



Beacon Hill North Community Association

www.BHNCA.com info@bhnca.com

Dear Residents of Beacon Hill North



Thanks again for your continued support in making this community association so successful. I want to thank the many volunteers that have made this distribution possible and special thanks to Erin Lepine for organizing a great distribution network.

Tim Tierney
President, Beacon Hill North Community Association
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www.BHNCA.com

Wednesday April 1st 2009 Public Meeting

This public meeting being held at Colonel By starting at 7pm will be the first opportunity for people to see the results of the Colonel By possible closure survey as well as the launch of our campaign to save Colonel By. Please visit www.BHNCA.com for more information.

Beacon Hill History

I recently had a member of the community wanting to put together a history of Beacon Hill. If you have any interesting stories, photos or tid-bit please forward them along to history@bhnca.com. Thank you Sylvia Parent for such a wonderful idea.

Call for Volunteers

As we continue to grow, the association is always looking for volunteers. Currently we are looking for volunteers in the areas of translations services, Canada Day committee and the Beacon Hill garage sale committee. If you have interest, or can contribute in anyway please email info@bhnca.com

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Local Youth Sports

Gloucester Little League Baseball - I am proud to announce that the 2009 Gloucester Little League will continue on as a result of the community's actions. A representative for Gloucester Little League will be onsite at our April 1st public meeting to assist in the registration process. Special thanks are also extended to the individuals that stepped up to the plate and saved the Gloucester Little League. Please visit www.gloucesterbaseball.ca for more information.

Dragons Soccer – Registration is currently underway for the 2009 season. A representative for Dragons soccer will be onsite at our April 1st public meeting.

Hydro Ottawa Substation Fire



I am sure most of the people in the community were affected in some way as a result of the Hydro substation fire on Friday March 13th.

I have had emails and calls from many neighbours who lost electronic devices and appliances as a result of a power surge which occurred. I have been in touch with Ottawa Hydro. The case is still under investigation according to their website. If you have a similar story where you may have equipment affected by the power surge, please send me a email with as much detail as possible to tim@bhnca.com Collectively as a group, we can approach Hydro Ottawa.

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* La version francaise de ce texte est disponible au site, en format 'pdf'!



Beacon Hill North Community Association

Possible closure of Colonel By – It is time to act

Did you know?

Colonel By High School could close as early as September 2010.

- While enrolment is up overall in the Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) there is declining enrolment in the central east corridor of Ottawa.
- On May 27, 2008, the school board approved the Beacon Hill – Ottawa East Secondary Accommodation Study. The Study is led by the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) which follows a Ministry designed process.
- Based on the study findings, the ARC is scheduled to make its final recommendation to the school board in May 2009.

What you can do

Get informed, get involved!

- Attend the next BHNCA public community meeting at Colonel By, April 1st 2009 from 7 to 9 p.m. The campaign to keep Colonel By open will be kicked off. More details on www.bhnca.com.
- Go to the section titled "Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)" on Beacon Hill North Community Association website www.bhnca.com
- Take part in the Colonel By survey on www.bhnca.com
- Send your comments and opinions to the OCDSB BeaconHillOttawaEastSecondaryStudy@ocdsb.ca
- Send your comments and opinions to our OCDSB School Board Trustee David Moen (Zone 12) david.moen@ocdsb.ca

PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 1st 2009, 7pm

@ COLONEL BY s.s.

Why closing Colonel By High School does not make sense.

The school is a success in every measurable way, including :

- Frequently gaining a high standing in the Fraser Institute Report on Schools (2007 & 2008)
- Leading in many indicators such as EQAO results, credits earned, daily enrolment, community service hours, and sporting success;
- The Colonel By International Baccalaureate (IB) program attracts students from around the world and has an international reputation (536 students in 2007 & 2008);
- Strong French immersion program
- While other schools in the area have declining enrolment, Colonel By has a very robust population and is near capacity (1134 students in 2007 & 2008)
- Being called one of the best 3 academic schools in Canada by MacLeans' magazine (2005)
- Ottawa East being further neglected if this asset leaves the area
- Closing any of the 3 suggested schools would account for the infill and intensification of residential areas planned by the City of Ottawa



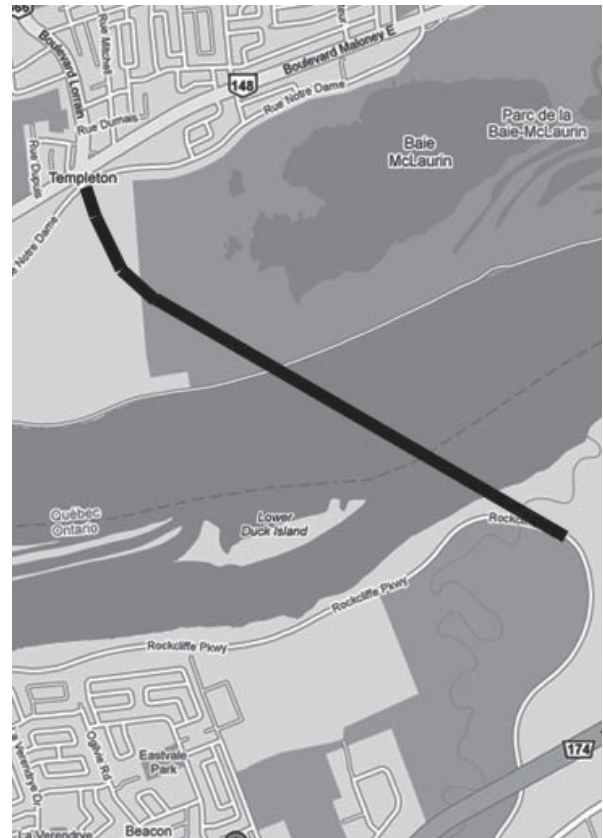
Beacon Hill North Community Association

Interprovincial Bridge - Issues and Impacts to Beacon Hill

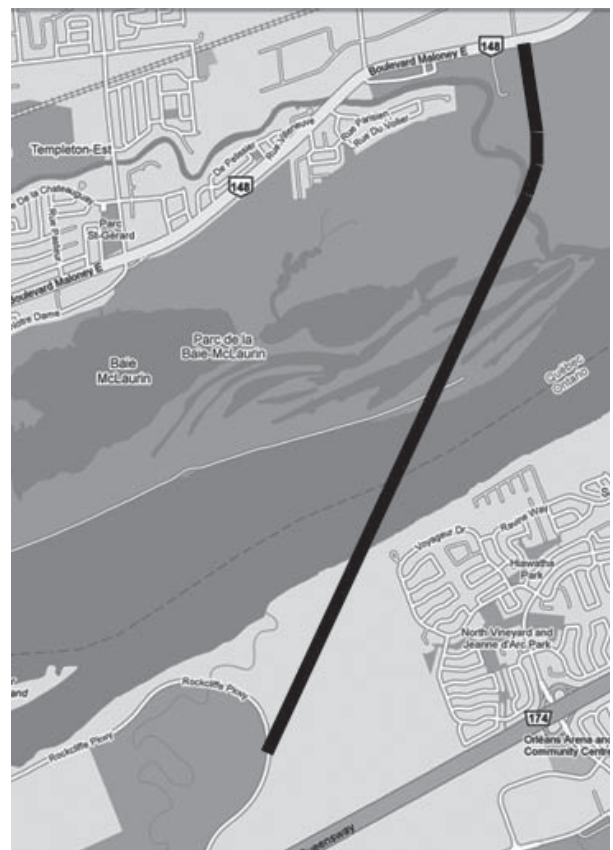
Backgrounder

- In phase 1 of an environment assessment, 10 potential locations for an interprovincial bridge were studied by engineering consultant ROCHE-NCE for the National Capital Commission (NCC) – 4 locations in the west end and 6 locations in the east end.
- This is the 3rd interprovincial bridge study.
- Over 100 criteria were analyzed from cost and truck/vehicle traffic volumes to noise and air pollution.
- All west end bridge locations were dropped from the study.
- On January 5, 2009 the engineering firm of Roche-NCE in their final report in the first phase of the bridge project recommends the Kettle Island corridor for a new inter-provincial bridge.
- Based on the Roche-NCE analysis, the bridge location with the most favorable score was: Option 5, the crossing at Kettle Island followed by Option 6, known as Lower Duck Island and Option 7, referred to as Gatineau Airport/McLaurin Bay (also referred to, incorrectly, by the media and some politicians as the “Upper Duck Island” option).
- Two of the crossings studied impact the Beacon Hill (see maps on right) areas : Option 6, Option 7
- As a result of lobby efforts by political figures and community associations affected by the Kettle Island bridge location, the NCC Board of Directors voted on February 14, 2009 to also include Options 6, Lower Duck and Option 7 Gatineau Airport/McLaurin Bay in the phase 2 of the environmental assessment. This decision came just two days after Ottawa City Councillors endorsed the Kettle Island corridor and despite the recommendation of the Roche-NCE.
- Beacon Hill political representatives MP Mauril Belanger and MPP Madeleine Meilleur are on record as supporting an interprovincial bridge at Lower Duck Island. This option, they claim, would not impact the Beacon Hill community because it would run through the Canotek “industrial” Park. The misleading use of the word “industrial” confuses the issue. Canotek is a business park.
- The Kettle Island location is endorsed by the City of Ottawa and the City of Gatineau.
- It will cost another \$9 Million of public funds to study the additional corridors.
- The Lower Duck (Option 6) involves 79 property expropriations on the Quebec side.

Option 6: Lower Duck Island



Option 7: Gatineau Airport/ McLaurin Bay





Beacon Hill North Community Association

Interprovincial Bridge - Issues and Impacts to Beacon Hill

Impact to Beacon Hill North

- A bridge at either Lower Duck or Gatineau Airport is projected to add over 3,000 vehicles to highway 174 during the peak commuting hour and 1600 trucks per day (with over 6 wheels). This already congested roadway has only one usable lane heading west out of Orleans all the way through to the 174/417 split.
- Most of the traffic in the morning rush hour on highway 174 is commuter traffic heading west to downtown. Additional traffic originating on the Quebec side will also head west. In the afternoon, the traffic flow is in the opposite direction.
- Overflow traffic will route via Montreal Rd., Ogilvie Rd. and the Eastern Parkway through residential neighbourhoods. This will impact Beacon Hill-Cyrville, a community with over 12,000 households as well as businesses, recreational facilities, tourist attractions, elementary and high schools, parks and seniors' residences.
- Delicate instruments used at the Robert O. Pickard waste treatment plant will be affected by vehicular vibrations.
- For either Option 6 or 7, a new road paralleling the Eastern Parkway needs to be constructed from highway 174. This road would damage wetlands defined by the Province of Ontario as significant and of natural and scientific interest. Damage to the Ottawa River shoreline would be extensive.
- A new interchange will need to be constructed to handle all of the merging/exiting traffic to/from the bridge. This interchange will be only a short distance away from the current Montreal Rd. interchange amplifying the traffic congestion.
- Truck traffic, according to the consultant's report is mostly intra-city, e.g. couriers, deliveries of goods to large stores. Many trucks are heading to/from the warehousing area off of the 417 near Russell/Walkley/Hawthorne Roads. The Aviation Parkway is already an extension of highway 417, thus a bridge at Kettle Island is the logical choice.
- ROCHE-NCE has indicated that if King Edward street is closed to trucks, the majority of trucks would not travel to an east end crossing but would use the Chaudiere bridge because it would be closer to their origins and destinations.

We want to know what you think about the bridge. Tell us at www.bhnca.com and click on our new "Discussion Area" and take part online.

What you can do ...

Keep informed and take part !

Some sites:

- NCC interprovincial bridge web site:
Visit www.ncrcrossings.ca
- Q&A: Visit www.KettleMakesSense.com for articles
- Beacon Hill North Community Association web site:
Visit www.BHNCA.com
- Participate in the NCC Phase 2 public consultations when they are announced. (Check the BHNCA web site periodically for this information.)
- Speak to your friends and neighbours about what is happening.
- Write a letter to your local MP, MPP, city council and other elected officials to voice your opinion. The location of a new interprovincial bridge will largely be determined by the provincial and federal governments.