

Maria McRae

River Ward City Councillor • Conseillère, quartier Rivière

Spring 2010

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Dear River Ward Friends and Neighbours:

The snow is gone and spring is finally here! I hope that you had the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful weather that came a little early this year. We are off to a great start in 2010 as many positive changes are continuing in River Ward.

The expansions of the Carleton Heights and Hunt Club Riverside Community Centres are complete and construction of the new Rideau Canoe Club has begun. A significant number of infrastructure investments ranging from new sidewalks to replacing play equipment to roadway improvements have started and will continue well into 2011. For more information about any of our projects, please feel free to give me a call.

As always, spring marks the time that I host my Annual Community Safety and Crime Prevention Meetings. I encourage you to come out to discuss any questions or concerns you have and learn more about different services available to you. With spring, also comes the City's Spring Cleaning the Capital Campaign. Thank you to everyone who works hard to keep our beautiful city clean, green, litter and graffiti free!

As you always do, I encourage you to keep in touch with me and to let me know your concerns, express your opinions, or give me your advice. It is always appreciated and allows me to understand how to serve you better.

It remains an honour and a privilege to be your strong voice at City Hall.

Yours sincerely,

Maria McRae
River Ward City Councillor

One-Stop Shopping in Hunt Club & Riverside Park – Our Community Gathers Together



Councillor Maria McRae congratulates residents in Riverside Park for reviving the Paget Park outdoor rink.

Construction of the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre is complete! A variety of exhilarating recreation programs are on the go and the Hunt Club Riverside Community Services Centre has moved in, bringing a wide range of community services with them!

As part of an exciting pilot project, **Canada's first library kiosks** are fully operational for you and your family to enjoy. Library staff will also spend two half days a week at the Centre to augment kiosk and Bookmobile services. Please stay tuned for office hours.

Seniors, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Monday May 3, 2010, I encourage you to stop by the **no fee, drop-in Seniors' Centre** with your favourite coffee or tea cup. Enjoy a variety of table games, meet new friends or take part in other activities that light your fancy! Seniors will decide which programs and activities they want at the drop-in Seniors' Centre and I encourage you to let me know your priorities.

I am also pleased to tell you that I worked closely with the Police Chief and the **Ottawa Police Service** to establish a unique pilot project for Community Police Officers to set-up office hours and for patrol officers to stop by the Centre during their shifts. I look forward to seeing "Ottawa's Finest" more often as they make themselves available for you.

The incredible **creative talent** of all **seven local area schools** in Hunt Club and Riverside Park will soon be on proud display in the Centre for all of us to enjoy! Congratulations to our students and teachers who participated in the City's first endeavor of this kind. We are so proud of you!

Thank you to everyone for your hard work in seeing this community dream become a reality.

Please keep an eye out for an invitation to the Official Opening Ceremony.

Paddles in the Water –

A Sure Sign that Spring has Arrived at the Rideau Canoe Club

If you have been by the corner of Hogs Back Road and Prince of Wales Drive lately, you may have noticed that the new Rideau Canoe Club is emerging from the waterfront of Mooney's Bay. Construction is progressing well, with an anticipated summer 2010 opening!

Thanks to the many volunteers of the Rideau Canoe Club, during construction, the Club's many activities are proceeding as usual and summer camps are filling up quickly. Please feel free to stop by the Open House on **Saturday, May 8, 2010** or check out the Club's website at www.RideauCanoeClub.ca. Happy Paddling everyone!

Finally!! A Safe Link from the Hunt Club Community to the South-East Transitway

Funding for the design and construction of the Airport Parkway Pathway Connection to link the Hunt Club community to the South-East Transitway was approved by City Council on January 28, 2010. Additionally, the Environmental Assessment for the pathway is complete. City staff anticipate that the detailed design will begin this summer and that the project will go to tender for construction at the end of 2010 or in early 2011.

I look forward to continue working with the community as we enter the next phase of this important community project. Thank you to the Hunt Club Community Organization who worked tirelessly with my office on this issue.

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Carlington Community Development Framework – Increasing Community Engagement and Civic Pride

The Carlington Community Development Framework ("CDF"), one of four citywide initiatives, started in the Bellevue/Caldwell neighbourhood and began by identifying community priorities through a neighbourhood survey. In addition, on November 21, 2009, I hosted the "Building Community Capacity - Carlington Special Workshop", where I gathered additional feedback from the broader community on issues and matters important to residents.

The survey results and feedback received at the Special Workshop were presented to the community and the CDF Steering Committee in December 2009. As a result, action plans were developed to implement solutions in three priority areas identified by the community: 1) Health and Social Issues; 2) Physical Environment; and 3) Community Safety and Crime Prevention.

I also had the opportunity to showcase the CDF and the great work of our community as part of this year's "Spring Cleaning the Capital" launch on March 31, 2010. I am so proud of our community and look forward to continuing working closely with residents, the Steering Committee and service providers on the action plans and their implementation. Neighbourhood surveys will continue in other Carlington neighbourhoods in due course.

Community Design Plan Along Bank Street – Integrated Vision for Future Growth

After working closely with the community, the Ridgemont Community Association and City staff to address redevelopment issues along Bank Street, I am pleased to inform you that a Community Design Plan (CDP) will commence on Bank Street, south of Riverside Drive and north of the CN Railway tracks. Finalization of the study area and considerable public consultation will begin shortly. I encourage you to contact my office if you would like further information about this exciting project and to be added to my distribution list.



Councillor Maria McRae and Olympic Champion Barbara Ann Scott-King welcoming the Olympic Flame to Canada's Capital.

Councillor Maria McRae's Annual Community Safety and Crime Prevention Meetings

You will have the opportunity to address community safety and crime prevention issues that are important to you and to learn more about services available to you. The meetings occur during Police Week, May 9 to 15, 2010.

River Ward East

Hunt Club, Ridgemont, Riverside Park

Date: Monday, May 10, 2010

Time: *Visit Displays* – 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Presentations and Q&A – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Hunt Club/Riverside Park Community Centre
3320 Paul Anka Drive

River Ward West

Carleton Heights, Carlington, Central Park

Date: Thursday, May 13, 2010

Time: *Visit Displays* – 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Presentations and Q&A – 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Carleton Heights Community Centre
1665 Apeldoorn Avenue

Representatives of the following organizations and City of Ottawa departments will be in attendance:

- By-Law and Regulatory Services
- Corporate Security
- Crime Prevention Ottawa
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Ottawa Fire Service
- Ottawa Police Service
- Public Works, including graffiti management
- Others



Carleton Heights Community Centre Expansion –

A Partnership to Enhance Community Space

Congratulations to the residents of Carleton Heights, the Carleton Heights and Area Residents Association (CHARA) and City of Ottawa staff for completing the expanded Carleton Heights Community Centre project. Residents will enjoy additional recreation programming in a fully accessible facility!

This project is the first successful Community Partnership Major Capital Program between the City and a community group to expand and renovate a recreation facility.

Thank you to CHARA and City staff for their dedication and outstanding work on this project.

All River Ward Seniors are Cordially Invited to

Maria McRae's Annual Strawberry Social for River Ward Seniors

Date: Friday, June 18, 2010

Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Hunt Club/Riverside Park Community Centre
3320 Paul Anka Drive

- Entertainment by Ottawa's Singing Policeman Dominic D'Arcy
- Refreshments and Snacks
- Door Prizes
- Seniors Information Booth

Please call
613-580-2486
to reserve
your ticket(s).
Space is
limited.



COMMUNITY CORNER



Are you interested in volunteering?

Thank you to the many residents who volunteer in our great city. If you are interested in volunteering at our Ward events, please let me know.

High school students looking to complete your community service hours – this is a terrific opportunity for you.



Cette information est également disponible en français.

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Councillor Maria McRae is surrounded by local children celebrating the announcement of a new field house in Ledbury Park.

Banff-Ledbury "Field House of Dreams" Community Investment Continues

On February 23, 2010, I had the honour of joining residents and community partners from many city agencies to celebrate the future design and construction of a new field house in Ledbury Park. The field house will offer programming space for residents from across the city. It will include multi-purpose meeting and activity space, a kitchenette, change rooms, outdoor rink storage space, washrooms, and more. Stay tuned as this project progresses!

Free CPR and Automated External Defibrillator Training for River Ward Residents

Most heart attacks occur in the home. Are you prepared?



I am pleased to invite River Ward residents to enroll in free CPR and Automated External Defibrillator training. Participants are also invited to tour the state-of-the-art City of Ottawa Paramedic Service Headquarters. Training is available on the following dates:

Date: Sunday, June 6, 2010
OR
Sunday, June 20, 2010

Time: Training - 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Tour - 1:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Location: Ottawa Paramedic Service Headquarters
2465 Don Reid Drive (off Walkley Road)

The four-hour class includes a short lecture on patient assessment and clinical training. Participants who successfully complete the course will receive valid CPR C "Basic Rescuer" and AED certification.

As space is limited, you **MUST** register by **Wednesday, June 2, 2010**, live in River Ward and be at least 12 years of age to participate.

Please contact my office at 613-580-2486 to register.

Laurentian High School Redevelopment – Phase 1 Commencing as Planned at "Laurentian Place"

Construction will soon begin at the former Laurentian High School site, barring any unforeseen matters. In January, I hosted a Public Open House for the community to review the proposed Site Plan for Phase 1 of the new development and in February, SmartCentres formally applied to lift the Holding Zone, a copy of which was circulated to residents.

As part of Phase 1, SmartCentres is carrying out significant roadway modifications and is completing an environmental remediation of the contaminated site. Please contact me if you have any questions about this project or have any concerns during construction.

SmartCentres is proposing the name "Laurentian Place" for this development and they are open to your creative ideas. If you would like to suggest a name, please send it to me by Monday, May 17, 2010 and I will ensure that SmartCentres gives it fair consideration.

Again, thank you to everyone who participated in the redevelopment process. I am grateful to the Central Park Community Association for their leadership and hard work.

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