



Box 206, Greely, Ontario, K4P 1N4
<http://www.greelycommunity.org/>

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING June 10, 2015

The Greely Community Association (GCA) has been very active on your behalf during the past year. The GCA holds monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June, and organizes and hosts two main events every year – Winter Carnival and Canada Day. We also work closely with our City Councilor George Darouze, and the Greely Business Association. The GCA is considered to be the umbrella organization to bring local concerns to the City and to provide the City with comments on matters and issues of importance to the residents of Greely. Here are some of the highlights of our accomplishments during the past year.

1. Canada Day

Last year's Canada Day had a good turn-out during the evening estimated to be about 3,000 people. The GCA purchased \$15,000 worth of fireworks, which was more than the previous years, thanks to grants, local business sponsorships, and donations from residents. The fireworks were spectacular!

Greely is well-known as the "*second best fireworks display*" in Ottawa. The Greely Firefighters arranged for water games for the younger children and, as always, to set off the fireworks for us, and the Lion's Club assisted with barriers and crowd control. There was a Bouncy Castle for the kids, food, hay rides, as well as other children's activities. *Retrosonics*, a local band, also provided entertainment from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. The Greely Idol winners sang on stage prior to the fireworks, which were set off at about 10:00 p.m.

2. Greely Winter Carnival

The 2014 Winter Carnival was once again very successful with higher attendance than the last couple of years. As in the past, there were sleigh rides, beaver tails, Firefighters' pancake breakfast, the Lion's Club family brunch, chili/skate night, and the second annual Greely firefighters vs. police hockey game.

Greely Idol was, as usual, a big success. Thank you to Pam Dans, the contestants, winners, and judges for making this event the success it was!

The Comedy Night was great with a catered buffet by Orchard View, lots of laughs from several comedians, and a local band.

3. *Finances*

Our budget from year-to-year continues to remain at about \$18,000 to \$20,000 annually. We obtained grants and sponsorships to help defray costs for Winter Carnival and Canada Day. Both of these events usually break even or balance each other out if there is a small deficit.

4. *Planning, Development & Recreation*

The GCA provides comments as appropriate on planning of developments, parks, re-zoning, etc. Several GCA meetings brought forward issues of interest to residents, such as the OTIS planned commercial development at Mitch Owens and Bank Street. The GCA provided a letter to the City with objections to the proposed entrance and exit to the latter planned commercial property due to anticipated traffic issues in our community. The Greely Pathways initiative has recently been taken up again to connect the various communities by pathways for walking and cycling.

5. *Transportation & Road Issues*

We continued to facilitate on transportation and road issues in Greely. Several main roads were finally paved, including Parkway, Apple Orchard, Old Prescott, and Albion. The intersection of Manotick Station and Mitch Owens continues to be on the radar and is a high priority of our new City Councillor George Darouze. We are hoping that traffic lights will be installed at this intersection. The re-alignment of Parkway and Apple Orchard is on hold as to whether there will be a roundabout or traffic lights, but likely traffic lights is the latest news due to the width of the road space that would be available and truck usage, including fire trucks that exit at this intersection.

6. *Monthly Meetings*

The GCA hosted the following speakers at our meetings this past year:

- South Nation Conservation Authority
- Confederation Light Rail Train Line (RLT) update
- Mental Health and Suicide Awareness – Osgoode Initiative
- Tree Ottawa/Ecology Ottawa

- Councilor George Darouze
- Community Police Officer, Stephanie Lemieux

Updates on GCA finances, initiatives/projects, events, planning, development, zoning, transportation and recreation were given at monthly meetings.

7. City of Ottawa Elections - All Candidates Meeting

The GCA, in conjunction with the Greely Business Association, hosted and facilitated a very successful *All Candidates Meeting* last October which was well-attended with a packed house, and question and answer session.

8. Communications

We recently established a Greely Community Association Facebook presence thanks to Garret Scott, an Algonquin College student who offered to help out with marketing and communications. Spread the word!

9. Meetings Next Year & Volunteers

As always, we continue to encourage residents to get involved in their community, to give input to us, and we are looking for volunteers as there is not enough help to continue our advocacy and for planning, organizing and carrying out events and projects. We hope that you will seriously consider coming out to our future meetings, giving your input, and that you will consider becoming a volunteer.

The GCA is your voice – please come out and get involved.

We hope you have a great summer and that we will see you for Canada Day in Greely, and at our upcoming meetings! Thank you.

Bruce Brayman
President