

Connections Newsletter

Summer 2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT:

Ok. That is enough rain for now. Welcome summer!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Members Meeting on June 20th. We meet again on Saturday morning October the 19th. In the meantime – don't forget about the important Town Hall meeting that is scheduled for July 24th at 6:30PM at the Grace Lutheran Church as well as all the fun events we have going on this summer; Stampede Breakfast and Stampede Adult Social on Saturday July 13th and the Summer BBQ on Saturday August 24th.

The purpose of the Town Hall is to share information with the members about the building materials in our homes that have the potential to contain asbestos so that our members are informed about how to prevent it from becoming airborne. We will talk about important steps the members and the staff must make to confirm the presence or absence of asbestos before undertaking work in the units, including painting of the ceiling. We will talk about new training and procedures by Sarcee Meadows staff designed to ensure the safety of our residents and our workers with respect to asbestos.

A pre-occupation of the Board between now and October will be the budget. For those members who were not at the meeting, the membership reduced the proposed housing charge increase to \$23.50 and directed that all of it go towards the Replacement Reserve fund. This translates into a \$114,000 cut to expenses in the proposed operating budget.

It was encouraging to see that the membership recognizes the importance of building up the replacement reserve fund. We have a very serious problem with aging buildings and insufficient funds for the large-scale repair and replacement work that will be required, particularly to the roofs and building envelopes. However, one fact that the Board feels may not have been clear at the Members Meeting is that rising utility rates and taxes account for an increase of about \$20.00 per unit in the budget and that we have no choice but to pass that cost along to the members.

One additional thing that I personally thought warranted additional elaboration is the fact that the carbon charges are also built into the utility charges. Like other utility rate changes, the co-op has no choice but to pass along these to members. On January 1st, 2020 our natural gas provider will pass along the cost of the expected federal \$20/tonne carbon price. The co-op pays this on behalf of its members however 90% or more of the money collected is expected to be returned directly to tax-payers by the Canada Revenue Agency in the form of a rebate. That means that Sarcee Meadows needs to include the carbon charge in its budget and reflect it in housing charges but it also means that Sarcee Meadows members get the money back at tax time.

The carbon charge creates an incentive for the co-op to reduce natural gas consumption. If Sarcee Meadows were to implement energy efficiency measures and burned less natural gas we would pay a lower carbon charge (as well as save money on the natural gas itself) but this would not reduce the size of the rebates our members receive.

Hope you had a Happy Canada Day and a fantastic Stampede week.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Severson-Baker on behalf of the SMHC Board of Directors

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

(It's Miller Time!)

Roberta is away at this time but she wishes everyone a safe a happy summer!

Watch for an updated report from our General Manager when the next issue of Connections comes out again in the fall!

◆Committee Reports◆

EDUCATION & INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE:

Do You Know?

There are some really wonderful members here in Sarcee Meadows. It's a fact! People who do not hesitate to help a fellow member any way they can. Whatever needs doing, they do it!

Is there someone special that you would like to acknowledge? Well now you can, with a **Thank You Card** created by the Education and Involvement Committee.

Cards (with envelopes) are available free for the asking at the office in B50. Why not pick up one or two today?

People love to be appreciated. It inspires us to do more.

Rock Bankole and Cheryl Jerabet



ENTERTAINMENT & SOCIAL EVENTS:

And the fun has begun....

The annual yard sale was a great success and we would like to thank all members who participated.

We are excited to remind everyone about our Annual Stampede Breakfast Saturday, July 13th between 9 and 11 am beside B50. Hope to see everyone there.

Can't make breakfast or want to continue the fun? Come back the evening of July 13th between 7 and 11 pm for an Adult Only Social.

One more reminder - save the date for August 24th - the Big Summer BBQ is coming up! The committee is keeping busy planning a summer of fun for everyone so watch your mailboxes for further details.



The committee will also be sending out a brief survey to help us gather information about your volunteer experience within Sarcee Meadows. Please help us by completing the survey and returning it with your answers and feedback.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful summer with family and friends and hope to see you all out at these great events.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Member charges:

A reminder to the membership that when you receive an invoice and you want the payment to come out of the bank automatically you must call the office and let us know. We cannot just take money out of your bank without your permission.

Question from June 20th Members Meeting:

The \$18,500 is the anticipated interest for 2019-2020.

The \$56,027 is the audited amount for 2018-2019. This is the combined interest from the operating account and reserve account.



NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

The Newsletter Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for their continued support of the newsletter. Your support, whether entering contests, providing ideas for articles, or submitting letters to the editor are all integral parts of our success. Please keep up the good work!

This will be the last edition before we take a break for the summer but we are already thinking of great ideas to bring you in the fall.

Wishing everyone a safe, happy and fun summer with their friends and family.



◆Education◆

Compost Right, Recycle Right, and Reduce Waste:

We are still seeing a large number of items in the wrong bins whether it is food & yard waste, or cardboard, in the garbage bins or plastic bags in the compost bins. Please remember to follow these tips to help SMHC avoid any penalties or extra charges from Waste Management.

- Only **certified compostable bags** can go into the smaller compost bins. Do not use plastic or biodegradable bags.
- Pet waste, including kitty litter, **can** go into the smaller compost bins but it must either be loose or in a certified compostable bag.
- **Yard waste, including plant or hedge trimmings, need to go in the smaller compost bins, not the big garbage bins.** Paper yard waste bags can be purchased at several retailers, once full they can be left beside the compost bins and they will be picked up as well. Larger branches can be brought to the compost area behind B50 during business hours.
- **Cardboard boxes should never go into garbage bins!** Clean boxes need to go in your weekly recycling pick-up. Soiled boxes, such as greasy pizza boxes, can go in the smaller compost bins.
- All **food waste** needs to go into the **compost bins**, not the garbage bins! **Food containers** need to be cleaned out and put into your **recycling pick-up**.
- **Large garbage items such as furniture, closet doors, etc. cannot go into the parking lot garbage bins!** These items need to go into the “Big Bin” when it is here – usually in September, January, and May.

Check out the Eco Alley article below for more tips and helpful websites where you can find more info on compost and recycling.

ECO ALLEY – NEWS YOU CAN USE:

“A Little Bit of This and That”

Limiting the use of plastics including plastic bags has become a very news worthy item throughout the world these days. Grocery stores in many cities and towns throughout Canada and the world are now trying to do their part to eliminate and reduce the wide use of plastic bags and to encourage their patrons to rethink their dependence on plastic bags. This is why the Environment Committee placed their environmentally friendly prize packages at the June 2019 meeting, in a green **compostable bag** which we obtained from the **Calgary Co-op Grocery Store**. These bags can be purchased at Calgary Co-op for \$0.10 a bag when you purchase your groceries. They can be used for your composting or for whatever purpose you wish. The other grocery store that we know of who is environmentally friendly is **Costco**. This store now has **compostable bags** located in their Meat Department in which to place your fresh meat purchases. We encourage you to make use of these compostable bags provided for you at a minimal cost and to help **save** the environment. We also encourage you to use more recyclable cloth bags when you do your shopping.

We ask the members to be aware of any other stores that are supplying compostable bags for purchases to let the Environment Committee know so that the information can be passed to the other members.

As you enjoy the summer remember to always be **aware** of the environment and to reduce, recycle, reuse and repurpose as you have fun in the sun.

“WHEN IN DOUBT; CHECK IT OUT”

Just to be sure you are doing it right, check out the following sites:

- www.wmnorthwest.com (Waste Management) Click on “Our Planet” for lots of important information
- www.calgary.ca/compostright for information on composting in the City of Calgary
- www.calgary.ca/recycleright for information on recycling in the City of Calgary
- Search: What Goes Where at www.calgary.ca for an A-Z Listing – a residential recycling and disposal search tool.

HAPPY SUMMER EVERYONE

CHF AGM 2019 – London, ON

Report to SMHC Membership

The annual CHF AGM for 2019 was held in London Ontario from June 5th – 9th and I was most grateful to be selected as one of two members from SMHC to go to this important national conference. Sarcee Meadows has long been a member of the national organization and as such reaps benefits which are not always immediately apparent in our day-to-day co-operative lives. Part of my obligation to SMHC for being granted the privilege of attending is to report to the Board of Directors on my experiences at the conference and to that end I did send the Board a five page report that included 7 attached documents of information that I learned that will be of benefit to Sarcee Meadows. Beyond the report to the Board, here is my report to all my fellow members.

The conference itself is not, as has been implied occasionally, just a party; though there are some social aspects to the four day conference. It has been my experience that the conversation within those social occasions revolves primarily around co-operative living and our common challenges. I have had in-depth conversations with members from co-ops from across the country about how they may be dealing with the challenges of aging buildings, of obtaining funding and sometimes even how to engage and involve more of the general membership in the co-op. This kind of networking alone has led to some valuable insights and even contacts for our co-op.

This year I attended 4 workshops as part of the Member Education Forum. These workshops can be goldmines of information and the course I chose were as follows:

1. Navigating New Programs: Seed Fund & Co-Investment Fund – as the name suggests this session included a great deal of information regarding government driven grant & low-interest rate programs for affordable housing which are administered by CMHC. These funds are some of the avenues we are pursuing actively on the co-ops behalf to assist us in the necessary preservation of our aging buildings.
2. Saving Energy & Getting Paid for It – this workshop was designed to give some great leads on various programs, both government and private industry funded that will assist in various ways, small and large, with co-ops wanting to upgrade to more energy efficient systems and products. Topics discussed here were as small as low energy light bulbs and as large scale as Building Envelope Studies. A great deal of valid information again for SMHC.
3. Your Co-op Online – This was a great session about the do’s & don’t of a healthy and positive presence online for a co-op. As so much of our lives are now driven by the online world it is important to keep abreast of this aspect of communication.

4. Building a Culture of Accountability at Co-ops - This title sounds a little ominous but truly isn't. We all live in SMHC and enjoy the benefits of affordable homes in a cooperative community and the flip side of that involves participation. As co-op members we all have a voice and we all have something to contribute to the well-being of our cooperative community. This program was designed to encourage community through positive engagement and involvement.

One day of the conference is dedicated to CHF's National Business Meeting, which is similar to our own Members' Meeting in that it is a Meeting of the Members of CHF to conduct the year's business. For example: election of directors, approval of budget and other recommendations that come before the countrywide membership. We as a co-operative and a member of CHF have a voice at the national level, just like each of you as SMHC members have a voice at our annual meetings.

In conclusion, the value we can bring home to SMHC from this National Conference should not be discounted. I know from experience that attendance at these meetings is of value to us all.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Jenkinson

◆Community News◆

**Good Companions &
Calgary Catholic Immigration Society are
proud to present....**

**THE 10th ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL SOCIAL
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 14TH
11:00AM – 2:00PM**



11:00 am Greetings and Introductions
11:30 am Music by Timeless Jazz Band
12:30 pm Lunch, Cake, Ice Cream & Door Prizes
1:15-2:00 pm Garden Tour & Games

Tickets are \$5.00/person
Tickets available until Friday August 9th

Proudly Sponsored by



◆ Human Interest ◆

This section is a great place for you to share with your neighbours and your community. We welcome any submissions that may celebrate Personal Accomplishments and/or Personal Milestones such as Births, Birthdays, Weddings, and Anniversaries. 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 or dropped off at the office to the attention of the Newsletter Committee.

Submissions to this section are the opinion of the author[s] and do not reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors or the members of Sarcee Meadows Housing Co-operative Ltd.

From Catherine Phipson – H505 – 403-249-5640

As I sat in the lobby at Rutland Park crocheting a baby blanket on Election Day, I met folks I hadn't seen for a long time and many new faces, as folks stopped to chat.

Once again the ladies at the Salvation Army Glenmore Temple are hard at work making mittens for children whose families are registered at our church to receive a toy hamper at Christmas – we made over 1,000 pairs of mittens last year (babies to young adult) - this was so successful, that we are hoping to beat that count this year. The little faces tell the story so well

In December 2018, we started making scarves for the homeless and on Valentine's Day 2019, a group took them to various spots downtown – this experience too, was a great success, and we are once again making scarves for distribution as winter makes itself felt this year.

If folks in Sarcee Meadows would like to help us with these two worthy projects, I would be glad to take the items to the church when available, or in time for distribution early in December, they can also be dropped off at 921-68 Ave. SW, Calgary AB.

~~THANK YOU~~



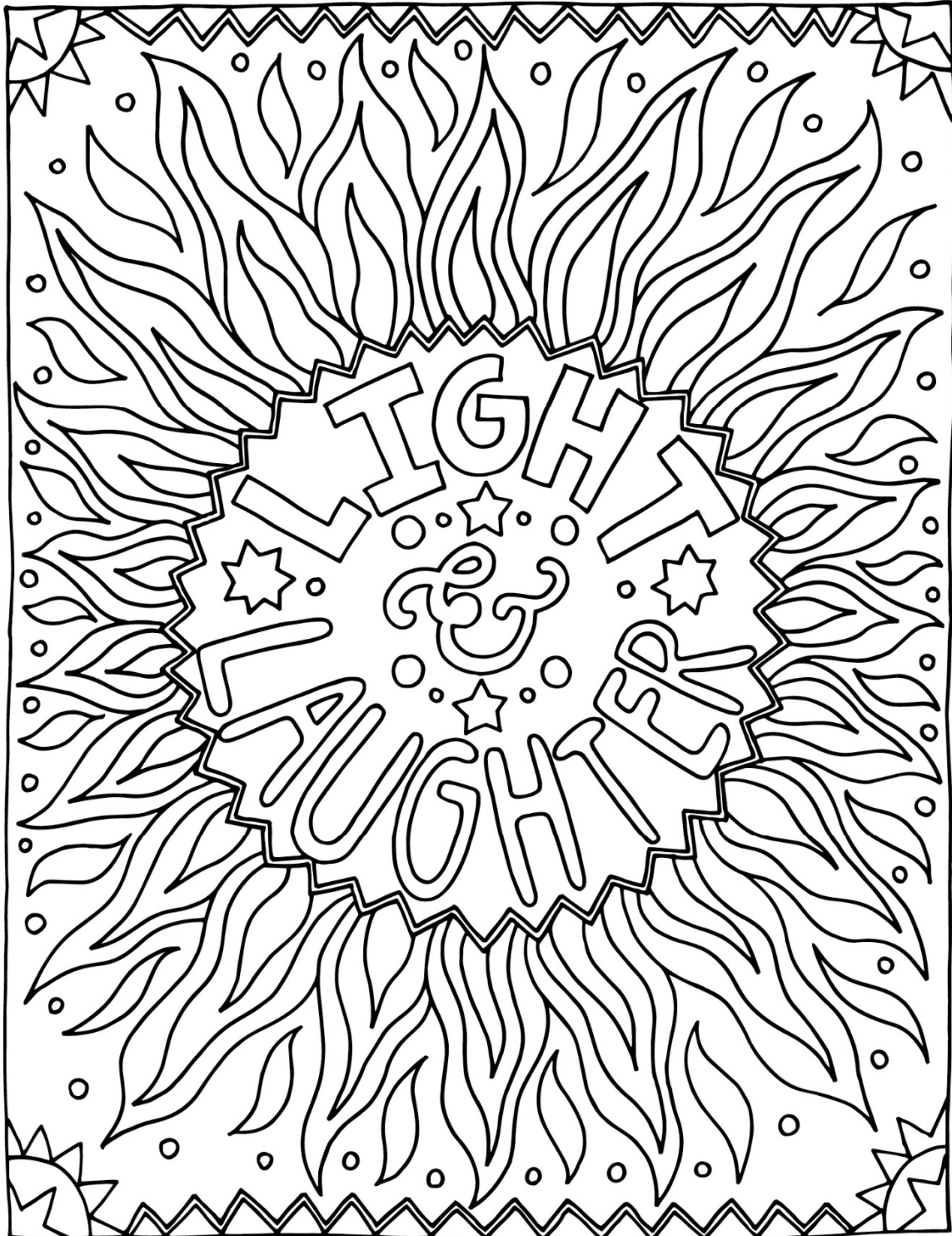
For more information please visit commuknitycares.com to see the love that was shared this past Christmas.



If you would like to learn more, please visit commuknitycares.com for an update on our scarf ministry.

“Summer, after all, is a time when wonderful things can happen to quiet people. For those few months, you’re not required to be who everyone thinks you are, and that cut-grass smell in the air and the chance to dive into the deep end of a pool give you a courage you don’t have the rest of the year. You can be grateful and easy, with no eyes on you, and no past. Summer just opens the door and lets you out.”

– Deb Caletti



(CC) BY-NC-SA

LEIAHMJANSEN.COM

◆Classifieds◆

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.

For Sale:

- Patio Umbrella, Navy Blue – just bought last year. \$ 10.00. Note: You will need a base for this.
- Metal Bed Frame on casters – adjusts to fit a twin or full size mattress. \$ 20.00

Call Judy at (403) 686-0544

Babysitting:

Looking for a babysitter? Look no further! Experienced, responsible, 14 year old girl for hire!

\$10/hour

Babysitter course completed & references available upon request.

Contact Makena: 403-401-0837



Custom Hand-crafted Leather Goods:

Including but not limited to: purses, wallets, belts, knife sheaths, guitar straps, etc.

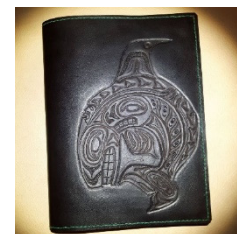
Leather refurbishing and repairs as well. Some inventory on hand.

For viewing please:

Contact: Rod – 403-465-3347

Visit Facebook: @calgaryleather

Website: www.calgaryleather.com



Healing Intentions:

Psychic/Medium

Card Readings

Book a party

Call Shelly: 403-660-2045

Energy/Crystal healings

Other Services available



Knitted Dish Cloths For Sale:

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

Call Tricia: 403-242-0048





House Cleaning:

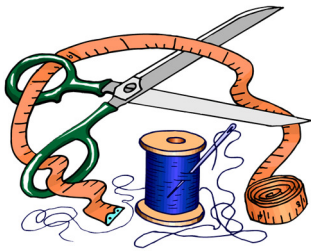
I have over 15 years' experience and I'm available for all your cleaning needs; organizing your home or helping with small tasks on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis. \$25.00 per hour includes all products needed for cleaning.

Contact: Monika 403-920-0920 or email: cleanandshine28@gmail.com

Straightline Painting:

Residential painter, competitive prices, 30 years' experience.

Call Peter: 403-998-5179



Moments Fashion Solutions

- Need Alterations?
- Italian Leather Products
- Baby Boots

Contact Marzena - 403-397-3779

www.momentsfashion.com

Knife Sharpening

\$5.00 per knife

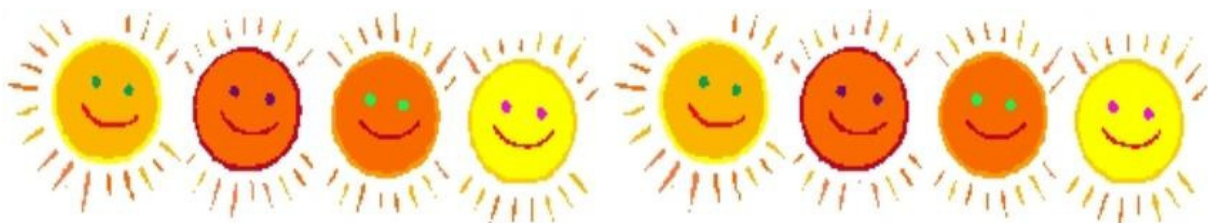
Bill (D251) 403-875-4096

Make sure that your knives are up to the task.



CALENDAR:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Town Hall Meeting @ 6:30 @ Grace Lutheran	25	26	27
28	29	30	21	August 1	2	3
4	5 Shop and Office closed for Heritage Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Seniors Summer Social 2:00-4:00	19	20	21	22	23	24 Summer BBQ 12:00-4:00
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sept. 1	2 Shop and Office closed for Heritage Day	3	4 Property Maintenance @ 7:00	5 Entertainment @ 7:00	6	7
8	9 Newsletter @ 7:00	10 Environment @ 7:00	11 Property Enhancement @ 7:00	12 Education & Involvement @ 6:30 Membership @ 7:00	13	14



COMMITTEE CONTACTS: 2019 – 2020:

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

Chair: Lucille Ranchuk

Board Liaison: Jeremy Hart

Education and Involvement

Chair: Musu Dadi

Board Liaison: Helen Serrurier

Elections

Chair: Marie Forester

Entertainment and Social Events

Chair: Sandy Christensen

Board Liaison: Megan Justason

Environment

Chair: Russ Chandler

Board Liaison: Chris Severson-Baker

Finance

Chair: Maria Brogowski

Board Liaison: John Preston (Treasurer)

Grievance & Resolution

Chair: Chris Milaney

Temporary Committees & Task Forces

Bylaw Review Task Force

Board Liaison: Joanne Mick

Funding Research Task Force

Board Liaison: Helen Serrurier

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

Honours and Awards

Chair: Betty Jean Coates & Laurie Altilio

Board Liaison: Joanne Mick

Membership

Chair: Sandy Christensen

Board Liaison: Isabel Ciok

Newsletter

Chair: Wendy Thomson

Board Liaison: Sonya Nadon

Personnel

Chair: Mary Emro

Board Liaison: Helen Serrurier

Property Maintenance

Chair: VACANT

Board Liaison: Mike Cooper

Property Enhancement (includes Parking and Security)

Chair: Wayne McAdam

Board Liaison: Justin Nagel

Lobbying Committee

Chair: Slawa Gruszczynska

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

