

OMRA NEWSLETTER



September 2023
CRA Charity No. 88342 9912 RR0001



Way to go OMRA Roadcrew! They did a fabulous job making sure we had enough tables, dishes, and chairs so that everyone could enjoy the picnic.

END OF SUMMER OMRA PICNIC

Fall is upon us! For yet another year, we say farewell to beach days and evening barbeques, and hello to vibrant foliage, crisp air, and embrace the back-to-school routines. As an ode to the end of summer, OMRA celebrated their annual picnic at Brantwood Park. We gathered on Labour Day weekend to bask in the final summer rays, laugh and eat, with the braver among us even venturing on a canoe ride.

As we move closer to Thanksgiving, this edition of the OMRA newsletter features photos from the picnic to bring us back to those warmer days. Thank you to Louis, Jim, and Carol for supplying the canoes and lifejackets. The day was perfect for a sunny, late afternoon canoe ride.



CUTE AS A BUTTON! THESE TWO COUSINS WERE ENJOYING THE SWEET TREATS THE PICNIC HAD TO OFFER.



MR. B COOKING UP SOME DELICIOUS FALAFELS TO SHARE.

SEPTEMBER 02, 2023 - BRANTWOOD PARK

OUR BRAVE ADVENTURERS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE CANOE RIDES.



THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

We also want to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers, tutors, and everyone who help keep OMRA going. We deeply appreciate your support.

As we saw at the picnic, we are a mighty group!

OMRA 2023 Annual General Meeting

This past June, OMRA held their AGM. Maria Rigby provided an overview of the highlights from 2022, which included over 40% of OMRA rent subsidy recipients obtaining full-time work and graduating from the program. In 2022, OMRA also endorsed action on affordable housing as a member of the Alliance to End Homelessness, the Canadian Council for Refugees, and Refugee 613. The keynote was delivered by A, a medical professional in his country of birth. A spoke of the challenges of getting his professional designation recognized in Canada, and issues of financial survival and adaptation. Thank you to all those who attended.



Debbie Claydon with the adorable baby F.

"NEW IN 2023" THE OMRA BOARD GETS BIGGER

We want to welcome two new members to the OMRA Board of Directors, Amena Khavari and Julia Bruno. They were confirmed as board members at the 2023 June AGM.

GET IN TOUCH WITH OMRA



Contact OMRA:

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Amena Khavari

Amena Khavari, originally from Afghanistan, has a Masters Degree in Public Policy and Public Affairs from the University of Columbia-Missouri. She had extensive management experience in the US before coming to Canada. She has worked closely with diverse groups of volunteers and is currently Coordinator: Afghan Refugee Support at the Catholic Centre for Immigrants.



Julia Bruno

Julia Bruno has an undergraduate degree in Philosophy and Political Science from Carleton University. Julia has attended Ottawa Mennonite Church since she was a baby, and is where she first met Maria Rigby! Julia has previously volunteered for the OMRA Board, providing general support and assisting with furniture needs. She currently works as a policy analyst in social innovation and social finance for the Federal Government.

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