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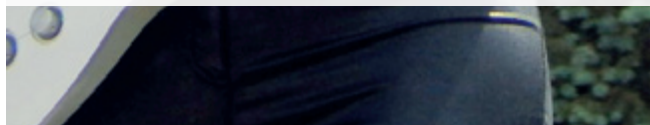
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ELECTED OFFICIALS



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1168 - 137th Avenue South East
Calgary, Alberta T2J 6T6
Email: Stephanie.Kusie@parl.gc.ca
Phone: 403-225-3480
Fax: 403-225-3504



Councillor Diane Colley-Urquhart
Ward 13 Office
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Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5
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INFORMATION for
SOMERSET
RESIDENTS



We hope you enjoy receiving the Newsletter of Somerset residents association. This newsletter is one of the many community-focused activities of the SRA along with our newly revamped website. Make sure you stop by the website www.Somersetwaterpark.org.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

We welcome all resident ideas, compliments, questions and queries, and please notify the SRA of any safety concerns immediately.

VANDALISM

Continues to happen, if you witness park vandalism call (CPS) police immediately (403-266-1234).

ANNUAL INVOICE

Are you yet to pay your annual dues! Please let the SRA know if there are special circumstances preventing payment (see below).

Have a question that is not park related? Visit the 'Somerset / Bridlewood Community Association' website: www.somersetbridlewood.ca.

Contact information:

SOMERSET RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
Phone: 403-807-8736 Email: somersetresidents@shaw.ca;
Website: www.somersetwaterpark.org.



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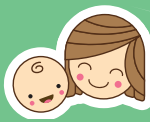
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|-----------------|-----|--------------|--------|
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| Alejandra | 22 | 403-992-3129 | No |
| Alexandra | 16 | 403-201-4971 | Yes |
| Alexis | 19 | 403-922-1200 | Yes |
| Ali | 17 | 403-702-3134 | Yes |
| Alyssa | 13 | 587-999-1872 | Yes |
| Amber | 33 | 587-438-4789 | Yes |
| Anastasia | 20 | 403-998-8869 | No |
| Andreea | 16 | 403-202-5610 | Yes |
| Ariana | 14 | 403-993-9146 | Yes |
| Brianne | 21 | 403-999-6906 | Yes |
| Brittney | 21 | 403-464-0213 | Yes |
| Caroline | 30 | 587-500-1755 | Yes |
| Cassandra | 24 | 403-703-0980 | No |
| Chayce | 26 | 587-227-8296 | Yes |
| Colm | 17 | 403-771-5763 | Yes |
| Erika | 12 | 403-619-4006 | Yes |
| Gabby | 15 | 403-998-5247 | Yes |
| Gabriel | 18 | 587-777-4616 | No |
| Gabriela | 29 | 403-305-2836 | No |
| Jenna | 14 | 403-909-9786 | Yes |
| Jessie | 47 | 587-580-0169 | Yes |

| Name | Age | Contact | Course |
|----------|-----|--------------|--------|
| Jewelyn | 41 | 403-926-3703 | Yes |
| Joeun | 38 | 403-402-7933 | No |
| Kayla | 16 | 587-999-1872 | Yes |
| Keana | 15 | 403-803-4550 | Yes |
| Kyla | 18 | 403-870-3617 | Yes |
| Lois | 16 | 403-700-2331 | Yes |
| Louis | 14 | 403-201-2460 | Yes |
| Mikayla | 14 | 403-585-1942 | No |
| Nick | 15 | 587-580-8548 | Yes |
| Nicole | 19 | 403-891-2241 | No |
| Paige | 16 | 403-201-0247 | Yes |
| Paula | 34 | 804-869-7034 | Yes |
| Payton | 18 | 587-438-1428 | No |
| Raphaela | 31 | 778-325-5098 | No |
| Rose | 37 | 403-614-8215 | No |
| Sean | 14 | 403-254-2020 | Yes |
| Shamaya | 18 | 403-464-5443 | Yes |
| Shay | 18 | 587-224-0798 | Yes |
| Sonya | 23 | 403-389-5921 | Yes |
| Tino | 17 | 403-471-3318 | Yes |
| Vicky | 23 | 250-428-6258 | Yes |
| Yuliya | 21 | 403-401-6283 | No |

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“ Cat got your tongue? ”

Meaning: A question posed when someone is silent in response to a previous question or statement.

Origin: The origin is unknown. Some theories of its origin are that it stems from fear of witches and their black cats, the name of a whip called cat-o'-nine tails, or the fable that ancient kings would cut off the tongues of liars and fed them to their cats. None of these theories are substantiated, however.

Green Carts Spring into Weekly Collection Schedule

Spring has sprung, and with it comes an increase in yard waste. Weekly green cart collection will resume the first week of April.

Calgarians can visit calgary.ca/collection to find out their new green cart schedule and to sign up for free reminders including phone, email and text alerts or download the free Garbage Day app to receive notifications on their smartphones.

There are no changes to blue or black cart collection.



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| | | 2 | | | | 3 | | |
| | 7 | 1 | 3 | 6 | | | | 9 |
| 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | | | | | 1 |
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10 Tips for Dating Safety

by Lorna Selig, Personal Safety and Self Defense Facilitator

Dating can be a wonderful and exciting experience, or it can be an outright disaster! Either way you experience it, make sure you have your wits about you and take precautions for keeping yourself safe.

1. Let your people know where you are going, and with whom, and when you expect to be home. Provide the name and number of the person you will be meeting, and the exact location of your date. If anything changes, keep your people updated.
2. Use your own transportation. Never ride in a vehicle with someone you are just meeting. You need to keep your home address private, and if you need to make a quick getaway, you can!
3. Meet in a well-lit public place. A coffee shop, a restaurant or event where there are people, lights and activity.
4. Never leave your food or drink unattended. Accept a drink only from a bartender or waitress and keep it with you.
5. Stay sober and alert! Every. Single. Time!
6. Protect your personal information—keep your wallet and phone with you, and do not offer any details about where you live or work.
7. Establish your personal boundaries in advance of the date. Plan for when you will leave, and how you will get home, even if you are having a good time. Decide on what type of conversation and interaction you will welcome, and what you won't. Be solid in your decision.
8. Google them. Find out what kind of activity they engage in online, if you have any reservations, cancel the date.
9. Follow your gut. If you feel reticent or uncomfortable, leave the situation. **DO NOT** worry about hurting someone's feelings...it is better to offend them than be harmed.
10. Take a self-defense class. Learn the skills for awareness, avoidance and escape.

The Unimposing House Finch

by J.G. Turner



The House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), a *passerine* (a song bird), is found year-round across the southern part of western Canada, and throughout the United States and Mexico. Their range in Alberta is expanding northward.

It is a medium-sized finch (about the size of a House Sparrow) with a brown-streaked back and wing, and narrow dark stripes on its whitish under parts. The male's head, throat and rump are generally a pink-red. The female is easily mistaken for a female House Sparrow. Its tail is relatively dark brown, long and squared. The bill is short and thick, cone shaped, an obvious seed-eating bill. They eat seeds from plants, as well as buds, leaves and fruits. They can feed and drink while hovering!

This little songbird is very adaptable in terms of where it will live; including finding a home in deserts, grasslands, orchards, open woods, towns, cities and rural properties such as ranches. It will make its compact little woven nest in a bush, tree, natural cavity or building. They form breeding pairs and lay 6 to 8 eggs (lavender with black spots).

Fun Facts:

- The male House Finch colouring can range from deep red to golden yellow, depending on what its diet was during moulting!
- When it flies it makes several fast wingbeats then has a brief period when it pulls its wings pulled in against its sides.
- This bird's song is a warbling one, with notes ending with "zeeee".
- One can find House Finches hanging out with a group of House Sparrows, alone or in pairs.
- A group of House Finches are called a "development" of finches.
- If you want to attract these little birds to your backyard feeder, try tempting them with nyger or millet seed and shelled sunflower seeds.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild bird or animal, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society at 403-214-1312 for tips, instructions and advice, or look at the website at www.calgarywildlife.org for more information.

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

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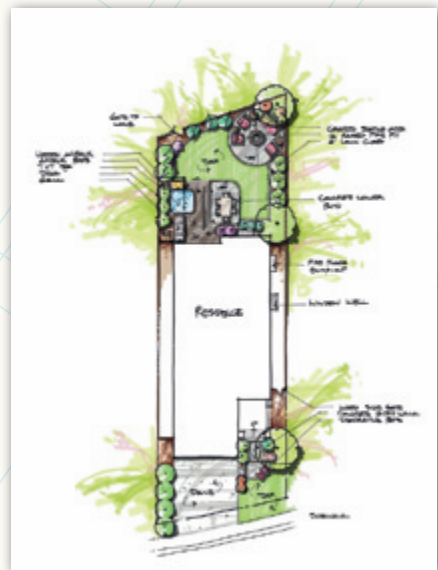


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DENTAL CLINIC



Somerset/Bridlewood

Real Estate Stats

Last 12 Months Somerset
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

| | Average Asking Price | Average Sold Price |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| March 2019 | \$416,400 | \$405,000 |
| February 2019 | \$414,900 | \$395,000 |
| January 2019 | \$389,900 | \$379,000 |
| December 2018 | \$419,900 | \$410,000 |
| November 2018 | \$434,450 | \$419,500 |
| October 2018 | \$393,950 | \$385,000 |
| September 2018 | \$419,900 | \$400,000 |
| August 2018 | \$449,900 | \$439,250 |
| July 2018 | \$429,900 | \$421,000 |
| June 2018 | \$419,900 | \$411,000 |
| May 2018 | \$435,000 | \$425,000 |
| April 2018 | \$428,000 | \$420,000 |

Last 12 Months Bridlewood
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

| | Average Asking Price | Average Sold Price |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| March 2019 | \$394,900 | \$395,500 |
| February 2019 | \$390,000 | \$386,500 |
| January 2019 | \$429,450 | \$419,950 |
| December 2018 | \$400,450 | \$386,500 |
| November 2018 | \$389,700 | \$378,000 |
| October 2018 | \$387,450 | \$381,000 |
| September 2018 | \$409,950 | \$408,250 |
| August 2018 | \$419,950 | \$405,507 |
| July 2018 | \$439,900 | \$430,000 |
| June 2018 | \$429,900 | \$410,000 |
| May 2018 | \$414,894 | \$406,500 |
| April 2018 | \$369,900 | \$362,000 |

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MLS averages please visit som.mycalgary.com
or bri.mycalgary.com

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by Alexa Takayama

This month, I decided to look at unicorns because they just feel spring-y. My research taught me two things: unicorns are one of the oldest depicted mythological creatures, and Europeans liked to write descriptions of rhinoceroses, but no one ever bothered to draw pictures to go with them. Which makes the journey of how we got from rhinoceros to glittering white, horned horses a bit of a disjointed mess. I'll do my best.

Let's get some unicorn basics out of the way: as we understand them today, unicorns are white horse-like creatures with a long, pointed horn protruding from their foreheads, sometimes with cloven hooves or a lion-like tail. Unicorns are untameable, strong, proud and haughty, and would rather die than be captured. They can only be calmed and captured by a virgin. Their horns are made out of a substance called *alicorn* which is believed to have magical medicinal properties, such as being able to nullify poisons and cure diseases. Some "official" measurements state a unicorn's horn is between 1 cubit and 1.5 cubits (roughly 50 to 70 cm). You know unicorns are old when we're measuring things in cubits!

We also need to talk about the *monoceros*, which was a creature that was conceptually related to the unicorn but was not a unicorn. At the same time, the term *monoceros* was used interchangeably with the term unicorn. (Which doesn't complicate things at all.) And like the unicorn, a lot of descriptions of them seem to bear a closer resemblance to rhinoceroses.

Let's talk about some of those descriptions, shall we? The oldest recorded writing describing a unicorn was in India, written by Greek physician and historian Ctesias the

Cnidian. He described them like "wild asses" (probably specifically the *onegar*, an Asiatic animal closely resembling a donkey) with a horn that is red, white, and black. In his book, *Natural History*, Pliny the Elder described a *monoceros* having the head of a stag, body like a horse's, the feet of an elephant, and the tail of a boar. He also said it made a deep bellowing noise and has a black horn. There is record that Marco Polo claimed to have seen a unicorn, saying they are smaller than elephants with heads like a wild boar, feet like an elephant's, rough hair like a buffalo, and a big black horn. He described them wallowing in mud and called them ugly. (Rude.) He also expressed disappointment that they were nothing like the way Europeans imagined them.

Every instance just seems to me as someone trying to describe a rhinoceros, but after the world's oldest game of telephone, we somehow ended up with our modern rendition of the unicorn.

But let's not forget about the virgins! What's up with that? Well, in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, a book called *Physiologus* had an elaborate allegory about a unicorn, which represented the Incarnation of Christ, laying its head on the lap of a maiden, which represented the Virgin Mary. It seems from here that the idea that a unicorn can only be captured by a virgin originates from. From there, there have been many pieces of both religious and secular art showing the hunt of the unicorn. It is sometimes depicted wearing a collar with a broken chain. The unicorn is very popular in heraldry as well.

Now you have a brief overview of unicorns. There's a lot I didn't get to cover, so stay tuned for next month's article where I'll talk specifically about the unicorn's horn.



Volunteer Links South Calgary

For full descriptions go to the website <http://calgaryarea.com/index.php?p=volunteer>

Alberta Cancer Foundations Events Office

Suite 120, 707 7th Ave SW Calgary, AB T2P3 H6
403.775.4676

Alberta Health Services

Calgary, AB
403.943.4702

Calgary Immigrant Educational Society (C.I.E.S.)

Calgary, AB
403.291.0002

Calgary Opera

1315 7 Street SW Calgary, AB T2R 1A5
403.262.7286

Calgary Public Library

616 Macleod Trail SE Calgary, AB T2G 2M2
403.260.2600

Calgary Reads

105, 105 12 Ave SE Calgary, AB T2G 1A1
403.777.8254

Canadian Mental Health Association Calgary

400, 105 12 Ave SE Calgary, AB T2G 1A1
403.297.1700

Canadian Progress Club

Calgary, AB
myraskerrett@shaw.ca
<http://www.progressclub.ca/calgary-city-centre>

Cerebral Palsy Association In Alberta

12001 44 Street SE Calgary, AB T2Z 4G9
403.543.1161

CNIB Alberta and Northwest Territories

15 Colonel Baker Place NE Calgary, AB T2E 4Z3
403.261.7225

CNS volunteer opportunities. City of Calgary

800 Macleod Trail SE Calgary, AB T2P 2M5
403.476.7224

CUPS Health Education Housing

1001 10 Ave SW Calgary, AB T2R 1M4
403.221.8780

Habitat For Humanity

210, 805 Manning Road NE Calgary, AB T2E 7M8
403.253.9331

Immigrant Services Calgary


1200, 910 7th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 3N8
403.261.1120

Mary's Meals

PO Box 76144, Millrise RPO Calgary, AB T2Y 2Z0
1.855.702.0330

Meals on Wheels

5759 80 Avenue SE Calgary, AB T2C 4S6
403.243.2834



*Yeah, you sent her
a card,
but did you build
her a shrine?*

Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church has been designated as a shrine to all mothers. The founder of Mother's Day, Anna Jarvis, attended the church in her youth and sent over 500 carnations on May 10, 1908, to be distributed to the congregation's mothers. In 1914, Mother's Day became a nationally observed holiday in the United States.

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

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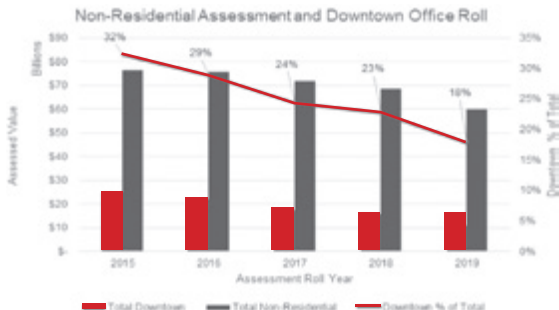
Meet our new Calgary Police Chief Mark Neufeld. Welcome to Calgary Chief.

The Downtown Tax Problem

With the economic downturn persisting over the past three years, I know you're all very much aware that downtown Calgary has been experiencing a **25-30% corporate vacancy rate** for at least the past 18 months. Some are bankrupt. The **lost property value is \$14,109,911,200** with a **\$257,624,403 tax impact**. An office tower that sold for over \$300M a few years ago, recently sold for only \$90M. It's no surprise that Calgary currently holds the highest unemployment rate in all of Canada.

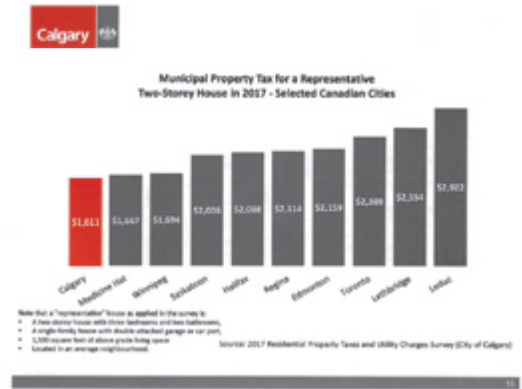
Vacancy rates compounded by a loss in market value assessment (in determining the business tax rate) have left a **tax imbalance of over \$250M**. As a result, the remaining businesses are facing a tax increase to make up the difference that is impossible for the 5,000 small businesses in Calgary to shoulder.

While we slashed \$607M in operating savings and efficiencies from 2015-2018, the size and scale of this seismic downtown economic shift couldn't be solved by budget reductions alone. All options were put on the table to confront this crisis. As an immediate response in 2017, Council pulled \$45M out of the reserve fund thinking this would be a short-term problem to fix—but it wasn't. In 2018, Council pulled another \$41M out of the reserve to stop the bleeding. But the problem ensued. This wasn't the answer, as the benefits of this short-term approach didn't trickle down to small businesses.



Relative to other Canadian cities, Calgary's municipal property tax rate is among the lowest. This allows for a tax-shift to accommodate the business tax burden. For months, Council debated a whole host of tax-shift scenarios. The mid-term strategy for dealing with this taxation problem includes continuing to advocate with the Province, creating a Financial Task Force, and encouraging capital dollars to rejuvenate the downtown—including the recently approved 4 mega projects.

The downtown vacancy issue affects us all as Calgarians. An assessment shift strategy is necessary in approaching this issue. We need to work together as a City to overcome this downturn and come out on top. We need to stand together as **One Calgary**.



- To view the presentations, please visit:
- <http://councillordiane.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/C2019-0352-Downtown-Tax-Shift-Presentation-FINAL.pdf>
 - <http://councillordiane.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Downtown-Tax-Shift.pdf>

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403-777-7490

to book a school tour.

HERE'S to MOMS
 and EVERYTHING
 THEY DO



10AM-2PM

SATURDAY, MAY 11th

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