## carlingtoncommunity.org



## Annual President Report 2021 (Sept 9, 2020 - May 25, 2021)

Again this year many of our pre-covid events were not possible including an in-person Annual General Meeting. However more than 50% of eligible Ottawa residents over the age of 18 have had at least one vaccination shot, which is encouraging news and eventually some of our pre-covid events may be resurrected. But Covid Safe events still continued in the fall of 2020 such as the Spooky Bingo and the Merry and Bright Tree Decorating Contest.

**Letters of Support** – In early 2019 the city launched the process to create a new official plan. The Carlington Community Association (CCA) joined with other associations to ask City Council to commit more money to build affordable housing and invest more in social services. See attached letters.

**Library Services** – The board also endorsed the use of the old gym in the Alexander Community Centre to be used by Ottawa Public Library for library services once the addition and renovation of the centre is complete. See attached letter.

**Carlington Community Health Services** – At the November 2020 General Meeting Suzanne Sorzi the Director of Health Promotion and Counselling at the CCHC presented an overview of the services provided by the Health Centre <u>Carlington Community Health Centre</u>

**COVID Relief** – The CCA contributed monies to the Caldwell Family Centre and the Carlington Community Chaplaincy to support their food programs during the lockdowns of 2020 and 2021

**Ottawa Mission Food** Truck – Members of the CCA have worked with Ottawa Community Housing and the Ottawa Mission Food Truck to give out over a 100 free meals every second and fourth Monday of the month at 1180 Shillington.

**Virtual Art Workshops** – The CCA engaged Derek McKinley of Sing Song Party Time for a 6 week Saturday morning virtual music and dancing sessions for adults and children. The CCA also provided funds and worked with the Carlington Community Development Framework Steering Committee and OBAK (Ottawa's Black Artist Kollective) for virtual art workshops for Carlington youth led by Jimmy Baptistel.

**Anti-discrimination Statement** – The Board of Directors created a written Anti-Discrimination statement to ensure the goals of the CCA to be inclusive are met.

**Volunteer Policy** – The Board of Directors developed a policy for volunteers who have ongoing volunteer activity within the Association understand what is expected of them. All board members, chairs of committees and communications people are expected to read the statement and sign it, which is kept for as long as the person volunteers for the association. For short term/ad hoc volunteers a volunteer waiver was created.

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**Committees** – A Traffic Calming Committee was formed in the fall of 2019 which is led by Nick Gagon. It provides a forum for addressing resident concerns, promotes ideas for traffic calming in Carlington, (i.e., reducing vehicle speed and frequency), and engages residents so that their opinions and concerns are acknowledged. Works closely with our City Councillor and the CCA. Email: traffic.calming@carlingtoncommunity.org

**Volunteer Rink Maintenance** – Many volunteers stepped up this year to help maintain the Alexander Sens rink and the rink was well used by Carlington residents to burn off energy and exercise.

**Official Plan Workshops** – Presentations were given by Robert Brinker, the Vice-President of the Federations of Citizens' Association on October 2, 2020 and February 11, 2021 on Ottawa's New Official Plan. <u>Official Plan</u>

**CBC Trailblazer Award 2020** Congratulations go out to Jon Ruby who is the creator of Carlington Booch who received a Trailblazer Award for his work in helping others find sobriety as he did himself in 2005. You can read his story on the CCA website <u>Jon Ruby</u>

**Three-way stop signs** – The CCA wrote a letter of support for Councillor Brockington to support the installation of a 3-way stop sign at Trent and Chevrier and one at Laperierre and McBride. These two corners were identified as unsafe for pedestrians, cyclists and cars during the Safety Audit walks conducted by the Safety Audit Committee in 2018.

**ByLaws** – A minor review of the bylaws was conducted by the Board and some updates have been made to make them clearer. These will be voted on at tonight's AGM

On a personal note this is my final year as President of the CCA. The CCA has grown and I would like to acknowledge many people who have made major contributions to the Carlington Community. Maggie Buttrum who was the inspiration for the Carlington Eras Mural and the Raven Park theatre event with A Company of Fools: Heather Douglas who attended the Safegrowth workshop which teaches CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) with me in 2019. She created a group – The Neighbours of Meadowvale Park who have adopted the park and transformed it into a welcoming place; Vivian Bierman, Sian Griffiths and Heather Darling who help with communications; the Darwins who take care of the Triangle at Carling and Merivale and make it a welcoming entrance into Carlington; Julia Da Silva who became Activities Chair; and last but not least past and present board members who mentored me, helped to write grants for events and programming, engaged in discussions to make a greener, safer, better Carlington: Tahani Adi, Kristen Bennett, Tara Beechey, Robert Brinker, Nelson Coyle, Anna Du Vent, Ahmed Elchamaa, David Hoey, Dave Janveau, Lisa Rossman, Adele Stubbert, Cathy Younger-Lewis, Melanie Zehab and my husband Philip Bartlett who willingly let me volunteer him for many tasks.

We were a Team!