Become a member of our community association now!

Sometime after the May long weekend, 21 cheerful and diligent volunteers from our community will come knocking on your door to make you an offer you can’t refuse. Should they miss you, these cheerful souls will keep coming back until the end of June 2010!

The cost for one of our specially engraved and highly collectable membership cards is a mere $7 for seniors and $10 for those of you who don’t look all that old.

This year you may, if you wish, give the cheerful, persistent volunteer your e-mail address. This will only be used to send out e-mail copies of the Champlain Speaker and also any security updates from our Neighbourhood Watch group.

There is no doubt that many of you reading this have always wanted to meet your neighbours. Perhaps it’s the charming man down the street with the friendly Rottweilers, or that lovely lady three doors away whose garden has those wonderful spring flowers, or that nice couple whose son practices the saxophone at two in the morning. Well, here is your chance. Some of our membership canvassers are retiring after many years of loyal service. This leaves a number of highly sought-after routes. So give CRAIG a call at 613-725 5488 and you, too, can terrorize your neighbours. Vacant routes are listed below:

ROUTE 2 North end of Northwestern (between Clearview and Pontiac) 22 homes
ROUTE 4 Mid-Carleton (between Sunnymede and Clearview) 26 homes
ROUTE 11 Mid-Keyworth (between Sunnymede and Clearview) 22 homes
ROUTE 15 Mid-Daniel (between Sunnymede and Clearview) 20 homes

Inside the Speaker

| Association's presentation Party on Daniel Ave. | Page |
| Garage sale and giveaway weekend | 2 |
| Arms Bazaar and protests return | 3 |
| Transportation and cycling meetings slated | 4 |
| Spring cleanup included Ottawa River's bank | 5 |
| How to make windows secure this summer | 6 |
| Amy's Corner | 7 |

Barbara Brush of Daniel Ave. watched this bungalow being moved to a new location in early April. It is the second house on Daniel Ave. to be removed in two years.

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Community association presents its views on intensification

On April 1, the Champlain Park Community Association made a presentation to the City of Ottawa’s Planning and Environment Committee on the draft Official Plan (OP) amendment dealing with development.

The text below was written and presented by Lynne Bankier, Co-Chair of our Community Association. It is an excerpt from the full presentation. To obtain a complete transcript of Lynne’s presentation, please contact her at 613-729-0955.

• The message we have received from planners at the Committee of Adjustment and the Ontario Municipal Board is that the philosophy of intensification, along with design and compatibility issues, take precedence over lot size requirements in the current zoning by-law.

• The question is, what are the intensification targets specifically for low-rise residential neighbourhoods, and can the new Official Plan include stronger statements that although modest intensification through infill is supported, over-intensification in these neighbourhoods is not?

...continued on page 6

Daniel Avenue plans street party

All Champlain Park residents are welcome!

Sunday, June 14, 2009
3:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.
(Rain date: Sunday, June 28th)
Pending approval of a block party application, the block between Premier and Sunnymede Avenues will be closed for the party.

For potluck dinner, please bring a salad, munchies, or sweets. Hot dogs will be provided. Bring your own beverages and chairs.

If you would like to help with the organization of the party, please contact Nancy Elias at 613-728-7885 or nancy@kidsottawa.com.

Champlain Park Community
Association

Co-chairs: Lynne Bankier (729-0955) and Heather Pearl (725-1422)
Vice-chair: Vacant
Treasurer: Potter (728-4980)
Secretary: Karen Maser (722-6700)
Ex-officio Past President:
Jonathan Chaplan (728-7670)
Neighbourhood Watch:
Michael Cheng (722-3344),
Patrick Mates (722-4120),
Neil Robertson (729-5439)
Spring cleanup: Ian Reid
(715-9504)
Social convener: (vacant)
Planning: Amy Kempster (722-6039)
Other roles:
Membership: Craig Wells (725-5488)
Fieldhouse co-ordinator: Laurie Fagan
(728-1945)

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER
your community newsletter

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The Speaker is produced on a regular basis with the generous support of the Ottawa Citizen.
Annual Garage Sale
Saturday, June 6
8 a.m. to noon

Our neighbourhood sale will be held
in conjunction with Island Park Drive's
sale (same day, almost same location!)

Rain date for the sale is Sunday, June 7.

...followed by Spring Give Away Weekend

If you don’t sell all your "treasures" on Saturday, June 6, put them out for collection later in the day or the day after.

Supported by the City of Ottawa, a city-wide Spring Give Away Weekend will take place at the end of Environment Week. The dates are Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7, 2009.

Dubbed a "treasure hunt" by the City, the Give Away Weekend will see people touring neighbourhoods throughout the City in search of other people's unwanted gems.

Treasures could include:
* Books, CDs and DVDs.
* Old furniture and small appliances.
* Construction materials - including drywall and hardware such as nails, bolts and screws.
* Kitchen gadgets, dishes, cutlery, pots and pans.
* Unwanted gifts
* …and more

Please consider safety when deciding which items to set out at the curb.

The Consumer Product Safety Bureau of Health Canada advises that used children's items such as baby walkers, yo-yo balls, cribs, car seats, strollers, playpens, bath seats, mattresses, blinds, toys and other child-related items should not be placed out at the curb.

Rules for setting out the treasures:
* Place items at the curb.
* Place stickers or signs on items with the word "FREE."
* Ensure any items that you want to keep are away from your setout treasures or tucked away safely in your garage.
* At the end of the day, bring any uncollected gems back to your home.

Treasure hunting etiquette:
* Respect other people's property. Don't walk on people's lawns and gardens.
* Take only the treasures marked "free" at the curb.
* Don't discard previously picked-up treasures on another person's lawn.

–Source: City of Ottawa website
A call for no Arms Bazaar in Ottawa

by Carroll Holland, resident of Cowley Avenue

Weapons will replace sports events when an arms trade show is held May 27 and 28 at Lansdowne Park in the heart of the city.

It will all be held behind closed doors—the public is not invited to this event on public property.

Producers of missiles, rockets, electronic components for warplanes, and tons of other items efficiently designed to kill will be on display for potential buyers.

I was dismayed, angered, and then spurred to action when I heard news of this development.

No more déjà vu

Community activism produced the climate for an Ottawa City Council ban in 1989 on arms trade shows at Lansdowne Park. It’s time to do it again.

The arms trade show has come back for the first time in 20 years because of a City Hall legal department interpretation that regionalization rendered the 1989 decision by Ottawa City Council invalid. Our current City Council did not discuss the issue.

The arms trade show sponsor is the Canadian Association of Defence and Security Industries (CANSEC), which has 540 manufacturing members.

Getting involved

I’ve attended two well-attended public meetings organized by the Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade (COAT), No War/Paix, and the Raging Grannies. Individuals and a range of community groups want City Council to place another ban on arms trade shows on public property, since weapons of war now kill and injure primarily civilians, most of whom are women and children.

The success of three community initiatives hinges on our participation:

• On Wednesday, May 27: Remember the victims of war at a candlelight peace vigil to be held in front of Lansdowne Park the first evening of the arms trade show. The vigil will be preceded by speeches and music at 7 p.m. at nearby Southminster United Church, 15 Aylmer Ave. (at Bank St. just south of the Canal). The gathering will walk from the church to Lansdowne Park for the vigil. Speakers will include MP Paul Dewar (NDP Foreign Affairs critic) and Richard Sanders of COAT. Music groups include Just Voices and The Greatful We’re Not Dead.

• On Thursday, May 28: Join social justice groups displaying information about their work to promote genuine human security. Location: sidewalk tables facing Lansdowne Park. Contact: Richard Sanders of the Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade (COAT) at 613-231-3076.

• On Tuesday, June 2: Join the dozens of people and groups that will make presentations to the City’s corporate services committee in favour of a ban on further arms trade shows. Please call me if you are interested in participating as a group of neighbours (613 761-1761).

For more detailed information, visit COAT’s web site: http://COAT.ncf.ca. For Facebook discussion, enter the search line Stop the CANSEC arms show.
Transportation: keep our #18 bus

Do you take the #18 bus downtown? OC Transpo is proposing radical changes to this bus route for the fall that would mean the bus would travel between St. Laurent and end at Tunney's Pasture. This means all the stops going west on Scott would be eliminated. You can express your objections on the OC Transpo website and to Councillor Christine Leadman's office. Ms. Leadman is fighting to preserve the route as it is now. She hopes to convince her colleagues on the transportation committee to reconsider.

Her office told me the more people who express their concerns, the stronger case she can make. I have been taking this bus for over 20 years and it would be unacceptable if people in this community weren't able to catch a bus on Scott Street to take them downtown. OC transpo's website is: [www.octranspo.com](http://www.octranspo.com) (go to TransPlan 2009) Christine Leadman's email is: Kitchissippi@ottawa.ca

—Laurie Fagan

Public meeting

Councillor Christine Leadman invites all residents of Kitchissippi Ward to a meeting to discuss the future of the Transportation Master Plan.

Wednesday May 26, 2009
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Hintonburg Community Centre
1064 Wellington Street

Paul Dewar wants to hear your views on cycling

Our Member of Parliament, Paul Dewar, will be hosting a consultation with community groups and residents in Ottawa Centre on their ideas for improving cycling in Ottawa.

The purpose of the event is to gain insight from the public on their ideas and priorities around cycling in Ottawa so Paul can bring those ideas to the House of Commons. The meeting will hear from a few key people on where things are at and where they could be; then the group will brainstorm on where to go and how.

The meeting will be held Saturday May 30, 2009, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Giles Church in the Glebe (northeast corner of Bank St. and First Ave.). Enter via the door on First Avenue.

E-mail to Councillor Leadman

[April 21, 2009]

Regarding Transplan 2009, the loss of the number 18 on Scott Street going west from Tunney's Pasture Transit Station is a concern to our community. This part of the route is especially important to students going to Nepean High School from our neighbourhood and it was not clear to me that there is an alternative on the revised transit plan. This part of the route is also a link to the Tunney's Pasture or Westboro transit stations for our community.

—Lynne Bankier, Co-Chair of Champlain Park Community Association
Cleanup on April 25 included riverbank

It was a perfect day to be outdoors and more than 20 volunteers showed up for our community's spring cleanup of wooded areas, boulevards, and part of the Ottawa River's riverbank.

Because of the warm weather, the sign-up table was set up outside the door of the fieldhouse. Coffee from Bridgehead was dispensed to those needing a wake-up and delicious cookies made at home by Andrea Murphy gave us a burst of energy to do the job.

Special thanks go to Ian Reid and Andrea Murphy of Patricia Avenue for doing all the logistics prior to the event and for directing people on the day itself.

On extreme left, Craig Wells. Left to right in back row: Andrea Murphy, Karen Maser, Patrick Mates, and Laurie Champagne. Front row (kneeling): Maija Adamson and Ian Reid.

The 21 cleanup volunteers were: Detlef Hess, Nancy Elias, Sacha Hess, Annika Hess, Karen Maser, Debra Huron, Ian Reid, Andrea Murphy, Craig Wells, Maija Adamson, Duncan Bury, Louise Atkins, Patrick Mates, Laurie Champagne, Kelly Egan, Laurie Fagan, Will Egan, Eloise Holland, Lydia Holland, Jeff Bloor, and Sophie Gilfillan.

A dozen people from Health Canada's social committee were picking up trash along the river that morning, too. Our volunteer, Andrea Murphy (left in the photo), encountered two of them, Peter Derosenroll (centre) and Chris Long (right) as she walked east towards Tunney's Pasture. Bravo to these Health Canada folks!

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Official Plan and intensification

- Our concern is about over-intensification within our traditional residential community, and that this will dramatically change the character of the neighbourhood if the current practice of allowing intensification on under-sized lots continues.
- We feel that this would negatively and unnecessarily change the character of the neighbourhood, since the intensification targets can be achieved via the current drive to develop with higher density on the surrounding main streets and in dedicated new higher-density neighbourhoods.
- Our request is that the Official Plan amendment should clarify the infill intensification targets for the traditional neighbourhoods and indicate that they are substantially lower than the oft-quoted 40 percent that is applicable to the target areas.
- Surely there is still a place for maintaining the character of traditional neighbourhoods in the urban area, and surely they contribute to the overall character of the City of Ottawa enough to warrant stronger protection for these neighbourhoods in the Official Plan.

Have you seen the Wellington Oracle? It's on-line at http://wellora.jungle.ca
Making your windows secure this summer

Windows afford two advantages to a would-be burglar: visibility and access. First, an uncovered window provides a way to observe the interior of a home, and thus the opportunity to review its contents and to target items of value. Leaving valuables in plain sight can invite a break-in. This problem can easily be overcome by covering windows with curtains or blinds, particularly after dark. As an added deterrent in the evening hours, a light on a timer can make a home look occupied even when it is not. The visibility problem applies also to garage windows, which can betray the fact that tools may be stored there, or, if no car is present, that the resident may not be at home. These windows should also be covered or painted over.

Though less used by burglars due to the possibility of injury or detection, windows also offer a potential access to the home’s interior. Make sure your windows and sash locks are in good working order. Do not rely on windows to be secure just because they are painted shut.

The common crescent sash lock on single or double hung (vertical sliding) windows can sometimes be pried open from the outside with a knife applied between the inner and outer sash, or the window can be forced open with a pry bar applied to the bottom of the window. Because of their design, this can’t be done on newer sash locks. If you have older locks on these kinds of windows, you can replace them with keyed sash locks. For wooden sash windows, keyed corner sash locks are available to supplement the crescent lock. In addition, the windows can be pinned by drilling downward-angled holes in each upper corner of the bottom sash and partway into the bottom corner of the upper or outer sash and sliding in a removable nail or pin to prevent upward movement. Be careful not to drill completely through the outer sash or to damage the thermal seal. This type of pinning can also be applied to the wood frames of sliding windows and patio doors. However, drilling holes in sashes is not recommended for vinyl windows. Equipped with a good lock and sturdy fasteners, this type of window provides good security.

Casement windows are hinged on one side and open like a door using a crank lever. When closed and locked, these windows are very secure. When you are away on vacation or if the window is to be left open on a hot night for ventilation, the crank handles can be removed. However, always keep safety in mind and store the handle nearby so that you can find it easily in an emergency. If the window has two locking levers, always use both to avoid drafts and to prevent the window being pried open. Check the length of the screws in the hinges and replace with longer screws if necessary.

Horizontal sliding windows are similar to patio doors and can be secured in a similar way. A stick or dowel can be placed in the bottom track to prevent sliding and long, protruding screws can be placed in the top track to prevent the window being lifted out. Screw locks are also available that can be attached to the frame. Some sliding windows can be pinned in the centre to immobilize both moving sashes.

The best method to secure a basement window is to install “quick release” bars that can be opened from the inside if you need to exit in an emergency.

Make sure that the occupants of any room intended for sleeping know how to open the window to get out if they have to, without the need for special tools.
Interprovincial Transit: It seems remarkable that finally and without much notice we are having public consultation on interprovincial transit in the National Capital Region. As many may remember, the third lane on the Champlain Bridge was to be primarily for public transit and cars containing at least two people. (One wonders why the Portage Bridge requires at least three persons per car for the transit lane while Champlain requires only two.) There is a website, so if you missed meetings held on May 14 (in Ottawa) and May 19 (in Gatineau), you can take the on-line survey and also provide comments. The website is www.interprovincial-transit-strategy.ca.

While the focus is on the core areas of the two cities of Ottawa and Gatineau, which account for a large part of the commuting traffic, the stated aim of the consultation is to provide “an opportunity for the public to provide their viewpoints and input into potential solutions for improving and better integrating the interprovincial transit system in and around the National Capital Region.” It seems almost possible that a new day of interprovincial cooperation and coordination is about to dawn in the National Capital Region. (Never mind that many years ago, I travelled from Ottawa to Aylmer via streetcar.) This initiative is long overdue and is very welcome, although better notice would have been appreciated.

Choosing our Future: Will wonders never cease! Another joint project of the NCC, Gatineau, and Ottawa is underway! My only problem is that it has been in the works for some time and only now is the general public being invited in. Not the best way to plan our future. Nevertheless, now the public is being invited to find out about it.

As the first quarterly newsletter of the project states: “Choosing our Future is an innovative joint planning initiative of the City of Ottawa, the City of Gatineau, and the National Capital Commission (NCC). The goal of this multi-year project is to help Canada’s Capital Region face the challenges of the 21st century, and integrate the concepts of sustainability and resiliency into all facets of regional planning and design.” The website is www.choosingourfuture.ca.

According to the newsletter, this initiative evolved from a 2005 determination of the Tripartite National Capital Planning Committee (NCC/Gatineau/Ottawa) “that the region must function sustainably, as an economic and environmental unit, and that the City of Gatineau, NCC, and the City of Ottawa would therefore embrace this initiative together.” Since 2007, five resource groups have been created: Scope and Capacity Building; Communications and Engagement; Futures Workshop and Design Charrette; Vulnerability, Sustainability and Resiliency Analysis; and Community Energy Plan. According to the newsletter, a Community Partnership Program was launched on May 2, 2009 to provide opportunities for organizations to become engaged in the various project activities, increase their knowledge, and make a commitment to action. It also invites those receiving the newsletter to participate as part of the Choosing our Future team by getting involved through the website. As the project is aimed at the long-term future (next 100 years), I would especially like to encourage younger readers to get involved.