

## **Planning Report (Andrei Grushman and Mireille Trent)**

- **NCC partnership agreement.** City staff have been directed to prepare a partnership agreement with the NCC that would expedite its priority housing projects. This draft agreement is scheduled to be tabled at the City’s Planning and Housing Committee on March 25, 2026. *[Subsequently postponed to April 10, 2026].*
- **Why this matters.** The McCarthy Woods greenspace corridor (also known as “the NCC’s Southern Corridor”) forms the backbone of the Hunt Club community. In the face of the NCC’s drive to develop the corridor for housing, the stewardship and conservation of this greenspace should be recognized as a core responsibility of the HCCA.
- **Need to prepare for the long term.** In the past few months, we have formed an informal coalition of eight community groups to advocate for the protection of the corridor. We will now need to prepare for the long term by creating an HCCA initiative (e.g. “Friends of McCarthy Woods”) to strengthen our coordination with partners and our communications with supporters.
- **Volunteer activities.** At the same time, in partnership with the Ottawa South Eco-Action Network (OSEAN), the HCCA has undertaken a wide variety of volunteer activities to raise awareness and collect data regarding the McCarthy greenspaces. We have also contacted academics and experts who have shown an interest in conducting field research in the corridor.
- **Earth Day.** In preparation for Earth Day festivities at the Hunt Club Community Centre on April 18, we are working with Riley’s office to host a number of partner groups and to sponsor activities focussed on McCarthy Woods and the surrounding greenspaces.