

# **QUARRY PARK NEWS**

QUARRY PARK NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018



# 'Cause a little bit of summer is what the whole year is all about.

John Mayer

After the winter that didn't seem to want to end, everything exploded into life these past few weeks. Long hours of daylight, lazy afternoons on the patio and the smell of BBQ wafting through the neighbourhood are all part of what makes this such a great season. There is an endless number of things to do in and around Calgary in summer, from enjoying one of the many outdoor sports that are available in our area to visiting street festivals, cultural events or farmers' markets where we can finally buy fresh locally grown produce again, to simply relaxing in the back yard with friends and family. Whatever your preference, active or quiet, at home or away, we hope that you will have a fabulous summer!

### Yard Maintenance Tips

Quarry Park is turning into a more beautiful neighbourhood each year as our trees, bushes and shrubs grow and mature. For many people, one of the great pleasures of summer is being able to work in our yards and watch them evolve as we maintain and care for them. The City of Calgary publishes a handy brochure that outlines everything you need to know about the bylaws related to yard and perimeter maintenance in an easy-to-review format. You can download the pamphlet at <a href="https://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/ABS/Documents/Bylaws-by-topic/Yard%20perimeter%20maintenance.pdf?noredirect=1">https://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/ABS/Documents/Bylaws-by-topic/Yard%20perimeter%20maintenance.pdf?noredirect=1</a>.

If you have any concerns about trees that are located on City property and are the responsibility of the City, want to inquire about tree pests or diseases, or you are not sure about tree ownership, please contact 311. You can even use the 311 mobile app that you can download from the app store to report your tree concerns.

As the hot, dry months approach, we would also like to encourage you to consider water conservation methods for your home and garden. The City of Calgary remains committed to conservation efforts to protect our water supply. Its 30 Year Water Efficiency Plan aims to maintain river water withdrawals from the Bow River and the Elbow River at 2003 levels, even with the increase in population. So far, the City is on track to meet this goal, which is astonishing, considering how much Calgary has grown since then. For tips and ideas on how to reduce water usage, please visit <u>http://www.calgary.ca/UEP/Water/Pages/Water-conservation/Water-Conservation.aspx</u>.





### Dandelions

IT'S ALWAYS

Dandelions are a well-known plant in Calgary, and citizens have mixed opinions about them. To some, they are harmless and add to the charm of a green space, to others, they are a weed that should be sprayed with herbicides, and some don't care one way or another. Dandelions are not one of the legislated weeds that the Province of Alberta requires to be controlled, but in Calgary, they are treated based on their location. On sports fields, for example, uneven turf from weeds can create tripping hazards, so the growth of all weeds is controlled due to safety concerns. Dandelions on meridians, boulevards, in ditches and utility right-of-ways are not controlled. Manicured parks are sprayed with herbicides on a five year rotation, whereas natural areas do not have any dandelion control methods applied. Here are some suggestions how you can keep your own lawn dandelion-free without the use of store-bought herbicides:

- Pull them out by their roots or dig them up, especially before they go to seed
- Try one of the many natural weed killing suggestions found online, such as pouring boiling water onto the dandelions or spraying them with a mix of lemon juice, vinegar and dish soap
- Keep your grass between 3 and 6 inches long so it shades its own roots from the sun and chokes unwanted plants
- Practice good turf management to keep your grass healthy, and
- Work with your neighbours to avoid dandelions spreading from one yard to the next.



### **Mosquito Season**

Now that summer is here, unfortunately so are the mosquitoes. This seems to be a particularly bad year, however, researchers at the University of Calgary say that the populations we are dealing with now include spring mosquitoes that arrived a month later than usual due to the exceptionally cool start to the season. Once the hotter weather settled in, the mosquito populations exploded, but they are not up to the level other years have seen, and even a worst case scenario for southern Alberta should result in a normal year. So if you have been suffering the wrath of these buzzing bloodsuckers, there is hope – apparently we have had worse and it is not going to be that bad for the rest of the year.... but let's keep the bug spray handy anyways!





# **QUARRY PARK EVENTS & PROGRAMS**

### Happenings at the Y

### ◆ 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Remington YMCA in Quarry Park opened its doors on July 1st, 2016 and continues to successfully serve the health and fitness needs of our community. Help us celebrate the 2nd anniversary of this award-winning facility at the YMCA's Stampede Breakfast on July 12.

#### • STAMPEDE BREAKFAST – JULY 12

Join the team at the Y for their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Stampede Breakfast and anniversary celebration on **Thursday**, **July 12** from 7:00 am to 9:30 am with pancakes, sausages, fruit, coffee, face painting and kids' activities!

#### SUMMER CAMPS

Registration is open and ongoing for the YMCA's Summer Camps. From multi-activity, sport-specific, outdoor to one-day or overnight camps, the YMCA has plenty of spaces and places to keep your child active and unplugged this summer. To see the Summer Program Guide 2018 or to register, please visit <u>https://www.ymcacalgary.org/program-descriptions/</u>.

#### YMCA SUMMER SAVINGS 2018

The YMCA Young Adult or Youth Summer Passes are back! Passes are valid from May 1 to August 31 and offer reduced rates for young adults (18-25 years) or youth (12-17 years). Keep active and fit all summer at a great price!





# IN AND AROUND QUARRY PARK...

## **Events In And Around Quarry Park**

### • CANADA DAY – JULY 1

Canada is turning 151 this year! Show your pride in being Canadian and enjoy one of the many free events with spectacular fireworks, fun festivals and Canada Day parties. The following websites list some of the best Canada Day celebrations in and around Calgary:

https://www.todocanada.ca/canada-day-in-calgary/ http://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/Recreation/Pages/Events/Canada-day.aspx

### • STAMPEDE LUNCH AT THE MARKET – JULY 11

Time to shine up those belt buckles and dust off the cowboy boots! The Market's annual Stampede Lunch will take place on **Wednesday**, **July 11**, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Come on over for a fun, relaxing time with free food and entertainment!

### ◆ CARDEL PARK + POLISH – SEPTEMBER 15

Cardel Park + Polish is back for another high revving day of cool cars on **Saturday**, **September 15** at the Cardel parking lot in Quarry Park in support of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). Gear up for this free, popular auto show for all ages with hot rods, prizes, vendors, food trucks, face painting and airbrush tattoos for the kids. For more info visit <u>www.cardelparkandpolish.com</u>.

#### • WARD 12 SPEAKER SERIES

Ward 12 Councillor Shane Keating's office has launched its first ever Ward 12 Speaker Series. Over the course of the year they will be hosting a number of speakers to discuss important issues facing our city. The inaugural event was held on June 13 at the Cardel Theatre and focused on the benefits and the challenges of living so close to nature. The next event has not been announced yet, but if you are interested, you can check for updates at <u>www.shanekeating.ca</u>.



# MISCELLANEOUS

IT'S ALWAYS

# **BBQ Safety**

June is BBQ & Fire Pit Safety Month! Grilling outdoors is one of the most popular ways for Calgarians to cook their food, but a BBQ that is leaking propane or an improperly constructed fire pit can be a serious safety or fire hazard. You can find some BBQ safety tips at <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/home-garden-safety/barbecue-safety.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/home-garden-safety/barbecue-safety.html</a>.

If you have an outdoor fire pit in your yard, it would be a good idea to also re-familiarize yourself with the City of Calgary's fire pit bylaws, which can be found at <u>http://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/Fire/Pages/Safety-tips/Safety-tips-home/Fire-pits.aspx</u>, as you can be fined up to \$5,000 for not following these regulations. There are also bylaws related to smoke and noise to consider that you can access from the same website.

Most of this information is common sense, but we all tend to overlook something once in a while, and when dealing with open flame it is always better to be safe than sorry. Happy Grilling!

### **Remington Raffle**

Did you know that Remington Development Corporation has been a major supporter of the Prostate Cancer Centre in Calgary? Each year the company hosts the Remington Charity Golf Classic, which has raised over \$3 million dollars for the Centre in the last 10 years. In conjunction with the sold-out golf tournament there is a raffle for which only 650 tickets are printed. This year's prize is a \$10,000 Gift Certificate for Westjet Airlines. Tickets are still available and are 1 for \$100 or 3 for \$250. All proceeds go directly to the Prostate Cancer Centre! If you are interested in purchasing a ticket for a chance to win and travel to your dream destination while supporting a great cause, please contact Michelle Gillies at mgillies@remingtoncorp.com or at (403) 255-7003.





