

HOTT WIRE IS BACK

*A message from Executive Director,
-Lisa Horrocks.*



We are excited to have the first print of our rebirthed HOTT Wire newsletter for 2017. In each newsletter, we will inform you about what's happening within the HOTT community. You will also receive tips, ideas, recipes, resources and information on programs and activities offered by HOTT and other service providers.

If you have a birthday, a milestone, anniversary, or a special event that you would like to share with everyone, please let us know by calling the office or by e-mailing info@hott.ca. The next issue will be in the summer. Please enjoy this newsletter and we welcome your feedback. Thanks!



PAST & PRESENT

- **January 2017**
HOTT welcomed its 11th property
- **March 2017, Tara (Board Member)**
ran a half marathon, raising \$1,984 for HOTT
- **May 17, 2017**
Tenant Town Hall Meeting will be held at the Riverdale Hub 1326 Gerrard St. East. From 5:00pm to 7:30pm.

OFFICE CLOSURES:

- **May 22, 2017**
Victoria Day
- **July 1, 2017**
Canada Day

Office Hours:

Blantyre-Mon-Fri 1-4pm

**Jarvis-Tuesdays 10-3pm
-Thursdays 2-7pm**



HOTT participated in the Volunteer Toronto Youth Expo held at the Ryerson Mattamy Athletic Centre.

HOTT had 80 eager youth sign up to volunteer their time to us.



Left to right: Alan, JJ, Raven, Lisa and Bernadette

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

~Gandhi

Houses Opening Today Toronto Inc.'s Position on discrimination.

Houses Opening Today Toronto Inc. (HOTT) is committed to creating and maintaining a positive and professional environment that respects the dignity, self-worth and human rights of every individual, and is free from any form of discrimination or harassment.

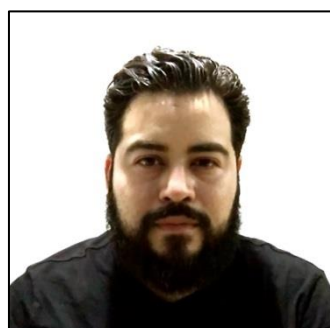
MEET YOUR HOTT STAFF



**Lisa - Executive
Director**



**Bernadette - Manager
of Operations and
Tenant Services**



**Alan - Manager of
Operations and Tenant
Services**



**Brian - Maintenance
Manager**



**Raven - Administrative
Assistant**



**Michele -
Administrative Staff**



**Mohammed -
Caretaker**



**Michael - Janitorial
Assistant**

Rules on guests

Everyone is allowed to have guests. However, you are responsible for your guest and to ensure your guest does not interfere with other tenants. If you live in an RGI apartment your guest can stay with you for 1 month. After that HOTT no longer considers them a guest; at this point the income of your guest must be reported as a part of your gross household income in order for HOTT to do the RGI calculation. In shared houses you're allowed to have one overnight guest per week, to stay in your room not the common areas. If your guest stays regularly you are no longer eligible for your housing since you have to be a single occupant to be eligible for a room in a shared house.

UP TO THE MINUTE



Meet Our Board Members

Back row L-R: Jeeniraj (JJ) Thevasagayam (President), Colin Taylor (Vice - President), Michael Lai (Treasurer), Al de Castro.

Front Row L-R: Lisa Horrocks (Executive Director), Tara Macpherson, Stephanie Malcher, Mineta Thomas, Vivian Ball (Secretary). Greg Zimnicki not in picture.

HOTT has an outstanding group of individuals that are dedicated to working with our staff in achieving HOTT's mission of developing and maintain quality, affordable housing while providing supports to meet the diverse needs of individuals and families.

The Board governs HOTT and is responsible for overseeing the organization's activities. The Board meets regularly to discuss and vote on the affairs of the organization.



HOTT staff and Board Members went on a walk about viewing our properties. Ernest, one of HOTT's residents, welcomed us into his home.

MEMO TO RESIDENTS

- The Tenant Town Hall will be held at the Riverdale Hub located at 1326 Gerrard St. East. Doors open at 5:00pm till 7:30pm. The Tenant Town Hall meeting is a social gathering for all of HOTT's staff, Board Members and residents to mix, mingle and let their voices be heard. Join us for an evening of good food, group activities and great conversation. So bring the family out and enjoy the evening.
- HOTT is in the midst of updating its parking system at all of the properties where parking is available. Specific details for your property will be provided very soon. Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this time.
- Please remember to call in any maintenance related work orders to 416-369-0366 ext. 21. Emergencies can be called in to the emergency pager at 416-753-3828. If it's a health, fire, and safety issue, or involves a life and death situation, IT IS AN EMERGENCY and you need to call 911. Please call the office if you haven't received the handy maintenance and emergency contact refrigerator magnet yet.
- SHOPPING CARTS MUST BE LEFT AT THE SUPERMARKET! Thank you.
- When cooking, kindly ensure that your stove exhaust fans are turned on and open your windows if possible.

OUR 11th PROPERTY IS HERE!

We're excited to announce HOTT has officially amalgamated with Mary Lambert Swale Non-profit Homes.

This 75 unit property became HOTTs' 11th property in early 2017.

Although we are still settling in, it's been great learning the ins and outs of the property and getting to know the residents who call it home.

WELCOME TO HOTT

BEST PRACTICES TO AVOID/REDUCE PESTS

- Do not bring in furniture/items from the curbside
- Keep your unit clean and free of clutter
- Avoid bringing boxes from the supermarket home
- Keep food in sealed containers in a secure location



“We can’t help everyone but we can help someone”

Petrela, Winter & Associates (PW&A) didn’t write the quote above (Ronald Reagan did), but they definitely help bring it to light for the HOTT community. Many beautification projects that have been identified across HOTT’s properties are well under way thanks to volunteers over at PW&A. Not only do these projects enhance the spaces, but they also enhance the quality of life for many of our tenants. A little (or a lot of) TLC goes a long way!

We are honoured to have you on board PW&A – Thank you!



PW&A volunteers just finishing one of the beautification projects at Jarvis.



“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth.”

~Muhammad Ali

Congratulations!

HOTT congratulates volunteer Board Member Tara, for running the Chilly Half Marathon on March 5, 2017 to raise funds for HOTT.

Tara's personal goal was to raise \$1,000. Tara beat her own goal and raised \$1,984.

Why did Tara do this for HOTT?

So that she can help HOTT raise funds to provide more affordable housing as well as to continue to provide the "helping hand" support services for our tenants who need it.



WAY 2 GO TARA!



What's
HOTT

&

What's
NOT?



Houses Opening Today Toronto Inc. (HOTT) has successfully housed 515 households since 1987. That's approximately 1,000 grateful tenants HOTT has housed

4,434 is the number of men, women and children using the emergency shelter system on an average night in 2017. In 2016, the number was 4,122


A Friendly Reminder

NEVER put your kitchen waste down the garbage chute or in the garbage bin. Kitchen waste goes in the **GREEN BIN**. Examples of kitchen waste: vegetables and fruit remains and/or peel, eggshells and coffee sediments, tea and coffee filter/bags, tainted food, non-liquid cooked food waste, bones, stale breads and biscuits, tissues and paper towels. Thanks!

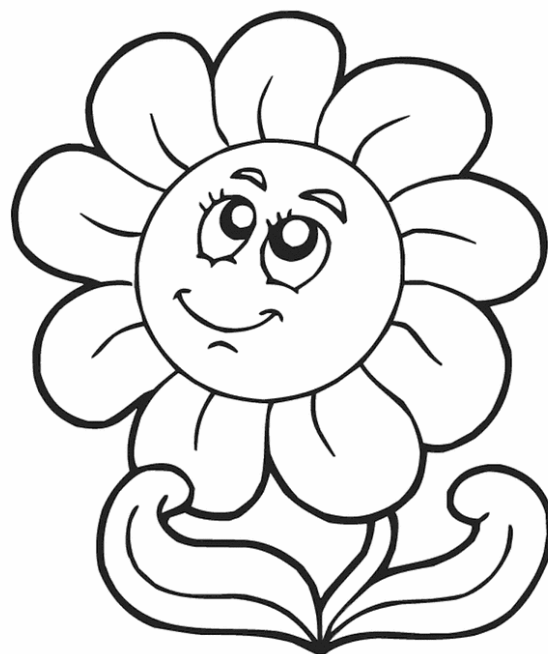


KIDDIES CORNER

IT'S SPRING!

There are 495 words made from the word springtime. How many words can you make?
Also meet Fiona Flower. 

Fiona Flower is looking for some colour.
Brighten Fiona's day by colouring her and dropping her off to the office (of choice) to be displayed.



DELICIOUS DISHES

Chia Seed Pudding

Ch ch ch chia. Remember Chia Pets? If you were around in the 80s and 90s you know exactly what I'm talking about. Well the tiny seeds responsible for the "pottery that grows" have been springing up in local grocery stores, pharmacy, and vitamin shops world wide. Chia seeds are packed with fibre, omegas, potassium and magnesium. These super food seeds are good for boosting energy, improving endurance and giving a helping hand (what can I say HOTT and Chia seeds go hand in hand) in regulating digestion.



INGREDIENTS: SINGLE

SERVING: 1 cup Dark Chocolate almond milk 2 Tbsp of black or white chia seeds

Optional: Shredded coconut and half of a banana thinly sliced.

DIRECTIONS

Add the almond milk and chia seeds together, give it a little whisk to spread the seeds out. Refrigerate for about 30 mins or till the chia seeds expand. When you're ready to eat this delicious healthy snack give it a quick stir and add the toppings of your liking.
You're done just like that!!
Try this recipe for a healthy alternative for dessert.

Written By: Raven

HOTT TOPICS



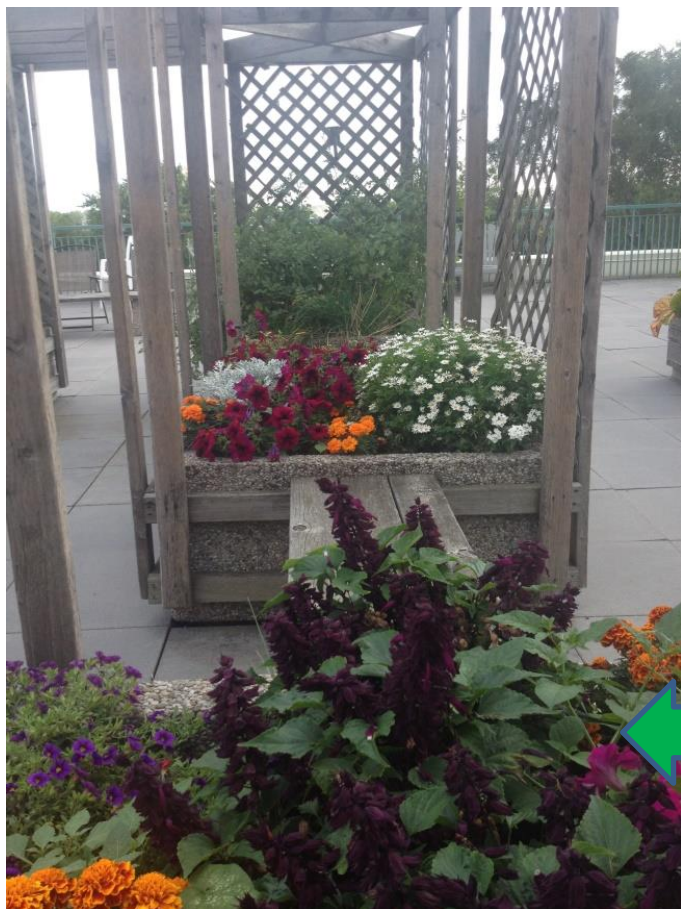
HOTT is very pleased to offer FREE Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) passes to all residents and their families.

These passes provide free admission to the AGO's collection galleries and exhibitions including general admission.

Each one-time complimentary pass can be used at anytime until December 24, 2017.

The AGO has a commitment to full accessibility and is located at Dundas Street West and McCaul Street.

Visit www.ago.net. For more information and to get your free pass please contact the office.



Spring has finally sprung!

We are all excited about spring and are dusting off our gardening hats. If you are interested in gardening please contact the office first. Thanks

One of HOTT's roof top gardens.



George Brown
College Placement
Student: Yvonne-
Community
Worker in Training

CONNECTED FOR SUCCESS

Have you heard about the Connected for Success program? Offered through Rogers, HOTT tenants can now enjoy the internet for a significantly reduced price. Contact staff at the HOTT office for more details!