

# ROCKY RIDGE

OCTOBER 2013

SUBURBAN JOURNAL

**Kaiser  
Oil Well  
UPDATE**

**Rocky  
Ridge  
Haunted  
House Is  
Back!**

***Rink Survey Results***



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www.rrroca.org

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Rocky Ridge Royal Oak  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**MOUNTAIN VIEWS**

**Royal Oak School Council Needs You!**

A School Council is a group of parent volunteers whose mandate is to be an advisory board to the school. Not only does School Council collaborate with school administration to address issues affecting the school or students, it also helps to plan school events including movie nights, dances, fun lunches and appreciation events.

Being a part of School Council is a rewarding experience. Your time commitment can be as little or as much as you'd like. Even just attending monthly School Council meetings helps you play an integral part in creating a positive school atmosphere. Plus, you get to stay informed about what is happening in and around the school, help influence decisions and show your support to your children and school staff.

Royal Oak School Council holds elections each year to fill executive positions including Co-Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer, and Directors including Appreciation, Fun Lunch, Community Spirit, Volunteer Coordinator and Key Communicator. Descriptions of the roles for each of these positions can be found on our blogspot at **ROSchoolParents.blogspot.com**. School Council elections will be held at the school on Tuesday October 15th at 7 p.m. Please consider attending the meeting and volunteering for a position or come help decide who you would like to represent our students on School Council.

Although all positions are voted on we are specifically looking for someone to fill the Chair/Co-Chair and Treasurer positions. To find out more information, please contact us

at **ROSchoolCouncil@gmail.com** or check out the School Council link on the school's webpage at **schools.cbe.ab.ca/b402/council.htm**.

Our next planned School Council event is the Halloween Dance on October 25th. Students will be receiving notices home in the next couple of weeks. Last year's event was a huge success!

Getting involved may be the best thing you do for your child's education. They'll thank you for it!

- Tanya Clarke



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## Kaiser Oil Well Update

### Kaiser Exploration Withdraws Application for Oil Well in NW Calgary Communities

Almost two years and thousands of volunteer hours later, residents of northwest Calgary have something to celebrate, as Kaiser Explorations has now backed away from drilling and fracking just meters away from their homes, schools and businesses in Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community.

In February 2012, Alberta's Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB) told Rocky Ridge Royal Oak residents they had approved an application from Kaiser Exploration to drill up to four wells close to homes, grocery stores, local businesses, and restaurants. This week, residents were told Kaiser will be moving drilling 2.3 km further away.

After the initial ERCB announcement, Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association (RRROCA) surveyed residents, finding more than 87% did not want drilling to proceed. On that basis, RRROCA undertook a campaign to prevent the drilling. "Many residents of Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak work in the oil & gas industry and are very knowledgeable about the risks drilling can pose to community health and safety. We undertook the campaign based on known facts and concerns," says Ward Sutherland, who as past-President of RRROCA led the campaign.

Residents were worried about the lack of evacuation capabilities should drilling hit poisonous gases (the community has more than 19,000 residents and only one exit road), low

levels of sulphur dioxide from drilling and its link to chronic diseases, the impact of fracking on nearby water wells, as well as devaluation of local property values.

The campaign included a RRROCA-organized open house attended by Kaiser Explorations, an ERCB representative, the City of Calgary, and then-MLA Lindsay Blackett. The open house was the largest meeting in ERCB history, with more than 500 concerned residents turning out to protest the drilling.

As RRROCA president, Sutherland met with the Northwest MLA Sandra Jansen and the Minister of Energy Ken Hughes to convince the provincial government that Albertans need and deserve an urban drilling policy that protects community health, safety and property values.

During a later "Stop the Kaiser Oil Well" rally, also organized by RRROCA, Sandra Jansen announced the provincial government planned to craft such a policy. "It's been a team effort, with technical experts, legal counsel, residents, businesses, and our MLA."

Sutherland sees Kaiser's plan to move drilling farther away from heavily populated urban areas as a step in the right direction.

"I am pleased the outcome of this serious issue is more positive for Calgarians. It's has been a long road to get there; the end result is reason for the community to celebrate," stated Sutherland.

- RRROCA Board of Directors

## Adult Fitness Classes

### RRROCA is excited to announce... ADULT FITNESS CLASSES

- Evening classes!
- Located in our community!
- Great, affordable rates!
- Starting this November!

Please watch the RRROCA website ([www.rrroca.org](http://www.rrroca.org)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/rrroca.org](http://www.facebook.com/rrroca.org)) for more details and registration information!

## Babysitter's Registry

### WE NEED YOUR HELP TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE REGISTRY.

We are looking for a coordinator from the community to help run the registry! This is an ongoing position that doesn't require a lot of time, only two hours per week. Training and support will be provided. Please contact [volunteer@rrroca.org](mailto:volunteer@rrroca.org) if you are interested.

The list of Babysitters is sent at the end of each month. If you made a request to receive the list and have not received yet, please email [babysitting@rrroca.org](mailto:babysitting@rrroca.org) to confirm your email address.

For babysitters who are interested in joining the Registry, please send a proof of babysitter training, consent form and membership number to [babysitting@rrroca.org](mailto:babysitting@rrroca.org).

## CAUTION – Rodent Poison

I am more than aware of the nuisance of water voles and what they do to our lawns burrowing through them in the winter. I guess that the price of living in a community with so much pond life.

I try to trap them, which is apparently the only way to get them to stop living under my deck. I have a dog so I dare not use rat poison (Warfarin etc.). I noticed this summer that a few voles had succumbed in the open in the large pond park in the Cascades area. My dog may have even grabbed and ate one, but she was too quick for me to stop. After seeing a couple more dead voles it occurred to me that they may have been poisoned. We were lucky, and so was Lucky, that whatever she ate was not poisoned.

I wanted to raise a caution to everyone that rat poison is a dangerous thing to

use and presents critical hazards to the environment i.e. wildlife AND pets. The hazard presents itself when a vole or mouse (we have no rats, right?) eats the poison, which does not finish it off immediately. The rodent will finally succumb when it is on its travels. That may be in your backyard or in a park area. The poison does not neutralise and stays in the rodent's body. If another wild animal, or pet dog or pet cat, finds the rodent the poison will enter their body too, and attack their liver. Pretty soon there will be a secondary victim of the rat poison and this time it will bring great sadness to a whole family if your pet is the victim. Please, please, think twice about using rat poison to eradicate your vole problem. There are many other safer ways.

- Brian Pearson

## The Rocky Ridge Haunted House Is Back!



The Campbell Family/ The Master Electrician Ltd and their amazing volunteers are busy working on the annual Haunted House in Rocky Ridge. This year the theme is "Carnieville". It is going to be an epic year, and they are changing things up drastically!

For those that are afraid to go through

the Haunted House, (and everyone else of course as well) the front part will be a Carnival so bring your quarters and loonies to play the games! Of course, things might not be quite "right", because it is after all Halloween! There is also a rumour that the Ringmaster runs into some troubles, which of course leads to all sorts of things for the Carnieville..... come out and see what happens!

This year the House will be running **Friday, October 25** and **Saturday, October 26, 2013** from 6-10 pm, and on **Halloween night**, from 6-10 pm. There will be a non-scare daytime opening on Saturday from 2-4 pm. Every year, Halloween night is very busy, so avoid the line ups and come on Friday or Saturday Admission is by donation to

Oops-a-Dazy Pet Rescue and Sanctuary Society and the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank. All the proceed from the Haunted House and carnival games will go to both of these charities, which have been pushed to their limits due to the recent floods in Calgary and really need some extra help, so please be generous! Help these Charities help our community!

Although the Haunted House is open for all ages, parental guidance is recommended. The first part of the Carnieville is definitely appropriate for all ages, but once you enter the Big Top, it will be scary!

If you would like to be involved in the Haunted House, there are many ways you can help out.

**Set Up:** On-going every Saturday and Sunday from 10-6. You are invited to just come on over, but the recommendation is to wear old clothes as you never know what you will end up doing! If you have any extra paint brushes, hammers and work gloves bring them along, as they tend to be in short supply!

**Acting and Make Up Artists:** The Campbells request that you confirm times and days available ahead of time-but no experience is necessary just a love of people, and a love of scaring those same people! Call 403-239-8590 to reserve your spot!

**Clean Up:** Nov 2 and 3rd all hands on deck to tear everything down and pack it away! The Campbells really could use some help with the clean up!

Also, If you have clown/ or carnival type décor that you would like to donate, please give us a call! (Costumes, games, etc).

If you are interested in volunteering, or would like more information, give us a call at 403-239-8590, or check out the website at [www.hauntedcalgary.com](http://www.hauntedcalgary.com).

# Rink Survey Results – Analysis

The survey results were not too surprising, based on previous rink surveys. There were a reasonably good number of respondents, 203 in all.

The main results were:

• **Would you like to have an NHL sized rink in your community?**

Responded Yes: 91%

Responded No: 9%

• **Do you believe the building of a rink is affordable and maintainable?**

Responded Yes: 55.9%

Responded No: 5.9%

• **Do you believe a Community Hall is a better decision?**

Responded Yes: 19.7%

Responded No: 80.3%

**What do you believe the benefits of Hockey and Free Skate rinks would be to the community?** Number of responses - 164 (80%). Of the responses there were the following keywords:

- Exercise / Activity 63%
- Stronger Community 56%
- Learn to skate or just have fun 7%

**What do you believe the drawbacks of Hockey and Free Skate rinks would be to the community?** Number of responses - 147 (72%). Concerns were:

- Cost to maintain 30%;
- Loitering / Vandalism 11%
- Traffic/Noise/Home proximity 10%
- Need for volunteers 9%

**What other outdoor sports activities would you like to see on the land that will be leased to RRROCA?**

Number of responses - 125 (61%).

Suggestions were:

- Tennis 30%
- Basketball 19%
- Spray / Water park 15%

- Skateboarding 7%
- Volleyball 7%
- Picnic Areas / Playground 2%

**If we built a community hall, how would you recommend funding for maintenance can be generated?**

Number of responses - 36 (18%).

Of those that answered yes to a Community Hall the following were the responses to this question:

- Mandatory HOA Fees 25%
- Rent Out 36%
- Events 6%
- Casino 8%

**What do you believe the benefits of a community hall would be to the community?** Number of responses - 32 (16%):

- Community Spirit 53%
- Indoor Event 25%
- Rent Out for weddings etc. 13%

**What do you believe the drawbacks of a community hall would be to the community?** Number of responses - 101 (49%):

- Cost 36%
- Already have the Ranch Centre 11%
- Maintenance 6%
- Vandalism 2%

**Conclusions and Discussions of the Hockey Rink Survey**

The majority of the respondents (91%) want a hockey rink in our community of Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak and do not think a Community Hall would be better. The majority of respondents believe a rink is affordable and maintainable. The plans that the RRROCA board have include a free skate area but no change area or bathroom. Based on this conclusion the RRROCA board will continue with the process of Lease of

Occupation for the land, Development Approval Process, and matching fund applications.

The majority of in-favour responses show that exercise, outdoor activity in the winter months and community spirit are the benefits of having a rink. These have been the RRROCA expectations all along.

The majority of the in-favour responses cited cost to maintain, loitering, vandalism, traffic, and noise as the negative impacts. Almost the same responses were received for the negative impact of a community building. These are valid concerns that will be taken into account in the rink design.

One concern that was received and must be noted was the close proximity of homes to the proposed location for the rink. This has been considered in the design of the rink. The distance from the hockey rink to the closest home will be approximately 22 meters away. This is much further than some neighbourhood rinks such as Citadel. As part of the Development Approval process, the City does a sight line survey and sends details of the plan to all residents who may be impacted.

The other outdoor sports to be considered were tennis, basketball, skateboarding and volleyball. The rink will be fitted with basketball hoops. Tennis is usually a favourite and will be considered as a future development, as will skateboarding and volleyball. The suggestion of a spray park / water park is daunting in that the last time I looked into this the sanitary concerns

## Rink Survey Results *continued*

and costs for treatment of the water were an enormous maintenance cost burden to meet Alberta Health standards. The incorporation picnic areas will be considered in the design of the rink facility. There are several playgrounds close by.

While the community hall is no longer being considered, there were some interesting responses that need some response back, i.e. Mandatory Fees and Home Owner Association Fees. Mandatory fees can only be levied by encumbrance on a property at time of first possession and cannot be applied after the fact. RRROCA is not a HOA and gets by with only a voluntary per annum fee from our members. The RRROCA board can foresee managing the maintenance of a rink but never maintenance of a building.

Some responses to other questions also need a response. The Rocky Ridge Ranch Homeowners Association facility can never be open to the public and non- members. The members of the RRRHA, probably 80-90% of Rocky Ridge residents, each have an encumbrance on the

title for their property. I am not an RRRHA member but I do belong to another homeowners association and I know the limitations. Effectively the RRRHA is a business with each member being legally considered a shareholder. Think about that for a second. If you own a business you can't have someone living down the street using your facilities, computers, or gym. On the other hand, RRROCA is a COMMUNITY Association that does lots for the community and represents residents of the whole of RR and RO in matters of concern to both the city and provincial government. RRROCA has absolutely no affiliation with RRRHA or with any other resident / homeowners associations in our areas. That does not mean that we don't all talk together on common issues.

Thank you to all the people who responded to the survey. RRROCA will continue on the long and arduous processes that will get us a rink, hopefully by the winter of 2014.

- Brian Pearson

not have access to our membership database, which means RRROCA needs to receive the proof of payment from the sport clubs then update the database manually by volunteers. It usually takes about two months to receive this information from the sport clubs.

### **I made a request to receive my RRROCA member card a few months ago and I still haven't received it. What happened? Is my personal information safe?**

Rest assure that your personal information is safe. The only information that is mailed with your member cards: your name, your address, membership number and expiry date on the cards. We cannot guarantee the cards will not be delivered to wrong addresses, as human errors do exist. We wish to remind community members that if you happen to receive a membership card that in error, you can return the member cards in the mail if or email [membership@rrroca.org](mailto:membership@rrroca.org) to arrange pick up.

If you sent your confirmed mailing address to [membership@rrroca.org](mailto:membership@rrroca.org) over a month ago and have not yet received your cards, please write to [membership@rrroca.org](mailto:membership@rrroca.org) and let us know.

## RRROCA Membership FAQ

### **I paid my membership renewal online via Paypal, why haven't I received any confirmation?**

You should receive a confirmation within ten days from the day you paid your membership fee. This is because our membership database is not connected to our PayPal account. If you need the confirmation urgently, you may send a proof of payment to [membership@rrroca.org](mailto:membership@rrroca.org) with a completed membership form; you will

then receive the confirmation within two days.



### **I purchased / renewed my RRROCA membership through other sport clubs, when will I get a confirmation with my membership number and expiry date?**

Unfortunately, due to limited funds and resources, other sport clubs do

### **My membership number on the RRROCA member cards is faded, what should I do?**

May we suggest that you rewrite your membership number legibly and put a piece of clear tape on it to protect from fading. In case the number is no longer legible, here is a link to access your membership profile with membership number: <https://www.compusim.com/rrroca/meminfo.php> (you can access this link via our "membership options" page too).

*continued on next page*

## RRROCA Membership FAQ *continued*

### Where and how do I get my RRROCA card?

**Get it from the mail:** If you are an active RRROCA member, you can send [membership@rrroca.org](mailto:membership@rrroca.org) your mailing address; batches of member cards are mailed out at the end of each month.

**Get it at RRROCA events:** Follow us on Facebook and Twitter, so you will know when and where to speak to us in person. We are always glad to chat with community members!

## Municipal Candidate Forums

Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association (RRROCA) is pleased to host a community forum ahead of the upcoming election in order for residents of Ward 1 and Ward 2 to meet their candidates for city Councillor and school board Trustee.

### Candidate Forum - Ward One

7:30pm - 9:30pm October 10th  
at Rocky Ridge Ranch

### Candidate Forum Ward Two

7pm-9pm October 7th  
at Royal Oak Victory Church

We invite and encourage all residents to ask questions of the candidates, but we ask that all questions be submitted by email, [journal@rrroca.org](mailto:journal@rrroca.org) or through the RRROCA Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/rrroca.org](http://www.facebook.com/rrroca.org) or by Twitter, [@RRROCA1](https://twitter.com/RRROCA1), no later than 24 hours before the date of the forum. We hope to see you there!



## A Day In The Life Of....

### Deborah Laxton, Dance School Owner and Teacher

My name is Debbie and approximately 5 years ago my husband moved to Calgary from the U.K. for employment. My son and myself followed the following year. I owned and taught in my own dance school in the U.K for over 20 years and could not let the children down, so for awhile I would travel back and forwards from the U.K to Canada every semester so that I could teach in my dance school and then come back to Canada in the holidays to see my husband and son.

It was a very difficult time all round but somehow I managed to juggle everything. Many of the children I taught in the U.K. went on to dance in various dance companies, or were going to continue their dance training in specialised dance colleges in the U.K. At the time of leaving my school I had over 400 pupils and I am proud to say that I knew every single one of them extremely well and to me that is the best part of teaching children. I love to see them grow and change and am so glad that I can be there to help them in that progression through life and to teach them what wonderful things dance and music can offer them. I studied dance all my life from the age of 3 years old and it certainly gave me a lot of pleasure and release from everyday life.

In the U.K I would put on dance shows, where I, myself would choreograph, teach and produce all the dances to all the children and adults at the local theatre every other year. To see the joy and excitement on the children faces was absolutely wonderful. To me, it's all about getting



to know each and every student on a one to one basis and that is what makes a happy, caring and professional dance school.

When I finally moved to Calgary a few years ago I wanted to get into teaching straight away but I met with many stumbling blocks and found it very hard to get any help as I didn't know anybody. Many phone calls, emails etc would fall on deaf ears! However, over the past year or so I have found it a bit easier and finally found somewhere to hold classes and started teaching in the Rocky Ridge Ranch in January 2013. I have really enjoyed my first two semesters of teaching here in Canada meeting the new children and their mums – they have been really great and already we have such a lovely happy, family feeling in the school.

Children gain so much from dance that I wish and hope everyone gets the chance somewhere in their life to participate in some kind of dance class. It gives you such a good start in life with a solid base of co-ordination, confidence building, posture, musicality and just a general sense of well-being.

## Kite Flying in Calgary

Think of our dreary, grey autumn skies. Now picture a group of brightly-coloured kites floating and flicking in those same dreary skies. Doesn't the thought alone cheer you up? Calgary is a city made for kite flying. We have an abundance of flat, wide-open spaces and lots of wind thanks to our Chinooks, but the sight of children and families flying kites in our area is pretty rare. Why is this? After all, it's an activity gets people outdoors, it doesn't require a lot of money to purchase equipment, and it can be a real conversation-starter with others who are drawn to the site of a kite in the sky. The large fields we have in our communities and lack of overhead power lines are also ideal for kite flying. If you think you'd like to take up this hobby, here's a quick guide for you to start. Thank you to Bud from The Kite Guys shop in Airdrie for the tips.

First of all, you'll need a kite. While the "toy store specials" will suffice, your experience will be much more satisfying if you purchase a sturdier model from a kite shop. A good kite made from rip-stop nylon and a sturdy spindle of string needn't be expensive. You can purchase a kite online, but the benefit of shopping in person is that you can ask lots of questions, and kite enthusiasts will only be too happy to share their knowledge. A kite that's not too big and not too small is ideal for the beginner. Delta shapes, diamonds, or simple bird or bug shapes are the easiest to fly. Box kites, really large kites with tails (such as dragons) and multi-line kites are really tempting because they look so gorgeous but can leave less-experienced kite pilots frustrated. Stunt kites and harness



kites are definitely for advanced pilots! Large kites create a lot of drag and can create a situation that a beginner's skills aren't equipped to handle. It's best to start small and work your way up once you have the confidence.

There isn't much to flying a kite if you have the right conditions. The trickiest bit to master is launching your kite, but please remember these safety tips.

- Always fly your kite in a large open space free from power lines, trees, fences, and never close to houses and roads in case your kite comes crashing down on top of someone. Never fly your kite during an electrical storm.
- It is illegal to fly a kite within several kilometres of an airport. If you're not sure whether your chosen site is too close to an airport facility, contact airport administrators or Transport Canada.
- Wear good, sturdy footwear for grip

and ankle support. Look around the site for tripping hazards like rocks, gravel and gopher holes. On sunny days, wear sunglasses and be aware of the position of the sun when flying—you don't want to look directly at the sun.

- Be aware of other people or animals, such as dogs, in the area while flying. If there are other kite flyers in the same field, give each other a wide area as to not create a very tangled situation!

So instead of lamenting the end of summer, embrace Calgary's windy days and get out and fly a kite! Kite flying is great fun for kids and it's a proven stress-reliever for adults. Personally, I would love to see more kite enthusiasts in this city and perhaps even a Calgary kite festival, like there are in many other North American cities. Let's get out celebrate our windy city!

- Carla Knipe



## Rocky Ridge/Royal Oak Pet of the Month



### The First Prize winner is... ASIA!

Here's her submission by owner Shawna McMurrin:

This is my special little furry girl Asia. She has been my constant companion since moving to Calgary 8 years ago at which time I adopted her from the humane society. She was the inspiration behind my pet sitting business, Condo Cat, which I started in 2010. Although she has suffered a few health setbacks this year, she is still happy and full of life! She is my cool little Condo Cat.

**CONGRATS Asia! Go get pampered!**

### The Second Prize winner is...

#### CHARLIE!

Here's his submission by owner Trace Fairgrieve:

Charlie is a newcomer to the Royal Oak area. He moved specifically to this community from the core to enjoy a quiet street and a big green backyard. Charlie is kind, cuddly, loyal and exceptionally cute. If you check him out on instagram under "@yourdogcharlie," you would see that his 600 followers (and growing) also agree! Charlie came from the Ukraine but quickly picked up the English language and customs

of our country. On top of being a world traveler he is also a little miracle. This summer he suffered a horrible 30-foot fall. He broke several bones including two parts of his jaw. It took six weeks of rehabilitation and being hand fed but now this little guy is back and better than ever!

**CONGRATS Charlie!**



Each month, our sponsors will be providing wonderful prizes for our winners. The PAW SPA at Crowfoot will be providing a **\$100 gift certificate** as the 1st prize! And Royal Pooch Pet Services will be providing a **\$50 gift certificate** as the 2nd prize!

The RRROCA would like to thank the support of our generous sponsors, **The PAW SPA at Crowfoot** ([www.crowfootpawspa.ca](http://www.crowfootpawspa.ca)) and **Royal Pooch Pet Services** ([www.royalpooch.ca](http://www.royalpooch.ca))

You are welcome to send in MONTHLY submissions however your pet can only win ONCE per sponsor! We are seeing lots of wonderful pets; keep 'em coming!

**THANK YOU again to our sponsors!**

Does your pet look like you? Is he/she exceptionally cute? Funny? Talented? Or maybe just downright lovable?

If you think your pet has what it takes to become the Rocky Ridge/Royal Oak Pet of the Month, drop us a line explaining why he/she is the BEST!

Of course, we will need a picture too! Any pet will do; a cat, dog, bird, reptile, rodent; you get the picture!

Send your submissions to [journal@rrroca.org](mailto:journal@rrroca.org).

## Stingy Jack Behind Lantern Lore

When it comes to good tales, the Irish can't be beat. They even sorted out the origins of the Jack-o'-Lantern for us.

Stingy Jack was behind this Halloween icon. Old Jack was too mean to get into heaven, but he also couldn't enter hell as he had played too many tricks on the devil.

The sad outcome: he eternally wanders the fields and marshes carrying a lantern. The devil gave him a single ember to light his way. "Jack of the Lantern" inspired the Irish tradition of placing Jack-o'-Lanterns made of turnips and other vegetables in windows or doors at Halloween. Irish immigrants brought the tradition to the United States, where the plentiful pumpkin took on the role of lantern.

The mysterious light of Jack's lantern and those of other poor, lost souls continues to flicker in the darkness—at least one night a year.

- Jean Andrews, [www.jackolanterns.net](http://www.jackolanterns.net)

Rocky Ridge Royal Oak COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION **MOUNTAIN VIEWS**

# RRROCA's Mission & Vision

### Mission Statement

The Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association is a vital organization that effectively acts upon the common interests and concerns of the community's diverse residents.

### Vision Statement

To build a sense of community that encourages involvement between

neighbourhoods, while preserving the unique nature of each neighbourhood.

We the Community Association will strive to develop a community that will be Friendly, Safe and Environmentally Sensitive.

We will strive to accomplish our vision by recruiting and working with

committed volunteers, assisting and co-ordinating shared programs and amenities, working towards financial stability and providing effective input to planning and transportation.



**RRROCA**  
ROCKY RIDGE ROYAL OAK  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
WWW.RRROCA.ORG

I would like to become a member of the Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association.

I am a member ...please renew my membership in the Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association.

## Membership & Renewal Form

Your personal information will be used for Association purposes only and will never be given to third parties

**Last Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**First Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail\*** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please note e-mail is use to communicate your membership number,  
\*if you choose "No" for update the e-mail will be on file but not used for Association news or updates.

Would you like Association news and updates by e-mail \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_ No

**Yes, I would like to volunteer my time, interest or experience in the areas of...**

- Communications**...web/internet, newsletter, road signs
- Programs**... Sports, recreational, fitness, special events
- Civic Advocacy**... planning & development, transportation, schools
- Fundraising**... Casino, grants, donations
- Amenities** ... Buildings, sports facilities, parks/playgrounds, pathways
- Other** \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are annual and are valid from January 1 to December 31

**New Memberships** - \$35.00 (\$10.00 administration fee and \$25.00 Annual fee)

**Renewing Membership** - \$25.00 per expired year

If membership has not been renewed by Feb 28 after it has expired it will be deleted and a new membership will need to be purchased.

Send this form and your payment payable to Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association or RRROCA to:

**RRROCA - Membership**  
PO Box 91009,  
RPO Royal Oak  
Calgary, AB  
T3G 5W6

Online membership applications and payments through PayPal are available at:  
<http://rrroca.org/en/join-us/membership-options-page>

## Calgary Connection

**Women's English and Social Group:** Improve your spoken English and meet new women in your neighbourhood with the New Friends and Neighbourhood group program. Drop in at one of our weekly groups. There is no cost. There are no immigration requirements and no minimum English requirement. Free childcare for kids 6 months old to 6 years old. Visit [www.ciwa-online.com/get-involved/ongoing-events](http://www.ciwa-online.com/get-involved/ongoing-events) for group locations and times. For more information

contact 403-444-1752 or [marileec@ciwa-online.com](mailto:marileec@ciwa-online.com).

**An Evening with Lorinda Stewart:** Oct. 15, 7:00 pm. at St. Thomas United Church, 100 Hawkwood Blvd. N.W. Lorinda Stewart is an inspiring and powerful speaker who conveys her story as a mother put into the unimaginable position of negotiating the release of her daughter, journalist Amanda Lindhout, held hostage by terrorists in Somalia. She shares her story not for the purpose

of entertainment but because she is so passionate about the message of forgiveness.

**The Boys and Girls Clubs of Calgary Home-Start Program is looking for volunteers:** Volunteers visit a family home once a week to provide emotional and practical support by offering companionship and practical assistance. Help create a healthy community and meet a new family! Training, Police and Child Welfare checks are provided. For more information or to register as a volunteer, please contact Marion at 403-660-6809 or [mpaulson@bgcc.ab.ca](mailto:mpaulson@bgcc.ab.ca).

# ROCKY RIDGE RANCH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



## Rocky Ridge Ranch Homeowners Association

10709 Rocky Ridge Blvd NW

Calgary, AB T3G 4G1

Phone: 403-547-6633 Fax: 403-547-6634

[www.rrrha.ca](http://www.rrrha.ca) [officeadmin@rrrha.ca](mailto:officeadmin@rrrha.ca)

### The RRRHA Mission Statement:

To enhance the value and properties of Rocky Ridge Ranch through judicious self management of all lands, properties and assets and to enhance the programs made available through our Ranch Centre which best serve our community's diversity, providing additional homeowner value and benefit.

### Ranch Centre Hours

9:00 am - 9:00 pm

### Ranch Centre Office Hours

Wed/Fri: 10:30 - 6:30 pm

Tue/Thu: 2:15 - 9:00 pm

Sat: 9:00 - 4:00 pm

Closed Sun/Mon & Sat. of long weekends.

## Board of Directors



## Notices

Keep checking this section for info on new programs at the Ranch Centre and be sure to check out our website at [www.rrrha.ca](http://www.rrrha.ca).

### Hall Rentals

Planning a birthday party, Wedding, or meeting? You can check the availability and pricing of our hall rentals by calling 403-547-6633. We can accommodate up to 94 people.

### Facebook Page

Check out our Facebook page for the latest updates from the Ranch!  
[facebook.com/rockyridgeranchHA](https://www.facebook.com/rockyridgeranchHA)

## Clubs

### Rocky Ridge Rockers:

All seniors from Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak are invited to enjoy fun activities and refreshments every first and third Tuesday of each month from 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Please bring dessert items (Squares, Muffins, or cookies) with a Loonie donation.

We are in need of a volunteer to oversee the operations of the Rocky Ridge Rockers. If you are interested, please contact the office.

### Parent and Tots

**Who:** Parents, nannies, and caregivers of children 0-5

**What:** Story time, snack time & craft time for kids

**When:** Wednesdays 10:30am - 11:45am

**Where:** Lower level of the Ranch Center

**How:** Please fill out a registration form the first time you attend. We ask for at least a 1\$ donation/child each time you attend.



## Officers:

<b>President:</b>	Bentley Lowther
<b>Vice President:</b>	Marco Hunstad
<b>Secretary:</b>	Marylin Howlett
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Marguerette Kennedy
<b>Director:</b>	Anil Gupta

## Committee Chairs:

<b>Operations:</b>	Conrad Savoie
<b>Community Relations:</b>	Heather Sutherland

## Programs



FALL AT THE RANCH

### Fall Programs

If you missed out on registration we still have punch cards available for some of our classes. Punch cards buy you five classes at a time. See the prices below for rates on Punch cards. Contact the office for more information [officeadmin@rrrha.ca](mailto:officeadmin@rrrha.ca) or 403-547-6633.

*continued on next page*



**ROCKY RIDGE RANCH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

**Zumba**

Mondays - Krystal  
 Time: 7pm – 8pm  
 Date: Sept 16 – December 2  
 \*excluding Oct 4 & Nov 11  
**5X Punch Pass:** \$45 members, \$55 non members

**Tuesdays - Monica**

Time: 9:15am – 10:15am  
 Date: Sept 24 – December 10  
**5X Punch Pass:** \$45 members, \$55 non members

**Yoga**

**Tuesdays – Vanitha (Hatha)**  
 Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm  
 Date: September 24 – December 10  
**5X Punch Pass:** \$65 members, \$75 non members

**Thursdays - Catherine (Hatha)**

Time: Thursdays 9:00am – 10:30am  
 Date: Sept 19 – Dec 5  
**5X Punch Pass:** \$65 members, \$75 non members

**Thursdays - Jennifer (sri-sri)**

Time: Thursdays 6:00pm -7:00pm  
 Date: Sept 19 – Dec 5  
**5X Punch Pass:** \$45 members, \$55 non members

**Pilates**

**Tuesdays - Laurie**  
 Time: 8:10pm – 9:00pm  
 Date: Sept 17 – Dec 10  
 \* excluding Nov 12  
**5X Punch Pass:** \$45 members, \$55 non members

**Other Groups/Programs**

If you are interested in joining the following groups/programs held at the Ranch Centre please contact the company for registration, prices and other details.

- **Groove X**  
[www.facebook.com/dancefitnesscalgary](http://www.facebook.com/dancefitnesscalgary)
- **Foxy Kickboxing:**  
[foxykickboxing.ca](http://foxykickboxing.ca)
- **The Deborah Laxton School of Dance:**  
[thedeborahlaxtonschoolofdance.ca](http://thedeborahlaxtonschoolofdance.ca)
- **Shodan Karate Do:**  
[shodankaratedo.com](http://shodankaratedo.com)

**Fall Events**

**Children’s Used Clothing/Toy Sale**  
 Saturday October 19, 2013 9am – 12noon  
 Buy and sell Children’s items in our

bi-annual sale. You are bound to find great deals and a lot to choose from.

**Halloween Party:** Saturday October 26, 1pm – 3pm. Come dressed in your costumes and visit each game station to collect your treats. Jump in the bouncy house, or visit our haunted kitchen! RSVP to the Office.

**Holiday Market:** Saturday November 16, 10am – 2pm. Come to the Holiday Market; Buy goodies and presents for your loved ones. Vendor Applications open September 1.

**Rocky Ridge Ranch Farmers’ Market**

The farmers market has come and gone already, but we still want to hear from you about it! We want to get some feedback from the residents about the Farmers market to plan for improvements next year. Please go to our website [rrrha.ca](http://rrrha.ca) to take the survey. It should take no more than 20 minutes.

**Drawing Contest: Winners for September - Theme: My Family**



5 years and under: Sophie, age 5



6 - 8 years: Laure, age 7



9 - 12 years: Rachel, age 11

# In Our City

## Alderman's Report

### 2013 Civic Election

The next civic election will be held on Monday, October 21. It is the last year of the three year election cycle mandated by Provincial legislation. After October 21, the new municipal election cycle will be for four years. I announced on August 9, that I would not be seeking re-election on October 21. I believe that I have accomplished most of the goals and objectives established for me by the citizens of Calgary over the past thirty years. It has been a challenging and rewarding experience. I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to everyone who has encouraged and supported my efforts during my time as a member of City Council.

### Bowness Park

In my last article, I provided some background information on the redevelopment and repair initiatives in Bowness Park. As everyone knows, the Park has been closed since the June 20 flood event.

Bowness Park was one of the sites severely hit during the June flood; Parks has developed a scheduled set of phased opening dates starting in late fall 2013. The challenge is to open a portion of the park and ensure

the area is safe for the public. The contractor is still in the process of repairing the various picnic areas and still has to pave the damaged asphalt and repair the washed out gravel paths. The parking lot foundation was undermined so there is limited parking available for the public.

With regards to winter skating, the lagoon is scheduled to open for skating by 2013 December 25. Work on the two control structures is slated to start in early-mid 2013 September. Parks has previously engaged consultants to evaluate the damage to the structures and designs are complete to restore the water flow and control through the channel and into the lagoon. The construction for the Lagoon Courtyard and Concession Building is currently underway and it occupies the primary lagoon access point. Finding safe circulation through the site to the lagoon will be developed in December, once we confirm what areas are completed and others that remain under construction.

Thank you again, for giving me an opportunity to represent you for all of these years.

- Dale Hodges

## Riding Bicycles Through the Cold Season

Leaves have turned, days are getting shorter, mornings chillier. It might start snowing any day now. It's the time of year when many people put their bicycles away until spring. You needn't, though: with a little bit of preparation you can continue to ride your bike at least off and on through the cold season.

As long as roads aren't snowy or icy and temperatures don't fall far below zero, cycling isn't much different than walking: you need a jacket and gloves. The days when it's -30C are memorable, but there aren't very many of them! Thanks to chinooks, Calgary regularly experiences above-zero temperatures with dry roads and pathways even in the deep of Winter.

Join thousands of Calgarians who ride their bicycle year-round. You don't have to do it every day, but whenever you'd be comfortable walking, you can also be comfortable riding. Continue to enjoy the health benefits of cycling by riding to work, school, or for fun through the cold season.

Winter weather doesn't keep Calgarians off the ski slopes and cross-country trails, and it needn't keep them off the bike paths either. Even snow and subzero temperatures can be overcome. Proper clothing is important, and, depending on your level of comfort and commitment, you might consider adapting your bike for riding on snowy and icy roads and paths. To learn more about winter cycling in Calgary, visit [bikecalgary.org/winterriding](http://bikecalgary.org/winterriding).

## Avoid Loyalty Program Overload

With so many loyalty programs to choose from, how can you know which is right for you? A new, free online tool can help: [www.compareloyaltyprograms.ca](http://www.compareloyaltyprograms.ca). By simply inputting important details like personal shopping habits, you'll get a list of loyalty programs that will get consumers rewards faster.

- News Canada



# In Our City

## Want to Clean Green?

The multibillion-dollar cleaning products industry promotes the idea that we need a wide array of chemical cleaning products (each in its own plastic bottle!) in order to keep us safe from "germs" and filth. Now, researchers are finding that a sterile, chemical-laden environment is just as bad for us and for our children. <http://www.livescience.com/1870-clean-fight-germs-fuels-allergy-increase.html>. While a chemically-sterilized environment can actually contribute to more allergies and a weaker immune system, the chemicals in typical commercial cleaners can also severely pollute indoor air quality. How exciting to learn, then, that we can keep our homes chemical-free, fresh, and clean with simple, safe products we can make ourselves from basic grocery ingredients!

For example, did you know that white

distilled vinegar does a great job of both cleaning glass and mirrors and of dealing with germs? That baking soda deodorizes and cleans without the toxicity of chemicals? And that castile soap is easy on the environment but hard on dirt?

Eliminating commercial cleaning products from your home provides multiple benefits: reduces plastic waste going to either recycling or landfill, reduces the chemical burden on your family, and saves you money while providing you with a fresh, naturally clean home.

Here are two simple recipes for green cleaners:

### Glass Cleaner

- 1 pint water
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 10-15 drops essential oil of your choice

(optional, but this helps if you don't like the vinegar smell)

Shake bottle and spray on windows.

Use crumpled newspaper or cotton cloth to wipe off. If you have always used commercial window cleaner in the past, mix a couple drops of liquid castille soap or liquid dish soap in some of this mixture the first time you clean the windows to remove detergent residue.

### Sink Scrub

This one is super simple - just use baking soda! If you like some suds, add a few drops of castile soap.

Here is a Green Calgary online resource with lots of recipes for healthy, homemade cleaning products: [http://www.greencalgary.org/images/uploads/File/GreenCleaning\\_GC.pdf](http://www.greencalgary.org/images/uploads/File/GreenCleaning_GC.pdf)

Wishing you happy, healthy cleaning!

- Patricia Cameron



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# In Our City

## NW LRT Extension

### Royal Oak/Rocky Ridge and Tuscany Project Update: October 2013

#### See How Far We Have Progressed

Please visit [www.calgary.ca/nwlrt](http://www.calgary.ca/nwlrt), under “Related Photos”, and view the first two pictures in the slide show—one is an aerial view from August 2012 and one is an aerial view from July 2013. What a difference a year makes!

#### Roundabout Design Change

A roundabout at the exit to the Tuscany Park and Ride was proposed as part of the original design for the NW LRT extension. During the final design stages, it was determined that site conditions did not allow for an acceptable roundabout design.

Because of steep grades in this area, the project team made the decision to reconsider the proposed roundabout and replace it with a two-way stop. This solution offers significant cost savings while still providing similar traffic operations. An amber beacon is planned at the crossing to alert drivers to pedestrians in the area.

#### Eamon's Building and Sign Update

As per the recommendations approved at Council in July, Transportation Infrastructure will install the building services in the Park and Ride lot in case the Eamon's building is returned to the site in the future. The City will continue to store the building. If it is not leased by the time the CTrain extension opens, Administration will return to Council for further direction on the disposition of the building. The sign is being refurbished and will be returned to the site as per the original design.

#### Park and Ride Construction has Begun

Construction on the Park and Rides began in July 2013. Residents can expect to see more construction traffic in the community as construction gets underway.

The City of Calgary works with their contractors to ensure impacts, such as dust, noise, and other disruptions to the community, are kept to a minimum. Impacted residents will be advised of any new construction or changes that will affect them. Please call 311 if you have a concern about any construction-related impacts.

#### Tuscany Station and Other Construction

Construction of the new station is planned to be complete by the fall, with work continuing on electrical, signage,

communications, and other systems to prepare it for service in fall 2014. Tuscany Station is on track to open for transit use in fall 2014.

Crews will continue to access the median for construction purposes via the closed lanes adjacent to the CTrain Right-of-Way on Crowchild. Traffic speed will continue to be reduced to 60 km/h in this section for safety reasons as construction vehicles move in and out of this area. This speed reduction will stay in place until at least spring 2014 because of ongoing construction activity.

All up-to-date project information on construction and the project is posted at [www.calgary.ca/nwlrt](http://www.calgary.ca/nwlrt), including a time-lapse video of the pedestrian bridge installation.



# In Our City

## Bowness Library

### Programs for Adults

- **Work Search With the Internet:** Oct. 5, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **Protecting Seniors From Fraud:** Oct. 17, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- **ESL Conversation Club:** Wed., Oct. 23 – Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m..
- **Alfred Hitchcock: Master of Suspense:** Oct. 24, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- **Podplays: Downloadable Art for Your Ears:** Oct. 27, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- **Law at Your Library: Self-Representation and Navigation of the Court System:** Oct. 28, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- **Rock 'n' Fossil Road Show with the Calgary Science Network:** Oct. 19, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### Programs for Kids

- **Baby Bookworms:** Thurs., Oct. 10 – Nov. 14, 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Ages 6 – 23 months with a parent or caregiver.
- **Thank you for Thanksgiving!** Oct. 11, 10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Ages 2 – 5 with a parent or caregiver.
- **Reading Buddies:** Mon., Oct. 21 – Dec. 9, 4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. For readers who have completed grades 1 through 3.
- **Wiggle, Giggle, Boo!** Oct. 25, 10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Ages 2 – 5 with a parent or caregiver.

Register online at [calgarypubliclibrary.com](http://calgarypubliclibrary.com) or by calling 403-260-2620.

## Crowfoot Library

### Programs for Adults

- **Guerilla Travel:** Oct. 2, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- **Happy Tenth Birthday Crowfoot Library!** Oct. 4, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- **Antarctica: A Travel Slide Show:** Oct. 9, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- **Titanic: Myths and Mysteries:** Oct. 12, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m..
- **Career Basics: Moving Forward – Mid-life Career Change:** Oct. 16, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- **Travel Tips for Budget-Conscious Travellers:** Oct. 23, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

### Programs for Youth

- **Family Happy Tenth Birthday Crowfoot Library!** Oct. 5, 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **Falling Leaves:** Oct. 6, 1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Ages 2 – 5 with a caregiver.
- **Turkey Tales:** Oct. 7, 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Ages 3 – 5 independent of a caregiver.
- **Thank-you for Thanksgiving:** Oct. 9, 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Ages 2 – 5 with a caregiver.
- **Bored-No-More Games – Zombie Apocalypse:** Oct. 10, 3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Ages 13 – 17.
- **Are You Game? – Teen Gaming Tournament:** Oct. 13, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Ages 13 – 17.
- **Wiggle, Giggle, Boo!** Oct. 27, 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ages 2 – 5 with caregiver.
- **Little Ghosties:** Oct. 30, 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Ages 3 – 5.
- **Spine-Tingling Tales:** Oct. 30, 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Ages 9 – 12.

## October 2013 Book Recommendations

### *Death on the Nile*, by Agatha Christie

What could be better than a honeymoon boat trip on the river Nile? The newly married couple join the other passengers on board, who all have their own secret reasons for making the trip. Of course, Hercule Poirot, the famous Belgian detective, is also vacationing on the boat

and finds himself having to solve two murder cases. This novel is one of the most cleverly plotted of Agatha Christie's works and is a great place to start if you have never read any of these masterful and readable mysteries. It combines a superb plot with engaging characters in an accurately exotic setting of an old river steamer. There is also a secondary love story that adds interest and provides a plot twist. A backdrop of Egyptian history and landscape, based on Christie's own travels, evokes a strong sense of place.

### *Infidel*, by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

In this profoundly affecting memoir, Ayaan Hirsi Ali tells her astonishing life story, from her traditional Muslim childhood in Somalia, Saudi Arabia, and Kenya, to her intellectual awakening and activism in the Netherlands and her current life under armed guard in the West. In a measured and often ironic voice, Hirsi Ali recounts the evolution of her beliefs, her ironclad will, and her extraordinary resolve to fight injustice done in the name of religion. She survived civil war, female mutilation, brutal beatings, adolescence as a devout believer during the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood, and life in four troubled, unstable countries largely ruled by despots. In her early twenties, she escaped from a forced marriage and sought asylum in the Netherlands, where she earned a college degree in political science, tried to help her tragically depressed sister adjust to the West, and fought for the rights of Muslim immigrant women and the reform of Islam as a member of Parliament. Even though she is under constant threat—demonized by reactionary Islamists and politicians, disowned by her father, and expelled from her family and clan—she refuses to be silenced.

**"There is a kind of beauty in imperfection."**

*Conrad Hall*