



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

Glebe Community Centre was the site of the all-candidates debate organized by community associations within the Ottawa Centre riding, including OOECA.

*Huge turnout, raucous reactions*

## CANDIDATES DEBATE DRAWS OVERFLOW CROWD

*More election coverage on pages 11, 16 and 17*

### JOHN DANCE

A standing-room-only and often rowdy crowd of 550 listened while the federal election candidates of the five major parties made their case at the Ottawa Centre all-candidates debate in the Glebe Community Centre on September 25. The candidates faced tough questions from moderator Adrian Harewood,

CBC's news anchor.

Acrimony amongst candidates was limited and there were even occasional flashes of approval of what other candidates supported or had done. Green Party candidate Angela Keller-Herzog, in particular, complimented the Liberals for the Syrian refugee program and on one point said that she "agreed with

everything that NDP candidate Emilie [Taman] said." All candidates shared the perspective that greater efforts were needed to create more affordable housing, though there were varying views of how to best do this.

However, there were profoundly different positions on some issues. For instance, Merylee Sevilla of the Peoples'

Party of Canada drew a chorus of boos from the audience when she said "I don't believe we are in a climate emergency. What we are going through are perfectly normal cycles."

Similarly, on the question of "Would you decriminalize street drugs?", Taman

*Continued on Page 11*

### Lees Avenue Queensway eastbound ramp to re-open

## LRT rolls at last: after a very long wait, we now get short waits

### JOHN DANCE

As keen inaugural day rider Dan Proulx put it, "It's been a long wait" - but minutes later - and every five minutes after that - new O-Trains zoomed in and out of the Lees Avenue light rail transit (LRT) station to quickly transport riders both east and west.

Old Ottawa East (OOE) now has the sparkling new Lees station, and for

OOE residents in the triangle north of the Queensway, a short walk to the University of Ottawa (uOttawa) LRT station provides ready access to the system's new "Confederation Line".

The long wait referred to by Proulx is the 16-month delay in opening the LRT. But since the system opened on September 14, the trains have run frequently and fast, albeit with some

lingering start-up glitches.

The much-celebrated first official trip, with Mayor Jim Watson presiding, took a mere 20 minutes to travel from Tunney's Pasture to the Blair Road station, a distance of 12.5 kilometers. Admittedly, the train travelled faster than it regularly will because there were no stops along the way, but passengers can readily see how the LRT train easily beats Queensway and Nicholas traffic.

On opening day, Old Ottawa East residents - along with those from Old Ottawa South and Sandy Hill - flocked to the Lees station to take their first ride and explore the tracks and stations running from Tunney's Pasture to Blair Road.

There was general delight that Ottawa finally has a modern, clean, convenient

and fast rapid transit system. First-day riders noted that the new system will get them downtown much faster and others will use it as a quick way to do grocery shopping at St Laurent or Blair Road.

The Lees Avenue station sports a

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MELINDA NEWMAN PHOTO



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTO

**SIGNS OF THE TIMES IN OLD OTTAWA EAST AS THE NEW LOOK OF THE COMMUNITY'S COMMERCIAL PRESENCE BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE.**



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTO



*Street-involved youth paint it up!*

# Big bird finds a new neighbourhood nest

**LORNE ABUGOV**

A new bird has recently landed with a splash of colour in our neighbourhood, and despite the seasonal dip in temperature, this feathered friend isn't about to migrate south for the winter anytime soon.

Emblazoned on a building wall overlooking the parking lot at 206 Main Street that doubles as the current home of the Ottawa East Farmers Market, the larger-than-life brilliant red Cardinal is the handiwork of 25 young street-involved painters between the ages of 16 to 30. The young artists came together in mid-September to create a new mural for our neighbourhood - one they hope will spark a dialogue around issues of youth homelessness, inequality and injustice.

The bold, new mural that competes for wall space with the bright blue Café Qui Pense design and a McCafé billboard was made possible by funding from Crime Prevention Ottawa's Paint it Up Program. The innovative program provides funding for outdoor mural art projects that support vandalism prevention, youth empowerment, community safety and the beautification of Ottawa neighborhoods.

The 25 painters are all members of the Innercity Arts program run by Ottawa Innercity Ministries (OIM), an

organization founded in 1988 dedicated to promoting change in the areas of poverty, homelessness, and social justice in Ottawa.

Moira Davis is the Youth Program Coordinator at OIM. She was delighted that her group members could work in partnership on this painting project with the property owner, the City of Ottawa and Mique Michelle, a local graffiti artist, who worked with the youth to design and execute the mural.

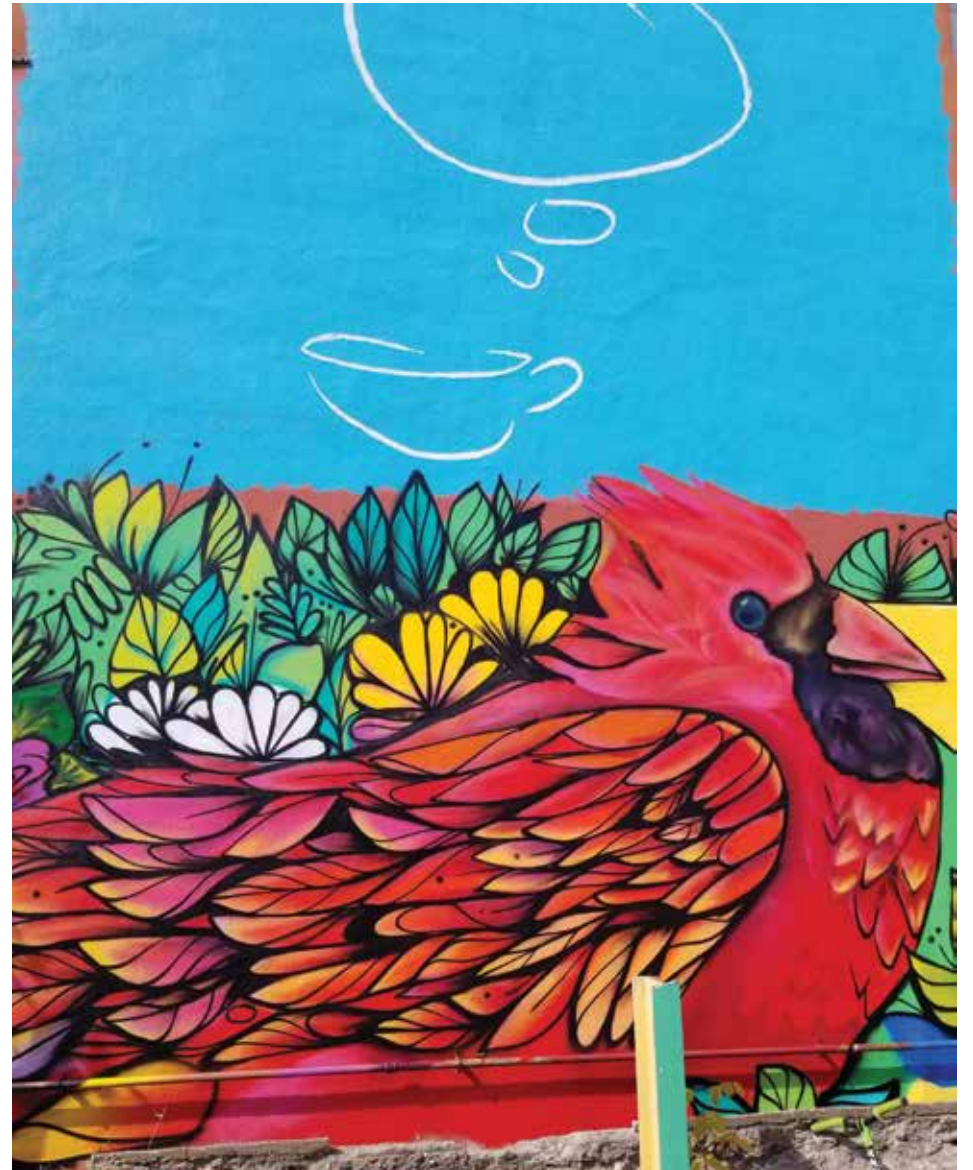
"The youth in the Innercity Arts program really wanted to do something that touched on issues of mental health, homelessness, and inclusion. Somebody brought up the idea of honouring Marsha P. Johnson, a civil rights activist in New York City in the 60s and 70s, who started the first LGBTQ shelter for homeless youth in North America," states Davis, who explained the mural design for *The Mainstreeter* at the unveiling ceremony.

"Her shelter was called Star, so that's why we have a large yellow star in our mural, and inside the star, there's a quote from Marsha Johnson: 'How many years has it taken people to realize that we are all brothers and sisters and human beings in the human race.' For the youth, this is somebody that they could relate to, and her legacy is something they hope to teach the public about," Davis explained.



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTO

(L to R) Moira Davis, Jen, and graffiti artist Mique Michelle posed recently in front of their latest street painting.



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTO

**Perched nicely in a new OOE nest, our big redbird is a welcome addition to the local streetscape.**

Flowers also adorn the mural, another homage to Marsha Johnson, a drag queen who wore oversize flowers in her hair as a signature look, according to Davis.

And how about the brightly plumaged and rather rotund cardinal central to the mural? "People from the community were invited to write in and offer any ideas about the mural," says Davis. "Somebody had an idea about painting a cardinal because there have been a lot of cardinals reported in this community recently."

Several of the young painters involved with the program were on hand at the public unveiling ceremony. We spoke to Jen, one of the younger painters on the project. She worked in one of the five groups of five painters over three days to complete the mural just minutes before the scheduled unveiling ceremony began. Jen explained why this mural, and other street painting projects she has worked on, are meaningful to her and to her youthful colleagues.

"It is a way of expressing ourselves, but also a way of educating myself, and not just myself, but other people too," Jen advises. "When you have created something so big and so colourful, it's definitely going to attract the eye, and people will always come up to you and ask what does this mean or what does that mean? And that gives me an opportunity to educate someone else, and maybe they'll bring that little bit of knowledge and either add more or share

it with another person, so it's kind of like a telephone process."

Shane is another of the mural painters involved with the OIM program who has had a bumpy road over much of her life of poverty and homelessness. "I was on the streets since I was really young, on and off since I was 13, sometimes staying at friends' places, and sometimes just out and about," Shane says. "I was pretty much living a feral existence. I didn't really have anyone halfway decent to be an adult role model for me."

She credits OIM's Davis for gaining her trust and helping to add stability to her life. "Moira used to do outreach for OIM, and she'd come around me sometimes when I was out on the street and offer food. She told me that OIM had art supplies and stuff, but I didn't trust things at first, so I got a friend to come with me and we went and checked it out. It turned out she was right, and ever since then, I've been here," Shane says.

"I have been able to grow up with a whole bunch of different OIM staff with all their different kinds of life experiences, kind of like substitute parents for the ones I never had."

Initial reaction from those attending the unveiling of OOE's very own "Big Bird" was favourable, with one observer commenting that the new mural "brightens up the neighbourhood in a very meaningful and worthwhile way."



# SHARING LUNCH WITH: CAROL WORKUN

## "CAG has been my life for the last 17 years. It wasn't a job for me...it's been a lifestyle.."

*In this edition of The Mainstreeter we are glad to shine a long-overdue spotlight on Carol Workun, a tireless local organizer and booster who has recently stepped down from her post atop the Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East (CAG) after 17 years of dedicated service to our community. In this interview, Workun recalls the growth and success of CAG over her years at the organization, from its early days as a "kitchen table" group to the point today where CAG is bursting at the seams with programs and events for all residents of Old Ottawa East. Often reluctant to take centre stage during her years at CAG, preferring to allow staff and volunteers to shine, Workun talks here about the changes that have shaped the organization and her own career, and what the future holds for both her and for CAG.*

**The Mainstreeter:** For those in Old Ottawa East familiar with the work of the Community Activities Group (CAG), it's difficult to think of CAG without thinking of Carol Workun. You have been the driving force behind this organization and its growth for almost two decades. Tell us what CAG has meant to you over your long and successful tenure?

**Carol Workun:** It's so hard for me to talk about this without getting a little emotional. CAG has been my life for the last 17 years. It wasn't a job for me – I've always said it was a lifestyle, because I work in the community, and I live in the community, so I'm always out there with people who have questions and needs and wants. It's been a wonderful lifestyle for me. It's been a big part of my life, and my family's life, alongside many other things.

Overall, my best memories are of the people that I've worked with and the relationships that I've made. I think the really important part of my days at CAG has been those incredible connections I've made with people. This is an extraordinary community in terms of people's involvement, and the amount of effort they are willing to put into things that they're passionate about. I've made some amazing friends, and I've had the privilege of getting to know my community more deeply than I could have done otherwise.

**The Mainstreeter:** Why was the Fall of 2019 the right time for you to hand the reins of the organization over to CAG's new director, Carol Toone? And what does the future hold for you?

**Carol Workun:** I remember sitting with my husband one Sunday morning, having



KEN WORKUN PHOTO

**Current and recently retired members of the CAG Board of Directors recently hosted a dinner to honour Workun following her retirement announcement. Pictured here are (back row): Don Stephenson, Carol Workun, Lisa Dunnett, Camrose Burdon, Lynne Byford, (front row) Tina Raymond and Melanie Gilbert.**

my morning tea, and the decision just became clear. It was something that had been percolating around for a little while. I looked at him and I said, "I think it's time for me to step down from CAG". He had heard me say this before but this time he knew it was decided. At that point, I also said to him, "Okay, now here's the hard part. I want to go back to Sri Lanka for three months in the Fall". That was part of my decision to step down from CAG. He did ask for 24 hours to think about that, but he has always been very supportive of me.

**"This is an extraordinary community in terms of people's involvement, and the amount of effort they are willing to put into things that they're passionate about."**

For people who know me, they know I've become very involved with a school for young adults in Sri Lanka over the last five years. It's become a passion of mine, and the more I've visited the school, the more involved I've got, and the more involved I want to get. So part of the decision was because I'm going out for three months in September to see the

same group of students that I saw start the school year in January. I will be there for their graduation. I teach English, which is why I'm there, but I also support the students and the staff, and I have a real community out there. But in that moment, I think I was also affected by the stage of life that I'm at. At my age I'm at the point where people in my life are having health issues. I just lost a very dear friend in February, and you realize that if there's other things that you want to do, you need to do them now.

And the last part is that I was working with an extremely good Board of Directors. I felt like I could step down and they would manage the transition well, as they have. Equally, I feel bad leaving as they have been so very supportive.

**The Mainstreeter:** Let's talk a little bit about CAG itself, and some of your thoughts about the organization, then and now, and how it has changed over the years.

**Carol Workun:** The growth of CAG has been exponential. I was brought into the group and got involved with Julia Sneyd back when my kids were little. At that time we were really a grass roots kitchen table organization. At first we were a Board of about four or five, probably running five or six programs and an after school program. It was a lot of work for a small group of volunteers and at one point, it was down to just Julia and me.

Around that time, I remember the City contacting me and saying, you know, you're not holding meetings, and part of our agreement with the City was that CAG was supposed to have regular meetings and produce minutes. I laughed and said to them, "Oh God, we just talk on the phone and get stuff done". But we had to structure a little bit more at that point to satisfy our agreement. We also had a lot of grandiose ideas, and we grew beyond our capabilities. We tried to hire someone but were not successful, so at that point I said I would work for CAG for a few months while we searched for an executive director. Well, that six months turned into 17 years.

I'm very proud of the growth of CAG, but with growth has come challenges, not in the least financial. People often assume that CAG is City-funded – it's not, it's funded from programming. We've had challenges like increases in minimum wage and changes to daycare policies, and those kinds of things to contend with. I am a little saddened that we've lost some of that very simple kitchen table sense of things. It's important going forward to remember that CAG is not all about budgets and spreadsheets, it's not about money for this or money for that. It's actually about serving our people and making connections and having strong relationships within the organization as well as within the community.



# THE MAINSTREETER INTERVIEW



SUPPLIED

**Carol Workun and former Chair of CAG, Nick Masciantonio, at The Main Event in 2014. According to Workun, Masciantonio was a great supporter of CAG and helped transition the organization through a period of change during his time on the Board.**

**The Mainstreeter:** What are some of the accomplishments of CAG that you are most proud of over the years?

**Carol Workun:** In terms of projects, I think the most significant one for me was CAG's fieldhouse renovation project at Brantwood Park, because we had a major fundraising effort, something that took us beyond anything we'd done before. This wasn't like running Saturday morning soccer, this was raising \$120,000. But we did it!

**"We have to show people that there is a living community here that is active, and that cares, and that we are not just a thoroughfare."**

The second thing that I'm really quite proud of is The Main Event. That was something that was started in response to a request from the Community Association. There had been some discussion at City Hall about Old Ottawa East not being a real community, but rather just a thoroughfare for cars from downtown to the hospital. As you can imagine, that got a few people quite agitated. We at CAG were the people who put on events, so the Community Association came to us and said, "We want a party on Main Street. We have to show people that there is a living community here that is active, and that cares, and that we are not just a thoroughfare". So that's how The Main Event started! Like many things that we started, it was supposed to be a one-off

event, but it was so popular it became an annual event.

The third thing I am proud of would be the Thursday night barbecues. I love them because they're a little bit more back to our grassroots, one of the very simple things that brings people into the park, gathering together, playing with their kids, grabbing something to eat. You love it just because it's simple.

Lastly I'm very proud of CAG's work with youth. We have been very successful hiring young people to work with us. Through our after school programs and things like Saturday morning soccer and gym programs, we had the privilege of hiring young people, mostly from the community, often giving them their first job experience.

Interestingly enough, at my farewell party that the Board held, the most touching moments for me were from two of the young staff that we had hired at CAG. One of them won't mind me saying this but he started off with some challenges. He actually recalled some of his early errors and thanked me for my patience. And he's now one of our best staff. It's just lovely to watch that amazing growth.

**The Mainstreeter:** Our community is changing so rapidly, and right before our eyes. What have been some of the challenges and opportunities for CAG over the past few years of rapid change and growth within OOE?

**Carol Workun:** All of us were quite unsure what the influx of new people would do to our community. What I've been excited by is that a lot of the people who have moved into the area have very much embraced the community. I

think Corners on Main and Greystone Village have done a really good job at selling their properties by selling this community. Our challenge has always seemed to be how we were going to bring the newcomers in, when in fact they have brought themselves in, and indeed many of them came knocking at our door. One of our current Board members, Camrose Burden, began volunteering at the barbecues before she even moved into the neighbourhood. So the influx of newcomers has actually turned into more of a gift than a challenge.

I think that with a growing number of people our biggest challenge in future is going to be finding adequate space. Our green spaces have diminished and what we have left is going to be more intensely used. So how do we make that work for all of the people who want to access those spaces? But even bigger than that is our community space for events and activities. We have such small facilities that are not in keeping with the capacity of CAG to give this community programming and events that it wants. I think adequate space will be our biggest challenge over the next little while.

**The Mainstreeter:** I think that a large percentage of the people who reside in Old Ottawa East have directly benefited from CAG services and programs, which must make you feel happy and proud that your organization has personally involved and touched so many people in this community.

**Carol Workun:** Yes, of course! Somebody said to me recently, "I think CAG has touched me in ways I don't

even know because I'm not sure I'm aware of all the things that you've done". I think the most measurable benefit is the connections that people have made through coming together for CAG activities, and these people go on and do other things together. I've always said that CAG is not about our yoga class. It's not about our soccer class. It's about the connections that you make from participating in these programs and events.

When I stop to think about my time at CAG, I can say that it has been such a great honour to have this position. It was wonderful for my family, my kids all grew up with CAG. CAG allowed me the flexibility to be with my children. But it also gave my kids the great opportunity to see what it means to get involved with your community. My kids and my husband, they've all been amazing. Whenever I was short of volunteers, they were always right there. So, it's been an honour for me, but it's also been a gift for my family that they've grown up in circumstances where these things were never questioned; it's now firmly part of who they are, and that's great.



**If readers want to get involved in helping the Sri Lankan students, as Carol has done over the past five years, whether through donations or in a volunteer capacity, kindly email Carol Workun at [carol@workun.ca](mailto:carol@workun.ca).**



CAROL WORKUN PHOTO

**Pictured here with some of her students at Tea Leaf Vision, Maskeliya, Sri Lanka on a walk through the tea plantations practicing their English.**



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## CITY FAILS WITH IMMACULATA FIELD

As a result of the recent decision of the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal, the City has failed in its belated effort to control the late evening use of the Immaculata field, and in this case the usage of the field lighting. So what is the City now going to do to ensure that the defining provision of “minor institutional” zoning is enforced?

The purpose of the field’s zoning is to “minimize the impact of [...] minor institutional uses located in close proximity to residential uses by ensuring that such uses are of a scale and intensity that is compatible with neighbourhood character.”

But in the case of the Mac field, there is no evidence that the City ever assessed whether the commercial use of the field was of such a “scale and intensity.”

Let’s be clear: this was an incompetent and irresponsible performance on the part of the City. It’s time to restore evening peace to neighbouring residents.

This may mean that the City must compensate the Ottawa Catholic School Board and the Footy Sevens for removal of evening use of the field, but that’s the price that should be paid for its failure to properly enforce its zoning provisions. Perhaps if the City got around to collecting taxes for the commercial soccer operations at Immaculata the cost could be offset.

*John Dance  
McNaughton Avenue*

## COMMUNITY SEEKS FUNDS FOR GREYSTONE FIGHT

Jim Cuddy of Blue Rodeo fame sings about having a skyscraper soul, and although it’s a great song, more tall buildings are definitely not what we’re striving for here in Old Ottawa East.

Over five years, many residents donated countless volunteer hours and their expertise working with the City on the development of a community design plan for OOE. The plan, incorporated into and legitimized by a secondary plan, was approved by city council in 2011. Now Regional Group, the developer of Greystone Village, has found what it perceives to be a loophole and says it is going to build nine storeys where only six-storey buildings were approved. The City says go ahead. The community says no.

We want to take the fight to the next level, because this is a precedent-setting move that will open the door to more buildings exceeding the height limits that were endorsed by all parties when the plan was approved.

We’re tired of developers constantly pushing the limits higher. We want to make it as difficult as possible for them to ignore approved plans. The community association’s planning committee is fundraising to launch an appeal of the City’s decision to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.

If you want to donate, please send or drop off a cheque - made payable to the Old Ottawa East Community Association - to fundraising coordinator Heather Jarrett at 503-11 Oblats Avenue, Ottawa, K1S 5V8.

If you’re fed up with developers calling the shots and have expertise in fundraising that you would like to lend to this cause, please contact Heather at [hjarrett@sympatico.ca](mailto:hjarrett@sympatico.ca).

*Theresa Wallace  
McNaughton Avenue*

## GOING TO THE DOGS AT BRANTWOOD PARK

A letter to the Editor in the August issue of *The Mainstreeter* referred to a recent petition signed by numerous Old Ottawa East residents who oppose the re-designation of the Brantwood Park ball fields as an off-leash dog park. The letter suggested that the petition was “misleading” in stating that the ball fields were “heavily used” by local residents.

A visit to the Brantwood ball fields will quickly reveal that the fields are indeed heavily used by both residents and organized sports groups. The ball fields are also the primary fields used by the Glebe Little League’s youngest players. All this use means significant safety and hygiene concerns with the off-leash proposal. As the City of Ottawa’s own website states, “children’s noise and movements may provoke dogs” and these young ballplayers, their parents and others using the fields should not have to clean up areas contaminated by dog waste, which will inevitably remain.

As a dog-owner most of my life I understand the need for dogs to have their space. It does not follow, however, that an off-leash dog park should be placed atop a field that so many residents use for recreation.

There are already several off-leash options in the immediate area. Sylvia Holden Park (now easily accessible via Flora Footbridge) and Jack Purcell Park both offer purpose-built off-leash dog areas. Nearby Windsor, Brewer, Minto, Robinson Field, Ballantyne and Brown’s Inlet Parks all have designated off-leash dog options as well. Unlike the Brantwood proposal, none of these off-leash areas have been overlaid on playing fields, thereby allowing dogs to run free without infringing on the ability of other users to make use of space set aside specifically for sports.

Finally, the letter to the editor incorrectly stated that many residents knew a change to by-law request was posted in Brantwood Park. Nearly all those signing the petition, however, were to that point unaware of the proposal as the only ‘public consultation’ consisted of two small signs posted on the Brantwood baseball diamond backstops. If this by-law change is seriously being contemplated, the process for consultation should be truly open and transparent to be meaningful.

*Rob Simpson  
Clegg Street*

## FRANCE, KOREA HONOUR VETERANS

I would like to inform your readers about two special medals available for our veterans. These are the National Order of the Legion of Honour from France and the Ambassador for Peace Medal from the Republic of Korea.

Our veterans of the Second World War and Korean War both fought hard and made tremendous sacrifices. They have won the greatest level of respect and thanks we can give them. The Government of France is awarding their highest medal to all living Canadian veterans who directly helped to liberate their country in 1944.

The Republic of Korea is presenting its Ambassador for Peace Medal to all Veterans who participated in the Korean War between 1950 and 1955. Living veterans or the families of veterans who have passed away may be eligible.

For information please email: [Korea19501953@yahoo.com](mailto:Korea19501953@yahoo.com)

*Guy Black C/O 515 - 95 Moody Street,  
Port Moody, BC V3H0H2*

## Notice of 2019 Joint Annual General Meeting

*Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) and Community Activities Group of Ottawa East (CAG)*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019  
Church of the Ascension  
253 Echo Drive  
Everyone welcome!  
7:00 p.m., registration  
7:15 p.m., annual meeting call to order, followed by a social hour

For up-to-date information and agenda go to [www.OttawaEast.ca](http://www.OttawaEast.ca)  
If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the OOECA or CAG Boards, please contact us:

OOECA: [info@ottawaeast.ca](mailto:info@ottawaeast.ca)  
CAG: [board@ottawaeastcag.ca](mailto:board@ottawaeastcag.ca)

## Avis d’assemblée générale annuelle conjointe 2019

*L’Association communautaire du vieux Ottawa-Est (ACVOE) et le Groupe d’activités communautaires (GAC) du vieux quartier d’Ottawa-Est*

LE MARDI 12 NOVEMBRE 2019

Église de l’Ascension  
253, promenade Echo  
Bienvenue à tous !

19h, inscription  
19 h 15, assemblée générale annuelle suivie d’une rencontre sociale

Pour tous renseignements ainsi que l’ordre du jour, voir

[www.OttawaEast.ca](http://www.OttawaEast.ca)

Si vous êtes intéressé(e) à faire partie des conseils d’administration de l’ACVOE ou du GAC, veuillez communiquer avec nous à :

ACVOE: [info@ottawaeast.ca](mailto:info@ottawaeast.ca)  
GAC: [board@ottawaeastcag.ca](mailto:board@ottawaeastcag.ca)



# THE MAINSTREETER

www.Mainstreeter.ca

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Zone F: Elaine Henderson (Captain), Dan Roach, Therese Smith, Juan Renart, Bob Ryan, Mark Audcent, Mike Taylor, Ian Kirk

Zone G: Phil Browne (Captain) - Leslie Jones, Jim Strang, Ed Janes, Jeanette Drisdelle

Other distributors: Carol Workun, Chuck Bain, Nancy McDonald, Ron Rose, Heather Jarrett, Sue Cavanaugh, Aynsley Morris, Lorne Abugov & Melinda Newman; William & Charlotte Duchesne

High school volunteers should submit their papers for signature to Daniel Racicot

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

**Councillor Shawn Menard:** Shawn.Menard@ottawa.ca

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

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

**Old Town Hall:** 613.627.0062

## Opinion

# Greystone Village, elections and our democratic process

JAMIE BROUGHAM

In these rapidly changing times, our democratic process is not adapting fast enough. Consequently, it no longer serves us as well as it should.

A primary purpose of a democracy developed by the people of a geographical region is to choose fellow citizens in order to govern over their collective resources for their common good. Ultimately, the government should be accountable to the people, yet our democratic system has some inherent weaknesses that undermine our collective democratic rights.

First, an election once every four years does not allow the people to hold their government to account on an as-required basis. Second, our democratic process by design enables those in power to give greater weight to special interest groups who exist to define what is in our best interest.

The Greystone Village development is an unfortunate manifestation of what happens when 'we the people' of our community try to take accountable and responsible ownership for our own local growth and development.

In the case of Greystone, our community's ability to exercise our collective democratic rights has suffered. A special interest group making decisions about the plan changes the vision of our community, undermines the principle of our equality, which is a foundation of a just society, and turns the heroic efforts that are sadly necessary for collective expression into weak and ineffectual voices. Notwithstanding that their views directly conflict with ideas and opinions, values and beliefs collectively expressed by community members, the special interest group prevails once again, at what cost to our democracy?

We arguably live in one of the best communities in the world. We are highly educated, economically secure, and socially advanced. Not allowing the people in a community like ours to take ownership implies that we the people must be led by the views of others. Special interest groups will maintain their ability to influence our leaders as needed in order to maintain their advantage.

An ideal democracy is one within which the members of a community have the knowledge and ability, facilitated by real and virtual

forums and education, to develop and voice a collective expression in order to determine and control the community's direction. When it comes to Greystone, it is obvious our antiquated process of government has done next to nothing to facilitate that goal. It is obvious that special interest groups have the power and ability to manipulate legislators. To think otherwise is naïve!

If we want a better democracy we need to create a democratic system that purposely aids and facilitates greater collective expression within the confines of a just society. Whenever a community like ours cares enough to address an issue, we need the tools, forums, and education to establish and agree on our own direction and a system that allows our collective views to predominate.

Before election day, why not ask your local candidates for federal office whether they will respect this community's vision for its own future, and what steps they will take to make meaningful changes to our democratic process.

*Jamie Brougham is an Old Ottawa East resident and a frequent contributor to The Mainstreeter.*



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTO

Cuban-Canadians demonstrate near the Cuban Embassy on Main Street to protest 60 years of the Castro regime and recent constitutional changes that bar political parties other than the Communists. The protesters also sought release of José Daniel Ferrer García, leader of the Patriotic Union of Cuba, the country's unofficial political opposition group, who was detained on October 1st.



Peter  
Fowler's  
Travel  
Focus

## KOLKATA, INDIA

*Having just moved back to Old Ottawa East after a four-year stay abroad, photographer Nicholas St-Pierre was delighted to see that The Mainstreeter had initiated a feature highlighting the travel photography of residents of our community. He didn't hesitate to send us one of his own personal favourite travel images, a glorious impromptu family portrait that he took at the Howrah Railway Station in Kolkata, India. An award-winning photographer, he feels that the camera provides him with both an excuse and an incentive to get closer, "to connect emotionally and physically with those who cross my path and arouse my curiosity".*



**NICOLAS ST-PIERRE:** In November 2018, I spent ten days in Kolkata, India, with a group of fellow street photographers from various countries. One day, after having spent hours under a ruthless sun, we took refuge in Howrah Railway Station, India's oldest and largest railway complex, a stone's throw away from the sacred Ganges river. Everyday, some two million passengers transit through the station, bringing it to life with their conversations, laughter and cries.

The station is truly a microcosm of India, the homeless and the poor rubbing elbows there with the most privileged members of society. I captured this spontaneous family portrait on one of the railway's 23 platforms, just minutes before the train left the station. I was immediately drawn to the scene by the benevolent stares of these travellers, in particular that of the little girl in the middle, and the love with which she appears to be surrounded. The gentleness and happiness

that may be seen in her eyes are evidence to me that despite the harsh conditions in which most of its inhabitants live, Kolkata probably deserves its nickname of "the City of Joy".

*Old Ottawa East is blessed to have many fine photographers, amateurs and professionals alike, residing in our community. Already, The Mainstreeter has been able to feature some wonderful photos that our readers have taken while travelling*

*outside of Canada, and we hope to see many more in our pages in future. Please send us your favourite travel photos to editor@mainstreeter.ca and provide us with a few details about the image, why it is special for you, and the circumstances around how it came to be taken. If we like it near as much as you do – or even more! – we'll publish it in a future issue of The Mainstreeter.*

## Rideau River multi-use pathway paved, work nearly completed

**JOHN DANCE**

The missing piece of Ottawa's Rideau River Western Pathway (RRWP) is almost complete and you can now easily bike through the Greystone Village property along the river.

Paving of the multi-use pathway (MUP) adjacent to Scholastic Drive, marking the eastern edge of Greystone, was completed this summer and a "concrete separator" between the roadway and the pathway has been built along the southern portion of the route.

The concrete separator on the northern portion will be extended on the rest of Deschâtelets Drive when construction is completed behind the Deschâtelets building. In the meantime, the developer, Regional Group, will have lines painted to delineate the multi-use pathway (MUP) from the road starting where the concrete strip ends.

Over the last decade, at the urging of the Old Ottawa East Community Association, the various sections of the RRWP have been completed in

conjunction with other projects. For instance, the section through the Lees Avenue campus of the University of Ottawa was completed when the stadium was built and the S-ramp just east of the LRT bridge was constructed as part of the overall LRT initiative.

Regional Group has also continued to plant and seed the 30-metre open space along the river. This work was completed on the southern section two years ago. In terms of the remaining work, Regional's Erin O'Connor says, "There is some tree planting that will occur as well. We hope to have all this done by the end of this Fall. Some work may have to wait until Spring depending on the weather and how fast Winter comes."

Regional has offered the river corridor to the City of Ottawa, but thus far the City has refused because of concerns about soil contamination and ongoing maintenance costs. Nevertheless, the City will be responsible for maintaining the MUP and a strip on either side.

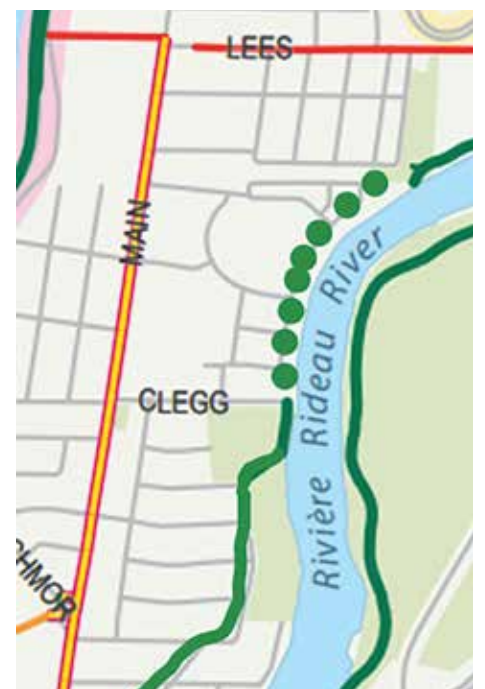
The wood chip walking pathway

which is closer to the river than the MUP will remain as a "nature trail." New wood chips were added this summer. In mid-September, newly-hatched snapping turtles made good use of the nature trail on their way to the river.

The new work on the MUP with the concrete separator at the southern portion ensures that Scholastic Drive between Deschâtelets Drive and Telmon Street will be a one-way street, as was initially intended, so that the amount of traffic from Greystone Village using Clegg Street is limited.

"Many had been using it for parking and driving both ways for the last two years, so there is a bit of a transition and education," says O'Connor. "We are working with the City to install permanent signage [...], including one-way signage along this stretch."

With the near completion of the Greystone Village section of the RRWP, it is now possible to bike along the western side of the Rideau River from Strathcona Park all the way to Linda Thom Park



AMENDED EXTRACT FROM NCC CYCLING MAP

**The dotted line shows the recently paved multi-use pathway that now allows cycling along the entire river parkland of Greystone Village.**

in Old Ottawa South, with the only non-pathway portion being the lightly-travelled roads between the Brantwood Park field house and the northern end of Windsor Park.



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# As OOE prepares for its NU Grocery: “Zero Waste” gains a foothold in OOS and the Glebe

*[Editor's Note: In the August issue of The Mainstreeter, we noted that Old Ottawa East's quest for an in-community grocery store had finally met with success. NU Grocery announced in July that it would be expanding its operations to include a new store in the Corners on Main development on Main Street, bringing along the “zero waste” concept that has made the initial NU Grocery store in Hintonburg such a success with neighbourhood shoppers. In anticipation of the opening of NU Grocery in OOE, we thought we would let you know of other “zero waste” options currently available in neighbouring communities of Old Ottawa South (OOS) and the Glebe. We are pleased to re-print OOS resident Holly Bickerton's first-hand account of her family's “zero-waste experiment” which was published in the September issue of The OSCAR.]*

## HOLLY BICKERTON

Lately, it seems that hardly a week goes by without more headlines about the collective harm our species is doing to the planet. Between climate emergencies, species extinctions, and plastic-filled oceans, there is a lot to be alarmed about. The solutions seem urgent, yet huge and complicated. What is a typical family like ours – with two jobs, a couple of kids and far too little time – to do?

About a year ago, it was bothering me that our recycling bin was overflowing. We found ourselves needing two bins for our biweekly pickup. We have always been avid recyclers, but this was getting out of hand.

### Getting out of hand

Where was all this stuff coming from? Packaging had changed, and we had unwittingly adapted. There had to be a better and less-resource intensive way to feed a family. So our family embarked on an experiment to reduce not only our garbage but also the recycling – just to see what we could do. In the spirit of “reduce, reuse, recycle,” it seemed we needed to get back to basics, and focus on the “reduce.”

The good news is that many businesses in Old Ottawa South and the Glebe have welcomed a variety of efforts to reduce the waste that we bring into the house. This lesson was somewhat unexpected and seemed worth sharing.

Standing in the checkout with my jars and cloth bags, people sometimes ask

me if I'm “into zero waste.” (The phrase is based on the movement started by the excellent book, *Zero Waste Home* by Bea Johnson, available from OPL). My reply is, I'm trying. You will not get a lecture from me: I can tell you that we are not that close to zero, nor will we even approach it until there are a lot more options from mainstream corporations. You may be relieved to know that we don't brush our teeth with baking soda or make our own deodorant.

“Zero waste” seems to me a bit like those size 6 jeans in my closet – aspirational, but maybe not so practical. It has never been my aim to try and fit our household's annual garbage into a thimble. But what I can tell you is that with incremental effort and relatively painless changes, it has been fairly easy to reduce our regular weekly household garbage and recycling by at least half. I am quite proud of that. What if more of us could get to 25% less waste and recycling? Or 50%, or even 60%? The resources saved, including the fossil fuels to truck it all to recycling and landfill, would be significant! And this brings me to our tale of neighbourhood discovery.

The Bulk Barn at Billings Bridge is a great place to start. We'd often bought spices and snacks here, but as you may have heard, the Bulk Barn started a Reusable Container program over a year ago. This was when I started to take a second look at their grocery items, including pasta, cereals, coffee, tea, and baking items. We bring our clean containers (a mix of Mason jars and Rubbermaids), have them weighed, fill them up and pay. Checkout goes faster if you bring a washable marker to write the code on each lid – a great job for kids. If you have a dozen containers like me, the customer in the line behind you will be grateful for you having marked the lids.

Since the program started, I've noticed a significant increase in customers wheeling their container-filled carts around. I've also had many spontaneous and heartening conversations with both like-minded and curious shoppers, and I almost always leave feeling happy. There have been some other unexpected fringe benefits.

### Unexpected fringe benefits

Gone are the half-full packages lurking at the back of the kitchen cupboards, leading to reduced food waste and tidier cupboards. An endless selection of snacks for the school lunchboxes keeps the kids on board.



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTO

## A range of zero waste products and reusable packaging await at OOE's NU Grocery.

Our local treasure, Cedars on Bank Street has also been supportive. Their friendly staff have filled my jars with olives and dips. Bring your own reusable lightweight bags for loose produce. There's a bulk section at Cedars too, featuring many staples. Recently, I've washed and saved our shawarma containers, ready for a refill.

Just over the Bank Street bridge, the Glebe Meat Market will fill your clean containers with any products behind the counter. If you forget them, at least your order comes in a recyclable plastic bag rather than in a Styrofoam tray. McKeen's Metro in the Glebe will also fill clean containers at its deli counter – featuring prepared salads and a wide range of deli meats. Near the front cash, there is a large bin where you can drop off clean plastic bags for recycling, including cereal and milk bags. Given that the City of Ottawa does not accept plastic bags in the blue box, this is one way to ensure that unavoidable plastic bags get recycled.

Further south, Farm Boy in the Blue Heron Mall on Bank Street has bakery, deli, meat and fish counters where the staff have been willing to weigh and fill containers. My trips there are usually motivated by the fact that we have run out of frozen blueberries, which can be bought in a large 2 kilogram cardboard box.

### Reuse the planet's resources

If you widen your reduced-waste experiment to include clothing and other household goods, Old Ottawa South shines. Of course, Boomerang Kids and the Clothes Secret will outfit most of the family for a fraction of retail, while you reuse the planet's resources rather than buying new. The Sunnyside Library and Black Squirrel Books will provide the reading material for a lifetime. And although I'm not an antique buyer, the

concept is the same, and Old Ottawa South has abundant selection.

When shopping becomes too much, there is always coffee. All the coffee shops in OOS have happily filled my reusable coffee container, even thanking me for bringing it! Re-usable water bottles can be refilled at the Sunnyside Library. Feeling virtuous? Grab a gelato cone at Stella Luna.

I'm sure there are more local businesses worth mentioning in a zero-waste quest, including the vendors at the Lansdowne Farmer's Market (and the Main Street Farmer's Market). These just happen to be my regular stops. A surprising result of our zero waste experiment is that we now do more shopping closer to home. This is in large part because smaller, local independent, client-focused retailers have been so supportive of our efforts. Our food quality has improved while our spending is hardly different – in part, because less food gets wasted.

We've also been surprised that just a bit of preparation and a few changes in shopping habits have made a huge difference on garbage night. Finally – and not to be dismissed in these days of bleak headlines – something as mundane as grocery shopping now helps us feel like we are part of an important solution. It's visual and inspiring for kids who have seen that their own efforts really count.

If you are looking for a way to engage your family in a similar experiment, the films *A Plastic Ocean* or *Blue Planet II* on Netflix are great discussion starters. Beware though: they are so heartbreaking that you may never see plastic packaging in the same way again. And then we can meet each other in the neighbourhood, quietly filling our containers, and smile.





JOHN DANCE PHOTO

The candidates of the five major parties faced off in what at times was a raucous all candidates debate on September 25th before a packed audience in the Glebe.

## Crowd of 550 attend all candidates debate

*Continued from Page 1*

and Keller-Herzog said “yes” with Taman going on to say, “We need to do a lot more - we have to look at safe supply.” Liberal Party incumbent Catherine McKenna noted that the Liberals had decriminalized marijuana and, as she did throughout the evening, took a shot at the Doug Ford government, in this instance for cutting harm reduction programs. Conservative Party candidate Carol Clemenhagen’s response was that “the real issue [is to] help people deal with suffering.” And Sevilla said, “No, there’s no money made from decriminalizing drugs.”

Quebec’s secularization bill that limits

what certain government employees can wear also was viewed differently by the candidates. Taman deemed it “devastating,” McKenna called it “terrible” and added, “You should be able to wear whatever you want.” Keller-Herzog equated it to “racism,” but Clemenhagen said “You need to respect the decision of a provincial parliament,” a view shared by Sevilla.

In their concluding remarks, Sevilla committed to balancing the federal budget in two years and reducing taxes. Keller-Herzog pledged to stand for “healthy people, healthy economy and a healthy planet.” McKenna stressed what she accomplished in her first term and committed to make Ottawa the greenest capital city. Taman said “We need to do

more than tinker - just ‘good enough’ is not enough.” Clemenhagen promised to provide strong representation for Ottawa Centre and to deal with the federal “burden of debt.”

The debate was organized by the community associations of Ottawa Centre, with Centretown’s Jack Hanna leading the effort and Ron Rose representing the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA).

Recognizing that about 300 people were left outside the Glebe Community Centre (GCC) because the meeting hall was full, Hanna said a larger venue will be sought for all-candidates meetings in the future. While only those candidates whose leaders were in the official “Canadian

Debate Production Partnership” televised debate on October 7 were permitted to be on stage at the GCC, other candidates were given the opportunity to explain their candidacy outside the main hall.

As *The Mainstreeter* reported in our August 2019 issue, the Ottawa Centre riding had the greatest voter turnout of all 338 ridings in the last federal election, when the Liberal’s McKenna won out over the late Paul Dewar of the NDP. In total, since Ottawa Centre has existed as a federal riding, the Liberals have prevailed in 10 of the total 15 federal elections contested, while the NDP have taken the riding four times and the Conservatives once. However, over the last 20 years, the NDP has the edge, winning four of the seven elections.

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## FOLLOWING THE NEWS

# OOECA launches appeals of City's height increase ruling at 10 Oblats, seeks community funding



JOHN DANCE PHOTOS

Old Ottawa East residents jammed the Old Town Hall in late August to vote their approval for using community association funds to help finance appeals of two City of Ottawa decisions to permit building height increases up to nine storeys at 10 Oblats Avenue and surrounding lands.

### ALEXANDRA GRUCA-MACAULAY

*Ron Rose reported in our August issue that the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) was mobilizing through a Special General Meeting (SGM) to seek funding to appeal the City of Ottawa's decisions to permit the Regional Group to build a nine-storey building at 10 Oblats Avenue. OOECA also hoped to appeal a related decision to change the City's Official Plan to allow buildings of up to nine storeys anywhere within the surrounding lands. Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay was at the SGM and updates*

### recent developments.

At a special meeting held on August 27th, 69 members of the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) voted in favour of a motion to donate \$5,000 of OOECA funds towards fees and expenses related to launching two appeals of the City's changes to the Old Ottawa East Secondary Plan and zoning that would see allowable building heights at 10 Oblats and surrounding lands increased from six to nine storeys. Since then, OOECA has filed its two appeals (one for the Official Plan amendment, one

for the zoning by-law amendment) with the provincial Local Planning Appeals Tribunal (LPAT).

In the course of filing these appeals, the provincial government's changes to the LPAT appeal process came into effect (Bill 108) and, as a result, OOECA was accorded the opportunity to amend its appeals in response to the modified appeal framework. Consequently, OOECA retained legal counsel, Kristi Ross, a land use lawyer and an Old Ottawa East resident. Ross redrafted the two appeals, and these were filed on October 8th.

Going forward, the anticipated next step is a pre-hearing conference to be scheduled by the Tribunal. In the interim, OOECA is continuing to raise funds in support of the community's appeals (See Letters to the Editor on page 6 for more details). Donations may be made by cheque payable to the Old Ottawa East Community Association, by e-transfer to [OOECALPATappeal@gmail.com](mailto:OOECALPATappeal@gmail.com), or through GoFundMe Community Takes on City Hall (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/community-takes-on-city-hall>) organized by Heather Jarrett.

### Royal Oak, Cycos, Greek on Wheels likely to close down

## Province announces planned buyout of venerable OOE businesses for bridge replacement project

### STAFF, THE MAINSTREETER

*The Mainstreeter's Scott McAnsh brought readers up to date in our August issue on upcoming construction work slated for next year when the City commences redesign work on Main Street, Greenfield Road and Hawthorne Avenue. The work on Hawthorne included sewer and water infrastructure replacement and a west-bound bike lane on the northern side of the street bounded by concrete barriers.*

Further disruptions to businesses and residents on Hawthorne Avenue came to light on October 2<sup>nd</sup> when the

provincial Ministry of Transportation (MTO) advised City of Ottawa councillors of its plans to purchase three prominent and popular Old Ottawa East businesses and to use the land they sit on as a staging ground for replacing aging bridges across the Queensway.

The move by the MTO to acquire staging space for the rebuild of the Canal bridge, which is expected to start in 2025, would see the closure of the Royal Oak Pub at 221 Echo Drive; Greek on Wheels at 3 Main Street and Cycos's Cycling Shop at 5 Main Street.

MTO has told the City's

transportation committee that it also intends to acquire the properties currently home to two other Old Ottawa East commercial establishments, the Organic Salon at 58 Main Street, and the iconic building housing Gordon and McGovern Construction at 60 Main Street. The adjacent Ballantyne Park green space connecting the various commercial establishments will also be used for staging during the construction project.

The multi-million dollar project will see the replacement of four aging Queensway bridges between Metcalfe

Street and Main Street and will require three-day weekend closures of the highway as workers swap out the old bridges for the new ones.

The provincial agency has not finalized its expropriation plans, however, it did indicate to the City councillors that the use of the northern side of Hawthorne Avenue and the associated property purchases was its preferred option for the replacement work at the Canal Queensway bridge.



# FOLLOWING THE NEWS

*Residents investigate next steps*

## Appeal tribunal okays late night lights at Immaculata turf field

**ALEXANDRA GRUCA-MACAULAY**

*In our last issue, Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay reported on the appeals proceedings before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) at which the Ottawa Catholic School Board (OCSB) were challenging a City of Ottawa evening hours restriction on the use of the sports lights at the Immaculata High School turf field. The ruling of the LPAT was reserved following a marathon hearing which featured evidence presented to the tribunal by OOECA President Phyllis Odenbach Sutton and local resident, Hanya Soliman, a homeowner residing adjacent to the turf field.*

The OCSB has successfully appealed the City of Ottawa's attempt to place restrictions on the evening hours that the newly installed sports lights on the Immaculata turf field can be illuminated. By virtue of its August 22nd decision, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) has effectively ruled that the licensee of the field, the Ottawa Footy Sevens soccer organization, can continue to rent out the field for its own, or third party, use under the sports lights until 11PM seven days a week.

LPAT Chairperson Sharyn Vincent based her appeal decision on two main factors. First, while lighting fixtures do fall under site plan control approvals, the time limits on the use of the lighting falls under the jurisdiction of municipal by-law powers, and not

site-plan approvals. Second, the City of Ottawa's current by-laws allow lights to remain lit on city recreational fields until 11PM.

Nearby residents are now investigating possible next steps that could be taken to address the ongoing late night noise and light issues that have resulted from the change of use of the Immaculata field. One measure now being explored by Councillor Shawn Menard's office is a by-law that would see a sports fields' playing hours restricted based on the proximity of the field to neighbouring homes, as has been enacted in other Ontario municipalities.

Still not concluded is a review of the property tax-exempt status of the Immaculata playing field and parking lots. Schools that belong to publicly funded boards are exempt from paying property tax on their land as long as their property is used primarily for education, as defined by the *Education Act*. Since Immaculata's field and parking lots have been licensed to a private company for its commercial use, outside of school hours, the City has asked the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) to review the school's property tax-exempt status to ensure equity for property taxpayers. While City staff have now opted not to review the tax status of the property any further, Councillor Menard's office intends to challenge this matter further at City council level.



## New vision unveiled for Aberdeen Plaza at Lansdowne Park

**STAFF, THE MAINSTREETER**

*In our August issue, John Dance*

*reported that as we went to print Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group (OSEG) had undertaken a strategic review of the Lansdowne Park site but details had not yet been revealed and that public consultation hadn't occurred. Also, the article noted that Councillor Shawn Menard had proposed a vision for the future of Lansdowne that sought to "animate Aberdeen Square" plaza to the north of the Aberdeen Pavilion.*

On September 24th, the City announced that a three party agreement had been reached to rename the Aberdeen Square the "Casino Lac-Leamy Plaza at Lansdowne" and to eliminate car traffic, create infrastructure for events and add shaded areas in the open plaza space. The newly-created partnership between the City of Ottawa, OSEG and Casino Lac-Leamy will see \$250,000 in capital funds begin to flow by next Spring to turn the plaza into a multi-purpose area with performance spaces for local artists and musicians and added space for new events like a Christmas market and for popular community events like Ottawa Farmers' Market.

According to Councillor Menard, the newly-renamed plaza "...is what our neighbourhood has been asking for. The plaza has been a good spot for the farmers' market but without shady areas



**Councillor Shawn Menard**

or seating, it can be difficult for families to spend as much time there as they'd like, so I think we'll see far greater utilization of the area in the daytime once the work is completed." Additional details on OSEG's plans for the future of Lansdowne are expected when a report is provided to the City's Finance & Economic Development Committee, scheduled for November. To date, no further community consultation with residents surrounding the Lansdowne area has been undertaken or scheduled, an increasing concern for the local community associations including the Old Ottawa East Community Association.

## Public meeting announced for Springhurst playground

**STAFF, THE MAINSTREETER**

*We were pleased to announce a well-deserved community award for Rick Burrowes and his Springhurst Park Action (SPA) initiative in our August issue. SPA is continuing to seek public input as to the future needs of the neighbourhood, even as it works to continue improving the features of the park already in place.*

In mid-September, the City provided Burrowes and the local community association with two new design

options for replacement of the children's playground at Springhurst Park. A public meeting has been convened for Thursday, October 17th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Old Town Hall to review the two proposed plan options – a nature theme and a nautical theme – and to allow residents and particularly those residing nearby the park the chance to ask questions and provide comments to members of the City's parks and recreation staff who will be on hand at the meeting.



# FOLLOWING THE NEWS



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

The Flora Footbridge has made Glebe Collegiate much closer for Old Ottawa East students, from left, Kenzie Girgis, Clara Linder, Hannah Laughlin, Nina Torres and Alice Calvert.

## Let 8,000 daffodils bloom: Flora Footbridge blossoms

JOHN DANCE

Travelling time halved and 8,000 daffodils are only two of the benefits of the new Flora Footbridge.

In terms of the former, Clara Linder of Old Ottawa East has found that her cycling time to Glebe Collegiate is now about half of what it was before the bridge was built and, even more important, her commute is much safer because she no longer has to deal with the traffic on the Pretoria Bridge coming from all directions.

And fellow student Alice Calvert says she is getting more sleep and is more productive, now that she has the bridge route to get to school. "It's fast and safer," adds classmate Kenzie Girgis about the advantages of the new bridge.

### *Use exceeds forecast*

Use of the new footbridge continues to far exceed what was forecast in the bridge's environmental assessment(EA). The EA estimated that there would be 2,100 trips per day, but data released by the city show that in July there was an average of 3,152 trips per day - 50 percent more than forecast. The number of cyclist trips is somewhat greater than the number of pedestrian trips (57/43 split). When there have been Ottawa Redblacks games, daily use of the bridge has been about 20 percent greater than the average daily use.

Meanwhile, the City of Ottawa is putting the final touches on the bridge, including minor landscape work, planting of 8,000 daffodils, and some

tree relocation work. In addition, curb reinstatements and catch basin and sewer repairs are to be completed on Colonel By Drive.

During the Fall, two "public art" benches and commemorative plaques will be installed, marking the opening of the bridge and paying tribute to Flora MacDonald for whom the bridge is named.

### *The bright lights*

Dimming components for the bridge lights were installed by early October and the final light levels are expected to be determined in agreement with the National Capital Commission. Some residents consider the lights on the structure to be too bright, but as of this writing it is not known if the lighting levels will be diminished.

"Minor deficiency work will also be completed in the coming months," says Alain Gonthier, the City's Director of Infrastructure Services.

"Some of these deficiencies include

asphalt grinding to reduce roadway water pooling, planting replacement plants and pieces of sod that have died and remain under warranty, and, repairing potholes on roadways resulting from construction. Deficiencies are normal and expected as part of the construction process."

### *Love locks*

In response to a question about how many love locks have already been cut off the new bridge, Gonthier simply responded, "The Flora Footbridge is designed to deter the attachment of locks. The pickets are designed to extend vertically, so that when locks are attached, they slide downwards, out of the view of bridge-goers."

Asked about the City's assessment of the bridge, Gonthier said, "The City [has] received very positive feedback from pedestrians, cyclists and local residents. The City is very proud of this beautiful new landmark that connects Old Ottawa East to Lansdowne Park and the Glebe."





Old Ottawa South resident Dan Proulx biked to the Lees station.



JOHN DANCE PHOTOS

The Webster and Dostie families get ready for their first ride on the LRT.

# LRT rolls at long last !

*Continued from Page 1*

soaring roof and a bright and airy interior. On opening day, noted cellist Bryan Cheng filled the station with glorious music, while artist Amy Thompson explained the public art that she created for the station.

At each station, public art was commissioned, and Thompson's art at Lees portrays "a story of transformation,"

as she puts it. The transformation begins with the Algonquin people living along the banks of the Kitchi Sibi River, and moves along with the founding of Ottawa, and agricultural and industrial activity, all of which is represented in the images on the westbound platform's glass panels. In addition, on the eastern wall beside the adjoining multi-use pathway, Thompson has created a sculptural

sequence of a bird in flight.

A bonus that comes with the LRT is the new #55 OC Transpo bus route which provides regular service along Lees Avenue and Main Street and, heading east, to the hospital campus of Smyth Road and, heading west, to the Civic campus of the Ottawa Hospital and then all the way to Bayshore.

Another benefit of the new system is a parallel multi-use pathway which provides a quick route to the main campus of uOttawa and to the Laurier Avenue bike lanes.

The aggravation of the six-year closure of the Lees Avenue ramp to Highway 417 eastbound will come to an end as City staff have confirmed that the ramp will be opened the week after Thanksgiving, subject to weather. The announcement could not have come soon enough for community association President Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton, echoing the sentiments of many residents of Old Ottawa East: "I'm waiting with bated breath to see if the ramp will actually reopen after Thanksgiving. Six and a half years of detouring was a very long time."

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*We asked the Ottawa Centre candidates...*

# Why should residents of Old Ottawa East vote for you?



**CAROL CLEMENHAGEN**  
**CONSERVATIVE PARTY**

For my first year at Carleton University, at old St. Pat's College on Echo Drive, I lived in the women's residence, a house on Hawthorne Street. Some of the neighbours still remember the hijinks!

Old Ottawa East has changed a lot, with new developments, new streetscapes. What hasn't changed is its strong sense of community.

I share voters' concerns about today's cost of living, its affordability in the future and disappointment in the incumbent Liberal MP's absence on local issues.

I want to speak up for Ottawa Centre, bringing our diverse community into the priorities that are set and choices made on federal spending and taxation proposals.

I am alarmed by the Liberal Government's lack of fiscal responsibility, certain to negatively impact debt burdens for future generations and our ability to fund complex public priorities like health care and climate action or to cope with the shocks of an economic downturn.

The Liberal Government, with passive, sloppy management, produced 4 successive deficits, this year's topping \$20 billion. Federal debt is more than \$700 billion and growing.

In the month of August alone, journalist David Akin counted 4,545 new Liberal spending commitments totaling \$12.8 billion.

I want Ottawa Centre to have a strong, representative voice in a competent and caring Conservative government. One that advances health care and climate action, that fosters a strong economy investing in basic research and infrastructure. A government that puts more money in people's pockets so that they can get ahead.

My focus is representing Ottawa Centre priorities. A top local one is infrastructure, with its cross-cutting significance for economic development, health care, climate action, transit, roads, housing, recreation.

With a federal and a provincial government burdened by Liberal deficits and debt, securing stable, predictable funding via federal/provincial/municipal collaboration for local priorities is critical.

A new Conservative government will fund all infrastructure projects approved to date and move forward quickly on others with provincial and municipal partners.

Residents too often now feel their concerns are discounted or deflected. The incumbent Liberal MP has been absent, silent or unhelpful on local issues like the Château Laurier addition, Tunney's Pasture development, LeBreton Flats, new Civic campus, Ottawa Hospital, National Capital Commission capabilities.

I will seek out residents' input, meeting frequently with local community associations to engage Ottawa Centre's broad views on issues.



**COREEN CORCORAN**  
**LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CANADA**

I discovered the Libertarian Party of Canada a few years ago after I became disillusioned by the lack of accountability within our governments and a lack of respect for taxpayer dollars. Billions of dollars disappear from a department with little acknowledgment of the lapses in governance to ensure proper accounting of our money. We continue to sell arms to questionable regimes like Saudi Arabia, while turning our backs on oil and gas workers because they are not in what we now consider favourable industries. Partisan politics has reached a peak, and there is no respectful dialogue between opposing sides.

I see Canada as a family, albeit a dysfunctional one, that needs a vision to hold us together. This has been lacking for decades and has led us to be very narrow-minded in how we support the issues. We come together when national sporting events unite us, but our day-to-day rarely extends beyond the end of our street. Urban and rural residents have completely different needs, and it is unfortunate that one-size-fits-all decisions are made by people who will never see the impact on individuals.

The Libertarian Party of Canada founds its policy on respect -- respect for the person and property of our fellow citizen. We believe that if government's

role were limited to upholding this respect, our natural tendency to fulfill our needs at the least cost would ensure an ever-increasing quality of life, and the satisfaction derived from helping others would ensure social harmony. Ask yourself this question when a new program or initiative is proposed -- is the government the best option for providing this service? The federal government should only be involved with settling disputes among individuals where private, voluntary arbitration has failed, providing protection from criminals, and providing protection from foreign invaders. Let the provincial and municipal governments have more control over their jurisdictions because they understand the needs of their residents better than a centralized government in Ottawa.

This will be my fourth time running for office. My day job is Senior Business Intelligence Analyst, and I have worked in the private and public sectors both as an employee and a consultant. I pride myself on being incredibly reliable, resilient, and resourceful and can accomplish amazing results with limited support. I enjoy traveling, cooking, gardening, and golfing. I am a Redblacks season ticket holder and share my home with my husband and our dog and cat.



**ANGELA KELLER-HERZOG**  
**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA**

My platform: Healthy People. Healthy Economy. Healthy Planet.

I've lived in Ottawa Centre, on unceded Algonquin, Anishinabek territory, for over 30 years. I never considered running for office until, on December 18th, 2018, the Liberals announced an additional \$1.6 billion subsidy for the oil & gas industry. This was well after the Kinder Morgan \$4.5 billion pipeline purchase decision and the release of the IPCC report. I was appalled. Fighting the climate crisis means dramatically reducing emissions, not expanding fossil fuel production.

We need action. A pivot to a clean-energy, low-carbon economy (with lots of new jobs) is critical for the health of the planet and the health of the economy.

The old parties are simply incapable of turning the ship; too beholden to oil & gas and financial sector interests, and too embedded in the very small Canadian corporate elite. Elizabeth May will not lose sight of the Paris target and break her promises, and neither will I.

I'm an active member of the community and have a track record of getting things done. I've served on the Glebe Community Association Board since 2013; co-chaired the Ottawa-wide CAFES (Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability); co-founded Ottawa Centre Refugee Action, and led the Glashan Schoolyard Greening project. On the Hill I would continue to advocate for local issues, notably:

- Managing intensification to create livable communities with affordable housing.
- Increasing urban canopy coverage to 40%.
- Investing in comprehensive public transit and cycling infrastructure.
- Keeping the Ottawa River free of nuclear waste.
- Eliminating single use plastics with ready alternatives.

As an economist, I aim to address the wealth disparity by ensuring the highest corporate and private income earners pay their fair share of taxes to improve the well-being of all Canadians. Greens support a guaranteed livable income and many other social and health policies designed to end systemic poverty and quality of life issues, such as nationalized pharmacare, free post-secondary education, affordable and energy efficient housing, and indigenous reconciliation. Social justice, economic justice, and environmental justice are inextricably linked.

In this election you have an important choice to make. Not a choice between political parties, but a choice between futures -- for us, for our children, and for our planet. The climate crisis demands greater political courage, leadership, and will than the old parties have shown, but there is a solution.

It's time to step up. We can do this together.

## **CORRECTION**

*In our August issue, our story at page 4 on the Main/Hawthorne/Greenfield road redesign and construction made several erroneous references in the sub-headline and the body of the article to "Greenbank Road". Of course, Greenbank Road does not extend anywhere near Main Street and Hawthorne Avenue, but Greenfield Avenue does! We got it wrong, as one reader was quick to point out in a letter to the editor.*





CATHERINE MCKENNA  
LIBERAL PARTY

A vote for me is a vote for a candidate who listens and delivers on the issues that matter most to you.

Residents in Ottawa Centre consistently tell me the environment is among their top priorities. In 2017, the federal government invested in the second phase of LRT, to grow clean public transit.

New fund to increase safe pedestrian and cycling infrastructure - on NCC multi-use pathways and our streets - including the West Rideau River Pathway, from Lees Avenue to Carleton University.

During the 2015 election, Old Ottawa East residents stressed that they wanted a midtown footbridge. Today, the Flora crossing is a reality, with average daily crossings exceeding 3,000.

As well, four new docks have been installed to improve access to the Rideau Canal. CityFolk, at Lansdowne Park, has received increased federal funding.

In the last election, I committed to fight for federal funding for a new central library for our city. Today, we have a partnership between the Ottawa Library and Library and Archives Canada to build a world class library, in Ottawa Centre.

Also, the Ontario tree planting program - cut by the Ford government - was saved this year.

And there is a national plan to eliminate single-use plastics.

Since 2015, \$216 million in federal funding has been invested in new affordable housing in Ottawa Centre, creating new homes for more than 1,600 people.

In the last four years, federal support for student jobs in Ottawa Centre has doubled and Saint Paul University received funding to support some of their promising students and researchers.

For this election, my local platform has three themes: the greenest capital

city, prosperity and job creation, and inclusion, to ensure our city remains welcoming to all.

If re-elected, I'll work with government and housing sector partners to accelerate progress on more affordable housing.

I'll champion more investments for safe pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure; increasing the tree canopy in Ottawa Centre to make our summers cooler and easier to bear, especially for seniors; and for our city to have more electric buses.

I will also work with the private sector to make Ottawa a hub for green tech innovation and to create more good jobs.

If you honour me with your vote on Monday, October 21st, I'll continue to give everything I've got to represent your values and priorities - and deliver results - as the Member of Parliament for Ottawa Centre.



MERYLEE SEVILLA  
PEOPLE'S PARTY OF CANADA

I am seeking the support and ballots of Old Ottawa East because I am that candidate that will fight tooth and nail for the issues that matters. As a taxpayer, homeowner, woman of visible minority and a member of the LGBTQ community - I am relatable on all the levels that some politicians and political parties have lost touch with.

As someone who has worked with the NDP, believed in the Conservatives, and questioned the Liberals, the People's Party of Canada takes the values these parties once stood for and fights to bring them back to Canadians. I want to be the change that I know Ottawa-Centre and Canadians want. From taking their concerns and being their advocate and voice, I want Old Ottawa East and surrounding areas to know that I would work with all levels of government

to ensure there is accountability and transparency. For so long, I placed my trust and confidence in the MP's and government that we as a democratic nation voted for; however, this last year has shown that our government has taken a shift towards catering to the highest investors and bidders. That is not democracy and that is not the government I remember and believed in growing up.

I want to bring back the values of a democratic system, a government that does not bend to corporate monopolies. Ottawa Centre, is a riding that has a population of over 118,000 residents, a riding with many NDP supporters. I understand that it may seem daunting to vote for the unknown, however, what the People's Party of Canada represents and stands for are the same values and principles that we as a nation are taught to stand for. The unfortunate thing is these values have been lost over time because our present government thinks it's okay to jeopardize these for a few millions or billions and, of course, votes.

A ballot cast for me this upcoming election is a ballot cast for representation, for democracy and for Canadians who are tired of being left behind. As the People's Party of Canada candidate, I promise to uphold the values of my constituents, but also our fellow Canadians. Freedom, fairness, respect and responsibility - these are values for which I am fighting for this election and for all!



EMILIE TAMAN  
NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The status quo isn't working. Two Canadian billionaires have amassed as much wealth as 11 million other Canadians combined, while almost a million of our fellow citizens rely on

foodbanks. Climate scientists say we have 11 years to avert climate catastrophe, but we continue to approve new pipelines and ramp up tar sands production.

I'm running for the NDP because I'm sick of governments that sell high and deliver low, that make lofty promises but fail to deliver. I've dedicated my life to public service, both as a federal prosecutor and as a former member of the Old Ottawa South Community Association board. I will bring this same dedication to Parliament if given the honour to serve as your next MP.

#### Real Action on Climate Change

Climate leaders don't buy pipelines, especially the same week as Parliament declares a climate emergency. But that's exactly what the Liberals did.

An NDP government will treat the climate crisis with the urgency it deserves. We'll ask big polluters and the ultra-rich to pay for a massive expansion of renewable energy, with net carbon-free electricity by 2030. We'll embark on the largest home retrofit program Canada has ever seen, and invest in fare-free, electric public transit.

In making these changes, we will leave no one behind. Oil and gas workers are not our enemy, climate change is our enemy. That's why we'll implement a just transition for workers in high emitting industries, equipping them with the skills they need to help build a green economy.

#### Housing is a Right

It's time to stop treating housing as a commodity and start treating it as a basic human need. An NDP government will build half a million affordable homes, including co-ops and other non-market options. We'll also crack down on money laundering and speculation that are causing housing prices to skyrocket.

#### Making every vote count

We are committed to electoral reform, where no one's vote is wasted. Our Prime Minister promised that 2015 would be "the last election under first past the post" but broke his promise when the committee gave him an answer he didn't want.

I've heard from so many who feel betrayed by the Liberals' broken promise on electoral reform - it's one of the issues that motivated me to run in this election.

You can rely on us to never stop fighting for a more proportional voting system where your vote always counts.

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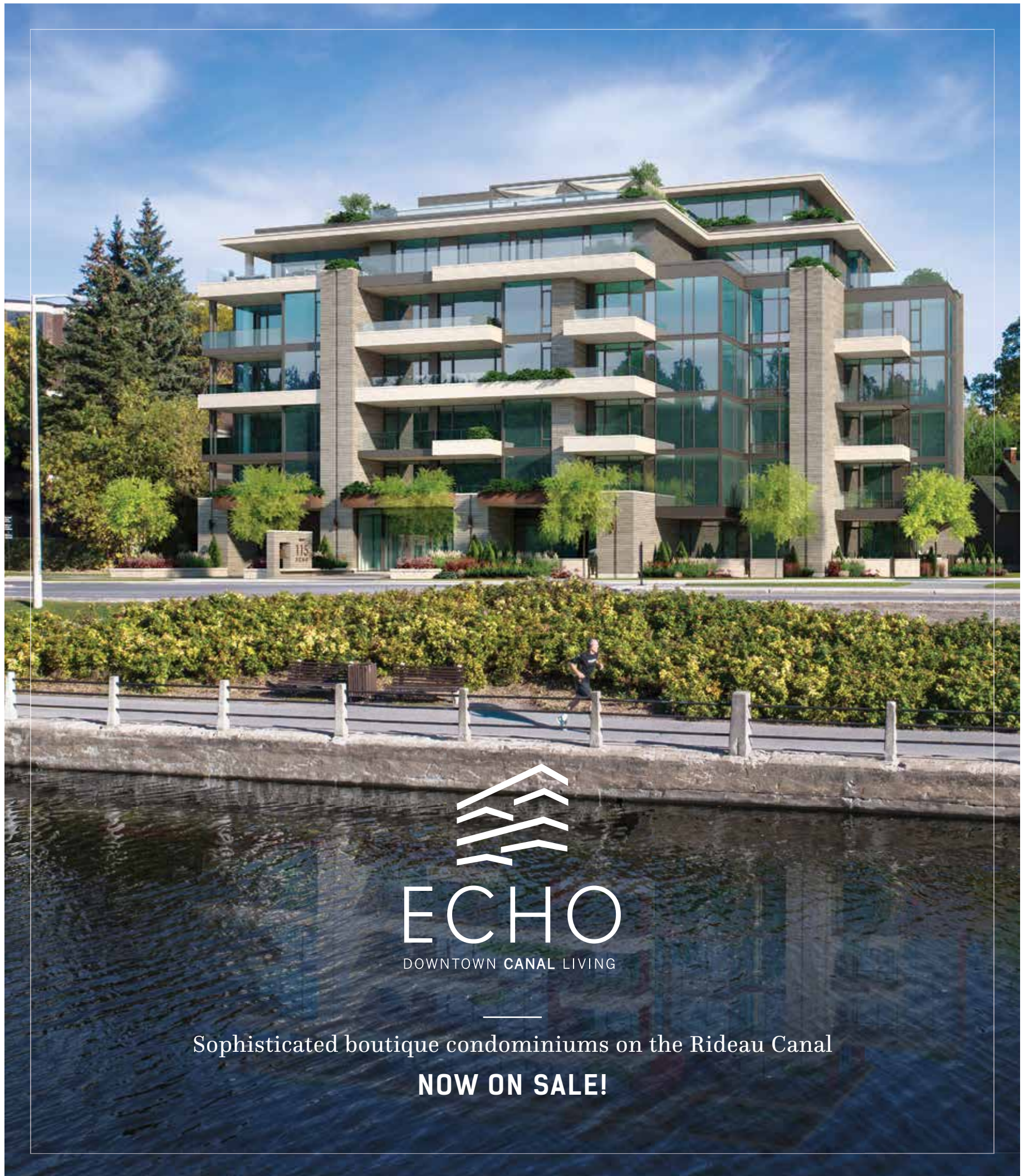
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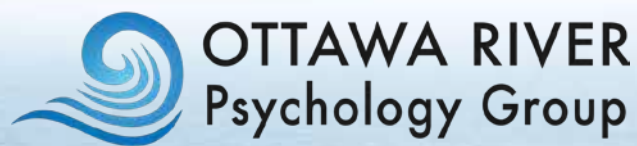
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# WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE?



SUPPLIED PHOTO

## Preparing to harvest for the cold season

**GENEVIÈVE GAZAILLE**

The Farmer's Market on Main Street will close its season on Saturday, October 26th. So you still have plenty of time to fill up on good things.

For many people, the arrival of the fall and the Thanksgiving weekend are often an opportunity to return to the kitchen to prepare some serious comfort food. And what better time to do it than at the peak of the harvest season! Canning, freezing, and dehydration are all processes that allow us to keep our fresh food longer, especially as winter approaches.

But some fruits and vegetables specific to our climate are particularly well preserved simply when they are placed in a cool and dark place. Examples include apples and root vegetables, such as potatoes, carrots, turnips and squash of all kinds.

In addition, with Halloween fast approaching, remember that there are various types of pumpkins, several of them being edible. Rather than send yours to the compost bin on November 1st, why not find original pumpkin recipes and prepare them with the help of the kids? Beyond the traditional roasted

pumpkin seeds, the pumpkin pulp makes an excellent soup, ketchup, crème brûlée, risotto, and even pesto!

### *In their fields until December*

Even though most of the city's farmers' markets are closing in October and November, local market gardeners are not resting for the holidays. Once all the vegetables are harvested, they must prepare their land for the winter, and this, at a time of year when the number of hours of daylight decreases. It is therefore not the time to rest. Most producers take a well-deserved break in December, only

to return to work sometime in January or February, planning the next season, selecting the seeds that will be planted and starting to promote their breeding program baskets in the case of producers who offer a community-supported agriculture program.

The job of the farmer is not one that offers much rest. As past generations have done on Thanksgiving, enjoy your next meal and thank all those who allow you to eat well - and raise your glass to their health!

## Se préparer pour la saison froide

**GENEVIÈVE GAZAILLE**

Le Marché fermier de la rue Main clôturera sa saison le samedi 26 octobre. Il vous reste donc suffisamment de temps pour faire le plein de bonnes choses.

Pour plusieurs personnes, l'arrivée de l'automne et la fin de semaine de l'Action de grâce constituent souvent une occasion de retourner vers la cuisine pour mitonner des plats réconfortants. Et quel meilleur moment pour le faire qu'à l'apogée de la saison des récoltes! Mise en conserve, congélation, déshydratation, plusieurs procédés nous permettent de conserver nos aliments frais plus longtemps, notamment à l'approche de l'hiver.

Mais certains fruits et légumes propres à notre climat se conservent particulièrement bien tel quel s'ils sont placés dans un endroit frais et sombre. Pensons entre autres aux pommes et aux

légumes-racines tels que pommes de terre, carottes, navets et courges en tous genres.

Par ailleurs, avec l'Halloween qui approche, rappelons qu'il existe plusieurs variétés de citrouilles, plusieurs étant comestibles. Plutôt que d'envoyer la vôtre au bac à compost le 1<sup>er</sup> novembre, pourquoi ne pas trouver des recettes originales et les préparer avec les enfants? Au-delà des traditionnelles graines rôties, la chaire de citrouille fait un excellent potage, du ketchup, de la crème brûlée, du risotto, et même, du pesto!

### *Dans les champs jusqu'en décembre*

Même si la plupart des marchés fermiers de la ville ferment leurs portes en octobre et novembre, les maraîchers locaux ne tombent pas pour autant en vacances. Une fois tous les légumes

récoltés, ils doivent préparer leur terre pour l'hiver, et ce, à une période de l'année où le nombre d'heures de clarté diminue de jour en jour. Il n'est donc pas temps de se reposer. La plupart des producteurs prennent une pause bien méritée à partir de décembre, seulement pour reprendre le travail quelque temps en janvier ou février, question de planifier la saison suivante, de sélectionner les semences qui seront plantées et d'entamer la promotion de leurs programmes de paniers dans le cas des producteurs qui offrent un programme d'agriculture soutenue par la communauté.

Le métier d'agriculteur n'en est pas un de tout repos. Comme le faisaient les générations passées à l'occasion de l'Action de grâce, profitez de votre prochain repas pour remercier tous ceux qui vous permettent de bien manger et levez votre verre à leur santé.





# OUR NEIGHBOURS

## Cancer survivor credits the neighbourhood for keeping him alive



*Will Bulmer*

### BONNIE WEPPLER

"Mine is a pretty unique story about how I arrived in Ottawa. In my second year of Political Science at Queens University, I was given a cancer diagnosis. I needed to start full-time treatment immediately at The Ottawa Hospital", recalls Old Ottawa East resident, Will Bulmer.

Bulmer's cancer treatment was

successful, and he is healthy today; in all, he spent close to four years, off-and-on, in the hospital.

"I can't say enough good things about the world-class health care available in Ottawa. The staff, especially at The Cancer Clinic of the Ottawa General Hospital, are amazing!"

Movember, best known for the

moustache fundraising campaign in November, addresses men's health, mental health and suicide prevention. Bulmer is a long-time supporter and talks openly about his health while advocating to break down the barriers that masculinity can create and negatively impact the health of the men in our lives, and their families.

Born and raised in Perth, Bulmer is passionate about his Métis heritage. While he was raised remote from the culture, he has tried to learn michif and he involves himself in the local Metis community.

Bulmer has been an OOE resident for nine years. "The sense of community really make this neighbourhood and I couldn't imagine calling any place else in Ottawa home. This is a neighbourhood where people know their neighbours and there is a sense of community that literally kept me alive," he admits.

He spent three years as the Special Assistant to Mayor Jim Watson followed by a one-year position with Yasir Naqvi, the former Ottawa Centre Member of Provincial Parliament who was defeated in the 2018 election.

Bulmer is now employed by Canopy Growth, working on international government relations representing Canada and Canopy in the emerging global market.

"Different governments are looking to Canada and how we have moved forward with the legalization of medical & adult-use cannabis. It's fascinating to be at the forefront of breaking down the prohibition of something. This is probably one of the largest policy shifts that I will see in my lifetime; there's so much to consider: public health, municipal impacts, policing policies, social justice and international trade regulations."

He can regularly be found at Cafe Qui Pense and The Green Door. He can't say enough about Kathleen at Main Haircutters: "I refuse to get my hair cut anywhere else. Getting sick and losing my hair numerous times was difficult but Kathleen has been so good to me over the years."

Bulmer aspires to build a career in community building. He loves public service - the positivity inherent in building communities and helping people - and decries partisan politics when building up our neighborhoods and the people in them. He talks about the gaps between the older and younger generations and how they might be addressed so even the most disenfranchised voices in our community are heard in a meaningful way.

## Joel Harden

MPP, Ottawa Centre

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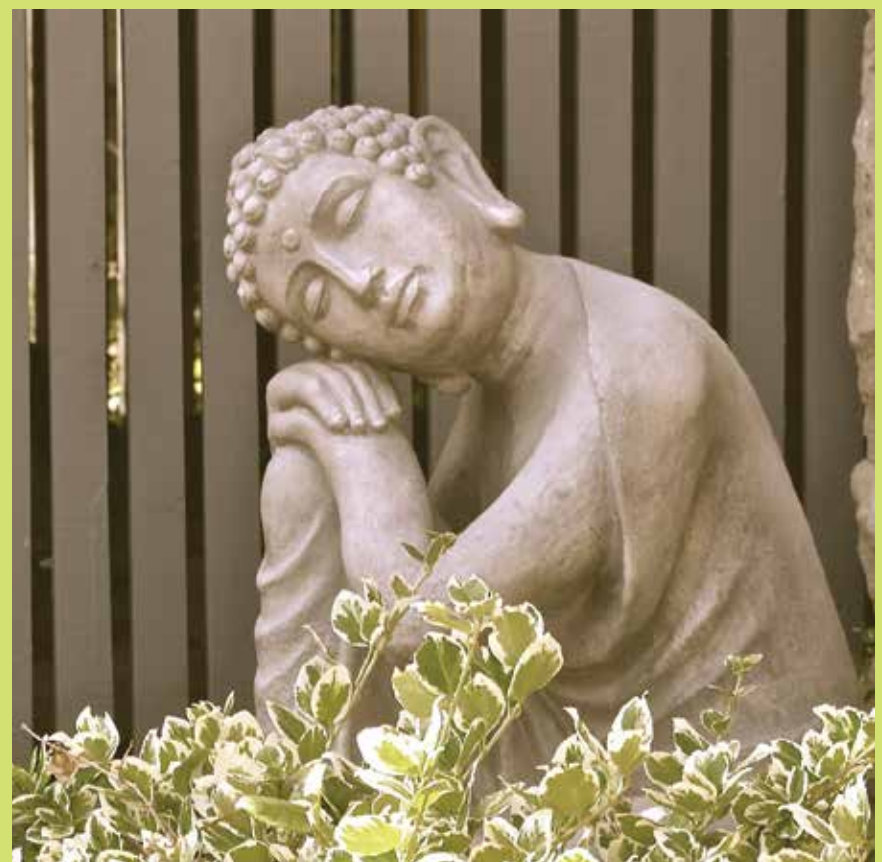


## Peter Fowler's OOE Focus

*Our intrepid photo editor took recent advantage of the bright and sunny skies to capture a wide array of photo images that capture the essence of Old Ottawa East. Fowler's delightful camera work proves that a collection of his neighbourhood photos is indeed worth several thousand words.*











## City Building

- The Confederation Line of our O-Train Light Rail Transit (LRT) system opened to the public on September 14. It was the busiest LRT system on day one in North America
- Construction for Stage 2 LRT is underway, bringing rail farther east, west and south
- The Flora Footbridge, which connects the communities of Old Ottawa East and the Glebe, as well as Lansdowne, was completed ahead of schedule, under budget and officially opened to the public in June
- An additional \$9.8 million being invested into roads, bike lanes, sidewalks and City facilities in 2019 to bring the total road and infrastructure budget to \$128.5 million



## Community

- No-charge OC Transpo service for seniors has been extended to include Sundays in addition to Wednesdays
- Started to pilot new school bus stop-arm cameras with the Ottawa Police Service to catch dangerous drivers and keep children safe in school and residential areas
- Over 400 new affordable housing units have been approved to be built since the beginning of the new 2018-2022 mandate
- 6 new Red Light Cameras will be installed by the end of 2019, for a total of 60
- Started a comprehensive review of the City's Tree By-Laws with an objective to reduce urban tree loss

## Affordability and Economic Development

- Amazon fulfilment centre now employing over 600 residents in the east end
- Ottawa's first soundstage campus and creative hub being built in Nepean, creating up to 500 new jobs and generating \$40 million in economic activity in the first few years
- Reduced patio permit fees by 50% to help local businesses deal with rising costs
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# ART BEAT



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*A finger on the pulse of  
the arts in OOE*

## OOE ARTIST FEATURE: CLAUDE LATOUR, ALGONQUIN VISUAL ARTIST

When I mentioned to artist Claude Latour the slight incongruity of me writing about an Old Ottawa East (OOE) artist who is readying a public art installation destined for the Glebe side of the Flora Footbridge, he pointed out that neighbourhoods such as the Glebe and OOE are all located on unceded Algonquin lands and that such divisions, to him, are meaningless. Meegwetch (thank you) Mr. Latour. I am still blushing.

Latour is a status Algonquin. His mother is Algonquin of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation. His grandmother, Marguerite Brascoupe Budge, was a traditional healer and legendary craftsperson. He spends nearly seven months of the year in OOE, and the rest on Galiano Island, British Columbia, where he does most of his creative work. He graduated from Ottawa University's Bachelor of Fine Arts program and also attended the Banff Centre for the Arts.

His public art installation titled Mōnz (Algonquin for moose) is a bench in the form of a stylized antler. "It will sit on the west side of the canal by the footbridge, where it once was marshland," Latour says. "The construction of the canal displaced the First Nations people, the animals, and the plant life. The moose antler is a beacon to help us remember the history of the Algonquin territory that was once here, undisturbed."

Latour points out that when you engage in the process of making public artwork, it means dealing with different levels of government. "Its finalization and launch are in a bit of limbo right now and at the mercy of the process," he says. "The



CLAUDE LATOUR PHOTOS

**Makwa's Horizon, one of Claude Latour's 2019 mixed media pieces, 34" x 27 3/4" on photo paper, was part of Latour's recent Ottawa exhibit entitled Makwa's Return. The show was an exciting new body of original mixed media works. If you wish to contact the artist directly, he may be reached at 819-210-5811 or by email at shingosirising@gmail.com.**



**The Mōnz bench in progress on September 11, 2019 at Fluxworx.**

process sometimes feels like a game of Snakes and Ladders."

Issues such as pricing, location, and materials have an impact on the artist's design. "For one thing, you need an engineer's stamp," Latour says. "They look at the materials used, weights, sizes, pounds per square inch, and wind velocity. You need insurance. And a certain percentage of the budget covers the cost of fabrication."

The Mōnz commission is part of a City of Ottawa public art mentorship program. Latour has been collaborating with a company called Fluxworx to produce the bench in steel and oakwood.

"The original design called for sonotube footings, but because of its weight, the engineers now want to place it on a concrete slab," Latour says. "But I had envisioned the colour of the bench (the shade of a sundried antler) to compliment the bone white of the footbridge and contrast the deeper colour of the grass. We are now looking at dyeing the pad."

The piece's original location allowed people to view both the lily pond and the canal from the bench facing east. But it has since been relocated because the slope was too steep for safe accessibility. Latour is now working with the City and the

National Capital Commission to get the angle of the pad right in its new setting.

Latour has created public artworks before. He has a piece in Canadensis, in the Experimental Farm. "Mitigomij" or Red Oak is a sculpture of a man giving thanks to a nearby 152-year-old oak tree. "For the Algonquin people, oak trees have medicinal properties. I used the form of a stick man to evoke the figures that adorn the sacred Algonquin Wampum belts."

But even within the Algonquin Nation an artist can run into roadblocks. "At first, when I consulted my elders about 'Mitigomij,' I felt like I was being subjected to censorship," Latour says. "My original name for the piece was 'Red Man and Red Oak,' but some of the elders were uncomfortable with that because the term Red Man was politically incorrect."

"I debated the issue in regards to free speech. I felt that some of the elders did not understand the world of contemporary art. They also questioned the origin of my sculpture's wood and advised me not to carve a face or use the horsehair I had planned to include. On deeper reflection, I respected their wishes; some were traditionalists for whom I have the highest respect."

In addition to considering the spiritual

aspects of the Mōnz design, Latour also made a personal choice with the moose antler. "My grandmother made moccasins, dolls, and jackets and sold them to the Snow Goose Gallery on Sparks Street. Her advice to me was that you can always 'sell' a moose! This piece represents my family first and the Algonquin Nation."

He also acknowledges that Mōnz will sit on a World Heritage Site. "It is an honour to have a permanent work of art on such a



**Mitigomij (Red Oak) 2017 by Claude Latour, Canadensis Garden, Beyond the Edge: Artists' Gardens at the Experimental Farm.**

location." The bench will include a bronze plaque explaining its name, the design, and the history of the site. It will also have a dedication to Latour's first-born grandson Yannick Theodore Van Die, known forever to him as "Pikan," born this summer, July 16.

Even with the challenges Latour has faced in creating Mōnz, he says it has been worth it. "You have to ride the rough waters to get to your destination," he says. "In Ottawa I see the wonderful renaissance of a city... and the public artist's role is to be an ambassador for the city. This is a very exciting time for me as an artist, and as a person from Ottawa."

The bench was scheduled to be installed on the west side of the Flora Footbridge during the first week of October.

*Author Tanis Browning-Shelp (<http://www.browning-shelp.com>) pens her Maryn O'Brien Young Adult Fiction series, published by Dog-Eared Books, from her home in Old Ottawa East. Contact [tanis@browning-shelp.com](mailto:tanis@browning-shelp.com) if you have information about artists or art events that you believe would enrich our community members' lives.*



# BOOK REVIEW

## OOE Arts Calendar

### The Green Door Restaurant Exhibitions

The Green Door restaurant has engaged photographer/publisher Jake Morrison for a year, from September 2019, to curate photography for the walls in the restaurant's north room. A new show will go up every three months. *From September through November, check out feature artist David Barbour and his recent work entitled "10 minutes ago." You can see the evolution of his work on his website [www.davidbarbour.com](http://www.davidbarbour.com) or read the article on Barbour and his work on page 27 of the August 2019 issue of The Mainstreeter.*

### John Royle's Home Concerts

**Friday, Oct 18, 7:30 pm - Cello and Kamanche**, Raphael Weinroth-Browne (cello) and Shahriyar Jamshidi (kamanche). For details see <https://kamancello.com>

**Tuesday, Oct 29, 7:30 pm - Violin and Piano**, Essie Liu (violin) and Ruby Jen (piano). A program of classical music.

**Friday, Nov 29, 7:30 pm - Soprano, Piano, and Violin**, Ania Hejnar (soprano), Judy Ginsburg (piano), and Jean-Hee Lee (violin). A program of classical music. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAmFppevy2Y> for a sample of Ania's singing. Ania is known by football and hockey fans in Ottawa as she frequently sings the National Anthem at the games.

*To inquire about attending John Royle's home concerts (he lives near Brantwood Park), contact him by email at [john.royle.1@gmail.com](mailto:john.royle.1@gmail.com). Admission to all concerts is by donation (\$20 recommended minimum), but you need to reserve a seat to attend.*

### Ottawa Dance Directive / Series Dance 10

For more information about ODD BOX Season 2019-2020 see [www.odd-cdc.org](http://www.odd-cdc.org) or Facebook ODD/CDC.

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*ODD is partnering with the Qu'ART Queer Arts Collective to present SD10 #36 as part of the Qu'ART meta-festival, a year-long collaborative program that broadens LGBTQ2+/ queer artistic activity and encourages intergenerational knowledge-sharing within our communities.*

### Of Espionage and Murder:

## Local author Ian McKercher's new novel, Carbon Copy, set to launch

PETER TOBIN

Local author Ian McKercher will launch his third novel, *Carbon Copy*, later this month. A retired Glebe Collegiate English teacher, McKercher is a long-time Glebe resident and former resident of Old Ottawa South.

Frances McFadden, a secretary in the brand-new Bank of Canada was the protagonist of his first novel, *The Underling* (2012), set in Ottawa between 1934 and 1939. Frances was hired as a seventeen year old and she and the Bank grew into maturity on parallel tracks as Canada reeled out of the Great Depression and into WW II.

The success of the first novel and the urging of fans of young Frances McFadden encouraged McKercher to write a sequel, *The Incrementalist* (2016), which carries the characters and narrative forward to the fall of France in June 1940.

McKercher is of the "show, don't tell" school of fiction writing and uses dialogue extensively as a means to reveal plot and character. The novels give life to Canadian history

in a way that is informative but never pedantic.

While many of the characters in *Carbon Copy* will be familiar to readers of the earlier books, the genre switches to espionage and murder in Ottawa during February of 1942. Miss McFadden is about to leave on holiday when she is confronted by Military Intelligence with charges of espionage and treason. Seeking to prove her innocence, she stumbles into a world of traitors and deceivers who don't shy from murder to cover their tracks.

*Carbon Copy* will be in local bookstores (including Singing Pebble Books on Main Street) after Thanksgiving and will be officially launched Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the hall at Glebe-St. James United Church (First Avenue at Lyon Street). All are welcome. Signed first editions will be available for \$25 cash or cheque.

*Peter Tobin is a resident of The Corners on Main in Old Ottawa East and is a regular volunteer contributor to The Mainstreeter.*

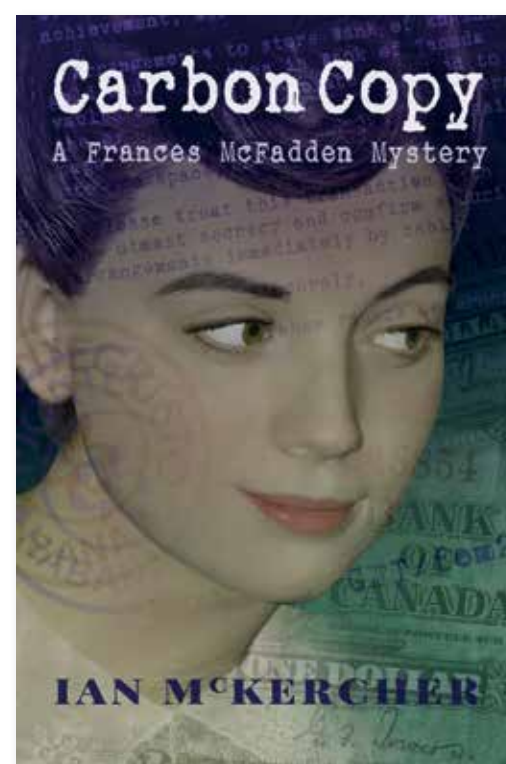
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# POLITICAL PAGE

## PHYLLIS ODENBACH SUTTON PRESIDENT, OLD OTTAWA EAST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

INFO@OTTAWAEAST.CA



## OLD OTTAWA EAST COMMUNITY UPDATE FALL EDITION

My last column provided a summary of the City of Ottawa's planning decisions related to Block 2B at Greystone Village (to be located south of the convent and east of the Greystone Village presentation centre). Following the July 10 council decision, the community association filed appeals with the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal (LPAT). A Special General Meeting was held on August 27, where unanimous approval was provided to deploy \$5,000 of community association funds to support the appeals. A broader fundraising initiative has been launched. This will be a costly exercise; the community association would welcome the assistance of local lawyers and/or planners for the appeal efforts.

Construction activity will soon be commencing on Block 2A, the six-storey building on Main Street, south of the Corners on Main. Demolition of the presentation centre will be the first step; it will be relocated to the former Domicile presentation centre on Hazel Street.

The August issue of *The Mainstreeter* included an article on the July 2 Immaculata field LPAT hearing, at which the Ottawa Catholic School Board sought the right to have the sports lights operational until 11:00 pm on a daily basis for the Footy Sevens soccer activity. On August 22, we received word that the Board's appeal was successful; this has unfortunately left many neighbours of the field struggling with the daily noise of ongoing whistles and shouting, as well as the glare of the sports lights.

On the transportation front, the crosswalk lights at Greenfield Avenue and Concord Street North are operational again (as of this writing anyway). The flex posts installed at the southwest corner of Hawthorne Avenue and Main Street are still standing, albeit at rakish angles due to vehicle contact. Cyclists can now readily bike through the entire Greystone linear park as paving is complete. The LRT is finally open; hopefully that means our Queensway on-ramp will also open soon. The

Nicholas Street bridge replacement project and ramp redesigns are underway at both Greenfield and Lees Avenue. And the Flora Footbridge offers a safer route across the canal for cyclists and walkers. Although official numbers are not yet available, I understand that more people are using the bridge than was originally contemplated. Personally, I have particularly enjoyed the bench on the Glebe side of the bridge which is a wonderful spot to relax, either alone or with friends, and feel the beautiful evening breezes from the water.

We also have a wonderful new mural to enjoy on the south wall of The Singing Pebble shop courtesy of Intercity Arts. And there is some wonderful new art at the LRT stations – check out the birds at Lees.

On the parks and recreation front, the tennis courts at Brantwood Park are finally complete. While community tennis players are delighted with the new courts, there has been frustration over the weeks-long stoppage of resurfacing work that resulted in the loss of most this summer's tennis season. Vicki Davis has been marshalling a brigade of volunteers to remove invasive weeds along the river paths; more help would be welcomed. I would also encourage residents to walk through the Children's Garden, which is pretty spectacular these days.

Finally, the joint Annual General Meeting of the community association and the Community Activities Group will be held on November 12 starting at 7:00pm at the Church of the Ascension. We will begin with short presentations, followed by a social hour in the church hall.

Have questions? Want to learn more or volunteer to make improvements in the community? Perhaps even become a member of the Board at the upcoming elections at our Annual General Meeting? Then please consider coming to our regular monthly board meetings, check out the OOECA website at <http://www.ottawaeast.ca/> or contact me at [info@ottawaeast.ca](mailto:info@ottawaeast.ca).

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## TAKING A MOMENT TO PAUSE AND REFLECT

October 22nd will mark one year since the residents of Capital Ward put their trust in me to represent them at City Hall. As many readers will know, my approach has been to sometimes ask uncomfortable questions and to challenge the City to be better. There are several improvements we've been able to make in 2019—some big and some small—and all of them were done with the support, input and collaboration of residents of this community and Capital Ward.

### Climate Emergency

One of the first issues championed this term was the climate emergency declaration. Working with staff and citizen groups, I presented a motion to the Environment Committee and City Council recognizing the need to fight climate change and environmental degradation. With the passing of this motion, new actions are taking place, with a full suite of changes to be tabled in December 2019. Staff are now mandated to look at how decisions will affect our sustainability. The new Official Plan has embedded this concept for the next 30 years. A new Councillor Sponsors group has formed, looking at emissions and cost-benefit to reductions across all categories and meeting the IPCC goal of no more than a 1.5 degree temperature change. As a result, Ottawa is taking much needed steps to protect residents and our environment from the devastating effects of climate change.

### Beg Buttons

In the early winter, we saw the elimination of "Beg Buttons" along some sections of Bank Street. Now during the day, lights will automatically change for pedestrians looking to cross Bank Street, and they'll no longer be forced to press the pedestrian button to get a walk signal. We will be looking to expand this to parts of Main Street soon.

### Bus Service Changes

There are arrangements now in

place for the new crosstown Route 55, replacing parts of the current Routes 16, 101, 103, and 106, and which will also provide new Monday-Saturday service along Main Street to the hospital complex on Smyth Road.

### Other Important Changes:

- We organized a snow clearing forum I promised during the election; one of the results was a City commitment to update maintenance quality standards which have not been reviewed since amalgamation.
- I worked with two other Councillors to ensure a Fare freeze for transit until LRT launched and a full year freeze for the equipass (for residents on low income).
- We secured a bylaw review for vacant and derelict buildings in order to look at graduated fees and a registry to incentivize the use of these buildings. We will know more when staff make their recommendations.
- Changes are coming to the pedestrian and cycling environment at Lansdowne after my office released a new vision for the space based on consultation with residents.
- We advocated for the largest investment in affordable housing in the City's history and continue to hold developers accountable who don't make space for affordable accommodations or respect the communities they wish to build in.
- We revived a Ward Council in Capital Ward, bringing together stakeholders from all communities. 2019 has been a busy year, and provided an important lesson for me - challenging the status quo can get results when combined with grassroots mobilizing in communities. I also know that some decisions require more structural changes in the City (such as the decision on the Oblats land secondary plan and the Immaculata field). There is a lot more to do in the coming years.



# The swans' song has now been sung



JAMEY BURR PHOTO

The reflected image of a Royal Swan will seen no more on the Rideau River.

## JOHN DANCE

The massive white and black birds gracing the Rideau River are no more. To the chagrin of local residents, the dwindling flock of Royal Swans has been permanently banished to Quebec.

By an overwhelming vote, city council approved terminating the 52-year-old swan program on the grounds that the gifting of the birds to Parc Safari Incorporated of Hemingford, Quebec will “ensure proper care of the aging flock,” as

stated in the staff report that went to City Council.

In the past, and with fanfare, Mayor Watson has freed the birds from their winter captivity by opening the cages at Brantwood Park, and residents have enjoyed the graceful creatures patrolling the banks of the river. But although the Mayor seemed to bask in the media attention of the swan freedom days, as an alderman in the 1990s he had the view that the swans were a “frill.”

Curiously, as was reported in *The*

*Mainstreeter*, when the Mayor was releasing the swans at Brantwood in 2017 he took the occasion to call for permanent funding of the swan program, noting the importance of the birds and the futility of suggesting that the swans program be axed in annual budget deliberations.

“It is with great sadness and disappointment that we reflect on the first summer without the swans,” says Marlowe Crescent resident Jamey Burr. “They added greatly to the City, and in our view drew attention to the importance of the Rideau River.”

As a centennial gift back in 1967, Queen Elizabeth gave 12 swans to the City of Ottawa.

Now, though, with the flock at five birds, the report to Councillors says, “Staff have concluded that the aging swans and their predators on the Rideau River – their summer habitat – have affected reproduction and overall flock size. Over the years, staff have observed nests with eggs, but the eggs did not survive due to predators or to the swans abandoning them.”

“Further to this, staff have found remains of swans in recent years that are believed to have been caused by attacks from predators. The ongoing monitoring and control of the swans in a suitable facility such as Parc Safari may provide an opportunity to increase the size of the flock. Gifting the Royal Swans to Parc

Safari is the best option for the health and well-being of the flock.”

The cancellation of the swan program will produce annual savings of \$45,000 and will avoid the construction of a new winter home for the swans, something that would have cost about \$600,000.

By way of comparison, Stratford also has a swan program with 25 birds, and the city must care for the flock over the winter. According to Quin Malott, Manager of Parks and Open Spaces for Stratford, \$25,000 is budgeted for the program. In short, Stratford with a continuing program spends about half as much as Ottawa did yet had five times as many birds.

“Besides their great beauty, they were like beacons defining the waterway with their majestic presence,” says Brantwood Park resident Jamie Brougham. “I regularly paddled along side by side with the large swan. It was like walking with a family pet. It felt like a friend, and I’ve really missed them this summer. I hope they’re well cared for.”

Councillor Shawn Menard was one of the two councillors who opposed the swan shutdown. “The Royal Swans have been a fixture on the Rideau River for years. Capital Ward residents have shared their memories of watching them congregate on summer afternoons or going on walks with their grandchildren to see them,” he noted. “We are sad to see the swans go.”



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# Repair work planned for Clegg's crumbling Canal wall

**JOHN DANCE**

Just to the south of the new footbridge at Clegg Street, the Rideau Canal wall is slowly collapsing, but it will be restored over the next six months.

The effort is going to be less noisy than what residents by the Concord Street-Echo Drive Canal wall repair north of Pretoria Bridge have experienced over the last year, according to Parks Canada.

"The scope of the work for the Clegg Street walls does not include pile driving, however, it is a construction site so elevated noise levels should be expected as there will be heavy equipment such as excavators on site," says Parks Canada spokesperson Aarin Crawford. "Working hours will be limited to between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to restrict any elevated noise levels to the daytime only."

The other good news is that the restoration will not adversely affect

skating access, although this winter the stairs will be relocated a few metres north of the current location. Nor will the project affect the placement of the paddling dock.

Pedestrian and cyclist traffic will be detoured around the site but at this writing the specific detour had not been determined and awaits negotiation with the City of Ottawa and the National Capital Commission.

"Provisions for traffic lighting have been included in the contract in the event their use can improve the safety of the public using the pathway adjacent to the Canal," says Crawford.

The work starts in mid-October and is expected to be completed in the Spring. The \$470,000 restoration is just a small piece of the total \$16 million five-year Canal wall restoration project in Ottawa.



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

The Rideau Canal wall south of Clegg Street will be restored by next spring at a cost of \$470,000.



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*The Mainstreeter*  
content and advertising  
submissions  
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*The Mainstreeter*

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and who want to get their first experience in  
journalism.

CONTACT: LORNE ABUGOV 613-878-1532  
editor@mainstreeter.ca



ACROSS

- 1

“He truly has the gift \_\_\_\_.” (2 words)
- 6

Nice
- 10

Smith or Sandler
- 14

Nova Scotian town one hour north of Halifax
- 15

“I’m stuffed. I \_\_\_\_ lot.” (2 words)
- 16

Nincompoop
- 17

Less wild
- 18

Person, place or thing
- 19

“As seen \_\_\_\_” (2 words)
- 20

Old Ottawa East diplomatic landmark (3 words)
- 23

Star Wars protagonist
- 24

Revolutionary Guevara
- 25

Of a sensual nature
- 28

“\_\_\_\_’s on first?”
- 29

Floating ice mass
- 31

EU body that coordinates members’ militaries
- 32

Old Ottawa East river-side landmark
- 36

One of the black keys on a piano
- 38

Risk life and \_\_\_\_
- 39

Insults, in Manchester
- 41

Land surrounded by water, in Lisbon
- 42

Free trade org. that includes Laos, Myanmar and Singapore
- 44

Old Ottawa East vegetarian landmark, with “The” (2 words)
- 46

\_\_\_\_ Tamid (synagogue lamp)
- 47

\_\_\_\_ Gil, Silicon Valley entrepreneur and author
- 49

“It’s \_\_\_\_ hot to handle”
- 50

“Gadzooks!” in Australia
- 52

“A long time \_\_\_\_ in a galaxy far, far away”
- 53

Radical org. that kidnapped Patty Hearst in the 70s
- 56

New Old Ottawa East residential landmark (3 words)
- 60

Beckwith \_\_\_\_
- 62

Membership fees
- 63

What you might be if you encounter a lion
- 64

Kendrick, Paquin or Kournikova
- 65

Canada has the second most in the world
- 66

Big, horned beast
- 67

Expensive hardwood
- 68

No longer on the market
- 69

Actor Spacek

DOWN

- 1

Furry brown water mammal
- 2

You might put a painting in one
- 3

Green stop-motion clay man
- 4

\_\_\_\_ 51
- 5

Typically red Eastern European soup
- 6

\_\_\_\_ West
- 7

“Am \_\_\_\_ late?” (2 words)
- 8

9, in Trois Rivières
- 9

One might be doing the Floss or a pirouette
- 10

Popular Filipino dish
- 11

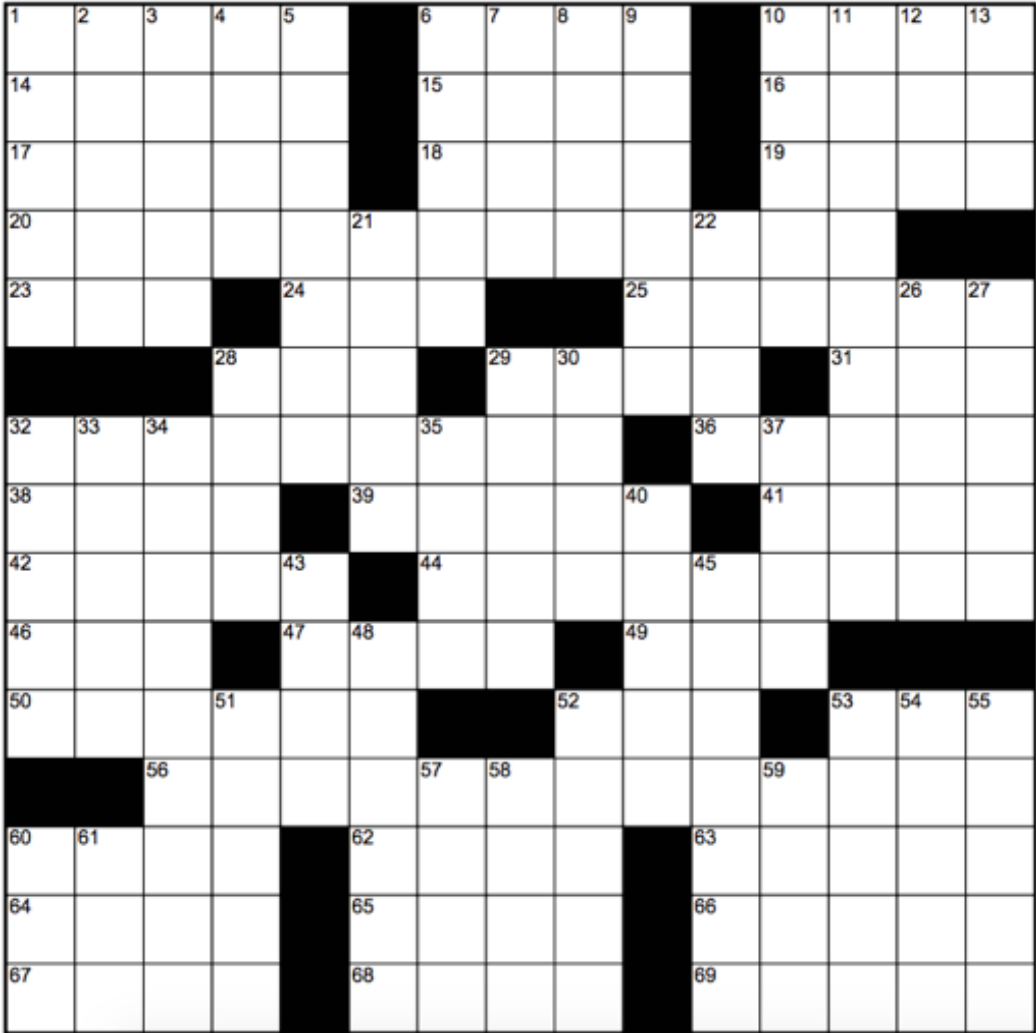
Italian renaissance painter (or staff-wielding Ninja Turtle)
- 12

\_\_\_\_-Right
- 13

American network that puts on the VMAs

“OLD OTTAWA EAST LANDMARKS”

AN OWEN MASON CROSSWORD



- 21

Broadway productions
- 22

Strong hankering
- 26

Northwest potato state featured in Napoleon Dynamite
- 27

Host of the 2022 World Cup, as spelled in Madrid
- 28

Women’s pro sports league
- 29

Ottawa Catholic School \_\_\_\_
- 30

Beat narrowly, with “out”
- 32

Colour of snow, to Parisians
- 33

Early \_\_\_\_
- 34

Musical genre given its own Grammy category in 2010
- 35

Gymnastics pioneer Korbut
- 37

Typical dog name
- 40

Ready \_\_\_\_ (2 words)
- 43

\_\_\_\_-do-well
- 45

James Patterson 2017 murder mystery
- 48

Carter and Bird
- 51

Nikon competitor
- 52

Syrian leader
- 53

Two syllables that may end with ‘fy’ or ‘faction’
- 54

Collateral instruments
- 55

Pester
- 57

Currency in Greece
- 58

Highlight \_\_\_\_ (as on Sportsnet)
- 59

Mahi \_\_\_\_
- 60

“I smell a \_\_\_\_”
- 61

\_\_\_\_ Direction

Answers on Page 36

SOFT PUMPKIN COOKIES

JOANNE BENOIT

Pumpkin is always a welcomed Autumn ingredient in our house. The aromas of cinnamon and nutmeg fill our senses, reminding us to bundle up, as father winter is just around the corner.

COOKIES

- 2 ½ cups flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder

- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground nutmeg
- ½ tsp salt
- 1½ cups granulated sugar
- ½ cup butter, softened
- 1 cup pumpkin
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp vanilla

GLAZE

- 2 cups sifted icing sugar
- 3 tbsp milk
- 1 tbsp melted butter
- 1 tsp vanilla

Yield: Approximately 3 dozen  
PREHEAT oven to 350 F. Line baking sheets with parchment paper.

COMBINE flour, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt in a separate bowl.  
BEAT sugar and butter in a mixing bowl until thoroughly blended. Add pumpkin, egg and vanilla and stir until smooth. Gradually stir in flour mixture. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto prepared baking sheet.  
BAKE for 15-18 minutes or until edges are firm and dry. Cool on baking sheet for a couple of minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely. Combine Glaze ingredients and drizzle over cookies.



JOANNE BENOIT PHOTO

Autumn favourites for the family



Founded in Old Ottawa East - Meals on Wheels:

# Helping Ottawa seniors at risk of going hungry

AIDAN LIEBICH

Dorothy stands by her front window waiting for a familiar car to appear in her driveway. She’s a bit shaky on her aging legs, but she looks forward every day to the hot meal and the few minutes of friendly chatter that accompany it.

She’s 90 now, and unable to get to the store or drag home the groceries. Cooking has also become an issue, since she finds it difficult to stand at the stove, and she has even accidentally left the burners on a few times. “Thank goodness for Meals on Wheels. They’re more reliable than Canada Post,” she chuckles. “And here comes the cavalry,” she jokes as she opens the door to delivery volunteer, Steve. “Ta da!” he jokes back and places the hot meal on her table.

Meals on Wheels has been serving the Ottawa community for over 50 years, and last year alone delivered almost 115,000 meals to 1,672 clients.

Dorothy and Steve are not actual individuals, but rather represent the many Meals on Wheels clients and volunteers who form this special bond. Dorothy would be a typical member of Ottawa’s senior population, which is expected to double over the next dozen years, from about 125,000 now to 250,000 in 2031. Currently, seniors represent about 13% of

Ottawa’s population, but that figure will rise to over 20%.

The number of seniors using food banks to make ends meet in 2018 jumped by 10%, a trend that is expected to continue. About 70% of seniors live on fixed incomes, with about 20% near or below the poverty line.

Founded in Old Ottawa East in 1968, Meals on Wheels is now a critical part of Ottawa’s age-friendly initiative which encourages seniors to live at home safely with health and community support services to meet their needs.

The organization, which began operations known as the King’s Daughters Dinner Wagon (KDDW) and was re-named Meals on Wheels in 1983, was founded by OOE resident Evelyn Sparks and operated from 1968 to 1972 from the Sparks family home at 77 Elliot Avenue. Together with her husband, George Sparks and a team of volunteer women drivers from a parent affiliate organization, the King’s Daughters and Sons (KDS), Evelyn Sparks supervised the distribution of daily hot meals to needy folks from her kitchen table.

According to Walter Davidson, a long-time Meals on Wheels (MOW) volunteer and current President of the MOW Board of Directors, Meals on Wheels could not



JILL DAIGLE PHOTO

**Longtime volunteers Jim and Pam Young enjoy delivering and serving meals to seniors and persons with disabilities throughout central Ottawa.**


function without the dedication of its more than 400 delivery volunteers who operate throughout the city.

“Many of our volunteers are seniors themselves and often have to retire from volunteering after a few (or many) years, so we are in the midst of a big volunteer recruitment drive right now” says Davidson, who resides on Southern Avenue with his wife Charlotte, herself a former MOW President and Board member. “For many social service agencies, volunteers fall into the “nice to have” part of the strategic plan, but for Meals on Wheels, our service simply can’t run (and be affordable to seniors) without volunteers”.

Davidson notes that the Meals on Wheels volunteer program is very flexible and is able to accommodate volunteers’ schedules and availability. Each delivery route only takes two hours to complete

but makes a world of difference for every one of the clients, he says.

*Aidan Liebich is the Coordinator of Volunteers (Interim) for Meals on Wheels*

 **Meals on Wheels is experiencing a critical shortage of volunteers and needs to recruit in order to remain able to continue to do their work in the community. Please consider joining the Meals on Wheels team this fall. If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving Meals on Wheels, or if you would like to become a delivery volunteer brightening the day of an Ottawa senior, please call Meals on Wheels (Ottawa) at 613-233-2424.**

Answers to OOE Landmarks Crossword on page 35

O	F	G	A	B		K	I	N	D		A	D	A	M
T	R	U	R	O		A	T	E	A		D	O	L	T
T	A	M	E	R		N	O	U	N		O	N	T	V
E	M	B	A	S	S	Y	O	F	C	U	B	A		
R	E	Y		C	H	E			E	R	O	T	I	C
			W	H	O		B	E	R	G		E	D	A
B	R	A	N	T	W	O	O	D		E	F	L	A	T
L	I	M	B		S	L	A	G	S		I	L	H	A
A	S	E	A	N		G	R	E	E	N	D	O	O	R
N	E	R		E	L	A	D		T	O	O			
C	R	I	K	E	Y			A	G	O		S	L	A
		C	O	R	N	E	R	S	O	N	M	A	I	N
R	O	A	D		D	U	E	S		E	A	T	E	N
A	N	N	A		A	R	E	A		R	H	I	N	O
T	E	A	K		S	O	L	D		S	I	S	S	Y





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mansted  
papillon  
odd molly  
neon buddha  
bamboo basics  
incense, soap  
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## ECLECTIC EVENTS...

**Our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party! - CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION – 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm, Saturday, November 9th - 253 Echo Drive, OOE**



Parishioners and members from the greater community, past and present, are invited to celebrate Church of the Ascension's centennial anniversary at a gala open house party.

Although there has been an Anglican worshipping community on the east side of the Canal since 1877, Church of the Ascension, in its beautiful building and under that name, first opened its doors to the community by the Canal 100 years ago, in the fall of 1919.

To celebrate the occasion, come take a tour, make your mark on the community mapping project, and share your Ascension story in the video booth. Learn about Ascension's current Refugee Working Group, Sustainability Initiatives, and Truth and Reconciliation Work. Share your ideas about Ascension's role in the community going forward and help launch the next 100 years!

As part of the celebration, parishioners are creating a collage of Ascension memories – and they need your help! Please email ([centennial@churchoftheascension.ca](mailto:centennial@churchoftheascension.ca)) or mail (253 Echo Drive, Ottawa, ON K1S 1N3) anecdotes, photos, and other forms of reminiscences to the church by October 25th, 2019, so that they can be incorporated into a large collage to be displayed at the party.

All the excitement upstairs might give you an appetite! The party is being held in conjunction with Ascension's spectacular biannual Italian Supper downstairs in the church hall. Reminisce over a plate of *pasta al forno* with old friends, or new ones, and raise a glass to Church of the Ascension and Old Ottawa East! Seatings at 5pm and 7pm.

Tickets for the Italian Supper are available on Eventbrite, with a limited number available at the door (no tickets needed to tour the exhibits upstairs). Tickets for the supper are \$25/adults, \$15/children 6-12, \$10/children 5 and under. Vegetarian and gluten-free tickets are also available. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/ascension-italian-night-2019-tickets-72130402977>

**Supporting Grandmothers' Resilience: GRAND MARKET 2019 – ONE WORLD GRANNIES – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Sunday, November 17th @ The Horticultural Building in Lansdowne Park**



We've all heard stories about how people bounce back from difficult experiences. We have seen people in our own families and communities demonstrate resilience in the face of adversity, tragedy, trauma and other stressful situations.

Grandmothers in Ottawa and indeed all across Canada are resilient. Many have lived through the trauma of war and threats to world peace, and the challenges of emigrating to a new land. Most have dealt with family and relationship problems, death in the family, serious health problems, workplace issues, and financial stress.

Canadian grandmothers are inspired by their African sisters—grandmothers who have buried their own children and now, with rare assistance, are raising some 14 million children and young people orphaned by AIDS.

Here in the National Capital Region, members of the Stephen Lewis Foundation Grandmothers Campaign are staging a colossal GRAND Market to raise funds for their sister grandmothers in sub-Saharan Africa.

African community-based organizations funded by the Stephen Lewis Foundation are helping grandmothers and others infected and affected by HIV/AIDS to reclaim their lives and overcome the ravages of the disease with dignity and determination. The Foundation has supported over 300 such organizations in sub-Saharan Africa, the area hardest hit by the pandemic.

Old Ottawa East resident, Dianne Breton, who is a member of One World Grannies, is collecting donated tabletop "treasures" for the Market but says that there will also be all sorts of home-made and holiday items available including baking, crafts, gifts, "gently-used" excellent-quality women's clothing and accessories, as well as children's toys, books, and board games. She adds, "you can even have a Tarot card or palm reading and have a snack at the Sweet and Savoury Café."

The event's lead sponsor is Catherine Bell, Royal LePage Team Realty. Admission is free.

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# ECLECTIC EVENTS...

## 17th Annual Homes for the Holidays Fundraiser – HOSPICE CARE OTTAWA – November 15th, 16th & 17th



Eight Ottawa-area homes will open their doors to the public for the *Homes for the Holidays* tour on November 15, 16, and 17, 2019 in support of Hospice Care Ottawa. The heritage properties and uniquely designed houses across the city, including Rockcliffe Park, the Glebe, and Manotick will be decorated by some of the region's top florists and designers to inspire guests on how to decorate their own spaces for the holidays. Last year, the tour saw almost 1,600 visitors trekking through the homes, and it raised over \$143,000 for the palliative and end-of-life programs offered by Hospice Care Ottawa. Since it began in 2003, the tour has raised more than \$2.3 million.

In addition to the eight decorated tour homes, ticket holders will also have access to two special holiday stops: The Holiday PopUp Shop and the Handmade Bazaar. Located in the beautiful residence of the Ambassador of Ireland to Canada, the Holiday PopUp Shop offers visitors the chance to get a head start on holiday shopping. It will feature a selection of local artisans and businesses that have agreed to donate a portion of their proceeds to Hospice Care Ottawa. The Handmade Bazaar, at The May Court Club of Ottawa on Cameron Avenue, will inspire gift ideas with one-of-a-kind items, and 100 percent of sales will directly support Hospice Care Ottawa.

Hospice Care Ottawa provides services to over 1,700 individuals and their families each year. While it receives some government funding, 40 percent of its operating budget comes from donations and fundraisers such as *Homes for the Holidays* and the annual *Hike for Hospice* each spring. The organization has three hospice sites to serve our Ottawa community: Ruddy-Shenkman Hospice in Kanata, the May Court Hospice in Old Ottawa South, and la Maison de l'Est in Orleans, which predominantly serves the French community. Hospice Care Ottawa programs include day hospice, home support, bereavement support, caregiver support and 19 end-of-life beds in our hospice residences.

Ticket booklets are on sale now for \$50 each. They can be purchased online and at various locations across Ottawa. For more information or to purchase tickets visit [www.hospicecareottawa.ca/homes-for-the-holidays-2019](http://www.hospicecareottawa.ca/homes-for-the-holidays-2019) or call 613-260-2906 ext. 222.

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## ECLECTIC EVENTS

**An Evening of Art and Music –  
STUDIO 507 AND TONE CLUSTER  
CHOIR - 7:00 pm, Saturday,  
November 23rd – Centretown  
United Church, 507 Bank Street**



It's a Wednesday afternoon and Joseph is at his easel in Studio 507 adding splashes of colour to his whimsical painting of skaters dancing across the Rideau canal on a wintry afternoon. Joseph is one of about a dozen community artists who regularly paint at Studio 507. Some of his paintings have been exhibited in local galleries.

Studio 507 welcomes community artists who want to connect with the artistic community, according to Linda Pollock and Lorna Kingston, both of whom live in Old Ottawa East and volunteer at the Studio.

It provides the materials for the local artists: canvasses, paint, brushes and easels. Most importantly, it provides encouragement and guidance from professional Ottawa artists who volunteer as mentors.

The Studio is a joint program of Centretown United church and Centre 507, a community drop-in located on the 2nd floor of the church at Bank Street and Argyle Avenue.

On November 23rd, at 7:30 p.m., Studio 507 will partner with the Tone Cluster choir, a 35 person auditioned choir offering a queer-positive environment where singers can be themselves while striving for choral excellence, to present an evening of art and music in Centretown. The choir is performing "Quiet No More: A Choral Celebration of Stonewall" which commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising in New York.

Following the concert, at approximately 9 p.m., the audience is invited to a reception and art exhibit featuring the works of Studio 507 artists. Audience members can enjoy snacks and mingle with the singers and artists. Paintings and art cards will be available for sale.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Concert tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door and can be bought online at <https://www.tonecluster.org>. For more information on Studio 507 please visit: [centretownunited.org](http://centretownunited.org).

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