

**Welcome to the 2013
Scenic Acres Community Association
Annual General Meeting**



**Monday March 31st, 7:00pm
Scenic Acres Community Centre**

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Mission and Vision Statements

The Scenic Acres Community Association's (SACA) mission, vision and values reflect people, community and performance, working towards success. The SACA is built on a sharing foundation, thinking broadly without losing sight of its local roots to provide our members and the community residents with the attention and respect they deserve.

SACA Vision: A clean, safe, family oriented place to live where all residents have access to various programs and services that meet their needs so they enjoy a real sense of community.

SACA Mission: A vibrant and sustainable community that is safe and attractive, where residents have a sense of pride, community spirit, and are proud to live.



**Scenic Acres Community Association
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
March 18, 2013**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dean Erickson	Jim Clampett	Jim Palmer	Tanya Wttewaall
Michelle Parkkari	Partho Mukherjee	David Wright	Rob Thomas
Gerald Yamamoto	Ray Hillman	Dawna Bell Reed	

GUESTS:

Dale Hodges – Alderman; Mary Ann Whalen - on behalf of Sandra Jansen
Angela Williams - City of Calgary

MEMBERS: 27 resident members were represented at the meeting

NON-MEMBERS: 5 non-member non-residents observed the meeting

The meeting was held at the Scenic Acres Community Centre and was called to order by SACA President Dean Erickson at 7:10pm.

1. **MOTION**: That the agenda for the March 18, 2013 AGM be approved.
Partho Mukherjee/Joel Falk *Carried*
2. **MOTION**: That the minutes of the March 19, 2012 AGM be approved.
Ike Zacharopoulos/Rob Thomas *Carried*

3. Introduction of Board Members.

Dean Erickson introduced the following board members: President, Dean Erickson; Vice-President, Jim Palmer; Treasurer, James Clampett; Secretary, Michelle Parkkari. And the remaining SACA Directors and those wishing to be elected as directors: Partho Mukherjee; Tanya Wttewaall; Rob Thomas; Gerald Yamamoto; David Wright; Dawna Bell-Reed

4. President's Report

President Dean Erickson provided a summary of services, facilities, events, clubs and programs provided at SACA. Specifically the LEAF project that will be worked on going forward and the completion of the storage garage on site. He also noted reports for specific portfolio's are available in the AGM Reports Documents provided to all attendees and asked everyone to review and the ask any questions. He also noted that all Board members would be available following the meeting. Dean then touched on the Community **Sports provided by SACA specifically** Beach Volleyball, Norwest Soccer, Women's Soccer, Adult Slo-pitch and our affiliates: NWBA, CHA and CSC. Dean provided an overview of the many community events and activities that occurred in the community over the past year including” -Beach Volleyball which is highly used by schools and clubs; The success of the Christmas Party; Clean up Day, over 250 vehicles came; Family Day Skate Party; Fun Casino; Lego Competition; Skate Park; Pumpkin Giveaway; Stampede Breakfast; Bubble Gum Boogie Dances; Craft Sale;

Movie in the Park. Dean the concluded by thanking all volunteers who were responsible for making these events possible as well as the staff including Ruth, Janet, Julie, Michelle and Pat.

5. Presentation of Financial Statements and Auditor's Report

Treasurer Jim Clampett presented the financial report as audited by The FCC. SACA is in good financial standing with over \$200,000 in liquid assets. Jim explained casino funds and their uses and restrictions (externally restricted assets). He spoke about the internally restricted assets (lifecycle funds) After answering questions from the floor, Jim proposed the following motion.

MOTION: To accept the 2012 audited financial report as presented.

Jim Palmer/ Partho Mukherjee Carried

MOTION: To appoint auditor for the 2013 year end financials.

David Wright/Rob Thomas Carried

6. LEAF

Dean briefly summarized where the LEAF program was to date and that it had passed with 69% of residents voting in favour of LEAF. Dean answered some questions about LEAF regarding whether condo's were included and about the process of petitioning for LEAF.

7. Election of New Directors

Dean Erickson asked the membership if there was anyone from the floor who wished to stand for election to the board. This was asked three times. The following motion was then presented.

MOTION: To elect and/or re-elect the following people to the SACA Board of Directors:

Dean Erickson Dawna Bell-Reed David Wright Ray Hillman

Gerald Yamamoto Jim Palmer Tanya Wttewaall

Partho Mukherjee/ Ike Zacharopoulos Carried

8. Election of Executive

MOTION: To elect Jim Palmer as Vice - President.

David Wright/ Oktay Yersel Carried

9. Any Other Business

A final question regarding LEAF was briefly addressed by Dean Erickson

10. Adjournment

Dean Erickson thanked everyone for attending and invited the attendees to stay for some Cheese and Wine and to meet the Board.

MOTION: To adjourn the 2012 SACA AGM at 7:55 pm

Ray Hillman/ Joel Falk Carried

Respectfully Submitted by,
Michelle Parkkari
Secretary, SACA

2013 President's Report

I continue to believe that we live in the best community in the best city in Canada. The year 2013 will be forever remembered as the year of the flood. In June, raging waters tore through our city and caused billions of dollars worth of damage. Our community was not among the hardest hit, but all residents will have their memories of the "community sprit" that brought Calgary together. Whether it was helping friends, family or strangers, the residents of the city worked hard to put Calgary back together. Our winter came early with record snowfall and is staying late. We all are ready for spring and warmer weather.

In 2013, we worked closely with the City of Calgary to deploy the first year of the LEAF campaign. We had a number of growing pains, but I am grateful for our dedicated LEAF volunteers who worked tirelessly to make sure Scenic Acres looked great. We learned a lot during the first year and we are looking forward to year two. We continue to complete upgrades to the Community Centre and grounds to ensure it is a top notch facility for our community.

Our commitment to provide services, facilities, events, clubs, and programs remains a strategic focus. SACA provides a wide variety of programs, including, Line dancing for adults, preschool dance, Yoga and Zumba. Our many clubs and groups provide opportunity for like minded adults, seniors, and those looking after young children to socialize in our Community Centre. Our main sports programs are soccer, volleyball, and slo-pitch. SACA hosted over 20 events with the biggest our Stampede Breakfast while many residents also enjoyed the Movie in the Park.

I would also like to thank our dedicated volunteer group who continues to make our community the best in Calgary. Without dedicated volunteers, events and projects would not be possible. The staff, under the leadership of General Manager Ruth Sorrentino, have done an amazing job of managing our facilities and programs. In 2013, we congratulated Ward 1 Alderman Dale Hodges on his retirement. Alderman Hodges has always been a good friend to our community and his community passion will be missed. We welcome new Ward 1 Councilor – Ward Sutherland and look forward to working with him in the future.

In February 2014, our community suffered a huge loss with the passing of our Treasurer, Jim Clampett. Those that knew Jim will remember him as tireless volunteer that worked endless hours on SACA board projects. I thought of Jim as a mentor, leader and friend. I will remember his advice and miss his smile. Our thoughts and prayers remain with Barbara and their family. We want them to know Jim made our community a better place and the world was touched by his life.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Erickson, President, SACA

2013 Treasurer's Report

For the past six years we have been extremely fortunate to have Jim Clampett as our Treasurer. He provided the board with monthly comparative financials and oversaw the annual audit. Without him here, I will do my best to summarize the 2013 Audited Financial Statements as prepared by Heidi Brauer, CMA.

The Statement of Financial Position shows what we own and what we owe. Our assets represent what we own, a total value on our financial statements of \$843,695.

They consist of unrestricted cash of \$72,939, unrestricted investments of \$97,637, internally restricted investments of \$25,841, accounts receivable of \$1,269 and prepaid expenses of \$854.

We also had externally restricted assets of \$25,365. They consist of unspent cash from casino and grant funding. They are considered to be restricted, because if we do not spend them on approved objectives, they have to be returned. This is why they are also showing up as deferred cash contributions under the liabilities.

Property and equipment shows the book value of our building, furniture and equipment.

The liabilities show what we owed on December 31, 2013. They consist of trade payables of \$20,595, unearned revenue of \$38,751 and deferred cash contributions of \$25,365.

The unrestricted cash of \$72,939 more than covers the accounts payable and deferred revenue of \$59,346. Overall, while our Statement of Financial Position shows excellent cash assets, with almost 6 months of operating for SACA, this is considered a not-for-profit best practice.

Turning to the Statement of Operations, SACA recognized \$288,817 in revenue including \$68,310 in rental facilities, \$63,395 in community programs, \$52,946 in sports programs and \$52,701 in casino contributions. Membership was also up almost \$7,000 netting \$20,002. Total revenue increased by \$82,921.

Our expenses totalled \$267,225 with building operations making up the majority of the expenses. Total expenses increased by \$2,010. This leaves the organization with excess revenue of \$21,592, a great turn-around from 2012, when we had a deficit of \$33,339.

As SACA moves forward we invite anyone with an interest in furthering our association who has a flair for accounting to consider taking on the role of Treasurer. The role is very well supported by SACA Bookkeeper Pat Bell who deals with all the day to day financial matters. If you interested in filling this role please contact SACA Secretary Michelle Parkkari or SACA General Manager Ruth Sorrentino.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jim Palmer, Vice President, SACA

2013 Community Development Report

In Community Development in 2013 we saw one issue from my 2012 report, the cell tower, concluded, three others carry-over, and one new one emerge.

Cell Tower: My 2012 report was accurate in only two respects: the tower's metal structure reducing in height, and moving to near the Tuscan side of the pedestrian bridge over Stoney Trail. Unfortunately, I was completely wrong in my expectation that this might go into 2014 and further consultation, including with Scenic Acres, would occur. We attempted to raise the interest of adjacent, most impacted residents, and also wrote on their behalf on Dec 5, 2013, requesting further information sessions and consultation. Councilor Sutherland's Dec 18, 2013 reply was detailed, lengthy and respectful. Regrettably, it also made clear that such second consultation rounds would be unlikely (in similar circumstances) with the current City tower siting protocols. Further, he advised, the City had already concurred the revised structure and location in September, months before SACA's letter.

Revera (carrying over, potential development at 8720 Scurfield Drive): SACA has confirmed with Councilor Sutherland's office in March 2014 that nothing further has been advanced to City Planning and Approvals by the proponents in the past year. Although the potential for development of this property would obviously be delayed due to the sewer main constraints that began in September 2014 and will remain in place through to late 2015, we speculate that Revera had other reasons, earlier on, not to advance their proposal since late 2011. Whenever it does come, the next proposal will fall under the new Transforming Planning enhancements to the City's Development Permit process. We should therefore expect both more transparent and earlier pre-consultation from Revera, or whoever the next proponent may be. However, the adjacent residents should continue to keep their committee active. Transforming Planning is intended to shorten the time from submittal to approval/rejection, so we will likely have even less time to provide input than in the past

Noise Levels - Stoney Trail (carrying over and updating slightly from my 2012 report, perceived increase in sound levels): Although deferred last spring, we will follow through in attempts to broker some City-provided noise sampling along Stoney Trail this coming spring of 2014. If achieved, this should allow both SACA and the residents continuing to express concerns to become more knowledgeable on the subject. The province is unlikely to conduct any follow-up noise testing until 2015 once the Stoney Trail - Nose Hill Drive interchange project is complete. From my reading of the earlier noise surveys conducted by Alberta Transportation, I believe it is quite plausible residents, particularly those closest to Stoney Trail, and more sensitive to ambient noise which is why they are perceiving a noise increase. However, I continue to accept the earlier studies' conclusions that it remains highly unlikely that any compliant sample locations within back lots of private homes will, in the near to intermediate future, exceed provincial minimums.

ATCO Pipelines Urban Pipeline Initiative (UPI) (carrying over and updating): ATCO Pipelines has now received regulatory approval of their full UPI program. We should expect the new construction within the Stoney Trail Transportation and Utilities Corridor

(TUC) in 2016 and 2017. More information will likely be available this summer. I have been advised the new pipeline will be 'mostly' on the Tuscany side of Stoney Trail. I remain confident Scenic Acres residents will still be included in the information sessions nearer to the time of construction.

New Francophone School (emergent and significant, announced as planned for 2016 school opening): A few early concerns with traffic increase and loss of recreational and park space from this development are just now emerging. SACA's office has written to MLA Sandra Jansen requesting input. MLA Jansen addressed SACA's concerns for input and the opportunity to engage in community consultation with a letter to the Conseil Scolaire Franco Sud. SACA President Dean Erickson has also been in contact with the Francophone School Board regarding SACA's desire to meet with them, learn more about their plans and discuss impact on our community. SACA has created a page on our web site which will have all the latest news on this community development: <http://scenicacres.ca/links/community-development/francophone-school/>

To general issues and maintaining currency in the Community Development process, in 2013 I attended three Transforming Planning sessions, a Corridor Planning Process session (this initiative arose primarily from the Council's cancelling of the plans for Crowchild Trail upgrades) and the Federation of Calgary Communities (FCC) annual general meeting. Please contact me directly at **davidwright2@shaw.ca** or through the SACA office, if I can assist with any questions you have on this report or with new concerns you may have. I urge anyone interested in volunteering as a Director for 2014 to join us and get involved.

Respectfully submitted by,
David Wright, Director Community Development, SACA

2013 Facilities Report

SACA works hard to ensure both the indoor and outdoor facility owned and operated by the association are well maintained and well utilized.

In 2013 SACA once again applied for funding through the Capital Conservation Grant program offered by the City of Calgary. These grants allow SACA to apply for projects listed in our Lifecycle Plan. In 2013 SACA successfully received 75% of the funds to patch the parking lot, repaint the lines in the parking lot, repair the facility's roof, investigate a void between the sub floor and the exterior wall along the west wall in the Main Hall, replace the backsplash and counter tops on the Kitchen, Boardroom and Washrooms and also replace the vanity's in the washrooms. SACA would like to thank the City of Calgary for continuing to support our operations by providing grants which enable us to keep up with necessary facility maintenance.

In 2014 SACA will again apply for funding through the Capital Conservation Grant so we can upgrade the emergency exit in the storage room to bring it to code and repair the void between the sub floor and the exterior wall along the west wall in the Main Hall.

Later in the year we hope to upgrade some of the lighting fixtures in our facility to be more energy efficient. In 2014 SACA will also be utilizing funds awarded through a successful application to the Albert Government Community Facility Enhancement Project, which funds 50% of facility enhancement related projects to expand our current office into the storage area. We hope to have this project completed by September 2014.

We continue to support the building of two outdoor rinks on our site each year. The rinks are always very well received, but more people are needed to step up and volunteer to help flood and maintain the rinks for SACA to continue to provide these winter facilities.

I would like to thank Ruth Sorrentino, General Manager of SACA, for her tireless efforts in developing our Lifecycle Plan. Ruth has played an integral role in sourcing out and securing the grants and funding that have made this plan sustainable and has ensured continued improvement to SACA. If you have any questions regarding any of our facilities please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted by,
Stephen Ward, Director Facilities, SACA

2013 Marketing & Communications Report

The highlight of this year was contributing to the business plan for SACA as it was an opportunity for our board to engage in insightful conversation to define how we want our fine community to look and more importantly how we want it to feel, so we can actively continue to welcome new members.

Over the past year we analyzed the websites of our neighboring communities as well as our own and as a result made some refreshing changes to our official website which is at www.scenicacresca.ca. We invite you to take a look as highlights include a more welcoming home page with color, images and content; streamlined content to be more user friendly; added community history; added a listing of benefits of a SACA membership to show value and encourage new memberships; an updated events page including a sign up link for volunteers; an updated programs and facilities page; addition of helpful links; and a listing of our board and executive members. I would like to sincerely thank Julie Fujimoto for volunteering to be our webmaster.

We also conducted an annual online survey to reach out to our resident members and gain feedback on our community events. The demographic who completed the survey were primarily women, with four or more people in their household, between the ages of 35-55 with a valid SACA membership who had attended community event(s). The results of this survey gave us insights into which events are highly valued, ideas on new events, and established a value that participants are willing to pay to attend an event. Events take time and money to host and all donations are highly encouraged and were appreciated this past year. The other benefit from this survey is that residents signed up

to volunteer for our events. This is very much appreciated and we encourage all our residents to become involved. I would like to personally thank our office team and regular volunteers for their time and hard work in 2013.

Our regular communication source is the Scenic Review which is our official monthly newsletter that is published by Suburban Journals. In early 2014 we re-launched our Facebook page; to date we have 341 people who “like” us. We will continue to discuss how we can use social media effectively as a network to positively connect our residents. We continue to send regular email updates, as per our updated Communications Policy, a couple times per month to be used for time sensitive information such as Calgary Police Alerts and Snow Event Advisories, along with community events and programs. Should you like to receive these regular emails please contact us at scenicacresca@shaw.ca so your contact information can be updated in our records.

In closing, I believe we have many exciting opportunities to capitalize on such as engaging our youth, reaching out to those seasonal and 55+ residents in our community, and to attract singles and families of all ages and backgrounds to our events and programs. Over the next year we hope to offer focus groups, and sponsorship opportunities with a renewed effort to grow volunteerism to take our community spirit to new levels. Our signature events such as the Stampede Breakfast and Movie in the Park will continue to be our heart and soul and define us but we are excited to trial some fresh new events as well. Marketing is simply about creating and communicating a want or desire. Our collective desire, and purpose, is to keep our community vibrant and social by connecting people. On that note, we look forward to welcoming each and every one of you to our meetings, programs, and events throughout the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawna Bell-Reed, Director Marketing & Communications, SACA

2013 Organization Development Report

The SACA Board is always conscious of the key priority of continuing development of the community, and the Strategic Plan provides the necessary blue print to achieve that objective. Subsequent to updating the Strategic Plan in 2012, the Board had tasked itself to develop a business plan in 2013 that aligned with the updated Strategic Plan.

I am pleased to report that a business plan has been developed keeping in view the needs of SACA and the Strategic Plan. In 2014/2015, the Board will be refining the business plan in alignment with proposed financial planning and the projects identified to occur in the near term and medium term.

Respectfully submitted,
Partho Mukherjee, Director Organizational Development, SACA

2013 Parks and Environment Report

We now have the first year of the LEAF program behind us and we thank those of you who have taken the time to provide feedback regarding the program to date. We hope you have been following the monthly updates in the Review and on the SACA website. In summary, in 2013 the LEAF program provided for overdue turf care (weekly cut and trimming, aeration, weed control, fertilization, etc); the start of neighbourhood parks cleanup; and an initial introduction of beautification initiatives. All this was in accordance with the vision communicated to the community; that is, first addressing existing assets and then making beautification improvements as funding allows.

LEAF had a slow start as the bylaw was not passed until May, and the June rains followed. Increased maintenance of the existing turf assets first was provided through weekly mowing (a total exceeding 400 hectares) and trimming. We hope to be able to do less of that and redeploy some of our resources in the years to come as the overall condition of the turf improves. The community playing fields received much needed aeration and fertilizer applications this year. The weeds that were so evident on SA Blvd. and other green areas were controlled through frequent mowing and an application of weed control. Again we hope this will pay off in the long run and allow us to re-designate resources to other endeavors.

Aside from the maintenance, we were also able to provide a glimpse of beautification through the introduction of nine flower planters in the community and a flower display in the community sign at the Nose Hill entrance. Furthermore, 170 tree wells along the community median boulevards were cleaned out and fresh mulch was added. The impact of this year's LEAF program can perhaps best be recognized by recalling how the Scurfield Drive tree-lined boulevards were overcome with weeds in 2012. After the 2013 clean-up the area was weed-free and covered with new mulch. In addition, the dead trees along the boulevards were removed in 2013; unfortunately we did not see them replaced although there were 18 new trees planted in the community. While tree care falls outside the LEAF portfolio, we were able to bring our community's wishes to the Parks Department and they addressed that need. The financial details of the LEAF program have been available on the SACA website. In summary, the entire LEAF budget of \$231,676 was spent in our community this year. Included in those expenditures is the purchase of 22 flower planters to be introduced into our community in 2014.

In summary, the results realized were very much in keeping with our expectations at the start of the year. The City's Parks Department did a great job of following up on our requests, especially in light of the devastating effects of the June Floods on their equipment and work plans, and we look forward to working with them in the future. Our plan for 2014 is to continue with the improved maintenance of our green spaces, including a cycled cleanup/refurbishment of our neighbourhood parks. We will introduce more flower displays with special attention to our community entrances and main boulevards. The long term vision is that we will get to every part of Scenic Acres over time but work will continue to expand from the most traveled areas out to individual neighbourhoods. This way, the program will continue to focus on our community at large and provide the widest benefit to all residents.

You will have received notification of next year's LEAF levy and noticed that, as per our commitment to the community, the fee has not changed. It is still an annual fee of \$60 per year, per property. The funds will again be spent entirely in Scenic Acres on public green space maintenance and enhancement. We look forward to providing ongoing improvements in our community and receiving your comments.

In closing, kudos go out to the LEAF Committee: Barb, Danya, Julie, Kyle and Lorna. Their efforts on the community's behalf in 2013 have resulted in the successful implementation of the LEAF program leading to the improved appearance and health of our community green spaces.

Respectfully submitted,
Ike Zacharopoulos, Director Parks and Environment, SACA

2013 Sports Report

Over the past year a number of sports were offered to community members either by SACA or through affiliations which SACA maintains with other sports groups. A short summary of each is given below. If you are interested in starting a sports group please contact the office. We are always looking to expand on our current offerings.

SACA Sports Programs

Beach Volleyball: SACA once again offered its own Play and Train style Beach Volleyball Program for Youth. The program focused on teaching volleyball skills to enable registrants to play at a recreational level. The courts were also left open on a regular basis to allow for drop in play.

Norwest Soccer Association (www.norwestsoccer.org). Norwest Soccer (a sub-committee of the Scenic Acres and Silver Springs Community Associations) provides recreational outdoor soccer for ages: U4 to U8 which is co-ed and within each of the parent communities, U10 to U14 boys & girls teams who take part in inter-community house leagues within northwest Calgary and U18/16 which is co-ed and also participates in an inter-community house league within NW Calgary. SACA would like to thank Chair Dino Sorrentino and all of the other Norwest Board Members for volunteering their time to coordinate this program.

Scenic Acres Ladies' Recreational Outdoor Soccer for ladies over 18 years of age. SACA would like to thank Fiona MacDiarmid for volunteering her time to coordinate this program.

Adult Slow Pitch for both men and women over 18 years of age. SACA would like to thank Pat Greco for volunteering his time to coordinate this program for 2013.

SACA Affiliated Sports Programs

To participate in any of the programs listed below you must have a valid SACA membership throughout the entirety of the program. The SACA membership is best purchased directly through SACA; however each of these affiliates will also accept registration money from Scenic Acres residents which they then forward to SACA.

Calgary West Soccer Association (www.calgarywestsoccer.com): Offering CMSA Competitive Outdoor Soccer and Recreational and Competitive Indoor Soccer for ages U6 through to U18

Crowchild Hockey Association (www.crowchildhockey.org): Offering programs from Tyke through to Junior. CHA has seen decreasing registration levels for the past few years. In an effort to increase numbers and be compliant with a new ruling passed by Hockey Calgary that mandated all associations have between 650 and 950 players, CHA entered into a test merger with the Westwood Hockey Association.

Crowchild Skate Club (www.crowchildtwin.org): Offering Parent & Tot, Learn to Skate, CanSkate and StarSkate.

Calgary North West Basketball (www.cnwb.ca): For children and youth.

West Valley Softball (www.silverspringscommunity.ca). For children and youth age 8 to 18.

The Director Sports portfolio has been vacant for the past year. If you have a passion for sports and are interested in filling this role please contact SACA Secretary Michelle Parkkari or SACA General Manager Ruth Sorrentino.

Respectfully submitted by,
Michelle Parkkari, Secretary, SACA

2013 Transportation Report

The main transportation project impacting the residents of Scenic Acres at this time is the provincial interchange project at the junction of the Nose Hill Drive and Stoney Trail. Construction is ongoing, with the interchange anticipated to be operational by the Fall of this year. Residents are advised to visit www.transportation.alberta.ca/stnhdgp.htm for the latest developments with regard to this interchange. Residents have brought forward concerns regarding increased noise levels, but at this time the Province is unwilling to look at these issues until all construction has been completed and the reduced traffic speeds are removed.

The Director Transportation portfolio is currently vacant. David Wright, Director Community Development has been kind enough to field residents inquiries regarding the Nose Hill Drive/Stoney Trail interchange, but ideally we would welcome a new board member to take on this portfolio. If you are interested in filling this role please contact SACA Secretary Michelle Parkkari or SACA General Manager Ruth Sorrentino.

Respectfully submitted by,
Michelle Parkkari
Secretary, SACA

NON-BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

2013 General Manager's Report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Janet Lymer, Julie Zacharopoulos, Michelle Thomson and Pat Bell for their hard work to further the work of SACA. I am blessed to be supported by such dedicated staff. Below is a summary of the work we've been doing to bring quality Events, Programs, Facilities and Services to the members of this community.

Community Events

Residents of Scenic Acres once again enjoyed a number of wonderful community events in 2013. SACA's events are designed to **foster community pride, enable residents to share, cooperate and get involved in their community**. Most events cater to all ages allowing many residents to connect with neighbours. SACA is fortunate to have a pool of wonderful volunteers, without which our events would not be possible. However, each year recruiting new volunteers has been an increasing challenge. If you enjoy our events but you haven't yet volunteered your time to help out at one, please consider doing so. If you're looking to meet people in the community, volunteering at one of our events is also a great way to connect. We can only continue to provide these quality events if we have the volunteers to make them happen. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Sandy Palmer at scenicvolunteers@shaw.ca.

The following is a summary of the SACA Events from 2013:

- **Annual Lego Competition:** This co-sponsored event with Silver Springs was a huge success once again this year. With over 200 entries in a variety of categories including vehicles, buildings and structures, animals and figures, and original works. Age categories ranged from 2 to adult. Prizes were awarded to the 1st place winners and ribbons to the 2nd and 3rd place, as well as for all participants. Due to increasing costs and reduced participation by Scenic Acres members SACA has decided not to co-host this event in the future. Despite SACA no longer being involved Silver Springs Community Association will be continuing to host the Lego Competition and invites anyone within the City of Calgary to submit an entry and take part.
- **Bubblegum Boogie Dances:** These dances occur once every two months and run for 2 1/2 hours on a Friday evening. The dances are open to students in grades 4-6 who are members of SACA. In addition to a DJ who provides the music, lights and most of the entertainment, the kids enjoy a concession as well as door prizes. These supervised dances are well received with attendance of around 100 children. The cost for this event was \$5 per ticket, however the ticket price was increased in September to \$10 which included entrance to the dance as well as one drink and one snack. If your child enjoys these dances please consider volunteering as a chaperone.
- **Christmas Craft Sale:** Held in mid November this event continues to be extremely popular with crafters from around the city. With only 24 tables, due to our small community centre, Calgary area crafters are always keen to be a part of our sale because of the improved exposure as well as excellent attendance. Jewellery, Christmas décor, knitting, painting, clothing, and baking are only a few of the wonderful items available for sale. This year the funds raised through the gift

baskets filled with items supplied by the various crafters was donated to the Women In Need Society.

- **Christmas Shopping Extravaganza:** Based on the success of the Spring Fling Shopping Extravaganza and the large numbers of resellers who wish to rent tables at our Craft Sale each year, SACA hosted its first Christmas Shopping Extravaganza on November 26. Resellers had jewelry, food, clothing and cosmetics amongst the items for sale. In addition, another basket raffle, which products donated by the vendors, raised money for the Women In Need Society.
- **Breakfast with Santa:** Instead of the traditional Community Christmas Party, which in past years has seen decreased attendance, we decided to have a Breakfast with Santa focused on community families and grandparents with young grandchildren. This ticketed event was a sell out well in advance. 100 community members and guests enjoyed a breakfast sausage, pancakes and fruit while Santa made the rounds. Entertainment was provided by Anne Bell's Community Choir and local junior high school student Joel Zukowski played Christmas tunes on his violin. The younger guests also had the opportunity to sit on Santa's knee and let him know all the things they were hoping he would bring them on Christmas morning.
- **Community Clean-Up Day:** Traditionally we have alternated hosting a clean-up day with the Silver Springs Community Association. In 2013 it was the turn of Silver Springs to be the host. However, due to demand from our community members SACA is now planning to host its own clean up day each spring. The date for 2014 is Saturday June 7th.
- **Fall Fair:** This new event was hosted by SACA and sponsored by Leslie Schmeiler of Re/Max House of Realty. This event was held on Saturday October 26th and raised food donations for the Calgary InterFaith Food Bank. In exchange for a bag of food, community members could select a pumpkin from our pumpkin patch.
- **Family Day Skate:** For a couple of hours on the family day afternoon the outdoor rinks were made available to everyone in the community. Sticks and pucks were not permitted to ensure we had a safe environment for all in the community. The Calgary Food Trucks were invited out to cook up a feast and SACA provided Hot Chocolate and Marshmallows.
- **Movie in the Park:** This event attracts hundreds of people from around our community as well as surrounding areas. The pre movie activities include games for the kids and a bounce hour, climbing wall and magic show. The movie, Epic was shown to an audience bundled up in their blankets and sleeping bags. The Northwest Youth Volunteers supervised some of the activities as well as the canteen table which was a huge success. Adult volunteers helped us collect suggested donations of \$20 per family \$5 per individual to help us offset the cost of this popular event.
- **Open House:** For the first time we held an Open House at SACA for families in the community to come and learn about SACA and its many affiliates. Representatives from North West Ringette, Pedalheads, Girl Guides, Triple A and Happy Tails Dog Training joined us to show case their programs. Our Open House was held while many in the City were cleaning up after the flood. We used this opportunity to collect donations (food, clothing, blankets, toiletries and cash) which were all donated to the flood relief.
- **Parade of Garage Sales:** This event takes place every year in June and provides

an opportunity for residents to sell their own items and also buy a few new treasures. This year resident realtor Bill Hamilton once again co-sponsored the sale with SACA. Community maps and addresses were made available at the community centre as well as for download from on our website.

- **Post-AGM Wine & Cheese Social:** In 2013 we paired fine wines with exquisite cheeses which all attendees of the SACA AGM were invited to sample. While the wine and cheese was sampled, members chatted with SACA directors and staff about many ways to improve life in Scenic Acres in an informal social setting.
- **Spring Fling Shopping Extravaganza:** The Annual Spring Fling was held on Saturday May 25th. Resellers of 24 different home party products rented tables and previewed their new Spring/Summer lines for anyone interested in seeing what the different lines had on offer without feeling the pressure to host a party. A raffle basket with goodies from the vendors raised funds for the Women In Need Society.
- **Stampede Breakfast:** This event continues to be one of the highlights of the year. Live music, line dancing, and a fabulous pancake breakfast! Once again the weather cooperated and we had a high turnout of over 2000 people. Highlights were the Stampede's Harry the Horse, a Marching Band, Chinook Country Line Dancers, two Bouncy Houses, the Little Red Fire Truck from Larry Clayden and entertainment from Buttons the Clown.

As a not-for-profit, SACA is constantly reaching out to the business community to support our initiatives and community events. In 2013 we were supported by a number of local, regional and national sponsors. We were also fortunate receive financial support through some grants. We received cash donations, product donations and direct sponsorships for portions of events from the sponsors. We recognized them through our robust advertising which included signage at the event, mention in the Scenic Review, website presence and in some instances, media mention in our public service announcements. As we continue to develop our events and grow our sponsorships, we will continue to pursue additional sponsors and work with them to develop an equally beneficial relationship. We would like to take this additional opportunity to thank all those who helped us in 2013:

- AGM: **Treasury Wine Estates**
- Breakfast With Santa: **Spolumbos Fine Food & Deli**
- Fall Fair: **Leslie Schmeiler Re/Max House of Realty**
- Fun Casino: **Brand Alliance; Sandra Jansen MLA; Treasury Wine Estates; City of Calgary; Alderman Dale Hodges; Future Shop; Jani Long Tupperware Consultant; Petrogras**
- Lego Comp: **Bricks for Kidz; IMV Projects**
- Many Hands Makes Light Work Spring Cleaning: **Jugo Juice**
- Movie In The Park: **Alberta Government - Community Initiatives Grant**
- Parade of Garage Sale: **Bill Hamilton of Re/Max Mountain View**
- Stampede Breakfast: Platinum: **Allstate (Crowfoot); ATCO Gas; Cancare Daycare; Expressions Dental; Tim Hortons**. Gold: **Cooperators Insurance (Crowfoot); Mountain View Optometry; NOtaBLE's; Scenic Acres Dental Centre**. Silver: **Coca-Cola Bottling; Crowfoot Plates; Kirby Cox & Associates; Valley Ridge Golf Club; Village Honda**. Bronze: **Charlesglen Toyota; Ed Williams Menswear; Tony Roma's Restaurant; Turning Heads Hair & Esthetics**.

If you or your company would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities, please contact me scenicgm@shaw.ca or 403.547.9589.

Programs

SACA provides numerous programs for a wide variety of community members. SACA also provides in-kind sponsorship to other program providers to enable them to provide programming for our community members, which is in line with the SACA Strategic Plan. The following provides a summary of our Registered Programs as well as Drop-in Clubs and Groups.

Triple A: Triple A stands for the Alliance for Active Aging, which is a collaborative effort by six (6) local community associations (Dalhousie, Edgemont, Montgomery, Scenic Acres, Silver Springs and Varsity) to work together to provide programming and social opportunities for adults 55+. The collaborative is committed to providing one Signature event per year and one day trip per year. In 2013 SACA coordinated a short day trip to the Seniors Follies at Heritage Park in March, planned a day trip on the Tim Horton's Bus to Head Smashed in Buffalo Jump in May as well as hosting a Christmas Gathering in December. These events were well received. SACA is working with the other Triple A communities to expand these types of offerings. The following outlines our current regular Triple A programs. Each group/club is coordinated by a volunteer from within the community, with the support of SACA. All attendees must have a SACA or Triple A Membership. Attendees are also charged a small fee of \$2 or \$5 (if a full day gathering) to help SACA offset our high facility costs.

- **Ladies Social Coffee Craft Club:** Every Monday morning at 9am with one full day per month including a pot luck lunch; no need to be a crafter, ladies looking to come out and chat are also very welcome. Thank you to Jeri Orr for coordinating this group.
- **Single Ladies Get Together:** A group of single ladies have been meeting for coffee at the Community Centre on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. This group has grown each month, and the ladies frequently get together between meetings.
- **Quilting Club:** The quilting group get together on the third Tuesday of the month for a full day of quilting. Thank you to Jeri Orr for bringing this group together.
- **Book Club:** Meeting on the first Tuesday of the Month from 1 to 3pm this group gathers to discuss a different book. Thank you to Audrey Winkler for leading this group.
- **Walking Club:** The walking club continues to be very popular. Thank you to Kathleen Vernon for leading this group.
- **Fun & Games:** Wednesday afternoons 12:45 to 3pm Card and Games, 3 to 3:30pm Coffee/Tea and Conversation. Thank you to Ron Crowther for leading this group.
- **Artist Gathering:** A number of locals who dabble in art join together on the 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon of the month (1:00 to 3:00pm) to work on their art projects in the company of others. Thank you to Katharine McFarquhar for informally leading this group.
- **Are you 55+ and looking for something else?** We are always open to expanding our program offerings where demand exists. If you have an idea for another club or group please contact me to discuss possibilities.

50+ Social Club: The 50+ Social Club has floundered this year. Anyone interested in reigniting this self-led group should contact the SACA office.

Adult Programming: SACA continues to provide a variety of exercise classes for adults such as **Intermediate Yoga, Yoga Hour, Entry Level Yoga, Pilates**. In 2013 we expanded our class offerings to include evening classes in **Yoga and Zumba** which have been very popular. We also have **Qigong** and **Meditation** in the Palmer Boardroom, offered on a Drop In basis. We are constantly looking to better meet the needs of our community members, so if you have an idea for a class, please contact the SACA Office. Thanks to our volunteer coordinator's we were once again able to offer **Women's Soccer** and **Adult Slow-Pitch**. If you are an adult in the community interested in facilitating a drop in club or program please contact the SACA office.

Youth Programming: SACA offers both outdoor **Volleyball** and outdoor **Soccer** programs to youth. The Norwest Soccer program for U18/U16 continued to be the fastest growing age group within the association. Maria Doll has continued to offer her **Leadership Matters** courses for children and youth in the community. SACA has continued to support NYV: Northwest Youth Volunteers and they continue to support us by volunteering at events. In 2013 this group which comprised of mostly university aged students became an on-line community, with a facebook group as their primary communication tool for learning about and signing up for volunteer opportunities. In the Fall of 2013 with the help of youth rep Madison Savilow SACA launched Scenic Acres Youth (SAY) with an invite to all youth 12 to 17 to come out and have their SAY. This group meets once per month at the community centre, and gets involved in leadership and volunteer opportunities in our community. We are currently looking for an adult with mentoring experience to work with this group as their mentor. If you are interested please contact Ruth Sorrentino at scenicgm@shaw.ca.

Children's Programming: SACA continues to provide a number of programs for children such as **Pre-School Dance**, and **Norwest Soccer**. Through our many rentals SACA members can also participate in **Music Classes, Scouts** and **Mini-Sports Classes**. The **Community Playgroup** on Monday mornings provided the opportunity for Caregivers, Grandparents, Mom's and Dad's continue to bring their little ones, from new borns to pre-schoolers, to the Community Playgroup on Mondays mornings.

Facilities

The Main Hall and Palmer Boardroom continue to be in great demand. The Main Hall is booked well in advance for special events such as Weddings, Anniversaries and Family Celebrations. An increasing number of members are also opting to host their children's birthday parties in the hall, either providing the entertainment themselves or by bringing in a party provider such as Mad Science, Sportball or Butterfield Acres to provide the entertainment. The SACA office has a binder containing information on various party and special event service providers for SACA members to peruse in the office.

The following outlines our various regular renters, but we also rent to a large number of SACA members and other groups for one off events, meetings and workshops:

- **SACA Palmer Boardroom:** The Palmer Boardroom is receiving more and more interest as a place to hold meetings as well as after-school programs, clubs,

workshops and birthday parties. Not only does SACA hold a number of clubs and meetings in the space we also rent to groups such as **Leadership Matters, Music & Play** and **Staying Alive Services**.

- **SACA Main Hall:** The Main Hall is booked at least 50% of the time during the day and on weekends, and 100% of the time during week nights, with a wide variety of programs provided by SACA and various renters such as **Beavers, JKA Karate, Child Safe Canada, Dynamic Karate, Happy Tails Dog Training** and **Sportball**. In late 2013 **Kings Christian Centre** relocated to SACA for their weekly Sunday Services.
- **Beach Volleyball Courts:** SACA provided programs in the Beach Volleyball Courts and we also received some rentals from individuals as well as **Bowness High School**. We look forward to continuing to provide programs and the use of our courts to other school and community groups as well as individuals and organized teams.
- **South Field: Sportball** continues to rent the South Field (the grassed area to the west of the Volleyball Courts) to provide summer soccer programs for 2 to 5 year olds.

Services

The SACA Office is open five days a week to serve our members (M, T, Th, F 9-3 and W 9-5). We field many questions and offer advice on a wide variety of topics. SACA actively maintains relationships with other agencies who provide services to Scenic Acres, so we can refer anyone in need of additional supports the most appropriate agency.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above and the work we do to support SACA please contact me scenicgm@shaw.ca or 403.547.9589.

Respectfully submitted by,
Ruth Sorrentino, General Manager, SACA