

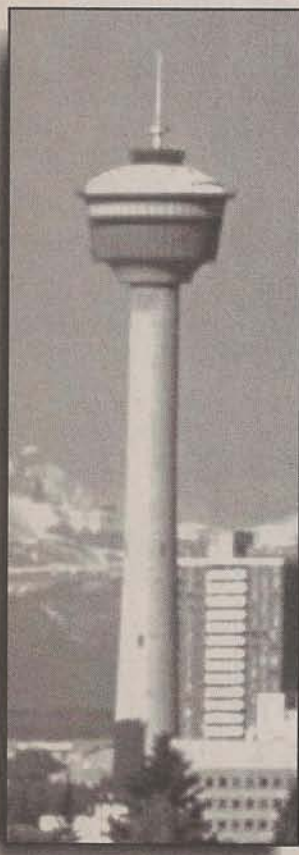
# Brentwood ENVIRONMENT NEWS



## Fuming Follow-up

In the March *Bugle*, concerns regarding the fumes from idling school buses on Northmount Drive were reported. Several Brentwood residents responded to this issue with phone calls and e-mails, and were happy to find they have allies in their efforts and concerns. One resident expressed concern regarding the air quality inside her own home and in the school. She noted that this poses a danger to the children and adults in the school, as well as to those in the rest of the neighbourhood. Diesel exhaust is known to have very dangerous carcinogenic effects, which are well-documented.

Patty Hopkins and the Captain John Palliser (CJP) traffic committee listened to your concerns and have done something about it! CJP has written to Cardinal



Coach Lines and Patty has spoken with her operations supervisor. She feels Cardinal can cooperate for the most part. Cardinal will be instructing the drivers who service CJP to move out of the area after unloading the students and use the major thoroughfares. It was explained that the design of the diesel engine requires idling for 10 minutes after driving to properly cool down the engines before shutting them off. Idling for longer than 10 minutes is also a concern for Cardinal as it wastes fuel and causes unnecessary wear on the engine, as well

as the environmental concerns CJP raised. Cardinal will be looking into this to ensure it does not happen. Patty feels very confident that Cardinal will work with us to resolve these issues.

Another issue raised by a resident is the excessive alley traffic in the lane backing onto the eastern boundary of the school yard. Several long-term residents are dismayed by the traffic and speeders who drop off and pick up their kids at school. In the spring and fall, the dust is so excessive that it reduces the enjoyment and use of their property. And what about the safety factor for children using the alley? Is there any reason why children can't be dropped off on the west side of the school? The alley should be used only by the local residents and emergency vehicles.

Your voice matters and makes a difference. By respecting each other's concerns, we can all make a positive difference in our lives in Brentwood.

## Earth Day Follow-up

Did you climb the Calgary Tower in April for the Canada Life Climb for Wilderness? Or do you know someone who did? If you did and if you would like to have your feat published in an upcoming *Bugle*, please let me know. The publication deadlines are early in the month for the following month. If it is appropriate, please include your name, age, number of climbs, dollars raised, etc. Did you help out somewhere for Earth Day or enjoy some particular activity? Make that known, too. We can put out recommendations for next year.

Happy spring! Be on the lookout for all those glorious signs of seasonal change: buds, blossoms and backyard birds. Remember to look skyward on Monday, May 13, as there will be a lovely grouping of the crescent moon, Saturn, Venus, Mars and a faint Mercury.

Environmentally yours,  
Polly Lee Knowlton Cockett  
plknowlton.cockett@shaw.ca.