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		3		7		8		

FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 13

Mount Royal Community Association

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GREAT NEWS PUBLISHING HAS BEEN PROUDLY SERVING MOUNT ROYAL FOR 6 YEARS!

The New Adventures of Engine 23

Central Library is home to a full-sized, real fire truck—and yes, it's *inside* the library! Engine 23 has retired from fighting fires and has begun a whole new life helping children learn. Calgary's youngest citizens can not only read about fire trucks, but also suit up, jump in the truck, and rush to the scene of imaginary accidents and infernos to bring aid and assistance. Because the fire truck isn't just a 22-tonne vehicle in a building: it's a suite of experiences. It's authentic. Kids can play on it and interact with it in a very real way.

When the Calgary Fire Department offered to loan us a decommissioned fire truck, Calgary Public Library seized upon the opportunity to create an innovative early learning experience. After much planning and design, we've installed Engine 23 in Central Library, where it will remain until New Central Library opens in 2018.

Visit Engine 23 any time Central Library is open, or drop in for special Engine 23 storytimes. Toddlers and Preschoolers (ages 2-5) can drop in to enjoy fire-themed storytimes while seated atop Engine 23! Families (all ages) are welcome to drop in and join a Calgary Fire Department firefighter for a special family storytime and the opportunity to start their very own new adventures with Engine 23. See the July-August *Library Connect* for exact dates and details. A reimaged staircase will connect the installation to the children's area on the second floor, so be sure to visit the Children's Library on the 2nd Floor!

news@great-news.ca
Editorial Content DEADLINE 1st
of each month for the next month's issue

IN & AROUND CALGARY

EMS: Heat Related Illness

With the return of summer weather, Alberta Health Services EMS would like to remind everyone to stay safe in the heat and sun this season. While children and the elderly may be more susceptible to the effects of heat and sun, basic prevention measures should be taken by all to avoid a heat related illness during periods of hot and humid weather.

Heat exhaustion

- Heat exhaustion can occur due to excessive fluid loss during periods of prolonged sweating in a hot and/or humid environment (indoors or outdoors).
- Patients may suffer headaches, weakness, fatigue, nausea/vomiting, thirst, chills, and profuse sweating.
- The patient is usually cold and damp to the touch and the skin may appear pale or dusky gray.

Heat stroke

- Heat stroke is a medical emergency which, without prompt treatment, could be fatal.
- It occurs when the body can't cool itself naturally (e.g. perspiration). The body's temperature will continue to rise to dangerous levels.
- Due to severe dehydration and the inability to sweat, the patient may appear flushed, and skin may be hot and dry to the touch.

First aid

- First aid for all heat related illness begins with removing or sheltering the patient from the hot environment.
- Remove excess or tight fitting clothing, and allow them to rest in a cool environment.
- If the patient is conscious and alert, provide suitable fluids such as: water, juice, or a sports drink.
- If you are concerned, seek medical attention or call 9-1-1.

Prevention

- Stay well-hydrated by drinking plenty of water.
- Be aware that excessive alcohol consumption will promote dehydration.
- Always wear a broad brimmed hat to keep the sun off your face and neck.
- Apply waterproof sunscreen with an SPF of 50+, especially for children. The sun's UV rays peak between 10am-4pm, even on cloudy days.

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IN & AROUND
CALGARY

Green Cart set to roll out
next spring

After a successful pilot that saw a 40 per cent drop in garbage and 89 per cent satisfaction amongst residents, the Green Cart Program will roll out to all single family homes beginning next spring. All communities should have the service by fall 2017. Here are the highlights:

All food, yard and pet waste is accepted in the program.

Unlimited quantity. Use paper yard waste bags for extra yard waste that doesn't fit in the cart.

Green and blue carts will be collected on the **same day every week.**

Black carts will be picked up **once every two weeks on a separate day** since most household waste can be recycled or composted.

Residents will receive everything they need to get started including the green cart, a kitchen pail for collecting food scraps inside the home; a sample of compostable bags for the kitchen pail and yard waste bags. Once service begins, households will pay \$6.50 per month. This charge reflects the savings achieved by changing black cart garbage collection from weekly to once every two weeks.

Green carts go beyond backyard composting

If you're already backyard composting, keep it up. Use your green cart for all the other materials that cannot be composted at home like meat, bones, shellfish, dairy, weeds and pet waste.

Why we need to keep food and yard waste out of landfills

It may be hard to believe, but more than half of residential garbage is food and yard waste. Composting this material is the right thing to do. When food and yard waste is buried in the landfill it releases methane, a greenhouse gas that is 25 times stronger than carbon dioxide. By using the green carts we reduce dependence on our landfills, reduce greenhouse gas and turn food and yard waste into nutrient-rich compost.

To learn more about the Green Cart Program, visit **calgary.ca/greencart**.

Submitted by The City of Calgary Waste & Recycling Services.



Mount Royal
Real Estate Update

Last 12 Months Mount Royal
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
June 2016	\$1,512,500.00	\$1,488,000.00
May 2016	\$1,595,000.00	\$1,515,000.00
April 2016	\$864,450.00	\$832,500.00
March 2016	\$1,497,000.00	\$1,340,000.00
February 2016	\$1,299,900.00	\$1,160,500.00
January 2016	\$1,800,000.00	\$1,708,750.00
December 2015	\$2,499,000.00	\$2,284,000.00
November 2015	\$2,197,500.00	\$1,900,000.00
October 2015	\$2,100,000.00	\$1,825,000.00
September 2015	\$0.00	\$0.00
August 2015	\$3,250,000.00	\$2,975,000.00
July 2015	\$0.00	\$0.00

Last 12 Months Mount Royal
MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
June 2016	8	2
May 2016	3	3
April 2016	2	2
March 2016	4	1
February 2016	3	1
January 2016	4	2
December 2015	2	2
November 2015	3	4
October 2015	3	3
September 2015	5	0
August 2015	6	1
February 2015	4	0
Total	53	26

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

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Going on a Holiday?

A message from the Federation of Calgary Communities

Building Safe Communities Program

Summer is a great time to enjoy a vacation! But before you do, make sure your home is as safe and secure as possible. The keys to protecting your home when you are on vacation are not just the ones you use in your deadbolt lock.

Below are a few tips to help reduce your risk:

- Double-check your insurance policy to find out if and when you require someone to check in on your home.
- Give a trusted neighbour or friend a key and trip details and ask them to check in on your home.
- Don't advertise that you are going away.
- Create a lived-in appearance. Be sure the lawn is cared for while you are away, and stop any newspapers or have flyers collected from your door or yard. Set lights and a TV's on timers so your home is not dark during evening hours.
- Encourage a trusted neighbour to park their car in your driveway while you are gone.
- Ensure that your door and window locking devices are working and are locked when you leave.
- Disable your garage door while you are gone. Most have a switch that can be turned off. You can also put a padlock or similar device through the door tracks to ensure it cannot be opened.
- Put away, or secure all lawn furniture or tools (i.e. ladders) so they can't be used to assist a burglar in gaining access to the upper story windows of your home.

For more helpful safety resources, check out the Federation of Calgary Communities website at calgarycommunities.com and visit the Virtual Resource Centre.



Chip in Fore Communities and Golf With Us on August 12!

Are you itching for a fun round of golf that includes lunch and dinner, as well as the opportunity to win amazing prizes like a trip for two to Mexico and up to \$15,000? If so, register today for the Federation of Calgary Communities 4th Annual *Chip in Fore Communities* Golf Tournament, presented by Save-On-Foods! The tournament will take place on Friday, August 12, 2016 at The Canal at Delacour Golf Club.

Registration fees are extremely affordable at only \$160 for an individual golfer and a discounted rate of \$600 for a foursome! Your fee includes lunch, a round of golf in a power cart, a delicious dinner, and the chance to win one of many exciting prizes.

Visit calgarycommunities.com/events to register today!

There are 150 community associations in Calgary with more than 20,000 volunteers involved, making it the largest collective volunteer movement in the city! Community associations come in all shapes and sizes, are run by your neighbours, offer you endless opportunities, bring you together as a community, and are dedicated to addressing local issues and ensuring you love where you live. They can be the anchor for community life, but they need support to effectively operate in today's competitive not-for-profit world. The Federation of Calgary Communities is that support organization.

This golf tournament will help raise funds for the Federation of Calgary Communities to continue providing programs and services that help community associations build capacity, support and mobilize residents, be on the front lines of important issues in their community, and improve neighbourhood life in Calgary.

If you have any questions or are interested in finding out more please contact Rebecca Dakin with the Federation of Calgary Communities at communityrelations@calgarycommunities.com or (403) 244-4111 ext. 204.

Save with budget-friendly summer family fun



(NC) Who says an amazing, memorable summer with the family needs to cost a bundle? This year, plan to save with these budget-friendly tips and tricks everyone in your gang is sure to love.

- 1. Stay cool.** Does anything say summer more than sun and swim? Playing in the water is a free way to make the most out of those long sunny days you're sure to miss in the fall. Visit the splash pad in your local park, go for a swim in your community pool, or if you live close to a beach or lake, make a day of it and bring a picnic.
- 2. Do it yourself, literally.** Embrace the DIY trend and spend an afternoon making that antique-look shelf

you've always admired on Pinterest. Or grab the little ones and find a kid friendly-project online, like a fairy door they can help decorate or funky animals made out of paper plates.

3. Take advantage of summer promos. Many companies offer great deals so you can enjoy their products and services throughout the season. Get a season pass at your city's amusement park or zoo, or join a hotel rewards program where you can earn points on every last-minute trip and use them for free stays later. For example, the Marriot Rewards program is offering members a summer bonus that lets you earn additional bonus points on hotel stays this summer and enters you into their sweepstakes for a chance to win even more points for future stays. Also good to know: You get the best rates when you book directly on the hotel's website.

4. Check out local events and festivals. Towns and cities love to celebrate with special events, many of which are free or pay-what-you-can. Catch a Shakespeare-in-the-park production, bring your furry best friend to a dog festival, or try your new favourite food at a multicultural celebration.

5. Plan an upcycle swapping party. Invite your friends with kids of any age over for some fun and trading. Trade gently-used toys that have gone out of favour and clothes that don't fit anymore for an affordable way to freshen up their treasure chests and wardrobes. Older kids can swap video games and costume jewellery.

Find more ways to save and earn hotel rewards points this summer at www.marriott.com/rewards/promotion.mi?promotion=SB16.

www.newscanada.com



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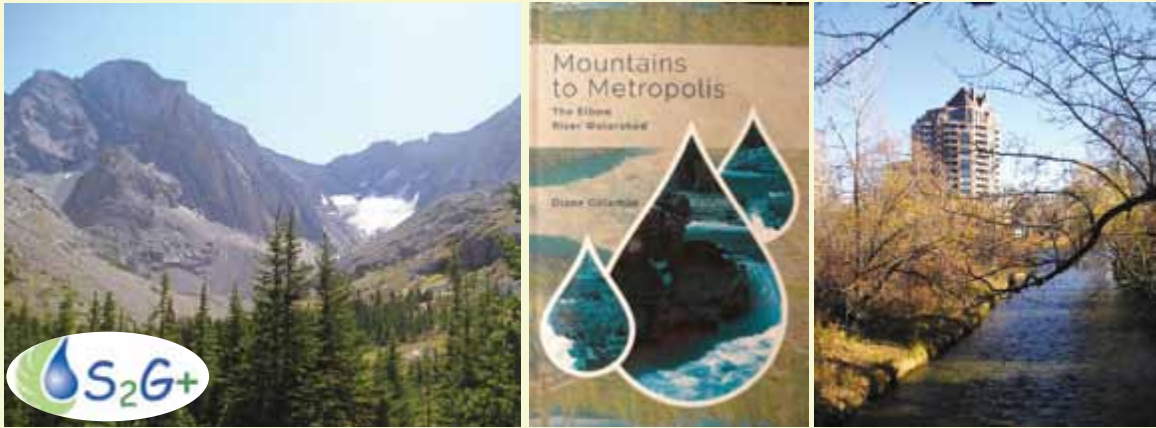
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New Book Mountains to Metropolis: The Elbow River Watershed

S2G+ was excited to find out that a new book had been written about the Elbow River. We asked the author, Diane Coleman, if she would be willing to write an article about what prompted her to write about the Elbow Watershed. And, here is her response!

Water in the landscape has always attracted me. Perhaps that is why I have lived near the Elbow River for four decades. When I lived near downtown Calgary, potable water magically came out of the tap and wastewater disappeared with a flush. No big deal. But then on our acreage outside the city in the middle watershed, water issues quickly became apparent. Here, our household water comes from a local water co-operative and we have a septic system to maintain. Here, one thoughtless person overwatering his large lawn has brought the water system to its knees on occasion. Then, as a geographer, I have also had a fascination for the landscape itself. Landscape plus water equals watershed, and in my case, that of the Elbow River.

Big questions arose: where does our water come from, how is it best used and where does it go when we have finished with it? What is a watershed really? What are its parts, how does it function, is it so important to keep it

healthy, and how do we do that? And why should we care? Why? — because we all live in a watershed.

I began to research everything I could find out about the Elbow watershed — its geography, its wildlife, its human history, its management and its present-day situation — all coloured by my own experience living, hiking and camping here. And all that turned into this book!

My conclusion about all of this? — the Elbow River watershed is beautiful and important and it is under significant pressure for industrial, urban and recreational development. Since the sound functioning of any watershed depends on the well-being of *all* of its parts, I hope this book will help ensure the Elbow's continued health through knowledge and understanding, and from that, good management.

Diane Coleman is the author of *Mountains to Metropolis: The Elbow River Watershed* (Friesen Press, 2015).

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. Follow us on facebook.com/S2Gplus

IN & AROUND CALGARY

Where there's water, there IS a risk

Calgary's rivers, lakes and waterways can be a fun and refreshing way to spend a hot summer day. **Your Calgary Fire Department** wants to remind you about Water Safety.

Life jacket safety

- Always wear a properly fitting life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD) when boating or rafting anywhere.
- Check the PDF or jackets size and weight restrictions.
 - Start with the buckles and straps loose, do them up from the bottom of the jacket to the top. Make sure the jacket or PFD fits snugly.
 - Test the life jacket or PFD once you have done it up; hold your arms over your head and ask a friend to grab the tops of the arm openings and gently pull. Make sure there is no extra room above the arm openings and that the jacket does not ride up over your face or chin.

Swimming is a lifesaving skill

Water skills give you the confidence to safely take part in water sports throughout your life. The City offers swim lessons for all ages, throughout the year. We also offer First Aid and National Lifeguard certification classes.

Remember, always keep toddlers or young children within arm's reach while in or around all bodies of water.

Before you raft or boat

Always **SCOUT**, **ASSESS** and **DECIDE** from shore before going on rivers, lakes and waterways.

Scout the river for potential hazards and check the weather and water conditions.

Assess the level of danger. Check for river advisories and assess the swimming and paddling skills of your crew.

Decide if it is safe to raft or boat.

Ensure you have emergency supplies on board with you.

For further information visit calgary.ca/CSPS/Fire/Pages/Safety-tips/Safety-tips-for-water/River-Safety.aspx

Did you know: The Calgary Fire Department has Firefighters trained in water rescue that work out of 6 station (downtown) 21 station (Silver springs) and 39 station (Douglasglen)?

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8	9	2	3	5	1	7	6	4
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**AUGUST 5 TO 7
EXPO LATINO**

Each year, Expo Latino brings a variety of talented Latino performers to Prince's Island Park. This is a three-day celebration of Latino music, dance and culture. www.expolatino.com

**AUGUST 13
CALGARY JAPANESE
FESTIVAL OMATSURI**

The one day festival has plenty of fun, cultural activities appropriate for the whole family, including galleries of Japanese arts and crafts and food kiosks selling Japanese food. www.calgaryjapanesefestival.com

**AUGUST 13 TO 14
CALGARY DRAGON BOAT
RACE AND FESTIVAL**

This is a weekend of dragon boat racing on the Glenmore Reservoir, where Calgary embraces a sport that stems from a 2,000-year-old Chinese legend. www.chinatowncalgary.com/dragonboat

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

- **August 5 to 7 - Expo Latino:** Each year, Expo Latino brings a variety of talented Latino performers to Prince's Island Park. This is a three-day celebration of Latino music, dance and culture. www.expolatino.com
- **August 10 to 13 - Afrikadey! Festival:** This year marks Afrikadey's 25th anniversary. That's 25 years sharing the art, music and dance from cultures across the African continent. www.afrikadey.com
- **August 14 - Marda Gras Street Festival:** The neighbourhood street festival includes numerous food vendors, artisan booths and buskers. Also part of the festival is the sixth annual Marda Gras pet pageant, so get your pooch ready to shine. www.mardagrass.ca
- **August 18 to 20 - ReggaeFest:** According to the organizers of the festival, ReggaeFest will transform you into a "Rastafarian." There's music and there's food, and it's a festival all Calgarians need to attend at least once. www.reggaefest.ca
- **August 18 to 27 - GlobalFest:** This annual fireworks and cultural festival includes five impressive shows. The first of the fireworks shows synched to music is from China, followed by the Philippines, Spain and the USA. The finale is by Canada. www.globalfest.ca
- **August 20 to 21 - Antiquing at the Arc:** Spend hours rummaging through everything from furniture to militaria to art deco to toys and more at this annual antique show. www.antiquesbydesignshows.com
- **August 26 to September 5 - Calgary Pride Parade and Festival:** Celebrate Calgary's LGBTQ community and attend events during the Calgary Pride Festival. www.calgarypride.ca

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10 Common Questions About Hail Damage

Submitted by Alberta Allied Roofing Association

How I do I know if I have hail damage to my roof?

Can I tell from the ground?

If you've had hail in your area, to determine if the shingles have been damaged a close inspection of the shingles has to be made from the roof. Usually you cannot tell from the ground.

If I think I have hail damage what should I do?

Call your insurance company and ask for an adjuster to come inspect your roof for hail damage. Call a reputable roofing company and ask for the same inspection. If there are any discrepancies between the adjuster's findings and the roofer's findings you may call for a "RE-INSPECTION" where your adjuster meets with the roofer to go over the roof together. Re-inspections are very common.

The insurance company must determine two things when assessing the amount of your loss:

- Was there sufficient damage to the roof to declare it a total loss? (Usually determined by 10 verified hail hits per 100 square feet.)
- What is the size of the roof and how many shingles will be needed to replace the roof

What does hail do to a roof?

Shingles are designed so that the granules block the UV of the sun and protect the asphalt underlayment. As the shingles age the granules fall off over time. As the asphalt is exposed the UV, it dries out and the shingle gets a "potato chip" appearance as the corners start to curl up. A shingle at the extreme end of its life is bubbled in appearance and is brittle to the touch. A 20-year shingle is warranted by the manufacturer to have a useful life, under optimal ventilation conditions, of 20 years.

Hail does several things:

- Accelerates granule loss
- Accelerates shingle aging.
- Voids manufacturer's warranties
- Leads to other associated problems

Do I need to get my roof replaced right away?

The insidious nature of hail damage is that it may pose no immediate threat to the structural integrity of the roof. However, many insurance companies have a "statute of limitations" of how long a hail claim is viable. If you have experienced a loss such as hail damage it is prudent to take care of the problem in a timely manner before it leads to other associated problems.

What does hail hit look like?

A hail hit on a shingle looks like a "bruise" or a dark spot where the granules on the shingle have been knocked off and the asphalt underlayment and sometimes the fiberglass mat is exposed. New hail hits will have a shiny appearance because the asphalt has been freshly exposed and has not had time to weather to a dull color.

Why would my insurance company replace my roof?

The purpose of homeowner's insurance is to protect homeowners against losses in their property's value due to damage that is beyond their control. If you have hail damage, you have experienced a financial loss in that your original investment of a 20-year roof (for example) has now been reduced to a 5-10 year useful life span. Your insurance company will compensate you for your loss and replace your roof.

Why does the estimate read that there are more shingles to replace then there are to remove?

The amount of shingles to remove from your roof is the

10 Common Questions About Hail Damage...cont'd

actual amount of square feet that it takes to shingle your roof. However, when putting on shingles, some shingles have to be cut to fit dimensions, ridges, hips and valleys. The insurance company adds 10% to regular ridge roofs and 15% to hip and ridge roofs to account for the loss of shingles.

My gutters and siding were damaged and the insurance company paid me for how many linear feet had to be replaced. When I called a contractor they had a minimum fee that was far in excess of the small amount the insurance company paid me. What can I do?

Your insurance company understands minimum charges such as these and has set prices they are prepared to pay as minimum charges for all trades. They do not give you the minimum charge up front because such a large percentage of their customers never call a contractor and just pocket the money. If you call your adjuster and ask for the minimum charge for the work, they will pay it without any hesitation.

In my adjustment, my insurance company deducted some money for depreciation, what is that all about?

Different insurance companies call the amount that they hold back different things. Some call it depreciation; other companies figure it in as a dump and removal fee. What it represents is the amount of money the company will hold back until they receive a signed contract from you and a contractor for the work. When they receive a signed contract, you will receive another check for the amount they have held back.

My insurance adjuster said there was no hail damage on his first inspection, I asked The Roofing Company, Inc.'s estimator to call him and request to walk through a re-inspection with him. On the re-inspection the adjuster concluded that there was hail damage and "totalled" the roof. Why such a dramatic turn around?

There are many different reasons that this happens so often. Sometimes adjusters get to a roof too soon after the actual damage and the hits haven't had a chance to weather yet. Sometimes the adjusters are inexperienced. Sometimes they were tired after looking at so many roofs that day. Sometimes they just make mistakes. The best results for the benefit of homeowner seem to be obtained when an experienced roofer walks through the inspection with the insurance adjuster and calls to the adjuster's attention any damage that he sees.

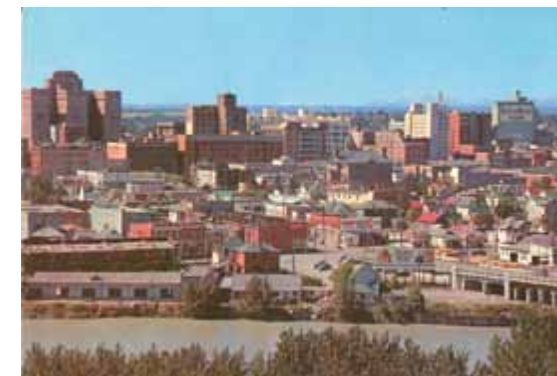
IN & AROUND CALGARY

Stampede Taxi Stands

Stampede taxi stands are designated areas near Stampede Park where taxis will be lined-up to wait for customers. Two temporary taxi stands will operate at all hours during Stampede. These stands are located at the South and North entrances of Stampede Park. The taxi stand located at the North entrance of Stampede Park will provide priority service to people with accessibility needs as this entrance provides the most direct route to enter into the park.

Late Night Temporary Taxi Stands

Within Stampede Park there are multiple entertainment venues. In 2016 all venues are closing at 3 a.m. To accommodate the evening rush two additional late night temporary stands will be established. For details, visit Calgary.ca and search taxi stands.



Historic Calgary Week July 22-August 1, 2016

Please join us for Historic Calgary Week, ten days of free events, presented by the Chinook Country Historical Society. Learn about Calgary's history, culture and community through walks, talks, tours, presentations, museums and family events, held in and around Calgary. See our website: www.chinookcountry.org for the program list.

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How to enjoy the summer sun safely

By Paula Trotter



Do you know what causes more cases of cancer than tobacco? Ultraviolet (UV) rays emitted by the sun, which cause skin cancer.

Despite being largely preventable, skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canada. Most skin cancers are easy to treat, but they do put you at a higher risk of developing cancer later in life and treatment can include disfiguring surgery.

And rates of melanoma – the most dangerous type of skin cancer – continue to rise in Canada.

As summer is now upon us, we want to remind you that being safe in the sun is the best way to reduce your risk of developing skin cancer.

Sun safety isn't about avoiding the sun. It's about protecting your skin and eyes while you're enjoying the outdoors.

And sun safety includes more than just applying sunscreen. In fact, sunscreen should not be your only defence against the sun. Use sunscreen along with shade, clothing, and hats – not instead of them.

Follow these Canadian Cancer Society prevention tips to safely enjoy the sun this summer:

- **Check the UV index daily.** Use extra precautions to protect your skin if the UV index reaches 3 (moderate) or more.
- **Cover up when the sun is at its strongest.** You need to be extra careful to protect your skin between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. when the sun is at its strongest (UV index of 3 or more).
- **Cover up.** Wear a wide-brimmed hat and cover up as much of your skin as possible. Clothes generally provide better protection than sunscreen.
- **Use sunscreen properly.** Use a broad-spectrum and water-resistant sunscreen with a minimum SPF of 30. Apply generously – most adults need about two to three tablespoons of sunscreen to cover their body and a teaspoon to cover their face and neck.
- **Seek shade.** Sit under a tree at the park or an awning on a restaurant patio. Bring an umbrella so you can have shade whenever you need it.
- **Wear sunglasses.** Sunglasses (labeled UV 400 or 100% UV protection) can help prevent damage to your eyes by blocking a large percentage of UV rays.

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Blue-winged Teal a Little Dabbler

By J.G. Turner

Photo credit: Alan & Elaine Wilson of Nature's Pics Online

The Blue-winged Teal's formal name (*Anis discors*) comes from the Latin words for "a duck" (*Anis*) and *discors* or "disc about the mouth" which may refer to the face pattern of the male. The adult male has a rounded slate blue head with a crescent shaped band of feathers behind its black bill and in front of its black eyes. The male has a light brown body with a white patch near the rear and a black tail, and shows a blue patch with a white border on its fore wings, especially when in flight. The adult female is a mottled or scalloped grey-brown with a whitish patch at the base of the tail and bill, and a dark line through its black eye. The bill is quite large. Blue-winged and Cinnamon Teal females and immatures are very hard to distinguish from one another.

This is a small (especially compared to the large Mallards common to Alberta waterways) dabbling duck (meaning that it feeds on the surface on vegetation or water insects just ducking its head under water, or by tipping right up, pointing its tail end upwards while feeding on submerged vegetation). It is only about 16 inches (40 cm) long, with a wingspan of 23 inches (58 cm) and weighing in at only 13 ounces (370 g).

This is the most common teal in Alberta's grassland and parkland areas. The best area for it to live in is likely to have grassy spaces mixed with wetlands. It is most likely found in the calmer waters of marshes, sloughs, ponds and the weedy edges of small lakes. Nests are built in concealing grasses or vegetation on dry land, but near to water. You might see a Blue-winged Teal cruising near the shoreline (rather than out in open water) or resting on logs or rocks sticking above the water, on top of muskrat houses, on bare shoreline or mud flats. In the late summer they undergo a moult (during which they shed their old feathers and grow new ones), which prevents them from flying so they will spend this time

in prairie sloughs or large marshes with good food supplies. Although it is found in the right habitat throughout the province, the Blue-winged Teal is most common in central and southern Alberta.

This little duck hangs out in pairs or small groups spending most of their time foraging in shallow waters. They are described as being "abundant" in North America, with numbers varying in response to water conditions, with drought causing populations to fall. They are the first ducks to go south in the fall and the last ones to arrive north for the breeding season in the spring. It is likely that they leave early and arrive back late because they are long distance migrators, some going as far as South America (a Blue-winged Teal banded in Alberta was found in Venezuela a month later). The oldest recorded Blue-winged Teal was a 23-year-old male, banded in Alberta and found in Cuba. Overwintering in Alberta is not common, but has been recorded in Calgary and at Wabamun Lake.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild bird or animal in distress, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at 403-239-2488, for tips, instructions and advice, or look at the website at www.calgarywildlife.org for more information.

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Howdy! Once again it's time to dust off our western wear and celebrate a timeless city tradition: the Calgary Stampede. With the Stampede Grounds, parade route, and many breakfasts and BBQs located in Calgary-Buffalo, I look forward to immersing myself in activities alongside my colleagues, constituents, and neighbors. Starting with the parade on July 8th, I will be attending Stampede activities throughout the days of July 8th-17th. If you are hosting an event for Stampede week, I would love to stop by to chat – please contact myself or my staff at 403-244-7737 or calgary-buffalo@assembly.ab.ca to keep us up to date with happenings in the community.

I invite all Calgary-Buffalo residents to join my caucus colleagues and Premier Rachel Notley at the Premier's Annual Stampede Breakfast from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 11th at McDougall Centre (455 6th Street SW). The free event will feature live music, dancing, Stampede Royalty, Chuckwagon Drivers and plenty of pancakes to go around.

On July 15th I will be handing out coffee at the annual Kerby Centre Stampede Breakfast from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. at 1133 7th Ave SW. Kerby Centre's vision of a happy and healthy senior population is supported by the Alberta Government's mission to promote the well-being and quality of life of Alberta seniors. The breakfast is open to people of all-ages, and I encourage you to stop by to connect with the volunteers, residents, and members who make up and support this thriving hub for older adults.

As we come together to celebrate our western heritage and share in the sights of the Stampede, we must not forget our duty to our fellow Albertans. As I write this in late-May, the wildfires in Fort McMurray and the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo remain extreme. With residents of Fort McMurray beginning to return home on June 1st, we know that the hard work of rebuilding is still ahead of us. I want to thank the many constituents who have reached out to our office to find out how they can help their neighbors in Northern Alberta. All of Alberta stands with Fort McMurray.

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MLA CALGARY-ELBOW GREG CLARK

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Fort McMurray Fire

As I write this the people of Ft. McMurray have just started to return home nearly a month after a narrow escape from the most devastating wildfire in Canadian history. Having spent a lot of time working in Ft. McMurray over the years it was heartbreaking for me to see family homes and familiar landmarks go up in smoke.

I was impressed (but not surprised) that we were able to evacuate more than 80,000 safely and I was even more impressed by the response of Albertans. It's the perfect embodiment of what it means to be an Albertan. We look out for one another in good times, and especially in bad.

Many of us in Calgary-Elbow have lived through a natural disaster. My most vivid memories are not of what we lost in the flood, but of the tremendous outpouring of support from Albertans. I'll never forget the images of hundreds of Edmonton Police and Firefighters streaming down Highway 2 to help us. I'll never forget the day complete strangers showed up by the thousands and I'll never forget the support of neighbours who would stop work cleaning their own homes to help others.

I'm glad to see the people of Ft. McMurray heading home, but the amount of time people have been out of their homes is a reminder just how long a road there is ahead of us. Albertans stepped up to help Ft. McMurray in their time of crisis, and we'll need to stand with

them in the coming weeks, months and years. Ft. Mac will fight back, but they'll need our help.

If you haven't already, please consider a donation to the Canadian Red Cross (www.redcross.ca) or to one of the many relief agencies working in Ft. McMurray.

I want the people of Ft. McMurray to know that we are here for you. We are here for you today, we will be here for you tomorrow, and we will be here for as long as it takes to rebuild your city.

Carbon Tax Debate

At time of writing we are still debating the NDs carbon tax in the Legislature. Given their majority we know the bill will pass and become law, but I am trying hard to bring forward amendments to make the bill stronger and more effective. I believe that a carbon tax is the right way to reduce emissions, attract investment in new technology and kick-start innovation that will not only help diversify our economy but will also enable the continued success of our oil and gas industry.

I may support a carbon tax in principle, but I'm not sure I support the NDs approach. I have tried to amend the bill to make this program truly revenue neutral by offsetting money collected by the carbon tax with equal cuts to personal and business taxes, as well as other rebates to ensure Albertans are not paying more. Unfortunately the government hasn't accepted this or any other amendments from the opposition. I will continue to work to make this bill better.

You can track my progress on our website www.calgary-elbow.ca.

This is an important issue for the future of our province and I want to hear from you. You can contact me through my website or get in touch at Calgary.Elbow@assembly.ab.ca or (403) 252-0346.



MP CALGARY CENTRE HON. KENT HEHR

950 6 Ave SW
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Fort McMurray

Last month, the nation looked on as wildfires raged throughout northern Alberta. As events continued to unfold, we watched the city of Fort McMurray declared a state of emergency and evacuate all residents. Our hearts went out to the community as they left entire lives behind at a moment's notice, and touching stories of loss and heroism trickled in through media reports.

Our government was quick to respond to the crisis. We assured Albertans in the very early days that we would stand with them during this difficult time, and would support their efforts to rebuild. I was in the airport heading back to Alberta when I received the call from the Prime Minister asking me to chair the federal government's Ad Hoc Committee on Northern Alberta Wildfires. My cabinet colleagues and I will coordinate across departments and take a whole of government approach to recovery and rebuilding efforts in the weeks and months ahead.

Since convening this committee, we have met to discuss strategy, resources and the coordination at all levels of government to assist our friends, families, and neighbours to the north. We committed air support, military, and have matched the generous donations of Canadians to the Red Cross.

For years Alberta has carried the Canadian economy. Now it's time for us to give back: we will assist during this acutely difficult period, and we understand that rebuilding Fort McMurray and northern Alberta will take years. The federal government will continue to play a role.

Already through federal leadership and the cooperation of other jurisdictions, we have brought in relief for Alberta's incredible first responders. Further to this, four water bombers from Quebec, three Ontario firefighting teams, 3,000 cots, blankets, generators, and living supplies were also brought in through federal agencies. Additionally, we deployed federal resources to restore communication networks, and the Canadian Space Agency to track the wildfires.

This is in addition to the hundreds of millions that will be sent to the province through the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements program.

As always, you can contact my office by email at kent.hehr@parl.gc.ca or by phone at 403.244.1880. My office is located at 950 6 Ave SW and my door is always open to you. You can follow my work in Parliament online at www.KentHehrMP.ca where you can watch clips of yours truly in question period and sign up for my e-newsletter.



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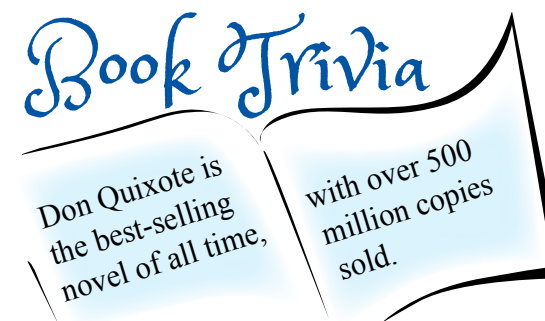
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Summer is here! I love Calgary at this time of year. It's a great chance to get outside and connect with old friends, enjoy new restaurants and patios, float down the river or just enjoy all our great city has to offer in the warmer months.

If you're looking for things to do with the family or with friends visiting from out of town, The City of Calgary offers numerous fun, free and community-based programs and services for children, youth and families all over Calgary each summer. Some of these programs include Ralph Klein Park's free nature programs, Park n' Play, Stay n' Play, Kids at Play Summer Club, Community Camps, Youth Days, and Lawn Chair Theatre. You can visit calgary.ca/cns to check out what's happening in your area.

If you're planning on taking advantage of the great weather to do yard improvements make sure that before you buy materials and start getting your hands dirty, you save yourself a headache and visit Calgary.ca/homeimprovement or get in touch with the City (403-268-5311) to check what work requires a permit.

I plan to be out in the neighbourhoods this summer, stopping in at Stampede breakfasts and barbecues, and a number of other community events. I look forward to seeing you all there. In the meantime, take some time off, connect with your friends and family, try something new, and enjoy the summer!



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