

## A Walk of Art

OOE artist *Claude Latour* and 19 others put on quite a show at the 3rd annual outdoor art tour.

Pages 2 & 11



## Back to the ballot box we go

Political reporter *John Dance* provides the skinny on the October 24th municipal election. Nine pages of coverage helps to brief you on the local candidates and their views.

Pages 8, 13, 18 to 24



## Skunks and dogs don't mix

*Theresa Wallace* reports - from a safe distance!

Page 3

*We take you inside the massive transformation of the Deschâtelets Building*

# STRIPPED TO THE BONES!



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

A special tour of the Deschâtelets building revealed the bare bones of Old Ottawa East's heritage structure including upper storey stud walls slated to be affordable housing.

*Read our special report and see more photos at pages 4 and 5.*





# A Walk of Art to remember!

**Everywhere you turned in Old Ottawa East on September 10th there was beautiful art and photography to behold. As these photos confirm, our third annual outdoor art tour was a big hit with art lovers and local artists alike.**

1. Artist Ruth Browning's exhibit of landscape paintings proved a hit with strollers on Echo Drive.
2. Creator of the Mons bench on the west side of the Flora Footbridge, Claude Latour displays various renditions of the bench.
3. Ruth Browning (L) poses with her daughter, *The Mainstreeter's* art editor Tanis Browning-Shelp.
4. First time exhibitor, Clegg Street multimedia artist Jojo Cadieux, impressed with her wide range of styles and themes.
5. Artist Bess Fraser's landscape painting was one of many pieces that sold at A Walk of Art.
6. *The Mainstreeter's* Photo Editor Peter Fowler provides an enthusiastic welcome to admirers of his outstanding photography.







RIDEAU VALLEY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY PHOTOS

There have been many reported sightings of skunks in and around Old Ottawa East this spring and summer; humans know to avoid them, but dogs seem more curious.

*As OOE pet owners have learned...*

## Dogs and skunks are a potent mix

### THERESA WALLACE

In the opening days of the pandemic, when we were all told to stay home, I looked out my kitchen window and saw a skunk waddling down the sidewalk. It was bigger than I imagined a skunk could be. And it was tough-looking—its fur long and matted, its stripes more yellow than white. This was my first sighting of the *Mephitis mephitis* in the four decades we'd lived in our house. Perhaps it was the part of the advance guard.

"In the last two years, I have seen more skunks in our area than I have in the rest of my life," says Melanie Roet, whose dog was sprayed at dusk in July in the backyard of her house on Merritt Avenue.

Cashew is a three-year-old miniature poodle who weighs ten pounds. "He was sprayed directly in the face and was very agitated," Roet says. She used the recommended peroxide/baking soda/liquid soap mixture (see recipe in the sidebar) twice. "We learned afterwards it is best used on a dry animal, so once you rinse your pet it won't work as well."

Spray from a skunk can be smelled kilometres away, and neighbours warned her to treat Cashew outside. "It is instinct to want to bring your pet in to wash them in the tub, but that will get the smell all over the house. Our neighbours across the

street learned this the hard way when their cat was sprayed last summer. We took note and stayed outside to treat Cashew."

Neighbours with more experience also told her the smell would remain in Cashew's snout and come out each time he got wet. "Every time we walk in the rain, we have a lingering reminder."

Roet now tries to avoid being outside with Cashew at dusk or dawn. "We also keep him on a shorter leash when walking, and we purposely talk or make a little noise in areas where we have seen skunks to let them know we are coming."

Kate MacNeil says making some noise is exactly the right thing to do. "And when you let your dog out at night, flick on the porch light, whistle, talk, give skunks all the warning they need to move along," advises MacNeil, executive director of the

non-profit Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre.

MacNeil says skunks would rather avoid a confrontation, and people usually understand what it means when a skunk raises and fluffs up its tail, stamps its front feet and shows its backside. "Unfortunately, these warning signs don't seem as effective in discouraging dogs, who do occasionally get sprayed."

The Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre has not received more than the usual number of skunk inquiries this year. Neither has City Councillor Shawn Menard's office. The City of Ottawa says it doesn't keep track. But MacNeil says when people see more of any wild animal than usual in a residential neighbourhood, it can mean this animal has been displaced from its usual habitat by human encroachment.

She encourages people to be patient. "Reports indicate the birthing season was earlier this year, but skunks are usually born in the middle of May. In early summer, you will sometimes see young skunks because by then they are able to come out with their mom to forage. Skunks are burrowers and may make their den under a step or a shed. The mother skunk gives birth to her young around people because there are fewer natural predators in human habitats, but her goal is to move the babies to a more natural area as soon as they are mobile. Give skunks time and space and eventually they will leave."

### Skunk remedy for dogs

The Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre and the Ottawa Humane Society both recommend the following remedy if your dog gets sprayed by a skunk. Mix together: one quart (or four cups) of 3 percent hydrogen peroxide, 1/4 cup baking soda, and one teaspoon of liquid soap.

It's important to use the mixture right away. Apply it carefully with a spray bottle or a cloth, leave it on your dog for five minutes and then rinse thoroughly. (This mixture only lasts for 24 hours, so you might want to halve the ingredients.) See their websites for more comprehensive instructions.





# SPECIAL REPORT

*Affordable seniors housing confirmed*

## Inside the massive transformation of the Deschâtelets Building

**JOHN DANCE**

Back in 2015, saving the Deschâtelets Building in the centre of the Oblates Lands, which has become Greystone Village, seemed like a good idea. Ottawa City Council agreed, blessing the historic landmark with a heritage designation. But it's taken a lot of time, an extraordinary amount of collaboration and considerable investment by several public bodies, and enormous engineering and construction activity to save and transform the 137-year-old building.

A recent tour of the building by key parties revealed the extent of effort required to bring the structure up to current building standards. The building has been stripped down to its bare bones. The old plaster and insulation are all gone and any hazardous materials have been removed. What's left is a lovely shell that reveals how the building was enlarged over the years, with new wings on both

ends and two additional floors. Also, the repointing of the exterior heritage stone walls has begun.

Key participants in the tour were Councillor Shawn Menard and Councillor Mathieu Fleury, who is the outgoing chair of Ottawa Community Housing (OHC), along with representatives of the Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est (CECCE).

Although there still has not been a formal announcement, OHC plans

**ABOVE: Within the Deschâtelets Building concrete forms have been placed on top of the new piles so that the piles are connected to the structure of the building and provide added strength. BELOW: Deschâtelets has been stripped to its key structural elements before it is rebuilt as a school, community centre and seniors housing units.**



CECCE PHOTO

on converting the two top floors of Deschâtelets into about 30 affordable housing units for seniors, thereby addressing a longstanding desire of the Old Ottawa East (OOE) community to include affordable housing within Greystone Village.

To bring the building up to current seismic building standards, 32 piles had to be driven down 30 metres into the bedrock. Normally this sort of work is done with a huge pile-driving machine, but in the case of Deschâtelets, the

machinery had to be modified so that it would fit inside the building. The modified equipment then had to drill the piles in metre-long sections, a difficult and time-consuming process. A concrete shear wall will be constructed on top of the piles to give the building the necessary strength to withstand earthquakes.

The building was bought by CECCE from the Regional Group so its elementary school Au Cœur d'Ottawa, currently at its temporary home of 88 Main Street, would have a new, large and permanent facility to serve children living in the central Ottawa communities. Because the new school will require just half of Deschâtelets' floor space, other tenants were required. First on board was the City which will create a new community centre on half of the ground floor and a new gymnasium/multi-purpose building to the north of the Deschâtelets. The gym will be used by Au Cœur d'Ottawa during school hours.

Most of the new classrooms feature the grand window openings of the original Deschâtelets structure along with unusually high ceilings. On the eastern side of the building, the kindergarten classrooms will open onto a secure playground, and there will also be a childcare facility with its own secured play area.

The main entrance on the western side of the building is being modified to provide better accessibility so that students can enter the school at ground level rather than using steps, as was anticipated in the original design. The modification of the entrance allows for a large two-storey atrium surrounded by several classrooms and other areas. The City's Built Heritage Sub-Committee and the OOE Community Association planning committee have asked that some improvements be made



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

*Continued on Page 5*



# SPECIAL REPORT

***"What's left is a lovely shell that reveals how the building was enlarged over the years..."***

*Continued from Page 4*

to the entrance design, and CECCE's architects are proposing changes.

"This summer, Ottawa City Council approved moving forward with a lease for the community centre, including funding for the core components and a direction to develop an annual operating budget as part of the 2023 budget," Menard noted in a press release following his tour.

"It's great seeing this project come together," said Menard. "We commend the residents and community groups, including the Old Ottawa East Community Association and Communities

Activities Group, who have been pushing for a new recreation centre and for affordable housing in the community for a number of years."

CECCE's goal for opening the new school was originally September 2022, but that changed to this September. Now the school board is targeting September 2023, but it's a very sizeable project so there could be further delays. Dates for completion of the new gymnasium, the community centre and the affordable housing have not yet been set.



PETER TOBIN PHOTO

The scaffolding on the eastern wall allows masons to re-point the exterior of the heritage walls. The other facades will be re-pointed according to a repair plan over several years.



JOHN DANCE PHOTOS

**ABOVE:** The restoration work has revealed a remarkable structure built of a variety of materials including stone, brick, concrete and steel.

**LEFT:** The entrance to the new school will open into a two storey atrium and it will provide improved accessibility because students will enter at ground level and not have to go up steps as was previously the case;

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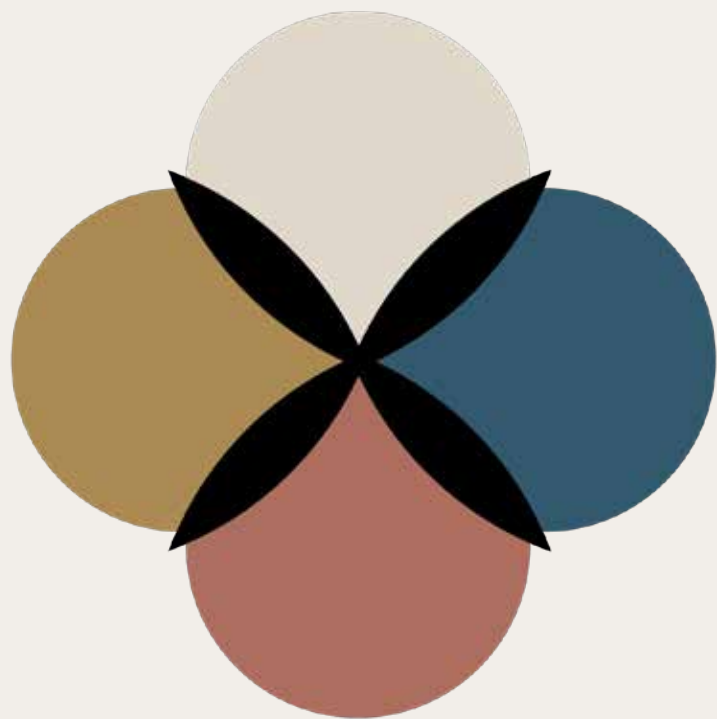
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# Rideau River Nature Trail gains recognition in new book

JOHN DANCE

Who knew that Old Ottawa East has one of the best hiking trails in the Ottawa area? The Rideau River Nature Trail is flatteringly described as such in Michael Haynes' new book, *Hiking Trails of Ottawa, the National Capital Region, and Beyond*.

"I must confess that I discovered it by accident, deciding to explore that bank of the river," says Haynes. "But after I walked it, I knew that I had to include it; it's wonderful and feels as if it is a hidden reserve surrounded by and preserved from the busy urban core."

The trail, which runs from the Highway 417 bridge to Old Ottawa South, was one of the original projects of Sustainable Living Ottawa East (SLOE). SLOE worked with the City of Ottawa, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and a variety of other parties to make the trail a walker's delight.

The route had long been slated to be integrated into the City's Rideau River Western Pathway, but SLOE seized the initiative to ensure that the route was both as ecologically healthy and as pedestrian friendly as possible. The consequence is most evident along the Greystone Village river frontage where a separate footpath

wanders through the meadow-like area, and behind Rideau Garden Drive where the pathway remains unpaved. But all along that portion of the RRNT within Old Ottawa East, a naturalized buffer zone helps protect the river from erosion and contributes to the shoreline and aquatic habitat.

The RRNT is one of 50 trails lovingly described in Haynes' book. Others include many notable Gatineau Park routes and Murphy's Point.

The description of RRNT shows that the total ascent/descent over the 2.9 kilometre trail is just five metres, which makes it one of the easiest hikes described in the book.

When SLOE originally conceived the route there were numerous challenges. First, there was no easy way to get up the hill from Brantwood Park to the Oblates lands (now Greystone Village). Second, the pathway behind the Lees Avenue apartment buildings was very rough. Third, there was no accessible way to get from the trail into the property behind the Lees campus of the University of Ottawa.

By taking advantage of other projects such as LRT and sewer replacement work, SLOE was able to convince the City of Ottawa and other parties to make necessary improvements. One of the biggest challenges was to persuade the



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

**In 2009, the rebuilt trail between Springhurst Park and the transitway was officially opened.**

University of Ottawa to allow the pathway to run along the shoreline of the Lees campus. The university wanted to detour the trail so they could build their new stadium but, after pushback from the community association, a turf sports field was built with "chamfered" corners so that there would be enough space for the trail to get around it and run along the river.

In addition to the infrastructure improvements, SLOE members implemented a set of plaques along the route, outlining key historical facts and natural features. Also, extensive tree planting was done, an effort that continues.

The trail continues to get lots of attention from the community. SLOE's "Invasives Brigade" continues with its Sisyphean task of removing invasives.

Trees must be planted to replace the dead ash. And there is an ongoing discussion of how to deal with the pandemic-driven trail-widening behind Rideau Garden Drive.

A unique aspect of the trail is how much of it is a snapping turtle nesting habitat, "...a pretty special feature for an urban trail," says Mary Trudeau, one of the initial proponents of the trail.

Michael Haynes is one of the leading authorities on trail development in Canada. He has been named a trail hero by Hike Ontario and has authored nine trail guides. He is now a resident of Nova Scotia and is preparing a new book on hiking trails of Prince Edward Island.

*Hiking Trails of Ottawa is available at Singing Pebble Books on Main Street.*

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## Capital Ward Councillor debate:

# Candidates present different approaches and priorities

JOHN DANCE

The three candidates for Capital Ward councillor squared off in a community-association-sponsored debate in September with challengers Rebecca Bromwich and Dan Rogers both arguing that they would be more collaborative in their approaches while incumbent Shawn Menard set out specific goals if he is re-elected.

Although many issues were touched on - everything from sidewalk design to the Ottawa Police Services operations during the occupation - the challengers continually argued that more collaboration with other councillors and other parties was required and that the dysfunctionality of City Council must end.

One example was the discussion of the proposed four-lane roadway running through OOE's portion of the Alta Vista Transportation Corridor. Menard unequivocally opposes the idea, noting "More roads do not mean less congestion. This is not something we want to put through our community. OOE needs the greenspace." Bromwich said she was "Not going to commit one way or another ... [We] have to consult [and] have to listen respectfully." Rogers noted, "If the population continues to grow we're going to have to face the fact that we have to build corridors into the city."

In the discussion on the future of Lansdowne Park, Bromwich said full consultation within 100 days of her taking office would be undertaken. She noted that the City of Ottawa could have liability issues because of the crumbling stands. Rogers also stressed the need for public consultations and commented that it's "fair to say no decisions have been taken" and "we have to do something because the stadium and the arena are crumbling." He also noted that the first phase of Lansdowne renovations were good for Glebe businesses. Menard, who noted that the north-side stands are structurally sound, countered that any changes should be publicly driven, that there should be full consultation with options, and these options should not be based on selling-off public property.

The need for affordable housing came up repeatedly, with all candidates committing to do more. Bromwich acknowledged that the problem is "incredibly hard," and that the City needs to look at its social programs. Menard argued money should be reallocated to affordable housing from such things as developers' subsidies and road widenings. He also strongly opposed suburban sprawl, noting that its development is costly for taxpayers.

This summer's closure of Queen Elizabeth Drive was also a contentious issue. Menard commented that he was supportive of the pilot project but that there should be more consultation by the National Capital Commission and he raised the desirability of again having bike days on Colonel By Drive. Rogers commented, "To close Queen Elizabeth Drive permanently would be a terrible mistake because Lansdowne has only two entrances." Bromwich, who lives on Queen Elizabeth Drive, commented that it should be redesigned to better accommodate pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. And she noted that consideration of permanently closing QED should be assessed in terms



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

Councillor candidates Dan Rogers (left), Shawn Menard and Rebecca Bromwich were described by the debate moderator David Reevely as "three accomplished, thoughtful people who want to represent our community."

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**Community Activities Group:** Call Old Town Hall at 613.627.0062 and leave a message for Lee Jacobs or email LeeJ@ottawaeastcg.ca

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# OPINION

## At Canadian Martyrs Church

# Reconciliation with our Indigenous Peoples

JANICE CAMERON-CALUIORI

In the spring of last year, reports of the graves of children, nameless and unmarked, on the grounds of former Residential Schools in Canada were a wake-up call for all Canadians and caused outrage among many around the world. It spurred members of Canadian Martyrs Church Catholic parish to get involved in truth and reconciliation. It's easy to be outraged, but where do we go from there? We must own up to our collective responsibility for this travesty as Canadians, as Catholics and as members of an Oblate parish in our community.

A group of similar-minded parishioners gravitated together to ask questions: "What can we do? How do we move toward reconciliation?"

The initial focus of our work was on the Catholic establishment, as there was a sense of betrayal by the leadership. Letters and meetings demanded accountability for the funds not paid out, for the records still sealed, and for inadequate formal apologies.

There was uncertainty about how other parishioners and the parish leadership would react to these efforts demanding action. And then the fear that whatever was done next might be wrong and offend our Indigenous sisters and brothers. After reaching out to Kateri Native Ministry, it became clear that all that was needed was to listen and learn their truths.

A land acknowledgment has now been written to be spoken before each Mass, included in communications and posted outside the church. A Survivors' Flag, created by Residential School survivors, will be flown outside the church as an expression of remembrance and respect (*See page 16*). Orange ribbons were hung outside the church in support of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30. They will also be made available outside the church (while supplies last) for anyone who would like to hang them around their home.

Several members of the parish participated in an online study group called "Listening to Indigenous Voices," using a resource prepared by the Jesuit Forum. A network was established among several local Catholic parishes with members actively working on truth and reconciliation to share ideas and responses. Some parishioners collected books by Indigenous authors to share and brought in land acknowledgment signs to show the community that reconciliation is happening. Others have been active in creating a series of services in September on the themes of listening to Indigenous voices, learning with open hearts, and walking together on the path of reconciliation.

Reconciliation is a journey that will continue for generations. Everyone on this journey can continue to learn from others while travelling this road together.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

## Correction

## Old Ottawa East heritage registry

In the August issue of *The Mainstreeter*, we erroneously reported that 100 Riverdale Avenue was going to be added to the City's heritage registry. After *The Mainstreeter* heard of the proposal from City staff, they learned that major renovations had been made to the property, including a second floor addition in 1993. These renovations meant that the property was no longer eligible to be included on the registry and so the property was removed from the list.

As reported, two other OOE properties - Church of the Ascension and Calvary Baptist Church - were approved and are now on the Heritage Registry.

The City, in its original description of the 100 Riverdale property, said the identity of its architect was not known. But it turns out that the architect was Francis Sullivan, a noted architect who studied under Frank Lloyd Wright and who designed such notable Ottawa structures as the Horticulture Building at Lansdowne Park.

Anyone interested in further information on reconciliation can access these helpful resources:

- Land acknowledgement signs are available at YAK in Perth: <https://yakyouth.ca/land-acknowledgement-signs>
- To read about the symbolism of the Survivors' Flag, visit <https://nctr.ca/exhibits/survivors-flag>
- Listening to Indigenous Voices study group: meets online every second Monday from 7 to 8:30 p.m.: October 3 – March 16. Contact Maureen Cerroni at [maureen.cerroni@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.cerroni@gmail.com)
- Kateri Native Ministry: visit them on Facebook or at St. Basil's church; contact the St. Basil's office at 613-729-5149 or [stbasilparish@gmail.com](mailto:stbasilparish@gmail.com)
- Indigenous Peoples, Reconciliation and the Catholic Church: a webinar on October 27: <https://mailchi.mp/jesuits/online-retreats-prayer-for-2021-in-all-things-6253404?e=3f2ba20884>



## City planners' report and recommendations...

# Deschâtelets Building and Forecourt Park consultations yield scant details to date

KRISTINE HOUDE

In a June 2022 article in *The Mainstreeter*, key takeaways were shared from April consultations with City of Ottawa planners on the future of the Deschâtelets Building, the Forecourt Park, and the associated fire lane. As next steps, the City's planners committed to posting what they heard during the consultations to the Engage Ottawa website following their July 6th report and presentation to City Council.

The one-page document, entitled "*We learned the following*", has now been posted to the Engage Ottawa site, and contains the following recommendations included in the report to City Council:

- Approve development of a municipal community recreation component as the Offer to Lease with l'École-Catholique Centre Est (CECCE);
- Authorize funding to a value of \$10,500,000, including \$1,522,500 from cash-in-lieu of parkland accounts; and
- Present an annual operating budget and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) requirement for the operation and maintenance of the community centre as part of the 2023 budget process.

While both the posted document and the City planners' report to City Council are light on information, the Offer to Lease document referred to in the documents provides further insights, and notably

that CECCE will assume the design and build, and ownership of the Gymnasium and the Community Centre in accordance with the City's approved design plans and Construction Agreement.

These roles and responsibilities assigned to CECCE in the Offer to Lease documents leave Old Ottawa East (OOE) residents to wonder about the involvement, if any, of OOE's Community Activities Group (CAG) in the future community centre programming and management. Both CAG and the OOE Community Association have been advocating for a new recreation centre and for affordable housing in the community for a number of years, a fact noted by Councillor Shawn Menard in the July 6th report to City Council. But nothing in the documents reviewed by *The Mainstreeter* suggests any future ongoing involvement from CAG.

Some further information about the community centre and the adjoining gym can be gleaned from the schedules associated with the Offer to Lease, including:

- Schedule "A" - Floor Plans list the floor space of the community centre at 13,424 square feet and the gym at 10,102 square feet.
- Schedule "B" - Time Split provides gym availability to the City 64% of the time and to CECCE 36% of the time. CECCE has exclusive access to the gym

Monday to Friday, from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm, except for school holidays.

The City has undertaken to update residents through the project page of Engage Ottawa on the outcome of the ongoing design and build discussions between CECCE and the City.

In response to *The Mainstreeter's* request for an update on plans for the Forecourt Park, Dan Chenier, General Manager, Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services replied: "The City continues to look for feedback from residents on the potential development of the Old Ottawa East Community Centre and the adjacent Forecourt Park. (...) At this time, the City's discussion with the school board is focused on the design of both the

community centre and the fire lane. As the discussions remain ongoing, no further detail can be provided at this time."

Those who wish to submit questions or comments to the City on the potential design of the community centre can still do so by emailing [OOECC-CCVOE@ottawa.ca](mailto:OOECC-CCVOE@ottawa.ca). Residents who wish to provide comments to OOECA to inform the Board's recommendations and next steps for these community spaces are invited to email [planning@ottawaeast.ca](mailto:planning@ottawaeast.ca), or attend the upcoming Board meeting, Tuesday, October 11th at 7:00 pm. Zoom details are posted on [ottawaeast.ca](http://ottawaeast.ca).

Kristine Houde is a member of the OOE Community Association Planning and Parks and Greenspace committees.

## The Vacant Unit Tax: the new City tax you need to opt out of

RON ROSE

There is general agreement that Ottawa is in a housing crisis. The demand for housing exceeds the supply available. At the same time, the most recent census data available indicate that there are approximately 22,000 vacant housing units in Ottawa. The City believes that these vacant homes are a potential source of housing supply. In order to make more of these vacant units available, the City has decided to tax vacant units to encourage the owners to make them available for rent. The City estimates that the new Vacant Unit Tax (VUT) will generate approximately \$6.6 million annually and proposes to make \$5.0 million of that available for affordable housing.

The VUT will be levied in 2023 but will apply to the 2022 calendar year. The tax will be levied on all residences (with a few exceptions) that are vacant more than 184 days in a calendar year, and the tax will be 1% of the assessed value of the property. A residence valued at \$500,000 therefore will attract an additional \$5,000 in tax.

All the estimated 330,000 residential properties in Ottawa are liable for this tax, whether the property was vacant or not. In order to avoid the tax, the onus is on the owner to declare that the property was occupied for more than 184 days in the previous calendar year. If a homeowner has a property that was vacant for more than 184 days in 2022, they will be taxed in 2023, unless they can prove that they are eligible for an exemption.

This could be interpreted as a form of negative billing. Alex Cullen, the President of the Federation of Citizens Association, has claimed, "the City is using negative-option billing as the means of applying the

Residential Vacant Unit Tax. Negative-option billing, where the onus is on the consumer to apply to be exempt from paying imposed charges, is very unpopular with consumers — and with just cause." Joseph Muhuni, Deputy City Treasurer, responded to the allegation of negative billing, noting "The VUT is in full compliance with Ontario regulations (...) which allow municipalities to impose a tax on the assessed value of vacant units. The practice of mandatory declaration is demonstrated to be a much more successful method of accounting for vacant homes in a community when compared to alternatives such as voluntary declarations or a complaint-based system" he said.

So, what are the exemptions—how can you avoid the tax? The major exemption is that the tax will not be levied on a principal residence, so if your home is your principal residence, you will not be taxed. Most homeowners in Old Ottawa East live in their principal residence, so in theory, this tax should not be an issue for them. But, the catch is, in order to qualify for this principal residence exemption, the homeowner must submit a declaration to the City stating that the building is their principal residence. Failure to submit that declaration means that they will be taxed.

Other exemptions apply for houses that are being renovated, houses owned by people in long-term care, houses that have been sold, rural vacation properties, and a few others.

To add insult to injury, if you forget to make the declaration, and send it in late, you will be liable for a \$250.00 fine.

Details on the Vacant Unit Tax are available at <https://ottawa.ca/en/living-ottawa/taxes/vacant-unit-tax>



THERESA WALLACE PHOTO

Joanne Pocock

## CAG memoir course helps launch book project

Congratulations to Joanne Pocock on her just-released memoir entitled *Geneva's Scrapbook*, published by Shoreline Press.

The book describes Pocock's growing

up in the rural Eastern Townships of Quebec and grew out of her work in a Community Activities Group (CAG) course on memoir writing.

"In 2016, a neighbor told me about a one-time memoir course being offered at the Old Town Hall by a wonderful writer, Suzanne Nussey. I grabbed the opportunity, thinking this might be a way to finally tackle a writing project that had been brewing for a while," explains Pocock. "The story of my grandmother Geneva's scrapbook had been stored in the attic of my mind for years. The memoir class allowed me to finally unpack it in the company of other memoirists."

"Aside from talent, Suzanne had a knack for drawing out the stories that workshop participants were struggling to tell. There was an atmosphere of trust. As the group experience ended, I knew I wanted to continue with my project and began to work with Suzanne as my editor. Throughout the process I insisted I was only writing for my family, my children especially. I didn't plan on pursuing publication. That came with Suzanne's encouragement."

*Geneva's Scrapbook* is available by contacting [www.shorelinepress.ca](http://www.shorelinepress.ca) or by emailing the author at [joanne\\_pocock@hotmail.com](mailto:joanne_pocock@hotmail.com).



*A Walk of Art 2022*

# Old Ottawa East community outdoor art tour now a popular fixture for local artists and art lovers

**MAINSTREETER STAFF**

Blue skies and warm weather combined to draw hundreds of Old Ottawa East residents and other art-lovers to our community's third annual outdoor art tour on September 10th that featured many of OOE's most talented local artists and photographers exhibiting and selling their work to an appreciative public.

Newly dubbed *A Walk of Art*, the outdoor art tour presented by *The Mainstreeter*, has grown organically through word-of-mouth among local artists from three presenting artists in 2020, to 12 last year and to this year's bumper crop of 20 artists, along with a waiting list that almost ensures an even larger tour next year.

Five commercial sponsors provided financial support for the event which has become an established fixture on the community calendar of Old Ottawa East and an important opportunity for artists to display their work to their friends, neighbours and family.

Lorne Abugov, the editor of *The Mainstreeter*, was buoyed by the support of the sponsors and by the growth and community acceptance of *A Walk of Art*. "This event really began as a rather humble, COVID-inspired idea to give our residents something beautiful to witness as they strolled the community to get out of their homes during the pandemic," he says. "Today, it continues to display its informal roots, but it has grown in scale and stature because of the phenomenal support we have had from the artists and from our local businesses that understand the role that art and photography can play in community-building."

Geographically, the artists were widely scattered throughout Old Ottawa East, ranging from Ruth Browning who exhibited her landscape paintings on Echo Drive near Avenue Road to Louise Rachlis who presented her watercolour and acrylic paintings on Graham Avenue near the Rideau Canal. Organizers of the event are keen to extend the scope of *A Walk of Art* into other pockets of the community north and east of Graham and into the Greystone Village development.

Steve Fick, one of the three founding artists on the tour, took time out from an out-of-town community gathering to return to Ottawa to present his diverse portfolio of paintings in front of his home on Drummond Street. As the lone artist who has participated in all three OOE art tours, Fick was pleased by the turnout and level of interest in the event from those strolling the streets of the community. In his career, Fick was a leading Canadian cartographer, a skill that has come in very handy in his creation of the OOE art tour map that helps to guide those walking around OOE to take in the exhibiting artists and photographers.

For Tanis Browning-Shelp, the Arts



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTOS

**Pictured above are event sponsor Michele Parent of ReMax Absolute Realty and OOE portrait artist Sarah Lacy who exhibited many of her portraits to highly appreciative art lovers on Mason Terrace. This year's A Walk of Art sponsors included Watson's Pharmacy & Compounding Centre, Ottawa Physiotherapy & Sports Clinics (Main Street), Oat Couture/Montgomery's Scotch Lounge, ReMax Absolute Realty (Michele Parent – Agent) and Merriam Print Inc.**

Editor of *The Mainstreeter*, *A Walk of Art* is a doubly rewarding experience. As a major booster of the arts, she has witnessed the growth of the art tour and the exposure of talented local artists since the outset of the event. But she also has a personal connection and stake in the success of the event. "My mother, Ruth Browning, exhibited her artwork again this year and thoroughly enjoyed the many conversations she had with the visitors to

her exhibition. People wanted to know so much more about the locations of her landscapes, her travels, and also about her acrylic painting techniques. There were 96 visitors who stopped by during the four-hour show."

There are other benefits that accrue to the artists and to the community from the annual art tour. For example, artists and photographers residing and working in OOE get the opportunity to learn

of and meet up with other artists with whom they might not otherwise interact. "Painting as a vocation can be an intensely isolated way of life. Getting outdoors in your community and meeting people and other artists exhibiting next to you is a wonderful opportunity to socialize," says first-time exhibitor Sarah Lacy of Glenora Street. To allow the exhibitors a chance to meet other community artists and to view their artwork, the art tour organizers will schedule a face-to-face or Zoom "debrief" session in October.

And for members of the community, *A Walk of Art* has served to alert OOE residents to the incredible pool of artistic talent that lives and works in their midst. "I had no idea Old Ottawa East did this kind of thing," observed one resident who noticed a promotional poster on Main Street in the days preceding the event. "I thought they only had something like this in the Glebe."

Planning is already underway for next year's event, with organizers considering suggested enhancements that could include a separate and parallel art tour and art contest for neighbourhood children. In addition, *The Mainstreeter* is looking for volunteers who would enjoy participating in *A Walk of Art* organizing and implementing group.



**If you would like to get involved in the planning and staging of A Walk of Art in 2023, kindly email Arts Editor Tanis**

**Browning-Shelp at [tanis@browning-shelp.com](mailto:tanis@browning-shelp.com).**

## The future of art and photography is already here

**MAINSTREETER STAFF**

The image to the right might easily pass for a photo taken during A Walk of Art, the recent outdoor art tour of Old Ottawa East. But in fact, the picture was generated in seconds by our staff on a laptop using an artificial intelligence (AI) based digital app entitled DALL-E. The app is described as "a machine learning model developed by OpenAI to generate digital images from natural language descriptions". In this case, our staffer simply typed in the phrase "5 people viewing an outdoor art exhibition of paintings in front of a red brick house", et voila! The DALL-E app can also generate paintings in seconds of described images in various art styles such as primitive or pointillism based on instructions provided by the user.





# Improvements made at the dangerous Main and Hawthorne corner

**JOHN DANCE**

In August, *The Mainstreeter* reported on the dangerous southwest corner of Main and Hawthorne. The City subsequently took steps to improve safety and additional measures will be implemented once the Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne (GMH) project resumes in earnest.

The two smashed flex stakes at the corner have been replaced and, of greater significance, six additional flex stakes have been installed on the Hawthorne side to force vehicles away from the sidewalk and to provide additional space for pedestrians at the corner. This is a distinct improvement, however, flex stakes are removed in the fall for snow clearance activities so that pedestrians will lose the new protection until the stakes are reinstalled in the spring.

“The improvements made during the summer were completed in transition to the final design as part of the Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne project,” says Bruce Kenny, the City’s manager for design and construction.

In terms of the final design of the GMH project, “The intersection of Hawthorne Avenue and Main Street presented many challenges, including the close proximity of the buildings on the southwest corner to the street and the unique roadway alignment,” says Kenny.

“Although constrained by the tight right of way and building fabric, and the need to continue to accommodate the truck route on Hawthorne Avenue and Main Street, the proposed design provides as much space as possible for pedestrians on the southwest corner of the intersection within the constraints,” says Kenny.

The proposed design will shift the eastbound lanes to the north so that there will be additional space between the curb and the “vehicular turning tracks.” Further, the road geometry will be realigned to improve the turning radius. Another improvement will be the realignment of the storm sewer so that it doesn’t encroach on the sidewalk as it now does.

Also, the new design adds a concrete ripple strip to discourage vehicles from tracking too close to the curb line. With the current design, the rear wheels of vehicles, particularly larger ones, have regularly gone over the low curb and onto the sub-standard sidewalk, something that could crush pedestrians.

A final improvement, as suggested by Councillor Shawn Menard, would be to install steel bollards to further dissuade vehicles from cutting the corner too tight.

“The project enhancements will allow large, heavy vehicles such as transports and large buses to make the turn from eastbound on Hawthorne Avenue to

southbound on Main Street without driving over the curb or conflicting with northbound Main Street traffic,” says Kenny.

One improvement that the City will not pursue is requesting additional land from the province so that the entire Hawthorne roadway could be shifted a metre or two farther away from the building at the southwest corner of Main and Hawthorne.

“The Province has indicated they would not be in a position to discuss disposal of property until after the Highway 417, Canal and Main Street bridge replacement project designs have been completed and their needs for construction are fully understood,” says Kenny. He is also of the view that “(a)djusting the intersection to the north would not significantly improve the southwest turn movement. The proximity of the building on this corner limits the improvements possible to the curb radius around the southwest corner and has the impact of further skewing the through movement for vehicles proceeding straight on Hawthorne Avenue.”

Although the idea of land acquisition from the province has been rejected, Kenny says, “(f)urther acquisition of property on both the Main Street and Hawthorne Avenue frontages has been identified as being desirable if the property becomes available.”



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

**Additional flex posts have been installed to make the southwest corner of Main Street and Hawthorne Avenue safer, and further improvements will be made during the Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne project.**

## Future construction schedule not yet known

# Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne Project delayed

**JOHN DANCE**

This year’s work on the huge Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne reconstruction project has been delayed, but City staff have not yet revised their plans for the remaining months of this year and determined what the specific delays will be.

“The contract has been out to tender since July 21 and required some adjustment to address excess soil regulations, causing a delay in the closure date of the tender package,” Bruce Kenny, the City’s manager for design and construction, reported to *The Mainstreeter* in a September email.

“The project is anticipated to be awarded shortly,” he continued. “Once the contract is awarded and the schedule has been reviewed, the construction schedule will be communicated to residents in advance of work commencing.”

Originally, the roadway, sewer and watermain work was to have begun this past summer and three major segments were to be largely completed by the end of the year, notably: Hawthorne Avenue from Main Street to Colonel By Drive; Echo Drive/Colonel By Drive from Hawthorne Avenue to Immaculata High School; and Greenfield Avenue from Old Greenfield Avenue to Lees Avenue.

“Residents are encouraged to sign up for the Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne project e-newsletter at [ottawa.ca/esubscriptions](http://ottawa.ca/esubscriptions) to receive timely updates,” says Kenny. The most recent construction update on the project was posted on the City website in April. In May, there was an “on-line engagement opportunity” but there is no summary online of what came out of this effort.



*Letter to the Editor*

## What about the mess on the NW corner of Main and Hawthorne?

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to you about the northwest corner of Main Street and Hawthorne Avenue. It has been left to decay and collect debris. There's an old gas station, a derelict hair salon and an abandoned house. There are reports of squatters in the abandoned house even in good weather. It's across the street from the Community Centre where children play. I wrote to Councillor Menard about it. His assistant, Patrick Ennis, provided me with this feedback from City staff:

The property is 58 Main and is owned by the MTO (Ministry of Transport Ontario). My understanding is that the nail salon closer to the highway is to be demolished eventually, and that the old gas station has historic value and is likely to be retained (moved and potentially returned to site).

The MTO acquired this property

in order to facilitate its bridge renewals at the Canal Bridge and the Main Street Bridge (rapid replacement). These are 2025, at the earliest, the last time I checked.

He added that there's a limit to what City staff can do since it's not City property. The 2025 earliest date is not encouraging. Would the citizens of Rockcliffe put up with this mess? Why should we? Are we considered the slums? The local businesses are not amused either. If the church at the corner of Main Street and Echo Drive was not judged a historical artifact worth preserving, is this old gas station a historical artifact to be preserved? Even if the construction is not to start until 2025 at best, is there anything to prevent the corner being razed and tidied in the meantime? Is there a rationale I am missing here?

*Heather Lewis PhD  
Echo Drive*

## Counsellor candidates square off at debate

*Continued from Page 8*

of "what's in the best interests of everybody."

In the discussion on what candidates would do to support seniors, Rogers noted that the City needs to ensure seniors are not forced out of the community because of affordability issues. And he specifically raised the issue of new sidewalks built at 45 degrees "built for Toronto but not for here." Menard agreed on this point and said he'd promoted the option of adding the driveway access slope at the curb, rather than part of the travelled sidewalk. Bromwich raised the issue of the affordability of City programs and highlighted "(i)t's time not to spend recklessly."

Another issue where the challengers opposed the incumbent's position was the proposed location of the new Ottawa Hospital campus. Menard does not support the proposed location on the Experimental farm property, saying it should be at Tunney's Pasture, the location originally recommended by the National Capital Commission. Bromwich said it wouldn't be "wise to backtrack" but suggested more consultation was needed. Rogers

commented that "to stop the plan now would be a mistake." Menard also took issue with the City proposing to make a large contribution to the new hospital, instead asserting that the Province should pay for all of it.

Moderator David Reevely, *Ottawa Citizen* columnist, concluded that Capital Ward was fortunate to have "three accomplished, thoughtful people who want to represent our community."

COVID considerations seemed to limit attendance at the Glebe Community Centre event, with only about 70 people in the audience. Usually, the hall is packed for all-candidate debates. However, the debate is online at <https://youtu.be/kgA50dJoJS8>, so voters can readily view and form their own opinions on the candidates and figure out for whom they want to cast their vote.

OOECA and other local community associations are also sponsoring a mayoral candidates debate scheduled for 7 p.m., Monday, October 17 at the Horticulture Building, Lansdowne Park. If you have any questions you would like considered, please submit them in advance to [electiondebate@glebeca.ca](mailto:electiondebate@glebeca.ca).

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# BUSINESS BEAT

January opening planned for JFUSE

## Adding a little spice to the Main Street mix

PETER TOBIN

As soon as the For Lease signs went up on the large storefront windows on Main Street, neighbours began anxiously speculating on what new shops would be coming to grow the small but hardy and emerging business section of Old Ottawa East. Hopes were high for a grocery or a restaurant, but for months no details were forthcoming.

Local sleuths started garnering reliable inside information from those in the know. But what was still missing was any official comment from either the prospective tenants or the building owners, the Regional Group (Regional) at Milieu Modern Apartments (Milieu) or Domicile Developments (Domicile) at Corners on Main.

Now, having dug into the mystery, *The Mainstreeter* can disclose what we have learned. A high-end restaurant, JFUSE, will be opening in January at Milieu, as explained by owner James Park. The menu will feature Japanese fusion and some Korean cuisine. JFUSE will be Mr. Park's second Ottawa location, accompanying J:Unique, his popular and successful but tiny downtown sushi venue on Cooper Street.



LORNE ABUGOV PHOTOS

The recently leased commercial units in the Milieu Modern Apartments fronting on Main Street will be the home of JFUSE, a Japanese and Korean cuisine restaurant, and one or both of a cafe or a patisserie;



Ears on Main, a full service hearing clinic, is one of two new businesses in the Corners on Main condo.

Regional recently stated that a cafe would occupy a second retail space at Milieu fronting on Main Street. That statement notwithstanding, the word on the street all along has been that the space now under lease would be occupied by a French-style patisserie. Riverbank Dental, facing the Grand Allee, opened a couple of months ago.

As press time approached, the Milieu retail website listed four other rental units that were available for occupancy.

Just up the street at Corners on Main, Domicile has negotiated agreements with

an independent pharmacy and with a hearing centre. In a telephone interview, Angie O'Connor, owner of the hearing centre, advised that the new business would be a full service clinic called Ears on Main. She hopes to open by mid- to late-October of this year. O'Connor has 13 years experience as a registered audiologist and is also the mother of three school-aged boys.

*The Mainstreeter* contacted the owners of the planned pharmacy expected to open in mid-November, however, they explained that they were not yet prepared to announce further details.

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# BE THE CHANGE

## How to create a backyard urban forest

JAYSON MACLEAN

Ian McRae squints at a patch of scrabbly ground along the back fence of a property on Echo Drive. There's a generous sprinkling of gravel from the adjacent parking lot and, of course, plenty of weeds. He points to the low-lying greenery of garlic mustard, burdock and the tenacious Japanese knotweed, all of them looking very content to be lording over the patch of forgotten soil.

"You could put at least two big trees in here," McRae says. "Maybe an oak and a maple. Eventually, the shade will win out over those weeds."

It's that kind of long-term vision that McRae and SLOE (Sustainable Living Ottawa East) have been promoting this year through a tree canopy awareness and seedling giveaway for Old Ottawa East (OOE) residents.

The program has been neighbourhood-wide, but for McRae and neighbour Jan D'Arcy, there's been one area of special focus: the row of properties on the south side of Evelyn Street between Main Street and Rosemere Avenue.

"There's an existing canopy in those backyards," McRae said, "but it could use some longer-term planning and attention."

You may not know it, but the properties on that block of Evelyn Street have huge backyards. Not too wide, but deep, flowing back for what seems like miles and standing out as anomalies in OOE's fairly dense collection of single unit dwellings.

McRae and D'Arcy have been working for a while now on a re-forestation plan for this stretch of Evelyn, and they started up this year with resident Judi Pearl's yard, which, over many hours of weeding, clearing and, eventually, planting has been transformed into what will hopefully become a rich urban forest.

"When I first heard that SLOE was interested in piloting an urban microforest in a neighbourhood backyard, my heart leaped at the chance," Pearl said.

The approach adopted is called the Miyawaki method, originated by Japanese botanist Akira

Miyawaki, who characterized re-forestation as a process of working with treeless land to recreate the natural diversity and density of an indigenous forest. Using native trees, shrubs and undergrowth, the idea is to first enrich the soil and then plant your plants super dense, urging the seedlings to grow fast and tall.

How fast? Studies have shown Miyawaki forests can establish themselves 10 times faster than employing conventional re-forestation techniques.

"I have only a Google-level understanding of the Miyawaki concept," McRae said. "But we've really tried to design a space with multiple levels, from ground cover and shrubs to bigger trees, all within the one area, since that's what you'd find in a natural forest."

McRae says Pearl's yard, a 22x90 foot space, is now dotted with literally dozens of native shrubs, fruit trees, forest edge and understory trees, with enough room to spare for a winding path and places for future urban forest adventurers to pause along the way.

Pearl, who is a producer at the National Arts Centre and co-founder of a climate change-focused arts organization called SCALE, has had her son Louis out helping with the work, and she said she's looking forward to having her backyard serve as a welcoming place for the whole community.

"It's already an inspiring demonstration of what we can do to enhance biodiversity, to promote carbon sequestration and to grow native species in our own neighbourhood," she said.

Reflecting on what's been accomplished so far, McRae said he's happy with their efforts, even though it'll take years for the results to bear fruit.

"We're looking to create that forest feeling, something like an outdoor room with a ceiling of trees. Ultimately, it's about supporting a healthy tree canopy for our neighbourhood," he said.

*Jayson MacLean is the Chair of Sustainable Living Ottawa East (SLOE).*



JAYSON MACLEAN PHOTO

SLOE member Ian McRae (right) works alongside Louis Brault planting trees in the backyard of OOE resident Judi Pearl.



## Signs and symptoms: Reflections on the Survivors' Flag

FATHER TIM COONEN, OMI

Thirty-five years ago, in paramedic training we learned the difference between signs (something that can be observed by an outsider, like pulse, bleeding, lack of breathing) and symptoms (things that only the individual can tell you, like pain, dizziness, cramps).

The Survivor's Flag that was recently unveiled at Canadian Martyrs parish is both sign and symptom: the rich symbols of Indigenous identity, of family strength and loss, of those children both alive and those buried, like seeds in the earth, speak eloquently of the myriad stories that many of us have never heard, the symptoms we haven't recognized or acknowledged. Unless we listen to, learn from, and walk with each other, these symptoms remain hidden sources of pain, or of wisdom, or of healing.

The flag is also a sign; when we display it in our church or fly it from our flagstaff facing Main Street, we show to the world that while we acknowledge the long shared pilgrimage ahead of us, we are open to, or at least beginning to open ourselves to, the lived experiences of our sisters and brothers who are eager to share with us the pathway we must walk... together.





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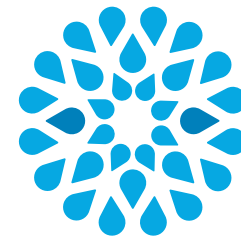
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# ELECTION 2022: OTTAWA VOTES

## Who's running for Mayor?

*The Mainstreeter asked mayoral candidates four questions with particular relevance to Old Ottawa East voters. Just six of the 14 candidates provided input. Of the three top candidates in recent polling, only Catherine McKenney responded. Bob Chiarelli and Mark Sutcliffe didn't despite reminder emails being sent to both. The candidates were allowed a maximum of 400 words to answer the four questions.*

### 1. Do you endorse the Lansdowne 2.0 plan and, if not, what changes would you make to Lansdowne Park?

#### Brandon Bay

No. The plan fails heavily on two fronts - the affordable housing is not affordable, and the public's and Ward councillor's concerns are being ignored. Building housing and updating the stadium are important, but this plan does nothing to improve the overall vision of the Lansdowne site.

In addition to addressing these failures, the event centre's green roof must be accessible, and we need more than a pedestrian-friendly big box strip mall on the site. I have proposed Invest Ottawa create business start-up programs for retail and food service industries. Lansdowne would be a great place for dozens of part-time new entrepreneurs to thrive.

#### Bernard Couchman

I do not endorse the Lansdowne 2.0 plan, it's not ambitious enough, it solves no problems. I support Lansdowne 10.7, which would include a 24 hours 365 day use of Lansdowne, four seasons use, the Sens would play there, and we add 40,000 more seats all in a unique design building that adds supporting businesses that complement each other. Indoors and outdoors mixed-use building, that is self-sustaining, completely off the grid, all its excess energy generated would feed the grid and we the citizens, would get a residual revenue for the life of the buildings.

#### Nour Kadri

As your Mayor, I would initiate a review of the current Lansdowne 2.0 plan. I would want to understand the recommendations made by City staff and assess those against what I've been hearing from residents on both sides of the issue. A new council should be able to set the agenda for Ottawa going forward. I support further public consultations with residents and businesses and a detailed analysis of the financials for this project. This is a big project, over 300 million dollars and requires debt financing. We need to assess the current performance and value of Lansdowne and determine if the current plan is the best path forward or if other considerations need to be made given the changes in Ottawa's workforce and demographics.

#### Mike Maguire

I can't endorse Lansdowne 2.0 because we, the public, haven't seen all of the details. I am quite concerned with the lack of specific financial details as well as the overlapping agreements from Lansdowne 1.0 which may influence my opinion.

#### Catherine McKenney

Lansdowne should be a gathering place for our City, but I'm concerned Lansdowne 2.0 could make the site increasingly into a space for only the people who can afford to live there.

I wanted to see a requirement for 20 per cent affordable housing (both deeply and moderately affordable) to be built on the site, but council did not support my proposal, instead calling on staff to work with the residential development to try and expand affordable housing beyond the mandated 10 per cent. The next iteration of Lansdowne should be a place for everyone and should only proceed following meaningful public consultation.

#### Ade Olumide

A drawback of 3Ps is the competence of lawyers for a government in comparison to private partner sharks. There is a Bank Street O-Train debate. The community has concerns about the number of condos. Consequently, I am not ready to take a firm position.

### 2. Do you support the construction of the proposed Alta Vista Transportation Corridor roadway?

#### Brandon Bay

No, I believe it does more harm than good. While it would offer Findlay Creek and Greenboro residents a quick drive downtown, it destroys a significant amount of greenspace, including the incredible Kilborn Allotment Garden.

We have a plan to build "15-minute" communities, served by frequent and effective public transit, to give residents a better, more sustainable life. This strategy will discourage driving and reduce demand on roadways, and the existing routes will remain sufficient.

#### Bernard Couchman

No. We have to do what's best for the community, however when designing we

*Continued on Page 19*



CATHERINE MCKENNEY



NOUR KADRI



ADE OLUMIDE



BERNARD COUCHMAN



MIKE MAGUIRE



BRANDON BAY

SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Six of a total of 14 candidates for Mayor of Ottawa elected to share their views on Old Ottawa East with readers of *The Mainstreeter*.

## ÉLISEZ DENIS FORGET

Conseiller scolaire catholique (FR)-CECCE  
Secteur 6, quartiers 12, 14, 15 et 17

Pour les enseignements de la Bible, du Catéchisme et de la vie des Saints, nos guides dans une vie de foi catholique traditionnelle :

- Tout pour la gloire de Dieu, dans le Saint Esprit trinitaire.
- Pour Jésus, le Christ ressuscité, sans lequel je ne suis rien ; Notre Seigneur et Notre Dieu, notre Sauveur et Rédempteur pour nos péchés; pour notre obéissance à ses commandements, à sa divine volonté et pour son amour miséricordieux.
- Pour la Bienheureuse Vierge Marie, Notre Mère et Notre-Dame, son chapelet quotidien et son rosaire, leurs bienfaits, leurs guérisons et leurs miracles.
- Pour la prière, le jeûne (BVM) et la méditation chrétienne.
- Pour l'augmentation du financement des élèves en difficulté.
- Pour l'augmentation du financement des services auxiliaires.
- Pour la vie, pour la démocratie, pour la liberté d'expression et pour des attitudes et des conduites respectueuses chrétiennes.

### RÉALISATIONS

- ✓ Diplôme de Maîtrise en science politique
- ✓ 25 ans d'enseignement
- ✓ 30 ans de bénévolat en paroisse et en organisation communautaire

### CONTACTS

613-789-5858 [www.DenisForget.ca](http://www.DenisForget.ca)  
[DenisForgetZone6@gmail.com](mailto:DenisForgetZone6@gmail.com)

Autorisée par la Campagne de Denis Forget





# ELECTION 2022: OTTAWA VOTES

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need to make sure we can access the corridors of the city seamless and effortlessly. If however it's deemed effective then I would support it. It has to make sense for those that are going to be using it every day to pass through.

**Nour Kadri**

I would defer a decision until all the studies are completed. I am concerned about the impact this transportation corridor will have on the green space. Things have changed since the AVTC was included in 2013 in the Transportation Master Plan.

**Mike Maguire**

No, I'm aware that this proposal has been around for quite some time. I think it's inappropriate to sacrifice that much greenspace when there are other alternatives.

**Catherine McKenney**

I am opposed to building this highway through established neighbourhoods. There are better ways of reducing and eliminating heavy truck traffic through the downtown.

**Ade Olumide**

I have concerns about the impact on the urban green space and the cost. Consequently, I am not ready to take a firm position. An income equity lens means that with the exception of LRT, there has to be a balanced scorecard and opportunity cost analysis for new capital or operating costs. As long as we have wait times to enter a drug treatment program, it is immoral to spend \$250 million on bike lanes.

**3. Given that residents in the core pay much more in taxes than the cost of the municipal services that they receive, what do you propose to do to address this imbalance?**

**Brandon Bay**

The rural regions pay their due by growing our food, and by providing green spaces for recreation, stormwater management, cooling, and clean air. The urban part of the city pays a little more to provide and receive services like transit, water, hospitals, nightlife, and higher education.

**Bernard Couchman**

I would upgrade the services, to a platinum services, where they are so happy to live in the core.

**Nour Kadri**

I believe that if a thorough assessment was done of the benefits received in different areas of Ottawa, you would see each area gets more of a particular benefit than the other areas do.

**Mike Maguire**

Source, please? Municipal taxes are calculated based on property value and



mill rate. This would seem to contradict the premise of your question. *[Editor's note: The question was based on the City of Ottawa "Hemson Report" that showed that the value of municipal services received by each urban resident is much less than the taxes they pay. Mr. Maguire was informed of this but did not provide an amended answer.]*

**Catherine McKenney**

I support 15-minute compact mixed-income and mixed-use neighbourhoods where people can move about their communities by transit, walking, cycling or driving. I do not support the expansion of the urban boundary, including the Tewin/Taggart lands that were approved in the last official plan. We must stop costly sprawl now, not in the future.

**Ade Olumide**

Cap tax increases at 1%, implement a hiring freeze and Mayor Watson's "No New Money" which was at the request of Ade Olumide, former President of the Ottawa Taxpayer Advocacy Group. Break a \$6 billion operating and capital budget into about 1,000 services so that the public can attend a financial summit to prioritize services.

With the exception of frontline officers, more civilians could yield \$18 million annual savings from 400 sworn officers doing Accounts, Training, HR & Support, Community Relations. The average total compensation for sworn officers is \$151K, excluding Police the same is \$116K.

Good cops are reputational victims of bad cops (about 10%), Olumide is pro-police. Council has not ended the disproportionate effect of police misconduct on indigenous people, visible minorities, caucasian female police officers, through the Anonymized Police Complaints Transparency Bylaw in [https://www.adeolumide.ca/why\\_vote\\_for\\_ade](https://www.adeolumide.ca/why_vote_for_ade)

Everyone has an ethical duty to sign this petition <https://www.change.org/p/transparency-database-for-police-military-complaints-includes-sexual-assault-AND-circulate-it>. Frustrated by governments; Alberta, Idaho, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, academics, media, law enforcement associations created incomplete police misconduct databases.

**4. What is going to be done to increase the tree canopy in the core?**

**Brandon Bay**

I have proposed planting more fruit and nut trees across the city, to help with the tree canopy and with food security and building new communities in parking-heavy strip malls, including new trees and parks. I am also considering tree minimums for private lawns, based on their size.

**Bernard Couchman**

Add more female trees.

**Nour Kadri**

As your mayor, I would incentivize not-for-profits like Ecology Ottawa in the core to be part of the federal government's 2 Billion Trees (2BT) program to plant 2 billion trees over 10 years across Canada.

**Mike Maguire**

Focused re-planting to restore the tree canopy and, work with the province to make the necessary products available that can prevent disease and infestation. It's tragic that Ottawa was not allowed to use the products that would have saved our ash trees.

**Catherine McKenney**

As Mayor, I will bring bold action on climate change, putting Ottawa on track to reach net-zero emissions by 2050. We need trees to cool our City and reduce the impact of heatwaves. To absorb carbon emissions and help us all breathe clean air. As Mayor, I will increase our tree canopy to 40 per cent by 2030. For years, I've fought to keep the trees we have and plant new trees that will actually survive.

**Ade Olumide**

Increase the tree planting budget.

**Modern. Vibrant. A city that lives up to its potential.**

Catherine McKenney's record as a two-term councillor:

- New housing for stronger communities and reduced homelessness
- Making the environment part of every discussion at City Hall
- Electric buses, improved transit, and safer walking and cycling

**Catherine McKenney has the experience and leadership to make our city a vibrant place to live.**

Authorized by the campaign to elect Catherine McKenney

**Our City. Your Mayor.**  
**McKenney2022.ca**



# ELECTION 2022: OTTAWA VOTES

## Where do Capital Ward Councillor candidates stand on Old Ottawa East?

*In the interest of providing Old Ottawa East residents with more information on the candidates running for councillor of Capital Ward, The Mainstreeter posed four questions to the three candidates. All took advantage of the opportunity. Candidates were allowed a maximum of 400 words to answer all four questions, but it was their choice as to which questions they wanted to provide detailed or less detailed responses.*



REBECCA BROMWICH



SHAWN MENARD



Dan Rogers

### 1. What key issues pertaining to Old Ottawa East are of concern to those you've canvassed, and how would you address these issues?

#### Rebecca Bromwich

##### Traffic

- Speeding on residential streets is out of control
- I will work to ensure more police enforcement in our communities.

##### Infrastructure

- Our roads are a mess! Glebe, Bronson, Sunnyside, Clementine, Carling. Unsafe roads are a safety hazard for cyclists.
- I will vote for the Road/Cycling budget and ensure we get our fair share.

##### Affordability

- I will not support my opponent's 13% tax scheme, or a plan to create a municipal land transfer tax
- These massive tax hikes hurt our seniors and those on fixed income.
- Market value assessment will also hit Capital Ward very hard.

##### Housing

- I will insist that a significant portion of any new apartments at Lansdowne Park be truly affordable.
- I will collaborate with Federal and Provincial partners to secure funding and land to get shovels in the ground for more affordable housing projects in Capital Ward.

##### Sustainability

- After the devastating storm in May, we lost thousands of trees. I will propose doubling the tree budget.
- Unlike my opponent, I will vote for electrifying our bus system.

#### Shawn Menard

We must stop the four-lane roadway (AVTC) taking over the greenspace by Lees Towers by removing the corridor from the Transportation Master Plan.

We will ensure the Greenfield-Main-Hawthorne re-construction includes buried hydro wires, bicycle lanes, protected pedestrian space at Hawthorne and Main, and an improved pedestrian crossing at Concord and Greenfield.

Advocate for a Pedestrian/Bike Bridge over the Rideau River from Clegg Street to the Rideau River Eastern Pathway and connecting with the hospital.

#### Dan Rogers

The main issues I've heard relate to the Alta Vista Transportation Corridor (AVTC) and the renovation of the Sisters Convent on Oblats Avenue. Regarding the AVTC, I note that the growth of the city is putting pressure on the transit system and new routes must be found. That said, I am not convinced that running four lanes of traffic through a well-used green space is the best idea. As a Councillor, I would recommend this proposal go back for further review. Regarding the Sisters Convent, I firmly believe that intensification is necessary in our growing city to mitigate urban sprawl and to address greenhouse gas issues. The project provides affordable housing, which is a priority of mine. I am supportive of the project.

### 2. What other issues - possibly of relevance to other wards too - do you feel strongly about that require the attention of the new council?

#### Rebecca Bromwich

##### Safety

- I will not support the layoff of 140 Police officers. I will support an increase to the budget providing these priorities are included:
  - Domestic Violence
  - Hate Crimes
  - Speeding in our community.

##### Lansdowne

- For public safety reasons, we need a new North Side Stand and a new Civic Centre. No significant public consultation has taken place in four years. Within the first 100 days after I take office, I will organize a public meeting with OSEG and the City to hear the views of community members and stakeholders.

#### Shawn Menard

We need to get the Lansdowne development right. We will lead public consultations to ensure a proposal that maintains and enhances public amenities and park space, not tie this solely to a financial plan that benefits corporate developers, provides truly affordable housing, and includes a viable transportation plan.

Action on climate change is essential, including building retrofits that will lower emissions and save money, establishing new net-zero building standards, and

diverting more organic waste from landfills.

We must increase our investment in affordable housing from \$15M per year to \$50M and build purpose-built affordable housing and incorporate it into new developments.




#### Dan Rogers

I'm hearing a lot about Lansdowne 2.0. OSEG presented a proposal to City Council in June based on Council

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**A Vision for a Better Future - Une Vision pour un Avenir Meilleur**

**BY WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD:**

-  **Safer, more inclusive communities**
-  **Safe, healthy & affordable homes**
-  **Safe, reliable world class Transit**

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# ELECTION 2022: OTTAWA VOTES

## Capital Ward Councillor candidates speak their minds

*Continued from Page 20*

direction that it be tax neutral. The proposal generated much negative comment, including from Councillor Menard, but it must be noted that this was a first draft proposal and that public consultation will happen after the upcoming municipal elections, with all of the communities in Capital Ward participating. Regarding Lansdowne overall, it is important to note that while flawed, it is a major improvement over the derelict parking lot that preceded it. During the year prior to the start of redevelopment, 300,000 visited the site. In the year prior to Covid, more than 4 million people came to the shops, restaurants and stadium. Many of those people spilled onto Bank Street, providing an economic injection to the small businesses in the Glebe and Old Ottawa South. More public transparency is needed in the development of 2.0, but development that brings more people, more housing – including affordable housing as proposed in the draft plan – must go ahead.

**3. OOE is a community concerned about healthy living and preserving and enhancing the environment. If you are elected, how will you contribute to advancing the health and well-being of this community, the City and its residents?**

**Rebecca Bromwich**

The development of the new Civic hospital is going to be important for community health and we need to do it in a way that balances environmental sustainability with providing quality acute care beds. I will work collaboratively with all levels of government to ensure we have quality health care, environmental sustainability initiatives that are thoughtful, and health promotion through things like quality pedestrian and cycling infrastructure as well as better support for community services such as mental health.

**Shawn Menard**

Last term, we passed the climate emergency declaration, secured city resources for environmental mitigation measures and passed bylaws to protect our urban trees. Now, we need to expand the urban tree canopy and protect and

enhance our parks – extending wading pool hours, providing more water fountains and bathroom access, and putting three-stream waste bins in all city parks by the end of the term – allowing more people to live a healthy lifestyle.

**Dan Rogers**

Protecting green space and making the community safe and walkable are critical for the community's well-being. More broadly, I would work with councillors to make buses and the City's fleet of cars and trucks become electric and/or hybrid to reduce air pollution.

**4. What, in your view, have been the key successes and failures of the current council?**

**Rebecca Bromwich**

Paradoxically, the launch of the LRT is both a tremendous success (we have an LRT!) and a failure (there is a public inquiry!) of the current Council. Other key successes include the climate change plan, investments in cycling infrastructure and tree planting, as well as other things. A big failure was the dysfunctional factionalization of the Council. We need to work together better as one team – Team Ottawa.

**Shawn Menard**

The biggest success was passing the climate change emergency. After years of talk, we started seeing serious, concrete action. More work is necessary, but we now have the resources and, importantly, the political will to do this work.

Unfortunately, this council also bowed to developer and corporate interests, in the expansion of the urban boundary. We will be paying for this decision both environmentally and financially for years to come. Too often, councillors ignored the voice and the needs of our community, choosing to side with these other interests instead. Our commitment has always been to serving residents, and we will continue working with you to make our community and our city better.

**Dan Rogers**

The inability of councillors to set aside their personal differences and, instead, advocate for their personal ideological priorities has resulted in a failed council. Councillors must understand they are elected to work for all residents and work together to bridge differences in order to find solutions to improve life in the City.

## Make your mark in the 2022 Municipal Elections

Vote at any one of the three in-person voting opportunities:



**Advance Vote Days**  
October 7 and 14



**Voting Day**  
October 24



**Elections Ottawa**

**Ottawa**

For Advance Vote Days and Voting Day, you can cast your ballot at your designated voting place. Use the **"Where do I vote?"** tool on [ottawa.ca/vote](https://ottawa.ca/vote) to learn where and when you can vote. All voting places are fully accessible.

If you can't make it to a voting place, you can appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf.

Ottawa has new ward boundaries for the 2022 Municipal Elections and 2022-2026 Term of Council. Use the **"Who is running in my ward?"** tool on [ottawa.ca/vote](https://ottawa.ca/vote) to verify your ward name and number, and to view the list of candidates running in your ward.

For more information about the 2022 Municipal Elections, visit [ottawa.ca/vote](https://ottawa.ca/vote) or contact the City of Ottawa's Elections Office by phone at 613-580-2660 or by email at [elections@ottawa.ca](mailto:elections@ottawa.ca).

2022-002\_31



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**ELECT**

Jessie-Lee

# WALLACE

**OCDSB, Trustee** **ZONE 9**



**I will focus on getting students back to learning and thriving. I support in-class learning with the full reinstatement of extracurriculars like sports and music. Let's support children and families to rebuild their lives.**

The Ontario Human Rights Commission released a report after ten years of study earlier this year. **The report clearly showed that we are failing our young people.** Before the pandemic, 26% of Grade 3 students\* did not meet literacy standards, and 19% of Grade 6 students. **Imagine now? Students have a #righttoread.**

**Let's centralize access to our administrative resources. Let's help parents navigate a confusing public education system, especially when trying to get help for struggling young learners. Let's resource teachers and educational assistants better. We will need to provide creative and school-specific solutions like group and peer mentoring. As a parent, I will continue to advocate for structured literacy and closing the learning gap.**

## ABOUT JESSIE-LEE WALLACE

*I grew up in Heron Park and went to Canterbury H.S. I also live and work in Alta Vista & Capital Wards.  
My daughter attends public school, too.*

*I have an almost 15-year track record of community development work. I am a Director at a large local youth-serving organization (The Boys & Girls Club/BGC Ottawa). I have an honours degree from the University of Ottawa, and Graduate Studies from Royal Roads University. I have significant experience managing complex budgets, large teams, committees, and multiple relationships for positive community outcomes.*

## LET'S GET STUDENTS BACK TO LEARNING & THRIVING...

I want to be your Ottawa Carleton District School Board Trustee for Zone 9 (Capital Ward + Alta Vista Ward)

**If elected, I will be a tireless community builder. We need School Board Trustees to work together to support Public Education:**

- **Reinstatement of extracurricular programs** that build school communities and student development, for all students.
- I support **evidence-based learning** resources
- I support **covid safety protocols**, as per Ottawa Public Health guidelines, especially improved ventilation and air filtration.
- I believe in the **#righttoread**, championing structured literacy programs to get children back on track after a tough two years.
- **More resources for families with diverse learners**, with policy changes at the School Board level.
- **Improving student transit** options, and making **schools safer spaces**, together.

## ENDORSEMENTS



**The Rideau Students Union**  
"Reasons why she is a terrific candidate... (she is) against discrimination and wants to support student's rights. If you are in Zone 9, consider giving Jessie-Lee your vote."



**Tejpreet (Tej) Dulat, Parent, Business Owner & Community Leader**  
"Jessie-Lee is a strong candidate who cares about making decisions in the best interests of children."



**Tricia Ross, #RightToRead Advocate & Former. City Councillor Candidate, Current Board Chair, BWCH.**

"Here is a great OCDSB Trustee Candidate for Zone 9. She understands the crucial importance of #RightTo Read and evidence-based learning that supports ALL students. Families need support now and she is committed to generating the necessary changes."



**Learn more, volunteer, & donate.**

[linktr.ee/jessieleewallace](https://linktr.ee/jessieleewallace)



[jilwallacetrusteezone9@gmail.com](mailto:jilwallacetrusteezone9@gmail.com)



**Jessie-Lee Wallace for OCDSB Trustee, Zone 9**



[@jessieleebwallace](https://www.instagram.com/jessieleebwallace)



[@JLWallace613](https://twitter.com/JLWallace613)



# ELECTION 2022: OTTAWA VOTES

## Who's running for School Trustee?

*The Mainstreeter asked candidates for the four school boards for a brief paragraph on their backgrounds and another on why they are running. Six of the nine trustee candidates responded in a timely way.*

### Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

#### Nili Kaplan-Myrth

It is an honour to run for OCDSB Trustee in Zone 9 (Capital and Alta Vista). I am doing this not as a career politician, but as a family physician, anthropologist, and mother of three. I have spent my life advocating for equitable access to health care and education, Indigenous self-determination, rights for people with disabilities, LGBTQ rights, mental health care, and for all marginalized populations.

As Trustee, I will advocate for children and families, guided by the following principles: 1) Education should not be a privilege. Diversity should be celebrated, supported. No student should face discrimination on the basis of culture, religion, language, gender identity, sexuality, physical disability, learning disability, or neurodiversity. OCDSB must be accountable for educational outcomes for all children in all programs (English, French immersion, ESL, special education, dual support, gifted and other exceptionalities, alternative programs, eLearning). OCDSB must address disparities in distribution of resources to schools. 2) Safety should not be a privilege. Schools must be safe, accessible, supportive to every student and family. OCDSB should lead, go above and beyond, to ensure everyone's health and safety.

#### Josh Rachlis

I want green space for schools, to help with mental health, especially after online learning and masking has been hard on kids. And I believe parents should be involved in

OCDSB decisions, because they know their kids best. Hearing from the community shows me what needs to change. At the Glebe debate, student volunteers told me Glebe HS needs more AC & the toilets aren't flushed. Your feedback tells me what could make schools more comfortable so students can focus on learning. So please contact me.

I was in French Immersion and the Gifted Program and was a teacher's aide for special needs kids. So I know we need programs to help everyone reach their potential. I love that Canterbury exists for artsy students. I'd also love schools with other specializations. I'm an actor, screenwriter, cartoonist, songwriter, comedian, radio/TV host: As a creative person, I can find creative ways to make schools better. I'm known in Ottawa for posting my life on social media, so you can always see what I'm up to & reach me for help. I'll add a section to my podcast where I talk about school board and Ottawa issues to keep you informed.

#### Jessie-Lee Wallace

As a parent with a child in Public School and as a neighbour, I saw how challenging the last two-plus years have been for families. Our kids are still trying to catch up socially, emotionally, and scholastically.

The Ontario Human Rights Commission released a report after ten years of study earlier this year. The report clearly showed that we are failing our young people. Before the pandemic, 26 percent of Grade 3 students did not meet literacy



Nili Kaplan-Myrth



Josh Rachlis



Jessie-Lee Wallace



Shelley Lawrence



Marielle Godbout



Denis Forget

**Six of the nine candidates for school board trustee provided timely responses to *The Mainstreeter's* request for their background information and reasons for running for office.**

standards, and 19 percent of Grade 6 students. Imagine what those numbers look like now after two-plus years of disrupted learning.

We need to create better policies that centralize access to our administrative resources. Let's help parents navigate a confusing public education system, especially when getting help for struggling learners. Let's resource teachers and educational assistants better. Let's provide creative and school-specific solutions like group and peer mentoring. Please vote for me on October 24. I will work to support all families, including 2SLGBTQ+ and racialized students.

I believe in community and have a 15+ year track record of community development. I have significant experience managing complex budgets, large teams, committees, and multiple relationships for

positive community outcomes. Please join me: [linktr.ee/jessieleewallace](https://linktr.ee/jessieleewallace)

### Ottawa Catholic School Board

#### Shelley Lawrence

I am Sister Shelley Lawrence and I live in and represent Zone 9 as the trustee. For 25 years, I was an OCSB chaplain, eight of those years at Immaculata H.S. In that role, I helped students from every social and economic background thrive. My vocation in life has been in the service of Catholic education.

As a trustee, I supported increased funding in the following areas: literacy intervention; support for English language learners; deep learning; Catholic resource materials; equity and inclusion staffing and resources; technology to accelerate

*Continued on Page 24*

**REBECCA  
BROMWICH.com**  
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**Working together to get our fair share for Old Ottawa East at the heart of the city**  
**Travailler ensemble pour obtenir notre juste part pour le Vieil Ottawa-Est dans le coeur de la ville**



@RebeccaBromwich



613-983-2627





# ELECTION 2022: OTTAWA VOTES

## Trustee candidates for all four school boards seek your vote

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learning; and, resources and additional staff to support students with special education needs. In addition, I also endorsed funding for the Black Student Forum and a GSA student day. The correlation between mental health and student and staff well-being is well known. With that in mind, I championed increased funding for Mental Health Workers and Wellness initiatives. I will continue to prioritize all of these important initiatives. Recently, the Ministry of Education provided a special short-term grant for tutoring. I will advocate for continued funding in this area. Catholic education is a gift. As a trustee, I will work to ensure Catholic schools are places where all students, parents and staff feel welcomed and cared for.

### Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario

Marielle Godbout

Lors du prochain mandat, je me propose de continuer mes efforts pour améliorer l'accès à des écoles de qualité

dans le secteur et ce, particulièrement au niveau secondaire. Mes efforts ont porté fruit cette année lorsque le CÉPÉO a obtenu la désignation d'un terrain réservé pour une nouvelle école dans le projet de développement du 1495, chemin Heron. Quant au quartier Ottawa-Est, les possibilités d'y aménager une école élémentaire demeurent assez minces à cause du manque de terrains disponibles. Il faudra donc regarder ailleurs dans le secteur pour atténuer cette pénurie. J'apporte à la table du CÉPÉO plusieurs années d'expérience en gouvernance, non seulement au CÉPÉO mais également en tant qu'administratrice de l'Ontario Public School Boards' Association durant une dizaine d'années, ainsi qu'à la présidence ou vice-présidence du conseil d'administration de l'Association des traducteurs et interprètes de l'Ontario (ATIO). Mon expérience en enseignement aux niveaux secondaire et universitaire me permet de bien comprendre les enjeux auxquels font face nos apprenants et leurs parents. De plus, je suis en mesure de bien surveiller la saine gestion des fonds publics grâce

à une longue expérience en analyse, planification et gestion stratégique des ressources au niveau fédéral.

### Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est

Denis Forget

Bonjour! Mon nom est Denis Forget. Issu d'une famille pauvre, j'ai dû commencer très jeune à travailler. De plus, j'ai connu plusieurs années d'intimidation tant à l'école qu'au travail. Malgré toutes ces difficultés, j'ai réussi à décrocher plusieurs diplômes universitaires et distinctions d'excellence, en enseignement, en journalisme, et en réalisations de travail bénévole en paroisses catholiques.

C'est sur cette base de talents, persévérance et résilience que je suis candidat au poste de conseiller scolaire catholique francophone dans le Secteur 6, quartiers 12, 14, 15 et 17. "Le Seigneur fit pour moi des merveilles, Saint est son nom" (Évangile de saint Luc, 1, 49). Je n'ai pas de doute, si j'ai réussi ma vie, c'est grâce à Mon Seigneur et Mon

Dieu, Jésus-Christ, et ma bonne maman du Ciel, la bienheureuse Vierge Marie, mère de Jésus, dans l'Esprit saint. En ces temps de valeurs anti-chrétiennes et catholiques qui infiltrent tous les pores de la société, je pense que je peux encore contribuer à apporter à nos jeunes du CECCE une amélioration au niveau de l'enseignement catholique, des services aux élèves en difficultés pédagogiques et en soins de santé, ainsi qu'en justice sociale. Le meilleur candidat? Denis! Merci! Amen +

*Editor's Note: Three additional candidates for school trustee - Mahdi Djama Aouled and Joel Beddows, both seeking a seat on the CÉPÉO board and Jenny Rivera, who is running for a seat on the Ottawa Catholic School Board - filed their responses to The Mainstreeter after our print deadline for this issue. However, readers can view their responses on our website at mainstreeter.ca.*

## REBECCA BROMWICH

### QUARTIER CAPITALE WARD

Single mom - Lawyer - Carleton U Professor - Volunteer - Community Leader

Mère monoparentale - Avocate - Professeure à l'Université Carleton - Bénévole - Leader communautaire

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- ♦ Delivering better, more affordable transit / Offrir un meilleur transport en commun plus abordable
  - Improve intergration of Para Transpo, busses and LRT for everyone / Améliorer l'intégration de Para Transpo, des autobus et du PTL pour tous
- ♦ Enhancing the Safety and Value of City owned Parks and Buildings at Lansdowne / Améliorer les parcs et les bâtiments de la Ville à Lansdowne
  - Full community input in the first 100 days on Lansdowne 2.0 / Contribution complète de la communauté les 100 premiers jours sur Lansdowne 2.0



Find out more - En savoir plus

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# Thank you, Ottawa!

As we head towards the end of my term as Mayor, I wanted to thank you, the residents of Ottawa, for the kindness you have shown me over the years. It has been the honour of a lifetime to serve the nation's capital for almost fifteen years.

With gratitude,

Jim Watson  
Mayor

@jimwatsonottawa    jimwatsonottawa.ca

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# ART BEAT



**TANIS  
BROWNING-  
SHELP**

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## OOE ARTIST FEATURE: SARAH LACY... CREATING PORTRAITS THAT TELL DEEPER STORIES

Artist Sarah Lacy has always loved portraits. “When I was young, I would pore over art history books,” she says. “It was never the big religious scenes that captured me; rather, it was the faces of people who lived 500 years ago. I was drawn to that quiet, more intimate kind of storytelling. It felt like making a one-on-one connection.”

Lacy, who grew up near Niagara Falls, Ontario, has been a portrait painter from the very beginning. “It is the genre I love, a confluence of subject matter and style,” she says. “In grade five, I did an entire series of portraits of the backs of my fellow students’ heads.” She held her first solo art show in 2007 at the age of 19. “I also decided very early on to become a

full-time artist. It never even occurred to me to be scared!”

“I love hearing about peoples’ lives. I never find that mundane or boring. A person’s experiences get embedded in their skin, bones, and musculature. Being a portrait painter changes the way you look at people. You slow down and really look at things such as the corners of the eyes. Portrait painting is my way of helping people see what I see.”

Lacy studied art in France. “I had serious health issues as a young person,

so I pursued my post-secondary education a bit later in life,” she says. “From 2011-2013, I studied at a private atelier in the French countryside where the student body numbered just 12.” Lacy’s time in France was transformative. “It gave me the experience and knowledge to make the work I could see in my head.”

Historically, portraits were status symbols representing a person’s beauty or power. “But art can tell a much deeper story,” Lacy says. Each of her portraits are oil paintings that take anywhere from 75-120 hours to complete. “The

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



SUPPLIED PHOTO

**Sarah Lacy, pictured here at work in her Glenora Street studio, trained for three years in France in order to master her skills as a portrait artist.**

time-intensive nature of my work is how I create a sensitive portrait. I am always looking for the layers in someone’s face. My paintings also have both physical and metaphorical layers. The more I look at someone’s face, the more I can see inside of them, and I can build that into the painting.

“It is not just experiences I am seeing and capturing. It is how people have responded to their experiences that shows. Have they responded with curiosity, strength, or kindness? These are the things that come through. Paying attention to external contours shows what lies beneath.

“A portrait captures the legacy of how you’ve behaved...how you’ve loved other people. For me it is a way of connecting to community - family, friends - connecting them through generations.”

Lacy also teaches art. She ran an art school for five years where she also met with her portrait clients. Now that she works from her home in Old Ottawa East, she meets with local clients, does some sketches, and takes reference photos. Then she works from the photos. “The reason I can create lifelike portraits from photos is because I have done so much training using live models,” she explains.

Lacy’s latest body of work entitled *Adamantine* is a series of self-portraits in which she explores the events of her life in literal, metaphorical, and emotional ways. “I have lived a lot in my 34 years!” Lacy

*Continued on Page 27*



**Maria Ignota (Unknown Seas) - self portrait**  
Size: 16" x 20"  
Medium: oil on board



**Portrait of a Gentleman in a Tuxedo**  
Size: 18" x 24"  
Medium: oil on linen



**I am everything**  
Size: 18" x 24"  
Medium: oil on linen





## TIM HUNT'S MAIN STREET SKETCHES

*Tim Hunt explores his community outfitted with a small sketchbook, pen, and watercolour kit. In our regular feature, he shares the pages from his sketchbook and tells the stories behind his work.*

**Tim Hunt:** Sitting across the street from the empty parking lot next to Singing Pebble Books early Saturday morning, I consider the space and how to proceed with my goal of making a drawing of the Main Street Farmers' Market. As vendors arrive, greet one another and unload their vehicles, it is hard to know exactly where to start amidst the jockeying and hustle of them setting up their stands.

I focus on the quiet area above the action—the top of the store, the bright blue sign of Café Qui Pense, the sky and



the treetops. I pencil in the triangles between the tops of the tent canopies as they pop up here and there, giving shape to the scene unfolding before me. I draw in the bike post at the bottom left of the page to help define my borders and am happily distracted when a vintage bicycle rolls up and is carefully locked by its owner. A musician arrives, sets up his microphone and equipment, and tunes his

guitar. Now I can sketch in some tables and try to get a sense of the vendors as they carefully arrange their goods for sale. As patrons arrive and circulate, chat and linger, I add colour to my scene here and there, losing myself in the rhythm and hum of activity.

When the drawing feels done, when another mark or line feels like too much, I imagine the market day coming to a close, the process reversed as people return home, vendors pack up and all that is left is an empty parking lot.

OOE artist Sarah Lacy

## Honouring people's stories through portraits

*Continued from Page 26*

says. "I have coped with some challenging experiences, and it now feels important to share them as part of my larger story—the story I am telling with my artwork." At age 12, Lacy was diagnosed with chronic fatigue and fibromyalgia. "I was very sick in middle school and in high school, but, fortunately, art was something I could do in bed. It was the door that opened when everything else had closed to me. It was a lifeline."

Lacy learned to manage her symptoms and stabilize her health when she was in her 20s. "Adamantine means unbreakable. It shares the same etymological root as a diamond, and I like the idea of something that has been compressed under extreme pressure but becomes something beautiful. In this series, I've been exploring the aftermath of significant personal upheaval...like blueberries flourishing in the ashes of a forest fire."

Recently, Lacy won The Portrait Society of America's competition entitled The

View of Self. She submitted one of her *Adamantine* self-portraits. "That painting is about self-exploration—learning about the light and the dark parts of yourself," she says. "It is also whimsical and funny. In it, I am holding a compass, there is a map of imaginary lands behind me—including sea monsters—and I am wearing my Indiana Jones style explorers' hat. The painting asks: who am I and in what direction will my life go next?"

Lacy is now booking commissions for 2023. A Lacy portrait takes approximately six months to complete. To see more of Sarah Lacy's work, go to <https://smlacyart.com>.

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.

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## Top Questions to Ask Yourself Before You Renovate your Kitchen

1. Set your priorities. Know what's important to you. Who uses the kitchen? Family focused/ Cooks' kitchen/ Entertaining kitchen or Showpiece. How is it used?
2. What is being changed? Appliances, cabinets, cabinet hardware, counters, sinks and faucets, flooring, lighting, wall finishes, ventilation and window coverings.

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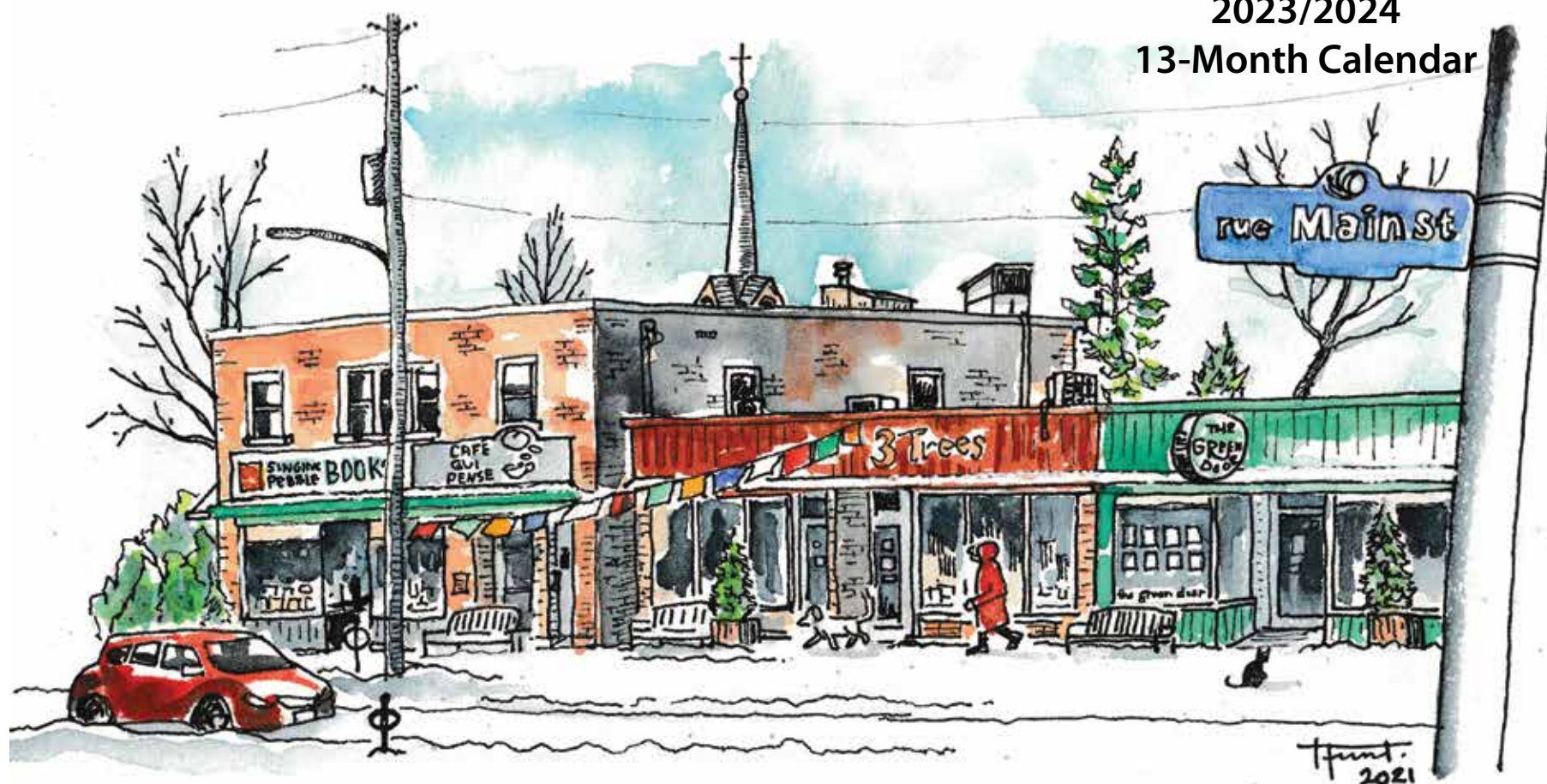


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*Tim Hunt's*

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# CAG

Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East

Making Old Ottawa East an even better place to live, work, and play!

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## Fall 2022 Programs

All programming and events are subject to change.

Register @ [www.ottawaeastcag.ca](http://www.ottawaeastcag.ca)

### Youth Programs

#### 2022-2023 After-School Programs

@ Old Town Hall and Brantwood Park

Fieldhouse - Spots Available Now!

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#### Register Today for:

- 2022-23 PA Day Camps
- Holiday Week Camps (Jan 2-6, 2023)
- March Break Camps (Feb 13-26, 2023)
- **Parents and Tots Drop-In** Tuesday's & Thursday's 10 am - 1:00 pm @ Brantwood Fieldhouse in October
- **Arts & Music Programs** Coming Soon!



Thank you to our 2021-22  
Community Partners



### Adult Fitness Programming

Fall Session (In-Person & Online)

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### Adult Art Programs

- Figure Drawing (In-Person) @ the Brantwood Fieldhouse

### Community Events

- Halloween Party @ Old Town Hall  
Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

In Partnership with:

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# POLITICAL PAGES

## JIM WATSON MAYOR, OTTAWA

110 LAURIER AVE. W., OTTAWA, ON K1P 1J1  
(613)580-2496 JIM.WATSON@OTTAWA.CA @  
JIMWATSONOTTAWA



### WHY THE 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION MATTERS

Over the last 12 years, our nation's capital has grown to be a vibrant and diverse city of a million people with so much to boast about.

From the launch of Stage 1 LRT to our record investments in affordable housing. From the Ottawa 2017 celebrations to a flourishing arts and culinary scene. Or the opening of countless community centres and a thriving tech sector for local start-ups and business giants alike. Since 2010, we've also expanded our cycling network by 58%.

The list goes on and on.

This fall, Ottawa residents will head back to the ballot box. You may hear your family members, friends or colleagues say: "Another election? Why should I care?"

For starters, we rely on the municipal government much more on a day-to-day basis than we think. Whether you're turning on the lights in your home, filling up a glass of water from the tap, walking on a cleared sidewalk, hopping on a bus to get to a community centre, or calling 9-1-1... Those are all City services – and we all expect these basic services to be delivered to us every single day.

Secondly, those elected this fall will ultimately oversee a number of transformative projects that will have an impact on the development of our city for years to come. We need to ensure that those who we elect will work to build on the momentum of the last few terms: Stage 2 & 3 LRT, revitalizing LeBreton Flats, opening Ádisōke, the new net-zero central library, building the new Civic Campus of The Ottawa Hospital – and so much more.

Last but not least: we can't give up on democracy. In June's provincial election, we saw the lowest voter turnout in Ontario's history. Nearly three years of living through a pandemic, paired with an increase in vitriol on social media have resulted in a lack of interest on the part of voters and an apprehension on the part of potential candidates to register.

While we're all tired, we can't let fatigue and hatred overshadow the fact that this election will have major impacts on our city's future.

So do your research, ask the tough questions, and vote for people who will continue to work for a better Ottawa. Vote like the future of our city depends on it – because it does. Vote like our democracy is at stake – because it is.

We're far from perfect, but we should be proud of the progress we have made as a city and as a community. I love this city, and I know you do too.

Voting Day is Monday, October 24. Advance Vote Days take place on October 7 and October 14 from 10 am to 8 pm. To find your assigned voting location or for more information about the 2022 municipal election, please visit: <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/elections/2022-municipal-elections>

## JOEL HARDEN MPP, OTTAWA CENTRE

COMMUNITY OFFICE  
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### "WHERE DO YOU STEAL YOUR TOILET PAPER?" (REFLECTIONS OF LIFE ON SOCIAL ASSISTANCE)

Lately, I've been talking a lot about an appeal to double social assistance rates. The appeal came from five MPPs (myself included) who pledged to live on a \$47 food budget for two weeks. Why?

We need a basic income that treats people with respect, and doesn't waste money on legislated poverty for 900,000 folks on Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program.

(To recap: doubling social assistance in Ontario would cost about \$8 billion, but the societal costs of poverty are at least triple that amount).

In recent days, I've been speaking to folks on social assistance. Some took me up on my recent requests to talk about how our current system is failing them.

On one memorable occasion, I visited the Parkdale Food Centre's "Coffee and Conversation" breakfast that runs on Wednesdays from 9am-10am at 30 Rosemount Avenue. This program is a lifeline for folks on social assistance seeking a decent meal and companionship.

While talking to the neighbours attending the breakfast, I met Pat, who knew about our appeal to double social assistance rates.

So I asked Pat how he survives on such a limited food budget. As he formulated a response, a man down the table shouted this:

"\$47 a week, eh? Where do you steal your toilet paper?" He got the table's attention.

The point was effectively made. Some have questioned if a \$47 weekly food budget reflects the experience and cost of legislated poverty. So I listened further to understand.

That's when Chantal, an OW recipient, added this: "The only way to survive is to know where to find free food. I look at Loblaws for food they give away. I come here. You make the rounds."

Natalie, an ODSP recipient, said she came to the Parkdale Food Centre from Lowertown, a significant commute. "But it's worth it", she said, "and not only for the food. I started coming here six months ago. And when I don't come, someone calls to see how I'm doing."

As we discussed the value of companionship, we also talked about screen time for kids, and diminishing eyesight with age (I've just started with reading glasses). It didn't feel like a soup kitchen, it felt like being at a breakfast table with friends.

"And that's the point", said Simon, Parkdale's Community Kitchen Manager. "Everyone deserves good food. This is a space that treats everyone like neighbours, and always with respect."

Parkdale also has shopping for free produce, and opportunities to learn culinary skills. They aren't keen about the charity approach used for folks living in poverty.

"Joel", Simon said, "think of what we could do across the city."

"Many city buildings have industrial grade kitchens that are empty most of the time. What if we found public money to staff these kitchens, train volunteers, and produce delicious food?"

That sounds like a project worth embracing: a community kitchen movement to ensure everyone gets a tasty meal.

If you have a moment, write me a note at [joel@joelharden.ca](mailto:joel@joelharden.ca), and let me know what you think.



# OUR NEIGHBOURS

## Distance running fostered a long-distance romance and deep Ottawa roots for OOE's Dave and Whitney Bond

DIANNE WING

A love for running can lead to many things; sometimes a marriage, a new home and a family. That's what happened to Whitney and Dave Bond. American born Whitney was attending a wedding in Haliburton where she met Nova Scotia born Dave. Their shared interest in running and triathlons launched a long-distance romance which led them to Ottawa in 2002. They were renting in the Glebe when, during a Saturday morning run, Whitney discovered a cute, little white house with a red door. It was love at first sight. They made an offer and set down roots in Old Ottawa East.

Two pugs, three children and 10 years later, it was time to make some changes to the cute little house to accommodate the needs of their growing family. Some unfortunate mould in the basement accelerated their decision-making. They weighed the options of renovating or tearing down and starting over. Given the age of the house, the issues they knew about, and fearing those they would uncover, they decided to tear down and rebuild.

Working with Dave Brown of Brownstone Homes, they designed an energy and space efficient house that would meet their needs and give them peace of mind. It proved to be the right decision. Their house is heated only by energy efficient heated floors and solar panels, and they now enjoy a private backyard oasis complete with a picturesque shed with a green roof. They chose a red door for their new home to give a nod to the original house.

When not volunteering on the Board of *The Mainstreeter*, Whitney is a social worker who has worked in mental health for the past 24 years at The Ottawa Hospital. She provides group treatment to patients who have come through the emergency department or the inpatient unit. "My work is incredibly rewarding. I love that I often don't know what to expect (lots can happen in a group) and that I work with amazingly smart



SUPPLIED PHOTO

and talented colleagues, and that I can play a small role in someone's healing journey." Dave began his career with Nortel and now works in Human Resources, in compensation, for Minto.

The Bonds are an active family. Dave, a former junior level and university goalie has coached Oliver and Elena from when they began playing hockey at ages 10 and 11. Like their father, they are goalies. Michael enjoys biking by the canal and river and is passionate about politics. All three attend Glebe High School. Aside from the obvious Old Ottawa East attractions of the river, parks and canal, their neighbours can take some credit for their decision to stay. Since the pandemic, these same neighbours meet every Saturday at five for casual, outdoor get togethers.

Whitney and Dave also share a love for travel. Just before they were married they spent time in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand. They are looking forward to a family trip to Vietnam later this year. And when their travels are done, the rebuilt house with the red door will be there to welcome them home.

The Bond Family of Old Ottawa East are an active group engaged in a wide range of activities including travel, sports, politics, community work and travel. Whitney, second from right, is a volunteer member of the Board of *The Mainstreeter*.

### Rideau Chorale

## Local choir hard at work on their December concert, Gloria

JANICE MANCHEE

It's fall again and Rideau Chorale is deep into preparing their December concert, complete with some new tenor and bass voices enriching the sound.

This year's concert, *Gloria*, includes a potpourri of lesser-known seasonal works and features a major work by John Rutter and another by local choral composer, David Rain.

Rain's Rideau Carol premiered in 2016. "It was inspired by a marathon training run," says Rain.

He stopped for a rest in Vincent Massey Park near a sign for "Chutes Rideau Falls."

"Suddenly, I heard a whole Christmas carol," he says. "It was bilingual, French and English, and would play on the word 'chutes.' It can have a double meaning because 'chut' also means 'hush' in French."

His intention was that the score would cascade over that word, taking listeners on a musical tour of the nation's capital. The piece travels through Parliament Hill, the National Gallery and the Byward Market, where Rain lives.

Rain is a self-described "late in life" choral composer, having taken up this artistry in his mid-60s. With a background in Law and English, he spent most of his professional career in international development and refugee and immigrant support. This took him abroad for studies and to a 10-year stay in Tanzania.

He's also a long-time performer, singing with choirs in Vancouver and as a tenor with Ottawa's The Stairwell Carollers for 28 years.

Rain donates half of his income as a composer to the Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization and Orkidstra, a program for kids in underserved communities based on the "El Sistema" program.

As well as Rain's work, the concert includes John Rutter's *Gloria*. Rutter is not local, having grown up above the Globe pub in London, UK. He's mainly known as a composer of carols, but *Gloria*, composed in 1974, is among his larger-scale works. It is scored for choir, brass, percussion and organ and was his first major overseas commission.

Rutter has noted the influence of Gregorian chant throughout the piece.

*Continued on Page 34*



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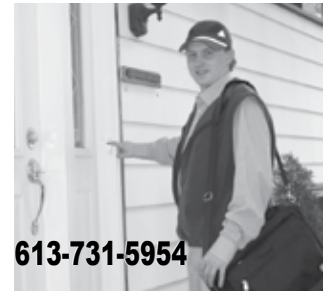


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### *Music that people want to perform and hear*

*Continued from Page 33*

Reviewer John Quinn noted that Rutter is successful because he writes music people want to perform and hear. As well, although the music sounds easy, it is challenging for performers.

The shorter works include the soothing *In the Stillness* by Sally Beamish, the haunting *O Magnum Mysterium* by Morten Lauridsen, the mesmerizing *I Wonder as I Wander* as arranged by Andrew Balfour and the healing *Lully, Lulla, Lullay* by Philip Stopford.

While Rideau Chorale will perform these and other pieces, the audience is also welcomed to join in on certain better-known carols.

Once again, the very busy Matthew Larkin is directing Rideau Chorale. He places John Rutter at the forefront of classical choral composition. Newer works by the other composers, he says, provide a more contemporary idiom.

"Celebrations of Christmas inevitably blend the old and the new," he says. "Our concert carries on this tradition."

The concert will be performed December 3 at Southminster Church in Old Ottawa South. Tickets are available at Eventbrite.ca.

Janice Manchee sings tenor with Rideau Chorale. Information about Rideau Chorale and its virtual and upcoming performances can be found at rideauchorale.com.



# NOTRE COMMUNAUTE FRANCOPHONE

## L'Université Saint-Paul accueille Blaise Ndala comme premier écrivain en résidence

**JULIE BOURASSA**

L'Université Saint-Paul et les Facultés des sciences humaines et de philosophie ont annoncé que l'écrivain franco-ontarien Blaise Ndala sera écrivain en résidence à partir du 1er septembre 2022 pour un mandat d'un an.

M. Ndala, originaire de la République démocratique du Congo, vit à Ottawa depuis plusieurs années et est l'auteur de trois romans remarquables : *J'irai danser sur la tombe de Senghor* (2015), *Sans capote ni kalachnikov* (2017) et *Dans le ventre du Congo* (2021).

Pendant sa résidence d'écrivain, M. Ndala aura à sa disposition les services de l'Université afin de lui permettre de poursuivre l'écriture de son quatrième roman. La communauté universitaire aura également la chance de l'inviter à participer à des conférences et à des cours où il pourra partager sa riche expérience.

« Nous sommes très heureux d'accueillir M. Ndala comme premier écrivain en résidence, a déclaré Aurélie Lacassagne, doyenne des Facultés des sciences humaines et de philosophie. Sa présence

va certainement enrichir l'expérience d'apprentissage de nos étudiants, et nous sommes fiers par cette initiative artistique de réaffirmer notre ancrage dans la communauté franco-ontarienne. »

M. Ndala a reçu plusieurs distinctions littéraires, dont le Prix du livre d'Ottawa, le prix Émergence de l'Association des auteurs et auteurs de l'Ontario français, et il a remporté le Combat national des livres 2019 organisé par Radio-Canada. Son roman le plus récent, *Dans le ventre du Congo*, a non seulement été acclamé par la critique, mais il a aussi reçu une pluie de prix internationaux prestigieux : prix Ivoire de la littérature africaine d'expression francophone 2021, prix Ahmadou Kourouma 2021 du Salon du livre de Genève et, récemment, le prix international de littérature Cheikh Hamidou Kane au Festival international littéraire de Dakar.

En plus de sa carrière d'écrivain, M. Ndala travaille au Bureau de l'enquêteur correctionnel du Canada à titre de directeur adjoint aux enquêtes. Il a commencé sa formation universitaire en droit à l'Université de Kinshasa. Il

a ensuite obtenu un diplôme d'études spécialisées en droit international (droits humains) de l'Université catholique de

Louvain. Il est aussi titulaire d'une maîtrise en administration publique internationale de l'Université du Québec.



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# VOLUNTEERING

## Be careful - invasive plants abound!

**PHYLLIS ODENBACH SUTTON & KAREN GRAVELLE**

You may have seen them on Sunday mornings removing invasive plants along the river in Old Ottawa East (OOE). This year they removed garlic mustard and dog-strangling vine, and they are now tackling burdock. They are the OOE Invasive Plants Brigade, as hardy a group of community volunteers as you are likely to meet anywhere.

You may ask, "How is this relevant for me?" It is important because so many of the invasive plants the Brigade grapples with also grow really well in our own yards, laneways and boulevards.

Let's start with a bit of background information about what the volunteers are doing. For many years, the group has been focused on removing invasive plants to improve the biodiversity of our parkland and to allow native plants to thrive.

Some invasive plants should be removed completely, including the roots; e.g., garlic mustard and dog-



JEFF SUTTON PHOTO

**Ripe Common Burdock along the Greystone Village river path.**

strangling vine. With Common burdock, they focus on removing the burred seed pods of the plant before they spread. Left unchecked, burdock can turn an area into a mono-culture zone, which does not bode well for our area's biodiversity.

*Continued on Page 37*



JOHN DANCE PHOTO

**Eric Cauchon (left) was presented with the Brantwood Hoser of the Year trophy by rink coordinator Louis Denis.**

*Volunteer now for next winter*

## Brantwood Rink Hoser Award conferred on Eric Cauchon

**JOHN DANCE**

Eric Cauchon was recently named Hoser of the Year by Brantwood Rink coordinator Louis Denis. Denis praised Cauchon's devotion to the rink and his heroic efforts last December when he and other volunteer hosers flooded the rink 18 times so it could open for the Christmas holidays. Historically, Brantwood is often the first community rink to open in Ottawa.

Last season the rink stayed open until March 8th and, despite two thaws and the challenges of the pandemic, remained in excellent shape all season.

Volunteers will again attempt to open the rink for this year's Christmas break. Each flooding is generally done with two volunteers so that one can manage the very long hose and the other can coat the ice surface. Residents are encouraged to volunteer to help out. There are no special skills required and it's a great way to enjoy a few hours outdoors each winter month.

Special thanks for the rink's ongoing success goes to Mike Galazka who continues to do the critical snowfall plowing; team captains Cauchon, Isabelle Chiasson, Mike Souilliere and Tim Wilshaw; Claire Frechette who does the bookkeeping; and former rink coordinators Cindy Courtemanche and Marco DiNigris.

Rink attendants are also sought. This is a chance for high school students (15+ years-old) to earn some money and keep the rink running smoothly each day. It's fun work but it also requires good skating abilities and real physical effort to well-scrape the ice before the daily flooding. Also, attendants need to encourage all users to help clean-off light snowfalls and the ice scrapings that accumulate.



**Volunteers and prospective attendants should contact Brantwood. rink@gmail.com.**

## Local seniors housing group seeks new Board members

**MAINSTREETER STAFF**

Senior Watch of Old Ottawa South (SWOOS) has formed a Housing Project Team to explore unique, innovative options for living in our community. The Housing Project Team is currently seeking future-thinking, community-minded people with various skill sets for the Board of Directors.

"This is an excellent opportunity for those interested in volunteering in the community to acquire experience on a Not For Profit board," says Riverdale Avenue resident Angela Davis, a co-chair of the Housing Project Team. "We are particularly interested in hearing from those with bookkeeping and secretarial skills."

SWOOS is collaborating and incorporating with Abbeyfield Canada (<https://abbeyfield.ca/>) to capitalize on the latter's experience in developing small non-profit, communal seniors housing. In Abbeyfield's model, residents live independently in a studio or bachelor while sharing common living, dining and

recreational space. Meals are prepared for residents by a paid housekeeper/chef. An Abbeyfield home already exists in Ottawa on Parkdale Ave. (<https://abbeyfield.ca/ottawa/>) offering accommodation for 10 independent seniors.

The Abbeyfield model is flexible enough to be adapted to the housing needs of local neighbourhoods such as Old Ottawa East and Old Ottawa South. One opportunity that SWOOS is exploring could see one or more floors of the tower planned for the west side of Bank Street at Riverside Drive customized to house an Abbeyfield-style residence.

As an organization, SWOOS looks at local communities through the eyes of seniors. However, the organization also believes that an age-friendly community requires the participation of all ages for the development of optimal amenities and for intergenerational social health. If a seat on the SWOOS Board of Directors interests you, please contact the organization at [SWOOSadmin@oldottawasouth.ca](mailto:SWOOSadmin@oldottawasouth.ca)



# VOLUNTEERING

*How to thwart their advance*

## Invasion of the invasive plants!

*Continued from Page 36*

Proper disposal is also very important. On the advice of the City of Ottawa last year, the group switched from garden waste bags to black plastic bags. Despite having an aversion to using plastic bags these days, the group acknowledges that plastic contains the seeds and prevents spreading. You may have seen the Brigades pile of black garbage bags labelled Invasives on Sundays awaiting proper disposal by the city at either Springhurst or Brantwood Park.

There are a number of other invasives

that the volunteers do not have the capacity to tackle: Japanese knotweed (which is highly invasive and is becoming a big problem along portions of the river parkland area in Springhurst Park, Greystone Village, and from Brantwood Park to the McIlraith Bridge), Buckthorn (becoming the dominant tree on the river bank near the University of Ottawa campus in OOE), and poison ivy (which is becoming more prevalent along the river bank in the areas of Springhurst Park and Greystone Village).

### *What can you do to help?*

- Avoid using invasive plants in gardens and landscaping. Instead consider planting native plants.
- Dispose of invasive plants in black plastic bags, not compost or green bins.
- Don't knock over invasive plants and leave them on the ground (burdock seeds still ripen and spread) or cut them back before the plant is dying. If cut early, burdock continues to grow and sends out new stems, and produces bur seeds at ground level.
- Be careful not to walk in poison ivy-prone areas and stop your dogs from exploring these areas; the oil from the plant is hazardous to humans.

If you have any questions or want to know more or join the Brigade, please email Karen at [karen\\_gravelle@yahoo.ca](mailto:karen_gravelle@yahoo.ca).

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*A community within a community*

## OOE's Community Garden - a gift that keeps on giving



JESSICA HERZOG-GRENIER PHOTO

Co-ordinator Margaret Vant Erve has been growing her own food at the OOE community garden since 2009.

### JESSICA HERTZOG-GRENIER

Tucked away on the grounds of Saint Paul University is a little oasis that few know about: the Old Ottawa East Community Garden (OOECG). It may seem like a typical community garden, but at its heart are devoted gardeners

keen to learn, support each other and give back to the community.

The OOECG was itself the product of local generosity when it was established in 2007, thanks to permission for use of its land from Saint Paul University and a grant from the City of Ottawa.

Over the years, the garden has evolved, including onto land owned by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. When this property was sold, Saint Paul University offered more of its land beside the original garden plots.

Today, the OOECG is a thriving garden of 55 plots. Intrepid gardeners carefully tend to their vegetables and flowers during the spring, summer and fall months.

"Saint Paul University has been super supportive of the garden," says Margaret Vant Erve, Garden Co-ordinator at the OOECG. "I think it's their way of giving back to the community."

On this bright summer day, Vant Erve is visiting the garden with her 10-month-old puppy, Maizie. Vant Erve started gardening at the OOECG in 2009 and has remained a steadfast gardener. "It's really satisfying growing your own food," she says. "There's a sense of community with the other gardeners that's really wonderful too."

For Janice Neelands, another OOECG member and a committed volunteer, the sense of collaboration underscores the spirit of this community garden. "The fun thing about gardening, is that you learn something all the time," says Neelands. "But the challenge is that you only get to practice once every year."

This year, her harvests of chard and basil on her plot are prolific, though she faced challenges with the curly kale. "Community gardening is where you get cross-pollination of ideas from the other gardeners," Neelands

observes.

"Informally, when you chat with fellow gardeners, you learn stuff too."

Neelands speaks very positively of her experience gardening at OOECG since 2017. "I love growing our own stuff. The garden being so close by, it's a destination. And you get to meet people from across the community."

That sense of community extends beyond the garden itself. The OOECG has four garden plots where all harvested produce goes to the Centretown Emergency Food Centre. Individual gardeners also donate extra produce to the Food Centre, which receives weekly deliveries from OOECG volunteers.

"It is a joy to receive the weekly donation from the Old Ottawa East Community Garden and see what beautiful items we have received that day," says Diana Mahaffy, Manager at the Centretown Emergency Food Centre.

Like all food banks, the Food Centre faces increased demand for its services. In August, it provided groceries for 790 people experiencing food insecurity, including new members of the community from Afghanistan and Ukraine.

"Visitors to the Food Centre are thrilled to be able to choose beautiful, fresh-picked local produce to take home," says Mahaffy. "We are grateful to all the OOECG volunteers who work so hard to make this possible."

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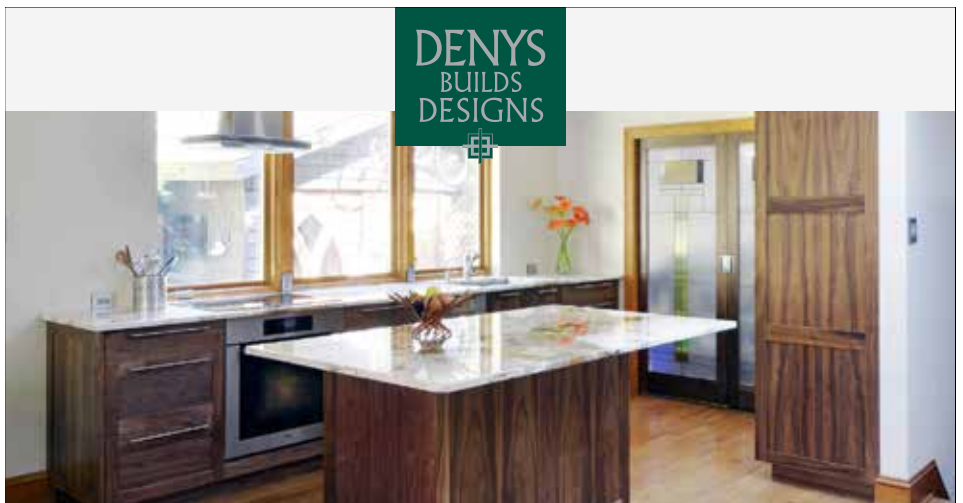
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# ECLECTIC EVENTS

**October 14th @ 7:00pm**

**FILM - RIGHT IN THE EYE: THE FILMS OF GEORGES MÉLIÈS LIVE,** Alliance Française Ottawa, Bytowne Cinema, 325 Rideau Street.

Alliance Française Ottawa, in partnership with The Bytowne Cinema and the French company "Alcoléa & Cie," are presenting a spectacular live movie-concert experience!

"Right in the Eye" ("En plein dans l'œil") is a multimedia show composed of 12 films by Georges Méliès, a pioneer of cinema and wizard of

special effects.

This for-the-family show introduces the cinematographic universe of Méliès in a poetic and playful way that is easily accessible to young audiences. On stage, three musicians, in synch with the images, breathe new life into the work of this precursor and genius of the 7th art. The virtuoso musicians play some fifty different instruments, including rare and unique ones.

This unique event provides a chance to be transported into the world of Georges Méliès through a truly inventive production! Tickets are \$20.35 for non-members of Alliance Française Ottawa and can be purchased at <https://www.bytowne.ca/movies/right-in-the-eye-the-films-of-georges-melies-live/>.



**October 14th to 16th**  
**GLEBE COLLEGIATE**  
**URNS 100**  
**ANNIVERSARY,** Glebe Collegiate Institute.

A little younger than its sister school and somewhat rival Lisgar Collegiate, Glebe Collegiate turns 100 this year.

Preparations for the 100th anniversary were thrown a setback with COVID, but the pandemic was not quite a knockout blow. Organizers regrouped, now have their game jerseys on and are set to celebrate.

The weekend of October 14th to 16th will see the traditional events

that such reunions feature such as a barbecue, pancake breakfast and 'decade rooms'. A particularly interesting event is the Glebe 100 Parade. Alumni and retired staff are encouraged to meet at Lansdowne Park at 9:30 am on Saturday October 15th and walk to the school "one last time". Over the years, and still true today, Glebe Collegiate has been a viable option for Old Ottawa East teens.

For registration and tickets to the reunion events go to the Glebe 100 website.

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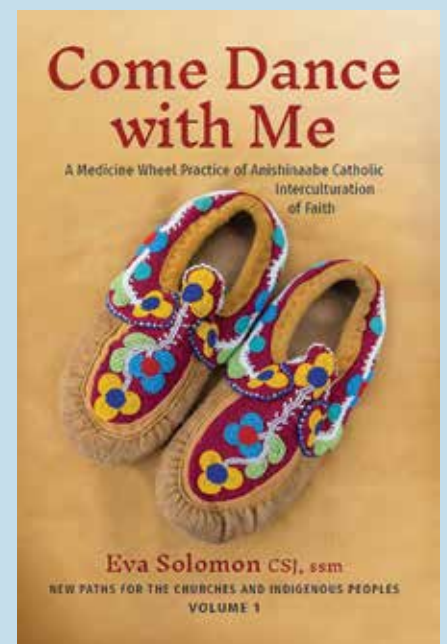
**October 14th from 1:00 to 5:00pm**

**BOOK LAUNCH - COME DANCE WITH ME: A MEDICINE WHEEL PRACTICE OF ANISHINAABE CATHOLIC INTERCULTURATION OF FAITH,** Guigues Hall, Saint Paul University.

The University's Centre on the Churches, Truth, and Reconciliation with Indigenous People will host a book launch for *Come Dance With Me: A Medicine Wheel Practice of Anishinaabe Catholic Interculturation of Faith* by Eva Solomon, CSJ, ssm.

In this book, Sister Eva shares her personal experience and expresses an intercultural reading of the Christian faith and the practice of her Anishinaabe tradition.

The book launch will include a presentation by the author, a panel of



distinguished speakers and a reception. Indigenous Elders will also lead a ceremony to honour the author and her lifelong commitment to reconciliation.

The event is open to the public, but registration is required. For registration details, contact Alexandra Mongrain at [adjointetho@ustpaul.ca](mailto:adjointetho@ustpaul.ca).

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