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## RANCHLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Contact RCA Office

#### **PROGRAM CONTACTS**

Ranchlands Contact RCA Office

Food Pantry www.ranchlandscommunity.com/RFP

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#### **COMMUNITY CONTACTS**

Ranchlands Elementary School		403-777-6350 ranchlands@cbe.ab.ca
St. Rita's Catholic Elementary School	Cindy De Paoli	403-500-2083 stritas@cssd.ab.ca
Rise Calgary		403-204-8280 info@risecalgary.ca
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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### What Happened in 1979?

Sony releases the Walkman...

The quiz game Trivial Pursuit launched...

The Snowboard is invented in the USA...

The first artificial heart transplant was attempted...

YMCA by Village People peaked at #2 on pop singles chart...

And most importantly, Ranchlands was officially created as a community!

Therefore, we are celebrating 45 years as a strong and vibrant community.

According to the City website, there is an interesting note about a small, but interestingly shaped glacial erratic that was left by the developer of the surrounding community. The erratic was used by the Bison as a "rubbing stone," and the native people of this area relied on the bison. The stone was left to commemorate this historical aspect of the land. You can climb the hill behind the community hall to see for yourself. Our new mural on the front of the hall also reflects this evolution of land to neighbourhood.

What about a \$45 donation? As a not-for-profit charitable organization, we can issue tax receipts for any donations you might make to support the association. There is a link on our website to donate. We continue to assess our programs, ideas, and opportunities through the lens of alignment with our community values, impact to the community, resources needed (people, money, and space) as we steward our revenue, donations, and casino funds with care.

Membership in the community also strengthens us. While there is a nominal fee to fund administration of the association, members build our base of people we can easily reach out to with information, surveys, and volunteer requests, along with other interesting activities that are planned. We encourage you to purchase a membership with your association.

Finally, our community association will be awarded a casino in the second quarter of 2025. Casino funds are designated for expenses and purchases under the guidelines of Alberta Gaming regulations, and the board works to maximize the money we receive. What

we need is a Casino Chairperson! Someone who can assist in recruiting volunteers to work at the casino, help with our gaming submission, fill a shift or two, and be a contributor to the community. If you would like more information about this role, please email me to set up a call to discuss.

Kathy Ervin

President, Ranchlands Community







#### Upgrades to the Community Garden Are Coming! We Need Volunteers

Looking for a way to contribute to Ranchlands? Interested in construction?



The Ranchlands Community Garden (1313 Ranchlands Way NW) has been in operation for over ten years. We are in the process of upgrading our 23 garden boxes because the current boxes are past their best. Our new plans are based on a visit to the Silversprings Community Garden, where our group received a wealth of information from the Garden Co-chair.

So now we are seeking volunteers to help rebuild garden boxes and other tasks associated with enhancing the garden. The assembly of the garden boxes requires energetic volunteers who enjoy the physical labour associated with construction or have creative ideas. Interest in gardening is not required, nor is membership with the community. You just need to have a desire to contribute to getting things ready for the next planting year.

Construction will take place over the next year. If interested, please contact Glenn, Ranchlands Community Garden volunteer, via email at glswanson@shaw.ca.

#### The Ranchlands Community Mural: A Beautiful **New Addition!**

We are excited to announce that the long-awaited Ranchlands community mural has been unveiled! Thanks to the generous support of Calgary Arts Development, the mural now brightens the exterior of our community association building, bringing colour and community spirit to Ranchlands.

In early October, some of you may have seen the talented artist, Julian Lee, working on the mural. We hope you had the chance to stop by, say hello, and watch this incredible work unfold. The mural has truly become a point of pride for our community, showcasing both artistic talent and what makes our community such a special place to live.

On October 27, we celebrated the official unveiling with a wonderful gathering outside the community association building. The event brought together neighbours, friends, and local supporters to admire the new artwork and enjoy some time together. It was an event filled with community spirit and joy as we collectively welcomed this beautiful addition to Ranchlands.

A huge thank you goes out to Calgary Arts Development for their financial support, without which this project would not have been possible. We are incredibly proud of this new landmark and look forward to enjoying it for years to come!

If you haven't yet seen the mural, be sure to stop by the community association building to check it out - it's a must-seel



#### Ranchlands Holiday Light Contest: Illuminate **Our Community!**

As the festive season approaches, it's time to bring some extra sparkle to our beautiful community! We are thrilled to announce the inaugural Ranchlands Holiday Light Contest, and we invite each and every one of you to participate.

This December, let's light up our neighbourhood with creativity and cheer. Whether you prefer twinkling lights, glowing ornaments, or whimsical displays, we want to see your festive spirit shine! The contest is open to all residents, so gather your families, friends, and neighbours to create displays that will enchant our community.

#### **Contest Details:**

Theme: Holiday Spirit! Get creative and express your favourite holiday traditions.

**Participation:** All Ranchlands residents are encouraged to decorate their homes.

Judging Criteria: Displays will be evaluated on creativity, overall appearance, and festive cheer.

Prizes will be awarded for the top three displays, so there's plenty of incentive to show off your holiday flair!

Stay tuned! We'll share more details soon, including judging dates, prize information, and how to register your display. In the meantime, start brainstorming your decorations and get those creative juices flowing!

Let's come together as a community to celebrate the season and brighten our nights. We can't wait to see what you come up with!



#### St. Rita School

St. Rita School had a wonderful fall. We welcomed back our families from previous years as well as newcomers to the neighbourhood. October was full of exciting events like our dance residency, movie night, and Halloween dance! We also celebrated Latin American History Month and Catholic Education Week. The choir is busy rehearsing for the Christmas season, preparing to perform at seniors' residences in December. In November, we will commemorate Remembrance Day with a service on November 8. Parent teacher conferences happen at the end of the month, and then the fun of December begins!



### The Ranchlands Food Pantry

If you live in the Ranchlands community and need food assistance, you can request a food hamper through our website at ranchlandscommunity.com under the 'Programs' section. The Ranchlands Food Pantry is available to all Ranchlands residents whether you're a senior, international student, single parent, newcomer to Ranchlands, or a family needing a little help between paychecks. If you live in Ranchlands and are facing food insecurity, this program is for you.

Requests for hampers can be made at any time, but to receive a hamper on the next pickup day (Monday), your request must be submitted by 9:00 am that Monday. Pickups take place every Monday at 7713 Ranchview Drive NW, the community association building, in the kitchen of the Main Hall. If Monday falls on a statutory long weekend, pickups will be on Tuesday. Importantly, there is no limit to how many times you can request a hamper throughout the calendar year.

For those without transportation, we offer volunteer drivers who can deliver hampers to your home contact-free. If you'd like to choose from fridge and freezer items—generously donated each week by Community Natural Foods in Crowfoot—you'll need to come in person to the kitchen of the Main Hall at 7713 Ranchview Drive NW to make your selection. After making your choices, you can either take the hamper with you or have it delivered by a volunteer.

Support for the pantry's non-perishable items is entirely made possible through donations from community members. We are currently in need of items such as cereal, canned vegetables, fruits, meats, peanut butter, and granola bars. Donations can be dropped off at the Ranchlands Community Association RFP box, located in the fover of the community association building. Drop-off hours are Monday to Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, with extended hours on Mondays until 5:30 pm.

Your support and contributions are deeply appreciated, helping us continue to provide assistance to our neighbours in need!

#### **Ranchlands School**

It has been a great start to another busy year at Ranchlands School. We have enjoyed the beautiful fall weather with many students spending time outdoors exploring spaces, including the Buffalo Rubbing Stone and community walks around our school. We had a successful Meet the Teacher evening to start the year and Terry Fox run mid-September. Orange shirts hang in our windows as we honour Indigenous peoples and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation which took place September 30. We again will be supporting the Ranchlands Food Pantry with donations collected at our parent run Family Halloween Dance, if you wish to donate you are welcome to drop off donations at the school anytime.

Last month's *Ranchlands Roundup* ran an article on School Safety Tips, we appreciate the reminder and ask folks, please take the time to follow safe behaviour when driving around schools and playgrounds. Following speed limits and parking rules, and not jaywalking or U-turning all help to keep our children safe. A few seconds can make all the difference in protecting our children.

Wishing you all a wonderful fall.

Kind Regards,

Steve Wigglesworth

Principal





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Westview Baptist Church: 1313 Ranchlands Way NW

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DIIVE IVV

Al-Salam Centre: 6415 Ranchview Drive NW

**Good Food Box:** Ranchlands' Depot is St. James

Anglican Church



#### **GAMES & PUZZLES**

#### **Guess the Landmark!**

- 1. This gorgeous UNESCO World Heritage Site in India was built to be a mausoleum.
- 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ was made across many dynasties and states, taking over 2,500 years to construct.
- 3. This stunning Italian landmark is also called the Bell Tower and is over 180 feet tall.
- 4. This iconic structure was built for the 1889 World Fair; it celebrated the  $100^{\rm th}$  anniversary of the French Revolution.
- 5. This famous ancient city was frozen in time due to almost the exact opposite circumstance.
- 6. There are no straight lines in this ancient temple structure, located on the Athenian Acropolis.





### Building Bright Futures for Little Ranchlanders and Their Parents!

The Ranchlands Community Association is delighted to be the host for a dependable and nurturing environment for children through Pre-Kindergarten Educational Services. Knowing that Ranchlands has always been a family-oriented community, Pre-K Ed is genuinely excited about their partnership with the Ranchlands Community Association. Passionately run by sisters Melanie Crist and Melissa Tran, Pre-K Ed is family-owned and operated and has made its name in Calgary by catering to the diverse childcare needs of families.

Their goal is to bring the Ranchlands community together through a range of hands-on activities for children ages three to twelve, by providing recreational programming short-term licensed care for children attending Ranchlands School. Odyssey Out of School Care offers a variety of activities to keep children entertained and engaged. Quest Kinder Care offers half day programs that incorporate learning through play, focusing on early literacy and numeracy skills. Pre-K Ed provides STEM activities, arts and crafts, creative movement, and opportunities to develop fine and gross motor skills. Special visitors such as magicians, mad scientists, and musicians are invited to enhance the learning experience.

We are very excited that they will also be organizing Christmas parties, family picnics, and field trips to create memorable experiences for both children and parents alike. To further promote parent-child interaction, Pre-K Ed has told us they will offer opportunities for parents to come and play together with their children. They will also provide options during school break camps and professional days. With operating hours from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm, Pre-K Ed aims to accommodate the diverse needs of families. We know spaces are available and encourage families to register now by visiting www.PreKindergartenEd.com.

#### **RANCHLANDS HIDDEN GEM**



# **Keep Piping While the Sun Shines**

Have you heard the bagpipes in Ranchlands? They have warmed the hearts of many of us. Meet Rob MacLeod, Ranchlands' Resident Piper who can be seen and heard walking along the sidewalks in our community. It is just delightful!

Rob and his wife moved into Ranchlands this summer and are settling into life in Northwest Calgary. Rob is an engineer, and his wife is a teacher. While Rob enjoys technical discussions and Excel spreadsheets, he is musically fulfilled playing the bagpipes. He plays with the Cochrane Pipe Band and performs at private gigs, such as birthdays, weddings, retirement parties, funerals,



company events, and church functions. His playlist ranges from traditional Scottish tunes to the *Star Wars* theme song. Oh, and of course Baby Shark which is always a hit with the neighbourhood kids....and secretly with some of the adults.

Rob's piping career has spanned twenty years, and he looks forward to performing bagpipe tunes for many years to come.





# Become a Volunteer Tax Preparer!

Ranchlands Community Association (RCA) is in the process of planning to host tax preparation sessions for Ranchlanders in 2025. Through the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program, RCA will be able to host free tax clinics where volunteers can complete tax returns for people with a modest income and a simple tax situation. We plan to host these sessions in the spring and will have more details to share in the coming months.

To make this idea a reality we will need volunteers. Community Volunteer Income Tax Program volunteers can take on many different roles. Whether you prepare tax returns or provide support, you will be helping people who are unable to do their taxes on their own. Although it's helpful, you don't need experience doing tax returns to volunteer. All volunteers are offered web-based training on how to do taxes, using tax software, and determining their responsibilities. Online training can be supplemented with inperson training or virtual training sessions. We will need volunteers to host and review documents as well as prepare. And it is also possible to do the tax preparation online.

RCA will be coordinating the access to training. If you are interested in being part of this program, please call the office at 403-241-0335 or send an email to ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com.

More information about the Community Volunteer Income Tax program itself can be found online at www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/community-volunteer-incometax-program/lend-a-hand-individuals/roles-responsibilities.html.



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# Peanut Butter Lovers Month

Did you know November is Peanut Butter Lovers Month? Although, many believe George Washington Carver is the person to thank for this tasty, nutty treat. It was actually Canadian chemist Marcellus Gilmore Edson who patented peanut paste in 1884, by milling roasted peanuts between heated surfaces.

Now you know who to thank for your favourite spread!





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