



IMPORTANT Soccer Registration inside!

Spring is fast approaching (Hopefully!) and we are gearing up for another great season of outdoor soccer.

Thank you!

By **Sandra Carry, Memberships Director**

Another successful membership campaign has wrapped up for the year!

180 memberships and counting were sold by a dedicated group of canvassers. I would like to thank the following people for volunteering their time to knock on doors and support our community:

- Sara Flanders Brown
- Jan Archbold
- Shannon and Jeff Tyson
- Kim and Joel Ruff
- Ellen Sabo
- Glynis Boyer
- Liz Ward
- LeeAnn & Rob Turnbull
- Mark and Diane Taillefer
- Leslie Percy
- Nyree Sharp
- Sara and Ron Pretzlaff
- Chris and Lucy Hutton
- Ursula Wagg
- Daryl Szafranski
- Sean Donlevy
- Perveen Amendolia
- Teena Maclure
- May Yew
- Deb Peterson

Although the campaign has wrapped up, you can still show your support for community activities and purchase a membership. For information, visit the membership page on the web site at www.aspengardens.ca

January 2016

ASPEN news

Making the neighbourhood you want to live in!

Happy New Year!



In many ways, 2015 was a tough year for people living in Alberta and 2016 is shaping up to be just as challenging. However, if we all take a step back for a second, we have many positive things to be thankful for: great family, friends, neighbours and a wonderful community that supports each other and others in times of need. As you look around our community throughout the year, you will see cross-country skiers, kids playing soccer, bikers, walkers, rollerbladers, popup social gatherings and front yard conversations abound. You will also see people shoveling/snowblowing their neighbour's sidewalk just because, fellow neighbours pushing out cars stuck on icy roads and even people stepping up to help out when we had issues getting our outdoor ice rink going. As we look forward to 2016, we are indeed fortunate to be a part of something this special, and for that I am proud.

We wish you and your families and friends all the best through the holiday season and we look forward to a fabulous 2016 in our great community.

Joel Ruff, President
& the Board Aspen Gardens/Westbrook Community League



Registration

The open house for the Little Aspen Playschool is scheduled for February 4 from 7 to 9 pm at the Community League Building. You can register on line from February 8 to 12 at www.littleaspenplayschool.com.

2016 Outdoor Soccer Season



Registration Information

Spring is fast approaching (Hopefully!) and we are gearing up for another great season of outdoor soccer.

Depending on the age of your SOCCER players, please read the appropriate section below.

U10 – U18 (Born in 2007 or earlier)

U10 –U18 registrations will be handled through the EMSA Portal. The links for registration will open on February 1, 2016 and will be accessible through the Aspen Gardens Website or the SWEMSA website.

Please watch for an email from the Southgate district Administrator for instructions on registration and payment.

Aspen gardens players can attend any of the 5 payment sessions listed below.

Saturday, February 6 @ Greenfield Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday, February 13 @ Duggan Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Wednesday, February 17 @ Duggan Community League Hall from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Saturday, February 20 @ Greenfield Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday, February 27 @ Duggan Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Fees are as follows:

U10 – \$120 U14 – \$160 U18 – \$180
U12 – \$140 U16 – \$170

Prices are VALID THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY. The LATE Fee is \$25 if registration received after the month of February 2016.

AGCL Membership (\$40)

Jersey Deposit (\$70 - Post dated to JULY 15)

Volunteer Deposit (\$100 – Post dated to JULY 15)

All cheques can be made out to
Aspen Gardens Community League

U4 - U8 (2012, 2010-11, 2008-09)

Our U4, U6 and U8 teams will remain in-house. This means that we will run the soccer program and play all the games on Aspen fields and form teams within our neighborhood. It is GREAT fun to be out there with the neighbours and see the kids play.

The registration form is attached at the back of the newsletter and all information is indicated on that form.

The kids will receive a uniform and picture along with loads of fun and friends.

Registration dates for the outdoor IN-HOUSE season are as follows:

Sunday February 21st from 1100-1300 at the Aspen Gardens Community Hall

Thursday March 10th from 1830-2030 at the Aspen Gardens Community Hall

You can also attend any of the Southgate Soccer District noted dates and there will be an Aspen Gardens table set up to take your registrations.

Saturday, February 6 @ Greenfield Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday, February 13 @ Duggan Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Wednesday, February 17 @ Duggan Community League Hall from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Saturday, February 20 @ Greenfield Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Saturday, February 27 @ Duggan Community League Hall from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Community Soccer is not possible without the help of VOLUNTEERS. There is a volunteer deposit for soccer in Aspen Gardens this year. But we would much rather have you out on the field with the kids than your money.

Please sign up for volunteer positions at the registration dates listed above.

Message from Councillor Michael Walters

At the September community meeting I committed to bringing the conversation about the role the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay (MNO) plays related to our subdivision and minimum lot width policy. On October 6th, my colleagues on Executive Committee passed the following motion:

Subdivision Process and Relationship to the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay

1. That Administration provide a report on:
 - i. How the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay applies to the decision making process of subdivision applications in Mature Neighbourhoods.
 - ii. What appeal mechanisms, notification processes and/or meaningful input opportunities are available to residents through the land subdivision process within the affected notification area.
2. That Administration, as part of the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay review, examine how community character can be defined, considered and/or addressed in a variety of different contexts through the land development process and return when the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay review is complete (mid 2016).

This report came to Executive Committee this past Monday and committee decided to stay the course on the Infill Road map and the current approach to approving a single subdivision on a lot greater

than 50 feet. Any discretion would be related to specific planning issues such as geotechnical studies. Many people believed in part based on past experiences, such as the original refusal at 128 Fairway Drive, that the MNO was a tool communities could use to stop subdivision. This is not the case. The MNO is a suite of regulations that ensures new development in mature neighbourhoods is sensitive in scale to the already existing homes. In the past, our Subdivision Authority has used the MNO to, on occasion, refuse subdivision applications. We have learned this was an inconsistent practice in the past and not necessarily the norm. Going forward, after the December 7 Executive Committee meeting, the policy is now clear.

Additionally, our administration presented the work plan for the 2016 review of the MNO. This is an opportunity to update and modernize how the MNO will affect future infill development and how communities will have a meaningful voice. Council was assured that residents of large lot neighbourhoods would have a voice in this review so that the unique characteristics of large lots communities can be considered.

Also, I have stated in the past that I would support and advocate for a top of bank policy that limited the type and footprint of development on ravine banks so to protect the integrity of our ravine system and the drainage capacity it provides to our communities. This report was delayed until February 5th as we await information from the province on new top of bank and environmental reserve policy direction.

I know a lot of discontent remains in your community about this

issue. I understand the community is moving forward on a restricted covenant campaign. I really feel this is the best pathway forward since it is not possible for City Council to provide any exemptions to any RF1 neighbourhood affected by the April changes to the zoning bylaw.

I have always been committed to the infill roadmap, and to public engagement as a core principle of good governance. I am a proponent of infill/densification. In fact, I campaigned on small-scale intensification of mature communities as part of Edmonton's overall infill strategy. But I recognize that there have been challenges for the Westbrook community - namely, I believe, with the process of community input on subdivision files. This is an issue that I am concerned with, but it largely lies in the jurisdiction of the provincial government, as the Municipal Governance Act outlines the appeals process for subdivision applications.

In summary, I encourage those who wish to do so to continue exploring restrictive covenants. Additionally, for those interested in participating in the review of the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay throughout 2016, please sign up for the Evolving Infill newsletter as this is one of the main ways information on the review process will be disseminated. Also our office will work to keep your community league updated on this process.

Kind regards,

Michael Walters
City Councillor - Ward 10
Edmonton, Alberta
780-496-8132
www.michaelwalters.ca

Infill & Restrictive Covenants

Information provided by the Aspen/Westbrook lobby group

Our community could go back and forth about how we find ourselves here on the City's "infill road map". Those conversations will continue over the next while, both on lawns and on the website at edmontonlotsubdivision.com. But none of that really matters, what does is where do we go from here. City Council has said they have no plans to restrict the splitting of lots. What they have offered as a solution is the application of restricted covenants on individual properties to protect large-lot communities. Council has said so privately, in one-on-one meetings, at Council meetings and publicly in the media on the radio and newspapers.

There is a planned 2016 review of the mature neighbourhood overlay, but that review will not alter the provisions to allow the subdivision of lots. It will be focused on creating guidelines for reviewing building permits that reflect specific measurable values like height, front and side set backs to name a few. The lobby group and league have already attended meetings held by the EFCL to provide feedback to the

City. If you would like to be a part of the process of the review of the MNO please sign up at the following site: Evolving Infill Newsletter Sign Up Form- www.edmonton.ca/city_government/projects_redevelopment/evolving-infill-newsletter-sign-up-form.asp

In Westbrook, the overwhelming majority support the restricted covenants effort with some streets close to 85% coverage already. So we are getting close to the numbers needed to proceed with restrictive covenants. In the end, the decision will be made street-by-street based on numbers. Please talk about this with your neighbours. It is to your benefit that your neighbour participates. We are still looking for a group to lead the process into Aspen.

If you are a homeowner in Westbrook and haven't returned the restrictive covenant form, please do. If you have questions or need a form, e-mail us at info@edmontonlotsubdivision.com. The form is not a legal document but gives us permission to prepare the actual restrictive covenant for you

that you will have the opportunity to review before signing. The only restriction on the proposed covenant will be to disallow subdivisions. We are interested in getting both YES and NO responses. This is a grass roots effort so please return your forms or email questions so that the restricted covenant committee can count your house's view point. We will be starting a big push in the new year and are aiming to have restrictive covenants in place in Westbrook by spring.

We have heard from realtors that the uncertainty of whether or not the lot next door will be subdivided is causing potential home buyers to look at neighbourhoods that are already protected by restrictive covenants. With your help we can have restrictive covenants in place by the spring and people who want to live in our community for the same reasons that you do will again feel confident investing in our community.

If you have any questions, please contact us at info@edmontonlotsubdivision.com.



Skating Tags By Harold Bens, Operations Director

The hockey rink, public skating area and kids' pond are ready for skating again! We must remind you that a skating tag must be clearly visible on one of the laces of the skate when coming out to skate.

Each year, the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues, issues a different tag colour. When purchasing a membership in any Community in the City of Edmonton, skating tags are provided for the whole family to enjoy skating in any community.

Unfortunately, during several spot checks last year, nobody had a skate tag on their skate. Skaters are coming from all over the city to skate at our facility without skating tags, some don't even know what a skating tag is all about!

The same as last year, the Aspen Gardens Community League has hired a security company to check for skating tags. Anyone without a skating tag will be requested to leave and purchase a membership at their own community. If you live in Aspen Gardens or Westbrook, please call

Sandra Carry at 780-436-1608. She will be glad to help you with the necessary skating tags for your family.

The cost of making ice, water consumption and the maintenance of the ice making equipment is a very expensive item for your community league. We hope to convince you that we need all the help we can get to pay for this. This year, a family membership in our community for the 2015-2016 season is only \$40, a very small amount for the skating enjoyment of the whole family.



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. There is limited space so posting will be at the discretion of the Communications Director.

Day homes in Aspen

We are looking for a recommended day home in or near Aspen Gardens that has space for a very loving 2-year-old who is looking to get out of the house more often. If you know of any, please contact Jill at 780-996-0661.

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. 12303 – 39 Avenue

Hunter Douglas Window Coverings

If you are building new or updating your home, complete the look with Hunter Douglas window coverings. Call Janice Baskin 780-232-1747 or email janice@camelotinteriors.com

Music Lessons, 2015 - 2016.

Piano lessons in your own home. Beginners a specialty. Evening, afternoon and daytime spots available.

Richard van Oosterom , B.Mus, [M.Mus. (courses)] piano, theory, harmony, RCM and university exam preparation (780) 437 2391 (HOME);(780) 292 3489 (CELL) rjvano@primus.ca or visit www.mauranuimusic.com

Petrolia Seniors' Group (55+)

Invites YOU to come to enjoy LUNCH and a PROGRAM

The **third Tuesdays (except July and August)**

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

January 19th – How the Budget will Affect Seniors
Richard Feehan - MLA for Rutherford

February 16th –Tribute to Black History Month
Descendants of Black Pioneers—Debbie Dobbins and Mark Lewis

March 15th – Gary Faulkner, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital Play

Bridge Wednesdays –
noon - 3 p.m. (Joan 436-1434)

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! 780-434-0711 We look forward to your participation!



LEAGUE **contacts**

Aspen Gardens Community

Joel Ruff	President	president@aspengardens.ca
Matt Rogerson	Vice President	vicepresident@aspengardens.ca
Meredith Mallett	Treasurer	treasurer@aspengardens.ca
Lisa Labbe	Secretary	secretary@aspengardens.ca
Jan Archbold	Communications Director	communications@aspengardens.ca
Sara Flanders-Brown	Programs Director	programs@aspengardens.ca
Harold Bens	Operations Director	operations@aspengardens.ca
Kim Ruff	Civics Director	civics@aspengardens.ca
Sandra Carry	Memberships	membership@aspengardens.ca
Ellen Sabo	Environmental	environment@aspengardens.ca
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Michael Goth	CRC	Michael.goth@edmonton.ca
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Vacant	Soccer Director	soccer@aspengardens.ca
Krys Holmes	Sign Changer	sign@aspengardens.ca
Tim Nerdahl	Newsletter Distribution	newsletterdistribution@aspengardens.ca

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**.

