

## Chair's Report February 13, 2018

### Membership in OOECA

- the final tally is in - 739 households!

- thank you to all canvassers, our membership Board member Suzanne & Wendy McRae who has again compiled the electronic record

### Concord North PXO (pedestrian cross-over)

- I received an update from the Councillor's office on the PWO at Concord North & Greenfield. Many in the community have highlighted this PXO as being dangerous with concerns re: visibility, pedestrian safety and driver adherence to PXO legislation. The following message from the City's Traffic Engineer was sent to the Councillor's office recently:

*"Due to road geometry and a number of concerns/feedback that we received from the residents, we support adding the flashing beacons on either side of Greenfield... We are currently reviewing our commitments for the 2018 PXO program but are optimistic this upgrade can be accommodated. Assuming we do move forward with the upgrade, I should note that it is unlikely we can begin the work prior to mid-May as some concrete work is required to install the poles that are required to mount the flashers."*

### Temporary Pedestrian Detours along Rideau Canal Eastern Pathway in Downtown Ottawa

- I received a community update from Parks Canada on January 18 with the following info:

"Investigative work on the Rideau Canal walls in downtown Ottawa will require temporary pedestrian detours along the Rideau Canal Eastern Pathway near the Mackenzie King Bridge. The work will take place between January 22nd and late February 2018, weather dependent.

The first phase of this work will require a closure on the Rideau Canal Eastern Pathway in the area beginning just south of the Government Conference Centre and extending just south of the Laurier Ave. Bridge. The second phase of the work will require a closure beginning just south of the Laurier Ave. Bridge and extending just south of the Corktown Bridge. In both instances, a marked pedestrian detour will be in place and will be kept clear of snow and ice.

For up-to-date information on infrastructure work, please visit [www.pc.gc.ca/rcinfrastructure](http://www.pc.gc.ca/rcinfrastructure) or e-mail [RideauCanal.info@pc.gc.ca](mailto:RideauCanal.info@pc.gc.ca) to be added to our community engagement list."

### Cycling signage proposal for intersection of Main & Riverdale

- Don Fugler sent me the following message several weeks ago and I suggested we could discuss at our Board meeting:

"A cycling advocate I know has suggested the following modifications to the Main/Riverdale intersection to improve conditions for southbound cyclists. I do not use that intersection frequently so I defer to those who experience it daily. The recommendations, however, would require quite significant changes in signalization at the intersection.

1. The bicycle lane get an advance green ahead of Southbound traffic on Main, after the Northbound traffic advance green.
2. No right on red for Main st southbound traffic turning right onto Riverdale
3. No right on red for Riverdale eastbound traffic turning right onto Main.
4. No left turn after the advance green for northbound traffic turning left onto Riverdale. Advance green turns to red.

This is just a proposal to the advocacy group at Bike Ottawa (the former CfSC) so it may go nowhere. I think it would be interesting to solicit reaction from community members, both cyclists and others, to see if they think such changes are warranted and whether they would support such modifications."

### **Capital Ward Cup**

- the weather conditions resulted in the cancellation of this much anticipated event

### **Ottawa Magazine article on OOE**

- an upcoming edition of this magazine will be including an article on changing neighbourhoods; Old Ottawa East is one of the areas to be featured

- I spoke to the writer working on the article several weeks ago

### **Children's Garden**

- we received cost information from City staff note as well as additional information on the basis for design for Robert F Legget Park and what has changed as a result of resident feedback.

- neighbours continue to be concerned with a number of elements, in particular, the change in drainage that was created as well as the unadvertised change in grading

### **Public Art for the footbridge**

In response to our letter to the City of January 17, we received a reply on January 29 which dealt with many of our concerns:

- the art budget is limited to 1% of City construction costs; so although the bridge is expected to cost \$21 million, the City's component is only \$3.6 million, hence a much more limited budget for art

- the community feedback process was also clarified: there are 3 points at which community feedback is sought (prior to releasing the call for proposals, through representation on the jury by a community member, & a public viewing of all short listed design proposals prior to the final selection)

## **Environmental concerns & park month**

- Ecology Ottawa, a local grassroots environmental organization, is seeking input from our community. They are posing the following 2 questions:

1. Can you tell us about the top three environmental concerns in your community?

[They intend to follow up with community associations and provide options for deeper engagement on the issues identified. This is part of their broader community engagement strategy, with other components to roll out this spring.]

Note that John has canvassed SLOE members & compiled a possible response to Ecology Ottawa that will be discussed at our Board meeting.

2. Can your community association join us in Park Month (June 2018)?

[In June 2018, Ecology Ottawa is kicking off a month-long celebration of Ottawa's parks called Park Month. The goal is to celebrate all that parks do for us. They are searching for community associations, community groups, and/or residents who would be interested in participating. (An event could be something as simple as a park clean-up or tree give-away, or as complex as a community festival or movie night.) The only criteria is that it is a community organized event in greenspace.]

I think the Main Event would fit the bill so the question for our Board & the Community Activities Group is whether we would like to be put on their list.

## **PM sesquicentennial speakers series**

- we have one more confirmed speaker on Monday, February 26 at 7:00 pm in room L120, 233 Main Street at Saint Paul University; Eddie Goldenberg will celebrate the life and times of Jean Chrétien - the only PM who lived in our riding (and indeed attended some of our OOE CA meetings)

- also watch for an extract of an article on our series from the perspective of the speakers themselves and the audience in the Mainstreeter + a sampler of our PM quiz

- the full article and quiz will be posted on our web-site soon

## **City snow removal / sanding on streets & sidewalks / on-street parking**

- in the course of trying to ensure there is safe passage of vehicles on my street, I have been reminded that the city budget only allows for snow removal twice a year on residential streets

- I am interested in the views / experiences of others in our neighbourhood as to whether there are issues on their streets in terms of ability for cars / trucks to pass when cars are parked

- I am also curious as to whether those engaged in active transportation (walking or biking) have found the clearance / sanding of sidewalks / bike paths to be adequate