



# SPRINGBANK PARK PATTERN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SPRINGBANK PARK FOR ALL SEASONS



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## SPFAS ANNOUNCES MAIN FACILITY LIFE CYCLE SUSTAINABILITY RENOVATION CAPITAL PROJECT

### SPFAS Board of Directors Approves Project Concept on January 25, 2021

After approximately 10 months of developing a conceptual project scope, preparing an overall budget and assembling related funding, and reviewing these plans with Rocky View County representatives, on January 25th the SPFAS Board of Directors approved in principle a framework for an ambitious Main Facility sustainability renovation capital project. This initiative is scheduled to be undertaken in the Spring and Summer of 2021. While the project's scope of work does not include expanding the Main Facility, this initiative is the largest that SPFAS has ever undertaken to sustain and renovate the existing Main Facility.

The Main Facility sustainability renovation project's conceptual scope is highlighted as follows:

- Replacing the Red Dutton Arena's entire existing floor pad, along with placing a heat liner under a new concrete pad so that ice can be installed for the entire year in this facility
- Changing the Red Dutton Arena's spectator seating area, including providing wheelchair access
- Reconfiguring the concession and curling rink entry area, which includes installing new washrooms (one that will be wheelchair accessible), creating new seating areas, a new curling rink entry point and a new "link to technology" work and study space, redesigning the concession, replacing air exchange, heating, water and sewer infrastructure, and introducing new natural lighting amenities

- The installation of new washrooms (one that will be wheelchair accessible) in the lounge
- The installation of an elevator that will service all four levels of the SPFAS Main Facility (Level 1 being the front entrance ground entry, Level 2 where the two skating rinks are located, Level 3 being access to the lounge, and Level 4 being the location of the playschool, dryland training, community board room and other venues).

SPFAS still has some "t's to cross and i's to dot" with respect to completely finalizing the overall scope of this capital project, as well as confirming its total costs and selecting a general contractor to complete it. SPFAS is enthusiastically looking forward to showcasing the Main Facility refurbishments outlined above to residents of Springbank and other communities this coming September (hopefully when we'll come together to check out the renovations during a "new normal" 2021 Springbank Fall Fair that we can all attend).

When completed, this project will provide many benefits to all of the visitors who come to SPFAS. The most important of these include full access for everyone to all four levels of the Main Facility, wheelchair accessible washrooms on all four levels of the Main Facility, the long-term extension of the Red Dutton Arena's life cycle with ice use being available for use 12 months of the year, and the creation of enhanced long-term curling rink, concession, and lounge access experiences.

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One final benefit to highlight with regards to reinvesting in the SPFAS Main Facility and other SPFAS recreation venues so that they are sustainable and even better for many years into the future – By doing so, SPFAS will continue to serve as the “Heart of Springbank”, where kids and adults come to have fun, play and learn, and also where everyone can come to socialize. And as is outlined elsewhere in this edition of the Park Patter Newsletter, SPFAS and our community also come together to operate our beloved recreation facilities to create terrific opportunities for our student-athletes who, beginning next school year, will serve as ambassadors for our community elsewhere in North America while pursuing their studies supported by post-secondary

soccer, football and hockey scholarships that have been awarded to them. And we are also very pleased to have supported other student-athletes profiled in this Park Patter, two who recently have represented our community at the Canada’s National Skate Challenge competition, as well as six others who have been selected to participate in the Vancouver Whitecaps Prospects Academy Soccer program.

SPFAS keeps moving forward to provide recreation and other facilities to our community. We appreciate your ongoing support! And we are very much looking forward to you coming to SPFAS in September to see the results of this capital project being completed.



*Contributed by John Rop, SPFAS General Manager*

## **THANK YOU AND FAREWELL TO JOHN ROP**

It is with mixed emotions that I write this article, to announce something that many readers of the Park Patter will already know: John Rop, our General Manager is retiring. After almost 14 years of service to the SPFAS, and through the SPFAS, to our whole community, John has decided that the time has come to give himself and his family the gift of his time.

While it will not be possible for me to tell you all about John’s truly extraordinary tenure at the Park in this short article, I hope to at least convey a sense of the enormity of his contribution.

The hiring of John as our GM was very intentional. Back in 2007, John, a long-time Springbank resident, husband and father of three, had most recently been working in a leadership position in finance, in the health sector, was doing some consulting as well as teaching courses in municipal finance. Busy as he was, John still managed to find time from about 2003 – 2005 to volunteer on the SPFAS Board. He was well-known by his fellow directors as a man who brought expertise in the area of finance, had a true love of all things community and recreation, and showed a

genuine desire to better everything in which he became involved. When the need for a new GM arose, one of our more determined, long-time Board members persuaded John that he’d be perfect for the job.

Thus began John’s career at the Park, during which, working with many generous private donors, community partners, and various levels of government, including Rocky View County, SPFAS expanded the Park’s facilities to keep pace with our growing community and its always-evolving needs. Back in 2007, the Outdoor Rink was unfinished and unrefrigerated. Our Main Site suffered from serious drainage problems. Our football players had no fieldhouse, no scoring tower. Our community had no Boardroom, no dryland training area. The football field was not much better than the parking lot - just as hard and with not much more grass. Baseball players had no indoor training space, and none of us had never considered that we might one day play beach volleyball at the Park! While these projects were the result of the contributions



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and efforts of many, they were all completed under John's leadership. Suffice it to say that behind every activity in which any one of us has participated at the Park over the last decade has stood a General Manager who has worked away tirelessly, quietly and modestly to make that activity a success. This community could have asked for nothing more.

Since the search for John's successor began in January, the accolades have been flowing in, from community residents and Park users but also from John's colleagues outside of the Park. Very few people have failed to point out what big shoes are now to be filled. What is clear is that while John is viewed as highly knowledgeable, it is just as much his kindness, his humility, his respectful manner and his helpful nature that have affected all of those with whom he has worked over the last decade.

Before I conclude, I know that John would insist on saying that without his "wingers", and the Board with him, he would not have been the General Manager he was. He has indeed had excellent wingers - Jody Wesgate and Jeff Schmidt and before Jeff, Mark Phillips - SPFAS has been fortunate to have long-term, committed employees who, under John's leadership, have always worked together as a team to do excellent work for the Park. Speaking as a Board member for many years, I have seen how John's knowledge of finance and process and his ability to keep the Board on track has proven invaluable. As President for four years of John's time at the Park, I have had the benefit of having him as MY winger at every meeting I've had and every appearance I've made, providing not only critical context and information but also moral support. In January, John was an integral part of the Park's success in receiving an allocation of some \$2.1 million in Municipal Sustainability Initiative funding, which will allow the Park to complete essential capital projects this summer. These renovations will ensure that our facilities will continue to serve Springbank and Rocky View West residents well into the future, and will allow us to "put our best face forward" to our users, as always, in a safe, welcoming manner.

I speak for many, many people in thanking John for his outstanding contribution to the SPFAS over so many years. He has given us his best for more than a decade and deserves nothing less for himself as he moves on to his next chapter. I know that we'll still see him walking in the neighbourhood, riding his bike on our roads, and hopefully, along with Arlene, bringing his grandchildren to our rinks, fields and playground when life returns to normal.

I would be remiss if I were to fail to say a few words

about Arlene Rop. Arlene's commitment to the SPFAS has been as strong as John's. When John was working late, or on the weekend, Arlene was there to support him. And many directors who have served on the Operations and Capital Enhancement Committee have very fond memories of Arlene's delicious home-cooked dinners, delivered to the Boardroom for meetings. That is a great example of how both John and Arlene work - there are few things they won't do for this community.

Even though he won't be coming to work at the Park after March 31, we hope that the SPFAS will always feel like a second home to John. Having said that, if you see him in the parking lot picking up trash - because even in retirement, he might just not be able to help himself - take it from him, put it in the trash can, and assure him that he can now pass the torch to the rest of us to continue to take pride in our Springbank Park For All Seasons.

All the best to you John, to Arlene, and to your whole family from the whole SPFAS Board, with our most heartfelt gratitude for a job well done.



*Contributed by Lisa Skelton, SPFAS President*



## A Tribute to One of Our Community's Founding Members:

# CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF BILL COPITHORNE

In the relatively newly developed community of Springbank, it's important to acknowledge the longstanding residents who helped build the foundation of the community we know and love today.

One of those people was Bill Copithorne, who we lost on January 8, 2021, at the age of 94.

Born on May 27, 1926, in the short-lived hospital in Cochrane, Bill was the youngest of one of Alberta's original pioneer families who helped build the communities in the Cochrane, Springbank and Jumping Pound areas.

Bill was the youngest of Samuel and Beatrice Copithorne's family. Samuel was an Irish immigrant who moved to Springbank in 1904 to join his brothers in pursuing the dream of ranching in the Canadian west. Beatrice was part of the Blache family who were also early residents in west Springbank.

For Bill and his family, living in Springbank in these early days meant more than building a ranch—it meant building a community as well. So, with the help of other early families, gathering places were built through donations, hard work and the determination to make Springbank a great place to live. This resulted in our original schools, curling rinks, and halls that acted as building blocks for what we enjoy today.

Bill continued his community service as a member of the Municipal Planning Appeal Board and two terms as Municipal District of Rocky View Councillor for the area and subsequently as Rocky View's Reeve. With these roles, he helped maintain Rocky View's independence and country values in the face of the city's constant encroachment. Beyond Springbank, Bill also held roles with The Calgary Airport Authority and Calgary Regional Hospital District amidst the city's growth booms.

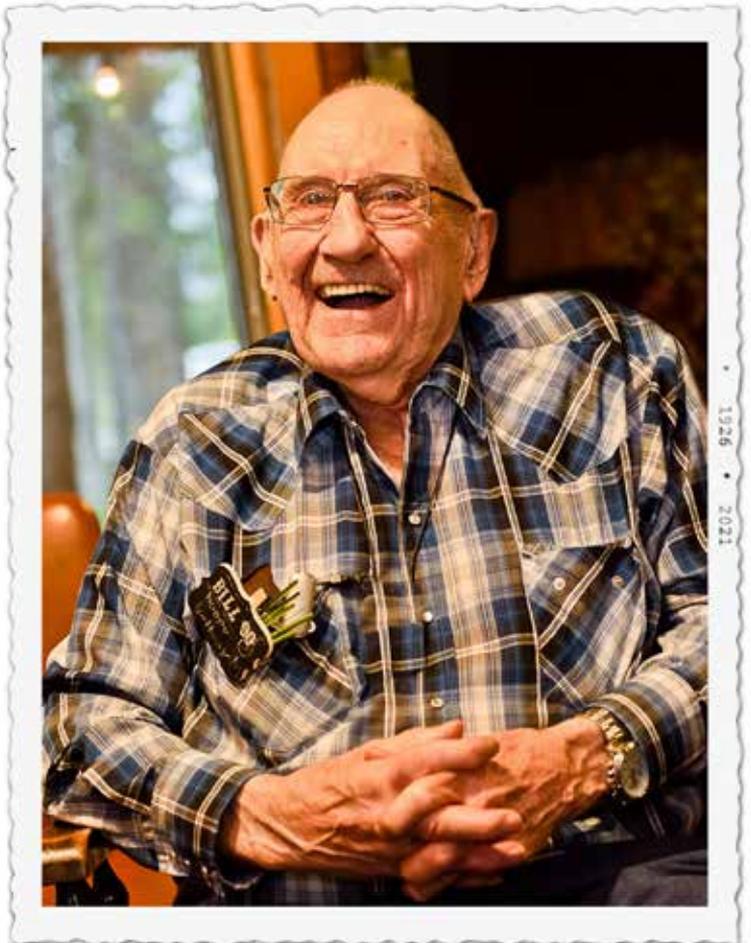
To so many in the area, he was fondly and affectionately known as

"Uncle Bill," a title true to his welcoming, fun-loving and seemingly ever-present personality. To know Bill was to know a truly one-of-a-kind man. Having lived a long life through dramatically changing times, there was almost nothing Bill hadn't seen before. His experience was a calming presence. His strength of character cut through the chaos. His generosity touched many. His big, weathered hands were a tribute to a life of hard work.

Whether you knew him or not, you can be sure that Bill's legacy will live on in many aspects of our daily life in our community.

Thank you for everything, Bill.

*Contributed by Phil Copithorne*





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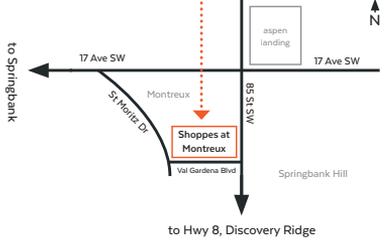
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# KIM MCKYLOR

## Rocky View Country Councillor for Division 2



A belated Happy New Year to everyone! I think, like most of us, I was hoping that somehow when 2020 ended, there would be a little more hope for 2021. While we are now only into February, it hasn't really shown much promise so far!

There is some good news on the horizon with several COVID-19 vaccines now being available. The problem of course is that vaccinations for most of the general population who want to be vaccinated won't happen until the last quarter of 2021, or perhaps even later given some of the recent problems with vaccine supply. I'm anticipating a long road still in front of us, with much of 2021 still being impacted by restrictions locally, provincially, across Canada and now, with a new President in the White House, to and from the USA. We will adapt, but it won't be without impacts to us, businesses, the economy and likely to our mental health as well. Rocky View County (RVC) continues to respond to all of Alberta Health Services' directives and guidelines. The County offices have been closed to the general public for a couple of months now. Hopefully soon we will again be able to have our meetings in person and in Council Chambers. I miss not seeing the County's residents and staff at these meetings.

I have heard from some of you that you are now selling your residential property and moving away from the County. While people moving in and out of our community isn't new, the reasons why seem to be different. Generally speaking, Rocky View County has an older demographic. Due to no meaningful work being available for them in downtown Calgary, some of the County's older residents have taken early retirement and have decided to head to BC (and other places) a little earlier than expected. My long time neighbour, Rosa, recently moved into Calgary. I wish her well! I now have new neighbours who I haven't met yet. To my new neighbours, a very warm welcome to our community! We will continue to see how everything evolves and we will get this through this together.

Recently the County's Regional Governance Committee (RGC) approved the long-awaited Recreation Master Plan, which sets in policy a direction and related priorities for providing recreation facilities and services throughout Rocky View. This Master Plan highlights many things we already know. It also includes a series of priority areas (including Springbank being one of

the top five of these priority areas) for establishing new recreation/community facilities. Another big advantage the approved Master Plan gives the County is the ability for Rocky View to now apply "soft" levies to developers, which assists with funding recreation priorities. There has been much desire for many years to have developers contribute to recreation facilities. Until we adopted a Recreation Master Plan that outlines what needs to be funded, it was very difficult (if not impossible) to reasonably calculate required "soft" recreation development levies. Now that we have the ability to calculate these levies, this will go a long way towards providing future funding for recreation across the County – this is good news!

The Calgary Metropolitan Regional Board (CMRB) is currently working through the final stages of its new Regional Plan. Ultimately, this Plan as it is today, isn't good for RVC or really for any other member municipalities aside from the City of Calgary. People living in RVC who are staunchly anti-development may think that it is a good thing if Calgary were to be able to effectively control the future developments that would take place in all of the municipalities that are located within the Metropolitan Region. However, this Plan will on a long-term basis erode the City's neighbouring municipalities' abilities to decide how they may need to grow, shift and evolve as they plan for their respective futures (in conjunction with creating opportunities to locate new developments within their respective municipal boundaries). On a short-term basis, perhaps not at all would change if this Plan were to be approved and implemented. However, the longer lens (which is what politicians should think about, focus on and look through) shows a picture in which the cost burden for paying for municipal services would gradually shift to the residents of the municipalities that are neighbours of the City of Calgary. Let me explain why this is so by providing the following example. If the approved Regional Plan provides Calgary with the authority to control all (or even some) types of non-residential development throughout the entire area included in the Metropolitan Region, then each of Calgary's neighbouring municipalities is ultimately subject to being under the City's control from a development perspective. The City could use the powers available to it to restrict, limit and reduce the non-residential developments that occur in its neighboring municipalities (because the City would rather have these types of developments located within Calgary, so they will generate new non-residential municipal property tax revenues that benefit the City's residents by increasing the proportionate share of municipal property taxes paid by Calgary's non-residential tax base). Then, as a result of less non-residential development taking place within Calgary's neighbouring municipalities, the residents of these jurisdictions will over time pay higher property

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taxes for the municipal services they receive (because proportionately a lesser amount of each jurisdiction's municipal property taxes will be paid by their respective non-residential property tax bases). RVC's municipal tax base currently has a pretty good balance between residential and non-residential properties. However, there is little doubt (or debate) that, if this Plan is adopted and implemented, the development restriction powers it designates to the City of Calgary will ultimately lead to your Rocky View County residential property tax bill increasing in future years. One final point – If the Regional Plan is approved as is, this also undermines each member municipality's autonomy (except that of the City of Calgary) with respect to being able to plan for its future and provide municipal services to its residents. Belonging to the CMRB should not lead to the loss of decision-making autonomy for any of the Board's member municipalities.

Finally, 2021 is an election year – I can't even believe it! Thank you to all who have asked me if I'm running again, to those who have asked how they can help, and

also to those who have offered their encouragement to me. The nomination period (as changed by the Alberta Government) started in January of this year. I am working through my decision-making process and I hope to have a personal decision made by February or March of this year. What I can tell you is that, while continually striving to get things done for our community, I honestly love serving in this job, talking to you and trying to help. I have learned to develop a thicker skin to deal with the bullying behavior exhibited by some in our community and I have come to recognize that such behavior has more to say about them than me. I have learned so much about our community and the good people who are here working towards building a better future for everyone – they have been my rocks while I have put myself out there serving as your Councillor. Thank you!

As always, if you have any questions, please call me or send your email to me.

Kim McKylor, Rocky View County Deputy Reeve and Division 2 Councillor

Phone: 403-462-9207 / Email: [kmckylor@rockyview.ca](mailto:kmckylor@rockyview.ca)



## SPRINGBANK HERITAGE CLUB

The Springbank Heritage Club remains closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Club's members are really missing the usual activities and socializing that normally take place at our facility. We are all very much looking forward to the day when we can all get back together again at our Heritage Club home!

The Club's facility was open on a limited basis for 3 days during the two weeks before Christmas, when we accepted Christmas gifts for children and food contributions for families in need who access the support services provided by the Cochrane Activettes. We also received monetary donations for the Veterans Food Bank in Calgary, which were used to supply food items to those who access this organization's support services.

We were absolutely amazed at the response to our donations campaign and the generosity of the Club's members, as well as of many non-members, who donated to these worthy causes. The need was even greater this past Christmas. The contributors met that

need, and more gifts, food and cash were donated through the Heritage Club than ever before! Along with delivering a number of gifts for children and food donations to the Cochrane Activettes, we were able to give \$725 to the Veterans Food Bank in Calgary. This cash donation went a long way for this Food Bank, as this organization has more buying power buying items in bulk than do individuals singularly buying food items to donate.

Thank you to those who took shifts those 3 days accepting and delivering all of the donations that were received. I personally want to thank each and everyone who made this such a successful venture.

Since we currently can't come and meet at the Heritage Club, I feel that working together on a project such as this helps to retain and form bonds, it gives us purpose, and it also keeps us engaged as Club members.

*Contributed by Joan Zwingli, Springbank Heritage Club Board Member*



# KEVIN HANSON

Rocky View Country Councillor for Division 3



## Scott Gravel Pit Refused

This application for open-pit aggregates extraction immediately adjacent to highly built-out country residential areas in Bearspaw was by far the most intense application this Council has dealt with. On-line due to COVID-19 protocols, the Public Hearing took 2-days with significant public input

in opposition. We heard over 80 video submissions of either 5- or 10-minutes duration depending if the submission was individual, or on behalf of a group of 3 or more. Another 120 e-mail submissions were received during the hearing and distributed to Council at the end of the first day. A tiny number of public submissions in support of the mine were received from non-area residents.

I voted for refusal of the Land Use Bylaw change and Master Site Development Plan (MSDP) for the following reasons:

1. The underlying aquifer was not able to be credibly isolated from mining operations, putting at risk numerous water wells in the area.
2. Compatibility with the adjacent land uses was extremely poor: Heavy Industrial added into an area of high-assessment Country Residential.
3. The economic benefit analysis submitted by the applicant was flawed. Downside costs were not taken into account, and assumptions for demand were inflated.
4. Over the past 30 years RVC chose to allow residential in this area, right on top of aggregate resources. Extraction would now encroach upon that higher value land use, and leave the area less attractive for future development.

In summary, the application would have an unmitigable impact on the use and enjoyment of the properties in the existing neighbourhood, and not be financially prudent for the County.

## Calgary Metropolitan Region Board Update (CMRB)

The CMRB Executive and hired Planning Consultants gave Council an overview of the draft Regional Growth and Servicing Plans. Municipalities in the region control where growth happens in their own municipalities. The Municipal Development Plan (MDP) is the statutory vehicle for this macro-level decision making. Regionally, the various MDPs should coordinate under the Regional Growth Plan for mutual benefits which ultimately improve our region's ability to compete on the global stage.

My take-aways included:

1. "Urban Sprawl" is urban sprawl, whether in a city or a rural setting. Bedroom Communities ultimately provide a growth form that is non-sustainable and costly to hard and soft service.
2. The Calgary Metropolitan Region has done a good job of planning to date, compared to most other areas of Canada. Most new development in the region is of the Master-Planned Community form.
3. A key result of the CMRB work is the identification of 3 Joint Planning Areas (JPA) - 2 of which involve Rocky View. This is in deference to "Regional Growth Areas" seen in other multi-municipality plans. These JPA's set out that only 3-4 municipalities participate in development discussions, not the entire 10-municipality board. This approach was based on feedback given by Rocky View that sub-regional planning was desired.
4. As the region is currently over-planned for demand, the 3 JPA's plus infill development in existing areas are more than sufficient to supply the next 1 million inhabitants of the region.
5. If RVC is not part of the conversation, that conversation will continue to happen regardless, and we will have zero voice at the table.

The best news of the morning was that the CMRB Governance Committee has been developing an external Appeal Process for its members, and it will be completed shortly after the Regional Growth and Servicing Plans are submitted to the Province.

Please email me if you would like to be added to my email list for potential future email and on-line communications - [Kevin.Hanson@RockyView.ca](mailto:Kevin.Hanson@RockyView.ca) or call 403.463.1166.

# MIRANDA ROSIN, MLA

Banff-Kananaskis

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Albertans are proud of their resource industries, from agriculture to forestry to oil and gas. Our economy thrives off of resource production and innovation, and many of us have rightfully grown a sense of loyalty to these industries throughout

the years - viewing them as much a part of our Alberta identity as the Rocky Mountains. Our Government has supported Alberta's energy industry to the best of our ability by repealing and fighting the carbon tax all the way to the Supreme Court; testifying against Bill C 69; participating actively in regular OPEC meetings, and making a historic investment into Keystone XL to accelerate its construction. The permit for this pipeline was recently revoked by newly-elected U.S. President Joe Biden despite the project already being underway after being exhaustively reviewed more than five times, but we are now prepared to take whatever legal action necessary to protect Alberta's interest in this project which would have increased our daily crude exports by over 830,000 barrels per day.

Yet as the world changes, there is opportunity for diversification within the energy market. Knowing that many Albertans work and are educated in energy development, we made it a priority to ensure that Alberta is positioned to be a competitive destination for investment and job creation in all emerging sectors of energy and electricity production. For the past year, in addition to supporting Alberta's oil industry, we have made strategic investments and launched growth strategies for natural gas, hydrogen, and petrochemical production while also significantly deregulating the green energy market which has already attracted \$2.4 billion of private wind, solar, and cogeneration investment to Alberta.

Alberta already produces over two-thirds of Canada's natural gas supply, yet there is still tremendous opportunity to grow this sector. Our Government's

natural gas and liquefied natural gas strategy combines newly developed and globally recognized environmental standards, an efficient and streamlined regulatory environment, and intergovernmental advocacy for projects allowing us to reach Asian and European markets, with multi-million dollar strategic

investments into natural gas projects through Alberta's new industry-funded TIER (technology, innovation, and emissions reduction) fund.

Hydrogen is another industry with growing global demand, projected to increase ten-fold by 2050. Not only is hydrogen an emerging alternative in the clean fuel market, but many products derived from hydrogen such as methanol and ammonia are critical to manufacturing operations around the world. Over our term in government we have committed to removing red tape on the industry and putting forward growth enabling legislation that will help our province deploy hydrogen into the heavy transportation and home heating sectors. We also working to ensure hydrogen transmission routes and corridors exist across Canada, North America, and the world by 2040 to ensure our products can get to market.

The final segment of our energy diversification plan is to grow Alberta into a top 10 global producer of petrochemicals, while expanding the portfolio of products we manufacture. This industry was already valued at \$12.1 billion last year, employing over 58,000 Albertans. With global demands forecasted to grow significantly over the next ten years, there is opportunity to more than double this industry within Alberta to over \$30 billion, expanding into new product lines such as medical equipment, eyeglasses, flooring, and more. We are developing regional infrastructure plans across the province that will enable rapid deployment of derivative and chemical facilities in rural Alberta, and have launched a new Petrochemical Incentive Program. This exciting new Program established a grant stream worth 12% of capital costs associated with future petrochemical projects, available to each and every project which meets the criteria upon commencement of their operations.

The traditional energy sector will always be a key economic driver for Alberta's economy, but our Government will not pass by the growth opportunities presented by a changing world. Our province's greatest natural resource will always be our people, and together we can make sure that the Alberta of the future is a world leader in more industries than one.



Global Sport Academy Group, a partner of the Springbank Park For All Seasons (SPFAS), is proud to host an accredited training program at the Springbank Middle School and the Springbank Community High School. This program fully integrates athletic, golf and hockey skills development activities into each school's academic studies.

Global Sport Academy's mission is to lead the global shift of high performance youth development. By being relationship-driven, we are passionately motivated to make a profound difference in the lives of student-athletes and their families. Our student-athletes trust that the guidance and expertise we provide helps them to build their confidence as they enhance their athletic skills in conjunction with retaining a very strong academic focus. In addition to becoming even better student-athletes, this approach offers our clients greater opportunities to become leaders and build their personal character.

The Global Sport Academy training program focuses on the following five key themes that are integrated into each student-athlete's school day, always with the intent to maximize value and engagement for our clients:

- Sport-specific programming and training
- Multi-sport and career technology studies (CTS) training
- Leadership and Character Education
- Academic ownership and support
- Communication and advocacy.

We are very excited to have recently installed three golf simulators within the training area that Global retains at the SPFAS facility. This installation provides our student-athlete golfers with very convenient and efficient access to top-of-the line golf simulation equipment.

If you are interested in learning more about Global's program, please contact Chad Scharff by sending your email to [cscharff@globalsportacademygroup.com](mailto:cscharff@globalsportacademygroup.com). You can also obtain program information by going to Global's website at [www.globalsportacademygroup.com](http://www.globalsportacademygroup.com)

*Contributed by Paul Bradley, Global Sport Academy Group's Chief Executive Officer & Manager of Marketing, (O: 587-430-0444 C: 587-893-1321 E: [pbradley@globalsportacademygroup.com](mailto:pbradley@globalsportacademygroup.com))*

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We are so grateful to have the Springbank Park For All Seasons (SPFAS) as a program partner, as well as a wonderful instructor right here in our community! Our first classes ran at SPFAS in November of 2020. It was great to meet all of our young artists, to see their excitement and the smiles on their faces as they showed off their wonderful artwork at the end of their classes. Thank you for supporting our small business. We can't wait to see your children in the classroom when we can all safely and compliantly take advantage of the next Young Rembrandts in-person classes opportunities. We're hoping that can happen sooner, rather than later!

So, why Young Rembrandts? We view art not merely as a talent, but as a skill that can, and should, be learned by all children. Young Rembrandts dispels the myth that art is a talent a child has or doesn't have. Let us show you! Our teaching method breaks complex drawings down into simple shapes and guides children through step-by-step instructions. All lessons are original and they are developed by a team of artists and educators. This teaching approach is designed to tap into a child's ability to learn through visual, auditory, and tactile/kinesthetic techniques.

Our drawing classes offer child-friendly relevant subject matter that sparks interest and increases knowledge retention. With weekly, 60-minute drawing classes, children learn fundamental drawing skills and expand their artistic abilities. They are exposed to a wide variety of subject matter, including art history, artistic concepts and art terminology. Our classes introduce concrete ideas and techniques that enlarge children's vocabulary and enrich their imaginations. Students enrolled in Young Rembrandts' classes will display increases in the following skills:

- Fine motor skills, handwriting & attention span
- Visual/spatial organization
- Attention to detail, time on task
- Patience, discipline and focus

We can't wait to get back to holding in-person classes! When we do, the following programs will be available:



- Pre-school/Kindergarten Curriculum (ages 4 – 5) designed to develop motor skills, patience and focus;
- Elementary Curriculum (ages 6 to 12) focusing on different types of art;
- Cartoon and Themed Drawing Camps (in late Spring and Summer).

Until we can see you in class, we are providing online lessons. Come draw with Young Rembrandts and get a full hour of developing vocabulary, fine motor skills and art techniques. One of the best things we offer is that, each time your child takes a class, she or he will be walking away with a complete piece of artwork! Please go to our website to obtain for more information about our Young Rembrandts program ( [www.youngrembrandts.com/southernalberta](http://www.youngrembrandts.com/southernalberta) ).

*Contributed by Angela Ewanchuk, Young Rembrandts Owner/ Program Director, Phone: 403-457-DRAW (3729) / Email: [angela.ewanchuk@youngrembrandts.com](mailto:angela.ewanchuk@youngrembrandts.com)*

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The Club's skaters have been utilizing many creative ideas and means to ensure that they maintain their stamina, their skills, their jumps, as well as their motivation during the months of December and January when COVID-19 virus spread restrictions resulted in the closures of indoor skating rinks. In some cases, backyard rinks were built and our skaters accessed them to work on their edges, spins, and jumps. And outdoor rinks and ponds located in and around Calgary were also accessed by our skaters, so that they could enjoy getting some fresh air while on the ice. In addition, online Zoom classes for yoga, ballet, and dryland instruction were in full steam, allowing the Club's skaters to continue with their off-ice training.

As this is being written, some ice use restrictions have been eased effective as of the beginning of February. The Club's skaters and coaches are eager to get back on



# SPRINGBANK Figure Skating Club



the ice, doing so in a manner which ensures that everyone is safe and compliant with COVID-19 virus spread restrictions (as these evolve and are updated). As we continue on in 2021, the Club's skaters are both hopeful and keen to get back to "new normal" regular on and off ice training routines at SPFAS. We are all looking for those small silver linings that will provide opportunities for the Club's skaters to continue to develop their skills, talents and abilities. In spite of all of the impacts of the COVID-19 virus, our Club's skaters continue to be ultra passionate and positive as they return to the skating arenas and the dryland training facility at SPFAS.

This season's Skate Canada Challenge competition was amended to accommodate virus spread prevention health and safety

protocols. For the first time in history, the junior and senior skaters who qualified to compete on the national level were given opportunities to submit videos of their respective programs to Skate Canada. This competition was live streamed (online) across the entire country (and the whole world) by Skate Canada from January 6th – 8th. Two SFSC skaters, Grace Johnson and Tim Pomares, competed respectively in the Junior Women and Junior Men categories. They both performed their very best! Grace and Tim were both terrific ambassadors for SFSC at this competition, with Tim attaining a 5th place finish amongst a very strong group of Junior Men skaters who participated in the Challenge. Congratulations to both outstanding athletes and thanks for representing our Club so very well!

*Contributed by Dianne Gereluk for the Springbank Figure Skating Club*

Athlete information/Information de l'athlète  
 Age/Âge 17  
 Began Skating/ Commencer à patiner 3  
 Home Club / Club d'appartenance Springbank FSC  
 Home Town / Ville d'origine Calgary, AB  
 School / École Bishop Carroll High School- Grade 12  
 Coach(s) / Choreographer Entraîneur(s) / Choréographe(s) Natasha Taylor  
 Music/Musique The Danish Girl-The Mirror

GRACE JOHNSON  
SPRINGBANK FSC

Athlete information/Information de l'athlète  
 Age/Âge 18  
 Began Skating/ Commencer à patiner 10  
 Home Club / Club d'appartenance Springbank FSC  
 Home Town / Ville d'origine Okotoks, AB  
 School / École None  
 Coach(s) / Choreographer Entraîneur(s) / Choréographe(s) Greg Berezowski and Tim Pomares  
 Music/Musique February

TIM POMARES  
SPRINGBANK FSC

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# THE RESILIENCE OF THE SPRINGBANK DANCERS

The Springbank Dancers have definitely had a full year (12 months re March of 2020 to February of 2021) of ups and downs. However, WOW, our team and our community has really risen through the struggles and challenges we've all encountered as we've dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic!



In September of 2020, we enjoyed a strong start to the current dance season. Our dancers were so excited to be back in class! We launched new programs in Bragg Creek, as well as new classes that filled quickly at our Springbank studio. We had a group of competitive dancers (who were not able to perform this past Spring) participate in a Competition held at WinSport. HUGE congratulations to the following dancers for returning to their training with such dedication, as well as for their bravery with getting back on stage: Alaina Ralph, Carly Palacz, Claire Simonelli, Kayley Marks, Kezia Martin and Tayla Lopushinsky! And extra congratulations to Alaina for her "Outstanding" Award!



Moving into the latter part of the Fall, we hosted our "Howl-o-ween" Bash, Costume Week, Competition rehearsals, as well as our Student Teacher Educational Program. After November 13th, our dancers moved online for their training and rehearsal activities. They showed up, not only physically but also with positive energy and attitudes, to work with their teachers and instructors. We

have continued to host dance classes online, as well as various fun community oriented online events, including Cooking Classes, Slime Making, Playdough Parties, Origami, Movie Nights and Craft Time!



In December, our Competitive team prepared handfuls of cards and holiday video messages (that included dancing, of course!) which were delivered to many seniors via GenHelp's Community Affections Program. In spite of the impacts of the COVID-19 virus, our Duke of Edinburgh Award recipients have continued to volunteer at the studio, as well as with other organizations, to put many smiles on many faces. Carmen Darichuk, Lyndsey Darichuk, Rachel Winkelmann and Sophia Simonelli – Much admiration



and gratitude for your continued service and hard work! Our dancers have pushed through many challenges in the past 12 months. They have adapted very well to the online experience, as they stay connected and offer lots of encouragement to each other. We are so very proud of them!

Moving into the near future, we hope to be back in the studio very soon. We are so looking forward to connecting with each other again in-person! New dance programs and opportunities will be offered to our current students AND also to any new students, who are most welcome to join us. Please reach out to us if you have any questions, or require any additional information, by sending your email to: [Contact@SpringbankDancers.com](mailto:Contact@SpringbankDancers.com) or by going to our website: [www.springbankdancers.com](http://www.springbankdancers.com) or by texting or calling: (403) 276 7918.

All of us with the Springbank Dancers wish for everyone to be safe, stay strong and be positive!

*Contributed by Mrs. Devon Maillot, Owner / Director of Springbank Dancers Inc.*

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# SPRINGBANK WILDLIFE

Like us human beings, the wildlife with whom we share our community have enjoyed a relatively mild winter right up until we all were subjected to a brutal (and hopefully only) cold snap during the second week of February. Just as we humans tried to stay close to and inside of our homes during a lengthy stretch of very cold temperatures, most of the birds and animals we live with also hunker down and lay low as they tried to stay warm and conserve their energy during cold stretches. It's truly amazing to see how wildlife adapt and stay resilient in order to survive, especially during lengthy periods of extremely cold weather!



This past December while on his morning drives to his work at SPFAS, Jeff Schmidt frequently enjoyed observing a herd of elk, including the bulls in the photo he took, roaming throughout Springbank's western region south of Highway 1 and east of Highway 22.

On a glorious (but still below freezing) day in December, Arlene Rop captured a photo of 5 deer basking in the afternoon sun in her back yard (can you find all of them?). And in January, while enjoying observing a herd of deer grazing in a pasture located just east of the Springbank United Church, she snapped her photo of 3 big bucks "on guard" watching out for the rest of their clan. During this past December and January, the bull elk and mule bucks were very actively searching for mates. This is the time of the year when they instinctively come together to begin the life cycle for the next generations of their respective species.





We also have a number of wonderful bird photos that have been contributed by Springbank residents. Jan Wittstrom has shared with us her photos of a flicker, a downy woodpecker (with a small red spot on its head) and a pileated woodpecker (with a large red tuft on its head). She was excited this past December, to for the first time in 20 years, see a pileated woodpecker in her yard! Alison Smoole enjoyed watching a male and female pair of pine grosbeaks dining at her bird feeder on the day of the winter solstice (December 21st). Only in the past two years has Alison seen these species of birds at her place.



We have all been “keepin’ on keepin’ on” and “hanging in there” through winter, the longest of our four seasons. We all deserve to look forward to the upcoming spring and summer, being hopeful that fewer virus spread prevention restrictions will be in effect and also being optimistic that lots of warm sunny weather will come our way. To help us look ahead, two residents have contributed photos they took this past summer of bobcats who visited their residences. Mary Jane Hunter discovered a bobcat resting in the corral at her place. And Gene Danysk found a bobcat perched in a tree in his yard. These terrific photos remind us that lush grass, green leaves and warm sunny days will return to Springbank later this year! Let’s all continue to enjoy the natural beauty and wildlife in our community!

We warmly thank those who have contributed their photos to this edition of the Park Patter Newsletter. You can share bird and animal photos you’ve taken in Springbank by emailing them to [jrop@springbankpark.com](mailto:jrop@springbankpark.com).

*Contributed by John Rop – SPFAS General Manager*



## Springbank Park For All Seasons

Agricultural Society

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Please note there is **FREE UNDERGROUND PARKING**  
in designated areas of the parkade downstairs. The  
entrance is at the Southwest side of our parkade.

The **PARK PATTERN** is the bimonthly newsletter of the Springbank Park For All Seasons, and is distributed free-of-charge to all residents of Springbank, Redwood Meadows and Elbow Valley (circ: approx 4,200 homes) — all T3Z postal codes. Subscriptions are available at a cost of \$50/yr. Managing Editor: John Rop.

**SUBMISSIONS & ADS** should be directed to Quick Print Graphic Services (Attn: George Vanderveen) 403-242-3113 [info@qpcalgary.com](mailto:info@qpcalgary.com)

**DISCLAIMER** The opinions expressed within any published article, report, submission or ad are those of the author, & in no way reflect the views of the Springbank Park For All Seasons Agricultural Society, its employees, volunteers or board representatives; or Quick Print Graphic Services & its employees.

**AD RATES** Ad rates are available upon request. All ads must be paid for at time of booking. Full colour is available for an additional charge. Ad bookings are subject to availability; ad rates are subject to change.

**NEXT DEADLINE** April 2<sup>nd</sup> for editorial content (contact John Rop, SPFAS General Manager). April 2<sup>nd</sup> for ads (contact George Vanderveen) 403-242-3113 for delivery mid April.



Hello, Springbank Families! I hope you are all keeping well during these trying times. Even with the given circumstances, things at the Playschool are wonderful this year! The children are enjoying lots of time out in the playground and we are exceptionally grateful for the nice winter weather we have been having!

We are currently registering children for the 2021/2022 School Year. If you have a child who will be 3 or 4 years old next year, we would love to have her or him participate in the Springbank Playschool! Please visit our website (<https://www.springbankplayschool.ca/>) to obtain more information about the registration process.

We are also excited to announce that we will be hiring a Teaching Assistant for the 2021/2022 school year! This is a welcome change for our Playschool. Ms. Kim and



Ms. Ellery are looking forward to having the additional support in the classroom. The addition of this position will lower our Instructor-to-Student Ratio significantly! All the best in 2021!

*Contributed by Trevor Prior, President of the Springbank Playschool*

## COCHRANE FOOTHILLS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION (CFPA) - THE RURAL CRIME WATCH ASSOCIATION FOR SPRINGBANK

### Who is CFPA?

CFPA is one of many crime-watch groups in Alberta focused on rural crime prevention and supporting community groups. CFPA is a registered charity and a long-standing member of the Alberta Provincial Rural Crime Watch Association. We educate our Members and others by providing crime prevention initiatives via email and community workshops, including access to the Wise Owl Fraud Prevention workshop (seniors' fraud protection). Our Members also benefit from fan-out alerts, crime prevention tips, protective signage and geospatial crime mapping awareness of criminal or suspicious activities.



### TRACE™ Pen and Signage Project

A key issue relating to rural crime is the efficient recovery and return of stolen property to its owners. To help with this effort, we are excited to offer our Members a free TRACE™ Pen and Rural Crime Watch Signage (while supplies last).

The TRACE™ Pen is a micro-dot marking and database system for protecting personal assets. It allows you to mark personal items from stock trailers to tools to artwork to jewelry and everything in between. Each pen has its own unique DNA Security Code etched in microdots suspended in fluorescent adhesive which is resistant to common chemicals and most environments.

This adhesive can be readily located and the microdot's security code is read by the RCMP's specialized tools, facilitating owner identification and expediting recovery. For more information on this project please visit our website at [www.cfparcw.ca](http://www.cfparcw.ca).

### Membership

Membership renewals are now due for 2021. Membership fees are \$20/year. Renewing Members, as well as New Members, are welcome to participate in our TRACE™ Pen and Signage Project. Membership information and application forms are available on our website [www.cfparcw.ca](http://www.cfparcw.ca).

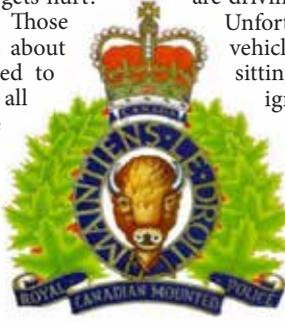
Questions can be directed to our email [info@cfparcw.ca](mailto:info@cfparcw.ca).

Statistics show that areas with an organized Rural Crime Watch have a significant reduction in criminal activity. By reporting suspicious activity in your area IMMEDIATELY to the RCMP (403) 932-2211 (Cochrane Detachment), you are supporting the quality of life in your community. To protect the quality of life in our community, we all must become its "eyes and ears." Report any suspicious activity to the police. Help prevent crime and make your community safer.

*Contributed by Bob Bleaney, CFPA Treasurer*

# RCMP DISPATCH

What did the icy road say to the car? Want to go for a spin? What falls in the winter but never gets hurt? Snow! Wow, are these dad jokes or what!! Those jokes are a good segue into information about winter driving, but first of course I need to touch on COVID-19. I know that we are all getting tired of hearing about this, but we must all remain diligent in our efforts to slow the spread of the virus. As I write this, some restrictions are going to be easing. Instead of me listing them, and them changing before this gets printed, the best and most up to date information available is on the Alberta Government's website at <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>.



it away. This creates an opportunity for people who are driving around looking for exactly this scenario. Unfortunately, we frequently have to investigate vehicles that are stolen while they were just sitting there warming up with the keys in the ignition. These vehicles are easy targets for unsuspecting victims. If you have a remote starter in your vehicle, use it. If you don't, perhaps getting one might be a good investment. Otherwise you should stay in your vehicle, or shovel your driveway, while the vehicle warms up. Leaving the vehicle running and unattended, with the keys in the ignition, is a good way to lose it, as well as the contents inside of it.

Winter driving is upon us, as well as the cold weather. We have been lucky so far, so this cold weather is even harder to take. Coping with driving in cold weather means cold starts for vehicles, lots of idling time, as well as those pesky road snakes we sometimes see. Those pesky road snakes could be yellow, blue, red or another color! I'm talking about extension cords that have been ripped from their homes, because people have forgotten to unplug their vehicles. I speak from experience about this and most of my family members don't let me forget about the road snake I created. So, I'm trying to save you the embarrassment of making your own personal road snake. Don't forget to unplug your car when you need to drive off! That's the biggest public service announcement I can make!

Also with the cold weather comes starting your vehicle a bit early to take the winter edge off before you drive

Winter driving takes a different set of skills than driving in the summer. The biggest difference is less traction in the winter than in the summer. Cold winter weather brings ice, snow, and usually even more ice. Good winter tires are one way to combat the traction problem. In Canada, snow tires are marked with a pictograph of a peaked mountain along with a snowflake. Slowing down is another good tip for winter driving, especially while approaching intersections that are covered with ice or snow. Allowing extra time to travel to your destinations if the weather is bad, or when driving conditions are poor, is another good idea. And a strong overall focus on driving with more due care and attention will also help you as you drive your vehicle in the winter.

Please stay safe, warm and healthy.

*Contributed by RCMP Constable Clayton Gelinas - Cochrane Detachment*



## Birds of Different Feathers

Birds of different feathers sticking together in and around Jan Wittstrom's bird feeder

*Contributed by: Jan Wittstrom*





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# MAKENNA MORRISON'S JOURNEY GROWING UP IN SPRINGBANK

As a young girl, I was lucky enough to grow up in the small and supportive community of Springbank. I fondly remember spending most of my weekends running around the Springbank hockey rink with my little sisters while my brother was on the ice, or I was across the road playing soccer at the SPFAS fields. During the week, you could catch me in the Springbank Middle School with my teachers who were always eager to hear about my last soccer game or practice. I have spent the past seven years in the Springbank school system and I am now currently in my last year of high school and looking forward to graduation.

Growing up in Springbank has given me the opportunity to meet and surround myself with so many supportive, kind and encouraging people. From a young age, I found myself surrounded by likeminded dedicated athletes and friends who have helped shape me into the person I am today. Although I was playing soccer on the other side of the city, I still felt as though our community was cheering me on every step of the way. I could always count on the community to buy raffle tickets for my soccer team, leave their bottles out for bottle drive fundraisers and even offer me a



ride to practice when my parents were busy driving 3 other kids around. No matter what fundraiser or other circumstance I was in, people were always there to support me in any way needed.

Over the past 6 months, I have been very fortunate to be able to use the Springbank Park For All Season Soccer fields to get some extra practice in, as well as the new Springbank Soccer Club indoor facility to train in when it got too cold outside. I am so grateful to everybody who supported me while I have been chasing after my dreams. With the support of the Springbank community, I have attained a full ride scholarship to play Division 1 soccer at Miami (Ohio) University.

The Springbank community provided me with plenty of role models to look up to when I was younger and I hope that I can do the same for the young girls growing up in the Springbank community now. I am looking forward to my next journey at university, but I am also excited about continuing to give back to the community by helping coach the next generation of athletes.

*Contributed by Makenna Morrison*

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# BRAYDEN MORRISON'S EXPERIENCE GROWING UP IN SPRINGBANK

As a young kid 10 years of age, I was fortunate to move to and grow up in the small community of Springbank. I attended Springbank Middle School and then moved on to the Springbank Community High School after that. I played all of my minor hockey in Springbank with the Springbank Minor Hockey Association (SMHA) before graduating into the Northwest Calgary Athletic Association (NWCAA) quadrant system along with several of my friends and teammates.

Growing up in Springbank, I believe I benefitted from being surrounded by likeminded peers and athletes who have helped me develop into the person I am today. I have spent alot of time around the Springbank Park

For All Seasons for hockey and for other activities as well. I have used the facilities a ton for playing minor league baseball, as well as for participating in multisport activities through the Global Sport Academy Program at the Springbank Community High School. Participating in many different sports has played a key role in my development as an athlete. This has ultimately contributed to me receiving a full ride scholarship to play collegiate hockey at the University of Wisconsin.

I was very lucky to grow up being coached by my dad, Brendan Morrison, and other former NHL players, Geoff Sanderson and Chris Lindberg, along with some

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other great volunteer parent coaches. My teammates have also played a big part in my development, especially when I was on teams with guys like Dylan Holloway and Jake Sanderson who both were selected in the first round of the 2020 NHL draft.

SMHA has a great reputation within the minor hockey community and the Association continues to develop elite hockey players. Several of my former teammates are currently playing junior hockey and are having success as well.

I feel very fortunate and lucky to have grown up and played my minor sports here in Springbank. The community has helped shape me into the person I am today, and I am very grateful for that.

*Contributed by Brayden Morrison*



## SIX SPRINGBANK SOCCER CLUB PLAYERS SELECTED FOR ELITE TRAINING PROGRAM

The Springbank Soccer Club (SSC) is very pleased to inform the Springbank Community that, in the Fall of 2020, six of the Club's players were offered opportunities to participate in the Vancouver Whitecaps' Boys MLS Prospects Academy. The Whitecaps' Academy provides an elite soccer development training program to selected individuals who are highly motivated to enhance their soccer talents, skills and abilities. Individuals enrolled in the Academy can potentially create opportunities for themselves to, in the future, play soccer professionally in many different countries (as soccer is "the world's game"). In 2020, the Academy scouted players located throughout the Greater Calgary Region in order to fill 15 openings in the Fall/Winter Indoor Soccer Program operated from its Calgary Satellite Branch. The Academy filled 6 of these openings by selecting members of the Springbank Soccer Club.

The Vancouver Whitecaps are one of the 27 professional teams that plays in North America's Major Soccer League (MLS). Canada is represented in the MSL by the Whitecaps, as well as by teams located in Toronto and Montreal. Some of the players who've formerly participated in the Whitecaps' Prospects Academy have advanced to play soccer professionally in the MSL, as well as for various European professional soccer clubs.

The entire Springbank Soccer Club extends both congratulations and encouragement to defenders Paul Rappel and Joaquin Aoki, midfielders Zavi Ghebrezghi



and Yihyeon Kim and forwards Anson Minty and Ziyad Eltrabily, the six players affiliated with the Club who have been invited to join the Whitecaps' Academy. These six lads have been excellent SSC representatives. Just prior to being selected for the Whitecaps' Academy, they played together on the Club's 2020 Spring/Summer Tier 1 U15 Boys Team. They also all were members of the Springbank Team that won the 2019 U13 Tier 1 Boys Provincial

Outdoor Soccer Championship, the Springbank Soccer Club's 1st provincial championship at the Tier 1 level. Keep having fun while chasing your dreams, lads!

*Contributed by Vance Alexander – Springbank Soccer Club's General Manager*



# RISE OF THE "PHOENIX" IN USPORTS!

Due to COVID-19 and the impact that this pandemic has had on the globe, it's been an 'unprecedented year' for all. Senior High School athletes seemed initially to be at a disadvantage this year with health restrictions effectively "cancelling" athletics in schools and 'stealing' their final opportunities in Grade 12 to showcase their talents and abilities.

This has certainly been nothing short of challenging on many levels, and perhaps why this year feels a little 'sweeter' than others. The Springbank Community High School (SCHS) Phoenix Football Team's coaching staff members are beyond honoured to be a part of this group of three young men who are advancing to study and play football at Canada's university level after completing their Grade 12 studies and football seasons this school year. As coaches, we couldn't be prouder to see the tremendous work ethic and investments from all of our student-athletes as they work to achieve their goals and aspirations. We are very pleased to recognize and acknowledge this year's outstanding class of three committed USports Football Athletes!

Please join us in congratulating Danny Skelton, Jakob Toews and Ryan Morrow on creating their respective paths to USports Football. Throughout this school year's adversity, these three incredible young men have committed to staying focused and have dedicated themselves not only to their athletics, but



more importantly, to their academics – effectively earning each of them their respective USport Football opportunities.

Although each year I generally sit with each athlete to discuss their football season, for obvious reasons, this year I've requested that the boys each provide a brief write-up to share with our community. I asked the boys when they started their "football journey", what their proudest 'football' moment has been to date,

as well as what their plans are moving forward. Once again, congratulations and good luck to all three of you! Danny, Ryan and Jake, we couldn't be more proud!

**Danny Skelton (Quarterback):** "I began playing football at the age of 10. Initially, I was just playing for fun, but as I grew older and began playing at higher levels, I began to realize the many opportunities that football brings to young adults. That's when I knew it was something I wanted to pursue. There have been many memorable moments throughout my career so far, but what I am most proud of is being able to take a look at myself and my teammates and feel proud about the progression we have all made as men, thanks to the game, to each other, and especially to our coaches. I'd like to thank my coaches, as well as my parents, for all they have done for me. I will be attending the University of Windsor to study Business and play for the Lancers Football Program."



Danny Skelton



Jakob "Jake" Toews



Ryan "Toothpaste Man" Morrow

**Jakob “Jake” Toews (Lineman):** “I started playing football in the 4th grade (when I was 9 years old) in Cochrane. In 8th grade, I played on the Junior Springbank Team for 2 years and then I started playing for the Senior Phoenix Team at age 15. My proudest football moment was when I was named a starter in my first year of high school football. I knew then that my hard work had given me the opportunity to start against some opponents who were more than 2 years older than me. I'd really like to thank my parents, teachers and coaches for always pushing me to be my best, whether it be in the classroom or on the football field. Next year, I will be attending St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, where I will be playing football

for the X-men Football Program while taking Business.”

**Ryan “Toothpaste Man” Morrow (Safety):** “I started playing football in the 7th grade (at age 12) for the Springbank Junior Team. Over the next 6 seasons, I grew and developed as a student-athlete. My proudest moment is the brotherhood that we've created during our time on the Phoenix Senior Football Team. I'd like to give thanks to all my coaches and teammates for helping me develop into the man I am today. I am proud to announce that I have committed to the University of Windsor to further both my academic career in Business, and my athletic career with the Lancers Football Program.”

*Contributed by Shane Martell for SCHS and the High School's Phoenix Football Team*

## Sunrise Casting Shadows Across the Frozen Lake in Elbow Valley

*Contributed by Lynda Gilchrist*



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## SSC WELCOMES CLINT DUNFORD AS THE CLUB'S NEW TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Clint is already well known and respected within our Springbank Soccer Club community, as many of our members are aware that, since 2018, he has served as the Club's Assistant Technical Director while working alongside Chris McKaig. Clint's soccer philosophy, commitment to player development, experience and work ethic make him an exceptional candidate to serve as the SSC's Technical Director.



Clint has a long-standing commitment to soccer in Alberta, having spent over 20 years as a player, coach and administrator. He holds his Provincial B coaching certificate and is continuing his professional development through the Canada Soccer licensing stream. Clint grew up playing soccer in Alberta. He has played at the Tier 1 level, he has attended Canada Soccer Youth Nationals events and he has also traveled to Germany and Brazil to play against semi-professional youth teams. Clint worked for more than 4 years with the Calgary Minor Soccer Association as its Program and Tournament Coordinator. He also has prior experience coaching with the Vancouver Whitecaps Southern Alberta Academy, as well as serving as an assistant coach for Alberta Soccer Youth Provincial Teams. And he recently served as the Head Coach of the 2020 Boys Alberta Winter Games Futsal Team. Clint took over Technical Director's role as of January 1st. He will be collaborating weekly with our Technical Advisor, Chris McKaig, for the foreseeable future. We are very excited to see Clint lead SSC's next chapter of player and program development!

## OUTDOOR SOCCER SEASON REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

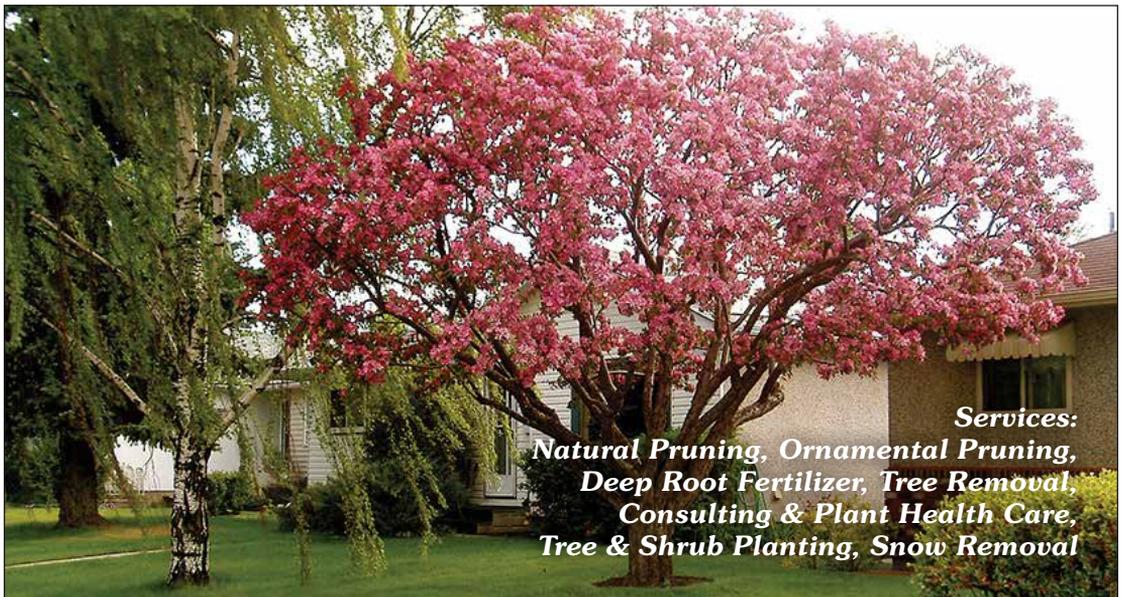
We continue to be optimistic and plan for our outdoor soccer program to start in April/May of 2021. During the 2020 outdoor season when everything changed due to the COVID-19 virus, the Club worked closely with all of our families after the initial outdoor season registration was completed to offer our membership a wide array of safe and fun soccer activities, as well as different types of discounts and refunds in recognition of the restructuring of some of the Club's programs and the wishes of some of our member families. As the Club has demonstrated to date while helping individuals play soccer during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are committed to continuing to be flexible and agile moving on into the upcoming outdoor season. As we look forward to the new season, we are planning to potentially have to address situations similar to those encountered during this pandemic. The Club expresses gratitude and appreciation to our member families for their ongoing support and we hope both our current as well as new families will support the Club by having their children participate in the programs that will be available. Let's plan to be safe, while at the same time, let's do our best to create fun activities for kids and their families – activities that contribute to their physical well being, their mental health and their ability to socialize with others.



# OPENING OF SSC'S NEW INDOOR SOCCER FACILITY

We opened the Club's new Springbank Indoor Soccer Facility this past October. We managed to complete more than a month of indoor training before Alberta Health mandated restrictions that curtailed our ability to deliver our indoor programs. As I write this, currently after about 2 ½ months of being closed, the Club can now have up to 10 participants utilizing our facility at any given time. We of course are hoping and planning for mandated restrictions to continue to be eased. Many families have really enjoyed using this new indoor venue. We thank everyone who has continued to support the SSC by renting this venue, as well as by volunteering their time and expertise to help keep the Club functioning and operational during these difficult times.

*Contributed by Vance Alexander – Springbank Soccer Club's General Manager*



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