

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

– Jon Naylor, VVCA President
president@vvcasaskatoon.com

THIS WILL BE MY LAST MESSAGE TO YOU AS PRESIDENT OF YOUR ASSOCIATION.

VVCA-Grosvenor faces many important issues which deserve your input. I figure that while running against a sitting councillor is tilting at windmills, it is at least a chance to thoroughly discuss the issues and the future we would like to build.

First some very good news. The board has solidified around its next major community improvement. There is wide support for improving our community outdoor rink at Brunskill School. It has fallen into a state of dangerous disrepair and requires both immediate temporary fixes and a major revamp to make it safe and useful for years to come. A small idea of how much community support this project has can be seen in the \$2,000 of spare change that Brunskill students collected to start fundraising.

Thanks to all parents and grandparents who went without coffee to make this possible! We are planning two more fundraisers soon. One is a raffle with a \$1500 cash prize. The other is our second annual park barbecue, May 30th, President Murray Park, noon to 4 pm.



Photo by Theodora Ofosuhima

Varsity View Association
Raffle in Support of the Brunskill Rink Renovation Project

Grand Prize: \$1500 Cash
2nd: \$225 Crew Rowhouse 12 Class Pass plus \$200 Cash
3rd: \$175 All in the Wild Gift Certificate plus \$200 Cash
4th, 5th, 6th & 7th: \$50 D'ish by Tish Gift Cards

3 tickets for \$10 or 1 for \$5
Draw date: June 12, 2020

CONTACT THEODORA (see page 2 for details) TO PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TO SUPPORT THE REVAMP OF BRUNSKILL ICE RINK. A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS.

This is a great chance to meet other community members and sometimes important people like your MLA. Your kids can have fun on the playground and, of course, the balloon guy will be there giving away fantastic balloon creations. The big players driving these events are our ever-committed Barb, Luke and Fredy. Thanks and thank you for the support you have and will give.

Once more we are going to run our community clean-up. The date is tentatively set for May 2nd. This year we will be based on Copeland Crescent in Grosvenor. Our hours will be 9-12 noon. Bring your junk, your neighbors' junk, the junk from your back alley. Even better, bring a truck and get a clean up route. I am always amazed by the



Community Clean Up.

huge amount of fire hazard, mouse motels, and unsightly mess we haul away.

As usual, non conforming infill has occupied part of my time. We have a request for a child care conversion on ninth street. We are told that there is a shortage of child care, that the Province is providing funding, and that there are likely to be more requests. Our initial response has been qualified support for child care but some concern that 22 places in one house is too many. We expect the City to make sure child care homes are appropriately safe, and follow best practice guidelines for space and staff. There may be an open house to discuss these concerns. Let me know if you have different views.

The fourplex at Clarence and Osler sailed through council February 24th. Come to think of it, every non-conforming development has sailed through council in the 8 or so years I have been with the association. Why is it that once a development gets presented to the community by planning there is no going back? I can only guess. There are many discussions between City planners, councillors, and the developer in the planning stages of these projects. These all happen before the project is presented to the community. Is it only human nature that

Continued on page 2

VVCA Spring BBQ &
Rink Fundraiser
Saturday May 30, 2020
12 NOON – 4:00 PM
President Murray Park, Colony
Street and Munroe Ave.
See page 5 for more details!

2020**President**

Jon Naylor
president@vvcasaskatoon.com

President Elect

Anne Hardy

Secretary

Diane McDougall

Treasurer

Ted Stensrud

Coordinators

Albert Community Centre
Lisa Kirkham

Basketball
Jason Kovitch

Newsletter Editor

Theodora Ireson
newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com
(email to purchase your
raffle tickets)

Community Garden
James Perkins
vvbmcc@gmail.com

Civics Committee
Rob Peterson-Wakeman,
Allan Woo,
Holly Ann Knott,
Jon Naylor
civics@vvcasaskatoon.com

Social Media Coordinators

Mark Prebble,
Roger Williamson

Website

Roger Williamson
info@vvcasaskatoon.com

Equipment
Robb Larmer

Indoor Programs

Barb Giles, Maya Wagner
blgiles@sasktel.net

Social Coordinator
Ted Stensrud

Rink

Greg McDonald
Kenton Shynkaruk
Luke Rempel

Soccer

Niran Harrison
soccer@vvcasaskatoon.ca

City of Saskatoon Liaison
Kevin Ariss
Kevin.Ariss@saskatoon.ca

Members at Large
Kenton Beatty,
Sheena Beatty,
Holly Ann Knott,
Mark Prebble,
Lucy Schindler, Allan Woo

President's Report continued

following this investment of time and resources, that planners and councillors can become committed to a project?

We can expect more of these types of discussions. The City has recently committed to a 50% infill target i.e. every other new housing unit in Saskatoon will be within Circle Drive (as reported in City of Saskatoon Publication: Corridor Transformation Plan). In the past this has often meant in our community. Lack of clarity around what is and what is not allowed in our community and the final width (some say up to two blocks) and height of the high density transit corridors (think College and possibly Clarence and Cumberland) will be a challenge for our community.

On some occasions, we have been successful in changing City Hall's thinking. What is unique about these occasions? Well, we started early, at the first hint of a new project or change to the zoning law.

We papered the entire neighborhood so that everyone knew about the issue. The community was loud and united in its response. Following a pointed meeting at Albert Community Center and an almost unanimous vote (City planners hate votes), the City decided not to pursue a zoning change to allow fourplexes on corner lots. Similarly, a proposed multiunit dwelling on Main and Cumberland was withdrawn after a community petition. My (unwanted) advice to my successor; if there is a development that is likely to gather strong community opposition, start early if you want to have a chance of changing its course.

Lastly (almost) our AGM is coming

up, April 22nd. I encourage you to attend. We need a new President, people interested in programs and a social coordinator. Above all we need each other to continue to make this a great community. I hope to see you all at Brunskill School on April 22nd, 7 pm in the library for our AGM, at our community clean up May 2nd, and at our Spring barbeque in President Murray park on May 30th. Also, please keep in mind Saskatoon Cycle's bike sale at Brunskill School, May 9, 9 am to 6 pm.

Last, but not least, thanks to all who work to make this a better community.

Jonathan (Jon) Naylor



VVCA Annual General Meeting
Wednesday April 22nd, 2020
7:00 PM
Brunskill School Library



Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Eric Olauson, MLA

Saskatoon University
ca@saskatoonuniversity.ca

Legislature Office

Room 132 Legislative Building
Regina, SK S4S 0B3
Phone: 306-787-0797
Fax: 306-787-3174

Constituency Office

1B - 270 Acadia Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7H 3V4
Phone: 306-244-4004
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INDOOR COORDINATOR'S NEWS



Photo by Bekir Donmez (Unsplash)

AUDIBLE PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC SIGNAL



Photo by Paul Marsan (Unsplash)

WE ARE PLEASED TO INFORM THE COMMUNITY THAT AN audible pedestrian traffic signal was installed at the intersection of Wiggins Avenue and Temperance Street in October 2019. The audible signal will activate once the 'walk' light comes on, notifying users it is safe to cross Wiggins Avenue. This type of signal is intended for use in residential areas, as the audible signal is only activated when the user presses and holds the walk pushbutton for one second, rather than beeping every time the button is pushed. The device will provide additional safety at the crossing to all residents including those who are visually impaired. The installation of the device was recommended for consideration as part of the Varsity View Local Area Plan (LAP). The Varsity View LAP can be found at vvcasaskatoon.com/community/varsity-view-local-area-plan/

HELLO EVERYONE!

With spring right around the corner (we hope), the winter programs are winding down! The spring registration will be March 19, 2020, in the front foyer at Brunskill School from 7-8:30pm. The programs being offered are as follow: badminton, Tae kwon do, pre beginner, intermediate and advanced. Yoga multilevel and yoga beginner gentle restorative. See page 6 for more details.

Hope to see you there!!

Barb

Upcoming VVCA Events:

VVCA Board Meetings: usually 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Brunskill School Library.

Members of the public are always welcome to attend.

March 19th 2020: Spring program registration

April 22nd 2020: VVCA Annual General Meeting

May 2nd 2020: Annual Community Clean-Up

May 30th 2020 Annual VVCA spring bbq and fundraiser

Watch the website and future newsletters for more details

Varsity Dental Group

General Dentistry

Dr. R. Bhargava | Dr. A. Gallagher | Dr. K. Gallagher
Dr. M. Gavellis | Dr. J. Marshall | Dr. K. McCann
Dr. E. Bull | Dr. J. Bourgault

Monday – Thursday 7–7pm
Friday 7–5pm | Saturday 7–1pm

201 – 1414 8th Street East, Saskatoon, SK
Corner of 8th St. & Cumberland Ave.

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED



(306) 665-2400

New and Emergency
Patients Welcome

www.varsitydentalsaskatoon.ca



Living and Landscaping in Varsity View for 10 Years

Landscaping / Paving Stones / Irrigation / Lighting
Retaining Walls & Stairs / Concrete / Mulch

citygardens@city-gardens.ca / 306.280.6609
www.city-gardens.ca

CITY OF SASKATOON: COUNCILLOR CYNTHIA BLOCK



Photo submitted by Cynthia Block

AS THE DAYS GET LONGER, THE MOOD GETS LIGHTER AT OUR HOUSE., SPRING IS SUCH a wonderful time of year!

At city hall a major file is taking shape, after years of consultation and review. The official community plan (OCP) is a statutory plan under the Saskatchewan planning and development act, and the last update was done in 2009. It's the overall roadmap that guides physical, environmental, economic, social and cultural development through a broad set of goals, objectives and policies. In a nutshell, it helps everyone in Saskatoon and beyond know how we plan to grow. The OCP was informed by the growth plan, Saskatoon speaks, green infrastructure planning, local area/concept/sector plans and council's strategic plan.

This 30-year plan is a living document that will continually be updated, but there are some key indicators affecting our neighbourhoods. The OCP seeks to find the right balance in our growth strategy, building an efficient, sustainable city both economically and environmentally. This means figuring out where to put nodes and corridors for density, mixed uses and implementing bus rapid transit. (Brt is like a subway system on wheels) the updated OCP seeks to recognize the uniqueness of neighbourhoods, fitting policy into specific development opportunities and constraints in each area, providing more predictability for residents.

Basic principles of the plan are to create transit-oriented areas that include mixed land use, and provide spaces that are welcoming, safe and accessible. It is important to me that we find the right balance to ensure our historic neighbourhoods continue to provide good quality of life for residents, and that infill be respectful of this heritage, pushing higher density to transit and transportation corridors.

One other note from council, as part of our commitment to truth and reconciliation (TRC), the Métis Nation and treaty 6 flags will stand in city council chambers. These symbols will remind us of our commitment to work together in a spirit of cooperation.

Join me for the next
Coffee with your councillor
Tuesday, March 24th
Tastebuds Café
1624 Lorne Avenue
4:30Pm – 6pm

Happy spring everyone!
Sincerely,
Cynthia

Cynthia.Block@saskatoon.ca
Fb: cynthiablockward6
Twitter: cynthiablocksk



Photo by Theodora Ofosuima

Have you signed up for City News from Cynthia?
To receive e-updates or read previous updates,
go to www.cynthiablockward6.com

YOUR AD HERE!

Do you offer a service or run a business
that is of interest to our community?

This printed newsletter reaches over 2,000 homes in the Varsity View and Grosvenor Park neighbourhoods. These are people who are interested in what happens in their community and are also keen to support neighbourhood businesses.

Ad booking deadline is July 18, 2020.

BUSINESS CARD AD

3.5" x 2"

\$75 / issue

Email newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com
to submit ads for publication.

MARK YOUR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANE'S WALKS



Photo submitted by Linda Mowatt

When: May 1, 2, 3, 2020;

Jane's walk in Saskatoon explores a wide range of our city's landscapes from quirky hideaways and hot button issues to cultural and historical stories. Volunteers lead the group sharing the story they are passionate about while encouraging dialogue. Each of the 20 unique walks takes an hour, runs throughout the weekend, and is free. Participants just show up. Join the thousands of people who take part in a Jane's walk now in 212 cities world wide, inspired by the urban activist Jane Jacobs. She knew "vital cities are not helpless to combat even the most difficult problems" and so encouraged people to deeply know the neighbourhoods by walking their city. 20 Free walks will be posted by mid April on the <http://janeswalksaskatoon.ca> website with starting location, time and date.

ANNUAL SUMMER BBQ & FUNDRAISER



SAVE THE DATE

— FOR THE —

VARSITY VIEW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SPRING BBQ & ICE RINK FUNDRAISER

Saturday, May 30, 2020 • 12:00 NOON – 4:00 PM
President Murray Park, on Colony Street
and Munroe Ave.

Food • Fun • Families • FREE admission

Visit the vvcasaskatoon.com website for more details!

All proceeds for the new ice rink improvement in
Brunskill School! Come and support YOUR
neighbourhood!

In person program sign-up for
spring indoor activities will be held on
Thursday Mar 19, 2020
from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at
Brunskill School, 101 Wiggins Ave North

NEXT ISSUE - AUG/SEPT 2020

The FALL 2020 issue will be printed and distributed to the Varsity View and Grosvenor Park neighbourhoods mid to late August. Do you have news, photos or an event that is of interest to the community? Submit it to newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com before July 25, 2020.

USED BIKE SALE AND EXPO



Photo by Theodora Ofosuhima

When: May 9, 2020 9 am -3 pm (sale and expo)

Set up: May 8 6:30-9:00 pm

Where: Brunskill School

Do you have bikes in reasonable condition taking up space in your garage? Give them a second wind. We will be accepting donated bikes and accessories that are in a reasonable condition, and will also be selling bikes on commission.

The bike expo will feature many local groups, businesses, and individuals who want to show everything bike related. We will definitely need volunteers. If you can help with set-up the night before (May 8) or the sale and expo (May 9).

Please email Cathy Watts ctwatts@sasktel.net

Thank you

BECOME A BLOOD DONOR

1 in 2 Canadians will need or know someone who needs blood in their lifetime

Consider taking about an hour to give the gift of life.

Saskatoon Blood Donor Centre

1206 Emerson Avenue (Behind the A&W on 8th St)

Tuesday 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

Wednesday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

3:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Thursday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

3:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

Saturday 8:00 am to 1:00pm

Book your first, or your next appointment at blood.ca

ALBERT RECREATION UNIT!



Photo submitted by Roger Williamson

Big Plans for a Little Park: Albert Recreation Unit park rejuvenation – Spring 2020 update

AS YOU KNOW THE CONTRUSCTION AT ALBERT RECREATION UNIT began last fall. A huge THANK YOU to our anonymous donor as well as a big 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 are excited and can't wait for summer to come so everyone will enjoy the new park – it will be one of the sources of our neighbourhood accomplishments, as well as being a great and safe place for our children to play and hang out with other neighbours. Thank you to Jim Siemens and Oxbow Architecture for preparing the plans for the park and Strata Development and City Gardens Saskatoon for taking on the construction. The contractor will keep moving forward this spring as long as the weather cooperates, we hope the park will be finished this summer. We ask that people keep out of the construction zone and respect the signage so that the work can proceed safely and efficiently.

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

Watch for an opening celebration in the summer! Keep up to date on Facebook: facebook.com/BigPlansForaLittlePark/

Thank you for making your little park a BIG success!

WATER MAIN AND LEAD CONNECTION REPLACEMENT PROJECT

IN A PREVIOUS LETTER, YOU WERE NOTIFIED THAT DURING THE 2020 construction season the City will be completing a water main and lead connection replacement project on Clarence Avenue between College Drive and 8th Street and on Aird Street between Clarence Avenue and Munroe Avenue. Since this notification, we have also added additional locations to this project which include:

Temperance Street from Clarence Avenue to Wiggins Avenue South;

The back lane of Aird Street and Temperance Street from Munroe Avenue to Wiggins Avenue South;

Munroe Avenue from Temperance Street to Aird Street.

To review the project area, please see the map on the right and note that it is subject to change. The water main and lead connection replacement project scheduled in your neighbourhood this construction season will include the following improvements and will occur in phases in order to minimize the disruptions to residents:

Replacement of water mains;

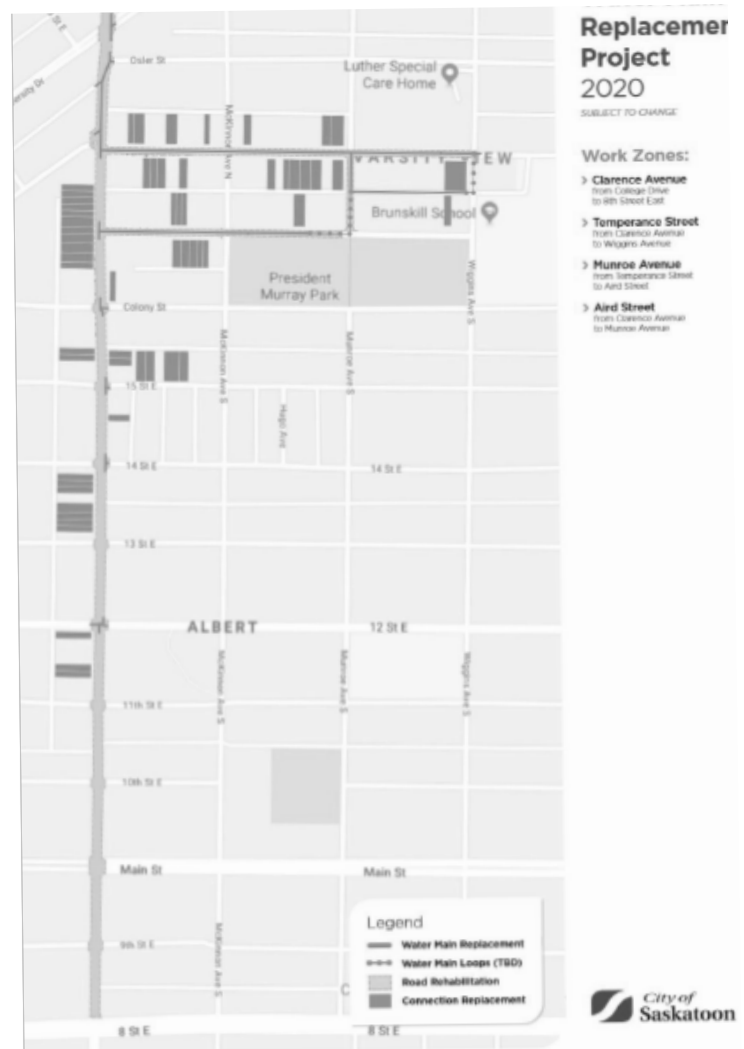
Lead connection replacements;

Restoration of roadways, resulting in smooth, 'like new' road surfaces;

Rehabilitation of sidewalks.

For a detailed overview on the project and to have your questions answered, you are encouraged to sign up to our contact list to receive updates prior to and during the project.

To sign up, please e-mail constructionupdates@saskatoon.ca and provide your name, address and contact information.



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 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 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.

Right now, the VVCA is looking for a Newsletter Editor – putting together three issues a year (one printed, two digital) full of information of interest to our community. Hey, you are reading it right now! See how important it is?

Email info@vvcasaskatoon.com for more information, or check out our website vvcasaskatoon.com for information on the dates of our next board meeting.

INTERESTED IN MAKING YOUR COMMUNITY A LITTLE BETTER?

Mark your calendars!

VVCA Annual General Meeting

Wednesday April 22, 2020

7:00 PM

Brunskill School Library

The public is always welcome to attend.

Come and get involved in your community!

VVCA Spring 2020 Programs Registration

Thursday Mar 19, 2020

In person program sign-up will be held on March 19 at 7-8:30pm at Brunskill School, 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. A fee of \$10 will apply to late registrations. VVCA honours other community association memberships. Programs may change – please visit 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) or inquire with any volunteer on registration night. All inquiries are confidential

PROGRAM	LOCATION	TIME	DAY	START & END DATE	COST
ALL AGES					
Tae Kwon Do - Beginner (6 years +)	Brunskill - Gym	06:30 PM - 07:15 PM	W F	Apr. 1 – Jun. 10 Apr. 3 – Jun. 12	\$85
Tae Kwon Do -Intermediate (8 years +)	Brunskill - Gym	07:15 PM - 08:00 PM	W F	Apr. 1 – Jun. 10 Apr. 3 – Jun. 12	\$125
Tae Kwon Do - Advanced (10 years +)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 09:00 PM	W F	Apr. 1 – Jun. 10 Apr. 3 – Jun. 12	\$150
ADULT					
Badminton (raquet req'd)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Tu	Mar. 31 – Jun. 9	\$45
Badminton (raquet req'd)	Brunskill - Gym	08:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Th	Apr. 2 – Jun. 11	\$45
Yoga - Multi-level	Brunskill - SM Gym	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	M	Apr. 6 – Jun. 8	\$90
Yoga - Multi-level	Brunskill - SM Gym	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	W	Apr. 1 – Jun. 10	\$110
Yoga - gentle, restorative, beginner	Brunskill - SM Gym	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM	Th	Apr. 9 – Jun. 11	\$100
PRESCHOOL					
Tae Kwon Do – Pre-Beginner (Age 3-5)	Brunskill - Gym	06:00 PM - 06:30 PM	W	Apr. 1 – May. 27	\$50
Tae Kwon Do – Pre-Beginner (Age 3-5)	Brunskill - Gym	06:00 PM - 06:30 PM	F	Apr. 3 – Jun. 12	\$50
SOCCER & BASKETBALL					
Soccer U5, U7, U9, U11	ON-LINE ONLY, SPRING 2020, TBA - watch website vvcasaskatoon.com for details				
Basketball (6-14)	ON-LINE ONLY, SPRING 2020 TBA - watch website vvcasaskatoon.com for details				

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) or inquire with any volunteer on registration night. All inquiries are confidential.

BABY SITTING and PET SITTING

Cassie and Val
306 652 3009



BOARD MEMBER OPEN POSITIONS:

President and social coordinator
Email info@vvcasaskatoon.com for more information.

NEXT ISSUE: AUG/SEPT 2020