



## Ottawa South Column – Oct 6, 2016

### Owl Park Tennis Courts

Several upgrades in and around Owl Park the last two summers have been well received by local residents, including new paved pathways, a new playstructure, upgrades to the wading pool/splashpad and a new crosswalk on Owl Drive. In addition, the tennis courts were only one of two courts in the City in 2016, to receive a complete overhaul. Regrettably, issues with the performance of the contractor have led to significant delays in completing this project and while the paving and court painting are now complete, the court lines are still outstanding. I am disappointed at the delay and the impact this has had on local tennis players.

### Community Safety Night

You are cordially invited to attend the annual **River Ward Safety Night**, to be held on **October 19** at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre, doors open at 6pm, presentations at 7pm. Guest speakers include representatives from the Ottawa Police, Ottawa Bylaw and Ottawa Fire Dept, addressing local matters of concern. A trade show will also precede the presentation with a number of local organizations on hand that focus on community safety.

### River Ward Resident Giuseppe Nicastro Honoured

River Ward resident Giuseppe Nicastro was honoured at City Hall on September 28 with a Mayor's City Builder Award. Mr. Nicastro is highly respected for both his business acumen and his community benevolence. Mr Nicastro has been involved with the Villa Marconi Long-Term Care Centre, St. Anthony's Church and founded the Circolo Recreativo Cleto and the Milan Club of Ottawa. He is an established business person, and the success of the Nicastro Fine Foods has become a pillar in the community, focusing on Italian food. Congratulations, well deserved!

### River Ward Budget Consultation

Join me and Councillors Cloutier (Alta Vista) and Deans (Gloucester-Southgate), as we host the south-end budget consultation on **October 6 from 6-8pm** at the Jim Durrell Recreation Centre, located at 1265 Walkley Road. If you are unable to attend but would like to share your feedback with me regarding budget priorities, please contact my office.

### New LED Lights Will Save Taxpayers

The City of Ottawa is in the process of converting 58,000 streetlights to Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology, an initiative that, upon completion, will save the City an estimated \$6 million annually. The work is being done in partnership with Energy Ottawa, a subsidiary of Hydro Ottawa. Under the agreement, Energy Ottawa will install and maintain the new light infrastructure over a six-year period. Street lighting accounts for 17% of the electricity used by the City. The conversion is expected to reduce energy consumption by 50% per fixture. Since converting 750 lights on Carling Avenue in 2015, the City is already saving more than \$72,000 annually. In addition to energy reduction, the LED infrastructure, reduces maintenance costs, triggers an automatic notification when lights fail, provides greater light control and quality and reduces light pollution.