



## **RIVER WARD CITY COUNCILLOR MARIA McRAE'S REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE PARK COMMUNITY AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION March 9, 2011**

### **Bank Street CDP Open House**

Thank you to the residents of Riverside Park who participated in the Bank Street CDP Open House on February 16, 2011. Thank you also to the RPCRA representative, Jeff Atkinson.

### **Festivals in Riverside Park**

The following festivals are expected to take place in Mooney's Bay Park this year:

MEC Paddle Fest (May)  
Canoe for Kids (June)  
Ottawa Dragon Boat Race (June)  
HOPE Volleyball (July)  
Ottawa Kids Triathlon (July)  
National Capital Triathlon (July)  
Carleton U fall orientation (September)  
Winners Walk of Hope (September)  
Ottawa Mission "Big Pull" (September)  
Canadian Triathlon (September)

### **Bus Route Optimization**

OC Transpo is undertaking a review of bus routes in the city to optimize the transit system. OC Transpo will make recommendations to the City's Transit Commission on March 23, 2011. Following a period of public consultation, transit route changes will be finalized at the April 20, 2011 meeting of the Transit Commission.

## **Registration for Spring and Summer Recreation Programs**

Just in time to take everyone's minds off the snow-filled days of winter, the City of Ottawa is launching its new line-up of recreation programs for spring and summer. From swimming to yoga and from visual arts to basketball, the City provides an impressive selection of programs for all ages, including Summer Day Camps at affordable prices and convenient locations.

Program listings can currently be viewed online or picked up as of March 3 at neighbourhood recreation facilities, Client Service Centres, public libraries and participating retail outlets while supplies last. For a complete listing of sites where the Recreation Guide and *Mon Guide francophone* can be obtained, please visit the City of Ottawa website at [ottawa.ca/recreation](http://ottawa.ca/recreation). As part of the City's efforts to reduce costs on printing, learn to swim programs will not be included in the printed Recreation Guide. I encourage you to view the listings online at [ottawa.ca/swim](http://ottawa.ca/swim) or to visit a pool in their area to obtain more information.

### ***Registration***

- Registration for swimming and aquafitness programs began March 7 at 10 pm for **Online/Touch Tone** and March 8 during regular business hours for **In person**.
- Registration for all other programs starts March 9 at 10 pm for **Online/Touch Tone** and March 10 during regular business hours for **In person**.

I encourage you to use the City's online registration system to help avoid line-ups and save time. You will need a Personal Identification Number (Account PIN) to identify your family account as well as a Client Barcode for each family member. A PIN can be obtained by visiting a local recreation facility, Client Service Centre, or calling the touch-tone registration system at 613-580-2588 (Monday to Friday, 7am to 7pm).

## **2011 Civic Events Funding Applications**

Local not-for-profit organizations, such as volunteer-based community or recreation associations, are invited to apply for funding to provide one-to-two-day civic events that foster civic pride, develop community cohesion and offer free admission. The City's Civic Events Fund supports events linked to and celebrating a civic or statutory holiday, are held in Ottawa and encompass a broad range of activities, including family entertainment.

***Maximum Allocation: \$3,000***

***Application Deadline: March 23, 2011***

Program guidelines and application forms are available at [ottawa.ca](http://ottawa.ca) or by visiting City of Ottawa Client Service Centres. For more information contact 613-580-2424, ext. 26459 or e-mail: [rec-info@ottawa.ca](mailto:rec-info@ottawa.ca).

**2011 'Paint It Up!' Mural Program**

Following the success of the Paint It Up! program in 2010, the City of Ottawa's Public Works Department and Crime Prevention Ottawa (CPO) announced that they are launching the program for 2011.

The Paint It Up! program was established in the fall of 2009 as an enhancement to the City's Graffiti Management Strategy. The program promotes graffiti prevention and neighbourhood beautification through engaging community groups and at-risk youth in the development of murals in areas experiencing a high incidence of graffiti vandalism.

The following public information sessions will be held on the Paint It Up! program. I encourage anyone interested in applying to register for an information session by calling 613-580-2424 ext. 22454.

***Wednesday, March 9***

***1:30-3:30 p.m.***

***City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West***

***2nd Floor, Colonel By Room***

***Thursday, March 10***

***6-8 p.m.***

***Nepean Sportsplex, Room D***

***1701 Woodroffe Avenue***

Applications for Paint It Up! funding are available at the Crime Prevention Ottawa website or by calling 613-580-2424 ext. 22454. The deadline to apply is April 8, 2011.

## **Integrated Road Safety Program (IRSP)**

### **February Initiative**

Drivers who are **distracted with electronic hand-held devices** or **making unsafe lane changes** have the full attention of the **City's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)** in **February**.

**Between 2007 and 2009, driver distraction** was either **fully or partially the cause of 5,800 traffic collisions in Ottawa**. These collisions resulted in **seven deaths** and **1,952 injuries (81 of them serious)**.

**Unsafe lane changing** is also a serious issue. In **2009 alone, 1,162 reportable collisions occurred on Ottawa roads due to unsafe lane changes** – resulting in **142 injuries (three were life-threatening)** and **one fatality**.

### **March Initiative**

**Ottawa Police** will be **weighing-in on heavy vehicles, unsafe vehicles and speeders** as part of the **City's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)** for **March**.

In **2009, 150 reportable collisions** on Ottawa roadways involved **unsafe vehicles** – resulting in **31 injuries, three were life-threatening**. **Causes of these collisions included: defective brakes, steering, tires, lights, engine controls, trailer hitches, suspension, as well as obscured vision**.

The focus of this initiative will also include **heavy vehicle inspections**. These inspections will be done to **ensure: compliance with weight restrictions, that loads are properly secured, and that heavy vehicles are not being driven on restricted load roadways**. **Properly maintained documentation, certificates and logs** will also be **verified**.

**Speeding** is also a major **cause of collisions** on Ottawa roads. In **2009, speeding or driving too fast for road and weather conditions resulted in 3,454 reportable collisions**. The toll of speed-related collisions was **15 deaths** and **1,002 injuries – 43 were serious**.