

## Local dispatches

### Subdivision endorsement

The city's planning committee is recommending a new Barrhaven subdivision, located near the intersection of Greenbank and Cambrian roads, proceeds as the developer will use several techniques to increase density. Mattamy Homes is proposing to increase density by 40 units per hectare. The developer is proposing to construct 1,600 homes on a total of 85 hectares. City staff like the plan as it is denser and creates a commercial area.

### Power walls fall

Ottawa Public Health is hailing provincial legislation that now prohibits the public display of tobacco products in convenience stores. Commonly known as "power walls," these displays must be hidden from public view. "Banning the display of tobacco products in an important and necessary step in tackling the leading cause of preventable death: tobacco use," said Dr. Isra Levy, the city's acting medical officer of health.

### Property tax bills now due

Final property tax bills were mailed out to city property owners between May 22 and 28. Payment is now due on June 19. Residents can pay their bills by sending a cheque to city hall, at a financial institution or at any of the city's client service centres. Residents can also sign up for the city's pre-authorized tax payment plan or electronic billing and payment. Late payments will be subject to a 1.25 per cent penalty charge.

## Algonquin working toward a green future with new program

JENNIFER YOUNG

*This Week*

Algonquin College proved that its philosophy is even greener than its school colours on June 2 by celebrating the launch of its new Green Business Management program.

The program is one year certificate program that will teach students about sustainable development and corporate social responsibility.

Having completed the program, students will know how to assist businesses to plan and implement those plans to reduce their impact on the environment using ecologically sustainable management systems and practices.

"The need is absolutely there," said Jeff Westeinde, CEO of Quantum Murray LP and one of the members of the advisory board consulted when developing the program. "I don't think there's a business leader in Canada today who doesn't see the benefit of making their company more sustainable."

Michael Sangster, vice-president of government affairs for Telus and also a member of the advisory board, said that graduates of the new program will give businesses a much-needed helping hand to become more sustainable in the workplace.

"Sustainable will be the watch word of tomorrow's business world," he said.

"Consumers demand it, customers expect it and shareholders look for it."

The need for people with the expertise necessary to 'green' up a work place is a demand Algonquin is hoping to fill.

"As eastern Ontario's largest college we believe we can play a lead role in preparing young people for the future and helping in the community," said Kent MacDonald, vice-president of student services and business development at Algonquin.

"Today marks another milestone in the journey toward a sustainable business future."

>>> *Green, see 10*



JENNIFER YOUNG / THIS WEEK

Easy being green: MP John Baird congratulates Algonquin College on its new Green Business Management program and its commitment to the environment during the program's launch at the college on June 2.

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## HELP THE NCC KEEP THE NATIONAL CAPITAL GREENBELT CLEAN!

The 20,000-hectare National Capital Greenbelt is a symbol of Canada's rural and natural landscape, a place where nature is able to flourish and evolve with surrounding urban lands. The National Capital Commission (NCC) is committed to protecting Greenbelt lands, assets and natural resources on behalf of all Canadians.

The Greenbelt features a mix of farms, wetlands and forests that offers a variety of outdoor recreation, learning and research opportunities, and provides a unique rural setting for the Capital. The NCC needs your help to protect and preserve this green space by preventing inappropriate land use. We look forward to working as neighbours for the benefit of all!

### AS OUR NEIGHBOUR, YOU CAN HELP

If you live adjacent to the Greenbelt, you know the benefits and pleasures associated with public green spaces, and can enjoy the proximity of nature on a daily basis. As a neighbour of the Greenbelt, you also have a unique opportunity to contribute to protecting this national treasure. Your efforts can be invaluable to the Greenbelt's long-term vitality.

### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

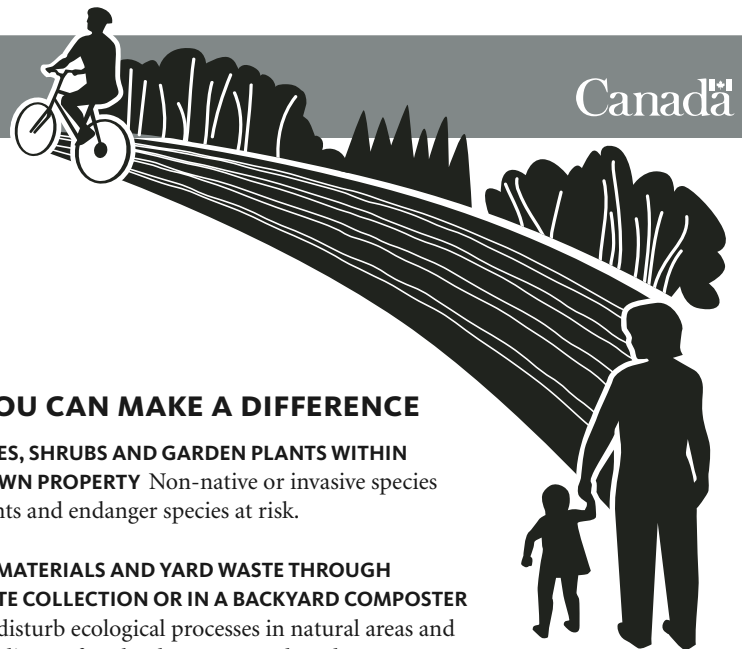
**KEEP NON-NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS AND GARDEN PLANTS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF YOUR OWN PROPERTY** Non-native or invasive species can threaten native plants and endanger species at risk.

**DISPOSE OF NATURAL MATERIALS AND YARD WASTE THROUGH MUNICIPAL YARD WASTE COLLECTION OR IN A BACKYARD COMPOSTER** Piles of yard waste can disturb ecological processes in natural areas and disrupt operations on adjacent farmland. Unmanaged yard waste can also attract rodents and insects, and increase the risk of brush fires.

**RESPECT YOUR PROPERTY LIMITS** Private patios, woodpiles, sheds and gardens should not occupy public property, as they fragment natural areas and create obstacles on farmland.

**USE NCC RECREATIONAL TRAILS AND FACILITIES** Shortcuts, paths and backyard access points damage natural areas and farmland. Official trails, on the other hand, are routinely monitored and repaired by the NCC.

To obtain more information about the Greenbelt, make suggestions, report improper land use, share concerns regarding inappropriate activities in the Greenbelt, or set up a meeting between your community association and Greenbelt staff, please contact the NCC at 613-239-5000, 613-239-5090 (TTY) or [info@ncc-ccn.ca](mailto:info@ncc-ccn.ca).



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# Program first of its kind in Canada

>>> *Green, from 5*

The program is unlike any other currently offered in the country according to MacDonald.

"It's the first of its kind in Canada," he said. "We know it's the right thing to do."

"We're extremely proud of this program," echoed Dave Donaldson, executive dean for the faculty of business and hospitality.

The program is aimed at attracting students who either currently own or manage an enterprise or are looking to start their own business who want to implement greener strategies. The program is also open to government workers hoping to learn how to make their agency or workplace more sustainable and to environmentalists who are looking to expand the area of environmental business.

Students in the program will participate in an ecofair, generate energy report cards for local businesses, tour businesses that are working to be green and engage with many guest speakers.

The program is the culmination of a life's work for coordinator Adrienne Armstrong.

She is very excited to see it actually launch. She and other professors currently in the business department will be teaching such classes as ecology of business and ecopreneurship.

"Businesses know they have to make the change but don't know how to implement them," she said. "[The program is] a win, win for everyone and for the planet."

John Baird, minister of the environment and MP for Ottawa West-Nepean, also attended the event to congratulate Algonquin on the program and following up with its goal to become a greener institution and produce more environmentally conscious students.

"It will do a wonderful thing for our planet and congratulations to Algonquin for leading the way," he said. "Algonquin is not just talking about how to go green, they're delivering the goods."

The program is accepting students for the fall semester. It can accommodate 30 students and already has 15 enrolled.

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