

JUNE 2016

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## Douglasdale Glen Community Association

P.O. Box 87031  
 #160, 11520-24th St. SE  
 info@dgca.ca | www.dgca.ca

### Elected Officials



**Councillor Shane Keating**  
**Ward 12 Office**  
 P.O. Box 2100, Station M  
 Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5  
 Phone: 403-268-2478  
 Fax: 403-268-8091  
 Email: ward12@calgary.ca  
 Web: www.calgary.ca/ward12



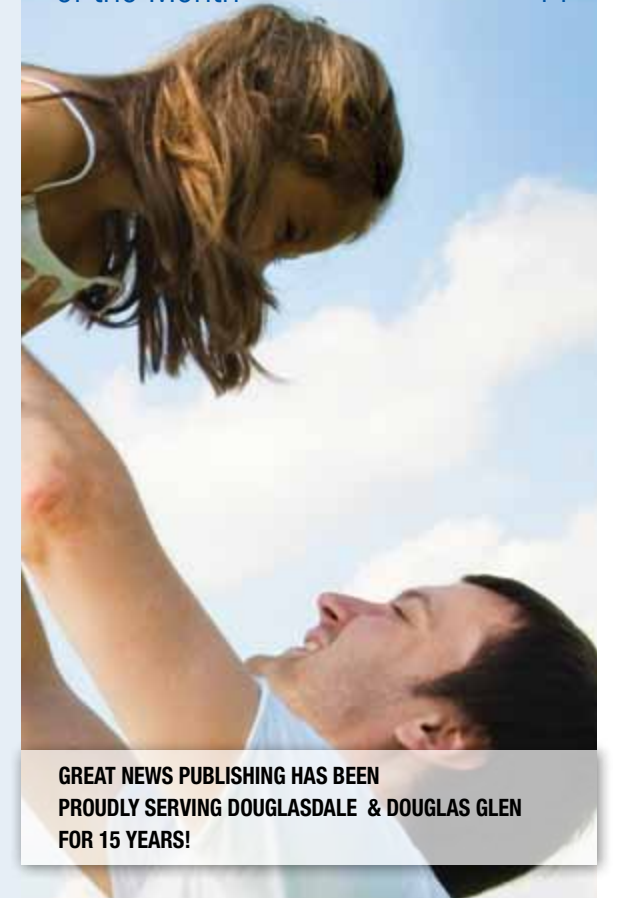
**MLA Ric McIver**  
 255, 11488 - 24 Street SE,  
 Calgary, AB, Canada T2Z 4C9  
 Phone: 403-215-4380  
 Fax: 403-215-4383  
 Email: calgary.hays@assembly.ab.ca  
 Web: www.mciver.mypcmla.ca

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## IN & AROUND SCHOOLS

### Mapleridge Cooperative Preschool

Our students had two wonderful field trips in May. The 4-year-old classes spent some time in the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary classroom before heading off on a beautiful nature walk and picnic. The 3-year-old class went to the zoo and learned all about penguins as they took part in the preschool penguin program. These were two memorable adventures and the students are still talking about them!

The end of May brought a year-end party for all the students. The 4-year-olds proudly participated in a graduation ceremony. June will bring a day to share with families and school friends with a final picnic together at Lake Bonavista.

As our school year comes to a close, we would like to thank all parents and families that helped support our school this past year. We would especially like to thank Mrs. Killam for all the love and devotion she has provided to each and every child, as it has allowed for their early school years to be filled with positive memories.

Please mark your calendars for the 2016/2017 school year orientation on September 6, 2016. We still have a few spots in the 3 and 4-year-old classes! If you would like more information about the preschool please call us at 403-278-9594, email us at mapleridgepreschool@hotmail.com or visit the website at www.mapleridgepreschool.com.

### Insect Trivia



# McKenzie Towne STAMPEDE BREAKFAST

**July 14, 2016**

**9:00 am – 11:00 am**

**High St. SE, McKenzie Towne**

**Volunteers needed!** Visit [mtcouncil.com](http://mtcouncil.com) for volunteer information. Volunteers are the backbone hosting a successful Stampede Breakfast and we need your help.

McKenzie Towne Council, in partnership with the Stampede Caravan Committee, is reviving the McKenzie Towne Stampede Breakfast! There will be tons of activities: Live music, marching bands, Indian dancers, visiting Stampede celebrities, activities, games + prizes, pony rides and a petting zoo. [www.mtcouncil.com](http://www.mtcouncil.com) for event information.



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**Douglasdale Glen**  
**mybabysitterlist**

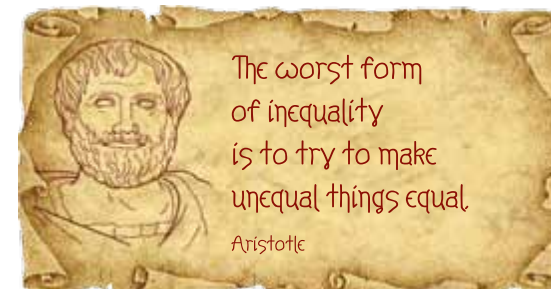
Name	Age	Contact	Course
Elena	13	403-263-3809	Yes
Kyla	13	403-697-9764	Yes
Melissa	14	403-455-4402	Yes
Jordan	14	403-288-0220	Yes
Kaitlin	16	403-258-3153	Yes
Lauren	16	403-203-4480	Yes
Brooklyn	16	403-236-1440	Yes
Michelle	17	403-455-4402	Yes
Caitlyn	18	403-203-4480	Yes
Taylor	19	403-236-2836	Yes
Kyra	20	250-938-5951	Yes
Cheyanne	20	250-938-1090	No
Cheyanne	20	250-938-1090	No
Jane	51	403-467-3607	Yes

**Calling All BABYSITTERS** Enroll free at [mybabysitter.ca](http://mybabysitter.ca) and choose the Calgary communities you would like to babysit in.

**Calling All PARENTS** Visit [mybabysitter.ca](http://mybabysitter.ca) and find available babysitters in and around your community.

**Disclaimer:** We recommend for your own peace of mind that references be checked when choosing your babysitter. This babysitter list is provided as a service to the community and is governed by the terms & conditions outlined at [mybabysitter.ca](http://mybabysitter.ca).

**Editorial Content 1<sup>st</sup>** of each month for the next month's issue  
**DEADLINE**  
[news@great-news.ca](mailto:news@great-news.ca)



**MEDICAL CLINIC**



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[www.primecarehealth.ca](http://www.primecarehealth.ca)



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](http://www.tricocentre.ca) to find out more.

### June 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 (more than 55 in the summer months), use the gymnasium, skate, or play shinny, plus with a membership 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).

### Membership Specials while the Pool is Closed

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.** There is still lots to do at Trico while the pool is closed. We will be hosting a pool grand opening, so watch for details.

- Purchase a new membership up until August 14, 2016 and receive 14 months for the price of 12.
- Purchase an All-Inclusive 10-Visit Pass up until July 31, 2016 and receive 13 visits for the price of 10.
- If you were a member on February 19, 2016 when the pool closed for its makeover, make sure to drop by Guest Services and fill out your form to receive a three-month free extension on your membership and five free passes\*

### Spring Activities for Families, Children, Youth

- **Summer Day Camps:** Trico Centre is known for its summer camps. Want your child to have fun and learn over the summer? Good quality themed camps. 3-14 yrs, weekly or daily, full day, half, day, pre and post care.
- More registered summer programs than ever before including Parent & Tot classes, preschool, children and youth. See the Summer Program Guide or check [www.tricocentre.ca](http://www.tricocentre.ca) for all the details.
- Summer drop-ins include Drop-In Playtime (walking and up, Thursdays, 5-6:30pm, Drop-In Craft (2 yrs and up) Drop-In Dodgeball (10-14 yrs.) Check the Summer 2016 Program Guide for details.
- Skating Lessons – what could be a better way to spend a hot summer than in a cool skating rink. Parent & Tot, Pre-school Learn to skate, Youth Learn to Skate, Teen Learn to Skate, and private lessons.

- Intro to Hockey for 6-8 yrs, Intro to Hockey Adult & Child (4-6 yrs with parent/caregiver), and Power Skating & Recreational Hockey (7-12 yrs.)

### Summer Programs for Adults

- Check out these registered summer programs: Core Fusion Barre, Obstacle Race Training, Stroller Fit, Fit 101: For the Absolute Beginner, and Sore Joints Training.
- Even though it is summer, there is still lots to do in the Fitness Centre. Choose from more than 55 dryland drop-in fitness classes every week. Free for members, drop-in fee for non-members.

### Summer Programs for Older Adults

- Balance Builders: Fall Prevention for Older Adults, Bone Builders: Weight Training for Older Adults, Chair Yoga, and Sore Joints Training are registered fitness classes for older adults offered over the summer.
- Drop-in Pickleball is offered several times a week over the summer. 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.

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](http://www.tricocentre.ca) to find out more.

## BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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9					8	3		2

FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 25

# Douglasdale Glen



## Real Estate Stats

### Last 12 Months Douglasdale Glen MLS Real Estate Sale Price Stats

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
May 2016	\$540,000.00	\$525,000.00
April 2016	\$479,900.00	\$469,000.00
March 2016	\$520,000.00	\$510,000.00
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

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

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
May 2016	25	11
April 2016	16	11
March 2016	19	15
February 2016	14	12
January 2016	16	6
December 2015	7	6
November 2015	12	8
October 2015	11	10
September 2015	18	16
August 2015	13	8
July 2015	11	19
June 2015	21	14

To view the specific SOLD Listings that comprise the above MLS averages please visit [douglasdale\\_glen.great-news.ca](http://douglasdale_glen.great-news.ca)



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# IN & AROUND CALGARY

## June and July Events in Fish Creek

### Qi Gong and the Fish Creek Wellness Showcase

Qi Gong (pronounced Chi Gong) is a way of enriching and supporting the life energy that flows through all people and all things. It is an ancient form of exercise derived in China that features recurring movements that help to unify physical, mental and spiritual aspects in participants. This system can be beneficial for reducing stress, alleviating the effects of illness, and improving and maintaining physical well-being. Learn about the general principles and history of Qi Gong, follow along as Spring Forest Qi Gong Certified Instructor Diane Smith leads you in simple movements, and learn some of the basic exercises that you can practice at home.

*June Fish Creek Speaker Series – Qi Gong and the Fish Creek Wellness Showcase:*  
Wednesday, June 22, 7:00 - 8:30pm at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre

*Outdoor Qi Gong Sessions: Tuesday nights, June 14 – July 26 6:30 - 7:30pm at the Bow Valley Ranch, Fish Creek Provincial Park*

For more information or to register [www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/wellness-clinics](http://www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/wellness-clinics)

### Capture Nature Photography Contest

The Friends of Fish Creek are excited to offer our Capture Nature Photography Contest for the second year in a row! Capture Nature offers a fun and creative opportunity for park users to engage with their natural surroundings as they search and explore for the best images of the year! All proceeds from the contest will help to support our stewardship and education activities in Fish Creek Provincial Park. Capture Nature will run from July 1 to August 15. Register for a chance to win one of the amazing prizes from Vistek and MEC! [www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/capturenature](http://www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/capturenature)

### Parks Day & Creekfest

Free Fun for the Whole Family!

Sunday, July 17, 2016 11:00 am – 4:00pm, Glenfield, Fish Creek Provincial Park

Celebrate Alberta's Natural Provincial Parks and Learn about Protecting our Watersheds at Parks Day & Creekfest! Juno-award winning Peter Puffin's Whale Tales will return to Fish Creek to host a concert and song writing workshop! Enjoy the performance "Good Night and Good Duck" from Alberta Parks' K-Country Interpretive Theatre! Coyote Kids Theatre will present "A Muskrat's Tail" and local musician Alex Boisselle will return to Fish Creek! Take part in an outdoor yoga session and fly fishing demonstration.

Enjoy interactive booths and activities hosted by community organizations dedicated to the environmental sustainability of our Provincial Parks! For more info: [www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/creekfest](http://www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/creekfest)

### Full Moon Guided Meditation in Fish Creek

Let go of outside distractions and just be. Join Naomi Parker and Gwen Draude Woolverton for outdoor meditation sessions on full moon evenings at the Bow Valley Ranch in Fish Creek Provincial Park.

7:00 - 8:00 pm on Monday, June 20 (The first day of summer!) Tuesday, July 19, and Thursday, August 18. Registration is recommended and fees apply. For more information, visit [www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/wellness-clinics](http://www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/wellness-clinics).

## your COMMUNITY business of the month



### Canadian Dent

DouglasdaleGlen Community

What an honour to be showcased as the Community Business of the Month. After spending many years in the car business we decided it was time for something new and began removing dents from our neighbours' vehicles. Twenty-one years later, we are still finding the job interesting and challenging and have grown to seven locations in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and are looking to further expand into our local communities to provide a dent removal service from technicians that you can rely upon and that you can trust to still be there tomorrow and the day after that.

We specialize in paint-less dent removal and our process is exactly that. We remove dents from your vehicles by massaging them from the inside out. Our methods are eco-friendly and kind to the planet as we can achieve our goals without using chemicals, fillers or paints and at a fraction of the cost of a traditional body shop repair.

We have been blessed with clients encompassing full-fledged companies to parents and teenagers. We have become the local teenagers "go to" for help getting their first car looking its ultimate best which doesn't always equate to work for us but maybe a referral to an associate that can help out for a great price. There are those moments when we get a panic phone call, "can you fix

it before my husband gets back" or the sheepish look of someone who walks through the door and has to admit that they dropped the box of Christmas decorations on the roof of their Mercedes. We love them all and consider it an honour to be the ones people trust and come to.

The economy has definitely created some barriers to free spending but we have always offered fantastic service for a great price and can offer the opportunity to make lemonade by coming to us to make your existing vehicle look new again when perhaps a new purchase isn't in the picture.

We are local, we live here, raise our kids here and send them to school and are proud to be part of this community. We appreciate that our clients see the value in that and have shown their support for the last 21 years. In the past few years especially, the weather patterns are really changing. We would like to remind everyone that we complete work for "all" insurance companies and would be happy to help out in any way we can, whether it's life's dents, dings and scratches or full-on hail repair, windshield chip repair or 3M application, just give us a call.

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**JULY 21 TO 23  
MILKY WAY NIGHTS**

The Rothney Astrophysical Observatory is open to the public for night sky viewings for three nights this month. During this time of the summer, conditions are ideal for viewing distant galaxies, nebula and other planets. [www.ucalgary.ca](http://www.ucalgary.ca)



**JULY 30  
SLIDE THE CITY**

That bright green, 1,000-foot-long slip-and-slide will return to 10th Street N.W. at the end of July. Choose to slide down once or multiple times. [www.slidethecity.com](http://www.slidethecity.com)



**YOUR COMMUNITY/CITY EVENTS  
AT A GLANCE...**

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- **July 1 to September 4 - Legends of Rock N Roll:** Buddy Holly, Tom Jones, Neil Diamond and Elvis Presley perform classics like Delilah, Blue Suede Shoes and many more. [www.stagewestcalgary.com](http://www.stagewestcalgary.com)
- **July 17 - Park Day and Creekfest:** This annual event is a celebration of Alberta's natural areas. The whole family is invited to come to the park to learn how to protect our watersheds and respect the provincial park. [www.friendsoffishcreek.org](http://www.friendsoffishcreek.org)
- **July 19 to 24 - Newsies:** This high-energy musical is based on the true events of the 1899 Newsboys Strike. The show centres around a group of struggling "newsies." [www.calgary.broadway.com](http://www.calgary.broadway.com)
- **July 21 to 24 - Calgary Folk Music Festival:** This year is the 37th annual Calgary Folk Music Festival. Expect more than 70 different artists from around the world to perform on the various stages at Prince's Island Park. [www.calgaryfolkfest.com](http://www.calgaryfolkfest.com)
- **July 22 to 24 - Fiestaval Latin Festival:** This free, family-friendly festival is a multicultural celebration of Latin American culture. [www.fiestaval.ca](http://www.fiestaval.ca)
- **July 23 and 24 - Pet-A-Palooza:** A pawty for fido is just what your summer was missing. Join us to meet over 80 exhibitors, local rescues, listen to live music, check out Running of the Bulls - French and English Bulldog Races! [www.petapaloozawest.com](http://www.petapaloozawest.com)
- **July 25 to 31 - Calgary International Blues Festival:** This year marks the 12th annual Calgary Bluesfest. It's a full week of celebrating the best of blues music, with workshops, concerts and special events. [www.calgarybluesfest.com](http://www.calgarybluesfest.com)
- **July 30 - Making a Murderer's Dean Strang and Jerry Buting:** The two defense lawyers are stopping in Calgary as part of their A Conversation on Justice tour. The two will do a Q&A session, discuss the Steven Avery case and talk about what it means in broader terms, too.
- **July 30 - Inglewood Sunfest:** This neighbourhood street festival includes activities that appeal to Calgarians of all ages. Expect live music, plenty of street performers, a Show and Shine and activities for the kids. [www.inglewoodsunfest.ca](http://www.inglewoodsunfest.ca)

**IN & AROUND  
CALGARY**

**BBQ Season is upon us!**

Your Calgary Fire Department wants you to grill safely!

- Propane, natural gas & charcoal BBQ's should **only** be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area
- Keep your BBQ clean by removing grease or fat build-up from the grills and in trays below to reduce the risk of flash fires
- Never leave your grill unattended.

**NATURAL GAS/PROPANE GRILLS**

- Always make sure the lid on your gas grill is open before lighting it.
- Check hoses for leaks at the start of BBQ season by applying a light soapy water solution to the hose, a gas leak will release bubbles
- If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill, then get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again.
- If you smell gas while cooking and cannot safely turn off the gas, then immediately get away from the grill and call the *Fire Department*, **DO NOT move the grill**. If the flame goes out, turn off and wait at least 15 minutes before re-lighting it.

**CHARCOAL GRILLS**

- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches
- If you use a starter fluid, use only *charcoal* starter fluid.
- Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to a fire OR while hot coals are present.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

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Call (403) 254-2030 to book an appointment.  
Visit our website at [www.thesundanceclinic.com](http://www.thesundanceclinic.com)

**The Sundance Clinic**

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**IN & AROUND  
CALGARY**

**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 left behind when owners don't pick up after their pets.

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

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 often contains round-worm 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, join us at a P.U.P.P.Y. (Pick Up Pooch's Poo Yourself) event near you. Visit [calgary.ca/puppy](http://calgary.ca/puppy) for details.

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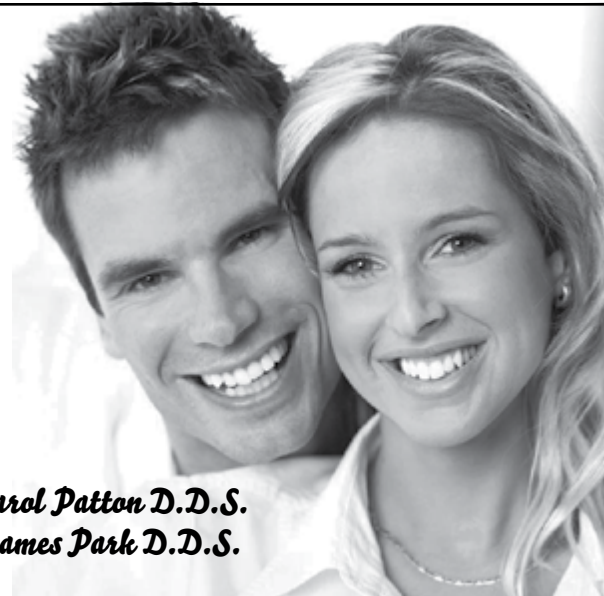


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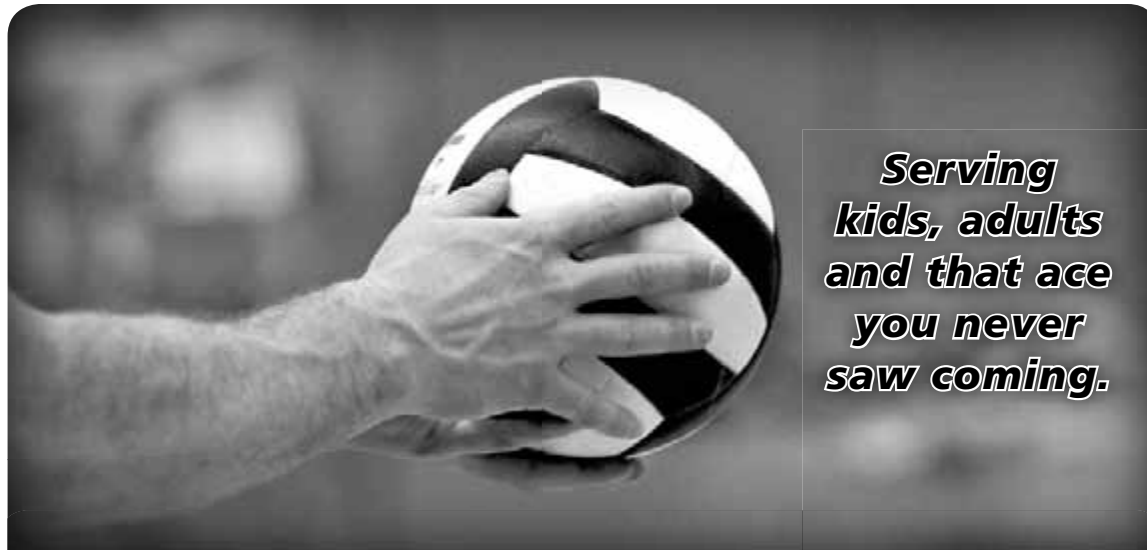


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## IN & AROUND CALGARY

### The Status of Emergency Preparedness in Calgary

Floods, snowstorms, fires, power outages, telecommunication failures — these are just some of the natural, technological and human-induced events that Calgary needs to be prepared for, according to the recent Status of Emergency Preparedness report from the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA)

A quarter of Albertans report having three or more 'precautionary' measures in place to support their own preparedness. "We've seen an increase of almost 10% in the number of families with 72-hour kits," says Tom Sampson, Chief of CEMA, noting the growth. "While this is improving, there is still work to be done to ensure citizens understand the risks and take some responsibility for their own preparedness."

#### The best ways individuals and families can prepare:

**Know the risks.** Flooding is most common May-15 to July-15 but can occur at any time of year. Be informed about current conditions. When weather watches or warnings are in place, be prepared for severe weather such as flooding, lightning, tornadoes, or winter storms. For more information visit Alberta Emergency Alert ([emergencyalert.alberta.ca](http://emergencyalert.alberta.ca))

**Make a plan.** Know how to reach your family members if you are not with them when an emergency or disaster strikes.

**Get a kit.** Ensure you have a 72-hour kit stocked and ready to go that contains supplies to support you and your family for the first 72 hours of an emergency or disaster.

Calgary.ca/cema provides great resources for individuals, families and businesses to learn what they can do to prepare.

### Deerfoot Trail Study

Deerfoot Trail is an urban expressway for Calgarians, connecting them to their community, workplace or destination. Alberta Transportation and The City are partnering on a study for Deerfoot Trail from Stoney Trail North to Stoney Trail South. With up to 189,000 vehicles per day travelling on Deerfoot Trail we know there are challenges driving on this road. Through this study, we are looking at ways to better manage traffic and will provide short, medium and long-term recommendations to improve safety and reliability on this road.

Your feedback will help us develop and recommend solutions to improve Deerfoot Trail. Visit [calgary.ca/deerfoot](http://calgary.ca/deerfoot) to sign up for e-mail updates, share your feedback online and for details on open houses.

#### Where is the study area?

Deerfoot Trail, between the Stoney Trail interchanges in the north and south. The study area is 37.5 km long, and includes 20 interchanges. Approximately 44 communities border the study area.

#### Why is this study needed?

Deerfoot Trail is Calgary's oldest freeway, and the busiest in Alberta. The majority of Deerfoot Trail was built between 1971 and 1982. The city's population has doubled since 1981 and the road is no longer meeting current traffic demand, resulting in traffic congestion, unreliability and safety concerns.

Visit [calgary.ca/deerfoot](http://calgary.ca/deerfoot) for more information.

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Bring the family to Ralph Klein Park on Sunday, June 19 from 1 to 3 p.m. for free activities and entertainment at The City of Calgary's Parks Fest! Enjoy an afternoon of face painting, pond dipping, guided walks, nature crafts and more. Learn about Canada's largest man-made wetland, visit the park's Environmental Education Centre and explore the wonders of nature all around.

Don't forget your sunscreen and water bottle, and please leave your furry friends at home. Pets are not permitted on site, excluding assistance dogs.

For more information, visit [calgary.ca/parksevents](http://calgary.ca/parksevents).

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A Safety Management System (SMS) is all about managing the safety interaction you have with your workers. It's an overall strategy to help you communicate information on hazards and best practices in your workplace so you can develop a stronger, lasting culture of safety within all stakeholders in your organization.

**Become a  
Depot and Help  
Others in Need  
Right in your Own  
Community**



I am sitting in my office looking at a map of Calgary. A city of a million people is an expanse of quadrants and communities. And within every neighbourhood, there is someone in need. The face of the food bank is anyone, anywhere but I wonder how we can reach everyone. Then I remember the incredible generosity of this city and that you don't know until you ask: **Will you be a satellite depot for the Calgary Food Bank?**

We are in need of hamper distribution depots in order to make emergency food accessible for families and individuals in various neighbourhoods throughout the city. Because of our main warehouse location in the SE industrial area, it can be extremely challenging for some to pick-up their hampers. This is where a depot location becomes an important part of the distribution process.

**What is required?**

- Are you accessible by transit, foot or car
- Do you have a space to store and distribute hampers

- Can you operate for two hours
- Do you have double doors where a pallet can be moved through
- Do you have refrigeration
- Can you manage volunteers during distribution
- Will you sign a memorandum of understanding

**What we can do?**

The Calgary Food Bank wants to make being a depot seamless and stress-free.

- We will screen, qualify and book clients
- We build and deliver the hampers
- We will recruit, train and schedule volunteers
- We can create flexible distribution hours
- We will create and provide depot signage

**Ready to help?** Visit our website and fill out an application form at [www.calgaryfoodbank.com/give/become-a-depot/](http://www.calgaryfoodbank.com/give/become-a-depot/) or call Selby Quinn at 403-253-2059 ext 201 today!

**Free Tours of  
Reader Rock  
Garden**

Mark your calendars for the National Garden Days at Reader Rock Garden, taking place on Saturday, June 18, 2016. This free event, hosted by the Friends of Reader Rock Garden Society, will be held between 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the historical gardens, which are located at the corner of 25th Avenue SE and Macleod Trail South. There will be tours of the garden, a used gardening book sale, draw prizes and light refreshments. Event will be held rain or shine. More information on the gardens at: [www.readerrock.com](http://www.readerrock.com) or email us at [info@readerrock.com](mailto:info@readerrock.com).

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## Calling All Neighbours!



To have your Family profiled (Story and Professional Pictures) in the next edition of this Community Newsletter, please send us an email to [DG@great-news.ca](mailto:DG@great-news.ca)

## HOME GARDENING WITH BARBARA



# ALLEYS AND HOLLYHOCKS

Barbara Shorrock

Watch out for a woman on a mission, particularly if she is a gardening-type woman. You might just get caught up in her quest, and who knows where that could lead.

Take back alleys, for instance. Most older houses in Calgary have a back alley (or lane, if you wish) and most of them are pretty dismal. Not a thing of beauty. Scruffy. Untidy. Unloved. Ignored. Most are surfaced with gravel, with the exception of those blocks that have been upgraded to asphalt. Nicer and cleaner, but expensive. Many of us who have a dog to walk (or a "granddog" in my case) spend more time in the alley than on the street some days, so we see what goes on behind our neighbours' fences. Would you agree with me that there could be some improvement here?

How much trouble would it be to plant a little something out there for our fellow gardeners and dog walkers, not to mention ourselves? Me, I adore Sweet Peas – the scent is so edible I can stuff my head into a bunch and just inhale the intoxicating fragrance. Usually, I prefer to leave summer flowers outdoors; they look better where Mother Nature placed them. Sweet Peas, however, must be cut because if you leave just one to go to seed (looks like a little pea pod) that's it, game over, no more blooms. Keep cutting them (they make the kitchen smell heavenly) and the plants will bloom and bloom right until snowfall. So toss a bunch of sweet pea seeds along the fence and make your neighbours smile.

My next favourite is the old-fashioned Hollyhock for its statuesque beauty. Tall and tough, with dramatic papery flowers arranged all the way up the towering

spires, they also bloom for weeks through summer and fall. You might have to tie these to the fence, as our summer storms can send them off in odd directions. Hollyhocks are biennials (bloom in their second year, then die), so must be planted for two consecutive years to assure continued bloom. They will reseed themselves from then on with little fuss. Furthermore, they attract bees like crazy.

The main focus of the Blockwatch program is to watch out for one another and prevent crime. The easiest way to talk to newcomers in the neighbourhood is about their garden, whether it be the one facing the street, the private one glimpsed through the fence, or the Sweet Peas and Hollyhocks in the back lane. Summer is short. Stop and smell the flowers.

### How do you know you are a Master Gardener?

- There is a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter.
- You would rather shop at a garden centre than a clothing store.
- You prefer gardening to watching television.
- You plan vacation trips to arboretums and botanical gardens.
- Dirt under fingernails and calloused palms are matters of pride.

*Barbara Shorrock is a retired realtor, writer, book lover, ESL coach, traveler and gardener. She can often be found at the Queensland Garden Club, which meets the first Wednesday each month at 7:00 pm at the Queensland Community Centre. Everyone is welcome, and we don't care where you live.*

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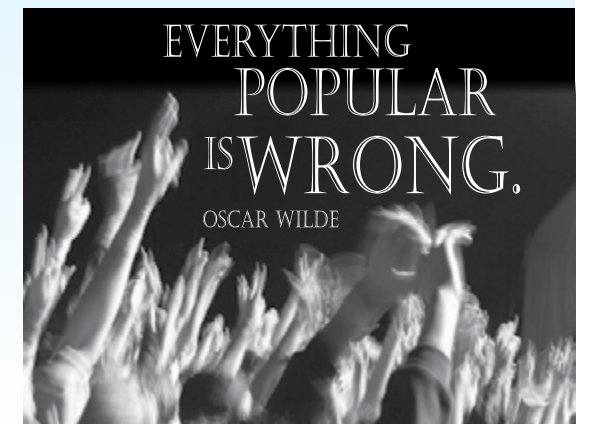
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## MLA CALGARY-HAYS RIC MCIVER

### At the Legislature: Motion 504:

I want to thank everyone who contacted me in support of my motion that calls on the government to ensure stable and permanent access to choice in education. It is about meeting the needs and interests of children so that they can reach their full potential. Alberta has a long and proud tradition of offering parents and students a wide array of choices when it comes to their education. Alberta has one of the best education systems in the world, and I encouraged the government to keep it that way. On May 2 my motion was voted on and received unanimous support from all parties in the Alberta Legislature. This was quite an occurrence after I was kicked out of the legislature two weeks earlier for standing up to support Alberta's kids. I caught some as of yet unexplained bias against my motion. As it was recognized my actions were in fact in support of fair play and on behalf of parental choice in education I was invited the next day to return to the legislature. Here is a picture of me with my colleagues MLA Dave Rodney (Calgary-Lougheed) and Richard Gotfried (Calgary-Fish Creek), right after the vote on Motion 504.

### Budget 2016

Albertans deserve a government that will respect their hard-earned tax dollars and show leadership by responsibly managing debt. As Albertans tighten their belts during this economic downturn, it's worrisome that our government refuses to do the same. A recent poll indicates that the majority of Albertans do not believe that the NDP plan will diversify the economy

and that Budget 2016 will cripple future generations with debt. What do you think of Budget 2016? What would you do differently? [www.abpcmla.ca/engage](http://www.abpcmla.ca/engage)

### At Calgary-Hays:

I was pleased to attend at McKenzie Towne Retirement Residence when Director of Recreation, Matt Litke, received a Certificate of Appreciation Award for service and to attend the McKenzie Towne Seniors' Fair.

April 10 to 16 was National Volunteer Week. Thank you to the many constituents who volunteer in our local community associations. Are you a community volunteer? Volunteers have shared some amazing stories with me and I would love to hear yours. Please tell me about your volunteer story at [Ric.McIver@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:Ric.McIver@assembly.ab.ca).

This spring, my Caucus launched ENGAGE a new public engagement initiative. ENGAGE's purpose is to spark public conversation and to seek feedback from Albertans. As your MLA I want to know what is important to you and I want to hear your ideas. Building a stronger province depends on us working together. I encourage you to use ENGAGE as an instrument to provide your feedback. [www.abpcmla.ca/engage](http://www.abpcmla.ca/engage)

If you require a paper copy of engage, please contact my office.

Need assistance with a provincial program or the services of Notary Public, Commissioner for Oaths, or want to get Birthday or Anniversary Scrolls? Please contact the Calgary Hays Constituency Office.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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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
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Contact [news@great-news.ca](mailto:news@great-news.ca)

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- ◆ Forty word limit

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

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An early spring will hopefully translate into a wonderful summer for Calgarians. Despite the economic challenges we are currently facing, Ward 12 remains a very busy place. Earlier in the spring we saw the opening of a new distribution centre for Home Depot in Shepard Industrial Park as well as a Marshalls in South Trail Crossing. Two very exciting additions to southeast Calgary!

Construction for the New Brighton Regional Park and the Quarry Park recreation centre has concluded and these facilities will be opening soon. A few months ago ground was also broken for the Seton recreation facility. Southeast Calgary has grown rapidly and the addition of these new amenities will help make this area an even better place to live, work and play!

**Coffee with Your Councillor**

I want to hear from you. While I have the pleasure of communicating with many of you through social media, there is no replacement for face-to-face interaction. Join me for a cup of coffee to discuss the municipal issues that matter most to you. I'll be at the New Brighton Club (2 New Brighton Drive SE) on **Tuesday, June 21 from 7:30-8:30 pm**. I hope to see many of you there!

**Deerfoot Trail Open House**

Deerfoot Trail is one of the most important pieces of infrastructure in south Calgary. While the Government of Alberta is currently responsible for Deerfoot, The City has an important role to play. It is my great pleasure to invite you to an open house to talk about the past, present and future of Deerfoot Trail. The open house will take place at First Alliance Church (12345 40th Street SE) on **Thursday, June 23 from 7:00-9:00 pm**.

In attendance will be representatives from The City, from Alberta Transportation as well as Councillors and Members of the Legislative Assembly that represent south Calgary. It promises to be an interesting evening with plenty of opportunities to address your concerns about Deerfoot Trail.

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