



## GET INVOLVED!

Are you interested in having a say in decisions that affect your housing and community? Looking to get involved in non-profit governance? Seeking, valuable experience in policy, strategic planning or real estate development? **Come join a CCOC Committee!!**

CCOC is looking for individuals to broaden and enhance our volunteer program. CCOC values lived experiences and tenant perspectives within its decision making, no prior governance experience is required.

If you are interested in: property development, facilities management, finance, rental policies, or community engagement, joining our governance program is a great way to get involved!

If you are interested in getting involved or learning more about committees or volunteer opportunities: **check out our website or email [engagement@cchohousing.ca](mailto:engagement@cchohousing.ca)**

## CCOC Governance Updates

A new provincial law means CCOC needs to update our bylaws before November 2024. The Board of Directors has created a Governance Committee to lead this work. Membership in the committee includes Board members and department Directors.

With governance and leadership roles evolving across the organization, the Board has also dissolved the Personnel Committee. The Personnel Committee was created in the early 1980s when CCOC was much smaller and there was no HR function on the team. We now have a department responsible for supporting CCOC employees and it is time to phase out the personnel committee. Thank you to all the volunteers and employees who were part of this committee over the past 40 years!

## CCOC Committee Meeting Schedule

STANDING COMMITTEES	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Tenant & Community Engagement	November 6	No Meeting
Development Committee	November 13	No Meeting
Facilities Management Committee	November 22	No Meeting
Rental Committee	November 21	No Meeting
Finance Committee	November 16	No Meeting
Board	November 29	December 27



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**CCOC committee meetings are open to everyone! For more information, please call 613-234-4065 ext. 0 or email [engagement@cchohousing.org](mailto:engagement@cchohousing.org).**

**There will be a training for all governance volunteers on supporting and participating in inclusive meetings on November 15th.**

# CCOC NewsNotes November 2023



*housing the community since 1974  
nous logeons la communauté depuis 1974*

## Mental health crisis response pilot

The City of Ottawa has announced a new non-police response to mental health and substance use calls. This evidence-based and compassionate approach will connect people with community health and social service resources while also de-escalating conflict. The pilot will begin in Centretown in 2024 and will include a 24/7, non 911 number to intake, triage and dispatch calls for mental health and substance use crisis support and services.

The initiative is the result of a community-driven approach led by the Guiding Council for Mental Health and Addictions whose work was grounded in research evidence, leading practices, and Ottawa residents' perspectives. This included surveys and a series of focus groups, including two with CCOC tenants last fall. We are grateful to those who shared their personal experiences to inform this work and for the advocacy of the community to improve crises response services.

We know many in our community are struggling with the impact of the overdose, mental health and homelessness crisis, and we are hopeful this will be a step forward to providing more compassionate care.

Read the Guiding Council's full report or learn more about the upcoming pilot at <https://www.ottawagcmha.ca/> or contact your City Councillor to continue to advocate for our community!

## Something bugging you?

As a landlord, it's our responsibility to control pests and we want to keep CCOC buildings pest free! CCOC has an in-house pest control team who is happy to help address your pest concerns. They can inspect, and when necessary, treat your unit for pests. Our pest experts are here to help, not to judge! There is no cost to tenants for inspections or treatments, provided you cooperate with necessary preparations.

Help us keep pests under control by reporting any problems early. If you notice signs of pests such as droppings, bites, or you've seen a pest (and there is rarely just one!) give us a call! Contact [pests@cchohousing.org](mailto:pests@cchohousing.org) or **613 234 4065 ext. 0**

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**Contact CCOC at  
613-234-4065 ext. 0  
or email  
[info@cchohousing.org](mailto:info@cchohousing.org)**

"NewsNotes" is written & published by CCOC's communications team. Your comments, submissions and suggestions are welcome. The deadline for submission is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Contact us at [engagement@cchohousing.org](mailto:engagement@cchohousing.org).

[www.cchohousing.org](http://www.cchohousing.org)  
[@cchohousing](https://twitter.com/cchohousing)

Please recycle this newsletter!

# Free Play Groups

## Somerset West Community Health Centre

### Laroche Park After School Program

51 Stonehurst Ave.

For children in grades 1-8

Monday-Friday 3:00-6:00

Contact Alyssa Zarb 613-297-0214

### EarlyON Lunch and Play (lunch provided)

3rd Floor at 755 Somerset St. West.

For children 0-6 years

Monday 12:00-2:00,

Tuesday 12:30- 2:30

Pre Registration is required.

Contact Haishan hachen@swchc.on.ca

## Parent Resource Centre

### EarlyON Play Groups

300 Goulburn Crescent

For children 0-6 years

Tuesdays 9:00-11:00

Thursdays 9:00-11:00

Saturdays 9:30-11:30

Call 613 565 2467 x 224 or

email information@parentresource.ca

## Centretown Community Health Centre

### EarlyON play groups

420 Cooper St. Ottawa

For children 0-6 years

Mondays 9:30 am-11:00

Wednesdays 9:30-11:00

Register by calling 613-233-4443 ext. 2108.



# Summer Camp Bursary

Irving Greenberg was CCOC's first president and a champion of social housing in Ottawa. Following his death in 1991, his family generously made a donation to make camp more affordable for CCOC kids. Each year, the Irving Greenberg Memorial Camp Fund provides camp bursaries for young CCOC tenants.

To participate, you must be a CCOC tenant, and your child (or children) must be 5 to 15 years old. If your child is selected, you are responsible for finding a camp that suits you and your child. The Camp Fund can be used for either March break camp or summer camp, including day or overnight programs. The Irving Greenberg Memorial Camp Fund will cover one week of camp, up to \$400.00 per camper.

Apply here: <https://ccochoosing.org/tenant-services/ccoc-summer-camp-bursary-application/>

Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2024. For more information, you can email [engagement@ccochoosing.org](mailto:engagement@ccochoosing.org) or call Laura at **613-234-4065, ext. 243.**

## Help with your Hydro Bill

Are you behind on your electricity or natural gas bill and are facing having your service disconnected? You may qualify for emergency financial help through the Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP). There are also special customer service rules available for low-income households.

Find more information here: <https://www.oeb.ca/consumer-information-and-protection/bill-assistance-programs>

# Seasonal Help

## Christmas Exchange Program & Toy Mountain

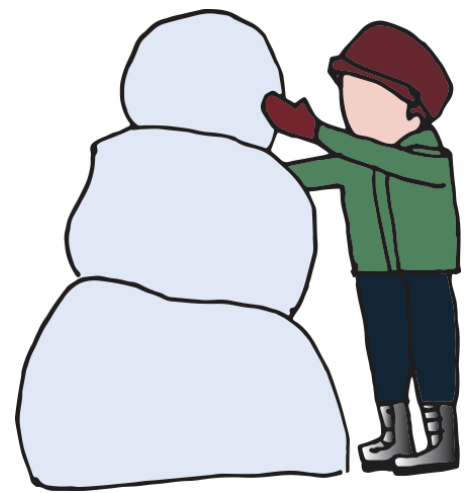
The Caring and Sharing Exchange provides food hampers or grocery store gift certificates to those in need through their annual Christmas Exchange. Each year CTV and The Salvation Army collaborate to collect new toys to gift to children for annual Toy Mountain. If you need assistance for food or toys for your children this holiday season, contact 2-1-1.

## Snowsuit Fund

The Snowsuit Fund is an Ottawa-based charity that raises funds to buy and distribute snowsuits to children 15 years and under. If you qualify for the program, you can buy a new snowsuit for your child or children for \$10 each (cash or debit card only). To get a snowsuit, or for more information, call **613-746-8719.**

To apply, *make sure you have the information listed below* to provide proof of your income.

<p><b>All Clients</b></p> <p>A piece of identification indicating the child's date of birth is required for all qualifying children. Identification showing the family's address must also be provided.</p>	<p><b>If you are receiving Ontario Works or ODSP</b></p> <p>Please bring your current or past month's Ontario Works Statement of Assistance or your drug card.</p>	<p><b>If you earn low income</b></p> <p>Bring your Child Tax Benefit or GST notice from 2022. This notice shows that year's net family income, your marital status, and lists your children by name and their month and year of birth.</p>	<p><b>If you are a new arrival to Canada</b></p> <p>Provide your date of arrival with RAP form/start-up allowance OR drug card (if applicable).</p>
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## Thank you Massine's!

CCOC gives each new tenant a Welcome Kit when they move in. The kits include a recycling bag, toilet plunger, toilet paper and baking soda for green cleaning. There is lots of information to help tenants go green and settle into their new home. Massine's Your Independent Grocer generously sponsors these Welcome kits by donating free baking soda to CCOC.

Just a block away from our main office, Massine's provides a convenient grocery location for many tenants and residents of Centretown. Thank you Massine's YIG!



## CCOC 2024 Calendar and Tenant Handbook

Every year, CCOC works with a talented local artist to create a CCOC calendar. This calendar is also the tenant handbook and has a lot of seasonal tips and suggestions for going green, maintaining your home, and getting involved as well as information for contacting CCOC. Post it in your kitchen for easy reference throughout the year. This year, we are happy to be working with Lauren Nicole Paquette, a self-taught artist based out of Ottawa to create the artwork for the calendar. Check out her work on Instagram [@lauren\\_nicole\\_paquette](https://www.instagram.com/lauren_nicole_paquette) or on her website [cantowindowart.com](http://cantowindowart.com).

We are aiming to have the CCOC tenant handbook and calendar delivered to your home by late December.

