

# CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



<https://champlainpark.org/>



## Holiday house decorating contest!

*Lights.....and.....action.....*

Well, it's going to be a different kind of holiday season, isn't it?

But, as we demonstrated at Halloween, Champlain Park knows how to put on a brave face, all spruced up and ready to shine for a small, intimate occasion.

A contest is underway for the best decorated house, with a \$50 gift certificate as first prize. Vote for your favourite household by Dec. 26

by emailing

your name and the address of the house to [xenosn@yahoo.com](mailto:xenosn@yahoo.com). The prize is a gift card good at any Wellington West business.

See also [champlainpark.org](https://champlainpark.org/) for details.

You go, Griswolds.



## SJAM trail, sliding hills on way, Bistro may open

The Sir John A. Macdonald winter trail (snow depending) is more or less up and running, with a loop through Champlain Park.

With these kooky weather swings, best to consult [www.wintertrail.ca](http://www.wintertrail.ca) for details and conditions along the 16-km circuit.

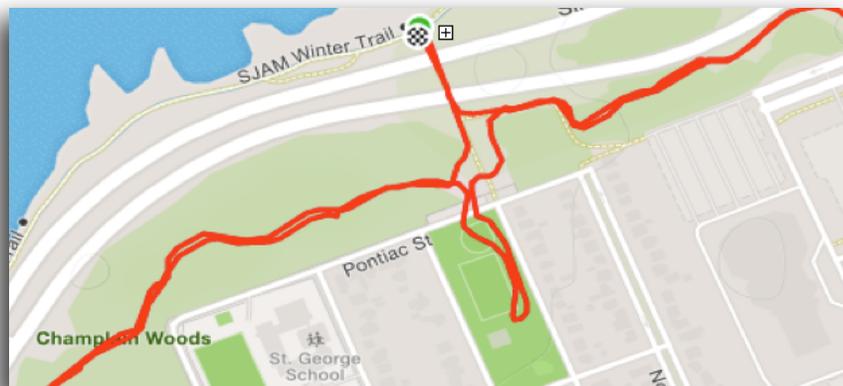
For the little ones — and young at heart — there is the Westboro Beach hill for some sliding, or the unofficial Remic Winter Hill, to be used at your own risk.

The NCC reports there

may be news on the periodic opening of the Remic Bistro this winter. Follow our website and twitter account for updates.

Our community association, meanwhile, has generously donated \$500 for SJAM winter operations.

It is looking like an entire winter enduring the pandemic: try to be good to yourselves, with fresh air, exercise and a measure of gratitude that we have great, open spaces on our doorstep.



## Outdoor rink **WILL** open: Check web for latest



### Queen's Gambit, for real....

We're creating a Champlain Park Chess League for the winter/spring. A ladder format will be used, so sign up, then challenge a neighbour to a virtual game of online chess (many online sites exist) and move up the ladder ranking. Top four players will then play off in the spring to crown the CP champion. To sign up, Nick at [xenosn@yahoo.com](mailto:xenosn@yahoo.com)

### Show must go on... fav Xmas crafts online

We're disappointed, of course, that the annual Holiday Craft Show could not be held this year. But consider an online order/dropoff from favourite **Pam's Soaps** ([www.pamssoaps.com](http://www.pamssoaps.com)) Reach Pam at [pam@pamssoaps.com](mailto:pam@pamssoaps.com). Another popular item is Christmas cookies made by a mother/son team, **Laurie Fagan and Will Egan**. Polka dot shortbread, pecan crescents, Swedish jam rings, pinwheels and zombie gingerbread. To order 613-728-1945 or [lfagan@magma.ca](mailto:lfagan@magma.ca).

### The boards are up, ice on its way

We will, indeed, have an outdoor skating rink season. We have seen the boards go up! Does not water still freeze in 2020?

This year, the rink will be maintained and managed by a group of community volunteers. (Other years, the task has been mostly handled by a paid contractor.) Details are currently being worked out with the City of Ottawa. One thing we know already is that extra hands will be welcome with flooding, snow-clearing and other jobs.

If you'd like to help, reach out to [ChamplainParkRink@gmail.com](mailto:ChamplainParkRink@gmail.com).

### NOW...

#### As for what's NOT on...

We regret that some our favourite winter events can't go ahead this year because of COVID-19 restrictions involving the fieldhouse. The Christmas Sleigh Ride, Winter Carnival and the post-holiday Bonfire have fallen victim to pandemic safety.

So, as many of you know, have the winter season programs inside the building. Unfortunately, the field house is also closed for the usual community rentals, like children's birthday parties and the like.



### Charity auction for Parkdale Food Bank

Please consider helping the Parkdale Food Bank by taking part in its holiday fundraising auction, with bids or donations.

To participate you can:

1) Donate a good or service before **Dec. 5**, by sending a photo and/or short description of the item

to [xenosn@yahoo.com](mailto:xenosn@yahoo.com)

You can donate almost anything, like crafts/art/baked goods or services like a virtual workshop/shovelling someone's walk/etc...

2) Put in a bid for any item up to **Dec 15**.

Go to the website [www.32auctions.com](http://www.32auctions.com)

and put in a bid on any donated items.

If your bid is highest on **Dec. 15 by 5 p.m.**, you donate that amount to charity and we'll arrange a contactless drop-off.

For more information visit [www.32auctions.com/champlainpark](http://www.32auctions.com/champlainpark) or [champlainpark.org](http://champlainpark.org)