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2027 HOA Fees

2027 fees will be due January 31st, 2027.
2026 fees are now in collections

AGM Update

It has come to our attention that due to an outdated community bylaw, we will be moving the AGM to Friday, December 11. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the AGM begins at 7:00 pm. CHOA residents only. Further details to come.



A Flower to Remember

Red poppy seeds can remain dormant in the soil for years. During the First World War, artillery and trench warfare disturbed the earth along the Western Front, allowing poppies to bloom across the landscape. The sight inspired Canadian Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae's 1915 poem "In Flanders Fields", helping the red poppy become an enduring symbol of remembrance.



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SCAN ME

New Abilities

by Michelle Macdonald, Letter Writing and Mail Club Enthusiast.

If you could wake up tomorrow with the ability to do something new, what would it be? What if it were a completely far-fetched or magical skill? How would you use it, and where would it take you?

Dear reader,

Considering magically gaining a skill overnight made me think of many potential scenarios. One of the first things that came to me was having unlimited home and car maintenance skills because I would be able to use them frequently to support my family. However, when I thought about it, I realized I would not want to spend my time on those tasks because they are messy, time-consuming, and often done alone.

I would want a skill that is more social and homes in on my interests. So, I thought about what I've been attracted to learning in the past. One skill I've worked on for many years is speaking Spanish. It's been an on-and-off process since my twenties, and I'm still at the intermediate level. This gets me by when I'm traveling, but I've always felt frustrated not being fluent because it holds me back from fully expressing myself or truly understanding the people I meet. Wouldn't it be wonderful to communicate effortlessly in another language and just say what's on your mind?

Since we're considering magically gained abilities, I'd take it a step further than fluency in Spanish; I'd wake up ready to communicate in any language. Imagine the opportunities it would open up! I could use multilingualism to immerse myself entirely in any place and culture.

I absolutely love to travel. I find it's the best way to learn and gain new perspectives. The more different the destination from my home, the more it opens my mind. Being able to speak the local language would vastly improve my understanding of things I'm curious about: history, politics, geography, regional customs, and culture. Reading about these things in books or watching videos online can never match the insights gained by speaking directly with people who have lived the history and experience its culture every day.

My magical language skills could be used for a greater purpose: recording endangered languages before they disappear, deciphering ancient manuscripts or petroglyphs, and even collecting valuable international intelligence. The possibilities feel endless!

Your turn! If you could wake up tomorrow with a new skill, what would it be? Write in your journal or to your pen pal.

Happy writing,

Michelle

Now it's your turn to write it forward. Write a friend, neighbour, or family about our monthly reflection.

Write It Forward

Now it's your turn to write it forward. Write a friend, neighbour, or family member about our monthly reflection.

Frequently Asked Questions - The CHOA

Why Do We Have to Pay Fees?
The purpose of an HOA is to offer enhanced value within the community, through the operation and maintenance of privately owned facilities, certain amenities, and features within the community that are not maintained by the municipality. These may include entrance signage, ornamental parks and ponds, boulevard landscaping, pathways, fencing recreational buildings, and more.

What Are the Fees Used For?
Annual fees are used to:

- Maintain the amenity features including the hall, spray park, storm pond fountain, and grounds.
- Provide enhanced snow removal and landscaping on City pathways.
- Provide the community with quality programs and value-added events that appeal to our diverse membership.

Where Can I See Details About the CHOA's Financials?
On our website under the members portal. The audited financials for the past ten years are available, along with operating budgets for the last five.

How Can I Have My Say in What I Want to See, Or What I Think Brings Value to the Community?
Engagement is the key to understanding what the community members want and/or see value in. We encourage all residents to complete surveys, provide direct feedback through email/phone/in person conversations, attend town halls/AGMs, and participate in constructive discussions. These are the tools we lean on to help guide decisions. The CHOA must then formulate action plans about how to best move forward, taking into consideration other required financial obligations, timing, and feasibility.

Who Is Responsible for Community Landscaping?
It depends. The CHOA has entered into the Enhanced Landscape Maintenance (ELM) program with the City of Calgary, which allows the CHOA to mow and trim certain City green spaces, within the parameters set out by the City. Limitations include naturalized areas, trees, watering, and herbicide application.

The CHOA is working with the City to ensure that the West Park is rehabilitated over time to allow for regular maintenance of the CHOA. This is an ongoing, multi-year project.

For a full list of frequently asked questions regarding landscaping, operations, and engagement, please visit crestmonthall.com. To address any questions or concerns not listed here or online, feel free to contact our office at admin@crestmonthall.com.

Did You Know?
Did you know the CHOA website has a wealth of information available to members?

Bylaws, financials, and AGM and Town Hall documents (including meeting minutes) are all available under the 'Important Documents' tab. If you don't yet have access, contact us at admin@crestmonthall.com to request a login.

Did you know the CHOA sends out regular email updates?

Stay informed about community news, events, and important notices. If you're not already receiving our emails, let us know at admin@crestmonthall.com and we'll add you to the list.



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Winter Parking Choices Matter Around Schools



As days get shorter and winter conditions arrive, visibility around schools becomes even more important. Snowbanks, early darkness, and icy roads can make it harder to see children crossing streets. Parking rules help reduce these risks by keeping corners, crosswalks, and sidewalks clear. Parking too close to intersections or in prohibited areas can further limit sightlines when visibility is already reduced. Choosing safe, legal parking options and allowing extra time during winter conditions helps protect students and families during the busiest parts of the school day. Learn more: calgaryparking.com/safeschools.

Can You See? Winter Conditions can Make School Areas Harder to Navigate

When visibility is reduced, small parking choices can make a big difference near schools. Shorter days, snow, ice, and changing weather can make it harder for children and drivers to see each other. School areas remain busy during drop-off and pick-up times, with children and families walking, wheeling, cycling, taking the bus, and driving. When vehicles stop or park in the wrong place, they can block sightlines at crosswalks, corners, sidewalks, driveways, bus zones, and school entrances. Even a quick stop can make it harder for children, families and drivers to see one another clearly.

The Calgary Parking School Patrol Program helps support safer school journeys throughout the school year. Parking Safety and Compliance Officers visit school areas where there are recurring parking or stopping concerns. They focus on education, reminders, and visibility. Enforcement may be used when unsafe parking continues or creates a safety or access issue.

Drivers can help by slowing down, leaving extra travel time, and choosing a safe, legal place to stop or park. Sometimes the safest choice is parking a little farther away and walking the remaining distance. Keeping crossings, corners, and travel lanes clear helps everyone move more safely. Before stopping near a school, ask yourself a simple question: Can children and drivers see each other clearly?

Students can help make school journeys safer by entering the Travel Safe Student Video Contest Parking category. Students are encouraged to submit creative video ideas that show how safe parking choices help everyone travel to and from school. Learn more about school-area safety and the Travel Safe Student Video Contest at CalgaryParking.com/SafeSchools.

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Create More Memories and Less Waste this Holiday Season



The best holiday memories aren't found under the tree. They're made with the people we spend time with.

During the holidays, Calgarians generate about 25% more waste from wrapping paper, packaging, and leftover food. As you get ready for the season, here are a few simple ways to create more memories and less waste:

- Gift experiences instead of things, like tickets, memberships or a day out together.
- Make a gift with a personal touch, such as homemade cookies, a photo book or a handmade gift.
- Shop locally to reduce shipping materials and packaging waste.
- Borrow, swap or share decorations with neighbours, friends or family.
- Reuse gift bags and bows or wrap gifts with fabric.
- Stick to a grocery list, use leftovers or send extras home with guests.

For more holiday waste reduction tips, visit calgary.ca/our-city/articles/calgary-conversations-podcast-015-howland-wark.html.

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November Crossword



Visit bit.ly/mycalgaryanswers or scan the QR code for the answers

Across

6. Directed by Guillermo del Toro, this retelling of a famous novel was released November 7, 2025.

7. This warm yellow gemstone is said to prevent injury and bring strength. It is also November's birthstone.

8. Born November 10, 1989, this actor is most recently known for his role as Dr. Frank Langdon on *The Pitt*.

10. As a treat during the fall, this fruit is typically dipped in melted chocolate or caramel and then covered with various toppings.

11. In Greek mythology this man is cursed to push a boulder up a mountain for all eternity.

12. Born November 7, 1913, Albert ____ was the French philosopher who wrote *The Stranger* in1942.

Down

1. Good for tea and relaxation, these spidery flowers are the birth flower of November.

2. Remembrance Day is celebrated in Canada on what day of November?

3. Watch your French fries! Despite their oceanic nickname, these white and gray birds are found inmany parts of Alberta, including Calgary parking lots.

4. This Indian celebration known as the "Festival of Lights" happens between mid to late-October and mid-November.

5. Toni _____, born November 1, 1972, is an Australian actress who has been in an impressive collection of movies including, *"The Sixth Sense, Little Miss Sunshine, and Knives Out"*.

9. These small brown nuts come from oak trees and have a distinct cup shape.

Remembering and Reconnecting

by Rebecca Pink



November gives us a moment to pause and honour, with deep gratitude, those who served and sacrificed for others, and those who continue to serve today. It is also a reminder that remembering is something we all carry in different ways. Remembrance is not limited to one day or one kind of loss, it can take many shapes, often quietly woven into our everyday lives. Sometimes remembering brings comfort; other times, it brings sadness, longing, or emotions we weren't expecting. There is no right way to remember or feel. We can continue to try to make room for whatever comes, with a little gentleness and self-compassion,

Grief is something that many people carry quietly. I know this from my own experience as well. It can be complicated, heavy, and unpredictable, bringing waves of emotions that can shift from one day to the next. We don't always talk about it, and sometimes we may feel as though we are expected to "move on" or "be fine". However, grief doesn't follow a timeline and is never linear. We can make room for both the sadness of what is no longer here and the gratitude for once was.

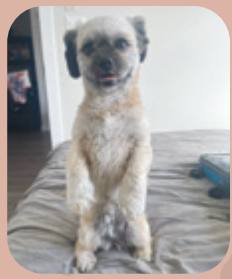
November can be a challenging month for many of us. The days grow shorter, the temperatures drop, and for many of us, our energy shifts with the season. Rather than seeing this as something we need to push through, maybe it can be an invitation to slow down and check in with ourselves. What might you need a little more of right now? Rest? Connection? Time for yourself and your loved ones?

November gives us an opportunity to pause, remember, and reconnect. We might reach out to someone we haven't spoken to in a while, revisit a memory, or make a little more room for the people and experiences that matter to us. For those carrying grief, these moments of connection can be especially meaningful. Sometimes remembering together is a way of reminding ourselves that we don't have to carry it alone.

As we move through November, I also want to take a moment to remember and honour those who have served and continue to serve, and the families who stand alongside them.

Lest We Forget.

Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Bean, *Seton*



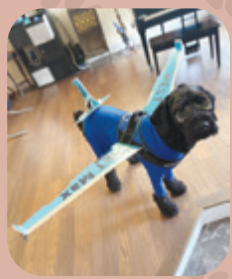
Coco, *New Brighton*



Ember, *Seton*



Kato, *McKenzie Lake*



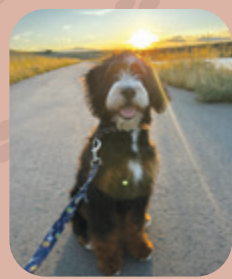
Max, *Signal Hill*



Teasha, *Huntington Hills*



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