

MAY 2016

DELIVERED MONTHLY TO 2,600 HOUSEHOLDS

MCA MONTGOMERY MESSENGER

THE OFFICIAL MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Now that is
some serious
Calgary soccer
pride.

AND WE'RE PROUD
TO BE IN THE GAME.

It's the start of another outdoor soccer season. And this year, it's fully public — the way it should be.

That's because Calgary council has asked your city workers to take over management and maintenance of the the Calgary Soccer Centre from private organizations.

And here's our commitment to you:

- A clean, efficient facility — where you feel comfortable taking your family.
- Saving you money — city council saw a public solution as the most cost effective; there will be no more spectator fees.
- A community asset — open and welcoming to clubs, players and families from across the city.

We think this is a pretty good game plan moving forward: Let's keep city recreation facilities public and working for all Calgary families.

CUPE
Calgary's city employees

Making your city
work for you



Montgomery Community Association
5003-16 Avenue NW, Calgary, AB T3B 0N2
Tel: 403-247-3116 • Fax: 403-247-3150
manager@mcapeople.ca

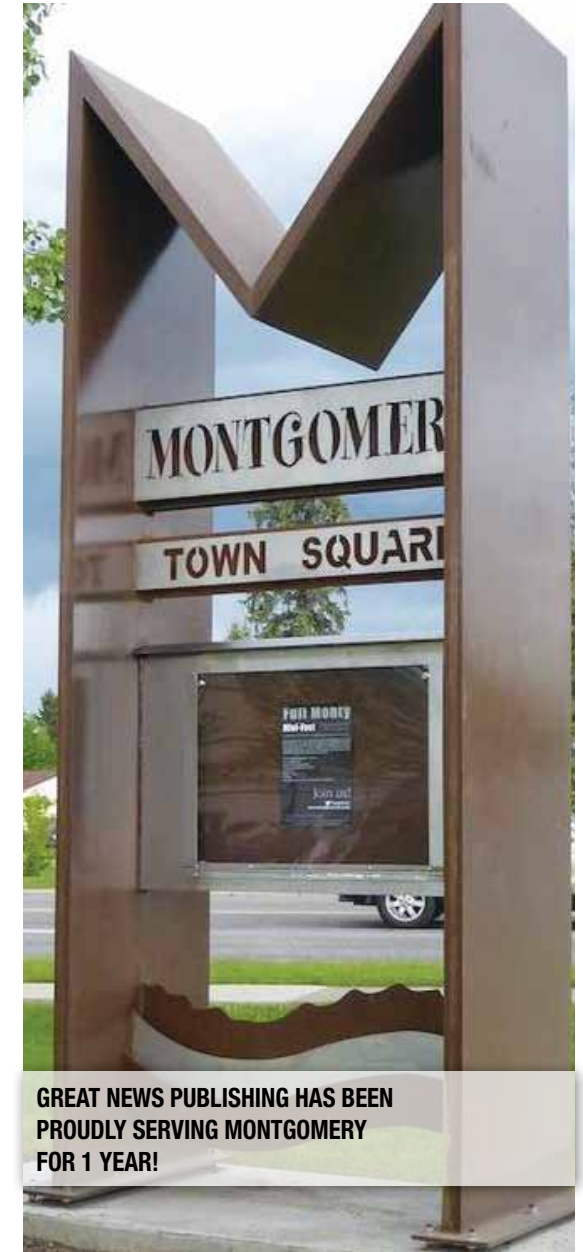
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GREAT NEWS PUBLISHING HAS BEEN PROUDLY SERVING MONTGOMERY FOR 1 YEAR!



Working Together for a Better Community

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Treasurer	George McMullen	
Secretary	Lindsay McLaren	

Staff

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Assistant Manager	David Hoskyn	403-247-3116

Directors

Ron Aubrey	David Baker	Trevor Dreher
Anthony Ferrise	Ellen Kerkhoven	Trevor Poffenroth

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City Councillor	Ward Sutherland	403-268-2430
MLA Calgary Varsity	Stephanie McLean	403-216-5436
MP	Len Webber	587-885-1596

Contacts

Community Liaison Officer	Dylan Harris pol4411@calgarypolice.ca	403-969-9482
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School Board Trustees

Public	Joy Bowen-Eyre	403-294-8121
Separate	Serafino Scarpino	403-500-2550

Stay Connected With Montgomery



Check out our Website: www.mcapeople.ca
Like us on Facebook: MontgomeryCA



Follow us on Twitter: @mcapeople
Subscribe to E-News: montgomeryenews@gmail.com

Montgomery Community Centre Hall Available for Rent

The main hall at the community centre is available for rent for large and small functions, from big weddings to simple birthday parties for kids.

Active members of the community association will receive a 10% discount on full rentals.

RENTAL RATES:

Main Hall

Full rental- \$460.00
Damage Deposit \$300.00
Prime Time hourly
Fri-Sun. - \$55.00 per hour (5 hours or less)
Weekday Mon-Thurs- \$35.00 per hour

Board Room

The boardroom is approx. 14'x22' in size.
Capacity in a meeting-room setting is 25.
White board and pull down screen available.
Rental rate: \$25.00 per hour.

For Further information please visit www.mcapeople.ca, call 403-247-3116, or email manager@mcapeople.ca.

The Montgomery Messenger is a publication of the Montgomery Community Association and Great News Publishing

Published year round for mail delivery in the middle of every month.

Content from the public is welcome and invited. To inquire about submitting content please email editor@mcapeople.ca or phone **403-247-3116**.

All advertising inquiries should be directed to Great News Publishing.

Deadline for content submissions is the first of each month, for publication the following month. All submissions should be as Word documents, and sent to editor@mcapeople.ca. High quality photos are also welcome.



10th Annual Montgomery Clean-Up & Recycling Event

Saturday, May 7 from 9 am to 2 pm sharp!

East parking lot of the Montgomery Community Centre (5003 16 Avenue NW)

We'll be ready to take your refuse - BRING IT! It's Free!

- **Prepare your yard waste** – One truck is dedicated for organics so bring your leaves, branches and other yard pruning bits. No plastic bags. Use paper yard waste bags, bundle branches and cut large logs into smaller pieces. **While supplies last, pick up free paper organics/yard waste bags at the Community Centre courtesy of the City of Calgary. Max five per household.**
- **Gather your recyclables** – Bring used tires, bicycles, scrap metals, electronics, small and large appliances for refurbish or recycle. If you cannot get your large appliances to the event, please call 403-247-3116 by Friday, April 29 to arrange for a pickup.
- **Extra garbage** – Bring the extra garbage from your yard or laneway after you've squeezed as much as you can into your black bin. There will be limited garbage truck capacity this year.
- **Old mattresses** – Pick up a **free mattress bag** at the Community Centre. Mattresses must be bagged or we can't help you unload it.
- **Smile and be patient** – Remember that this is a Montgomery Community Association volunteer-run event saving you a trip to the landfill (where there might be a line-up too) and saving you the landfill fees.

Sorry, but we cannot accept commercial building materials, household toxics, auto waste, propane tanks, chemicals, paint or large glass (doors, windows, mirrors). **BRING IT!** to the City landfill

Pickups for seniors and those in need: Please call 403-247-3116 (leave a message if necessary) by Friday, April 29 if you need help.



Join the Clean-Up Crew!

What does the crew do?

- Support set up and take down of the site
- Help neighbours-in-need to participate
- Assist neighbours in unloading and sorting on site
- Keep traffic organized and moving
- Keep the Clean-up Crew watered and fed

What's in it for me?

- A fun day outside
- First dibs on the treasure finds
- Lots of fresh air
- Get to wear those awesome Clean-up Crew work vests
- Meet Montgomery neighbours
- A cleaner community

Join now by contacting the Montgomery Community Association at 403-247-3116 or manager@mcapeople.ca.

the Gutter Doctor
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15,000 happy customers since 2003!
403-714-0711 gutterdoctor.ca

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This has been a bit of an exciting time for Montgomery!

In case you missed it, Calgary Real Estate News (CREB) had an article on March 30, 2016 titled The Next Best Thing written by Kathleen Renne. Within the article, Montgomery was touted as one of the communities considered to be the next big thing (Renfrew, Mount Pleasant, and Sunalta were the other communities noted). Within this article, the walk-ability, infill development, vibrant street scenes, the BRZ, and merchants and restaurateurs were noted as positive attributes within Montgomery. Additionally, it was noted that the accessibility to Alberta Children's Hospital, Foothills Medical Centre, SAIT, and the University of Calgary Campus put Montgomery on the cusp of becoming a "hot spot". Montgomery was noted to be "well-suited to families" with amenities families want.

April 13, 2016 the Calgary Herald published an article "How one community in Calgary's 'doughnut of decline' is managing its rebirth" by Tom Babin. This was part three of a three part series looking into the declining population of communities surrounding the inner city. In the article, Mr. Babin noted that Montgomery's population has grown nearly 15% since 2010 and the community has a new sense of "vibrancy". He reported on the importance of good design and the importance of staying involved to help ensure high standards.

I know that the turn-around in Montgomery comes in large part to the Area Redevelopment Plan and the ongoing work of the Planning Committee. We are very fortunate to have an intelligent and committed group of volunteers to review and comment on the development in the area.

When this is published, we will have the roof and make up air projects at the community centre substantially completed. Carbon Constructors Inc. has been great to work with and I want to send a shout out to their professionalism in completing the project. I would also like to thank Reinbold Engineering Group who oversaw the project. The City of Calgary under the Capital Conservation Grant and the Provincial Government through the Community Facility Enhancement Grant were the major sponsors of the project. It will be wonderful to have our kitchen up and running in a safe manner again! Janine and David have done an amazing job at keeping the community centre operating during the construction.

Talk soon,
Marilyn

PLANNING REPORT

The Planning Committee recently reviewed the following Development Permits:

The first is for a Contextual single detached home and garage at 4627 21 Ave NW - the proposal is for a new bungalow designed in a very contemporary style (DP2016-0681) that fits with the scale of the existing adjacent bungalows. The second is for a restaurant, Sharmarua Palace, proposed for 4640 Bowness Road NW. We're definitely excited to see a new restaurant move into our community.

West Campus Developments is moving forward with getting the intersection built that allows exiting from the University District onto Shaganappi Trail. Their timeline is to have it completed towards the end of this summer. Currently, drivers can enter into that part of campus from Shaganappi, but there is no exit at this point. Our concerns revolve around potential glare from headlights shining into houses across Shaganappi at the top of Mackay Road. Because of this, a computer generated mapping was carried out to determine how far car headlights would throw light. They looked at headlights aimed at several different angles. The results showed that no light-spill reached the houses. We also wanted to ensure that headlight glare was controlled. To this end, they are proposing a visual barrier to be located along the line of trees. The plan is to have a paved path with two openings through the visual barrier, one at or near the current opening where people have cut a hole in the chain link fence, and the other across from Montalban Drive. The intent is to have the two access points link up with nearby road intersections.

Janice Mackett
Planning Committee Chair



Editorial Content Deadline **1st** of each month for the next month's issue
mccac@telus.net

Come and Play at the MCA...

Children's Birthday Party Package \$99.95

This birthday party package includes two hours in our main hall and we'll throw in the floor hockey equipment, ping pong tables, preschool equipment . . .

Bring in your own food and refreshments . . . invite as many friends and family as you like!

For one "low" rate.

Some restrictions apply for advanced bookings.


For more information: 403-247-3116, mccc@telus.net.

Montgomery Community Garden

The Montgomery Community Garden is accepting new members for the 2016 season!

The garden members meet regularly and have organized work parties. All members contribute equally to the gardening work and share in the harvest. No gardening experience necessary!

An annual membership costs \$20 (plus an MCA membership). There are a limited number of memberships available on a first-come, first-served basis. To join or find out more, email montgomerygardenNW@gmail.com
www.mccapeople.ca/do/community-garden



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Help shape the future of the University of Calgary's main campus

The University of Calgary invites public feedback on the final draft of its **long range development plan for the main campus.**

Join us at our second open house:

- o **May 26, 2016**
5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Foothills Mennonite Church
2115 Urbana Rd. N.W.

Visit ucalgary.ca/campusforward, and to view feedback on the first open house held in February 2016.

CampusForward
MAIN CAMPUS LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Montgomery Community Association Board Meeting Highlights

Highlights from April 12th, 2016 MCA Board Meeting Minutes:

- Recruitment is underway for a new secretary. Please consider volunteering
- The May Senior's Social will be entertained with a play created by the Triwood Theatre
- Community Clean-Up event scheduled for May 7, 2016 is looking for a few more volunteers
- Work is now complete on the make-up air unit and re-roofing construction projects at the MCA Hall
- Evolve (who sub-contracts to Rogers) is discussing the opportunity to locate a cell tower on the MCA site. A site review will assess the viability of this. Before anything is approved, there will be public Open Houses to get community input.
- Traffic counts are currently underway along Home Road as part of the 16th Avenue NW Beautification and Upgrade project
- The University District will be proceeding with the construction of an access road onto Shaganappi Trail. Construction is scheduled to start this summer.
- Next Board Meeting: May 10, 2016, 7:00pm.

Janice Mackett – MCA Board of Directors



Covenant Living
Evanston Summit

“It’s where I’d live.”

Ken,
Teacher, music lover and golfer.



Home. It’s where we live. It’s the feeling we get from freshly folded laundry in our bedroom. It’s playing the piano and singing with friends and it’s shared moments over dinner with family. It’s feeling healthy, eating well and enjoying the community we savour with other great people. It’s looking forward to a little exercise and some laughter at the pub afterwards.

Welcome to your life at Evanston Summit. Welcome home.

121 retirement suites available for October 2016 occupancy.
Visit us at evanstonsummit.com or call us at 587.538.7511 to schedule your appointment

“Here There Be Dragons; Part Two”

A Personal Recounting of Dungeons and Dragons

By: Kyle Marshall

In last month’s instalment, I briefly examined some of the role-playing elements present in Dungeons and Dragons in an attempt to dispel some of the fears and misconceptions surrounding the infamous tabletop game. This month, I would like to share some of my personal experiences with the game, in an attempt to demonstrate that Dungeons and Dragons is only as menacing and serious as the players wish it to be.

It takes all kinds to make a world, and the fictional world of Dungeons and Dragons is no exception. Parties undertaking grand quests - like trying to locate a farmer’s missing pig - are usually as diverse as the players who dreamt them up, to the point where the dungeon master is sometimes required to step in to keep things civil. Indeed, even in my limited time playing the game, I encountered characters with unusual motivations, such as wanting to engage in cannibalism against an entire village despite being woefully outclassed by the town guards. Such hopeless and outlandish ambitions usually come off as comedic, as opposed to frightening.

Of course, players are forced to contend with more than the alleged sanity of their companions. As with any game dealing with dice, there is an element of chance in D&D that is sometimes more daunting than any enemy the dungeon master can throw at the party. Indeed,

there were several occasions when my proud and stubborn warrior was subjected to my subpar rolling skills, managing to slip off a set of stairs and severely injure himself when attempting to open a trapdoor. Further, anyone who has played the turn-based strategy game XCOM can attest to the comedy of repeatedly missing an opponent standing just in front of you, and that feeling is not diminished in Dungeons and Dragons.

Despite the frightening reputation the game has garnered for itself over the years, the truth is that Dungeons and Dragons is just that: a game. It is subject to the same foibles as any other game, and the experience is largely defined by the personalities of those who play it. True, given the right circumstances, it can become a negative experience, just as riots can sour soccer or hockey games. However, under the right circumstances, D&D can be as silly and ridiculous as the people playing it.



Insects & Technology

The brilliant color on the wings of the butterfly some birds like the peacock have been the inspiration for a new technology that will render crystal clear images on screens, no matter what the lighting.

Discovery Magazine





Montgomery Community Senior Social

May 30
1:00pm-3:00pm
 Montgomery Community Association
 5003-16th Avenue NW
 Contact: 403-247-3116

Come join us for free food and conversation!

The Calgary Confederation Theatre Society will be coming to put on a play specifically tailored to the Montgomery social!

Feel free to bring a friend!

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

9				6			7	
								5
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						9	1	7
1		6	4		9	8		3
3	2	9						
		2			3	6	8	
7								
	9			8				4

FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 25

SSASPG

The South Shaganappi Area Strategic Planning Group is a group of community representatives and stakeholders that meet on a monthly basis to inform and respond to a number of institutional and infrastructure development projects in the area.

The Calgary Cancer Project continues to move forward with project planning and procurement activities. The design phase for the renovations to the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit has begun and a construction management consultant contract is in the process of being awarded. Updates are available at www.infrastructure.alberta.ca/Calgarycancercentre.htm.

The Foothills Medical Centre has issued a tender call for the construction of the design of the new parking structure to replace Lot 1, as well as for the expansion of Lot 8A. Construction for Lot 8A is scheduled for May 2016 through to September 2016. It is anticipated that there will not be any road closures during the construction.

The City of Calgary is currently reviewing a redevelopment of the 16th Avenue and 29th Street NW intersection. Construction is anticipated to begin in June of 2016 with completion scheduled for November 2016. This will include a traffic circle at the intersection of Unwin Road and Uxbridge Drive NW at the Stadium Shopping Centre. The intersection will remain open during construction.

The University of Calgary will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary with events planned throughout the year. A detailed list of events, dates and locations can be found at www.ucalgarycelebrates.ca/events. The Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning opened its doors on April 18. The stakeholder engagement process for the campus' Long Range Development Plan has been completed. The public will have an opportunity to provide their feedback at two scheduled open houses. More information on the dates and locations are available by visiting www.ucalgary.ca/campusforward.

The University District will begin Phase II of its stripping and grading. The work is scheduled to take place from mid April 2016 to June 2016. This will involve final cutting and filling as well as loaming and seeding of the site.

Rhonda Zander
 Planning Committee Member

Bowmont Natural Environment Park 16th Annual Photo Contest Entry Form

The Bowmont Natural Environment Park Committee is looking for your best shots taken in Bowmont Natural Environment Park. Photos will be judged by experienced photographers.

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

Scenic Views--scenic landscape views of the park

Flora-- trees, shrubs, grasses or flowers

Wildlife--Animals in the park (not including domestic animals)

Environmental Issues--Damage within the park (excluding private property)

Park Users--People enjoying the park (submit their permission using a consent form)

Best of Show--Best photo in the show!

CONTEST RULES

- Contest is open to all amateur photographers. All photos must be taken within Bowmont Natural Environment Park between January 1, 2016 and October 31, 2016.
- Entry deadline is **November 6, 2016**.
- Photos submitted **MUST** be accompanied by the contest Photo Release Waiver or will be disqualified.
- Some restrictions regarding prizes may apply.
- Only two entries per category may be submitted.
- Submissions must be good quality 4" x 6" prints (no slides) with entry form attached. Please do not write on the back of your photos.
- Please email a digital version if available of photos (JPEG file) to lknight@hopewell.com prior to entry deadline.
- Photos submitted will not be returned to the entrant. They will remain with the committee for reproduction and use as per the Photo Release Waiver form.



HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES:

- Attach one entry form to each photograph you submit with the following information:

Your name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I have read and followed the Contest Rules (signature): _____

Indicate category: Scenic Views Flora Wildlife
 Environmental Issues Park Users

- Give your photograph a Title: _____

- Attach the completed Photo Release Waiver

- Attach a Consent Form (for Park User category only).

- Submit your entries at Bowness, Montgomery, Silver Springs or Varsity Community Centre offices

Additional entry forms and the contest Photo Release Waiver and Consent Form are available at these Community Centre Offices, on the MCA website at www.mcapeople.ca/2015/bowmont-park-photo-contest/ or by e-mail request to lknight@hopewell.com.

For more information, contact:
 Community Volunteer Linda Knight
 Phone: 403-298-8116
 Email: lknight@hopewell.com

Construction Notice

East Bowmont Natural Environment Park Project

Introduction

The City has started construction of the East Bowmont Natural Environment Park. Phase one involves the construction of stormwater ponds in East Bowmont Park. Work will begin in November 2015 and is expected to be complete in winter 2017.

Construction impacts

Traffic

The access road to the construction site is located at the intersection of Home Road and 32 AV NW. Flag persons will be onsite to ensure heavy construction traffic can safely enter and exit the site. There will be an increase in construction traffic along Home Road NW. Beginning in late November a heavy volume of trucks will be removing fill from the site. This excess fill cannot be utilized onsite. The trucking will take place between 8 am and 5pm, Monday to Saturday for approximately five weeks.

Safety

The work sites will be fenced off and restricted to construction personnel. For your safety, please do not enter the fenced-off construction area.

Noise/Dust

We recognize that construction creates additional dust and noise. We ask for your patience as we work to minimize the impact to neighbouring residents. The contractor adheres to The City's Community Standards Bylaw, for hours of operation, material storage and construction best practices, including dust mitigation.

More information

For more information about this project please visit Calgary.ca/bowmontpark or call 311.

A New Festival in BowMont!

BBQ on the Bow is happy to announce that it will be moving to the Montgomery Community Centre September 3 and 4, 2016. In its 24th year, BBQ on the Bow is Canada's oldest Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS) sanctioned festival.

The event is open to the public and together with the BBQ competition, features a Kid's Que competition, food demo, beer garden and live local music, among other activities. BBQ will be available for purchase from onsite vendors.

Saturday's events will include a Chef's Choice category, where the cooks can hand in anything from lamb to salmon or any other meat of their choice, and use any garnish. These creative offerings are truly outstanding. The Kid's Que is open to kids 15 and under (with adult supervision – but no help). The kids compete in two categories: pork chops and hot dogs.

Sunday is the main competition featuring teams from across Canada and the United States. Each team competes in four categories: chicken, pork ribs, pork shoulder, and beef brisket. All categories over the weekend are judged by a team of KCBS certified judges. The winning team, also known as the Grand Champion, will go on to compete at the Kansas City Royal BBQ Competition Invitational and will be entered into a draw to compete at the Jack Daniels competition. Previous winners of BBQ on the Bow have gone on to do very well at these prestigious events.

New teams are always welcome. For more information please go to www.bbqonthebow.com.

MAY MOON CALENDAR

- New Moon May 6
- First Quarter May 13
- Full Moon May 21
- Last Quarter May 29



Total Bylaw Public Service Requests (SRs) for MONTGOMERY
Service Requests Created between Mar 1, 2016 and Mar 31, 2016

MONTGOMERY SR Types	SR Count	% of Total Community
Bylaw - Untidy Private Property Concerns	8	28.6%
Bylaw - Material on Public Property	7	25.0%
Bylaw Patrol (Private)	4	14.3%
Bylaw - Disturbance and Behavioural Concerns	3	10.7%
Bylaw - Waste and Recycling Infractions	3	10.7%
Bylaw - Property Maintenance Concerns	2	7.1%
Corporate - Graffiti Concerns	1	3.6%
Total Bylaw SRs for MONTGOMERY	28	100.0%
Total Bylaw SRs for Ward 1	270	



311 Top 5 Public Service Requests (SRs) for MONTGOMERY
Service Requests Created between Mar 1, 2016 and Mar 31, 2016

Top 5 SR Types for MONTGOMERY	SR Count	% of Total Community
AS - Lost and Found Animal	9	4.9%
WATS - Construction Informational Requests	8	4.4%
Bylaw - Material on Public Property	7	3.8%
CT - Bus Stops	7	3.8%
AS - Animal Licence - Request for New / Renewal	6	3.3%
CBS Inspection - SCP - New Home	6	3.3%
Finance - Property Tax Account Inquiry	6	3.3%
Parks - Tree Concern - WAM	6	3.3%
Pool - Shouldice	6	3.3%
WATS - Sewage Back-up	6	3.3%
Total Top 5 SR Types	67	36.8%

MAKE YOUR GREAT IDEA HAPPEN

WHAT IS RIPPLES?

- A small grant for projects that build community
- For residents of Bowness, Montgomery and Greenwood Village
- Applications accepted on an ongoing basis and reviewed by peers

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Individuals and resident community groups
- Youth are encouraged to apply (1 member must be 18+)
- Agencies are not eligible but can support community residents with their projects

To apply please visit:

www.bowwest.com/ripples-application

or contact us at ripples@bowwest.com



Ripples
BUILDING A GREAT CITY BY BUSINESS

APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____ Date of Application: _____

Mailing address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone number(s): _____ E-mail: _____

Describe your project: _____

Date(s) your project will take place: _____

Where will your project be held? _____

Who will work with you to plan and organize this project? _____

How will you involve other people to participate in this project? _____

How will your project make Bowness better? _____

What will your project cost in total? _____

How much grant money are you requesting? _____

What will you spend the grant on? (Please list specific items and their costs) _____

How will you share and celebrate your project? _____

WHAT KIND OF FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

Funding for short term projects from \$50 to \$600

WHAT ARE PAST RIPPLES PROJECTS?

Skill Sharing • Neighbourhood Events • Workshops
• Community Clean Ups • Community Gardens •
Performing and Visual Arts Projects • Drop In Activities

WHAT PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Projects that:

- Are new initiatives
- Are held in a public location
- Benefit to the whole community
- Build a sense of belonging and create community connections

GRANT REQUIREMENTS & RESTRICTIONS

- Funds cannot be used for salaries/wages or alcohol
- Receipts are required at the end of the project
- Funds must be spent within 6 months
- Sharing your project's story

GET STARTED!

- Be creative!
- Invite people to brainstorm
- Plan your project using the application form www.bowwest.com/ripples-application

GET INVOLVED WITH RIPPLES!

The Ripples Grant Committee meets to discuss and make decisions on the applications.

We strive to represent our diverse community so if you are interested in being a member, e-mail ripples@bowwest.com.



mybabysitter.ca

Calling All BABYSITTERS

Enroll free at mybabysitter.ca and choose the Calgary communities you would like to babysit in.

Calling All PARENTS

Visit mybabysitter.ca and find available babysitters in and around your community.

Announcing the Ripples Grant

The ripples from a pebble tossed in a pond can go a long way. Ripples Grants of 100 to 600 dollars are intended to do the same thing by supporting resident-initiated ideas. Have you been thinking about something that would enrich Montgomery? Fill out the application below or online www.bowwest.com/ripples-application/.

Contact the community centre for more information (403-247-3116; manager@mcapeople.ca). These grants are made available through the kind support of the United Way, The Calgary Foundation, and local organizations.

Scam alert – fraudsters pose as Canada Revenue Agency

Nearly every day, the Calgary Police Service receives reports of scammers posing as agents of the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) or Immigration Canada (IC). Unfortunately, scammers have obtained thousands of dollars from several unsuspecting victims. So how does the scam work and how can you protect yourself?

The CRA scam, and many similar ones, usually follows the same pattern. Victims are contacted via phone by people pretending to be a CRA or IC employee. The fraudsters claim that the victim owes back taxes and that they need to pay money to correct the issue, or they will be arrested or deported. Sometimes, the scammers have valid personal information about victims and their families, such as names and birthdays, to try to legitimize the fraudulent claim.

The scammers can become very aggressive and may begin to threaten victims. Victims are then told to send money through a wire service or to purchase prepaid credit cards or gift cards. Once the money is gone, it is nearly impossible to trace.

You can help protect yourself from phone and email scams by following these tips:

- Do not feel pressure to respond to a request until you have a chance to verify the story.
- Never transfer money, or give out credit card or other financial information, until you can verify the person's identity and the story, and determine whether it is legitimate.
- The CRA will not ask for payment via prepaid credit cards or wire transfer.
- Some scammers are using a technique called spoofing where the caller ID looks like the call is legitimately coming from the CRA or IC. Hang up and look up published numbers for the agency in the phone book or online and call them directly to confirm the legitimacy of the caller's story before you take any action. Do not call numbers provided to you by the person who called you.

- Don't believe what you see. Business logos, websites and email addresses can easily be duplicated to look legitimate.
- Watch for poor grammar and spelling.
- Hover your mouse over links to check their true destination. If the URL doesn't match the link, or seems suspicious, don't click on it.
- Be wary of unexpected emails that contain links or attachments from unknown senders.
- Update your computer's anti-virus software.
- Ignore calls for immediate action or messages that create a sense of urgency.
- Beware of phishing emails posing as the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requesting personal information, or links within an email re-directing to a fraudulent website that appears to represent the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). The CRA does not email Canadians and request personal information.
- Never provide personal information such as SIN, bank account information or credit card numbers.

2016 MCA Casino

Our regular Casino is coming up on September 3 and 4 at Cowboys Casino. This is a major source of income for the Community Association which helps us maintain and operate the Community Centre along with our community programs

There are typically 18 months between casinos and, as always, we need volunteers to help. This is a great opportunity to meet people and make a huge impact to your community. No experience is necessary and training will be provided. All positions are still available:

- Banker
- Cashier
- Chip Runner
- Count Room

If you would like to come out & volunteer, please contact the Community at 403-247-3116 mcac@telus.net or myself at russel.ens@telus.net. We look forward to seeing you all there!

*Russel Ens
Casino Chair*

IN & AROUND CALGARY

16 Avenue and Home Road N.W. Upgrade Information Session

The City of Calgary is presenting a revised design to the community for upgrades at 16 Avenue N.W. between 46 Street and 49 Street. After reviewing all of the feedback from our online discussion forum and the open house in November 2015, we have revised our design for the upgrades and would like to share it with the community. The design aims to improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers, while also improving and enhancing the look of the streetscape.

Please join us!

Wednesday, June 1, 2016
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Montgomery Community Association
5003 16 Avenue N.W.

For more information please visit:
Calgary.ca/16AveandHomeRoad or call 311.

Beavers in Calgary

Beavers play an important ecological role in our city. They can create ponds and wetlands that provide habitat for other wildlife, and can help reduce the effects of minor floods and droughts.

With no natural predators in the city, beaver populations can quickly grow to be unsustainable. They also present some challenges in an urban environment, including damage to trees, infrastructure and property.

The City tries to strike a balance between health of the surrounding areas and the wellbeing of the beavers. In riverside parks we take steps to reduce beaver damage, including wiring trees, planting species that beavers don't like to eat, and placing under-dam drains to control water levels. Trapping of beavers is only conducted after all other options have been considered.

The City will be holding a volunteer tree wiring event in Edworthy Park on Saturday, May 14. This is a chance for you to help protect trees in the park. For more details and to register, please visit Calgary.ca/parks or contact 311.

EMS: Window & Balcony Safety

With the return of warmer weather, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) would like to remind parents and caregivers of an often overlooked hazard in the home – access to open windows. Every year, paramedics respond to emergencies where a child has fallen from an open window, often from the second floor. These can be avoided by following simple safety measures. Take the time to assess potential hazards in your home before a preventable fall occurs.

Windows and screens

- Prevent access to windows by moving furniture such as cribs, beds, stools, and change tables out from under them;
- Keep drapery cords out of children's reach. Wrap excess cord around cleats, or tie-downs to avoid a choking hazard;
- Remember: screens are not safety devices. They are designed to keep bugs out, not to keep children in.

Balconies

- Do not underestimate a child's ability to climb. Furniture and other items stored on balconies and decks can be used to climb resulting in falls over the railing;
- Ensure that your balcony railings are not more than 10 cm (4 inch) apart. This will eliminate access between the vertical bars of a balcony, or deck.

Further prevention tips

- Children aged one to four are at highest risk of falling from a window or balcony;
- Direct supervision of children is the single most effective way to prevent falls from windows and balconies;
- Install safety devices which limit the distance in which a window can open to a maximum of 10cm (4 inches);
- Ensure the safety device can be released quickly so the window can be used for escape in case of emergency.

EMS is proud to be a member of the **Partners Promoting Window and Balcony Safety**. Take time to assess your home for window and balcony hazards and eliminate the risks before a preventable fall occurs.
www.windowssafety.ca.

Jane's Walk Calgary is an initiative of CALGARY FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY FOREVER

JOIN **JANE'S WALK** LEAD
MAY 6, 7 & 8, 2016

Jane's Walk May 6, 7 & 8, 2016
A weekend of FREE local walking tours led by neighbourhood volunteers.

Shouldice Park

May 6, 2016, 10:00am

Wendy

Meet at Shouldice Aquatic Centre
<http://janeswalk.org/canada/calgary/shouldice-park/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ShouldiceAquaticCentre>

Check out calgaryfoundation.org to find your walk!



Alberta Guide Dog Services

Alberta Guide Dog Services is seeking volunteer Puppy Trainers to provide loving homes to puppies training to be Guide Dogs (for blind or visually impaired individuals) and Autism Support Dogs (for children with moderate to severe autism and their families). This is a 24/7 commitment that involves providing our pups with basic obedience and socialization skills, from the time they are 7-8 weeks to 14-18 months old. Through scheduled visits and obedience classes, as well as guidance from a Puppy Raising Supervisor and advice from existing volunteers, you will have a terrific support system throughout this very rewarding experience. Volunteers must be available during the day. We provide food, vet care and other basic necessities for the pup. If you are interested in raising a puppy that could grow up to change someone's life, please call Sandra at 403-616-3228 or email sandra.cramer@albertaguidedog.com.

Photo Credit: Alberta Guide Dogs


Friends of the Bowmont Natural Environment Park Area

Wildlife of Bowmont Park


Who Am I?

Stop and start, stop and start,
Across the grass I hop and dart.
Picking, pecking at the ground
Where my wriggly lunch is found!

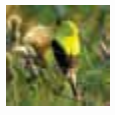
Feathers red and feathers grey,
I'm cheery on a dreary day.
Beak of yellow, short but firm,
Helps me catch the early worm!



Robin



Bluebird



Goldfinch

Turn page upside-down for answer!

© Rosemary Geil, 2016

YOUR COMMUNITY/CITY EVENTS AT A GLANCE...

- **May 18 to June 1 – Ginapalooza:** This spring, it's all about gin. The festival celebrates local gin distillers as well as internationally renowned gin brands. www.ginapalooza.com
- **June 2 - 12th Annual Evening of Wine and Wishes:** This food and fundraiser event is an entire evening of culinary festivities. Proceeds support the Rainbow Society of Alberta, a charity that helps Alberta kids with life-threatening or severe chronic medical illnesses. www.rainbowsociety.ab.ca
- **June 2 to 4 - Revv52: California:** Calgary's own vocal energy group, Revv52, celebrates its 64th season by exploring the music of California at the River Park Auditorium. www.revv52.com
- **June 3 and 4 - As Heard On TV:** This concert celebrates some of the most memorable music from popular TV shows of the past and the present, as performed by singer and comedian Nicole Parker and conducted by Steven Reineke. www.calgaryphil.com
- **June 4 - 2016 Eddies Short Film Festival:** The 2016 Eddies Short Film Festival this year is themed "trailblazer." Filmmakers can interpret that theme in any way they wish, and create any kind of film they like that reflects this theme. www.bigrockbeer.com
- **June 4 and 5 - Calgary Ukrainian Festival:** The annual Calgary Ukrainian Festival pays tribute to Ukrainian immigrants and showcases all aspects of their heritage. www.calgaryukrainianfestival.ca
- **June 4 to August 28 - Afternoon Tea on the Verandah:** Enjoy a traditional afternoon tea on the verandah of Heritage Park's newest exhibit, the Famous 5 Centre of Canadian Women. www.heritagepark.ca
- **June 17 and 18 - Vintage With Flair:** Find hand-designed, re-purposed and curated creations. The market sells everything from home decor to garden items to jewellery. www.vintagewithflair.blogspot.ca
- **June 22 to 26 – Sled Island:** The festival includes performances, installations and artwork by more than 250 bands, artists, filmmakers and comedians. The festival takes place in more than 30 venues across the city. www.sledisland.com

JUNE 1 AND 2 POPS IN THE PARK

Celebrate the arrival of warmer weather and longer days with a picnic and concert in the park. This annual light-hearted, musical evening includes a western barbeque and plenty of music. www.calgaryphil.com



JUNE 5 LILAC FESTIVAL

The festival kicks off with a parade down 4th Street S.W., and afterward, Mission plays host to more than 500 vendors, street performers and musicians. www.lilacfestival.net



JUNE 24 TEDXYC

Bringing Calgary's largest and most well-attended, independently-organized TED event to stage, we are thrilled to announce TEDxYYC is returning to Calgary. www.tedxyc.ca





Montgomery Community Association Membership

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS AND PRINT NEATLY. Thank You!

Member Name(s):
(first and last names of adults)

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership Type: Single/Family \$20.00 Senior \$5.00 EACH Associate (Social) \$25.00

Community of Residence (if not Montgomery): _____

Payment: \$ _____ Method of Payment: _____ Membership #: _____
(to be completed by MCA) (to be completed by MCA)

PLEASE INDICATE ANY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN. Thank You.

MCA Volunteer Opportunities

It should be noted that some categories may not have openings at this time, however individuals may be interested in the following possibilities:

Committees:

- Community Garden
- Planning
- Community Safety Initiative (CSI)
- History —Community Pride and Revitalization (CPR)

Community Programs & Events/Activities:

- Children's events (e.g. Kids Carnival, Winter Fest, Jelly Bean Dance, Playgroup)
- Senior's programs (e.g. Seniors' Social, Triple A)
- Special Events (e.g. Noktoberfest)
- Sports programs (e.g. Soccer, Soccer Banquet)
- Community Clean-up
- Fall Fair
- History project
- Fundraising (MCA Casino)
- Other (e.g. Volunteer Recruitment, Memberships)



Please mail along with your cheque made payable to Montgomery Community Association, or drop with your payment.
5003 - 16 Avenue NW Calgary, AB T3B 0N2

Thank you for supporting YOUR community association.

IN & AROUND CALGARY

Get Out and Walk!

A message from the Federation of Calgary Communities

May is a great time for getting out into your community! Walking has many benefits – getting to know your neighbours, know what is happening around you, fresh air and exercise.

Here are some safety tips for walking in and around your community:

1. Tell someone where you are going, which route you are taking, and when you will be back.
2. Be aware of your surroundings.
3. Listen to your instincts. Something that doesn't look or seem right probably isn't.
4. Walk facing the traffic.
5. Stay away from shrubbery, darkened doorways, and alleys.
6. Avoid using headphones so you are aware of the sounds around you.
7. Wear colours that are bright and reflect light.
8. Walk in well-lit areas.
9. Bring a friend or your dog with you for company.
10. Have fun!

For more information on walking alone or starting a community walking group, please check out our walking guide resource called Around The Block: Let's Walk! You can find the walking guide on the Federation of Calgary Communities website www.calgarycommunities.com.

How safe is your backyard fire pit?

Backyard fire pits are great places to gather and share good times in Calgary's summer months, but these great times can quickly become tragic if you aren't safe.

The City of Calgary has bylaw standards to help minimize some of the dangers of your backyard fire pit, or outdoor fireplace, wood burning oven or chimneys. The Calgary Fire Department also has a number of tips to help prevent anyone from getting hurt.

Safety tips and bylaw regulations

- Backyard fire pits should be built into the ground, on brick or stone, or in a fire-resistant container.
- Portable fire pits may be used on a deck as long as they sit on brick or stone, and not directly on your wooden deck.
- Fire pits must be at least two metres away from your property line, house, garage, or fence.
- Fire pits must not be under any trees, branches, plants or other materials that can catch fire.
- Always have a way to put out the fire close to your fire pit. Easy options are your watering hose or a bucket of water.
- All fires in your fire pit must be kept to a reasonable size; under 1 metre high and wide. This helps ensure the fire's embers, sparks or smoke do not harm anyone or cause a nuisance to neighbouring properties.
- All fires in your fire pit must be continually supervised.
- Fires may only be burned in fire pits from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m., unless prohibited in a fire ban.

Do not burn:

- Painted, treated or lumber containing glue or resin
- Wet, or green/fresh cut wood
- Yard waste (cut grass or leaves)
- Garbage
- Rubber
- Plastic
- Furniture

Always check www.calgary.ca/firebans to ensure no fire bans are in effect, which may caution against or forbid using fire pits. Remember, you can be fined from \$500 to \$5,000 for not following Calgary's fire pit bylaws (5M2004) or the instructions of fire bans. Learn more about Calgary fire pit safety and Bylaws by visiting calgary.ca and searching the term 'fire pits'.

KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

FIND, REPLACE, AND BROWSE THROUGH TEXT

CTRL+F

FIND TEXT, FORMATTING AND SPECIAL ITEMS



Article by J. Turner
Photo by Andrea S. H. Hunt

Muskrats Hardy Little Creatures

The muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*) is a fairly large rodent which has adapted to life in and around water. Their name comes from their two musk (anal) scent glands, the odour used in communication, especially during breeding season. Muskrats are found in North American wetlands and waterways and are considered to be an important creature in their freshwater environments.

These animals have a round, portly body covered with rich waterproof fur made up of a short dense silky under coat and a longer, coarse glossy guard coat. Their fur covers small ears and provides buoyancy in the water. Fur colour ranges from a dark brown head to a light grey belly. Their feet are mostly hairless; the hind feet acting like paddles during swimming and described as semi-webbed, with the four longest toes of each foot having a fringe of specialized hairs along each side, giving the foot a paddle like effect in use. The front feet are used like hands to build lodges, hold food and dig burrows and channels. There are five toes on all feet but the inner toes of front feet are small so rarely show in tracks. Full grown large adults can weigh from 1 – 2 kgs (2 – 5 lbs) and are up to 60 cm (24 in) long (including the tail). Their tail is slender, flattened vertically (to act as a rudder when swimming) and covered with scaly skin to protect it from damaging easily. The muskrat has special teeth that protrude ahead of the cheeks and lips, which can close behind them, permitting the animal to

chew on stems and roots under water “with its mouth closed.” Its four front teeth are chisel like (two upper, two lower incisors), each up to 2 cm long, used for cutting stems and roots of plants.

Musk rats typically live in freshwater marshes, marshy areas of lakes, slow-moving streams, dugouts, ponds, and watery areas controlled by beaver dams. The water must be deep enough to not freeze to the bottom during winter, but shallow enough to allow for the growth of aquatic vegetation. Areas with good food sources such as bulrushes, cattails, pondweeds, or sedges are preferred.

Muskrat homes are compact mounds of partially dried and decayed plant material scattered among cattails, reeds or bulrushes, looking much like dead heaps of plants. If these materials are not available, muskrats dig burrows in firm banks of mossy soil or clay. They still need quick access to deep water for escape from predators and food access in the winter. Their construction of open-water canals through reeds, and floating houses of aquatic vegetation, creates habitats for many species of waterfowl and aquatic plants which could not survive among dense areas of cattail and sedges.

After freeze up muskrats chew through the ice, and push up plant matter to cover the hole with a dome to make a miniature lodge, which is used as a feeding station and resting place when searching for food underwater. They can remain underwater up to 15 minutes by reducing their heart rate and relaxing their muscles when submerged, thus reducing oxygen use by their body.

What’s unusual about the muskrat?

- They are more widely dispersed across North American (north to south, east to west) than any other mammal.
- They were introduced to Europe in 1905 and are now common there too.
- If normal plant food is not available, and animal food is abundant, they are known to become carnivorous (eating fish, frogs, clams)!
- Numbers decrease dramatically every 7 to 10 years. This is believed to be the result of cyclical health declines, deaths and reproductive failure.
- Muskrats appear to thrive even when harvested heavily for fur, impacted by agricultural draining of wetlands and increases in industrial activity! They can even adapt to brackish (salty) water. Hardy little creatures aren’t they?

If you find an injured or orphaned muskrat, or other wild animal or bird, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society for further instructions.

Getting a tax refund? What now?

Suzanne Smith-Demers – Consultant

If you are claiming a tax refund this year, your next decision is what you should do with it. Here are six ways to make it benefit your financial future:

1. Immediately use your refund to make your 2016 Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) contribution and you’ll get the benefit of nearly an extra year of potential long-term tax-deferred growth, plus a tax deduction against your 2016 income.
2. Contribute to investments held in a Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA). You will not be taxed on the income generated by these investments and you can make tax-free withdrawals for any purpose at any time.
3. Invest it. If your RRSP and TFSA are topped up, consider adding your refund to your non-registered investments. A tax-efficient strategy is to hold stocks and equity based mutual funds outside of an RRSP or TFSA because these types of investments are taxed using a more favourable capital gain income inclusion rate plus dividends from many Canadian corporations are eligible for the dividend tax credit.
4. Set up a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) to fund your children’s future education costs. Contributions to investments within an RESP can grow tax-deferred and they may qualify for Canadian Education Savings Grants (CESG) of up to 20% of your contributions.
5. Pay down costly, high-interest credit debt and then pay down non-deductible debt such as your mortgage – a single prepayment could potentially save hundreds, even thousands of dollars in interest payments.
6. If your refund is large, consider parking that cash in a short-term investment that you can access without penalty. That way, you’ll have a ready source of money for a rainy day.

Tax refunds are nice...make sure they are used to enhance your long term financial growth.



Elisabeth Fayt

How often must something happen, before it occurs to you?

A few years ago, I was out running errands with my son who was four at the time. I realized I was running late for a meeting and there was no way I would make it at the pace we were going, so I decided to play a little game with him. I said, “Hey, let’s have a race and see who can run the fastest” and we both started to run. After a few seconds, he stopped dead in his tracks and said “Mom, why are we racing?”

It was like the whole planet stopped whirling in space at that moment. I bent down to his eye level and responded “Good question, we’re not going to race anymore.” Without another word, we casually continued at our normal pace and arrived a half hour late for my meeting, which was irrelevant, as the other person had also been running late. She had not even arrived yet!

The experience had a profound effect on me. What came to light was that I had been sporting a pattern of rushing, of racing the clock and packing too many commitments into a small space of time. It clearly wasn’t serving me well.

How often did this happen, before it occurred to me? I’d hate to count, but it definitely occurred to me that day.

As May is the month we celebrate Moms, this is a call-out to all Moms living in the fast lane. Slow down and take time to savour each moment. Be present with your children. Bend down to their eye level and give them your full attention. The whole planet will stop whirling in space. You won’t miss anything. Trust me, I know from experience.

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

CONCRETE CUTTING FOR BASEMENT WINDOWS, DOORS & FLOORS: New openings or enlargements cut into foundation for basement windows and doors. Enlarge your existing basement windows to meet fire code for bedrooms, from cutting basement windows, doorways to supply and install quality windows, window-well, weeping-tile, core drilling, excavation and anything concrete cutting. Call 403-570-0555 or text 403-680-0611. Email: info@asapconcretecutting.com.

HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY: Clinicair is the leading provider of Indoor Air Quality and Medical Grade Duct Cleaning services in Canada. We are looking for a dealer in Calgary to represent our growing company. We offer a royalty free business. Clinicair supplies you with the latest technology, and training. Call Craig: 1-416-277-6067.

NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

JEFFREY ELECTRIC: Friendly professional electrical service for your next residential project large or small. City Qualified Trade, Master Electrician, Based in the NW, insured, licensed, certified, bonded. Very competitive rates for quality electrical work. Service Panel upgrades from 60 amp to 200 amp. Sub-panels, Aluminum re-wiring, custom kitchens and basements. Free estimates. cejelectric.com or call Clayton at 403-970-5441.

TLC CLEANING: Over 18 year's experience in the business! TLC Cleaning is a small and personalized cleaning company. Licensed, insured, bonded, and WCB covered for your piece of mind. Excellent rates and references, environmentally friendly options too. Let us put a little TLC into your home! Free estimates; please call Carol at 403-614-8522.



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 Calgary, AB, Canada T3B 4Z1
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 calgary.varsity@assembly.ab.ca

Friends,

Spring is in the air, our community gardens are beginning, and across Calgary-Varsity our community associations are putting on their annual clean-ups. At the end of April my office had the chance to participate in the Triwood Community Association spring cleanup and it was a great opportunity to connect with neighbours. Montgomery, and Dalhousie Community Associations will host their clean ups on May 7 and May 8, respectively and I hope to see you there.

In March I met with the Montgomery Business Revitalization Zone and it was a pleasure meeting the board and small business owners in Montgomery. At the beginning of April my office attended a Wine and Cheese evening held by Banff Trail Community Association, and on April 22nd attended the Varsity Community Association's Talent Show. Thank you to the volunteers who make all of our community events successful.

With the warmer spring air, my office has been outside engaging with our community in a variety of ways. I enjoyed my visits with seniors in the community over the month of April. I also had a great time meeting with constituents at Dalhousie, Banff Trail, and Brentwood train stations, where we gave out coffee, and had a chance to listen to commuters.

On April 29, the University of Calgary kicked off their 50th anniversary celebration. I would like to thank the U of C for its enormous contributions to our city, and our province. I am excited to participate in the yearlong celebrations. Along with observing the accomplishments of higher education, my office has recently attended Parent Council meetings at Simon Fraser Junior High School and Marion Carson School.

Session is ending in June and I am looking forward to seeing you out at summer events. We will be hosting several events across Calgary-Varsity. Please subscribe to our e-newsletter for more information about ongoing events, work being done in the legislature, and future community activities by sending an email to my office at calgary.varsity@assembly.ab.ca.

Our office serves the people of Calgary-Varsity. Our team is available to talk to constituents about provincial government departments, programs, scrolls, and services. Please visit us in our office, and let us know how we can assist you.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS	911
Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre	403.253.5250
Alberta Health Care	403.310.0000
AHS Addictions Hotline	1.866.332.2322
ATCO Gas – 24 Hour Emergency	403.245.7222
Calgary HEALTH LINK 24/7	811
Calgary Police – Non Emergency	403.266.1234
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter	403.234.7233
Child Abuse Hotline	1.800.387.5437
Kids Help Line	1.800.668.6868
Child Safe Canada	403.202.5900
Distress/Crisis Line	403.266.4357
ENMAX – Power Trouble	403-514-6100
Poison Centre - Alberta	1-800-332-1414
HOSPITALS / URGENT CARE	
Alberta Children's Hospital	403.955.7211
Foothills Hospital	403.944.1110
Peter Lougheed Centre	403.943.4555
Rockyview General Hospital	403.943.3000
Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre	403.955.6200
South Calgary Urgent Care Health Centre	403.943.9300
South Health Campus	403.956.1111
OTHER	
Calgary Humane Society	403.205.4455
Calgary Parking Authority	403.537.7000
SeniorConnect	403.266.6200
Calgary Kerby Elder Abuse Line	403.705.3250
Alberta One-Call Corporation	1.800.242.3447
City of Calgary	311
Kerby Centre for the 55 plus	403-265-0661
Community Mediation Calgary Society	403.269.2707
RNR Lockworks Ltd.	403.479.6161
Road Conditions – Calgary	511
Weather Information	
Gamblers Anonymous	403.237.0654

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline – 1st of each month for the next month's publication

Contact news@great-news.ca

- ◆ Free announcements: lost/found, household items for sale, wanted, garage sale, student/senior services, etc.
- ◆ Forty word limit



SUDOKU

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Email: ward01@calgary.ca
Web: www.calgary.ca/ward1

I routinely hear from seniors on fixed incomes who are anxious about how they can pay property taxes and utilities that rise faster than their pensions. They are not alone – regular families and regular Calgarians are all facing challenging economic times. In 2018, I am proposing to freeze the wages of The City employees (including unions) to give Calgarians a 0% property tax rate. This proposal, if passed in Council and combined with large savings in operations and capital spending, would result in a corresponding freeze on property taxes (that are slated to rise by 4.7%) in 2017-18. A tax freeze on The City portion of property levies could take effect as early as 2017.

The City has not filled at least 350 vacancies, which has saved \$17 million. Contracting out services has also benefitted savings without The City seeing an increase in complaints. However, I know The City can do more. Union employees need to take into account that wage increases over the past three years (3.1% average) were higher than normal in the current environment.

The conditions to pursue a tax freeze are better than ever, given \$86 million in recent expense savings, including \$73.6 million in lower capital project costs. We are in a good, strong financial position right now. A wage freeze could also enable The City to hold off any hikes to transit or recreation fees for two years, which would save The City \$10 million.

Mathematically, a wage freeze is possible, but ultimately it depends on the will of Council.



Montgomery Real Estate Update

Last 12 Months Montgomery MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
March 2016	\$427,000.00	\$411,000.00
February 2016	\$489,900.00	\$490,000.00
January 2016	\$410,000.00	\$390,000.00
December 2015	\$485,000.00	\$475,000.00
November 2015	\$485,000.00	\$477,500.00
October 2015	\$590,000.00	\$575,000.00
September 2015	\$459,900.00	\$459,000.00
August 2015	\$514,900.00	\$491,500.00
July 2015	\$480,000.00	\$465,000.00
June 2015	\$434,450.00	\$432,000.00
May 2015	\$439,900.00	\$415,000.00
April 2015	\$432,350.00	\$417,000.00

Last 12 Months Montgomery MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
March 2016	5	1
February 2016	9	3
January 2016	3	1
December 2015	0	1
November 2015	2	5
October 2015	5	1
September 2015	6	3
August 2015	4	3
July 2015	4	7
June 2015	8	2
May 2015	4	5
April 2015	3	4

To view the specific SOLD Listings that comprise the above MLS averages please visit montgomery.great-news.ca

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- Fences
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- Concrete
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