



FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE OF ROCKCLIFFE PARK FOUNDATION

January 2015

- Board Members**
- Bonnie Robinson,
Chair*
- Mike McIntyre,
Vice-Chair*
- Grant McDonald,
Treasurer*
- Jane Newcombe,
Administration*
- Chris Denison*
- Nancy Greenley*
- Ryan Kilger*
- David Lang*
- Thady Murray*
- Jane Panet*
- David Weinstein*

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 7:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road

The **Rockcliffe Park Foundation** is a unique organization established at the time of the amalgamation with the City of Ottawa. It manages an endowment to help fund community projects and activities. Its mandate includes: **conservation of the environment; preservation of the heritage character of the Village; and promotion of a sense of community for all residents.**

The endowment fund is now \$670,000. With the assistance of Mark Ellis from RBC Dominion Securities, a Rockcliffe resident and the fund’s investment advisor, we conduct an annual formal review of the investment performance and the Foundation’s Investment Policy. This year’s review was held on June 25, 2014. I thank Mark and appreciate the support that our current Treasurer, Grant McDonald, has provided in this matter.

The Foundation works primarily with the **Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRA)**, which plans and implements projects and activities to make this community one we are all proud to call home. Based on their proposals, developed with reference to the Foundation’s **Granting of Funds Guidelines**, the Foundation directed a total of **\$18,400** for projects and activities which will be carried out in 2015. Foundation funds account for about one-third of the RPRA expenses and will be used as follows:

Conservation

Maintenance of Jubilee Lawn and Gardens\$6,500

Heritage

Oral History Transcripts\$1,550

Updating Welcome to Rockcliffe Park Booklet\$1,500

Community Building

Community Events, Communications, Sports – Running Track Renewal\$2,000

Community Events, Communications, Sports\$6,850

(Includes the Evening Speakers Program, six issues of *The Rockcliffe News*, the annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing, and support for the rehabilitation of the soccer field.)

Consistent with the Foundation's policy requirements, the RPRA also provided an accounting of funds received from the Foundation and dispersed in 2014. In this regard, the RPRA requested a rollover of some funds to 2015 for their intended use. The following summarizes the agreed-to rollovers:

Conservation

The Jubilee Gardens – \$1,700 unspent in 2014 for crabapple tree pruning.

Princess Triangle – \$850 unspent in 2014 for dogwood tree pruning.

Heritage

The Heritage Management Plan – \$6,534, consisting of 2012 and 2013 funds of \$4,950 plus \$1,584 from funds identified for the Birkenfels gates, but not spent.

Community Building

Community Strategy and Website – \$2,975 unspent in 2014.

Community Events, Communications, Sports – \$3,750 unspent in 2014 for the soccer field rehabilitation.

In 2015, we will again host the very popular key fundraising event, the **“Dining with the Ambassadors Reception and Dinner.”** It will be held on Friday, April 17. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis at \$150 per person by contacting Jane Panet, Co-Chair of the event, at 613 745-0666, or by email to janepanet@sympatico.ca.

As interest rates continue to remain low and the RPRA's request for funds for community projects and activities exceeds what we can currently support, the Foundation continued with its **Community Appeal**, the proceeds of which would be used to increase the endowment. Last year's appeal raised \$16,000. This past November, letters were sent to residents to request their continued financial support. To date, \$12,700 has been raised. We encourage residents who have not yet made their donation to do so online at www.rockcliffeparkfoundation.org or by cheque made payable to the “Friends of the Village of Rockcliffe Park” and mailed to the attention of Jane Newcombe, 25 Westward Way, Rockcliffe Park K1L 5A8. Donors will be recognized in the April edition of *The Rockcliffe News*. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Jane Newcombe in coordinating this appeal.

The **150th Anniversary of Canada in 2017** is a significant milestone for the country. We believe the community should plan a project to celebrate it. The Foundation has been in discussion with the RPRA about what a project might look like. The restoration/rehabilitation of the Centennial Garden in the Village Green could be such a project. This might also be expanded to include other areas in the Village Green, possibly including elements that would address current and future usage. Community involvement in discussing and identifying the scope of a project is important and we understand the RPRA will be providing more information about this.

The Nominating Committee, a standing committee of the Board responsible for identifying and recommending members for the Foundation Board, consists of Mike McIntyre (Chair), Ryan Kilger and David Lang. A notice requesting residents to consider serving on the Board was placed in *The Rockcliffe News* in October 2014. The Nominating Committee will report at the Annual General Meeting.

I'd like to recognize the contributions of Board members. Your enthusiasm and diligence in the interests of the Foundation contribute to its ongoing success.

We are all grateful to call this wonderful community home. The foresight of several longstanding residents has made this unique Foundation possible and we are mindful of the trust placed in us to manage it responsibly and with an eye to the future.

Bonnie Robinson

Chair

613 749-5297