



## **The BMGCA Mirror #8 November 2023**

### **What's News?**

Hello again. There's a lot to report this fall so let's get started.

The second annual **Halloween Spooktacular** in Brookshire Park was another great success even with the colder weather. Our best guesses are 150-200 creatures attending. About twenty-four mummies were wrapped and at least 15 carved pumpkins judged. Thanks to volunteers Gina and Mandy, Davit, and Breanna, Anbareen, Simone, Meagan, Samantha, Alexa, and Jeremy. Also, many thanks to professional Photographer Amy Godin who has produced a collection of wonderful shots (but not these two). See them all at:



<https://amygodinphoto.pixieset.com/bmgca2023halloweenspooktacular>

Generous local sponsors include **Starbuck's, Willy's Pizza, Metro and Sobey's, McDonald's, Thai Express and The Barley Mow, Nette's Crafts and Mega Bite Café**. Please shop locally at these and other local businesses whenever you can. Thanks also to our favourite good witches of the west, **Marianne Wilkinson, and Councillor Cathy Curry** for judging events and trying to count tiny screaming monsters running all over the place. Nobody won that challenge. Finally, many thanks to all the families who came out; it makes these events all worthwhile.

The **Hydro corridor dog park** decision has been made with **choice B as the preferred site**. That will be on the section between Klondike and Whernside Terrace. Expect to see work begin in the spring.

Some disappointing news for our friends in **Beaverbrook and Kanata Lakes** with the decision on development of the golf course lands. A setback, yes, but the efforts will continue with help from the City of Ottawa and private donations. Show your support by visiting the **Kanata Greenspace Protection Coalition**.

**Klondike Road will be closing** around November 1 for six weeks from March to Sandhill for underground piping work. Signs and detours directions will be posted. Drive safely, as always.

**Drain the swamp!** That's been done recently at the **Statewood and Terry Fox stormwater pond** as anyone can smell and see. The latest update is to do another treatment of herbicide spraying to kill off the invasive phragmites (tall reeds) in the lower section, and a geotechnical investigation (digging a hole) on the upper section using a drill rig to find the cause of the leaking (holes in the wall). We're hoping they will clear out the cattails and overgrowth while it's empty. Stay tuned for further exciting developments!

The **BMGCA Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be taking place November 30th. The meeting will be open to all paid members who will be able to ask a question and to vote. Online questions will be addressed first. Send your question to [info@bmgcakanata.ca](mailto:info@bmgcakanata.ca). Also use the same link if you would like to **be part of our volunteer**

**list:** a skill, a language, a talent or just a desire to help out is always welcome. Please contact us. The AGM meeting format (online or in person) and other information will follow shortly.

This issue of **The BMGCA Mirror** will be the last monthly issue using 2 layout formats, one for online and one for a nicer paper hardcopy. Starting in the new year distribution will be quarterly and with a different format and layout. Producing The Mirror has helped increase membership and awareness, and hopefully that will continue in 2024. Best wishes to everyone for the new year and thank you for reading The BMGCA Mirror.

### Community Highlights



This year's **Kanata Santa Claus Parade** will be on Saturday Nov 25 at 10 a.m. Visit **KanataSantaParade.com** for full route and details. Presented by the Hazeldean Mall to benefit the **Kanata Food Cupboard**.

Please visit **kanatafoodcupboard.ca**.



**Eco-Harvest Celebration: Thank a Pollinator!** A bright, sunny sky and gentle, cool breeze were the backdrop for a fun Eco-Harvest Celebration: Thank a Pollinator! Event. Our shared event with the **Kanata Muslim Association** on September 30<sup>th</sup> brought out many environmentally conscious people. From opportunities to buy organic produce grown on regenerative farms, to native plants direct from a local grower, event goers had lots of choices. Experts were on hand to share tips on creating pollinator gardens from seed at home. Along with lots of other activities, kids painted rocks to display at our new pollinator patch. There was something for everyone to enjoy. Our own **Kanata North Regeneration Stewards** were available to share details about this summer's corridor restoration projects, including the new 550 sq. ft. Kanata North Pollinator Patch near Abbeydale Circle. This special garden contains twenty-four species of Ontario native plants to support diverse pollinators with vibrant, blooming flowers from April through October. It also serves as a colourful site for educational events and nature photographers. LW



### What's in a name?

Our former **Kanata North Corridor Caretakers** have changed the name of their volunteer crew to **Kanata North Regeneration Stewards** (KN RegenS for short), to more accurately reflect the work they do and people they are: ***The Kanata North Regeneration Stewards are a team of multiethnic, multiracial, intergenerational, and neurodiverse volunteers with the goal of restoring biodiversity, while bridging connections that improve our community's social and ecological well-being through community-led stewardship.***



With so many invasive plants running rampant in the corridor, the **Kanata North Community Voice** was right in referring to it as “scrub land,” finally getting some tender loving care (September 28, 2023, p. 10 Vol. 6 No. 17).

The **KN RegenS** plan to perform many more acts of restorative kindness to renew ecosystems. While the group is part of the BMGCA, it welcomes volunteers from everywhere. To stay up to date on their activities check out: <https://bmgcakanata.ca/projects/hydro-corridor/pollinator-patch/> or email: [corridor@bmgcakanata.ca](mailto:corridor@bmgcakanata.ca) for more information. LW



### Kids Rock!

Unfortunately, our **Kids Rock the Pollinator Path** event (where kids were to make stepping stones), was just getting underway on October 8<sup>th</sup> when the rain hit. However, here are a couple of photos, including one of a 5-month-old with his pollinator habitat supporting blankie.





### Important dates

**November 4/5 overnight. Daylight Saving Time**, clocks go back 1 hour.

**Saturday morning November 11, Remembrance Day Services at the Kanata Cenotaph. Please wear a poppy and attend the services** to remember all those who fought and died for the freedoms we often take for granted. This year, conflicts in many places just a few hours away should remind us all how quickly freedoms and a way of life can change terribly. Look back and Look Forward.



### A Safety Tip

The snow season is here. Right now, is the time to get your car ready with a good battery and good snow tires. Make an emergency car kit-use a camping cooler with a lid, and fill with a blanket, spare hats and gloves or mitts, a flashlight, can of Puncture Seal, first aid kit, a few energy bars, and a bottle of water. Also keep a good small snow shovel and bag of salt. A spare jug of windshield washer. Keep your mobile phone fully charged and the fuel tank full, or almost. Before driving, do a walkaround of your car and make sure all lights, mirrors and windows are clear of snow or ice. **Set the headlight switch to auto on** and confirm your rear lights are also on, then never touch the switch again. They turn off automatically. But wait, there's more! \*Following a snowplow is always better than trying to pass one. \*Parking overnight in your garage is so much better if you have one. \*If you have a new vehicle, practice a few skids on snow in an empty parking lot. Happy winter.

**Welcome to all our new members.** Thank you and please support the local businesses in our area. Also, please help the less fortunate by making a generous donation to the **Kanata Food Cupboard**.

Not a member yet? Join the BMGCA today to help build a strong and vibrant community. \$10 annual or \$18 for 2 years. Go to [mship@bmgcakanata.ca](mailto:mship@bmgcakanata.ca).