

Photo Contest Winner!



Jessica VanderRoest poses with her son and star of her winning photograph in the MY Community amateur photo contest at Bankers Hall September 17th.

Here is the winner of the “My Community” amateur photo contest Jessica VanderRoest.

This competition was held throughout the summer encouraging Calgarians to think about what community means to them. We received many entries and through a long selection process 10 were picked to be put on display as part of Alberta Arts Days in Banker’s Hall September 17, 2010.

The Federation is proud to host events like this to promote the value of community associations and all they offer to improving life in Calgary.

Upcoming events that your community can take part in include: the Mayor’s Annual Food Drive, March Membership Awareness Month, 50th Anniversary celebrations and much more. Stay tuned in to the Federation for more opportunities to celebrate Calgary’s community associations.

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Upcoming Events

Developing & Running Planning Committees

Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Board Workshop: Meeting Management

Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Workshop for the Inexperienced Accountant Part 1

Date: Thursday, October 14, 2010

Admin Meeting: Standards of Practice

Date: Wednesday, October 20th, 2010

Treasurer’s Workshop for the Inexperienced Accountant Part 2

Date: Thursday, October 21, 2010

Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 28th, 2010

This Month’s Inserts

Calgary Santa Shuffle Poster

The living city

Family Roots

Cashenger Carpool

Montgomery Quilt til-u-wilt

Tool Peet Community Hero Award

Networking Neighbours

DISCLAIMER

The Federation produces ‘Get Engaged!’ to increase awareness and to provide thought provoking information. This newsletter and its advertisements are not intended to prescribe products or services, but solely to provide you with information to help you make informed decisions.

Message from the President



General Meeting September 25

The community people who attended the General Meeting on September 25th were an enthusiastic group. Susanne Boss, a consultant with Calgary Arts Development, facilitated the session utilizing the “Café Conversation” model. Calgary will be applying to be designated the Cultural Capital of Canada in 2012. Several well know Calgary institutions are celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2012 including the Calgary Stampede. By the way, “culture” is defined as “how we live together”. This was one of several consultations that have been done to identify possible activities and projects to include in the application. Those who attended our meeting came up with some interesting and exciting ideas. These will be vetted along with those coming out of other consultations as to which ones will be included in the application.

Through their participation, attendees learned more about the “Café Conversation” model. Rounding out the day, attendees raised issues and situations they wished to see how other communities might have approached similar situations.

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, October 28th is The Federation’s 2010 Annual General Meeting. It will be held at the Crossroads Community Centre and the start time is 6:45 pm. There will annual reports, elections, recognition and the usual AGM items. But more important this is an excellent opportunity to network with other community associations. Hope to see you there. This will be my last AGM as president of The Federation.

Meetings with the Provincial Government

During September we were pleased to have the opportunity to speak with Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit. We explained how The Federation has changed and the services it provides to community associations in Calgary. We also discussed how important CFEP and CIP funding is to community associations. We had an excellent discussion with the Minister.

We also were pleased to be able to speak to members of the Calgary Caucus. We explained the work of the Federation and expanded on the challenges faced by community associations.

We were pleased to have these opportunities to communicate with key members of the Provincial Government on the importance of community associations.

2010 – 2011 Workshop Guide

The Federation has just completed its 2010 – 2011 Workshop Guide. There are many, many workshop opportunities available to community association people at no cost. They include planning workshops, heritage roundtables, financial workshops, Administrator and Board workshops. The latter includes Meeting Management, Presidents Roles and Responsibilities, Meet the Funders / Grants and Policy Writing. So check on The Federation’s website and register for those of interest to you closer to their date.

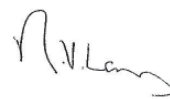
The Federation’s 50th Anniversary

The Federation will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2011. We have started planning for this special year. We not only will be celebrating The Federation’s 50th, we also will be celebrating the 146 community associations in Calgary and the 20,000 community volunteers. Look for more details in 2011.



Bob Lyon

I am sad to report the passing of Bob Lyon on September 24. He was a former Board member of The Federation. He also was president of the Huntington Hills Community Association for many years. During his time as president he helped found the North Central Community Resource Centre. He was involved with his community in many different ways. In recent years, he has been a member of the The Federation’s Urban Planning Committee. He will be missed. He was a true “Community Hero”.



Bob Lang, President
Federation of Calgary Communities

Workshops & Events

Register at www.calgarycommunities.com

Developing & Running Planning Committees

Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Federation of Calgary Communities
1609 14th Street SW-Federation office board room

Topics: Learn how to create and run a planning committee that makes better decisions regarding development applications that will better reflect your communities' values. Additionally, learn to engage The City and other stakeholders during the development process.

Register: www.calgarycommunities.com

Board Workshop: Meeting Management

Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Federation of Calgary Communities
1609 14th Street SW-2nd floor board room

Topics: Develop skills to manage meetings effectively, stay on task and maintain the needs of those working towards a common goal.

Register: www.calgarycommunities.com

Treasurer's Workshop for the Inexperienced Accountant Part 1

Date: Thursday, October 14, 2010

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Federation of Calgary Communities
1609 14th Street SW

Topics: Are you the Treasurer or Bookkeeper, but have little accounting experience? This first part of the workshop is designed to help you understand your role and responsibilities. Topics will include: What are the duties of the treasurer and/or the bookkeeper? Setting up your books Basic recording

Register: www.calgarycommunities.com

Admin Meeting: Standards of Practice

Date: Wednesday, October 20th, 2010

Time: 10:00am-1:00pm

Location: To Be Determined

Topics: Standards of Practice-review vital operating requirements, common challenges and the solutions others use to stay ahead of the curve.

Register: www.calgarycommunities.com

Treasurer's Workshop for the Inexperienced Accountant Part 2

Date: Thursday, October 21, 2010

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Federation of Calgary Communities
1609 14th Street SW

Topics: Are you the Treasurer or Bookkeeper, but have little accounting experience? This first part of the workshop is designed to help you understand your role and responsibilities. Topics will include: Monthly reconciliations, Getting your books ready for audit, Special problems encountered by communities with recording.

Register: www.calgarycommunities.com

Federation Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 28th, 2010

Time: 6:45pm to 9:00pm

Location: Crossroads Community Association
1803 14th Ave NE

Topics: How you can benefit from The Federation including our current programs and services, as well as some upcoming events and initiatives. The Annual Community Hero and Community Builder Award will also be presented to two outstanding volunteers.

Register: www.calgarycommunities.com

2010 Mayor's Annual Food Drive

Date: November 1st-December 31st

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: City-wide

Topics: One of the things that makes this so important is that it gives communities from all across the city a chance to unite to make improvements to not only their community association but to Calgary as a whole.

Register: www.calgarycommunities.com





Paul Meunier

SOS: A Series of Supports

The Annual General Meeting (AGM): Do you tell your story?

With the launch of the Member Services SOS Program of 2010/11, I find myself drawn to an issue commonly faced in the not-for-profit sector; membership engagement. Many of us face concerns around what methods are most effective in an attempt to engage community. We often forget what brings people through our doors in the first place: Making our story compelling. We all believe the work we do is important in our own breadth of understanding. The question is how can an organization's story engage an audience full of existing or potential members; one that is easy to relate with and wide reaching?

A number of factors play a role in the cause and effect of "missed opportunity." One of the key tools that can empower a not-for-profit to reenergize members and engage new ones is an Annual General Meeting. While the sense of growth within a year may vary among groups facing a wide range of challenges and successes, the common theme is this: AGMs are our opportunity to make our voice heard. To realize this fully two questions must be asked:

One: How do we attract people to our meeting?

When it comes to promoting your AGM, the range of methods you use to broaden your reach is half of the battle. How effective these methods are in reaching your audience is the other.

When considering which communication tools work best for your organization, it is useful to include a "teaser" that outlines which content at your AGM will be most compelling. This may draw interest from an audience who are potentially much larger than the minimum required to meet quorum.

Getting people to attend an AGM is one of planning

and effective communication. Advertising a minimum of one month in advance is pertinent. Certain time lines must also be considered if you wish to have potential members attend. For example the period of time a member must wait until they can vote should be considered in your advertising time lines. Remember to accommodate the preparation needs of professionals you invite, as other stakeholder reps, politicians and potential speakers may be able to support and strengthen your meeting. Thus generating further interest from your audience.

Two: What have we done in the past year and how is it compelling?

Well that's really up to your own organization to strategize and discuss. AGMs can entice an organization to fluff their own tail feathers, however the fine print in a report should not be assumed to fly over people's heads. Tell them your successes and challenges in detail. Celebrate the good, but note the gaps. Anchoring this information in the roots of your mandate will communicate how and where the organization can meet demand, in turn bringing it back to your members. Just as not-for-profits are accountable to their membership, an ever growing membership base can support an organization if they are engaged effectively. Look for ways to translate information in a voice that reflects your audience's diversity, changing needs, and willingness to get involved. Use pictures, slides, handouts, posters; whatever! An organization's transparency encourages trust, and with our organizations ever pressured to do more with less, we could all use membership support.

"Many of us face concerns around what methods are most effective in an attempt to engage community.

We often forget what brings people through our doors in the first place: Making our story compelling."

Risk Management

YOU AND YOUR INSURANCE BROKER

– Toole Peet Insurance

With the 2010 renewal of the Federation of Calgary Communities Insurance Program fast approaching, it seems timely to discuss what our role as your broker. It also seems like a good time to provide you with an up-date on the work that's been underway over the past few months as we prepare for the December 1 renewal date.

The smooth and successful operation of any insurance program requires the attention of all parties, you the client or insured, we as your broker, as well as the insurance companies.

An insurance contract is an agreement of an intangible nature and is just an expensive piece of paper that does not mean very much... that is, until there is a loss.

We feel that our role is to act as the catalyst in the insurance transaction in effect acting as your insurance buyer and risk manager therefore adding value to the relationship.

In order to do this effectively, a broker needs to have knowledge of your industry (or operations) which is usually gained through extensive interaction and years of involvement with you and other similar clients.

Specifically, Toole Peet/Smith Insurance have been involved in providing not only insurance coverage but risk consultation to community associations and non-profit societies, since 1983. Toole Peet is also a well respected broker in all areas of the Non-Profit Society sector as this is an area that we as a brokerage, over 20 years ago, decided to concentrate and become experts on.

We feel that this experience is invaluable, as you as community associations have unique operations that require a tailored insurance and risk management program.

Although a broker's role is to provide proper insurance coverage at the best premiums available, in our office, the broker's role goes well beyond that.

WHAT SHOULD YOU AS THE INSURED EXPECT FROM YOUR BROKER?

1. Expect that they deal only with reputable and financially stable insurance companies and to conduct business in an honest and trustworthy manner.
2. Policies need to be carefully reviewed to be certain that the intent of coverage is accurately tailored to ensure proper protection for their clients in the event of a loss
3. Expect that they, in conjunction with the insurance company, provide loss control inspection services and to assist you in establishing your own loss prevention program.
4. As the first step in the risk management process, one should also expect that the broker makes a complete survey or audit of your insurable risks and requirements and again, creates an insurance and risk mitigation program around those needs
5. Claims - This is by far one of the most important roles of the broker. In the event that there is a claim, not only is a broker responsible for reporting that claim to the insurance company, but at Toole Peet, we feel that it's our role to stay involved through out the entire process, so should a problem arise, we'll be able to advocate on our client's behalf to have the situation resolved as quickly as possible
6. The marketing of your insurance program – As a broker, if we do not go to the market place and “shop” for the best price and coverage on our client's behalf, then we are not doing our jobs. We feel that this process is one of our most important responsibilities.

Over the past 4 or 5 months, we have created an extensive marketing submission which we have presented to select insurance carriers (in addition to the existing companies) and are well into negotiating with them on coverage options and premium terms so that when the Federation of Calgary Communities Insurance Program renews this December, all can be confident that the coverage and premiums will be the best that the market has to offer.

It is our pleasure to be the trusted insurance and Risk Management advisors to the Federation of Calgary Communities. We value and take that responsibility very seriously and we look forward to the up-coming insurance renewal year.



Bob van Wegen & Natasha Kuzmak

Community Visioning Opportunity

Last spring, the Federation of Calgary Communities collaborated with three communities (Elboya, Windsor Park and Britannia), and the undergraduate program of Urban Studies, University of Calgary. The partners worked together to develop visions for the development surrounding 50th Avenue S.W. between MacLeod Trail and Elbow Drive. This initiative arose as a community response to development proposal from a landowner that raised community concerns, and a lack of local policy plans for the area in question. The communities wanted to develop their own vision for this area.

The 50th Avenue project was such a success that we want to do it again! In collaboration with the U of C's Urban Studies program, we are soliciting letters of interest from communities for visioning of potential redevelopment areas or general community visioning projects. The projects can range in scale from a single street to a community to a multi-community project.

If your community is interested in working with the urban studies students in developing a vision that could help to frame future planning work and development options, The Federation asks that interested communities send an expression of interest to our office by 5:00p.m. October 15th, 2010. Letters of interest can be emailed to:

engageinplanning@calgarycommunities.com.

Planning Committee Workshop October 13

The Federation is launching a new workshop on community association planning committees. At these workshops, community members can learn how to create and run a planning committee that makes better decisions regarding development applications and that will better reflect communities' values. Additionally, participants will learn how to engage The City and other stakeholders during the development process. The first Planning Committee Workshop will take place on October 13th from 7pm to 9pm in the Federation Boardroom. Please register

online at www.calgarycommunities.com > workshops and events. For further information, please contact Natasha at engageinplanning@calgarycommunities.com.

Digital signs review – October 14

The City is creating rules for Digital Signs in the land use bylaw and is seeking community input. The first meeting was in September and a second meeting has been scheduled for October 14, 7- 9 pm at the Sunalta Community Association. Please register online on the Workshop and Events page of the Federation website. If you have any questions, contact Ken Melanson at the City Ken.Melanson@calgary.ca.

Permitted semi-detached moving forward

Since August there have been three consultations with community and industry representatives on developing a contextual, permitted semi-detached use for RC-2 districts. The City is proposing an envelope with similar rules in terms of height, balconies, privacy, etc. as the existing contextual single-detached use in RC-1. The exceptions are that the semi-detached will adhere to the 60/40 depth rule rather than 65/35, and adjoining units will have to be "staggered" for additional visual interest. This goes to CPC on October 14 and to Council probably December 6. For information on this proposal contact Maurie Loewen at the City: Maurie.Loewen@calgary.ca. The City expects that about a third of semi-detached applications may fall under the contextual rules, meaning communities can't comment or appeal. Participants at the final meeting agreed the proposal was a fair translation of single-detached contextual rules to semi-detached. Nonetheless, there remains concern in many communities about infills – loss of landscaping/trees, size, insensitivity of citywide rules to local context and ARPs, concerns about relaxations on some applications, and loss of ability to comment on others. We'll be trying to look at the big picture in our response. If you have questions or concerns, or want to comment directly to Council when it comes forward, contact Bob at planning@calgarycommunities.com.

The Living City: City Repair Seminar – October 25

The Federation is a sponsor of this event which features Mark Lakeman and Michael Cook from City Repair in Portland, Oregon. City Repair (www.cityrepair.org) is an organization that helps to mobilize community

groups to do “placemaking” in their neighbourhoods. Come for an exciting evening and learn about how to engage community members to make positive changes in the physical environment. Local speakers include permaculture designer Adrian Buckley and urban community activist Gian-Carlo Carra. Monday, October 25, 2010, 6:30 to 9:30pm at Artpoint Gallery & Studio, 1139 – 11th St SE. Refreshments provided. More info at www.burstandbloom.ca; register at <http://cityrepairseminar.eventbrite.com>. Event is free; donations accepted. Suggested donation of \$8 to \$10.

PIP Land Use Bylaw Course November 6

Land Use Bylaw is the next Partners In Planning course. Learn how to navigate and understand the Bylaw and how the rules are applied to development applications. This is an excellent overview of this large document! Saturday November 6 at Bridgeland-Riverside CA, 917 Centre Ave NE. Doors at 8:30, course 9 – noon. Register online at www.calgarycommunities.com. Partners In Planning is a popular series of FREE courses intended to educate community representatives on planning issues. You need to take the three core courses and at least one elective to complete the PIP certificate.

Watch for Stream 3 applications request

In October the City will be contacting communities to update the Stream 3 circulation list. Stream 3 applications are considered less complex to process are not usually circulated to communities unless the community has asked for them, but some Stream 3 applications are of significant interest (changes of use including liquor stores in existing buildings is just one example). The City maintains a Stream 3 Circulation Matrix that lists the types of applications individual communities have asked for. To review and update your community’s request on the Stream 3 Matrix, contact the Stream 3 Team Assistant in Development and Building Approvals at 268-3567.

Updates to the Community Guide to the Planning Process

We have completed updates to the Community Guide to the Planning Process. They should be posted online by the middle of October, or send us an email for more information. You can print the changes and insert them into your binder, and some copies will be available at the office and at PIP courses. Some of the changes include describing the new Municipal

Development Plan (“Plan It”) and how it fits into planning decision-making on applications. We have also added some timely planning issues such as community gardens, special care facilities and good neighbour agreements, and surplus school sites.

Multi-residential review ongoing

To follow up on last month’s report, there have been additional community and multi-stakeholder meetings on multi-residential changes. One proposal is to allow the addition of height “modifiers” to some multi-districts that would allow height to be restricted based on context or local plans. Another is for more flexibility in commercial uses and greater commercial area in the M-H and M-X districts, to make desired commercial more viable. These districts are meant to encourage residential buildings in neighbourhood nodes with commercial on the ground floor; with these proposed changes a full ground floor of commercial may be allowed. There are also proposed changes to townhouse, row house, and street-oriented districts to make them more useable and attractive. A CPC report is expected towards the end of the year, and then to Council in the New Year. Get in touch with us if you have questions or comments, or contact Lisa Kahn at the City, Lisa.Kahn@calgary.ca.

Commercial Districts review

The City is bringing forth changes to the Land Use Bylaw to combine some retail and commercial uses with similar characteristics, impacts and requirements (e.g. for parking) into a broader use category called “Retail and Consumer Service”. It would include the current uses of Beauty and Body Service; Household Appliance and Furniture Repair Service; Personal Apparel Service; Photographic Studio; Proshop; Retail Store and Video Store. If the proposed amendments are approved there will be no requirement for a DP for this type of tenancy change. In commercial, they are also proposing to exempt from the height calculation required screening of rooftop equipment. Also, minor relaxation power will be provided to the Development Authority to relax building height for proposed buildings where variations in grade result in some portions of the building being over height and for architectural elements that add interest to a building. This goes to a public hearing of Council probably on December 6. We do not see any significant issues, but if you have any questions or comments contact the Federation planner or Nelson Medeiros at the City, Nelson.Medeiros@calgary.ca.

Financial Accountability



Raid Nazzali, Senior Accountant, Bcomm. (Honours), CMA candidate

The Importance of Budgets

As the summer has come to a close, it is time for the boards to unite to discuss the critical topic of budgets. As the success of a not-for-profit organization is dependent on its ability to ensure that the resources needed to attain its mission and vision are available. The health of the entire organization relies on sound budgeting and financial reporting. The budget can be seen as a communication tool, as it informs the staff and the board of what the financial goals and framework are for the upcoming year.

To get the full picture your board should discuss three types of budgets:

1)The operating budget which projects revenues and expenses for the upcoming year for projects and programs that are not capital in nature. 2)The capital budget outlines the life-cycle and capital expenditures and potential revenue for the year and often projects over the next few years. 3)The cash flow budget is completed on a month to month based predicting cash resource for the coming months.

Realistic estimates are essential in all budget preparation. For example, if the estimated revenue is far in excess of what can realistically be expected, the organization could end up “in the red,” with more expenses than revenue. It is important to create a budget that is reflective of what you plan to do.

The development of a budget involves the following steps:

- Getting Ready-review bylaws to be clear on who sets the budget and who controls the spending.
- Determine your fixed costs—those expenses the organization will have regardless of what programs you offer.
- Discretionary budget – the money left that can go to funding priority programs and services that reflect the membership’s wishes and needs.
- Conducting a budgeting session

- Review-this is where the organization’s historic pattern of what services and programs it has supported and your bylaws are discussed.
- Identify the “must pay” (fixed cost) items and how you are paying for them.
- Identify the rest of your expected expenditures (your programs and services).
- Draft An Operating Budget - Have someone on the Board place all the budget information onto an Excel spreadsheet of annual expenses and revenues
- Approved and Monitored-The budget should be reviewed and approved before the start of the fiscal year by management with final approval resting with the board of directors.

Monitoring

The Board must decide on the frequency and the format of the financial reports it will use for monitoring. To be most affective the reports must show the revenue and expenses for the time period, as well as any variance between them. This alerts the Board to potential adjustments to the budget. It is important to note that the final approved budget should never be changed. Moreover, they should compare actual income and expense to their budgets on a monthly basis to ensure that spending is in line with revenues. If expenses are greater than revenues then steps should be taken to prevent financial losses by reducing spending. If income is ahead of schedule then the board can put the excess revenue into a GIC fund and set it aside for future needs.

Timely monitoring allows the Board to make these adjustments before a crisis is reached. In order for the annual budget to be informative it should have the following important attributes; the budget-to-date, the year-to-date actual, and the variance figures. This will tell you and the Board how you are doing so far in the current year.

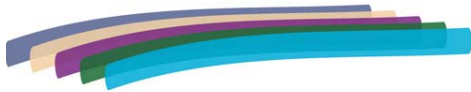
The variance is achieved by the following formula:
 $Y.T.D. - B.T.D. = \text{Variance}$

Conclusion

Budgets are important to any organization and are a vital role in planning, implementation and monitoring of an organization’s assets and outcomes. Participating in a budget process can help ensure that board and senior staff are on the same page around programs and deliverables. Setting and monitoring if a budget is part of a board’s fiduciary duty.

Governance in Action

GOVERNANCE IN ACTION



CONNECT | LEARN | LEAD

Friday November 5, 2010
At the Kahanoff Centre in Calgary
For Executive Directors and Board Members

Governance in Action is a one day conference designed for executive directors and board members to enrich their non-profit governance knowledge.

The day will begin with a keynote presentation from Blythe Butler on the topic of Adaptive Organizations.

In addition, the day will include networking, a chance to pose questions to an expert panel and your choice of two breakout sessions which will provide the opportunity to connect, learn and lead on a variety of Board issues.

Conference Schedule:

8:30 – Conference Begins

8:45 – Keynote: Adaptive Organizations, Blythe Butler, BlytheSpirit Consulting

10:15 – Breakout Sessions, choose one:

- Financial Management, Leslie Evans, Federation of Calgary Communities
- Strategic Planning for Building Teams, Engaging Members and Creating Momentum, Shari Hansen, ACCS
- Board Governance Roles, Judy Hansen, CentrePoint
- Weathering the Storm, CCVO

11:45 – Lunch Provided

12:15 – Networking and Conversation Café

1:30 – Breakout Sessions, choose one:

- Volunteer Engagement, Laurel Benson, Volunteer Calgary
- The Role of Non-Profit Leadership in Fundraising, Christina Smith, ED, DHHS
- New Work Habits for a Changing World of Work, Brenda Robinson, The Robcan Group
- Collaboration and Effective Partnerships, Shari Hansen, ACCS

3:15 – Discussion Panel

4:30 – Close of conference

The investment is \$50 per participant with lunch included.

For more information or to guarantee your spot, visit www.thecentrepoint.ca

Delivered in Collaboration By:



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FOR CALGARY FOREVER

“Improving Neighbourhood Life in Calgary”

News From Around Calgary

Calgary2012: Great Ideas Wanted!

Calgary is bidding to be named the Cultural Capital of Canada in 2012, and the Calgary 2012 bid committee is looking for your ideas about how Calgarians should celebrate. 2012 marks a pivotal year in Calgary's cultural history. The centennial anniversaries of some of the city's cultural cornerstones will be celebrated in 2012, including the Calgary Stampede, City of Calgary Recreation, the Calgary Public Library, the Pumphouse and the GRAND Theatre.

Calgary Arts Development Authority and the Calgary Stampede in partnership with the City of Calgary Recreation, the Calgary Public Library, Tourism Calgary and Calgary Economic Development are looking for 100 Calgarians to create an advisory panel that will shape the ideas that go forward in the bid application. To find out how you can join the advisory panel, go to calgary2012.com. Applications are due Thursday, September 9, 2010. The bid will be submitted in October 2010 with a decision expected in March or April 2011.

Right now, you can submit your idea for celebrating arts, culture and heritage in 2012. What events and programs do you think makes this city great? Whether it's acknowledging Calgary's cultural history, experiencing everything this city has to offer or something entirely new, no idea is too big and no act is too small.

The ideas YOU suggest will be the basis for Calgary's bid. Dream big! Visit Calgary2012.com to submit your idea now.

Calgary's 8th Annual Carpool Week Promotion – October 25-29, 2010

submitted by Anne Marie Thornton, www.carpool.ca

Since 2001, the City of Calgary has partnered with Trans Canada Carpool.ca to provide a carpool-matching program through www.carpool.ca. This secure site provides commuters with free access to carpool information as well as a database of potential carpool partners. Commuters simply enter basic information about their trip and the system finds compatible carpool partners based on that criteria. The site is free, easy to use and secure.

Since program success depends largely upon program awareness, Carpool.ca staff work closely with City of Calgary staff to promote www.carpool.ca. This includes providing outreach support to over 50 corporate partners - large employers, post-secondary institutions and other stakeholders.

The City of Calgary's 8th Annual Carpool Week promotion is planned for October 25-29, 2010. The goal of Carpool Week is to increase program awareness and engage the public by providing incentives in the form of prizes for participating in a variety of Carpool Week activities. To date, this year's Carpool Week sponsors include the Alberta Motor Association, Nexen Inc, and the Calgary Parking Authority. Check the Carpool Week page at www.carpool.ca regularly for Carpool Week 2010 updates.

Since 2001, over 11,000 Calgarians have used www.carpool.ca to identify carpool partners. Currently, there are approximately 3,000 Calgary and area registrants.

The Carpool.ca list of corporate partners continues to grow and new partners are always welcome. If you or your group is interested in supporting the City in their goal to increase vehicle occupancy, or in learning more about promoting www.carpool.ca in the Calgary Region, please call 800.668.7433 or send an email to information@carpool.ca. There are no fees associated with program participation.

Federation News & More

Mayor's Annual Christmas Food Drive

It is almost that time of year again when communities all over Calgary participate in the Mayor's Annual Christmas Food Drive.

The Federation of Calgary Communities and all of the community associations that it is comprised of was a founding member of the Mayor's Annual Christmas Food Drive over 20 years ago.

Over the past two years the Federation opted to take on a bigger role in rallying community associations to participate in this annual event. The result has been a huge jump in the number of communities participating in the last two years. This has led to a big increase in the amount of food and cash donations collected by community associations. This year we hope to increase on these numbers and are looking for an even better showing of community support for this important cause. Sign your community up at www.calgarycommunities.com/events and workshops.



CITY'S EVENT STIMULUS PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Applications are now being accepted for two new funding programs under the Event Stimulus Program for Calgary's festivals and events. Developed by The City of Calgary and administered by Calgary Arts Development, the Event Stimulus Program is part of The City's Festival and Event Policy adopted earlier in the year. The goal of the Program is to increase the quantity and quality of festivals and events in Calgary. Total funding committed by The City for the 2010 application round is \$400,000. The Event Stimulus Program is split into two separate programs:

Strategic Event Enhancement Program – for events that have produced one or more editions and require support for a specific strategic project within the event; and
Emerging Event Program – for events that have produced between zero and four editions and require base operating support.

The Festival and Event Policy recognizes that festivals and events enhance the quality of life in Calgary and are an essential element in creating complete communities. Festival and event experiences are recognized to have significant value by citizens and visitors and are a vital ingredient in Calgary's ongoing development as an active and creative city.

Applicable activities may include, but are not limited to, arts, entertainment, culture, sports, tourism, celebratory parades, and community street festivals, and must be a recurring festival or event accessible to Calgary citizens. Applicants can submit only one application to one program per deadline.

The pre-screen application deadline is Monday, September 20 for events occurring between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011 in the case of single year applications, or between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2012, in the case of multi-year applications.

- Program Guidelines are available at www.calgaryartsdevelopment.com/esp.
- For more information contact grants@calgaryartsdevelopment.com or 403-264-5330.

Community Q & A

You Asked Us

Q

Who is responsible for ordering temporary signage in our community?

Answer

A

There has been much discussion lately among our members around the process for requesting temporary signs, and I thought it would be useful to restate the procedure steps so we can continue to reduce any confusion on the matter.

As stated in the Temporary Signs on Highways Bylaw, the only type of signage listed that pertains to advertising “community meetings and events” is the “Community Association Sign” 2(e). In section 9(7), the bylaw states “a community association may, with the prior written approval of the Traffic Engineer, locate a Community Association Sign in reasonable proximity to a Community Identification Sign or at any other location in a Highway.”

Community associations are the only recognized parties who may request signs advertising community meetings and events. If they have been contacted by a not-for-profit wishing to advertise and the community association decides to proceed they must contact the advertising company directly. If a sign is requested for a location that does not have a community association within its immediate community boundaries, the responsibility lies with the community association who oversees that jurisdiction.

Ordering temporary signs is a highly time sensitive process; especially when registrations are at stake. The hurdles Calgary community associations face come in all shapes and sizes, and not everyone has the ability to process these requests equally. Collaborations are required to ensure the process runs smoothly. At the end of the day the bottom line should come back to what most benefits the community at large.

GET engaged! deadlines

Submissions accepted until 4 p.m. on the following dates:

| Issue | Deadline |
|----------|----------|
| Nov..... | Oct 20 |
| Dec..... | Nov 17 |
| Jan..... | Dec 15 |

For details, please visit our website
www.calgarycommunities.com

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| Urban Planning | Bob van Wegen Natasha Kuzmak |
| Community Relations | Brendan Murray |
| Member Services | Paul Meunier |
| Reception | Lori Winder |
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