

MAY 2016

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# KILLARNEY GLENGARRY

THE OFFICIAL KILLARNEY & GLENGARRY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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**RECYCLING DAY**  
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**AND ART SHOW**

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## Killarney/Glengarry Community Association

2828 - 28th Street SW Calgary, Alberta T3E 2J3

Phone: 403-246-6668 | info@killarneyglengarry.com

www.killarneyglengarry.com

# CONTENTS

Message from the KGCA Board	5
Happy Birthday Killarney Glengarry	6
Real Estate Update	16
Imagine	18
My Babysitter List	19
Community Notes	20

And they say the French don't do hamburgers...  
Brunch, Lunch and Dinner



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Association  
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T3E 2J3  
www.killarneyglengarry.com  
twitter / instagram @killarneyyyyc  
403-246-6668  
Email: admin@killarneyglengarry.com

*Community Association (noun): An organization of people and groups working for the common good of a neighbourhood.*

This is your community – all are welcome.

Come down, get a membership, enjoy the wide range of facilities, join the board, volunteer, and make new friends of your neighbours.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to find out more about how you can participate in your community, call us at the hall at 403-246-6668. If we are busy flooding the rink or setting up for a community function, please leave us a message and we'll get right back to you.



## Killarney-Glengarry Community Association Board of Directors

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### KILLARNEY GLENGARRY COMMUNITY



## VISION STATEMENT

Together, let's build and live and thrive and love Killarney, and make it the best place in the world

## KGCA Facilities KGCA Hall Rental Perfect for any function!

Your Killarney-Glengarry Community Association Hall is available for rental use at competitive rates, with preferred rates for KGCA members.

The KGCA Hall is a valuable resource for the citizens of Killarney-Glengarry. When you hold your birthday parties, special events, team parties, and group meetings there, you invest in your community.

Weekdays	(Monday – Thursday)
Non-members	\$35/hr (min 4 hrs)
Members	\$30/hr (min 4 hrs)
Weekends	(Friday – Sunday)
Non-members	\$55/hr (min 4 hrs)
Members	\$50/hr (min 4 hrs)

- A \$250 damage deposit is required to secure booking.
- \$75 janitorial fees charged on ALL bookings.
- GST will be added to all rental fees.

Renting the KGCA Hall is easy! Just call Lola at 403-474-3845 or email killarneyhallrentals@gmail.com.



## Trees & Black Knot

It has been reported that there is Black Knot on the trees in the neighbourhood. A call to the City of Calgary 3-1-1 line tells us that the Urban Foresters in the Parks Department are aware of the blight.

They indicate that the guardians of the 500,000 City of Calgary trees are looking after the Black Knot on City trees. They, also advise that people who have, what they think is Black Knot on their private trees, should either call an arborist for a professional opinion or they could take care of it themselves.

Mayday and chokecherry & other trees in the Prunus family of trees may become infected with Apiosporina morose, more commonly known as black knot fungus. It is recognized by the clumpy-looking, black masses of abnormal growths on the branches of cherry trees.

Although the fungal disease is rarely fatal it does reduce the vigour and ornamental value of your trees. You can improve the appearance and vigour of the trees by removal of the diseased branches by proper pruning.

Pruning should be conducted while the trees are dormant. The best time to prune is in late winter. Prune off the affected branch 2 - 4" below each knot and dispose of them in the black garbage bin where they will go into the landfill.

The fungus is transported by spores so the proper sanitation of your pruning tools is very important to limit its spread from plant to plant.

Joey Stewart is a passionate gardener. Photo courtesy of the City of Calgary.



Aaaaahhhhhh, May. We've waited a long time for you. It's that time of year that you can walk around Killarney and are guaranteed to see these two things: someone barbequing dinner and someone working in their garden. Next time you see that neighbour peeking over your fence to check out what you are cooking or planting, why not introduce yourself? You never know; you could run into one of our resident home-brewers who just might bring over some beer samples.

Here is what is coming up at the Hall in the next little while:

- Our annual Community Clean-Up and Recycling Day is May 1
- Another very popular event is our Annual Garage Sale on May 14
- On May 28, we have an Art Show/Sale at the Hall. If you love art AND food, you are in luck; the Perogy Boys food truck will also be there!

Watch out for information about our Park N Play and Stay N Play programs for the summer! Take a look at our Facebook page for regular updates. If you are on Instagram, follow us at killarneyyyyc and use the hashtag #mykillarney for any posts you'd like to share. Enjoy the weather, and don't forget to say hi to your fellow Killarney-ites.



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# Happy 110<sup>th</sup> Birthday Killarney Glengarry

By the end of the 19th century, Calgary was in the middle of its most fantastic economic boom it has ever seen. Between 1900 and 1911, the population grew by 1,000%. Our current 2%/year growth rate is paltry by comparison even though that translates to 100,000 new people in Calgary between 2012 - 2015!



Calgary's new architectural statement, City Hall, was completed in 1911 and reflected the city's urban aspirations. The Romanesque Revival style was favoured for large municipal halls in the late 19th century.

It was constructed of distinctive local sandstone from the Thomas Jackson Sandstone Quarry in the Crowchild Trail Valley. It is the only surviving regional example of this architecture built in Prairie cities before 1930. The city was filled with the busting vibrancy and confidence of a city on the move! By 1913, the booming Calgary Real Estate faltered and the sandstone was exhausted.

The Alberta Stock Exchange was established in 1913 and headquartered in Calgary. In the early years mining, resource exploration and oil sands were the hot stocks.

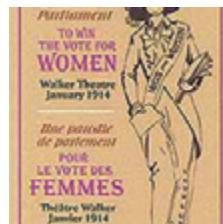
On May 14, 1914 the Dingman #1 oil well belched into life and if you thought Calgary was vibrant then, it was now positively on steroids. Calgary now incorporated the oil boom culture into the already existing cowboy/ranching culture - they were heady times - everyone wanted in on the act - cars competed with horses and pedestrians on city streets, the fledging stock market was a gathering place for anyone with the tiniest bit of spare cash. Thomas Jackson's foresight paid off and his new investment, Calgary's first inner city suburb of Glengarry would get plenty of buyers to house all the new people flooding to



Calgary. John Craig, who had bought his land from the CPR subdivided it and it became Killarney in 1906.

Sadly the stock market's activity was short lived. Because of World War I it was closed from 1917 - 1925. They were sad and gloomy years - young men were taken away from their families and off their valuable jobs to sail to Europe to fight in the First Great War. Sadness descended over everyone - 650,000 Canadians fought, 66,000 died and 172,000 were wounded. The country was wounded!

During this period five Alberta women were working tirelessly to give women the vote. They were Emily Murphy, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney, Irene Parlby and Henrietta Edwards. The five Alberta women had been working together for women's rights dating back to the 1880s and 90s.



By 1927, most women were able to vote in federal elections and provincial elections (except Quebec - they won the vote in 1940). Women first won the vote in Manitoba in 1916; followed by Saskatchewan and Alberta later that year. British Columbia and Ontario gave women the right to vote in April 1917, Nova Scotia followed suit in April 1918, New Brunswick in April 1919, PEI in May 1922 and Newfoundland finally gave women the vote in 1925.

Though women could now vote they still could not be appointed to the Senate because they were not considered 'persons' under the British North American Act Section 24. The Famous Five lost a critical Supreme Court of Canada case that re-emphasised that women were not 'persons'.



The Famous Five were disappointed but not deterred. They appealed to the Privy Council of England and after much discussion, the Privy Council reversed the decision of the Supreme Court on 18 October 1929, concluding that women are 'persons' and eligible to serve in the Canadian Senate.

In 1930 Cairine Wilson was sworn in as Canada's first female Senator.

In the world, Canada, Alberta and Calgary, the teens and twenties of the 20th century were difficult for men fighting a horrific war and women who were keeping the homes fires burning and fighting the good fight to enable women to contribute fully to the lives of Canadians.

During all this time, Glengarry neighbourhood was living a very sleepy life, there were 275 houses scattered sporadically over the prairie. The houses were in small groups and their were walking and animal trails everywhere with not a tree in sight.. Today we have 3500 dwellings in the 'hood. We can see on a 1924 aerial map of Calgary (photos taken from 7500' from a Viker's Viking biplane) that there were still horses ranging in the pastures, a creamery, a lot of it was pasture - it looked quite bleak. But you can see the twinkling of better things to come in this new inner city suburb.

Joey Stewart is deeply grateful to Alberta's Famous Five for their work on our behalf - what a legacy they have left us. Photo credits: Glenbow Archives pre 1949 of The Calgary Tigers Hockey Team and Marc Mennie, courtesy Famous 5 Foundation.

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**NEW Hours of Operation**

Friday: 4:00pm - 9:00pm  
Saturday: 1:00pm - 9:00pm  
Sunday: 1:00pm - 7:00pm

If you are looking for a venue for a small birthday or anniversary celebration, the Legion may be your answer. For more details, please leave your number at (403) 685-8820 and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

killarneyglengarry.com  
**Editorial Content DEADLINE 1st**  
of each month for the next month's issue



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.



**Making your city work for you**

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

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## IN & AROUND CALGARY

### 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 be 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](http://www.windowssafety.ca).

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Killarney-Glengarry Hall  
2828 - 28th St. SW



### KGCA Annual Garage Sale!

Saturday May 14, 10am – 4pm

All welcome! Come to the Hall – 2828 28<sup>th</sup> St SW – to find a bargain and enjoy a BBQ lunch from 11am-1pm

Book your table now for only \$20 – just call

Lola on 403-474-3845.

Plus, you can donate any leftover items to the Canadian Cancer Society at the end of the day.

See more events at [killarneyglengarry.com](http://killarneyglengarry.com)

Brought to you by the Killarney-Glengarry Community Association





# Playgroup at the Hall for Kids!

Parents & Tots is a community-based drop-in program that is open to everyone! We are a playgroup that meets every Wednesday morning from 9am to noon. We have cars to drive, an arts and crafts table, and a bouncy castle! If you have a little one and are looking for an indoor activity in the cooler weather or need to connect with other parents in the neighbourhood, please come out and join us for some fun and conversation! There is a small \$2.00 fee per family to help with toy replacement and some craft materials.

**Join Us!**  
**TOP Reasons To become a Member:**

- > BECOMING MORE CONNECTED TO YOUR COMMUNITY
- > GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS = NEW FRIENDS
- > HAVING A VOICE ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
- > ACCESS TO NEWS, UPDATES, FACILITIES & EVENTS
- > SAFETY, FUNDRAISING, COMMUNITY-BUILDING



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.

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**Thanks for supporting your local community association!**  
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Killarney/Glengarry Real Estate Update

Last 12 Months Killarney/Glengarry  
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
March 2016	\$749,900.00	\$720,000.00
February 2016	\$585,900.00	\$565,000.00
January 2016	\$609,450.00	\$575,000.00
December 2015	\$725,000.00	\$677,500.00
November 2015	\$739,999.00	\$717,500.00
October 2015	\$694,900.00	\$675,000.00
September 2015	\$689,900.00	\$662,500.00
August 2015	\$725,000.00	\$715,000.00
July 2015	\$769,499.50	\$751,500.00
June 2015	\$699,000.00	\$688,500.00
May 2015	\$772,450.00	\$757,500.00
April 2015	\$624,900.00	\$608,750.00

Last 12 Months Killarney/Glengarry  
MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
March 2016	26	7
February 2016	15	3
January 2016	10	4
December 2015	8	9
November 2015	13	9
October 2015	16	6
September 2015	16	8
August 2015	21	9
July 2015	12	14
June 2015	17	17
May 2015	23	10
April 2015	13	12

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

IN & AROUND  
CALGARY

Don't forget basics  
of river safety

With warmer weather on the horizon, make sure everyone has fun and stays safe by remembering to have the proper knowledge and equipment needed for boating, rafting or paddling on Calgary's rivers.

The Calgary Partners for Water Safety, a coalition of the Calgary Fire Department, Calgary Police Services, Calgary Community Standards and Recreation, want to make sure citizens know the basics of water and river safety.

"Where there is water, there is risk, so we want to remind anyone planning to boat or raft on Calgary rivers or waterways, to always wear a properly fitting life jacket," says Carol Henke, Public Information Officer for the Fire Department. "Not only is this a bylaw, but it can also save your life."

Anyone considering going on the Bow or Elbow Rivers as well as any Calgary waterways, should always SCOUT, ASSESS and DECIDE from shore, before going on the water. SCOUT the river for potential hazards and check the weather, water temperature and visibility. ASSESS the level of danger. Check if there are advisories in effect and assess the swimming and paddling skills of your crew. DECIDE if it is safe to raft or boat.

"You should always be alert when boating or rafting, especially on Calgary's rivers which can be fast moving and constantly changing due to weather and water conditions, and refrain from drinking alcohol. Being intoxicated while on the water is illegal as well as a bad decision," says Staff Sergeant Kyle Grant, Calgary Police Service.

Before planning to go on Calgary rivers always check the water and weather conditions as well as visit [www.calgary.ca/riversafety](http://www.calgary.ca/riversafety) to learn about any river safety advisories.

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

9				6			7	
								5
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FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 34

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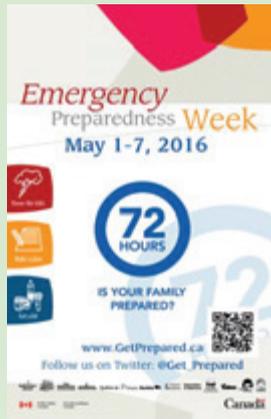
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### Be Prepared

The first week of May is Canada's Annual National Emergency Preparedness Week. The focus this year is on encouraging all Canadians to have a 72 hour Emergency Preparedness Kit.

The City of Calgary participates in the event through the City's 'Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA). Cara Katterhagen, CEMA Communications Strategist walked me through Calgary's 72 Hour Emergency Toolkit that is designed to help Calgaryans be prepared for an unexpected event that could change our lives.



We also went on a tour through Killarney, Cara identified what she would categorize as the major events she could imagine happening in Killarney. Fire is an obvious one - often a candle left burning, an electric fire from an old appliance or a gas leak. She also could see that Killarney's precious and treasured trees could also present a hazard. They are getting old. Every tree has a lifespan, as do we. Large branches falling from debilitated trees from disease or old age are a risk for falling on cars, houses or possibly people. Cara also noted that some of the alleyways are very narrow and the collision between vehicles and power poles seem very likely. A fallen power line would be a real risk when collisions occur.

Snowtember gave us a jolt when we awoke to trees loaded with snow - the remnants still exist and remind us that, though we love our leafy cover, the trees come with their own risks.



In 2016, The City will spend \$12 million in continuing efforts to restore and enhance the urban forest canopy -

that's 18 months after the ferocious snow storm. 10,000 calls went to Calgary's 311 line that day - more than the 2013 flood. Imagine!

In order to cope with a severe emergency, Calgary's CEMA has developed a 72 hour Emergency Tool Kit that is super simple to pull together. It consists of a bag of important documents and a waterproof and wheeled container (a wheeled suitcase would be ideal) of essentials to keep your family going for 72 hours that you would need if you had an emergency.

The 72 Hour Emergency Kit is a checklist of items that you would put in a waterproof and wheeled container and store in a closet near an exit that you could grab as you fled the house. The checklist is broken into five categories: food and water; equipment like candles, can opener, flashlight, etc; toiletries including a first aid kit; special needs like prescriptions, extra pair of glasses, pet supplies etc and personal documents and other items like car keys, small amounts of cash etc.

There's a page to fill out of emergency contact information and don't forget to set up a muster point in the 'hood and establish an out of town contact that would relay information if telephone lines or cell towers were out of commission.

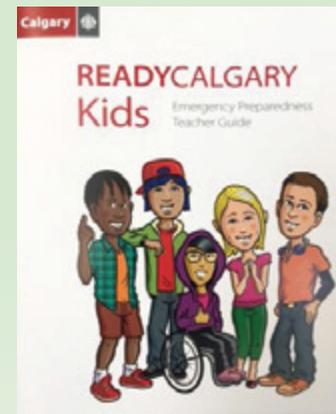
This bag is designed to hold 22 items that are considered the 22 most important documents in your life. They include things like passports, birth and marriage certificates, bank account numbers, wills, credit card information, pet registration, emergency contact numbers, income tax returns and USB backup of electronic files and photos. This list is just an example of the important documents in your life. Some people may



like to add other important papers.

Pulling this together may seem tedious but your life will be a whole lot easier if you have all your important papers in one place when you need them. Having your documents organized always makes life a little easier.

If you have a child in Grade Five in the Calgary Public or Catholic School System expect them to come home the first week in May loaded with information about READY-CALGARY KIDS, plan to listen carefully - they will be very well prepared to tell you about how to be prepared! For more information: [www.calgary.ca/cema](http://www.calgary.ca/cema)



Joey Stewart advocates Emergency Preparedness after finding herself paddling down 26 St in a canoe after a sudden spring rain. Photo credits: Joey Stewart, Lorne Kingwell & Trevor Howell.

## Killarney/Glengarry mybabysitterlist

Name	Age	Contact	Course
Andrea	24	403-465-0933	No
Anna	19	403-803-5823	Yes
Gabrielle	12	403-242-6688	Yes
Makenzie	18	403-796-7733	Yes
Melissa	25	902-393-3619	Yes
Nkiru	27	403-402-0777	No
Samantha	16	403-249-0581	Yes
Sheena	19	403-383-5348	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).

# The New Face of Yoga

Yoga has, somewhat mistakenly, been associated to a new age, alternative medicine mindset, such that the average person has felt excluded or unwelcome. The new face of yoga couldn't be further from that image and I believe it is only going to continue to change.

According to a recent study, 35% of those who have not tried yoga previously have a desire to do so in the coming year. It stands to reason then, that emerging yoga practitioners are combining the traditional face of yoga with unique, compelling and relevant ways to make the vast array of benefits found in yoga available to more people.

When I talk with individuals about what keeps them away from yoga, there are a few common threads; they feel they are too old to start, have too many health challenges, aren't fit enough to enter a studio, feel the pace of most classes move too fast, believe yoga is boring and in some rare instances felt as though they didn't receive proper instruction to have a safe and enjoyable experience.

Am I a guru? Absolutely not...I have a passion for yoga—it's philosophy and it's science—and a conviction for what I know it can do to bring about a better quality of life. I believe that yoga is part of a long-term trend that the western world is embracing to find greater degrees of health and fitness (physical and mental).

**When you change the body, you change the mind; when you change the mind, the body has no choice but follow.**

There is no shortage of great yoga practitioners to choose from in Calgary who aspire to help people begin, expand and deepen their personal yoga practice. I believe I'm bringing something new for groups that are currently underserved in the existing landscape.

For those over 50 and need to start and expand at a different pace, to those who simply don't feel comfortable in a large class/studio environment, or individuals who are starting the journey of a weight loss program: These three groups will feel very comfortable in any of my sessions. Register for my classes at the Killarney Glengarry Community Association! For more information, visit [www.alinyogapractice.com](http://www.alinyogapractice.com).

**Yoga is coming to Killarney-Glengarry Community Centre (April 8-June 23)**

Friday mornings from 9-10:15am (pre-registration is required). Local yoga instructor, Tricia Murray, will be bringing a program designed to take people from an introduction level to more intermediate poses and a vinyasa-esque practice by the end of June. These sessions are intended for those who have limited exposure to yoga, have a desire to increase their current level of flexibility or are starting out on a fitness program. Tricia has been a student of yoga for over 20 years and has a solid understanding of how to help people have a great first (or 40th) experience with yoga. Instruction is a defining characteristic; participants will leave with a better understanding of the pose, proper alignment and armed with a variety of modifications for skill level, health concerns and mobility limitations. For more information about the Pure Hatha 1 Beginner+ program, please visit her website: [www.alignyogapractice.com](http://www.alignyogapractice.com) or find her on Facebook: [alignyogapractice](https://www.facebook.com/alignyogapractice).

# 17 Avenue S. reconstruction

## Project Update, Spring 2016

After 30 years, we're rebuilding 17 Avenue S. so it can continue to serve businesses and citizens for decades to come. Construction will occur between Macleod Trail S.E. and 14 Street S.W. The work includes sidewalk area repairs and improvements, a new road design, and upgrades to underground utilities. It's an investment in the long-term success of 17 Avenue S.- one of Calgary's most popular destinations to shop, visit and do business.

**Next steps**

Through 2015 and 2016, The City met with representatives from the business community and heard from a number of individuals. Two important items came up during these conversations: the construction on 17 Avenue S. needs to be predictable and it requires a lead time that gives businesses a chance to prepare for potential impacts. With that in mind, the project team is pushing the road and deep utility (water and sanitary lines) construction to 2017 and 2018. This year - 2016 - work on 17 Avenue S. focuses on shallow utilities-power, gas and telecommunications.

By just focusing on shallow utilities this year, we expect less construction impacts for people travelling through the area in 2016. It also allows more time to develop the 2017 and 2018 construction schedule.

**Learn more**

The City will be hosting project information sessions through late spring 2016, where you can learn more details about the construction schedule and 17 Avenue S.'s future design. In the meantime, check out the project web page at [www.calgary.ca/17avenue](http://www.calgary.ca/17avenue) for the latest information and sign up to receive the project newsletter.

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.tedxyc.ca)



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403.668.6402

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.



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.

## Community Clean-Up & Recycle Day

Sunday May 1, 9am – 2pm

At the KGCA Hall – 2828 28th St SW.



We will collect:

**Garbage, Yard Waste, Electronics, Furniture, Metal, Glass, Construction Materials, Household Batteries, Gently-Used Sports Equipment for Kids (NO Golf Clubs), Gently-Used Clothing & Household Items (to be accepted by W.I.N.S), Bicycles (donated to Bicycles for Humanity)**

*We are NOT accepting any household chemicals, paint, tires or large appliances*

Legion or KGCA memberships are preferred for this event. Only \$25 on the day or buy in advance at [www.killarneyglengarry.com](http://www.killarneyglengarry.com)

Volunteers needed – call Lola at 403-474-3845 for info

*Brought to you by the Killarney-Glengarry Community Association*

## New School Location & Tuition Incentives

North Point School for Boys taps into boys' natural curiosity and energy as a foundation for life-long learning. North Point is excited to announce our new central location in SW Calgary beginning in the Fall of 2016.

**2445 – 23 Avenue S.W.**

North Point School is extremely sensitive to the current state of the economy and its impact on the people of our province. We are pleased to announce that all students registering for this upcoming school year (2016-17) will receive 50% off of base tuition for the 2016-17 school year.

Additionally, North Point School is also offering **sibling discounts of 50% for as long as those siblings remain at Northpoint, for the first 25 families** who register a child for the 2016-17 school year.

visit our website [www.northpoint.school](http://www.northpoint.school)



**NORTH  
POINT**  
SCHOOL FOR BOYS



# 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](mailto:sandra.cramer@albertaguidedog.com).

Photo Credit: Alberta Guide Dogs

## IN & AROUND CALGARY

### Planters are NOT Ashtrays!

*A May safety tip from your Calgary Fire Department:*

Today's potting soils contain large volumes of peat moss. When peat moss gets too dry, it becomes highly flammable. On top of that, you'll often find shredded wood, bark, Styrofoam, vermiculite, and fertilizer in potting mix. Like peat moss, all of these ingredients ignite easily under dry conditions.

Over the past number of years we have received numerous 911 calls from citizens who have witnessed potting soil fires on the exterior of homes. These fires are typically attributed the careless disposal of smoking materials.

If any of your friends or family smoke, ensure that you have an appropriate, non-combustible container to place the cigarette butt in. Cigarette butts that have been disposed of in a planter can smoulder for hours and may cause a fire when you least expect it...possibly when you're asleep!

#### A few simple precautions will help to keep your home safe:

- Do not butt out cigarettes in **any** potted planters
- Make sure smokers have a safe place to dispose of their butts, indoors and outdoors, so they aren't tempted to use your pot of geraniums instead.
- Keep potting soil and potted plants away from other combustible materials such as firewood, stacks of old newspapers, aerosols, paint solvents, gasoline and cleaning products.
- Make sure the soil around your potted plants stays moist. Keep in mind that the soil in pots dries out more quickly than soil in garden beds, so plan on more frequent watering.

**Did you know?** Our engines carry 550 gallons of water for immediate fire attack, as well as 30 gallons of foam for flammable liquid fires.



## Do you want to play better golf in 2016?

Routine and structure (with a dabble of spontaneity!) is important in our lives. But did you know that having a strong routine is also important in the game of golf? For the best players in the world and for the rest of us, having strong routines are important when you are practicing as well as when you are playing and is necessary to perform at your best, regardless of your ability. Having a strong "pre-shot routine" and doing it all the time, the same way all the time develops consistency ... through repetition. It also benefits you by mentally placing no more importance on any 1 shot, whether it be a practice shot or a shot during a game. By making all golf shots equal mentally, you tend not to succumb to pressure situations like hitting it over the lake, etc. You should perform your pre-shot routine always, whether you are hitting your driver, 7 iron, chipping or putting. It is ok if your putting routine isn't exactly the same as your full swing routine. In fact, I suggest you have a full swing routine, a chipping/pitching routine and a putting routine. These three different areas of the game should have specific routines but are still similar in nature. It is also ok if your routine is not exactly the same as someone else's as you will notice the next time you watch some professional golf on TV. Your game will improve because developing and performing your personal pre-shot routines will ensure that you are always:

2. Choosing the best club selection based upon these assessments.
3. Taking one or two practice swings with the target in mind and having positive imagery.
4. Starting from behind the ball prior to setting up.
5. Aiming the clubface first, then positioning your feet and the rest of your body.
6. Staring at the target and only "glancing" at the ball so your mind is always focused more on the target.
7. Having no more than one or two swing thoughts just prior to initiating the swing such as "full turn back and finish in balance"
8. Perform the shot, assess both the swing/stroke (in particular your balance and finish position) and your result.
9. Finally, and most importantly, having a good routine will ensure you are focused on your routine, your target and only one (two at most) swing thoughts. You want no mechanics in your mind when attempting to hit a shot. Mechanics are developed during specific and focused practice sessions and through drills. You want to play the game more with your instincts and by feel while keeping your mechanics on "auto pilot".

Check out these two links to reinforce these ideas and you will soon see better results out there on the links!  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY3S4aMzgxY&feature=fvw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY3S4aMzgxY&feature=fvw)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=VF-LITV1iRA&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VF-LITV1iRA&feature=related)

By Alan Killian, CFP PGA of Canada

# The Feline Mystique



I first put this article together nine years ago. In the spirit of laughter relieving all our worries, I want to share it with our readers again. Many of these quotes come from an article I came across by the humorist William J. Thomas, a collection of quotations about the cat. I have to share some of these brilliant insights into the creature known as the cat, as "cat" is a far too trivial word for the emotions and characteristics this animal evokes in my mind. For example "The phrase 'domesticated cat' is an oxymoron" (George Will). Or "A god among creatures. Yet also a stray like me" (Tony Ross).

Some quotes reflect on a cat's attitude towards us. "To a cat, human beings are an inferior, servile race, always to be kept in their places, with occasional rewards if they perform well. To love a cat is uphill work, and therefore, very rewarding" (Haskel Frankel). "Cats always know whether people like or dislike them. They do not always care enough to do anything about it" (Winifred Carriere). "Cat: a pygmy lion who loves mice, hates dogs, and patronizes human beings" (Oliver Herford).

Other quotes revel in the cat's beauty and femininity. "Every cat is really the most beautiful woman in the room" (E.V. Lucas). Carol Lawrence says "They're the most graceful, sinuous, sexy, truly sensuous creatures in the world". My absolute favorite reflection by Robert Heinlein "Women and cats will do as the please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea".

Cat, a word synonymous with independence. "A cat is there when you call her - if she doesn't have something

better to do" (Bill Adler). "Cats know how to obtain food without labour, shelter without confinement, and love without penalties" (W.L. George).

We all know cats are smart. Hippolyte Taine said "I have studied many philosophers and many cats. The wisdom of cats is infinitely superior". Carl Van Vechten noted "The cat seldom interferes with other people's rights. His intelligence keeps him from doing many of the fool things that complicate life". I agree with them and H.G. Frommer's observation "Quirky are cats, independent and very, very smart. And clever about being smart. The smart cat doesn't let on that he is".

I would like to leave you with three final observations on our feline friends. All completely different viewpoints, but all very, very true. Elizabeth Peters declared "Cats refuse to take the blame for anything - including their own sins". Mark Twain wrote "If man could be crossed with a cat, it would improve man but deteriorate the cat". And finally, "The little furry buggers are just deep, deep wells you throw all your emotions into (Bruce Schimmel)".

If you have a topic you would like me to cover in your community newsletter please forward it to the publisher to pass on to me. For the record, if you asked this veterinarian if I prefer cats or dogs, I am unable to answer, but I have never seen a healthy feline canine relationship in which the cat comes out second.

Jennifer L. Scott B.Sc., D.V.M.



Permeable Pavers



Save the rain barrel



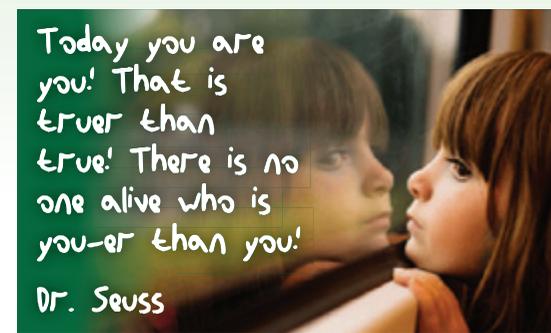
## Managing Urban Stormwater in Established Areas"

So, what can be done in established areas where stormwater treatment and retrofits are difficult to achieve due to a lack of space and high land costs and increasing impervious surfaces due to densification?

**The Answer – capture all that precious rainfall and keep it on your lot!**

**Rain barrels** are an obvious choice to capture rainwater from roofs. Green Calgary sells them every Saturday at various Calgary locations beginning the end of April and ending in June. See [www.shop.greencalgary.org](http://www.shop.greencalgary.org)

Incorporate a **rain garden** in your yard. A rain garden is a feature designed to capture rainwater from a roof via a downspout, or from pavement or a lawn. To see a rain garden installation by Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership volunteers go to: [www.alidp.org/uploads/files/s2s\\_rain\\_garden\\_blitz\\_story\\_annotated.pdf](http://www.alidp.org/uploads/files/s2s_rain_garden_blitz_story_annotated.pdf)



If you are considering a makeover of your yard considering adding good quality loamy **topsoil to a depth of 300mm**. Soil acts like a sponge and will soak up a lot of water. Currently, house builders are only obliged to add 120mm of topsoil despite the known benefits of deeper topsoil.

If you are in love with turf avoid Kentucky Bluegrass (short roots and drought susceptible) and artificial turf (lacks absorption and filtration characteristics). Instead consider **sheep fescue sod or overseeding with sheep fescue**. Sheep fescue has a dense and long root system and is cold, drought and shade tolerant.

**Limit the amount of impervious surfaces** on your landscape. There are many materials and techniques that allow water to infiltrate soils rather than ending up on the street.

Incorporating some or all of these landscape ideas on a lot and neighbourhood scale will reduce the amount of contaminated stormwater from entering the Lower Elbow River. These actions will make the water cleaner for you, recreational users, people living downstream and aquatic life.

For more information go to: [www.alidp.org/knowledgebase/article/innovative-stormwater-management-at-the-neighbourhood-scale](http://www.alidp.org/knowledgebase/article/innovative-stormwater-management-at-the-neighbourhood-scale)

Formed in 2004, S2G+ Preservation Society collaborates to enhance the environment and natural history of the lower Elbow River, its valley and contiguous bench lands from the Glenmore Dam to Fort Calgary. To join our stewardship network email us at [S2Gplusinfo@gmail.com](mailto:S2Gplusinfo@gmail.com). Follow us on [facebook.com/S2Gplus](https://www.facebook.com/S2Gplus)

# SANTORINI

## A GREEK PARADISE

by Lisa Martin



I watched our flight attendant's head slowly drop to her chest as our flight climbed out of Athens on our way to Santorini. To be fair it was early but it occurred to me that if I could stay awake for 5:00 am departure, so could she. Never mind, I was soon distracted by the spectacular red ball of a sun rising over the Aegean as we approached the coast of the island. We banked steeply and began to descend. Just as the wheels touched the runway, our sleepy young flight attendant woke with a start, glanced around to see if anyone was watching and reached for the microphone. "Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Santorini!"

The island of Santorini is all that remains from an ancient, enormous volcanic explosion that left behind a three sided caldera rising steeply from the sea. The soaring cliff sides of the caldera reach over 900 ft, and the small towns of Santorini are scattered along the top. Fira is the capital of the island and that's where we were headed.

We had booked our accommodation in a tourist office in Athens in the hopes that we would find something charming and different and we weren't disappointed.

The hotel was perched on the edge of the caldera with astonishing views of the emerald Aegean below us. The walls and ceiling of our room were the dazzling white so synonymous of Greece but the back wall was roughly carved from the original black basalt of the cliff and the overall effect was like a cozy cave.

The room was spacious with a comfortable bed, a small fridge and a large bathroom with a shower that had a tiny casement window that opened onto our private balcony overlooking the sea. It was on our first morning when showering that I sensed I wasn't alone. Sure enough, a small tabby cat had jumped up onto the window ledge in the shower and was idly watching me, no doubt glad that I was the one in the water and not her.

Let me say here that Santorini is not so much a place to visit as it is a way of life and we quickly settled into

island routine. Rising at 7:00, we would order a continental breakfast of freshly squeezed orange juice, strong black coffee and a selection of crusty rolls and sticky sweet buns with various jams and jellies. Shortly after, a pleasant young woman would appear with our breakfast tray. She set two places on the small table on the balcony and after asking if there was anything else she could do, left us to enjoy the meal in the morning sunshine.

We found a nearby grocery store on the first day's exploring that sold all kinds of local products. Don't you just love to wander in grocery stores in foreign lands? So many different kinds of foods to see but even a can of pork and beans seems exotic when the label is in another language. We stocked up on cat food after realizing that a stray mother cat and her three kittens had adopted us for the duration of our stay. She would bring them every morning in time for breakfast and stay with us until the climbing sun made her seek out a cooler place for them to drowse away the day.

Shopping in Fira was expensive but the gorgeous shops selling jewellery and designer clothing were worth

a look. The town of Oia is more off the beaten path so one hot afternoon we boarded a crowded bus for the half hour ride there. Passing through villages along the way, we swayed up and down the dusty roads skirting the hills, a kindly Greek Orthodox priest seated beside me offering to hold my packages during the ride. Off in the distance the white and turquoise blue domed buildings of Oia glistened in the sun creating a photo opportunity at every turn.

On the opposite side of the caldera from Oia is the fascinating archaeological site of Akrotiri. It's a prehistoric town that was destroyed around 1450 BC by a volcanic eruption. The day we went it was scorching hot so we were relieved to find that the excavation was sheltered from the sun beneath a large shed like covering. Walking through the preserved buildings and along the excavated streets was truly stepping back in time. I wondered w h o

the people were who worked and lived here. Interestingly, no human remains were ever found there so it is thought that the inhabitants had adequate warning to leave.

In the late afternoons we would come back to our room to rest and to freshen up for the evening. By some great stroke of luck our grocery store also sold locally produced wine and while not necessarily a connoisseur's choice, we enjoyed many a chilled glass of it while watching the sun set from our balcony.

Night time came quickly on Santorini and we were early to bed. After all, we expected a family of four for breakfast.

*Lisa Martin has travelled extensively throughout the British Isles, Europe, Australia, Canada, the United States, Mexico and South Africa, as well as parts of the Middle East and Asia.*



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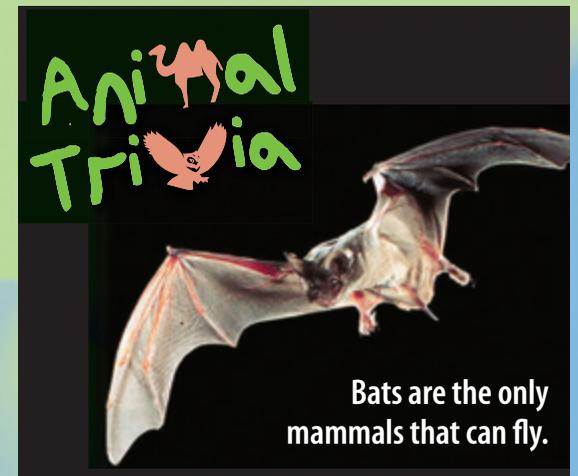
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*Ewan enjoying some sun in Killarney!*





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Spring has truly sprung here in Calgary Currie. The snow is gone for another year (fingers crossed), and we relish the days getting longer as we inch closer to summer.

Springtime means many things to many people but for me, the springtime activity that stands out from my youth is the planting of the garden.

I can recall playing at gardening in my grandparents' backyard garden. I marvelled in the skill my grandmother showed in digging the trenches where I would put the seeds. She never took out more dirt than she needed, and she never needed to go back to dig deeper, she just seemed to know how much was needed.

Many years later I now know that this skill wasn't something she was taught, it was something she knew from doing it every year for decades on end.

Looking back, a lot of the things I learned in that backyard garden are lessons I have kept with me for my whole life.

I learned about patience and diligence. No garden grows overnight, nor does one grow without constant attention. The changes that happen when looked at in isolation, are miniscule to the point that they are almost immeasurable. Over the course of a summer, the hard work of weeding, and watering transformed a tiny seed into a giant eggplant. The product of our garden labour is rarely seen up front, but boy, watching gardens grow over the course of a growing season is like nothing else.

The ability to look to the future, to visualize what things will look like at the beginning, middle and end is a skill that I have found immeasurably transferable to my role as an MLA, giving us perspective of where we are on our particular journey in life.

Old, young, or in-between, anyone can get into gardening. To encourage gardening, I have been reaching out to schools, community associations and individuals with gifts of seeds to be planted in community gardens, school planters, balcony flower pots and backyards across the riding.

If you would like some seeds for your own patch of dirt, feel free to stop by our office at 2108B 33ave SW, say hi and pick up your pack of seeds to help keep the tradition of gardening in Calgary alive.



## MP CALGARY CENTRE HON. KENT HEHR

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On March 22nd, our government unveiled our first budget. This budget takes essential steps to grow the middle class and revitalize the Canadian economy. It reflects a new approach that puts people first and delivers the help that Canadians and Albertans need now.

For 30 years, we have seen the gap between rich and poor widen and the middle class shrink. To address this, we have introduced a middle-class tax cut, and raised taxes on the wealthiest one percent. The new Canada Child Benefit - which will put \$930M into the pockets of Albertan families - will lift hundreds of thousands of children out of poverty. When Canadians have more money to save, invest and grow the economy, everyone benefits.

It's been tough for Alberta over the last few years, and our government recognizes that. Alberta is facing unemployment levels we haven't seen in decades. The EI changes introduced last month will make a big difference for many families and individuals struggling with unemployment, many for the first time in their lives. EI benefits for Albertans will be extended in some instances to up to 70 weeks and wait times reduced. We have also increased federal transfers to the province by \$320M per year in addition to the \$251.4M provided by the fiscal stabilization payment.

The current economic trend is not Alberta's challenge, it is Canada's challenge, and we will meet it together.

With the introduction of this budget, we are beginning to address those challenges and will work with Provincial and Municipal leaders to identify priorities now, and opportunities in the months and years ahead. In our cities, we will invest in transit infrastructure, and Alberta municipalities will receive over \$300 million towards those investments over the next two years. We are also going to accelerate our investments in federal infrastructure projects, to create jobs, and to continue providing the services Albertans rely on from the federal government. This investment in Alberta will be over \$110 million over the next five years.

Finally, we know that global oil prices will stabilize and rebound, and we need to be ready when it does. That's why we are investing \$50 million over two years in research to develop Canada's hydrocarbon resources in cleaner, more sustainable ways. This will both reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change and make Canadian oil more attractive in the global marketplace.

Our new approach puts people first, and it invests in growing the middle class. It also reflects a belief that is the spirit of Alberta's rich history of innovation and collaboration. By investing today in our future we know Alberta and Canada's best days are ahead.



## COUNCILLOR, WARD 8 EVAN WOOLLEY

P.O. Box 2100, Station M  
Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5  
Phone: 403-268-2430

### Keeping the water flowing in Ward 8

The neighbourhoods that make up Ward 8 are some of oldest and most historic communities in Calgary. The countless number of Century Homes, Beltline's Central Memorial Park, Wildwood's Sandstone Quarry Mines, Mission's Rouleau House, the list goes on. This history lends so much character, charm and warmth of each neighbourhood. That said, with inner city neighbourhoods comes aging infrastructure and water mains. There's currently a total of 208km of water mains in Ward 8, with the oldest pipe being cast iron and dating back to the 1910 era and the newest pipe being PVC and installed in 1992.

Interestingly, water main breaks in Calgary spiked in the 1970's with our city experiencing a peak in 1982 with 1,813 breaks per year. In response to these rising rates, The City allocated a budget of \$35M per year (2015 dollars) and implemented innovative asset management programs like enhanced data collection, inspection technologies, and risk analysis techniques. This strategy cut main breaks in half to approximately 900 per year by the early 1990's. Now, in 2016, the City's efforts have resulted in a drastic 85% reduction in breaks and a savings of \$150M over the last 31 years.

I was surprised and happy to see that in Ward 8 specifically, we've seen a significant drop in breaks over the last five years, from 45 breaks in 2010 to only 23 in 2015. This is thanks to the aggressive installation of corrosion protection on our water mains. While our city's population steadily rises and our water network continues to grow, the proactive approach The City has taken will allow us to continue to reduce the numbers of main breaks and most importantly, reduce capital spending.

One of my biggest goals when I chose to run for City Council was to make sure that more of Ward 8 residents' taxes flowed back into their neighbourhoods. Seeing the increased service life and reliability of the water mains in our communities is a great example of how we're working to make our neighbourhoods better.

## IN & AROUND CALGARY

### Important Information for Calgary Homeowners

Are you a new homeowner? When your home is built, City of Calgary inspectors ensure it is safe and meets Alberta's safety codes but a technically-sound building depends on many factors beyond following building regulations.

As a homeowner, you should ask many questions about the quality, safety and bylaw rules about your home before you move in.

The City's new web guide for Calgarians offers tips and important information about home maintenance, renovations, inspections, development rules and more. Visit [calgary.ca/myhome](http://calgary.ca/myhome).

## Insects and 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*

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