



Hamilton



Hamilton

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY

2014

Building Futures

ANNUAL
UPDATE



“ONE OF THE THINGS I AM MOST PROUD OF AS MAYOR IS THE EMPOWERMENT OF RESIDENTS IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOODS. DURING THIS TERM OF COUNCIL, WE SAW RESIDENTS COME TOGETHER, GET ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED, PLAN, AND BEGIN TO IMPLEMENT SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THEIR NEIGHBOURHOODS.

WHEN NEIGHBOURHOODS GROW AND PROSPER, IT BENEFITS THE ENTIRE CITY.”

Bob Bratina

Mayor Bob Bratina, City of Hamilton



Message



From the General Manager, Community & Emergency Services

I was pleased to have the Neighbourhood Action Strategy join the Community & Emergency Services Department last year, forming the Neighbourhood & Community Initiatives Division. Neighbourhood work has engaged staff from across the department, city and our community partners in many significant ways. The energy and enthusiasm surrounding this work is contagious!

I am fortunate to hear many personal stories about the tremendous effort and the level of engagement from both staff and residents—stories of innovation, new partnerships, networks, friendships, fun, and neighbourhood improvement. I am looking forward to the years ahead as we continue our collaborative approach to solving complex issues.

Thanks for all of your hard work, support and commitment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "JPriel".

Sincerely,

*Joe-Anne Priel, General Manager,
Community & Emergency Services*



From the Director,

Neighbourhood & Community Initiatives Division

The Neighbourhood Action Strategy Annual Update highlights some of the actions and partnerships from the last year. Momentum of neighbourhood work continues to grow. This year we were able to build capacity with the addition of some new dedicated staff, forge new partnerships, and engage more residents and volunteers. Also, the neighbourhood action strategy found a new home in the City's Community & Emergency Services Department, forming the Neighbourhood and Community Initiatives Division. We continue received tremendous, unwavering support from Council and the City as a whole, and our community partners enabling us to sustain this work.

While in the past much of the focus was on developing plans, we are now shifting gears to focus on action. The implementation of those plans and actions is what is really important and exciting right now. It is impressive to see what has been achieved so far, and where we will go as a community. Plans are good, but ACTION and implementation is great.

Enjoy this year's annual update and please keep up to date on our work by going to our website at: www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. Johnson', written in a cursive style.

*Paul Johnson, Director,
Neighbourhood & Community
Initiatives Division*

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About Suzanne Brown



Suzanne Brown is the Manager of Neighbourhood Action Strategy at the City of Hamilton, a position she has held since June 2011. Suzanne coordinates the development and implementation of the City of Hamilton's neighbourhood initiative. Suzanne worked for Public Health from 2003 to 2011 in program evaluation and chronic disease prevention.

Prior to joining the City of Hamilton, Suzanne spent eight years at the Social Planning and Research Council as a Senior Social Planner where she was involved in range of social planning activities, from grassroots community development through to community-based research, policy analysis and project development.

Suzanne has a Masters of Social Work in Social Welfare Policy from McMaster University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Wilfrid Laurier University.

Hamilton's NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY

ANNUAL UPDATE

By Suzanne Brown, Manager

It has been another busy year for the residents, planning teams, city staff and key stakeholders involved in the Neighbourhood Action Strategy. In February 2014, Crown Point and the Gibson and Landsdale Association (GALA) presented their neighbourhood action plans to the General Issues Committee for endorsement. This brings the number of plans complete to 10 - with community engagement in the 11th neighbourhood, Rolston, well underway with a very successful Photovoice project.

In total, 421 actions are now on the radar of city departments, service providers, funders and neighbourhood residents. The plans serve as a focal point for planning teams, but also continue to garnish the interest of other stakeholders from across the community. And the partnerships continue to grow as plans are developed, activities undertaken, social media engaged - the word is spreading!

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Left: CN Rail Cleanup
Bike Winner
Upper Right: Councillor
Morrow with CN Officer
Matthew Davidson
and CN Crew
Down Right: Building
Momentum Event

The new year brought a couple of changes to the structure of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy (NAS). In January, the NAS Office moved to 28 James Street North (the Lister Block) to physically be with our new department, Community and Emergency Services. This strategic move brought new support to the ever growing and evolving Strategy.

In February, the five community developers (CDs) were consolidated into one team under the leadership of the Social Planning and Research Council and Senior Social Planner Renée Wetselaar. This change brought the CDs together under one roof for the first time, enabling them to easily share knowledge and experiences and build a more cohesive team and community development approach.

Our structures have changed to better support the growing interest in the NAS. If any one word can sum up the energy of this last year, it would be *partnerships*. From the 500 strong that attended the City Managers Building Momentum event in January to the Canada Learning Bond initiative, partnerships are creating change in neighbourhoods.

A new partnership with Mohawk College, Workforce Planning Hamilton, Hamilton Wentworth District School Board and Hamilton Wentworth District Catholic School Board, with funding from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities came together to work with neighbourhoods (residents, planning teams, organizations, and employers) to identify strategies to improve high school completion rates, and participation in post-secondary education and employment training. These strategies will lead to higher rates of labour force participation and better jobs for neighbourhood residents. The work resulted in the report: *Examining Employment, Education, and Training Strategies for the Jamesville, Beasley, and Keith Neighbourhoods*, which was presented at a neighbourhood community event in May to wide-spread support. A second proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, in partnership with the Neighbourhood Action Strategy, to fund the development of a business case, with committed partnerships and resources for the implementation of a Learning Annex in Hamilton.

A new partner to the NAS this year is CN Rail. Under the leadership of CN Rail Police Officer Mathew Davidson, CN co-hosted a rail clean-up with the Keith Neighbourhood and the City's Public Works, Public Health Services and Planning and Economic Development. Over three hours, 75 volunteers collected 5.34 metric tonnes of garbage. Afterward, Ward 3 – Councillor Morrow drew names and one volunteer won a bike, as a thank-you for her efforts in keeping her neighbourhood clean and safe. Partnerships are key to the ongoing success of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy

About Renée Wetselaar



Renée is a Senior Social Planner with the SPRC who manages the five Community Development Workers.

She has considerable experience in developing and coordinating initiatives involving a wide variety of stakeholders across many sectors and parts of the community. Renée is a visual artist, performer and two-time graduate of McMaster University.

Known as a visionary leader, animator and mobilizer, Renée has researched and written on a range of issues surrounding the arts and artist's work, poverty, gender, globalization, housing, labour, children and health.

Contact: 905-522-1148 ext. 311

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION STRATEGY

Evaluation

Update

By Colin McMullan

The Neighbourhood Action Strategy is an innovative and complex approach to community development that is intended to improve the lives of Hamilton residents. The City, along with a number of community partners and researchers, has made a strong commitment to monitor and evaluate the progress of the strategy to learn how it can be improved and how it is impacting residents. This report presents a brief update of evaluation progress to date.

The evaluation strategy is comprised of four key areas: 1) a survey completed at 2-year intervals (the Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study), that asks residents about the health and well-being of themselves and the neighbourhoods in which they live; 2) an assessment of the implementation of the neighbourhood priorities identified in each of the neighbourhood plans; 3) an in-depth study to assess the impacts of the work of the community developers in each neighbourhood, and; 4) on-going monitoring of neighbourhood-level indicators and measures to assess neighbourhood changes over time.

Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study: Researchers at McMaster University have completed the first phase of surveys in all of the study neighbourhoods. Despite some challenges reaching

“I’M REALLY PLEASED WITH THE OVERALL RELATIONSHIPS YOU KNOW AND IT’S ALL ABOUT BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS. THERE ARE STRUGGLES, THERE’S BEEN A COUPLE OF REALLY MAJOR STRUGGLES BUT OVERALL I’M PLEASED WITH HOW IT’S GOING.”

“WHEN WE DO THINGS
WE’RE ALWAYS AWARE
OF THE DIVERSITY OF THE
NEIGHBOURS SO THAT
WE ARE CULTURALLY AND
RELIGIOUSLY SENSITIVE
TO THOSE DIVERSITIES. I
THINK IT IS, BUT I DON’T
SEE A LOT OF DIVERSITY
IN THE PLANNING TEAM
FROM THE NEIGHBOURS
AND AGAIN NOT
EVERYONE WANTS TO
GO TO A MEETING AND
THAT’S THE PROBLEM.
WE’RE LOCKED INTO THIS
PARADIGM OF WE’VE
GOT TO GO TO MEETINGS
AND THAT’S NOT REALLY
WHERE IT IS. WE HAVE
TO GET OUT INTO THE
NEIGHBOURHOOD AND
TALK TO THE NEIGHBOURS
TO HELP BUILD THOSE
RELATIONSHIPS IN THE
NEIGHBOURHOOD
BECAUSE NOT
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COME TO A MEETING.”

residents living in apartment buildings, the team has exceeded their overall target of 2100 surveys and have met or exceeded the target of 300 surveys in all of the neighbourhoods surveyed. The two-year follow up survey is underway in the Keith, Stinson and Stipley neighbourhoods. Follow-up surveys are completed with participants two years after completion of the baseline survey and are completed regardless of whether a resident has stayed in the same location or has moved. Most participants (82%) who have completed follow up surveys are living in the same dwelling as the time of the initial survey. Through community meetings researchers are sharing the information with local residents and engaging with them in discussions around what the data means and how it can be used to develop further resident-led actions.

Implementation of Neighbourhood Priorities: Researchers from the University of Toronto and the Social Planning and Research Council, conducted 59 interviews with key stakeholders involved in the Neighbourhood Action Strategy including residents, service providers, and City of Hamilton staff and members of Council. The interviews have highlighted a number of themes including: partnerships, community involvement, group dynamics, leadership and policy.

Respondents commented on the value of building and sustaining relationships between residents, service providers, City staff and others. However, difficulties associated with negotiating group dynamics and decision-making between multiple parties were mentioned as challenges to strengthening relationships and furthering Neighbourhood Action goals. Another challenge identified has been neighbourhood participation in terms of attendance at meetings, active and engaged membership and representation from diverse community voices. Despite these barriers, participants were also quick to highlight the important role of strong leadership in moving the neighbourhood action plans forward.

The tracking of the implementation of the individual actions from the neighbourhood plans has shown similar results, with the top enablers of progress being partnerships and leadership. Resident trackers have identified fewer barriers to progress on actions than enablers. When actions don’t proceed as expected, the most common reason cited has been a lack of community participation or lack of leadership. The tracking of actions to date has shown that about 20% of short-term actions are now

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complete, and many neighbourhoods have started longer-term projects that will take years to fully complete but have potential for much broader impact.

Community Development Work: In order to get a better sense of the community development activities being undertaken as part of Neighbourhood Action, weekly semi-structured interviews were conducted with Community Developers (CDs) between March 2012 to September 2013, followed by monthly interviews from September 2013 to September 2014. This work, led by the University of Toronto, has helped track how initiatives were unfolding and understand how CDs and other actors involved were developing strategies to address challenges.

Results suggest that CDs have a demanding job that requires them to be informed, approachable and sensitive to the needs of the community. They work to engage the community, build relationships between stakeholders, develop capacity amongst community members, and support neighbourhoods in various initiatives (including the neighbourhood planning process). CDs sometimes found it difficult to balance their various roles, relationships, and demands on their time, but felt they were making an important difference in the neighbourhoods they serve.

Neighbourhood-level Indicators: Data on 16 indicators of neighbourhood well-being across eight domains (housing and the physical environment, safety and security, sense of community, economic development, education, health, employment and income, and civic engagement) are being updated across the study neighbourhoods. This data will be collected and monitored every 2-3 years (depending on data availability) and together with the other data being collected, will help to provide a broad picture of the quality of life of neighbourhood residents.

The evaluation of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy has been a priority since the beginning of the initiative and a comprehensive strategy has been developed to monitor our progress, help us learn from our successes and challenges and ultimately, assess the impacts on residents living in our neighbourhoods. The initial results to date suggest that despite a number of challenges, progress is being made and, that key relationships are being developed.

“I THINK PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO SEE THAT WE ARE SERIOUS AND THAT WE ARE GOING TO FIX THE NEIGHBOURHOOD UP. WE HAVE MORE TANGIBLE PROJECTS ON THE BURNER RIGHT NOW. ONCE THEY ARE ACCOMPLISHED I THINK WE ARE GOING TO SEE A LOT OF REAL EXCITEMENT. RIGHT NOW IT’S MORE OF TRYING TO BRING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD TOGETHER... BUT ONCE THOSE CONCRETE PROGRAMS START, I THINK YOU’LL SEE THAT EVEN THE ONES THAT CHOSE NOT TO BE INVOLVED AT THE BEGINNING WILL WANT TO START GETTING INVOLVED.”

Partnerships

Canada Learning Bond

By Canada Learning Bond Team Leads

Education savings are an important first step in making a post-secondary education more attainable for students. The Canada Learning Bond, a federal grant that can only be received into a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP), enables low-income parents to begin saving for their children's education even when they are unable to make any contributions.

City of Hamilton programs, Hamilton Best Start Network, Neighbourhood Action Strategy, Ontario Works, Recreation and Public Health, have partnered with all levels of government, major financial institutions, community partners and neighbourhood planning teams to increase awareness and uptake of this very important benefit to children.

The Canada Learning Bond Working Group has held three Canada Learning Bond Events in the GALA, Davis Creek and Rolston neighbourhoods. Thus far, 92 children registered for the Canada Learning Bond, 51 children received Social Insurance numbers, and 5 families completed Birth Certificate applications. All families received follow-up appointments from a bank representative and all families had an opportunity to receive information about family recreation subsidy passes, as well as gaining information about their local neighbourhood planning teams. We are planning on holding a CLB event in all of the 11 NAS neighbourhoods, as each event brings more feet on the pathway to higher education.



Hamilton
Best Start★
Hamilton
Meilleur départ★



Above: Canada Learning Bond Team Leads: Joanna Heerlein, Public Health Nurse – Public Health Services; Irene Heffernan, Implementation Coordinator - Neighbourhood Action Strategy; Rachelle Moore, Project Manager – Hamilton Best Start

Neighbourhood Home Improvement Program

By Irene Heffernan

Employment Ontario, the City of Hamilton's Neighbourhood Action Strategy (NAS) and the Hamilton Community Foundation are supporting a second year of the Neighbourhood Home Improvement Project - a job creation and home renovation project within neighbourhoods. This partnership serves as an opportunity for 21 unemployed job seekers to build skills, obtain work experience and increase their chances of gaining long-term employment. Under the direction of Threshold School of Building, participants gain practical experience by completing external repairs to owner-occupied homes during a 26 week period.

In 2013, 74 home improvements were completed in the NAS neighbourhoods and 17 participants moved on to full-time employment and/or post-secondary education. By mid-May 2014, there were over 200 applications requesting home improvements. All partners are thrilled with the success and hope to continue and to expand this very important program. To date 39 home improvements are complete with more on the docket. The application window for 2014 is now closed. The project now includes the Rolston neighbourhood.



Top: NHIP Alanson Street
Middle Left: Before
Middle Right: After
Bottom Left: NHIP Crew

Neighbourhood Leadership Institute

By Sarah Glen, Director, Neighbourhood Leadership Institute

The Neighbourhood Leadership Institute (NLI) has been an evolving component of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy for the past two years. Funded by the Hamilton Community Foundation (HCF) and targeted to resident leaders within the NAS neighbourhoods, the NLI developed from a grassroots foundation to a space where people put their ideas into action. Participants receive leadership training while growing a locally developed project idea. They develop skills in areas such as project management, conflict resolution, communication, grant writing, public speaking, working with others, self-advocacy and leading teams.

The city is the classroom for NLI, as students engage in hands-on activities in neighbourhoods, learning from each other and from their wider community. The NLI works with a number of Hamilton organizations, agencies and educational institutions. Mohawk College has certified the course meaning graduates receive a college-level credit for their work. Through the HCF, some projects may be eligible for a small grant to support implementation in neighbourhoods. This past spring, 24 participants successfully completed the program (the sessions ran from the March 1 to May 10).

Hamilton's Neighbourhood Leadership Institute creates space for engaged, transformative leadership skills and values to be shared and applied. Research shows that strong local networks build resilient neighbourhoods and cities. Resident leadership is a core tenant of the NAS because it will lead to the long-term sustainability of neighbourhood engagement and initiatives and because of this; the NAS will fund the expansion of the NLI over the next three years to include residents from neighbourhoods across the city of Hamilton.



Above: Sarah Glen, Director NLI and NLI participant, Miranda Greer celebrate graduation

**HAMILTON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

Building Momentum Hamilton Event

By Suzanne Brown

On January 30 more than 500 residents, City staff, community institutions, community stakeholders, and community planning teams gathered together to celebrate the successes achieved to date as a result of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy at the first inaugural Building Moment Hamilton event, hosted by City Manager, Chris Murray. The event was a resounding success. With a targeted fundraising goal of \$11 000 (\$1000 per neighbourhood), the event exceeded expectations and raised over \$20 000 to support community engagement activities in the 11 identified neighbourhoods.

The funds raised will support neighbourhood associations and planning teams through the Social Planning and Research Council's small grant program, an expansion of the neighbourhood small grants program, which was run for many years by the Hamilton Community Foundation for their hubs. These grants will support the priorities and issues that are most relevant to the residents that live in each neighbourhood, as determined through a resident-led process.

The funds will increase the capacity of the neighbourhoods to engage with residents, create community celebration events to showcase all the positive actions and to develop connections across neighbourhoods.



*Top: Neighbourhood Team
Cheque Presentation
Middle: Chris Murray, City Manager
Bottom: Building Momentum attendees*



BEASLEY

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

“The Beasley neighbourhood association (BNA) is the pinnacle that changes a number of streets sidewalks alleyways and parks into a vibrant collection of diverse individuals of all ages happily intermingling and co-existing no matter their ethnicity, religion, income level, education or occupation.

Above: Beasley Banners

Neighbourhood engagement is the key to healthy urban living and without this involvement Hamilton downtown core could collapse into a slum environment that is unbreakable.

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Above: *Beasley Barbeque*

I commend the City of Hamilton for its commitment to enhancing urban living. One example of this is the McLaren Park at Cannon and John. There has been a large influx of young families that now have a safe clean well maintained play area that also provides a place for special events like the McLaren Picnic in June 2014- with the dedication of Beasley Association.

So from one very happy senior, I would like to congratulate our Councillors for implementing urban development that ensures over all excellent quality of life for all citizens.

Keep up the great work."

Sincerely

*Eileen White, Resident/Member
Beasley Neighbourhood Association*

“Being a part of a successful event like the Beasley Barbeque is another great reminder of how privileged we are to have such a strong and committed neighbourhood association working for the good of this community. Events like this simply couldn’t be accomplished without a large, dedicated team working behind-the-scenes, in the months leading up to, and on the day of an event like the barbeque. The BNA also works diligently throughout the year to pull off other great opportunities that serve our neighbourhood, such as the Winter Carnival, the Beasley Fair, park activities, and countless resident-led initiatives that impact our city and our community for the better. “

*Cindy Stover, Resident/Member
Beasley Neighbourhood Association*

“Earlier this year the BNA decided to publicly support a grassroots effort to found a Hamilton Community Land Trust (CLT) downtown. A CLT owns land in the name of all citizens and protects it and leases it to community groups for certain uses such as gardens, green and community space, and affordable housing. It is a way to ensure that positive land uses can be protected against rising land values and gentrification, and keeps citizens involved in decision-making in the rapidly developing downtown core.

Allison Maxted, a UBC planning graduate and Hamilton resident had approached the BNA in 2013 to study the possibility of creating a land trust here, and Beasley residents have been enthusiastically supporting the project since beginning of 2014. We think it is a great opportunity to build and protect our community assets while protecting the amazing diversity and dynamism of our neighbourhood.”

*Michael Borrelli, Resident/Member
Beasley Neighbourhood Association*



**Beasley Neighbourhood
Association**

Get Involved With Beasley!



Contact:

**Brandon Braithwaite,
Community Developer**

Email:

**bbraithwaite@sprc.hamilton.
on.ca**

Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:

**2nd Wednesday of the Month
from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

Meeting Location:

**Beasley Community Centre
145 Wilson Street, Hamilton**

**For more information on the
Neighbourhood Action Strategy
and the Beasley Neighbourhood
Action Plan, visit
[www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)
Twitter: @ourbeasley**



CROWN POINT

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

This year the Crown Point Hub is celebrating its sixth year, many new members, and an expanded resident-led executive. The Planning Team is values-driven in its activities, as is reflected in its community-run newspaper, delivered door-to-door to 10,000 homes and businesses connecting people, projects and an asset-based approach to creating change in our community. Since the launch of the newspaper, we have seen many new members and morale is very high – we can tell because people linger longer after meetings!

*Above: Pipeline Trail 2014
Down Right: Dog Cafe
pioneers with Chris
Giavedonni
Upper Right: Pipeline Trail,
Jane's Walk 2014*



We have many projects underway including the development of a master-plan for the pipeline trail, a team that is focused on revitalizing Kenilworth Ave with stewardship and inclusivity, Hamilton's annual Jane's walks, and even young folks in the community who initiated a Pump Track (bike skills park) in Gage Park. While meetings are not for everyone, our monthly planning team meetings are great place to make connections, to share opportunities, and for new folks to get involved and even to make friends. Resident-centred means residents are empowered and therefore want to join. It becomes infectious. Sometimes people find they do like meetings after all.

Crown Point Community Planning Team

Get Involved With Crown Point!



Contact:
Rebecca Doll,
Community Developer
Email:
rdoll@sprc.hamilton.on.ca
Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:
3rd Monday of the Month:
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:
First Church of the Nazarene
92 Ottawa St N, Hamilton, ON

For more information on the
Neighbourhood Action Strategy
and the Crown Point
Neighbourhood Action Plan,
visit [www.hamilton.ca/](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)
[www.crownpointhamilton.](http://www.crownpointhamilton.wordpress.com)
[wordpress.com](http://www.crownpointhamilton.wordpress.com)
Twitter @CrownPointHub

DAVIS CREEK

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

The Davis Creek Community Planning Team (DCCPT) has been very busy this year. We have developed an Awareness Sub-Committee as part of our desire to help residents be more actively engaged in their neighbourhood. To do this the Awareness Team is developing a variety of ways in which we will promote Davis Creek Neighbourhood to the residents. We are also considering publishing a newsletter. As part of promoting the Davis Creek Neighbourhood we have already developed a logo. This logo is on a banner and t-shirts that the Team wears during events and for an interview on Cable 14 Hamilton Life's 700th episode.

*Above: Davis Creek
October 2013*



Left: KABOOM
Upper Right: KABOOM
Down Right: April Cleanup
Davis Creek - volunteer



On April 19, our team had the 4th Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt. Bright sunshine and dedicated volunteers, BJ the Bunny and approximately 150 parents and enthusiastic children made our event a great success. We also held a major Earth Day Clean-Up at six sites, (the former Bishop Ryan High School parking lot, Greenhill Park at Quigley Rd., Pine Grove Place, St. Luke School parking lot, Tindale apartments and Greenhill Park near Ambrose St.) with approximately 220 bags of garbage collected.

We had the opportunity to be part of a great interaction with other planning teams from other neighbourhoods at City Manager, Chris Murray's Building Momentum event at Liuna Station. A great time was had by all who attended.

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Get Involved With Davis Creek!



Contact:

Judy Kloosterman,
Community Developer

Email:

jkloosterman@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

905-522-1148

Meeting Dates & Location:
Call Community Developer

For more information on
the Neighbourhood Action
Strategy and the Davis Creek
Neighbourhood Action Plan,
visit [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)



Above: Davis Creek Easter Egg Hunt

To address safety concerns, one of three major railroad crossings in the community has had signal arms installed on Quigley Rd. - one of our biggest accomplishments this year. We are working at getting signal arms installed at Mt. Albion and Greenhill Ave. railroad crossings. Thanks to all who signed our petition! We have added five more garbage cans in the community to help eliminate garbage scattered throughout the community.

Our meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Recreation Centre (pool entrance) Free Child Care is provided by Hamilton Boys and Girls Club of East Hamilton. We look forward to working with Sir Wilfrid Laurier Recreation Centre to engage residents in determining the type of programs they are interested in having at the Centre.

*Janice Froats and Marie Raftis, Resident/Member,
Davis Creek Community Planning Team*



GALA GIBSON LANDSDALE

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

*Above: GALA Blooms –
Community transforms
vacant green space
into park*

The GALA Herald is in its second year of publication reaching 5000 homes and businesses every two months. The volunteer run newspaper that is delivered door-to-door has been instrumental in connecting people to events and projects in the neighbourhood, in sharing ideas and values and in helping to bring both individuals and community partners to the table to help make GALA a vibrant and connected community.

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Get Involved With GALA!



Contact:

Rebecca Doll,

Community Developer

Email:

rdoll@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:

1st Saturday of the Month:
from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Barton Library
581 Barton St E, Hamilton

For more information about the
Neighbourhood Action Strategy
and the GALA Hub's Action
Plan, visit [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)
and www.gibsonlandsdale.com



Up: GALA Planning Team
at Canada Learning
Bond Event
Down: Barton / Kenilworth
Corridor Study
Community Meeting



This fall we expand our executive team to include Co-Chairs, Co-Treasurers and Co-Secretaries in order to lighten the workload on each and to help build the capacity of many. With a growing number of community partners such as Mission Services, Wever Core and the new 541 Eatery & Exchange, as well as our resident-led Action Teams focused on such work as improving education outcomes for the community, street safety, and revitalizing Barton Street, there is plenty of work to go around.

*Gibson and Landsdale Area (GALA)
Community Planning Team*



JAMESVILLE

Community

UPDATE

Above: Central
Park Celebration

On May 31, the Central Neighbourhood Association partnered with the Jamesville Hub to host a very successful event in Central Park. *Celebrate Central: The Park, The Neighbourhood, The Association* was an opportunity to engage residents in discussions and activities around issues in the neighbourhood. Participants included staff from the Barton Tiffany Urban Design Study and the New GO station which allowed residents to have a look at the plans and share their ideas. Other groups included Parks and Recreation, Open Streets and the Workers Arts and Heritage Centre.

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Above: Jamesville Easter Egg Hunt

There were lots of fun activities such as gardening advice and a plant giveaway. There was face painting and free book giveaway courtesy of Wraparound Hamilton. There was a chance to have a ride on a SOBI bicycle. Turkey Rhubarb provided the musical entertainment and a beautiful mural by a talented artist provided us with long lasting memories of the day.

We had a great time on a beautiful day so here's hoping there will be many more opportunities such as this to come.

Elizabeth Ward Resident/Member Jamesville Hub

The Jamesville hub has had a very busy year since its' Action Plan Presentation to Council in June of 2013. Jamesville has formed working relationships with other Hubs & Neighbourhood groups throughout the City gaining and offering support to others. We have built a larger presence within the community through Movie nights, and other special events. We have been very busy communicating and working with city officials on various actions items to better our community. As a Group we have celebrated many victories with the implementation of many of our Action Items. Some of our action items have expanded to outside of the Jamesville Boundary, with the inception of Bike Share, Complete Streets and the new Cannon street Cycle track. We have hosted and attended many events this past year From Open streets to Easter Egg Hunts.

The Jamesville Hub has worked with different community groups with help from the Hamilton Community Foundation's small & large grants program. Some highlights include:

- The Jamesville hub Hosts Movie Nights at a CityHousing Hamilton's Jamesville community in which we give children a chance to meet with their neighbours.
- Offered support to Central Neighbourhood Association with an event in Central Park where they introduced themselves to the neighbourhood.
- We worked with the Chinese community and an Adopt a park group for a Moon Festival and with the North End Neighbours at their Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Dave Stephens, Chair of the Jamesville Hub



Get Involved With Jamesville!



Contact:
Brandon Braithwaite,
Community Developer

Email:
bbraithwaite@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:
Last Tuesday of each month
from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Meeting Location:
Hamilton Central Library

55 York Blvd, Hamilton

For more information on the
Neighbourhood Action Strategy
and the Jamesville
Neighbourhood Action Plan, visit
[www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)
Twitter: @jamesvillehub



KEITH

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

Throughout the history of the Neighbourhood Action Strategies, the Keith Community Hub has always leaned towards working together with other neighbourhoods. These partnerships took place as we joined with other communities to bring bigger and better events and efforts across the city.

A great example of this is the 'Hug a Hub' events. A 'Hug a Hub' is a time for all Hub and association members to get together and celebrate accomplishments over a meal and some good conversation.

*Above: North Central
Community Association
with longtime Ward 3
Councillor Bernie Morelli*



Above: Ed Ray of Touch of the Past drives his team of horses with a wagon at the Keith Neighbourhood Barbecue

Within that conversation, the intention is that members will share what has worked and what hasn't in order to gain momentum on their objectives and to promote partnerships to help each other. After the success of several "Hug a Hub" events, inviting all of the other hubs and associations to join us for dinner and camaraderie the track was laid to foster further collaboration and partnerships.

Another example of partnership is LocalMotion. When examining neighbourhood actions across the City, Keith Hub members realized that they shared many of the same objectives as other neighbourhoods. From these revelations a new group, committed to the Keith ideals of partnership and collaboration, was born and it was only logical for the Keith Community Hub to be the first Patron Hub of LocalMotion.

Industrialist Henry Ford once said "coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." Following in Henry Ford's footsteps LocalMotion seeks to facilitate collaboration, across the Neighbourhood Action Strategies and the City of Hamilton through the exchange of information and fostering conversation, in a cross-generational, cross-demographical effort.

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Get Involved With Keith!



Contact:

Laura Ryan,

Community Developer

Email:

lryan@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:

1st Thursday of every month:
from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Eva Rothwell Centre

460 Wentworth St. N, Hamilton

For more information
on the Neighbourhood
Action Strategy and the
Keith Neighbourhood Action
Plan, visit [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)



*Above: Winterfest in Keith Neighbourhood hosted by
North Central Community Association*

We all know the greatness that Ford was able to accomplish in the establishment of the Ford Motor Company and the development of the assembly line and, through fostering collaborative conversations, LocalMotion hopes to see Hamilton realize the same amazing outcomes.

Heeding a pearl of wisdom by noted author Isaac Asimov... “A knotty puzzle may hold up a scientist for a century, when it may be that a colleague has the solution already and is not even aware of the puzzle that it might solve;” should point out the importance that our communities are better served if we face our challenges as a collaboration.

By promoting this collaborative effort the momentum seen to all of our goals will take on the power of an unstoppable freight train to truly show that Hamilton is the ‘Ambitious City.’

It is the hope of the Keith Community Hub that through the support supplied to LocalMotion, and their focus on collaborative and co-operative conversations, silos between neighbourhoods will be broken down and efforts can be expanded to have all of the communities pulling together for the common good of the City of Hamilton.

Steve Rowe, Resident/Vice-Chair, Keith Hub



McQUESTEN

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

This was a very exciting year for the McQuesten Community Planning Team and for the McQuesten community. As always we begin by recognizing the contributions of the many neighbours who have taken time from their busy lives to assist our community as we continue our journey to make McQuesten a better place to live, work and raise a family.

Above: McQuesten Kids

We began the year in our usual fashion with the announcement of the McQuesten Citizen of the Year.

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This has been an annual event for the past six years where we recognize a neighbour who has gone above and beyond in volunteering their time and talents in our neighbourhood.

As usual there were a number of nominees and this year the prize went to a well deserving Casey Eaton. Another significant event early in the year was the election of our new executive. The McQuesten Community Planning Team (MCPT) is a resident led initiative and each year we nominate and elect neighbours to take on the leadership roles. Casey Eaton was elected Chair after spending two years in the Recording Secretary role which will be filled by Miranda Greer. Rose Law was elected as the Co-Chair a new role designed to assist the chair and the always willing and able Pat Reid returned to the role of Treasurer. Our outgoing chair this year was Monika Ciolek who made a significant impact on her community during her tenure.

Partnership and collaboration remains the cornerstone of the work we do in McQuesten. While the skills, talents and time of our neighbours is critically important; we become most effective when those skills and talents are leveraged with that of our community partners. Our long standing partnership with the Hamilton Community Foundation (HCF) remains a force for change within McQuesten. The Neighbourhood Action Grants and small project funding provided by HCF has been essential in the securing of the space MCPT calls home as well as funding some of the anchor events that bring our diverse community together to share our core values.

The City of Hamilton and the Neighbourhood Action Strategy have been valued and true partners again in the past year.

Some of the highlights of this year include:

The McQuesten Urban Farm transitioning from a fond dream to a growing reality, with Phase One currently in the ground and the call for Expressions of Interest that will shape the fall Call for Proposals to implement Phase 2. The next phase will incorporate a working farm with social enterprise, sweat equity, a produce marketing plan and endless other possibilities. A most valued partner in this journey has been and will continue to be Hamilton Victory Garden. The knowledge and assets they have offered have been instrumental to our development.



Above: McQuesten Urban Farm Phase I

Through a long standing relationship with the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board and Hamilton Wentworth Catholic Child Care Services Inc. we have been able to call the St Helen Centre at McQuesten home. We hope to make the space at the old St Helen School our home and focal point hopefully for years to come.

Some of our valued partnerships include:

McQuesten Youth Opportunity Creators - a collaboration of the City of Hamilton Recreation, YOWH, the Junior Youth Empowerment, Sir Winston Churchill Rec Centre and Secondary School the youth of our community and the skilled facilitation of Jesse Williamson. Youth building on their assets to identify changes in their community, developing and implementing strategies to make the changes happen.

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Get Involved With McQuesten!



Contact:

David Derbyshire,
Community Developer

Email:

dderbyshire@sprc.hamilton.on.ca
Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:

2nd Monday of every month
from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

St. Helen Centre @ McQuesten
785 Britannia room 16

For more information on
the Neighbourhood Action
Strategy and the McQuesten
Neighbourhood Action Plan,
visit, [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)

CASTLE & Beyond – (Cancer Awareness Screening in The Lived Environment) and Screen for Life continues to raise awareness about early detection, early identification and treatment of cancer, bringing testing right into our neighbourhood.

Kiwanis Boys & Girls Club - a valued partner who not only offers outstanding programs for children and youth within our community, but also provide facility management to ensure evening access to the centre.

Birla Carbon has become a regular contributor to the neighbourhood, helping to provide a bridge to other industries and businesses.

Hamilton Police Services is a regular attendee at MCPT meetings they have been invaluable in providing support to our neighbours when needed and helping them recognize the positive changes in our community.

The Family Health Team in partnership with the City of Hamilton, HCF and the McQuesten Community Planning Team have provided the services of a Community Nurse Networker to help connect neighbours to health care services and health care recipients to community resources.

St Matthews House is our neighbourhood seniors' centre and the very important food bank

Wesley Urban Ministries , Niwasa and Ontario Early Years Centres have all been long standing partners on our journey and we value and respect their contribution.

The McMaster School of Nursing and McMaster University have a long standing involvement in our community.

As you can see McQuesten is indeed a special community that has benefitted greatly from the wonderful partnerships and collaborations we have made over the years. We are indeed "BETTER TOGETHER" because of these relationships

We are indeed "BETTER TOGETHER" because of these relationships.

McQuesten Community Planning Team





RIVERDALE

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

It is Riverdale Community Planning Team's quest to provide leadership and services that strengthens and coordinates Riverdale community's efforts on behalf of children, youth and families, especially those that are most vulnerable.

*Above: Riverdale Meeting,
June 28, 2014*

Our dream is a diverse, prosperous, and vibrant community where all residents are treated with dignity and respect - a community where the impacts of poverty are acknowledged and action is taken to empower those in need.

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We are a deeply-embedded low-income neighborhood, where people of different communities live alongside each other at the same time leading completely separate lives. Multiculturalism in our community has lead us to many great outcomes, including racial and ethnic harmony. Living with and accepting different cultures helps us understand each other and discourage hatred and violence.

We all want to be better neighbors — or at least have better neighbors. But what can we do? How do you build a better community for yourself and your family? The answer is actually quite simple: Get to know your neighbors. Just interacting with the people you live near can significantly strengthen your community. At the end of the day, it's all about getting to know your neighbors and seeing what happens.

The Riverdale Community Planning Team (RCPT) has seen firsthand how community involvement leads to better neighborhoods. It is the right place for neighborhood residents and just about anyone interested in making our community better.

Left: Riverdale CPT July meeting in progress
Upper Right: Unity
Down Right: Riverdale

Have you ever wondered whether or not a proposal for new program was a good idea, whether it was friendly, and whether or not you should support it? The RCPT is the platform to bounce your ideas at and see them implemented. There are a number of subcommittees mandated with different goals. **Goal A:** Improve the Quality of Tenant Housing in Riverdale. **Goal B:** Increase Food Security of Residents of Riverdale. **Goal C:** Strengthen Educational and Recreational Opportunities for Children and Youth. **Goal D:** Enhance the Quality and Availability of Programs and Services and Resources. **Goal E:** Increase Neighborhood Safety and Security. **Goal F:** Promote RCPT programs.

Civic engagement doesn't have to be about meetings and city hall. It is anything that gets neighbors out talking gives them solidarity and power. Towards this end the RCPT held a live debate at the St Charles Adult & Continuing Education Centre on June 5 where the voters had the opportunity to meet and greet the candidates in the Hamilton East-Stoney Creek.

I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve (or save) the world and a desire to enjoy (or savor) the world," wrote the essayist E.B. White, "This makes it hard to plan the day." This is a dilemma we all face. You live in a nice place. But it could be nicer—if only the park were fixed up. You'd like to plop down on a bench for a while, soak up the sunshine, listen to the birds sing or kid play, and just watch the world go by. But you really ought to be doing something about maintaining the parks. To this end RCPT organized the annual Warden Park clean up in May.

The clean-up was well attended by the volunteer residents as well as Councillor Chad Collins and family. Changing personal waste management practices to mitigate potential impacts to the environment can have a positive impact on everyone who lives, works and plays in Riverdale. Riverdale residents have something in common — a belief that what is good for the environment is also good for the greater community.

To address the goals the RCPT has a number of other initiatives. The RCPT has started a food bank in order to provide assistance to the people of area who are economically disadvantaged. To help feed our community, the Food Bank needs reliable volunteer support.

**"A PLACE WHERE
PEOPLE OF ALL AGES
COME TOGETHER
TO PARTICIPATE
IN PROGRAMMING
AND TO NURTURE
CHILDREN AND
YOUTH TO GROW
AND DEVELOP
IN POSITIVE AND
HEALTHY WAYS AND
EXPERIENCE A SENSE
OF BELONGING
BY PARTICIPATING
IN ACTIVITIES
THAT PROMOTE
HEALTHY LIFESTYLES."**

Muhammad Khan

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Get Involved With Riverdale!



Contact:

Judy Kloosterman,
Community Developer
Email:

jkloosterman@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates & Location:
Call Community Developer

For more information on the
Neighbourhood Action Strategy
and the Riverdale Neighbourhood
Plan visit [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)

Another food security project is the Riverdale Community Garden. This type of garden reflects the area it serves; engaging, educating, building and strengthening community in a significant way. Food grown close to home simply tastes better. An area near Toboggan Hill has been reserved for a big community garden.

Although all our programs are highly appreciated by the community, it is our Seniors Punjabi Gentlemen's card game, Ladies Social Tea and Conversation Together that quite successful. Conversation Together is going well and we are having the Immigrants Women Centre coming in August to help facilitate. The Y on Wheels will also be joining us in August for some Yoga Zumba!

The Ladies Tea provides quality lady-time that inevitably opens new doors for attendees. When you get a diverse group of open-minded and positive women together, so much can happen: a new friendship, an idea, a job opportunity, a valuable life lesson.

Restorative Justice Training conducted by the John Howard Society. Two members of the RCPT were featured on Cable 14's Hamilton Life.

Once again the RCPT gave a grant to Red Hill branch of Hamilton Public Library to support programs initiated by the RCPT, run by community members such as a free summer literacy camp.

RCPT participated in photo voice project. Through this project Members were provided with digital cameras to capture aspects of their environment and experiences and share them with others. The pictures were used, with captions composed by the photographers, to bring the realities of the photographers' lives home to the public and policy makers and to spur change.

While we are fully aware that much work remains to be done, we are encouraged by your continued constructive feedback as we strive to enhance our efforts. We are moving forward with renewed energy. We need to get to that point where change is irreversible and exponential. With every step that RCPT takes with you, we move closer to that point. Thank you for your participation, pledges and praise and also for your push for us to keep improving and to keep reaching for the stars.

*Sarvat Naheed Hanif Resident/Member of
Riverdale Community Planning Team*



ROLSTON

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

Rolston Neighbourhood is a lovely and remarkable neighbourhood on Hamilton's West Mountain. Nestled within a largely residential area, partnerships are allowing programs, facilities and relationships to flourish in this community. The largest and most vivid partnership is the one struck between the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board and the City that brought the new and modern Westmount Recreation Centre to Rolston. With School Board Lands and a City recreation centre, this project brings programs and facilities to residents of diverse ages and abilities to this neighbourhood and throughout the west mountain.

*Above: Rolston
Urban Forest*

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Upper Left: *Rolston
Westmount*
Upper Right: *Rolston
Westview Photovoice*
Down: *Rolston - Westview
Students At City Hall*

Less obvious, the Immigrant Women's Centre (IWC) has been providing recreation programs to children living in the Montcalm subdivision for a number of years. IWC provides program staff, and resources like food, craft supplies and activity planning, and City Housing Hamilton (CHH) provides Montcalm Community House for free! The program started as a homework club, but with the gifted vision of Simon DeAbreu and Melanie Skene, this year the children have visited the Ontario legislature in Toronto, made incredible crafts, planted and maintained community gardens and nurtured kindness and creative play among their young neighbours.

More recently Ahmed Mohammed from CHH has been helping Melanie and the children improve their gardens, and the children hope to bring in their adult neighbours to share their gardening gifts too.

Last year Melanie and Morena from IWC assisted the children at Montcalm Community House to complete a photovoice project with Public Health Nurse Sharon Mackinnon, Community Developer Laura Ryan and four nursing students. This year Sharon, Laura and four different nursing students partnered with Westview School to produce a photovoice project. The students did an incredible job despite the snow storms and bitter cold that made them put off the photo-taking part of the project (and had us a bit worried if we would ever be able to get outside!)

The students still produced a fantastic project, and after the third day, and a 15 minute presentation to the whole school (that the students pulled together in about an hour!), their teacher, Gerry Schafer, asked if they could present their ideas and photos to the Mayor and City Council. So, on May 21 all 12 students and two teachers took the city bus from Westview School to City Hall and presented as a delegation to City Council. It was broadcast live on the internet, and the students answered the Councillors questions like professionals. Councillors were blown away by the sophistication and thoughtfulness that these youth put into their project and explained how they are committed to helping make the changes and improvements that the students suggested. What upcoming partnerships will there be in Rolston? The planning team will be established in the fall of 2014 and this could become the heart of community partnerships among residents and between residents, organizations, businesses, services and others. As this report was being written, residents have partnered with Ward 8 Councillor Terry Whitehead to host a movie night that is expected to attract 1000+ people in August. Finally, Westview students are eager to make the small urban forest next to their school safer and cleaner for folks to enjoy. After touring Neighbour to Neighbour and learning about their community garden plots and gifted gardeners, someone with excellent experience has come forward and is interested in partnering to create an edible forest in that stand of trees. The future for Rolston looks bright, indeed.

Get Involved With Rolston!



Contact:
Laura Ryan,
Community Developer
Email:
lryan@sprc.hamilton.on.ca
Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:
TBD

Meeting Location:
TBD

**For more information on
the Neighbourhood Action
Strategy, visit [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)**



STINSON

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

Recently the Stinson Community Association (SCA) completed a multi-month exercise whereby the membership identified and agreed to the following values: Collaboration, Engagement, Respect, Trust, Inclusiveness and Transparency. These values form the foundation which will support our members in their own self-direction and evaluation of their ideas.

The executive leadership team of the SCA has been working together with the membership in realizing a paradigm shift, in that the decision-making power of the association is now in the hands of its members.

*Above: New Gazebo
location at Carter Park*



Above: Easter Egg Hunt at Carter Park

We, the executives, see our roles as being facilitators of the decision making process in order to support and serve our members. Our goal is that other engaged residents of Stinson become empowered via the process and ultimately obtain the skill and experience required in planning, leading and eventual implementation of their various community projects.

Attention has also been provided to the welcoming of community partners such as the Good Shepherd and YWCA and eliminating the membership fee, as inclusion and engagement is key to turning ideas into reality and sustaining the association in the long term.

Stinson Community Association

Get Involved With Stinson!

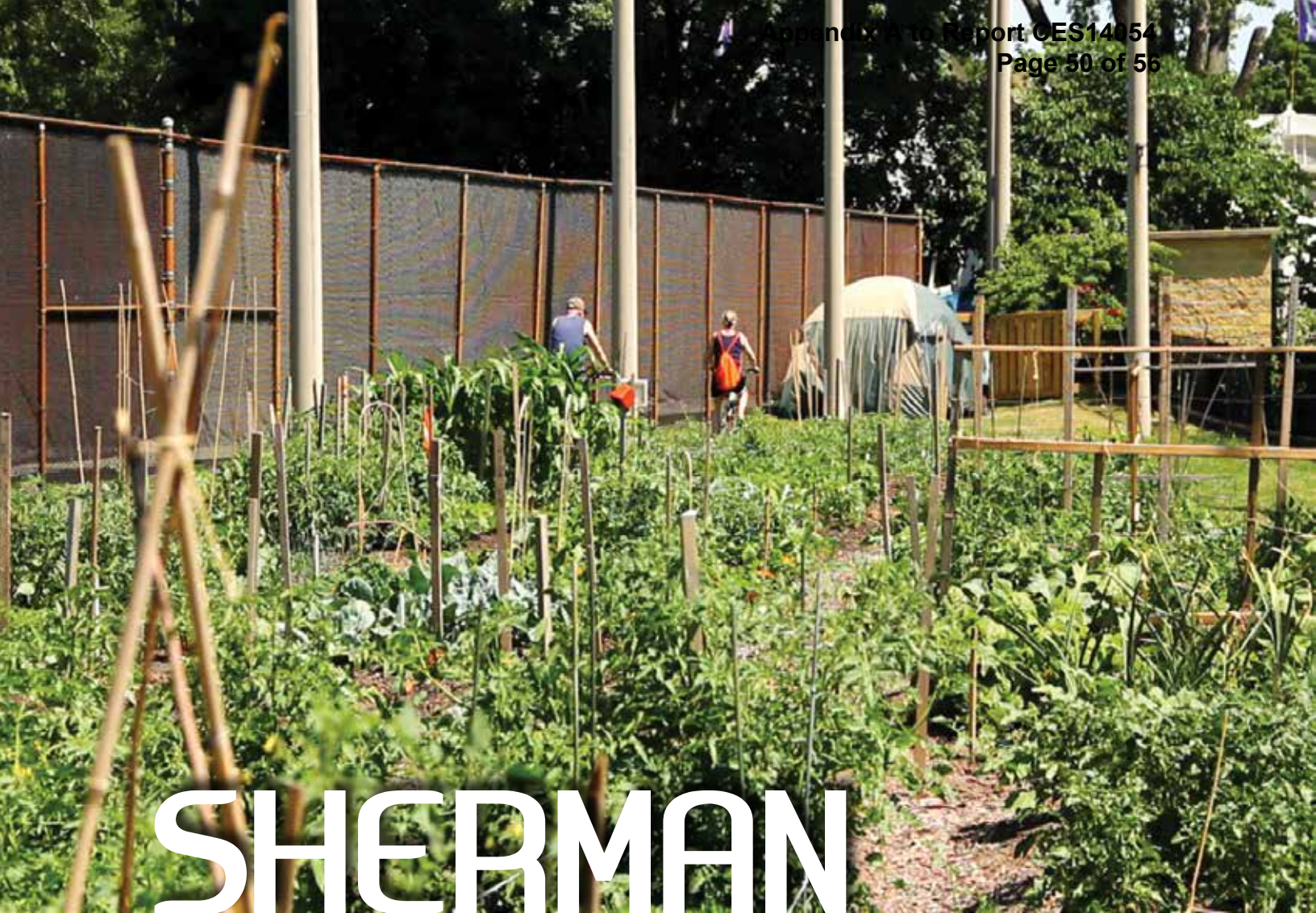


Contact:
Rebecca Doll,
Community Developer
Email:
rdoll@sprc.hamilton.on.ca
Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:
2nd Thursday of every month
from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Meeting Location:
Central Memorial
Recreation Centre
93 West Avenue S, Hamilton

For more information on
the Neighbourhood Action
Strategy and the Stinson Action
Plan, visit [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods) and
www.stinsoncommunity.ca
Twitter: @Stinson_Community



SHERMAN

Neighbourhood

UPDATE

For the Sherman Hub, the last year has been one of accomplishment and transition, all result of great neighbours giving tremendous effort to help make our community a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Like all neighbourhoods, Sherman Hub is in transition through the natural forces of change that affect us all, and through a shift in our collective vision. Past years were about neighbors finding each other, identifying the things that concern us, connecting around those issues, while also celebrating the good things we have in our community.

*Above: Sherman
Community Garden*

This last year has built on that and gone further. Beyond, as Sherman Hub Community Planning Team Chair, Steve Calverley says ‘balloons and BBQ smoke.’ Our community has begun to face the big challenges and is working to address the tough political, social, economic, and environmental issues we face.

Among the list of recent accomplishments is the Sherman Hub News, our bi-monthly community newspaper. The News is a vital communications tool for our community, allowing us to regularly share news, information and events with all the homes and businesses in the Sherman Hub. It’s a tremendous resource and community builder as it requires significant effort from a dedicated team of highly skilled and knowledgeable individuals who put in countless hours to make sure it reaches as many people as possible.

Sherman Hub has a number of dedicated Action Teams / Sub Committees who meet regularly and work towards ongoing issues, here are some examples:

- A team dedicated to providing recreation opportunities for youth in the neighborhood.
- A team dedicated to building awareness of key issues and initiatives and solving traffic problems, as traffic affects our quality of life.
- The Spokes team builds a real sense of community, block by block, by reaching out to neighbours, making real connections, putting names to faces and building awareness of the Sherman Hub.
- Our action teams are also working to clean and beautify by organizing neighbourhood clean ups.
- Our action team has identified many historically important buildings and areas and is working with government and institutions to help preserve and care for our built historical resources.

On top of that the Sherman Hub takes the time to celebrate. The last year has seen a number of events that bring us together for little other than just to be together, chat with others and share a delicious meal.

The last year has also brought the Sherman Hub together around key issues by bringing in important speakers to share valuable information with the community around topics that affect us.

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Certainly the proposed Casino in downtown, the closure of Parkview and other issues such as complete-streets prompted neighbours to get together and share information to help ensure the best outcome for our community.

While we brought people in to share and inform, we also worked as advocates, reaching out and working with key stakeholders like the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board. We worked as advocates to support major building initiatives in the Sherman Hub, such as the Pan-Am Stadium, new recreation centre, senior centre and sports fields as well as the new North High School.

The last year was one in which we came to more clearly define ourselves, our vision and how we work. Our Terms of Reference committee completed its work and provided us with a document that will guide the Sherman Hub Community Planning Team into the future.

Upper Left: *Community Planning Session*
Down Left: *Barton Street*
Upper Right: *Sherman Hub News*
Down Right: *Sherman Barbeque*



We also grew! Formerly the South Sherman Hub, we dropped the 'south' in order to be more inclusive. We actively worked to engage residents in the northern portion of the neighbourhood, who have often felt disconnected from the Hub's efforts. To cement this notion, our branding sub-committee created a new logo and identity and brand resources for the Sherman Hub.

The Sherman Hub has endorsed the applications of a variety of charitable organizations such as HARRRP, the Elizabeth Fry Society, and the Hamilton Dream Centre and Wraparound Hamilton; enabled by the financial support of Hamilton Community Foundation (HCF) Neighbourhood Grants to fund projects aimed at addressing the identified priorities of the neighbourhood. Financial support from the HCF has also helped our community complete the myriad of small projects and events that make our neighbourhood a great place.

The CASTLE & Beyond Project – (Cancer Awareness Screening in the Lived Environment) continues to raise awareness about early detection, early identification and treatment of cancer.

We continue to strengthen our relationship with McMaster University by partnering with the Hamilton Neighbourhoods for Health course that saw two of our neighbours work with a team of multidisciplinary students as they explored the issue of beautification in our neighbourhood and benefitted from their global research on strategies to enhance our community's appearance.

Finally, we also started to look forward. Members of our community attended the HCF's Neighborhood Leadership Institute. The participants completed training that gave them knowledge and developed skills to become leaders in our community. The participants are now equipped to act on the issues we face, bring resources together in order to get things done, to make real, positive change for our community, which will help us realize our future goals.

The last year has been filled with challenges and accomplishments as we transition beyond balloons and BBQ smoke, as we continue to meet each other, to learn, to share, and to work together with common values of respect and inclusion, all with the goal of making the Sherman Hub a great place to live, work and raise a family.

*Laurence Smink, resident / Sherman
Planning Team Member*

Get Involved With Sherman!



Contact:

David Derbyshire,
Community Developer

Email:

dderbyshire@sprc.hamilton.on.ca

Tel: 905-522-1148

Meeting Dates:

1st Monday of the month
from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Meeting Location:

St. Giles Church
85 Holton Ave, Hamilton

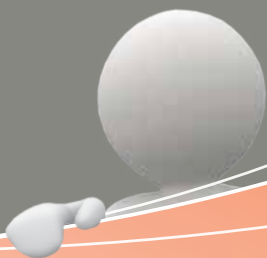
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Plan visit [www.hamilton.ca/
neighbourhoods](http://www.hamilton.ca/neighbourhoods)



Hamilton

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