



# Overbrook E-News

## Community Council of Overbrook

November 2011

**Overbrook News:**  
the newsletter of the  
Community Council of  
Overbrook (CCO)

Editors:  
**Wendy Dennys, Martine Joly**

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Submit articles or comments  
to:  
[newsletter@overbrook.ca](mailto:newsletter@overbrook.ca)

Website:  
[www.overbrook.ca](http://www.overbrook.ca)

### Community Council of Overbrook

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**Roy Hanna**  
**Martine Joly**  
**Robb Wainwright**

**Committees:**  
Communications &  
Membership  
Chair: **Wendy Dennys**  
Environment & Heritage  
Chair: **Sheila Perry**

Planning & Development  
Co-chairs: **Roy Hanna &**  
**Martine Joly**

Special Events,  
Fundraising & Business  
Liaison  
Chair: **Joanne Lockyer**

Traffic & Safety  
Chair: **David Stambrook**

### **BROOKIES REDISCOVER THEIR CENTRE: A Day to Celebrate**

For nine months our Overbrook Community Centre has been closed. Scheduled programs still took place, but they were spread out to surrounding schools, arenas, and churches. We were longing to come "home" to our Centre!

On Saturday, 20 August 2011, we did just that – we returned to the Centre in great numbers to celebrate its official reopening. It was a day to remember. The sun shone brightly as every corner of the expanded Centre reverberated with laughter, chatter, and activities. It was time to explore and admire our beautiful renewed facility, with its spacious reception area, bright and lofty-ceilinged gym, renovated dance and art studios, and new meeting rooms.

At the official re-opening, Mayor **Jim Watson** congratulated everyone involved in the project, highlighting the fact that the renovations came in "on time, and on budget." He also reminded us that the building received a LEED designation, an award for buildings meeting high ecological standards. We were reminded that it has taken the collaboration and hard work of many people, organizations, and government to accomplish this dream of a Centre befitting our aspirations.

As folk explored the premises, they discovered the new courtyard with its artwork by **Chris St. Amand** and **Cairn Cunnane**. Chris's leaf motif window, entitled "Portal," adds magic, especially at night when it lights up, powered by a solar panel on the roof. Cairn's two recycled steel and zinc benches, entitled "Connections," create an inviting and artistic space to sit and contemplate. These two artists were winning entries in the City's Public Art Program.



Free food and drink certainly added to the day's celebrations -- and there was plenty, thanks to the tireless work of **Joanne Lockyer** and her crew. Hotdogs and buns were donated by Dumouchel Meat & Deli, while popcorn was provided by Rainbow Theatres. And of course, Tim Hortons was there with their free coffee and donuts.

As children splashed in the pool, people chatted with neighbours, and others investigated the many activities taking place throughout the property. Outside the Centre, booths provided information about the Community Council of Overbrook and Ottawa Community Housing, and the Optimist's table held its popular raffle with prizes. A bouncy castle and fire truck provided a backdrop to skateboard and basketball demonstrations. Inside the Centre, folk could watch more examples of programs offered during the year: art, Tai Chi, rhythmic gymnastics, line dancing, jiu-jitsu, Burundian dancing, and break dancing.

If you have yet to visit the Centre since it reopened, don't hesitate to go and experience something special – this "heart" of our community is vibrant, welcoming, and alive with activities for all ages.



L-R: MMP **Madeleine Meilleur**, Mayor **Jim Watson**, Councillor **Peter Clark**, CCO President **Sheila Perry**, MP **Mauril Bélanger**, Ottawa-East Optimist Club President **Sandra Kilby**, OCC Director **Michel Baronette**



Representing the future of our community at the Official Re-opening L-R: **Jérémie Viens**, **Mich Kabouchi**, and **Melissa Kilby**

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**Overbrook Community Centre**  
33 Quill Street  
613-742-5147

**Overbrook-Forbes Community Resource Centre**  
120-225 Donald Street  
613-745-0073  
[www.ofcrc.org](http://www.ofcrc.org)  
Email: [info@ofcrc.org](mailto:info@ofcrc.org)

**Community Police Centre**  
252 McArthur Road  
613-236-1222  
Office ext. 5809  
Const. Daviault ext. 5823

### WHO TO CALL ABOUT ...

**Community property**  
- broken sidewalk, burned out street light, graffiti, anything dangerous  
3-1-1 or email [311@ottawa.ca](mailto:311@ottawa.ca)

**Private property**  
- unsightly or unsafely kept property  
Property standards complaint  
3-1-1 or 613-580-2424 ext. 41547 or email [bylawservices@ottawa.ca](mailto:bylawservices@ottawa.ca)  
- financial help to fix up property  
Rental Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP)  
1-800-704-6488 or email [rrap\\_ontario@cmhc-schl.gc.ca](mailto:rrap_ontario@cmhc-schl.gc.ca)

**Drugs**  
- witness on-street sales or use  
613-230-6211  
- information about drugs  
613-236-1222 ext. 7300

**Violence or criminal activity**  
- assault or fight in progress  
9-1-1  
- to report anonymously  
Crime Stoppers  
613-233-TIPS (8477) or [www.crimestoppers.ca](http://www.crimestoppers.ca)  
(Tips on Line)

**Sex trade**  
- to report your concern about sex trade worker on your street  
613-236-1222 ext. 7300  
- to report suspicious activity such as someone using the service, if possible with license plate number  
Community Police Centre  
613-236-1222 ext. 5823  
- concern about health or well-being of someone on the street  
3-1-1 and ask for the Salvation Army Outreach Van

### **Car Break-in Prevention**

Watch your mailboxes in November for a gift from Ottawa Police Service – an “All Valuables Removed” warning card to place in your vehicle.

## ***SURVEY FOR COMMUNITY INPUT***

As mentioned in the previous issue of *Overbrook News*, the CCO's Planning and Development Committee has prepared a survey to inform the Community Development Plan currently being written. This quick survey is designed to get a sense of where the community stands on how Overbrook should evolve, what are the perceived needs and issues, and so on.

We have developed the survey using Survey Monkey, and you will receive it via email from [www.SurveyMonkey.com](http://www.SurveyMonkey.com). We would be very grateful if you could take just a few minutes of your time to respond. Your opinion matters greatly.

Also, due to financial restraints, we are unable to distribute the survey door to door, as initially planned. However, if you know of people living in Overbrook who would be interested in taking the survey, please ask them to email [newsletter@overbrook.ca](mailto:newsletter@overbrook.ca) and we will send them the survey.

We are looking forward to receiving your comments on these important matters.

## ***THE OVERBROOK-FORBES COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE:***

### ***A Wealth of Services***

Established in 1982, the Overbrook-Forbes Community Resource Centre (OFCRC) has been offering a wide range of support services and programs to children, youth, families and seniors living in Overbrook and neighbouring communities. These programs are critical in a neighbourhood like Overbrook, where the proportion of single-parent families is high, and where as much as 29% of the population lives below the poverty line. The OFCRC, in partnership with organizations such as Action Housing and Youth Services Bureau, provides help with basic needs such as food and shelter, and with personal or family issues ranging from poor school performance to mental illnesses and health problems. Home support services for seniors in our community are another invaluable component, considering that 36% of them live alone<sup>1</sup>.

In a population where child poverty is prominent and where one out of three children has poor school readiness scores, prevention is definitely key in breaking the cycle of poverty and giving them a better chance at succeeding in life. This is where programs like *Success by 6* and *Healthy Babies, Healthy Children* are so important in giving young children the best possible start in life. These programs are designed to assist parents in developing good parenting skills and promote their child's physical, emotional, social and spiritual development through playing and learning. Homework Clubs offer further help to youth 6 to 12 with one-on-one tutoring and assistance with academic performance. An after-school program also offers children an opportunity to take part in activities, games, crafts, etc.

The OFCRC is also involved in a project called *No Community Left Behind*, which is a neighbourhood-based initiative that encourages people within a community to work together to address needs and issues. A specific area within Overbrook, around Lola and Queen Mary streets, has been targeted and designated under the name “Four Corners.” Residents were invited to barbecues as a way to get together, and a survey has been distributed to identify their needs and concerns. One main goal will be to organize meaningful activities for youth.

These are just a few examples of the important work that the OFCRC does for our community. To learn more about the various programs or how the OFCRC can assist you and your family, go to [www.ofcrc.org](http://www.ofcrc.org) or call 613-745-0073.

## ***NEW WEBSITE TO BE LAUNCHED SOON!***

The CCO is in the process of building a new website, hopefully to be launched by the end of the year.

Here are a few of the features you can expect to find:

- Photos, map, and history of our community
- Information on issues affecting Overbrook
- Information on the CCO and its directors
- Minutes of CCO meetings
- Calendar with notice of upcoming meetings and events
- On-line registration to receive newsletters

Not all features will be up and ready to go right away. Be patient, and keep checking in at [www.overbrook.ca](http://www.overbrook.ca).

<sup>1</sup> According to the *Ottawa Neighbourhood Study*.

***PLEASE RESPOND  
TO OUR SURVEY  
WHEN YOU  
RECEIVE IT FROM  
SURVEY MONKEY!***

***EVERY VOICE  
MATTERS...***

***Because Overbrook matters...***

**CCO  
Annual General Meeting**

**7 p.m., Thursday  
17 November 2011**

**Overbrook Community  
Centre  
33 Quill**

***Every voice counts...***