

Nose Hill

News and Views
fonhs.org



Number 49

The Friends of Nose Hill Newsletter

Fall 2013

President's Message

by Anne Burke

Please plan to attend our annual general meeting at Triwood Community Centre on Wed. Nov. 13, 2013, at 7 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Alessandro Massola, a wildlife biologist at U. of C. who led the Calgary Urban Coyote Project since 2009. He will share his preliminary findings with the community and answer your questions about the controversial catch and release program.

As always we thank you for your support, input, and suggestions. You can renew your memberships by mail or at the meeting. You are welcome to invite family and friends.

Our website has become a "go to" source for research and news about Nose Hill. Our Facebook group is active and growing. One of the topics deals with spraying for weeds. There are many concerns. The City's Integrated Pest Management Plan (125 pages) is posted at www.calgary.ca.

Removal of nodding thistle, burdock, houndstongue, caragana, and stinkweed is done by hand-pulling. This year, City Parks informed us that "Our WEEDING projects at Nose Hill are all assigned and closed to the public because they are either a school or family that won't be working with others. That is why we did

not advertise them." The planned Stewardship Programs at Nose Hill were undertaken by Sir Winston Churchill High School at the Brisebois parking lot; by St. Henry School grades 4,5,6, at the culvert entrance; and by a private family group at 64 Ave. & 14 St. NW.

There is a new EDRR (Early Detection Rapid Response) report form for invasive weed sites, using GPS, photos, and dates for weeds on the provincial list. There is no official timeline for submitting the information. Any participation is appreciated, so submit your observations whenever it is easiest for you and you have some spare time (weather permitting).

The City of Calgary is creating a 30-year vision for a sustainable, efficient and effective open space system. It will serve as the foundation for future City of Calgary Parks 10-year strategic plans and short-term business plans. A 2nd draft of "ImagineParks" was posted (www.calgary.ca/imagineparks) before it proceeds to Council in spring 2014. To provide comments you can use the comment box online or send an e-mail to parks@calgary.ca.

The City Parks Department has resumed work on a Biodiversity Plan. The

City of Calgary is required to produce a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), which will focus on biodiversity planning and management in our city. The BAP will align with the 2020 Sustainability Direction and the Municipal Development Plan. Internal and external stakeholders are currently assisting with development

of this plan. The public will also be invited to provide input as the process moves forward.

There are new trail markers in the park, in addition to the Interpretive signs.



One of the permanent interpretive signs (photo by Eve Robertson)

A number of undesigned trails are being reclaimed so they become part of the landscape and habitat. Rototilling broke up the compacted ground before reseeding, and signs were installed (see photo below). City Parks hopes that people will stay off the restoration areas, as re-compacting them will undo all their efforts.



(Photo by Eve Robertson)

In at least one case the sign appears to have been removed, and the trail is still being used (see next photo). The City may look at stronger signage.



(Photo by Eve Robertson)

The Get to Know Society, (www.get-to-know.org) is an organization whose goal is to inspire the connection between children and nature. They produce mobile computer applications to encourage children to explore interesting places, and they have recently produced "Apps" (OISEAU) for the Calgary Zoo, Fish Creek Park and Nose Hill Park. You can download these free from www.agentsofnature.com.

Anne Burke

**Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Nose Hill Society
Wednesday, November 13, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in Pub/Lounge at the
Triwood Community Centre, 2244 Chicoutimi Dr. NW**

Agenda

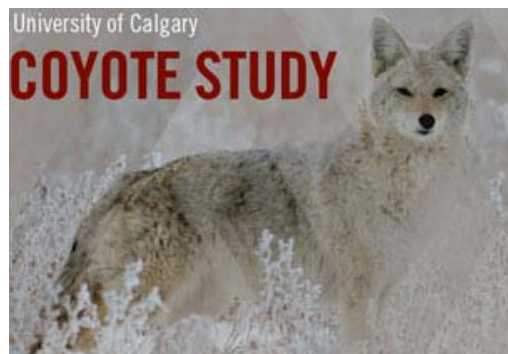
- 1) Approval of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (November 21, 2012)
- 2) Annual Report by the President
- 3) Approval of the audited Financial Statements
- 4) Appointment of the Auditors for the coming year
- 5) Election of Officers

Elections will be held for the following positions, for two-year terms: Vice President, The Treasurer, Secretary, and two Directors. Nominations for these positions should be received by the Secretary of the Society before the start of the Annual General Meeting. The President and two Directors will continue serving the second year of their terms in the coming year.

- 6) Other Business: We need your input! We want to hear from you. Come out and share your views
- 7) Adjournment

Guest Presentation

Join us for our guest speaker: Dr. Alessandro Massolo who will share his preliminary findings from the "Urban Coyote Study" with the community and answer your questions about the controversial catch and release program. The Urban Coyote Study by the University of Calgary, is conducted in co-operation with City Parks.



Dr. Massolo is a wildlife biologist, with expertise in wildlife ecology and mammal behaviour. His research uses physiology, mathematics, and IT (information technologies) to study intestinal parasites in animals and humans. He teaches at the University of Calgary in the Veterinary School. In addition, he has founded the Wildlife Ecology and Spatial Epidemiology Laboratory (WEASEL) and co-founded the interdisciplinary Wildlife Disease Ecology Group (iWEG). One of his projects concerns urban coyotes and domestic dogs, using GPS.



Fall colours on Nose Hill (photo by Eve Robertson)

Friends of Nose Hill Society
Membership Year: 2014 **\$10.00**

Name: _____

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NEW 9

Address: _____

_____ **Phone**
Number: _____

E-mail address : _____

Please return this form with your cheque or money order to:
Friends of Nose Hill, Suite 171, 130-5403 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary, AB T3B 4Z1

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The Friends of Nose Hill invite submissions of articles, poems, thoughts, drawings or photographs from members, visitors and others who have experienced the Hill. We will do our best to print all submissions, but because of space limitations, we reserve the right to edit as necessary.

Please include your name and phone number with submissions.

The views expressed are those of individuals and do not necessarily reflect those of the FONHS

The Friends on Facebook

The Friends of Nose Hill have a Facebook Group. If you are a Facebook member, check out the group: "Friends of Nose Hill Society". Feel free to post your stories, photos, comments and questions about the Park.

Members who would like to receive future issues of the Friends of Nose Hill Newsletter by e-mail should send an e-mail message with their request to: ervan@ucalgary.ca

New members can join the Friends of Nose Hill by mailing \$10.00 to:

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