



Cabbagetown Preservation Association Recognition Award

The 2024 Cabbagetown Preservation Association Recognition
Award is awarded to

Gale Moore

Gale moved to Toronto from Montreal in 1965, living in a number of places in the City before settling in Cabbagetown in 1988. It continues to be her favourite part of the City — the people, the gardens and of course, the architecture, make it a wonderful place to call home.

Gale began her career as a biochemist and, after several years as a professional science librarian, she found her true calling as a sociologist, completing a PhD at the University of Toronto. At last, she was able to pursue her longtime research interest on the relationship of society and technology, working with colleagues across many disciplines. In 1996, she was a founding member and later director of the University of Toronto's Knowledge Media Design Institute; a transdisciplinary graduate research and teaching centre, where she continued her research begun in 1992 on media space technologies — the forerunner of online videoconferencing systems such as Zoom. Since retiring in 2011, Gale has enjoyed life in Cabbagetown more fully and was pleased to join the CPA Board in 2014.

In 2017, the CPA set up a Technology Committee whose first task was to do a full redesign of the CPA website. With help from friends, Gale and Gilles Huot launched the site in January 2019. An e-commerce application was subsequently added, and, for the first time, the CPA was able to secure online payments for memberships, tickets sales, and merchandise. Building on the success of the Cabbagetown Walks, Gale created the Cabbagetown Talks: a forum to explore topics of interest to the community.

Noting that the world of heritage was changing, Gale encouraged the CPA to participate in conversations at the local, provincial, and national level in order to be part of re-defining what constitutes heritage today. The CPA now maintains membership in several associations, including the National Trust for Canada, the Architectural Conservancy Ontario, the Ontario Historical Society and the Toronto Historical Association. Ever the sociologist, Gale proposed the concept of *collaborative advocacy* to describe the CPA's

practice of working in partnership with other local associations and organisations to increase the impact of our advocacy. This has become a convenient way to refer to this important but complex activity.

Gale became Chair of the CPA in May 2019, and the pandemic was declared in March 2020. On a positive note, this provided the board with time to get our administrative house in order. Gale spearheaded a committee to update the 1988 CPA Constitution which included research on current practices in other charitable organisations. Passed by the CPA AGM in 2021, it is now posted on the CPA website.

The pandemic also moved the Board toward adopting more technology: holding meetings online (including our AGM), using a shared Dropbox both as an archive and for CPA committee collaboration, posting the 30 years of the CPA newsletter on the website, and engaging with a number of social media platforms.

In 2023, Gale launched the CPA Student Experience Award Programme: an award competition open to all graduate students in the City of Toronto. The program is designed to raise awareness about this historical neighbourhood and provide the graduate students not only with funding, but also with the opportunity to communicate their academic research in a form relevant to the community. This ability to communicate complex ideas to the public is increasingly important today.

As a private citizen, Gale has also been actively involved in a number of local issues involving land use, historical properties, and quality of life in the neighbourhood.

Going forward, Gale looks forward to having more time to work on a family book for her grandsons, completing a variety of projects, travelling and spending more time with her camera on walks in this beautiful neighbourhood.

On behalf of the Cabbagetown Preservation Association, we acknowledge and thank Gale for her many lasting contributions to the Cabbagetown community.

Stephen Yeates, Chair
November 2024