

GLENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Newsletter – Fall/Winter 2017

Glen's Celebrating Canada's Sesquicentennial



June 24, Glen's community together with St. Monica's parishioners celebrated Canada's sesquicentennial anniversary. The weather cooperated and there were things for everyone to enjoy. Hydro Canada display tent

offered useful tips, energy saving gadgets and coupons, and colouring games for kids. Ecology Ottawa offered tree sampling of golden birch (a tree that symbolizes truth, new beginnings and cleansing of the past, seemingly immune to lightning strikes) and the white pine that symbolizes creativity, peace and harmony. The pines have been symbolically and ceremonially important, sacred for some and long considered a symbol of longevity, wisdom and harmony with nature. The trees were free, being a part of the idea to plant a million trees to celebrate. All our elected representative have their tents offering information, promotional materials and one on one chat if needed. Many thanks, to Kayla, Sara and Shane for spending the day with our residents. There were also a first aid, respite tent and a special tent offering a glimpse into Glen's history with personal stories collected from our residents. The community police came with two volunteers offering goodies for kids and adults, tips and a visit to the cruiser. Sherry Jordan (CPC) tirelessly responding to resident's questions and concerns. The event would not be concluded without the presence of our fire brigade. This year as a rare treat we had two fire trucks including the one with a bucket a huge magnet for adults and children alike.

Organizers (Pat, Nicole, Agnes, Brian, Daintry, Marilyn and Marie) were wearing stylish aprons (sewn by our own Marilyn). Volunteers (Sue, Penny, Ivy, Dick, Barb, Betty Anne) assisted with games, food distribution and logistics. There was an array of heritage games for kids and face painting tent with Helen tirelessly working on fantastic creations. The event could not be completed without the bouncy castle (Full of Beans) and a cotton candy machine spewing sweet sugar. A Cool Treats truck was on site offering ice cream treats.



The official opening included Mayor Jim Watson, MPP Lisa MacLeod and our Councillor Keith Egli. The anthem was sung by Canterbury vocalist Samantha Clarke.

An award ceremony followed, honoring Glenn Cripps for managing ice skating rink for 15 years and organizing winter events at the rink every year; Betty Anne Wilks who held almost every board position in the association over the years, and even with her health challenges still volunteers; Larry Widdifield, (from Manordale - an honorary



Glen's resident, who was helping us with organization, setting up, picking up and delivering, performing as sound system technician and more. He is an epitome of volunteering. The event programming included a number of performances: Colourful and rousing RCMP Pipes and Drums; Barbershop Quartet; and special fiddler performance (Alex George).

Sandwiches were sponsored in part by the local Metro (Merivale and Viewmount). Strawberries came from Richmond Farm (slightly discounted) and the water came in part from Culligan (free of charge.) The event was largely sponsored by the City of Ottawa's Civic Events grant. Elected officials contributed in various ways.

The Strawberry Social theme not only allowed us to taste some of our local produce and support local vendors, but was also nod to the past. For those of us who haven't been around for 150 years, we imagined what would have been a typical Saturday afternoon enjoying the sunshine, company and watching children playing in a carefree environment.

On June 3rd ward 9 residents celebrated in style at the Howard Darwin Centennial Arena. There was a pony carousel, wagon rides, bouncy castle and heritage games, mad hatter tea party and musical performances. RCMP Pipers and Drums opened the festivities, Yakie the Clown was on

Happy Birthday Canada Ward 9 Celebration



hand, Polish Dancing Group "Polanie", Fiddler Alex George and the Junkyard Symphony all made it a day to remember. The opening ceremony was attended by the last Mayor of Nepean, Mary Pitt, and our current mayor, Jim Watson. The Nepean Museum provided historic kits; dresses and photographs of old time Nepean. Farm Radio, Hydro, Ecology Ottawa and elected officials provided displays. Several Food trucks offered delicious munchies. A number of volunteers ensured that everybody had fun.



CLEARVIEW ♦ GRENFELL GLEN ♦ PINEGLEN

Woodroffe/Merivale Grade Separation

GCA board argued that the report of the Transportation Safety Board of Canada (TSB) regarding the "Grade separation of Woodroffe Avenue, the Transitway, and Fallowfield Road" did not "order" grade separation at these crossings but "recommended" that grade separations be "reconsidered". However, the City of Ottawa, in financial partnership with VIA Rail Canada, contracted a feasibility study, including two additional locations at Merivale Road and Jockvale Road. At the Glens AGM in June, we were informed that the grade separation at the Merivale crossing was a TSB direction over which the City of Ottawa had no choice. Because this proposal originates with City Hall, the City in fact has considerable authority and choice over the way ahead, including whether to make any changes at the Merivale crossing and what exactly those measures should be. The GCA board argued that the Merivale railway crossing could be made safer at an affordable cost, and without dividing the community and disrupting the local aquifers on which the Glens community depends. This information was delivered in writing to Councillor Egli and members of the Transportation staff October 24, 2017. Board members were assured the document would become part of the Merivale Road file. Vivi Chi gave assurance that the City is not initiating any further study for this site and Merivale Road grade separation is not part of the City's current Transportation Master Plan. Currently, the Woodroffe, Fallowfield and Transitway crossings are the priority and an Environmental Assessment for these crossings is expected within the next year. Both the consultant and staff reports stated, the City is aware of the potential implications to wells in the area. The community will be consulted and residents should be prepared to follow the discussion carefully. A 2004 City report of the Woodroffe/Fallowfield stated: "The detailed geotechnical sub-surface investigations for the Woodroffe/Fallowfield Grade Separation Project revealed an anomalous condition of unusually high horizontal hydraulic conductivity (groundwater flow patterns) within the underlying bedrock located immediately below the founding elevation of both bridges. It was determined that in view of the magnitude of this condition, the conventional open-cut underpass option should be abandoned due to an unacceptable risk of catastrophic failure and possible severe impact on houses in Barrhaven

Community Leaders Breakfast



Community leaders in Knoxdale-Merivale Ward attended a breakfast meeting with Mayor Watson co-hosted by ward Councillor, Keith Egli. The meeting was meant to encourage open communication between

communities, Mayor and our Councillor's offices. The meeting took place on July 10 at the Mayor's Boardroom. We delivered two letters to Mayor Watson expressing community concerns on the Merivale grade separation, proposed Urban Forest Management Plan, Police initiative and infill.

New Speed Limit Coming to Pineglen

Pineglen East has qualified for a lower speed limit - 30 km/h. A petition was circulated by the city to gauge the support of residents to this idea. It was a resounding YES. The petition was approved and staff will be moving forward with the speed reduction. Additionally residents are seeking turning restrictions prohibiting a right hand turn

from Merivale Road to Pineglen Crescent between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m., Monday to Friday (school buses and bicycles exempted). Despite community support this issue will take a little longer as this *constitutes 'traffic calming' and as such it has to be determined by traffic studies that there is in fact a systemic problem of 'cut-through' traffic.*"

MacFarlane Road Traffic Study

In 2017, GCA agreed to reclassify the requested MacFarlane traffic study as a 'local' study that will review options to address speeding, driver behavior, and safety concerns, but will not assess options that are intended to divert traffic.

2175 Prince of Wales Development

The owner is seeking re-zoning of this property to industrial, commercial or institutional use. It's a challenging development as the applicant is looking for the widest possible land use, quoting perceived compatibility with the current uses. The most recent planning rationale minimizes the impact of several site specific limitations and suggests addressing them later at the site control plan. The application overly stresses industrial land uses across the road and diminishing the existing residential community. This approach greatly concerns the Glens community. We feel that new developments should be sensitive to the existing context, enhance the character of the area. It also should contribute to streetscapes and residential environments and look forward to the future. Once a permissive zoning is finalized it will be more difficult to introduce limitations. The site is adjacent to the Rideau River and on a scenic route. A number of agencies (NCC, RVCA and Airport Authority) would have to agree to the type of proposed development. Part of the lot is categorized as hazardous land due to the eroding slope, silty clay, flood concerns and existing estuary. A public meeting was held on September 12. Residents stressed their concerns and questioned the owner's continuing desire for a car dealership.



It's Raining Taxes/Fees in Ottawa

Our community barely accepted the original plan that proposed the 4-year phasing in of stormwater fees for non-connected properties. Glen's residents rightly believed that our phased-in rate of 25% in year 1, 50% in year 2, and 75% in year 3 would be based on a relatively stable base amount. Residents had a reasonable expectation that the base rate would not rise exponentially faster than the City's public commitment to holding tax increases to increases to about 2% a year. However, the latest proposal suggested charging those percentages on a base that is rising 13% in 2018 and by over 200% by 2027 through significant annual increments. The outcry from rural areas resulted in council approving an increase of five per cent for 2018, instead of the 13-per-cent planned. It translates to an average increase of \$1.40 for rural not-connected and \$1.95 for urban not-connected. However, this has been agreed for ONE year only (election year). One has to ask why treasury officials were silent on the annual base rate increases when we were holding public discussions. Why we were not advised that the stormwater budget did not have a capital reserve and that this would only be proposed once the City had the non-connected urban and rural property owners on board to pay for stormwater costs? Stormwater infrastructure is relatively new so why does the city need such a huge reserve? Comments from residents point out to the fact that everybody knew it was a tax grab from the beginning and the overflow crowds who came out to the public consultations knew it as well.

Grenfell Glen Fall Clean-up

Saturday, September 23, 11 residents took part in the community clean-up, collecting garbage at the local park and along the road. .

What You should Know

We all cherish our mature landscape full of majestic trees, but at times branches or the entire tree happens to fall because of a high wind, thunder, ice or snow storms considered an act of nature, out of our control. Homeowners are responsible for what falls into their own yard. If your neighbor's tree falls in your yard, your homeowners insurance would help cover the cost of removing the tree and remedying the damage. The law states that the fallen tree in your yard, whether it is yours or not, is your responsibility to remove. However, if the tree fell because of your actions (trying to cut it down yourself) or was dying, unstable or diseased and you knew about it, you could be liable. By-laws no. 2013-416 states that a tree, limb or branch of it, that is dead, diseased, decayed or damaged should be removed to prevent an unsafe condition or damage to building or property. Most cases involve trees falling as an act of nature, so the insurance will pay and you do not have to worry about premium increases if you are not found liable for the damages. In some cases, neighbors may still try to ask/sue to recover their deductibles.

If you are using professional company for snow removal, please note changes to the numbers of snow markers, their placement and what they made from. Markers can be used to mark hazards (steps, landscaping features) and can be installed after Oct 20 and removed by April 30.

Property Standards and Maintenance By-Laws have clarified "yard" definition to include porch, balcony or patio. This will help avoid confusion when Officers are addressing violations on the outside of a building, but not necessarily in the yard; for example, balconies. Order being issued under the by-law may include the need to identify and rectify the cause of the problem. For example, icicles build up resulting from heat loss or poor insulation. The dangerous situation can be rectified immediately under the Property Maintenance Bylaw and an Order can be issued under the Property Standards By-law to correct the problem of heat loss causing the ice to buildup.

Please note that: nobody can play or take part in any game or sport on a road, except while engaged in ball hockey (provided the game does not impede free flow of traffic). Many basketball hoops in our area are illegally hanging over the street. Use and Care of Roads bylaw has a section barring people from having any objects that hang over the street. Delivery truck scan be damaged/scratched.

Ottawa's parking bylaw limits parking on most residential streets to three hours between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., seven days a week. The new rule will extend that limit on weekends and holidays to six hours.

General construction noise caused by infill development is limited to periods between 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and statutory and public holidays.

Airplane Townhall Meeting Coming Soon

A date for a meeting with all stakeholders in attendance has yet to be finalized. If you wish to voice a concern, call Ottawa International Airport Noise Complaint Line 613-248-2023 ; Ottawa Flying Club 613-523-2142 ; Ottawa Aviation Services 613-737-2933; file online at <https://yow.ca/en/about-yow/corporate-responsibility>; Please keep a record of the details and date for your calls..

GCA Membership Drive

We encourage existing/new members who have not yet renewed/applied for their 2017/18 membership in the Association to do so by contacting any of your executive members (see last page). Fees remain at only \$5.00 per household for the year. We would also like to collect your current email address so that we can contact you if there is a problem or police warning, or to provide association newsletters and flyers. To add your name to the email network, please send an email to Marilyn Booth at mjbooth@sympatico.ca. The GCA strictly follows privacy laws so your information will only be used for Association business. It will not be shared or published

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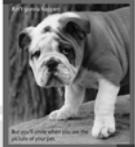
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Emergency Community Police Centres Call Centre

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Pineglen	Michele Lajeunesse.....	225 9630
Pineglen West	Pat McLachlan.....	225 6913
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