NECA Priorities – Update for 2026-27

Mission Statement – New Edinburgh Community Alliance is committed to making our community welcoming, safe, resilient, and sustainable; conserving and celebrating the unique character of our neighbourhood and public spaces; and managing change responsibly.

Priorities	Strategy	Status/Recommendations
Promote responsible development of the Beechwood Corridor that best meets the needs of current and future residents	• Work with BVA and other stakeholders and the City to promote development that aligns with the Community Design Plan and a subsequent Secondary Plan. • Encourage stakeholders to ensure current and future community needs are embraced including prioritizing: greenspace, effective public transit, pedestrians and cyclists; and ensuring needs of wider community (e.g. the aged, people with disabilities, children) are included in development design. • Pursue early collaboration with developers to encourage positive development along the Beechwood corridor.	NECA continues to join forces with nearby community associations, including through its participation in the Beechwood Village Alliance, to explore ways to engage with the City and developers earlier and more positively, and to seek innovative ways to encourage community-friendly development along Beechwood. This work will continue and the community representatives will report back to and check in with the community regularly.
Improve traffic and safety and promote community access to safe, affordable and sustainable transport options	• Explore ways to improve safety throughout the neighborhood. • Work with the Community Collective to find solutions to Beechwood and area traffic and safety issues. • Prioritize public transit and promote pedestrian and cycling options in the community as an alternative to private cars.	The Traffic and Safety committee will continue to pursue priority traffic and safety issues with the City. What we will continue to push forward: • Continuous incremental improvements to street safety in New Edinburgh • Beechwood transportation and safety in conjunction with neighbouring community associations

Priorities	Strategy	Status/Recommendations
Promote and conserve our history and heritage while promoting sustainable development	• Continue to encourage development that is consistent with the character and heritage values of our neighbourhood. • Advocate best practice for infill and renovations, including materials and practices that are consistent with our inner-city heritage area and are kind to the environment. • Strengthen relationships with the City, the councillor, developers, residents and representatives from other Heritage Conservation Districts (HCDs), and, when appropriate, the National Capital Commission, in Ottawa to encourage best practice for heritage promotion and conservation. • Explore innovative ways to encourage complementary design and planning in developments outside the HCD.	Heritage & Development Committee endeavours to work closely with City planners, our ward councillor, developers and impacted residents on potential developments in New Edinburgh. NECA's H&D Committee will continue as part of a project that allows for earlier input from the community for development proposals. The H&D Committee will continue its work regarding development proposals – inside and outside the HCD. Regarding the NCC's conceptual plans to develop the Sussex Blocks, both the H&D committee and the Sussex Blocks working group will track plans and continue to contact the NCC and the City, as appropriate. This includes questions regarding the NCC's appeal in 2026 of the City's new zoning by-law as pertains to those blocks.
Foster inclusive community engagement	• Seek collaboration/fusion with other community organizations. • Pursue joint community events. • Further enhance engagement with residents. • Support community engagement through the *New Edinburgh News*, E-newsletters and other means.	This committee works to ensure clear and effective communication with residents and maintains a website (newedinburgh.ca) that is a current and useful resource for the community. NECA continues to work collaboratively with other community groups in our area on issues of common interest or possible synergy. NECA is a member of the Federation of Citizens' Associations (FCA) and benefits from the analysis and resources provided. NECA continues to work with Kichi Sibi Trails to acknowledge and celebrate the area's indigenous heritage. NECA's Communications Committee would welcome additional volunteers.

Priorities	Strategy	Status/Recommendations
Encourage climate change action and environmental sustainability	Encourage more sustainable and eco-friendly behaviour and practices in New Edinburgh such as: ● Promoting use of public transit, cycling, walking ● Promoting reduce/reuse/recycle practices ● Encouraging action on plastic waste and pollution ● Supporting increased biodiversity in the community including through gardening practices ● Promote river health including by reducing toxic runoff.	The Environment and Climate Change Committee has been dormant due to a lack of chair.
Pursue enhancements for the Park that preserve greenspace, protect the natural habitat and river, promote biodiversity, and ensure the park is safe and clean for all to enjoy.	● The Park Committee works to ensure continued local stewardship of the park as a natural resource. ● Engage and collaborate with relevant stakeholders [residents, Crichton Community Council, City staff, the National Capital Commission, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), Ottawa Riverkeeper and Ecology Ottawa, etc.] to maintain and enhance the park and river for all users. ● Determine how stronger collaboration with RVCA might further support park priorities along Rideau River. ● Support the efforts of the Crichton Community Council and other community partners toward making improvements to public space facilities that support both current and future needs of park users.	The Park Committee will continue working with the city and other stakeholders to enhance safety, reduce friction between different users and enhance/maintain the greenspaces and increase the green canopy. However, two residents are leading plans to host information sessions on topics identified by respondents to a NECA environment and climate survey in mid-2026. The first session will be on waste reduction and recycling on Nov. 3, 2026.