

## Jane Finch Initiative: Community Advisory Committee Meeting

6:00-8:00pm, January 16th, 2024

### OVERVIEW

On January 16, 2024, a Jane Finch Initiative Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was hosted by the Jane Finch Community and Family (JFCF) Centre with support from the City of Toronto. This consultation is part of the [Jane Finch Initiative](#)'s comprehensive engagement process and it was held online over Zoom. The agenda and project background can be viewed in the appendices.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present an update on renovated community spaces & updated programming at Promoting Education and Community Health (PEACH)
- Share a presentation on the municipal decision making process including upcoming deputation opportunities.

### WHAT WE HEARD

This section includes the summaries of the feedback collected from the large group and small group discussions during the Zoom meeting.

#### Key Themes

- Participants shared support for the renovation and expansion of programming at PEACH
- Participants expressed interest in staying updated on committee and council meetings related to Jane Finch, and expressed interest in participating at upcoming council and committee meetings

### Recorded Feedback

Q&A on Promoting Education and Community Health

- Question: What is the age requirement for the Senior's Computer Literacy Program?

- Response from PEACH Representative: All adults and seniors are welcome to join the program, or just to come in and access computers and printing. The program will begin at the end of February.
- Question: How does PEACH support residents' businesses?
  - Response from PEACH Representative: We provide workshops led by digital marketing experts, to share best practices in digital marketing with local entrepreneurs and small business owners. All of the workshops are free, and everyone is welcome to join.
- Question: How much has been invested in this renovation process?
  - Response from PEACH Representative: We had an extremely low budget for the renovation. A local Black-owned painting company painted the space for a very low cost, and new furniture was covered by old gift cards from previous programming.
- How long has PEACH been working in the community?
  - Response from PEACH Representative: PEACH has been in the community since the 90s.
- Is there opportunity for volunteers?
  - Response from PEACH Representative: Yes, PEACH is always looking for new volunteers.

#### Q&A on Upcoming deputation opportunities at Committee and Council Meetings

- Is there a summary of the outcomes of City Council meetings?
  - Anyone can view past and upcoming meeting agendas and minutes on the City of Toronto website. You can view the tracking status and the City Council decision by navigating to the webpage of any past meeting. If you are having trouble finding information, you can reach out to the contact staff member listed for each meeting.
- Is it possible to track keywords or terms to follow meetings that are relevant to Jane Finch?
  - Response from City Clerk's Office Representative: You can join various [mailing lists](#), such as the [Jane Finch Initiative E-Updates](#), or topical mailing lists such as bike lane updates. You can also [get e-updates for development applications by ward](#), and you can follow Etobicoke York Community Council.

<b>6:00 Participants Join</b>
<b>6:05 Welcome</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introductions, land acknowledgement, agenda [JFC]</li> </ul>
<b>6:10 PEACH Presentation</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 6:10 - 7:25 Peach Presentation [Tiffany Ford]</li> </ul>
<p><b>7:25 Municipal Decision Making Presentation</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 7:30 - 7:55 Civic Engagement Presentation and Q&amp;A [Matthew Cowley]</li> </ul>
<p><b>7:55 Closing Notes</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next steps &amp; things to look out for [JFC] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CAC roles in upcoming Committee and Council Meetings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Attendees:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2 City of Toronto representatives: Zahra Joseph-Wilson, Matthew Cowley (City Clerk’s Office)</li> <li>● 2 Jane/Finch Centre representatives: Clara Stewart Robertson, Denelle Carvalho</li> <li>● 1 Promoting Education and Community Health Representative: Tiffany Ford</li> <li>● Community Advisory Committee Members: Maize Blanchard, William Ballard, Veronica Eastman, Kayzie Sutton, Christine Le, Terryln Knox, Troy Budhu, Maria B, Jennifer Boakye, Mena Hervieux, Susel Munoz, Devayani Chitnis, Sharon Taylor, Edna Cofles Gualtero</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX B: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The City of Toronto’s Jane Finch Initiative is a resident-informed project to plan for the future of the Jane and Finch area. Together, we are developing a community development plan and a land use plan so that residents and businesses are supported as the area changes over time with the opening of the Finch West LRT.

The [Jane Finch Initiative](#) is a resident-informed project to plan for the future of the Jane and Finch area and to determine how best to leverage the investment in light rail transit (LRT) for the benefit of local communities. It is a collaborative community planning exercise in 'Neighbourhood 24 - Black Creek' and 'Neighbourhood 25 - Glenfield-Jane Heights' (see [Neighbourhood Profiles](#)), centered on the intersection of Jane Street and Finch Avenue West.

The Jane Finch Community and Family Centre are supporting the City’s community engagement process by facilitating community consultations.

The initiative involves three integrated streams of work:

- 1) **Comprehensive engagement**
- 2) A **community development plan** including a local economic opportunities plan;
- 3) An update to the **land use planning framework**.