



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

—Jon Naylor, President, VVCA  
[President@vvcasaskatoon.com](mailto:President@vvcasaskatoon.com)

It has been another successful year for our community and your association. With the demise of COVID restrictions, in person community events are back. Barb and her many helpers have done a wonderful job of giving us a wide range of programs. Big favorites continue to be Tae Kwon Do (thanks Fern and all who help), which has overflowed its original space. This is a hugely appreciated program for youth of all ages. For adults, competitive badminton (Chris), sorry that should be recreational badminton, dominates. There are lots of other programs that are highly appreciated. Including Yoga (Miranda), Conversational Spanish (Bessie), Art (Qiming, Kiara), soccer (Ian) and basketball. Thanks to Tammy for helping organize basketball city wide. I failed to attend any of the Spanish classes we enrolled in (my wife was a lot more successful). The result is that on our trip to Spain, I could speak 10 words, 4 of which I learnt while traveling and enabled me to order a cup of coffee (Portuguese coffee is the best).

The rink has been an exceptional resource this winter and I would like to personally thank all those volunteers who got up early or stayed late to clear and maintain our rink. All our help is unpaid and they often worked in very cold conditions. Thanks Carlos, Fredy, Luke, Mahdi, Matthew, and Renee. Rink users include Brunskill school pupils, the Huskies, hockey schools and recreational skaters.

## Civics

Nothing stays the same and our neighborhood marches on. The multiuse car-bike section of 14th Street is going to get a 30 kph speed limit. The Corridor Plan, which we worked hard to shape, is mostly in the trash. The whole of Varsity View, Grosvenor and Nutana are going to be rolled into the Transit Development Area and rezoned (see map). The details are still under discussion. Benefits should include more housing and receiving approximately \$10 million a year for 4 years from the Federal Government. The majority of this is likely to be spent on housing subsidies. Some changes make sense to me. For example, allowing secondary suites in semidetached homes (like fully detached homes). The 4-story height maximum seems counter productive. With one apartment per story, these will be very big, and hence very expensive. We need smaller, less costly, housing options. I will also be sad to see many of the trees on private land go (approximately 5 privately owned trees for every 1 city tree on a 50-foot lot). Trees provide habitat, mental health benefits and environmental resilience. Of course, there is also the loss in value to residents' homes when a 4-story monster is built next to your nice single family. Let council know what you think.

Drainage ponds are being planned along Cumberland (at the 14th and main intersections). You may have received a note from the City about this. The idea is to hollow out depressions which will fill with excess storm water when we get heavy rains. This is part of Federal funding to help protect

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against ‘the rainfall of the century’ and presumably more rapid run off as we densify and build over our green spaces.

**Environment**

We are fortunate to have a surplus in our association’s funds. Traditionally, we spend this on community improvements e.g. the spider web park, contributions to the Brunskill School playground improvement. This year, we are considering adding trees on city owned land. Up for discussion is a small-scale tree planting (20 trees) along the multiuse bike-person trail on 14th. We also want to improve President Murray Park; the spruce trees are under pressure because there is less rain. We are considering drip irrigation and new plantings. A fun fact is that the park was initially a tree nursery, which is why spruce, planted in rows, dominate.

**Community Garden**

This is a great resource. If you want to try your hand at being more self-sufficient or want to grow food for others, contact [vvbmcg@gmail.com](mailto:vvbmcg@gmail.com) to learn how to get your name on our waiting list for May.

**Albert Community Center**

Big changes are the start of the multi-million dollar upgrade to improve accessibility and insulation. Also, Shirley, the buildings intrepid booking coordinator has retired. This has led to some difficulty in booking events. Hopefully, we will soon have a new person and a modernized booking system.

**The Future**

Next year is the 40th year of the founding of the community association and we want to commemorate our fortieth year in style. We have no idea what this means although a fete in President Murray Park has been floated. Join your association and help plan this fun event. A memorializing option may include better and more decorative signage for President Murray Park.

**AGM**

Our AGM is April 17th at Brunskill Library. Please support us by attending and better still, volunteering. I will be stepping down as President to consider running for Council. Our community is very important to me and City Council could offer more opportunities to have a positive impact.

On a very positive note, it will be Spring by the time you read this. I can think of no better place than Saskatoon in summer and I look forwards to meeting you on the streets, in the parks and at the community garden.

**Find it, Snap it, Share it!**

**City Nature Challenge**

Friday April 26 to Sunday April 29, 2024

Four Free Planned Events for Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area and George Genereux Urban Regional Park!

Find plants, animals, insects, and mushrooms anywhere, anytime- your yard, the bus stop or at these events! Be the voice for nature. Help protect our greenspaces!

**Naturalist**

WWW.FRIENDSAREAS.CA

**ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ**

**Varsity View COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL**

Play Learn Grow

Go to [vvcp.ca](http://vvcp.ca) for more information and to register

Places still available for the current school year

Contact: [vvcpregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:vvcpregistrar@gmail.com)

**Erika RITCHIE**

NDP MLA for Saskatoon Nutana

Stronger. Together.

306-664-6101 [saskatoonnutana@ndpcaucus.sk.ca](mailto:saskatoonnutana@ndpcaucus.sk.ca)

SMBA Spring 3x3 Program

Join the excitement of the SMBA’s 3x3 competitive spring league! This fast-paced basketball experience is open for teams and individual players.

General information:

- Dates: April 8<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024
- Games: Twice per week, 40 minutes each
- Location: School gyms around the city
- Schedule: Posted a week before the season starts

Registration

- Team and individual registrations open
- Teams require a minimum of 4 players
- Age groups: U11, U13, U15, U17
- Team naming: {Parent Rep Last Name – Age group}
- Payment: \$215 per player
- Jersey requirement: SMBA reversible jersey
- Individual registrations: Players will be placed on a waitlist and either added to existing teams or on a team created by SMBA.

Jersey ordering: New jerseys available at <https://smbagear.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

Register now at: <https://teamlinkt.com/>

For more details, contact [smba4712@gmail.com](mailto:smba4712@gmail.com)



COME PADDLE WITH US!

# SUMMER CAMP

**DAY CAMP**  
AGES 9-13

**DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**  
AGES 11+

[WWW.SASKATOONRACINGCANOECLUB.COM](http://WWW.SASKATOONRACINGCANOECLUB.COM)



## VVCA MEETINGS

The Varsity View Community Association meets the third Wednesday of every month (excluding summer)

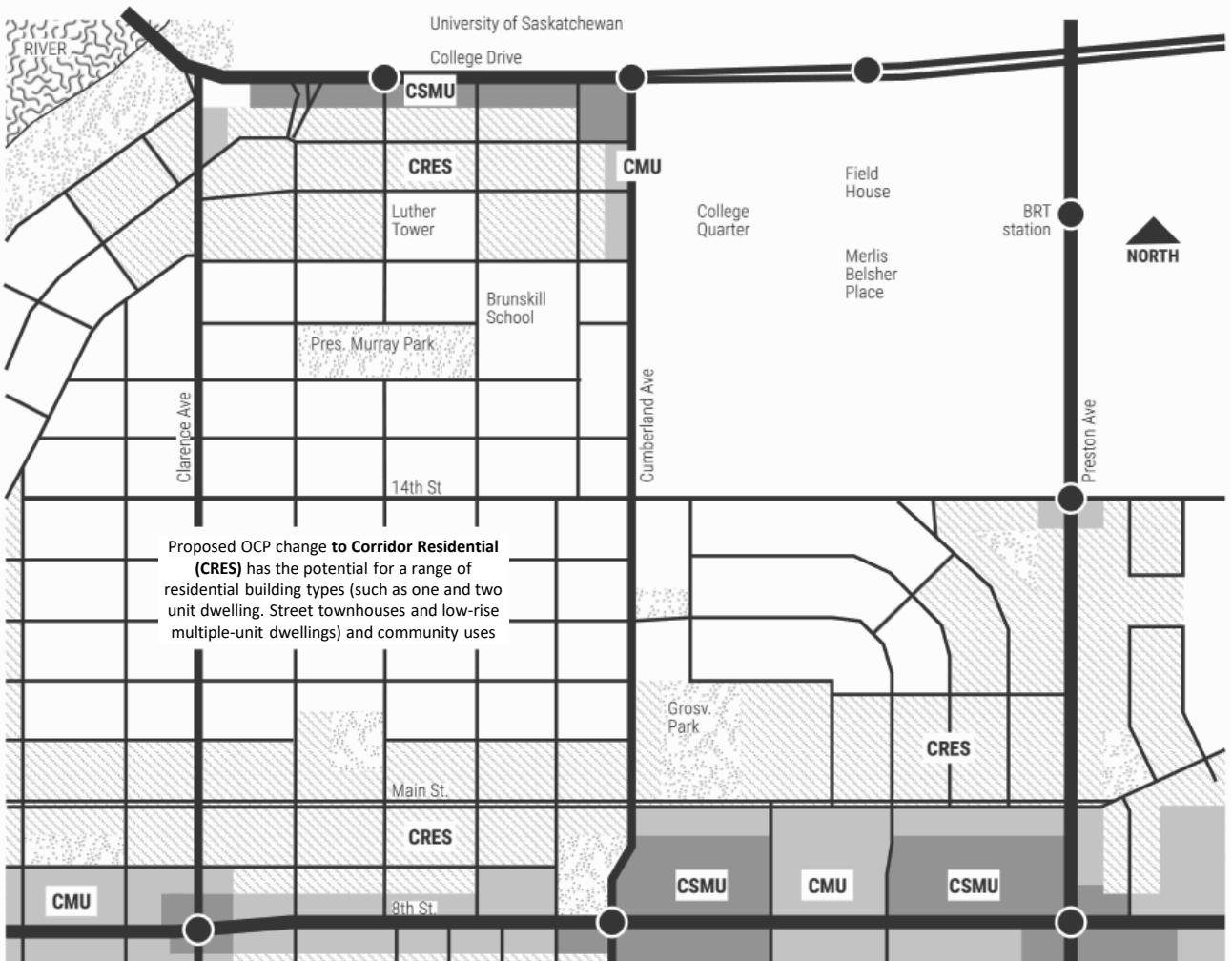
Meetings are at Brunskill School

Everyone is welcome

Community Clean-up is coming this spring. Watch for more details on our Facebook page.

## VVCA volunteers

<p>President Jon Naylor</p> <p>President Elect Anne Hardy</p> <p>Secretary Holly Ann Knott</p> <p>Treasurer Ted Stensrud</p> <p>Coordinators Albert Community Centre Lisa Kirkham</p> <p>Basketball Tammy Harkema <a href="mailto:tammyharkema@sasktel.net">tammyharkema@sasktel.net</a></p> <p>Newsletter Editor Matthew Wiens <a href="mailto:newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com">newsletter@vvcasaskatoon.com</a></p> <p>Community Garden James Perkins <a href="mailto:vvbmcg@gmail.com">vvbmcg@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Civics Committee Allan Woo, Holly Ann Knott, Jon Naylor <a href="mailto:civics@vvcasaskatoon.com">civics@vvcasaskatoon.com</a></p>	<p>Social Media Roger Williamson <a href="mailto:info@vvcasaskatoon.com">info@vvcasaskatoon.com</a></p> <p>Equipment Andrea Albert</p> <p>Indoor Programs Barb Giles <a href="mailto:blgiles@sasktel.net">blgiles@sasktel.net</a></p> <p>Social Coordinator Ted Stensrud</p> <p>Rink Luke Rempel Fredy McDougall Mahdi Toliat Carlos Diaz Renee Chapman</p> <p>Soccer <a href="mailto:soccer@vvcasaskatoon.com">soccer@vvcasaskatoon.com</a></p> <p>City of Saskatoon Liaison Kevin Ariss <a href="mailto:Kevin.Ariss@saskatoon.ca">Kevin.Ariss@saskatoon.ca</a></p> <p>Members at Large Luke Rempel Mary Anne Rubin Allan Woo Matthew Wiens</p>
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**Corridor Residential (CRES)** has the potential for ground-oriented, low to medium density residential development.

**Corridor Mixed Use (CMU)** has the potential for medium density, two to four storey mixed use developments that are pedestrian-oriented and incorporate transit-oriented development principles. These lands are located on the BRT routes between stations.

**Station Mixed Use (CSMU)** has the potential for medium density, generally three to six storey mixed use developments that incorporate transit-oriented development principles and a broad range of residential, commercial, institutional, cultural, and community uses.

### Corridor Proposed Land Use Plans

This work is part of the Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan endorsed by City Council in May 2023 intended to increase available housing in Saskatoon. Since the public engagement sessions in Fall 2023, the City has been working on initiatives identified in the Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan to have even more impact on housing in Saskatoon.

Incorporating the required changes from the Housing Accelerator

Fund Action Plan and feedback from the fall engagement sessions, the Corridor Planning team has completed revisions to the proposed land use plans (VVCA prepared map above, based on City Proposed Land Use Maps, February 29, 2024).

### Official Community Plan changes

The proposed Official Community Plan (OCP) amendments are required to meet the goals of the Housing Action Plan.

#### Amendment Package 1:

Permitting a garden or garage suite accessory to a semi-detached dwelling or a two-unit dwelling.

#### Amendment Package 2:

1) Permitting a minimum of 4 dwelling units in all residential zoning districts.

2) Transit Development Area. Permit four storey multiple-unit development within 800 metres of the Bus Rapid Transit system corridors.

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/engage/corridor-land-use-and-rezoning>

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/HAF>