

DAY OF TRIBUTE

City honours urban vision of Jane Jacobs

JEFF GRAY

Toronto Mayor David Miller has officially declared today Jane Jacobs Day to honour the urban theorist who died just over a year ago at 89. Tomorrow, a series of guided "Jane's Walks" across the city will pay tribute to her vision of walkable, diverse neighbourhoods.

Ms. Jacobs, the Toronto activist and writer, was best known for her hugely influential 1961 work *The Life and Death of Great American Cities*, and was an adviser and supporter of the mayor.

"She taught us about eyes on the street and that walkable, dense, compact and diverse neighbourhoods were the hallmarks of a healthy and prosperous city," the mayor said.

Among the activists, writers, architects and others leading free walks through Toronto neighbourhoods in Ms. Jacobs's honour is activist and former mayor John Sewell, who will tour Cabbagetown.

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"We'll talk about some of Jane's ideas and see how they play out on the street," he said.

He says his walk will also tackle the city's renewal of the Regent Park public housing project, which he believes is fatally flawed.

"They're doing it all wrong, which is a real pity," he said of the Regent Park plans. The renewal will leave the area with less affordable housing and segregate those units from the rest of the redevelopment.

"There is going to be market units over here, and poor people over here," Mr. Sewell said. ". . . You've got to mix people together, and then it works."

Other guided tours include a walk along St. Clair Avenue with Margaret Smith, who headed opposition to the city's dedicated streetcar lanes. **Jane's Walks**

The walks are led by a guide who can speak knowledgeably about the neighbourhood. No sign-up is necessary and there is no cost; organizers advise comfortable shoes. More details can be found at <http://www.janeswalk.net>.

Central

Cabbagetown Then, and Then, and Now

with urban democracy activist and former Toronto mayor John Sewell. 9:30 a.m. at Parliament and Queen Streets.

Summer Hill and Summer Dale

with architect/planner John Van Nostrand and Kate Wilson. 9:30 a.m., Margaret Scrivener Square (Summerhill LCBO).

Walking Tour of the Esplanade

with local historian Bruce Bell. 9:45 a.m. at Kitchen Theatre, St. Lawrence Market (Mezzanine, 92 Front St. E. at Jarvis).

Jane's Hood: The Annex with architect and TV producer (*Structures*) Angus Skene. 10 a.m. at St. George subway station (St. George Street exit).

Chinatown

with local resident and activist Tam Goossen. 10:30 a.m. at the southwest corner of Spadina Avenue and St. Andrew Street, on the steps of the Bright Pearl Restaurant.

Eb & Jane's Walk

with architect Eb Zeidler. 10:30 a.m. at the Chorley Park bus stop, Douglas Drive and Glen Road, Rosedale.

Regent Park in the Process of Revitalization

with Regent Park Neighbourhood Initiative executive director Catherine Goulet. 11 a.m. at the corner of Parliament and Gerrard Streets.

Cabbagetown: Forsythias not Cabbages

with long-time resident David Hilton. Noon at the northeast corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets.

Yonge Street is Flaming with *CBC Sunday Edition*

producer Jane Farrow and Pink Triangle Press director Gerald Hannon. 1 p.m. at the King Edward Hotel, 37 King St. E.

King and Spadina

One of the Two Kings with urban redeveloper Margaret Zeidler. 1 p.m. at The Roastery, 401 Richmond St. W.

New Ideas Spring from Old Buildings

From Abbatoirs and Stables to Tong Houses and Consulates in The Grange with local resident and veteran activist Ceta Ramkhalawansingh. 3 p.m. in front of Yung Sing Pastry Shop, 22 Baldwin St.

Kensington Market to Alexandra Park: Observations to Heal the "Great Divide" with City Councillor Adam Vaughan. 3 p.m. at the Casa Acoreana coffee shop, northeast corner of Augusta and Baldwin Streets.

Little Italy: The Devil's Noodles

with storyteller Dan Yashinsky. 3 p.m. at the corner of Beatrice and College Streets.

Nightlife: From Grange to Grunge with *CBC Ideas*

producer and Jane Jacobs student Max Allen. 8 p.m. at 100 McCaul St.

East

A Whimsical Walking Tour of the Beach (or is it the Beaches?) with local historian Gene Domagala. 1 p.m. outside the Beaches Library, 2161 Queen St. E.

From Ashbridges to Little India

with Applegrove Community Complex Executive Director Susan Fletcher. 4 p.m. at 60 Woodfield Rd. (north of Queen Street, east of Greenwood Avenue).

West

Building Community: Swansea from Rural Suburb to City Neighbourhood with Canadian Urban Institute boss and former Toronto mayor David Crombie. 10 a.m. at High Park subway station, Quebec Street exit.

Roncesvalles: Never Mind the Polish Sausage

with author and Toronto Star columnist Joe Fiorito. 10 a.m. at Grafton Avenue Park, Roncesvalles Avenue north of Queen Street West.

St. Clair and the Right of Way: Is Regeneration Still Possible? with anti-streetcar right-of-way campaigner Margaret Smith. 10:30 p.m. at Spadina Road and St. Clair Avenue West.

Parkdale: Eyes on the Street

with Mary Lou Morgan. 11 a.m. at the Parkdale Community Health Centre, 1299 Queen St. W.

Jane's Campfire Walk

with Dufferin Grove community firebrand Jutta Mason. Noon. Take the east exit leading out of the Lansdowne subway station (Bloor line) and walk one block east to Susan Tibaldi Parkette, located on the subway lands behind Duffy's Tavern, immediately north of Bloor Street between Brock and Emerson Avenues.

Parkdale Historical Tour

with Architectural Conservancy Toronto president Alec Keefer. 1 p.m. at the south side of the intersection of Roncesvalles Avenue and King Street West at the bridge to Sunnyside.

Interplay: The Old and New St. Clair West

with former city council candidate and St. Clair West Village Residents' Association chairwoman Alejandra Bravo. 1 p.m. at the Oakwood Collegiate Parkette, St. Clair and Oakwood Avenues.

West Queen West gallery and artist district tour

with artist Ben Woolfitt. 2 p.m., Woolfitt's Art Supplies, 1153 Queen St. W.

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