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THE OFFICIAL DEER RUN COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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# The Greatest Detective?

Arthur Conan Doyle created the fictional detective character named Sherlock Holmes in 1887. Out of all the characters ever played in movies and TV, Sherlock Holmes is the most-played human character. Does this make him the greatest detective ever?



## Thank You Jellybean Dance Volunteers

A big shout out to our faithful Jellybean Dance Volunteers! About seven teens planned and ran the woodland-themed dance this past month. We had a great turnout! The notable costumes were the group with green face makeup, a tree complete with owl burrow, and many flowers in hairdo's (that must have taken hours). Our guessing game was to find the 23 strategically placed woodland creatures – and it was a lot of fun. Our decorating crew created a massive fifteen-foot tree, complete with three footprints from our special guest, Mr. Bigfoot (his wife could not make it). This only happens with the adult chaperones who faithfully ensured that there were no shenanigans and that all went orderly. Thanks everyone for making Deer Run the best place to raise kids!

## Borrow Summer Reads at the DRCA's Community Bookshelf

by Nicole B

Have you ever been to the Deer Run Community Centre? If so, I bet you've seen the bookshelf at the entrance of the building. The bookshelf is actually a community library!

Our community library is for everyone of any age. Anyone can come and take a book to read, and anyone can leave any books at our community library. Read Stephen King's chilling *Under the Dome* then binge watch the CBS series from a decade ago. Or, find half a dozen detective novels from Anne Perry's popular *Thomas and Charlotte Pitt* detective series, among many other good reads.

Share your favourite books or find your next favourite book here! Keep in mind when dropping off books little eyes will be browsing books on the shelf. That said, we encourage families to stock the shelves with all those old board books and fairy tales your kids have grown to love and leave behind.



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# Deer Run Community Association (DRCA)

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Rental Inquiries: 403-278-3117



We meet on a weekday evening, once a month. All DRCA members are welcome. To attend, email the Board secretary; our emails are on the website.

## THE EXECUTIVE

President	Kim Semeniuk
Vice President	Mike Isakeit
Treasurer	Ed McCrea
Secretary	Bley Etienne

## THE DIRECTORS

Ways and Means	Brenda Marks
Capital Expenditures	Jay Clements
Director at Large	Donovan Harris
	Ken Werbicki
Social	Christian Fruhen
Newsletter	Todd Andre

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## Deer Run Community Centre

2223 - 146 Ave SE Calgary, AB, T2J 6P8

Phone: 403-278-3117 Fax: 403-278-4961

Email: [info@deerruncalgary.com](mailto:info@deerruncalgary.com)

### Centre Hours (subject to change)

Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

### Key Staff

Centre Manager Rob Garnett 403-278-3117  
Childcare Director Mercy Musakanya 403-271-3704

## Newsletter

*Your Deer Run Villager* is published twelve times per year. The submission deadline is the first of each month for the following issue.

Please email your articles or community event listings as an attachment, in an MS Word file, to the DRCA Communications Director at [commdirector@deerruncalgary.com](mailto:commdirector@deerruncalgary.com).

Community-related digital photos and art are welcome. Ensure recognizable people in images have given their permission. Send a caption and/or the names of people. The requirements are 250 KB for a smaller picture and 1 to 3 MB for a cover picture. JPEG format is preferred.

## Our Mission

Facilitate a variety of fun programs and activities to encourage community involvement and volunteer opportunities.

## Our Vision

Deer Run is a thriving community that provides opportunities to support our families and neighbours.

## Board of Directors

We are always looking for enthusiastic and community orientated residents to join our board and volunteer committees. It's a great way to contribute to Deer Run. Visit the volunteer page on our website for details.



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Well, everyone – more good news. We got about \$68,000 in funding from the City for projects around the centre. What are we doing with the money? New gym doors to fix the hinges (people keep wedging the hinges to keep the gym doors open – so it's around \$6,000 each time they need to be replaced), a new sump pump system to ensure we don't flood, some plumbing repairs, gym lighting remediation, new wooden light poles for our rink/outdoor area, new fire shutters in the kitchen and new bathroom vanities. We are hoping for the provincial grant to cover the other 25 to 50 percent of the costs above.

Other repairs that are going on around the centre are electrical circuit tracing and bathroom door repairs – exciting? Not really but it gives you some insight into what happens around the centre.

### DRCA Casino, May 22 and 23

We need volunteers! Please sign up online by clicking the button at the top of [deerruncalgary.com](http://deerruncalgary.com). Put your contact information so we can get you the official form. This could mean anywhere from \$50,000 to \$70,000 of funding for your community. The money is spent on items that affect all community members (the AGLC are quite strict). This year's casino is at the Deerfoot Inn and Casino – as always.

The Daycare improvements are coming along. There is a super-secret team picking the colours of the new daycare space. It's super-secret because such topics split organizations (no I am not kidding), so we have decided to just let them decide on the colour scheme. Just look at what happened downstairs; people love it, with the exception of a few critics. It is bright, cheerful, and plain fun, especially compared to the old drab colours which were likely "in" when those colours were updated. Lastly, the designs for the new day care are in! We are just waiting for permits.

We believe we have someone to lead the flower planters. We have money coming for new asphalt for the rink, but we really need project management and admin volunteers to finalize the placement, dot all the i's and cross all the t's. We are likely turning the hockey rink to allow a pleasure rink in front of the hockey rink. If you have experience writing business plans, communicating with your neighbours via writing and working with project planning or procurement – we really need a few hours a week. Call or email Rob at the centre 403-278-3117 or [info@deerruncalgary.com](mailto:info@deerruncalgary.com).

## Your Voice Matters: Be Heard at Our Monthly Board Meetings

by Nicole B

Are you interested in your community? We have the perfect thing for you! Monthly meetings fall on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm and everybody from the community is invited.

Our executive board leads our meeting and discusses future community events, renovation, and improvement projects, as well as community centre programs. Meetings run until all board members and community association members have had a chance to speak. Your voice matters and we want you to have your say!

Getting involved helps the community by giving your input, perspectives, and suggestions. It helps our community grow. But keep an eye on our website calendar when summer months roll around, as meeting times and dates will be adjusted for travel and vacation.

For more information or to buy a Deer Run Community Association Membership - please go to our website at [deerruncalgary.com/staff-board](http://deerruncalgary.com/staff-board).

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## Program Spotlight: South Calgary Wado Kai Karate Club

It has been almost three decades since sensei Heather Fidyk and sensei Darren Fidyk founded the South Calgary Wado Kai Karate Club (SCWKKC), a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing health, fitness, and martial arts understanding. Thirty years of teaching have left a stamp on the community, but the club has also imprinted itself on its longtime leader.

"The organization has become a characteristic of who I am and a part of the lives of many of our ranking members," says Sensei Heather Fidyk, a seventh-degree black belt with over 25 years of coaching experience. "Some, like me, have been part of the club for over half their life."

The SCWKKC offers services to Southern Calgary communities through various activities, including classes, workshops, and tournaments. As part of the Shintani Wado Kai Karate Federation and Karate Alberta, the club upholds a commitment to quality martial arts education.

Sensei Heather Fidyk's background as an international competitor and a seasoned coach enables her to develop athletes through effective guidance, coaching, and mentoring. Heather's approach to coaching extends beyond karate training to include valuable life skills such as respect, discipline, humility, listening, and communication. She emphasizes learning, working hard, and playing sports as a fun, lifelong endeavour. This has created a welcoming, student-centric, and fun learning environment for kids, families, and athletes of all levels within the Deer Run Community. She also works with para-athletes and finds the mentoring process both rewarding and exciting.

The South Calgary Karate club has classes for all ages and people, from our Just for Kicks (JFK) program for three to five year old kids, family classes for all ages, and ranges from beginner up, advanced belt classes for higher ranks, black belt training for senior ranks, and competitive training in association with Karate Alberta. Students can train in basic movements and forms of martial arts, family classes, kata (pre-arranged sequences of movements), kumite (sport fighting), Shindo (short stick weapons form), as well as local, provincial, and national tournaments, clinics, and workshops.



*Sensei Heather Fidyk and Geraldine Young throw punches during a session of the Wado Kai Karate Club at the Deer Run Community Centre. Join them for classes on Friday nights or Saturday mornings in the DRCA gym.*

## Plan the Future of the Outdoor Rink

The outdoor skating rink at the Deer Run Community Centre has finished its 40-year run of skate parties and impromptu shinny hockey. Let's get together to plan the infrastructure for the next 40 years to be even better than the last.

We are creating a committee to help plan and manage the project. Some of the future plans the board members have discussed include:

### Orientation of Rink

- Placement of recreational skating area
- Placement of pavement and boards for hockey rink
- Placement of light poles
- Placement of future buildings (heated garage, possible indoor rink)

Ideally candidates would have experience in any or all of the following:

- Project Management
- Creative Problem Solving
- Planning
- Hockey or other related skating sports

As soon as you finish reading this, send an email to the community centre manager, Rob, expressing your interest at [info@deerruncalgary.com](mailto:info@deerruncalgary.com), or call 403-278-3117. Budget is approved and work will begin this summer, so we need your help as soon as we can get it!





## DRCA PROGRAMS

### South Calgary Wado Kai Karate

Tuesdays, beginners' classes, 6:15 to 7:15 pm and advanced 7:15 to 8:30 pm

Fridays, advanced 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Saturdays, preschool class, 9:20 to 10:00 am, beginners' class 10:00 to 11:00 am, and advanced classes, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

[www.calgarywadokai.com](http://www.calgarywadokai.com)

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### FLC Seniors Tai Chi

Tuesday and Thursday Mornings

Contact our registrar at [taichi@flcseniors.ca](mailto:taichi@flcseniors.ca)

Website: [www.flcseniors.ca/activities/taichi](http://www.flcseniors.ca/activities/taichi)

### Adult Volleyball

Adults, Monday to Friday evenings

Ashley: [ashleymiller6@live.com](mailto:ashleymiller6@live.com)

### Jazzercise

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30 am

Chris: [vanreenenchris8@gmail.com](mailto:vanreenenchris8@gmail.com)

### Country Line Dancing

Wednesdays, 1:30 to 2:30 pm

Line dancing is fun for everyone. No partner required. It's good exercise, lots of fun, and a great social outing.

Email: [gwen\\_ncld@outlook.com](mailto:gwen_ncld@outlook.com), [gwen\\_newell@yahoo.ca](mailto:gwen_newell@yahoo.ca)

### Svaroopa Yoga

Monday (with Alena) 7:00 to 8:30 pm, Tuesday (with Laurie) 9:30 to 11:00 am, Wednesday (with Heather) 7:15 to 8:45 pm, Thursday (with Laurie) 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Laurie Hislop: [hislop@shaw.ca](mailto:hislop@shaw.ca), 403-585-9045

Alena: [alenaatul@hotmail.com](mailto:alenaatul@hotmail.com), 403-605-8929

Heather: [heatherwongken@yahoo.com](mailto:heatherwongken@yahoo.com), 403-862-1133

### Yoga Fundamentals Drop-in with Shawna

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## Calendar of Events

Litter Cleanup	Saturday, April 13
Jellybean Dance (Grades 3 to 6)	Saturday, April 27 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Parade of Garage Sales	Saturday, May 13 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Stampede Breakfast	Saturday, June 22 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Board BBQ	Saturday, August 10
Ball Tournament	August 16 to 18



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#### News, Events, & More



#### Crime Statistics



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## Introducing Deer Runes: Poems from the Community

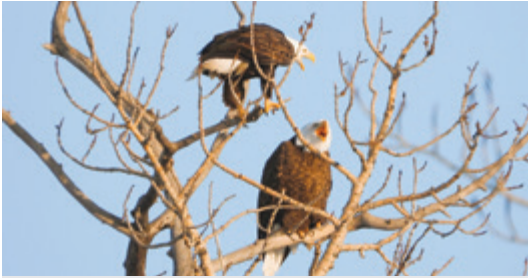


Photo by Nilmini Weera

### Eagle and Coyote

by Ashan Andre, age 5

A coyote sat under the bridge  
Eating grass.  
An eagle soared through the sky.

### Eagle

by Kian Andre, age 3

Fly. Catch fish!  
Catch fish with his talons.  
He poos.

*Do you have a poem about Fish Creek and the neighbourhood? Submit your poem, name (and age if you are a kid) to [newsletter@deerruncalgary.com](mailto:newsletter@deerruncalgary.com) so our poetry editor, Neshali Weera, can publish it in our monthly poetry section. Poetry specific to the neighbourhood and the season are encouraged! If possible, we would love a picture accompany it too!*

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# Fall In Love with Pickleball: The World's Fastest Growing Sport Needs to Grow a Little More In Deer Run – And Here's Why

by Todd Andre

Kyle May showed up to the courts to play tennis. He left the court that day with an unexpected passion for a quirky new game.

"We showed up with our tennis rackets and gear, then Craig Button came over," says May, dropping the name of former Flames General Manager and currently one of Sportsnet's top hockey analysts. "They asked us to play, and I fell in love with it."

What kind of game could divert your carefully planned tennis match and create such a strong connection in a single afternoon? Pickleball.

It's the fastest growing game in North America. Its surging popularity pushed by celebrities like reality TV queens The Kardashians, former NFL star receiver Larry Fitzgerald, supermodel Heidi Klum and yes, even our own ruffled Craig Button. Button himself would be surprised to see his name in the same sentence as those other celebrities, but that's what makes pickleball so unique; it's played by seniors, teenagers, and toddlers alike - all who can learn it in fifteen minutes and fall in love by match end.

It all started when a group of ragtag rowers in the "pickleboat" needed something to keep their kids busy while they were on the water. They had ping pong paddles, a badminton net and a plastic wiffle ball. Pickleball was born. Essentially, it's wiffle-ball tennis played on a much smaller, badminton-sized court – which has its advantages.

"You can fit two pickle ball courts on a standard tennis court," says May. "Eight people can fit on a court that would usually have a max of four."

Later, it became the perfect pandemic pastime. Pickleball courts can be set up in a typical Deer Run driveway, and the game is such that highly skilled players can match up against beginners, and the young can play and compete against the old. It was the perfect way to spend time with your family outside, while staying home.

Today, Major League Pickleball projects the sport to grow at 30 to 40 per cent every year in the next ten years, increasing amateur players from 5 million to 40 million, and vaulting itself in popularity over golf and tennis in the process.

"If you've ever taught someone to play tennis, it's difficult. The ball is flying everywhere and you're either hitting it too hard, or not hard enough," says May. "Pickleball is a game where anyone can pick it up and rally."

That versatility is spreading the sport like wildfire. And it's spread here, too. Come down to the Deer Run Community Centre on Sunday mornings between 9:45 am to 12:45 pm and try for yourself. Grab paddles and balls from the front desk on your way into the gym.

Sceptical? Scared? Even avid players like May were hesitant before finally picking up the paddle, but he's an advocate now.

"Just try it once and you'll love it."

**Pickleball, Deer Run Community Centre, Every Sunday, 9:45 am to 12:45 pm, Equipment available at front desk.**



*Even Teddy, Kyle May's two year-old son, is welcome to join the action at your local pickleball game.*

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Budget 2024 – a plan that prioritizes investments in health, education, and safety, and that ensures our province will continue to grow and thrive for generations to come.

Health care is a key pillar of Budget 2024. If passed, the budget would invest \$1 billion over three years to transform the continuing care system in response to the Facility-Based Continuing Care Review; \$475 million to support the continued implementation of the Modernizing Alberta's Primary Health Care System initiative, including \$200 million over two years to improve access to family physicians; \$10 million for primary health care initiatives in Indigenous communities; and \$15 million to further develop a compensation model for nurse practitioners.

Budget 2024 also focuses strongly on education. This budget would invest \$1.9 billion to support 98 school projects over the next three years. \$681 million in new funding would be invested to support priority school projects, including 43 new projects announced in the budget, creating a total of 35,000 new or modernized student spaces for children around the province. And an additional \$1.5 billion would be invested for educational learning supports for vulnerable students, children with specialized learning needs, and other students requiring additional supports.

Alberta provides among the most generous affordability measures and social supports across the country and Budget 2024 continues to help alleviate the financial burdens on Albertans. This includes \$717 million in capital grants over three years to advance Alberta's Affordable Housing Strategy, which incorporates \$254 million in new funding to help build about 3,300 new affordable housing units and complete 1,800 units already underway.

Finally, Budget 2024 focuses on paying down debt. An estimated \$6.4 billion in surplus cash is projected at the end of 2023-24 and Alberta's government is using half to pay off maturing debt this fiscal year. Of the remaining \$3.2 billion surplus cash, a forecast \$2 billion will be put in the Alberta Fund, and the other \$1.2 billion is being allocated to debt repayment to limit new borrowing required in 2024-25.

Budget 2024 is a responsible plan that prioritizes the needs of Albertans and their families and will help ensure Alberta continues to be one of the best places in the world to live, work, play, raise a family, or start a business.

If you have any questions or input, please feel free to reach out to my office at Calgary.FishCreek@assembly.ab.ca.

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