

September 2022 **Community Consultant Report**

(Avalon, Buena Vista, Nutana, Queen Elizabeth/Exhibition/Haultain, Stonebridge, Varsity View/Grosvenor Park)

1. Welcome Back!

With Fall just around the corner it is time to welcome back volunteers from a well-deserved summer break. I hope that everyone was able to enjoy a safe and healthy summer break with friends and family. Summer is never long enough but I am looking forward to getting back to regular meetings and seeing everyone either in-person or virtually in the coming weeks. I know that many of your Community Associations have some exciting plans, events and programming ready to unveil this fall.

When we get back into regular meetings, I would like to ask that where possible, each Community Association regular meeting be confirmed as early as possible. Not only does this help with promoting your meeting and allowing your residents and members to attend, which is extremely important to attracting volunteers, it also is very helpful to me. As most of you are aware, I usually work with 6 Community Associations but at times it is as many as 8 or 9. With fluctuating meeting dates it is a challenge to ensure that I am available to attend each meeting. I understand that meetings may need to move for a variety of reasons (holidays, school bookings, unavailable volunteers etc) but if possible, I ask that rescheduled dates avoid Wednesdays. Typically, I have a Community Association meeting on every Wednesday so any rescheduling to a Wednesday creates a conflict where I cannot attend a groups meeting and I want to be at each meeting if possible! If there is any way I can assist with meeting changes I am more than happy to do so.

Again, I am looking forward to seeing everyone in the coming days and weeks! As always, if you every need anything do not hesitate to give me a call, email or text.

2. Rink Coordinator Workshop- October 27, 2022

Come join us as we chat about some recent projects that have been done in rinks around the city including a crushed asphalt base and LED light conversions. We will also cover our usual pre-season prep, flooding techniques and what you can do to run a successful rink this winter.

Where: Cosmo Civic Center-

** A hybrid option will be available for those who are unable to join in person.

When: Thursday October 27, 2022

6:30-8:00pm

Registration link to follow

Join us for a night of information sharing...and of course, fun!

3. Fall AGM Planning

A friendly reminder that for Community Associations having an AGM in the coming months, it is very important to follow the rules outlined in your Governance Documents as well as requirements of Information Services Corporation(ISC). These are important to ensure that not only you follow the rules, but that members of your Community have the ability to be informed and participate.

It is always a good idea to work with your Community Consultant as much as you would need to ensure your AGM goes off without a hitch. Need a hand with how to word motions? I can do that. Planning a visioning exercise? Happy to help. Not sure of certain procedures or Robert's Rules? I can help with that as well! AGM's should not be stressful. They are a time to look back and reflect on the year that was and a chance to chart a path for the coming year(s).

Some general tips and guidelines that I have found to be helpful to use when planning an AGM

- Acceptable notice (usually by way of a newsletter) to community members informing them of the AGM must be delivered between 15-50 days before the AGM date.

- It is a good idea to establish an Elections Committee prior to the AGM to identify what positions are vacant and how best identify and recruit volunteers. The Elections Committee should consist of board members who are not up for election to avoid any potential conflicts. The Election Committee along with your Community Consultant can work together very closely on best practices as well as determine who will run the elections at the AGM. I am more than happy to run elections but would encourage other volunteers to give it a try!

- Ensure that your financial statements and year end reports are completed and in good order. ISC(and the City for grant purposes) requires that the year end financials be reviewed by an approved third party reviewer. This is *not* an audit.

- For virtual AGM's, it may be a good idea to designate someone as your moderator/monitor of the chat. Chairing a meeting can be challenging at any time but monitoring chats, motions and speaking order by yourself can be hard! The more other Board members chip in, the smoother the meeting will run.

- Thank your volunteers! Whether new volunteers are joining the board or others are leaving and not renewing their term, it is vital to recognize each other and all of the hard work that goes into volunteering for your community. A small token or kind words go a long way to making sure your Board members feel recognized and appreciated.

4. Rink Improvement Grant Reminder

If your Community Association's Rink Improvement Grant was successful, please ensure that all work is completed on or before October 31st to ensure you receive the grant funding. I will require the follow up form to be completed as well as copies of all receipts for payment to be made. If for any reason the project is not completed this year, please give me a call as we would like to ensure those funds are available for other Community Associations to utilize.

5. Community Association Cross Country Ski Trails

Although the snow is not here, we want to plan ahead for new ski trails. While last year we had a huge increase in the number of trails that were groomed, this winter, Parks has informed us that they will be able to groom 8 community neighbourhood trails in addition to the main citywide trails, (Kinsmen, Meewasin, Diefenbaker and Forest Park). It is our understanding that the Nordic Ski Club will continue to groom trails at the Wildwood Golf Course and the Holiday Park Golf Course for the 2022/2023 ski season.

Unfortunately, Community Development will no longer be able to support Community Associations in covering the costs of having neighbourhood trails groomed. The available funding we had in previous years is no longer available.

If a Community Association would like to bring forward a Ski Trail for consideration, please consider the following:

- The cost of having a ski trail. Average cost will vary per trail but on average the cost will be around 150.00 for first and then 130.00 per groom based on previous years estimates.
- Community Association Ski Trail grooming will be a secondary priority with citywide trails and special event requests being completed first.
- Who will be the main point of contact? Additional grooming will be by request.

Factors that will be taken into consideration when selecting the 8 additional trails to be groomed:

- Location
- Difficulty of trail
- accessibility to enter the park with equipment
- proximity to existing ski trails

If your Community Association is interested in having a trail groomed, please let your Community Consultant know no later than **September 30th**. All requests will be considered and evaluated for feasibility.

6. Saskatchewan PST Changes

We have had a few questions from volunteers regarding the recent changes to what is PST exempt so we have put together a brief memo outlining those changes(see attached). The good news is this will have no effect on CA's and they will not be required to collect PST. This is great news all around as this would have required a number of changes to non-profits and how they operate. If you have questions regarding the changes please feel free to reach out directly.

7. School Zone Changes- September 1st

PLEASE NOTE: Starting September 1, 2022, there will be changes to School Zones and new Playground Zones will be introduced.

How can you help spread the word to your community?

1. With school resuming, please consider using your communication channels to share the September 1 date. This includes emails, message boards, social media channels and newsletters.
2. Watch for and share City social media posts with your followers on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).
3. As schools resume in the fall, please reinforce these messages for students, staff and families.

SAMPLE MESSAGE FOR NEWSLETTERS, SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS OR EMAILS

Heads up for back-to-school! Changes to School Zones and new Playground Zones will be in effect on September 1, 2022

1. New Playground Zones with a reduced speed limit of 30 km/h.
2. School Zones and Playground Zones in effect from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day, all year.
3. Length of some school zones will change; School Zones End signs for certain streets.
4. High schools will be designated as "School Area" with no reduced speeds; however, U-turns are still restricted.

More details and pictures of the signs are at saskatoon.ca/speedlimit.

SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POST

Heads up drivers! This summer will be the last one with no reduced speed limits near elementary schools. On September 1, School Zones and Playground Zones will be 30 km/h from 7 AM to 7 PM every day, all year. Watch for the new signs at the end of summer and go to saskatoon.ca/speedlimit.

8. Fall Leisure Program
Registration is now Available



LEISURE GUIDE

The Fall Leisure Guide is now available. Click here to view the guide. Fall registration opened on Sunday, August 21 at 6:00 p.m. and the fall program season runs from September 1 to December 31, 2022.

To register for a program, log in to your account on leisureonline.saskatoon.ca, or by call 306-975-2800. All registered program information is listed online at leisureonline.saskatoon.ca

9. Curb Side Swap- September 10, 2022



Join us for the fall Curbside Swap on Saturday, September 10 from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm!

The spring event was held on June 4, 2022 and featured 350 listings, with residents swapping everything from desks and chairs to teddy bears! Curbside Swap events are your opportunity to reduce the amount of garbage going to the landfill by giving away your unwanted items or by going on a citywide treasure hunt to find some new-to-you items. Anyone can plan a Curbside Swap just by putting out items at the front of your property with a "free" sign.

Consider coordinating with neighbours or contact your [Community Association](#) to plan a swap for your whole neighbourhood.

For more information visit: <https://www.saskatoon.ca/services-residents/waste-recycling/recycling/saskatoon-curb-side-swap>

Thank you for all you do for your community!

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