

KBCA 2018 AGM President's Report

Apr 15, 2018

First I'd like to say thanks to all the KBCA Directors and community volunteers, with special mention for Cheryl Meek and the rest of the group running the Beaverbrook Thursday Night Family Group and Julie Gourley with Sustain Kanata North for their dedication and hard work.

This past year saw the following highlights:

- Community Issues

- ◇ Hydro One Vegetation Management – with the sponsorship of Terry Matthews, the KBCA has been able to engage with Hydro One's Forestry group and negotiate a much more transparent process for managing trees and other vegetation which are on residents property under Hydro One lines in Beaverbrook ("easements"). This also has the benefit of giving residents much more control over how and when trimming takes place and has provided much clearer understanding of what Hydro One's safety requirements are how residents can better manage and plan plantings and trimming in their yard.

The first implementation of this new program/process took place in February and March, with some additional cleanup, stump removal, re-plantings and replacement vouchers to roll-out through the spring.

The KBCA would like to thank those who worked with the KBCA directly with Hydro One on forming the new program (Mario Poirier, Peter Chapman, Claudette McLellan, Denis Bourke, Frank Ibsen, Rob McAulay, Kevin McCarthy), the street captains, and the support of both those who have homes within the Hydro easements and the community at large.

- Neighborhood Improvements

- ◇ Beaverbrook Signs – the signs which were started in 2017 were completed and installed at the Steacie location in mid-June and the one at Campeau in Sept 2017
- ◇ Lighted Corner Street Signs – a supplier for the refurbished signs was found with a quote for approx. \$700 per sign, including installation. A local electrician was found to understand if we had any electrical approval or code issues. The KBCA directors approved \$6,000 (\$3,000 in 2017 and \$3,000 in 2018) plus a donation by our Councillor (Marianne Wilkinson) to refurbish 10 of the signs both as a proof of concept and to show the Community what the refurbished signs look like.

The KBCA will be asking for approval to finance the remaining signs for a total of an additional \$40,000. The KBCA will be asking the community to provide donations to support the project.

A key reason for doing the refurbishments now and for all existing signs ASAP is that the City of Ottawa had already started to fully remove the signs replacing them with an aluminum pole with standard name flag plates. They have stopped removal on the understanding that the KBCA/Community will complete the refurbishment program.

- Greenspace – the planned Tree Inventory course went ahead as planned in June 2017 and will be repeated this June (see KBCA web site for details). The KBCA was also engaged increasingly with the City and Environmental groups in the City on Tree/vegetation issues attending the City (of Ottawa) Park Summit and was involved in the City’s Urban Forest Management Plan and a “Neighbourhood Stewardship Plans” pilot
- Financial
 - ◊ Community Centre – our revenue has rebounded from the Elevator project in 2015/2016 with additional increase in revenue and use of the Community Centre by local groups and residents.
- Community Centre Renovations
 - ◊ Due to Hydro One and other projects and lack of sufficient volunteers as project leaders, we were unable to progress with Community Centre renovation projects, so budgeted funds for renovation were not spent in 2017.

We now have volunteers who have come forward and we will be working with them post AGM to kick off the priority projects (see plans for 2018/19 later in this document)
 - ◊ Storage – the KBCA funded an interim improvement to lockable storage for Community Centre clients, converting the 1st floor side meeting room into a full time storage room with some structured storage. The intent is replace this with a better designed layout and more storage capacity to meet our clients diverse needs.
- Planning – there have been no new major development/rezoning applications since April 2015. 2 The Parkway construction for the tower is complete, but the renovation of the old Post Office building is still incomplete. Not all units in either the tower or the Post Office have been sold.

It is not entirely clear if the 1131 Teron property has been sold, but the KBCA was asked to meet with a potential buyer and his Planner who was looking to build apartments (vs. condos) and increase the density by lower ceilings and smaller units. The buyer was unaware of many of the complexities and costs for the site and was assuming a rental market of young families and retired people, which is unlike any other builders in Kanata. It has not been communicated what

The “Music for Young” Children building on Leacock Way has been sold and will be renovated and in operation (target June 2018) by a Medical Doctor’s group (currently located in up March road).
- Events – We were not able to stage as many events in 2017 as we would have liked, due to a lack of Volunteer Leaders willing to run events like Mayfair – Jim Shearon, your time and dedication is missed. The KBCA was able to participate and sponsor the “Pedal Play” bike rodeo in 2017, which was a great success and which is being repeated on June 4, 2018 – also sponsored by the KBCA
- Community Group support – we have continued to upgrade our support for community groups and get their commitment to participate in KBCA sponsored projects.
 - ◊ We’d like to thank Sustain Kanata North (formerly Sustain Beaverbrook) - run locally by Julie Gourley - for the Envirocentre (envirocentre.ca) which wound down the program at the end of the 3 year pilot. Fortunately many of the programs that were started by this initiative are continuing.
 - ◊ We are still looking for more clusters and streets to host street parties, garage sales and other local events for which the KBCA will promote and sponsor for \$100 per event

- ◇ A Community Garden project that was supported by the KBCA changed location from across from Beaverbrook in the NCC lands to Kanata North on Herzberg road (<http://trailingedge.ca/>). This project was contributed to by the Sustain Kanata North project and is sponsored by the Trailing Edge computer store
- New KBCA Directors– The KBCA was able to attract new directors in 2017 – Steve Hines – Secretary and Karen Bennett – Communications.

Karen has brought in-depth expertise in social media, marketing and public relations and has applied that to a door to door communications strategy and vastly improved our presence (and community) response on Facebook.

- Heritage – the KBCA provided 2 Heritage Walking Tours of Beaverbrook, one in July in conjunction with Heritage Ottawa and again in Sept for an International Heritage conference being held in Ottawa. This tour will be given

Renewing the KBCA

The new Bylaws were rolled out and approved at the 2017 KBCA AGM and additional amendments for budgeting will be tabled at the 2018 AGM.

Planning for 2016/17

Key plans for the remainder of 2017 and early 2018 include:

- Our key focus is to roll out our “2-way Comms Project” to connect (or re-connect) door to door with the Beaverbrook community. This has been piloted to great success and will be key to the KBCA’s visibility which leads to recruiting new volunteers and higher community involvement
- Refocused renovation projects – emphasis on Storage, Electrical/lighting and replacing our main side entrance with a wheel-chair accessible entry.
- Complete the lighted corner street sign project
- Increasing engagement with the community on Greenspace issues with an emphasis on our aging tree canopy.
- Working with Hydro One/Beaverbrook on plans for City of Ottawa property and the North East Hydro One corridor (from Steacie across the NCC lands) in late 2018/early 2019
- Build on managing our greenspace with steps towards a tree management program with the running of a Tree Inventory course/seminar in June and closer ties with the City Forestry Program.
- Build a community event kit equipping the KBCA and the community with all the information to run small to large events, including safety, insurance, available local and City resources, volunteer management planning tools plus experience from past events (e.g. MayFair, PotLuck Supper, New Year’s Levee, Winter Carnival)

Upcoming events

- Bill Teron Tribute – April 30 – Brookstreet Hotel (RSVP)
- Provincial election Kanata-Carleton All Candidates Meeting – May 24th
- Pedal Play – June 3
- Heritage Ottawa tour of Beaverbrook – June 17 or 24 (to be confirmed)
- City Councillor All Candidates meeting for Kanata North (Fall 2018)

