

President's Corner

Over the past winter, I have been privileged to work with our enthusiastic Board members on several projects:

- Commenting on matters of concern to London Road Area residents, such as the Civic Field issue, the Regal Grocery site, and proposed improvements to Kiwanis Park;
- Working with residents on neighbourhood issues;
- Bright Lights Festival at Galt Gardens; and,
- Christmas at Annandale Home Tour (a big thanks to the Bland family!).

We invite you to join LRNA. The more members we have the more credibility we have as a *community* organization. On behalf of the Board, we thank you for your interest. I hope to see you at the Annual General Meeting.

Best regards,

Greg Norman, President, LRNA

Get To Know Your Neighbours!

- Wave **hello** and go over to **chat**
- Host a **BBQ** or **backyard potluck**
- Give out **candy** at **Halloween**
- Get involved in **Neighbourhood Watch**
- Bake some **cookies** and bring them over
- Have a backyard **doggy play date**
- Get involved with your **neighbourhood association**
- Join us on **Facebook**
- Join a **City Circle**

facebook

group
in
your
area



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About LRNA

Established in 1974, the London Road Neighbourhood Association is a non-profit association dedicated to maintaining the qualities of the historical London Road neighbourhood that make it one of the finest communities in the City. We work closely with the City and provide considered opinion to changes that may affect and enhance the quality of residency within the London Road Area.

Thanks, Neighbours!

- for **shoveling** your walk
- for **feeding the birds** over winter
- for **cleaning up after your pooch**



the Jasmine Room

FURNITURE & GIFTWARE BOUTIQUE
TEA ROOM



- Heartwarming Gifts - Home Accents - Furniture -
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1112 - 6 Avenue South, Lethbridge 403-394-9281



LRNA 2008-2009 BOARD

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Past President: Diane Horvath

Past Vice President: Tom McKenzie

Directors

Rachael Andrew Marko Hilgersom

Trish Christensen Jason Josey

Kate Connolly Em Pijl-Zieber

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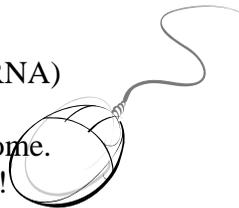
Website: www.londonroad.org

Telephone: 403.329.5762 (403.329.LRNA)

Email: more@londonroad.org

Messages or inquires are always welcome.

We will respond as soon as we can!



London Road Neighbourhood Association

SPRING 2009 NEWSLETTER

London Road Residents Are

Building Community

Through Block Parties and Neighbourhood Potlucks



How well do you know your neighbours? Do you know their names? Their children's names? Their dog's name? Do you know your neighbours well enough to invite them over for coffee or borrow a cup of sugar? Inside this issue of the LRNA newsletter we are highlighting some of the efforts neighbours are making to bring London Road residents together to build a stronger sense of community. What a great neighbourhood!

Update on the Issues

- **Widening 6th Avenue South:** Since a City representative alerted the LRNA and residents to this possibility, it remains unclear as to when this might happen. Apparently, it is not in the City's 10-year plan. There is a **Facebook** group called "**Lethbridge Citizens Against the Proposed Widening of 6th Ave. South**" you can join.
- **Kiwanis Park:** The City is making plans to improve this neighbourhood park by replacing the **playground!**
- **Operation Clean Sweep:** Thank you to everyone who participated! The LRNA Board cleaned up some alleys.
- **Plan Your City:** Thank you to everyone who participated in the City's "Plan Your City" events. Sessions were informative and allowed participants to express their views on development, the environment, and roadways in Lethbridge.
- **City Circles:** You can form a group with your neighbours and friends to discuss how Lethbridge should develop and then submit your ideas to the City. Contact Brian Conger at 403.329.7139 or brian.conger@aecom.com to sign up! **London Road Neighbourhood** has set up a **Facebook Group** dedicated to these discussions and has registered as an official City Circle group. The group creator will compile and submit the findings. **Have a say! Be heard!**

Annual General Meeting

You are invited to the AGM of the LRNA:

When: June 25 (Thursday), 7:00 p.m.

Where: Public Library, Theatre

- Get to know your neighbours
- Learn about and discuss neighbourhood issues, such as the Civic Field
- Guest speaker: Maureen Gaehring (City of Lethbridge) will be on hand to address concerns
- Purchase a lifetime membership (\$5)

London Road Neighbourhood is now on

facebook

Go to www.londonroad.org and click on the "Facebook" link. It'll take you right to the group "London Road Neighbourhood Kicks A**!!!"

The group also hosts a **City Circle forum** for YOU to express YOUR views on what our city and neighbourhood should be like!

Neighbourhood Potlucks!

by Trish & Charlie Christensen

We love our neighbours and want to create a stronger sense of community in our fine neighbourhood! Our formal efforts to bring the neighbourhood together began when we started meeting many young families and thought it would be great to get them together. We thought a potluck would be just the thing!



Neighbours gather for lunch while the kids play nearby.

We chose a day for the potluck and made up simple invitations, and a close neighbour helped us deliver them to the neighbours that we had met. We encouraged all of them to invite the people in the area that they knew as well. Two teachers in the neighbourhood borrowed tables from their school and we purchased plastic plates, cutlery and cups that could be washed and reused so cost was low and waste was minimal.

On the big day, sixty people showed up, and with them a very generous spread of food! It was amazing to get to know our neighbours better, and the kids had a blast running around, playing and making new friends. Now, we hold those potlucks a few times a year. What a great way to make London Road Neighbourhood even better!!

Civic Field

by Rachael Andrew

In the immortal words of Joni Mitchell, "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot." An application has been made to the City by the Lethbridge Curling Club to convert some of the Civic Sports Field into a parking lot. The London Road Neighbourhood Association is opposed to loss of green space in the community and has issued a statement to all parties involved. Our goals include:

- Preserving green space;
- Working with the parties involved to come to a mutually agreeable solution;
- Increasing park accessibility and use while making it more welcoming and appealing to area residents;
- Encouraging the City to pursue green alternatives to car use (encourage carpooling, transit and bike use); and,
- Listening to London Road residents: Many residents, who are overwhelmingly opposed to paving over part of the Civic Field, have come forward to the Association with their concerns.

We welcome your opinions and considerations. You can make your voice heard by joining LRNA. You can also join our Facebook group and contribute to the online discussion. Add your voice!



YWCA
LETHBRIDGE & DISTRICT

A TURNING POINT FOR WOMEN

Your Neighbourhood Fitness Centre

- Try out our beautiful full scale gym
- our private workout area,
- our steam room and hot tub
- very reasonably priced
- two open house weeks annually - January and September

YWCA Lethbridge and District,
604 – 8 Street South, Lethbridge 403 329-0088

WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

As a London Road resident make your voice heard by joining the LRNA. For only \$5.00 you can purchase a lifetime membership. There are currently over 2000 residents in our neighbourhood, but in order for the LRNA to be an effective voice we need your membership. Please plan to attend our next AGM, June 25th, 2009. We'd love to meet you!

Thank You!
to
London Road Market & Camfield Drilling
for giving the LRNA **generous and ongoing support!**

Dancing in the Street!

by Jocelyn Pelletier
President of 6 Avenue A Neighbourhood Society

On est toujours dans la même histoire. We are all in the same story. This is how our neighbourhood feels about our intertwined lives. It is commonplace on our street that we have drinks on the front stairs as the kids ride their bikes, babysit for each other, borrow juice boxes at 7 a.m., have Easter egg hunts and Halloween costume parties, and enjoy a "Hello Neighbour" as we pull up to our homes. We believe in the benefits of building community!

Each summer our street hosts a block party. We have games, a costume parade, live music, and a dinner. So, how do we plan our block parties? Well, the first year was the most work. Several families covered the financial costs initially, and we formed a Society (<http://www.servicealberta.ca/716.cfm>) so that we could get insurance (a requirement). We also made sure someone was in charge of security and first aid (required for insurance). Then we bought a permit at City Hall. Our meetings were another great reason to party with our neighbours!



A costume parade is part of the festivities.

Several months prior to the party we started planning with the neighbours. We decided what roles each person would have and worked out insurance, City permit and band booking details. A month prior we handed out invitations, collected money, made signage, and planned the activities. The day of the party we set up cooking/eating areas, strung lights up, prepared our family's contributions, and set up the activities.

Be inspired, plan a great party, and enjoy your neighbours' company!

(Want more info?)

Email: jocpell@telus.net



Membership Support is the Strength of Your Neighbourhood Association!

If you haven't already purchased your Lifetime Membership for \$5, simply fill out this form and mail it to: LRNA c/o Greg Norman, 110-220—4th Street S, Lethbridge, T1J 4J7.

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 PHONE: _____
 AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Nuts, Bolts and Legalities of Block Parties



Mmmm! Corn on the cob!

- To organize a block party you need:
- A City application to close your street for a block party
 - Evidence of support from all residents on the block
 - Barricades for the street
 - A planning committee formed by your neighbours
 - Insurance

For more info: www.lethbridge.ab.ca > City Hall > Departments > Leisure and Recreation Services > Special Events