

**FROM WHERE I SIT**  
by *Frank Gardiner*  
YMASC Past President 1971 - 1972

**Occupy this !...Maple Leaf Gardens reopened today as Loblaws and Ryerson Hockey**

Billed as “ Food’s greatest stage”(see attached) , Maple Leaf gardens reopened this morning at 8AM with people lined up around the block to Yonge street from last night. In a strange sort of way there is a spiritual as in Canadian hockey spiritual attraction to see this old, revered renovated building as a attractive LOBLAW’s with Ace Bakery fresh products, Joe Fresh clothing, Cooking school, food samples, wide aisles, friendly and helpful staff and a LCBO on the second floor. Indoor parking is off Carlton street and roomy with direct escalator access to main floor shopping. In one aisle there is a big red dot on the floor which marks the old official centre ice of our old revered former Maple Leaf Gardens and a montage of old blue seats up on the east wall making a big blue

Quite by accident,I had the fun of being the first VISA customer at the Maple Leaf Gardens LCBO as I purchased my case of JJMcWilliams cabernet merlot. Being a long time closet Maple Leaf fan, I believe this favourite wine will taste even better knowing it comes from the “ Foster Hewitt centre” of our Canadian hockey heritage and every sip will be a toast to my long ago Stanley Cup champions (sigh).

Hockey will return to MAPLE LEAF GARDENS this spring in a third floor spectacular RYERSON arena and sports facility which I hope will inspire Canadian Universities to partner with Canadian business to create the first ever DIVISION ONE RYERSON University hockey for our young Canadian hockey scholars both men and women as a antidote to the current hockey scholar “brain drain” to the USA. Understand a small group of “ compassionate Conservatives” are working hard to make this Division One hockey at RYERSON a reality for our young hockey Olympians across Canada with the hope that this “best of the best” Canadian University hockey team (Ryerson)- both men and women will play USA University hockey teams such as Harvard, Yale and Rensselaer at Maple Leaf Gardens and tickets to these games will be marketed in a creative fashion to ordinary Canadians most of whom cannot afford NHL tickets.

Our volunteer fun,family fitness TEAM CDN! at [www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca](http://www.curediabetesnow.hurontel.on.ca) has volunteered to organize a Division ONE USA/Canada hockey tournament with ROGERS and LOBLAWS with 100% of all proceeds to go directly to diabetes research – no salaries or administration fees – all for diabetes research and whatever diabetes research facility receives proceeds will issue the official tax receipts.

MAPLE LEAF GARDENS is a cherished part of our Canada and I believe this renovated building will become the “ Carlton Cash Box” Toronto tourist attraction for all Canadians and visitors to Canada. Fun eh ?

Please circulate to your email contacts..... and for further information please contact [compassnews@sympatico.ca](mailto:compassnews@sympatico.ca) . best regards, frank

The following is important news about RYERSON hockey and our MAPLE LEAF GARDENS .....

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**From:** Graham Wise [mailto:gwise@gwemail.ryerson.ca]  
**Sent:** November-30-11 10:22 AM

**To:** gwise@ryerson.ca  
**Subject:** Ryerson Hockey

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Also, Sheldon Levy, president and vice-chancellor of Ryerson University announced yesterday that philanthropist and business leader Peter Gilgan, founder and CEO of Mattamy Homes, has contributed \$15 million to Ryerson University for its new state-of-the-art sports facility currently in construction at the historic site of the former Maple Leaf Gardens. It now has a new name Peter Gilgan Athletic Centre at the Gardens.

Full story via the link below:

[http://www.ryerson.ca/news/news/General\\_Public/20111129\\_gilgan.html#](http://www.ryerson.ca/news/news/General_Public/20111129_gilgan.html#)

Sincerely,  
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