



**Woodpark
Community
Association**

NEWS LETTER

December
2023



MEMBERSHIP

The Woodpark Community Association is a Not-for-Profit corporation. By October 2024 we need to comply with the new Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act (ONCA). It sets forth the rules that we need to follow.

There are a couple of actions we need to take to be in compliance. ONCA states that we must be able to produce on request, a list of our members. Previously we defined a member as someone who lives in the boundaries of Woodpark. That now is insufficient. Early in 2024 we will be launching a campaign to get Woodparkers to sign up to become members of the Woodpark Community Association.

We also need to update our By-laws; the new bylaws will be tabled for approval at our Annual General Meeting in May 2024.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

A big thank you to the people of Woodpark for your continued support of the Holiday Giving Tree. This is the fourth year that Woodpark, along with our neighbouring communities, have stepped up to provide gifts to the long-term care residents at Carlingview Manor and New Orchard Lodge and to seniors at the Olde Forge Community Resource Centre. I feel fortunate to live in such a caring community.

As we get ready to welcome in the New Year, we can look forward to the completion of the LRT tunnel from Woodroffe to the Parkway and the New Orchard Station and Lincoln Fields Stations by the end of 2024. The restoration of the Byron Linear Park will take place in 2025. This has been a long time coming and we would like to thank the community for its patience during this difficult time.

While it will take a few more years before we have a functional LRT serving our community, we are already seeing plans for the intensification of our neighbourhood and surrounding area. City Council recently approved the construction of two 40 and 38 storey apartment buildings at 1047 Richmond Road. Council will also be considering the Lincoln Fields Secondary Plan in the coming months. This is the planning document that will set the stage for development in parts of Woodpark, specifically along Edgeworth and Carling Avenues and in our NCC parkland. I urge you to come out to our January 18 meeting with the City Planners to find out more about the Secondary Plan (details to follow). I also urge you to consider joining the Woodpark Community Association's Development and Infrastructure Committee to help ensure that Woodpark remains a liveable and vibrant community as the inevitable intensification takes place. In particular, we need help from parents of young families to ensure that our streets are safe for our children. If you are interested in helping out please send us an email at volunteer@woodpark.ca.

The Woodpark Tree Team is working hard to facilitate the planting of 100 new trees in Woodpark before the fall of 2024. Residents can apply to the City to get a free tree for the right of way in their front or side yards by putting a request in through 311. We are also planning a group buy for trees that homeowners can plant in private property parts of their yards. Further details will be available on this project in the coming weeks.

On behalf of the Board for the Woodpark Community Association I wish the residents of Woodpark a very happy and safe holiday season!

Sue Milburn-Hopwood, President, Woodpark Community Association



**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**



**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**





EVENTS IN WOODPARK

This summer we enjoyed Music on the Porch, Arts Crawl, Harvest Festival in the Community Garden and Movie in the Park. About 100 people turned up on September 9 for our 2nd annual movie in New Orchard Park. Looking ahead we'll be organizing a Spring Festival and Park Cleanup while waiting for the City to repave the Flower and Ancaster intersection so we can repaint our street mural. Meantime how about you? Want to organize a community event? Let us help! Send an email to events@woodpark.ca



DEVELOPMENTS IN WOODPARK

Residential development in Woodpark is in a transition as older homes are being replaced with new multi unit housing. The City of Ottawa has a detailed process that developers must follow in order to get approval to build. We, as a community, need to be involved earlier in the process to ensure that Woodpark remains a liveable and vibrant community as intensification takes place.

We are building processes and procedures that will help the WCA:

- standardize the way we evaluate development applications
- identify development issues early in the process
- encourage developers to consult with the community
- determine criteria for when we support or express concerns about a proposal before the Committee of Adjustment (the body which approves minor variances and severance applications)

We need community members with knowledge and experience with municipal development matters to help us out. If this is you, send an email to volunteer@woodpark.ca and let's talk!

CONNECTING IN WOODPARK

Winter weather can be isolating and sometimes it can be difficult to feel connected to your community. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Social connectedness influences our minds, bodies, and behaviors—all of which influence our health and life expectancy". The WCA is always looking for event ideas and volunteers to help bring them to fruition and gather our neighbours together to celebrate what makes Woodpark a great place to live.

According to Ottawa Public Health, "Connecting with people we care about is an important way to protect and improve our mental health".

Consider attending one of the online monthly Woodpark Community Association meetings (maybe even in person!) You can get the agenda and Zoom link by email to events@woodpark.ca. You can also simply reach out by email at woodpark@woodpark.ca to share your hopes, concerns and suggestions for the neighborhood.

