

# MAINSTREETER

OLD OTTAWA EAST'S COMMUNITY VOICE | LA VOIX COMMUNAUTAIRE DU VIEUX OTTAWA-EST

JUNE | JUIN 2017

## It Takes a Neighbourhood to Adopt an Island



The Rideau Gardeners (among various children) during their first spring clean-up on April 29 at the Elliot-Bullock traffic circle island near Brantwood Park. Standing, left to right: Peter Croal, Stacey Wowchuk, Denis Blondin, Darren DeRidder, Danielle Pratt, Nancy Gauthier, Maureen Bernier, Tony Glynn; Front row: Nancy Graham, Jesse Arnup Blondin, SueEllen MacGowan

PHOTO CREDIT: MARC PEPIN

BY SUEELLEN MACGOWAN

You may have noticed recent activity and changes at the Elliot-Bullock traffic circle island near Brantwood Park. A dozen neighbours have joined together to 'adopt' the island from the city, making a commitment to clean up, beautify and maintain the plot of land.

The group named themselves the Rideau Gardeners.

It is made up of residents from Elliot Avenue, Bullock Avenue, Onslow Crescent and Marlowe Crescent.

"We want the space to look nice," said Nancy Graham, a Rideau Gardeners organizer. "It's a high traffic spot for pedestrians, bikers and drivers to our area and over the years it has become overgrown."

In April, the group cleared-out dead brush, weeds, invasive plants and saplings and took note of what remained. They were pleased to find a few hardy perennials under the debris.

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## A Future Hub in a Historic Landmark; Former religious college building could be turned into affordable housing, community health centre and spanking new gym

BY JOE PARASKEVAS

Old Ottawa East could soon see the answer to one of its glaring deficiencies: the lack of a community centre capable of handling the area's growing needs.

In early May, Ottawa city council approved a committee recommendation that the city enter into talks with The Regional Group, which is developing much of the land surrounding Saint Paul University.

Specifically, the city and Regional would look into the developer's proposal to turn the 132-year-old, four-storey Deschâtelets building at the back of the university campus into a massive public-use facility.

According to a report from the Finance and Economic Development committee, Regional approached the city last year with a renovation plan. It would see the former missionary college, parts of which are protected under the Ontario Heritage Act, become home to residential housing, including affordable housing, a new space for the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre and a new community recreation hall.

"The 21,000-square-foot community recreation centre has been conceived to include a gymnasium, fitness centre and multi-use activity and meeting rooms," the report said.

If the talks succeed, they could bring an end to years of woefully small and inadequate community facilities in OOE, as Coun. David Chernushenko himself told the committee.

"With Old Ottawa East set to welcome 3000 new residents over the next 10 years, through developments by both the Regional Group and Domicile (among others), the community is in dire need of facilities that will support (its) recreation and programming needs," Chernushenko said in the committee report.

"Given the undersized nature of both the Old Town Hall and the Brantwood

Park Field House, an alternative needs to be found," Chernushenko went on. "The Deschâtelets Building ... represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to showcase adaptive reuse of a historic building while providing a vibrant hub. ... This is an opportunity that cannot be missed as it will provide tangible benefits to all of the city's residents for decades to come."

Discussions are expected to take place "over the coming weeks and months," said Kevin Wherry, the city's manager for Parks and Facilities Planning. The city's goal is to reach an agreement to acquire or occupy the Deschâtelets, Wherry said.

*Continued on page 7*



# Highway 417 Noise Barriers: Other Areas Get Upgrades, Greenfield Village Has Nothing

BY JOHN DANCE



The Highway 417 noise barrier abruptly ends behind Greenfield Village, an enclave of OOE. Despite a decade of effort to extend the barrier by resident Tom Scott, above, the province continues to ignore the problem.

PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN DANCE

Greenfield Village is a lovely, leafy neighbourhood of condominiums in the northeast corner of Old Ottawa East.

And yet, even though it's at the dead end of two quiet streets, Havelock and Montcalm, Greenfield Village suffers from excessive traffic noise.

In its backyard is the noisy Highway 417 to the south and the Nicholas Street on-ramp to the east. Unlike most other built-up stretches of the 417 there is no noise barrier buffering Greenfield Village. Just to the west of the neighbourhood the noise barrier steps down then abruptly ends.

Elsewhere along the 417 corridor, noise barriers are being upgraded. Some are growing in height from four to five metres. The improvements are celebrated by Bob Chiarelli, Ontario's minister of infrastructure.

Over the last decade, Tom Scott, past president of the Greenfield Village condo corporation and a 25-year

resident, has lobbied for a noise barrier. To date, he has been frustrated by jurisdictional overlaps of municipal and provincial governments and their unwillingness to respond to the problem.

In addition to noise from regular traffic, trucks merging onto 417 from Nicholas Street often use their engine brakes which, according to Jim Strang of nearby King's Landing, "generate a very loud and abrupt machine gun-like noise."

Strang said the noise from the 417 and Nicholas Street bothers King's Landing residents, as well.

"Although the city erected a 'No Engine Brakes' sign on Nicholas and two years ago also reduced the Nicholas speed limit from 80k/hr to 60, truckers continue to speed and use engine brakes as they merge onto 417," Scott said.

A decade ago, provincial officials told Scott they would not proceed

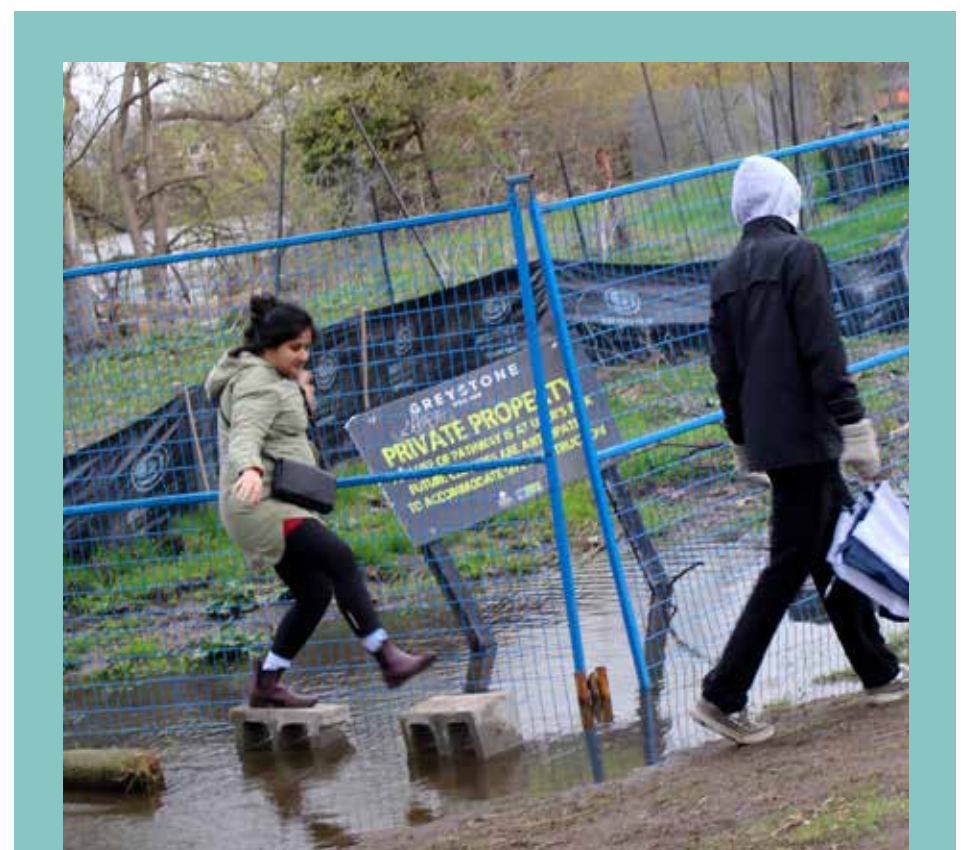


PHOTO CREDIT: ASHLEY BURKE

After endless rain this spring, walkers had to get innovative to cross the flooded pathway near the Rideau River.

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On Sept. 9, OOE paddlers will set out to circumnavigate Rideau Island: the land surrounded by the Rideau River (above), the Ottawa River, and the Rideau Canal. From the water, they will take in views of the Byward Market, Sandy Hill, Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, and Carleton University.

PHOTO CREDIT: JAMIE BROUGHAM

## Grab your paddle! The Rideau River is calling your name!

BY TARA HOGETERP

In celebration of Canada's 150th birthday, a group of Old Ottawa East residents are looking for people to join them as they hit the water to explore surrounding communities by canoe.

On Sept. 9, the group aims to paddle around Rideau Island: the land surrounded by the Rideau River on the east, the Ottawa River on the north, and the Rideau Canal on the west. Rideau Island includes the Byward Market, Sandy Hill, Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, and Carleton University.

The group is also hoping to extend the invitation to neighbouring communities.

Detailed maps will be provided to all participants and while everyone will start out at the same time and locations, paddlers are welcome to go at their own pace.

The trip will be family-friendly, however, it will take most paddlers between six and seven hours. There will be a few portages. People with young children may want to consider

doing a partial trip or even having someone come by to pick up the kids part way through the day.

Some of the portages are long but manageable, especially with wheeled canoe carriers. The portages will include: crossing Carleton University, going around Rideau Falls, and from the Ottawa River up to the top of the locks on the Rideau Canal.

Participants will be invited to a celebratory BBQ after the trip to share stories from the water.

People without a canoe should contact organizers about finding a spot with other paddlers. If there is enough interest, organizers might also look into renting canoes.

There will be a small fee for participants to help cover costs of the flotilla and the BBQ.

For more information about how to sign up please visit [ottawaeast.ca/circumnavigation](http://ottawaeast.ca/circumnavigation) or contact [rideauislandpaddle@gmail.com](mailto:rideauislandpaddle@gmail.com).

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# Old Friends, New Faces: Main Farmers' Market returns to OOE with a splash

BY SUE CAVANAUGH



'Twas a soggy start to Farmers Market season in OOE, May 6. And yet, the rain hardly dampened the enthusiasm of residents pleased to see the return of their beloved vendors, forced by Main street construction to take a two-year sabbatical at the grounds of the Museum of Nature. The market will run every Saturday until Oct. 28 at the parking lot adjacent to Singing Pebble Books.

PHOTO CREDIT: PETER CROAL

After spending two seasons at the Museum of Nature, the Main Farmers' Market made its return to Old Ottawa East last month.

With this spring's historic levels of rain and flooding across the region, it wasn't a surprise showers met opening day, May 6. But the wet weather didn't dampen customers' or vendors' enthusiasm.

David Coyne, market manager and OOE resident, was happy to see people break out their umbrellas, stop in to say hello and do some shopping.

"It's early in the season, so we're not at full-strength yet," he said. "Our vendors still have some great offerings, such as organic pea shoots and arugula from Roots Down farm, local grass-fed meat from Kitley Beef Farm, and all things maple from Garland Sugar Shack."

In addition to returning favourites, the market is welcoming some new vendors. Their unique products will add to the diversity of the goods on offer. They include organic farmers, bakers, a small-batch kombucha maker, and a cold-pressed coffee brewer. The children's booth is also back, with face painting and crafts, thanks to the

wonderful volunteers from Celebration Church.

The market is a great way to spend a Saturday. Meet your neighbours, enjoy some delicious prepared food. It is believed the market is the only community-run, not-for-profit farmers' market in Ontario. As such, the market depends on public support.

In its new location, beside Singing Pebble Books in the Green Door plaza at 210 Main St., the market is open every Saturday until October 28 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For updates about market vendors, musical guests and special events, follow them on Facebook (@mainfarmmarket613), Instagram (@mainmarketottawa) and Twitter (@mainfarmmarkott). There are many activities planned this year, ensuring the market will be fun and fresh all the way through the season.

The market gratefully acknowledges the support of the Mainstreeter and the Green Door restaurant. For more information, visit [mainfarmersmarket.org](http://mainfarmersmarket.org).

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# FROM THE EDITOR

*Le ruisseau des jours aujourd'hui s'arrête  
Et forme un étang où chacun peut voir  
Comme en un miroir, l'amour qu'il reflète  
Pour ces cœurs à qui je souhaite  
Le temps de vivre nos espoirs*

Each culture has songs meant to swell hearts.

From the first time I heard it, I loved listening to Land of Hope and Glory on the Last Night of the Proms from London's Royal Albert Hall. I liked God Bless America when its performance marked a truly special occasion, before the 9-11 terrorist attacks made it a ubiquitous presence at American sports events.

But my fondness for those two songs paled compared to the attraction I felt when I heard Gens Du Pays during a stay in Jonquière in Quebec's Saguenay region in the spring of '82. Lyrics that evoked the passage of time, references to love rather than God-given grandeur, the song spoke of life both ordinary and splendid.

To me, it's a fitting reference for my last piece as editor of the Mainstreeter.

I don't think my formula for the last four years was terribly complicated. I tried to educate and entertain. I was fortunate to meet more than a few people with good stories to tell. Don't ask me to name my favourites. Each telling was shared experience.

The Streeter board put up with me. Thanks go to its members and to the correspondents who helped fill pages, the web team that fought to establish the paper's online and social media identity, our layout designer, translators, printers and distributors: cheerful and reasonable and capable. It was a pleasure to work with one and all.

Where do we go from here? As for me, I will write. I expect to be back in these pages again. The Mainstreeter and those who support it should work to fill in gaps I left: a stronger online presence, more French stories, an even greater understanding of how vital a community paper can be.

*Continued on page 6*

« Le ruisseau des jours aujourd'hui s'arrête  
Et forme un étang où chacun peut voir  
Comme en un miroir, l'amour qu'il reflète  
Pour ces cœurs à qui je souhaite  
Le temps de vivre nos espoirs »

Chaque culture a de ces chansons conçues pour faire déborder d'émotions le cœur de ses auditeurs.



PHOTO BY NANCY MCL IMAGES

**Joe Paraskevas, Mainstreeter Editor.**

Dès ma première écoute, j'ai adoré « Land of Hope and Glory, » interprétée à la dernière soirée des Proms du Royal Albert Hall de Londres. J'aimais « God Bless America, » alors que son interprétation marquait une occasion véritablement spéciale, avant que les attaques terroristes du 11 septembre rende cette chanson omniprésente aux événements sportifs américains.

Mon affection pour ces deux chansons n'a toutefois rien à voir avec ce que j'ai ressenti en entendant « Gens du pays » lors d'un séjour à Jonquière, dans la région du Saguenay, au printemps 1982. Des paroles évoquant le temps qui passe, des

références à l'amour plutôt qu'à une impression de grandeur accordée par Dieu; la chanson traite de la vie tant sous ses aspects ordinaires que splendides.

Cela me semble une référence appropriée pour mon dernier texte en tant qu'éditeur en chef du Mainstreeter.

Je ne crois pas que ma formule au fil des dernières quatre années ait été bien compliquée. J'ai essayé d'éduquer et de divertir. J'ai eu la chance de rencontrer plusieurs personnes avec des histoires à conter. Je suis incapable de nommer mes préférées. Chaque histoire racontée a été une expérience partagée.

Le conseil du Streeter m'a enduré. Je veux remercier ses membres et les correspondants qui ont contribué à remplir les pages, l'équipe Web qui s'est battue pour établir la présence du journal en ligne et son identité sur les médias sociaux, notre dessinatrice, les traductrices, les imprimeurs et les distributeurs : joyeux, raisonnables et capables. Ce fut un plaisir de travailler avec tous ces gens.

Que faire maintenant? Pour ma part, je vais écrire. Je compte être présent dans ces pages. Le Mainstreeter et ceux qui le soutiennent devraient travailler pour combler les lacunes que j'ai laissées : une forte présence en ligne, davantage de contenu francophone,

*Continued on page 6*

## MAIN STREETER

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**Community Activities Group:** Call Old Town Hall at 613-564-1078 and leave a message for Carol Workun

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**Mayor Jim Watson:** [Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca](mailto:Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca)

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**Old Ottawa East Community Association:** [info@ottawaeast.ca](mailto:info@ottawaeast.ca)

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The successful candidate should be knowledgeable about the community of Old Ottawa East, and be able to maintain strong relationships with community organizations.

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A detailed job description can be found at [www.mainstreeter.ca](http://www.mainstreeter.ca), and requests for further information should be addressed via e-mail to Steven Begg at [chair@mainstreeter.ca](mailto:chair@mainstreeter.ca)

## IT TAKES A NEIGHBOURHOOD TO ADOPT AN ISLAND - *cont. from page 1*

They plan to add more indigenous plants such as hostas, black-eyed Susans and peonies.

They drew up a list that they hoped to plant and were seeking donations:

- coneflower- milkweed
- echinacea
- anemone
- blue/green hostas
- bergenias
- coral bells
- lilies
- astilbes
- cluster grasses
- sedum
- asters
- daisies

The city granted formal approval to the group, May 19.

With the adoption complete, a city sign will be posted at the traffic circle. City workers will continue to trim the tree, but the remaining maintenance will be the group's responsibility. The Gardeners requested an initial two-year period, with the option to extend.

"We are fortunate to live in an area where there is a lot of neighbourhood interaction, and adopting the island seemed like a great community development project" said group member Stacey Wowchuk. "Those who've joined the Rideau Gardeners include friends who have known each other for years and others who are meeting for the first time. It's very rewarding to create something beautiful that everyone can enjoy."

Anyone interested in participating or donating plants can email [RideauGardeners@outlook.com](mailto:RideauGardeners@outlook.com).

## EDITORIAL - *cont. from page 5*

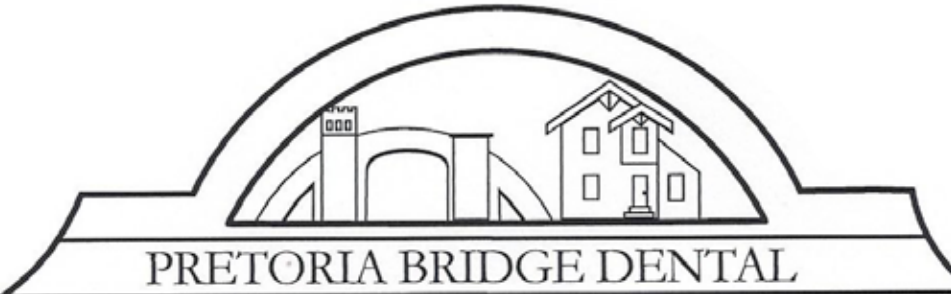
In the end, it is up to all of us: to chronicle our present – its successes and shortcomings, to recall how we once lived, and to anticipate with insight and a sense of fun what's coming, what's ahead.

Gens du pays, c'est votre tour  
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une meilleure compréhension du rôle important que peut jouer un journal communautaire.

En bout de ligne, c'est à nous tous de documenter notre présent, avec ses victoires et ses faiblesses, de rappeler comment nous vivions jadis et d'anticiper avec ouverture d'esprit et plaisir ce que nous réserve l'avenir.

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## A FUTURE HUB IN A HISTORIC LANDMARK - *cont. from page 1*

In addition to the city and Regional, meetings will involve the Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corp. that owns and manages more than 50 local affordable-housing properties.

Talks between the city and the CCOC are already underway. Regional and the CCOC have been meeting “for some time,” said Josh Kardish, vice-

president of eQ Homes, Regional’s home-building arm.

“The best possible outcome from our perspective would be for the CCOC to complete the negotiation and sign a firm Agreement of Purchase and Sale for the Deschâtelets to be repurposed as a mixed-use building that includes residential uses in accordance with the CCOC mandate, community-based

uses and a new community building with a full-size gym,” Kardish said.

The Old Ottawa East Community Association, which has long met with city officials about future use of the Deschâtelets is now only an observer, but a keen one, admitted Stephen Pope, past chair of the association’s Planning committee.

“We don’t have much in the way of leverage,” Pope said. “On the upside, the OOECA supports the master plan for Greystone Village and notwithstanding the odd bump in the road, things are moving smoothly.”

## HIGHWAY 417 NOISE BARRIERS - *cont. from page 2*

with noise barriers behind Greenfield Village because of the pending construction of the Alta Vista Transportation Corridor.

However, the city has since removed the AVTC from its affordable road network. The province has made other changes – such as additional lanes – at the Nicholas-417 interchange.

So, despite numerous emails from Scott to the Ministry of Transportation, it is unclear why the province has not built the missing noise barrier for Greenfield Village.

In March 2016, Old Ottawa East Community Association president Phyllis Odenbach Sutton requested that Ottawa Centre MPP Yasir Naqvi look into the issue.

“While the OOECA would like to see the existing barrier retrofitted and a barrier erected where none currently exists as soon as possible, at a minimum, we would ask that noise level testing be conducted in this neighbourhood immediately to determine the risk to the families that live in this area,” Odenbach Sutton said.

A month later, a reply from the acting manager of engineering at the Ministry of Transportation’s Engineering Office in Kingston said: “The ministry’s future plans include replacing all of the existing metal noise barriers along the Queensway, including the noise barrier on the north side of Highway 417 from the Rideau Canal to Concord Street North (facing Harvey Street).”

But there was no good news about extending the sound barrier – the desire of Greenfield Village residents.

“An extension of the noise barrier north-easterly would be expected to provide little noise attenuation, due to the distance of the proposed noise barrier extension from Highway 417,”

the ministry said.

However, the MTO committed to conducting a “new noise study.” It did not say when this would occur or whether its scope would include the stretch of 417 that affects Greenfield Village and King’s Landing.

OOECA representatives met last year with Minister Naqvi to discuss the 417 noise problem.

“We came out of the meeting feeling that our MPP was sympathetic to the issue and committed to taking action,” said Odenbach Sutton.

But the wait continues – not quietly.

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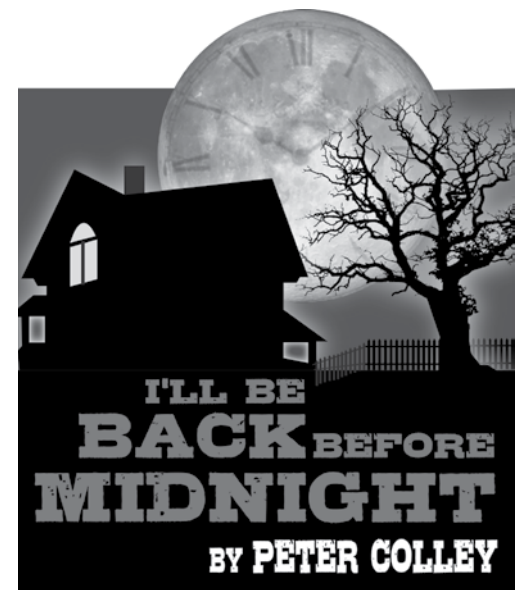


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AOÛT  
AUGUST  
2017

## Chers résidentes et résidents du quartier Vieux Ottawa Est,

Je suis heureuse de vous informer que le Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est (CECCE) ouvrira, dès la rentrée scolaire 2017, une école élémentaire catholique de langue française pour desservir les familles de votre secteur.

L'arrivée de cette nouvelle école élémentaire catholique au cœur d'Ottawa qui est attendue depuis très longtemps par plusieurs familles, est une excellente nouvelle pour la communauté. Ainsi, chaque famille francophone ou bilingue aura la possibilité d'offrir à son enfant une excellente éducation en français correspondant aux valeurs catholiques, écologiques et sociales propres à l'école du 21<sup>e</sup> siècle.

Par ailleurs, le Conseil avait à cœur de bâtir une école à l'image de sa communauté. C'est pourquoi, en plus d'offrir une école ancrée dans des valeurs catholiques synonymes de rigueur et de bienveillance, elle sera orientée vers des pratiques

innovatrices ayant pour but de former les citoyens de demain.

L'offre pédagogique sera en lien avec le curriculum du ministère de l'Éducation de l'Ontario, tout en reflétant les intérêts propres à la communauté. Les parents auront l'occasion de choisir un lieu d'apprentissage dont la pédagogie sera basée sur les plus récentes avancées dans le monde de l'éducation.

L'école aimerait offrir aux élèves l'apprentissage d'une troisième langue et le Conseil souhaite que cette nouvelle école puisse devenir candidate au programme du Baccalauréat International (IB).

Je suis persuadée que l'ouverture d'une nouvelle école de langue française dans votre secteur sera profitable au développement du quartier, puisque cela attirera davantage de familles francophones ou bilingues et permettra ainsi de renforcer la culture franco-ontarienne.

Pour de plus amples informations au sujet de la nouvelle école élémentaire catholique au cœur d'Ottawa, je vous invite à consulter le site Web suivant : <http://nouvelleecole.ecolecatholique.ca/>.

**DIANE DORÉ**

[dored@ecolecatholique.ca](mailto:dored@ecolecatholique.ca)

Conseillère scolaire secteur 6 -  
Baie, Rideau-Vanier, Somerset,  
Kitchissippi, Capitale



PHOTO CREDIT: ASHLEY BURKE

Waddling in different directions: ducks and humans on Springhurst Avenue.





Royal Canadian Legion Branch 595 organized a rededication ceremony of the Brantwood Gates, May 13. Political leaders attended, veterans laid wreaths and the 747 Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets provided the marching band. The 105-year-old gates were refurbished during Main Street construction.

PHOTO CREDIT: PETER CROAL

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## School Board Update

As we head into the summer season, the Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) is wrapping up several major initiatives as well as scheduling new undertakings for the fall.

### 2017-2018 BUDGET

On May 30, staff were to present the OCDSB 2017-2018 Draft Budget.

Monday, June 5 at 7 p.m., the OCDSB will be hearing from delegations regarding the budget, with debate commencing afterwards. All meetings will take place at 133 Greenbank Road. The budget is nearly \$900 million and represents the priorities of the district.

The schedule is as follows:

#### 05 JUNE 2017

Public delegations and committee questions

#### 12 JUNE 2017

Budget debate commences

#### 19 JUNE 2017

Budget debate (if required) and recommendation to the Board

\* The timelines for registering as a

delegation (four minutes) at Budget Committee have been extended to noon Monday, June 4. To register in advance, please contact nicole.guthrie@ocdsb.ca. Anyone can register just prior to the start of the meeting as a two-minute delegation. Please contact me if you would like more information, or visit: <http://www.ocdsb.ca/ab-ocdsb/ob/Pages/CurrentBudget.aspx>

### SCHOOL REVIEWS:

Over the next five years, the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board will be conducting student learning and pupil accommodation reviews that will cover most geographic areas across Ottawa. This means we are reviewing our schools, programs and student enrolment to ensure we have sustainable and vibrant learning environments. There will be recommendations for change. This may include changes in grade structure at a particular school (eg. a K-5 school becomes K-6), changes in program offerings (eg. adding or removing Middle or Early French Immersion),

changes in school boundaries, and in some cases school closure.

I have personally been very concerned about the speed and breadth of these reviews and the consolidation of programs and schools in our communities. I will continue to mitigate these negative decisions where I am able to at the board table.

The next review is scheduled for Alta Vista/Hunt Club. There was to be a community meeting May 29 at Ridgemont High School, 2597 Alta Vista Drive.

### THE ALTA VISTA/HUNT CLUB REVIEW WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS:

#### ELEMENTARY

Alta Vista Public School  
Arch Street Public School  
Bayview Public School  
Blossom Park Public School  
Charles H. Hulse Public School  
Dunlop Public School  
Elizabeth Park Public School  
Featherston Drive Public School  
Fielding Drive Public School

General Vanier Public School  
Hawthorne Public School  
Pleasant Park Public School  
Riverview Alternative School  
Robert Bateman Public School  
Roberta Bondar Public School  
Sawmill Creek Elementary School  
Vincent Massey Public School

#### SECONDARY

Brookfield High School  
Canterbury High School  
Hillcrest High School  
Ridgemont High School

The accommodation review of the Alta Vista Hunt Club Area is now scheduled to begin in September. For more information on these reviews please visit [OCDSB.ca](http://OCDSB.ca)

As always, if you have any questions or comments please send me a note or call:

Shawn.Menard@OCDSB.ca  
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PHOTO CREDIT: ASHLEY BURKE

Duane McKenzie (with basketball) tries to avoid the coverage of Jonathan Bio (black shirt), Samuel Lyke (grey shirt) and a full court press on an evening of pick-up hoops at Springhurst Park this spring.



# Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East (CAG)

## Le groupe d'activités communautaires du vieux quartier d'Ottawa-Est

### Brantwood Park BBQ and Picnics

Weekly on Thursdays  
until August 17

Bring a picnic from home  
or purchase from  
the BBQ

BBQ sales  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Hot dogs, veggie dogs,  
hamburgers and drinks

For cancellations due to  
weather, please check  
website after  
4:30 p.m. on the day



## Community Events

More info: [www.OttawaEastCAG.ca](http://www.OttawaEastCAG.ca)



### Volunteers Needed for Summer Events!

We have many fun summer events coming up, with weekly BBQs and the Main Event and Main Street Re-Opening Celebration in June. These events would not be possible without our many volunteers.

Consider volunteering a few hours of your time this summer to make the events you love possible. This is a great opportunity to give back to the community and meet your neighbours. For more information email [volunteer@OttawaEastCAG.ca](mailto:volunteer@OttawaEastCAG.ca)



### Torchlight Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream

Directed and Adapted by Mary Ellis  
Thursday, August 3  
7:00 p.m., Brantwood Park  
Pay-what-you-can,  
suggested donation \$20



# The Annual Main Event



## The Main Event: Outdoor Movie Night La La Land (PG13 )

Friday, June 16  
9:00 p.m. or dusk  
Springhurst Park, Lees  
Avenue

## The Main Event: Garage Sale

Saturday, June 17  
8:00 a.m. - noon,  
From Rideau Gardens Drive  
to Greenfield Avenue and  
from Echo Drive to the  
Rideau River.



## The Main Event & Main Street Re-Opening Celebration

Saturday, June 17  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Main Street from Hazel to Clegg

Main Street will be closed from Clegg to Hazel for Old  
Ottawa East's biggest & best ever block party - you do not  
miss this one!!

Wagon rides, Main Farmers Market, children's games, bouncy  
castles, live music, BBQ, market sale, food trucks and more.



Event presented by:  
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More information:  
[www.OttawaEastCAG.ca](http://www.OttawaEastCAG.ca)



# Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East (CAG)

## Le groupe d'activités communautaires du vieux quartier d'Ottawa-Est



### LevelUp Kids (8 - 15 years)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main

CAG is delighted to bring LevelUp Kids to Old Ottawa East. If your child is a gamer, maker, or future programmer they will love these camps. Choose between, Hacking, Minecraft, Making Robots, Programming, Game Making or Web Design. Campers keep their Raspberry Pi computer. Robotic students will build, program and keep their robot and Raspberry Pi.

*Please note this as not a CAG run camp, all registrations and enquiries to: [www.levelupkids.ca](http://www.levelupkids.ca)*

## CAG Summer Camps

Camp days have been extended to 5:30 p.m.

### Kinder Camp (4 – 6 years)

Brantwood fieldhouse, 39 Onslow

August 8 - 11

Tuesday – Friday,

9:00 a.m. – noon, \$80

Camps is drop off, children must be independent in the bathroom.

### Jump Start Summer (5 – 10 years)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main

June 26 - 30

Monday – Friday

8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., \$190

### Camp Brantwood (4 – 8 years)

Brantwood fieldhouse, 39 Onslow

July 31 – August 4 OR;

August 21 – 25

Monday – Friday

8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., \$190

### Nature & Art Camp (5 – 10 years)

Brantwood fieldhouse, 39 Onslow

August 14 – 18

Monday – Friday

8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., \$190

### Canoe Kids (7- 12 years)

Brantwood fieldhouse, 39 Onslow

July 4 – 7

Tuesday – Friday

8:30 – 5:30 p.m., \$230

July 10 – 14 OR;

July 17 – 21 OR;

July 24 – 28

Monday – Friday

8:30 – 5:30 p.m., \$285

Children must pass a swim test to participate; see website for details

**Register now: [www.OttawaEastCAG.ca](http://www.OttawaEastCAG.ca)**



# Church Doors Preparing to Reopen

BY PASTOR DAN BYRNE,  
OTTAWA CHINESE BIBLE CHURCH

After a few years of relative inactivity, the former Wesley United Church building on the corner of Graham and Main is preparing to open its doors again this June.

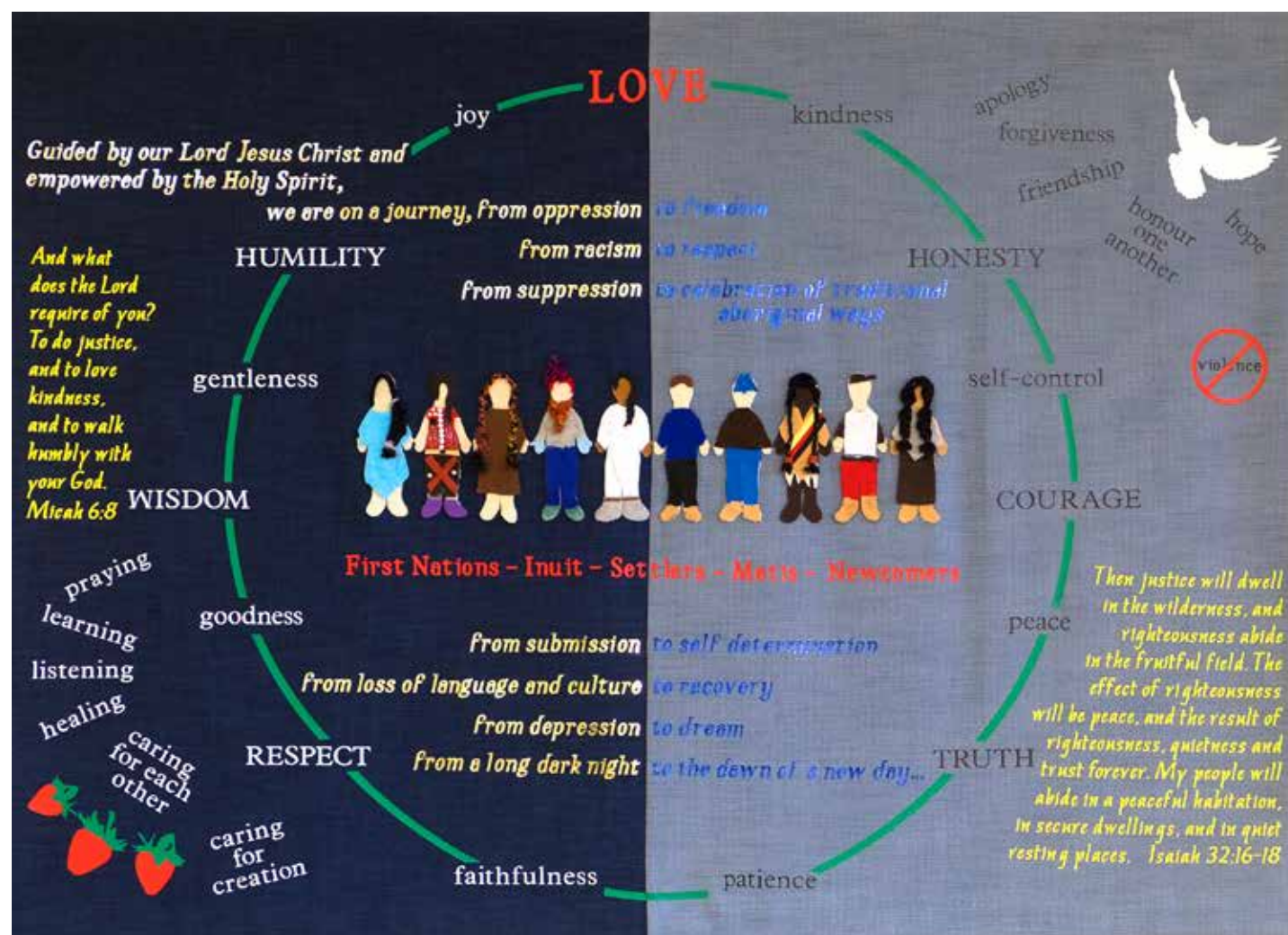
A little over three years ago, the Ottawa Chinese Bible Church, a vibrant Christian community currently located in Westboro, purchased the building.

We are a unique church. We are a Chinese church, which means that we have a Chinese pastor, Pastor David Pan, who leads services in Mandarin. Our Chinese congregation is committed to welcoming new Mandarin-speaking immigrants and visitors, many of whom are entering Canada through universities.

At the same time, we are a community church. We have services in English. Our English congregation is visibly multi-ethnic. People are always a bit shocked when I introduce myself as a pastor of a Chinese church. I'm clearly not Chinese. But when you come to visit us, it makes sense. I truly believe that anyone from the neighbourhood could walk in and feel welcome among us.

The church unites around its common expression of faith in Jesus Christ. It is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of Canada, which describes itself as an association of autonomous churches united in a common commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ. English services are generally relaxed. They include preaching and teaching from the Bible followed by a time of praise and worship, prayer and celebration of the Lord's supper.

Over the past three years, OCBC has planned their move to Old Ottawa East. They worked with city planners on an expansion of the church, seeking to add classrooms, offices and a welcome lounge. The design sought to incorporate modern elements into the existing look and feel of the building. The church



The Faceless Dolls blanket at Church of the Ascension. Each youth has created a faceless doll to represent either themselves or someone they know who was impacted by violence. This is an adaptation of the Faceless Dolls art project created by the Native Women's Association of Canada to commemorate murdered indigenous women and girls. Displaying the dolls on one blanket represents a united front against violence and desire for healing.

CREDIT: ASCENSION CHURCH

is now nearly ready to open again and invites the community to view the design on their website, [www.ocbconline.ca](http://www.ocbconline.ca).

The long process of planning the expansion was not idle time, however. Members of the congregation met neighbours and got to know local business owners and community leaders.

"It has been a pleasure to meet Pastor Dan," said Chris Osler of the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre. "When SHCHC was faced with the decision to move to a smaller office and to relocate some of the programs we had been hosting, Dan popped into my office to introduce himself. It was great timing and he was very supportive and listened attentively ... [W]e are very hopeful that in the future, we will be able to partner and collaborate on programs."

What we learned from being a church along the main drag of a bustling community such as Westboro is that there is an opportunity for us to enhance the neighbourhood through loving our neighbours. It's the reason our people volunteer

so many hours during Westfest and other community activities.

We hope we can find that same openness and community spirit in Old Ottawa East. There are many things to be excited about in this community. We have already received a lot of encouragement.

After the dust settles and the doors re-open, OCBC is planning to hold a series of open houses for neighbours

and community leaders to celebrate the re-opening of the church and to introduce themselves to the neighborhood.

If you would like to contact Pastor Dan Byrne for any reason, he can be reached by email at [pastordanbyrne@gmail.com](mailto:pastordanbyrne@gmail.com), or by stopping by his home at 18 Hawthorne Ave.



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+ 1 lb Chicken Wings  
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+ 2 Dipping Sauces  
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+ 1 lb Chicken Wings  
+ 2 soft drinks 355ml  
+ 2 Dipping Sauces  
**\$25.99**

### Two For Two

2 Panini + 2 sides  
+ 2 Soft Drinks 16.99  
2 Burgers + 2 sides  
+ 2 Soft Drinks 18.99

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+ 2 soft drinks 355ml  
+ 1 Dipping Sauce  
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### 1 LARGE PIZZA

3 toppings  
+ 2 soft drinks 355ml  
+ 1 Dipping Sauce  
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### 2 LARGE PIZZAS

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+ 2 lbs Chicken Wings  
+ 4 soft drinks 355ml  
+ 2 Dipping Sauces  
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(subject to change)

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Garland Sugar Shack  
Halls Apple Market  
Happy Goat Coffee Co.

Jambican Studio Gardens  
Four and Twenty Bake Shop  
Kitley Beef Farm  
Kowalik Gardens  
Little Stream Bakery  
Perira

Roots Down Organic Farm  
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[www.mainfarmersmarket.org](http://www.mainfarmersmarket.org)

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Marco DeNigris (left) and Eric Cauchon are this year's Brantwood Rink Hosers of the Year. Marco distinguished himself through many years of flooding and serving as a team captain. Eric single-handedly extended this year's challenging skating season by taking advantage of unusually cold March weather when everybody else had given up on the rink.

PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN DANCE





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## Rideau Chorale Presents an Evening of High Baroque Music

BY JENNIFER STRACHAN

Rideau Chorale, a community-based choir located in Old Ottawa South will conclude its 2016-17 season with a program of high baroque vocal music, featuring Vivaldi's *Gloria* and a reprise of Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, which recently played to a full house as part of the Doors Open for Music noon hour series at Southminster United Church. The concert, featuring Rideau Chorale, and soloists Susan Elizabeth (soprano), Lydia Piehl, (mezzo-soprano) and Roland Graham (direction and harpsicord), will take place on **Thursday, June 8, at 7:30 pm.**

Rideau Chorale, led by Roland Graham, was founded two years ago. In addition to promoting and presenting beautiful pieces of music, its vision is to provide mentorship and opportunities for choristers to develop talents such as sight-reading and vocal performance, from intermediate to advanced levels.

The choir attracts men and women of all ages and a variety of musical backgrounds. It presents concerts at Southminster as well as other venues. The Chorale was formerly known as the Ottawa Folklore Centre's 'Tuesday' Choir. Its first concert under its new name was Orff's *Carmina Burana*, dazzling a packed house and provoking a lengthy standing ovation in February 2016.

Rideau Chorale has about 50 members. It is always actively recruiting new choristers.

This fall, the choir will begin rehearsing Handel's *Messiah* for presentation on Dec. 7 and 8 at Southminster. Auditions will be held in the last week of August.

For more information, contact: rideauchorale@gmail.com or check out our Rideau Chorale Facebook page.

### CONCERT INFORMATION

**WHEN:** Thursday, June 8, 2017, at 7:30

**WHERE:** Southminster United Church, 15 Aylmer Avenue, on the corner of Bank St. and the Rideau Canal (access via bus routes 1 and 7)

**TICKETS:** \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students. Purchase tickets online at Eventbrite.ca; from choir members, or at the door.

Jennifer Strachan sings in the soprano section of Rideau Chorale



### The Mainstreeter is looking for a volunteer editor, beginning in June 2017.

The successful candidate should be knowledgeable about the community of Old Ottawa East, and be able to maintain strong relationships with community organizations.

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# POLITICAL PAGES

## OLD OTTAWA EAST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BY PHYLLIS ODENBACH SUTTON  
INFO@OTTAWAEAST.CA



## COMMUNITY UPDATE

Once again the last several months have been very busy in our community.

Main Street is getting ever nearer to its official opening. Current planning is for Saturday, June 17 in conjunction with the Main Event. Before then, new retaining walls and the sidewalk will be completed at the corner of Main and Lees and the glass panels at the Public Art site will be installed. The city has also made clearer markings of the merger lane on southbound Main near Springhurst to try to alleviate the issues at the Immaculata light.

And the Main Farmer's Market reopened on May 6 in the parking lot near The Green Door. Wonderful news!

Springhurst Park Action is readying plans for the summer. Expect soccer mini nets, a soccer rebound wall, adult regulation size (and children's mini size) table tennis tables, a regulation size badminton court and a family fun badminton play area. Unfortunately, the city's grass seeding after last fall's remediation was not successful in the critical areas for these sports. Sod is now planned. Let's hope for enough rain so the fields are useable when school ends. Sigh. It would have been so much easier if the sod had been laid in the fall.

Neighbours are also advocating for some additional tree planting following the city's removal of ash trees several years ago, the death of a number of replacement trees and the recent cutting of a number of trees bordering the Greystone Village property line.

Remediation work will be beginning at the Children's Garden in the summer. The first step will be the removal of contaminated soil (likely in mid-to late-summer), with the reinstatement of clean soil expected to occur in the late summer or early fall which should allow the garden to be ready for a new planting season in 2018.

The construction of many single-family homes and townhouses is well advanced in Regional's Phase 1. Work is proceeding on soil remediation for Phases 2 and 3. This will be followed by the construction of sewers and future roads in Phase 2, including the expansion of Oblate Avenue. The site plan control application for the first condo towers has been reactivated. Regional hopes to have approval in place by the end of the year with construction starting next winter.

Domicile's Corners on Main (Phase 1) recently reached the 'topping off' milestone. That means the roof is now on the building, with occupancy still on track for the end of 2017.

In my last column, I mentioned a number of concerns of our north-of-the-Queensway neighbours, including noise from engine braking on Queensway off-ramps. To date we have discovered that the city cannot erect signs prohibiting 'jake brakes' in this area as Highway 417 and its ramps are provincial roads. The province, while recognizing the noise created by these brakes, does not want to remove truck drivers' discretion to use them. Frustrating answers for residents in the area! (More information is in John Dance's article.)

Our planning committee continues to be engaged on many fronts: reviewing local minor variance applications to the Committee of Adjustment, consulting on new applications for developments in our community, considering city proposals as a result of their R4 Zoning Review (comment deadline has been extended to May 31), and reviewing 'housekeeping' amendments to Coach House rules (even though the rules were only adopted in the fall of 2016).

We have also been able to enjoy some fun sesquicentennial activities.

On April 24 we had a wonderful evening at Saint Paul University where Phil Azzie led a discussion of the life of Sir John A. Macdonald. On May 29 we will be celebrating Sir Robert Borden and in June we will be learning more about Lester B. Pearson. We will continue to share reading suggestions in advance of our events so please check for further information on our OOECA web-site and look for the reminder notices in the CAG e-updates.

And please mark your calendars for the Main Event on Sat., June 17. The Community Association will again be manning the barbeque grills as a fundraiser so please stop by for some food and a chat.

Have questions? Want to learn more or volunteer to make improvements in the community? Then please attend the monthly OOECA Board meetings (second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Old Town Hall). For more details check out the OOECA website at <http://www.ottawaeast.ca/> or contact me at [info@ottawaeast.ca](mailto:info@ottawaeast.ca).

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## OTTAWA MAKING IMPORTANT PROGRESS ON HOMELESSNESS

Having made affordable housing and homelessness a personal priority for this term of council, I took great interest in a recent progress report from the Alliance to End Homelessness (available at [endhomelessnessottawa.ca](http://endhomelessnessottawa.ca)).

Ottawa, including many organizations active in the Alliance, is making important progress on homelessness. But the needs are still great, and are even growing rather than shrinking in some areas.

### FINDINGS INCLUDE:

- Ottawa had more than 7,170 'visible' homeless people in 2016, up 5 percent over 2015. 'Visible' means using emergency shelters, not homeless people staying with friends, couch surfing, etc. The number also doesn't count 40,000 households living in poverty and unable to pay rent.
- More older individuals relied on shelter services, particularly single women, with a 20-percent increase in women over the age of 50 and a 30-percent increase in women over 60.
- With 12.5 percent more families using shelters, all of Ottawa's family shelters are full. An average of 140 households per night are placed in off-site motels, at an annual cost of \$4.5 million. They need long-term solutions.
- Average shelter stays for youths are up nearly 50 percent, from 32 to 47 nights.

The City of Ottawa also provided an update on its Housing and Homelessness Plan.

- The Families First program added two positions (up from four in 2015) to help families exiting shelters integrate into their new communities. Currently, fewer than 1 percent return to shelters, compared to 30 percent before the program began in 2012.
- A \$500,000-investment in housing allowances and rent supplements is assisting an additional 58 families.

- 279 families and 37 couples were diverted from emergency shelters to other safe options in 2016.
- 256 men and women moved from long shelter stays to affordable permanent housing with supports — 52 percent in the private market, 29 percent in supportive housing, 19 percent in social housing.
- 423 single people were diverted from community shelters to other safe options.
- 120 older single men and women received housing allowances.
- Two projects totaling 81 new units of supportive housing have been approved for youth (39 units) and single women (42), with construction beginning in 2017.

Interesting as the statistics are, there's only one that matters: everyone having access to a safe, affordable place to live and sleep. For that, we need preventive actions. People with sufficient money to meet basic needs, access to physical and mental health services, addiction treatment and support, who are not in fear of domestic violence, and who have support from a range of community and social services are less likely to need emergency housing.

That's a tall order for governments and social service agencies, yet it must be our objective. Nothing less will 'end' homelessness.

With all levels of government making housing a priority, we need to explore all possibilities, including those in Capital Ward. Just as we are not immune from the conditions that lead to homelessness, nor should we feel that supportive housing belongs 'somewhere else'.

I will continue working to ensure that the needs of the city's most marginalized are addressed, which includes finding more, appropriate places and spaces within this ward.

I welcome your feedback.



# POLITICAL PAGES

## YASIR NAQVI MPP, OTTAWA CENTRE

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## 2017 ONTARIO BUDGET: A STRONGER, HEALTHIER OTTAWA CENTRE

The 2017 Ontario Budget has been released and it's good news for our community. We have balanced the budget and are committed to balancing the books for the next two years. With balanced budgets, we can make more investments in the programs and services our community relies on like education and health care.

As your MPP, I am proud that the Ontario Government has unveiled the new OHIP+ Pharmacare for Children and Youth program. Starting in January 2018, this program will provide free prescription drugs for everyone aged 24 and under. This plan is the first of its kind in Canada and it will cover 4,400 prescription medications. In Ottawa Centre, we have a young vibrant community and I know this investment will help young people and families.

As part of the Budget, we are also increasing health investments by \$11.5 billion over the next three years to increase access to care, reduce wait times and enhance patient experience. In addition, the Budget includes funding for new hospitals, home and community care, mental health services, and Dementia Strategy.

The Budget also continues to build a strong education system that sets up students for success, with a new \$5.5 billion investment. We are introducing class size caps of 30 students for full-day kindergarten and ensuring all school boards move to an average class size of fewer than 25 students from Grades 4 to 8. In addition, starting this fall, the new OSAP program will make average tuition free for more than 210,000 Ontario college and university students.

I am also very excited that our government is investing an additional \$50 million in cycling infrastructure to help Ontarians access safe and low cost commuting alternatives that lower greenhouse gas emissions. This investment is just one of many made possible through the Climate Change Action Plan. I am confident that this investment will mean more active transportation infrastructure in Ottawa.

And finally, the government has also announced \$63 million investment in the Centre of Excellence in Next Generation Networks (CENGN). This centre will make Ottawa a hub to advance the development and commercialization of new 5G technologies. Further, we are investing \$80 million over five years to create the Autonomous Vehicle Innovation Network to capitalize on the economic potential of autonomous vehicles. These investments in technology will help Ottawa's economy and prepare our province for the future.

The government has also taken extraordinary measures to help families by reducing hydro bills through the Ontario Fair Hydro Plan. Beginning this summer, residents and small businesses in Ottawa will get a 25% reduction on their electricity bills.

This budget is great news for everyone in our community. You can read 2017 Ontario Budget: A Stronger, Healthier Ontario at [www.ontario.ca/budget](http://www.ontario.ca/budget). If you have any questions, please never hesitate to call the Community Office at (613) 722-6414 or email me at [ynaqvi.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:ynaqvi.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org).

## MAKING OTTAWA THE GREENEST CAPITAL IN THE WORLD

The city of Ottawa is known for many things: Parliament Hill, the Rideau Canal and landmarks like the Chateau Laurier. I'm proud of what we're known for, but I want us to be known for something more. I want Ottawa to be known as the greenest capital city in the world.

To visitors and residents alike, Ottawa is seen as a multicultural, diverse city with something for everyone. From our bustling economy, to our world-class universities, to our large number of lakes, rivers and forests, we are lucky to live here.

More and more, Ottawa is becoming a leader in environmental sustainability. Organizations in our city are finding innovative ways to turn a profit while being environmentally sustainable. Through Budget 2017, the federal government is standing behind projects and organizations like the ones here in Ottawa.

These initiatives are making Ottawa and Canada a better place to live, to work and play. Here are a few examples:

Ottawa Community Housing provides homes to approximately 32,000 tenants across the city and doing so in an environmentally sustainable way. Last year, they retrofitted lighting fixtures which cut their energy bills by close to \$200,000. Solar panels generated close to \$300,000 from clean electricity. OCH is leading by example showing that it's possible to reduce your carbon footprint while saving money and making homes more affordable. The recent federal budget committed \$182 million to develop and implement new building codes to retrofit existing buildings and build new net-zero buildings. This investment will allow buildings across the country to become as environmentally friendly as OCH.

In 2013, Beau's Brewery was the first Canadian brewery to be certified as a B Corp, meaning they meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance. Two of their delivery trucks run on green fuel sources. Their electricity is powered by green energy. And their

beer labels are made from 100% recycled paper. Budget 2017 will help support organizations to operate with minimal carbon footprints through its \$21.9 billion investment over eleven years in green infrastructure. This money will go towards initiatives that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, deliver clean air and safe drinking water, and promote renewable power. Ottawa is home to over 200 clean-tech companies. Over three years, \$1.4 billion in new financing will be deployed to help companies like these grow.

The new LRT here in Ottawa will reduce greenhouse gases by 155 tonnes, and eliminate 450,000 annual trips on the Sir John A Macdonald Parkway. By the end of construction, 70 percent of Ottawans will live within five kilometres of an LRT station. In partnership with the provinces and territories, the federal government is investing \$20.1 billion over 11 years in transportation projects like this across the country.

As we green our infrastructure, support sustainable businesses and improve our public transit, there are no limits to the success we can achieve. I want to urge us to push further, to aim higher, and to make Ottawa the greenest capital city in the world. Budget 2017 also includes \$300 million over eleven years for a Smart Cities Challenge Fund. This is a challenge to Canadian cities to develop ambitious plans to improve the quality of life for urban residents, through better city planning and by implementing greener buildings, smart roads and energy systems, and advanced digital connectivity for homes and businesses.

I am confident that Ottawa is a strong contender. We are already on our way to becoming the greenest capital. Reaching this goal takes commitment from every single person – citizens, community leaders, businesses, and governments. I look forward to continuing to work with everyone to make this a reality.

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