

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



<https://champlainpark.org/>



Ho, ho, ho...Sleigh Ride Mon/Dec 18

All aboard as team of horses to criss-cross neighbourhood!

We're delighted to let everyone know the annual Sleigh Ride is scheduled for **Monday, Dec. 18**.

It will proceed much as it has other years, with a start from the fieldhouse and a winding route throughout Champlain Park.

We're asking that the **6 p.m.** departure be set aside for tiny tots and their parents, with a **6:30 p.m.** start for the regular sleigh ride. We'll do our best to accommodate anyone with mobility issues or special needs.

There will be sing-alongs and hot chocolate and possibly a surprise visit from Old St. Nick himself. Feel free to bring along a set of bells or other musical instruments that suit group carolling.

Please be mindful the event is weather-dependent, as freezing rain (in particular) has led to the cancellation in previous years.

If the weather looks iffy, be sure to check our website (<https://champlainpark.org/>) or Twitter/X account (@Champlainpark) for last-minute updates. Special thanks to Jim Cocks for organizing once again.



Volunteers are always welcome: contact Jim at SleighRideCP@gmail.com if you can help with tasks like setup, serving and cleanup.

Winter Carnival on tap Sat/Jan 20, noon to 3 pm



— photo by Alex Smith

Hot chili, cool music, and fun sleigh rides — you bet the Winter Carnival is back! Everyone is welcome to attend, whatever the weather. Among the activities we have planned at the park and fieldhouse:

- 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** — Horse-drawn sleigh rides and outdoor games in the park.
- 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.** — Music in the Field house with locally based Jazz Quartet.

Admission, sleigh rides, hot chocolate and coffee are **FREE**.

Food and Beverages — There will be a Chili Cookoff, baked goodies, juice, hotdogs and more for sale in the fieldhouse kitchen. Please bring a little cash. Debit/credit machines are **NOT** available.

Volunteers make it happen! We need help with setup and cleanup, lunch counter, ticket sales, and donations of baked goods. Call out for chefs to bring their best chili dish of course! Please contact Erin and Kelly for more info at erintopping@hotmail.com or 613-799-1770.

The Kichi Sibi Winter Trail team will be out for the fun. For more info about the trail, check out www.wintertrail.ca

The rink will be operating normally. As an indoor event, organizers urge everyone to follow public health guidelines.

AGM booked for Jan. 25, new secretary needed

The annual general meeting of the Champlain Park Community Association is scheduled for **Thursday, Jan. 25**.

It will be a hybrid event, live in the fieldhouse **from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.**, but with a virtual link for those who want to take part off-site.

The meeting will follow a familiar format, with business reports from the various committees and the election of officers.

Kitchissippi Coun. Jeff Leiper is slated to be our guest speaker and will provide updates on important zoning/planning changes — from the province and city — that may affect every street in Champlain Park.

The association also takes this moment to send an advance signal the **board is looking for a new secretary**. This is an important position that helps fulfill the association's legal requirements to the province as a corporate non-profit.



Coun. Jeff Leiper

It's a great way to contribute to our neighbourhood, connect with neighbours and, who knows, have a little fun!

The primary responsibilities are to set meeting dates, organize agendas, write minutes (brief, decision-based), file meeting records on Google Drive for virtual board meetings (about eight per year) and the AGM and, once a year, report an updated list of directors to the province. The other board members are there to help!

If you'd like to have a vote on matters at the annual meeting, please remember to buy a membership. There are detailed instructions on our website, including how to e-transfer the \$20 annual fee.

More information on the AGM (like the virtual link and how to run for an elected position) will be forthcoming in January, in the Speaker and on the web (champlainpark.org).

Memorial tree, plaque honour our Amy Steele (Kempster) Dec. 17



A memorial tree will be dedicated to Amy Steele (Kempster) on **Dec. 17**. Amy was a longtime volunteer in our community and, more broadly, a passionate defender of well-planned urban neighbourhoods and healthy natural environments.

The Champlain Park Community Association, the Federation of Citizens' Associations and the Greenspace Alliance invite residents to pay tribute to Amy in the heart of the community she so admirably served. The tree dedication (northeast end of park) will be at **1:45 p.m.** and a reception will follow in the fieldhouse, from **2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.** (Light refreshments provided.)



Amy Steele (Kempster) 1929 — 2022

Our Job Matchmaker site is up, hiring!

Our Job Matchmaker service is now up and running. This is a great way to connect those available for casual work (babysitting, snow shovelling, dog walking) with a resident who needs occasional help. It's also a great way for young people to find part-time work.

There is a form to fill out and a screening step to protect privacy. Please consult <https://champlainpark.org/matchmaker/> for all the details.

Help needed to flood, maintain rink!

Well, the boards are up, the lights are ready, now we're looking for a few dedicated folks to help with flooding and maintenance of our rink.

The need for shovelers is especially great when snowfall exceeds five cms.

For details on when and how to help, please contact Paul O'Blenes at 613-716-9713, or oblenes@gmail.com.