



Firgrove

focus

Connecting the community | August 2019 issue

Firgrove Community Update Meeting

Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) held an open house on July 24, to provide tenants with an update on the Firgrove revitalization. More than 40 people attended this meeting, including a mix of current and relocated Firgrove tenants, TCHC staff, external stakeholders including local City Councillor Anthony Perruzza, MP Judy Sgro, MPP Tom Rakocevic and TDSB Trustee Christopher Mammoliti.

The open house was organized as a drop-in event. Current and relocated tenants were invited to listen to a short

presentation and then could ask TCHC staff questions about the revitalization. The open house featured various information booths for the following TCHC divisions and community groups: Revitalization, Development, Capital Engagement and Conservation Program (CECP), the Black Creek Operating Unit (OUD) and the Firgrove Focus Table (FFT). These booths had various materials on the Master Plan, tenant engagement, Needle Firway refurbishments, and the activities of the Firgrove Focus Table tenant advisory group.



Community Update Meeting



Presentation on Master Plan

Firgrove Community Update Meeting

The Firgrove Focus Table (FFT) is an advisory group consisting of about 10 Firgrove tenants who work with TCHC staff from Development, Revitalization, and Capital Engagement and Conservation Program (CECP) on a monthly basis to discuss topics such as revitalization, the Master Plan, community engagement and safety.

Rhonda, an active FFT member, describes her participation: “Since I’ve joined, I’ve learned an awful lot about revitalization and helping people. The Firgrove Focus Table is the best thing going and the best thing that I’ve ever been involved in!” She strongly believes other neighbourhood tenants will benefit greatly by becoming a FFT member.

Tenants were also provided with a brief introduction to Firgrove’s Social Development Plan (SDP). The plan is a roadmap guiding the process of revitalization through the identification of long-term community priorities. Overall, it was a positive night that brought out many new faces. Firgrove tenant Marie exclaimed: “...Glad I came out.”

We hope to provide the community with another update in early 2020. A special thanks to Firgrove’s Senior Program Leaders (SPLs), the Firgrove Focus Table and Firgrove community members who contributed to the success of the night.



Tenants and TCHC staff with MP Judy Sgro



Development Booth



Revitalization Booth

Needle Firway Refurbishments

Project Background

There is a planned refurbishment of 5 Needle Firway along with the 15 adjacent townhouse units. Using funding from the Social Housing Apartment Improvement Program (SHAIP), the townhouse units and tower will receive new cladding, windows and mechanical and electrical upgrades geared toward energy savings and greenhouse gas reductions. It will also help improve tenant comfort and quality of life.



These upgrades will result in the following benefits to tenants:

- Additional insulation will moderate interior temperatures passively, especially during the summer and winter months;
- Window replacement and overcladding will eliminate unwanted water and air infiltration into units;
- Window replacement will reduce outdoor noise transmission;
- Additional in-suite thermostatic controls will provide tenants with the ability to adjust space temperature during the heating season; and
- Ventilation system upgrades will improve indoor environmental quality.

Current Status

With input from Firgrove tenants over the past 10 months, TCHC's consultants have arrived at a unique and modern design for the tower and townhouses. The designs were shared with tenants at an update meeting on August 7, where we introduced new team members, provided an update on the project status and construction schedule and presented the interior finishes for common areas.



TCHC has received the required permits and approvals and aims to start the construction this year.

Firgrove Focus Pool Party

On Friday July 5, TCHC's Revitalization Team and Community Safety Unit (CSU) hosted a Pool BBQ in partnership with the Firgrove Learning and Innovation Community Centre (FLICC). The pool party celebrated the opening of the Firgrove Swimming Pool after a period of renovations, and was also an opportunity for tenants to meet their Revitalization and CSU staff teams. More than 100 children, youth and families came out to enjoy the start of the summer holidays with a delicious community BBQ, good music, swimming, dancing and ice cream. One of the youth tenants, 13 year old, said: "I had a fun time at the BBQ and thank you to the community for having the pool party and bringing everyone out."



Ice Cream



Pool Party

Firgrove Summer Initiatives

August 2019

August 20

Backpack Giveaway

All day event, 11 Blue Grassway – FLICC

August 21

TCHC Job Fair

4 to 7 p.m., Central YMCA,
20 Grosvenor Street

August 29

Scholarship Ceremony & Summer BBQ

5 to 9 p.m., 11 Blue Grassway – FLICC

September 2019

September 15

Mobile Health Clinic

3 to 7 p.m., 11 Blue Grassway – FLICC

September 16

Starbucks Job Fair

9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Location TBD

September 23

Purolator Job Fair

3 to 7 p.m., Location TBD

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Online Information

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