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Ottawa West Column – June 2, 2016

River Ward Strawberry Social

River Ward's seniors are cordially invited to attend my annual Strawberry Socials next week. Two events are planned, June 8 at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre and June 9 at the Alexander Community Centre, both from 1-3pm. Please reserve your seat by calling Sarah Barber at 613-580-2486 or email Sarah.Barber@Ottawa.ca. Looking forward to seeing you at another great event.

Hellenic Community Commemorative Blades

In the autumn of 2015, I was approached by the President of the Hellenic Community of Ottawa, located at 1315 Prince of Wales Drive seeking permission to design and install permanent commemorative street sign blades on utility poles along Prince of Wales Drive between Hog's Back Drive and Baseline Road. The commemorative street sign blades would be similar to those we see in Little Italy (Preston Street), Chinatown (Somerset Street) or the Cedars of Lebanon (Riverside Drive near St Elias Cathedral). Although there isn't a high concentration of Greek establishments in the corridor, like one would see in Chinatown or Little Italy, Ottawa's largest Greek church, which hosts the annual Greek Festival is located on Prince of Wales. The Community and Protective Services Committee will be considering this proposal at the **June 16, 2016** committee meeting at City Hall. This is a public meeting and public submissions and delegations are permitted. The proposed design has the Greek flag on the left, the Acropolis on the right and text in the middle that reads, "Reflection of Greece". You are welcome to share your feedback with me.

Ottawa Police Delivery Model Review

The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) is launching public consultation to gather feedback on changes being considered to its service delivery model. These changes are part of a strategy at the OPS, called the **Service Initiative Program**, which is designed to improve how they serve the community given a number of pressures facing policing, such as increasing costs, city growth, changing demographics, growing demands for service, and the increasing complexity of crime. Community partners and key stakeholders are invited to a facilitated session on June 7, Noon-2:30pm or June 9, 6-8:30pm. For more information about the Service Initiative program or how to register, please visit ottawapolice.ca/serviceinitiative.

Splash Pads are Open

Most City of Ottawa Splash Pads are now open until mid-September. Local splash pads in neighbourhood parks are a great way to cool off and have outdoor fun. The City of Ottawa organizes events at splash pads, wading pools and in parks throughout the summer. Stay tuned for more announcements about these events this summer. Some parks remain closed because of their proximity to schools or for maintenance reasons. Visit www.ottawa.ca for a complete listing or call my office if you have questions about your local park.

Doors Open Ottawa-This Weekend

Ottawa opens its doors to some of its most interesting buildings this weekend. Take some time to explore and learn more about our great city.