

IPTRA 2016 – 2017 President's Report
by: Kathryn Holman

Last year's report covered the things the new executive had put on for the residents of Island Park Towers. This year, we've been able to turn some of those events into traditions (once you've done something twice it is a tradition!), review other events, get a sense of what residents are looking for in a Residents' Association and introduce a new take on an old tradition by using a food truck for the summer BBQ.

Events	Ongoing
Halloween Treats in the Lobbies	Sent out regular newsletters
Fire Safety presentation by the Ottawa Fire Service	Maintained the Website www.IPTRA.org offering resources for residents
Winter Holiday Party	Moderated the IPTRA Facebook group
Meet & Greets in January	Assisted the Rent Review Group in organizing, loaned our tables & chairs
Presentation by Seniors on Site, an age-in-place service	Maintained the Notice Boards in each mail room and the suggestion box (in the Tuck Shop until that closed, now in the IPT office in 185
Book/DVD/CD/Plant Exchange in March	Maintained the Residents' Bookcase in the back lobby of 195
Summer Solstice Dessert Potluck and Singing	Connected residents who want to bike or walk together.
Summer BBQ – July – the main course was washed out but we had ice cream and fellowship	Games night
Summer BBQ – August – the weather cooperated and we enjoyed the food truck offering and Ice Cream again!	Coffee chats in the lobby – a chance for residents to drop by for conversation during the day.
AGM in September	

While as president of the IPTRA, I am the voice of group, I am well supported by the executive who bring forward ideas, both their own and those they hear from residents.

Elected in September 2017	
President – Kathryn Holman	Website – Ken Holman
Treasurer – Lea Kane	Building Rep 185 Nancy Hammes, Roz Taller
Secretary – minutes taken by assorted members	Building Rep 195 Jim Wilson, Maeve Long (since moved)
Membership Secretary – Ed Ellis	Building Rep 200 Janet Cohen, Joe & Joan Pinto
Social Activities – the executive as a whole	Members at large: Julia Brady, John Leger

Over the course of the year, observing attendance at events, attempting to get regular casual activities going (daytime chat in the lobby, game nights) and listening to feedback from residents, it has become obvious that the existence of the IPTRA is important to many people who are members but who do not come out to the activities.

As a result, we've refined our mission statement to be: *Building Friendships Within the IPT Community*.

We will continue to run events but our more casual interactions seem to be just as important, encouraging people to be friendly and connecting people to each other so they can develop their own friendships. To that end all events (except voting at the AGM) remain open to all residents, whether they are members or not.

While we continue to *not* do advocacy work, we will continue to connect residents who do wish to work for change or to challenge management. For several issues this past year, groups of tenants informally worked together to handle issues about which they were passionate. This allows people to step up and work on one project or issue without having to commit to being part of the Executive or for a year term. Hopefully, we'll be able to continue to connect people in such a manner as issues arise.

That being said, we are looking for more people to serve on the Executive. We particularly need more building reps in 195, since it is the largest building. Having many reps means there's always someone to help out, even if the others are on vacation or unavailable. The classic "many hands make light work" certainly applies here.

I hope you will consider joining the group. The time commitment is not arduous, and the people are fun to work with.