



RIVER WARD CITY COUNCILLOR MARIA McRAE'S REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE PARK COMMUNITY June 4, 2014

City Councillor Maria McRae's Annual Strawberry Social for River Ward Seniors

Date: Friday, June 20, 2014

Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre
3320 Paul Anka Drive
Bus Routes 87 and 146

Entertainment Provided by Mike Fahey
Refreshments
Door Prizes
Seniors Information Booth

Please call 613-580-2486 to reserve your ticket(s).

70th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy – Remembering Their Sacrifice

Seventy years ago on June 6, 1944, Canadian and Allied troops stormed the beaches of Normandy. Triumph in the Normandy campaign changed the course of the Second World War and ensured victory in Europe, but it came at a terrible cost of many lives lost.

As we mark the 70th Anniversary of D-Day, let us pause for a moment and show gratitude to these brave troops and remember their sacrifice. We owe our freedom to these heroic Canadians.



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Victoria Day Fireworks – A Tremendous Success

Thank you to the Riverside Park Community and Recreation Association and to all volunteers who worked hard to ensure that our community enjoyed a wonderful display of fireworks at Mooney's Bay Beach to celebrate Victoria Day. Although not yet officially open, a big thanks and warm River Ward welcome to the Beach House Bistro who brought in refreshments and fired up the BBQ for everyone to enjoy.

It was great to see so many residents and visitors, including my parents, enjoying the evening. Congratulations!

Give Away Weekend – June 7 and 8, 2014

One person's trash is another's treasure! Set your gently used items out at the curb on June 7 and 8, 2014 for the **Spring Give Away Weekend**. Tour your neighbourhood and city to find hidden treasures. Place stickers or signs on items with the word "FREE." Please visit my website for more details.

Doors Open Ottawa 2014

The City of Ottawa is proud to present Doors Open Ottawa, a free annual event that celebrates our community's built heritage. On June 7 and 8 2014, visit over 100 of the city's historically, culturally, and functionally significant buildings. Please visit my website for more information.

Free Wi-Fi at the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre

Wi-Fi access is now available at the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre thanks to a five-year sponsorship agreement between the City of Ottawa and IceNet Wireless.

Important Community Gathering Places – Investing in River Ward Parks

Parks in every neighbourhood in River Ward will receive improvements over the summer ranging from a gazebo to trees to play structures and benches and picnic tables. Thanks to residents for providing their input as to your priorities and for attending planning meetings for parks receiving larger infrastructure.

Please feel free to contact me for an update about a park near you.

Italian Week – Settimana Italiana 2014: June/Giugno 5 -15, 2014

Italian Week in Ottawa is marking its 40th Anniversary this year celebrating the rich diversity of our Italian-Canadian community, culture, food, and music. There are many activities for all ages to enjoy. Please visit www.ItalianWeekOttawa.org for more information. Come out and enjoy all things Italian!

Take it Back! Keep Household Hazardous Waste out of the Landfill

The City of Ottawa is committed to helping residents dispose of their waste in the safest and most environmentally-friendly way and reminds residents that some of the waste in garages, basements and sheds is hazardous and cannot be safely left at the curb for pickup.

Household hazardous waste includes items such as:

- Aerosol containers
- Batteries (automotive/household)
- Propane cylinders
- Fluorescent bulbs/tubes
- Fire extinguishers
- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Needles and syringes
- Pharmaceuticals
- Paints and coatings
- Pool chemicals

Residents can safely dispose of many kinds of household hazardous waste, including fluorescent bulbs, batteries, paint and oil, by returning them to participating local retailers during their regular business hours. For a list of retailers who accept returns of HHW, please visit ottawa.ca.

Residents can also take HHW to a one-day depot on Sunday, June 8, 2014 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the BFI landfill in Navan (3354 Navan Road).

Baseball Field at the Ottawa Stadium Available for Community Rental

The Ottawa Stadium field is available for rent until September, 2014, providing community teams and organizations with a unique opportunity to play at this big-league facility.

The field is available during daylight hours at rates of \$37.55 per hour for minor leagues, \$110.50 per hour for adult leagues, and \$116 per hour for commercial leagues.

The field and parking lot are centrally located and available for rent by sports clubs, community organizations, and private or commercial groups by contacting City Wide Allocations, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at 613-580-2595, by email at sports@ottawa.ca, or in-person on the first floor of Ben Franklin Place (101 CentrepoinTE Drive).

More information, including specific field information and available amenities, can be found on ottawa.ca. Casual bookings will be done on a first-come, first-served basis.

Baseline Road Resurfacing

Baseline Road is being resurfaced from Prince of Wales Drive to Woodroffe Avenue this summer. Work will occur during off-peak traffic hours during the week, and to expedite the construction schedule, work will also be done during the week, overnight, between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. Some weekend work is also anticipated.

This project will improve transportation across this important corridor and is scheduled to be completed by the end of September.

Lansdowne Park – A Generational Transformation

The next few months will see a significant transformation of Lansdowne Park from a construction site to a public destination. The revitalization of Lansdowne will include the refurbishment of the stadium and Civic Centre, creation of a large urban park and construction of a mixed-use area that includes shops, offices and residences. The new Lansdowne will:

- Revitalize the existing stadium and arena for sports and entertainment events;
- Stand as the model of modern-day innovation in an urban form where people can go to walk, cycle, shop, enjoy a good meal, be entertained, work, live, and play in an environment respectful of our architectural heritage;
- Reflect the objectives and guidelines articulated in the City of Ottawa's Official Plan; and
- Embrace the Rideau Canal, with new, expanded green space.

The stadium is the first component of the revitalized Lansdowne and will open in July. The urban park will open later this summer and the retail and residential buildings will start to open in the late fall.

Ottawa Fire Services Will be Knocking on Doors June 2–9, 2014

Ottawa Fire Services (OFS) firefighters will be out in the community during the first week of June to encourage residents to install, test and ensure that smoke alarms in their homes are operating.

This will be the first of two eight-day blitzes OFS had planned for 2014 as part of its annual Wake Up! campaign. The second blitz is to take place in September.

During this period, homes throughout the city will receive visits from firefighters. The Ontario Fire Code requires homes to have a working smoke alarm on each floor.

Homeowners who need new or additional smoke alarms will be given information on how to acquire an alarm rebate through the website safetathome.ca. Homeowners who do not have any working smoke alarms may have one immediately installed for them, or be provided with new batteries.

Visits will take place between 6 and 8 p.m. on weekdays and between 2 and 4 p.m. on weekends. Firefighters will be in uniform and residents are not obligated to provide them access to their home. This is a courtesy call only.

Subdivisions built in the last five years are less likely to receive visits. If no one is home when OFS comes calling, fire safety information will be left in the mailbox.

Firefighters visit Ottawa homes in this manner year round and have been doing so since the Wake Up! program began in 2005. For more information about smoke alarms and Ottawa Fire Services, visit ottawa.ca.

Spring 2014 Community Safety & Crime Prevention Update

Community Safety and Crime Prevention

I have hosted many community walkabouts and meetings with residents and the Ottawa Police Service, City staff and Neighbourhood Watch groups to discuss community safety and crime prevention. If you would like me to host a community walkabout in your neighbourhood or host a meeting with your local Neighbourhood Watch, or if you would like to know if your neighbourhood has a Watch, please contact my office.

Safer Roads Program

The City of Ottawa and the Police work closely with other stakeholders to ensure that Ottawa's roads are safe for all of us. The Safer Roads Program is a community partnership that uses a combination of engineering, education and enforcement to improve traffic safety. Our team is committed to preventing or eliminating road deaths and serious injuries for all Ottawa residents.

Speeding Concerns

In response to community concerns about speeding, speed boards are available for exclusive deployment throughout our Ward. Data from these boards is provided to the Police for their review and subsequent consideration of proactive enforcement. City Traffic engineering staff and the Police are aware of common "hot spots" and please be sure to follow-up with me if you would like to have your street assessed for the use of a speed board. I have arranged for the deployment of the boards year round.

"Zero Tolerance" Campaign

My office works closely with the community, City Traffic staff and the Police to identify areas that may be appropriate for "Zero Tolerance" campaigns, which focus on periods of proactive enforcement in a specific area to address traffic safety concerns. Last fall, in response to community concerns, a portion of Prince of Wales Drive was designated a "Zero Tolerance" area. This spring, a section of Hunt Club Road is being assessed for a "Zero Tolerance" campaign.

Making the Right Call

You are my ears and eyes in our community. It is important to make the right call if you notice something suspicious or if you witness a crime in progress or want to report other issues such as speeding or stop sign running:

911: Life-Threatening Emergency or Crime in Progress.

613-230-6211: Other emergencies.

311 or ottawa.ca: Request a by-law officer, report graffiti, etc.

613-236-1222 or TTY: 613-760-8100: Report traffic safety issues (speeding, stop sign running, etc.), theft, property damage, missing person or stolen vehicle, Community Police Centres and all other enquiries. In some cases, you may want to consider filing a report online at ottawapolice.ca or try the new app, also available on the Police website.

Safer Roads Ottawa Program

June 2014 Initiatives

The City of Ottawa and the Ottawa Police Service's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) will focus on **impaired driving** and **construction zones** for the month of June as part of the Safer Roads Program.

Impaired Driving

Between 2008 and 2012, there were 1,786 collisions involving motorcycles who were impaired. These collisions resulted in 776 injuries and 28 fatalities.

Construction Zones

In Ottawa, between 2007 and 2011, 981 collisions occurred in construction zones resulting in 212 injuries, nine of which were serious. Four construction workers were actually struck and injured on the job by a motorist.

March and April 2014 Initiatives and Results

The City of Ottawa and the Ottawa Police Service's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) focused on **distracted driving, unsafe lane changes, school bus/school zone safety** and **cycling safety** during the months of March and April, resulting in 1115 charges being laid, 406 for distracted driving, 169 for unsafe lane changes, 409 for school bus/school zone safety, and 131 for cycling safety.

The Safer Roads Ottawa Program is a leading community partnership between Ottawa Fire Services, Ottawa Paramedic Service, Ottawa Police Service, Ottawa Public Health and the Public Works Department committed to preventing or eliminating road deaths and serious injuries for all people in the City of Ottawa, through culture change, community engagement, and development of a sustainable safe transportation environment.

Also participating in the Safer Roads Ottawa Program are the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Sureté du Québec, Department of National Defence's Military Police and Gatineau Police Service to improve road safety for all residents of the national capital region.

Your Strong Voice at City Hall

As always, I appreciate hearing from you and encourage you to keep in touch with me as it allows me to serve you better. It is an honour and a privilege being your strong voice at City Hall.