

Grandview Heights Community Newsletter - November 2023

This is a printed version of the newsletter that was sent out by e-mail in late October.

Halloween Party

We had a great in-person Halloween Party on Saturday, October 29th. Thanks to all who came and had a great time, and thanks especially to our Social Director Carmen Ma for organizing and putting on this event. Specific shout outs to Bala Viswanathan, the Lordache family, Yanni Lu, and everyone else who helped set up, clean up, and overall make the event a wild success!



You can see photos of the event by scanning the QR code next to this item, following the link from the Grandview Heights Community Facebook Page, or at this URL:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/KX1SK1jCQ3WMMKWNA>

Membership Drive

If you have not already purchased your membership, please visit <https://efcl.org/membership-purchase/>.

Membership Benefits include:

- * Exclusive access to Grandview's tennis courts
- * Enjoy free skating on outdoor League rinks across the city
- * Participate in indoor and outdoor youth soccer programs
- * Rent our community hall for your personal events
- * Enjoy fun social events
- * Support financing our league, facilities and amenities
- * Discount at City of Edmonton Recreation Centres:
 - 20% on adult, family, child, and youth/senior Annual Memberships
 - 15% on our already discounted multi admission pass (5+ visits)
 - 20% off an on-going monthly membership

There are two ways to obtain your membership:

1. Online at <https://efcl.org/membership-purchase/> however, there will be a \$5 admin fee.
2. A cheque made to Grandview Heights Community League, no fee but you will have to contact Marius to arrange for cheque pick up and membership card drop off.

If you have any other questions, please contact Marius Lordache, Membership Director, at membership@grandviewcommunity.ca

Community Board of Directors/Members Needed

The Grandview Heights Community League Board is putting out the call for new members, as several key positions that are a part of making our community such a great place to live are currently vacant. Help our community and be a part of deciding how we will continue to grow and improve our amazing neighbourhood.

Facilities Director:

- Oversees the maintenance of Grandview Heights facilities including the ice rink, community hall and tennis courts. Is provided funds by the board to pay for needed services (you don't need to be able to fix everything yourself!).
- Oversees the paid rink attendants who actually staff the rink and make the ice.
- Former facilities director Bill Marshall is available to speak with anyone interested and will be available to transition the role.

Program Director:

- Has access (with board approval) to community league funds to run programming of any kind that would benefit Grandview residents.
- Could include organizing free courses, fitness groups or similar structured activities for Grandview residents.
- Programs offered are at the discretion of the director after taking community input.

Newsletter Coordinator:

- Solicits input, organizes and distributes the Grandview community newsletter.
- Goal is a regular newsletter to provide ongoing updates on anything of interest to the residents of Grandview.

Volunteer or ask questions about any of these important positions by emailing:

board@grandviewcommunity.ca

Out of School Care

Thanks to the OSC Committee, we have selected an operator who is hoping to open an out-of-school care as early as February, 2023. More details to follow by email, but in the meantime if you have any questions or are interested, please contact Bala Viswanathan, OSC Liaison, at bala700@gmail.com

Civics Report

By Lori Kraus, Civics Director

I would like to give everyone a heads up and provide some information regarding the rezoning bylaw that is currently in the works. The process seems somewhat similar to the Neighbourhood Renewal experience we just went through with the City. It takes years to finalize and from what I can gather, we are about a year before it reaches City Council to vote on the proposed draft. The aim is for October 2023.

From my understanding from a recent telephone conversation with the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues, we are now at Stage 2. The City Administration is consulting with the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues and hosting open houses for feedback. Please see the invitation for feedback later in the newsletter extended to everyone interested.

I also strongly encourage Grandview residents to share all comments and concerns with our councillor, Michael Janz. He is the one voting on this amendment. Please do not underestimate the desire to densify all neighbourhoods with various forms of developments.

What stood out personally for me was this paragraph from Page 3 of the 37-page summary of the bylaw:

"Building types proposed for this zone include: single detached housing, semi-detached housing, duplexes, backyard housing, secondary suites, row housing, small apartments and supportive housing."

I have asked the EFCL these questions and am waiting for all the answers in the near future:

- How easy is it to get an apartment or row house in a neighbourhood in a Small Scale Residential classification? Does a developer just need to fit it in prescribed measurements and it is automatic like the skinnies on subdivided lots now?
- Can neighbourhoods within the City be easily reclassified into the other city residential classifications (not including Rural Residential classification)? What is the procedure and considerations given in changing a neighbourhood's classification?
- Will variance notices still be sent out? If so, can they please be improved? Right now they are too vague and do not paint a picture of what will appear. Digital copies would be appreciated to avoid snail mail or other delays and allow more time to prepare for appeals to the City.
- Subdivision Development Appeal Board (SDAB) - How will that improve or be affected? Now it is not a level playing field for communities and developers. Communities do not have money to pay for a lawyer each time a developer wants to do something wild in their community.

- I read Mature Neighbourhood Overlay will be retiring and added to the bylaw. Did all points get added or only a select few aspects protecting mature neighbourhoods?

I think we need to be proactive on this and work together in defining our neighbourhood in ways that we value most. Grandview Heights Community League is eager to coordinate efforts with you.

Please see below:

As invested stakeholders in The City Plan, we're reaching out to share a recent milestone. The Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative—the primary regulatory tool to implement The City Plan's vision—has recently shared the **draft Zoning Bylaw and “Know Your Zone” Rezoning Map** on engaged.edmonton.ca/zoning/bylaw-renewal.

Edmonton's Zoning Bylaw hasn't received a major overhaul in over 20 years and presents an opportunity to align our city-building tools, from strategy to regulation, to ensure all Edmontonians and property owners have the right tools to build and experience the city envisioned in [The City Plan](#).

Now's your chance to dive into the:

- **Overview of the New Zoning Bylaw:** Read and share comments on the summary of the proposed zones and important sections of the new bylaw.
- **Draft Zoning Bylaw:** Take your time to read the entire bylaw or quickly reference areas of interest by using the interactive table of contents. Share your comments throughout the draft bylaw using the guided feedback tool.

We recognize the bylaw and initiative itself are technical in nature, so we've added a number of tools to help break down common zoning-related terms and concepts you may come across as you dive into the bylaw. Our [Engaged Edmonton](#) website offers links to videos, podcasts, a glossary of terms, frequently asked questions and more. Additional content will be added as it is developed.

We invite you to share your feedback online or in person now through December 18th, 2022. You can find a list of various engagement opportunities including workshops, open houses and pop-ups on [Engaged Edmonton](#).

Scona District Engagement Page – <https://engaged.edmonton.ca/sconadistrict>

<https://engaged.edmonton.ca/zoningbylawrenewal>

https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/city_vision_and_strategic_plan/city-plan

https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/urban_planning_and_design/zoning-bylaw-renewal

Neighborhood Care

Beautiful landscaping was completed in our neighborhood last year. Please be mindful of our yards including new boulevards adjacent to our homes. Regular maintenance of keeping the grass and trees healthy and neat goes a long way to keeping Grandview a desirable neighbourhood. Let us all be proud to live here!

Rink Updates

You may have noticed there has been lots of activity at our Rink Lands over the summer. We've brought in limestone rocks around the firepit, and brightened up the space by painting the 5 benches. We've also started a weeding project to further beautify the space.

If you are interested in helping to weed and plant perennials, we are always looking for volunteers - this project continued as long as the weather held out, and will begin again in the spring.

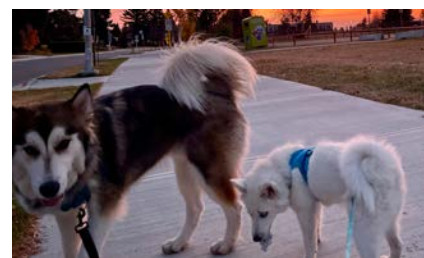
What a great way to get some fresh air and give back to our flourishing community!

Please contact Alana Chwaklinski at alanakim@hotmail.com for more info on how you can get involved.



President's Message and Thank You!

Hi! I'm Sam Mikes, currently the president of the Community League board. You may see me around the neighborhood walking a pair of energetic, friendly, and extremely silly dogs.



Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns; grandviewheightspresident@gmail.com or my cell (780) 974-2536