

Winterlude Weekends February 2 to 18

Despite the mild winter weather, Winterlude will go ahead as planned with minor modifications.



The Ice Café

Will be relocated to the City of Ottawa's Festival Plaza. Should the Rideau Canal Skateway not open in time for Winterlude, activities will be relocated to various locations, including under Plaza Bridge near the Bytown Museum and along Queen Elizabeth Driveway. Activities will return to the Skateway once it is open.

The Outdoor Ampitheatre/Bandstand

located on the Rideau Canal near Rideau Street can be used even if the Skateway is not open. This year's line-up includes Randy Bachman, Les Respectables, Jason Collett, Amy Millan, Apostle of Hustle, Young Galaxy, and the Barra MacNeils.

Crystal Garden at Confederation Park

All ice carving activities will go ahead. A structure to protect the ice-carvings from milder temperatures will be put in place if necessary.

Snowflake Kingdom at Jacques-Cartier Park

Snowmaking has begun in order to build the giant slides and structures that create a snow playground. Snowmaking equipment can make snow at -3°C.

Capital City Workers Choir



Attention all Singers!

Capital City Workers Choir, started in April 2006, is welcoming new members! Everyone is welcome to join. You do not need to have any formal music training or be able to read music. You do not need experience singing harmony. You can learn what you need to know just by participating in the choir. The song selection includes well-known classics with a fresh sound, as well as contemporary songs and original tunes.

Wednesdays, from 7:00 - 9:00 pm

94 James St., third floor lounge

Acoustic instruments and voices welcome!





Winterlude Information:
613-239-5000
www.canadascapital.gc.ca



NewsNotes

CCOC February 2007

New Residential Tenancies Act

The Residential Tenancies Act (RTA) takes effect January 31, 2007, replacing the Tenant Protection Act. The intention of the new Act is to provide balanced protection for both tenants and landlords. It allows processes for resolving disputes through a new Landlord and Tenant Board, which will replace the Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal.

For more information on the new Residential Tenancies Act, call toll free 1-866-342-6153 or visit www.mah.gov.on.ca

Affordable House for Sale 231 Clarence Street \$153,000.00

Upper 3 Bedroom, 1,180 square foot, stacked townhouse.
3-1/2 years old, in excellent condition.



An affordable unit has become available at the Centretown Affordable Housing Development Corporation's Clarence Gate project in the ByWard Market. To be eligible, you must have 3 persons in your household and have a household income lower than \$49,000.00. Purchasers will be subject to an income test. Households have to be able to make a minimum down payment of 5% and qualify for a standard bank mortgage (household incomes greater than or equal to approximately 32% of the cost of principal, interest, taxes, heating and one-half of common expenses).

For information, contact:
Dennis Carr at 613-234-4065 x229
Kim Menard at 613-234-4065 x242
or e-mail dennis.carr@cahdco.ca

Fill out your Picnic Survey!

Along with this month's NewsNotes, you'll find a survey with questions about the Centretown Picnic. We want to find out what you think about this community event!

Inside...

- stop idling,
- decrease waste,
- Black History month,
- tax help,
- rent receipts,
- defrost your windows,
- winterlude (without ice??),
- sing for joy.

613-234-4065
Maintenance ext. 707
Rental ext. 224/245
Finance ext. 230
Communications ext. 240

"NewsNotes" is written & published by CCOC's Membership & Communications Department. Your comments, submissions & suggestions are welcome. Call Meg McCallum at ext. 240 (meg.mccallum@ccochoosing.org) or Karen Batsch at ext. 241 (karen.batsch@ccochoosing.org)

www.ccochoosing.org

CCOC Committee Meeting Schedule

STANDING COMMITTEES	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TIME (PM)
Membership & Communications	February 6	March 6	7:00
Development Committee	no meeting	March 13	7:00
Finance Committee	February 14	March 14	7:00
Property Management Committee	February 15	March 15	7:00
Rental Committee	February 20	March 20	7:00
Board of Directors	February 28	March 28	7:30



Where: Board Room at 415 Gilmour Street (ring 808). Call 234-4065, ext. 0 to confirm.

Note: CCOC will pay taxi fare and family care for committee members attending meetings.

Stop Idling!

For our health...
For our climate...
Stop idling in its tracks!

5 steps to a greener city:

1. Walk, cycle, or use public transit instead of a private vehicle.
2. Reduce warm-up idling - start driving after no more than 30 seconds of idling - excessive idling is not good for your engine.
3. Turn it off after 10 seconds - turn your engine off if you are going to be stopped for more than 10 seconds, except in traffic.
4. Minimize use of remote car starters - these devices encourage you to start your vehicle before you are ready to leave, which means wasteful idling.
5. Use a block heater for half an hour before starting your vehicle - in temperatures below 0°C, use this device to warm up the engine before starting your vehicle. This will improve fuel efficiency and reduce exhaust emissions.



Getting Rid of Take-Out Food Waste

CCOC staff is looking at ways to improve on recycling in the office. Garbage from take-out lunches is an easy target, and we're working with neighbourhood businesses to come up with alternatives to disposable take-out food containers, most of which are styrofoam.

We have asked businesses if we can bring in our own reusable containers, with very positive response. If you have suggestions that you find helpful to reduce the use of non-recyclable packaging, let us know!

E-mail Meg at meg.mccallum@ccochoosing.org or phone 613-234-4065, ext. 240.

Thanks to the following businesses for supporting our efforts: Bridgehead, Café Supreme, Hartman's, Herb & Spice, Quickie.



Did you know?

- * Styrofoam, also known as polystyrene, is a plastic made from petroleum which is a non-renewable resource.
- * Styrofoam is not biodegradable, meaning it cannot be broken down by bacteria, fungi or other living organisms.
- * Scientists have not been able to determine the life span of styrofoam - it may last hundreds or thousands of years in landfill.

Did you know?

- * An idling vehicle emits nearly 20 times more pollution than one traveling at 50 km/h.
- * Ten seconds of idling uses more gas than restarting an engine.
- * \$1.3 million of fuel is idled away by Canadians annually.
- * Car, truck and bus emissions are the single largest source of smog-causing pollutants in Ontario.
- * Children are particularly vulnerable to air pollution, because they inhale more air per pound of body weight.
- * Exposure to most auto pollutants is much higher inside a vehicle, than at the roadside.

Tax Time Reminders

Rent Receipts

If you need rent receipts for your income tax return, contact Lisa Seguin 613-234-4065, ext. 230 lisa.seguin@ccochoosing.org.

* It takes 7 working days to prepare your receipt.

If Lisa cannot take your call, leave a message with this information:

- * your name and address (including apt #)
- * telephone number.
- * the months/year(s) you want the receipt for; and
- * if you plan to pick up the receipt at the office or if you want it mailed to you.



Free Income Tax Clinics

Centretown Community Health Centre

420 Cooper Street, near Bank Street
Saturday, March 17, 9 am to 3 pm

Somerset West Community Health Centre

55 Eccles Street (near Booth & Somerset)
Saturday, March 24, 9 am to 3 pm

Bronson Centre

211 Bronson Avenue
March 5 to April 27
Monday to Saturday, 9 am to 3 pm

February is Black History Month

People of African descent are often absent from Canadian history books even though they were here before Samuel de Champlain's first voyage down the St. Lawrence River.

The first recorded arrival of a person of African heritage in Canada was in 1604. Mathieu Da Costa was an interpreter with explorer Samuel de Champlain. He became an important link with the Mik'maq people.

In 1628 the first slave was brought to Canada. Slavery existed in Canada until it was outlawed in Upper Canada in 1793 and throughout the entire British Empire in 1833. Between 1800 and 1865, around 20,000 Black people escaped to Canada from the United States via the Underground Railroad, a network of people that helped slaves escape to Canada.



In 1779, in order to win the War of American Independence, the British invited all Black men, women and children to join their cause and win their freedom for doing so. Because of this, 10 % of the United Empire Loyalists coming into the Maritimes were Black.

During World War I, patriotic Black Canadians tried to join the army but were prevented. However, they still gave much to the war effort. In 1916, a segregated battalion made up of Black Canadians was formed. It performed important work building bridges, digging trenches and clearing roads.

In World War II, Black Canadians' determined efforts to join the armed forces were rewarded and they went on to serve with distinction in all branches of the military.

Railway porters played a major role in the struggle for Black rights in Canada. Through unions, they gained recognition for Black workers and after World War II, they contributed much to the fight for human rights.

According to Canada's 2001 Census 662,200 Canadians identified themselves as Black, representing just over 2% of Canada's total population and 6% of the Ottawa/Gatineau population. About 139,800 of the Black immigrants residing in Canada arrived between 1991 and 2001. One fifth (20%) were from Jamaica, followed by Haiti (12%), Somalia (10%), Ghana (8%), and Ethiopia

Keep Winter Windows Free of Frost

- * do not block the air moving into your unit under the door from the hallway. The hallway air pressure unit brings in fresh dry air to decrease moisture;
- * shut off humidifiers;
- * always run the stove fan when cooking and the bathroom fan while showering or bathing;
- * keep drapes and blinds open during the daytime;
- * let air circulate through rooms, a small fan might help;
- * briefly open a window for air if water buildup is occurring.