

December 2020

N e i g h b o u r s o f

FOREST HILL

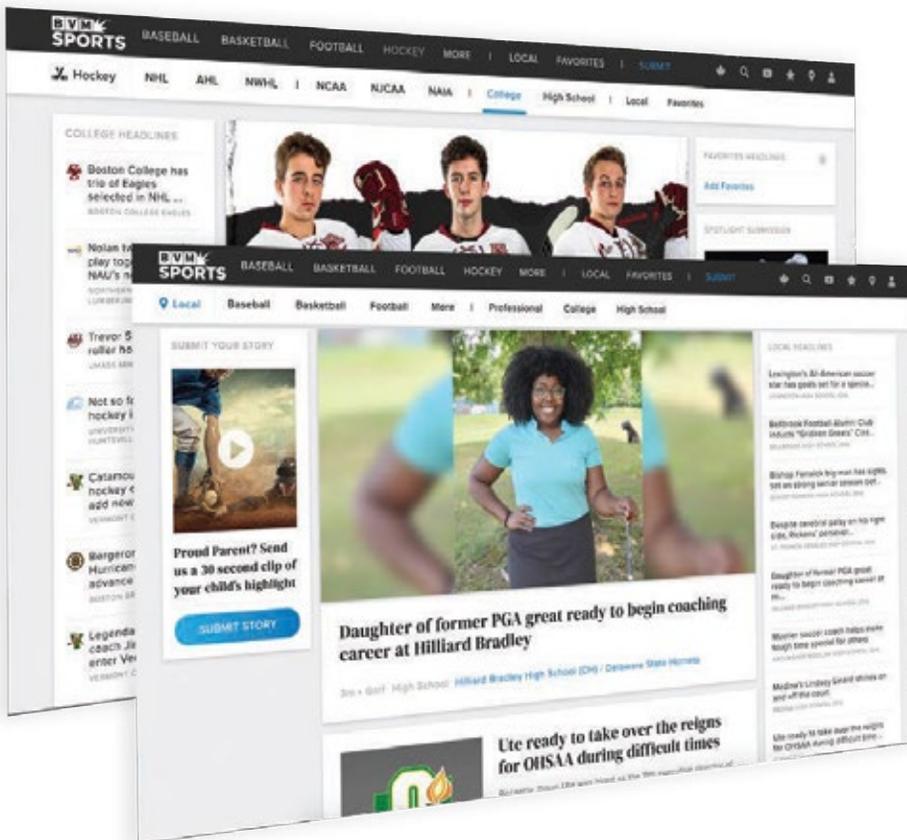


Talking Art & Home
with a Modern Gallerist,
Jessica Lindsay Phillips



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Letter to Residents

Hard to believe that 2020 is coming to a close. What a year. Everything changed - from the way we work and go to school to the way we gather and socialize. New sayings like 'social distancing' and 'bubbling' and 'Covid fatigue' became the norm as we struggled to accept and live with our new reality. It hasn't been easy but it's taught us a

lot. Patience, resilience, kindness and gratitude are just a few words that come to mind. And like everything else this year, the holiday season looks a little different but hopefully we can all do our part to still make it magical - to appreciate the little things, and look forward to 2021!!

Happy Holidays!
Enjoy,

Mollie Wilkins, Content Coordinator



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Painting by Margaret Rinkevich, FEMME exhibition

Photo by Jessica L Phillips



Statues from Central Kalimantan, Borneo Island. Halo of arrows from the Amazon Basin. Photo by Ashlea Wessel Photography



The Library.

Photo by Ashlea Wessel Photography

and spears. We saw beautiful bowls, statues and so many different objets d'art. pieces."Did you know western art and modern art really was birthed from African art?" said Phillips passionately. "Picasso's *Les Femmes d'Alger*, for instance. Picasso was influenced by the two figures on the right side of the painting, which were based on African art ... And there is (Swiss sculptor,) Giacometti's early works were cubism with a strong African influence... And then there is other tribal art and artifacts from Oceania, Polynesia, Indigenous work from the Americas and more."

Through our conversation, we found out that the Rockefellers and the Guggenheims collected tribal art as they travelled to exotic places with their fortunes from the Industrial Revolution. The Smithsonian has and continues to collect artifacts and documents tribes and peoples in remote places from the academic perspective. This explained her regular travels to New York and San Francisco beyond the expected former colonial countries like Belgium, England and Holland. In Canada, Toronto trails behind Montreal, where more astute collectors appreciate the influence and the global diversity of tribal art.

"The major difference between modern art and tribal art is that tribal art pieces all have a purpose ... figures for shrines to represent ancestors, weapons of protection, shields for protection, utilitarian objects for daily use or ceremonial stools and so much more ...," explains Phillips. Each tribal art also has a history and the stories of the rituals and customs of lost or fast disappearing civilizations. She is re-imagining the role of the art collector, even taking on the part of caretakers. They become the caretakers of history for

Talking Art & Home with a Modern Gallerist, Jessica Lindsay Phillips

By Terry M Chang

Nestled in the tree-lined homes is the art gallery and home of Jessica L Phillips. Phillips is part of the new generation of gallerists. As we headed into her live-work space for our physically distanced interview, we were greeted by the vivacious Jessica and her gallery collection of tribal art for the modern collector. We came to discover more about this well-heeled globe-trotting art dealer whose mission is to curate the best tribal art and turn art collectors into caretakers of history. You will find her playing tennis at the Mayfair or volunteering at the Royal Ontario Museum in her spare time. She has been travelling to Alberta to excavate dinosaur bones in the past few years.

As we looked around, we were reminded that tribal art is more than just masks



Collection of Konyak & Angami Naga jewellery, Nagaland, North East India. JL PHILLIPS GALLERY



FEAST exhibition. Table by Brothers Dressler, collection of ladles & spoons, photography the wall by Dale M. Reid.



Egg by Lekha Singh with South African beer pot. FEAST exhibition,



Collection of African Spoons. Photos by Jessica L Phillips

future generations. As we sat, we suddenly had a vision of Harrison Ford, or rather Phillips as Indiana Jones!

As a modern gallerist, Phillips's gallery is by appointment only. She also holds quarterly public Pop Up exhibitions. These highly curated shows feature tribal art, natural, history, and contemporary art. With the current situation, she is pivoting to transform her curations into digital experiences. Phillips also has a collaborative book titled *Man Who Never Die*. Focusing on the Phantom Shields of Papua New Guinea, this is the first publication of this newly emerged classification of art deemed "Pop Tribal."

Phillips' love for history does not stop here. She is a self-proclaimed "Paleo-enthusiast." She is an active volunteer at the Royal Ontario Museum fossil prep department, often found in the tech lab there. As a member of the Canadian chapter of the Explorer Club, she has also been out in Alberta, working on excavating dinosaur remains with the University of Alberta.

Dinosaurs in Canada? "Yes, we are in the Golden Age of Dinosaurs in Canada," said Phillips. This Canadian boom is part of a worldwide phenomenon. "The rate of dinosaur discoveries

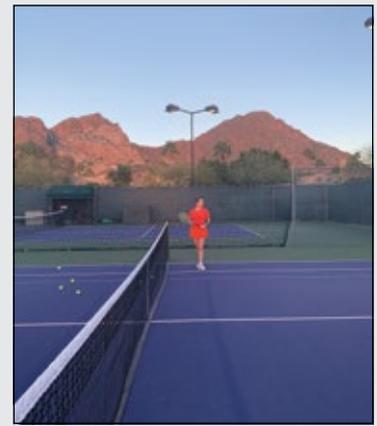
in Canada in the last decade is as high as that of the Great Canadian Dinosaur Rush of the 1920s," said Dr. David Evans, chair in vertebrate paleontology at the Royal Ontario Museum and an associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Toronto. The community has apparently named more new dinosaurs in the last 20 years than in the previous 150 years.

We stopped the art talk and focused on Phillips, the woman herself. Originally from Ottawa, the neighbourhood reminds her of home. The tree-lined streets and the friendly

neighbours ground her as her work takes her away to meet with clients and institutions. Even as she shifts her focus into the new online reality, she truly appreciates the calmness of uptown and spending more time with her art-loving 18-year-old cat, Genghis Khan, a Bengal/American Tabby. We were impressed by how he sauntered around the art pieces. It was almost like a meditative trance with respect for the history of the art pieces.

"I love especially the trees in the neighbourhood, especially in fall with the colour changes ...and Christmas and the Hanukkah lights are amazing if not impressive. It is the community showing not only respect and love but an appreciation of where we live," said Phillips.

As we left the gallery home, It suddenly dawned on us the reason for the vast tribal art collection at the Guggenheim in New York. Peggy Guggenheim was a visionary in collecting art. From Picasso to Pollock, Guggenheim collected tribal art and recognized the heavy influence of western art. Next time you are in New York, visit the museum with a fresh set of eyes. Thank you, Jessica Lindsey Phillips, for talking art with us and being part of the neighbourhood.



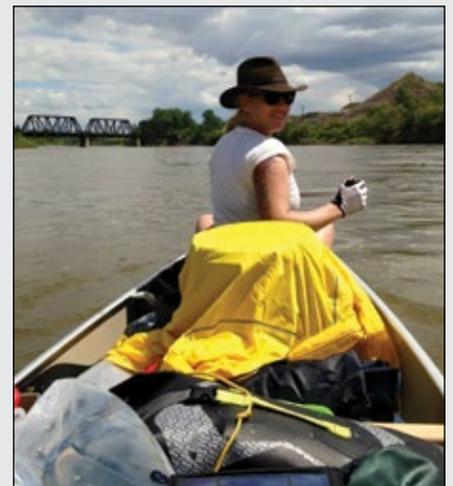
Scottsdale, AZ



Southern Chin Hills, Myanmar. Fading Bloodlines Expedition.



Badlands, Alberta . Explorers Club excavation.



Red Deer River, Explorers Club canoe trip.



Top 10 Holiday Finds

By Catherine Cornelissen



Archie Leather Coin Tray

The Archie Tray has chrome riveting at the corners, a luxurious grey suede interior and is finished in grey croc leather. Its rigid sides mean that it will stay upright where other coin trays don't! A fabulous present for keeping coins, cufflinks and small items where other coin trays tidy which looks great on a desk, dressing table or chest of drawers.



Coral Coasters

A boxed set of four coasters using vintage coral prints. The bright pink stands out beautifully against the powder blue background.



Bev Acrylic Tray

Serve in style with this striking Pop Art inspired acrylic tray. Offering a unique and quite literally, transparent way to serve up some style in your home! Whether for display purposes on a coffee table or chest of drawers, or to entertain with drinks and nibbles.



Feliz Navidating Christmas Stir Sticks

Each stylish acrylic stir stick is washable & reusable making them a better alternative for the environment. Make your Christmas celebrations even more special with cheerful stir sticks for festive cocktails or winter warmers.



Newbury Leather Umbrella Stand

The Newbury Leather Umbrella Stand suits smaller corners. Great for storing walking sticks, it can also be used for umbrellas, baseball bats or even the odd golf club! Also available in classic tan leather.



Ferah Hammam Towel

The Ferah is a classic herringbone weave soft cotton Turkish towel with ecru block stripe, finished with hand knotted tassels. A best seller with those who love muted tones and timeless design. Perfect for the home where it can be used as a towel or throw for the arm of a sofa or chair. Available in three colours.



Moss Kelling Throw

A heavy-weight, pure wool herringbone blanket. Handwoven in Ireland and trimmed with moss green and marmalade coloured-velvets, this classic-style throw will make a stunning addition to any room for an exquisite pop of colour.



Maisie Make-Up Brush Pot

The Maisie is the perfect gift for the girl who has everything! Fashioned from top-quality ivory leather throughout, it looks elegant either on a dressing table or bathroom counter-top. Where better to store make-up brushes? Great on its own or together with the Willa dressing table tray or Pria vanity pots



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ANTICIPATION! *(THWARTED BY COVID...???)*

By Dr. Joanne Foster

The holiday season invites increasing momentum, amplified by a colourful, festive, and collective vibe. It's a celebratory time when children (and adults) feel a rush of emotions such as excitement, joy, and—over the course of several weeks—lots of anticipation!

This year, however, with the chilling and disruptive COVID pandemic hanging over everyone, there is also uncertainty, vulnerability, and worry. There is sadness, too, because many activities have been cancelled or curtailed, and families cannot gather together and rejoice as they'd like. Physical distancing and health-related protocols are impactful—but necessary. In the spirit of giving, we have to focus on sharing common sense, not germs.

Indeed, we must be responsible, mindful of safeguards, and vigilant about protecting and looking after one another. That sentiment typically resonates even more emphatically during the holiday season. 2020 has been unusually challenging—perhaps all the more reason to emphasize the importance of showing consideration, and finding enjoyment wherever possible. To that end, here are several suggestions for families for this year's holiday time.

- Be a good neighbour. Support local organizations and business owners. This sort of commitment will make you and them feel better, and also strengthen community ties. Send or give gifts that are enabling of others close to home. Help kids develop a sense of purpose. They can participate in community endeavours or neighbourhood volunteer initiatives of choice. (In the article, *"Ambitious Purposeful Kids [In an Increasingly Chaotic World]"* I discuss how children can galvanize their competencies and contribute to their personal growth. The piece is on my website, and in my column at *The Creativity Post* at www.creativitypost.com.)
- Cultivate kindness. This is especially important now, during the COVID crisis. Foster an appreciation and experiential understanding of kindness by demonstrating it, reinforcing it, discussing the thoughtfulness of others, and chatting about different ways of being kind (by listening, and showing compassion, sensitivity, and empathy). Consider sharing some relevant quotes. For example, *"No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted."* ~ Aesop. (I suggest additional approaches in the article *"Kindling Kindness"* [*First Time Parent Magazine*, March 2020]—posted on the Resources Page of my website at www.joannefoster.ca.)
- Maintain balance. Co-create a forward-thinking plan that includes ample time for fun, exercise, play, getting outdoors, relaxing, and looking toward good times ahead. Model adaptability so kids learn that change is sometimes unavoidable; that even the best intentions, special occasions, and established routines may have to

be altered; and that flexibility is key. Share strategies for problem-solving, coping, and remaining calm—and exhibit conviction, resolve, and resilience when confronting challenge.

- Embrace positivity. Seek inspiration and light among the shadows. Offer children reassurance as needed, but also encourage them to be grateful for what they have—their well-being, friends, strengths, happy times—and emphasize that these positives can help them get through difficulties. Share songs, games, laughter, reading, nature walks, and opportunities to engage in creative expression and to try new and jolly activities. Convey optimism. (Download the complimentary e-booklet *A to Z for Parents: Coping Today, Moving Forward Tomorrow* from *Gifted Unlimited*, accessible via the Homepage at www.joannefoster.ca.)



- Fortify the family circle. When physical distancing is restricted, find alternative ways to connect meaningfully. Create video-hugs, and online get-togethers. Make cards and photo journals to catch up, and to let others know they're in your thoughts. Chat about shared memories and make plans to create new ones (as soon as possible) by building upon those.

This unprecedented holiday season may be reined in and very different, but we can still anticipate good tidings. We will prevail. After all, we've managed to get this far—clutching the threads of silver linings, striving to stay safe and sane amidst the turmoil, and appreciating family, friends, blessings, and serenity. That's pretty awesome! As the holidays approach, let's resolve to be mindful of the spirit it portends, and thankful for the encouragement and support of those around us.

For information about Dr. Joanne Foster's work and her award-winning books—including her most recent, "ABCs of Raising Smarter Kids"—and for access to many articles and timely resources on children's well-being, creativity, intelligence, productivity, and learning—go to www.joannefoster.ca. (COVID-related material is marked with a red asterisk.)

GIVING FEELS GOOD. SHA

Shining Star — Mia Mimi

By Melissa Lidsky

Mia was determined not to let a pandemic spoil her Bat Mitzvah and part of that experience meant taking part in a bat mitzvah project to help others. Saddened that she wasn't able to take part in Project Give Back program, she decided to make that experience her own, by creating her own project. Her chosen charity was Mental Health Empowerment Day. This organization was one that Mia and her family were well familiar with, having



Project Give Back

Learn to give. Learn to live.
Get with the Project.

volunteered at their past events. Mia wanted to affiliate herself with this noble cause, as it was near and dear to her heart. She partnered with Sam Ginsburg of Sam's Sweet Creations (another quite impressive fifteen-year-old student, in his own right) to bake cookies. And so, Mimi for Mental Health was launched. Mia recalled her motivating incentive, "I love eating and making others happy, and so I thought, what better way to do so, then to send cookies?"

And what better way to do so, indeed! The joy that came from the responses that she received from all of her lucky customers and recipients was justification alone. What a thrill to know that the cookies she delivered would make one's day, make others smile, and allow those who suffer from anxiety to address their mental health issues in a positive manner. Another part of the motivation in creating this project was a way for Mia to pay it forward. She hopes to continue to help those who suffer from anxiety to learn to cope with their worry and spread some delicious joy along the way. From the overwhelming positive responses that Mia has received, to the funds she has raised for Mental Health Empowerment Day, it's quite evident that this special project has set Mia on a lifelong course for making the world shine a little brighter.



For more details or to nominate a Shining Star please contact Ellen Schwartz – ellen@projectgiveback.com

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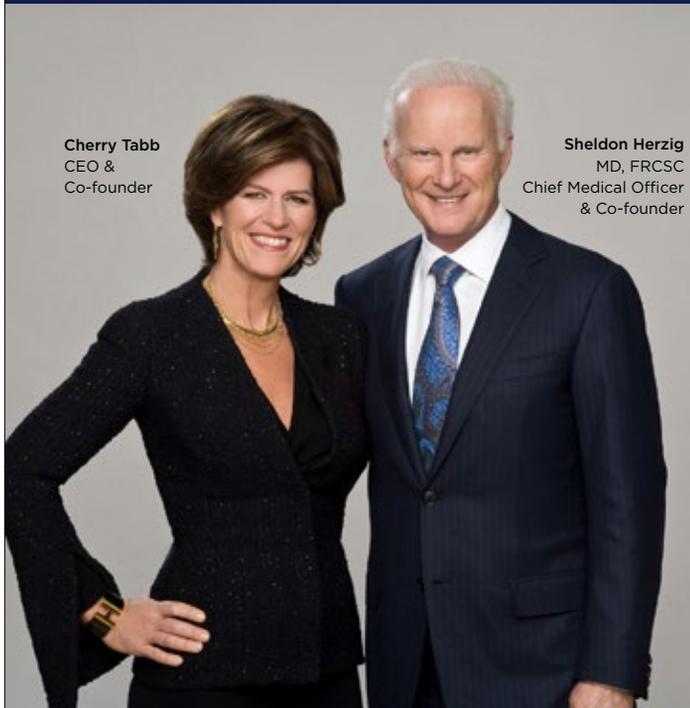
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Holiday Prime Rib Roast

By Roberta C. Nelson

While checking the price of a standing rib roast online, I nearly fell off my chair. Admittedly, the local market sells only prime grade meats, but \$19.99 per pound?! It was always an expensive cut, but this recipe calls for a 5.5 pound roast, which would cost \$110. As the holiday draws near, the large chain supermarkets often lower their prices for prime rib (which I have found are of excellent quality), so maybe your supermarket will too.

At any rate, you don't want to take any chances when you cook it. This recipe is from a friend who invited me for Christmas Eve dinner. She served a perfect prime rib, uniformly pink throughout. A fine restaurant couldn't have done better! I've cooked this recipe for Christmas several times at my daughter's and my son's. Each time, we purchased the roast at a local supermarket, and it turned out perfectly. My son-in-law raved. And, if you follow these directions exactly, so will your family.

The beauty of this method is your serving time can be very flexible and forgiving. You can start the roast and then go to church or the movies during the period between roasting times. It won't matter if you're gone an hour or three (or more). While visiting Florida, we went to the beach after the first roasting (while the oven was off). When we came home, we turned the oven back on, waited 30 minutes, removed it from the oven and then let it rest for 15 minutes before carving.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 375°F.
2. Start with a 5½-pound standing rib roast, left out at room temperature for three hours. One year, my son (who loves this recipe and wanted leftovers to take to work) bought an 8-pound roast. Too big, too rare. Get the proper size.
3. Rub the roast with a small amount of oil and Montreal Steak Seasoning.
4. Place it in the oven for 45 minutes. Then, turn the oven off, but DON'T open the door. Because the aroma will be heavenly, peepers will be tempted to open the door and see what's cooking. We always tape the oven door shut with masking tape with the message "DO NOT OPEN".
5. Before serving, turn the oven back to 375°F and cook the roast for 30 minutes more. Remove it from the oven. Cover it loosely with aluminum foil and let the meat rest for at least 15 minutes.

I have served it on the bone or off. If you have light eaters, children, or a lot of sides, it's best to separate the meat in one piece from the bones. That way you can make smaller slices. Also, it leaves the beautiful bones for those of us who like a snack later or to save for soup.

Speed Up Your Internet Before the Holidays

By Phillip Bidinoff

There is a room in the basement of every house that becomes "the black hole" known as the electrical room, usually in the furnace room. This room is where your



internet and cable come into your house to service all your computers, laptops, phones, TVs, printers, and security cameras. The internet service speed you paid for is delivered to the modem in your house. From there, the internet signal must travel to all the devices

throughout the house, and the speed, when delivered, may not be what you paid for.

While this room has always been messy and the services have been acceptable, it has never gained this much attention prior to COVID's arrival. Each family member's patience is being tested due to its lack of performance, which is highlighted by the constant demand for internet service all day.

What do you do when your daughter threatens to sit in Starbucks to stream her online university course because the signal keeps dropping and she announces she may be failing as a result?

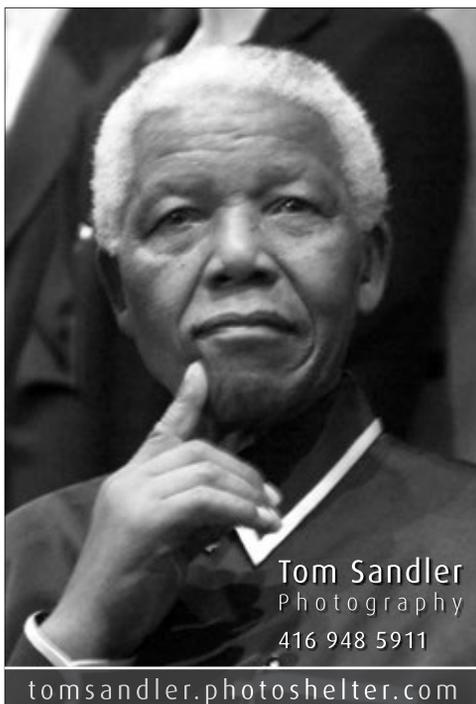
When your son is screaming because he was killed shamelessly in Minecraft due to latency and will be the laughing stock of his comrades?

Do you miss vital meeting minutes when the Zoom call freezes?

Working from home is comfortable but unproductive and frustrating in every house, particularly in Executive homes. Mom or Dad are no longer the CEO

of Corporate, but now the parent, who must solve their children's frustrations without the qualified IT resources they are accustomed to at work.

The holiday season is arriving quickly. Whether you are in quarantine or not, the gifts will come this month (with new upgraded technology), and kids will be out of school using snail



Tom Sandler
Photography
416 948 5911

tomsandler.photoshelter.com



speed internet. While this could be a mounting volcano situation ready to blow, it doesn't have to be because now there is a solution to remedy the root problem. Now it's a matter of deciding if optimizing and stabilizing the internet speed and adding security is worth evaluating in order to have a peaceful house.

Phillip Bidinoff of The PC Doc has provided commercial-grade IT services to Toronto's affluent families. After a detailed network assessment and optimization, the results speak for themselves. Your children are no longer yelling with frustration, and your Zoom calls are enjoyable and productive.

To book a free network inspection, visit: www.pcdohomeservice.ca or call 289-206-8700. Any corporate inquiries call 416-456-7649 or www.thepcdoc.ca

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Attention to detail

Good Buildings

By Eileen Lasswell

Everyone loves reading about good real estate gossip. One of my favourite real estate reads is a book by Steven Gaines, "The Sky's the Limit: Passion and Property in Manhattan". A tale of the "Good Buildings" in NYC and the exclusivity that surrounds them. It made me wonder about what are Toronto's "Good Buildings"? I took a view on our buildings in Toronto from the perspective of location, cache, amenities & services offered, resale value and quality of the build. You may wonder why certain buildings aren't included in my list. I excluded buildings that have ongoing serious lawsuits, high maintenance fees that don't correspond to an equally high level of service, buildings with continued water issues and buildings that don't command a premium for other various reasons such as poor building maintenance, inferior views, poor resale value, among other factors.

Here are my Top picks for the "Good Buildings" in Central Toronto:

- 33 Jackes Ave- Summerhill
- 25 Scrivener Square- Summerhill
- 1 St Thomas- Yorkville
- 38 Avenue Rd - Yorkville/Annex
- 1 Bedford Rd - Annex
- Four Seasons Residences- Yorkville
- Ritz Carlton Residences- Financial District
- 1 Post Road- Bridle Path
- 10 Bellair- Yorkville
- 2 Chedington Place- Bridle Path
- 155 Cumberland - Yorkville

This issue, I have chosen to highlight 33 Jackes. This is a 31 year old building with only 28 suites. The smallest unit in the building is 2241 sq ft and the largest is well over 5000 sq ft. These suites have direct elevator access, porter service, 24 hour concierge & valet and a strong reserve fund. This building is a favourite amongst downsizers for a number of reasons, including an indoor pool, lush grounds, well laid out floor plans, and clear views. This building is situated on the top of a hill with south facing units featuring stunning views over Rosedale & Summerhill. These units



25 Scrivener Square- Summerhill



1 Bedford Rd - Annex

rarely become available and when they do, they sell in about a week. The most recent sale broke the \$2000/sq ft price barrier and I expect as demographics shift we will continue to see this building continue to increase in value.

Watch in the coming issues as I continue to highlight each of these buildings. I will also review a few buildings that are currently under construction and are, in my opinion, likely to become a "Good Building" in Toronto.



33 Jackes Ave- Summerhill



33 Jackes Ave- Lobby



33 Jackes Ave- Foyer



33 Jackes Ave- Pool

Photos courtesy of Chestnut Park Real Estate



Jean-Paul Riopelle
Dieppes (1966)
oil on canvas
24 ins x 27.5 ins
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Real Estate Listings

Address	Beds	Baths	Asking Price	Address	Beds	Baths	Asking Price
24 Browside Ave	6	12	\$16,800,000.00	107 Glenayr Rd	4	6	\$4,350,000.00
55 Old Forest Hill Rd	7	14	\$14,999,000.00	208 Glenayr Rd	4	6	\$4,295,000.00
187 Dunvegan Rd	6	7	\$12,800,000.00	6 Relmar Rd	3	5	\$3,999,888.00
64 Old Forest Hill Rd	5	7	\$9,500,000.00	328 Warren Rd	3	3	\$3,888,000.00
157 Dunvegan Rd	4	6	\$8,495,000.00	29 Coulson Ave	3	5	\$3,600,000.00
20 Elderwood Dr	3	5	\$6,888,000.00	31 Delavan Ave	4	3	\$3,299,999.00
36 Hillholm Rd	4	6	\$6,880,000.00	12 Browside Ave	4	3	\$3,280,000.00
120 Old Forest Hill Rd	5	10	\$6,595,000.00	1 Robinwood Ave	4	4	\$2,900,000.00
321 Glenayr Rd	4	6	\$6,188,000.00	79 Elmsthorpe Ave	3	4	\$2,699,000.00
415 Glenayr Rd	6	7	\$6,145,000.00	305 Lonsdale Rd	5	3	\$2,695,000.00
523 Vesta Dr	4	7	\$5,999,000.00	376 Spadina Rd	4	3	\$2,575,000.00
22 Strathearn Blvd	4	7	\$5,500,000.00	423 Walmer Rd	3	4	\$2,495,000.00
106 Richview Ave	3	3	\$5,490,000.00	304 Warren Rd	4	4	\$2,495,000.00
8 Glenayr Rd	4	5	\$5,300,000.00	223 Chaplin Cres	3	3	\$2,295,000.00
52 Ava Rd	4	5	\$4,999,000.00	171 Chaplin Ave	3	2	\$1,848,000.00

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FEATURED PROPERTIES OF ELISE KALLES



24 BROWSIDE AVENUE | \$16,800,000

Forest Hill estate-sized lot (130' x 137.91').
Parque de Versailles hardwood floors, antique
marble fireplaces & elaborate cove mouldings.
6 + 1 bedrooms, 12 baths. Indoor pool with
walk-out. Tennis court, landscaped gardens
and loggia with fireplace.



36 HILLHOLM ROAD | \$6,880,000

Classic centre hall plan Beautifully sited
on quiet tree-lined street. 4 + 1 bedrooms
5 baths. French doors from breakfast area
walk-out to terrace. Lower level wine cellar
& entertainment room. Enclosed gardens
with pool & cabana



22 EDGECOMBE AVENUE | \$8,880,000

Caribou Park estate-sized lot (69' x 186.25').
5 + 1 bedrooms, 9 baths. Control4 Smart.
Cameo kitchen. Home theatre. Exquisite
gardens feature pool, waterfall, cabana with
living room, kitchen & full bath. Kid's park
& jumbo trampoline.



153 LYNDHURST AVENUE | \$4,198,000

Casa Loma neighbourhood. In 1920
Ernest Hemingway rented space in original
mansion. Subdivided into 3 townhouses
in 1980s, maintaining original character.
Walkouts from gallery, living & sunroom to
terrace, exquisite gardens & ravine.

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