

# Sewer Upgrade

Approximately 120 people attended the February 18 presentation provided by the City of Edmonton. The presentation and a recap of the meeting will be on the City's web site shortly. If you would like to receive the updates as the Board receives the information, please sign up for the e-newsletter by emailing the Communications Director.



March 2015

## ASPEN news

Making the neighbourhood you want to live in!

### 9 Reasons to Come to the Aspen Gardens Annual General Meeting March 5 at Westbrook School

By Sara Flanders-Brown

Previously the Aspen Gardens Annual General Meeting (AGM) has occurred later in the spring when more of us are looking to escape the house and socialize a little with our neighbours. When we voted last year to change the AGCL fiscal year end December 31, our Annual General Meeting date was moved up to reflect this. So in case you need them, here are 9 reasons to attend our Aspen Gardens Annual General Meeting March 5th at Westbrook School.

1. It starts at 6 pm with dinner. You won't have your pajamas on yet, but it's late enough that it's an evening out.
2. Free child minding and supper for the weans. When you arrive with your family, send your children ages 2-12 to the Westbrook gym where volunteers will supervise pizza supper and games until the meeting adjourns.
3. You will also get supper! Stroll with the other adults into the library for your own dinner. Sit down at a table and enjoy the conversation that doesn't include bathroom talk or why cows can't walk down stairs.
4. Enjoy learning about your neighbourhood. The AGM begins at 6:30, chaired by the AGCL President Joel Ruff. He's a pretty awesome guy, likes big hugs.
5. You'll learn something about your neighbourhood. Maybe it'll be about the interesting things happening around you all the time and that you can be a part of.
6. You will have an opportunity to bring concerns that you might have for our neighbourhood forward. And we'll listen. Not just because Joel will make us but also because that's what good neighbours do.
7. You will see something you want to be a part of.
8. We even thought of door prizes. There will be draws for three \$100 door prizes throughout the evening donated by local businesses.
9. After claiming your little ones in the gym to head home, take one last look through the school Lost and Found bins for your children's missing right gloves. Only the rights...

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Aspen Gardens Community League Annual General Meeting.

Any questions regarding the AGM can be directed to [communications@aspengardens.ca](mailto:communications@aspengardens.ca). It's helpful if you are

bringing your family to RSVP programs@aspengardens.ca with numbers. Thanks!

#### AGENDA

- Approval of Agenda
- Adoption of 2013 AGM minutes
- Annual report for 2014/15
- Building Sub-committee update
- Motion to Approve Proposed Bylaws
- Treasurer's Report
- Elections
  - There are two positions open. Please consider supporting the community and put your name forward.
- Treasure
- Memberships

The Annual Report, which includes a copy of the 2013/14 minutes from the last AGM are on the web site at [www.aspengardens.ca](http://www.aspengardens.ca)



## Petrolia Seniors' Group (55+)

Invites **YOU** to come to enjoy lunch and a program (\$15)  
The third **Tuesdays**  
(except July and August)

11:45 a.m. (sharp) to 2:00 p.m. at  
Greenfield Community Hall  
3803 - 114 Street

**April 21** – Indian Residential  
Schools, with Rocy Ward – Native  
Counseling Services

In addition enjoy another "outing"  
during most months.

For more information or to  
**CONFIRM** your attendance by the  
Friday **preceding** the lunch meeting  
please

**Call:** Nick @ 780-435-1045 or Betty  
@ 780-434-0711

We look forward to your  
participation!

# Mailbox Locations By Kim Ruff

We **do** hear your concerns and are trying every avenue we can think of to support you.

After receiving the results from the Canada Post (CP) survey CP has now started their consultation phase where they have hand delivered to only the homes that are getting a unit on their property. I have logged hours with CP trying to set up a meeting to go over the plans of the neighbourhood and highlight areas that people are really concerned with. They have told me they only listen to the city planners to check that they are not putting a box on top of a service area and do not deal with each community league or group. They have also now told me that it is now a national directive to only have up to 3 smaller boxes on any one given site and no longer have super boxes--site being a home, green space or commercial space. We have 25 sites planned for our area holding 2-3 units per site.

Currently two sites have been moved due to people calling in about their specific situation.

CP has advised that there is nothing we can do as a community league to change the outcome, but if

each individual who is against CP's approach personally takes action, there is a higher likelihood of positively impacting how CP deals with community mailboxes in Aspen. Please note out of the 25 sites that have been planned they have received calls on 9 sites to be looked at with complaints issued.

### **What can you do to help ensure CP is planning the mailbox locations with input from members of our community?**

- Call CP, lodge a formal ticket and issue a complaint the direct number to our planner for our area is Chantelle at 587.986.0985
- Go online <https://www.facebook.com/canadapost> and issue questions/complaints or <http://feedback.canadapost.ca/questions/>
- Contact your MP James Rajotte <http://feedback.canadapost.ca/questions/>
- Although this is a federal and not a city matter you can send comments to Councillor Walters blog. Councillor Walters has informed the league that in conjunction with the Mayor's Office, they will be meeting with Canada Post to discuss the process that Canada Post has been using as well as the general

concerns they have been hearing. For more information, please go to [www.michaelwalters.ca/canadapost](http://www.michaelwalters.ca/canadapost)

MP James Rajotte received a letter from AGCL and others in the community and has let us know that he is setting up a meeting with Canada Post to discuss the issue.

Unfortunately it is up to each person to call and issue his or her own ticket. If you call the CP number noted above and give them your address they will tell you where your box will be. We have written on the CP Facebook page asking questions, on their online forum issuing complaints and questions and have started ticket after ticket trying to escalate it to someone with some power.

Our next AGM is March 5 and we will have a petition against CP's consultation and execution of changing over to community boxes there.

If you would like to get on to an email list to hear about any changes or progress we make with CP Elizabeth Kowalyk has graciously taken on the task of forming an email group. Her contact info is: [elizabeth.kowalyk@shaw.ca](mailto:elizabeth.kowalyk@shaw.ca)

## Did you know that you can easily opt-out of receiving the Yellow Pages Directory?

Yellow Pages Group encourages residents who do not use the printed directory to opt-out ahead of distribution. To opt out of receiving the regular and/or light edition of the Yellow Pages directories at your home, you can call Yellow Pages Group Distribution Services at 1-800-268-5637 or complete the online form at [www.ypg.com/delivery](http://www.ypg.com/delivery). Unfortunately, the directories for our area have already been printed and will be delivered sometime in March-April, so your opt-out will only apply to 2016.

Please recycle unwanted or out-of-date phone directories simply by putting them directly in the blue bag or dropping them off at a recycle depot (closest locations are Southgate Shopping Centre and RONA on 42nd Ave.). Or you can reuse them, as my mother did, as booster seats for small children!



Okay, I think we can agree we have had some strange weather this winter. Between the rain and record snowfalls, the crazy weather has made it frustrating to maintain our ice. Thanks to Jim, our icemaker, skaters in the hood have had a great year so far. He continues to stay on top of things and will keep the ice in the best shape possible until we see the arrival of spring. If you are on the hockey rink ice and notice some yellow spots, this is being caused by a microorganism. The UofA is working with us in determining the cause. We hope you'll have the opportunity to enjoy the ice many more times before the end of the season.

## AGCL Building Subcommittee Update

In January 2014, an AGCL Building Subcommittee was established to look into either expanding the existing community hall or building a new facility. The subcommittee, comprising a group of community volunteers, has been meeting on a regular basis since then. The community survey conducted in spring last year has been a valuable resource in preparing a building needs assessment, as have tours by the subcommittee of a number of other community halls.

Currently, the existing building serves as the home of the Little Aspen Play School, which rents much of the space, plus changing rooms for skaters and storage space for various pieces of equipment. Rebuilding the existing hall on the current site does not appear to be viable, since it is already fully utilized. Expanding the hall to make some of it available to the community during play school hours would be very expensive if the safety of the children in the play school is to be ensured. Given the above, the AGCL Building Subcommittee is investigating various aspects of a new building, including looking at the types of programs and functions that other community halls host, their operating costs, revenue and overall building designs. We have had the opportunity to visit some very active community leagues that are successful in providing a vibrant gathering place by offering a variety of activities and programs for their residents. Lastly, the cost of a new building must be considered in the feasibility study and therefore all available sources of funding must be explored, i.e. grants, casino funds, donations, etc. It is our intention, to investigate this, in the coming months.

For more information, please attend the Aspen Gardens Community League Annual General Meeting on March 5, 2015, or contact Greg Meimar, Building Subcommittee Chair at [gmeimar@gmail.com](mailto:gmeimar@gmail.com).

# Community Bulletin Board

Community league members who have a homegrown business, have something to sell, are having a sale, or have a service to offer can post information here. The deadline for submitting information is the 18th of each month, and must be kept to a maximum of 30 words. And, you **MUST** include your community league membership number to have the posting included in the newsletter.

We will also be including thank you notes and announcements and announcements from all residents. Submissions should be sent to [communications@aspengardens.ca](mailto:communications@aspengardens.ca). There is limited space so posting will be at the discretion of the Communications Director.

## Snow Shoveling Help

We have a senior in our community who lives on 41st Avenue and 120th Street and is looking for help with snow shoveling. If you would like to earn some extra money, please email [kbehzad@yahoo.com](mailto:kbehzad@yahoo.com). Thank you!

## Registered Massage Therapist

Gabriella Rozsa B.A., R.M.T. is accepting new patients weekday mornings and weekends. Professional home-based business; 15 years clinical experience; licensed with RMTA. **Information and/or to book an appointment call 780.757.3848 or email [grozsa@shaw.ca](mailto:grozsa@shaw.ca). 12303 – 39 Avenue**



# LEAGUE **contacts**

Aspen Gardens Community

Joel Ruff	President	president@aspengardens.ca
Matt Rogerson	Vice President	vicepresident@aspengardens.ca
Joe Miceli	Treasurer	treasurer@aspengardens.ca
Lisa Labbe	Secretary	secretary@aspengardens.ca
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Sara Flanders-Brown	Programs Director	programs@aspengardens.ca
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Kim Ruff	Civics Director	civics@aspengardens.ca
Sandra Carry	Memberships	membership@aspengardens.ca
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The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of each month.  
Send submissions to Jan Archbold at **communications@aspengardens.ca**.

In the event of a building emergency at our community hall, please  
contact **Harold Bens at 780.434.6073**.