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Winter Fun Day 2019 - January 26 2019

Hockey, skating, campfire, marshmallows, hotdogs, snow painting, and music. The Winter Fun Day was full of activities for everyone. Thank you to the volunteers who helped to make this a wonderful event.

Call for Summer Fun Day Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers for our Summer Fun Day. The Glabar Park Community Alliance is looking for a few people to supplement our GPCA directors as volunteers. We will need assistance decorating, selling hot dogs and beverages at the food tables, leading and supervising the bike parade, and cleaning up at the end of the day.

This is not a huge commitment; we will create short shifts for volunteers so that you can spend most of the time with friends and family. Please contact the GPCA at glabarparkca@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer.

Letter from City of Ottawa to residents in Ward 7.

The City of Ottawa posted and emailed a letter about the Heritage Register. Over 2500 properties across Ottawa were identified for their cultural heritage value. The City of Ottawa intends to add these properties to its municipal Heritage Register as non-designated listings.

Visit the website at ottawa.ca/heritageinventory for a brochure that explains the Heritage Inventory Project, the Heritage Register, and answers some frequently asked questions. In April and May, Heritage Services staff are hosting public information sessions and drop-in hours to address questions or concerns.

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May 2019

Glabar Gazette

A message from our Vice-President

Spring is finally here and the neighbourhood is coming back to life following what feels like a long winter season. Was that a record for number of days with snow on the ground?

Over the course of the last year, the Glabar Park Community Alliance (GPCA) has focused primarily on 3 things: community ice rink, winter fun day and summer fun day. Because we have some new faces and more people on the GPCA board for 2018-2019, we are also able to participate in special meetings about issues affecting Bay Ward (e.g. changes to the old Sears), and follow up with the City about traffic concerns, where we did not previously have capacity to do so.

We have recently been fortunate to have Bay Ward's new city councillor – Theresa Kavanagh – join 2 of the monthly GPCA director meetings to hear our concerns, answer questions, and provide updates on issues affecting our community (see page 2 for updates).

This is my 3rd year being directly involved with the GPCA as Vice President (currently "acting President" – if there is such a thing – because no-one was nominated or self-nominated for President at the last AGM). I have been a volunteer at Kingsmere rink for 5 seasons. In this time, I have had the opportunity to work with many dedicated Glabar Park residents who volunteer their time to keep our community vibrant and active. There is always more that the GPCA wants to take on than it has volunteers for and I strongly encourage those who have even a little bit of interest or time to consider volunteering with the GPCA either on a regular or event-based frequency. I encourage everyone to consider volunteering and contribute back to your community.

Please use glabarparkca@gmail.com to communicate with your executive board and to ask us questions about joining the GPCA.

Adam Norman

Vice-President, Glabar Park Community Alliance

Mark your calendars for these events in 2019:

Glabar Park Garage Sale
Sat. June 8

A Company of Fools
Exact Date TBD
Glabar Park

Summer Fun Day
Sat. August 10
Kingsmere Park

Annual General Meeting
October 2019
Exact Date TBD
Location TBD

Info: www.GlabarPark.ca

Upcoming Events

Great Glabar Garage Sale - Saturday, June 8th

The annual Glabar Park Garage Sale will be held on June 8th 2019. Set up at your home. This is a community garage sale where we try to bring in more customers by having lots of sellers.

This corresponds with Ottawa Give Away Weekend, when Ottawa residents are asked to put items at the curb for free when they might otherwise throw those items in the garbage.

Summer Fun Day - Kingsmere Park – Saturday, August 10th

Our popular summer fun day is back! Don't miss this opportunity to hang out with your neighbours and enjoy some BBQ. Events will be posted on our website in advance of August 10th. If you would like to volunteer, please contact: glabarparkca@gmail.com

Currently planned: Face Painting, Mighty Molecules, Merry Dairy Ice Cream, Bouncy Castle, BBQ, Fire Department visit.

Keeping up on the Latest

Don't forget to visit our website regularly. www.glabarpark.ca is where we keep our community up-to-date on what is happening. Recent postings have covered the rink season, Easter Egg Hunt in Kingsmere Park, GLAD Cleaning the Capital, and the Great Glabar Garage Sale.

On Facebook, the GPCA page mirrors much of the information posted on the website. Don't forget to Like us to get the latest updates - www.facebook.com/Glabar-Park-Community-Alliance-96543664194/. Community members also have their own Facebook page, The Glabarhood, with even more information (traffic, events, foxes, crime, school info) posted by your neighbours.

Kingsmere Park

Wading Pool: A bonfire was started on top of the drain grate in the wading pool the evening or night of August 14, 2018, causing damage underneath the pool. The City of Ottawa has assured us that repairs to the wading pool will be complete by the end of June 2019, before the start of the regular summer season in July.

Park Bench: A park bench was damaged by a snowplow and removed in the Spring of 2018. Councillor Kavanagh and her staff made sure this was replaced earlier this month. Thank you Councillor Kavanagh!

Traffic Calming

Street Mural: we are currently hoping to finish the planning of a street mural at Lenester and Kingsmere in time to paint in summer 2019. Volunteers will be needed, so please keep your eye on www.glabarpark.ca for updates.

Carling/Fairlawn/Lenester: a traffic study is planned by the City of Ottawa to determine what else can be done to improve traffic in this area.

Speed board on Lenester: There are 1100-1300 vehicles recorded each weekday and 700-900 each weekend day. Data from the speed board shows that the majority of drivers (90%-95%) drive under the speed limit. If you see someone speeding, notify the police. Reporting works!

Amenities

Glabar Connection to the LRT: No connection from Glabar park for stage 1 of LRT. In LRT Stage 2, the closest LRT stations will be Queensview (to the South-West), Lincoln Fields (to the North-West) and New Orchard (to the North). No direct access to any of these other than existing roads.

Sears Carlingwood: They are tearing it down according to code. There is asbestos in the building and the soil is contaminated from the old gas station. Remediation should be completed 18 months after starting demolition (subject to change!).

2019 Kingsmere Rink Recap

The 2019 rink season was one of our best! We had 4 additional, dedicated volunteers contributing to ice maintenance this season compared to last season. This allowed the 2 core volunteers that maintained the rink in 2018 to reduce their time at the rink from 80-100 hours for the season down to 50-60 hours.

Work to build base ice started on December 26th, 2018, and the rink was open for skating on January 6th 2019.

During those 11 days, we:

- compressed the snow in the hockey rink and in the puddle rink
 - flooded the compressed snow to saturation, waited until it froze, then flooded again (and again)
 - flooded an average of 2-3 times a day, sometimes up to 6 times a day if conditions were favorable
- Flooding both rink surfaces takes 3 hours when saturating compressed snow, and it only takes 90 minutes when flooding on top of clear ice under good conditions. Once "base ice" is created, we need to:
- shovel and scrape the ice before flooding on any given day. This can take anywhere between 30 minutes for ice chips created by regular skating, all the way up to 6-8 hours for heavy snowfall (with 5 snowblowers going!)

In order to fast-track ice repair, we ask everyone that uses the ice to shovel. Snow and ice build-up needs to be removed from the ice surface (especially beside the hockey boards) before it damages the ice, and so that volunteers can flood. At the same time, we ask that everyone stay off the ice when the temperature is above freezing. Attempting to skate or walk on soft ice causes damage that takes longer to repair. It is very disheartening to arrive at the rink with a plan to flood it, only to find that someone has created boot prints that need extra time to repair before flooding can start. Please stay off when the "rink closed" signs are posted!

The last day of skating was March 9th 2019. There were 11 days the rink was closed because of weather, or because we were repairing the ice because of previous weather conditions.

We had 17 wonderful, dedicated volunteers working at the rink this season. Four of those volunteered primarily on ice maintenance. 12 volunteered primarily on supervising the rink house. And one person volunteered significantly in both roles! I am very appreciative to the volunteers who stepped up and made sure this rink season required less of my own time this year. I could not have spent the same amount of time at the rink this season, and the additional volunteers were a game-changer!

Even though we had more volunteers than this season than the past couple of seasons, we are still in need of additional volunteers to supervise fieldhouse ('rinkhouse') hours. Throughout the 2019 season, I was constantly asking for volunteers to come forward and keep the fieldhouse open – this is a requirement for the City of Ottawa to provide the boards, lights and other equipment for the rink. If you are able to volunteer 1 evening a week, we need you! This is a great opportunity for students requiring volunteer hours!

The City of Ottawa requires us to record the number of skaters every hour during supervised hours. During an average of 25 supervised hours per week, we logged 1158 skaters for the season – up from 694 last season!

See www.glabarpark.ca for more information. New volunteers can make themselves known to the GPCA by Friday, October 18th, 2019 so that we have confirmation in time to sign the rink agreement with the City of Ottawa. Community members interested in volunteering should contact Adam Norman by email (glabarparkca@gmail.com) or call/text 613-552-5615.

If we have similar numbers of volunteers next season, I will finally be able to stop saying we may not be able to have a rink. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE for your contributions!

We had a lovely rink volunteer appreciation dinner at Colonnade Pizza on Sunday, April 28th which was attended by a number of families of rink supervision and maintenance volunteers from the 2018-19 season.