

# CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



<https://champlainpark.org/>



## Annual spring cleanup Sat/April 26



*Please consider helping to keep our public spaces safe, free of trash*

Well, winter has departed, leaving us with a wee mess outside. But, worry not — together, we're on the case.

The annual Spring Cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, April 26** and it's a great way to: get some fresh air and exercise; reconnect with your neighbours; and help clean up the public spaces we all use in Champlain Park.

In case of rain, keep in mind the cleanup will move to Saturday, May 3. Check our website for any weather updates.

Volunteers — and we've been fortunate to have a good turnout each year — are asked to meet outside the **Fieldhouse at 10 a.m.** to pick up a garbage bag and gloves.

There will be snacks to fuel the crew. A reminder that children should be accompanied by an adult.

The division of work is a bit informal. The main idea is to choose a part of the neighbourhood where you see garbage or debris and begin collecting!

The park itself is a good starting place. But remember the usual spots where trash seems to gather: the area at the corner of Patricia and Pontiac, the Transitway side of Amanda, the entrances/paths to the Champlain woods, any bus stop.

Please dispose of the debris with your normal household garbage, keeping an eye on items that can be recycled or put in the compost bin.

For more information, contact Nick at [xenosn@yahoo.com](mailto:xenosn@yahoo.com).

## CPCA membership drive begins, like, right NOW!

The annual membership drive is now underway, as our year runs from May 1 to April 30.

Instead of the old door-to-door campaign, residents are asked to fill in a form, pay the \$20 per-household fee, via e-transfer (at [financescpcac@gmail.com](mailto:financescpcac@gmail.com), include name/address in message) or drop off a cheque at 183 Carleton or 251 Keyworth. (Ensure the envelope is marked Membership, with a name/address on the cheque.)

There is also (above) a handy QR code to sign up and provide information for each person in your household joining the association.

For more detailed instructions, please consult our website. (<https://shorturl.at/fqjd7>)

The membership drive is a key source of revenue for the association and the fees contribute to all the



good things we have to offer in Champlain Park: the skating rink (we bought a snowblower), the Winter Carnival, the Sleigh Ride, Fieldhouse programs, Halloween events, enhancing our green space, Neighbourhood Watch, working with other communities and monitoring/engaging with planning and zoning issues.

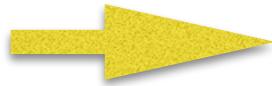
Ping-pong, chess, supporting the ski trails, production of the Speaker — if it enhances Champlain Park, the association is almost certainly involved.

There is so much to say, in fact, it would fill this entire edition. Membership also allows residents to vote at the AGM and rent the Fieldhouse.

Not bad for 20 bucks, right? Help us, please, to keep doing the good stuff, together.



# Traffic



## A regular update from Champlain Park traffic safety team

**Traffic Stop** will be a regular feature of the Champlain Speaker to provide updates from the Champlain Park Traffic Safety Committee.

Some news!

The NCC Bike Days will resume for the 2025 season on **May 10**, with one big change — the hours have been reduced to **8 a.m. to noon, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays**. We hope this change will significantly reduce the traffic congestion that has been an issue over the past few years. The bike days end Oct. 13.

By now, you would have received the CP Traffic Safety Survey in your email inbox. This is your opportunity to let us know what traffic related concerns you have within our community. When it arrives, please take a few minutes to let us know

what issues you consistently see within our neighbourhood, where you see them and at what time of day, if applicable. We ask that you complete the survey before **April 30, 2025**.

For those who do not have access to a computer or prefer not to respond electronically, you can call Bill Baggs at **613-325-2738** to receive a paper version, or complete the survey over the phone.

As always, please contact **Bill Baggs** at **director4crica@gmail.com** if you have questions, concerns, or to join the committee. See our page on the website for more info, including how to report traffic issues to the Ottawa Police Service.

— **Bill Baggs, chair**  
**Champlain Park Traffic Safety Committee**

## Thanks y'all for a great winter at the park!



When our nephew was visiting in January, he took a break from his online work to stroll through Champlain Park. Even though he's from Winnipeg — no stranger to winter — he was stunned.

"You've got quite the winter wonderland going on at your neighbourhood park. It's amazing."

He's not wrong.

Multiple ice surfaces that welcome skaters — and hockey players — of all ages and level, surrounded by re-purposed Christmas trees. Cross-country trails that connect skiers from Champlain Park to a groomed network that winds through woods and along the majestic Ottawa River. A winter festival that brings together residents for fun activities, award-winning chili and sweet treats — and the sounds of a corking jazz band.

None of this happens without the tireless work of volunteers, who brave early mornings and frigid nights to make the magic happen.

We owe a large debt of gratitude to **Paul O'Blenes**, who leads the rink maintenance, and **Aimee Ferron**, who organized the supervision for the rink, and their teams of dedicated volunteers.

We want to publicly thank **Dave Adams**, the champion/head groomer of the Kichi Sibi Winter Trail, and everyone who donates their valuable time to making the trail possible.

And lastly, a big shout-out to **Erin Topping** and **Kelly Archer**, who led a great group of volunteers staging a fabulous Winter Carnival, and **Dennis Van Staalduin** for the holiday sleigh ride.

— **Joanne Chianello, CPCPA board member**

## Date Alert!

- ❖ Ping Pong/Games Night, alternate Thursdays (check web)
- ❖ Garage Sale early June (deets to follow)