

45 The Esplanade - Community Bulletin #2

March 10, 2021

First of all, a hearty greeting from the team working on the new shelter at 45 The Esplanade to you. Welcome to new people who have signed up for the Community Bulletins. We encourage you to share the Bulletin as broadly as possible. The more people that are fully informed, the better it is for everyone. This is the second Community Bulletin on the developments at the new shelter at 45 The Esplanade and includes information on:

- Opening of the Shelter
- Community Information Meeting Notes and Video
- Community Liaison Committee

The first Community Bulletin is available on the [City website](#) for those that have not yet seen it.

Opening of the Shelter

The Shelter opened on Friday, February 26 and welcomed 5 residents on the first day, followed by another 10 residents on March 1, and 50 residents now at the location. The welcoming of new residents has been gradual to ensure that Homes First staffing is in place and that a welcoming environment is provided. The security team at the entrance of 45 The Esplanade and the Community Safety Team patrolling the neighbourhood around the shelter have been hired and are in place.

Homes First is continuing to intake new residents daily and have received a very positive response from them as well, and the shelter has been receiving daily donations from dozens of community members which is making the residents and staff team feel welcomed. Additionally, Homes First has been meeting with local business owners, property managers and residents and attending virtual community committee meetings with St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA) and St. Lawrence Neighborhood Positive Ways, to help provide new information, establish points of contact, and create new lasting relationships for all involved.

Community Information Meeting Report

A number of people have asked to see the video of the community information meeting that was held online on February 18, 2021. A report from the community meeting summarizing top issues and themes is now available on the City [web page](#) and the presentation recording will be available soon. The next Community Bulletin will include the responses to new queries.

In the meantime, you may wish to review the Frequently Asked Questions that have already been developed on the shelter [web page](#).

Who to Call and When

A number of inquiries have been made regarding neighbourhood situations, and who to call and when. Below is a poster that you are free to print and put in a handy location in your home.

Community Liaison Committee

We continue to look for a few representatives of buildings to participate on the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) for 45 The Esplanade. In particular, we are looking for a representative from the following multi-residential buildings:

- 55 Front St
- 81 Front St
- 18 Yonge St

You can review the Terms of Reference on the City [web page](#), and learn more about participation requirements. You will note that we are seeking a broad representative group of residents, businesses and organizations to help support the success of the shelter in the community.

CLC meetings will begin in mid-March. We look forward to hearing about how the shelter is impacting local community security, undertaking some general education on the best ways to deal with housing precarity and homelessness, and talk about out how to support shelter activities to improve people's lives.



Everyone needs a home

From Homes First to The Esplanade Community:

First, we send a huge shoutout and thank you to all of the wonderful folks who have donated much needed clothing, blankets, books, PPE and more! We are so grateful to receive such a warm welcome and quick call to action.

As we continue to engage with our new community, Homes First would like to welcome the opportunity to have deeper conversations with those who would like to learn more about what we do as an organization, systemic issues related to homelessness and how to be an ally. If any organization, group of residents or businesses are interested in participating in an educational info session with us, please contact:

ryan.evershed@homesfirst.on.ca & alexandra.perry@homesfirst.on.ca.

Thank you all so much for your time and efforts.

Keeping in Touch

Feel free to forward this Community Bulletin to anyone that you think would benefit from information about this new shelter, including condo board/members, local businesses, resident associations or other groups you may be a part of. Ensuring the community has access to accurate information and details for how to get updates will support the success of this service in the community.

If you want to receive this Community Bulletin, and have not already done so, please sign up by sending an email to clc.45theesplanade@gmail.com.

45 The Esplanade - Who Do I Call?

Is it an emergency?

Situations where the safety of people or property are at risk.

- Fire
- Crime in progress
- Medical Emergency

Call 9-1-1

Noise Complaint,
Garbage/Graffiti
Removal, Bylaw
Inquiries

OR

To connect with Streets
to Homes regarding
Encampments in your
area.

Call 3-1-1

Drug Paraphernalia

- Needles on the ground

The **Community Safety Team (CST)** will be safely removing harm reduction supplies from the community during their shifts.

Homes First will also have resident clean-up crew out regularly to help dispose of needles, etc.

CST: (647) 333-0478

45 Esplanade
Management
Team:
(647) 454-8824

Non Emergencies & On-Going Issues

- Trespassing
- Congregating Outside
- Vandalism
- Panhandling

CST: (647) 333-0478

Toronto
Police:
(416)
808-2222

Individual appears to be in distress.

Person is: disoriented
or confused: exhibits
delayed response:
extremely anxious or
paranoid: extremely
agitated and verbally
aggressive

* In an emergency call
911

CST: (647) 333-0478

* Toronto
Police:
9-1-1

Questions or concerns about the shelter at 45 The Esplanade.

- Shelter operations
- Donations
- Engagement Opportunities

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