GLEBE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Year in Review: 2015-2016

President's Report

Christine McAllister

2015-16 has been another rewarding year, in particular for the passion and dedication of so many people in this community. The energy is infectious and has resulted in many new people joining the Board, GCA Committees, canvassing and participating in monthly meetings. Engagement throughout the community has grown, and we are all better for it!

This year, we have spent some time building a view on desired development for our traditional mainstreet, Bank Street, through the ImagineGlebe initiative of the GCA's Planning Committee (see more later in this report). As a result of the spectacular level of engagement by residents, we now have high-level views of community-desired development, grounded in good data, which we have been using to inform proposed developments such as the one for the Beer Store/Mr. Muffler property. Given the number of properties on Bank Street which may be developed in the near future, this data will help us influence proposals to reflect community perspectives.

But planning isn't the only area that's been active. Our Parks Committee advocated for docks at Patterson Creek, parklets on Bank street and another hockey rink for the neighbourhood. Heritage provided leadership on a development proposal in the only heritage district in our neighbourhood, and Environment advocated on divestment of fossil fuel investments at the City level, just to name a few activities. In addition, two new committees are up and running: a Tenants committee to ensure we have a diversity of views and a Health and Social Services Committee, which spearheaded the GCA's contribution to efforts to settle refugee families locally, to help the Glebe can play its part of the Syrian refugee relief effort.

I am particularly excited about the launch of our new website earlier this year. Many thanks go to Elspeth Tory, who designed and built the website, and also trained committee chairs to update the website regularly. It is quickly becoming a well-used community resource and is attracting and engaging more and more residents.

Next year the GCA turns 50! We have a pretty great community and I am looking forward to celebrating the contributions of the GCA since 1967 to make the Glebe what it is today.

The GCA Mandate

The Glebe Community Association (GCA) is a volunteer, non-profit, membership-based and City-recognized organization advocating for a liveable, sustainable, diverse urban neighbourhood. The GCA informs, consults and engages with residents and other groups in the Glebe on issues of importance and promotes the interests of our community with all levels of government and other organizations.

The GCA's Top Priorities

- Anticipate and respond effectively to issues
  - Planning for a more liveable Glebe
- Strengthen community engagement and representation
  - Develop a volunteer management strategy
  - Focus on generating new, creative ideas vis community forums
  - 50th GCA Anniversary celebration in 2017, and other community-building events
- Improve communications with a specific focus on our website
- Develop a marketing strategy.

We always welcome residents who wish to become more involved in the GCA. Reach us via one of the methods listed above, or send us an email at gca@glebeca.ca.

Thank you's

Of course I would be remiss if I didn't not thank the many people who've worked with me throughout the year. A special thank you to Sharon Chartier and Janet Sutherland, our two VPs, immediate Past President, for all their assistance on a number of issues. I could not have kept track of things without our Secretary, Sylvie Legros. And communications would have been a bigger challenge without Basia Vanderveen's e-bulletins and tweeting.

In addition to all of our Board and committee members, thank you to Sylvia Milne, President of the Glebe Annex Community Association, Bhagwant Sandhu, President of the Dows Lake Resident's Association, Kate McCartney, Geoff Kellow and Mary-Tsai Davies of the Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group, Liz McKeen from the Glebe Report, Andrew Peck, the Executive Director of the Glebe Business Improvement Association, Catherine McKenna, MP, Yasir Naqvi, MPP and of course, David Chernushenko, Councillor and Natalie Mezey from David's office, for your strong support of the GCA, and to the staff of the Glebe Community Centre, who accommodate our meetings the 4th Tuesday of every month.

2015-2016 GCA Board of Directors

President	Christine McAllister*
Vice-President	Sharon Chartier*
Vice-President	Janet Sutherland*
Secretary	Sylvie Legros*
Treasurer	Vaughn Guy*
Communications	Basia Vanderveen*
Webmaster	Alex Gillis / vacant ~
Education Chair	Tim Hore
Environment Co-Chairs	Angela Keller-Herzog & Carol MacLeod
Federation of Citizens' Associations Representative	Bob Brockelbank & Angela Keller-Herzog
Great Glebe Garage Sale Chair	Catherine Waters
Health & Social Services Chair	Sarah Viehbeck
Heritage Chair	Johanna Persohn
Lansdowne Park Chair	Ken Slemko
Membership Co-Chairs	Daphne Towers
Planning Chair	Carolyn Mackenzie
Parks Co-Chairs	Elizabeth Ballard & Sam Harris
Tenants Chair	Dan Chook Reid
Traffic Chair	Matthew Meagher
Area 1: Dow's Lake (west of Bronson; Carling to Canal)	Bhagwant Sandhu & Louise Aranoff
Area 2A: Brown's Inlet West	Martha Bowers & Cindy Delage
Area 2B: Brown's Inlet East	Cindy Kirk
Area 3A: High School Zone	Rochelle Handelman
Area 3B: Church District South	Alison Perry
Area 4A: Central Park West	Peter Leyser
Area 4B: Powmow	Vacant
Area 5A: Patterson Creek South	Lynn Barlow
Area 5B: Lansdowne Quadrant	Carol MacLeod
Area 6A: Nor'Easters	Bradley Gilbert
Area 6B: Patterson Creek North	Elizabeth Ballard
Area 7. Glebe Annex	Sylvia Milne / Scott Blurton~

*Executive Committee members ~Alex served as Webmaster for part of the year.

Thank you to Board members leaving us

Cindy Delage

Alex Gillis

Cindy Kirk

Sylvia Milne

Alison Perry

Janet Sutherland

Daphne Towers

Catherine Waters

Thanks to the following who are leaving one GCA post for another:

Angela Keller-Herzog (leaving FCA to focus on Environment)

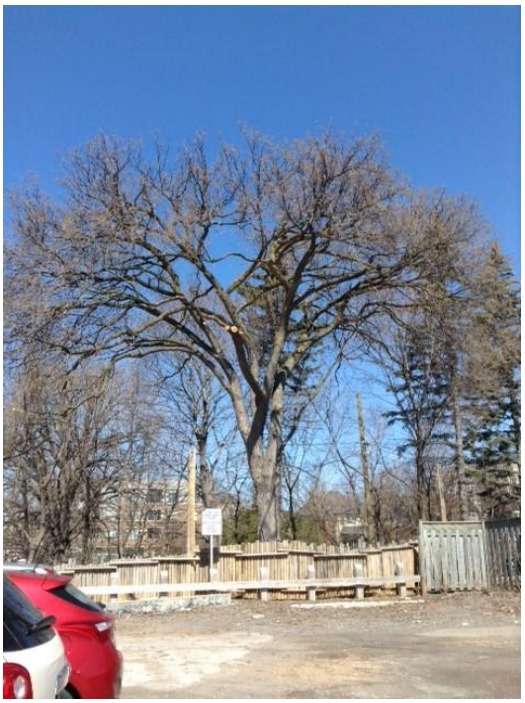
Elizabeth Ballard (leaving Parks)

Environment Committee

Angela Keller-Herzog & Carol MacLeod, Co-Chairs

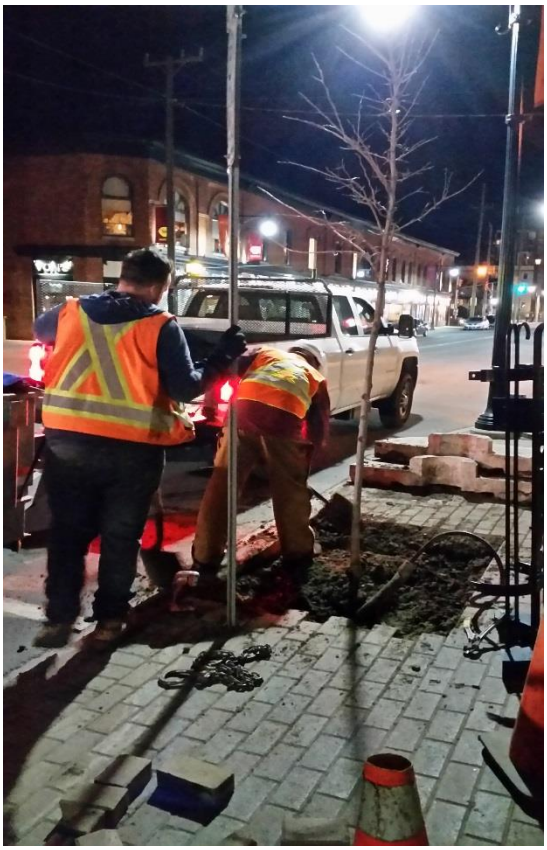
The GCA Environment Committee thinks globally and acts locally. It is dedicated to preserving, enhancing and advocating for our local environment, both built and natural. The Environment Committee promotes a greener and healthier Glebe by addressing the intersection of issues broadly related to our urban built and natural environment in an environmentally responsible way.

2015/16 has been a busy year and we pursued activities in a number of thematic areas.



Concerning trees and greenspace, we continued to monitor the Bank St. trees (many were replanted this spring for the third time since the Bank St. reconstruction) as well as urging the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group (OSEG) to regreen the Marché Way at Lansdowne. We actively protested the cutting damage done by the City Forest Department to one of the last remaining heritage Elms on Clemow in the context of clearing the way for a coming site development.

In October 2015, following on discussions at CAFES and the GCA, we led a public delegation (joined by Centretown Citizens Community Association and Dalhousie Community Association) to the City's Transportation Committee and succeeded in bringing the Committee to include street trees in the scope of Ottawa's Complete Streets Implementation Framework.



We have also been active participants in the City's process to develop an *Urban Tree Management Strategy*, developing a coalition of core area community associations to put forward a concerted position. This builds on the community discussion and recommendations on "Tall Trees" that we hosted in the spring of 2015.

The **Garden Angels** have continued to maintain community boxes around the Glebe and are working in concert with the Glebe Business Improvement Area (BIA) to beautify Bank Street. We are looking to incorporate our knowledge of bee and pollinator health and the dangers of neonicotinoid pesticides used by garden suppliers on flowering plants.

In the **area of energy**, members of the Environment Committee joined the organizing group for Green Energy Doors Open (GEDO) which features demonstration sites around the city and a mini-trade fair at the Central Experimental farm in fall 2015. The collaboration will continue this year with a multi-day event in September and a sustainable business exhibition at the Horticulture Building on Sept 10th 2016.

We have supported the Environment Committee of the City in strengthening Ottawa's commitment to climate change action (Feb 16 2016 delegation to Committee meeting). We have initiated a discussion of home energy labelling, energy audits and retrofits of the old building stock in the Glebe.

Building on a Spring 2015 Glebe community discussion on fossil fuel divestment and a following article in the Glebe Report, we produced a background paper advocating fossil fuel divestment from the City of Ottawa Endowment Funds. The issue was discussed by the GCA Board in Spring 2016, a motion supporting such divestment was passed and a letter has been sent to the Mayor (who chairs the City's Finance and Economic Development Committee) and David Chernushenko (who chairs the City's Environment Committee). We will now reach out to other community associations on this issue and welcome citizen engagement on the issue.

And finally in the area of **waste reduction, re-use and recycling**, the Environment Committee, in partnership with Ecology Ottawa, organized the collection of Great Glebe Garage Sale remnants for re-use and supported the Glebe Collegiate electronic waste recycling program that same weekend.

We are always welcoming new members and look forward to planning green activities to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary.

Health and Social Services Committee

Sarah Viehbeck, Chair

Committee Refreshed!

After a hiatus, the Health and Social Services Committee of the GCA was re-established in 2015-16. Our set-up activities included welcoming a new Chair (Sarah Viehbeck), rejuvenating membership, and having a refreshed mandate approved by the GCA board.

The Health and Social Services Committee identifies and responds to health and social services issues within the Glebe community and draws issues to the attention of the GCA for possible attention, as needed. The Health and Social Services Committee also represents the GCA on health and social services issues with other organizations.

Linkages and Outreach

As part of our early work this year, the Committee reached out to relevant community groups to build and extend existing GCA relationships. This included, for example: Ottawa Police Services, Ottawa Public Health, GNAG, the Ottawa Centre Refugee Action, and other Community Associations with an interest in health and social services issues.

Issues on our Plate

Beyond re-establishing the committee, in 2015-16, the Health and Social Services worked on a range of issues, including the following examples:

- working with the Parks Committee to co-sponsor a motion around improvements in park lighting
- engaging with relevant community partners around activities in support of refugee re-settlement
- working with GNAG and other partners to co-fund an Applied English as a Second Language summer program for new arrival refugee families - the GCA made a $5,000 contribution to this important initiative
- working with the Parks Committee to consult the community and advocate for another city-funded Glebe rink (in place of the rink at the St. James Tennis Club)
- responding and referring community members to appropriate City resources for noise complaints and community policing/safety issues

Forward Agenda

The Health and Social Services Committee is trying to balance working proactively on issues while also being responsive to community needs and emergent priorities. If you have an issue to bring forward, please contact us or join us at a committee meeting! Over the coming year, we will be working on the following:

- continuing advocacy for another rink in the Glebe
- monitoring and advocating, where appropriate, regarding proposed changes to community policing in the City of Ottawa
- expanding the list of local health and social service resources available on the revitalized GCA website
- working with other Community Associations to consider matters related to safe injection sites
- planning a Community Forum to bring together a range of health and social service providers to respond to resident questions

Heritage Committee

Johanna Persohn, Chair

The Glebe Community Association Heritage Committee is committed to researching, investigating and taking appropriate action to preserve and celebrate the Glebe's architectural and social history through its buildings, streetscapes and landscapes.

This goal/mandate is met in two ways:

1. Utilizing and investigating the available tools to assist in the conservation of heritage assets. This includes formal designation requests and providing assistance with the research required for them, as well as provided input on applications made in relation to existing designated heritage buildings and districts, and

2. Outreach, consultation and education to the community and city as a whole on the architectural and social history of the Glebe in general and on its heritage buildings. This is achieved though workshops, walking tours, websites and articles in local media such as the Glebe Report, as well as the successful designation of buildings and districts.

For more info: http://glebeca.ca/heritage-committee/

The Next Glebe Heritage Conservation District

In July 2014 the GCA requested the city consider Clemow Avenue West and Monkland Avenue (The Ottawa Improvement Commission Scenic Driveway) be added to their Heritage Conservation District Studies Plan. The city has agreed and is now starting the preliminary work required with the intention of conducting a new Heritage Conservation District study of Clemow Avenue (Bank to Bronson), Monkland Ave and as well as the already approved Linden Terrace/Patterson Creek. The City held it's first consultation meeting with the homeowners in the proposed district in January. The next meeting is planned for late 2016, with goal of district designation in 2017. Thanks in large part to the assistance of a Practicum Student from Athabasca University, the Committee has now completed preliminary research for all the houses in the proposed district and has made it available to interested residents on DropBox through our committee website.
http://glebeca.ca/clemow-estate-phase-ii/

Development in the Clemow Estate East Heritage Conservation District

The Committee continues to monitor a potential development in the Clemow Estate East Heritage Conservation District t at 667 Bank street (corner of Clemow). This is the only property in the existing district on Bank street and zoned for mixed use/commercial development. This site is a gateway to the existing district, and what is built on this site will set precedence for what is built on the other 3 corners, and the gateway to the new district across Bank Street going West.

Great Glebe Garage Sale Heritage Plaque Initiative

For the 2nd year during the GGGS, the committee sent out an open invitation to area residents to put up temporary plaques in front of their houses outlining the heritage of their homes. This is part of the committee's plan to step up our outreach and heritage awareness. A number of residents responded and feedback was great. This year we also reached out to the homes in the new proposed district by flyer and provided them links to the research on their home.

2015 Heritage Restoration Award

Each year the committee gives out one or two Heritage Restoration Awards to recognize the great work Glebe residents do to maintain and restore their heritage homes. This years recipients were Scott and Anne Marie Parsons for their sensitive restoration of key heritage elements of their home at 164 Clemow Avenue. The home was designed by architect John Pritchard MacLaren and built in 1913 for Percy H. Shaver who had earlier been Secretary to the Honourable Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior under Sir Wilfred

Laurier. Most recently, a complex exterior restoration project included the replacement of the roof but also the complex creation and installation of an exact replica of the copper clad, bell-shaped roof and supporting structure of the impressive three-storey round tower on the north-east corner of the home.

Plans for the Upcoming Year

- Continue to assist the city in moving the new Heritage Conservation District designations forward.
- Continue researching the remaining streets in the northern Glebe/Clemora Estates area and explore options to publish the committees research in a more formalized way.
- Explore utilizing the "Heritage Character Area" designation available under the Official Plan.
- Expand and update our page on the new GCA website
- Continue to expand and promote the Great Glebe Garage Sale Plaquing initiative.
- Offer information sessions to local residents on how to research your house, historic window maintenance and others.
- Explore with the city options to recognize and possibly designate Glebe Collegiate.

Lansdowne Committee

Ken Slemko, Chair

With Lansdowne now having a more regular day-to-day routine, the Lansdowne Committee will no longer be a full-fledged committee, but rather will develop into a liaison role for the Chair, with the addition of an area representative for the Lansdowne area (to be approved at the June 16, 2016 AGM).

The Liaison will continue to work towards the mandate as follows:

- To foster good relations with the new businesses, residents, and other groups moving into Lansdowne Park (relationship building).
- To help ensure that the Glebe community gains as much benefit as possible from the new resources at the Park and that any negative effects associated with development and activities at the Park are minimized (maximize community benefit and minimize negative impact)
- To inform the Glebe community of developments and opportunities at Lansdowne Park and ensure the Park's businesses and residents know of community concerns through active involvement with appropriate groups, including OSEG, the City of Ottawa, the BIA, and developers (communication and liaison).

- To work closely with other GCA Committees and Area Reps that also have an interest in developments and activities at Lansdowne Park (e.g., Parks, Traffic, Environment, Membership, Lansdowne Quadrant Representative).

Parks Committee

Elizabeth Ballard and Sam Harris, Co-chairs

The Glebe Parks Committee (GPC) welcomed several new members this past year and has park representatives for all parks in the Glebe, Glebe Annex and Dows Lake as well as for green spaces around Patterson Creek and the Canal. All parks had fall and spring clean ups with the support of many community volunteers.

The committee continued to monitor the parks and work with the city to address and prioritise issues, needs and potential funding for updates and renewal. The GPC also kept updated, and formed positions on, city policies as they relate to greenspaces, in particular Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan as well as development proposals.

The GPC worked with other partners including other GCA committees, community associations, the Glebe BIA, the city, community members and Carleton University to advance our mandate and priorities. Park space improvements included; accessible swings and benches at Senator Eugene Forsey Park, a new gate at Memorial Park, a canoe/kayak launch at Patterson Creek, a consultation and design plan for the Firehall Park and Dalhousie South Park and 2 new seasonal park spaces along Bank Street.

Planning Committee

Carolyn Mackenzie, Chair

The GCA PC advises the GCA board on issues related to planning and development in the Glebe. The mandate of the Planning Committee is to:

- **Monitor** development proposals for conformity with principles and policies adopted by the GCA board.
- **Work proactively** with residents and other stakeholders to develop community supported positions regarding proposed planning and development activities
- **Recommend policy positions** to the GCA board on planning issues, following community consultation, analysis, and discussion with public bodies, developers and other stakeholders;
- **Communicate** GCA views and positions by making representations to the City and other public bodies, development stakeholders
- **Support** the Glebe Community by providing information related to the Planning processes of the City of Ottawa
- **Promote dialog and discussion** and provide information regarding planning issues impacting the Glebe neighbourhood

This was a busy year for the GCA PC. ImagineGlebe, a community visioning project for Bank Street, was launched, and several significant development proposal along Bank Street and Bronson Avenue came into play. A summary of key projects follows.

1. McKale's Property (Fifth and Bank Street) - Canderel development proposals

A new proposal for development of this site was submitted to develop a four storey, mixed use building, including underground parking. The GCA PC wrote to the City indicating that the proposal was well received and the development would make a strong contribution to the Traditional Main Street on Bank Street. At the same time, we wrote to ask for additional architectural detailing on the upper floors to add visual interest to the building. We also asked that the building be set back further from Bank Street (the City's Official Plan allows for the city to enlarge the right of way by up to 2.3 m). This would allow for wider sidewalk space that could be used for green planters and/or casual seating, which were elements of the "Traditional Mainstreet" that received very strong support through the **ImagineGlebe** survey completed in the fall of 2015. We will continue to work with the city and the developer on this project.

2. 890/900 Bank Street (Beer Store/Mr Muffler property)

The Planning Committee assisted in organising a Public Meeting hosted by the developer (Canderel/Amica) in April of this year for this significant proposal for Bank St. Over 50 residents attended the meeting where the proposal was first presented to the community at large. In advance of that, the GCA PC participated in several meetings with the developer over the course of the past year – making best effort to anticipate and represent community perspectives (having signed a non-disclosure agreement to be able to join these concept stage discussions). The developer is expected to submit an application to the city by the end of June. A project page with details can be found on the Planning Committee page of the GCA website. Updates will be provided as this project goes through the application review process.

3. 774 Bronson Avenue - Textbook Suites student residence proposal

This was one of two proposals where the GCA PC worked closely with Dow's Lake Residents Association and the Glebe Annex given the location of the proposal. During the year, the GCA PC assisted in organising a public meeting with the developer to obtain feedback from residents. A number of concerns surfaced, and the GCA wrote to the developer and the City regarding insufficient parking, and building height and massing, particularly that part of the building that faces the residential area of Dow's Lake to the rear of the building. Following submission of comments from the GCA PC, we are currently waiting for the developer to submit revised plans to the City. The GCA Planning Committee will continue to monitor this proposal closely as this project proceeds through the application review process.

4. 770 Bronson Avenue (at Carling)

The GCA PC also assisted in organising a public meeting with the developer to hear about their plans for this site. The developer had submitted their application to the City, but have now asked that a hold be put on the application, so the GCA PC will hold off on submission of concerns raised pending the proposal being revived and/or updated.

5. Community Planning Vision – " ImagineGlebe "

Last fall, a major initiative of the GCA PC was launched: a community visioning project for Bank Street. ***ImagineGlebe*** focused on ***Building a Vision for Bank Street: Strengthening our Community's Traditional Mainstreet***. A visual preference survey and Pop Up Consultation on Bank Street were key elements of the initial phase of the project.

We actively and creatively sought input from a broad community that has included not only residents, but also business owners, visitors to the Glebe, and those in the development community. Our thinking is that Bank Street is successful when it serves not only the local community but the City as a whole – so its vital to incorporate ideas and feedback from all of these constituents groups.

Survey results have been finalised and are available on the **ImagineGlebe** blog site, which is linked to the GCA Planning page. The Committee is currently drafting the Vision Statement and related Principles to be tabled at a community forum.

Next steps
The next step in this project will be to:

- refine the vision,
- share the results as part of a community forum
- draft Community Development Plan (CDP)
- Implement the CDP!

Tenant's Committee

Dan Chook Reid, Chair

Earlier this year, Dan Chook Reid joined the board as the chair of the newly-reviatilzed Tenants' Committee, and has actively recruited members. In May, the board approved the following mandate for the tenants committee:

The GCA Tenants' Committee seeks to represent and engage tenants within the Glebe neighbourhood and increase their involvement throughout every level of the GCA. In addition, the Tenants' Committee seeks to provide tenants resources regarding tenancy and promote a liveable, sustainable neighbourhood for tenants of all socio-economic demographics.

So far, the tenants' committee has primarily been engaged in research to enable us to fulfill the various dimensions of this mandate. The committee has been actively recruiting tenants to be involved in the GCA to a greater extent, and has been at work to increase awareness of the organization among tenants in the neighbourhood.

Traffic Committee

Matthew Meagher, Chair

In 2015-16, the Glebe Traffic Committee continued its work on a number of key issues that have consumed much of its energy over the past few years: Bank Street and Lansdowne Park, parking in the vicinity of the Glebe Centre, and the Fifth and Percy Intersection.

Lansdowne Park
With former Committee Chair Brian Mitchell taking the lead, the Committee analyzed the extensive data gathered by means of the Lansdowne survey. While the overall tenor of responses to the survey were quite positive, indicating that most Glebe residents view the additional traffic generated by Lansdowne (and the ongoing Main Street reconstruction) as manageable, the survey proved a useful tool to identifying remaining trouble spots to be addressed. In particular, the Committee has continued to review safety issues with respect to the stretch of Bank Street

between Holmwood and Aylmer, as well as pedestrian and cycling issues within the Lansdowne site. The Committee continues to have representation on the City committee dedicated to Lansdowne transportation issues, which it uses as a conduit to raise these matters.

Parking near the Glebe Centre

Brian has also been instrumental in guiding residents in the area surrounding the Glebe Centre through the process of requesting changes to local parking restrictions to address extremely limited availability. Residents have been working towards agreement with the Centre, the BIA and OSEG which would see restrictions implemented that should result in improved parking availability for residents.

Fifth and Percy Intersection

This irregular intersection continued to ignite passions in 2016, as the City forged ahead with its attempts to find a plan that addresses the needs of the many pedestrians, cyclists and drivers who navigate the intersection every day. Over the course of the year, the Committee received plentiful submissions from residents both for and against proposals that would see the intersection partially closed, realigned or fitted with revised signage and paint markings to improve safety and visibility. As of this writing, the City is back at the drawing board, looking to come up with a new proposal for the intersection. A possibility that has been floated involves the implementation of temporary measures, so that their impact can be documented and measured before any permanent solution is implemented. Check back for updates in the months to come, and continue to send in your thoughts.

Other activities

In addition to the major files, committee members participated in a Public Advisory Committee on the Bronson Avenue reconstruction and several consultations on local street reconstructions. The Committee was also involved in the review of potential traffic implications arising from proposed developments in the Glebe, including the student apartments and condos at Carling and Bronson, and the Beer Store property on Bank St.

To guide them in all of this work, the Committee recently put in place a fancy new mandate that has now been approved by the GCA Board. For a look at the mandate, or to get a snapshot of the Committee's activities, have a look at the Traffic Committee web page on the glebeca.ca.