

Ottawa East News



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Moms looking to revive Pineview association

Events, play groups, facility wanted for area

Michelle Nash
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News - The third time might just be the charm when it comes to trying to start up a community-wide association for Pineview.

Not that there hasn't been an association in the east-end neighbourhood tucked beside the Pineview Golf Course and Cyrville Road before.

Three years ago, resident Joe Sabb announced he was reviving the community association which had been dormant for more than 20 years. But it was a tall order for just one man, and the events and plans were few and far between.

Again, in 2011 another resident, Paul Francoeur, wanted to start the Pineview East

the community association.

"I think it's a really nice thing to have in a community," Lau said. "It can improve the quality of life. I have been here for three years without one and things are OK, but could be better."

Lau and Scott actually met eight kilometres away from their homes at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum. Chatting at first because their sons were the same age, Lau said it eventually came up that they both lived in Pineview.

"It was almost serendipitous," Lau said. "The fact that we both live near each other and wanted to have local events we discussed the great things about Pineview and the things that lack of ways to get our neighbours interested in events."

Survey available online

Continued from page 1

Lau said meeting with Sabb made them all the more excited to get things started.

Right now, the two women have launched a blog, pineviewcommunity.wordpress.com, a Facebook page, facebook.com/PineviewCommunity and a Twitter account, @PineviewOttawa to spread the word.

Lau, who moved to the area from Edmonton said she was a part of a community association in her old neighbourhood and it was the easiest way to make friends, join groups and host events.

"Here there is nowhere for anyone to run into each other and simply make friends," Lau said. "An association is an easy in to get to know your neighbourhood and community."

Both moms would like to see local play groups or local classes, perhaps initiated by the association. Currently, the two have frequented other communities to fill the gap they feel is currently at play in Pineview, including attending playgroups in Blackburn Hamlet and going



MICHELLE NASH/METROLAND

Lynn Lau, right, and Heather Scott with her daughter, Chloé stand at the edge of Pineview. The two mothers are looking to revitalize a community association in the neighbourhood.

their home.

"We just want to have something close that we can walk," Scott said.

The two launched an online survey at surveymonkey.com/s/577B535 to help figure out what their neighbours would like in a community association, in events and how residents feel about living in Pineview. There are still a few hurdles, Lau said, to take a successful run at starting a community association, including finding community

for the group.

"I am a huge supporter of community associations," Tierney said. "I am going to help as much as I can. Whether it's through my office to help find space to host meetings and engaging residents and help promote any way I can. If that means passing out flyers, I will be willing."

The plan is to host an annual general meeting at the end of March. The results of the survey and nominations for a

Pineview Community Association hosts first official meeting

Board members, volunteers wanted for new group

Michelle Nash
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News - For the first time in more than 20 years, the Pineview Community Association will hold a general meeting, which will take place at John Paul II Elementary School on April 28, starting at 7 p.m.

Pineview residents Lynn Lau and Heather Scott, who have been organizing the event, first met at the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum.

The two moms discovered they both lived in Pineview and their conversation soon turned to their community.

Both said they felt the neighbourhood lacked community-focused events and activities.

Lau said the presence of a community association would help improve that and make residents come together.

"I think it's a really nice thing to have in a community," Lau said.

Both moms said they would like to see local play groups or classes offered, perhaps initiated by the association. Currently, the two have frequented other communities to fill the gap, including attending playgroups in Blackburn Hamlet and going to the Gloucester North Branch library -- a 45 minute walk from their home.

"We just want to have something close that we can walk," Scott said.

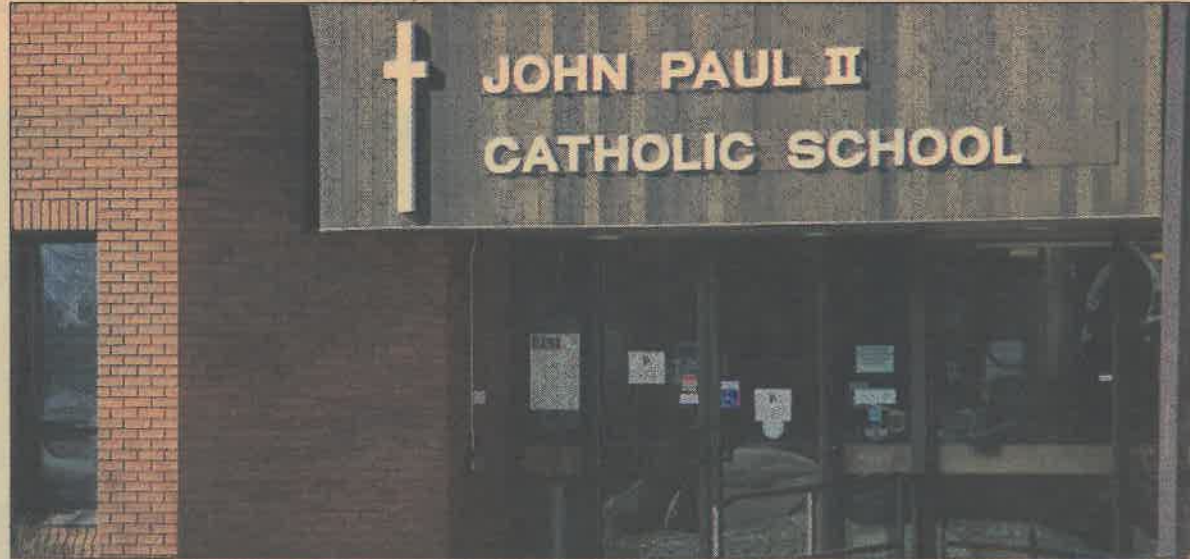
The result was the two of them launching the Pineview Community Association in the living room of one of their homes.



FILE

Lau said there is still time for residents to complete the survey: survey-monkey.com/s/577B535. The evening will wrap up by 9 p.m. Lau said.

To keep up with the community or find out more about the meeting visit the association's blog, pineviewcommunity.wordpress.com, a Facebook page, facebook.com/PineviewCommunity and a Twitter account, @PineviewOttawa.



MICHELLE NASH/METROLAND

Pineview Community Association will hold its first general meeting on April 28 at John Paul II Elementary School. Above left, Pineview residents Lynn Lau and Heather Scott, are organizing the event.

Now the two are looking to make it official and hold a meeting to both gain local interest and board members for the association to officially take off.

The meeting will be a chance for the association to fill out, Lau said.

"We are looking for other board members: secretary, treasurer, and directors," Lau said.

The agenda is still being finalized, but the goals for the evening will be to vote on board positions and ratify the board's constitution. A draft of the association's constitution is available: <https://docs.com/1279Q>.

The results of a survey Lau and Scott created and posted in February will also be revealed.



MICHELLE NASH/METROLAND

Pineview Community Association's board members wrap up a successful third meeting at the Loblaws Gloucester Centre on July 14. The new board formed in April and have been working hard at building its membership and hosting events for the community, including most recently, its first Canada Day party.

Pineview group planning eventful year

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News - Pineview residents had better get ready to party because the new community association wants to host more

family-fun events for the entire neighbourhood.

Hot off the heels of a successful Canada Day party -- the first for the community -- the newly-created Pineview Community Association met on July 14 to discuss future events and plans.

The board said it wants to aim for at least three events a year, and seven of its board members discussed multiple community outings, events, par-

ties and contests to hold over the course of the next 12 months. Heather Scott, Canada Day organizer and association vice-president, said if the group plans on hosting more events, more volunteers will be needed.

"We could have used more volunteers on Canada Day, I think the day could have run more smoothly if there were more people helping out," she said.

Scott reported that the association broke even with the Canada Day event, but that more fundraising or creative party-planning would need to be taken into consideration when it comes to hosting more events, including creating partnerships with local businesses.

The board agreed and discussed ways to reach out to the community, including using its website and Facebook page to spread the word about upcoming events.

Ideas for future events included a Halloween and holiday party as well as holiday lighting contests, which could be promoted through Facebook.

The association also agreed to piggy-back onto the city-organized free park playtime, Participate at Meadowview Park. The group will host its own park activities after the city-run

summer, as a way to encourage more residents to enjoy the park and meet neighbours.

"I think these are all things we could aim to do," Scott said. "Ideally, I would like to see us throw two or three events a year."

Apart from coming up with ideas for large parties, president Lynn Lau mentioned that working with an urban forager, the association plans to host a guided tour of edible plants in the neighbourhood this August.

Aside from all the party planning, board member Derek Oudit is working at beautifying and defining parks in the community.

Oudit has taken on the task of meeting with city officials to discuss the state of the parks in the area, including plans to meet with a landscape architect to help add more colour to the community.

He would also like to have many of the small parks, or green spaces in the community identified as parks. Oudit said residents should take photos of Pineview's parks to help highlight areas of concern or to point out the green spaces which need to be defined as parks.

The association, which typically meets monthly will be taking August off, but will host its



MICHELLE NASH/METROLAND

Wrapping up some holiday cheer

Pineview community Association vice president Heather Scott and Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard Gwen Bouchard practice wrapping a present at the community group's holiday wrapping services, a table set up in the Gloucester Centre's food court on Dec. 2. The holiday wrapping is part of the association's latest initiative, a food drive for the local food bank which runs until Dec. 14 at the centre.

Pineview launches food drive

Volunteers, donations wanted for effort to support Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard

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This holiday season, the Pineview Community Association will host its first holiday food drive.

The food drive, organized by the association in collaboration with the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard, began on Dec. 2 and will run until Dec. 14. A donation box is located at the Gloucester Centre for residents to drop off non-perishable goods for the cause.

Over the course of the 13-day effort, the association said it aims to partner with local organizations, community members and city representatives to highlight the food cupboard's

needs and to help increase donations. Heather Scott, vice president of the association, said the group has not set any large goals this year, except to help out.

"In past years, when the donation box has gone out, there have been little to no donations," she said. "If we can change that and even bring awareness of the need for the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard, then we will have done a step in the right direction."

The association is also looking for more volunteers to help with the food drive as well as sit beside the donation box located in front of Loblaws on either Dec. 6 or 13th. To vol-

unteer or find out more information about the food drive is available on the association's website at pineviewcommunity.wordpress.com.

SUGGESTED HOLIDAY DONATIONS

- Pancake mix
- Pancake syrup
- Jams
- Sweet cereals
- Family-sized laundry detergent
- Boxes of cookies and chocolates
- Cooking oil
- Honey
- Cans of hot chocolate mix
- Ladies and men's toiletries
- Family-sized shampoo
- Baby wipes
- Large bottles of ketchup
- Stocking stuffers like toothpaste, toothbrushes, children's pyjamas, mittens, hats

Pineview residents conduct safety audit walk

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There is one particular path in Pineview that makes Heather Scott feel uneasy.

Scott, who is the president of the Pineview Community Association, was one of around a dozen residents who participated in a safety audit walk through their neighbourhood on the evening of Oct. 21. Residents fanned out in four groups, looking for specific areas where people might feel unsafe.

"This is about empowering residents. It is not just about focusing on the negative and the scary," she said.

"This is about figuring out what tools residents have to report these things."

The particular path in question is a long stretch of paved pathway that connects the neighbourhood to the Blair Road transit station. It is also the site where a 15-year-old girl was allegedly sexually assaulted near the Blair Road transit station in 2013, according to police.

"You do feel quite nervous and uneasy when you're walking on it at night," Scott said.

Some female residents said they have experienced harassment on the path from men while they were alone at night.

The path was just one of



ALEX ROBINSON/METROLAND

A path connecting Pineview to the Blair Road transit station is one of many areas residents walked along during a safety audit of their neighbourhood on Oct. 21.

many areas residents looked at during the walk as they assessed lighting, signage, overgrown bushes, site lines and whether they felt isolated in any specific places. Residents were asked to get a sense of where people may feel unsafe or vulnerable.

The Women's Initiatives for Safer Environments helped to conduct the audit in partnership with the community association. The non-profit is now set to compile all the information residents submitted from their walk in a report, which will then be given to Beacon Hill-

Cyrville Coun. Tim Tierney.

"A lot of overgrowth is probably our biggest issue and unless you walk along with groups like this, you don't get to witness it yourself," said Tierney, who accompanied residents on the walk.

"It's one thing to receive an email from an angry constituent that is complaining about something, but until you walk the route and see what it's like at night, you don't get the same appreciation for it."

Tierney said he's going to work with city staff to get

changes made as soon as possible on a couple of pathways where he noticed trees needed to be trimmed and light bulbs needed to be replaced.

"Walking along this evening with these folks, I've seen their concerns. A lot of them are simple fixes. I'll pass them along to city staff and ask them to go out, look for themselves and make those changes," Tierney said.

Depending on when the report is submitted, some of the upgrades can be done as early as this fall, Tierney said.

Pineview Community Association looks to form long-term vision

Group wants to hear from residents about community priorities

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The Pineview Community Association has put a call out to residents to find out the neighbourhood's major needs.

The young community association, which is in its second year, has launched a survey in an effort to engage with as many neighbours as possible to develop a long-term vision for the area.

"Up until now, the polls or surveys we have conducted had very little scope," said the association's president, Heather Scott.

"The new survey allows us to continue to reach a wider au-

dience, recruit new members into the community association and allows those new voices to influence the direction we take the organization."

The survey covers a wide range of community topics, including safety, cleanliness and access to services.

Scott hopes the survey will allow the association to engage with a larger segment of the community than it has in its first two years.

When she started the community association with past president Lynn Lau, Scott said the idea was to get a bunch of Pineview residents together to make a difference, but they did not know what shape it would

take.

The two knew traffic and a lack of children's programming were issues that needed to be addressed in the neighbourhood. And while community association members felt they had a firm grasp on issues affecting the area, the survey will allow them to branch beyond what they have been working on, Scott said.

"It has been a huge learning curve for all,

but the great news is that there is a momentum building and more interested parties," Scott said.

Scott said the lack of a community centre or even a billboard where the association can post things has limited its ability to engage a wider audience and that the survey will help fill that gap.

Getting a community centre for Pineview is one of the main ini-

tiatives the association is already working towards.

The community association has also reached out to more established community associations such as the Overbrook Community Association to get advice on how to work with the city on community issues.

For more information or to fill out the survey, visit pineviewwottawa.com.

Dreams come true in Pineview

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Pineview residents' wish of getting a community space is finally coming true.

The space is located on the first floor of Fire Station 55, at 1700 Blair Rd., and will be available for use as a meeting place for community groups, including the Pineview Community Association.

Wanted by the Pineview community for some time, Beacon Hill-Cyrville Coun. Tim Tierney worked with city staff and residents to find available space in the neighbourhood.

Currently the area, which has an abundance of parks, lacks a community centre, local library or community gathering space.

Heather Scott, president of the community association, said the space will mean a lot to the neighbourhood.

"This is amazing," Scott said. "Part of the research that we are doing with the association's community consultation has resulted in residents saying they want a community space and



MICHELLE NASH BAKER/
METROLAND

Pineview Community Association president Heather Scott is excited that a long desired community space has become a reality at 1700 Blair Rd.

programming."

The mother of two said one of the first types of programming will be to start some infant and toddler classes.

"Playgroups are number one," she said. "But senior programming, like bingo and euchre nights have also been highlighted as important."

Scott said to make the programming work partnerships

will have to be forged between the city as well as the local resource centre, the Eastern Ottawa Resource Centre.

The space, which is currently an unoccupied room, will need to be renovated to meet accessibility standards.

The hope is, Scott said, that the community will be able to utilize the space as early as the fall.

According to Tierney, it will cost the city \$70,000 to upgrade the space.

For Scott, she wants to make sure the money spent is well worth it and to do that, she said, the community will need to buy into the idea of local programming.

"There will be no point if the space remains unused," Scott said.

The community association currently meets at St. John Paul II School on Beaverpond Drive.

It has been a great relationship Scott said, but the problem has always been getting into the school during the summer months. The new space will be available to the group year

round. All programming will be run either by association volunteers or in partnership with the resource centre.

Aside from the fire station, Ottawa fire prevention uses some space and the building is also the Community Police Office. The Cumberland Museum's archives are on the second floor.

At a July 14 public information session about a new Station 55 slated for Portobello Boulevard, deputy fire chief Kim Ayotte said that staff from the current Station 55 on Blair Road will relocate to the new station in Orléans. The new station in Orléans will open at the start of 2018 if all goes according to plan, Ayotte said.

Whether the current tenants are planning on staying or moving out, Scott is thinking big and hopes that one day, their one room could turn into two, or even a floor in the building.

"I see potential for the future," Scott said. "Right now, though, I'm grateful for the space."

"We are going to start with what we have and go from there."

Plenty of places to celebrate Canada Day in Ottawa this year

Canadians clad in red will celebrate the anniversary of the country's confederation at a number of festivities across the City of Ottawa.

Pineview residents hoping to avoid the bustle of downtown on July 1st can look to the community's second annual Canada Day in the Park.

Due to the success of its inaugural Canada Day, the Pineview Community Association is set to hold the event again in Meadowbrook Park, at 1485 Meadowbrook Rd. A number of family friendly activities will be on offer from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Those interested in volunteering for Canada Day in the Park should email pineviewottawa@gmail.com.

Beacon Hill-Cyrville Coun. Tim Tierney

will also be hosting a free community barbecue from noon to 1 p.m. at Eastvale Park.

DOWNTOWN FESTIVITIES

Downtown is expected to once again welcome a red and white sea of revellers for Canada's 148th birthday.

Festivities on Parliament Hill will run all day long, starting with a flag-raising ceremony at 9 a.m. and a changing of the guard ceremony at 9:30 a.m.

Other festivities will include a fly over by the Canadian Snowbirds as well as speeches from Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Gov. Gen. David Johnston.

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Canada Day 2016

East end of city celebrates Canada's 149th

PINEVIEW

The Pineview Community Association will host its annual Canada Day in the Park on July 1 in Meadowbrook Park from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Part of the festivities include a fundraiser pizza lunch, activities sponsored by the Eastern Ottawa Resource Center, Gloucester Recreational Development Organization, Safer Roads Ottawa and Hydro Ottawa.

The organization will launch its community consultation at the event so the association invites everyone to come out and let them know what they think of the community. Residents who participate will be registered to win prizes.

The event is still looking for volunteers to help with activities, and they can reach the association at pineviewottawa@gmail.com.

ORLÉANS

Canada Day this year is going to be a lot different in

Orléans, as organizers announced in January that the Greater Orléans Canada Day celebration had been cancelled.

Organizers cited financial and weather-related difficulties among the reasons for the cancellation of the event that was held for the past 11 years.

"The real frustration is the financial stress that we've been under the last few years that's been caused by weather," said board member Fred Sherwin at the time of the cancellation.

CUMBERLAND

While Orléans won't be throwing a Canada Day bash this year, Cumberland's Baitun Naseer Mosque is hosting a public event and barbecue that all are welcome to attend.

Children's activities start at 7 p.m., with a flag hoisting and national anthem at 8:40 p.m. There will also be guest speakers as well as cake.

The barbecue starts at 7:30 p.m.

The mosque is at 2620 Market St., Cumberland.



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Pineview Community Association to hold safety audit

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Two years after a 15-year-old girl was sexually assaulted near the Blair Road transit station, the Pineview Community Association is set to conduct a safety audit of the area this summer.

The community association is inviting residents to help canvass the many unofficial paths that lead to and around the transit stop.

“There are some really dark pathways that pedestrians use,” said Lynn Lau, the president of the association. “With the way the neighbourhood was built in the 1960’s, walkability wasn’t very important in the planning process.”

The audit will be done at night in order to assess lighting in the neighbourhood and to get a sense of where people may feel vulnerable and unsafe. Lau said the community association then plans to

submit its findings to the city in the hope of getting better infrastructure at some of the area’s high traffic paths, where lighting and visibility is scarce.

Lau said the community association did a survey last year and found many people did not feel safe on one of the main footpaths pedestrians take to the Blair Road station.

“It’s a lonely stretch at night and at night it can feel a little scary,” she said.

The victim of the 2013 incident was approached by four young men at the Blair Road Bus Station, who then led her to a secluded area off one of the footpaths to allegedly rob and sexually assault her, police said. Police later arrested and charged four suspects.

Lau said the community

association hopes the audit’s results will push the city into action that will help make residents feel safer.

The audit will also explore traffic safety along Blair Road, where there is no sidewalk and the speed limit is 70 kilometres per hour.

The community associa-

tion will hold the audit on July 27 at 7:30 p.m. in partnership with Women’s Initiatives for Safer Environments, and has invited police and Beaco Hill-Cyrville Ward Coun. Tim Tierney to attend.

More information about the safety audit can be found at pineviewottwa.com.

Ottawa

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Community learns about neighbourhood watch, road safety ideas

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As a pre-emptive strike to keep its community safe, the Pineview Community Association hosted an information-packed evening on what can help keep a community safe.

Organized with the help of the Eastern Ottawa Resource Centre, the night focused on what residents could do to keep their streets safe. Held at St. John Paul II on March 2, residents discussed safety issues and concerns raised during a safety walk audit conducted by Women's Initiatives for Safer Environments (WISE) this past fall.

WISE's Elsy David attended the meeting to present the findings of the recent walk to the community group – pointing out that curbing speeding and better lighting throughout the neighbourhood's many pathways were top concerns to address to the city moving forward.

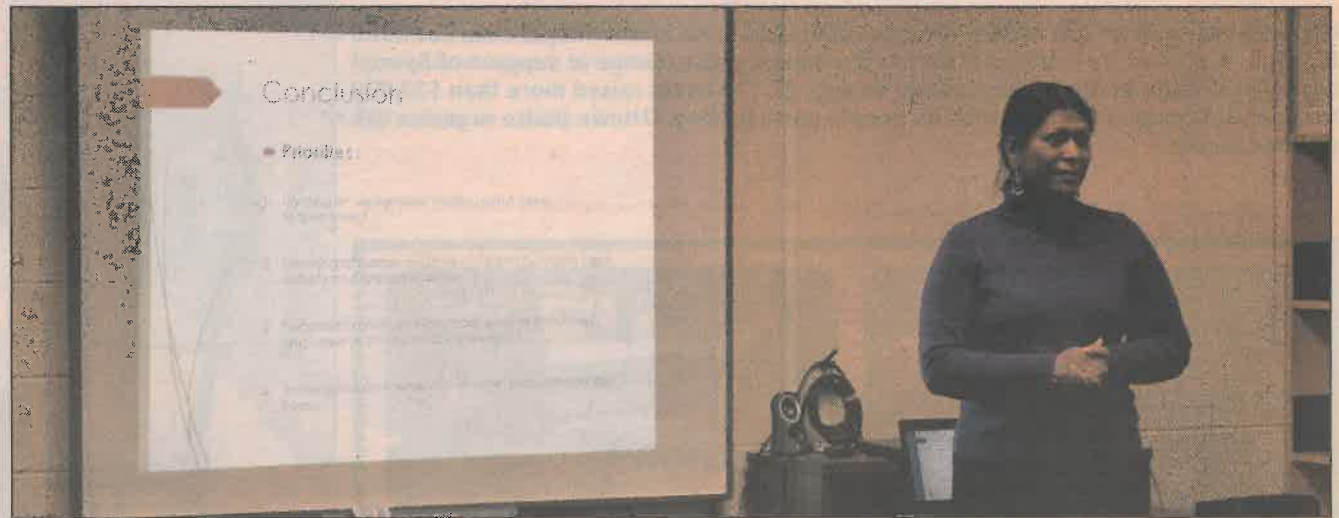
"There needs to be consistent lighting along the paths," David said.

The walk looked at the Stonehenge Park pathway, as well as a small path connecting Cyrville Road and Saxony Crescent – which was so well hidden David admitted she didn't even realize it was a pathway.

Speeding along Maxime Street and Blair Road were also raised in the report, noting that speeding on Blair, where there is no distinct sidewalk, creates unsafe walking conditions.

Heather Scott, president of the local community association, plans on handing over the report to Beacon Hill-Cyrville Coun. Tim Tierney in the hope that some of the issues raised about keeping the neighbourhood safe and slowing down drivers will be addressed.

Tierney said community safety is always a concern and that speeding in the area continues to be a top priority for him.



MICHELLE NASH/METROLAND

Elsy David from Women's Initiatives for Safer Environments presents their findings on a recent community safety audit conducted in the neighbourhood during Pineview Safety Night at St. John Paul II on March 2. Hosted by the local community association, the event was aimed to be a pro-active approach to safety in the neighbourhood.

To address the speeding issue directly, the councillor said he is going to be installing two speeding boards in Pineview this year. These speed boards, Tierney said, will record data, allowing for reports to be generated to police so targeted speeding enforcement can take place.

Tierney has already man-

aged to lower the speed limit along Blair, from 80 km/h to 50 km/h.

"I will continue to work with the community on these important safety concerns," Tierney said.

The evening included a presentation on neighbourhood watches, emergency preparedness and road safe-

ty initiatives.

Currently, the community has no watches, but Scott said there has been interest from a number of residents to start one.

"We are taking the first steps," Scott said. "We don't have any specific streets, we are just learning how to get started."

Scott said the next steps would be to find watch captains and street-specific interest to get some watches up and running.

More information about the safety audit or how to get involved with the community association is available online at pineviewot-tawa.com.

Pineview roads repair job means a makeover

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The nasty bumps and uneven pavement along Beaverpond Drive could soon be a thing of the past.

One day after Beacon Hill-Cyrville Coun. Tim Tierney told constituents road work along Beaverpond Drive in Pineview was a priority, the councillor was informed by city staff that the road is among a number of problem streets set to be resurfaced this spring.

A number of Pineview residents voiced their concerns about the overused and worn-out road at the Pineview Community Association's annual general meeting on April 25.

Tierney said that he was making it a priority, but at that time could not confirm the timing of when roadwork would be done.

On April 26, the councillor happily confirmed that the roads would indeed be resurfaced.

Along with Beaverpond, Appleton Drive, and por-



MICHELLE NASH/METROLAND

Beaverpond Drive will be one of a number of streets in Beacon Hill-Cyrville that will be resurfaced this spring. Road work is tentatively scheduled to start May 9.

tions of Montreal Road, Crownhill Street, Elwood Street and Seguin Street will all see resurfacing work.

Work is tentatively set to begin the week of May 9 if weather permits, and is expected to be completed by August, Tierney reported.

The sections of roads to be resurfaced are:

- Montreal Road from 100 metres east of Beckenham Lane to Laporte Street

- Appleton Drive from Beaverpond Drive to Meadowbrook Road

- Beaverpond Drive from Blair Road to Appleton Drive

- Crownhill Street from Sumac Street to Seguin Street

- Elwood Street from Seguin Street to Montreal Road

- Seguin Street from Blair Road to Crownhill Street



SUBMITTED

New members of the community stepped up to form the 2016-17 Pineview Community Association's board at its annual general meeting on April 25. The board will be launching a consultation with residents beginning this summer to create a three year strategic plan for the association.

Pineview residents wanted for community survey, consultation

Michelle Nash
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Opinionated residents living in Pineview will soon have another outlet to let their views be known.

The Pineview Community Association is planning on launching a three-year strategic plan for its organization and the planning starts first and foremost with its residents, the organization said at its annual general meeting on April 25.

The association plans to launch its second online survey — the first was released to residents in October 2015 — to get a feel for what residents care about when it comes to their community.

The organization will

consultations beginning in July.

“We hope this will get residents to feel more invested in their community,” said Chaidwick Leneis, the association's secretary.

It will also, he added, help secure community-based funding for the group to be able to host more events in the neighbourhood.

The goal is to target at least 25 per cent or 600 households as well as engage with 75 per cent of local schools, businesses and faith based organizations.

The consultation process will take place over the summer and lead into fall, with the aim to wrap up discussions by December 2016. The association's board will then present its findings

plan in July 2017.

The organization is asking three basic questions to residents to better understand what residents want:

- What you like about the neighborhood?
- What changes would improve the neighbourhood?
- What type of events or activities you would like to see?

The results will shape the community association's planning for the next three to four years, Leneis said.

Heather Scott, president of the Pineview Community Association, said it's vital to hear from the community's residents because that is why the association exists.

More information about the association, consultations, and the results

Pineview Community Association gets started early with garden competition

Alex Robinson
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Paging all green-thumbed Pineview residents.

As winter has finally arrived, the Pineview Community Association has invited residents to look ahead and start thinking about what they will grow in their gardens this spring.

The group is getting started early on its garden competition after its inaugural contest never got off the ground last year.

"Many people love to make gardens and some who would like to don't necessarily have the space, knowledge or resources to do so. We decided we'll plan early to make sure we don't miss out again this year," said Derek Oudit, who sits on the association's board and is organizing the competition.

The community association



SUBMITTED/DEREK OUDIT

Derek Oudit's garden blooms last summer in Pineview.

cancelled the competition last year after less than 10 participants registered for each category. Oudit said putting the word out early gives gardeners the chance to get prepared.

Oudit said the community association is also willing to help residents new to gardening with resources, seeds and

advice. The community association may also start up a tool exchange for the competition if there is enough interest.

This year's contest will have a category for gardens smaller than 200 square feet and one for larger ones.

Participants are asked to enter no later than May 15.

Judges will then visit the gardens to make their decisions between Aug. 15 and Sept. 15.

Judges will consider curb appeal, tidiness, cleanliness, the health and condition of plants, as well as environmental considerations.

Oudit said he hopes the competition will serve as a way to get people to take pride in the way their community looks.

"I'm keen to get our city to look a little better. It could be a lot prettier, a lot nicer and a lot cleaner," said Oudit, who has a background in agriculture.

"When you go to Montreal and Toronto they're growing flowers in hanging buckets in the streets ... What on earth do we have except for a few isolated places around town? Where is the colour?"

For more information, contact pineviewottawa@gmail.com.

Debate set for Beacon Hill-Cyrville

Ottawa East News staff

News - Beacon Hill-Cyrville constituents will get the opportunity to hear from their local city councillor candidates at an upcoming all-candidates debate.

Hosted by the Pineview Community Association, the debate will take place on Oct. 15 at John Paul II Elementary School at 7 p.m.

The association has invited all five candidates competing for the city councillor seat, including Francesca D'Ambrosio, Nicolas Séguin, Michel Tardif, Rene Tessier and incumbent Tim Tierney, as well as the school board trustees candidates for the area.

The evening will start with residents hearing from the council candidates. The school board trustees will immediately follow the councillor debate.

More information about the upcoming event is available at pineviewcommunity.wordpress.com.

Pineview residents launch spooky new Halloween contest

Association encourages residents to decorate pumpkins, houses

Michelle Nash
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News - Things are about to get a little spooky in Pineview this month.

The Pineview Community Association has launched a new contest for its residents to participate in this October, all in the spirit of Halloween.

Haunted Pineview runs until Oct. 31 and dares all area residents to decorate their homes and pumpkins for the chance to win a prize.

Association board members John Makela and Valerie Marchildon are organizing the event and said the contest is the most recent way the group is reaching out to its community members.

"We were brainstorming about what type of fall events we could do for the community association," Makela said. "The last event was

Canada Day and we figured Halloween was good, family-friendly, thing to do."

Community members not only get the opportunity to make their homes festive, but also get to compete against their neighbours at the same time.

Makela said there would be two chances to win -- a people's choice award and one juried category, juried by the association.

Participants are encouraged to submit a photo to the Pineview Community Association's Facebook page or its Twitter account, @PineviewOttawa, or tweet a photo to #HauntedPineview. All the photos will go into a gallery on the Facebook page.

The association has reached out to two local restaurants that have donated the prizes for the contest; Louis Steak House and the Royal Oak pub. The winners will receive a gift certificate from one of the two restaurants.

"We are open to whatever to what people want to imagine is the most festive," Makela said.

The deadline to submit photos to the association is Oct. 31. The winners will be announced on Nov. 1.

Pineview residents encouraged to get a little spooky

Community hosts third annual Halloween house, pumpkin decorating contest

BY MICHELLE NASH BAKER
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Things are about to get spooky in Pineview this month.

The Pineview Community Association will once again hold a Haunted Pineview house decorating competition for Halloween.

This is the third year the association is holding the competition and there are six categories of winners:

- Best house (public's choice)
- Best house (jury prize)
- Best pumpkin (public's choice)
- Best kids pumpkin (children 10 years old and under)
- Participant prize (random draw)

Only homes within the Pineview community can win and residents can enter the contest by submitting photos of their home and pumpkins on the association's Facebook page or by emailing them to pineviewot-tawa@gmail.com.

All photos will go into a gallery on the Facebook page for judging.

The public's choice category is determined by the number of 'likes' the entry's photos receive on the Facebook page gallery.

Photos are due by noon on Nov. 1. Voting ends at noon on Nov. 2.

Since the association was created in 2014, the group has hosted com-



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munity competitions, including most recently the 2016 Garden Competition.

In total, 16 Pineview gardeners submitted their gardens for consideration. Two garden experts — Mi-

chel Gauthier, executive director of the Canadian Garden Council, and Prakash Gannes, an agricultural officer with the government of Trinidad and Tobago — judged the gardens for the association.