



Federation
of Calgary Communities
Improving neighbourhood life in Calgary

Jennifer McDougall
for the Federation of
Calgary Communities

Renovated community centre making great first impression

tion to essentially rebuild the whole interior adding more windows and a patio door. The renovated kitchen now has commercial grade appliances, tile flooring and custom made cabinetry.

The new facility opens up the possi-

their new state of the art audio visual equipment and built-in sound system complete with wireless capabilities.

With a city-run soccer field right across the parking lot and an outdoor skating rink, which has also been

people and that the rates are very reasonable. They have seen a large increase in interest from potential renters already. On a typical day, the centre might host a seniors gathering in the morning, a weight loss group in the early evening and a tango dance class at 8:00 p.m.

The association serves the communities of Rutland Park, Lincoln Park, and CFB Currie. With the expectation that Canada Lands' Currie West development may double the local population within the next ten years, the board of directors asked themselves whether their community centre was prepared for this growth so that it would continue to serve the recreational and social needs of the surrounding communities.

They decided to renovate rather than rebuild to create an up-to-date functional and stylish facility, which included wheelchair access to the kitchen and bathrooms, a fireplace and a bar.

While the association ultimately seeks long term renters for the revenue stability, the centre can be booked on an hourly basis at this time.

Check out this organization's dynamic website at www.rutland-park.org which features a Power Point presentation of the community's renovation journey.



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When referring to her clients' reaction to the recently renovated Rutland Park Community Centre, Dawn Erath, owner of Dancing till Dawn, says that after assessing their teacher, they eventually look around to see the wonderful new space they're in."

"It's a great first impression," says Erath. "People are really impressed when they come in, it's very clean and there is lots of natural light."

Erath has been instructing ballroom, Latin, country, and wedding dance lessons at the community centre located at 3130 40 Ave SW for more than two years. She was there before the renovations, and is very happy to be back in a more modern space, particularly because of the floor upgrade from linoleum to hardwood, a must for any dance class.

"It's a major change," says Erath. "It's just beautiful."

Speaking about the renovation, community association president Peter Forte says, "The hall was originally built in the eighties and nothing had really been done in the way of upgrades."

Money for the project was raised through casinos and capital conserva-



The recently renovated Rutland Park Community Centre has more than a few couples kicking up their heels in praise.

Photo courtesy Dawn Erath

bility of expanding the community association's scope of potential rental clients. Of course wedding parties and other social groups will be pleased with the rooms, but the Rutland Park Community Centre is now able to provide space for business presentations and meetings. This is thanks to

rebuilt so the surface can be used year round, patrons can incorporate an outdoor component into their event.

Volunteers took on project management responsibilities, but the work was done by professionals to ensure all upgrades would meet building codes.

Forte says the centre can seat 140

Glendale

Community Description

The community of Glendale is located in the southwest section of the city approximately 3 kilometres from the Downtown. The community was established in 1955 and annexed to the City of Calgary the following year.

The curvilinear street pattern is a common feature of residential neighbourhoods developed in the late 1950s.

There are views of the Rockies in the west, from numerous points in Glendale. Residents have access to recreational opportunities at Glendale meadows, Glendale Athletic Park, Optimist Park, and the pathway.

Schools

- Glendale Elementary School - Public
- Glenmeadow Elementary School - Public
- St. Gregory Junior High - Separate

Demographics

Located in Ward 6, Glendale has a population of 2,743 (2006 Civic Census) with approximately 16.8 per cent comprising the immigrant population (Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Canada). A total of 500 families accounted for 900 children still living at home with 34.4 per cent of these being six to 14 years old.

According to Stats Canada, 2005 Census of Canada the median household income for Glendale was \$70,238. In addition, 27.3 per cent

of the population over 20 completed college, attended university or graduated university with a degree - an additional 8.4 per cent graduated from Trade Schools (Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Canada).

There are a total of 1,150 occupied private dwellings in Glendale with 79.1 per cent being single detached dwellings (Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Canada). For more information visit: calgarycommunities.com

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