

NEWSLETTER

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Diane Holmes, President

Jennifer Roddick, Editor

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Due to the poor turnout on October 31st, judging of the Carleton University Photo Contest will take place Saturday, December 5th at 2:00 p.m. in the Fraser Schoolhouse Gallery, 62 John Street.

Members will be asked to choose the best five photographs of heritage buildings and scenes in and around Ottawa from dozens submitted by members of the University's Photo Club.

Prizes will be awarded by the Photo Club and the winning photos will be put on display in the Gallery.

Following the judging, members are invited to join the Board of Directors for our annual Christmas get-together. Refreshments of Sherry and Cheese will be served.

We look forward to meeting you there.

"THE CITIZEN'S JOURNAL"

Our first issue of "The Citizen's Journal", a non-profit publication produced by the Municipal Education Co-operative, has been received.

The Journal should prove to be invaluable to Ottawans with articles such as: "Caught Out Again", concerning the absence of Alderman Don Reid during voting on a controversial 60-foot height restriction for a residential property on Walsh Avenue in Richmond Ward. The reason given in The Journal was to avoid going on record as supporting the limit over the vocal objections of residents who will live in the shadow of the new development (at a subsequent Council Meeting and on the recommendation of Ald. Reid, the height restriction was lowered to 40 feet); "The Best and the Brightest: City Hall's Most Influential Bureaucrats" with biographical synopses of four of the most successful bureaucrats in the City - Cliff Simpson, Jim Thoms, Dave Donaldson, and Charlie Sim; "Who Runs City Hall"; "Federal Budget to Affect Local Services"; and the regular column "Charlotte's Web", an amusing "gossip" columnist's look at City Council.

The bilingual Citizen's Journal is published ten times a year and subscriptions of \$10 annually are available by writing: P.O. Box 1296, Station "A", Ottawa K1P 5R3.

AYLMER HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

The Aylmer Heritage Association announced the election of a new slate of officers at their Annual General Meeting.

They are: Fred Gilbert, President; Michel Noreau, Vice-President; H el ene Allen, Secretary; Drury Allen, Treasurer; and Directors Penny Geldart, Mary Howell, Heather Lawson, Jean Lemieux, Karen Lochhead, Bob Martial.

Welcome, and congratulations!

HERITAGE CANADA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Heritage Ottawa President, Diane Holmes, attended the Annual General Meeting of Heritage Canada in Halifax, October 20 - 24. She reported the following.

At the meeting the executive explained that Heritage Canada is assessing its role in the heritage movement. When it came into being in 1973, with a 12 million dollar endowment grant from the Federal Government, its main emphasis was on helping to establish provincial legislation. Now, most of the provinces have some form of legislation and a good deal of provincial heritage conservation is being accomplished. One set of objectives has been achieved and Heritage Canada feels it is time to set new goals.

In 1981, Heritage Canada will be working on many different fronts. They will continue to work for reform of the Income Tax Act. They are also talking to the railways and trying to convince them to keep their stations, many of which are of significant heritage value. The Foundation feels that, for the next few years, the emphasis needs to be on education, training and research.

The property program has changed over the years. Earlier Heritage Canada used this program for demonstration purposes. Now properties are renovated and restored as research projects. New methods are developed and then published so as to help others throughout the country. The property program is less important than it was because the Foundation has less money and also because there is more and more successful renovation work

throughout the country, and therefore less necessity for Heritage Canada's role. For the next while they will select their projects very carefully and proceed only when an economic return is possible.

A Communications Committee has been established to examine the relationship between Heritage Canada and its member groups. There seems to be room for improvement at all levels.

Heritage Canada is also working to change the Ontario building code so that it can be adapted to the renovation of existing buildings. When this has been accomplished, the code will be taken to the other provinces.

Regional Council Representatives Meeting

Although Diane is not a regional representative (there are two for Ontario), she sat in on this meeting. Her reason for doing so was to discover if there was the possibility of having a meeting of all interested heritage groups in the province. Ontario seems to have a large number of groups which are, unfortunately, not working together to lobby the provincial government. Diane hopes that Heritage Canada may be interested in sponsoring such a meeting.

Heritage Legislation

Larry Ryan, Executive Secretary, Heritage Trust, Ontario, explained some of the fundamentals of heritage legislation in Ontario. Wintario provides the money for heritage grants. Last year 73% went to hockey arenas and 3% to heritage. This seems a little strange in the time of an aging population.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation is given \$1.4 million per year from the government. In 1980-81 the Foundation spent \$1.4 million on architectural conservancy, \$230,000 on archaeology, and \$87,000 on publications. The extra expenditure was possible due to a surplus which was built up in the early years of the Foundation's existence.

The Foundation owns 30 buildings. The research of the buildings takes up approximately one-quarter to one-third of the total cost of the project. It is not unusual for \$100,000 to be used for research per project.

The provincial government seems happy with the present legislation, whereby the responsibility for designation is given to the local municipalities.

There is a new program being developed called BRIC - Building Rehabilitation and Improvement Campaign. This program is meant to assist the local economy through commercial and tourism development. The province intends to put \$5.8 million into this new policy over the next five years. The province will provide matching grants to the community. Mr. Ryan feels that this is a logical extension of the 1975 Ontario Heritage Act. The BRIC Program is intended to round out the current programs with Wintario; it is a system to respond to local initiatives; and the bulk of the capital funds will be transferred to the local municipalities.

Diane Holmes
President

RENT INCREASE

Heritage Ottawa's landlord, the National Capital Commission, has increased the rent for 621 John St. by 250% to \$250. Your membership fees are needed.

If you have not already done so please fill in the form below and mail it together with your cheque or money order to: Heritage Ottawa, Memberships, P.O. Box 510, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5P6.

Thank you.