

FEBRUARY 2024

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Community Affairs	Anita Sukhdeo	CommunityAffairs@QueenslandDiamondCove.com
Membership	Darcy Saworski	Membership@QueenslandDiamondCove.com
Youth Activities	Julie Racine	YouthActivities@QueenslandDiamondCove.com
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2nd Director at Large	Ian Murphy	DirectorAtLarge2@QueenslandDiamondCove.com

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Programs	Linda Brown	Programs@QueenslandDiamondCove.com
Hall Rentals	Linda Brown	Rentals@QueenslandDiamondCove.com
Crier Newsletter	Linda Brown	Crier@QueenslandDiamondCove.com
Hockey	Knights HC	
Baseball	Fish Creek Little League	
Guides	Kiran McKee	Kiranamckee@gmail.com
Scouts	Chris Sutton	QSA172@gmail.com
Calgary Police Service	Brandon Gillis	pol5284@calgarypolice.ca

If you are interested in any of the open board positions, please email Volunteer@QueenslandDiamondCove.com.



The Food Box is a program where you can purchase fresh fruit and vegetables for a very low cost. This program is available to everyone to promote a healthy and nutritional living.

Apples | Bananas | Broccoli
Carrots | Cauliflower | Celery
Cucumber | Lettuce | Mushroom
Onions | Oranges | Potatoes
Tomatoes | Green Pepper

*(selection will vary)

Large

35 to 40 pounds **\$40**

Medium

25 to 30 pounds **\$35**

Small

15 to 20 pounds **\$30**

Order by	Delivery by
February 28	March 9

2024

\$20

QUEENSLAND/DIAMOND COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Method of payment: Cash: _____ Cheque: _____

Cut out this coupon and mail or drop off at the Community Hall



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QUEENSLAND DIAMOND COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone,

Well, we are a month into 2024 as I write this message and I hope everyone had a good start to this new year.

There are many individuals and families enjoying both the pleasure skating rink and the hockey rink daily. Many thanks to Aaron and his dedicated volunteers for a job well done maintaining the rinks.

We would like to welcome Ramadan back to the hall again this year from March 10 to April 9.

April 20 has been chosen for our AGM this year. Please mark it on your calendar and plan to attend! Everyone is invited to join us, but only members are eligible to vote. A few positions are open if you are interested in becoming more involved. We will let everyone know what those positions are closer to the meeting date.

The parade of Garage sales will be held in Queensland on May 24. Start gathering up your treasures and watch for sign up information in your next *Crier* and our Facebook page.

Take care and talk to you again next month.

Cheers,

Brian



Hall Rental Rates

Gym use	\$60/hr + GST
Gym (weddings)	\$500 + GST + \$100 cleaning fee; damage deposit \$250
Children's parties	\$175 + GST + \$100 cleaning fee
Boardroom, multi-purpose small meeting rooms	\$30/hr + GST



QUEENSLAND/ DIAMOND COVE OUTDOOR RINK VOLUNTEERS

“To promote and facilitate community spirit and involvement in Queensland/ Diamond Cove”

Outdoor Rink Volunteers Required... All Ages!

YOUTH ADULTS SENIORS

Location: 649 Queensland Dr. SE

Commitment:

- November-March (weather dependant)
- Flexible time commitment, 2-6 hours per week (daytime, evening and/or weekends)
- Join our Rink Volunteer email call-out list

Training and Orientation:

- On site at Queensland Outdoor Rink and coordinated with the Outdoor Rink Operator(s)

Qualifications:

- A responsible, community-minded individual who enjoys spending time outdoors
- Able to respond to varying weather conditions
- Able to do some heavy lifting, in regards to rink snow shoveling, hose floods and run small equipment safely
- Able to foster and work in a team environment

Benefits:

- A great opportunity to get to know your neighbours, and to foster neighbourhood spirit
- Provides a positive recreational, healthy, opportunity for your community
- Provides watchful eyes to enhance your neighbourhood's safety
- Provides job resume experience

Future OUTDOOR RINK Goals:

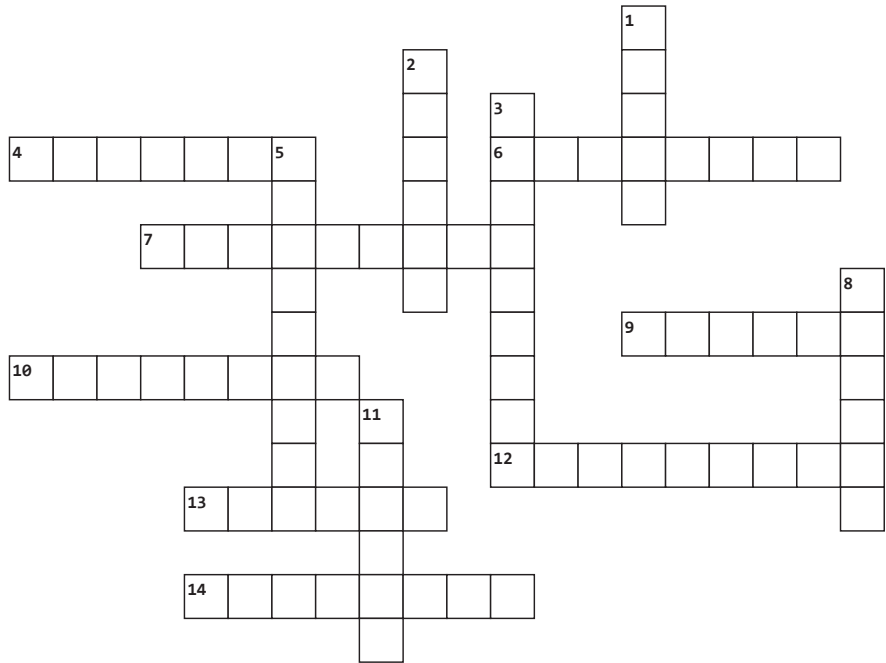
- Ice Resurfacer and Snow Removal Equipment
- Detachable Storage To secure Equipment
- Fundraising, Future Grants
- Advertising Welcome! Sponsor a Section of Rink Boards with your Company Name

Contact: The Community Hall @ 403-278-3366 or sports@queenslanddiamondcove.com

-The winters of my childhood were long, long seasons.

We lived in three places - the school, the church and the skating rink - but our real life was on the skating rink . -Roch Carrier-

February Crossword



Across

4. This historical fiction novel was released on February 10, 2009, and made into a major motion picture starring Viola Davis, Octavia Spencer, and Emma Stone.
6. A ring made with this birthstone had a carved image of Cupid and is said to be worn by St. Valentine.
7. This American painter, well-known for his artwork "American Gothic" was born on February 13, 1891.
9. On February 15, 1965, this country officially received its flag, 100 years after becoming a country.
10. Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir won gold in this category in February 2010 at the Vancouver Winter Olympics.
12. This well-known annual league championship takes place every year on the second Sunday in February. It will be played on February 11 at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas this year.
13. The official flower that represents birthdays in February.
14. The popular heart-shaped candies with cute messages were originally used as _____.

Down

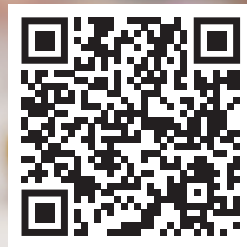
1. This dwarf planet was discovered on February 18, 1930, and was named by 11-year-old, Venetia Burney.
2. February 10, 2024, marks the beginning of the Year of the _____.
3. This festival, which takes place on the same day as Shrove Tuesday, celebrates the end of the pre-Lenten season with colourful masks and parades.
5. Released in February 1940, this Disney motion picture featuring the beloved character Figaro, was the first animated feature to win a competitive Academy Award.
8. In 1990, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Helen Hunley, introduced this day to celebrate and honour loved ones.
11. Abel Makkonen Tesfaye, better known as The _____, was born on February 16, 1990, in Scarborough.

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Rare Plants in Alberta – Green Milkweed and Sticky Purple Geranium

Thursday, February 22, 2024, 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

Presented by Tory Blanchard, Masters of Ecology Student – University of Calgary.

Conservation needs a greater focus on how rare species interact within their neighbourhoods. Rare plants have been found to exist in areas that are positively associated. These are areas with plant communities that facilitate or help one another. One example of facilitation occurs through shared pollinators. Common plants may attract numerous pollinating species, such as bees and butterflies, to a community and the rare plants who rely on these pollinators for their reproduction will benefit indirectly from the common plants. Tory's work will examine the distribution, assembly, and pollinator-mediated plant interactions of two rare species in southern Alberta: Green Comet Milkweed and Sticky Purple Geranium. The study will involve collaboration with members of the Kainai First Nation and will use data from community science platforms such as iNaturalist to address these occurrences. Free for Friends of Fish Creek members and \$10 for non-members. Registration required. www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/rareplants.

Dedicate a Bench in Fish Creek - Leave a Lasting Legacy

As you pass through the different areas of Fish Creek Provincial Park you have most likely seen and perhaps sat upon one of our beautiful dedication benches. Dedication benches provide a comfortable place for park visitors to rest and appreciate nature and feature a bronze plaque with a unique and personal message. There are approximately 105 benches in the park, and each year several benches are made available to a new donor. This year we will have some beautiful benches available in the west and central regions of the park, so if you have been thinking about dedicating a bench, this may be the perfect opportunity for you. Benches are available for a ten-year term and all donors will receive a valuable tax receipt. Dedicating a bench here in Fish Creek Provincial Park is also the perfect way to leave a legacy for future generations of your family. The dedication bench

program provides essential funding for the Friends of Fish Creek and helps ensure that we can continue and expand upon our stewardship and engagement activities in the park. We would like to thank Alberta Forestry and Parks and the Venturers Society of Calgary for supporting the Friends of Fish Creek in the delivery of this very special program. For more information or to dedicate a bench, please give us a call at 403-238-3841 ext. 1 or visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/dedication-bench.

Membership Shows You Care

Now is the best time of year to renew your Friends of Fish Creek membership or to become a member. By renewing your Friends of Fish Creek membership, you will help ensure that Fish Creek Provincial Park remains a cherished and accessible resource for all, now and for generations to come. Your generous contribution will play a vital role in enabling us to continue with our stewardship and engagement initiatives aimed at preserving the natural splendour of Fish Creek Provincial Park. Friends of Fish Creek members receive benefits like admission to our Fish Creek Speaker Series programs, a discount on the popular Birding Courses, a discount at select local businesses, and the ability to vote at our Annual General Meeting. Show your support for this park by becoming a member or renewing your membership today. Memberships will be valid until December 31, 2024. To renew your commitment to Fish Creek please visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/membership.

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have free time and would like to volunteer in Fish Creek Provincial Park? The 2024 volunteer season is just around the corner, and we are looking for people to assist with various programs starting this spring. To begin volunteering please visit our website and create an account on our online volunteer system, MyImpactPage. We look forward to working with you to bring the Friends' 2024 volunteer programs to life! For more information, please visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/volunteering-basics.



Queensland/Diamond Cove Real Estate Update

Last 12 Months Queensland
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Median Asking Price	Median Sold Price
December 2023	\$500,000	\$527,000
November 2023	\$449,999	\$487,500
October 2023	\$519,999	\$525,000
September 2023	\$549,900	\$549,900
August 2023	\$429,500	\$461,000
July 2023	\$449,900	\$468,000
June 2023	\$475,000	\$475,000
May 2023	\$400,000	\$480,000
April 2023	\$329,900	\$352,000
March 2023	\$399,000	\$408,500
February 2023	\$439,450	\$433,500
January 2023	\$479,000	\$480,000

Last 12 Months Diamond Cove
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Median Asking Price	Median Sold Price
December 2023	\$0	\$0
November 2023	\$625,000	\$645,000
October 2023	\$839,950	\$830,250
September 2023	\$725,000	\$700,000
August 2023	\$0	\$0
July 2023	\$769,900	\$773,500
June 2023	\$0	\$0
May 2023	\$749,000	\$775,000
April 2023	\$0	\$0
March 2023	\$1,289,000	\$1,260,000
February 2023	\$0	\$0
January 2023	\$0	\$0

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

Queen Bee Quilters



The Queen Bee Quilters are accepting new members.

We are a needlecraft group (that includes quilting, knitting, cross stitch, crochet, etc.).

We meet on Thursdays from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm at the Queensland Community Centre in the back room (up the stairs by the ice rink).

Fees are \$25 per month.

Bring your craft, your own coffee mug, and join us!



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Moist Red Velvet Cupcakes

With cream cheese frosting or white frosting.

Ingredients

- ½ cup butter
- 1 ½ cups white sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 fluid ounce red food colouring
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking soda
- 1 tablespoon distilled white vinegar
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ⅓ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon salt

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit (175 degrees Celsius). Grease two 12 cup muffin pans or line with 20 paper baking cups.
2. In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Mix in the eggs, buttermilk, red food colouring and vanilla. Stir in the baking soda and vinegar. Combine the flour, cocoa powder, and salt; stir into the batter just until blended. Spoon the batter into the prepared cups, dividing evenly.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until the tops spring back when lightly pressed, 20 to 25 minutes. Cool in the pan set over a wire rack. When cool, arrange the cupcakes on a serving platter and frost with desired frosting.



Backyard Bird Watching

by John McFaul



Many bird species make their home in Calgary or pass through the city on migration. They bring joy to backyard birdwatchers with their songs, colourful plumage, and their interesting antics. The cheery disposition of the Chickadees in winter, the Robin singing that spring has arrived, the bejewelled Ruby-throated Hummingbird visiting the flowers of summer, and the waves of exotic warblers passing through on their fall migration connects us to the flow of nature and time.

Calgarians can attract avian visitors to their yards by providing food, water, nesting, and shelter. Wintering birds such as Chickadees, Nuthatches, and Finches benefit from a steady supply of black oil sunflower seeds and chips. Blue Jays enjoy dining on unsalted peanuts. Suet will attract Downy Woodpeckers. Hummingbird feeders filled with a mixture of four parts water to one part sugar could entice the hummingbirds that summer in Calgary.

Water is appreciated by birds for drinking and bathing. It can be provided by simple bird baths or by more elaborate ponds and small streams.

Nest boxes and platforms can attract birds such as Chickadees, Nuthatches, House Wrens, Tree Swallows, and Robins to raise their families in our backyards.

The best thing that can be done to make backyards bird friendly is to provide a habitat full of a variety of trees, shrubs, and other plants that are native to our region.

Keeping our avian visitors safe is important. Mark the outside of windows to prevent the birds from colliding with the glass. Keep cats indoors or in a Catio to prevent harm to the birds and just as important, harm to the cat. Turn off outside lights between 11:00 pm and 6:00 am, particularly during spring and fall migration. Avoid using insecticides and pesticides.



Councillor, Ward 14
Peter Demong
 403-268-1653
 eaward14@calgary.ca
 www.calgary.ca/ward14

Greetings Ward 14!

I hope your 2024 is going well, and all the resolutions you made, if you made any, are going smoothly. Property Assessment is a topic that I like to drive home at this time of year, perhaps to the point of overkill. It is important, so I will mention it in this month's version of my online column, and again next month. In addition, there are some engagement opportunities that you will want to know about. I will tell you how to give input on rezoning, city building, floodplain policies, and public recreation. Finally, I will squeeze in some information on the Green Line, maps, storm ponds, the City's webinar series, secondary suites, and how to use the City of Calgary website.

Feel free to contact me any time, and don't forget to visit calgary.ca/ward14newsletter for the full version of this column. The best way to contact me is by visiting calgary.ca/contactward14 or calling 403-268-1653.

Sincerely,

Councillor Peter Demong



9 PM

ROUTINE



**CALGARY
POLICE
SERVICE**

CHECKLIST

- Remove valuables & garage door openers from vehicles
- Lock vehicles
- Close overhead garage door
- Lock door between garage & house
- Close & lock all external doors
- Ensure windows are shut
- Turn on exterior light



MLA Calgary - Fish Creek
Myles McDougall
 7 – 1215 Lake Sylvan Drive SE
 403-278-4444
 Calgary.FishCreek@assembly.ab.ca
 @MylesYYC | MLAFishCreek

Friends,

There is exciting news for education in Alberta. The 2022 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results show that Alberta continues to be a leader in education in Canada and around the world. The PISA is conducted every three years and assesses the performance of 15-year-old students in reading, mathematics, and science. On December 5, the 2022 PISA results were released and conclude that Alberta students rank first in Canada in reading, first in Canada in science, and second only behind Quebec in math.

Globally, we ranked second in reading, second in science, and seventh in math, within statistical deviation. We should all be extremely proud of Alberta's success in these assessments, especially the success of the 1,300 students that participated, for their hard work and dedication to learning. Thank you to the teachers, staff, and parents for their continued work to support Alberta's world-class education system.

Predictable Funding for Municipalities

Alberta's government is helping to build Alberta's communities by providing predictable funding so that local governments can plan more effectively for the future through the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF).

Local governments across Alberta have long asked for funding that is predictable and tied to provincial growth. With input from local governments, we have finalized the allocation formula that sets out how much they will receive annually under the LGFF. The LGFF funding formula strikes a fair balance for both rural and urban local governments, meeting their need for predictable infrastructure funding while remaining fiscally responsible. In addition, we will provide a one-time top-up funding in Budget 2024 to ensure that no municipality sees a decrease, which will help local governments keep infrastructure projects on track.

Alberta Pension Plan

A friendly reminder that a workbook with sections covering various APP-related topics is available for public input until February 28, 2024. Details can be found on the Engagement Alberta Pension Plan website (www.albertapensionplan.ca/engagement).

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

Valentine's Day Word Search

c g f l o w e r s i p
j s w e e t h e a r t
e f p a c u p i d a e
v h o i k a c p s r t
a o g u y h e a r t s
l o v e r r d e g o f
e k r a p t r r o w r
n r i r o s e s p x i
t o h s d r d e i r e
i s u h s p i n n h n
n r g a r e l l k t d
e o s c h o s r o s h
s w e e r t s f r i e
v c h o c o l a t e k

valentine
arrow
cupid
hearts
love

red
fourteenth
hugs
chocolate
pink

roses
friend
flowers
sweetheart
kisses

Help Us Shape Calgary's Future Floodplain Policies and Regulations

by the City of Calgary

Calgary's river valleys are essential to our city—they're at the core of our city's identity and its appeal as a place to live, work, and play.

As Calgary is vulnerable to flooding, making careful decisions about how we plan, develop, and build in the floodplain is fundamental to protecting and enhancing the value of our river valleys while strengthening our overall resilience to the impacts of flooding.

With the province's recent release of draft updated Flood Hazard Area maps reflecting the latest understanding of flood risk across Alberta and a new approach to flood hazard area zones, it's now up to municipalities to decide how to develop and regulate in these areas.



The City is planning for the future of our river valleys, including our flood hazard areas, through the Calgary River Valleys Project, which will shape how we plan, develop, and build in our river valleys.

Your input on how we make decisions on the use, conservation, and development of our river valleys and communities is important. This month, we're talking to Calgarians about the future of our floodplain policies and regulations. Visit calgary.ca/RiverValleys to join in the conversation.

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ACTIVE SPORTS THERAPY: Looking for sports chiropractic, Active Release Therapy, physiotherapy, IMS, or massage in Queensland? Our unified team of expert practitioners have one common goal – to help you achieve a higher standard of health, so you are able to do all the things in life that you love to do. Call us at 403-278-1405, or visit activesportstherapy.ca to book a free consultation.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

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- ✓ **HAVE FUN**



**April is Come Try
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there will be many
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