



COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER
RILEY BROCKINGTON

Councillor's Report



Hunt Club Community Association January 4, 2021

Plan for 2021: Traffic Calming

Requests from the public for new traffic calming have been received in 2020 for **Cahill Drive West**, southern **Plante Drive** and additional measures on **Gillespie Crescent**. I will investigate the installation of yellow flex stakes of these streets.

Speed issues remain on **Uplands Drive**, entire stretch between Hunt Club and Riverside.

Cut through traffic issues in Quinterra-Riverwood during the afternoon rush hour have subsided in 2020 with the lower traffic volumes. Some cars destined southbound on Riverside get off at Rivergate, Malhotra or Kimberwick to drive through the community to the Kimberwick (south) / Riverside intersection, bypassing the stopped vehicles on Riverside. During the Taggart zoning amendment application hearing for their property at Riverside / Hunt Club, I was able to get a win from Taggart to contribute towards permanent calming measures once they commence construction. This matter is outstanding and will be addressed.

Proposal: Three Way Stop Sign for Owl / Pigeon

It is my intent to work with the Traffic Services unit of the City to convert the pedestrian crosswalk at the Owl / Pigeon intersection.

This intersection serves a residential community with two fully enrolled schools and the large, well-used Owl Park.

A stop sign will provide increased safety for pedestrians, and slow traffic down on Owl, a street that continues to be challenged by the speed that motorists travel

I am requesting support from the HCCA on this matter.

New Name for Uplands Park

Although I have been musing my desire to see a renamed Uplands Park for a couple years now, I notified the HCCA Board and membership at their Autumn AGM that I would commence this process in December with the creation of a small, community working group (WG).

The WG will review the commemorative naming process used by the City of Ottawa, determine criteria to be used for our process, generate a list of possible new names and discuss the scope of public consultation.

This WG will begin its work in January 2021.

I request that the HCCA nominate up to three persons to sit on the working group. I will also seek an equal number of other local residents to join.

McCarthy Park Amenities

It is my intent to investigate the feasibility of expanding the current size of the basketball court which would include lighting. This has been an on-going request, something further amplified by COVID. The Ottawa Police Service approached me in the summer after community outreach to share with me the number one request they heard from youth was the need for more basketball facilities.

The baseball diamond in McCarthy Park is lit at night. I believe the basketball court should be treated in the same manner.

Modifications to the park would be paid for by the River Ward – Parks in Lieu account, currently with a balance of \$1.3 million. What other ideas/needs exist in the community – does the HCCA have suggestions? I do not need answers tonight, but remain open for the conversation.

Hog's Back Waterfall Bridge

Parks Canada has postponed the opening of their waterfall bridge from December 31 to approximately January 17. A delay in the delivery of the guardrails is the reason. All other components of this bridge project have been on-time and from what I have seen on-site, the bridge looks great. I am looking forward to both the bridge and Hog's Back Road from Colonel By to Riverside Drive re-opening mid-month.

Mooney's Bay Child Care Centre Construction Underway

Residents in the Springland Drive area will have noticed the start of construction of the future Mooney's Bay Child Care Centre.

ROAD CLOSURE: There will be a short, 2-day road closure of Springland Drive in both directions between Flannery Drive and Walton Crt on January 13 and 14 between 9:30am and 3pm for the connection to the water main, sanitary, and storm drains. Access will be maintained for adjacent dwellings and emergency vehicles.

Stage 2 South Extension Progress Update

Work has begun with the start of the laying of tracks at the new Walkley Yard Maintenance and Storage Facility. Walkley Yard will be a key component in the Stage 2 Trillium Line South extension. Vehicles will be cleaned, inspected, maintained, stored, and operated from the yard. This includes the existing six Alstom Coradia Lint trains that will

be fully refurbished, along with seven new Stadler FLIRT vehicles that will support the extension. The new Walkley Yard will be a 4,700 m² LEED certified facility that will house the 13 Stage 2 O-Train South vehicles. The new facility will consist of three train maintenance bays, a train wash facility, 1800 metres of ballasted track, and 500 metres of interior track within the facility.

TransitNEXT, the contractor building the Stage 2 Trillium Line South extension, is adding an additional 16 kilometres of track to the current portion of the O-Train Line 2, which runs from Bayview Station to Greenboro Station. Work includes adding passing tracks at South Keys and double tracks south of Leitrim to Limebank Road. Four kilometres of new track will provide a link to the Macdonald-Cartier International Airport.

The new southern portion of the line will include new stations at South Keys, Leitrim, Bowesville and Limebank. The link to the airport will connect at South Keys Station and will include two new stations at the Airport and Uplands, which will serve the EY Centre.

For more information on Stage 2 construction, visit [Stage 2 Light Rail Transit Project | City of Ottawa](#).

Skating Open at Outdoor Rinks

The city's four outdoor refrigerated rinks are now all open for your skating pleasure. Ben Franklin Place (Centrepointe), Rink of Dreams (110 Laurier Ave West),

Winter Fun—Outdoor Skating Rinks abundant in River Ward

River Ward is home to **16 outdoor rinks**. They vary from larger boarded rinks to smaller puddle rinks, but all are managed by volunteers from right in your community.

If you are interested in being a rink volunteer this season, please call my office so we can connect you with your local team. For maps and locations, visit [Ottawa.ca](#).

In alphabetical order, here are the River Ward rink locations:

- Alexander Park, 960 Silver St., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Arnott Park, 691 Hartman Cr., double surface
- Bellevue Manor Park, 1520 Caldwell Ave., double surface
- Carleton Heights Park, 1665 Apeldoorn Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Celebration Park, 200 Central Park Drive, double surface
- Frank J. Licari Park, 1990 Cochrane St., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Geoff Wightman Park, 89 Leopolds Dr., double surface
- Ledbury Park, 1250 Ledbury Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Lexington Park, 1404 Lexington St., puddle rink
- McCarthy Park, 3320 Paul Anka Dr., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Meadowvale Terrace Park, 1205 Trenton Ave., double surface
- Owl Park, 185 Owl Drive, boarded rink with puddle rink
- Paget Park, 801 Springland Dr. (at Hobson), puddle rink
- Pauline Vanier Park, 1015 Harkness Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Raven Park, 1500 Larose Ave., double surface
- Rideauview Park, 960 Eiffel Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink



Jim Tubman Chevrolet Rink (Canterbury), and Lansdowne Park Skating Court are all open daily for free skating.

Each rink has its own capacity limits, based on the size of the ice surface to ensure skaters can maintain proper physical distancing. Rink attendants are onsite during peak periods. Please limit your ice time during busy periods so everyone can get a chance to skate.

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, masks are now required around all #outdoor refrigerated & community skating rinks. Skaters not from the same household must keep 2m apart on & off the ice. Masks are not mandatory while skating but are highly recommended.

Local outdoor rinks will open as the season allows with many rinks open or opening soon. Locally, there are outdoor rinks at McCarthy Park and Owl Park.

Information on outdoor rinks can be found at [Outdoor rinks | City of Ottawa](#).

Winter Maintenance Quality Standards Review

As our first snowfalls are now behind us, the City's Public Works team is looking for your feedback on the Winter Maintenance Quality Standards. On average, 223.5 cm (or just over 7 feet) of snow falls on Ottawa during the winter which is a lot of snow to be cleared by city crews on an annual basis. I would encourage residents to register to participate in the upcoming surveys and consultations to occur over the course of the winter. You Sign up at engage.ottawa.ca/wmqs.

Canada Post Community Mailboxes

Useful information regarding snow removal at Canada Post Community Mailbox Sites:

- Snow clearing activities will begin at Community Mailbox (CMB) and other street furniture sites once snow accumulation reaches 5 cm and should be completed within 24 hours.
- Snow clearing activities will take place during the hours of 6am to 8pm.
- Canada Post is responsible for clearing the area immediately in front of the CMB and paved access ways across boulevards that lead to the site. They typically do not clear grass boulevards as this can damage the grass. The remainder of the sidewalk is cleared by the City.
- Snowdrift or plow back will be cleared within 24 hours of it being reported to Canada Post.

If a resident has a concern about snow or ice at a particular CMB site, they are asked to call 1-866-607-6301 or submit a snow clearance request **at www.canadapost.ca/support** (under "Community Mailbox", click on Request Snow Clearance).

If you are not seeing any response from Canada Post in the 24hrs after filing a report, please contact my office at 613-580-2486 or by email at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca.

Ottawa Public Library Updates

The Hunt Club - Riverside Park Community Centre is closed during the provincial wide shutdown.

Library Services During Provincial Lockdown

Customers will not be allowed inside the branches or Bookmobile during the provincial shutdown period as of December 26. In-branch services will not be available during this period.

All open OPL branches and the bookmobile will offer "curbside" returns and holds pickup, with the exception of Locker Services at the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre which will be closed during the shutdown. No appointments will be required to pick up holds and return items at the OPL branches.

[Hours of operation](#) will remain unchanged, with modified hours for the holiday period. Please visit the [Hours and Locations page](#) for the list of OPL branches open for curbside holds pickup and returns.

Goodbye to Late Fees as of January 1, 2021

The Ottawa Public Library (OPL) recently announced that they will be [eliminating late fees](#) as part of their new Materials Recovery Model on **January 1, 2021**, removing barriers for customers and increasing access to the Library.

As of **January 1, 2021**:

- Late fees will no longer be charged for Library items returned past the due date.
- OPL will waive existing late fees on customer accounts.

Customers will continue to be charged replacement fees for items that are long overdue and considered lost. Items are considered lost:

- 21 days after the due date (regular collection items)
- 7 days after the due date (Express items)

Once an item is considered lost, you will be charged a

replacement fee for the item. If you return the item, you do not have to pay the replacement fee.

Awesome Authors Contest Returns!

The Ottawa Public Library is calling all wannabe writers and authors to take part in the 2020-2021 Awesome Authors writing contest. The contest is open for submissions, in English or French, from December 2 to February 26, 2021. Participants in two age groups, ages 9 to 12 and 13 to 18, are invited to submit an original piece of writing in one of the following categories: comic, poem, short story, bandes dessinées, poèmes and nouvelles.

For more information on the contest, visit <https://bibliottawalibrary.ca/en/awesome-authors>.

OTTAWA PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES:

COVID-19 Vaccine

On December 9, Health Canada authorized the first COVID-19 vaccine in Canada, made by Pfizer-BioNTech. Several other vaccines are currently at various stages of regulatory approval. As part of Phase One of Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccination Program, the Ottawa Hospital (TOH) will be participating in the COVID-19 vaccine readiness program in collaboration with the Public Health Agency of Canada and Pfizer-BioNTech. The first COVID-19 vaccines were

administered in Canada on December 14, and a Personal Support Worker (PSW) from St. Patrick's Home (River Ward) was the first resident of Ottawa to receive the vaccine on December 15. Health care workers providing care at 10 Ottawa long-term care homes have been selected to receive the initial doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in Ottawa.

OPH has launched a COVID-19 Vaccine page at [OttawaPublicHealth.ca/COVID19Vaccine](https://ottawapublichealth.ca/COVID19Vaccine) with information on the Ottawa context, how the vaccine works, as well as precautions and considerations for residents to be aware of.

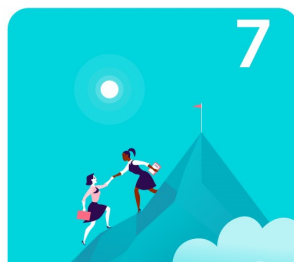
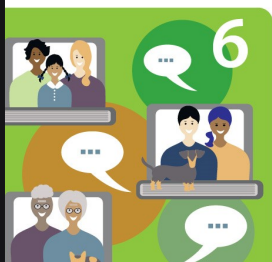
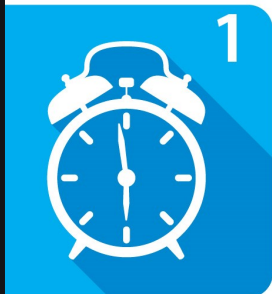
COVID-19 Testing Sites

There are four reasons to seek testing for COVID-19:

- You are showing [COVID-19 symptoms](#). **OR**
- You have been exposed to a confirmed case of the virus, as informed by Ottawa Public Health or exposure notification through the COVID Alert app. **OR**
- You are a resident or work in a setting that has a COVID-19 outbreak, as identified and informed by Ottawa Public Health. **OR**
- You are eligible for testing as part of a targeted testing initiative directed by the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Long-Term Care.

The list of testing sites and their corresponding reservation websites can be found at <https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/shared-content/assessment-centres.aspx>

Protect your Mental Health While Staying/Working @ Home



- 1 Maintain a routine.
- 2 Set up a designated workspace.
- 3 Be patient with yourself and others.
- 4 Find humour and joy!
- 5 Limit your time thinking about COVID-19.
- 6 Stay connected with loved ones.
- 7 Seek out more support if you need it.

Mental Health Through the Winter Months

It's so important to check in with ourselves and our loved ones to see how things are going and to make sure we are using good coping skills to support our mental health.

For some, this can mean getting back to good habits like getting enough sleep, being more active and eating well, or developing new habits such as mindfulness to add to your coping tool kit. For others, this can mean checking in with some of the many local [supports and professionals](#) to talk about our mental health and ways to manage through these challenges.

I would like to remind everyone that the holidays are a time for caring about one another and there are resources available to help.

- The [Walk-in Counselling Clinic](#) at (613) 755-2277 offers free in person sessions as well as video or phone counselling sessions in English, French, Arabic, Somali, Spanish, Mandarin, and Cantonese at a variety of locations.
- The [Counselling Connect](#) service in Ottawa offers free access to a same-day or next-day phone or video counselling session.
- If you need immediate help, call the [Distress Centre Ottawa and Region 24/7](#) at (613) 238-3311 in English or [Tel-Aide Outaouais](#) at (613) 741-6433 in French.

Warning: Fraud and Scams

Fraud is the number one crime against older Canadians. Though people of all ages can be victims of fraud, older people get targeted more than others. Some of the reasons are that they are often home during the day to answer the door or phone, they can be more trusting and they may not have family or friends close by to ask for a second opinion. This issue is even greater at this time of year.

Common types of fraud and scams:

- Identity theft
- Credit/debit card fraud
- Online Scams
- Phone and door-to-door scams

All fraud and scams should be reported, even if you are embarrassed or feel the amount of money is too small to worry about. While you might not be able to get your money back, you can help stop the con artist from scamming other people.

Report all fraud and scams to the Ottawa Police at 613-236-1222, extension 7300, or call PhoneBusters at 1-888-495-8501.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/seniors/forum/fraud-scams.html>

STAY IN TOUCH

Did you receive my monthly e-newsletter?

Sign up to receive it directly to your inbox by sending me an email at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca. My newsletter contains updates on city decisions, planning files, community initiatives and more.

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