APPENDIX I: Riverside South Community Association (RSCA) Annual Report

Mandate

The mandate of the RSCA is to:

- Develop and foster community spirit;
- Protect and enhance the quality of life throughout the community;
- Promote organized community endeavours; and
- Keep residents informed of actions that could affect the community.

2025-2026 Year in Review

Over the past year, the RSCA organized and supported a variety of events, recreational programs, and initiatives that brought neighbours together and strengthened community connections, including:

Badminton Program • Halloween Tour • Toy Mountain Parade • Sleigh Rides • Holiday Lights Tour • Outdoor Rinks • Spring Cleanup • Spring Movie in the Park • Student Bursary • Community Garage Sale • Canada Day Festival and Fireworks • Fall Movie in the Park • Fall Cleanup • Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Community Advocacy and Engagement

In addition to organizing events and recreational programs, the RSCA represents the interests of Riverside South residents and helps keep the community informed about local issues and developments.

The RSCA maintains an ongoing relationship with City Councillor Steve Desroches and his office, communicating regularly about matters affecting Riverside South. The Councillor's office also shares information about local concerns and the steps being taken to address them.

The RSCA participates in MPP George Darouze's Carleton Advisory Board, attending meetings as scheduled and sharing local perspectives to help ensure residents' concerns and interests are represented.

During 2025–2026, the RSCA published two community polls to gather residents' feedback on key local initiatives: the future Community Centre and Library, and a proposed mixed-use pathway alongside the Thomas Gamble Municipal Drain. These polls provided residents with an opportunity to share their perspectives on projects that could shape the future of Riverside South.

The RSCA also attended City of Ottawa open houses and public information sessions on several important local projects and studies, including the future Southeast Recreation Complex, the future Community Centre and Library, the South End Truck Network Study, and the Bowesville Future Neighbourhood. Participation in these sessions helps the RSCA stay informed about proposed developments and understand their potential implications for Riverside South residents.

Through these relationships, consultations, and ongoing engagement with residents, the RSCA supports community awareness, participation, and advocacy on issues affecting the neighbourhood.

Communications

Throughout 2025–2026, the RSCA Communications team used the association's website, newsletter, and social media channels to promote events and programs and share timely information about services, neighbourhood issues, and opportunities for residents to participate in community decisions.

Topics included:

- Outdoor rink conditions, updates, and volunteer opportunities.
- Coyote safety and awareness.
- How to report issues to Ottawa Police or By-law Services.
- Engage Ottawa consultations and opportunities for resident feedback.
- Construction progress, traffic disruptions, and detours.
- City of Ottawa events, public consultations, reminders, and community updates.
- Information from Councillor Steve Desroches and relevant municipal services and community organizations.

These efforts help residents stay informed, access relevant resources, and participate in decisions and activities affecting their community. The RSCA remains committed to providing timely, relevant, and accessible information throughout the year.

Volunteers, Partnerships and Community Support

The RSCA’s programs and initiatives rely on dedicated volunteers, resident involvement, and support from community partners. From organizing events and supporting recreational programs to maintaining outdoor rinks and managing communications, volunteers contribute their time, skills, and energy to help serve the community.
Residents are encouraged to get involved by volunteering at events, joining a committee, supporting community initiatives, or sharing ideas about how the RSCA can continue to serve Riverside South.

Looking Ahead to 2026–2027

As Riverside South continues to grow and evolve, the RSCA remains committed to fostering community spirit, supporting recreational opportunities, and keeping residents informed about issues that affect their neighbourhood.

In the coming year, we will continue to:

- Organize community events and programs that bring residents together.
- Support the outdoor rink program and recruit volunteers for the winter season.
- Promote community cleanups and environmental stewardship.
- Provide information about local projects, construction, consultations, and neighbourhood concerns.
- Maintain communication with elected representatives and relevant community partners.
- Encourage greater resident participation and volunteer involvement.
- Explore opportunities to strengthen community connections and respond to residents' interests.

The RSCA welcomes feedback, ideas, and participation from residents as we continue working to make Riverside South an even stronger, more connected community.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the RSCA, we sincerely thank our volunteers, community partners, sponsors, residents, and elected representatives for their support throughout the year. Their contributions help strengthen our community and make our programs and initiatives possible.