

APRIL 2021

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THE OFFICIAL BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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What Makes A Neighbourhood?

Dear Brentwoodians,

We hear a lot about the “character” of a neighbourhood, especially when changes are coming that propose to alter the way we view the place we have chosen to call home. The term comes up when neighbours and community associations review local development applications, and it is getting a lot of attention now as the City prepares the new “Guidebook for Great Communities”, which as Melanie Swailes has detailed in past Planning and Development columns, will inform what kinds of developments are allowed or encouraged in neighbourhoods across Calgary.

This is always a fraught issue, as new developments can have a huge impact, both emotionally, in terms of the way we feel about the place where we live, and practically, by having an impact on the future value of our home, which for almost all of us is the largest investment we own. It is a nightmare scenario for many to envision a looming four-plex being erected on a quiet street, blocking views and casting shadows. There are also real concerns about parking and rentals that attract more transient tenants who may not exhibit respect for neighbours.

Concerns that city planners are not alert to the micro-scenarios that can play out around a single redevelopment or secondary suite conversion are justified – after all, it is the people who live there who know the area best. Of course, the concerns of neighbours can also be overstated due to the aforementioned emotional nature of the issue, and they may not have the broader perspective that an impartial outsider can have.

For many of us, Brentwood’s character is a middle-class area full of mid-century bungalows and split-levels on spacious lots, well set back from the road to afford privacy and the greenspace mentioned in this issue. Never mind the set of condos that are the most recognizable landmark in our community or the small apartment buildings along Brentwood Boulevard and Blakiston Road, or the large townhome complex. This is a diverse community too, with young families, empty-nesters, and single professionals living alongside new immigrants, students, and seniors who bought these houses when they were new.

Just like there is no single right way to be and live in our community, there is no single template for building or renovating homes. To a large degree, it is up to the property owner, but they should respect not only the letter, but the spirit of laws surrounding parking, noise, garbage – if only to stay on good terms with the neighbours. Communication, as always, is key!

Photo Contest

The Bugle is looking for Brentwood’s best amateur photographers to provide cover images each month. If you have a great snap of our neighbourhood saved on your phone or posted on your social media feed, send it in for a chance to be featured on the cover of an upcoming issue! Photos must be 300 DPI or higher (i.e., from a newer model phone or good digital camera), 2400 x 1600 pixels minimum size, and portrait orientation. If submitting pictures of minors, please make sure that you have direct, express permission to submit the picture from a parent or guardian. Send your photos, or any questions, to bcabugle@telus.net.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Jucker, editor
Brentwood Bugle



Important: All events have been cancelled until further notice due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. If you have questions about any of the recurring meetings or activities, please get in touch with the respective organizers at the contacts below.

Brentwood Community Association Board Meeting
Linda Van Holst

403-284-3477 | office@brentwoodcommunity.com.

Seniors’ Tea

Scrabble Group
Linda Van Holst

403-284-3477 | office@brentwoodcommunity.com.

55 Plus Bridge Group
Roman

403-289-6244

Playgroup
Lindsay

playgroup@brentwoodcommunity.com.

Bugle Submissions

We want to hear from you! Tell us what you love most about Brentwood – or what you would like to see improved! Share your thoughts about the new school year, working from home, or stories about neighbours helping each other in these strange times.

The deadline for the May 2021 issue is April 1, 2021. For questions, please email Jonathan Jucker at bcabugle@telus.net.



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Important: Casino Co-ordinator Needed!

The BCA Casino Co-ordinator has retired from the position after providing wonderful service. If you are interested in taking on the role, which involves recruiting volunteers and submitting paperwork to AGLC, please contact Linda Van Holst at 403-284-3477 or linda.vanholst@brentwoodcommunity.com.

Carroll Place Seniors

The Carroll Place Seniors, at 1540 Northmount Drive NW, are seeking donations for their display case in the lobby. They are looking for gently used or new items, such as jewelry, table or shelf ornaments, kitchen wares, and any other household items you may have that you do not want anymore. Please contact Jean at 587-436-2271 to arrange a drop off time. Thank you.

We are Knitting for a Cause!

The Knitting for a Cause group would like to extend their heartfelt appreciation to everyone in the community who has donated wool and knitting supplies to their initiative over the years. Thanks to your donations, the group has been able to spread kindness and compassion throughout our wonderful city, one stitch at a time. The group began by knitting sets of children's hats, scarves, and mitts to donate to elementary schools in Calgary. Thanks to your generosity, hundreds of little hands and ears have been kept warm during our frigid Calgary winters. While the group continues to knit winter wear for kids, they have also expanded to participate in some incredible initiatives. Our group has been busy and there is no sign of slowing down. We are always looking for new members. All ages and skill levels welcome! No knitting experience necessary. Come and be part of the amazing projects we have underway. Call Erika Cusimano to sign up at 403-452-5575.

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call AA at 403-777-1212.

Buy Nothing Brentwood

We offer area residents a way to give, receive, share, lend, and express gratitude through a network of hyper-local gift economies, where the currency is the connections between neighbours.

Give freely; share creatively. Post anything you'd like to give away, lend, or share; ask for anything you'd like to receive or borrow.

Check out the Buy Nothing Brentwood / Dalhousie / Triwood Facebook page, or buynothingproject.org.

Horizon Church

Horizon Church services will continue to be held online through our Facebook page. Search for @horizonchurchyyc to tune in. It is open to anyone and everyone, regardless of who you are, where you live, or what you believe.

We hope that you and your loved ones continue to be safe and show compassion and generosity to those around you. You can find more information about Horizon Church at www.wearehorizon.ca.

Your representatives in Brentwood

City Councillor: Sean Chu (Ward 4) | info@seanchu.ca | 403-268-3727.

MLA: Jason Copping (Calgary-Varsity) | Calgary.varsity@assembly.ab.ca | 403-216-5436.

MP: Len Webber (Calgary Confederation) | Len.Webber.c1@parl.gc.ca | 403-220-0888.

Community Support Resources 211

COVID-19 has brought unprecedented strain, financial hardship, and challenges to families in Brentwood and across the city. 211 is a great resource to find help. It is free, confidential, multilingual, and available 24/7/365.

To reach 211, dial 2-1-1, text INFO to 211, or visit ab.211.ca and click "live chat".

Services include:

- I need food, shelter, and/or transportation
- I need financial support to help pay my utility bill, rent, and/or damage deposit
- I need to find mental support
- I need information on Government programs and phone numbers
- I do not know where to go for legal support
- I am concerned about a friend or family member
- I am looking for services for a client
- I want to donate unused items for families in need
- I would like to volunteer to help others
- We have access to thousands of other services, see more at ab.211.ca

211 Calgary and Area is a joint initiative of the Distress Centre, City of Calgary, and United Way.



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.brentwoodcommunity.com | Community Centre, 1520B Northmount Drive NW
Mailing Address: 5107 33 Street NW T2L 1V3 • Email: office@brentwoodcommunity.com • 403-284-3477
Linda Van Holst – Office Manager • Steve Dietrich – Arena Manager

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MACDONALD, Ena	Figure Skating	Ena.MacDonald@brentwoodcommunity.com	
MAKAR, Roman	55+ Bridge Group	Roman.Makar@brentwoodcommunity.com	
SIM, Cynthia	Gardening Group	Cynthia.Sim@brentwoodcommunity.com	
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STAFF			
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VAN HOLST, Linda	Office Manager	Office@brentwoodcommunity.com	



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Parks and Greenspace

Usually, this column features topics about development and building applications, but this month our focus is on our greenspaces and parks. In the summer, when you stand on top of Nose Hill and look down into Brentwood, you can barely see the houses for all the trees! (It may not look very green right now in the winter, but I'll refer to them as greenspaces, meaning open spaces and trees.) We're very fortunate to have these areas for recreation, along with the birds and wildlife they attract.

The green areas can be viewed as fitting into three categories:

1. Officially designated parks, such as Blakiston Park and Nose Hill Park.
2. Public areas, such as school fields, small crescent parks, or even the grassy, treed boulevards.

The tree canopies along Northmount Drive or Charleswood Drive are good examples of spaces that are not a park but certainly add greenery to our community.

3. Private spaces / residential properties.

Much of the reason Brentwood is so green is that the large property sizes allow for lots of room to plant trees, shrubs, lawns, and gardens. Historically, when Brentwood was built in the 1960s, houses were small, and detached garages were often just single car. This left a lot of room for trees, especially large fir or spruce trees, which like to spread out. (Many residents have told me that the large evergreens in their front yards were the little saplings their children once brought home from school on Arbor Day). Since properties are large and houses are spaced far apart, sunlight can penetrate our yards, allowing plants and trees to grow well.

As redevelopment takes place, how do we ensure that we keep our greenspaces? In part, it depends on who owns the land.

For private land, the City recognizes the value of trees, and effective July 1, 2019, Bylaw 46P2019 amended Land Use Bylaw 1P2007, requiring that for new development "trees (are) to be retained or planted in the Developed Areas of Calgary for discretionary duplex, single and semi-detached homes and an option to allow a new tree planting in the public boulevard to be part of the tree requirements, if feasible". (LUB Section 346.1 General Landscaping Rules for the Developed Areas).

For existing homes, when mature trees reach the end of their life cycle, owners are encouraged to plant new trees. If you

are not sure whether a tree is within your property line, this map shows the inventory of every public tree within our community. <https://maps.calgary.ca/TreeSchedule/>. Enter your address and zoom in on the map to see how every tree has been identified by species and size, as well as the dollar value placed on each tree.

For large public parks, the land is owned by the City. Costs for maintenance and upkeep matter, especially during the current economic downturn. You may have heard about public golf courses being under review, and one course, Richmond Green, was closed last year. Comprising about 52 acres, the park was included in the Currie Master Plan as a major park. Currently, there is a proposal to sell off a 6-acre section of the park to allow for future high-density housing.

How does The City make land management decisions? From the website <https://engage.calgary.ca/RichmondGreen>:

"Faced with a continued economic downturn and the impacts of COVID-19, The City of Calgary continuously seeks to deliver services more affordably and to strengthen our community's future. This includes, where it makes sense, positioning surplus City-owned lands and real estate expertise to increase the tax base, generate revenue and leverage existing infrastructure in support of the growth of our city. This approach recognizes that City-owned lands are valuable assets that provide long term and strategic benefits – economic, environmental and social – to current and future generations".

The benefit of selling off some land is that it provides revenue, and more significantly, once developed, it generates property taxes, which is a consideration during difficult economic times. However, one obvious disadvantage is that once a park space is developed, it is lost forever.

What are the most important considerations to you? You can fill out a survey on the Engage website link above.

To be clear, this is for the Richmond Green area only, and there is no concern right now for any of the parks within our area. However, it is worth learning about this proposal and providing your input.

The pandemic has proven how vital our parks and greenspaces are. Look at the jammed parking lots at Nose Hill on the weekend or the number of people walking on the John Laurie pathway! We are lucky to have these treasures within our community, and they are worth preserving.

Finally, if you are looking for some new walking routes, City of Calgary pathway maps are currently being updated. The

new maps should be available in May, and will be available at bike shops, City facilities, and skate parks (editor's note – there is also an app available for your smartphone). Happy Walking!

Submitted by Melanie Swailes

If you are interested in community planning and redevelopment issues, we welcome new members to join us. Our meetings will be determined in accordance with AHS guidelines. Please contact the BCA for more information at office@brentwoodcommunity.com or at 403-284-3477.

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Focus On What You Can Control

by Lee Hunt

Author's Note – As the deadline for the April Bugle is the end of February, the information in my article regarding COVID regulations and school procedures may not still be current.

As in all Calgary schools, the COVID pandemic has had a significant impact on the students and staff at Simon Fraser School. How do they cope?

Simon Fraser Principal Lauren Lailey, formerly an Assistant Principal at Crescent Heights High School, told me that at her school, the major emphasis has been on safety, along with resilience and support. The motto for students, staff, secretarial staff, and custodial staff, has been: Focus on what you can control and support each other.

Principal Lailey has been pleased that all four groups have worked so steadfastly to achieve this focus.

Simon Fraser School has a student body of 600, Grades five through nine. Five hundred of the students attend school in person, while 100 are online. The in-school students remain in the same classroom for all of their classes (except for Physical Education), while the teachers move from room to room. All options and all extracurricular activities have been cancelled – by far the toughest blow for the students! Ms. Lailey told me that the students greatly look forward to their daily outdoor P.E. class, plus the outdoor lunch break.

I was amused to hear about the delight of the Grade five and six students, who had the school all to themselves during the pre-Christmas weeks when all Alberta Grade 7 to 12 students were required to learn from home. Apparently, the younger students enjoyed being “kings of the castle” for a few weeks!

Given that safety is a major priority, everyone in the school wears a mask. The usual complement of two custodians have been supplemented by an additional person. Doors and staircase railings are sanitized constantly, plus the entire school is deep cleaned each night. So far, this

vigilance has definitely paid off, as there have not been any cases of school sourced COVID at Simon Fraser.

The effort to encourage support and resilience includes a letter writing, “pen pal strategy”, in which the younger students write to the older ones. There is also a biweekly meeting of all interested Grade nine students with the principal, where concerns are raised, and strategies are planned. The focus is on the well-being of the entire school community.

Each morning, students arriving on school buses are greeted by Principal Lailey and Vice Principal Edmonds. These two administrators and the Resource Teacher try to be “out and about” in the classrooms and hallways as much as possible to let the students know that support is available whenever needed.

The students and staff are all looking forward to a return to optional courses, extracurricular activities, and no masks! But in the meantime, they will continue to support one another, to demonstrate resilience, to stay safe, and to care.

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Protecting Lives and Livelihoods – Budget 2021

Alberta's government reconvened its spring session with Budget 2021 and a focus on strengthening the healthcare system to fight COVID-19 and creating jobs for economic recovery.

Budget 2021 invests more than ever before in health care, with \$23 billion for pandemic response, to clear surgery back logs and support mental health programs. It will also pave the way for Alberta's economic recovery to create new jobs now, support our core industries, and diversify for the future, with a total investment of over \$22 billion.

The budget also takes a balanced approach to get Alberta back on track, sticking to strong fiscal anchors by keeping debt-to-GDP below 30 percent. The Alberta Government will streamline service delivery and bring overall spending in line with other provinces.

Although we are still carrying a large deficit, Alberta's government is maintaining K to 12 education spending to school authorities and maintaining the funding to provide social services to help keep Albertans safe.

Alberta remains in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, but Alberta's government is preparing for brighter days. Budget 2021 was developed in response to these challenges and is a plan that will see Alberta past its current crisis by focusing on what matters most.

We still have a long road ahead, but hope is on the horizon, and Budget 2021 will set Alberta up to emerge stronger than ever before.

As always, if you need to get in touch with me on any provincial issue or have questions, please feel free to reach out to my office at Calgary.Varsity@assembly.ab.ca.

Pre-Kindergarten Educational Services



Pre-Kindergarten
Ages 3-5 years (Pre-K)
Kindergarten Enhancement (KE)
Out of School Care (OSC)

REGISTRATION IS ON-GOING

Email: Register@PreKindergartenEd.com

Captain John Palliser School -
1484 Northmount Drive NW

Kindergarten Enhancement – ½ day program
combines with Kindergarten

Out of School Care – Grades K-6

Hope Lutheran Church - 3527 Boulton Road NW

Pre-Kindergarten ages 3-5 years – 2,3, or 5 half days
(2.5 hr. program)

Pre-Kindergarten ages 3-5 years

Pre-Kindergarten is an early literacy focused program combining ample play with learning. Our children play and explore our child-centered classroom, while gaining valuable social skills. Activity centers include math readiness, science, literacy, fine motor work (printing/cutting), arts/craft/painting, in addition to all of the typical preschool centres of sand/water, playdough, puzzles, blocks, story corner and toys. In accordance to AHS and following COVID-19 guidelines, off site trips and in class visitors may be permitted. Our program has a strict and thorough regimen of cleaning protocols which staff follow.

Please feel free to ask questions.

Kindergarten Enhancement

This program type combines with Kindergarten to enable Kindergarten students to stay at school Monday to Friday for the duration of the day. The program implements the components indicated in the category above, "Pre-Kindergarten". Please contact us to go on a wait list, and confirm your spot in the School Kindergarten so that we can finalize your placement in our program.

Out of School Care

Out of School Care balances the best of both child led and teacher facilitated experiences in our well-equipped classroom(s). With a thematic approach, we have explored many genres, including STEM, during this past school year. We enjoy the outdoors as well, and utilize outdoor space breaks for exercise and fresh air each day, weather permitting.

Website: www.Pre-KindergartenEd.com
Visit Website for Online Classroom Tour
Follow us at www.facebook.com/PreKindergartenEd

Brentwood

Community Association

Membership Application

Surname: _____

First Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Family \$35 55 Plus (Couple) \$25

Individual \$12.50

Please return membership application with your cheque made payable to the Brentwood

Community Association

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Our neighbourhood contributors for this month include, Rayan Alfuhaid, Rosemary Brown, Anne Burke, Lee Hunt, Cynthia Sim, Melanie Swailes, and the Brentwood Cares team.



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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

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FALCONER HANDYMAN SERVICES: Stucco patching, re-stucco, small renovations, drywall and painting, foundation parging, and small concrete work. We can also build or fix decks, fences, etc. No job is too small. Fully insured. For free estimates, please call Wes 403-809-3644.

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HOUSE AND YARD MAINTENANCE: Eavestrough cleaning/leak sealing, window cleaning, power raking, fall yard clean up, fence repair, hedge trimming, weeding, top dressing, some pruning, painting, drywall repairs. Call Ryan at 403-202-1263.

QUILTER AT YOUR DOOR: Need help finishing that special project? Help is available in your neighbourhood! Introducing Quilter At Your Door: Quality Quilting Done Right! Long-arm quilting and quilt finishing services available. Pick-up and delivery at your door! Contact Marian for a quote at 403-888-8038 or quilteratyourdoor@gmail.com, or visit www.quilteratyourdoor.weebly.com.

TERRAVIEW LAWN CARE: Spring cleanups, power raking, aerating, over-seeding, pet cleanup, power washing, etc. Weekly, bi-weekly yard mowing and yard maintenance services. Reasonable rates. Call Ron or Craig to discuss your yard care needs and to schedule any services. Ron | 403-669-4671. Craig | 403-819-7905.

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Ready to Sell Your Home?

We understand that even under normal circumstances, it can be overwhelming to keep a home ready to show for an extended period of time. In 2021, this has become an even more significant task, with work-from-home needs, online schooling, and the simple fact that we are all spending more time at home. At Ramage & Co., we have a proven system that will help reduce the time your property sits on the market. With over 20 years of experience in Calgary Real Estate, Lucas Ramage is committed to providing exceedingly personalized service for all your Real Estate needs.

1. ESTABLISHING THE RIGHT PRICE

Selling your home starts with establishing the right selling price for the current market. Through a careful examination of recent Real Estate sales data and an intuitive understanding of market conditions, we can help determine the right price for your property. The right price will help ensure higher offers and a more timely sale, reducing the amount of time your property sits on the market.

2. YOU MAKE THE FINAL DECISION

Our job is to professionally market your property, exposing it to the largest group of buyers possible. We do this with our proven marketing system, which includes realtor.ca, cutting edge video marketing, paid online advertising, social media, and print marketing. We also leverage our seasoned negotiating skills and depth of experience to get you the best offer. From there, we work alongside you to support you in navigating the multitude of decisions that you will need to make throughout the selling process. Our role is to help you navigate these decisions seamlessly and with expert guidance.

3. WE LOOK AFTER THE DETAILS

Of course, we will take care of the various details involved with your property sale so you can move forward with your life. Our goal is that you feel confident knowing everything will run smoothly from start to finish. Our team is dedicated to providing a seamless approach to getting your home listed and sold as efficiently as possible, and for the right price. Contact Lucas Ramage for your Complimentary Home Evaluation Today.

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SOLD



4716 Brockington RD NW
Brentwood | \$589,900
3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms

This wonderfully renovated bungalow in Brentwood has a functional design and attractive modern styling. This 3 bedroom bungalow has a 2 bedroom suite downstairs with close proximity to U of C and transit. This is an excellent investment, with the opportunity to live upstairs and rent down. Open your camera on your smartphone and hover over QR code to view our video presentation.



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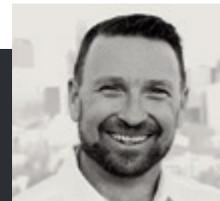
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ON THE MARKET



131 BENNETT CRESCENT (BRENTWOOD)

Bungalow with over 1,100 sq.ft. 3+1 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms. Double detached garage and RV parking. Close to all amenities, all levels of school, Brentwood LRT station and U of C.

Asking \$541,000 mls# A1056703



136 EDGEDALE WAY NW (EDGEMONT)

Well built 4 level split with lots of recent upgrades. Total of 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms. Quartz counter top in kitchen and bathrooms. Close to all amenities. Single detached garage and RV parking.

Asking \$386,000 mls# A1074710



COLLINGWOOD - CAWDER DRIVE

Bungalow with over 1,320 sq.ft. 3+1 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms. Single attached garage and front driveway. Fully developed basement. Close to all amenities.

Asking \$549,900 mls# A1063344



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Asking \$228,900 mls# A1055281

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