

# 2021 Presidents Message



Greetings to the Grange Residents;

I want to start out by thanking this year's board members for their hard work and commitment. We had a keen and dedicated board and accomplished many projects because of this.

This year we concentrated on the fence project, landscaping maintenance, outsourcing more of the Treasurer's duties, and GST remittance and collection. We also started to update our landscaping tender, as the contract with Solaris needs to be renewed in 2023.

Three flower pots were vandalized and we had to replace the flowers in spring, which is why you may have noticed some pots look fuller than others. We all contributed to those flowers and the vandalism was disheartening. I encourage homeowners to keep a watch out for your neighbours' and community property. This is the second year in a row theft/vandalism has affected our community. We are part of the neighbourhood watch program and I encourage each of you to get involved to keep our community safe. For more information on how you can participate refer to our website; <https://thegrangecommunity.ca/events/events/>.

Our mandate is to improve the aesthetics of the community. Here are the highlights of what we accomplished::

- Completed painting half the fences this year. The project scope changed due to the pipeline construction but most homeowners still managed to replace their rotten boards. We recognize that some homeowners didn't get to replace some of their rotten boards so if they do that within the next year the GHOA will make sure they get painted. For more detail on which fences go to the GHOA website: <https://thegrangecommunity.ca/events/project-updates/>. The remainder of the fences will get painted in the spring of 2022 by Pro Co Painting.
- The Grange had to pay \$14,824.78 in GST to the CRA this year. While this was a hit we are now set up properly in regard to collection and remittance of GST as a homeowner's association.
- Landscaping maintenance highlights included:
  - 16 planters were delivered throughout the community each June and removed and stored each September. The flowers this year were stunning, and we will definitely be going with the SuperTunia Vista Petunia next year.
  - Regular garbage pickup throughout community spaces.
  - Spring clean-up starting in April and fall clean-up ending in October.
  - Removal of deteriorated plastic edging around 7 shrub beds around the pond.
  - Mulch top up completed in 4 shrub beds
    - The cost of mulch increased by 25% so we were not able to top up as many beds as planned. We recognize there are many beds that require mulch top up so are planning on adding more to future budgets to ensure this gets done.
  - 25 shrub beds are maintained weekly and another 20 are maintained bi-weekly.
  - Ornamental shrub pruning is done in spring with touch ups being completed in June.

We also continue to make changes administratively to align with the skill set of the board, and reduce the workload of these volunteers. Highlights include:

- Investing in GIC's and opening a high yield savings account to help offset inflation.
- Reminding homeowners to contact us should they rent the property and require an address change of the property owner or are selling the property so we can pull a new title and update our records.

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We continued with the door hanger campaign to inform residents of the restrictive covenant on shingles and fence style/color. The main message is to keep the colors and style consistent for both fences and shingles so our community aesthetic is maintained as consistently as possible.

You can find more updated information on our website. We are always looking for excited community members to contribute to the GHOA and lend their voices and opinions. Please mark **October 25th** on your calendar so you can attend our Annual General Meeting!

Kind Regards,

*D.F. Whalley*

Denise Forwick-Whalley