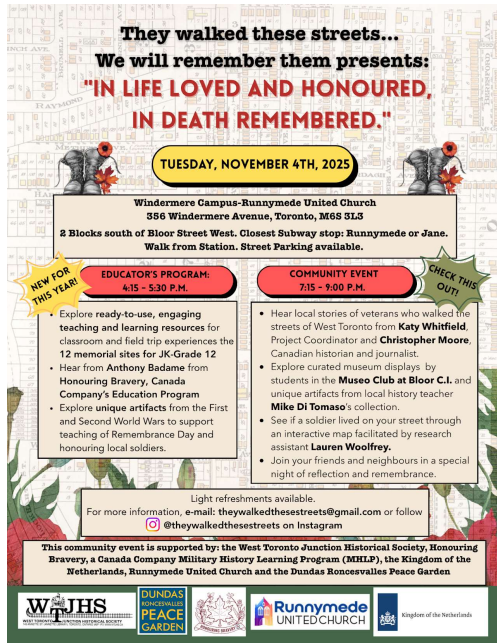
In November... we remembered them all:

November had us paused in the lead up to Remembrance Day to remember the 1350 soldiers who served and who never returned who were all featured in the They walked these streets... We will remember them. On November 4th, 2024 over 50 local residents of all ages came to "In life loved and honoured, in death remembered" hosted at Windermere Campus of Runnymede United Church."

The evening was hosted in partnership and with the support of the West Toronto Junction Historical Society, Honouring Bravery; a Canada Company Military History Learning Program, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Runnymede United Church, and the Dundas and Roncesvalles Peace Garden. The evening featured local stories of those who walked these streets from Katy Whitfield and from Canadian historian Christopher Moore, alongside, interactive museum exhibits created by Katy Whitfield and her students at Bloor C.I., which were displayed alongside artifacts from the private collection of WTJHS member Mike DiTomaso, educational programming opportunities from Anthony Badame from Honouring Bravery, materials from



Mickey McLaughlin from the Consulate-General, and engagement with the Project Google map with Program Assistant Lauren Woolfrey, also a WTJHS, helped community members find soldiers who lived in their homes and on their streets. Peggy Mooney, Treasurer of the WTJHS came to represent the historical society.



We were very pleased to have MPP Alexa Gilmour bring greetings and share about her own local connection to the TWTS project through the story of her great uncle who lived on Annette Street and died in the First World War. We also hosted representatives from MP Karim Bardessy's office who commemorated the event with the presentation of formal certificates. Prior to the formal evening program we held a gathering for local history educators. While the group who came was small, their interest in the educational components of the project were well received. Two of the participants are teachers at Runnymede Public School, whose students have been doing related curriculum projects connected with the research and memorials of the project.

Swansea Town Hall, Remembrance Day Service

On November 11th, 2025, I spoke once again at the Swansea Town Hall and told local stories to bring the act of remembrance to life. Lauren Woolfrey and I fielded questions and shared displays as part of the reception of guests. In the afternoon, we visited a number of the memorial sites and filmed videos and took photos for a future archival project.

Exciting Community Exhibition at Queen's Park

This year, we are so grateful to the Community Exhibitions project at Queen's Park for allowing us to tell the combined stories of Bloor C.I.'s 100th anniversary as well as the Liberation of the Netherlands. The exhibit was made up of archival materials from the school archives and the private collection of WTJHS member Mike DiTomaso and was on display from April-December, 2025. The exhibition received a lot of praise for its content, design, storytelling, community connections and unique artifacts.

Check it out: <https://www.ola.org/sites/default/files/ppprphoto/Bloor.JPG>

In the news:

In the November issue of Canada’s National History Magazine, WTJHS member, Christopher Moore wrote an incredible article “The Remembrance Project” an article, <https://www.canadahistory.ca/explore/military-war/remembrance-day-project> that tells our story across the country. We are also continually grateful to Peter Foy and his team at the Neighbor Newspaper for sharing memorial editorials and posters of our events.



In addition, we were so happy to have local journalist Janice Biehn write a feature article for the Toronto Anglican Journal, published in January 2026 about the "They Walked These Streets..." Project. The article, titled, "Displays Honour Local Soldiers" speaks to the history and evolution of the project and highlights how local soldiers who attended St. Paul's Anglican Church, Runnymede, on Willard

Avenue, St. Martin-In-The-Fields on Glenlake Avenue and St. Olave's Anglican Church on Windermere Avenue has been recognized in this community project of Remembrance. Here is the link to the article: <https://theanglican.ca/displays-honour-local-soldiers/>.

Finally, we are so grateful to Humber College journalism student, Shaina List who wrote an amazing article that connects the project to the story 3 former West Toronto Junction friends, one John Richard Griffin (lived on Aziel Street), the brother of Kathleen Lynett (mother of Maureen Lynett, WTJHS member) whose brother died in an airplane accident in the war, and his two friends Hugh Hassan (he survived the war) and Jack O'Brien who both lived on Pacific Ave, (Jack died in Germany in an air accident). Here is the link to Shaina’s article: <https://www.humberetc.ca/news/remembrance-day/a-grassroots-toronto-initiative-localizes-remembrance-day-9721>. Her story tells of this wonderful Junction story that links the past and present in such beautiful ways!

Project honoured in a Member’s Statement by MPP Alexa Gilmour in the Legislature at Queen’s Park

On November 6th, 2025, MPP Alexa Gilmour, for Parkdale-High Park, shared a members’ statement at Queen’s Park. She said:

“Speaker, in a world once again treading at the edge of conflict, where divisive voices

grow louder, remembering is an act of resistance. In the halls of Humberstone Collegiate is a plaque where I trace my fingers and I find Stewart Foster, a great-uncle I never met, who died in World War I, leaving an ache in the heart of my great-grandmother. Today, stories like his live on through They Walked These Streets, a remarkable project started by Katy Whitfield and Ian Da Silva. Using military records, photographs and archives, they've restored the names and faces of our local soldiers, tying them to specific homes, streets, churches, schools right in our neighbourhood. Together with the veterans of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 344, Maple Leaf/Swansea Branch 266/46, and Swansea Town Hall, this initiative reminds us that the call after all the wars was "never again." Speaker, I wish my grandfathers from World War II were still alive today, because they would remind us that peace is never permanent; it must be upheld with every decision we make. This year, I want to thank all those participating: Runnymede United, St. Olave's Anglican, Annette library, St. Paul's, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Humbercrest United, Swansea Town Hall, Runnymede Presbyterian, Morningside-High Park Presbyterian, Dundas Roncesvalles Peace Garden. May we always remember and never again forget." (Source: https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/house-documents/parliament-44/session-1/2025-11-06/hansard#P446_79298)

A banner year for the project!

All this to say, 2025 was a banner year for the project! We are so thankful to the community for their interest and engagement. Thank you to the Board of the WTJHS for their ongoing financial and community support of the project. Thank you to the following volunteers for their unwavering support in setting-up memorials, helping to host events and for helping the project to remember all our soldiers who served.

Special thank yous to:

- David and Judy Whitfield, building and hosting displays on their lawn and for support in all parts of the project!
- Katy Whitfield, Project Coordinator
- The Da Silvas-for building and hosting displays
- Mr. Karim Bardessy, MP for Taiaiko'n-Parkdale-High Park and his team, for wreaths & flags
- Ms. Alexa Gilmour, MPP, Parkdale-High Park and her team-for the wreaths.
- Lauren Woolfrey, Project and Research Assistant and Exhibition Designer
- Mike Di Tomaso, Museum displays and Museum support and design
- Anthony Badame, Honouring Bravery, a Canada Company Military History Learning Program
- The West Toronto Junction Historical Society
- Students in Museo Bloor, Bloor Collegiate for their displays, poppy assembly, research and building the BCI memorial
- Peter Foy and Tim Flood, Neighbor newspaper for sharing our stories and promoting our project.

West Toronto Junction Historical Society – 2025 Annual Report

- Christopher Moore and the editorial team at Canada's History Magazine
- Greg Oliver, Ken Jones and the Scouting Team at St. Paul's Anglican Church for support with displays and poppy-making
- Phyllis Goodfellow
- Karen Goodfellow and David Zayachowski
- Chris Hughes, Ariane Baines, Barb Williams and Steve Parfitt for setting-up our community event.
- The Annette Branch, Toronto Public Library
- Sarah Doucette & the Swansea Town Hall
- The ministerial teams, office administrators & custodial staff and volunteers at Runnymede United, Runnymede Presbyterian, Humbercrest United, St. Paul's Anglican (Runnymede) Morningside-High Park Presbyterian, St. Martin -in-the -Fields Anglican and St. Olave's Anglican
- Students and staff at Runnymede P.S. for the poppies & research!
- The Swansea Historical Society
- 85th Old Mill-Beavers, 75th Toronto-Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and leaders.
- All our friends, neighbours, community members who come to visit and learn and share stories at our sites.

What's ahead for 2026?

2026, will yet again be a year of solidifying and expanding on partnerships with our community partners and supporters, as well as expanding to work in partnership with Legion 101 on the Lakeshore to tell stories in Mimico, New Toronto and Long Branch as part of the 100th anniversary of the Legion at Longbranch and the National Legion, as well as hosting an event in partnership with Toronto Historic Sites and Museums at Fort York in the fall 2026.

Members wishing to find out more about the project can go to the project website: <https://sites.google.com/view/theywalkedthesestreets/>, follow us @theywalkedthesestreets on Instagram.

Wanting to volunteer or get involved, please e-mail: Katy Whitfield via theywalkedthesestreets@gmail.com

Report respectfully submitted by:

Katy Whitfield, Project Coordinator, They Walked These Streets...We Will Remember Them
Member of the WTJHS
April 2026

Junction Heritage Conservation District Study Report

Diana Fancher

The Junction Heritage Conservation District (JHCD) Study finally got underway in 2025 with the hiring of EVOQ Architecture to do the study and LURA Consulting to chair meetings and provide summaries, under the auspices of the City's Heritage Planning staff. A Community Open House was held on June 11th at the West Toronto Baptist Church on Dundas Street West, where a large display was set up, similar to the one donated by Charles Hazell that we posted at the Annette Library and at our Farmers Market table during the year. Those attending were asked to post comments on what they considered to be the heritage attributes of the proposed district.

Diana Fancher and Ken Sharratt were chosen to be the official WTJHS representatives on the study committee and Marilyn Miller, Jim Baxter and Charles Hazell, all WTJHS members, were selected as representatives of other local organizations. The first meeting was held August 13th on Zoom which Ken attended and was recorded for future viewing by those unable to attend. As well, the representatives of EVOQ seemed to have a difficult time relating to Dundas Street as the main street of a town and regional shopping centre, rather than a conventional city business district. At first, they mistook buildings that once contained bowling alleys, wholesale grocers and other large-scale businesses for factories.

After that, the representatives of the various community organizations exchanged emails, if we didn't have them already, and exchanged ideas among ourselves to make sure our views were being heard.

The second meeting was held in person October 30th, again at the church, where community representatives hammered the EVOQ representatives with what we felt were the inconsistencies of their building-by-building analysis and again their failure to evaluate the Dundas Business District as the main street of a town and regional shopping centre with a large transportation network, rather than a conventional neighbourhood business district. Even City Planning staff had a few pointed questions.

Once we received the summary of that meeting, the original JHCD Committee, chaired by Marilyn Miller, whose members with one exception are also members of the WTJHS, got together to write detailed criticisms and objections to the specifics of research presented at the meeting as well as to answer questions posed to us by City staff.

The study is ongoing in 2026.

Buildings Proposed for Municipal Listing and Provincial Designation

Diana Fancher

This section provides an overview of buildings proposed for listing on the City’s Heritage Register or designation under Pat IV of the Provincial Heritage Act.

Proposed for Municipal Listing

The following buildings were proposed to the City’s Heritage Planning department for listing by Diana Fancher on behalf of the WTJHS and Marilyn Miller on behalf of the Junction Heritage Conservation District Committee (JHCD Committee) in 2025:

- 2884-86 Dundas St. W.
- 2890 Dundas St. W. “
- 435-7 Annette St.
- 251-5 Annette St.
- 250 Annette St.
- 218-224 Annette St.
- 265 High Park Ave. and duplexes on Annette/High Park Ave.
- 268 High Park Ave.

Aidan Lucas provided architectural descriptions for the buildings located on Dundas St. with Marybeth McTeague providing them for the remaining buildings, and Diana Fancher conducted research on all the buildings.

Proposed for Provincial Designation

- 162 St. John’s Road, requested and supported by the owner

Marybeth McTeague did the architectural description and produced the report. Much of the research had been previously done by Diana Fancher.

Note: The WTJHS and the JHCD Committee are getting ready to propose Annette Street as a heritage district.