

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

Our File/N/Réf. 05-99-0020
Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 28 April 1999

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator
Corporate Services and Economic Services Committee

FROM/EXP. Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT/OBJET **MILLENNIUM ACTIVITIES AT THE REGION
OF OTTAWA-CARLETON**

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee recommend Council approve the:

- 1. Development of a Downtown Beautification Program;**
- 2. Resolution in Support of Tree Canada Foundation's Operation Re-Leaf as attached as Annex C to the report, and approve the planting of 2000 Maple Trees along Regional roadways in the rural area by maximizing the use of senior government grants.**

PURPOSE

The Report is twofold: it brings together in one document all of the large Regional projects that are in process and may/will be affiliated with the millennium. The Report addresses the Region's involvement in community initiatives at this point in time and recommends new opportunities that add value in the community and are lasting for future generations to appreciate.

BACKGROUND

The Year 2000 will be marked throughout the world by events and celebrations at the local, national and international levels.

In October 1999 the Region provided a seed grant of \$75,000 to establish Ottawa 2000. It is a federally incorporated non-profit organization based in the Region of Ottawa-Carleton, 111 Lisgar Street and is controlled by a locally-based volunteer Board of Directors (list is attached at Annex A).

Since the public launch of Ottawa 2000 on January 30, 1998, the organization has concentrated on the conceptual development of numerous programs and products through consultation with community organizations, public and private agencies, and the public at large. Such programs and products have been reviewed, categorized and prioritized through working committees of Ottawa 2000 in the following thematic areas: Arts, Education, Children and Youth; Environment; Heritage and Legacy, and; Special Events. Additional programs have been endorsed under the auspices of specific agencies. The current list of these programs is attached as Annex B.

DISCUSSION

The Millennium is a very special occasion. It only comes once every 1000 years and it is celebrated in many ways around the world. As the senior level of local government, the Region should consider undertaking a specific millennium project that will be of lasting value to many future generations. We should also consider how we wish to commemorate major projects that are nearing completion. This could very well be one of the few remaining opportunities for the Region in its present form of government to leave its mark on 30 years of providing quality service for the history books.

As I have indicated earlier, the objective of this report is simply to coordinate the Region's involvement in significant business-as-usual projects and community initiatives we are interested in and/or provided some initial research on. It is also to put before Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee and Council some new initiatives to consider undertaking as the Region's Millennium project.

New Initiatives for Consideration

Downtown Beautification Program

The Region may wish to initiate, as part of the millennium celebrations, a beautification program in the downtown core of the Region that individual property owners would commit to continue in subsequent years, thereby providing a yearly beautification program which would enhance the Region's reputation as "green and clean", instill pride in the community and create a new marketing feature for attracting tourism.

The project would consist of providing planter boxes in front of properties on regional/local streets within the downtown core. Given that the very limited space available and the hostile growing environment on downtown streets does not allow for the planting of trees, the planting of flowers in removable planter boxes or hanging baskets would provide an attractive alternative.

The program would first identify the core area and carry out a preliminary survey to identify potential location, size and number of planters required. The provision of planter boxes or hanging baskets will be contracted out. An information and marketing campaign would then be initiated to obtain residents, business owners and the Business Improvement Association's involvement in the project and their commitment to plant and maintain flowers. We would coordinate this with the City of Ottawa and the NCC and work with local landscaping firms and flower growers to obtain cost savings opportunities for the provision of the flowers and instructions on planting, watering and maintenance. This initiative would provide an opportunity to award a prize for the most beautiful city block in early September 2000.

The total project cost is \$500,000 with an ability to increase that to \$1.0 million through sponsorships or direct contributions from property/business owners.

Planting of Trees

We have applied to Tree Canada Foundation Operation Re-Leaf to plant 2000 sugar maple trees along Regional roadways over the next three years. It is a repeat of the re-forestation carried out by Carleton County and the Ottawa Suburban Roads Commission in the late 1800's.

Staff requires a resolution of Council supporting the direction before the application can be accepted. Resolution in support of Tree Canada Foundation's Operation Re-Leaf is attached at Annex C.

Regional Projects in development

Trans Canada Trail

On April 28, 1999, Regional Council approved a report to complete the Trans-Canada trail in Ottawa-Carleton.

Bringing the Trans Canada Trail to Ottawa-Carleton is one of the projects that Ottawa 2000 has endorsed for the region's millennium celebrations. The Trans Canada Trail is a national undertaking to build a 15,000-kilometre multi-use recreational trail from coast to coast, linking all provinces and territories. When completed, it will be the longest trail of its kind in the world. Conceived in 1992 to celebrate Canada's 125th anniversary, this project is well underway. Major segments across Canada are scheduled for completion by the year 2000 in celebration of the Millennium.

The Trans Canada Trail Foundation approached the Region of Ottawa-Carleton and the National Capital Commission requesting that key existing pathway and publicly-owned corridors be used as part of the Trans Canada Trail. So far, the National Capital Commission has registered over 76 km of pathway, of which 26 km is on the Ontario-side of the Capital Region. The Trans Canada Trail Foundation asked the Region of Ottawa-Carleton to register the abandoned rail corridor from Bells Corners, through Kanata and Stittsville, to Carleton Place as part of the Trans Canada Trail. Ten kilometres of this corridor between Bells Corners and Stittsville has already been improved with stone dust; leaving 21 kilometres from Stittsville to Carleton Place to be improved. The final seven kilometres of Trail on the corridor which extends through Lanark County, would be developed in partnership with Lanark County. Since the Region owns the corridor, the Region's Transportation Committee and Council must give its approval for the corridor to be used as a trail.

The ByWays of Ottawa-Carleton committee brings together experienced trail builders and users to deliver this critical link in the Capital Region.

The next steps in the process are:

- ◆ “registering” the corridor with the Trans Canada Trail Foundation
- ◆ working with agency and community partners to determine the most appropriate mix of the Trans Canada Trail core users for various segments of the Trail on Regional property (walkers, cyclists, cross-country skiers, snowmobilers, and equestrian riders)
- ◆ working with agency and community partners to clarify operational and maintenance roles and responsibilities
- ◆ the Commissioner of Planning and Development finalizing and signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ontario Trails Council and local partners, in keeping with regional policy and addressing the issues discussed in this report
- ◆ assisting the ByWays Committee with further public consultation
- ◆ reviewing and advising on the design and construction of the pathway, and its related elements on Regional property
- ◆ providing technical expertise related to pathway design and construction to the committee;
- ◆ contributing to the investigation of future pathway links to neighbourhoods and communities and to the east and south of the region.

Restoring the Core

This program has entailed renewal of a significant amount of Regional infrastructure in the core area. We are presently working to complete Elgin Street Rehabilitation and the Plaza Bridge Restoration by the end of this year. The Elgin Street project entails complete rebuilding of Elgin Street from Queen Street to Laurier Avenue to Confederation Boulevard standards and renewal of the underground infrastructure. The new streetscape will have improved sidewalks and plantings as well as new crosswalks.

The Plaza Bridge project will totally rehabilitate this 80 year old structure, maintaining the Heritage aspects and incorporating a grand staircase into the structure to improve the pedestrian movements and functionality of the area.

Restoring the Core projects, which have been recently completed in the last three years are: Phase I, II and III of Wellington Street, Mackenzie King Bridge Restoration, and Laurier Avenue Reconstruction from Charlotte to Nelson.

Light Rail Pilot

Ottawa-Carleton residents will have their first chance to take a ride on light rail transit in the year 2000, if the project is approved by Regional Council later this year. The two-year pilot project, intended to prove the effectiveness of light rail as a means of attracting new riders to public transit, would be turned into a permanent service if it is successful. This project would represent the first commitment by a North American transit operator to state-of-the-art diesel light rail technology.

The light rail service, which would run along an active rail corridor, is one of several required by the Region's long-term transportation plan to achieve a 73% increase in transit use by 2021. The light rail line can improve access to rapid transit service for thousands of Regional residents - about 2 million passengers would be expected to use the light rail pilot project in the first year. Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) owns the rail corridor, and would also build the stations and operate the light rail vehicles on behalf of the Region and OC Transpo.

Several transfer points to the Transitway and regular bus routes would make light rail a convenient, integrated part of the OC Transpo system. The line's south end would be at Greenboro Transitway station and Park and Ride lot, and its north end would be a new station on the Transitway, west of LeBreton Flats and near Scott Street. Other stations would be built at Carling Avenue, Carleton University and Confederation Heights.

Vanier-Overbrook Child Care and Education Initiative

The Region and the Conseil des écoles catholiques de langue française du centre-est (CEDLFCE) are currently in the process of developing an innovative full day combined education and child care program for four year olds in the Vanier-Overbrook area. The program will increase access to child care in this high need area and will offer a seamless day experience for all children. Co-ordination of the kindergarten and child care components of the program will enhance opportunities for learning and provide consistency of adult-child interactions. Links with other community resources will also be developed.

This project builds on the growing body of knowledge such as the recently released Early Years Study which highlights the importance of investing in the early years to ensure the best possible outcomes for children.

Peter Clark Centre

The Peter D. Clark Long Term Care Centre will open in the Fall of 2000. The home is Phase One of the replacement of Island Lodge.

The Centre will have 216 long term care beds and will include a Seniors Day Centre. The Clark Centre includes four innovative 12 bed dementia care bungalows developed in collaboration with the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa-Carleton. The Centre will provide a home-like, supportive environment and programs designed to enhance the residents quality of life. No Regional funding commitment at this time.

Community Sewershed Partnership

This proposed project is a partnership with the City of Ottawa to pilot various lot level measures for stormwater control, pollution reduction and sewershed infrastructure performance improvements. The details of the pilot will be finalized this summer including the target community and the scope of initiatives. Consultation with community groups within the pilot area is a key component in development of the project. Tree planting and rain barrels are two examples of lot level controls which can contribute to overall water quality. As part of the pilot it is intended to measure the success of these lot level controls in contributing to reduced quantity of the sewer flows and in the degree of acceptance by the community for water quality improvements. Implementation of the project will be subject to appropriate level approvals at the City of Ottawa and the Region.

Rural Clean Water Program

This project focus is rural water quality initiatives. In 1999, the Region will be working with the various water quality partners and rural interest groups to develop this program similar to the community sewershed partnership. The program will start in Year 2000. Funding from Capital Budget \$250,000 in 1999 and \$250,000 in 2000.

OC Transpo Services

OC Transpo will provide free bus service on the evening of December 31, 1999 and all day January 1, 2000. There will be at least three major events happening on New Year's Eve--Parliament Hill and the Corel Centre on the Ontario side and the Casino de Hull is planning a major celebration on the Quebec side. OC Transpo traditionally offers free transit service on New Year's Eve, however, it will be even more significant the eve of the new millennium. OC Transpo will be looking for interested sponsors to participate in the free transit service program.

Residents will also be enjoying better and more reliable transit service later in the year 2000 with the scheduled opening of two major Transitway stations: Bayshore and Mackenzie King Bridge at the Rideau Centre. Kanata residents will also see changes which will improve their homebound transit trips. These expected changes will also improve transit connections to the Corel Centre.

The first six kilometres of transit priority lanes on Woodroffe Avenue will improve service for transit users as will the expected building of the Barrhaven park-and-ride lot.

Finally, some 35 low floor articulated buses are expected to arrive during 2000 to bring the total number of new low-floor buses with the red maple leaf design to 175. This will go a long way to increasing travel options for seniors and persons with special needs.

Additional Front Line Staffing During Millennium Celebrations

Regional Police are developing operational plans to address the public safety issues which will arise from the many public and private millennium festivities. The plans will also take into account the potential need to aid civil authorities and provide police services during the Y2000 vulnerability period which falls in the same timeframe. A key feature of the plans is the re-deployment of more than 100 officers from investigative sections to front-line duties with Patrol Services. Key personnel will remain assigned to the criminal investigative function to guarantee that critical services can be provided during this period. To ensure that a maximum number of sworn and civilian staff will be available for duty all leave has been canceled from 28 December 1999 to 31 January 1999. As part of the operational plans, the support sections of the Service are assessing and sourcing the requirements of the additional front-line staff including uniform clothing and equipment, vehicles and training.

Community Millennium Initiatives - with a Region of Ottawa-Carleton interest

Millennium Park

Ottawa 2000 is looking for several keynote projects to launch its Millennium celebration and fundraising campaign. Among them is the dedication of a new park, or the re-dedication of an existing open space as a Millennium Park. Regional staff assisted Ottawa 2000 in their information gathering and decision-making regarding the opportunities for a Millennium Park dedication. 15 sites were selected by the Task Force and regional staff assisted by preparing a more detailed technical inventory. The Millennium Park Task Force is developing programming priorities to help determine the amount of area required, to refine site selection criteria and estimate the potential costs of such a project. With this background information the Task Force will approach key property owners with their research, objectives and proposals.

National Capital Region Green Map

The National Capital Region Green Map will bring together for the first time, all of the region's 'green sites' - outstanding places of natural beauty, farmers markets and green businesses, ecologically-designed buildings, environmental centres, bike paths and solar sites, as well as the infrastructure and even toxic hot spots. The Green Map Icons, standard protocols of 100 different symbols, indicate each of these green sites and other eco-resources. The Icons make it easier to find these important places, and help residents and visitors understand the interconnection between nature and the built environment in our communities.

This Green Map is part of a growing global initiative, Many cities around the world are participating in this initiative, in Canada they include Montréal, Calgary and Toronto. In some places, Green Mapmakers are producing printed maps, others are making interactive kiosks, and every Map can be placed on the Internet, so anyone - long-time residents, newcomers, visitors, virtual eco-tourists, researchers - can discover their region and great ways to get involved with the environment, and learn about different ways cities around the world are making progress toward healthy sustainability.

The National Capital Region Green Map is a project supported by the Ottawa 2000 ByWays & Greenspaces EcoMillennium Team. Their goal is to strengthen our eco-assets and resources by promoting them to residents and visitors alike. The National Capital Region Green Map will be available as a printed map and on the internet. The National Capital Region Green Map will help facilitate the planning, monitoring, and promotion of a sustainable and healthy region benefiting both residents and visitors alike.

As this initiative develops the Region may be asked to assist this group by providing computer-based mapping data. The significant portion of this data already exists and may require some refinement for use by others. Any participation would be incorporated into existing work activities.

River Care 2000

This project is the brainchild of Federal MP Mauril Bélanger and Regional Councillor Wendy Stewart. It would be a campaign for action on the entire Rideau Canal system from Ottawa to Kingston. The idea would be to have both large scale public works investment coupled with extensive community group initiatives aimed at improving the overall water quality of the Rideau River. Funding would be a combination of private and public funding from all levels of government. Some preliminary work is going on in support of this initiative and is being led by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA). Ottawa-Carleton is a key player and has been involved as part of the team to conceptualize this project. Other key players include Parks Canada and the Cataraqui Conservation Authority. This project has an uncertain status given the uncertainty of funding. This project is being called River Care 2000.

Linkages Initiative

The Linkages Initiative is a business-led effort to provide year-round pedestrian linkages from a number of hotels, businesses and the Congress Centre. The Region's Economic Affairs Office is member of the Linkages Steering Committee. The Region has assumed a lead role in the issue analysis study and the development of implementation guidelines and procedures for the linkages pedestrian system, addressing matters of development, funding, design, approvals, management and operation. The study is scheduled to be completed by the end of May 1999.

Convention Centre

To ensure the Region of Ottawa-Carleton is competitive with other larger Canadian cities in attracting major conventions, the Region, in partnership with the Province, Viking-Rideau Corporation and the Ottawa Congress Centre, is developing business plan which will be instrumental in attracting interest from investors and securing funding commitments for the construction of a new expanded Convention Centre. The business case is scheduled to be completed in June, 1999.

Government Conference Centre

Agreements in Principle have been signed between the Federal Government, the Canada Sports Hall of Fame and the Region for the negotiation of a lease that would see the Government Conference Centre house the Canada Sports Hall of Fame. The major issue is financing and meeting the concerns of all players involved, aside from all heritage considerations in adapting the building to future use. Discussion are progressing and an agreement is expected in May, 1999.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

No public consultation is required at this time.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Planting of Trees - Funding will total \$107,000, a grant in the amount of \$53,500 from Tree Canada Foundation Operation Re-Leaf program with a matching contribution from Region of Ottawa-Carleton. Funds to cover the Regional cost of \$53,500 are available from the Tree Capital account.

Downtown Beautification Program - The total project cost is \$500,000 with an ability to seek sponsorships or direct contributions from property/business owners. Funds are available from the Tree Capital account.

CONCLUSION

The passing over to a new millennium only happens once every thousand years and we are fortunate to live in this era to witness it. As a senior level of local government and a leader in the community, we believe special consideration should be given to bestow a meaningful and lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy.

*Approved by
C.M. Beckstead*



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Shirley Westeinde - Chair
 Claude Bennett - Vice-Chair
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 Vice-Chair - Barbara McNally
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 Paul Bourque - Marketing and Communications Committee Chair
 Catherine Gariépy - Special Events Committee Chair
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Program Summary

March 31, 1999

ARTS PROJECTS

"2000 Voices - 2000 Footsteps - 2000 Pieces"

"2000 Voices, 2000 Footsteps, 2000 Pieces" will be the common umbrella used to market and package performances and works by the local arts community that celebrate the Year 2000 and the millennium. Program components and performances are still to be identified, but now is the time to develop strategic funding, marketing and promotional partnerships that will ensure the success of this high-profile initiative.

Centralized Marketing and Ticketing Venue

It's a "Times Square" for the Capital! There are corporate marketing and promotional opportunities galore for this capital project proposed by the National Arts Centre (NAC), and scheduled to open in the Year 2000. This project would allow access to local arts groups and performing arts venues to market and promote their programs and provide tickets in a centralized, high-profile/high-traffic location. Capital funding is to be provided by the NAC, but marketing and promotional partnerships are required initially and on an ongoing basis.

EDUCATION, CHILDREN and YOUTH PROJECTS

Class of 2000

Over 30,000 elementary, secondary and post-secondary students in Ottawa-Carleton will have the distinction of being the first graduates of the next millennium. The Class of 2000 program will recognize this achievement through the presentation of a personalized certificate and lapel pin to each graduate. This is a terrific opportunity to educate students on the importance of celebrating the Year 2000 and the millennium, and an equally terrific opportunity for corporate partners to reach an important target market.

The Millennium Generation! - Newborns of 2000

Who will be the first newborn in Ottawa-Carleton in the Year 2000? This program will draw attention to this yearly New Year's craze and also recognize all newborn babies in Ottawa-Carleton during the Year 2000. Partners are required to develop marketing and promotional programs to recognize the first generation of the new millennium and commemorate their arrival.

Canadian Youth Identity Dialogue

The Canadian Youth Identity Dialogue is planned as a one-week national youth conference in the Year 2000 for 150 delegates from across the country. Building from conferences already planned or completed in 1998 and 1999, youth will meet in the Capital to discuss the issues and explore solutions affecting their future, and ours! Partnerships will be key in facilitating this important forum.



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ENVIRONMENT PROJECTS

Sustainability Recognition Program For Canadian Schools

This is a phased-in environmental program aimed at raising environmental consciousness and improving environmental performance in the community by using the school system as a focal point. This initiative has the potential of becoming a national yardstick for improving the environmental health of Canada for the benefit of all Canadians, and as a way of recognizing the achievements made in the stewardship of the environment.

Rideau River Restoration

An initiative, which has already received partial funding from the Millennium Bureau of Canada, aimed at the establishment of programs and infrastructure over two years to restore, celebrate and sustain the biodiversity of the habitat within the Rideau River watershed. The project includes the development of a permanent interpretation centre which would also be developed as a tourist attraction. In collaboration with the Environment Committee of Ottawa South (ECOS).

Byways of Ottawa-Carleton

The Year 2000 will herald the completion of the Trans Canada Trail through the National Capital Region. Byways is a capital project to establish a network of recreational trails that will link all local Ottawa-Carleton communities to the Trans Canada Trail, also by the Year 2000. Partners are needed to work with local communities, municipal and regional governments to ensure we're all linked to the Trans Canada Trail network.

Greenprint

The environment and environmental programs have been identified by Canadians as the single most important way of marking the millennium. Greenprint is a program to measure the objectives and accomplishments of the Greenprint Round Table on environmental action, and adopt and implement an updated (3rd) edition of the Greenprint document. In collaboration with the local Greenprint organization.

National Environmental Trust (NET)

The National Environmental Trust (NET) is a program to establish a long-term sustainable endowment fund for environmental non-government organizations. Piloted here in Ottawa in 1998, the initiative aims for a full national fundraising campaign in the Year 2000. A portion of the proceeds of the NET would return to its contributing partner organizations, such as Ottawa 2000. In collaboration with the Canadian Biodiversity Institute.

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HERITAGE and LEGACY PROJECTS

Rendezvous Victoria/Chaudière

Rendezvous Victoria/Chaudière is a combined educational and capital project to produce public educational kits, interpretive photography exhibits, a promotional video and to develop a new system of public pathways in the Victoria Island/Chaudière Falls precinct. All work would be consistent with the overall long-term development concept already produced by the National Capital Commission.

Millennium Calendar

A Year 2000 publicity and merchandising product, the Millennium Calendar will be used as marketing vehicle for both Ottawa 2000 and the Historical Society of Ottawa. In addition to counting down to the Year 2000, the calendar will contain a series of colourful historical renderings of local scenes and provide significant historical facts on the Ottawa Valley during each day of the Year 2000. This product will provide some valuable partnership opportunities through both media distribution and retailing.

"The Water Man" Feature Film

"The Water Man" is an initiative for a locally-produced drama feature film on the building of the Rideau Canal and the life of the founder of Ottawa, Colonel John By. Research, pre-production work and fundraising work for this production is now underway. When completed, the film would have a world-wide release in the Year 2000 and would premiere here in the Capital. Investor opportunities are numerous at the film's current stage.

Millennium Park and the Kid's Urban Garden

Working with numerous public agencies and local governments, this is a project to develop a new regional scale open space development in Ottawa -Carleton. Environmental programs will be a central theme to this development. Tree planting will restore the loss of trees as a result of the recent ice-storm, provide a new urban forest, help beautify the Capital, and provide air quality benefits through the reduction of greenhouse gases. Numerous sites are under consideration, each of which could feature 2,000 trees of the new millennium tree species from Tree Canada. Participants in the program would be acknowledged at each site in a similar fashion to the Trans Canada Trail. Other components of the development would include a Kid's Urban Garden aimed at providing an outdoor natural environment classroom in a prominent urban location. Kids would plan it, build it and maintain it, and use it as a way of exploring the wonders of nature, but without having to leave the city. Additional items to be developed in the park could include public art, performing arts facilities, public recreation amenities and a national programming component such as a commemorative recognition to those members of the Order of Canada. All this gives the millennium park the potential of becoming one of the Capital's newest tourist attractions!

Ottawa Then and Now Photo Book

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so this millennium product should speak volumes. 'Ottawa Then and Now' is the working title of a full-colour production by noted Ottawa photographer John McQuarrie. The book, to be released in time for Year 2000, will capture 200 years of Ottawa history through visual representations from drawings, paintings and early as well as contemporary photos. Former mayor Jacqueline Holzman will author the passages of the book. Investment and marketing partnerships are available for this unique product.

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Old Nepean Town Hall Bell

The Westboro Community Association is leading this initiative to replace the bell and carillon of the Old Nepean Town Hall in Westboro, and restore the bell tower of the building. Combined with this project is an educational outreach and historical awareness program aimed at providing the residents and schools with an opportunity to explore the history of Nepean and Ottawa while contributing to the community development of this unique area of Canada's Capital.

SPECIAL EVENT PROJECTS

New Year's Eve 1999

While the focus of New Year's Eve will be Parliament Hill, there will be demand, and thereby opportunities, for numerous complimentary activities to the National Capital Commission's (NCC) planned program of celebrations. Working in conjunction with the NCC, Outaouais 2000 and others, Ottawa 2000 is aiming to develop partnerships whereby community groups, municipalities and businesses will add to the list of activities, events and programs that Canadians from coast-to-coast will be flocking to the Capital for.

Canada Day 2000

There's nothing that can make you feel better about being Canadian than being in the Capital on Canada Day. Just wait 'til Canada Day in 2000 when the party is expanded for an even bigger celebration of Canadian identity and nationhood as we embark on Canada in the new millennium. Once again Ottawa 2000 is hoping to develop partnerships whereby community groups, municipalities and businesses will add to the list of activities, events and programs that Canadians will participate in. Program to be developed in conjunction with the NCC and Outaouais 2000.

Countdown Events

The countdown to the Year 2000 will be as big as the celebrations once we get there. Ottawa 2000 is planning to hold a series of events counting down to Year 2000, including 300 days on Saturday March 6, 1999, 200 days on Monday, June 14, 1999 and 100 days on Wednesday, September 22, 1999. The program for these events will be directed towards raising awareness and generating publicity, while also providing fundraising opportunities. A wide range of partnership opportunities exists for these high-profile events.

Canadian Special Olympics National Winter Games

Canada's special Olympians are coming to the Capital in 2000 to participate in the Canadian Special Olympics National Winter Games, and for the first time Ottawa and Canada's Capital Region will have a chance to demonstrate its hospitality and organizational capabilities for a large scale multi-sport event. The corporate partnerships developed for multi-sports events are perhaps the most lucrative of all promotional opportunities, and this could turn out to be one of the highlights of the Capital's Year 2000 celebrations.

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“ACTIFEST 2000” - Ontario Senior Games

The Ontario Senior Games, also known as “Actifest”, are coming to Ottawa-Carleton in the Summer of the Year 2000. Nearly 2,000 seniors from across the province will be representing their local communities and districts in friendly sport and recreational competitions. This is a terrific opportunity to target not only the seniors who will be participating in this event, but the hundreds of volunteers who will be working to showcase the Capital and its friendly people.

PARTNER AGENCY PROJECTS

The World’s Best Time Machine

Who better to count down to the Year 2000 than Canada’s timekeeper, the National Research Council. As Canada’s timekeeper, a temporary exhibit and tourist attraction will be developed in the core area of the Capital which will not only count down to the millennium using the accuracy of the atomic clock, but also provide interpretive displays of the role Canada and Canadians have played in timekeeping, astrophysical research and other intriguing areas of science. Promotional opportunities for partners are definitely once-in-a-millennium for this count down!

“2000 By 2000” and “Youth 2000”

This program will provide 2,000 current local recipients of social assistance and 2,000 youth with technical and other skills to enable their entry into the Ottawa-Carleton workforce by the end of the year 2000. The initiative will be implemented in collaboration with Ottawa Economic Development and the Social Services Department of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton and Child and Youth Friendly Ottawa. Partners are needed to participate in both skills development and placement.

E-mail Everywhere!

E-mail Everywhere is a program to provide the system and infrastructure needed to provide every student in Ottawa-Carleton with an e-mail address and account by the year 2000. Working in collaboration with the Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation, this initiative is an excellent opportunities for local IT corporate partners to participate in a valuable community project for the benefit of youth and our educational system, while demonstrating their world-class capabilities. A component of the program would also supply at-home computers or provide centralized computer access to disadvantaged youth.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
TREE CANADA FOUNDATION'S OPERATION RE-LEAF**

ANNEX C

This partnership to plant trees would be implemented as part of the Region of Ottawa-Carleton's Forest Renewal Program.

WHEREAS the Tree Canada Foundation's Operation Re-Leaf program provides financial assistance to municipalities whose forest cover was damaged by the Ice Storm of 1998;

AND WHEREAS Operation Re-Leaf requires Council to commit to a tree planting plan which will enhance the Corporation's existing tree planting programs, foster community involvement, increase public awareness of the benefits of trees and promote *Re-Leaf Day*;

AND WHEREAS the Region of Ottawa-Carleton has previously confirmed its commitment to the restoration and enhancement of Ottawa-Carleton's forest cover through the Official Plan and the Forest Renewal Program;

AND WHEREAS the Environment and Transportation Department has developed a long-term Tree Planting Plan which details projects, numbers and species of trees and life cycle management for Regional roadways and properties;

AND WHEREAS the application for a partnership program with Operation Re-Leaf requires Council endorsement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council affirms the Region of Ottawa-Carleton's commitment to Operation Re-Leaf; thereby confirming a commitment to cost share towards the implementation of a tree planting program along Regional roadways and properties and that the Region of Ottawa-Carleton will accept the associated costs for the delivery and life cycle maintenance of the trees and that the financial assistance from Operation Re-Leaf will be in the form of a redeemable tree voucher and the Region of Ottawa-Carleton will send an official to Operation Re-Leaf's 8 May 1999 *Re-Leaf Day* to be held at the G. Howard Ferguson Forest Research Station in Kemptville, Ontario.