

FEBRUARY 2017

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THE OFFICIAL HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS-BRIAR HILL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER | [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca)

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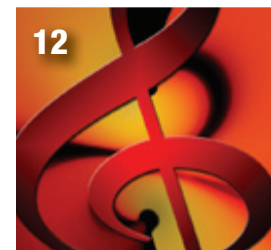
Calgary's city employees

Making your city work for you

\* According to the 2016 RBC Canadian Water Attitudes Survey

# CONTENTS

- 5 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- 7 COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
- 8 HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS - BRIAR HILL BYLAW REVISION SPECIAL MEETING
- 9 OUTDOOR SOCCER
- 11 SEARS PLUME REPORT
- 12 CASTING CALL FOR HH-BH
- 14 REAL ESTATE UPDATE
- 16 MP LEN WEBBER'S REPORT
- 17 COUNCILLOR DRUH FARRELL'S REPORT







## HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS/BRIAR HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Box 65086, RPO North Hill Calgary, AB T2N 4T6  
 Phone: 282-6634 (voice mail) (checked 1 - 2 times per week)  
 Email: admin@hh-bh.ca

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### Editorial Submissions

beacon@hh-bh.ca  
 All editorial content must be submitted by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month for the following month's publication.

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Check out our website:  
[www.great-news.ca](http://www.great-news.ca)



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*The information contained in this newsletter is believed to be accurate, but is not warranted to be so.*

*Great News Publishing and Hounsfield/Briar Hill Community Association do not endorse any person or persons advertising in this newsletter. Publication of any advertisements should not be considered an endorsement of any goods or services.*

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS	911
Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre	403-253-5250
Alberta Health Care	403-310-0000
AHS Addictions Hotline	1-866-332-2322
ATCO Gas – 24 Hour Emergency	403-245-7222
Calgary HEALTH LINK 24/7	811
Calgary Police – Non Emergency	403-266-1234
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter	403-234-7233
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-387-5437
Kids Help Line	1-800-668-6868
Child Safe Canada	403-202-5900
Distress/Crisis Line	403-266-4357
ENMAX – Power Trouble	403-514-6100
Poison Centre - Alberta	1-800-332-1414
HOSPITALS / URGENT CARE	
Alberta Children's Hospital	403-955-7211
Foothills Hospital	403-944-1110
Peter Lougheed Centre	403-943-4555
Rockyview General Hospital	403-943-3000
Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre	403-955-6200
South Calgary Urgent Care Health Centre	403-943-9300
South Health Campus	403-956-1111
OTHER	
Calgary Humane Society	403-205-4455
Calgary Parking Authority	403-537-7000
SeniorConnect	403-266-6200
Calgary Kerby Elder Abuse Line	403-705-3250
Alberta One-Call Corporation	1-800-242-3447
City of Calgary	311
Social Service Info & Referral	211
Community Mediation Calgary Society	403-269-2707
RNR Lockworks Ltd.	403-479-6161
Road Conditions – Calgary	511
Weather Information	
Gamblers Anonymous	403-237-0654

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February can be a challenging month. Winter fatigue sets in, the days are still short, and the excitement of the holidays has worn off (except maybe for lingering bills). The upside is that February only has 28 days and luckily, there is no shortage of things to do in our community. Below are just a few:

- Go skating in Green Park. Many dedicated volunteers are involved with maintaining the ice rinks, regardless of weather, and they do an excellent job! I hope you will take advantage of their hard work and make the most of our Calgary winter as you enjoy the outdoors with neighbours, friends and family.
- Register your children in our community outdoor soccer program. Registration started February 1st and we hope to have teams for ages ranging from 4 to 18. This is another volunteer-run program so get involved and help out. It's a great way for both you and your children to connect with neighbours. Information is available on our website: hh-bh.ca.
- Help us prepare to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday. Our events director, Patricia, is planning a community party on August 19 and wants you to be part of it! Come out to the workshops scheduled 2:00 - 4:00 every Sunday in our community boardroom and bring your entertainment talents. This is the perfect antidote for chilly February Sundays. Again - check our website for more details.
- Plan to come to a community Special General Meeting on Saturday, March 18 (exact time to be determined) to help us update our association's bylaws. Admittedly, this is a pretty dry topic, but to make up for it we are planning a party immediately afterwards. More details are available on our website.
- Volunteer on our community association's board. Unfilled positions include Sears Plume Director and Co-Director for running and maintaining our facility.
- Check out our community website regularly so you're in the loop on what's going on. As well, find us on Facebook and Twitter and become part of our conversations, with topics ranging from lost pets, found items, safety and security updates, and sometimes, just beautiful stories or photos.
- Come and enjoy our drop-in gym programs. These include badminton Tuesday - Friday mornings, pickle ball Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and free family gym nights on Fridays.

I wish you all a happy February that includes lots of fun activities and very little shovelling.

Laura



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Community Board Meetings Second Thursday of the month at 7 pm in the Community Boardroom. **All are invited!** To be on the agenda, please contact admin@hh-bh.ca, at least 2 weeks in advance. Please note there are no Board Meetings in July or August. **Next Meeting: February 9, 2017**

### Career Conversations: Strategies for Parents

February 23, 7:00 pm  
 Registration: admin@hh-bh.ca see ad in this issue for details

### Special Meeting of HH-BH Community Membership

to revise and update our Association's bylaws. Saturday, March 18, 4:00 pm, Community Boardroom Party to follow!

### BHES - Recycle a Friend Book Sale - Briar Hill School

Tuesday March 21, 2017  
 9:00 am to 6:00 pm and Wednesday March 22, 2017  
 9:00 am to 8:00 pm see ad in this issue for details

### HH-BH Playschool Open House - see ad in this issue for details

### Canada 150 Celebration Workshops

Meet every Sunday 2 to 4 pm, HHBH Community Boardroom - see page see ad in this issue for details

### Networking Evenings

Tuesdays 7 to 8:30 pm, Community Boardroom  
 Visit [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca) for more information

### Memberships: A reminder that memberships expire July 31!

\$20 / year per family household. \$10/Seniors. Renew online at [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca), by mail or in person at our next Community Event! Thanks!





# Hounsfield Heights – Briar Hill Community Association BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COMMITTEE POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
President	Laura Hunt	president@hh-bh.ca
1st Vice President and Programs	Carol Sandahl	vp@hh-bh.ca
2nd Vice President and Facilities	Gunter Sammet	2nd.vp@hh-bh.ca
Treasurer	Sarah Zhu	treasurer@hh-bh.ca
Secretary	Joanna Greco	secretary@hh-bh.ca
Director - Strategic Planning and IT	Jeff Marsh	it@hh-bh.ca
Director - Sears Plume	Vacant	Sears.plume@hh-bh.ca
Director - Land Use	Terry Woods	land.use@hh-bh.ca
Director - Event Planning	Patricia Leahy	events@hh-bh.ca
Director - Communications	Sandra Falconi	Communications@hh-bh.ca
Director - Education	Lyndsey Bristow	education@hh-bh.ca
Director - at - Large	Kathleen Staniland	director.at.large@hh-bh.ca

STAFF			
Administrative Assistant	Darcie Young	587-716-5333	admin@hh-bh.ca
Facility Manager	Chris Lee	587-717-2665	bookings@hh-bh.ca

PROGRAM COORDINATORS		
Indoor Soccer	Eve Miller	indoor.soccer@hh-bh.ca
Outdoor Soccer	Judy Aldous	outdoor.soccer@hh-bh.ca
Youth Badminton	Theresa Cowan	badminton@hh-bh.ca

COMMUNITY RESOURCES			
Louise Riley Library	Allison Thomson	403-221-2047	allison.thomson@calgarypubliclibrary.com
Community Police Liaison	VACANT		

## CONTACT

**Mailing Address:** Box 65086, RPO North Hill Calgary, AB T2N 4T6

Board Room / Gym - 1922 – 14 Avenue N.W.

**Parking:** west of the Louise Riley Library, accessed via the library drive-way. Hall/Gym is located NE of our parking lot, just across the soccer field.

**Phone:** 282-6634 (voice mail) (checked 1 - 2 times per week)

**Email:** admin@hh-bh.ca

**Beacon Submissions:** beacon@hh-bh.ca

**Boardroom/Gym Bookings:** bookings@hh-bh.ca

The HH-BH Gym and Boardroom schedule can be viewed at [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca).

For the latest news, programs and events, please visit our Official HH-BH Community Association website at [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca).



Like our Facebook Page - [www.facebook.com/hhbhca](http://www.facebook.com/hhbhca)



Follow us on Twitter @hhbhca

Have an idea for a great community program or event? Send your ideas to [vp@hh-bh.ca](mailto:vp@hh-bh.ca).

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



### Youth Badminton

Youth Badminton -Ages 12 – 17  
Information at [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca)  
Badminton@hh-bh.ca

### HHBH Gym Drop-in Programs

Badminton: Tues – Fri - 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Pickleball: Tues – Wed - 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
Rates: \$4 per person, \$3 for seniors (55+)

### Family Open Gym Night

FREE -Fridays 6:30 – 8 pm Community Gym

### Outdoor Soccer U4 to U18

Registration Online February 1, 2017

**HHBH PLAYSCHOOL**  
2016-2017  
\* ONLINE \*  
**REGISTRATION**  
**NOW OPEN!**  
[www.hhbhplayschool.com](http://www.hhbhplayschool.com)

Registration for 2017/2018 will begin February 22, 2017

## Briar Hill School

### 22nd Annual "Recycle a Friend"

#### Community Book Sale

**Tuesday March 21, 2017**  
9:00 am to 6:00 pm

**Wednesday March 22, 2017**  
9:00 am to 8:00 pm

**6:00pm – 8:00 pm**  
**2 for 1 Madness!!!**

Donations of books  
accepted at the school  
March 6 - March 16, 2017



**WEEKLY EVENTS**

★ **MONDAY** ★  
35¢ Wings  
Late Night Movies

★ **TUESDAY** ★  
\$1 Oysters – \$5 Pints

★ **WEDNESDAY** ★  
50% Off Wine Bottles

★ **THURSDAY** ★  
\$2.50 Tacos – \$7 Beer Flights

★ **SUNDAY FUNDAY** ★  
Draft Pints \$5 – Jack Daniels \$3

**SOCIAL HOUR 3-6pm DAILY**  
**Friday to Saturday 10pm-12am**





# Community Clean-up Leader

Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill is looking for people to lead our annual community clean up event. This annual event brings people from the community together, provides friends and families an opportunity to work together for a good cause, and helps to keep our neighbourhood clean and safe. If you are interested, or have any questions, please contact Patricia at 587-703-9739 or email [events@hh-bh.ca](mailto:events@hh-bh.ca)



## Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill Bylaw Revision Special Meeting

A special meeting of Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill community membership to revise and update our association's bylaws is being held Saturday, March 18, 4:00 pm, Community Boardroom. All HH-HB members welcome – party to follow!

### Career Conversations: Strategies for Parents

**When:** Thursday Feb 23, 2017 @ 7:00 pm  
**Where:** Hounsfield Heights Briar Hill Community Association, 1922 14 Ave NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1M5



Join us for an evening of tips and strategies for approaching this important topic with your teenager. Calgary Career Counselling's Bryanne Manveiler, R.Psych (p.) will share the keys to successfully navigating career conversations and making informed career and post secondary choices.

**You Will Learn:**

- The importance of discussing career planning and educational options with your teen or young adult
- Myths and truths about career planning
- The "Do's" and "Don'ts" of having career conversations
- The five pieces of the career planning puzzle

**Presentation Format:**

45-minute presentation followed by 15 minutes of Q and A

Space is limited so please reserve your spot by emailing [admin@hh-bh.ca](mailto:admin@hh-bh.ca)

# 2017 HH-BH Outdoor Soccer U4-U18



Register February 1 to March 15 online at [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca)

Season runs late April to late June, details on our website

We will need lots of volunteers to make this program happen! Contact [judyaldous@yahoo.ca](mailto:judyaldous@yahoo.ca) to volunteer

# Tree Planting

## ReTree YYC -Free Education Programs in Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill

Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill has been chosen as a ReTree Community in 2017! As part of the program, the City of Calgary will be planting new City trees in our community and educating community members about the proper planting and maintenance of our urban forest. Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill will receive free tree care education programs in spring 2017. More information will be posted on our website in the early spring.

**Background on ReTree YYC:** ReTree YYC is a program created in response to the September 2014 late-summer snow storm causing extensive and severe damage to over 1 million trees. ReTree communities are chosen based on many factors, including the extent of the storm damage, open canopy space and community interest. By helping Calgaryans plant and maintain trees on both public and private property, we hope to make the city landscape better for generations to come. You can learn more about the program at [Calgary.ca/trees](http://Calgary.ca/trees).



Dr. Christine Lilge Dr. Lauren Vredenburg Dr. Jennifer Maguire

QUALITY WORK IN A FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

COME CHECK US OUT!

[CALGARYFINEDENTISTRY.COM](http://CALGARYFINEDENTISTRY.COM)

1910-20<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, Suite 206  
(one traffic light north of 16<sup>th</sup> Ave Home Depot)  
403-284-3061

# Membership has its Privileges

It's time to renew your HH-BH community association membership (valid August 1 – July 31 each year), and it's gotten easier: renew online by visiting our website: [www.hh-bh.ca](http://www.hh-bh.ca).

## A family membership is only \$20/year, and entitles you to

- register children in the HH-BH Community Playschool
- register children in indoor and outdoor youth soccer, badminton and other sports programs
- take part in adult badminton, pickleball and other recreation programs
- bring the whole family to the community hall for free Family Gym Nights on Fridays year-round
- vote at HH-BH Community Association Annual General Meetings (ours is coming up in November, by the way – we'd love to see you there!)

## In addition, your membership helps support the wide range of activities organized or supported by the community association, including:

- annual Stampede Breakfast
- Summer Solstice Block Party
- annual Community Clean-Up
- family-friendly community events in the Fall, Winter and Spring, with entertainment such as the bouncy house, face painting, dunk tank, live music, dancing and FREE food and beverages
- up-to-date news and event listings on our HH-BH website, Facebook and Twitter. Check it out at [hh-bh.ca](http://hh-bh.ca)!
- the Beacon delivered to your door Monthly
- ice maintenance, equipment and supplies for the outdoor rink at Green Park
- a clean, well-kept and efficient community gym and meeting facility with friendly and helpful staff, employing youth from our community
- organizing casino fundraisers to keep all this going
- strategic, business and land-use planning for our community and liaising with the City of Calgary



# Sears Plume Report

Greetings,

Sears Canada Inc. and Clifton Associates Ltd. are pleased to provide this quarterly update on the environmental assessment and remediation activities that are ongoing in the community of Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill (HH-BH). Since the previous Beacon posting in September 2016, Sears and Clifton have now completed the following:

- Development of the second soil vapour monitoring sampling event,
- Completion of the fourth quarter groundwater monitoring and sampling event, and,
- Continuation of the PlumeStop remedial pilot scale study.

The Soil Vapour Monitoring Program which has been implemented as an additional method of assessing risk to human health is underway. Currently, one round of soil vapour monitoring sampling has been completed and we are scheduled to complete a second round of sampling in the month of January 2017. The report documenting the results of the first event will be made available early in 2017. We would like to remind everyone that the results from the first event indicated that there were no risks to human health from the soil vapour. The intent of the January event is to obtain results indicative of cold weather conditions, where the effects of the indoor-outdoor air exchange (windows closed vs. windows opened) would be minimized. Finally, as mentioned in the previous post, Alberta Environment and Parks is still reviewing the Human Health

Risk Assessment and all of the site-specific guidelines developed.

The four quarter groundwater monitoring and sampling event was completed during the month of November. We expect to make available the details of the third and fourth quarter groundwater events in January 2017.

Clifton is continuing to monitor the progress of the PlumeStop pilot study to assess the effectiveness of the remedial injection. Currently, 16 weeks of data has

been collected and preliminary results are encouraging, showing a statistical reduction in PHC concentrations. Due to the distance of the monitor wells from the location of where the injections occurred we have likely not seen the full effect of the PlumeStop remediation at this time. We are currently completing hydraulic conductivity testing at the Site to help us determine the rate of contaminant migration within the area of where the PlumeStop was injected. This will allow us to estimate when we can expect to see the full effects of the PlumeStop remediation. We would also like to note that the Dual Phase Vapour Extractor will continue to operate for the foreseeable future; extracting PHC contaminated groundwater from the subsurface, treating it prior to it being discharged into the City of Calgary sanitary storm system.

Moving into 2017, along with the regularly scheduled groundwater monitoring and sampling, soil vapour sampling and continuation of the remediation of the Site, additional delineation in the southern portion of the Site will be completed.

Sears and Clifton appreciate the opportunity to provide this information to the residents of the HH-BH Community. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact one of the Sears or Clifton representatives listed below.

Yours sincerely,

*Greg Paliouras, Divisional Vice-President,  
Construction, Energy and Maintenance Sears Canada Inc.  
700 - 290 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario. M5B 2C3 T  
(416) 941 4037  
[Greg.Paliouras@Sears.ca](mailto:Greg.Paliouras@Sears.ca)*

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## Casting Call for HH-BH

### 150 Celebration Casting Call for friends and neighbours of Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill

We are having a community celebration August 19, 2017, celebrating 150 years of Canadian Confederation. We need actors, musicians, dancers, characters, comedians, poets and storytellers, neighbours and friends.

All are welcome to participate in the planning, production and rehearsals starting December 18 at 2:00 pm and running each Sunday between 2:00pm and 4:00pm in the Hounsfield Heights- Briar-Hill Community Hall Boardroom. If you have something to contribute or if you would like to participate,

we would love to meet you. Hope to see you there!

**For more information, please call Patricia (587)703-9739**

## Traffic Concerns

Do you have a concern about traffic in our community? Your community association can assist you in an application for a community traffic study as outlined in Section 3.1.1 of The City of Calgary's Traffic Calming Policy. If you are submitting an application and need community association support please email [communications@hh-bh.ca](mailto:communications@hh-bh.ca).

### Community traffic study application process

After reviewing the information online in the Traffic Calming Policy, if you would like to apply for a community traffic study, you must complete the Traffic Issue Reporting Form, found in the appendix of the document, and submit it to Transportation Planning.

Please note that in order for the form submission to be considered complete, you will need to collect signatures from your community association, Councillor, police, and from members of your community, as a minimum level of support from the community needs to be demonstrated as outlined in Section 3.1.1 of the policy.

All information, forms and applications are online at the City of Calgary website or call 311.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Deadline – 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for the next month's publication**  
**Contact [news@great-news.ca](mailto:news@great-news.ca)**

- ◆ Free announcements: lost/found, household items for sale, wanted, garage sale, student/senior services, etc.
- ◆ Forty word limit

**LOVE TO SING:** Want to experience the benefits of singing in a welcoming vocal community? Vocal Latitudes may be the choir for you. A non-audition World Music community choir, Vocal Latitudes meets Tuesday evenings from September to May in a convenient central location. For more information, see [www.vocalatitudes.org](http://www.vocalatitudes.org).

## BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

For business classified ad rates call Great News Publishing at 403-263-3044 or [sales@great-news.ca](mailto:sales@great-news.ca)

**HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY:** Clinicair is the leading provider of Indoor Air Quality and Medical Grade Duct Cleaning services in Canada. We are looking for a dealer in Calgary to represent our growing company. We offer a royalty free business. Clinicair supplies you with the latest technology, and training. Call Craig: 1-416-277-6067.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT?** Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! [www.communitymediation.ca](http://www.communitymediation.ca), 403-269-2707.

At the end of the Beatles' song "A Day in the Life", an ultrasonic whistle, audible only to dogs, was recorded by Paul McCartney for his Shetland sheepdog.



## Trivia



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### Hounsfeld Heights/Briar Hill Real Estate Update

### Last 12 Months Hounsfeld Heights/Briar Hill MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
December 2016	\$907,450	\$851,250
November 2016	\$599,500	\$577,500
October 2016	\$0	\$0
September 2016	\$1,774,950	\$1,845,000
August 2016	\$1,597,450	\$1,575,000
July 2016	\$1,049,900	\$1,040,000
June 2016	\$594,900	\$578,750
May 2016	\$1,224,950	\$1,201,000
April 2016	\$619,900	\$590,000
March 2016	\$0	\$0
February 2016	\$2,199,000	\$2,100,000
January 2016	\$0	\$0

### Last 12 Months Hounsfeld Heights/Briar Hill MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
December 2016	0	4
November 2016	2	2
October 2016	3	0
September 2016	7	2
August 2016	2	4
July 2016	5	3
June 2016	2	2
May 2016	8	4
April 2016	4	3
March 2016	2	0
February 2016	0	1
January 2016	5	0

To view more detailed information that comprise the above MLS averages please visit [hounsfeld\\_heights\\_briar\\_hill.great-news.ca](http://hounsfeld_heights_briar_hill.great-news.ca)



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Contact in confidence (fees paid by client)  
info@divinematchmaking.com  
divinematchmaking.com | 403-456-4870

# MEMBERSHIPS

Your annual membership is good through July 31, 2017 and entitles you and your family to participate in a variety of different community programs and activities. The cost is only \$20 annually per family/household or \$10 for seniors, including GST.

### HOUNSFELD HEIGHTS – BRIAR HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2016-17

**Family Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**First Name - Adults:** 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**First Name - Children:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive the newsletter and other announcements by email?      yes  no

**I would be interested in volunteering for:**

Land Use                                       Membership Drive

Green Space/Reforestation               Children's Programs

Fundraising                                       Seniors' Programs

Facilities/Ice Rink                               Sports Programs

Communications/Newsletter               Social Activities

Other

**Membership #** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Valid through July 31, 2017*

Annual membership (including GST) is :

\$20 per household

\$10 for seniors

Paid by: cash  cheque

**Send cheques payable to Hounsfeld Heights-Briar Hill Community Association  
Box 65086 RPO North Hill, Calgary AB T2N 4T6**

Privacy Consent: By providing the personal information on this form you are consenting to HH-BH Community Association's collection and use of that information for the purposes of providing you a membership in the community association. This information will be stored in a database of community members for the sole use of the Association. The Association will not sell, barter or lease membership lists or information. We may retain this information until nine months after expiry date of the membership.





**Calgary Confederation  
Len Webber, MP**  
2020 10 St NW, T2M3M2  
403-220-0888  
len.webber@parl.gc.ca

### It's tax time!

It is tax time and you may require assistance when filing your taxes and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) can help. They offer service in both official languages as well as via TTY service. Their website at [www.cra.gc.ca](http://www.cra.gc.ca) is an invaluable source of information for the 26 million tax filers in Canada.

Most Canadians get a tax refund and so it pays to file your taxes. Low-income Canadians must file a tax return to access certain income support programs. Free tax preparation software is available at [www.cra.gc.ca/netfile](http://www.cra.gc.ca/netfile).

It is important to avoid tax scams! The CRA will NEVER communicate with you via email. If you get emails regarding your taxes, they are not legitimate and should be deleted immediately without opening the attachments. If you receive a phone call from someone saying they are from the CRA and you are unsure if it is legitimate, hang-up and call the CRA directly and they will be able to call up your file and address any issues. Never give personal information to a stranger.

Through the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP), community organizations host free tax preparation clinics and arrange for qualified and security-cleared volunteers to prepare income tax and benefit returns for eligible individuals who have a modest income and a simple tax situation. To see the clinics in Calgary, please visit [www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/vlntr/clncs/calgary-ab-eng.html](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/vlntr/clncs/calgary-ab-eng.html) or call 1-800-267-6999.

If your enquiry requires CRA to access your account and release or update personal information, they will ask you to identify yourself. Please be prepared to provide the following:

- your social insurance number or business number;
- your name or business name;
- your complete address or complete business address;

- your date of birth (individual accounts only);
- for individual and trust accounts, details from your account or your most recently assessed return, notice of assessment, reassessment, or other tax document; and
- for business accounts, details from your business account or your most recently assessed business-related tax information return.

If you wish to deal with the CRA on someone else's behalf, you must be an authorized representative.

For a full list of contact numbers for the various departments at CRA, please visit [www.lenwebber.ca/need-help-with-your-taxes/](http://www.lenwebber.ca/need-help-with-your-taxes/).

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### Canadian Cool

Even with Calgary's fairly mild winters, many dread the snow and the cold, choosing to squirrel away indoors. But what if we did not shy away from winter? What if we celebrated the season and embraced our cold climate?

There are many ways to live healthy, active, and social lives in winter that do not require leaving the city for the mountains or hitting the indoor gym. Here are a few ideas that Calgary and other winter cities are exploring:

- Build warming huts along our pathway network. These tiny pop-up pavilions encourage pathway use in the winter by providing a space to mingle with fellow Calgarians and get toasty. In Winnipeg, huts are also fanciful art installations created through an annual design competition.
- Promote ice skating across the city. The City of Calgary operates large outdoor rinks at Olympic Plaza and Prince's Island, with several community associations maintaining smaller local rinks. Talk with your community association about building one. In Edmonton, the Freeze Way is a pathway-like skating route that encourages people of all ages to strap on their skates for a lantern lit skate through City parks.
- Encourage skiing in the city. In Edmonton, transit users are encouraged to "ski to LRT" with free secure cross country ski storage at LRT stations. In Calgary, the Foothills Nordic ski club is piloting improved cross-country skiing trails at the Confederation Park Golf Course.
- Develop a four-season patio culture. Many cities have busy patios well below freezing through the use of heaters, blankets, and protective awnings. This sparks social interactions and boosts the local restaurant scene. In our city, hardy Calgarians line up down the street to get into the Container Bar patio on Kensington Road, even in the dead of winter.
- Shop local! Montreal sets up colourful Adirondack chairs around communal fire pits along their retail streets to foster casual conversations and encourage shopping at local businesses. The Mount Pleasant

- Community used to run a weekly get together and story-telling around a fire pit – the cut off was minus 15.
- Organize local walks, events, and festivals throughout all four seasons, not just the summer.
  - Make transit work in all seasons by providing heated bus shelters at key locations, with priority snow clearing on connecting sidewalks.
  - Plan for a winter climate. Edmonton's new Winter City Strategy encourages the design of buildings and public spaces to include shelter from the elements and allow for more sunlight to shine on sidewalks.

Some of these ideas require effort from the City, but others can be pioneered by Calgarians. Together, we can build a city that is vibrant and active throughout the year. Bundle up, get outside, and embrace winter!



### Valentine's Trivia

*Based on retail statistics, about 3 per cent of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets.*



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