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## **EMC Ottawa West Column – June 4, 2015**

### **Caldwell Family Centre**

It was a pleasure to join community partners and the Board of Directors of the Caldwell Family Centre at their AGM on May 25. The Caldwell Family Centre provides a variety of programs and support services for the Carlington/ Bellevue community. Located in the heart of the social housing neighbourhood, the Centre offers English as a Second Language programs, an emergency food program, a drop-in centre, activities for seniors and an After-Four homework club. For the past 31 years, the Centre has been meeting the needs of low-income families and individuals, seniors, youth and new Canadians.

Hunger never takes a holiday. If you would please consider making a monetary or food donation for the Caldwell Food Bank, please contact Executive Director David Walsh by calling 613-728-9292.

### **Carlington Yard and Plant Sale**

This **Saturday, June 6**, the Carlington community will host its annual yard and plant sale. The main activity will take place on Harrold Place Park with many locations for yard sales. To see a map, visit [carlingtoncommunity.org](http://carlingtoncommunity.org). The sales run from 8:30am-12:30pm, rain or shine.

### **Spring Clean-Up the Capital Campaign**

River Ward is looking clean and green and it's because of the many community teams and organizations that took part in the annual spring campaign. City wide, dedicated residents have set a new record by participating in 1,034 cleanup projects. In River Ward, we tackled 52 different projects. This is outstanding. If you see garbage, neglected properties, graffiti or other issues needing attention please call 3-1-1 to register the matter. If you don't see any progress, contact me and I will address it.

### **Strawberry Social for Seniors**

I am pleased to invite all River Ward's seniors to join me and many special guests at the annual River Ward Strawberry Social, to be held on **Thursday June 18** from 1-3pm at the Alexander Community Centre (Silver Street). Please send an email to [Sarah.Barber@Ottawa.ca](mailto:Sarah.Barber@Ottawa.ca) or call 613-580-2486 to reserve your seat. I look forward to seeing you at what has become a great spring time event in our community.

### **Issues with the Growing Population of Geese**

In response to a rising number of reports from users of City parks, beaches, and pathways about the presence of geese and the potential health risks, the Public Works Department has been working closely with Environment Canada, more specifically the Canadian Wildlife Services, to establish a Geese Management Strategy for the City.

Although many approaches have been attempted in the past, the City, through consultation with Canadian Wildlife Services and research on best practices, has determined that the sterilization of geese eggs is a humane and effective method of controlling geese populations. The City has obtained the necessary permit from Environment Canada in April 2015 and will continue to ensure our outdoor City facilities are enjoyable for all users.