



March 2019

News for the Varsity View and Grosvenor Park Neighbourhoods

FREE

### President's Report

- Jon Naylor, VVCA President  
president@vvcasaskatoon.com

VVCA'S MOST RECENT ACHIEVEMENT is the long-anticipated completion of the Raoul Wallenberg reflexology park. This has been a long time coming. Our first construction attempt was through public tender. The only bid was not acceptable because it was approximately twice our budget. Eventually we found a local builder, Mark Bobyn of Design and Build, who took on the project.

He donated his time for design and then swallowed some of the construction costs. The project was finished last year just before snow fall. The pictures are epic (aka stunning) and we are all looking forwards to seeing it with our own eyes when Spring arrives (surely it is on the way). Despite Mark's donations, we are still several thousand dollars short of being fully funded. The proceeds of the **VVCA Summer BBQ & Park Fundraiser on Sunday June 2** afternoon (*save the date!*) will be devoted to this project. We invite the community to meet with us at Raoul Wallenberg Park that afternoon, celebrate our community, admire the stonework, and maybe buy a hamburger in support.

The other notable development has been the various applications to rezone parts of



Photos of Raoul Wallenberg park under construction in October 2018. Watch for more details on our website about a park celebration and BBQ to raise additional funds for this beautiful project.

our community for high-rise development.

The first rezoning was in Nutana, the site of the old Faith Alive church. The process to rezone Eighth Street and Cumberland for a mixed commercial-residential high-rise is underway. Recently, City Council rezoned the corner of College and Clarence for Prairie North's 12 storey development.

The rezoning of College and Clarence was characterized by a fundamental disagreement between council, which places a high value on infill, and the community, which places a high value on our Local Area Plan. As part of the communities' opposition to rezoning, a petition with over 130 signatures was presented to council. I, and several members of the community

voiced our concerns about parking, traffic congestion, and tax subsidies.

One area where progress may have been made is in the area of tax subsidies. I maintained that this high-rise could cost Saskatoon taxpayers approximately \$3 million. As part of the discussion at the public hearing it turned out that the City has not been collecting a door tax, which it is entitled to do, on high-rises. Our councillor, Cynthia, proposed a motion supporting the collection of more development tax and using the proceeds to enhance the local community.

Hopefully, Spring is around the corner. I look forwards to seeing you all in your yards, on the streets, or at our **AGM** on April 10.

Or, maybe I will see you at our **Summer BBQ** on June 2, where the food will be great, and it is always refreshing to meet fellow members of our community.

We are also getting ready for our community clean up - this is a great opportunity for residents to pick up the trash from their back alley and bring it to Brunskill School for free disposal. Watch our website for the date and details.

**VVCA Annual General Meeting**  
Wednesday April 10, 2019  
7:00 PM  
Brunskill School Library  
The public is welcome to attend.  
Come and get involved in your community!

**VVCA Summer BBQ & Park Fundraiser**  
Sunday June 2, 2019  
12 NOON - 4:00 PM  
Raoul Wallenberg Park, 10th & Munroe  
See page 5 for more details!

### 2018-19 VVCA Executive

**President**

Jon Naylor  
president@vvcasaskatoon.com

**President elect**

Annika Anderson

**Past President**

-

**Secretary**

Diane McDougall

**Treasurer**

Anne Hardy

**COORDINATORS:**

**Albert Community Center**

Lisa Kirkham

**Basketball**

Jason Kovitch

**Community Garden**

Rebekah Bennetch, James Perkins  
vbmccg@gmail.com

**Civics**

Robert Peterson-Wakeman, Jon Naylor,  
Allan Woo, Holly Ann Knott

**Equipment**

Robb Larmer

**Indoor Programs**

Barb Giles, Maya Wagner  
bigiles@sasktel.net

**Newsletter Editor**

Roger Williamson (Temporary)  
newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com

**Rink**

Greg McDonald, Kenton Shynkaruk

**Soccer**

Niram Harrison

**Social**

Ted Stensrud

**Social Media**

Marcus Prebble, Annika Anderson

**Web**

Roger Williamson  
info@vvcasaskatoon.com

**Members at large**

Kenton Beatty, Anu Bhargava, Holly Ann Knott,  
Kyla Kelly, Mark Prebble, Luke Rempel, Katie Pendleton

**City of Saskatoon**

Kevin Ariss  
Kevin.Ariss@Saskatoon.ca

## Indoor Coordinators News

HELLO EVERYONE! We will be offering Badminton, Tae Kwon Do and Yoga in the Spring session. Registration will be **Thursday, March 21** from 7:00 - 8:30 PM.

-Barb

In person program sign-up will be held on **Thursday, March 21, 2019** from 7:00 - 8:30 PM at Brunskill School, 101 Wiggins Ave North



## Varsity View Residential Parking Around President Murray Park

NEW PARKING RESTRICTIONS are now in place for streets bordering President Murray Park. The restrictions will limit parking to **2 Hours, Monday to Friday 08:00-17:00** and are being implemented as part of the approved Local Area Plan, to assist in reducing traffic and facilitate access to the Park.

The parking restrictions are separate from the Residential Parking Permit program in place in the neighbourhood. *Parking permits issued under the Residential Parking Program will not be valid on the block faces directly abutting President Murray Park and all vehicles will be subject to the posted parking restrictions.*

## Your Yearly Collection Calendar is Going Paperless for 2019

GET YOUR CALENDAR the way you want it: search your home address for a printable calendar or add it to your electronic calendar applications, such as Outlook, iCal or Google. Need help? Call the City of Saskatoon customer service centre at 306-975-2486 or email [csc@saskatoon.ca](mailto:csc@saskatoon.ca).

City of Saskatoon website: [saskatoon.ca/collectioncalendar](http://saskatoon.ca/collectioncalendar)



## Recycle for VVCA

DO YOU LIKE TO COLLECT POP CANS and bottles for recycling? Do you like to donate to worthy causes?

Now you can do both! Drop off your recyclable containers at any Saskatoon SARCAN location and either tell them to put your refund toward "VVCA" or use the Drop & Go system with the group account "VVCA". Your refund will be directed to VVCA and then used for community projects in our neighbourhood.

*With Drop & Go there is no waiting in line. Just punch your account into the terminal, tag your bags with the sticky labels generated and then drop your bags off at the counter. Easy.*

Drop & Go is a new service that SARCAN is offering at the larger depots in cities and towns across Saskatchewan. When the line gets long, Drop & Go is an easy way to drop off your containers without having to wait.



Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**Eric Oluson, MLA**

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## Anonymous Donation Makes Big Plans Possible!

### Big Plans for a Little Park:

#### Albert Recreation Unit park rejuvenation - Spring 2019 update

IN MID-FEBRUARY we received a LARGE anonymous donation for the park that deserves a huge **THANK YOU!** as well as a thank you to all those in the community who have believed in and supported this park project from the beginning. *YOU are making YOUR park a BIG success!*



We had been on track to finalize our numbers and park drawings for submittal to the City, realizing that while our existing funds weren't enough to do everything that we wanted, it was still enough to make a real difference in the park. This latest donation changes that - *all in a good way!*

This news is very fresh and as of yet, we have not had time to meet together or with the City to discuss the next course of action. The overall goal to make this a destination park for all people and all ages in our neighbourhood hasn't changed. We will be determining how much of our original design can be accomplished with this additional gift of generosity. We want this donation to make our big plans - and your park - even better.

With that said, the larger total donations also means a different and longer civic approval process. In light of this, we will be postponing the construction start date from this spring.

While we were all looking forward to seeing shovels in the ground this spring, in light of this recent generous donation, we need to take the time to make our big plans truly excellent for the little park.

Thank you to our supporters Nutana Community Association, Varsity View Community Association, City of Saskatoon, the Community Initiatives Fund, Oxbow Architecture, Strata Development and, of course, YOU!

Also thanks to committee members and helpers off and on throughout the years: Rahul Mainra, Tanya Bell, Barb Giles, Mike McKague, Allie Perrin, Jim Siemens, Beth Wall, Sarah Williams and Roger Williamson.

Facebook: [facebook.com/BigPlansForaLittlePark/](https://facebook.com/BigPlansForaLittlePark/)  
<https://nutana.ca/about-our-fundraising-for-the-albert-rec-unit/>  
*Thank you for making your little park a BIG success!*

## Raoul Wallenberg Park - Update

MEMBERS OF VVCA have been working alongside Congregation Agudas Israel over the past few years to bring an under-utilized corner of Raoul Wallenberg Park to new life. The project includes a meditative walking path, decorative garden and memorial tree.

Construction began last fall and is now complete! The contractor was able to complete the project before the snow, but the newly sodded areas will need to be fenced off and watered this spring.

Because of the intricate work of the pebble sourcing and placing, the project ran slightly over budget. We will be holding a Summer BBQ on Sunday June 2 in Raoul Wallenberg Park to help raise the required remaining funds for this beautiful project - look for further details in this issue!

Thank you to Mark Prebble of VVCA for heading this initiative, and to Mark Bobyn for tackling the contractor work! We all look forward to enjoying this revitalized corner of our neighbourhood.

*Raoul Wallenberg Park is located at 10th Street East and Munroe Avenue, adjacent the Congregation Agudas Israel synagogue.*

*See more photos of the project in last newsletter - available for download on the VVCA website!*

## INTERESTED IN MAKING YOUR COMMUNITY A LITTLE BETTER?

*Mark your calendars!*


### VVCA Annual General Meeting

Wednesday April 10, 2019

7:00 PM

Brunskill School Library

*The public is always welcome to attend.  
 Come and get involved in your community!*



**G. Wotherspoon Genealogy Services**

- Family History Research
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**CITY GARDENS**  
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Landscaping / Paving Stones / Irrigation / Lighting  
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[citygardens@city-gardens.ca](mailto:citygardens@city-gardens.ca) / 306.280.6609  
[www.city-gardens.ca](http://www.city-gardens.ca)

## Varsity View Cross-Country Ski Trails



THE CITY HAS GROOMED the cross-country ski trails in President Murray Park and Grosvenor Park! Despite the cold weather, the trails have been getting some good use. Now that the weather has improved, get out there and get active!

Please respect the trails and keep them in good condition for the skiers. Weather and our budget will allow only a few chances to re-groom the trails this winter.

### Upcoming VVCA Events:

**VVCA Board Meetings:** 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Brunskill School Library. Members of the public are always welcome to attend.

Check the website for meeting date confirmation.

Thursday, **March 21 2019:** Spring program registration

Wednesday, **April 10 2019:** VVCA Annual General Meeting

**May 2019:** Annual Community Clean-Up, TBA

Sunday, **June 2 2019:** VVCA BBQ Fundraiser in Raoul Wallenberg Park

*Watch the website for more details*

## City of Saskatoon Councillor Cynthia Block

*Hello Varsity View and Grosvenor Park,*

IT'S BEEN A LONG, COLD WINTER and I am looking forward to the great spring/summer activities ahead. Here are a few updates from City Hall.

### Waste

We are continuing the dialogue about the best way to move forward with a curb-side organics program. The bi-weekly service is to begin in 2020, but Council wants to ensure it is implemented as cost effectively as possible. We asked for a report on a phase-in approach, and whether a delay could impact our landfill diversion target of 70% by 2023. Council is also requesting more clarity about whether it's possible for composters to opt out of the program.



### Condominium at College and Clarence

Council has approved re-zoning by agreement that will see a 12-storey condominium built at the top of the University Bridge. Questions raised by residents helped to guide a more thorough vetting process to ensure potential issues are thoroughly addressed, including: traffic, parking, slope stability, emergency services and construction impacts.

The project supports the Growth Plan and aligns with the Official Community Plan, calling for increased density in and near the core, along major transportation corridors and specifically along College Drive. The condominium will be built next to the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, which has been described as a 'subway on wheels.' All of this helps our city become more efficient, sustainable and affordable to nurture a vibrant, progressive 21st Century city while protecting the inner core of our neighbourhoods. By the time this newsletter is distributed, Council will have also made a decision about another proposed high rise at the top of the Broadway Bridge.

### Defining the Growth Plan

On a go-forward basis, our administration is working to further define growth corridors and potential changes to zoning, in order to bring more clarity for residents. Also, I have

introduced a motion aimed at finding a new way to support our neighbourhoods. Administration will review options regarding financial mechanisms that could be applied to new multi-unit residential infill developments to fund community amenities in infill neighbourhoods, such as sidewalks, parks and trees.

### Ward 6 Town Hall with Cynthia & Mayor

Mark your calendars for a chance to meet, greet and ask questions of me and our special guest, Mayor Charlie Clark.

Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019

Frances Morrison Library (lower level)

Doors open at 6:30pm

Presentation & Discussion 7pm – 8:30pm

### A few other notes...

The City is partnering with Downtown Saskatoon, the University of Saskatchewan and TCU Place to host a workshop aimed at building demand for a vibrant downtown. Destination Downtown includes national and local experts, working with local stakeholders. Part of this event will include a public conversation that will take place at Remai Modern (theatre) on Tuesday, March 12th at 7pm. \*free to the public

Routing for Bus Rapid Transit and the AAA cycling network are two items expected to come to Council this spring. Remember to sign up for monthly e-updates, and check out past updates at: [www.cynthiablockward6.com](http://www.cynthiablockward6.com)

Warmest Regards,  
Cynthia

[cynthia.block@saskatoon.ca](mailto:cynthia.block@saskatoon.ca)

FB: [cynthiablockward6](https://www.facebook.com/cynthiablockward6)

Twitter: [cynthiablocksk](https://twitter.com/cynthiablocksk)

Have you signed up for City News from Cynthia?  
To receive e-updates or read previous updates,  
go to [www.cynthiablockward6.com](http://www.cynthiablockward6.com)

## Mark Your Community Calendars:

**21st Annual Seedy Saturday:** March 9, 2019; 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Station 20 West (1120 20th St. W); Admission \$2 (free for children and students) Bring the entire family to swap seeds, shop over 25 vendors of natural and local goods, enjoy live music, children's activities, participate in round table garden chats with Community Gardeners, and much more!

**The Big Shred:** Saturday May 4, 2019; 9AM - 12 NOON; McClure United Church, 4025 Taylor St. (at McKercher) Protect against personal identity theft as your old documents go into the Shred-It company truck's shredders! The service is by donation (suggested \$10 per paper box, or \$5 per shopping bag).

**Saskatoon Minor Football Registration:** Saskatoon Minor Football registration is now open for all spring 2019 programming! Visit [saskatoonminorfootball.com](http://saskatoonminorfootball.com).

**Jane's Walks:** May 3, 4, 5, 2019; A movement of free, volunteer-led walking conversations inspired by Jane Jacobs. It encourages people to share stories about their neighbourhoods, discover unseen aspects of their communities, and use walking as a way to connect with their neighbours. \*In need of walk leaders in the Varsity View/Grosvenor Park neighbourhoods. Visit [janewalksaskatoon.ca](http://janewalksaskatoon.ca) for more info.

## Public Skating: Brunskill School Rink

Tuesday & Thursday: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturday: 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm

Your community rink is operated and maintained using volunteer labour and community funds. Please lend a hand to keep it operational and respect all participants and volunteers.

## Brunskill School: Watersheds Project

HELLO VARSITY VIEW COMMUNITY! We are four grade 8 students that are participating in the "Caring For Our Watersheds Environmental Contest".

Our topic concerns the negative effects of pharmaceuticals in our water, emphasizing the improper disposal of prescription drugs. Many citizens simply flush expired or unused medications down the toilet or sink, or throw them in the trash without thinking of the negative impact on the environment. When trash at the dump sits in the rain, it leaches into and contaminates the groundwater. Although Saskatoon's water treatment plant is very effective for getting pharmaceuticals out of the water supply, it often can't get it all. This can lead to increasing amounts of drugs found in fish and other water creatures. If it can get in the fish, it can get into us.

There are many ways that you can help by disposing of your pharmaceuticals correctly. The easiest and most effective way is to bring your prescribed medication back to a pharmacy, preferably the one you got it from. They will put the medicine in biohazard bags and then dispose of them correctly.

Thank you for helping to improve our watersheds and disposing your old drugs with due diligence!

## Saskatoon Police & Fire Academy

THE SASKATOON POLICE SERVICE and the Saskatoon Fire Dept., in partnership with the Saskatoon Council on Aging are pleased to present the first ever *Saskatoon Police and Fire Academy*.

DATES: Each Wednesday between April 17th and June 5th

TIME: 9:30 a.m. until noon

LOCATION: Community Room of the Saskatoon Police Service (76 25th Street East) OR the Community Room of Fire Station No. 3 (2613 Clarence Avenue South)

TOPICS: Home and Personal Security, Fraud Prevention, Internet Safety, Traffic Safety, Elder Abuse, K-9 Policing, Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, Fall Prevention, the 911 system and how to report a crime

AGE: 65 or over

COST: Free

COMMITMENT: To attend all eight sessions and share the knowledge gained with the community

Application forms are available at the SCOA office (2020 College Drive) or online at <https://saskatoonpolice.ca> and <https://Saskatoon.ca/CPFAapplication>. Submit before March 15, 2019.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
— FOR THE —  
**Varsity View Community Association**  
**SUMMER BBQ & PARK FUNDRAISER**  
Sunday, June 2, 2019 • 12:00 NOON – 4:00 PM  
Raoul Wallenberg Park, 10th Street E & Munroe Ave

Food • Fun • Families • Donations welcome  
Watch the VVCA website for more details!  
[vvcasaskatoon.com](http://vvcasaskatoon.com)

All proceeds for the new park improvement in Raoul Wallenberg Park!  
Come and support YOUR neighbourhood!

# VVCA Spring 2019 Programs Registration

Thursday, March 21, 2019

In person program sign-up will be held on **Thursday, March 21, 2019** from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at Brunskill School, 101 Wiggins Ave North. A non-refundable membership fee of \$10 per individual or \$20 per family per year is required to participate in programs. **A fee of \$10 will apply to late registrations.** VVCA honours other community association memberships. Programs may change – please visit [vvcasaskatoon.com](http://vvcasaskatoon.com) closer to registration dates for final program details. In an effort to ensure everyone who wants to participate can, **cost-as-a-barrier assistance is available** for those facing hardships. To inquire, please contact Barb (Email: [blgiles@sasktel.net](mailto:blgiles@sasktel.net)) or inquire with any volunteer on registration night. All inquiries are confidential.

PROGRAM	LOCATION	TIME	DAY	START & END DATE	COST
<b>ALL AGES</b>					
Tae Kwon Do - Beginner (6 years +)	Brunskill - Gym	06:30 PM - 07:15 PM	W&F	Apr. 3 - Jun. 14	\$85
Tae Kwon Do - Intermediate (8 years +)	Brunskill - Gym	07:15 PM - 08:00 PM	W&F	Apr. 3 - Jun. 14	\$125
Tae Kwon Do - Advanced (10 years +)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 09:00 PM	W&F	Apr. 3 - Jun. 14	\$150
<b>ADULT</b>					
Badminton (raquet req'd)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Tu	Apr. 2 - Jun. 11	\$45
Badminton (raquet req'd)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Th	Apr. 4 - Jun. 13	\$45
Yoga - Multi-level	Brunskill - MPR	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	M	Apr. 1 - Jun. 10	\$100
Yoga - Multi-level	Brunskill - MPR	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	W	Apr. 3 - Jun. 12	\$100
Yoga - gentle, restorative, beginner	Brunskill - MPR	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	Th	Apr. 4 - Jun. 13	\$110
<b>PRESCHOOL</b>					
Tae Kwon Do - Pre-Beginner (Age 3-5)	Brunskill - Gym	06:00 PM - 06:30 PM	W	Apr. 3 - Jun. 12	\$50
Tae Kwon Do - Pre-Beginner (Age 3-5)	Brunskill - Gym	06:00 PM - 06:30 PM	F	Apr. 5 - Jun. 14	\$50
<b>SOCCER &amp; BASKETBALL</b>					
Soccer U5, U7, U9, U11	<i>ON-LINE ONLY, SPRING 2019, TBA - watch website <a href="http://vvcasaskatoon.com">vvcasaskatoon.com</a> for details</i>				
Basketball (6-14)	<i>ON-LINE ONLY, SPRING 2019, TBA - watch website <a href="http://vvcasaskatoon.com">vvcasaskatoon.com</a> for details</i>				

## 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.

Remember that VVCA is sensitive to the needs of families facing financial hardships, and may partially fund, or fully fund participation fees in various activities. Subsidization is only to cover the cost of programs and will not include membership in VVCA. Please contact one of us at registration night. We are more than willing to be of assistance in a very confidential manner. In addition, assistance may be available through KidSport.

To inquire, please contact Barb Giles (Email: [blgiles@sasktel.net](mailto:blgiles@sasktel.net)) or inquire with any volunteer on registration night. All inquiries are confidential.

## Come to the VVCA AGM!

VVCA IS RUN BY VOLUNTEERS who organize and attend meetings, provide programs and activities for youth and adults, work with the City regarding development, parking and other issues, keep the rink in good condition, publish a newsletter and maintain a website, raise money for community events and projects, and generally try to make your neighbourhood a little nicer to live in.

Sounds fun, right? If something on that short list fills a need in you, or you have other ideas on how to improve your neighbourhood, come out to the AGM or a monthly VVCA board meeting and have your say. We'd love to hear your ideas and would be more than happy to find you a spot on our board if you are interested.

Or if you just want to tackle a short-term job at a specific event, let us know and we can sign you up!

The AGM is Wednesday April 10, 7:00 PM, Brunskill Library!

VVCA is looking for a Newsletter Editor – putting together three issues a year full of information of interest to our community. **Hey, you are reading it right now! See how important it is?**

Email [info@vvcasaskatoon.com](mailto:info@vvcasaskatoon.com) for more information.

## Next issue - AUG/SEPT 2019

The FALL 2019 issue will be printed and distributed to the Varsity View and Grosvenor Park neighbourhoods mid to late August.

- Do you have news or an event that is of interest to the community? Submit it to [newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com](mailto:newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com) before July 26, 2019.
- Do you want to advertise in the newsletter and let the neighbourhood know about your business? Send it to [newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com](mailto:newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com).

Ad booking deadline is July 19, 2019.