

# Sussex shutdown

Michelle Ramsay

In August, news trickled out that the National Capital Commission (NCC) would soon shut down four heritage buildings—an entire block—on the east side of Sussex Drive for 12 to 15 months, as well as The Black Thorn Café around the corner on Clarence Street.

The businesses that have to relocate include Richard Robinson at the north end of the block, Hazlo Law, MaiYa Pearls, ça va de soi, and Julie Thibault. Two storefronts are already vacant: St. Amour Photography, and McCaffrey Haute Couture at the south end of the block. The vacant lot in between McCaffrey's and The Black Thorn is 7 Clarence, former site of the popular Memories Café. All of the properties back onto Tin House Court.

Although rumours abounded, the NCC waited until Sept. 15th to make a formal announcement about the shutdown. Prior to that, the only information it released was published in its August 2015 Tin House Court Area Newsletter: "As you may have heard, we are also considering maintenance and life cycle works... on Sussex Drive and Clarence Street. In order to minimize disruptions to residents and businesses, we have considered completing these projects concurrently with the construction at 7 Clarence Street." The notice called the work "potential projects", but local shopkeepers confirmed as early as September 3rd that "it's a done deal".

The Black Thorn was the first to close, after Sunday brunch on Sept. 13th. According to Shaddy, the bartender, the owner received the written notice to vacate at the end of August. He had first heard the news from someone at the NCC about a month earlier. "They said we had to

shut down because they have to demolish a section on the west side of our building to have enough room for the construction next door (at 7 Clarence). The entire kitchen will be demolished."

Shaddy recounted how the owner broke the news to him. "We have 32 employees. Should we tell them right away so they will have more time to find another job, or wait for formal notice from the NCC?" They chose to

Christmas season business, which is good," said one retailer.

The NCC is endeavouring to relocate the Sussex Drive merchants to other premises. "I've looked at one spot north of here, off Sussex, but it doesn't get as much walk-by traffic," said one shop owner. "I'm hoping for something more like what I have here." She added, "It's such a shame to move, after everything we've been through. The Sussex Drive reconstruction, the scaffolding out front, the work out back on the courtyard side. One thing after another since 2010."

A sales clerk in another boutique shared her understanding of the reason for the evictions. "We heard they (NCC) want to redo everything, inside and out. Really spruce up the buildings in time for the celebrations in 2017," she said, referring to the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

Tin Court area businesses and residents, as well as other stakeholders such as the Lowertown Community Association, finally heard all the details at the September 15th meeting.

According to the NCC, its goal is "to ensure that this historic group of heritage buildings is preserved, that access to the Tin House Court is improved, and that the new building at 7 Clarence Street is built efficiently. There is also discussion about a community public art project to enhance the area."

Construction work is scheduled to begin in January 2016. The work to be undertaken on the buildings located between 445 and 465 Sussex Drive and at 13—15 Clarence Street will include: restoration of facades, replacement of

continues on page 13



The whole block at 445-465 Sussex Dr. will shut down for renovation.

tell their people and within days had lost so many staff that they couldn't cover all their tables, so they removed the front patio. During the final two or three weeks they had only four people to cover all shifts.

All the residents above the shops on Sussex have to move out by September 30th. They were given just over a month's notice. The owner of the Black Thorn is one of them. "He received the eviction notice for his home the same day he received the formal eviction notice for his business," says Shaddy. "So it was a double whammy."

The business owners on Sussex Drive were also given notice to vacate by September 30th. Fortunately, the date was recently extended to December 31st, "to allow us to have our



**Vote in the federal elections on October 19 and join us for candidate debates. See our elections coverage on pages 6 and 7.**

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ByWard Moves



Michelle Ramsay

Let's start off with retail news this month. No new stores have opened over the summer, but two are on the horizon.

An anonymous neighbour told me that **Le Creuset Boutique** will be opening in **David Findlay's** former location at 517 Sussex Drive. No word on the date yet, but there is so much construction activity behind the papered windows that it must be sooner rather than later.

Montreal's **Bella Boutique** will be opening an Ottawa location in December 2015, in the heritage building at 55 Murray Street. Had a peek at their website, bellaottawa.com. If I'm invited to the Oscars next spring, Bella will definitely be on my radar. It will be nice to see that space on the corner of Parent Street filled with beautiful gowns. It's been vacant too long.

**Lida Boutique** at 112 Parent Street was planning to close in June but is hanging on, reincarnated as a "designer clearance outlet".

Sadly, more closures than openings on the retail

scene. We lost **Armen**, a European menswear boutique, at 100 Murray Street. No reason why; their website, Facebook page and Twitter feed haven't been updated since early summer.

The closing that made waves was **McCaffrey Haute Couture** at 465 Sussex Drive, shuttered by bankruptcy in late July. The sudden closure left brides who had ordered a gown bereft; delighted others when the trustees held a massive sell-off sale.

Also gone quickly without notice, over the August long weekend, **Oleander for Home** at 14 Clarence Street. Inside the door at the vacated premises there's a sandwich board wishing everyone a great long weekend. On the website, this message: "Many thanks to our clients, friends and neighbours for nine lovely years."

Moving on to the hospitality side of the news, recently opened **Not Your Father's Barber** at 91 Murray Street is generating buzz. It bills itself as "Ottawa's premier sports-themed barber shop and café", and boasts that a 40" flat screen TV is available at each barber station—for watching that not-to-be-missed game. Will you have an espresso or a latte with your cut?

**Atari Restaurant** at 297 Dalhousie Street, in the spot formerly known as **Sopra**, got lots of love from the Ottawa Citizen in early September. Given Peter Hum's complimentary review, and the reveal that the Atari menu lists "a plate of double-stacked, deep-fried Oreos with a small vanilla shake for dipping", anticipate long wait times for a reservation.

Don't step into the new **El Furniture Warehouse** expecting to buy a sofa bed! Recently opened at 77 Clarence Street - **Mambo Nuevo Latino's** old spot - El Furny is actually a restaurant, part of a chain that originated in Whistler BC and is propagating across Canada faster than bunnies. "Every meal \$4.95, all day, every day," pretty much sums it up. No wonder it's been jam-packed ever since it opened in July.

A few doors west, at 97 Clarence Street, **Cupid's Gourmet Hot Dogs** lasted less time than the proverbial New York minute. They had great hot dogs, but all save two were more expensive than the Warehouse's across-the-board price of \$4.95. Wrong place, wrong time.

In my last column, I reported that **Angelina's**

**Café** had closed down. Delighted to report that it's re-opened across the street under a new name, **Hungry Carrot**. By all accounts, the new location at 18 Clarence Street is doing well.

Now you see it, now you don't. Fashion hot-house **Frou Frou** moved a couple of blocks one night over Labour Day weekend, from 11A William Street to 110 Parent Street, the former site of **B UniQ**.

Lastly, we've heard that 11 William Street, the previous home of **The Sassy Bead Company**, is being transformed into a bubble tea shop, name unknown.

*Michelle Ramsay is a brand name creator and storyteller who fell in love at first sight with Lowertown in 2012*

Lowertown Community Association meetings

The Lowertown Community Association meets on the second Monday of each month. Meetings are held from 7 to 9 pm at the Routhier Community Centre, located at 172 Guigues Ave.

**Upcoming meetings:**     October 26 (delayed to allow participation in candidate debates), November 9, December 14.

LCA meetings are regularly attended by our elected councillor and the Ottawa Police Community Constable. Connect with us at [info@lowertown-basseville.ca](mailto:info@lowertown-basseville.ca)

LCA President's letter



Liz Bernstein, LCA president

Dear neighbours,

It's September, and we're back at work or school, continuing our busy lives. Candidates are knocking on our doors, City Council is back in session and discussing our City's budget. This July, City Council approved its Term of Council Priorities, which now form the strategic plan. The good news for Lowertown is that the revitalization of the ByWard Market was included in these priorities. The redevelopment plans imagine the Market building dedicated to selling fresh food year-round, and a pedestrian-friendly market, with streetscapes that invite people to stay and enjoy the local, fresh produce stands, have a meal on a patio, or just people-watch on a bench.

Now that the plans are a Term of Council Priority, Council must fund the first phase; that means committing funds now, as they discuss Ottawa's 2016 Budget. Funding for revitalizing one of Canada's oldest and continuously operated markets for Canada's 150th birthday is rightfully recognized as a priority. Canada will be celebrating its 150th birthday in 2017, and our community will play a role in hosting the celebrations. The Byward Market, arguably the city's heart, will be thrust on a national platform, as it should be.

This past month we were fortunate to host two city-wide groups in our community, at Jules Morin Fieldhouse. We hosted the Community Association Forum on Environmental Sustainability (CAFES) to discuss the Complete Streets Implementation Framework that City's Transportation committee will review Oct. 7.

We also talked about accelerating funding for pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, including for the ByWard market. Representatives of fifteen associations, councillors, city staff, Hon. Meilleur and federal candidates participated. We then hosted the Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA) with 30 representatives of associations from across the city to discuss the City's Strategic Plan and our community priorities. We were able to share the beauty and the challenges of our neighbourhood, like improving the Market and safety on King Edward Ave.

Though we are all busy with so many activities in our lives, now is the time to participate and ensure we have a say in our City and our country. City Council is debating our City's budget and you can have your say on October 7 at a forum in St Laurent. On October 19, we have the federal election. Candidates knock on doors for a reason. Talk to them about what matters to you, whatever it may be: from improving our cities, our jobs, housing, education, healthcare, to our environment, energy and economic policies, to the refugee crisis, from the local to the global. Engage. Meet your candidates and ensure they earn your vote. Come to candidate debates (see page 7 for a list). Most important of all, be sure to vote. Your voice matters. So many fought for our right to have it, we're lucky to have the privilege, it's our responsibility to use it. Hope to see you at debates, or at the polling station!

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 2015, the Echo will be published in February, April, June, September and November. 7,500 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](mailto: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 2015, l'Echo sera publié en février, avril, juin, septembre et novembre. Son tirage est de 7500 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 email au [echo@lowertown-basseville.ca](mailto: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.

**E-mail/Courriel:** [echo@lowertown-basseville.ca](mailto:echo@lowertown-basseville.ca)

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Deadline

Reserve your advertising space or submit your contribution to [echo@lowertown-basseville.ca](mailto:echo@lowertown-basseville.ca) by **November 6, 2015**

The Echo is written, published and delivered thanks to the efforts of dedicated and talented volunteers and the support of our advertisers. Please support local businesses, especially those who advertise in and display the Echo.

**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](mailto:echo@lowertown-basseville.ca) avant le **6 novembre 2015**

L'Echo est rédigé, publié et distribué grâce au dévouement et au talent de nombreux bénévoles, mais aussi avec l'appui des annonceurs. Soutenez les commerces locaux, et tout particulièrement ceux qui font de la publicité dans l'Echo ou chez qui vous pouvez le trouver.

**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.



# Richcraft Towers at 560 Rideau approved against community and councillor opposition

Peter Ferguson

In July, the City Planning Committee decided to approve the zoning amendment requested by Richcraft for 7- and 14-storey mixed use (residential and



The lot at 544-560 Rideau  
Photo: Robert Forbes

commercial) facilities at 538, 544 and 560 Rideau Street, and a 4-storey apartment facility on Besserer Street. The final vote was 7 to 2 to approve, with Councillors Leiper and Nussbaum opposing, and another councillor abstaining.

The 14-storey residential tower is at the corner of Rideau and Cobourg, with a lower 7-storey residential building along the rest of the frontage on Rideau.

Community participants who attended spoke about their concerns with the tower height, lack of podium, location of the proposed tower on land zoned for 6 storeys, setbacks and heritage issues. There was a constant focus on delaying the vote on the application until after the Committee would

have had an opportunity to review and discuss the Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan on Sept. 22. After the first three interventions, including Action Sandy Hill, the Committee Chair requested that Councillors discuss the idea of delaying the vote. Only three Councillors - Leiper, Nussbaum and Cloutier - favoured setting aside the application. The motion to defer was defeated in a 7 - 3 vote.

Councillor Fleury, who is not a member of the Planning Committee, supported deferring the application until the Uptown Rideau plan. Once the motion failed, his questions were directed mostly to city officials, relating to setbacks and other design features of the building that will be dealt with as part of the site control approval process.

The final presentation by Fotenn for



Rendering of approved development

Richcraft was a brief, low-key refutation of some of the points raised by community representatives.

## Citizens for Responsible Development Ottawa interviewed Action Sandy Hill president, Chad Rollins about the community's position on the city's process and the proposed development at 560 Rideau.

Q: What are the objections and concerns over the proposal?

A: The City and the community have devoted a lot of time and energy to developing the existing Community Design Plan (2005) and the new one, yet Richcraft's proposal doesn't respect the vision that is common to both those plans. Sadly, the development has no podium, no proper transitions, the architecture doesn't take any cues from the surrounding areas. Our primary concern is that the vision for Rideau, as called for in the CDP and Official Plan, is of a traditional mainstreet, characterized by consistent mid-rise development that frames the street, with lots of small-scale commercial at grade to animate the street. The building doesn't respect any of this.

Q: What is your greatest fear with this particular development?

A: That it will set a precedent. The next developer planning to build on Rideau St. will simply argue that, regardless of what the CDP says, their property is the same as Richcraft's, so they should also be allowed to build a high-rise.

Q: What ultimate outcome would you like to achieve with this particular development?

A: That the current vacant lot and derelict buildings be replaced with a

new development that is respectful of our vision for the street.

Q: How would you qualify your experience participating in the City of Ottawa's planning process?

A: Having been involved in this process many times over the last few years, I am becoming convinced that the whole process has been designed to give the illusion of community consultation while ultimately letting developers do whatever they want.

Q: Do you feel the planning process is democratic, transparent and fair to communities?

A: No, not at all. The process is completely undemocratic and not remotely transparent. The real decisions are made behind closed doors with no community involvement. The financial interests of the property owner are given far more weight than community concerns, which are simply dismissed because we're not professional planners.

Q: What could the planning department have done better?

A: The planning department should give more weight to community concerns. They should start with the assumption that the developer needs to justify proposed changes to plans and policies, rather than the community having to demonstrate why the developers proposed changes are not desirable. Their planning reports should be far more detailed and include an analysis of all the applicable plans and policies and justification for any recommended changes.

# OCH revitalizes 380 Murray Street

Ottawa Community Housing Corporation (OCH) started renovation work at their 380 Murray St. property. Located at the east end of Murray St, by Jules Morin Park, the 11-storey high rise is managed by OCH, the largest social housing provider in Ottawa. The rejuvenation work is part of a \$30.5 million capital investment in OCH's housing portfolio, which spans 165 communities. The work addresses the maintenance, repair and replacement of building components, aiming to extend the life of some of OCH's aging housing stock. 380 Murray St. is the largest individual investment in OCH's portfolio this year.

Built in 1973, the 42 year old,

230-unit building is going through a facelift that began in August 2015. Construction is scheduled to take nearly two years to complete. While some of the work will be less obvious, like replacement of the parking garage roof membrane, replacing pipes, stairwell repairs and interior parking garage repairs, the external enhancements will be quite noticeable and refreshing. Balconies will be completely replaced with modern railings and bird netting, the podium - the area



The 11-storey highrise at 380 Murray

directly in front of the building - will be redesigned with welcoming seating areas, greenery, tables, and a new layout to better access both the tenant entrance and the OCH office. The addition of a community garden is also considered. When the work is completed, 380 Murray will look like a new, modern building.

OCH provides almost 15,000 homes to over 32,000 seniors, parents, children, singles and persons with special needs in communities across the city. In Lowertown alone, it houses over 2,300 tenants in a little over 1,300 homes.

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# Mission volunteers welcome students at St. Albans BBQ

Rev. Mark Whittall

September is here, and uOttawa students are back in Lowertown and Sandy Hill. Many are new in town, still finding their way around, hoping to get to know our community. And many of them found their way to St. Albans Church's annual Welcome Student BBQ on Sunday, September 13.

from the program serve up delicious burgers to hungry students at the St. Albans Welcome Student BBQ.

Chef Ric Allen-Watson, Manager of Food Services at the Ottawa Mission, says they never have trouble getting volunteers to sign up. "The men and women in our job training program are always looking for ways to give back to the community, and we enjoy working

Many of the students joined St. Albans Church for its 10am Sunday service and many more went straight to the BBQ, which started soon after in the church garden. Ministry to university and college students is a priority for St. Albans Church, which is located at 454 King Edward and Daly, close to the University of Ottawa. There are large student contingents at both the

versity, and the first Open Table of the new school year scheduled for Sunday, September 27. The Open Table is a free meal and an opportunity to build community and meet new friends for students and young adults. It takes place at Centre 454 in the basement of St. Albans Church, doors open at 5:30pm, meal at 6pm. The Open Table is an initiative of the Anglican, United, Pres-



"It's a big job trying to figure out how to feed over a hundred hungry students," says event coordinator Juliana Colwell, one of the St. Albans Church student interns. "That's why we're so grateful that every year, volunteers from The Ottawa Mission's Food Services Training Program come and help us out by doing the cooking." Food Services Training is a five month program at The Ottawa Mission that teaches trainees how to cook and handle food. Its graduates have become cooks in restaurants and commercial kitchens, or have continued their culinary education at Algonquin College. Every September, volunteers

Students gather for a free home cooked meal and great conversation at the Open Table in the basement of St. Albans Church at 454 King Edward Avenue. The next Open Table will be on Sunday, September 27.

with the people at St. Albans to welcome students to our neighbourhood. Besides, it's a great event and lots of fun!" This year's BBQ was the biggest ever. Juliana attributes the increase to the new uOttawa Rideau residence that opened beside the church. "With 372 new first year students having just moved into the Rideau residence, that definitely boosted our numbers at the BBQ."

10am and 5pm services on Sundays, and the student and young adult club meets every Tuesday at 7pm at the church. St. Albans also runs a Student Leadership Program. This year there are five student interns who will participate in leadership training, faith formation and community placements. September is a busy time of year for St. Albans campus ministry, with orientation activities at both the University of Ottawa and Carleton Uni-

byterian and Lutheran churches, and meals are provided by a partnership of local congregations. St. Albans Church will be holding its annual Open House in partnership with Centre 454 on Sunday, October 25th. Lowertown residents are invited to come to the service at 10am or to join us for the Open House from 11:20 to 1pm. All are welcome. For more information, please visit [www.stalbanschurch.ca](http://www.stalbanschurch.ca)



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# Bingham Park's summer of 2015

Donna Kearns

Bingham Park started off the summer season on a positive note, with City of Ottawa Park Maintenance crew removing all the winter debris, raking and cleaning the Dalhousie side of the park as soon as the snow cleared.

The previous year's donations of a playground climbing structure along with several benches and games tables were in use straight away.

In May, with support once again from Chance Foundation, Royal Bank and the Lowertown Community Association, volunteers continued the good work with a garden event. We prepared two dedicated beds, one under the tree beside the wading pool and a second at the corner of Cathcart and Dalhousie. Plantings included several roses, a beautiful Morden Blush, a double pink peony, columnar cedars, several varieties of grasses, climbing hydrangea, coral bells and a beautiful lily donated by Michelle Ramsay.

On the same day as the garden event, water main replacement on Cathcart St. began, along with road resurfacing and widening sidewalks. The target completion date for this work is end of September. Access to the park was often limited, with dust and noise keeping attendance down during the day. However, by late afternoon, everyone came back in force. The tennis courts were hopping, and the playground full of children. The recently donated toys for the sandbox

were much appreciated. Many thanks to the anonymous donor.

The wading pool was, as usual, the focus of activities in the playground through the summer. Three to four City of Ottawa summer students were on hand each day to supervise chil-



Volunteers planted new flower beds at Bingham Park

dren and to provide arts and crafts supplies.

The Public Art installation planned for the Dalhousie side of Bingham Park has begun with the preparatory holes dug for fence posts. A staggering number of boulders slowed down

progress, but as of mid-September, the concrete has been poured and we await Carne Cunnae's wonderful artwork installation. The second stage will commence in October.

As the summer season winds down, we can look forward to the

skating rink and the dedicated volunteers who keep the ice in great shape. If you are able to help with maintaining the ice this winter, please contact our rink volunteer leader Justin at [j.s.dyet@gmail.com](mailto:j.s.dyet@gmail.com)

## Back to school safety reminder

Ottawa Police Service

With our children back in school, Ottawa Police reminds motorists and pedestrians to be aware of the increase of children and youth on city streets - walking, riding their bikes or busing to their destinations.

- Obey school bus signals. Motorists and cyclists need to pay particular attention to stopped school buses during the school year. Vehicle owners can be fined \$400 - \$2,000 and 6 demerit points if they illegally pass a stopped school bus.
- Reduce speeds in school zones and be ready to stop at any time. Children do not always notice oncoming traffic.
- Children often have a hard time understanding that traffic can come from several different directions at intersections. A child needs to be shown - not just told - how to cross a road safely. Do it together and teach them about the importance of road safety.
- Remind youth that if waiting for a bus or walking to school, to never get in a car with a stranger, even if they offer a ride or ask for their help. Tell your kids that adults should only ask other adults for help, not children; teach them to trust their instincts and get help when needed.

In Ottawa, thousands of children ride safely to school on buses every day. Parents should ensure that their children know how to stay safe on and around school buses. For more safety tips, go to Back to School Safety at [www.ottawapolice.ca/en/safety-and-crime-prevention/Back-to-School.asp](http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/safety-and-crime-prevention/Back-to-School.asp)

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Elections for the Ottawa-Vanier riding:

Mauril Bélanger

Liberal Party of Canada

Why are you running for office?

I want to continue working for the people of Ottawa-Vanier and help them in achieving their individual and collective ambitions for the benefit of our community. People, community groups and organizations I met and continue to meet every day in the riding each give me their views on what they want to see accomplished for the betterment of our community, which I then consider in setting my priorities.



What background and values do you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our government?

I have always been devoted to national unity, respect for Canada's linguistic duality and cultural diversity, and vibrant parliamentary democracy. As an MP and Cabinet Minister, I have always been accessible and demonstrated time and again my ability to contribute strong advocacy and effective resolution of issues. Should I be re-elected on October 19th, I will continue to be a positive agent for change in our community as well as in the House of Commons for a more socially responsible government.

What are the two most important issues affecting our riding and what would you do to address them?

I would say that the most important issue in the riding is to continue to defend the interests of the people living in our community by working with other levels of government to help ensure the highest quality of life for all. There are several key issues to consider, for instance: fighting for more affordable housing and the right for everyone to have a place they can call home; making sure the Rockcliffe Air Base redevelopment is driven by the need for balance, economic viability and sustainability. This redevelopment is one of Ottawa's most anticipated projects and a very significant urban planning opportunity. Let's not make it a bedroom community. Let's make things right.

Ottawa has approved the ByWard Market Revitalization Plan as a Term of Council priority. What would you do to enhance this jewel in our, and Ottawa's, community?

I'm very proud of the announcement made on August 27th by Liberal leader Justin Trudeau that a Liberal government would invest an additional 60 billion dollars over the next decade - nearly doubling federal infrastructure investment to almost 125 billion dollars - in Canada's public transit infrastructure, social infrastructure and green infrastructure, all of which will benefit cities and their communities, such as Ottawa and our ByWard Market and Lowertown areas. For more information on this announcement, please visit <http://www.liberal.ca/realchange/choose>

ing-investment-jobs-and-growth-for-the-middle-class/

The majority of Lowertown residents walk, cycle or take public transit to work, shop and play, but it can be dangerous given heavy truck and car traffic, especially on King Edward Ave. How would you work to improve active transportation infrastructure and safety?

I have always supported relieving traffic congestion in downtown Ottawa and removing heavy trucks from the area. Since some of them carry hazardous materials, these trucks pose an ongoing public safety threat to the densely populated core. Their size alone adds another set of problems to already congested traffic, not to mention their environmental impact.

There have been a number of proposals over the last couple of decades to relieve traffic congestion and remove heavy trucks. However, since the National Capital Commission (NCC) does not have any sound plans for our transportation corridors, many have joined me in calling for the option to build a bridge at Kettle Island to be scrapped. A bridge at that location would have simply transferred part of the truck problem to another community, thus spreading the problem without solving it. Obviously, Ottawa City Council and the Government of Ontario will need to work together to resolve this longstanding issue. Let's hope the NCC will get on board, or at least not get in the way of the other levels of government actually trying to fix the problem.

Given the lack of serious proposals by the NCC to address this ongoing problem, solutions for reducing the impact of trucks could be developed. Residents have already pointed to various solutions, such as building a tunnel under downtown just for heavy trucks, setting up load redistribution centres in the city outskirts so that heavy trucks could be unloaded and their cargo placed in smaller vehicles, or limiting the hours when heavy truck traffic is permitted.

Nira Dookeran

Green Party of Canada

Why are you running for office and what background and values do you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our government?

As a teacher, mother, neighbour and citizen, I am deeply concerned about the state of the world which we are leaving to our children. Our relationship to the planet, Mother Earth, is strained past sustainability. Our economy, founded on 19th-century thinking about value, wealth, and the planet's carrying capacity, is not viable in the 21st-century. Our government lacks accountability, transparency, and credibility. I have belonged to and campaigned for other political parties in the past, but, like many Canadians, be-



came discouraged and disengaged from meaningful participation in our democratic process. I felt that I could not make a difference in the direction our country was taking. I am encouraged by the growth of the Green Party and, after joining 8 years ago, saw an opportunity to join with committed, caring, ordinary Canadians who want to make a difference in the direction our country is taking. Canada is a great country, and we can be a leader in so many areas of crucial importance in the world today - from climate change and environmental issues to the economy, peace and conflict resolution. In the realm of diversity, we are a world leader in crafting processes and institutions that allow for maximum inclusiveness, equity, and fairness for all Canadians - Aboriginal, new immigrants and refugees, and those who have settled and come to call this rich land "home" over the last almost 500 years. I am always inspired by the ways Canadians of so many different backgrounds - in terms of culture, gender, socio-economic status, faith traditions, and age - have learned and are learning to come together, talk to one another, respect one another, and work together to address the enormous challenges we face today, in our communities and neighbourhoods right here in Ottawa-Vanier and across the country. I believe the Green Party of Canada offers the most comprehensive, long-term, and sustainable thinking and planning for the future of Canada and our world. I offer my commitment and experience in education, community organizing, coaching, team leadership, and my deep commitment to values of honesty, respect, fairness, harmony, balance, and justice in the service of creating the communities and country we all want to live in. A country we can all be proud of, a country we can all participate in, a country where we all belong. And a country that understands our rightful place in the natural order of things and uses our resources wisely and judiciously so that our children will have a sustainable planet to call "home" when we are gone. I do not claim to be able to solve all our problems. But I am willing, as part of the Green Party of Canada, to do my part. I think if every Canadian could feel so empowered, we would be well on our way to creating the country and the world we all want to live in.

What are the two most important issues affecting our riding and what would you do to address them?

The first two issues I would address as MP for Ottawa-Vanier are democratic reform and local food security. The Green Party is committed to implementing a system of proportional representation. In such a system, one would vote for their local candidate and for the party they most support in their region. This would allow parties that do not win individual seats, but garner a significant number of votes in a region, to still be represented in Parliament.

We are flooded with GMOs and increasing dependence on food from overseas despite a wealth of local produce. As MP, I would work with local government to establish a grow-

ing space for community gardens and farmermarkets in our community.

Ottawa has approved the ByWard Market Revitalization Plan as a Term of Council priority. What would you do to enhance this jewel in our, and Ottawa's, community?

The Green Party encourages all developments that would increase pedestrian and bicycle access to the ByWard Market. Further, I am personally in favor of all efforts to expand access to local produce for our citizens. I look forward to sitting down with local residents once elected and help to negotiate a solution that considers the concerns of local residents of the Market.

The majority of Lowertown residents walk, cycle or take public transit to work, shop and play, but it can be dangerous given heavy truck and car traffic, especially on King Edward Ave. How would you work to improve active transportation infrastructure and safety?

The Green Party is convinced that a stronger economy begins with cleaner and more extensive infrastructure. The Green Party would work with the local government to make King Edward a safer and more environmentally friendly road for all our citizens.

David Piccini

Conservative Party of Canada

Why are you running for office?

I believe Ottawa-Vanier needs a representative with strong voice and who is an active leader committed to working hard to advocate on behalf of local residents both in Lowertown and on Parliament Hill. Many of my family members have committed their lives to serving the public and I have a profound respect for those who work in the public service.



As a longtime resident of Ottawa-Vanier, I have always been heavily involved in the community, whether it is volunteering at the local food bank, working with various community groups or coaching the Men's Soccer team at the University of Ottawa. I have always shown initiative in our community and care about our future.

The fact is that many residents have voiced their concerns about the complacent nature of our current MP. That is why it is time for change in Ottawa-Vanier. Lowertown is at the heart of our great riding and it is time we had consistent engagement and an active leader in the House of Commons. On October 19th, I would be honoured to have your support.

What background and values do you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our government?

I graduated from the University of Ottawa with a joint honours degree in Political Science and History. I have worked in the Public Service and as a political aide to the Minister of Inter-



Federal elections on Monday, October 19, 2015

# Q & A with your House of Commons candidates

national Trade. Having experienced both the political and public sides of the federal government, I am focused on making the political process more inclusive, as well as bringing greater transparency and accountability to the people of Ottawa-Vanier.

**What are the two most important issues affecting our riding and what would you do to address them?**

We all know too well how quickly costs can add up. That is why I support our government's low-tax plan, so that you keep more of your hard earned money in your pocket.

There are a number of tax cuts and deductions I would support for our community. The Family Tax Cut provides fairness for families with children through income splitting, saving up to \$2,000 per year. The Universal Child Care Benefit is also another way in which Canadian families can keep more money in their pockets; families will save \$1,920 per year for every child under 6 years of age and \$720 per year for every child aged 6-17 years. I support pension income splitting for seniors, doubling the Tax Free Savings Account to \$10,000 annually, as well as making Registered Retirement Funds (RRIFs) more flexible for seniors by reducing minimum withdrawal factors.

Crime is another important issue. Our community has one of the highest crime rates in the city. Having worked with at-risk youth in our community, I feel more can be done by our federal representative. In 2012, our government launched the next phase of the Youth Gang Prevention Fund to target youth with a demonstrated history of serious violence and/or who are at risk of joining a gang. This program will be significant in supporting the youth in our community. It is also important that as a government, we strengthen the rights of victims of crime; our government has also passed the historic Canadian Victims Bill of Rights, which strengthens the rights of victims in information participation, protection and restitution.

**Ottawa has approved the ByWard Market Revitalization Plan as a Term of Council priority. What would you do to enhance this jewel in our, and Ottawa's, community?**

The Byward Market is an iconic and historical venue in our city that brings together both residents and tourists alike. As our community and capital city grows, it is important that we invest in the Byward Market so that it can continue to be an attraction for all. We need development in Lowertown, but smart development — cognizant of our community's unique history and the important role that history plays.

2017 marks Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation, where Canadians will celebrate our nation's birthday, and our community will be right at the center of these festivities. That is why our Government created the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, which will provide \$150 million to support renovation, expansion and improvements to community infrastructure. As your potential MP, I would work with the Lowertown Community Association (LCA) to ensure that projects in Lowertown receive the necessary federal support.

I believe it is important to work with

all levels of government to grow this area. I support the work done by municipal leaders to implement the Byward Market Revitalization Plan and I am glad to see this has become a priority for City officials. We must work together to preserve and protect the Byward landmark for future generations.

**The majority of Lowertown residents walk, cycle or take public transit to work, shop and play, but it can be dangerous given heavy truck and car traffic, especially on King Edward Ave. How would you work to improve active transportation infrastructure and safety?**

According to the City of Ottawa, there are 2,600 trucks that travel through Lowertown and Sandy Hill every day. Truck traffic is growing at a rate of two to three per cent a year. The City of Ottawa and Government of Ontario launched a feasibility study to look at a building a tunnel to connect Highway 417 and the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge. We need to modernize the transportation routes in our community, and I believe this is a viable solution to getting the trucks off our city streets.

Many residents also rely on public transit to get around. Our Conservative government has invested \$760 million to support Stage 1 of the light rail transit (LRT) and were first to commit to the second phase of the project. I will continue to support the construction of the LRT system in our city.

Active leadership is required to ensure residents of Lowertown feel safe going about their daily lives. While support for LRT is a strong step in the right direction, more can be done, but will require leadership at the federal level. Active consultations with the LCA are one way to properly reduce truck traffic and support smart development. The truck issue has been talked about for the past 20 years and there is still no end in sight. Lowertown residents have long been neglected by their federal member. I will work hard to help decrease commute times for families, tackle the truck congestion downtown, encourage job creation and advocate for community projects. On October 19th, I hope you will support me in bringing change to Ottawa-Vanier

**Emilie Taman**  
New Democratic Party

**Why are you running for office?**

As a mother of three young children and as someone who has dedicated her life to justice issues, I could no longer stand by and watch a government that has all the wrong priorities. Successive Liberal and Conservative governments' broken promises have left us all working harder than ever and falling further behind. I am running for office because I am committed to building the Canada I want my children and future grandchildren to grow in - a country with good quality jobs, where families are not forced



to choose between their careers and childcare, and where our democratic rights are respected, including the rights of our public servants. Along with Tom Mulcair's NDP, I will put the priorities of families first and build a Canada that is internationally respected, economically vibrant, and socially and environmentally responsible. I am ready to defeat Stephen Harper's Conservatives and bring change to Ottawa-Vanier.

**What background and values do you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our government?**

The last decade of Stephen Harper has called into question the integrity of our government and its commitment to social responsibility. Under his Conservative majority, we have seen a blatant disregard for our public institutions, our civil liberties, and our environment. Just last spring, with the help of the Liberal party, the Conservatives passed their anti-terrorism legislation - Bill C-51. They tried misleading Canadians into believing that we had to choose between our civil liberties and public safety in order to pass this flawed legislation, which weakens the fundamental freedoms of Canadians in a failed effort to advance a political agenda.

My experience working within Canada's judicial institutions and the public service as a prosecutor and earlier as counsel in the Supreme Court of Canada has given me a profound respect for our judicial and political institutions. I am committed to restoring integrity and social responsibility in our government and I am not afraid to stand up for principle.

**What are the two most important issues affecting our riding and what would you do to address them?**

Ottawa-Vanier faces many of the same issues that are affecting the rest of our country - after years of Liberal and Conservative governments, middle class families are struggling to get ahead because they can't find good quality jobs, and are frequently unable to find quality affordable childcare.

The NDP has a plan to become a reliable partner to our city and to work with community groups, city planners and local businesses to ensure they have the necessary resources to thrive. Our national public transit and affordable housing strategies will improve quality of life in a meaningful way for residents throughout this great riding. As a voice for Ottawa-Vanier at the federal level, I will never lose sight of the importance of having a vibrant and well-serviced local community.

**Ottawa has approved the ByWard Market Revitalization Plan as a Term of Council priority. What would you do to enhance this jewel in our, and Ottawa's, community?**

Ottawa's historic ByWard Market is a core gathering space in our National Capital and home to many of our community's businesses. We have an opportunity with Canada's 150th anniversary just around the corner to build on what already makes the Market great and fix what isn't working.

As a former resident of the ByWard

Market myself, I understand that it is also a place where people live. We need to keep that in mind when talking about what can be done to improve this Ottawa gem. I would like to see a more pedestrian-friendly market that is inviting to residents and visitors alike. While adequate and appropriate car parking infrastructure is important, let's be more strategic about where we put it and ensure that active transit alternatives are supported and promoted.

**The majority of Lowertown residents walk, cycle or take public transit to work, shop and play, but it can be dangerous given heavy truck and car traffic, especially on King Edward Ave. How would you work to improve active transportation infrastructure and safety?**

I know from my own experience living in the area how the commercial traffic that generates on King Edward Ave. threatens the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on a daily basis. As your Member of Parliament, tackling the issue of interprovincial traffic, on King Edward Avenue and elsewhere in the riding will be one of my top priorities. I will engage with my provincial and municipal counterparts to ensure that an appropriate and cost-effective solution be identified and implemented as soon as possible. There will be consistent, long-term federal funding for municipal infrastructure projects under an NDP government. We will transfer an additional one cent of the gas tax to municipalities to close the funding gap and tackle the infrastructure deficit so communities can ensure safe bridges, modern roads and infrastructure that understands the needs of all users.

**Ottawa Vanier candidate debates:**

- Tuesday, Oct. 6: Rockcliffe Park Community Centre, 360 Springfield Rd., hosted by the Rockcliffe Park Community Association from 7:30-9 p.m.**
- Wednesday, Oct. 7: Colonel By Secondary School, 2381 Ogilvy Rd., sponsored by the Beacon Hill Community Association from 7-9 p.m.**
- Thursday, Oct. 8: Patro d'Ottawa, 40 Cobourg St., sponsored by a coalition of communication associations and groups (including LCA), from 7-8:30 p.m.**

**Election day:**  
**Monday, October 19**

**Advance voting dates:**  
**October 9, 10, 11 and 12**

**Go to elections.ca to:**

- check or update your voter registration**
- find out where to vote**
- check voting dates**



# Nuit Blanche 2015: living up to the hype

Karen Bailey

What’s all the hype about? At the Rectory Art House, it involved searching for used hockey sticks, fashioning hundreds of exotic paper flowers, stringing thousands of meters of caution tape, sketching almost every ash tree in Ottawa, capturing the dynamic energy



Stanley the guide dog, frolicking besides his portrait

of light on video and documenting off-duty guide dogs in horseplay. All this effort was for one magical night on Saturday, September 19 - Nuit Blanche Ottawa-Gatineau 2015 (NBOG15) - a region-wide celebration of the arts from dusk to dawn. The Rectory artists responded to this year’s NBOG15 theme, “Hype / Frénésie”, in disparate ways.

Lori Victor spoke for all of the studio artists when she described the public response to this year’s event: “I was absolutely astounded at the sheer numbers of visitors streaming through the Rectory”. Nuit Blanche has morphed into an annual pilgrimage; for one wondrous night, Ottawa-Gatineau and its residents make art a priority.

As a Rectory artist, I am both witness and participant of a herculean effort requiring days, weeks and months of preparation alongside Gwen Frankton, Sharon Laf-

ferty, Marcia Lea, Karen Rasmussen and Lori Victor. I liken it to the tension and excitement of preparing for the Olympic Games - but at Nuit Blanche, both the artists and their audience share the prizes: we all become stakeholders in a rush of creative energy.

Lori Victor asked the questions: How has hockey become so prevalent in our culture? Does “hype” drive hockey’s popularity? Lori collected used hockey sticks for months, painting and assembling them in splayed clusters to create an installation reflective of both Canadians and the spectacle of sport. In filling her second floor studio with a myriad of vibrant angles, her installation invited viewers to share her interpretation of “hype” as it relates to cultural experience. She received a Bourses Tontine Award for her NBOG15 project.

For Sharon Lafferty, “hype” and “night” are synonymous. As she puts it, “All seems possible in the night, in those late night hours, the time when the odd, the curious, and the mundane come together to play in my head.” A cornucopia of strange botanicals, together with the bewitching tinkle of a music box transformed her space into a monochrome dream world.

Mourning the loss of so many of our ash trees to the emerald ash borer, artist and naturalist Gwen Frankton sketched hundreds of



Sharon Lafferty’s nocturnal garden.



Lori Victor’s hockey stick installation

tiny portraits of Ottawa trees. Her studio walls were lined with these pictorial reminders of our fragile environment, including leafless ash trees marked with an X in preparation for their removal. Her installation drew public attention to this grave demise and illustrated what the 30% loss of our urban forest looks like. As Gwen explained, “It takes only two emerald ash borers to kill one tree, but one person planting a new tree can help restore Ottawa’s urban forest.”

Karen Rasmussen’s “The Caution Lounge - what’s the big deal?” conveyed the pervasiveness and persuasiveness of hype, and how we might handle it. Her studio played with the tactics of hype to offer us a place where we can practice our critical thinking - one way to deal with hype. Karen laboriously adhered hundreds of strands of caution tape to her studio walls and floor to create a yellow and black chamber. Reminiscent of an ironic carnival tent, the golden ribbons were trained to gather at a central pole. People conversed as they relaxed on bean bag cushions under the canopy in the Caution Lounge and became an integral part of the art work.

Marcia Lea’s projected light installation, energyHYPEpower, seized the

possibilities of the urban night darkness to present the sheer energy of light in a frenzied dance. She described it by saying that her project “removed the surface that reflects the light and retained the light for viewers to contemplate as it is again reflected, but this time off the studio walls.”

Guide dogs get hyped up, too. My large paintings featured Stanley, a platinum blonde Lab puppy frolicking with his Lab friends and siblings. My husband and I are raising Stanley for the Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. I explored the after-hours pursuits of working dogs to debunk common misconceptions of service animals as subjects of forced labour, denied inherent animal behaviours such as play. As the resident



Gwen Frankton painted hundreds of ash tree portraits.

studio mascot, Stanley attended Nuit Blanche until the early hours, charming visitors and stealing the show as only animals can.

During the course of 2015, with Stanley by my side, I’ve watched Sharon’s indoor garden grow, one exceptional paper plant at a time, marveled at Karen Rasmussen’s meticulous positioning of her caution tape, been shocked by the local arboreal devastation documented by Gwen, found inspiration in Lori’s contemporary perspective on hockey and been astonished by the transformative power of light in Marcia’s installation.

This year the “hype” was palpable at The Rectory Art House, 179 Murray Street.

Follow The Rectory Art House on Facebook.



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# Raising Stanley and living with Tulia

*Michelle Ramsay*

Lowertown resident Karen Bailey is a well-known artist whose paintings focus on those who work behind the scenes and are often under-recognized. Her latest project continues this theme, focussing on Stanley, a puppy who is being raised by Karen to be a guide dog for the blind.

The project, an exhibition called 'Raising Stanley', is a collaboration between Karen and storyteller Kim Kilpatrick, who has shared her life with four guide dogs.

Despite being a puppy walker, Karen Kim Tulia did not know much about the working life of a guide dog. Kim was curious about how guide dog puppies are raised. The Raising Stanley project was born out of a common need to fill in the gaps not only for themselves,



Karen Kim Tulia  
*Diptych, acrylic on canvas, 2014*

The dogs go to formal training at the Guide Dog Centre for 6 to 9 months, where they are trained to be good guides. Karen explains, "Every week, Stanley attends an obedience class with other guide dog puppies. That's where he learns how to work." Once trained - a two-year process in total - the guide dog is carefully matched with its handler.

So, how does a visual art exhibition incorporate storytelling? Quite gracefully.

At the vernissage on June 14th, Karen's paintings of Stanley the puppy were the backdrop as Kim told engaging stories about life with guide dogs, including her present on - Tulia,

a six-year-old black lab. Both Stanley and Tulia were present at the opening. For the rest of the five-week exhibition, visitors were able to listen to audio renditions of Kim's stories while they viewed Karen's paintings.

The painting called *The Staircase* is a self-portrait of Karen carrying Stanley down some steep stairs. In the description that accompanies the painting, she explains, “Stairs present a challenge for many dogs. One of the puppy-walking rules is that a pup must be twice the height of one stair before he is allowed to navigate alone in order to protect his hip joints.”

One of Kim's stories illustrates Tulia's resourcefulness. Kim has a favourite coffee shop, where she sometimes had trouble finding a seat. She recalls, "When I started going with Tulia, I thought she's so great, she always finds me an empty table. Then one day, a lady said to me, 'Your dog, she's so funny. When she comes in, she decides where she wants to sit and then she goes there and convinces the people to move.'"

I said, "There's people?" "Oh yes," she replied. "She sits there staring at them and looking so sweet - until they move."

There were more stories, including one that illustrated when it's OK to pet a guide dog. "Never ever when she's wearing her harness. You wouldn't touch a police officer in uniform, would you? If you pet her when she's wearing her harness, it could distract her from her work and I might be put in danger" Kim added, "But she knows when I

take off her harness she can play. I will take it off her now; watch what happens." What we saw then was a dog wagging her tail vigorously and revelling in the petting she received from nearby a dog-lover.

Karen concluded the presentation: "Listening to Kim recount her experiences of how guide dogs enrich her life helped Iain and I to understand the significant role we play as puppy walkers. When people ask, 'How are you ever going to give him up,' I immediately think of Kim. From day one, we knew we were raising a puppy for an important purpose."

Raising Stanley is a work in progress. Kim and Karen are currently seeking funding and space for a much larger exhibition to be presented in late 2016 or in 2017.

*Karen Bailey's paintings often depict people who are completely absorbed in their task. Subjects have ranged from charity workers and hairdressers to Canadian military medical personnel in Kandahar, where she was the appointed military artist in 2007. Her studio is located in The Rectory Art House, on Murray Street in Lowertown.*

*Kim Kilpatrick is a storyteller, former para-Olympian and disability rights activist, who has handled four guide dogs. Kim hosts "Welcome to My World", an hour-long weekly radio show on CKCU, which aims to change the conversation and preconceptions about disability.*

For more information see [raisingstanley.com](http://raisingstanley.com) and [guidedogs.ca](http://guidedogs.ca)

## About assistance animals

There are two types of assistance animals. Service animals have a job to do for their individual owner, while therapy or comfort animals provide therapeutic benefits to an owner or others, for example people in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and at disaster sites. Whereas service animals are almost exclusively dogs, emotional support animals include (but are not limited to) dogs, pigs, cats, ferrets, monkeys and miniature horses. Service dogs are trained with specific skills or tasks directly related to their handler's disability. Examples include alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) during an anxiety attack, and other duties. When service dogs are working with their owner, they always wear a coat or vest that identifies them as a service dog. It is their 'uniform'. Usually, a service dog is afforded the

same rights to access and services as its owner. For example, in Canada, an aircraft with 30 or more seats is obligated under the Air Transportation Regulations to accept a service dog for carriage without charge—whether travelling in first, business or economy class.

Comfort or therapy dogs generally do not qualify to receive the same public access rights that are given to service dogs because the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship is not a skill and does not constitute work or tasks. Although therapy dogs can and do attend public venues not accessible to other pets, they are admitted at the discretion of the facility's management. In the United States, the rights of service dogs are defined in the federal "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990." There is no equivalent definition of their rights in Canada, although some provinces have enacted regulations related to service dogs and or comfort animals.



Iain Main and Stanley

but also tell the story from start to finish so others could learn. Raising Stanley both debunks common misconceptions of service animals and highlights how they enrich the community of people and animals.

"My husband Iain and I heard Kim perform stories about her guide dogs at an Ottawa Storytellers event in 2011," Karen recounts. One month later, we received our first guide dog puppy from the Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind."

The organization places puppies at about seven weeks of age with foster families called 'puppy walkers' who raise the pups for 12 to 18 months. The puppy walkers socialize the pups to as many different, everyday environments as possible, teaching them to be good citizens.

A campaign poster for Emilie Taman, an NDP candidate for the Ottawa—Vanier riding. The background is orange with a pattern of lighter orange squares. On the right is a portrait of Emilie Taman, a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing black-rimmed glasses, a dark blazer over a light-colored lace top, and a necklace with green beads. She is smiling. To her left, the text reads: "Tom Mulcair NDP" at the top, followed by "Emilie Taman" in large white letters, and "Ottawa—Vanier" below it. Further down are the slogans "A clear choice for change." and "Un choix clair pour le changement." in white. At the bottom, in a grey bar, is the contact information: "Campaign office | Bureau de campagne : 246 Dalhousie Street, Ottawa, ON K1N 7E2", phone number "613-421-6398", email "emilie.taman@ndp.ca", and website "EmilieTaman.ndp.ca". A small disclaimer at the very bottom states: "Paid for and authorized by the official agent of the candidate, cope-225-md".

Tom**Mulcair** NDP **NPD**

**Emilie  
Taman**

Ottawa—Vanier

**A clear choice  
for change.**

**Un choix clair pour  
le changement.**

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# Vignette du Village:

## Lowertown's Graziadei Orchestra

*This page was researched and written by Nancy Miller Chenier*

*Nancy is a long-time resident of Lowertown and currently co-chair of the Lowertown Community Association Heritage Committee. She has a strong interest in the social history and the built heritage of this founding part of Ottawa.*

When a young Italian musician called Rocco Antonio Graziadei settled with his wife, Maria Carmelia Nicolini, on St. Andrew Street in the 1880s, Lowertown's celebrated one-family dance orchestra was launched. Rocco was already skilled at playing the harp, the flute, the cello and the violin and each of his ten children - five boys and five girls - eventually learned a musical instrument.

Lorraine Graziadei Laflamme, whose father Michael was the youngest child in this family, shared some memories about her illustrious family from her Clarence Street home. Her grandparents, Rocco and Carmelia, decided to reside permanently in Lowertown and their children grew up in the community, with some staying to raise their own families.

Lorraine remembers that the Graziadei orchestra was prominent from the 1890s, playing at multiple functions in the Capital - under the central rotunda of the Russell House Hotel, in the ballroom of the Chateau Laurier, at Rideau Hall and other venues in and around Ottawa. Through the 1920s and 30s, the family dance band adapted their earlier classical repertoire to the era of jazz and swing. When the band numbers dwindled, four sons continued as a quartet. In 2008, a Bytown Museum exhibition featuring the Ottawa Italian community displayed a magnificent harp used by this early Ottawa music group.

Grandfather Rocco promoted his family orchestra by hanging a sign on the St Andrew Street house indicating that their musical talent was available for "Balls, Parties, and Receptions". In addition, he co-owned a small grocery store on Dalhousie Street known as "Sardo and Graziadei" where, among other items, he sold olive oil imported from Italy. He also conducted a loan and travel service for new Italian immigrants at "Banco Graziadei" on George Street.

Lorraine's father, Michael, continued to live on St. Andrew Street

after marriage - working by day at the post office and playing his saxophone by night. From this family enclave replete with cousins her own age, Lorraine could roam to nearby parks at Major's Hill, Nepean Point and Bingham Park. Unlike many of her francophone neighbours, Lorraine's family preferred movies at the Rideau Theatre rather than the Théâtre français on Dalhousie Street.



Graziadei business on George Street

Her family attended church services every Sunday at St. Brigid's Church and after mass, went for a special treat at a Dalhousie Street restaurant popular for its delicious hamburgers and fries. As a pupil at Our Lady's School on Cumberland, Lorraine remembers coal-heated furnaces, where the charred ashes would be thrown on the playground and cause cut knees for the girls at recess. After further education at Immacolata, a private Catholic secondary school for girls, she secured a government position at the Employment Insurance Commission.

While marriage took Lorraine away from Lowertown, she is now back in the neighbourhood to share the story of this early Lowertown family that chose to move from Laurenzana, Italy to Canada's capital. And our community has a compelling narrative about a legendary musical group that spanned two centuries of change in Ottawa.

# Lowertown Lost and Found:

## McCormick's Stone Bakery on Dalhousie Street

Dalhousie Street north of Murray went under the heritage microscope this summer as the LCA Canada Summer Jobs students directed their attention to the people and buildings in this part of Lowertown. The small stone building between St. Andrew and Guigues with its Award of Excellence plaque has always aroused the curiosity of residents and this was the chance to find out more about its story.

### GREAT CHANCE FOR ESTABLISHING A GOVERNMENT BAKERY

TO LET, the BAKERY and DWELLING HOUSE, situate on the corner of Church and Dalhousie Streets.

The BAKERY is constructed of Stone, and comprises

### Two Splendid Furnace Ovens.

The Dwelling House, which is of Brick, contains five rooms and a kitchen; and attached is good Stabling, a large yard and sheds, well suited for the business of a Baker.

The business has been long established, and is still being carried on.

The person renting the premises will have the privilege of renting or purchasing the Wagons, Carts, Furniture and Utensils now used in the establishment.

**Possession can be had Immediately if desired.**

For particulars apply to the Owner.

**H. MCCORMICK,**  
FLOUR STORE,  
Sparks Street, Ottawa.  
Ottawa, Sept. 11, 1866. d103-1m

McCormick Bakery advertisement 1865

Stone buildings are a rarity in Lowertown and a bakery that survived fire even more remarkable. Although this area was the most populated part of early Bytown, investment in permanent stone and brick buildings was limited due to reluctance of the dominant landowner, the Ordnance branch of the British government, to release lots for sale rather than rent.

Dalhousie Street was formally opened in the early 1840s and Henry McCormick was already identified as living on this lot at the time. A published reminiscence suggests that the stone bakery was built around this time and that an early baker was Francis Best, perhaps some relation to McCormick's wife, Mary Eliza Best. The bakery specialized in shanty biscuits that were long lasting and could be carried into the woods with the workers. It also delivered bread using two-wheeled carts that could navigate the muddy streets.

In 1865, Henry McCormick advertised the lease of a stone bakery and brick dwelling house located at Church (now Guigues) and Dalhousie. The bakery had two splendid furnace ovens, the house had five rooms and a kitchen, and there was good stabling. The suggested use was as a government bakery, presumably expecting special trade as Ottawa moved closer to becoming the capital of the Dominion of Canada

McCormick was a very public person in the community. He was present at the September 1849 Stoney Monday Riot and gave testimony at the ensuing trial. By 1857, he was listed in Lovell's Canada Directory as a baker and a common school trustee. After offering the bakery for lease, he moved to Sparks Street with his family where his business specialized in flour, feed and grain. His grist mill in Hull employed six men and ground about seventy thousand bushels of wheat per annum. Over the years, he was president of the Building Society, treasurer of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Association, secretary of a Loyal Orange District Lodge and director at Beechwood Cemetery. He later moved his home and mill to Hintonburg, where a park bears the family name.

The stone building continued to be associated with bakers for many decades. Names such as Thomas Iliffe, David Lee, Pierre Pauze have been forgotten in the community, but the legacy of Oscar Gravelle still resonates. Initially, the Gravelle family lived and worked in the cluster of buildings attached to the stone bakery along Dalhousie. In the 1950s, the confectionary business was opened next door, where the large window could be used to display the goods.

Recollections by Lowertown residents often recount the aromatic as well as the visual experience of the bakery. Rita Morel, in Sharing 90 years of Lowertown memories told how she still expected the stones of Gravelle bakery to be warm when she walked by and how on baking day the whole of Lowertown was permeated with its wonderful smells. In her book Coming of Age in Lowertown, Doris Lee-Momy described the diverse confectionaries made by Mr and Mrs. Gravelle - "every kind of dainty delicacies possible: Napoleons, cream puffs, éclairs, marguerites. Jelly rolls, elaborate wedding cakes, fruit pies, doughnuts, butterfly danish, palm leaves..."

In 1980, Domicile Developments Incorporated restored 210 Dalhousie for office use and in 1982, the building was honoured with a plaque. This noteworthy early Bytown bakery received a special treat - the first City of Ottawa Architectural Conservation Award for a commercial building.

### What's In a Name? - Beausoleil

East of King Edward Avenue in Lowertown, the name Beausoleil is attached to a street (Beausoleil Drive), a housing cooperative (Parc Beausoleil), a section of Ottawa Community Housing homes (Beausoleil Community) and a childcare centre (Centre Éducatif Beausoleil). This is the area where 1960s urban renewal dislocated a predominately French-speaking population. And the tributes to Alexandre Beausoleil, who was parish priest at Ste Anne from 1897 to 1903 are significant.

Although he served in other eastern Ontario parishes, Father Beausoleil started and ended his priesthood in Lowertown. Shortly after his ordination in 1888, he was made

director of the choir at Notre Dame Basilica and when he died in 1931, he was the chaplain at the Ottawa General Hospital. A defender of francophone educational rights, he was a founding member of the Association canadienne-française pour l'éducation de l'Ontario and an opponent of the Ontario Regulation 17 that restricted education in French after two years of schooling.

Father Alexandre Beausoleil circa 1910

CRCFC

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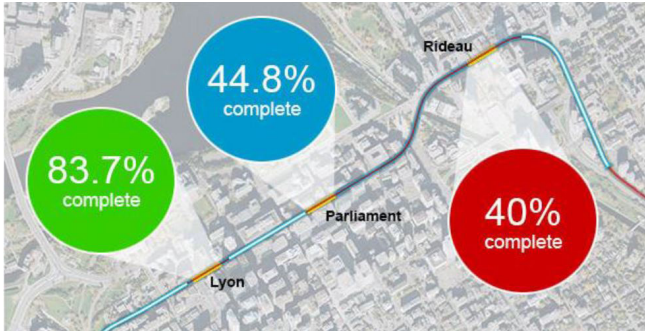
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# Rideau LRT station drilling almost half done

Community members who came to the Lowertown Community Association meeting on September 14 heard the latest news on Rideau LRT station construction from City representative Theresa Mendler.



At this time, 40% of Rideau cavern drilling is complete and the crews are working on elevators and escalators within the mall to create entrances to the station. Rideau station will have three entrances. The East Entrance will be co-ordinated with the future Scotia Bank building on the northeast corner of Rideau Street and William Street. The West Entrance will be integrated into Rideau Centre at corner of Colonel By Drive and Rideau Street, and the Mid Entrance will be accessed via Rideau Centre elevator.

Rideau Street is currently restricted to traffic because construction will be

increasing at the street level to feed the underground work. Buses and taxis will continue to be permitted; the street will be closed to all vehicles for one weekend in October. About 80% of STO buses have moved to Mackenzie King.

Traffic on Rideau will be impacted for the next two years, as requested by blasting, excavation, equipment staging and water main replacement. Blasting will start in October 2015 and the HVAC shaft will be created on the north side of Rideau in 2016.

Recognizing that Rideau businesses will be affected by reduced foot traffic and car traffic, the City will give \$25,000 to Byward Market BIA and Rideau BIA to promote businesses during construction. We hope this will be enough to convince shoppers to overcome their natural dislike of construction fencing and heavy equipment.

Questioned about pedestrian safety concerns caused by the large puddle at Rideau and Nicholas that forces pedestrians to walk into the bus lane to avoid it, Mendler responded that the City will address the situation before winter.

# Councillor's update

Version française disponible en ligne au [mathieufleury.ca/fr/](http://mathieufleury.ca/fr/)

This summer, a couple of public art initiatives were installed on our main streets. In July, Mark Thompson installed Cube, Lattice, Sphere, Wave for the Rideau Street renewal project, which consists of colourful lit glass sculptures. Join us for the unveiling on Thursday, September 24 at 7pm at the Rideau branch of the Ottawa Public Library. Additionally, in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the City of Ottawa's Public Art Program, staff installed a temporary exhibition in Waller Mall entitled Changing Faces, Transforming Spaces. The exhibition contains reproductions of artwork from the City of Ottawa collection. We encourage you to check out the public art and exhibition on your next walk along Rideau Street.

The Sussex Drive renewal project will soon come to an end, with a few projects ongoing until the end of the year, including the renewal of Cathcart Street and new cycling infrastructure at the intersection of Sussex Drive, St. Patrick Street and the Alexandra Bridge. Dalhousie Street, between Murray and St. Patrick Street was also resurfaced this summer. Please stay tuned for upcoming

news on additional cycling improvements in our community, including on MacKenzie Avenue.

The Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan continues to make progress. Much work has been completed over the last year to create a long term vision for Rideau Street between King Edward Avenue and the Cummings bridge. The City hosted a final public consultation in September and we will share the outcome.

After consulting on the proposed plan for the ByWard Market Revitalization, staff hope to have a report ready for Committee this fall. We will be sure to keep you updated on any upcoming consultation opportunities.

Finally, we will be hosting a budget 2016 consultation on October 7th from 6-8pm at the St. Laurent Complex (525 Coté St). Come out and have your say!

As always, we are working to make our community a better place for you to live, work and play. Please do not hesitate to contact our office at any time at:

[mathieu.fleury@ottawa.ca](mailto:mathieu.fleury@ottawa.ca)  
or  
613-580-2482.

We look forward to speaking with you.



As always, our office is here to help you.

Comme toujours, notre bureau est ici pour vous aider



# Maison Sophia, a shelter for refugees

Donna Kearns

As the media tells us more and more heartbreaking stories of refugees fleeing conflict zones, it seems an appropriate time to look at what our community can do to help. Tens of thousands of people wait months, sometimes years, in refugee camps and in conditions difficult for us to imagine. More than 300,000 refugees and immigrants have used the dangerous sea route across the Mediterranean this year.

Maison Sophia, at the corner of Boteler Street and King Edward Avenue, provides temporary accommodation for new immigrants and refugees under the auspices of the Catholic Centre for Immigrants Ottawa (CCI), which has been assisting new immigrants of all creeds for over 60 years. These newcomers to Canada reside at Maison Sophia for an average of 3 to 4 weeks, and during that time they are members of our community.

In the past year, 693 people were housed in this residence, with the largest numbers coming from Somalia, Congo, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Almost half of them (363) found permanent accommodation through Catholic Immigration Services.

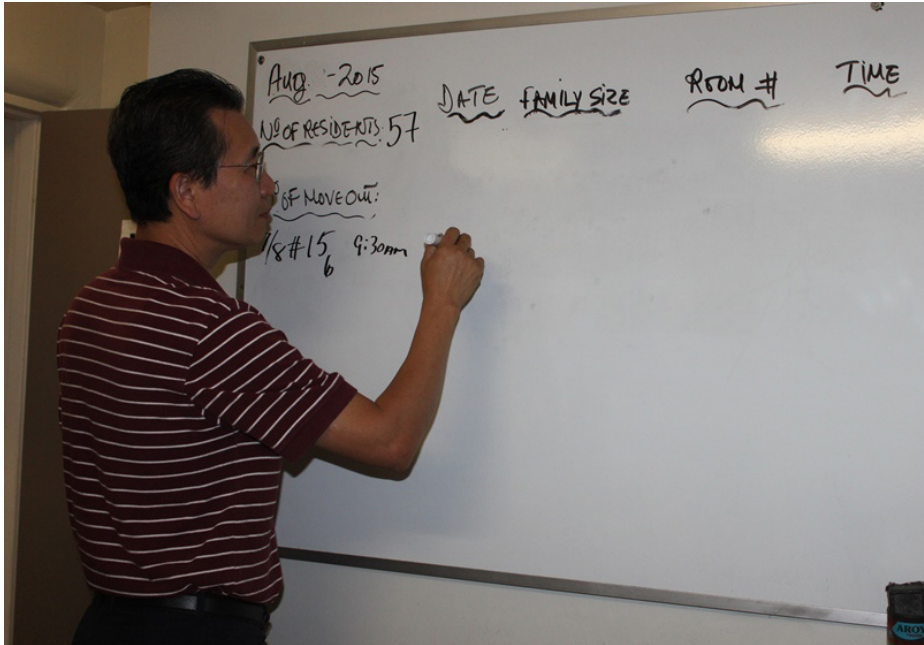
Some of us are familiar with the bewildered faces of the newcomers as they make their way around our neighbourhood. We may wish to help out, particularly now, in

the midst of this overwhelming crisis, but wonder what is the best thing to do and how to do it. Perhaps a good place to start is our own neighbourhood.

Maison Sophia is only one of the services provided by CCI Ottawa; located as it is in our community, it offers us an opportunity to help

**Join** our group of volunteers; we will co-ordinate with Maison Sophia staff to best assist new arrivals.

**Help** newcomers find their way around the neighbourhood and show them how to use public transit.



Heng Chau, Housing Coordinator with CCI's Resettlement Assistance Program updates the number of refugees receiving services at Maison Sophia Reception House.

cciottawa.ca

in a practical and immediate way.

So what can we do for Maison Sophia?

**Donate** to the Catholic Centre for Immigrants at [www.cciottawa.ca](http://www.cciottawa.ca)

**Donate** English and French language books and magazines for the Maison Sophia library.

What can we do more broadly? Federal elections are coming, so we can make a point of asking, and

asking again - in emails to their offices, at community meetings, and at campaign events - what our candidates will do to help if elected. The UNHCR has processed thousands of refugee applications, and people are waiting for a country to accept them. The UK has agreed to accept 20,000 refugees from camps in the Middle East. What is Canada doing?

We can also lobby Mayor Jim Watson and Councillor Mathieu Fleury to provide immediate increased funding for organizations like CCI. We do not need to wait for the federal government to provide funding before we step up to the plate.

We can contact our provincial MPP Madeleine Meilleur and ask for increased funding to the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade - on an emergency basis.

More broadly still: many Canadian and international organizations are doing important work and the need for funding is great. According to CBC News, the following organizations are worth considering if you are able to make a donation: World Vision Canada • International Organization for Migration • UNICEF Canada • Doctors Without Borders • Oxfam • World Food Programme • Migrant Offshore Aid • Amnesty International • Canadian Red Cross.

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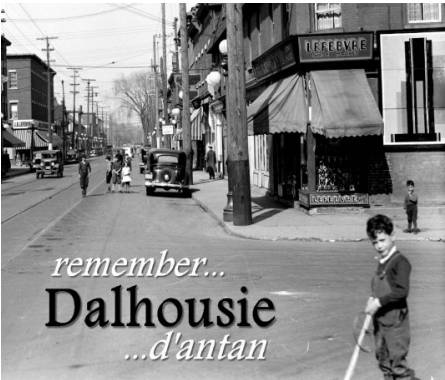
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# North Dal Heritage Walk a huge success for community and for merchants

Liz MacKenzie  
Photos: Elaine Sigler

The grand finale for our summer student heritage researchers, Mark Farine and Vincent Bergeron, was a Heritage Walk on Dalhousie North. Under the direction of Nancy Miller Chenier, Michel Rosignol, Robert Smythe and Marc Aubin, they documented some of the colourful history of Dalhousie North. The work was made possible by an 8-week Canada Summer Jobs 2015 grant. Brendan Bowen (of Bingham rink fame) did a cameo project on Polly Drouin, former part owner of the storied Lasalle Hotel and local NHL



hockey hero. On July 18th, the researchers put on a superb performance for more than 100 people. There were two English and two French tours featuring buildings from Bingham Park to Murray Street. Based on their extensive research, Mark, Vincent and Brendan told stories that brought early Lowertown history to life. Many descendants of the families that settled Dalhousie Street joined the walk and

were thrilled by the recognition of their history. Merchants and the North Dal Summer Avant Garden Party were key to the success of the event. Merchants and the BIA lined the street with balloons. Frank Sukhoo of Sukhoo Sukhoo put on an amazing pop-up fashion show with models strutting their stuff along Dalhousie. There was a sidewalk sale at Wunderkammer, and at Das Lokal a BBQ and vintage clothing popup shop. There was music and the Ottawa Art Galley set up a studio for kids. And the people came. Visitors and the community spilled onto the streets drinking root beer floats from Goods and Cylee's fabulous Frozen Hot Chocolate. There were smiles



Introduction in Bingham Park by researcher/tour guide Marc Farine.

all around as neighbours hailed each other across the streets. One old-timer said, "it is just like the old neighbourhood". The Lowertown Community Association (LCA) made lots of new friends - more than 20 people signed up to get involved in the association's work. We sold T-shirts, Memories of Lowertown CDs and copies of Ottawa Then and Now donated by photographer John McQuarrie. For the Heritage Committee, it was hugely gratifying to see so much interest in Dalhousie North, an oft-neglected part of Lowertown. The LCA is grateful for the participation of merchants who helped promote the event, to the BIA for providing balloons, a banner and marquee,



Student researchers/tour guides Mark Farine and Vincent Bergeron, each pursuing master's degrees at Ottawa University.

and to Heritage Committee members who volunteered. Special thanks to Robert Smythe for his supporting Urbsite blog Dalhowzie or Dalhoozie <http://urbsite.blogspot.ca/2015/07/dalhowzie-or-dalhoozie-its-time-for.html?q=DALHOUSIE> . Requests to repeat the tour came from many, including Heritage Ottawa. A very experienced heritage researcher told us it was the best tour she had ever been on. Now that says a lot about our guides and about our neighbourhood. So there will be a repeat performance and we will give lots of notice. It's a not-to-be-missed event.

continued from page 1

the roof and windows, improvement of universal accessibility, foundation repairs, replacement of outdated electrical and mechanical equipment and interior renovations. While this work is being carried out, the NCC will also be undertaking work to improve universal accessibility in the Tin House Court. As for 7 Clarence, the NCC has updated its construction schedule. Over the next two months, the focus is on hiring a company to complete the removal of the foundations and basement, and applying for a construction permit from the City of Ottawa. In

November and December, the NCC will put out a tender for the construction work and issue a contract to the winning proponent. Construction will begin in January 2016, with completion planned for December 2016, just in time to open doors again for Canada's 150th birthday. The Echo will follow up on this story in the next issue, hopefully with news of where each tenant will be located in the new year. The NCC contact on this project is Émilie Girard-Ruel, Manager, Public Consultations. Phone: 613-239-5678, ext. 5777 Email: emilie.girard-ruel@ncc-ccn.ca.

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# Community builder: Annie Mercier

*Sandra Pilote*

Lowertown is losing a champion when Annie Mercier leaves her position as a Community Developer at the Lowertown Community Resource Centre (LCRC). After more than a decade working for Lowertown residents, she is taking on new challenges as Coordinator of Community Relationships at the Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario (CEPEO).



Annie Mercier watching Brian Doyle cut the ribbon at the Angel Square Community Garden

Anyone who has worked with Annie will tell you that she brought a genuine commitment to her job, combining a positive attitude and leadership with persistence and problem solving in promoting the interests of Lowertown residents. She acknowledges that the job gave her an expanded set of skills and many good memories: "I have learned a lot from my work at LCRC and by working

with partners and people in the community. My years working in the community have been very important to me and have shaped me both as a Community Developer and as a person."

In her work, she was instrumental in getting residents to participate in a range of local projects. Those who walk by the new Angel Square Community Garden at 40 Cobourg Street will appreciate her efforts. After years of negotiating for space to give residents a place to grow fresh vegetables, she got permission from the city to use this space. Volunteers built the raised beds and in June 2015, the official opening ceremony saw Brian Doyle, author of the book titled Angel Square focused on his Lowertown boyhood, cutting the ribbon.

Annie's work at the Lowertown Community Resource Centre also involved her in city-wide initiatives aimed at empowering individuals to create and participate in change in their respective communities. Through the City for All Women Initiative (CAWI), she was active in the "Making Votes Count Where We Live" project. At all elections, the goal was to get people out to vote and in particular to rally residents living in low-income areas to exercise their right.

The community wishes Annie well in her future endeavours. Thank you, Annie for all your work to make Lowertown better for residents!

# Memories of Lowertown

Merci Jean et Danielle!

Jean Ouellette et Danielle Gagné remettent un chèque de 1.555\$ à la coprésidente du comité de patrimoine Liz MacKenzie et à la présidente de l'Association Communautaire de la Basse-Ville Liz Bernstein.

L'argent amassé provient des ventes du DVD «Souvenirs de la Basse-Ville» réalisé par Ouellette et Gagné. Le DVD est une fascinante et précieuse collection de 318 photos historiques de la Basse-Ville et inclut des séquences filmées historiques. Il fut réalisé par Jean et Danielle du groupe Facebook «Grew up in Lowertown Ottawa».



Thanks Jean and Danielle!

Jean Ouellette and Danielle Gagné present a cheque for \$1,555 to Heritage Committee Co-chair Liz MacKenzie and Lowertown Community Association President Liz Bernstein.

The money was raised through the sales of the DVD «Memories of Lowertown» produced by Ouellette and Gagné. The DVD is a fascinating and valuable collection of 318 historic photos of Lowertown and includes historic movie clips. It was produced by Jean and Danielle from the Facebook Group «Grew up in Lowertown Ottawa».

## Publicité

### Améliorer la sécurité de la retraite pour les travailleurs ontariens

Partout au pays, les gens s'inquiètent au sujet de leur retraite.

Trop peu de personnes bénéficient d'un régime de retraite au travail. Les experts s'entendent pour dire que les gens ne sont pas en mesure d'épargner suffisamment. C'est simple, le Régime de pensions du Canada (RPC), qui verse des prestations s'élevant à 6 900 \$ par an en moyenne, ne comble pas l'écart.

Notre gouvernement est déterminé à améliorer la sécurité de la retraite pour tous les Ontariens et Ontariennes. D'ici à 2020, le Régime de retraite de la province de l'Ontario (RRPO) offrira à tous les employés ontariens la sécurité d'un régime de retraite en plus du RPC.

Entre 2017 et 2020, chaque employé ontarien n'ayant par le biais de son employeur un régime de retraite comparable, participera au RRPO. Rien ne changera pour les personnes qui participent à un régime de retraite d'employeur à cotisations ou à prestations déterminées qui répond aux critères. Elles continueront de jouir d'une certaine tranquillité d'esprit, sachant qu'il existe un fonds d'épargne dont elles pourront bénéficier au moment de la retraite.

Si vous ne participez pas à un régime de retraite d'employeur, vous cotiserez un modeste montant tous les mois en vue de votre avenir, comme vous le faites pour le RPC. Votre employeur cotisera un montant équivalent, doublant ainsi les fonds que vous avez contribués.

Lorsque vous prendrez votre retraite, vous pourrez bénéficier de votre investissement. Comme c'est le cas avec le RPC, vous recevrez une pension régulière à vie dont le montant dépendra du revenu et du nombre d'années pendant lesquelles vous aurez cotisé au régime de retraite.

Nous avons mené de nombreuses consultations au sujet de cette approche et écouté les employeurs, les employés, les organismes sans but lucratif, les syndicats, les experts et les actuaires. Nous proposons une solution sensée et avisée à la question difficile de l'épargne-retraite.

Des économistes tel que David Dodge, ancien gouverneur de la Banque du Canada, affirment que des épargnes-retraite plus étoffées aideraient les gens pendant leur retraite en plus de générer des gains à long terme pour l'économie. Ceci a été confirmé par une analyse interne du ministère des Finances fédéral lui-même.

Le RRPO est un régime réellement prévoyant, faisant de l'Ontario un lieu où il fera bon travailler, investir et vieillir. Nous agissons pour les futures générations, nos enfants et petits-enfants, afin de nous assurer qu'ils pourront prendre leur retraite en bénéficiant de la sécurité à laquelle ils ont droit. Après avoir travaillé et contribué à l'économie toute notre vie, nous méritons tous une retraite sûre.

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