

Chatter -IN THE WOODS-

Read the CHATTER online at www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca Let's get social!

Follow us on:

@Redwood Meadows



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Hello Redwooders and Neighbours,

Now that we can socialize in groups and get back to normal, RMCA has hit it out of the park with activities and events to interest pretty much everyone in Redwood and Bragg Creek. Let's show our RMCA volunteers how much we appreciate their work by attending the events and activities they have planned for us.

Events this month include Easter festivities, Earth Day celebration, Spring Sports registration, and the first-ever FREE Sports Day.

April marks the first month since COVID that RMCA will be hosting a Community Café as well as an intergenerational playgroup. Wellness classes will continue with three instructors to fit your style and schedule.

If you see a volunteer, be sure to thank them for their hard work!

~ The Chatter





RMCA Message 2 Council Message 3 Redwood Upcoming Events and Updates Council 6 Communications 7 **Business Listings RMES** 8 Ramblings from the 11 Redwood Garden Bragg Creek Wild – 12 Data Science City Nature Challenge 14 Mortgage Matters 15

17

18

Kids Activity Page

Babysitter Listings

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FRIENDLY RMCA

Spring is here! Since moving to Redwood, one thing we have learned to appreciate is the changing of the seasons, especially when every season in our little paradise brings its own beauty. It's no secret that Redwood is a Winter Wonderland, especially around Christmas when Santa circles the neighbourhood saying hello to everyone.



This past winter came with its challenges, some under a spotlight partially because the world has gone mad and partially because Mother Nature seemed to toy with us. I have been in Alberta my entire life and have learned to love and live with our diverse weather conditions...but this past winter seemed determined to slow down our winter activity; -30°C one day and +10°C the next is not conducive for outdoor ice or long-term cross-country tracks.

Despite Mother Nature, our tracks were groomed and full of skiers whenever it was possible. Our outdoor rink may not have been the oasis it was in the winter of 2021 but thanks to an amazing group of volunteers rallying...we did have an outdoor hockey season and I must admit I had NO IDEA of what went into making the outdoor rink until this year.

For a hose flood (necessary to build layers), you really need a minimum of three people or more if possible, and more if the hose is hooked up to an old water truck. I only helped with a hose flood a couple of times, and I tell you those folks who showed up night after night (well, only nights that were -7°C or colder) did it for one reason....so the kids can skate. Yes, they were cold nights and the water was a struggle at times but seeing the faces of the Bragg Creek Bears skating under our beautiful sky really is priceless and worth every minute of work.

As we enter spring, the RMCA looks forward to the return of Spring Sports and all the wonderful spring events coming down the pipe. Next up, we have the annual Easter Event on April 10 and then the first-ever Redwood Multi-Sports Day on April 30.

Dean Svoboda

RMCA President | info@rmca.ca



Kids French camp for spring in Redwood!

Join a small group once a week to learn French with an alternative visual teaching style and technique. The participants are learning French vocabulary and grammar using songs and a story theme. At the end of the session, students present the play of the story they learned. Friends and family are invited to attend the final play!

This is an 8-week program starting in April until June 7th.

Classes will not be running the Easter week April 18th & Monday May23rd.

It is once per week for two age groups. Kids age; 8 & 9 and 10 & 11

Minimum class size is 5 students and maximum is 8 students.

Optional times

Monday 16h00 -16h50 Group A - 8 & 9 years old. 17h00 - 17h50 Group B - 10 & 11 years old. Tuesday 16h00 -16h50 Group C - 8 & 9 years old. 17h00 - 17h50 Group D - 10 & 11 years old.

Cost 160\$

If you need more info, please contact at gosselin20@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM REDWOOD MEADOWS MAYOR & COUNCIL

Hello Redwood Residents,



As you may be aware, there is quite a bit of transition going on with Council and the townsite office. In fact, our community has been experiencing a lot of change for a while now.

Some of this change is brought on by the "COVID Migration" -people who are sick of working from their home in the city and are trading their cramped city condo for a spacious den in our forest community. The increased demand for our houses is probably affected by how close we feel now that the ring road and highway 8 expansion projects are well underway. The signing of the lease last year certainly created a wind of change. In addition to providing more longevity and security, the lease renewal also brought with it the stewardship agreement. The extra responsibilities of this agreement and the dramatic increase in permit requests after the lease renewal has added considerably to Townsite's and Council's workload.

In the past month, we have welcomed Neepin Auger to council and we are about to post another by-election for a councillor vacancy. As of March 1st, we started to search for a new Chief Administrative Officer. The posting for this position on the website: https://www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca/employment-opportunities. Also, our Lead Operations Manager, Rocky Bond, has retired from Redwood Meadows. We will be posting for this position once a new CAO is hired.

All of this change reminds us of a quote from William Arthur Ward:

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.

Past Councils were optimistic and contributed to a reserve fund that would help to update infrastructure once a new lease was signed. Now that the stewardship agreement made Townsite and Council responsible for the water treatment and distribution infrastructure, we must be realists and start adjusting our sails. We need to focus on repairing leaks that waste more of our treated water than we use and increase the strain on an overburdened water treatment plant. We need to repair or replace broken water meters. We need to work with the provincial and federal governments to secure funding where possible to address aging infrastructure.

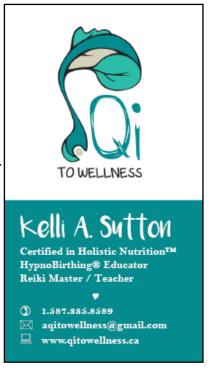
We also need to be creative in generating revenues to offset these burdens while building culture in the community. Renovated infrastructure like Curtis Field provides much opportunity for RMCA sports as well as hosting sports. We are exploring all options from hosting events and weddings to improving cell service with updated towers.

Though change can sometimes be difficult, it also provides opportunity. One such example is our ability to create new teams with new skill sets to meet our current challenges. We are currently seeking new skills and perspectives through openings in Council, staff positions, and committees. Help us adjust the sails to catch the wind of change and progress forward. In the face of challenging and changing times, it is easy to slip into the pessimist mindset. We ask instead that you embrace the view of an optimist or realist.

We'll leave you with another quote, this one from William J. Brennan Jr., former Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court:

We must meet the challenge rather than wish it were not before us.

- Your Redwood Meadows Council



REDWOOD MEADOWS EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

SPRING SPORTS REGISTRATION

Registration opens April 1 | https://bit.ly/RMCASports2022

Be sure to register your child(ren) for Springs Sports as soon as possible to secure a spot. We will host soccer and t-ball (similar to past years) as well as some exciting new additions including rugby, basketball, baseball, lacrosse, and football.

EASTER EGG HUNT AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST

April 10 | 9am - 12pm

Pancake breakfast at Redwood House, 9am - 11am | \$5/person

Ages 5&↓ Egg Hunt behind Redwood House, 11am | Ages 6&↑ Egg Hunt at Curtis Field, 11:30am | Free The Easter Egg Hunt is back! Start off with breakfast amongst neighbours and stay for your kids to meet the Easter Bunny and collect those oh-so-special Easter eggs.

INTERGENERATIONAL PLAYGROUP

Tuesdays, starting April 5 | 9:30am - 11am | Redwood House

Playgroup is back at Redwood House! Playdough, coloring, crafts, toys, books and most importantly - coffee and tea! If you are a new parent or caregiver, a grandparent, a senior that is looking for some company, or if you just want to enjoy a cup of coffee among community friends, please join us. Donations accepted.

COMMUNITY CAFE

April 8, May 20, Jun 10 | 10:30am - 12am | Redwood House | Free to attend

We are bringing back this oldie but goodie to Redwood House. Come socialize with your lovely neighbours, laugh with old friends and make some new ones. Coffee, tea, and baked goods available for purchase. All proceeds benefit RMCA.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

April 22 | 5-8pm | Redwood House

Celebrate Earth Day with us! The Garden Committee will be selling earth-friendly soups as well as tomatoes, herbs and veggies. There will also be seeds, trays and other essentials to start your own seedlings.

FREE SPORTS DAY

April 30 | 12pm-4pm | Curtis Field & other locations | https://bit.ly/redwoodsportsday

To kick off the sports season we are hosting a fun FREE Sports Day for youth of all ages. Our goal is for children to try out different sports to find what they like...and of course, to have FUN! Search the registration link above for list of all sports and schedules.

RMCA GROUP FITNESS CLASSES AT REDWOOD HOUSE

Mondays	
9am - 10am	Ann Sullivan
Wednesdays	
10:30am - 11:30am	Megan Starke (no class April 20th)
Thursdays	
9:30am - 10:30am	Jess Eustace (Virago Fitness)
Fridays	
9am - 10am	Ann Sullivan

For pricing and registration please contact the instructors:

Ann: anns@safari.ca

Megan: meggiestarke@gmail.com
Jess: viragofitnessbraggcreek@gmail.com



REDWOOD MEADOWS UPDATES

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER SEARCH

Council is currently searching for a new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). If you or someone you know has municipal government experience and a passion for community engagement, please check out the position posting at www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca.

BARTENDERS NEEDED

Townsite is looking for responsible adults for bartending at various events and weddings booked at Redwood House. Great summer job for university students or for anyone looking to get back into the work force. Pro Serve preferred. Please submit your resume to admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca

LAND LEASE UPDATE

This is a reminder to all residents that as per our lease agreement, land lease payments will increase by 1.2% on April 1st, 2022. For example, if your current monthly lease payment is \$200 per month, it would go up to \$202.40 per month.

UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

The permitting process is currently under review. We know that many residents are anxiously planning summer renovations. We are engaged with Tsuut'ina and contractors to create a simplified permitting process that works within our various agreements and bylaws.

CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK

If you require a Criminal Record Check or Vulnerable sector check please call the Tsuut'ina Police and make an appointment. They are open Monday-Friday from 0800-1600 and can be reached at 403-251-9660.

CORRECTION ON WATER FEES

In the March Chatter, it incorrectly stated that water flat rate will increase from \$20 to \$27. Beginning with the March bill, rates will be: flat water rate increasing \$20 to \$30 with cubic meter charge increasing from \$.85 to \$1.00, and flat sewer rate increasing \$20 to \$26. We apologize for the mistake.

E-BILLING

Are you still receiving a paper bill for your Townsite utilities? Please email the townsite to switch to e-bills at admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca.

TOWNSITE OFFICE

1 Manyhorses Dr. | Redwood Meadows | T3Z1A4 403-949-3563 | admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca Hours: Monday to Friday | 8:00am - 4:30pm

RMCA CONTACT INFORMATION

1 Manyhorses Dr. | Redwood Meadows | T3Z1A4 info@rmca.ca

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ redwoodmeadowscommunityassociation





COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE FROM TOWNSITE AND COUNCIL

Hello Redwood Residents,

After recently dealing with a major water treatment repair and with the knowledge of other important issues for the community on the horizon, Townsite and Council recognise the importance of good communication. We would like to thank the residents that have volunteered their time to the Communications Committee to assist us.

Our Friday Updater is a weekly email bulletin and one of our primary methods of communication. It is sent to hundreds of residents and we want to ensure you are receiving it. Please contact the Townsite office if you are having difficulty receiving it so we can work out any problems.

Also download our App to access information and to receive notifications of any emergencies alerts, special events, lost dog reporting, and more.

Going forward Townsite will make more frequent posts to the Townsite of Redwood Meadows Facebook page to share information and remind residents of important dates. Townhalls will be communicated for important input on issues like Land Use. We also make use of our bold signs at the entrances to Redwood when time permits.

We will be posting more pertinent news in the coming days. If you wish to meet or discuss your concerns or ideas with council, member's will, when available, attend our monthly socials. We will advertise the times Council is available prior to the social. Come out and say hi!

Contact information is found on our website for both Townsite, and Council.

- Please follow our Facebook page(<u>https://www.facebook.com/Townsite-of-Redwood-Meadows-AB-120704654661849</u>),
- Bookmark our webpage(www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca),
- Download the app (on the app store or google play), and
- Sign up for the Friday Updater (email admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca) if you have not already done so.

We thank our residents for making any suggestions through the links given above. We are always happy to find ways to improve communication.

- Townsite and Council



REDWOOD MEADOWS—LOCAL BUSINESS LISTINGS

Angela Price, Price & Company Real Estate	403-923-3159	angela@priceandcompany.ca / priceandcompany.ca	
Ann Sullivan, SafariWorks Fitness Classes	403-689-4835	anns@safari.ca / Fit.safari.ca	
Bragg Creek Community Centre	403-949-4277	program@braggcreekca.com	
Blinda Bilou - Interior Design & Renovation	403-461-9748	bdbilou@gmail.com / BlindaBilouInteriors.ca	
Bragg Creek Community Church	403-949-2072	braggcreekcommunitychurch@gmail.com	
Candace Perko, Countryside Financial	403-560-6016	cperko@countrysidefinancial.ca	
Cochrane Public Library	Public Library 403-709-0346 Andrea.Johnston@cochranepubliclibrary.ca		
Deborah Clark, Century 21 Bamber Realty Ltd.	403-835-3385	dclark@realestatewestofcalgary.com / realestatewestofcalgary.com	
Dieter Hendrickson, Re/Max Real Estate	403-612-7849	dieter@remaxbraggcreek.com / www.remaxbraggcreek.com	
Kamp Kiwanis	403-686-6325	general@kampkiwanis.ca / www.kampkiwanis.ca	
Kathleen Burk, Rocky Mountain Real Estate	403-818-8049	kathleenburk@remax.net / braggcreekredwoodmeadows.com	
Ken Barrie, Century 21 Bamber Realty Ltd.	403-974-0334	ken@newdirectionrealestate.ca / realestatewestofcalgary.com	
Leader Service and Renovations Ltd.	403-996-0192	chris@leaderservice.ca / 35 Sleigh Dr.	
Linda Anderson Law	403-243-6400	linda@lindaandersonlaw.com / 403-949-4248	
Maverick Law	403-949-3339	admin@mavericklaw.ca / www.mavericklaw.ca	
Mountain's Edge Renovations	403-949-7727	4wolves@persona.ca / www.mountainsedgerenovations.com	
Redwood Meadows Emergency Services	403-949-2012	www.rmesfire.org Call 911 in an Emergency	
Redwood Meadows Tae Kwon Do School		redwoodtaekwondo@gmail.com / redwoodtaekwondo.com	
Refining Fire Metalworks (comm & res welding)	403-589-6594	bdbilou@gmail.com	
Resource & Support Services in Bragg Creek	403-851-2286	wendy.farnsworth@cochrane.ca	
Skywalker Electrical Systems, Robert Cordsen	403-804-8072	info@skywalkerelectrical.ca / www.skywalkerelectrical.ca	

^{***}List your business for only \$50/year. Contact theredwoodchatter@gmail.com ***



REDWOOD MEADOWS EMERGENCY SERVICES

Every month is fire prevention month!

Here are some important tips that can save you and your loved ones in case of fire.



- 1. Check your smoke and CO alarms: Working smoke detectors and CO alarms save lives. Replace the batteries yearly and have the electrical wiring checked. Smoke detectors and CO alarms expire after 10 years. Depending on model and conditions, some CO detectors may expire in as little as five years. Be sure to keep track of how old your alarm is and change it when needed.
- **2. Schedule a check-up for electrical wiring:** Faulty electrical wiring can cause fire incidents. If you notice flickering light bulbs and sparking switches, have the lines checked by an expert as it might be time for replacement or repair. Keep foot traffic away from electrical cords to avoid wiring damage and limit the use of extension cords as they may overheat the sockets. Big appliances such as refrigerators should have their own outlet.
- **3. Keep flammable items away from children:** Candles, matches, lighters, butane, gasoline and like items should be stored away from children.
- **4. Be alert in the kitchen:** Stay mindful when cooking and don't leave ovens, broilers, and stoves unattended. Keep towels or anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop. Always make sure the lid is available to cover the pan in case the pan catches fire.
- **5. Avoid smoking indoors:** If you have a smoking room, place several deep and stable ashtrays on a sturdy surface. When emptying the ashtrays or throwing away cigarette butts and ashes, make sure that they have cooled and there are no remaining embers.
- **6. Keep emergency numbers visible and easily on hand:** In addition to saving important emergency numbers on your phone, write them down and place them in a visible location in your home. Be sure to include your address and home phone number for visiting guests.
- 7. Create and practice a fire escape plan at home: A well-rehearsed emergency exit plan greatly alleviates panic during an emergency. It takes two minutes for your house to be filled with toxic fumes from a fire: "Get

low and go" when making an exit. Practice feeling the door and walls using the back of your hand for a hint from the next room. Designate a person to get elderly and young children out safely. Pick a meeting place to assemble afterward.

8. Make sure that your address number

is visible from the road, especially at night, so we can find you in an emergency.

Until next month, stay safe!

Dr. Karen Massey, REGISTERED PSYCHOLOGIST



Emergo Counselling
... for compassion to action

Helping Individuals and Couples



403- 390-1815 www.emergo.ca

www.FB.com/DrKarenMassey www.Twitter.com/DrKarenMassey

Need Help?

REDWOOD MEADOWS RESOURCES	PHONE NUMBERS	
FOR ALL EMERGENCIES:	911	
FOOD		
Cochrane Activettes Food Bank	403-851-2250	
Bragg Creek Community Centre	403-949-4277	
Tsuut'ina Food Bank	403-252-5884	
EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT		
Rocky View / Wheatland Employment Centre	403-709-0010	
https://rwemploymentservices.com/		
Tsuut'ina Nation Official Website https://tsuutinanation.com/jobs/	403-281-4455	
FINANCIAL SUPPORT		
Alberta Income Support https://www.alberta.ca/income-support.aspx	1-877-644-5135	
Money Mentors – Alberta Debt Relief https://moneymentors.ca/	1-888-294-0076	
Tsuut'ina Income Support department	403-238-6406	
TSUUT'INA POLICE NON EMERGENCY:		
Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service Non-Emergency	403-271-3777	
Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service Office Line	403-251-9660	
SUPPORT LINES:		
Access Mental Health - Alberta Health Services	1-844-943-1500	
Boys and Girls Club of Cochrane and Area - Youth Support, ages 12-22	403-618-3149	
Calgary Youth Drug Line	403-269-3784	
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-387-5437	
Cochrane & Area Family and Community Support Service (FCSS)	403-851-2250	
Cochrane & Area Victim Services http://www.cochranevictimservices.ca/	403-851-8055	
Cochrane Family Resource Network	403-851-2265	
Distress Centre Crisis Support (24hr)	403-266-4357	
Domestic Violence Support – Big Hill Haven, Cochrane	403-796-6564 or 403-437-4636	
Domestic Violence Support – Tsuut'ina Spirit Healing Lodge	403-852-9929	
Domestic Violence Support – Rowan House, High River	1-855-652-3311	
Indigenous Crisis Support (24hr)	1-855-242-3310	
Kids Help Phone (24hr)	1-800-668-6868	
Rural Outreach Support Worker (Information, Resources and Support)	403-851-2286	



CHATTER IN THE WOODS

Chatter in the Woods is a volunteer-run newsletter with all advertising proceeds supporting the Redwood Meadows Community Association (RMCA). The Chatter is published the first day of every month except July and August. It is distributed electronically to more than 300 email addresses, posted online at www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca, and a link is posted on several community Facebook pages. Print copies are available at the mailboxes in Redwood Meadows, at Redwood House, and at the Bragg Creek Community Centre.

Receive a link to the Chatter on the first day of each month by emailing us at: theredwoodchatter@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card \$36/month
Quarter Page \$53/month
Half Page \$76/month
Full Page \$144/month

Business Listing \$50/year (10 months)

ADVERTISEMENT SIZES

Business Card: $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " h X 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " w Quarter Page (vertical): $4 \frac{7}{8}$ " h X 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " w Quarter Page (horizontal): $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " h X 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " w Half Page (vertical): $9 \frac{3}{4}$ " h X 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " w Half Page (horizontal): $4 \frac{7}{8}$ " h X 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " w Full Page (vertical): $9 \frac{3}{4}$ " h X 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " w

PNG and JPG files reproduce best in print and online.

Discount rates are offered for five-month or ten-month commitments.

Send your advertisement to:

theredwoodchatter@gmail.com

Send your payment to:

E-transfer: payment@rmca.ca (subject: Chatter)

Cheque: Drop off at Redwood House

The deadline for submission is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All articles and photograph submissions must be signed or credited.

Chatter in the Woods and RMCA are not responsible for the content or accuracy of articles printed. The views reflected in this newsletter do not reflect the views of the editors.

Calling All Chatter Enthusiasts:

We are looking for contributors (yes, YOU!) to make the Chatter the best it can be. Make a submission once or commit to a monthly article. If you are looking for a topic here are some ideas:

Recipes - Do you have a favourite family recipe (or one you just came across) that you'd like to share?

How-To Article - This could range from a small building project to making an origami crane to practicing mindfulness. You choose!

Top Ten List - Another open-ended one...movies from the '80s, poisonous spiders, vacation destinations. So many possibilities!

Get to Know Your Community Volunteers - Any aspiring journalists out there? Interview our wonderful community volunteers and write a monthly article on a different person doing amazing things in Redwood



2022-2023

REGISTER TODAY!

www.thelittleschoolhouse.ca

Kindergarten

Tuesday/Thursday 9:00am-3:15pm *FREE*

Fully Funded by AB Ed.

Preschool

Ages 3-4

Monday/Wednesday/Friday
Mornings 8:45am-11:45am

Afternoon 12:30pm-3:30pm

lease note, for all programs children must be independent in the washroom to enrol.



RAMBLINGS FROM THE REDWOOD GARDEN

Things may seem quiet at the Redwood Meadows Community Garden site. The garlic we planted last fall may still be sleeping soundly below its leafy mulch cover, and there is not a green sprout to be seen among all the gravel and soil. This is what it means to be a "short season gardener." In these shoulder season months, where the nights are too cool for even a pansy to survive, you turn your attention indoors. Into our homes that are exploding with little baby seedlings, sprouting, green and growing under the glows of warm lights. Stretching for sunshine in the brightest windows.



One of the first projects we undertook for our community garden was, fittingly, growing plants for our community. We didn't have a garden to share yet—but we had plants! We grew enough little seedlings, and we attracted enough attention, to raise nearly \$1,200 for the construction of the community garden.

We're ramping things up this year and at last count we have nearly 1,000 seedlings! Tomatoes, peppers, herbs, perennial and annual flowers, grasses, cool season veggies, greens, squashes... even goji berries and alpine strawberries!

There will be two opportunities for you to purchase some of our community grown seedlings. We are planning an Earth Day Celebration at Redwood House, April 22 where we will offer a sneak-a-peek, with some tomatoes, herbs and veggies ready to buy. There will also be a collection of seeds, trays and other essentials to start your own seedlings! A larger selection of seedlings will be available for purchase at our main sale at Curtis Park, Saturday, May 4th.

Although all of the garden beds have been reserved and allocated, you are always welcome to join our committee, help out around the garden, or get involved in volunteering at the communal garden beds in Redwood. Send an email to communitygarden@rmca.ca.

Jess Smid
Redwood Meadows Community Garden Coordinator



BRINGING DATA SCIENCE TO BRAGG CREEK WILD

We've all heard about data analytics. Bragg Creek Wild wondered about the application of this powerful tool to help us in our mission of improving human and wildlife interactions. In 2021 a wildlife mapping project was initiated. The project, led by Dave Klepacki, was advertised on the Bragg Creek Wild website as well as through social media posts on Facebook and Instagram. The project was also mentioned in an article in the High Country News in August, 2021.

Local residents were asked to share wildlife sightings, and the data began to pour in, the community was engaged! As hoped, patterns began to emerge and residents started to recognize the animals who shared their neighbourhoods. With the addition of key details such as colour, size, and location, locals learned about deer herds and movement of bears in their neighbourhoods.

Bragg Creek Wild received a grant from Yukon to Yellowstone to support the project and as of February 2022 about 126 sightings have been reported (see infographic). The project was instrumental to the county erecting large signs alerting visitors and reminding locals that they are passing through wildlife corridors.

The purpose of the study is to collect raw data specifically regarding animals near the roads and to use these data to prepare maps showing species ranges, road crossing frequency, as well as other information related to daily and seasonal movement. The original study's data were collected by direct emails to Dave Klepacki and by monitoring Facebook posts on local group pages. As we move into the second year of the study, the Bragg Creek Wild team is making some changes. A Google form has been created and is available on Bragg Creek Wild's website braggcreekwild.ca. The form is easy to use and can be bookmarked on your phone for quick entries as you travel around the area. The form will enable the analysts to collect data consistently and completely. There are options to contribute the data anonymously and a number of options for more or less detail are also available. We think that local youth will find the form helpful and we welcome their contributions as well.

The raw data will then be used to create visual analytical tools such as heat maps showing ranges or frequency maps showing the number of road crossings. These analyses may be used as inputs to develop informative signage, targeted speed limit reductions and passing zones. Individual species data will not be released. This addresses a concern that by collecting these data, we are potentially leading more tourists to specific areas to harass or hunt animals.

We're so grateful to everyone who has let us know about sightings up to now. Please keep them coming. If you want to report a sighting you can:

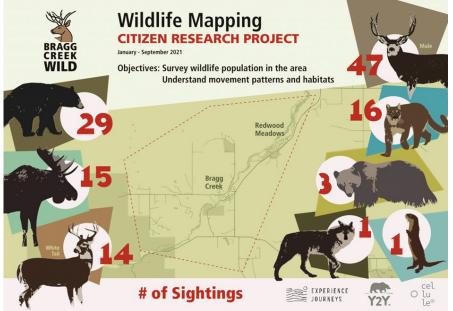
Fill in the Google form (find it at braggcreekwild.ca or go to this website: http://forms.gle/nRJQfUz4j6hF1org9)
Email us at braggcreekwild@gmail.com

We are relying on the community's support to make this project a success!

See the Bragg Creek Wild website and social media feeds for lots more pictures and information.

Provided by:





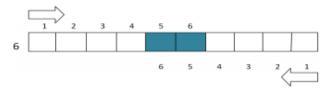
PICAPIX PUZZLE

A picture will evolve as you complete the puzzle. Start with the largest numbers or combination of, colour in squares and proceed to work back and forth between columns and rows.

The three basic rules are:

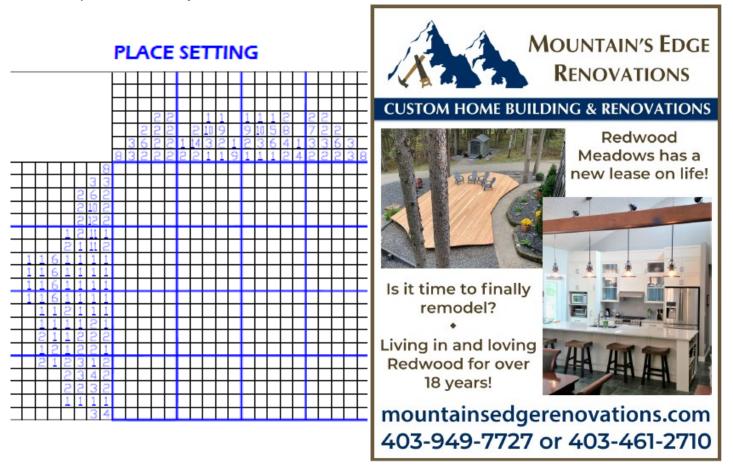
- 1. Numbers represent how many squares you colour in to form a group or block.
- 2. Leave at least one square between these blocks.
- 3. The sequential order of the numbers is the order of the blocks, i.e., top number for a column is the top, block, and left-most number for a row is the left-most block.

The "logic count method" shown below is very useful: The clue at the left of the row is 6, so count 6 squares from the left to right and then count 6 squares from right to left. Confidently shade in the overlapping squares.



This same method can be applied even when there is more than one number, remembering to allow one empty square between groups or blocks. Use a second colour for elimination of background squares.

Created by Diane Baher of Okotoks



CITY NATURE CHALLENGE 2022 (APRIL 29 - MAY 2)

The fourth annual Calgary City Nature Challenge is back to celebrate the biodiversity within our communities! This is your chance to show the world the amazing nature that can be found in the Calgary region. Nearly 600 cities from across the globe will compete to see which can make the most nature observations, document the most species, and engage the most people. 50 cities in Canada will take part in 2022.

Help put Calgary's urban biodiversity on the map April 29-May 2! Explore anywhere in Calgary, Airdrie, Cochrane, Okotoks, Chestermere, and Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park. Take photos of any plants, insects, birds, mammals, fungi, and lichens you encounter and upload them to the iNaturalist app before May 8. Global results will be announced on May 9.

Take part in a park bioblitz or go rogue with friends and family while you explore your city under a new lens. Your observations will not only help put Calgary in the City Nature Challenge but also help researchers and scientists study our local urban biodiversity like never before.

Will you join the challenge?

Learn more about News and Events: www.citynatureyyc.ca

Facebook/ Twitter: @citynatureyyc





MORTGAGE MATTERS: RATE HIKES ARE HERE...WHY?

The Bank of Canada has finally increased its key interest rate to 0.5%, the rate had been held at 0.25% since the pandemic broke out in early 2020. This jump is the first increase to the key interest rate since October 2018. This *key interest rate* is what determines each lenders *prime lending rate*. The prime rate in Canada is now currently 2.70%. The prime rate is the interest rate Canada's banks & mortgage companies use to set interest rates for variable rate mortgages and lines of credit.

The bank rate reached an all time high of 21.25% in August 1981 and record lows of 2.00% in both October 1950 & August 1955.

For the past years, we've enjoyed rock-bottom fixed interest rates. Even before the pandemic, fixed rates were below 3%. Interest rates in the bond market, which are used to price *fixed term mortgages*, have been moving upwards for months now, increasing fixed rate interest costs. During 2021, you could get a 5-yr interest rate for well below 2%, now the current best rate is 3.14-3.34% and up.*

During the pandemic, fixed mortgage rates were the lowest in history at $\sim 1.39\%$ (some promos even lower). The highest rate recorded was on August 31, 1981 at 21.75%.

Higher interest rates can also be good news. Savings in a high-interest bank account, fixed-rate investments, guaranteed interest options and guaranteed investment certificates (GICs), could grow faster and give you higher returns.

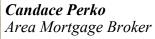
Much of the news around rate hikes is an attempt to slow inflation. Inflation is the increase in the price of goods and services in an economy. Economists like to keep inflation at 2% (midpoint of a control target range of 1-3%). That means something you buy this year for \$1 should cost \$1.02 next year. Currently, inflation in

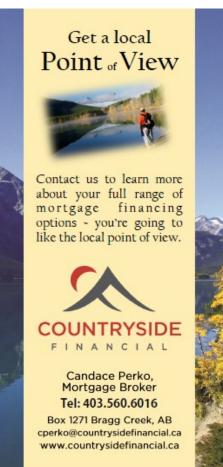
Canada is reaching heights not seen since 1991 and is increasing at a pace faster than the Bank of Canada had anticipated.

When inflation starts to climb, the Bank of Canada will raise interest rates, which attempts to curb how much money is circulating in the economy, which in turn helps curb inflation. Beyond inflation, higher interest rates can cool the hot housing market which is an intended consequence of these increases too.

In the past, some governments have made major errors in dealing with inflation and those economic errors of the past are guiding what economists do today. Of course, it's not an exact science and the Bank of Canada can't fully control the economy with its policies, but it can certainly help things progress in a calmer fashion by adjusting interest rates and the money in circulation.

* OAC. Rates subject to change without notice.





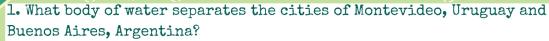




Geography Trivia

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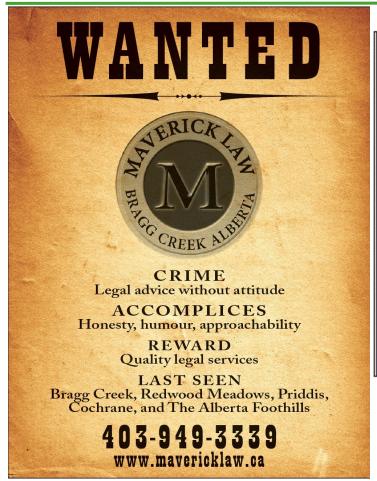
Answers on Page 19



- 2. Goat Island and Horseshoe Falls are parts of what well-known smooching destination?
- 3. Which country is also referred to as 'Hellas'?
- 4. Which country, that was once known as Ceylon, has also been referred to as 'Zeilan'?
- 5. Which country, the capital city of which is Cairo, is also known as 'Om El Donya'?
- 6. Who is in charge of maintaining the Mississippi River and preventing flooding?
- 7. Which country in Europe is also known as 'The Boot'?
- 8. What U.S. state has been called "The Grand Canyon State"?
- 9. What is the name of the biggest park in Manhattan?
- 10. North and South America are joined together by what isthmus?
- 11. What is the national flower of Holland and Hungary?
- 12. Where is the meridian line in London?







Trees Word Search

W R O W I H A A Z H M A T G C
A T S I U R P O N U S H W D A
A T K L A R P T G L A A D O A
N O R L S Y L T R W L L O R W
E S P O C H E S T N U T G A A
D O O W D E R H U R I F W I K
P C L N W C O T T O N W O O D
P K Y S E R M R D H I C O U I
M R R P N N A O S T P P D Q L
H L R R R D C A P K A L D E R
O A E U E E Y A L C K L E S H
H R H C N U S N O U N P U K A
A C C E O P G S Y B I R C H W
T H A Z E L P A M N H W R D L
D C I N C E S W E Y C U D N T

Alder	Cottonwood	Pine
Apple	Cypress	Poplar
Ash	Dogwood	Redwood
Aspen	Elm	Sequoia
Birch	Fir	Spruce
Buckthorn	Hawthorn	Sweetgum
Cedar	Haze	Sycamore
Cherry	Larch	Walnut
Chestnut	Maple	Willow
Chinkapin	Oak	Yew

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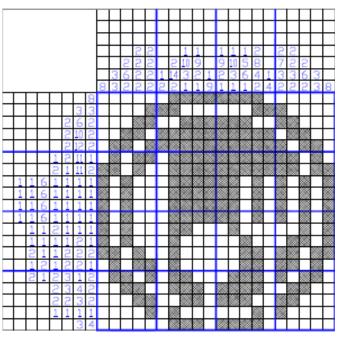
Geography Trivia Answers

- 1. Rio de la Plata
- 2. Niagara Falls
- 3. Greece
- 4. Sri Lanka
- 5. Egypt
- 6. US Army Corps of Engineers
- 7. Italy
- 8. Arizona
- 9. Central Park
- 10. Isthmus of Panama
- 11. The Tulip
- 12. Greenwich



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