



General Burns Community Association (GBCA) Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: May 13, 2025

Location: General Burns Lodge

Chair: Alex Kealey-Morin

In Attendance

- **Alex Kealey-Morin** – President & Bookings Coordinator
- **Kathryn Shaver** – Vice-President & Communications Coordinator
- **Jason Stanley** – Treasurer
- **Kristina Proulx** – Events Coordinator
- **Margaret Sambol** – Environmental Projects Coordinator
- **Samy Kourdes** – Website Coordinator
- **Alex McAuley** – Director-at-Large
- **Peter Melvin** – Tennis Club Representative

- **Councillor Sean Devine** – Ward 9 Representative

Regrets:

- **Karl Marszowski** – Rink Coordinator
 - **Suyin Lee** – Programs Coordinator
 - **Secretary** – Vacant
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1. Councillor Sean Devine – City Updates

a) **Flooding in Carleton Heights:**

Sean met with residents to assess flooding issues. The city's infrastructure team will conduct a formal assessment and develop a project charter. Engagement with a resident advisory group is planned for 2025.

b) **Backwater Valves & Window Protection (2026):**

The city will study these issues with budget approval.

c) **Stormwater Management:**

Sean is advocating for permeable pavement and improved stormwater drainage solutions.

d) **Facility Improvements at General Burns Lodge:**

- a. **Flooring:** 50% funding from Sean's office, 50% from the city. Needs assessment required.
- b. **Kitchen Renovations:** City will not fund; Sean may offer limited support. His total ward budget is \$35K.



- e) **Community Association Agreements:**
Sean noted discrepancies in service levels across associations. Harmonization is underway. Associations should flag concerns during negotiations.

- f) **Parks & Paths:**
 - a. **Raoul Wallenberg Path:** Poor patching noted; new materials being tested.
 - b. **Red Pine Path:** Damaged by vehicle; city blocked access. Residents still using it—Sean to follow up with Forestry.

- g) **Transit (OC Transpo):**
New routes launched April 27 to improve reliability. However, resource shortages persist. Sean is working with the Auditor General and another councillor to address systemic issues.

2. Community Q&A

- **Chesterton Speeding:**
Traffic calming measures (e.g., speed humps) planned south of Frank Ryan. Sean to request targeted enforcement and obtain city data.

- **Crime Concerns:**
Reports of drug activity near Quickie and General Burns Park. Sean requested specific times/locations for OPS follow-up. Will be addressed in the next newsletter.

- **Traffic at Merivale & Viewmount:**
Concerns raised due to congestion near Merivale High School and Metro.

- **Littering at Omar DeLaurier High School:**
Request for more garbage bins submitted by Alex.

- **Off-Leash Dogs:**
Continued concern in the community.

3. Board Updates

- **Finance:**
Total income: **\$15,015** from donations, grants, and rentals.

- **Volunteer Hours:**
Callouts for volunteers to support GBCA initiatives are conducted throughout the year. Great opportunity for high school students seeking to fulfill their volunteer hours.



- **Wi-Fi Expansion:**
Exploring options to support rentals and programs (e.g., homework clubs).
Coverage goal: 300m radius.
- **Skating Rink:**
Successful season due to favorable weather.
- **Facility Bookings:**
 - Regular homeschool group rentals.
 - Rates: \$40/hr (private), \$20/hr (community events).
 - Would also consider community-led events at no cost.
 - Maintenance updates pending.
- **Tennis:**
 - 147 memberships as of May 1 (expected to rise).
 - Website: generalburnstennis.ca
 - Offerings: tournaments, leagues, coaching, and summer camps (\$160/week per child).
- **Communications:**
 - Channels: Website, Facebook, newsletter.
 - 24% increase in Facebook memberships.
 - Contact: info@generalburns.ca
 - Monthly meetings: Last Tuesday of each month (paused in summer).
- **Website:**
Updated with social media links, history, sponsorships, events, bookings, and community resources.
- **Events:**
 - **Fun Day:** Bouncy castles, vendors, BBQ, magician, firetruck, carnival games. Received \$1600 city grant and the city will cover the cost of the event permit.
 - **Skating Party:** Cold but successful (25–30 attendees in February).
- **Environmental Projects:**
 - Butterfly garden maintenance ongoing.
 - Park cleanup involved 12 volunteers.
- **Director-at-Large:**
 - Grant Carmen repairs underway.
- **Community Priorities Survey:**
 - Board will issue a survey to gather input on future initiatives of interest to the community.