

OVERBROOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE D'OVERBROOK

# 2025 Annual Report

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR April 2025 - March 2026

**OCA Board of Directors:** Rhea Bowen (Interim chairperson: January - March 2026); Pamella Mubeza (vice president & signing authority); Selma Wannas (co-treasurer & signing authority); Anne Martin (secretary); David Behn; Ismael Awaleh; Shekinah Manning; Mandy Metcalfe; Pat Bolduc; Scott Walker; and Heather Amys (co-treasurer non-voting/-signing).

**Board members who stepped down in 2025:** Steven Boyle (moved), David Ferguson, Nouredine Ilkem, Jennifer Moroziuk, as well as most of the 2024-25 board.

Thank you for your service!

### BECOME AN OCA BOARD MEMBER

Show interest today during the election of board members or email [info@overbrook.ca](mailto:info@overbrook.ca)

## OCA'S VISION STATEMENT

Overbrook is the diverse, caring urban neighbourhood of choice.

## OCA'S CORE VALUES

Respect • Inclusion • Collaboration • Integrity Diversity • Sustainability • Safety

## OCA MANDATE IN OUR BYLAWS

- Promote the cohesion and identity of our caring community.
- Anticipate community needs, pressures, opportunities, advocate for improvements, and give Overbrook voice.
- Catalyze engagement of residents in city planning, our environment, heritage, arts and culture, governance, community projects and events.
- Forge connection among residents, neighbours, businesses, elected officials, services,
- partners, heritage, environment, arts and culture, funders and initiatives.

## OCA - KEEP IN TOUCH AND FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

### Social Media

**FB:** @overbrookcommunityassociation

**X:** @OverbrookCA

**Instagram:** @613HumansofOverbrook

Please visit [www.overbrook.ca](http://www.overbrook.ca) to learn more about our association.

### OCA IS POWERED BY VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

You can help sustain improvements in our community by making a donation today!

## Message from your Board of Directors

### THE GOOD NEWS

The Overbrook Community Association (OCA) is volunteers working to co-create a vibrant, caring community in which our environment and everyone in it matters.

2025 was an eventful year with volunteers delivering several community projects and events described in this report. In May, we celebrated the **completion of the Rideau River Kiosk project** thanks to the efforts of over 40 volunteers, many donors and sponsors. The handsome information kiosk by the Rideau River near the Adawe Crossing offers information about the river and local heritage. It concludes over 5 years of work and fundraising. The kiosk, the official launch event on May 24 and a Mayoral Declaration all **commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first bridge in Overbrook: Hurdman's Bridge**. Somewhat rainy spring weather did not lessen the celebration which involved musical performers and dancers, a land acknowledgement ceremony, artisans, speeches by Mayor Mark Sutcliffe and Councillor Rawlson King, a ribbon cutting with cake and food for all.

OCA worked with Action Sandy Hill to hold **a joint celebration on December 4, which was the 10th anniversary of our newest bridge: the Adawe Crossing**. Neighbours from both sides of the bridge gathered to acknowledge, with hot drinks



10th anniversary of the Adawe Crossing

and cookies, this important pedestrian and cycling link that has for a decade now connected communities on both sides of the Rideau River. This is among the highest traffic foot bridges in the city, with more than 980,000 annual trips across the bridge (2023 data). The hope is to repeat this event annually.

OCA co-hosted a well attended community safety event on November 24<sup>th</sup> with many resident and business participants. Community partners included the Ottawa Police Service, Crime Stoppers, Ottawa By-law & Regulatory Services, Safer Roads Ottawa, Ottawa Community Housing, Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre and Councillor Rawlson King's office. Input and feedback received will help develop an **Overbrook Community Safety Action Plan 2025-2026**.



Board Directors and Partners at the Community Safety Event  
Photo : Amine Hammach / ONFR

OCA worked with community partners (RRCRC and OCH) and city funding to put on **the annual Overbrook Day celebration**, which was held August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Overbrook Community Centre (OCC). Nice summer weather, a free BBQ, kid's games, a bounce castle, music, sports and games made for an awesome event for families and friends to gather and enjoy the fun day. The event was largely successful thanks to our volunteers: Najat Al-Zaher, Pam Hilchie, Mohamed-Robleh Kamil, Hemeda Kamil, Duranvier Tsamene, Yoldie Michel, Sittana Hamadou, Joshua Milford, Sarp Kizir, Peter Stuart and Aaron Manning.

**The Community Planning Committee, the Gardening Team, the Communications Team and the Rink Team** also had productive years. Photos and descriptions of these and other accomplishments form the heart of this Annual Report.



Overbrook Day 2025

## IN OTHER NEWS

It is incumbent upon us to share with OCA members the unusual challenges faced by the OCA board of 2025-26. This space in the annual report is normally reserved for the "President's Report", and we find ourselves between presidents. Two stepped down when they moved out of Overbrook. A third was removed from office in January 2026.

At the last AGM in April 2025, there was a large change in the board membership and a big loss of corporate memory and records. We discovered some surprises. The Bylaws had been revised (in April 2023), but had been largely ignored. For example, public meetings were no longer being held, while the member newsletter and the membership list disappeared apparently in favour of social media posts. Production of the community newspaper had been terminated in January. The donation button on the website stopped working months before, and the website renewal was allowed to lapse taking a GoFundMe link for the Kiosk away. While all this was unfortunate but manageable, it was a visit to the bank to purchase cheques (there were none), and to register the newly appointed signing authorities that revealed more difficult challenges. This is explained further by the co-treasurers in the financial report section of this document.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO 2026

On the bright side, the core team of dedicated directors have managed to get things mostly back on track. Furthermore, we are pleased to report that most of the current directors have committed to run for another term of office. The two community bulletin boards are being maintained, Overbrook Park has been adopted, public meetings and four garden projects are planned as well as maintenance of and activities at the rink and other community improvements.

Looking forward to 2026 priorities:

- Contributing to Overbrook Day and Ottawa "Bytown" bicentennial celebrations
  - Youth volunteer opportunities with the Overbrook Trinity Sens rink, and possibly Presland Park Rink and a winter rink party
  - Overbrook Community Safety Action Plan
  - Municipal elections in October
  - New website
  - Monthly public meetings every second Tuesday of the month
-

## Community Planning Committee (now inactive)

Committee members: Nora Benamra and Steven Boyle (committee co-coordinators), Geoffrey Stiles, Heather Amys & Joanna Bellamy

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS in 2025**

- The CPC is a committee created by and reporting to the OCA Board of Directors; a Terms of Reference exists
- Most CPC members have also been very active in the advancement (approval, funding, installation and event day) of the Rideau River and Hurdman's Bridge 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kiosk Project – see separate report on this OCA community project in this AGM report
- The CPC monitored the completed St. Laurent Boulevard Transit Priority Environmental Study, for which formal comments had been provided to the city
- The CPC undertook its continued review of all notices of Committee of Adjustment (CofA) minor variance applications (primarily for residential infill such as semi-detached or townhouse dwellings) on various residential streets; and provided, when appropriate, written comments to the CofA
- It monitored or provided comments to city staff and the councillor on various planning applications (site plan, rezoning, etc.), including the Official Plan amendment for 240 Presland Road; commented on the townhouse development at Quill Street opposite the Overbrook Community Centre, etc.
- Two Committee members were invited and participated in an on-site walkabout for the proposed redevelopment of 500 Coventry Road (west of the St. Laurent Shopping Centre) for several high-rise residential buildings. This walkabout included discussion of improved (interim and long term) pedestrian and cycling access to/from the St. Laurent LRT Station via this site and the adjacent St. Laurent Shopping Centre (both owned by the same property owner – Morguard). The creation of such an improved access route for Overbrook residents has been a long-standing goal of the CPC and the OCA.
- It reviewed the final draft of the City's new Comprehensive Zoning By-law; comments had been provided to the city on earlier drafts
- The CPC developed the "*OCA Guidelines for Pre-Application Consultation Meetings*" –endorsed by the OCA Board.
- OCA representatives attended one City-organized pre-application meeting for a site that might be redeveloped in Overbrook. This pre-application meeting process was originally a pilot project for a few wards only but, due to its success, it was expanded and includes our Ward 13 and the OCA has participated since it was eligible to do so. These meetings are critical opportunities to convey early input into plans per "*OCA Guidelines for Pre-Application Consultation Meetings*". OCA attendance at such a meeting is constrained by non-disclosure agreements. The plans become public if/when a formal planning application is submitted to the City.



Sample reviewed application at 240 Presland Road - proposed redevelopment of site of fire destroyed non-profit housing building



Sample excerpt from multi-page CPC comments to City on a redevelopment application

### **LESSONS OF 2025 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2026**

- In May two key committee members and its co-coordinators (Nora Benamra and Steven Boyle) notified other CPC members and the OCA Board of Directors that after 6 and 7 years respectively on the committee that they would be stepping down. Repeated efforts had been made over several years by OCA to seek new members to be part of the committee and/or to lead it but this was not successful. Recent OCA Boards had shown much diminished interest in the Committee's work.
- The Committee's co-coordinators recommended to the Board in June 2025 to either cease the committee's operations or to put it into a limbo (non-active status). The CPC is currently inactive at this time.

- Regarding OCA participation in the City pre-application process, there is one OCA member (a maximum of four are permitted) who is part of the city-organized pre-application process. The City provides training for new members. Such membership must be renewed annually.
- In 2025 the province brought into force legislation to no longer require minor variances, in the case of certain yard setbacks and lot area minimums, if they are within a certain percentage of the required by-law amounts and in early 2026 the City of Ottawa adopted a new Zoning By-law that likewise makes the need for rezonings/minor variances less necessary in some cases. Despite these changes, which would reduce CPC workload, the OCA will need to continue to pay attention to large impact (generally due to size) planning applications that may be proposed in Overbrook.
- OCA and the CPC need to pay also attention to other matters relevant to the CPC's terms of reference, such as reviewing/commenting on any proposed city-wide planning policy changes and on all types of transportation issues that might impact the community. The CPC had taken a keen interest in both traffic calming and in increasing active transportation usage and safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

## Communication Team

Leads: Shekinah Manning, Anne Martin & Mandy Metcalfe

**Challenges:** During the year, OCA's communications experienced a transition when the board member responsible for the newsletter, social media accounts and website stepped down from their role. As several communications responsibilities had been centralized in one role, this created a temporary pause in several communication channels while the board worked to recover access and reorganize responsibilities. As a result, the community newsletter was suspended and social media updates were temporarily on pause. In addition, the community newspaper *Connexions* was recently discontinued. Production costs had been covered personally by the editor and were not financially sustainable to maintain.

**Accomplishments:** Mandy Metcalfe, a volunteer who has since joined the board, took the initiative to manage and refresh the community bulletin boards located at Queen Mary/Lola and the Overbrook Community Centre. The boards are now regularly updated and creatively maintained, helping to share local information and events with residents. The association also saw increased engagement on its social media platforms once activity resumed.



Queen Mary Street / Lola Street Bulletin Board

**Outlook for 2026:** Moving forward, the board plans to strengthen communications by distributing responsibilities across multiple members. The board plans to resume a regular community newsletter by establishing a Membership Coordinator role to manage membership communications and assist with the coordination newsletters and ensuring that communication platforms and account access are shared among several board members to support continuity.

## Rideau River and Hurdman's Bridge 150th Anniversary Kiosk Project

Lead: Steven Boyle

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS in 2025**

- After more than 5 years of work (planning/research, NCC approvals, fundraising and site installation) the Rideau River and Hurdman's Bridge 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kiosk Project was inaugurated with a festive well-attended celebration event on May 24, 2025.
- The Rideau River Kiosk Project, on National Capital Commission lands along the Rideau River near the Awàwe Crossing, consists of six information panels in a landscaped site highlighting the history and heritage of Overbrook, including its bridges and its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022 as a Police Village (type of municipal entity), and the environment (flora and fauna) along the Rideau River.
- The year 2025 marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of Hurdman's Bridge (1875), the first bridge link across the Rideau River to Overbrook, which led to establishment of several small businesses near the bridge, increased trade (particularly lumber) and building of several subdivisions and Overbrook school (1906). These important historic anniversaries are recognized in the Rideau River Kiosk, including photos of past versions of Hurdman's Bridge.

- The community event for the kiosk’s opening was held on May 24<sup>th</sup> and included: performers, dancers and musicians (Oto-Wa Taiko drummers, Burundi drummers, Thunderbird Drummers – Indigenous drumming group, a local group of Indigenous seniors led by Overbrook’s own artisan/artist H  l  ne Choini  re “Raven”, bag piper Jonathan Shepherd, etc.); a land acknowledgment ceremony lead by Algonquin Albert Dumont – a poet, storyteller, speaker, and an Algonquin traditional teacher; a proclamation by Mayor Mark Sutcliffe and comments by Councillor Rawlson King; a cake cutting and a very big thanks to all the volunteers. The Gloucester Historical Society was also present in support. The Corridor newspaper reported that there were 300 attendees.
- The mayoral proclamation and a special banner created by Overbrook students (Ottawa Technical Secondary School) are hung in the Overbrook Community Centre.
- There was a special May 2025 edition of *The Corridor*, an on-line Overbrook-Forbes news journal, on Rideau River bridges and this kiosk project
- Significant in-kind (non-cash) donations, primarily of time and effort, were made by volunteers for: project management, research/design of panel content, Algonquin and French translation, visualizations, landscape design, discounted printing costs, donation of some plants, sound system rental, May 24<sup>th</sup> event food/drink and electricity use (The Bridge Public House, Rideau Sports Centre, Starbucks, RRCRC, Loblaws, Canadian Tire, etc.), flowers and banners and OCA for display tripods, table coverings, speakers’ stand, etc.
- Related to the history and heritage theme of the kiosk panels, earlier in the month on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> was Jane’s Walk weekend, and two walks were run in the area. One by the Gloucester Historical Society: “Overbrook Highlights” (English) and the other by Overbrook Community Association: “Les ponts d’Overbrook” (French). Information on these events promoted the kiosk unveiling event and storey features of the kiosk. The kiosk will likely feature in future Jane’s Walks.

**LESSONS FROM 2025 AND LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**

- This kiosk project and May 24<sup>th</sup> event provided a number of lessons. The first of which was the need for persistence as the five year plus time line of this project presented challenges such as covid 19 and post pandemic price increases, length of time to get federal approval for the project and the difficult effort of fundraising from multiple sources. The fundraising efforts required multiple grant applications to several government and philanthropic organizations.
- The kiosk panels provide an on-going presence as an educational and community building tool about Overbrook’s history and heritage and the environment along the Rideau River. Its location, along the NCC’s Rideau River East multi-use pathway, is highly traveled, with trip counts on the nearby Ad  we Crossing having over 980,000 annual trips (2023) by walkers and cyclists.
- Commitment will need to continue as the OCA is responsible, in part, for ongoing maintenance (e.g. weeding) of the native shrubs and flowers planted at the kiosk site. **Volunteers are sought.**



Some of the volunteers pictured

**VOLUNTEERS – Rideau River and Hurdman’s Bridge  
150th Anniversary Kiosk Project**

**Kiosk & fundraising team**

Heather Amys – Co-lead  
 Steven Boyle – Co-lead  
 Ben Barcosi  
 Nora Benamra  
 Joanna Bellamy  
 Suzanne Benoit  
 Marie-Christine Blais  
 Danika Brisson  
 Mariette Buckshot  
 Glenn Clarke  
 Nelson Edwards

**Gardening Team**

Deborah Doherty – Lead  
 Hind Aliliche  
 Heather Amys  
 Lana Basem  
 Steven Boyle  
 Isabelle Brunet  
 Sahar Fabal  
 David Ferguson  
 Pam Hilchie  
 Noureddine Ilkem  
 Patrick Jarmuske

**Event & Comms Team**

Heather Amys – Lead  
 David Behn  
 Nora Benamra  
 Celeste Billung-Meyer  
 Steven Boyle  
 Diana Cartwright  
 Aaron Curtis  
 Lucas Denison  
 David Ferguson  
 Rod Gillyatt  
 Jay Howden

Linda Grussani  
John Heimstra  
Pat Horner  
Mercedes Marcano

Marc Kempf  
Orchelle Kkana  
Elizabeth Lavoie  
Anne Martin  
Laura Ospina  
Katie Pate  
Corrie Rabbe  
Michael Shoesmith  
Aaron Tamminga  
Selma Wannas  
Neil Watts  
Abby Wolfe  
Barbara Young

Noureddine Ilkem  
Awaleh Ismaël  
Marc Kempf  
Joanne Lockyer  
Anne Martin  
Carl Martin  
Pamella Mubeza  
Cynthia Munster  
Robert Piggott  
Katherine Provost  
Maritza  
Marjolaine Provost  
Ioana Anna Stefanovici  
Selma Wannas



Unveiling of the six kiosk panels



Volunteers planting native shrubs and perennial flowers at kiosk site



May 24<sup>th</sup> event – Burundi dancers



Presentation from Mayor of Hurdman's Bridge 150th Proclamation to OCA



## Overbrook Ice Rink Maintenance

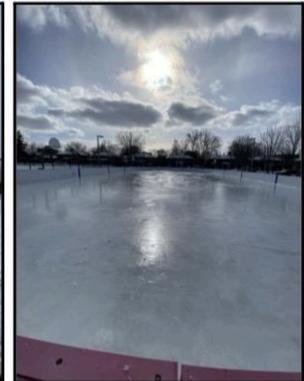
Lead: Derek Wright

The past year at Overbrook Rink has been one of our most successful seasons to date, despite a challenging start. We navigated a perfect storm of obstacles, including significant snowfall, a burst pipe affecting our water supply, heater issues affecting our hoses, and lower-than-usual volunteer capacity.

However, our primary achievement remained the successful delivery of the City of Ottawa's **"I Love to Skate"** program. By hosting this twice-weekly initiative, we provided a safe, welcoming environment for local youth to build their skills and confidence. It was a highlight for all of us to see the rink used as a hub for the neighborhood; the lights brightening up the park at night has been a wonderful sight for the community. Looking ahead to the **2026/27 outlook**, our goal is to build on this momentum. With the support of the OCA, we aim to expand our local outreach so even more families can enjoy Overbrook. Our primary challenge remains the recruitment of a dedicated volunteer base large enough to maintain an outdoor rink of this size. That said, we are well-positioned with a high-capacity snowblower and plenty of equipment. With continued community support and coordinated weather-dependent maintenance, we are confident in another great season.



"I Love to Skate" program



Before and After pictures of the rink

**Volunteer Recognition:** This season simply would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our team. We would like to recognize the following individuals for their hard work, particularly during the time-consuming process of getting the rink from its initial state into skateable form:

- **Liam Cunningham**
- **Anne Martin**

We also want to thank our dedicated crew: Derek Wright, Scott Walker, John Heimstra, Connor, Tony, Jen, Ismael, Tristan, Liden Wright, Quinn Wright, Chris Pelland and Cole Pelland.



Rink Crew Member in action

**GET INVOLVED IN THE 2026-27 RINK SEASON**

To become a volunteer, email [wright.derek.j@gmail.com](mailto:wright.derek.j@gmail.com)

## Overbrook Gardens 2025

Lead: Deborah Doherty

This report captures the community work done at the **West Donald Street Garden** and other smaller plots in the community. The OCA has a contract with the City of Ottawa for maintenance of the West Donald Street gardens.

**Ottawa Technical Secondary Schools and Overbrook Community Centre**

January - June

With the assistance of Community Service Learning students from uOttawa, one Carleton student and OCA volunteers we winter seeded over 100 pots of native plants



Steven B. and Deborah D. preparing the site at the RSC



Pollinator Gardens sign

at both the Overbrook Community Centre and the Ottawa Technical High School

July and August

- Planted native plants in window boxes at Overbrook Community Centre and in the courtyard.
- Tomatoes, beans, onions and peas were also planted in the garden boxes.

September – November

- More winter seeding occurred at the Ottawa Technical Secondary School.

### **Donald Street Pollinator Gardens (City of Ottawa ROW) and Rideau River Kiosk (National Capital Commission land).**

We had a very busy and productive year at the Donald Street gardens.

Thanks to the assistance of the City of Ottawa, Rideau Sports Club (storage and water), Overbrook Community Association and numerous volunteers.

April - June

- Preparation, Design, purchase and planting of the Kiosk Garden
- Opening of the Rideau River Kiosk – mid May
- Received plant donations from Ottawa Wildflower Seed Library, and Overbrook residents
- Students from the Ottawa Technical Secondary School assist with planting of the 400 square foot garden along the Pickleball courts
- New signs were installed to acknowledge Ecology Ottawa and the Ottawa Community Foundation grant.
- Invasive plants and weed suppression with woodchips on the remaining 4 or the 8 Garden plots.



Ottawa Technical Secondary Students planting seedlings along the Pickleball courts

July - August

- Planting, watering and weeding.
- Tools from the Ottawa Tool Lending Library (stored at Rideau Sports Club)



Volunteers planting winter seedlings at the Overbrook Community Centre

September – November

- Carleton University Community Engagement students prepared educational and promotional materials for an Invasive Species removal campaign.
- Carleton University students and UOttawa students assisted with an invasive species removal walk along the Rideau River.

### **Other requests and concerns**

- **Garden boxes at Queen Mary and Lola – overgrown with invasive species (Councillor's office has requested assistance)**
- **Lola Park garden boxes maintained by David Ferguson. – Adopt a Park**
- **Memorial Park maintained by Johanne and Lowell Lockyer – Adopt a Park**
- **Community Garden boxes in Overbrook Park – some are part of the Just Food Network, but unclear how Overbrook residents can apply to use these boxes.**

### **Looking forward to 2026**

January – March

- UOttawa Conservation and Biology Students assisting with Winter seeding of native plants at Ottawa Technical Secondary School.
- UOttawa Community Engagement Students assisting with Winter seeding at both Overbrook Community Centre and Ottawa Technical Secondary School. The plan for these plants is that they will be planted at Donald Street, Ottawa Tech and OCC. Some students are also taking plants home to grow in their gardens. We would love to set a date to celebrate the planting at Donald Street in the spring. The UOttawa Students are taking lots of photos and would be happy to document the winter seeding activity - perhaps a blog post?

April – May

- Recruitment of garden volunteers
- Replacement Planting at Donald Street and Kiosk Garden
- Final garden near North River Road to be completed.

May – June

New pollinator garden in Overbrook Park – Lana Basem has applied for permission through the Community Garden Initiative program.

Invasive Species removal and Native Plant workshop

### Volunteer list

Overbrookies : Steven Boyle, Heather Amys, Isabelle Brunet, Joanne Lockyar, Igor Zagorskiy, Selmas Wannes, Aaron Tamminga, Micheal Shoosmith, David Ferguson

Nearby: Lana Basem, Lynn Patenaude, Sahar Seif, Mercedes Ventura, Orchelle Kane

Carleton University students - Lana Basem, Daxton Rhead

UOttawa Students - Kes Milomga, Logan Hallahan, Kayshav Trikha

**Upcoming Events** : Community Greening Initiatives - Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Hall A, Nepean Sportsplex

City staff from several service areas will be participating to share information and answer questions about opportunities for community gardening and greening on City lands.

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## Youth Projects

Lead: Shekinah Manning

Through Overbrook Day 2025, we were able to give four high school students (Mohamed-Robleh Kamil, Hemeda Kamil, Joshua Milford and Aaron Manning) the opportunity to volunteer and earn community service hours. Alongside other volunteers, their hard work was recognized with Tim Hortons gift cards and certificates.



In 2026, we hope to create and promote many more opportunities for volunteering specifically to support youth engagement in Overbrook. Examples of community improvement activities include garbage clean-up days, holiday parties, gardening activities, etc. Special thanks to Jennifer Coorsh, at the Rideau-Rockcliffe CRC, for applying for the City Development Fund provided by the City of Ottawa. With this grant of \$1,100, we plan to:

- Support BIPOC youth engagement in their community through completing community improvement tasks
  - Promote engagement by supporting low-barrier access: engagement opportunities with flexible schedules, simple and non-invasive intake process, engagement that meets youth interest, needs, etc.
  - Reach 50 Overbrook youth.
  - Purchase equipment for related activities
- 

## Financial Report

Volunteers: Selma Wannes, Pamella Mubeza & Heather Amys

The Board of Directors is pleased to report that the City of Ottawa's "Community Partner Insurance Program (CPIP) reformed in 2024", enabled OCA (and several other excluded community associations) to qualify for **commercial general liability coverage** for the first time in 2025. This saved OCA \$440 compared to 2024 insurance costs. CPIP now provides equal opportunity to all qualifying not-for-profits, correcting over two decades of inequity following the city's amalgamation. Special thanks to Councillor King for helping to correct this long-standing unfairness.

2025 was the second year that OCA volunteers have maintained the **Trinity Sens Rink in Overbrook Park**. For this, OCA received a city honorarium of \$4,117 early in the year. A federal **Legacy Fund grant** (\$36,912) was received from the Department of Canadian Heritage in January 2025 and spent for the Kiosk 150 project in May 2025. We are pleased to report that all 2025 contract obligations were met and reports have been filed and accepted by grantors. Alas for reasons beyond our control, significant **accounts payable and receivable** remained on the books as of December 31.

This brings us to the problem we encountered in May with our bank, **CIBC Trainyards**. When registering new signing authorities after the April 2025 AGM, the bank discovered OCA was no longer registered as an Ontario corporation and our bank accounts were frozen. We then learned that the former board had dissolved the OCA Ontario corporation on November 19 2024, and **registered OCA under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act** on December 18 2024 as a numbered company, but did not inform the bank nor OCA members as required. Consequently, deposits from GoFundMe for the kiosk project and all deposits and electronic transfers were refused; and cheques were not honoured after May 2025.

The name of the corporation has been restored, allowing the bank to unfreeze OCA bank accounts in October. However, no bills were paid and no expense claims reimbursed until 2026 because the OCA President at the time

inexplicably withheld the chequebook and related information. These were among the factors that led to his removal from office at the first meeting in January 2026.

Furthermore, 2025 is the first year OCA is a “soliciting corporation” because we received more than \$10,000 of public funding. This carries stricter governance requirements including annual reports for the foreseeable future. OCA revenues in 2025 were \$56,618. This level (under \$250,000) allows OCA members to, by special resolution, “opt to have a review engagement rather than an audit”.

**Therefore, we request members to adopt by special resolution, a motion to request a “review engagement” of the 2025 financial records.**

We noted that the 2024 Financial Report was not adopted unanimously by members last April, and concerns were expressed. Examination of that Report and existing financial records (including journals and bank statements) revealed multiple book keepers during the fiscal year, discrepancies, duplications and omissions. These include the purchase of two assets, a snowblower for the rink and a computer for the newspaper. Both were paid for twice; the funds have been recovered. Assets were inflated, accounts payable were not listed, over \$5,500 accounts receivable were reported but never invoiced. Omitted were the actual bank balance, and all mention of the Association’s second bank account which in fact had a balance of \$1,774.

**Therefore, we present to you a revised 2024 Financial Report, approved by the 2025 Board of Directors on 20 January 2026. We recommend the 2024 financial report adopted in April be rescinded, and replaced with this corrected version.**

**REVISED 2024 Income statement and Balance Sheet**

**Revised Feb 5 2026 As adopted by BOD Feb 10 2026 to replace rescinded report of April 2025**

**Overbrook Community Association  
INCOME STATEMENT  
FOR PERIOD 1 JAN 2024 TO Dec 31, 2024**

ACCOUNT:	MAIN
<b>INCOME</b>	
Operations	
OCA DONATE BUTTON	\$0
WEBSITE ADVERTISING	\$0
FUNDRAISING EVENTS	\$0
CORRECT OVERPYMT	\$2770
DONATIONS	\$0
Projects	
RRCRC Payments	\$0
ADVERTISING SALES	\$0
GRANTS	\$14,447
GOFUNDME	\$1,165
DONATIONS	\$550
SPONSORSHIPS	\$1,100
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$20,031</b>

**EXPENSES**

<b>Operations</b>	
ACCOUNTS payable from 2023	\$7,696
INSURANCE	\$1,351
WEBSITE	\$404
COMMUNITY PLANNING CTTE	\$75
AGM	\$0
ADMIN/LEGAL	\$330
BANK CHARGES	\$48
MEMBERSHIPS	\$90
<b>Projects</b>	
OVERBROOK DAY & EID	\$2279
NEWSPAPER	\$1,037
KIOSK 150	\$0
RINK/WINTER PARTY	\$7,087
COMMUNITY SAFETY	0

**TOTAL EXPENSES**            \$20,197

**NET profit/loss**        (\$-166)

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**Overbrook Community Association****BALANCE SHEET****As of Dec 31 2024****ASSETS**

BANK main account                    \$27,457

Newspaper Account                    \$1,771

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE                \$5,687

**TOTAL ASSETS**                        **\$34,915**

**LIABILITIES**

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE                    \$1,875

**TOTAL LIABILITIES**                    **\$1,875**

**TOTAL NET**                              **\$33,040**

This brings us to the 2025 Financial Report approved by the Board of Directors on 20 January 2026. **We recommend members to adopt this 2025 Financial Report.**

FINAL 2025 Approved by BOD February 10 2026

Overbrook Community Association

**INCOME STATEMENT**

**FOR PERIOD 1 JAN 2025 TO 31 DEC 2025**

**INCOME**

Operations	
OCA DONATE BUTTON	\$0
SPONSORSHIPS	\$0
WEBSITE ADVERTISING	\$0
FUNDRAISING EVENTS	\$0
Projects	
ADVERTISING SALES	\$0
GRANTS	\$41,030
GOFUNDME	\$1,038
DONATIONS	\$500
CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT	\$0

**TOTAL INCOME** \$42,568

**EXPENSES**

Operations	
INSURANCE	\$640
WEBSITE	\$210
COMMUNITY PLANNING	\$75
AGM	\$37
ADMIN/LEGAL	\$1,909
BANK CHARGES	\$157
MEMBERSHIPS	\$0
Projects	
OVERBROOK DAY	\$0
NEWSPAPER	\$400
KIOSK 150	\$47,372
RINK/WINTER PARTY	\$0
COMMUNITY SAFETY	\$0

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$50,752

**NET profit/loss** **(\$8,184)**

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**BALANCE SHEET**

as of Dec 31 2025

**ASSETS**

BANK main account	\$23,820
Newspaper Account	\$1,747
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	16,505
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$42,072</b>

**LIABILITIES**

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$24,605
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$24,605</b>

<b>TOTAL NET</b>	<b>\$17,467</b>
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**Looking forward to 2026**

- Identify a volunteer to responsibly handle the bookkeeping.
- CPIP liability insurance renewal is automatic now that OCA is part of the program, provided minutes are published and the corporation is in good standing.
- Submit electronic transfer form to reestablish direct deposit (for the rink) from the city.
- Annual filing with Corporations Canada is due February 18, with financial reports and a 'review engagement' due by June 30.
- Close the second account at CIBC, and move all funds to the main no-fee *account (done February 24, 2026)*.
- Revise the OCA Financial Policy to reflect the new status of a federally registered and a soliciting corporation, to include inventory of OCA assets, and other updates as needed.