

# Corktownner

SPRING EDITION

CORKTOWN'S SEASONAL NEWSPAPER

MARCH 01, 2012

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## Our Gateway Mural



Corktown Mural

Painting by Gary Smith

*If you haven't checked out the "Corktown Gateway Mural, 2011" at Queen and River – don't miss it. For Gary Smith, the local resident artist who designed and painted it – being commissioned by the CRBA to do the job was a major stroke of serendipity.*

It allowed Gary to indulge five of his passions: his love for his community, his fascination with murals, his love of painting, his interest in the TTC streetcars and finally, his love of animals.

The mural Gary designed pays tribute to the fact that Corktown is one of the oldest and at the same time, one

of the newest and fastest growing communities in the city. The 24-foot wide mural contains some clues from the past: Distillery buildings, an antique car, old houses along Queen St. East and, as the eye moves right, the scene morphs through to the highly active bustling current Corktown with skateboarders, joggers and cyclists. The painting style

changes to reflect time passing. And no, the paint drips are not because it rained! The artist just likes that look.

Fascinated by the TTC since he was a kid, it was no surprise that Gary used a streetcar to symbolically link Corktown's past to its future. On the left is the tail end of the oldest streetcar ever

*continued on page 2*

**CRBA Meetings** [PAGE 09]

| April 03, 2012  
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to run on the Queen Street line. As your eye moves right, the image morphs into an imagined brushed steel streetcar of the future. The mural has been erected at a streetcar stop and passengers on the car will be able to see a painted reflection of their own 2012-style streetcar in the windows of the streetcar in the mural.












Our neighbourhood artist Gary Smith

## CORKTOWN Gateway Mural 2011

Commissioned by: Corktown Residents & Business Association (CRBA)  
Daniel Kervick (Project Leader), Phil Stoop (President), Larry Webb (Vice President), Marien Breen, Adam Holmes (Treasurer)  
 Artist: Gary Smith

Sponsors:

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### The mural's contributors

Fun images abound. For example, in scenes from the past, a woman in a long dress and bonnet pushes a baby in a pram. Her counterpart in the future is a dad jogging while listening to an iPod and pushing his baby in a modern pram.

Front and centre in the mural, you'll see a couple of playful English bull terriers. This is both a vote of thanks to the Toronto Humane Society for generously providing their southern wall as a display space for the mural and also a way of illustrating Gary's passion for animals. He spends a lot of time painting them too. You can check out his work at [www.escapewithgary.com](http://www.escapewithgary.com)

Our thanks to the City of Toronto for mural funding, the Toronto Humane Society for use of their wall, the CRBA board who coordinated the effort – and especially to Gary Smith who's brilliant work has given every Corktown one more reason to be proud of their neighbourhood. **C**

# Three Stops En Route to the new West Don Lands

By Laurence Lui

*One late October morning, Waterfront Toronto took members of the CRBA Board and the West Don Lands Committee for a tour through the bustling construction site that will become the Athletes' Village for the 2015 Pan American Games. As the tour group navigated some muddy terrain (what a wet October it was!) in work boots and hard hats, it became increasingly evident that a true gem was rising in the former industrial lands.*

### Mill Street Extension: A New Approach to the City Street

The first stop on the tour was the Mill Street extension, which connects Cherry Street to the new southern realignment of Bayview Avenue. The extended street is largely complete, but will remain closed to the public until after the Pan Am Games as it will be surrounded by construction. The street, when fully complete, will feature on-street parking, bike lanes and a wide pedestrian realm. The street will be lined with trees supported by a Silva cell planting system to promote healthy tree growth. Mill Street offers a glimpse at how other streets in West Don Lands will look and feel.



One of the new ponds in the West Donlands

Photo by Laurence Lui



Photo by Laurence Lui

**Don River Park: Another Great Urban Place for Toronto**

At the end of Mill Street lies Don River Park, which rises up to a signature pavilion at the top of the West Don Lands Flood Protection Landform. It was very evident through the tour that this will become one of the Toronto's great urban places. The integration of natural areas with built spaces in the park will allow for diverse activities: tranquil walks through the wetlands, winter sledding down the park hills and summer barbeques at the pavilion. Waterfront Toronto hopes to have part of the park open by early 2012.

**Underpass Park: Reimagining Space**

The final stop on the tour brought us underneath the Eastern Avenue overpass to a space unlike any other in Toronto: Underpass Park, a great re-imagination of an otherwise ignored and abandoned space. The first phase park, set to open in early 2012, will feature several zones of activity. From west to east, it will have a sitting area, a play area featuring a couple pieces of eye-catching equipment, two one-on-one basketball courts, and at the east end, a new skateboard park.



Photo by Laurence Lui



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# Write for the Corktownner

We want to hear from you! Residents and business owners are encouraged to submit articles of interest for publication in the newsletter. Submit your articles for The Corktownner to: [info@corktown.ca](mailto:info@corktown.ca). All submissions may be subject to editing.

# Advertise in the Corktownner

The Corktownner was recently redesigned by a few of our industrious members on the CRBA Board. Our newsletter is published quarterly, and distributed to all homes and businesses within the Corktown area. This area spans from the DVP on the east, to Berkeley Street on the west; and from the south side of Shuter Street down to Front Street.

Distribution is approximately 2,500 – and growing quickly – as more new residents and businesses are drawn to this vital and quickly-expanding area of downtown.

In order for any community to thrive, it's vital to promote our businesses and services within so that residents can make an informed decision to Shop Local.

Why not promote your business in the next issue of the Corktownner? Costs are very reasonable and if you buy four ads (the yearly package), you will get a sweet deal on the fourth.

Advertising subscriptions are now available! To advertise with us, please contact [advertising@corktown.ca](mailto:advertising@corktown.ca).

# Diane D'Aquila

by Danica (Donna) Keravica

*Diane D'Aquila is an American-born, Canada-based actor who lives in Corktown. She's appeared in both television and film roles, but is best known for her stage appearances at the Stratford Festival.*

She originated the role of Elizabeth I in Timothy Findley's play, *Elizabeth Rex* and she won both an ACTRA award and a Gemini in 2005 for her performance in the play's television adaptation. Diane's appearances on television and films include: *Alfred Hitchcock Presents, Street Legal, Used People, The Ray Bradbury Theater, Hangin' In, The Long Island Incident, 72 Hours: True Crime* and *Slings and Arrows*. We caught up with her in Corktown the other day and asked a few questions:

## **So, how did you get the acting bug?**

My mother had been a professional actor before she married my father, an Italian immigrant who thought acting was synonymous with prostitution. (He thought differently by the time I became an actor.) Needless to say, my mom did not act professionally while my sister and I were growing up but she did take part in many community theatre productions that I saw. I grew up on theatre and it was her performance as Lady Macbeth that sealed my fate. I've played the part myself three times but I still feel it was my mother who nailed the part. I remember her performance as incandescent. She was extraordinary.

## **What are you up to now?**

I'm in Chicago performing *Elizabeth Rex* again at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater. Almost twelve years later, it's been a real treat revisiting the old gal. And I adore Chicago. It is, in many ways, very much like Toronto, however, Chicago got the waterfront right while Toronto made a mess of it. Toronto's waterfront is cramped with wall-to-wall condos. Chicago's waterfront is all about space, air and parklands. The theatre is on Navy Pier, right on Lake Michigan, so it's a joy to go to work every day.

## **How long have you been a Corktown resident?**

I'm a newbie... it'll be two years in March. However, back in the 80's I rented on Wilkins Avenue so I feel like I've come home. I tell everyone I live on Coronation Street.

## **What do you want to see in the future for Corktown?**

I hope it doesn't get overrun with condos. There is a lovely eclectic mix of residential and commercial in Corktown now and it's hard to maintain a sense of community in high-rises.

.....  
*I would love to see more commercial businesses returning to Corktown. They give our area a crazy, wonderful energy and vibrancy. I like that.*

You know you live in the city when you're in Corktown. When I lived in the Beaches I felt like it was a town unto itself. Not here. Corktown is right smack in the middle of Toronto and I love that.

## **Add anything else you deem appropriate for public consumption?**

No, I think I've said enough already!

# Corktown Christmas Party

What does it take to kick-start a joyous Christmas season in Corktown? On December 3rd, 150 Corktowners sat down to share conversation and a deliciously prepared turkey dinner with all the trimmings at the Dominion on Queen at Sumach. Christmas music was provided by our own Corktown Chamber Orchestra! Thanks to everyone who volunteered, to Chef Radford Cook who oversaw roasting the five 20-lb turkeys, and to John Libby who once again supplied his unparalleled auctioning skills to help the CRBA raise a few funds for Corktown. A great time was had by all!



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# New Townhomes on River Street

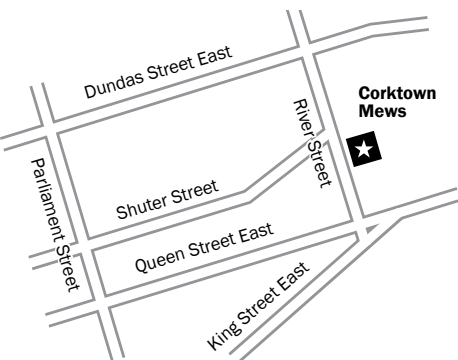
by Francine Barry

Amongst the hundreds of new condo units appearing in Corktown, there is still one site large enough for houses to be built.

Thirty-seven “freehold condo” townhomes are to be constructed this year on River Street by Fieldgate Homes, and by January 2012, most were already sold. The homes will be two, three or four-bedrooms and are priced from \$550,000 to \$640,000.

All will be built to grade (no basements), have integral garages, attractive brick exteriors, and are due for occupancy by the end of 2012.

Nearby neighbours have noticed that this location now has quite a high water table, and wonder if the new car dealership abutting the site to the east might have caused underground streams to back up.



Fieldgate Homes states that “drainage issues for the site have been addressed through the City,” and that the “infrastructure designs were approved”. In any case, a dehumidifier is included in the specs for each home.

This site was an empty brownfield for many years, used by vagrants and others for nefarious activities. The new homes should be a welcome addition to Corktown’s eastern boundary.

# What Lies Beneath

## The Buried Creeks of Corktown

by Elizabeth Sellwood

*We moved to Olde York Village, a townhouse development at the north-eastern edge of Corktown, in 2001. Our back deck faced north, and for the first few years, overlooked a pond that had formed in a depression beside Bayview Avenue.*

It was filled with wildlife, as well as concrete remnants from buildings that had stood in this formerly industrial area. Just south of Labatt Avenue, a lost spring in the Don Valley wall flowed into this pond. Ducks and geese stopped here on their way north. Bullrushes grew prolifically and hundreds of red-winged blackbirds took up residence each spring. Eventually, the pond was excavated to make way for a new car dealership, and the little stream was buried again, to make way for new townhouses.

At one time, the mighty Don carried ships and cargo as far north as Castle Frank (near the Bloor Viaduct). The river wended through the valley. An “oxbow” once curved through the area where the Watt Building now stands (the blue building on Bayview). Boats docked here at the Davies Brewery, now refurbished as the Brewery Lofts.

In 1890, the Don River was straightened, in part, to control flooding. Most of the creeks that ran into the Don River Watershed were buried and built over.

But buried creeks do not ‘just go away’. They go underground and keep moving toward their destination - the Don.

.....  
*Corktown sits on top of this network of buried creeks and their tributaries. We walk over four main underground creeks: Sumac Creek, Mandela Stream, Crookshank Creek, and Taddle Creek, as well as numerous unnamed, unrecorded springs.*

Sumac Creek began its journey just east of Spruce Street Public School in Cabbagetown. Tributaries, Sumac West and Sumac East, flowed into it. Sumac Creek ran in a south-easterly direction, through the Toronto Hospital grounds, the Regent Park Precinct, across Queen at Sumach, King Street East, Eastern Avenue at St. Lawrence Street, and into the Don at a point about halfway down the new park in the West Don Lands. Sadly, because there are no longer visible signs of Sumac Creek, it is considered ‘lost’.

Mandela Stream began its journey near Parliament and Oak, running south-east until it joined Sumac Creek near Shuter Street.

Crookshank Creek started near Shuter and Parliament. It was farther west than Sumac Creek, heading south past Trefann, Sackville, St. Paul’s, and Bright Streets. It ran south-east toward Cherry Street, then east along Eastern Avenue until it reached the Don near the spot where Sumac Creek, too, reached the river.

*Taddle Creek is perhaps Corktown's most famous underground stream. A parkette at Adelaide and Parliament bears its name.*

It, too, took a south-easterly course, but started its long journey in the vicinity of Wychwood Park, down Avenue Road, through U. of T., along Queen Street West, and across Yonge. It continued east on Queen, then south-east across King near Trinity Street, then south-west into Toronto Harbour.

To learn more about the buried creeks of Corktown, Paula Messina, Executive Director for Toronto Green Community, recommended people go to their website at [www.Torontogreen.ca](http://www.Torontogreen.ca). They, along with Toronto Field Naturalists, do walking tours of our City's watersheds - Lost River Walks at [www.lostrivers.ca](http://www.lostrivers.ca). John Wilson of Toronto Green Community was an invaluable resource, and I thank him for taking the time to share some of his knowledge with me.

As for my 'lost spring', I hope it finds a new path to the Don.

*Elizabeth Sellwood has been a resident of Corktown for 25 years and still considers herself a 'newbie'*



Map showing the underground streams of Corktown: Crookshank Creek, Sumac Creek and Taddle Creek

# But What's In It For Me?

Join the Corktown Residents and Business Association

- » get to know your neighbours
- » develop a sense of community pride
- » be up to speed on current issues
- » get discounts at local businesses! e.g. Sherwin Williams, Adornments on Queen
- » listen to guest speakers - in 2011, Chef Jamie Kennedy, historian Bruce Bell were among those highlighted in our speaker series
- » have a direct link to City Hall and the MPP's office...our local councillor has a representative present at every meeting
- » follow the exciting PAN AM Games development

## THIS IS A PIVOTAL TIME FOR CORKTOWN.

Join us on the first Tuesday of every month, at the Dominion on Queen. You are amongst neighbours and friends.

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# Corktown's "Good Food Box" Program

FoodShare Toronto is a non-profit community organization whose vision is Good Healthy Food for All.

Over the years many Corktowners have voiced a wish for a fruit-and-vegetable shop in the neighbourhood. Well, we don't have one just yet, but a new Dixon Hall program is bringing fresh, local produce to the community.

Their 'Good Food Box' Program operates under the auspices of FoodShare Toronto, and provides a variety of fruit and vegetable boxes to residents. There are six sizes to choose from - prices ranging from \$13 for a fruit basket to \$34 for a large organic box. Although the program supports primarily Ontario farmers, foods such as oranges and bananas must, of course, be imported.

.....  
*The quality of the produce is excellent and great value for money. A cost-saving feature of this program is that there is no home delivery, and because of this, the boxes don't sit on your doorstep in the hot summer sun.*

---

Boxes are paid for a week in advance and are then picked up by the customer from Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street on Tuesdays. A small box fits nicely onto the top of a bundle buggy.

For more information, contact Sonia Howard, the 'Good Food Box' Coordinator at Dixon Hall. Telephone 416-863-0499 ext. 611, or email [goodfoodbox@dixonhall.org](mailto:goodfoodbox@dixonhall.org)

# SIA: What's Corktown Got to Do with It?

by Nina Lee Aquino



photo by Richard Lee

**ABRAHAM** At your school, you study Africa?

**NICK** The developing world.

**ABRAHAM** Your teachers, at your school, they encouraged you to "experience" the developing world?

**NICK** In a manner of speaking.

Corktown, a historic Toronto neighbourhood originally settled by working class immigrants from the County of Cork in Ireland in the early 1800's, is now a town brimming with intersections and collisions of cultures, perspectives, personalities and beliefs. This is exactly what Cahoots Theatre Company does through their work – examine the complexity of Canada's cultural diversity and the intersection of these cultures. It's fitting that Cahoots is located in the heart of this neighborhood.

Cahoots' upcoming world premiere production of SIA by Matthew MacKenzie investigates the intersection of Canadian and global perspectives. Set outside the Buduburam Liberian Refugee Camp in Ghana, SIA is the story of a former child soldier who takes a

Canadian student volunteer hostage. SIA is a fast and furious examination of the difficult relationship between the developed and the developing world. But beneath the gritty storytelling are themes exploring the cultural barriers that alienate us all.

And that's the beauty of playwright Matthew Mackenzie's piece. He writes from a much larger perspective, a much more dangerous one – one that breaks the narrow confines of our comfortable first world existence, and opens our eyes to what's actually happening around the world. It is a powerful piece with an honest point of view of man taken hostage by his own privileged status, and is forced to confront the side of the world that's dark and ugly and cruel.

Living in a community such as Corktown, we can become wrapped up in our own problems: be it the current war on graffiti or the condominium frenzy, even the ongoing strife of our parking wars. But these problems barely begin to scratch the surface of what is happening to our larger community. That is exactly what SIA does. It confronts our first world sensibilities. It comforts the disturbed and disturbs the comfortable. Through characters who seek truth and justice in their own ways, SIA never aims to point the finger, but rather allows us to experience another part of our world. In so doing, it offers us a fresh perspective.

Corktown's Cahoots Theatre Company presents SIA by Matthew Mackenzie. It opens March 27, 2012 at the Factory Studio Theatre, 125 Bathurst St. Call (416) 504-9971 for details.

# Alumnae Theatre

by Mary Wentz

*Since 1972, the Alumnae Theatre Company has been producing regular seasons of live theatre in Toronto's former Firehall #4, located on the corner of Berkeley and Adelaide Streets.*

Indeed, it was the "Aluminum Ladies", as theatre critic Herbert Whittaker used to call them, who saved this heritage building from demolition by the city. The company had been founded in 1919 as the University Alumnae Dramatic Club by a group of women graduating from the University of Toronto, who wanted to bring live theatre to Toronto, but in 1971, the club still lacked a permanent home. When playwright Molly Thom, then president of the club, heard that the firehall was going to be demolished for a parking lot, she and her husband, architect Ron Thom, negotiated with the City of Toronto to convert the building for use as a theatre. A deal was struck: the city would still own the (heritage) building, but it would be run by the Alumnae Theatre Club, with the local Councillor as "watchdog" for the city. Corktown's firehall had given the Alumnae a permanent home!

The regular season at the Alumnae runs from September to April, with three shows on the MainStage (with seating for 144) and two in the Studio Theatre (80+ audience) upstairs, (in what used to be the "hangout" for the firemen!) One of the events in the Studio is the *New Ideas Festival*, which this year will be running from March 14 to 31, 2012, and here Corktowners have a real chance to see what the Alumnae theatre can do!

"New Ideas" offers budding playwrights the opportunity to see their work in production. Scripts are submitted for one-act plays (or scenes from full-length works), with a deadline in September. A jury of club members selects likely pieces (15 minutes – 1 hour) to fill the 3-week festival and the company offers full facilities for the production of the chosen plays and a chance for the authors to take part in the whole process. This year 122 submissions were received (from Canada, the US, and even overseas) and 15 were selected. Admission is only \$15/week or Festival Pass \$35.

## Performances

Wednesday to Saturday: 8:00pm

Saturday Matinée: 2:30pm – followed by Talkback

Readings: Saturday 12 noon - Pay-what-you-can

If you would like to see a production on the MainStage, the final production of the season is a comedy, "Cosi", by an Australian playwright, Louis Nowra, which runs from April 13 to 28, 2012. Set in a burnt-out theatre in 1971, a very inexperienced director attempts to guide the inmates of a Melbourne lunatic asylum in a pilot project: a staging of Mozart's comic opera *Così fan tutte* – during which protests against the Vietnam War are raging outside. When chasing your dreams, it helps to be a little bit crazy!

More details can be found on the website at [www.alumnaetheatre.com](http://www.alumnaetheatre.com) or the blog at <http://alumnaetheatre.wordpress.com> and on Facebook (a Page and a Group!)

## Corktown Mission Statement

The Corktown Residents and Business Association exists to enhance the quality of residential and business life, to promote and market Corktown and to act as a voice for the community.

## Don't miss any Corktown meetings!

### NEXT MEETINGS:

April 3rd and May 1st

The CRBA lines up speakers to keep us on track regarding on-going changes in the area, and new ways to deal with problems we often face on a daily basis. Bring your questions – bring your concerns – and speak up.

Our meetings begin at 7 p.m., first Tuesday of every month except for August. The meetings are held in the back room of the Dominion on Queen, at Queen St. and Sumach.

## Latest updates

Corktown is online, please visit:

### Website

[www.corktown.ca](http://www.corktown.ca)

### Forum

<http://groups.google.com/group/corktown>

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# Join the Corktown Residents and Business Association

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## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND RATES

- \$12 Resident
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- \$12  Resident
- \$6  Senior/Student/Unemployed
- \$24  Business

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please mail this completed form to the above address. Corktown board meetings are held at 7:00 p.m., on the first Tuesday of every month except August, in the back-room of the Dominion on Queen at Queen & Sumach. Come out and support your community. All residents and business owners are welcome.

# Organic Burgers No Bull

Yiannis Tsakanikas' story is a down-to-earth success story and when we find stories like his, we can't help but smile and want to celebrate that success with him. Yiannis and his son Tony own No Bull Burgers on Parliament Street near Queen. But that's not where this success story started.

It started back in Greece. Yiannis came from humble beginnings, growing up on a farm near the Peloponnese Mountains around Tripoli. His earliest memories are of his parents, their farm and the simple life lessons they taught him. Hard work and honesty.

In the early 70s, Yiannis came to Canada and by 1978, he opened his first restaurant in Toronto's Greek community on the Danforth. It was an overnight success and by 1988, he'd introduced Toronto's first Greek food delivery concept – known today as The Souvlaki Express. Right from the beginning, Yiannis' son Tony worked in the family business, and after 15 years Tony discovered he'd found his calling and officially joined with his father in the business. Together, in 2009, Tsakanikas father and son opened The Souvlaki Express at 348 Queen Street East in Corktown.

In 2011 the father and son duo embarked on a brand new venture, opening No Bull Burgers on the east side of Parliament, 25 metres north of Queen. It was a success from the moment they opened the doors. No Bull Burgers is an organic shop that offers patrons a creative twist on burger classics. Corktowners who value high-quality, fresh-never-frozen burgers have embraced the place enthusiastically – and today, No Bull Burgers is on the way to cornering the local burger market and achieving the same kind of success that the Tsakanikas team experienced with The Souvlaki Express.

Drop by, say hello to Yiannis and Tony – and sample a burger while you're there!

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# It's the body blitz!

by Danica (Donna) Keravica

*The Corktown chat with Laura Polley, founder of the body blitz spa, to find out more about the concept and the location of the second location on King Street East, across from Sackville Park.*

## **What is the Body Blitz Spa experience?**

Body blitz – health by water – is Canada's first water spa for women located in the heart of downtown Toronto. Fashioned after Greek, Roman and Asian bath houses, body blitz has taken this age-old tradition of therapeutic waters and updated it for modern, urban women. Using ancient philosophies combined with state of the art equipment designed specifically for body blitz, the focus is on core body treatments using the therapeutic effects of water. Body blitz houses a 30-foot warm Dead Sea salt pool with 24 hydrotherapy jets, a hot green tea pool, cold plunging pool, steam, infrared sauna, and 20 treatment rooms.

Guests can indulge in these treatments:

- » Unique body mud, scrub and body glow treatments. You can choose your mud or scrub from the mud'n scrub bar prior to the treatment.
- » Shiatsu massage
- » Aromatherapy massage
- » Therapeutic massage
- » All treatments include access to our therapeutic water circuit

And there's more ...

- » Listen to the hippest sound track you will hear in any spa, indulge in

our dark chocolate, special and juice bar, or shop in our retail store.

- » Body blitz combines health, healing, and luxury in a relaxed and friendly environment in the heart of downtown TO.
- » To make the body blitz experience part of any woman's lifestyle, we offer memberships, therapeutic waters and body scrub series cards.

Blitz on the Go – we've created our own line of eco-friendly face and body products highlighting the revitalizing properties of Moroccan argan oil. They're available in our retail area at the spa and online at [www.bodyblitzspa.com](http://www.bodyblitzspa.com). We only use our own products in the spa and in our treatments.

## **Treatments**

No reservations are needed to for therapeutic waters. However, reservations are recommended for body scrub, mud, glows and massage treatments. All treatments include access to the therapeutic water circuit.

## **How are you different from a traditional spa?**

We're different in so many ways. At Body Blitz there is no waiting, you can just show up to use the therapeutic water circuit; when you book a treatment access to our waters is included; you can buy a 3 month or yearly membership; the pool area is designed for social bathing so bring your mother, sister, best friend and spend time catching up; we offer juices and teas by the pools; bathing suits are optional; we are one of the first spas in Canada to offer the deep healing benefits of the infrared sauna; we're also the first spa in Canada of have a hot green tea pool. We're open seven days a week and there is no tipping at Body blitz! It is also important to us that body blitz be available for all women so we offer discount Tuesdays where

the waters are \$10 cheaper and scrub 'n mud Wednesdays where you can book a body scrub, mud or glow treatment for a reduced rate. We also offer series cards where you can buy 5 visits to our water circuit and get the 6th for free.

## **How and why did you choose Corktown for your second location?**

My initial reason for choosing the east side of the city was to complement our Adelaide Street West location, which has become very busy in the past few years. I wanted a location that was accessible to women who were coming from the east, as well as north of the city and had access to public transportation. I believe it's essential that both locations are downtown and the Corktown location was, at the time I leased the building, an up-and-coming neighbourhood. Now there are multiple condominiums being built and it is rapidly developing, so I am pleased we were able to secure a building in the neighbourhood. When body blitz first opened on Adelaide St. West in 2005, the King West area was still underdeveloped and we have watched a huge transformation occur in that area. I'm looking forward to watching the same transformation take place in Corktown as it develops into its own community. We're thrilled to be part of it.

## **Compared to your first location, what can Corktown expect when you open?**

Women visiting our east location can expect a very similar experience to our current body blitz spa. We're building a brand and it's important that both locations offer the same beautiful, relaxing and consistent experience. We will be offering the same therapeutic pools, steam, and infrared sauna as well as massage and body treatments. Even though the design is site-specific we will be keeping many of the same architectural elements that we have in our current spa. I am confident that any client, who visits either of our locations, will feel pampered, healthy and as always glowing from the experience.

Watch for body blitz in spring/summer 2012!