



The Rockcliffe News

December 2017

Rockcliffe Park Residents Association

www.rockcliffepark.ca

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Board meetings are held monthly and are open to all. See calendar for dates and times. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Correspondence to Board members and any enquiries for administration purposes may be addressed by email to secretary@rockcliffepark.ca.

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER

30 Thursday, 7:00 pmRockcliffe Park Garden Club: "Christmas Décor Event" with demos and holiday shopping, Community Hall*

DECEMBER

1,2,3 Friday to SundayElmwood School Old Girls' Art Fair, Marketplace and Holly Tea, Elmwood School, 261 Buena Vista Road*

6 Wednesday, 7:00 pmChristmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing, Community Hall*

10 Sunday, 2 to 4 pmChildren's Christmas Party, Community Hall*

JANUARY

8 MondayRockcliffe Park Community Centre Winter Recreation Programs begin*

17 Wednesday 7:15 pm...RPR Board Meeting, Community Hall

26 Friday, 10:45 amRockcliffe Park Garden Club: Annual National Gallery Private Tour and Luncheon*

FEBRUARY

7 Wednesday, 8:00 pm...Speakers Program: Bob Plamondon, Author and Historian, on "How Jean Chrétien Defied the Elites and Reshaped Canada," Community Hall*

21 Wednesday 7:15 pm...RPR Board Meeting, Community Hall

28 Wednesday 7:30 pm...Annual General Meeting of the RPR and the Annual Report to the Community by The Village Foundation, Community Hall

*Additional information on these events may be found in this newsletter.

Holiday Lights in Ottawa Until January 6: Magic of Lights, Wesley Clover Parks (a drive-through holiday light display) **Until January 8:** 20th Annual Trees of Hope for CHEO, Fairmont Château Laurier **December 7:** National Gallery of Canada's Christmas Tree Lighting **December 7:** "Christmas Lights Across Canada" Illumination Ceremony, Parliament Hill **December 7 to 31:** Free skating on a rink right on Parliament Hill **December 10:** Outdoor Christmas Candlelight Service, Beechwood Cemetery. For details and additional events go to www.ottawatourism.ca/ottawa-insider/get-into-a-holiday-season-mood-with-these-activities.

THE ROCKCLIFFE NEWS • VOLUME 17 • NUMBER 6

The Rockcliffe News, the newsletter of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPR), is published six times each year: February, April, June, August, October and December. Submissions pertaining to the Village are welcome by mid month before publication. Copy may be edited for clarity, length and content. Paid advertising is not accepted. Current and past issues are posted on the RPR website, www.rockcliffepark.ca. Editor: Cynthia Hamady, editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



The first snow has fallen in the City and some early birds have already started lighting their trees, indicating the onset of the holiday season. I have only just managed to get my leaves off the ground (just like last year!) and it seems early to be thinking of the festivities six weeks down the road. But time flies and before we know it we will be in the midst of our own family celebrations. As many of you organize your own lighting displays, please remember to join us at the Community Hall for the RPRC's annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing evening that will be taking place on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00 pm.

For those with young children, and particularly those of you new to the Village, the Children's Christmas Party at the Community Hall on Sunday, December 10 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm is a not-to-be-missed event. This party has always been very popular, with loads of activities and even a visit from Santa! All the joyful details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

As I wrote in the last newsletter, we are still awaiting the decision from the Ontario Municipal Board regarding the challenge to our Heritage Plan. We hope to have a decision early in the new year, but in any case, I fully expect that we will have a heritage plan that will come into effect in 2018. In anticipation of this, we plan to organize a number of discussion forums in the community on the subject of heritage, which we hope will stimulate an active discussion and further an appreciation of the qualities of this neighbourhood that make it such an attractive place to live. Look for announcements early in 2018.

As you will read in this newsletter, the plans for the new rink and field house continue to develop. The latest information and renderings can be seen on the Rockcliffe Hosers' website, www.therockcliffehosers.com. The Hosers are planning some terrific improvements this year to the puddle rink located in the Jubilee Garden. For the first time, this rink will be boarded with low boards and given a proper base that will go a long way toward making this a much better ice surface. Festive lighting will also be installed in the trees, creating an attractive family skating destination.

As this year draws to a close, your Board directs its collective mind to thinking about plans and activities for next year and prepares reports and funding requests to The Village Foundation. We could not undertake the activities we do without the help of The Village Foundation and we remain grateful for their support. At this time of year we also turn our attention to the recruitment of new Board members. Some of our colleagues will not be returning after the AGM so we are looking for people willing to donate their time and expertise to our community! If you would be interested in joining the RPRC Board, please reach out to one of the directors and let us know. We are also interested to hear from people who may have a specific interest (such as traffic, environment, heritage or social activities) and wish to contribute by being a member of a committee of the Board. It takes a small army to do what we do and we welcome new recruits.

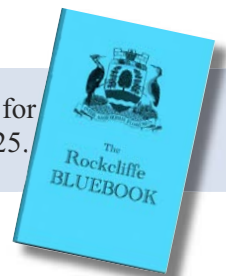
Recently, two of our residents were honoured by the City of Ottawa. Longtime RPRC Board member **Jane Dobell** and well-known resident **Thomas d'Aquino** were awarded the Order of Ottawa in a ceremony that took place at City Hall on November 16, joining a select group of residents honoured in the years since the award was established in 2013. Congratulations to both recipients.

Like last year, the RPRC has decided to launch a seasonal fundraising campaign in support of Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre. This community centre is a critical resource for many of our neighbours barely a few thousand metres from our doors. Our goal this year is to raise a minimum of \$15,000, which we hope to exceed. Please consider this organization in your philanthropic plans this year.

As we head into the festive season, I take great pleasure, on behalf of the RPRC, in wishing all our residents the very best. I hope that we will see you at the Tree Lighting ceremony this year, but, in any case, we wish everyone a peaceful time with family, friends and neighbours.

Peter Lewis
November 20, 2017

The 2017 Rockcliffe Bluebook is Here! Hot off the press: limited quantities are available for purchase at the Rockcliffe Community Police Centre, 360 Springfield Road. \$15 each or two for \$25.



**The Annual Community Appeal –
Your Donation is Important**

Recently, you will have received a letter from The Village Foundation requesting your support for the **2017 Annual Community Appeal**. We need your financial support to increase the endowment, the interest of which is used to help fund projects and activities in Rockcliffe. We work primarily with the City and the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRA), which plans and implements projects and activities in the Foundation’s mandate areas:

- **conservation of the environment,**
- **preservation of the heritage character of the neighbourhood, and**
- **promotion of a sense of community.**

Each year, interest from the The Village Foundation’s endowment is used to cover costs of many RPRA projects and activities in the community. The RPRA annual requests for funds have exceeded what we have been able to provide. In a low interest investment environment, it is important to continue to build the endowment.

We all enjoy this unique and beautiful neighbourhood and by making a donation, we support it in a tangible way.

Donate online at www.rockcliffeparkfoundation.org or send a cheque payable to the Friends of Rockcliffe Park Foundation to Jane Newcombe, 25 Westward Way, Rockcliffe Park, ON K1L 5A8. Donations are tax deductible. Any questions? Call **Bonnie Robinson** at 613 749-5297 or **Jane Newcombe** at 613 746-8000.

**Call for Nominations
for The Village Foundation Board**

Interested in serving on The Village Foundation’s Board of Directors? The Foundation is a registered charity established in 1996 to support projects and activities to protect and enhance the beauty, character and vitality of the Rockcliffe Park community.

The role of The Village Foundation Board is to set direction, manage the endowment fund, and make distributions of grants for projects and activities that support its mandate. The Board meets approximately eight times per year. Board governance, investment, financial, marketing and events management experience would be appreciated.

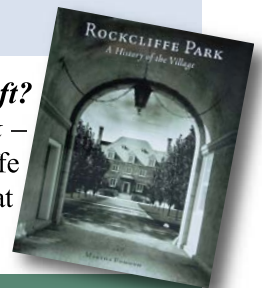
Individuals interested in seeking to serve on the Board are asked to contact **Ryan Kilger**, Chair of the Nomination Committee, at ryankilger@hotmail.com or 613 746-3541.

Mark Your Calendars!

The Village Foundation’s Annual Report to the Community will be presented on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 7:30 pm at the Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road.

Looking for a Very Special Holiday Gift?

Consider giving our own *Rockcliffe Park – A History of the Village* by local Rockcliffe resident **Martha Edmond**. It’s available at Books on Beechwood for \$49.50.



Save these Dates: MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FESTIVE FA-LA-LA:

Rockcliffe Park’s Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing

Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00 pm

We welcome tax-deductible cheques at this event for donation to Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre as part of our campaign to raise \$15,000 for their work to help families in need.

THEN MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MERRIMENT:

It’s the Annual Rockcliffe Park Children’s Christmas Party

Sunday, December 10 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Santa Claus, horse-drawn ‘sleigh’ rides, outdoor hockey, Goopee the Clown, snacks, music, arts and crafts, gingerbread house decorating, hot chocolate and more!

We welcome new, unwrapped toys and school supplies at this event for donation to needy children from Santa.

Both events are held at Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road | Free admission and all are welcome

Sponsored by the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association



HERITAGE MATTERS

Village Green Improvements

Heartfelt thanks to **Margot Gualtieri** for her efforts to beautify the Village Green in honour of Canada's 150th anniversary. The centennial benches have been repaired and repainted and look ever so much better. The corner of Springfield and Mariposa was brightened with flower-filled planters, and red and white geraniums and begonias continued the theme elsewhere in the garden. Margot joined other volunteers regularly this summer to prune, weed, water and spruce up these spaces. Thank you, Margot!



336 Minto Place

The City's heritage staff, using delegated authority, has approved changes to this Grade I house which include the conversion of the garage at the front of the house to a covered porch and a new detached two-car garage at the back, entering from a new driveway off Kinzua. A swimming pool will be added to the backyard behind the new garage.

61 Park Road

The City has approved extensive additions and alterations to the Grade I house at 61 Park Road. The house is in a state of disrepair. While restoration of the house is welcome, we opposed two aspects of the application. The scale of the additions will more than double the lot coverage and the footprint of the house – by over 120 percent. The increase in the mass of the house and the loss of greenspace entailed are significant. The second aspect is that the architectural integrity of the Grade I house by the noted architect **Noffke** will be compromised by replacing the roof with one with a much steeper pitch, dominating the façade in a manner not intended by the architect.

485 Maple Lane

We have reviewed and expressed support for plans for the replacement of the one-storey Grade II house at 485 Maple Lane with a new two-storey house. The footprint of the proposed house is smaller than that of the existing house, its height and mass and setbacks are in keeping with the Heritage Plan, and its materials are appropriate. A large Norway maple that is not in good shape will be removed and replaced, along with the addition of other plantings.

Update: Ashbury College: New Centre for Science and Innovation

Neighbours have taken strong exception to Ashbury's proposed renovation/addition that faces Glenwood Avenue. Concerns include increased traffic and parking, cooking smells emanating from the school, and the modernist design and light pollution from the proposed structure. **Councillor Tobi Nussbaum**, City staff, **Head of School Norman Southward**, the RPRA and neighbours have engaged in discussions to see what can be done to address concerns – some of which have been long-standing. Further meetings are scheduled, including with representatives of the Board of Governors of Ashbury. Given the long history of excellent relations between Ashbury and the Village of Rockcliffe Park, we are optimistic that good working solutions will be found.

551 Fairview Avenue

The City's Built Heritage Sub-Committee has recommended that the City approve a large addition to the façade of this Grade I house facing the public pathway along the west side of MacKay Lake, subject to minimizing the top storey so it does not break the eaves line of the house, and altering the cladding. This application is to be considered by the City's Planning Committee on November 28 and City Council on December 13. We strongly oppose this 2,800 sq. ft. addition, as did many neighbours, on the grounds that it violates many provisions of the Rockcliffe Park Heritage Plan and the federal Standards and Guidelines for the Protection of Historic Places to which the Province of Ontario subscribes.

Two examples: The addition would obscure most of the façade of the 1927 Tudor-style house with a modernist structure not complementary to the character of the house. The addition requires the removal of the large verandah overlooking the lake. Through research at Library and Archives Canada, Village historian **Martha Edmond** found the original **Hazelgrove** architectural drawings for the house which prove that the verandah is original to the house – not a later addition. In light of this finding and the significance of the verandah to the heritage character of the house, its removal, according to the Heritage Plan, is not permitted. The original proposed addition is shown on the next page; amended drawings were not available at press time.

Julian Smith, an internationally recognized authority in heritage conservation, condemns this proposal. He says the Rockcliffe Park Heritage Conservation District was created "to protect against exactly the kind of intrusions represented by the 551 Fairview application." He says that if this application is accepted, it would undermine not only the reasons

HERITAGE MATTERS

Rockcliffe Park is a heritage district, but also the legal framework in Ontario that has been created to protect heritage. His submission, in shortened form, is printed here:

Julian Smith's Comments on 551 Fairview Avenue, Rockcliffe Park

*Built Heritage Sub-Committee, November 10, 2017
Planning Committee, November 28, 2017*

1. Introduction

My name is Julian Smith. I am providing these comments as an individual; I have not been hired by anyone to be here. However, I have a significant interest in this application, because I was the lead consultant and author of the original 1997 Village of Rockcliffe Park Heritage Conservation District study.

The citation that accompanies my recent appointment to the Order of Canada begins: "one of Canada's leading heritage architects and planners, Julian Smith has helped to ensure that our most iconic monuments and cultural landscapes are preserved for generations to come." It is because of my abiding interest in culturally significant places such as Rockcliffe Park that I submit these comments.

2. Comments

The residents of Rockcliffe Park supported the creation of a Heritage Conservation District to protect against exactly the kind of intrusions represented by the 551 Fairview application. If this application is accepted, it would undermine not only the spirit of that original designation, but also the legal framework in Ontario that has been created to support these efforts.

The two most important characteristics of this neighbourhood are the continuous park landscape and the careful and sympathetic architecture. These are the two characteristics most threatened by the proposed design.



Unfortunately, the proposed large addition to 551 Fairview ruptures, rather than supports, the continuous park landscape of this key public space. And its architecture, far from being careful and sympathetic, is intrusive and overwhelming. The existing house is a Hazelgrove design that reflects exactly the way in which architecture was used to reinforce the picturesque quality of the village.

The proposed new addition has two issues. In size, it completely overwhelms the original house. This is evident in the renderings, but would be even more drastic when viewed from the public realm along the lake. And in style, an exercise in Japanese and Scandinavian modernism might work on an empty, heavily treed lot somewhere in Rockcliffe, but it is in no way a style sympathetic to the existing house. The flat roof, the large floor to ceiling glass windows, the smooth finishes – these all contradict the Hazelgrove design.

It is not as if no clear direction has been provided for those considering additions and alterations. The original 1997 study and the more recent Heritage Plan make every effort to outline, as clearly as possible, the cultural heritage of the village. And they provide clear direction on how to insert new work.

If the proposed application is accepted, these directions are being ignored. And if they can be ignored, why does the Heritage Conservation District exist? The Province of Ontario has said, very explicitly, that "significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved." On the other hand, refusing this application would set a useful precedent, one that indicates that for this property, and for the Village of Rockcliffe Park as a whole, the province's statement is to be taken seriously. It would

remind us that if people choose to live in a heritage conservation district, they are accepting a shared richness of character as taking pride of place over individual expressions that are incompatible. This is why these districts exist.

*Top centre:
Lakeside façade of
551 Fairview today.
Photo: Ottawa Citizen
Bottom far left:
Proposed lakeside
façade. Bottom
near left: Proposed
side view.
Renderings:
Shean Architects*

CANADA'S 150th

In honour of Canada's 150th birthday, The Rockcliffe News has been publishing a series of Rockcliffe Park history stories throughout the year. We wrap up this feature with a reminiscence by Olivia Zed, who grew up in Rockcliffe and explains with great insight what makes the Village such a magical place.

What Makes Rockcliffe Park Special

In August of 2013, I counted down the days until I left Rockcliffe Park. I eagerly looked ahead to beginning my undergraduate studies at McGill University in Montreal, and couldn't wait to live in a "real" urban city. Four years later, I find myself in Boston starting another new chapter, and missing Rockcliffe more than I thought was possible.

Sometimes it takes almost losing something to truly value what it means to you. For me, this meant my family home going up for sale. The thought of my parents selling our house meant more than losing a childhood home, but also saying goodbye to Rockcliffe, the community that helped shape 16 years of my life.

Growing up in the Village, it was easy to overlook the natural beauty that defines the neighbourhood. Walking along the quiet streets enveloped by trees, walking my dogs in the Rockeries, and meeting friends at the Jubilee Gardens or Rockcliffe Pavilion were simple luxuries that were taken for granted. It was only until I moved to an urban environment that I realized how lucky I was to grow up in a village where I had access to these spaces, among many others, right in my backyard.

Moving to Boston required a trade-off between the peace and quiet of Buena Vista Road and crowds cheering at Fenway Park, just a block from my apartment. While I enjoyed the free Billy Joel and Lady Gaga concerts, the incessant chaos and hordes of revellers had me longing for the silent nights back in Rockcliffe. But this was not the only thing I missed about the Village.

Like many others before me, I've come to realize that living in a large city can be an isolating experience. Unlike my time on Buena Vista, I no longer recognize my neighbours, or enjoy seeing familiar faces in the area. While we share common spaces, we do not share a community.

This feeling of aloneness made me realize that simply living within a district and having something in common does not constitute a community. Although people are the backbone of every society, it takes a special environment to bring that to life. This is what the Village of Rockcliffe was able to do, and better so than any other place I have ever lived.

What exactly makes Rockcliffe special is the distinct sense of place that you feel immediately upon entering the Village's boundaries. You can tell that it is a community with roots that run deep by the unique houses, winding roads and historic landmarks. While other neighbourhoods become crowded with new developments, Rockcliffe remains lost in time.

My neighbourhood friends and I thrived in this environment. We were able to play outside and felt safe to explore freely. We took advantage of our access to different parks, the Pond and waterfront. Looking back, I realize what a privilege it was to be a kid in Rockcliffe, and struggle to imagine what I would have done without these abundant facilities and natural landscapes. It was these spaces that truly allowed me to enjoy the freedoms of being a child.

We even enjoyed just walking around to kill time. In fact, this is probably what we took the most pleasure in. Despite living in the same neighbourhood for 16 years – not even a square mile in size – we never got tired of pacing through the narrow streets. The ubiquitous trees, sprawling gardens, heritage homes and beautiful public spaces meant you could enjoy a park-like atmosphere by just stepping out your front door.

Every time I return to Rockcliffe, I am reminded of how lucky I am to call the Village home. And after living in several different cities, I have learned that it is truly unlike any other neighbourhood.

The motto of the Village's coat of arms reads "*Inter Arboribus Floremus*," which translates to "amid the trees we flourish." No doubt, this is an accurate reflection of what it means to grow up in Rockcliffe. The motto reveals how deeply intertwined residents are with the natural environment, and how central it is to the character of Rockcliffe.

Through nature and nurture, the Village of Rockcliffe has enabled generations of children to learn and develop in their surroundings. Future generations deserve to flourish in the same environment that I did, and the responsibility falls on the Village's current denizens to preserve what makes the community so special.

BOOK SALE

The 2018 Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale Needs Your Used Books!

Spring may seem far away but volunteers for the 2018 Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale are already moving into high gear! So, please bring your gently used books (English and French), CDs, DVDs and vinyl as soon as possible to the Rockcliffe Park Library during opening hours, or call for assistance at **613 580-2424, ext. 27623**.

Thanks to your generous support, yet another record-breaking result in 2017 enabled the RPR Library Committee to make a major donation to the Ottawa Public Library (OPL). Funds raised supported not only the OPL's Rockcliffe Park branch with increased programs and services but also other libraries across Metro Ottawa serving communities in need.

Warmest thanks in advance for your contributions!

And Now, Mark Your Calendars!

What: The 2018 Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale

When: Saturday, April 21, 2018, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday, April 22, 2018: 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Where: The Rockcliffe Park branch of the Ottawa Public Library, 380 Springfield Road, Ottawa, K1M 0K7



Jane Dobell, Chair of the RPR Library Committee (seated to the right of centre book table) and the 2018 Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale volunteers.

REC CENTRE

Dear Grandma,

Sorry I haven't written since the summer. I've been busy with school and other stuff. I did something really cool in October with the birthday money you sent. Mom signed me up for LEGO Club at the community centre. That was so much fun! I want to do it again in February. It's right after school so I just walk over. I think my friend Justin wants to go too.



Mom says she's going to do something interesting in January. She wants to take Ikebana. I'm not sure what that is. Something about flowers I think. I heard her tell Dad he had to get off the couch so she signed him up for a fitness class. He said he wants to play cards instead. She thinks that's probably a good idea to give him more brain power.

Uncle Bailey and Aunt Trudy said to tell you they are doing yoga. They want to know if you want to do it too when you come and visit in winter.

See you soon, Grandma!

Love, Claudia

Call us about recreation activities/hall rentals at **Rockcliffe Park Community Centre, 380 Springfield, 613 842-8578**. Recreation office hours: Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 1:30 to 4:00 pm. The office is located inside the Community Police Centre at 360 Springfield Road.

Winter program registration is ongoing online at **Ottawa.ca** and in person at any City of Ottawa Client Service Centre or recreation facility.

See winter program details in flyer insert.

Good things await you!

SPEAKERS PROGRAM | Rockcliffe Park Community Hall | 380 Springfield Road

Join your neighbours for informal evenings with distinguished speakers. Presentations will be followed by questions, coffee and cookies. Admission is free. The Speakers Program is an initiative of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association and is supported by the Rockcliffe Park Foundation.



Bob Plamondon: "How Jean Chrétien Defied the Elites and Reshaped Canada"

The author and historian will talk about his new book, "*The Shawinigan Fox: How Jean Chrétien Defied the Elites and Reshaped Canada*." He tells us how Chrétien, often the subject of ridicule, was quietly giving his competitors – both inside and outside of the Liberal party – a master class in politics, leadership and nation-building. **Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 8:00 pm**

RPPS BOOK SALE

Another Book Fair in the Books!

We joked on Twitter that Apple could eat its heart out: we had a first-day line-up, too! Granted, the photo showed just one intrepid gentleman. But he was quickly joined by many other eager shoppers to wait for the doors to open Friday morning. All weekend the floor was packed with new and repeat visitors. **Lemon Catering** doled out delicious mac-and-cheese and chili at the Café. Folks sipped **Bridgehead** coffee and devoured baked goods from **Da Bombe** and from the kind kitchens of area embassies, RPPS families and generous neighbours.



As always, net proceeds from the weekend's sales go to the RPPS Parent Council to fund literacy grants for five area schools, to supply RPPS's own literacy programs, to hold such events as our Author and Illustrator Workshops and Grandparents' Reading Day, and to upgrade technology and equipment.

We Love Our Volunteers

We are immensely grateful for our hardworking volunteers – the hundreds of folks who found time to work behind the scenes, behind the cash registers and among the shelves. We could never put together a Book Fair without them.

Special thanks to the stalwart **Christina Leadlay**, who served not only as Chair, but also as acting Volunteer Coordinator. Which bring us to an important point...

Help Us Plan for Next Year

We are actively seeking a new Volunteer Coordinator, Administration Team Lead and Book Team Lead for Book Fair 2018. If you're new to the school or community – or even if you're not – please consider joining the Committee or taking on a team role. Steely veterans will help you with advice, support and lots of documentation. We're always looking for new voices and ideas.

As we're fond of saying at RPPS: "One sale – the book sale." Parents need not hawk chocolate bars or cookie dough or anything else. We ask only for kids' and parents' support for this single, exciting, exhausting and rewarding event.

Learn more at rockcliffeparkbookfair.com, info@rockcliffeparkpsbookfair.com, Twitter: [@RPPSBookFair](https://twitter.com/RPPSBookFair), or Facebook: [RockcliffeParkBookFair](https://www.facebook.com/RockcliffeParkBookFair).

SCHOOL REPORTS

Elmwood School

Giving Back

Elmwood students and sisters **Avery** and **Rowan Parkinson** have started a foundation called **MapleWishes**, which will allow them to organize and execute a variety of fundraising and awareness-building initiatives based on needs they see in the Ottawa community. One of their recent initiatives was leading a sandwich-making session for Elmwood Middle School. Students from Grades 6 through 8 all dedicated one hour to making over 1,300 sandwiches for two local shelters – the Shepherds of Good Hope and the Ottawa Mission. To find out more about the foundation's plans, go to maplewishes.org.



Avery and her father Scott during the recent sandwich-making session.

Remembering Mrs. Chance



The entire Elmwood community is mourning the passing of our beloved **Nancy Chance** on November 10.

Mrs. Chance was the Head of Elmwood's Junior School from 1972 to 1988, and her influence on a generation of Elmwood girls is still felt today.

In the 1988 Samara yearbook, Mrs. Chance was remembered with the following passage: "Nancy's own firm and uncompromising strength of character has enabled countless students to develop confidence and pride in their accomplishments. Her boundless enthusiasm and energy are qualities she shares with children, and she sets a wonderful example of someone who embraces new experiences joyfully and openly."

Our condolences to Nancy's family and friends. She will certainly be missed here at Elmwood.



SCHOOL REPORTS

Holiday Events at Elmwood: December 1, 2, 3 – Old Girls’ Art Fair, Marketplace and Holly Tea

Looking for the perfect gift? Over 90 pieces of artwork in various media will be available for sale at the The Old Girls’ Art Fair on Saturday and Sunday, December 2 and 3, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm (vernissage 6:30 to 9:00 pm on December 1).

The Holiday Marketplace and Holly Tea will also be held on Saturday, December 2. Shop from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, join us for a cup of tea and some holiday cheer from 1:00 to 4:00 pm, and visit with Santa at 2:00 pm. Free admission all weekend. Please visit elmwood.ca for more information.

Considering Elmwood for Your Daughter?

Missed our recent Open House? No problem! Schedule a private tour – you’ll get to see the school in action and learn more about our unique approach to educating girls and young women. For more information please visit elmwood.ca or contact the Admissions Office at 613 744-7783.

Music students performed three poignant movements of **Peter Meechan’s** “Letters from Home,” each preceded by a reading by the First World War; Grade 4s recited **John McCrae’s** “In Flanders Fields” (*photo, below left*) and each name of Ashbury’s fallen was read aloud by various students.



Ashbury to Host the World with Round Square

Ashbury’s unique relationship with Round Square has provided students with some incredible opportunities of late. Last September, eight students travelled to Cape Town, South Africa as Ashbury’s delegation to the international student conference (RSIC). Students interacted with peers from all corners of the globe in addressing a range of issues including race and social justice, all within the backdrop of post-apartheid South Africa. Ashbury students were handed over the Round Square flag at the RSIC closing ceremony, as we prepare to host 400 students and educators from around the world next year here in Ottawa.

Round Square is made up of over 150 international schools, representing 60 nations with a focus on a set of IDEALS (Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service) which speak to Ashbury’s own school values. In one year’s time the entire Ashbury community will be involved at some level in this international conference, with its theme of “Bring Your Difference,” for what is sure to be an enriching experience. For more info on the conference, visit ashbury.ca/roundsquare2018.

House Run Supports United Way



Ashbury’s House Run in October was a spirited way for students to head into the Thanksgiving weekend and support the broader community through the United Way. The House Run is one of a series of runs that provide community outreach and is well known to Ashbury students and alumni of multiple generations – a classic loop in our beautiful neighbourhood.

ASHBURY COLLEGE



Ashbury Remembers

On November 9, Ashbury took pause to remember those, both known and unknown, who sacrificed and suffered in times of

war. **Staff Sergeant Brad Hampson**, Ashbury Class of 1982, who served as a UN peacekeeper in Sudan and whose grandfather survived the Battle of Vimy Ridge in 1917, spoke to students at the full-school assembly. Sgt. Hampson described his pilgrimage to Vimy last spring, meeting many Ashburians along the way as they remembered the sacrifices made in the mud and blood of the Western Front.



*From the desk of Mona Fortier
Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Vanier*

Riding Update

I'm pleased to keep you up to date with happenings in our riding and plans for the near future. A major highlight was when I welcomed Finance Minister **Bill Morneau** to the riding on October 25 for an important announcement at the Youville Centre, which supports young mothers in Ottawa. As part of our government's commitment to the middle class and those working hard to join it, Minister Morneau announced the strengthening of the Canada Child Benefit plan. For a single parent of two children making \$35,000, this plan will mean \$560 more next year, tax free. Next, my team and I hosted two consultations in the riding on October 26, at the Centre Pauline-Charron and Gloucester Senior Adults Centre, to hear from residents how the government can improve our services for seniors. Discussions revolved around key areas such as housing, access to information and services, finances, and physical access. Also, I have recently made selections for the Ottawa-Vanier Youth Council, a group that will help inform me of issues of importance to our youth. This group will meet regularly to discuss initiatives and issues facing the community and work collaboratively to find solutions. For those who might be interested, the council will again be open next fall for a new set of youth to join. And, in addition, in mid-October I had the chance to witness first-hand the tremendous work being done at the Minwaashin Lodge to help aboriginal women and families in our community. After a tour of the centre's impressive facilities, I met with the dedicated staff, who provided me with information on programs they offer, and their current challenges and successes.

This week I have opened nominations for my Canada 150 Medallion program, which recognizes those who have made an especially significant contribution to making Ottawa-Vanier a great place to live, work and play.

Congratulations to uOttawa professor **Elizabeth Sheehy** on her Governor General Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case, honouring Canadians who advance gender equality. Her scholarly work in the field of criminal law seeks to transform Canada's justice system to create more effective protections for victims of sexual and domestic violence.

As always, my team and I are here to help if you need assistance with Federal programming. Call **613 998-1860** or visit our office at **233 Montreal Road** to book an appointment.



*From the desk of Councillor
Tobi Nussbaum, Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward*

Rockcliffe Park Updates

Order of Ottawa

I would like to recognize two residents of Rockcliffe Park who received the prestigious Order of Ottawa on November 16 at a formal ceremony at City Hall. **Jane Dobell** and **Tom d'Aquino** were recognized as exceptional residents who, in their professional and volunteer work, have made significant contributions to City life. Congratulations to both Jane and Tom for their inspiring local leadership.

551 Fairview Avenue

At its November meeting, the Built Heritage Sub-Committee (BHSC) recommended that the heritage permit for an addition to the residence at 551 Fairview be granted with specific direction to the City's heritage staff to work with the applicant on two elements to improve the proposal and ensure compliance with the Rockcliffe Park Heritage Conservation District (HCD) Plan.

As Chair of the BHSC, I worked with Vice-Chair **Barry Padolsky**, a noted Ottawa heritage architect, on this compromise solution. If you would like to read my full comments on the application, visit my website, tobinussbaum.ca.

Cityscapes – Events for Urban Enthusiasts

In an effort to generate discussion and share new perspectives on urban issues, I have been hosting a series of moderated panel conversations entitled Cityscapes.

This fall, we hosted two Cityscapes panels upstairs at the Royal Oak on Beechwood. The first event explored the challenges to and potential solutions for building better main streets and ensuring development contributes to communities. I encourage you to visit my website and read my Ottawa Citizen op-ed on this topic.

I moderated a second event highlighting the intersection of health policy and City building with Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, **Dr. Theresa Tam**, and University of Ottawa professor and Ottawa Hospital senior scientist **Dr. Doug Manuel**, which included a discussion on how public health evidence can be better used to promote a walkable, sustainable and more equitable City. If you missed these events, not to worry, as we have exciting Cityscapes topics scheduled for 2018.



*From the desk of Mayor Jim Watson
City of Ottawa*

Review of Canada's 150th and Ottawa 2017

As we approach the holiday season, it is also time to begin to say farewell to 2017 and to reflect on the incredible year that was our country's 150th birthday. Ottawa 2017 did a fantastic job of organizing and celebrating Canada's sesquicentennial in our City, and I am thankful for the lasting memories they created for residents and visitors alike. Some of 2017's highlights include the Juno Awards and Juno week, Red Bull Crashed Ice, MosaiCanada 150, the Canadian Pacific Women's Open LPGA Tour, Miwàte - Illumination of Chaudière Falls, Canada's Table, the Interprovincial Picnic on the Bridge, and the 105th Grey Cup and Festival.

Ottawa also saw record crowds in 2017. Over 250,000 guests celebrated nearly 50 nations during "Ottawa Welcomes the World" at Lansdowne Park, and more than 325,000 people made their way underground to the future Lyon LRT station for the multimedia show Kontinuum. But the most impressive crowd was most certainly the 750,000 people who immersed themselves in the magic that La Machine brought to our City. Long-Ma and Kumo will forever be engraved into our hearts and memories.

We would not have been able to make 2017 the success it has been without the tremendous contributions from our funding partners, **CIBC**, **Bell**, and the **Governments of Ontario and Canada**. I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the amazing local volunteers who were superstars throughout the whole year – 3,000 strong!

But the celebrations are not quite over. The month of December will be a winter sport extravaganza, with many exciting events taking place. On December 16, the Ottawa Senators will face the Montreal Canadiens at Lansdowne Park at the 2017 Scotiabank NHL100 Classic™ outdoor hockey game. This historic game marks the 125th anniversary of the Stanley Cup, the 100th anniversary of the first NHL game and the 25th anniversary of the Ottawa Senators. On December 17, the Ottawa 67s will host the Gatineau Olympiques for an exciting outdoor hockey game at Lansdowne Park, and from December 2 to 10, the best men's and women's curling teams from across the country will compete to represent Canada at the 2018 Winter Olympics. Tickets for these events may be purchased at www.Ottawa2017.ca.

Finally, residents will be able to take in the breathtaking views of our Parliament building while skating on a free outdoor rink right on Parliament Hill from December 7 to 31.

As we head into 2018, I want to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and the very best for the New Year.



*From the desk of Nathalie Des Rosiers
MPP, Ottawa-Vanier*

Aging with Confidence in Ontario

On November 7, the Ontario government announced "Aging with Confidence: Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors." It is a plan that empowers people to make the choices that are right for them when it comes to their care, their independence and how they access government services – whether that's finding ways to keep up an active lifestyle or getting the support needed to live at home longer.

This new action plan offers:

- **Support for "naturally occurring" retirement communities** by investing more than \$15 million over two years for apartment buildings or housing developments where many seniors already live close to one another.
- **More volunteering opportunities connecting seniors and youth**, fostering learning and mentorship while reducing older people's risk of social isolation.
- **5,000 new long-term care (LTC) beds over the next four years and 15 million more hours of nursing, personal support and therapeutic care annually for residents in LTC homes**, as well as a 10-year plan to create more than 30,000 new beds over the next decade, working with the long-term care sector.
- An **annual high-dose influenza vaccine**, targeted to protect seniors, will be available free of charge as part of the Ontario Universal Influenza Immunization Program.
- A **one-stop website** where seniors – about 70 percent of whom go online every day – can find information about tax credits, drug coverage, powers of attorney, recreation programs and more. Seniors will also be able to get information over the phone in more than 150 languages.

Through Ontario's new action plan, "Aging with Confidence" wants to help all seniors, now and in the future, age with independence and dignity, and continue to contribute to and participate in the community. To learn more about "Aging with Confidence," visit Ontario.ca/AgingWell.

END NOTES

Rockcliffe Park Garden Club

Rockcliffe Park Garden Club Christmas Décor Event

Thursday, November 30, starting at 7:00 pm
Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road

Our most popular evening of the year, sponsored for the second year by **Brian Montgomery, Montgomery Asset Management**. Shop seven artisan tables with one-of-a-kind treasures. Feature presenter **Maggie Freitas**, owner of Flowers by Maggie, will be demonstrating traditional floral styles in wreaths, garlands, urn inserts and much more. There will be a raffle of the pieces she creates for us; Maggie is also bringing completed works for purchase – decorative accents and items to add to your own home decorating for the holidays. Special guest artist **Katerina Mertikas** will be selling her beautiful Christmas ornaments and will also do a painting demo to show us first-hand how her creative process works. She will also be accepting orders for her ornaments, and her paintings are available for purchase at Koyman Galleries. The evening is free for members, \$5 for guests.

The National Gallery Annual Private Tour:

Followed by luncheon at a nearby restaurant.

Friday, January 26, 2018

Meet at 10:45 am at the Tour Desk

The theme of the tour is the 2017 Canadian Biennial Show, featuring a comprehensive selection of works acquired in the past three years by different Gallery departments: contemporary, Indigenous, and the Canadian Photography Institute. We will see paintings, sculpture, photography, drawings and printmaking. This exhibit will reflect the gallery's pursuits in building their outstanding collection of art. Tour is \$7 per person; gallery admission is \$12. National Gallery members do not pay the admission fee.

For information on these events, please contact **Vera Cody**, President, at 613 695-2827 or jcody1@rogers.com.



Nick Cave's Sound Suit. Photo: NGC.

Rockcliffe Residents Awarded the Order of Ottawa

The Order of Ottawa, established in 2013, is a civic award that recognizes exceptional citizen contributions in the many areas of City life. Congratulations to **Jane Dobell** and **Thomas d'Aquino**, two of this year's recipients, who join a select group of Rockcliffe and other Ottawa-area residents who have received this prestigious honour.

Jane was recognized as a professional educator. She has served on many Boards, and has been active as both a municipal politician and community association member. Her involvement with the annual Book Sale in support of the Rockcliffe Park branch of the Ottawa Public Library was especially noted.

Tom was hailed as a respected leader in local, national and global business, entrepreneurship, public policy, law, education and philanthropy. His association with numerous organizations – in the corporate world, not-for-profit sector and government – has led to many honours and awards.

WWI Battle of Hill 70, France: Forgotten No More

Sarah Murray – longtime Rockcliffe Park resident, former Elmwood student and Board member, and architect of several homes in Rockcliffe Park – recently travelled to France, where she attended the August 2017 centennial commemoration of the Battle of Hill 70, known as “Canada's Forgotten Victory.” Sarah participated as part of the team that acquired the site in France for the memorial, and was the concept architect for the Memorial to Hill 70 in France. In recognition of her contributions to the Hill 70 Memorial Project, Sarah was presented with the “Commander of Canadian Army Award of Excellence” medallion by **Lt. Gen. Paul Wynnyk**. Sarah owns an architectural practice in Ottawa with her husband, **Nicholas Caragianis**. More information on the Memorial to Hill 70 may be found at www.hill70.ca.

The Rockcliffe Hosers Update: The New Rink is On the Way!

The Hosers have made progress on the plans for construction of our new year-round sports pad and field house. After receiving the required heritage permit from the City of Ottawa this summer, we are now filing construction plans for a building permit. Construction is slated to start at the end of the school year to minimize impact on RPPS's operations; we anticipate a four to six month construction period. Please visit therockcliffhosers.com to view the plans. This newsletter contains a handout with more details and a pledge sheet. All donated funds are eligible for tax receipts, and are matched in full by a City of Ottawa grant. And we are always looking for volunteers to help with hosing the ice rink on cold winter evenings. Despite the weather, it's invariably a fun evening with lots of neighbourhood spirit and community building. For all questions, more info, or to sign up, email therockcliffhosers@gmail.com or check therockcliffhosers.com.