



COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER
RILEY BROCKINGTON

Councillor's Report



Carlington Community Association - November 17, 2020

Ottawa Public Library Studying Opportunities in Carlington

On November 3rd, the Ottawa Public Library Board unanimously approved the staff recommendation to 'explore library services in the Carlington community and direct staff to report back by Q3 2021'. This means that funds have been set aside in the OPL budget to undertake a gap analysis of current services, a growth study regarding future needs, and the identification of detailed facilities standards. Letters of support from the Central Park Community Association, Carlington Community Association, the Carlington Community Health Centre, Friends of Meadowvale Park, and Ottawa Community Housing was invaluable in convincing the board that Carlington can benefit from library services.

Identified in the top three of Ottawa's most at-risk neighbourhoods, Carlington is a priority area with a Community Development Framework (CDF) aimed at growing strong neighbourhoods. In the spring of 2020, the Recreation, Culture, and Facilities Services undertook a community consultation process to obtain input on the revitalization of the Alexander Community Centre (ACC). From that survey, 299 respondents indicated that having library services in the ACC would increase their use of the library. Clearly there is a need and great interest for library services in Carlington and the next several months will be an exciting venture.

Crossing Guard Now Active at Anna and Merivale Intersection

I am pleased to have secured the necessary funds to have a temporary crossing guard placed at the intersection of Anna Avenue and Merivale Road to assist school children and their parents/guardians crossing in either direction.

The crossing guard started on Monday, November 2, and will be posted at this location until the end of the current school year. Funds were secured from the Westgate Site Plan agreement. I will be pushing to acquire the necessary funds to make this crossing guard permanent at this location.

Farmside Green Development on Kingston Avenue

Construction has begun on the new housing development by RND Construction on Kingston Avenue at the rear of the Turnbull School property. The development is on an 80m stretch of vacant land (excess of the school property) at the southeast end of Kingston Ave. This land backs onto the Experimental Farm.

Residents may have recently seen some intermittent road closures to accommodate the connection to City services. The road closure was completed with input from Turnbull School.

The approved construction is for nine homes, consisting of three singles and six semi-detached.

Speed Humps Now Installed on Crerar Avenue

Two new speed humps have now been installed on Crerar Avenue. I have heard some feedback from local residents about the height of the speed humps and I have asked City staff to look into the matter.

In June, my office circulated a community notice for the proposed implementation of two speed humps on Crerar Avenue. This stems from a pilot project that I undertook last summer to introduce flex stakes in the middle of the street to help curb chronic speeding and cut-through traffic issues on Crerar Avenue. The flex stakes were deemed to be ineffective by residents but the problem persisted. Therefore, I led a community consultation seeking feedback for two speed humps which yielded the support of residents.

WiFi Hotspot

The city understands the need for Wi-Fi in neighbourhoods that are underserved especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. To that end, we are continuing to investigate permanent Wi-Fi at Alexander, Bellevue and Carlington community centres.

The good news is that thanks to the generosity of the Ottawa Public Library, hotspots have been made available at these three locations.

Committee of Adjustment Applications Approved at 71 (73) Stevenson Avenue

On November 4, the Committee of Adjustment approved two applications for the property at 71 (73) Stevenson Avenue.

The first application for Consent to subdivide the property into two separate parcels of land in order to construct two detached dwellings, with one dwelling on each of the newly created lots.

The second application for Minor Variances for reduced lot width and area for the construction of two detached dwellings with one dwelling on each of the newly created lots.

Hydro Pole Replacement on Merivale Road

Hydro Ottawa has notified my office about planned hydro pole replacement in 2021 on Merivale Road between Central Park Dr and Larose Ave. The proposed construction dates range from January 2021 to August 2021. Hydro Ottawa is proposing to install approximately 32 new poles and associated anchoring along Merivale Road including a new duct structure.

Distinctive Tree Removal

My office has been advised by Forestry Services that a 65cm Sugar Maple at 224 Crerar Avenue (near Merivale) has been approved for by the Forestry Department due to a foundation related issue.

Around Carlington

- 2021 will see a Project Charter created for the renovation and expansion of the Alexander Community Centre project. I expect in late 2021 some preliminary public consultations on some potential designs, based on extensive feedback received in early 2020.
- A main focus of mine in 2021 will be on improvements to Meadowdale Park with a list of playground equipment and other amenities renewed.
- I continue to work with Catherine McKenna's office and the NCC to preserve the Environmentally Protected lands in and around Carlington Park. I recently met with with Councillor Leiper, MP McKenna's staff, Ottawa Bylaw, Parks and Recreation and Public Works on some additional enforcement and signage to help the preservation.
- I attended two days of outreach in the Caldwell community with Ottawa Public Health, speaking with residents and handing out masks. Main issue that I heard from residents is social isolation.

- 2021 Budget hearings continue in November. I welcome and appreciate any and all feedback on local and city-wide priorities.

Carlington Pump Station Upgrade

Today, I received a brief update on the plan to upgrade the Carlington Pump Station. The main objective of the pump station upgrade is to improve the reliability of water supply to roughly one third of the City's central water distribution system, and to provide additional capacity needed to accommodate future urban growth. The project is identified in the City's current Infrastructure Master Plan however it has been delayed due to funding pressures.

The City of Ottawa is balancing the needs of all the pump stations requiring upgrades across the City, and at this time, Carlington is working well and servicing the community adequately. Nevertheless, the City would like to increase the reliability of our drinking water system by upgrading this station. It is a proactive approach, which will see an improvement in overall reliability, and a huge capacity increase to accommodate future growth in the City. Upgrades to this station are part of a larger, more comprehensive infrastructure plan to implement improvements to the overall drinking water system. There is no present risk to the serviceability of the drinking water system or to the public.

At this time, construction is expected to begin in late 2021.

Draft Budget 2021

The City's draft budget for 2021 was tabled at a special City Council meeting on Wednesday, November 4.

The draft budget includes a 3% increase to the municipal tax rate, which would see the average urban homeowner pay an additional \$115 per year.

COVID-19 has put financial pressure on the City, with staff projecting a \$59.6-million deficit this year. Council received a report the second-quarter status of [this year's budget](#), along with a year-end budget forecast. Although the City is currently in a good position with cash flow, a resurgence of COVID-19 could worsen cash flow and the projected deficit.

If you would like to attend an upcoming committee Meeting and speak to the committees on the 2021 City Budget, please send me an email at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca and my office will help get you on the speakers list.

2021 Budget Meeting Schedule Committee / Boards / Commissions

Environmental Protection, Water & Waste Management Committee	Nov 17
Transit Commission	Nov 18
Community & Protective Services Committee	Nov 19
Police Services Board	Nov 23
Audit Committee	Nov 24
Planning Committee	Nov 26
IT Sub-Committee	Nov 30
Ottawa Board of Health	Nov 30
Finance & Economic Development Committee	Dec 1
Ottawa Public Library Board	Dec 1
Transportation Committee	Dec 2
Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee	Dec 3

Other Draft Budget Highlights for Carlington:

- \$990,000 to repave Carling Avenue between Merivale Road and Melrose Avenue
- \$2.4 million to design the bus-rapid transit system on Baseline Road between Baseline and Heron stations and transit-priority measures between Bayshore and Baseline stations
- \$65,000 to replace the wading pool chamber at Raven Park
- Design road, sewer and watermain work on Carling Avenue between O-Train Line 2 and Bronson Avenue
- Install red light camera at Carling and Island Park Drive

Clothing Donation Boxes Public Survey

As part of the City's By-law Review Workplan, City staff are currently conducting a review of the Clothing Donation Box By-Law.

This review will examine the current regulations with respect to the operation of clothing donation boxes within the City of Ottawa. City staff will use the feedback from the public survey to help shape any future amendments to those regulations. The review will also examine best practices employed by other municipalities within Ontario and across the country. You can participate in the survey [HERE](#).



Ottawa Children's Storytelling Festival

27 different story tellers are participating in the Ottawa Public Library and Ottawa Storytellers joint **Ottawa Children's Storytelling Festival** currently underway. Between Nov 16-21 children can listen to different storytellers reading books online. Visit <https://bibliooottawalibrary.ca/en/kid-zone/storytelling-festival#tellers> for more info.

Register for your Letters to Santa Kit from the City of Ottawa Archives

This year, while we cannot get together in person at the City of Ottawa Archives due to COVID-19, the Letters to Santa program will continue. Register via email (Archives@Ottawa.ca) for a 'Letters to Santa Kit' by November 28. The kit includes activity sheets, paper crafts, letter writing supplies, a hot chocolate packet and links to a special online holiday story. (Note: One kit per child. Maximum 4 kits per family. Limited kits available.)

When you register, indicate which of the following pickup locations you would prefer:

- City of Ottawa Archives, James Bartleman Centre, 100 Tallwood Drive (corner of Woodroffe Avenue)
- Barbara Ann Scott Gallery, City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West (Lisgar Street Entrance)

Pick-up times for both locations are:

- Thursday, December 3, 2020 | 3 to 6 pm
- Saturday, December 5, 2020 | 11 am to 2 pm

Christmas Hampers and Toy Mountain Registration Open

In need of assistance this Christmas? To register for gifts for your children from Toy Mountain or a Christmas Food Hamper from the Caring and Sharing Exchange please call 2-1-1.

Sponsor a Hamper with the Caring and Sharing Exchange

The Caring and Sharing Exchange Sponsor-a-Hamper program matches you with a family in need in the community to provide food assistance for the holidays. Through this program, you discuss with the family what they need and put together a food hamper with all the fixings for a festive Christmas meal! Sponsors also arrange a date and time to deliver the hamper to the family. For more information and to register, visit CaringandSharing.ca.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, please consider arranging a porch drop when delivering your hamper, wearing a mask and sanitizing your hands before and after delivery.

Winter Road Maintenance and Repairs

With the upcoming winter upon us, I would like to remind residents that if you see any roads or potholes that require maintenance or repair, please contact 3-1-1 and then my office who will assist with arranging for additional maintenance and repairs with City Supervisors. If a City snow plow has caused any damage to your front grass, please let me know and we will arrange for grass repair

which typically occurs in the spring. I continue to push for budget allocation for road repair and renewal.

Recreation Services Returning

After reviewing the Ontario government's new orange-restrict regulations and ensuring all safety protocols are in place, the City is gradually restarting its recreation activities and services at its hub locations. The Province moved Ottawa from modified stage two restrictions to the new orange-restrict status on Saturday, November 7.

The start dates for the services are as follows:

- Weight and cardio rooms reopened on Saturday, November 14
- Kindergym drop-ins will resume on Monday, November 16
- Aquafitness will resume on Monday, November 23
- Nepean Seniors Centre and Churchill Seniors Centre will reopen on Monday, November 23
- Arena rentals can now resume for modified game play and scrimmages that avoid physical contact

The orange-restrict regulations also require:

- Physical distancing be increased to three metres in weight and cardio rooms and fitness classes
- A limit of 10 people per room indoors and 25 people outdoors for fitness activities
- Contact information for all patrons and participants
- A mask must be worn in the facility, except when engaged in athletic or physical activity

Access to most drop-in activities requires reservations in advance. Visit ottawa.ca/recreation for more information on activity offerings, locations, room rentals, reservations and all COVID-related protocols and restrictions. The modified Winter Recreation



Guide is now available online with registration beginning at 9pm, Tuesday, December 1.

COVID-19 Testing Locations Expanded

As of Monday, November 16, the COVID-19 Drive Thru Testing Site on Coventry Road was closed to allow for the relocation of the testing site to the NAC and City Hall Parking Garages. Registered residents will be required to drive to City Hall (Elgin Entrance) first to sign in and then drive to the NAC parking garage, one block north, to be tested. The new Drive Thru site is anticipated to open on Thursday, November 19.

In addition to the new drive thru site, there are a number of other locations available in the downtown core for residents to acquire a COVID test. You can get tested at the Centretown Community Health Centre (420 Cooper St.), the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (221 Nelson St.), and the Somerset West Community Health Centre (55 Eccles St.) Soon the McNabb Community Centre will also begin COVID19 testing, anticipated to open next week.

All COVID-19 testing sites require appointments in advance. For more information: <https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/shared-content/assessment-centres.aspx>

COVID-19 Vaccination Distribution Task Force With recent positive news coming from pharmaceutical companies of positive results in the COVID-19 vaccination trials, the City has created a COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force to address the complex issue of vaccination distribution.

This Task Force will develop a plan for vaccine distribution in Ottawa for the orderly and coordinated distribution of vaccines. This plan will include of vulnerable populations, and will include the development of an associated communications plan. The Task Force will also monitor developments and refine its planning in response to updates from senior levels of government, public health authorities, and pharmaceutical companies. This proactive work will ensure a timely and coordinated distribution plan is ready should vaccines become available. In the meantime, it is that all residents continue to adhere to local public health guidelines to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Do you receive my monthly e-newsletter?

Sign up to receive it directly to your inbox by sending me an email at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca

