

Choose your favourite businesses in the West Carleton community

Readers' Choice ballots in West Carleton Review

STAFF

The newspaper's second annual edition of the Readers' Choice Awards is under way, and your votes will make all the difference.

Ballots are in this week's edition (and online at www.yourottaawaregion.com), and we're looking for our readers to tell us who deserves to be honoured as "favourite" in dozens of categories, including:

- favourite restaurants;
- favourite entertainment;
- favourite local business services;
- favourite shopping;
- favourite health services;
- favourite auto service.

Qualifying ballots returned by the April 27 deadline will be entered in a draw for three \$100 gift certificates to a local restaurant. For complete rules, see the in-paper ballot, or go online

to www.yourottaawaregion.com to see contest rules and vote.

After all the ballots are tabulated, the winners will be announced in the June 24 edition of the West Carleton Review.

The top three favourites in each category will receive recognition in the paper and will receive Readers' Choice Awards 2010 decals to let all their customers know just how much West Carleton supports their business.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, continued

Candidates must consider city, too

To the editor:

One issue which has been identified by several candidates running for council relates to the Councillors Car Allowance.

One has even gone so far as to recommend the elimination of the councillors' car allowance and an OC Transit pass which, when combined have a stated value to the councillor of slightly over \$7,000.

The related press release goes on to infer that this money is "paid to travel to and from work".

Does this statement truly serve this or indeed any candidate for council in good stead with the public by inferring a 'money for nothing' situation exists?

Further, it was my understanding that while we each represent individual wards that the "works only for my ward" viewpoint does not speak to the needs of the city as a whole.

Any candidate must take a high level view of issues and make a decision based on a number of factors. These factors must include what is in the best interest for the candidate's

ward, but not to the exclusion of the other wards in the city and the city itself.

Currently, the city is defined by three types of wards: Rural - such as Ward 5 (West Caletton-March); Suburban - such as Ward 1 (Orleans) and Urban - such as Ward 7 (Bay).

Using the 3 identified wards and data from Ottawa Ward Boundary Review Recommendations report dated April 19, 2005 one can find the following statistics.

Ward 5 is over 11 times and over 29 times larger in area than Wards 7 and 1 respectively.

The population in Ward 5 is slightly more than half of either of the two wards.

What does this mean?

Quite simply Ward 5, like all of the rural wards is a) geographically large with a distributed population; b) requires use of a non public transit vehicle in the Ward and c) perhaps obviously, being rural, is not close to the downtown core.

Unless you are a Client of Para Transpo, you can't get "here" from "there" using OC Transpo.

With this simple set of numbers, the issue which all of council must face is highlighted.

That is: "Urban versus Suburban versus Rural and how to make it equitable."

In this situation, there is one glaringly obvious solution which provides both uniformity of application as well as transparency in reporting.

That is to have city councillors specifically and preferably all city personnel who utilize their personal vehicle for City Business to submit a Monthly Mileage Expense report to Staff.

The reports would be subject to the review by the City's Auditor General as necessary.

As for the continuation of the Bus Passes, I at this point would have to defer on a final position until 2011.

I would like to see City Hall to begin monitored utilization of the new OC Transpo Presto Cards as the suggested movement towards eliminating the problem once they are implemented in next year.

Alexander Aronec
Ward 5 candidate

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28 HENDRIE COURT
KANATA - Well maintained 1496 sq ft Richard Rosewood model boasts 3 bedrooms, ensuite bath, hardwood floors, fireplace, partly finished basement, kitchen appliances are included, deck, no rear neighbours, and a brand new roof! \$249,900

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CARP - Custom 2+1 bd, 3 full baths, over 3100 sq ft. Lrg master suite, dressing rm, ensuite w/ sep shower & therapeutic tub. Fab kitchen, granite, isl, big eating area. Solarium, landscaped yard & pond, w-out ll with bar/games rm, 3-sided gas lip and media room with built in surround sound, guest room w/in closet & full bath. \$524,900 MLS# 750232

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JACKSON TRAILS - End-unit townhome, 2094 sq ft. 9' ceilings, no rear neighbours. Main flr den, pot lights, iron spindles, integrated sound system. Finished basement w/ 2nd fireplace, 2nd flr laundry master with w/i closet & 4 pce ensuite w/ jacuzzi. S/ 5 appliances & flatscreen. Well-maintained, shows like a model! \$329,900 MLS# 749203

For more pictures and other listings, www.swiftmove.ca

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