



Community emphasis on safety first

Residents of Lowertown showed that they are very concerned about safety and security in their community. On Monday, January 15 it was standing room only as more than 50 people braved the cold weather to attend a Lower-town Community Association (LCA) meeting on safety and security.

The purpose of the meeting/workshop was to engage people in a discussion of the key issues affecting residents of Lowertown. According to a report by the Community Police Service, from 2016 to 2017



John Chenier

Lowertown residents listen to reports from focus groups.

five main topics of concern to the community:

- Bylaw Enforcement
- Crime Prevention
- Liquor Licensing
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Sexual Assault

Residents assigned themselves to focus groups associated with the five main topics of concern. Each group was assisted by an expert resource person from a relevant organization, who led the residents in an informal round-table discussion and helped them identify their issues and concerns. After the allotted time, each group decided

on three main issues for which they would consider strategies and/or actions needed to help address the issues. Once this task was completed, the meeting reassembled and each focus group presented their three main issues and outcomes for the other groups to consider.

The Bylaw Enforcement participants noted a great frustration because responses to complaints about establishments violating the noise bylaws were slow and ineffective. There are several bars /restaurants in the Byward Market under review for possible violations of the bylaw, but little is

known about the violators or the expected outcomes.

The Crime Prevention participants listed a number of issues: drug use (including discarded needles) and dealing; an increased number of injection sites leading to the possibility of more dealing and other related criminal activity; fear of personal safety while walking down certain streets; vagrancy, homelessness and sex work; and break-ins to homes and cars.

The Liquor Licensing participants mentioned that the transferability of bar/restaurant licenses made it easy for owners to change the original purpose of licensed facilities, resulting in lengthened hours of operation. The group felt there was inadequate tracking of infractions.

The Neighbourhood Watch participants considered ways to improve safety in Lowertown communities and streets, and increase personal safety and reduce break-ins by encouraging neighbours to be aware of and look out for each other.

Continued on Page 2

A flaneur's paradise:

The cafes of Lowertown

Everywhere, from the teahouses of Nepal to the espresso bars of Italy, the neighbourhood cafe has a humble but important role in daily life. The explosion of interest in coffee beverages over the past twenty years has led to a proliferation of new cafes across Canada, mainly franchise operations catering to the demand for coffee to go.

formers such as Bruce Cockburn and Joni Mitchell, and Cafe Wim, a bohemian hub for students and intellectuals.

Both closed long ago, but today Lowertown has an impressive variety of independent cafes offering residents and visitors eclectic menus, a unique ambience, and in some cases entertainment.

The Usual Suspects

The two Tim Hortons locations in Lowertown, at 99 Rideau and 360 St. Patrick at King Edward, are strictly take-out operations with no seating area. Starbucks has a Lowertown presence at 47 Rideau inside Chapters. Canada's response to the Starbucks phenomenon, Second Cup, is located at 224 Dalhousie Street and caters mainly to students, with a large seating area offering views of the busy street life on Dal-

housie and Rideau streets. The Ottawa-based coffee chain Bridgehead, which offers fair-trade coffee, has a location at 224 Dalhousie, with seating in an environment that curiously blends homey and institutional decor.

The Home Away from Home

Bluebird Coffee at 261 Dalhousie epitomizes the traditional neighbourhood cafe. Coffee fragrance from the micro-roaster wafts through the large and welcoming salon. Patrons can recline in the comfortable armchairs arranged around a large low round table looking out on Dalhousie Street, or hold meetings at a nearby high table. The Bluebird is very much a community hub, with posters on cultural and arts

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By
Peter Gould

Lowertown was once home to Cafe Le Hibou, a folk-music mecca for talented per-



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Development activity in Lowertown East

There are two development proposals on Rideau Street that have the potential to improve the appearance of Uptown Rideau (Rideau east of King Edward Avenue), add some new vitality to Lowertown East and enhance property values. The first of these is at Rideau and Chapel Street. The second is at Rideau and Cobourg.

The project at Rideau and Chapel is being led by Trinity Developments. It was initially approved by the Ontario Municipal Board and the City at the end of March 2016. The project will consist of a retail complex and two twenty- five-storey residential towers. There will be underground parking for both the retail complex and the residential towers via Beausoleil Drive.

Since the initial approval, Trinity, a retail-development specialist with retail complexes across Canada, has been trying to recruit new partners to build the residential towers because the original partners withdrew as the condo market softened in 2015 and 2016. In the meantime, Trinity has asked the City to extend the approval for its

plans for the site into 2019 to allow it to complete the recruitment process.

The second project involves the construction of an apartment building at the northeast corner of Rideau and Cobourg. The site is presently occupied by a house,

By
Peter Ferguson

the original part of which dates from the early 1870s. The developer, the Chenier Group, is committed to staying strictly within the planning parameters as set out by the City in the Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan as well as satisfying the City’s commitment to intensification. This means a maximum height of nine storeys and appropriate setbacks from Rideau and Cobourg streets.

The Chenier Group also intends to preserve the original portion of the house as an

aspect of the history of the neighbourhood. While there is no way to preserve the house in its present position on the lot and have room to build a new apartment building, the company intends to dismantle the original part of the house and rebuild it on the Cobourg side of the property. The drawings by Barry Padolsky, an Ottawa heritage architect, show a red-brick, semi-detached dwelling, three floors in height, which will contain two apartments. Historic photos of the neighbourhood have been used to guide the design.

A new nine-storey apartment building will fill the main part of the property fronting on Rideau and Cobourg streets. The three-storey podium will be in red brick with design elements across the Rideau and Cobourg sides. The remaining six storeys will be finished in pre-cast concrete and set back on the Rideau and Cobourg sides, and be invisible to pedestrians walking on the sidewalk alongside the building on Rideau and Cobourg. Current plans also call for a ground-floor coffee shop at the corner of Rideau and Cobourg.

The plans for the project have been submitted to the City and should be available for public comment in the near future. The approval process is likely to be completed by mid-autumn 2018. This project has involved an extensive amount of public consultation led by the Chenier Group and Barry Padolsky, and should be an appealing improvement to Lowertown East.

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Concerns Cont’d from Page 1

The Sexual Assault participants were concerned that sex work occurs in public spaces, including Bordeleau Park and other areas of Lowertown. There were questions about how residents could safely intervene to ask people if they needed assistance. The walkability of particular streets, the stigma around discussing sexual assault and, if reported, the person’s being taken seriously were also matters of concern.

Many of the outcomes and next steps from the workshop require a forum reaching out to the various community programs, services and agencies, including our councillor, to come up with strategies to focus on and deal with the problems in a community-centred way. Other outcomes and recommendations included increasing awareness of community issues and clearer guidelines on who to contact about various issues or concerns. There were specific calls for a pilot program for violations of bylaws and a revitalization of the Neighbourhood Watch program. It is worth noting that the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario will have a new website for on-line complaints as of February 2018.

Many residents articulated that it was a good forum and they felt engaged. The format allowed participants to express their ideas about what should be done to make their community safer; obtain information from experts; and make recommendations as a group. Residents were able to raise

their concerns which will help provide guidance for future solutions to the problems.

The LCA would like to thank residents and expert resources for making this meet-

ing a success.

For information on the workshop, issues and outcomes/action please refer to the LCA site: <http://www.lowertown-basseville.ca/association.html>

Deadline

Reserve your advertising space or submit your contribution to echo@lowertown-basseville.ca by **March 27, 2018**

Questions regarding delivery? If you live in Lowertown, the Echo is delivered free to your door. Please email if you are aware of anyone or any business in our neighbourhood who is not receiving their community newspaper.

Date de tombée

Publicité, articles, photos et autres soumissions à echo@lowertown-basseville.ca avant le **27 mars 2018**

Questions au sujet de la distribution? L’Echo est distribué gratuitement dans la Basse-Ville. Veuillez envoyer un courriel si vous connaissez quelqu’un qui ne le reçoit pas.

The Echo

The Echo, a non-profit community newspaper, is supported by its advertisers and the Lowertown Community Association. Opinions expressed are those of contributors and advertisers and do not necessarily represent those of the volunteer editorial staff.

In 2018, the Echo will be published in February, April, June, September and November. 8,500 copies are printed and distributed free of charge to residents of Lowertown. Additional copies can also be picked up at the Routhier Centre, the Lowertown Community Resource Centre, the public library, and various commercial locations in Lowertown.

The Echo welcomes articles, letters, photographs, notices and other material of interest to its readers in the Lowertown community. Name and telephone number of contributor must be included.

If you’d like to write articles, draw cartoons or other illustrations for stories, or take photographs on assignment, please email and leave your name and telephone number at echo@lowertown-basseville.ca. No age restrictions.

The Echo reserves the right to edit in part or in whole all contributions.

L’Echo

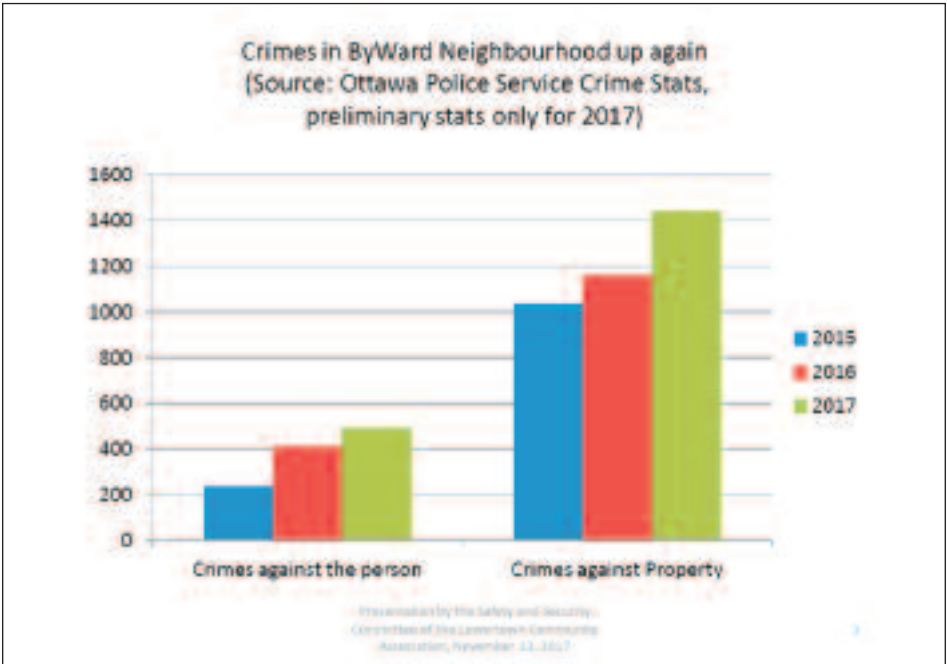
L’Echo est un journal communautaire à but non lucratif dont les seuls revenus viennent des annonceurs et l’Association Communautaire de la Basse-Ville. Les textes n’engagent que leurs auteurs et annonceurs respectifs et ne reflètent pas nécessairement l’opinion de l’équipe de rédaction, qui est composée de bénévoles.

En 2018, l’Echo sera publié en février, avril, juin, septembre et novembre. Son tirage est de 8500 exemplaires. Il est distribué gratuitement partout dans la Basse-Ville. On peut également l’obtenir au Centre Routhier, au Centre de Ressources Communautaires de la Basse-Ville, à la bibliothèque et dans plusieurs commerces du quartier.

Tous les articles, lettres, illustrations, photos et autre matériel qui peuvent intéresser les lecteurs de la Basse-Ville sont les bienvenus. Leurs auteurs doivent indiquer leur nom et leur numéro de téléphone.

Les personnes qui aimeraient collaborer avec l’Echo sont invitées à envoyer un courriel au echo@lowertown-basseville.ca en indiquant leur nom et leur numéro de téléphone. Nous apprécions la contribution de tous, quel que soit leur âge.

L’Echo se réserve le droit de modifier en tout ou en partie les documents soumis.



Let’s talk real estate: Valentine Edition

Over the years I have witnessed many couples buying and selling property. Here are some of my observations:

Couples in a good relationship know how to compromise. He wants new windows and she wants good natural light. They keep looking until they find both. They overlook the insignificant deficiencies of the home because they can see themselves living happily there, with each of them finding enough positives to be happy with their choice. Needless to say, these are my favourite clients.

You can tell that a relationship is in trouble when the couple walks around the house commenting on this or that but never imagines themselves living there. I showed one engaged couple many condos and townhomes and instinctively knew that something was wrong. They could not make a decision even when the house was perfect in every way. They finally broke up. Each of them eventually found the right partner and the right houses followed; happy endings after all.

Couples just starting out in second-marriage relationships often want to sell off their individual homes and start their ‘togetherness’ in a new one. One couple I worked with just couldn’t see eye to eye. One wanted waterfront, one wanted urban. We combed the city and countryside. They finally found a lovely home near the water, yet still in an urban setting. The husband

just couldn’t make up his mind and they were in a bidding war to boot so had to decide quickly. He eventually told me to flip a coin. Yes, he asked me to flip a coin. She won the toss and they put in their best offer. They got the house and have had many happy years there! The coin toss was a first for me.

By

Lynda Cox

Relationships are very exposed in the home-buying or selling experience, both the good and the bad. You can easily see if the relationship is balanced or not. If not, it quickly becomes evident who holds the most power.

Selling a home and dealing with an offer is also a very good indication of the individual personalities in the couple and how they work out their differences. One might want to hold out for every dollar while the other is more generous and wants both sides in the negotiation to be happy. This can often be a battleground. I recall one negotiation where the two sellers were in two different provinces for work. They were on speaker-phone dealing with an offer. I opted to leave the room while they



John McQuarrie
Lynda Cox is with Faulkner Real Estate and a LT resident.

yelled and hashed it out. Not my favourite situation.

Final Thought:

When you are happy with each other, decisions about housing are not too hard to make. Only start looking to buy or sell when you have worked out your needs and priorities. You need to be on the same page. If you are, you will find the process an exciting one and your realtor will love working with you no matter how long it takes.

Lowertown Update Residential:

7 properties sold over the last 2 months, all townhomes. They sold very quickly, many in as little as 2 weeks. At present there are 10 active listings.

Sales of interest:

Myrand sold over-asking in 13 days. Asking price \$489,900

Murray sold over-asking in 3 days. Asking price \$399,900

Bruyere sold in 6 days. Asking price \$499,900

Condo:

Very active, with 15 sales. This resale market is still playing catch-up in terms of pricing but volume is much improved. There are 33 active listings.

Sales of interest:

York, 1 bed, 1 bath, sold for approximately 19% less than it sold for in 2015. List price \$195,000

Guigues, 2 bed, 1 bath, sold for approximately 13% less than it sold for in 2012. List price \$389,000

Stacked townhome **on St. Patrick** sold for approximately 2% less than it sold for in 2010. List price \$335,000

Airbnb: Uber for vacationers



This Airbnb was very clean, well decorated, and had a fully stocked kitchen with everything you need for a long or short stay. We stayed for a week and having on suite laundry was great. Very nice building. Would recommend a stay here to family and friends. (a comment posted on the Airbnb web site by a client who stayed in Lowertown)

Airbnb is to hotels and traditional bed and breakfasts as Uber is to taxi and limousine services — a disrupter. In major cities around the world, hotel associations have been pressuring their municipal governments to adopt bylaws forbidding short-term rentals à la Airbnb.

But it is not only hotels that have been affected. Airbnb rentals have also become an issue in condominium and apartment buildings, especially for those centrally located near popular tourist sites, such as Lowertown. A search for an Airbnb in downtown Ottawa offers plenty to choose from.

There are numerous instances in the city where units have been purchased or rented with the intention of using these as Airbnb rentals. Even if that wasn’t the original intent of the purchaser, the downturn in the market for condominiums in Ottawa has left owners with the choice of either selling at a loss or turning their units into revenue-generating properties while waiting for the resale market to improve.

As noted in the previous edition of the Echo, noise, property damage and diminished security caused by Airbnb renters has sparked a reaction from many condominium corporations, and re-

cent court rulings have upheld their right to ban short-term and non-residential uses.

This led the Echo to ask “What is the state of affairs in Lowertown condos?” Condominiums in Lowertown come in a variety of shapes and sizes, everything from small ten-unit row houses to multi-unit 25-storey towers. The Echo asked three simple questions to a number of owners and board members of condominiums in Lowertown :

- Are Airbnbs an issue in your building?
- Are they permitted, yes or no?
- Do you have a policy or are you being asked by owners or considering developing one?

By

Ted Lawrence and John Chenier

Here is the reply from a board member of one condominium in Lowertown.

“Our condo comprises 30 townhouses. Initially all but two were owner occupied. Over time units have sold; some have had frequent turn overs. With the rise of Airbnbs and other on-line rental portals the rise in “turn overs” is exponential. This increases the potential negative impact on resident neighbours and raises security concerns. At our condo, we experienced turn overs as frequently as several times a week. These “guests” have no long-term interest in the property or neighbours and have used the unit for rowdy late night parties or other activities necessitating calls to bylaw officers and police: a continuing nightmare for residents in adjacent homes.”

Short-term rentals largely go unnoticed if the owner occupies the home and rents out a spare room. When an owner is on site there is control of his/her tenant thus minimizing adverse impacts to neighbours. However with frequent turn overs, with ac-

cess by lockbox and no landlord on site, things can spiral out of control very quickly.

When this situation arose at our condo it took a concerted effort and considerable time to bring things back under control including:

- tracking rental activity by searching on-line rental portals
- repeated verbal and written requests to comply with condo rules
- notices to “guests” that their presence might be required in a court of law
- legal consultation resulting in a notice to desist
- threat of lien against the property

Ultimately our condo board modified its rules. It now stipulates that rental agreements shorter than 6 month are not permitted. Violation of the condo rules is an offence under Condominium Act of Ontario. Although these measures do not guarantee a trouble-free road ahead it does give a condo corporation legal recourse to problems arising from short-term rentals.

The replies from other condo buildings are as follows:

183 to 189 Cumberland Streets:

Nine units: Airbnbs are not an issue for us because we preemptively passed a bylaw a few years ago saying owners cannot rent their units for less than one year.

222 Bruyère:

Bylaws state that rental must be one year minimum to avoid Airbnb.

280 Cathcart Street (Cathcart Lane):

They still permit Airbnb rentals. There was one owner who leased out a unit on Airbnb for a few years but there were never any problems with her Airbnb tenants. The condominium did not have an Airbnb policy, per se.

180 York Street (East Market Phase I)

Airbnbs are an issue as they are not permitted in the Eastmarket Condominiums. The Eastmarket Condominiums have always had a rule/policy in place against

short-term rentals (less than 6 months), but we recently clarified this rule even further because of Airbnb, including instituting fines for those that violate the rule.

310 Cathcart Street (Cathcart Mews)

We have had no reported problems v.a.v. [vis à vis] Airbnbs. They are not forbidden in the bylaws and so the answer must be “yes” they are allowed. The matter will be added to the agenda for the next AGM.

160 George Street (the St George):

Airbnb or similar short term rentals are not permitted. Section 3.2(a) of the St George Condominium Declaration states: “Residential Units shall be occupied only for the purpose of a single family dwelling and for no other purpose”. The Board of Directors has adopted “RULES respecting USE and TENANCIES of RESIDENTIAL UNITS” to ensure all owners and residents understand and comply with this requirement, as follows:

- Rooming, boarding or lodging arrangements are not permitted;
- No Bed & Breakfast, Airbnb or similar arrangements;
- Rental, tenancy, lease or sub-lease for less than 6 months is prohibited; and
- Owners are required to register any tenants occupying their unit to ensure the Corporation knows who is in the building and using the facilities.

124 Guigues Avenue:

Short term rentals, including Airbnb, are an issue for us. We are currently consulting owners about the way ahead.

From the above comments it is clear that enforcement of the rules against short-term rentals has been a problem at some condominiums. We would like to hear from condo dwellers on this issue or on any other matters that concern them. Direct comments to: echo@lowertown-basseville.ca with subject: condo corner.

Ontario is booming/Le vent dans les voiles

On January 1st, people across Ontario started the new year with a higher minimum wage and free prescription medications for everyone age 24 and under.

Ontario's economy is booming. In 2017 we created 180,000 jobs and unemployment shot down to a 17-year low. But we know that not all families are sharing in the prosperity.

That's why our government is bringing forward these changes – to create a fairer province for everyone.

Starting January 1, the minimum wage in Ontario will increase to \$14 an hour. It will rise to \$15 an hour a year from now. Personal emergency leave and paid vacation are also being expanded.

We're also helping families afford the care they need to stay healthy with OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare. Starting January 1, people age 24 and under will be able to get over 4,400 medications free of charge, including antibiotics, asthma in-

halers, EpiPens, insulin, diabetes test strips and drugs to treat depression, anxiety and epilepsy. All they need to do is show their prescription and Ontario health card number at any pharmacy.

By/par
Nathalie Des Rosiers
MPP, Députée provinciale
Ottawa-Vanier

A just society ensures that workers are not exploited and are paid decent wages for their labour. It also strives to provide access to medication so that all children and youth can receive the healthcare that they need and deserve.

En Ontario, le début de l'année 2018 a été marqué par l'augmentation du salaire minimum et le lancement de l'Assurance-médicaments pour les enfants et les jeunes.

L'économie de l'Ontario est en plein essor. En 2017, nous avons créé 180 000 emplois et le taux de chômage a dégringolé pour atteindre son plus bas niveau en 17 ans. Nous savons toutefois que ce ne sont pas toutes les familles qui connaissent cette prospérité.

C'est pourquoi notre gouvernement apporte ces changements, afin de créer une province plus équitable pour tous.

En date du 1er janvier 2018, le salaire minimum en Ontario est passé à 14 \$ l'heure.

Dans un an, il sera augmenté à 15 \$ l'heure. De plus, le congé d'urgence personnelle et les vacances payées ont été élargis.

Nous aidons aussi les familles à assumer les coûts des soins qui leur sont

nécessaires pour demeurer en santé grâce au programme Assurance-santé Plus : assurance-médicaments pour les enfants et les jeunes. Depuis le 1er janvier, les personnes de 24 ans ou moins peuvent obtenir plus de 4 400 médicaments sans frais, dont des antibiotiques, des inhalateurs pour l'asthme, des auto-injecteurs EpiPen, de l'insuline, des bandelettes réactives pour les diabétiques et des médicaments pour traiter la dépression, l'anxiété et l'épilepsie. Elles n'ont qu'à présenter leur ordonnance et leur numéro d'assurance-santé à n'importe quelle pharmacie.

Une société équitable assure que ses travailleurs ne sont pas exploités et qu'ils reçoivent un salaire adéquat pour leur travail. Elle s'efforce aussi de veiller à ce que les familles aient accès aux médicaments nécessaires pour faire en sorte que tous les enfants et les jeunes reçoivent les soins de santé dont ils ont besoin et auxquels ils ont droit.

Feds launch initiatives

As we are now well into the 2018, I wanted to alert you to a few important initiatives that our government has undertaken to help Canadians keep more money in their pockets.

In 2016 our Government launched the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) and committed to providing increased support for low to middle-income families with children. The CCB is targeted to families who need it most—low and middle-income families—while higher income families receive lower benefits. As the Member of Parliament for the Ottawa—Vanier, I am very pleased to see that our Government was able to strengthen the CCB in 2018 for the hard working families of our riding.

For a single parent of two, this means approximately \$560 more this year, tax free for books, skating lessons or to invest into a Register Education Savings Plan for their children's future.

Minister LeBouthillier recently announced that the Canada Revenue Agency has introduced new ways to file your taxes, improving the tax-filing experience for Canadians. This means that for 950,000 eligible individuals on low or fixed income will be able to file their taxes over the phone. Eligible individuals will be able to file their taxes simply by answering a series of questions over the phone, there are no paper forms to fill out or calculations to make. File My Return is free, secure and easy to use.

Lastly, to help lift thousands of low-income seniors out of poverty, we have introduced the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) top-up. Seniors who live alone will receive an extra \$947 per year through GIS, helping 900,000 vulnerable seniors across Canada, of which 70% are women.

As always, my staff is here to support

your interactions with the federal government. My office is located at 233 Montreal Rd. and is open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (from Monday to Thursday) and 9:00AM to 4:30 PM (on Friday). If you would like to contact my office, please call 613 992-4766 or send an email to:

By/par
Mona Fortier
MP, Députée d'Ottawa

En 2016 notre gouvernement a lancé l'Allocation canadienne pour enfants (ACE) et s'est engagé à continuer de soutenir les familles à revenu moyen et bas qui ont des enfants. Alors que nous avons augmenté les impôts des familles ayant un revenu élevé, l'ACE a été lancée pour soutenir les familles qui en ont le plus besoin – celles à revenu bas ou moyen. En tant que députée pour Ottawa-Vanier, je suis enchantée que notre gouvernement améliore l'Allocation canadienne pour les enfants en 2018 pour appuyer les familles qui travaillent forts dans notre circonscription.

Pour une famille monoparentale de deux enfants cette bonification de l'ACE se traduira par 560 \$ non imposable de plus l'année prochaine, qui pourra servir pour des livres, des leçons de patinage ou pour investir dans un régime enregistré d'épargne-études (REEE).

Continued on Page 3

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Lowertown East traffic management update

You may have had an opportunity to attend one of our public consultations that were held October 19th, 2016 and March 1st, 2017 regarding the Lowertown East Area Traffic Management Study.

If you have not heard of this project, the goal was to study different traffic calming measures in order to rectify the speeding and cut through traffic concerns of Lowertown East residents, specifically during the morning and afternoon peak periods. The study area is west of the Rideau River and east of King Edward, and south of Rideau.

Well the results are in, and we now have a plan for the area. A few measures will be implemented in 2018, but the majority will be implemented in 2019.

- The specifics of the plan include:
- speed humps on Wurtemberg, Heney, Clarence and a flat top speed hump on Old St Patrick;
 - raised crosswalks at Cobourg/ Clarence and Old St Patrick near De La Salle. (A raised intersection at York/ Beausoleil is being considered as well but is dependent on funding.);
 - pedestrian crossovers (PXOs) at Cobourg/ Beausoleil. (Under a separate program you'll see a PXO at Murray/ Beausoleil); as well as
 - intersection narrowings at Old St Patrick/Beausoleil, Cobourg/Beausoleil, and Old St Patrick /Cobourg.

The measures that we expect to be implemented this year are a “no parking” zone on the east side of Cobourg near Tormey and turning restrictions from Nelson onto York and Clarence.

Thank you to all the residents who participated in the consultations. We look forward to the implantation of all these measures, and seeing the positive effect they will have on pedestrians, cyclists and all residents of Lowertown East.

Le point sur l'étude de gestion de la circulation dans le secteur de la Basse-Ville Est

Vous avez peut-être eu l'occasion d'assister à une des séances de consultation publique tenues le 19 octobre 2016 et le 1er mars 2017 portant sur l'étude de gestion de la circulation dans le secteur de la Basse-Ville Est.

Cette étude, au cas où vous n'en avez pas entendu parler, avait pour objet d'examiner différentes mesures de modération de la circulation afin de répondre aux préoccupations des résidents de la Basse-Ville Est relativement à la vitesse et à la circulation de transit dans le secteur, plus précisément durant les heures de pointe. Elle portait sur le secteur situé à l'ouest de la rivière Rideau et à l'est de l'avenue King Edward.

Et bien, les résultats ont été compilés et nous avons maintenant un plan pour le secteur. Quelques mesures seront déployées en 2018, mais, pour la majorité, elles le seront en 2019.

- Voici les éléments précis du plan:
- Installation de dos d'âne sur les rues Wurtemberg, Heney et Clarence et d'un dos d'âne allongé plat sur la rue Old St-Patrick;
 - Aménagement de passages pour piétons surélevés sur la rue Cobourg, Clarence et Old St Patrick près de De La Salle.

Enfin, pour continuer à soutenir des milliers d'âînés à faible revenu à sortir de la pauvreté,, nous avons tout récemment augmenté le Supplément de revenu garanti (SRG). Les âînés qui vivent seuls recevront 947 \$ de plus par année grâce au SRG, ce qui aidera 900 000 âînés vulnérables, dont 70 % sont des femmes, partout au Canada.

Mon équipe est disponible afin de vous appuyer dans vos interactions avec le gouvernement fédéral. Mon bureau est situé au 233, chemin Montréal et est ouvert de 9 h à 17 h (du lundi au jeudi) et de 9 h à 16 h 30 (le vendredi). Vous pouvez communiquer avec mon bureau par téléphone au 613 992-4766 ou par courriel à

mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca.

By/par
Mathieu Fleury
City Councillor/
Counseiller municipal

- Aménagement d'un passage pour piétons à l'angle de la rue Cobourg et de la promenade Beausoleil. (En vertu d'un autre programme, un passage pour piétons sera également aménagé à l'angle de la rue Murray et de la promenade Beausoleil);
- Et, rétrécissement des intersections à la hauteur Old St-Patrick/Beausoleil, Cobourg/Beausoleil et Old St-Patrick/Cobourg.

Les mesures qui devraient être mises en œuvre cette année sont une zone d'interdiction de stationnement du côté est de la rue Cobourg près de la rue Tormey et des restrictions de virage depuis la rue Nelson pour emprunter les rues York et Clarence.

Merci à tous les résidents qui ont pris part aux consultations. Nous attendons avec impatience le déploiement de toutes ces mesures et avons hâte d'en voir les effets positifs pour les piétons, les cyclistes et tous les résidents de la Basse-Ville Est.

Jeu-questionnaire de la Basse-ville

Le nom d'un gagnant sera tiré au sort le 1er mars parmi les personnes ayant répondu correctement. Le prix sera une boîte de chocolats d'une valeur de 25 \$ provenant de Cylie Artisans Chocolatiers situés au 204, rue Dalhousie.

Identifier l'emplacement d'au moins 7 des 8 murales de la Basse-ville représentées aux pages 7 et 8:

Envoyez votre réponse à
ads.in.echo@gmail.com

Lowertown Contest

Identify the locations of any 7 of the 8 Lowertown murals found on pages 7-8.

A winner will be drawn on March 1st from the names of all those who have submitted correct entries. The prize will be a \$25 box of chocolates from Cylie Artisans Chocolatiers at 204 Dalhousie Street.

Submit your answer to
ads.in.echo@gmail.com /Lower-town Quiz

Initiatives Cont'd from Page 4

Tout récemment, la ministre Lebouthillier de l'Agence du revenu du Canada a annoncé des améliorations aux services de production de déclarations offerts aux Canadiennes et aux Canadiens. Ceci veut dire que plus de 950 000 personnes admissibles ayant un faible revenu ou un revenu fixe pourront produire leurs déclaration de revenus par un nouveau service téléphonique automatisé. Les personnes admissibles seront en mesure de déclarer leurs revenus simplement en répondant à une série de questions par téléphone, il n'y a pas de formulaires papier à remplir ou de calculs à faire. Ce service est gratuit, sécurisé et facile à utiliser.



Nathalie Des Rosiers
MPP/députée Ottawa-Vanier

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The tannery at 98 Friel Street

The old Germain City Tannery was once located at the southwest corner of Murray and Friel Streets. Looking at old depictions of Lowertown one can see some smokestacks in the middle of Lowertown East among all the tiny wooden houses. However, no known photograph exists of this old industrial building.

Edmond Germain came to Ottawa in 1850. The Ottawa directories show him living and working at 337 Clarence in 1862. His 1.5-storey wooden house was at 337 Clarence while his tannery, which employed 10 people, was behind the house and along Friel Street. The tannery was a 2.5-storey building that processed raw animal hides into leather. Besides running his business, Germain was also a well-regarded alderman (city councillor) for the area in the 1880s.

In the late 1800s, Murray Street at this end of Lowertown did not exist, as shown in the map above. Anglesea Square was just a swamp and there were only a few houses on Nelson Street. The tannery was described in one newspaper account as being in an open field. Unlike other tanneries, Mr. Germain's did not need to be near a river

By
Marc Aubin
Former President,
LCA

because he had sunk a well on the property.

By 1887, Mr. Germain had built one of the finest brick houses in Lowertown at 339 Clarence next to his old wooden house at 337 Clarence. Unfortunately, that year, according to newspaper accounts, Mr. Germain lost his tannery to another local tanner, William Mackey, to whom he had mortgaged his business and home. Germain blamed protectionist tariffs placed on the U.S. by the Liberal government for destroying his business. The tannery property and all the equipment were sold at auction on October 11, 1887.

After 37 years in Ottawa, it appears that Edmond Germain moved to Quebec City. Two of his sons, Edmond and Gaspar, were listed as tanners in that city's directory of 1890-91 at 285 St. Valier Street



The Germain City Tannery

under the name Edmond Germain & Cie.

At the time of his death, Edmond Germain was living in Montcalmville near Quebec City with another of his sons, Alphonse. Despite having left Ottawa years before, Germain was brought back to Ottawa for his funeral at Notre-Dame Cathedral in 1909 and is buried at Notre-Dame Cemetery on Montreal Road. He left behind four sons and two daughters.

The tannery building was used as a planing mill by Desrivieres and Company for a short time, but the business soon

moved to another location in Lowertown West. By 1891, the Ottawa Canning Company was using the building, and by 1901 the building was occupied by the Watson Carriage Company. Research indicates that Watson tried to woo automobile manufacturers from Detroit to build cars on the premises. The building burned down in 1914 and the lot appears to have remained vacant for many years until some art deco apartment blocks and doubles were built on that corner of Friel and Murray. These brick buildings remain on the property to this day.

Lowertown Lost and Found:

Groulx Grocery at 193 King Edward Avenue

The last commercial building still operating in the "Wedge" area near the Rideau River in Lowertown East stands at the southeast corner of Guigues and King Edward. In 1981, it was one of several buildings proposed for heritage designation in an attempt to protect the few heritage structures remaining after the sweeping urban renewal demolitions in Lowertown East. At the time, it was seen as an excellent late nineteenth century example that combined business and residence. In addition to a second storey hanging ornamental porch (since removed), it encompassed special design details from its rusticated stone basement to its decorative upper moldings. Now home to the Champa Thai restaurant, this stately brick edifice shows the scars of years of neglect.

By
Nancy Miller Chenier



The corner of Guigues and King Edward

ity of turning the old cemeteries (now MacDonald Gardens) into a public site for possible use as a hospital for contagious diseases.

During this time, the X&A dry goods business at 94 and 98 Sussex had expanded to 277 Wellington Street. But by the mid 1870s, the economic depression had created problems for the key industries in Ottawa. Reduced wages as well as layoffs meant less money to spend on goods of any kind. In September 1875, the Groulx brothers were forced to close their businesses.

Perhaps in anticipation of this business failure, Francois Xavier transferred the ownership of his corner lot on King Street to his father-in-law Jean Baptiste Parent who operated Montreal House, a hotel close to the Cathedral. Groulx had worked for Jean Baptiste and had married his daughter, Sophranie Parent. The transfer of the property was fortuitous as F.X. died in 1878 leaving his wife Sophranie with four under-age children.

Property in this northeastern part of Lowertown had become more valuable over the years as the city expanded services. The open Bywash down King Street that

ran first as a barge-carrying canal and then as a garbage filled ditch was closed in 1875 when an underground sewer was installed. A decade later, sidewalks were gradually added on the east side of the street. By 1878, the fire insurance map showed a two and a half storey building on this corner lot.

In the early 1880s, Jean Baptiste Parent transferred the property back to his grandson, the younger Francois Xavier Groulx. City directories indicate that several different individuals operated grocery businesses at this corner, possibly as renters prior to F.X. Groulx junior assuming responsibility. By the early 1900s, the building was enlarged to a three storey bricked building with a corner entrance designed to bring in customers passing on either street. When Francois Xavier junior died in 1946 at 87 years of age, his will indicated extensive property holdings that included 193-195-197 and 199 King Edward Avenue as well as 260 Guigues Avenue. He also had a summer residence at Crystal Bay.

Within a few years, the third generation owner, Romeo Groulx, applied for a license for the Rialto, a tavern for men in the building. At the subsequent meeting of the Ontario Liquor Licence Board, the Citizen

reported that several temperance organizations had stormed the event with claims that the increase in licensed establishments throughout the city was detrimental to the community.

Later Groulx found evidence that someone had broken into his buildings during the night. The culprit was quickly found – a man asleep in the owner's car behind the store with an empty bottle of gin beside him.

By the 1960s, the Groulx connection was gone from the building and it became associated with the Carrozzi family and others who ran varied enterprises from this corner location prior to Champa Thai. Despite the early effort to obtain heritage designation, this storied Lowertown landmark remains in danger of losing its heritage defining qualities due to neglect.



J. Alphonse Larocque and his wife Kitty behind the Royal Canadian Mint c. 1909 near their home at 160 Sussex Drive. Note the single pole style of the time. An avid outdoorsman, Larocque, owner of the well-known department store at Rideau and Dalhousie (now the Mercury Building), was the first merchant in Ottawa to stock skis. His daughter Kay became an international ski champion in the 30's. The photo hangs in the Ottawa home of his granddaughter, Maryse Maynard.

Ottawa Community Housing in Lowertown East

Logement communautaire d'Ottawa dans la Basse-Ville est

Heritage Walk –Visite Guidée



The nine communities highlighted on this **self guided walking tour** are currently operated by Ottawa Community Housing (OCH) in Lowertown East. Most were constructed to provide replacement housing after urban renewal in the 1960s and 1970s cleared entire city blocks and displaced 1500 predominately francophone families.

Homes take many forms and generate many stories. Today, several OCH structures resulting from this social experiment are recognized for their architectural design and their historical value.* Architecturally, the buildings reflect a variety of mid-century modern influences. Historically, this distinctive Lowertown area provides a complex narrative of people and events that reshaped the neighbourhood.
*City of Ottawa Heritage Register 2017; Heritage Ottawa, From Walk-Up to High-Rise: Ottawa’s Historic Apartment Buildings, 2017; Various Urbsite Blogs

Les neuf communautés dont il est question dans ce **guide de parcours piétonnier** sont des immeubles dont la gestion est assurée par Logement communautaire d'Ottawa (LCO) dans la Basseville-est. Plusieurs de ces édifices ont été construits afin de remplacer les nombreuses maisons démolies lors du renouvellement urbain des années 1960 et 1970 qui a causé le déplacement de près de 1 500 familles, en majorité des Francophones.

Il y a une grande variété de résidences et celles-ci ont plusieurs histoires à raconter. Aujourd'hui, on reconnaît la valeur architecturale et historique d'un bon nombre des édifices de LCO construits dans le cadre de cette expérience sociale.** En ce qui concerne l'architecture, ces édifices reflète une variété d'influences modernes du milieu du siècle. Quant à l'histoire, cette partie distincte de la Basse-Ville présente le récit complexe des personnes et d'évènements qui ont remodelé ce quartier.
** Registre patrimonial de la Ville d'Ottawa, 2017 ; Patrimoine Ottawa, From Walk-Up to High-Rise: Ottawa’s Historic Apartment Buildings, 2017 ; divers blogues “Urbsites”.

1. Place Anglesia Place–380 Murray (1973)



Architectural: Miska and Gale with DelZotto Enterprises; typical of Canada's modern mass housing in the period; rectangular 11-storey form designed with “carriageway” opening to respect the Clarence Street right-of-way.
Historical: named for the nearby Anglesea Square, the first public square in Ottawa, currently known as Jules Morin Park; first family-oriented rebuild in the Lowertown east neighbourhood.

Architecture : Miska et Gale avec les Entreprises DelZotto ; exemple typique pour cette période au Canada de logements modernes pour les masses ; édifice de onze étages de forme rectangulaire conçu avec une ouverture dans le mur qui donne accès à la rue Clarence.
Historique : le nom de l'édifice a un lien avec le Carré Anglesea avoisinant, le premier parc public d'Ottawa qui porte désormais le nom Parc Jules Morin ; première construction du renouvellement urbain pour les familles dans le quartier de la Basse-Ville est.

2. Communauté Beausoleil Community
Beausoleil, Clarence, Murray, and York (1973)



Architectural: Miska, Gale (and Ling) with DelZotto and Douglas MacDonald; modern rowhouses replicating scale of earlier homes; streets closed to create car-free pedestrian walkways.
Historical: name honours Alexandre Beausoleil, former parish priest at the nearby Ste Anne Roman Catholic Church and founder of l'Association canadienne-française d'éducation d'Ontario (ACFEO).

Architecture : Miska, Gale (et Ling) avec DelZotto et Douglas MacDonald ; maisons en rangée modernes avec les mêmes dimensions que les maisons qu'elles remplacent ; les rues ont été fermées afin de créer des parcours piétonniers sans voitures.
Historique : le nom honore Alexandre Beausoleil, un des curés de l'Église catholique romaine Ste-Anne, qui se trouve dans le voisinage, et fondateur de l'Association canadienne-française d'éducation d'Ontario (ACFEO).

3. Communauté Beauséjour Community–Beausoleil, Murray, Nelson, New St. Patrick, and Old St. Patrick (1920s-1979-1981-2014)



Architectural: Murray and Murray with R.J. Nicol; majority of homes are back-to-back townhouses; complex also includes early 1900s buildings that survived urban renewal.
Historical: originally named Beau Séjour; first new construction for City Living; Mayor Lorry Greenberg, former Lowertown resident, turned first sod in 1978; units initially allocated to families with Lowertown connection.

Architecture : Murray et Murray avec R.J. Nicol ; la majorité des résidences sont des maisons de ville construites dos à dos ; on y trouve aussi des édifices du début des années 1900 qui ont survécu au renouvellement urbain.
Historique : avait à l'origine le nom Beau Séjour ; premier projet de construction pour Habitation urbaine ; le Maire Lorry Greenberg, ancien résident de la Basse-Ville, était présent pour la première pelletée en 1978 ; au début, les familles avec un lien avec la Basse-Ville avaient la priorité pour choisir des résidences.

4. Place Anson Plaza–303 King Edward (1962)



Architectural: Unknown architect and builder; rectangular brick walk up typical of 1960s rental properties.
Historical: built as the privately owned Coronet Court with apartments advertised as best value in Ottawa; faced the linear treed park of King Edward Avenue when constructed; in mid-1970s marketed as the newly renovated Anson Plaza.

Architecture : Architecte et constructeur non identifié ; immeuble rectangulaire sans ascenseur avec briques blanches typique des logements à loyer des années 1960.
Historique : au début, l'édifice portait le nom Coronet Court et dans sa publicité, on disait que les appartements avaient le meilleur rapport qualité-prix ; lors de sa construction, l'Avenue King Edward face à l'édifice avait une rangée d'arbres au milieu ; après des rénovations au milieu des années 1970, la publicité soulignait le nouveau nom, Anson Plaza.

5. Les Tours Friel Towers–200 and 201 Friel (1975)



Architectural: Craig and Kohler with Doran; distinctive towers of exposed concrete construction; unique examples of stacked two-storey homes in an 11-storey and a 12-storey high-rise.
Historical: named after Friel Street honouring Henry J Friel, early Ottawa mayor with Lowertown roots; Ontario Housing Corporation criticized for breaking promise to offer 75 per cent of the units at market value with 25 per cent to be subsidized

Architecture : Craig et Kohler avec Doran ; tours très distinctes construites en béton exposé ; exemples uniques de maisons à deux étages, une par-dessus l'autre, dans deux tours, une de onze étages et une de douze.
Historique : porte le nom de la rue Friel nommée en l'honneur d'un des premiers maires d'Ottawa, Henry J. Friel, qui avait des liens avec la Basse-Ville ; on a critiqué la Société de logement de l'Ontario car celle-ci n'a pas gardé sa promesse d'offrir 75 pour cent des appartements à la valeur du marché tout en subventionnant les autres.

6. Manoir Macdonald Manor–110 Cobourg /123 Augusta (1965 & 1966)



Architectural: Gitterman with Palef Associates; 6-storey building to house low income seniors; penthouse lounge for group activities and basement with resident janitor, beauty salon, barber shop.
Historical: named for the adjacent Macdonald Gardens Park; federal and provincial governments covered many costs while city contributed the site of the former Ottawa Electric Railway Car Barn; now populated by residents of all ages.

Architecture : Gitterman avec les Associés Palef ; édifice de six étages pour (au début) des aînés à faible revenu ; l'édifice a un concierge, une salle au dernier étage pour les activités de groupes et deux salons de coiffure, un pour les femmes et un pour les hommes, au sous-sol.
Historique : on a donné le nom Macdonald en raison du Parc Macdonald Gardens en face ; le gouvernement fédéral et celui de l'Ontario ont contribué une bonne partie des fonds pour la construction alors que la ville a contribué le terrain où se trouvait auparavant le garage de tramways de la compagnie Ottawa Electric Railway ; les résidents de l'édifice sont maintenant de tous les âges.

7. Place Charlotte Place–160 Charlotte (1975)



Architectural: Miska and Gale with unknown builder; 14-storey building designed for mass housing for seniors.
Historical: still seniors-only building and possibly named for former Mayor Charlotte Whitton who supported housing for this vulnerable group; earlier development proposal for 27-storey cylindrical hotel tower on site after urban renewal clearance

Architecture : Miska et Gale avec compagnie de construction non identifiée ; édifice de 14 étages conçu comme résidence pour les aînés.
Historique : encore aujourd'hui une résidence pour aînés seulement, cet édifice a vraisemblablement été nommé en honneur de Charlotte Whitton, ancienne Mairesse d'Ottawa, qui était en faveur de logements pour ces personnes vulnérables ; dans le cadre du renouvellement urbain, on avait proposé un projet immobilier avec un hôtel dans une tour de 27 étages en forme cylindrique.

8. Place Lady Stanley Place–595 Rideau (1996)



Architectural: Jooste and Associates with Domicile Development.
Historical: Named for former Lady Stanley Institute for Trained Nurses, first nursing school in Ottawa, established 1891; City Living acquired property connected to Wallis House, the former County of Carleton General Protestant Hospital; project survived despite 1995 cancellation of provincial funding for non-profit housing by newly elected Ontario Conservatives.

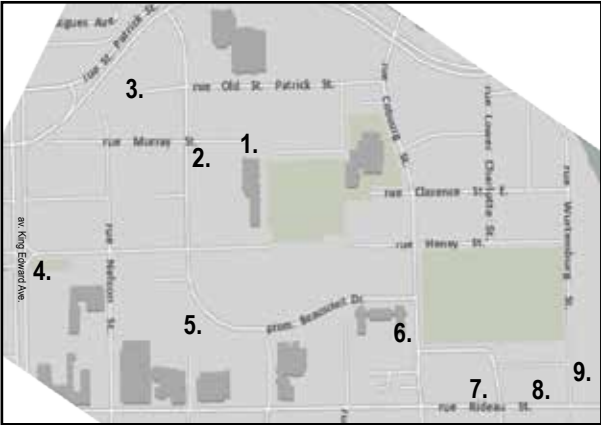
Architecture : Jooste et Associés avec Domicile-Development
Historique : Nommé en honneur de l'École pour infirmières du Lady Stanley Institute, établie en 1891, la première école pour infirmières d'Ottawa ; la construction de l'édifice a été rendu possible lorsque Habitation urbaine a acheté un terrain près de Wallis House, l'ancien Hôpital général protestant du Comté de Carleton ; le projet a survécu malgré la décision du gouvernement Conservateur de l'Ontario, peu après son élection, d'annuler les subventions provinciales pour le logement à but non lucratif.

9. Manoir Victoria Manor–215 Wurtemberg (1971)



Architectural: Miska and Gale possibly with DelZotto; 15-storey high-rise designed for low income seniors.
Historical: early organized activities included snowshoeing and picnicking in Macdonald Gardens Park as well as horse-drawn wagon service to supermarkets; currently populated by all ages.

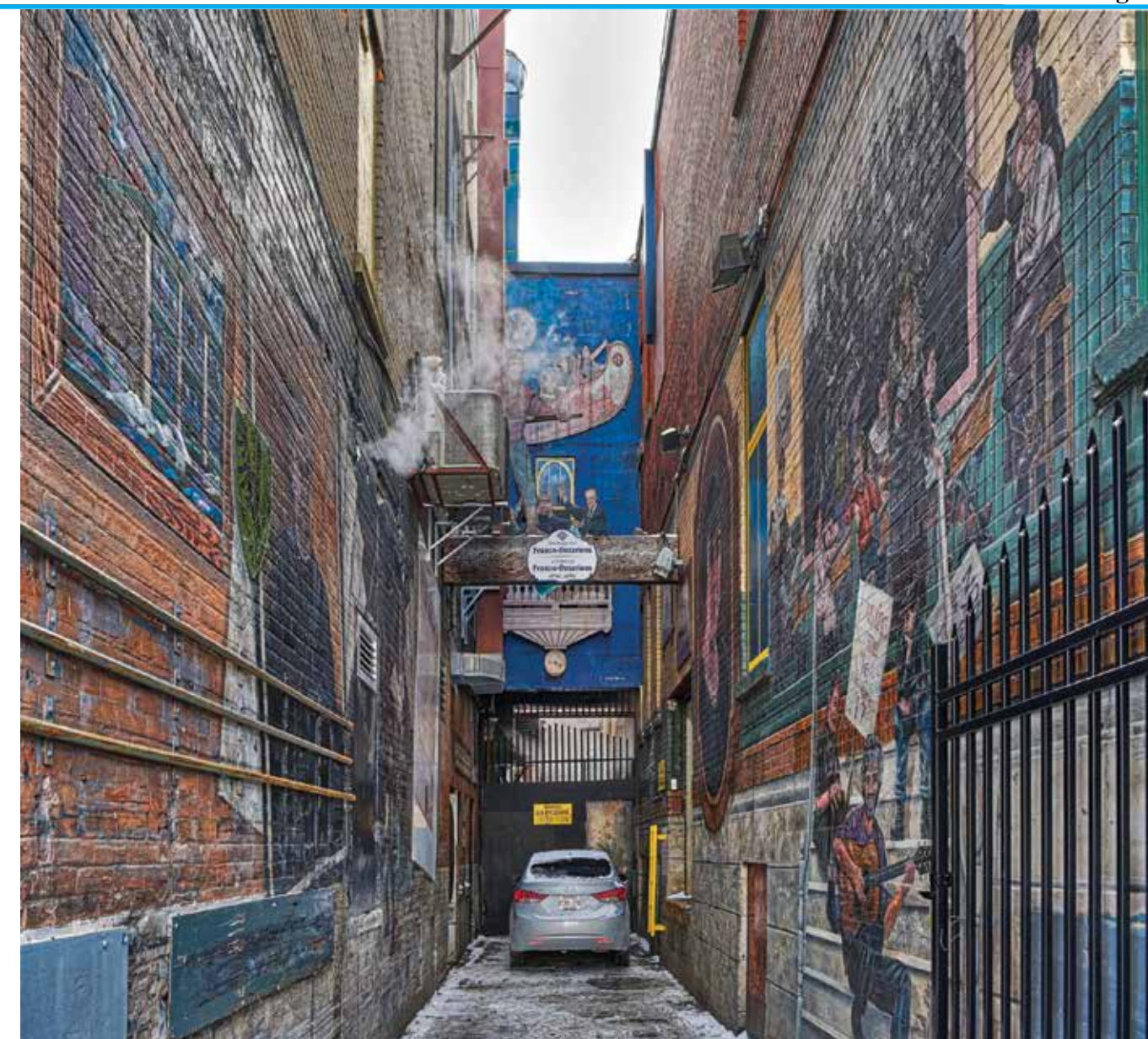
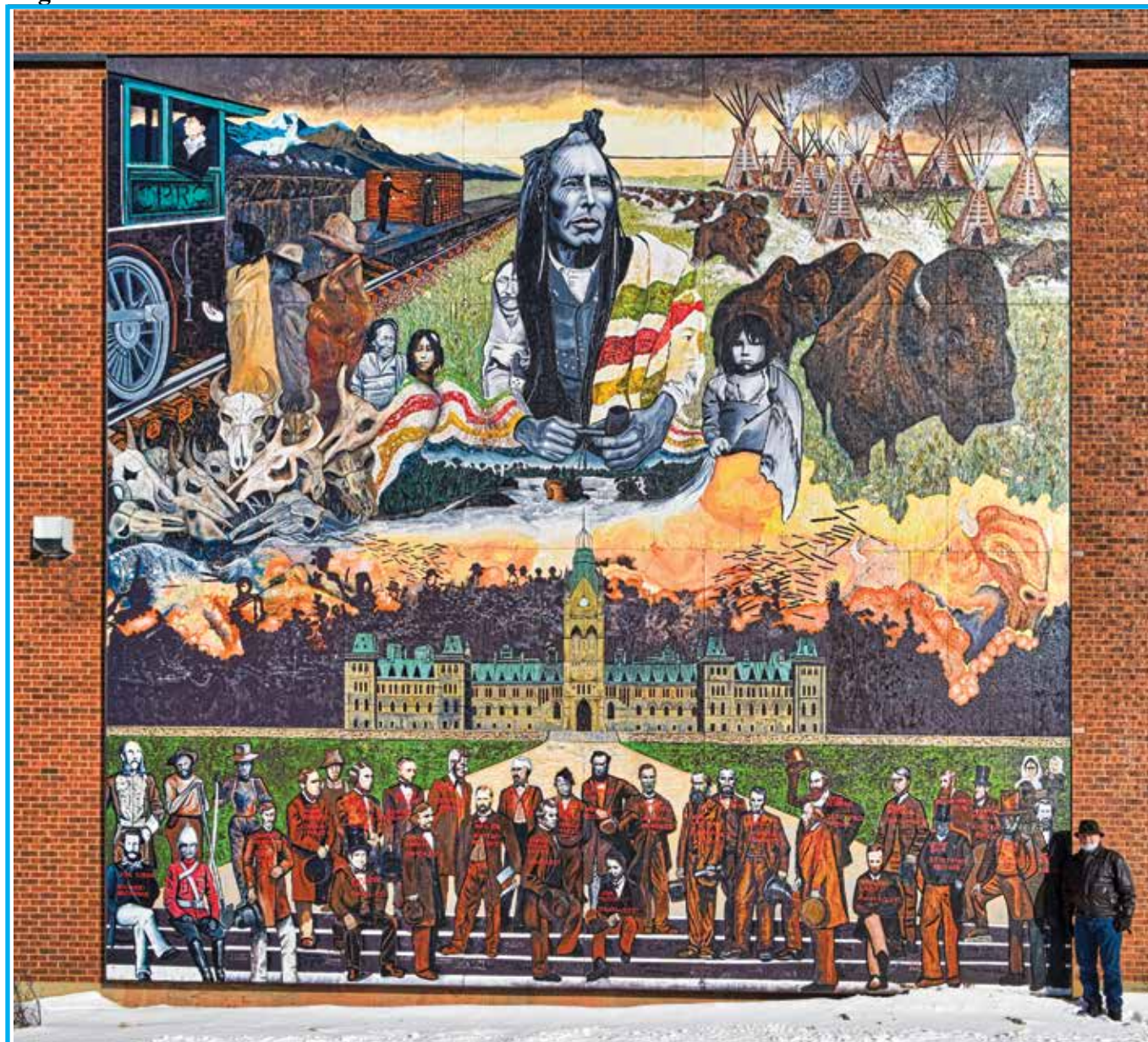
Architecture : Miska et Gale avec possiblement les Entreprises DelZotto ; tour de logement en hauteur avec 15 étages conçue pour des aînés à faible revenu.
Historique : au début, on organisait des activités dans le Parc Macdonald Gardens comme des pique-niques et des excursions en raquettes et il y avait une voiture tirée par un cheval pour aller à l'épicerie ; c'est maintenant un logement pour personnes de tous les âges.



Lowertown Murals

Outdoor murals can breathe life and character into the uniformity of large urban centers. When coordinated, they can demarcate distinct communities, even when isolated they show that here, someone cares. They reduce graffiti in problem areas, they can build community pride. John Sankey

Special thanks to John McQuarrie of John McQuarrie Photography & Lighthouse Publishing for taking the photos



Need help with a haunting? We do that too

You might think that working at reception at the Lowertown Community Resource Centre just involves answering calls, responding to emails and managing appointments, but I could write a novel about working there. The thing about it is that every day is different. Technically, the days all start off the same: unlock the doors at our offices at 40 Cobourg, unlock the grill around the reception desk, set up the laptops for public use, check phone messages and make a list of which staff are on site. Then, the day takes on a life of its own ...

Being a receptionist at a community resource centre actually involves wearing many hats: technical trouble-shooter, problem solver, compassionate listener, stand-up comedian, traffic controller, resource navigator, translator and advocate. You get to help people in concrete ways.

Sometimes, it's the small things, like looking up a number or address, printing off forms, or directing people to a resource. But often, it's something bigger like translating a government letter into words that people actually understand or listening to someone who really needs to talk because they are lonely or having a really bad day (or week).

There are the stories that break your heart: people who are hungry and can't access enough food for themselves or their children; the ones who can't access stable housing or whose housing is inadequate or have problems like bedbugs or rats; the parents who can't find resources for their disabled children. There are also the enquiries that are quirky: the person who asked for help with a haunting in their building; the client who wanted to set up a meeting with Stephen Harper, the Pope (not the current one, the one before him), and Barack Obama (when he was President); the caller who asks for the cinema show times for Fifty Shades of Grey.

You quickly develop the art of listening with intent and a straight face, no matter what people tell you. You also learn to listen for the more subtle meaning behind the initial request. It is often difficult for people to ask for the help they need; it can take time to get to the real issue. When they do, it is important to respond with respect, tact, discretion, and compassion.

I love working at reception because I really enjoy being around people. Over the years, I have developed relationships of trust with many residents. I know them from our kids attending the same schools, from running into them at the Lowertown pool or the Rideau library or the grocery store or at community meetings because I live in the area. But mostly, I get to know them from chatting with them while they wait to meet with one of our social workers or community organizers.

Being a receptionist is a bit like being a bartender; people tell you things. They tell me about their families, their work, their studies, and other things that are going on in their lives. We talk about health-care issues and resources for a child who is having problems at school. We trade folk remedies for minor ailments, and cooking tips.

Working as a receptionist at the Lowertown Community Resource Centre challenges my skills and my creativity on a daily basis. It gives me a sense that I am giving back to the community and making

By/par
Marie-Christine Gauthier
Lowertown Community
Resource Centre/
Centre de ressources
communautaires de la
Basse-Ville

a difference. I consider myself privileged to do meaningful work, in my community, with people that I respect, for an organization whose mission and values I believe in.

Problème de fantôme? On peut vous donner un coup de main!

Vous croyez peut-être que de travailler à la réception du Centre de ressources communautaires de la Basse-Ville ne consiste qu'à prendre des appels, à répondre aux courriels et à gérer les rendez-vous, mais je pourrais écrire un roman complet au sujet du travail à la réception. Le fait est que chaque jour est très différent. Techniquement, les journées commencent toutes de la même façon : le déverrouillage des portes de nos bureaux situés au 40 Cobourg, l'ouverture de la grille autour de la réception, l'installation des ordinateurs portatifs à la disposition du public, la vérification des messages téléphoniques et la rédaction de la liste d'employés sur place. Par la suite, la journée prend une tout autre tournure...

Le fait d'être une réceptionniste dans un centre de ressources communautaires implique de devoir accomplir plusieurs tâches : effectuer le dépannage technique, résoudre des problèmes, avoir une oreille compatissante, être humoriste, contrôler la circulation, dénicher des ressources, rédiger des traductions et défendre les droits des personnes. Il s'agit surtout d'une occasion d'aider les gens de manière concrète. Parfois, ce ne sont que de petites choses, comme de chercher un numéro de téléphone ou une adresse, imprimer des formu-



Marie-Christine Gauthier at her post in the Lowertown Community Resource Centre

lares ou diriger des personnes vers une ressource. Mais souvent, il s'agit de quelque chose de plus important comme de traduire une lettre du gouvernement en termes que les gens peuvent bien comprendre, ou encore d'écouter quelqu'un qui a vraiment besoin de discuter parce qu'il se sent seul ou qu'il a passé une très mauvaise journée (ou semaine).

Il y a également des histoires qui vous brisent le cœur : des gens qui ont faim et qui n'ont pas assez de nourriture pour eux ou leurs enfants, ou encore ceux qui n'ont pas accès à un logement stable ou dont le logement est inadéquat. Certains sont aux prises avec des problèmes de punaises de lit ou de rats, et d'autres sont incapables de trouver des ressources pour leurs enfants handicapés. Puis, il y a les demandes qui sont carrément bizarres : la personne qui demande de l'aide à cause de la présence d'un fantôme dans son immeuble; le client qui veut organiser une rencontre avec Stephen Harper, le pape (pas le pape actuel, celui qui le précède) et Barack Obama (lorsqu'il était président); ou l'interlocuteur qui veut les horaires de cinéma pour aller voir le film Cinquante nuances de Grey. Vous développez rapidement l'art de l'écoute avec attention — tout en gardant votre sérieux — peu importe ce que les gens vous disent. Vous apprenez également à écouter et à saisir la signification plus subtile cachée derrière la demande initiale. Il est souvent difficile pour les gens de demander directement l'aide dont ils ont réellement besoin; il peut s'écouler un certain temps avant d'en arriver à parler du vrai problème. Et lorsque les gens s'ouvrent finalement, il est important d'échanger avec eux en

faisant preuve de respect, tact, discrétion et compassion.

J'adore travailler à la réception parce que j'apprécie vraiment être auprès des gens. Au fil des ans, j'ai noué des relations de confiance avec de nombreux résidents. Je les connais par le biais des écoles que nos enfants fréquentent, et aussi parce que l'on se croise à la piscine de la Basse-Ville, à la bibliothèque Rideau, à l'épicerie ou aux réunions communautaires, car j'habite moi-même dans le coin. Mais surtout, j'ai appris à les connaître grâce à nos discussions lorsqu'ils attendent de rencontrer un de nos travailleurs sociaux ou organisateurs communautaires. Être une réceptionniste, c'est un peu comme être une serveuse de bar : les gens vous confient des choses.

Ils me parlent de leurs familles, de leur travail, de leurs études et des autres choses qui se passent dans leur vie. Nous discutons par exemple de problèmes de santé et des ressources disponibles pour un enfant qui a des problèmes à l'école. Nous échangeons également nos remèdes maison contre les petits ennuis de santé, ainsi que nos conseils de cuisine! Œuvrer à titre de réceptionniste au Centre de ressources communautaires de la Basse-Ville me pousse à utiliser mes compétences et ma créativité de façon quotidienne. Cela me donne l'impression de redonner à la communauté et de faire une différence.

Je me considère comme étant privilégiée de pouvoir faire un travail important, au sein de ma communauté, avec des gens que je respecte, et pour une organisation qui possède une mission et des valeurs auxquelles je m'associe.

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Stew•Cook•Off••Fri•Feb•9•11•30•2•

ByWard•Beats••Every•Fri••Sat•evenings•

during•Winterlude•

Server•Games••Sun•Feb•11•

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Au service de la communauté:

La succursale Rideau: votre Bibliothèque publique

La succursale Rideau de la Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa rehausse le quartier de la Basse-Ville depuis 1934, lors de son ouverture par Sir Robert Borden. La façade avant est ornée d'une vitrine présentant une lampe à huile, un flambeau qui attire le public à ce lieu de savoir. L'intérieur historique invite les visiteurs à découvrir, à travailler et à se détendre. Le personnel est à disposition afin d'assister avec des questions de livre, de technologie et de la recherche.

Le personnel qui anime nos programmes d'enfants met en valeur une appréciation de la lecture pour les enfants du quartier. Mandy, l'adjointe des programmes pour enfants, est connue dans les garderies, les écoles et les programmes parascolaires de la région.

Le processus créatif est animé par des visites d'auteur chaque année. Nous avons accueilli les écoles élémentaires York Street et Sainte-Anne pour des journées de portes

ouvertes avec des comédiens, du maquillage et des bricolages. Nous encourageons les écrivains en herbe de participer au concours d'écriture pour les jeunes « Super auteurs » (la date limite est le 19 février!).

Nos programmes

Nous sommes ravis d'introduire une nouvelle activité cet hiver pour nos clients les plus jeunes : « Bébés à la biblio, » où des enfants âgés de 0-18 mois et leur parent ou gardien peuvent jouer, lire et chanter ensemble. Nous allons également mener des programmes pendant la relâche de mars sous le thème musical « Branche-toi! ». Des adultes peuvent assister à nos programmes réguliers : le groupe d'écrivains, les groupes de lecture, et l'atelier pour le jeu de société « Go. »

Visitez notre site web pour les horaires et les descriptions des programmes : [BiblioOttawaLibrary.ca](#).

Vous cherchez une recommandation de lecture?

Notre personnel s'engage avec enthousiasme dans la lecture et dans leurs recommandations de lecture pour tout âge. Pour les amateurs de lecture de la Basse-Ville, notre défi de lecture annuel est de retour en 2018. Rendez-vous à la succursale afin de vous procurer un signet pour le défi. Les lecteurs qui lisent un livre pour chacune des douze catégories au cours de l'année, peuvent s'inscrire à un tirage. Le gagnant sera annoncé en décembre prochain.

Contactez-nous

377 rue Rideau

Rideau@ottawa.ca

InfoService : 613-580-2940

Êtes-vous étonnés d'entendre que nous proposons ces services?

Locations de **salles de réunion**
Tutoriels sur l'utilisation d'un ordinateur ou un livre numérique
Périodes de prêt plus longues pour des personnes ayant des handicaps
Ressource pour **apprendre des langues** internationales « Mango Languages »
Accès en ligne à des **journaux internationaux**
Services de lecture en continu pour la musique et des vidéos
Prêts de **livres numériques**

Serving the community

Rideau Branch: Your Public Library

The Rideau Branch of the Ottawa Public Library has been a positive presence in Lowertown since it was opened by Sir Robert Borden in 1934. The front façade is graced with a stained glass window depicting an oil lamp, a beacon to draw the public to this place of knowledge. The historic interior invites visitors to discover, work, and relax. Staff members stand ready to assist with book, technology, and research questions. Our children's staff promote a love of reading to neighbourhood kids. Mandy, our children's programmer, is a familiar face at local daycares, schools, and afterschool programs. Annual author visits bring the creative process to life. We have hosted the York Street and Sainte-Anne elementary

schools for open houses with visiting performers, face painting, and crafts. We encourage budding writers to participate in the library's annual Awesome Authors competition (the 2018 deadline is February 19th!).

Our programs

We are excited to introduce a new option this winter for our youngest customers; a Babytime with lap bounces, books, and songs for ages 0-18 months and a parent or caregiver. We will also run programs during "Tune In!": our music-themed March Break. Adults can join our regular writer's group, bookclubs, and Go (board game) workshop. Visit [bibliootawalibrary.ca](#) for program descriptions and schedules.

Looking for something new to read?

Our staff are enthusiastic readers who delight in providing book recommendations to all ages. For avid readers in Lowertown, our annual reading challenge has returned for 2018. Visit the branch to pick up your challenge bookmark. Readers who read a book from all twelve categories can enter in a prize draw, with the winner to be announced next December.

Get in touch

377 Rideau St.

Rideau@ottawa.ca

InfoService : 613-580-2940

Do any of these library services surprise you?

Meeting room rentals
Computer and eBook **tutorials**
Extended loan periods for individuals with disabilities
Mango Languages resource for learning world languages
Online access to **newspapers from around the world**
Streaming services for music and video
eBook lending

Vient de Paraître: un livre sur la communauté francophone d'ottawa

Plusieurs événements spectaculaires ont fait vibrer la Basse-Ville en 2017, mais la parution d'un livre en novembre dernier, tout en ayant moins d'éclat, ne doit pas passer inaperçue. Le livre Ottawa, lieu de vie français examine entre autres les effets du renouvellement urbain des années 1960 et 1970 qui ont profondément marqué la Basse-Ville est et la communauté francophone d'Ottawa.

Quelques résidents d'hier et d'aujourd'hui de la Basse-Ville nous ont déjà laissé de vibrants témoignages sur les bouleversements vécus à l'époque, notamment dans le livre Ste-Anne d'Ottawa, une belle aventure humaine paru en 2013. Par contre, les écrits universitaires sur cette partie de l'histoire de notre quartier étaient

Par
Michel Rossignol

plutôt rares.

La nouvelle publication du Centre de recherche en civilisation canadienne-française (CRCCF) de l'Université d'Ottawa, le fruit de plusieurs années de recherche dans le cadre du Chantier Ottawa, une initiative appuyée par l'Association communautaire de la Basse-Ville, comble un vide.

Cette brique de 500 pages contient une chronologie de la résistance des Francophones au renouvellement urbain. Quelques

chapitres examinent l'impact du renouvellement et des projets immobiliers plus récents sur la Basse-Ville et sa communauté francophone, alors que d'autres donnent une vue d'ensemble des transformations vécues par toute la communauté francophone d'Ottawa au cours de plusieurs décennies.

Certains chapitres comme ceux sur le mouvement C'est l'temps, la place d'Ottawa dans le paysage culturel franco-ontarien et la gouvernance scolaire semblent avoir, à première vue, peu de liens directs avec la Basse-Ville, mais ils sont quand même des témoignages importants sur des personnes et des événements qui ont eu une grande influence sur la vie des résidents de la Basse-Ville.

Le livre sera utile à toutes les personnes qui veulent mieux comprendre comment le grand dérangement du renouvellement urbain, la vie culturelle, les luttes pour les services en français et d'autres questions ont transformé la Basse-Ville et sa communauté francophone depuis 1900. Cette nouvelle publication du CRCCF est donc une très importante contribution à l'étude de l'histoire de notre quartier et de notre ville. Les Francophones et tous les autres résidents de la Basse-Ville ne peuvent que s'en réjouir.

Le livre est disponible chez votre librairie ou vous pouvez le commander aux Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa. Voir <https://press.uottawa.ca/ottawa-lieu-de-vie-francais.html>.

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John Chenier

Spectacular mural adorns the wall at Planet Coffee.

Cafes Cont’d from Page 1

events pinned along the espresso bar. Paintings or photographs by local artists grace its walls. You can receive a palm reading from Jolyn every Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m., and chansonnier François Champagne performs on Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Soups, panini sandwiches and muffins are available, and all are prepared fresh on the premises, as at all the other independent cafes surveyed for this article. An expanded menu of baked treats is coming soon.

With floor-to-ceiling rolling glass doors looking out on bustling Byward Market Square at George and William streets, the Byward Cafe (55 Byward Market Square) offers one of the best views of any cafe in Ottawa. The Byward Cafe no longer has its own summer terrace area but there is plenty of outdoor seating on the recently renovated adjacent square. In addition to coffees, the Byward Cafe serves desserts, cakes, soup, salads and panini sandwiches as well as beer and wine.

Tucked away on cobblestoned Clarendon Lane, Planet Coffee (24a York) has been a beacon to lovers of the stylish bohemian cafe experience for over twenty years. Planet Coffee doesn’t have Wi-Fi, because it wants to attract a clientele seeking opportunities to socialize rather than catch up on Facebook. In the summer, Planet Coffee spills out onto the neighbouring lane, and an eclectic mix of tourists, students and style mavens can be found relaxing in the sun in perhaps the most historic setting in Ottawa. Planet Coffee is famed for its rhubarb-square dessert.

Its leatherette booths a nod to its vintage diner origins, Ideal Coffee (176 Dalhousie) is an oasis of languorous repose on the North Dal strip of fashion designer boutiques. You are welcome to play a vintage upright piano, and on Saturday mornings from 10:30 to 12:30, Katie plays guitar and sings country and folk music. The owner, Luciano, hails from Brazil and so pao de queijo (cheese bread) is among the snacks on offer. Ideal Coffee is also a coffee roastery. Ideal has applied for a liquor license and hopes to soon offer wines and beers, along with an expanded food menu.

Origin Trade (111 York) has a gentle hipness and quietly inviting atmosphere. Exposed brick walls and a large polished-concrete bar impart some of the ambience of a vintage neighbourhood tavern. In summer, there is a small terrace in front on York Street. Origin is licensed, and in the evening the small salon transforms itself into a lounge. On Monday nights, amateur performers flock to Origin for an acoustic open-mike event, and on other evenings provide ambient music.

And Now for Something Completely Different

Upbeat Italian pop music, clean white lines and stylish salon chairs set apart Mantovani 1946 at 87 Murray as a special venue for that first date or for a fine dessert with a friend in a stylish setting. Mantovani 1946 also serves lunch entrees such as Italian pasta dishes and arancini (fried rice balls stuffed with tomato sauce and cheese). Gelati, prepared to the recipes of the Mantovani family from Naples, are a major attraction.

HQ (113 Clarence) offers the unique opportunity to enjoy a coffee while watching clients at the neighbouring hair salon getting highlights through a glass wall that runs the length of HQ. HQ is spacious, with sleek white walls and marble tables. In addition to serving coffee beverages such as espresso, HQ has an adventurous kitchen, offering innovative appetizers and entrees such as a clam chowder prepared with jalapeño peppers, potatoes and Manila clams.

The flagship store for Canada, Starbucks Reserve at 62 York caters to both everyday java junkies and connoisseurs. In addition to traditional beverages such as lattes, Starbucks Reserve serves various specialty coffee beverages such as nitrogen cold-brewed coffee on tap served at a long tasting bar. A drinks menu also offers craft beers, Ontario cider, and wines.

A sign on the brick heritage house at 119 York depicts the classic image of the Mad Hatter, and at The Tea Party Cafe you can indeed experience a bohemian version of the traditional high tea. The clients are mainly students. There are occasional poetry readings, and on Fridays aspiring acoustic performers assemble for an open-mike evening. The Tea Party menu includes not only teas, coffees and scones, but Indian specialties such as buttered tofu, as well as craft beers and wine.

Il Perugino is a small but lively cafe at 176 Dalhousie that also transforms itself by night into a lounge. Eclectic decor such as gold pillars and red leather upholstery sets Il Perugino apart as a cafe with a rare pizzazz. Wednesdays, Il Perugino hosts an Italian card-games night. On weekend evenings a DJ plays Spanish and Italian pop music. The food menu includes pizzas, pasta and sandwiches, and for dessert, cannoli (Italian cream-filled pastries). Il Perugino also serves wine, beer and spirits such as amaro (a bitter Italian liqueur).

Since 1994, Oh So Good Dessert and Coffee House (25 York) has been an institution on the Byward Market for Ottawa dessert lovers. Oh So Good opens at noon, as it is predominantly frequented in the

evening by the after-dinner crowd seeking extraordinary desserts such as their chocolate raspberry truffle cake.

The wood-paneled, low-lit salons of

Oh So Good extend deep into the rear of the building, and feature an impressive array of work by local artists.

Name	Address	Wheelchairs?	Wifi?	Gluten-free	Non-dairy	Vegan
Mantovani 1946	87 Murray	Yes	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bluebird Coffee	261 Dalhousie	No	PP	No	No	Yes
Bridgehead	224 Dalhousie	Yes	Open	Yes	Yes	Yes
Planet Coffee	24a York	Yes	None	Yes	Yes	Yes
Byward Cafe	55 Byward Market Sq	Yes	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Origin	111 York	No	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Starbucks 'R	62 York	Yes	Open	Yes	Yes	Yes
The Tea Party	119 York	No	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tim Hortons (Rideau)	99 Rideau	Yes	None	No	No	Yes
Tim Hortons (King Edward)	360 St Patrick	Yes	None	No	No	Yes
HQ	113 Clarence	Yes	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Il Perugino	277 Dalhousie	Yes	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ideal Coffee	176 Dalhousie	Yes	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes
Starbucks (Chapters)	47 Rideau	Yes	Open	Yes	Yes	Yes
Second Cup	171 Rideau	Yes	Open	No	Yes	Yes
Oh So Good	25 York	Yes	PP	Yes	Yes	Yes



John Chenier

Coffee and chess make for a wonderful afternnon.

Byward Market: under new management

January marks milestone in Market revitalization efforts

January 1st of this year marked an important milestone in the history of the Byward Market. On this day, Ottawa Markets, a new municipal services corporation, took over management of market operations in the Byward and Parkdale markets from the City of Ottawa.

In Lowertown, the creation of Ottawa Markets is the culmination of over a decade of consultations and planning aimed at revitalizing the Byward Market. By transferring market operations to an independent corporation, the City of Ottawa is banking on the potential of dedicated leadership and a clear mandate to help revitalize the Byward Market and secure its future as a thriving traditional market in Ottawa's downtown core.

Residents have long been concerned with the decline in numbers of traditional fresh-food vendors and an increased prevalence of bars and restaurants in the Market. The City of Ottawa has also documented a decline in revenues, vendor diversity, sales,

and customer base in both the Byward and Parkdale markets.

By
Nicolas Moyer

Following recommendations built on community consultations and expert advice from Project for Public Spaces (PPS) between 2013 and 2015, last year city councillors approved the legal incorporation of Ottawa Markets and the general guidelines guiding its launch for January 2018. A volunteer board of directors was appointed in July 2017, and Jeff Darwin was appointed Executive Director in December.

Despite a few challenges, including short timelines and the resignation within four months of four of nine Board members, critical early decisions have been made. These include the contracting of a new property management firm (Paradigm Properties) and approval of a service agreement with the City of Ottawa for transfer of



Jeff Darwin (centre) with Mathieu Blanchard (L) and Anthony Hainse (R)

activities to Ottawa Markets. That service agreement retained ownership of Market infrastructure with the City, but transferred tenant agreements and lease management to Ottawa Markets. It also transferred \$160,000 in deferred revenues to Ottawa Markets and granted permission for a \$1 million line of credit.

With strong roots in Ottawa, Jeff Darwin says he is excited about the opportunity to revitalize the Market's traditional role in our community. "That process begins quickly in 2018 with consultations and the development of a 5-year Strategic Plan to be presented to Council in May," says Darwin.

A critical long-term issue will relate to the funding of any infrastructure changes included in plans to revitalize the Market. With only lease revenues to count on at this stage, Ottawa Markets has limited means at its disposal, but is projecting a balanced budget of \$1,575,000 in 2018.

Despite PPS's recommendation for Ottawa Markets to retain a portion of nearby parking revenues and the role such arrangements have played in the success of revitalization efforts for markets in other cities, like Montreal's Atwater and Jean-Talon Markets, no such decision was made here.

According to local councillor Mathieu Fleury, "Ottawa Markets has a critical role to play and has a clear mandate to support

the growth of fresh food retail in our historic Market." He has great hopes for the revitalization of the Byward Market. Citing the need to increase foot traffic in the Market, the councillor notes the positive impact expected from the new LRT station on Rideau.

As the plans for Byward Market are developed this year, City Council has recognized the need for major infrastructure improvements that support its renewal. Supporting this, Fleury signals the importance for local residents to be active participants in impending consultations. With so many stakeholders involved in the success of the Market, Jeff Darwin has also underlined the importance of collaboration and shared vision to achieve progress.

With strong community interest in the revitalization of the Byward Market, residents will be watching for an ambitious change and investment plan to favour the return of a bustling, thriving public market to its community. Opportunities to participate in related consultations will be available in February and March, though details are not yet known.

Ottawa Markets has taken over office space in 50 Byward Market (just above the Byward Market Café). Stay informed about Ottawa Market's activities on Twitter (@OttawaMarkets) or their website www.ottawamarkets.com



My front porch restoration

Some years ago, my neighbour and I decided that our elderly double required porch renovation. As residents of the Lowertown West Heritage Conservation District, we wanted a look that reflected something of the original character of the house. Our neighbourhood has many original heritage houses built by master builders with a love of wood, and we wanted something that reflected this history.

By
Nancy Colton

After some sleuthing, we chose Paul Denys, who came highly recommended and who lived up to his reputation. His work in Lowertown has won several City of Ottawa Heritage Awards, and just down Bolton Street was one home where he had already resurrected the beauty of its porches and cornices. His work is labour intensive and may not be the lowest estimate, but his attention to detail brought my humble porch back to life.



Renovation to original design done by Paul Denys.

My porch is special, but the Alphonse Rochon House, now the Jean-Claude Bergeron Art Gallery at 150 St. Patrick Street, stands out as a testament to the work of a skilled and artistic restorer. The elaborate porch created by Alphonse Rochon, one of the wood carvers for the Cathedral, had disappeared. Only an old faded photograph

provided guidance for Paul, and more than 3,000 pieces of wood later, the building stands as a heritage landmark.

My modest vintage porch was a relatively small project but I now appreciate the effort of others who have honoured their homes or businesses with a nod to Lowertown's past craftspeople.



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Talking with Mike Mackey

The band “Kings of Lowertown” has deep Lowertown roots. Mike Mackey is the band founder, as well as songwriter, rhythm guitarist and vocalist, a true musical jack of all trades. Mackey has lived on St. Patrick Street, right across from the Notre Dame Basicila for well over a decade. He is a regular at many neighbourhood establishments including one of his favourites , The Lauzon Grocery Store” on Cumberland St. Mackey notes that “I also loved that my grandparents were married at St. Brigid’s Church in 1932:”

The Kings of Lowertown is also made up of Jon Christink of Pembroke Ontario joining the gruop playing slide guitar, electric guitar and banjo. Mackey explains how the name of the band “Kings of Lowertown” came to be.

“I was interested in local history, still am, and I came to learn about the complexities of the lives of settlers coming to build futures in Ottawa and the Ottawa valley and sadly, the neglect of Indigenous culture within the idea of Canada.”

By
Christine Kilfoil

He continued:
“I liked the fact there are many “Lowertowns” existing in numerous cities in Canada and the United States and I thought the plurality of “kings” was grand because



usually there can only be one, and it was perhaps suggestive that it was more sharing of power, all genders, wealth and community. “

Clearly the name” Kings of Lowertown” captures both history, and complex ideas about equality, diversity and learning to live together and sharing space.

“I don’t really know where the songs come from”, says Mackey, “I know I’m inspired by many things. I love the Ottawa

valley, rural blues songs, elements of New Orleans such as the lower 9th ward, the Mississippi delta, and local history “. Mackey add that “I’m currently intoxicated by singer, songwriter Sarah Shook and her band, the Disarmers.” The new recording digs deeper into the Bands own distinct rural blues sound and the tribulations of small town outsiders living lives on the periphery of society.

The Kings of Lowertown recently returned to the stage with songs from their EP Missouri Lowsier at the Avant-Garde Bar on 135 1/2 Bessesser Street in Ottawa last December. Mackey is excited about the impending release of their new EP “Missouri Lowsider” written by Mackey and produced and engineered in Greenwood Ontario by Jordon Zadorozny. It is being released in late winter or early spring of 2018 and will be available for purchase at the bands live shows. You can also check out the band’s latest release “Woodpile” on YouTube.

Books by or about Lowertowners

From the desk of the Editor, this is a new column that will build over future issues. This Echo features a review by Michel Rossignol of a recent French language publication from the University of Ottawa which includes sections on Lowertown’s francophone population.

We aim to have more reviews of books written entirely in French as well as books available in both languages in future issues.

In this column, we feature a book written by Graham Gibbs who is happy to call Lowertown his home after years of living and travelling in other parts. As well we highlight several “coming of age” books – fiction and nonfiction –written in English by authors who spent many formative years in Lowertown.

We count on you to let us know of other books written by current Lowertown residents, as well as books written about Lowertown by former residents and others.

Current Lowertown resident, Graham Gibbs authored Five Ages of Canada: A History from Our First Peoples to Confederation (2016), a work that resulted from several long and numerous short trips in his their Canadian Roadtrek Class B camper van. From multiple visits to historic and archeological sites and from conversations with fellow Canadians, Gibbs concluded that Canada’s history could be described in five distinct and progressive eras – or “ages” to use his term. From first inhabitants through to Confederation personalities, he chronicles the stories that shaped the country.

The first age introduces Canada’s first inhabitants: the Palaeo-Indians from Northern Asia, their descendants, and the First Nations and Inuit peoples of today. The second age began in the early 1500s when fishing fleets from European nations spent their summers fishing off the shores Newfoundland. (Newfoundland tourist officials might not agree to when this all started.)

A century later, the third age began with the first permanent English and French settlements in the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec which led to the ensuing battle for dominion between England and France. The fourth age covers the fur trade that was responsible for the exploration, mapping and eventual settlement of the west. Lastly, the fifth age, “The Road to Confederation,” is the story of Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir

George-Étienne Cartier and the other Fathers of Confederation.

Graham has shared their coast-to-coast adventures on his website: www.grahamgibbsmycanada.ca (Graham can be contacted via his website). His book is available at the boutique of the Canadian Museum of History, Books on Beechwood and available online via Friesen Press:

Former Lowertown residents have supplied some wonderful stories about growing up in Lowertown.

Brian Doyle wrote Angel Square (1984) a mystery that is solved by a young Lowertown boy named Tommy with help from his friends. The author who lived during his youth on Cobourg Street where the Patro/City of Ottawa building is now located writes about the young Catholics, Protestants and Jews who live near Anglesea Square, now renamed Jules Morin Park. Through the eyes of Tommy, a student at York Street Public School, the reader sees the good and the bad of a Lowertown (and larger Ottawa) at the end of the Second World War. Several versions of plays based on his novel have been produced for amateur school and professional theatre performances. The book was also made into a movie that won three Genie award in 1990.

Robert Fontaine’s The Happy Time (1945) features a young boy Bibi living on Friel Street in the 1920s surrounded by French-and Scottish family members. Fontaine’s father worked for several decades as a musician in Ottawa, playing at various theatres and at the Chateau Laurier. Bibi’s adventures take him to many familiar locations in and around the city. The book was made into a movie in 1952 movie and a 1968 musical on Broadway.

Doris Lee-Momy wrote both Farewell, My Bluebell: A Vignette of Lowertown (1998) and Coming of Age in Lowertown: A sequel to Farewell, My Bluebell. Her vignettes about the people, businesses, schools, churches and other elements of her immediate neighbourhood reveal a vibrant tight knit community. The author was born at 137 King Edward Avenue during the Second World War and she witnessed the end of a way of life and of her home when Lowertown was severely changed by urban renewal.

Lower Town: A Novel by Darren Jerome First Class Press, 2014 “Step back

in time almost 200 years, to the new-hewn streets of Lower Town in the time of the Shiners’ War. Old Bytown comes alive through this story of two Irish brothers, who in their hearts, lives, and fates are as different from one another as all the opposing forces around them.”

Norman Levine (short story) and Johanne McDuff, (photographs) collaborated with Glenn Cheriton (publisher) to produce this small booklet title In Lower Town (1977). This small booklet — which begins with Levine’s words “When I was a kid we lived in Lower Town, Ottawa” — narrates his life as part of a Jewish community and ends with a description of the destruction of the Rideau Convent. The photographs tell the story of 1970s Lowertown as it is recovering from urban renewal.

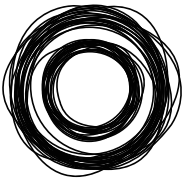
Sylvia Bodovsky Kershman, author of Life Lines and Other Lines (2016) grew up at 321 St Andrew Street in a household strongly connected to the large Jewish population in Lowertown. She writes about her family life and the institutions that supported it, her father’s business as a butcher in the Byward Market and her own forays into business, as well as the larger sphere of the Ottawa community.

If you know of other books, plays, and so forth by people with a history of Lowertown or books about our community, please send you suggestions to echo@lowertown-basseville.ca

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Meet your neighbour:

Animal rights lawyer Camille Labchuk

Growing up in a family that included cats, a hamster and a rabbit, Camille Labchuk saw all animals as pets. That changed forever when she was nine and watched a TV show on the seal hunt.

Just a dozen years later, Labchuk was on the ice floes off the East Coast campaigning against the hunt during a vacation from her then job in the office of Green Party leader Elizabeth May.

While her mom, an environmental activist, inspired Labchuk to “do something about it if you see an injustice,” it was May, a lawyer, who inspired her to study law. She wanted to be able to quickly drill down, like her boss, through legalese.

After graduating from the University of Toronto, Labchuk established a rare solo practice in animal law before taking her current position as executive director of Animal Justice, a non-profit group dedicated to “the legal fight for animals in Canada.”

Her latest project is co-hosting a new podcast with a title, Paw and Order, that injects humour

into an often-grim topic.

Labchuk jokes that she can depress anyone in minutes by talking about Canada’s poor state of animal protection. Cases in point: animals freezing to death in trucks heading to slaughter; the misery of chickens in battery cages; inadequate food labelling; and public dependence on whistleblowers and complaints, far more than inspectors, to expose and oppose cruelty.

By
Juliet O’Neill

Canada should have a coherent national animal welfare statute, Labchuk says. In her view, the current Criminal Code, federal transportation regulations, and provincial laws and rules related to animals comprise a weak patchwork that pales against other Western countries.

“Animals should have rights appropriate to their species,” she

said. “Not the right to vote or to drive a car, but to live free of pain and to enjoy everything that makes life worth living.”

Despite her dim view of Canada’s record, Labchuk was optimistic in an interview at Mantovani 1946, an Italian gelato café on Murray Street. A vegan, she ordered her café latte with almond milk.

Public awareness is growing, she said, thanks to mainstream media and social media “inspiring a greater ethic of care.”

Living for the past few years in Lowertown, Labchuk, 33, enjoys the proximity to the Byward Market, being within walking distance to her downtown office and to Parliament Hill, where several proposed laws for animals are being considered.

The proposals would ban captivity of whales and dolphins, prohibit cosmetic testing on animals, ban shark fin imports, and criminalize all sexual contact with animals.

The Supreme Court of Canada suggested in 2016 that Parliament modernize the anti-



Camille Labchuk

bestiality law after it acquitted an accused. For Labchuk, the case produced two milestones. For the first time, lawyers were allowed to stand up in court and address judges on behalf of animals. And the Supreme Court ruling incorpo-

rated Animal Justice’s position that “fundamental values” include the protection of vulnerable animals.

“Pretty cool,” said Labchuk. “That set the tone for the future.”

Business Profile:

Lynn Truong: Tailor and seamstress

Lynn Truong doesn’t sleep in Lowertown, but she lives here all the same. That’s because she’s almost always at her shop, Lynn’s Tailoring, on the second floor of 288 Dalhousie Street, where she has been doing business as a seamstress since 2009.

Actually, Lynn’s connection to Lowertown’s needle trade dates back much earlier than that. In 1991, soon after arriving in Ottawa from Vietnam with four young children in tow, she started work at Dworkin Furs on Rideau Street, just east of King Edward. And, except for a short stint at another fur store off Elgin Street, she’s been in our neighbourhood ever since.

“In 1994, I began as a part-time seamstress for Market Cleaners,” Lynn recalls, speaking of the business just downstairs from hers. “Ten years later, I switched to full time for them. And five years after that, I went out on my own.”

Today, Market Cleaners still sends business Lynn’s way. But, over the years, she has developed a broad clientele of her own – as is immediately evident to anyone stepping into her shop and seeing the huge array of clothing hanging neatly on racks, waiting to be worked on or collected by her customers.

Despite this large volume, Lynn delivers on time. “I love my work, so putting in lots of hours is no problem for me,” she says. “I try to leave a bit early on Fridays to spend extra time with my

grandchildren, but my customers are like family, too, and I never want to disappoint them.”

By
Joel Weiner

May, June and July are Lynn’s most hectic months, when marriages and school proms are at their peak and she is busy with wedding dresses, evening gowns and other fancy wear. Some of this specialized work is done in the evenings, when she takes appointments after 6:00 PM. Her solid background in the fur trade is another forte that is called upon, generally later in the year. However, year-round, Lynn has a steady load of alterations and repairs for men and women alike.

Lynn learned to sew in Vietnam, where her grandmother’s company made table cloths for sale in France, her mother fitted ladies’ garments in her own shop, and an uncle was a tailor. “I



Lynn Truong

Photo by John McQuarrie

learned from all of them,” she explains, but especially my mother because I would help her out after school. I liked the business then and I like it now.”

Before emigrating to Canada, Lynn ran various enterprises in her home town. Her penchants for sewing and commerce eventually merged when she opened Lynn’s

Tailoring less than twenty years after she arrived in Ottawa.

“I came here to make a better life for my children,” says Lynn, taking obvious pride in the fact that she succeeded. Today a proud grandmother of five, she delights in her family, her business and her many friends. She’s also a huge booster of Lowertown, patroniz-

ing merchants up and down Dalhousie Street and the Byward Market.

“I could get a haircut in Chinatown for \$15 but I’d rather support my neighbours” she says. “The same is true for clothing, food, gifts and almost everything I need. Lowertown supports me, so I do what I can to support it.”



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Things to do, places to go

2 – 19 February, Winterlude: Venues: **Snowflake Kingdom at 350 Laurier Gatineau Jacques-Cartier Park, Confederation Park, the Rideau Canal and the Byward Market:** Consult the calendar of events at www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/winterlude/calendar-events.html for a list of activities at each location. For the children, Snowflake Kingdom should be on the must-do list. Always amazing are the ice sculptures in Confederation Park and the Snow'Art events in the Byward Market. The OLG Sno-Bus Shuttle Service links the Winterlude official sites on weekends and Family day. Stops are sign-posted.

8 & 21 February, 8:00 pm, **Brigid's Well, 310 St Patrick entrance off Cumberland:** North of Normal – IMPROV SHOW. Sundays at 5:00 pm, Live Music, 1st Sunday of the month - Bluegrass & Country with the String Masons; 2nd Sunday - Vintage Country & Cajun with Ball and Chain; 3rd Sunday - Swing, Blues, Country & Folk with Pat Moore & Roland Doucet; 4th Sunday - Blues & Folk with John Carroll and Fred Guignon.

9 February, 11:30 am – 2:00 pm, **Byward Market, York Street:** 27th annual Winterlude Stew Cook-off: For only \$10 get all the stew you can eat from over 20 By-Ward Market restaurants. Vote for your favourite in the Top Shelf Distiller's People's Choice Awards. Celebrity judges will pick Russell Hendrix/Ron Eade Chef's Choice Award. All proceeds to the LCRC. <http://www.crcbv.ca/>

11 February, 1:00 – 3:30 pm, **Byward Market, Clarence Street between William & Dalhousie, 3rd Byward Market Server Games:** Teams from various ByWard Market restaurants, bars, and cafés compete for the title of server champions!

14 February – 3 March, 7:30 pm, **The Ottawa Little Theatre, 400 King Edward:** Dead Accounts, a dark comedy that tackles the timeless issues of corporate greed, small town values, and whether or not your family will always welcome you back..

17 Février, Samedi 15H, **La Nouvelle Scène, 333 King Edward:** Théâtre Enfance: Les Grand-Mères Mortes, une fête est un joyeux hommage aux grands-mères disparues. Tout est en place pour créer une fête chaleureuse qui célèbre la douceur de nos relations avec nos grands-mères. Le spectacle honore en musique, en douces folies et par la création de petits autels de fortune, le souvenir d'une personne que nous avons aimée.

17 February, 8:00 - 10:00 pm, St Joseph's, 174 Wilbrod: Music with Hart! An evening of classical music by University of Toronto Hart House Orchestra. All proceeds go to Centre 454 (<http://www.centre454.ca>)

19 February, Monday (Family Day) 1-4 pm, **Jules Morin Park:** The Lowertown Winterfest: free activities for families including bouncing castle, wagon rides, music and skating. Hot dogs and hot chocolate will be served.

23 – 25 March, Arts Court Theatre, 2 Daly Ave: Irish Film Festival presents six award-winning Irish films. (irishfilmfestivalottawa.ca)



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communautaires de la Basse-Ville**
**Lowertown Community
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Le Centre de ressources communautaires de la Basse-ville contribue à bâtir un quartier plus vivant et plus sécuritaire!

Programmes et activités pour résidents de la Basse-Ville:

- ✦ **Enfants de 0-6 ans et parents:** groupes de jeux, programmes de soutien
- ✦ **Jeunes de 6 à 21 ans:** club de devoirs, camps d'été, sports
- ✦ **Adultes et familles:** counseling, intervention en situation de crise
- ✦ **Aînés:** zumba, yoga, natation, activités sociales
- ✦ **Tous:** accès à internet, jardinage, dépannage alimentaire, banque vestimentaire, occasions de bénévolat, aide au logement, et bien plus!

Veuillez visiter notre site web (www.crcbv.ca/fr) pour en apprendre davantage.



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- ✦ **Youth ages 6-21:** homework club, summer day camp sports
- ✦ **Adults and families:** counseling, crisis intervention
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- ✦ **For all:** internet access, gardening, food assistance, clothes bank, volunteering opportunities, help with housing, and much more!

Visit our site (www.crcbv.ca) to find out more.



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City Councillor / Conseiller municipal

Mathieu Fleury

Ward / Quartier Rideau-Vanier

As always, our office is here to help you.

Comme toujours, notre bureau est ici pour vous aider

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