

GLENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Newsletter – Fall/Winter 2006

Happening in the Glens

Once more we have stood united, strong and well prepared. As there will be many more challenges to come, we have to appreciate those of us who tirelessly volunteered their time and their skills so we can remain a unique city oasis. Councillor Hunter, in particular, was never convinced about the viability of the proposal and concerned with the potential damage to nearby wells. His effective involvement helped open channels of communication between GCA and the developer. With his and Councillor Harder's support and the Glen's strong and unified opposition to the proposed apartment complex we have reached a solution agreeable to the residents, city officials and the developer. Olympia Homes is now proposing the construction of two blocks of six two-storey townhouses.. These townhouses will have a Briggs Avenue street orientation and provide a combination of double and single car garages. The housing unit and lot size will vary in size (units from 1835 - 2158 sq feet, lots between 2668 - 5200 sq feet). For more information you can contact the planner: *Prescott McDonald at 580-2424 ext. 13854* or the builder *Peter Foustanelas at 226-6573, ext. 254*.

The entire route of Woodroffe Pathway is slated to be paved. The plan is to let the gravel settle, pave the road, then finish the pathway.

The NCC actively looked at fire pits and "party places" in Pinhey Forest. The parking lot remains monitored as well.

Grenfell Park's play structure has been replaced. Grenfell parents met with the planner, responded to the survey and proposed several ideas and solutions. Thanks to Grenfell resident Shannon Davis-Ermuth for circulating flyers and liaising with residents. We are all looking forward to many years of enjoyment. Pineglen Park was also assessed and its equipment was deemed satisfactory.

Traffic Assessment has been conducted by the City of Ottawa. A speed display sign with radar antenna and a neighbourhood "Slow Down" sign providing clear visual indication of vehicle speeds to both the driver and adjacent residents were posted along Pineglen Cr and Grenfell Cr. This served as a reminder to drivers to travel at reasonable and prudent speeds in our neighbourhood.

Residents are increasingly concerned with the traffic going through the Glens. It is already exceedingly difficult to merge onto Merivale and MacFarlane. It is even more challenging to go against the traffic. The relocation of RCMP headquarters and the construction of a new JDS campus are not followed by the cohesive transportation plan. Public transit is currently not existent and street widening goes against the pedestrian friendly policies. There is hope that the Armstrong Bridge construction and the subsequent light rail expansion will partially alleviate the problem. However the on-going development of the Merivale South Business Park may compound the existing problems. Prince of Wales will undergo an environmental assessment for possible expansion to four lanes. Councillors Harder and Hunter promised that (if elected) will ensure appropriate funding in the 2007 budget. The plan also calls for widening of Merivale between Slack and Amberwood (the farm abutting area cannot be widened). Glens are against widening the Merivale and encouraging more traffic when there are other viable options. In the meantime it was suggested to look at the possibility of stop sign at Amberwood and MacFarlane.

The city staff removed graffiti and markings from street signs, play structure and bulletin board. Police have been monitoring the area. Special bike patrol can be seen on weekends to monitor use of drugs, alcohol and vandalism. Special thanks to our ever vigilant Neighbourhood Watch.

Glens and Heart's Desire executives met in May with Mayor Chiarelli and Councillor Harder in a private meeting to discuss issues specific to both communities. Topics included well water policies, planning and zoning and intensification. The suggestion was made and well received by mayor to consider identifying privately serviced neighborhoods in the Official Plan. The GCA also attended Community Leaders meeting with the mayor to discuss city issues and initiatives.

If you received a notice of work from the city please ensure that you are fully aware about their plans. GCA complained last year about the inferior job done on Pineglen area hedges. This year a hedge on Gervin Cres. suffered a similar fate. "It will grow" is the city's standard response. GCA plans to follow up on this and other issues with our newly elected councillor.

GCA was unable to obtain soil, fertilizer and plant materials to assist residents looking after the Grenfell Park. There is a possibility to apply for the grant under the Green Partnership program as the priority will be given to projects that beautify and showcase grounds belonging to the City of Ottawa (creating gardens, subdivision entrances, commemorating historical or natural sites). Long-term commitment from residents is needed. Let us know if you would like to participate or have ideas to implement.

Ottawa is an ideal locale for the occurrence of vehicle/wildlife collisions. The growing deer population has compounded this situation. The risk of wildlife crossing the path of vehicles exists throughout the year, but the risk is much greater in the fall – especially between dusk and dawn.

The Glen's Community Stroll

Get to know your neighbours by strolling through our community. All ages welcome. Bring strollers, wheelchairs, wagons, feet and plenty of good cheer!

WHEN: 3rd Sunday of each month, 2pm
 WHERE: Meet at Pineglen or Grenfell Park
 DURATION: Approx. one hour.

We plan to walk in shine, light rain or in snow! – please dress for the weather.

PINEGLEN PARK	GRENFELL PARK
19 November 2006	17 December 2006
21 January 2007	18 February 2007
18 March 2007	15 April 2007
20 May 2007	17 June 2007

New Developments

Metropolitan Bible Church plans to build a two-storey church including main and youth worshiping areas, education spaces and nursery. The plan also includes a hall/gym, offices, library, choir room, fireside room, youth lounge and coffee bar.

Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall has plans to build a 3685 square feet place of worship at the northwest corner of Fairpark Drive and Prince of Wales Drive.

New warehouse facility with 5 loading bays and 72 parking spaces is nearing completion on 171 MacFarlane zoned light industrial. The building is owned by the Pre-Cast.

City News

Ottawa's municipal election will be held on Monday, November 13, 2006, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eligible voters will be casting ballots for mayor, city councillor and school board trustee. Your notice lists your advance voting location. Glens are now part of a **Ward 9 - Knoxdale-Merivale**.

We have an option of voting for Councillor Gord Hunter (Nepean resident since 1968, once representing Glens as a Nepean and Regional Councillor. Gord believes that it is important for the city to concentrate on the basic services (to know that fire and ambulance services will be there when needed, that we will always have a safe, clean supply of drinking water and that our roads will be kept in good condition and safe in winter). He feels strongly about the safety of water and sewer systems, repairing roads and other basic services, investing in recreation and cultural programs for our young (busy teens do not vandalize or bully others) and affordable public transit system. In his view spending \$1 Billion on a light rail system for the gain of a few thousand new riders does not make sense. The next Council should review the north-south light rail project.

Gord's opponent, James Dean is a long time Knoxdale ward resident. He believes in structured programs and mentoring for youth to help raise young people into productive members of society; affordable public transit, lowering property taxes and raising quality of life, increased funding for community centers to attract new programs and volunteers, strict laws on crimes, more police and a ban on hand guns within city limits. He will strive to better regulate traffic flow along extremely congested Prince of Wales, Fisher, Merivale, Woodroffe and Greenbank. He supports a light rail system but prefers more cost effective choices.

Please remember: **"Bad officials are always elected by good people who do not vote"**

The Community Foundation has prepared a report entitled **Ottawa's Vital Signs**. The report indicates "a vibrant, competitive economy, safer streets and generally happy, active, well-educated citizens". Police are responding faster to calls. Ottawa has substantially more physicians per capita than either the national or Ontario average. The local cultural scene is vibrant. The city of Ottawa is rich in green space and provides a multitude of recreational facilities for citizens to enjoy. Ottawa citizens are among the most charitable in Ontario and Canada.

However, the gap between rich and poor has increased. The incidence rate of homicide and attempted murder is on the rise. Ottawa courts are backlogged. The cost of getting a post-secondary education is on the rise and a childcare continues to be a challenge. Air qualities as well as other environmental factors are declining with the associated risks to quality of life and health and Ottawa's vast geographic boundaries and urban-rural character make it challenging to create an effective transportation system. The cost of riding public transportation is on the rise.

Effective **July 1st, 2006** fee for the disposal of septic tank waste will increase until treatment costs are fully recovered in 2012. Implementation of the proposed phased fees would result in an increase of approximately \$63.00 for the pump out of a typical septic tank once the fee is fully implemented in 2012. This would be in addition to fee charged by waste haulers for their services.

The City is developing a new lighting policy to be completed in spring 2007. Goals include standardizing street and sidewalk lighting, safety, improving design and cost savings. The plan also includes the burial of hydro within City rights-of-way. The policy will clarify types of lighting, appropriate lighting levels and reduced night sky light pollution. Affected community associations will be consulted and can provide their views. The study will not address lighting in parks or along trails and pathways.

By-law complaints are down in our ward. To avoid by-law visit please remember: open air burning and outdoor fireplaces in urban areas are not permitted; sounding horns, revving the engine, squealing the tires, idling, and excessive noise from cooling or heating equipment and commercial fans are prohibited. Overnight parking of commercial vehicles (trucks, buses, cab portions of the truck) on residential properties is prohibited. RVs can be parked but not on the front or side yards.

The city lost the ability to restrict where big-box stores can be built. OMB ruled that restricting stores from locating on collector roads was arbitrary. The city does not have a retail plan and evaluate each case on its own merit.

OC Transpo's buses were on time 81.5 per cent of the time. Routes that travel across the city have the worst record - late almost 30 per cent of the time. By the end of this year, all city buses will be equipped with Global Positioning Systems to tell drivers when they are ahead of schedule or running late. The concept of luxury buses is also in the works, they will be more expensive but provide heat in winter and working A/C during summer months as well as more comfortable seating.

Project Porchlight is working with community groups and volunteers in Ottawa to hand-deliver 200,000 energy efficient bulbs across the city. Our area will be serviced in late

October or early November 2006. Fill out the form located at: <http://www.onechange.org/volunteercontact.php> and you will be notified how, when and where you can pick up your bag(s) of bulbs. Any time commitment is welcome!!!

New garbage collections rules exclude: energy efficient and fluorescent light bulbs, smoke alarms, tires etc. Those articles are considered not recyclable and not picked up by the curbside collection. Contact the city for the list of "Take it Back" partners. Call city at 311 or visit the web pages at: http://www.ottawa.ca/city_services/recycling_garbage/takeitback/index_en.html

Water Initiatives

The Clean Water Act passed third and final reading. The legislation that still needs royal assent to become law, establishes source-protection areas based on watershed boundaries. This protection plan only addresses the concerns of municipal owned wells and neglects the private wells. However, Section 8 and 10 of the Act allow a municipality to pass a council resolution requiring an area other than a municipal drinking water system be included in the Terms of Reference and therefore be included in the technical assessment work and source protection plan. These 'other areas' could include dense clusters of private drinking water wells or intakes. The Minister of the Environment can also require that an area other than a municipal drinking water system be included in the Terms of Reference. The Act imposes restrictions on lands located within the wellhead protection zones (limit business growth and activities either existent or contemplated). No one knows how much it will cost to enforce the law. The bill will also introduce restrictions and mandatory inspections for private well owners. Despite rumours there are no plans to install meters on private residential wells.

CBC has reported that the provincial government is putting millions of people at risk of contaminated water by leaving private well water unregulated. While the experts admit most of the well water is probably safe to drink, the report says there is no way of knowing for certain since the wells haven't been tested. The report recommends a province-wide water-quality test for all private wells, including rural, cottage and farm wells, every 10 years. The report can be seen at: http://www.ontario.org/pages/PDF/SWWI_Final_Jan30.pdf

The GCA has been actively campaigning to obtain a distinct - privately serviced urban neighbourhood status - that would identify our unique conditions for planning and zoning purposes. The city's staff is investigating the eligibility of privately serviced urban areas in Rural Clean Water Program grants. The association is also actively canvassing for the inclusion in the city-wide aquifer study and other Clean Water Act initiatives.

The 2006 Membership Drive

Our new membership **Director Susan Roos** has done an outstanding job updating membership lists, contacting street captains and finally collecting the dues. The total membership drive exceeded \$1,700. Street captains also deserve our gratitude for canvassing and visiting their neighbours. **We are**

always looking for volunteers to keep our community strong and beautiful.

Community News

The GCA would like to explore a new initiative to aid those in our community with limited mobility and transportation. Since there are many young families who frequent nearby shops, it would not be difficult to pick up one or two items for their neighbor in need. This is to decrease health risks during the winter months, and to promote harmony between our aging population and the young families who live here. Let us know if you would be interested to use such service or ready to do few errands for your neighbours. Call **613-225-4915** (ask for Marlene or leave a message). This service would be offered at no additional cost to our community members, we only ask of you to pay for the items ordered.

Tennis Club can be reached at: 613) 225-4488 (membership coordinator).

Your elected officials can be reached at:

Councillor Jan Harder

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PH: 580-2473; Fax: 580-2513
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**Glens Community Association
Executive Committee Members
2004 – 2006**

President	Agnes Warda	226-9576
Vice President	vacant.....	
Secretary	Janice Peake.....	228-7798
Treasurer	Jane Davis.....	791-5877

Directors

Environment	Sam Alpay/Mark Hinton ...	228-8113
Development	David Perron.....	225-7325
City liaison	Marie Mougeot.....	226-5559
Public Relations	Marlene Bakmazian.....	225-4915
Transportation	Carol Ermanovic	226-4811

Directors at Large

Betty-Anne Wilks.....	226-5021
Penny Hammell.....	224-5159
Wilma McCormack.....	274-0143

Past President

Betty-Anne Wilks.....	226-5021
David Perron.....	225-7325

Social Coordinators/Contacts

Community Day	Wilma McCormack.....	274-0143
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Neighbourhood Watch (acting)	Marie Mougeot	226-5559
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Membership Coordinator

Susan Roos.....	224-6172
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**Glens Community Association
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Nepean ON K2G 5Y3
E-mail: executive@glenscommunity.ca
www.glenscommunity.c**

Neighbourhood Watch Reminder

To report:

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

