
CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



November 2008

Vol. 28, No.7

Annual General Meeting of the **Champlain Park Community Association**

**Thursday, December 4
at the fieldhouse, 7:30 p.m.
See page 3 for a full agenda.**

St. George School

is having its 5th Annual Used Book Sale
Where: St. George School on Keyworth Ave.
Date: Thursday, November 13th
Time: 3:45 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Large selection books for kids and adults!

Thank you to all!

The Halloween party on October 25 was a lot of fun, with a group of 50 to 60 kids and lots of adults. Little John the Clown provided entertainment.

For the second year in a row, Kelly Wiles spearheaded the party. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped: Gillian Peters, Sacha Ivis, Ann Johnson, Sarah Brooks, Julie Wallace, and Diana Merhi.

Teens who helped out were: Rayanna, Kalikia and Mo Merhi, Gaby Patenaude, and Emma Ivis. Thanks to all the bakers, too!

Craft Fair slated for Nov. 15

The Champlain Park Christmas Craft Fair will be held Saturday, November 15 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Champlain Park fieldhouse (149 Cowley Ave). This is a great opportunity to get your Christmas shopping done in one convenient location! We have 10 vendors at our fair, selling a terrific variety of handmade goods: jewellery, home-made jams and jellies, soaps and lotions, knitting, vintage felted and sewn fabrics, wooden toys, dichroic glass, note cards, notepads and more. Check out the Champlain Park Christmas Craft Fair blog for a list of vendors and links to their websites to get a preview of what will be available: <http://champlainparkxmasfair.blogspot.com/>.

—by Laurie Fagan

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 cleanup coordinator (vacant)

Social convenor (vacant)

Planning:

Amy Kempster (722-6039)

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER your community newsletter

Editor: Debra Huron (722-8048)
dhuron@sympatico.ca

Proofreading: Andrea Murphy

Delivery Chief: Kelly Egan

On-line edition: To receive an e-mail
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Speaker, contact Alexander Smith
agmsmith@rogers.com



Carriers: Kay Young, Terri
Blanchard, Sandy Milne, Philip
Cutfield, Patrick Mates, Rita Palin,
Laura Robin, Becky Rynor, Jim Hay,
Wendy Huculak, Heather Pearl, Ann
Potter, Emma Morris, Linda Steele,
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.

Urban tree conservation

Did you know?

- Trees in Ottawa's urban core store or sequester enough carbon dioxide to offset 10 million car commutes to and from work.

- One large tree provides a day's worth of oxygen for up to four people.

- Wind protection and shade cover from trees can save households 10 to 50 percent in heating and cooling costs.

- Research shows that trees can increase property values nine to 30 percent.

- Trees help improve our water quality, as they filter surface water and prevent erosion.

The City's policy is to maintain 30 percent tree cover across the city. Currently, in urban areas of the city, there is only 17 percent tree cover. As Ottawa grows, we will undoubtedly

lose trees to new suburban developments and infill projects. Ottawa is now one of the few major centres in Ontario that does not have any regulations in place for tree cutting on private land. The City is seeking your input on this issue.

More information on the proposed tree conservation program can be found in the Issues Paper, Urban Tree Conservation—Creating Opportunities.

The above information, from the City of Ottawa's Urban Tree Conservation website, is used with permission. To learn more and to provide comments, please go to the following address: www.ottawa.ca/urban-tree.

—submitted by Heather Pearl
with approval of the Champlain
Park Community Association

Join the Neighbourhood Watch e-mail system

Our e-alert system is an e-mail network that alerts residents to crimes in the neighbourhood. All residents are advised to subscribe to this e-alert network by sending an e-mail to Champlain Park Neighbourhood Watch, CPNW@sympatico.ca. Neil Robertson is the coordinator of this network. It is also helpful for residents to report to the same e-mail address all crimes that have recently occurred, so that we can all increase our vigilance.

We can discourage would-be criminals and vandals from being active in our community by our effective Neighbourhood Watch program. Your participation is critical if the program is to be effective.

Teens who babysit

Karah P. 722-6039

Emma J. 728-6681

Alexandra 722-7482

Berlin 722-2248

Ben 729-1218

Leigh 715-9473

Emma I. 722-1063

Anastasia 728-9014

Fiona 761-9262

Emma M. 728-4642

Elisabeth (bilingual)

722-0454

Agenda for Thursday, December 4

2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHAMPLAIN PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

When: Thursday, December 4, 2008

Where: Champlain Park fieldhouse (Cowley and Clearview)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

This past summer, a development proposal was submitted to the City of Ottawa that could have a significant impact on the nature of our community. This year's AGM will provide an opportunity to find out how such proposals could affect you. To find out more, come out to the fieldhouse for this year's meeting.

Here is the agenda for the meeting:

- 1) City Councillor Christine Leadman will update us on ward and neighbourhood issues.
- 2) Business of the association:
 - Officers and volunteers for the upcoming year
 - Financial report
- 3) Development issues:
 - Proposal to build a double at 215 Carleton on an undersized lot
 - What's happening in other communities
 - Responding to development proposals, what's involved
- 4) Other community issues:
 - Membership drive
 - Parking
 - Involvement of the executive
- 5) Other business

Please join us at the meeting. It's a great opportunity to meet your neighbours, and enjoy some coffee/tea and goodies as well.

Call for volunteers: this community is such a wonderful place to live in part because of the work done by the many volunteers who are involved in everything from serving on the executive to organizing community events and producing and delivering the Champlain Speaker. More people are always needed; there is no end of things to be done. If you are interested, get in touch with Karen Maser at 613-722-6700 or kmaser@rogers.com.

Amy's Corner



by *Amy Kempster*
613-722-6039

Property Assessments and City Budget: As expected, we got our assessment notices the last week of October. The average increase for Kitchissippi Ward residences is 22.40 percent—well above the City average of 13.94 percent. In fact, our ward had the highest average outside the downtown ward of Somerset. This makes the City budget especially important, since this above-average assessment means a phased-in increase of 5.6 percent for 2009 and probably a similar increase in taxes for that year, even if there is zero increase in the tax rate. Your own assessment increase may be below the ward average so your increase may be less than that. In fact, if your percentage increase in value is less than 20 percent, the provincial portion of your taxes may decrease. The phasing-in means that a quarter of your total increased value will be added each year until 2012 when the full and new assessed value will be used.

Given the above and the likelihood of increased taxes in our area stemming strictly from increases in assessed value, the City Budget—slated for release on Nov. 4—seems likely to be of interest to many people. Information sessions on the budget will be held as follows:

- 1) Monday, Nov. 24 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Lansdowne Park Assembly Hall, 1015 Bank Street: Councillors Georges Bedard, Clive Doucet, Diane Holmes, Peter Hume, and Christine Leadman.
- 2) Thursday, Nov. 27 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Churchill Seniors Centre, 345 Richmond Road: Councillor Christine Leadman.

If neither of these suit you, the nearest alternative is: 3) Tuesday, Nov. 18 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepointhe Drive: Councillors Rick Chiarelli, Steve Desroches, Jan Harder, and Gord Hunter.

City Council will hear delegations on December 1 and 2. If you want more information, visit www.ottawa.ca, call 311, or e-mail budget@ottawa.ca.

Official Plan Revisions: The City will hold special meetings to discuss revisions to the 2003 Official Plan and Infrastructure Master Plan on Nov. 24 (Planning and Environment Committee) and also on Nov. 27 (Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee). The latter will focus on changes to policies that affect rural areas. A draft amendment was sent out earlier this year and the agenda of these meetings will include the revised version. The draft amendment will be tabled in January with adoption scheduled for March. Possible changes to the urban boundary and intensification policies will probably be the focus of discussion. For more information, contact Lesley Paterson, Program Manager, Planning Branch-Official Plan Review, City of Ottawa, 110 Laurier Ave. West, Ottawa, 613-580-2424, ext. 21611.

Development projects in our ward: The development along Scott at Winona seems to be proceeding as the construction equipment was there the other day. A City-related project is the addition of a new larger water pipe from the filtration plant; this will result in the closing of Bayview Road at Scott Street for several weeks. Work is also underway at the former Canadian Tire gas station on Richmond Road, probably at this stage mainly cleaning up the site.

Trees: The City held several workshops and discussions the last week of October and first week of November, leading up to possible policies re: conservation of trees, particularly distinctive trees. Trees are an important element in making our community a pleasant place to live. City trees—those in the city road allowance (such as the area that might be used for sidewalks) and in parks—are protected. Those on private property are not.

Quite a few Ontario municipalities have tree-cutting by-laws. Discussions here have included ways to protect distinctive trees, as well as a by-law to require a tree preservation and protection plan before tree cutting or development can occur on vacant land. As well as its current tree-planting work, the City might also engage in stewardship promotion on behalf of trees. If you have opinions on the ways that the City should protect and enhance our tree cover, you might let our Councillor know since the results of these discussions will probably be discussed at Council. Visit www.ottawa.ca/urbantree for more information.
