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Parks Washrooms Closed City Looking for Residents' Support

AIRDRIE, ALBERTA – Airdrie City Parks Department has closed the public washrooms at various parks throughout Airdrie. Four fires have occurred since January and as a result, the washrooms have been closed.

At this time the cause of the fires is unknown. RCMP and Airdrie Fire Department have declared them to be instances of arson.

The City is requesting help from Airdrie residents to stop such incidents from occurring again.

Each time a fire occurs the City goes through a process of assessing the damage, involving an insurance adjustor if needed, cleaning up the mess, purchasing new materials (paint, new counter tops, etc.) and repair in the damage. And in light of these events, the City is also looking at installing additional security features.

Damages are estimated to be in the range of \$18,000. But it's not just the financial cost at issue; it is also a lifestyle cost. Airdrie RCMP Constable Meagan Fillion agrees. "Really the cost is to the community, and if we continue to work together as a community, we will be able to be stronger and more effective in preventing these acts of vandalism from happening."

Residents are urged to call the RCMP complaints line if they have any information on the fires or acts of vandalism in the parks.

Kevin Brinson, Parks Department Team Leader with the City of Airdrie says, "Airdrie still has a small-town feel to it and I think our residents would like to keep it that way." Brinson hopes to reopen the washrooms in the next few weeks.

To report any information please call Airdrie RCMP at 403-945-7267.

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Contact:

Kevin Brinson
Team Leader, Airdrie Parks Operations
City of Airdrie
403-948-8800 ext. 6260
kevin.brinson@airdrie.ca

Cst. Meagan Fillion
RCMP
403-945-7234
Cell: 403-701-2942