

FEBRUARY 2024

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THE OFFICIAL WILLOW PARK MAPLE RIDGE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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F: 403-278-3718

Website: [mywillowridge.ca](http://mywillowridge.ca)

Email: [info@mywillowridge.ca](mailto:info@mywillowridge.ca)

We are available by phone Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

(Voicemail is checked daily and will be responded to by the end of day the next business day). In-person by appointment only.

\*\*Closed Weekends and Holidays

## Board Members

President	Jason Carling	<a href="mailto:president@mywillowridge.ca">president@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Vice President	Chris Nyberg	<a href="mailto:casino@mywillowridge.ca">casino@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Treasurer	Kody Shiels	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mywillowridge.ca">treasurer@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Secretary	Dustan Byrnes	<a href="mailto:secretary@mywillowridge.ca">secretary@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Membership Coordinator	Vacant	
Facilities	David Hughes	<a href="mailto:facilities@mywillowridge.ca">facilities@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Sports and Recreation	Vacant	
Funding	Don Boykiw	<a href="mailto:dboykiw@mywillowridge.ca">dboykiw@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Social	Vacant	
Casino	Vacant	
Communications Director	Vacant	<a href="mailto:comm@mywillowridge.ca">comm@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Volunteer Coordinator	Vacant	
Strategy	Andres Galindo	<a href="mailto:agalindo@mywillowridge.ca">agalindo@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Civic Affairs	Gord Rouse	<a href="mailto:grouse@mywillowridge.ca">grouse@mywillowridge.ca</a>
HR Director	Mike Krisa	<a href="mailto:mkrisa@mywillowridge.ca">mkrisa@mywillowridge.ca</a>

## Directors At Large

Director-at-Large	Marshall Horne	<a href="mailto:mhorne@mywillowridge.ca">mhorne@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Director-at-Large	Peter Gibson	<a href="mailto:pgibson@mywillowridge.ca">pgibson@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Director-at-Large	Roger Lohrey	<a href="mailto:rlohrey@mywillowridge.ca">rlohrey@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Director-at-Large	Tom Firth	<a href="mailto:tfirth@mywillowridge.ca">tfirth@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Director-at-Large	Jecielle Alonso	<a href="mailto:jalonso@mywillowridge.ca">jalonso@mywillowridge.ca</a>

## Other Contacts

Soccer Administration	Rich Cree	<a href="mailto:soccer@mywillowridge.ca">soccer@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Garden Liaison	Rob Kettle	<a href="mailto:wrveggiesandherbs@gmail.com">wrveggiesandherbs@gmail.com</a>
	Leslie Smith	<a href="mailto:com">com</a>

## WRCA Staff

General Inquiries		<a href="mailto:info@mywillowridge.ca">info@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Community Services Manager	Anna Glickman	<a href="mailto:gm@mywillowridge.ca">gm@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Office Administrator		<a href="mailto:info@mywillowridge.ca">info@mywillowridge.ca</a>
Bookkeeper	Jenna Burns	<a href="mailto:jburns@mywillowridge.ca">jburns@mywillowridge.ca</a>

## Community Resources

City of Calgary Liaison	Christa Zaharychuk	<a href="mailto:christa.zaharychuk@calgary.ca">christa.zaharychuk@calgary.ca</a>
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## Community Resources

### Councillor - Ward 11

Kourtney Penner 403-268-2430 [ward11@calgary.ca](mailto:ward11@calgary.ca)

### MLA - Calgary Acadia

Diana Batten 403-640-1363 [calgary.acadia@assembly.ca](mailto:calgary.acadia@assembly.ca)

### MP - Calgary Midnapore

Stephanie Kusie 403-225-3480 [stephanie.kusie.c1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:stephanie.kusie.c1@parl.gc.ca)

### CPS Community Resource Office

Pavel Adaikin [PAdaikin@calgarypolice.ca](mailto:PAdaikin@calgarypolice.ca)

### Girl Guides of Canada Calgary Area

403-283-8348 [ggcinfo@calgarygirlguides.com](mailto:ggcinfo@calgarygirlguides.com)

### Scouts Canada Chinook Council

403-283-4993 [www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca)

## The Willow Ridge Community Association (WRCA) Vision

To be an integrated community connecting partners, family, neighbours, and nature.

## The WRCA Mission

To foster an integrated community by providing meaningful and inclusive programs and experiences, safe gathering spaces, and advocacy for the needs and interests of our residents.

**GET WRCA NEWS IN YOUR INBOX** – With your membership, receive e-newsletters to share up-to-the minute news and events. We think you'll find the information valuable, but you can unsubscribe at any time.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

 [@willowridgecommunity](https://www.facebook.com/willowridgecommunity)  
 [@willowridge](https://www.instagram.com/willowridge)

**WRCA website**  
[mywillowridge.ca](http://mywillowridge.ca)

The My Willowridge.ca is the official newsletter of the Willow Ridge Community Association and is distributed monthly for free to all residents of Willow Ridge (approximately 3,050 households).

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings are normally held on the third Wednesday of each month, but please check with the office as these meeting dates may change. They commence at 7:00 pm in our WRCA Boardroom. If you would like to make a brief presentation to the WRCA Board, please notify the WRCA office at least three (3) days prior to the meeting date and state the topic you wish to address.

# Seniors Coffee Hour!



Join us on the 2nd & 4th Monday  
of every month from 1pm-3pm

Members: FREE

Non-members: \$2



**WRCA**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every year, an incredible amount of effort goes into making our community gardens, courts, rinks, and soccer fields a success. Our outdoor facilities have thousands of users each year, ranging from the daily use of kids from RT and Maple Ridge to people who drive in from other communities to enjoy our rink, which has one of the best ice crews and some of the best ice conditions in the city.

We are constantly investing in our facility, as you have all seen from our recent tennis court resurfacing, garden expansion, and new sea can mural, but there are still assets that are aging and need to be enhanced, like our parking lots and baseball diamond, and there are many needs we have heard from our facility users, such as the need for shade in the summer.

Good investment needs vision and planning, so in the fall of 2023, WRCA contracted Dialog Designs to help us create a future state vision for our fields. In November, we ran an open house with Dialog, where over 30 people from our community came to participate in a workshop. We also gathered additional feedback from over 60 people via online surveys and social media forums.

WRCA is now in the final stages of working with Dialog on the final conceptual model and we hope to have this new vision released to our community in the next month or so. Our work with Dialog would not be possible without the support from Parks Foundation Calgary, who has been a key partner with us on our garden expansion, playground rebuild, and now our new future state vision. If you want to be part of the team that helps us realize the vision, contact me at [president@mywillowridge.ca](mailto:president@mywillowridge.ca).

*Jason Carling*

Willow Ridge Community Association President

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**VALENTINE'S DAY**  
**FAMILY DANCE**

6-9PM

WRCA  
 Members: Free  
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 \$10



DANCE - SWEETS - FUN - CRAFTS  
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## Rental Rates:

Minimum three-hour rental on weekends.

Room	Weekday Hourly 7:00 am Monday to 5:00 pm Friday	Weekend Hourly 5:00 pm Friday to end of day Sunday	Weekend Full-Day Rental *Up to 12 hours	Weekend Half-Day Rental *Up to 6 hours	Deposit
The Willow	\$60/hr	\$90/hr	\$1,000	\$500	\$500
The Maple	\$50/hr	\$75/hr	\$800	\$400	\$400
The Herard	\$30/hr	\$45/hr	\$500	\$250	\$250

\*Full Day rentals (up to 12 hours) and Half Day rentals (up to 6 hours) are for weekends only, between 5:00 pm Friday and end of day Sunday. The Hall can be booked until 1:00 am any day.

WRCA members receive a 5% discount on one-time rentals. Contact [info@mywillowridge.ca](mailto:info@mywillowridge.ca) or 403-271-8044.

# Pet of the Month



Introducing Sully, our forever-young, perpetually cheerful thirteen-year-old pup!

Sully is on a lifelong mission to make friends with every human he meets. He's got a tail that wags like there's no tomorrow, and he's a pro at brightening anyone's day with his slobbery smiles. Kids absolutely adore him, and he's as gentle as a lamb with them. But watch out when there's food around – he's known for his playful antics, often attempting to sneak a bite when you least expect it. Despite his food-related adventures, Sully is the best friend anyone could ask for, reminding us that sometimes, all you need is a mischievous yet marvellous furry companion.

Happy 13th, Sully!

## Registration Is Now Open for Willowridge Soccer!

Sign up online at [wrca.getcommunal.com](http://wrca.getcommunal.com).

Ages three to eleven, all abilities welcome.

**Season Dates:** April 29 to June 22, 2024

**Location:** WRCA Soccer Fields (680 Acadia Dr SE)

**Cost:** \$90 for U4, \$120 for U6, U8, U10 and U12

**Includes:** Uniform, team photos, medal, and wind-up party

*\*You must be a WRCA member to register\**

*\*Volunteer coaches receive a \$20 discount on registration\**

# WRCA SOCCER 2024



**Do you have a 12 or 13 yr old interested in playing Soccer? We can add a U14 level if there is enough interest.**

**Email:** [soccer@mywillowridge.ca](mailto:soccer@mywillowridge.ca)

**U4 (\$90):** Sat 10-11am  
**U6 (\$120):** Mon/Wed 6:15-7:15pm  
**U8 (\$120):** Tue/Thu 6:15-7:15pm  
**U10 (\$120):** Mon/Wed 6:15-7:15pm  
**U12 (\$120):** Tue/Thu 6:15-7:15pm

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All skill  
levels



### Calling All BABYSITTERS

Enroll free at [mybabysitter.ca](http://mybabysitter.ca) and choose the Calgary communities you would like to babysit in.

### Calling All PARENTS

Visit [mybabysitter.ca](http://mybabysitter.ca) and find available babysitters in and around your community.

**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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# Rent Our Space!

The Willow Ridge Community Association can accommodate a wide range of guests for activities or functions like wedding receptions, birthday parties, baby showers, workshops/seminars, art shows, fitness classes, and more!

Located outside are two private parking lots, crock curl (in the winter), gaga ball pit, pickleball/tennis courts, lacrosse box/hockey rink, baseball diamond, 50-plot community garden, and a large green space which we use for our WRCA Soccer league in the summer and a pleasure skating rink in the winter.

Our newly renovated, air-conditioned building has the following spaces available for rent!

- The Willow – 1,924 sq. ft. North Hall (135 dining/200 standing) with large windows, built-in audio/speakers, vaulted ceilings, wood sprung floor. Perfect for high-impact activities!
- The Maple – 1,200 sq. ft. South Hall (60 dining/135 standing) with large windows, separate sink/washing area, additional storage, vaulted ceilings, and a sound system.
- The Herard Room – 540 sq. ft. Board Room (25 dining/50 standing) with large windows, available projector, and mounted whiteboard, conveniently situated off the Ridge Lounge. Perfect for small group yoga, art classes, meetings, catering set-up, etc.

The community centre has the following additional features:

- The Ridge Lounge, an upstairs gathering area for members with a view of the rinks/fields.
- Large floor-to-ceiling windows to allow for more natural light.
- Internal stairs and elevator access to lower level.
- Four individual gender-neutral washrooms, two of which are wheelchair accessible.
- Wi-Fi throughout building.
- Large change area/washrooms with rubber flooring, accessible to rink users in the winter.





## Book Your Community Garden Plot!

Join our community of gardeners, from beginner to master gardener our plots are available to anyone who wants to learn about gardening, grow your own organic vegetables and herbs, and create new friendships with like-minded people in your community! We have one of the best community gardens in the city with 50 raised beds, great soil, irrigation, and lots of sunshine. Grow your garden and your green thumb skills with our mentorship program, our friendly and experienced garden mentors are always willing to lend a helping hand.

Garden plots can be purchased online for \$45 each. Before booking a garden plot, please read the volunteer task descriptions that are available on our website at [www.mywillowridge.ca/activities/community-garden](http://www.mywillowridge.ca/activities/community-garden).



**WRCA Community Garden**

2024 Registration Opens:  
Jan 15th for returning gardeners  
Feb 1st for new gardeners

Book your garden plot online at [mywillowridge.ca](http://mywillowridge.ca)

## Activities at the Willow Ridge Community Centre

For the most up-to-date information check our website at <https://mywillowridge.ca/activities/events-calendar>.

### Sundays

- Unity of Calgary Spiritual Community
- Church of Christ
- Dance with Maya
- YYC Drum Circles

### Mondays

- Expand Yoga
- Pathfinders
- Sparks
- Pyramid Psychology

### Tuesdays

- Devotion Danceworks
- National Sports Academy

### Wednesdays

- Devotion Danceworks
- Expand Yoga
- Girl Guides
- Zumba with Maan, Marian, and MJ

### Thursdays

- Because You Can Fitness
- Embers
- Expand Yoga
- National Sports Academy
- Calgary Karate

### Mondays to Fridays

- FLC Brushstrokes
- FLC Line Dancers
- Queens & Jacks Square Dancing (Monday and Friday)
- Creations Child Care Inc.
- Willow Park Preschool
- Willow Kids Club (Daycare)

### Saturdays

- Devotion Danceworks



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\*A New Patient is defined as anyone who is coming to this clinic for the first time. A New Patient Exam is a Comprehensive Dental Examination by a General Dentist which does not include X-Rays or Dental Hygiene.

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# Navigating Property Dynamics Before and During Divorce

by Chris Matlashewski, Willowridge Realtor

Divorce introduces a unique set of challenges, especially in the realm of real estate. To navigate these complexities successfully, a focused strategy before and during the divorce process is crucial. Here's a condensed guide highlighting key considerations for real estate during these pivotal phases.

## 1. Property Valuation:

Begin the divorce process by assessing the value of real estate assets. Understanding the worth of the family home and jointly owned properties forms the basis for equitable asset division. A second component, which can be difficult to quantify, is recognizing that each property may hold a piece of shared history.

## 2. Child-Centric Housing Decisions:

Prioritize housing decisions that embrace the well-being of children. Courts consider their best interests when determining living arrangements. Ensure real estate choices support the stability and emotional comfort of your children, fostering a sense of security during a challenging time.

## 3. Navigate Mortgage Responsibilities:

Clarify mortgage obligations early on, determining whether one spouse will assume the mortgage or if the property will be sold. Address financial responsibilities tied to the properties, such as taxes and maintenance cost.

## 4. Transparent Property Negotiations:

Realize that real estate discussions hold emotional weight during divorce. Maintain open and compassionate conversations with your ex-spouse about property division, recognizing the emotional ties to these spaces. Legal counsel serves not just as a guide but as a source of support.

## 5. Ownership Structure Clarification:

Decode the ownership structures governing your properties, seeking guidance from a real estate attorney. Whether it's Joint Tenancy, Tenancy in Common, or Matrimonial Property Act, clarity on these aspects is essential for a legally sound approach.

## 6. Consider Your Post-Divorce Housing Options:

• Sell the Home Now and Divide Up the Proceeds: Approach the sale of the home as a shared endeavour, aiming for a process that respects both parties. From

a financial perspective, the primary consideration is to maximize the homes selling price. It is important to understand not only what you will net in your pocket, but also the split of proceeds as determined by the court.

- Buy Out Your Spouse or Have Your Spouse Buy You Out: You or your ex-spouse will need to determine how to meet the monthly financial obligations if there is only one salary. If your spouse is buying you out, be aware, if the current loan is not refinanced, the liability or staying on title may make it difficult for you to purchase a home.
- Retain Joint Ownership: Maintaining joint ownership for the time being when one spouse continues to live in the home, eliminates any immediate worries, but could affect one's purchasing power in the future.

This foresight allows for strategic planning and exploration of alternative housing options.

In facing the challenges of divorce, a strategic focus on real estate during the process is instrumental. Whether assessing property values or navigating ownership structures, a proactive approach ensures a smoother transition. By adhering to these condensed guidelines, individuals can navigate real estate dynamics effectively and lay the groundwork for a more secure post-divorce future.



Lacey Wells  
Chartered Accountant

Cell (text): 403.477.6010  
Email: taxes@laceywells.ca  
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# GOOD FOOD BOX

## Order Online

The Good Food Box Program is part of the Community Kitchen Program of Calgary, where anyone can purchase boxes of fresh fruit & vegetables at an affordable price.

<b>SMALL</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>LARGE</b>
<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$35</b>	<b>\$40</b>

Step 1. Order online at [wrca.getcommunal.com](http://wrca.getcommunal.com)  
 Step 2. Pick up on delivery day between 3-7pm at the WRCA



## Sunday Movie Matinee

Feb 25, 1pm

Willow Ridge Community North Hall  
680 Acadia Dr SE

**A Small Good Thing - How to live a better way. A feature documentary about 3 couples giving up the Big life for the Good life (holistic well-being) followed by open discussion.**

**Bring your family & friends!**

Admission by Donation. Concession items available.  
 Details at [unityofcalgary.org](http://unityofcalgary.org)

Hosted by  
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# DID YOU KNOW?

We are the official youth soccer provider for: **Auburn Bay, Canyon Meadows, Cranston, Deer Ridge, Deer Run, Evergreen, Lake Chaparral, Langdon, Legacy, Mahogany, Marquis De Lorne, New Brighton, Queensland, and Walden.**

## YOUR LOCAL SOCCER PROVIDER U4-ADULT

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- In-house Sport Science program to develop athleticism and prevent injuries.
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## calgaryfoothills soccerclub



- Verifiably Calgary's best soccer program with more resources and pathways to pro-am leagues for boys and girls.
- 8 Canadian National Youth Championships won.
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- One of two founding franchises for the Project 8 women's professional league launching in 2025.

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Monday:	8AM - 3PM
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Friday:	8AM - 3PM
Saturday:	8AM - 2PM

If you are considering selling, call us for a **Zero Obligation Home Evaluation** and strategy discussion on how to achieve **Top Dollar** for your home!

## Willow Park

Detached Home Stats - Last 45 Days



**12**

# New Properties



**5**

# Sold Properties



**14**

Average Days on Market



**\$681,980**

Median Sold Price

## Maple Ridge

Detached Home Stats - Last 45 Days



**8**

# New Properties



**3**

# Sold Properties



**38**

Average Days on Market



**\$884,166**

Median Sold Price

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