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# RSCA News!

NOV 26, 2021



## Riverside South Community Association News

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### A message from our new RSCA President and VP

Greetings community members,

We would like to first thank our former president Kyle Creelman for his many years of volunteering in the community and we wish him and his family much success in their future endeavours.

We are thrilled to be taking on our new roles as president and vice president and we look forward to fostering community spirit with the help of our fellow neighbours. 2021 still holds limitations to our usual gatherings but we are excited to once again come up with some alternatives to our regular December events as detailed in this newsletter.

Please come out and meet us at our upcoming Toy Mountain Drive and/or at our future events planned in 2022.

Wishing you all happy holidays and all the best for the new year ahead.

Sincerely,

Tamara Lewis (President) and Kevin McGowan (VP)

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## Toy Mountain Drive

The RSCA will be set up in the parking lot of Moncion's YIG (garden centre area) Saturday, December 11th from 10am to 12pm to collect new unwrapped toys to help build Toy Mountain!



Toys will be collected by volunteers from the trunk of your vehicle or from the driver.

Thanks go to Parkview Moving for helping out with collection and delivery.

A collection bin is also available for drop off inside Moncion's (near the elevator) from now until Dec 11th at noon.

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## Holiday Lights Tour and Draw

Have you decorated the exterior of your home for the holiday season? Whether you channeled your inner Clark Griswold, kept it understated like Martha Stewart, or went with something in between, add your



address to an **interactive map** so that area residents can plan a tour of the neighbourhood! **Registration for the map** will go live Saturday, December 4th.

All registered addresses will be entered in a random draw for the chance to win one of ten \$100 gift certificates generously donated by Moncion's Your Independent Grocer! The draw will take place Sunday, December 19th, and the certificates will be delivered before the 24th.

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## Outdoor Rink Volunteers

ice rinks

We need ice crew volunteers for the upcoming Outdoor Rink season!

Our local outdoor rinks are run completely by volunteers and without them there would be no local skating surfaces for our community to enjoy.

We are in need of rink crew leaders at Spratt and Mountain Meadows; the Lead organizes their crew volunteers to ensure that the ice is installed and then cleared and flooded throughout the season as per the City's timelines. If

interested, please contact our Rink Coordinator: [icerinks@riversidesouth.org](mailto:icerinks@riversidesouth.org)

Please note that due to the City's COVID vaccination mandate for programs run in or on City-owned facilities, outdoor rink volunteers must be fully vaccinated.

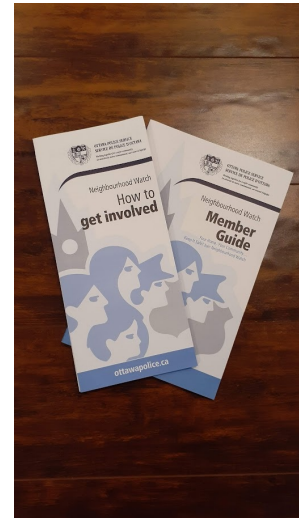
For anyone interested in being a crew member (high school students: this is a great way to accumulate volunteer hours) please sign up here:

[riversidesouth.org/outdoor-rinks](https://riversidesouth.org/outdoor-rinks)

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## Neighbourhood Watch

The Riverside South Neighbourhood Watch is off to a great start with more than 50 volunteers. Graham Irvine (2020 RSCA president) has taken on the role of Watch Coordinator and is already holding regular meetings with the volunteers and distributing info around the neighbourhood. We would love to have more volunteers! For general info, you can contact Kevin at [vicepresident@riversidesouth.org](mailto:vicepresident@riversidesouth.org)



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## Coexisting with Coyotes

It's that time of year again! Coyote sightings in our neighbourhood will become more frequent as they are more visible with the leaves off the trees and underbrush and will be even more visible when we have snow on the ground.



Quick Facts:

- \* Coyote sightings are normal in Ottawa and the surrounding rural area
- \* While they are mostly nocturnal, it is not unusual to see coyotes out during the day
- \* Coyotes will protect their territory and pups from a potential threat (e.g an off-leash dog)
- \* A coyote's main diet consists of rodents and rabbits, keeping these populations in check

- \* They are opportunistic feeders and may prey on small pets left unattended
- \* Coyotes are normally afraid of people and try to avoid them
- \* Bold behaviour is unusual but can occur when a coyote has been fed by people, intentionally or not

Prevent coyote visits to your yard:

- \* Never feed wildlife
- \* Keep pet food and water bowls indoors
- \* Keep compost bins and trash cans secure, put trash out the morning of pickup, not the night before
- \* Clean wild bird seed from your lawn; overflowing feeders attract coyotes, owls, hawks, foxes, cats and dogs for the prey (birds and rodents) that gather in larger numbers
- \* Clean fallen fruit from the ground
- \* For their safety (and that of native wild songbirds and small mammals), keep cats indoors, on leash, or in a secure outdoor enclosure

Keep it in perspective:

- \* Negative interactions with coyotes are rare
- \* There were more than 500 calls in 2016 to the city of Ottawa regarding dog bites
- \* Coyotes do not distinguish between a wild animal (e.g. adult rabbit or groundhog) and a domestic pet (e.g. adult cat)

If you encounter a coyote nearby:

- \* Never run from any canine, including coyotes
- \* Pick up small animals or kids to be safe
- \* Be bold and assertive — face the coyote, stomp your feet, make yourself big by waving your arms
- \* Stand your ground or back away slowly
- \* Make noise by clapping your hands, shouting loudly (but don't scream which can mimic an injured animal), using a shake can, whistling
- \* Throw something (e.g. clump of dirt, rock, stick) toward (not at) the coyote

Understanding true threats:

- \* A coyote that approaches people aggressively should be reported to the City at 3-1-1. Signs are similar to those shown by aggressive dogs and include agitated barking (unprovoked), raised hackles, snarling, growling, and lunging.
- \* An injured or mangy coyote is less able to hunt so is often seen in urban areas looking for easy food sources. Call Rideau Valley Wildlife Sanctuary for advice.

*Source:* Rideau Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

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## City of Ottawa

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Want to weigh in on the projects and initiatives that you care about, at your convenience? Head to **engage.ottawa.ca**.

Want to stay up to speed on Stage 2 LRT construction progress or the Trillium Line specifically? Sign up for updates **here**.

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## Feedback

The RSCA wants your input! Have ideas for our events and programs? A community issue you think the RSCA should look into? Let us know: **info@riversidesouth.org**



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