



Welcome to SPACC.



St. Paul's Anglican Church in Delta closed in 2012. **SPACC** is the dream of a community-based committee comprised of former members of the congregation as well as citizens in the village and surrounding area. **Together with the Anglican Diocese of Ontario, The Ontario Heritage Trust, the Township of Rideau Lakes and the support of other community groups, our goal is to repurpose the deconsecrated church and its attached hall into a community hub. *A place where together, we can help to build a***

better community for everyone.

Built in 1811, St. Paul's history of shared use between multiple congregations tells the story of Delta's early religious history and its role in the development of the village. For two centuries, St. Paul's was an integral part of the community, and not just for those who gathered to worship. St. Paul's provided a warm and welcoming venue for community fellowship, where the Grace of God and the love of neighbours and friends touched people's hearts and minds. And now, that same love of community and support to those in need is required more than ever.

The Need

A couple of decades or so ago the village of Delta looked much different than it does today. There was an elementary school, a bank, a post office, a grocery store, a restaurant, a hardware store, a liquor store, a gas station with a coffee shop, and a gift shop. Today most of those services have disappeared. More importantly, because virtually all of them were places where you would bump into friends and neighbours, that vital community link was also taken away. Efforts are underway to revitalize the village core as exemplified by the opening of a coffee house, clothing store and a chip truck. In addition, the municipality is transforming a lot adjacent to the Old Stone Mill into a small park overlooking the mill creek. While all these efforts are welcome, there is still a gap that needs to be addressed.

Specifically, there is no easily accessible children's park or playground or a staffed facility that offers before and after-school programs; services that are critical in attracting and retaining young families to a community. There is no drop-in centre for seniors or stay-at-home parents. Most importantly, there is no safe and non-judgemental environment for the youth of the village to meet and talk or just relax with friends. In short, a significant segment of the population has been unintentionally marginalized.



Our Goal

As a volunteer community organization, the solutions to the root causes of these issues are beyond what we alone can do. However, ***we cannot let that be an excuse for a failure to act. We believe we can make a significant difference to those in need*** by providing an environment that is warm, welcoming, and understanding. To be more specific, our intention is to:

- provide an environment where residents of the community, particularly young people, can feel welcome and accepted without regard to race, religion, creed, income, sexual orientation, or gender.
- aid residents in the areas of food security, as well as an increased awareness of area services and programs.
- provide a comfortable and convenient place for community groups to meet, giving residents a place to go and be with friends and neighbours.
- be a visible and active participant in the economic and social life of the community.
- maintain and protect the heritage value of St. Paul's for generations to come as an example of the power of people working together for the benefit of all.

Our Plan

As you can see in the attached copy of the architect's layout, when completed the hall will house the food bank, space for community groups to meet, a kitchen, space for community meals, support groups, and childcare programs. The church will then revert to being primarily a public facility for available for concerts, presentations, public meetings, and events marking any of life's milestones regardless of denomination or sexual orientation. The property at the rear of the church will provide a park-like setting for a children's play area and a small picnic area. We know we can't do this all at once, but we can get started and then bring the additional aspects on stream as the resources become available.

Our Current Status

Thanks to the generosity of contractors who donated their time and materials, and especially the volunteers who put in the hours required to get the work done, we have.

- completely restored the interior of the church to its original 1811 appearance.
- installed an HVAC heating system to replace the older radiant heaters.
- relocated the Delta Community Food Bank into the church where they have more space, improved shelving, their own fridge, and freezer.
- become the home of Delta Pride and an inaugural member of the Rural Pride Collective of Leeds and Grenville.
- have been recognized by Proud Anglicans as a safe and welcoming facility.

Want to Help?

We have been blessed with several people who have come forward to share their time and skills in support of our project. We're at the point where we need to strip the interior of the hall to get it ready for the new layout. Another project in the months ahead will be clearing the lot behind the church to allow for a new septic system and the park area.

St. Paul's Anglican Community Centre



If baking or making soups and sandwiches are more your style or helping with our free community luncheons and yard sales, we would love to have you join the team. If committee work is more your style, we would welcome your involvement there as well.

Not surprisingly, a project of this size will take a considerable amount of financial support, and we are always grateful for donations of any amount. We are continuing to apply for grants as the opportunities arise, given that there is a significant amount of capital required to refurbish and restore the facility. If you are a member of a charitable foundation, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss our project with you. Our contact information is below. If you are considering an individual gift, we would welcome that as well. Lastly, please know that your gift to St. Paul's stays at St. Paul's.

If you would like to donate, please make your cheque payable to:

St. Paul's Anglican Community Centre, P.O. Box 144, Delta ON K0E 1G0

All donations of ten dollars or more will receive a receipt for income tax purposes.

St. Paul's is located at 77 King St. (County Rd 42) in Delta. If you would like further information about our project or to arrange a site visit, please contact either Doug Cowley at 613-213-3034 or Claire Cowley at 613-928-2761; or via email at st.paulsanglicancomcentre@gmail.com



Proposed Layout

