

Annual 2008 Report



Photo by Alyssa Polnick

Improving Neighbourhood Life in Calgary

Message from the President



We are proud of the work we have done to add valuable services and are committed to continue to meet our members' needs as we move forward. All of the Federation programs work to assist community associations with their own organizational needs as well as to build their capacity to participate more

effectively within and on behalf of their communities.

As a result of our work over the past 18 months, our membership is the highest ever with 94% of community associations belonging. We have continued to raise the profile of community living through our website, our newsletter ENGAGE!, March Membership Awareness Month and through our new partnership with Calgary Real Estate News. The mobilization of our database has helped community associations and others to seek and get help. The database has helped inform communities on a variety of issues and to engage them in meetings, training opportunities or civic action. Through our Toole Peet Community Hero Award and The Partnership Group Community Builder Award, The Federation continues to help community associations to acknowledge the volunteers

who are critical to a community's existence. With the launch of our new "Members Only" website we can offer our members more support and resources 24/7. Our staff and board have worked hard to ensure that we are positioned to meet our members needs.

In the coming year, The Federation will continue to assist community associations by providing a forum to collaborate with others, assist with skill development for community association boards and volunteers and by helping community associations to mobilize residents. The Federation takes our leadership role very seriously and thanks our members for their continued support as we evolve.

Bob Lang
President



The Federation of Calgary Communities

First incorporated in 1961, The Federation of Calgary Communities is an umbrella organization for Calgary and area Community Associations and for more than 50 service member organizations that include small calgary area non-profits. The Federation is a registered not-for-profit society that directly provides capacity building support and guidance to our members.

Our Members:

There are currently 139 active Community Associations in Calgary and 7 in the surrounding area. It is estimated that annually, 20,660 Community Association volunteers contribute 2.4 million hours of public service, which has an equivalent monetary value of over \$28 million. These volunteers operate, manage and maintain facilities and amenities with a value of more than \$200 million. They come forward from a diverse population base with about one-quarter of the city's population supporting Community Associations through paid membership. In addition, we have 50 Service Members who are Calgary and area non-profits.

2007-2008 Highlights

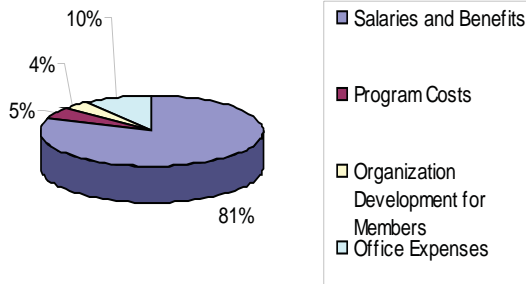
- 94% Community Association membership rate—highest ever
- A partnership with Calgary Real Estate News (CREN) was established to promote the value of community life in Calgary
- The website was redeveloped to be more user friendly and includes a "Members Only" section with a variety of resources, tools and templates
- calgarycommunities.com had 179,000 independent IP users with many of the hits on the community pages
- The Database Emailer was launched enabling the Federation to communicate with over 1,700 volunteers on a variety of issues
- "Project Intelligence" was launched over the summer 2008 to obtain information for members only
- a feasibility study looking at expanding the Audit Program was completed outlining new opportunities
- Partners in Planning had 227 participants with 41 graduates this year alone—the highest graduation rate
- The Community Guide to the Planning Process was revamped and includes an online version
- The Federation partnered with Calgary Neighbourhood Services and Volunteer Calgary to offer the 1st Community Sustainability Conference
- The Federation secured a copy of the New Land Use Bylaw for every CA holding a Federation membership
- The Federation supported the defeat of Bill C-1
- The Federation offered CA's over 48 workshops, meetings, or information sessions on issues or topics that impact them

"It is so critical that finances and reporting obligations be handled properly... It is such a relief to know we have someone to rely on in something so important as this. I want to commend you and the Federation for the wonderful work you do in assisting community organizations in this way. This is a really necessary service!"

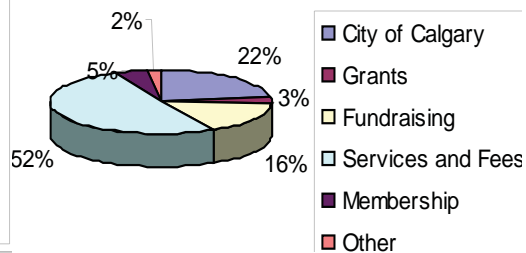
-Carol Steiner,
Northeast Centre of Community Society

2008 Financial Information (for the year ending December 31, 2007)

2007 Expenses



Revenue as a % of Expenses



Vision, Mission & Values

Vision

That each Calgary neighbourhood has a vital and representative Community Association.

Mission

To improve neighbourhood life in Calgary by providing services and programs that create, support and sustain vital and representative Community Associations.

Our Programs and Services

Financial Management Services:

Professional bookkeeping and audit services assist client Community Associations and other community based non profits with reliable credible accounting services to ensure our members meet their obligations to their membership user groups and regulators. In 2007-2008 we served:

- 80 Community Associations Audits
- 37 Service Member Audits
- 19 Bookkeeping Clients
- 5 workshops (2 Treasurers, 2 Grants and 1 GST) with 70 participants

Urban Planning Services:

The Federation Supports volunteers with a professional urban planning staff that offers volunteers information, workshops, resources, and consultation to assist them in the planning and development process.

The Federation supports community volunteers by showing continued leadership as consultant, convener, facilitator, trainer and partner in community planning by educating Community Associations about the planning process, ensuring a line of communication is made available for communities to voice concerns, maintaining positive relationships with relevant city departments and providing a Community Association perspective to the planning of new areas. Some of the highlights include:

Convening of Community Associations on Issues:

1. Special Care Facilities/Non Market Housing: This initiative was launched in the wake of the controversy around the John Howard facility in Sunalta. Over 30 Community Association representatives attended an initial meeting. Following this meeting a group of 6 reps plus the Federation planner worked on a stakeholder group developing recommenda-

tions for council.

2. Plan-It Consultations-38 representatives from the different communities participated in dialogues and focus groups in February and March. Over 40 representatives participated in further Plan-It key directions in June.
3. Construction and Demolition Site Code of Practice- The Federation helped the City to gather input from busy development communities and to recruit community participants, for stake holder meetings in March and April.

Partners in Planning: Since its inception in 2001, Partners in Planning (PIP), a joint City of Calgary and Federation of Calgary Communities program has hosted over 760 people in various workshops. To date, PIP has graduated 172 Volunteers. Since September 2007, 227 people have attended Partners in Planning workshops with 41 people having completed their full PIP training. A record year!

Community Roundtables The Federation helps to convene issue based community roundtables. Representatives from dozens of communities and other groups have participated in several Community Heritage Roundtables and Eco-Roundtables since fall 2007.

Community Relations:

Through our community relations initiatives we are working to raise awareness of the value of community associations and the importance of volunteers. In addition, the Federation assists communities in gaining information and access to capacity building support. This year we:

- Launched the ENGAGE! newsletter increasing the circulation from 290 to 1,380 individuals
- Partnered with Calgary Real Estate News to profile positive stories around community life—this is a weekly page and to date we have done more than 25 stories

and community profiles.

- Mobilized the Database Emailer to facilitate communication among Community Associations, non-profits and government departments. The goal of the database is to inform, engage and increase the awareness of members on issues that might affect or interest them. Since it's launch more than 100,000 emails have been sent
- Revamped The Federation's website to be more user friendly and resource based
- Advocated for a Community Liaison Officer enhanced role
- Advocated against Bill C-1

Member Services:

2008 marked the launch of the Members Services program. Through our consultations with our stakeholders we learned that volunteers need support. In addition, the City of Calgary "Community Sustainability Study" reinforced the need for services around organizational development. Through Member Services, The Federation provides organization development tools, tip sheets, resources, workshops and seminars. Volunteers can access our services by phone, email or through our on-line "Members Only" page.

This year we:

- Launched the "Members Only" area of the website—packed full of resources for CA staff and volunteers
- Co-hosted nine Administrator meetings and a variety of other workshops including SOCAN
- Co-hosted the Community Sustainability Conference in November 2007 with the City of Calgary and Volunteer Calgary
- Delivered a marketing and communications workshop with more than 40 participating Community Associations
- Worked on "Project Intelligence" gaining insight and information on Community Associations in Calgary
- Answered 1,361 requests for information
- Supported 52 CA's on specific issues

2008 Member

Community Associations

Abbeylee
Acadia
Albert Park Radisson Heights
Applewood Park
Arbour Lake
Banff Trail
Bankview
Beddington Heights
Beltline Communities of Victoria
and Connaught
Bonavista Downs
Braeside
Brentwood
Bridgeland-Riverside
Britannia
Calgary Evergreen
Calgary Marlborough
Calgary Parkland
Calgary Rosedale
Calgary Wildwood
Cambrian Heights
Canyon Meadows
Capitol Hill
Cedarbrae
Chinook Park/Kelvin Grove/Eagle
Ridge
Citadel
Cliff Bungalow-Mission
Coach Hill/Patterson Heights
Coral Springs
Crescent Heights
Crossroads
Dalhousie
Deer Ridge
Deer Run
Discovery Ridge
Dover
Downtown West
Edgemont
Elbow Park
Elboya Heights
Erin Woods
Erlton
Evanston-Creekside
Fairview
Falconridge/Castleridge
Forest Heights
Forest Lawn
Glamorgan of Calgary
Glenbrook
Glendale/Glendale Meadows
Hamptons
Hawkwood
Haysboro
Hidden Valley
Highland Park
Highwood
Hillhurst/Sunnyside
Hounsfield Heights Briar Hill
Huntington Hills
Inglewood
Killarney/Glangarry
Kincora
Kingsland
Lake Bonavista
Lakeview
Lindsay Park
Marlborough Park
Marquis de Lorne
Martindale
McKenzie Lake
Meadowlark Park
Mid-Sun
Millican Ogden
Millrise
Monterey Park
Montgomery
Mount Pleasant
Mount Royal
North Glenmore
North Haven
Northern Hills
Oakridge
Palliser Bayview Pumphill
Parkdale
Parkhill Stanley Park
Penbrooke Meadows
Pineridge
Queensland
Ramsay
Ranchlands
Richmond/Knob Hill
Rideau Ridge Society
Rideau-Roxboro
Riverbend
Rocky Ridge Royal Oak
Rosemont
Rosscarrock
Rundle
Rutland Park
Saddle Ridge
Sandstone MacEwan
Scarboro
Scenic Acres
Shawnee/Evergreen
Shawnessy
Shepard
Silver Springs
Somerset/Bridlewood
South Calgary
Southwood
Springbank Hill
Spruce Cliff
St. Andrews Heights
Strathcona
Sunalta
Temple
Thornccliffe/Greenview
Triwood
Tuscany
Tuxedo Park
University Heights
Valley Ridge
Varsity
West Hillhurst
West Springs/Cougar Ridge
Westgate
Whitehorn
Willow Ridge
Windsor Park
Winston Heights/Mountview
Woodcreek

Associate Members 6
1. Bearspaw Glendale
3. Bragg Creek
4. Chestermere Regional
5. Glen Eagles (Cochrane)
6. Springbank Park

Service Members 50
Detailed list upon request

2007-2008 Board

The Federation's Board of Directors is comprised of 15 members. Executive Offices are selected at the first meeting of the Board.

Executive:

Bob Lang, President
John Wakoluk, Vice President

Neil Hughes, Secretary

Bill Scott, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Kendrick Charles

Sean Chu

Raleigh DeHaney

Robin Elford

Christopher Harper

Lisa Homer

Teresa Kohel

Melanie McDonald

Robert Matheson

Ralph Meyer

Stanley Vong

CITY OF CALGARY

Pam Meunier

Current Staff

Leslie Evans, Executive Director

Heidi Brauer, CMA

Bob van Wegen, Community Planner

Brendan Murray, Community Relations

Coordinator

Joyce Sponholz, Office Assistant

Lois Fuss, Accountant

Liz Man, Accountant

Sophie Khatkar, Accounting Tech

Linda Lin, Accounting Tech

Elena Ozhog, Accounting Tech

Zhou Wang, Accounting Tech

Vivian Jie Zhao, Accounting Tech

Tetyana Tretyakova, g

Volunteers

Janice Broome, Office

Steve Garcia, Web Support

Luis Horna, Database

A.J. Hill, Youth Volunteer

Donna Lennon, Mail Outs

Loraine Luterbach, Mail Outs

Chelsey Nicholas, Youth Volunteer

Jessica Nicholas, Youth Volunteer

Ashley Nicholas, Photography

Mark Townsend, calgaryarea.com

Federation of Calgary Communities

Improving neighbourhood life in Calgary

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