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The official monthly publication of the Rocky Ridge & Royal Oak Community Association <mark>circulation | 7600 homes and businesses</mark>

ROCKY RIDGE & ROYAL OAK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER ON THE GO!





MONTHLY FOOD COLUMN Whiskey Beef Stew SEE PAGE 10

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OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER October 2017



President's Message

Please help out your community!

By Tessa Sakamoto, RRROCA President

e've completed Phase One of our Community Park and celebrated with our Grand Opening on September 24, and we are now looking forward to winter! Here's where we need your help. We need people to make and care for the ice, and can commit the time

to leading the volunteers in ice making and maintenance. Is this you? Experience is not required (we have training resources), but we do need someone who is ready to put on their mittens! We're also looking for regular ice maintenance volunteers. Eventually, we will have a schedule put together on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly basis. Remember, many hands make light work! We're looking forward to seeing the rink being used this winter. Can you help?



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- October 9: Thanksgiving Day
- October 31: Halloween



hile most of us do our best to be good neighbours, sometimes we need a little guidance to do the right thing. That's where the Community Standards Bylaw comes in. Updated at the end of 2016, the bylaw promotes good neighbour relationships and addresses community concerns by regulating noise, fire pit use, untidy properties, weeds and grass, graffiti—and nuisances such as flyers.

One of the areas updated in the 2016 review refers to flyers, including non-commercial flyers. If you have a 'no flyer' sign visibly posted at your home, it's a violation of the bylaw to deliver flyers to your door. With the municipal election just around the corner, you should be aware that election advertising is exempt from this bylaw along with newspaper subscriptions, community newsletters and information provided by government and elected officials.

For more information, visit Calgary.ca and enter Community Standards Bylaw in the search bar. If you do continue to receive flyers despite having a 'no flyer' sign at your home, you can call 311 or submit a service request using our 311 app or on The City's web site.



~Tessa Sakamoto

RRROCA Editor's Notes



Call for Photos By Mary Fleet, RRROCA Editor Hello RRROCA Residents!

Some of you may have noticed the Local Photographers page in the past. For those interested in showing off their skills and getting photos published, I just wanted to give some more information about what kinds of photos are accepted and what we look forward to seeing:

- Keep it local (RRROCA events and settings) and family-friendly
- · Photos of people are tricky make sure you have the permission of those involved
- Photos of pets and wildlife are acceptable and encouraged (don't put yourself at risk, though!)
- Be creative photos of art, food, or something abstract are accepted

• High-quality images look better when printed; same with brighter images (darker images don't print very well)

On that note, we do appreciate originality: we have received countless photos of rainbows and sunsets; please keep this in mind when deciding what to send in. There are many great events coming up that could make excellent photo opportunities (Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas).

Though I may not respond to every single submission received, all submissions are very much appreciated.

REPORTER - EDITORIAL POLICY

The official newsletter of the Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association

We welcome community content, including community event listings, area school updates, senior and youth content, and more. All content appears at the discretion of the RRROCA Board of Directors, the Newsletter Editor, and Mind's Design Publishing, in accordance with these guidelines. All submissions may be edited for length, grammar, and spelling. Any questions about this policy should be directed to the Editor (newsletter@rrroca.org).

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: All content submitted to the Editor for publication must be both community-related and family-friendly. *Please note that we are no longer accepting announcement requests* (e.g., *birthdays, weddings, etc.*) for publication in the newsletter. Articles should be no more than 500 words in length. They should not contain any advertorials, creative writing (short stories or poetry), political statements/messages, or anything of a highly charged nature. Photos should be high-resolution JPEGs (300dpi or greater). Both professional and amateur photographer's submissions are welcome. Though it is not possible for us to offer monetary compensation for submissions, you will receive credit for the photo (i.e., your name

printed alongside your photo). If selected, photos will appear either on the cover or in the Local Photographers Page.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

Community content is due on the 8th of the current month for the following month's issue. Advertising is due on the 15th of the current month for the following month's issue.

All advertising enquiries should be directed to info@mindsdesign.ca.



I cannot thank you enough for your efforts. We cannot provide monetary compensation, but for a budding or professional photographer, simply having your work published along with your name can provide excellent exposure.

Please note that photos are due on the 8th of every month for publication in the issue for the following month (e.g., October 8th for publication in November's issue). Submissions should be sent to newsletter@rrroca.org. I have not been receiving as many submissions in recent months, so your chances of having your work published are currently quite high.

I look forward to seeing your submissions!

~Mary Fleet

Royal Oak **KARAAE** Cal Now For Fal Cal Now For Fal Bagistration Royal Oak Dolphins Karate Club 403-232-0228 bagistration





hese days we often refer to gardens like websites. Works for now, but it can always be better. Gardens are ever changing sometimes for the worse sometimes for the better. Its been a long hot summer in our area and bugs and heat and little bits of rain here and there certainly may have set some of us back. At least some of our plants don't look their best and at worst we have lost some. As fall approaches we've likely been through the worst of it and actually it's time already to start thinking spring 2018. Fall bulbs are arriving at garden centres now and it gives us a chance to forget what might have been in 2017 and allows us to look forward to what will be in 2018. Often overlooked fall bulbs are planted in late fall for overwintering in our garden beds and are often the first to come up when spring arrives. Bulbs that always comes to mind are Tulips. Many people are unaware that these wonderful flowers have to be planted in the fall. So, if you are one of those people you have now been advised. For the rest now is the time to get this year's crop. There are many other types of bulbs beside Tulips that can be planted in fall. There are Daffodils, Fritillaria, Crocus and Giant Alliums to name a few! The wonderful part about bulbs is the variety

of flower colours, sizes that you can have in your garden early. They are also a great thing for bees who will also be out looking for flowers when there generally is not a lot going on. Once planted they will come up over many seasons and then blend into the rest of your garden when they are finished flowering. Once planted they are not a lot of work and planting bulbs is actually pretty easy. That hard or the fun part depending on who you are is choosing which bulbs you want to plant and how. There are two basic ways. First which is obvious is to plant them in groups here and there about the garden or in rows along beds as borders. The second way is called naturalizing. Naturalizing is placing bulbs in a small groups or singles over a large area in your lawn to mimic a forest meadow or how you may see them growing naturally in a field randomly. Either way works great and looks good. Do what best suits your garden. When planting bulbs there are a few rules of thumb to follow. If you are planting in groups try to do them in odd numbers say 5 or 7 and plant these groups where you have holes, or where you can enjoy them from windows, or where they can make an early season statement. Let's face it April can still be pretty chilly so sometimes it will be nice to view them

BULBS

from the coffee table. Think about the size of the bulb. Is it tall? Then it might be best to plant it near the back of your arrangement. Is it small then nearer to the front. When it has finished flowering will you be able to plant around them because the bulbs are planted quite deep. You can use annuals like petunias or any of your favorites. Make sure that the leaves of your bulbs can still get sunlight. Bulbs will flower in the spring, but use their leaves through the summer to put energy (food) back into the bulb for next season. Let them do their thing they will die back on their own. You'll want to position them so that there is a compromise, so they get the sun they require, but also won't be sitting there like a sore thumb for the rest of the garden season. Once you have chosen you spots you'll need just a couple of things o get them planted. A bulb planter is an inexpensive tool that can help you greatly. Bulbs are generally planted ata depth three times the maximum diameter of the bulb itself. However, its best to look on the package for confirmation as there are some exceptions. Bulb planters are usually marked so you can know how deep you are planting. Press the planter into the ground and it will pull up the dirt as you take it out. Its best to add some sort of fertilizer, bone meal or bulb food are excellent choices, to the bottom of the hole. Ensure that the bulb is NOT in direct contact with the fertilizer as it can burn the roots. Cover the fertilizer with a layer of soil before planting. You'll also want to fertilized after the bulb has begun to bloom. Cover your bulbs with bulb dust to help prevent bulb rot, place and cover. Since its been hot, so water generously. However usually one good watering is enough. You will want to plant your bulbs in time for them to set roots, but not so soon that they will start to come up. You window in Calgary is from about mid September to mid October. Once you have planted your bulbs all you have to do now is wait for spring to arrive. We all wait impatiently for that to happen but if you have planted bulbs this fall next spring will be a delight when it actually happens!



RRROCA Volunteer Corner

Thank you to all the volunteers!

By Joanna Tija, RRROCA Director of Volunteers



ur heartfelt thanks go to all volunteers who have devoted their precious time to the events of Community Cleanup and the Community Park Grand Opening/3-on-3 Basketball Tournament. Our events would not be possible without your support.

We are still looking for volunteers to fill several board and lead positions: Parks Chair, Fundraising Lead, and Community Park Coordinator for the new community park, as well as volunteers for planning the Spring Sports Program and Events in 2018.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of any healthy and active community. Your support will make our community a better place to live! Please email volunteer@rrroca.org if you are interested in volunteering with us.

BOARD

* Programs Co-Chair

The Programs Chair positions provide opportunities for the community's diverse residents to participate in programming and activities. Volunteer training and development is essential while overseeing the sports programs. Note: We have found one Co-Chair already; we just need one more!

Time commitment: 10 hrs/month in February - April, with fewer hours in other months.

* Parks Chair

The Parks Chair oversees the maintenance and operation of the community park. The chair advocates for other community outdoor spaces.

Time commitment: 10 hrs/month

LEADS

* Fundraising Lead

The Fundraising Lead is a new lead position intended to plan and manage fundraising activities for the community association. Working closely with Treasurer and other Chairs, the Fundraising Lead will help raise funds for our new community park.

Time commitment: varies

, DID YOU KNOW?—

Volunteering for RRROCA as a Board Member or a Committee Lead will allow you to:

- I. Gain valuable volunteering experience and essential work skills;
- 2. Be among the first to learn community news;
- 3. Get a RRROCA membership (\$30) or one sport registration for free (\$65) every year;
- 4. Most importantly: help us build a thriving community!



DID YOU JUST MOVE TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD? Are you

looking for information on Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak? Do you want to try some fabulous local businesses at a discounted rate? Contact Welcome Wagon to take advantage of all of this for FREE! My name is Sadaf and I am your local Welcome Wagon representative. I would be happy to provide you with some information on Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak and answer any questions you have about the neighbourhood. Give me a call at 403.471.5279 or send an e-mail at mehdisadaf@hotmail.com

Community Park Coordinator

The Community Park

Coordinator is a new volunteer position intended to oversee the ice rink condition as well as train and coordinate volunteers in the winter when the rink is open to the public. The coordinator will have the opportunity to attend workshops to learn essential icebuilding skills. The coordinator will also help watch the condition of the community park and report any issues to the board.

Time commitment:

varies/month

* Programs Lead

The Programs Lead will assist the Programs Chairs in the execution of duties for sport programs. **Time commitment:**

2-5 hrs/month

Events Lead

The Events Lead will assist the Events Team with the planning and execution of community events, including idea generation, vendor booking, event promotion, on-site event direction, etc.

Time commitment: varies/month



RRROCA Volunteer Corner Volunteer of the Month: Carla Knipe

By Joanna Tija, RRROCA Director of Volunteers



Carla volunteered for RRROCA for 5 years in the past. As a former board member, she helped get the Little Free Libraries (LFLs) set up in our communities in September 2014 and has kept the LFLs running until now.

Here is our interview with Carla (C).

Q: Why do you volunteer and how has your experience been volunteering for RRROCA?

C: I volunteer because it's a great way to connect with people and

with the neighbourhood. Through my time as one of the previous newsletter editors, I really enjoyed getting the community conversation going. I've met some amazing people through volunteering, many of whom are now my friends. I love the fact that community volunteers just want to make the community better! I have done lots of volunteering and I think what I've done with RRROCA has been the most rewarding.

I HAVE DONE LOTS OF VOLUNTEERING AND I THINK WHAT I'VE DONE WITH RRROCA HAS BEEN THE MOST REWARDING

Q: Any message regarding Little Free Libraries you would like to bring to the public?

C: First, our Little Free Libraries have just celebrated their 3rd birthday in September and are as popular now as they were when they were first installed. Books just fly off their shelves-especially books for children and young adults. That is so amazing! If you are decluttering, please keep our LFLs in mind (for book donations).

Second, two serious incidents of vandalism happened to our Rocky Ridge Little Free Library in August 2016 and 2017. Luckily, volunteers have stepped up to repair it, but I don't want it to keep happening. If you have any information about what happened to the Rocky Ridge LFL, please report it to RRROCA, CPS and Crimestoppers. To keep the LFLs functioning, I'd appreciate others being my "eyes and ears" and helping me to take care of them.

Other than that, I'm just so glad the community supports our Little Free Libraries. We have three extremely busy LFLs (one in Rocky Ridge and two in Royal Oak)! These little book boxes are used as community hubs. It's a wonderful way to give items a second life and pass them on to a community member.

Words from the Author

Our community is lovely because we have many dedicated volunteers who, like Carla, devote countless hours to initiatives like this. The LFLs would not be possible without Carla, volunteers, and book donors. Would you like to help Carla keep LFLs running in the community?

Please email me at volunteers@rrroca.org.

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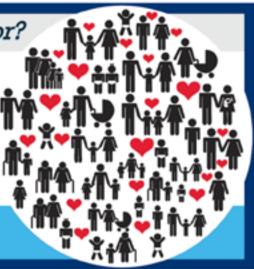
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RRROCA Community Connection

Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association

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Tessa Sakamoto president@rrroca.org
Vice President
Ali Oonwalavp@rrroca.org
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Secretary
Patience Fagbenrosecretary@rrroca.org

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Jenna Mortis communications@rrroca.org	
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VACANTparks@rrroca.org	
Director of Programs	
VACANT programs@rrroca.org	

Director of Sponsorship

Gerard Lynchsponsorship@rrroca.org

Director of Volunteers Joanna Tijavolunteer@rrroca.org

Director of Schools Ambreen Sulmanschools@rrroca.org

Director of Transportation Durotolu Arotransportation@rrroca.org

Director of Events Folorunso Agunbiade events@rrroca.org Marcie Hawranik

COMMITTEE LEADS

Newsletter Editor Mary Fleet.....newsletter@rrroca.org

Communications Lead Immanuel Nwachukwu.....info@rrroca.org

Social Media Fatima Khawajasocialmedia@rrroca.org Events

Karla Schultzevents@rrroca.org Viraj Shah

Website

Wendy Alessi info@figtreedesignstudio.com

Babysitter's Registry Hong Zhubabysitting@rrroca.org

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

MP, Calgary Rocky Ridge Pat Kelly.....pat.kelly.c1@parl.gc.ca

MLA, Calgary Northwest Sandra Jansen Calgary.northwest@assembly.ab.ca

Councillor, Ward 2 (Royal Oak) Joe Magliocca.....joe.magliocca@calgary.ca

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/isit www.rrroca.org for information about RRROCA



New membership Membership renewal Memberships are annual and are valid January 1 to December 31 New/Renewal memberships \$30.00

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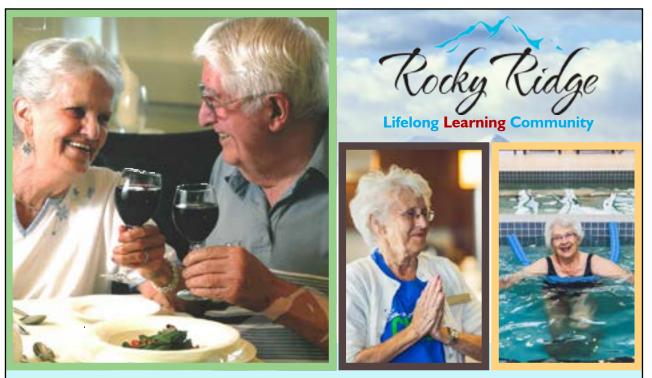
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RRROCA MEMBERSHIP: PO BOX 91009, RPO Royal Oak, Calgary AB T3G 5W6 The **REPORTER**, the official newsletter for both Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak, is published 11 times a year by Mind's Design Studio and is delivered by Canada Post to approximately 7600 residents and local buisnesses.

SUBMISSIONS - Please direct editorial enquiries to newsletter@ rrroca.org and ad enquiries to Bobbie-Jo Bergner at 403.203.9152 or info@mindsdesign.ca.

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OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER October 2017



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Monthly Food Column

Slow Cooker Whiskey Beef Stew (Gluten-free)

By Terri Gilson, Resident & Volunteer Contributor



all is the perfect time for cozying up with some stew. I have created the ultimate slow cooker beef stew recipe based on advice from the pros! This summer I had the pleasure of spending Father's Day at Bar U Ranch near Longview, where an old-fashioned Chuckwagon Stew Cook-off was taking place. I gathered all the tips from the experts and did my own research, then created what I believe to be

the best slow cooker beef stew recipe ever. Enjoy!

Course: Main Course

Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 8 hours Total Time: 8 hours 20 minutes Servings: 8 Calories: 334 kcal Author: Terri Gilson

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lbs. beef stew meat, cut into 1-inch cubes
- I Tbsp. olive oil
- I tsp. each salt and pepper, as needed/desired
- I 1/2 Tbsp. fresh sage
- 1 ½ Tbsp. fresh oregano
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. fresh rosemary
- 2 bay leaves
- 6 fresh mushrooms large, chopped- about 1 ½ cups
- 3 celery stalks, chopped about 1/2 cup
- I large onion, chopped
- 4 carrots, chopped, about 2 cups
- 1/3 cup okra
- 4 large potatoes, chopped
- 1/2 cup whiskey Jack Daniels (gluten -free)
- 4 1/2 cups beef stock
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce

 \bullet 2 tsp. flour, for roux *Gluten-free- substitute equal amounts cornstarch and water

• 2 tsp. cooking oil for roux *Gluten-free - substitute equal amounts cornstarch and water

"OCTOBER WAS ALWAYS THE LEAST DEPENDABLE OF MONTHS ... FULL OF GHOSTS AND SHADOWS." - JOY FIELDING



Instructions

I. Sprinkle salt and pepper over meat, then brown beef well on all sides in heated oil over medium-high heat in large non-stick skillet (I use a wok). Place beef on top of vegetables in slow cooker.

 $2.\ ln\ 6$ qt slow cooker/crock pot, add meat, chopped vegetables and herbs and stir together.

3. Add beef stock, whiskey and Worcestershire sauce together and pour mixture over beef, potatoes, vegetables and herb mixture.

4. Cover, and cook on Low setting for 8 hours. ** if you are in a hurry, you can cook on High setting for 4 to 6 hours. However, the low and slow method is the very best!

5. When cooking time is almost complete (15-20 minutes left), mix the flour and oil into a paste and stir into the stew. If you are doing a gluten-free version, use the gluten-free cornstarch and water. Allow it to continue to cook for the remainder of the time or until desired thickness is reached. If the stew is not as thick as you could like, add more roux.

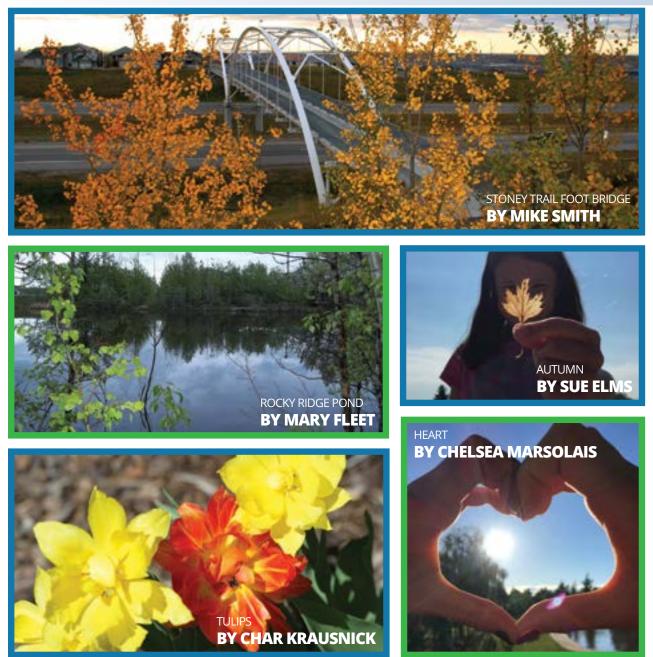
*Note: This recipe is for a minimum 6 Qt. crock pot/slow cooker

See more of Terri's recipes at www.foodmeanderings.com



Local PHOTOGRAPHERS

See below to find out how your pictures can _____ be featured in the RRROCA Reporter



The REPORTER wants to showcase the talents of our local photographers throughout the year, both as our monthly cover feature and in the newsletter. Think seasonal: send us your Stampede photos for July, or your street decked out for December for example. Think local: capture our community in a great light, our natural environment, or just something unique that you've seen when you're out and about. Amateur and professional photographers of all ages are welcome to submit. We cannot provide monetary payment but we will give you a photo credit using your personal name (not your business name, if you have one). Please send your photos as high quality JPEGs to newsletter@rrroca.org. Who knows, you just might see your photo(s) in print!

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RRROCA Events 82nd Pathfinders Visit Costa Rica

By Allison G. of the 82nd Calgary Pathfinders



he 82nd Calgary Pathfinders visited Costa Rica during spring break 2017. The purpose of this visit was to volunteer on a mangrove restoration

project, have a fun adventure, and develop leadership and independence skills. Pathfinders are the junior high level of Girl Guides of Canada, and the focus of the Pathfinders program is to introduce and reinforce a variety of life skills to help improve a girl's self esteem. For more information, please check out our website at www.girlguides.ca

Below is an account of one Pathfinder's experience:

The mangrove is a species of tree, common to tropical regions. They are plentiful along coastlines and home to many species of animals and birds. Out of the 54 species of mangrove in the world, only 7 occur in Costa Rica. These are found throughout the country in estuaries of salt or brackish water. Their dense roots trap sediments in the water, helping to protect the coastline from erosion caused by waves, storms, and hurricanes. Though they don't look like much, they are crucial to preserving the mangrove swamp ecosystem.

In March 2017, my Pathfinders unit and I went on an 8-day trip to Costa Rica, which took us all around the country and allowed us to see some amazing sights. We spent three days participating in a service project planting mangroves on the Central Pacific Coast. We then traveled north to the Arenal region, where we explored the national parks and saw the rainforest by zipline. I learned so much while I was there and had so much fun. I know that I will remember this trip for the rest of my life.

What better way to learn about the environment than by helping to protect it? Planting mangroves isn't hard to do, but something about it sticks with you. It teaches you about teamwork and leadership, which are two skills that I will undoubtedly need later in life. Working alongside locals toward a common goal is an incredible experience. On this trip, I learned so many valuable lessons about the Earth and about myself.

I have been in Girl Guides since I was six years old. I'm now fourteen years old, and this is my ninth year of Guiding. I've made so many friends through the program, and it's been a wonderful way to learn about the world around me alongside an amazing group of people. Going to Costa Rica this year has been an incredible adventure, and it has inspired me to stay in Guiding in the future. Maybe someday I'll be able to go on another adventure like this one.







THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES October 2017



START PLANNING YOUR

Ithough it may seem like the winter months are far away, now is the perfect time to get a head start planning your next holiday. While a lot of people like to head south during the cooler months, there are lots of good reasons to explore our national backyard instead.

Some of the best ski resorts in the world are in our own country and boast some of the top snow conditions, too. Whether you love to ski or snowboard, most resorts also offer other activities like snowshoeing, skating, cross country skiing and more.

If you are looking to save some money, consider renting a condo near a ski resort. You can cook some of your own meals and feel at home with more space to relax and unwind.

Here are the top three tips travel experts recommend when planning:

I. Start your research now. Ask friends what winter destinations they have visited and where they liked the best.

2. Consider places you have visited in summer. Destinations like the Columbia Valley in British Columbia are well known for their summer activities, but offer skiing, skating and other winter as well. Plus, the famous hot springs at Radium and Fairmont are open all year long.

3. If you have flexibility, the best deals are usually found in late November through mid December, and then again mid-January to late March.

 \sim www.newscanada.com

YOUR CITY SECTION

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Check out these important updates from The City of Calgary

This fall, put your leaves, pine cones, branches, old annuals and pumpkins in the green cart for weekly collection.	Calgary.ca/ YardWaste
Healthy Halloween Treats? This Halloween hand out Calgary Recreation Halloween coupons! Get yours now – coupons are available online or in person at recreation facilities through the month of October.	Calgary.ca/ Recreation
Never hear the words, "I'm bored" again. The City of Calgary offers fun, safe and free after school programs for children and youth.	Calgary.ca/ AfterSchool
Looking for ice time in the next few weeks? Check out availability at all of our arenas by searching ice rink availability on Calgary.ca.	Calgary.ca
Know someone who is removing barriers for people with disabilities in Calgary? Nominate them for one of three accessibility awards. Visit calgary.ca/accessibility for more information.	Calgary.ca/ Accessibility

Healthy Halloween Treats? This Halloween hand out Calgary Recreation Halloween coupons! Calgary.ca/Recreation



OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER October 2017



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 - Orthodontics
 - Dental Hygiene

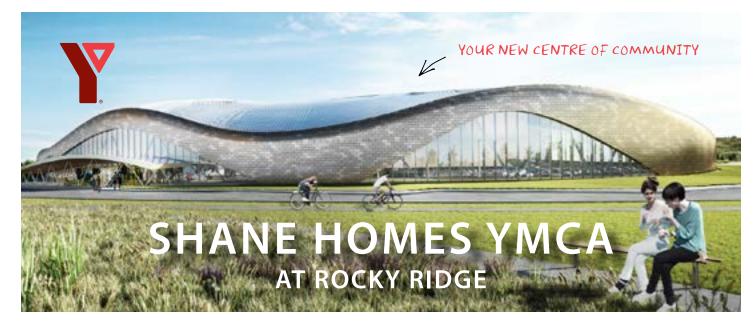






North-East Corner of Royal Oak Drive and Rocky Ridge Road, next to Royal Oak Victory Church and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.





In partnership with the City of Calgary and with a shared commitment to impact the health and wellness of Calgarians, build strong communities and develop leadership potential in individuals, YMCA Calgary will offer a variety of programs and services for all ages and abilities at the new Shane Homes YMCA at Rocky Ridge.

Amenities will include:

- Fully-equipped strength and conditioning centre
- 3 full-sized gymnasiums
- 8 lane, 25m lap pool
- · Wave pool with water slide and lazy river
- Indoor running track

- NHL-sized rink and leisure rink
- Flexible art studios and gallery space
- 300-seat performance theatre
- Multi-purpose rooms
- Licensed child care and child minding
- Calgary Public Library

Along with multiple facilities, programs and services to help keep you active, the YMCA is known as a healthy place to connect with others. From the children, youth, adults and seniors who use the YMCA, to the staff and volunteers that work here–all contribute to a positive Centre of Community.

CAREER & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	NOW AVAILABLE
FACILITY RENTAL BOOKINGS	NOW AVAILABLE
FACILITY TOURS AND MEMBERSHP SALES	BEGIN DECEMBER 1, 2017
FACILITY OPENING	JANUARY 15, 2018







Learn more at YMCACalgary.org/shanehomesymca