

A tower grows in Greystone

OOE apartment rezoning bid seeks three extra storeys

JOHN DANCE

For the second time in four months, developers are seeking planning approval for a higher building on the Greystone Village site than what was originally approved by the City of Ottawa.

Originally approved as a six-storey plan, the Regional Group has now proposed a nine-storey apartment building on "Block 2B," the land just to the south of the large red-brick convent of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart on Oblats Avenue. The application for additional height follows the approval in December of an eight-story retirement residence just to the northeast of the Deschatelets building, the central heritage-protected heart of the Greystone development.

Before submitting plans to the City, Regional presented them to a special meeting in late February organized by the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA).

Regional's motivation behind the request for additional height, explained architect Gord Lorimer, stems from the creation of a large opening between



SUPPLIED BY THE REGIONAL GROUP

The Regional Group is proposing to build two apartment buildings along the Grande Allée, one with six storeys and the other with nine storeys.

the proposed nine-storey apartment building and a six-story one (on "Block 2A") immediately to the west. This opening will allow easy parking for clients of the new businesses proposed for the Main Street and Grande Allee frontages of the new buildings, and also enhance pedestrian and vehicular passage from Oblats to the Grande Allée. Also, as a result of the spatial separation of the two apartment buildings, the

overall appearance of their Oblats Avenue face will be improved, according to Lorimer.

However, in doing so, Regional loses land that otherwise could have been built to six storeys, Lorimer notes. To compensate for the lost building area, the developer now seeks to add three extra storeys to the originally approved maximum height.

Regional's original master plan for the

development had conceived of the new buildings as condominiums, but with changing market conditions and the desire to build and lease the ground-floor commercial space, creating apartments is seen by the developer as a means to expedite construction and entice new businesses to Old Ottawa East.

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Latest round in Immaculata turf battle

LORNE ABUGOV

Concerned community members took their case to the Ottawa Catholic School Board (OCSB) on March 27th in a bid to demand consultation and delay construction of a new \$2-million artificial turf sports field at Immaculata High School set to commence this month.

The OOE residents, many of whom live on streets which dead-end against the school's existing sports field, were blindsided when the OCSB

announced in late February that it had reached agreement with a private soccer organization, Footy Sevens, to build a new lighted turf field to replace Immaculata's aging facilities.

Under the deal, Footy Sevens will pay the full costs of the new turf field, due for completion in September, while the Board funds a new synthetic running track. The soccer group would also pay costs associated with the installation of lighting and fencing surrounding the facility. The turf field will be used by students on weekdays and by Footy

Sevens on weekday evenings 6 pm to 11 pm and weekends.

Joanne Lostracco, of Glenora Street, who spearheaded the neighbours' campaign to engage the Board in public consultation, was among about 30 community members at the OCSB meeting. Lostracco joined with other neighbours and the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) in calling upon the Board to delay the project pending public consultation to discuss alternative arrangements for improving the field.

Like others in OOE, Lostracco was astonished to learn about the project for the first time when it was posted a month ago on the Board's website.

"People were shocked. People were not informed," Lostracco told the *Ottawa Citizen* back on March 1st, noting at the time the project's potential to significantly disrupt the neighbourhood. "I'm willing to talk about it and I think many neighbours are willing to talk about it, but nobody asked."

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It's all smiles for Sula and Andrew as they settle into their first few weeks of business at Sula Wok on Main Street. The couple report that customers are enjoying Sula's delicious dumplings, curries and stir fries. Sula, who celebrated her birthday on March 9th, received a nice present when The Citizen's restaurant critic published a good review: "Sula Wok, on Main Street, serves fast, tasty Asian fare with a smile".

PHOTO BY: ASHLEY BURKE



Nothing beats a blazing wood fire on a wintry day, with a marshmallow on a stick toasting in the open flames. It doesn't get much better than CAG's annual Valentine Skate and Chili Cook-Off held at Brantwood Park.

PHOTO BY: JIM LAMONT

New owners of the commercial property at 230 Main Street (corner of Herridge Avenue) are keeping a tight lid on their plans for the former Caisse Populaire. Attempts by the *Mainstreeter* to contact the new purchasers through the commercial Realtor drew no response, leaving local residents in the dark on repurposing of the commercial space. Stayed tuned for more information.

PHOTO BY: ASHLEY BURKE



Breaking up ain't hard to do! This amphibious excavator breaks the ice on the Rideau River along the banks of Old Ottawa East. The City and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority create open water now to alleviate chances of spring-time flooding.

PHOTO BY: NICHOLAS NEWBERRY



'We feel blessed to live in OOE'

Our community was deeply saddened this February to learn that our respected and beloved friend Paul Dewar had been diagnosed with brain cancer and had undergone brain surgery on February 14th. For many of us in Old Ottawa East, we learned of the news from Paul himself in a poignant Facebook post that the Dewar Family has asked us to share with our *Mainstreeter* readers:

Dear friends,

I have some news to share.

On January 26th, I went for a 36 km skate on our beloved Rideau Canal. The following days I experienced some discomfort in my left arm, which I attributed to my skating. As the following week progressed my arm was feeling heavy and not getting any better. As an active person, I naturally thought it would go away.

But it didn't.

On Monday February 5, I went to the Ottawa Civic Hospital to have my arm examined. X-rays, and then a CT scan, revealed a cyst on the right side of my brain.

A follow up MRI revealed it was a tumour.

After consulting an amazing team of neurologists, neurological surgeons and vascular surgeons, we decided that I would have the tumour removed.

On Wednesday February 14 I had brain surgery.

While this cancer is devastating news, I am going to pursue the next phase of my treatment with determination, passion and an appreciation for life.

Since I received this diagnosis I have had incredible treatment from smart and caring medical professionals who are completely dedicated to their patients.

I have also received phenomenal support from my family and friends.

It turns out that I am the most blessed person in town, as I am married to the most beautiful, sincerest, smartest and caring woman, Julia. She and my sons



SUPPLIED

The Dewar family have been touched by warm wishes and kind deeds of neighbours and friends. L to R: Nathaniel, Paul, Julia (holding family dog, Wesley), and Jordan.

Nathaniel and Jordan have been my greatest source of strength.

Same with my brother Bob, my sisters Elizabeth and Cathy, who have all been by my side. My in-laws Bob and Marion and sister-in-law Alison, and so many close friends, have formed part of the team supporting me through this journey.

I am perched by the side of a strong flowing river of love that gives me the courage and inspiration to take on this challenge.

Everyone of us knows someone who has had cancer and each journey is personal.

People ask what they can do. If you can, please consider getting involved in something that will help your neighbourhood. Look for the beauty that exists all around us and share it with each other.

Smile...Laugh..Give.

Knock on your neighbour's door and say hi.

I sincerely thank you for all of your good wishes and ask for privacy for me and my family over the next few months

as I work to get back to my usual level of physical and community activity.

Take care,
Paul

Update: A message of thanks from Team Dewar

Paul has begun treatment at the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre and has been overwhelmed by the amazing doctors, nurses, orderlies, technicians and all hospital staff. We are fortunate and have worked hard to have a wonderful health care system in Ottawa and Canada. We have been especially touched by the warm wishes and kind deeds of our neighbours and friends. The cards, food, flowers, warm thoughts, prayers and thoughtful gifts have been so touching. We feel blessed to live in Old Ottawa East and to be supported by so many good people. We are strengthened by each of you as we live together in community.

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SHARING LUNCH WITH... BETTY HILL



BROWN FAMILY ARCHIVES

Betty Hill (nee Brown) grew up in the stately family home, known as The Pines, which was built in 1884 and dominated the southern end of Main Street until demolished in the early 1970s and replaced by the Cuban Embassy. A real estate brochure of the times described it as, "A comfortable and charming Home on Main Street". Right, Betty, 3, posing in front of the family car, circa 1919. We don't know if the vehicle pictured is the family's Model T-Ford or their Hupmobile. If you can solve the mystery, email us at interviews@mainstreeter.ca.

Betty Hill reflects on 101 years in OOE

The Mainstreeter: Betty, growing up as a child in Old Ottawa East in the 1920s and 1930s, what were the activities and events in this community back then that made childhood special for you?

B.H.: For me, I most enjoyed all the birthday parties we had as kids outdoors on the lawns of our homes. You see, I had twenty first cousins living in Ottawa so the parties were very common. We played these kind of stupid games at the parties, like London Bridge's Falling Down. When I think back to those days I wonder how we could have put up with those games, because they really didn't have any sense to them!

I enjoyed going up to the cottage for two months in the summer at Rideau Ferry with all my cousins, the same cast of characters! We had a Model T car at the time, and we also had a Hupmobile. I remember with the Model T you had to stop and change tires often on the way to the cottage, because you couldn't go 60 miles back then without a puncture. My mother didn't really crank up that car, it was my father. She could do it, but she didn't think she had to, she didn't think it was her job. And I certainly never did!

The Mainstreeter: Growing up in Old Ottawa East, Betty, your family lived in a stately old home known as "The Pines" at 388 Main Street, just north of Riverdale. It was demolished in the early 1970s, replaced by what remains today as the Cuban Embassy. What was it like to grow up in that formidable house?

B.H.: My grandfather built The Pines in 1884 and they moved in a year later in 1885, but I never knew him. He died before I was born, but my grandmother was very good at looking after things and she was well organized, looked after the chickens we had then at the back of the house, and grew all of our fruits and vegetables.

Our house was built about 30 years before I was born, and it really was a lovely home with 11 foot ceilings and a banister staircase. My room was upstairs around the side of the house. We had a big driveway in front of the house and a large round flower bed, a very large back yard and a fence bordering our house right up to the elm and maple trees on Main Street. There was nothing but fields across Main Street from the house, and when I was young you could look across the street from the front porch and see all the way to Brantwood Park and the river.

The Mainstreeter: You lived in Old Ottawa East through some very tough times - the Depression in the 1920s and early 1930s, for example. What were those times like for you, and for the people of this community?

B.H.: I was in high school during the Depression in the 1920s, and it was pretty quiet during those years in Old Ottawa East, not too much happening. You have to remember that Old Ottawa East was not a high income area at all. It was not nearly as ritzy as it is now!

Some of the houses up past Clegg and Main were pretty ramshackle in the Depression. There must have been almost no tax income coming from Old Ottawa East back in those days. The houses were very small and most of the property was owned by the Church.

When the men started coming door-to-door for food for their families, my mother never turned anyone away from The Pines. We weren't well off, the same as most everyone else, but we grew our own food and we had chickens that other people didn't have so we helped where we could.

The Mainstreeter: And you were still at The Pines, living on Main Street during the years of the Second World War, as a young working woman, were you not?

B.H.: Through the Second World War, I was working at Metropolitan Life Insurance, we called it the Met. I think I was 17 when I started at the Met, around 1933, and I worked there until my husband Cliff came back from the war and took his position again at the company. That's where we first met, working together before the war in the same department of the company, and then he went off to war. The ship he was on in the St. Lawrence leaving Canada got torpedoed, so he never made it overseas.

We had a lot going on back then to support the troops. We made Ditty bags for the Navy. A Ditty bag was

provided to a survivor of a torpedo attack, and it replaced all the things they lost at sea, shaving cream, razor, all the supplies they needed. We just sent them off and never knew who they were going to, but we used to get letters back from them, in all languages!

The Mainstreeter: We look forward to some new businesses in the next few years coming to Old Ottawa East with the Main Street redevelopment. What were the popular stores and shops in this neighbourhood in the 1920s and 30s?

B.H.: Well, we had a lot of deliveries to our house back then, not like today. We had a butcher back then in Old Ottawa East, a Mr. St. Jean down by the railway tracks north of Hawthorne and he had a delivery man by the name of Pat who had a horse and wagon.

There was a fruit man who came around too - Harry Soloway. Ottawa Dairy would bring us milk in their horse carriage, and there was the Morrison-Lamothe bakery up somewhere there at the end of Main Street. We would also get ice delivered in the winter for our refrigerator, and oil too. Before that, we got coal from Ballantyne's up on Main Street and they delivered it to your home and dumped it right through your front window into your coal bin.

There was Sinclair's Grocery Store on Drummond Street which turned into Art's Market after that, and Mutual Dairy on Echo Drive where we would go to get our ice cream. There was a drug

THE MAINSTREETER INTERVIEW

store where the Green Door is now and another drug store, Rogers, up around Pretoria Bridge. We all went and bought different things at Matier's Corner Store on Main Street. In the early 1920s, when I was 5 or 6, my mother would take me to see Mr. Messeck for my haircuts at his place off of Herridge between Clegg and St. Pats.

The Mainstreeter: You were born Elizabeth Brown, and the Brown Family was related to the Lees Family and was one of five or six prominent families that were the pioneer landowners in this corner of Old Ottawa East. What do you remember about these neighbourhood founding families - the Slatterys, the Pattersons, the Williams?

B.H.: Well, the Slattery Family had the big, old main house on Riverdale, next to our property which wrapped around Riverdale from Main Street. Then they had a string of six or seven houses that they built for the children of the family all along the north side of Riverdale. The father was Bernard Slattery and he owned a butcher shop up in the Market, and they had a lot of children.

The Slatterys had a bear living at their house. I don't know why they had the bear, but it wasn't a cub, it was a full-sized bear. They kept it tied up outside the main house, but my grandmother used to find it at her door quite often when it got loose. It made her quite nervous! I don't think it was very ferocious, probably from sitting in a cage all day. That thing really annoyed



SUPPLIED

Surrounded by her four daughters, Betty Hill celebrated her 100th Birthday Party at Southminster United Church back on December 9, 2016. Pictured l to r are: Susan Hill, Margaret ("Jo") Fisher, Nancy Attfield, the birthday girl Betty Hill, and Barbara Davis.

my grandmother, but I don't think it ever attacked anyone.

The Williams Family lived right down at the River, and my father knew Mr. Williams but I didn't. The family owned Rideau Gardens, it was a big market garden. They grew their crops for the Byward Market, and they would bring them up Main Street on horse and buggy.

I knew the Patterson Family daughters, Yule and Anna, but I didn't know their dad who built the original house across from us on Mason Terrace. I knew Yule Patterson best, she was quite a bit older than me, and she used to speak very carefully and didn't move her mouth at all when she talked. I had hearing problems even back then and I

used to read lips, but she never moved her lips! She was very nice, but very proper.

The Mainstreeter: You have lived in this lovely neighbourhood all of your life...for over a century. What is it about Old Ottawa East that you've enjoyed the most, and how do you feel about all the changes that are happening in this neighbourhood?

B.H.: Yes, my whole life has been spent here in Old Ottawa East. I guess I never had the gumption to go anywhere else! My grandmother had this house and she wanted us to share it with her, and we did. This neighbourhood has changed a whole lot since back when I was growing up. It was really quiet back then. The streetcar turned around at

Clegg but the City bus had a route along Riverdale back then, and we had a bus stop right around the corner from us on Riverdale and Main. If the bus stopped at our stop, we knew someone was visiting us, because there was no one else around.

I'm excited about the changes to the neighbourhood. It's nice that Old Ottawa East is coming up, but it's ironic that Main Street is now back down to two lanes, like it was when I was a child! It's funny how things go full circle...

The Mainstreeter: Betty, this December you will turn 102, and you are still going strong. Our readers wouldn't forgive us if we didn't ask you your secret for longevity...to what do you credit your long life here in Old Ottawa East?

B.H.: Well, if people want to know the secret to my survival, I have an easy answer for that question. It's oatmeal. Some people say beer for breakfast, but my approach is much healthier. I eat oatmeal. Each and every morning, that's what I have for my breakfast, just the little instant packages you know, two minutes in the microwave and it's done. Eat oatmeal and live longer!



If you have enjoyed reading excerpts from our interview with Betty Hill, please visit mainstreeter.ca to see the full interview, as well as other stories from the April edition of the Mainstreeter.

Been there, done that...the original footbridge!

LORNE ABUGOV

If you thought the new footbridge under construction between Clegg Street and Fifth Avenue is the first structural link connecting Old Ottawa East to the Glebe, you'd be right - and wrong!

The much-anticipated pedestrian span is the first permanent structure to be built across the canal south of Pretoria Bridge and north of the Bank Street Bridge. But decades ago, Old Ottawa East residents, like Betty Hill, could cross the canal in the winter months using a temporary wooden trestle footbridge built and then dismantled annually by the City of Ottawa.

Hill, who was born in 1916, is likely one of few surviving Old Ottawa East residents to have walked across the original Canal footbridge connecting Herridge Avenue to Second Avenue in the Glebe.

"I used to cross the footbridge back in the 1930s as a teenager going to Glebe Collegiate or visiting our aunts and uncles in the Glebe," Hill recalls. "It



was just a temporary bridge made with lumber and a railing along the sides. It was very narrow, you know, and people had to squeeze in to pass one another."

Archival photos of the original footbridge suggest that the City was installing the rough-hewn

In this archival photo from the 1950s, City of Ottawa workers are seen midway through the annual winter installation of the temporary footbridge linking Herridge Avenue in Old Ottawa East and Second Avenue in the Glebe.

crossing each winter into at least the 1960s. Nor is it clear exactly what year the Herridge-Second link was first installed.

According to Hill, the City didn't charge a fee to users for a winter crossing back then, but that didn't hold true once the snow melted and the footbridge was dismantled each spring.

"Once that footbridge came down for the winter, we had no choice but to row across the canal if we didn't want to walk to Bank Street or the Pretoria Bridge," she says. "Now I didn't row across myself, but this old lady did, and I don't remember that she rowed very fast, but she got us across. She kept her boat tied up at Clegg Street. It wasn't cheap back then. It used to cost a dime each way, so for me, it was always a one way trip."



Peter Fowler's OOE Focus

"Abandoned from last Autumn or a harbinger of the coming Spring, a lone bicycle lies on the ice carpet of Brantwood Park. This moody, seasonal image from the portfolio of Mainstreeter Photo Editor Peter Fowler is the first of many of Peter's photos of our community we will feature in this space in future...and yes, that's him up in the top left corner, in a familiar pose, snapping photos!"



PHOTO BY PETER FOWLER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Being part of a community means you look out for one another. When your neighbour is away or in need, you help them by picking up their mail, shovelling their walk or minding their child. If you need help, your neighbours will do the same. And if there's a problem, you talk about it and look for solutions.

This is how many residents of Old Ottawa East feel about the field at Immaculata High School. For decades this area has been a gathering spot. Students and teachers are there in the day and provide a vibrant presence in the neighbourhood. In the evening, when the school lights go out, residents use the field and look out for the school.

Countless members of the community have returned students' lost cell phones, wallets or clothing left on the field. At the same time, we have enjoyed the field during off hours with family and friends.

It came as a shock that, with no notice, we found out that the Ottawa Catholic School Board (OCSB) accepted an unsolicited proposal from Footy Sevens, an adult soccer league, to expand and replace the existing Immaculata sports field with astro turf. The field, that includes stadium grade LED lighting, will host games that will run from 6-11pm on week nights and all day on weekends. The OCSB plan is to break ground in a few weeks, this April.

I learned this from word of mouth and a website. No conversation, no consultation with anyone.

I reached out to the Principal to find out more in early March, I was not provided with anything else. In contacting the OCSB their administration said they would get

back to us in a few weeks. They couldn't provide anyone with basic plans for the site. They couldn't confirm the safety of the astro turf, the drainage into the city sewage system or the environmental impacts.

All I was told was that the community's use of the field - walking dogs or transiting to Main Street - is what motivated the OCSB to accept the proposal. Odd. The school or OCSB never told the community that this was a problem.

As a taxpayer, I wonder why would the OCSB seek to rush a multimillion dollar sole source deal without consultation? It also appears in contravention of its own rules.

I agree that the students at Immaculata High School deserve an excellent field. One where they can play organized sports or play with their friends. But does this come at the expense of those who have shared this field for decades? Does it come at the expense of the Board's own policies and practices?

Many people who use this space - and have for years - are ready to find solutions that support Immaculata and the community. But the message is falling on deaf ears and the OCSB remains silent.

Let's talk. Come and meet with us. Let's take the time to build more than a field. Let's build our community.

— Joanne Lostracco, Glenora Street

'The use of the sports field is not changing'

— Continued from Page 1

Lostracco got her chance to address the Board at the meeting, where she argued that the OCSB's failure to consult on the multi-million, multi-year, sole-source project left the community with no avenue to mitigate its concerns. Chief among the issues she cited were continued free community access, excessive lighting and noise at night, fencing concerns, drainage and other environmental questions regarding the synthetic turf, and increased traffic and on-street parking.

In a document prepared for the meeting, the Board acknowledged that it decided against initiating public consultation before concluding its private agreement with Footy Sevens.

"The use of the sports field is not changing, it is being enhanced (...)," the OCSB stated. "Given that the school's existing sports field is still being used as a sports field, public consultation was not initiated. Had the field been changed to another use such as an arena or if a dome had been planned then public consultation would have been part of the school and Board process."

OOECA took exception to the OCSB's decision to bypass public discussion of neighbourhood concerns. In a strongly-worded March 23 letter to the Board.

"In this case the OCSB has demonstrated a very bad example

of how a publicly funded board consults," wrote OOECA President Phyllis Odenbach Sutton. "To simply announce a major change without any actual consultation with neighbours and the community at large would be indefensible were it a private entity or a municipal government."

The Board indicated that free community access to the turf field could happen under the agreement in cases where neither Footy Sevens nor Immaculata have use for the field. However, participants at the meeting and the OOECA agreed that the proposed arrangements for community access were vague and inadequate.

On one point, there was no dispute - all parties agreed that the existing field at Immaculata is long overdue for an overhaul, and that students will benefit dramatically from enhanced athletic facilities.

(As the Mainstreeter went to press, a written response from the Board dated March 29 announced that an open information drop-in session has been convened at the Immaculata library on Thursday, April 12 from 4 to 6 p.m. at which "(i)nput will be solicited on reasonable adjustments that can be made to the proposed fencing, community access, and the use of trees, etc, to mitigate impact on neighbouring properties".)

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

Community Police (for non-emergency concerns):
613-236-1222 x5287 or huntmr@ottawapolic.ca

Mayor Jim Watson: Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca

Old Town Hall: 613.627.0062

Old Ottawa East Community Association: info@ottawaeast.ca

Ottawa Public Library, Sunnyside Branch: 613-730-1082

Sandy Hill Community Health Centre: 613-565-3265

FROM THE EDITOR | UN MOT DU RÉDACTEUR

As decision-makers go, I slot myself in on a spectrum somewhere between “snap” and “shoot from the lip”. Mull, ponder, deliberate and reflect are words that typically wouldn't be associated with my style of arriving at a conclusion.

So, it came as more than a mild surprise to me when I anguished and “hemmed and hawed” for more than three months before deciding to take the plunge and accept the position as the new Editor of the *Mainstreeter*.

Now, with the April issue under my belt, I am very pleased that I took the time to make the right decision, for two reasons.

As a long-time resident of Old Ottawa East, I can't help but feel optimistic about our community and the massive transformation now ongoing that is reshaping our neighbourhoods, our streets and our readership base. The *Mainstreeter* must itself be a reflection of this evolution, even as it reflects the changes back to our readers. As the *Mainstreeter's* new editor, I consider myself exceptionally lucky to have the chance to help steer the paper.

Another reason I'm grateful for taking the time it took to reach “yes” ? Very simply, the chance to do some reflecting of my own, thinking about one's life and family, one's role in the community, one's qualifications for the position.

For example, in considering whether I might be the right person for the job, it occurred to me that our family has spent 26 wonderful years on Mason Terrace, and that our three children will always consider this remarkable neighbourhood to be their home, no matter where their careers and their own family situations take them in the future. Twenty-six years in Old Ottawa East - it struck me as the most important qualification I had for the job. Indeed, for awhile, it almost struck me as an achievement - that is, until I remembered my dear neighbour, Betty Hill, 101 years young, each and every one of those years lived in Old Ottawa East!

Betty Hill's vivid memories and delightful anecdotes about more than a century living in our community make her most fittingly the first subject of our new *Mainstreeter* interview series called “Sharing Lunch With...”. As you will read in the pages of this issue, Betty Hill is Old Ottawa East royalty, an absolute joy, and a community treasure.

But even at 101 years of age, some things never change. When I asked Betty to choose a restaurant for her lunchtime interview, somewhat like the new editor, she didn't mull, or ponder or deliberate. “Well that's easy”, she snapped, “...why the Green Door, of course!” , and off we went...

— Lorne Abugov, Editor

En matière de prise de décision, je suis plutôt impulsif et j'ai tendance à agir sur des coups de tête. Les verbes méditer, songer, délibérer et réfléchir ne sont pas normalement associés à ma façon d'arriver à une conclusion.

J'ai donc été très surpris de me voir angoisser et tergiverser pendant plus de trois mois avant de décider de faire le saut et d'accepter le poste de nouveau rédacteur en chef du *Mainstreeter*.

Maintenant avec le numéro d'avril du *Mainstreeter* derrière la cravate, je suis très content d'avoir pris le temps de faire le bon choix. Deux raisons en particulier se distinguent.

Premièrement, en tant que résidant de longue date du Vieil Ottawa-Est, je ne peux m'empêcher d'être optimiste quant à notre communauté et à la transformation radicale qui redessine, et continuera de redessiner nos rues et notre lectorat.

Le *Mainstreeter* se doit d'être le miroir de cette évolution, alors qu'il reflète ces changements vers notre lectorat. À titre de rédacteur en chef du *Mainstreeter*, je suis extrêmement heureux de gouverner le journal pendant cette ère de changement.

Un autre raison pour laquelle je suis reconnaissant d'avoir pris mon temps avant d'aboutir à ma réponse positive ? Tout simplement, ce temps de réflexion m'a permis de tourner mon regard vers l'intérieur, de penser à ma vie et à ma famille, à mon rôle dans la communauté, à mes qualifications pour le poste.

Par exemple, en me demandant si j'étais vraiment le meilleur candidat pour le poste, je me suis rendu compte que ma famille habite la terrasse Mason depuis 26 magnifiques années et que nos trois enfants considéreront toujours ce magnifique quartier comme leur foyer, peu importe où le travail et la famille pourront les amener à l'avenir. Vingt-six ans dans le vieil Ottawa-Est — cela me semblait comme la meilleure qualification que j'avais pour occuper ce poste. En effet, pendant quelque temps je considérais cela toute une réussite, jusqu'à ce que je me souvienne que ma chère voisine, Betty Hill, a vécu chacune de ses 101 années dans le vieil Ottawa-Est !

Grâce à ses souvenirs vifs et ses charmantes anecdotes sur plus d'un siècle dans notre communauté, Betty Hill était le sujet idéal pour inaugurer une nouvelle série d'entrevues dans le *Mainstreeter*, « Sharing Lunch With.... » (Un dîner avec...). Comme vous pourrez le constater en lisant ce numéro, Betty Hill est une célébrité locale, un plaisir absolu, et un trésor pour la communauté.

Même à 101 ans, certaines choses ne changent pas. Quand j'ai demandé à Betty de choisir le restaurant pour son entrevue sur l'heure du dîner, un peu à la manière du nouvel éditeur, elle n'a pas eu besoin de méditer, de songer, ni de délibérer. « C'est simple », a-t-elle rétorqué, « le Green Door bien sûr ! » Et c'est donc là que nous nous sommes rencontrés...

— Lorne Abugov, Editor



PHOTO BY JOHN DANCE

One dangerous NCC pathway is the confined section along Colonel By Drive near the Avenue Road stairs.

Improved safety on NCC pathways sought

JOHN DANCE

Local residents have lots of suggestions for how the National Capital Commission could improve its pathway network, especially the safety of its Rideau Canal routes.

At two recent public consultations on the NCC's network, Old Ottawa East was well-represented by keen cyclists and pedestrians who make daily use of the network. The NCC's goal is to approve a new pathway network strategy by early next year.

"I've witnessed huge improvements in cycling infrastructure, as well as huge increases in pathway usage," Jim Fraser, Onslow Crescent resident, noted. "The major problems arise when the pathways are filled with casual walkers and casual cyclists – e.g., noon hour, evenings, weekends."

Specific recommendations from Fraser included signage specifying that all pathway users should keep to the right; a campaign to inform and educate all pathway users – not just cyclists; and ensuring safety after dark is a major component of any education campaign.

Confining high-speed cyclists to the parkways rather than the pathways was suggested by several people including Harry Musson, co-owner of Rentabike and an Old Ottawa South resident, who

stated that "the lycra crowd should be encouraged onto the roadways," a point with which Fraser agreed.

"As I see it, these roadways are already wide enough to accommodate high-speed cyclists, except perhaps in a couple of spots, and the changes required are minimal – repair the roadway surface, paint bike lanes, post appropriate signage, add traffic calming measures in a few key spots, and enforce car speed limits," said Fraser.

Jim Strang, a King's Landing resident, frequent Canal walker and occasional cyclist observed that "there are far too many cyclists who divert the minimum amount possible from their chosen trajectory and pace to move over into the passing lane to the left to pass pedestrians."

"Courtesy and education starting with the schools about mixed pathway protocol, rights of way and good manners would help," Strang noted. "The goal should be to encourage a more European approach to cycling (and I don't mean the Tour de France)."

The NCC noted that since the renewal of its previous pathway network strategy, a 20 km/hr speed limit has been implemented on the pathways, however, frequent cyclists in attendance at the consultation confirmed that there has been no

enforcement of the limit to date, in their view.

The Rideau Canal Eastern Pathway runs two kilometres along Colonel By Drive through Old Ottawa East and has unique problems that consultation participants raised.

Bottlenecks under the Queensway and Pretoria bridges and between Clegg Street and Bank Street were cited by OOECA Transportation director Tom Scott and others. "One might look at converting part of Echo into a dedicated bike lane – that could then get you from Main to Bank but set back from the Canal," he noted.

Another suggestion for addressing the pedestrian-cyclist conflicts on the canal pathway was to build a pedestrian boardwalk off the sides of the Canal where the existing pathway is dangerously narrow and there is no other means of widening it.

"The north end of the Canal, where it does indeed widen out near the Shaw Centre does little for cyclist commuters since it goes nowhere else except onto busy car-only streets," said Scott. "If we encourage higher-speed commuter traffic to use the canal-side multi-use lanes and then force them back into general stroller-walker-wheelchair traffic at these bottlenecks we might then only serve to increase frustration."

OOE cyclist Don Fugler attended the NCC consultation and agreed with suggestions to enhance connectivity of the NCC and City of Ottawa pathways and cycling facilities and improve snow clearance of pathways.

Participants asked NCC officials for data on changing use and incident occurrence on the pathways and, as a follow-up, the NCC provided the *Mainstreeter* with statistics that show that pathway use has doubled over the last two decades.

Also, there is a growing percentage of users who are cyclists as their share of total usage has grown from 56 percent in 1999 to 69 percent in 2016. The canal pathways are two of the busiest routes, with almost 400,000 cyclists on the west side last year and about 250,000 on the OOE side. The counters did not record the number of pedestrians.

Want to add your suggestions to the mix? The NCC will review information provided by consultation participants and then prepare an analysis of the comments. Late this spring, the NCC will launch an online consultation to get feedback on the comments, and the *Mainstreeter* will publish timely notice for readers to get involved.



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Greystone: A tower too high?

— Continued from Page 1

Reaction to the proposed additional height was mixed. Some members of the public attending the February special meeting liked the idea of the proposed surface parking, ready accessibility from Oblats to the Grande Allée and the visual openness between the two apartment buildings.

Others were concerned that shadows cast by the nine-story building would be detrimental to residences to the north. And there was concern about the precedent - if additional height was approved in this case, it would lead to more requests for buildings higher than originally approved.

A further concern was the impact of the additional height on the total number of units on the Greystone site. In 2015, the City passed a zoning by-law for the Regional property "to permit approximately 916 residential dwelling units in a range of low to mid-rise buildings..." and it is unclear at this point what impact additional height would have on this limit.

Meanwhile, elsewhere in Greystone Village, construction of the first of two nine-storey condominium buildings is underway with the companion building tentatively to start within six months. The first phase of the overall development, the section just to the north of Brantwood Park, is largely completed with numerous occupancies. Construction of the retirement residence tentatively will begin this summer, and the "North Village" to the south of Springhurst Park is also under construction.

Want to get involved in this debate? Once Regional has submitted its proposed plans for rezoning "Blocks 2A and 2B" residents potentially affected will have a 28 day period from the date they receive notice to comment. Also, the Old Ottawa East Community Association is committed to discussing the proposal at an upcoming meeting that will be advertised in advance.



PHOTO BY JOHN DANCE

More delays for Lees Avenue on-ramp

The new LRT has been delayed until November but frustrated drivers will have to wait until mid-2019 for the Lees Avenue 417 on-ramp to re-open. Once the LRT is in service the buses using the on-ramp can be permanently removed. Then, according to Steve Cripps, Director, O-Train Construction, the City of Ottawa and the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario will coordinate the process of converting this bus-only lane back to general traffic use. This will require three phases of work, including signal modifications, asphalt/curbs and line painting. Only after this work is completed can the Lees Avenue on-ramp be re-opened to all vehicles.

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Residents relieved units won't be built on Glenora

MEREDITH NEWBERRY

Olivier Basset, Tom Allen and their neighbours are celebrating that excavators won't be rolling in beside them anytime soon. They stopped a three-storey, three-unit apartment building from being built beside them on their street in Old Ottawa East.

173 Glenora Street is currently a vacant lot, surrounded by two- and three-storey homes. Basset, Allen and a group of neighbours worked together with the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) to argue their case at the City of Ottawa's Committee of Adjustment. The Committee agreed that the proposed building was out of scale for the street, too large for the size of the lot and would impair the neighbour's enjoyment of their

property.

This win at the Committee of Adjustment is relatively unique in OOE where recent proposals for similarly-sized development lots have been approved by the Committee. Most recently, the Committee approved variances to construct a three-storey semi-detached building and another two-storey detached dwelling on newly-severed lots at 31 Simcoe Street.

Basset credits the community association and the hard work of his neighbours for stopping the proposed building on Glenora Street. They worked together, extensively researching former Committee appeals to understand the process and what the Committee was looking for by way of community arguments.

Basset hopes this win at Committee

of Adjustment can help others contain this type of development and encourages others to learn as much as they can about the process. "In the end this is about leveling the playing field so that neighbors have a reasonable chance to be listened to," he said.

"Ron Rose from OOECA was instrumental in presenting community interest and clearly articulating the issue of precedence," said Basset.

Rose is chair of the OOECA planning committee. His committee and the association work closely with residents who are facing similar situations and may be affected by buildings proposed for their neighbourhood. The community association often plays a role communicating between variance applicants and neighbours. In this specific project, they discussed issues

and solutions with both the owners of 173 Glenora and the neighbours; supported the neighbours in creating their arguments before the Committee of Adjustment; and also presented the interests of the community association at the hearing.

Buoyed by this first win, the neighbours are preparing to go to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) later this year, when the owners of 173 Glenora are hoping to overturn the decision of the Committee of Adjustment. As reported in the February issue of the *Mainstreeter*, the OMB is being dismantled, but it continues to have appeals jurisdiction for cases like this one that were initiated prior to the enactment of the legislation abolishing the Board.



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'Art benches' to grace footbridge

JOHN DANCE

Two "art benches" will constitute the public art for the Clegg-Fifth footbridge and community members will have the opportunity to view and vote on the short-listed proposals this summer.

Although the City originally proposed that both benches be installed in the "contemplative landscape area" - commonly known as the Lily Pond - on the Glebe side, OOECA requested that one of them be on the east side of the bridge and the City agreed.

"These benches will help create a unique sense of place and present an alternative to standardized benches," according to the City's call to artists. They are to "demonstrate contemporary artistic excellence (conceptual, aesthetic and technical) [and] be conceptually timeless and enduring."

One commission will be awarded to an Algonquin artist or artist team, and one commission will be open to all artists or artist teams.

During the summer the short-listed designs will be made public and residents will be able to vote and comment on their

preferences. The final decision will be made by a jury composed of community representatives selected by Councillor David Chernushenko, a project team member from City staff, and three artists.

The City's public art program is funded with one percent of the construction costs of specific infrastructure projects "in order to enhance public spaces and make art accessible to everyone." Because the City's actual infrastructure investment for the Clegg-Fifth footbridge is \$3.6 million, much less than the \$15.5 million that the federal and provincial governments are contributing, \$36,000 is available for the bench art and related costs.

The Adawe footbridge connecting Sandy Hill and Overbrook cost half as much as the Fifth-Clegg footbridge but because there were no contributions from other levels of government, the city investment was much higher so additional funding was available for Adawe's public art. Hence the popular "A View from Two Sides," with its two large reflective spheres on either side of the bridge.



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

The Adawe Footbridge's public art took the form of two large reflective spheres. The Clegg-Fifth footbridge will have two "art benches."



The Venice Carnival

The Venice Carnivale is a marvellous time of costumes, masks and street dancing. But, truth be told, we were not in Venice during or at any time close to the annual Carnivale; rather, I was simply out for a morning stroll in St. Mark's Square when a vision appeared from out of the mist. She was eight feet tall, in stunning costume and beguiling mask. It took me some moments to realize she was on stilts which, I was to learn, is a rare addition to the costumes of Carnivale.

It has been said that the masks of Carnivale came into favour to allow Venetians of all classes to mix freely during the weeks of celebration. In the 13th Century, citizens of Venice were subjected to one of the most rigid class hierarchies in European history. Strict rules set down dress codes for profession and social class. Carnivale came to be seen as a form of democracy. The incomparable St. Mark's Cathedral looms behind the lovely masked apparition.

Everyone has a favourite photo from their globetrotting exploits. The *Mainstreeter* is inviting Old Ottawa East readers to submit their personal favourite international travel photo, along with a brief description of the photo, how they came to take it and an explanation of why it is a cherished favourite (200 words or less). If it catches Peter Fowler's trained eye, your international travel photo will appear in this space in a future issue of the *Mainstreeter* and you become eligible to win a framed set of Peter's *Mainstreeter* 2018 travel portfolio photos. Send your travel photo submissions to editor@mainstreeter.ca.



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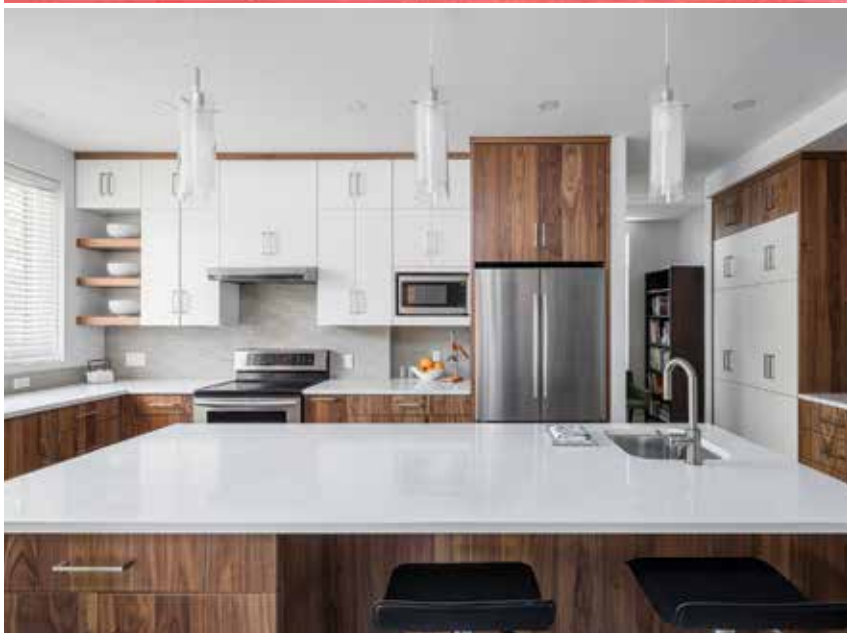


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Mainstreeter continues to evolve

LORNE ABUGOV

Readers of the *Mainstreeter* will notice a few changes to the newspaper over the next few editions, beginning with this issue.

There will be some engaging new content, including the first instalment of our new *Mainstreeter* interview series, “Sharing Lunch With...”. All of our planned 2018 interviews, which will feature a wide range of individuals, topics and issues, are listed in this edition of the paper. We invite readers to send us any questions that they would like us to pose at interviews@mainstreeter.ca. We’ll try to get you some answers.

You may also notice that a number of our stories in this edition of the *Mainstreeter*, including this one, conclude with what we’re calling an “engagement button”. The engagement button allows readers to get more deeply involved in the news, providing information on what’s coming up next, or who to call or email to “plug in” to the issue or the event.

In the months ahead, we’ll work to beef up our coverage of neighbourhood news, including stories about the development of the community, the newcomers to Old Ottawa East and many of your friends and neighbours.



MAINSTREETER PHOTO

Some members of Team *Mainstreeter* brandish their favourite community newspaper outside of Lady Evelyn School. L to R: Lorne Abugov, *Mainstreeter* Editor; Meredith Newberry, former *Mainstreeter* Editor and Reporter; Bonnie Wepler, *Mainstreeter* Board Member and Reporter; Cynthia Dwyer, *Mainstreeter* Board Member and Accounts Manager, and Ron Rose, *Mainstreeter* Board Member (ex officio) and Advertising Manager.

On the volunteer side of the newspaper, there are some wonderful new recruits to the loyal band of talented folks who

bring you the *Mainstreeter*, and these newcomers are already starting to leave their mark on the paper’s look and feel, and its content.

The layout and the design of the *Mainstreeter* continues to evolve as we move closer to full-colour production under our “nearly-new” layout editor, **Michael Shaw**. Shaw brings a love of layout and design and a wealth of daily and community newspaper experience to his new role. This is his second issue of the *Mainstreeter*, and the clean lines and layout of his work are already evident!

Also in this April issue, we welcome a new Photo Editor to the *Mainstreeter*, **Peter Fowler**, who will share with readers some of the many striking visual images in his extensive portfolio. Readers will enjoy Fowler’s photos taken both locally on walks throughout Old Ottawa East and internationally on many of his professional and personal travels around the globe.

Fowler’s neighbourhood photography will be featured in each edition of the *Mainstreeter*. His favourite travel photos will also be showcased, in each case describing the context, or explaining how the photo came to be, and why it stands out as one of his personal favourites. In this issue, you can learn the story behind his striking photo of the masked apparition he encountered in Venice’s Plaza San Marco.

In our upcoming May issue, we look forward to welcoming a new subject matter editor to the newspaper, **Keltie**

Robertson. Robertson, who is already a *Mainstreeter* mainstay, writing stories in both English and French and translating our editorials each issue, will take on the new role of Interview Editor, and will produce our Sharing Lunch With... interview series.

And finally, we extend a *Mainstreeter* thank you to our two most recent editors, **Joe Paraskevas**, who was at the helm of the paper between 2013 and early 2017, and **Meredith Newberry**, who stepped in as acting editor for the past four issues of the *Mainstreeter*. Under their respective leadership, the *Mainstreeter* grew, evolved and flourished into an authoritative and professional community newspaper, a voice that was always diverse and trustworthy, a paper that always delivered a good, informative and entertaining read. During their respective tenure as editor, each of them made their mark on the *Mainstreeter*, leaving it in rock solid shape, both financially and editorially. All of us at the *Mainstreeter* sincerely hope that both of these fine journalists will continue to contribute to the pages of this newspaper.

If you would like to become a member of the *Mainstreeter* Team, as a writer, photographer, copyeditor, advertiser or distributor, just email editor@mainstreeter.ca and we will get you engaged as a contributor to a vibrant community newspaper in a growing and evolving community!



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Environmental challenges for municipal candidates

JOHN DANCE

The municipal election remains six months away but the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) and Ecology Ottawa are challenging candidates to address key environmental issues.

Specifically, the community association proposes that the Alta Vista Transportation Corridor (AVTC) be removed from city plans once and for all. This half-century-old four-lane roadway proposal of City planners would mean, if built, the elimination of the large green space between Springhurst Park and the Lees Avenue apartment buildings as well as greater traffic congestion and pollution in Old Ottawa East and Sandy Hill.

OOECA recommends that the lands set aside for the AVTC be added to Springhurst Park so that the community has parkland available to support the extensive city-approved development throughout the community, including around the “transit-oriented development” of the new Lees LRT station.

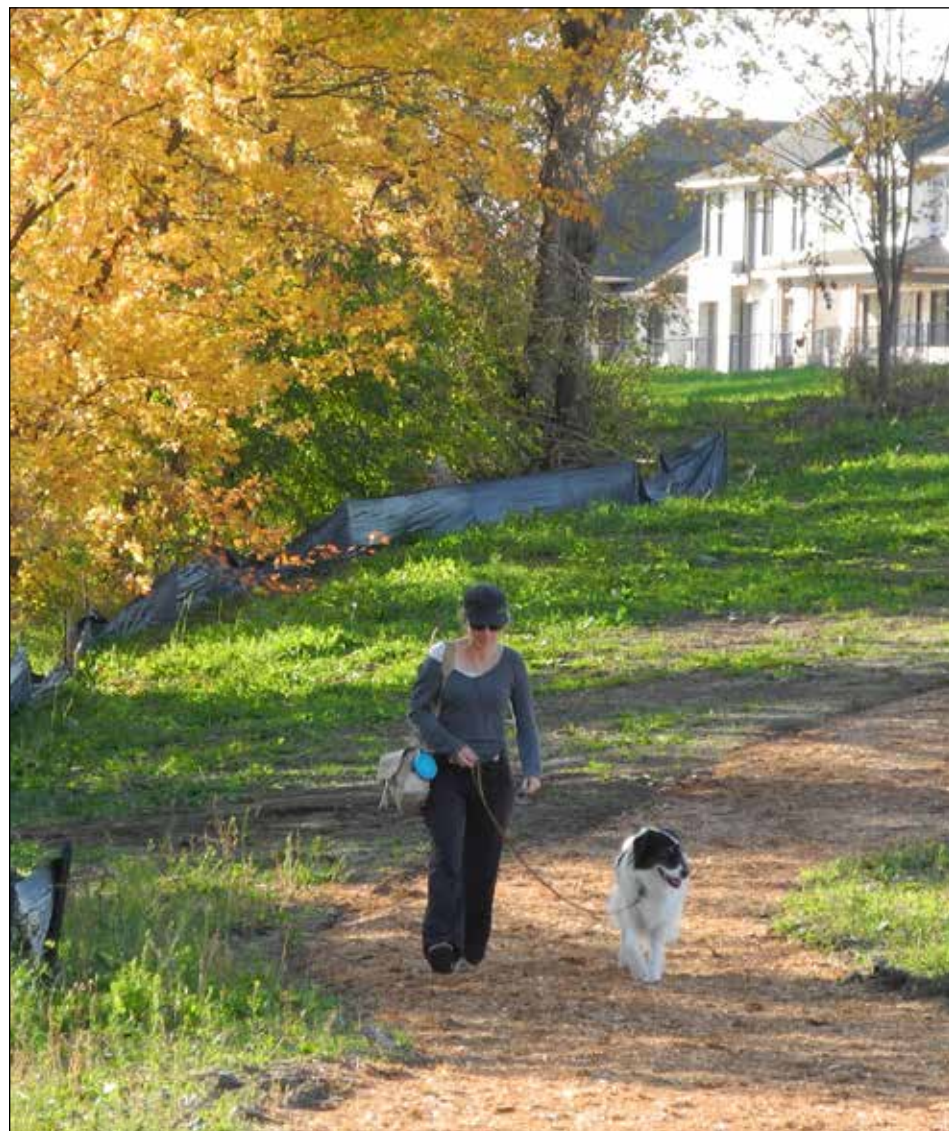
Similarly, the community association wants the City to assume ownership of the 30 metre-wide green corridor running along the Rideau River in front

of the Greystone Village development. The Regional Group has offered this property to the City but, to date, the City has refused to accept it even though its acquisition would result in a continuous river corridor park all the way from Sandy Hill’s Strathcona Park to Old Ottawa South’s Linda Thom Park. The City’s refusal is based upon contamination of the lands and a reluctance to incur any related liabilities.

The top environmental issues of Old Ottawa East are primarily based on universal concerns, i.e., climate change (adaptation and mitigation) and biodiversity decline, according to Sustainable Living Ottawa East (SLOE) member Mary Trudeau. She notes that Canada has international commitments on both these fronts and “we will need much more energy behind them if we are going to meet our targets.”

“We are finally starting to pay attention to climate, but we have an urgent need to also pay attention to species other than our own,” says Trudeau.

SLOE prepared the list of the community’s top environmental concerns, which was subsequently endorsed by the OOECA, in response to a request from Ecology Ottawa which is cataloguing issues city-wide to be pursued during the municipal election.



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

As one of its environmental priorities, OOECA recommends that the greenspace along the river frontage of Greystone Village become part of a continuous five-kilometre city park.

A related environmental priority for Old Ottawa East is the protection of trees within the community. OOECA recommends that all development lots should, at a minimum, maintain the existing mature tree coverage of the lot pre-construction and, where the lot has no or limited mature tree coverage pre-construction, trees should be planted that will improve on the existing coverage. Also, construction excavation that harms roots of mature trees on adjacent properties should be prohibited.

SLOE stalwart Barry Davis believes that more careful development rules are needed to protect the health of the Rideau River and reduce the extent of flooding. “The city must find more ways to slow rainfall runoff and to create landscapes and infrastructure for rain to sink into the ground or be taken up by trees and plants, similar to what has recently been done as a pilot installation on Sunnyside Avenue,” says Davis.

“New developments as well as existing infrastructure retrofits must be designed to mitigate the increasing risk of flash

flooding from more intense storms,” adds Trudeau.

The City’s planning framework also needs to change, OOECA argues. “The city’s evaluation of the acceptability of a proposed development should assess how the proposal affects the environment, the local community and adjacent neighbours,” says OOECA president Phyllis Odenbach Sutton.

Transportation also affects the environment and the community association wants to encourage more cycling and walking within and through our neighbourhoods as well as improved bus service linking to the LRT to cope with the increasing population in the new developments.

One other environmental issue for the election pertains to soil contamination. As a result of past industrial and government activity, some of the private residential properties in Old Ottawa East may be contaminated, a matter that the City is examining, and one that has prompted questions about who should pay for soil testing and, if required, any necessary remediation.



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Capital Ward election heats up

JOHN DANCE

Unlike the 2014 campaign, the upcoming municipal election in October will be hotly contested in Capital Ward. Even though nomination papers can't be filed until May 1, five candidates have already declared themselves.

In addition to two-term incumbent David Chernushenko, Emilie Taman, Christine McAllister, Joe Federico and Anthony Carricato are seeking to become councillor for Capital Ward which embraces Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, the Glebe, Heron Park and the Riverside Drive area east of Old Ottawa East.

In the 2014 election, Chernushenko faced just two opponents and handily won with 77 percent of the vote, as compared to 41 percent of the vote when he first won in 2010 in a race with six other candidates.

Together with the incumbent, the challengers bring a wide range of experience and community service to their campaigns. Key points they submitted by email to the *Mainstreeter* follow:

EMILIE TAMAN

She plans to run on a platform of "greater public accountability, increased public engagement in planning and development, evidenced-based decision making in public health, and strengthening environmental sustainability across city projects." She says, "Right now, private developers are in the driver's seat when it comes to growth in our city – this just doesn't work for creating thriving neighbourhoods that work for the people who live there."

Taman has been the president and a long-time board member of the Old Ottawa South Community Association and is a former federal crown prosecutor responsible for the prosecution of offences such as corporate tax evasion, human smuggling, environmental and fisheries violations, and fraud. She is currently teaching in the law faculty at the University of Ottawa and is the co-host of the politics podcast, *The Docket*.

CHRISTINE MCALLISTER

"I am running to represent the residents of Capital Ward because I believe local government matters, and I want to give Capital Ward a strong, progressive voice at City Hall," she says. "Bringing people together to solve issues facing our communities has been the driving focus of my 15 years of community service. As Councillor, I will continue to prioritize public engagement, because better decisions



Emilie Taman



Christine McAllister



Joe Federico



Anthony Carricato



David Chernushenko

are made when diverse community voices are heard."

Her experience includes being the longest-serving president of the Glebe Community Association and the president of Good Morning Creative Arts and Preschool. She says, "As a mom of three kids, as a lifetime resident of Ottawa, as a professional with deep expertise in the financial industry, and as a community leader with a track record of getting things done, I am uniquely prepared to help create a more engaged, well-managed and sustainable city."

JOE FEDERICO

"New development, the evolution of our neighbourhoods, public transit, infrastructure, housing, the environment – they all hinge on how the growth of our city is managed. Policies should provide people with choices of how and where they want to live," says Federico. "Vibrant economies, liveability, equal opportunity, and a dynamic city of connected communities are the recipe for a great city, today and tomorrow. It all starts with a passion for the issues, ideas, and a strong desire to see positive change through."

Federico is a physiotherapist and a small-business person with a practice in downtown Ottawa. He has been a member on the Board of the Ontario Physiotherapy Association and has lived in the Glebe and Dow's Lake area with his family for over 20 years. He has been engaged in local issues over the past decade through his involvement with the Dow's Lake Residents Association.

ANTHONY CARRICATO

"In my discussions with residents of Capital Ward, I've heard loud and clear that they want change and want to be represented more effectively at City Hall," says Carricato. "I'm passionate about public service and truly believe in the power of civic engagement... Our city will benefit from new leadership on Council, and I am eager to contribute my skills and energy to put my neighbours' views first to make our Ward a safer, greener and more

inclusive place."

Carricato has served as vice president of the Glebe Community Association, and is a volunteer at the Rideau Curling Club and a contributor to the Pearson Centre for Progressive Policy. He has worked for over a decade on Parliament Hill and within the private sector. He's also an avid yogi and outdoor enthusiast and enjoys spending time in the kitchen.

DAVID CHERNUSHENKO

"I seek the honour of representing Capital Ward for a third term," Chernushenko says. "I believe I have been an effective, responsive and principled councillor, and that I can use my experience to advocate for long-term plans, specific projects and

important values that will benefit the citizens of Ottawa and residents of Capital Ward." Goals he cites for the new term include: "a new and greener Official Plan; a sustainability-driven Transportation Master Plan; [and] quality of life and health of residents..."

Chernushenko has, according to his bio, "Spent his working life promoting prosperous communities and healthy livelihoods by advising public, private, and non-profit organizations on adopting more sustainable and socially responsible practices. He served for three years on the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy, and for six years on the International Olympic Committee's Sport and Environment Commission."

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Jean Chrétien: From behind closed doors

DON CUMMER

In 1982, when Eddie Goldenberg was a McGill law student, he landed a job as an intern for the Indian Affairs minister in Ottawa. Most interns spent summers filing or doing other paperwork. Goldenberg's minister wanted him to attend meetings – often private meetings behind closed doors.

"Listen. Learn," Jean Chrétien told the young Goldenberg. "Eventually, I'll ask you what you think."

As Minister, and then as Prime Minister, Chrétien sought perspectives from those who had different ideas. Senior government and political officials sometimes found it frustrating when the Prime Minister countered their advice with the opinions shared by old friends he phoned in Shawinigan.

Chrétien gave his ministers flexibility to do their jobs, saving his own input for the big issues. When Goldenberg reported that one of the Ministers was pursuing a policy that might lead to problems, Chrétien asked, "Is this issue of national importance?" Goldenberg replied that it was not. The PM countered that he would not interfere.

SHARED ANECDOTES

On a recent Monday night at St. Paul's University, these were just some of many anecdotes that Goldenberg shared with the audience attending the Old Ottawa East's sesquicentennial series on the Prime Ministers. Chrétien, it was noted, lived for 11 years at the corner of Bower and Echo. He occasionally attended community association meetings. Once he prefaced his input by saying, "Unaccustomed as I am to speaking in public..."

According to Goldenberg, the decision on whether Canada would join the USA in invading Iraq was made following a demand from the British government that Canada's response be given in a matter of hours. Chrétien used Question Period to announce that Canada would stay out.

At first, the proposal to create Canada Research Chairs as a millennium project to attract and retain the best and brightest researchers from around the world was a tough sell. Canada already had lots of researchers, Chrétien argued. Why spend so much money on more? Someone made the comparison to the Montreal Expos pitcher, Pedro Martinez, who had just been traded to the Boston Red Sox. The Prime Minister immediately saw the logic behind paying top dollar for



NICK MASCIANTONIO PHOTO

A man who shied away from the cameras as Jean Chrétien's strategic adviser, Eddie Goldenberg was front and centre at the recent OOECA Sesquicentennial Series on the Prime Ministers.

getting the best talent.

On September 11, 2001, a package was left in a car parked illegally on Parliament Hill. Security advised that, in light of the terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, Parliament Hill should be evacuated while the suspicious package was disposed of. Chrétien disagreed. Such a move would cause a panic across the country, he reasoned. In the end, the package turned out to be merely someone's shopping bag.

During the 1995 Quebec referendum, federal polling suggested that the "Non" side could wrest more votes by arguing that, if Canada was divisible, then so was Quebec. Chrétien did not want to risk fracturing the coalition with the provincial Liberals, who would not have agreed with that proposition. Chrétien said that the ten days following Premier Parizeau's withdrawal as the leader of the "Oui" forces, and the resurgence of Quebec separatism under Lucien Bouchard, was the worst experience in his ten years as Prime Minister.

Goldenberg regards the passage of Stephan Dion's Clarity Act as one of the great achievements of the Chrétien government. The accomplishments of the Chrétien regime were incremental rather than visionary, said Goldenberg, and they included:

- The publication of The Red Book as an election platform – since 1993, all parties have published their platforms in this way;

- Measures to improve the Knowledge Based Economy, including the establishment of the Canadian Institute of Health Research; and

- Within just three years of taking office, balancing a budget that,

at the beginning of the mandate, consumed 38 cents of every tax dollar just to service the debt.

BUDGET BLUES

Once the budget was balanced, Chrétien faced "the most difficult issue to manage" – what to do with a surplus? Once again, he sought middle ground: half the surplus would go toward debt reduction and lowering taxes; the other half to program priorities.

The budgets underscored the close relationship Chrétien had with his Finance Minister, Paul Martin, but eventually the "civil war" (Goldenberg's words) ousted a sitting Prime Minister.

The Martin forces "were pushing an open door," said Goldenberg. Chrétien had no intention of running in another election. Goldenberg flashed his anger against Martin's followers referring to them as "a bunch of thugs who wanted jobs in the PMO."

Not everyone in the audience agreed with that assessment. Nor did everyone concur with his analysis of the sponsorship scandal as the result of a "rogue public servant" working with private sector crooks. Likewise, some in

attendance at St. Paul's disagreed with Goldenberg's view that the cancelling of a contract for search and rescue helicopters was a necessary signal that un-needed spending was going to stop.

But this was an evening for listening, rather than debate. The audience greatly appreciated having someone with Goldenberg's insight and experience recount stories from behind the closed doors.

The Old Ottawa East series will conclude on Monday, March 26, when Bob Plamondon will speak about Prime Ministers Bennett, Clark, Campbell and Harper.

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Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East (CAG)

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

Late Spring & Summer Programs

Kids Programs

Community Playgroup (0 - 5 years)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
July 4 - August 17
Wednesday or Friday
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
\$30 first child, siblings \$15

Children's Garden Playgroup (0 - 5 years)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
July 3 - August 23,
no program August 14 or 16
Tuesday or Thursday
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
\$30 first child, siblings \$15

Hush-a-Bye Babies® (1 - 12 months)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
May 10 - June 21
Thursday 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
\$96

Little Lotus™ Mom and Baby Yoga (6 weeks - crawling)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
May 15 - June 19
Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
\$90 per adult

Soccer in the Park (3 - 6 years)

Brantwood Park, 39 Onslow,
meet at the field house.
May 12 - June 16
(3 years)
Saturday 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
(4 - 6 years)
Saturday 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
\$53
June 21 - July 19
(3 - 6 years)
Thursday 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
\$44

Youth Activity Club (7 - 12 years)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
April 20
Friday 6:30 - 8:30 a.m.
FREE, registration required.
Program sponsored by CAG.

Adult Programs

Vinyasa Flow Yoga

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
July 4 - August 22
Wednesday 5:45 - 7:15 p.m.
\$76

Pilates

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
July 4 - August 22
Wednesday 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
\$76

Better Body Boot Camp in the Park

Brantwood Park, 39 Onslow
May 7 - June 18,
no program May 21
Monday, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
\$72
May 9 - June 20
Wednesday, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
\$84
June 25 - July 30,
no program July 2
Monday, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
\$60
June 27 - July 25
Wednesday, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
\$60

Strength and Tone

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
July 11 - Aug 24
Wednesday or Friday
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
\$50

Single Class Fitness Passes

\$18/class Better Body Bootcamp
\$14/class for Yoga or Pilates
\$11/class for Strength and Tone

Women's Ultimate

Springhurst Park
May 24 - August 23
Thursdays 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
\$86

Urban Pole Walking

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
May 15 & 22
Tuesday 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
\$10
Program is subsidized by CAG.

After School 2017-18

Brantwood Park After School (Age 6 - Grades 6)

Brantwood Park fieldhouse, 39 Onslow
For families at Hopewell & Lamoureux schools
Pick up by 5:45 p.m., \$210 per month

Old Town Hall After School (Age 6 Grades 6)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main
For families at Lady Evelyn, Elgin Street &
Francojeunesse schools
Pick up by 5:30 p.m., \$210/month

CAG Summer Camps 2017



Something for everyone 4 - 12 years Register now!!
More info & registration: www.OttawaEastCAG.ca

Jump Start Summer (5 - 10 years)

Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street
June 25 - 29
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$224

Canoe Kids (7 - 12 years)

Brantwood Park fieldhouse, 39 Onslow
July 3 - 6
Tuesday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$271
July 9 - 13 or July 16 - 20 or July 23 - 27
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$336

Camp Brantwood (4 - 8 years)

Brantwood Park fieldhouse, 39 Onslow
July 30 - August 3 or August 20 - 24
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$224

Nature and Art Camp (5 - 10 years)

Brantwood Park fieldhouse, 39 Onslow
August 7 - 10
Tuesday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$180

Children's Garden Camp (5 - 10 years)

Brantwood Park fieldhouse, 39 Onslow
August 13 - 17
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$224

Register now: www.OttawaEastCAG.ca

Valentine Skate And Chili Cook-Off

ISOBEL SMITH

Community families came out on Friday, February 9 for the Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East (CAG) annual Valentine Skate at Brantwood Park. The park was covered in a fresh blanket of snow and the weather was mild enough for everyone to enjoy time comfortably outside. Outdoor activities included skating on the candle lit rink, sledding down the hills, and roasting marshmallows on the open fire – bliss!

Inside Brantwood fieldhouse was decorated with hearts and other Valentine's themed crafts, a contribution from the creative children in the Brantwood after-school program. Guests enjoyed tasting three kinds of chili, and voted on their favourite as part of the Annual Chili Cook-Off. Children and adults also enjoyed hot dogs, cookies, cupcakes, and hot chocolate. With the opportunity to refuel, many families stayed at the event for the entire evening!

Thank you to all who contributed to the event, through volunteering, contributing baked goods, entering

the Chili Cook-off, and donating to CAG at the free event.

Congratulations to all our chili cook-off participants and winners:

- **1st Place – Selena Fraser**
- **2nd Place – Ben Hebb**
- **3rd Place – Todd Dunnett**

A big thank you to *GustoTV*, which generously donated prizes for the Annual Chili Cook-Off.

Congratulations to young Jay for winning the Candy Jar contest by guessing the closest number of candies. Jay guessed 93 candies; there were 98.

Finally, a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this event possible. They are:

Marie Eve Noel, Nicole Varshney, Ben Hebb, Beth Cooper, Todd Dunnett, Jim and Marina Lamont, Melanie Gilbert, Catherine Riddle, and Alex Ouellet.

CAG would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Community Partners for year round support of CAG activities: City of Ottawa, The Regional Group - Greystone Village, Domicile - Corners on Main, Sandy



JIM LAMONT PHOTO

Skaters and chili fiends of all ages beat a path to Brantwood Park for the big annual event staged by the Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East (CAG).

Hill Community Health Centre, BMO - Lansdowne, Watsons Health and Wellness, The Green Door Restaurant, and Diane & Jen Realty.



You can find more pictures of the event, as well as information about upcoming activities in the community and how you can get involved at www.facebook.com/OldOttawaEastCAG.

[facebook.com/OldOttawaEastCAG](http://www.facebook.com/OldOttawaEastCAG).

Making Events Happen in the Community

Do you remember your first community event? Maybe it was here in the community at one of Old Ottawa East's regular shindigs such as the Winter Party in the Park or the Main Event. Maybe it was as part of a sports group or partaking in a local barbecue. Maybe you don't even remember your first community event, but remember the first one your child, grandchild, niece or nephew attended.

Whatever the case, think about how much fun was had at these events. Could you imagine helping bring that much fun to that many people? Well, not only is it possible, but it would actually be a big help.

After all, the only way these events can happen is with the help of volunteers like you. There isn't even any expertise or experience needed.

"Volunteers make these events a success. It doesn't take a lot of time or effort, and it's a great way to get to know people in the community," says Lisa Dunnet, CAG Event Coordinator. "There's a job for everyone, tasks that tap into a variety of interests, and an opportunity to volunteer at events throughout the year."

We're not exaggerating when we say volunteers make these events happen. Without you, events couldn't take place and some events have had to be cancelled in the past from lack of volunteers.

If you want to help make sure that this doesn't happen again in the future, put in your name to help. There are never too many volunteers and joining is as easy as sending an email to info@ottawaeastcag.ca. We look forward to hearing from you.

Special Call Out

On top of volunteers for regular events, there are other roles to play at CAG as we continue to grow and expand. Last year we became responsible for the Old Town Hall, our selection of programs continues to grow, and we're looking toward the possibility of moving to a new community centre among so many activities.

Specifically, we are looking for people who have one or a combination of the following:

- non-profit experience,
- event planning experience,
- great organizational skills,
- good writing skills
- a wide network of friends in the community
- can read a balance sheet and income statement.

To find out more, send an email to info@ottawaeastcag.ca.



Contentious canal condo concerns

JOHN DANCE

Although it has the potential of being one of the most desirable condominiums along the Canal, the Old Ottawa East Community Association remains opposed to how the proposed “Echo” development at the northeast corner of Main and Echo would fit with Main Street.

Also, the community association seeks a better review of the traffic implications of the new condo and public space recognition of the historic church that will be demolished to make way for the new building.

Uniform Urban Developments proposes to build a six-storey condominium on the corner where the one-time Holy Trinity Anglican Church and a two-storey house now sit. The general appearance of the proposed building, designed by Hobin Architecture, has been well-received by numerous parties including the City’s Urban Design Review Panel.

But for more than a year the community association’s concerns about the building’s first floor relationship to Main Street and how “traditional main streets” are supposed to work have remained unaddressed.

Specifically, the Main Street frontage would have three “live/work” units but these would be two steps above ground level thus posing accessibility issues. Also, these units have, as the developer’s proposal says, “private gated walkways via an outdoor patio.”

The Main Street design of the new



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

Currently the “Echo” condominium’s property has the one-time Holy Trinity Anglican Church and a two-storey house but these will be replaced by a six-storey condominium.

development is a far cry from what has been required for the other new condominiums on Main Street. All of their ground-floor designs are at grade and fully commercial rather than the ambivalent “live/work” status proposed for the “Echo” development. Furthermore, the Main Street frontage of these other condominiums will be in the public realm.

“What is currently proposed will contribute little to the vibrancy of Main Street that we and the City have sought through traditional Main Street zoning,” wrote Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, president of OOECA, in the association’s commentary on Uniform’s “site plan control proposal.”

“When other large condominiums on Main Street (e.g., 129 and 141 Main) were considered there was no question

that there would be commercial units on the ground floor so why at the northern end of Main - a prime location with no competing commercial space - do we not have space that clearly is for commercial operations?” Ms Odenbach Sutton asked.

Upon reviewing a draft of this article, Barry Hobin, the project architect, responded to Odenbach Sutton’s question with, “It is faulty logic to compare this building to other buildings further down Main Street. These buildings front entirely onto the street where the TM (traditional mainstreet) zone appropriately demands a full commercial ground floor to animate the street. Our building faces a very different public realm of the canal and Echo Drive.” However, according to the City’s GeoOttawa site the proposed condominium’s property has a Main Street frontage that is approximately twice as long as the Echo Drive frontage.

The City’s Official Plan recommends that additional “right of way” (widening

of the road allowance) be taken that at this location on Main Street when there is new development, but city staff are recommending against this. One of the implications is that Main Street’s southbound turning lane for Greenfield will be reduced in length, potentially causing back-ups on Colonel By Drive.

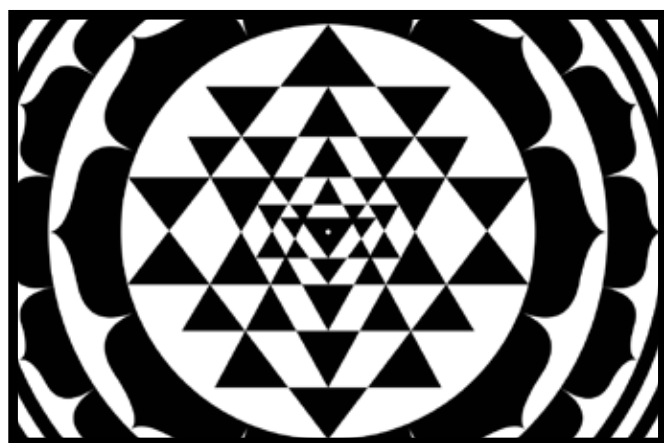
OOECA planning committee member Ian Hayhow has flagged a number of other traffic concerns including the use of a traffic study that was completed before Main Street was reconstructed to the south.

The third issue is public commemoration of the heritage value of the site. Although, the church is not a designated heritage site even though it was Ottawa East’s first church, it is of heritage interest and a number of people in the Old Ottawa East community are upset that it will be demolished.

The church’s bell is something that could be used on site and the community association suggests that the bell be installed on the development’s Main Street frontage and a heritage plaque be created so that this stretch of Main becomes a notable part of Old Ottawa East heritage and public realm.

Upon reviewing a draft of this *Mainstreeter* article, John MacDougall, president of Uniform Developments, confirmed, “We will commemorate the existing church through incorporation of the bell and there is potential for a plaque of some sort as well.”

The community’s and other comments are now under review by the developer as it seeks approval of its site plan proposal. Meanwhile, the developer is looking at options to convert the church into a sales centre with the balance of the property to include landscaping and some parking.



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The new condominium’s proposed Canal face has been praised by the City’s Urban Design Review Panel.

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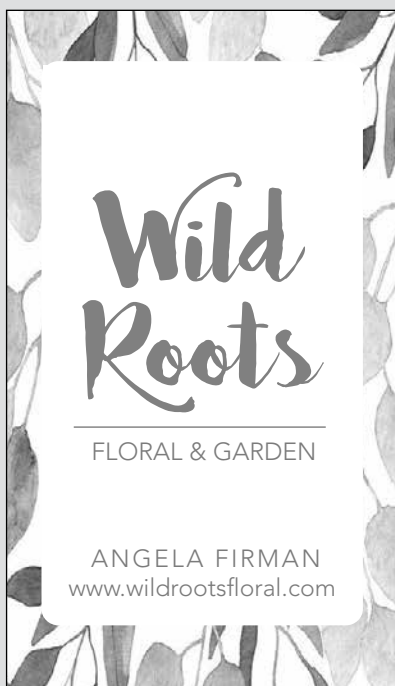
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POLITICAL PAGES

OLD OTTAWA EAST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BY PHYLLIS ODENBACH SUTTON
INFO@OTTAWAEAST.CA



OUR CHANGING COMMUNITY

This month I am focusing on the theme of change in our community. It seems like this has been a key factor in almost every issue raised over the last several months.

Safety of pedestrians and cyclists on the new Main Street is one of these issues. At the Main and Riverdale intersection, cars are sometimes turning off of Main directly into the path of pedestrians or cyclists, who have the right-of-way. The safety of children walking on Main is also of concern, particularly on shared sections of the pathway with cyclists (e.g., in front of The Corners on Main and near the Dixie Dairy convenience store). The speed of some cyclists and their wrong way cycling usage are also concerns. The good news is that the City's traffic department is planning a review of Main Street's performance and safety this spring.

Our community's dog owners are looking for change to have more access to neighbourhood parks, including off-leash areas. This was a discussion item at our March 13 monthly OOE Community Association board meeting. Note that the City will be posting signs in both Springhurst and Brantwood parks seeking community views on the proposed changes in the spring.

Very recently, the Ottawa Catholic School Board announced its plans for change at the Immaculata playing field. My Chair's report for the March board meeting provides information on community issues, the school's current concerns and a summary of recent meetings with the community association. Note that the OOECA Chair's reports and minutes of monthly meetings are posted on our web-site: ottawaeast.ca

I would like to comment on several planning files as well.

Residents on Glenora protested a recent Committee of Adjustment minor variance request to allow for the construction of a triplex at 173 Glenora (currently an empty lot

zoned for no larger than a duplex). While such applications have generally been approved in our community, the Committee of Adjustment in this case denied the application (See the *Mainstreeter* story elsewhere in this issue).

The City of Ottawa is considering a new R4 zoning strategy; a document was posted on the City web-site on March 8, with comments due by April 9. The OOE Planning Committee has been engaged in discussions of this strategy since talks began several years ago; the OOE Community Association's comments are currently being developed for submission to the City. Note that such submissions are typically posted on our website.

And lastly on the planning front, a public information session was hosted by the OOE Community Association on February 27 concerning an application to develop the lands adjacent to Main Street fronting on des Oblats, Deschâtelets and the Grand Allée. Current zoning for this block allows for six storey buildings. The proposal is for a six storey building adjacent to Main Street, with retail on the ground floor and rental units above, and a nine storey rental building directly to the east. Watch for signs near the Greystone presentation centre providing details on the comment period and City contact.

There is also the potential for change as the NCC undertakes its strategic review of the Capital pathway system. At the public meeting on February 21, our community was well represented with our residents providing lots of ideas on how to make the pathways, particularly those along the Rideau Canal, better and safer.

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).



DAVID CHERNUSHENKO COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

613-580-2487

DAVID.CHERNUSHENKO@OTTAWA.CA
CAPITALWARD.CA



THERE'S ROOM FOR EVERYONE

Those cyclists! Those drivers! I've never been a fan of labels, at least when they're applied to specific people, groups of people, or particular behaviours. Labels may be convenient, but they also tend to oversimplify and create false impressions.

We often use labels to dismiss those with whom we disagree, or to put ourselves on the side of the angels. NIMBYs YIMBYs, left-wing, right-wing, working class, elite, progressive, fiscally responsible — all are loaded terms, with positive or negative connotations depending on where you stand.

Then there are modal labels that define people solely by their mode of transportation.

Pedestrians: They don't look where they're going. They don't pay attention.

Drivers: They go too fast. They pollute the air. They're aggressive. They ignore the rules of the road. They don't pay attention.

Cyclists: They think they're above the law. They aren't paying for their share of infrastructure. They never stop at stop signs or red lights. They ignore the rules of the road.

When we use these labels, we treat people not as individuals, but as a homogeneous group based on how they get around. But we can't make assumptions about someone's behaviour, values or the taxes they pay based on how they travel. That's not only because drivers, cyclists and pedestrians come in all genders, ages, sizes and political persuasions, but also because the vast majority of citizens do not limit themselves to one mode of travel.

I walk, cycle, drive, take public transit or skate, depending on the day, the weather, where I need to go and how much time I have. I don't take on a new personality every time I switch my mode of transportation. I'm still

the same person, and I probably do as good — or as bad — a job of following the rules of the road, paying attention and looking out for others no matter how I travel.

A study prepared for the Share the Road Coalition a few years back about who drives and who cycles in Ontario found that drivers and cyclists are mostly the same people, and virtually all of them are pedestrians as well, at least some of the time. Most people just want to get to their destinations efficiently and safely, without being harmed or harming anyone else.

If we stop relying on these modal labels, maybe we can move on to sharing our roads, paths and sidewalks a bit better.

This spring/summer, I will work with City staff and community members to look at how people are using Main Street, our showcase "complete street." I hear reports that not all cyclists travel in the right direction on the cycle tracks, or stop when they should. That not all drivers yield when crossing cycle tracks, obey the right-turn prohibitions at red lights, or respect the stop bar that ensures they can see cyclists on their right. I hear that some pedestrians wander or stand in the cycle tracks, oblivious to ringing bells, the different texture of the pavement, or the nice wide sidewalk right beside them.

What this tells me is that there's work to do educating all road users on what the various lanes, surfaces, paint colours and signs mean. It tells me that everyone, whether driver, cyclist, pedestrian or all three, needs to be aware of the privileges they've been granted, and the rules that govern them.

And it tells me there's plenty of room for everyone on our streets, if we could just think and act as good neighbours, and let go of the labels.

POLITICAL PAGES

JIM WATSON, MAYOR OF OTTAWA

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JIMWATSON.CA



INVESTING IN OUR ROADS, SIDEWALKS AND PATHS

One of the most important aspects of our city that sets it apart from others is its particularly large geographical scale. Its total land surface of 2758 km² is large enough to encompass the cities of Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, and we are still larger by 100 km². From rural and farming areas to family-centric suburbs to vibrant urban neighbourhoods, Ottawa's geography makes it a uniquely diverse and rich city. But Ottawa's large size also means that we have an extensive network of over 5,460 km of paved roads to continuously develop, improve and maintain.

Road maintenance is particularly challenging in Ottawa because of our fluctuating climate. As winter turns into spring, temperatures vary daily from cold to warmer. This rapid change in warmth is called a freeze-thaw cycle, and it deteriorate our road surfaces. During these freeze-thaw cycles, water seeps into the crevices of the road. Fluctuations in temperature, vibrations and traffic volumes all create stress on the asphalt road surface, resulting in potholes.

Over the years, the abundance of rain and spring flooding, the extraordinary amount of snow, and the number of freeze-thaw cycles, has significantly impacted the quality of our roadways, shoulders, sidewalks and road beds.

Last year alone, city crews filled 259,153

potholes. Each year, the City fills more potholes than the last, but with the increase of freeze-thaw cycles and our ever-expanding road network, our roads are still in rough shape come the spring. Even with this level of activity, I have heard consistently from residents that we need to do more and better.

I too see the effect of freeze-thaw cycles every day that I am in the community and travel to different parts of our city. I share your concerns and frustration about the state of our roads and I recognize the need to fix them. This is why I insisted that Council invest more dollars in our basic infrastructure needs by increasing the City's 2018 road resurfacing budget. The 2018 road-resurfacing budget has increased \$11.6 million from 2017, for a total budget of \$45.2 million dollars. We have also added an additional \$10 million dollars in the overall road, facilities and sidewalks budget, and made permanent the \$400,000 one-time increase in the pothole and minor asphalt repair program introduced in 2017.

Well paved and resurfaced roads mean that we can travel and move through our city more efficiently and safely. These investments will ensure that the roads we pave today will also be enjoyed by the generations of tomorrow.



CATHERINE MCKENNA, MP, OTTAWA CENTRE

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[@CMCKENNAOTTAWA](#)

[WWW.CATHERINEMCKENNAMP.CA](#)



BUDGET 2018: WHAT IT MEANS FOR OTTAWA CENTRE?

In February, our Government tabled Equality + Growth, the federal budget for 2018. This budget is the next step in a long-term plan to invest in people, communities, and the economy. I wanted to take a moment to highlight some of the exciting opportunities in Budget 2018 for Ottawa Centre.

When I was a candidate in 2015, I made a promise to secure federal funding for part of Ottawa's new central public library. Budget 2018 proposes \$73.3 million to support the construction and ongoing operations of a partnership between Library and Archives Canada and the Ottawa Public Library. I know folks in Ottawa have been waiting for this and I'm thrilled to be delivering on this campaign commitment. Right now, many of our country's artifacts are tucked away in storage units. When construction is complete, we're going to have a world-class facility to showcase artifacts and share our history with visitors from around the world.

Our public servants deserve to be paid properly and on time for the important work they are doing. Budget 2018 commits money for the next steps in addressing Phoenix pay system challenges including \$431.4 million to hire additional staff to support the system and \$16 million to work with experts and unions on developing a way forward for a new pay system. If you are a resident of Ottawa Centre who is experiencing issues with Phoenix, please contact my community office to see how we might be able to assist.

In 2015, I also made a commitment to help the National Capital Commission improve access to and address safety challenges on their pathways and bridges. Enjoying the outdoors is important to people in Ottawa, our greenspace is part of what makes Ottawa the best place to live. Budget 2018 includes \$55 million for the NCC

for critical repair and maintenance. This money will help ensure our infrastructure continues to be safe and accessible for everyone.

Budget 2018 also includes the single largest investment in fundamental research in Canadian history (\$1.7 billion for granting councils and research institutes and \$1.3 billion over five years for investments in laboratories, equipment and infrastructure). This is great news for our researchers and students at Carleton University. I have visited the campus many times and am always impressed by the work they are doing, particularly on climate change and the environment. Research expands our basic understanding of the world, generates new ideas, and helps build a workforce that is better able to respond to challenges.

Our government launched the Canada Child Benefit in 2016 to help pay for things like sports and school supplies. As of today, 7,340 families in Ottawa Centre are receiving an average of over \$5,000 annually. As a mom of three, I am pleased to see Budget 2018 recommit to helping middle-class families by investing an additional \$5.6 billion through the Canada Child Benefit. A new Parental Sharing Benefit was also announced in Budget 2018. This benefit would allow five additional weeks of EI to be accessed when both parents agree to share parental leave. This means new parents, especially mothers, could return to work sooner, more equitable hiring practices, and both parents spending more time with their newborns.

This budget puts people first, builds on the hard work of Canadians, and keeps us squarely focused on the future. I'm looking forward to working with all levels of government and the community on implementing these exciting opportunities.

IN PARADISUM

**Maurice Duruflé's
Requiem, Op. 9 &
Quatre Motets
sur des thèmes
grégoriens,
Op. 10**

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www.canadianmartyrs.org — Find us on Facebook! [canadianmartyrsottawa](https://www.facebook.com/canadianmartyrsottawa)



WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Third Avenue at Lyon Street

Open 9 am – 11 pm, April 28 – Sept. 29, 2018

stjamestennis.ca

Email: glebestjamestennis@gmail.com

Tennis Lessons

St. James offers a wide range of programs to our members. We have a great coaching staff and our friendly and qualified teachers offer instruction for all ages and skill levels. Online registration for lessons and clinics will begin March 20, at 10:00 am, on a first-come basis.

Sessions begin May 7 and include the following popular programs:

After-school lessons	5-16 yrs	May 7 – June 15
Beginner/Rusty adult lessons	18+	Mon & Thurs. 6-7 pm or 7-8 pm
Cardio Tennis	All	Tues 6-7 pm or Sun 3-4 pm
Intermediate Lessons	All	Wednesdays 8:30 -9:30 pm
Stroke of the week	All	Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 am
Parent-and-me lessons	3-5 yrs	Saturdays 9-10 am
All-Stars	6-8 yrs	Sat. 9-10 am
All-Stars	8-11 yrs	Sat. 10-11 am

Check out our website for complete details on all programs at:
stjamestennis.ca/tennis-lessons

Summer Tennis & Sports Camps

Mini (JK – Grade*1) Progressive (Gr 2-5) Teen (Gr 6-9)
*Grade child is entering in the fall

In association with the Glebe Neighborhood Activities Group (GNAG), St. James offers a variety of weekly tennis and sports camps. Choose from tennis, multisport, volleyball, badminton, basketball OR combine 2 sports together for a full-day combo. Half-day and full-day camps available. All camps are co-ed and there is also a girls-only volleyball option. Details on all camps / registration at www.gnag.ca. Email stjamescamps@gmail.com with any questions.



Free After-School-Lessons Sign-Up

Registration for free after-school lessons for kids and junior members begins in person on Opening Day, Saturday, April 28 at 9 am and is on a first come basis. (Note: Please register for membership online prior to Opening Day and bring proof of registration with you when signing up for free lessons).

Adult Round Robins, Leagues and Tournaments

No matter what your level, we have what is right for you.

We offer non-competitive round robins every Monday and Thursday evening (8-10 pm) and on Sunday morning (10 am-Noon). Staff ensures that people can just show up and that they get to play with different players of their level. This is friendly mixed tennis and a great way to meet new players. We also have adult tournaments, ladder play, inter-club leagues for all levels. See the calendar for dates at: stjamestennis.ca/events

Online Registration

Online registration for memberships, lessons and clinics will begin March 20, at 10:00 am, on a first come basis at:

stjamestennis.ca/memberships

In-person registrations will also be accepted at the club once it is open for the season.

Memberships

Adult	\$125	18 and over
Junior	\$75	Under 18
Couples	\$210	2 adults –same address
Families	\$260	2 adults + juniors –same address

Prices exclusive of HST

Early bird discount of 10% for online registrations prior to April 22

TRY TENNIS FOR FREE: OPEN HOUSE – ALL ARE WELCOME
Sunday, April 29, Noon – 3 pm Tennis pros on site - Racquets provided



Our Neighbours: Eveline Lemieux

BONNIE WEPPLER

Eveline Lemieux rapid fires information at me: her travels from Quebec to British Columbia, at the age of 17, first to pick fruit and then, the next year, to plant trees; moving to Ottawa for love; creating two small businesses over the years; the dream of having children, fulfilled with her sons, Gaël and Félix; and life on Rosemere Street with her small garden full of garlic, kale and raspberries. It's fascinating to spend an afternoon with Eveline Lemieux!

With her degree in Biology from l'Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Lemieux worked on a project scouting insects and diseases in food crops such as carrots and lettuce.

"Producers tend fields via tractors and they don't see what is going on at a smaller level. When they spray, if, for example, the beetle is already an adult, the spraying does nothing but damage the environment and increase production costs."

Lemieux completed a specialization in agronomy at McGill University and then earned her Master's degree in Environmental Studies at UQAM. She now teaches courses on environmental

awareness and global environmental challenges part-time at the University of Ottawa as well as at Têluq University.

As part of the Scientists in School program, Lemieux presents workshops to elementary students. Her Grade One classes are learning about renewable energy while the focus for her Grade Four classes is on different "forces" such as gravity.

In 2017, Lemieux started Bee Sustainable Food Wrap, a home-based business.

"I had been thinking about it and got some beeswax, chose some nice fabric, recycled cotton, which is different from what other similar companies use."

There are a lot of steps to the process of creating the food wraps, but when she showed them to people, they told her that this was something she could sell. Bee Sustainable Food Wraps can now be found in Singing Pebble, Herb and Spice, Seed to Sausage, Rainbow Foods, three shops in Montreal as well as at Fromagerie St. Albert! In April, Bee Sustainable will be sold at the National Women's Show, and Lemieux plans to be at the Main Farmers' Market this summer.

To Lemieux, it's "important to use less plastic and there is a manual and



BONNIE WEPPLER PHOTO

Eveline Lemieux displays two packets of her colourful Bee Sustainable Food Wraps.

intellectual thinking behind the food wraps; this is just one little thing that people can do to help the environment".

Travel is important to her.

"I never kept much in my house, I don't have many material goods. I always felt that I would just travel."

Her travel goal is to get to Indonesia. Last November, Lemieux spent a month in Myanmar and Thailand.

Years earlier, however, there was that time when she hitchhiked down the

west coast of the US, and took a bus to Mexico.

"By the end, I had no passport or identity card and I got kicked out of the country."

There is more than a little adventure in Eveline Lemieux!

For more information on Bee Sustainable Food Wraps: <https://www.facebook.com/Bee-Sustainable-Food-Wrap-401412470309827>.



OPENING DAY IS JUNE 2ND!

The Main Farmers' Market, 210 Main Street
Every Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., beside the Green Door plaza.

www.mainfarmersmarket.org

Follow us on Facebook (@mainfarmmarket613), Instagram (@mainmarketottawa) and Twitter (@mainfarmmarkott) for up-to-date vendor information and events.

The market is grateful for the support of the Mainstreeter and the Green Door.

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editor@mainstreeter.ca



**Recognizing outstanding contributions to the
promotion of health in our community!**

With the annual Award for Excellence in Health Promotion, the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (SHCHC) is proud to honour those whose activities and initiatives have contributed to improving the health and wellness of our community.

Eligibility

Nominees for the SHCHC Award for Excellence in Health Promotion must be:

- Individuals who work or reside within the SHCHC catchment area (Sandy Hill and Ottawa East);
- Businesses and organizations that operate in our catchment area.

Award Criteria

To qualify, nominees must demonstrate leadership activities that:

- Strengthen people's health knowledge and the skills required to prevent ill health, and to enhance and protect healthy behaviour;
- Create and sustain environments that are supportive of health;
- Advocate for health to gain political commitment, policy support, social acceptance or system support for a particular health goal or program; and
- Have a current or potential impact on SHCHC strategic priorities.

Submit your nomination today!

For complete details, visit www.shchc.ca, or contact Cristina Coiciu at 613-789-1500 x 2505, e-mail ccoiciu@sandyhillchc.on.ca. Nominations must be received on or before April 30, 2018.

**Souligner les contributions exceptionnelles à la
promotion de la santé dans notre collectivité !**

Le Centre de santé communautaire Côte-de-Sable (CSCCS), au moyen de Prix d'excellence en promotion de la santé, est fier d'honorer ceux et celles dont les activités et initiatives ont contribué à améliorer la santé et le bien-être de notre collectivité.

Admissibilité

Les mises en candidatures au Prix d'excellence en promotion de la santé du CSCC visent :

- les personnes qui travaillent ou habitent dans le secteur du CSCCS (Côte de Sable et Ottawa Est);
- les entreprises et organismes actifs dans notre secteur.

Critères du Prix

Pour se qualifier, les personnes mises en candidature doivent démontrer un leadership dans des activités qui :

- perfectionnent les connaissances des gens sur la santé et le savoir nécessaire pour prévenir les maladies, ainsi qu'améliorer et protéger un comportement sain;
- créer et soutenir des environnements qui favorisent la santé;
- défendent la santé afin d'obtenir un engagement politique ou un soutien aux politiques, une acceptation sociale ou un soutien à l'appui d'objectifs ou de programmes de santé en particulier; et
- ont présentement ou potentiellement un impact positif sur les priorités stratégiques du CSCCS.

Soumettez une candidature aujourd'hui !

Pour obtenir tous les détails, visitez notre site web à www.shchc.ca, ou contactez Cristina Coiciu au 613-789-1500 x 2505, ccoiciu@sandyhillchc.on.ca. Les mises en candidatures doivent nous parvenir d'ici le 30 avril 2018 au plus tard.

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BUSINESS BEAT

Main Farmers' Market celebrates 10 years

CHRISTINE MACINTYRE

As changes continue to take place in Old Ottawa East, it is nice that some things continue year after year. One constant for our community is the Main Street Farmers' Market, which will be celebrating its 10th full year in operation when it reopens this season. The Market will be returning to the same location as last year, in the parking lot located nearby the Green Door restaurant, from the first Saturday in June until the last Saturday in October. The Market's hours will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., which is an hour longer than in past years.

This local farmers' market, which started out with a short, but successful, three-week trial period in 2007, returned the following year for the entire 2008 season. Notwithstanding a short stint at the Canadian Museum of Nature, while major road works were taking place on Main Street, the Market quickly became a place for those in Old Ottawa East to more easily access fresh produce, meat and a variety of other products, directly from vendors located within 160 km of the Market.

The Market began as a grassroots

initiative of Sustainable Living of Old Ottawa East (SLOE) and today is run by a small, but dedicated volunteer board of directors who are keen to ensure that our residents and visitors to the community have access to local products in the heart of Old Ottawa East. According to Sue Cavanaugh, the board's president, the Market has many benefits for the community. "The Market continues to be an important gathering point for many in the community. There is a chance to get to know the vendors, to learn about their diverse local products, to include these products in their lives, in addition to simply being a wonderful place to chat with neighbours we know and to get to know others in the community," says Cavanaugh.

Vendors are also excited about returning to the Old Ottawa East Farmers' Market again this year. One returning vendor remarked, "the Main St. Farmers' Market provides our small business a great opportunity to bring our products directly to those in the neighbourhood. Almost all of those who enjoy our products also share our desire to provide healthy, local options."

When asked about the Market's

plans for the 2018 season, Dave Coyne, Market Manager, explained "the Market is opening a month later than in past years to provide a bit more time for some of the local crops to arrive. In addition, as in past years, we will have face painting, small concerts with local musicians and food demonstrations, from time to time." Coyne continued "we also have a community tent and occasionally groups are invited to share information of interest with those who join us at the market".

The Market has had its own website, mainfarmersmarket.org, as well as a social media presence for several years. Those interested in learning about special events or activities that may be taking place at the Market over the course of the season should consult the website, or the Market's Twitter (@mainfarmmarkott), Facebook ([mainfarmmarket613/](https://www.facebook.com/mainfarmmarket613/)) and Instagram ([mainmarketottawa/](https://www.instagram.com/mainmarketottawa/)) accounts.

Access to a genuine local farmers' market is just one of the many great reasons to live in Old Ottawa East and the vendors and Market Board members are eager to welcome all from the community when the Farmers' Market opens for operations again in June.

COMMUNITY EVENTS IN OOE

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY THE LADY EVELYN WAY!

Got e-waste cluttering up your house? Don't throw it in the trash — recycle it, and have some fun doing it!

During Earth Day weekend, you can drop off your used electronics (computers, cell phones, TVs, monitors, cameras, small appliances, anything with a cord), used batteries and used metals at Lady Evelyn Alternative School, located at 63 Evelyn Ave in Old Ottawa East.

Collection hours are Friday, April 20th from 4-7pm; Saturday, April 21st from 9am to 1pm; and Sunday, April 22nd from 9am to 12pm.

Stick around the school from 10am to 1pm on Saturday, April 21st for fun Earth Day activities, including experiments with Science Sue, a bake sale, seedling sales, collaborative games, crafts, a clothing/toy/household item swap, and much more!

Proceeds from the event will go toward new equipment and furnishings for the school yard.

CHILDREN'S GARDEN OPEN HOUSE

Pending City approval of job completion, the Main Street Children's Garden Committee will be hosting an open house in the Garden on Friday, June 15th, from 4-8pm. Snacks will be provided and, as always, we welcome contributions to the table.

JANE'S WALK FESTIVAL RETURNS IN MAY...

Jane's Walk, an annual festival of free community-led walking tours, will take place this year May 5th-6th, 2018. Walks led by local residents offer insight into local history, planning, and the environment through the simple act of walking and observing together.

Find walks in Old Ottawa East and around the City at www.JanesWalkOttawa.ca.

Simple vows, no rings needed...

Get engaged to the *Mainstreeter*

At the *Mainstreeter*, we believe that strong neighbourhoods are built by great neighbours involved in their community. Your community newspaper is an excellent way to get to know your neighbours and participate in the development of OOE. There are many exciting ways for you to get "engaged" with the *Mainstreeter* and contribute to the community. Here's a few ideas to get you started:

NEWS & EVENTS

You don't have to be a Peter Mansbridge to spot a good news story! News is all around us, and a page 1 headline in the *Mainstreeter* is only a news event away. If you spot some news, or if you are part of a newsworthy event in Old Ottawa East, and want to bring it to our attention or write a story about it, send us an email to news@mainstreeter.ca and we can make news together!

INTERVIEWS

You'll find our new interview feature (Sharing Lunch With...) in every issue of the *Mainstreeter*. We've lined up an exciting roster of interviewees from all walks of life and all corners of the community. You can help us to develop relevant questions of interest to our readers! Is there something you want to ask a real estate specialist?

Do you have a question for a local politician? Need an answer about city planning, or other topics relating to Old Ottawa East? Submit your questions to interviews@mainstreeter.ca, and we'll try to ask it on your behalf. Here's a list of our next four **Sharing Lunch With...** interviews:

- May/June Issue: A panel of local real estate agents discussing the OOE housing market;
- August Issue: Newcomer residents of OOE talk about their first impressions of the community;
- October Issue: The past, present and future of retail business from OOE business owners; and
- December Issue: Our newly-elected municipal and provincial representatives look ahead to 2019 in OOE.

PHOTOS

Everyone has a favourite travel photo taken while abroad on business or pleasure. Send us your favourite to photos@mainstreeter.ca and tell us something about it in under 200 words. If we love it as much as you do, we'll publish it in the *Mainstreeter*. All submissions make you eligible to win the 2018 collection of OOE photos from the portfolio of our Photo Editor, Peter Fowler.

We'll have more ways that you can get engaged to the *Mainstreeter* in our next issue!

Bilan de l'édition 2018 du Salon du livre de l'Outaouais

KELTIE ROBERTSON

Du 1er au 4 mars avait lieu la 39^e édition du Salon du livre de l'Outaouais, au Palais des congrès à Hull. Comme d'habitude, ce n'étaient pas les conférences, tables rondes, enregistrements et séances de dédicaces qui manquaient.

Travail et vie personnelle obligeant, je n'ai pu me rendre au salon que le samedi. J'ai néanmoins pu profiter d'une journée au programme bien garni.

J'ai d'abord assisté à l'enregistrement de l'émission C'est fou (sur les ondes de Radio-Canada) avec Serge Bouchard et Jean-Philippe Pleau. Marjolaine Beauchamp et Jérémie McEwan étaient invités pour alimenter la discussion autour du thème de la parole. Beauchamp, slameuse originaire de l'Outaouais, nous a parlé de la parole sans filtre. McEwan, lui, a exposé quelques-uns des éléments présents dans son livre, *Avant je criais fort*, un recueil d'essais qui exhorte le lecteur à réfléchir avant de s'emporter, contrairement à la tendance publique.

Je me suis ensuite déplacée vers la plus grande des scènes pour un entretien avec Serge Bouchard et Marie-Christine Lévesque, auteurs de *Le peuple rieur*. Les anecdotes de Bouchard alors qu'il était jeune anthropologue parmi les Innus de la Côte-Nord permettent d'apprendre à

MES ACHATS :

- *Avant je criais fort*, Jérémie McEwan
- *Une année studieuse*, Anne Wiazemsky
- *Jeune fille*, Anne Wiazemsky
- *Manikanetish*, Naomi Fontaine
- *Le jeu de la musique*, Stéphanie Clermont

connaître ce peuple à travers son passé et son avenir.

Puis, j'ai pu assister à un entretien avec la lauréate du prix littéraire Jacques-Poirier, Clara Lagacé, pour son recueil *En cale sèche*. L'auteure a évoqué la pulsion créatrice derrière sa poésie mélancolique et l'importance d'écrire au quotidien, qu'on soit inspiré ou non. Cette entrevue était suivie d'une conversation avec Stéphanie Clermont, auteure de *Le jeu de la musique*. Clermont a détaillé son processus de création, depuis le germe de l'idée jusqu'à la publication. Elle a également exposé le fin équilibre entre le réel et le fictif qui imprègne son recueil.



KELTIE ROBERTSON PHOTO

Suite à cette entrevue, j'ai eu la chance de faire dédicacer mon exemplaire du livre et de parler brièvement avec l'auteure. Un moment fort!

Finalement, je suis allée écouter une entrevue avec Catherine Leroux, auteure de plusieurs livres et traductrice du roman *Us Conductors* de Sean Michaels (Corps conducteurs dans sa version

française). Leroux a discuté des défis de la traduction littéraire, dont notamment les jeux de mots et les particularités des langues à une époque précise.

Après toutes ces discussions, chargée de nouveaux achats, je suis rentrée à la maison me plonger dans toutes ces lectures stimulantes, en attendant l'édition 2019.

WHAT DO YOU WISH FOR YOUR DAUGHTER?

We know that you want the very best for your daughter. For her to spend her days in an inspiring environment, surrounded by peers who support and care for her, and teachers who know her, challenge her and celebrate her successes. You want her to have balance, at school and in life, and opportunities to try new things. And you wish that she would go to school every morning, excited about what the day would bring.

YOUR **WISH** IS OUR MISSION.



At Elmwood School, each girl is inspired to reach her full potential. She is encouraged to stretch herself, develop her self-esteem and confidence, motivate others and of course, excel in the classroom. Every girl strives to be the very best student, friend and role model she can be.

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Call (613) 744-7783 or visit info.elmwood.ca/elmwood-tour to book your private tour.

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