

Staying safe during slower summer



Devi Sharma
OLD KILDONAN CITY
COUNCILLOR
WARD REPORT

If these last few months have been any indication, our communities truly come together during uncertain times.

There have been many examples of neighbours helping each other (from a safe distance). Many of our regular activities have been cancelled, and we've embraced new ones. As a soccer mom, I'm no longer running to get my son to soccer practice on most evenings — but it's still a busy time, in a different way.

Many of us are getting outside and enjoying walking and biking, among other activities. As we spend more time outdoors, it's important to stay safe. In 2018, the City of Winnipeg safety committee launched Please Slow Down which, when displayed on boulevards and front lawns, remind drivers to be cautious.

Over the last two years, many residents have requested these signs. If you'd like one for your street, contact my office at 204-986-5264 or devi@winnipeg.ca while supplies last. To ensure the far reach of the Please Slow Down initiative, we generally try to observe a one-sign-per-street guideline.

Approaching the summer months also means the potholes caused by spring's freeze-thaw cycles become more prevalent. If you're seeing potholes, please report them to 311 by phone or by emailing 311@winnipeg.ca

You can also reach out to my office regarding this.

The City of Winnipeg has also opened municipal parks and dog parks. It's important to follow the two-metre physical distancing guidelines. All these efforts count when it comes to staying safe and slowing the spread of COVID-19. I am comforted by the diligence with which most Winnipeggers abide by these life-saving measures.

As we find new sources of joy apart from our regular routines, I'm inspired by the creative ways our community has found to connect and by the hobbies we turn to. I know I've definitely been baking more banana bread in the last while.

Of course, this is also a time to recognize all essential workers on the front lines in our communities — doctors, nurses, pharmacists, all health-care professionals, grocery clerks, garbage collectors, police, firefighters, paramedics, those in social services and workers in correctional institutions, as well as everyone stepping up to provide the services we can't imagine our lives without. Thank you.

While my office is currently limiting



Supplied photo

In June 2018, Coun. Devi Sharma (Old Kildonan) delivered one of the first Please Slow Down signs to Tracy Bajno, a resident of Amber Trails.

in-person visits, we're available by email at devi@winnipeg.ca or phone at 204-986-5264.

Stay safe and well.