

Hunt Club: My Community

Message from HCCA President, Brian Wade

As 2019 comes to an end, now is a great time to reflect on the year that was and what we can look forward to in 2020. At our Annual General Meeting held Nov 4th, we elected two new members to the board of directors. Please welcome Barb Shea and Dan Clavel to the association's Board of Directors. All members of the board are very eager to continue the mandate of the Hunt Club Community Association.

We will continue to act as voice for the community and continue to provide feedback to our elected officials. We will continue our work regarding the city's review of its official master plan and we will provide input during the upcoming review of the city's official master transportation plan.

We will continue to build and advocate for social infrastructure in our community. We will continue to press for library services targeted to our community and continue to hold engaging events. During our AGM, MP David McGunity provided a brief community update. He noted that a huge topic on many minds is the environment and climate change. He encouraged everybody to think about positive ways that each and everyone of us could do to help. HCCA will take up the challenge and will work on finding solutions that residents of the Hunt Club community can undertake.

Please send any suggestions you may have to info@hunt-club.ca



From left to right here is your Board of Directors: Dan Clavel, Barb Shea, Marilyn Koch, John Sankey (back), Dianne Nahal, Christine Johnson, Brian Wade (President), Peter Brimacombe (back), Sue McCarthy (back), Abiodun Mosuro, Peter Foulger (back), Lynette Joseph-Sankey.

Councillor's Corner

The launch of the much-anticipated Confederation LRT on September 14 was well received across the City. However, the three-week honeymoon came to an end on October 7 when the largest bus route reconfiguration transpired and the added volume of passengers on the LRT system was too much for the system to handle.

The technical issues with the trains, at the time of writing this update, are subsiding. This is due to greater precision in identifying the technical issues and a management change at the Rideau Transit Maintenance Corporation, the organization with a 30-year contract to maintain the trains

My focus is on our local bus routes and lack of a consistently reliable service. I have identified time of day service challenges in our community, based on many emails and phone calls from passengers like you and continue to work with OC Transpo to fix the issues, once and for all. Part of the process of earning back the customer's trust during this debacle, will require increased attention to measuring and reporting on the system performance.

I am pleased that during this term of Council, I was appointed by City Council to serve on the Transit Commission that is currently immersed in all of the above noted issues. We are also looking to improve overall service on the equally important Para Transpo, with a greater investment of more vehicles on the street and a better reservation system which will include the ability for on-line booking late next year.

A vibrant, progressive, modern city, needs a reliable public transit system. I am dedicated to ensuring service improves for you and if it doesn't, let me know. I need to hear from you on an on-going basis as I continue to work with OC Transpo.

Sincerely yours,
Riley Brockington
City Councillor, River Ward
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613-580-2486

Green Tips for the Holidays

Linda Sabine

With the holiday season fast approaching and with the environmental crisis being front of mind, here are some tips to make your celebrations more "green".

Home:

- ~ Choose soy or beeswax candles, not petroleum based for healthier air quality
- ~ Make your own natural mantle decorations, wreaths or outdoor urns using clippings from your yard, pinecones, etc
- ~ Use LED lights, they "burn" cooler and are more energy-efficient than incandescent lights.
- ~ Decorate a real outdoor tree for the birds
<https://www.thespruce.com/decorate-a-christmas-tree-for-the-birds-386538>

Travel:

- ~ Consider carbon offsetting if travelling by air during the holidays: <https://www.less.ca/en-ca/>

Gifts:

- ~ Recycle paper or cloth gift bags
- ~ Wrap gifts in a tea towel or scarf which then becomes part of the gift
- ~ Cut up old greeting cards to make gift tags
- ~ Save brown wrapping paper and enlist the help of children or grandchildren to decorate
- ~ Give the gift of your time or a shared experience instead of material gifts
- ~ Bake, preserve, sew, knit or craft homemade gifts
- ~ Buy a thrift shop item and refinish or repaint it to make it personalized and renewed
- ~ Consider choosing gifts without plastic packaging
- ~ Purchase gifts from local artisans and cottage industry businesses
- ~ Buy milkweed seeds to plant in your garden next year to feed the monarchs by contacting OSEAN.info@gmail.com
- ~ Give books. They can be enjoyed and then shared.

Food:

- ~ When shopping for holiday meals, select locally grown food wherever possible
- ~ Select produce that doesn't have plastic packaging

Real or Plastic Tree?

Research concludes that a real tree is the greener and less expensive choice. A real tree can be chopped and burned for fuel or chipped for mulch. On the other hand, if an artificial tree is purchased and used for at least 10 years, it will be less expensive and may have a lesser environmental impact than 10+ real trees. A third, but greenest option is purchasing a living tree for replanting. This requires some planning and care, but planting trees is something each of us can do to fight climate change.

http://www.sheridannurseries.com/garden_tips/holiday_decorating/living_christmas_trees_and_other_holiday_ideas

Wishing you and your family a safe, happy and green holiday season from the members of the Ottawa South Eco-Action Network (OSEAN).

Library Services: On the move in Hunt Club

Christine Johnson

Welcome to this column which will be featured regularly in our quarterly newsletter to keep you updated on developments that HCCA's Library Services Matter committee is working on.

Thanks to our active lobbying, the OPL (Ottawa Public Library) has started to offer monthly programs at our Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre. On Tuesday, October 22nd a capacity crowd enjoyed a presentation on 'Library Services for Older Adults' by librarians Jocelyn Preece and Kaya Fraser. Everyone in attendance was impressed with the quantity of services and resources that can be accessed for free and walked away with at least one new 'learn'.

For instance, did you know that you can read newspapers online from all over the world on the OPL's website? Once you've signed in to bibliooottawalibrary.ca, and logged into your account with your library card number and password (last 4 digits of your phone number), go to 'Browse' (at the top), hit 'Magazines and newspapers' under the 'Browse by format' heading (top of middle column), then hit the 'Press Reader' in the blue rectangular box. Start exploring and be amazed at what you can access! This just scratches the surface of what's available for FREE via the Ottawa Public Library.

'Pantry Hacks', presented by Pure Kitchen was the next OPL program offered at our community centre on Tuesday, November 12th. Participants learned about interesting food staples to keep in their pantries in order to create nutrient rich dishes on a daily basis. From beans, seeds, nuts, grains, legumes, rice and pasta to the spices that best enhance those foods, it was a potpourri of flavours that tantalized our senses, finishing off with a sampling of the 'Quinoa Chia Pudding' and fresh salad greens mixed with cooked quinoa and lentils, sprinkled with 'Seed Parmesan. Delicious! All participants went home with four new recipes and a smile on their face.

The next program coming to our centre will be on Wednesday, December 4th, from 2 to 3 pm: 'Getting Started in Genealogy'. Go to our HCCA Facebook page to find out more about this program.

One last piece of news: We are now on the OPL's website! Once you log on (as above), go to the 'Hours and locations' heading, press the down arrow, double click on 'Kiosk' (fifth from top), and there we are!

If you would like to get more involved in proactively advocating for improved library services for our Hunt Club community, please contact me at libraryservicesmatter.hcca@bell.net.

City Happenings

On November 8th a ceremony was held to **rename the Airport Parkway Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge** to the Juno Beach Memorial Bridge. In attendance were many special guests who helped us remember those soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice to liberate France and Europe. A plaque was unveiled at the bridge which will now remind those who pass about this significant date in Canadian history. Thank you to the Royal Canadian Legion, the Juno Beach Association and to all those who participated in making this event possible.

Some highlights of River Ward Investments in 2020 per the draft budget are:

Infrastructure: \$31.2 million including:

\$5.5 million to rehabilitate Mooney's Bay trunk sewer
\$8.8 million on structure renewal, including culverts along the Airport Parkway at Walkley Road and O-Train overpasses at Heron Road, Riverside Drive and Walkley Road

\$3.95 million to resurface Riverside Drive between Hunt Club and Walkley Roads

Transportation: \$125,000 to reconstruct sidewalks and curbs to improve road safety along McCarthy Road.

Further details are available on Councillor Brockington's website at: <https://rileybrockington.ca/budget-2020/> and the City of Ottawa Website at <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/budget>.

The City of Ottawa staff report on a **Rental Accommodations Study and Regulatory Regime** was released on November 5th. The report and set of recommendations culminates a lengthy review and consultation process on new regulatory regimes for rental housing and for short-term rental accommodations. A special meeting of the Community and Protective Services Committee was held at City Hall on November 15th to discuss the report and its recommendations.

The focus on the proposed regime for rental housing is on compliance with property standards and maintenance without adversely affecting the availability and affordability of private market rental accommodations. The intent of the proposed regime for short-term rental accommodation regulations is to balance opportunities from the short-term rental economy while minimizing negative impacts on the availability and affordability of housing, community nuisances and disruption of community cohesion. Please contact Councillor Brockington with any concerns or questions. Further details are available on the City of Ottawa Website at <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/public-engagement/projects/rental-accommodations-study>

Holiday Show & Tell

Matthew Page

"Adnan, what have you brought to share with the class for your family's holiday traditions?" Ms. Smothers asked, as Abby went to take her seat with her elf, Samuel, in tow.

Adnan was a quiet, thoughtful little boy. With great purpose he reached into his desk and pulled out a small figurine, slipped out of his chair, and approached the front of the class. Ms. Smothers and the other students couldn't see what Adnan held so carefully in his hands, but every eye was upon him and whispers lightly swirled around the room.

"Shhh," Ms. Smothers hushed her class, as Adnan turned to address his friends.

Slowly, Adnan opened his hands to reveal the figurine of a small camel, its back loaded with brightly coloured and sparkly saddling. Nervously, he took a deep breath, and then began his story.

"On the first Christmas, three kings saw the most beautiful star in the sky and decided to follow it. It would lead them to a baby that would become a king. To greet this new king, the three kings wanted to bring lots of gifts and, because they are important kings, needed to bring lots of food and clothes and stuff. They used their camels to bring all of their things.

"The littlest camel," Adnan lifted his figurine up for all to see, "carried all the presents for the new baby king but he was so small, and the presents so heavy, that he had to work harder than all the other bigger camels. The big camels told him to give up and stay behind, but the little camel kept going because he knew his job was very, very important.

"When they arrived at the stable where the baby king was born, the littlest camel collapsed because he was very tired but he had done his job. Because the littlest camel never gave up, the baby king blessed him so that he would live forever.

"Now the littlest camel brings candies and toys to all the good children of Syria for Christmas, and he has to work extra hard to find all the children, like me, that live all over the world. Before bed, we put some hay out for him because we know he will be tired and hungry from all his hard work."

Adnan looked to Ms. Smothers, who smiled and nodded. Adnan smiled, carefully tucked the tiny camel into his pocket, and went back to his seat.

Hunt Club Road and Riverside Drive Intersection

The City of Ottawa will be undertaking an intersection review at Hunt Club Road and Riverside Drive. A public survey is now live at www.ottawa.ca/HuntClubRiverside.

Residents are invited to participate in the survey to share their experiences and help inform the intersection review. The intent of the review and survey is to identify potential countermeasures that would improve safety and operations for all users. The City consultant hired to undertake the review will prepare a technical report documenting data review and field investigation, public feedback, countermeasure evaluation, and any short-term and long-term recommendations. A copy of the report will be available for public review in early 2020.

The survey will be live until Monday, December 9, 2019.

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Distribution is free to Hunt Club homes and businesses. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily of the HCCO.

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 write us or come to our monthly meetings to discuss them.

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

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