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# THE Orléans Star

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Olympic soccer referee and Orléans resident Dr. Carol Anne Chenard accepts her Leading Women's Award from Orléans MP Marie-France Lalonde. See story on page 3. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

## Here we go again: federal election call expected this week

By Fred Sherwin  
The Orléans Star

Orléans residents are expected to go to the polls once again this spring as a federal election call was expected any time this week.

The ink has barely dried on the provincial election ballots and another campaign is set to begin as the Conservative Party of Canada tries to wrestle control of the House of Commons from the Liberals who have served as a minority government since September 2021.

A lot has changed since then. Most notably is the fact that both the two major parties have new leaders. In 2021, the Conservative Party was led by Erin O'Toole who was ousted during a subsequent leadership review and replaced by Pierre Poilievre who won the position on the first ballot.

Liberal leader Mark Carney was also elected

on the first ballot when party members voted for a new leader to replace outgoing Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on March 9.

The NDP, Green Party and Bloc Quebecois are all being led by the same people who ran in 2021. This will be Jagmeet Singh's third federal election as the leader of the NDP party, while Elizabeth May has been at the helm of the federal Green Party for 16 of the past 19 years. Bloc Quebecois leader Yves-François Blanchet was first elected in January 2019.

According to the most recent Ipsos Canada poll taken between Feb. 21 and Feb. 24, the Liberal Party had a two point advantage over the Conservatives heading into the election. The latest Leger survey taken between March 7 and March 10 had the two parties in a virtual dead heat.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 ►



# Cosenza PIZZA N' CALZONES

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Parents advised to get their kids vaccinated as measles cases increase

TORONTO – Ontario parents are being advised to get their children vaccinated against the measles amidst one of the worst measles outbreaks in years. According to the most recent numbers released by the Ontario Ministry of Health, there were 350 cases of the virus in Ontario between late October and March 14 – with 173 of those infections reported within the last week of February and the first two weeks of March – and 31 related hospitalizations, 27 of whom were children. Although the majority of cases have been concentrated in the southwestern part of the province, the outbreak is slowly creeping towards the Eastern Ontario. There have been 31 reported cases in Hastings County near Kingston during the first two weeks of March. Ottawa Public Health is urging parents to have their children immunized as a safeguard unless they've been immunized already.

### Cumberland Maplefest returns April 4-5



CUMBERLAND – Spring is in the air and the sap is flowing which means the Cumberland Maplefest is just around the corner. This year's Maplefest is being held on Saturday and Sunday, April 4 and 5 at the Lions Maple Hall in Cumberland Village. The 54th annual event is once again being hosted by Cumberland Lions with the proceeds going to support local charities. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children under 10. Available at the door. Enjoy pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs and baked beans served with local maple syrup, coffee, tea and orange juice from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. while the food lasts.

## Conservatives expected to name candidate this week

Continued from page 1

Locally, Liberal incumbent Marie-France Lalonde will be hoping to serve a third term in office after first winning the seat in 2019 and again in 2021 when she received 52 per cent of the vote compared to her Conservative rival, Mary-Elsie Wolfe, who won 39 per cent of the vote.

As of press time on Saturday, the Conservative Orléans Electoral District Association was expected to announce a new candidate at any time.

The NDP candidate is Oulai B. Goué whose LinkedIn profile lists him as marketing communications entrepreneur.

According to his profile on the NDP website, Goué is focused on finding ways to fix the mental health and long-term care crisis in Canada through a community-based home-care model. He also believes the government should invest more in public and affordable housing for moderate-income households, introduce a temporary VAT/GST reduction on essential groceries

and adopt a two-day hybrid work in office for federal employees wherever possible.

The Green Party has yet to name their candidate.



Oulai B. Goué

Although Orléans is often considered a bellwether riding, it has only been held by the Conservatives once in the past 25 years.

Royal Galipeau won the seat by just 1,200 votes over Liberal incumbent Marc Godbout in the 2006 federal election. A former Liberal who had volunteered for former Liberal MP Eugene Bellemare, Galipeau was trailing Godbout for most of the night until the advance poll ballots were counted which put him over the top.

Only two other Conservatives have represented Orléans in the House of Commons since 1900 – Barry Turner from 1984-1988 and Jean Pigott from 1976-1979.

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# Orléans MP recognizes Leading Women, Leading Girls

By Fred Sherwin  
The Orléans Star

Orléans is blessed with a large number of women and girls who each and every day strive to make a difference in their community. On Mar. 7, Orléans MP Marie-France Lalonde held a breakfast and award ceremony to honour 41 of those women as part of this year's *Leading Women, Leading Girls Awards* in recognition of International Women's Day.

Among this year's recipients were Olympic soccer referee Dr. Carol Anne Chénard, Art of Bean Coffee Co. owner Elizabeth Iverson, Centre for Conflict Resolution senior executive coach Gayle Oudeh, Salon Jazz owner Jacinthe "Jazz" Chatelain who was recognized for being in business for more than 40 years, Cpy. Tanya Brooks, commanding officer of the 632 Phoenix Squadron cadets, as well as a number of women who have volunteered countless community hours with a variety of organizations including the Orléans Legion, the Rotary Club of Orléans, Kiwanis East Ottawa Est and the Filles d'Isabelle.

The common theme or thread that connected this year's leading girls recipients was volunteerism and selflessness.

Among the leading girls who received



Orléans MP Marie-France Lalonde poses for a group photo with the recipients of this year's Leading Women and Leading Girls Awards. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

an award were Michelle Jiménez-Bucur, Mylaine Dacquay Marcelo, Zoé Lapensée, and recent Orléans Outstanding Youth Award recipient Corina Carballo Maduro.

During her opening remarks, Lalonde talked about the importance of gender equality in the context of this year's IWD theme "Accelerate Action".

"The need to accelerate action emphasizes the importance of taking swift and decisive steps to achieve gender equality," said Lalonde. "It calls for increased momentum and urgency in addressing the systemic barriers and biases that women face, both in personal and professional spheres. So together, let's Accelerate Action to speed up

the rate of progress worldwide" Lalonde then thanked this year's recipients for their many achievements and dedication to their community. The *Orléans Leading Women, Leading Girls Awards* take place every year with nominations accepted in December and January.

2025

Reconnaissance des femmes et filles leaders d'Orléans  
Orléans Leading Women and Girls Recognition

Afiwa Amenohoun	Harinder Buttar	Pat Cote
Badohoun	Hélène Clément	Renee Lockert
Batool Siddiqui	Isabelle Leduc	Rosanna Bourciquot
Camille Rochon	Jacinthe Châtelain	Salima Rattansi
Cpt. Tanya Brooks	Jane Courtice-Neocleous	Sanae Jade Bentahar
Col. Gisèle Fontaine	Julia Banks	Syeda Aisha Hasan
Corina Carballo Maduro	Karine Lalonde	Valerie Cyr
Corinne Davison	Lise Mack	Vanessa Murengera
Dianna Miller	Lise Pion	Vicki Anne Rodrigue
Dorothy Berthelet	Lucie Regimbald	Yamiley Beauboeuf
Dr. Carol Anne Chénard	Marie Nansie Jean-Louis	Yvette Ashiri
Elizabeth Iverson	Michelle Jiménez-Bucur	Zoé Lapensée
Emma Cosentino	Michelle Nicolas	
Gayle Oudeh	Mylaine Dacquay Marcelo	
Grace Mayhew	Pamela Yengayenge	



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Félicitations à toutes!  
Congratulations  
to everyone!





# Leading by example

Ever since the country became involved in a trade war with the United States of America, there's been a deafening call from every corner of the country to "Buy Canadian".

In Ontario, Premier Doug Ford order the removal of American products from the shelves of the LCBO and retailers have started posting Made in Canada labels on Canadian products.

But it seems a little hypocritical on the part the federal government to encourage people to "Buy Canadian" when they refuse to do the same.

The federal government spends millions of dollars running ads on social media platforms like Meta (Facebook and Instagram), X and Google, while offering mainstream media outlets, including community newspapers like this one, table scraps.

According to the federal government's own annual report on its advertising activities, the feds spent more than \$75 million on advertising in 2024. Of that \$75 million or so, the feds spent nearly \$40 million on digital ads, including over \$8.5 million on search engine marketing and more than \$6.5 million on social media. In comparison, radio received \$2.5 million and print publications got less than \$1.4 million. That's about two per cent of all federal ad spending on every English, French and ethnic newspaper and magazine throughout the entire country.

To add insult to injury, the federal government ended it's boycott of Meta last month. Ottawa had stopped purchasing ad space from Facebook's parent company in July 2023 after the California-based firm blocked all news content on its platforms in Canada in response to a federal law requiring digital companies to compensate Canadian media outlets for sharing their content in the country.

Given the current political climate, it would be nice if the various political parties running in the federal election pledged to follow the lead Doug Ford has taken in Ontario where his government and its Crown corporations – like the LCBO, OLG, the Ontario Cannabis Store and Metrolinx – have pledged to spend 25 per cent of their existing ad budgets on local publications. It's a move that not only doesn't cost taxpayers a dime, it generates additional tax revenue as the local publications must pay tax on the ads as opposed to the U.S. based social media giants who don't.

The City of Ottawa also spends an inordinate amount of money on online ads with the American social media giants and Meta in particular. It would be nice if some of those dollars could be redirected to the local community newspapers in the area like the *Orléans Star*, the *Barrhaven Independent* and the *Community Voice* which have tens of thousands.

Both the City of Ottawa and the federal government need to get in sync with Canadians when it comes to its advertising spending.

The federal election campaign presents the perfect time for all three major parties to make that pledge.

– Fred Sherwin

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**Jody Maffett**  
Editor

The Orléans Star

**Fred Sherwin**  
Owner and publisher

fsherwin@orleansstar.ca

**Jean-Marc Pacelli**  
Editor

L'Orléanais

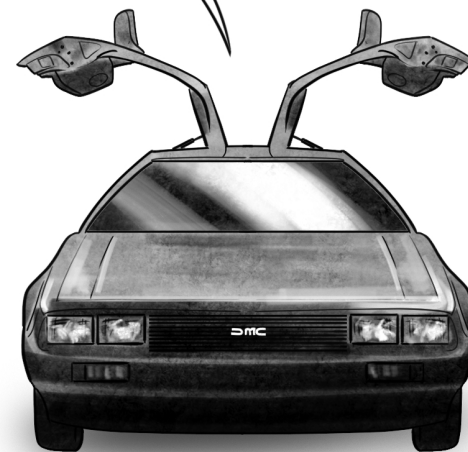
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## Canadians' elbows are up and Maple MAGAs need to watch out

Maple MAGA (Canadians supporting Trump over Canada) is wrong about having a dialogue with the "madman" occupying the Oval Office versus Canada's retaliatory tariffs approach.

Furthermore, to suggest that Canada, in any way, is responsible for Trump launching this trade war is ridiculous.

When Trump first announced tariffs were linked to fentanyl and border security, the federal and provincial governments acted to strengthen our borders, despite little credibility that it was an issue. It is of course American border agents who control what does or does not enter the United States.

The border investments will prove beneficial for Canada but they have proven to have little impact on tariffs one way or the other.

Trump continues to cite that countries are "ripping off" the United States. This was after Trump attempted to bully Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in the Oval Office. Aside from it being undignified, Trump wants \$500 billion of Ukraine's mineral wealth in exchange for their support against Russia's illegal invasion.

Trump fictitiously claims that the US has given Ukraine between \$300-350 billion in aid; however, the German think tank, Kiel Institute, estimates the

US has sent \$119 billion in aid to Ukraine. Whether you believe Trump or not, it's not a \$500 billion giveaway.

Here, in Canada, a KPMG in Canada survey found the vast majority of Canadian business leaders want a targeted, dollar-for-dollar retaliatory response on tariffs. A separate poll found 70 per cent of Canadians are in favor of dollar-for-dollar retaliatory tariffs on the United States.

Now that Canadian patriotism is skyrocketing and Canadians are almost universally opposed to the Trump Administration, Maple MAGA's are running for the hills or trying to justify their weak positions with what amounts to drivel.

Canadians will remember these Maple MAGA's when it comes time to vote. Whether that is their vote at the ballot box in the upcoming federal or municipal elections or with their wallets with American or Maple MAGA businesses.

Politicians from across Canada of every political stripe, along with businesses and Canadians are standing up for Canada. Canada was not built by sycophants who don't stand up to bullies; nor do we shrink from a fight when provoked.

Elbows Up.



**Queen's  
Park  
Corner**

Stephen Blais



# When it comes to tariffs, it's all about the (tax) revenue

2025 is not even three months old yet and “tariff” is already the prohibitive favourite to be named Word of the Year.

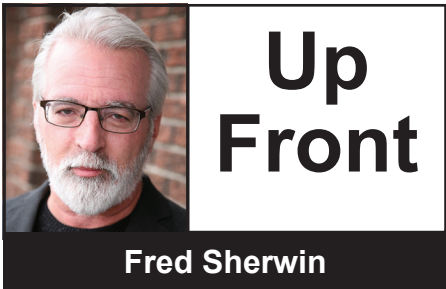
You can barely turn on the TV or radio, or walk into your favourite coffee shop without hearing the word tariff being bandied about along with “trade war”, “Trump”, and “51st state”. And it’s even worse on social media... a lot worse.

Unfortunately, most people know very little about tariffs, why they are used, what they do, or what’s their potential impact except that they are bad for consumers, or so they’ve been lead to believe.

They are two types of tariffs. Import tariffs on goods coming into the country, and export tariffs on goods leaving the country.

Governments have the discretion to place tariffs on anything they want. In the past, they have been used primarily to protect domestic producers and suppliers. For instance, if your softwood lumber industry is being negatively impacted by the ability of companies to import lower-priced, foreign-sourced softwood lumber, the government might impose an import tariff to level the playing field.

What Trump is trying to do by threatening to impose an import tariff on Canadian raw materials and products has nothing to do with protecting American industries and has



everything to do with his total lack of understanding the subject.

He’s upset that the U.S. spends \$36 billion more on imported products from Canada than Canadians spend on U.S. products. The difference is commonly referred to as a trade deficit, when it should properly referred to as simply a difference

Trump hears the words “trade deficit” and immediately sees it as a subsidy. In other words, he thinks Americans are subsidizing our economy to the detriment of their own. Someone needs to explain to him that the biggest reason for the difference is simply the fact that U.S. has 10 times the population we do. Of course they are going import more in materials and goods than we do. The other mitigating factor is that the U.S. imports a huge amount of oil and natural gas from us, while we import very little in comparison from them. The difference in what the U.S. imports from Canada to what we import

from the United States makes up nearly all of the U.S-Canada trade deficit.

So Trump’s reasoning behind his impending decision to impose across-the-board tariffs has no real basis in fact – not that he cares.

But getting back to my point that tariff is just another world for tax.

When a country imposes an export tariff on goods and materials coming across their border, the business or manufacture which purchase the goods and materials must pay that amount to the government, and most likely they will pass that cost on to the end consumer who will also be paying more in taxes.

As an example, Company A in the United States wants to buy \$1 million in material from Canada. Trump imposes a 25 per cent tariff on that material so now that company has to pay \$1.25 million. They then take that material and turn it into a product which the sell for 25 per cent more. Say the product would normally cost \$100. Now it cost \$125 and if there’s a five per cent sales tax on the product the government know makes an extra 25 per cent in sales tax.

Trump gets an extra 25 million which he can use to help fund tax cuts to his billionaire friends. The states get a 25 per cent boost in their sales tax revenue. And the American

consumer is left to pay for both.

On our side of the border, Doug Ford is being applauded as a hero for standing up to Trump and threatening to impose a 25 per cent tariff on energy exports to New York, Michigan and Minnesota.

It is estimated that the tariff would generate between \$300,000 and \$400,000 in additional revenue per day, which Ford says the province would use to help business adversely affected by the trade war.

But make no doubt it, at the end of the day it is we the consumer who will impacted the most by tariffs and an ongoing trade war.

Here’s one last example. The U.S. imposes a tariff on steel and aluminum forces the prices of U.S. products to go up. Canada imposes a tariff on those same imported goods, forcing the price to go up even further. Leaving you and I having to make a decision to either by the product at the inflated price or buying something else – preferably something that is made in Canada.

Which is likely the only good thing that will result from a trade war – Canadians will start buying more Canadian-produced goods and materials providing the prices don’t go up and they’re not terrified into keeping their money in their wallets due to the threat of a possible recession.

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## There's a lot to look forward to with the arrival of spring

As winter melts away and spring begins to blossom, our community is gearing up for months filled with local outdoor events, celebrations, and opportunities to come together. From sports and farmers markets to community clean-ups and BBQs, there's something for everyone!

First up, The Bradley Cup Charity Hockey Tournament returns to the Navan Arena this weekend, March 21-22. Teams from Navan, Cumberland, Vars, Sarsfield, Orléans, and Hammond will battle it out for the coveted title. There will be live entertainment, great food and high-energy competition. In my opinion, it's a must-attend event – all in support of the Navan Pavilion Project.

Spring is also the perfect time to give back! Register for the Spring Cleaning the Capital campaign by May 2 and help tidy up our parks, greenspaces and roads.

As well, spring means the end of outdoor rink and trail season, so a big shoutout is in store for all the dedicated volunteers who maintained them all winter – I'll be hosting

my annual pizza party soon to celebrate your efforts, so stay tuned!

Mark your calendars and shop local! The



**Catherine Kitts**

Orléans South-Navan

Original Navan Market has announced its 2025 dates, offering farm-fresh produce, handmade goods, and delicious eats in the heart of Navan. Not far away, the Cumberland Farmers' Market kicks

off June 7 at the Cumberland Arena running Saturdays until mid-October. And the Orleans Farmers' Market will be back in May! Let's support our incredible local vendors.

Looking ahead to summer, I'm excited to bring back my annual community BBQ in July. I'll be releasing details shortly.

And of course, summer wouldn't be complete without the Navan Fair. Running from Aug. 7-10, this year's theme is "Muddy Boots and Country Roots." It's my favourite summer tradition, and I can't wait to see you all there!

Our community is vibrant and full of exciting events. I look forward to seeing you out and about as we welcome the warmer months together!

## Public invited to provide input on new Transportation Master Plan

While the City of Ottawa is consulting on many things this year, it is perhaps the Transportation Master Plan that will have the largest effect on our community.

This document will guide how we build our transportation infrastructure for the next two decades. From new bus rapid transit corridors in South Orléans, to active transportation and congestion relief, we need to ensure this document provides the right direction to address our needs into the future.

Our team in the east has worked hard to raise the pressures that we feel the most. Later this month, a draft document will be released to the public. It will be very important for community associations and neighbours to go through it and to submit comments. We need to ensure that our voices are heard loud and clear. Given that we are one of the fastest growing communities in the city, we need to be present and advocating for our needs.

For years, we have been raising the fact

that we truly do have one, maybe two, routes in and out of our community. This is led to congestion and frustration, as well as precious time spent away from our families.

And we have been advocating to other levels of government and our own city staff for the projects that will lead to a better quality of life, better corridors to hospital and healthcare, and the trans-

portation options we need to support the continued growth of our neighbourhoods.

So please, no matter where you live in Orléans, submit your comments online, attend a consultation, or better yet, come and delegate at transportation committee when the item is on the agenda.

When it comes to big items like this, having the community behind us makes such a difference. It shows staff and our colleagues how much this matters to us. It adds weight to our arguments.

Let's stand together and ensure we are continuing to build the transportation network our community deserves.



**Matt Luloff**

Orléans East-Cumberland



# Proposed changes to school boundaries, French immersion programs and special ed come under fire from upset parents

By Fred Sherwin  
The Orléans Star

The Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) is considering widespread changes to its school boundaries, French immersion programming, grade structure and special education and to say parents are upset about what is being proposed would be a massive understatement.

If adopted, the changes would effect more than 120 schools and effect nearly half of the board's students in one way or another.

Thirty schools would be affected by the proposed changes to grade structures, while the boundary changes would affect 198 programs in 123 schools across the city and require an estimated 11,000 students to switch schools.

Among the changes being proposed is the gradual elimination of the Middle French Immersion (MFI), the closing of the board's Alternative Schools and phasing out some special education programs.

The OCDSB also wants to consolidate its elementary school programs into two streams – Enhanced English (EE) and French

Immersion (FI).

Among the changes proposed in the east end are:

- Convent Glen Elementary School would go from JK to Grade 5 to to JK to Grade 3 with both an Enhanced English (EE) and French Immersion (FI) stream;
- Forest Valley Elementary School would go from JK to Grade 5 to to JK to Grade 3 with both an EE and FI stream;
- Henry Larsen Elementary School would go from JK to Grade 8 to Grades 4-8 with an EE, FI and Middle French Immersion stream;
- Glen Ogilvie Public School: in Blackburn Hamlet would go from JK to Grade 5 to JK to Grade 6 with both an EE and FI stream.

Even more controversial than the program changes are the changes being proposed to the special education program with a stronger focus on integrating more special needs children into mainstream classrooms.

The outcry from parents over the past few weeks has given the board pause and opened the door to additional consultations and an online survey.



Forest Valley Elementary School in Chapel Hill is one of three schools in the east end which may undergo grade re-structuring. FILE PHOTO

While no in-person consultations have been planned for the east end, virtual information meetings are schedule for Monday, March 24 from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Would-be participants

can register by visiting [engage.ocdsb.ca/elementary-program-review](https://engage.ocdsb.ca/elementary-program-review).

According to the board's original timeline, trustees are supposed to make a final decision on the proposed changes in April.

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# Presenting the 2024 Outstanding Youth Award recipients

## Asif Rahman, 18

Asif Rahman is another one of our remarkable graduates receiving a Youth Award this year. Asif won the Governor-General's Medallion at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School last year for having the highest average mark among his graduating class – 95.1%.

When he wasn't studying or working on a science project, Asif could be found playing on the school's Ultimate Frisbee Team, the e-sports team, or pursuing his other passion, chess, as a member of the Chess Club and like many of our other recipients today, he easily surpassed the 40 hours of community service hours needed to earn your high school diploma. In fact, he more than tripled the requirement.

While Asif's best subjects were math and science, he had a particular fondness for the computer science class and is currently pursuing a computer engineering degree at the University of Ottawa.

For achieving the highest overall average in his graduating class while pursuing an enriching array of extra-curricular activities, Asif Rahman was selected as a recipient of the 2024 Orléans Outstanding Youth Awards.



Asif Rahman

## Zoé Cliche, 17

Last year, while attending Grade 12 at École secondaire catholique Garneau, Zoé Cliche was able to maintain an average of over 90 per cent while pursue her interests in both sports and community service.

For starters, she was a member of the school's cross country, badminton, ultimate frisbee, flag football, tennis and hockey teams. The latter as a member of the boys hockey team. In fact, she was the only girl to participate in the Franco-Ontarian school tournament in the Whitby region last spring.

Zoé pursued her love of hockey outside of school by earning a spot on the Nepean Wildcats U22 women's team which competes at the highest level of women's hockey in Ontario.

Away from the rink, Zoé is has volunteer including Canadian Blood Services and the Ottawa Mission, totalling more than 250 hours between October 2023 and September 2024. Last winter, she was responsible for maintaining the outdoor skating rink at North-Vineyard Park so others could enjoy it. And in September she continued her volunteer work with the organization, Best Buddies Canada, where she creates friendships between people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities.

For balancing academic, athletics and community service at such a high level, Zoé Cliche was been selected as a recipient of the 2024 Orléans Outstanding Youth Awards.



Zoé Cliche

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# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

## A tribute to all women

Since 1977, the United Nations has called on countries around the world to highlight the importance of gender equality and to fight for women's advancement.

International Women's Day is a day to honour all women who have fought for recognition of their rights to education, participation in political life, access to the workforce, pay equity and work-family balance. It is a day to celebrate the extra-ordinary achievements of all the women who have helped in the fight for gender equality and contributed to writing the history of women's rights.

This special day is also an opportunity for men and women to look to the future. It is a time to stop and think about ways to improve the status of women in developed and developing countries. It is an invitation to think about how to end the discrimination, inequality, abuse and violence of which they are still victims in many places around the world, including here at home.

March 8 is the perfect time to celebrate women, irrespective of their nationality, religion, language, economic status or political convictions.



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On March 8th, 2025 join us in paying tribute to all the remarkable women in Canada and around the world.



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# Carole King Musical makes you “Feel the Earth Move” under your feet

By Ben Peterson  
Ottawa School of Theatre

Orpheus Musical Theatre’s production of *Beautiful: The Carol King Musical* creates a blissful atmosphere where time seems to stand still, even though the musical is about two and a half hours long.

Directed by Derek Eyamie, *Beautiful* is a biography of Carole King, a legendary U.S. singer and songwriter. The story focuses on four main characters: Carole King, her husband and songwriting partner Gerry Goffin, and her colleagues Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann.

In her lifetime, King wrote music for many hit artists, including Aretha Franklin and The Shirelles. The musical begins when King was 16 and just starting out in the industry. The plot takes the audience through her relationship with Goffin and ends in 1971 with her solo performance at Carnegie Hall.

Molly McGuire and Julie Séguin alternate the role of Carole King.

On the day I attended the play, McGuire was in this featured role. Even though there were some phenomenal performances in this play, some actors seemed to exaggerate their characters to make them appear larger than life. This created an interesting dynamic with the characters having different energy

levels, but overall I felt it took away from the performance.

The songs the actors performed were amazing; they were soulful, and the cast sang their hearts out. My favorite song was “Uptown”, sung on opening night by Danica Coote, a talented vocalist whose previous roles include Cinderella in TLC Creative’s production of *Cinderella: A Panto*, performed during the 2024 holiday season.

Steve Jones was the set designer for the production; even though there are few set pieces, they are multi-functional and of high quality.

The stage design included an elevated portion, which could have provided some height dynamics but wasn’t fully utilized to its full potential. The backdrop was highly effective, with a group of records symbolizing the subject of the show.

The back part of the stage had three columnar pieces that rotate to change the backdrop of the set. The set design felt very cohesive, allowing changes to flow naturally.

Unfortunately, I cannot say the same about the sound. The microphones cut out occasionally during the first half, which meant we couldn’t hear the cast properly.

On the other hand, the costumes (designed by Guylaine Roy) were unique, allowing the

characters’ identities and personalities to be expressed in their design.

*Beautiful*’s pit chorus was fantastic, adding dimension to the songs. The chorus incorporated many different instruments to provide depth to the songs, rather than only using the piano.

The blocking of the show made good use of the stage, but felt a bit stiff at times, as if the actors didn’t quite know where to go.

Clever stage direction allowed the audience to focus on certain areas rather than having to look at the entire stage at once; however, it felt awkward when actors were left on stage with no lines for a long time.

There is no overarching moral to the show; it seems as though the production was been simply created in order to perform the music. Even though *Beautiful* doesn’t delve into any deeper themes, I was able to enjoy it for what it is.

The ending felt a bit dragged out; there was a song that included all the main characters that I thought would have made a stronger finale, rather than adding additional songs at the end. Aside from this, I think the show flowed well, and it kept my attention throughout.

Overall, *Beautiful* is phenomenal, and I learned about a songwriter I had never heard



PHOTO : MARTA VARTANOVA

Molly McGuire performs in the lead role as Carol King.

of before. Because of slight sexual content, I would recommend the show to audiences over the age of 13.

Although “It’s Too Late” to see the production of *Beautiful* on stage at the Meridian Theatre you can see a list of upcoming Orpheus productions at [www.orpheusmusicaltheatre.ca](http://www.orpheusmusicaltheatre.ca).



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**SATURDAY, MARCH 23**

**THE STRAY DOG BREWING COMPANY** presents the ultimate '90s cover band Numbers Station Tickets \$10 available at [www.straydogbrewing.ca](http://www.straydogbrewing.ca).

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26**

**OYSTER NIGHT** at the Orléans Brewing Co., 4380 Innes Rd. from 6 to 10 p.m. Indulge in the finest oysters with wine, craft beer or cider.

**THE STRAY DOG BREWING**

**COMPANY** – Wednesdays are Trivia Night at the Stray Dog Brewing Company from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Reservations are a must to secure your spot. Send your team name and number of people participating to [info@straydogbrewing.ca](mailto:info@straydogbrewing.ca).

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29**

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**SUNDAY, MARCH 30**

**THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (CAFES)** will be holding an eco-event from 10am to 3:30pm at École

secondaire Gisèle-Lalonde, 500 Millennium Blvd. near Millennium Park. RSVP to <https://bit.ly/3XSOHxl>. Admission is \$15.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 4**

**THE STRAY DOG BREWING COMPANY** presents Paddy Paystub live and in concert. Tickets \$10 available at [www.straydogbrewing.ca](http://www.straydogbrewing.ca) or drop by the tap room.

**SAVED BY THE BELL ADULT DANCE PARTY** featuring DJ Mace, DJ Kam and DJ Bounce from 8 p.m. - midnight at St. Peter High School, 750 Charlemagne Blvd.. This is a licensed event so adults 19+ only. Tickets \$22.63 available through [eventbrite.ca](http://eventbrite.ca) by searching "Saved By The Bell". This is a St. Peter High School Parent Council fundraising event.

## IN MEMORIAM



**Peter Quinn, 77**

**Passed away on March 7, 2025**

**Claude St. Cyr, 88**

**Passed away on March 4, 2025**

**Laurent Leblanc, 88**

**Passed away on March 2, 2025**



[www.heritagefh.ca/obituaries](http://www.heritagefh.ca/obituaries)

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### CHURCH LISTING

 **Orleans Seventh-Day Adventist Church**

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Saturdays: Sabbath School @ 9:30 and Divine worship @ 11:00 a.m.

Location: Grace Presbyterian Church  
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### CHURCH LISTING

**Church of God International Canada**

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# Invitation to our community open house

## Orléans Area Reinforcement project

Hydro One is energizing life in the Ottawa area to meet current and future electricity needs of Orléans. In late 2024, Hydro One initiated a class environmental assessment (class EA) for the Orléans Area Reinforcement project. The proposed project includes a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Hydro One's existing Hawthorne Transformer Station (TS) and Orléans TS. The project also includes converting an existing 115 kV transmission line between the two stations to 230 kV.








Once built, the proposed new 115 kV transmission line will run along the existing hydro corridor, as shown. There are no anticipated changes to the existing transmission towers to convert the line from 115 kV to 230 kV. Equipment in both stations will be upgraded to connect the new proposed line.

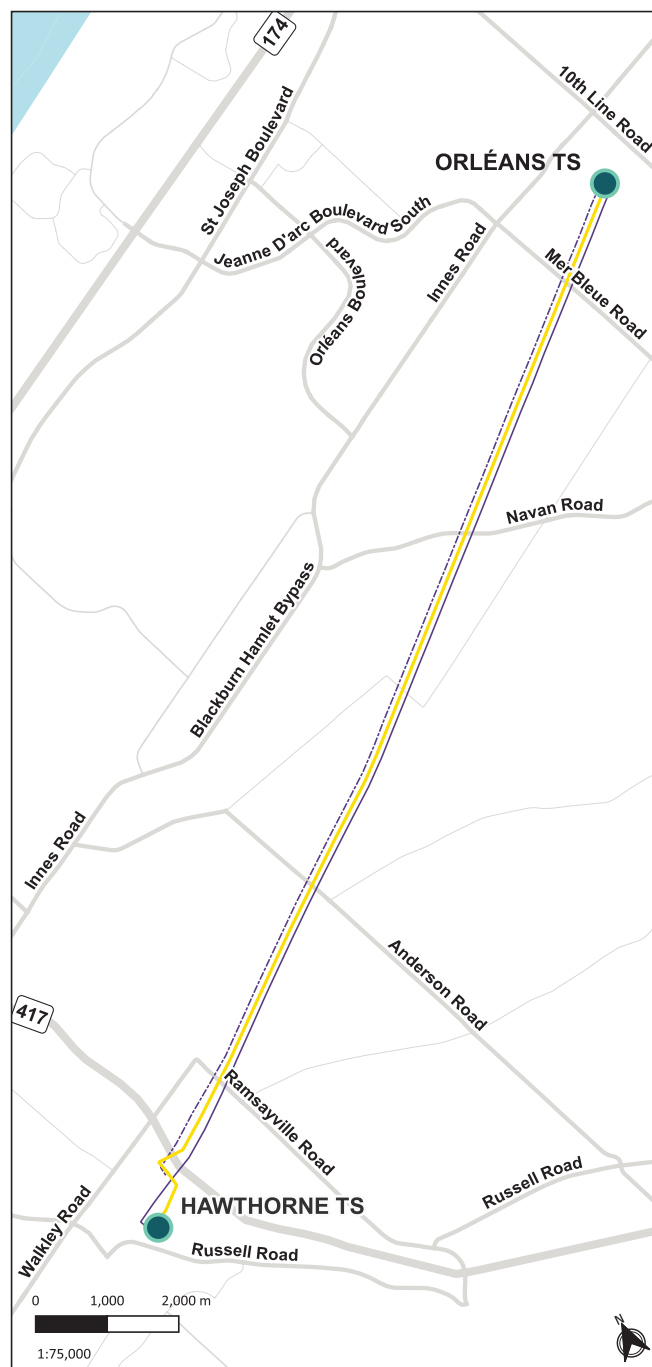
### Planning process

Minimizing the environmental effects of our projects and operations is important to us. The planning of this project is following the Class EA for Transmission Facilities (2024) in accordance with Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act*. As part of the class EA process, potential impacts are being considered by gathering environmental and technical data, along with input from Indigenous communities, community members, elected officials, interest groups and businesses.

A portion of the proposed project is on federal lands owned by the National Capital Commission (NCC) and is subject to the *National Capital Act*, as well as Section 82 of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA). The project requires a Federal Land Use, Design and Transaction Approval (FLUDTA) in accordance with the *National Capital Act* and a determination of significance in accordance with Section 82 of the IAA. Later in this study, a project description for the portion of the project on federal lands will be posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry for a 30-day comment period as part of the federal regulatory approval process. The project is planned to be completed and in-service by 2028.

### Map legend

 Proposed 115 kV Transmission Line	 Road
 Existing Transmission Line to be operated at 230 kV	 Watercourse
 Existing Transmission Line	 Waterbody
 Transformer Station	



### We want to hear from you

Meaningful and open engagement is a priority for Hydro One. Feedback from residents, interest groups, elected officials and Indigenous communities will be used to inform all aspects of the class EA and the project.

We invite you to attend our in-person community open house to learn more about the project, ask our team questions and share your feedback. You can also visit our website for project updates and contact information.

### Wednesday, April 9

Notre-Dame-des-Champs  
Community Hall  
3659 Navan Road  
Ottawa, ON K2B 1H9  
3 to 7 p.m.

### We're here to help

If you have any questions, or would like additional information regarding this project, please feel free to contact us at:

 **416.345.6799**

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