

RPCA Social Committee AGM Report

October 22, 2025

A dedicated team of RPCA members France Dulude, Kris Nanda, Ron Ridley, Lorella Piirik, Carol McQueen, Jon Lemieux, Tim Mark, and Stephanie Lines met once per month and - along with other volunteers - brought a record number of diverse events to the community in 2024/25.

An event was held almost every month, from cleaning our neighbourhood to carnivals in the park to showcasing local musicians to raising funds for the continued operations of the RPCA.

A key element of many of our events has been helping other organizations who support our community, for example by making a financial donation to Matthew House and collecting non-perishable food for the Blair Court Community Food Bank.

The Social Committee is always looking for additional volunteers, either to be part of our regular meetings or to assist on individual events by organizing, advertising, posting on Facebook or helping on the day. Please feel free to reach out to any of us or email the RPCA to lend a much needed hand.

The following is a list of our completed RPCA Social events for 2024/2025:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Desc</u>
Cleaning the Capital	May and September	• The city provides disposable gloves and garbage bags to groups of volunteers who pick up garbage in public spaces in the neighbourhood. • The RPCA holds a spring and fall clean the capital event, where about 20 residents spend a Saturday morning picking up garbage and beautifying Riverview Park.
Fall Social Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser at O'Briens	Oct	• The RPCA welcomed 57 people to the event and netted proceeds of \$4,095 which were split between the RPCA and Matthew House Ottawa (\$2047.50 each). • Donations were received from many local businesses and elected officials • This is a critical fundraiser for the RPCA. Net proceeds from this event, together with annual membership fees allow your community association to re-invest in our community, host community-building events like the Winter Carnival, Summer Carnival & Movie Night and Holiday Caroling, and maintain/operate some of our community's ice rinks, while covering basic operating costs.

		● In 2024, Matthew house fully furnished 1818 homes and provided a bed, food and settlement support to 414 refugee claimants.
Summer Carnival A movie, games, food, and campfire in Balena Park	Aug	● The RPCA submitted a grant application and was approved to receive funds from the City of Ottawa ● Other donations from local elected officials allowed the RPCA to purchase games, popcorn and other food for the evening. ● There were games and popcorn along with a campfire. ● Partnered with Southeast City Church for this successful event with more than 250 in attendance. ● Collected food items for Blair Court Community Food Bank ● We also accessed Volunteer Ottawa's services to find student volunteers.
Porchfest	June	● Neighbourhood musicians played in 45 minute sets at houses in the neighbourhood. ● The event was well-received among community members and musicians.
Cutest Pet Contest	Feb to May	● Residents could enter a cat or dog. ● It was a very successful event with over \$500 raised for the Humane Society. ● Prizes were generously donated by PetValu
Easter egg hunt in Balena Park	April	● New event in 2025 which consisted of hiding eggs in the park per age group; providing coffee and hot chocolate; and games for kids.
Winter Carnival at Balena Park	Feb	● Over 250 adults and kids attended ● Activity included: RPCA membership table, games, fire pit, photo booth, food and drinks, shoot to win contest, ● A highlight was chili provided by Maplewood Retirement Community
Holiday Caroling in Balena Park	Dec	● Partnered with Southeast City Church for this successful event ● Organized in conjunction with Blair Court Community Housing with participants providing donations to the Blair Court food bank while enjoying carols led by Craig Cormier by candlelight. ● A financial contribution from Councillor Marty Carr provided for horse drawn sleigh rides.