

JULY 2024

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THE OFFICIAL WILLOW PARK MAPLE RIDGE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

**SUMMER
KIDS CLUB
PAGE 9**



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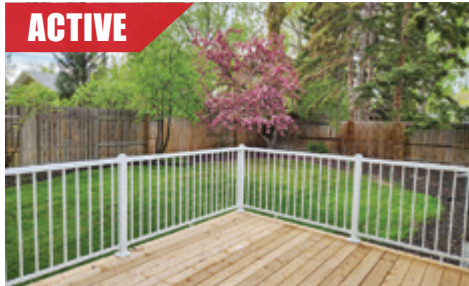
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www.willowsidedentist.ca

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WILLOW RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF CALGARY COMMUNITY CENTRE AND SPORTS FACILITIES

680 Acadia Drive SE Calgary, AB T2J 0C1

Ph: 403-271-8044

F: 403-278-3718

Website: mywillowridge.ca

Email: 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	president@mywillowridge.ca
Vice President	Chris Nyberg	vp@mywillowridge.ca
Treasurer	Kody Shiels	treasurer@mywillowridge.ca
Secretary	Dustan Byrnes	secretary@mywillowridge.ca
Membership Coordinator	Vacant	
Facilities	David Hughes	facilities@mywillowridge.ca
Sports and Recreation	Vacant	
Funding	Don Boykiw	dboykiw@mywillowridge.ca
Social	Vacant	
Casino	Vacant	
Communications Director	Vacant	comm@mywillowridge.ca
Volunteer Coordinator	Vacant	
Civic Affairs	Gord Rouse	grouse@mywillowridge.ca
HR Director	Mike Krisa	mkrisa@mywillowridge.ca
Urban Forestry	Gordon Paynter	gpaynter@mywillowridge.ca

Directors At Large

Director-at-Large	Marshall Horne	mhorne@mywillowridge.ca
Director-at-Large	Peter Gibson	pgibson@mywillowridge.ca
Director-at-Large	Roger Lohrey	rlohrey@mywillowridge.ca
Director-at-Large	Tom Firth	tfirth@mywillowridge.ca
Director-at-Large	Jecielle Alonso	jalonso@mywillowridge.ca
Director-at-Large	Katie Bradbury	kbradbury@mywillowridge.ca
Director-at-Large	Susie McQuaid	smcquaid@mywillowridge.ca

Other Contacts

Soccer Administration	Rich Cree	soccer@mywillowridge.ca
Garden Liaison	Rob Kettle Leslie Smith	wrveggiesandherbs@gmail.com

WRCA Staff

General Inquiries		info@mywillowridge.ca
Community Services Manager	Anna Glickman	gm@mywillowridge.ca
Office Administrator		info@mywillowridge.ca
Bookkeeper	Jenna Burns	jburns@mywillowridge.ca

Community Resources

City of Calgary Liaison	Christa Zaharychuk	christa.zaharychuk@calgary.ca
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Community Resources

Councillor - Ward 11

Kourtney Penner	403-268-2430	ward11@calgary.ca
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MLA - Calgary Acadia

Diana Batten	403-640-1363	calgary.acadia@assembly.ca
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MP - Calgary Midnapore

Stephanie Kusie	403-225-3480	stephanie.kusie.c1@parl.gc.ca
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CPS Community Resource Office

Pavel Adaikin		PAadaikin@calgarypolice.ca
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Girl Guides of Canada Calgary Area

403-283-8348		ggcinfo@calgarygirlguides.com
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Scouts Canada Chinook Council

403-283-4993		www.scouts.ca
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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
	@mywillowridge

WRCA website
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.

Willow Ridge Civic Affairs Update

As you likely have heard, Calgary City Council voted 9-6 in favour to pass blanket zoning. Among those nine voting in favour was our own Ward 11 Councillor, Ms Kourtney Penner. We find it discouraging that given the feedback from Calgarians during nearly three weeks of public hearings, Council still concluded this is a good idea for the city.

- 736 people spoke at the hearings, with an estimated 65% speaking against re-zoning.
- 6,101 written submissions were collected, with an estimated 80% of the submissions speaking against the zoning change.

Overall, we believe the main concern expressed by those against blanket zoning was simply the lack of control and oversight in the changes proposed regarding how we develop our neighbourhoods. We did not hear anyone say they were against more density, just that it must occur with clear guidelines in a manner that upholds the uniqueness of individual communities. We also believe Calgarians had legitimate concerns about twelve dwellings being built on a single parcel of land that have largely been ignored.

Frustratingly, the Municipal Government Act already provides guidance on how municipalities can densify. This includes the Local Area Plan (LAP) process that Calgary has used for years. In fact, Willow Ridge just finished negotiating in good faith with the City to update our Heritage Communities Local Area plan in September 2023. Unfortunately, three years of community focussed LAP engagement to densify our neighbourhood was overthrown by blanket zoning.

Based upon the feedback we received, the WRCA Board of Directors wrote to Councillor Penner to outline our community's concerns to blanket zoning, declare our opposition to it, and asked her to vote against it. We furthermore highlighted the densification commitments made in the new LAP and urged the City to uphold the commitments it just finalized to our community. Unfortunately, we have not been able to speak with our council representative despite invitations to meet with our residents to discuss the impact of blanket zoning to our community.

So, what's next? Letters are being written to the Premier, and the Government of Alberta is working on legislation to provide provincial oversight into how municipalities govern themselves, Bill 20. Additionally, GoFundMe campaigns have been created to help fund legal challenges to this Council decision. Finally, on Monday, October 20, 2025, there will be a municipal election.

Gord Rouse and Marshall Horne

WRCA Director of Civic Affairs and Director-at-Large

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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.



Memberships Available Online



**Family
Membership**
\$35



**Seniors 60+
Membership**
\$20



**Individual
Membership**
\$25



**Business
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Community*



**WILLOW RIDGE
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION**

Visit mywillowridge.ca for more info

RENTAL RATES: Minimum 3-hour rental on weekends.

Facility	Weekday Hourly 6:00 am Monday to 5:00 pm Friday	*Weekend Hourly 5:00 pm Friday to 1:30 am Monday	Weekend 6 Hours (consecutive) 6:00 am-1:30am	Weekend 13 Hours (consecutive) 6:00 am –1:30 am	Deposit
Willow (North Hall)	\$65/hr.	\$98/hr.	\$ 550	\$1,175	\$ 550
Maple (South Hall)	\$54/hr.	\$81/hr.	\$ 450	\$ 975	\$ 450
Herard	\$33/hr.	\$49/hr.	\$ 275	\$ 575	\$ 275
PARTY PACKAGE (all 3 rooms)	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$2,500	\$1,000

WRCA Members receive a 5% discount for one-time rentals.

Contact: info@mywillowridge.ca or 403-271-8044



Activities at the Willow Ridge Community Centre

For the most up-to-date information check our website at www.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

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

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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55+ Coffee and Games

Join us at the Willow Ridge Community Association every second and fourth Monday from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Meet other community members, play cards, and enjoy cookies courtesy of Canyon Meadows Retirement Residence. Free for WRCA members, \$2 for non-members. Staff will be on site to teach the "game of the month" if you are interested.

Upcoming Coffee Dates:

- July 8 - Croquet (outdoors)
- July 22 - Croquet (outdoors)
- August 12 - Scoop (card game)
- August 26 - Scoop (card game)



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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.

SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE
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Willow Ridge Urban Forestry Update

As we write this, all eyes are on the City of Calgary's genuine water crisis, a result of a major feeder water main break near 16 Avenue and Home Road NW. Calgarians have been challenged to reduce our water consumption from 650 million litres per day to less than 500 million litres, the production capacity of the Glenmore water treatment plant. In fact, Calgarians have been able to reduce consumption to around 450 million litres per day, nearly 30% reduction in daily consumption. This has meant some inconvenience for us, including watching our gardens and trees go without water and cutting down our use of the water in the home. By the time you read this, we'll know how the City's efforts turned out.

Speaking of the City's efforts, we have all noticed the unmowed state of the parks in our neighbourhood; some residents have gone ahead and cleaned up their own parks, but some parks have remained fairly 'natural'. We have spoken to the City Parks department and thanks to the efforts of Holly Shaw in Councillor Penner's office, we have learned that in fact, mowing was delayed by the wet weather in late May and early June. That wet weather makes the park grounds soft and prone to compaction by the large mowing equipment. Now that better weather has arrived, mowing in our neighbourhood is getting done in time for Neighbour Day on June 15.

Finally, the City Urban Forestry department has kept us up to date on its efforts this year to trim, maintain and replant trees in our area. Pruning of trees continues – including some trees which are tall enough to require specialist bucket trucks to reach the top boughs. You will notice red spots in some parks and on the boulevards where new trees will be planted this year. The City keeps an inventory of every single tree under its responsibility. 19 new trees are planned for the neighbourhood; those trees will be watered for five to seven years by the City.

Your first reaction may be "that's all?" and we would agree. Our trees are in fact at the heart of our community and make our community so enjoyable for all of us. However, we do understand that the City of Calgary has to maintain a huge number of communities (206 at last count!) those resources get stretched out. So, as a community we are going to have to step up and

contribute to those efforts if we want to see more trees planted. A tree can cost from \$200 for small saplings up to over \$1,000 for larger calliper trees (the diameter of the trunk). Planting costs can exceed the cost of the tree. We're going to need contributions and donations from community members, not only to buy and plant a tree, but to support water efforts each summer for a number of years. What would it mean to you to have more trees planted? Send us a note and let us know what you would like to see!

Gord Paynter

WRCA Director of Urban Forestry

SCAN HERE TO VIEW ADDITIONAL CONTENT: NEWS, EVENTS, CRIME STATS, REAL ESTATE STATS, & MORE

WILLOW PARK



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continued on next page

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

continued

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*"Your Oral Health
Is Our Priority"*

COMFORTABLE:



Custom-made for each individual, Invisalign aligners ensure a comfortable and snug fit, eliminating the potential for irritation or discomfort associated with traditional braces.



PREDICTABLE RESULTS:

Invisalign uses advanced digital technology to create a step-by-step plan for teeth movement, allowing individuals to visualize expected results before starting treatment for a predictable and controlled approach.

INVISIBLE APPEARANCE:



Invisalign offers a virtually invisible appearance due to its clear and transparent aligners, allowing individuals to undergo orthodontic treatment discreetly.



SHORTER TREATMENT:

In some cases, Invisalign may offer a shorter treatment duration compared to traditional braces, thanks to precise and personalized treatment plans.

REMOVABLE:



Invisalign aligners are removable, providing flexibility in eating and facilitating easier oral hygiene practices by allowing individuals to take them out for brushing and flossing.



IMPROVED ORAL HEALTH:

Being able to remove the clear aligners when necessary makes it easier to practice good oral hygiene like brushing and flossing. This can lead to a cleaner, healthier mouth and cut down on additional issues like mouth sores, cavities, bad breath, and tooth decay.



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