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Le Journal
Communautaire de la Basse-Ville

Gratuit

The Lowertown Echo
L'Écho de la Basse-Ville

www.lowertown-basseville.ca

September-October 2014
Volume 5, Issue 1

The Lowertown
Community Newspaper

Free

Claridge in contravention of two city laws

Construction trailers on St Andrew

Residential Property near 281 St. Andrew Street used for construction office by Claridge, rezoning requested

John Chenier — Are some companies above the (by-)law? After being caught out having its construction trailers illegally parked, Claridge is seeking a change to the bylaws. The trailers in question, which have been illegally in place since March, are sitting in a vacant lot in contravention of two bylaws: one which prohibits the use of the lot for parking, as the lot is zoned for residential use only, and another which requires trailers such as these to be parked on the worksite of the building under construction.

The demolition of houses in Lowertown has resulted in numerous empty lots. City by-laws exist to prevent the use of these anywhere in the city as unauthorized, unkempt commercial parking facilities.

Residents demand action in Lowertown: no exceptions to converting empty lots to parking lots in neighbourhoods

After receiving complaints from local residents, the city informed Claridge that the trailers had to be removed by the end of June. When the trailers were still there in July, the Lowertown Community Association (LCA) added its voice to those of the local residents objecting to their presence and insisting the current by-laws be respected and enforced.

Residents of this community experience construction traffic on their small street for a controversial mid-rise condo they fought hard to stop. Thirty people lost their homes and heritage homes were demolished. The threat of rezoning for trailer parking lot use now adds to the noise and activity of the construction site.

Instead of compliance, the owner of the illegal, non-conforming lot, Robertson Sungard c/o1189704 Ontario Inc and Claridge Developments are seeking a temporary re-zoning bylaw for the property. Claridge is also seeking an additional revision to another bylaw, which would allow its construction trailers to park away from the worksite.

The Planning Committee of council is to consider the applications on October 14th. In the interim, the six trailers remain on the lot illegally. The councillor for the ward, Mathieu Fleury, is unable to act on the file as he has a declared conflict of interest with all Claridge developments. The LCA will oppose the rezoning request.

Macdonald Gardens celebrates 100th birthday

Viewing historic photographs

Macdonald Gardens' birthday cake

Akuol Luala and Amber Clarke — About 100 people arrived to Macdonald Gardens Park on Wednesday August 13 to attend the 100th anniversary celebrations organized by the Heritage Committee of the Lowertown Community Association.

Did you know that the Macdonald Gardens Park was once the site of four cemeteries, or that it used to have a wading pool at the corner of Cobourg and Heney Street? When the Ottawa Improvement Commission contracted Frederick G. Todd to create a park on the old cemetery site, he designed a distinctive urban park, featuring a shelter on the highest point for a great view of Parliament Hill and a large pond to reflect the noonday sun in the lowest part of the park, at the corner of Heney and Cobourg. Construction of the park began in 1912 and was officially completed in 1914, making this year the centennial celebration.

Not many know that Wurtemburg Street once housed the Chinese embassy. In a nod to that past, a Chinese orchestra greeted the attendees in the gazebo. Some guests donned Macdonald tartans and period clothes in honour of the first Prime Minister; the year 2014 also marks what would have been Sir John A Macdonald's 200th birthday. After some mingling, games for all ages and verbal history were shared. The games were created to reflect the history of Macdonald Gardens Park and the surrounding area. Children enjoyed answering the three-legged race questions, and a balloon exchange game was an opportunity to learn historical facts. The adults perused the photographs displayed for an historic timeline game and contended in a "Fact or Fiction?" game of tricky historical accounts.

At a midway point in the festivities, Patrick Connors tuned his bagpipes and led the crowd over to the new Jules Morin fieldhouse for cake and beverages.

Mayor Jim Watson sent a plaque to commemorate the event. The plaque was presented by councillor Mathieu Fleury to Nancy Miller Chenier of the Heritage Committee.

Municipal elections on October 27

See our Q&A with City Council candidates on pages 4-5

Update on future of ByWard Market building

Sylvie Grenier — As a follow-up to the 2013 study on the future of the ByWard Market, City staff hired the New York consulting firm Project for Public Spaces (PPS) to do a study recommending a new governance model to manage the Market Building. PPS will also recommend physical improvements to the building and to adjacent streets.

The intent is to return the Market Building to its original function as a year-round fresh food produce market and revive the ByWard Market's traditional role as a farmers' market.

Jake Rupert, who is leading the project for the city, will present the preliminary ideas and recommendations of the study at the Lowertown Community Association monthly meeting on Monday 8 September at 7:00pm at the Routhier Community Centre on Guigues. You are encouraged to attend the presentation and provide your comments.

Lowertown Community Association Meetings

Regu ar LCA Meet ngs are he d at 7 PM on the second Monday of each month at the Routh er Commun ty Centre, 172 Gu gues.

Upcoming Meetings:

September 8

October 20

November 10

LCA meetings are regularly attended by our elected councillor and the Ottawa Police Community Constable. Connect with us at www.lowertown-basseville.ca

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ByWard Moves

They've hired staff and the patio deck is almost finished. Opening soon, **ACE Mercado** at 121 Clarence Street is a tequila bar with a Mexican menu created by Top Chef Canada winner René Rodriguez. Sure to create a buzz.

One of several restos opened in August, **Asian Alley** at 8 ByWard Market Square is an all-out sensory experience. From the floor tiled with pennies, to the neon graphics, to the Asian Fusion menu, there's lots of enticement to check it out.

Bang-On used to be located next door to Roots on William Street. The t-shirt and accessories retailer has moved to a cozy second-storey spot at 31 York Street, next door to Zaphod Beetlebrox.

Cacao 70, a Montreal company, has opened a new chocolate bistro at 51 William Street. The Citizen reports, "While the menu does include some sandwiches and salads, mostly it is all about chocolate." Sounds yummy.

A "pet boutique" that sells everything from food to home accessories opened recently at 21 Murray Street. **Cricket and Company** will also be hosting lots of fun events, including a Wiener Waddle and Westie Walk.

A little birdie told us that the **Expedition Shoppe** at 43 York Street - established in 1982 - has to move because it cannot afford to renew its lease at the new rates quoted by the landlord. We'll be sad to see them go.

'North Dal' is becoming a hot fashion destination. The newest shop on the strip, at 238 Dalhousie Street, is **Isabelle**, an upscale European-style fashion boutique and mini art gallery in one.

The **Lowertown Brewery,** site of the new **Sens House**, is now open for business at 73 York Street. It has a huge year-round patio with a heated floor and a retractable roof to keep you warm and dry on inclement days.

After a months-long moving-out sale, **Manhattan Marque** on York is no more. Luckily, its sister store Manhattan West is still open, so trek out there if you're hooked on their fashion picks. (322 Richmond Road)

It feels like Lowertown's favourite dessert spot, **Memories Restaurant**, has been closed forever. Long after it was ousted from the NCC's doomed heritage building at Clarence and Sussex, the popular café is set to re-open at 136 St. Patrick Street.

After more than a century in business with the name **Pharmacie Desjardins**, the Lowertown icon at 298 Dalhousie Street is now a Shoppers Drug Mart. The wrought-iron frame is all that remains of the lovely vintage sign, replaced by temporary Shoppers banners. Happily, the Desjardins staff was not replaced.

CORRECTION: Amber Clarke authored *"Bingham Park Revitalization Continues"* on page 2 of the July/August 2014 edition of the Echo. The byline that appeared with the article was incorrect.

What's up at Our Lady's School

Liz MacKenzie — The neglected and abandoned Our Lady's School is finally getting some attention. The City informed that scaffolding was installed at 287 Cumberland for repair work to the foundation and walls to be preserved. After all the neighbourhood has suffered, with congested traffic, loss of sidewalks and local embarrassment, the community awaits the outcomes of work planned "per schedule provided by the heritage engineer for Mr. Lauzon," the owner. Claude Lauzon, has been ordered to brace and retain the east and north walls to be incorporated into a new building.

For years now, sidewalk closures and lane reductions have plagued Murray Street in a seeming attempt to "protect" the public from Our Lady. Meanwhile, pictures show that not a single brick has been dislodged, nor a single stone lintel shifted, despite the efforts of the owner to destroy the 110-year-old. This solid old girl did not flinch through years of wind and rain blowing through her open windows.

So why the fuss about protecting the public from falling bricks when clearly the façade is sound? Perhaps this is just the smoke and mirrors charade of declaring a building unsafe as a precursor to getting a demolition permit.

Let's hope there are good times ahead for the old girl. We sure would like to see her proud again-and we'd like to get our sidewalks back!

Jarring signage on heritage pharmacy building

The huge red Shoppers Drug Mart banners temporarily installed mid-August on Desjardins Pharmacy took many residents and local businesses by surprise - and it was not a welcome surprise. The signs are out of character with this venerable old building, the oldest pharmacy site in the Ottawa area. The historic pharmacy is protected under the Heritage Conservation Act as part of the Byward Market Heritage Conservation District. Residents have contacted heritage planners at the City to clarify the signage restrictions within the district.

On a positive note, the owners of this new Shoppers Drug Mart location have responded well to the community concerns. They have agreed to arrange for the permanent signage to be in keeping with the historic fibre of our neighbourhood, respecting the heritage criteria and the character of the district.

To read an October 1, 1963 Ottawa Citizen article about the history of the pharmacy, go to page 5 of the paper at http://tinyurl.com/m5u6nd7

The Echo

The Echo, a non-profit community newspaper, is supported by its advertisers and the Lowertown Community Association. Opinions expressed are those of contributors and advertisers and do not necessarily represent those of the volunteer editorial staff.

In 2014, the Echo is published in March, July, September and November. 6,000 copies are printed and distributed free of charge to residents of Lowertown. Additional copies can also be picked up at the Routhier Centre, the Lowertown Community Resource Cent re, the public library, and various commercial locations in Lowertown.

The Echo welcomes articles, letters, photographs, notices and other material of interest to its readers in the Lowertown community. Name and telephone number of contributor must be included.

If you'd like to write articles, draw cartoons or other illustrations for stories, or take photographs on assignment, please email and leave your name and telephone number at echo@lowertown-basseville.ca. No age restrictions.

The Echo reserves the right to edit in part or in whole all contributions.

L'Echo

L'Echo est un journal communautaire à but non lucratif dont les seuls revenus viennent des annonceurs et l'Association Communautaire de la Basse-Ville. Les textes n'engagent que leurs auteurs et annonceurs respectifs et ne reflètent pas nécessairement l'opinion de l'équipe de rédaction, qui est composée de bénévoles.

En 2014, l'Echo sera publié en mars, juillet, septembre et novembre. Son tirage est de 6 000 exemplaires. Il est distribué gratuitement partout dans la Basse-Ville. On peut également l'obtenir au Centre Routhier, au Centre de Ressources Communautaires de la Basse-Ville, à la bibliothèque et dans plusieurs com- merces du quartier.

Tous les articles, lettres, illustrations, photos et autre matériel qui peuvent intéresser les lecteurs de la Basse-Ville sont les bienvenus, Leurs auteurs doivent indiquer leur nom et leur numéro de téléphone.

Les personnes qui aimeraient collaborer avec l'Echo sont invitées à envoyer un e-mail au echo@lowertown-basseville.ca en indiquant leur nom et leur numéro de téléphone. Nous apprécions la contribution de tous, quel que soit leur âge.

L'Echo se réserve le droit de modifier en tout ou en partie les documents soumis

E-mail/Courriel: echo@lowertown-basseville.ca
Website/Site Web: www.lowertown-basseville.ca/echo.html

Editor: Giulia Nastase
Layout & Graphics: Simon Caters
Advertising: Merle Reid
Volunteer Coordinator: Amber Clarke
Translation: Carmen Forget

Deadline

Reserve your advertising space or submit your contribution to echo@lowertown-basseville.ca by **October 10, 2014**
(for delivery November 1)

Date de tombée

Publicité, articles, photos et autres soumissions à echo@lowertown-basseville.ca by **10 octobre 2014**
(livraison le 1 novembre)

The Echo is written, published and delivered thanks to the efforts of dedicated and talented volunteers and the support of our advertisers. Please support local businesses, especially those who advertise in and display the Echo.

Questions regarding delivery? If you ve n Lowertown, the Echo s de vered free to your door. P ease ema f you are aware of anyone or any bus ness n our ne ghbourhood who s not rece v ng the r commun ty newspaper.

L Echo est réd gé, pub é et d str bué grâce au dévouement et au ta ent de nombreux bénévo es, ma s auss avec appu des annonceurs. Soutenez es commerces ocaux, et tout part cu èrement ceux qu font de a pub c té dans Echo ou chez qu vous pouvez e trouver.

Questions au sujet de la distribution? L'Echo est distribué gratuitement dans la Basse-Ville. Veuillez envoyer un courriel si vous connaisez quelqu'un qui ne le reçoit pas..

marc AUBIN
RIDEAU-VANIER

27 OCT. 2014
ELECT/ÉLISEZ
MARC AUBIN

Marc Aubin leads supporters at a King Edward Avenue rally. Aubin was President of the King Edward Avenue Task Force and has been the President of the Lowertown Community Association for the past four years.

Marc Aubin dirigeant ses supporteurs à un rassemblement sur l'avenue King Edward. Marc Aubin fut président du Groupe de travail de l'avenue King Edward et jusqu'à récemment, il fut président de l'Association communautaire de la Basse-Ville pendant quatre années.

Vote for Aubin for better representation and positive change at City Hall.

Un vote pour Marc Aubin est un vote pour le changement et une meilleure représentation au Conseil municipal.

Support the campaign
to elect Marc Aubin
Volunteer/Donate

Supportez la campagne pour élire
Marc Aubin par une contribution
financière et/ou du bénévolat.

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Élections municipales le lundi 27 octobre 2014

Rideau Vanier Ward Race:

George Atanga

Why are you running for office? What values would you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our municipal government?

First I wish to say that as a Canadian citizen it is my right to vote and to seek for elected office. Canada is a country I love so much and it is my desire to contribute in building it. I really wish to do something significant for Canada so that I will leave it better than I met it and I feel that this significant thing can be done through the City council of Ottawa. Next residents of our ward don't seem to be satisfied with the present councilor and are asking for a change in order to get in someone who will listen to their problems and satisfy their aspirations.

What are the two most important issues affecting our ward and what would you do to address them?

According to me, accommodation for low income earners and road infrastructure will constitute my first priorities in the city council. Remember our ward has the highest number of homeless shelters in the city. These are gentlemen and ladies who also have the right like me and you to enjoy decent homes with their families. Just because they are unable to pay for these homes they are obliged to go squatting in homeless shelters under very unhealthy conditions. For road infrastructure I am talking here mostly about the heavy trucks (trailers and tractors) which use the Rideau and King Edward streets to cross to Gatineau posing lots of security issues to our road users. I remember last year we lost one woman who was knocked down by one of these trucks on the Rideau Street. If elected I will ensure that there be a construction either to divert these trucks into a tunnel or on to a fly over.

How would you improve the environmental and economic sustainability of our ward?

For environmental sustainability I should be thinking about garbage collection and snow removal. There seems to be a plan to reduce garbage collection services and bring in the green bin which I am afraid it may compromise the sanitary situation of our ward. I would prefer the city rather increases garbage removal services and if at all we try the green bin system and it works that should rather be and additional service. Next, I will ensure that there is efficient and prompt snow removal as well as decent drainage services.

As for economical sustainability, my one motion will be the reduction of taxes for small and medium size businesses so that these businesses can create more employment.

Marc Aubin

Why are you running for office?

I am running for office because we need better representation at city hall. We are at a serious crossroads in Lowertown. I have the experience, vision and action-oriented approach we need now more than ever. My family has lived in Lowertown since the 1890's. I have been volunteering in Lowertown since 1998. I am the former president of the Lowertown Community Association. I am also the former chair of the King Edward Avenue Task Force.

What values would you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our municipal government?

My values include the following:

1) Service — working for you;

2) Vision — having a plan of action;

3) Partnership — building strong relationships and coalitions;

4) Proactivity — taking actions that demonstrate progress; and

5) Perseverance — never giving up.

I am not accepting donations from developers. I have no conflicts of interest. I am not affiliated with any political parties. I will take positions on issues and fight for them at city hall.

What are the two most important issues affecting our ward and what would you do to address them?

#1 Poor Representation — The current councillor cannot represent us on 60% of the housing units developed by Claridge in our ward over the past four years. I will be able to represent the community on 100% of files. Also, people say that decisions are now made behind closed doors and consultation is an afterthought. I will speak loudly on behalf of our community and its values, and I will push for more open and public debate at city council. Finally, I will strongly support further development of the Lowertown Community Association.

#2 Poor Development — Intensification is the mantra now used to give developers whatever they want. I will fight for better development that respects the character of Lowertown and close loopholes in the planning system. I want to put an end to the many demolitions of heritage buildings in our community — we are reaching a crisis point. It is also time to talk about expropriating slumlords' properties. Finally, I want to see empty lots and surface parking replaced with development.

I have experience fighting for better development, such as representing the community at the Ontario Municipal Board in 2013. I also founded a Heritage Committee to fight for the protection of our city's disappearing heritage.

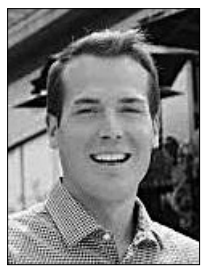
How would you improve the environmental and economic sustainability of our ward?

The sustainability of Lowertown is closely tied to making it a model place to live. I will fight for better streets, especially better walkability and a minimum cycle network. I want to bring back the forest of trees that once lined Lowertown streets and parks — trees should not be an afterthought. I also will help identify more spaces for community gardens and green roofs.

In addition to safe and "complete streets," I want our mainstreets, such as Dalhousie, St. Patrick, King Edward and Rideau brought back to the glorious public spaces they should be. I want to find ways to encourage appropriate development and thriving businesses. The Byward Market has been neglected. I will pursue heavy investment in revitalizing it — our city's crown jewel.

Mathieu Fleury

Why are you running for office?



I am running because I want to continue to make a positive impact on our community. Over the past four years, together, we renewed Jules Morin Park and Rideau Street, built the East-West Bikeway and Confederation Line LRT system, and amended policy to tighten the regulations on property standards and maintenance of vacant and heritage properties.

I want to build on this momentum of success by working together to improve the quality of life of residents. When our community is able to work together, we can bring progress that truly reflects the values of residents.

What values would you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our municipal government?

I will build on the City's transparency policy and continue to engage residents in community building. We have an innovative transparency package, including the lobbyist and gift registry, and public disclosure of office expenses, but it is important that we improve this policy, so that the City becomes even more accessible to residents.

I will also continue to keep residents engaged through social media, video blogs, and voting logs. I am committed to remain accessible to all residents, so that we can openly discuss issues and effectively work towards solutions.

What are the two most important issues affecting our ward and what would you do to address them?

Lowertown is a dynamic community that is home to three emergency shelters and the interprovincial truck route.

I believe that all residents deserve a home. In 2013, Council approved the Housing and Homelessness plan, an innovative strategy to provide long-term housing and supports to residents that need it most. We have already seen a large number of residents moved into housing, and when the strategy is fully implemented, we will be able to return a shelter to its intended purpose - to provide emergency shelter for 90 days or less.

The City is currently studying the feasibility of building a downtown tunnel between the 417 and the MacDonald Cartier Bridge to relieve our streets from interprovincial trucks. We are working with the Province to build a model for the design and funding of the tunnel in advance of the study results. We need to act now to see the tunnel built, so that together we remove the trucks from our streets once and for all.

How would you improve the environmental and economic sustainability of our ward?

It is important that the City increase the robustness of its environmental policy to ensure that our city is sustainable for generations to come, by fully implementing the Ottawa River Action Plan, and by supporting green building and green roof policies. Creating a sustainable city also hinges on the way residents choose to travel in our city. I will work to implement the new Complete Streets policy, expand pedestrian and cycling facilities, and focus on encouraging all residents to choose transit and active transportation.

Our community has seen amazing investment in the last four years. The renewal of Rideau Street, Arts Court and the Rideau Centre and LRT will bring significant economic development to our area. We also need to ensure that the ByWard Market continues to flourish, by reviewing the Market governance model, piloting initiatives to support the stand holders, identifying new public spaces, and by encouraging a diverse mix of businesses.

Catherine Fortin LeFaivre

Why are you running for office?

I am running to be Rideau-Vanier's municipal councillor because I am raising my family in this ward and believe in its potential.

I am the candidate with the most diverse and relevant experience and skills set: I have 10 years of advocacy and communications experience; I lived, studied and worked abroad; I have lived in Ottawa's suburbs and in its urban areas; and I have held leadership roles within many organizations, ranging from the non-profit to the private sector.

Local Election Debates

Election Debate on the future of transportation in Lowertown, Vanier, Sandy Hill and ByWard Market (Rideau Vanier Ward 12):

WHEN: September 15, 2014, 7-9 pm

WHERE: Guigues Centre, 159 Murray St

Are you concerned about trucks on King Edward and Rideau? Do you want safe streets, bike lanes and walkable neighbourhoods? How do you feel about patios and A frames blocking the sidewalk? How will light rail affect reshape our neighbourhood? Come ask your candidates what they will do about these and other transportation issues in the area.

Hosted by: Lowertown Community Association, Vanier Community Association, Citizens for Safe Cycling and Ecology Ottawa

All Candidates Debate for Lowertown (Rideau Vanier Ward 12)

WHEN: October 15, 2014, 7-9 pm

WHERE: Guigues Centre, 159 Murray St

Have your say: Your chance to ask the candidates your questions on issues of concern to you

Hosted by: Lowertown Community Association

Municipal elections on Monday, October 27, 2014

Your candidates for City Council

What values would you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our municipal government?

Through canvassing, I have seen first-hand how too many Ottawa residents have become cynical about the City's governance.

If elected, I will champion the return of minute taking at Council meetings and pledge to post all my voting decisions and an explanation for them online. As a candidate, I will release the names of my donors prior to election day.

I strongly believe that information related to City business needs to be accessible, clear and timely.

Furthermore, I would challenge Council to bring back regular debates in the Chamber instead of having them behind closed doors. For the City to be fiscally responsible and avoid such errors as the Orgaworld waste contract, it is up to councillors to ask tough questions. This will ensure that all risks related to any financial considerations have been identified and analyzed properly.

What are the two most important issues affecting our ward and what would you do to address them?

There are many important issues that need attention in Rideau-Vanier, and many of them are interrelated.

Residents are concerned about the City's lack of vision for the ByWard Market. Condo developments are happening in a fast and ad hoc manner, there is now a higher concentration of bars, homelessness continues to be pervasive, and vendors are reporting less activity while other Ottawa food markets are thriving. As councillor I would work alongside community groups to set an ambitious strategy that attracts tourists and residents alike and position the ByWard Market as the world-class destination it should be.

Somewhat related is the issue of transportation choices. If we want to attract newcomers to Vanier, Lowertown and Sandy Hill, they must have viable transportation choices in the form of reliable and affordable public transit as well as safe and connected pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. Specifically, Vanier stands to gain much economic activity if residents could easily and safety travel from there to downtown. I will push for the adoption of the Complete Streets policy to make this happen.

How would you improve the environmental and economic sustainability of our ward?

Responsible density will be key to ensuring environmental and economic sustainability in Rideau-Vanier. From an environmental standpoint, more dense areas make better use of resources such as water and energy. From an economic standpoint, a concentration of residents makes it more likely that businesses will want to set up in that location.

As councillor, I will work closely with all of its community associations, its BIAs, and groups such as Ecology Ottawa, to devise a strategy towards greater environmental and economic sustainability. As a first step, I will advocate to have environmental goals enshrined in the Term of Council Priorities, which will set the stage for the next four years.

Tangible environmental initiatives that I support include the implementation of Complete Streets; the development of the second phase of the Water Environmental Strategy; the planting of 1 million trees by 2017; and the promotion of alternative energy options for residents and businesses.

Such environmental measures make for a more livable city and are the ingredients for healthy, happy communities and profitable businesses. Moreover, green choices are more economically effective options for our city.

David-George Oldham

Why are you running for office?

Ottawa is my hometown. After a long overdue return almost 6 years ago, I was pained to see the shape it has been reduced to logistically, financially and ethically. I truly in my heart of hearts have faith that I am capable of changing those realities we all live with and improving the quality of life for all in the Algonquin area. For that reason, I have taken it amongst myself to begin the campaign for office.

What values would you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our municipal government?

We need a politician who will be an administrator for the people. I will literally welcome my constituents into my home to discuss matters and communicate through social networking to keep constituents current. I will embody the Christian Rasta principles I have come to devote myself too and address the public's concerns in regards to excessive public administrative salaries positively from an executive level. Time Magazine published a study completed by Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School that found happiness rises with wealth up to a maximum of $75,000. I personally will only take $45,000 of the $93,000 annual salary offered and increase that salary by $10,000 each year for my first 4 years in office. I will use the remaining funds to attempt to launch a free entrance annual community block party to proliferate local businesses, artists and charities.

What are the two most important issues affecting our ward and what would you do to address them?

Parking regulations and weekly waste disposal. I will work towards legislation that alters the window being monitored by by-law officers from 7AM - 7PM to 8AM - 4PM, increases the maximum parking time from 3 hours to 4 hours and decreases the minimum distance required between moving parking spaces from 300 metres to 5 metres. This will ensure constituent satisfaction, reduce our financial waste in civil litigation matters, improve the way we deal with visitors to our city/ward and reduce the amount of by-law officers required for monitoring. I will also seek to reinstate weekly garbage disposal and with the assistance of the Ottawa Property Owner's Coalition determine if the citizen's of Ottawa would be better served by eliminating the green bin program completely.

How would you improve the environmental and economic sustainability of our ward?

We need a compassion centre for the greater Ottawa area that can operate fully and functionally for the best of its own community. A centre that can rival the services of wellness centres in Colorado/British Columbia and that stands for justice in the face of federal inadequacies. After appropriate municipal legislation is reviewed, I will welcome, support and nationally publish the need for ethical cannabis industry businesses in our area.

Marc Vinette

Why are you running for office?

The disconnect between the feel-good, smarmy glad handing of city politicians and the reality of crumbling infrastructure/decaying services plus buffoonish antics of a bureaucr acy gone haywire prompted my decision to run. My career as a teacher and varied life experiences uniquely suit me to connect with and represent the interests of residents in our diverse and cosmopolitan ward. I will never disrespect the intelligence of folks by using empty, manipulative manager/therapy speak.

What values would you bring to improve integrity and social responsibility in our municipal government?

The name Marc means "warlike" and I'm an Aries, and cannot escape their nature; I am a fighter. My aggression is tempered by compassion and a strong ethical code. Anyone who's read The 47 Ronin, Hagakure, The Art of War, Confucius and Spider-Man comics will easily understand my values. Leading by example is the obvious answer. Teaching taught me in a very practical way how to incentivize people and call out and deal with slackers. City staff who take their responsibilities seriously and serve the public well will have no better friend and supporter than me.

As for the others, to quote the eminent philosopher Bugs Bunny, "Of course you know, this means war."

What are the two most important issues affecting our ward and what would you do to address them?

The two most important ward issues in my estimation are:

Livability — this includes access to core services (including libraries), affordable housing, transportation, public safety and health, employment opportunities and support for local merchants and businesses.

Renewal — as opposed to gentrification. The unique character and history of the ward must be preserved in a way that is congruent with modern needs, safe and aesthetically interesting.

I have several thoughts on how to approach these issues, informed by study of successful, sustainable examples in municipalities across the world. Space constraints prevent a detailed explanation of how I'd tackle these issues, which I'll reserve for the launch of my forthcoming social media campaign. Rather than merely endorse a position, I will offer concrete solutions.

How would you improve the environmental and economic sustainability of our ward?

I'm a little fuzzy on what's meant specifically by environmental and economic sustainability; I will make every effort to ensure the quality of our air and water (removing fluoride from the water supply, for instance), protect local ecosystems (plant bee-friendly varieties on public land, for example) and foster sustainable living awareness and strategies. After consulting with the ward's business community and residents I will be better able to understand how that question should be answered, though I will say that streamlining the permit and zoning processes wouldn't hurt, as well as getting rid of a lot of onerous, ill-conceived and counterproductive bylaws.

Environmental issues in the municipal election

Liz Bernstein — The municipal election on October 27th is an opportunity for residents of Lowertown to talk to candidates for city council and ask them where they stand on Ottawa's most pressing environmental issues. Ecology Ottawa has prepared a list of questions. Next time a candidate knocks on your door, consider asking them one of the questions of most concern to you:

1. The Emerald Ash Borer infestation is killing millions of trees across Ottawa, including about 25 percent of the trees in the urban area. In response, organizations and individuals are coming together to set the collective goal of planting a million trees in our nation's capital as part of our contribution to Canada's 150th birthday celebration in 2017. If elected, will you support and prioritize investments towards this goal?
2. If elected, will you commit to prioritizing pedestrian, cycling and affordable public transit infrastructure over automobile infrastructure in meeting the future growth in travel demands in urban areas?
3. The Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan establishes the modest goal of reducing Ottawa's greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent per capita by 2024, but leaves open a lot of space for new initiatives to emerge in the coming years. If elected, will you push for actions aimed at surpassing the current goal?
4. Do you think the City of Ottawa should conduct a thorough and independent assessment of the risks and costs that the proposed Energy East pipeline poses to the health of Ottawa's communities and water?

ON OCTOBER 27, ELECT
CATHERINE FORTIN LEFAIVRE AS MUNICIPAL COUNCILLOR FOR RIDEAU-VANIER!

Dear Lowertown neighbours,

I'm a proud resident of Rideau-Vanier and I chose to raise my family here because of its historic charm, its bilingual neighbourhoods, its proximity to downtown and its diverse residents.

Over the past 10 years, I have been successfully leading advocacy and communications initiatives on behalf of businesses, local, provincial and federal non-profits and within the public sector. My diverse skills and experiences make me ready to advocate as your councillor on day one.

I BELIEVE IN RIDEAU-VANIER

I will work hard to make our community cleaner, safer and more livable. I will advocate for Complete Streets, landlord accountability, responsible development, and access to affordable and quality housing and childcare.

My first order of business will be to push for the implementation of tangible pedestrian and cycling safety measures along the downtown truck route. We can no longer afford to wait for more studies to be completed.

As your councillor, I will never lose sight of the fact that the community comes first and that my job is to represent **YOUR** interests at City Hall.

I hope to earn your confidence and your vote on October 27.

LE 27 OCTOBRE, ÉLISEZ
CATHERINE FORTIN LEFAIVRE COMME CONSEILLÈRE MUNICIPALE POUR RIDEAU-VANIER!

Chers voisins et chères voisines de la Basse-Ville,

Je suis fière d'habiter dans le quartier de Rideau-Vanier. J'ai choisi d'élever ma famille ici en raison de son charme historique, de ses communautés bilingues, de sa proximité au centre-ville et de la diversité de ses résidents.

Au cours des dix dernières années, j'ai joué plusieurs rôles de leadeurship dans les domaines des communications et de la défense des intérêts en représentant des entreprises privées, des organismes à but non lucratif, et au sein de la fonction publique. Grâce à mon expérience et à mes compétences diversifiées, je serais en mesure de vous représenter dès mon premier jour en poste.

JE CROIS EN TOUTES LES POSSIBILITÉS QU'A RIDEAU-VANIER.

Je travaillerai fort pour rendre notre communauté plus propre, plus sécuritaire et plus conviviale. Je lutterai pour l'adoption de rues complètes, pour une planification équilibrée, pour l'imputabilité des propriétaires ainsi que pour l'accessibilité à des logements et à des garderies abordables et de qualités.

En premier lieu, je ferai pression pour que des mesures de sécurité concrètes reliées aux piétons et aux cyclistes soient implantées le long du trajet des camions au centre-ville. Nous ne pouvons plus nous permettre d'attendre afin que d'autres études soient effectuées.

En tant que votre conseillère, je ne perdrai jamais de vue que mon rôle primaire est de **VOUS** représenter à l'Hôtel de ville.

J'espère gagner votre confiance et votre vote le 27 octobre.

Catherine Fortin Lefaivre

CATHERINE FORTIN LEFAIVRE
CONSEIL MUNICIPAL D'OTTAWA / OTTAWA CITY COUNCIL 2014
RIDEAU-VANIER

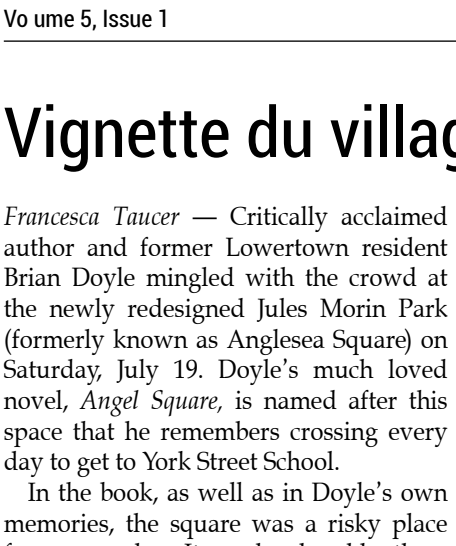
catherine@cfl2014.com | @Cathfm | facebook.com/cfl2014 | **www.cfl2014.com**

Vignette du village: **Brian Doyle revisits the past at Jules Morin Park**

Francesca Taucer — Critically acclaimed author and former Lowertown resident Brian Doyle mingled with the crowd at the newly redesigned Jules Morin Park (formerly known as Anglesea Square) on Saturday, July 19. Doyle's much loved novel, *Angel Square,* is named after this space that he remembers crossing every day to get to York Street School.

In the book, as well as in Doyle's own memories, the square was a risky place for a young boy. It was bordered by three schools: Brebeuf for French-speaking Catholic boys, St. Brigid's for English speaking Catholic children, and York Street for Jewish children and others. Tensions between religious and language groups rose to the surface as children crossed paths here. "There were two or three fights a day," he recalls. "It seemed vicious at the time, but it was pretty benign when you think about it. There were no guns; you hardly ever saw a knife."

Brian Doyle lived with his mother, Charlotte (nee Charlotte Duff), his father Michael, and his two older sisters. Although they moved around a bit, his strongest memories are from the house at 32 Cobourg and they often show up in his books. Since they were close to Macdonald Gardens Park, or Heney Park, as Doyle calls it, he remembers spending the winter tobogganing on the hill in the park. "We used to slide there, on cardboard," he says. "We didn't have sleighs, but cardboard worked fine, especially when it was icy." He talked about one of his teachers at York Street School, remembered as "a kind lady" who gave him special consideration. "I had a Down's syndrome sister, my father was an alcoholic. I probably did need some attention," he says. "It turned out I had to do it myself, give myself the attention. I think that's why I started to write."

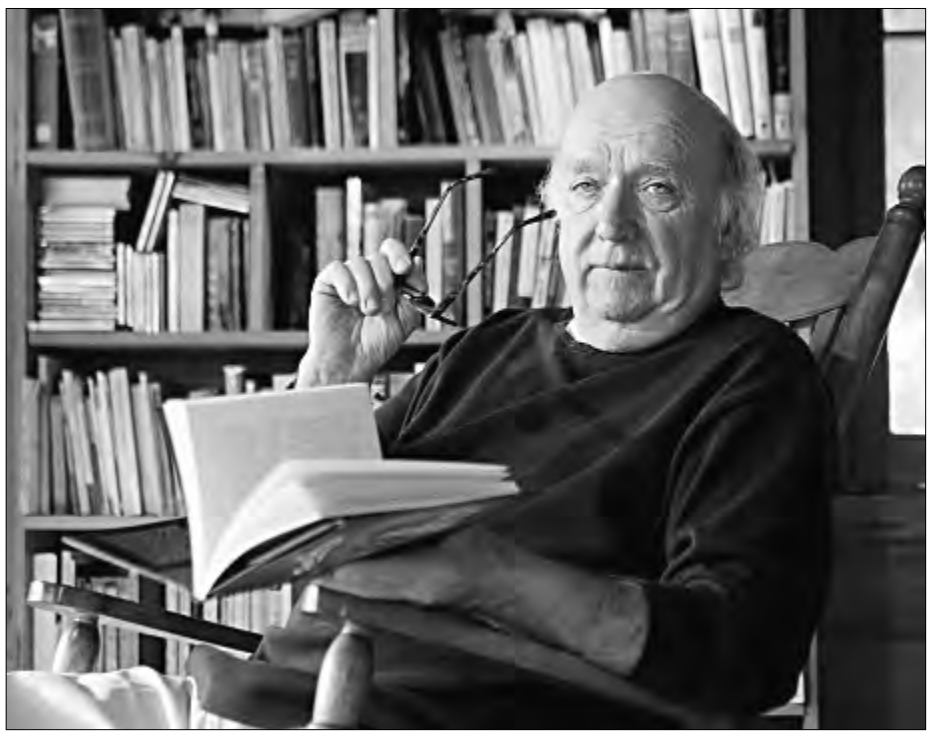


New Anglesea weather vanes are a nod to Angel Square

Doyle says his family was never devout and he had no trouble working with any religious denomination. He was an altar boy at St. Brigid's Catholic Church and a choir boy at St. Albans Anglican church. "At night I was a Protestant and Sunday morning was a Catholic," he jokes. He even went with a friend to clean the floors at the Talmud Torah Jewish School.

For Doyle, who grew up in the depression and war years, working as a child was expected. "We all worked. We just took that for granted," he says. Doyle says he feels bad for young people today who can't get that kind of work knowledge from adults. "It's a great experience, it's a school," he says. "And it gives you confidence because you know what you're doing is essential."

Despite the passage of years, Doyle feels that many things in Lowertown are still the same. He comes to his old neighbourhood every year to speak at York Street School. The school, he says, is very diverse, and the majority of students are non-white. This diversity reminds him of growing up in Lowertown, when the neighbourhood was a mix of Irish, French Canadian, and Jewish families. "It was vastly different, but very much the same, in the sense of a racial mix," he says. "It's just the 'races' were different. The attitudes were the same. Funny."



Angel Square author Brian Doyle

In the bright sunlight of the Jules Morin park opening, Doyle makes his way through families at the play structure, children running on the grass, and neighbours lining up for the free hot dogs. He sees some of the park's new design features. Three new weather vanes are topped with winged cherubs, in a nod to the park's history as Anglesea or "Angel" Square. Two low ridges on either side of the paved path running through the centre of the park are also meant to resemble angel wings when viewed from above. The pool has wing shapes. Doyle seems flattered by the tribute to him and his work made by the landscape architect, Kaja Cerveny. "Lovely!" he says when he sees the weather vanes.

Angels in this Lowertown park may not be the only compliment to Brian Doyle and his literary work. Members of the local community want to open a community garden in front of the Patro and Lowertown Community Centre and would like to name it in his honour. So, 70 years after the Doyle family left their home on Cobourg Street, a Brian Doyle Garden or Angel Square Garden could soon be a feature within the same block.

Francesca Taucer is a Canada Summer Jobs student with the LCA.

Movie night under the stars

Amber Clarke — The weather of Friday, August 15 tried to put a damper on the free outdoor movie screening of Despicable Me 2 in Bingham Park presented by the Lowertown Community Association. About 50 spectators braved the chilly night and the on-again, off-again spattering of rain.

With the lower-than-expected attendance, popcorn was bountiful and everyone enjoyed the intimate setting that felt like a private drive-in movie. Resourceful volunteers helped find tents and water for the guests who got very thirsty after all the popcorn.

The rain stopped after an "anti-rain dance" for exactly 2.5 hours of screening. The LCA would like to thank the very special volunteers from the Lowertown Community Resource Centre and the YOW - without their support, this event wouldn't have been the success it was.

Rezoning appeal dismissed in favor of hotel developer

Liz McKenzie — Clarence Street property owner, Ted Lawrence appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) to stop the rezoning of 364 St. Patrick Street that would allow a 9-storey hotel on the newly rezoned King Edward Avenue.

The newly minted Traditional Main Street zoning allows buildings of 6 storeys.

This type of spot rezoning for a 9-storey hotel would open the door for spot rezoning all along King Edward. Once again, residents are offered the promise of predictable building heights, albeit increased from the previous 4-storeys to the new 6-storeys, only to immediately see how easily a developer can get increased height at will.

The concern is that our community could be faced with walls of high buildings along both sides of the King Edward, further dividing the community. This is not a promising planning direction for a thoroughfare that already faces an unfair number of challenges.

At the dismissal hearing, Lawrence argued that this rezoning would undermine heritage values in the area, along with other aspects of the streetscape. The rezoning diminishes both the predictability of development that the community desires, and the prospect of a harmonious streetscape.

Besides building height issues, Lawrence argued that there is little community benefit in the hotel use: the rezoning is purely to the benefit of the developer. He made further arguments relating to traffic concerns on the busy corner of Murray and King Edward.

As with other hearings, it became clear that the OMB has very little authority to hear matters related to heritage protection. The OMB member noted that while "the ratepayer spoke eloquently and lucidly about important problems, the Board is compelled to agree with the developer".

This leaves residents at the mercy of City Council on all heritage matters. Appeals to the Ontario Heritage Board are possible, but their decisions are not binding. The Lowertown Community Association will continue efforts to persuade Planning Committee and Council members that our Lowertown heritage is worth preserving. However, with continuing loss of buildings in the Lowertown and Byward Market Heritage Conservation Districts, it is clear the present Council does not share this concern.

A copy of the complete decision can be read at www.omb.gov.on.ca/ecs/CaseDetail.aspx?n=PL140212 .

The balance of Lawrence's Appeal relating to concerns about lifting the heritage overlay on 269, 277, 285, and 291 on King Edward Avenue, protecting the Heritage Conservation District within the new zoning, and the lack of public consultation during the planning stages, will be heard on September 8th. The city did not respond positively to his request for mediation. Anyone wishing to work with him on this appeal is welcome. Ted Lawrence can be contacted at 613-789-1081 or

ted@storm.ca .

Nine-story hotel approved at 364 St Patrick — King Edward Avenue elevation (Nov 13 draft)

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