

CONNECTIONS

OVERBROOK NEWS & CURRENT EVENTS

AUGUST /
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2024

VOL 1, N^o. 1

THE FUTURE OF PRESLAND PARK



THE QUEENSWAY DECEPTION

Urban designer Jacques-Henri Greber, author of 1969's *Greber Report* felt strongly about his plan to modernize and beautify the National Capital.

"Ottawa should be the top city in the country", he said. "We are the window to the world." He added: "We should look dignified and sharp and noble."

To that end, Greber's plan described a clear vision for a "Grand Boulevard" through the Capital connecting East and West.

So, how did we end up with the ugly, concrete swath that rips apart our city?

Ottawa writer and historian **Robert Smythe** reports.

OVERBROOK NEWS & CURRENT EVENTS

CONNECTIONS

NOUVELLES ET ACTUALITÉS D'OVERBROOK

CONNECTIONS is a non-profit community publication produced by the *Overbrook Community Association*. It is available online, aimed at approximately 10,000 homes, businesses, and organizations in Overbrook and the environs. The journal is produced six times a year, for the periods of December/January, February/March, April/May, June/July, August/September and October/November.

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WE ARE BACK!

The same, only different.

Finding committed volunteers to take on sometimes difficult tasks is never easy. And at the term end of the last Overbrook Community Association’s Board of Directors, after years of dedicated service, loyal Board members, including those who made up the team leading the newspaper, stepped down for a well-deserved break. Unfortunately, with no one to take over, a decision was made to cease publication until a suitable volunteer could be found.

Fast forward to 2024 and, mysteriously, those former Board members continue to show up at committee meeting and the occasional Board meetings, a testament to their dedication to the organization and to

about three years. Cumberland (before amalgamation) was my home. I was notorious as the guy who was always involved in the politics, arts and culture, and the history of that community. I was



passionate about our way of life and determined to be a voice for the that unheard sector. I was familiar and I was known, but after amalgamation, where I once was able to walk right into Town Hall and directly to the office of Mayor Brian Coburn or COO Ned Lathrop, I found it increasingly difficult to scale the stone cladding of the new City Hall downtown.

That was 24 years ago and while I continued to be involved in local activities, I stepped back as the roaring lion.

The AGM was me dipping my toe back into the waters of advocacy. Not knowing the back story of *Connexions*, and since communications and design had been my life’s work, I naturally, and rather naively volunteered for the job.

As I write this, that was just over a month ago. What you are reading is the product of my labours. It is far from perfect, but with your help, it can be.

If you have ever thought about working in communications, publishing, journalism, sales, or social media, I urge you to get in touch. If you are a community member with a passion for a specific issue, please get in touch. If you can spare as little as three or four hours per month, get in touch. As Overbrook grows, so too must our voices. We need you more than ever.

“Just a week before their Annual General Meeting, I had no idea that the Overbrook Community Association existed.”

Overbrook.

As for me, my brief time on the Board has been dizzying as I cobble my way through old documents, publications, and anything else that can help me to create a new publication that the people of Overbrook, Overbrookies, I am told by columnist Heather Amys, will see as theirs. I want to build a publication that tells our stories; that puts our issues front and centre; and that provides information unique to our community.

Until one week before its annual general meeting, I had no idea that the Overbrook Community Association existed. But, while walking my dog, taped to a utility pole, I noticed a poster asking for people to get involved.

I have only lived in Overbrook for

THE LOCAL
Heather AMYS



The Bridges of Overbrook

Ottawa-Gatineau is a river city – a place where three rivers meet. Did you know there are more than 50 bridges in the area? That does not include the bridges that have disappeared with time.

Here in Overbrook, we are fortunate to border the Rideau River. Our community has seen several bridges come and go. The Adawe crossing was completed in December 2015 and is our youngest bridge.

There were once four railway bridges for different rail



Hurdman Bridge Span collapse (c. 1902)

bridge beginning in July 1911 located near where the Adawe crossing is today. It was maintained by the Rideau Tennis Club (now known as the Rideau Sports Centre). It was swept away or overturned in May 1916; October 1928; July 1949; and for the last time in May 1952. It was not rebuilt.

Overbrook’s very first bridge was a wooden toll bridge completed in January 1875. It was built by brothers William and Robert Hurdman to facilitate the access of their lumber yard in old Ottawa East to the lumber mills located at Chaudière Falls. They relied George Hurdman, a contractor, to manage the construction. Subscriptions were used to finance the project, but when a significant portion of the subscriptions were not honoured, an appeal to cover the \$1,700 shortfall was made to the Township of Gloucester. A grant of \$250 was awarded in December 1872, payable only after the bridge was completed. (Overbrook was part of Gloucester at that time; it became part of the City of Ottawa in 1950 after a controversial negotiation. Vanier remained an independent city until amalgamation in 2001.)

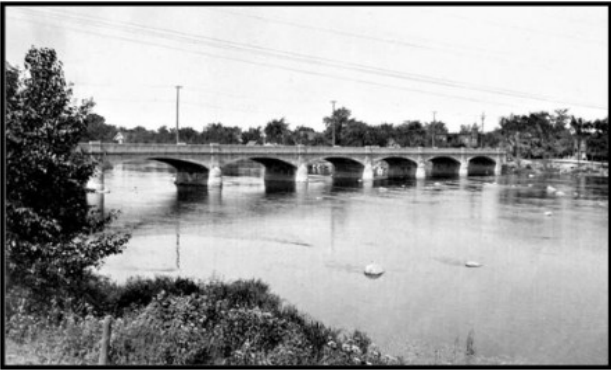
The Hurdman’s Bridge became so important

lines: a Canadian Pacific Railway bridge; a Canadian National Railway bridge; and two Canadian Northern Railway bridges. Both the Canadian Northern bridges were demolished in 1968 including one known as the “Black Bridge” built in 1909.

We had a seasonal foot-

to local commerce and residents, it was rebuilt three times.

The wooden bridge was replaced in 1895 with a wood and iron girder structure, then one span collapsed in 1902 and was repaired. In 1906 the concrete Hurdman’s bridge was built and demolished after 80 years of service in 1986). Its concrete pier stubs are still visible in the Rideau River at low water, north of the Queensway. The “new” Hurdman’s bridge was opened in 1955. Two years later it was incorporated into the Queensway where it remains in use today.



Hurdman Brudge rebuilt in concrete. (c.1906)

Next year will mark the 10th anniversary of the new Adawe Crossing. It will also mark the 150th anniversary of the first bridge to connect Overbrook to the west side of the Rideau River, the first Hurdman’s Bridge. That history is worth celebrating!

(Special thanks to the Gloucester Historical Society for their steadfast efforts to document and make our history accessible to all of us here in Overbrook.)

RESIDENT
SURVEY

SONDAGE de
RÉSIDENTS

Challenges ? Needs? Avenues for improving community services for residents of Ward 13, Rideau-Rockcliffe.

Défis ? Besoins ? Des pistes pour améliorer les services communautaires pour les résidents du Quartier 13, Rideau-Rockcliffe.

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www.crcrr.org
Information: 613-745-0073 x 209
mijanou.gravelle@crcrr.org



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TABLE OF CONTENTS
August/September 2024

Editorial	2
The Local	
The Bridges of Overbrook	3
News and Current Events	4
The Sites of Overbrook	
Places that Define Us	7
Let’s Talk about Presland Park	8
The Inviting Garden	
Celebrating Nature in the City	10
Public Swimming Pools	12
Calendar At A Glance	13
The Queensway Deception	14
Report of the OCA Planning Committee	16
Politically Speaking	
Messages from our local elected politicians.	17
Classified Ads	
Beginning in October	19
Enterprising Overbrook	
Focus on local businesses	20
Overbrook Eats !	
Restaurant Review	22

DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT ISSUE
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2024

Copy : September 20
Advertising : September 27

NEWS AND CURRENT EVENTS

OCA Announces its Board of Directors for 2024/25

The Overbrook Community Association (ACA)) has announced its slate of directors for 2024/2025.

Danika Brisson was unanimously elected President after serving as vice-President for the past two years.



Three vice-Presidents were elected this year. **Melanie Stafford** will take responsibility for the Youth, Volunteer and Media portfolios; **Ismael Awaleh** takes over as the Ottawa Community Housing

OCH liaison as well as one of two representatives for the Francophonie, sharing that role with Pamela Mubeza.

Christine Ford will co-chair the Youth committee, and take on the Sports portfolio.

John Heimstra will take on the Treasurer position, and newly elected Board member **Amanda Vyce** becomes the recording secretary. Longtime Board member **David Behn** will again take on the Environment portfolio.

After two years without a designate, **David Ferguson** will take on the organizations communications, specifically as editor of the OCA publication CONNEXIONS, which ceased publishing in 2021. He will also be a part of the social media portfolio.

At large Board members include: **Isabel Brunet**, a recent transplant from Belgium, **Killian van Damme**, **Elizabeth Lancaster**, **Pamela Mubeza**, and **Derek Wright** round off the new, 13-member Board.

OCA Announces “The Park Project”

Late last year, the city of Ottawa announced that it will invest several million dollars in new and renewed parks, recreation and cultural facilities, as well as arts and cultural programming with a goal, it suggests, “to help keep residents physically and mentally active”.

The draft budget includes \$43 million to maintain 4,505 hectares of existing parkland and invests \$250,000 to support new parks and other maintenance activities.

By establishing “The Park Project”, the Overbrook Community Association (OCA) is taking the lead in advocating for the revitalization of our sorely neglected Presland Park, including the “reforestation area” .

At its June 14 board meeting, the group established the **Presland Park Revitalization Committee (PPRC)** whose first order of business is to seek out interested residents and park users from across the community, particularly those living in the immediate area of the park.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

ONGOING SEWER AND WATERMAIN WORK

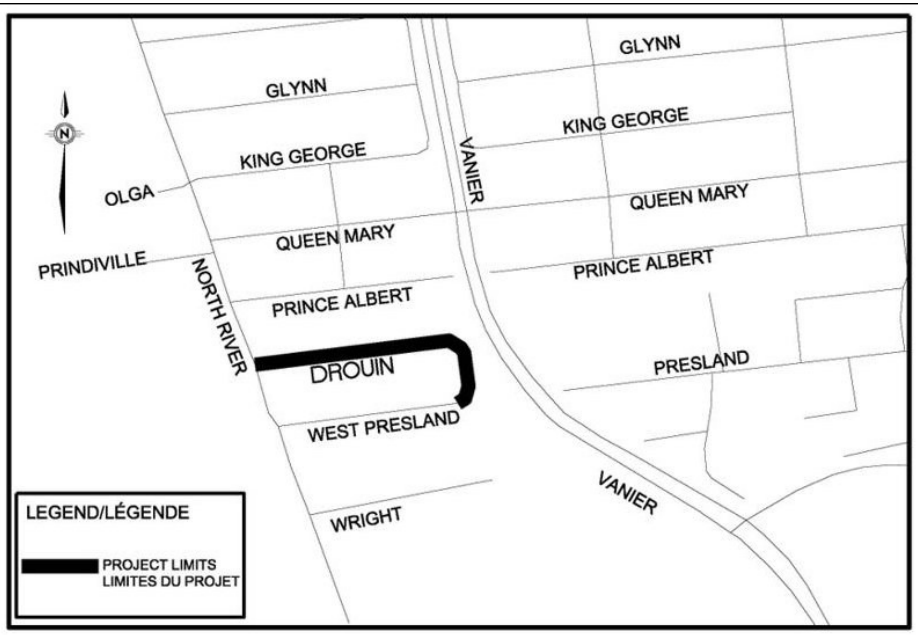
Work continues to replace the aging sanitary sewers, watermains and road infrastructure at Drouin Avenue from North River Road to West Presland Road.

The long-overdue project will rehabilitate underground and roadway infrastructure that is nearing the end of its lifespan.

It includes watermain and sewer replacement, road reconstruction and the addition of traffic calming features.

Construction began in June and will continue until the end of September.

During construction on Drouin Avenue, access will be restricted to local traffic only. Pedestrian and cyclist access will be maintained.



For further information about this project, you can visit ottawa.ca/drouinavenue.

StopOverdoseOttawa.ca

Overdose Prevention

Ottawa Public Health and Ottawa’s Overdose Prevention and Response Task Force is working hard to advance Ottawa's *Overdose Response Strategy*.

Anyone interested can register to receive email alerts from the *Stop Overdose Ottawa Alert System*, or sign up by visiting StopOverdoseOttawa.ca and click “Subscribe to Drug Alerts” and fill out the form.

A confirmation email will be sent to ensure that any future alerts sent out through the new system are received.

Stop Overdose Ottawa alerts are issued when Ottawa’s Overdose Prevention and Response Task Force becomes aware of issues related to toxic drugs circulating in the community.

Some examples include: Increased risk of overdose; new drug toxicity risk and contaminants; new or noteworthy drug trends presenting in the local unregulated drug supply.

Serving Overbrook and the Environ

The Park Project Le projet du parc

The committee's goal is to decide definitively on priority projects that will turn our often-unusable swampland into a park that everyone can enjoy year-round.

The PPRC will be made up of no less than eight (8) members of the public, six of whom will be local residents and two will be local businesspeople. Two non-voting members will include the committee chair, although they may be called upon to break a tie, and a representative from the City of Ottawa.

Any resident of Overbrook is eligible to sit on the committee, however, the search will focus on residents living within a two-to-three-kilometre radius. A letter will be distributed to the surrounding area within a few weeks.

If you or a family member older than 16 years is interested in working towards a better Presland Park through PPRC, please contact David Ferguson at Presland-Park@Overbrook.ca.

Lola Park Adorned With Loblaws' Flowers



A huge shout-out to Loblaws's McArthur Avenue and Store Manager Amanda Dick for their donation of more than 50 plants and soil to replenish the planters in Lola Park.

The donation was valued at more than \$150.



**TO SURVIVE AND
THRIVE, A
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
NEEDS TWO
THINGS:
ENTHUSIASTIC
PEOPLE AND
GENEROUS
DONORS.**

Become a member of
your community
association

Anyone who wants to
help build a strong
community is welcome.

OVERBROOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
OCA-ACO
ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE D'OVERBROOK





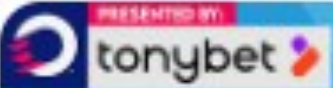
Overbrook Community Association FUNDRAISER

15% DISCOUNT ON ALL GAMES

PROMO CODE: **OCA24**







HIGHLIGHTS: York United vs. Atletico Ottawa (July 26, 2024) | Presented b...

OneSoccer

2.2K views • 15 hours ago

ATLÉTICO OTTAWA
AND OCA
COLLABORATE ON A
NEW FUNDRAISER

Par Derek WRIGHT

Derek@Overbrook.ca

The Overbrook Community Association is proud to partner with Atlético Ottawa in this fundraising initiative that will benefit fans and the OCA.

Atletico Ottawa will generously donate \$2.50 for every ticket sold that uses the promo code **OCA24** or by using the following link: <https://am.ticketmaster.com/atletico/promotional-page?id=MTAwMw==> . The offer is for the entire 2024 season.

These funds will allow the OCA to further partner and support to various community projects.

We are lucky to live in a city that offers high level professional sports, so lets get out and support our local teams!

Ride, bike, walk or drive to TD Place Stadium and take in a game or three this summer and fall.

Allez Ottawa!



Habitat Restoration Project a Great Success



Despite the smoldering heat on Sunday July 14, more than 40 volunteers descended on the grounds surrounding the Rideau Sports Club on Donald Street for OCA’s *Gardening Event*.

The group of people represented six area organizations, including the OCA, the Canadian Conservation Corps, Wild Outside Ottawa, Ecology Ottawa, Bird Friendly Ottawa and The Tool Library.

Organized by Deborah Doherty, who is not only the Co-Chair of Bird Friendly Ottawa and the Chair of the OCA’s Donald Street Gardens Committee, she is also the new gardening columnist for *Connexions* (see The

Inviting Garden, page 10). The goal of this project was to eradicate the many invasive species that have proliferated in the park, and replace them with native species, officially referred to as a “habitat restoration”.

A special thank you is offered to Rideau Sports Club for providing the location, Loblaws McArthur for snacks and plants, Ottawa Tool Library for providing the right tools for the job, and Corner Pollinator Garden and Ottawa Wildflower Seed Library for their donation of native plants.



Photos: MichèleMichichiuc@gmail.com

Some of the volunteers from July 14th’s Overbrook Community Association gardening event, with Deborah Doherty and Rod Gillyatt holding the Ottawa Tool Library “ceremonial” donation of garden shears.



The Sites of Overbrook

The Adawe Crossing by David Ferguson

DavidF@Overbrook.ca

The first “footbridge”, or crossing, that spanned the Rideau River was built in the early 1900’s, but in 1952, the pedestrian bridge that spanned the river connecting Overbrook and Sandy Hill, washed away during severe flooding.

A replacement wouldn’t be rebuilt for another 60 years, leaving the two communities without a fixed crossing.

Named for the Algonquin term meaning “to trade,” the Adawe Crossing was designed as a safe and convenient river crossing for pedestrians and cyclists and in 2013, became an important part of Ottawa’s transportation master plan, the *Ottawa Pedestrian Plan and Ottawa Cycling Plan*.

The unique design was configured to includes only two in-river piers, one less than directed in the original proposal,

reducing the potential for ice jamming and facilitating annual ice removal.

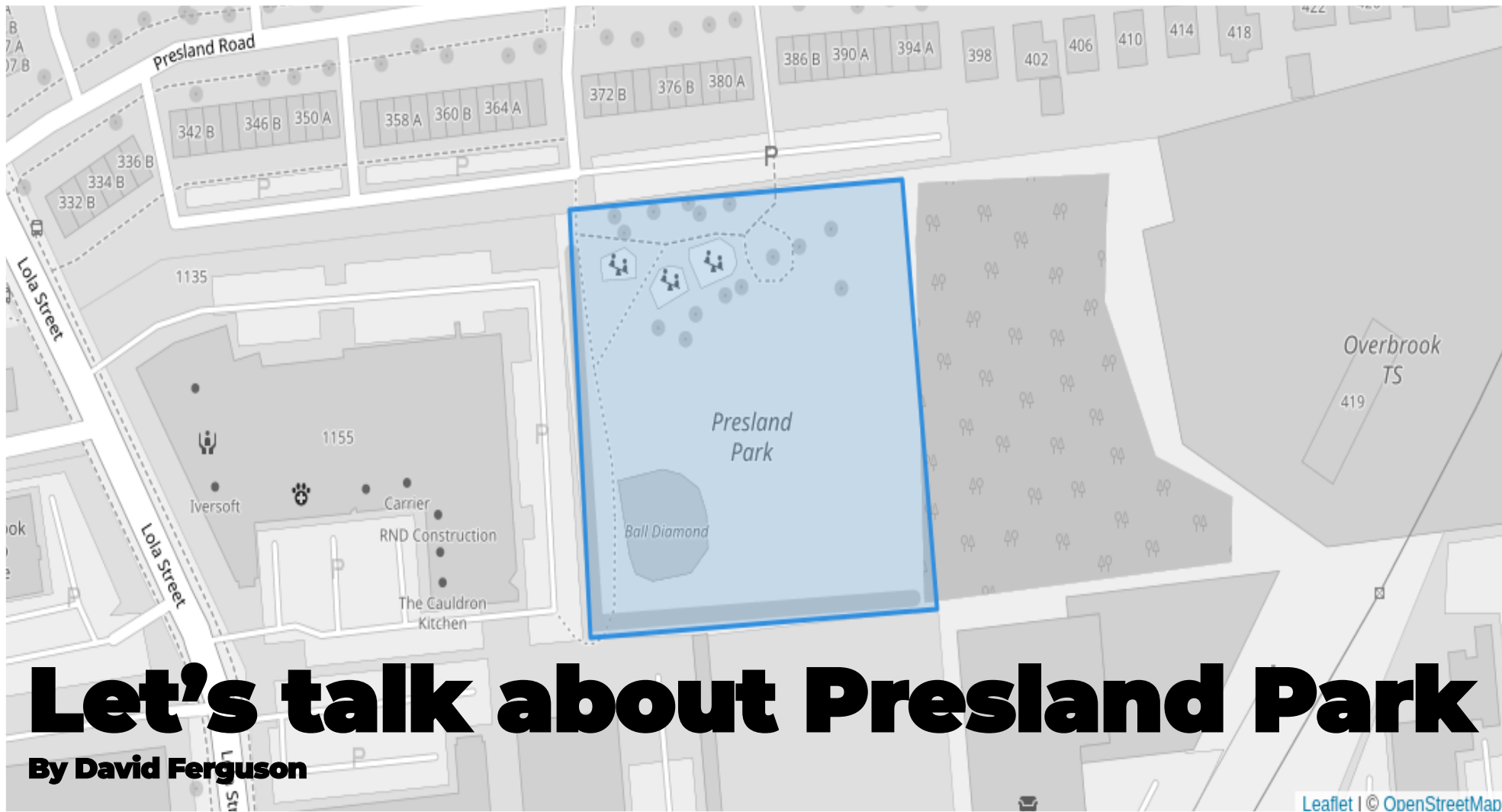


The original foot crossing

The Adawe Crossing has four pedestrian lookouts that provide an area where the scenic views and diverse wildlife can be observed. Its viewing platforms are complemented by a railing design that offers uninhibited views in all .At night, enhanced lighting provides a safe, secure environment for all.

What image comes to mind when you think of Overbrook?

Email your choice using the subject line “Sites”, and I will add it to the Sites of Overbrook feature.



Let’s talk about Presland Park

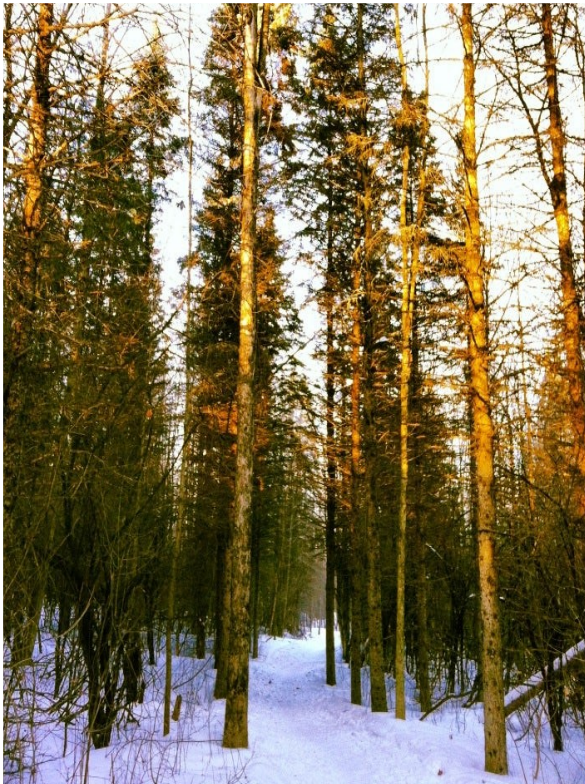
By David Ferguson

Tucked inconspicuously behind a row of townhouses, off Presland Road and at the end of Naughton Street is Presland Park.

The fitness app *Pacer*, lists public recreation sites on its website, and described Presland Park as “suitable for walking, and family activities, and featuring sports facilities such as a baseball court, and an ice rink.” It goes on to say, “Presland Park is celebrated for its nice tree row.” “In addition to its natural scenery, this park also has playgrounds and dog-friendly areas.”

Local residents will be forgiven for not recognizing the park by this glowing description. In its disclaimer, the *Pacer* blog goes on to say, “The information ... reflects authoritative outside sources as well as subjective ideas of the author of each piece.” No doubt.

Local residents know the park as a swampy, soggy space that has severe drainage issues. A single, overflowing garbage can greets those who enter the park. In the distance, the baseball diamond sits idle and un-



Adjacent to the park, the City has an ongoing Reforestation Project which, to most people appears to be dirty and neglected.

kempt and, not for lack of trying, last year’s rink was a choppy mess. The BMX course is largely unused, and the “tree row” is rarely maintained. The Reforestation Project is a filthy haven for drug users who, for the most part, isolate themselves from the general public.

The 1.1-hectare (2.7-acre) park features a redundant chain-link fence that defines a well-used children’s playground. The surface material used on the play space is sand. Of the top five recommended materials for safety, sand is third, following engineered wood fibre and rubber mulch as excellent choices for both safety and sustainability.

Presland Park must become a safe, friendly, and sustainable park that everyone can enjoy.

We all understand the term “fiscal restraint,” a malady that every politician has used to sidestep the issue, but the simple cure for that is **political will**, or getting politicians to agree with you by organizing and demanding that Council act.

In 2021, an extravagant but unrealistic proposal by the architectural firm Sharmeen Rizvi [www.sharmeenrizvi.com/presland-park-revitalization] was made that would turn the under-used and desolate parkland into a remarkable, futuristic space. Advocating innovative ideas, including building a public washroom, the proposal was shelved, and the park’s future was relegated to fence repairs and grass cutting.

The first and most obviously issue is proper drainage. Once completed, we can then address the amazing suggestions put forward by the area’s residents including, a fenced dog park area, an enlarged playground area with additional play features, a community vegetable garden and treed picnic space.

The Overbrook Community Association wants you to join us in our goal to see Presland Park become a space that is loved and used year-round. If you are as enthusiastic about it as we are, please let us know. It is important that we have the numbers to support our request to Council because without them, we will not achieve political will.

The first and most obviously issue is proper drainage. Once completed, we can then address the amazing suggestions put forward by the area’s residents including, a fenced dog park area, an enlarged playground area with additional play features, a community vegetable garden and treed picnic space.



While children seem to enjoy the play structures, parents have expressed concerns surrounding the age of the structures and the general safety of the available equipment.

The Overbrook Community Association wants you to join us in our goal to see Presland Park become a space that is loved and used year-round. If you are as enthusiastic about it as we are, please let us know. It is important that we have the numbers to support our request to Council because without them, we will not achieve political will.



Drainage issues plague the park, rendering most of the green area unusable for weeks after a rainstorm.



The Park Project Le projet du parc

The City of Ottawa will be investing millions of dollars in new and renewed parks, recreation and cultural facilities, as well as arts and cultural programming to help keep residents physically and mentally active, including:

- \$15.6 million to develop new parks.
- \$29.1 million to renew recreation facilities, including pools, sports buildings and community centres.
- \$6.6 million to renew outdoor recreation facilities, including playgrounds and tennis courts.
- \$1.9 million to renew culture facilities, including museums.
- \$13 million to support local cultural and recreation organizations.
- \$1 million to install generators at emergency reception and lodging sites across the City.

The draft budget includes \$43 million to maintain 4,505 hectares of parkland and invests \$250,000 to support new parks and other maintenance activities.

Why is that important for us?

It is imperative that the OCA/ACO take the lead in advocating for a fair portion of that money to revitalize a sorely neglected yet oddly beautiful parcel of land known as Presland Park. This proposal will include the “reforestation area” , a swath of land that appears to be unmonitored and insecure but for a small, largely ignored sign that requests caution when “following the paths” (?). It would seem that a huge opportunity to teach people, particularly young people, about the importance of trees and other wild growth is being squandered.

OCA Leading the charge

Overbrook Community Association has established the *Presland Park Revitalization Committee (PPRC)*. We are seeking interested residents and park users from across the community who are willing to dedicate their time and energy to this exciting project.

Proposed committee makeup

The committee will be made up of no less that eight (8) members of the public, six of whom will be local residents and two will be local businesspeople. The committee will also have a non-voting member who is a representative of the City of Ottawa, and who will be nominated by our local city councillor, Rawlson King. The committee chair will also be a non-voting position, but the chair will be called upon to break a tied vote. Although a search for committee members will be focussed within the park’s user area, to insure the projects success, it will be important to include people from all around Overbrook. The PPRC Committee will operate in both official languages, and will use other languages for communication and publicity purposes, if the opportunity presents itself. It will be critical to the success of this project that every member of our “community of communities” feels welcome to take part in this important project.

Discussion of recently presented thoughts and ideas

In a meeting late last year between the community and representatives from the City of Ottawa, residents spoke up about their ideas for the park. Among those ideas were:

- Establishing a new baseball or other children’s **sports** club that can use Presland Park’s revitalized area for play.
- Creating functional and safe passages through the park with **paths and lighting**, including through the forest. It must ultimately be determined whether a permanent transitional space into the adjacent parking lot is necessary and if so, taking the necessary steps towards making that happen.
- Constructing a **performance** area to be used by summer stock groups and other local artistic production companies.
- The construction of **public facilities** within the park land.
- Establishing a **fenced dog run**.
- Creating a **curated community garden**.

Every project the world has ever known began with an idea that someone felt was worthy enough to pursue. From personal experiences throughout more than 40 years of working with my community and local politicians, I can confidently say that anything is possible . We must stand together behind this important project to achieve our goal.

Please consider being a member of our committee. For more information, email David Ferguson at PreslandPark@Overbrook.ca.



Celebrating Nature in the City

Welcome to my column. As an Overbrook resident for over 30 years, an avid naturalist and environmentalist, mother of two and grandmother of three, I'd like to share some of my ideas on how we can "Celebrate Nature" right here in Overbrook.

When I first moved to Overbrook, I was worried I'd miss the woods and easy access to the Ottawa River we'd had in Orleans. Initially, I spent a lot of time, leaving the city to visit the Gatineau Hills and nearby lakes to spend "time in nature". It took me a while to realize the abundance of nature that is right here on our doorstep (or in our backyards).

My daily commute took me along the Rideau and Ottawa Rivers, and I was delighted to see Wood



Summer is a wonderful time to explore the natural spaces near our homes. Here are some things you can do to enjoy nature.

- Take a relaxing walk or cycle along the river on a cool summer's evening or cool morning.
- Try out a Wildlife Quest from the Ottawa Field Naturalist Club
- Visit the Ottawa Riverkeeper Learning Lab at NCC River House, 501 Sir George-Étienne Cartier Parkway.
- Learn more about the birds in our local area by using the Merlin app.
- Learn more about the plants and trees in our area by using the I-Naturalist app.

Explore nearby nature through Parks Canada's Learning to Camp Program in co-operation with the Ottawa Outdoor Gear Library.

There are so many ways that we can Celebrate Nature in the City; I look forward to telling you more about birds, native plants and trees, bees, butterflies and other bugs, Nature Activities to do with kids.

Feel free to contact me at Gardening@overbrook.ca for a tour of the Donald Street boulevard gardens.

Photos: MichèleMichichiuc@gmail.com



Ducks, Painted Turtles and Canada Geese on a regular basis. It took me a while to discover that we have a Birding Hotspot right here in Overbrook. Birders have seen 105 different bird species observe at the Adawe Crossing – what a gem of a spot!

In recent years, I have been spending more time in my garden and giving more and more of my yard back to nature. I live very close to the Vanier parkway and yet I have a groundhog living under my shed, a cottontail rabbit living under my cedar hedge, squirrels and at least 20 species of birds who visit my backyard feeder and pond. This spring, I read a delightful book "We Are The Ark – Returning Our Gardens to Their True Nature with Acts of Restorative Kindness", by Mary Reynolds (available at the Ottawa Public Library). Mary recommends giving half of your yard, balcony, or community park back to nature. If you want to learn more, check out We Are The Ark.

Two years ago, I took on the challenge of restoring the boulevards at West Donald. Bird-Friendly Ottawa has celebrated World Migratory Bird Day here three times and the Overbrook Community Association has had several gardening/clean-up events. I realized that this spot needed to be an ARK too. Drop by and see how we are restoring gardens by removing invasive species and planting native plants and trees to this very small space. Look carefully for bees, birds and butterflies.

Ottawa to Conduct Two Surveys Regarding North River Road



In response to traffic concerns, the *Planning Development and Building Services* department of the City of Ottawa will be conducting a traffic-calming study for North River Road between Donald and south of Wright Street.

A survey element of the study will be active until September 9.

The study aims to find recommendations of local and minor permanent roadway modifications that will improve safety and reduce traffic speeds.

As part of this initiative, the City has developed a proposed traffic-calming plan.

The city is asking for feedback from the public and to do that, they have developed the "North River Road Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Study" which is available until September 9 at Ottawa.ca/NorthRiverRoad, or scan the QR code at left.



For further information on this survey, you may contact :

Lindsay Thomas
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110 Laurier Avenue West
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613-580-2424 ext.12625
CheminNorthRiverRoad@Ottawa.ca

In addition, the City of Ottawa is proposing active transportation improvements, such as cycling lanes, sidewalk segments, improved bus stops and intersection improvements along North River Road.

The goal is to improve safety and accessibility, and to encourage cycling and connections to transit stops.

Once again, feedback is being requested on this proposed "North River Road Active Transportation Facilities" plan .



That survey will be available until September 9 , and can be found at : Ottawa.ca/NorthRiverRoad (or scan the QR code at left).

For further information, on this study, you may contact:

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Constituency | Office Bureau de circonscription
237 chemin de Montréal Road
Ottawa (ON) K1L 6C7



Storytime at Rideau Hall

Until August 9, visit Rideau Hall on Thursdays and Fridays, from 1 pm until 3 pm,.

Storytime is a free, family-friendly activity that is hosted by Rideau Hall, in collaboration with *United for Literacy*.

Hosted by the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre, the "FAB Festival" is a one-day, family-friendly showcase of everyday creativity and ingenuity in our community.

The festival will be on **Saturday, September 14** at the Rideau Community Hub, 815 St. Laurent Boulevard, the former Rideau High School.

It will feature a maker community show & tell, community-engaged arts, talks, DIY workshops and much more. A "Call for Creative Projects" is now open .

For more information and to submit your project, please visit this [link](#). The deadline to submit your application to showcase your creative projects at the FAB Festival is August 4.

BLACK HISTORY IN OTTAWA BUS TOURS

Every Saturday until October, Black History in Ottawa offers a bus tour of Ottawa. The fascinating tour delves into the narratives of resilience, creativity, and leadership that have defined the Black Canadian experience in Ottawa.

It visits significant locations that commemorate the pioneers who shaped the black community in Ottawa. It explored the neighbourhoods where Black Canadians made their homes and established cultural hubs. The tour will discuss advocacy and activism featuring the courageous activists who fought for social justice.

Whether you're a history enthusiast, a cultural connoisseur, or simply curious to learn more, our tour offers an unforgettable opportunity to celebrate and honour the diverse voices that have helped shape our city.

Tickets are \$15.00 for seniors and student, \$25.00 for individual adults, \$20.00 for groups and families. Children under the age of 12 are free.

You can register by email at promo.blackhistoryottawa@gmail.com. Include your name, the selected tour time, and date, as well as confirmation of your payment. Indicate "BHO Tour" in the memo with your e-transfer payment. Payment should be sent by e-transfer to: blackhistoryottawa@gmail.com.

Departure times are 11:30 AM or 2:30 PM from the Ottawa City Hall entrance on Lisgar Street.

WWW.OVERBROOK.CA CONNECTIONS



All information, services and programs can be found here:



There is an indoor swimming pool at **Complexe St Laurent**, 525, rue Côte. A second is at **Parc Genest** in Vanier at 43 rue Ste-Cécile, HOWEVER **it will be closed for repairs throughout the summer of 2024.**

For children, there are “splash pads” or “splash pools,” a recreational area for water play that has little or no standing water. Splash guards eliminate the need for lifeguards or other supervision because

there is little risk of drowning. All City of Ottawa wading pools will be operational from May 18 to September 15, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. In Overbrook, there is one at **Lawson Park**, 391 Lawson.

A paddling pool is an artificial swimming pool with water only a few centimeters deep in which small children can play. There is one at the **Overbrook Community Center**, 33 Quill Street.

Legal Information Session

This event is free and open to anyone who is interested in learning about the following topics

Topics:

- Your rights when being stopped or searched by the police
- Your rights when police want to enter your home

Where: Overbrook Community Centre: 33 Quill St, Ottawa, ON K1K 4E7. Room: Craftsroom

When: 6pm to 8pm on August 15, 2024

Free one-on-one intakes available following the presentation



613-894-HELP (4357) 
ottawa.prison.law@gmail.com 
Instagram: @ottawapls 
www.prisonerlegalsupports.ca 



August 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 Civic Holiday	6	7	8	9	10 Overbrook Day!
11	12	13 9 pm <u>Online</u> Swimming lesson registration	14 9 pm <u>In Person</u> Swimming lesson registration	15 7 pm <u>Legal</u> <u>Information</u> <u>Session</u> 9 pm <u>Online</u> Land course registration	16 3pm to 7 pm <u>Moov</u> <u>Dance Party</u> 9 pm <u>Online</u> Land course registration	17
18 2 pm to 7 pm Family Pride Day Capital Pride Parade	19	20	21	22	23 1 pm to 5 pm Backpack Giveaway	24
25 11 am to 4 pm Lola'sFest	26	27	28	29 - Event of the Overbrook Community Association - Event of the Overbrook Community Centre - Event of the Vanier BIA, 261 Montréal Rd at Marier	30	31

September 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Labour Day	3	4 4 pm to 7 pm Community Centre Basketball League (CCBL)	5 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	6	7
8 City Pools Close	9 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	10 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group	11 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	12 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	13	14
15	16 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	17 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group	18 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	19 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	20	21
22	23 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	24 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group	25 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	26 10 am to Noon Preschool Play Group 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL	27	28
29	30 4 pm to 7 pm CCBL			- Event of the Overbrook Community Association - Event of the Overbrook Community Centre - Event of the Vanier BIA, 261 Montréal Rd at Marier		

THE QUEENSWAY DECEPTION

HOW THE PEOPLE OF OTTAWA WERE SOLD ONE THING, BUT GOT ANOTHER.

By Robert SMYTHE

Did you know that the original idea for a cross-city roadway was quite different from what it has become? Proposed in the *Plan for the National Capital—General Report* (1950), the Cross-Town Parkway cut through the city was to be “a broad, landscaped boulevard with travel lanes at ground level.” Largely due to a bully construction company, that sensible and sensitive vision became the unsightly scar that we now live with.

But is it too late to revisit the original plans? Cities across North America are dismantling and reinventing their elevated highway systems with startlingly beautiful results that create livable, safe communities where once only towers of concrete existed. Is this something Ottawa should consider?

Ottawa writer and historian **Robert Smythe** gives us the background story as to why the Queensway was not planned as the scar through the city that it is today.

The Queen's dedication was one of a series of public events that took the Royal party on a counterclockwise loop around the City. That day I was taken to the corner of Alta Vista Drive and Smyth Road to wave at the passing motorcade. It is only now that I realize that she was on her way to the Hurdman Bridge ceremony.

Hurdman Bridge (known at the time as Hurdman's Bridge) crossed the Rideau River just north of the Queensway's present day alignment. When the water is low the concrete footings can be seen.

The Queensway's original configuration had a fatal flaw - too many exit and on ramps in close proximity creating a dangerous interweaving of high speed lanes.



A copy of this photograph once hung outside the reception area of the former Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton's Transportation Department. It disappeared around the time of the City of Ottawa amalgamation.

The plume of black smoke behind Her Majesty is from a blast that officially marked the commencement of the Queensway's construction.

nitaries looked on as Queen Elizabeth pressed a button that set off a dynamite blast a safe distance away. She was apparently startled by the volume of the blast and remarked on the novelty of the ceremony.

Going in search of the location of the symbolic blast, I discovered the remains of the old Hurdman's Road on the east bank of the river which is the likely site of the detonation ceremony. When the first leg of the Queensway (from Hurdman's eastward) was opened to traffic on August 8, 1960 the highway builders were still promising to erect a memorial to mark the 1957 opening.

On September 20 and November 3, 1960 the Ottawa Citizen was reporting that there would soon be a “suitable plaque” on this site, which I don't believe there ever was.

The first blast may have been purely symbolic. Was dynamite actually needed to erect the first bridge, located south of the old Hurdman Bridge.

The Gréber Report proposed “a broad, landscaped boulevard with travel lanes at ground level.”

The westbound Kent Street off-ramp has been closed for decades. Its grades are still there, slumbering under a heavy layer of grass.

Building the Queensway was one of Canada's most ambitious urban highway projects.

Conceived in the 1940s as a *Beaux Arts* boulevard, it was completed in the 1960s as a crosstown expressway sandwiched in a narrow corridor between established neighbourhoods — a planning mistake repeated by most mid-sized to large cities in North America.

As proposed in the detailed model that was prepared to illustrate the *Plan for the National Capital General Report* (1950), better known as the *Greber Report*, the “Cross-Town Parkway” cut through the city,

beginning at the Eastern Entrance Boulevard east of the Rideau Canal.

It was to be a broad, landscaped boulevard with lanes at ground level.

Construction of the boulevard, briefly named the Kingsway until the death of King George VI, took years to begin. Land assembly, relocation of the rail lines, and the final detailed design by transportation planners DeLeuw Cather that had inexplicably translated the tree lined promenade into a modern freeway.

The official inauguration was timed to coincide with the Royal Visit of 1957. Mounted on a carpeted dais furnished with a pair of bergere chairs, civic dig-



This reach of the Rideau River (shown at the time of the relocation of Union Station) was once crossed by a total of five bridges - three for the railways.

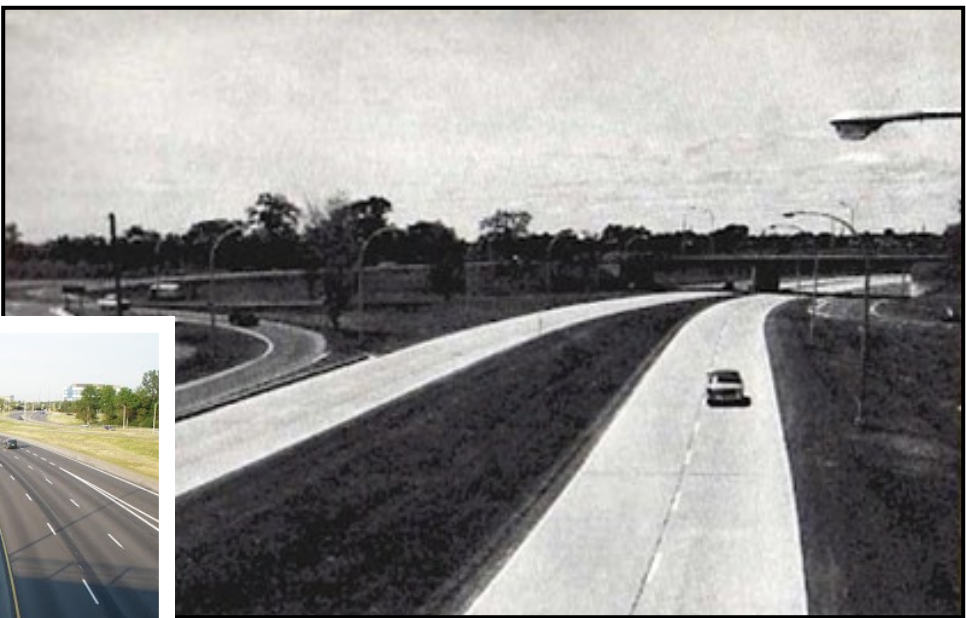
The western section of the Queensway was the next to open. However, building through the middle of the city was considerably more complicated. By 1962 it had become clear that the limited access highway had to be elevated, and the cheapest way to do this was to build it atop a continuous mound. Shocked by the possibility of a cross town barrier (except where it was to be pierced by roadway tunnels) Ottawa City Council delayed the project for a year while it costed a freeway elevated on columns. This would have freed up more land, and been easier to traverse beneath, but was too expensive, and they returned to 'the mound'. Perhaps it was a blessing that we were spared the elevated expressway. The completed Queensway finally opened on August 8, 1966.

At Bronson Avenue, the Queensway's right-of-way was squeezed very tight, and on October 31, 1962 the City of Ottawa and the National Capital Commission jointly expropriated the Coca-Cola bottling plant. This was Ottawa's second Coke bottling building, the first being on Queen Street west of Lyon. That building still stands, and is now a restaurant. Coca Cola moved to a modern plant on Coventry Road, which has since been demolished to accommodate parking at the St. Laurent Shopping Centre.

While the Queensway came perilously close, the Coke building on Bronson, it ultimately was not demolished and on January 28, 1964, the City of Ottawa and the NCC sold the plant to the Ottawa Public School Board for \$800,000. They had paid just over \$1 million for it two years earlier. Today

it is about to be resold by the Ottawa Carleton District School Board, raising new concerns in the immediate neighbourhood about putting the property back to its intended use, a wider Queensway. The key recommendation was the relocation of the railways and associated rail yards and warehouses out of the downtown core. Gréber argued that the tracks had been laid to serve the interest of their operators and the lumber barons rather than those of the broader community. Originally on the outskirts of the city, the railways had been constructed without regard for future urban expansion.

In addition to beautifying the city, their removal would return the city to its citizens by eliminating rail barriers that divided neighbourhoods, improve safety, and speed traffic circulation. Replacing the railways would be a network of highways, urban arteries, and tree-line parkways. Gréber recommended the construction of two new bridges across the Ottawa River on the outskirts of the city that would link the Ontario and Quebec highway systems, one in the west over Nepean Bay at Lemieux Island, and another in the east over Upper Duck Island. Gréber also sought the elimination of Ottawa's trolleys as their overhead wires and related infrastructure in the downtown core detracted from the beauty and monumental nature of the area.



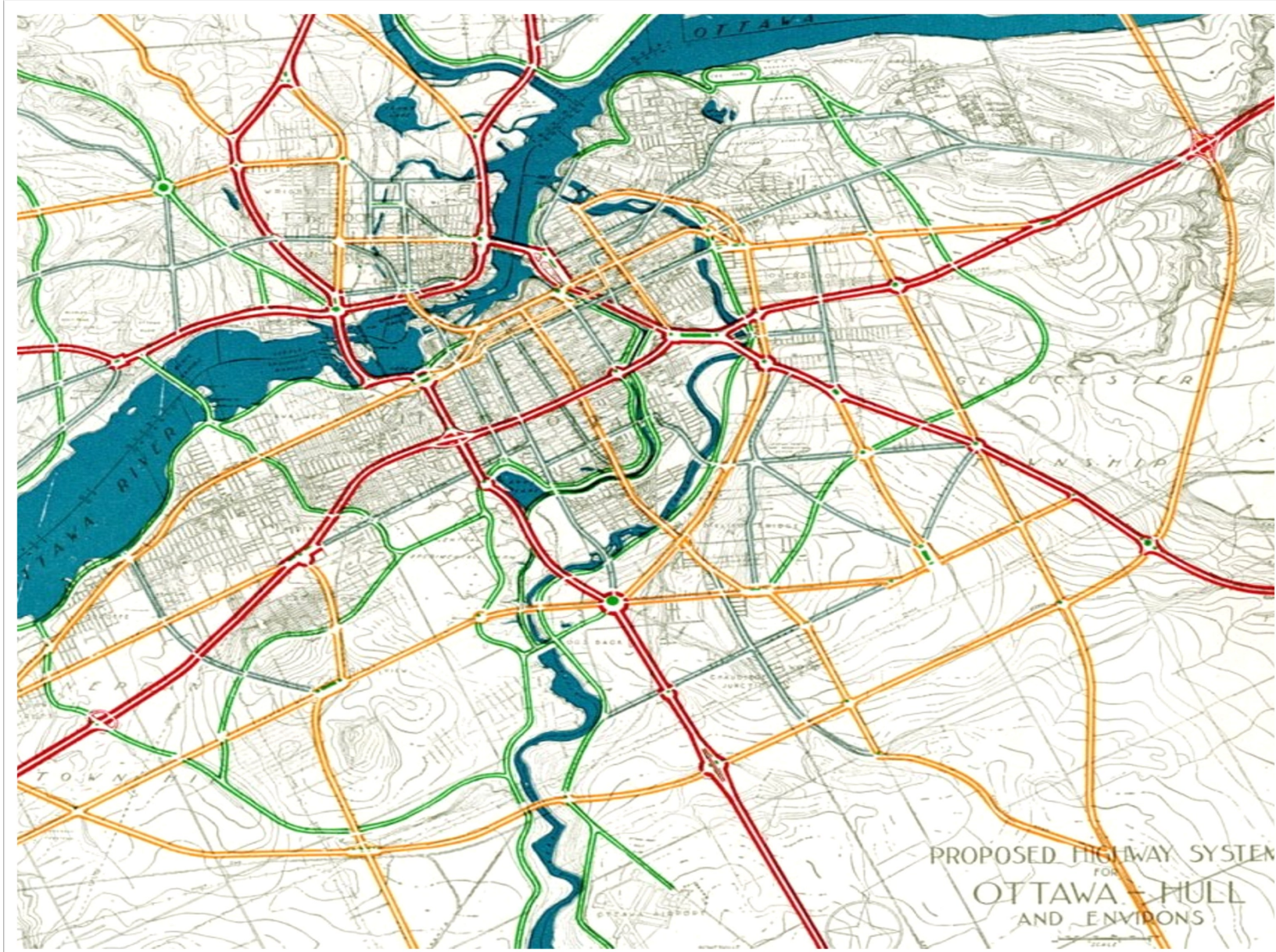
The highway's profile was designed to have wide landscaped verges and a grassy median. It was actually built that way, with shoulder-less lanes, a wide green median strip, and a concrete roadbed. This shot is from the early 1960s looking west towards the Alta Vista overpass. Looking east today from the same overpass, the greenery has been sacrificed for another travel lane and the grass strip is long gone.



A detonator button was mounted on wood, with a brass plaque reading: "This electric button was used by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to detonate a dynamite explosion to inaugurate the Queensway Limited Access Highway, October 15, 1957, Ottawa, Canada."

The plan's hierarchy of the regional roadway system showed divided, limited access roads in red, scenic drive-ways in green, and arterial roads in yellow.

Through the centre of the city the future Queensway could take advantage of the existing CNR rail lines and yards that stretched from Bank Street to Elgin.



REPORT FROM THE OCA’S COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

By Steven BOYLE and Nora BENAMRA
Community Planning Committee

NEW DRAFT ZONING BY-LAW

Following from the City’s newly approved Official Plan, a new Zoning By-law is being prepared as the key implementation tool for that Plan.

Visit the link: [Maps and zoning | City of Ottawa](#) where you can work with a map that allows you to slide a bar left or right, between the existing zoning and the proposed new zoning – note the two green vertical lines in Figure 1.

There are a few key features of the proposed new Zoning By-law that would impact Overbrook. None are surprising as the Official Plan allows these land use policy changes, whether in our community or elsewhere in the city.

More development on Minor Corridors

A new CM2 zone will allow four to six story redevelopment along properties fronting on these roadways subject to certain building setback restrictions.

Figure 1 denotes this, which will be along:

1. All of Donald Street between North River Road and St. Laurent Boulevard,
2. The portion of Lola Street between Donald Street and Coventry Road and,
3. the portion of North River Road north of Donald Street.

Single family only zoning in Overbrook will be gone – The City seeks more residential intensification and the zoning in such areas is expanded to include additional residential uses such as a duplex, semi-detached dwelling, triplex, etc. This impacts streets like Alesther Street, Wolffdale Crescent and Hardy Avenue.

Much of the zoning is not changing.

Many areas of Overbrook had a R3 or R4 zoning which will now be changed to a N3 or N4 (N for “Neighbourhood” zoning) and the range of residential uses would remain quite broad. There may be some minor building setback changes but emphasis will be on the zone’s permitted building envelop, leaving it is up to the landowner to decide how to combine vertically or horizontally the number of units to have within that space (although at least with meeting Building Code minimums).

No parking minimums –

It is proposed that there be no minimum number of parking spaces required, with that number left to the discretion of the landowner to decide how much parking is proposed.

North River Road

Drafts of Traffic Calming Study and of the Active Transportation Facilities Plan These are two related transportation studies for the north and south parts of North River Road.

The City of Ottawa is undertaking a Traffic Calming Study for the segment of Roadway between Donald Street and Drouin Avenue.

Following public comment and input in 2023 a draft plan has now been prepared and can be found at [North River Road Studies | City of Ottawa](#) . An excerpt is shown below in Figure 2.

Public comment on this draft plan is being sought by the City until September 9, 2024.

A few highlights of the plan are:

- having a “raised intersection” at Donald Street and North River Road to improve safety
- Adding bicycle lanes along the roadway, this would involve eliminating existing on-street parking
- Moving or consolidating several bus stop locations and new sidewalks on the west side to mostActive Transportation Facilities Plan goes from the Donald Street intersection north into Vanier to the McArthur Avenue intersection and can be found at – North River Road Studies | City of Ottawa It involves the same extension of bicycle lanes and future improved new sidewalk sections on the west (Riverain Park) side at several bus stops.

This study and this plan, both not yet approved, are only in the planning stage and funding for their implementation will need to be determined.

Transportation Environmental Assessments (EAs) underway

Three underway EAs of interest to Overbrook residents are:

- Coventry Road Widening (Belfast Road to St-Laurent Boulevard) Planning and Environmental
- Assessment Study – Coventry Road Widening (Belfast Road to St-Laurent Boulevard) Planning and Environmental Assessment Study | Engage Ottawa You may be interested in ensuring active transportation (pedestrian and cycling) links are part of this study – leading to/from the St. Laurent LRT station.
- St. Laurent Boulevard Transit Priority Corridor (Hemlock Road to Innes Road) Environmental Assessment Study – St-Laurent Boulevard Transit Priority Corridor Environmental Assessment (EA) Study | City of Ottawa This is a long-term plan to improve transit, add cycling facilities and have better side-

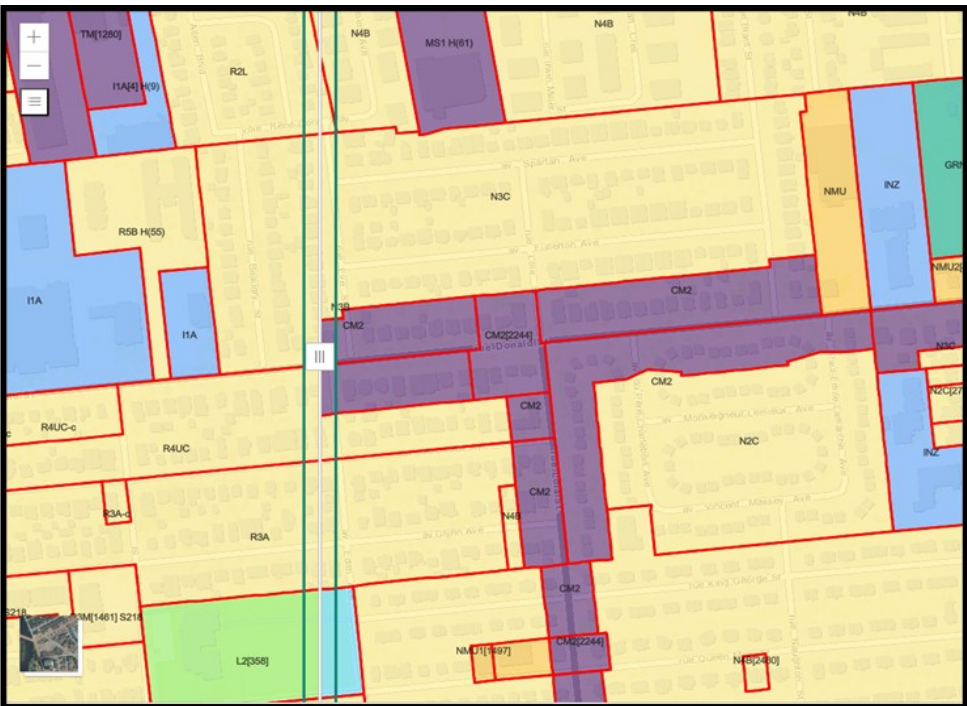


Figure 1 – Excerpt from draft of new zoning By-law (Donald Street and Lola Street area)

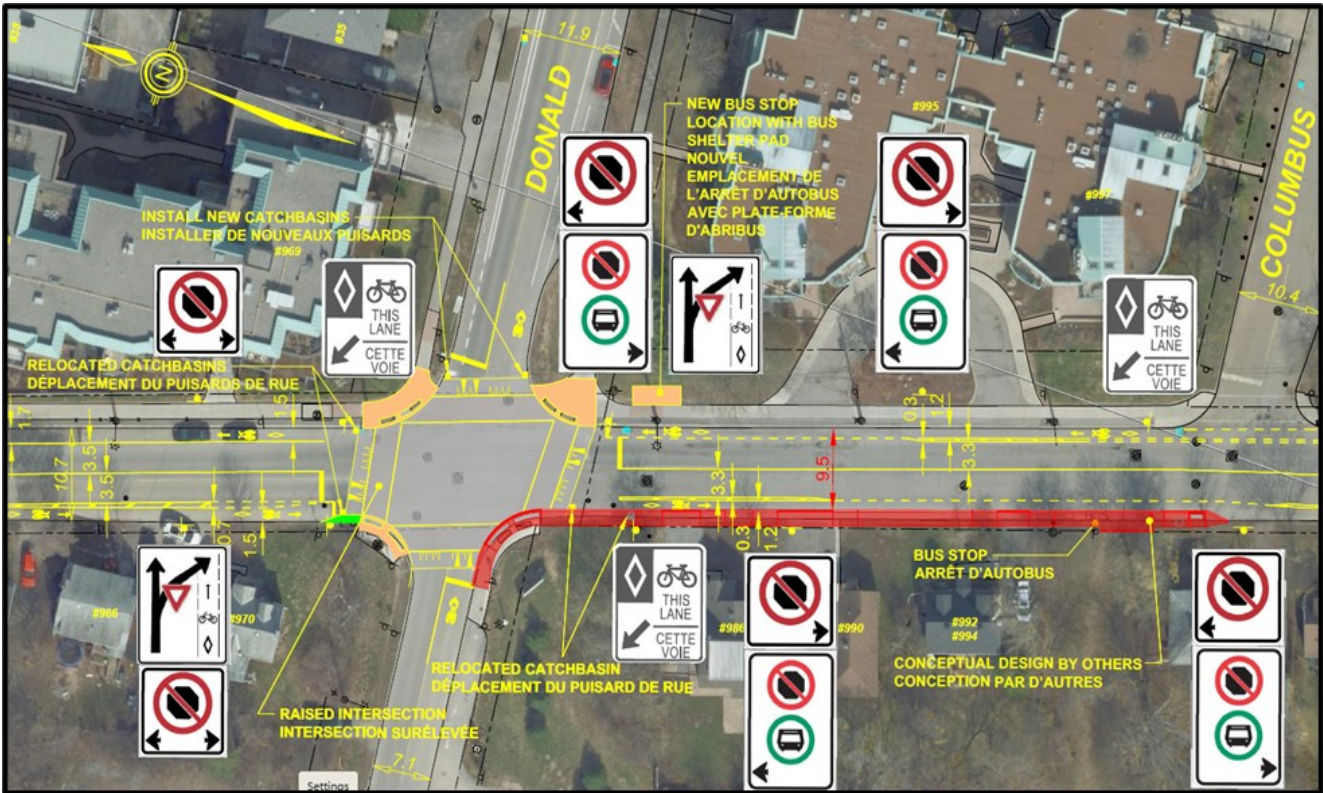


Figure 2 – Excerpt from draft Traffic Calming Study for North River Road

walks and street trees along this long segment of urban arterial.

- Tremblay Multi-Use Connection (Terminal Avenue to Tremblay LRT Station) Environmental Assessment Study – Tremblay Multi-Use Connection (Terminal Avenue to Tremblay LRT Station) Environmental Assessment (EA) Study | City of Ottawa This would be for a new pedestrian and cycling link from the Tremblay Road LRT station (accessible to Overbrook residents via the Max Keeping Bridge over Highway 417) either over or under the VIA Rail tracks to reach Terminal Avenue and the services and shopping there.

This is a planning and transportation news update from the Overbrook Community Association’s *Community Planning Committee*. The mandate of the committee is to monitor and be involved in proposed land use changes (what gets built and where), redevelopment projects (details of site plans) and transportation issues (cycling facilities, traffic calming) that may be planned for Overbrook.

This is done primarily by reviewing and providing feedback on planning applications, submitted to the City by developers or property owners, for proposed changes or redevelopment of various sites. This may also involve undertaking community engagement or participating in it, to facilitate dialogue between applicants (developer/owner) and the community by supporting its members to express their concerns and participating to the discussion on how they might be addressed.

In this update we would like to present to you some community-wide or street specific issues (as opposed to individual site-specific redevelopment proposals). If this interests you the committee is open to new members or hearing public input, drop us a line via the OCA general e-mail address: info@overbrook.ca. We hope to hear from you!



As the summer weather warms up, it’s been a busy period in the house. I’m pleased to share with you some of the projects on which we have been working hard.

On Tuesday April 16 th , Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland presented Budget 2024, which includes significant support for the well-being

of our youth. 1 billion \$ has been allocated toward starting a national school food program. This program will see 400,000 children across the country, including many in Ottawa-Vanier, receive a healthy meal every day, so they can better focus on school and don’t have to go to class hungry. This will also allow their parents to save on their grocery budget.

Eligible seniors aged 65 and up can now begin receiving the care they need thanks to the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP). Delivery of services began on May 1 st , and since then, some 30,000 Canadians have received care they previously couldn’t. I was able to visit Kilrea Denture Clinic on Wednesday May 8 th where I heard from seniors firsthand about how much of a difference this program is making in their lives. By 2025, 9 million Canadians will be eligible to receive dental care through the CDCP, it is truly a game-changer in the lives of many.

Furthermore, I’m working hard with my colleagues from the Ottawa caucus for the revitalization of the downtown area, so I was thrilled to see that the 2024 budget takes important steps towards the revitalization of downtown, including the ByWard Market. The government is committed to reducing the federal government’s office portfolio by 50% over the next decade. Selling these office buildings will free up space for a range of new uses. Some offices will be converted into residential buildings and others redeveloped for various sectors, from small businesses to arts and culture.

As always, if you need any assistance with any federal programs or services, contact my team at 613-998-1860, or send us an email at mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca.



My office works with residents and community associations on an ongoing basis to implement traffic calming measures throughout the Ward. Not unlike

other City Councillors, the number one concern that I hear on a regular basis concerns speeding and traffic.

Speeding and driver behaviour are major concerns for all Ottawa residents. Over the past few months, I have been consulting with individuals, school administrators, and community organizations to identify traffic calming solutions in all neighbourhoods across Rideau-Rockcliffe. You will have recently observed the seasonal installation of traffic calming measures throughout the Ward based upon these consultations and inquiries, including: speed display devices, pavement markings, flexible centreline signage, cycling delineators, flexible posts to create bulb outs or chicanes; and warranted pedestrian crossings (PXOs).

The City is undertaking a traffic calming study along North River Road between Donald Street and south of Wright Street due to community concerns about speeding, pedestrian safety, and aggressive driver behavior. The purpose is to recommend localized and minor permanent roadway modifications intended to improve safety, primarily by reducing vehicular speeds. The study does not involve the complete redesign or reconstruction of the entire street but focuses on key localized roadway modifications and spot retrofits. The development of the study was initiated by a request from the Overbrook Community Association in 2018 for an area traffic

management study and influenced by a community walkabout held in January 2023 organized by my office, in conjunction with Rideau-Vanier Councillor Stéphanie Plante.

Due to enough community support, the study proceeded further with analysis of traffic conditions as well as feedback obtained through an initial online survey which closed in September 2023. Based on a review of traffic data, coordination with various stakeholders and public feedback, the City has developed a proposed conceptual traffic calming plan as well as proposed active transportation improvements, such as cycling lanes, sidewalk segments, improved bus stops and intersection improvements to improve safety and accessibility and to encourage cycling as well as connections to transit stops. City staff are now seeking resident feedback through two online surveys at www.ottawa.ca/northriverroad until September 9, 2024.

Once the study recommendations have been finalized and funding secured, the approved plans would proceed to design and construction. The entire process from study initiation to final construction can take several years to complete.

You will have noticed the City is also expanding its automated speed enforcement program in Rideau- Rockcliffe Ward. By this summer, an automated speed enforcement camera will be installed and operating on Queen Mary Street, from Quill Street to Edith Avenue, in Overbrook. Much like red-light cameras, these cameras are designed to reduce the risk of collisions, and are located in community safety zones, near schools or parks, with a goal to protect vulnerable road users.

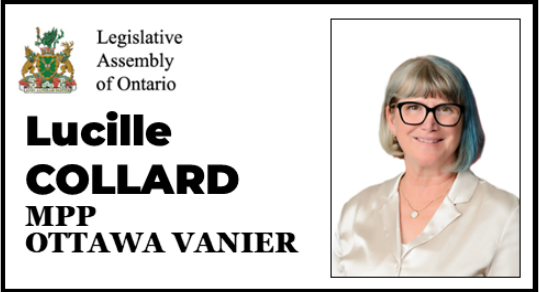
The City’s speed cameras have a positive impact on speed and safety in school zones, which on average includes a 200-per-cent increase in compliance with the speed limit and a 72-per-cent decrease in drivers travelling 15 km/h over the speed limit. Revenue generated from fines is reinvested into the City’s Road Safety Action Plan program.

When the system is placed into operation, the 40 km/h speed limit on Queen Mary Street will be strictly enforced. Tickets will be mailed to the registered plate owner of the vehicle within 30 days.

As always, you can contact my office by email at rideaurockcliffeward@ottawa.ca or by phone at 613-520-2483. Also, please subscribe to my newsletter at rideau-rockcliffe.ca.

Rawlson King
Councillor for Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward, rideau-rockcliffe.ca

POLITICALLY SPEAKING



Dear residents of Overbrook,
Congratulations for the revival of Overbrook ConneXions! I am so glad for this relaunch and the opportunity to strengthen community ties and support networks.

I hope everyone is enjoying the warmth and activities this summer brings. While we relish these

moments, we must also continue to address significant challenges. As your MPP, I am committed to advocating for necessary changes.

These key priorities include:

Healthcare: Ensuring timely access to quality healthcare by reducing wait times and increasing mental health funding.

Education: Investing in resources and support for teachers, including special education, to ensure every student can succeed.

Economic Growth: Attracting and supporting skilled newcomers to address workforce shortages and supporting small businesses.

Environment: Implementing stronger measures to combat climate change and protect our natural resources through sustainable practices.

Community Services: Supporting vulnerable residents through strengthened social services and community organizations.

Stay connected and informed by visiting our website and subscribing to our newsletter.

Continue to enjoy this beautiful summer!

Sincerely,
MPP Lucille Collard
<https://lucillecollard.onmpp.ca>



OVERBROOK DAY STREET PARTY



SATURDAY AUGUST 10TH
4PM - 8PM OVERBROOK PARK

PICNIC! GAMES! SPORTS!

BRING YOUR OWN

- PICNIC BLANKET
- LAWN CHAIR
- WATER BOTTLE



OVERBROOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE D'OVERBROOK

WWW.OVERBROOK.CA



Ottawa
Community
Housing

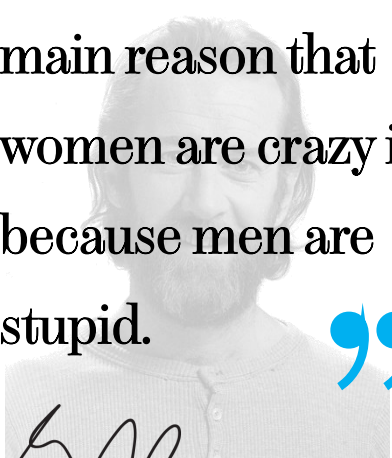
Logement
communautaire
d'Ottawa

**Centre de ressources communautaires
RIDEAU-ROCKCLIFFE
Community Resource Centre**

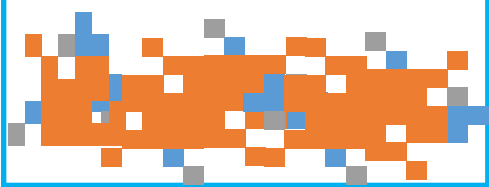
Overbrook • Forbes • Carson Grove • Manor Park
Lindenlea • Rockcliffe • New Edinburgh



“ Here is all you need to know about men and women: Women are crazy and men are stupid. And the main reason that women are crazy is because men are stupid. ”



George Carlin



The Ottawa Public Library Bookmobile visits the Overbrook Community Centre from 2:00 to 3:00 pm on Thursdays

<https://bibliottawalibrary.ca/en/library/bookmobile>

No appointment is needed to return items or pick up holds at the Bookmobile.



The Bookmobile will offer browsing of a small collection at all stops. For a list of our current schedule and stops, please read below.

The Bookmobile service includes two vehicles, each with its own unique collection. Bookmobile items are not-Holdable in order to ensure that all our bookmobile communities have equitable access to new and exciting materials.

To see whether an item you want is available to be picked up at a particular stop, please call 613-580-2424 x32629 or email Bookmobile@BiblioOttawaLibrary.ca

Invite the library (and the Bookmobile!) to an event: [Special event attendance request form](#)

CLASSIFIED ADS

STARTING IN OCTOBER!

ONLY \$2.50 PER LINE !

HELP WANTED

Have you got something to sell or is there something you want to buy?

Are you hiring for full or part-time work, or are you looking for a new job opportunity?



Do you have something to give away, or are you looking for something that someone might offer for free?

SERVICES AVAILABLE



Are you looking for someone who offers a specific service, or are you a handy person, babysitter, dog walker, or other service worker looking for new customers?

ITEMS FOR GIFTING

Browse and shop close to home. Nothing could be more convenient.

Why send it to a landfill when there is probably someone who will happily take it, broken or not!



Publish your email address, or communicate in confidence until you are BOTH ready to make the sale.

CONNEXIONS'

new Classified Ad feature may be the inexpensive source you are looking for.

Classified Ads are an inexpensive way to get your message out there. Your audience is concentrated

The best deals will be scooped up quickly ... Don't miss out! High resolution picture at no additional cost.

LOST AND FOUND



A CONNEXIONS Classified ad costs as little as \$2.50 per line.

If you don't see an applicable category, we will create a new one for whatever it is you have to buy, sell, trade or give away.

ITEMS FOR SALE

For example, this block of text costs only \$25. plus HST. Until January 2025, include a picture for FREE.



Almost new barbecue for Sale. Stainless steel "Weber" 5 burner, two years-old with no rust, and always well maintained. Asking \$500. Please contact Maria: REF8233043

Send your ad and high resolution picture to Classified@Overbrook.ca

Sample above is 25 words, the equivalent of five lines.

Send payment via email transfer to Accounts@Overbrook.ca

JOBS AVAILABLE

The **OVERBROOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION** and **OVERBROOK CONNECTIONS** have several positions to fill, each with a paid honorarium.

All positions are considered as part time.

For more information about the jobs and their remuneration, please click the button below.



FOCUS ON LOCAL BUSINESS

ENTERTAINING OVERBROOK

By David Ferguson
DavidF@Overbrook.ca

At least three or four times each summer, my relatively quiet morning is interrupted by the WHIRRRR of a whipper-snipper tearing a strip off of the grass surrounding the condo complex where I live. Following that, is the obnoxious roar of the leaf blower. As if that weren't enough, the workers communicate over the noise until I can hear nothing but the constant clamour of calamitous cacophony

I turned 65 last month, so I think that entitles me to say: Back in my day, we didn't have all those fancy contraptions. We used clippers and an edger tool along with a push mower for the grass, and it got the job done better than any old screeching power tool.

Pining for the "good ol' days", I ask myself, "If only there was a lawn and garden company that still did things like back in the day.

Amano Lawn and Garden is that company. Located right here in Overbrook, and operating across the city, it is part of the Amano Group, a Canadian not-for-profit corporation founded in 2016. The parent company is committed to advancing social and economic integration. Their goal is to provide training and employment opportunities, while promoting environmentally sustainable practices.

The Amano Group offers direct employment and skills training, in addition to social and professional support. The company has grown considerably since their inception, and the "Gardens" component continues to grow every year.

The gardening division offers general landscaping services with garden maintenance, and the specialized option of edible gardens, as well as year-round maintenance of indoor plants.

Amano (Spanish for "by hand") follows an environmentally sustainable business model that combines practicality and aesthetics. They do not use noisy power tools that produce smelly gas emissions, nor do they use chemical pesticides.

Using no power tools means no air pollution.

The company is dedicated to using water conservation strategies in their garden designs, including drought-tolerant native species, and pollinators to boost insect biodiversity.

And as if that weren't enough, Amano Gardens designs with plants that suit a property's environment, not fight it, focusing on easy-care perennials.

While most landscaping companies will send the largest crew possible with the most powerful tools possible to get the job done as quickly as possible, Amano Gardens takes a different approach.

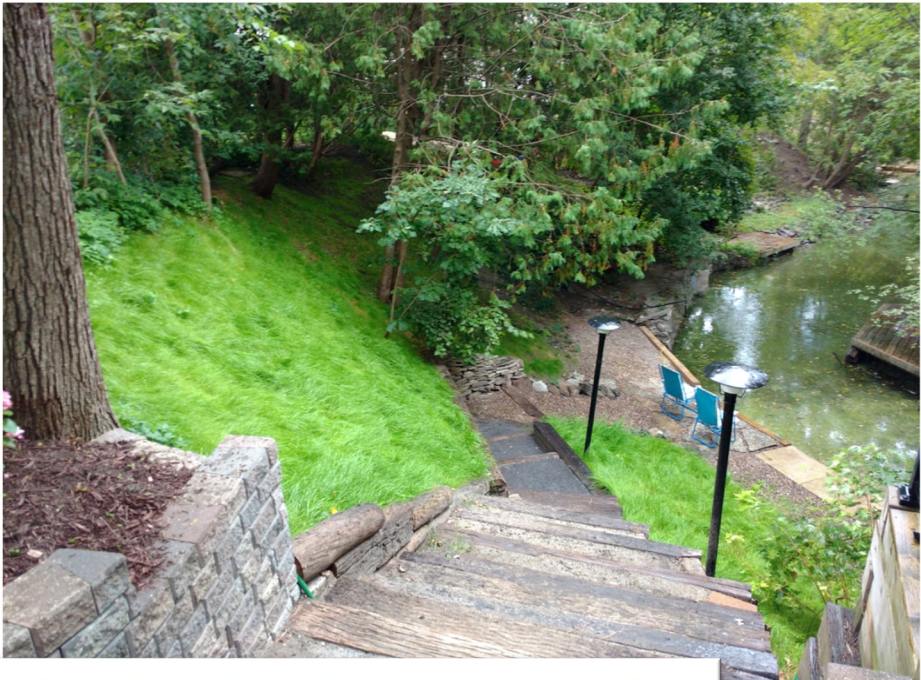
They use old-fashioned push mowers, which cut more like scissors than a whirling blade and are less likely to damage the grass leaves as they cut.

They take the approach that there is more to a healthy lawn than just cutting, watering, fertilizing and spraying the grass. Their approach to lawn care is roots up.

"We help clients grow their own edibles while maintaining their green spaces",



Emphasis on the Environment (and society in general)



said Executive Director Laura Ospina. "We also offer regular gardening and landscaping services, such as preparing garden beds, planting, mulching, and weeding, among others."

She adds, "While using power tools would make the job easier, I have found it to be a more fulfilling experience without them".

"Knowing you have helped create something beautiful without damage to the ecosystem is something of which we are very proud."

Flower and vegetable gardens are maintained with the same critical care.

They can advise on what plants to use, where to put them and how to take care of them. Each plant is looked after individually and with that kind of attention, each plant is allowed to thrive.

Amano Gardens' organic and *hands-on* approach to garden installation and maintenance is both effective and compliant with provincial and municipal regulations.

A healthy garden needs water, but when there's no rain, the cost of watering can quickly deplete a gardening budget, but Amano routinely uses techniques that naturally promote and maintain soil moisture.



You can reach Amano Garden Care by calling 613-656-1329, or email contact@amanogroup.org. Their website is amanogardens.com.



Rawlson King

Councillor / Conseiller
Rideau-Rockcliffe

OVERBROOK SUMMER 2024 UPDATE

Please visit www.rideau-rockcliffe.ca to sign up for updates and our weekly electronic newsletter.



- Rawlson King
- RideauRckcliffe
- rawlson
- 613-580-2483
- rideaurockcliffeward@ottawa.ca

PRESLAND PARK

I am committed to continuing my work improving parks across Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward 13 this Term of Council, including here in Overbrook. As part of this, residents living near Presland Park are invited to join me and my team for my Rideau-Rockcliffe Roundtable drop-in event in Presland Park in the Overbrook community on **July 31 from 2 to 4 pm. In case of rain, the event will take place August 1 at the same time.** Drop by to enjoy treats and discuss City issues with us. This is an opportunity to share your vision about Presland Park and your ideas for park improvements that would best suit the needs of park users of all ages. My pop-up park event is a continuation of my ongoing consultations with residents to better understand how Presland Park is currently being used and how the park and its amenities can be improved for all ages to enjoy for many different uses. My office is also conducting a survey about Presland Park.

Visit bit.ly/preslandpark or scan the QR code to share your feedback. The survey will remain open through the summer months.



NORTH RIVER ROAD

Traffic Calming Study

The City of Ottawa is undertaking a traffic calming study for North River Road between Donald Street and south of Wright Street in response to traffic concerns raised by residents, with the goal of recommending localized and minor permanent roadway modifications intended to improve safety, primarily by reducing vehicular speeds. Based on a review of traffic data, coordination with various stakeholders, public feedback and project constraints, the City has developed a proposed conceptual traffic calming plan and City staff are now seeking feedback from residents.

Please complete the online survey before September 9, 2024 at Ottawa.ca/NorthRiverRoad or via the QR code.



Active Transportation

The City of Ottawa is proposing roadway modifications to support walking, cycling and transit along North River Road between Selkirk Street and Queen Mary Street. The proposal includes adding bike lanes, segments of sidewalks, improved bus stops, and intersection improvements along North River Road to improve safety and accessibility for people of all ages and abilities, while also encouraging cycling and connections to OC Transpo stops.

Please complete the online survey by September 9, 2024 at Ottawa.ca/NorthRiverRoad or via the QR code.



DONALD STREET PROTECTED INTERSECTION

Donald Street at Vanier Parkway will be the next protected intersection in Rideau-Rockcliffe. This intersection has received an increasing volume of cyclists and pedestrians since the Adawe Crossing bridge was completed in December 2015. A protected intersection improves safety by reducing the speed of turning traffic and improves sight lines. The project also includes a multi-use pathway between Vanier Parkway and Grant-Toole Way. An online public information session is tentatively expected to be held this fall at which the design drawings will be presented. Residents will be able to review the design, ask questions and provide comments about the proposed project.

Visit bit.ly/DonaldIntersection or scan the QR code for updates and to learn more.



by The Sawyer Family

We have been eating Ottawa’s best pizza long before we moved to Overbrook. More than 10 years ago, once every month, I would order two large pizzas which I would pick up on my way from my job in Centretown to home in Orleans.

To say my family of five is picky about their pizza would be like saying Henry XIII was picky about choosing a wife. We are originally from Montreal where residents claim the origins of bagels, smoked meat and pizza and nobody can make it better. After moving to Ottawa, we began our search for “real” pizza, not that doughy, mushy, bland concoction that most restaurants sell.



Elie’s – The Original Lorenzo’s Pizza
295 Queen Mary St. at Lola St.
613-741-3638



Someone from my office suggested “Elie’s on Queen Mary” which would be akin to suggesting *Deutsch Flammkuchen* to my newbie ears.

In those years before GPS and Google Maps, finding anything was a challenge. Although I can’t remember how, I found it and we have not looked back since.

Elie’s produces not only the best pizza anywhere in Ottawa, but it is also consistently good.

A family-owned restaurant, Elie’s has been a part of this community for more than 45 years. Each menu item is prepared the way that anyone would if family was visiting, with great care and love.

Besides every type of pizza anyone could imagine – including vegetarian and yes, Hawai’ian – the menu includes fresh salads, shawarma, donair, a variety of burgers, club sandwiches and fish and chips. Elie’s is also fully licensed under LCBO.

Anyone from Overbrook — OR ANYWHERE — who hasn’t tried this perfectly piquant pizza has an obligation to try it at least once. You can order by phone or online for pick up or delivery from 11 am to 10 pm.

Do you have a favourite local restaurant? We would love to hear about it. Send your review to connex-



Located five minutes east of downtown on the Ottawa River.

NCC River House:
501 Sir George-Étienne Cartier Parkway

Tennis Pavilion:
504 Sir George-Étienne Cartier Parkway

613-746-8540 | info@onec.ca

COME PLAY

There's still time to take advantage of ONEC's 2024 Memberships and Youth Day Camps. Or plan for next year.

Details and Registration at **onec.ca**



TENNIS



SAILING



ROWING



KAYAKING

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) TO UNDERTAKE WORKS FOR THE RIDEAU RIVER KIOSK PROJECT

The Overbrook Community Association (OCA) is seeking firms to undertake works related to the construction and implementation of a community project known as the “Rideau River kiosk – Hurdman’s Bridge 150th Anniversary Project”.

This project consists of two parts:

Part 1: Manufacture of six kiosk panels and their pedestals (a metal foot post for each). Details of this RFP can be found here:

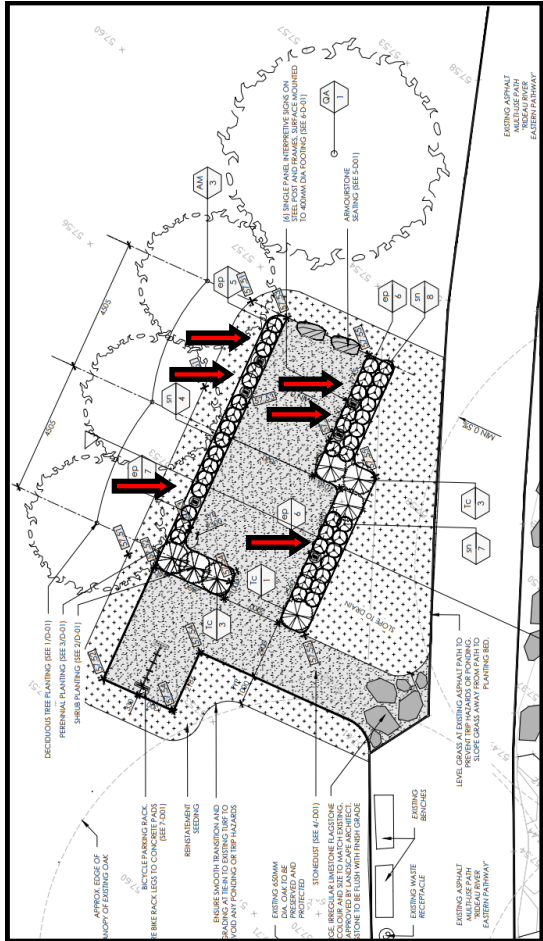
Part 2: Site preparation, provision of and installation works for surface materials, landscaping plantings, the six kiosk stands and their footings, bike parking rack, etc. Details of this RFP can be found here:

The landscape plan below illustrates an important portion of this project, and the six arrows denote the location of the six kiosks.

The project is located on National Capital Commission lands along the Rideau River East MUP, about 80m south of the Adawe Crossing/Donald Street junction.

The timing for this project’s implementation is the late fall of 2024.

For more details and OCA contact information please see the RFP documents, located here:



The landscape plan above illustrates the scope of the project and the arrows denote the location of the kiosks.



L'HONORABLE | THE HONOURABLE

MONA FORTIER

Députée | Member of Parliament
Ottawa-Vanier

Bureau de circonscription | Constituency Office
233, chemin Montréal Road, Ottawa, ON K1L 6C7

Communiquez avec nous! Contact us!

 Mona.Fortier@parl.gc.ca

 613-998-1860

 MonaFortier.libparl.ca

 @EquipeTeamMona

 @MonaFortier

 @MonaFortier



OVERBROOK NEWS AND CURRENT EVENTS

CONNECTIONS

NOUVELLES ET ACTUALITÉS D'OVERBROOK

Would you like to be a part of Overbrook’s favourite newspaper? If you have a story to tell, we would love to hear it.

We would love to hear from local small businesses, including individuals in start-ups for Enterprising Overbrook.

If you have a favourite restaurant that you would like to rave about, put it down on paper for our Overbrook Eats! column.

Maybe you would like to comment on something you read here. We want to hear ALL opinions.

We want to hear from all communities from within our community. If you have an event to promote, an idea that you want to float, or you need to get something off your chest, this is the place to do it.

All submissions are welcome. Submissions are subject to editing and are not guaranteed to be published.

Send your thoughts to Editor@Overbrook.ca



SUMMER

CORN ROAST & VENDOR FAIR

MPP Lucille Collard
Saturday August 24

Optimist Park Vanier
10AM-2PM

Fresh local corn
Family activities
Free swimming
Live music





TEEN
STAGGATION
VACANCES À LA
MAISON



Join us for an e-sports tournament where we play PS4 games such as NBA 2K24, FC Sports 24, and Rocket League. Afterwards, test your sports skills in the gym by playing a basketball tournament hosted by Manock Lual of Prezidental. Snacks provided.

Saturday, July 13, 2024 from 2:30 to 4:30

Saturday, August 10, 2024 from 2:30-4:30

For teens aged 12-18. St-Laurent Library, 515 Côte Street

Rejoignez-nous pour notre tournoi d'e-sports où nous jouons des jeux PS4 tels que NBA 2K24, FC Sports 24, et Rocket League. Ensuite, testez vos compétences sportives dans le gymnase en participant à un tournoi de basket organisé par Manock Lual de Prezidental. Collations fournies.

Pour les adolescents âgés de 12 à 18 ans.
Bibliothèque St-Laurent, 515 rue Côté

Le samedi 13 juillet 2024 de 14 h 30 à 16 h 30

Le samedi 10 août 2024 de 14 h 30 à 16 h 30

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Upon a Time



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deux fois

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KIDS

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4:30 PM TO 6:00 PM

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MERCREDI DU MOIS
16 H 30 À 17 H 30





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- Hands on learning opportunities
- Info sessions include light refreshments

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- August - October 2024
- Some E-learning opportunities available for Hybrid training



Information Session:

Dates/Time: Various
Location: Various

LEARN MORE

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workforce@ottawacommunitybenefits.ca

ottawacommunitybenefits.ca/workforce



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