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RANGLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

🏠 RCA OFFICE: 7713 Ranchview Drive NW Calgary AB T3G 2B3 • 📞 403-241-0335
✉ ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com • 🌐 www.ranchlandscommunity.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM!

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President Anita Raffaele
president@ranchlandscommunity.com

Vice-President Vacant
vice-president@ranchlandscommunity.com

Secretary Sharon Blackwell

Director at Large Laurie Lin, Jessica Brander
Contact RCA Office

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Ranchlands Food Pantry Contact RCA Office

Skating Rink Coordinator Darren Angell Contact RCA Office

Living Springs Christian Church Glen Switzer 403-701-7668

186th Ranchlands Scouts 186thRanchlandsScouts@gmail.com

Girl Guides of Canada: Wichewakw District <https://register.girlguides.ca/web/en/unit>

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Ranchlands Elementary School

St. Rita's Catholic Elementary School

Rise Calgary

MLA Julia Hayter 403-288-4453
Calgary.Edgemont@assembly.ab.ca

MP Pat Kelly 403-282-7980

Ward 2 City Councillor Jennifer Wyness 403-650-6936
www.calgary.ca/ward2

CBE School Trustee Dana Downey dacdowney@cbe.ab.ca
403-817-7929

CSSD School Trustee Myra D'Souza 403-500-2761

RCA OFFICE AND HALL RENTALS

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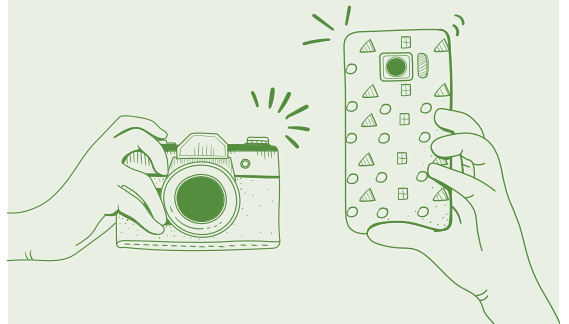
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Help Us Find a Cover Photo!

Are you a budding photographer? Do you curate an exciting Instagram feed? Do you have some beautiful shots in your archives? We'd love to see them!

The Ranchlands Community Association is looking for monthly contributions to grace the cover of the Roundup. **These images need to be 1MB and 300 DPI.** Photos can be taken in or of the community, be based on the seasons or holidays, or just a genuinely great photo!

For more information, or to submit your photographs, please contact the Community Association at ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com. **Entries must be submitted by the fifth of the previous month to be featured in the newsletter.** E.g.: March 5 to be featured in the April newsletter.





Rise Calgary (formerly Bowwest Community Services): 14 – 1840 Ranchlands Way NW

Westview Baptist Church: 1313 Ranchlands Way NW

St. James Anglican Church: 6351 Ranchview Drive NW

Islamic Association of NW Calgary: 7750 Ranchview Drive NW

Al-Salam Centre: 6415 Ranchview Drive NW

Good Food Box: Ranchlands' Depot is St. James Anglican Church

Join Us as a Food Pantry Outreach Coordinator

Are you a social connector with a passion for meaningful relationships? Introducing the Ranchlands Food Pantry's Outreach Coordinator role. We need an outgoing self-starter to join us from November to March. You'll approach local businesses on behalf of our pantry, helping to secure donations to support neighbours in need while helping businesses reduce their food waste. Just a few hours a month can make a big impact!

Your Role:

- **Connect and Build:** Set your own schedule, approach businesses, highlight partnership benefits.
- **Logistics Pro:** Coordinate donations, secure items for the RCA food pantry.
- **Monthly Meetups:** Attend RCA meetings (first Wednesday every month, 7:00 to 9:00 pm) to update the board on your progress.
- **Tools Provided:** Templates, recognition materials, and support for success.

Ideal Candidate:

- Brings passion and enthusiasm – no experience needed.
- Natural go-getter who sets their own schedule, loves connecting.
- Values reducing food waste and community support.

Monthly commitment from November to March: Approach two businesses, attend Community Association meetings.

Ready to make a difference? Email ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com by October 15. Let's strengthen our community together! Join the Ranchlands Food Network team today!



As we reach the end of the year, it's a great time to reflect back on the past year's trials and tribulations.

The RCA's Food Pantry program experienced some incredible growth this year, securing a new partnership with the Leftovers Foundation, and now receives regular donations from Community Natural Foods Crowfoot through the Rescue Food program. This has allowed us to offer more nutritious hampers to those facing food insecurity by providing perishables such as meat, bread, and dairy products.

We have also been working hard on connecting ourselves with other local stakeholders, such as the schools, churches, and more. This has opened up new avenues for recruiting volunteers, advertising events, building up our community, and helping us support our neighbours more effectively.

After three amazing years on the board, one as Vice President and two as President, I made the difficult decision to not run for the election this year. For those who attended our Annual General Meeting last month, you have already met the new RCA Board of Directors. Some faces will be familiar as returning Directors, but a few are new. With new people come new ideas, and I am looking forward to supporting them. Even though I am no longer on the Board, you will definitely still see me around the RCA as a volunteer, as I believe so strongly in the importance of community. That is why my family and I chose to live in Ranchlands. Thanks for all your support over these last three years.

December is also a great time to look toward the future. Our December 9 Craft Fair is going to be full of fun! There are already lots of great plans in the pipeline for more community hunting events, more swaps, and much more. I wish all our families in Ranchlands an enjoyable festive season and the very best of everything for 2024.

Anita Raffaele



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

RANCHLANDS COMMUNITY RINK BACK IN ACTION SOON!

Volunteer to join our 12-member Rink team!

- Only two hours a week Monday, Thursday evenings or Saturday morning
- Orientation provided

Contact us to sign up or get more information

email: ranchlands_community@outlook.com

Phone: 403-241-0335

Come Join the Ranchlands Outdoor Rink Volunteer Team

As the days get chillier, we are fast approaching that time of year when the Ranchlands Community Association gets the outdoor rink ready to roll. Our community organized outdoor rink is one of just a few in the city and is such an important part of our community. Whether you are out walking or playing, it is so nice to hear the swoosh of skates, crack of slapshots, and sounds of laughter and fun, as people of all ages from our community enjoy the ice on our community rink.

Each year we have a team of rink volunteers who come together to make sure that the ice is good for hockey games and family skates on Wednesdays and Sundays. And while the rink and ice may feel magical, it would not happen without our Rink Coordinator and three teams giving a couple of hours of their time three times a week on Monday evening, Thursday evening, and Saturday morning. Each team of four adult volunteers snow blow, power sweep, hand shovel the edges and players boxes, and then the big moment - flood the ice, all in two hours or less, depending on the weather.

We are still short some volunteers. No previous experience is required but if you have ever shovelled a sidewalk or driveway, you can pretty well do the job! Please consider joining our group. You can call or email the office to sign up or get more information at 403-241-0335 or ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com.

This amazing group of Ranchlanders works throughout the winter to make sure our rink is open for kids and families, and we are grateful for each one of them.

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*For more details, please contact the office

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**Monday to Friday 8:30 am - 7:00 pm
Saturday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ranchlands Winter Craft Market

Saturday, December 9 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Ranchlands Community Association Building
(7713 Ranchview Drive NW)

An amazing opportunity to shop 35+ local vendors this holiday season! Entry is by donation to the Ranchlands Food Pantry, either non-perishable food items or cash. Volunteers still needed! We are searching for a few additional people who can join the Craft Fair Crew and help us set up tables at 8:00 am that morning. The perk is you get to shop first! If you would like to volunteer, please email us at volunteerrca@gmail.com by December 7.

Ranchlands Free Book Swap

January 27 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Ranchlands Community Association Building
(7713 Ranchview Drive NW)

In honour of Family Literacy Day, Ranchlands will be hosting a book swap at the Ranchlands Community Association building. Book donations will be accepted from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday to Friday at the RCA office with extended drop off times on January 17 and 24 from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to help sort through donations and set them up on tables from 6:00 to 9:00 pm on January 26. If you would like to volunteer, please email us at volunteerrca@gmail.com by January 19.



SCAN HERE TO VIEW ADDITIONAL RANGLANDS CONTENT

News, Events, & More



Crime Statistics



Real Estate Statistics



St. Rita School

As we head deeper into the fall, things are in full swing here at St. Rita. November was another busy month filled with Remembrance Day activities and preparations for our Christmas concert.

As part of our Catholic Community of Caring, our students wrote 'Postcards for Peace', where they took the opportunity to write messages of gratitude that have been sent to Veterans in our local area.

Our teachers continue to incorporate outdoor, nature-based learning. As such, our classes took advantage of November's beautiful weather and had many opportunities to bring their learning outside into the forest throughout the past month.

It has been a busy school year so far, but we are excited about the opportunities and experiences that have been available to our students. We are looking forward to December and the many exciting things it will bring!

We're Expanding the Ranchlands Food Pantry Team!

We're looking to increase the abilities of the Ranchlands Food Pantry by growing our team. We are looking for some special and committed individuals to fill the following unpaid volunteer positions:

Food Pantry Outreach Volunteer: In addition to attending the RCA meeting on the first Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm to deliver updates on progress, this role will set their own schedule with the goal of approaching two local businesses a month to donate to the food pantry. This role is a six-month term and tools such as official letters to deliver to businesses will be supplied.

Food Pantry Inventory Auditor: This role has one shift on the first Wednesday of the month from 6:00 to 7:30 pm and counts the Ranchlands Food Pantry's non-perishable inventory to ensure we have an accurate count of on-hand staples. Just let us know which month you'd like to pick up a shift!

Email volunteerrca@gmail.com to inquire or express interest for either of these positions!

The Second Quarter of the RCA Photo Contest Starts!

Contest Details:

Theme: Joy (Open to your interpretation)

Submission Deadline: February 30, 2024

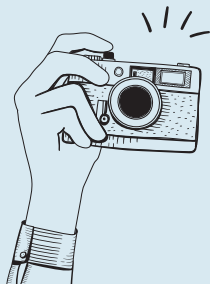
Image Specifications: 1MB, 300DPI, landscape orientation.

Location: While extra points will be awarded for photos taken in the Ranchlands community, it is not a requirement.

Categories: 14 years old and under, 15 to 18 years old, 18+ years of age.

Prizes: The overall winning photo will grace the cover of our April Roundup, and the winning photographers from each category will be entered into the running for the grand prize of 'Photo of the Year' in 2024.

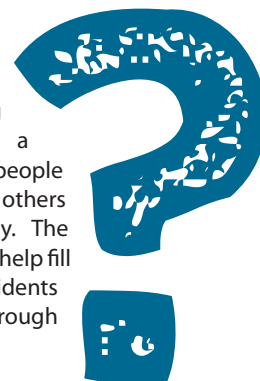
How to Enter: Clearly indicate your age category when submitting your entry by emailing it to ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com with the subject line "RCA Q2 Photo Contest Entry." We can't wait to see your entries!



Did You Know? Have Your Say!

Did You Know?

Every year, shovelling sidewalk snow can be a struggle for older adults, people with limited mobility, and others needing help temporarily. The Snow Angels program can help fill the gap. The City helps residents recognize Snow Angels through a printed certificate.



Did You Know?

A Mobility Safety Education Toolkit has been created to highlight and encourage traffic safety conversations with school aged children. Parents, guardians, and educators are invited to talk with children about how to stay safe while moving on city streets. Just as teenagers must learn and practice how to drive with the support of a parent/adult, children also need help learning and practicing how to walk or wheel safely. Take time to review this important resource and keep your kids safe.

Have Your Say!

The City of Calgary is developing a 'Parks Plan' so that we all can enjoy inclusive and sustainable parks, now and for the future. Leave your feedback.



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Calling All PARENTS

Visit mybabysitter.ca and find available babysitters in and around your community.



If you've ever thought about the term "trailer" when speaking of movies, you might have found it a bit odd that they play before the movie instead of after (hence the name). Interestingly enough, they used to show after the film, but people rarely stuck around to see them, so they reversed the order! It's a catchy name though so we can't blame them for keeping it.

Ranchlands Food Pantry: A Year of Growth, Innovation, and Community Support!

We're thrilled to bring you an exciting update on the recent transformations at the Ranchlands Food Pantry over the past year. In 2022, our community's compassion shone brightly as we provided an astounding 87 food hampers to those in need in the community. This surge of support showcased the spirit that defines Ranchlands – a spirit of generosity, empathy, and togetherness. This year, we have filled requests for nearly 90 hampers with staples generously donated by our wonderful Ranchlands neighbours.

Enhancing Access - We understand the importance of convenience in accessing support. That's why we've introduced a new digital request form on the Ranchlands community website to offers a seamless and confidential way to request food assistance. Starting in November, we're piloting an initiative to drop off hampers on Wednesday evenings as an additional option for community members who cannot pickup their hamper at the community centre. Through partnership with the Leftovers Foundation, Community Natural Foods in Crowfoot, and COBS Bread Crowfoot, we are now able to offer a limited number of perishable items to complement our non-perishable selection of items.

Volunteer Run - The Ranchlands Food Pantry is run entirely by a passionate handful of volunteers. If you are interested in joining this wonderful team, please reach out to volunteerrca@gmail.com to inquire about different roles which range in time commitment from once a week, once a month, or as needed for a few

hours at a time, depending on the role. Your support will help the Ranchlands Food Pantry continue growing their services to meet the needs of our community.

Items Needed - We are incredibly grateful to the Ranchlands School who collected donations at their school dance and stocked our pantry when it was very much needed! Another heartfelt thank you goes out to Ranchlands Dental who generously donated kid and adult toothbrushes and toothpaste which we had just run out of. We continue to need non-expired canned proteins such as tuna and chicken, beans, and soup. Your contributions go a long way toward helping us provide nutritious meals to our community members who need them most.



St. James Winter Festival Friday December 15 at 6pm

Petting Area: Come and meet a donkey and sheep!
Carol singing by the campfire, Hot cocoa,
Indoor craft station for kids, and more!

St. James Anglican Church
6351 Ranchview Drive NW
All are welcome. Admission is free.

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186

RANCHLANDS

SCOUT GROUP

Hello Ranchlanders!

The 186th Scouting Group stands as a beacon of community service and camaraderie. As we reflect on our commitment to the neighbourhood, we find pride in the annual rink cleanup, our ongoing Scout popcorn fundraiser, and the invaluable support of our dedicated volunteers. Today, we extend our gratitude to those who have stood by us and extend an open invitation to new volunteers who share our passion for Scouting.

One of the highlights of our community involvement is the annual rink cleanup. Each year, Scouts from the 186th eagerly gather to transform the local rink into a clean, safe, and inviting space for families. This event not only showcases our dedication to community service but also fosters a sense of unity among our Scouts and their families. It's a tradition we hold dear, symbolizing our commitment to making Ranchlands a better place for everyone.

Supporting the 186th Scouting Group has never been more delicious! Our Scout popcorn fundraiser not only offers a tasty treat but also serves as a crucial source of funding for our diverse scouting programs. Every kernel sold contributes directly to empowering our Scouts with valuable skills, leadership training, and unforgettable experiences. By indulging in our popcorn, the community not only enjoys a tasty snack but becomes an integral part of our Scouting journey.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our current volunteers, especially the parents who generously donated their time at the recent casino event. Your dedication is the backbone of our Scouting family, and without your tireless efforts, our programs wouldn't thrive as they do. We are immensely grateful for your commitment to shaping the future leaders of tomorrow.

Join Us as Scouters

As we continue our mission to make a positive impact, we invite new volunteers to join us as Scouters. Whether you're a parent, community member, or Scouting enthusiast, your involvement can make a significant difference. We're particularly excited to announce our goal of re-opening

our Scout Troop, and we need passionate individuals to help us achieve this milestone. Join our Scouting family and be a part of something truly meaningful.

The 186th Scouting Group is more than just an organization; it's a community of individuals dedicated to making a positive impact in Ranchlands. From the annual rink cleanup to our Scout popcorn fundraiser, every effort is a step towards creating a better future. To our current volunteers, thank you, and to those considering joining us, we eagerly await your presence. Together, we can continue to build a stronger, more connected community through the principles of scouting.

Scouting Knot of the Month: The Square Knot

In the spirit of sharing Scouting knowledge, our Knot of the Month is the Square Knot. A symbol of unity and connection, the Square Knot is a fundamental skill every Scout should master. Its simplicity reflects the strength we find in working together, and it serves as a reminder that, like the knot, our Scouting community is tightly bound, creating a supportive network for everyone involved.

Yours in Scouting,

Christopher Tindall

Group Commissioner

186th Ranchlands Scouting

A Tiny Gift

University nanotechnologists created the smallest Christmas card ever in 2010! Unbelievably, this card is invisible to the human eye as it is thinner than a human hair. You could lay out 8,276 of these cards onto the front of a postage stamp. It may be the perfect little thing to give that person you just never know what to buy for!



The Great Pumpkin Quest is a Success!

The RCA's autumn Pumpkin Quest event was a stunning success with wonderful engagement on our Facebook page as Ranchlanders searched high and low to reunite our pumpkin friends. All have been returned and are celebrating their reunion with nightly feasts cooked up by spice and deserts made by pie. Thank you to everyone that participated.

Please visit the 'events' section of www.ranchlandscommunity.com to see where all the pumpkins were found. The event was so well received that we're hoping to host something similar this spring. If you have ideas or would like to help bring an event to life for our community, please let us know at volunteerrca@gmail.com.



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