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 Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5
 Phone: 403-268-2478
 Fax: 403-268-8091
 Email: ward12@calgary.ca
 Web: www.calgary.ca/ward12



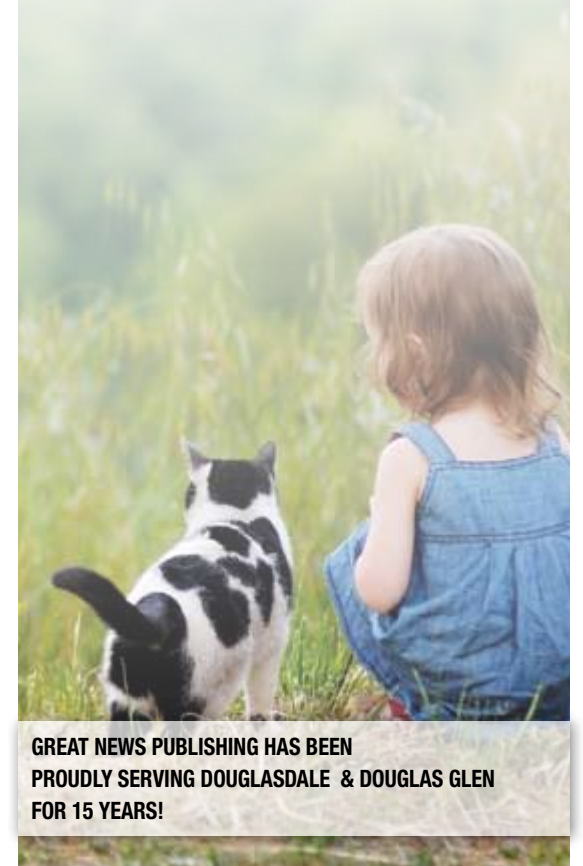
MLA Ric McIver
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 Calgary, AB, Canada T2Z 4C9
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Dealing with Life's Big Events

Kevin O'Hagan, PFP, FMA, CIWM

In life, nothing stays the same. And when life changes, so can your financial situation.

In fact, life's major events often call for adjustments in financial strategy. Depending on the nature of those events, your spending, saving, investment, insurance and estate planning strategies can be affected-sometimes taking a turn for the better, sometimes for the worse.

Let's take a look at some of those events and what they can mean to your financial picture.

Marriage: When you marry, your financial life is on a new course. You're no longer thinking as a single person; you move into family planning. It's usually a time to save for a house purchase, plan to have children or arrange life insurance coverage. But you have time to save and invest until those expenses begin.

Buying a house: This is the largest financial commitment many of us will ever make. First-time home buyers must divert a substantial portion of income to a mortgage, particularly if they want to pay it off quickly. And don't forget the expenses associated with a house-including furnishings, mortgage insurance, taxes and even increased transportation costs if your house is far from work.

Birth of a child: Children are priceless. But raising them is costly. In addition to having more mouths to feed, you'll face a couple of decades of expenses that can include substantial amounts for child care and education. This will alter your investment plans and take up much of your disposable income. For example, it may be time to start a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP). It's also time to give more thought to estate planning, so your family will be taken care of financially in the event of your death.

A pay raise: When you get a raise, or a start a new job with higher pay, you have more to save and invest. This is a good opportunity to beef up your savings and investments.

An inheritance: When you suddenly find yourself with inherited cash, it's an opportunity to pay off debt and boost investments. Depending on the size of the windfall, you may be able to improve your quality of life-buy a bigger house, for example. And your own estate planning goals may change.

Children leaving home: When the kids are grown and out of the house, you are free of some of your biggest financial responsibilities. This should generate increased cash flow. You may want to generate additional funds by downsizing housing, since you'll no longer need as much space.

Retirement: This is a major development. You'll rely on the wealth you've accumulated through your pensions, Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) and other investments for income, instead of your job. Your spending habits can change considerably, depending on what you do when you leave the work force.

Not all of life's events are positive. Those that aren't can be detrimental to your financial health. Examples include.

Divorce: You could find yourself with far less in cash and investments, and with new expenses such as child support. You may also face the prospect of rebuilding wealth.

Job loss: Losing a job can be a financial nightmare. It can eat away at your savings and investments, particularly if you face a long employment search.

Major illness: A major illness or disability can also be a big financial drain. It's best to protect yourself with disability and/or critical illness insurance.

When you face these or other life-altering developments, it's a good time to sit down with your financial advisor. With professional help you can make the most of what life has in store.



The Book Truck

Your library on wheels is out and about in Calgary! Visit calgarylibrary.ca/booktruck to see where The Book Truck will be next and to request The Book Truck at your event.

Westbrook Library

Coming soon! Celebrate Westbrook Library's Grand Opening on Saturday, April 23. Visit calgarylibrary.ca for details.

Play!

Play Spaces at Calgary Public Library are designed to give parents and caregivers colourful, fun, and playful spaces to help babies, toddlers, and preschoolers develop skills that will prepare them for reading and success in school.

Library Play Spaces include areas to promote learning in all sorts of interesting ways:

- Reading and games with puzzles, books, quiet games
- Dramatic play and storytelling with puppets, costuming, play materials
- Large and small building activities with Duplo, blocks, shapes, mixed materials
- Writing and creative arts with paper, paints, white boards

Our latest vibrant, interactive, and playful Early Learning Centre is now open at Fish Creek Library!

Teen Takeover!

The last week of April is Youth Week 2016! This year, the library is hosting Teen Takeovers: we'll turn over seven libraries to teens, and have plenty of games, snacks, and activities for them to enjoy. See calgarylibrary.ca for locations and times.

Authors Live at Calgary Public Library

An Evening with Lawrence Hill

Lawrence Hill reads from his award-winning book, *The Illegal*, which tackles the timely topic of refugees.

Monday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.

Central Library

An Evening with Wade Davis: *White Darkness and the Living Dead*

Wade Davis recounts his work investigating zombies and the Haitian voodoo culture, where he was propelled into a world beyond his imaginings and developed an appreciation of a fascinating and complex culture.

Thursday, April 21, 7:00 p.m.

Central Library

To register, visit calgarylibrary.ca

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your **COMMUNITY** business of the month

Blinds 2000 Manufacturing Ltd. Douglas Glen Community

Blinds 2000 Manufacturing Ltd. is a family owned and operated window blind manufacturing company located in the community of Douglas Glen. Started in 1994 we have been manufacturing quality window coverings in the greater Calgary area for over 21 years. We have been members of the Better Business Bureau since 1996 and have had an A+ rating throughout our entire partnership with the BBB. We have been located in the community of Douglas Glen since 2001 and have seen many changes in the last 15 years from the construction of the Douglasdale/Deerfoot overpass to the development of Quarry Park.

What started as a quest to find affordable window coverings in 1994 turned into an opportunity to start a local window covering manufacturing business supporting our local economy. Since we manufacture what we sell we have a thorough knowledge of the best type of window coverings for each customer's specific requirements.

We offer 1" aluminum venetians, 2" wood and faux wood venetians, roller shades, zebra shades, PVC and fabric verticals, and cordless cell shades. We also offer automated options for roller shades. In addition to manufacturing window coverings we offer services including installation, repairs and keep a supply of parts in our Douglasglen office for the convenience of our customers.

We treat every order regardless of size with the same attention to detail as we feel that quality, service and respect for our customers are key principles that have kept us in business for nearly 22 years.

We work with window supply and installation companies to remove and re-install window coverings into newly installed windows, as well as disaster restoration companies. Whether it is residential, commercial or property management companies we are happy to

provide affordable quality window coverings.

We have worked diligently with the Government of Canada and our suppliers to ensure that our blinds adhere to the Safety of Corded Window Covering products standards. We are continuously working on cordless options for blinds and hope to eliminate cords from all blinds we manufacture in the next few years.

Our office and showroom is open Monday to Friday 9:00am-4:00pm. We have chosen to close on weekends and statutory holidays to ensure that everyone at Blinds 2000 can spend quality time with their family as it seems that achieving that balance can be a challenge at times.

We are located at #160, 2770 107 Ave SE in the Douglasglen Business Park.

For the past three years, Blinds 2000 has been honoured to be a pit stop welcoming 2000 cyclists for the Ride To Conquer Cancer occurring in August in the Alberta foothills south of the City of Calgary.

We are looking forward to many more years in the thriving family oriented community of Douglasdale/Douglasglen.



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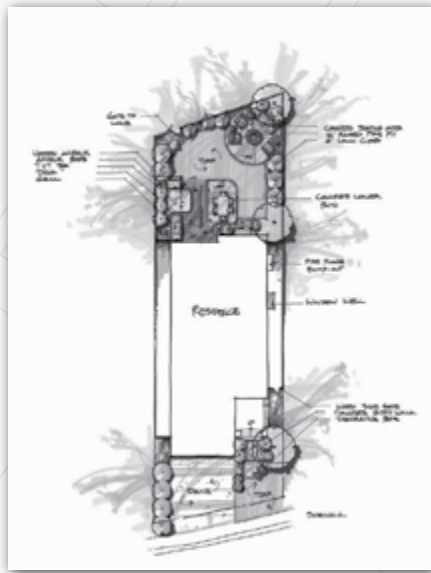


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IN & AROUND SCHOOLS

April brings cultural event activities to École St. Cecilia School

West Africa comes to École St. Cecilia School in April when students will learn traditional dance from that Region as part of PhysEd and music education. The African theme continues with students learning to play Djembe drums from April until the end of May.

Our Division I students are in for an extra treat – our grade one students will visit Heritage Park to learn about pioneering days and our Grade 3 students will learn all about farming with a field trip to Aggie Days.

This month also sees an opportunity for community members to contribute to École St. Cecilia School through our Education Society raffle draw. The raffle will raise money to fund technology for our classrooms and participants will have an opportunity to win two tickets to anywhere Westjet flies. If you're interested in supporting this fundraiser, please contact the school.



IN & AROUND CALGARY

Friends of Fish Creek

Learn about the birds of Fish Creek with the **Spring Birding Course**. 12-week course starts March 28. For more information and to register visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/birding-course

Douglasdale Glen



Real Estate Stats

Last 12 Months Douglasdale Glen
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Stats

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
February 2016	\$500,950.00	\$494,500.00
January 2016	\$482,000.00	\$471,000.00
December 2015	\$434,900.00	\$428,500.00
November 2015	\$502,250.00	\$492,500.00
October 2015	\$449,500.00	\$439,500.00
September 2015	\$487,400.00	\$474,500.00
August 2015	\$554,900.00	\$545,250.00
July 2015	\$494,900.00	\$485,000.00
June 2015	\$494,700.00	\$487,500.00
May 2015	\$504,450.00	\$487,500.00
April 2015	\$489,900.00	\$479,400.00
March 2015	\$563,500.00	\$560,000.00

Last 12 Months Douglasdale Glen
MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Stats

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
February 2016	16	12
January 2016	18	6
December 2015	7	6
November 2015	12	8
October 2015	11	10
September 2015	19	16
August 2015	13	8
July 2015	11	19
June 2015	21	14
May 2015	20	18
April 2015	23	17
March 2015	19	10

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

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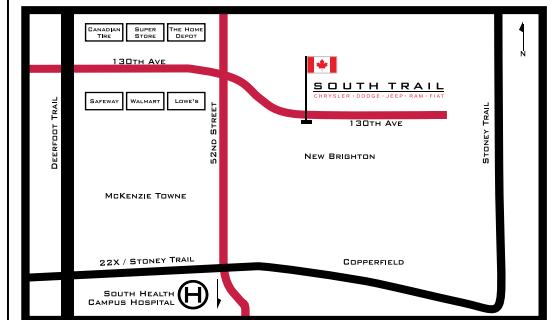
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Residents of partnered communities' pay 20% less for memberships than those who reside outside partnered communities. Phone: 403-278-7542 or see www.tricocentre.ca to find out more.

April at Trico Centre

Trico Centre for Family Wellness is a non-profit, community-owned and operated recreation facility. Our memberships are affordable and our programs are family-friendly. With a membership, you can work out in the fitness centre, take more than 70-drop-in fitness classes a week, use the gymnasium, skate, or play shinny, plus you get 20% off our fun, active registered programs.

Residents of communities partnered with Trico Centre (yours!) pay 20% less for a Trico Centre membership with presentation of a community association membership or payment of the Community Support Fee (which is sent to your community association.)

Pool Refurbishment

After 33 years in operation, Trico Centre's Aquatics Centre is undergoing a major refurbishment. This project will address lifecycle issues, improve health and safety components. **The target reopen date is August 15, 2016.** Check our Spring Summer Program Guide for **membership specials** and what to do at Trico while the pool is closed. We will be hosting a pool grand opening, so watch for details.

Spring Summer Registration

Registration for Spring Summer programs, including day camps, is now on. Programs for all ages – from tots to seniors - start in April.

Adults

- More than 70 drop-in fitness classes every week. Free for members, drop-in fee for non-members. Many new land-based classes added during pool closure. See the Drop-In Fitness schedule at www.tricocentre.ca under the Schedules tab or pick up a copy at Guest Services.
- Adult registered programs including new options: Cardio Kickboxing, Golf Conditioning, and Dance PL3Y (Dance Play.)
- Adult Wellness Workshops in April: Walking Pol Clinic (April 12, 1:30-3:30pm) and Yoga for Scoliosis (April 17, 1-3pm.)

Older Adults

- Many of the more than 70 drop-in fitness classes every week are specifically designed for older adults: Check out Be Fit Age Well, Fit 'n Fab., and our numerous yoga options. Free for members, drop-in fee for

non-members. See the Drop-In Fitness schedule at www.tricocentre.ca under the Schedules tab or pick up a copy at Guest Services.

- Registered programs starting in April include Balance Builders, Bone Builders, Brain Builders, and Chair Yoga.
- Drop-in Pickleball is offered several times a week. Check out the Drop-In Gym schedule (available on the website or at Guest Services.) Free for members or drop-in fee for non-members.

Families, Children, Youth

- Lots of new registered Parent & Tot, Preschool children, and youth programs start in April.
- Check out our Summer Day Camps for ages 3 to 14 years – registration now on.
- Lots of Drop-Ins: See the Drop-In Gym schedule for drop-in gym, Drop-In Playtime, Drop-In Gymnastics, youth drop-in gym, and more. See the Drop-In Arena schedule for leisure skate, adult shinny, youth shinny, women's shinny, and stick & puck. Free for members. Fee for non-members.

Trico Centre is located at 11150 Bonaventure Drive SE. Residents of partnered communities' pay 20% less for memberships than those who reside outside partnered communities. Phone: 403-278-7542 or see www.tricocentre.ca to find out more.



Taking Care of Your Teeth as You Age

By Stephanie McIntyre

Aging happens to the best of us – and even leaves its mark on our smile. From dull, yellow teeth to hyper sensitivity – the years can really show when we smile. But just like anti-wrinkle creams – there are a few dental treatments that can peel back the years.

Aging Teeth

Nothing can give away your age more than your smile. Creams, makeup and clothes can hide a multitude of signs that your twenties are well and truly gone – but your teeth – how can the average person disguise gum recession, worn teeth and tooth discoloration – all common ailments of an aging mouth. **Anti-aging dentistry may not be available in a bottle, but there are certain procedures that can help to restore your smile and youthful appearance.** Teeth

Whitening is an easy, safe and affordable method to reverse the effects aging has on the colour of teeth – and though anti-aging dentistry doesn't come in a bottle it may just come in a syringe of whitening gel – a solution that contains ingredients that will lighten stains and other colour imperfections such as yellowing and greying of tooth enamel.

Dental Procedures That Reverse The Signs of Aging

The amount of candles on your birthday cake may have grown – but the desire to have healthy looking teeth has never been stronger. And though there are several dental procedures that help reverse the signs of an aging mouth – nothing works quite as well as prevention. Taking care of your teeth throughout every year of life will help ensure that your smile not only looks good but functions optimally. Addressing the destructive habit of clenching and grinding will prevent teeth becoming worn, short and flat. The grinding of tooth enamel increases tooth sensitivity – making enjoying your favourite foods challenging as enamel gets thinner and dentin exposure becomes more pronounced. Gum recession is another symptom of clenching and grinding as the force and movement of grinding causes gums to become inflamed and pull away from teeth. Increased root exposure does nothing to help tooth sensitivity – as roots don't have the protective covering of enamel to help insulate the tooth from temperature and sugar stimuli.

Talking to your dentist about clenching and grinding as soon as you become aware of the habit will help your dental team intervene and slow the damaging impact. Wearing a night guard and discussing options of correcting bite issues that may be influencing the grinding habit is a great place to start in age-proofing your smile.



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IN & AROUND CALGARY

Smoking and Home Fire Safety

The place where we feel safest — at home — is where most smoking-materials structure fires, deaths, and injuries occur. Smoking materials are the leading cause of fire deaths. Every year we have over 500 fires started due to smoking materials, this is preventable and can be reduced!

Some tips to remember:

- If you smoke, smoke outside. Most deaths result from fires that started in living rooms, family rooms and bedrooms
- Keep cigarettes, lighters, matches and other smoking materials high out of the reach of children. We have found the kids to be very observant regarding “hidden” lighters.

Put It Out, Right Out!

- Use a deep, sturdy ashtray. Place it away from anything that can burn.
- DO NOT discard cigarettes in vegetation such as mulch, potted plants, landscaping, peat moss, dried grasses, leaves or other things that could ignite easily.
- Before you throw away butts and ashes, make sure they are out. Dousing in water or sand is the best way to do that.

Your Calgary Fire department has been called to many fires burning on the outside of homes from ignited peat moss in planters while occupants were sleeping inside.

Did you know that in addition to your Fire Department being highly trained to battle fires, that we have specialty teams that are further trained in airport rescue, structural collapse, confined space, dive rescue, high angle and hazardous material response?

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Our Pets And Unwanted Passengers

Parasites, both external and internal, are present in Calgary, but traditionally because of Calgary's elevation, dry climate, and extreme winters the risks of infection were low. This may be changing with our changing weather; Calgary never hit minus 30 degrees winter 2014-2015, we are still waiting for winter this year, and we've had two wet summers. Review your pet's annual anti-parasitic regime. The absolute minimum recommended by veterinary professional associations is an annual fecal examination, but this is now inadequate for all but a strictly indoor pet. It is also imperative you examine your pet's lifestyle and travel plans to determine his or her individual needs.

As far as external parasites go we haven't seen fleas in Calgary except on pets travelling in or through, but this summer the number of cases of lice and ticks is expected to dramatically increase. Ticks are usually seen April to October in Alberta but studies reveal ticks can become active seeking a host at 4 degrees centigrade. All ticks received by veterinarians are submitted to Alberta Tick Surveillance project to determine species and if they are carrying secondary diseases, such as Lyme disease. Lyme disease is carried by the black-legged tick. That tick is rare in Alberta but may be carried in by a migratory bird. Dogs rarely become clinically ill if the Lyme disease or *Borrelia burgdorferia* pathogen is in the tick; but if the tick moves onto a human host, people get very ill. Lyme disease is considered endemic to parts of B.C. and east of Winnipeg. Previously our clinic recommended tick and louse protection if lifestyle and travel dictated it. This year we recommend prophylactic anti-parasitic medications for all dogs and cats that go outdoors.

Heartworm disease is not in mosquito populations in Alberta, but provincial and national bodies monitor the situation to keep veterinarians members informed. As with tick and louse prevention, monthly protection is easier than finding out what areas have the parasite.

West Nile Virus is in Alberta mosquito populations but dogs and cats do not tend to become clinically ill. This disease affects birds, horses, and people. Use repellents during mosquito season.

A type of microscopic tapeworm known as *Echinococcus multilocularis* has recently been identified in the coyote populations around Edmonton and Calgary and in Nose Hill Park. The lifecycle of this tapeworm carries it between the wild carnivores, such as fox and coyotes, and the rodent populations. If a dog or cat picked up this parasite from a rodent they ingested, they may show no symptoms. A person contracting this parasite from a pet is an atypical host and the alveolar form of tapeworm infection in humans can be devastating. Regularly deworm any pet known to catch rodents.

We have become a population of people and pets that travel and move all over this continent and world. Contact your veterinarian for advice about the parasites that can infect your pets, and initiate prophylactic prevention as required. Also be conscious of the changing weather in our own backyard increasing our risk as we invite our furry family members onto the couch, into the kitchen, and onto our beds. Prevention is easy but treatment is often not as simple. Also tell your vet if you have dogs and cats as some dog products are toxic to cats.

Jennifer L. Scott, D.V.M.

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IN & AROUND CALGARY

Community Cleanups: Save Yourself a Trip to the Landfill

Calgary Community Standards (formerly Animal & Bylaw Services) in partnership with Waste & Recycling Services and your community association is pleased to offer another year of Community Clean-ups for FREE of charge to Calgarians. A Community Clean-up is a day scheduled at your community centre where you can bring your household items that may not fit in your black, brown or blue carts like furniture or old fencing or items that fill up your carts too quickly or just an accumulation of items that are ready for the landfill. If you live in a multi-unit housing complex, we welcome you to bring your waste and recycling items to this event especially if it is closer than the designated community recycling depots.

We are pleased to announce that 3 packer trucks will be provided this year (2 for waste and 1 for organic materials). Last year, 110 communities were served between April and October. Please check with your community association to see when your Community Clean-up has been booked and better yet, volunteer to help with the event which is held either on a Saturday or Sunday from 9 am – 2 pm. Your community association needs 15-20 volunteers to put on the event so your assistance is greatly appreciated. Calgary Community Standards provides funds for food and refreshments for the volunteers, advertising and promotion, gloves, garbage bags and any other items used to help Clean-up.

Please note, there are items that the City of Calgary's packer trucks will not accept:

- Tires, home appliances, paint, household chemicals, propane tanks, microwaves, car batteries, home electronics, liquids, metals and glass, railway ties.
- Your Community Association usually enhances the event with recycling services such as electronics, metal, paper shredding and possible tire recycling and paint pickup (or you can take your cans of paint to any fire hall station).

The Community Clean-ups provide a fantastic opportunity to work with your neighbours and community associations to Clean-up your yards and homes, parks, off-leash areas and sport playfields. Thank you for your commitment to help create healthy, safe and vibrant communities.

For more information about the date set in your community, please call your Community Association or you can go to www.calgary.ca/cleanup for the full schedule and further details.

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The scoop on dog poop

With 150 public off-leash areas and over 100,000 dogs in our city, it's clear Calgarians love their canine companions. What isn't to love is the stinky situation that's left behind when owners don't pick up after their pets.

Cleaning up your dog's waste is part of being a responsible pet owner and helps keep our yards, parks and off-leash areas safe and healthy.

Here are five facts you may not know about doggy doo-doo:

1. It's classified as a hazardous pollutant. It's in the same category as toxic chemicals!
2. It's crawling with E. coli and roundworm larvae which, if ingested by humans or dogs, can lead to brain, eye, and other organ damage.
3. It's not a good fertilizer. Its high nutrient content is toxic to lawns and will create "hot spots" causing the grass to burn and discolour.
4. It doesn't absorb into the soil, so the risk of spreading its harmful effects can linger for years!
5. It attracts mice, coyotes and other wildlife that consider it a delicious snack.

Keeping our city pet-waste free is easy, if we all do our part. Always carry pet waste bags with you when you walk your dog, and pick up and properly dispose of your pet's waste as soon as possible.

To learn more about the importance of picking up after your pet, check out our P.U.P.P.Y. (Pick Up Pooch's Poo Yourself) program at calgary.ca/puppy.

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Website: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca> • Email: boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca

Your voice matters

The Calgary Board of Education is committed to involving people in decisions that affect them. To do this more effectively, a new system-wide approach to public engagement is being developed.

This approach will help people understand how their contributions influence decisions within the CBE, clarify roles and responsibilities and allow us to have a consistent approach across our system.

Last fall we invited employees, parents, students and the general public to share their perspectives on public engagement at the CBE. The response was outstanding. More than 6,500 people took the time voice their opinions. The thoughts and views that were shared are important and will guide us as we move forward.

A summary is posted on our website. It identifies several areas where the CBE can do better including developing a well understood, fair and open engagement process to sharing the results of engagement activities.

More information on Public Engagement and other opportunities to provide input can be found on our website www.cbe.ab.ca/dialogue

We look forward to sharing our new approach with you.

The Board of Trustees always welcome your comments, feedback and questions. You can contact the Board of Trustees at boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca.

Follow the Calgary Board of Education on Twitter @yycbedu

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IN & AROUND CALGARY

National Volunteer Week

April 10 - 16 is National Volunteer Week in Canada and on behalf of all Calgarians we want to sincerely thank community volunteers for all they do each and every day to improve neighbourhood life in Calgary!

There are 150 community associations in every neighbourhood across our city, and they are all run by volunteers. In fact, more than 20,000 volunteers are involved in community associations here in Calgary, making it the LARGEST collective volunteer movement in the city!

Without their hard-working volunteers community associations would not exist. They would not be able to provide you with the programs you enjoy, put on the year-round special events that bring you together as neighbours, advocate for your community on local issues, or produce this monthly newsletter full of important information. These volunteers are dedicated to making sure your community is a great place to live, work, and play.

Community volunteers are the lifeblood of the community association movement here in Calgary, a movement that brings Calgarians that small-town feel in our large urban centre. **So take a moment during National Volunteer Week, April 10 - 16, to thank a volunteer in your community for their hard work and dedication to ensuring you love where you live!**

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Website: www.ccsd.ab.ca/board-of-trustees/, Email: trustees@ccsd.ab.ca

Learn more about your Calgary Catholic School District Board of Trustees!

We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter break blessed with peace and joy. As we celebrate spring, our district Planning and Construction departments remain busy, preparing for the opening of four new schools before the end of 2016 and six new schools in the coming years.

Did you know?

- The four schools slated to open before the end of 2016 include K-9 schools in the communities of Auburn Bay and Evanston and K-6 schools in the communities of Cranston and New Brighton.
- These new schools will help relieve overcrowding pressures at current receiver schools and they will also provide room for our district to keep growing. Years of extensive planning and public consultation goes into the decision-making process of every new school we open.
- Naming our schools is a very important part of the process and one of the initial steps to building community among the individuals who will learn and work together. A naming committee is developed for each school, which includes representatives from senior administration, Board of Trustees, parishes and the school council chair.
- The committee meets and reviews a list of potential names, which includes saints and prominent Catholic figures that reflect a commitment to gospel values, exemplary service to others and a willingness to journey in faith with God.
- The naming committee will select several suitable names and then gather input from the school community and parishes and review the data before submitting it to senior administration for final approval.
- In addition to reflecting our district's faith through school names, we also look to incorporate symbols of faith within the building construction. We add a cross to the outside of our buildings, but also look to add meaningful, religious symbolism in windows, floor patterns, foyers and other architectural elements.

For more details and information regarding new schools at the Calgary Catholic School District, please visit our website at www.ccsd.ab.ca under Schools/Future Schools.



COUNCILLOR, WARD 12 SHANE KEATING

Phone: 403-268-1698 • Email: Ward12@calgary.ca
Twitter: @CouncillorKeats Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CouncillorKeating>
Web: <http://shanekeating.blogspot.com/>

Spring Cleaning – Street Cleaning

Spring Clean-up is an annual street sweeping program that removes sanding materials and debris that has accumulated on roads and along major sidewalks and boulevards during the winter months.

The 2016 Spring Clean-Up program begins in April and runs until the end of June.

The City sweeps almost 15,000 lane kilometres of paved roads, and getting the work done is a collaborative effort. The City would like to thank Calgarians for their help in moving their cars and their blue, black and green carts from city streets when sweeping is scheduled. The community schedule for street cleaning will be available on the Calgary.ca website by searching "street cleaning".

Public Consultation Matters

There has been a lot of buzz at City Hall over the last few months around public consultation. The City needs to be clear on what decisions are being made and how input is being received. If we are providing public information, it must be branded as public information. If we are asking for public input, it needs to be clearly stated how that feedback will influence a project.

As your elected representative, your feedback plays a key role in what decisions I make on Council. Public engagement is one of the key ways that I can check in and get feedback on the priorities that matter to you and your family.

In late February Council had an entire meeting dedicated to The City's public consultation process. One of the themes that came up was sustainable decision making. The chart below shows some of the key pillars of that process:



In order to make a sustainable decision we must appropriately balance economic viability, technical feasibility, environmental compatibility and public

acceptance. When these interests are balanced correctly we are able to reach a sustainable solution.

The City does much of the work to build a business case for how a project might be economically, technically or environmentally viable. Throughout the process The City will need to engage with the residents to gain public acceptance. It is a critical piece of the decision making process that cannot be overlooked.

Construction is underway for lot of exciting infrastructure projects in southeast Calgary. There are numerous other projects that require public input and feedback. I am looking forward to hearing from the residents of Ward 12 on how these projects can better serve their needs and make southeast Calgary an even better place to live.

The Ward 12 Office is Here to Help

My team is here to serve the residents of Ward 12. I want to provide a simple step process on how my team can better assist you:

1. If you are concerned about something in your community (or with The City in general) please contact 311.
2. 311 will provide you with a Service Request Number (SR#) when you officially log your complaint.
3. If you are unable to get your concerns addressed through 311, you can follow up with my office at caward12@calgary.ca.
4. Please provide your SR# to my team so that they can follow up with the appropriate City department.

It is important to note that The City gathers a tremendous amount of data through 311 requests. By logging your concerns with 311, The City can identify trouble spots and allocate resources accordingly. My team is able to escalate your concerns by referring to the specific SR# that was originally logged with 311.

Sign Up for the Ward 12 E-Newsletter

Curious on what is going on in Ward 12? Sign up for my quarterly E-newsletter at Calgary.ca/ward12.

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~continued on page 25~

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



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