



## Baby Point Gates BIA aims to restore area to its former glory

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Since its inception in January of 2011, members of the Baby Points Business Improvement Area (BIA) have been striving to make their business strip look "lived in and loved," according to chair Dennis Maslo.

The Baby Point Gates, the BIA's namesake at the corner of Annette and Jane streets turned 100 years old last year and in recognition of the milestone, the BIA committed to restoring them to their former glory. Both the city and the BIA have contributed funds to restore the stone gates' mortar, electrical and landscaping, a project that is set to begin this summer. The gates were erected in 1911 at the onset of the construction of the Robert Home Smith-designed subdivision to showcase the new neighbourhood.

"Talking to contractors has begun so that's exciting," said Maslo. "It's our centre piece."

Meanwhile, Islington Nurseries has been tapped to bring colour to the area - 55 planters will see an infusion of new flowers, which the BIA will need to water. The planting is expected to happen in mid to late-May, said Maslo, and the BIA is currently looking for anyone willing to help in the watering department.

Not only do the Baby Point Gates serve as a focal point and a point of reference for the BIA, but so do the recently installed BIA banners on lamp posts throughout the area, which encompasses a stretch of Jane Street from Lessard Avenue to the south, Monteye Avenue to the north and Annette Street west to Windermere Avenue. A unique configuration for a BIA, it's shaped like an upside down 'L' rather than a straight line.

In November of last year, artist Walter Ruston turned three rather bleak brick surfaces into a murals world depicting a different time period and different attributes of the neighbourhood, such as the Humber River, the Baby Point Gates and the Old Mill bridge.

If you would like further details, visit [www.babypointgates.ca](http://www.babypointgates.ca)

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