



Junction Residents Association

Handbook

The Junction Residents Association is a collaborative effort where community members come together to work on issues of concern and other projects to improve the quality of life for all who live in the neighbourhood.

We are all volunteers who are committed to bringing people together in order to address the many issues our community faces, and to build a strong, connected and inclusive community.

Vision:

A healthy, caring and vibrant community where all people can thrive.

Mission:

The Junction Residents Association's (JRA) mission is to promote a strong, vibrant, walkable, accessible, livable and safe community by empowering residents through community engagement.

Values:

Social equity

Meaningful

participation Integrity

Inclusion

Collaboration

Environmental stewardship

Healthy community

Goals:

To provide an effective platform for community advocacy and engagement.

Objectives:

To encourage community engagement and connections between Junction neighbours, and neighbouring communities.

To be non-partisan and inclusive.

To engage members of the community in issues specific to the Junction, at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels.

To participate in planning that affects the residents of the Junction.

To foster a safe, inclusive and healthy community for all.

To be a credible, powerful, and representative voice for the Junction.

To support diversity in the Junction.

To enhance the streetscape of the neighbourhood.

To promote development that reflects the values, character and scale of the neighbourhood.

To promote and cultivate environmental sustainability.

Activities:

1. Advocacy at the local, provincial and federal levels of government, representing the interests of the community on behalf of the Junction area residents.
2. Host a variety of events, including fundraisers and residents meetings.
3. Collaborate with other organizations in order to facilitate our objectives.
4. To both lead and support existing projects which align with our objectives.
5. Take part in community outreach initiatives, such as door to door canvassing, tabling at events and social media communications.

Membership Fees: Sliding scale \$5- \$50

Contact (email): junctionra@gmail.com

Board of Director and Officer Roles

1. 2 Chairs
2. 2 Secretaries
3. Treasurer
4. Membership Coordinator
5. Communications Coordinator
6. At least 2 Members at Large
7. Past Chair

Current Board Members

Co-chairs: Helen Vassilakos and Mario Silva

Co-secretaries: Katherine Morley and Victoria Clare

Treasurer: Renee Wellsenglish

Members at Large: Sue Flemming, Pamela Mountain and Tuli Parubets

Description of Director and Officers Roles

Chair – Provides leadership within the Association; calls and chairs meetings; sets agenda for all meetings; chairs Annual and General Meetings, when present in person and able; have general supervision of the affairs of the Association; sign all Bylaws and execute any documents with the Secretary; act as the spokesperson on behalf of the Association; monitor emails; and perform any other duties which the Board may, from time to time, assign.

Secretary – Keep and maintain the records and books of the Association, including a registry of Directors and Members, the minutes of the Annual General Meeting, General Meetings and meetings of the Board; the Bylaws and resolutions; certify copies of any records, registry, Bylaw, resolution or minute; give any notices required for the Annual General Meeting, General Meetings and meetings of the Board; monitor emails and perform any other duties which the Board may, from time to time, assign; may chair executive meetings.

Treasurer – Keep and maintain the financial records and books of the Association; signs cheques or other payments with the Chairs, as the case may be; prepares the Financial Statements of the Association; and performs any other duties which the Board may, from time to time, assign; may chair executive meetings.

Membership Coordinator – Maintains the membership list and associated data; verifies that members have met the requirements for membership. At membership meetings, determines the number of members present, certifies that a quorum has been reached, and reports the number for a majority of members present. Notifies members about renewal. Develops strategies for community engagement, membership development and retention; may chair executive meetings.

Communications Coordinator – Manages website; posts messages as instructed on to the JRA Facebook page, Twitter and other social media platforms; manages the JRA Newsletter; may chair executive meetings.

Members at Large – Assist the Executive in the operation of the Association; may also chair meetings.

JRA Committees

- 1. Community Engagement and Events Committee (active):** The Community Engagement and Events Committee purpose is to develop and execute activities and initiatives that will empower and engage residents and help promote a strong, vibrant, walkable, accessible, livable and safe community. It is made up of 2 sub-committees: **Committee Engagement Sub-Committee and Events Sub-Committee.**

Committee Engagement Sub-Committee:

- planning for our 3 flagship community initiatives; 2 food drives and our Joy in the Junction Caroling fundraiser).
- developing our strategy for outreach in the community
- developing a community education strategy. One of the goals of the Community Support committee is to help residents learn more about the challenges facing The Junction and discover ways to better the neighbourhood through community initiatives.

Events Sub-Committee: Plans and executes neighbourhood events and community engagement initiatives. This committee is currently working on:

- planning a monthly clean up initiative
- planning and research for events to be held post COVID.
- exploring ways to host virtual events.

- 2. Development Committee (active):** Promotes and advocates for thoughtful development that reflects the values, character, and scale of the neighbourhood. This committee functions by way of ad-hoc committees which focus on current and future developments in the neighbourhood. This committee will be working in collaboration with the Community Spaces sub-committee to develop a streetscape/avenue study/plan with input from community members.

Community Spaces Sub-Committee: This sub-committee focuses on exploring ways to bring more community spaces to the neighbourhood (such as community hubs, green space or other meeting places). This committee will be working in collaboration with the Development Committee to develop a streetscape/avenue study/plan with input from community members.

- 3. Environmental Stewardship Committee (need more members):** Promotes programs and supports residents in creating a healthy and sustainable community while reducing our carbon footprint. This committee is currently working on:

- identifying how we can support Junction/Baby Point Reduces [\(1\)](#)
[Junction/Baby Point Reduces | Facebook](#)
- developing an initiative to bring more trees to the neighbourhood
- exploring ways we can bring more green space to the neighbourhood
- developing a campaign to promote guerilla gardening
- promoting “Food Up Front” [Food Up Front — Transition Toronto](#)

- 4. Supporting Local Business Committee (need more members):** A healthy, vibrant community needs a strong local economy. This committee is currently working on:

- developing a strategy to support local small businesses
- exploring ways to partner with and support the Junction and Baby Point BIAs

- 5. Communications Committee (need more members):** Facilitates communication between the JRA and its members, primarily through the website and social media. This committee is currently working on developing the framework for our social media outreach.

- 6. Rail Issues Committee:** This is an ad-hoc committee working with stakeholders to find ways to mitigate the negative impacts of CP rail operations on the community. Residents have expressed concern over the recent increase in diesel fumes, idling and noise and vibration.

JRA Proposed Standing Rules of Order

The proposed rules of order build on a few assumptions or requirements of its participants:

- The participants must be willing and able to listen carefully to what others are saying. That is, everyone must make a good faith effort to understand each other.
- The participants must be trusting and brave enough to speak their minds; the expectation is that every effort will be made to be clear but that there is no requirement or expectation that participants will present well - formed arguments on the spot.
- The participants must prioritize the group's welfare over their own preferences and agendas.

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