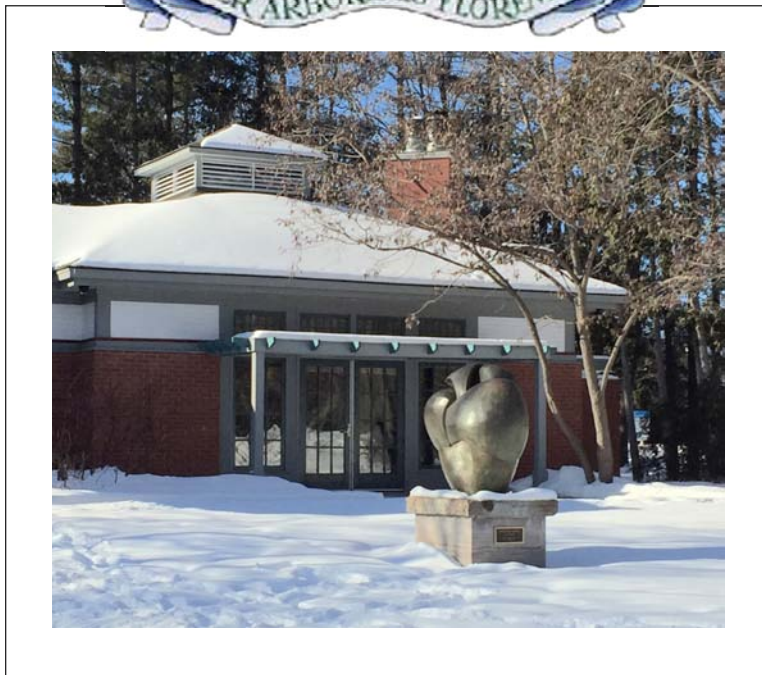


ROCKCLIFFE PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 2015**



**Joint Annual Meeting of the RPRA
and
The Village Foundation**

February 24, 2016 at 7:30 pm
Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road

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Cover: *The Community Hall / Library complex, 380 Springfield Road, is at the heart of Rockcliffe Park. The hall is used for community events and meetings, and houses the Second World War Honour Roll Book, McKay Lake Tapestry, HMCS Rockcliffe memorabilia and various outdoor sculptures. A prominent feature of the lawn is the 1996 bronze "Interrupted Circle," donated to the former Village by the artist, John Mathews. The library was originally funded, built and staffed through the efforts of Rockcliffe residents; it is now a branch of the Ottawa Public Library.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past year continued to be active for the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRA) in priority areas, particularly heritage, as well as community events, communications and the environment.

We are in the final phase of our new Heritage Conservation District Plan (HCD Plan). The City held a public consultation on a draft text in the latter part of September. The City then welcomed residents' comments on the Plan until mid-October and considered and incorporated comments in the Plan's text as appropriate. The City's Built Heritage Sub-Committee, chaired by our Councillor, **Tobi Nussbaum**, reviewed the final draft text on December 10. It will go to Planning Committee and then City Council for final approval in January. It has been a very long but rewarding process and the Board of Directors of the RPRA looks forward to having our new Plan in place in early 2016.

I have previously raised the issue of lot severances. Some time ago, an application was filed to sever a lot on Old Prospect Road, which would result in two lots that are deficient in size under the Zoning By-law, one significantly so. I have reported earlier that this application was opposed by adjacent property owners and the RPRA. Although the Built Heritage Sub-Committee rejected the application, it was subsequently approved by Planning Committee and City Council, as well as by the Committee of Adjustment, which deals with severances and minor variances. Because the RPRA considered that this issue was important to the whole community, the Board decided to join the concerned residents in an appeal of this decision to the Ontario Municipal Board. The hearing took place in late September. At the time of writing, we await the OMB decision.

As regards community events, the Library Book Sale, held in mid-April, goes from strength to strength. With approximately 18,000 donated books, this year's sale eclipsed previous records, grossing \$26,000. This is an amazing accomplishment, given that the sale lasts only two days and most books sell in the two to three dollar range. As in the past, most of the proceeds support the Rockcliffe Park branch of the Ottawa Public Library, with the remainder supporting the broader library system. A hearty round of applause goes to **Jane Dobell** and some 40 volunteers who work throughout the year to organize this event. I would also like to thank the generous sponsors of the sale, the **Rockcliffe Retirement Residence, RBC Dominion Securities | Montgomery Asset Management** and **Epicuria**. Plans are well advanced for the 2016 sale.

The Speakers Program, organized by **Susan d'Aquino**, continued throughout the year, drawing prominent speakers and full houses. Other events included the All-Candidates Meeting prior to the recent federal election, the Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing, and the Children's Christmas Party. Thanks go to **Alex Macklin, Jim Carr, Russ Gibson** and **Imbaw Storer** for organizing these events. A special thank you to **Jim** and **Nancy Carr** for generously providing hot chocolate and cookies to the merry participants at our Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing.

To keep residents informed of community issues, the RPRA published six newsletters, as in previous years. Feedback indicates the newsletter is much appreciated by Village residents. Many thanks to **Cynthia Hamady**, editor of the newsletter, for her continuing commitment and for the many improvements she has introduced. We also continue to enhance our ability to reach out to residents via the website and by email. The RPRA conducted a survey of residents in 2015. We will use the results of the survey to assess the relevancy of our programs and activities, and to improve our communications with residents.

With respect to the Pond, we are pleased that the City once again funded and oversaw the Monitor Program. There is no doubt that this program is essential in managing the large number of visitors and swimmers and in helping to protect the Caldwell-Carver Conservation Area. Otherwise, this was a bad year for the Pond in terms of an alarmingly low water level, overuse and shoreline erosion. We met with our Councillor, **Tobi Nussbaum**, and City staff to discuss these issues and find solutions, including the possible use of a reserve pump to raise the water level. The City agreed to conduct a pump test to

verify the viability of the well and whether it could be used in future years to manage water levels, to determine the chemical content of the water and to assess costs. City staff confirmed that if the current freeze on discretionary spending is lifted, as is expected, the pump test will be completed in the spring of 2016, as will the stabilization of the boulders at the access point. We will be in touch with the City early in the new year to follow up on this priority.

I have written previously about a proposed project in our community to celebrate Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017. The primary objective of the project is to restore the Centennial Garden, in particular its Stone Circle, located in the Village Green. The RPRA applied to the Federal Economic Development Agency for a grant to carry out this project. We have not yet heard if we have been successful in obtaining federal funding.

As has been the case in previous years, the RPRA has worked closely on Village priorities with the Village Foundation and its Chair, **Bonnie Robinson**. The RPRA and the Foundation share three broad priorities: heritage, environment and community building. In 2015 the RPRA received more than \$18,000 from the Foundation to support many of our activities in these areas, including the development of our HCD Plan, the rehabilitation of the soccer field and running track, support for community events and communications initiatives. On behalf of the Board of the RPRA, I thank the Foundation for its financial support and acknowledge its importance for the work we do on behalf of the community.

Finally, a big thank you to Board and committee members as well as Village residents who have volunteered their time over the past year. Your commitment and dedication bring all these projects to life and give our community its special character.

Brian Dickson

HERITAGE AND PLANNING

Heritage

The Heritage Committee deals with issues affecting the Rockcliffe Park Heritage Conservation District (HCD). The full committee met five times in 2015. Three subcommittees met for the following purposes:

Throughout the first half of 2015, the **HCD Plan Subcommittee**, together with the City's senior heritage planner, continued the task of redrafting the Heritage Conservation District Plan for the Village. The City presented the draft plan at a public consultation in September 2015 and incorporated and responded to the views received from the public as appropriate. The new plan has been reviewed by the City's Built Heritage Sub-Committee and will go to Planning Committee and finally City Council for approval. It is expected that the plan will be adopted as a By-law in February 2016. We thank all who have contributed to this lengthy process. Once the new plan is in effect, the City will have better tools with which to protect our heritage in Rockcliffe Park.

The **Development Review Subcommittee** provides advice on requests to City of Ottawa heritage planners on proposals to make major exterior alterations to or demolish buildings or build new ones. Advice is based on the heritage district's Management Guidelines. During 2015, the subcommittee reviewed 18 development projects.

The **Committee of Adjustment Subcommittee** reviews and comments on all applications for variances in Rockcliffe. In 2015, it reviewed, in meetings or by email exchanges, five applications for variance. One application, approved over our opposition by the City's Committee of Adjustment, was subsequently appealed by the neighbours to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). At the time of writing, no decision had been issued by the OMB.

In October, 2015, the Poets' Pathway project (www.poetspathway.ca) unveiled a boulder displaying a plaque with the poem "Indian Summer" by the Canadian poet **William Wilfred Campbell**. The boulder is a welcome addition to Rockcliffe Park and can be seen near the Hillsdale Bridge by McKay Lake.

Kathy Day

Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA) of Ottawa-Carleton

The FCA is the forum for community associations and similar non-profit volunteer groups in Ottawa to share information about issues facing their communities and, when appropriate, take joint action. The FCA includes associations from the City centre, the inner suburbs, the suburban communities outside the Greenbelt, and rural Ottawa. The RPRA has been a member of the FCA since amalgamation. The 35+ member FCA meets monthly.

In 2015, FCA priorities continued to include: City Governance, City Budgeting, Planning and Zoning, Transit and Transportation, Community Mailboxes and improved FCA communications. One key achievement in 2015 was the successful redesign of the FCA website (FCA-FAC.ca), in which members have a repository of relevant information (e.g. Community Grants, FCA Meeting Minutes) and can communicate with each other, share ideas (Issues and Discussion Fora) and respond to surveys.

Linda McDonald



The 11th Poets' Pathway plaque was unveiled in Rockcliffe Park on October 17.

FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

Treasurer's Report

The RPRA maintains a fiscal and membership year ending December 31. The restricted funds for Library and Heritage are controlled by the respective committees. The remaining restricted funds for Environment and Community plus unrestricted funds are controlled by the RPRA Board of Directors. Long-term cash is invested in easy-to-cash low-risk government bonds. A separate Finance Committee oversees the RPRA's financial activities.

In 2015, the RPRA received \$18,400 in grants from the Village Foundation and \$5,550 from membership fees. The fiscal year ended with 2015 net assets \$2,901.03 lower than the previous year. Full details of the RPRA's financial report are found in Appendix A of this annual report on pages 14 through 16.

Angelica Bolitho

Membership

In addition to organizing community events and maintaining and conserving public spaces not maintained by the City, the RPRA represents the residents of Rockcliffe Park at the municipal level.

Annual memberships are \$25 per household/family. In 2015, the Association count was 222 members, which is roughly 32 per cent of our residents. We encourage all households to be members of the Association to help maintain our strong sense of community.

Membership forms may be picked up at the Community Police Centre at 360 Springfield Road (call **613 842-8578** to confirm that they are open) or downloaded from the RPRA website, www.rockcliffepark.ca.

John Murphy

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Speakers Program

This was the 15th year of our community's Speakers Program. Held in the Community Hall on Wednesday evenings periodically throughout the year, these events are an opportunity for friends, neighbours and newcomers to hear from outstanding individuals, engage them in discussion, and enjoy coffee and homemade cookies afterwards. Admission is free.

In 2015, we were pleased to welcome the following speakers:

David Halton, former CBC correspondent, told us the story of his father, **Matthew Halton**, who was Canada's voice on the radio throughout WW II, and played a tape of that famous voice reporting on the liberation of Paris.

Mark Kristmanson, on the job for one year as head of the National Capital Commission, joined us to talk about the opportunities that lie ahead for the NCC to enhance our capital region.

Evan Solomon, former host of the CBC's Power and Politics and The House, gave us a magisterial preview of the 2015 federal election and each party's approach to it.

Her Excellency **Sharon Johnston** spoke about her debut novel, based on historical characters, in which she recounts the struggles of veterans adjusting to life in Canada after the Great War through the voices of the matron of the hospital in Lethbridge and the madam of the local brothel.

Kevin Newman, network news anchor and correspondent, captured his audience with an eloquent and candid account of the complex relationship between father and gay son, based on the book "All Out," which he co-authored with his son, **Alex**.

John Ibbitson, Globe and Mail political writer, painted a fascinating picture of our just-defeated Prime Minister, based on his book, "Stephen Harper."

Dr. Jack Kitts, President and CEO of the Ottawa Hospital, **Dr. Duncan Stewart**, head of the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, and **Dr. Rebecca Auer**, researcher and cancer surgeon, described the medical revolution happening now, the leading research role the Ottawa Hospital is playing in stem cell therapy for heart attack patients, and viruses that attack cancer cells while leaving healthy cells intact.

Special thanks to **Nancy Hooper** and **Lynn McGuffin**, who provide our hospitality so graciously, and to **Jane Dobell**, **Imbaw Storer**, **Joan Kellett**, **Marilyn Venner**, **Linda McDonald**, **Peter Lewis** and **Chris Barker** for organizational support.

Susan d'Aquino

All-Candidates Meeting

On Tuesday evening, October 6, 2015, a federal All-Candidates Meeting was held in the Queen Juliana Hall at Rockcliffe Park Public School.

The RPRA initiated and hosted the meeting with the Associations of Lindenlea, Manor Park and New Edinburgh, in advance of the October 19 federal election.

Candidates for the federal riding of Ottawa-Vanier were invited to attend and address the public meeting. They included the incumbent Liberal Party Member of Parliament, **Mauril Bélanger**, New Democratic Party candidate **Emilie Taman**, Green Party candidate **Nira Dookeran** and Libertarian candidate **Coreen Corcoran**. The Conservative Party candidate, **David Piccini**, declined to attend.

Former Councillor **Jacques Legendre** acted as the meeting Chair. A lively discussion took place among the candidates on issues of particular national interest, followed by a question and answer period. Thank you to the **Ashbury College students** who assisted with the meeting's organization. The successful event attracted roughly 300 residents from Rockcliffe and neighbouring communities, and gave those attending a better understanding of the issues relevant in the election and the position of the candidates present in respect to those issues.

Alexander Macklin

Library Book Sale and Rockcliffe Park Library

The annual April Book Sale organized in support of the Rockcliffe Park branch of the Ottawa Public Library (OPL) had another successful year. We estimate that we had at least 18,000 books and A/V items on hand. With a larger tent and increased transportation costs to and from storage, our expenses were over \$4,000, but with increased sales and strong sponsorship, we were able to donate \$23,000 to the OPL and still keep a fund to cover the advance expenses for the 2016 Book Sale.

Thanks to **Catherine Bourque** of the **Rockcliffe Retirement Residence**, **Tracey Black** of **Epicuria Fine Foods and Catering** and **Brian Montgomery** of **Montgomery Asset Management | RBC Dominion Securities** for their support. The Book Sale is fortunate in having the sponsorship support of such helpful and community-minded individuals and businesses. We are also grateful for the support and advice from the seasoned school book fair volunteers, who have a wealth of experience.

On the advice of **Philip Robert**, the supervising librarian, the Book Sale grant to the OPL will be allocated among books, subscriptions, DVDs and branch programming for school classes. It also paid for a Family Open House on a Saturday this past autumn, organized by **Chloe Girvan**. Such an event helps make the branch and its resources better known to our wider community, particularly to newcomers. About 18 per cent of our donation will support library programs in the wider Ottawa community, including National Aboriginal History Month in 2016, as well as a donation to the central Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association. I would like to thank this central Friends group for taking all our unsold material after the sale for use in their own ongoing book sale operations. It is not as well known as it should be that this group of volunteers contributes \$250,000 annually from sales of used books to the OPL budget.



It is hard to believe, but every year, the Book Sale goes from this...



...to this – thanks to the hard work of our dedicated volunteers.

In addition to the objective of helping the library, the book sale has two less-measurable “sunny” objectives: to build community spirit and to support the use and enjoyment of books. Our more than 50 volunteers are drawn from the wider community of Rockcliffe, Lindenlea, New Edinburgh and Manor Park. Although



Participants enjoyed September's Family Open House, which was made possible by funding from the Book Sale.

these volunteers may read e-books on occasion, they have a strong attachment to the printed book. They voice their opinions as to what will sell and what will not with a conviction that leads to some intense discussions: Are printed dictionaries obsolete? Will people still buy cookbooks? What does up-to-date mean when we are pricing self-help, health or science books? Which books classify as nostalgia? When is a travel book too old to be useful? These and other such questions are debated during the many hours it takes to find sponsors, organize publicity, collect, cull, sort, pack, unpack and price donations, staff the sales desks, set up, manage and take down displays, bookcases, signs, and tents, and do the accounting. Three cheers for our volunteers and for our tiger, **Sheila Nelles**, who stocks our sale bookshelf in the library year-round.

With all this activity going on throughout the year at the back of the small Rockcliffe Park branch of the OPL, we must on occasion try the patience of the library staff. Thanks to **Philip Robert, Sonia Doyon** and her staff for their calm support, no matter what the many challenges are that the Book Sale creates.

Finally – three cheers for you, the donors of books and A/V material, without which we could not have such a high-quality sale. And three cheers also for you, our buyers, whom it is a pleasure to serve.

Please Note:

WE ARE COLLECTING NOW FOR THE 2016 SPRING BOOK SALE, SATURDAY APRIL 23 AND SUNDAY APRIL 24. Mark your calendars and bring your books as soon as you can to the library during library hours or call for pickup: **613 580-2424, ext. 27623.**

Jane Dobell

Soccer

The past couple of years have been a challenge for the Rockcliffe Park Public School (RPPS) sports field. In 2014, the irrigation system for the field was non-functional and made the seeding/top dressing programs pointless. This past summer, the irrigation system was repaired and we underwent, at considerable expense, aggressive seeding/fertilizing and top dressing, including fencing the field off for most of July and August. Some positive results were realized but there is still room for improvement.

The challenge we face is to strike a balance between usage demands, the downtime required for the field to regenerate and the costs associated with keeping the field in a playable condition. To help manage this balance more effectively, we have formed a committee comprised of representatives of the various users and the RPRA to address the ongoing challenges of these competing agendas. Through better coordination and planning, we expect to be able to manage a more effective maintenance program at lower cost.

The stone dust running track had become pot-holed and uneven, making it hazardous to run on. This past summer, with a grant from the Village Foundation and a matching contribution from RPPS, the track was professionally resurfaced. This involved tilling the track to remove grass and weeds, adding roughly 30 square yards of new stone dust, and grading and compacting that into a safe and consistent surface.

These activities could not have been undertaken without the continuous support of the **Village Foundation, Rockcliffe Park Public School** and the **RPL Soccer League**. Many thanks to all involved.

Peter Lewis

Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing event was held on December 9 at the Community Hall. It was a somewhat different experience this year, given the total lack of snow and the unusually balmy temperatures.

The **Elmwood Junior School Choir** started the event off by singing “O Christmas Tree” to coincide with lighting of the Christmas tree. Longtime Rockcliffe Park resident **Alex Macklin** turned on the lights.

After a number of carols performed by the **Elmwood Junior School Choir**, the community carol singing portion of the evening started and was led once again by the **Salvation Army Brass Ensemble** of the **Ottawa Citadel Band**. The ensemble graciously accepted and played a number of carol requests. At the end of the evening, the President of the RPRA, **Brian Dickson**, presented a cheque to the Salvation Army in support of the continued work they do in our greater community.

We again had an excellent attendance of about 100 residents, with a large number of Elmwood School pupils and parents participating and everyone enjoying hot chocolate and apple cider, as well as cookies and candy canes. We collected donations for the Ottawa Food Bank of \$270 and two large containers of food items.

In summary, it was a very successful and enjoyable evening. We welcome feedback and suggestions to make next year’s event even better.

Jim Carr



Carolers at the Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing enjoyed the sounds of the season, courtesy of the Salvation Army Brass Ensemble.

Children’s Christmas Party



A lack of snow did not slow down the horse-drawn “sleigh” rides at the Children’s Christmas Party.

On Sunday, December 13, approximately 200 children and parents gathered at the Rockcliffe Park Community Hall for the annual Children’s Christmas Party. Although there was no snow, the weather was otherwise ideal for the outdoor activities – hockey and rides through the Village on Santa’s horse-drawn “sleigh.”

Inside the community centre, the children made Christmas crafts, snacked, and generated creative requests for “specialty balloons” from Goopee the Clown. Many children also put together and proudly decorated gingerbread figures. With seasonal music, tasty treats, warm food and hot chocolate with whipped cream, many parents enjoyed the festive occasion as well.

Thank you to the **University of Ottawa’s Days of Service volunteers** who helped with the activities. And thanks to those who provided gifts for Ottawa’s Toy Mountain.

If anyone is interested in volunteering at the Children’s Party next year, please contact **Imbaw Storer**.

Russell Gibson



The children enjoyed activities while their parents enjoyed the festive atmosphere at the Children’s Christmas Party.

ENVIRONMENT

Caldwell-Carver Conservation Area Remediation

This year's McKay Lake and Pond environmental remediation (removing Garlic Mustard, Dog-strangling Vine, Yellow Archangel, Buckthorn and sweeping the paths clear of leaves) is finished for the year.

Volunteers gave 183 hours to removing invasive species and making the paths more walkable. We finished the year with two weekend sessions aided by five uOttawa Days of Service (DoS) students and 13 Rockcliffe residents ranging in age from six to over 70. Wielding rakes and weed wrenches, we cleared the trails of leaves and removed countless buckthorn bushes and trees, which were either stacked for later removal to an on-site pit, or bundled, tied and carried to the road for removal as yard waste by the City crews. Many thanks to **John Brooks, Carolyn and Bob Buchan, Marni Fullerton, Elin Jonsdottir, Anthony Keith, Michele Loewen, Anne Mackenzie, Imbaw, Nathaniel and Thomas Storer, Einar Sturluson, Marilyn Venner** and the seven **uOttawa DoS students** for their help. Together we are making a difference and slowly but surely reducing the presence of invasive plants and shrubs in the woodlot and the Pond shoreline.



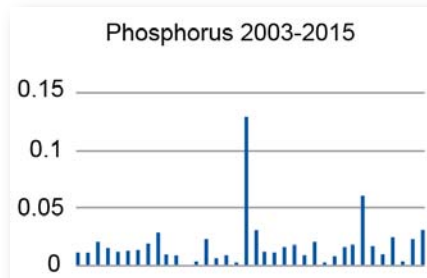
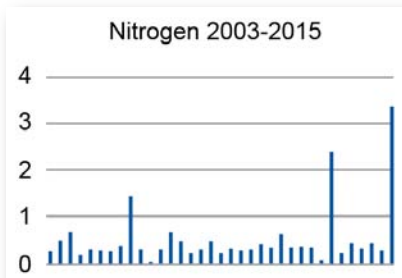
Ahmed (uOttawa), John and Anthony hard at work pulling buckthorn.

Iola Price

Water Quality Monitoring

Over the course of the summer swimming season, the RPRA had the nitrogen and phosphorus levels in the Pond water analysed three times. The results were not appreciably different from those in previous years. The phosphorus levels showed a tendency to start out low in the spring and rise over the course of the summer. In 2015, the nitrogen level dipped in mid-summer, then rose again in the early fall.

Over the last decade or so, the water levels have fluctuated, but the 2014 and 2015 levels were significantly lower than normal at the end of the season. However, the water level changes do not seem to have influenced the nitrogen and phosphorus levels appreciably.



Parts per million on the vertical axis and time on the horizontal axis (2003 on the left through 2015 on the right).

The long-term trend, with the chemistry data arranged by date of sampling regardless of year, is for nitrogen to start low in the spring and rise toward the fall. Phosphorus spiked once in mid-summer (August 2011) but has generally shown only a slight increase as the season progresses.

Nitrogen and phosphorus foster green growth, contributing to the Pond's aquatic life and providing a habitat and food for smaller fish and invertebrates. At the present levels they do not sustain undesirable algae. *E. coli* levels ranged from 10 to 14 colony forming units per 100 ml – well below the actionable level of 100 CFU per ml.

Iola Price and Derek Chase

Pond Water Levels

Concerned about the continuing drop in recent years in the water levels in the Pond, we are working on this issue with Councillor **Tobi Nussbaum** and the City of Ottawa. City staff have visited the Pond to confirm the location of a well and, with the assistance of an engineering firm, are planning to conduct a pump test to verify the well's viability and utility for raising water levels. The pump test and stabilization work for the stone wall at the northeast side of the Pond to minimize future erosion are expected to be completed in the spring 2016.

It will take time to determine whether a well and tapped aquifer can be used to manage water levels in the Pond and, should the results be positive, to obtain regulatory approvals. We have therefore recommended to the City that it consult in the meantime with an engineering firm and hydro-geologist to find out what more could be done to understand why the Pond water level has dropped so dramatically.

If an expedited review and a plan of action cannot be implemented in the spring, and should it be clear that the water level in the Pond has failed to stabilize, we are prepared to suggest to the City more drastic measures until the situation improves. Preservation of this unique conservation area should be of top priority, especially as this past summer we already witnessed adverse impact due to major erosion, made worse by the large crowds on the newly exposed beach areas.

Nicolas Temnikov



The Pond, summer 2015.



The Pond in better days. Photo: www.westsideaction.com/secret-ottawa

ROCKCLIFFE AIRBASE REDEVELOPMENT

In the 2014 Annual Report, I outlined the process by which the Public Advisory Group provided community advice to the Canada Lands Company (CLC) as it moved through the process of developing the Community Design Plan (which will become a Secondary Plan under Ottawa's Official Plan) and all the other documents required by the City to ready the 131-hectare site for development over the next 15 to 20 years. The City has targeted 5,300 residential units (singles, low- to high-rise high multiples) and office and other commercial buildings, including three schools. The CLC expects that up to 2,600 jobs will be located on the site and that many people will choose to live and work there.

In June, the City released all the documents to the public for comment prior to their formal presentation to Planning Committee in September and, as expected, they were passed and then approved by Council. The final administrative step occurred in early December when Planning Committee and then Council approved (with minor amendments) the Zoning By-law, which outlines the types of building allowed in each parcel of land. Now CLC will begin selling parcels of land to developers. CLC plans to maintain strict control over the building designs. A new feature for an Ottawa development is the implementation of Low Impact Development procedures whereby stormwater is allowed to infiltrate the ground as it moves to the

stormwater management ponds. Care was also taken to preserve as many trees as possible, including a massive Bur Oak that may be 200-250 years old. The cliff facing the Ottawa River will not be disturbed.

A disappointment is the name – Wateridge Village at Rockcliffe. The RPRA had been assured that CLC would not use the word “Rockcliffe” in the new name for the airbase lands, although we have been informed that the word “Rockcliffe” will be used only for the first year’s marketing.

We can expect increased traffic on Hemlock and Beechwood during the construction phase, but if adequate bus service is instituted for the development and many of the residents live and work on-site, we hope the impact may be manageable.

Iola Price and Alexander Macklin

ROCKCLIFFE PARK COMMUNITY POLICE CENTRE



Constable Walter Duhme is Rockcliffe's Policy Centre Officer.

Hello Rockcliffe Park Residents Association members! I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome and support I have received since my assignment to the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) Rockcliffe Park Community Police Centre in November 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to share some information and resources with you.

Reporting incidents to the police is important and provides us with the information needed to identify crime patterns and allocate resources. Please encourage all your neighbours to report any crimes in progress, suspicious activity, and all other crimes to the police to assist us in addressing crime in the community. Our “Make the Right Call” program provides information on what number to call and about online reporting:

<http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/contact-us/Contact-Us.asp>

Thefts from vehicles continue to be a concern across the City. Never leave any valuable items in vehicles: **<http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/safety-and-crime-prevention/Prevent-Theft-From-Vehicles.asp>**

In September 2015, the OPS Break and Enter Unit noticed an increase in reports of residential break and enters in the Rockcliffe Park/Lindenlea/New Edinburgh area in which the suspect(s) entered homes by unlocked doors. Residents are reminded to keep their doors locked, even when at home, and to ensure any access point from the garage into the main area of the home is also locked:

<http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/news/index.aspx?keyword=More%20Residential%20Break%20and%20Enters%20due%20to%20unlocked%20doors&newsId=0d12a71a-8ffd-4bf3-8e9e-810efb3b9601>

The Ottawa Police Service Online Crime Mapping Tool can assist you in obtaining crime statistics for your neighbourhood. The Ottawa Crime Map will display the last 14 days of data for selected crime categories. You can also change the date selection and crime categories to customize a search to display up to 30 consecutive days worth of data within the last six months: **<http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/crime/crime-mapping-tool.asp>**

I have also attached links to our Crime Prevention and Safety programs, our News Releases, if you would like to register for news updates, and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services Home Security Audit Guide: **<http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/safety-and-crime-prevention/Crime-Prevention-and-Safety-Programs.asp>**; **<http://www.ottawapolice.ca/en/news/search.aspx>**; **<http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/stellent/groups/public/@mcscs/@www/@com/documents/webasset/ec076626.pdf>**

*Constable Walter Duhme, Ottawa Police Service/Service de Police d'Ottawa
CPC Rockcliffe Park CPC, 613-236-1222 ext./poste 5916, duhmew@ottawapolice.ca*

Neighbourhood Watch

The Neighbourhood Watch program helps promote security consciousness and general alertness, important even though crime levels in Rockcliffe Park are relatively low. It is also important that all crimes, including vandalism, are reported to the police. To encourage reporting, an online process is available for reporting incidents not involving violence, or loss or damage of more than \$5,000. All reports are given a report number, useful for insurance claims, and are reviewed by police, who will follow up as appropriate. Details may be found at www.ottawapolice.ca/en/contact-us/Online-Reporting.asp.

Rockcliffe Park Neighbourhood Watch is part of a City-wide program sponsored by the Ottawa Police Service, and supported by the Ottawa Neighbourhood Watch Executive Committee (ONWEC). A Neighbourhood Watch membership drive is currently in progress for the Village but at this time fewer than 100 households have signed up. The campaign will be renewed in the Spring.

Kay James

COMMUNICATIONS

In 2015, residents participated in a survey on current issues and needs. Response rate was 17 per cent versus 13 per cent in the 2011 survey. Residents named the newsletter as the top membership benefit; 71 per cent prefer to receive newsletters in paper format and 84 per cent wish to receive emailed notice of events and topical issues. We also received feedback for content changes to the newsletter and website. Complete survey results may be found on the RPRA website, www.rockcliffepark.ca.

In 2016, we will update our website and newsletter, implementing suggestions we received from the 2015 survey, and we will also be seeking your photographs of Rockcliffe Park to post on our site. Please send high-resolution photos, with captions and photo credits, to secretary@rockcliffepark.ca. Finally, thanks go to our webmasters, **Carmine Domenicucci** and **Melanie Lee**, for maintaining our website.

Angelica Bolitho

Newsletter Team

The RPRA thanks **Cynthia Hamady**, our newsletter editor, for producing The Rockcliffe News. A full-colour web version may be viewed online at www.rockcliffepark.ca, often before the print version is delivered. Thanks to **Carmine Domenicucci** and **Melanie Lee** for posting the newsletter and archiving earlier issues. Special thanks goes to **Iola Price** for organizing newsletter distribution, and to **Brian Dickson** and **Paul St. Louis** for ensuring that our volunteer deliverers receive their bundles on schedule. And, of course, many thanks to the **Village Foundation**, whose continuing financial support helps to defray printing costs.

In the coming year we hope to update the newsletter to make it more relevant, visually appealing and easier to read. Send comments, ideas or suggestions to editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca.

Many thanks to our volunteers who, in 2015, faithfully delivered your newsletters and Village flyers through all kinds of weather conditions: **Chris** and **Stephanie Barker**, **John Brooks**, **Pat** and **Derek Chase**, **Brian Dickson**, **Jane Dobell**, **John Edmond**, **Alan Gill**, **Chantal Gobeil**, **Alison Green**, **Walter Grego**, **Nancy Johnson**, **Ana Klar**, **Anthony Keith**, **Charles King**, **Ainsley Malhotra**, **Kent Manderville**, **Louise Meyer**, **Rodney Moore**, **Jane Newcombe**, **Claire Ouseley**, **Iola Price**, **Tani** and **Gregory Sanders**, **Dean Saul**, **Mary Anne Smallwood**, **Claire** and **John Schofield**, **Lorna** and **Paul St. Louis**, **Imbaw Storer**, **Mary** and **Si Taylor**, **John Tener**, **Bill** and **Barbara Turner**, **Marilyn Venner**, **Cathryn Warren**, **Hans** and **Annegret Uthhoff** and **Ismene Wood**.

Cynthia Hamady and Iola Price

APPENDIX A: RPRA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2015 (with comparative figures for the previous year)

	2015	2014
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	11,120.33	10,300.00
Short-term investments	55,029.22	54,512.00
Total Assets	<u>66,149.55</u>	<u>64,812.00</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Prepaid memberships	400.00	–
Accounts payable	5,588.29	1,749.71
Total Liabilities	<u>5,988.29</u>	<u>1,749.71</u>
Fund Balances		
Restricted net assets – library	5,386.74	1,011.12
Restricted net assets – other	11,096.15	21,559.00
Unrestricted net assets	43,678.37	40,492.17
	<u>60,161.26</u>	<u>63,062.29</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>66,149.55</u>	<u>64,812.00</u>
Schedule – Accounts Payable		
Library	868.94	502.88
Environment	2,983.30	540.83
Community events	1,119.85	706.00
Communications	90.62	–
Administration	525.58	–
Total Accounts Payable	<u>5,588.29</u>	<u>1,749.71</u>

APPENDIX A: RPRA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Revenues and Expenses and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended December 31, 2015 (with comparative figures for the previous year)

	2015	2014
Restricted Funds – Library		
Revenue		
Sponsorships	3,302.30	3,000.00
Book Sale	28,526.43	20,616.00
Total Revenues	<u>31,828.73</u>	<u>23,616.00</u>
Expenses		
Grant to library	21,500.00	19,825.38
Expenses	5,953.11	4,416.46
Total Expenses	<u>27,453.11</u>	<u>24,241.84</u>
Change in net assets	4,375.62	(625.84)
Net assets – opening balance	<u>1,011.12</u>	<u>1,636.96</u>
Net assets – closing balance	<u>5,386.74</u>	<u>1,011.12</u>
Unrestricted Funds		
Revenue		
Membership	5,550.00	5,575.00
Investment income	517.22	670.00
Donations	154.00	–
Booklet sales	169.00	–
Total Revenues	<u>6,390.22</u>	<u>6,245.00</u>
Expenses		
General administration	2,075.86	2,376.68
Insurance / filing fees	674.48	694.48
Bank charges	203.68	285.00
Membership dues	250.00	130.00
Total Expenses	<u>3,204.02</u>	<u>3,486.16</u>
Change in net assets	3,186.20	2,758.84
Net assets – opening balance	<u>40,492.17</u>	<u>37,733.33</u>
Net assets – closing balance	<u>43,678.37</u>	<u>40,492.17</u>

APPENDIX A: RPRA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Revenues and Expenses and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended December 31, 2015 (with comparative figures for the previous year)

	2015	2014
Restricted Funds – Other		
Revenue		
Village Foundation	18,400.00	16,370.00
Environment		
Donations	4.20	214.60
City grant (buckthorn)	–	1,750.00
Communications and Social Events		
Speakers Program	415.70	233.00
Sports		
Soccer, running track rehabilitation	5,750.00	5,700.00
Total Revenues	<u>24,569.90</u>	<u>24,267.60</u>
Expenses		
Heritage		
Heritage Conservation Plan	1,401.00	–
Oral transcription	1,550.00	–
Tape transcription	–	530.96
Environment		
Jubilee Gardens / Community Centre	4,588.38	4,993.11
Tree maintenance	3,288.30	3,113.15
Buckthorn removal	850.00	2,260.00
Pond water analysis	327.52	409.40
Communications and Social Events		
Newsletter	3,208.72	3,619.60
Children’s Christmas Party	1,441.97	916.48
Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing	1,096.50	871.63
Speakers Program	1,518.51	2,117.96
Website and strategy	1,247.00	–
Sports		
Soccer, running track rehabilitation	14,514.85	540.83
Total Expenses	<u>35,032.75</u>	<u>19,373.12</u>
Change in net assets	(10,462.85)	4,894.48
Net assets – opening balance	<u>21,559.00</u>	<u>16,664.52</u>
Net assets – closing balance	<u>11,096.15</u>	<u>21,559.00</u>