

## Notes:

# A Miscellany of News and Events

## legislation

In May 2009, the City of Toronto passed a new green roof bylaw that consists of a green roof construction standard and a mandatory requirement for green roofs on all classes of new buildings. The bylaw requires up to 50 percent green roof coverage on multi-unit residential dwellings over six storeys, schools, non-profit housing, and commercial and industrial buildings. Larger residential projects require greater green roof coverage, ranging anywhere from 20 to 50 percent of the roof area.

"The bylaw breaks new ground on how to structure a mandatory green roof requirement, and the construction standard also contains important best practices that may prove to be a model for other cities," said Steven Peck, President of Green Roofs for Healthy Cities.

For more information on the bylaw, see [www.toronto.ca/building/](http://www.toronto.ca/building/).



## competitions

Professionals and other creative individuals are putting their talents to work designing homes for a high-flying crowd: the urban bird population.

Toronto Botanical Garden recently launched a "*For the birds...*" campaign, running from June to October 2009. The five-month project was developed to raise awareness of the interdependency between gardens and birds.

More than a billion songbirds migrate through the City of Toronto every spring and fall, and bird-friendly gardens can provide a much-needed oasis—housing, contaminant-free vegetation, and connected green space. In return for a safe haven, they pollinate plants, spread seed, eat insects, and provide joy with their songs.

As part of the TBG's campaign, a competition was held to design birdhouses for different species of birds. A panel of jurors selected the finalists in June, and the birdhouses are currently on display at the TBG. Winners in various categories will be announced at the Flocktail auction and awards event to be held at the TBG on October 1, 2009.

For more information, visit [www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca/birds](http://www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca/birds).

01/	Kate Fox-Whyte and her birdhouse design
IMAGE/	Toronto Botanical Garden
02/	Denis Flanagan and his birdhouse design
IMAGE/	Toronto Botanical Garden
03/	Martin Wade, OALA, and his birdhouse design
IMAGE/	Toronto Botanical Garden