



The Rockcliffe News

December 2018

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

DECEMBER

- 1,2** Saturday, Sunday.....Elmwood School Holly Tea and Art Fair, 261 Buena Vista*
- 5** Wednesday, 7:00 pm....Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing, Community Hall*
- 9** Sunday, 2 to 4 pmChildren's Christmas Party, Community Hall*
- 12** Wednesday, 7 to 9 pm...Heritage Ottawa Lecture Series: Robert Smythe on "Tempting Values for Early Shoppers: The Birth of Ottawa's Department Stores," Dominion-Chalmers United Church, 355 Cooper Street*
- 12** Wednesday, 8:00 pm....Speakers Program: Andrew Cohen on "Trump's Washington: Post Mid-term Elections – U.S. Relationship," Community Hall*
- 16** Sunday, various times...St. Bart's Mini Bazaar, Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay Street*
- 16** Sunday, 3 to 5 pmRockcliffe Field House and Sports Pad Grand Opening, located adjacent to the Jubilee Garden*
- 31** Monday, 7:00 pm.....Annual St. Bart's New Year's Eve Gala, Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay Street*

JANUARY

- 16** Wednesday 7 to 8 pm....Heritage Ottawa Lecture Series: Pikwàkanagàn Elder Ron Bernard on "The Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn," Ottawa Public Library Auditorium, 120 Metcalfe Street see www.heritageottawa.org/lecture-series
- 16** Wednesday 7:15 pm.....RPR Board Meeting, Community Hall

FEBRUARY

- 20** Wednesday 7:15 pm.....RPR Board Meeting, Community Hall
- 27** 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 4: 21st Annual Trees of Hope for CHEO, Fairmont Château Laurier

Until January 5: Magic of Lights, Wesley Clover Parks (a drive-through holiday light display)

December 4: National Gallery of Canada's Christmas Tree Lighting

December 5: "Christmas Lights Across Canada" Illumination Ceremony, Parliament Hill • For details and additional holiday-themed events go to www.ottawatourism.ca/ottawa-insider/get-into-a-holiday-season-mood-with-these-activities.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

RPRA Annual Fundraising Drive



Winter has thrown down the gauntlet early this year and, as I write, the Village is looking pristine under new-fallen snow. By the time you receive this newsletter – ably and diligently delivered by a platoon of volunteers who trek from door to door – the RPRA Annual Fundraising “thermometer” will be up in its usual place outside the library. It will already have some “red” on it, thanks to our event launch, held in the hall of the Church of St. Bartholomew on November 30. Thank you to all who purchased tickets and attended the event, to all the local businesses and individuals providing items for the silent auction, and to the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra and the volunteers who put in many hours to make the evening a success.

The RPRA has selected the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre’s (RRCRC) Food Bank to be the beneficiary of this year’s campaign and we have set an ambitious goal of \$25,000 as our December 31 target. Regular readers of this column will remember reading in the October issue the alarming statistic that in our Ottawa-Vanier riding, one in three children lives in poverty – the highest rate of child poverty in the City and the 18th highest in Canada. The RRCRC is a key organization in the riding that works with some of the most at-risk people in this area. Aside from the numerous social programmes run by the Centre, its Food Bank continues to be one of its most-needed programmes, servicing 700 to 900 families each month.

Over the past month, I have been volunteering at the Food Bank on one of the two weekly distribution days. It has been an eye-opening experience. In my limited time there, I have met all kinds of clients. Certainly, there are “the regulars,” folks who have fallen outside the system and rely on the monthly hamper for their survival. But I have also met many first-time and very occasional users, people who clearly would have preferred not to have had to rely on the service: The injured construction worker supporting an aged diabetic mother, needing a boost until the end of the month; the young new Canadian single mother recently relocated from Montreal, trying to find her way in a strange city and culture. All these folks, polite, well presented and thankful. The work that the RRCRC does is vital to the overall health of the community, so I ask that you consider donating generously to this year’s campaign. Check the flyer in this newsletter to find out various ways to donate.

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to get together with the presidents of the neighbouring communities to review matters of common interest. Two areas of interest concerned emergency preparedness plans and speed limits. The emergency preparedness issue arose out of the experiences of some communities in Ottawa that were affected by the tornadoes that hit Ottawa in September. In a number of cases, Emergency Services and City officials came to rely on local community associations for information and communications within the community. We intend to create an Emergency Plan template that each community can modify according to its needs. Among other things, it will establish communications protocols, meeting places, points of contact for receiving and distributing information, etc. Pretty basic stuff, but, like water, essential when you don’t have it. On the matter of speed limits, we are working with **Councillor Tobin Nussbaum** to see if we can have the four neighbourhoods of Manor Park, Lindenlea, Rockcliffe Park and New Edinburgh considered as one gateway speed zone. The entire area could be zoned 40 km/h or possibly 30 km/h. This is still to be determined so if you have strong feelings one way or another, please let us know.

Lots coming up in the next weeks before Christmas. **Andrew Cohen** will be speaking in December as part of the Speakers Program and we will be hosting our annual Christmas Tree lighting ceremony on December 5, again with the Elmwood Junior Choir. The Children’s Christmas Party is on the following Sunday, December 9. See the flyer in this issue for details. Finally, we will be opening the new field house and sports pad on December 16 with a party for everyone! Find details on our website, www.rockcliffepark.ca, in the Events Calendar section at the bottom of the screen. Reminder emails will also be sent.

Finally, as we approach year’s end, it’s time to gently remind you to renew your membership, or join up for the first time. It’s still only \$25 per household per year, resolutely unaffected by inflation, monetary policy or market turmoil. And you can now do it on our website: just click on “*Become a Member*” on the home page, answer two questions, click on “*Add to Cart*,” and away you go. Or you may go the traditional route and use the membership renewal form included in this newsletter.

From all of us on the RPRA Board, I wish you and your loved ones best wishes and every happiness this festive season.

Peter Lewis, 24 November 2018





Official Inaugural Historical Plaque Unveiling and Community Reception

Rockcliffe Park's first historical plaque was officially unveiled on Sunday, September 30 by **Village Foundation Chair Bonnie Robinson** (fourth from left), assisted by (from left) **Plaque Advisory Panel Lead Thomas d'Aquino**, **RPRP President Peter Lewis**, **His Worship Jim Watson**, **Councillor Tobi Nussbaum** and **Panel Member Brian Dickson**. Missing from this photo is fellow neighbour **Sandy Smallwood**, who was a valued resource in obtaining The City of Ottawa's support in its installation. This is an ongoing project and more plaques will be installed over a number of years.

Dining with the Ambassadors is Back in 2019!

The Village of Rockcliffe Park Foundation's major fundraiser, which takes place every two years, is back in 2019! Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of members of the diplomatic community living in Rockcliffe Park, our residents and friends will once again have an opportunity to be guests at the home of a Head of Mission, discover the cultures of other countries and what it means to be an ambassador to Canada.

In 2017, this very special event achieved record attendance and sold out almost as soon as tickets became available. So save the date, and see the February issue of *The Rockcliffe News* for reservation information.

Dining with the Ambassadors

Friday, May 3, 2019, 6:30 pm

Pre-Dinner Reception for all guests and hosts presented by Marilyn Wilson Dream Properties / Christie's International Real Estate

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Sarah Baxter and Robert Collette

Co-Chairs, Dining with the Ambassadors 2019

The Annual Community Appeal: Your Donation is Important

Recently you will have received a letter from the Village Foundation requesting your support for the 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 the community. We work primarily with the City of Ottawa and the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRP), 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**.

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 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.

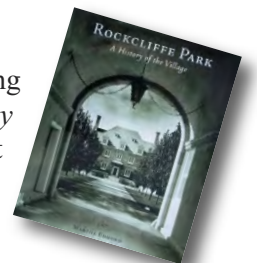
 **Mark Your Calendars:** *The Village Foundation's Annual Report to the Community will be presented on Wednesday, February 27 at 7:30 pm at the Community Hall.*

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 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 Nominations Committee, at ryankilger@hotmail.com or 613 746-3541.

Looking for a Special Holiday Gift?

Consider giving or owning *Rockcliffe Park – A History of the Village* by Rockcliffe resident **Martha Edmond**. It is available at Books on Beechwood for \$49.50.



HERITAGE MATTERS

Notice: Reinstatement of Former By-law for Setbacks or Accessory Buildings in Rockcliffe Park

As outlined in our last newsletter, the RPRA has requested that the City change its zoning by-law to reinstate the long-established setbacks for accessory buildings in Rockcliffe Park. Accessory buildings are anything from small sheds to detached garages in backyards. Upon amalgamation in 2001, it was agreed that all the zoning by-laws in Rockcliffe Park would be carried forward, and this was done. However, in 2008, when the City was standardizing some by-laws, it changed the setbacks for accessory buildings to two feet from five feet. This came to our attention only recently. A two-foot setback is not compatible with the generous setbacks that are central to the heritage character of Rockcliffe Park. To be clear, the reinstated by-law will apply going forward. It will not be retroactive.

If you have any questions or concerns on the proposed zoning change, contact secretary@rockcliffepark.ca.

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. Details may be found at www.rockcliffepark.ca.



Andrew Cohen

“Trump’s Washington: Post Mid-term Elections – U.S. Relationship”

Award-winning columnist, former Washington correspondent and best-selling author reflects on the significance of the U.S. mid-term elections and what they mean for Donald Trump’s chaotic, unprecedented presidency as it approaches its mid-point in January.

Wednesday, December 12 at 8:00 pm

SPRING BOOK SALE



Books (and more) Wanted!

The Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale is only five months away and our dedicated volunteers are busy gearing up for this event. We need your donations! If you are considering a Christmas clear-out, now is the time to bring your gently used books (English and French), CDs, DVDs and vinyl to the library at 380 Springfield Road during opening hours. You may also call for assistance at **613 580-2424, ext. 27623**. The sooner you bring your donations, the better. Please remember, no encyclopedias, magazines or textbooks.

Proceeds from the sale help support our library. The 2018 Spring Book Sale broke records in terms of attendance, revenue and books sold. Please help us make 2019 another banner year. Many thanks in advance for your contributions – every donation counts.

And save the dates for the 2019 Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale: **Saturday, April 27** and **Sunday, April 28**.

REC CENTRE

Want to Keep Active This Winter?

Look for the Rockcliffe Park Community Centre program flyer in this newsletter. You will find a variety of programs with details about each course.

Registration is open and ongoing. Avoid disappointment, register today, either online at Ottawa.ca or in person at any City of Ottawa recreation facility or Client Service Centre during operating hours.

Visit our registration office at **360 Springfield Road (Community Police Centre): Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 1:30 to 4:00 pm**

Note: The registration office will close for the holidays on December 15 and re-open on January 2.



HOSERS

Join Us for the Rockcliffe Field House and Sports Pad Grand Opening, December 16, 3 to 5 pm

This holiday season will certainly be special with the completion of the new Rockcliffe Field House and Sports Pad. The Grand Opening Skating Party and Open House promises to be a fun-filled afternoon, so bring your skates and also plan to spend some time admiring the beautiful wood-clad building, high-quality rink boards and detailed hardscape. The event is free and is open to all.



Once the Field House is officially open, announcements will be made via email. Stay tuned for details about skating hours and opportunities to make use of the field house.

We also invite adults around the neighbourhood to join us as Hosers this year. A long-standing tradition, it involves getting together with small teams in the evenings to hose the rink and keep the ice in fine form for all to enjoy. Be part of the spirit – contact info@therockcliffehosers.com to sign up for this winter's fun.

Finally, on behalf of the Rockcliffe Hosers, we would like to acknowledge **Shawn Malhotra**, who spearheaded and has expertly project-managed this complex endeavour for the past year. Without his incredible efforts and enthusiasm, completion of this project would not have been possible.

VOLUNTEER

Calling All Archaeology Enthusiasts!

Did you know that thousands of years ago the intersection of the Ottawa, Gatineau and Rideau rivers just below Rockcliffe Park was a long-standing summer meeting area for Indigenous communities? Take a stroll down a path from the Rockcliffe Park pavilion and you will find yourself at what was likely a campsite and a put-in and take-out location used when portaging canoes around the Rideau Falls.

Preliminary digs at the site have turned up a wealth of artifacts dating from 2000 to 5000 years ago, and now the NCC, in partnership with the RPRA, is looking to expand the search by bringing public archaeology to our community. NCC Archeologist **Ian Badgley** (*right*) has the expertise and the tools, and is now looking for people to join in this adventure. We have started connecting Ian with local schools, and we are hoping to get many area residents to participate as well. All NCC digs are managed jointly with the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg and Pikwàkanagàn.



If you would like to get involved, or have a group that wishes to participate, please let us know of your interest by contacting secretary@rockcliffepark.ca. For those who are really keen, there are opportunities to take a leadership role in this project. Digs would commence as soon as the spring of 2019. Don't forget your trowel! *Photo: cbc.ca*

LOOK FOR THE HOLIDAY EVENTS FLYER IN THIS NEWSLETTER!



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

Rockcliffe Park's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing

Wednesday, December 5 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 \$25,000 for their work to help families in need.

THEN MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MERRIMENT:

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

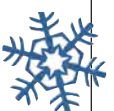
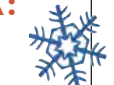
Sunday, December 9 2:00 to 4:00 pm

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



Long-time Rockcliffe Park Residents Appointed to the Order of Canada

Congratulations to **Perrin Beatty** and **Thomas d'Aquino** on their recent Order of Canada appointments.

The Honourable Perrin Beatty, P.C., O.C. was promoted within the Order to Officer for his lifetime of public service and for his devotion to the development of our nation as a community leader and corporate visionary.



A corporate executive and former politician, Perrin served as a Progressive Conservative of the House of Commons from 1972 to 1993, and as a cabinet minister from 1979 to 1980 and again from 1984 to 1993. He was President and CEO of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation from 1995 to 1999 and then became president and CEO of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters. In August 2007, he left the CME to become president and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. He served as Chancellor of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) in Oshawa, Ontario from 2008 to 2015. He has received honorary degrees from UOIT and Western University.



Thomas d'Aquino, C.M. was appointed to the Order of Canada for his influential contributions to public policy in Canada, for his philanthropy, and for his leadership in Canada's cultural sector.

Tom has been a leader in the business, education and arts communities, and a Rockcliffe Park resident for over 40 years. For almost 30 of those years, he was CEO of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, formerly the Business Council on National Issues. He also served as founding chair of the Friends of the Village of Rockcliffe Park Foundation. He has been a long-time supporter of the National Gallery and National Arts Centre, and is currently Chair of the National Gallery of Canada Foundation. He is also an Honorary Professor at the Ivey School of Business at Western University. He has received honorary Doctor of Law degrees from Queen's, Western and Wilfrid Laurier Universities. Internationally, he is Canada Co-Chair of the North American Forum and a member of an international advisory group assisting The Vatican with the "Sport in the Service of Humanity Initiative," led by Pope Francis.



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

A Holiday Message from Mona Fortier

As winter and the holidays are upon us, I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and wonderful New Year.

I hope you have the chance to take a break from your routine to spend time with friends and family. As we prepare to relax and spend some extra time in our neighbourhoods, I am thankful for all the amazing small businesses we have in our communities. I encourage everyone to buy local and support Ottawa-Vanier small business owners and entrepreneurs, who provide Canadians with quality goods and services while also creating strong middle-class jobs that strengthen our communities.

I also invite everyone who can to share with those in our community who need it the most. Whether it is by donating or by giving a few hours of your time to an organization, even the smallest gesture can have a significant impact. We know that at this time of year our food banks and local shelters are stretched to capacity. I want to thank all the staff and volunteers who work extra hard at this time of year.

As we move into 2019, I want to wish you and your family good health and prosperity. Our government is committed to working for you, delivering on our promise to support our middle class and those working hard to join it.

As always, my constituency office is there to help you with any interactions with federal services. It is open Monday to Thursday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Friday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Give us a call at **613 998-1860**, or send an email to mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca.

THE ROCKCLIFFE NEWS • VOLUME 18 • 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.

CITY HALL



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

Rockcliffe Park Updates

I was extremely grateful for the strong mandate the voters of Rideau-Rockcliffe gave me in the recent municipal election. Having had the opportunity to speak to thousands of Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward residents, I feel energized and informed as I look ahead to the next term of Council. Many thanks for your support!

“Gateways” for Lower Residential Speed Limits:

Research and data have shown that reducing traffic speeds saves lives. The safety benefits of making a simple change to the speed limit was recognized in 2017 when the Ontario government passed the Safer School Zones Act. Now that the province has updated its regulations, the City will be able to move forward with designating entire neighbourhoods as 40 km/h zones by installing “gateway” signage displaying the lower speed limit at entrances/exits of communities. City staff have indicated that implementing this 40 km/h “gateway” signage in all residential neighbourhoods in the City will cost \$1.58 million, which is something I will strongly push to be funded in the 2019 budget. You can read more about this new program in a report to the Transportation Committee on my website. In addition to changing the speed limits, I will continue to be focused on designing new roads for safer speeds and modifying existing ones by incorporating permanent and temporary traffic calming measures.

Beechwood Avenue Development Update

A Site Plan Control application has been received for the demolition of the existing buildings and construction of a two-storey office building at 119-121 Beechwood Avenue. Find more information on the City of Ottawa’s website.

Beechwood Pedestrian Crossing

A new pedestrian crossover (PXO) has been installed to make it easier and safer for pedestrians to cross Beechwood Avenue east of the Putman/Marier intersection. Along with this new crossing, a section of bike lane on the east side of Beechwood (north of Jolliet) was converted into a raised cycle track. This conversion is part of continuous improvements that will be made to the cycling facilities on Beechwood as opportunities arise, as outlined in the Beechwood Complete Street project.



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

For Ottawa, A New Term of Council

Every four years, elected officials and candidates running for office get a chance to engage their residents and learn about the issues that matter most in their wards and city-wide. Municipal elections are about more than winning a seat on Council; they are about helping residents, delivering on the commitments and promises made during the campaign, and working with fellow Council colleagues to move the City in the right direction.

I am grateful to have been given a strong mandate as Mayor of Ottawa once again, and I look forward to continuing the progress we have made together in the last eight years and to lead our great City for four more years. This new Term of Council is an opportunity to foster new relationships around the Council table and with the community, and to work collaboratively on a number of major building projects.

By the end of March 2019, we will launch the Confederation Line of our O-Train LRT system. This 12.5 km rail line is the backbone for a larger LRT system that will connect the east, west and south ends of Ottawa. Construction for Stage 2 LRT – which will bring rail farther east to Orléans and Trim Road; farther west to Bayshore, Algonquin College and Moodie Drive; and farther south to Riverside South and the Ottawa International Airport – will begin in 2019. The new Council will also work to pursue funding for Stage 3 of LRT, which will bring rail to Kanata-Stittsville and Barrhaven.

This year, we can also look forward to significant progress on the design of the new Ottawa Central Library project. The new joint facility, shared by the Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada, will be designed by the consortium of Diamond Schmitt Architects and KWC Architects, from Toronto and Ottawa, respectively. We look forward to consulting with residents on the design of this world-class cultural destination in the heart of the nation’s capital.

From investing in our roads and our economy, helping our most vulnerable residents, to finishing the Ottawa River clean-up, we need to continue the work we have started to create a better place for all residents – a great City we are proud to call home.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Elmwood School



'Tis the Season at Elmwood!

The holiday season is in full swing – and that means one of Elmwood School's most beloved annual traditions has returned for another year. The Old Girls' Art Show and Holly Tea returns the first weekend of December for an exciting three days of festive fun. The event kicks off on Friday, November 30 with the Art Show Vernissage and continues through Sunday with the Art Show and Holiday Marketplace. And the ever-popular annual Holly Tea is held on Sunday, featuring a performance by the Holly Tea Choir and a visit from St. Nick!

Full Athletic Scholarship for Elmwood Rower

After a successful four-year career with Elmwood Rowing, we are thrilled to share that Grade 12 student **Grace McNally** has received a full athletic scholarship to the University of Alabama.

Grace, who joined Elmwood in Grade 9, is an incredibly accomplished athlete, representing Elmwood over the years as both a rower and competitive swimmer. She has achieved a great deal throughout her short career, competing at events such as the Head of the Charles in Massachusetts, the Head of the Fish in New York and the CSSRA Canadian Secondary School Championships, where she placed 4th in 2017.



We are so proud of Grace's accomplishments thus far, and we look forward to seeing where this new opportunity will take her!



Round Square at Appleby

As part of our new status as a Round Square candidate school, a group of Elmwood students had the opportunity to travel to Appleby College in Oakville last month for the annual Round Square International Conference. Over 400 students from 40 countries came together to participate in this event, which involved an assortment of team-building and leadership activities, cultural performances and a diverse range of keynote speakers, including former Governor General, the Rt. Honourable **Adrienne Clarkson**, and Mi'kmaw activist, lawyer and comedian **Candy Palmater**.



Elmwood Head Girl Grace Goldberg (centre) with students at the Round Square International Conference.

Special Celebration as Part of Founder's Day



This year's Founder's Day on October 18 saw Elmwood students, staff and alumnae gather for the unveiling of the school's new sundial.

This unveiling was the culmination of a journey that began in our Centennial year, when we received a request from the Old Girls to recreate the sundial that had mysteriously disappeared sometime in the 1980s.

SCHOOL REPORTS

The sundial had a special significance to the “girls in green” at the time. As evidenced by dozens of yearbook photos, the sundial was a very special place at Elmwood. It was where girls gathered to celebrate the critical moments in their lives – graduations, sports successes and friendships. So the school endeavoured to recreate it.

We would like to thank **Beechwood Cemetery**, **MCM Monuments**, **Liz Heatherington** ('63) and the rest of the **Old Girls' Association** for their ongoing support of this project. The entire Elmwood community thanks you for making sure this special part of our past can also be part of our future.



Elmwood students, staff and alumnae at the unveiling of the school's new sundial.



Ashbury Ball Raises Over \$215,000 for Students

Approximately 300 guests dined, danced and donated in support of Ashbury students at the 2018 Ashbury Ball – Taj Gala, which took place on November 17. The themed event was held off campus at the Infinity Convention Centre and included performances from local dance troupes, gourmet cuisine, and live and silent auctions to support financial assistance programs and the school's new Centre for Science & Innovation.



Thank you to the Ball Committee, led by Co-Chairs **Mashooda Syed** and **Nimroz Thawer**, the Ashbury Guild, event sponsors, auction contributors and guests for making the evening such a success.

Parentscope on Changing Times

Parents gathered in late November to hear from experts in the fields of law, policing and healthcare about what Canada's new legislation means for families and children. The event, entitled *Changing Times Changing Rules*, was one of two annual Parentscope events hosted at the school for parents and community members.

Stay tuned for the next Parentscope instalment in the spring of 2019.

Student Vote

Students marked their ballots in October as part of an electoral process exercise for the municipal elections.





WILDLIFE NOTES

An alarm wire across a neighbour's basement window was tripped a few nights ago, and the security person who came reported a 'chipmunk' scurrying at the inside of the window. I set a live trap in the room. Next morning, to our delight, it contained a Southern Flying Squirrel. Fed nuts and water, we maintained it in our garage for a day and night so that children on the street could come and see it. Then we all released it in the evening amongst nearby trees.



What was immediately striking about this tiny squirrel was its calm demeanour in the box-shaped live trap; not at all perturbed by large humans peering at it. Indeed, it would sometimes doze, or turn its back and go about its affairs unconcerned. Red or Grey Squirrels in such a situation panic when someone comes anywhere near the trap, they are desperate to get out.

Flying squirrels are expert gliders, stretching wide expanses of furred skin between fore and aft limbs. I noticed that the tail in cross-section is flattened below and curved above, providing an airfoil. We are at the northern edge of the Southern Flying Squirrel range that extends south through the wooded eastern States to the Gulf coast. The larger Northern Flying



Squirrel ranges from Labrador to Alaska, and from treeline south to New York State.

The Southern Flying Squirrel looks bulky with its large glide flaps, but it averages only about 46g in weight; five of them would weigh the same as one Red Squirrel, one would weigh less than two Deer Mice. Its eyes are relatively larger and more protuberant than the daylight squirrels. The Southern Flying Squirrel is grey above, the Northern brown. The undersurfaces of both, including the glide flaps, are pure white. This may reduce their visibility from below as they glide at night.

In our wooded landscape we live amongst a number of nocturnal mammals, but being diurnal we don't realize it. Bats, now much reduced in number, are the exception; we occasionally glimpse them at twilight in summer, just at the beginning of their night's hunting. The tiny Deer Mice and Short-tailed Shrews that I expect live in virtually every Village garden are very rarely seen. And here we live in the range of two species of flying squirrels, Northern and Southern, yet, in five decades of observing wildlife, my first encounter was this week.

It is a treat to discover a beautiful original inhabitant of our remnant woodland, and to realize that we are living on its territory, where its lineage may go back thousands of years.

Anthony Keith
14 November 2018

Photos at left: top, Tara-Leigh Mierins; bottom, crittercontroltriangle.com



Heritage Ottawa Lecture Series

Held September to June, the series features a wide range of speakers and topics pertaining to Ottawa's history and heritage. For more information and the full schedule, go to www.heritageottawa.org/lecture-series.

Tempting Values for Early Shoppers: The Birth of Ottawa's Department Stores

Wednesday, December 12, 7:00 to 9:00 pm | **Location:** Dominion-Chalmers United Church, 355 Cooper Street (use Lisgar Street entrance) | **Speaker: Robert Smythe** is a contributor to the recently published book *From Walk-Up to High-Rise: Ottawa's Historic Apartment Buildings* and is the author of the architectural history blog *Urbsite*.

The department store was the product of an increasingly leisured middle class, a new consumer economy and architectural innovations like plate glass windows, electric lights and passenger elevators. In comparison to the great metropolitan centres, Ottawa's fondly remembered versions of these emporia of wonders were smaller in scale but equally ambitious and great objects of civic pride. To warm your holiday gift-buying experience, visit stores like A.E. Rea and Co., R.J. Devlin Co., Bryson Graham Ltd., Murphy-Gamble Co., Charles Ogilvy Ltd. and A.J. Freiman's.

You are invited to join us for refreshments. The book will be available for purchase at the lecture. The lecture is free and there is no need to pre-register.

BOOK FAIR

Another Rockcliffe Park Public School Book Fair in the...Books

Chilly, drizzly weather did not deter the die-hard book-lovers waiting for the doors of Queen Juliana Hall to open on Friday morning, November 2. And all weekend the Big Gym was filled with new and repeat visitors. In the Café, hungry shoppers devoured delicious curries, chili and mac-and-cheese cooked up by new local meal service Dinner By Six. Folks sipped Bridgehead coffee and snacked on baked goods from the kitchens of area embassies, RPPS families and generous neighbours.

This year, we raised \$46,000 net proceeds from sales, sponsorship and Café sales. As always, funds raised go to the RPPS Parent Council to hold such events as our Author and Illustrator Workshops and Grandparents' Reading Day; to upgrade technology and equipment; and to fund transportation and field trips for each class. And the benefits go beyond RPPS. Book Fair proceeds also furnish no-strings grants for five area schools to support their literacy programming and other needful projects.

We Love Our Volunteers

We are, as always, immensely grateful for our hardworking volunteers – the scores of folks who worked amid the boxes, behind the scenes, at the cash registers and among the shelves. We hope they enjoy the camaraderie and satisfaction that comes from lending their time and support to this important event. Book Fair couldn't happen without them.

Help Us Plan for Next Year

We are actively seeking a new Book Donation Team Lead and a Communications Coordinator for Book Fair 2019. 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, skills and ideas.

As we're fond of saying: "One sale – the book sale." RPPS parents need not pester family and friends to buy this or sponsor that. They need only support this single, exciting, exhausting and rewarding event. So mark your calendars now for the 2019 Book Fair, November 1 to 3!

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



LOCAL INTEREST

Reclaiming Rockcliffe Park Maple Trees and the Making of the Rockcliffe Table Series

On September 21 of this year, the largest storm in Ottawa's history blew through the Ottawa-Gatineau area, with five recorded tornadoes causing widespread damage. One 120-year-old maple tree in Rockcliffe Park, unfortunately, did not survive and was damaged beyond salvation. The major branches of the tree were torn off and the remainder of the trunk portion could not be saved. It took professional arborists three days to fell this huge sugar maple tree, with a plan to discard the sawed parts in a tree dump west of Ottawa. But this was not to be...

A keen-eyed passerby, **Jeff Tracey**, watched as the arborists loaded the 200-lb. chunks of the sugar maple tree onto the front yard of the Rockcliffe Park residence. Jeff asked the tree cutters if he could have some of the tree to make furniture. As an avid part-time furniture maker, Jeff was delighted to load ten of the huge slabs of maple into his car.

Rockcliffe Tables Series

Having a real love for trees, and wanting to give this particular tree back to the Rockcliffe community, Jeff and his friend **Derek Banke** have decided to construct a total of twenty sugar maple live-edge tables with the recovered tree slabs. The story of the tree's demise will be inscribed onto the bottom of each table, and each table will be specially numbered from 1 to 20. Each maple table will be professionally finished, round in shape, and approximately 28 inches in diameter and over two inches thick.

Jeff felt that since this tree grew for over 120 years in Rockcliffe Park, it should stay in Rockcliffe Park if possible. Residents of Rockcliffe Park will be the first to be offered a Rockcliffe Table and a piece of this historic tree. Jeff donated one of these tables to the November 30 RPRA fundraiser for the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre's Food Bank. In addition, for every table sold, Jeff and Derek will donate \$100.00 to the Food Bank. The tree slabs are currently in a wood kiln being dried and will be ready by the spring of 2019. If you are interested in putting your name on the list to purchase a Rockcliffe Table, contact **Jeff Tracey** at jeffreytracey@cox.net or 613 854-7717.

When not rescuing local lumber, Jeffrey P. Tracey is a Compliance and Enforcement Specialist, Export Controls, at Global Affairs Canada. See some examples of his tables at www.canadianliveedge.com.

END NOTES



Welcome in 2019 at the Annual St. Bart's Gala!

Ring in the new year in style with a glittering evening at the Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay Street. Take a sentimental journey on the Orient Express – the most fabled train of all! After a welcome drink, we'll depart Waterloo Station en route to Paris, Vienna and Venice for the New Year's Eve Masked Ball. Concert, dinner, dancing and a fabulous silent auction will make it an evening to remember. Greet the New Year with friends, a glass of sparkling wine and the ringing of the church bells. This event is selling out quickly so book your table/tickets now! Tickets are \$125.00 and available by calling St. Bart's, 613 745-7834, or online at www.arsnova.ca.



Clothes for a Cause a Great Success

The organizers of the recent Clothes for a Cause Sale Encore, held on Saturday September 29 in the hall of the Church of St. Bartholomew, would like to thank everyone for again supporting their fundraiser vintage clothing sale.

*Some of our intrepid volunteers:
Front row: Bev Hyde, MP Mona Fortier, Kate Preston, Lauren Touchant (RRCRC) and Bob Hage;
Back: David Preston, Councillor Tobi Nussbaum, Carolyn Buchan (hidden), Rosemary MacDonald, Pilar Doe, Art Hoole, Leslie Hoole and Liz Heatherington.
Photo: Carol Hart*

Over \$10,000 was raised for the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre's Food Bank and monies at the coffee table were donated to the United Way Ottawa's After the Tornado Campaign. The event was opened by **Councillor Tobi Nussbaum**, who acted as emcee, **MP Mona Fortier** (who also enjoyed the shop-

ping!), with best wishes from **MPP Nathalie Des Rosiers**, who was unable to be present. **Revera The Edinburgh Retirement Residence** sponsored sandwiches and cookies for the volunteers, and **Ms. Roula Al-Assaf** provided homemade cookies and cakes for all the event-goers.

Our thanks again to the wider community who donated such beautiful vintage clothes, the superb volunteers, and to the shoppers who found bargains and great nearly-new outfits.

Liz Heatherington, Event Coordinator

St. Bart's Annual Charity Bazaar

The organizers of the Annual Charity Bazaar at the Church of St. Bartholomew would like to thank the community for all their support this year! With many hundreds of visitors, the November 3 event was a great success, raising record funds to support Cornerstone Women's Shelter, the mission to the Garry J. Armstrong Centre and the work of the Church. Opened by the British High Commissioner to Canada, Her Excellency **Susan le Jeune d'Alleghershecque**, and her husband, **Mr. Stephane d'Alleghershecque**, over ten tables with gifts, jewellery, books, jams and jellies, toys and games, attic treasures, crafts and Christmas decorations were ready for business! The superb tea room received many guests who enjoyed homemade sandwiches and sweets. **Rector David Clunie** thanked all the volunteers for their work and the community for their attendance. We would also like to thank our sponsors, **Chartwell The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence**, **Revera The Edinburgh Retirement Residence**, **Goodies Fine Catering**, **Governors Walk Retirement Residence** and **Chartwell New Edinburgh Square Retirement Residence**.

If you missed out on this event, you'll have another chance to snap up some treasures at the **St. Bart's Mini Bazaar** on **December 16**. Shop in the hall of the church at 125 McKay after morning services and before the carol service. See www.stbartsottawa.ca/bazaar.html for more information.

Remembering Inta Sipolins-Zobs

Inta Sipolins-Zobs passed away suddenly on October 22 after a brief illness, at the age of 60. Born in Ottawa, Inta loved gardening, travel, cottage life, hats (lots of them!) and had an amazing number of friends worldwide.

Inta grew up in Rockcliffe Park and attended Elmwood School. She returned a few years ago to Lakeway Drive and immediately volunteered with the RPRA in many helpful ways. She was known to many of our youngest residents as Mrs. Claus at the annual Children's Christmas party. We will miss her vibrance. Our thoughts are with her four sons.

