

“My wife moved into long-term care two years ago and I don’t know how much longer I am going to be in my house. I am signing the RC for my neighbours so they don’t have to face the uncertainty of what could eventually happen with my property when I no longer live here.”

Herbert S, Longtime Homeowner

“As a realtor for 23 years, now retired, I sold many homes in our community. My big emphasis was always to protect our lake, after all, it is the lake that gives you value in your property. We all should be proud of the community we live in and need to protect what we purchased. I strongly encourage you to consider having an RC on your property for the benefit of all.”

Beverly T, Retired Realtor

“My wife and I signed the RC because we wanted to step up and do what we could do to protect and maintain the quality of life in Lake Bonavista that we have known and loved since 1991.”

Dr. Roger D
Retired Economist and Educator

“If I’m not willing to put an RC on my property to help protect my street, how can I expect my neighbours to follow suit? It’s a team effort.”

Lisa M, Retired Teacher

“I signed the RC as I was very upset that city council went against the wishes of the majority of residents of the city they supposedly represent. A single-family lot could be redeveloped to accommodate up to 12 families, with 1/2 a parking spot per unit, no mention of where the new 36 bins would be placed. This RC initiative would make such redevelopment very difficult. In order to ask my neighbours to sign the RC, I need to do so as well. Judging by the animosity towards this rezoning shown during the meeting at the rec centre, this gives the community a way to fight back.”

Nora B

“My wife and I moved to Lake Bonavista in early 2023. We love the neighborhood and moving to this community was largely because we wanted to live in this community. We enjoy the wide streets, large lots and weekends at the lake in the summer and winter. We wanted to be in an area where our child could have a sense of community, similar to what we enjoyed as children. We moved from a nearby neighbourhood which has many multi-family homes mixed in with single family homes. The difference in the community here versus our prior neighbourhood is night and day.

We believe the blanket rezoning that recently occurred in the City of Calgary has the potential to destroy everything we love about this community.

We did not move to Lake Bonavista as part of a “5-year plan” to move onto something bigger and better. This is our forever home.

Lake Bonavista cannot withstand a massive increase in households without destroying the fabric of the community. Right now we can allow our daughter to play freely on our street with little concern that she will be hurt because our street is wide, with few parked cars. We know all of our neighbors. Additional households in our immediate vicinity would take that away from her and us. Not to mention the visits at the lake would also be impacted if the number of residents in the community increases. It’s already busy on a summer weekend - I can’t imagine what it could look like with an ever-increasing numbers of residents.

There are parts of the city where increasing density makes sense but for our lake community it does not fit in. We believe having an oasis of single-family homes with an ever-busier City of Calgary will actually drive these house prices up, not limit an ultimate sale price. If a resource (like single family homes with large lots) becomes even more rare, those who hold onto theirs will reap the rewards as the demand stays the same or increases while supply dwindles year after year. Even if not applying a restricted covenant gets you a higher sales price when you do sell, who wants to be the type of person who takes an extra \$50K on the price of their home from an unscrupulous developer and screws over all of their former friends and neighbours? Not us. We live in this area for the COMMUNITY.

For all of these reasons, we decided to have a restricted covenant applied to our property to protect our neighbors from the issues we foresee from blanket multi-family re-zoning. Our hope is that our neighbours, or at least some of our neighbours, will reciprocate the RC and take steps to protect our enjoyment of our house, property, street and community by doing the same.”

Dan T, New Homeowner

"We bought our house in Lake Bonavista 35 years ago because we were entranced with the lovely well-treed community that was designed to be family-friendly offering many amenities such as lake access, the recreation centre and many greens for children to play in. Residents took pride in their homes. This is one of the few communities where children, who were raised here and have moved away for career reasons, love to come back and settle down to start their own families.

Our neighbourhood is a very stable one with some of the original owners still living here. Our crescent has seen changes over the years in home ownership, but there have always been kids playing outside on the green - biking, skateboarding and the like. People typically need different types of housing as they progress through life. When families are started and children are part of the picture, single family detached homes with ample backyard space are most sought after. This is the appeal of Lake Bonavista, catering to a stable, family-oriented lifestyle.

Row houses, townhomes, duplexes and the like cater to a transient population who do not necessarily contribute to the community spirit shown by long-term inhabitants. Apart from all the downsides of putting high density housing in our community, I have personally witnessed the problems renters can create.

I also feel that the legal term "restrictive covenant" is harsh-sounding when all it is, is a "protective" tool meant to preserve the current family-friendly atmosphere and all the other benefits we enjoy living here."

Jim I

“Most of us began our adulthood living in apartments or in basement suites. And very soon thereafter, most of us began aspiring to improve our standard of living by moving up to stand-alone housing, with more surrounding space. Lake Bonavista certainly ticks those two boxes. But with its lake, its community center, and its well-planned layout and matching architecture we have here an environment worth protecting. And none of its residents just got here by accident! Calgary City Council has attacked our very standard of living.”

Bill C