

# ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE DU VILLAGE DES RIVERAINS

# Annual Report Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Photos courtesy of community members and WVCA Board of Directors

### 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: Michael Marryatt
- Secretary: Alasdair Stuart-Bell
- Planning & Development: Jane Thompson
- Communications, Events & Fundraising: Darren Kipp, Mireille
   Piché
- Members at Large: Zeinab Mohamed, Tao Wan

The Board wishes to thank Caroline Lefebvre, Zul Nanji, Benoit Séguin and Vita Sgardello for their contributions over the last several years. You will be missed!



# **President's Report**

The fiscal year 2022-2023 has been a very busy one for the WVCA board and subcommittees. We have accomplished many of our goals and are proud of the good work we've done for Wateridge on the whole.

To all our members, **Thank you**! Your membership fees helped to sustain and support the association over the last few years and now we are accessible to everyone living in our great community.

Membership moving forward is FREE!! If you are not yet a member, please sign up via <u>membership@wateridgeassociation.ca</u> There are many benefits to being a member but the greatest one of all is you will become part of this community, you won't just be living here - there is a difference! That goes for everyone including renters.

And if that isn't enough, you'll benefit from:

- Regular emails with updates about everything from Transit, schools, events
- A dynamic newsletter full of great info.
- Opportunities to participate and come together for the betterment of our Village.

Let's get out there and get to know each other, support each other and celebrate this rich and diverse community. In this day and age when there is so much negativity and divisiveness, it's good to come together with neighbours and create a strong sense of community.

The Wateridge Village Community Association is now insured. This is mandated by the City of Ottawa. All community associations must carry insurance. Your membership fees and our fundraising efforts have helped to get us here. Now that the pandemic is behind us, more or less, we can focus on more fundraising efforts which permits us to remove membership fees. If you have any suggestions or would like to help us fundraise, please reach out. We need a board member to head up Fundraising, maybe that's you!

Our Planning and Development committee continues to meet regularly with Canada Lands Company (the land developer), Rawlson King (our City Councillor) and various developers in the community like Mattamy, Bayview, West Urban and others. There is so much going on with all the new development please review the P&D report to get more information.

# **President's Report**

#### **Roxanne Field**

Our Winter Warm Up event in December 2022, Spring Clean Up last April, the Garage Sale in June were huge successes and we're looking forward to offering more in the new year. The Events report will give you more information. For future events, stay tuned, get involved! And get those teenagers involved too. They are amazing volunteers!

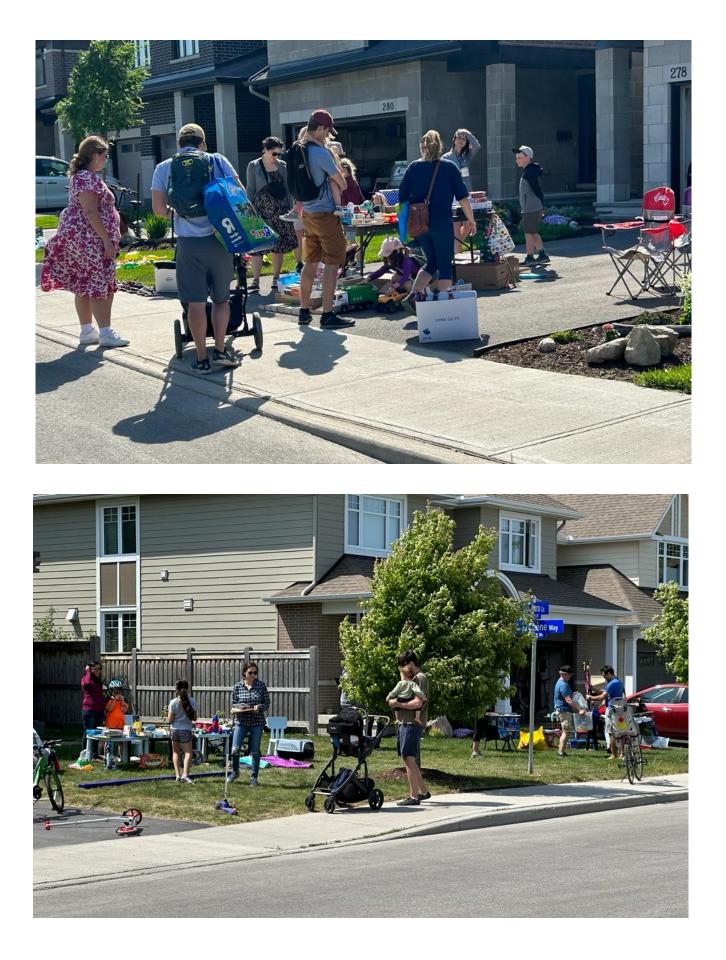
Thank you to this outstanding Board of Directors who have given so much of their time, talent and treasure. Daphne, Alasdair, Zul, Vita, Mireille, Darren, Benoit, Caroline, Zeinab, Tao and our superstar, Jane, THANK YOU! And welcome Michael, our new Treasurer who is replacing Zul. We are also wishing the very best to Benoit, Caroline and Vita who have been part of the Board for some time and have made notable contributions—we wish you well! To our subcommittee volunteers and to those who come out to help out at events, THANK YOU! We need you and we appreciate you.

Looking forward we are planning a soccer programme once we have soccer nets and City of Ottawa approvals. We'd like to get our skating rink up and running but we are waiting on Hydro to hook up power and volunteers to maintain the ice. All of this requires volunteers so if you are interested, please reach out. You will get way more out of it than you put into it!

We have other goals too. We'll let you know more via our newsletter, emails and Facebook as the year progresses. We hope you see the value in the Wateridge Village Community Association. We are making a difference. You could too!

With appreciation,

Roxanne Field WVCA President president@wateridgeassociation.ca



# Planning & Development Report

#### Who we are and what we do

Chair – Jane Thompson

Members – Amie Baker, Lorenzo Bonera, Graham Field, John Grant, 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 once again focused on advocating 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. As development of the mixed-use continues, it has been necessary to advocate persistently for the inclusion of commercial space in the mixed-use core.

A **community open house** was held to share master plans for future development in the northeast portion of Wateridge where apartment buildings will be set between large existing stands of trees, with a trail running through based on Algonquin themes. This information was well-received by community members who attended.

**375 Codd's Road** – A key block on the north side of the central town square of the Wateridge for a six storey rental apartment building has been submitted to the City for approval, following extensive consultation with our community association. Our concerns about the lack of commercial space, entrances and glazing facing the town square were raised repeatedly, and resulted in modest improvements to glazing, entrances and landscaping, but not the addition of commercial space to match expectations set out by Canada Lands for this property. We have had assurances from the developer and Canada Lands that the two remaining buildings of this development will better reflect the Wateridge vision, and we will work to hold them to this promise.

# Planning & Development Report

**1050 Tawadina** – A proposal for two nine storey residential buildings with a central courtyard in the mixed-use core has also been submitted for approval. We are very supportive of the design and fit of this development in the community

**681 Mikinak**–Our earlier community petition asking for increased retail space on the block by Mattamy will result in Wateridge's first commercial businesses opening this year. We look forward to welcoming new residents starting this Spring.

**715 Mikinak** – Construction for this project for 271 units of affordable housing and some commercial space is nearing completion. We look forward to welcoming new residents as they move in this winter.

**101 Vedette** – 176 stacked townhouses are now under construction on the western side of Wateridge.

**Phase 4** - (north of Hemlock Rd, between Codd's Rd and Vedette Way) is currently being serviced, with new sewer and water pipes being installed in conjunction with new streets, in preparation for the construction of upcoming developments.

#### Transportation

**Bus Route 17** - Our widely supported transit submission to Councillor King resulted in a council motion asking OC Transpo to investigate reinstatement of bus service lost during Covid. Following an OC transpo review, Route 17 will be reinstated in the spring, providing weekday peak period service from Wateridge to Rideau Station via Brittany Dr. and along Montreal Rd. and Rideau St. This differs from the previous routing of Route 17, which traveled along Hemlock Rd., Beechwood Ave. and Rideau St. on its way to Rideau Station. We continue to advocate for a route that provides better access to schools and services along the Hemlock/Beechwood/St. Patrick corridor.

**New Route 25** - Also in the spring, the existing Route 27 will be replaced by an extended Route 25, providing all-day service from Wateridge to Blair Station (and beyond) via Bathgate Dr. We see this as a huge improvement to service.

**Hemlock Road opening** - This road work has again been delayed from the initial date of 2019 to now 2025-2026, at a significant cost to our community. Reasons are city requirements for additional water monitoring, and unwillingness by CLC to expend funds now on this project. This is an issue we raise with Canada Lands and Councilor King at each meeting and will continue to lobby for strongly.

# Planning & Development Report

An **accessibility** review of sidewalks, parks and bus stops was carried out and issues brought forward to Canada Lands.

Issues with, **truck traffic** on non-designated streets, **speeding**, lack of **parking**, narrow **street** widths, and **snow clearing** persisted this year.

We continue to monitor the potential **future interprovincial bridge** in collaboration with neighbouring community associations, and will provide information to the community if new developments arise.

#### Parks

**Eugène Martineau Park** was opened this past Fall, bringing many new amenities to the community, including play structures, a splash pad, a skate park, and tennis courts. Still to be made operational are the soccer field, when grass has taken hold, and the ice rink, were necessary power connections were delayed by the Hydro strike. We've been working with Councilor King for inclusion of a field house in the park.

**Community gardens** have been included in a future park with necessary water infrastructure. An **off leash dog area** will also be included.

NCC consultations are ongoing for future improvements to **Sir George-Etienne Cartier Park**, where we have been advocating for an active transportation link from the centre of Wateridge to the Ottawa River path system and additional recreational opportunities for residents.

#### Schools

School sites have now been purchased by the **French Public board** and **English Public Board** adjacent to each other on Wanaki Rd. Funding for these schools has not yet been approved.

The purchase rights held by the **French Catholic board** to a parcel of land on the south side of Hemlock Rd. expired without being purchased, and the land is now being offered to housing developers. The French Catholic board, however, is still interested in building a school in Wateridge and a new parcel of land on the north side of Hemlock Rd. has now been reserved for them.





# **Membership Report**

As reported in previous years, growing the VWCA Membership has continued to be a challenge for the Association under the fee-based model.

The Board, therefore, made the decision this year to wind down the fee-based membership and open the Association to all residents within our boundaries, with no membership dues.

Membership is now free!

To achieve that, we will be inviting all of our Newsletter subscribers who live within our boundaries to sign up as members to the Association.

# The Board would like to thank all of those residents who contributed membership fees to the WVCA as these funds were instrumental in launching the Association.

Future revenues from donations and fundraising activities will be used to fund the ongoing website maintenance and other costs previously supported by the Membership fees.

# **Communications & Events Report**

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.

#### Communications Update—Darren Kipp and Mireille Mireille Piché

In 2023 we saw the Facebook Group grow by 129 members (to 669 at the end of the year), while our mailing list reaches 275 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.

The fall saw the creation of a new seasonal e-mail newsletter reaching members of the mailing list who may not be Facebook users or members of the community Facebook Group.

In 2023, the WVCA completed an IT migration to a new e-mail system providing new technical benefits as well as cost savings to the association.

A huge thank you to the communication committee volunteers who provided their ongoing support in 2023: Daphne Jaques, Vita Sgardello

#### Events Update—Vita Sgardello

**Winter Warm Up Event.** Despite a huge snowstorm, we held a very successful community event at Alliance Church that included a visit from Santa Clause, crafts for the kids, refreshments and a silent auction.

**Wateridge Earth Day Cleanup**. In collaboration with Canada Lands, we organized a neighborhood spring cleanup on April 22. Big thanks to all the volunteers who pitched in to tidy up our parks and bioswales!

**Community Garage & Plant Sale.** Our second neighborhood garage sale and plant sale on June 3 was a fun day. Later in the day, we joined Canada Lands' Spring Fling for some laid-back activities like curling, bocce, and a treasure hunt!

**Eugene Martineau Park Park Opening.** The grand opening of Eugene Martineau Park, hosted by Canada Lands Company, was a memorable event; we hosted an information table and enjoyed connecting with community members.

Photo courtesy of Kathrin Haselbach

### August 31, 2023

Assets		Liabilities		
Cash	\$3,338.53	Unearned Revenue: Future Year Memberships	\$	170.00
Total As- sets	\$3,338.53	Total Liabilities	\$	170.00
		<b>Equity</b> Net Income Previous Years Net Income FY 2022-23 Total Equity	\$	2,585.09 583.44 3,168.53
		Total Liabilities and Equity	\$3	,338.53

### September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023

2022-23 Membership Fees	\$	640.00
Donations	\$	874.71
Total Income	\$1	,514.71
Expenses		
Membership & Filing Fee	\$	12.00
Bank Charges	\$	29.90
Mailbox and Postage	\$	276.85
Donations	\$	100.00
Event Expenses	\$	512.52
Total Expenses	\$	931.17
Net Income	\$	583.44

### September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

### Income

2023-24 Membership Fees Donations Fundraising Activities <b>Total Income</b>	<pre>\$ 170.00 \$ 500.00 \$ 2,500.00 \$ 3,170.00</pre>
Expenses	
Membership & Filing Fee	\$ 12.00
Bank Charges	\$ 150.00
Insurance	\$ 1,000.00
Mailbox and Postage	\$ 276.85
Donations	\$ 100.00
Event Expenses	\$ 600.00
Total Expenses	\$ 1,138.85
Net Income	\$ 2,031.15



