

What is Happening with the Cabbagetown Youth Centre?

Last year, the Cabbagetown Youth Centre (CYC) decided to merge with the Toronto Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club (now known as BGC-Toronto Kiwanis or BGCTK). In December, with the support of the Kiwanis Club of Toronto and its Foundation, the operations of CYC and ownership of the clubhouse at 2 Lancaster Avenue were transferred to Kiwanis.

Leading up to the merger, a joint committee developed a Memorandum of Understanding which included provisions for the continuation of CYC programs and services (subject to available funding), continuing operations of the Cabbagetown Boxing Club, retaining key personnel, retaining identification of 2 Lancaster with the name Cabbagetown Youth Centre, and carrying out work to re-open the clubhouse at 2 Lancaster. Contractors are now on site dealing with several renovations and repairs including damage caused by a termite infestation. It is hoped that most of the work will be done by the end of November with re-opening to shortly follow.

These two clubs, now merged under the Toronto Boys and Girls Club BGC Toronto Kiwanis umbrella, have been dedicated to enhancing the lives of children, youth, and their families for many years. For BGC- Toronto Kiwanis this year marks 100 years, and for the Cabbagetown Boxing Club, which became the Youth Centre, next year marks the 50th anniversary. The Clubhouse at 101 Spruce St. largely serves the kids from Regent Park, Moss Park, Trinity-Bellwoods and south Cabbagetown, while 2 Lancaster focuses on St. Jamestown and north Cabbagetown.

To ensure the infrastructure at these facilities are kept in good repair and that funding for core programs and services will be attainable in the years ahead, we are now developing a \$3 Million capital fundraising campaign. To achieve our goal, we will need to call on leaders in the community to advise us, to support the campaign financially, and to motivate other to participate.

Working together, we can make a difference.

Art Eggleton,
Chair of Joint Merger Committee
Chair of Capital Campaign