



Main Street Renewal

Construction Newsletter No. 39

June 16, 2017

The *Main Event and Main Street Completion Celebration* are this Saturday June 17th. These events are co-hosted by the Community Activities Group of Old Ottawa East and the Councillor's office. Attractions will include: BBQ, Big Band, food trucks, a bouncy castle, hay rides, Safer Roads Ottawa Bike Rodeo, Main Farmers' Market and more!

The Main Event will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the Main Street Completion Celebration and Public Art Unveiling will be from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the southeast corner of Main Street and Hazel Street.

Come celebrate with us!





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Upcoming Work

While the work is essentially complete, we will be back on Main Street in July or August to make some minor modifications at des Oblats Avenue. We will be moving back the bulb-out south of des Oblats Avenue to make a smoother transition and will add an island north of Springhurst Avenue to help ensure through traffic at des Oblats Avenue use the curb lane. This work should take about 2 weeks. We will also be back to correct various minor deficiencies along the corridor as required.

Traffic

Main Street, from Hazel Street to Clegg Street, will be completely closed to traffic (northbound and southbound directions) on Saturday June 17th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the *Main Event and the Main Street Completion Celebration.*

The cycle tracks south of Clegg will remain closed until all the related signs and pavement markings (including the green thermoplastic at intersections) are completed. Now that the top lift of asphalt is in place, the placement of the green thermoplastic will begin.

Placement of the top lift of asphalt at the Riverdale Avenue intersection.



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Did you know?

The Main Street Public Art, created by Stuart Kinmond and titled Main² (Main Square) is now complete and standing proud in front of St. Paul University. It looks amazing and impressive!



Stuart Kinmond's Main² is a public gathering space featuring geometric-shaped benches shaded by tall towers, each framing colourful multi-layered glass images of the surrounding landscape of Old Ottawa East: the Rideau Canal, the Rideau River and the land between.

Here's a description of the art piece:

The coloured glass panels/stained glass reflects the neighbourhood's ecclesiastical heritage, including St Paul's University, Deschatelets Seminary and other spiritual institutions.

The theme of the glass designs is inspired by the physical geography of Old Ottawa East—the Rideau River along one side and the Rideau Canal along the other side are represented by the outer 2 towers. The community, bounded by these 2 waterways is expressed by the green colours of the central tower.

The coloured designs on the glass panels are made of a ceramic-based ink which is digitally applied by a very large printer. Once applied, the inks are dried then the panels are fired in an oven, making the colours lightfast and water-proof.





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Each tower has 3 glass panels with a different but related design on each. By being spaced apart the designs set up a parallax effect as the viewer passes by.



River Panels

This parallax is most apparent in the River panels, (the north tower) where the 3 layers of waves flow past each other. Feeding near the top of the middle panel is a sunfish, the most prevalent fish in the Rideau River.

At the opposite end the Canal panels feature the underside of the Pretoria Bridge, and below it, the omni-present concrete posts and steel rails that run the length of Canal through the city. Through this window, one can see the white tour boat and a couple of canoes. On the east side is a stylized map of the Canal including Dow's Lake.



Canal Panels

On the central tower, the Land panels sets a tree-lined pathway on the outer panel, against a patchwork of green fields in the middle panel, a nod to agricultural heritage. The east panel portrays an aerial view of tree-lined residential streets, typical of the Old Ottawa East neighbourhood. The glass panels will be illuminated at night with LED edge lighting,



Land Panels

The canopies suspended from each tower represent the built environment of the community. They provide shade to the geometric shaped benches beneath; the green bench represents Land, complete with a north arrow, while the two blue ones stand for the bounding waterways.

Stuart Kinmond trained as an architect in Montréal. In 2013 he won his first public art competition – a City of Ottawa commission for the O-Train expansion. That artwork, entitled locomOtion, is installed at the Carleton O-Train station.

The Public Art Program initiated a competition for a new work of art for Main Street in 2014. Forty-four proposals were received and reviewed by a Peer Assessment Committee. The Peer Assessment Committee chose Main² based on evaluation criteria that included artistic excellence, the experience of the artist, how well the artwork would integrate into the street design, and comments received during an extensive public consultation process.

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