

Overbrook Community Association

Annual Report 2023



Overbrook Community Association Annual Report 2023-2024

Board members: Danika Brisson (President), Derek Wright, Mercedes Marcano (Treasurer), Emily Andruchow, Christine Ford, Ian Slipacoff, Ismael Awaleh (vice-president), Nick Zrinyi, Mélanie Stafford (vice-president), David Behn, Geoff Stiles (Community Planning Committee Liaison). Thank

you to Adrian King for joining us as recording secretary for part of the year.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Presland Fire Volunteers	Danika Brisson Mélanie Stafford Diana Cartwright	Joana Bellamy Mary Ella Keblusek Alissar Hajjar Sarah Reed
Yes! Project Volunteers	Marjolaine Provost	Marie-Caroline Badjec
Overbrook Community Cleanup - round 1 Volunteers	Christine Ford Danika Brisson Mélanie Stafford Emily Andruchow Nick Zrinyi Colin Taylor Brenda Taylor	Vicky Alexandra Pope Sarp Kizir Rodney Pam Hilchie Mike Pearson James Wisener
Overbrook Community Cleanup - round 2 Volunteers	Christine Ford Anik Desrochers Louka Ford Sophie Ford Mandy Metcalfe	Frank Luyiga Greg Quinlan Shekinah Faidah
Overbrook Winter Party Volunteers	Pam Hilchie Elizabeth Vicky Maria Mackay Rebecca Cadwalader Nick Zrinyi Joshua Shekinah Emily Andruchow Jacob	Michèle Michichiuc Deborah Doherty Faidah Jay Howden Derek Wright Brenda Taylor Colin Taylor Luca Mélanie Stafford Joanna Bellamy

	Ryan Wong	Yorlini Jimenez
Rink Maintenance Volunteers	Derek Wright Christine Ford Olivier Sabourin Danika Brisson Antoine Brisson Meaghan McEachern	Anik Desrochers Qusai Saleh Adam Abrams Mélanie Stafford Jarvis Neall

Gardening Volunteers	Deborah Doherty Eryk Chamberland Anna Stefanovici Heather Amys Steve McNamees & Mina Geoff Stiles Ioana Cialacu Pamela Barkley Suzanne Sarault	Steven Boyle Sahar Seif Paul Laframboise Joanna Bellamy Nora Benamra Joanne Lockyer Elizabeth Lavoie Emilia Michaud
Rideau River Legacy Kiosk Project Volunteers	Steveh Boyle Heather Amys Joanna Bellamy Emily Andruchow Nora Benamra Samantha Emery	Mercedes Marcano Pat Horner Marjolaine Provost Ben Barcosi Marianne Buckshot Linda Grussani Jennifer Hemmings
Community Planning Committee Volunteers	John Hiemstra Colin Taylor Mercedes Marcani Danika Brisson Heather Amys Emily Andruchow	Adrian King Joanna Bellamy Christine Ford Geoff Stiles (Board Liaison) Steven Boyle (Vice-coordinator) Nora Benamra (Coordinator)

Word from the president:

Danika Brisson



Thanks for taking a look at our annual report and for being engaged. The Overbrook Community Association (OCA) is a gathering of neighbours who come together because they care about their community and want to see us connected and thriving. All of OCA's work is done by volunteers.

The board of directors keeps the OCA running. We are composed of 11 board members :
Adrian King (for part of the year), Christine Ford, Danika Brisson (President), David Behn, Derek Wright, Emily Andruchow, Geoff Stiles (liaison with the Community Planning Committee), Ian Slipacoff, Ismael Awaleh (Vice-President), Mélanie Stafford

(Vice-President), Mercedes Marcani
(Treasurer) and Nick Zrinyi.

We then have committees that do work on specific topics. The Community Planning Committee has a mandate to discuss and comment on planning and transportation matters that may impact Overbrook. They are led by their coordinator

Nora Benamra, their vice-coordinator Steven Boyle and their board liaison Geoff Stiles.

We have two projects underway. Members of the Rideau River Legacy Kiosk project have been working hard for a few years to establish a community space, physically along the Rideau River, to highlight Overbrook's history. This project is lead by Steven Boyle and Heather Amys. The second project is a community gardening project to restore some forgotten spaces along Donald street and beautify them with local flowers and plants. This project is led by Deborah Doherty.

Finally we are joined by many many volunteers that make all of our events and projects possible. We have listed them above to thank them and to give a more accurate picture of what our complete association looks like.

This annual report covers our fiscal period, from January 1st 2023 to December 31st 2023. As board members get elected in the spring, we want to share gratitude, highlight events and projects that occurred during their tenure (April 27th 2023 to April 16th 2024).

This board started on April 17th 2023 with most of the board being brand new. We took the summer to learn the job and plan out the year. We focused on events and projects that could improve connections, a sense of belonging and wellbeing in our neighbourhood. We supported community members in getting their community volunteer hours through various projects. We organized two community cleanup events in the fall and took on a completely new adventure when we accepted to maintain the ice rink. This led us to organize an accompanying event in February called the Overbrook Winter Party where we saw the community come together for food, craft and skating. We have also brought back the Eid Celebration dinner which we had done pre-pandemic.

At our Annual General Meeting last year, we passed new bylaws that align with the revised legislation, ensuring our continued status as a nonprofit organization under provincial jurisdiction.

A big thank you to the OCA board members that are completing their time with us this year. Thank you Emily Andruchow for your time and energy making our social media a success this year and dreaming up the Overbrook Winter Party. Thank you Nick Zrinyi for leading the renewal of our non-profit status and clearing up much administrative pieces. Thank you to Geoff Stiles who acted as our board liaison with the Community Planning Committee. Adrian King joined our board last year and took care of the OCA website and newsletter and many other duties as the recording secretary until the fall. Finally Ian Slipacoff joined our board last year as well and has been an advocate for connecting with Overbrook businesses and supporting community events through his business, Dumouchel Meats and Deli. We send all of you our love and gratitude.

And finally, I'd like to extend a hearty thank you to our dedicated returning board members for their continued commitment and invaluable contributions. David Behn has been with us since the early 2010s and works on various environmental issues in Overbrook and represents us with CAFES

(Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability). Ismael Awaleh has been on the board for 8 years and is our connection to Ottawa Community Housing, Rideau Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre (where he also sits on the board) and is engaged on issues of community safety and excels at bringing people together. He also serves as one of our vice-presidents. Mercedes Marcano has been on the board for 4 years and has been supporting the community by taking care of the OCA finances diligently. Mercedes was also part of the team (with Steven Boyle) to successfully advocate for the Lola parkette (park at the corner of Lola and Presland). Mélanie Stafford has been on the board for one year as the other vice-president helping with social media, event organization and community connection. Before becoming a board member, Mélanie also co-lead OCA's response to the Presland Fire. Christine Ford also joined the board this year and has been leading events like the community cleanup and being a constant worker taking care of the ice rink. Christine is passionate about her community and has represented OCA on youth and planning issues. Finally, Derek Wright has been with us for a year and had the brave idea that we take care of the ice rink behind the community centre after seeing it struggle in previous years.

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Presland Fire Support

February to April 2023

Leads: Mélanie Stafford, Danika Brisson and Diana Cartwright



Our neighbours at 240 Presland went through a devastating fire in Feb 2023. Every single resident of the Centertown Citizen's Ottawa Corporation co-op building had to leave their home and lost all their belongings. OCA coordinated a successful GoFund me campaign that raised over \$14,190.70, which was distributed evenly amongst the families involved. Thanks to Joanna Bellamy we also sought out gift cards from wal-mart, canadian tire and the St Laurent Mall that were distributed to families.

The OCA also hosted a community dinner on April 4th for impacted residents with the help of the Rideau Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre. Various community resources as well as the offices of local politicians were available to connect with residents and provide support. Community partners also hosted a clothing drive in March and made available to access for the first week of April. Many people were



involved in coordinating this event. A special thank you to [Diana Cartwright](#) for her coordination work of finding food (Big Thanks to Chef Ric's for a great meal!) and donations

from local businesses, providing dishes, creating an uplifting ambiance (including local musicians) and having take-home supplies available for fire survivors!

Thank you to our sponsors Chef Ric and the

Ottawa Mission, Dumouchel Meats and Deli,

Freshco (McArthur and Lafontaine), Loblaws

(McArthur), Starbucks (Coventry), First Unitarian

Church (Westboro), Ottawa Baha'i Centre,

Councillor Rawlson King, Canadian Tire

(Coventry), Giant Tiger (St Laurent), St Laurent

Shopping Centre, Shoppers Drug Mart (St Laurent SC), Body Shop (St Laurent SC), Sport Check (St Laurent SC).



We connected by phone with many residents to check in and coordinate getting funds to them and through these calls we became aware of many gaps in the support services available to them and advocated with the appropriate leaders to raise these issues with them.

Yes Project

2021-2023

Leads: Marjolaine Provost and Marie-Caroline Badjeck

A \$40,000 grant from Ontario's ministry of the solicitor general allowed the Overbrook Community Association to put together the "Youth Engagement for Safety" (YES) Project in 2021-2023. The project objective was to work with youth on the meaning of diversity and inclusiveness, and to express those thoughts through various art forms. The new mural at École élémentaire catholique Horizon-Jeunesse is the last activity of the Y.E.S. project, done in collaboration with artist Jimmy Baptiste. Students from the school as well as a group of students from Collège Catholique Samuel-Genest participated in the project. This mural was inaugurated in September 2023 and represents the values of the school. "It's a mosaic of colors, which represents the diversity that there is in our school" - underlines Julie Doyon, director of École Horizon-Jeunesse.

For more information about the project and testimonies from students please visit these links (In French only).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yY2JTAKrWEQ>

<https://uniquefm.ca/infos-unique/inauguration-dune-nouvelle-murale-a-lecole-horizon-jeunesse-29700>

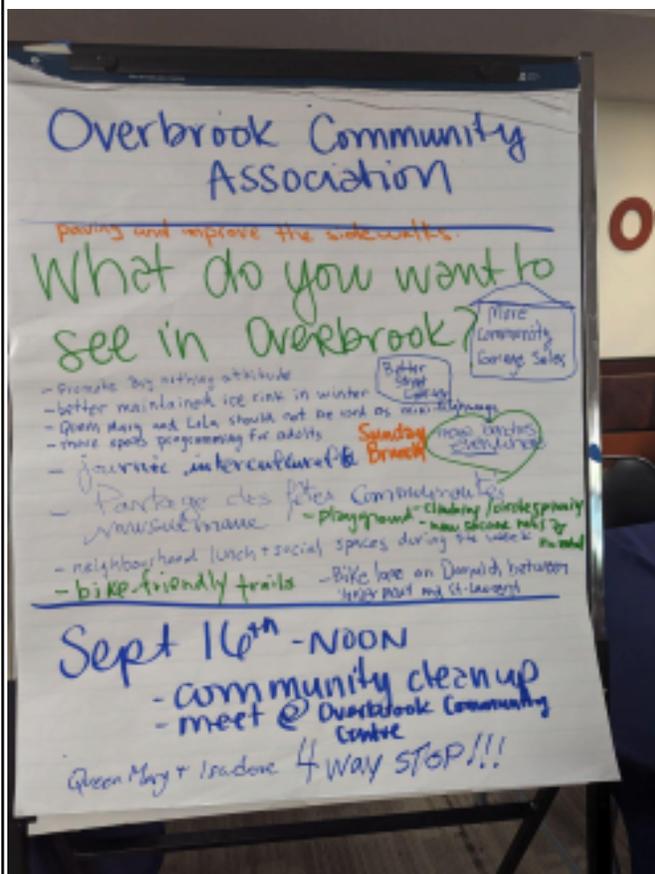
Picture: Rawlson King, City Councillor for Rideau-Rockcliffe who supported the project, Marie-Caroline Badjeck OCA volunteer and project lead with Marjolaine Provost (not pictured) and a representative from the Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est (Photo @R. King)

Picture: After participating in a series of workshops with artist Jimmy Baptiste, students painted a mural that represents the themes of equality, representation and inclusion (Photo @ Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est)



Overbrook Day

August 12, 2023



Board member Christine Ford attended the planning meetings on behalf of the OCA and VP Mélanie Stafford and president Danika Brisson participated during the day having great conversations with community members about what they want to see in their community.



Overbrook Community Cleanup - round 1

September 16th, 2023

Leads: Mélanie Stafford and Danika Brisson



We held a community clean up mid Sept 2023 with great success. OCA signed up for supplies from the city's community cleanup program which was great they gave us XL gloves & quality garbage bags.

Around 20 community members came and numerous bags of garbage were picked up. Most folks got the news of the cleanup through Rawlson's newsletter. Poster promotion is good to build a sense of an event. Sept 16th was a beautiful sunny day which may have helped for us to have a great turn out. Neighbours

gathered at 33 Quill, we began with a short safety discussion and folks cleaned up in pairs for a few hours.

Key learnings from this event: cell # for texting was highly utilised, organic routes for cleanups works well,

someone does need to stay at base camp for late arrivals and to manage garbages. Next time we will: promote for high school students to get their volunteer hours, think of something that volunteers can wear that clearly communicates what they are doing (and gives a sense of engagement) and send reminders days before and the day of.



Presland Park

Townhall

October 17th, 2023

Leads: Mélanie Stafford and Danika Brisson



Initiated by a resident who lives nearby Presland Park, Board president Danika and VP Mélanie visited Presland park on numerous occasions to chat with neighbours and hear their concerns. In person as well as during the consultation neighbours flagged the following priorities:

1. Water/sewer drainage issues
2. Structures update to be inclusive of smaller kids and bigger kids
3. Increase in garbage bins/recycling and better trash maintenance

Things neighbours like:

- The trees
- The indestructible swing set

- The ability to toboggan in the winter

Other issues that were named:

- Something better than sand under the structures
- Structures for smaller kids and bigger kids needed, perhaps splash pads or monkey bars, tether tauter, soccer, outdoor gym area, swirly slide, larger slides, tire swings. - Baseball isn't used as a baseball field, mostly used as unleashed dog park by folks who may not be from OB
- Request to add benches throughout

Considering the development at the corner of Belfast and Coventry (7 towers), one of the concerns is the pressure that will be added to this park. City councillor Rawlson King and a city planner attended the consultation and heard from residents. We were told that the park isn't up for a lifecycle renewal- this would be in 2-10 years. The city planner spoke to park designations, that Presland was a neighbourhood park size which determines what can be requested. Neighbours were encouraged to use 311 to flag their concerns.

Overbrook Community Cleanup - round 2

November 4th, 2023

Lead: Christine Ford



A second community cleanup day was held on November 4th. Many neighbors of all ages came out to help collect garbage.

Overbrook Winter party

February 17th, 2024

Leads: Emily Andruchow, Nick Zrinyi and Danika Brisson

On February 17th, 2024 OCA held the first ever Overbrook Winter Party! It was an amazing success. The event started with so many amazing community and OCA volunteers coming together to set up for the day, and they were there until the very end. We had a craft room that was full of snowflake crafts, colouring as well as Volunteers from the Bird-Safe Campus at the Ottawa University volunteering with bird related crafts, books and education. Outside



we had the outdoor rink ready for people to skate and play games, as well as an amazing hot chocolate and donut table full of deliciously sweet offerings. The hot chocolate was generously donated by Frangian Family Pharmacy and the donuts were donated by Councilor Rawlson King. The donuts were delicious and made by a local baker, Friends Forever Treats. The hot

chocolate bar was full of candies, chocolate, and whip cream for toppings which included lots of different offerings for differing dietary styles. Ottawa Public Health set up a table full

of great information and offerings and the



Ottawa Outdoor Gear Library kindly donated

their time as well as skates, helmets and snowshoes for children and adults to use throughout the day. There were coloured water bottles that children had fun squirting and colouring the snow. We have over

350 people from the neighbourhood come out to enjoy the day, the smiles, and joy shared by everyone made the day incredible!



Overbrook Ice Rink Maintenance

January-February 2024

Leads : Derek Wriant and Christine Ford



A labour of love and ice. Starting in early December 2023 we began preparing for the preparation and upkeep of the Overbrook Community Outdoor Rink (behind Overbrook Community Centre). They said we couldn't do it, that we were too ambitious, that it couldn't be done ;) but with a small army of volunteers from the neighbourhood (and numerous challenges along the way) we were able to prepare and maintain what was overall a very high quality ice rink for the skating season. In doing so we worked closely with the city and tracked an approximate 400 skaters that were able to use the rink over the course of

the season. The highlight was undoubtedly the Overbrook Community Winter Party that took place over Family Day Weekend.

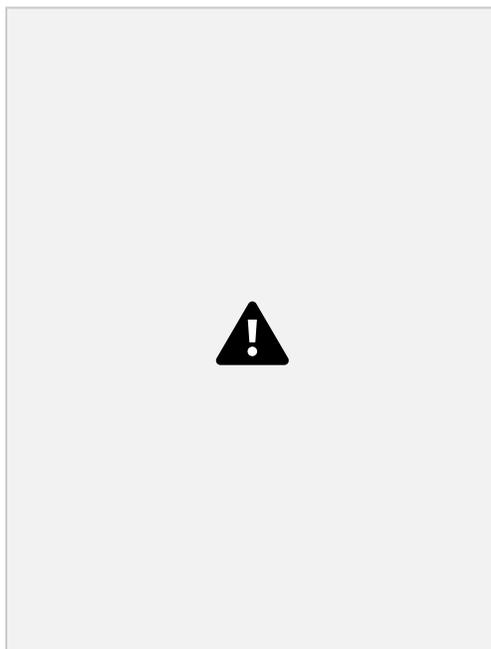
Thanks to the hard work of our volunteer team we were able to receive the full grant available from the City of Ottawa (\$5882) which will go towards supporting more initiatives in the community and upgraded equipment to make the rink even better next winter.

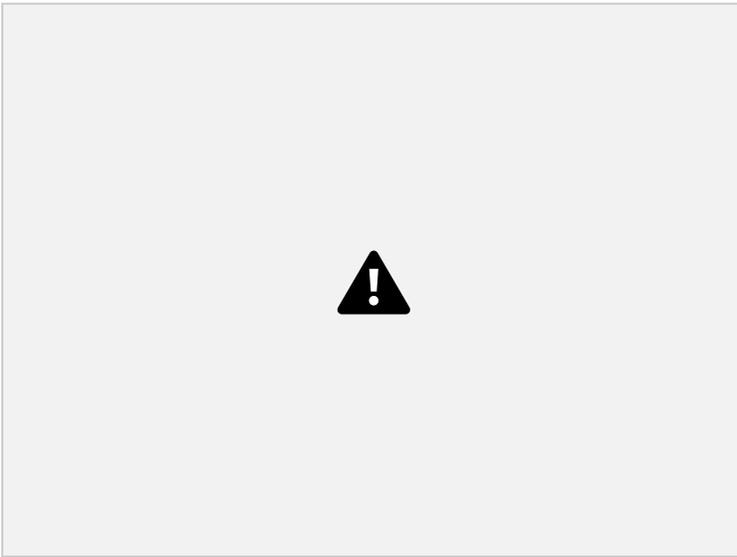
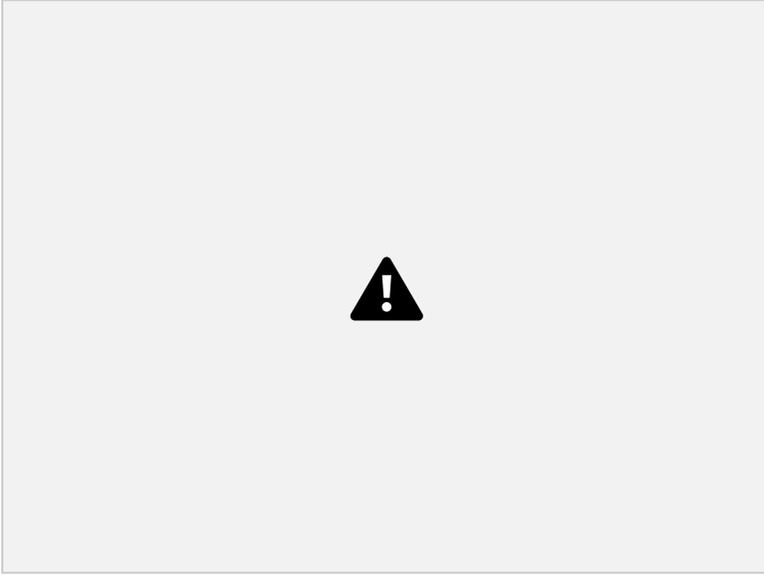
It's never too early to start thinking about next winter (or maybe it is). If you would like to be involved with this amazing group next winter please don't hesitate to reach out to Derek at derek@overbrook.ca.

Key Learnings:

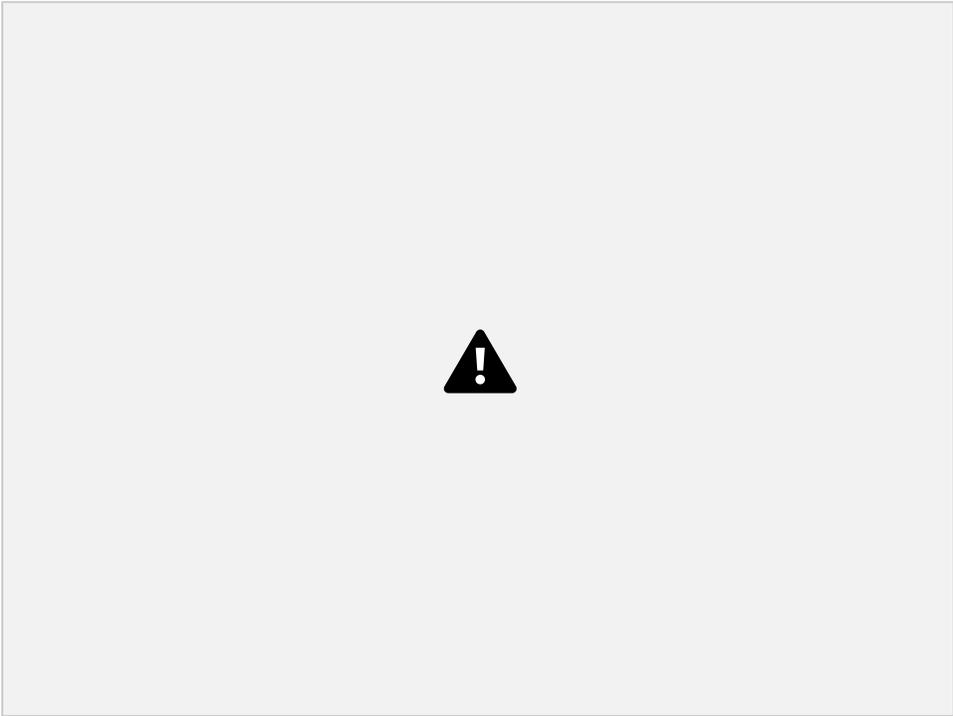
- Purchase of large size Snowblower required prior to 2024-25 season
 - Challenge with flooding rink without losing water outside boards (uneven surface) -
 - Solid 8-10 cms of snow
 - -10 degrees or cooler required to flood
 - Don't overflow (too much water particularly when creating base layer is detrimental -
- Importance of shoveling all snow off rink (including along boards) so entire surface is usable.
Having snowblower all season will be great assistance to making this happen - Critical to close & lock bunker at all times - even when on site to prevent theft/issues

Some Highlights from the season:





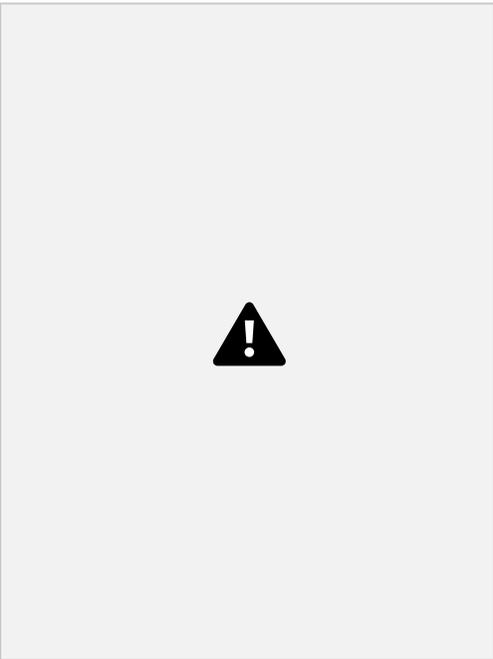
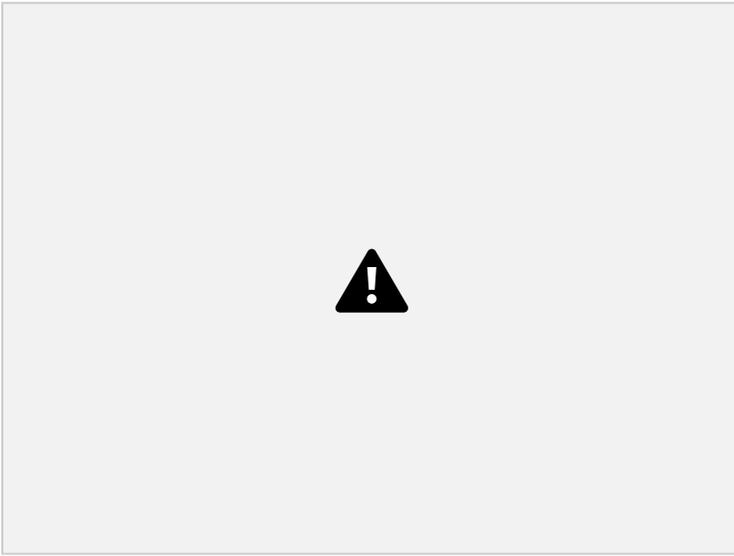
First attempts at creating base layer and we have “skateable” ice



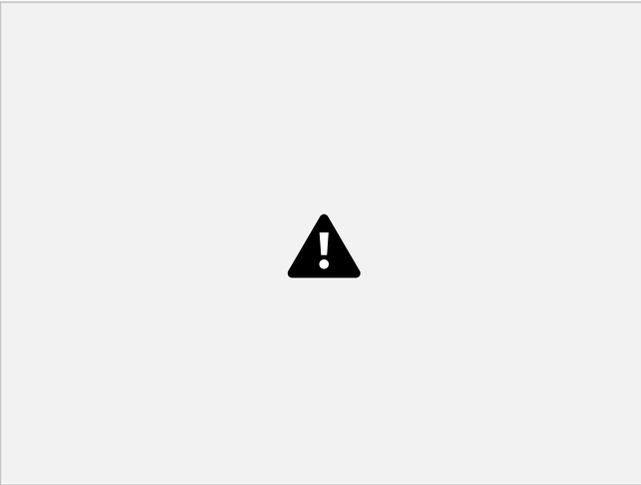
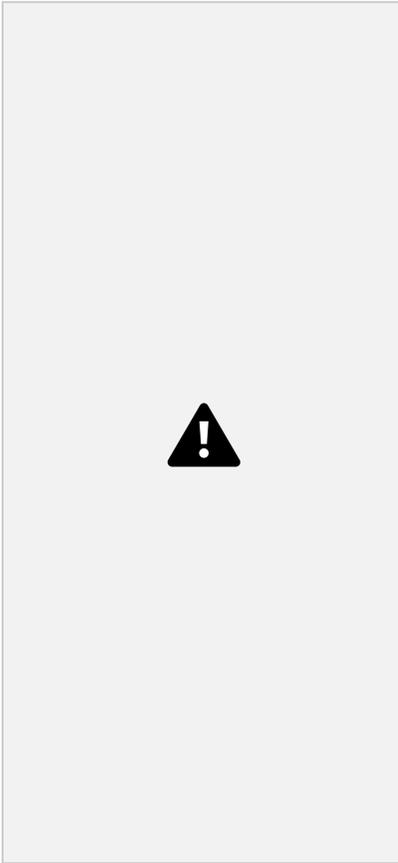
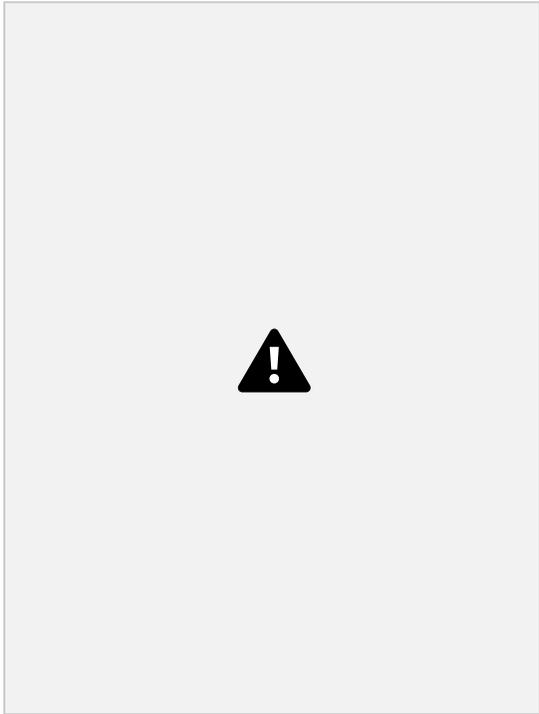
Beautiful early morning after a flood

"Learn to Skate" program in effect every Wednesday





Not without challenges

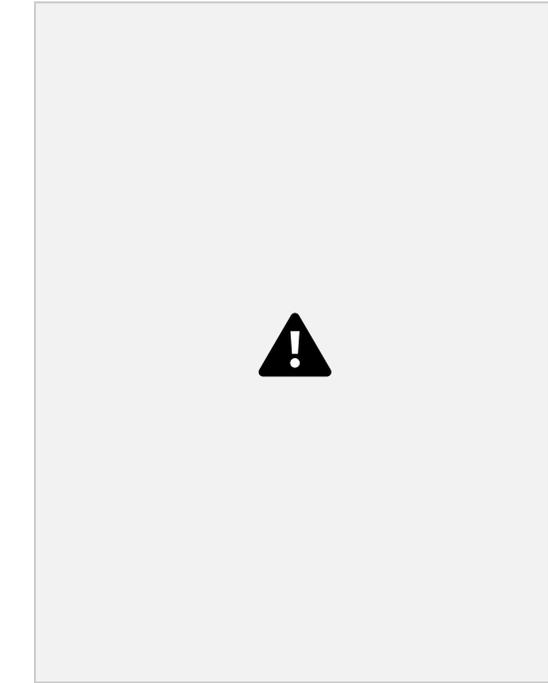


A great success!

Gardening the forgotten spaces

Summer 2023

Lead : Deborah Doherty

<p>In February 2023, Deborah Doherty proposed a project to restore and naturalize 8 boulevard plots found in the block between the Adawe Crossing and North River Road adjacent to the lands leased from the National Capital Commission by the Rideau Sports Club. After researching this project it was discovered that a maintenance contract between the Overbrook Community Association and the City of Ottawa Roads Department was required to restore and plant woodland and prairie plants specific to the microclimate of this site. After several meetings with city staff in the summer of 2023, a contract for this work was approved.</p>	
<p>Support for this project within the community was demonstrated in July 2022 and summer of 2023, when a small team of Overbrook residents weeded a small area of this City Right of Way (ROW) and planted a few native plants. The Overbrook Community Association has conducted two "Clean the Capital " events in the spring of 2022 and 2023. In the summer of 2023, several of the boulevard plots were prepared for planting using cardboard and wood chips. During the fall World Migratory Bird Day in October, Bird-Friendly Ottawa held an event that included guided bird walks, demonstration of invasive plant removal and winter native plant seeding. Similar events are planned for spring, summer and fall of 2024.</p>	

Overbrook’s Rideau River Legacy Kiosk Project

2021 to now

Leads: Steven Boyle and Heather Amys

Progress in 2023

On December 22, 2023, thanks to the considerable efforts of our volunteers and several supporting partners, this project received approval from the National Capital Commission (it will be located on

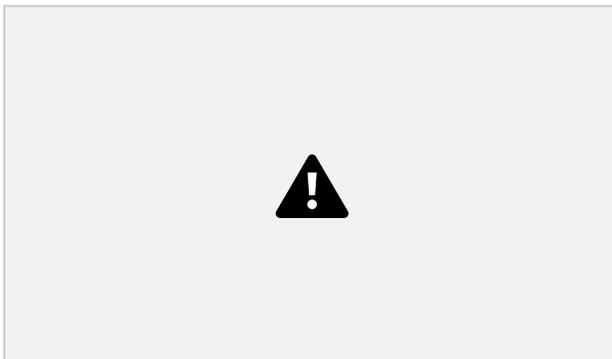
NCC lands along the Rideau River). With this major milestone achieved, volunteers are in a much better position to advance funding, construction and launch event planning.

We have received an estimated \$49,519 from in-kind donations including contributions from the NCC; the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority; NAK Landscaping; Ben Barcosi MLA; City of Ottawa; Bird Friendly Ottawa; Gloucester Historical Society and OCA volunteer hours. Cash raised is approximately \$22,140 from City of Ottawa grants (2); Urban Ottawa (real estate); OCA fundraising efforts including the [Gofundme](#) page.

We continue to seek grants, cash and donations in kind to cover sign manufacture, excavation, installation and landscaping expenses, approximately \$48,000. If you have ideas, please contact heather@overbrook.ca. We continue to aim for a fall 2024 construction date.

Looking forward:

We are planning a Legacy Party in the Rideau River Park at the site of the kiosk (by the little water falls near the Adawe Crossing) for May 3 ,2025 – mark your calendar. This event will celebrate our bridges, specifically the 150th anniversary of the first bridge to Overbrook, Hurdman’s Bridge was completed in January of 1875. Rebuilt twice over the years, Hurdman’s was the first of ten bridges to bridge the Rideau River to Overbrook. Plus, our newest Adawe crossing’s 10th anniversary is also in 2025 - it’s another great milestone to celebrate!



Visualization looking east

Community planning committee

Ongoing

Leads: Nora Benamra, Steven Boyle and Geoff Stiles

Accomplishments in 2023-2024

- Presented to general public and new OCA Board the CPC’s mandate, current and on-going activities
- Reviewed/in some cases formally commented to the Committee of Adjustment on minor variance applications (primarily for residential infill such as semi-detached dwellings) • Provided comments to city planning staff, councillor, Built Heritage Committee on various planning applications (site plan, rezoning, etc.), including for 400 Coventry Road and 149 King George Street. Attended Wards 13 and 18 “Development Townhall” session • Requested and received a public townhall with our councillor Rawlson King and developers for the proposed development at 149 King George Street (the old Overbrook Public School) where residents could better understand the project and share their concerns. Attended a public meeting held by OCA to allow a space for residents to further discuss their concerns about this project and

plan how they could express their concerns.

- Monitored or provided input into transportation Environmental Assessment studies: St. Laurent Boulevard Transit Priority EA; Coventry Road (Belfast to St. Laurent) EA; former rail bridge over the Rideau River (at HWY 417) EA [many Overbrook residents are keenly interested in this one] and Tremblay Rd to Trainlands (VIA Station) EA
- Submitted comments on the Traffic Calming Study proposed for North River Rd (Donald St. to Wright St.) and proposed cycling safety improvements at Donald St/Vanier Parkway intersection. Continued discussions with Councillor and city staff on other traffic safety issues such as excessive car speeds/truck traffic on Donald St.
- Submitted comments to the Transportation Committee in support of Capital Budget 2024's proposed funding for a new sidewalk on a portion of Harvey Avenue leading to Coventry Road and St. Laurent LRT Station
- Attended/commented on the Councillor's Presland Park "refresh" session ● Reviewed and provided comments on City's proposed update of the Use and Care of Roads By-law to allow boulevard (between curb and sidewalk) flower planting
- Reviewed City's Zoning Discussion Papers re more density, affordability, choice in all neighbourhoods. Overbrook's existing zoning - mainly R4/R3 - suggests impact may be minimal compared to most areas of the city.
- OCA representatives attended several City-organized pre-application meetings re sites that might be (re)developed in Overbrook. These are critical opportunities to convey early input into plans per "OCA guidelines for pre-application consultation meetings". OCA attendance at these meetings is constrained by non-disclosure agreements. The plans become public if/when a formal planning application is submitted to the City.

Lessons of 2023

- Recruitment efforts paid off with more volunteers for the committee. We are still seeking two volunteers to discuss/participate in some pre-application consultation meetings. One hour of training is provided by the City.
- Slow to no progress on OCH redevelopment plans; lower speed limits/reduced truck on Donald St. and elsewhere.

Plans for 2024

- Provide feedback on Transportation Master Plan (part 2); related Active Transportation Plan; the big project of 2024: new Zoning By-law (next phase)
- Comment - to staff, councillor, developers, Committee of Adjustment or Planning and Housing Committee - on applications for redevelopment/infill projects subject to a planning application notice in Overbrook. Note that the province has eliminated public consultation on many types of infill/redevelopment – including site plan applications for projects of less than 10 units (since November 2022).
- Renew focus on traffic safety and calming
- Respond to pre-application consultation requests
- Monitor OCH redevelopment; CPR railway footbridge file; new opportunities for community improvement

Environmental Ad Hoc Volunteers

Leads: Heather Amys, David Behn and Ismael Awaleh

Progress in 2023

In 2023 OCA became a member of CAFES - Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability – for the first time. CAFES helps community associations share ideas and strengthens our voice. CAFES monitors city hall, especially the environment committee, making regular and well-received public delegations on issues of concern to our members.

Between May 12th and June 29th, 2023, CAFES in collaboration with the City of Ottawa hosted eleven Climate Resiliency Community Dialogue sessions. For most of the workshops, climate risks were presented in a framework of four climate hazard areas: extreme heat, changing seasons, more rainfall and extreme weather events. OCA was proud to co-host one of the sessions with the “Community Collective” in Wards 12 & 13 on May 30 2023. The workshop report is [here](#).

OCA volunteers also attended CAFES Three Year Strategy discussion December 4 2023.

Looking forward:

The Overbrook volunteers are particularly interested in finding ways to leverage CAFES to advance Overbrook interests. If you are interested in joining ONE brainstorming session about what we need in Overbrook, and the art of the possible, contact heather@overbrook.ca and david.behn@sympatico.ca.



Financial Report

Lead: Mercedes Marcano - Treasurer

We started the financial year with a reserve of \$7,611.48, and ended with a balance of \$5,680.69, lower than at the beginning of the year.

All projects had a positive cashflow arising from grants and donations:

- YES Project: The project ended February 28, 2023 and unused funds (\$7,373.35) were returned to the Government of Ontario. The project contributed 6% of total expenditures towards OCA operating costs.
- Fundraiser fire: OCA fundraised a total of \$14,190.70 via a dedicated GoFundMe campaign. Most funds were allocated to fire victims and towards the end of the year there was an unspent balance of \$0.44. The project contributed 2% of total funds raised towards OCA operating expenditures, this is significantly less than overhead contributions from other projects as OCA board members voted to have most funds go towards affected victims.
- Newspaper project: although this project was not active during the 2023 calendar year, there are \$3,272.62 leftover funds from the previous year that could be dedicated towards restarting this initiative. No contributions were made towards OCA operating expenditures as this project was not active in 2023.
- Rideau River Kiosk (Construction 2024): fundraising efforts continue via a dedicated GoFundMe Campaign and grant application submissions. At the end of the 2023 year there was \$9,435.21 reserved for this project. The OCA Board to contribute an additional \$2,000 towards this project therefore the total reserved amount for this project is \$11,435.21. No contributions were made towards OCA operating expenditures as this project, although very active on the Fundraising side, has not yet incurred any expenses.

Our biggest operating expense continues to be the General liability and Director's liability insurance (\$1,326.24). This costs remains a significant financial sustainability issue for the organization. Without insurance we would not be able to secure some types of grants for some projects. During 2023 a large portion of this cost was covered from contributions from active projects. Looking ahead, we anticipate that the funds received from the City of Ottawa in early 2024 (\$5,000) for OCA volunteers to maintain the Overbrook Park skating rink during the 2024 winter season will help cover a portion of these costs.



