# Students as Neighbours

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## <u>Overall</u>

- A Brief History
- Acknowledging events/actions from this year
  - Our work
  - The work of other partners in the city
- Going Forward:
  - Principles and Values
  - Recommendations:
    - A community approach
    - A rebrand



# **A Brief History**

- 2005 2007: Project Speakeasy
  - Created in concert with the USC
- 2008-09: Project LEARN
  - New project, with a broadened scope to deal with the behavior/influx of students In the near-campus areas.
- 2012: Nuisance By-Law
  - More authority to police, meant to be used in difficult scenarios.
- 2013-2014: A series of unexpected events
  - Town and Gown, Cheerleaders, and emerging partnerships



## **2013-2014**

- A story of huge change and shift, in one year.
- Clear show of potential
- Then:
  - A largely oppositional relationship: Inappropriate student behavior and questionable police as issues in a dichotomy of responsibility.
- In Between
  - Town and Gown discourse
  - Cheerleaders
  - Meetings with police administration
  - Changes and new programs
- Now
  - An emerging partnership
  - A commitment to better practices and behaviors
  - Significant potential for future partnerships



## 2013-14

#### Our partners' work

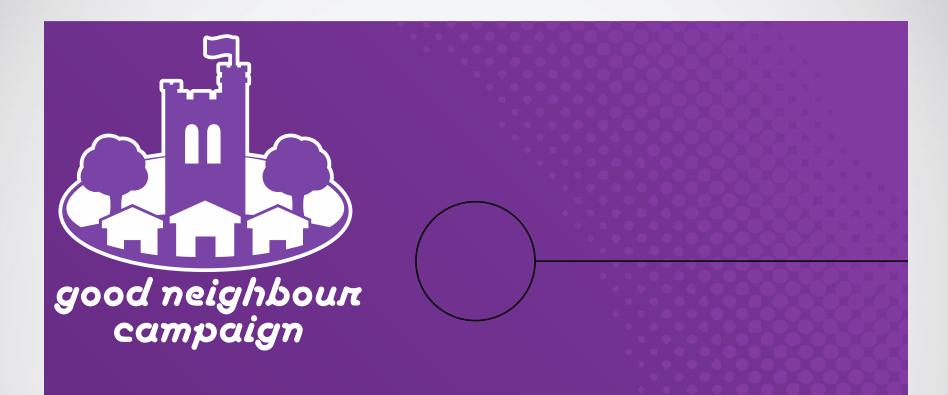
- City of London:
  - Effective public discourse; new partnerships with by-law enforcement; council and civil service
- Police:
  - Highly reasonable response to criticisms of practices, and great willingness to try a new approach
  - Successful approach based on education and outreach

#### Our work

- City advocacy and discussions. New partnership
  - · Budget engagement and Advocacy Week
- Good Neighbour Campaign
  - Multiple letters to community, safe party materials, community clean-ups, media work
- Planning for the future
  - Budgeting for greater municipal work
  - Creation of "Associate VP Municipal" and "Neighbour Relations Coordinator" positions at USC







# GUIDE TO SAFE PARTYING:



## **Going Forward**

### A statement of principles and values

- Students should be treated as partners in the city's future
- Students should feel respected and included in the civic life of the city, and should respect the civic life of the city in turn
- Students should feel safe and protected in their neighborhoods
- Education is preferable to enforcement

#### **Broader Principles**

- Students should have an effective waste management system at their disposal
- Student neighbourhoods should be fully functional, mixed-use communities providing options for services and community engagement



# **Going Forward – The Proposal**

- Town and Gown (and city at-large) take on a joint educational/outreach campaign
- Police re-brand Project LEARN to match effort
  - Start fresh: Project Good Neighbour



# **Going Forward – The Proposal**

### Shortfalls of the 'Old' Project

- Targeted enforcement and differential treatment precluded students coming to the table as fellow citizens
- Enforcement before education limited student ability to learn from behavior, and typically created an antagonistic feeling



## **Project Good Neighbour**

- Multi-partner approach to student-city relations
  - USC, City, Police, University, and College work together to align student and neighbour lifestyles.
  - Conscious end to student-police dichotomy
- Education, Outreach, Enforcement
  - Education: Police, Western, Fanshawe, and City educate students on their by-law rights and responsibilities
  - Outreach: USC and other partners reach out to students to discuss behavior, culture, values, etc.
  - Enforcement: Police enforce the law



# **Going Forward – The Proposal**

- Benefits of the 'New' Project
  - Creates significant potential for students to learn and grow from mistakes, and to learn to contribute to city
  - Joins the interests of various stakeholders at the hip, and incentivizes common efforts to reach common results



# The End

