



ARECA
(Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association)
www.areca.info

RIOCAN YONGE AND EGLINTON

The North York Community Council will soon decide on the Riocan application to enclose the remaining open space to build a retail addition at the North West corner of Yonge and Eglinton. The meeting will take place in the North York Civic Centre, Council Chambers, 5100 Yonge Street at 3:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9. ARECA has always supported retaining the balance of this open space which was created when the City surrendered Starret Street to the original developers in 1968. This is also the feeling of all the local community associations. Despite the valiant efforts of a number of community members the final draft for a three storey 'Crystal Palace' has not changed since it was first brought to the attention of the Ward Councillor several years ago. Councillor Karen Stintz has always been of the same opinion as Councillor Walker that the remaining open space must not be enclosed. Nothing from a good planning perspective has changed since Councillor Stintz first expressed her opinion in the Town Crier in 2003. Malcolm Martini, an ex-planner and Councillor stated, "We have a chance to do something right and creative at Yonge & Eglinton. This plan doesn't even come close. Even the status quo would be better then losing this opportunity forever." ARECA sees the need for intensification at Yonge and Eglinton but not at the expense of open space. However, Patrick Smyth an ARECA director said "We've represented this intersection for over 20 years and we feel that 'community input' is now at an all-time low. The City Planners have not been confident about resisting the Riocan application. It looks to me like this is another example of city planning by big property owners."

As with all these types of applications, the final decision rests with the Ward Councillor. Anybody who feels that the remaining open space on the north west corner of Yonge and Eglinton should not be enclosed for use as a 'big box' grocery store can contact Councillor Stintz and give their support to oppose the application.
councillor_stintz@toronto.ca, www.karenstintz.com/contact, Tel 416 392 4090, Fax 416 392 4129.

ARECA is a volunteer community association representing the views of residents in matters that affect our community in North Toronto. ARECA represents the area bounded by Eglinton Avenue West, Yonge Street, Roselawn Avenue, Avenue Road, St Clements Avenue and Chaplin Road. If you live in the ARECA area please join your community association. To join send a cheque for \$20 (\$10 seniors) for your 2010 membership, along with your name, address and phone number to Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association, c/o Membership Secretary 23 Elwood Boulevard, Toronto M4R 1B8. Note if you wish to receive fax or email updates from ARECA please include these with your membership details or email us at information@areca.info.