



FALL 2021

News for the Varsity View and Grosvenor Park Neighbourhoods

FREE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Jon Naylor,

April saw the election of a new board of your community association and several changes. I return as President, Holly Ann graciously became our secretary and Theresa our editor. Barb returns to her long held post as coordinator of indoor activities. Ted is still our treasurer while Luke and Fredy look after the rink. James and Ted look after the community garden plots and Lisa is our representative on the Albert Community Center. We have a new member at large, Mary Anne. Collectively, we have a large range of skills including Holly Anne's meticulous care for details, Angela's fundraising acumen, Barb's encyclopedic knowledge of people, and Fredy's willingness to help out for any outdoor event. What unites us is a common desire to make our neighborhood a great place to live. I would like to thank all outgoing officers, in particular Diane and Theodora, who did sterling work as our secretary and editor respectively. Thanks, too, for the many who volunteered but I have not specifically mentioned. Volunteering takes time and energy; all your contributions are wonderful. For a full list of officers, please see our website.

There have been several big community initiatives over the past few months. COVID made us all more aware of the importance of outdoor spaces and this provided additional



impetus to our rink upgrade. We raised over \$64,000, thanks to all who contributed, your willingness to support our rink far exceeded my hopes. The upgraded rink should be fully completed come November 1.

We held our first post COVID outdoor event early in July, Sum Theatre performed a colorful and musical 'The Other Side of the River' which was enjoyed by around 300 spectators on a near perfect evening in Grosvenor Park. Community clean up succeeded spectacularly, removing over 4000 kg of trash from pretty much every back alley in our neighborhood. Again, thanks to all who volunteered.

We have been working with the City to improve safety in our neighborhood. Mary Anne carried your concerns about 8th street noise and theft from yards and garages to the City Police Commission. This may result

in more community involvement in public safety.

Following various fiascos where our Councilors' pass zoning amendments over the opposition of its residents, City Hall has decided to be more proactive in its communications about development. City planners met with us to discuss new developments that will affect large swaths of our community. Main Street and South, Osler and North, Bate and East are all scheduled to be rezoning to much higher densities.

...continued on page 2



Thanks to Judith, Taegan and the cast and crew of Sum Theatre for a colorful and uplifting performance on a perfect summer's evening.

2021-2022

President

Jon Naylor

President Elect

Anne Hardy

Secretary

Holly Ann Knott

Treasurer

Ted Stensrud

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Sheena Beatty,
Luke Rempel
Mary Anne Rubin,
Allan Woo
Darrell Zakreski
Theresa Kirkpatrick
Scott Matheson

I will advocate for rezoning that maintains our community, honors the investment that many of you have made to make ours a beautiful and sought-after neighborhood, and helps maintain a bio-diverse environment.

On the finance front, one worrying development is the publication of two reports on the cost of infill. One is the Hemson 2020 report, and the other a City planning document. Both basically conclude that the scale of infill contemplated for our neighborhood will require costly upgrades to existing water, sewer, and transportation networks. An example is the high cost and major inconvenience, of digging up a road to remove the old sewer and replace it with a larger one. Current infill development levies are very inadequate, particularly for multiunit buildings. One proposed solution is to add the costs to our taxes. I will advocate for new builds paying their fair share of the cost of growth, we don't need further property tax increases.

As we swelter in an unaccustomed hot spell, our minds think about climate change. Governments are committing to major reductions in greenhouse gases that are already directly affecting us (notice the CO₂ tax on your gas bill). The European Union is taking aim at two major areas, reducing home heating and transportation emissions. Similar moves are likely coming to our neighborhood. For us, this will mean higher home insulation standards. As more electric vehicles hit the roads, we will need electrical charging stations in our garages.

In fact, our neighborhood already has net zero energy homes and owners of all electric cars. These future needs should be directly addressed as our neighborhood redevelops. Lastly, disasters like the fire at Lytton make me concerned that existing construction codes may be inadequate. As our neighborhood gets denser and buildings closer do we have appropriate standards to stop the spread of fire from building to building? Are our storm systems adequate to withstand torrential rainfall that have just devastated Germany? These are all important planning issues where action now will save us time and money down the line. I will advocate for standards that protect our community and our environment.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. As vaccinations take hold, I look forward to a more normal Fall with a full range of programming available to support our physical and mental well being. More details can be found later in this issue.

*Jonathan (Jon) Naylor
President, VVCA*

VVCA Monthly meetings:

VVCA Board Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Members of the public are always welcome to attend.

Send an email to info@vvcasaskatoon.com or visit the website at vvcasaskatoon.com for more details.

Jennifer Bowes
People First



Your NDP MLA for Saskatoon University
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INDOOR COORDINATOR’S NEWS

by Barb Giles

WOO HOO!!! HIP HIP HOORAY!!!!

I am ecstatic to say we can now book programs in the schools again. There will be rules for everyone to follow. A learning curve for us all! Patience is a virtue which we will all need to work through! A year I hope will never happen again!!!

Our fall registration nights will be held Thursday, September 9th & Tuesday September 14th, from 7-8:30 pm in the small gym at Brunskill School. If you cannot make those times, feel free to contact me blgiles@sasktel.net and we can get you registered. I will need to know number of participants for classes and you **must** be registered for class prior to the start date.

We have a few new classes for the fall line up. They are Art For Adults, Photography, and practise speaking Spanish.

ART FOR ADULTS

This class caters to adults who relish intellectual and creative activities at their leisure. This course aims to stimulate one’s creativity and help them find joy and satisfaction in art-making. Through intuitive, artistic experiments and disciplined instruction, the students will learn to express themselves through the elusive means of visual language. They will gain the fundamental knowledge of the practical and theoretical aspects of numerous artistic practices and gradually develop a unique taste in aesthetics and an appreciation for high cultures. Subjects may include:

Jewelry Making: beadwork , Polymer clay

Pyrography: Wood burning



Neighborhood volunteers cleared 4630 kg of trash from Grosvenor and Varsity View. 22 tires were also collected and dropped off for recycling and Varsity View teamed with Pleasant Hill to collect 780 kg of metal for recycling. Thanks to all who helped.



Painting: Classical oil painting, Acrylic Painting(landscape, still life, animals)

Drawing: Drawing: Charcoal and Pastel drawing (landscape, still life, animals)

PHOTOGRAPHY

A nature walk style. It will be an opportunity for people to see Saskatoon safely and document it through their camera (iPhone point and shoot, or DSLR).

SPEAKING SPANISH

An opportunity to practise speaking Spanish, to either keep up with it or practise what you learn in class.

I am sad to say we will not be offering the Thursday night Yoga class! The instructor has moved on to bigger and better things! I wish her good luck with her future endeavours! Thank you for being part of our community for so many years Loretta!

Can’t wait to see everyone!

Fall registration at Brunskill School, small gym
Thursday September 9th and Tuesday, September 14th
7-8:30 p.m. See program listing on page 6.



DENTAL HOUSE

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Dr. Ibrahim Muradi
Dr. Zekria Muradi

306-954-7801 saskatoondentalhouse.ca
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CITY OF SASKATOON: COUNCILLOR CYNTHIA BLOCK



Thanks to everyone who is working to make our majestic neighbourhoods a better place to live. We had a blast at the SUM Theatre performance in Grosvenor Park in July. The theatre company offered its inspiring family event free of charge in parks across the city. What a wonderful gift for our neighbourhoods!

For timely information from City Hall, please sign up for e-updates: www.cynthiablockward6.com

Sincerely, Cynthia

Email: cynthia.block@saskatoon.ca

Fb: [cynthiablockward6](#)

Twitter: [cynthiablocksk](#)

Instagram: [cynthia_blocksk](#)

Phone: 306-975-3676

I hope you have been enjoying summer in our beautiful city and doing your part to help Saskatoon safely re-open as we continue to manage Covid-19. Our Emergency Management folks are working closely with the Saskatoon Health Authority to ensure we are on top of the latest information. If you haven't been vaccinated, I hope you will make time to receive both doses as soon as possible, as this is critical to ending the pandemic. City Council is getting ready to return to City Hall and in-person meetings in September.

It has been a busy construction season with many major improvements to basic infrastructure in Ward 6, including sidewalk rehabilitation, completion of the Clarence Avenue Water Main Project (east of Clarence Avenue - Temperance, Munroe, Wiggins) and the flood control project in WW Ashley Park. However, some projects have seen delays and I know it has been frustrating for residents. I am working closely with our administration to ensure these projects get back on track as soon as possible.

The City has begun engagement on corridor planning to determine the best places to build density in the decades ahead. The planning is aimed at areas that are close to major transit routes such as 8th Street, Broadway Avenue and College Drive, as we prepare to launch Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). The BRT is described as a "subway on wheels" and is expected to roll out in 2025. The first corridor project focuses on College Drive in the Varsity View/Grosvenor Park neighbourhoods, and pre-engagement has been underway with stakeholders including the VV-Grosvenor Park Community Association. A full public engagement is planned for this fall.



Bishop Murray Community Garden 2021

The 2021 growing season has been particularly challenging with long runs of hot dry weather. All 124 plots were filled this year and we always welcome old and new gardeners. Gardeners were mindful of COVID-19 protocols and the hot weather impacted which crops were most productive.

We were particularly excited to welcome more WBYL participants and the addition of White Buffalo Youth Lodge raised beds provided by Nutrien. WBYL and many school groups have gardened with us and we are happy to share our garden and knowledge each year.

Gardeners interested in Gardening with VVBMCG should email vvbmcg@gmail.com in early spring. We always have a waiting list, but most gardeners wishing to garden with us are able to. Fees vary by volunteer commitment.

We look forward to more gatherings and celebrations as vaccination rates increase and COVID-19 is resolved.

FUNDRAISING GOAL MET, RINK AT BRUNSKILL TO BE READY FOR WINTER

We are thrilled to report that we have achieved our fundraising goal and raised over \$64,000! This was the result of strong community support through donations, raffle tickets sales and puckboard business sponsorship!

Our donor board is in the process of being made, for all donors who gave over \$250. There were about 30 generous donors that will be forever remembered as being a part of helping this new rink become a reality.

We look forward to seeing puckboards on the rink from the local businesses/individuals including Vista Eyecare, Varsity Dental, City Gardens Landscape Construction, Strata Development, Mavrik Homes, Brunskill Pharmacy, One Small Step, Parr Autobody, Aesthetic Homes, The Face Institute, Councillor Cynthia Block and Centennial Plumbing and Heating. Please support these local community-minded people when you choose where to spend your hard-earned dollars.

We will still happily accept donations and have room for more sponsors on our puckboards! We hope to build some additional benches and infrastructure around the rink to make it more attractive and user-friendly. Please email rink@vvcasaskatoon.com with any questions.

We were awarded the City of Saskatoon Rink Improvement Grant and Take It Outside Micro-Grant from the City of Saskatoon which were critical in our fundraising efforts.

The rink construction contract was awarded to Mirage Home Improvements, who will start construction this summer or early fall. The rink will be ready for this coming skating and hockey season!

Thank you to our amazing community for supporting this initiative for our community. We will all benefit from this safer recreational facility!



Photos by Angela Jones



SASKATOON MINOR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Come play basketball with us!

Fall 2021/Winter 2022

Season Runs October 2021 to March 2022

Registration July 12th – September 17th at www.smba.ca

(Please register before the deadline to ensure your spot on a team)

Basketball Programs for Grades 1 -12 - Boys and Girls

Dunkaroos - Grade 1/2

Spuds - Grade 3/4

Minis - Grade 5/6

Bantam - Grade 7/8

Junior - Grade 9/10

Senior - Grade 11/12

Our league allows players to play SMBA and High School basketball

Officials – Grade 9 and up – register at www.smba.ca.

For information email saskatoonminorbasketball@gmail.com or smba4712@gmail.com

Follow us on:

Facebook – Saskatoon Minor Basketball Association (SMBA)

Twitter @minorSaskatoon

Instagram – [smba_saskatoon](https://www.instagram.com/smba_saskatoon)

Watch for updates on our website at www.smba.ca

The SMBA works together with all Community Associations in Saskatoon to provide Basketball opportunities for youth in our city.

NEXT ISSUE - January 2022

The WINTER 2022 issue will be printed and distributed to the Varsity View and Grosvenor Park neighbourhoods in January 2022. To submit news or events or to book an ad, email newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com. Ad booking deadline is November 29, 2021.

VVCA Fall 2021 Programs In-Person Registration

September 9th and September 14th, 2021 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Brunskill School Small Gym.

Full program descriptions available at vvcasaskatoon.com

PROGRAM	REQUIREMENTS	LOCATION	TIME	DAY	START & END DATE	COST
ADULT						
Art for Adults		Art Room Brunskill	7 PM - 8 PM	W	Sept. 22-Nov. 24	\$75
Badminton	Supply your own racquet	Small and Large Gyms	8 PM - 10 PM	T	Sept. 21-Nov. 23	\$45
Badminton	Supply your own racquet	Small and Large Gyms (Brunskill)	8 PM - 10 PM	TH	Sept. 30-Dec. 16	\$45
Conversational Spanish Beginner	Adult	Library (Brunskill)	6 PM - 7 PM	T	Sept. 21-Nov. 23	\$110
Conversational Spanish Intermediate	Adult	Library (Brunskill)	7:15 PM - 8:15 PM	T	Sept. 21-Nov. 23	\$110
Speaking Spanish	Adult	Library (Brunskill)	6 PM - 7 PM	TH	Sept. 30-Dec. 16	\$50
Photography	Adult	Meet by front doors (Brunskill)	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	F	Sept. 24 - Oct. 29	\$30
Yoga multi-level	Adult	Small Gym (Brunskill)	6:30 PM - 8 PM	M	Sept. 20 - Dec. 6	\$110
Yoga multi-level	Adult	Small Gym (Brunskill)	6:30 PM - 8 PM	W	Sept. 22 - Nov. 24	\$110
ALL AGES						
Tae Kwon Do - Beginner	6+	Large Gym (Brunskill)	6:30 PM - 7:15 PM	M&W	Sept. 20 - Dec. 1	\$85
Tae Kwon Do - Intermediate	8+	Large Gym (Brunskill)	7:15 PM - 8 PM	M&W	Sept. 20 - Dec. 1	\$125
Tae Kwon Do - Advanced	10+	Large Gym (Brunskill)	8 PM - 9 PM	M&W	Sept. 20 - Dec. 1	\$150
CHILDREN						
Art for Children (5-8 years)	5-8 year olds	Art Room	7 PM - 8 PM	TH	Sept. 30-Dec. 16	\$50
Tae Kwon Do - Pre-Beginner	3-5 years old	Large Gym (Brunskill)	6 PM - 6:30 PM	M	Sept. 20 - Nov. 15	\$50
Tae Kwon Do - Pre-Beginner	3-5 years old	Large Gym (Brunskill)	6 PM - 6:30 PM	W	Sept. 22 - Nov. 24	\$50
ORGANIZED SPORTS						
Basketball	See poster on page 5.	Register ONLINE until Sept. 17th at www.smba.ca			October 2021-March 2022	
Soccer	U5, U7 and U9 register with Community Assoc. or Zone. U11-U19, register through Zone.	Latest info at: saskatoonyouthsoccer.ca or check for updates at vvcasaskatoon.com			October 2021-March 2022	TBD

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 during registration week. All inquiries are confidential.