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What does the WSCRCA do?

- We run youth and family related programs.
- We are your voice at City Hall. Dealing with planning and development proposals, traffic, parks and recreation, and a direct voice to our local City Councillor.
- We support community initiatives and events. Community clean up, Charity Stampede Breakfast, community garden, and so much more!

Community Association Versus Residents Association

The community of West Springs/ Cougar Ridge encompasses several subdivisions, some of which have a Residents or Homeowners Association. Both play an important, but different role, in the community.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
✓ Membership is voluntary	✓ Membership is mandatory
✓ Represents all households in the WSCRCA boundaries	✓ Annual fees registered against property title. Fees must be paid in full prior to the sale of the home.
✓ Organizes community wide events and programs	✓ Maintains the landscaping and other amenities in the public green spaces for a specific subdivision

Check out our website, www.wscr.ca, for all that we do! Want to stay up to date and have early access to all our events and offerings? Become a member!

Become a West Springs Cougar Ridge Community Association Member

\$25 per Household or \$15 for Seniors

That gets you:

- Priority registration and discounts for WSCRCA run program and events.
- Support for a more vibrant community by supporting community based initiatives.
- Members only emails.
- The right to vote at the AGM if you are a WSCR resident.

You can still become a member even if you do not live in the community! Purchase your membership online at www.wscr.ca.



Disclaimer: The opinions expressed within any published article, report, or submission reflect those of the author and should not be considered to reflect those of Great News Media or the Community and/or Residents' Association. The information contained in this newsletter is believed to be accurate but is not warranted to be so.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE			
Position	Name	Email	
President	Paul Ghazar	president@wscr.ca	
Vice President	Karla Gibson	vicepresident@wscr.ca	
Secretary	Virginia D'Souza	secretary@wscr.ca	
Treasurer	Lavender Murray	treasurer@wscr.ca	
Board Executive Assistant	Katie Suen	admin@wscr.ca	

Assistant		
COMMITTEES		
Committee	Director/Volunteer	Email
Building Safer Communities	Heather Zaba	safercommunity@wscr.ca
Charity Casino	Eileen Teasdale	casino@wscr.ca
Communications	Heather Zaba	communications@wscr.ca
Newsletter	Karen Riordan	newsletter@wscr.ca
Community Recycling Event	Faheem Ahmed Angelina Marian	communityrecycling@wscr.ca
Membership	Eileen Teasdale	membership@wscr.ca
Sponsorship	Taiwo Adetola	sponsorship@wscr.ca
Planning and Development	Joseph Healey Linda Nesset Eileen Teasdale Denis Ho Yvonne Harper Renee Alessio	planning@wscr.ca
Soccer	Steve Berman Kimberly Paw	soccer@wscr.ca
Skating	Kimberly Paw	skating@wscr.ca
Traffic	Denis Ho	traffic@wscr.ca
Volunteers	Tyler Norgaard	volunteer@wscr.ca
Directors at Large	Justin Barrett Latosia Campbell-Walters	

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Twitter: @WSCRCA
Instagram: @wscrca
Website: https://wscr.ca



Paul Davis Online Safety Mothers and Daughters

Saturday, January 14, 2023 12:30 to 2:00 pm West Springs Church

Paul Davis Social Networking and Online Safety

Saturday, January 14, 2023 3:00 pm

West Springs Church

WSCRCA Board Meetings

Meetings are typically held on the second Wednesday of every month in the upstairs community room of the Calgary Co-Op on 85 Street SW, however, we are presently meeting via Zoom video conferencing. Anyone in the community is welcome to attend these meetings. If you would like to discuss a particular issue or idea, please notify our secretary by email a week before the meeting at secretary@wscr.ca.

The WSCRCA Planning and Development Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Currently meetings are held via Zoom video conferencing. Anyone in the community is welcome to attend, and if you are interested in attending, please email planning@wscr.ca.



You can stay in touch with your community by following us on Facebook and joining this FB Group. It's a great way to grow our community and keep up to date on what is happening in WSCR.

The WSCR Babysitters Group: A place where parents can find local babysitters, as well as where local babysitters, aged 12 to 25, can add themselves to the list to find jobs. Follow this group here: https://www.facebook.com/groups/wscrbabysitters/.

Follow the main WSCRCA page here: https://www.facebook.com/wscrca/.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After serving two terms as the WSCRCA President, and in my final year, I would like to use this opportunity to shine a light on the creative and hard-working association volunteers that have helped shape this community. After a long hiatus from our full complement of regular programs due to pandemic restrictions, we experienced a surge of enthusiasm to revive favorite programs, along with growing some current ones. If you haven't had the opportunity to volunteer with the association yet, then you may not be aware of the countless hours some of our community members donate to help create an inclusive and fun community. I personally want to thank everyone who took time away from their families over the past year to help make this community so special.

Here are a few of the 2022 highlights that I'd like to share with you:

- This year, we watched another group of children learn how to skate, all the while connecting with other children in the neighborhood.
- · We had hundreds of community children grow and develop their physical and social skills in our grassroots soccer program.
- We also had hundreds drop off their unwanted and "ready for a new home" items at our annual recycling event.
- Our movie in the park drew a huge crowd who were able to enjoy the food trucks, a talent show, live music, and plenty of prizes leading up to the movie.
- We were able to bring in the Child Safe Canada babysitting course to get 30 community children certified!
- The City of Calgary Mobile Skate and Scoot Park made its return where we saw lots of kids scootering, skateboarding, and smiling that week.
- Many breakfasts were served as this year saw the return of our Charity Stampede Breakfast, where we saw lots of smiling cowpokes enjoying the beautiful day!
- Families got the chance to level up their social safety and online security by attending the Screenagers showing, as well as listening to Paul Davis live
- Many of our locals had the opportunity to practice yoga in our community garden.
- There were a lot of happy pups and owners with the ever-popular Dog Pawty!
- Our community garden was yet again a summer hub for so many, with a big donation going to the food bank again this year.
- Our AGLC casino night, was a big hit, thanks to the many volunteers who organize and staffed it. This is a key event for bringing funding into our association.
- · You may have noticed pop up skating rinks in the

- community. Yes, they too were created by people in our community, just like you, so that our kids have a safe place to enjoy some winter fun.
- We closed off 2022 with crafts, pictures, treats and a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus straight from the North Pole!

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." – Flizabeth Andrew

These events and programs are the culmination of many hours of hard work by our local community volunteers. The volunteers running these events are in addition to, or sometimes the same ones, who also volunteer for our "behind the scenes" activities such as: planning and development, looking after traffic concerns, managing our finances, supporting our sponsors, communications, event registrations, membership management, organizing volunteers, website updates, community safety, compiling the newsletter, and many more. Even though they may have limited time (like all of us), they still find precious hours to give back what they can. I highly encourage everyone to get involved and give back with your time when you can. Not only is it incredibly rewarding, but it's a great way to help build neighborly bonds within your own community. Please consider sharing this message with your neighbors and encouraging them to join our association and coming out to these events. You can find out more about the volunteer roles that need to be filled on our website, www.wscr.ca, or by contacting me directly to discuss more.

I would also like to thank our generous sponsors who have graciously supported our community over the years. Most sponsor in dollars, but some also donate in kind with staff time or goods for our events. They help bring our community together, and we highly encourage you to visit our website's sponsorship page to learn more about them and support them in turn.

Finally, it has been an absolute privilege getting to volunteer alongside our WSCRCA community association volunteers and to serve in this community with them. I look forward to seeing what 2023 brings and to help support all these amazing programs again.

Happy New Year to everyone, from my family to yours.

Paul Ghazar

President, West Springs | Cougar Ridge Community Association

Building a strong community | www.wscr.ca



Did you know you can use Calgary Police Service district office parking lots to facilitate property transactions arranged online? Follow the tips below for a safer buy and sell experience.



When buying or selling, you should meet in-person safely to thoroughly inspect the product before exchanging funds.



Meet in a public place, such as a Calgary Police Service district office parking lot. Police will not actively monitor buy and sell interactions, but will be close by if help is needed.



If possible, bring a friend or a family member with you.



Don't use wire money services, consider using cash or a trusted e-transfer service.



Do not give out personal or banking information (e.g. social insurance number, bank account number or address) to strangers.



Inform the buy/sell site of any attempted fraud or suspicious emails, ads, or other activity.



In the case of suspected fraud, file a police report.



Use common sense. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Who Do You Call?

Calgary Police Service: break-ins, suspicious behaviour, vandalism to the community

- **911**: emergency dispatch (crime happening now, danger to people or property)
- **403-266-1234**: non-emergency line (crime not in progress, no danger to people)
- Online reporting for non-emergency issues:
- 1. Log on to www.calgarypolice.ca
- Look for "Report a Crime" and click "Submit an online report"
- 3. Look for "Reports you can submit online"
- Click on "File a report" below the list of reportable crimes
- 5. Choose the check box that best describes your situation and click "Start report"
- Enter your information. Be prepared with your driver's license.
- * If you are reporting a crime in progress, dial 911.

City of Calgary Resources:

- **311** for City services, non-emergency and non-law enforcement related services (e.g. by-law related issues, potholes and street cleaning)
- Power outage reporting and status search ENMAX power outages at www.enmax.com/outages-andsafety or call 4035146100
- Parking call Calgary Parking Authority at 4035377000 or 18885444011
- Bus/Train call Calgary Transit at 4032621000

Resolving issues with your landlord:

- Put your complaint or request for service in writing
- Ask for all responses in writing; email is okay
- Keep copies of everything you send and everything you receive in the event your issue continues
- Document fully the issues you are facing, with photos if possible
- If you resolve your issue, contact the Residential Tenancy Dispute Resolution Service for advice at www. alberta.ca/residential-tenancy-dispute-resolution-service.aspx.







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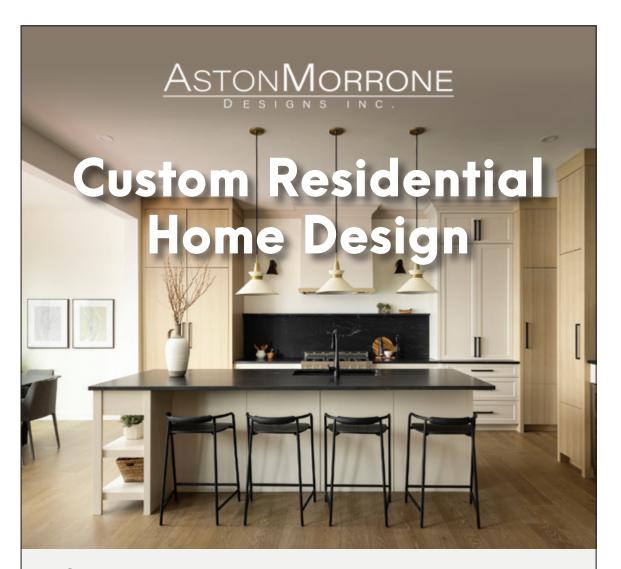
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Student Op-Ed

An Exposé on Stadium Safety

by Tynan Worsley-Dragland

When quarantines were first implemented from rising COVID-19 cases, one of the outings I missed the most was attending hockey games. Many thousands of fans cheering on their favourite team, the stadium charged with electric energy as teams faced off. I loved it all, except for how difficult it was to exit. Many families, such as ours, routinely left three minutes before the game ended to avoid the chaotic mass exodus that occurred after the final horn sounded. Briskly walking to our car, I would always wonder: how dangerous would it be to leave a stadium in an emergency situation? Surely, it would take a miracle for a mob of panicked fans to leave in a calm and collected manner.

On October 1, 2022, the world caught a glimpse of the dangers stadium sports can present. The sporting world came to a standstill when over 125 people perished after a soccer match that occurred in Malang, Indonesia. The match concluded with the home team, Arema FC, defeated 2-3 by rival team Persebaya Surabaya after two halves and nine minutes of overtime. As a result, disgruntled Arema FC fans swarmed the pitch in the hundreds. In response to this, the local police force fired tear gas into the stadium, a form of crowd control strictly prohibited by the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) due to its ability to cause eye and lung injuries. Tear gas also raises concerns due to its tendency to instigate mass hysteria as fans attempt to flee from the gas. In a desperate attempt to locate an exit, a massive fan crush occurred, suffocating hundreds of fans and two police officers. Over 300 people were left injured.

What is truly tragic about this event is that it was not the first disaster of this calibre to occur. This horrific event is considered to be only the second worst stadium disaster of all time, the worst event occurring in Peru roughly 60 years prior. Reflecting on my observations as a child, I have come to believe that our very own stadiums in Canada might precipitate a similar disaster. There is an unseen danger lurking in nearly every stadium: a lack of exits.

Performing my own research, I noticed that the design of most stadiums is not conducive to thousands of patrons leaving all at once. Analyzing a map of the Saddledome, there are approximately 68 rows, resulting in a total of approximately 64 exits. Not included are the press

levels, which account for another 18 rows and 16 exits. In total, this stadium can hold a maximum of 19,289 people per event. From a quick calculation, the total number of people passing through their designated exit in an emergency is approximately 241 people per exit. As a comparison, a standard commercial airline with 138 seats and 6 emergency exits produces a value of only 23 people per exit.

Now, in all fairness, not all hockey games are booked to maximum capacity. However, even if the stadium was at half-capacity, it would still be approximately five times harder to exit a stadium than an airplane. Regardless, it is not uncommon for hockey teams to have "sell-out streaks" where upwards of 500 games in a row are fully booked.

What was once a delightful experience from the perspective of my younger self has forever been altered since October 1. A fun family outing can easily go south in these modern-day breeding grounds for potential death and injury. Undoubtedly, in the event of an emergency, it would take a miracle for patrons to exit civilly. If mere minutes mattered in a catastrophic event, the arduous exit process people undergo after a game simply won't cut it.

My hope is that, with stadium disasters occurring worldwide, sports teams and local governments take note of the hazards modern-day stadiums can introduce. In time, stadium owners might alter their stadium's designs to implement safe emergency exits and regularly instruct their fans on their emergency protocols. In the meantime, I will impart some advice for my fellow sports-goers and enjoyers: maybe the best seats are the ones in front of your TV.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author. They do not purport to reflect the opinions or views of the WSCRCA or its members.

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Online Safety

Mothers and Daughters

Empowering Parents in the Digital Age Saturday, January 14, 2023 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

West Springs Church - 816 78th Ave SW

Register at wscr.ca

This Paul Davis presentation will bring awareness and understanding to the dangers and safety issue of online activity, for tween/teenage girls and their families.

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		Properties		Median Price	
		Listed	Sold	Listed	Sold
November 2	2	7	11	\$499,999	\$498,000
October 2	2	14	12	\$797,400	\$779,400
September 2	2	16	15	\$748,900	\$720,000
August 2	2	15	13	\$709,999	\$660,000
July 2	2	22	14	\$682,400	\$677,500
June 2	2	24	21	\$649,000	\$652,500
May 2	2	22	31	\$679,888	\$731,000
April 2	2	38	35	\$739,900	\$825,000
March 2	2	53	35	\$699,900	\$750,000
February 2	2	31	33	\$680,000	\$708,000
January 2	2	18	24	\$731,900	\$728,750
December 2	1	7	18	\$494,850	\$499,750

To view more detailed information that comprise the above MLS averages please visit wsp.mycalgary.com

COUGAR RIDGE COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

		Properties		Median Price	
		Listed	Sold	Listed	Sold
November	22	6	7	\$619,900	\$620,000
October	22	6	3	\$380,000	\$370,000
September	22	6	6	\$599,900	\$607,000
August	22	5	11	\$679,900	\$680,000
July	22	13	8	\$734,900	\$764,244
June	22	13	17	\$750,000	\$755,000
May	22	20	17	\$685,000	\$675,000
April	22	25	25	\$650,000	\$670,000
March	22	29	25	\$625,000	\$650,000
February	22	21	22	\$687,450	\$740,000
January	22	11	10	\$585,000	\$602,500
December	21	6	11	\$615,000	\$615,000

To view more detailed information that comprise the above MLS averages please visit cgr.mycalgary.com

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David is invested in our Westside communities because this is where he lives, works, and plays.

When it's time to sell your home, David is the REALTOR® your neighbours trust.

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*MLS DATA - CALENDAR 2015-2020 INCLUSIVE. DETACHED HOMES, LISTED & SOLD, IN THE COMBINED COMMUNITIES OF: WEST SPRINGS, ASPEN WOODS, SPRINGBANK HILL, DISCOVERY RIDGE, SIGNAL HILL, CHRISTIE PARK, STRATHCONA PARK, COACH HILL, PATTERSON, AND COUGAR RIDGE.