

The Lindenleader

Newsletter of the Lindenlea Community Association Winter-Spring 2024

Celebrating Winter and Welcoming Spring



Winter in Lindenlea was nothing short of fabulous, with our community coming together to enjoy a variety of events and activities. We skated on the Lindenlea rink, engaged in family day festivities, and participated in fitness classes and kids' activities. There was something for everyone to enjoy.

A particularly exciting addition to our after-school programming was the introduction of kids' art classes and Lego classes, both of which were met with enthusiasm from our young residents. We're thrilled to announce that these programs will continue into the spring, offering ongoing opportunities for creative expression and imaginative play.

Looking ahead, we have a lineup of exciting spring events to anticipate. Our annual Spring Egg Hunt promises to be a delight for children and families alike, while our neighborhood clean-up initiative reaffirms our commitment to keeping Lindenlea beautiful and vibrant. Furthermore, we're excited to announce the return of some fantastic classes to the community centre, catering to various interests and age groups. For more information about these upcoming events and programs, be sure to visit our website at Lindenlea.ca.

As we transition from the winter chill to the freshness of spring, let's continue to embrace the sense of community and togetherness that makes Lindenlea truly special.

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.

Family Day

We had a great time celebrating Family Day at the community centre this year! We decorated cupcakes, made some crafts, coloured pictures and enjoyed a visit from Zoo Crew. Over 100 kids attended with their families and enjoyed the day. A big thank you to our volunteers who helped with setup, replenishing the cupcake decorating supplies, clean up and crowd control.



Thank You Hosers!

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible volunteers who made our community ice rink a resounding success this year. Despite facing numerous challenges posed by unpredictable weather fluctuations, our dedicated team persevered. Our ice rink was in pristine condition, when the weather allowed, and people of all ages enjoyed skating and playing hockey.

A special note of appreciation goes out to Jeff Murray and Geoff Truman whose unwavering dedication and tireless efforts ensured that the ice remained in top-notch condition. Of course, our gratitude extends to all of our hosers who volunteered their time and energy. Each contribution played a vital role in the success of our community ice rink. The effort put into the rink kept the spirit of winter alive and created lasting memories for us all. We look forward to seeing everyone skating again next year!



From Councillor King's Office

As part of the more than \$50 million earmarked for infrastructure investments in Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward in the 2024 City Budget, I am pleased to announce that road resurfacing will be funded for Rideau Terrace from Springfield Road to Acacia Avenue in Lindenlea.

I am also pleased that my office worked cooperatively with the Lindenlea Community Association in early January 2024 to achieve the removal of two 50 km/h speed zone signs in front of St. Brigid School on Springfield Road between Rockcliffe Way and Lindenlea Road. Working in conjunction with the Association, my office also secured the removal of 50 km/h signs on Springfield Road between Lindenlea Road and Rideau Terrace. In terms of traffic calming, I will continue to investigate new measures, including the installation of thermoplastic road decals, to increase motorist awareness of the school zone.




Rawlson King

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Regarding no stopping signs in the school zone, the City's traffic department has advised that the east side of Springfield Road was changed because of the introduction of the new cycling lane to "No Stopping Anytime". There were no changes to the "No Stopping, 7 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday" regulation along the west side and these signs will remain in place. With the installation of the new Springfield Road cycling lane, which is in accord with the City's Complete Streets Policy, parking enforcement has now come into full effect. It is important to remember that absolutely no parking or stopping will be permitted in the cycling lane at any time and that those restrictions will be enforced through By-law Enforcement Services. It is my intention to have flex stakes installed as temporary traffic calming measures, where permissible, along the Springfield Road cycling lane in Spring 2024.

Concerning the Lindenlea Community Centre, my office was informed by City staff that the construction vendor tendering process for backyard improvements are complete. Alongside the community, I am ultimately looking forward to construction so that Lindenlea residents can enjoy the proposed enhancements.

As always, you can contact my office by email at rideaurockcliffeward@ottawa.ca or by phone at 613-580-2483. Please subscribe to my newsletter at www.rideau-rockcliffe.ca.

Rawlson King

City Councillor, Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward 13



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Forever in Our Hearts

Reflecting on the bond with our pets

There are lots of advantages to owning a dog, many that we were keenly aware of when we welcomed Kelsie, our Sheltie, into our family over 14 years ago. Dog owners enjoy an addition that is far more effective than any exercise equipment you could ever buy, and owning a dog brings you a near guarantee of unconditional love and round-the-clock company. As such, the positive mental health and physical health effects of dog ownership are undisputed.

What we didn't realize, however, was how important owning a dog could be when you move to a new neighborhood, and in our case, a new country. Six years ago my wife and I landed in Canada from the United States. We chose to live in Lindenlea and settled in Champlain Towers with Kelsie. We did not know a soul. Happily, Kelsie turned out to be a terrific ambassador. It was rare indeed not to be greeted by a neighbor (and often their dog) as we explored the lovely areas of Lindenlea, Rockcliffe Park, and New Edinburgh. Chance encounters would often turn into more frequent ones, and brief conversations sometimes evolved into

extended conversations. Within a relatively short period of time, we cultivated a new set of acquaintances and friends. Quite a few of our social interactions occurred before we even got out of our building, with many of our immediate neighbors making small talk with questions and comments about Kelsie. And there were some bonus benefits as well. Those first few weeks, on our rather extensive walks, we often got lost, and could find our way home easily by the simple equation of recognizing that whenever Kelsie resisted the direction we would take at an intersection, that this was the direction to get home (she did love her walks!). Another advantage to having Kelsie at our side was noted when we crossed the border into the United States via our frequent trips to Upstate New York. Crossing the border was always a breeze, and I am convinced that when a border guard notices a couple with a cute Shetland Sheepdog offering a wagging tail...well let's just say any thought of us being some kind of security risk probably goes by the wayside.

On January 2nd Kelsie died at the age of 14 years 7 months. We were (and still are) heartbroken. But gratitude accompanies this grief. Not just for what Kelsie gave us, but for what so many of YOU gave us through your interactions with Kelsie. They say that a barometer of one's kindness can be measured through the smiles one gives to an animal. If this is true, then the people of Lindenlea are filled with big and warm hearts. How lucky the three of us have been to have settled in Lindenlea. Thank you for being so nice to Kelsie, and by extension, to us.

Ralph Hesse





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Spring RPL Soccer

We are excited to announce the upcoming soccer program for children from Kindergarten to Grade 6. Our program will take place on Saturday mornings at the Rockcliffe Park Public School Field. The JK-to-SK group will start at 9 am followed by the first, second and third graders at 10 am and kids in grades three to six will play at 11 am. Our soccer program is run entirely by volunteers, so we encourage parents to come forward and sign up to coach to make this program a success. Every participant will receive a stylish RPL t-shirt in their team colour.

RPL soccer is not just about learning soccer, it is about teamwork, communication, building friendships and community. We look forward to seeing everyone back on the field for a season of fun and excitement!



Lindenlea Tennis

We are anxiously awaiting the start of tennis season.

As many of you might recall, our tennis courts were freshly painted late last year and they are looking fabulous. We can't wait to see everyone on the courts.

Tennis registration will open in late March and we will open the courts up as soon as possible.

Please visit our website www.lindenlea.ca, for more information or to register for your tennis membership.

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Lindenlea Butterflyway

I am very pleased to announce that Lindenlea joins the David Suzuki Foundation’s Butterflyway Project as of spring 2024, along with Manor Park and Vanier North.

The Butterflyway Project aims to establish pathways of gardens across Canada that nourish and shelter our local pollinators—birds, bats, and insects—that have evolved to depend on the trees, shrubs and plants that are native to our particular eco-region. Whether for food or shelter, our local pollinators require access to Ontario’s own native species. At a time when climate change and urban development have diminished the habitats our pollinators rely on, small, local initiatives to create gardens offering native greenery offer a ray of hope and an easy way to beautify and unite our community.

Nineteen neighbours, as well as the Lindenlea Community Centre, have agreed to be part of this project, and the David Suzuki Foundation has given me, as a volunteer, “Ranger” status. I get a T-shirt 😊 but more importantly access to training and support as we

develop our gardens. We have all agreed to add some native plants to our gardens, to avoid pesticides, and to leave some leaves and stalks for overwintering pollinators. You will see our signs in our gardens throughout the neighbourhood in May, and we are in the process of creating a local map for anyone who wants to stroll the pollinator pathway.

Stay tuned for an information session this spring at the Community Centre, led by the former Butterfly Ranger for New Edinburgh. If you would like to join our project or want more information, please contact me at esheehy@uottawa.ca. Bring on spring!

Elizabeth Sheehy

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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:
Apr 11 • May 09 • Jun 13



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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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