



Annual General Report, December 3, 2019

With a Board membership of 8 dedicated individuals, the PPRA continues to deliver on its core activities.

Summer Drop-in Park Program for 10-15 year olds

With funding from the Ontario government, Royal Bank of Canada and the PPRA, the 22nd edition of the PPRA Free Summer Drop-in program welcomed 10 to 15 year old youth from July 2 to August 26, noon to 5pm. The PPRA hired 4 students to oversee the camp and depending on the experience and level, were paid between \$15 and \$18 an hour. The drop-in program received on average of 20 to 30 youths per day. In total 101 youth participated in the program. The favourite camp activities were: ping pong, swimming, card games, basketball, foosball, games on the play structure, soccer, volleyball and football. A total of 450 PPRA swim vouchers were used during the course of eight weeks. Participants enjoyed the coaching sessions from the Ottawa Table Tennis Club and the outing to the movie theatre to mark the closing of the summer program.

Annual Dessert Party, an annual community gathering in support of PPRA activities raised some \$2400 on September 27, 2019. The event was also the backdrop for the unveiling of a memorial plaque honouring the life and contributions of Helen Morton, Jeannette Tidman and Audrey Brewster. By placing their names on this plaque we are honouring their many contributions to the community and their work with the Plant Pool Recreation Association. City Councillor Catherine McKenny and, former City Councillor Diane Holmes presented remarks on each of these outstanding community builders. As in previous years, members of the Parkdale Orchestra generously contributed their time to entertain the audience.

With a grant from the City, PPRA operated the Skating rink and indoor room where skaters can borrow skates, hockey nets and sticks as well as put on their skates in a warm setting. Winter 2019 made for a very challenging year given the heavy snowfall and staffing issues.

Swim voucher program (\$1,500 grant from the Elisabeth Arnold Plant Pool Fund paid for the public swim fees for children and youth at the summer drop-in Plouffe Park program who probably would not otherwise access the public swims.) Some 1120 swim vouchers were distributed to five community organizations, with the largest number of vouchers (450 or 40.2%) used by the PPRA summer sports program.

School Swim Lesson program Thanks to funds from Elisabeth Arnold Plant Pool fund we enable Cambridge School and St. Anthony's school to have a series of swimming lessons.

Women Alive \$600 was provided by the Audrey Brewster Memorial fund to support gym memberships and aqua fitness classes for women on limited needs.

On June 1, 2019 National Health and Fitness Day was held and included a basketball tournament and Yoga in the park. Fruit, yogourt and home baked treats were provided thanks to the generosity of City

Councillor Catherine McKenney and PPRA members, Carol Sissons, and Ida Henderson, who made the baked goods. Also a special shout out to the RBC staff who came work on the PRC flower beds and provided \$1000 towards the operation of the Summer Sports Program.

Plant Pool gardens. PPRA undertook the maintenance of an additional flower bed located at the front entrance bringing it to a total of 9 flowerbeds at the Plant Pool, including the rose beds. PPRA founding member, Ida Henderson, is master gardener.

Soccer and Basketball Programs. PPRA supports the Recreation Association of Hintonburg soccer and basketball programs for children and youth who would not otherwise be able to participate in these activities. Funding is provided by Canadian Tire's JumpStart Program. PPRA members Lorrie Marlow and Suzanne Monette are responsible for these programs. The free soccer program for children ages 5 to 10 is held from 6 pm to 8pm and free basketball program for youth ages 11 to 16 from 7pm to 9pm, all on Friday events at Connaught school.

Jumpstart Community Partner. PPRA has been a Jumpstart Community Partner since 2017. As a community partner, we organize community development programs targeted toward local youth from families facing financial barriers. Community development grants help qualified organizations to develop or sustain sports and recreational programming for kids aged 4-18 in financial need. In addition, PPRA assists Jumpstart by screening and pre-processing individual child grants, providing them funding to access sports programs. Since 2017, 1243 children have been supported.

Interested in giving back to your community?

Why not join the PPRA volunteers?

www.plantpool.org