

Olde Berlin Town Neighbourhood Association

In the Civic Centre ~ A Heritage Conservation District

www.oldeberlinton.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/OldeBerlinTown>

Spring
2020

Hi Neighbour the robins arrived early this Spring and warmer weather too.

I hope you are safe and following emergency procedures during this national pandemic. Even if the COVID 19 virus is uppermost in our minds, I hope our mandated hibernation has led to some creative inspiration for you and your family. While the coronavirus has kept us more isolated, it is important to stay connected and check on neighbours if you are able.



Are you sharing strategies for managing living and working from home? Do any residents on your street need assistance getting groceries or pharmacy items? Do neighbours on your street bond in a special way? If you have ideas to share, writeus@oldeberlinton.ca.

We had great participation at Olde Berlin Town's annual meeting in January. Thank you to all the residents who joined our community conversation and shared ideas and concerns. Updates from the past year were presented and our guest speaker, Councillor Sarah Marsh fielded many questions. Group discussion topics included traffic safety and congestion, supporting vulnerable people, benefits of camera security,

crime on streets, needle/sharps pick-up, affordable housing, place making grants, beautification of laneways, tiny homes policy questions, neighbourhood events, development issues, firetruck access, construction protocol, city planning and zoning and much more.

There are a few changes to the representatives on OBT's volunteer board. We continue to meet monthly and are committed to having a neighbourhood that is safe, informed and a welcoming place to live. Making new-connections and meeting neighbours is mostly a virtual reality for the time being, so we'll need to get creative.

The Safety Group is focusing on completing OBT's safety audit with a walk-through for each street. Check out the update from the Heritage and Development team on page two. There are some changes coming for the Communications team; many thanks to Sandi Castle for her work this past year on E-news. My thanks to all the Board members for your work and dedication last year.

Stay safe, **Donna Kuehl, Chair**

May your troubles be less, Your blessings be more, And nothing but happiness, Come through your door! [Irish Blessing]



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Civic Governance: Heritage & Development Committee

On December 9, 2019, Council heard feedback on the proposed Secondary Plans. Council chambers could not accommodate all the concerned public, and a second room equipped with an audio-visual feed was quickly set up. No decisions were taken at the meeting. All oral and written submissions are to be considered in preparing the next draft of the Secondary Plans.

The Olde Berlin Town neighbourhood submitted a 29-page working draft neighbourhood response to the Secondary Plan proposal which can be found at <https://oldeberlintown.ca/secondaryplan/>. The OBTNA Heritage & Development Committee continues to welcome comments about the proposed Secondary Plan and neighbourhood response. Please email us at writeus@oldeberlintown.ca. The Secondary Plans and background material are available at <https://www.kitchener.ca/NPR>. Additional information and resources are available on the Olde Berlin Town Neighbourhood Association website at <https://oldeberlintown.ca/land-use-zoning-planning/>.

While no details have been released as to the next steps for public consultation, the Planning Department intends to have Council adopt the next draft of the Secondary Plans into law in 2020. We will endeavour to keep you updated when more is known.

On February 4, 2020, Heritage Kitchener reviewed a Heritage Impact Assessment in support of a proposal to demolish the heritage district

properties at 50-56 Weber St W to make way for a 6-storey multi-residential building (HIA at <https://lf.kitchener.ca/WebLinkExt/0/doc/1820802/Page1.aspx>). This proposal is a revision from a previous version presented to Heritage Kitchener in August 2018 in which the plan also called for the demolition of 107 Young. A Heritage Permit Application is expected soon. Council will vote on whether to grant the Heritage Permit Application after Heritage Kitchener makes its

recommendations. The OBTNA H&DC has liaised with the developer since January 2018. Committee members made personal submissions at both Heritage Kitchener meetings.

The OBTNA H&DC intended to host a Jane's Walk on Sunday, May 3rd to visit some of the buildings listed on our neighbourhood Heritage District Walking Tour. That's on hold for now. Look for details coming soon on our Facebook page and via our email broadcast. Interested in joining our committee? New members always welcome. (writeus@oldeberlintown.ca).

What are Secondary Plans?

“Secondary Plans are detailed neighbourhood scale plans. They are prepared because the general policies directing City-wide growth and development are not detailed enough to address specific issues in an individual neighbourhood” (from Kitchener Official Plan, Part 3, Section 12, Page 1).

How to Review Zoning

Go to www.oldeberlintown.ca/zoning.

Follow the step-by-step instructions with all the links you need. The process is as follows:

1. Look up the addresses you are interested in on the existing and proposed zoning maps
2. Look up the identified zoning regulations and special provisions.
3. Compare the suggested allowable uses, heights, setbacks, etc.



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RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS at the DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Downtown Community Centre and its programs are suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Drop-In sports programs, listed on this page, will likely be the first to get back up and running. When programs start up again, we'll send information by Email and Facebook.

DROP-IN PROGRAMS	AGES	DAY	TIME
Dodgeball	16+	Monday	6:30 - 8:00 pm
Volleyball at noon	18+	Tuesday	12:00 - 1:00 pm
Badminton	16+	Wednesday	7:00 - 9:30 pm
Indoor Soccer	16+	Thursday	6:30 - 8:00 pm
Thursday night Basketball	18+	Thursday	8:00-10:00 pm
Basketball at noon - Advanced	18+	Friday	12:00 - 1:00 pm
Women's Volleyball	16+	Saturday	11:00am-12:30pm
Adult Floor Hockey	18+	Saturday	1:30 - 3:30 pm

Neighbourhood Safety Group: *by Jane Parmley*

The street-by-street safety audit being done by volunteers is continuing. If you want to help, email writeus@oldeberlintown.ca.

A printable tip-sheet about preventing crime with phone and online contacts is available on the OBT website. Another type of safety pamphlet will soon be available with **WHO TO CALL** numbers, for example:

Only call [9-1-1] for true emergencies or if someone is having a medical emergency

Call Police [519-570-9777] if someone is loitering on your property or if someone is exhibiting unsafe behaviour

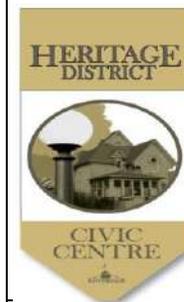
Call City of Kitchener Corporate Contact [519-741-2345] if you find a needle in a public space, laneway or park; if the needle/sharp is on your property, find more information at: <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/living-here/harm-reduction.aspx>

For more information about alcohol and drug concerns the Consumption Treatment Services: go here www.regionofwaterloo.ca/CTS

Sources re: **Civic Centre Heritage Conservation District (CCHCD)** in Olde Berlin Town neighbourhood

CCHCD Plan: www.kitchener.ca/en/resourcesGeneral/Documents/DSD_PLAN_HeritagePlanCivicCentre.Pdf. Building(s) or property changes may require a [heritage permit](#). Vacant buildings within an HCD subject to heritage provisions of the [property standards bylaw](#).

- City of Kitchener: Heritage & Policy Planner 519-741-2200 ext. 7839;
- Municipal Heritage Committee: <https://www.kitchener.ca/en/building-and-development/heritage.aspx>
- Region of Waterloo: <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/exploring-the-region/heritage-conservation-toolbox.aspx>
- Ontario Heritage Act: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90o18>



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Councillor Sarah Marsh Ward 10, Kitchener



Dear Olde Berlin Town Neighbours,

On Wednesday, March 25th, 2020 the Mayor declared a State of Emergency in Kitchener, in concert with the rest of our area municipalities. At this time, it is vital that we all do our part to participate in social distancing and safe practices including washing our hands often.

It is natural for people to feel anxious in these unprecedented times, but I hope you can take comfort in the fact that we are all in this together. I commend the many people who are finding ways to be helpful, whether it is to (from a distance) help neighbours who are vulnerable, share useful information with each other, or volunteer where needed. Thank you to all the first responders and to those working directly with the most vulnerable people in our community.

For an abundance of useful local information on COVID-19, go to www.regionofwaterloo.ca/COVID19. I hope you do everything in your power to stay safe and healthy. We will get through this together.

sarah.marsh@kitchener.ca

519-741-2786 or 519-807-8006

Here's a picture from the AGM held at the KW Art Gallery, January 25th.



Do you have thoughts on how we can make our neighbourhood even better? Ways to build a stronger sense of community and get neighbours engaged?

If you have a special event you want to organize for the Olde Berlin Town neighbourhood you can apply for an O.B.T. mini-grant of to \$50 to support your initiative; request an application form. Don't forget to follow us on social media.

OBTNA Volunteer Board ~ 2020

Rosemary Coleman, Donna Kuehl, Kathy Lawrence, Noam Miller, Jane Parmley, Stephen Pedersen, Leslie Stallard

E-Mail: writeus@oldeberlintown.ca

For updates/e-news: <http://oldeberlintown.ca/signup>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/oldeberlintown/>

Important Numbers To Know

- ◆ Ward Councillor, Sarah Marsh (519) 741-2786 sarah.marsh@kitchener.ca
- ◆ Police (519) 653-7700 or 519-570-9777
- ◆ Gas Leaks (519) 741-2529
- ◆ Property Standards (519)741-2345 www.kitchener.ca/bylawguide
- ◆ Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)
- ◆ City of Kitchener's Contact Centre (519) 741-2345
- ◆ Garbage (519) 575-4400 www.regionofwaterloo.ca/waste
Download My Waste app recycling schedules & reminders

We want to hear from you! writeus@oldeberlintown.ca.