



Walkable Art in Brentwood

“You’ve got to get out and walk!”
– Jane Jacobs

By Polly Lee Knowlton Cockett

Many things make Brentwood livable and vibrant, including the extraordinary number of public art pieces in walking distance throughout our neighborhood. And even better, our outdoor art has largely been created by you!

Over the last five years, you may have provided input on what this community means to you, or you may have wielded a paintbrush to help bring someone else’s vision of Brentwood come to life. Or you may have enjoyed a celebration or two in honor of the public art in our midst: murals and mosaics, whispering walkways and interpretive signs, from Charleswood Drive to the Nose Hill Public Library, and from behind the skate shack to the remnant grassland of Whispering Woods. All right here!

Brentwood is about to become one of a growing number of “Jane’s Walk” communities across Canada and internationally. Jane Jacobs was a Toronto urban planner, activist, and author who has inspired residents and planners to think carefully about how people live, work, and play in their built environment; she was all about sustainability and walkable cities.

“Inspired by urban activist Jane Jacobs



and her grassroots approach to city-building, the walks help put people in touch with their environment and with each other, bridging social and geographic gaps and creating a space for cities to discover themselves.”

Collaborative public projects which develop Walkable Communities are a sure way to get to know your neighbors, and Brentwood will celebrate much of what we’ve done together these last five years by organizing a Jane’s Walk on the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd (details to follow soon).

Here’s a link to the website for the walks: <http://www.janeswalk.net/>. You can subscribe to receive email updates about all the walks, including Calgary’s and Brentwood’s. Details will be posted on that Canadian website soon, and will also be posted on our local website www.natureground.org as well as the next issue of the Bugle.

As it happens, The City of Calgary’s 42nd Annual Pathway and River Clean-Up is also on Sunday, May 3rd. So we might just incorporate a bit of gentle pathway clean-up as we artfully amble along our local paths and trails.

“Jacobs’ eye was always at ground level, and she felt strongly that no grand planning scheme could substitute for an understanding of people’s everyday experience of the city. For her, the best way to get to know parks, sidewalks and streets was on foot. As she put it, ‘You’ve got to get out and walk!’”



Responsible Pet Ownership

The City of Calgary Animal and Bylaw Services strives to ensure that pets, pet owners and their neighbours live in safety and harmony. Last fall, changes were made to the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw that may affect you. Listed below are some of those changes that were made in response to citizen concerns and to ensure the safety of pets and all Calgarians.

Animal Well-Being

- **Animals in Vehicles** – Leaving animals in vehicles is prohibited if weather conditions (too hot or too cold) jeopardize the animal’s health and safety.
- **Tethering** – Owners must supervise their animals when tethered on their property. This is to help reduce incidents of barking/noise complaints and to protect the well-being of the animal.

Citizen Safety and Comfort

- **Nuisance Animals** – Animals with multiple, repeated offences may be declared a nuisance. Owners will have to pay \$100 for a licence and pay higher fines if they violate a bylaw. This designation will be reviewed on a yearly basis.
- **Removal of Feces** – When dogs are taken off the owners’ property, their owners must carry a “suitable means” of picking up the pets’ feces. This can be anything from a little plastic bag to a shovel and pail.
- **Off-leash areas** – A Peace Officer can order dog owners to restrain and remove their dogs from off-leash areas.

Impound and Keep Fees

- **Impound fees:** Dog and Cat \$38.10 (plus GST – \$40)
- **Keep fees** – Animal and Bylaw Services will not charge this fee until the second day of impoundment. Thus, owners will only pay the impound fee and not the keep fee if they pick up their pet within the first 24 hours. This has been done to encourage owners to pick up their animal ASAP. Starting on day two, the keep fees will be Dog – \$20 per day or portion thereof (plus GST), and Cat – \$15 per day or portion thereof (plus GST).

For more information on the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw (23M2006), visit calgary.ca/animalservices or call 3-1-1.