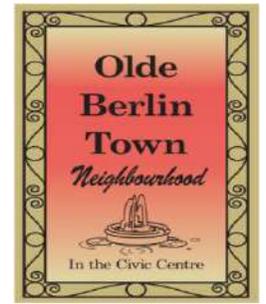


# Olde Berlin Town Neighbourhood Association

## Spring 2018 Newsletter



**CRoZBy... Zone Changes may impact our neighbourhood. Public meetings. See back page of this newsletter.**

### Hi Neighbour



# SPRING

When the snowbanks disappear, you realize that spring is near. Robins come, then April showers, giving rise to lots of flowers.

Many thanks to all who came and participated in the annual meeting and the election of our Olde Berlin Town Neighbourhood executive. Sarah Marsh, our Ward 10 Councillor, joined in the round table talks about opportunities and challenges. Some key discussion points:

#### Things We Like About Our Neighbourhood

Walkability topped the list, followed by affordable homes, architecture, mature trees, neighbours of all ages, historical roots, lots of nearby resources like Community Centre, two small parks, library, city hall, bus service and meeting places.

#### Opportunities for Involvement

Some great ideas were raised: special events such as walking or garden tours, community garden plots, street party, events for kids, teens and others; create public bulletin board; expand communications; need safety champions; improve greenspaces; collaborate on events with nearby facilities; find heritage enthusiasts who will share insight into the history of Olde Berlin Town; create a residential group to talk about new developments happening our neighbourhood.

#### Current Issues & Worries

Some important matters were identified:

Safety issues included: lighting for the alleys as needles and condoms are being found; good discussion on pest control as some rats were recently observed.

Property rights, zoning, development and protection of Heritage.

Traffic concerns: crosswalk suggested for Victoria Street at Ahrens/Water; dangerous crossings by pedestrians at Lancaster and Queen Street; entrance and exit site unsafe on Ellen Street where new Police Headquarters will open in 2019.

Property Standards: snowploughs creating snowbanks on sidewalks along Victoria St.

Connecting to neighbours: Some areas are cut-off from neighbours due to traffic or configuration of houses/streets.

#### WALKING TOUR

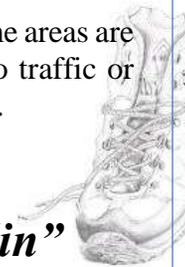
##### “Walking Olde Berlin”

Please join Jeanette and Greg Vincent on **Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> of May**. Meet to depart at 6:30pm from the rear entrance to the Centre in the Square for a 1 1/2 hour walk through the streets of Olde Berlin, taking time to look at the historic homes where the wealthy lived, worked,

**Jane's Walk** is an annual celebration of people and cities held annually on the first weekend of May.

The next global festival is May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Through the simple act of walking together and discussing what makes a neighbourhood, Jane's walk helps knit people into strong and resourceful communities.



and worshipped; and played in Victoria Park, watched over by Queen Victoria, “a model wife and mother” and two cannons on loan from the Federal Government for more than 100 yrs. Children are most welcome.

## Hike Leaders in Our Midst.

Jeanette and Greg Vincent, local Olde Berlin Town residents at 20 Ellen Street East are certified volunteer hike leaders for various trail clubs and you are welcome to join them at no charge. They maintain a website [hikevincent.wordpress.com](http://hikevincent.wordpress.com) and the contact is [vincent.greg@gmail.com](mailto:vincent.greg@gmail.com). Here’s a sample of their hikes and you can see more on their website. Other hikes:  
Sunday 29 April - Kissing Bridge Trailway Elmira to Wallenstein and back, 20 km.

June 15-17 - Annual Orchid Adventure in Tobermory/Flower Pot Island, slow paced weekend to enjoy the flowers and views

## NEED YOUR HELP

Our new Board of neighbourhood reps is already pursuing some activities suggested at the Feb 10<sup>th</sup> AGM. In addition to the planned Jane’s Walk on May 5<sup>th</sup>, we looking for interest and feedback on a Yard Sale in the park and Picnic.

### YARD SALE



If you would like to coordinate, help, or participate in a picnic or a yard sale, please contact: [writeus@oldeberlintown.ca](mailto:writeus@oldeberlintown.ca) or phone 519-744-3146.

### PICNIC



## Neighbours Day Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>

On the second Saturday in June, neighbours from across the city come together to celebrate the vibrant and diverse community we live in. This annual event connects people and strengthens relationships through neighbourhood activities and gatherings – such as garage sales, BBQs, music events and more. There's lots of ways to get involved in Neighbours Day! You can [Host Your Own Event](#) or enjoy activities near you. You can find Neighbours Day ideas and read residents' stories on the [Ideas and Inspiration board](#) on the Lovemyhood.ca website.

We note that the Downtown Community Centre at 35B Weber Street West is hosting their Pancake Breakfast again this year.

Join your friends at the Downtown Community Centre for

## Neighbours Day



Saturday, June 9

Come for a free pancake breakfast, live entertainment, activities, and more! Mark your calendar!



## Special thanks OBTNA Committee

Thanks **Hal Jaeger** for coming on board to head up a new Residential Committee re Smart Growth with a view to upholding our Heritage District Plan, the Residential Intensification in Established Neighbourhood Study (RIENS) guidelines, and the protections guaranteed our neighbourhood by the current (1994) Official Plan, including, in particular, the Secondary Plans.

Welcome and thanks to **Leslie Stallard** who will be the main coordinator of our facebook now and webmaster for a website. You can find the facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/OldeBerlinTown>.

Many thanks to **Lori Reiser** for introducing Leslie to us; Lori is retiring from producing the facebook but will still be available for assistance.

And appreciation is sent to **Rosemary Coleman** and **Donna Kuehl** for continuing in administrative areas of treasurer and chair/editor.

We still need someone to spearhead health and safety issues such as traffic concerns, illegal activity or by-law infractions.

And we need various leaders to come forward with ideas for fun events and activities. Activities that help make this a better place to live.

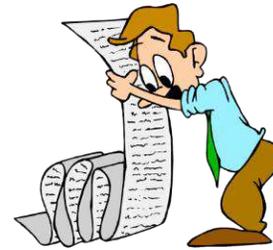
## **NEIGHBOURHOOD - Bylaw Guide**



By-laws affect you, your home, and the city at large. The City of Kitchener has a guide to the most asked-about City of Kitchener bylaws. This short guide is available on-line at and includes information about decks, driveways, fences, fire pits, trees, pools, graffiti, pets, parking and so on. It was created to provide residents with helpful tips and information about some of the



most common bylaws that help everyone do their part. Although this guide does not capture all the details of the specific bylaws, a complete list can be found at [www.kitchener.ca/bylawguide](http://www.kitchener.ca/bylawguide).



It's important for residents to know  
→ property standards are complaint driven.  
Contact City of Kitchener at 519-741-2345.

## Love my hood

#lovemyhood was built, by and for neighbours, to make it easier for you to get involved in your neighbourhood. We can't wait for others, or the City, to change our neighbourhood. We need everyone pitching in, taking initiative and being engaged. Check out [www.lovemyhood.ca](http://www.lovemyhood.ca). ["What's in my 'hood?" map](#).

Here are a few ideas from the website we can use to get going:

- Say hi to a neighbour sometime this week. A friendly wave and hello can go a long way.
- Go to events and meet your neighbours. Or, host your own event! Try something simple, like a potluck, BBQ or games night.
- Get in touch with your local neighbourhood association; offer to lend a hand.
- Check out ideas or projects on their website



## The City of Kitchener's commitment to you

Funding for Neighbourhood Projects . . . Dedicated funding will be available to neighbourhood groups through the Neighbourhood Matching Grant, Neighbourhood Action Plans, and the annual Neighbourhood Placemaking Challenge.

Staff Support for Neighbourhood Projects . . . they are ready to help make your next neighbourhood project happen. And to help you navigate city hall, bring partners together, and make it as easy as possible for you to get things done.



## UNWANTED VISITORS:

**ATTENTION** . . . Residents of Heritage District, Olde Berlin Town.

**RATS!** have been sighted skirmishing around bird feeders, green bins and garbage pails. Have you seen any RATS on your property or neighboring properties? If yes, maybe you and your neighbors are unintentionally feeding them. Check and see if your garbage smells, what about your green box or barbecue, where is your bird feeder? These are only some of the things that attract rats. Rats only go where they find food and water and when they find it they nest and breed and settle in; soon your backyard and your garden will become infested with them and your children may bring in cute baby rats and want to keep them as pets.

Rats are dirty diseased rodents; they are clever and capitalize on human's carelessness. We must all be overly careful and cautious, check our garages and basements for large cracks; a 2"x2" hole (or smaller) would let a rat in. Also remember rats can climb trees, jump onto roofs and get in through windows as well as chimneys. Don't ever

buy or use any poison, it might kill a rat, but it would more likely kill your dog or your neighbor's cat or worse.

These disease-carrying vermin dislike certain odors, one of them is ammonia; perhaps some spray from a spray bottle of ammonia would come in handy on garbage night. I hope this critique on "trying not to live with rats" has aroused not only your anxiety and dislike but has given you a strong desire to get out there and get rid of these dirty pests.

Aggie, the Ratter

Editor's Notes: this Health Canada site has more information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/pest-control-tips/rats-mice.html>. Always look for a Pest Control Products (PCP) number on the label so you know the product has been approved by Health Canada. See [Use pesticides safely](#) for more information on using pesticides safely.

### Signs of rats in your home:

**Scratching noises** in walls or under the floor as rats scurry around. Rats in the attic are common.

**Rat droppings** - rats leave dark, tapered droppings about 10-14mm long.

**Distinctive smell** - rats leave an ammonia-like smell that will be particularly strong in enclosed areas such as under cupboards.

**Damage** - rats have teeth that grow continuously and gnaw on wood and plastic to keep them trim. Rats can even cause fires by chewing through electrical wiring.

**Ripped food packaging** - rats will tear open food which may leave teeth marks.

**Nests** - rats build nests in warm, hidden places using shredded material such as newspaper and fabrics. Nests will often contain young rats.

**Burrows** - In gardens, rats will dig burrows especially in compost heaps or under sheds. They will also build nests under garden decking.

# Olde Berlin Town Neighbourhood

Spring 2018

## SPRING PROGRAMS

Registration for Spring begins Tuesday, February 27th, 2018

Downtown Neighbourhoods Associations offer affordable programs at the Downtown Community Centre,  
35B Weber Street West, Kitchener 519-741-2501

Register in person or online at [www.kitchener.ca](http://www.kitchener.ca); go to Program Registration (Activenet) to select the program of your choice.



SCHEDULE	AGES	DAY	TIME	Program Dates	Cost	#Classes	Activity #
Creative Movement	3-4	Monday	5:30 - 6:00 pm	Apr 9 - June 25/18	\$ 40.00	10 weeks	16968
Creative Movement	3-4	Wednesday	5:30 - 6:00 pm	Apr 11 - June 20/18	\$ 40.00	10 weeks	16967
Family Yoga	2-8	Thursday	5:30 - 6:15 pm	Apr 26 - May 31/18	\$ 38.00	6 weeks	16970
Kinder Judo	5-7	Tuesday	5:30-6:00 pm	Apr 10 - June 19/18	\$ 40.00	10 weeks	16975
Ballet -M	5-8	Monday	6:00 - 6:45 pm	Apr 9 - June 25/18	\$ 55.00	10 weeks	16965
Jazz - M	5-8	Monday	6:45 - 7:30 pm	Apr 9 - June 25/18	\$ 55.00	10 weeks	16973
Jazz Ballet Combo	9-13	Monday	7:30 - 8:15 pm	Apr 9 - June 25/18	\$ 55.00	10 weeks	16974
Ballet - W	5-8	Wednesday	6:45 - 7:30 pm	Apr 11 - June 20/18	\$ 55.00	10 weeks	16964
Jazz - W	5-8	Wednesday	6:00 - 6:45 pm	Apr 11 - June 20/18	\$ 55.00	10 weeks	16972
Youth Development Judo	8-13	Tuesday	6:00-7:30 pm	Apr 10 - June 19/18	\$ 73.00	10 weeks	16982
Teen/Adult Judo	14+	Tuesday	7:30-9:00 pm	Apr 10 - June 19/18	\$ 93.79	10 weeks	16981
Power-Fit Workout at Noon - Tue	18+	Tuesday	12:10 - 12:55 pm	Apr 3 - June 19/18	\$ 62.15	12 weeks	16980
Power-Fit Workout at Noon - Thur	18+	Thursday	12:10 - 12:55 pm	Apr 5 - June 28/18	\$ 62.15	12 weeks	16979
Hatha and Laughter Yoga	18+	Wednesday	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Apr 25 - May 30/18	\$ 42.94	6 weeks	16971
ARTSHINE Create with Confidence	18+	Wednesday	1:00 - 2:00 pm	Apr 25 - May 30/18	\$ 33.90	6 weeks	16963
Everyday Self Defense & Judo Basics	15+	Thursday	7:30 - 9:00 pm	Apr 26 - May 10/18	\$ 50.85	3 weeks	16969
Basic Training in Self Defense & Judo	15+	Thursday	7:00 - 9:00 pm	Apr 19/18	\$ 27.12	1 week	16966

DROP-IN PROGRAMS	AGES	DAY	TIME	DATES	Drop-In fee		
Floor Hockey - family	8+	Monday	6:45 - 8:45 pm	on-going	\$ 2.00	weekly	drop-in
Adult Floor Hockey	18+	Saturday	1:30 - 3:30 pm	on-going	\$ 3.00	weekly	drop-in
Badminton	16+	Wednesday	7:00 - 9:30 pm	on-going	\$ 3.00	weekly	drop-in
Basketball at noon - Advanced	18+	Friday	12:00 - 1:00 pm	on-going	\$ 2.00	weekly	drop-in
Diaper Free Baby	parent & tot	1st Wed/mnth	10:00-11:30 am	Year-Round	free	monthly	drop-in
Pickleball	families 7+	Saturday	9:15 am-12:00 pm	Oct 21/17-Apr 21/18	\$ 3.00	weekly	drop-in
Volleyball at noon	18+	Tuesday	12:00 - 1:00 pm	on-going	\$ 2.00	weekly	drop-in
Indoor Soccer	16+	Thursday	6:30 - 8:00 pm	on-going	\$ 2.00	weekly	drop-in
Power-Fit Workout at Noon	18+	Tues or Thurs	12:10 - 12:55 pm	dates as above	\$ 6.00	weekly	drop-in

\* HST included on adult programs.

The DNA is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization comprised of several Neighbourhoods in and around Downtown Kitchener. Neighbourhoods include Central Frederick, Olde Berlin Town in the Civic Centre, Victoria Park, Auditorium, Mt. Hope Breithaupt, King East and Cedar Hill.



## Neighbourhood Programs At Downtown Community Centre

35B Weber Street West,  
Kitchener

Volunteers from Olde Berlin Town participate on the Board of the Downtown Neighbourhood Alliance along with other Neighbourhood Associations (DNA) downtown Kitchener.

The DNA, coordinates affordable programs in FALL, WINTER, & SPRING for all ages at the Community Centre.

Neighbourhood volunteers deliver newsletters and the seasonal program booklet. To register you can phone 519-741-2501, register at the Centre in person, or select your program on-line at [www.kitchener.ca](http://www.kitchener.ca) - then select WebReg.

◆ Fostering pride in our community

◆ Maintaining a safe neighbourhood

◆ Promoting community awareness

## Sarah Marsh, City Councillor for Ward 10

Kitchener City Hall, 200 King St. W.  
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7



Hello Olde Berlin Town Neighbours!

Happy Spring! It was great to see so many neighbours out for the February meet and greet. We talked about some important issues in the neighbourhood. I look forward to continuing conversations with you.

If you haven't yet seen our new [www.lovemyhood.ca](http://www.lovemyhood.ca) website, I highly recommend you check it out. You'll find all kinds of ideas, resources and information about building strong neighbourhoods. We are always looking for ways to help residents lead cool initiatives in their neighbourhoods!

As gardeners out there are gearing up for the spring, don't forget to nominate exceptional gardens for the Kitchener In Bloom awards. It's easy. All you have to do is send us the address of the property you wish to nominate! Once nominated, the city will be in touch with property owner re an opportunity to participate in Kitchener in Bloom programming and events. When you are out walking or driving and you see a front yard that you feel is attractive, send us the address via email to [kitchenerinbloom@kitchener.ca](mailto:kitchenerinbloom@kitchener.ca) or call 519-741-2200 ext. 7224.

As always, if you have any questions or ideas for me, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,   
[sarah.marsh@kitchener.ca](mailto:sarah.marsh@kitchener.ca) Office: (519) 741-2786 Cell: (519) 807-8006  
Twitter: @Marsh\_Ward10 Facebook: @sarahmarshward10

## ZONING CHANGES - CRoZBy

A Comprehensive Review of the new Kitchener Zoning By-law  
*A final draft of the new zoning by-law and associated amendment to the city's Official Plan is available for public review and comment at [www.kitchener.ca/crozby](http://www.kitchener.ca/crozby).*

*A statutory public meeting will be held over 3 sessions by the Planning & Strategic Initiatives Committee on April 30 and May 8, 2018 so that members of Council can hear your comments. You have two options to comment:*

- 1) Provide a written submission to the Clerk's Office (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 200 King Street West, Kitchener, ON, N2G 4G7) by May 8, 2018; and/or*
- 2) Make an oral submission at one of the three statutory public meetings (Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 200 King Street West, Kitchener)*

*Session 1 – Monday, April 30, 2018 at 7 p.m.  
Session 2 – Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 2 p.m.  
Session 3 – Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7 p.m.*

To speak, please register in advance at [www.kitchener.ca/delegations](http://www.kitchener.ca/delegations) or by calling the City Clerk's Office at 741-2200, ext. 7275 and indicate which of the three sessions you will be attending. Planning consultants and members of the development industry are encouraged to attend Session, May 8<sup>th</sup>, afternoon session.

*This final draft zoning by-law only applies to select properties within the city. A map is available at this website at [www.kitchener.ca/crozby](http://www.kitchener.ca/crozby) for areas that are included in this final draft zoning by-law.*

*For specific zoning information on your property please visit the city's [interactive mapping system](#) and search for your property. We have prepared a [set of instructions](#) to help you find the proposed zoning of your property using this system. Full by-law is at [www.kitchener.ca/crozby](http://www.kitchener.ca/crozby).*

### Important Numbers To Know

- ◆ Ward Councillor, Sarah Marsh (519) 741-2786
- ◆ Property Standards (519) 741-2345 ◆ Gas Leaks (519) 741-2529
- ◆ Police (519) 653-7700 ◆ Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)
- ◆ City of Kitchener's Corporate Contact Centre - 519-741-2345

### OBTNA Board Members

Donna Kuehl, Rosemary Coleman, Hal Jaeger, Leslie Stallard  
FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/OldeBerlinTown>  
35B Weber Street West, Kitchener N2H 3Z1  
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