

SPECIAL REDWOOD PARK EDITION, 2020

# YOUR REDWOOD

your gifts at work for women and children

## INTRODUCING... REDWOOD PARK!

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Two years ago, The Redwood began to dream about creating a vibrant and engaging outdoor space for children living in the emergency shelter — a therapeutic playground where they could have fun, make friends, and begin to heal from the trauma of experiencing family violence.

We dreamed of a welcoming, calming space where women living in the shelter could safely gather for conversation and camaraderie.

We even dared to dream that we could grow vegetables for our own kitchen — and address food insecurity by introducing women to container gardening.

We are happy to report that...

## DREAMS DO COME TRUE!

We shared our dream with so many of you — and thanks to your kind and generous gifts, Redwood Park is now open!

Our plan was to invite you to celebrate Redwood Park this summer with an open house and barbecue. But, of course, those plans have had to be postponed until it is safe to gather again.

In the meantime, we invite you to take a few moments to read through this newsletter, and to reflect on the positive impact you have made on the lives of women and children fleeing abuse, through your support of The Redwood!



# WELCOME TO REDWOOD PARK! A PLACE FOR HEALING, COMMUNITY, AND FUN!

The dream of Redwood Park really did come true because of so many of you!

We first shared our hopes with Donna Hinde and Tonya Crawford of the acclaimed design firm, The Planning Partnership. They enthusiastically created a beautiful plan for turning The Redwood's grey and concrete internal courtyard into Redwood Park!

We shared the plan with Justin Taylor, COO of Greenrock Real Estate Advisors, who was thrilled to provide a gift of \$30,000 on behalf of the company's 4,000 tenants across the city.

And with that, construction began!

The drab walls were painted with whimsical stripes and a huge chalkboard. Paving stones were replaced with a squishy, rubber playground pad and a track for scooter races.

And, as kind donors continued to contribute...

A climbing "rock" was installed, surrounded by wall-mounted play stations. Beautiful outdoor dining sets were placed in the Park, shaded by colourful umbrellas. The Black Urban Farmers Collective planted containers of tomatoes, kale, lettuce, and more. Habitat for Humanity Greater Toronto donated a sweet playhouse. And, in response to a special request from the children living in the shelter, a basketball hoop went up!

## IT COULD NOT HAVE COME AT A BETTER TIME!

When playgrounds were closed with the outbreak of COVID-19, Redwood Park provided a fun place for the 19 children living at the shelter to get fresh air, safely play, and burn off some energy! And when children's summer day camps



were cancelled, Redwood Park provided space for activities like physically distanced Drumming Workshops, Barbecue Parties, and even "Camping Under the Stars" — a two-families-at-a-time camping experience complete with tents and a dedicated camp counsellor to lead the fun!

We look forward to the time when it is once again safe to gather, and you can visit Redwood Park — and have some fun, yourself!



*The Redwood's internal courtyard is transformed into Redwood Park!*

# THANK YOU REDWOOD PARK DONORS!



## Inspiring Forever

Contribution of \$30,000

- **Greenrock Real Estate Advisors**

## Ensuring They Soar

Contribution of \$10,000–\$19,999

- **The Guests of Redwood Palooza 2**
- **McGraw Family Foundation**
- **TD Securities Underwriting Hope Fund**

## Helping to Fly

Contribution of \$5,000–\$9,999

- **AIA High Fives for Kids Foundation**
- **Roncy Raises for Redwood Park**  
(neighbourhood businesses and friends led by Scooter Girl Toys and The Little Paper)

## Giving Wings

Contribution of \$2,000–\$4,999

- **Kinross Gold Corporation**
- **Matthew McEwan – The McEwan Family Foundation**
- **The Planning Partnership**
- **Shiplake Properties Ltd.**



*Justin Taylor, COO of Greenrock Real Estate Advisors*



# IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP SAFE?

Does your partner ever make you feel: controlled, trapped, scared?

**YES**

**NO**

Does your partner have access to a gun, threaten your life, force you to have sex?

Does your partner always make you feel safe and respected?

**YES**

**NO**

**YES**

**NO**

Are you able to flee in the next 48 hours?

**YELLOW. High risk.** We encourage you to get support from a trained counsellor through [idetermine.ca](http://idetermine.ca) or by **texting 647.370.8300**

**GREEN. Low risk.** If you feel something is off, trust your intuition. Visit [idetermine.ca](http://idetermine.ca) to learn more about relationship abuse.

**YES**

**NO**

**Extremely high risk.** In the case of an emergency, please **call 911** or visit [idetermine.ca](http://idetermine.ca) or text **647.370.8300** to get support leaving an abusive relationship.

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## WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

[idetermine.ca](http://idetermine.ca) is The Redwood's new safe, accessible, and private online tool for women and non-binary people who are looking for support to leave or cope with an abusive relationship.

Support from trained shelter counsellors is available **24 hours a day, 7 days a week** via live chat, text and phone.



**GET SUPPORT:**

Live chat on [idetermine.ca](http://idetermine.ca)  
Text **647.370.8300** | Call **416.533.8538**



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