

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**WATERIDGE
VILLAGE**

ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE DU

**VILLAGE DES
RIVERAINS**

Annual Report 2023

Photos courtesy of Darren Kipp, Alasdair Stuart-Bell, Vita Sgardello

Who we Are

Our Vision

A safe, healthy, caring, vibrant and proud community where all people can thrive.

Our Mission

To enhance, engage and represent our diverse neighbourhood, where we live, work and play, by facilitating partnerships, collaboration and cooperation.

Our Values

Respect: We are considerate and treat others with care and respect

Diversity: We strive to engage all those who live, work and play in our community

Safety: We seek to create a safe environment for everyone

Pride: We are proud of our community and our successes

Innovation: We are creative, pro-active and visionary

Sustainability: We are stable, growing and nurturing

Accountability: We are accountable to the community and are responsible for doing what we say we will do

Online Presence

Web: wateridgeassociation.ca

FB: Wateridge Village Community (private group)

Who we Are

Current Board of Directors

- **President:** Roxanne Field
- **Vice President:** Daphne Jaques
- **Treasurer:** Zul Nanji
- **Secretary:** Alasdair Stuart-Bell
- **Planning & Development:** Jane Thompson
- **Communications, Events & Fundraising:** Vita Sgardello
- **Membership:** Caroline Lefebvre & Benoit Seguin



President's Report

Roxanne Field

Here we are another year older! The Association has been very busy this year and we've made some great headway.

Our board and committees are growing and these people are working very hard, volunteering their time and talent to benefit us all. A big thank you to each of them!

We have been working towards bringing in more retail, more busing and opening Hemlock as part of our ongoing planning and development work.

Our book club is amazingly successful and open to all residents of Wateridge Village located in Ottawa, on the unceded and unsurrendered territory of the Anishnaabe nation. More info is available on the Facebook group [Wateridge Village Book Club for Indigenous Voices](#). This book club is a non-Indigenous, community-led, initiative meant to create opportunities to immerse ourselves in Indigenous perspectives and engage in meaningful conversations about Truth and Reconciliation by reading books by Indigenous authors from Turtle Island.

We held our first "post covid" in-person Holiday event in December and despite the inclement weather, had a fantastic turnout. It was a great community night so thank you to all the volunteers who helped make that happen and to those of you who attended, who supported our silent auction and participated in all the activities. Looking ahead, we are planning a garage sale in the spring. Please reach out if you are interested in helping!

From time to time our association volunteers send out surveys or request written testimonials from residents. These contributions are vital to the work we do and help us share your feedback with various levels of government, organizations and developers. It shows that Wateridge, as young as it is, already has a strong and engaged community.

Speaking of engagement, the Association is in need of both members and volunteers to contribute to the events and activities that we undertake. All residents are encouraged to reach out to learn more about how you can get involved. No contribution is too small.

As a member, you will be able to vote at the Annual General Meeting and will have contributed to the Association's efforts in bettering our neighborhood and delivering community-building activities and initiatives.

Everyone in our community is welcome to become a member or to be part of our Facebook group [Wateridge Village Community / Communauté du Village des Riverains](#).

Sincerely,

Roxanne Field

WVCA President president@wateridgeassociation.ca



Who we are and what we do

Chair – Jane Thompson

Members – Amie Baker, Lorenzo Bonera, Graham Field, Chantal Gingras, Darren Kipp, Jennifer Koussaya-Kent, Zeinab Mohamed, Dragos Popa, Tao Wan.

Mission - Our mission is to ensure that the unique vision of our community is realized as roads, buildings, and parks grow up around us. We are dedicated to assisting with creating a diverse community that includes local commercial services, employment, and recreation within walking and biking distance, and all types of housing including affordable and supportive housing.

We continued to hold virtual committee meetings this past year in addition to meetings with City Planners, Developers, Canada Lands Company, and our City, Provincial and Federal representatives.

Key Activities and Accomplishments

Development

- Our committee worked particularly hard this year to advocate for adherence to the vision and regulations supporting a mixed-use, transit-oriented, inclusive, “15-minute community” through discussions with Canada Lands Company, the City of Ottawa, developers and our political representatives. This has presented several challenges and at many times felt like an uphill battle. We particularly appreciate the support of Councillor Rawlson King and MP Mona Fortier for listening to our concerns when it relates to the balanced development of Wateridge Village.
- Key blocks around the central town square of the Wateridge core are now being designed, generating concern by our committee about the lack of commercial space, entrances and glazing facing the “town square” and along Hemlock Road and Codd’s Road. This is contrary to the Wateridge Village Secondary Plan that was created by the City of Ottawa. We continue to advocate strongly for an improved approach to development by all stakeholders.
- A new resident and committee member brought forward issues about discrepancies between the Master Concept Plans created for the community and what developers are being approved to build by Canada Lands and City planners. We continue to pursue this issue.

- **681 Mikinak** – Our earlier community petition asking for increased retail space on the block by Mattamy will result in Wateridge's first businesses opening in approximately a year.
- **101 Vedette** – Many of our suggestions for this block have been incorporated in the 172 stacked townhouses now under construction on the western side of Wateridge.
- **715 Mikinak** – Construction for this project for 271 units of affordable housing, with a variance for reduced parking and a smaller than hoped for amount of commercial space is well underway. We look forward to welcoming new residents next year.
- **630 Montreal Road** – our community submission resulted in additional commercial space on Montreal Road.
- Concept plans are in the process of being approved for future phases including input from P&D.

Transportation

- Additional line #27 bus service began in June 2022 thanks to the work of Councillor King supported by Veterans' House. Our "Bring Back the 17 Bus" initiative was widely supported by community members who shared their stories, and by politicians, developers and other community associations. Our transit submission was provided to Councillor King to make representation on our behalf to City council and OC Transpo, and we hope to hear of good results soon.
- The opening of Hemlock Road has again been delayed and we have advocated with Canada Lands and Councillor King to move forward approvals for this important connection for Wateridge residents and future businesses.
- Issues with truck traffic on non-designated streets, speeding, lack of parking, narrow street widths snow clearing, illegal driving in non-authorized areas including even the multi-use pathways continued this year.
- We continue to monitor the potential future interprovincial bridge in collaboration with neighbouring community associations. A field study to collect additional geotechnical data in the Ottawa River at the 3 proposed sites (Kettle Island, Lower Duck Island and McLauren Bay) was not completed in 2022 due to some environmental concerns and will commence in the spring of 2023. Additional traffic studies also need to be completed, and discussions with MP Mona Fortier suggest that this initiative is unlikely to progress in the near future.

Communication

- A survey asking about how well residents felt the built community was living up to the original visions provided useful background on resident issues and satisfaction for our committee and Canada Lands. High satisfaction levels were expressed for walking and cycling networks, urban and landscaping design, parks and open spaces, connection to history, diversity of housing types, with low satisfaction expressed for creating a complete mixed-use community.
- Thanks to Darren Kipp for communication updates on planning and development issues through our Facebook page and e-mail list.
- Our Committee responded to a request for community input to a Federal Heritage Buildings Review of 1200 Montreal Road.

Parks, Community Gardens and Community Services

- Community gardens have been included in future parks with necessary water infrastructure. We will continue to work with other organizations to bring these to reality.
- We look forward to the opening of our large park community park in the spring and the many amenities it will provide.
- We have been working with Councillor King for inclusion of community services such as field house, community room, and library in our park and mixed-use core.
- We took part in NCC consultations on future improvements to Sir Georges-Etienne Park, with the goal of creating an active transportation link from the centre of Wateridge to the Ottawa River path system and additional recreational opportunities for residents.

Schools

- While one school site has been purchased by the French Public Board, funding for a school has not yet been approved. Two other available sites for French Catholic and English Public Schools have not yet been spoken for, but we understand there are discussions ongoing with Canada Lands prior to expiry of purchase rights. We continue to monitor developments and reach out to school board trustees.



Membership Report

Benoit & Caroline

As Wateridge Village itself continues to grow and include more and more residents, the Wateridge Village Community Association strives to increase its membership. Given that rules and limitations surrounding the pandemic were eased in 2022, we were able to organize community activities, such as the Spring Yard Sale and the Winter Warm-up, to promote our mandate and try to increase our membership. In 2023, we plan to organize more activities that provide opportunities for residents to gather, build a sense of community and increase our members.

In addition, we changed our approach and messaging in reaching out to existing members to renew and to encourage others to become members. We built on previous tools to track membership anniversaries and encourage membership renewal.

The Wateridge Village Community Association currently stands at 43 active members. Even with continued efforts to renew memberships and gather new ones, this is a decrease from the 67 membership reported in 2022.

Only through an active and engaged membership, can the mandate of the Association be continued.

The membership fee is currently of \$20.00 for one year and \$30.00 for two years. The Board recognizes that for many, this may provide a barrier for joining and provisions will be made for those circumstances to ensure the Association remains accessible and diverse. Of course, we continue to accept donations as well.

Thank you to all of the residents who, to-date, recognize the value in belonging to the Association – your commitment (and membership dues) are much appreciated!

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The communications committee exists to keep residents of our growing neighbourhood up to date with activities organized by the WVCA and relevant news and information. We use our private Facebook group and e-mailing list as the main channels of communication. In 2022 the communications and events committees remained merged due to a lack of volunteers.

Communications Update

In 2022 we saw the Facebook Group grow by 119 members (to 540 at the end of the year), while our mailing list reaches 252 individuals. The Facebook Group continues to serve – as intended – as a digital meeting space for our community. A small group of volunteers monitors the conversations to ensure it remains a safe, respectful, and spam-free forum to share information, opportunities, and news related to Wateridge Village.

We are happy to announce that two of the communications committee volunteers have stepped up to lead the communications committee in 2023. Thank you Mireille and Darren!

Events Update

The gradual return to in-person activities following the Covid pandemic meant we were able to organize some activities “in real life”!

In May we hosted our first ever Spring Fair and Garage Sale – thanks to everyone who participated. It was a great test run for an event we hope to grow and improve in the years to come.

In June we ran another rain barrel fundraiser.

In December we hosted our first ever Winter Wonderland Warm Up and were thrilled to see so many members of our community show up despite the big snow fall! We were pleased that a perfectly bilingual Santa was able to join us and hand out treats and prizes. A big thank you to Councillor Rawlson King and MPP Lucille Collard for participating, as well as our beloved Station 51 Firefighters. The kids had a blast climbing onto the truck!

Volunteers

A huge thank you to the communication committee volunteers who provided their ongoing support in 2021: Adria Moore, Julien Redelsperger, Mireille Piche, and Darren Kipp.



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@OttawaIncendie

P51

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HERRITT-WYMAN



Ottawa

Financial Report: Balance Sheet

Zul Nanji

As of August 31, 2022

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash \$ 2,585.09

Current Assets \$ 2,585.09

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable

-
2022-2023 Memberships \$ 80.00
Payables \$ -

Current Liabilities \$ 80.00

Net Revenue 2020-2021 \$ 992.65

2021-2022 Net Revenue 1,512.44

Net Equity \$ 2,505.09

**Total Liabilities and Net
Assets**

\$ 2,585.09

Financial Report: Income Statement

Zul Nanji

September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022	
REVENUES	
2021-2022 Membership fees	\$ 570.00
Donations	1,301.10
Total Income	\$ 1,871.10
EXPENSES	
Website	\$ -
Banking	- 65.11
Insurance	
Mailbox	- 242.95
Govt Filings	- 15.60
Membership	- 35.00
Total Expenses	-\$ 358.66
Net Revenues	\$1,512.44

**Donations include revenue from plant sales, silent auction, rain barrel sales, etc., as well as cash donations made to assist the operations of the WVCA.

September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023	
REVENUES	
2022-2023 Membership fees	\$ 600.00
Donations	1,200.00
Total Income	\$ 1,800.00
EXPENSES	
Website	\$ -
Banking	65.00
Insurance	
Mailbox	250.00
Govt Filings	20.00
Membership	35.00
Total Expenses	\$ 370.00
Net Revenues	\$1,430.00



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