

# **Mid-Centretown Community Amenities Audit**

***Draft:  
For Discussion Purposes Only***

November 2010

## Understanding Centretown's Need & Opportunity:

The Centretown Ward is quickly becoming one of Ottawa's most desirable destinations for downtown living. Continued demand for housing, a growth in local employment opportunities, and planned and on-going infrastructure investment in rapid transit, road improvements and bridge connections will continue to fuel changes over the coming years.

A Community Amenities Audit was undertaken to gain a greater understanding of both the existing and possible future condition of the social infrastructure serving the Centretown Ward. An important output of this work will be to identify what types of community amenities may be required to complement and facilitate the area's growth.

### Goals of Audit

The overarching goal of this work was to establish a baseline of community facilities available to Centretown residents and to highlight any major gaps in provision. This community facilities audit provides:

- a listing of community facilities that serve the area
- mapping of identified facilities
- a basic assessment of how many facilities are required to meet Centretown's current and future population and how Centretown stacks up against other neighbourhoods.

Through the establishment and analysis of the existing baseline provision, identification of current amenity provision targets (where possible) and the establishment of a potential future growth scenario (based on the existing Centretown Secondary Plan projection), this study provides direction as to the future need for community facilities across the neighbourhood.

It is intended that this document be used to assist not only private sector, but also the City of Ottawa and residents' groups to better understand existing and future community needs for facilities in Centretown.

This study does not provide an evaluation of how well current facilities are used or who they are used by. The value of this piece of work is to identify baseline provision of facilities and a general assessment of how the Centretown community performs against a series of facility standards used in other communities.

# Centretown's Current Community Assets

A sustainable community needs to be a complete, mixed-use district able to accommodate activity and vibrancy. It must offer residents the opportunity to interact, work, live, play, pray, shop and learn within a convenient walking or transit distance.

Community amenities are an essential component of this mix. These facilities and their related public spaces are important assets for animating the public realm, increasing access to services, improving opportunities for activity, connecting social networks, creating community destinations and contributing to a better overall quality of life for residents.

This section provides a summary of the Community Amenities present within the Centretown, including a review of:

- \* **Parks & Recreation Facilities**
- \* **Indoor Recreation Amenities**
- \* **Schools / Education Services**
- \* **Libraries**
- \* **Community Centres**
- \* **Youth Centres**
- \* **Physicians / Health Care**
- \* **Emergency Services**
- \* **Social Support Services**
- \* **Childcare**
- \* **Religious Organizations & Services**

## Centretown Today

Below is a summary of population and household assumptions used for this review.

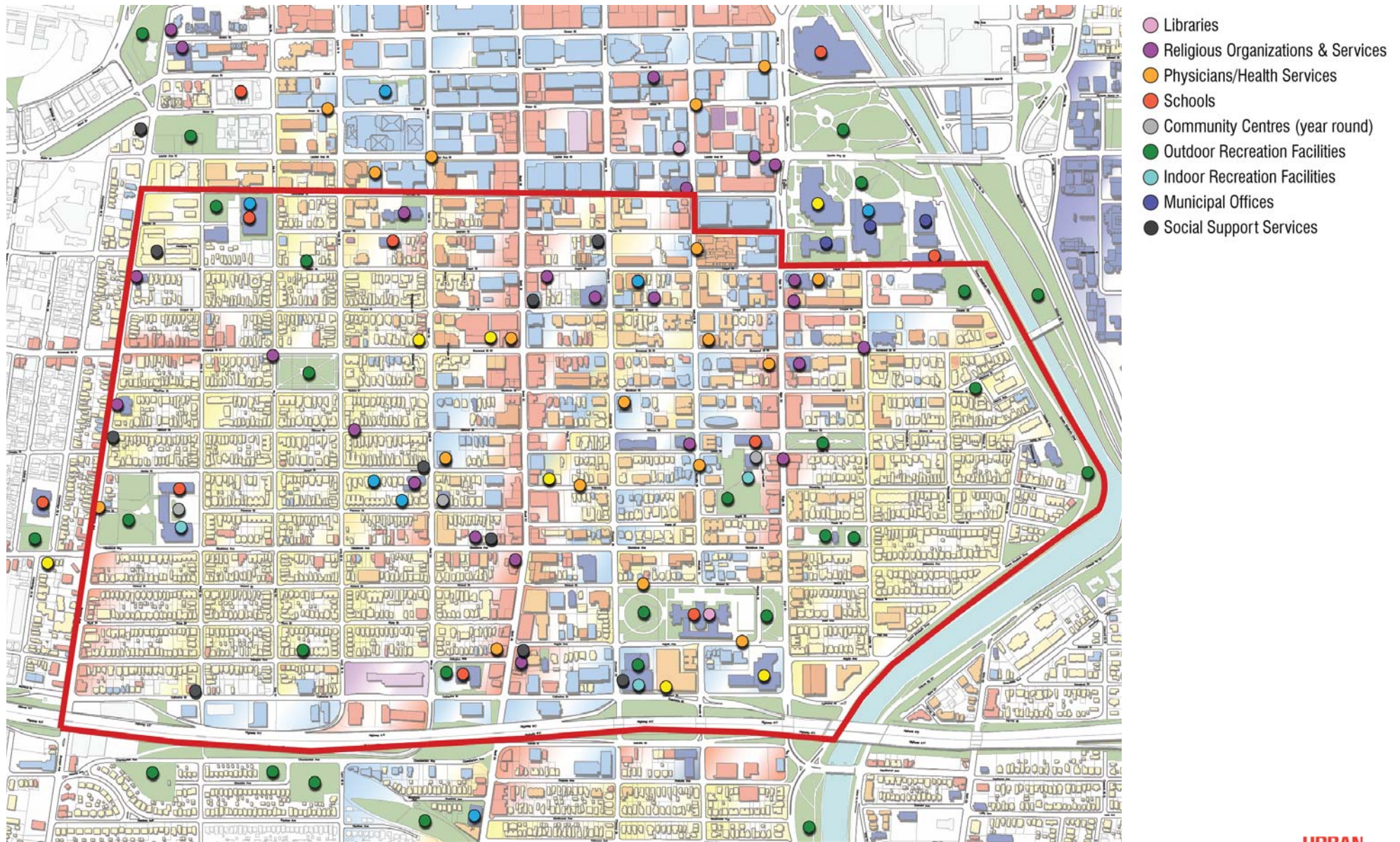
	<b>2010 Estimate (from City of Ottawa, 2010)</b>	<b>Future Scenario (from Secondary Plan)</b>
<b>Population</b>	23,660	30,000 to 36,000
<b>Households*</b>	13,690	17,650 to 21,175
<b>Geographic Area</b>	2.1km <sup>2</sup> / 210ha / 519 acres	2.1km <sup>2</sup> / 210ha / 519 acres

*\*based on current household structure of 1.7 persons per household*

## **Additional Study Considerations**

- We would like to acknowledge the help provided by the **Ottawa Neighbourhood Study team**, based out of the Institute for Population Health at the University of Ottawa. They provided the foundation for much of this work.
- Like in many neighbourhoods, the community amenities present within Centretown serve a much wider catchment area and are not for exclusive use by Centretown residents. Although the presence of these facilities with the study area suggests that they are accessible to Centretown residents, without a more detailed assessment of use on facility by facility bases, we are unable to confirm that all facilities listed as part of this study are in fact used by Centretown residents.
- Religious organizations have been included for the support services many of them provide as well as the community spaces they offer, such as halls, meeting rooms, communal kitchens, etc.
- Daycares and schools are complex amenities and require detailed population projections as well as a complete understanding of existing capacity and future plans for development. Within the confines of this study, we are not able to create more detailed profiles and projections than what is presented as part of our general assumptions.

The map below shows where each of these amenity types are located across Centretown. Additional details are appended in an accompanying spreadsheet.



Community Facilities serving Centretown: Today				
Population	Existing Amenity Provision	Current Provision Standards	Source	Provision Gap Today
20,515 residents:  Under 19: 1,395 – 0-4: 495 – 5-13: 525 – 14-18: 375  13,690 households	Community Centres:  <b>2 formal + 4 informal</b>	1 centre per 5,000 units [2 to 3 required]	London Borough of Newham, 2008 (U.K.)	Adequate provision.
	Libraries:  <b>0 + Main Branch in proximity</b>	1 centre per 10,000 units [1 to 2 required]  0.74ft2 per capita [17,500ft2 required]	London Borough of Newham, 2008 (U.K.)  City of Toronto, 2008	<b>Under provision.</b>
	Daycare Centres:  <b>6 [2 private + 4 public]</b>	10 childcare spaces per 1,000 population. [205-235 spaces required]	Province of Ontario, Ministry of Culture, 2004	Adequate provision.
	Health Centres:  <b>5</b>	1 health centre per 5,000 units [Up to 3 required]	Newham Primary Care Trust, 2008 (U.K.)	Adequate provision.
	Doctors:  <b>66</b>	1 GP per 1,800 population [11-13 required]	Newham Primary Care Trust, 2008 (U.K.)	Adequate provision.
	Seniors' Day Centre:  <b>0</b>	1 per 20,000 population [1 required]	Province of Ontario, Ministry of Culture, 2004	<b>Under provision.</b>
	Youth Centre:  <b>0</b>	1 per 20,000 population [1 required]	Province of Ontario, Ministry of Culture, 2004	<b>Under provision.</b>
	Parkland:  <b>8 City parks: 5.5ha / 13.8acres provided</b>	0.84ha per 1,000 population [17ha/42.5 acres] 1.1ha per 1,000 units [15ha/37 acres] Ottawa average of 34.3m2 per person [81ha / 200 acres required]	City of Toronto, 2008 LB Newham, 2008 (U.K.) City of Ottawa, 2010	<b>Under provision.</b>
	Outdoor Amenities: Basketball: at least 3 Baseball: at least 4 Playgrounds: 6 Pools: 2 + splash Rinks: 2 + 1 Tennis courts: at least 3 provided	1 court per 5,000 population [up to 3] 1 field per 5,000 population [up to 3] 1 per 5,000 population [up to 3] 1 per 20,000 population [1 required] 1 per 5,000 population [up to 3] 1 per 5,000 population [up to 3]	Province of Ontario, Ministry of Culture, 2004	Adequate provision. Adequate provision. Adequate provision. Adequate provision. <b>Under provision.</b> Adequate provision.

<b>Schools:</b>				
Population	Current Provision	Current Provision Standards	Source	Provision Gap Today
<p><b>Today:</b> 20,515 residents:</p> <p>Under 19: 1,395</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0-4: 495 (2.4%)</li> <li>- 5-13: 525 (3%)</li> <li>- 14-18: 375 (1.8%)</li> </ul> <p>13,690 households</p> <p><b>Future Scenario:</b> 36,000 residents</p> <p>Under 19*: 2,664</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0-4: 936 (2.4%)</li> <li>- 5-13: 1080 (3%)</li> <li>- 14-18: 648 (1.8%)</li> </ul> <p><i>*using today's demographic mix</i></p>	<p>Nursery: <b>## existing.</b></p>	1 nursery school per 180 children.	London Borough of Newham, 2008 (U.K.)	<i>Not able to determine.</i>
	<p>Elementary: <b>4 existing.</b></p> <p>Capacity: 1260</p> <p>Enrolment: 917</p>	1 primary school per 420 children.	London Borough of Newham, 2008 (U.K.)	Adequate provision today.
	<p>Capacity: 1260</p> <p>Enrolment: 917</p>	1 primary school per 450-550 pupils.	Ottawa Carleton Board	
	<p>Secondary: <b>1 existing + 1 Alternative.</b></p> <p>Capacity: 1089+340</p> <p>Enrolment: 809+270</p>	1 secondary school per 940 children.  1 secondary school per 1000-1250 pupils.	London Borough of Newham, 2008 (U.K.)  Ottawa Carleton Board	Adequate provision today.

## Centretown Tomorrow...

Centretown is growing. Using information from the current Secondary Plan for Centretown, it is estimated that the population of Centretown could increase by 50% of its 1976 level. That would equate to a population of between 30,000 and 36,000 residents. For this summary, we are using the larger estimate.

So, what does a community of **36,000** residents potentially require?

Community Facilities serving Centretown: Tomorrow			
Population Projection	Existing Amenity Provision	Provision Standards	Future Additional Requirement
<b>Population:</b> <b>36,000 residents</b>  <b>Households:</b> <b>21,175 units</b>	<b>Community Centres:</b>		
	Existing: 2 + 4 informal	1 centre per 5,000 units	<b>Up to 2 additional required</b>
	<b>Public Libraries:</b>		
	Existing: 0	1 centre per 10,000 units	<b>Up to 3 additional required</b>
	<b>Daycare Centres:</b>		
	Existing: 6	10 childcare spaces per 1,000 population	<b>83 additional public spaces required.</b>
	<b>Health Centres (@ 3,000m2) :</b>		
	Existing: 5	1 centre per 5,000 units	<b>Up to 2 additional required</b>
	<b>Doctors:</b>		
	Existing: 66	1 GP per 1,800 people	<b>No additional requirement</b>
	<b>Youth Centre</b>		
	Existing: 0	1 centre per 20,000 people	<b>Up to 2 additional required</b>
	<b>Seniors' Day Centre:</b>		
	Existing: 0	1 centre per 20,000 people	<b>Up to 2 additional required</b>
	<b>Parkland:</b>		
	Existing: 8 parks 5.5ha / 13.8 acres	0.84ha per 1,000 people 1.1ha per 1,000 units	<b>23-28 additional acres required. Park upgrades should be considered.</b>
	<b>Outdoor Amenities:</b>		
Basketball: at least 3 Baseball: at least 4 Playgrounds: 6 Pools: 2 + splash Rinks: 2 outdoor, 1 indoor Tennis courts: at least 3 provided	1 per 5,000 population 1 per 5,000 population 1 per 5,000 population 1 per 20,000 population 1 per 5,000 population 1 per 5,000 population	<b>Up to 4 required Up to 3 required Up to 1 required No additional requirement Up to 5 required Up to 4 more required</b>	

## Key Messages

- \* At present, as a well-established and central neighbourhood, Centretown is generally well provided for with community facilities.
- \* However, like many other urban communities, there are some deficiencies, such as: community centres; meeting space for residents; local libraries; youth centres; seniors' centres; and, outdoor recreation space.
- \* Facilities are generally well distributed across Centretown, with particularly strong representation in the Mid-Centretown area.
- \* Although a youth centre is identified as a 'gap' in facility provision, such a centre may not be an immediate priority given the relatively small number of young people currently residing in the area (equating to only 1.8% of Centretown's current population). This number may not merit a dedicated facility. Furthermore, for seniors needs, many of the services provided by a Senior's Centre are performed by the many religious Organizations & Services dispersed across Centretown.
- \* Although a local public library is identified as a 'gap' in facility provision, due to the City of Ottawa's Main Branch being located adjacent to the study area, Centretown can be considered adequately served by libraries.
- \* If Centretown continues to grow, many existing community facilities will be operating at capacity and additional facilities will be required to meet demand.
- \* Although currently adequately provided for, existing facilities are aging – particularly schools, community centres and indoor recreation facilities – and will require renewed investment in next 10 to 20 years.
- \* The increase in demand for services can be partially addressed through an intensification of uses for existing facilities (where capacity exists). This may require an investment in facilities to allow them to deal with increased demand, longer operational hours, upgrading of facilities, etc.
- \* Parks and open spaces – both active and passive – are at a premium across Centretown. Much of the existing open space provision is not formally dedicated park space, but shared recreation areas with schools or other institutional users.

- \* In the absence of an opportunity to introduce a major new greenspace within the community, a review should be undertaken of existing greenspaces in Centretown to inform a strategy for their intensification and optimization of use (Dundonald, Jack Purcell, the National Museum of Nature, Minto Park and St Lukes Park, being the primary opportunities).
- \* Outdoor recreation amenities are adequately provided for at the moment, although many outdoor amenities are close to threshold capacity. Additional population growth will require additional outdoor amenities or an intensification of use of existing amenities.
- \* Anecdotal evidence has suggested that there is demand for additional spaces for informal recreation (such a 'pick-up' games of hockey, football and soccer). This may be a consequence of the current permitting and programming practices used by the City for organized sports that limits the use of facilities by informal groups. This may situation may potentially be improved by allowing informal groups to use non-regulation fields and facilities for informal play. This would need to be done in partnership with the School Board(s) or other institutional partners who provide recreation facilities
- \* Rinks in Centretown are well used, however, anecdotal evidence suggests that the outdoor rinks could be managed more efficiently, perhaps by a community-based organization or group, to allow for an extended season with more regular cleanings. In addition to more efficient management, adding arterial ice to one outdoor rink could also allow for an intensification of its use.
- \* To maximise future growth opportunities, additional provision and/or improvements of existing amenities should be considered for the following type of facilities:
  - park spaces
  - community centres
  - outdoor recreation amenities
- \* Augmenting the provision of City-operated facilities, there appears to be a strong representation of informal social support services and centres providing a spectrum of activities that cater to different user groups. The majority of these are clustered in the Mid-Centretown area.
- \* Additional work is required to understand future demand for all types of schools and day care facilities across Centretown. Any existing surpluses could be temporary if growth continues.

**CENTRETOWN:  
FULL LIST OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

Facility	Name	Address	Amenities Provided
<b>LIBRARY</b>			
	1 Ottawa Public Library - Main Branch	120 Metcalfe Street	Meeting rooms available
<b>SCHOOLS</b>			
	1 Albert Street Secondary Alternative	440 Albert St	
	2 Centennial Public School	376 Gloucester St	Play structure, therapeutic pool,
	3 Elgin Street Public School	310 Elgin St	2 play structures, basketball net, baseball diamond, and outdoor skating rink.
	4 Glashan Public School	28 Arlington Ave	2 large gyms
	5 Lisgar Collegiate Institute	29 Lisgar St	
	6 St. Patrick Adult H.S.	290 Nepean St	
	7 Cambridge Street Community P.S.	250 Cambridge St	Soccer field / baseball, volleyball, Play structure
	8 Richard Pfaff Secondary Alternative First Place Alternate Programe	160 Percy Street 160 Percy Street	See McNabb Recreation Centre below See McNabb Recreation Centre below
<b>HEALTH CENTRES &amp; PHYSICIANS</b>			
	1 Morissette	100 Argyle Ave	
	2 Moore	116 Lisgar St	
	3 Ballyy	219 Laurier Ave West	
O'Connor Health Group	4 Akcakir	267 O'Connor St	
	Griffiths	267 O'Connor St	
	Dermer	267 O'Connor St	
	Kegan	267 O'Connor St	
	Dollin	267 O'Connor St	
	Halliday	267 O'Connor St	
	Krane	267 O'Connor St	
	Comerton	267 O'Connor St	
	Townsend	267 O'Connor St	
	Cooper	267 O'Connor St	
	Daryawish	267 O'Connor St	
	Wilson	267 O'Connor St	
	Maloley	267 O'Connor St	
	Mercer	267 O'Connor St	
	Stanners	267 O'Connor St	
	Yau	267 O'Connor St	
Elgin Family Medical Centre	5 Cane	270 Elgin	
	Paliga	270 Elgin	
	Rogers	270 Elgin	
	Rostein	270 Elgin	
	Shazeen	270 Elgin	
	6 Powell	275 McLeod St	
	7 Tang	293 Maclaren St	
	Tang	293 Maclaren St	
	8 Tomplaski	301 Metcalfe St	
	9 McLeod	3161 O'Connor St	
	10 Graham	361 Waverly St	
Appletree Medical Clinic	11 Baribeau	368 Slater St	
	Bell	368 Slater St	
	Dubreuil	368 Slater St	
	Ede	368 Slater St	
	Habib	368 Slater St	
	Haziza	368 Slater St	
	Kane	368 Slater St	
	McMahan	368 Slater St	
	Mohamadee	368 Slater St	
Appletree Medical Centre	12 Jones	381 Kent St	
	Esdaile	381 Kent St	
	Gauthier	381 Kent St	
	McLeod	381 Kent St	
	Valia	381 Kent St	
	Escudero	381 Kent St	
	Coliy	381 Kent St	
	Hynie	381 Kent St	
	Rydzik	381 Kent St	

Centretown Community Health Centre	Barnabe	381 Kent St
	Wilkinson	381 Kent St
	Chamiaÿ	381 Kent St
	13 Eyre	420 Cooper St
	Hodge	420 Cooper St
	Montoya	420 Cooper St
	Roberts	420 Cooper St
	Gellar	421 Cooper St
	Aire	422 Cooper St
	14 Woychyshyn	423 Bronson Ave
	Steyn	423 Bronson Ave
	15 Jenner	423 Cooper St
	16 Hamdy	58 James St
	17 Tulai	75 Albert St
	Weiner	75 Albert St
	18 Deslauriers	99 Metcalfe St
	Pritchett	99 Metcalfe St
	19 Schenker	180 Metcalfe St

#### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

1	Knox Presbyterian Church	120 Lisgar St
2	Evangelical Fellowship of Canada	130 Albert St
3	First Baptist Church	140 Laurier Ave W
4	Christian Science Reading Room	141 Laurier Ave W
5	Eglise Unie St-Marc	142 Lewis St
6	St George's Church (Anglican)	152 Metcalfe St
7	St John's the Evangelist Anglican Church	154 Somerset St W
	Anglican Diocese of Ottawa- La Source	154 Somerset St W
8	Eckankar Religion of Light and Sound	200 Cooper St
9	McPhail Memorial Baptist Church - Church Office	249 Bronson Ave
10	St Patrick Basilica - Churches Roman Catholic (Ottawa)	281 Nepean St
11	Christian Science	288 Metcalfe St
12	Anglican Catholic Church of Canada	309 Cooper St
13	Islamic Information Centre	312 Lisgar St
14	Erskine Presbyterian Church	343 Bronson Ave
15	Dominion-Chalmers United Church	355 Cooper St
16	First United Church	397 Kent St
17	St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church	400 Sparks St
18	Jehova's Witness	405 Gladstone Ave
19	Christ Church Cathedral Anglican - Sparks and Bronson	439 Queen St
20	Metropolitan Bible Church	453 Bank St
21	New Creation Church	475 Bank St
22	McLeod-Stewarton United Church	507 Bank St
23	Korean Holy Martyrs Parish Rectory	523 Gilmour St
24	Joyful Land Buddhist Centre	562 Somerset St W
25	Church of Saint-Barnabas	70 James St
26	Anglican Diocese of Ottawa - Synode Office	71 Bronson Ave
	Anglican Diocese of Ottawa - Parish & Diocesan Services	71 Bronson Ave
	Anglican Diocese of Ottawa - Programme-Parish & Diocesan Services	71 Bronson Ave
	Anglican Diocese of Ottawa - Bishop's Office	71 Bronson Ave
	Anglican Diocese of Ottawa - Archives	71 Bronson Ave
27	St Andrew's Church (Presbyterian) - Church Office	82 Kent St
	St Andrew's Church (Presbyterian) - Dir of Music	82 Kent St
28	St Theresa - Churches Roman Catholic (Ottawa)	95 Somerset St W

#### COMMUNITY CENTRES

1	Jack Purcell Community Centre	320 Jack Purcell Lane	18-meter warm water pool, weight room, five meeting rooms, access to school gym
2	McNabb Community Centre	180 Percy St	Rink, meeting rooms, gym with 150 person seating, pottery studio
3	Polish Hall	Waverley Street	

4	Bronson Place	Bronson
5	Chinese Community Centre	Florence At Kent
6	Montgomery Legion	330 Kent St

#### OUTDOOR RECREATION

1	McNabb Park		Lawn bowling, skateboard park, play structure, wading pool, basketball, rink
2	Bronson Park		
3	Centennial PS recreation fields		Baseball diamond
4	Lisgar Street Parkette		
5	Dundonald Park		Play structure, movie nights in summer
6	Glebe Memorial Park		Play Structure, splash pad, outdoor rink,
7	Chamberlain Park		2 tennis courts, sports field
8	Arlington Park		Play structure
9	Golden Triangle Park		
10	Minto Park		2 tennis courts, outdoor skating rink, community gardens, play structures
11	Jack Purcell Park		Basketball, play structures, splash pool, 1 tennis court, rink
12	St Lukes Park		
13	Glashan Public School recreation fields	28 Arlington Ave	
14	St. Patrick Adult H.S. recreation fields	290 Nepean St	
15	Cambridge Street Community P.S. recreation fields		Baseball diamond, gym, meeting rooms,

#### INDOOR RECREATION

1	McNabb Community Centre & Arena		Weight room, splash swimming, badminton, art classes, yoga
2	Jack Purcell Community Centre	320 Jack Purcell Lane	Weight room, five meeting rooms of various sizes and access to school gym

#### CHILDCARE

1	Centretown Co-operative Kindergarten Program	Centennial PS	Outside Centretown boundary
2	Kids & Company	Albert St	Outside Centretown boundary
3	Acorn Early Learning Centre	Bank St	
4	Florence Child Care Centre	Florence St	
5	Centretown Parents' Co-operative Day Care	James St	
6	St Lukes Childcare Centre	City Hall	
7	Wellington Ward Child Care Centre	Lisgar at O'Connor	
8	YMCA YWCA Headstart Nursery School		
9	YMCA YWCA Metro Central Childcare		
10	Nanny Goat Hill Headstart Nursery School	755 Somerset St West	Outside Centretown boundary
11	Centennial PS	376 Gloucester St	

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES

1	CPC Police: Somerset Community	Bank at Somerset
2	Ottawa Courthouse	Elgin Street
3	Police Central Headquarters	Elgin Street
4	EMS	105 Catherine Street
5	EMS	738 Gladstone

#### SOCIAL SERVICES

1	Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation	415 Gilmour St
2	O'Connor Shelter	
3	Bronson Centre	211 Bronson Avenue
4	Salvation Army	391 Gladstone Ave at Bank
5	AIDS Committee of Ottawa	251 Bank Street
6	Centre 507 Association of Ottawa	507 Bank Street
7	Catholic Immigration Centre	219 Argyle Avenue
8	Centretown Emergency Food Centre	507 Bank St.
9	Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa	311-211 Bronson Ave.
10	Good Day Workshop Programs Inc.	211 Bronson Ave

- 11 Minwaashin Lodge Aboriginal Women's Support Centre
- 12 Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre
- 13 Pink Triangle Services
- 14 Social Planning Council re: Just Food - Ottawa  
Community Garden Network
- 15 The Good Companions
- 16 Women's Initiatives for Safer Environments (WISE)
- 17 YMCA/YWCA Orleans

- 424 Catherine Street
- 381 Kent Street, Suite 208
- 251 Bank Street
- 790 Bronson Avenue
- 670 Albert Street
- 211 Bronson Avenue
- 180 Argyle Avenue