

Shepherds of Good Hope Christmas Hamper Program

Date: Mon. to Fri. November 1 to December 5 Time: 9:30 am to 1:30 pm
 Place: 257 King Edward Avenue Information: 613-562-2538
 basement back door entrance.



Open to families and single parents with children 18 years and under. You must register in person with proper identification for each family member and Social Assistance Card or proof of income and proof of address.

Donors who wish to provide a Christmas Hamper can register by phone at the number given above.

Hintonburg Community Association's Annual Holiday Craft Fair

Date: Friday November 16 Time: 3 pm to 8 pm
 Saturday November 17 10 am to 5 pm
 Place: 1064 Wellington Street Admission: Free



Tables are available -\$50 each, or \$90 for a double space. All proceeds from table rentals go to the Association to support its community programs. For more information, call 613-798-7987.

Help Santa Toy Parade

Date: November 17, 2007 Time: 11:00 am

The Parade begins at Ottawa City Hall (Elgin & Laurier), moves down Laurier to Bank, south on Bank to Lansdowne. Firefighters will collect new toys and cash along the route and at fire stations from November 19 to December 20. Used toys can be dropped off at any Salvation Army Thrift Store.



Choices, Challenges and Solutions

Policy Forum on Housing For Seniors - sponsored by the Council on Aging

Date: Thursday, November 22, Time: 8 am to 4 pm
 Place: 1247 Kilborn Place Admission: \$10 - lunch is provided



The morning session will identify the choices and challenges and features keynote speaker The Honourable Ed Broadbent and panelists. The afternoon session features break-out groups which will discuss the solutions.

The registration deadline is November 15. For more information call Lise-Michèle at 613-789-3577, ext. 11.

NewsNotes

CCOC November 2007

UN Mission to Canada: Report on Adequate Housing

Miloon Kothari is the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing of the United Nations Human Rights Council. From October 9 to 22, Mr. Kothari toured Canada to examine and report on the status of realization of the right to adequate housing in Canada, including a brief tour of some of CCOC's properties. Mr. Kothari will present a final report of his findings to the United Nations Human Rights Council. Here are a couple of excerpts from his preliminary report.

"Everywhere that I visited in Canada, I met people who are homeless and living in inadequate and insecure housing conditions. On this mission I heard of hundreds of people who have died, as a direct result of Canada's nation-wide housing crisis. In its most recent periodic review of Canada's compliance with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the United Nations used strong language to label housing and homelessness and inadequate housing as a "national emergency".

"Everything that I witnessed on this mission confirms the deep and devastating impact of this national crisis on the lives of women, youth, children and men."

"I welcome the commitment in the federal Speech from the Throne delivered on Tuesday 16 October to housing and homelessness"... "But this promise needs a greater budgetary allocation and specific commitments. The Federal Government needs to commit funding and programmes to realize a comprehensive national housing strategy, and to coordinate actions among the provinces and territories, to meet Canada's housing rights obligations. Canada needs to once again embark on a large scale building of social housing units across the country."

"The Federal Government should immediately renew and enhance housing spending over a ten-year period, as part of a comprehensive national housing strategy."

Inside...



micro loans for small business, indoor herb gardens, the role of custodians, 2008 CCOC calendar, free indoor play groups,

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.

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or Karen Batsch at ext. 241

(karen.batsch@cchohousing.org)

www.cchohousing.org

CCOC Committee Meeting Schedule

STANDING COMMITTEES	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TIME (PM)
Membership & Communications	November 7**	December 5	7:00 (** at 151 Parkdale)
Development Committee	November 13	December 11	7:00
Finance Committee	November 14	December 12	7:00
Property Management Committee	November 15	December 13	7:00
Rental Committee	November 20	December 18	7:00
Board of Directors	November 28	December 19	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.

Ottawa Community Loan Fund

Small loans for small business

Are you self-employed, or planning to start a small business? The Ottawa Community Loan Fund (OCLF) provides small loans to entrepreneurs, groups and individuals who wish to achieve a greater level of self sufficiency through self-employment or business expansion.

Unlike larger financial institutions which rely primarily on an applicant's credit history and assets, the OCLF also uses a series of criteria in approving loans that place a greater emphasis on an individual's character, commitment and ability. OCLF provides loans of up to \$15,000 to groups and individuals who have a solid business plan, practical work experience and/or training; commitment and ability to develop or expand a business; and capacity to repay their loan so that other borrowers can access OCLF financing.

Helping internationally trained talent

In the next 5 - 10 years Ottawa will become 100% dependent on immigration for the continued growth of its labour force, leading the City of Ottawa to declare that the unemployment and underemployment of internationally trained talent to be amongst the top ten economic concerns facing the region.

OCLF has created an Internationally Trained Talent Finance Initiative (ITTFI), which provides financing to complete accreditation or re-training. The financing allows the applicant to pay only the monthly interest owed on their loan until 3 months after the completion of their courses.

Affordable Housing Investment Fund

OCLF has teamed up with Alterna Savings and the Public Service Alliance of Canada's pension fund to provide a new investment fund of \$2 million that is billed as the first of its kind in Canada. The fund will provide loans to groups that want to build affordable housing in the city, and will earn interest for the union's pension fund. The new fund will provide capital to groups that might not be able to get enough financing for their housing projects from other available sources such as government grants. It will also show other pension funds and foundations that they can make investments in the community and see a return.

For information on these programs, visit the Ottawa Community Loan Fund web site at www.oclf.org, or contact them by phone at (613) 594-3535 or by e-mail at info@oclf.org.

Coming Soon...

Bruce House Red Ribbon Campaign November 24 to December 1

Red ribbons & donation boxes will be in the CCOC office, Ottawa stores, offices, restaurants and nightclubs. Funds from the campaign help Bruce House provide housing and care to people living with AIDS. Wearing a ribbon shows hope and support for people living with disease and pays tribute to those lost to AIDS.



CCOC's 2008 Calendar & Tenant Handbook

The calendar will arrive at your home in early December and features artwork and photographs by CCOC tenants.



Le Rôle des Concierges

Certains des plus gros édifices de CCOC ont des concierges.

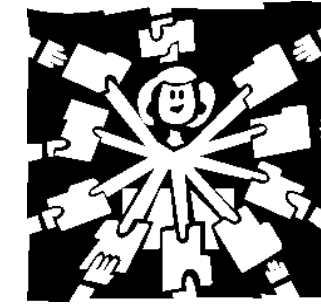
Ces personnes sont responsables de montrer les appartements à louer, réserver les ascenseurs pour les déménagements, surveiller le stationnement et assigner les casiers.

Les concierges rapportent aussi au CCOC les questions d'entretien dans les espaces en communs.

Ils ne reçoivent pas les plaintes des locataires, ils ne perçoivent pas les loyers, ne font pas le nettoyage ou les réparations. Ils ne sont pas responsables d'ouvrir les portes lorsque les locataires oublient leurs clés.

Le salaire des concierges est basé sur une période de travail de 2 à 3 heures par semaine. Ils n'ont pas à être « en disponibilité », ni présents dans l'édifice pendant des périodes de temps précises.

The Role of Custodians



Some of the larger CCOC buildings have custodians.

They are responsible for showing available apartments, reserving the elevator for moves, monitoring parking and assigning lockers.

Custodians also report maintenance concerns in common areas to CCOC.

They do not take complaints from tenants, they do not collect rent, do cleaning or repairs. It is not their job to let you into your apartment when you forget your key.

Custodians' pay is based on 2 to 3 hours of work every week. They are not required to be "on call", or present at the building for any specified period of time.

Too Cold to Play in the Park? Check out these FREE Play groups

For mothers, fathers, caregivers & children ages 0 to 5 years. Snacks, toys, crafts, games & music.



Growing Up Downtown

170 Booth St. (Buzz 2000)

Tuesday - 9:30 to 11:30 am

450 Laurier Ave. Common Room

Thursday - 9:30 to 11:30 am

Somerset West Health Centre

55 Eccles St.

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

9 to 11 am

Centretown Community Health Centre

420 Cooper St.

Thursday & Friday

9:30 to 11:30 am

An Indoor Winter Herb Garden

If you would like to start potted herbs from seeds inside to last you all winter long, here are some tips:



Sunlight - Different herbs need different amounts of sunlight. Pick herbs by the amount of sunlight your windows get. The herbs should be placed in a window that will get lots of light during the day. Avoid north facing windows because the plants may not get enough light to grow properly.

Containers - You can use a window box or planter. Many outdoor containers have a drainage hole. Put a large tray under the planter to protect the windowsill or table from leaking water. Place lots of stones at the bottom of the container, where water can settle, and not flood the soil. Add a potting of potting soil, peat moss and vermiculite.

Planting - Don't buy seeds which are out of date. Follow the packet instructions carefully. To help the plants grow, cover the container with clear plastic and put it on the top of the fridge for a 2 days. This keeps the plants moist and warm. When they break the surface, take them off the fridge and move them to a window. Leave the plastic on for a 2 more days but make sure it does not touch the sprouts. When the plants are sturdy, remove the plastic.

Watering - Be sure to water sparingly. Over-watering is the main cause of death for indoor plants. No more than once a week should be enough and possibly even once every two weeks. Check the soil before watering, if it still feels moist wait and check again the next day. Apply an organic fertilizer high in nitrogen every 2 weeks.

Choosing Herbs - A good mix of aromatic and cooking herbs could include a selection from the following: basil, catnip, chervil, chives, cilantro, dill, lavender, lemongrass, marjoram, oregano, parsley, peppermint, rosemary, sage, savoury, spearmint, tarragon and thyme.