

# GLENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2016

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

GLENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**"Rain Tax and Other Ideas"**  
Be There if You are Concerned

**Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 7 P.M.**

**The MET,  
(Metropolitan Bible Church)  
2176 Prince of Wales Drive**

- ☑ Meet our Councillor, ask questions!
- ☑ 2016 Election: Volunteer, Have Your Say!
- ☑ Pick-up your water testing bottle
- ☑ Door prizes!!!!
- ☑ When You call 911 - paramedics response

### Creative Tax Ideas – The “Rain Tax”



Politicians hate to raise taxes, but the demands of a growing city, contractual obligations, failing infrastructure and LRT all contributed to the \$42 million 2015 budget shortfall. It does seem like a coincidence that the new storm water

budget happens to be the same amount: \$42 million. The deficit in the “water, wastewater and stormwater budget” is due to lower water consumption spurred by the Water Efficiency Strategy introduced in the mid-2000s. As well, at municipal amalgamation in 2001, a decision was made to approve a new tax/rate structure without compensating for different service levels provided in urban, suburban and rural areas. Following community consultation and expert opinion, it was decided to move the storm water costs to the rate supported water and sewer program. As the expected savings of amalgamation never occurred, the City is now debating the merits of prior decisions. The City’s position is that privately serviced properties, such as in the Glens, are receiving storm water services for free and are not contributing to the infrastructure maintenance budget, which includes fire hydrants. Residents claim that the City has downloaded responsibility and costs for maintenance of non-road related stormwater ditches to property owners, regardless of whether the City built the original ditch, or took an easement; and that maintenance of the roads and roads related infrastructure is a City responsibility supported by property taxes to which we all contribute. In rural/private serviced areas, the majority of costs charged to stormwater are associated with maintaining roads. This includes maintenance of culverts under city roads. Indeed, there is a

strong argument that culvert maintenance should be part of the road maintenance budget. Storm water runoff from roadside ditches that is not absorbed into the ground normally drains into the watershed, often via municipal drains that are paid for by landowners.

The City argues that we all drive on the roads so we should all contribute to offsetting culvert maintenance. Not convinced yet? The new fee is supposed to be revenue neutral and will not increase City revenue. For Glens residents it means a new stormwater charge will be added to our tax bill. Residents receiving water bills will see a fixed fee and a consumption-based charge minus the current stormwater charge -- which will now appear under property tax. So though we will have to pay more, the City says our property taxes are not going up! Got it?!

City staff are expected to propose stormwater fee options to Council that take account of differences in permeability and level of servicing between the Glens and downtown. This is intended to motivate property owners to reduce the amount of hard surface area on their properties in order to reduce runoff, but the City will probably not offer financial incentives to do so. Many residents would like the City to take more responsibility for private culverts and increasing the amount and areas of mowing. We may see some action on this front. The way the City has gone about the stormwater aspects of the rate review has been fraught with problems. During public consultations, it became clear that urban, suburban and rural areas contribute and benefit differently. Unless residents receive more information about the kind of storm water services that are provided in their area, and how much runoff individual properties direct into the City’s infrastructure, how can the City possibly establish a fair user fee? The most built up areas of the City have the most impervious surfaces and are most reliant on drainage systems. Stormwater pollution comes from large shopping mall and box store parking lots. Privately serviced areas like the Glens with large lots rely mostly on natural absorption. While waiting for the new fee structure one question comes to mind: Why is the City Treasurer the lead on an environmental issue?



The Glens Community Association is looking for new board members to help keep the Glens a great place to live. Board members discuss issues, lead tasks or participate in organizing events and activities. If the board’s not for you, help us in other ways, for ex., to maintain our website or write newsletter articles. Contact the president, Agnes Warda, or other board members.

A **Garage Sale** will be held June 4<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with Country Place Community Association. Individuals wishing to participate can put up and take down your tables according to your schedule. Bear in mind that some potential customers may be looking for sales as early as



7 a.m. The City of Ottawa Give Away Weekend is June 11 and 12. Be sure to mark items you wish to give away as 'Free'.

The Glens will be celebrating Canada's 150 Birthday in 2017 by gathering at Grenfell Park for a "Strawberry Social" to connect and strengthen community spirit. An all age inclusive event celebrating our past and looking forward toward a bright future. If you wish to volunteer, help, or have a great idea to share, please contact Pat McLachlan (tel. [613-225-6913](tel:613-225-6913)) or email her at [patriciamclachlan@gmail.com](mailto:patriciamclachlan@gmail.com) Community is also planning a picnic at the Pineglen Park in September 2016.



### MacFarlane Road Paved Shoulders

Cyclists and pedestrians, rejoice!!! The City is adding paved shoulders along MacFarlane. Pavement markings, signage and strategic shoulder paving on MacFarlane will provide cyclists a mixture of on-street bicycle lanes and paved shoulders. MacFarlane Road will retain its current function as a two lane major collector roadway. However, parking will no longer be allowed along either side of MacFarlane. Paved Shoulders will include: a 1.4 m wide shared-use lane on each side of MacFarlane Road; an on-street bicycle lane for the westbound approach to Merivale Road; signage to designate a 2 m wide asphalt pathway as a shared sidewalk for travel eastbound from Merivale Road; on-street bicycle lanes for east and westbound travel to and from Deakin Street; and advisory lane markings across entrances to MacFarlane Road. This planned paving activity on MacFarlane Road is expected to be completed in 2016. The scope of the project is currently limited to adding the paved shoulder extensions. Speed markings have been recently added on MacFarlane to provide additional guidance to drivers and promote safety.

### Prince of Wales Improvements

The Prince of Wales Drive Coordinated Network Modifications project is currently in the procurement phase for engineering consulting services. This phase will involve the design of multiple intersection improvements, including street lighting and traffic signals, negotiations and acquiring of property, utility relocation design and coordination, design of underground municipal infrastructure, and design of asphalt resurfacing of Prince of Wales Drive from north of Strandherd Drive to Hunt Club Road (approximately 7km). Prince of Wales/Deakin planned work will include a sidewalk pad for pedestrian refuge while waiting for the lights to change (scheduled for 2017). In other words, a concrete pad will be included on the east side of the intersection as well as the north-west and south-west quadrants. In the meantime, staff will be installing a temporary pad which is scheduled to be built this year.

### Creative Intensification - Coach Houses



The City is considering allowing so-called coach houses (secondary dwellings) in residential neighbourhoods. These houses are seen as a small apartment or suite in the backyard of a home or along a laneway. The new structure will be tied to the main house to ensure that the Coach House cannot be severed from the main house in the future as a standalone legal parcel. The Coach House dwelling unit is not permitted on a lot serviced by a private well and septic system, however there is discussion to allow them in the rural areas.

### Grenfell Park Improvements

The biggest concern regarding the vehicles (and drivers) that misused the soccer pitch has been addressed. The first stage of the plan was to build a cedar fence between the soccer pitch and the small parking area behind the baseball diamond to prevent through traffic. It includes a gate for maintenance equipment. To limit vehicle access to the soccer pitch from the extension of Avonlea west of Pratt (to the NCC wooded area) a gate was installed across the 'Avonlea extension' at the end of the treed portion of the road. Locks on both ends of the gate allow both NCC and City maintenance staff access. Rocks were positioned on both sides of the path to the tennis courts to limit vehicle access across that section of ditch to the soccer pitch. Ash trees killed by the emerald ash borers (between the courts and the road) are marked with a red X to be removed soon.

### Grenfell Glen Clean-up

Thank you to all who came out Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> to assist with the clean-up. Counting the lady who was seen early in the morning picking up garbage near Burnbank and Grenfell, and the jogger who collected 8 kg of refuse along Pinhey Forest trails, 16 adults and 6 children helped. Including the 2 large garbage bags of litter collected along Grenfell at the end of April, about 11 bags of debris (about 3 of which were recycling) were collected. Aluminum cans (mainly beer cans) were taken to Habitat for Humanity and the rest of the recyclables will go in a blue box. Reports/information were submitted to both the City of Ottawa and the NCC.

### NCC Pinhey Sand Dune Restoration Project

P15 parking and the Pinhey Forest Trails were closed temporarily in March while the NCC had a small cluster of 100 trees removed to open access to the new Sand Dune restoration site. The trails from



P15 on Slack Road are open again. The parking lot looks very different with the sand right there. Check it out. The work was to restore small sections of the dune ecosystem but also aim to promote the area as a place for nature, education and people. The restoration initiative will help

encourage appropriate use of the area and enhance long-term community enjoyment. If a complaint is placed Conservation Officers will be dispatched immediately. Please continue to use the area!!!!

**Pinhey Sand Dune tours** will be offered again this the summer. The tours are given at the original dune restoration site (Pineland Avenue and Vaan Drive) from 10 a.m. until noon on the following dates: June 12 Tiger Beetles; July 3 Ghost Tiger Beetles; July 10 Ghost Tiger Beetles; and Macro Photography; August 7 Ant Lions; and Giant Robber Flies. Inclement weather may cause cancellations. The Dune Restoration team welcomes volunteers to their weekly clean-up session from 9 to noon on Sunday morning for as much or as little time as you have available. Community Service Hours are available for High School students.

### Merivale Road - Future Plans

Despite many ideas, proposals and several meetings with the community and businesses, Merivale Rd. will continue as is. Roads are only widened/resurfaced if there is more than one reason to do so. Merivale sewers were done in the 1980s so barring a disaster, we could be looking at 2080. Merivale is on the list for future attention (the ultimate plan), but it's not in the affordable Transportation Master Plan (TMP) -- there is no money for anything!!! Changes to traffic, transit priority corridor, etc. are currently not scheduled for review before 2031. Bus service improvements are not scheduled until phase 1 and 2 or after LRT is completed and running. Change in

connectivity can only happen when there is a site plan or development application. Residents can suggest small improvements (bus shelters, traffic lights). Work to improve traffic light synchronization will continue in the summer.

### Small Aircraft Noise

Country Place and the Glens are working together on finding a suitable solution to resolve the noise pollution and the health and safety issues caused by the flying school's continuous disregard for aviation regulations at the Ottawa International Airport. A recent response from the Airport Authority stated that they are of the opinion that pilots follow all published procedures "to the extent possible." The pilots use visual navigation and, therefore, they may "deviate somewhat from the published procedures based on wind patterns as well as from instructions received from the control tower." The association is working with our elected MP Chandra Arya and has written a letter to the Minister of Transport requesting assistance on this matter.

### Membership Drive

We encourage existing members to renew and new residents to join the Glens Community Association. Fees remain at only \$5.00 per household for the year. We would also like to collect your current email addresses so that we can contact you if there is a problem or police warning, or to provide association newsletters and flyers. The Glens Association follows privacy laws so your information will not be shared or published.



### Community Businesses for Hire

Free service for youth seeking summer employment. Residents with home businesses: \$30. Commercial businesses: \$100. Fees renewable annually. Includes newsletter and website ads for a year.

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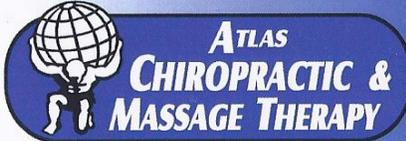


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## YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

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 ward issues: [ward9@ottawa.ca](http://ward9@ottawa.ca) <http://keithegli.ca/>

**ATTENTION!** A city-wide fire ban is in effect to prevent the rapid spread of fire due to grass and brush fires. This ban will remain in place until conditions improve. All open air fires are prohibited during a fire ban. There will be zero tolerance enforcement during the fire ban. The City of Ottawa allows outdoor firepits fuelled by ethanol, propane and natural gas, but prohibits open-air wood fires in urban areas.



Driveway widening, new driveways, closure of a driveway require Private Approach Permit.  
 A Pool Enclosure

Permit is required for the pool of water for swimming, bathing, wading or reflecting or the hot tub if it is capable of retaining a water depth equal to or greater than 600 mm (24 in) at any point.

Construction of a building or shed including pre fabricated building), occupying an area greater than 10 square meters (approximately 108 square feet) requires a Building Permit.

A building permit is not required to build or replace your fence, however, you are required to comply with the Fence By-law



Special thanks to the Tai Chi group that was spotted picking up litter in the Pineglen Park. If anyone knows the group, please thank them on behalf of the Glens CA. Also we extend our thanks to the members of Iglesia Ni Cristo, who diligently clean up every year along McFarlane Road.

## Glens Community Association Executive Committee Members 2012/2014

|                |                      |          |
|----------------|----------------------|----------|
| President      | Agnes Warda .....    | 226 9576 |
| Vice President | Brian Kelly.....     | 222 4205 |
| Secretary      | Susan Briard .....   | 226 8790 |
| Treasurer      | Nicole Lamothe ..... | 627-5795 |

|             |                     |          |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|
| Education   | Mary O'Donohue..... | 225 7984 |
| Media/Web   | Paul Dickie.....    | 224 8014 |
| Events      | Brian Kelly.....    | 222 4205 |
| Protocol    | Penny Hammel.....   | 224 5159 |
| Clean Water | Dick de Jong .....  | 224 5593 |

### COMMUNITY LIAISONS

|                     |                          |          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Grenfell            | Marilyn Booth .....      | 730 3879 |
| Pineglen            | Michele Lajeunesse ..... | 225 9630 |
| Neighbourhood Watch | Nardin Ghahary.....      | 224 8014 |

### OUTREACH

|                |                     |          |
|----------------|---------------------|----------|
| Organizational | Pat McLachlan ..... | 225 6913 |
| Canada 2017    | Stephan Klován..... | 226 5113 |

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[www.glenscommunity.c](http://www.glenscommunity.c)



**MAKE THE RIGHT CALL**

**911**  
 Life-threatening Emergency or Crime in Progress  
**613.230.6211**  
 Other Emergencies  
**613.236.1222 ext.7300**  
 Call Centre: To report a theft, property damage, missing person or stolen vehicle  
**613.236.1222**  
 Community Police Centres & all other enquiries

TDD (TTY) - Telecommunications Device for the Deaf  
**911** **613.232.1123** **613.760.8100**  
 Emergency Community Police Centres Call Centre

### Online Reporting System include:

Theft, Lost Property (With a visible serial number or distinct marking such as a custom engraving), Mischief/Damage to Property, Theft from Vehicle, Traffic Complaints.

*\*Reports filed through our Online Reporting System are reviewed within 24 hours.*



There's a new app for Android and iOS users to stay connected with the Ottawa Police. It includes: access to online reporting, crime maps, photos of wanted persons, traffic disruptions, a collision toolkit, a call police function, find a police station and more!