



# Belltown Neighbours' Association

## NEWS

www.belltown.ca  
association@belltown.ca

### In the News:

February 2015

- **New BNA Executive elected at AGM**
- **Floodplain mapping—next steps?**
- **Salt-free roads?**
- **New infill policy coming**

## NOTICE

**Community Public Safety Forum**  
**Tuesday Feb. 3 @ 7 pm**  
**Michele Hts Community Centre**  
**2955 Michele Drive**

*For more information please call Bay Ward  
 Councillor Mark Taylor at 613 580-2477*

## New City infill policy coming to our neighbourhood

The City of Ottawa supports infill development as a means of reducing urban sprawl and as a means of supporting neighbourhood renewal. But there is *good infill* and *bad infill*. So what are the rules for building (or re-building) in an established neighbourhood such as Belltown?

Funny you should ask, as the City's Planning Department is proposing new zoning regulations for older communities such as ours (aka Zone 2 neighbourhoods). These new rules (yet to be approved) will govern the size of back yards, building heights, the use of roof-top patios, balconies and decks. The purpose is to ensure that new residential infill respects the built character of the existing neighbourhood (i.e. no more monster homes!).

How will this affect you? For more details about the City's proposals, please go to: <http://www.ottawa.ca/infill>. The City is looking for public comments regarding these proposals—please make sure you copy your BNA executive by cc'ing [association@belltown.ca](mailto:association@belltown.ca).

**NOTE:** For those homes on the Ottawa River floodplain, please check with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority regarding any development restrictions that may affect your home. For more information here, please go to: <http://www.rvca.ca>.

## New BNA executive elected at December 9 AGM

Some 30 people attended last December 9 BNA Annual General Meeting—details of what went on there can be found at [www.belltown.ca](http://www.belltown.ca). Your new executive is:

- President: Alex Cullen
- Vice-President: Marcie Girouard
- Secretary: Russell Latham
- Treasurer: Ryan Palmer
- Directors: Penny Sutherland, Maria Opera, Jerome Nantel (*2 positions to be filled*).

The BNA executive can be reached by e-mail via [association@belltown.ca](mailto:association@belltown.ca).

Our thanks to Bob Blake and Ranjit Bose for serving on the previous executive, and to Jerome Nantel for acting as president of our association for the past two years.

**Interested in participating in  
 Neighbourhood Watch?**  
 Send us an e-mail at [association@belltown.ca](mailto:association@belltown.ca).

## New Year Resolutions for the BNA:

At the BNA Annual General Meeting a number of community concerns were raised, including:

- Floodplain—next steps
- Speeding on local streets
- Renovation plans for Ron Kolbus-Lakeside Centre
- Community mailboxes coming to K2H postal area

- Storm sewer discharges into the Ottawa River
- Reducing salt on winter roads (like in Rockcliffe Village)
- Removal (and replacement) of Ash trees

Interested in helping in any of these issues? Please drop us a line at [association@belltown.ca](mailto:association@belltown.ca).

## Reducing Salt Use on Winter Roads

At the BNA AGM, some residents expressed interest in reducing the use of salt on Belltown streets, a policy that Rockcliffe Village currently has in place. Reduced road salt use would benefit our environment as salt flows into the Ottawa River and onto yards and gardens.

However we must also maintain safe conditions for drivers and pedestrians in our community. Some salt use is to be expected at major intersections, on hills, school bus routes and in extreme weather.

The BNA executive will be contacting Rockcliffe Village to find out what they are doing and how it is working. As there may be competing views on this matter, we need to have an informed discussion before making any recommendations to the City.

If you have any thoughts about this—please let us know! You can contact us through [association@belltown.ca](mailto:association@belltown.ca).

## Community mailboxes coming to K2H portion of Belltown

Canada Post's march to replace home mail delivery with community mailboxes has hit Belltown—at least that section within K2H (the rest of us are in K2B). These are the homes on **Maplehurst** and **Birchdale Ave**. They will be seeing their home mail delivery replaced by a community mailbox, expected by the end of this year.

However, experiences on Canada Post's community consultations are not encouraging, so the BNA will be contacting residents on Maplehurst & Birchdale with our own survey to determine the best location—stay tuned!

## Belltown Floodplain Mapping Project - next steps?

As folks may know, some 80 homes in Belltown are located on the 100-year Ottawa River floodplain, as set by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA). These homes face restrictions for renovations as a result.

Belltown has been exposed to flooding from the Ottawa River in the past, most notably in 1991. Every spring the City puts sandbags at the outlet under the bike path near Maplehurst to prevent flooding.

Last year the RVCA undertook to re-map the 100-year floodplain for both Belltown and Britannia—this has now been completed and is available at the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority web site ([www.rvca.ca](http://www.rvca.ca)). A Public Open House was held last December 9 by the RVCA on the results of the floodplain mapping at the Ron Kolbus-Lakeside Centre in Britannia Park.

Your BNA Executive will be discussing the ramifications of the floodplain policy with the RVCA and the City and possible solutions that could provide some relief from the current regulations that restrict development of the homes on the floodplain. We will keep you informed.

## Spring is coming, and so is Spring Clean the Capital!

The City's *Spring Clean the Capital* campaign runs from mid-April to mid-May. The BNA is looking for volunteers to help us do our part to keep our neighbourhood clean and beautiful. If you would like to help out (and meet your neighbours) then please drop us a line at [association@belltown.ca](mailto:association@belltown.ca).

## Belltown Dome 2015 Public Skating Schedule



Fees for public skating are usually \$2.50 a person—to check what rate applies to you please go to: <http://ottawa.ca/en/residents/parks-and-recreation/drop-activities/public-skating-fees>

Monday	4 to 4:50 pm	Shinny Hockey - Youth
Tuesday	4 to 5 pm	Public Skating
Thursday	4 to 4:50 pm	Shinny Hockey - Children
Thursday	5 to 6 pm	Public Skating
Thursday	10 to 10:50 pm	Pick-Up Hockey - 18+
Friday	4 to 4:50 pm	Shinny Hockey - Children
Friday	5 to 5:50 pm	Pick-Up Hockey - 18+
Saturday	9 to 9:50 pm	Pick-Up Hockey - 18+
Saturday	8 to 9 pm	Public Skating
Sunday	2 to 2:50 pm	Family Skating

*This is the **free** session!  
This is very popular!*