

# ABCRA 67TH Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Tuesday, June 10th, 2025 at 7 p.m**

**Location:** Virtual via Zoom

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## **Present:**

**ABCRA members and Directors:** John Caliendo (Co-President), Ian Carmichael (Co-President), Linda Chu, Austin Spademan, Mary-Helen Spence, Yen Tran,

**ABCRA Volunteers and Street Representatives:** Julia Bass, Michael Mountford, Tracy Warne, Linda Kunashko, Lorraine Dal Cin

**Auditor:** Ian Campbell

**Staff:** Arthur Geringas, Meg Marshall, Jennifer Lay (*AGM technical support*)

## **1. Call to Order**

- **Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.**
- **AGM Chair: Ian Carmichael**
- Land Acknowledgement was read by a Co-Chair.

## **2. Welcome and Introductions**

- A Co-Chair welcomed everyone and noted that while this 2024 Virtual AGM is happening later than anticipated and will be brief dealing primarily with required administrative requirements for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The 2025 AGM is planned for in-person in October
- A Co-Chair noted virtual meeting protocols and etiquette.

## **3. Approval of Meeting Agenda and Minutes**

The AGM Agenda and previous AGM Minutes had been distributed with the electronic communication as part of the meeting summons on May 19th, 2025.

*Motion to approve the ABCRA 2024 AGM Agenda:*

- Moved by: Yen Tran
- Seconded by: Mary Helen Spence

- All in Favour. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

Motion to approve the ABCRA 2023 AGM Minutes:

- Moved by: Yen Tran
- Seconded by: Mary Helen Spence
- All in Favour. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

**4. Treasurer's Report and Appointment of Auditor**

As noted in the electronic meeting summons of May 19, 2025, members were invited to review the organization's financial statements. Auditor Ian Campbell advised that the audit was clean and that ABCRA remains in good standing with the requirements applicable to not-for-profit organizations. He provided some highlights of the report.

Motion to approve the FY 2023-2024 audited financial statements:

- Moved by: John Caliendo
- Seconded by: Austin Spademan

Motion to appoint Ian Campbell, CPA, CA, of Ian R. Campbell Professional Corporation as the auditor for the upcoming fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, at a rate negotiated by the Board of Directors:

- Moved by: John Caliendo
- Seconded by: Austin Spademan

**5. Introduction and Election of Board of Directors**

The Chair expressed appreciation to the current Board of Directors for their dedication and contributions to the Association.

A call for nominations was issued electronically on May 14, 2025, and discussed at the May 13, 2025, Board Meeting. Members interested in standing for election were invited to submit their intent by May 26, 2025, in accordance with ABCRA bylaws. Required steps included reviewing the governing bylaws and providing a brief résumé outlining qualifications and interest for consideration by the Board and possible presentation at the AGM.

**Introduction of the 2023-2024 ABCRA Board of Directors:**

**Directors have been determined through standing terms for previous directors and by nomination through the ABCRA Board meetings. All members have agreed to stand for the position of this Board willingly.**

- John Caliendo
- Ian Carmichael
- Linda Chu
- Arlene Desjardins
- Austin Spademan
- Mary-Helen Spence
- Sam Vise
- Linda Kunashko
- Yen Tran
- Irina Farb
- Michael Mountford

*Board Memebers choosing to be reelected for this positions*

*Motion to Elect the Following Board Directors:*

*A) John Caliendo, Linda Kunashko , Sam Vise, Michael Mountford, and Yen Tran for 2025-2028 (3 year term)*

*B) Mary Helen Spence and Irina Farb for 2025-2026 (1 year term)*

- Moved by: Ian Carmichael
- Seconded by: Austin Spademan

Yen Tran, Linda Kunashko and Michael Mountford all gave brief remarks.

Mary-Helen Spence provided remarks noting the work of Irina Farb.

The Chair recognized Mary-Helen Spence was awarded the King Charles the 3rd Coronation Medal for her service to the City.

**6. Volunteer Recognition**

Thank you to our volunteers:

- Street Representatives:

- Linda Kunashko - McAlpine Street Rep
- Julia Bass - Gibson Ave Street Rep
- Michael Mountford - Belmont Street Rep
- Tracy Warne - Roxborough Avenue Street Rep
  - Volunteer: Lorraine Dal Cin

The Chair noted the importance of and need for volunteers to support the work of the Association. He recognized the work and efforts of:

- Arlene Desjardinson the community safety files
- Julia Bass and David Hamilton for their leadership in achieving the recent rebuilding of Ramsden Lane.
- Tracy Warne for creating and maintaining the garden at the top of Roxborough (noting that Tracy has now retired, and the Association is seeking another volunteer to continue this work), and
- Lorraine Dal Cin for her contributions on building, park, and planning files.

## 7. Co-Chairs Report

- **Presented by: John Caliendo and Ian Carmichael**
- **Marlborough Avenue:** Wild Rose has been hired to support the rehabilitation of the parkette. Irina is seeking resources from the City. The City Councillor has supported by helping confirm \$120,000 from City Parks for local parks improvements.
- **Avenue Road at Ramsden:** this will be a new gateway with three addresses to be demolished and extension of Ramsden Park to Avenue Road, and a pedestrian activated crosswalk. Thank yous went to Mary-Helen and Irina for their work on this.
- **Ave Road & Davenport:** Broader sidewalk in front of old convenience store in planning stages. The whole intersection is planned to be more pedestrian-friendly.
- **Jesse Ketchum:** There is a new playing field planned with artificial turf. TDSB is covering the cost. There will be new track facilities at \$600,000 facilitated through Section 37 funding, funding from developers and from ABCRA.
- **Ramsden Park:** Wild Rose to plant at Jesse Ketcham, as well as three entrance gardens with additional plantings.
- **Yonge & Davenport:** This is a historically significant part of the city and will become an important entry-point going forward.

- **TDSB:** ABCRA is supporting a \$500,000 scholarship fund for TDSB Centre for Black Student Excellence - this will fund two students per year to be architects and this is \$12,000/year for four years per candidate.
- **Advocacy and Approaches (General):** ABCRA looking closely at advocacy for the public realm and ensuring improvements to public space around buildings for residents. A lot of the budget goes to hiring professionals. Examples:
  - 30 Scollard Between Bay and Yonge - opposition
  - 69 Yorkville (Dynasty) - opposition (should be a low rise site)
  - Canadian Tire Site - Developers came in with a large proposal - ABCRA hired professional services for planning and design to review the design and ensure principles of good design are implemented. These actions help align our councillor
  - Scollard Fire - Waiting for Fire Marshalls report - aggressively advocating with the councillor and the City that the site should be replicated to how the buildings were.

## 8. Q&A

- Facilitated by: Ian Carmichael and John Caliendo
  - *What is happening to the eastward extension of Cumberland park?* This is tied to development permits and will not happen for a few years. There is a block study commissioned Bloor to Cumberland, Bay to Yonge. Whoever is able to secure 1240 Bay - the land underneath is owned by the TTC - the lease is controlled by the McAlpine family in the UK. The building will be conveyed to the city this year.
  - *Is there a Social channels group we can join for news from the area/ sharing?* Facebook groups and WhatsApp groups were suggested. A Listserv was suggested and will be put on the Board Agenda for next meeting.

Other:

- Thank you to staff Meg Marshall and Arthur Geringas
- Keep an eye out for Tapestry Theatre - get on the email list for free events.

## 9. Adjournment

### Motion to adjourn the ABCRA 2024 AGM:

- Moved by: Michael Mountford
- Seconded by: Linda Kunashko

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**Meeting Adjourned at 7:51 pm.**