

GLENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2009

THE GLENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

“TO CONNECT OR NOT TO CONNECT”

**Tuesday, June 9th, 2009, 7 P.M.
St. Monica’s School
2000 Merivale Road**

- ▶ **Meet our elected politicians, city staff and the community police**
- ▶ **Discuss the results of the water study, learn about water quality, aquifers and pollution sources**
- ▶ **Address Greenbelt issues and concerns**
- ▶ **Pick-up your water testing bottle**
- ▶ **Enjoy coffee and donuts and a good debate with your representatives and neighbours**

Glens Water Survey (see attached) There are voices in the community that stress the need to obtain municipal servicing (water and sewer). They are coming mostly from the people interested in developing their properties, people whose services failed or developers. At the same time there is a large segment of the community that does not want municipal servicing, residents who are satisfied with their septic and well water. As a community we have to find a democratic and informed solution that will respond to concerns and satisfy the majority (you can never satisfy everyone). To date there is a lot of misinformation related to the process, costs and consequences. In our winter newsletter we provided an overview of potential costs. Municipal costs may be added to the tax bill (financing charges will apply, water can be repaid in 10 years, sewer in 25 years; the charges must be paid in full once the property is sold as the charges are not transferable to the new

property owners). In addition there are costs related to the work directly on private property that has to be completed and paid for directly to the licensed contractor. Once the servicing is available residents have to pay the municipal part regardless of actually being connected. To assist, the GCA is conducting a community-wide survey (attached) to establish our residents’ interest. City staff and consultants, who had conducted a water study and water sampling, will attend the AGM to assist with making an informed decision. **If you are concerned respond to the attached survey, talk to your neighbours, make an informed decision and let us know what you want!**

Briggs Private Improvements Petition Briggs’ residents have signed a petition expressing their intent to get connected to City water and sewer. At this stage the financial commitment has not been calculated but it may easily reach \$60,000 or more for both services (not including private costs). Next steps will be to undertake a servicing study, which will form the basis for a Local Improvement design, area extents, and associated cost estimates. Once the costs are calculated the residents living on Briggs will be asked to commit financially.

Deakin/MacFarlane Traffic Concerns GCA met with Pastor Reed of the Metropolitan Bible Church to discuss the parking concerns that our community has on Sundays during church services. The church has produced flyers that it has placed on cars to remind its’ members not to park there. The church is also petitioning the city to have the property at 29 Auriga re-zoned to allow additional parking (200 spots). The GCA plans to monitor the area to establish compliance.

Gun Cannons and "exploders" producing periodic very loud, banging noises are used by the airport and the nearby farmers to frighten birds. Residents have petitioned the NCC to stop the practice.

Local Vandalism As usual, in the Spring we had several reports from residents affected by teenage acts of vandalism (eggs and paint pellets have been used). The police have been notified. As in the past, we will do our

best to locate those responsible and they or their parents may have to pay damages.



Glens' Garage Sale May 30th It has become a tradition in Ottawa for neighbourhoods to set aside one day a year to hold one big Garage Sale and Pineglen is no exception. Setting aside one day ensures that everyone gets a better chance at selling their items as the traffic flow is greatly increased. There will be signs at community entrances and ads in local papers, so don't miss your chance to clean out that basement, remember that "One Man's Trash is another Man's Treasure"! To make the day even better, our neighbours in Country Place will be holding their annual garage sale the same day. Clean house and make a little money, get reacquainted with family, friends and neighbors.

Protect Your Pets. Many coyotes have been seen in the area. They are a very smart animal and put household pets at the top of their diet. Among the reasons there appear to be more coyotes around than usual is the current low price for their pelts, resulting in less hunting, which is legal year-round.

City News

Dogs-in-Parks Policy There is a new "Dogs Allowed" designation, meaning that dogs may be off-leash in certain parks. However, Pineglen Park only allows leashed dogs and Grenfell Park has a "no dog" designation. Dogs are prohibited from being within five metres of all children's play areas. We also remind you that dog waste should be disposed of in your own garbage (as per the City's guidelines on dog waste), not placed in our park garbage bins.

Comprehensive Review of the Master Plan is in its final stages involving public consultations and committees' presentations. The Infrastructure Master Plan will finally put Glens on the map as it is providing locations of all privately serviced areas within the city's boundaries. The other proposed change is amending boundaries of the airport vicinity development zone. The proposal includes West Pineglen and Grenfell as well as Merivale Gardens into the extended zone. The designation is intended to protect noise-sensitive land uses from aircraft noise and operations of the airport. Under the designation, residential development is only

permitted in infill situations and through minor redevelopment.

2175 Prince of Wales Development There is an application to rezone this land for the purpose of future commercial and/or industrial development. The proposal requests permitting several uses such as: bar, nightclub, funeral home, hotel, library, municipal services centre, and place of worship, retirement home, theatre or cinema. Excluded are day care, waste facility, truck terminal and gas bar. The proponents are stressing site prominent location, high visibility and compliance with the airport influence regulations. Clearview residents are not mentioned as the proposal refers mostly to the Pineglen community. It seems that further study may be needed as the site has some archeological potential and should be compatible with the abutting uses.



Spring 2009 Give Away Weekend will take place on Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7, 2009. One person's trash is another person's treasure. Don't put your unwanted pieces in the garbage. Set them out at the curb with the sign FREE on Give Away Weekend. Treasures could include: Books, CDs, DVDs, old furniture, small appliances, construction materials - including drywall and hardware (nails, bolts, and screws), kitchen gadgets, dishes, cutlery, pots, pans and unwanted gifts.

In addition to widely popular 311 services, **211 Service** is available Monday to Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to connect to a full range of non-emergency community, social, government and health services. Emotional health, financial issues, recreation programs, coping with disabilities, stress and bereavement, employment skills, citizenship, parenting and child care and support for seniors can be easily accessed.

Lansdowne Park Development Proposal Lansdowne Live group offers a sole source proposal that will see revitalizing the Civic Centre and Frank Clair stadium, enhancing trade and consumer show space, and protecting the Ottawa Farmers' Market. Council has directed staff to negotiate a partnership agreement. The City will fund the renovation of the stadium and the Civic Centre that will cost the maximum 125 million dollars. Coliseum and Horticultural buildings will be demolished and replaced with new retail and commercial (cinema) uses, and associated parking. Office/commercial, hotel space and a small residential complex are also proposed. Partnership will enter into a land lease with the City for 30 years at a

nominal rent and will cover operating costs and collection of incoming revenues. The costs/benefits to taxpayers have not been calculated.

NCC News

Greenbelt Recreational Pathway In December 2008, the National Capital Commission completed construction on the latest section of the pathway from Merivale Road west to Woodroffe Avenue. The pathway joins up with the City of Ottawa bike path at Woodroffe Ave. just south of the VIA Rail tracks. The east access to the pathway is located on Merivale Road immediately south of St. Monica Catholic Church. The NCC is hoping to finalize an arrangement with the Church to slightly expand the Church parking lot for joint use by both the Church congregation and pathway users. A small connecting path would be constructed to access the pathway.

The pathway surface is compacted stone dust (it will not be paved) and is intended to accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, joggers, cross-country skiers and snowshoers. No motorized vehicles are allowed.

Dogs on leash are allowed on the Greenbelt Pathway year-round and on hiking trails in nearby Pinhey Forest from April through November. Owners are reminded to pick up after their pet; don't leave waste behind for others to pick up after you! The best way to dispose of this waste is to include it in your household collection for weekly pick-up. While NCC does have a dog waste receptacle in the P15 parking lot on Slack Road (and a waste receptacle may be installed on the new pathway), too much dog feces makes it difficult to empty the containers because of the weight of the contents. If you have any questions on the Greenbelt Pathway or the Pinhey Forest Sector in general, feel free to contact NCC at 613-239-5000 or go to www.canadascapital.gc.ca

NCC has announced public consultations that will deliver a vision for the Greenbelt that is relevant today and for the future generations. Two Glen's residents are taking part in the process.

Provincial News

Ontario's cosmetic pesticides ban took effect on April 22, 2009. The ban prohibits the sale and use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes on lawns, vegetable and ornamental gardens, patios, driveways,

cemeteries, parks and school yards, and includes many herbicides, fungicides and insecticides. There are **NO** exceptions for pest infestations (insects, fungi or weeds) in these areas, as lower risk pesticides, biopesticides and alternatives to pesticides exist. Over 250 products will be banned for sale and more than 80 pesticide ingredients will be banned for cosmetic uses. There are exceptions for public health or safety reasons such as fighting West Nile Virus, killing stinging insects like wasps, or controlling poison ivy and other plants poisonous to the touch. Other exceptions include agriculture and forestry. The ban means a change in the way some people look after common weeds and insect infestations on their properties. Ottawa Public Health has a series of workshops with information on how to care for lawns and gardens naturally. To register contact the city: 613-580-6744, ext. 26301.

Revenge of the Lawn Landscaping practices have a huge impact on the environment. They are energy intensive, polluting and often expensive, demanding irrigation, fertilizers and frequent mowing. The idea of climate friendly landscaping would reduce pollution, conserve water, reduce the demand for non-renewable resources and improve the water and air quality. The strategy focuses on observing few basic rules: minimize the lawn, incorporate native plants, reuse yard waste, reduce impervious surfaces (i.e. driveways), increase tree canopy, capture & reuse storm water, minimize or eliminate fertilizers and pesticides and create biodiversity (making your yard as biologically productive as possible). GCA will support small presentations by "local residents for local residents" to observe techniques, outcomes and exchange information.

MPAC Reforms The Government of Ontario has made a number of changes to the property assessment system, which take effect for the 2009 property tax year. These changes include the introduction of a four-year assessment update cycle and a phase-in of assessment increases. Assessment of properties would not be affected due to energy-efficiency enhancements.

Grants available for homeowners going green Both the provincial and federal governments have programs designed to encourage energy reduction. Property owners can qualify for federal grants by improving the energy efficiency of their homes. Visit www.oeenrcan.gc.ca/residential/personal. The Ontario Ministry of Energy and the Ontario Power Authority also offer various rebates: visit homeenergyontario.ca and www.everykilowattcounts.ca.

Community Contacts

Tennis Club can be contacted by calling: Richard Lovatt at 613 225-3636 or Amie Lee at 613 224-3096
www.glenstennisclub.ca

Your Elected Officials

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Neighbourhood Watch Reminder

To report:

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|---|--------------------|
| | Call |
| •..a life-threatening emergency or crime in progress..... | 911 |
| •..an ongoing incident (no violence or threat of violence)..... | 230-6211 |
| •..an incident | 236-1222, ext.7300 |