



City Councillor (River Ward)
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EMC Ottawa West Column – June 18, 2015

Central Park Family Fun Day

Residents of the Central Park neighbourhood are invited to attend the annual Family Fun Day on **Sunday June 28** starting at 11am in Celebration Park. Come on out, join your neighbours and have a great time. There will also be opportunities to learn more about how you can get involved in your community.

Helen Synek Receives Mayor's City Builder Award

River Ward resident Helen Synek received the Mayor's City Builder Award from Mayor Watson and myself at the June 10, 2015 City Council meeting. Ms Synek was recognized for her 30 years of volunteer work at the Caldwell Family Centre in Carlington. She continues to work in the day program at the Centre, the neighbourhood food bank and the seniors' drop-in program. At almost 75 years young, she has no plans to retire, preferring to help the hundreds of people who come to the Centre, whom she embraces as friends.

Free Outdoor Water Activities

Beat the heat this summer at City of Ottawa outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, splash pads and beaches. Outdoor pools are now open. Wading pools open on June 19, June 26 or July 1 depending on location. Each wading pool will also host a free special event during the summer. For River Ward locations and events, please contact my office.

Lifeguards will be on duty at Ottawa's supervised beaches every day beginning June 20 until August 16, from noon to 7 p.m. Refer to ottawa.ca for beach locations, descriptions, amenities and recreational programs offered. Ottawa Public Health monitors recreational water quality seven days a week at the City of Ottawa's supervised beaches. Daily water quality results will be available at ottawa.ca, via Twitter at @ottawahealth or by calling 613-580-2424 ext. 13219. If high levels of bacteria are found, a no-swim advisory is issued and tweeted (@ottawahealth). Site signage and flags at each beach will also indicate whether a no-swim advisory is in effect.

Impaired Drivers and Construction Zones

The Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) has been focusing on impaired drivers and drivers in construction zones during the month of June. Between 2009 and 2013, there were 1703 collisions resulting in 726 injuries and 24 fatalities due to impaired drivers, while between the years 2007 and 2011, 981 collisions occurred in construction zones resulting in 212 injuries. Four construction workers were struck and injured on the job by a motorist. River Ward residents have identified traffic safety issues as the number one safety issue for me to focus on as your City Councillor.

Murals Under Queensway-Carling Bridges

Following the success of last year, four new murals will be installed on Queensway underpasses. The murals help beautify and enhance the area and even promote the connection of communities. Murals are also effective in managing graffiti, vandalism and support local arts and culture. The Carling Avenue underpasses in River Ward will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Canada's Confederation.