

Municipal election special: p.17-20

OCTOBER 2022

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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NEW EDINBURGH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, October 27, 7-9 pm
New Edinburgh Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave
and also online.
Visit newedinburgh.ca for details.

All New Edinburgh residents welcome.



A makeshift memorial for Queen Elizabeth II outside the construction hoarding at the governor general's residence, Rideau Hall. Canada's longest-reigning monarch died on Sept. 8. Governor General Mary Simon and her husband Whit Fraser attended the funeral in London, U.K. on Sept. 19. King Charles III's official coronation is expected to take place in spring or summer 2023, according to *The Telegraph*.
Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Recent collision renews calls for improvements at Ivy and Bertrand

Letter to the Editor

I have been a resident of New Edinburgh since 2000, currently living at the yellow dollhouse on the south corner of Ivy and Bertrand. As a proud homeowner, I love to garden, and keep the property and grounds looking nice.

On Sept. 15, 2022, I had just finished mowing my lawn and had a few minutes to spare before a contractor was to arrive to look at my eaves-troughs. I sat on the porch to enjoy a glass of water, watching the world go by. Or

should I say, zoom by....

The contractor arrived as scheduled and we started to peruse the property. Having just stood under my son's window on Bertrand, we were proceeding towards my front door on Ivy, when – boom! It happened so fast we only heard the clashing of metal. We turned around immediately to see what had happened.

One car was turned upside down and rested just under my son's window. The other

car was in the middle of the intersection. Miraculously, both drivers were uninjured, and able to get out of their vehicles (the young man whose car was upside down somehow shimmied out from under the airbag, which appeared to have filled the entire car). Both drivers were visibly shaken but proceeded to tell their stories about what had happened. It was a tale I had heard two times

Continued on page 4

Park clean-up planned for Oct. 28

By Karen Squires and Katherine Hall

When we started doing the park clean-up with the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA), we had one annual event in the spring. But as park visitor volumes increase, it is clear that more work and collaboration is required to keep New Edinburgh and Stanley Parks clean and safe. Back in April on Earth Day, we had many residents come out to our spring clean-up and all went smoothly. The City's "Cleaning The Capital" program provided bags and gloves.

During the summer months, NECA has been speaking with

the City of Ottawa and the Crichton Community Council (CCC) due to increased garbage around the Fieldhouse area, especially following the successful Beechwood market on Saturdays. The market has been an amazing opportunity for neighbours to come out, mix, mingle and sample food and drink from local farmers and vendors – what's not to like, especially when you add in local musicians to provide entertainment?! After many attempts to liaise with the city, we finally got more seasonal garbage bins installed.

Meanwhile, as is happening in many other parks and

Continued on page 5

Personal experiences in the North inspires local author's new historical fiction

By John Leefe

On Oct. 1, Whit Fraser – journalist, author, and vice-regal consort of Canadian Governor General Mary Simon – officially launched his new book, *Cold Edge of Heaven: A story of love and murder in Canada's Arctic* (Boulder Books), at the Ottawa International Writers Festival.

This is Fraser's first novel but his second book, after the publication of his critically-acclaimed non-fiction memoir, *True North Rising*, in 2018. *Cold Edge of Heaven* tells the story of three RCMP

Constables (Will Grant, Eric Zalapski, and Vincent Villeneuve) who travel to the Arctic in the 1920s when Canada was attempting to assert sovereignty over the Arctic. The team's mission was to build cairns on high points of land and leave in sealed canisters written records of who placed them.

Upon arriving at the remote Dundas Harbour on Devon Island, the three Constables meet up with an Inuit family who selflessly guide them through this unforgiving land where hungry polar bears are never far away. Will Grant, the main character, is awestruck

by the region's unique landscape, glaciers, and northern lights. His uninformed view of the Arctic and its culture is transformed through the course of the novel when he develops a deep friendship with his Inuit guide, Pudlu, and finds his soulmate in Pudlu's shy sister, Naudla. But tragedy strikes when Zalapski and Villeneuve are both killed, leaving Grant distraught and alone as he battles both fear and cabin fever while attempting to find solace in the poetry of Robert Service.

Continued on page 24

What's the New Edinburgh Community Alliance?

NECA is the umbrella organization for all residents and community organizations in our neighbourhood. Every resident of New Edinburgh is automatically a member of NECA.

Its mandate is to develop and foster a sense of community among the residents; to research, develop positions and make representations to various levels of government on matters affecting the community; and to coordinate activities between organizations.

NECA's committees include Traffic and Safety, Heritage and Development, Beechwood Development, Park Vision and Environment and Climate Change. It also publishes this newspaper.

The NECA board meets nine times a year, normally on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (no meetings in July, August or December). Its annual general meeting takes place in October.

Meetings are open to all New Edinburgh residents. Anyone wishing to make a presentation to the board should please contact Cindy Parkanyi in advance at newedinburgh@outlook.com.

Our next meetings will take place **Tuesday, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.** and **Tuesday Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.** Meetings are held virtually on Zoom. Contact newedinburgh@outlook.com for details.

Your NECA Representatives 2021-2022

Contact anyone below through info@newedinburgh.ca

Ari Abonyi

Sarah Anson-Cartwright

Ted Bennett **Treasurer**

Ray Boomgaardt

Katherine Hall **Friends of the Park**

Karen Squires **Friends of the Park**

Heather Matthews

Samantha McAleese **Secretary**

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Jason Tavoularis **Traffic & Safety**

Cindy Parkanyi **President, NECA**

Ex officio:

Chris Straka **President, CCC**

Sean Flynn **NECTAR**

Christina Leadlay *New Edinburgh News*
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Learn more at
newedinburgh.ca

Hybrid AGM to take place Oct 27



Cindy Parkanyi
NECA President

The leaves turning colour and falling hearkens the approach of another annual rite: the **New Edinburgh Community Alliance's (NECA's) Annual General Meeting (AGM)**. This year, the **AGM will take place at the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave., with an option to join online via Zoom**. It's a great way to get more engaged with the community. The meeting link for those joining virtually will be sent out in the regular NECA e-newsletter, on the local listservs and will be posted on the community website: newedinburgh.ca. Join us to review NECA's priorities for the coming year and mingle with others from the neighbourhood.

This year, in addition to the usual agenda items, we will be discussing a proposed motion to solicit the City of Ottawa to launch a two- to four-month trial of temporarily closing and repurposing a segment of Stanley Avenue in front of the Fieldhouse. See full wording of the proposed motion on p. 3.

NECA gets involved in myriad issues and activities, from inputs to citywide issues, such as new zoning by-laws and major governance reviews, to more localized issues around

the heritage, development, traffic, and safety, to name a few. All these efforts take time and effort, so the more of us who are willing to participate, the better off we all are. If you or someone you know would like to help address issues in our neighbourhood, or has great ideas to improve it, please consider joining the board or one of our committees. If you would like to have a better understanding of what's involved before jumping in, come to the Oct. 27 AGM or to one of the NECA monthly board meetings, which take place every third Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Changes afoot at the New Edinburgh News

We have been extremely fortunate to have the amazing talents of **Christina Leadlay** as the managing editor of the *New Edinburgh News* for the past eight (yes, eight!) years. She has brought our community newspaper through some very challenging times and has worked diligently to build a strong team of volunteers who together ensure that our community newspaper continues to thrive.

Alas, time ticks on and work and family commitments are requiring more of Christina's

time and attention. We are therefore on the hunt for that someone special who has a passion for the community, good organization skills and a willingness to learn to take over the helm (with lots of support from the *NEN* team, of course!). If that describes you, please get in touch with Christina at newednews@hotmail.com or me at newedinburgh@outlook.com.

The *New Edinburgh News* is the glue that binds our community – let's make sure we can continue to look forward to its arrival each edition!

Inaugural Chief Pinesi Day a great success

There was something for everyone Jul. 1 in New Edinburgh Park. Activities included a ceremonial fire, Indigenous drumming, singing, dancing, food, and guided walking tours along the Chief Pinesi's Portage Trail, an ancient Indigenous trail revitalized by the Kichi Sibi Winter Trails organization. And the celebration continued Sep. 28, with a ceremonial unveiling of *Miskwi*, a mixed-media mural created by Algonquin artists **Doreen Stevens** and her daughter **Charlotte Aki Stevens**. For more on this, please see the article on page 36.

StreetFest – Wow!

Kudos to **Janet Uren** and all the volunteers who brought the Sep. 10 StreetFest event to fruition. There were so many things to do and see it was hard to choose, with musical accompaniment throughout. See full article on page 22.

Park Clean-up – Oct 28 @ 4 p.m.

New Edinburgh park was very busy over the summer months, with lots of sporting activities, special events and, well, just plain use. So to help ensure our park gets the love and attention it needs, NECA's Friends of the Park committee is holding a fall Park Clean-up. See page 1 for details.

Not receiving the monthly NECA e-updates yet? Send an email to newedinburgh@outlook.com or sign up through the community website at newedinburgh.ca. You can also join the Google Group "New Edinburgh Discussions" (new-ed-talk@googlegroups.com). Follow us on Twitter @New_Edinburgh.

NECA board looking for new faces

From its early days fighting construction of the Vanier Parkway extension to advocating for mitigation and improvements to the park and public spaces, the New Edinburgh Community Alliance gets involved in myriad issues and activities, from inputs on citywide issues (such as zoning by-law changes, official plans and major governance reviews) to more localized issues around heritage, development, traffic, safety, and the environment, to name a few.

If you or someone you know wants to help address issues in our neighbourhood, or has great ideas to improve it, please consider joining the NECA board or one of our committees. To get a better understanding of what's involved before jumping in, log on to the Annual General Meeting or join one of the NECA board meetings.

Nominations are open until the evening of the AGM: Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. We encourage nominations in advance. If you are interested, please email newedinburgh@outlook.com.

Motion to discuss pilot project on Stanley Avenue

At the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's (NECA's) annual general meeting on Oct. 27, board members and residents will be discussing the following motion concerning the proposal for a pilot project to close a small portion of Stanley Avenue near the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse to create space for additional public amenities. If you would like to share your thoughts on this proposal, please join NECA on Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. either at the Fieldhouse (203 Stanley Ave.) or online, as the meeting will be in a hybrid format.

Motion to provide the basis for discussion with the City of Ottawa about the Terms of Reference for a Pilot Project on Stanley Avenue

Whereas policy 3-4 of the draft Transportation Master Plan update prescribes "pilot street designs that function as 'places'" and "seasonal repurposing of streets for place-making activities" whereby streets that border parks are among the most appropriate; and

Whereas the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) and the Crichton Community Council (CCC) wish to enhance the use of New Edinburgh Park for use by the community; and

Whereas Stanley Avenue between River Lane and the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse is non-essential

from a motor vehicle through traffic perspective; and

Whereas the public space of New Edinburgh Park between the Rideau River and Stanley Avenue between Dufferin Road and the Fieldhouse is very narrow, thereby compressing the intensive recreational uses and natural functions of the vegetated landscape;

Therefore be it resolved that NECA in collaboration with CCC solicit the City of Ottawa to launch a two- to four-month trial of repurposing a segment of Stanley Avenue in front of the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse for place-making such that

- place-making is realized with amenities for public use added onto the repurposed road segment during the trial period. Examples of desired (none in particular are required) amenities are:

- seating
- planter boxes with community volunteer installed/maintained vegetation or otherwise
- art, cultural, or educational based installation(s)
- game or activity-based installation(s)
- food and beverage service(s)

- only emergency, park maintenance and other such authorized motor vehicles are permitted to drive through the repurposed road segment during the trial period

- on-street parking availability is maintained for users of the Fieldhouse and surround-

ing public space; and

be it further resolved that the CCC in collaboration with NECA work with the City of Ottawa to activate the repurposed portion of Stanley Avenue with community programming and events; and

be it further resolved that during and upon completion of the pilot, NECA, CCC and the City jointly assess the degree to which the roadway's closure to motorized through traffic impacts

- the usage and user satisfaction of New Edinburgh Park and the Fieldhouse

- the volume of interprovincial and other motorized traffic cutting through New Edinburgh

- traffic elsewhere in the neighbourhood, e.g., along Crichton Street, River Lane or MacKay Street

- parking availability
- the neighbouring community

Visit newedinburgh.ca for details about NECA's Oct. 27 annual general meeting and to read the text of this motion online.



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NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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Submission Guidelines: Articles, photos and letters to the editor may be submitted to the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, content and legal considerations. Submissions selected for publication will be published in both a hardcopy and an electronic version. Letters to the editor must include the writer's name, address and phone number to be considered for publication.

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The *New Edinburgh News* is also made available online at the New Edinburgh community website:

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Letter to the Editor

Ivy Crescent resident wants four-way stop at Bertrand Street



Photo by Kristi Squires

No one was injured in this Sept. 15 collision at the corner of Ivy at Bertrand, the third such incident at this intersection since 2017.

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previously – the first in 2017 and the second in 2018. The scenario is always the same: car comes down the hill on the south side of Ivy towards MacKay. Car heading north on Bertrand does not stop at stop sign. T-bone collision. Cars go flying. I call 911 and within minutes emergency vehicles arrive on scene.

This familiar story is becoming a bit haunting. All three times I have been outside – either in my yard or sitting on my porch. When this happened in 2018, a car ended up right under my living room window. Miraculously, it did not penetrate the house or injure anyone.

Following the 2018 collision, I had extensive contact with our previous city councillor's office, where I begged and pleaded for a four-way stop at this intersection. I was not successful but did manage to get them to conduct a traffic study at this corner. In the end we got some "slow/lentement" signs painted on the road on Ivy. They also painted white stop lines at the intersection on Bertrand. Unfortunately, these stop lines have not been maintained and have all but disappeared. I was also told crosswalks would be painted on Bertrand at both intersections with Ivy (i.e., north and south); however, this did not happen.

Whoever thought that spending time on one's property might pose a threat to life? What about the lives of

my neighbours? Ivy Crescent used to be a quiet street; however, in recent years, as the immediate and surrounding communities further densify, more and more traffic flows through the streets of Ivy and Bertrand, as cars are trying to avoid congestion on Crichton and Beechwood.

I am hoping that someone does not have to die or be seriously injured (or have a vehicle breach my residence) before the City of Ottawa takes this issue seriously. As such, I have created a petition and am encouraging neighbours and community residents to sign it (see sidebar

for details). As of Sept. 21, approximately 100 signatures have been obtained.

Enough is enough. It is time for the City to take action to augment the safety of residents and passersby of Ivy/Bertrand and surrounding areas. Of note, I and several other neighbours have heard back from Councillor Rawlson King on this issue, who states "[he] will ensure City staff investigate additional traffic calming and traffic management measures that can be taken at the corner of Ivy at Bertrand based upon this petition."

Kristi Squires, 184 Ivy Cres.

Petition to augment community and traffic safety at corner of Ivy and Bertrand

Following another potentially fatal traffic collision that took place at approximately 5:00 p.m. on Sept. 15, 2022, on the corner of Ivy (south side) at Bertrand, residents of this neighbourhood and local community are petitioning the City of Ottawa to install a number of traffic calming measures in the area, including:

- A four-way stop at the corner of Ivy Crescent (south side) and Bertrand
- Painting of white stop lines at all four corners, and annual maintenance/re-painting of the aforementioned, as well as the already existing "slow/lentement" pavement signs
- Speed bumps on the south side of Ivy (speed bumps already exist on the north side of Ivy)
- 30 km/h traffic signs on both sides of Ivy and on Bertrand, and on surrounding streets if/as deemed necessary.

It is noted that this is the third collision that has taken place at the corner of Ivy and Bertrand since August 2017.

Readers interested in adding their name to this petition can please contact Kristi Squires at squires.kristi@gmail.com.

Healthcare dominates discussions at Queen's Park



Lucille Collard
MPP Ottawa-Vanier

What a great summer we've had! What a contrast with the last two summers. There were so many events that I could not attend them all. But at every barbecue, family gathering in the park, anniversary celebration, and festival I went to, the pleasure people were having being able to get together and meet up with friends and neighbours was

obvious.

Since my return to Queen's Park at the beginning of August, healthcare has dominated the discussions. The pandemic has opened all our eyes to the current state of Ontario's healthcare system. It is imperative that we bring changes that will encourage people to continue working in the system, and for young

Ontarians to join the healthcare profession.

To prevent healthcare workers from leaving professions they are passionate about and to attract more workers in the industry, we clearly need to provide working conditions that are respectful of the important work they do. The fact that our population is aging should convince the provincial government to make substantial investments into the healthcare system. Investments that will help increase the number of staff, provide much-needed mental health support, make hospitals safer for staff and patients, offer full-time employment, and on-site support.

Chronic underfunding and

understaffing are not a new phenomenon, and previous governments take part of the blame for the current crisis. Across the province, we are witnessing emergency rooms closing or on the brink of closing, and the number of beds and important services being reduced. We saw it in Vanier: Montfort Hospital was forced to close its ER temporarily, depriving people from receiving the essential life-saving care they have a right to.

We need to recruit new people to fill the many available positions. Measures we should be pursuing include offering financial incentives to enhance hiring and retention, expanding post-second-

ary spaces for health disciplines by looking at waiving tuition and additional financial incentives to study and practice in Ontario, and making it easier for internationally educated health professionals to bring their extensive experience to the Ontario healthcare system.

As your Member of Provincial Parliament, I will continue listening and fighting to ensure every person, in our riding of Ottawa-Vanier and in our province, has access to timely and quality healthcare.

MPP Lucille Collard can be reached at lucillecollard.ca, lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org or 613-744-4484.

Park clean-up planned for Oct. 28

Continued from page 1

green spaces around Ottawa, more people living in tents have been popping up in the park throughout the summer. NECA's Friends of the Park liaised with the City's Parks division, City Councillor Rawlson King's office and the CCC's parks director to ensure city staff were aware and made contact with these individuals in order to find appropriate mid- to long-term housing solutions. Ongoing dialogue continues with the city's park division (3-1-1) to ensure materials left behind are removed for health and safety reasons.

That being said, with many sports enthusiasts, dog walkers, strollers, and other groups using the park, plastic bottles and other materials get left behind. While we all do our best to pick up, we are scheduling another **Park Clean-up for Oct. 28 from 4-6 p.m.**, with the rain date being Oct. 29 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

We will contact the "Cleaning The Capital" program again to secure bags and gloves. We remind people who come out to please be careful not to pick up any needles, broken glass, heavy objects etc. and to be careful when picking up anything near the river's edge. We've found that sometimes people will come with a friend or join someone there to walk together, which is a great idea!

We hope to see you on Oct. 28 and will keep our fingers crossed for good weather.

We plan to meet behind the Fieldhouse in the covered gazebo area with bags and gloves available. Back in April, we chatted about which area volunteers would like to cover (i.e. from the Fieldhouse to Beechwood, the soccer field areas or farther along in the dog park towards Sussex Drive). Much of the garbage tends to be around the treed areas or higher-usage spaces. It worked well as small groups walked in different directions and we collectively picked up many bags of garbage. We will advise the City of Ottawa of the clean-up date and will gather the bags of garbage by the Fieldhouse to be collected as soon as possible following the event.

See you soon in the park, and Happy Thanksgiving!
Karen Squires and Katherine Hall are members of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's Friends of the Park committee. Contact them at info@newedinburgh.ca.

The New Edinburgh News warmly thanks our advertisers, both the faithful and the new, for their continued support of the community and of this newspaper. Your support is essential in helping us share the news of local happenings!



Autumn sunset in Stanley Park.

Photo by Katherine Hall

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Why the 2022 municipal election matters



Jim Watson
Mayor of Ottawa

Over the last 12 years, our nation's capital has grown to be a vibrant and diverse city of a million people with so much to boast about.

From the launch of Stage 1 Light Rail Transit, to our record investments in affordable housing.

From the Ottawa 2017 celebrations, to a flourishing arts and culinary scene.

Or the opening of countless community centres and a thriving tech sector for local start-ups and business giants alike.

Since 2010, we've also expanded our cycling network by 58 per cent.

The list goes on and on.

This fall, Ottawa residents will head back to the ballot box.

You may hear your fam-

ily members, friends or colleagues say: "Another election? Why should I care?"

For starters, we rely on the municipal government much more on a day-to-day basis than we think. Whether you're turning on the lights in your home, filling up a glass of water from the tap, walking on a cleared sidewalk, hopping on a bus to get to a community centre, or calling 9-1-1, those are all City services, and we all expect these basic services to be delivered to us every single day.

Secondly, those elected to City Council this fall will ultimately oversee a number of transformative projects that will have an impact on the development of our city for years to come. We need to ensure that those whom we

elect will work to build on the momentum of the last few terms: Stage 2 and 3 LRT; revitalizing LeBreton Flats; opening Adisōke, the new net-zero central library; building the new Civic Campus of The Ottawa Hospital – and so much more.

Last, but not least: we can't give up on democracy. In June's provincial election, we saw the lowest voter turnout in Ontario's history. Nearly three years of living through a pandemic, paired with an increase in vitriol on social media have resulted in a lack of interest on the part of voters and an apprehension on the part of potential candidates to register.

While we're all tired, we can't let fatigue and hatred overshadow the fact that this election will have major impacts on our city's future.

So do your research, ask the tough questions, and vote for people who will continue to work for a better Ottawa.

Vote like the future of our city depends on it – because it does.

Vote like our democracy is

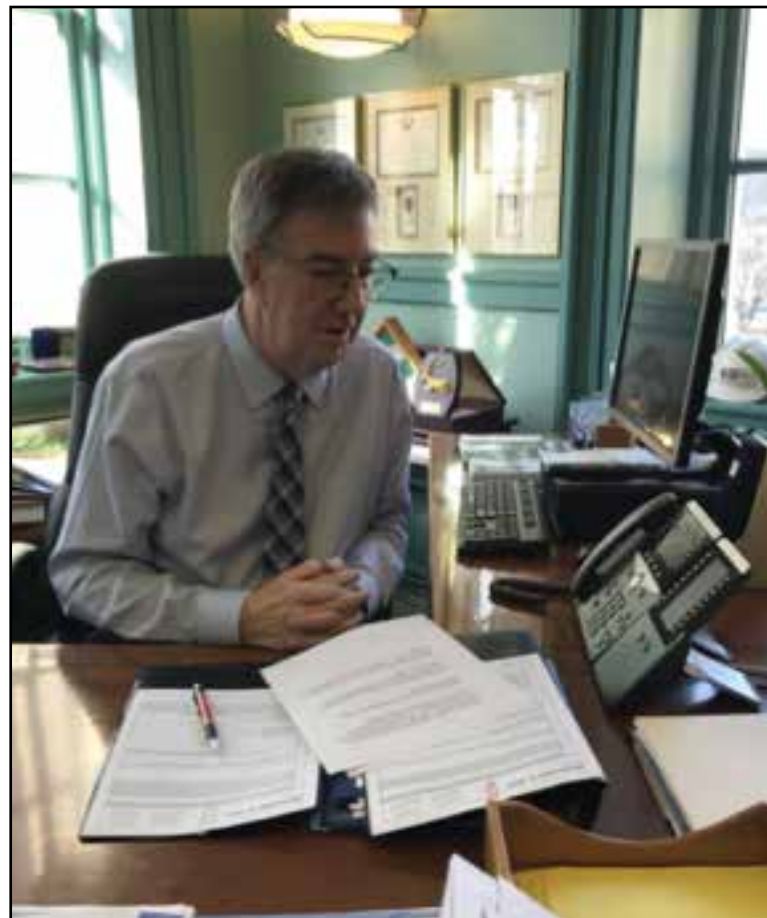


Photo courtesy Jim Watson's office

After 12 years in office, Mayor Jim Watson will not be seeking re-election on Oct. 24.

at stake – because it is.

We're far from perfect, but we should be proud of the progress we have made as a city and as a community.

I love this city, and I know you do, too.

Voting Day is Monday, Oct. 24. Advance Vote Days take place on Oct. 7 and Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. To find

your assigned voting location or for more information about the 2022 municipal election, please visit: ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/elections/2022-municipal-elections

Jim Watson has been mayor of the City of Ottawa since 2010. He is not running for re-election.



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Mona Fortier
Ottawa-Vanier MP

Chères et chers résidents,

La campagne municipale est bien entamée et les candidats de New Edinburgh et de toute la ville s'engage à encourager les gens de voter dans l'espoir d'être élus pour représenter leurs quartiers respectifs. Certains candidats visent un objectif encore plus grand: être élu nouveau maire d'Ottawa.

Avec le maire actuel et de nombreux conseillers qui ne cherchent pas à être réélus, Ottawa fait face à une élection de changement majeur. La ville est à un tournant dans le traitement des enjeux auxquels sont confrontés les résidents d'Ottawa aujourd'hui: l'abordabilité, la santé mentale, le logement, l'itinérance et le transport en commun, pour n'en nommer que quelques-uns. Nous ne pouvons pas oublier le risque que la COVID-19 et ses variantes présentent pour nous tous, en particulier les personnes immunodéprimées qui courent un risque plus élevé de maladie grave et d'hospitalisation.

Après le 24 octobre, notre conseil municipal sera très différent. Le nouveau maire et les conseillers d'Ottawa auront des grands défis et devront travailler ensemble pour agir en tant que gouvernement municipal efficace. Cette élection aura une influence durable sur notre ville et il donc le moment de participer à façonner son avenir.

Il n'est jamais trop tard pour commencer à vous renseigner sur les enjeux qui vous tiennent à cœur.

Impliquez-vous en recherchant un sujet et en identifiant vos priorités pour la ville. Vous pouvez vous renseigner sur les candidats et en voyant ce qu'ils proposent. Suivez les débats à la télévision, YouTube ou webdiffusion en direct, ou communiquez directement avec les candidats sur les réseaux sociaux. Si un candidat correspond à

vos valeurs et à vos priorités, vous pouvez le soutenir par d'autres moyens en vous portant volontaire pour frapper aux portes ou installer des pancartes de campagne.

Surtout, n'oubliez pas de voter! En tant qu'électeurs, nous avons le pouvoir d'influencer notre communauté. Il existe plusieurs façons de voter y compris voter le jour du scrutin ou les jours de vote par anticipation. Vous pouvez trouver des détails supplémentaires sur la carte d'électeur que vous recevez par la poste.

Enfin, essayons également de maintenir des discussions respectueuses. La tendance au harcèlement et aux menaces envers les élus est préoccupante. Personne ne devrait se sentir en danger. Nous devons garder un discours respectueux et, si possible, débattre des idées de manière constructive. Cela pourrait changer les perspectives pour le mieux.

Dear residents,

Ottawa's municipal campaign is well underway and candidates in New Edinburgh and across the city are campaigning to get out the vote in the hopes of being elected in their respective wards. Some candidates are eyeing an even bigger goal: being elected as Ottawa's new mayor.

With the current mayor and many councillors not seeking re-election, Ottawa faces a change election. Our city is at a pivotal point in addressing the issues affecting Ottawa's residents today: affordability, mental health, housing, homelessness, and public transit to name a few. We also cannot forget the risk that COVID-19 and its variants present to us all, particularly immunocompromised people at greater risk of severe illness and hospitalization.

After Oct. 24, our city council will look very different. Ottawa's incoming mayor

and councillors will face big challenges and need to work together to act as an effective municipal government. This election will have a lasting influence on our city, so now is the time to get involved in shaping its future.

It's also never too late to get informed on the issues that matter to you.

Consider getting involved by researching a topic and identifying your priorities for the city. You can learn about the candidates in your ward by researching them online and seeing what they have to offer. Tune into debates on television, YouTube or live webcast, or engage directly with local candidates on social media. If a candidate coincides with your values and priorities, you can support them in other ways by volunteering to knock on doors or put up campaign signs.

Most importantly, remember to vote! As voters, we have the power to influence our community. There are many ways to cast your ballot, including voting on election day or on advanced poll-

ing days. You can find details on the voter card you receive by mail.

Lastly, let's remember to keep discussions respectful. The trend of harassment and threats toward elected officials is concerning. No

one should be made to feel unsafe. We must keep discourse respectful and, whenever possible, debate ideas constructively. Who knows: it may change perspectives for the better.



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his youngest son Hadrien depart after laying flowers at the makeshift memorial for Queen Elizabeth II outside Rideau Hall, which is currently obstructed by construction fencing.

Did You Know?



In Devon the cream is applied first and then the jam, whereas in Cornwall the jam goes on first then the cream seriously!

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Bill 109 a threat to heritage conservation zones



Heritage and Development Committee - Comité Patrimoine et Développement

By Gail McEachern, chair of NECA's Heritage and Development Committee

"Repeal or override municipal policies, zoning, or plans that prioritize the preservation of the physical character of neighbourhoods."

This is one of the recommendations contained in the Housing Affordability Task Force's report submitted to the Ontario government prior to the June 2022 election and which forms the basis for the recent passage of Bill 109 – More Homes for Everyone Act 2022. The report proposes several measures aimed at increasing the supply of housing in existing residential neighbourhoods. Other recommendations, all of which are "as of right" (meaning

there is no previous legislation to stop them from happening) include: 1) Allowing residential housing up to four units and up to four storeys on a single residential lot, province-wide; 2) Allowing zoning of six to 11 storeys on any street utilized by public transit; 3) Permitting secondary suites, garden suites, and laneway houses, province-wide.

Any one of these recommendations would seriously undermine the physical integrity of Ottawa's historic conservation districts and the unique character of older, established residential neighbourhoods, including New Edinburgh. In July, five community associations (the Glebe, Sandy Hill, New

Edinburgh, Lowertown, and Rockcliffe Park) representing Ottawa's 15 heritage conservation districts sent a letter to Kate Manson-Smith, Ontario's Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. This letter expressed our collective alarm and con-

cern that the policies being developed at the provincial level designed to provide increased housing availability are packaged as a blanket "one-size-fits-all" solution. The protections now in place (at both the provincial and municipal levels) for conserving the unique character and attributes of our heritage conservation districts will be threatened and possibly eliminated. The proposed policies fail to acknowledge Ontario's Provincial Policy statement requiring that "significant built heritage resources and

significant cultural heritage landscapes be conserved." In response to this potentially destructive legislation, we proposed to the Ontario government that any housing policy it adopts includes the following explicit and clear language:

The Task Force's recommendations highlight a disturbing trend where the provincial government takes away powers of decision-making from municipalities.

"Heritage designation is intended to ensure that all development is contextually appropriate. It is not intended to discourage intensification or limit housing choice if it is contextually appropriate. To ensure contextually appropriate development, elements of built form, including height, scale and massing of the proposed development shall conserve the defined cultural heritage value and attributes of the property or heritage conservation district."

As Susan d'Aquino, a member of the Rockcliffe Park

Residents' Association's heritage committee, pointed out in her excellent article "Housing and Heritage Policy in Ontario" which appeared in the July issue of the *Rockcliffe News*: "The character of Ontario's heritage conservation districts,

which make up a tiny fraction of the province's land mass, can be readily respected and protected, without diminishing the priority of more housing."

The Task Force's recommendations highlight a disturbing trend where by the provincial government takes the powers of decision-making away from the municipalities and communities. If this is allowed to continue it will be a rough ride ahead for everyone living in established neighbourhoods.

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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

By Randy Mar and Tamara Miller

Align Massage Therapy expands its portfolio

Like stock splits, dividends are being paid to New Edinburgh residents with recent changes at **Align Massage Therapy**. A female-founded health care service established in 2000, Align has been growing and is now about to offer New Edinburgh, Manor Park, Rockcliffe Park, Vanier, Overbrook, Lowertown, and Sandy Hill residents two new therapy environments!

Each Align Massage Therapy clinic is owned by an experienced Registered Massage Therapist. This means they fully understand client needs as well as the business inside and out, and know how to support their therapist colleagues to achieve long-term career goals. Proudly, all seven Align locations are currently owned by women.

Align Massage Therapy has been part of New Edinburgh for the past 17 years at 16 Beechwood Ave., and posi-

tive changes of growth and accessibility are on the horizon as they prepare for a move to nearby Sandy Hill.

Owner **Elizabeth Eaton-Loken** elaborated: "We have grown along with the community, and with growth comes change. We are excited to share our newest creations to serve our clients better." Align Sandy Hill will be located in the newly retrofitted, multi-disciplinary healthcare and medical building at 168 Charlotte St. (at the corner of Rideau Street) in November.

"We look forward to having a fully accessible clinic space to better offer equity in access. Many of our clients have braved our stairs for many years, and so it will be wonderful to offer an elevator, especially to moms with strollers, some of our seniors with limited mobility, and injured athletes," Elizabeth tells the *New Edinburgh News*. The new location also offers street-level parking,

and access to nearby bike paths and to four bus routes.

Align Sandy Hill will literally be up the road and around the corner from the current location on the Beechwood strip; only an eight-minute walk from the current location! Elizabeth explains that the therapist team had lots of input on the new layout to maintain the desired client-centric environment while ensuring their workspace continued to complement their needs. You will see Elizabeth's same team of therapists, who will continue to offer a full range of massage therapies, including expanded acupuncture (traditional Chinese medicine) treatments, osteopathy, and reflexology.

Other healthcare and medical services available in the building include a pharmacy and diagnostic clinic, as well as physio and occupational therapy, with more services to come.

As part of the upcoming



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Paulette Hébert, left, Jade Arthur and Krista Dicks welcome you to Align Massage's new Lindenlea location, 137 Beechwood Ave.

changes, **Krista Dicks**, a resident and RMT with Align, long time New Edinburgh has taken on the challenge

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of operating her own clinic, **Align Lindenlea**. Her boutique wellness space – located in the former ORESTA Skincare storefront at 137 Beechwood Ave. – opened in early September (read more about ORESTA later in this piece).

Krista plans to continue the Align Massage Therapy philosophy of providing personalized, high-quality health care on an as-needed or preventative basis. The Lindenlea team includes skilled Registered Massage Therapists and a registered reflexologist; and Krista herself will continue to provide hands-on therapeutic and relaxation massages. She prides herself on bringing a calm and intuitive approach to her massage treatments which help relieve pain and muscle tension associated with desk posture, training, and the common “I just woke up with it” type of injury. She has training in lymphatic massage and lymphedema therapy recommended post-surgery to reduce swelling to affected areas.

Rounding out the Lindenlea team are **Jade Arthur**, a caring practitioner who restores mobility and reduces pain after motor vehicle accidents, including the treatment of whiplash and chronic back pain. Jade helps her clients relax by adding stretches throughout her massage to loosen tight muscles. Finally, **Paulette Hébert** is a certified reflexologist with a background in sports who knows first-hand the benefits of adding reflexology to health and wellness routines. Her repertoire includes treatments for feet, hands, and cranium, as well as focused training in fertility and maternity reflexology for both men and women, aimed at empowering individuals on their reproductive and fertility journeys.

“I am fortunate to have found such wonderful space so close to home. The building has a historical charm and beauty that makes for a unique massage experience,” enthused Krista. “As a new business owner, it is an honour to be within a space that has known success and is recognized for its quality of service and products, as well its contribution to the community.”

Krista looks forward to new horizons as a local business owner, while maintaining balance of family life with



Photo courtesy Carmen Bohn

Ply Studio's welcoming space is ideal for team-building workshops.

her husband, Scott, and their two dogs Maxx and Kona. You will see them enjoying walks in Stanley Park!

Both Elizabeth and Krista love the surrounding community and are thankful for the long-time support of their neighbours!

Align Massage Therapy Lindenlea is located at 137 Beechwood Ave. Contact 613-276-4396 or visit align-yourbody.com. Until Nov. 1, Align Massage Therapy Beechwood is located at 201-16 Beechwood Ave.; 613-744-4604; alignyourbody.com. After Nov. 1, you can find them at 406-168 Charlotte St. (same contact info). –RM

Farewell to Oresta Beechwood

On July 30, **ORESTA clean beauty simplified** on Beechwood closed its doors after 11 years in our neighbourhood. An Instagram post from the company thanked patrons for all their kind messages and visits, as well as for all the support they received throughout the pandemic. ORESTA will continue to have a strong online presence, as well as two other bricks-and-mortar locations in the Glebe and Hintonburg communities. As the name implies, ORESTA clean beauty simplified is still committed to offering clients the highest-quality clean beauty brands and treatments with the skincare guidance and friendly service customers have enjoyed, both in-store and online.

Visit ORESTA Glebe at 464 O'Connor St., and ORESTA Hintonburg at 1121 Wellington St. Explore their website at oresta.ca – TM

Unleash your creativity at Ply Studio

Ply Studio is a creative arts

space located at the corner of Crichton and Dufferin Streets, conceived of by local fibre artist **Carmen Bohn**.

Carmen has had a lifelong passion for creating weird and wonderful things with paper, paint, yarn, textiles, markers, and anything else that might be lying around, and so she left the corporate world in 2021 to follow this passion.

The emphasis of Ply Studio is creative workshops, from in-person to virtual, where people can come together to engage in regularly scheduled (and sometimes pop-up!) events and activities, browse a beautiful selection of fibre and workshop supplies, as well as local, one-of-a-kind gifts for sale.

In recent months, as we slowly move out of the pandemic and see a social narrative about well-being and people increasingly needing connection, Carmen saw a gap that needed to be filled. A big believer in the link between creativity and well-being, she decided to offer creative team-building retreats.

These retreats are get-togethers that will inspire, build connections, and make people feel better. In preparing for the retreat, Carmen will work with you to understand your team dynamics, challenges, and areas for creative collaboration. Based on her years of team management, as well as her experience as an arts entrepreneur, Carmen will create a five-star learning experience that will have your team connecting and working better together in no time, using methods with creativity at their core.

So, whether you are an individual looking to engage with others in your community, or a team looking for a creative

Continued on page 12



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Continued from page 11

way to build connections, Ply Studio has something for you!

Connect with Ply Studio on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or check out their website at plystudio613.com. You can also reach Carmen by phone at 613-850-8485 or by email at create@plystudio613.com.
 -TM

Coffee "solutions" on the horizon

Amid supply chain and resourcing challenges, Acacia Tree Farms/Advanced Coffee Solutions has managed to slowly build its presence within the Beechwood coffee scene.

"Many curious residents and coffee lovers have been wandering in and getting to know us since we first opened our doors in December" said **Amavit Rath**. But it has been slow as they experienced the struggles of starting a new storefront business venture in the middle of a pandemic, and are now emerging with a new sense of positive energy.

When co-owners **Nikhil Rath** and **Karawan Ahmed** first chatted with the *New Edinburgh News* late last year, they excitedly revealed their plans to introduce Ethiopia's signature Harar coffee bean to Ottawa and Canada, to offer a superior line of home coffee machines, and to establish partnerships with name coffee brands to offer collaborative roasts, all based in the former BMO space at 14 Beechwood Ave.

Among the unique offerings in the works was a self-serve vending machine offering high-quality cold brewed coffee to go, along with roasted Happy Goat beans. Coffee



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

High-end home espresso units and a coffee ATM are waiting for you at Advanced Coffee Solutions, 14 Beechwood Ave.

aficionados will be pleased to hear that the parts and servicing challenges have been overcome and the "ATM" of coffee is running smoothly.

As a locally founded and locally operated coffee enterprise, Acacia is especially proud to have forged partnerships with two purveyors of specialty coffees, local favourite Happy Goat, as well as Toronto-based Hatch Coffee Roasters.

Similarly, those stopping by the showroom will see a range of high-end home espresso units alongside commercial grade equipment. They will also get a chance to learn more about the Acacia Tree coffee experience from **Jeylene Suangco**, who will be there from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m..

Acacia Tree Farm/Advanced Coffee Solutions is located at 14 Beechwood Ave. Learn more at acaciatreefarms.com, advancedcoffeesolutions.com, or call 613-741-7272.
 -RM

A new space for Nuvo

Nuvo optometry was founded over 20 years ago and has two locations in the Ottawa East community with nine practi-

ing optometrists! They have been in their 178 Beechwood Ave. location since 2009. However, they will be making a move to 156 Beechwood Ave. this October, according to **Michelle MacDonald**, who works in Nuvo's marketing department.

Nuvo has been fortunate to have outgrown the smaller location both in patient care and clinic needs, and they wanted to be able to offer a larger selection of eyewear. When the space in the adjoining plaza became available (the former dentist office next door to Subway), Nuvo jumped at the opportunity to move into a space that would accommodate their growing needs.

The new space will certainly be bigger. Nuvo will go from a location with only two exam rooms, limited room for additional testing equipment, and a small eyewear boutique, to a larger clinic with three exam rooms, ample space for additional tests and a larger dispensary and eyewear boutique.

If you need eye-care, Nuvo has you covered! They are a full-scope optometry clinic that offers routine and specialty eye exams, contact lens fittings and evaluations, a recycling program for used contact lenses, multiple myopic control strategies (including orthokeratology), and full optical services for all your eyewear needs.

Their clinics are proudly owned and operated by an all-women team. Dr. **Corina Buettner** has led the charge and guided Nuvo toward the ever-growing success of both locations and continues to promote a healthy and positive work environment for all her staff.

Contact Nuvo Optometry by phone at 613-749-0481 or by email at ottawa@nuvoeyes.ca. You can also book an appointment directly at nuvoeyes.ca/book. -TM

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Everything old is new again for Burgh-based fashion designer

By Jane Heintzman

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: this familiar environmental mantra is music to the ears of local tailor and clothing designer **Ian Zamfir-Enache** as he launches his New Edinburgh-based business, **DidaNina Fashions**, named in honour of his mother and grandmother in his native Romania.

Before coming to Canada in 2018 to marry his partner, Ian pursued a variety of occupations, from high-school teaching to public relations, copywriting, business management, and audio-video production. But with the opportunity to make a fresh start here in Canada, Ian opted to pursue a long-held dream of designing and making clothing, a talent he began to explore in his youth.

When the COVID pandemic struck in 2020, Ian used the period of isolation to immerse himself virtually in the fashion world, acquiring certificates in fashion design from the European Institute for Design in Florence, Italy; the Bocconi School in Milan; and the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York. The highlight of his studies was a course in Circular Fashion offered by Wageningen University and Research in the Netherlands. "It gave me the greatest pleasure 'to dig in' and was the best investment in background knowledge I ever made," Ian tells the *New Edinburgh News*.

Circular Fashion is a coun-

ter-reaction to the wasteful and environmentally damaging culture of "fast fashion" based on the mass production of cheap, disposable clothing. The "circular" process starts at the very beginning of the garment's lifecycle, encompassing all aspects from the design stage to materials sourcing, manufacturing methods, transportation, durability for long-term wear, and environmentally safe disposal.

Ian is alarmed by statistics now emerging on the environmental impact of fast fashion: excessive consumption of precious water resources; environmental pollution from dyes and toxic chemicals; greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing and transportation, and growing pressure on landfill sites, where an estimated 40 million tons of castoff textiles end up each year.

In his work at DidaNina Fashions, Ian hopes to "walk the talk" of circular fashion. His clothing creations are made exclusively from reused fabrics, whether "deadstock" (the tail ends of fabric rolls), or scraps of materials from existing clothing. His materials are sourced primarily from the discarded clothing of friends and family members, along with pieces from such second-hand outlets as Value Village.

To the original "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" Ian adds a fourth principle: Reimagine. Each piece of his painstaking-



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Tailor and clothing designer Ian Zamfir-Enache turns fabric scraps or second-hand clothing into new fashions.

ingly hand-sewn clothing is unique in its design and use of recycled materials. Have no fear of seeing your double at a social gathering if, for example, you're sporting one of his graceful "infinity skirts," a colourful collection of material scraps sewn in a flowing spiral design.

Ian offers home visits to clients seeking advice on repurposing pieces from their wardrobes. And if you have your own ideas about imaginatively recreating existing

clothing items, he'll help you bring those ideas to fruition with design advice and assistance with the sewing work involved in the project.

In keeping with the objective of keeping existing clothing intact and in use for as long as possible, Ian also offers repair and tailoring services. "My hope is to restore the emotional value of clothing," he explains, recalling the days when fine quality clothes could last a lifetime. It's estimated that even an

added nine months of wear can reduce a garment's environmental impact by up to 30 per cent – well worth the price of a tailoring tweak or minor repair.

For more information, call Ian at 613-513-9591 or by email at didaninabyzenake@gmail.com. To see samples of Ian's work, visit [facebook.com/DidaNinabyZenake](https://www.facebook.com/DidaNinabyZenake) and [instagram.com/didaninabyzenake](https://www.instagram.com/didaninabyzenake).

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New leadership happy to return to in-person events

By Chris Straka,
CCC President

After two years of pandemic-induced hibernation, the Crichton Community Council (CCC) has emerged as alive as ever this past spring. Infused with new energy, a renewed Board of Directors will continue the organization's enduring (30 years in 2023) tradition of service to New Edinburgh residents. The CCC remains committed to activating New Edinburgh Park and the Fieldhouse while acting as the steward of these key public spaces.

An exceptionally dedicated team lead by Sylvain and Denise Bélanger kept

Board of Directors for 2022–23 comprises: Chris Straka, President; Michelle McEvoy, Secretary; Christian Hansson, Treasurer; Adam Clarke, Director – Field House; Alain-Rémi Lajeunesse, Director – Park; and Justin Swan, Director – Special Projects.

At a summer barbecue in the park on Aug. 20, the new board confirmed New Edinburgh's appetite for family-oriented neighbourhood events. Creative balloon sculptures by Goopee the Clown and beautiful face-painting by Denise from A to Z Parties made for a special afternoon. Many thanks to Dave Pyman, Yuji

gistic for both buyers and sellers. Although total donations to the CCC were significantly lower than in past years, the CCC is grateful for those received from generous vendors interested in supporting future events. Those who still wish to contribute a portion of their sale proceeds can simply use the QR code here, through an e-transfer to CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com or by leaving a cheque in the secure mailbox on the Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. Special mention must be given to Lynne Markell and Ashley Hansson along with the efforts of Kristina Edwards, Adrian Di Giovanni, Julie Ballance, Yasmine Davison and Lorna Bernbaum.

Park users continue to benefit from access to the fieldhouse's public washrooms and water fountain, overseen by a dedicated group of volunteers who monitor the building daily. Until the end of October, the facilities will be accessible for relief or refreshment by: Yuji Satoh, Sean McNulty, Vincent Roche, Katie Hernon, Dave Pyman, Martin Hicks and Isobel Bisby.

Fall Films at the Fieldhouse returns on Oct. 15 from 6–10 p.m. An indoor double feature will offer an early show for children, followed by a later show for the young at heart. Popcorn and drinks will be available. Weather (and permit) permitting, an outdoor fire on the Fieldhouse's ice-lawn will provide a gathering place for those who have "seen it before" or who simply want to socialize. Viewers are invited to donate what they can to help cover some of the event's costs. Visit newedinburgh.ca/events to find out which films will be shown.

The CCC looks forward to wishing you and yours a very happy start to the holiday season on Nov. 26. Warm up with your neighbours at



Photo by Chris Straka

Christian and Ashley Hansson staffed the CCC's registration-donation table during the Sept. 17 Garage Sale.



Photo courtesy Chris Straka

From left: Ottawa-Vanier MPP Lucille Collard, CCC President Chris Straka and incumbent City Councillor Rawlson King at the New Edinburgh community barbecue on Aug. 20.

the ice rinks open and the Fieldhouse lights on during the worst COVID times. Notwithstanding their pre-pandemic weariness from years of volunteerism, this couple served our community well beyond a typical call of duty, carrying the organization forward until others were ready to succeed them.

Faced with the possibility of the CCC entering a dormancy period, past CCC President Chris Straka and a slate of others emerged hungry to pursue the mandate of the organization. The

Satoh, Sean Fraser and Max Kaplan for volunteering their time, as well as the many others who stepped in when needed.

After a two-year hiatus, the Community Garage Sale took place Sept. 17. It seemed like the whole neighbourhood was for sale, turning trash into treasure while socializing with our neighbours. A vendor cluster was created along Stanley Avenue adjacent to the regular Beechwood Market activity around the Fieldhouse, which proved to be syn-

the Fieldhouse from 4–8 p.m. The occasion will include a tree lighting, festive music, a bearded man in a red suit (with photo-taking elves), warming refreshments, an outdoor fire, ornament-decorating, and wagon rides around the Lane Loop to view the lights that shine through our darkest months. (Learn more about the Lane Loop, pg. 25.)

Speaking of holiday-gifting, the CCC is finalizing designs for a line of New Edinburgh-themed clothing that we hope to have available by December. Details will be posted at newedinburgh.ca and on community email lists.

Soon the Hosers will begin the process of creating ice for skating at the Fieldhouse. This winter, one ice surface will be surrounded with short boards (less than 16") to better define the edge of the skating area and to help keep pucks, rings, and little people contained. This modest improvement could be the start of a more ambitious plan for full-height boards in the future. You can e-transfer donations to help offset material costs to: CrichtonCommunityCouncil

@gmail.com.

The CCC is now recruiting paid or volunteer ice rink attendants. This crew of responsible teens are present through the winter months whenever the Fieldhouse is open to provide users with assistance, to shovel the ice, to provide first aid in emergencies and to serve warm beverages.

The adult crew of Hosers is also looking to fill out its ranks. This volunteer legion toils after-hours to prepare the ice for the next day. Nightly tasks primarily involve flooding the ice surface. After large snowfalls, the surface must also be cleared with shovels and a snowblower. To become a Hoser, contact CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com.

The New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse at 203 Stanley Ave. is available for rent this fall. It is an excellent venue for celebrations of all kinds. Learn more at newedinburgh.ca/ccc/fieldhouse. To check availability or to make a reservation, visit nfieldhouseccc.skedda.com/booking.

See you in the Park!



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STAGE 1 LRT, STAGE 2 LRT, RECORD TREE PLANTING, CITY BUILDER AWARD, OTTAWA RIVER ACTION PLAN, COMMUNITY GARDENS, ELECTRIC BUSES, CYCLING-FRIENDLY CITY
BLACKBURN ARENA EXPANSION, MANOTICK ARENA EXPANSION, SAVED SHEA WOODS, NEW FIRE STATIONS IN STITTVILLE AND CUMBERLAND, 166 NEW PARKS SINCE 2010

FLORA FOOTBRIDGE, VIMY MEMORIAL BRIDGE, CHIEF WILLIAM COMMANDA BRIDGE, MAX KEEPING FOOTBRIDGE, ADÁWE CROSSING, NO-CHARGE TRANSIT SUNDAYS FOR SENIORS
RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, MAISON DE LA FRANCOPHONIE, LA NOUVELLE SCÈNE, HIGHEST COVID-19 VACCINATION RATE
BARBARA ANN SCOTT GALLERY, NHL 100 CLASSIC, VIMY BRIDGE, JUNO BEACH BRIDGE, FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP, GREY CUP, OTTAWA SIGN IN THE BYWARD MARKET

JACKIE HOLZMAN BRIDGE, RECORD AFFORDABLE HOUSING INVESTMENTS, SUPPORT FOR VETERANS, RINK OF DREAMS, ORDER OF OTTAWA, WOMEN & GENDER EQUITY STRATEGY
STABLE TAX RATE, NO-CHARGE PATIO FEES, MAYORS ON NCC BOARD, NATURAL DISASTER RELIEF FUND, LABOUR PEACE, HERITAGE MATTERS TASK FORCE, RURAL ROAD UPGRADES
KANATA REC CENTRE EXPANSION, NEW BGC SOUTHEAST CLUBHOUSE, JIM TUBMAN CHEVROLET SENS OUTDOOR RINK, WELCOMED 4100 SYRIAN REFUGEES



Thank you, Ottawa!

As we head towards the end of my term as Mayor, I wanted to thank you, the residents of Ottawa, for the kindness you have shown me over the years. It has been the honour of a lifetime to serve the nation's capital for almost fifteen years.

With gratitude,

Jim Watson
Mayor

@jimwatsonottawa    jimwatsonottawa.ca

CONSTANCE BAY LIBRARY, ROSEMOUNT LIBRARY EXPANSION, INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER, LOBBY REGISTRY, COMMUNITY POLICING, RICHCRAFT SENSPLEX EAST ARENA
HOUSE OF SPORT, JAMES BARTLEMAN ARCHIVES BUILDING, FIRST NATIONS PROTOCOL, GREELY LIBRARY, CARDEL REC CENTRE EXPANSION
ANTI-RACISM SECRETARIAT, SHAW CENTRE, EY CENTRE, FRANÇOIS DUPUIS REC CENTRE, MINTO REC CENTRE, RICHCRAFT REC CENTRE

Be calm, patient and prioritize safety when you're driving

By Jamie Kwong, executive director, Ottawa Safety Council

It's been about a month since students made their way to school in the morning and home again in the afternoon for in-person classes. Car congestion in school zones is a reality that everyone has to get used to again, which can be tricky to navigate. Nearly a quarter of drivers report seeing close calls in school zones (CAA, 2022). According to statistics collected by the City of Ottawa, reportable collisions were highest between 8-9 a.m., 12-1 p.m., and between 2-7 p.m. (City of Ottawa, 2020), with peak times corresponding with bell

times for schools.

The Ottawa Safety Council would like to take this time to remind the community of their role in keeping students safe, especially in the often-congested school zones.

Tips for drivers:

- Reduce speeds in school zones
- Be alert and ready to stop
- Be on the lookout for and obey school bus signals
- Watch for pedestrian crossings (PXOs), and follow the rules
- Obey adult crossing guards and watch for walking school bus leaders
- Leave some extra time to get travel during school bell times
- Be patient - everyone is getting used to school being back in session!

Help keep school zones safe by reading our school drop-off safety tips:

- Know the rules
- Don't rush
- Follow school zone speed limits
- Stay focused - ditch dis-



tractions

- Obey Crossing Guards
- Park and Walk-A-Block
- Encourage walking or cycling

Which ever way you're getting your children to school – or even if you just need to pass by a school zone on your way to work – keep calm, have patience, and always put the safety of children at the top of your list.

Shortage of crossing guards

The Ottawa Safety Council delivers the Crossing Guard Program, in which we employ over 300 people across the city throughout the school year as part of our School Zone Safety Team. Despite a

great uptake in applications over the month of August thanks to the community's support, we are still seeking 60 crossing guards for this school year. The OSC deploys crossing guards across the city at over 270 school zone intersections. The OSC's crossing guards help create safer school zones across the four school boards in Ottawa, which directly impacts 150 schools and approximately 20,000 students every year, which amounts to approximately 4 million safe crossings annually.

"We are appealing to individuals interested in making a difference in the community to join our team. Our crossing guard team who all play

a key role in keeping children safe as they get to and from school. Over 60 per cent of the OSC's crossing guards have been with the OSC for over three years! We offer a competitive wage with various perks and opportunities for bonuses" said Jamie Kwong, executive director of the Ottawa Safety Council.

For all job opportunities and free road safety resources and information, please visit ottawasafetycouncil.ca.

Together, we can make our city's roads safer for all!

For over 65 years, the Ottawa Safety Council, a not-for-profit organisation, has offered best-in-class road safety programs and services to the residents of Ottawa. This year also marks many key milestones for the OSC, including its 55th year of offering its popular Motorcycle Training Program, and its 20th year of providing the City of Ottawa with its Adult Crossing Guard services. Follow the OSC on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and online at ottawasafetycouncil.ca.

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Ottawa votes October 24

By Karen Squires

As we have done for previous election campaigns, the *New Edinburgh News* has put together a special feature on who is running for city councillor and for mayor so residents can have a quick snapshot highlighting each candidate's priorities.

We reached out to the four people running for city councillor in Ward 13 and asked them:

- 1) **What has inspired you to run for this position as Councillor?**
- 2) **What do you envision as some concrete solutions to our homelessness crisis in the city currently?**

Candidates were given almost two weeks to respond – below are the responses we received as of publishing deadline, edited for length and content.

Councillor Candidates



Peter Jan Karwacki

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Email: peterkarwacki.overbrook@gmail.com

Phone: 613-304-5844

Ottawa's challenges include a significant infrastructure deficit, a shortage of housing and a housing affordability crisis, as well as a climate emergency. LRT *must work* as dependence on cars is the source of emissions. Public transit and walkable communities are the solution. Councillors continue expanding suburbs but should factor the net costs and benefits.

Councillors are directors sitting on Ottawa's governing board. They must not get into the details of running the city; otherwise they risk losing relevance. The job of council is to allocate resources, set policy, hire, fire and challenge administrators in sympathy with the needs of their people. Ward 13 needs to be relevant to the city by providing green space,

housing, and able, healthy workers.

Once elected, my challenge is to get the cooperation of 16 others on council. This work will largely be invisible to the public; however, good policy leads to all the good things the ward needs: reasonable taxes, good roads, bike lanes, and so on. Councillors need access to the city's data to understand how best to direct their own time and how to divide up scarce resources.

Service resilience is essential. We'll face unknowns ahead (just as the past council did) that may make COVID seem quaint. I propose that I am the best person to take Ward 13 forward through difficult times by creating resources in the ward for troubled times. I promise I won't quit if the going gets tough.



Rawlson King (INCUMBENT)

Web: rawlsonking.ca

Email: info@rawlsonking.ca

Phone: 613-686-6013

The number one challenge in the next

term will be affordability. As residents struggle with the increased cost of living, we must make more investments and employ strategies to address the housing crisis and build affordable homes. We need to address housing waiting lists and reduce rental costs. We need to address transit affordability, through fare freezes, to encourage ridership. By solidifying transit revenue, the City will build the additional resources to improve reliability. The City must expand recreational opportunities for everyone. This will require investments in parks, enhancing tree canopy and green spaces to protect our environment, and building recreational amenities for all. An additional goal is low-barrier and low-cost programming in our parks for all to enjoy.

I am running for re-election to improve the quality of life of residents in Rideau-Rockcliffe. Over my term, I was proud to work with the community to secure a poverty reduction strategy, a food security policy, and establish an anti-racism strategy for the entire city. In the ward, we secured over \$280 million for road, water, and sewage infrastructure, along with \$38 million in capital spending for over 350 units of new affordable housing and nearly \$9 million in spending for new parks and park renewal. I secured a ban on gas-powered lawn equipment used by the City and a framework to enable community gardening in the City's right-of-way.

Moving forward, we must take action to protect our environment against climate change. If elected to a new term, I will pursue more adequate green space, more housing and protecting our built heritage. I will secure investments to enhance pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, provide

reliable transit service, upgrade and replace park infrastructure, improve snow removal, and resurface aging roads and pathways.



Peter Zanette

Email: zanetterideaurockcliffe@gmail.com

Ottawa's key issues include inclusivity, transparency, and accountability. If the current council was so transparent and accountable, then why did we have an LRT inquiry? The buck stops at the city council. We need to show the money.

In 2019 I was volunteering at a music festival and halfway through the second week, festival staff told me to remove my small rainbow sticker from my volunteer ID badge. Apparently, it was considered "branding." I notified all city councillors in July of 2021, but no substantive response.

City council correctly condemned Quebec's Bill 21 "Don't show faith" for civil servants via a motion (Motion 28/7) on Feb. 26, 2020.

Diversity is not always visible. To make Ottawa safe, anyone volunteering/working for a city-funded event should be able to wear a small pin, button or article that displays one's diversity. Judge one not on one's diversity displayed, but on one's actions. Whether of one's faith, health status, queerness, Indigenous identity, ethnicity, etc., diversity should be celebrated, not a target of hate. This is the main reason I am running for City Council. Ottawa has been through a tough winter. Ballots, not bullies.

Clayton Fitzsimmons

No contact information provided.



NEW EDINBURGH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, October 27, 7-9 pm

**New Edinburgh Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave
and also online.**

Visit newedinburgh.ca for details.

All New Edinburgh residents welcome.



Ottawa votes October 24

We reached out to 14 people running for mayor and asked them:

- 1) **What has inspired you to run for this position as Mayor?**
- 2) **What do you envision as some concrete solutions to our homelessness crisis in the city currently?**

Candidates were given almost two weeks to respond – below are the responses we received as of publishing deadline, edited for length and content.

Mayoral Candidates



Brandon Bay

Web: brandonbay.ca

Email: mayor@brandonbay.ca

Phone: 343-204-8441

There are issues that are important to me, and to my generation, like housing affordability, employment opportunities, the environment, reconciliation – not to mention the crises we have seen in transit and policing over the last few years. I want to make sure that, whoever is in charge, these priorities are city hall's priorities, and that we have concrete solutions for them. What better way is there to keep candidates on topic than to be part of the conversation?

The city must adopt a housing-first strategy, putting everyone that needs it into permanent housing without conditions. Given our current housing supply crisis, however, it will take time to build units to make available. The city must grow the number of available units quickly, insisting

on minimum unit contributions from developers, but also ensure that those we cannot house immediately have an escape from the elements. The arenas that became community respite centers through the pandemic could return, perhaps on a rotating basis through the city's communities. We must stop dismantling tent camps. We need to treat all residents with empathy and compassion and take this housing crisis seriously.

Zed Chebib

No photo provided.

Email: ziad.fami.unif@gmail.com

Phone: 613-805-9449

I was slaughtered on top of the police cruiser and buried alive for the last 12.5 years. They left me behind to suffer the consequences, because of political interference, in my case, by the former prime minister Stephen Harper.

What was done to me is nothing short of a scandal of atrocity and human cruelty against humanity. Much worse, after this they lodged two files under my name, at the same time, to make it look like it was a dormant file.

According to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, it protects a number of rights and freedoms, including freedom of expression and the right to equality. This guarantees the right to have a lawyer, and this right was taken away from me. I have had more than five lawyers on my case and I couldn't get them to finish the discovery.

The same Charter of Rights guarantees the right to have a medical

doctor. This right was also taken away from me because the city's legal department colluded with my former lawyers/doctors to kill this case. They replaced my medical records with their own which they made behind my back.

My vision and solution for the homelessness in the city of Ottawa is to convert some of the empty warehouses we already have, next to the recycling plant, and make them a shelter for the homeless. At the same time, I will get them the job of recycling which is the one they love to do the most. It's a win-win situation.

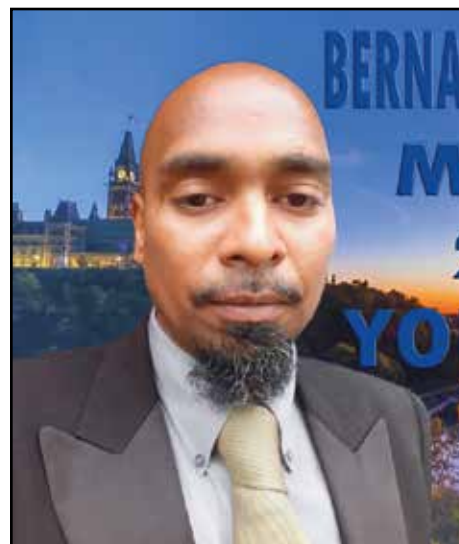
Bob Chiarelli

Web: bobchiarelli.ca

Email: info@bobchiarelli.ca

Phone: 613-725-2622

No response provided.



Bernard Couchman

Web: h2oboy.com

Email: bjc@bernardcouchman.ca

Phone: 343-462-4998

My inspiration to run for mayor has always been the Indigenous cause. If we take care of this, everything will fall into place. I go to sleep at night thinking about every person in this city, and how we can make this a safer and more sustainable city for the next generation. I see the need to divert from disaster, economically speaking. What inspired me to run is the capacity the city is running at. We have so much potential, but we limit people just because we don't take the time to listen to what the people are saying. I'm here to listen to the people and act accordingly.

On homelessness: one acre at a time. Setting up a street team of lawyers, doctors, and social workers to go and meet each individual to find out what the situation is all about and

then transition them into affordable housing. In the interim, we can use all the unused buildings to house them.

There are many concrete solutions to end homelessness in Ottawa. We have the most land of any city in Canada, so land is not the issue. Political will is the issue and that's why I am about progress. Keep the politics to the past and let's move in the progress of the future.



Nour Kadri

Web: kadri.ca

Email: kadri4mayor@kadri.ca

Phone: 613-240-3181

I am worried about the state of our city. It is a \$6 billion organization with \$3.5 billion in debt and \$250 million to service that debt. Public transportation is a fiasco and is not available in many areas. We need public transportation that is reliable and usable. The cost of living is rising and the last thing people need is another hefty bill on their taxes. Housing is going through an affordability and supply crisis. I have always had the mentality of being the change you want to see. We need to stop having small city thinking and realize that Ottawa is growing fast and experiencing more of big city problems. We need a grand vision that takes the city from good to great. We need this to be led with both the political and business experience to be an inflation buster, adopt good governance practices and transform Ottawa to be a prosperous, green, responsive, progressive, vibrant, and smart city. This is what we have as part of our Vision Ottawa campaign.

Housing and homelessness are national issues. There is no silver bullet, and the problem is two-dimensional spanning availability and affordability. The city has a responsibility to help augment the federal

Looking to volunteer?

Your community association needs help with communications: newsletters, list serve posts, social media updates, website, posters, etc.

Contact the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) at newedinburgh@outlook.com



and provincial plans, and we are committed to contributing in a meaningful and responsible way to eliminate homelessness and establish affordable housing for residents of Ottawa.

The municipality should take responsibility for building affordable housing for people who have been cut out of the market such as the homeless and the poor. This can easily be paid for through the assessment charges on new housing that this plan will bring about.



Mike Maguire

Web: mikeforottawa.ca

Email: info@mikeforottawa.ca

My inspiration is the anger and frustration that I have heard in the community. There are so many Ottawa residents who are disappointed by the expensive failures of Council and the declining livability of the city. I want to provide some solutions.

I want to address homelessness with three actions: First, additional front-line mental health services for those in need. Second, aggressive enforcement against the street-level drug dealers to get as much of these terrible poisons off the streets. And third, in order to accelerate moving people into residences, I propose the city provide immediate rent assistance for qualified individuals. This is less expensive and far faster than waiting for other rental units to be built and will allow the individual the dignity to select their own accommodations, rather than being confined into a less desirable location.



Graham MacDonald

Web: macdonald4mayor.com

Email: contact@

macdonald4mayor.com

My main motivation to run for mayor was I could not sit idly by and complain about issues I had with Ottawa. I am an action-oriented person. I want to make a difference. I believe I can be a unifying force for a fractured council.

Homelessness is a complex social problem with a variety of underlying economic and social factors such as poverty, lack of affordable housing, physical and mental health, addictions, and community and family breakdown or domestic violence. These factors are interactive in nature. A starting point would be a comprehensive national housing strategy to coordinate levels of government. Levels of government add to the complexity of dealing with homelessness. Being governed at three different levels – federal, provincial, and municipal – requires agreement to effectively create and administer policies. Each level of government is responsible for different facets of homelessness and often leads to inadequate policies and funding that fall far short of meeting the country's housing needs.



Catherine McKenney

Web: mckenney2022.ca

Email: catherine@mckenney2022.ca

Phone: 613-518-3170

I am running for mayor to make Ottawa the healthiest, greenest, and best-connected city in Canada. During the past few weeks, I've been going door-to-door with our teams of volunteers, including in New Edinburgh. Speaking with residents is one of the things I enjoy most. You're telling me you're concerned about housing affordability and homelessness, the frequency and reliability of public transit, honesty and accountability at City Hall, and climate action.

Every person deserves a safe place to call home. As mayor, I will end chronic homelessness within four years, keep people in their homes, and improve housing affordability for everyone.

Today, the City spends \$15 million per year keeping families and children in motels and shelters, paying more per month for a motel than what it would cost to rent an apartment.

A shelter is not a home. A motel

room, without an oven or living room, is not a proper home for parents and their children.

To address chronic homelessness, we will ensure that supportive housing is built for 250 individuals through the federal Rapid Housing Initiative funding and house another 250 individuals with housing allowances.

Working with our community housing partners, we will also create 1,000 non-profit housing units per year across the city — including supportive housing that helps people stabilize their lives.



Ade Olumide

Web: adeolumide.ca

Email: endottawaelectiongambling@outlook.com

The current unethical Ottawa City Council refused to end the disproportionate effect of police misconduct on Indigenous people, visible minorities, and female officers, by passing a police complaints transparency bylaw requiring the board to – with victim consent – publicly disclose anonymized excerpts of any complaint and reasons for any investigation that exceeds the 120 days OIPRD [Office of the Independent Police Review Director] benchmark. In Newfoundland and New Brunswick, the deadline is 90 and 60 days, respectively, but in Ontario there is no deadline.

A change.org petition includes academics, media and law enforcement associations calling for police complaints transparency. Frustrated by cover-ups, Alberta, Idaho, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York non-government entities created incomplete police misconduct databases.

Good cops are reputational victims of bad cops (about 10 per cent), they are the majority. Olumide is pro-police to keep us safe. Why did Ottawa cover up a four-year process by settling a police officer to prevent a hearing? A councillor articulated their implied position that cover-ups should continue.

On the homelessness crisis, harm reduction should be a means to an end, not the end. We need more prevention, a zero waitlist for treatment, supportive housing, employment, education and reunite.

Celine Debassige

Email: celinedebassige@yahoo.ca

No response provided.

Gregory Jreg Guevara

No photo provided.

Web: greg.guevara.angelfire.com

Email: jreg4mayor@gmail.com

1. Homelessness
2. Concrete



Param Singh

Web: voteparam.com

Email: voteparam@gmail.com

Transit, inclusiveness, affordable housing, and infrastructure are the key issues that have been given band-aid solutions over the last few years. We need to do better for the citizens of Ottawa. My 19-year career [in the] Ottawa Police Service has shaped my conviction to promote diversity, one of Ottawa's greatest strengths. In addition, I had the opportunity to develop an insightful knowledge of the complexities associated with balancing "what people need" vs. "what people want" vs. "what we can do to help."

We cannot continue with the status quo when it comes to housing. I will continue improving on the City's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan 2020–2030 by recognizing and tailoring solutions that are more responsive and equitable for everyone. COVID-19 didn't help the housing bubble but getting back to basics is key to continue affordable housing on all levels, e.g.: rentals and ownership. The band-aid solutions for LRT have made the system unreliable. I will work hard to fix the problems plaguing LRT in a transparent and equitable way. Witnessing the current state of Ottawa and the direction it has taken, I decided that it was time for a fresh face to offer new, invigorating, and innovative ideas.

Jacob Solomon

Email: jacobsolomonmayor@gmail.com

No response provided.

Mark Sutcliffe

Web: marksutcliffe.ca

Email: mark@marksutcliffe.ca

No response provided.

Candidates for school board trustee in Rideau-Rockcliffe

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OTTAWA CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD – ZONE 10 ENGLISH

Cameron Bonesso
Web: cam4trustee.ca
Email: vote@cam4trustee.ca
Phone: 613-416-8770

Cindy Desclouds-Simpson
(Incumbent)
Web: vote4cindy.ca
Email: cinsimp24@gmail.com
Phone: 613-824-0237

OTTAWA CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD – ZONE 10 FRENCH

Monique Briand
(Incumbent)
Email: briandgabrielle@hotmail.com
Phone: 873-288-0163

Leo Cardinal
Email: leocardinal@hotmail.com

OTTAWA-CARLETON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD – ZONE 6 (Rideau-Vanier and Rideau-Rockcliffe)

Shannon Boshy
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Phone: 613-282-5370

Lyra Evans
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Jennifer Moroziuk
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Ryan Ward
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Phone: 613-797-9273

Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario – Secteur 10 (Rideau-Vanier and Rideau-Rockcliffe)


Warsama Aden
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Joseph-Alphonse André
Email: lawyerandre1@yahoo.ca
Web: facebook.com/lawyerandre1


Sonia Boudreault
Web: soniaboudreault.ca
Email: sonia@soniaboudreault.ca

Make your mark in the 2022 Municipal Elections

Vote at any one of the seven in-person voting opportunities:

 **Special Advance Vote Days**
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 **Advance Vote Days**
October 7 and 14

 **Voting Day**
October 24

Elections Ottawa 

Ottawa

During Special Advance Vote Days, you can vote in person at any one of the nine voting places across the city. For Advance Vote Days and Voting Day, you can cast your ballot at your designated voting place. Use the "Where do I vote?" tool on ottawa.ca/vote to learn where and when you can vote. All voting places are fully accessible.

If you can't make it to a voting place, you can appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf.

Ottawa has new ward boundaries for the 2022 Municipal Elections and 2022-2026 Term of Council. Use the "Who is running in my ward?" tool on ottawa.ca/vote to verify your ward name and number, and to view the list of candidates running in your ward.

For more information about the 2022 Municipal Elections, visit ottawa.ca/vote or contact the City of Ottawa's Elections Office by phone at 613-580-2660 or by email at elections@ottawa.ca.

 Elections Ottawa  @ottawavote



Advertorial

There's never been a better time to explore senior living options—here's why.

When Lise's parents moved to Chartwell New Edinburgh Square Retirement Community in 2010, she was thrilled how well the residence supported their needs and lifestyle. "My parents lived there for over a decade," she explains. "It is a classy and well-run retirement residence. The housekeeping services were very good, so their suite was always clean and fresh. Meals are well prepared and tasty.

The highest praise, however, goes to the amazing staff."

As society gradually shifts back to pre-pandemic norms, older adults who have delayed a decision to downsize or seek a living arrangement that provides more freedom from the responsibilities of home ownership have begun to consider their options again.

There is no denying that for many, the prospect of less time and energy spent on home and property maintenance and more

opportunities to socialize, pursue interests, travel, or try something new have endured, if not increased because of the past two years.

Chartwell New Edinburgh Square is a contemporary retirement residence that blends seamlessly with its vibrant, urban neighbourhood. Recently renovated, the

retirement community boasts direct access to local services like pubs, grocery stores and pharmacies, modern

on-site amenities like lush terraces with city views, and some of the largest seniors' apartments with full kitchens in Ottawa.

"This is an exceptional retirement residence in every way," Tom concludes. "The home is sparkling clean and safe, with tons of spaces for residents to explore and relax, and lots of activities. The staff are so caring and attentive. Great central location too, with lots of walking and shopping opportunities in Beechwood Village."

“The highest praise, however, goes to the amazing staff.”



Explore the lifestyle at Chartwell New Edinburgh Square today
by calling **343-882-4759** or visiting **Chartwell.com**

Heritage-focused fundraiser Streetfest was a sunny success



Photo by Andre R Gagne

Throat singers Annie Aningmiuk, left, and Kendra Tagooma performed at the Sept. 10 Streetfest, a fundraiser for the Inuuqatigiit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth and Families.

By Janet Uren

The team at IODE Laurentian worked very hard to make sure that everything was organized, interesting and fun for the neighbourhood celebration Streetfest on Sept. 10. The one thing we couldn't control was the weather, so I prayed for sunshine. I guess I overdid it, because we had a really bright day with tem-

peratures soaring to nearly 30C. By the afternoon, I was praying for rain.

Never mind. Even brighter than the sun were the smiles of people who stopped to talk to me as I patrolled the neighbourhood in my bright red dress – a little like a perambulating letter box – to tell me that they were having fun and appreciated what we were

trying to do.

Actually, we were trying to do several things. Of course, we were trying to raise money for the Inuuqatigiit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth and Families. And we succeeded in that, raising what is a record amount of money for IODE Laurentian.

We also wanted to cast some light on the fascinating history of New Edinburgh, and again we succeeded. It

was a great pleasure to me to see people with the walking tour guide in-hand, stopping to talk to doorstep guides. As well, the heritage talks were well attended, and the Souvenir History seemed to be appreciated. There are lots of festivals here and there featuring music, art and dance, but it is more unusual to find one with heritage at its very core. We're very proud of that.

We were also trying, at the end of a long and tedious period of public health restrictions, to find a way to bring people together safely, to reconnect and to have some fun. The emails that have poured in since the event, as much as the smiles I saw on the day, tell me that again we succeeded.

We owe a great deal to our sponsors – Beechwood Cemetery, Chartwell Rockcliffe Retirement Residence, Elmwood School, Mark Ellis of the Royal Bank of Canada, Metro Ontario, sezlik.com and Steve McIlroy of Edward Jones – who paid for the staging of our event. Equally, we owe a great deal to our advertisers who insulated us from failure in case this new event proved less of a draw than we hoped.

Around 500 people bought tickets, and even more dropped in casually to enjoy the open-air activities. With art, music and dance at one end of the village and cars, beer and hot dogs at the other end, there was something for everyone. Let the pictures say the rest.



Photo by Andre R Gagne

Streetfest featured concerts on porches of some New Edinburgh heritage properties.

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Photo by Andre R Gagne

Horse-drawn wagon rides were available during Streetfest.

Spongy moth caterpillars vanquished!

By Iola Price

We were lucky. Our advance hard work paid off! The expected (and dreaded) spongy moth emergence didn't happen in 2022. Using our excellent community listservs and email system, I distributed a questionnaire to residents of New Edinburgh, Lindenlea, Rockcliffe Park and Manor Park to get information on the level of spongy moth infestation in 2022 and people's reaction to their occurrence. Almost 50 people responded, including 11 from New Edinburgh or Lindenlea.

For the most part, their experience mirrored that of the other two communities.

On a scale of 1 to 3 (1 being 1-9 caterpillars and 3 being like 2021 and 2020 with over 50 caterpillars picked and drowned per day) almost everyone reported that they saw very few, and sometimes no caterpillars at all in 2022. The egg masses often sported pin-holes, indicating that a parasitic wasp had laid her eggs inside, the developing wasp larvae had feasted on the eggs and then emerged to

repeat the cycle of mating and laying eggs in another spongy moth egg mass. There were reports of virus- and fungus-infected caterpillars (limp and lifeless, hanging in an upside down V or by the tail end). Those who wrapped trees with burlap or sticky tape were delighted that few – if any – caterpillars were trapped under the skirt or on the tape, although we seemed to have had a major earwig outbreak. As earwigs are carnivores, perhaps they ate the dead caterpillars. One person set out a pan trap in late July and considerably reduced the male moth reproductive potential.

In 2021, many people expressed their concern about egg masses on the Governor General's property and Beechwood Cemetery as well as on the RCMP and Police College grounds off Sandridge Road in Manor Park. I received no 2022 reports of massive caterpillar outbreaks on the GG's grounds, and I hear that Beechwood Cemetery did not have a major problem. The heavily-infested RCMP

and Police College grounds survived the outbreak thanks to one enthusiastic on-site worker and his team of volunteers who squished caterpillars over the 2021 season, and scraped and burlapped trees in the winter and spring respectively. He reported that these two actions definitely made a difference. He also noticed a lot of the egg masses never hatched or they had pin holes in them.

With numbers so high in 2021, why were there so few caterpillars in 2022? I think it was a combination of five factors:

- 1) our enthusiastic trapping of caterpillars using burlap and setting out bottle and pan traps in 2021 to lure unsuspecting male moths to their doom;
- 2) those very cold days and nights in late January and early February 2022 killing the eggs;
- 3) over-winter and spring predation on the egg masses by small mammals and birds, especially chickadees and nuthatches;
- 4) predation by the parasitic wasps; and

5) the cold weather in the spring of 2022 that slowed down hatching and the damp that led to an increased virus and fungal load that killed caterpillars. Insect and other animal populations often go through cycles, and the spongy moth is no exception, so sooner or later the population would have crashed. But there are always a few survivors, so we can expect them

again in six to 10 years.

In the meantime, remove the sticky tape and burlap from your trees, clean and save the burlap and use it to wrap shrubs and hedges this coming winter.

Rockcliffe Park resident Iola Price is a retired biologist with an interest in invasive plant removal that has now extended to invasive insect control.

NEN has job openings

If one of these jobs piques your interest, please contact Christina at newednews@hotmail.com.

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Personal experiences in the North inspires local author's new historical fiction

Continued from page 1

The novel is a window on Inuit culture, a historical primer on Canada's assertion of Arctic sovereignty, a compelling mystery, and a heart-felt interracial romance. In this narrative, Fraser explores a number of universal themes: reconciliation, respect for Inuit culture through understanding, endurance in the face of adversity, religious doubt, and recovered spirituality.

In September, Whit Fraser sat down with *NEN* contributor John Leefe at the Beechwood Avenue Bridgehead to discuss the genesis of the novel, covering the North for the CBC, the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, and living at New Edinburgh's most prestigious address. Below is an edited transcript of that interview.

Q: Before we talk about the book, I'd like to ask you about the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on Sept. 8. As an ex-officio Extraordinary Companion of the Order of Canada appointed by the late monarch, do you have any personal anecdotes or thoughts about her passing, in particular her relationship with northern Canada?

Fraser: A lot. I can say that she was delighted that I reminded her that I was a young reporter and covered her visit to the Northwest Territories in 1970. We talked about the mosquitos in Fort Providence and it brought a warm memory and smile to her face. [For the people of the north, her visit] established a comfort. She was the real deal... I also covered four or five royal visits across the country: Prince Edward Island in 1973, Newfoundland in 1978,

Ontario in the early 1980s and Alberta.

Q: Although your new book is a work of historical fiction inspired by a visit to an abandoned RCMP detachment at Dundas Harbour, Nunavut, do any of the characters or plot lines reflect your experiences covering the North as a CBC reporter from 1967-1991?

Fraser: All of it reflects my experiences. I was doing an assignment for Adventure Canada and basically talking about northern stories and my day job was a polar bear guard. [I was] on my fifth trip to Devon Island at Dundas Harbor, sitting with my shotgun guarding the tourists who are all over the hills and looking at the graves of these RCMP officers, and all of the pieces of people I met merged and converged. I knew I'd write the novel when I got back on the boat that night. I purposely veered away from going to the RCMP archives and demanding to see official reports. I purposely did not want to draw any characters or similarities between those three Mounties at the gravesites and the two Mounties that perished in the book.

Q: *Cold Edge of Heaven* chronicles a pivotal time in the 1920s when explorers like Joseph Bernier were advocating that Canada needed to be more aggressive in asserting Arctic sovereignty. How much did you know about people like Bernier as probably "Canada's greatest and least recognized explorer"?

Fraser: Not much. I found one book that had a chapter on Bernier. And there was another book written by my good friend Season Osborne who was a resident historian on a cruise ship. I talked to her a lot and gave her credit for keeping me on track. I also read quite a number of articles about Bernier.

Q: Will Grant, the protagonist, is a Nova Scotian, WWI veteran, lover of Robert Service's poetry, and son of a fisherman. Over the novel's course, he is transformed both spiritually and culturally by his deep friendship with Pudlu, his love for Naudla. To what



Photo by Karen Squires

Author Whit Fraser, right, strolled down from his Rideau Hall residence to sign copies of his new book at Books on Beechwood on Sept. 24. Sheila, left, was picking up a copy of Whit's new book for her aunt's 100th birthday.

extent is this character based on you?

Fraser: More than I realized at the end. The views that Will comes to early...that Columbus didn't discover this continent... are mine. Also, the views that he forms about the lost opportunity of using Northern people [to assert sovereignty] and incorporating them into the country are also my own. [They were] formed over a very long time of reporting. The name Grant was based on my mother's maiden name, Louise "Grant", who comes from St. Francis harbour in Nova Scotia. The character was an opportunity to talk about the family. All of my family were fishermen and still are.

Q: What are your views on the state of Canada's arctic sovereignty position in view of American, Russian, and other nations that have also asserted an interest in pursuing resource development in the region?

Fraser: It seems to me that it will be a big issue going forward because other countries are not going to respect anything that Canada has done to assert its sovereignty. That might help with the World Court at some time, some-

place, but it's at a different level. It's going to be an issue for a very long time.

Q: Since becoming the Vice Regal Consort of Canada in 2021, what do you like about living in New Edinburgh?

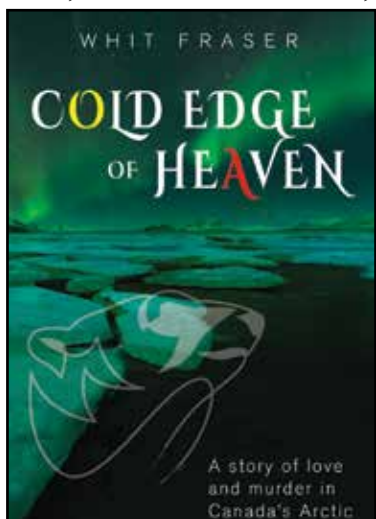
Fraser: This is my second time living in New Edinburgh. The first time we lived on Crichton St. in the early 1990s when Mary was working at Foreign Affairs. Then, we lived in Wakefield until she got transferred to Denmark. How can you not like living here? I like walking around the neighbourhood with my dog, and when people from New Edinburgh are going for a Sunday walk inside of Rideau Hall, I go for a walk outside of Rideau Gate!

Q. Are you working on another book, or have any plans to write another one in the future?

Fraser: If I write another book, it will probably be a non-fiction book about Bernier and document his life. It is a fabulous story and I'm going to stick with Bernier. He's my new hero. You can't even count how many times he went to the Arctic. What impressed me most about him

was around 1900, he had a contract with the federal government to circumnavigate and map Melville Island. He made his way east to west through the summer in the Northwest Passage and got to the Island probably in early August. There was open water, and the Northwest Passage was his! He followed orders and put the ship in the harbour and began the assignment to spend the year with his mapmakers and Inuit campers. And there was the holy grail right in front of him and another week of sailing he could have claimed the Passage. But that wasn't the assignment, and he's my guy for sticking to his orders. There is one line in the book that I was comfortable with [attributing to Bernier], who had a great relationship with the Inuit. It's when he says to Grant: "listen to Pudlu". And that was my own experience too. I learned about the North because I listened to the Inuit.

Recently retired public servant John Leefe lives in Lindenlea.



It's lights on as the Lane Loop Winter Walk kicks off Nov. 26



Photo by Justin Swan

River Lane looked magical last winter during the Lane Loop Winter Walk.

By Justin Swan

With the arrival of cooler weather, excitement is already growing for the Lane Loop Winter Walk.

If you missed it last year, people living on New Edinburgh's "lane loop" (Avon Lane to School Lane to River Lane and along the stretch of Dufferin Road back to Avon) illuminated their homes, garages, fences, and yards facing the back lanes. It was magical.

Throughout the fall, you could see lights being erected, more people walking the lanes – even feeling an air of competitive spirit amongst neighbours trying to outdo one another. The Canadian Tire on Coventry Road promptly ran out of their first order of LED strings. I recall somebody who worked there surmising of an "odd spike in demand." I wouldn't be surprised if New Edinburgh was the culprit. In any case, make sure to pick up supplies early this year (there is a rumor that Avon Lane is going big).

I can't decide when the momentum took a big leap forward. The addition of the horse-drawn wagon to the lane loop, the late-night security footage of Santa Claus

cruising River Lane, and the perseverance of our neighbourhood's version of Clark Griswold precariously high in a tree to add that finishing touch were all highlights for me. There was no shortage of positive energy, confirmed perhaps by the many overloaded outlets throughout the neighbourhood.

I hope we can all get behind this effort again with the same conviction this year. Thanks

to all those who make the lane loop such a festive addition to our daily winter lives in the Burgh.

For more details about the tree lighting ceremony on Nov. 26 at the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave., visit newedinburgh.ca.

Justin Swan and his wife Lindsey MacKinnon have lived on River Lane for seven years with their two children.



Tree lit up on River lane.

Photo by Justin Swan

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For the Birds

By Jane Heintzman

For birders, a definitive sign of summer's end is the start of fall migration, the annual exodus of hundreds of thousands of birds from their northern breeding grounds, enroute to more hospitable southern habitats. Ornithologists now provide real-time forecasts (for the United States) of the actual number of birds on the flyway at a given time at **birdcast.info**. My last check on the site forecast an amazing 206,000 birds on the highway on the evening of Sept. 16 – a traffic jam!

Since *NEN's* June edition, the local bird population has thinned dramatically as the fall migration has gathered momentum; the bright breeding plumage of early summer

giving way to the muddled, muted (and in many cases, molting) plumage of fall; and the raucous squawk of the ubiquitous **blue jay** has replaced the melodious songs of the breeding season. What better time to reflect on the birding pleasures of the summer months, when activity was at its height?

Georgian Bay highlights

We spent much of our summer in the Georgian Bay, surrounded by an abundance of species on our own island, and on the nearby waters and islands. Our first concern on arrival at the cottage each year is to inspect the **osprey** nest, which, for at least six decades has been a fixture on a hydro pole opposite our dock.

A feisty *cheep, cheep, cheeping* from that direction immediately reassured us that the nest was inhabited and the chick thriving, a sign (we hope) of a reviving local fish population. By late summer, our chick had fledged and flown, heading south for wintering grounds in Central or South America. He will remain there for a year or two but will eventually – and miraculously – find his way back to our hydro pole.

The second feathered regular to declare itself in July was an **Eastern phoebe**, an annual visitor with a long-standing nest very close to us. The phoebe remained a vocal presence in July and August, punctuating a chorus of nearby **red-eyed vireos** and **song sparrows** with its buzzy *fee-bee* calls. Perhaps because it was a relatively “insect-light” summer, there were fewer **warblers** in our immediate area this year. But as always, **yellow-rumped** and **pine warblers** were resident on the island, along with a feisty **worm-eating warbler** belting out its sewing-machine-like call deep in the woods.

In my first four decades on Georgian Bay, **American robins** were a rarity. But in the past three years, they've been a constant presence throughout the summer, and this year a resident group frolicked daily in the grass around our dock, where worms must have been abundant. While it's possible that the robins were attracted to the newly created grassy areas on the island, it seems likely that climate change may also be playing a role, bringing about a slight northerly shift in the



Yellow-bellied sapsucker.

Photo by David Howe

robins' breeding range.

Among the other cottage regulars were **white-throat sparrows**, **blue jays**, **black-capped chickadees**, numerous **European starlings**, **American crows**, **Common grackles**, a resident **whip-poorwill** and **downy-** and **hairy woodpeckers** feasting on the insect life in our many dead or dying trees. A visiting friend's Merlin Bird ID App – **merlin.allaboutbirds.org** – also identified two rarer avian residents: **cedar waxwings** and **house wrens**. The latter was a first on our island, though we had heard their harsh chattering on islands across the channel.

House wrens are dull, grayish brown little birds with the characteristic cocked tail of the wren family: truly birds with attitude! Their geographic range is vast, from eastern deciduous forests to southern swamps, western conifer forests and aspen

groves at high elevations. The spiders, beetles, caterpillars, earwigs, and flying insects which comprise their diet can be found in abundance on our island, as can the tree cavities, crevices, and old woodpecker holes where they make their nests. Chances are this summer's wren visitors will be back next year!

A birding highlight of our Georgian Bay summer was the constant presence of five large and lustrous **common loons** cruising up the shoreline of our island. The loons' vocalizations were loud enough to be heard right in our kitchen: a constant reminder of their dominance on the water.

The presence of these five loons, and the many others that we saw and heard in the area this year, was an encouraging sign of a possible rebound in the Ontario loon population. In recent years, their numbers have declined



Cedar Waxwing fledgling.

Photo by David Howe

UrbanOttawa.com



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alarmingly due to the acidification of lakes, mercury pollution, and climate change. Warming water temperatures from climate change have led to a radical decline in the fish population in the Bay, dangerously depleting the loons' food supply.

A special birding moment in my summer was a close encounter with the most beautiful **great blue heron** I have ever seen. As I emerged from the water after a swim, I saw an imposing shape in my peripheral vision: an enormous great blue heron poised, stock-still, only four feet away. Thankfully, I had the sense not to move a muscle, guessing that I was undetected by the ramrod-straight creature, which was pointed in the opposite direction. And there we remained, side by side, for close to 10 minutes while I marveled at the bird's imposing statuesque form, its lustrous plumage, and its miraculous proximity. It was a moment to remember!

Late in the summer, several **ruby-throated hummingbirds** turned up at our cottage feeder before gathering for their fall departure. One near-sighted individual appeared to have been attracted to our son's red baseball cap, failing to note the lack of foliage and decidedly non-floral scent!

PEI plovers aplenty

Our annual family excursion to Prince Edward Island in late July is a welcome chance to catch up on the shorebird population, and, if we're lucky, to get a close-up view of **bald eagles** nesting near our hotel. Regrettably, the eagles eluded us this year, but we had better luck with the **piping- and semi-palmated plovers** that ply the island's beaches. In the course of our long beach walks, we spotted several large groups of plovers skittering along the shoreline, to all appearances dancing in the lapping waters.

While the majority of the birds on our beach appeared to be semi-palmated plovers, we did spot several of the tiny piping plovers, the focus of an active conservation effort in recent years. Piping plovers make their nests in areas vulnerable to human activity, and have suffered serious population declines as a result. Many of these nesting areas are now cordoned-off to keep humans away, and there are encouraging signs that the species is beginning



Photo by David Howe

Philadelphia Vireo.

to rebound.

On my morning walks, I also regularly spotted **sandpipers** in the marshy inlet bordering the farm where we stay during our visit. Sandpipers and other shorebirds feast on insects and other small organisms like spiders, gnats, and snails which they pick out of wet sand and mud. They also consume biofilm: a thin layer of nutrient-filled slime on the sand.

On the home front

Late spring and summer are prime times for birding here in New Edinburgh, and in the few short weeks we were here at home, we had no shortage of birding encounters. Among the highlights: **yellow-rumped-, yellow-, pine warblers, American redstarts** (hundreds of them!), **great-crested flycatchers, red-eyed vireos, chipping sparrows, song sparrows, white-throat sparrows, American goldfinches, house finches, American robins, Northern cardinals, white-breasted nuthatches, ruby-crowned kinglets, blue jays, black-capped chickadees, downy-, hairy- and pileated woodpeckers, wood ducks, mallards, great blue herons, double-crested cormorants, turkey vultures and common ravens.**

As I write in mid-September, the summer has flown and so have many of the migrating species. But many late-leavers still remain, taking advantage of mild temperatures and a continuing abundance of food supplies. The Ottawa Field Naturalist Club recently reported numerous **warbler, vireo and flycatcher** species in such birding hotspots as Mud Lake: ofnc.ca/recent-bird-sightings. Right here in our neighbourhood, birding photographer **David Howe**

logged 130 different species in our parks and green spaces, including eight species of warblers: **bay-breasted, black and white, black-throated green, Cape May, chestnut-sided, Northern parula, yellow and yellow-rumped.**

In the Burgh you'll find plenty of birding bustle in the lead up to the migrators' departure for southern wintering grounds. Birds are busily fueling up for their long journey, and in many cases, gathering in flocks for the voyage. In our own rambles, we've noted numerous **song sparrows, chipping sparrows, American goldfinches and house finches** still in the area, as well as large groups of **American robins** engaged in restless, pre-flight activity in the shrubbery along our Rockcliffe Parkway walking route. Unlike the more than 300 songbird species that travel thousands of kilometres – as far as South or Central America – robins stay closer to home in neighbouring American states, or in many cases, remain here through the winter.

Route map for fall migration

In North America, there are four major North-South bird migration routes or "Flyways": **the Atlantic, the Mississippi, the Central and the Pacific: birdnature.com/flyways.html.** Most migratory birds from our region travel the **Atlantic Flyway**, which starts as far north as Greenland, following the Atlantic coast of Canada and the U.S. to wintering grounds in South America and the Caribbean. This route has the topographical advantage of relatively few mountain ranges to block the birds' path, and encompasses a variety of ecosystems, with dependable sources of food and water at stopover sites (the avian equivalent of Tim Horton's) along its entire length.

The migration journey is not for the faint-hearted. In addition to the punishing



Great Egret.

Photo by David Howe

demands of long-distance flight, these tiny creatures face a host of risks and hazards, from collisions with tall buildings, wind turbines, and other human-made structures, to turbulent weather, becoming ever more frequent with climate change; and loss of winter habitat resulting from clear-cutting, industrialization, or urban sprawl. How miraculous that so many of these intrepid travelers safely return to us each spring!

Reports from our readers

Throughout the summer and early fall, **Philip MacAdam's** Avian Bistro at Thomas and Alexander Streets hosted numerous feathered diners, among them **American goldfinches, house finches, purple finches, white-breasted nuthatches, black-capped chickadee, and downy- and hairy woodpeckers.** Philip also encountered **American redstarts, turkey vultures, common ravens** and four adolescent **sharp-shinned hawks** trying their wings not far from his house.

In early September, *NEN* birding photographer **David Howe** spotted an impressive 130 species of birds in New Edinburgh and Stanley Parks and environs. In addi-

tion to the eight **warbler** species noted earlier, David's tally included **white-throat sparrows, white-breasted nuthatches, a Philadelphia vireo, a green heron, a great egret, cedar waxwings, American goldfinches and a brown thrasher.** David is en route to the UK where he'll have a chance to observe the final stages of the fall migration on the Norfolk coast. Bon voyage!

Our Victoria, B.C. correspondent **Vicki Metcalfe** recently took part in a day-trip to Sidney Split, typically a shorebird hotspot during the fall migration. She encountered a variety of unusual **gulls: the Mew or short-billed gull; California and Heerman's gulls, and glaucous-winged gulls,** a standard on the west coast. Among her other sightings were a pair of **semi-palmated plovers** (a relative rarity in the west), mixed in with a group of **western and least plovers; kildeer; black turnstones; black oyster catchers; surf-birds and yellowlegs.** She also went out of her way to see a **marbled godwit**, reported to be an annual visitor to Esquimalt Lagoon during fall migration.

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Tales from the Square: Senior doesn't mean senile

By Keith Newton

(The views expressed are the author's own.)

In previous pieces I have sung the virtues of the staff and residents at the New Edinburgh Square whose mutual loyalty, patience, and good humour have carried us through two awful pandemic years (Some wondered if I was secretly on the company payroll! I'm not). Those were feel-good pieces designed to celebrate the many small but successful efforts that sustained us.

Now, however, I must reluctantly admit that all is not sweetness and light at the Square. Late in 2021, a major shuffling of local management proved rather unsettling. We were without a full complement of full-time managers for some time. Then came word of an executive decision to overhaul the system of scheduling and allocating staff and their workloads. Since it was well-known that occupancy rates had fallen significantly across the Chartwell empire, people feared the worst. Soon there were rumours of the imposition of a rigid Draconian rescheduling system. Not surprisingly, morale has suffered, and so have the level and quality of care. Meanwhile the sheer lack of information – transparency – has been frustrating to all.

Accordingly, I feel I must abandon my carefree post-retirement writing style for the academic tones of my previous career. As a specialist in Labour Economics, I taught courses in Human Resource Management and in Organizational Innovation to Masters and Doctoral students. So I have a professional interest in the current situation at the Square. I aim to give a dispassionate, even-handed account of the situation. I will try to present the differing points of view: the company, the employees, the residents, the front-line managers, and other stakeholders such as families and the wider community.

Our parent company Chartwell is a private, for-profit firm that sells a unique and very complex service: caring. It's complex because it's not a clearly identifiable product or service like

a loaf of bread or a taxi ride. It's a delicate relationship between human beings—a notoriously complicated and temperamental species. The company's success depends on the infinite patience, understanding, and compassion of a highly specialised workforce. These carers are charged with the well-being of the residents, who differ greatly in personalities, moods, tempers, eccentricities, and degrees of physical and mental health.

Chartwell is a big company: some 200 properties across Canada, headquartered in Mississauga, Ont. Its market performance has been less than stellar in recent years: share prices have slid, the return on equity (ROE) is low by industry standards, and its indebtedness is high. So we, as residents, should not be

going was bound to meet some resistance. Moreover, rumours and misinformation continued to circulate. Morale suffered; so did the quality of care.

We have more than 50 employees at the Square: nurses, personal support workers (PSWs), housekeepers, kitchen staff, servers, maintenance staff, receptionists, and drivers. There is a manager for each of the functional groups. Details of the rescheduling/restructuring program have been released to the various groups on a "need to know" basis. As far as can be determined, the tasks that make up the workload are organized into "lines" (shifts) for which individuals are invited to "bid." Matching is then done based on seniority, skill level, and experience. Since many, if not most, kitchen

of jam this morning and Mrs. Y spilt a bag of ground coffee on the counter.") The employee position is that caring is primarily about interpersonal relationships: carers must deal with various ailments, widely differing tastes, eccentricities, mood swings and occasional hostility. (Try devising an algorithm for that!)

Meanwhile, the residents fall into three main groups. There are those for whom retirement literally means the quiet life: a comfy room, three square meals, bingo, and happy hour. A second group may be somewhat interested in policy, to the extent that it may affect their personal needs; a perceived slippage in a service of some kind. They see the problem as local and grumble accordingly. A third group takes a some-

a situation and commenting rationally and articulately. After all, residents deserve to be fully informed. They are the enterprise's most important stakeholders – the sine quo nihil – without whom there would simply be no company, no industry. Critics will argue that there will always be lots of people needing care. That's true, but it's a competitive industry. Errors can be costly, and a tarnished reputation can be damaging.

Now let's spare a thought for the ham in the sandwich: the local front-line managers who bear the brunt of the endless, trivial, daily carping that is the pastime of the chronic complainers. Managers really are in a most uncomfortable position. Torn between their natural inclination of caring for their charges (however cranky!) and their obligation to the company that pays them. Total transparency would make life a whole lot easier for them, too. So again, information is key. And what about the other stakeholders? I mean the residents' families and loved ones, and the wider community in which NES operates and interacts. Full disclosure of facts is paramount. Without it, people invent their own facts, with nasty consequences.

What can be concluded from all this? First, the company certainly had good reason to institute a shakeup of some kind, and residents and staff should not have been surprised. Secondly, the company's enthusiasm for what the staff saw as "neat formulas and pretty diagrams" might have been introduced with a bit more sensitivity. Complete transparency could have forestalled the rumours and misinformation that have prolonged the transition phase of implementation. I remain optimistic, however. I am confident in the absolute professionalism of the staff and their loyalty to residents. They care!

Former Crichton Street resident Keith Newton moved into the New Edinburgh Square just before the pandemic hit in March 2020. He is a retired research economist and professor, and an avid creative writer.

Staff point to the unique relationship between caregivers and residents – a bond that cannot easily be reduced to a formula.

surprised if the profit-seeking company was due for some kind of shake-up. After all, the media tells us daily of big companies' restructuring of one kind or another. And to be fair, the pandemic wrought havoc with occupancy rates, which fell by 16 per cent in some properties. In addition, there were disturbing (if anecdotal) reports of abuses of the warm relationships that exist between residents and Personal Support Workers (PSWs) and housekeepers. Something had to be done.

We should not be surprised either that Chartwell should focus on its most important factor of production (and its major cost item): its human resources. Clearly, there was some room for tightening. Senior management were understandably anxious to bring orderliness and rationalization into the firm's organization. "Restructuring" and "rescheduling" the workforce had a seductive ring. Accordingly, the rumoured policy rolled out in mid-August. Unfortunately, imposing a more rigid, formulaic, optimizing system – however neat – onto one that had been warm and easy-

and serving staff, housekeepers and even some PSWs must work at two jobs, their external schedules may not fit the opportunities afforded by the new schedules. In addition, some tasks and functions have been reorganized.

The analytical basis for the new system appears to be a combination of old-fashioned "time and motion" studies and "ratio analysis." So for example, housekeeping tasks – garbage removal, bed-making, cleaning of bathrooms, floors, carpets etc. – are timed for units of various sizes. "Ratio analysis" means "how many people, performing carefully measured tasks, are required to serve X number of residents in a given time period?"

Not unexpectedly – and NES seems to be chronically understaffed, anyway – staff have expressed discomfort with what they see as enforced standardization. They point to the unique relationship between caregivers and residents – a bond that cannot easily be reduced to a formula. They point to the unexpected contingencies that play havoc with schedules. ("Mr. Z dropped a jar

what broader view and may have the temerity to wonder if the problems they perceive may be systemic – inherent in decisions taken at the ethereal heights of the boardroom.

The first group is easy to handle: benign paternalism is sufficient. The second group is handled by the long-suffering, infinitely patient local-level managers. The third group is a bit more difficult to deal with as they are interested in the nuts and bolts of policy. They are frustrated by what they see as the company's paternalism: the pat on the head with "there, there, dear don't you go worrying about all that nasty policy stuff. We'll take care of all that. And, of course, we take care of you, don't we dear?" So they are starved for information. If there's an organizational change they want to know about it. If it is designed to "optimize" an operation, that implies that everyone benefits – that's what optimization means. So explain clearly and fully, how the change is a win-win situation.

Not all seniors are senile. Some are compos mentis and quite capable of analyzing

Celebrate Rockcliffe Park school's centennial with tulips



Rockcliffe Park Public School is selling these stunning orange "Dragon's Breath" tulip bulbs, as part of the school's 100th anniversary.

Photo by Green Tea Photography

By Sarah Jane Estabrooks

Whether you attended Rockcliffe Park Public School, know someone who did, live in the neighbourhood, or just enjoy the sight of tulips in spring, please purchase and share RPPS 100th Anniversary Tulips!

This tulip sale honours the school's long-standing connection to Queen Juliana of the Netherlands and her daughters, then-Princess Beatrix and Princess Irene, who attended Rockcliffe Park Public School while in exile in Ottawa during the Second World War. The National Capital Tulip Festival was

started with the gift of 100,000 tulips from Queen Juliana as a token of thanks to Canadians for helping to liberate Holland, and for sheltering her family.

Together as a community let us celebrate this significant moment in the history of Rockcliffe Park Public School. Buy them today, plant them this fall, and enjoy them in spring! Let's blanket the surrounding neighbourhoods in the vibrant oranges of the exclusive "Dragon's Breath" tulips and celebrate 100 years of learning at Rockcliffe Park Public School.

To purchase Dragon's Breath tulips, visit rockcliffeparkps.com. A box of 10 bulbs costs \$15.00. Discounted pricing is available for the purchase of multiple boxes.

Proceeds from tulip sales will support the educational enrichment of Rockcliffe Park Public School students and provide support to other local schools.

Thank you for helping celebrate this historic event!

Sarah Jane Estabrooks is a member of RPPS school council. For more information about 100th anniversary events, go to rpps100.ca.

Local library branch keen to hold more 'nature literacy' events

By Martha Hodgson

A dad once told us, "Sometimes, you can learn just as much from climbing a tree as from reading a book, maybe even more ..."

When you climb a tree, you must make judgement calls: where to put your foot, how high should you go, and, once you are up, what is the best way down. You build confidence by doing. Your face and hands are touching the tree, seeing the details in the bark and the insects up close. You start learning to observe. When you sit higher, you get a different view on things. And then there is the feeling of accomplishment.

This summer at the Rockcliffe Park library branch, we undertook a new direction on children's programs that focused on 'nature literacy'. In partnership with Parks Canada, we had "Learn to Camp." Branch staff created two original workshops "Sticks and Stones" and "Wild Art". The first began with a tour of the RP woodlot from Rockcliffe Park resident, biologist and environmentalist Iola Price. Children collected 'natural treasures' from the forest floor and created works of art. "Wild Art" began with Iola's live narration of a video showing the emergence of a cicada from its exoskeleton right here on our property. Then children explored the work of Andy Goldsworthy, an

English sculptor, photographer, and environmentalist who produces site-specific sculptures and land art. The participants had fun creating their own ephemeral land art on the lawn of the library. Photographs of the finished works of the art will be on display at the library branch until Oct. 10.

As we move forward, look for more programming and events promoting nature literacy here at the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library.

Martha Hodgson is the librarian at the Rockcliffe Park branch of the Ottawa Public Library, 380 Springfield Rd. Visit bibliooottawalibrary.ca



Photo courtesy Martha Hodgson

"Circles," one of the artworks created by children from 'natural treasures' from the forest floor during a summer workshop at the Rockcliffe Park branch of the Ottawa Public Library.

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Moving daze

By Janet Ruddock

The hubbub of moving around us says one important thing. This time, we're not the ones moving! The flat below in the rambling house we share is a flurry of activity. Meanwhile, the family in the adjoining house has been moving out for weeks, it seems. We hear it all. The floors and walls of this three-storey Victorian row are not soundproof.

Both families clearly have an abundance of assemble-it-yourself furniture they are now disassembling. Best done late at night. The family of four next door is having a massive clear-out. Where have they been storing this

stuff? Overnight, 30 suitcases appear on their back deck. Thirty! Last I checked, seven pieces of baggage per person was beyond the limit. I haven't traveled for a while. I could be wrong.

Ceramic flowerpots? All shapes and sizes. I've not seen this many outside of a garden centre. All clustered under the umbrella of the garden table. Too bad the suitcases are not. There's a lot of rain. The pots and suitcases suddenly vanish. Possibly to make room for the eruption of children's toys and books. I don't know what becomes of the toys. The books line up by the garage in the back lane

for folks strolling, to peruse and claim.

So popular are the book freebies that our downstairs neighbours contribute to the pop-up jumble giveaway. A large picture frame labeled "perfect condition" joins a small flat-screen TV labeled "works." Two end-tables in dreadful condition require no labels. Some lucky person snaps up the TV quickly. Sadly, the frame sits out in the rain for a few days, its condition declines fast. Two sad, worn, plastic chairs don't care how wet they get. Someone takes away the frame, no doubt feeling sorry for it. The chairs and tables just sit.

The enormous wooden garden table is hauled into the driveway. I thought that thing was built into the patio. Guess not. Boxes of this and that pop up on it over several days. We suspect passersby

are dropping their own giveaways as they pass by. Why not? Take some. Leave some.

The beehive of activity below and beside us grows to a frenzy. I'm tired just watching from our second-floor deck. There, but for the grace of God, go I. I offer the odd words of encouragement. It's the least I can do. My husband Frank does the same when he's maneuvering the car through the fray of goods on offer.

Anyone want a car? A sporty little model marked "for sale" (not a freebie) appears in the driveway. It is quite the attraction and does not last long. Our neighbour changes his mind and sends it into storage instead. We park our car in the garage for the duration of the giveaway event, carefully pocketing the keys each time. Best not to take chances. We rather like our car.

Finally comes the main event. Three days of moving vans, large and larger. All parties are loading trucks on the same days. Is somebody paying attention out there? Movers are paid to move, not think. A truck is a truck. We've moved before and it's not pretty. The boxes next door going to Central Asia best end up there. And the fellows downstairs might need their stuff in their new digs here in Alta Vista.

All the packed boxes marked "LTS" (Long Term Storage) are enough to give me heart palpitations. We have stuff in LTS from our last move 13 years ago yet to see the light of day. We'll get around to it. It's a work in progress. We blame the pandemic. Everything gets blamed on the pandemic. In fairness to us, the facility was chained shut for part of the time. I shudder to think we move again any time soon.

Both houses, for the most part, eventually empty. There's still stuff in the lane left from both houses, our neighbours don't want, nor does anyone else, even for free. Garbage day is fast approaching. The pressure's on. Boxes of just plain junk get dragged to the lane. Garbage on steroids. Final chance for last-minute browsers. The sad plastic chairs ultimately disappear, one hopes to a good home.

Frank's in the garage when a voice behind him asks, "Are these pads free?" A cyclist holds out bright blue doggie pee pads. They aren't ours, but Frank gives the go-ahead. "Wow," says the cyclist, stashing his loot. "These things are expensive." One happy shopper.

And the giant wooden table nobody wanted? We laid bets the garbage guys wouldn't take it, but they hath no mercy. The truck's jaw of death takes every last thing, including the table. Order returns to the lane. And our lives. Two moves and I was completely exhausted.

Janet Ruddock and her husband Frank have settled in New Edinburgh after a nomadic life with Global Affairs Canada. Janet is a writer, traveler, lover of the arts and advocates for those with Rheumatoid Arthritis and chronic pain.



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Photo by Andre R Gagne

New Edinburgh's community Garage Sale resumed Sept. 17 after a two-year pandemic hiatus. Great weather helped make the event a success.



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MackKay United embraces return to in-person services and events

By Eleanor Dunn

Two and a half years of the pandemic! From March 2020 until May of this year, MacKay United Church was closed for in-person services and other activities. Walmart was open, but churches were closed, and many – MacKay included – had to develop new ways to reach their congregants through the use of new technology. Zoom on Sunday brought services into homes.

Now MacKay's doors are open again for in-person services on Sundays with Sunday School for the children.

MacKay's Church Council decided that the facility at the corner of MacKay Street and Dufferin Road would not sit idle over the summer months. In-person church services continued, the popular "Jazz in June" noon-hour concert series took place, and a series of Chamberfest concerts brought people into the building in July.

And partnering with the IODE (Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire), MacKay opened its doors both as a historic building and a venue for a series of mini-concerts during the New Edinburgh Streetfest on Sept. 10. MacKay's historian, Alan Bowker, was one of the featured speakers at St. Bartholomew's Church during Streetfest. He spoke about the young men from New Edinburgh who sacrificed themselves during the First World War. The historical displays in MacKay's sanctuary detailed the church's life over the years in the community.

Speaking of history, when St. Paul's Eastern United Church in Sandy Hill closed its doors early this year, MacKay was the beneficiary of a number of items: a baby grand piano, pew cushions and a number of memorial plaques. A "St. Paul's Eastern United Corner" has been established in the sanctuary. MacKay's Property Committee oversaw the cleaning of the bronze plaques, some representing St. Paul's Presbyterian Church and some from

Eastern Methodist Church (the two churches had joined together prior to church union in 1928 to become St. Paul's Eastern United). Due to the age of the plaster on the walls of MacKay's sanctuary, the Property Committee determined that a false wall needed to be built to carry the weight of the plaques, some of which are quite large. Heritage carpentry was required to ensure the false wall matched original woodwork in the sanctuary.

Music and Meditation resumed in September, and will continue every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. from Oct. 4 to Nov. 1, with a pre-Christmas event on Dec. 6. Worldwide Communion Sunday is on Oct. 2, and Thanksgiving Sunday is Oct. 9.

Are you interested in self-care? If so, a series of upcoming workshops might be of interest. Diane Strickland, an ordained minister and traumatologist, has prepared a series of videos which will anchor the workshops animated by members of MacKay's Pastoral Care Team. The first workshop, "Reframing Self-care," will take place Oct. 6, followed by "Equipping Tools for Self-Care" on Oct. 19, "Exploring Why We Might Resist Self-care" on Nov. 2, and "Techniques for Self-Care Goals" on Nov. 16. All workshops run from 7-9:00 p.m. in MacKay's sanctuary.

A fantastic "Christmas in the 'Burgh" evening with lots of music that families will be sure to enjoy is being planned for Dec. 18. And plans are in the works for a New Edinburgh Night Market in the Memorial Hall on Oct. 29.

Fitness classes have returned, and rental space is available for piano and guitar instruction. MacKay has two upright pianos in the Memorial Hall which are available to take at no cost, but those takers are responsible for moving the pianos.

MacKay's Council recognizes that not everyone is comfortable not wearing a mask at indoor events. At MacKay, it is a matter of personal choice, though most

who attend in-person services and other activities choose to wear them as a courtesy to others who may be immunocompromised. The sanctuary is large enough that social distancing is not a problem.

Information about upcoming events at MacKay, or rental of space, or the free-for-the-taking pianos can be found on the church's Facebook page, website mackayunited.ca or by calling the office at 613-749-8727; email is admin@mackayunitedchurch.com.

Eleanor Dunn is a retired journalist and broadcaster who has been an —almost— lifelong resident of the 'Burgh. She is an active member of MacKay United Church.



Photo by Andre R Gagne

MacKay opened its doors both as a historic building and a venue for a series of mini-concerts during the New Edinburgh Streetfest on Sept. 10.

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Burgh-based composer debuts *Dracula – The Opera* in time for Halloween

By Nadine Dawson

What better way to enter the spooky spirit of Halloween than to attend the inaugural performance of Andrew Ager's operatic adaptation of the classic novel, *Dracula*. Premiering Oct. 28 and 29 in the beautiful and atmospheric space of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church (82 Kent St.), *Dracula – The Opera* is sure to thrill modern audiences.

Irish author Bram Stoker created by his popular tale *Dracula* (1897) from the legends of vampires, those blood-sipping creatures that generate delicious fear and hysteria. Add monster-hunting to the story, and is it any wonder Stoker's tale spawned the horror genre that is still so beloved to this day? Those braver than I enjoy the titillation of a good protagonist-villain who personifies Evil, preys on innocent victims, and upsets the sometimes-uneasy optimism that allows us to believe in the triumph of Good.

Let me introduce you to Andrew Ager, a prolific and accomplished composer who

lives in New Edinburgh. Born in Ottawa, Ager returned home relatively recently and has been entwined with the local music scene ever since. As a composer, he is known for blending classical and modern sensibilities, writing everything from chamber arrangements of larger works, to creating full-scale symphonies.

Ager has completed six operas, all of which have been produced. *Frankenstein – The Opera*, the first in his Gothic Trilogy, was warmly received when it premiered in Ottawa in the autumn of 2019. I had the pleasure of participating in the production (as a non-speaking, non-singing extra) and can report firsthand how exciting that opera was. *Dracula – The Opera*, the second in the series, promises to be just as much fun. The last in the trio is *The Mummy*.

When I asked Ager what drew him to the horror genre, he said: "There is always a strangely attractive side to supernatural villains or monsters. That's why we like them. *Dracula* is a case in



Photo courtesy Nadine Dawson

Baritone Bradley Christensen will sing the title role in *Dracula – The Opera*, the latest production from New Edinburgh-based composer Andrew Ager in his Gothic Trilogy.

point: a cursed aristocrat out of his era. We secretly like him." In fact, the titular characters in all three tales are both frightening and sympathetic, a dichotomy which presents intriguing opportunities for musical storytelling.

Bringing a complicated novel like *Dracula* to stage is no simple feat. Suzanne Bassett, who directed the first opera in the trilogy, co-wrote the libretto with Ager by combining original text and

adapted lyrics to "carefully maintain the core of the story: the personality of Dracula, what he does, and what to do with him."

Even once the libretto has been set to music, there remains much work in mounting a full-scale production. Enter New Opera Lyra, a not-for-profit enterprise founded by Bassett and Ager with the dual purpose of creating opportunities for local artists and bringing opera to Ottawa audiences. These co-

artistic directors are joined by well-known local musician Matthew Larkin as resident conductor.

Dracula – The Opera opens New Opera Lyra's inaugural season. The charismatic baritone Bradley Christensen, who first thrilled audiences with his interpretation of *Frankenstein* in 2019, will sing the role of Dracula. Joining him are Carmen Harris as Mina, Gary Dahl as Renfield, and Iain Macpherson as Jonathan. New Opera Lyra is delighted to welcome Bronx Opera's Benjamin Spierman as director.

Ager is most excited by the cast and production team. He says the rehearsals "have been thrilling" and promises "a wonderful show" awaits audiences. "Who doesn't want to see an opera called *Dracula*?" he asks. Indeed!

For tickets or more information on *Dracula – The Opera* or New Opera Lyra's 2022–23 season, please visit newoperalyra.ca.

Nadine Dawson is an artist and former teacher who lives in Old Ottawa South. She is the author of *Lavender, Longing, Love: A Choose-Your-Own-Adventure Memoir*.

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Linden Theatre returns on Nov. 11 with Irish love story

By Janet Uren

You know the old saying from war movies: “It’s quiet out there. Too quiet.”? Well, that about describes the situation from March 2020 to March 2022. Like most performing arts groups, Linden House Theatre was in stasis during that period, as we struggled with how to confront COVID-19. The pandemic may not be completely over, but with a combination of vaccinations, masks and a degree of caution, we are getting back to something like normal life.

That’s certainly true of Linden House. When the pandemic swept over us in 2020, we were already casting and planning our next play in an annual series that had been unbroken since 2007. I remember thinking that lockdown would last a couple of months and that we could get back to work sometime in the summer. And when we cancelled the fall show in 2020, I was sure we would be back the following year.

Not so fast, said the health authorities. So here we are at last, two-and-a-half years after the first horrible lockdown, finally dusting off the scripts and getting back to producing theatre. *Outside Mullingar* will open Nov. 11 and will play over the following two weekends. We hope that all the people who have said how much they miss our particular brand of theatre – “theatre for the joy of it” – will turn out to celebrate with us.

Outside Mullingar is a romance with an unusual pair of middle-aged lovers and some of the funniest love scenes ever. It is set in farming country in the heart of Ireland not far from the village of Mullingar. Actors Venetia Lawless (known to Linden House audiences as Lotty in *Enchanted April*, and Marla Faye in *The Savannah Sipping Society*), David Holden (the narrator in *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again*) and Geoff Gruson (Frederick in *Enchanted*

April) will be returning, along with myself (in everything). Lindsay Laviolette (Lady Caroline in *Enchanted April* and Jinx in *The Savannah Sipping Society*) will be directing.

Because this play is set in Ireland, we also look forward to welcoming you to a traditional céilidh (pronounced

“kay-lee”) with Irish music after the show Nov. 11 and Nov. 18. The play will be performed at Elmwood Theatre at Elmwood School, 261 Buena Vista Dr.

Tickets go on sale in October online at lindenpro.ca, at Books on Beechwood (cash only) or by reservation at 613-842-4913.



Photo by Doug Banks

Janet Uren and Geoff Gruson rehearsing *Outside Mullingar*, Linden House Theatre's production that was delayed from 2020.

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St. Bart's keeps bazaar virtual a third year in a row

By Liz Heatherington

In 1878, Lady Dufferin, wife of Canada's then-Governor General Lord Dufferin, held a four-day bazaar to help pay off the construction debt at St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church at 125 MacKay St. Since then, the church's bazaar has been an almost yearly event, with the exception of the war years: 1914-1918 and 1940-45. This annual bazaar has become so popular that in the past we had wonderful

crowds in the hall – it was the place to be! However, during these "COVID years" public health still encourages smaller events, so for 2022 we are celebrating our third online Virtual Bazaar.

As before, this fixed-price sale will offer photographic vignettes grouped by category, such as "The Condiment Shelf," a lovely wooden shelf with a variety of special homemade preserves; "The China Cabinet," a beautiful wooden cabinet with glass door displaying elegant bone china; and "The Rainy-Day Clinic" with an assortment of jigsaw puzzles, coffee-table books and popular DVDs. In all, there will be at least 80 vignettes to choose from, each with a description and photograph. Visit stbartsottawa.ca and watch for the bazaar sale link, which will be available at the end of October.

The bazaar is the main fundraiser for the Church's outreach: supporting the refugee programme and the minis-

tries to the Gary J. Armstrong Centre for Long Term Care, La Source/The Well, Cornerstone Women's Shelter and St Luke's Table: a lunch programme in central Ottawa.

Would you like to help? We are seeking quality donations that would photograph well, along with any information you might have about the object. This could include nearly-new housewares, classic bone china, silver plate, crystal, jigsaw puzzles, coffee table books, works of art and any nearly-new gifts. Of course, it would be wonderful if you and your friends would join us online **Nov. 4-6** for the opportunity to purchase these unique items. For the shopper: each vignette could include something for you, as well as a special gift for someone else.

To donate, please contact the co-conveners: Linda Assad-Butcher 613-748-6060; lassadbutcher@gmail.com or Liz Heatherington 613-745-4677; elizamaryh@gmail.com.

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- 7'x7' modern cotton Indian mirror-work wall hanging - red, orange, bright green

- European-sized pillow cases - classic white, never used

- floor cushions - white vintage cases (Aix)

- fetching small afternoon/evening bags: velvet, straw+, most never used

Dog/Cat Walking And Sitting Your house plants are also safe with me! Emergency and regular daily walking. Puppy Experience. References. Liba Bender: 613-746-4884.

Ugg 'Adirondack Otter' lace-up winter boots, tan, cream lining, size 8.5, worn once, original price: \$299, best offer. frances.prew@icloud.com after Oct. 17.



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EVENTS CALENDAR

Send event listing details to newednews@hotmail.com Visit newedinburgh.ca/events for the most up-to-date listings.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1 – Environmental Fair at the Ottawa Bahá'í Centre, 211 McArthur Ave., 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Learn about solar energy, home energy efficiency, pollinator gardens, greening sacred spaces, green roofs, and more from knowledgeable volunteers.

Until Nov. 28 – New Edinburgh Community Choir at MacKay United Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin Rd. Monday evenings. One-time \$20 “try out” fee. Contact neuechoir@gmail.com. The New Edinburgh Community Choir welcomes adults of all singing skill-levels for fun, communal singing. Our repertoire includes classical, pop, spiritual, folk, show tunes. Masks required.

Oct. 14 – The Films of Georges Méliès Live at the ByTowne Cinema, 325 Rideau St. Tickets: \$20.35. bytowne.ca. The Alliance Française Ottawa and Alcoléa & Cie, host a Right in the Eye (En plein dans l'œil), a

spectacular live multimedia show composed of 12 films by Georges Méliès, a pioneer of cinema and wizard of special effects.

Oct. 15 – Films at the Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. 6–10 p.m. newedinburgh.ca/events. By donation. The Crichton Community Council hosts an indoor double feature with an early show for children, and a later show for the young at heart. Refreshments available. Details, Pg. 14.

Oct. 18 – NECA Meeting happening online. 7:30 p.m. Visit newedinburgh.ca for meeting link. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend the board meeting of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA).

Oct. 20 – The Elysée Quartet at St. Bartholomew's Church, 125 MacKay St. 7 p.m. Tickets: \$16-22 via Eventbrite.ca. The Elysée Quartet are in town as part of their tour of the Alliance Française network in Canada. The quartet will perform works by Beethoven, Rachmaninov, Puccini and

Debussy. Masks required.

Oct. 24 – Municipal Election taking place across Ottawa. 10 a.m.–8 p.m. See pages 17-20 for information on mayoral and councillor candidates.

Oct. 27 – NECA Annual General Meeting at the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. in a hybrid format. 7 p.m. All residents are welcome to the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's Annual General Meeting and to join the board! Contact: newedinburgh@outlook.com.

Oct. 28 – Park Clean-Up behind the Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. 4–6 p.m. NECA's Friends of the Park hosts another park cleanup event. Garbage bags and gloves provided. Rain date: Oct. 29, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. Details, pg. 1.

Oct. 30 – Cemetery Stroll at Beechwood Cemetery, 280 Beechwood Ave. 1 p.m. beechwoodottawa.ca. Free. Wear walking shoes and suitable clothing for this

90-minute guided historical tour through the National Cemetery of Canada. Trained volunteers will guide you on local history and notable features. Wheelchair- and family-friendly. Rain or shine.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 3 – Nova Rupta at Club SAW, 67 Nicholas St. Tickets: \$16–22 via Eventbrite.ca (no box office onsite). The Alliance Française Ottawa hosts Trio Lorenzo Naccarato on its Canadian tour. Franco-Italian pianist Lorenzo Naccarato's trio presents *Nova Rupta*, cinematic music inspired by the impressionist and minimalist repertoire.

Nov. 4-6 – St. Bart's Bazaar happening online. stbartsottawa.ca. For the third year in a row, St. Bart's annual fundraising bazaar will take place virtually. This fixed-price sale will offer photographic “vignettes” grouped by category. Details, pg. 34.

Nov. 11 – Outside Mullingar at Elmwood School, 261 Buena Vista Dr. Tickets online

or at Books on Beechwood. Linden House Theatre returns with an Irish love story by John Patrick Shanley. A traditional *céilidh* with Irish music will take place after the Nov. 11 and Nov. 18 shows. Details, pg. 33.

Nov. 15 – NECA Meeting happening online. 7:30 p.m. Visit newedinburgh.ca for link. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend the board meeting of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA).

Nov. 26 – Holiday Lights Gathering at the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse, 208 Stanley Ave. 4–8 p.m. newedinburgh.ca/events; CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com. The Crichton Community Council hosts a Holiday Lights Gathering featuring tree lighting, festive music, warm drinks, an outdoor fire, Christmas tree sales, and a man in a red suit. Volunteers needed! Details, pg. 14.

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New mural celebrates area's Algonquin heritage

Following the well-attended inaugural Chief Pinesi Day event in New Edinburgh Park on July 1, a mural made of ceramic and paint was installed on the side of the Fieldhouse building facing the playground. Artist Doreen Stevens explains the imagery and inspiration behind this exceptional work of art called Bloodline - Miskwi.

Miskwi means "blood-line", identifying several Algonquin lineages, particularly the ancestral lineages of Pinesi (the Partridge) and Kiskkanikwad (Broken Cloud). While in the sky Pinesi is the Thunderbird, Kiskkanikwad are the Broken Clouds after the storm. The Water Lynx (Mishipijew) represents the Rideau Rapids hidden by the dam at the falls. It also brings back the Pijew-Lynx family name. Therefore, the mural partly represents the recovery of original Algonquin family names, many of which have been changed to British or French names. This is the first time Algonquin family names have been represented on a mural.

All of my relations, all the creatures, traveled this area offering one of the sacred medicines of the four sacred plants—sweet grass, tobacco, sage and cedar—to the great water lynx, the Mishipijiw, for safe passage.

The frog represents fertility, movement and the air



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Bloodline - Miskwi by Algonquin artist Doreen Stevens from Kitiganzibi, Que., tells the story of this area's Indigenous history, in particular of Chief Pinesi.

in a water bubble which is part of a braid of sweetgrass (one of the sacred medicines). Life is always moving. The sweetgrass itself is a symbol of mind, body and spirit, and the Midewin spiritual society. Alongside, the wampum shells are our honoured treaties concerning the unceded territory of our ancestors since time immemorial.

The area's trails are filled with an abundance of species, including our sacred trees, "the lungs of the earth", their seeds indicating the Earth's fertility and the renewal of spirit and, in celebration of our four seasons, are often referred to during the Strawberry Moon in June.

We live like plant life with

our own four seasons, which flow back and forth. Water is the blood life of Mother Earth and is one of our sacred elements. At dawn, we face East to welcome the dawn. The Sun rising in the East is our grandfather, and the Moon in the West is our grandmother. In Mayan communities, young couples dance in front of the full moon to aid conception.

At the left of the mural, the birch represents canoe knowledge, its water resistance, and many uses by Eastern Woodland people. The Algonquin are world famous for their birch canoes. On the far right is a pine tree full in winter. The maple is called the medicine tree

(inanatig) and it is sacred as it provides fire, food and shelter. Maple sticks are used for the Nibi Wabo/Water Song.

Plant life defies gravity and people, too. Seeds sprout above, standing strong and resilient like the people. The yellow faces of the stick figures give homage to Grandfather Sun, and represent youthfulness, kindness and light. We come in from the eastern door and out into the West, the Unknown, the Great Mystery. The four stages of life – infant, adolescent, adult, and elder – four sacred medicines.

The lower part of the mural, in paint, is entitled, *Gathering Phases*. The art portrays all the stages of life in general,

as does the upper mural, and peoples' lives, in particular. It shows people meeting and gathering, and their intention to be together living in nature. The four directions are seen embodied in four people, who are also in the four stages of life.

The Stevens family are inspired by traditional Anishinabeg Indigenous art, for example, floating eyeballs in the mural represent the ancestors and spirits watching over us. However, often their work is not just derivative of Eastern Woodland art, but is influenced by other Indigenous traditions, as well as other cultures globally.

-Doreen Stevens

Congratulations



Best wishes to the young couple on Keefer Street, **Chloe Lussier-Labelle** and **Eric Saumure**, who celebrated their vows in an outdoor wedding ceremony in Strathcona Park and with a reception at All Saints Events Space on Aug. 20. You may also have spotted them posing in beautiful Stanley Park that day. Congratulations!

The Books on Beechwood family would like to congratulate its own **Michelle Sinclair** on the publication of her first book: *Almost Visible*. Named one of CBC Books' Works of Canadian Fiction to Watch for Fall 2022: "*Almost Visible* explores cultural and personal memory, reflecting on what can happen when a lonely person intervenes in another person's life." Michelle's book is available at Books on Beechwood.



Burgh Breezy Bits

DEADLINE: NOV 10
newednews@hotmail.com

Welcome

Hi: my name is **Loki**. I am a two-year-old, three-legged rescue from Armenia who has come to live with **Karen** and **Bruce** on Crichton Street. Some people say I look like a Schnoodle, some a Tibetan terrier, but really we have no idea which breed I am. Just super cute! I love all people—please stop to say hello and give me a little pat when you see me in Stanley Park. I may look a little awkward, but I'm



game. I am still a little fearful of other dogs, but Karen and Bruce are helping me to work on that. All in all, I'm just super happy to have come to this great neighbourhood!!

Condolences

Deepest sympathy goes to **NEN's** distribution manager **Karen Harrison** and her husband **John** of River Lane on the death of their son **Trevor** on Sept. 13 in Wakefield, Que., aged 36. A long-time Parliament Hill staffer, Trevor was first diagnosed with a



brain tumor in 2010. During this last year, Trevor and his wife **Kaisha Thompson** were able to travel at least 79,000 km to see family and friends, squeezing a lifetime of love, happiness and memories into the time that they had. They are grateful to Trevor's medical teams at the Ottawa Hospital's Cancer Centre, Civic Campus Neurosciences Clinic, Rehabilitation Centre, CLSC, and La Maison des Collines.