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need to
know

LANES CLOSED ON RIVER PKWY.

One lane of traffic on each side of the Ottawa River Pkwy. will be closed until mid-July so crews can install a high-pressure transmission main from the Lemieux Island Water Purification Plant.

Motorists are advised to expect traffic delays in the area.

For more information, call the National Capital Commission at 613-239-5555 or 1-866-661-3530.

POLICE SEEK INPUT FOR A SAFER CITY

Ottawa police are hosting a series of informal meetings with residents this week to answer the question: What does a safer Ottawa for all look like?

The first will be held tonight at the Bayshore Recreation Centre (party room on the second floor), 98 Woodridge Cres., beginning at 6:30 p.m.

For more information and to register online, visit: www.ottawapolice.ca/PIA2009.

5 questions with Barry MacDonald

Author, teacher and counsellor Barry MacDonald's free talk *Boy Smarts — Effective Strategies for Parenting Boys* takes place Wednesday at 440 Albert St. from 7-9 p.m. Parents are encouraged to arrive at 6:30 p.m. in the second-floor auditorium to ensure a spot. The following is an edited conversation with Barry MacDonald.

Q: What is the most common mistake parents make with their sons?

A: "Sometimes (parents and teachers) don't appreciate the needs of some boys to be so physically ac-



BARRY MacDONALD

tive and kinesthetic. The parent may be disciplin-

ing their boy and they may expect him to sit still, thinking that as he's sitting still he's really listening, but in actual fact his ability to process is (diminished)."

Q: With those boys, is it better to take them for a walk to have a serious talk instead of telling them to sit still?

A: "You betcha. The walk is a good strategy, it's actually one I provide. In addition, just watch what their son wants to do in those moments of high stress. Don't interpret fidgeting or looking away as a lack of respect or a lack

of attending."

Q: What have you learned about parenting boys throughout your career?

A: "I've learned that parents can struggle with both girls and boys, but they especially struggle with the overt aggression, the pushing back, that can happen verbally or physically with boys."

Q: What are some guidelines parents can keep in mind when parenting boys?

A: "It's important to think about how they're going to share power with

their boy. Whether it's an overly structured environment or a really loose environment, meaning the parent decides everything or the boy decides everything. Really, the answer is somewhere in between."

Q: Could you tell us more about that?

A: "If we want our boys to grow up to make healthy choices, choices that contribute to the community, we need to give them practice ... but the choices need to be age-appropriate."

— Adrienne Asch, 24 HOURS