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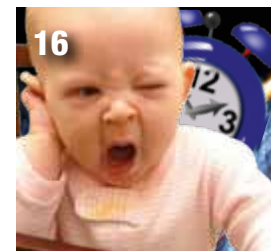
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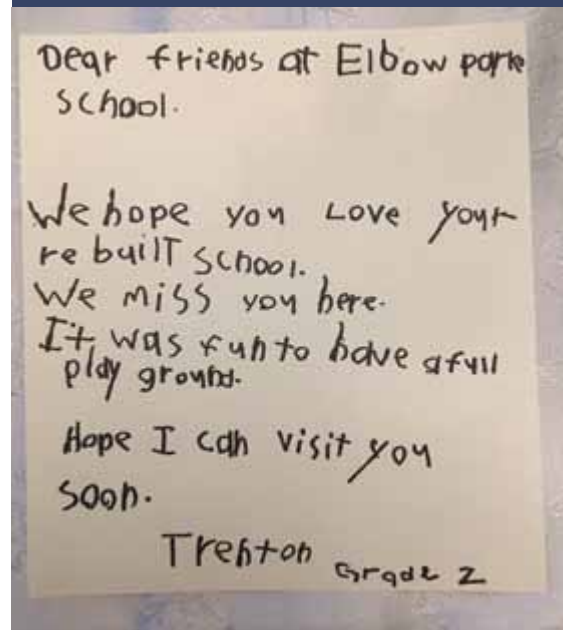
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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS	911
Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre	403-253-5250
Alberta Health Care	403-310-0000
AHS Addictions Hotline	1-866-332-2322
ATCO Gas – 24 Hour Emergency	403-245-7222
Calgary HEALTH LINK 24/7	811
Calgary Police – Non Emergency	403-266-1234
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter	403-234-7233
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-387-5437
Kids Help Line	1-800-668-6868
Child Safe Canada	403-202-5900
Distress/Crisis Line	403-266-4357
ENMAX – Power Trouble	403-514-6100
Poison Centre - Alberta	1-800-332-1414
HOSPITALS / URGENT CARE	
Alberta Children's Hospital	403-955-7211
Foothills Hospital	403-944-1110
Peter Lougheed Centre	403-943-4555
Rockyview General Hospital	403-943-3000
Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre	403-955-6200
South Calgary Urgent Care Health Centre	403-943-9300
South Health Campus	403-956-1111
OTHER	
Calgary Humane Society	403-205-4455
Calgary Parking Authority	403-537-7000
SeniorConnect	403-266-6200
Calgary Kerby Elder Abuse Line	403-705-3250
Alberta One-Call Corporation	1-800-242-3447
City of Calgary	311
Social Service Info & Referral	211
Community Mediation Calgary Society	403-269-2707
RNR Lockworks Ltd.	403-479-6161
Road Conditions – Calgary	511
Weather Information	
Gamblers Anonymous	403-237-0654

Elbow Park School Bids Farewell to its Earl Grey Hosts!



MRCA Newsletter: Submissions Needed!!!



Do you have some time to write an article for the MRCA?

We are always looking for submissions!

Email article, recipes, anecdotes or neighbourhood pictures to: newsletter@mountroyalstation.ca



Not receiving MRCA emails and would like to?

Send an email to membership@mountroyalstation.ca and we will add you to our email distribution list



Join us for the MRCA
Couples Wine Night
Tuesday, April 4, 2017
7:30p.m.
at MRCA Station
2317 – 10th Street SW

Enjoy an evening of flavours and fun with your Mount Royal neighbours. The night will feature a selection of Vine Arts wines for tasting paired with charcuterie compliments of MARKET restaurant.

Door tickets \$20/person with MRCA membership. Membership available for purchase at event or online at:
www.mountroyalstation.ca



Volunteers Needed.
 Please email
events@mountroyalstation.ca
 to volunteer. Thank You.



BOBCATS IN MOUNT ROYAL

Photo via aep.alberta.ca

Bobcats have been sighted in Mount Royal. This information was found on the Alberta Environment and Parks Website, aep.alberta.ca.

Are bobcats a threat to me or my pets?

It is extremely unlikely that a bobcat will attack a human. Bobcats are opportunistic hunters. If bobcats are known to be in the area, keep cats indoors and supervise small dogs when they are in the yard, as they may be vulnerable.

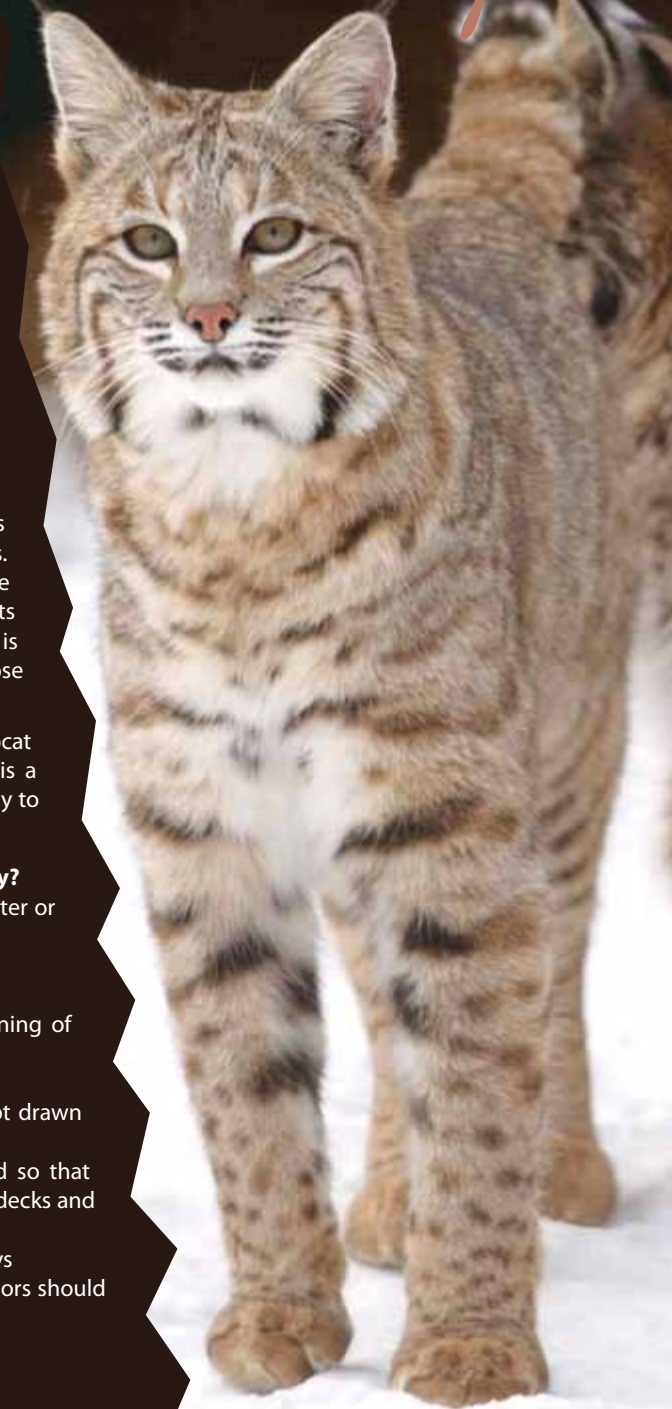
What can I do about a bobcat on my property?

Be sure that the bobcat has not made a den for kittens somewhere on your property. Bobcat kittens are usually born April to June and they stay with their mother for up to a year. Look for open spaces under decks, outbuildings or in trees, shrubs or piles of debris for den locations. If there are no kittens, be sure the bobcat has an escape route – open gates on your property and do not block its exit. The bobcat will leave in its own time. If the bobcat is reluctant to leave, consider spraying it with a garden hose until it does leave.

Fish and Wildlife offices receive many reports of bobcat sightings each year. Officers will respond when there is a threat to public safety. In some cases, it may be necessary to contact local wildlife damage control companies.

How do I prevent bobcats from coming to my property?

- To prevent conflict with bobcats, remove the food, shelter or water that may attract them to your property:
- Do not feed wildlife
- Keep your garbage in containers with tight-fitting lids
- Put your garbage and recycling out only on the morning of collection, not earlier
- Do not leave pet food outdoors
- Remove bird feeders and bird baths so bobcats are not drawn into your yard to prey on the birds
- Trees, shrubs and even grass should be kept trimmed so that there is no shelter for bobcats to hide in. Spaces under decks and outbuildings should be closed off for the same reason
- Add motion detector lighting to walkways and driveways
- Dogs, rabbits, chickens or other animals that live outdoors should be kept in a secure enclosure with a strong roof




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by Elizabeth Walsh, Licensed Property Manager
Real Estate Council of Alberta

Evolving Condominium Management

Condominium management is about to undergo a change in the near future as new regulations come into place requiring specific licensing and training, but is your Board or Property Manager forward focused? Are they evolving with these changes? These new regulations of mandatory licensing, the implementation of

educational standards and the development of new higher educational opportunities, the Condominium Management profession is coming of age.

Those companies currently managing condominium properties will need to reach these higher professional standards and become compliant with mandatory licensing requirements, in order to provide best service within the condominium industry, for condominium homeowners, board members and their tenants.

Condominium owners and board members need relevant, practical and timely advice so it's important your Property Manager has a strategy to embrace these upcoming changes. Seek partnerships with a property management firm that provides the knowledge you will need to successfully transition through the change. Follow the Property Manager who embraces and incorporates change strategies into a property management plan that launches your condominium and its board forward.

The New Year is already underway! Get started by asking your condo board members and Property Manager what their forward-focused plan has in store for 2017!

Every **Wednesday** during the School Year!

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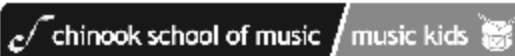
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FREQUENTLY ASKED MEMBERSHIP AND TENNIS QUESTIONS

What type of membership should we purchase if we are a couple with no children living at the same address, should we purchase two single memberships?

No, more than one person living at the same address should purchase a family membership (\$45).

If one person is a senior and one person is not, should we purchase a senior membership and a single membership?

No, this is considered a family membership until both people are seniors (over 65).

We are both seniors living at the same address should we purchase two senior memberships?

No, a couple where both are seniors should purchase one senior membership (\$20).

I purchased a tennis key last year, do I need another one this year?

Yes, new keys are issued each year and the fee is \$15 per year.

How do I get my tennis key?

In the spring you will receive an email telling you where to pick up your key.

Do I need to book a tennis court?

No, booking is not required and the rules are posted on the fence.

Your Mount Royal Community Membership



What's it all about?

We live in a beautiful community and a team of dedicated volunteer board members are happy to work on your behalf to make Mount Royal a great place to live. We would encourage you to show your support by becoming a member of our community association. Membership offers terrific value; being able to attend **fun events**, the use of **MRCA facilities**, **keeping residents informed** and enabling you to **support your community**.

- skating party • summer BBQ • wine & cheese party • annual dinner party
- skating rink • tennis courts • playground • clubhouse rental • children's playgroup
- graffiti removal • historic appreciation • beautification • crime and safety • traffic
- community development • newsletters

It's easy to join!

- Go to www.mountroyalstation.ca and sign up or
- Complete this form and drop it off with a cheque (made payable to Mount Royal Community Association) in the Station House mailbox (2317 10 Street SW, T2T 3G7)

Mount Royal Community Association Membership Effective January 1 - December 31, 2017

Family Name: _____ First Name: _____

Email: _____

(Note: used only by the Mount Royal Community Association to send you occasional emails about community issues and events)

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

<input type="checkbox"/>	MRCA Family Membership	\$45	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seniors Membership (Over 65 - single senior or couple where both are seniors)	\$20	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Membership (Individual membership only, couple pay Family Membership)	\$20	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Membership Non-Resident	\$90	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tennis Key - Annual Fee (members only, non-refundable)	\$15	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple Year Membership (state the number of years you would like to pay for including 2017)		\$ _____ <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Donation to the Community (tax receipt <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No)		\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interested in Volunteering? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		\$ _____
	TOTAL		\$ _____

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The hunt begins in the barn while listening to the Legend of the Easter Bunny, once you hear what the Easter Bunny needs each of the children to do, it's off with your baskets to do his bidding and find your goodies. Butterfield Acres boasts a real farm atmosphere and petting zoo that Calgarians have enjoyed for many years. Highly recommended for children 6 and under. Book in advance. More info: www.butterfieldacres.com



APRIL 8-9, 2017 KITTIES N' BLOOMS CAT SHOW – SHOULDICE ARENA

The 2017 Kitties 'N Blooms annual cat show will be presented by the Calgary Cat Association again this year. From rex to Persian there are cats of every fancy at this show. Judges from around the continent show off the entrants and award ribbons for various categories. Vendors will also be in attendance to sell various cat paraphernalia. More info: www.calgarycatshow.com



APRIL 23, CALGARY JAZZ ORCHESTRA PRESENTS THE MUSIC OF BENNY GOODMAN & SUITE JUBILATION CD RELEASE – RIVER PARK CHURCH

The Calgary Jazz Orchestra, Johnny Summers, and the NWSC are back to bring you Suite Jubilation; a remarkable 11-movement suite composed for full jazz orchestra and choir by Johnny Summers. This popular Canadian composition sparked a recording project to share this music with everyone. Adults \$30 door/\$25 advance, Students \$20 door/\$15 advance. More info: www.calgaryjazzorchestra.com



APRIL APRIL APRIL APRIL

YOUR COMMUNITY/CITY EVENTS AT A GLANCE...

◆April 1, MAKEFASHION 5.0 - Telus Spark Science Centre

MakeFashion is a world renowned fashion-tech show featuring designs debuted by international wearable technology designers from across the globe. From animated ties that display the wearer's favourite patterns, to dresses that read brainwaves and playback dreams, MakeFashion designers are inspired by fashion with high-tech functionality. More info: www.sparkscience.ca

◆April 7-9, Make it! The Handmade Revolution (craft show)

– **Big Four Building.** Since 2008, Make It has grown to become one of the most popular and well-attended craft fairs in Canada. Each year, more and more conscious shoppers buy from our "Makies," which in turn allows them to do the work they love. The event will feature over 175 "Makies," food trucks, a charitable silent auction, live music and a beer gardens. More info: www.makeitshow.ca

◆April 17-23, Calgary Underground Film Festival – various venues.

Founded in 2003, CUFF is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to programming films that defy convention. Actively looking to showcase titles in all genres, from horror, sci-fi and fantasy to comedies, thrillers and music-related films; you never know what you will encounter at CUFF and that's half the fun. More info: www.calgaryundergroundfilm.org

◆April 18-May 7, Calgary Performing Arts Festival (formerly Kiwanis Festival) – Mount Royal University

In 1931, a small group of eager musicians decided to take their love of music to the next level by creating the Calgary Music Festival and today, as CPAF, it is one of the largest amateur competitive festivals in North America. Featuring piano, string, vocal, musical theatre and much more, this festival has a gem for everyone. More info: www.cpafestival.ca

◆April 20, LOVE HER presented by Ovarian Cancer Canada – Hotel Arts.

LOVE HER is back, bigger than ever and celebrating with an evening of fashion, comedy, cocktails, music and exciting live and silent auctions. Founded in 1997, Ovarian Cancer Canada supports women and their families living with the disease by raising awareness among the general public and health care professionals. More info: www.ovariancanada.org

◆April 21-22, The 2017 Dairy Classic Championship Show – Stampede Grounds

This dairy cattle show is held in the Agriculture Barns and is offering the Youth Judging Clinic in addition to the breed shows once again this year; the Jersey Show on Friday, April 21, 2017 and the Holstein Show on Saturday, April 22, 2017. Admission for all of the events is complimentary. More info: www.ag.calgarystampede.com

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Is Our Investment in Daylight a Rip-off?

by Vanessa Gillard

Daylight saving time is a bit of a contentious topic in some circles. It is always a bit of a pain to reset the stove or coffee maker and if you have kids it's a new bedtime routine struggle all over again, twice a year. Likely no one has avoided a schedule mix-up or a tardy appearance due to this bi-annual occurrence, but the advent of the smart phone and other smart home technologies, which change the hour difference automatically, has perhaps alleviated many of those spring and autumn woes for the most part.

On its face the purpose of daylight saving time (DST) is to give us more light and time in the day to get things done; human beings tend to operate better during daylight hours and certainly many appreciate the opportunity to take in a little more vitamin D, particularly during our long Canadian winters. But the origins of DST are actually a little more pragmatic than simply avoiding seasonal affective disorder.

Benjamin Franklin first suggested the concept in 1748 and found it was met with little enthusiasm at the time, but a couple hundred years later, during WWI, the con-

cept was popularized among Germans to save precious coal during that age of austerity. The concept quickly caught on and made it to some Canadian cities as early as 1916, though there has never been a consensus on whether the practice is useful or not, and Saskatchewan has never been on board.

The ever-efficient Germans introduced DST to reduce fuel cost. The gain or loss, respectively, of that hour was intended to lower use of artificial lighting and heating in the evening, but it's debatable how much was saved, as more was often needed in the morning anyway. A little over a century later the reports of heart attacks, road related accidents, and even spikes in suicide rates following DST have not made much of an argument for the century-old tradition, and the amount of light many Canadians see the next day can be negligible.

It would seem there is little in the way of reason to explain this circadian rhythm disruptor to the average person in 2017, but most Canadians will dutifully set their clocks forward on March 12th this month, like it or not.

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Helping Your Child, but Letting Them Lead

It can take some time for many young children to get into the routine of using a toilet.

By Doug N Horner, Alberta Health Services

Making the switcheroo from diapers to the toilet is a big, albeit sometimes messy, milestone for children and parents alike. For toddlers, learning to use a toilet is about being ready, controlling muscles and getting acquainted with an enormous porcelain artifact that makes loud and unpredictable gurgling noises. The toilet can appear to children as a powerful, portal-like device—many fear getting flushed into oblivion.

As toddlers are learning to exercise control, parents wrestle with a lack of control. Petra Debow, a parent educator with the Family Centre in Lethbridge, suggests that patience sets the foundation for a potty-positive experience.

“Most children learn to use the toilet between the ages of two and three,” says Debow, adding that every child learns at their own pace. Wait for your child to be curious about the toilet and to be aware they’re peeing or pooping.

Catherine Young—a nurse and mother expecting her third child in February—says her first two children’s education in toileting began only “when they had an interest in it and they seemed ready.” Toddlers will also express discomfort at having a soiled diaper. In many respects, the bathroom becomes a realm where the child takes the lead.

Attentiveness is crucial for parents. Watch for clues that your child needs to go, such as stopping what they are doing, fidgeting or saying: “Oh, oh.” But parents also need to feel prepared. Debow recommends setting aside time. If you have relatives visiting, a big deadline at work or are in the middle of a kitchen renovation, you may want to wait. There’s no need to rush.

“Prepare yourself mentally and put all the other things aside for a couple of weeks until it’s dealt with,” Debow says.


Plan to help your child with this developmental leap when you can be enthusiastic and supportive about the trek from diaper to toilet.

Young says she also borrowed several books from her local library—she recommends *Once Upon a Potty* by Alona

Frankel in particular—after her kids showed interest in the toilet. She and her husband also made the bathroom more familiar and less intimidating.

It can take some time for many young children to get into the routine of using a toilet, explains Debow. And staying dry at night often takes longer.

If you and your child try toileting for two weeks and make little progress or your child is resisting, Debow suggests a break. “You don’t want to push it so it turns into a negative thing.”



Calling All Neighbours!

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



Explore nonfiction books with your child and discover . . . anything and everything!

Children love to read about real people, places, and events. Nonfiction books present real information in engaging and interesting ways. However, most children read a lot more fiction than nonfiction, so spend some extra time helping your reader learn how to navigate a nonfiction book.

Nonfiction books do not have to be read from cover to cover. Readers can use the table of contents and index to jump right to the information they are most interested in.

As natural learners, young readers are drawn to books that give information about something or explain something they’ve always wondered about. With a little help and guidance about ‘how-to’ read nonfiction, you can feel good about introducing your child to a new world of information and great new vocabulary words.

Explore these nonfiction books or ask your school or public librarian for other suggestions:

First Human Body Encyclopedia by DK Publishing

This beginner’s encyclopedia shows what’s inside the human body and how things fit and work together — through fascinating facts and close-up photographs. (Age 6 and up)

Frogs by Nic Bishop

Stunning color photographs of frogs as well interesting and quirky facts show how these beautiful, creatures survive in the wild. (Age 4-8)

Our Solar System by Seymour Simon

This beginner’s guide to our solar system is filled with facts, engaging text, diagrams and charts, maps, and remarkable photographs. (Age 6-9)

With thanks to Reading Rockets

*Calgary Reads helps children learn to read with confidence and joy. Help further our work by supporting our annual fundraiser, the **CBC Calgary Reads Big Book Sale** happening **May 12-14, 2017 at the Calgary Curling Club**. Please donate used books for our sale starting Monday April 17 to Friday April 28 at the Calgary Food Bank and Tuesday May 2 to Sunday May 7 at the Calgary Curling Club. For full details of where and when and what we can accept, visit: calgaryreads.com*

How to turn your passion into a business during retirement

Suzanne Smith-Demers – Consultant

Did you know that Colonel Sanders didn’t create the Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise until he was 65? If you have a passion that you’d like to turn into a business during retirement here’s what you need to know:

Your passion becomes your product If you’re ready to turn your passion into a retirement career be aware that you may come to look at your passion differently, especially when things may not be going too well. The keys are to be honest with yourself about the potential for your business and to work equally hard at staying motivated.

Know the risks and challenges Your business idea is brilliant, but it is also risky – so protect your retirement savings by keeping your start-up costs to a minimum and avoiding heavy debt. Avoid leasing office space or hiring employees until you absolutely have to.

Test the market If your new venture includes a new or different product or service; test the market before you make any rash decisions. Start with the most basic version of your product or service and sell it economically, perhaps online through social media sites, and gauge customer feedback to decide if your business venture makes financial sense.

Keep it simple Finance your business with money you can afford to lose. If you find yourself tempted to tap into your retirement account to fund your business, take it as a warning that you’re probably about to get into something you’re not financially prepared for.

Creating a retirement business from your passion could end up being the most satisfying and rewarding life decision you have ever made. Make sure you have all the information before you take the first step into your new career.



GLOBAL WARMING: AT HOME ON THE LOWER ELBOW RIVER

This past November I spent a sobering week at the Churchill Northern Studies Centre observing hungry polar bears languishing in the kelp beds on the shores of Hudson Bay, waiting for freeze up of the ice so they could hunt seals. This majestic species is at risk because the number of months that the bears can feed each year is shrinking as fast as the polar ice caps.

So what does this have to do with the Elbow River? For one, the Elbow River, its source the receding Rae Glacier to our west, is connected to Hudson Bay through a series of converging rivers that cross the prairies and eventually empty in to Hudson Bay.

It got me thinking...is the Elbow River in Calgary warming too? Why doesn't it freeze over anymore, like it did a century ago? What effect will warming have on the biodiversity of our river and its valley?

Digging around, I found some interesting data on Alberta Climate Records from the University of Lethbridge that show trends in winter climate (Dec 22-Mar 20) from 1950-2010. Winter warming trends for Calgary are considerable and eclipse summer warming. Overall, the average winter temperature is up 4.9oC from 1950 to just -4.4oC in 2010. By the end of the last decade, there were only 15.2 extremely cold days (-20oC or colder) in an average winter, less than half of those experienced in the 1950s. That's not a lot of freezing time for the river.

This warming trend has no sign of letting up, with the media reporting that globally, 2016 was the warmest on record for the third straight year.

Despite the prolonged cold snap in early January, freezing on the lower Elbow was patchy, where temperatures rise with the controlled release of water from the Glenmore

Dam and the flow from storm drains into the river. The Elbow River Watershed Partnership observed that the river, upstream from the Glenmore dam, was also flowing through January, with parts covered in ice, but not completely. Overall, the Elbow is flowing higher than average this winter, likely due to the large amount of rain received this past summer. More water flowing faster means it's not as quick to freeze. Dr Stefan Kienzle, the U of L project lead added that groundwater temperature is typically the same as the average annual air temperature, so we may be seeing a warming of groundwater. As most streamflow in the winter is baseflow (groundwater outflow), one can expect that some streams won't freeze as much as they used to.

Most of the research into the effects of climate change on biodiversity relate to extreme weather events, like flooding, drought or rapid changes in weather patterns. The gradual effects of warming on fragile riverine ecosystems are not well researched and monitoring is required. Will it mean more migratory birds stick around because of the open water? Will invasive weeds, destructive insects or pathogens take off? How will amphibians and aquatic species be affected? And back to Hudson Bay...will the polar bears be able to adapt?

Sources

Alberta Climate Records abrecords.cfapps.io

The Elbow River Watershed Partnership erwp.org

calgary.ca search Calgary Biodiversity

The Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute abmi.ca

With special thanks to Gus Yaki and Nature Calgary

Historic Photo Credit: NA1635-2Glenbow c 1913-4

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](https://www.facebook.com/S2Gplus)



The Gray Partridge

Article by J.G. Turner

Photo by Daniel Arndt (no changes made from <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ubermoog/18050433104/>)

The Gray Partridge, also known as the Hungarian Partridge, was introduced into Alberta when 70 pairs were imported from Hungary and released in 1908 near Midnapore. The smallest of Alberta's game birds, the Hungarian Partridge has an average length of 12 in./32 cm, a wingspan of 21 in./54.5 cm wingspan, and a weight of 15.6 oz./435 grams. Its neck and tail are short, its body is stout and its wings are short and rounded. This bird lives up to its name with grey legs and a grey bill as well as a dark u-shaped patch on its belly, a rusty face and chestnut bards on its flanks. This game bird is the only partridge whose breast is decorated with fine wavy lines (vermiculated) of black, white and brown. A reddish brown tail and unmarked, chestnut outer wing feathers can be seen in flight.

Fun Facts:

- Originally found in Europe and Asia, this game bird was brought to live on flat agricultural land in southern British Columbia, south central Saskatchewan and Alberta.

- The Gray Partridge lives in grassland and parkland regions of Alberta but there is also a separated population in the Peace River area.
 - Its habitat is open grassland, farmland and grain fields, which have an adjacent area of woody cover for hiding in. It prefers to live on the border between scrubland and areas of cultivation.
 - Although this bird can fly, it prefers to spend most of its time on the ground foraging for seeds.
 - The Hungarian Partridge is a ground nesting bird, creating a grass lined nest hollow in long grass or under a bush.
 - The hen produces some of the largest clutches of any bird species, averaging 16-18 and can lay up to 22 eggs at one time!
 - Prior to courting, males engage in prolonged battles to establish breeding territories.
 - When it is flushed, it explodes from cover with a clatter of wings and rapid cackle, taking a low and fast flight path to new cover.
- If you find an injured or orphaned Gray Partridge or other wild bird or animal, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society 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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Managing space for our students

When the provincial government announced several years ago that they would be building more than 20 new CBE schools in Calgary, we were very pleased. Many of our existing schools were operating at or beyond capacity, and we simply needed more learning space for students.

With 15 of those new schools opening in the 2016-17 school year, we knew thousands of students would be able to attend school in their own communities, and that many of our existing schools would be impacted.

A year ago, we started planning how we could make the best use of student learning space across our system. We connected with employees, parents and community members to gather feedback on possibilities for use of available school space. Feedback was gathered through meetings, open houses and an online survey. What we heard helped us develop possible scenarios for impacted schools in several areas of our city.

Students, parents and community members came out to numerous meetings in the fall to provide input on the scenarios. Many more responded to a second online survey. That input, along with our planning principles and student accommodation regulations, shaped the proposed plans that were made available to communities last month.

While we have always strived to involve students, staff, parents and community members in decisions that affect them, this past year has seen an unprecedented level of involvement with our communities. The plans presented at open houses and on our website in January reflect what was most important to our students, staff, parents and communities overall, and demonstrate what we can achieve when we work together in the best interests of students.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed time and effort over the past year to help us plan how to best use our schools for the benefit of our students. Your voices matter, and contribute significantly to the choices we make.

We've heard positive feedback about the process and know that we have difficult choices to make. Please visit cbe.ab.ca/dialogue to keep up to date on current community engagement projects and learn more about how you can share your perspectives with us.

You can contact the Board of Trustees at boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca.

Follow the Calgary Board of Education on Twitter @yycbedu.

Mount Royal



Last 12 Months Mount Royal MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
January 2017	\$2,367,500	\$2,225,000
December 2016	\$3,433,000	\$3,200,000
November 2016	\$1,650,000	\$1,650,000
October 2016	\$599,000	\$596,550
September 2016	\$2,074,450	\$1,962,500
August 2016	\$0	\$0
July 2016	\$932,450	\$939,987
June 2016	\$1,599,000	\$1,575,000
May 2016	\$1,595,000	\$1,515,000
April 2016	\$864,450	\$832,500
March 2016	\$1,497,000	\$1,340,000
February 2016	\$1,299,900	\$1,160,500

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

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
January 2017	6	2
December 2016	3	5
November 2016	4	3
October 2016	3	3
September 2016	7	4
August 2016	3	0
July 2016	4	2
June 2016	7	3
May 2016	3	3
April 2016	2	2
March 2016	4	1
February 2016	3	1

To view more detailed information that comprise the above MLS averages please visit mount_royal.great-news.ca



Hamsters, Gerbils, and (the best) Guinea Pigs!

Small rodent-sized pets, otherwise affectionately known as pocket pets, include mice, rats, gerbils, hamsters and Guinea pigs. These little animals are not expensive to maintain and can be an entertaining pet, especially if space is limited. The basic requirements of most pocket pet species are similar and the life expectancy for most species is in the two to four year range; except for the Guinea pig which has a life expectancy of eight years.

Pocket pets should be kept in cages specially designed for their needs or aquariums with a good wire top. Openings in the wire should be small enough to prevent escape and not too large to allow a foot to be caught or twisted. Surfaces should be metal, smooth plastic or glass to allow proper cleaning. Cleaning should be done weekly with tunnels and small corners scrubbed with a bottlebrush. Chlorhexidine based cleaners are best. Many products make good bedding but avoid cedar shavings which can cause respiratory and skin problems, and never use straw.

Feed a commercial diet appropriate for your pet. Buy in small quantities and store food in sealed dark containers to ensure freshness, and that vitamin content is not diminished by exposure to light and air. Small amounts of fresh fruits and vegetables should be provided daily. Avoid abrupt changes in diet. Avoid iceberg lettuce, fruits with pits; and outdoor grasses or dandelions possibly exposed to chemicals. Clean food dishes daily and use dishes that cannot be tipped. Use an inverted water bottle and change the water daily. Monitor your pet's stools and urine for amount or change in appearance. This could be your first clue if a problem is developing.

Exercise is important, especially to Guinea pigs. Buy the largest cage you can and add the appropriate sized

wheel for hamsters and gerbils. Exercise balls are fun but can be dangerous; I once saw a Guinea pig left in a ball in direct sunlight dead of hyperthermia. Gentle handling allows you to monitor your pet for illness and reduces stress as your pet becomes comfortable with you.

A nest box is nice so long as condensation doesn't form inside and appropriate bedding allows air circulation. Toys make a more stimulating environment. Paper towel rolls, wooden spools, and most commercial products are great.

A hamster is probably the favorite pocket pet of the pet industry but it is a solitary territorial creature. Only get one! Guinea pigs, my personal favorite, need a much larger cage but it can be uncovered. Pigs can't climb, and they are social animals, so get two and you can have them spayed or neutered. Guinea pigs are prone to scurvy, a vitamin C deficiency, and they must be given a daily source of fresh fruit and vegetables. Guinea pigs need fresh hay, preferably Timothy hay, to aid digestion. I really like rats and they make wonderful smart pets. I had pet white rats at university, but unfortunately, it is illegal to own a pet rat in Alberta.

Obviously there is a bit to learn if you get one of these "pets in your pocket" so buy a book or get on the internet and learn about your prospective choices before purchasing. Our local Calgary Humane Society has pocket pets for adoption. Many veterinarians now treat these small exotic pets routinely as our knowledge of their care has increased exponentially in recent years.

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



Saint Patrick

Saint Patrick (Latin: *Patricius*; Irish: *Pádraig*) was a fifth-century Romeo-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. Known as the “Apostle of Ireland”, he is the primary patron saint of Ireland, along with saints Brigit of Kildare and Columba. He is also venerated in the Anglican Communion, the Old Catholic Church and in the Eastern Orthodox Church as equal-to-apostles and the Enlightener of Ireland.

The dates of Patrick’s life cannot be fixed with certainty but there is broad agreement that he was active as a missionary in Ireland during the second half of the fifth century. Early medieval tradition credits him with being the first bishop of Armagh and Primate of Ireland, and they regard him as the founder of Christianity in Ireland, converting a society practising a form of Celtic polytheism. He has been generally so regarded ever since, despite evidence of some earlier Christian presence in Ireland.

According to the *Confessio* of Patrick, when he was about 16, he was captured by Irish pirates from his home in Great Britain, and taken as a slave to Ireland, looking after animals, where he lived for six years before escaping and returning to his family. After becoming a cleric, he returned to northern and western Ireland. In later life, he served as a bishop, but little is known about the places where he worked. By the seventh century, he had already come to be revered as the patron saint of Ireland.

Saint Patrick’s Day is observed on 17 March, the supposed date of his death. It is celebrated inside and outside Ireland as a religious and cultural holiday. In the dioceses of Ireland, it is both a solemnity and a holy day of obligation; it is also a celebration of Ireland itself.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Patrick



“If one cannot enjoy reading a book over and over again, there is no use in reading it at all.”

- Oscar Wilde

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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8		3			4	2		

FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 28

CCSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

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

Our Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD) Board of Trustees, along with our senior administration, have identified four key priorities for the 2016-2017 school year: Faith Formation, Academic Excellence, Student Wellness and Success for our First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students.

We recognize the provincial direction around eliminating the achievement gap for our FNMI students and our district has worked in an authentic partnership with our broader community, and in particular, with our Elders and Indigenous communities, to create learning opportunities that are responsive to this mandate.

While we are inspired by the success of all of our students across the district, the success that our FNMI students have seen in many facets of their education is exciting. In reviewing our Accountability Pillar data, we celebrate the fact that our FNMI students exceed the provincial average relative to diploma success, high school completion, Rutherford Scholarship eligibility and transition to post-secondary education.

Our FNMI team has crafted strategies that create opportunities for success not only for our FNMI students, but for our student community as a whole. The creation of resources for students on treaties and the residential school experience, the creation and expansion of Aboriginal Studies programming throughout all of our high schools, liaising with post-secondary institutions and assisting with scholarship applications has all facilitated success. By their efforts in also creating relevant professional development opportunities for staff, our FNMI team has been integral to the creation of positive learning outcomes throughout our district. We are deeply appreciative of their work.

The authentic involvement of, and collaboration with, our broader Indigenous communities have also been pivotal to the success of our students. In November 2016, the Alberta School Boards Association recognized this work and awarded CCSD the Premier’s Award for School Board Innovation and Excellence, which awards school boards for their role in launching innovative programs and initiatives that enhance student achievement. While we are pleased to have been recognized for our work through this award; we are even more proud of our students and staff who have made this possible.



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CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Bill’s Book Café with David Ward

Take in *Bill’s Book Café* with Library CEO Bill Ptacek and CKUA’s David Ward. It’s guaranteed to be a lively discussion of *Chronicles: Volume One* by Bob Dylan. Memorial Park Library March 21 | 7:00 pm

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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

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Off the Menu
The tall chef's hat is called a toque



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Budget 2017

Budget 2017 (budget.gc.ca) is about investing in the middle class and working towards a more innovative economy. By directly investing in Canadians and families we are putting our country in better stead with firmer foot forward into the future.

At the tail end of 2016 our government approved two major pipelines after consulting with Canadians, building up an environmental consensus with the carbon price, and creating the balance between the environment and industry. By doing this work we are building the framework to create long term prosperity of Alberta and all of Canada.

On the subject of building up long term prosperity for our country - my colleague in cabinet and fellow Alberta Liberal Member of Parliament, Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi, is continuing his work to invest in projects like the Green Line LRT, flood mitigation projects, and more for our city. Since the 2015 election our government has invested some \$3 billion into Albertan infrastructure: more than the last five years of the previous government combined. This work continues in Budget 2017.

Looking back at Budget 2016 we went forward with three of our main platform planks. First amongst them was the Canada Child Benefit which gave simpler, tax-free, and more generous and better targeted help to families. 9 out of 10 Canadian families benefit from higher payments under our newly implemented system - and is now on the way to lifting hundreds of thousands of children out of poverty.

Our second commitment was a middle class tax cut. As one of our first acts as a government was to cut taxes for nearly 9 million Canadians by reducing the second personal income tax rate, and delivering tax relief to Albertans.

Thirdly - we created a \$2.7 billion reform package of Employment Insurance to support Albertans and Canadians during the commodity price downturn. By reducing wait-times (from two weeks to one week), and specifically work with Albertans on accessing more benefits, these changes would support those impacted by the decrease in oil prices. Some of these benefits we extended up to 50 weeks for hurting Albertans, with long-tenured workers able to receive an additional 20 weeks up to a maximum of 70 weeks. Further to this - we doubled the maximum of the work-sharing agreements to 76 weeks.

Budget 2017 is a continuation of our work as a government. It is actively seized with supporting the middle class and working towards a better future for all. For more details please visit our website at budget.gc.ca.

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 and sign up for my e-newsletter at www.KentHehrMP.ca.

Mount Royal
mybabysitterlist

Name	Age	Contact	Course
Grace	13	587-435-6783	Yes
Avery	15	403-891-8149	Yes
Peyton	15	403-607-6025	Yes
Chanel	17	403-971-1258	Yes
Connie	17	403-862-2081	No
Luka	17	403-688-0964	No
Nathalie	20	403-681-8432	Yes
Kate	25	403-593-9466	Yes
Marisa	26	289-922-8544	Yes

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**MLA Calgary-Elbow
Greg Clark**
Leader - Alberta Party
(403) 252-0346
calgary.elbow@assembly.ab.ca
Twitter: @GregClark4AB

Jobs and the Economy

I am cautiously optimistic that the Calgary economy has started to rebound after experiencing the highest unemployment rate in over 22 years. While there are tentative signs of growth, we all have friends, family and neighbours who are still coping with unemployment. Last October, I held a career event featuring speakers presenting interview and resume skills, transitioning talents to a new career, and tips for starting a new business. The feedback was amazing and I was thrilled to hear success stories as a result of the session.

I'm hosting a second event on March 4th from 10 am to noon. This event will focus on job search skills including "Transitioning your Resume from Career History to Impact and Accomplishment" and "5 Tips to Boost your Chances at Landing Interviews". I am very thankful that Joy Cohen, co-author of "Surviving the Downturn" and Richard Bucher from Right Management are volunteering their time to provide these sessions at no cost. If you are interested in attending, please visit: www.calgaryelbow.ca to register. Space is limited!

Spring Sitting of the Legislature and Budget 2017

As I write this newsletter I am preparing for the spring sitting of the Legislature. We know the government will release another deficit budget, the only question is how big that deficit will be. The Alberta Party Caucus will again be releasing our own shadow budget to show Albertans how we would address the challenges facing our province. Our budget will focus on job creation, creating an attractive investment climate and support for the energy industry while ensuring high-quality front line services are maintained. We'll also put forward a concrete plan to not only balance the budget, but to start paying down debt.

I am hosting an open house to discuss the 2017 Alberta Budget on April 8th from 10 am to noon. I invite you to attend and join the conversation. For more information please visit www.calgaryelbow.ca.

MLA for a Day

Mr. Speaker's MLA for a Day program gives Alberta high school students the chance to find out what it really means to be a Member of the Legislative Assembly. Participants learn more about the role of an MLA and experience firsthand what it's like to deal with diverse points of view when making decisions on provincial issues.

Last year I really enjoyed hosting a student from Calgary Elbow. If you are interested in joining me this year, you can find out more at <http://www.assembly.ab.ca/> or by contacting my office. The program is free to participants, including travel and accommodation expenses.

As always, I'd love to hear from you. You can contact me by email at calgary.elbow@assembly.ab.ca or by phone at 403-252-0346.

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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



**Councillor, Ward 8
Evan Woolley**
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5
Phone: 403-268-2430

Dollars and Sense

As we find ourselves settling into 2017, there's no denying that Calgary has experienced a dramatic shift. In less than two years, we've gone from the fastest growing city in North America, with a projected growth of 40,000 people per year, to experiencing a significant economic downturn with massive layoffs, a 40% downtown office vacancy and almost no growth. The ripple effects of this significant downturn have been felt by every industry and community in Calgary. My office and I have been hearing from concerned residents who have been asking important questions on subjects like taxes, infrastructure, spending and the economy. These conversations have led my office to propose business tax relief, continued investment in infrastructure for neighbourhoods that have been and continue to take on density and to host a summit on innovative solutions for our downtown office vacancies. While our city's economic landscape may have shifted, Calgarian's spirit for innovation, exploration and prosperity has always remained.

In January, as property assessments were mailed out, hundreds of businesses in Ward 8 found themselves saddled with a drastic increase in their property value. The drop in downtown office vacancy meant that the City saw a loss of nearly \$2 Billion in assessed value and that tax base had to then be dispersed to non-residential properties city-wide. Thankfully, as a result of my 2016 Business Tax Relief notice of motion Council and Administration were able to bring forth a successful \$45 Million Municipal Non-Residential Phased Tax Program (PTP) to help ease the burden. This means that nearly 6,000 businesses – many of which reside in The Beltline, will see their non-residential property taxes capped at an increase of 5%. To learn more or to see if you qualify, visit www.calgary.ca/assessment.

While the PTP is only valid for 2017, I'm working closely with the Chamber of Commerce and Calgary Economic Development to continue to explore ways to diversify our economy. In partnership with Councillor Druh Farrell, our Downtown Economic Summit in February

helped to illuminate new possibilities and opportunities for our downtown core. In terms of diversification, the City and Calgary Economic Development are actively seeking global businesses to establish head quarters in Calgary and to capitalize on the ever growing technology focused start-up industry.

I've always said and will continue to say to anyone who asks: Calgary is an incredible city to live in. Every month I'm blown away by community members volunteering their time to keep making their neighbourhoods even better, by the steady stream of new local businesses taking the leap and opening their doors and by a city filled with people who are here to support them. If you ever have any questions, concerns or ideas my office is here to help. You can reach us by email at ward08@calgary.ca or by phone at 403-268-2431.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline – 1st of each month for the next month's publication
Contact news@great-news.ca

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Calgary Performing Arts Festival seeks volunteers for the 2017 Festival, April 18 to May 6 at Mount Royal University. Positions are available mornings, afternoons, evenings and Saturdays. For more information contact Holly at 403-283-6009 or volunteer@cpafestival.ca.

LOVE TO SING? Want to experience the benefits of singing in a welcoming vocal community? Vocal Latitudes may be the choir for you. A non-audition World Music community choir, Vocal Latitudes meets Tuesday evenings from September to May in a convenient central location. For more information, see www.vocalatitudes.org.



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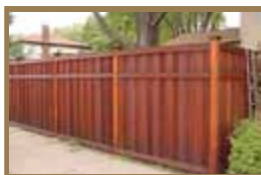


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3 Beds, 3.5 Baths. 3,450 sq. ft.

1520 Child Avenue \$1,250,000



EXCLUSIVE LISTING
3 Beds, 3 Full baths. 1,977 sq. ft.

3029 2 Street SW \$1,998,500



EXCLUSIVE LISTING
4 Beds, 2.5 baths. 3,998 sq. ft.

SOLD SOLD SOLD



SOLD! We brought the buyer!
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MLS# C4075311
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1118 Jamieson Avenue \$744,900



MLS# C4082423
4 Beds, 2 Full baths. 1,164 sq. ft.

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250 Regal Park \$374,900



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