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(www.rhpoa.ca)

Rothwell Heights Community News

May 2017

Please Note -

Subsequent **periodic RHPOA newsletters** will be electronic, until Spring 2018.

If you are an Association member and you want subsequent newsletters by paper copy, we would be happy to deliver them to you. **Please let us know**, by calling or writing a Board member (page 4).

If you are not yet an Association member, it's easy and inexpensive – see page 4. Membership by residents is important, as it demonstrates interest in having an Association and a volunteer Board who monitor issues of broad community interest, and work to keep informed (and keep you informed) of topics of potential concern.

We welcome your comments, whether you are an Association member or not. Keep in touch, by providing the Association with your email (and street) address through the "Contact Us" portal at www.rhpoa.ca. Our privacy policy is there too.

As a resident of Rothwell Heights, you are cordially invited to the -

RHPOA Potluck Picnic and BBQ

DATE: Saturday 10 June 2017

TIME: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Combermere Park (Lower Level)

Bring a favourite dish to share. Renew your membership.

And enjoy a chance to meet or catch-up with your neighbours, or to talk to a Board member. For fun, the park offers a baseball diamond, tennis courts (which are often busy), and children's play structures. Please consider bringing any favorite drink you may want; water and BBQ'd hotdogs with condiments will be provided.

Please note – we will be recycling waste at this event. *Please help* to make this work, by ensuring used paper plates and any waste food go into the food recycling bin or bag (it will be labelled), and by ensuring non-compostables do not go there.

Can you loan a table OR a BBQ for the event?

Can you help set-up or clean-up?

Are you interested in helping arrange races or games for children of all ages?

If so, please get in touch with a Board member, listed on pg. 4.

Your participation helps make this event fun for everyone.

Survey Results

Our April newsletter included a request to reply to a short survey on the activities of the Association. The survey could be taken on paper or through our website. The following is a Summary Report of survey results. More detail will be posted to our website, and can be obtained in paper copy by calling a Board member.

There were 57 responses – 37 responses were via the website, 20 were paper copy. This response rate was approximately 11% of the community.

The average age of respondent households was –14% “Under 45 years”, 25% “45-60 years” and 61% “Over 60 years”. Those reporting one or more children under the age of 18 years were 25% of respondents.

91% reported being Association members and 93% reported the Association is an asset to the community. Others reported “Not Sure” (4 of 57 responses).

For the question about value placed on various Association activities, “Highest Value” was assigned by respondents for –

- Having a community association in place (74%)
- Community Newsletter (89%)
- Community Notifications or “Alerts” (86%)
- Representing community interests with NRC (84%)
- Representing community interests with Planning Committee (84%)
- Representing community interests with public processes (79%)
- Having a central point of contact (77%)

Fewer respondents assigned “High Value” to -

- Website (25%)
- Community picnic (25%)
- Guest speaker at AGM (19%)

There were 19 respondents to the question about activities for their participation (38 skipped it). Suggestions were –

- Exercise, sports, nutritional activities, social gatherings
- Spring cleanup
- Golf league, Bridge club
- Whatever would be useful.
- Satisfied with what is in place now.
- Would help with delivering newsletter or similar tasks
- Information meetings on issues affecting our area or the city. The items listed in [Survey Question] 4 would easily satisfy our expectations.
- Spring/Fall clean-up of parks
- Soccer day
- Annual spring cleanup
- Maybe a classical music club since I play classical guitar.
- We appreciate the “being informed” aspect that the RHPOA ensures specifically focused on our area. At this time, we might like to see more concrete information relating to things like road repairs and such other info.
- Yearly picnic is a great event to meet our neighbours.
- Presentations, discussions
- We like the annual picnic and always go!
- I am not sure
- I’m curious about the origin of street names in Rothwell Heights.

77% respondents thought the membership fees are “Just Right”, while 23% thought they should be “Higher to build up the ‘rainy day’ fund.”

General comments about the value of an Association were as follows: -

For information, working together

Good way of dealing with common interests

Keeps us informed of key issues in our neighbourhood

Sharing information on local issues

Represents community interests

Thank you, keep up the good work

Having a recognized community association helps foster a sense of neighbourhood. It's an important asset when dealing with both local and wider municipal issues, which lends credibility to our "collective voice" when dealing with the City of Ottawa and other entities.

We get respect of our area's character with the RHOPA.

Does a very good job and eliciting and collecting neighbourhood issues and views and, as appropriate, communicating them to the City and other bodies.

Keeps residents informed on important issues and acts on behalf of residents when necessary

It can identify upcoming issues for the community. And deal with issues on its behalf.

Credible observer of developments affecting our area.

A jewel of information!

Protects the interests of our community. Voice of our community to the City of Ottawa

RHOPA brings neighbours closer together with community events (e.g. annual BBQ), and more importantly, it is a reliable source for information regarding security, urban development, etc. information to the community. We also need RHOPA as a central voice in protecting the characteristic of the neighbourhood (i.e. to prevent further intensification of residential density).

Keeps us informed on relevant issues affecting the neighbourhood and surrounding areas

You never know when it will be necessary to fight "City Hall" and at that time a community association is essential to organize a viable defense.

Provides useful info.

I get information about local goings on that I don't get from any other source

Far too small a spectrum of the community.

Info affecting our community is always a need

Vigilance and communication on matters important to this area

It is very helpful with regards to providing useful information not readily available from other sources, and also helps maintain a valuable sense of community and history.

It has been an important voice in urban planning (the Rockcliffe Base) and the environment (NRC issues)

Is a means of disseminating info that affects us as a community

Provides news re local events & issues of community importance; acts as important venue to express our personal and community's views on issues that may impact our neighbourhood

You keep us informed of what is happening in the community and work to improve negative issues.

For the reasons listed in the Newsletter

RHOPA lobby's on behalf of the community. Represents us very well.

Thank-you to everyone who took the time to share their views in the survey. Over the coming months, the Board will respond to many of your suggestions and ideas.

Our first response is to the comment that the Association is "Far too small a spectrum of the community" (see list above). This is certainly a valid comment. Reasonable gender parity and geographical representation from all three levels have been achieved in the current Board, but younger residents are not currently involved. This can and should change. It will require other residents to volunteer.

Residents have described what they think of the Association in the list of comments above. Their comments reflect the value of having an active Association, with benefits that extend to all residents of the community. But an active Association needs a little shared "person-power".

The Board welcomes all residents to join and participate in whatever way that they can, from showing support through membership, to assisting and participating in various community activities (some of which don't occur because there is no one to run them), to taking on the shared responsibility for managing the organization.

Road Repairs

Several comments in the survey asked about pothole and road repairs. The Councillor's office was asked over four weeks ago. We were informed the question was passed on to the appropriate department, but there has been no reply to date. In the meantime, another question which is perhaps more specific and pertinent will be asked – what is in the City's capital budget this year for road repairs and re-surfacing in Rothwell Heights? This question should be answerable. Any reply will be put on the website.

Other Upcoming Events and Activities

From **15–25 May**, Mob Entertainment filmed a Canadian movie produced for television and currently titled "Sweetheart" at 4796 Massey Lane. Jessalyn Gilsig of "Glee" and "Vikings" played Samantha, a separated mother of two girls who is dating Brian, a man with questionable intentions. When Brian realizes one of the daughters has figured him out, he kidnaps her younger sister and the plot thickens.

Doors Open Ottawa 2017 will be held on the **3-4 June**. This is a once-a-year opportunity to tour some of Ottawa's most fascinating and unusual places, this year featuring over 150 of Ottawa's most extraordinary buildings. To find out more -

<http://ottawa.ca/en/residents/arts-heritage-and-culture/museums-and-historic-sites/doors-open-ottawa#information-doors-open-ottawa-2017>

Ottawa's Spring Give Away Weekend will take place on **Saturday 10 June and Sunday 11 June 2017**. Put your unwanted things at the curb on Give Away Weekend and watch them disappear! Then come to the community pot-luck picnic!

Hazardous Household Waste Depots

Sunday, June 4, 2017 at Progressive Waste Landfill, 3354 Navan Road

Sunday, June 25, 2017 at OC Transpo Park and Ride, 3355 Fallowfield
Residential electronic waste is also accepted at this site.

Sunday, August 20, 2017 at Kanata Research Park, 411 Leggett Drive
Residential electronic waste is also accepted at this site.

Electronic Waste Depots

Saturday, June 3, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Tom Brown Arena,
141 Bayview Road.

Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Jim Durrell Recreation
Center, 1265 Walkley Road.

Saturday, June 17, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Earl Armstrong Arena,
2020 Oglive Road. *NOTE THE CONVENIENT LOCATION !*

Saturday, July 8, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Howard Darwin Arena,
1765 Merivale Road.

Update –

The **RHPOA AGM** was held on 19 April, and included a very interesting presentation by Melissa Lansing on the City's museums and their special activities this Spring and Summer. Related information can be found on our website, and at <http://www.ottawa.ca/museums>.

Spring Clean-Up in Our Area -

Kudos to a resident on Oriole Dr, his family and his neighbor for doing Spring clean-up in the woodland areas behind the Blair Road cul-de-sac, between Massey Lane and the Blair Road boat launch, and the Blair Road boat launch parking area. They reported also trying to clean the Ottawa River shoreline (before the flooding) between the Blair Road boat launch and Rebecca Crescent, but the task was too daunting. The resident was concerned about the amount of garbage found in our neighbourhood, and therefore wrote an article on "Open Dumping", which can be found on our website at www.rhpoa.ca

NRC Activities

On-going construction activities this summer at NRC are as follows –

(1) Testing continues of a small gas turbine engine, Mon- Fri at Buildings M-10 and M-11. Anticipated disturbance is reported as "Low level noise; no-to-low level of odours." However, at least one nearby resident has reported problems. *If enjoyment and use of your property are disturbed by continuous or frequent noise or odours from NRC activities, please notify us and Community@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca*

(2) A major upgrade of NRC's existing combined sewer system on the North side of Montreal road is being done, primarily along the west property line. The work is done between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mon-Fri. It should be completed by October 2018. Loud noise is expected and some vibrations may be experienced from excavating equipment, hoe-ramming of rock, heavy earth moving machinery and increased truck traffic.

(3) A 5000 square foot (464 square metre) extension to building M-48 is being constructed. Work is during normal work hours, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mon-Fri, unless advised otherwise. Work will be completed around October 2017.

Updates on these and other projects can be found at -

<http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/about/community/rothwell/projects/index.html>

RHPOA Website

The Board extends its thanks and appreciation to Martin Gratton, our Website Manager, for work well-done. Martin continues to determine how best to shape and present community information to readers, as well as managing the PayPal membership process. Although the survey results indicated only 25% of respondents placed "High Value" on the website, we believe that over time, as its content increases, the site will be more appreciated and used. Residents' suggestions and contributions to the website are welcome.

Membership Renewal Reminders

If you are not yet a member, we encourage you to join! If you are a member, please consider renewing before or at the picnic on the 10 June. If you can't recall whether you have paid or not, we can tell you! Ask a Board member to find out.

Memberships can be renewed by cash or cheque, at the picnic OR to the RHPOA Treasurer (see address in list below), OR at www.rhpoa.ca using PayPal. When joining or renewing, please provide the information outlined in the form below.

RHPOA Board Members 2017-2018:

Last year's Board members were re-affirmed at the AGM and will hold their position until the AGM in 2018.

Residents who want to help shape a new Board in 2018-2019 are encouraged to come forward and participate with this year's Board. We look forward to hearing from you!

Janet Kiff-Macaluso (Treasurer)	36 Clovelly Road	(613) 745-8916
Bryan Rawlings	31 Amberly Pl	(613) 742-0228
Maria Barrados	22 Whippoorwill Dr	(613) 749-4010
Ursula Menke	1362 Whippoorwill Dr	(613) 744-5856
John Alcock	1 Massey Lane	(613) 746-6242
Tony Brammer (Secretary)	4792 Massey Lane	(613) 744-5376
Jane Brammer (Chair)	4792 Massey Lane	(613) 744-5376

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New and Renewed RHPOA Memberships 2017

\$10 per household per year \$20 for two years

ROTHWELL HEIGHTS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION (RHPOA)

Name:

Address:

E-mail address (for newsletters):

Can you help? Newsletters Picnic Website

Invasive Species Removals Other ? _____

Send to RHPOA Treasurer, 36 Clovelly Road, K1J 8V7