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VVCA on Facebook: Facebook.com/VarsityView

Website: vvcasaskatoon.com

VVCA on Twitter: @VVCASaskatoon



As I walk around our neighborhood one of the major issues is parking. Residents are concerned they cannot park near their home, tradespeople have difficultly finding parking to perform needed repairs, there is no room for visitors to park, and back alleyways are obstructed by delivery and builders' trucks. In the residential parking zone close to the University, the concerns are around lack of parking on weekends. From 15th Street south, work day parking is the problem. It is not completely clear who is parking in our neighborhood. Some tell stories of students parking outside their house and catching a bus up to Place Riel, others think RUH employees are an important factor. Another factor is the increased housing density in our area. Every time a lot is subdivided we lose front street parking to curb cuts and/or gain more cars.

The VVCA Civics committee is working to understand our options to address our parking problems. In October we met to discuss this issue with two University of Saskatchewan representatives James Cook (Manager of Business Opportunities and our College Quarter liaison) and Quintin Zook (Director of Consumer Services). We learned that during the work week, all University parking spaces are occupied and that there is a waiting list for daytime on-campus parking. On the weekends the University has spare

parking capacity. There are several lower- cost parking options for students, typically in the more peripheral areas of campus. Faculty and staff have access to more centrally located lots as part of their parking plan. We plan on meeting with student representatives and RUH to get their take on the parking situation. Ultimately, if our neighboring employees are unable to help, one option will be to apply for an extension of the residential parking plan to cover a wider area and longer hours. Another suggestion is to allow residents to sell off-road parking; this private enterprise approach would require architectural guidelines to ensure that parking was appropriately hidden and landscaped. Finally, I hope that the planning department will insist that new construction follows existing by-laws and that parking exemptions for new builds are no longer approved.

Another change that is likely to affect our community is the development of College Quarter. The new hotel is already under construction. Other plans call for sporting areas, mixed residential and commercial construction. Development will remove green space, remove campus parking lots, increase the number of cars in our area and bring young families; changes that could impact parking, schools and parks in Varsity View. Another problem will be how the City and the school system get money to provide these services as University lands are exempt from municipal taxes. James Cook will give an overview of College Quarter development at January 18th at 7 pm in the library at Brunskill school. I hope you will attend as it will be an opportunity to get answers to your concerns and opportunities that this development brings to our neighborhoods.

An interesting overview of the demographics of Varsity View can be found by searching for neighborhood profiles, 2015, City of Saskatoon. The data was recently updated. Both Grosvenor Park (12 units/hectare) and Varsity View (15 units/ hectare) have a greater housing density than the whole City (11 units/hectare). We have a much greater pressure on our parks than the whole City; there are 386, 487 and 235 people/hectare of park for Grosvenor, Varsity View and the whole City respectively. In Varsity View the majority of dwelling units are rented (41% home ownership), Grosvenor has 56% home ownership and the whole City has 66%. Taken together this information suggests there is a lot of pressure on our neighborhoods and it is fantastic that the efforts of our residents make this a sought-after area. Throughout the City, more people walk to work than take the bus. We excel at walking, 25% and 17% of us walk to work in Varsity View and Grosvenor respectively, compared with a City average of 5%.

Finally, I would like to thank our many volunteers. Above all it is the people that make Varsity View a great community. Our volunteers run sports, arts and educational programs for everyone from school children to retirees. Our volunteers organize many community events including Movie in the Park, skating at our rink and our Spring Community Dinner. Our volunteers remove junk form the back alleys and provide community gardening. Our volunteers fundraise for new park equipment and keep the City informed of development concerns. Our volunteers print newsletters, post on social media and deliver community updates door to door. Thanks to all and to all of you a very Happy Christmas, Festive Season and/or New Year.

Thanks again, Jon Naylor president@vvcasaskatoon.com

2016-17 VVCA

President

Jon Naylor

president@vvcasaskatoon.com

President elect

Marcus Prebble

Secretary

Annika Anderson

Treasurer

Anne Hardy

Coordinators:

Albert Community Center Lisa Kirkham

Basketball/ Football Jason Kovitch

Community Garden Rebekah Bennetch

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Holly Ann Knott

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Rink Greg McDonald

Soccer Niran Harrison

Social Ted Stensrud

Social Media Marcus Prebble

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Members at large Anu Bhargava, Holly Ann Knott,

Kyla Kelly, Isaac Asiamah

City of Saskatoon Kevin Ariss

Liaison kevin.ariss@saskatoon.ca

COLLEGE QUARTER UPDATE

Do you want to know what is planned? Questions about building height/ appearance? Pressure on local area schools? Street parking on Cumberland? Parking space available for College Quarter residents and visitors? Will residents pay school taxes?

Join us for a discussion with University of Saskatchewan representatives at our next Varsity View Community Association meeting:

Wednesday January 18, 2017 7:00pm Brunskill School Library



Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Eric Olauson, MLA

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Last summer, a joint venture between the Varsity View Community Association and the City of Saskatoon yielded the installation of a solar garbage compactor in President Murray Park. Named BigBelly, this compactor increases recycling, handles 5 times more waste than an average garbage can and, provides real time operations data. This project implements Varsity View Local Area Plan, Neighbourhood Safety recommendation 9.2, and achieves objectives across City Departments. BigBelly could not have been installed without the community's time and energy in conducting safety audits and contributing feedback on recycling and garbage receptacle needs. The Varsity View Community Association was a funding partner, and key partner in the success of this project.





A BIG THANK YOU to those who have donated time and money, given feedback and ideas, and most importantly, shown your enthusiastic support for our little park. We will do our best to make our little park a big success!

Here are some updates on the Big Plans/Albert Rec Unit park development:

- The City of Saskatoon/Canada 150 portion of the park rejuvenation is to remove and replace all the play equipment in the park. Final plans are being prepared, and while the timeline is not finalized, tender should be early 2017 with construction likely during spring of the same year. (All Canada 150 projects need to be completed by 2018)
- Final choices for the new play equipment are still being negotiated with the City, and should be finalized in the next few weeks. While we have made the community's preferences known, the final decisions rest with the City.
- To lessen the disruption to park users, we would like to proceed with our portion of the park rejuvenation on a similar timeline as the City's work.
- HOWEVER, our fundraising is about \$110 000 short to accomplish all that we want to do in the park. Despite this, we feel it is important to begin the rejuvenation now, although having a smaller budget means prioritizing items in the park design. It is not an easy process.
- Our goal is to submit final design plans to the City in January 2017. The City departments need to review and grant approval of the project with a final nod by City Council.
- At this stage, final working drawings and documents would be prepared by Oxbow Architecture and construction could possibly start in spring 2017. Note that this is only a tentative schedule.

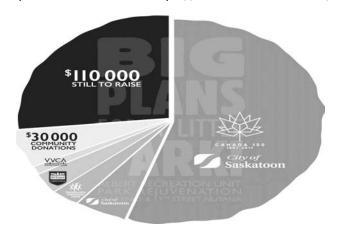
So... have you donated yet? Only \$100 per square metre to get your Good Deed! (All donations receive a tax receipt from the City)

Online donations here: https://nutana.ca/big-plans-for-a-small-park/

Donations can also be made by cheque. IMPORTANT: Please make cheques payable to: City of Saskatoon. Mark the cheque with "Albert Rec Unit".

Mail your donation to: Nutana Community Association, c/o École Victoria School, 639 Broadway Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B2

Follow our progress and see our plans on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BigPlansForaLittlePark/



WINTER 2017

MESSAGE FROM INDOOR COORDINATORS

Well, it is that time of year again! We hope everyone had a happy and healthy holiday season! What better way to start the new year off than to come and register in one or our winter programs.

2017 winter registration nights are **Thursday January 5th & Tuesday Jan 10th, 2017, from 7-8:30pm** in the Multi Purpose Room at Brunskill School.

There are a few changes from the Leisure Guide; they are as follows:

- The time of registration is 7pm -8:30pm
- Learn to Knit and Crochet: \$35 on Thursdays
- Learn to Skate: \$30 on Saturdays
- Exploration in Art is CANCELLED for the winter

SPRING SOCCER and BASKETBALL REGISTRATION WILL BE ONLINE; REGISTRATION DATE WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE vvcasaskatoon.com

Here is to a great season! If anyone has any concerns about anything feel free to contact us. We are always looking for suggestions or ideas for new programs!

Barb and Maya **programs@vvcasaskatoon.com**



VVCA January 2017 Programs Registration

Thursday, January 5 and Tuesday, January 10, 2017

In person program sign-up will be held on Thursday, January 5 and Tuesday, January 10, 2017 from 7:00–8:30 PM at Brunskill School Multipurpose Room, 101 Wiggins Ave N. A non-refundable membership fee of \$10 per individual or \$20 per family per year is required to participate in programs and must be presented at the time of program sign-up. A fee of \$10 will apply to late registrations. Programs may change. Please consult the community association newsletter, Facebook page at *facebook.com/varsityview* or visit *vvcasaskatoon.com* for final program details. VVCA honours other community association memberships.

PROGRAM	LOCATION	TIME	DAY	DATES	COST
PARENT & PRESCHOOL					
Romp N Read (1-4 years + parent)	Souris Hall	01:00 - 03:00 PM	W	Jan 18 - Mar 15	FREE
ADULT & CHILDREN					
Tae Kwon Do - Beginner (6 years and up)	Brunskill - Gym	06:30 PM - 07:15 PM	W/F	Jan 6 - Mar 31	\$75
Tae Kwon Do - Intermediate (8 years and up)	Brunskill - Gym	07:15 PM - 08:00 PM	W/F	Jan 6 - Mar 31	\$125
Tae Kwon Do - Advanced (10 years and up)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 09:00 PM	W/F	Jan 6 - Mar 31	\$150
ADULT		<u>.</u>			201
Badminton (raquet req'd)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Tu	Jan 17 - Mar 28	\$40
Badminton (raquet req'd)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Th	Jan 19 - Mar 30	\$40
Conversational Spanish Beginner	Brunskill - Library	06:00 PM - 07:00 PM	Tu	Jan 17 - Mar 28	\$110
Conversational Spanish Intermediate	Brunskill - Library	07:15 PM - 08:15 PM	Tu	Jan 17 - Mar 28	\$110
Learn to Knit & Crochet	TBA	07:00 PM - 09:00 PM	Th	Jan 19 - Mar 30	\$35
Yoga - Multi-level	Brunskill - MPR	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	М	Jan 16 - Mar 27	\$110
Yoga - Multi-level	Brunskill - MPR	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	W	Jan 18 - Mar 29	\$110
Yoga - gentle/restorative/ beginner	Brunskill - MPR	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	Th	Jan 19 - Mar 30	\$110
CHILDREN					
Learn to Skate	Brunskill Rink	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	SAT	TBA	\$30
PRESCHOOL			•		
Tae Kwon Do - Pre Beginner (Age 3-5)	Brunskill - Gym	06:00 PM - 06:30 PM	W or F	Jan 13 - Mar 31 / Jan 18 - Mar 15	\$50

We must once again stress the importance of safety before and after programming. It is imperative that parents accompany their children to and from their registered programs. If children arrive early they MUST be accompanied by a parent or guardian until the class begins. Unexpected class cancellations could leave children stranded if they are simply dropped off. Children must be picked up promptly after class. Instructors are responsible for teaching participants DURING class only.

The View is now accepting PAID ADVERTISING!! Contact us to get your business-card sized ad placed in our newsletter, which is printed three times per year (January, March and September) and reaches 2300 households in Varsity View and Grosvenor Park.

More details can be found on our website (vvcasaskatoon.com) or by emailing newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com