



## LATE FALL NEWSLETTER 2020

Dear neighbours,

It has been a while since we gathered as a community in person, but we hope you are keeping well and staying healthy. At the outset of the pandemic, we had asked for volunteers to assist any neighbours with errands and we were overwhelmed with the response. Within a week of the posting, over 30 residents from every street in Leslie Park had offered to help! We haven't received any requests to date, but hope that anyone who will have difficulty picking up their essentials this winter or won't be able to rely on extended family for help over the holidays will reach out to a neighbour or the Community Association for support.

Please don't hesitate to email [info@lesliepark.ca](mailto:info@lesliepark.ca) or call 613.862.3366 and we will endeavour to connect you with someone living close by who can help.

Happy holidays!  
Leslie Park Community Association

## REMINDER: DEADLINE FOR GRISWOLD AWARD SUBMISSIONS IS DECEMBER 18TH

Don't wait for that perfect snowy backdrop to take a photo of your Christmas lights – submit a picture of your home to [info@lesliepark.ca](mailto:info@lesliepark.ca) by Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>!

Let's celebrate the people who go 'all out' on their Christmas decorations and light up our community in December. If you have ever walked along Trimble Crescent in the winter, you will know that we are all competing for 'the *second* most festive' home in Leslie Park but there's a lot of glory in receiving the coveted trophy! Check out the contest rules [here](#)!

Submit a photo and you will be entered into a draw for 1 of 3 gift cards from a local business!

## FOLLOW UP FROM DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> COMMUNITY MEETING

Thank you to all community members who attended the December 3rd virtual meeting and provided input ahead of time. Participants voted overwhelmingly in favour of responding to the situation with Councillor Chiarelli by sending emails on behalf of the community asking him to step down, and Mayor Jim Watson expressing concern about our lack of representation and support. Copies of the letters that were sent can be found in the blog posts on [www.lesliepark.ca](http://www.lesliepark.ca)

## OUTDOOR RINK NEWS

Today the rink maintenance staff started to flood for the rink base ice. We expect to have the rink ready between Christmas and New Year's (weather dependent – lol). We would appreciate if the community stayed off the rink until we open it for skating.

The rink will be open as follows:

Day	Time	Family Skate - skaters only Open Skate - skaters & hockey
Monday	5 - 8pm	Open
Tuesday	5 - 8pm	Open
Wednesday	5 – 6:30pm 6:30 – 8pm	Family Open
Thursday	5 - 8pm	Open
Friday	5 - 8pm	Open
Saturday	11am – 3pm 3pm – 8pm	Family Open
Sunday	11am – 3pm 3pm – 8pm	Family Open
Holidays	11am – 3pm 3pm – 8pm	Family Open

If you are interested in volunteering or working as a Rink Supervisor, please contact Frank Sullivan at [franksullivan@sympatico.ca](mailto:franksullivan@sympatico.ca)

To address COVID concerns, the following 3 new practices will be implemented *only* if using the Field House, as per City of Ottawa requirements:

1. High-contact surfaces in the Field House are required to be wiped down by the Rink Supervisors at the start, middle and end of a shift (i.e., every hour), with cleaning supplies provided by the City of Ottawa. These include all doorknobs, light switches, the pen on the clipboard, all benches inside the Field House and the desk in the office.
2. Masks are mandatory inside the Field House and the number is limited to 3 skaters at one time. (Benches will be available outside.)
3. Anyone using the trailer will be asked to complete a Contact Tracing form, as required by the City of Ottawa.

For those who want to use the rink without using the Field House, additional outdoor benches are available. Masks are not required outdoors while skating or using the outdoor benches. Social distancing practices, however, should be respected.

The City of Ottawa Guidelines indicate that hockey is an acceptable activity.

## GRAHAM CREEK UPDATE

This summer, a new home builder caused quite a stir in our community. A young beaver took up residence in Graham Creek near our park and was met with curiosity and interest but also concern as he took down trees at a steady rate to build a dam. The LPCA received several questions about what should be done. Residents volunteered on behalf of the Association to seek out advice from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, City of Ottawa and Ottawa Carleton Wildlife Centre on whether it was possible to co-exist with this beaver - while maintaining the flow of water and protecting the many trees that line our creek or whether the beaver should be removed. While waiting for a plan or direction, some residents had the dam and then the beaver removed. Unfortunately, this was done without the LPCA's knowledge and so we did not have the opportunity to respond to their concerns directly.

Our waterways and greenspaces are shared and enjoyed by everyone in Leslie Park, and the LPCA's role is to act on behalf of all 800 residents in matters with the City and governing authorities. We are volunteers – we may not have all the answers, but we do try to understand and address everyone's points of view. With future concerns, residents are reminded that they are part of a larger community and that community is served and represented by the LPCA.

## **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTES TO OUR COMMUNITY**

We did not have an opportunity at our recent meeting to thank the many residents in Leslie Park who not only contribute their time, but also their great ideas for making our community stronger. This is a snapshot of some of Leslie Park's community-led initiatives:

- Leslie Park Facebook page and Leslie Park Circular (a new private Facebook group where people can Share Services, Swap, Find and Help)
- Community Garden
- Pumpkin Carving Contest
- Griswold Award House Decorating Contest
- Sharing photos of your Gingerbread Houses
- Fitness with Shelley Murdock
- Outdoor Rink
- Little Free Libraries

If you'd like to get involved, please check out the volunteer page on our website at:

[www.lesliepark.ca/volunteer](http://www.lesliepark.ca/volunteer)

## **IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO RENEW YOUR LPCA MEMBERSHIP!**

Leslie Park Community Association is a group of volunteers who work year-round to make our community a great place to live! When you become a member, your membership fee is used to support community events and initiatives like the outdoor rink for you and your neighbours to enjoy.

Make your donation here: [www.lesliepark.ca/membership](http://www.lesliepark.ca/membership).