The Whitmore Whistler

What Makes a Great Neighbourhood?

By: Paula Doke

Hello neighbours of Whitmore Park. My name is Paula Doke. I am a fellow resident, who, along with my husband Ralph, has lived in the Whitmore Park neighbourhood for just over 22 years. I have a passion for the Whitmore Park Community as well as some concerns which I would like to share with you. But first; a bit of background information related to how my passion and dedication to this neighbourhood came about.

Our family moved here in 1992 from the Varsity Park area in southeast Regina. We moved to Whitmore Park because we wanted to be closer to Campbell Collegiate; a decision we have never regretted for a lot more reasons than a shorter commute. Our children attended and graduated from St. Matthew Elementary School and Campbell Collegiate before attending university. Little did we know how attached we would become to Whitmore Park. Our kids have grown up now, but we have continued to live in the same house which we have painstakingly renovated over the years.

Some folks have asked us why we would move to and stay in a neighbourhood known for its moving soil[1], older homes and confusing array of street arrangements and neighbourhood paths. Over the years, the quirky physical traits of Whitmore Park became part of what has kept us living over two decades of life here. The cosier atmosphere of our neighbourhood, where we like many others in Whitmore Park live on narrow streets without sidewalks, allows for frequent interaction with our neighbours at an easy distance resulting in great long-time friendships. Our neighbourhood paths provide quick connections to our schools, local parks and winding streets that make great loops for walking and running. These characteristics, along with Whitmore Park's large, mature elm trees add beauty and a stately atmosphere to the neighbourhood every season of the year.[2]

Aside from the physical traits of our neighbourhood, what really became the catalyst for our long life here is the Whitmore Park community-awareness residents have. We've noticed a majority of our residents have a "we're all in this together" attitude about living here.

Much like the entrepreneurial spirit of Whitmore brothers Frank, Albert, and George - one of Regina's pioneer families whose large farm eventually became

1 Our former home in the southeast Varsity Park was less than 10 years old, and had similar soil movement issues that created deep cracks in our basement floor – these kinds of problems are not exclusive to Whitmore Park.

2 *Choosing Whitmore Park, a Young Family's Perspective,* The Whitmore Whistler: Winter 2015 – by Miranda and Matthew Field.

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The Whitmore Park Community Association would like to acknowledge the support it receives from the City of Regina.

City of Regina | REGINA Infinite Horizons

The Whitmore Whistler is a quarterly publication. It is published in January, April, June, and September.

The Editorial Committee members are: Lori Giroux, Leslie Mathiason, Terry Madole, Catherine Maier and Claude Seguin

We'd like to hear what you think.

If you have a story, topic, suggestion or advertisement, we'd like to hear from you!

Deadline for next issue:
March 1, 2015

newsletter@whitmorepark.ca

The content of the Whitmore Whistler does not necessarily express the views of the WPCA.

Keep up to date on what's happening in Whitmore Park, or past issues of the Whistler at:
www.whitmorepark.ca

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Volunteer of the Year – Terry Madole

This year's Whitmore Park Community Association's Volunteer of the Year is Terry Madole. One day back in late 2010, Terry saw a posting on the WPCA sign asking for volunteers.

It perked his interest. Terry was active on many city of Regina volunteer boards but he really wanted to make a difference locally in his community of Whitmore Park. This was where Terry and his wife Tammy have called home for the past 7 years. They had been looking in the cathedral and crescents areas but fell in love with the parks, character and large lots of Whitmore Park.

So Terry stepped up and got involved in the community association right away... in fact he became the next president in Oct 2011 and has held that role for the past 3 years. Terry is also involved in other areas of the association. He stepped up as the Skating Coordinator to try and breathe some life back into our failing skating program.

He is part of our very successful newsletter committee, has been actively involved in the rooming house issue and recently organized our latest community survey. Terry is also Whitmore Park's representative on the South Zone Board and is currently the Vice-Chair in that board. Terry is always available to do whatever is required to help the WPCA move forward. Terry has given his time to make Whitmore Park a better place to live and to show our appreciation he is our 2014 Volunteer of the Year. We would also like to thank the South Zone Board for providing us with the opportunity every year to pay tribute to one of our volunteers.

WPCA Meeting – Upcoming Guest Speaker

The City of Regina new Fire Chief (Chief Polson) has kindly volunteered to attend our next WPCA meeting on January 21, 2015 to speak to our community association regarding rooming houses and the role of the fire department as it relates to the issues.

For more information, please contact Claude Seguin at **president@whitmorepark.ca.**

... continued from page 1

Whitmore Park – our neighbourhood continues to be a vibrant and forward-looking community. The atmosphere of care and support for neighbours, our schools, community programs and parks, along with the genuine spirit of volunteerism by the Whitmore Park Community continues to be the foundation of what makes Whitmore Park a great neighbourhood.

Despite all these positive aspects of our community, I'm concerned that the aging infrastructure (streets and sidewalks) and lack of upkeep for some residential properties may give some Whitmore Park residents the wrong impression about our neighbourhood. They might think we as a community don't care about the future of our neighbourhood, that things are going downhill or that it doesn't matter how we behave or treat our properties as residents.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

The Whitmore Park Community Association (WPCA) along with other Whitmore Park residents continues to be diligently dedicated to communicating and encouraging needed changes related to these issues through consistent liaising with our City Councillor Barbara Young and various city departments.

The WPCA has been encouraged over this past year that finally, some proactive action by the City of Regina to establish a street and sidewalk improvement program for local neighbourhood streets in Regina, including those in Whitmore Park along with other older neighbourhoods, (such as Hillsdale and Lakeview) is currently being developed.[3] Once approved, this new street renewal program should start in 2015 along with what we hope will be timely revisions to some of our residential dwelling bylaws, to help ensure the continuing integrity and strength of Whitmore Park neighbourhood community.

While this is good news, Whitmore Park residents are also primary contributors to the quality of our neighbourhood through supportive attitudes and actions. Whether residents own homes or rent homes, I believe all WP residents contribute to the integrity of the Whitmore Park community.

While researching for this article, two characteristics of great neighborhoods that have the most positive impact were always at the top of the list: building positive neighborhood relationships and keeping yards clean and safe. Specific examples are listed below with some minor edits that fit our neighborhood.

Building Positive Neighbourhood Relationships:

- Interacting positively with the people who live nearby can significantly strengthen the quality of life on our streets and in our community as whole.
- Being mindful of being too noisy or parking in front of other residences that are not your own.
- Moving a typical backyard activity to the front instantly makes you more visible and approachable. If you have the room in your front yard, consider setting up a small conversation area with a small patio, table and chairs for a morning coffee.
- Go for more walks and bike rides. One of the best, easiest things one can do to get to know your neighbours is to hit the pavement more often.
- Throw a neighbourhood BBQ on your street complete with games for the kids, or a come-and-go pre-Christmas gathering. There's no better way to get to know neighbours than over food and refreshments.
- Consider setting up a "Little Free Library" on your property (see information ad to help initiate this idea in this month's *Whitmore Whistler* on page 10).

Showing our Neighbours We Care by Keeping our Yards Clean and Safe:

- If we want an attractive street, we should start with our own home.
- Keeping yards clear of debris and leaves and junk; especially in the front yard is one of the easiest things to do to add integrity a neighbourhood street. Keeping things mowed and trimmed does the same.
- Teaching our kids to put outdoor toys and bicycles away will help keep our front sidewalks clear and safe year-round.
- Leaving trash cans or recycling bins out on the street for long stretches of time is often unavoidable, but pulling them in as soon as possible is always appreciated. They're not attractive containers; so if possible, consider storing bins away from the front of the house.
- It's good to give our Canada Post and newspaper delivery persons and neighbours a break. Shovelling sidewalks consistently this winter including the public sidewalk that runs in front of my house is a huge help for them. Keeping the sidewalks of an elderly neighbour clear is a great thing to do as well.

Whitmore Park is a neighbourhood that has a rich heritage and long history. We are a community that has benefited by working together to ensure that this heritage and history continues long into the future. We definitely need the ongoing support of our city government for ongoing infrastructure support and effective bylaws. But "great" neighbourhoods are made great primarily by the people who live there. To put it more personally, the neighbourhood of Whitmore Park is made great by the people who live here: you and me.

3 City of Regina Infrastructure Report: link: https://www.regina.ca/opencms/export/sites/regina.ca/residents/open-government/open-information/.media/pdf/state-of-roadways-infrastructure-2013.pdf

Request For Volunteers - Warm-Up Shelter Supervision

The Whitmore Park Community Association (WPCA) is asking for your assistance to supervise the outdoor ice rink warm-up shelter in Mike Badham Park this winter season; from December 15 to February 20, 2015. We want to make much better use of the facility that has been under utilized in our community. We would like to be able to use the shelter to comfortably put on and take off skates plus warm-up on chilly days.

Ideally we would like to have the warm-up shelter open from:
Saturdays and Sundays
2:00 to 5:00 pm and 7:00 to 9:00 pm
Monday to Friday:
6:00 to 9:00 pm
We ask that you volunteer a minimum of a one hour time slot or more during any of these days. If you would like to volunteer for longer periods of time or times on various days of the week, we would certainly welcome your commitment. You can volunteer at any time even after the opening date for whatever length of time you would like to be involved.

If you are older than 18 years of age and are willing to responsibly supervise the use of the shelter, then we would like to have you volunteer. You would not be expected to clean the rink ice as part of your volunteering; the City has staff to perform that function. We have some people volunteering, however we could use more help so more of your friends and neighbours can warm up their fingers and toes!!

Contact Brian, 306-584-0276 or e-mail: outdoorrink@whitmorepark.ca

Volunteering your time is a great way to meet new people and make a better community for all of us.

Christmas Charity Selection

The WPCA Board made a selection of five local charities to each receive a $100 seasonal donation.

The chosen charities are:

- **Regina Food Bank**
- **Regina Humane Society**
- **Souls Harbour Mission**
- **Carmichael Outreach**
- **Coats for Kids**

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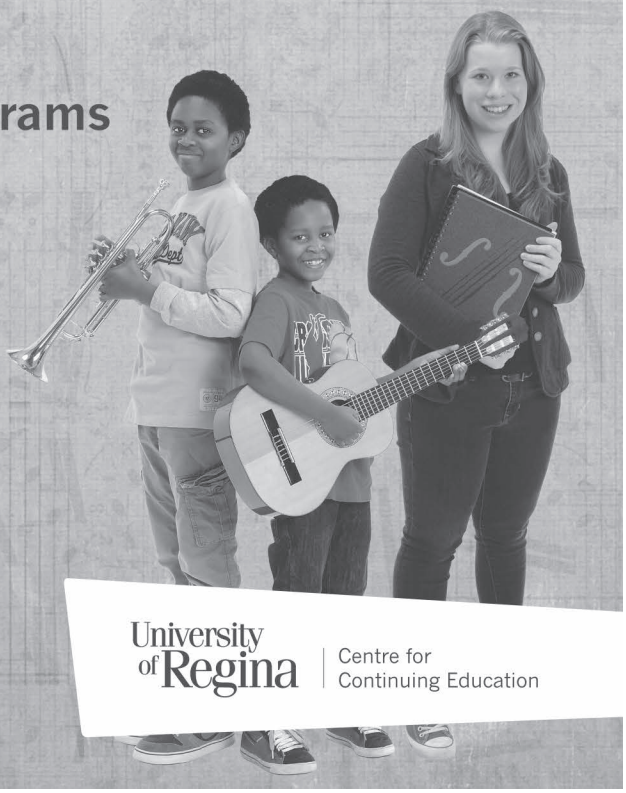

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306-585-5748

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Nominate a Neighbour – Ryshia Kennie

Ryshia Kennie is an accomplished author who has lived in Whitmore Park for twenty years. She has always loved to write! She currently has five books published including From the Dust, Ring of Desire, Fatal Intent, Intent to Kill, and most recently, Legacy of Fear. Ryshia has a variety of interests, but pays special attention to her Irish Terrier Rourke, including making him homemade dog food—she's watching his waistline, even if he isn't. Ryshia and Rourke have done many, many miles every day around the community on their walks and from that she's gathered friends and acquaintances, and a few "you're not going to believe what happened" stories – reality is often stranger than fiction. She's an avid supporter of the Humane Society and she and Rourke have participated in many of the yearly fund-raising Dog Walks. She also supports the Alzheimer's Society, having lost her own dad to the disease. This year, in honour of her father, she has entered her team Whoa There Dobbin for the January 25, 2015 walk at the University of Regina. Read on to learn more about Ryshia!

What is your favourite thing to do in Whitmore Park?

I used to love riding my bike with my dog until he took me over the handlebars when he spotted a squirrel. Now I walk with him rather than ride. My favourite time to walk is spring, when not only is the promise of summer whispering on the breeze but there's the countdown to the moment when one of the first real signs of summer appears – the garage sale sign. There's something addictive about searching for that treasure, the vintage copy of a Pearl S. Buck novel or the eclectic vase – you never know what you might stumble on. That's especially true when the community garage sale is on. But the rule is, use and eventually rehome – so many of the books find themselves eventually at one of the local hospital gift shops for resale unless, of course, they are keepers.

What is one thing you like most about living in Whitmore Park?

I like the sense of community and as I take advantage of all the green space I'm inevitably exchanging smiles with other walkers or stopping for a conversation. And, whenever I want a little solitude, I love the fact that we're close to the city limits. I have often walked the outer perimeter by the ring road where there's nothing but trees and a green space before the highway and you almost feel like you've escaped to the country.

What are some of your hobbies/ interests/extracurricular activities?

I love reading and I am drawn to a wide range of genres. I golf a few games in the summer and enjoy swimming although I have to admit that's something I do mainly when I'm on vacation. I'm a certified scuba diver but again travel is when I find opportunities for that. So yes, I love travelling. I think I'm a bit of a nomad at heart because no matter where or how long, there's always that feeling that the trip ended too soon.

What do you feel is your biggest achievement in your career?

The biggest achievement in my career to date, after publishing my first novel, was winning the City of Regina Writer's Award. That phone call was rather surreal - I didn't expect it at all.

Did you always want to be a writer? What other types of jobs have you had (or do you have)?

I always wanted to be a writer and wrote from the time I was a child but when I grew up I realized that writing a novel wasn't a simple path to a career. So with no idea what I wanted to be in the interim, I took some misguided advice and took nursing training. After that, it was my first administration position in the provincial government that then led me to the University of Regina and administration classes that evolved over the years into various positions as a program administrator in a number of government departments.

What is your one best piece of advice for young writers today?

Don't give up. You'll more than likely need to have another job/career as you work toward your dream but set goals and keep on writing whether it's at night or early in the morning, and keep on learning and growing your writing whether it's through classes or getting involved in organizations such as the Saskatchewan Writers Guild where you can seek out other authors for mentoring or advice through programs at the guild, or through the public library's writer in residence program.

Visit her website: www.ryshiakennie.com, or find her on Facebook, Twitter and Goodreads.

Ryshia was nominated for a Whitmore Whistler feature by her good friend Linda Detta. Linda and Ryshia have been friends for over 20 years. Linda is a big fan and supporter of Ryshia's writing and can hardly wait for her next novel to come out!

Marisol Fitness

Power of Balance (50+)

Monday: Feb. 2 – April 13
9:00 am - 10:00 am

For more information call
306-721-9155

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Calling all Kids 7 and Under!
Music and Movement program for children.
Angelika....584-5199
www.kindermusik.com

WPCA Winter 2015 Program Registration

Tuesday, January 13, 2015 • 7:00pm - 8:00pm
Campbell Collegiate Auditorium

HOW TO REGISTER FOR WPCA PROGRAMS & OTHER CITY-WIDE PROGRAMS

1. Attend the WPCA program registration for residents of Whitmore Park
2. Become a member ($5 per household). Membership valid from Sept. 1, 2014 - Aug. 31,2015.
3. For WPCA programs: Register & pay for program(s) at the WPCA registration.
4. For other programs (run by other community associations): register for programs at the WPCA registration but do not pay. The sponsoring organization will contact you and collect the appropriate fees.

WPCA Refund Policy

All requests for refunds for WPCA programs must be made to Program Coordinator. Refunds will be granted if requested 2 weeks prior to program start. Anyone asking for refunds outside these limits may do so in writing to the Treasurer. Requests will be reviewed by WCPA Executive & will be considered for special circumstances on a prorated basis. $5 administration fee. No refunds for memberships.

Please note: (m) indicates materials needed

PRE-SCHOOL DANCE

Thursdays, Jan. 22 – Feb. 26 • $35.00 •
St. Matthew's School gym
Use back gym door entrance

Creative Movement
3-4 yrs • 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Program Descriptions:
Creative Movement (3-4yrs) helps children in their early years develop both physically and creatively. Week to week children will work on fundamentals such as balance, skipping, hopping, jumping, and body/environmental awareness. The children will learn how to express their ideas both vocally and bodily through a variety of creative and imaginative dance activities that are teacher led.

RED CROSS BABYSITTING 11+ yrs

Saturday, Feb. 7 • 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Grant Road School gym $45.00

Bring a doll, pen, paper and a NUT-FREE bagged lunch to class.

Program Description:
The Canadian Red Cross Babysitting Course is a great opportunity for kids to learn some valuable child care and first aid skills. This course will help in learning how to care for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and school aged children as well as how to handle emergency situations.

FREE FAMILY OUTDOOR SKATING

Skating shelter open All ages Early Dec. to late Feb.
Grant Road skating rink

Mon. – Fri. 7:00pm – 8:30 pm
Sat – Sun 2:00pm – 4:00 pm

FOREVER ...IN MOTION 50+ YRS

Whitmore Park United Church
Registration @ first class

FREE

Mon. Jan. 19 – TBD 10:00 am
Thurs. Jan. 15 – TBD 1:00 pm

Program Description
The program includes endurance, strength, balance and flexibility activities which may be performed either in sitting or standing positions. Groups are led by peer volunteer leaders who have taken the Forever... In Motion training offered by the Regina Qu'Appelle Health region.

ADULT FITNESS CLASSES

Cardio Bootcamp
Tues. Jan 20 - Apr 21 • 6 – 7 PM
Grant Road School $72

Pilates and More
Tues. Jan 20 – Apr 21 •7 – 8 PM
Massey School $72

Guts and Butts and Core
Thurs. Jan 22 - Apr 23 • 7 – 8 PM
Grant Road School $72

ST JOHN'S EMERGENCY FIRST AID

Sunday, Jan 18 9:00am - 4:30pm
South Leisure Center cost $ 65

Program Descriptions:
Course covers basic lifesaving skills and introduces the treatment of bleeding and the management of an unconscious casualty. and includes Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Training

Public Skating Times (until March 14, 2015)

Optimist Arena
222 Sunset Drive:
Sundays 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Murray Balfour Arena
68 Massey Road:
Saturdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Fees: Family $12.30, Seniors (65+) $4.80, Adult (25-64 yrs) $6.30, Young Adult (19-24 yrs) $4.80, Youth (13-18 yrs) $4.10, Children (2-12 yrs) $2.85, Toddler (under 2 yrs) Free.

South Regina Community Soccer (SRCS) Spring Outdoor Soccer

Whitmore Park participates in the SRCS outdoor soccer league with the Albert Park, Hillsdale and Lakeview Community Associations. This is a fun, no cut league where everyone gets to play.

Teams (kids ages 3 to 18 with 8 separate age groups: U4 (i.e. Under 4), U5, U6, U8, U10, U12, U14 and U18) will play 2 games per week between early May and June 21st 2015 on various South (and West for U14 & U18 age groups) Regina fields.

Registration sessions will be held at the South Leisure Centre at 170 Sunset Drive on Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 7 pm to 9 pm and on Saturday March 7 from 9 am to 11 am. Online registration will also be available from midnight Feb. 23 through midnight March 23.

Detailed program information for the 2015 season will be available at the **http://www.srcs.ca** web site with site updates starting in mid January 2015. The WPCA is in need of a Soccer Coordinator (or a pair of Co-Coordinators) to help deliver the program. Please call Doug at (306) 584-1444 for more information on either the soccer program or to discuss the Coordinator position.

"Best of Whitmore Park" Photo Contest

Sponsored by the Whitmore Park Community Association and the Whitmore Whistler

We are celebrating the best community in Regina by holding our first photo contest!
We want to see your photos of anything Whitmore Park and what makes our neighbourhood great (for example: events, wildlife, scenery, people using Whitmore amenities, etc...).

First, second and third prize winners will be chosen, with prizes being a $50, $25 and $10 gift card (merchants yet to be determined). Winning photos will be printed in an upcoming full colour edition of the Whitmore Whistler.

Submission deadline is September 15, 2015.
email submissions to newsletter@whitmorepark.ca

Rules & Regulations

This contest is open to all City of Regina residents
(board members of the Whitmore Park Community Association are not eligible to participate).

Photots must be taken in the Whitmore Park area.

Photographs must be in digital format. No print or film submissions will be accepted for entry into this contest.

Photos must be submitted with a caption, description and full name and contact information of the photographer.

The photograph must be taken with a digital camera, and all digital files must be 3-10 megabytes in size, must be in JPEG or JPG format, and strive for the images to be at least 3000 pixels wide (if a horizontal image) or 3000 pixels tall (if a vertical image). Only minor image editing such as contrast/exposure and/or colour correction is acceptable, as is cropping. High dynamic range images (HDR) and stitched panoramas will NOT be accepted. Watermarking of images is not accepted for this contest.

It is the photographer's responsibility to obtain permission of anyone appearing in their photos.

Final selections will be made by a panel chosen by the WPCA Board.

Whitmore Park Annual General Meeting

By: Terry Madole

The Whitmore Park Community Association had its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, November 19. Claude Séguin was elected as the new President of the association for a two year term and Brian Black agreed to be Vice President for another two year term as well. Our secretary position is still vacant; if you are interested in this position, please contact our new president or treasurer. For a full list of board members and contact information please see the board insert in this issue of the Whistler.

Every year the association donates $100 to 5 worthy charities with in Whitmore Park and Regina. This year's charities are the Regina Food Bank, Regina Humane Society, Souls Harbour Mission, Carmichael Outreach and Coats for Kids.

At every AGM we set a few goals for the Association to focus on for the upcoming year. This year's focus will be similar to last year. Our focuses this year are Infrastructure, Rental House, and the City of Regina's new Neighbourhood Support Model & Programming. With infrastructure we hope to once again stress with the city the issues of an aging infrastructure that are very apparent within Whitmore Park. These include roads maintenance, the continued lining of Asbestos water pipes, park maintenance, snow removal from public areas, and other concerns of residents. Brian Black will continue work with the city over the next year on the rental housing issue, and the entire board will work with the city, other associations and zone boards on the Neighbourhood Support Model. If you are interesting in any of these issues or volunteering on the board please let us know. All of the boards email addresses and phone numbers are available on the board insert in this issue of the Whistler.

Whitmore Park Community Association 2014-2015 Youth Leadership Awards

$500 each

The Whitmore Park Community Association has initiated the Youth Leadership Awards since the year 2003 to acknowledge the volunteer contributions of many young people in the Whitmore Park community. Each year, students from Campbell Collegiate High School and Dr. Martin LeBoldus High School are selected for this award (valued at $500 each).

If you require further information for the 2014-2015 awards, please contact the school guidance department or Anna Buchanan, WPCA at 306-585-2597.

Application deadline is April 30, 2015.

Choosing Whitmore Park - A Young Family's Perspective

by Miranda Field

In 2003, I moved from a small town to attend the University of Regina. My parents bought this house for my siblings and me to live in. We filled it with roommates and siblings to offset the mortgage; it made more sense than losing money in rent to a landlord. When I married my husband Matthew, we were able to purchase the house from my parents. We decided to make this house our own, rather than max our finances out on a new development home and become "house poor".

For us, living in Whitmore Park didn't begin as a choice. When originally bought our home, we looked at other areas, but realized that this neighbourhood really was a great fit for us. It's a mature neighbourhood: the trees have recently canopied across the street, we have many beautiful parks for our children to go to, and I love our spacious backyard with apple trees.

The location we are in is great. Matthew plays with the Regina Symphony, and I am a teacher completing my Master's Degree, so the proximity to the Conexus Arts Center and the University of Regina is very helpful. With South Albert Street being so close, the accessibility to necessities reminds me of the small town I grew up in. It has a very similar feel to it. The people who live here do not give off the impression of wanting or needing to go bigger and better; it's a very mature attitude towards money.

Through the last four years and two very young children, we have nearly completed a full renovation of every inch of interior and exterior. We have done nearly all the work ourselves, leaving a few specialty jobs (like the front step) to contractors and specialists. Because we didn't have to pay labour for the majority of the work, we were able to put our money to use getting exactly what we wanted for our home. Of course, doing all these renovations ourselves, over a long period of time, while raising two children and both of us working full time has been difficult. In the long term we will have financial stability because of it, and that is very important to us.

Your home should feel comfortable to you. It should be a safe and welcoming space to you, your family and your friends. When we renovated our home, we set out to make it a special place for us, not impress others or follow the hottest trends. We would have a difficult time justifying building a new house when we already live in such a strong and well-built house. The quality and craftsmanship in many of these beautiful older homes in Whitmore Park is very expensive and difficult to find in some of the new houses.

Overall Whitmore Park just feels like home. We have all the conveniences and amenities we need. We have great neighbours in a nice quiet neighbourhood, and now we have a home that we can be proud of to fit right in to all of it. Welcome to our neighbourhood!

Little Free Libraries

Whitmore Park Community Association would like to start establishing some Little Free Library locations in our neighbourhood. Little Free Libraries are a "take a book, return a book" gathering place where neighbors share their favorite literature and stories. In its most basic form, a Little Free Library is a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and bring back another book to share. You can, too! If you are interested checkout their website link at: http://littlefreelibrary.org and watch a short video so see how Little Free Libraries work. Saskatchewan locations registered so far on the Little Free Library website are Humboldt and Assiniboine. There are well over 50 locations in Calgary and Edmonton. If you are interested in providing a Little Free Library on your property for your local Whitmore Park community, please contact Paula Doke by e-mail at: paula.doke@whitmorepark.ca.

WPCA Board of Directors			
President	Claude Seguin	306-551-5840	president@whitmorepark.ca
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Vice President	Brian Black	306-584-0276	vp@whitmorepark.ca
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Director	Curt Schroeder	306-586-9268	curt.schroeder@whitmorepark.ca
Director	Paula Doke		paula.doke@whitmorepark.ca
Director	**vacant**		
Commissioners			
Child Care Directory	Karen Williams	306-584-8430	
Community Planning	Terry Shalley	306-584-7689	community@whitmorepark.ca
Community Sign	Angie Ivey	306-584-0970	sign@whitmorepark.ca
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Newsletter Editor	Lori Giroux	306-949-5674	newsletter@whitmorepark.ca
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Fitness Programs	Nina Hurlburt	306-550-5930	fitness@whitmorepark.ca
Older Adult Programs	Marisol Molina-Smith		seniorsrep@whitmorepark.ca
South Zone Rep.	Patti Nauta	306-586-8941	southzonerep@whitmorepark.ca
Outdoor Hockey	**vacant**		**hockey@whitmorepark.ca**
Rec Hockey	Jim Appleby	306-584-7218	rechockey@whitmorepark.ca
Soccer - Outdoor	**vacant**		outdoorsoccer@whitmorepark.ca
Webmaster	Leah Coutts		info@whitmorepark.ca
Whitmore Walkers	Hilary Craig	306-585-0981	walkers@whitmorepark.ca
Special Events	**vacant**		
Cycling	Kathy Stedwill		cycling@whitmorepark.ca
South Zone			
Soccer - Indoor	Rebecca Kennedy		soccer@whitmorepark.ca
Garden Coordinator	Marlene Hooper	306-565-1312	marleneh@accesscomm.ca
Area City Councillor	Barbara Young	306- 539-4081	byoung@regina.ca
Community Rec Co-ordinator	Loreen Anderson	306-777-7322	landerso@regina.ca

"Like"
WHITMORE PARK
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
on facebook!

WPCA
Program Registration
Winter 2015

Tues., Jan.13 2015

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Campbell Collegiate Auditorium

see details on page 6

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Licensing of Rentals - City of Regina is Considering It

BY Brian Black, Vice-President, Whitmore Park Community Association

The City administration recently prepared a report on the status of the short-term accommodation (daily or weekly room rentals) bylaw enforcement for the City Councillors. This report also suggested some options for additional regulation of other forms of rentals in single family dwellings. You can read the full report on the City's web-site under Executive Council meetings, Nov. 12, 2014; **www.regina.ca**

The report recognized, "… that the primary goal is to protect tenants from unsafe living conditions by preventing landlords from renting out substandard properties." Another very important goal that should also be considered by the City is the protection of the amenity, character and stability of residential areas. Landlords often do not maintain their properties. There are additional parked vehicles on the street and front yards. Numerous rental houses have had extensive interior work done to add extra rooms to maximize the number of sleeping rooms in the former single family homes. Building and safety codes are not adhered to for these congregated living arrangements.

The report states that Central Mortgage and Housing (CMHC) provided a 2013 estimate that there are 23,347 rental buildings in Regina. Within that estimate there are 5,160 rental houses in Regina. None of these rental houses have any licensing or regulations requiring landlords/owners to adequately look after the property unless the tenant complains about the living conditions. The surrounding community is quite powerless to do much about the problems associated with rental properties except phone the city repeatedly. The bylaw enforcement and fire protection officers cannot enter these houses unless they are invited in or they obtain a search warrant.

Four cities in western and central Canada that currently require rental properties to have licenses were identified in the City's report. There was also a cost analysis for licensing rental dwellings in Regina. Using an assumed 50% compliance by the owners of the estimated 5,160 units, the City's licensing program would not cost taxpayers any money after it had operated for a couple of years; it could be self-sustainable in a very short time and would likely result in a safer and improved housing environment for our community.

The recommendation by the Administration to the City Councillors was for the preparation of a report on targeting the licensing to only the 5,160 rental houses by the end of 2015 after doing some public consultation and research. If you believe that something needs to be done much sooner than waiting another full year for another report and/or you want to offer your opinion on this topic, I suggest you contact our Ward 1 city councillor Barbara Young; phone: 306-539-4081 or e-mail: byoung@regina.ca.

City of Regina Information

City of Regina By-Laws are not all actively enforced; rather City officials rely on residents to report infractions by calling 306-777-7000, weekdays 8:00 am to 4:45 pm.

PARKING BY-LAW

No vehicle may be parked on the street for more than 24 hours except for Saturdays and weekends. These regulations apply to RVs and construction-related vehicles. By-laws #10123, ss. 5 and 6, 1999; #10193, s. 5, 2000; #2005-95, s. 6, 2005)

STREETLIGHTING

Streetlight not working? Call 1-888--757-6937
If someone doesn't call, they don't know about it!
Note the address of the property that is closest to the streetlight, because they will ask for this information.

CORDS ACROSS SIDEWALKS

No person shall place or leave any cord or cable across, above or on any public highway or sidewalk. No person shall allow any cord or cable left across, above, or on any public highway or sidewalk to be attached to their vehicle while that vehicle is parked on a street. Bylaw: 9900 - #68

SNOW REMOVAL

Every owner, operator or occupant of land shall maintain the public sidewalks adjoining the land whereas:
a) Subject to clause (b) any hazardous condition created by snow or ice shall be cleared and removed.
b) sand or similar material which renders the sidewalk safe shall be applied where it can be clearly demonstrated that the surface condition makes it difficult to meet the requirements in (a) above; c) the sidewalk surface shall be clear and free of dirt, debris or other obstruction.
Bylaws: #10225, s. 5, 2000; #2004-70, s. 4, 2004; #2007-59, ss.7 and 8, 2007.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Ward 1 City Councillor: Barbara Young • (306) 539-4081
byoung@regina.ca

Regina Board of Education: Aleana Young • (306) 501-5510
aleana.m.young@gmail.com

MLA: Hon. Bill Hutchinson • (306) 205-2067
bhutchinson@mla.legassembly.sk.ca

MP: Hon. Ralph Goodale • (306) 585-1610
goodale.r@parl.gc.ca

Regina Catholic Schools • (306) 791-7200