

COMMUNITY *News*

FALL 2021



“These animals illustrate the diversity of wildlife that inhabit the South Saskatchewan River as well as the surrounding urban environment.”

– Two Exciting New Public Art Projects, p. 9-10

Artists in Place: The Bunkhouse Project

Artists in Place: The Bunkhouse Project is an artist in residence studio program located in the historic Bunkhouse at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo (SFFPZ). The program is sponsored by the City of Saskatoon. Residencies are open to emerging Saskatoon artists with proposals inspired by the nature, animals and people at the SFFPZ; priority is given to artists from Black, Indigenous and People of Colour communities.

Artists Kas Rea (visual artist), Julia Million (watercolour, illustrator, and collage artist) and artist team Drew Mantyka and Sammy Ramsay (theatre artists) were in residence from September 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021.

An exhibition of their work, along with a sneak peek of some current artists in residence works was held on August 28, 2021 to great success. Work of Peace Akintade, Micah Jane, Cristine Andrew-Stuckel, Diana Roelens and Ania Ślusarczyk was also displayed. Close to 100 people came to the afternoon event in the gazebo area behind the Bunkhouse.

Kas Rea featured acrylic portrait paintings of animals that are endangered or at risk of being endangered. Rea chose to paint the animals in their natural habitats in the wild. Her goal is to build awareness about preserving these animals and their habitats so they can live in the wild for generations to come. Julia Million shared her watercolour and magazine collages of various animals at the Zoo. Drew Mantyka and Sammy Ramsay launched their Wonder City Collective theatre company with readings from the verbatim theatre piece they created by interviewing staff and visitors.

The artists reflect on their residencies:

"My time at the Bunkhouse artist residency was a wonderful, worthwhile experience. I learned a lot about the SFFPZ, its history and values which influenced my artwork. I appreciated the access to studio space, which was a good size to work comfortably and efficiently... I am grateful for the opportunity and I have already encouraged other artists to apply." - Kas Rea

"Throughout my term at the Forestry Farm Park & Zoo I took many walks around the zoo to observe what these animals were like and their personalities. I also reached out to some of the animal care specialists to hear from

L-R: Kas Rea, Drew Mantyka, Sammy Ramsay and Julia Million in front of Kas's paintings



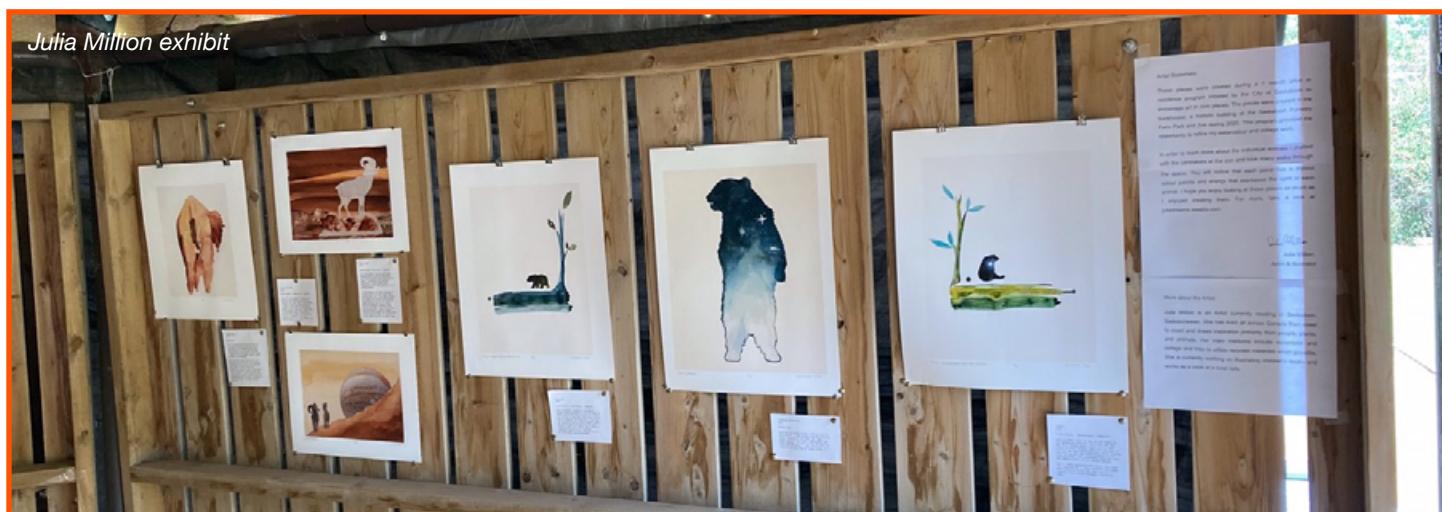
Visitors take in the art



Wonder City Collective Staged Reading



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Julia Million exhibit

them the stories of these animals. What a joyful thing it was to hear the stories and then try to translate them onto paper using my medium. In the end I created just over a dozen mixed media works that I am proud of and hope to share with others.” – Julia Million

“We had such an amazing time during our Residency at the Bunkhouse. Although the pandemic made it a little more difficult than we would have liked, we are still working on a showcase that we cannot wait to share. We learned so much about the Forestry Farm and the very building we were working in and had many great conversations with the staff. Spending time in the

building with so much history had us feeling inspired and motivated to create every single day, and there were many walks around the gardens. We especially loved being at the zoo so often and took every opportunity to go and see the animals.” –Sammy Ramsay and Drew Mantyka, Wonder City Collective

– Kathy Allen, Arts & Grants Consultant



For more information about The Bunkhouse Project visit saskatoon.ca/bunkhouse, or contact Kathy Allen at kathy.allen@saskatoon.ca.

Welcome to New Residents from Afghanistan

With the recent tragic events in Afghanistan, Canada has committed to providing a safe home for 22,000 Afghan refugees. Saskatoon will be the destination community for many over the next several months.

The Saskatoon Open Door Society (SODS) will be working with community members to provide essential settlement and support services like airport receptions, interpretation and translation services, housing, quarantining and Covid-19 health and safety precautions, income support, health cards and medical appointments, transportation, grocery shopping, registering children for school, and more.

At this critical time SODS is asking for support in the following ways:

- Cash donations
- Non-monetary donations
- Volunteering your time

For more information, please visit their website at sods.sk.ca/home/support-afghan-refugees.

– April Sora, Immigration & Inclusion Consultant

Meadowgreen Community Vaccine Clinic

Community groups came together to set up a community Covid-19 vaccination clinic in May and July of 2021.

The City of Saskatoon reached out to Karen, South Sudanese, Nepalese, Eritrean and other communities to hold the clinic at the House for All Nations in Meadowgreen, a neighbourhood home to many individuals with lived refugee/immigrant experience.

Community leaders Bwe Doh Soe and Senos Timon reached out, and coordinated and scheduled appointments for more than 100 residents to visit a clinic that offered interpreters, group vaccines and kind, friendly and patient Saskatchewan Healthy Authority nurses and doctors who administered the vaccine. The Saskatoon Police Service set up snacks and a place to rest. Mayor Charlie Clark dropped by to wish everyone well and spend some time talking to volunteers and vaccine recipients.

Having Timon, Doh Soe and other volunteers on site to offer supports and answer questions was very helpful. Clinic visitors felt more comfortable knowing that familiar people from their communities were there. Timon and Doh Soe are the only two people in the city who could have made this happen. They know the population and together, we set ourselves up for success.

This clinic was a model of community development and health equity and how we can work collaboratively *with* community *for* community.

– April Sora, Immigration & Inclusion Consultant



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Free Swim at Harry Bailey

On the first ever National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Recreation and Community Development Community Programming Team offered a free swim at Harry Bailey Aquatic Centre. The event was a response to Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action #66 and #89 which speak to youth programming and creating health and well-being opportunities by reducing barriers to sport participation. In total 17 adults, five youth, nine preschool and nine families attended this swim.

Commissioned art by Kevin Peeace was displayed in the lobby of Harry Bailey. His artwork is dedicated to the children missing, found and survivors. This large, beautiful piece of art was prominent as patrons entered, and set the tone for the purpose of the swim. Staff at the event sported orange t-shirts, including lifeguards who traded in their traditional jerseys for orange ones.

City of Saskatoon ambassador, Erin Berger, was at the event to talk to people as they came in and answer any questions they had. She shared many experiences and conversations

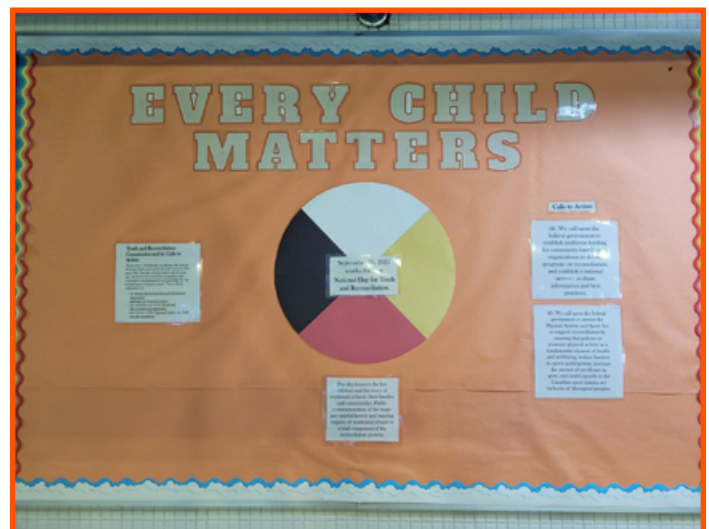
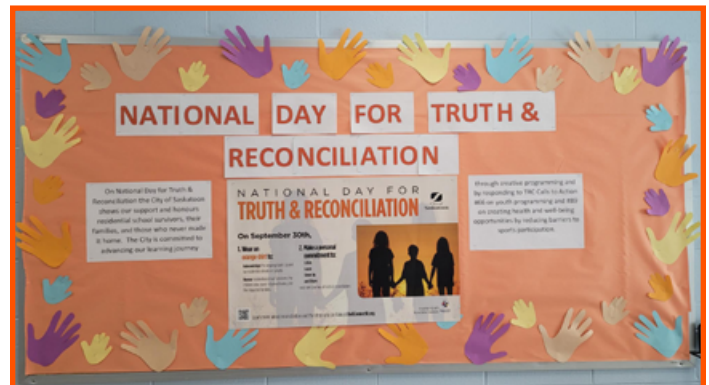
about the day. One that stuck with her was this: *"Two boys aged 12 and 13. They had found out from their substitute teacher this week at College Park school. They had been going over the day off school and what the kids were going to do and she read through how the City was hosting a free swim to honour the TRC calls to action for creative programming and health and well being opportunities! No Joke! These kids recited it! This just about made me cry."*

Thank you to the programming team, staff at Harry Bailey, Erin, and everyone who promoted this event. Keep your eyes open for more events and initiatives planned in response to the Calls to Action.

– Heidi Estrada, Community Consultant



Artwork by Kevin Peeace



Above: Bulletin board displays at Harry Bailey

Orange Crosswalk at St. Angela School

Grade 8 students at St. Angela School reached out for support from Silverwood Heights Community Association for a simple yet vital project this fall. They wanted to paint their school crosswalk orange in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The Silverwood Heights volunteers jumped at the chance to support this project saying, *"We agree this initiative would be instrumental to show awareness and support to help heal generations of suffering and demonstrate a connection to the Community in making a visible impact that every child matters."*

This answers the Call to Action number 83 which calls on *"both Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists to undertake collaborative projects and produce works that contribute to the reconciliation process."*

The result was a beautiful orange crosswalk complete with white feathers on Russell Road prominently in front of St. Angela School. Sometimes it can be challenging for Community Associations to know how they can get involved in Reconciliation. Thank you to Silverwood Heights for taking this step and showing your support.

– Heidi Estrada, Community Consultant



Connect • Be Active • Volunteer • Learn COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS



 City of
Saskatoon

Funding Provided to Neighbourhood Rinks

City of Saskatoon Community Association volunteers operate more than 53 ice surfaces throughout city neighbourhoods. These ice surfaces allow many residents to access affordable winter sport and recreation opportunities.

Not only do countless volunteer hours go into preparing and maintaining rink surfaces throughout the winter months, there is also much needed off-season repair and maintenance to ensure these amenities are in tip top shape!

The Neighbourhood Services Section of Community Development provides annual financial assistance to community associations through rink operating grants. In 2020-21, more than \$40,000 was provided to assist community groups with neighbourhood rink operation. This accounts for less than 50 per cent of community rink operating budgets, meaning each community association also contributes a significant amount of funding towards running their rinks each season.

In addition to the annual rink operating grant, community associations can also apply for funding through a rink improvement grant from the Neighbourhood Services Section. The rink improvement grant is earmarked for major infrastructure repairs or upgrades like rink surface levelling, board replacements, puck board installations and lighting upgrades. In many cases, grants of up to \$7,500 have been provided to assist with rink rebuilds. In 2021, more than \$45,000 was provided to seven community associations for major infrastructure repairs and new rink development.

Holiday Park Rink Upgrades

Holiday Park Community Association volunteers have done a lot of work on their outdoor rink this past year. This summer they used the rink improvement grant to upgrade and replace all their lighting to new, energy-efficient LED lights. Late in 2020, the Neighbourhood Services Section provided a \$350 bursary for additional seating. Holiday Park was one of 38 Community Associations that used the bursary program to provide additional resources for their rinks.

The final piece of the Holiday Park rink facelift was the new rink shack, donated by the Hampton Village Community Association. Hampton Village's old storage shed needed a new home, and volunteers wanted to ensure the building was donated to another community who could use it. The timing couldn't have been better, as Holiday Park Community Association was in need of a shack for their rink at

Rink shack donated from Hampton Village Community Association



New lighting and seating at Holiday Park rink

St. John School. During the summer months, Holiday Park and Hampton Village worked to have the building relocated from Al Anderson Park to the St. John School grounds. This generous gift from one community association to another will be widely used and enhance their winter and rink programming for years to come.

Thank you to the Hampton Village Community Association for being so generous with the building. Also, a big thank you to the volunteers at Holiday Park for coming together to provide your community with an upgraded winter space. This is a great example of how Community Associations can work together to foster community within and beyond their community borders.

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Rosewood's new outdoor rink

Rosewood Rink

As Saskatoon continues to grow, so does the need for outdoor spaces like community rinks in new neighbourhoods. After three years of planning and fundraising, the Rosewood Community Association has the funds available to build the new rink. The rink will be a gathering place for all to enjoy, during a time when outdoor winter activities have never been needed more.

Through support of local and city-wide organizations, the Rosewood Community Association has spent nearly \$100,000 in order to make this community space a reality.

The City of Saskatoon is constructing a new building in Glen Penner Park this year as well. The plan is that residents will have a rink area that can will be used and enjoyed during all seasons of the year.

Congratulations Rosewood Community Association on your new rink and all the best this coming winter. Thank you to all the volunteers for your dedication to maintaining these rinks.

– Shane Carter, Community Consultant

Special Events

Silverspring's Fall Movie Night

Families were snuggled in with snacks, and laughter could be heard throughout Silverspring Park at this year's Fall Movie Night event. Almost 165 children, youth and families safely gathered to take in the movie *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle* on a massive 30 ft wide inflatable screen.

September 25th was warm fall night and autumn fashion was on display with trees dressed in red, yellow and orange. This set the stage for the Silverspring Community Association Annual General Meeting and Community Movie Night. Overall, the event was a tremendous success.

The Silverspring Community Association would like to thank all those that attended and for Saskatoon Audio Visual hosting a great movie night. The Silverspring Board Members and event-day volunteers deserved a special thank you for putting on this event. Without the support of the community, this event would not have been possible!



Community Associations enhance the quality of life for residents throughout Saskatoon. They bring neighbours together, foster community relationships and build community spirit.

– Shane Carter, Community Consultant

Welcome Community Consultant – Alicia Worm

My name is Alicia Worm and I am from Kawacatoose First Nation, located on Treaty 4 Territory & Homeland of the Métis.

Throughout elementary and high school, I grew up on Kawacatoose but spent most of my time playing recreational sports in Raymore, SK. At the age of 16 years, I moved to Saskatoon where I completed my high school diploma, and later, a degree in education at the University of Saskatchewan. This is where my passion grew to become an active member in the community, as a board member and volunteer with Saskatchewan Urban Native Teaching Education Program Student Council, then later at Saskatoon Indian & Métis Friendship Centre and more recently with the Saskatoon Aboriginal Professional Association.

My career with the City of Saskatoon started 10 years ago as a programmer with the Summer Play Program, and later becoming the successful candidate for a full-time position as the Indigenous Community Programmer. Over the past six years, I had the opportunity to plan and implement programs

with community-based organizations and community schools like White Buffalo Youth Lodge, Saskatoon Indian & Métis Friendship Centre, Quint Development, Westmount Elementary School and Bedford Collegiate, to name a few.

As the newest member of the Community Consultant team, it is my pleasure to be assisting and supporting the Riversdale, King George, Pleasant Hill, Westmount, Mount Royal and Hudson Bay Park/Mayfair/Woodlawn Community Associations. With my work and volunteer experiences, I hope to contribute in the development and success of our Community Associations.



Two Exciting New Public Art Projects

The City recently installed two exciting new public art projects: “Out from Out Where X,” a sculpture at City Hall and “Inner City,” a mural beneath the Senator Sid Buckwold Bridge.

Inner City

Josh Jacobson completed “Inner City,” a large-scale mural covering 1,675 square feet (156 square metres), late in the summer. This work was commissioned by the City of Saskatoon for the temporary art mural program.

The mural highlights an urban jackrabbit bounding towards Saskatoon city centre. She might be considered the main character in the story, well adapted to the urban environment. She has learned to coexist with the city’s urban habitats, aware that things move quickly here, she’s always ready.

From left to right, the Saskatoon cityscape blends with modern geometric design elements. As you walk along a gradual shift occurs, the wall becomes more populated by a variety of animal silhouettes. These animals illustrate the diversity of wildlife that inhabit the South Saskatchewan River as well as the surrounding urban environment. Visually this serves as a backdrop to highlight the rabbit and the unifying qualities of the river.



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"Inner City" mural

Considering the mural's location, it was important to highlight the importance that River Landing plays in our growing and vibrant city; with all the new development it has become an integral space for the cultural and business community as well as visitors and citizens.

Follow Josh Jacobson and his work on Instagram:
[@j.jacobson_](#)

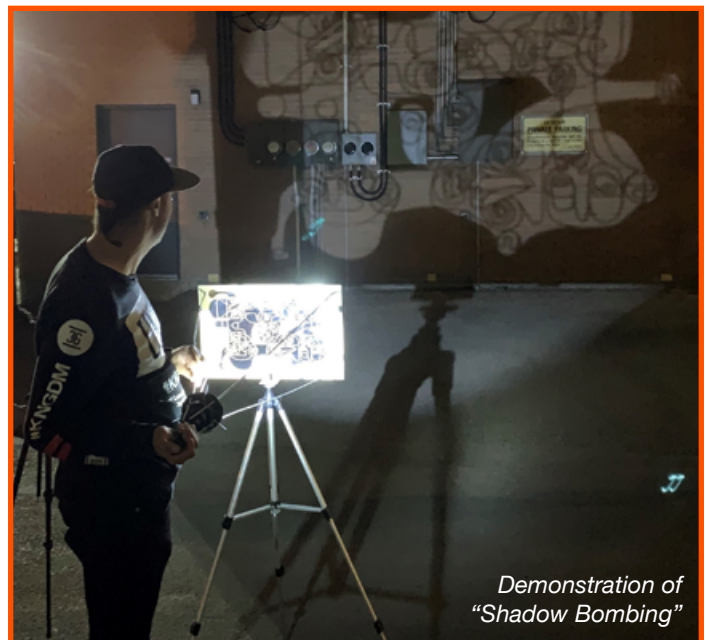
Out from Out Where X

Artist Bryan Faubert created the "Out from Out Where X" metal sculpture; this figure-based piece is a cultural, ethnic, and gender-fluid hybrid. The root systems, which extend from the figure's head, suggest our need to create a greater bond with our natural environment. Everything and everyone is connected. We work on ourselves to be better people for the benefit of others, and figuring this out with a connected, understanding community is our way through.

Faubert visited several locations around Saskatoon with the sculpture in the back of his truck in late August. He invited the public to engage in conversation and dialogue about art in collision with everyday life. He also demonstrated his "Shadow Bombing" mural projection device (a wooden cut-out of his drawings attached to a light source).

The sculpture is part of Saskatoon's Placemaker Temporary Public Art Program. To learn more about Bryan Faubert and his work visit bryanfaubert.com.

– Alejandro Romero, Arts & Culture Consultant
Kathy Allen, Arts & Grants Consultant



Demonstration of
"Shadow Bombing"



"Out from Out Where X"



To learn more about the City's Public Art programs and to browse the collection, visit saskatoon.ca/publicart.

Newsletter Workshop

The virtual Newsletter Coordinator Workshop was very successful with ideas shared and connections made. The Neighbourhood Services Section hosted the workshop on May 27, 2021 and discussion included how many newsletters are required annually, typical costs of printing and delivery and what content to include in a newsletter. The workshop was well-attended with 21 coordinators representing 19 different Community Associations.

Coordinators shared previous newsletters for others to see, and questions were asked about process, design software, printing, delivery and everything in between. As always, the best learning comes from each other. Although it is more challenging to connect virtually, getting together to share ideas is still very valuable and appreciated.

Volunteers are usually treated to snacks and other goodies at in-person events. Since this was virtual, we delivered cookies that looked like newsletters with a beverage to the hardworking volunteers' homes. These cookies truly did taste as good as they looked.

Thank you to all the coordinators who participated and shared their knowledge.

Here are some workshop takeaways and tips to follow:

Remember, in order to meet the Community Development Section funding requirements, there is to be at least one



printed newsletter to be delivered to each household in the neighbourhood each year. Doing this:

- Raises awareness of the Community Association
- Advertises programming
- Advertises the AGM and monthly meetings
- Recruits more volunteers.

Items to consider when thinking about the newsletter:

- Have volunteers deliver the newsletter. This can be a great way to strike up a conversation with your neighbours about the Community Association and all the great things accomplished.
- Some people want to volunteer with the Community Association, however, do not have the time to offer a more permanent commitment. Newsletter delivery can be a great way to involve these volunteers.
- Support a local group or fundraising initiative and pay them to deliver the newsletter. This can be a great way of supporting these efforts.

Here are some small items to add interest in the newsletter:

- President's message
- General CA awareness
- Community history
- Community Association member spotlight
- Advertising
- Volunteer recruitment and recognition

– Heidi Estrada, Community Consultant

“Remember, in order to meet the Community Development Section funding requirements, there is to be at least one printed newsletter to be delivered to each household in the neighbourhood each year.”



For more information on upcoming training, or if you have ideas for possible training opportunities, please contact your Community Consultant.



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