

The Lindenleader

Newsletter of the Lindenlea Community Association

April 2023

Spring has Sprung!



Spring in Lindenlea is a truly magical time of year, with the vibrant colours of tulips and daffodils appearing throughout the neighbourhood. But it's not just the natural beauty that makes this season special - it's also the sense of community that comes alive during this time.

Our community recently kicked off spring with our annual Easter Egg hunt in early April, and it was a huge success! Close to 100 children participated, searching for eggs at the community centre and enjoying a treat bag filled with goodies. It was heartwarming to see families come together and enjoy a fun-filled day.

But the fun doesn't stop there! We are excited to host a couple of other events this spring, which will bring our community even closer together. On May 13th, we will be hosting a spring BBQ, yard sale, and community clean-up event. This will be a great opportunity for neighbours to come together and enjoy some food, find some great deals, and beautify our community. We encourage everyone to mark this date on their calendar and join in the fun.

We also want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the volunteers who make our community events possible. Without their hard work and dedication, events like these would not be possible. That's why on Monday, May 29th, we will be hosting a volunteer thank you party to show our appreciation. If you have volunteered with us in the past or are interested in volunteering in the future, please join us for an evening of food, fun, and camaraderie.

Information for both of these exciting events will be posted on our website, so be sure to stay tuned and save the date! Let's come together as a community and make this spring the best one yet.

If you have news or notices of local interest, contact our team at lindenleacommunitycentre@gmail.com.



The Lindenlea Community Association gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the City of Ottawa.

Tennis Season is almost here!

Exciting news for tennis enthusiasts in our community! The much-awaited tennis season is just around the corner and our tennis courts are set to open in May. We are thrilled to invite our members to come back to the courts and enjoy the game of tennis. Tennis is not only a fun and enjoyable sport but also a great way to stay active and healthy. It is a game that can be played at any age and skill level, making it a perfect sport for families and friends to enjoy together. We encourage everyone to come out and play, whether you are a beginner or a seasoned player.

This year we are excited to once again offer group lessons for kids and beginner lessons for adults. This is a great opportunity for anyone who is new to the sport or looking to improve their skills. We have two tennis pros who are available to provide private lessons for our members as well. Memberships for the tennis courts will go on sale at the end of April, so make sure to mark your calendars and sign up. More information about memberships and pricing can be found on our website. As a member, you will have access to the tennis courts and can schedule your playing time online.

This year, we are also excited to announce that our tennis courts will be painted and the nets will be replaced. We want to make sure that our tennis courts are in top condition for our members to enjoy. We hope that these improvements will enhance your playing experience and make it even more enjoyable. We can't wait to see you on the courts. Let's make this season a memorable one!



RPL Soccer

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming soccer program for children from Kindergarten to Grade 8. This exciting event is set to kick off at the end of this month, and we can't wait to see our young athletes back on the field!

Our program is designed to cater to children from ages 4 to 13 and will take place every Saturday and Monday evening. The JK-to-SK group will begin at 9:00am on Saturday, followed by the first and second graders from 10:00am-11:00am. The third to fifth graders will play from 11:00am to 12:00pm, and finally, the sixth to eighth graders will play on Monday evenings from 6:00pm-7:00pm.

The program is run entirely by volunteers, so we encourage parents to come forward and volunteer as coaches to make this event a success.

Our soccer program is not just about physical activity and fun; it also provides opportunities for children to learn teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship. It is an excellent way for kids to develop new skills, make new friends in the community and enjoy the great outdoors. Every participant will receive a stylish RPL t-shirt in their team colour.

We look forward to seeing everyone back on the field for a season of fun and excitement!

Thanks Hosers!

We had a wonderful skating season this year made possible by the tireless work of our rink volunteers who helped to build, flood, shovel and maintain our rink. This year was difficult as temperatures fluctuated making it hard to keep the ice in good condition. Our hosers were up to the task though and with their dedication and energy we were able to skate from December to March.

Thanks to Jeff Murray and Phil Hayes for taking the lead this year. Also thanks to Jeff Lundeen, Stephen Close, Paul Brazeau, Andrew Kerr, Chuck Durrant, Gordon Fernie, James Patsula, Luke McLaren, Mark Shelford, Nicholas McHaffie, Geoff Trueman, James McKay Stevenson, Peter Vavra, Randal LaBine, Jeff Rosebrugh, Christopher Bishop, Amy Nicodemus, Sam Witherspoon and Alexandre Catta. The volunteer time spent on the rink helped to create cherished memories for countless families and friends in our community.

We are also grateful to all of the community members who stopped by to help shovel and make the job of flooding the rink easier for our crew. The effort put in was truly appreciated. We hope to see everyone on the rink again next year!



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Ottawa-Vanier

Bureau de circonscription | Constituency Office

233, chemin Montréal Road, Ottawa, ON K1L 6C7

Communiquiez avec nous! Contact us!

 Mona.Fortier@parl.gc.ca

 613-998-1860

 MonaFortier.libparl.ca

 @EquipeTeamMona

 @MonaFortier

 @MonaFortier



From Councillor King's Desk

City staff spent countless hours developing a financial plan designed to increase transit affordability, respond to climate change, conserve our environment, and enhance community safety. Consequently, I supported several measures in this budget, including a transit fare freeze, as well as free transit for children aged eight to 12, an annual \$5-million commitment to implement the City's climate change plan, and \$52 million in new climate investments. The budget also included measures to hire 14 new paramedics to improve ambulance service response as well as an additional \$1.5 million for affordable housing, creating \$16.5 million in total funding for capital investments in housing this fiscal year.

As Council Liaison for Anti-Racism and Ethnocultural Relations Initiatives, I am pleased that \$400,000 is being allocated for equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives, including adopting the City's Anti-Racism Strategy, Women and Gender Equity initiatives and improving

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Indigenous relations.

Some local investments in Rideau-Rockcliffe included \$1.8 million to design the Jeffery Avenue-Arundel Avenue-Farnham Crescent integrated road, water and sewer project, which is part of a \$12.4-million investment. The budget will allocate \$440,000 to replace or rehabilitate parks, recreation and cultural facilities, which will include improvements to the Lindenlea Community Centre.

Since Budget 2023 is a transitional “placeholder” plan, I supported the budget overall, with the expectation of a substantive change for future budgets in the 2022-2026 Council Term. Based upon numerous public consultations on the budget and resident correspondence, it will be my continued goal to advocate and secure more dollars for affordable housing, parks and infrastructure investments for the Ward.

Rawlson King
City Councillor, Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward 13

From Parliament Hill

Dear Residents,

Hope you are well and have taken the opportunity to enjoy the pleasures of winter by snowshoeing, cross-country skiing or talking a promenade on our winter urban trails. Finally, Spring is upon us!

On March 8, we celebrated International Women's Day to recognize past and present women's contributions within our community. Gender equality is still an unachieved goal. Parity between men and women has been maintained since 2015 in the Cabinet of Ministers. Moreover, the Liberal government launched the first Strategy for Women in Entrepreneurship, as well as an investment of \$660 million for the prevention of violence against women. In honour of this day, I launched a recognition award for exceptional women and girls of Ottawa-Vanier. Congratulations to the recipients: Marie-Caroline Badjeck, Pauline Baron, Irene Compton, Erica Groome, Antoinette Irarera, Fatimah Karim, Nancy Millson, Sheila Niven, Deborah Pierre and Kayla Spagnoli. You are an inspiration!

The month of February was also marked by an agreement in principle between our federal government and the government of Ontario which includes a federal investment of \$73.97 billion over 10 years, including \$8.41 billion for a new agreement focused on our four common health care priorities.

Since 2015, our government has stayed focused on making life more affordable for all Canadians. We have cut taxes for the middle class, created the Canada Child Benefit which has lifted 435,000 kids out of poverty, and cut childcare fees and created more affordable childcare spaces right across the country.

We know that times are tough for a lot of people in our community. The rising cost of living has made it more difficult for Canadians to pay their bills, put food on the table, or pay their rent.

This is why our Liberal government recently:

- Doubled the GST tax credit for 6 months;
- Permanently eliminated interest on Canada Student and Apprentice Loans;
- Introduced a new, quarterly Canada Workers Benefit;
- Created the Canada Dental Benefit for kids under 12; and
- Introduced a \$500 top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit for lower-income renters.

I want to highlight that the Canada Dental Benefit, which delivers payments of up to \$1,300 over two years for children under 12, came into effect on December 1st, 2022. Learn more about the Canada Dental Benefit and how to apply at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/dental-benefit.html>. I, along with my Liberal colleagues, will continue our work to make life more affordable and build an economy that works for all Canadians.

Since it's tax season, you are invited to a free tax clinic organized by my team and that of our MPP, Lucille Collard. The dates are March 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and April 22 also from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 237 Montreal Road. To book an appointment, please call 613-744-4484. If you would like a paper copy to complete your taxes, we have copies at our office (233 Montreal Road).

I am working hard for residents of Ottawa-Vanier, to understand your needs and respond with programs and funding that will provide meaningful support.

Keep in touch with me and share how we can continue to work together to make life more affordable for us all.

Hon. Mona Fortier
Member of Parliament, Ottawa-Vanier

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From Queen's Park

I am proud to be entering my fourth year as your Member of Provincial Parliament. As the challenges we face accumulate, it is clear to us that we need to do things differently, especially in the areas that affect residents of Lindenlea: enhancing seniors' care, addressing mental health and addictions gaps, building up a robust health care system and making sure housing is affordable for all. Working together is the key to finding solutions to these growing challenges.

I meet daily with representatives of organizations, and I attend many local events, which allows me to hear directly about the challenges faced by different groups: residents, professionals, merchants, and others. This feedback helps shape the focus of my work. I take these concerns and meet with partners from all levels of government and different parties to help develop an effective plan for addressing them. Though sometimes difficult, I am committed to this collaborative strategy. And the successes I've had using this approach has encouraged me not to give up! For example, I was recently successful in receiving all-party support at Queen's Park to introduce Bill 41 to protect survivors of human trafficking from the consequences of coerced debt.

We can achieve incredible things by working together; consultation leads to listening, listening to understanding, understanding to action and action to results. I wish you all the best as you discover new opportunities for collaboration that can help you achieve the goals you hold dear.





Lucille Collard
MPP / Députée Ottawa-Vanier

Here to help!
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Contact us / Contactez-nous :
237 ch. Montréal Rd. Ottawa, ON K1L 6C7
613-744-4484
Lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Lucillecollard.onmpp.ca

Hon. Lucille Collard
MPP, Ottawa-Vanier

Bus #17 from Wateridge Village

Motion Accelerates Possible Revival of Bus Route Despite Cuts

Ottawa City Council passed a motion on March 1st directing OC Transpo to assess the financial feasibility of restoring bus #17 from Wateridge Village to downtown Ottawa and Gatineau. Proposed by Councillor Rawlson King following city budget deliberations, the motion was in response to King's opposition to cuts to transit's capital budget. Noting that "permanent cuts to OC Transpo have been detrimental to bus and ParaTranspo service levels", King's motion specifically directs OC Transpo staff to assess the feasibility of restoring "that peak-period, peak-direction transit service to Wateridge Village based on the current population, current and future rates of transit ridership, and funding within the approved 2023 transit operation budget."

"The motion directs staff to work with my office to confirm the financial feasibility of the proposed new service and subsequently to confirm implementation" he added.

Darren Kipp, of the Wateridge Village Community Association, said that the WVCA provided much of the statistics and rationale for the motion, which is linked to the Village's Secondary Plan. The Plan requests the city to seek the establishment of early service agreements with developers to ensure transit service is provided in advance of when service would typically meet city financial performance levels. "When the #17 service was cancelled, travel time to key locations for Wateridge Village residents became two to three times longer, requiring multiple transfers, and longer walking distances," Kipp said. "There is obviously still an "out" in the feasibility wording, but the ask for the 17 is fairly small so we are quite encouraged", Kipp added.

Tanya Allem, President of the Lindenlea Community Association supports the efforts of Co. King and the WVCA. She said she "hopes the study/review can be done expeditiously, so that service can be improved as soon as possible. We are extremely concerned about the lack of public transit along Beechwood, particularly in our urban community where traffic is already extremely congested" Allem added.

Since the service was temporarily cancelled in 2020, the number of completed dwellings in Wateridge has approximately doubled from 360 to 720, including 48 affordable housing units. There are more than 585 units under construction, including 271 affordable units with an additional 378 units having received site plan approvals.

The #17 bus route operated from 2018-2020, but was "temporarily cancelled" due to low ridership during the pandemic. Jason Tavoularis, of the NECA emphasized that the return of the bus would reduce car traffic along Beechwood during peak periods. "This direct-to-downtown bus option would be useful to commuting to schools and offices" he added in a recent email.

John Leefe

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LCA Board meetings take place virtually on the second Thursday of every month and are open to all residents. Please contact lindenleacommunitycentre@gmail.com to receive a meeting link if you would like to join us.

Upcoming meeting dates:

May 11 • Jun 08 • Sep 14 • Oct 12 • Nov 09



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If you would like to join the Lindenlea listserv (an email service which goes out to over 900 people in our community) please contact John Verdon at johnverdon@gmail.com and ask to be put on the list.



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