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Hunt Club: My Community



Where Is Our Community Centre's Mural? Christine Johnson

This project was a result of Claudia Salguero receiving a 'Neighbourhood Arts 150' grant from Arts Ottawa East (AOE). As a resident of the neighbourhood, Claudia decided to create this mural for our community centre. It's one of twelve unique art projects across the City, led by artists who also received an AOE grant in honour of Canada's 150th anniversary.

Once our 18 piece mural is mounted on the outside wall of the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre, adjacent to McCarthy Rd, it will be impossible not to notice it and admire it. It's a depiction of art forms from the various cultures represented in our community against the sea-to-sea-to-sea backdrop of our great country. You will recognize the vibrant colours, patterns, and motifs from First Nations, Inuit, European, North and South American, Caribbean, Asian and African cultures.

Thank you to Claudia Salguero for her passion, determination and patience in seeing this beautiful project through.

Canadian Pride, Harmony in Cultures Claudia Salguero

Our mural isn't up yet I know. It will be soon. Meanwhile though, I'd like to share that the most important and beautiful part of the project was accomplished and it was a great success! It was our work as a community: our creativity and hard work together,

- our long and valuable conversations during the painting workshops,
- the friendships we created among us and what we learned from each other as human beings,
- the knowledge and respect we developed towards each other's cultures and origins,

- the empowerment as individuals and as a neighbourhood we saw growing week by week,
- o our respect and admiration for Aboriginal cultures in Canada and our thankfulness for their generosity and talent working with us in the creation of the mural,
- o our gratefulness for the opportunities Canada offers to us every day that is expressed in our mural, and more... I am very proud of you all and of the great piece of art we created together. I am also so thankful! You were incredibly generous and helpful and your good energy was the engine of this project.

Operation Turkey - Christmas Eve Riley Brockington, City Councillor

All River Ward residents are invited to a free turkey dinner on Christmas Eve, December 24, at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre, located at 3320 Paul Anka Drive, from 2:30-4:30pm. I have partnered with Operation Turkey, an organization of volunteers who give back to communities across Ottawa on Christmas Eve. In addition to the dinner hosted in the Caldwell community of our ward, I have partnered with them this year to host a second event in Hunt Club. All are welcome and the dinner is free.

Canada 150 Fireworks Gala

Mark your calendar, on Friday December 29, from 7-9pm, I will be hosting River Ward's Canada 150 Fireworks Gala at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre. All residents are welcome to attend this family-friendly, alcohol free event, with games and entertainment inside the community centre starting at 7pm, followed by a spectacular fireworks gala at 9pm in neighbouring McCarthy Park.

This event requires the assistance of many volunteers. If you are interested in assisting, please email Alix.Duncan@Ottawa.ca or call 613-580-2486



Hallowe'en John Sankey

When my mom was young (pre-WW1 in rural Québec), Hallowe'en was real. The ghosts of starvation did indeed stalk the land for those who had laid in insufficient food to last out winter.

The Grim Reaper was real, so were the ghosts of those who had failed the tests of winters past. And so, Hallowe'en was a time for those who had been prudent to celebrate, to hand out food to all who called at the door, but also to release tension by playing tricks on neighbours.



A generation later, mine (post-WW2), Hallowe'en was a time of celebration, of collecting pillow cases full of candies and cookies from neighbours, but still of playing trivial tricks such as soaping windows on those few

who refused to recognize the evening.

Today, it's only the old of Canada who remember such times. My grandchildren have grown up with supermarkets full of food available to all who have not carelessly spent everything they had on TVs, cars or video games. And so, Hallowe'en is dying. When I was young, every child in a community called at every door. Last year, in our community of 12,000 I had only half a dozen visitors. Ask a modern 'trick or treat' supplicant what their 'trick' is, and they respond, "Huh?"

That to me is a celebration of modern Canada, that our youngest generation doesn't have any comprehension of true starvation, that winter to them is no longer a brutal test of survival but instead a time of centrally-heated homes and plenty (admittedly with the nuisance of shovelling snow from driveways).

Walkability Survey Sue McCarthy

One of the presentations at Councillor Brockington's October 27th Older Adult Summit held at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre was Building an Age-Friendly Ottawa. Speaker Bonnie Schroeder described the priorities for this initiative.

Age-Friendly Ottawa (AFO) is a committee associated with the Council on Ageing. One of the measures of age-friendliness is how seniors can walk their neighbourhoods or areas of the city. AFO has developed a 3 season walkability survey to measure how accessible and safe neighbourhood areas are for seniors to navigate on foot, using walkers or mobile devices. Three neighbourhoods have completed this survey and your Community Organization, the HCCO has volunteered to participate. The AFO will be contacting us later this month or in early December to plan our participation.

More information will be forthcoming on our Facebook page (HuntClubCommunityAssociation) and on our website http://hunt-club.ncf.ca. Further information on building an Age-Friendly Ottawa is available at: https://coaottawa.ca

Harmony in Cultures Festival Sue McCarthy

Our fall event, the Harmony in Cultures Festival, held on September 9th at McCarthy Park was a roaring success! The weather gods smiled on us and we had a sunny, temperate day.

Over 500 people streamed through park enjoying the live music stylings of the Nepean Panharmonics band, Claudia Salguero band and Les Chansonniers d'Ottawa, to the moving First Nations blessing by Barbara Hill and the rousing swirling bagpipe closing medley by the McBro highlanders. Participants were treated to exotic middle eastern dancing by Khalia Scott while they waited for their barbecued halal hot dogs and roast corn.

Semsem's Palestinian fare and Lou's fast food poutine and french fries provided alternate menu choices. Metro also contributed snacks and drink boxes as in past years. Children were distracted by the stilt walkers from the Ottawa Stilt union, trying their hand at painting with Don Kwan of Chinatown Remixed Live Art and spending their energy on the bouncy castle and games organized by the community centre.

This festival was a celebration of Canada's 150th birthday thanks to funding from the City of Ottawa which allowed us hire professional sound man Mike Mullin and our performers. Thank you to all our volunteers, performers, exhibitors and partners: the City of Ottawa, especially Jim O'Malley and staff and South East Ottawa Community Health Centre.

Hunt Club has a real coffee shop! John Sankey

Café Hiraeth (pronounced "hear-eth"), newly opened just south of Hunt Club Road at 2900 Gibford (behind the A&W), features a dozen different fine coffees plus desserts, fresh-baked pastries and dozens of delicious ideas for brunch to afternoon tea. You'll be served personally by chef Gao Yenfei straight from her kitchen.

Everything I've tried there, coffees to pastries to salad, grilled sandwich and crêpe, has been superb. There's ample parking for those who don't walk there. I'm certain you'll understand the name (Welsh for 'a longing to return') once you've visited. Prices are very reasonable too.

http://cafehiraeth.ca

HCCO Gets a New President

Christine Johnson

A Board of Directors and a new President were elected at the Hunt Club Community Organization's Annual General Meeting this past November 6. Please welcome Brian Wade, recent recipient of an 'Outstanding Contribution as a Community Association Volunteer' certificate from our federal MP, David McGuinty, as our new HCCO President.

In my role as Past President now, I would like to acknowledge all those members of our board of directors with whom I have had the pleasure of working over the past couple of years: John Sankey, Sue McCarthy, Peter Brimacombe, Peter Foulger, Dan Kaplansky, Marilyn Koch, Andrea Main, Kristy Nystrom, Ijeoma Udechukwu and Brian Wade. Each has contributed significantly to strengthen our community through their volunteerism.

It has been a real pleasure working with our highly supportive River Ward Councillor, Riley Brockington, for his invaluable information and support to make our community a safer and more vibrant place to live. I would also like to thank Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre manager, Jim O'Malley, and his staff, for his strong commitment to facilitate meeting and/or event space as needed for our community association affairs. Finally to Suzanne O'Byrne, Valérie Assoi and Allison Everett at the SEOCHC (South East Ottawa Community Health Centre) at the back of our community centre, for their partnership with various events organized; thank you to all of you!

The accomplishments about which I am most proud are:

- 1) the restoration of our local Paul Landry Park;
- 2) a significant increase in our membership numbers with a greater diversity represented;
- 3) our financial and volunteer support for the 'Harmony in Cultures' mural for our community centre;
- 4) our 'Harmony in Cultures' Canada 150 Fall Festival which we hosted with the SEOCHC this past September 9;
- 5) our fundraising contributions for a family of Syrian refugees in our community;
- 6) our support for a newly formed Art Club for community members, providing a space to create. Connections are growing in our community. There is still plenty of room for all interested community members to join us.

'Hunt Club Cares' Annual Community Garage Sale

Mark your calendars now: Sunday, June 10, 2018. This is our 4th annual "Hunt Club Cares Garage Sale" to help kids in our neighbourhood attend summer programs at our Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre. Your registration fee of \$10 gives you free advertisement on social media and lawn signage. Start putting your items aside now. There'll be more info in our March newsletter but to register early, contact Linda King at linda@lindaking.com.

Winter Classic Matthew Page

The South Keys Condors couldn't have asked for a nicer Saturday to play their annual Winter Classic hockey game on the outdoor rink at McCarthy Park. The sun was beaming, only a few puffy clouds floated leisurely in the sky, and the temperature hovered at a beautiful -2C, a temperature that would have been cold in October but was now considered lovely as the calendar crept towards 2018. While the weather was perfect for those in attendance, it appeared that a possible upset was brewing on the ice.

For the past three seasons the Condors' head coach had organized the Winter Classic as a fun team bonding experience, which it was, but, as often is with kids, a heated rivalry had also begun to grow. It didn't help that Team Red had beaten Team White each of the past three seasons, so much so that none of the players wanted to be named to Team White, as they all were convinced that those sweaters were cursed. Usually Team Red had the game well in hand long before the middle part of the game.

But that was all about to change.

At the end of regulation the score was knotted at elevens. Overtime had solved nothing, and now the game had boiled down to a shootout. Janie Middleton had scored for Team White but the Reds' Luke Waterson had responded with a beautiful wrist shot to send the shootout into extra rounds.

That was when Bradley Matthews felt a hand on his shoulder. He didn't have to look back to know what that touch meant. It was his time. Bradley jumped over the boards and felt his skates bite into the chewed up ice. Calmly, he skated to centre ice where the puck awaited his attempt to win the game for White. His mind raced with the possibilities. Should he shoot or deke? Go backhand or forehand? Five-hole or top corner?

Then the referee's whistle blew and Bradley was off towards the net, puck on a string.

This was Bradley's first season playing with the Condors, so he didn't know that White was cursed. Maybe someone should have told him that those sweaters meant inevitable, crushing defeat. Maybe if someone had explained to him that Red always wins, then he would have known that he had no chance of scoring. But since he didn't know, Bradley deftly slipped the puck between the goalies pads and into the back of the net.

Team White poured over the boards and swarmed Bradley before he could even realize what was happening. The ice was littered with abandoned sticks and gloves, shouts of victory filled the air, and the curse was instantly forgotten. Team White had earned a hardfought 12-11 win, and Bradley's big goal would be the talk of the team for the rest of the season.

Support with Grieving

While many people look forward to yearly holiday traditions, some people dread the holidays.

For those who have lost a loved one during the past year, the holidays may emphasize their grief, especially the first ones after losing a loved one. Often, friends and family members of those affected by a loss are unsure how to act or what to say to support their grieving loved one during the holidays.

If you or someone you know is dealing with grief during the holiday season, or at any time, please give us a call to access our grief management library.

Shannon Pichette, Family Service Counsellor Dan Sullivan, Location Manager



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If you have an article that you would like to submit for our next issue, e-mail it to suemccarthy1952@gmail.com We welcome your ideas for future issues; please submit them to us or come to our monthly meetings to discuss them.

We thank our local businesses who make **Hunt Club:** My Community possible and ask that you support them.





