

People + Nature



Chelsea Creek is a community that defines itself in the balance between the surrounding natural beauty, the inhabitants and the bonds that unite them. Our goal is to create a contemporary statement that treads delicately on underlying resources to minimize its current and future ecological footprint. It is a community of the future deeply rooted in its ecological past.



A Setting like no other

Millions of visitors come to Chelsea every year to enjoy the rich natural surroundings of Gatineau and the colourful ways of Mother Nature. Chelsea has long been known to bikers, hikers, skiers and nature walkers alike as the gateway to the park, a part of its cultural identity.



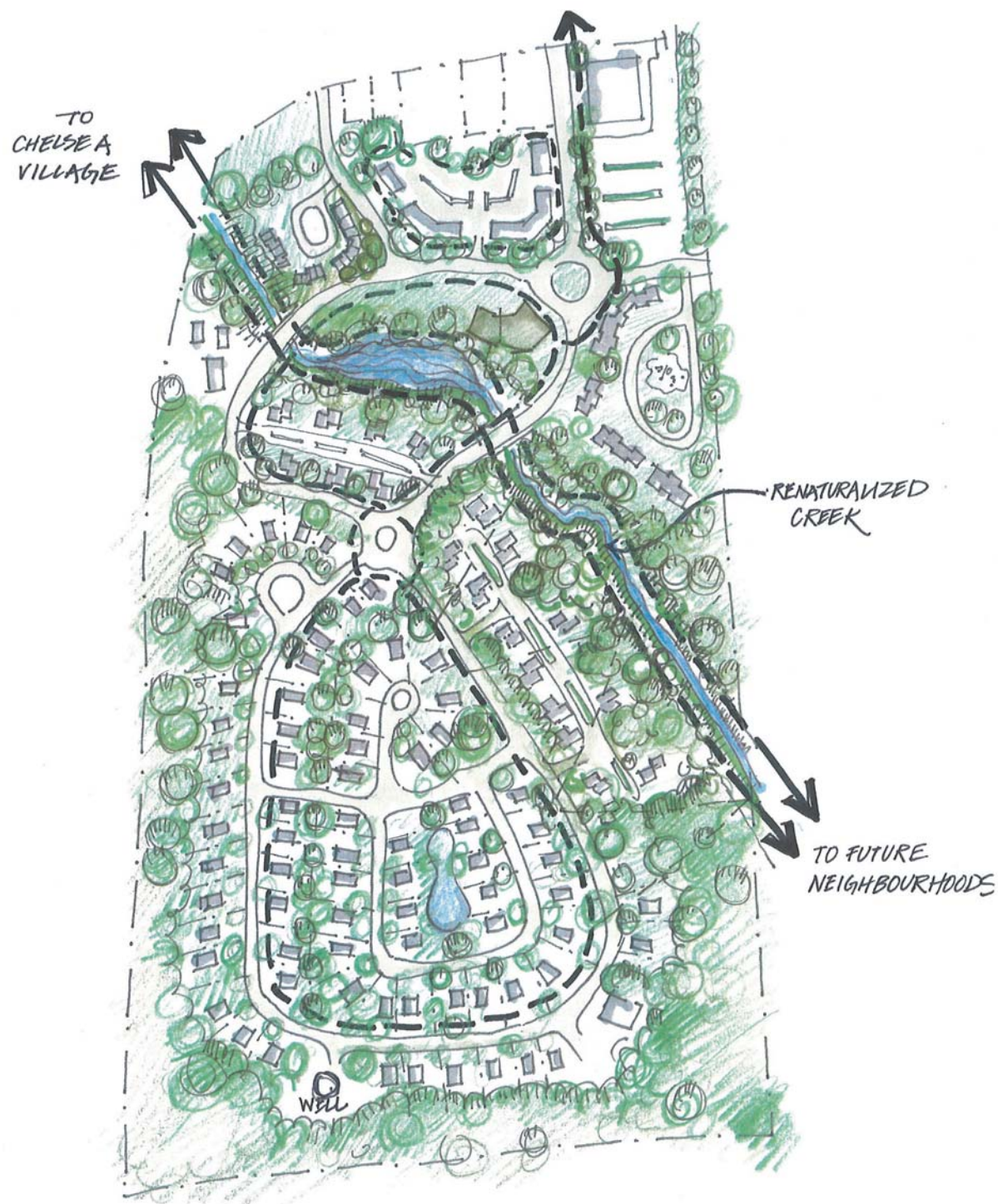
Walking Trails

The breathtaking natural landscape with its views and vistas will play a major role in shaping a neighbourhood organized around a few simple principles of providing equality of views and accessibility to the network of trails, greenspaces and natural features.



Linkages

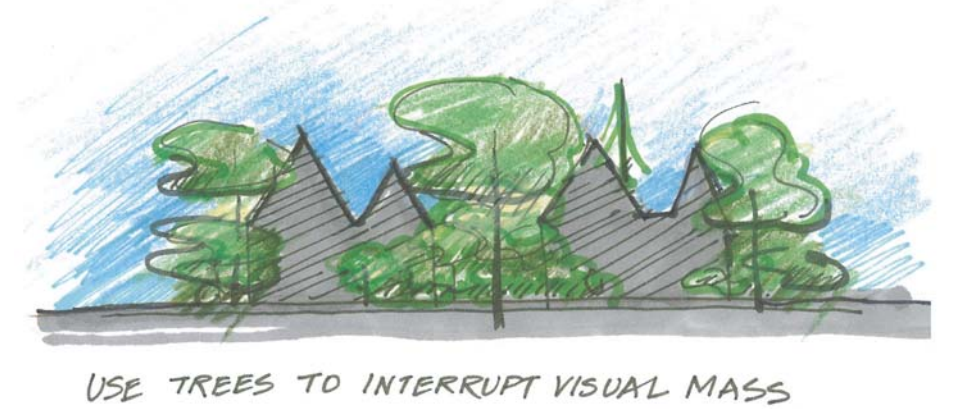
Nature acts as both a foil and a backdrop in Chelsea Creek. The existing natural features of the site from any location or angle will serve as visual anchors and points of reference to the eye. All green space will be interconnected with nature trails and bike paths creating a connecting thread of places.



Green Streetscapes



Nowhere else in Gatineau is it as evident as in the streets of Chelsea that nature has a role in juxtaposition to its neighbouring structures. The interplay of built and unbuilt spaces creates a rhythm and a density which is soothing to the eye for those unfortunate enough to pass through other sub-divisions in and around the Ottawa-Gatineau Region. The density proposed and the articulation of the sites and buildings around Chelsea Creek will encourage greener streets and attenuated building mass and volumes.



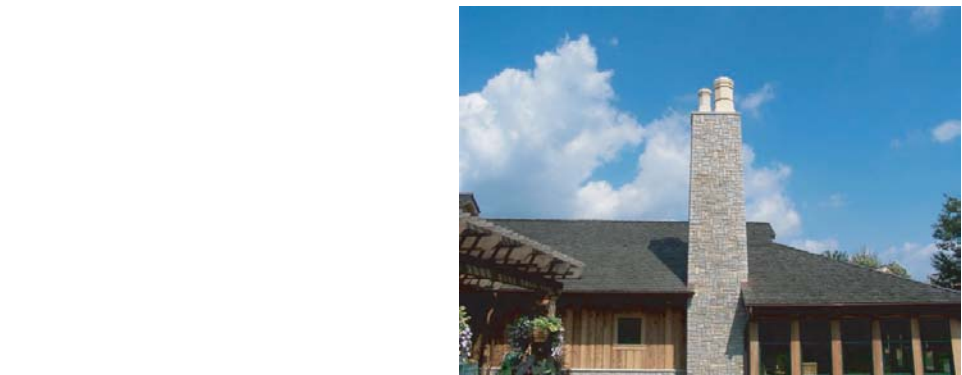
Low Density

Density is key to the success for Chelsea Creek. Smaller scale, lower-rise buildings are proposed to allow for light penetration between properties as well as access to views and to natural features to create a more pedestrian friendly neighbourhood.



Building Philosophy

Our approach is to promote designs of appropriate scale and detail which encourage a reduced footprint; the use of quality materials and well thought-out details as opposed to more square footage.



Smaller Footprint

Creating smaller building footprints lowers the development density and increases the ratio of landscape to built form. While this has tremendous visual benefits, this approach minimizes the building footprint, reduces disturbance of the existing site ecology and limits storm water run-off.



Chelsea



Evidence of similar approaches can be found throughout other parts of Chelsea and Centre-Village which leads us to believe that our concerns are already shared by many of our neighbours. Chelsea Creek will be a first example in the region and in the Province of Quebec where the principles are applied in global way to the design of a community.

