



DID YOU KNOW?

Kingsmere Park is getting a new swing set!

Construction is slated to begin this spring, with completion targeted for fall/early winter 2026.

Last year, the public was invited to vote on three concept plans, and the winning design will include 9 swings as well as an accessible pathway connecting the swing set area to the wading pool deck.

In response to several requests for additional seating, the City will also build an accessible bench.

For more information, visit: <https://engage.ottawa.ca/kingsmere-park-swing-replacement>.

Street speeds in Glabar Park reduced, aligned with new “Speed Zone Policy”

At the Alliance’s Annual General Meeting in October, residents voted to lower the speed limit through Glabar Park to 30kph from 40 kph.

Though speed boards had yet to be updated as of this printing, signs indicating the new limit were installed at every entry point into Glabar Park as of March 31.

This change aligns Glabar Park with most of the residential neighbourhoods in Bay Ward, and comes at the same time the City of Ottawa is introducing a new speed zone policy that changes how municipal speed limits are

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set. This new approach considers factors like street design, transit service and land use, with the goal of improving safety and

consistency across the city.

Police officers were also out at the corner of Lenester Avenue and Fairlawn Avenue in the first weeks of March and April to enforce the “No Right Turn” by D. Roy Kennedy School. Many residents have routinely contacted the City about traffic at this particular intersection over the years.

Residents can request changes in road safety measures and existing parking regulations by contacting 3-1-1 or 311@ottawa.ca.



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Shouting out some great community builders

A message from the board of your Glabar Park Community Alliance



Kingsmere Park rink volunteers and their families, who made the 2025-2026 season possible.

Our Board spent the better part of a year using all of the communications tools at our disposal – website, newsletter, posters, social media, general meeting and conversations at community events – to recruit a coordinator for the Kingsmere Park community rink. (Spoiler alert: these efforts worked! Read about how the season unfolded on page 2).

We have also frequently used this space in the Gazette to seek out rink volunteers and new Board directors.

So this issue, we’re taking the time to shout out some incredible neighbours who have been helping to make our community fun and safe.

Thank you first to our rink coordinator, Sarah DeBruyne, who took on the

role of organizing volunteers and putting together a great rink season. From upgrading equipment, to streamlining communications and adding beautiful ambience with solar-powered lighting around the puddle rink, this season was one for the books! (And thanks to Guy St. Amour for his rink clearing service!)

Thank you also to the residents of Hare Avenue, who worked for several years to get speed limits lowered through Glabar Park. Signs indicating the new 30 kph limit were posted in March, bringing us in line with most other residential areas in Bay Ward (details on page 4).

Lastly, we’re grateful to Sarah Fernando and Gabriela Anaya for organizing wonderful Easter activities at Kingsmere Park. There were lots of eggs, prizes and hot

chocolate to go around (see the recap on page 2).

Whether it’s building community, promoting safety, or maintaining a neighbourhood treasure, these folks have demonstrated that just one or two people – or one or two blocks of people – can have a real impact. On behalf of the Alliance, thank you for your initiative, hard work and contributions.



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Thanks to the office of Councillor Kavanagh for printing this edition.

Save the date

Please check www.glabarpark.ca closer to the date for confirmation and cancellation notices.

Community Garage Sale
Saturday, May 30th
Households across Bay Ward are participating; add your sale to the map: www.woodpark.ca/2026-community-garage-sale

Summer Fun Day
Saturday, August 8
Kingsmere Park
2074 Benjamin Ave

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2026 kicks off with two community events at Kingsmere Park

On January 31, the Alliance hosted its annual Winter Fun Day that featured skating, a scavenger hunt and a wagon ride around the neighbourhood. Board members and other volunteers served up hot beverages, hot dogs and treats, while kids enjoyed snow painting and a piece of slab cake to celebrate the folks who made the community rink happen this season. As has become tradition, realtor Bill Meyer

tended the fire for roasting marshmallows.

Despite a chilly start to 2026, Glabar Park lucked out with the weather – temperatures hovered around -10 degrees Celsius—a small reprieve from the lows of -35 reached in the weeks before and after the event.

Similarly, the weather had not been projected to be favourable over the Easter long weekend. But the rain

held off on the morning of April 4, and kids enjoyed an egg hunt through Kingsmere Park in crisp, clear and relatively dry conditions.

Grown-ups arrived at 9:30AM to hide pre-filled eggs, then kids arrived at 10:30AM to begin their search. Thanks to a donation from the Whitehaven Kindergarten School Age Centre, there were three golden eggs up for grabs, each one with \$5 inside. There was also an Easter basket raffle, hot

beverages, and assorted prizes and treats.

This event was initiated and organized by Glabar Park residents and was a tremendous success! For those interested in planning other holiday events in the neighbourhood, you don't have to be a member of the Board! But if you email glabarparkca@gmail.com, we can discuss your activity and opportunities for financial support from the Alliance.



Children pay rapt attention as the rules of the Easter egg hunt on April 4 at Kingsmere Park are explained.

Another great rink season in the books

The community rink at Kingsmere Park saw two solid months of skating days this season – and it wasn't just due to the favourably cold temperatures.

This past season was Sarah DeBruyne's first as rink coordinator and, without her tremendous efforts, the rink would not have happened.

Sarah kicked off the season last November, gathering volunteers at Colonnade Pizza on Carling Avenue to map out a plan for making the rink a success. Together, the group came up with scheduling and communications strategies for the season, and were ready to start ice building on December 16.

"Without our volunteers, this rink would not be possible, so a huge shoutout must go out to them for all of their

hard work throughout the season!" Sarah told the Gazette.

In addition to regular ice maintenance, volunteers supervised the rink and kept the field house open for skaters to lace up and use the washroom.

"It was truly an honour to provide the community with a rink that offered endless fun for skaters of all ages," Sarah added.

"We look forward to making it all happen again next winter!"

A reminder that the ice surfaces at Kingsmere Park are built and maintained 100% by volunteers. You can learn more about what's involved by visiting glabarpark.ca/rink-hours/ and sign up today by sending an email to Sarah at kingsmererink@gmail.com.

Stay connected to your community and help to plan Summer Fun Day this August

To keep up on the latest community news, bookmark the Alliance website: www.glabarpark.ca. Bay

Ward's city councillor, Theresa Kavanagh, publishes a weekly newsletter of local news at

www.baywardbulletin.ca. Residents are welcome to participate in any of the Alliance's monthly

meetings. Reach out via email to glabarparkca@gmail.com for more information.

Here is the 2025/2026 Board of Directors: Trent Gray-Donald (President), Rebecca Spence (Vice-President), Holly Hampson (Secretary), Steve Aubry (Treasurer), Angela Prescott, Janice Vriend, Madelaine Morrison, Paul Prepas and Susan Fortin.

The Alliance will host Summer Fun Day in Kingsmere Park on August 8 and we're looking for folks to help with an anchor activity.

If you have an idea you'd like to run with that would complement the usual fire truck visit, face painting and barbecue, send us an email. There is no need to join the board or attend monthly meetings—just plan the activity and be available on the day to see it through!



Alliance board members with Councillor Kavanagh at Winter Fun Day on January 31 in Kingsmere Park.

Rink recap by the numbers

Jan. 1 to Mar. 2
Rink opens and closes

60
Days the rink was open for skating

1425
Skaters recorded during "open" hours

300
Skaters recorded in a single week – a season peak

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