

NECA Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

at the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse (203 Stanley Ave)

1) Welcome: NECA President

NECA President Ray Boomgaardt delivered the land acknowledgment and welcomed NECA members and guests to the AGM.

2) Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

3) Approval of the 2024 AGM draft minutes

The minutes were approved.

4) 2024-25 financial statements - extraordinary resolution to not appoint an auditor and to not have an audit or a review engagement in respect of the corporation's financial year

A motion to not appoint an auditor and not have an audit was moved by Ted Bennett (co-treasurer) and seconded by Sean Flynn (co-treasurer).

The extraordinary resolution was passed.

5) Councillor's remarks

The Councillor joined the meeting virtually (due to his schedule). He started by recognizing the volunteers in the community. He then proceeded to provide a report on what's occurring in the neighbourhood including the following updates:

Beechwood public realm plan. A total of \$400,000 was secured in the last City budget for a public realm plan for Beechwood as basis for complete redesign for the street. The design is going to focus on sidewalk replacement, a feasibility review, and other public realm enhancements. An update will be shared in the coming weeks with a working group and there is to be a meeting in the new year. The draft functional design should be available in spring 2026.

The intention is to work toward a design for ultimate reconstruction of Beechwood, which is the last traditional main street that has not been invested in by the City, the Councillor noted.

Budget consultation. The Councillor will be hosting this on Nov. 17 via zoom.

Beechwood - Vanier BIA. There will be a meeting in November with reps from five community associations to discuss what is happening in the community especially with merchants. He is open to a public session on how to ensure that Beechwood remains a thriving main street.

Parking regulations in New Edinburgh. The Councillor is advancing different options. Queen Victoria Street is subject to a site review regarding safety and parking. The result may be that parking will be

prohibited on the west side of Queen Victoria between Stanley Avenue and Crichton Street.

There is a proposal to change unsigned parking zones to 90 minutes during weekdays to address commuter parking by employees at Global Affairs Canada.

The Councillor's office is looking for volunteers to circulate petitions on their streets. Implementation of changes requires 66% concurrence via a petition for any street. He mentioned the plans to discuss options for residential and guest parking permits. Residential permits allow residents without parking to be on the street. Guest permits are for short-term parking for visitors. The Councillor is working on permits rather than exempt signage.

The Councillor also thanked NECA for advocacy especially on heritage issues with his office.

In response to a resident's question, the Councillor noted the difficulty in engaging with Global Affairs Canada regarding the commuter parking topic and the role of improved public transit to reduce private vehicle traffic.

6) Strategic Priorities for 2025-26

There were no questions or suggestions for changes to the strategic priorities for this year.

7) Committee/Working Group Reports

● Heritage and Development (including a discussion on the Sussex Blocks development proposal)

Gail McEachern, chair of the committee, said there had been no applications this year for heritage permits in New Edinburgh, which is very unusual. She wondered if developers may be holding back until the City's new zoning by-law is in place.

Regarding the issue of the **NCC's proposal to develop the Sussex Blocks**, the committee has to get its teeth into it in future.

A discussion ensued regarding the Sussex Blocks proposal. Several members made comments and raised a variety of subjects and concerns, including:

- the proposal is a big issue for the neighbourhood
- NECA has a role to convey concerns and engage with the NCC, including holding them to account
- the Sussex Blocks is a public space for all Canadians, with its key location along the Ceremonial Route
- a special garden or another more collaborative community space should be considered
- this proposal feels similar to the City's Combined Sewage Storage Tunnel (CSST) project whereby New Edinburgh was not consulted and had to live with it
- a task force for communications between the community and the NCC is a good idea

- the proposal and related concerns go beyond heritage and development
- the NCC has not offered any options to engage on for Sussex Blocks, whereas three options were proposed by the NCC for the Alexandra Bridge replacement, for example
- the community wants to work with the NCC and engage ahead of any RFP for the project, and offer ideas in order to realize more positive outcomes.

● **Friends of the Park**

There were no questions from members regarding the report. One member noted that along the unpaved pedestrian path with the “no biking” sign, the sign is currently far from the path.

● **Beechwood Development**

Kostyantyn Frolov noted two updates:

- 1) The Beechwood public realm plan is moving along and the board will be invited late this year to a discussion of it; and
- 2) The Beechwood Village Alliance is dealing with 47 Beechwood development and the City has approved two additional storeys for the project.

● **New Edinburgh News**

There were no comments or questions from members on the report.

● **Traffic and Safety**

A member asked what happened to the proposal for changes to the road in front of the fieldhouse. Jason Tavoularis replied that there was opposition to that proposal about three years ago, which shut it down.

8) B.R.I.C.K. Awards

Gail McEachern noted the two categories of BRICK awards: (1) “bricks and mortar,” to recognize the restoration of existing buildings and infills; and (2) “community builder.” This year, the BRICK awards will honour three community builders:

- 1) John Leefe who volunteers at New Edinburgh News as the distribution manager, with ad sales, and as a writer; and
- 2) Monique Goffinet and Dean Miller who live at the corner of Crichton and Keefer streets where they have created a beautiful and welcoming neighbourhood spot to let people slow down and smile, leveraging Monique’s horticultural expertise.

9) NECA Board of Directors nominations:

The following current directors are seeking another two-year term: Ted Bennett, Kostyantyn Frolov, Gail McEachern, and Jason Tavoularis.

The slate of directors was approved by a vote.

10) Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was seconded and passed at 8:55 p.m.

DRAFT