

Glabar Park shows up in great numbers for annual summer BBQ

The Alliance welcomed nearly 200 residents at its annual Summer Fun Day celebrations at Kingsmere Park on August 8.

Attendees enjoyed an hour-long musical performance by Rory from Monkey Rock Music, waded in the Kingsmere Park pool and got their faces painted courtesy of Angela Prescott Homes (Royal Lepage).

Kids were rewarded for completing a park-wide scavenger hunt with small crocheted animals handmade by local resident Elaine Torontow.

And while the visiting fire truck was called away briefly, the crew from station 21 returned to show off their tools and sirens.

By the time the two-hour event wrapped, volunteers had sold out of every hot dog, bun, bag of chips and frozen treat.

Thanks to everyone who came out – including MPP Chandra Pasma and Councillor Theresa Kavanagh – and we'll see you all again at Winter Fun Day on Saturday, January 30, 2027!

Getting ready for the 2026-2027 rink season at Kingsmere Park

Every winter, Kingsmere Park is home to two beautiful ice surfaces – a puddle rink for pleasure skating, and a boarded rink for hockey. It’s a neighbourhood treasure, and has consistently been one of the best-kept outdoor rinks in the city.

But volunteers are needed to keep things running smoothly. Ice surfaces are built and maintained 100% by volunteers, and volunteers also keep the fieldhouse open for skaters to lace up and use the washroom. With winter just around the corner, now is the time to look over the various rink roles and send an email to coordinator Sarah DeBruyne to sign up for a shift: kingsmererink@gmail.com. A commitment of even 1 to 2 hours a week goes a long way. No experience is necessary: there are experienced neighbours ready to show you the ropes! This is also a great opportunity for students looking to get community service hours.

Be sure to check www.glabarpark.ca in the coming weeks for news about a volunteer gathering to kick off the season.

Maintenance team
Volunteers are needed in the evenings after skating closes to smooth and flood the ice surfaces. This can also be done during the day, depending on snowfall and other weather conditions.
Supervision team
Volunteers are needed to keep the fieldhouse open so that skaters have a place to change and use the washroom. Supervisors also count the number of skaters they see during their shift. No need to skate or even stand around outside if you don’t want to – bring a book and keep warm indoors!
Ice-building team
Multiple volunteers are needed right at the beginning of the season when the weather is favourable to building the rink’s base ice. The work involves packing down snow with sleds or other tools, and then flooding regularly for 10-14 days.
Ad hoc help
Can’t commit to a shift? You can still help!
Before starting or ending your skate, please grab a shovel and clear any snow dusting the ice surfaces.
Always respect the signage: please do not walk across the ice surfaces when the rink is closed.

Produced by the Glabar Park Community Alliance and published twice a year.

The Alliance wishes to acknowledge that Glabar Park sits on the unceded territory of the Algonquin People.

Save the date

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

Annual General Meeting of the Glabar Park Community Alliance
Thursday, October 29 7:30pm, The Great Room St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church
971 Woodroffe Avenue

Winter Fun Day
Saturday, January 30 11am–1pm
Kingsmere Park

Remember to vote in city elections on October 26

A message from your Glabar Park Community Alliance

In the runup to this month’s municipal election, the Alliance has heard from multiple candidates looking to better understand our community’s top concerns and priorities. This is the list we shared with each candidate who reached out:

- Enforcement of existing traffic calming measures in our neighbourhood (abiding by stop signs, no right turn signs and the new 30 km/h speed limit)
- Upgrades to the play structures and fieldhouse at Kingsmere Park
- Support for residents impacted by the July 1st flooding, and improvements to the infrastructure that failed following record rainfall
- Reliable bus service

While not within the power of the City, many residents have also raised concerns about school boundaries and residential zoning imposed by the province. These issues have been shared with Alliance board members – via email and conversations at our community events – and are certainly familiar to many living in the neighbourhood. But they bear repeating as Glabar Park residents review the platforms of the people running for mayor, councillor and school board trustee, and decide which representatives will be our best advocates.

The Alliance is an apolitical organization. We do not endorse any candidate, and we have not had any candidates participate in our regular monthly meetings. But we are co-sponsors of a leaders’ debate hosted by community associations from across Ottawa on October 15. “Leadership for a Liveable Ottawa” brings together leading mayoral candidates and will be available to stream online— visit www.glabarpark.ca for more details.

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Volunteers and members of the Alliance’s board of directors are joined by Bay Ward Councillor Theresa Kavanagh (left) at Summer Fun Day in Kingsmere Park on August 8, 2026.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Glabar Park is home to some creative neighbours and vibrant community spaces! Here are a few:

Cool people...

The radio host

Fairlawn resident Ryan Bresee hosts the CKCU general music program,

Whatever's Cool With Me, every Thursday from 9:30am to noon. Listen at 93.1 FM or online: www.ckcufm.com

The author

Strathmore resident and author Chris Fournier recently won the 2026 Toby Award, which recognizes

Don't miss the annual general meeting on Thursday, October 29

The 2026 Annual General Meeting of the Glabar Park Community Alliance will take place Thursday, October 29 at 7:30pm in The Great Room at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church (971 Woodroffe Avenue).

Items on the agenda will include the presentation of the Alliance's financial statements and auditor's report, a recap of community activities and issues undertaken by Board members over the last year, and an update on the Kingsmere Park outdoor rink.

Already planning to attend? Please bring a neighbour with you so that there is broad representation at the meeting. You are also strongly encouraged to nominate yourself for a position on the board of directors, especially if there is a community event or issue you'd like the Alliance to get behind. The more people who are involved, the more the Alliance can offer the community.

The agenda, financial records and last year's minutes will be available at www.glabarpark.ca in the coming days.

the best Canadian self-published mystery. *The Pathfinder* is the second book in his Denny Durant Montréal Crime Series and the third installment is due out in 2027: cjfournierbooks.com

The musician

Benjamin resident and saxophonist Norm MacNeil leads the Ottawa Pocket Jazz Band. Neighbours might know Norm from his driveway jazz sessions, which play in the summer by donation to the Ottawa Humane Society: opjb.ca

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Cool places...

Fresh local produce

Every Monday of the growing season, Rochon Gardens sets up their market stand in the parking lot of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church from 3pm to 7pm. Shop à la carte between May and October, or sign up through the consumer-supported agriculture program for a weekly basket of fresh fruits and vegetables: www.rochongarden.ca

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Stay connected to your community

To learn more about neighbourhood news and upcoming events, visit the Alliance website at www.glabarpark.ca.

Residents are welcome to participate in any of the Alliance's monthly meetings, which take place on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30pm via Zoom. Send an email to glabarparkca@gmail.com for more information.

[cont'd from page 2—Did You Know?]

Neighbourhood dog park

Lorry Greenberg Park at 1968 Castlewood Avenue is this community's unofficial dog park. There are so many good dogs in Glabar Park, and this is where they like to go! A reminder that dogs are not allowed at Kingsmere Park, even on leash.

Drop-in playgroup

Every Tuesday, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church hosts a free drop-in playgroup from 10:00am to 11:30am. There are plenty of toys, activities and snacks for kids ages 0-5, plus complimentary coffee for caregivers. This playgroup is non-denominational – everyone is welcome: shahrzad@stpaulsottawa.com

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.

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