

## Neighbourhood News

### Cougar Ridge Residents Association Update

The Cougar Ridge Residents Association (CRRA) became fully operational in October 2008 when United Communities (developer of Cougar Ridge) turned over the community to the residents. Some of you may recall that when you signed your mortgage, you signed a piece of paper that said there would be community fees of \$100 per year that you would be asked to pay at some point in the future. This was an encumbrance registered on your property. The purpose of the encumbrance was to be able to landscape, maintain and enhance our community. No fees were collected until 2009 because United Communities didn't adhere to the Articles of Association, thereby collecting no fees.

After the 2009 fees were collected, the CRRA board set a mandate to make landscaping the main priority

of the resident's association. In 2010, a third party contractor was hired to start landscaping. Carlson Irrigation was hired to help design and revamp the four main entranceways into our community. New bushes, perennials and annuals were planted, and then maintained for the rest of the season. This year we are looking at improving the medians/boardwalks by adding planters of flowers and greenery. The City of Calgary does not allow residents associations to plant/remove trees, but we are planning a meeting this spring with the City's Urban Forestry department to plant new trees throughout Cougar Ridge and replace any problem trees.

Unfortunately, the CRRA does have budget restrictions. We are not yet able to take over all the landscaping and maintenance of the parks and grass mowing from the City within our community. This means this is still the City's responsibility. The City is responsible for clearing snow on

major roadways, but not our walking paths, and snow removal is out of the CRRA's budget as well at this time. The City of Calgary does have its 311 service that is available to every tax-paying citizen in Calgary. You can call 311 to report graffiti, road issues, and areas that require grass mowing.

The CRRA is working hard to beautify our community and make it a more enjoyable place to live. If you have any inquiries, please email at [feedback@mycougarridge.com](mailto:feedback@mycougarridge.com) or check out our website [www.mycougarridge.com](http://www.mycougarridge.com). ✧ *Submitted by Tamara McDougall*