
CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



March - April 2008

Vol. 28, No.3

Community consultation

**Proposal by Ottawa Internationals Soccer Club
to remove Champlain Park Baseball Diamond
and replace with Mini Soccer Field
(Soccer 4 Nights Per Week)**

DATE of community consultation: TUESDAY APRIL 29, 2008

TIME: 7 p.m.

LOCATION: Champlain Park fieldhouse

- Many people in the community have expressed concern about this idea
- This is your only opportunity to speak directly to the City of Ottawa
- Decisions will be made by the City based on this meeting

Hosted by our City Councillor, Christine Leadman, the meeting's agenda is as follows:

- Presentations by City of Ottawa staff and Soccer Club representatives
- Comments by Champlain Park residents
- Question and Answer session
- Comment sheets and speaker sign-up will be provided

Who should come to the meeting?

- Champlain Park residents who use the park
- People who live near the park
- All community members interested in the future of our park

Guests:

- City Councillor Christine Leadman
- Ottawa Internationals Soccer Club

Parks and Recreation staff:

- Scott Johnson, Project Manager, Planning & Development
- Laila Gibbons, Allocations/Registrations (Field Bookings)

–submitted by Lynne Bankier

Champlain Park Community Association

Co-chairs: Lynne Bankier (729-0955)
and Craig Wells (725-5488).

Vice-chair: Heather Pearl
(725-1422)

Treasurer: potter (728-4980)

Secretary: Karen Maser (722-6700)

Ex-officio Past President:

Jonathan Chaplan (728-7670)

Membership: Craig Wells (temporary)

Fieldhouse co-ordinator: Laurie Fagan
(728-1945)

Rink co-ordinator: Greg Doswell
(722-7705)

Neighbourhood Watch: Michael
Cheng (722-3344), Patrick Mates,
(722-4120), Neil Robertson
(729-5439)

Spring clean-up coordinator (vacant)

Social convenor: Vacant

Planning:

Amy Kempster (722-6039)

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER your community newsletter

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Nancy Leigh-Smith, Benjamin
Holland, Marlene Kells, Kelly Egan.

The *Speaker* is produced on a regular
basis with the generous support
of the Ottawa Citizen.

Keyworth School Age Program wants YOUR perennial cast-offs

Since 2002 when it opened its
doors in our neighbourhood, St.
George elementary school on
Keyworth Ave. has found ways to
contribute to the community that
surrounds it. (See page 3 for Clean
Up The Capital! story.)

Now, the Keyworth School
Age Program that operates at
St. George School is asking
Champlain Park residents to
donate perennial plants to help it
beautify the grounds of the school.

"We're trying to get floral
beds in place that will attract
butterflies and other species.

This will make the outdoor space
nicer and will also be part of the
outdoor education program we
run for kids in our program," says
the supervisor of the Keyworth
School Age Program, Kathleen

Traeger.

**If you need help to divide,
dig up or transport** a perennial
that you'd like to donate to the
Keyworth School Age Program,
please call 613-722-0411.

With a staff of five early
childhood education professionals,
the non-profit School Age
program (operated by the Ottawa
Carleton Catholic Child Care
Corporation) opens its doors
Monday to Friday at 7 a.m. and
closes each weekday at 5:45 p.m.
Kindergarten students spend half
the day in school and half the day
in the School Age Program. Older
students arrive before school and
stay afterwards. Currently about
50 families use the service.

—by Debra Huron

268 Keyworth

Champlain Park Community
Association has appealed
the ruling handed down in
December 2007 by Ottawa's
Committee of Adjustment.
The case will now be heard
by the Ontario Municipal
Board. The hearing dates
are April 29 and 30th,
starting at 10 a.m. at
110 Laurier Ave, Ottawa. For
more details on this matter,
contact Heather Pearl, vice-
chair of the community
association at 613-725-1422
or pearhea@aol.com.

TEENS available for babysitting

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Emma J. | 728-6681 |
| Alexandra | 722-7482 |
| Berlin | 722-2248 |
| Ben | 729-1218 |
| Leigh | 715-9473 |
| Emma I. | 728-1063 |
| Anastasia | 728-9014 |
| Fiona | 761-9262 |
| Emma M. | 728-4642 |
| Elisabeth (bilingual) | 722-0454 |

Kids are Cleaning Up the Capital!

The City of Ottawa's Adopt-a-Park program gives Ottawa neighbourhoods with parks a chance to look after their park, which provides enjoyment to all, year-round. One of the age groups that can offer to clean up a city parks is the school-age crowd.

Each spring and fall, children from the Keyworth School Age Program (see page 2 for more information) rake leaves or clean up litter that has accumulated in Champlain Park. The students involved in this are older kids who attend the after-school program (not kindergarten students). The City of Ottawa's Cleaning up the Capital project provides the students and their supervisors with gloves and bags to do the job safely.

Bravo to the adults and students in the Keyworth School Age Program for taking care of our local park!

Where will all the litter go?

10 a.m. Saturday, May 10

Meet at Champlain Park fieldhouse

Spring cleaning! Does it make you shudder with disgust or glow with a pure sense of mission and anticipation?

For many years, **Amy Kempster** of Clearview Ave. has coordinated the spring clean up of our neighbourhood park and wooded areas. **Don Monet** of Cowley Ave. has helped out by leading fearless teams into the woods along the Ottawa River.

Together, their efforts have made the green space in our neighbourhood safer and cleaner for all. Thank you!

Thanks are due, too, to the **adults and children** who arrive each year on a Saturday morning to help with the clean-up. The day that the clean-up is advertised is the day that it happens--rain or shine! .

Students at St. George elementary school have adopted Champlain Park and they are doing a great job cleaning it up each spring and fall. Thank you again!

Amy Kempster has said she wants to resign as coordinator of the spring clean up. This year, Don Monet will continue to lead the river clean-up. So what's left, you may ask, if the kids from St. George School have adopted the park? The length of Premier Ave. along the Transitway corridor is a magnet for litter. So is the fence along Pontiac St. that forms the boundary of the wooded area where so many people walk their dogs. The boulevard on Northwestern Ave.

needs to be spruced up each spring. And the west side of Patricia Ave. across from the soccer field at St. George school needs some attention.

A political issue?

Some people may think that volunteers from our community should not be cleaning up City streets and public green spaces. You may believe the taxes we pay should be used to hire people do to this work.

The fact is that taxes are not allocated for this purpose. So, we are left to do what we can, grateful that we are able-bodied and generous-of-heart enough to do these simple outdoor chores. That's my opinion!

The need for a new coordinator

This year, Kathleen Traeger of Daniel Ave. will order the garbage bags and other supplies provided by the City of Ottawa. I will ask the Loeb store on Carleton Ave. to donate coffee and donuts. I will also be on hand to oversee the clean up on May 10th.

Coordinating this event does not require a huge effort. Will someone step forward to coordinate next year's clean-up?

On May 10th, wear sturdy shoes and bring your own gloves, rake, and shovel if you can!

The spring clean up date may not be advertised again before May 10, so please clip this notice or mark the date on your calendar. See you then.

—by Debra Huron

Amy's Corner



by *Amy Kempster*
613-722-6039

March 1 meeting on changes to the Official Plan

(OP): The meeting hosted by Councillor Christine Leadman on March 1 to discuss experiences with the OP, largely related to intensification, was well attended. Several representatives of community associations talked of recent experiences in their areas. (Heather Pearl gave a good presentation on the development on Keyworth, which seeks to sever a very small lot for a single dwelling.) In general, there was a feeling that regardless of the zoning, the OP suggestion of intensification was being used to justify too much.

The experience of the Hintonburg Community Association was instructive. They usually get involved in almost all variances, rezonings, etc. in their area and have earned a reputation that sees developers meeting them earlier in the process than was once the case. They have agreed to higher density when there was compensation, such as The Currents condominium with the inclusion of the GTC theatre company. One common thread with regard to larger developments was the question of traffic.

In general, the audience seemed to wish to see the City look not at intensification alone but also at other aspects of smart growth, such as the liveability of neighbourhoods. Respect for existing regulations such as zoning was also desired. Developments that fit into the area they are in are not as problematic as ones that do not seem to fit.

My own view is that the question of shadowing and loss of light and privacy are very important. Even tall buildings such as the Metropole, if sited correctly, are less objectionable than ones which are closer and overlook your backyard. There is nothing wrong with "not in my backyard" actually, except for those whose backyard is not affected. Also undesirable are canyons such as those in some areas of downtown. Perhaps tall buildings should be confined to the one side of the

street or not allowed opposite an existing tall building. The OP targets areas such as the central area, traditional main streets, lands within 600 metres of existing transit stations, older industrial areas, mixed use centres, and contaminated lands.

Another form of intensification consists of adding units such as secondary apartments to existing houses. For some seniors who wish to remain in their homes, adding a secondary apartment may make sense if the tenant can provide some services such as snow-clearing. Another option is "granny flats"—small dwellings erected perhaps in the backyard for a senior and then moved or demolished when that use ceases. With an aging population, these types of solutions may become more popular. As well, current zoning allows roomers and boarders (up to three) in all dwellings. Having a post-secondary student stay with a senior may fulfill both people's needs.

The debate about intensification will continue. If you would like to express your views on this topic, I suggest you submit them to our editor or myself and I would be pleased to have my next column feature talkback on this topic.

Final meeting on new zoning by-law: On April 8, the Planning and Environment Committee will meet on the new zoning by-law. If you wish to speak to the committee, you should call Robert Tremblay, the committee's co-ordinator, at 613-580-2424 ext. 28828 to schedule a time (the limit is five minutes). This is your last chance to be heard on this topic. (The zoning for our neighbourhood is largely unchanged. However, if you are concerned you can look up the new zoning for your property on the City's website.)

New BIA for Wellington West: Our main street has become more organized! It now is a Business Improvement Area (BIA) extending from Island Park Drive to the O-train tracks.

What is a BIA? From the City's website: "Ottawa's Business Improvement Areas include some of our most vibrant commercial districts. BIAs come into existence when local business and property owners join together to improve, promote and undertake projects that will result in a stronger and more competitive commercial main street or business district. With the City's support, they organize, finance and complete local improvements and promotional events from their common location within a defined commercial area. The range of activities that a BIA undertakes are: marketing; business recruitment; streetscape improvement and other amenities; seasonal decorations; and special events."