

# Connections Newsletter

Summer 2017

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT:**

First of all, we wish to say thank you to all of the members who attended the June General Members Meeting. The opportunity to be involved and have your voice heard is a wonderful privilege of living in a housing cooperative! We were so impressed with the number of people that came forward to have their questions and concerns heard. This is Democracy at its best. The Co-operative democratic process does not fail-we must always put our trust in it. We had 161 units represented.

### **Update on our SMHC Women's Circle Culture Event August 19th:**

We are so pleased to announce that we currently have 9 countries represented and we are hoping to grow that number. Countries represented so far are Canada, China, England, India, Ireland, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, Scotland, Somalia, and Ukraine.

Be sure to visit the **Peace Station** at the event. This is where kids of all ages, both young and old alike, can come to paint a picture of what Peace means to them. We will supply the flags and the paint, all you need to bring is your creativity. You can write the word Peace in your language, draw a picture, or do whatever you want. This is what the Women's Circle and Sarcee Meadows is all about and we want to share the message of Peace far and wide!

We are also setting up a booth that ties the whole cultural aspect of Sarcee Meadows together. Look for the **History Station** at the event. We are a richly diverse community with so much history to share. At the History Station members can come and share their stories of where they came from. Not all members are able to set up a station to represent their culture but we want to at least give them the opportunity to share their stories of where they came from and what brought them to Canada and ultimately to Sarcee Meadows. Whether your family immigrated to Canada 100 years ago or 1 year ago we want to hear your stories.

We have two special guests that will be attending. Barbara Millsap (CHF Canada Director and Treasurer) and Jacky Durrie (CHF Canada Alberta Representative). This is shaping up to be one heck of a wonderful event that we can all be proud of.

For more information about the Culture event check out the flyer in this newsletter. If you have any questions or suggestions or if you want to volunteer please don't hesitate to contact Kathy Aubichon at [kaubicho@shaw.ca](mailto:kaubicho@shaw.ca) or Janine at [janine@sarceemeadows.coop](mailto:janine@sarceemeadows.coop)

**NOTE: There is a good chance that we will have a TV camera crew filming part of this event. Also pictures taken at the event will be posted on our Sarcee Meadows website as well as CHF Canada and possibly other social media. By attending you are giving your okay with the possibility of being seen on TV and Social Media.**

We have lots of volunteer opportunities: If you are interested in helping with any of the below volunteer opportunities please contact Janine at the office and she will point you in the right direction [janine@sarceemeadows.coop](mailto:janine@sarceemeadows.coop)

**Culture Event August 19:** we need lots of volunteers to help this event run smoothly. Also if you like to take pictures we could sure use your help to capture this wonderful event.

**Painting curbs and parking lot bumpers:** As you may have noticed the yellow paint on the curbs and the paint on the parking lot bumpers are faded. We could sure use your help brightening up our parking lots. A great opportunity for youth to get involved and keep busy during the summer months. A great way to have a sense of pride and ownership.

**H Garden:** If you are interested in helping to maintain the H Garden that Marla used to look after for us we would really appreciate your help. If you are interested in signing up for one day a week that would be great. If you are looking for a way to relax and get out into the fresh air just pop on by any time and pull a weed or two. Any and all help is appreciated.

**History of Sarcee Meadows:** This hasn't been updated in our handbooks since 2008 and we really want to rectify that. If you are interested in helping Clara Galvan, Arturo Gutierrez and Judy Silzer fill in the blanks from 2009 to 2017 that would be wonderful. We have all of the newsletters from that time period in the office and that could be a great source to pull tidbits of information from. We are just looking for the highlights from each year.

**Committees:** We are looking for additional members for the following committees. **Finance / Membership / Grievance.** If you are interested in joining any of these committees please stop by the office and pick up an application form and return it by September 15th. You will be notified after the Board meeting in September 27<sup>th</sup> if your application was selected.

**Playground Sub-Committee** – Our playgrounds are starting to look a little rough around the edges so we are going to restart this committee and get to work to fix them up. If you are interested in joining this committee in the fall, please contact Janine in the office for more information.

**Speed limit 15km:** Just a reminder everyone to please slowdown in our parking lots. School is out and our kids, our maintenance staff and Green Dream are all out and about. Please be careful and respectful.

**Goldeye Conference** – SACHA / NACHA – The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Goldeye Conference is being held at the Goldeye Conference Centre in Nordegg, AB in September. We encourage members who are interested in attending to submit a letter to the Board by July 31st, so that we may approve the funding.

**Canada's 150 Year Anniversary** - Who's ready to Celebrate Canada's 150 Year Anniversary!!! The Entertainment and Social Events Committee have been working hard to bring you lots of opportunity to get out and celebrate right here at home all summer long.

July 8, Saturday – SMHC Adult Social

July 15, Saturday – SMHC Stampede Breakfast

August 13, Sunday – SMHC CSI Social

August 19, Saturday – SMHC Annual BBQ and Cultural Event

**Random Acts of Kindness** - notes from our members. It only takes a minute of your time to recognize a kindness. We have so many neighbours helping each other out and we would like to acknowledge them. We can only do that with your input, so please send us a note to [janine@sarceemeadows.coop](mailto:janine@sarceemeadows.coop) or drop a note off to the office.

**Have a fun and Safe Summer!!!!**

Your SMHC Board of Directors



## **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:**

*(It's Miller Time!)*

### **Office/Shop**

During June, there were approximately 221 work orders completed, 13 meetings, the June Membership Meeting, 1 staff anniversary, a holiday, and 1 birthday. There were also a number of cupboards installed, ducts cleaned, floors done, a few bathrooms repaired/replaced, plans for building condition assessment finalized, and locks replaced/repared.

### **Historical Housing Charge Increases**

At the Member's Meeting in June there were some questions about housing charge increases, and it was thought that historically SMHC has never had increases as high as in the past couple of years. Included after my report is the historical record of housing charges in SMHC. From 1971 to 2001 increases were generally applied as percentages based on the size of the unit. From 2002 on increases were applied as a flat dollar rate regardless of the size of the unit.

### **Where did the Mortgage Payment Go?**

Members who attended the June Members Meeting to discuss the budget also asked where the mortgage payment went. Near the beginning of 2013 Sarcee Meadows became mortgage free. The average portion of housing charges monthly that went to the mortgage payment from each unit was \$200.

The chart below outlines where this \$200 has been allocated.

Line Item	Actual 2012 Cost Per Unit Per Month (While Mortgage was being paid)	Actual 2016 Cost Per Unit Per Month (After Mortgage)	Increase Cost Per Unit Per Month
Property Taxes	\$72.37	\$109.54	\$37.17
Internal Subsidy	\$0	\$43.86	\$43.86
Utilities	\$171.49	\$182.90	\$11.41
Replacement Reserves	\$94.65	\$194.93	\$100.28

The total increase in these 4 categories is \$192.72 with the majority going to Internal Subsidy and Replacement Reserves (72% of the original \$200 mortgage payment). This leaves \$7 per unit per month (\$84.00 per year) of the mortgage payment left to cover all other increases in costs associated with running and maintaining SMHC.

### **General**

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please remember to contact the office @ 403-246-2746 and we will find the answers for you.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Adult Social, Stampede Breakfast, BBQ and Cultural Event. Be safe and enjoy the lovely weather!

Thank you,

Roberta Miller  
General Manager



## **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Housing charges and parking charges are taken by automatic withdrawal on the first of the month.

Time payments will be taken automatically on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Invoices will be taken out on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month **only with approval from the members**. We cannot take invoice payments unless you authorize them. Please call the office at 403-246-2746 ext 104.

We do not accept cash but we do have a debit machine.

## **SMHC Historical Housing Charge Increases:**

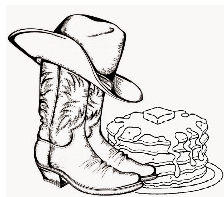
Year	Average Housing Charge Increase – When housing charge increases were determined by percentage per unit size. (Total increase for the year)
1971	\$0
1972	\$0
1973	\$0
1974	\$10
1975	\$16
1976	\$18
1977	\$19
1978	\$13
1979	\$0
1980	\$10
1981	\$17
1982	\$54
1983	\$60
1984	\$53
1985	\$0
1986	\$45
1987	\$0
1988	\$0
1989	\$0
1990	\$11
1991	\$20
1992	\$25
1993	\$5
1994	\$5
1995	\$5
1996	\$0
1997	\$12
1998	\$23
1999	\$10
2000	\$15
2001	\$62

## **SMHC Historical Housing Charge Increases Cont'd ...**

Year	Average Housing Charge Increase – When housing charge increases were a flat \$ rate for each size unit. (Total increase for the year)
2002	\$5
2003	\$5
2004	\$0
2005	\$5
2006	\$5
2007	\$10
2008	\$0
2009	\$20
2010	\$20
2011	\$10
2012	\$10
2013	\$5
2014	\$0
2015	\$0
2016	\$35
2017	\$20

## **ENTERTAINMENT & SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE:**

The Entertainment & Social Events Committee has an exciting summer full of fantastic events planned for all our members!



We hope you are all getting ready to attend the Stampede Adult Social on Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 8:00 pm – 12:00 am. Come on out and enjoy a few beverages, some great music, and a visit with your neighbours.

Keep up the Stampede Spirit by joining us for our Annual Stampede Breakfast on Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 9:00 am – 11:00 am. Come down to B50 for the traditional pancakes, sausages, and scrambled eggs. Watch your mailboxes for flyers advertising these events!

As planning continues we are getting even more excited about our Annual Summer BBQ and the Cultural Event to be held on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 1:00pm – 5:00 pm. As we mentioned last month we are celebrating Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by celebrating the vast cultural diversity that makes Canada such a wonderful place to live! Our Committee is joining forces with the Women's Circle to create an amazing cultural event for SMHC that celebrates the diverse cultural heritage of all our members. As was mentioned in the Board of Director's report we already have representation from Canada, China, England, India, Ireland, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, Scotland, Somalia and Ukraine. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for further details.



## **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Summer is here! Along with those lazy, hazy days of summer comes hot, dry winds that can parch our lawns. The Environment committee encourages our Members to help out Green Dreams Landscaping by watering the lawns and trees in and around your area as much as possible this summer. Please help keep Sarcee Meadows looking Green.



The Committee hopes recipients of the recent door prizes are enjoying the products. Thanks to those of you who send in your responses to the door prizes and your suggestions for the future prizes. It is very much appreciated by the Committee. You can submit your feedback on the Prize packages to the Office at B50.

Recycling in its many forms is beginning to be the **Norm** of the day. It is very important to our **Earth** to keep many things out of the Landfill. From the current Food and Yard Waste Program, paper/cardboard recycling, furniture, electronics, clothing, household chemicals and so on. The Environment Committee will continue to bring you tips, ideas, recycling sites to help you with your questions of 'what goes where?' We also will continue to help with the Food and Yard Waste program for Sarcee Meadows, set up for Multi-family dwellings. Keep your eyes on the Newsletters and flyers in the upcoming days and months for more on this topic.

The Environment Committee wishes everyone a **safe and happy summer**. We always look forward to meeting new members, so we will "See you in September!" (Wednesday, September 20/2017 at 7:00PM).

## **ECO ALLEY – NEWS YOU CAN USE:**

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

**"Green" recycling is coming, and many things are happening in the background to prepare Sarcee Meadows for the changes. The City has a target of November to have all multifamily properties recycling their organic ("green") matter. It will be a City bylaw that we must adhere to.**

Here is a general list of some of the "green" items to be recycled using certified compostable bags:

**All food (raw and cooked):** Plate scrapings; Meat, fish, poultry, shellfish and bones; Fruits and vegetables (remove any stickers); Bread, pasta, noodles, rice, beans, couscous, grains, crackers, cereal; Eggs, eggshells and dairy products; Cooking oil, lard, shortening, butter, sauces, grease, dips, salad dressing, mayonnaise and gravy; Pastries, cookies, cakes and muffins; Nuts, seeds, pits, chips, popcorn and candy

**Food soiled paper:** Paper plates, coffee grounds, coffee filters and tea bags; Food-soiled paper towels, napkins and tissues

**Yard waste:** Leaves and cones; Plants and flowers; Branches, twigs, hedge pruning; Grass clippings and sod; Weeds; Garden soil, sand and untreated mulch; Christmas trees; Hay

**Pet Waste:** Dog waste and kitty litter (all varieties); Animal bedding (from pet cages); Pet food and treats; Pet fur, hair or feathers

**Other:** Cold barbeque or fireplace ashes; untreated lumber; Wood shavings/ sawdust; wooden popsicle sticks, chopsticks and toothpicks

### **The "no" items. Please keep these items OUT of your green recycling:**

- No plastic, oxo-biodegradable or biodegradable bags. If using a bag, only use certified compostable bags.
- No diapers, wipes or sanitary products
- No food or beverage packaging
- No plastic plates or cutlery
- No painted or treated wood
- No fruit or vegetable stickers

### **The City of Calgary website has an extensive search tool for what goes where:**

<http://www.calgary.ca/UEP/WRS/Pages/What-goes-where/Default.aspx>

Keep up the "blue" cart recycling we do now (for example: mixed paper, paper coffee/fountain drink cups, plastic, jugs, bottles, packaging and food containers with the recycling symbol 1-7, metal food cans, metal lids, clean aluminum foil plates and containers, clean glass jars and bottles, refundable beverage containers).





## Why is it important to collect food and yard waste?

Food and yard waste **does not** turn into **soil, compost or anything useful** when it is **buried** in the Landfill because there is no oxygen. Instead it releases **methane**, a harmful greenhouse gas and **leachate**, a toxic liquid from garbage which has to be collected and treated to **protect** the environment. By diverting our food and yard waste, we will reduce our dependence on landfills, minimize the harmful **environmental** effects of food and yard waste in the landfills, and produce **useful new resources**, such as, **compost**.

**Compost** is full of nutrients and rich in organic materials. It is often called "black gold" by gardeners for the many benefits it provides.

## Consider options to prevent food waste

While some food waste is not edible for consumption--like eggshells, banana peels and bones--plenty of our food is perfectly edible. In Calgary it is estimated that over 50 percent of our food waste could be prevented. Consider ways to **reduce** food waste in your home; such as weekly menu planning, buying only what you need and storing food properly.

## Remember

**Items** such as furniture, motor oil, electronics, and household chemicals are not **accepted** in the garbage, recycling or food and yard waste containers.

By diverting our food and yard waste we can significantly reduce our garbage and keep this material out of the landfill.

*Don't let change be your enemy ... let it be your teacher.*

## PROPERTY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE:

Home Maintenance Tips:

- Keep water off the floors and counters to avoid water damage.
- Leave bathroom fans on for a least 10 minutes after baths or showers to get the moisture out.
- Do not block cold air returns.
- Do not put grease down drains, use paper towels to wipe grease out and put in garbage.
- Keep the down spouts down when it is raining.



## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBER:

Name: Tony Y.  
Board Position: Co-Treasurer  
Yrs. on Board: 5

Work Background:

- 7 Yrs. Dept. Manager London Drugs (2011 - current)
- 3 Yrs. Canada Revenue Agency – Taxpayer Agent (2008 – 2011)

Volunteer Work:

- 5 Years Board of Directors Sarcee Meadows Housing Co-op
  - Current position: Co – Treasurer
- 5 Years Board of Directors Southern Alberta Co-op Housing Association
  - Current Position: Vice – Chairperson
- 2 Years Board of Directors Bishop Carroll Music Society

- Current Position: President
- 1 Year Holy Name School Parent Assembly
  - Current Position: Co – Vice Chairperson

Why I decided to volunteer:

- We moved into SMHC in 2011 and really enjoyed how nice the community made us feel at home. During our first year we were just trying to get acclimated to Sarcee Meadows.
- In our 2<sup>nd</sup> year my wife and I discussed my Volunteering for the Board as a way for us to get involved and help the Community we now call “Home”.

What I have seen and learned from my experiences on the Board:

- The history of SMHC and how large a community SMHC truly is. There are so many different committees, staff and volunteers needed every year to keep the Co-op humming along.
- Good Governance and how to make the tough decisions necessary to keep SMHC sustainable over the next 50 – 100 years.
- SMHC has grown over the past few years with a more diverse background of volunteers and this is the true Spirit of what it means to live in a Co-operative.
- Hard decisions are made at the Board level. It has been a true pleasure to be with a group of individuals who come together once a month (for Love of the Co-op, not for the pay – we don’t get paid) & make the decisions that are in the Best Interests of SMHC.
- Each Board Member has a Voice that is heard and valued. There is zero, and I mean ZERO bullying, power plays, or hidden agendas.
- The Management and Staff of SMHC is the ENVY of every Co-op out there. When other Co-ops’ Members hear that SMHC is Member Driven and not run by an outside agency, I am truly amazed at the look of disbelief, followed by confusion, then wonder at how SMHC has attained what 99% of Co-ops believe is unattainable.
- On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 thanks to SACHA, I was able to attend my 1<sup>st</sup> ever CHF AGM. It was a true eye opener to see how well respected SMHC is throughout the rest of the Canadian Co-ops!
- For the Sarcee Meadows Women’s Circle to gain recognition at the CHF AGM by winning the Prestigious CHF Canada Co-operative Achievement Award was a once in a lifetime event.
- It was an extreme honor as this is one of the hardest Awards to get. I am very proud of the Women’s Circle and how they have made SMHC the talk of the Co-op World through their passion, compassion and diversity.

It has been a great journey to be a part of SMHC and being someone who has helped guide the Co-op towards a better and brighter future.

I hope that more Members will step up and nominate themselves to be a part of the Board or to be on one of the Committees.

I have found it very rewarding. It is a great way to give back to SMHC who has provided my family with:

- A Home
- Stability in an unstable financial world
- A Family Community
- A Voice
- Memories that will last a lifetime

Whether you have experience or not by volunteering you can open yourself up to new opportunities and new pathways. It really is a great way to give back!

Tony Y.

Co – Treasurer SMHC

Vice – President SACHA





**CASINO NIGHT - CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS**

**We need your help! Please consider signing up for a shift with a friend.**

**Date: Thursday, August 17 or Friday, August 18**

**Location: Elbow River Casino**

**Available shifts:**

**7:00 PM - 3:30AM and 11:30PM - 3:30 AM (for countroom)**

**We know these evening shifts can feel late, but your efforts are REALLY appreciated.**

**Why: The funds are being raised to do renovations to our skateshack and surrounding area to allow for more affordable community programs and firepit area for our rink.**

**Contact info: Gord Leach**

**email - [gsleach@telusplanet.net](mailto:gsleach@telusplanet.net)**

**phone - 403-249-5900**

**SARCEE MEADOWS HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE LTD**



**Come out and Celebrate  
Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
In conjunction with our Annual BBQ**



**No matter where you are from, we're glad you're our  
neighbour.**



**Saturday, August 19th, 2017  
1:00pm - 5:00pm  
Behind B-50 in the Playground**



**All co-op members and their families are invited to share  
their culture. Hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks will be  
provided free as well as food from a variety of ethnicities.**

**Come out, have fun and get to know your fellow members.**

**There will be prizes: including from the Royal Canadian Mint –  
the Eight-Coin 150 Canada Anniversary Collection Set**

**There will be: Games, Face Painting, Bounce Tent and  
Henna, tons of activities for the kids, cultural displays and art  
works.**

**Kids: Decorate your bike for a bike parade  
Kids & Adults: Dress in the attire from your culture for a  
Fashion Parade**



**Bring the whole family**



**Please bring your lawn chair  
Children must be supervised by an adult  
Must be in attendance to win prizes**



You won't want to miss the Cultural part of our Annual Summer BBQ.

SATURDAY AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup>  
1:00pm to 5:00pm



Come on out and set up a station representing  
**YOUR** culture and we will give you **\$150** for supplies!!!

We are giving each culture up to **\$150** to buy food to serve at your station or to use the best way to enhance your station.

All you have to do is organize a booth and decorate it with something that represents your country.

**We will provide the tent, table and the money**  
**and you do the rest.**

And there is more. To say thank you for all of your support,  
Every country that sets up a station will be entered in to a draw for  
**\$100 hard cold cash!!!**

Countries represented so far are Canada, China, England, India, Ireland,  
Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, Scotland, Somalia, Ukraine, a History Station, and a  
Peace Station

Have fun with your station. Bring ethnic food, arts and crafts, a tablecloth that represents your culture and share with the rest of our members. Dress in attire that represents your culture. Hang a flag from your Country at your station. If you wish to have entertainment from your culture such as dancers or anything else, that would be wonderful.

We need your confirmation of intention to set up a Cultural station by July 15th. Please contact Kathy Aubichon at [kaubicho@shaw.ca](mailto:kaubicho@shaw.ca) for more details.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event we would love to have your help. Please contact Kathy Aubichon at [kaubicho@shaw.ca](mailto:kaubicho@shaw.ca)



**GREEN DREAM LANDSCAPES – SCHEDULES:****Green Dream Landscapes – Lawn Maintenance Schedule**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						July 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
30	31	August 1	2	3	4	5
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	



27	28	29	30	31	September 1	2
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	J, H, G	F, K, L	A, B	C, D	E & Maintenance	

*Disclaimer: Letters to the editor are the opinion of the author[s] and may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors, staff, or the members of Sarcee Meadows Housing Co-operative Ltd.*

### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:**

With there being much discussion about Green Dream Landscapes during the June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Members Meeting one of our members, Slawa Gruszczynska, requested that the Newsletter Committee reprint her Letter to the Editor from last year's Summer Newsletter. Here it is again:

#### **“Sarcee Meadows is Green Again**

It was such an uplifting experience to see many members actively participating in the last General meeting on June 16. People took the time to do their homework and prepared / addressed questions relevant to the budget deliberations.

This vital discussion was an indication that members feel comfortable with Management and the Board again to dialog and be part of a democratic process, and wish to see our Cooperative strong and sustainable.

I was planning to line up by the microphone and provide a few words of clarification, but after a while I decided to write it down and share my feedback with the members through the Connections newsletter instead.

As a past Board member for almost 5 years, and being actively involved in a few aspects of our Cooperative, I became familiar with the past green space maintenance practices, before Green Dream Landscapes came to our rescue.

**The Budget for overall grounds keeping is almost the same amount and it has always been a part of our Financial Statements for many, many years.**

What is different, is the way the green space, other grounds maintenance, and snow removal processes are being managed.

How?

Historically:

- Early in the spring each year, our Administration would place Job Postings to recruit Seasonal Workers for grounds maintenance in the Connections Newsletter and through flyers.
- Depending on the status of economy in Alberta/Calgary, sometimes several applications would be submitted, or just a few.
- **Our full time staff would need to:**
  - Screen the applications/resumes.
  - Select candidates for interviews
  - Schedule interviews
  - Conduct the interviews
  - Make a decision, who will be qualified for hire
  - Hire seasonal staff
  - Process the paper work
  - Coordinate and conduct the orientation
  - New staff would need to be taken around our big Co-op several times to be comfortable with the scope of work. They would need to be shown where the common grounds and members' perimeters were.
  - The temporary staff would need to be introduced by the full time staff on what to do, where and how, where the supplies were stored, how our fleet works, access to the Maintenance tools, and how our cooperative worked.
  - The young seasonal workers very frequently would need to be constantly supervised and searched for, as they would not perform in a responsible way, despite orientations, guidelines and radio system in place.
  - Very often, in the middle if the training or right after, these newly hired workers would quit without notice or would not report to work without notice. Or they would find better paid jobs or easier jobs.
  - While our full time staff were busy hiring, orienting, educating the seasonal workers, in the meantime, work orders were piling up.
  - To accommodate both needs, our full time staff would frequently have to work overtime to fulfill the members' needs and try to organize the grounds and seasonal maintenance.
  - Each year, the Administration tried a different approach, without any success.
  - Our grounds were not well maintained, garbage piling up under the trees, corners. The irrigation system has been damaged beyond repair by seasonal workers driving over it with golf carts and other equipment, without respect to our property.
  - Sarcee Meadows's budget not only had to offset the wages for seasonal workers, overtime for our full time staff and repair numerous damages. Most likely several of the Maintenance shop supplies have been taken as well.
  - Occasionally Workers Compensation Board expenses had to be covered as well.

**In conclusion..., the Budget Line was always there.**

Grounds Maintenance was built into the budget for many years in the past and it is there now, but the system did not work and it cost us the same if not more.

Until the day, when Green Dream Landscapes came to our doorstep and proposed a mutually beneficial, professional, and sustainable solution.

Green Dream Landscapes have qualified and affordable staff, they know what they are doing, they are honest, polite and super-efficient.

Miracles, take time.

For a month and a half, Green Dream Landscapes were removing and raking a huge amount of garbage and debris resulting from many years of neglect. Each square foot of green space, each tree and shrub had to be taken care of.

But what a difference it is to see our grounds now. Revived and well-trimmed grass, no garbage under the trees, hedges and shrubs trimmed.

Some of members are not able to care for backyards, shrubs trimming, and grass cutting due the lack of skills, ability or mobility issues.

With Green Dream Landscapes' extended services that include care of our backyards and snow removal to the doorstep, some of our aging members can extend their independent living for many years and continue to be part of the Sarcee Meadows big family.

And if members are in doubt, fortunately we can learn more about finances and Sarcee Meadows' operations by becoming members of committees and of the Board, and have a first hand experience.

Submitted by:

Slawa Gruszczynska”



### **Weeding makes sense**

The beautiful gardens in the “H” Section are unofficially called “Marla’s’ Gardens now.

Marla Harding for so many years took care of it with love and dedication. Marla is no longer with us, but the legacy lives on.

To commemorate her efforts and keep these gardens beautiful, they need to be kept tidy and free of weeds.

Please help with this task. All that it takes is just a few minutes at a time and a pair of gardening gloves and a plastic bag for disposal. For those who wish to help and may not know how to distinguish weeds from the perennials, please join me during the summer at the gardens. I will try my best to be there on Thursdays at approx... 8:00 pm – 8:30 pm to provide guidance and spend few minutes together with other members.

You can select a shaded or sunny area as small or big as you wish. Pull few weeds at the time and dispose them to the garbage bin available nearby. We will set up a composting system in the near future.

Thank you in advance

Slawa





# YOUR PAGE

Welcome to "Your Page", a place for you to share with your neighbours and your community. This page can include your Personal Milestones such as Births, Birthdays, Weddings, Anniversaries, and Personal Accomplishments. It is also a great way to send out Thank You Messages, notes of praise on a job well done, announcements or any other tidbits that you'd like to share! Submissions can be emailed to [janine@sarceemeadows.coop](mailto:janine@sarceemeadows.coop) or dropped off at the office to the attention of the Newsletter Committee.

## COMMUNITY LANDS (Second in a series):

Provided from the Memory Bank of Carol Davis 2017

To the best of my knowledge the City of Calgary has long had a requirement for new developments to provide community space. I think the criteria is 10%

When our Co-op was in the planning stages we were aware of this and as a result the large central park was planned as well as other communal spaces like the areas that today are occupied by the Tot Lot and the Memorial Garden.

Blue prints were done. All was approved. And then, very late in the game, the City dropped a bombshell. They would not accept the green communal spaces as our 10% requirement for Community Lands because they were on the inside of the project.

So at a very late stage in the planning everything had to be shifted. The north eastern boundary of the property – where the Rutland Park Hall, Skate Shack and skating rink now sit – was emptied of our planned buildings and parking lots and left vacant for “community reserve”. 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue as it now sits was also part of this land. This shift made it necessary to move everything.

I cannot begin to imagine the amount of work this would have entailed for our Architect who would have to completely redo his blue prints. (And do not forget that in the late 1960's this was all done manually – no computers!!)

In the original plans we provided one parking stall per unit plus 50% additional parking which was to be for Visitors. Regrettably after the “shift” the 50% extra stalls were not evenly distributed between all areas of the co-op and a great number of them ended up in the “L” parking lot.

Of course it was not long before members were wanting additional parking. The decision was made to take away some of the visitor stalls and turn them into stalls that could be rented to members.

Policing Visitor parking abuses is an issue that goes back to the beginning of our co-op. Some problems just never go away!

It was years later that the Community Hall etc. was developed on the land that originally belonged to Sarcee Meadows.



*Disclaimer: Any ads placed in this newsletter are not to be considered as an endorsement by Sarcee Meadows Housing Co-operative Ltd. but are for information only.*

# Classifieds

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## **Window Cleaning:**

Exclusive Window Cleaning offer for Sarcee Meadows Members!

Exterior window cleaning – all main level windows – just \$15.00

Contact: Bill Davidson, Unit D251, 403-875-4096



## **Healing Intentions:**

Psychic/Medium

Card Readings

Book a party

Call Shelly: 403-660-2045

Energy/Crystal healings

Other Services available

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## **Knitted Dish Cloths For Sale:**

Assorted colours and patterns. \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

Call Tricia: 403-242-0048



## **House Cleaning:**

I have over 15 years' experience and I'm available for all you cleaning needs; organizing your home or helping with small tasks on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis. \$25.00 per hour includes all products needed for cleaning.

Contact: Monika 403-920-0920 or email: [cleanandshine28@gmail.com](mailto:cleanandshine28@gmail.com)

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## **Straightline Painting:**

Residential painter, competitive prices, 30 years' experience. Used by SMHC

Call Peter: 403-998-5179



## **Lawn Mowers wanted:**

Do you want to get rid of your old lawn mower? Fred Sheppard is looking for used lawn mowers to repair and sell.

Please call Fred at 403-686-4302.

## Ladies & Girls only Swimming

Golden opportunity for ladies & girls to learn swimming from female instructors with no men around. Covers are on all of the windows looking into pool area. Confirm your spot by contacting Farha Fatima (info below). Spread the word, the more that sign up the rates are likely to go down.



**Steam-room, Hot tub, Aquasize**



**Plenty of FREE Parking**

**Where: Killarney Aquatic & Recreation Centre**

**1919 – 29<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Calgary**

**When: Every Saturday (First session March 11th, 2017)**

**Who: Open to ladies & girls ages 10 and up**

**Time: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

**Rate: \$10 per person**

**\$12 per person with instructor**

**(Rate will go down if more people confirm)**

**(Pay in advance)**

**Contact: Farha Fatima**

**Phone: 403-969-9648**

**Email: farha1\_khan@yahoo.com**

**RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS  
NOMINATION FORM**

Do you know someone, an adult, teen or child, who has done a "Random Act of Kindness" for you or someone else? If so, please take the time to acknowledge them and what they have done. Complete this form and submit it to the office to the attention of the Education and Involvement Committee.

At the end of the year a "Random Act of Kindness" winner will be chosen from the entries that are received throughout the year. The winner will be acknowledged at the Annual General Meeting in January.

Let's recognize those special people who extended themselves and make our lives better by simply being kind!



NAME OF THE NOMINEE: \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE'S UNIT #: \_\_\_\_\_

ACT OF KINDNESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME AND UNIT #: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Use extra paper if required]

# **2017 Recycling Schedule will be changed starting**

## **\*JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017\***

**RECYCLING PICKUP DATES:** Recycling will be done **EVERY WEEK**, by sections, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday unless there is a holiday. Any dates in bold are changed from the regular day.

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<b>A11 to C176</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, September 5, 12, 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28, December 5, 12, 19</b>
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<b>C181 to E358</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, June 7, 14, 21, 28, July 5, 12, 19, 26, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, September 6, 13, 20, 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, December 6, 13, 20, 27</b>
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<b>E361 to H556</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 2, 9, 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, September 7, 14, 21, 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, December 7, 14, 21, 28</b>
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<b>H561 to L745</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>February 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4, 11, 18, 25, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3, 10, 17, 24, December 1, 8, 15, 29</b>
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**Pick-up April 17 instead of April 14**



**CALENDAR:**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>July 2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8 Stampede Adult Social 8:00pm – 12:00am</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15 Stampede Breakfast 9:00am – 11:00am</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26 CSI Committee @ 1:30</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>August 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 Seniors Summer Social 2:00pm – 4:00pm</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19 Summer BBQ &amp; Culture Event 1:00pm – 5:00pm</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6 Property Maintenance @ 7:00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9 Board Strategic Planning Meeting @ 9:00 am</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12 Parking @ 7:00 Membership @ 7:00</b>	<b>13 Property Enhancement @ 7:00 (Walkabout @ 6:30)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18 Finance @ 7:00</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20 Environment @ 7:00</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27 Board Meeting @ 6:45</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## **COMMITTEE CONTACTS: 2016 – 2017:**

### **C.S.I. (Co-op Seniors Interests)**

Chair: Lucille Ranchuk  
Board Liaison: John Preston

### **Education and Involvement**

Chair: Judy Silzer  
Board Liaison: Kathy Aubichon

### **Elections**

Chair: Marie Forester

### **Entertainment and Social Events**

Chair: Sandy Christensen  
Board Liaison: Jenn Jenkinson

### **Environment**

Chair: Russ Chandler  
Board Liaison: Isabel Ciok

### **Finance**

Chair: Duri Lee  
Board Liaison: Tony Yee / Heather Millar

### **Grievance & Resolution**

Chair: Georgia Gardiner

### **Honours and Awards**

Chair: Audrey Templeton  
Board Liaison: Kathy Aubichon

### **Membership**

Chair: Daryl Sedor  
Board Liaison: Kelly Edwards

### **Newsletter**

Chair: Slawa Gruszczynska  
Board Liaison: Jenn Jenkinson

### **Parking**

Chair: Dennis Schwaiger  
Board Liaison: Randy Senft

### **Personnel**

Chair: Pat Fenlon  
Board Liaison: Garry Sluiter

### **Property Maintenance**

Chair: Helen Serrurier  
Board Liaison: John Preston

### **Property Enhancement**

Chair: Marianne Pederson  
Board Liaison: Jenn Jenkinson

### **Security Task Force**

Chair: Lorene Klippert  
Board Liaison: Garry Sluiter

### **After Hours Emergency Maintenance:**

In the event of an emergency maintenance situation after hours please call the Emergency Maintenance Cell Phone at:

**403-813-2783**

Committees can be contacted by calling the office at 403-246-2746 Ext. 102 or emailing

[janine@sarceemeadows.coop](mailto:janine@sarceemeadows.coop)





## **Green Dream Landscaping Feedback:**

At the June 15, 2017 Members' meeting there were a number of comments and discussions around Green Dream Landscaping. As a standard all Members are invited to provide feedback to the office or the Board any time on any subject. It was felt at this meeting that there should be another survey or another way to provide additional feedback for Members.

We invite all Members to provide their feedback or questions regarding Green Dream Landscaping. Please write your comments or questions in the space below and return it to the office (B50) by July 31, 2017. Emails and phone calls will also be accepted, if additional space is needed use the back of this form or additional sheets of paper as needed.

All information received will be reviewed. Comments and questions with answers will be provided to the Membership in the fall of 2017.

Thank you for your participation.