

JANUARY 2025

YOUR OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

the news

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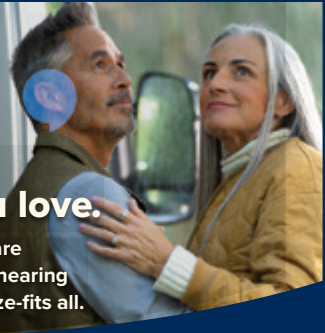
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What does the WSCRCA do?

- We run youth and family related programs.
- We are your voice at City Hall. Dealing with planning and development proposals, traffic, parks and recreation, and a direct voice to our local City Councillor.
- We support community initiatives and events. Community clean up, Charity Stampede Breakfast, community garden, and so much more!

Community Association Versus Residents Association

The community of West Springs/ Cougar Ridge encompasses several subdivisions, some of which have a Residents or Homeowners Association. Both play an important, but different role, in the community.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
✓ Membership is voluntary	✓ Membership is mandatory
✓ Represents all households in the WSCRCA boundaries	✓ Annual fees registered against property title. Fees must be paid in full prior to the sale of the home.
✓ Organizes community wide events and programs	✓ Maintains the landscaping and other amenities in the public green spaces for a specific subdivision

Check out our website, www.wscr.ca, for all that we do! Want to stay up to date and have early access to all our events and offerings? Become a member!

Become a West Springs Cougar Ridge Community Association Member

\$25 per Household or \$15 for Seniors

That gets you:

- Priority registration and discounts for WSCRCA run program and events.
- Support for a more vibrant community by supporting community-based initiatives.
- Members only emails.
- The right to vote at the AGM if you are a WSCR resident.

You can still become a member even if you do not live in the community!

Purchase your membership online at www.wscr.ca.



Become a Member

We have strong community spirit in West Springs Cougar Ridge. Do your part and join the Community Association and, if you can, volunteer to make it even stronger – we can always use more help and it's a great way to meet residents of your community! Visit wscr.ca for more information.

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2024 Santa Event

The West Springs Cougar Ridge Community Association (WSCRCRA) hosted its annual Santa Claus event on December 7, 2024, at West Springs Church, drawing a fantastic crowd of around 400 community members. Thanks to beautiful weather, attendees were treated to horse-drawn wagon rides and had the chance to interact with adorable animals from Butterfield Acres, including the ever-popular miniature piglets!

Children enjoyed lively, interactive performances by the Christmas elves, who shared stories, songs, and dances throughout the afternoon. They also had the pleasure of listening to live piano music by the talented Leabeth Quinn, which added a magical touch to the festivities. In addition, Code Ninjas West Springs provided engaging, hands-on activities for the kids.

Guests also had fun making Christmas crafts, indulged in delicious holiday cookies, and sipped on hot chocolate to warm up. Of course, one of the highlights of the day was the opportunity for families to visit Santa and Mrs. Claus and capture the special moment with a professional photo.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our generous sponsors for their support: West Springs Church, Lara Mitchell Real Estate, Code Ninjas West Springs, and Strathcona Sobey's.

We also want to express our deep appreciation to the WSCRCRA Santa Claus Event Committee—Eileen Teasdale, Bonnie Kadwell, Julie Beally, and Karla Gibson— and also a special thanks to the Calgary French International School and their students for their dedicated volunteer efforts, along with the many community volunteers who contributed their time and energy. Without your enthusiasm and hard work, this event wouldn't have been possible!

A warm thank you as well to our wonderful vendors: Strathcona Sobey's, YYC Princess/Sky Castle Events, Meet the Clauses (Keith and Elaine Viklund), Inspired by A&A Photography (Alayna Burn), Horse Drawn Rides for All Occasions (Connie Challice), and Butterfield Acres.

Mark your calendars and save the date— we look forward to seeing you all at the 2025 WSCRCRA Santa Claus event. Stay tuned for more details coming this fall!



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Be a Snow Angel

Snow has arrived in Calgary and the annual Snow Angels campaign is back in action, encouraging residents to support each other by shovelling a neighbour's sidewalk.

Becoming a Snow Angel is simple: just adopt a sidewalk and keep it clear whenever it snows. Calgarians are encouraged to look out for neighbours who might need help with snow removal and lend a hand.

Snow Angels are especially valuable to older adults, individuals with limited mobility and anyone else who might need temporary assistance keeping sidewalks clear of snow.

Each year, The City of Calgary helps Calgarians recognize Snow Angels with a printed certificate. These certificates can be downloaded from calgary.ca/SnowAngels or requested through 3-1-1 via the web, mobile app, or phone. Snow Angels and those they help are also encouraged to share their stories on social media using the hashtag #yycSnowAngels.

Since the program launched in 2004, thousands of Calgarians have participated as Snow Angels, fostering a spirit of community and mutual support.



Joke of the Month

Why did the pony get detention?

Because he was horsing around.



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How To Prevent CO Build-Up in Your Home



Install at least one carbon monoxide alarm on every level of your home, including the basement. The most important location for a working CO alarm is in or near your bedrooms.

Yearly Tips

- Every year check all the fuel-burning appliances in your house; make sure they are working properly and used properly.
- Make sure fuel-burning appliances, chimneys, and vents are cleaned and inspected by professionals every year before you start to use them, usually when the weather gets cold.

Indoor Tips

- Never use the stove or oven to heat your home.
- Make sure to open the flue of your fireplace before you use it.
- Never run a car, vehicle or other motor inside a garage, even if the garage door is open. Always drive your car or vehicle out of the garage right after starting it.

Outdoor Tips

- Make sure your vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, fireplace, and other fuel-burning appliances are always clear of snow and other debris.
- Only use gas and charcoal barbeques outdoors, away from all doors, windows, vents, and other building openings. Never use barbeques inside a garage, even if the garage door is open.
- Only use portable fuel-burning generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from windows, doors, vents, and other building openings.
- Make sure portable fuel-burning heaters are vented properly, according to their instructions.
- Check the outside and inside walls of your house for cracks, holes, separations, and check for rust, stains or carbon deposits on heating ducts or pipes.
- Check the flame on fuel-burning appliances – it should be clear blue with occasional yellow tips.

For more information on carbon monoxide and safety in and around your home, please visit calgary.ca/fire and gas.atco.com.

PSA: The City Reminds Residents to Stay Safe and Stay Off Storm Ponds This Winter

As temperatures warm up this week, many people are eager to get outside and enjoy the early start to winter, but The City wants to remind Calgarians that storm ponds are never a safe place to play because the ice thickness is always unpredictable.

Any recreational activity, on or in these ponds, is not safe and is strictly prohibited under the Stormwater Bylaw. Do not walk, skate, sled, or play on a storm pond. Also remember to keep your pets off the ice as they are not aware of the dangers.

Storm ponds look like natural ponds however they don't function the same. Storm ponds are designed to collect stormwater runoff, reduce local flooding, and ensure cleaner water flows back into the rivers and creeks. As a result, storm pond water levels are constantly changing as water flows in and out through underground inlet and outlet infrastructure. This creates unstable air gaps between the ice and water, weakening the ice in the winter. Storm ponds also contain sediment, contaminants and road salt, which also weakens the ice.

The good news is skaters can enjoy the outdoors at one of the over 65 volunteer maintained Adopt-a-rinks in communities across Calgary or City of Calgary natural ice rinks that will be opening soon. Rinks maintained by The City are among the safest places to skate because they are checked daily for ice thickness and quality, and surfaces are flooded as needed to make sure they're safe for skating. For a full list of locations and the rink's status visit calgary.ca/rinks.





EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Position	Name	Email
Interim President	Karla Gibson	president@wscr.ca
Vice President	Kelly Smith	vicepresident@wscr.ca
Secretary	Gloria Wilkinson	secretary@wscr.ca
Treasurer	Tenzin Sangalabrang	treasurer@wscr.ca
Board Executive Assistant	Kaitlin Mitchell	admin@wscr.ca

COMMITTEES

Committee	Member(s) <i>*Bold font indicates Board Director</i>	Email
Charity Casino	Eileen Teasdale Kimberly Paw	casino@wscr.ca
Communications	Heather Zaba	communications@wscr.ca
Newsletter	Brianna Norgaard	newsletter@wscr.ca
Family Programs	Vacant	
Membership	Eileen Teasdale	membership@wscr.ca
Planning and Development	Joe Healey Eileen Teasdale Denis Ho Linda Nessel Patrick Sinclair Yvonne Harper Renee Alessio Gloria Wilkinson	planning@wscr.ca
Sponsorship	Taiwo Adetola Latosia Campbell-Walters	sponsorship@wscr.ca
Treasurer Coordinator	Samantha See	
Website Editor	Caroline Anderson	
Soccer	Kimberly Paw Steve Berman Stravianna Kodellas	soccer@wscr.ca
Skating	Kimberly Paw	skating@wscr.ca
Volunteers	Vacant	
Recycling Event	Vacant	communityrecycling@wscr.ca
Director of Community Mobility	Denis Ho	traffic@wscr.ca
Building Safer Communities Group	Heather Zaba	safercommunity@wscr.ca
Stampede Breakfast	Justin Barrett	
Community Garden	Evan Ashdown Bhavna Lobo	
Directors at Large	Boyd England Stavrianna Kodellas	

WSCRCA Board Meetings

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month in the upstairs community room of the Calgary Co-op on 85 Street SW and online via Zoom. Anyone in the community is welcome to attend these meetings. If you would like to discuss a particular issue or idea, please notify our secretary by email a week before the meeting at secretary@wscr.ca.

The WSCRCA Planning and Development Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Currently meetings are held via Zoom video conferencing. Anyone in the community is welcome to attend, and if you are interested in attending, please email planning@wscr.ca.

WSCR Babysitters Group



You can stay in touch with your community by following us on Facebook and joining this FB Group. It's a great way to grow our community and keep up to date on what is happening in WSCR.

The WSCR Babysitters Group: A place where parents can find local babysitters, as well as where local babysitters, aged 12 to 25, can add themselves to the list to find jobs. Follow this group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wscrbabysitters/>.

Follow the main WSCRCA page here: <https://www.facebook.com/wscrca/>.



Volunteer Board Opportunities

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Volunteer Coordinator

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Try Unique Winter Activities in City Parks

Colder weather creates new opportunities for Calgarians to enjoy park spaces and remain active throughout the winter. The City offers a variety of winter park activities for Calgarians to try and enjoy, many that are free and require minimal equipment.

In addition to outdoor rinks and cross-country ski trails, Calgarians can also enjoy the following winter park activities in select locations:

- Ice trails
- Crokicurl
- Ice bikes

Ice Trails

Ice trails are a free and fun activity for Calgarians available from December to mid-March (weather dependent).

There are two City ice trails:

- North Glenmore Park - A 730 metre ice skating trail connected to a skating rink.
- Bowness Park - A 1.6-kilometre skating trail with rental ice bikes.

The following equipment is allowed on ice trails:

- Ice skates (figure skates and hockey skates).
- Helmets (encouraged).
- Skating aids.
- Hockey sticks and nets, toboggans, and sleds are not allowed on the ice trails.

Calgarians can check on the status (open or closed) of ice trails before they go by visiting calgary.ca/icetrails.

Crokicurl

Try out Canada's newest winter pastime! Crokicurl is a fun new outdoor sport that combines two Canadian favourites—Crokinole and curling. Crokicurl is a large-scale version of the Crokinole board game combined with curling.

The objective of the game is to score the most points by shooting a small curling rock into the centre button (20 points) and trying to position the rocks to stay within the highest scoring circle at the end of each round (red circle = 15 points, white circle = 10 points, blue circle = 5 points).

The only equipment needed is the curling stones which are provided at the site during crokicurl rink opening hours.

Park visitors are asked to:

- Stay off the ice while others are throwing rocks.
- Ensure you do not throw rocks too hard, so as to reduce risk to other players and prevent damage to the rocks.

Crokicurl is available at Bowness Park and North Glenmore Park. Before you go, find out when it is available by visiting <https://www.calgary.ca/parks/activities/crokicurl.html>.

Ice Bikes

Ice bikes offer a safe, stable alternative for all ages and skill levels to enjoy outdoor skating at Bowness Park. If you're not a strong skater, you can still join in and have fun on the ice. Please refer to the Bowness Park Skate Shop to confirm rental availability at Calgary.ca/icebikes.

- Ice bikes are a bicycle with the front wheel replaced with skates and the back wheel is surrounded by skates. With a wide base, you don't even have to balance. Just pedal and steer as if you're riding a normal bike. Ice bikes are single speed. To brake, pedal backwards.
- Helmets are mandatory for those under 18-years-old and strongly recommended for all ice bike users.
- Skaters on the lagoon must yield to ice bike users and only one person can be on the ice bike at a time.

Ice conditions change with the weather. The lagoon and ice trail may close without notice due to poor conditions or maintenance needs. Visit calgary.ca/rinks to confirm availability before you go.



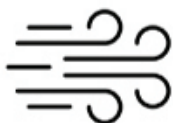
Frozen Water Lines

Every winter, some Calgarians will experience freezing water pipes, service lines and water outages. Frozen pipes are a common phenomenon and happen in many Canadian municipalities.

Why do my lines freeze?

Homes and businesses can be at risk for many different reasons. Customers closest to the river and in older communities tend to be at a greater risk. Some major factors that cause lines to freeze include: ground depth of water service pipes, river water temperature, and frost depth.

Help protect your water lines from freezing:



Look for cold drafts.

Check in unheated areas where water supply lines are located. Usual locations include: basements, crawl spaces, attics, garages, and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets.



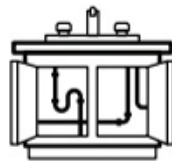
Seal your home from winter.

Repair broken windows, check doors and insulate areas that allow cold exterior air to enter.



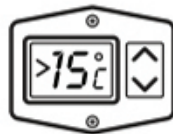
Insulate pipes.

Both hot and cold water pipes should be insulated in cold areas. Consider installing specific products made to insulate water pipes, like a pipe sleeve, or installing UL-listed heat tape, heat cable or similar materials.



Open interior doors and cabinets.

Allow heat from the house to warm unprotected pipes in cold basements and similar areas.



Keep the heat on.

Keep your thermostat set for at least 15°C. If away for extended absences, refer to your home insurance policy on how often someone should be checking your home/monitoring for freezing.



Winterize outside faucets and other water features.

Make sure the water line to outside faucets, garden hoses, pools or decorative water features is turned off, disconnected, and drained. If these lines freeze, they can burst which may cause water to drain into your home.



Check your hot water tank.

If your hot water tank is located in a maintenance room outside of your home, make sure the area is adequately heated.



Regularly run water through pipes.

Regularly run water in your pipes through everyday use, or by continuously running a steady pencil-width stream of water. You will be responsible for any increase in water charges unless you received an official notice from The City of Calgary instructing you to do so.

Suspect your pipes are frozen?

What are some signs that my pipes are frozen and what action should I take?

1. Flooding – Frozen water can cause pipes to burst and cause flooding within your home.
2. No water, or very little water, coming out of your faucet – Check all faucets in your home.
3. Frost on your internal pipes – A large amount of frost on internal pipes and main shut off valve located in your basement.

Explore Downtown Calgary

No matter where you live in Calgary, you're always home Downtown.

As Downtown continues to evolve, The City along with its partners, is proud to offer a wide variety of activities and entertainment, making Downtown a vibrant destination where people live, work, learn, play, and shop all year long.

Explore shops, restaurants, events, markets, and cozy spots in the heart of Calgary this winter.

Embrace the season and plan your Downtown winter adventure today! To learn more about the Choose Your Own Downtown Adventure Itineraries and other exciting events happening downtown, visit calgary.ca/exploredowntown.



Calgary Police Service Traffic Request

Did you know there is a Calgary Police Service Residential Traffic Safety Unit? This unit was created to specifically address residential traffic issues. They focus on playground zones, schools, pedestrian safety, high-risk locations, and other areas identified through collision data analysis.

You can submit a Traffic Service Request at any time related to the following:

- Speeding issues
- School or playground zones
- Trucks/commercial vehicles
- Pedestrian safety issues
- Intersection safety issues
- Motorcycle issues
- Illegal turns

To submit your request, visit www.calgary.ca/cps/traffic/traffic-service-requests.html.

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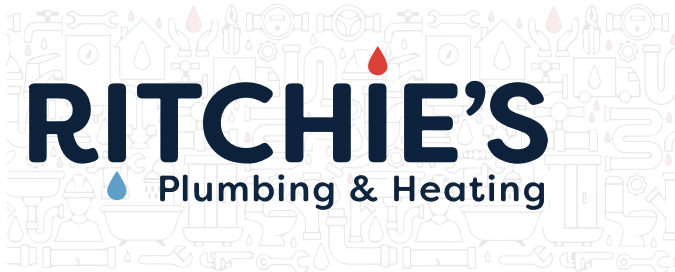
Silver Level

West Springs Church	Code Ninjas		
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Bronze Level

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Word of the Month

Cynosure noun (SIGH-noh-syoor)

A center of attraction or attention.

The bride was the cynosure of all eyes at the wedding.



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*Guarantee is being offered by Greater Property Group. Terms and Conditions apply.

WEST SPRINGS COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

	Properties		Median Price	
	Listed	Sold	Listed	Sold
November 24	23	20	\$629,950	\$627,500
October 24	29	16	\$707,000	\$693,250
September 24	22	19	\$789,900	\$772,500
August 24	29	17	\$819,900	\$850,000
July 24	24	22	\$694,450	\$685,000
June 24	22	19	\$600,000	\$605,000
May 24	33	32	\$764,450	\$770,000
April 24	25	19	\$874,900	\$875,000
March 24	24	27	\$729,231	\$755,000
February 24	18	10	\$469,450	\$480,500
January 24	19	16	\$666,500	\$667,500
December 23	7	10	\$554,900	\$538,500

COUGAR RIDGE COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

	Properties		Median Price	
	Listed	Sold	Listed	Sold
November 24	7	9	\$750,000	\$778,000
October 24	8	11	\$799,900	\$802,000
September 24	11	6	\$834,450	\$845,000
August 24	4	2	\$584,450	\$584,000
July 24	12	12	\$732,000	\$726,250
June 24	11	9	\$700,000	\$751,000
May 24	17	18	\$774,900	\$821,000
April 24	15	13	\$725,000	\$805,000
March 24	8	8	\$774,450	\$800,000
February 24	7	10	\$750,000	\$752,000
January 24	3	5	\$729,900	\$715,000
December 23	7	0	\$0	\$0

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

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

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David.

KNOWS THE WESTSIDE

Why your neighbours choose **David** when it's time to sell their home

100.1% more

David's listings lead the market once again, having sold on average at 100.1% year to date.

19% faster

When it's time to sell your home, David sells it **19% faster**. David's listings averaged **17 days** on market vs the rest of market at 21 days.*

490 sales

With **490 sales** (Detached homes sold) dating back to 2012, almost 2X more than his closest colleague, David has established himself as the top producing Realtor here on the Westside.

* Detached Homes - SOLD, January to November 25, 2024. West Springs, Aspen Woods, Springbank Hill, Discovery Ridge, Signal Hill, Christie Park, Coach Hill, Patterson & Cougar Ridge.
Photos represent David's detached homes SOLD, January - November 2024.

Friend
Neighbour
Realtor®
David Pellettier

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RE/MAX First