



Winter 2019

January, February
& March

Volunteers helping to make our community a better place to live

NEWSLETTER



Important information regarding Programing details for Winter 2019...

Please note, the winter on-line registration begins on Tuesday November 20th. www.kitchener.ca/activenet

You will notice that this newsletter appears different than our usual format. In early November, our proposed programs will be posted on our website: www.dppca.ca and our Facebook page. Pioneer Park Library will also have information on what we are offing for the winter session.

As most of you are aware, we are now programming off-site due to the Community Centre expansion. This poses a big challenge for us as we still have to offer reasonably priced and safe location spaces for you, the Community Members. Then, also we have to ensure we meet our minimum registration numbers to continue offering the programs.

We are partnering with some community churches and schools already, and we are still in the process of trying to secure other community spaces. Due to these ongoing challenges and the time required for printing of the newsletter, we cannot yet advertise what winter programs we are offering. Thank you for your patience and understanding during the expansion.

Board of Directors
D.P.P.C.A.



The City's groundbreaking ceremony for the Community Centre expansion took place on Wednesday, September 26th
It is finally happening!!

Doon Pioneer Park Community Centre
519-741-2641
Website: www.kitchener.ca

Doon Pioneer Park Community Association
Website: www.dppca.ca
E-mail: info@dppca.ca

FAMILY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Do you need help in finding resources for you and your family?

We Can Help!

Our goal is to assist children and families to access services they need within their own neighbourhood.



Support available includes:
Food when you run short,
Counselling referral,
Recreation fees,
Transportation



For assistance please call your worker to schedule a time for you to meet.
519-742-8327 x250

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DPPCA 2018 Christmas Miracle Food Hamper Project



Email: AnnualChristmasMiracleProject@gmail.com

Telephone: Williamsburg Community Centre (519) 741-2240 or Project Volunteer (519) 589-9637

Our Volunteers are getting things ready for the 2018 Christmas Miracle Food Hamper Project! Each year we plan to deliver healthy food hampers and knitted hats and mitts for children to 50+ families in our community. We do this alongside the Christmas Bureau operated out of the House of Friendship Emergency Food Hamper Program and the community association. We are thankful for the continued support received from area schools, churches, businesses and individuals over the past 35 years. You make this project possible! **Did you know?**

- ❖ **\$175.00 WILL PAY FOR A CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPER FOR A SMALL FAMILY OF 4.** This helps the family cover extra expenses during the Christmas season.
- ❖ **FINANCIAL DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!** Donations received over \$20.00 will receive an income tax receipt from the City of Kitchener. Please make your cheque payable to the "**City of Kitchener**", and mail or deliver it in an envelope addressed to **DPPCA 150 Pioneer Drive, Kitchener ON N2P 2C2** to the Kitchener Public Library location during office hours. Please **NO CASH!**
- ❖ **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED.** Donate non-perishable items to our project up until **Wednesday December 19th** by dropping them off at participating centres, area schools, churches and other neighbourhood businesses.
- ❖ **NEW KNITTED HATS AND MITTENS FOR CHILDREN ARE ALSO ACCEPTED.** Most needed are for kids ages 9 – 14. The donation box for these will be at the Pioneer Park Library until Wednesday, December 12th. Send us an email, to donate new/unused yarn' or to find out how to pick up yarn for volunteer knitters.
- ❖ **The "TOONIE FOR TINS Campaign" helps to pay for the perishable food items.** This project is easy to organize for your club, class or family. If everyone donates \$2.00, it helps to pay for the food purchases of the project.
- ❖ **VOLUNTEERS CAN REGISTER BY EMAIL FROM SEPTEMBER 5TH UNTIL FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14TH.** Registration is limited so sign yourself and your family up early! You Can:
 - Join the CM Project Planning Committee!
 - Knit new hats and mitts for the children;
 - Sort out non-perishable donations on Thursday, December 20th at 6:00 pm;
 - Pack a family's hamper on Saturday, December 22nd at 9:00 am;
 - Deliver the hampers on Saturday, December 22nd at 10:30 am.
- ❖ Let us know if your group needs our help to organize their own food hamper project, sponsor a family or run a fundraising event or campaign to raise awareness of the Food Hamper Project in our community.
- ❖ **FAMILIES IN NEED OF A FOOD HAMPER CAN REGISTER AT THE PIONEER PARK FOOD BANK IN NOVEMBER (Date to be determined)** or by contacting the House of Friendship Food Hamper Program at 807 Guelph St, Kitchener, 519-742-5860 (www.christmasbureau.ca). ID for all members in your family, and income information will be required to register.
- ❖ **GOT QUESTIONS?** We can now be reached by Email: AnnualChristmasMiracleProject@gmail.com, to a Project Volunteer (519) 589-9637, or by leaving a message with the Community Centre staff at (519) 741-2641.

Volunteer Spirit Award

The Doon Pioneer Park Community Association would like to congratulate the recipients' of this year's Volunteer Spirit Award. The DPPCA recognizes 2 graduating high school students from our area who are continuing their education full time at a Community College or University. These students have demonstrated an outstanding record in volunteerism during their high school years.

Omar Murra – Huron Heights Secondary School

Bianca Angeli – St. Mary's High School

Bianca and Omar, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

Congratulations!



Hello Neighbours,

The work has finally begun on the expansion of the Community Centre. I know it's been a long wait to see this start, and my hope is that the completion and reopening of the new centre will not be delayed.

We can look forward to a new splash pad, and new entrance where citizens can sit and watch their children on the splash pad or participating in activities in one of the gyms. The new entrance will let in a lot more light and make a better connection to the library. Please remember that our Pioneer Park branch of the library is still open and they would love to see you come by for some of the many events that they will continue to host for the community. Stop by and see our wonderful KPL staff who are ready and willing to answer your questions.

By the time you will receive this newsletter the municipal election will have taken place. It is my hope that you took the time to vote, as municipal government is the level that most effects your day to day life. Having a less than 30% voter turnout is discouraging. I hope that the numbers for this election will be higher!

As your outgoing Ward Councillor, it has been my honour to represent you at Council. As your representative and together with the community, we have addressed numerous issues, including traffic calming, trails, cycling lanes, new and old parks, the expansion of our community centre, student housing and development concerns to name a few.

I hope that you will give the new Councillor time to adjust to their position, as it can be a steep learning curve. I have offered to help with the transition, so that any of the issues that I have been working on will continue without disruption.

Thanks for your support and I look forward to seeing you around the community whether it is at the new improved plaza, at the new Upper Canada Park, the expanded community centre or on the trails!

Sincerely,

Councillor Yvonne Fernandes—Ward 4



Jean's Corner

Between a Rock and a Hard Place!

Who threw that large rock onto the centre of my front lawn? On an extremely warm and very dry summer evening as I walked to the front of my property, I noticed what appeared to be a large grey rock 24" in diameter. The closer I came I realized it was NOT a rock, but a snapping turtle. Quickly we found a shovel with a plastic blade and placed it close by the turtle. Onto it, the turtle crept. Then we loaded the turtle in a wagon and transported it to Schneider's Creek, where it quietly seemed to say "good-bye" to us and crawled into the brush.

One Spring day about a year ago, walking along Tilt Drive, my family came across a flattened shell about 6" in diameter. On closer examination, we learned it was a Painted turtle. Sadly, this turtle met its end on its way to lay its eggs. From April until the beginning of July, turtles journey from wetlands, Strasburg Creek in our area, to the edge of roads or gravelly surroundings in order to lay their eggs.

Finding the flattened turtle at the roadside caused us to call the City Department which deals with wildlife since the Painted Turtle is on both the Federal and Provincial species list of Special Concern. Surely, hearing about this fatality would have given some cause for concern. One might expect that a response such as having a 'Turtle Crossing' sign posted at the roadside warning motorists to beware. Apparently, after Staff reviewed the site and the turtle habitat, signs were not merited.

So as the Spring season approaches and you are motoring along Tilt Drive, think turtle. Let's keep our wildlife alive. There are no signs to remind you that that dark chunk of earth on the road might just be a Painted turtle.

Jean Haalboom

Pioneer Park Library

150 Pioneer Drive
Kitchener, ON, N2P 2C2
519-748-2740

Hours of Operation:

Monday - Thursday	9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 5:30 pm



PIONEER PARK COMMUNITY LIBRARY IS OPEN DURING THE RENOVATIONS. PLEASE CONFIRM WITH **KPL.ORG** FOR ALL SCHEDULED PROGRAMS.

Free Storytimes and more!

From babies to families, join us for stories, songs and more. Watch out for Music for Young Children. Check our Active Kitchener program guide or kpl.org website for details.

Registration begins December 31.

NEW!

Snowflake Dance Party

Locked Pod Star Wars

Giant Decoration Party

★ FAVOURITES ★

- Babytime
- One is Fun
- Playful Tinkering
- Reading Buddies
- Homework Help

PA Superhero Bath Bombs & Books

Grades K - 6

Join us for Family Literacy Day together we will read our book "Even Superheroes have bad days". Then, make a superhero bath bomb to take home.

Friday, January 25
from **10:30 am - 12 pm**

No registration required.

Art Explorers

2 - 5 years

Play with art from sculpture to paper. Registration opens one week before the series begins.

Mondays, January 7 - 28
@ 11 - 11:45 am

Registration required.



For Adults

- Chess Club
- Euchre
- Scrabble
- Computer & Tablet Tutors

Board Game Café

Drop in for an evening of board games and socializing. Have fun playing favourite games, or learn to play a new one.

Mondays @ 7 pm

Drop in! No registration required.



Kitchener
Public Library



kpl.org