

Neighbourhood Association Forum – March 23, 2022

Summary Notes

Key Speaker: Sports Development, Wellness and Culture

Sports Development, Wellness and Culture

- The Neighbourhood Banner Program is a new program that provides neighbourhoods with the opportunity to create and display banners that are representative of their communities.
 - Submissions for the Banner Program will be accepted through June and July of 2022. Finalized dates will be provided closer to June, and submission forms will be available that contain all information and requirements.
 - All residents are eligible to participate and are encouraged to collaborate with other residents of their neighbourhoods.
 - Participants will be connected with local artists if they wish to help design their banners.
- Neighbour Day 2022 will take place on September 10, 2022.
 - Neighbour Day is a day for residents to build stronger relationships with those in their community by hosting community events and activities. Some ideas include:
 - Community picnics or BBQs
 - Activities and games in the park
 - Community clean up
 - Garage sale day
 - Neighbourhood scavenger hunt
- The Good Neighbour Awards are an opportunity to nominate a good deed and recognize the kindness of your neighbours.
 - Nominations will be accepted from August 22 to September 2, 2022 and will be announced on September 10, 2022 (Neighbour Day).
 - Nominations can be emailed to neighbourhoods@cityofgp.com.
- A Neighbourhood Association Webpage is available at cityofgp.com/neighbourhoods. This page is home to information such as:
 - How to start a Neighbourhood Association
 - How to create a community garden
 - Information on the Community Improvement Grant
 - Summaries of previous Neighbourhood Association Forums
 - Contact information for all active Neighbourhood Associations.
- Summer camps are now open for registration. Information for all summer camps and programs can be found at cityofgp.com/programs.
- The Grand Slam of Curling event will be taking place in the fall. Information regarding volunteering for this event will be sent out within the next few months.



- Council has approved the submission of a bid for the City of Grande Prairie to host the 2024 Alberta Winter Games.
 - The final decision on the location of the 2024 Alberta Winter Games will be made near the end of June.
- The Grande Prairie Museum will be opening a new exhibit on April 9 titled EYESHINE: The Boreal Forest at Night. This exhibit will be opened in conjunction with the book launch of Finding Moose by Sue Farrell Holler
 - This child-friendly exhibit will include activities such as a night forest, a bat cave, a Lumoplay interactive game and a scavenger hunt
 - Information on the exhibit opening and book launch can be found on [the City of Grande Prairie website](#).
- Questions
 - *Can previous banner designs be submitted?* Yes, neighbourhoods are welcome to submit previous banner designs.
 - *Can neighbourhoods work with their own artists rather than being connected with an artist?* Yes. Specifications for submissions will be included on the form to ensure all submissions are submitted in the correct format.
 - *What neighbourhoods currently have banners?* Some neighbourhoods that currently have banners displayed are Country Club, Highland Park, Avondale and Swanavon.
 - *What will the banners look like?* These banners will be hung on lamp posts and are 2' wide by 4' tall.
 - *Are independent citizens able to submit designs?* Yes. Once all designs have been submitted, the City will work with the neighbourhoods to determine which designs they believe best suit their neighbourhood.

Energy and Environment

- As spring approaches, contaminations such as leaks from vehicles may find their way into the water and storm drains. These storm drains run directly into Bear Creek.
 - If you see waste or contamination such as oil spills, contact 311 to report it.
- Earth Day will be hosted on April 22 from 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Montrose Cultural Centre
 - Local vendors will be set up in the Teresa Sargent Hall
 - Owners of electric vehicles will be attending to answer any questions patrons may have about owning an electric vehicle
 - GP Grows will be included in Earth Day. A seed bar will be available for patrons to choose which seeds they would like. Peat pellets will be provided to begin germinating your seeds.
 - In May, soil will be available at the Activity and Reception Centre
 - A draw will take place for an electric bike. Attendance at Earth Day is required to be entered into the draw.
- The Annual City Scrub will take place May 1 – May 7.
 - If you would like to host a neighbourhood scrub outside of these dates, contact environment@cityofgp.com for supplies such as bags, gloves and garbage pickers.

- Questions
 - *When can yard waste be picked up from the curbs?* Yard waste is picked up from curbs from April 1 to November 1.
 - *Who can residents contact if large amounts of water runoff is making its way into their backyards and basements?* Please contact the Citizen Contact Centre by calling 311 or emailing info@cityofgp.com.

Parks

- Parks crews are getting ready for summer as the snow continues to melt.
- Crews will soon begin working on fields and ball diamonds to have them ready for the season.
- Parks summer students will begin working in the first week of May.

Enforcement Services

- Foot Patrols have begun travelling around neighbourhoods.
- Bike patrols will begin soon.

Other Highlights

- Council is discussing having caches of sand available in communities in the winter. Citizens would be able to use this sand on the ice in their driveways to reduce slipping hazards.
 - Costs regarding these sand caches are still to be determined. There is no definitive plan for the sand caches at this time.