



Carleton
PLACE

2023
ANNUAL
REVIEW

MAYOR

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Traditionally, as the year draws to a close, we take time to reflect on significant accomplishments achieved by our municipality. It is easy to see how working together with a unified vision sets the stage for an even brighter future for the residents of Carleton Place. In order to make our vision a reality we needed to identify goals. Council worked with Senior Staff on the development of a Strategic Plan which sets out the overall direction of the Council's term and identifies priorities with goals, objectives, and action plans by priority area.

Some of the top identified in this plan include:

- Enhancing service delivery and communications;
- Identifying economic development opportunities;
- Managing commercial growth by creating a diversified tax base with job growth; and,
- Implementing the Transportation Master Plan with a goal of better movement of people and goods in town and beyond in a sustainable way.

One of the highlights of the year was undoubtedly the Grand Opening of our revitalized main street in the downtown core. We truly appreciate everyone's patience as this monumental project was undertaken, especially from our local business community who shouldered a lot of that load. I hope now as you walk down the newly paved sidewalks, lined with growing trees and spaces to rest and catch up with friends, you will agree that the end result was worth the wait. The transformation is not just physical, it's a testament to our confidence in the future of our downtown, and the people who make it feel like the hub of our community.

Our commitment to thoughtful planning has been further exemplified through the completion of an Official Plan Review. This comprehensive effort will ensure that our community grows sustainably, preserving the character that defines us while embracing the inevitable change in a way that we can feel most comfortable with it. It's a blueprint for the future that reflects our shared vision for a thriving and inclusive community. We thank the many citizens who provided feedback during this and other Master Planning work. Although we cannot implement everyone's ideas, your feedback is invaluable to the decision-making process.

MAYOR - CONTINUED

Anyone who knows me will likely have heard me say this more than once, but I personally love seeing grassroots projects come to fruition, and the community pad at the Carleton Junction is a perfect example of this. Recognizing a project will fundamentally benefit the community, where members of the community donate both time and money to make it a reality, reminds me of my youth and the true spirit of community, when residents took ownership of a project and ran with it. The outdoor community space is a symbol of our commitment to providing a variety of opportunities for residents of all ages to have access to quality seasonal recreation. The McLaren Ball Diamond is another project that is a great example of residents fundraising, putting in much time and effort, and seeing a well-used, amenity become a safer and more enhanced space by committing to a partnership with the town. I hope to see many more of these in the future.

Recreation opportunities were a clear priority in 2023 with upgrades to a number of parks, including the multi-generational Train Station Park, which saw a significant upgrade to the play structure, the inclusion of outdoor gym equipment and a new shade structure and benches. Findlay Park, Ferrill Park, Commons Park, and Hendry Park all have new play structures. We're not stopping there though. Cardel Park and Coleman Central Subdivision Park were leveled and seeded in anticipation of further works in 2024 and there's also a new planned park in Olympia's Meadow Ridge Estates Subdivision and a parkette that will be included in the Mississippi Shores Subdivision

It was exciting to be part of the process of announcing a new regional Health Hub that will be opening in Carleton Place in the fall of 2024. I couldn't agree more with the Ottawa Valley Family Health Team that this is a big win for healthcare in our region. It will create a one-stop location for residents to have access to Carleton Place and Beckwith family physicians along with other health providers, such as pharmacy, diagnostic, physiotherapy, and other amenities. We know residents have valid concerns about doctor shortages in our region and our hope is that this new team-based approach will go a long way in retaining and supporting the recruitment of new physicians in our region.

Looking forward to 2024, we are including significant facility works, moving more services online to make it convenient for residents, doing a transit feasibility study, continuing to do improvements to our roads and underground infrastructure, and continuing to look at ways to attract visitors, while giving residents awesome events to attend throughout the year.

The accomplishments mentioned above are only a glimpse of the numerous and valuable projects undertaken this year. These endeavours extend beyond just physical infrastructure and bureaucratic documents. They are the building blocks in creating a community which we can collectively take pride in calling home. They are the tangible outcomes, unwavering dedication, active involvement, and the profound sense of pride that each individual contributes to our shared community. As we look forward and plan for the future, I know that Council and Staff will continue to work hand-in-hand. Our success lies not in just our achievements today, but in the foundation we lay for generations to come.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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Like the previous few years, 2023 proved to be another busy year for the Town of Carleton Place. Whether undertaking studies, completing capital works, assisting with other projects or applying for grant funding, there is no doubt that the work undertaken by Council and staff will benefit the Town and its residents in and for the long term. A brief review of some of the more notable activities are outlined below:

Studies to Plan for the Future of Carleton Place include:

- The Request for Proposal for the completion of the detailed designs and tendering of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansions was awarded in spring 2023 to Stantec and is expected to be completed by late 2024. Work on the construction of the plant expansions is expected to commence in 2025 which will ensure the Town has capacity to grow for the next 20 years.
- The Town's work on the comprehensive review of its Official Plan was completed in June 2023. The final amendment has now been forwarded to the County of Lanark for final approval of the Town's plan. We hope to hear back from the County shortly. This review offered an opportunity for the community to pause and reflect on how the Town's current Official Plan has been implemented to date and assess if the goals and objectives of the Plan are still reflective of the local interest. It also provided the chance to evaluate whether or not the policies are effective in regulating and guiding development as originally intended.
- A Recreation Master Plan process was completed in March 2023. This process helped to determine the community's recreation and culture priorities for the future including the development of parks, recreation, programs, cultural and leisure services and facilities including trails, community centres, etc.
- Design plans were drafted for both Cardel and NuGlobe subdivision parks. Public consultation on these two designs was held in December 2023. Work is expected to get underway on the implementation of the parks in 2024.
- A review of building automation systems was undertaken as a means of helping to reduce ongoing building costs and reduce Green House Gas Emissions. This work was funded by 80% by a grant through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Major Capital Works

While no projects the Town undertook in 2023 were as significant as the Central Bridge Replacement or Downtown Revitalization projects completed in 2022, there were still some significant projects undertaken in 2023 as follows:

- The Town undertook some major work on its parks in 2023 including:
 - Train Station Park – multi-generational park including a new play structure
 - Cardel Park and Water Tower Park (NuGlobe) were levelled and seeded.
 - Ferrill Park, Finlay Park and Carambeck – new play structure installed
 - Carleton Junction – multi-use sports pad, landscaping works and installation of shade structures
 - McLaren Diamond – new infield installed

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER - CONTINUED

- Work was undertaken on Town buildings as follows:
 - Pool roof repairs
 - Museum windows and doors
 - Generator installation and new furnace at Town Hall
 - Canoe Club Balcony repairs
 - Some new lighting at the Carambeck Community Centre
 - Fire Station Roof repairs

Other

On Thursday, March 2nd, 2023, a media event was held on Costello Drive to announce the expansion of the Mississippi Mills Ottawa Valley Family Health Team (OVFHT) into Carleton Place to service Carleton Place and Beckwith. The OVFHT expansion included the announcement of approximately \$1.2 million in new annual funding from the provincial government for this expansion. The OVFHT supports physicians by assisting with the administrative work of operating a practice and allows physicians to do what they do best – treat their patients. This new Carleton Place Regional Health Hub will bring the local Carleton Place physicians currently located in five (5) family physician clinics under one (1) roof as part of a family health team including interdisciplinary services such as diagnostic imaging, physiotherapy, psychiatrists, massage therapy, and pharmacy to name a few and specialized programming (e.g., COPD and Asthma Program, Memory Clinic, Adolescent and Child Mental Health Program). The Councils of the Town of Carleton Place (60% share) and Beckwith Township (40% share) have agreed to provide a total of \$1,700,000 in funding to a new physicians' corporation that will establish in the new Health Hub to help offset initial fit-up costs (\$200,000) and a total of \$1,500,000 of annual lease payments (\$150,000 for 10 years) as a means of assisting existing physicians to relocate to the new health hub and in attracting new physicians to Town to set up in the new hub.

Grant Funding

In 2023, six (6) of the Town's grant applications were approved providing funding of approximately \$322,000 towards operating or capital projects. The highlights include:

- \$126,400 was received through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund to conduct a study of building automation systems
- \$76,900 was received through the Ontario Trillium Foundation to replace the sports flooring in the gymnasium at the Carambeck Community Centre
- The Town received additional Provincial funding in the amount of \$118,479 towards the operation of the Town's Childcare Centre. It received \$84,896 in one-time transitional funding, \$7,862 in Play-Based Funding and \$25,720 towards Repairs and Maintenance of the Centre.

Communications

The Town uses various means to provide information to its residents and businesses, i.e. Facebook, CP Scoop e-newsletter, Town's website, electronic signs at Market Square and the Fire Hall and the television screens in our facilities. If you haven't signed up to receive the Town's CP Scoop newsletter which provides updates about municipal programs and services, election information, construction updates, upcoming events, waste collection information, notices of public meetings, and more, please do so by providing your email address at the following link on the Town's website: www.carletonplace.ca/cp-scoop

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

2023 saw steady growth of new residential and commercial developments within the community with an emphasis on the design and draft approval of new neighbourhoods in the Town.

Building

The Building Department issued 223 permits in 2023, of which 183 permits were for new dwelling units in Town, representing a 21% increase from 2022 activity which continues to reflect the 10-year growth trends for the Town. The majority of new dwellings issued in 2023 were associated with the first phase of the Mississippi Shores Subdivision. New apartment dwellings were also approved for Lepine Apartments at Johanne's Garden in the Coleman Central Subdivision.

The Town also approved several exciting commercial and industrial developments to provide local job growth for residents.

- 50 Roe Street Business Park Complex – 27,000sqft, 10-unit office-commercial units
- 22 Costello Drive Health Campus – 4-storey, 15,000sqft Medical Facility
- Eteros Fabrication – 20,000sqft Industrial addition to the existing manufacturing facility



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Continued

Engineering

The Engineering Department oversaw the completion of detailed design work for several growth-related infrastructure upgrade projects including sanitary sewer upsizing at McNeely Avenue, the extension of Costello Drive, and the installation of two (2) new growth-funded multi-use pathways along Townline Road and McNeely Avenue in order to link gaps in the existing sidewalk infrastructure. Additionally, the Department has continued to play an active role in the detailed design of the Highway 7 widening by the Ministry of Transportation. Residents can expect to see construction underway in late 2024-2025 with the relocation of utilities.

Our Engineering staff were also busy with field work inspecting and issuing acceptance for new developer-installed public infrastructure such as the water, sanitary and storm services on Carleton Street, Thomas Street and Coleman Street.

Planning

2023 saw the conclusion of the Town's Official Plan update which was adopted by Council in June and is expected to be approved by the County of Lanark in the Winter of 2024. Staff also brought forward an updated Parkland Dedication By-law, Sale of Land By-law as well as a comprehensive replacement of 19 heritage designating By-laws to better define and protect our culturally significant resources.

Infill of both residential and commercial developments were also considered for the former Findlay Foundry site on High Street, the Giant Tiger Plaza, and low-density residential infills on Victoria Street, Joseph Street, Thomas Street and Preston Street.

Finally, draft approval was also issued for the McNeely Landing Subdivision (Uniform Developments) south of Highway 7 which is proposed to have 431 new residences as well as a new elementary school. Prior to construction, the developer needs to complete several conditions of approval, but residents can expect to see pre-servicing activity as early as the end of 2024. McNeely Landing Subdivision marks the first subdivision approval considered by Council since 2019.



CLERK'S DEPARTMENT



The year 2023 was marked by achievements in enhancing efficiency, transparency and governance. Here are the key highlights of the past year for the Carleton Place Clerk's Department.

Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS) Implementation: In early 2023, grant funding was successfully secured through the Ontario Municipal Modernization Program. An RFP was issued, and a contract was awarded to StoneShare – SharePoint Solutions and Services of Ottawa for the implementation of a new EDRMS. As a result of this undertaking, the Town has improved its document storage and retrieval, compliance management, version control, collaboration, data security, e-discovery, search and retrieval, as well as enhanced records management.

By-law Updates: A Procedural By-law governs how Council and Committees carry out the business of the Town. Staff introduced a new Procedural By-law to address both housekeeping and legislative changes. A new Notice By-law was also passed to ensure that the Town's methods of providing notice are up to date and relevant while continuing to maintain the Town's commitment to public awareness.

Integrity Commissioner Renewal: The Town renewed its contract for Integrity Commissioner (IC) Services with Tony Fleming of Cunningham Swan. The IC's role is to apply the Town's Code of Conduct, respond to requests for advice from members of Council respecting certain obligations, and provide educational information about the Code of Conduct and the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act. Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the IC also conducts inquiries into potential contraventions of the Code of Conduct.

New Code of Conduct: A new Code of Conduct for Council, Committee Members and staff was adopted. The purpose of a Code of Conduct is to promote appropriate standards of behaviour, honesty and integrity, and to provide enforcement actions if the standards are not adhered to.

Temporary Patio Policy: Provincial Regulation 746/21 (under the Liquor Licence and Control Act) created a new framework for temporary outdoor patios which took effect on January 1st, 2023. In response to this regulation, the Town was required to develop and adopt a Temporary Patio Policy. Licensees of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) are now obligated to obtain annual approval for their temporary patio from their local municipal authority. The purpose of this type of policy is to balance economic vitality with public safety.

Annual Report: The Clerk's Department launched an annual report providing a comprehensive overview of the Department's activities for enhanced communication and transparency. The report provides annual statistics on items such as the administration of parking tickets, lottery licences, and other various items.

The Clerk's Department looks forward to building on the successes of 2023 and embracing new opportunities in the year ahead.

PUBLIC WORKS



2023 was another busy year for Public Works staff in completing capital and operational projects. The Central Bridge and Bridge Street re-construction works completed in 2023 included the completion of the railings on the lookouts and retaining walls, installation of the pillar caps, reconstruction of the stairwell from the bridge to 205 Bridge Street, decorative lighting installation, additional retaining wall work, grading and landscaping, along with the completion on Bridge Street of the decorative planters, entrance features and landscaping works.



The 2023 road reconstruction program focused on the Arena parking lot, Campbell Street from Lake Avenue to Lisgar Street, Munro Street from Park Avenue to Carmel Street, Carmel Street from Munro Street to Lake Avenue, and Thomas Street from Bridge Street to Townline Road, with new granulars, asphalt and curb and sidewalk replacement/repairs. The asphalt on Coleman Street between McNeely Avenue and McGregor Street, Concession 8 between Townline Road and Industrial Avenue, Mailey Street and Ferrill Crescent was removed and replaced with two (2) lifts of new asphalt. The 2023 road overlay program included Barclay Street and Barker Street between Mississippi Road and Dunham Street.



A new Pride crosswalk was painted at the intersection of Lake Avenue and Beckwith Street next to the Carleton Place Farmers Market. Multi-use pathways were installed on McNeely Avenue from Patterson Crescent to the sidewalk on the Grape Island bridge, and on Findlay Avenue between Franktown Road and the OVRT thanks to funding received through the Federal Active Transportation Fund. All-way stops were installed at Mississippi Road and Lake Avenue, Mississippi Road and Morris Street, and Morris Street and Boyd Street/Code Crescent.

Work on upgrading our aging streetlight system to an LED system continued in 2023 on the south side of the River. Due to the age of our system and the nature of the wiring, Ottawa River Power Corporation in coordination with Hydro One systematically began upgrading our lighting system with the elimination of the antiquated power control system that depended on old relays and switches in favour of direct connection of each light to the power supply.

PUBLIC WORKS

Continued



This work provides a more dependable streetlight network that is less susceptible to large area outages and is saving the Town greatly on electricity and maintenance bills. Work will continue throughout 2024. Additional LED streetlights were also installed along Stonewater Bay in 2023 to address safety concerns along this section of roadway.

The Town completed the Environmental Assessments (EA) for the expansion of our Water Treatment Facility and Wastewater Treatment Facility in early 2023 and is now undertaking the detailed designs for the treatment plant upgrades to address growth of the Town expected over the next 20 years. Work on these upgrades is anticipated to begin in 2025 and is funded from Development Charges.

The rehabilitation of the Joseph Street Pumping Station project was completed in 2023 with the commissioning of the new station and natural gas generator. The reconstruction of the Findlay Street Pumping Station, Princess Street Pumping Station and Industrial Avenue Pumping Station will be tendered in 2024.

Public Works and Engineering staff also oversaw the installation of services within several new developments currently under construction and the installation of several kilometers of new sewer and water infrastructure. Public Works staff also coordinated the installation of a new automated bulk water station on Bates Avenue to ensure the safe provision of municipal water to our water haulers.



PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Carleton Place Fire Department

The Carleton Place Fire Department (CPFD) provides fire prevention and public education, fire suppression, interior search and rescue, land-based water and ice rescue, automobile extrication and tiered medical response in conjunction with Lanark County Paramedic Services. We are dedicated to enhancing public safety by protecting life, property, and the environment through public education, fire prevention and excellence in emergency response. The CPFD responded 237 calls for service in 2023.

2023 was a great year for our Fire Prevention Division. Our Fire Prevention Officers were able to meet the provincial mandates for request, routine, and complaint inspections. Staff conducted 312 Fire Safety inspections throughout our community, ensuring buildings met the Ontario Fire Code regulations.

Fire prevention staff also conducted a total of 16 Fire and Origin Cause Analysis investigations in our community. These ranged from residential homes to vehicles, as well as rubbish/debris, etc.

Public education was a success this year. We conducted 24 different events throughout the community. Firefighters were out in the community during Fire Prevention Week handing out information about smoke/carbon monoxide alarms as well as partnering with local businesses to get the fire safety message out to residents. Sparky, our mascot, flew over Carleton Place to help us spread the word as well. We finished off the year with the Santa Claus Parade and engaged the public on social media with the 12 Days of Holiday Safety. Over the course of the year, our staff created 199 posts on our Social Media platforms.

The hard work and dedication of our 26 certified volunteer and career firefighters, as well as the support of their families and employers, have been essential to our success as a Fire Department and we are very grateful for their contribution. Together, both groups are responsible for providing an efficient and quality fire service for Carleton Place as well as being a first responder to a portion of Mississippi Mills.



PROTECTIVE SERVICES - CONTINUED

Municipal Law Enforcement Officer Services

Municipal Law Enforcement is carried out by three (3) Town of Carleton Place Municipal Law Enforcement Officers (MLEO). The MLEO are responsible for administering and enforcing the various regulatory by-laws of the Municipality. This includes complaints, parking enforcement, boat launch monitoring and property standard enforcement. They seek to gain compliance with municipal regulatory by-laws through community education, voluntary compliance on a case-by-case basis, or a formal legal proceeding if voluntary compliance is not achieved.

Anyone who wishes to register a complaint or report a by-law violation should call 613-257-5688 with the pertinent information. Animal control enquiries should be directed to our Animal Control contractor at 613-809-7048. Information on various by-laws is available either from the municipal website www.carletonplace.ca or from the Clerk's office.

Crossing Guards

The Town of Carleton Place has five (5) permanent and two (2) spare on-call Crossing Guards. They direct or escort pedestrians at designated Carleton Place intersections every morning and afternoon when the school bells ring. These guards are out in -35 below temperatures, rain, snow, dust and heat. They risk putting themselves in danger and deal with aggressive motorists.

The Crossing Guard program in Carleton Place is funded by the Town and managed and administered by the Director of Protective Services. Crossing Guards receive annual training to ensure they are equipped with the best knowledge to protect our children's safety.

Emergency Management

The Emergency Management division of Protective Services is responsible for ensuring the Town of Carleton Place is prepared for emergencies and also able to recover from them. It takes a collaborative effort between all Town Departments and divisions, external organizations, businesses, community groups and residents to be prepared.

While staff work hard behind the scenes to prepare for emergencies, we ask residents to do the same. We encourage everyone to gather a [72-hour emergency kit](#) with essentials to keep you safe until our crews and first responders can get to you. Discuss an emergency plan with your family so everyone is on the same page if the unexpected happens. Check on elderly and vulnerable neighbours if you can. Emergency preparedness is everyone's responsibility.

CHILDCARE SERVICES



Childcare services continued to hire and open spaces in 2023. We are near capacity at our Francis Street location and we are up to pre-COVID numbers for our School Age Program located at the Carambeck Community Centre.

Mighty Machine Day was a huge hit and beyond our wildest expectations! We will be ready for 2024 as attendance numbers in 2023 exceeded the 2000 mark.

We have opted into the Canada Wide Early Learning and Childcare Agreement which has helped give families access to more affordable and high-quality childcare.

Francis Street Location:

Our expansion is up and running with all the rooms now open. We recognize that the need for childcare in the community exceeds the current spaces available in our Centres and we are working diligently towards hiring more staff so that more families in the community can have quality childcare close to home.

Our new commercial washers and dryers have been installed which completes our set of three (3). This has been a critical component to optimizing our efficiency as we process approximately 15 commercial loads of laundry A DAY.

Carambeck School Age Program:

This facility saw some upgrades in 2023. Our new climber is in and has been a huge success not only for childcare but for the community as well. New lighting has also been added to our gym and we are looking forward to new flooring as well in the near future thanks to funding provided through the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Our summer camp was filled with program planning that was exciting and varied. Learning experiences supported children's growth and development while offering different activities and field trips.

Staff and children from the School Age program organized a fun Christmas Open House for Council and Town staff. There were Christmas-themed activities, a carol performance from the kinder group and baked goods made by the children.



CARLETON PLACE PUBLIC LIBRARY



A Year of Growth and Community Connection at Carleton Place Public Library

The year 2023 marked a period of substantial growth and community engagement at the Carleton Place Public Library. Key successes included the formulation of an innovative Strategic Plan, the introduction of a thriving Seed Library, and a commitment to accessibility through the elimination of fines.

Cultivating Beyond Books: The Seed Library Project. In 2023, the Library's landscape expanded beyond traditional book lending with the introduction of the Seed Library. Engaging the community through informative seed-saving workshops, the Library witnessed an impressive circulation of over 900 seed packets. Participants eagerly returned harvested seeds, fostering a sense of communal growth and anticipation for the 2024 planting season.

A Shift Towards Value: The Fine-Free Initiative. Recognizing the importance of accessibility, the Library took a significant step in May by going fine-free. This initiative not only enhanced convenience but also contributed to increased engagement. Families who previously may have been hesitant due to potential fines, checked out over 48,000 children's books, DVDs, and audiobooks in 2023, reflecting an 8,000-item increase from the previous year. Adult circulation similarly rose, affirming the success of this user-centric approach.

Expanding Experiences: Experience Passes and Community Hub. Experience passes for museums, local hockey games, and recreational activities like family swims and skiing continued to be popular with over 700 checkouts. The Library also remained a community hub, offering not only free WiFi, affordable printing services, and charging stations but also a quiet haven for work and study. Partnerships with community groups like the Alzheimer Society Caregiver's Support Group, Home Hospice North Lanark, and Lanark County Interval House allowed the Library to expand its offerings to more people than ever before. This multi-faceted approach attracted diverse demographics, reinforcing the Library's role as a central space for everyone.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Continued



Strategic Vision for the Future: A Roadmap to 2028. The Library's new Strategic Plan, unveiled in the fall of 2023, outlines a vision that focuses on deepening community connections, optimizing in-person and digital services, and adapting to evolving population needs. With over 800 new members in 2023, the Library is poised to expand its reach through new partnerships, diverse spaces, and improved visibility.

Community-Centric Programs: A Vibrant Tapestry of Engagement. The Library's summer and fall programs captured the community's enthusiasm, featuring innovative offerings such as robotics workshops, D&D programs, a Queer Sphere Crafting Club, and the wildly successful Drag Queen Storytime. The Mini Maker Craft Fair, attended by 24 young makers and almost 200 shoppers, concluded the season on a high note, showcasing the community's renewed zest for local engagement.

As the Carleton Place Public Library looks ahead to 2024, it anticipates providing even more enriching experiences for its users. Plans include expanded experience passes, community partnerships, flexible drop-in programs, and enhanced collections and resources. The Library remains dedicated to fostering a dynamic, inclusive space where the community can continue to discover and celebrate all that it has to offer.



RECREATION & CULTURE

Park Enhancements

Our Department had an ambitious goal of replacing four (4) play structures in 2023 which would enhance our neighbourhood parks and allow for new and exciting opportunities for play. We are pleased to share that we reached our goal by replacing play structures at Ferrill Park, Carambeck Park, Findlay Park, and Train Station Park. The Train Station Park is Carleton Place's first multi-generational park, and we look forward to bringing additional programming to that space in the spring/summer of 2024.

Three (3) new shade structures were installed at Carleton Junction and an additional structure will be installed in the spring of 2024. Each structure will have a bench or picnic table for seating and provide additional shade options for residents enjoying this space. Public consultation took place in December for the park designs for Miller's Crossing and Coleman Central Subdivisions and site preparations will continue to take place in the spring in preparation for park installations at both locations in 2024.

Additional Spring & Summer Ice Availability

This year, we introduced additional spring and summer ice availability at the Carleton Place Arena and we were thrilled with the interest. Additional hockey camps, off-season training, and summer public skating sessions assisted in keeping our Arena buzzing during the warmer months. We look forward to continuing to offer additional ice times and programming going forward.

Community Events

Community events kept our department very busy this year with record turnouts. We partnered with the Downtown Carleton Place BIA to present the Bridge Street Official Grand Opening, as well as the return of the Pumpkinfest celebrations at Carleton Junction and throughout the downtown core in the fall. At Riverside Park, we hosted Canada Day Festivities, a Movie in the Park and Fireworks Show, and provided support to the return of the Dragonboat Festival. We also presented the Santa Claus Parade and post-parade festivities, and several outdoor concerts at Carleton Junction and the Train Station Park. We were also honoured to be chosen by the Festival of Small Halls to host two (2) great sold-out concerts featuring the Devin Cuddy Band and Ron Sexsmith in the Town Hall Auditorium. We look forward to presenting more shows in this historic facility.

McLaren Diamond Infield

The infield at McLaren Diamond was upgraded in the fall. The work included re-aligning the infield radius and installing new sod and excavating and re-grading the infield with Washington Ball Mix. The infield including new bases will be ready for play in the spring of 2024.



Recreation & Culture - Continued

Carambeck Gym Floor Replacement

Thanks to a successful grant application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Carleton Place was granted the funding to replace the gymnasium floor at the Carambeck Community Centre. Construction commenced at the end of December and staff anticipate the space to be re-opened by the end of January 2024.

Carleton Junction Multi-Purpose Pad Completion

Thanks to the generous support from our community's businesses and residents, we were able to fundraise and complete the building of the multi-purpose pad at Carleton Junction! This pad will be used for sporting and social events, social events, and community programs for residents of all ages and abilities. We have a few finishing touches to go before we officially cut the ribbon. We would like to take this moment to thank Bob Hawn for all his efforts to make this project possible!

Tree Planting Project

Carleton Place's tree canopy was further restored this year thanks to several tree planting initiatives. Staff planted 40 trees that were generously donated by Rental Village in celebration of their 40th Anniversary. Staff also planted 25 additional trees in our community parks as part of our annual tree planting program. Lastly, 132 trees were planted in Roy Brown Park to complete the planting program for this greenspace.

Looking to 2024

This year will be another busy and successful year for our Department. We will continue our commitment to park developments by replacing the play structures at Commons Park and Hendry Farm Park, as well as adding new swings at Giles Park. We will be working on a concept plan for Centennial Park, as well as preparing for three (3) new parks in our community. We will continue to grow our community events by adding new attractions to exciting events, as well as introducing new festivities. Staff are also working on an improved volunteering program that will assist in finding the necessary volunteers to continue to present our community events and programs.



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