

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



<https://champlainpark.org/>



Volunteer call-out for cool rink season

Fieldhouse change-rooms remain closed under health protocol

The contract to build and maintain the outdoor rink will be managed by the Champlain Park Community Association again this season. We'd like to thank Matt, Paul and Dan for their commitment to make it happen.

We had strong community support for rink maintenance last season, but we'll need all the help we can get again this year. If interested in volunteering (especially students looking for community hours), please email Matt at ChamplainParkRink@gmail.com.

The timing of our maintenance schedule is important in preserving the rink. For example, shovelling snow before a thaw or small, frequent clearings during a blizzard can drastically reduce closures. A large volunteer network will help maximize the number of skating days.

We hope to start building by mid-December. Typically, the base requires 10-15 cms of snow, followed by packing



and flooding, a process that can take about a week.

Given public health protocols around COVID, the association **will not be providing public access to the Fieldhouse change rooms or supervised rink hours** (including booked events). We will continue to monitor developments and possibly make changes as the

season progresses. We encourage rink users to review the city's [outdoor skating](#) guidelines.

Finally, some tips to help ensure a great season:

- 1) Respect others, including social distancing rules.
- 2) Try to leave the rink in better shape than you found it.
- 3) Please keep snow off the boards (One foot away or over is preferred).
- 4) Have fun!

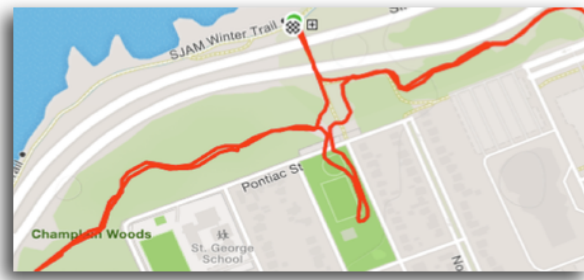
The lights go out at **11 p.m.** each night. Check our website (closer to opening) for updates on booked events.

Newly-named Kichi Sibi winter trail preps for snow

We're hoping for another great season on the Kichi Sibi winter trail, now renamed from the Sir John A. Macdonald, or SJAM, winter trail.

It connects the Canadian War Museum and Mill Street Brew Pub with parklands along the SJAM Parkway to Westboro Beach, animating spaces often little-used in the winter.

Two tracks will be set, one for snowshoers, walkers and bikers and the other for cross-country skiers, supporting both classic and skate-style techniques. The walking track will follow the existing pathway. Serpentine loops will add distance to the ski track at the Selby Plains, Remic Rapids greenspaces, Champlain Woods and open lands adjacent to



the War Museum and Champlain Bridge, for an expected distance of 16 kilometres.

Amenities along the trail include the Westboro Beach tobogganing hill, the NCC Remic Rapids Bistro (the Nordic Village), the John Ceperano rock sculptures, the café at the War Museum and Mill Street Brew Pub.

Fat bike events, ski days and more are being planned.

For news and updates on conditions, follow the trail on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/KichiSibiWT>) or at <https://www.facebook.com/KSWinterTrail/>.

To learn more about how you can help, including volunteering and donating, have a look at <http://www.wintertrail.ca>

New crosswalk at Island Park

The Island Park Drive crosswalk at Clearview Avenue is nearing completion. The black light standards were installed in November and, at month's end, crews were still getting the signage and signalling in place to help pedestrians cross a busy stretch of IPD on the edge of Champlain Park.

Many thanks for the efforts of Roland Dorsay, city staff, the NCC, Coun. Jeff Leiper's office and to developer Sam Mizrahi for financial contributions. Safe crossing!





Virtual charity auction ...for Parkdale Food Centre



There is a way to do your holiday shopping and contribute to a worthy cause! Take part in the **Champlain Park holiday auction**, by donating and/or bidding on great neighbourhood items.

To participate you can:

- 1) Donate a good or service before **Dec. 6**, by sending a photo and a short description of the item to chparkevents@yahoo.com.

You can donate almost anything, like crafts/art/baked goods or services, like a virtual workshop/



shovelling someone's walk/yardwork/etc...Be creative!
2) Put in a bid for any item until **Dec 15**.

For the auction site go to: <https://www.32auctions.com/ChamplainParkAuction2021>

If your bid is the highest on Dec 15th, at 5 p.m. then you donate the money to the Parkdale Food Centre and collect your item! Our neighbourhood raised over \$1,700 last year for families in need.

Chess is back, mate

Join the 2nd annual tournament of the Champlain Park Chess League for the winter/spring. A ladder format will be used, so sign up, then challenge a neighbour to a virtual game online (many sites exist) and move up the ladder ranking. Top four players will play off in the spring to crown the champion. Congrats to Andrew O. who won last year!

To sign up, email Nick at chparkevents@yahoo.com

Holiday house decorating contest!

As we ably demonstrated at Halloween, Champlain Park knows how to style for the season.

A contest is underway for the best decorated house, with a \$50 gift certificate as first prize.

Vote for your favourite household by **Dec. 26** by emailing your name and chosen house to

chparkevents@yahoo.com. The prize is a gift card

good at any Wellington West business, generously donated by the Wellington West BIA. See also champlainpark.org for details.



Upcoming AGM looking for board volunteers

The Champlain Park Community Association annual general meeting is upon us (early next year) and the board would be delighted to find new members and volunteers.

Consider working with your neighbours on an eclectic mix of issues: parks, trees, climate change, transportation, traffic, planning and development, community social events — matters in the ward and city-wide.

We also need board volunteers who can help with business, co-ordination, general administration, insurance and contracts. We will also be revising our bylaws to accord with new provincial rules for corporate non-profits. So there's lots to dig into!



To get an idea of what the board does, check the organizational chart: <https://champlainpark.org/the-cpca-organization/>. Click on each position to get a sense of responsibilities. Our goal this year is to reach out to busy families and professionals who may wish to participate in focused ways.

For more details and to discuss how you might contribute, please contact :

Lynne Bankier, Co-Chair, via the webmaster: champlainpark@gmail.com.

We have an excellent community association, but its strength depends on attracting energetic volunteers keen on contributing to the public good.

Please consider serving. Fun may even break out!