

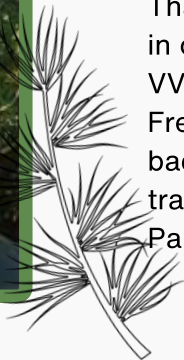


PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Season Greetings to Everyone and Happy New Year!



Thank you everyone for helping make our city such a great place to live in over the past year. We are proud to once again offer free skating at the VVCA rink at Brunskill school. The lion's share of the work is done by Fredy, Mahdi, Luke, Greg, Kenton but thanks to all who come out to push back the winter's wrath. Once again we are funding the cross-country ski trail at President Murray Park and the City will be grooming Grosvenor Park as well.



*"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart."
Elizabeth Andrew.*

*"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."
Muhammad Ali.*

VVCA VOLUNTEERS

- | | |
|---|---|
| President
Matthew Wiens | Community Garden
James Perkins
vbmchg@gmail.com |
| President Elect
Anne Hardy | Equipment
Andrea Albert |
| Secretary
Holly Ann Knott | Coordinators
Albert Community Centre
Lisa Kirkham |
| Treasurer
Ted Stensrud | Indoor Programs
Barb Giles
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| Newsletter Editor
Johanna Bergerman
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Kenton Shynkaruk
Luke Rempel
Fredy McDougall
Mahdi Toliat
Carlos Diaz
Greg McDonald |
| Social media/Website
Roger Williamson
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Dylan Shacker
soccer@vvcasaskatoon.ca |
| Civics Committee
Allan Woo
Holly Ann Knott
Jon Naylor
civics@vvcasaskatoon.com | Basketball
Coordinator: YOUR NAME HERE |
| City of Saskatoon Liaison
Kevin Ariss
kevin.ariss@saskatoon.ca | Newsletter Delivery Coordinator:
YOUR NAME HERE |
| Members at Large
Luke Rempel
Mary Anne Rubin
Allan Woo | |



Our Big News

We are throwing a party Saturday, June 14th, 2025 to celebrate our community association's 40th anniversary. It will be an all ages event that will include food and drink, art, history, sports and activities galore. The party will take place in President Murray Park. If you would like to be involved or better yet, run an activity, please email our event planning group: 40th@vvcasaskatoon.com

We are always looking for more volunteers but currently we are in specific need of a new Basketball coordinator, basketball coaches, a newsletter delivery coordinator. Please email info@vvcasaskatoon.com

See next page for details on volunteer opportunities including our summer event!

President message continued...

Civic News

The civic election was on November 13, 2024. The big news are the changes in our municipal government. Cynthia Block has moved from our councillor to our mayor, and Jasmin Parker has taken up the councillor position for Ward 6, Jasmin can be officially reached at jasmin.parker@saskatoon.ca and we have a message from her later on.

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 now to get your name on our waiting list for May 2025.

Albert Community Centre

Renovations to begin in the the new year. Interested in renting room(s) for a wedding, meetings or other event? Email albertcommunitycentre@gmail.com and include details such as the rental date(s) & time(s), room you are interested in booking, and purpose of the rental.



Matthew Wiens



The next VVCA meeting: Wednesday, January 15 2025
7pm at Brunskill School Library

Volunteer Opportunities

Saturday, June 14, 2025: VVCA 40th Anniversary Neighbourhood Party at President Murray Park

We are planning a day-long event for all to enjoy and are looking for local artists, builders, writers, musicians, storytellers, historians and dancers who would like to share their talents during that day. If you have a talent, please let us know if you would like to be part of the celebrations!

We are also looking for businesses that would like to help to sponsor the event. Sponsors would be given space for signage and business promotion, as well as receive recognition by the event emcee. Please support your community and make this an unforgettable day in the park!

And, more than anything, we need some smiling volunteers for the day! If you can help out for some or all of the day, let us know. Let's build our community by working together!

If you want to support our community event in any of the above ways, please contact our anniversary planning group (Shelly, Zuri and Barb) at 40th@vvcasaskatoon.com

Basketball Coordinator

Role: Work alongside the Saskatoon Minor Basketball Association (SMBA) to form registered players onto teams within your own and surrounding communities, recruit and communicate with coaches regarding their desired practice times, arrange equipment drop off, etc.

Newsletter Delivery Coordinator

Role: Recruit and communicate with volunteers as to their delivery routes, dates the newsletters need to be delivered by and arranging pick up of the newsletters by the volunteers prior to delivery.

A Message from Your Newly Elected Councillor

Hello, Ward 6 neighbours!

It's an honour to introduce myself as your newly elected City Councillor for Ward 6. As someone who has proudly called Nutana home for years and previously served as President of our Community Association, I'm thrilled to continue working for our vibrant and dynamic community in this new role. I'm very familiar with the work that community associations take on to build up their neighbourhoods, so I'd like to start off by giving a shout out to your neighbours who have stepped up to volunteer their time being active on the Varsity View Community Association.

Thank you for placing your trust in me. I'm deeply committed to representing your voices and ensuring our community thrives. Together, we can build on our strengths and tackle challenges with creativity and collaboration.

Over the past five months, I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you while door-knocking through the neighbourhood, as well as through the emails and phone calls I've received. From these conversations, it's clear that the number one issue facing our city is the housing and homelessness crisis. Your new mayor, council, and city administration are resolute in addressing this issue with every tool at our disposal.

Our community has already demonstrated incredible compassion, coming together to ensure warm-up locations are available for our unhoused neighbours in need of life-saving services throughout the winter. As the province's approach to shelters in Saskatoon continues to evolve, we must remain engaged to ensure all our neighbours have the supports they need. While addressing the immediate needs of our community is critical, we must also focus on upstream solutions by investing in programs that address the root causes of safety concerns, such as mental health supports and community-led initiatives. The funding structures for these initiatives can be complicated and challenging. While the jurisdiction or responsibility for the issues facing our community may seem clear, resolving this crisis will take all levels of government and our community coming together in the spirit of resolute collaboration.

Your input is vital in shaping the decisions that affect Ward 6. I encourage you to reach out to share your ideas, concerns, or just chat about what matters most to you. As we look ahead, I'm filled with optimism about what we can achieve together.



Warm Regards

Jasmin Parker

Saskatoon
City Councillor, Ward 6

jasmin.parker@saskatoon.ca



Building Safer Communities with Community Support Resources

The Saskatoon Good Neighbour Guide

Provides an overview of Saskatoon's bylaws, standards and regulations to help us all do our part to keep our neighbourhoods and city safe, clean and beautiful.

For any questions please call 306-657-8766 or email bylaw@saskatoon.ca

Find Your Good Neighbour Guide

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/services-residents/housing-property/good-neighbour-guide>



Want to get involved in your community?
info@vvcasaskatoon.com
or come to our monthly meetings



Local Resources

- Fire/Emergency: 911
- Suicide Crisis Helpline: 988
- Saskatoon Police: 306-975-2520
- Sexual Assault Crisis Line: 306-382-6935
- Community Support Officers: 306-382-6935
- Mobile Crisis: 306-933-6200
- Haven Kids' House: 306-242-2433
- Social Services: 306-933-5960
- Classic Law Legal Advice: 306-657-6100
- Income Assistance: 1-886-221-5200
- Saskatoon Tribal Council: Saweyihtotan Mobile Outreach: 306-381-3143
- Prairie Harm Reduction: 306-242-5005
- Non-Emergency Police: 306-975-3800
- Poison Control: 1-866-454-1212
- Saskatoon Animal Control: 306-385-7387
- Urban Biological Services(Wildlife Management/Pest Control): 306-975-2476
- Fire Department needle pick-up: 306-975-3030
- Public Health/Street Health: 306-655-4620
- Resource Food, clothing, housing and more: <https://shipyxe.ca>

For more information <http://vvcasaskatoon.com/>

Building Safer Communities Act

A complete description of Saskatchewan's Children and Youth Strategy is found in the Executive Summary

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/justice-crime-and-the-law/provincial-protective-services/safer-communities-and-neighbourhoods>



Mark Your Calendar!
In-Person Program Registration
Tuesday & Thursday January 7 & 9
Small Gym at Brunskill School: 7pm-8:30pm

Welcome to the New Year 2025! I hope everyone had a wonderful break and enjoyed family and having fun! But now it back to reality, although it always seems too soon. Time to enroll in a new program or just continue in your favourite program! Check out program descriptions at vvcasaskatoon.com/programs/. Note there has been a change in programming for Tae Kwon Do – there will be only one beginner class (age 7 to adult). Intermediate and Advanced clas times have changed as well – please check the schedule!

For those who cannot make the registration nights you can email me bjgiles@sasktel.net and I will be happy to help.

Barb Giles
Program Coordinator

VVCA Winter Programing

Program	Age	Day	Time	Start & End Dates	Amount & Location
Learn to Skate	5-Adult	Su	1-2 pm	TBA	\$30
Art For Adults	Adult	T	7-9pm	Jan 14 - Mar 26	\$150 Art Room
Art For Children	6-9yrs	TH	6:30-7:30pm	Jan 16 - Mar 20	\$50 Art Room
Badminton T	Adult	T	8-10pm	Jan 14 - Mar 25	\$45 Large Gym
Badminton TH	Adult	TH	8-10pm	Jan 16 - Mar 20	\$45 Large Gym
Conversational Spanish • Beginner • Intermediate	Adult	T	6-7pm 7:05-8:05pm	Jan 14 - Mar 25	\$110 Library
Learn To Folk Dance	8 - Adult	TH	6:15-7pm	Jan 16 - Mar 20	\$30 Small Gym
Tae Kwon Do • Beginner • Intermediate • Advanced	7 - Adult 8 - Adult 10 - Adult	M&W	6:30-7:15pm 7:15-8:30pm 7:15-9:30pm	Jan 13 - Mar 26	\$85 Large Gym \$125 Large Gym \$150 Large Gym
Yoga Multi-level	Adult	W	6:30-8pm	Jan 15 - Mar 26	\$110 Small Gym



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