

JACK LAYTON, 1950-2011

CITY MOURNS A LEADER

Federal opposition leader **Jack Layton** lost his second battle with cancer early Monday morning. The feisty NDP leader passed away surrounded by family and loved ones less than four months after leading the party to unprecedented heights in the May 2 federal election.

Under Layton's leadership the NDP made steady gains in its federal seat count, culminating this spring when the party vaulted over the Liberals, winning a record 103 seats and taking over as official opposition for the first time in its 50-year history.

But for most of his political career, Jack focussed his time and efforts here, in Toronto. While he certainly made his presence felt across the country in his eight years as federal NDP leader and in his time as Federation of Canadian Municipalities president, his impact at the local level helped shape the Toronto we see today.

In 1982 he won a seat on Toronto council in what was then Ward 6. Three years later he handily won a seat on Metro council and then in 1988 returned to city council. Jack lost out to **June Rowlands** in the 1991 mayoral election and after a failed federal bid in 1993, returned to Metro council the next year. He lost a second federal election in 1997, but won that year's city council election in Ward 25 and in Ward 30 in 2000.

CONTINUED PAGE 3 >

CITY RISKING LAWSUIT

BUYOUT PACKAGE TROUBLES

By Mark Ostler

The city's buyout package, which was offered to thousands of municipal employees earlier this summer, could lead to lawsuits or other challenges according to one local employment lawyer.

Whitten & Lublin founder **David Whitten** took it upon himself to review the buyout package offered to approximately 17,000 city employees and concluded that the structure of the package could lead to major service disruptions, as well as challenges based on the compensation being offered.

The maximum amount that employees can receive under the buyout package is the equivalent of six months' pay, which is slightly less than the maximum payout included in employment standards legislation. Currently, an employee terminated without cause is eligible for up to eight weeks of termination pay in addition to up to 26 weeks of severance pay.

"When you combine the two, employees with a number of years of service, if they were to be terminated involuntarily, would be entitled to a minimum under employment standards legislation that may exceed what the voluntary program is offering them, because it's capped at six months," Whitten told *NRU*. Additionally, he explains

CONTINUED PAGE 4 >

INSIDE

**New cluster
A lead**
NRU talks
to Brenda
Patterson

p 2

**Downsview
secondary plan**
Board
approves
settlement

p 6



**One becomes
two**
Forest Hill
redo approved

p 8

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UPCOMING DATES

SEPTEMBER 6

Executive Committee, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 7

Public Works & Infrastructure Committee, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 8

Planning & Growth Management Committee, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 12

Community Councils, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 13

Budget Committee, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 14

Community Development & Recreation Committee, 9:30 a.m.

Economic Development Committee, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 15

Government Management Committee, 9:30 a.m.

Parks & Environment Committee, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 19

Executive Committee, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 21

TTC, 1:00 p.m.

Toronto Preservation Board, 2:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 21-22

City Council, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 26-27

City Council, 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 27

Design Review Panel, 12:00 p.m.



NEW DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

EVOLVING SERVICE DELIVERY

A month ago the city appointed two new deputy city managers, both of whom have some previous connection to the Toronto bureaucracy. Former parks, forestry and recreation general manager **Brenda Patterson** has taken over Cluster A, which delivers the so-called “soft services,” from **Sue Corke**, who left the city in March, though the nature of her departure was unclear. Earlier this month Patterson took over her new office and *NRU* spoke to her about her role.

Patterson has held two general manager positions with the city: since 2008 with parks, forestry and recreation and from 2004 to 2008 with children’s services. She described her move to deputy city manager as “a natural evolution.”

“I didn’t want to take on the operating responsibility of a third division,” Patterson said. “The fact that I’d done both of those led me to believe that the opportunity to move to a more strategic position, or a position with a more strategic view, would be the next step for me and also one [in] which I felt I could use some of my experience.”

She pointed out that the city’s children’s services division includes cost-shared programs that have a legislative foundation, while the parks, forestry and recreation division provides services

that are municipally operated and are supported entirely by the city’s tax base, giving Patterson a varied perspective on Cluster A’s services.

Naturally the most pressing issue for any senior city official at the moment is the ongoing core service review and the other components of the city’s efforts to rein in the 2012 budget gap, but more specifically, questions have been raised in the process about the city’s involvement in direct delivery of child care and long term care homes.

“Various governments have actually mused about direct delivery of child care and direct delivery of homes for the aged,” Patterson said. “I think it’s not a bad question to ask yourself from time to time: why are you doing this directly? What are the benefits to the city to deliver this with municipal service providers?”

The new deputy city manager pointed out that while the city directly operates 57 child care centres, there are many, many more across the city that are operated by non-profit or commercial organizations with which the city has purchase of service agreements.

“It is a reasonable question for council to consider. Do they want to be in that business? Do they want it all to be out for purchase of service?”

CONTINUED PAGE 5 ▶

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CITY MOURNS A LEADER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“He was always a determined and hardworking councillor. In fact, he was tenacious. He was always fighting for his beliefs,” former Toronto mayor **Art Eggleton** said, conceding that while they didn’t always see eye-to-eye, Layton was sincere and professional. “He was always very personable. He never held personal grudges or anything like that. I think he served the city well.”

Toronto has gradually become known as a leading city when it comes to the environment and Layton played a big part in that shift. He was one of the driving forces behind the Toronto Atmospheric Fund and, as president of the fund in 1999, led the preliminary phases of the wind power cooperative that runs the now-iconic Exhibition Place wind turbine. He also chaired the city’s environmental task force.

Layton was a leader in the city’s cycling community as well. He established Toronto’s first cycling committee and popularized the now-ubiquitous ring-and-post bike parking stands. It is hard to imagine the municipal-era Layton getting around on anything other than a bike.

“Jack wanted to make sure the SkyDome would be as ‘urban’ as possible and insisted on the minimum amount of car parking and the maximum amount of bicycle parking,” recently retired, long-time city transportation planner **Greg Stewart** wrote in an email to *NRU*. “He always looked for ways to maximize the public benefits of the land development process. Jack valued urban planning, actually read the staff reports, always posed informed questions and focused his arguments on the principles involved, not the personalities.”

Stewart noted that Layton was typically ahead of the curve on major issues, including the fight against AIDS, working for improvements in cyclist safety and combatting homelessness, asserting that Layton’s efforts “really have saved lives.” But Jack was also a strong voice on council when it came to planning matters.

“In planning debates at the city, Jack was looking for answers, not political triumphs. His memory brings back an era of hope and public purpose at city hall that, for the moment, seems to have deserted the civic landscape,” Stewart said.

City planning policy and research manager **Tom Ostler** spoke of Layton’s leadership in the development of Toronto’s 1991 official plan.

“Jack and Olivia (who was on the Official Plan Task Force as a school board trustee) played a large role in articulating



Top: Torontonians left flowers, cards, cans of Orange Crush and even a plastic Star Trek phaser on the steps of the downtown house Layton shared with wife Olivia Chow.



Above: At Nathan Phillips Square, Torontonians wrote tributes to Jack in chalk, covering a sizable chunk of ground and observation deck ramp.

NRU PHOTOS

an inclusive vision for the plan—as something much more than a traditional official plan,” Ostler said in an email to *NRU*. He described Layton’s insistence on including social equity concerns across all aspects of the official plan.

“As **Trevor Hancock** commented at the Cityplan ‘91 Forum, ‘[o]ur success as a city should be judged by the quality of life of our most disadvantaged populations.’ I think Jack held us to that throughout his tenure on council,” Ostler commented.

Other causes close to Jack’s heart included housing and homelessness. He chaired the city’s advisory committee on homeless and socially isolated persons and was a fierce advocate for housing funding.

“I’ve had the pleasure of knowing and working with Jack for over 30 years. Throughout his political career he cared deeply about the need for decent housing for all,” said **Sean Gadon**, director of the city’s affordable housing office.

“Following the release of the Mayor’s Homelessness Action Task Force in 1999, Jack campaigned tirelessly to build the political will for local and federal action and investments in affordable housing. Thanks to Jack’s advocacy and leadership federal/provincial/territorial governments will have by 2014 invested more than \$6.9-billion to solve homelessness and provide new affordable housing for Canadians,” Gadon continued. “For decades to come these

CONTINUED PAGE 4 ▶

BUYOUT PACKAGE TROUBLES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“the employment standards [legislation] just sets the bare minimum.”

“The common law... says that unless you have an employment agreement that says otherwise, you’re actually entitled to reasonable notice based on features such as your age, years of service and position. When you consider all those, how long it’s going to take them to replace that role. In the vast majority of cases, it far exceeds three or four weeks per year of service.” He added that unionized city workers are being offered three weeks pay for each year of service compared to management, who would get four weeks pay.

Whitten noted that a recent Ontario Superior Court decision ruled that it is not easier for unionized or hourly employees to find work than it is for management or salaried employees. As such, Whitten asserted that “there shouldn’t be a serious discrepancy between what a union or an hourly employee would receive versus a salaried management position.”

Another apparent point of contention in the buyout package is the issue of benefits. A typical severance package would include full payment and benefits in lieu of advance notice of termination, but the city’s buyout package offers a lump sum amount to employees who take the buyout rather than providing them full benefits.

“They lose the ability to access benefits throughout their up-to-six-month notice period. On top of that, what they’re being offered is not sufficient to compensate them for the loss of benefit,” Whitten said. “You can’t replace disability insurance for a couple hundred dollars a month if you’re terminated, if you’re an inactive employee.”

The impact on city services could prove dramatic, Whitten told *NRU*, even if only a small proportion of those eligible for the buyout actually take the offer. The buyout plan would see a large

majority of employees who take the buyout gone between October and December, leaving very little time for a transition.

“You end up with a number of municipal employees... [who] are surrounded by empty desks and have a stack of work and yet are expected to deliver the same quality of service. It just doesn’t add up,” Whitten said.

In fact, Whitten also found potential problems in the later stage of the buyout process, where staff applications to take the buyout are reviewed and either approved or rejected. The precise selection criteria are not public knowledge, but it seems as though it favours staff who are close to retirement, Whitten said.

“If you find that the people that are accepted are generally... older employees, you may find younger employees that were not accepted challenging it on the basis of human rights grounds. They can do that at the [human rights] tribunal or they can bring a lawsuit,” warned Whitten, who has spent nine years practicing employment law and founded his own firm two-and-a-half years ago.

Whitten suggested that a better scenario could involve the city crafting a severance package that includes a longer transition period, which could ultimately save both staff time and real dollars. Though not hired by the city to review the buyout package, Whitten felt compelled to examine what was being offered to ensure the rights of employees were respected and the city was moving in an appropriate direction.

“As an employment lawyer I believe that people should be treated fairly and with respect in the workplace,” Whitten said. “As a Torontonians I want to see a strategy that works for the city. I don’t want to see a knee-jerk decision made now that’s going to haunt us for years to come.” *NRU*

CITY MOURNS A LEADER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

investments and Jack’s housing legacy will pay dividends in assisting hundreds of thousands of Canadians to live in dignity.”

Jack took up the fight for same-sex marriage and LGBT rights early on. He also established the White Ribbon campaign to combat violence against women.

“He has a very good ability of trying to find common ground with people. He showed that from the earliest days. That’s a skill that not a lot of politicians have,” former mayor and councillor **John Sewell** said of Layton. “His ability to work with communities was extraordinary, to bring them

together, to say ‘we’ve got to solve the problem, we can’t just complain about the problem.’”

Sewell first urged Layton to run with him in the 1982 city council election in which Jack pulled off a surprising victory.

“One thing that’s been clear, both since his announcement [that he was taking time off to undergo cancer treatment] and his death, is his great optimism. Hope is better than fear and that’s him,” Sewell said. “All these things are very, very unusual in a politician and I think it’s why people are beginning to recognize it now.” *NRU*

NEW DEPUTY MANAGER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Are there reasons why it's a good thing to have your oar in?" Patterson added.

"In various other reports there have been reasons why the city made decisions at the time not to proceed, but we're in a different situation now and a different set of circumstances. For council to consider those questions and then to look at whether or not changes need to be made, I think, is reasonable. It's a timely thing to consider."

More efficient service delivery is also top of mind for Patterson, who pointed out the city could, for example, consolidate counter service by providing residents access to multiple services at one municipally-operated counter, rather than separate counters for each service.

"I think there are some opportunities that are identified through the KPMG study that actually give advice to the city about looking at different ways that things may be delivered. In some cases those may be shared service arrangements between divisions," Patterson said, singling out recreation services as one area where the city has actually been experimenting with alternative service delivery for some time.

"One of the things that I think people probably don't recognize is that a lot of that kind of stuff does happen now," Patterson pointed out. "In fact, almost 33 per cent of the recreation services that are delivered in community centres are actually delivered by other parties through permits."

While she noted that there had been smaller scale service reviews in the past, initiated by both the city and the province, those were often focussed on one specific program area and it is likely that nothing on the scope of the current review had been undertaken before. Patterson labelled the review "ambitious" but "a necessary step" to "direct investment and budget decisions over the next number of years, over the next decade for example, as opposed to each year coming up with a solution for a particular problem."

Patterson herself had worked to make services more efficient during her tenure with the children's services and parks, forestry and recreation divisions, but she sees a renewed focus on efficiency and fiscal responsibility.

"There's a significant effort right now at the city about being more responsive to customer service issues and recognizing that taxpayers expect that they are going to get responses to their enquiries, that when they look out their door and see things that they think that the city delivers that they actually

Cluster A

Public health,
affordable housing
office, partnerships
office, 311,
employment and
social services,

children's services,
long-term care
homes and services,
court services,
parks, forestry and
recreation, economic
development and

culture, shelter,
support and housing
administration,
emergency medical
services, and social
development, finance
and administration.

see that their money is going towards things that they see in terms of outcomes," the new deputy city manager said.

She stressed the need to be open, as an organization, to changing the way things are done.

"I think we should be confident that we're delivering good quality service, we're delivering services that residents want, that we're responsive and nimble when we need to be," she said. "I think that's one of the things that can be problematic in any large organization that you get tied into doing things in a certain way and you're hesitant to change."

I think we should be confident that we're delivering good quality service, we're delivering services that residents want, that we're responsive and nimble when we need to be.

• Brenda Patterson

When asked about what she hopes to accomplish in the new role, Patterson said that instilling a sense of value for money in city taxpayers and ensuring dedicated, engaged staff are particular goals at this point.

"I think having people believe that they're getting value for the money that they're paying through their property taxes is important," she said. "Ultimately I think having a workforce that is really committed to providing good service, understands the importance of the work that [it] does, feels valued and engages in that exercise would be something that I would feel would be important for me to do before moving on or leaving the position."

Patterson worked for 10 years with **Family Daycare Services**, a non-profit community agency, before joining Metro Toronto in 1986. She has been a part of the municipal bureaucracy ever since, spending most of that time in children's services. She was also, at one point, **Ontario Municipal Social Services Association** president. **nrj**

NEW DOWNSVIEW AREA SECONDARY PLAN

OMB APPROVES SETTLEMENT

By Kristine Janzen

In a decision issued August 17, the **Ontario Municipal Board** approved a settlement agreement for an official plan amendment application submitted by **Parc Downsview Park Inc.** to implement a new secondary plan for the Downsview area, where the federal crown corporation owns a significant amount of land. (See *OMB Case NO. PL110098*.)

Although city staff and Parc Downsview Park Inc. had been in agreement regarding the details of a city-initiated secondary plan, council had deferred a decision a number of times. Parc Downsview Park Inc. then initiated a private official plan amendment that would essentially implement the secondary plan developed by the city. When the city failed to approve the official plan amendment, it appealed to the board.

Approval of the new secondary plan guides redevelopment into seven districts in the Downsview area:

- National Urban Park, new urban park to remain under the ownership of Parc Downsview Park Inc.;
- Bombardier/DND/TTC lands;
- Stanley Green, a residential neighbourhood;
- William Baker, primarily a residential neighbourhood within walking distance of the new TTC-GO Transit station transit hub;
- Sheppard-Chesswood, an employment area centred around the transit hub;
- Allen, a mixed-use district with non-residential development around the Downsview subway station;
- Wilson, which comprises redevelopment of three TTC commuter parking lots.

The goal of the secondary plan is to direct development in the Downsview area into a green, mixed-use, vibrant neighbourhood and employment area for 42,000 residents and workers along with development of a national urban park.

Build Toronto Inc. also has development plans for a new mixed-use neighbourhood in the Allen district on city-owned lands around the Downsview subway station in the secondary plan area. The secondary plan structures new residential and commercial development in a way that supports the significant public investment in public transit

now underway in the area, such as the new integrated TTC subway and GO Transit station, which is expected to be completed by 2015.

Parc Downsview Park Inc. chair and former city councillor **David Soknacki** told *NRU* approval of the plan in the long term means stakeholders and the public “can see what the future will bring.” Parc Downsview Park Inc. awarded Ontario-based developer **Urbancorp** the contract to develop the Stanley Greene neighbourhood.

While Parc Downsview Park Inc. is responsible for developing a national urban park on its lands, it does not have funding from the federal government. Instead, it must capitalize on its real estate assets through a self-financing model that relies on capitalizing on redevelopment and land sales with a \$100-million line of credit it has been using to leverage development interest and to finance soft costs.

According to Soknacki, approval of the secondary plan is not only essential for the long-term, it's critical for the short term.

“[Parc Downsview Park Inc.] has invested in the public realm by borrowing. We need to repay that debt sooner rather than later. Funds to repay borrowed money will come first from the sale of lands in the Stanley Greene neighbourhood to Urbancorp who was awarded the contract by Parc Downsview Park Inc. to develop the neighbourhood. We have finalized an agreement with Urbancorp. And this brings us steps closer to the finalization of that transaction,” explained Soknacki.

CONTINUED PAGE 7 >

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OMB APPROVES SETTLEMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Toronto council had delayed approval of a new updated secondary plan for the Downsview area a number of times, beginning in February of last year when the final staff report was before council for consideration. Staff had begun an 18-month review of the 1999 Downsview Area Secondary Plan in May 2008 to incorporate the new context for the site, including changes to provincial and city planning policy as well as development of the new TTC subway and GO Transit station at Downsview Park.

Following two deferrals by council, the second without any specified date for further review, Parc Downsview Park Inc. initiated an official plan amendment to implement city staff recommendations for updating the secondary plan. It also filed a zoning by-law amendment and draft plan of subdivision application for the first district in the secondary plan area owned by Parc Downsview Park Inc. to be implemented, Stanley Greene.


According to Soknacki, issues regarding the finer details of the plan for the Stanley Greene neighbourhood will be worked out among parties at a future hearing that will deal with the re-zoning and draft plan of subdivision applications.

Issues raised by the North York Community Council in March included questions regarding the financial implications of new community infrastructure, density allocations and location of the new community centre, as well as maintenance of the existing on and off ramps. The community council also raised concerns about the densities proposed for lands owned by **Build Toronto Inc.** in the Allen district, located in the south east corner of the secondary plan area.



Build Toronto had included densities in its official plan amendment application for city-owned lands in the Allen District that were different from those recommended by staff for the secondary plan. However, agreement was reached to increase the density for neighbourhoods in the Allen district from 0.5 to 0.85. Densities for mixed-use areas and apartment neighbourhoods were kept at staff recommended densities and approved by the board.

Also included in the approved secondary plan is a policy to preserve the existing ramp configuration at Wilson Heights Boulevard and Allen Road, resolving another issue raised by the North York Community Council.

A status update to the board on settlement discussions to resolve the rezoning and draft plan of subdivision appeals for Stanley Greene will take place Monday. Should parties come to a settlement agreement, it will be presented to the board at a hearing October 13. 

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TORONTO OMB NEWS

Parking variance appeal allowed

In a decision issued August 16, board member **Aristotle Christou** allowed an appeal by **Midland Corporate Centre Ltd.** of a committee of adjustment decision. The committee had approved **Applemore Auto Inc.**'s request for a minor variance to reduce the required parking spaces from 49 to 38 for an industrial property used to service vehicles at 435 Midwest Road.

Neighbouring property owner Midland Corporate Centre argued that a reduction in the minimum parking requirements would have a negative impact on its tenants and would not maintain the intent and purpose of the zoning by-law and official plan. Further, it said the current parking spaces are not well managed; parking occurs on the city boulevard and blocks the one-way driveway.

Planner **Eldon Theodore (MHBC Planning Urban Design & Landscape Architecture)** presented evidence to the board in support of Midland. He explained that while the site plan shows 38 parking spaces, he counted 46 to 47 vehicles parked during a site visit. He told the board the variance does not maintain the intent and purpose of the zoning by-law and official plan and noted the inaccurate information submitted to the city by the applicant shows that reducing the minimum parking requirement does not provide adequate parking. Theodore added the city had not conducted either a parking analysis for the property or a zoning review as the applicant opted to waive the preliminary zoning review requirement. Further, vehicle service uses generally require five times more parking than industrial uses, he said.

The board noted parking is an issue with vehicle service operations in the city because they require a lot of parking. To address the issue, in the 1990s the city removed vehicle service operations from main streets and allowed the use in industrial areas. The board found the variance failed to maintain the intent and purpose of the zoning by-law and determined the development is neither minor nor appropriate. The board allowed the appeal and did not authorize the variance.

Solicitor **Jason Park (Fraser Milner)** represented Midland Corporate Centre Ltd. Applemore Auto Inc owner **Suppiah Ganesh** was not represented by counsel. (See OMB Case No. PL110346.)

Forest Hill consent and variance appeals allowed

In a decision issued August 18, board member **Susan de Avellar Schiller** approved variances and a consent application to permit replacement of an existing home with two semi-detached dwellings at [110 Heath Street West](#), with conditions. **Shram Developments Inc.** appealed to the board after the committee of adjustment refused its applications.

At the beginning of the hearing, counsel for the applicant advised the board that extensive discussions with neighbouring property owners and the city had resulted in a settlement agreement.

CONTINUED PAGE 9 

Planner II – Policy Planning and Building Department

Position Overview

As part of a team striving to achieve the City's land use and growth objectives, this position is responsible for conducting planning studies relating to the City's land use policy, policy development, and Official Plan general policy amendments. This position also reviews and makes recommendations to City Council on policy initiatives of senior levels of government.

Responsibilities

As a key member of our team, the successful applicant will:

- Provide an informed level of planning knowledge and expertise to assist with formulating long-range plans and policies;
- Manage and/or undertake research assignments in support of new policy development;
- Prepare special land use planning studies;
- Respond to policy initiatives at the City, Regional and Provincial levels;
- Liaise with staff, agencies, provincial representatives, the public and members of Council;
- Make presentations and/or facilitate discussion at public engagement events and at staff and Council/Committee meetings

Requirements

The successful applicant will have a university degree (4 years) in Planning or related field and membership in the Canadian Institute of Planners or equivalent. The incumbent will also have 4 years relevant professional planning work experience with at least one year policy planning experience and a strong working knowledge of computer applications, spreadsheets and databases. Assets include thorough knowledge of the Ontario Planning Act, related regulations and procedures, the Provincial Policy Statement and Plans, experience in growth management, rural and agricultural planning issues, neighbourhood planning, community improvement planning and downtown revitalization. The incumbent will be an innovative thinker, who possesses excellent organizational, analytical, problem-solving, and written/verbal communication skills. The Planner II needs to be able to work independently and as part of a team.

Salary Range: \$62,653 to \$78,316

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TORONTO OMB NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8


The board noted minutes of settlement do not necessarily link the variances to the criteria required under the *Planning Act* to establish whether a variance is minor. It also noted the variances sought by the applicant, as noted below, were largely a result of creating two lots from one:

- Increasing the gross floor area for the east lot from 0.6 to 0.63 times the lot area
- Increasing building depth for the east and west lots from 17 to 18.66 and 18.3 metres respectively
- Increasing the height of an uncovered platform on both lots from 1.2 to 2.43 metres
- Increasing the platform height from 1.2 to 2.07 metres above grade while continuing to allow the roof to pierce the front yard setback
- Decreasing the landscaped front yard open space coverage from 50 per cent to 48.39 and 48.23 per cent
- Decreasing east and west lot frontages for integral garages facing the street from 7.62 metres to 6.9 and 7.12 metres respectively
- Decreasing east and west lot frontages from 9 metres to 6.9 and 7.12 metres respectively

Planner **Michael Goldberg (Goldberg Group)** presented evidence in support of the settlement agreement on behalf of Shram Developments.

The board found all of the variances to be minor and authorized them, subject to three conditions. First, the house must be constructed according to the site plan outlined in the settlement. Second, the applicant is required to include a 1.8-metre privacy screen on the terrace of the house on the west lot. Third, the applicant is required to plant a row of mature cedars at least 3-metres high along the western limit of the west lot adjacent to the privacy screen.

The board also found the consent to be in the provincial interest and noted redevelopment of the site would be in the public interest. The board approved the consent to sever the property into two lots according to the site plan in the settlement agreement.

Solicitor **Adam Brown (Sherman Brown)** represented Shram Developments Inc. Solicitor **Steven O'Melia (Miller Thomson)** represented neighbouring property owners **John and Geills Turner** who were parties to the hearing. Solicitor **Sarah O'Connor** represented the **City of Toronto**. (See OMB Case No. PL110182.) 

The money shot.
Photograph taken
downtown during
the storm
Wednesday
night.

NRU PHOTO



TORONTO PEOPLE

Former Metro Toronto culture division director **Kathleen Sharpe** has been appointed president of the

Canadian Conference of the Arts, as well as chair of the organization's audit committee for the 2011-2014 term. Sharpe

is also a member of the board of the Artscape Foundation and until this past June was chair of the Artscape

board. During her 1991-1998 tenure with Metro Toronto, Sharpe led the creation and adoption of Metro's first

comprehensive cultural policy.