

THE PARK BENCH



MARCH 2019

HUDSON PARK'S QUARTERLY EXCHANGE OF NEWS & VIEWS

IMPORTANT NOTICES via EMAIL

Many owners receive important notices such as Annual General Meeting announcements, budget updates, maintenance projects, etc. via email. It is quick, immediate, and saves costs in terms of mail preparation and postage. While it is the most efficient way to communicate such information, there are still many owners that must receive these notices from the Property Manager via Canada Post because they have yet to complete the electronic agreement form.

Owners are encouraged to sign the electronic agreement and receive future notices electronically: Please contact the Property Manager for the agreement form, or reach it under 'Residents' Info' on the website.

A NEIGHBOUR'S PLUMBING TIP

"I recently had to replace the mixing valve over the hot water tank. This device, positioned in the out-flow water pipe of the hot water tank, serves to maintain and limit the mixed hot water to a desirable selectable temperature, helping to prevent a possible scalding injury."

"The indication of the problem was hearing a whistling noise in the pipes whenever the hot water was used. The plumber said that mixing valves typically have a 5 to 7 year lifespan. Given that Hudson Park is approaching its 10th anniversary, unit owners should anticipate that the mixing valve will require attention. If you hear whistling sounds or other unusual sounds when running your water, call a plumber to have your plumbing system inspected."



The mixing valve is below the red cap

OWNER INFORMATION MEETING (January 15, 2019)

The Board and Property Management company held an information session for owners on January 15th. Topics covered included: the access control/ fob system, upcoming projects (retaining wall, exterior caulking, balcony door issues, plans for possible EV stations for electric cars), reserve fund study overview, rules review. The meeting notes are under 'Residents' Info' on the website.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING COMING TO HUDSON PARK

Are you thinking of purchasing a Tesla, Nissan Leaf, BMW i3 or any one of several electric vehicles on the market today? Well, electric vehicle charge stations are coming to Hudson Park!

As of May 1, 2018, the Government of Ontario implemented rule changes addressing the installation of electric vehicle charge stations in condominiums, making it easier for condo residents to charge their electric vehicles at home. In response, your Board is working with the Property Manager to develop an implementation plan for how this will be applied to Hudson Park to the benefit of current and future owners.



The demand for electric vehicles throughout North American cities is ever-increasing, and Ottawa is no different. We have homeowners expressing interest in charging their vehicles at Hudson Park. While the specific approach, configuration, and costs are still being worked out by the Board, Hudson Park will be providing owners the ability to install electric vehicle charge stations in the near future.

If you are thinking of purchasing an electric vehicle, or have one already, and would like information about the process to install an electric vehicle charge station at Hudson Park, please contact the Property Manager.

As this initiative evolves, updates will be provided in the Hudson Park Bench as well as on the Hudson Park website.

HOLDING THE DOORS OPEN

We understand that holding the lobby doors open is only meant to be polite but please do not let someone follow you into our buildings or garage entrances.

If you are at the front entrances and someone you do not know attempts to follow you into the building without using a fob, just let them know that for building security they will have to wait for the party they are visiting to provide them access. Most people will understand.

Please do not hold doors open for others to follow you in without them first using their fob.

When entering or exiting the garage, please wait for the garage overhead doors to close completely before driving away.

If you do notice someone follow you in please call the police immediately: 911 or 613-236-1222.

If you notice any suspicious activity or feel that someone or something is a threat, please contact the police right away.

DEFIBRILLATORS

The Board of Directors is in the process of ordering Automatic External Defibrillators through the Ottawa Paramedic Service (OPS).

The current plan is to have five per building, distributed at regular intervals at the elevator lobbies, and 4th, 8th, 12th and 16th floors, as recommended by the OPS to be within a 3-minute access location from every unit.

Prominent location signage will be provided once installation is complete, and the OPS will be given emergency building access to quickly answer calls.

The machines themselves may also come with an automatic notification call to the OPS when removed from their wall-mounted boxes and are equipped with both written and audio instructions for use in the case of cardiac arrest.

Once installed, there will be an OPS information session scheduled for residents, where full explanations on the defibrillators will be provided, and any questions answered.

It is helpful to note though, that in the case of an emergency, the defibrillators are designed to be easily accessed and used without any prior training.

Installation, signage and information session dates to be confirmed.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Guess which of our neighbours spent one summer as a guide at Parliament, and later returned to Ottawa as a lawyer with the federal government?

In order to master the work of parliamentary guide, Aaron Marsaw mentally mapped the layout of Centre Block, as well as building the knowledge of appropriate history, architecture, and our parliamentary system. His visual impairment also didn't hamper his success when becoming a Rhodes scholar and studying for two years at the University of Oxford in the UK.

A native of Sudbury, he underwent the requisite cultural adjustments to student life at Oxford, at St John's College, and particularly remembers the people, the lectures across fields of study, formal debating, and the extraordinary amount of essay-writing!

He happily remembers the Lake District for 'hiking the hills', and fondly refers to St Giles Café for students. The well-used adjective 'dodgy' is one of the many terms he learned during those years.

Before settling in Ottawa, Aaron had also studied in Benin, West Africa, through the World University Service of Canada (WUSC). That entailed another unique set of circumstances, including taking 'bush taxis' into remote areas. He recalls how he, along with fellow passengers, shared precious space with cargo such as live chickens and large bags of rice!

While there, Aaron visited two elementary schools; both were for blind and partially sighted children. One was located in the economic capital, Cotonou, and the other in a remote village. With very limited resources, the key aspects of teaching were innovation and creativity. He especially remembers the singing and percussion, to which he added his own guitar-playing.

In our neighbourhood, Aaron recommends Café Delice (you can also buy chocolates there) and the Greek restaurant Mystico, both on Kent.



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Pam Sherlow Gahan, a resident since 2010, has a keen interest in the history of early Ottawa. Living in Centretown, she says, gives an excellent opportunity to explore our city by foot or bicycle.

Pam has a lifelong interest in history and archaeology. With her husband, John, she has travelled extensively in Italy, Britain, and Greece.

What are some of your favourite places in Ottawa and why?

When John and I first moved to Ottawa, I was curious as to why Elgin Street made a turn to the west at Queen Street when all the other north-south streets kept straight. This prompted me to go to the Bytown Museum (located at the beginning of the canal locks) and study maps of Ottawa at the time of the building of the canal. What I found is that the earliest cemetery in Ottawa had been located roughly in the area where Elgin turns, and I thought it was possible that that explained the reason for the change of direction. Since then, human remains were uncovered in 2013 on Queen Street during work on the LRT. The cemetery dates from 1828 and contains the remains of men, women, and children who were involved in the building of the canal. Every time I go down Queen Street, I now think of these people and about how they lived in those very early days of Ottawa.

When I read or hear of other aspects of early Ottawa, I like to try to locate the sites. In an article I read a few years ago, there was a description of earlier bridges in the area of the Chaudière Falls. This location is an easy walk or bike ride from Hudson Park and so with some searching it was possible to locate the remains of at least one of the earlier bridges.

We have the good fortune to have a building of both historical and aesthetic importance right across Kent Street. St. Patrick's Basilica was built in 1870 for Irish Catholics in early Ottawa. It is a magnificent building to tour or just to sit in quietly and savour the peaceful environment.

Needless to say, I have mentioned just a few of the many interesting places to explore in our city. My plan for the upcoming spring, summer, and autumn is to continue to locate and visit (or revisit) sites in Ottawa. The Zibi site near the Chaudière Bridge on both sides of the Ottawa River with its many warehouses and other buildings is a development that will be an interesting place to explore. As well, the House of Commons is moving to the newly renovated West Block, and I understand that we will be able to book guided tours there as well as to the new quarters of the Senate in the former Government Conference Centre / Ottawa train station.



HIGHLIGHTS of the ROOFTOP TERRACES



The HP II Rooftop Terrace in Recent Hibernation

As you know, each of our landscaped Rooftop Terraces (open May to October) is equipped with a barbecue cooking area, dining and lounge areas, a washroom, and a kitchenette. They are there of course for all of us to enjoy, and so that you and your friends and neighbours can in fact make the most of them, here are a few points to keep in mind.

Please ensure that everything is kept clean and tidy. It is your responsibility and not the cleaning staff's to put any refuse in bags before you leave and to toss the bags down the garbage chute in the kitchen. (Used cans or bottles should, however, be taken downstairs and deposited in the appropriate bins in the Garbage Rooms.) As well, please wipe up any crumbs and spills, and if you have rearranged the furniture, kindly put it back where you found it. As for the barbecues themselves, there are printed instructions on how to use them posted nearby, and after you have cooked your food, be sure to take one of the brushes (either hanging on a hook from the barbecue itself or in the cupboard below) and scrape the grill rack clean. You will find that burnt food comes off relatively easily when the rack is very hot.

Finally, do keep in mind that Hudson Park is entirely smoke-free and that consequently no smoking is permitted on the Rooftop Terraces. For additional information please see the "Condo Rules" on the website under 'Residents' Info'.

See you on the roof in May!



The 2018 Holiday Season is long gone, but Hudson Park residents have happy memories of our Holiday Party held in December. Wine and beer, eggnog and treats were in abundance along with the lively conversation of some 60 neighbours.

Thanks go to all those residents who contributed to the Ottawa Food Bank. Thanks to HP residents Erica and Paul Braunovan, owners of Brown Van Brewing, for their contribution of a prize (with a beer focus) for the raffle. A special thanks to Erica and Paul's daughters, Ashena and Shania, who helped with the raffle and who presented the prizes to the lucky draw winners.

UPCOMING BOOK CLUB DATES:

- Thursday, March 14 - *The Fog* by James Herbert - meet in HP2 Lounge - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, April 25 - *Washington Black* by Esi Edugyan - meet in HP1 Lounge - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, June 6 - *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews - meet in HP2 Lounge - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

What BIN to put it in?

Apartment & Multi-Unit Recycling

ottawa.ca
City services
Services municipales **3-1-1**
TTY/VIS 613-580-2401

**paper/
cardboard**

please flatten boxes

Remember NO plastic bags!

**green bin
organics**

Remember NO plastic bags!

Green bins are available at your building/property. Contact your property manager for more information.

What DOES NOT go into the green bin?

garbage

Remember NO syringes/needles and NO construction renovation materials (carpets, counter tops, doors...)

don't know where it goes?

Check the online search tool at ottawa.ca/wasteexplorer

- **Electronic Waste**
Check recycleyourelectronics.ca
- **Household hazardous waste**
Check depot dates and locations online at ottawa.ca/hhw or call 3-1-1.
- **Take it Back!**
Almost 700 Ottawa retailers will take back unwanted household items such as **clean** plastic bags, medications, hangers, car batteries and more. Visit ottawa.ca/tb for details.
- **LCBO and beer bottles**
Can be returned to the Beer Store for refund.
- **Large bulky items/ Appliances/ Construction material**
Don't place furniture (sofas, mattresses, etc) and construction renovation material in the garbage bin. Contact your property manager for proper disposal information or call 3-1-1.
- **Leaf and yard waste**
Call 3-1-1 for collection
- **Fat Oil and Grease**
Put in a milk carton in your green bin; OR in your garbage, NOT down your sink or toilet!