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At these events, you are also invited to give feedback about your community's urban forest. Throughout the year, our teams will be back to plant City trees.

Contact your **Community Association** by phone or visit their website to learn more about these FREE programs.

Visit calgary.ca/trees for more information about the ReTree Community Program.

2016-0485



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**GREAT NEWS PUBLISHING HAS BEEN
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FOR 2 YEARS!**



Las Meninas, 1656
By: Diego Velazquez

Diego was a Spanish painter who was the leading artist in the court of King Philip IV and one of the most important painters of the Spanish Golden Age. Las Meninas, or The Maids of Honor, depicts a room in the Madrid palace of Spain's King Philip IV. The painting is famous for its complexities regarding reality and illusion. Uncertainty is played out in the relations between the viewers and the figures, as well as between the figures themselves. These complex uncertainties have welcomed much discussion and analysis among critics and scholars.



Interesting
ARCHITECTURE

The Chrysler building attained the title of world's tallest in building in 1930 for just one year when the Empire State was erected. Image Joris Van Rooden In the early part of the 20th Century, people everywhere were in a race to build the tallest building. At the time, this gorgeous Art Deco skyscraper was almost outdone by the Bank of Manhattan but its spire (which was constructed in secret) enabled it to take the title of 'tallest building in the world' in 1930.

your COMMUNITY
business of the month

Aspen Dental Care
Westhills Community

Aspen Dental Care opened its doors in the summer of 2009. We pride ourselves on being a patient-focused practice that provides the highest quality of dental and oral hygiene care. We provide both basic and major dental treatments, dental hygiene, as well as cosmetic veneers, Zoom® whitening, and Invisalign®. Our staff is highly skilled and truly passionate about the service we provide.

Dr. Dima Oweis, the owner and principal dentist, has been practicing dentistry since graduating from the University of Alberta in 2009. Dr. Dima is known to her patients for being personable and having great clinical skills. Besides excelling in her technical work, she enjoys educating her patients on their overall dental health needs, often spending the extra time to understand the patient's needs and concerns before providing them with the best dental treatment possible.

Dr. Holly Fritz joined the Aspen Dental Care team in October 2013. She graduated in the class of 2006 from the U of A and brings with her many years of experience. She is known for her great clinical skills, as well as being easy going and honest with her recommendations. She brings a gentle, caring touch to the office.


Our long-serving handpicked team puts patients first. From the moment they walk through our doors, we work hard to exceed our patients' expectations, providing the best dental care in a relaxed and casual atmosphere. Beyond the clinic, we strive to build strong relationships with our community. As part of our ongoing initiative to give back, we will be collecting donations for CUPS and donating items including toothbrushes and toothpaste. If you are interested in this program please check our Facebook page for more info at www.facebook.com/AspendentalcareDrDimaOweis.

We love children at Aspen Dental. We enjoy seeing kids of all ages, starting as early as when the first tooth

comes in. We try to make the visit to the dentist fun and exciting. For example when a child visits us and is cavity free they get their picture taken for the Cavity Free Wall! And to help them celebrate this achievement, every month there is a draw and one child gets a prize including items like iPods, movie tickets and gift cards for Toys R Us. We believe in starting early to help children grow up enjoying dental visits and be dedicated to their oral health.

Dental health is an integral part of an individual's overall wellbeing, and we do our best to address every patient's specific needs. If you or someone you know is looking for a dental office that is patient-focused with a friendly atmosphere then do not hesitate to call our office to book an appointment or to ask any questions you may have.

Our office is conveniently located on the corner of Aspen Stone Blvd and 85 St. in the same plaza as Ladybug Café and Blush Lane Organic Market. We are open on some evenings and Saturdays as we understand the needs of the working family. We are always accepting new patients for full exams, emergencies and for Zoom® whitening or Invisalign® consults. We'd love to meet you!



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- Dental Surgery (Extractions)
- Teeth Whitening (ZOOM!)
- Dental Implants





Mine, yours, ours – a couple of financial planning tips for new couples

Suzanne Smith-Demers – Consultant

Once there was just you – now there are two. You’ve joined with a partner to share your life and love and that’s good. As a new couple, here is what you should know about how to equitably manage your finances.

As a married or common law couple, the integration of your financial lives must be fair and match your lifestyle together. It is wise to disclose assets, financial commitments (such as loans) and credit history.

Here’s some items to consider that will help start the conversation:

- Who will manage day-to-day finances, who will manage overall financial affairs and how much input does each partner want?
- Should bank accounts, credit cards and investments be merged or remain separate?
- Do you have a new will? Wills drafted prior to marriage usually become invalid.
- What happens to your mortgage, life insurance and in-

come if either of you dies or becomes unable to work due to an accident or illness?

- What should go into your domestic contract? Especially if one partner brings significant assets into the relationship and/or if children or past spouses are involved.

Make your decisions with a clear understanding of tax and legal implications and if you are bringing significant assets into the marriage, speak to a family lawyer or mediator about the financial implications and how best to protect your assets.

Although couples must file separate individual tax returns, there are many tax-planning strategies that can reduce your total tax bill now and in the future. Take advantage of all your deductions and income-splitting opportunities.

As a couple, you need a shared financial plan. Your professional advisor can help you build such a plan for a strong financial future together.

Where Will Boomers Live?

Carla Berezowski, CAPS

Numerous studies indicate, including a recent one by Harvard Joint Centre for Housing Studies (www.jchs.harvard.edu) and AARP, over 90% seniors want to live in their own homes. They already own their homes, are comfortable there, and are familiar with the neighbourhood people and services. This is also the most economical option for receiving care as well as taking advantage of family/friends supports and informal care. Also, we can’t afford to build enough ‘senior housing’ for everyone and most people don’t want to live their anyhow! Harvard concluded that long-term care at home is the best strategy for the vast majority of seniors.

That being said, we are still faced with major barriers to a long-term care at home strategy. Namely, our homes are not designed to accommodate disability or care, we have too few caregivers, and critical connections such as healthcare, shopping, transportation are not designed to support this.

Planning for our homes to accommodate the challenges associated with a long term care at home strategy is something that we can start immediately. Planning will enable you to start saving for potential renovations and upgrades to things like lighting, flooring, and bathrooms and kitchens. It also enables a staged approach to these upgrades so you can better manage costs and requirements.

If you are past the long-term planning stage and are already aging-in-place it is not too late to make some simple changes to make your home more safe, comfortable and suitable to accommodate a long term care at home strategy. Updated lighting, fresh, bright paint with contrasting switch-plates, replacing door knobs with levers, as well as applying non-slip treatments to your current floors in wet areas are great ways to start making your home ready to support a long term care at home strategy.

Figure out where you want to live as you age. If you are like 90% of the population over 50, it will be in your current home. Then make a plan to prepare your home for the long-term care at home strategy. If you need help, call a professional – you will still save money and be happier!

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 neighbours@great-news.ca

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Editorial Content DEADLINE

1st of each month for the next month's issue



Are You Scheduled Or Just Completed Joint Replacement Surgery?

By Penny Hodgson C.H.N. C.T.C.

If your joint has deteriorated to the point of requiring surgery, consider the following:

- 1. Acute Pain** from the degraded joint and surgery can **disrupt digestion**, which can prevent certain nutrients from getting into your system.
- 2. Mineral depletion**, caused from the body trying to maintain and even repair the joint on its own, is not usually replenished without the added use of a variety of mineral supplements. Analysis of mineral deficiencies will indicate the appropriate amount of nutrients needed to replenish bone stores and fortify the new joint.
- 3. Chronic pain, worry and stress** cause strain on the adrenal glands by keeping your body in a fight or flight response. Nutrients that support the adrenal glands should be taken until all the symptoms of adrenal exhaustion have reduced significantly, or are gone altogether.
4. Certain **pain relievers, antibiotics and other medications** (anaesthetic, relaxants etc.) can further disrupt the digestive process, reduce the level of beneficial bacteria needed for a healthy intestinal tract, thereby interrupting the assimilation process and preventing the uptake or even depleting your body of required nutrients.

Disrupted or reduced digestion means that the nutrients in your food, or supplements, are not being absorbed properly. No matter how healthy you think you are eating, or how many supplements you are taking, until your digestive process is functioning normally your body is not getting the required nutrients for optimal healing.

In some cases, disrupted digestion can lead to other issues like intestinal inflammation and leaky gut syndrome. An imbalanced intestinal system can lead to excessive weight gain, food allergies and intolerances, unexplained aches and pains, fibromyalgia, and chronic fatigue syndrome just to name a few.

Don't forget that doctors and other health care practitioners such as physiotherapists and massage therapists are focused on the task at hand. Nutrition has become a specialized therapy, and proper nutritional guidance requires that a doctor or therapist has studied or specialized in nutritional science.

Along with proper nutrition, the body requires the right amount of exercise in the right way. If you have had joint replacement surgery, seeking the counsel of a physiotherapist to ensure you are performing the required exercises properly is a good idea, even if you exercise regularly. Physiotherapy is usually prescribed by the surgeon to ensure exercises are done properly, so as to not jeopardize the new joint.

In order for muscles to heal properly, good blood circulation is required to deliver the much needed nutrients to the damaged tissue. Massage therapists can help ensure proper circulation and also stimulate lymph flow, which is also an important factor in the healing process.

Emotional health can also be affected by stress resulting from long surgery waiting times, fear of upcoming surgery, fear of pain, and financial strain as a result of having to take time off work. Talking with a trained therapist can help you find your way back to positive emotional wellbeing.

Nurturing your spirit will also help your body heal. Stress and pain can sometimes become so paramount in your day that your usual Spiritual practice gets put aside. In some cases, you might question why you have been put through such an ordeal or blame God for your situation. In these cases, seeking help from an elder that shares your beliefs might bring much needed insight into your situation.

Penny Hodgson is certified in Holistic Therapeutic Counseling and Holistic Nutrition



Help Your Children Succeed in Life!

Louise Ridout, B.Sc. (Hon Math), M.S. (Stats)

I'm a math teacher and tutor. In my work, I see repeatedly, disappointing results from students – many currently in, or graduates of schools in Calgary -- who do not know how to do basic, simple math operations needed to be successful. I have seen students pick up a calculator to find the answer to 4x3. Parents – do you know the answer to that – without a calculator? The most valuable skill that students are missing is knowledge of the multiplication tables. Without having a solid grasp of the multiplication tables, students cannot understand relationships between numbers, and are unable to easily do many midlevel math questions. I regularly see their frustration at not being able to do these problems.... while at the same time maintaining a **stubborn refusal** to memorize the multiplication tables!

Students who succeed in math at the high school level do much better in every university class they take. They have the tools to succeed and surpass others to get the highest level jobs and excel at them. 90% of the highest paying jobs require math. The kind of logical and analytical thinking that is required to make good decisions, no matter what field we are working in, is learned as we study and do math problems!

The best way to have your children succeed in high school math classes is to make sure they learn the multiplication tables so well when they are young that they are second nature to them.

Help your children memorize their multiplication tables and they will succeed in high school math classes. Then they will do well in their university courses, and be prepared to be leaders in the workplace, the community and in their homes!

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Caring For Your Elderly Pet



People are living longer with better health care, nutrition, and overall improved living conditions, and so are our pets. I see pets in their late teens regularly and geriatric medicine is advancing in leaps and bounds. Never dismiss changes in your older pet as “just part of getting old” as these may be changes we can treat. Preserving quality of life for both us and the furry ones should be our objective.

If you can equate one year of aging in a person to seven in a dog, an annual examination for a pet is like you being seen every seven years by your doctor. Annual examinations are imperative and even bi-annual examinations maybe recommended. Veterinarians discuss history, changes in food and water consumption as they examine your pet for masses, aches and pains, and anything that raises concern. This includes rotten painful teeth. Health care starts with the examination.

Diet is the cornerstone of any older pet’s health needs. An older pet has a slower metabolism and sleeps more. Don’t justify weight gain by saying “but treats are all he enjoys now”. An obese pet has difficulty moving, arthritic joints have to work harder, and stress is placed on all organs including the heart, lungs, liver, and kidneys. It’s easier if a pet is fit and not wheezing with exertion.

Switch a pet to a geriatric diet around 8 to 10 years of age in cats and small dogs, in large dogs earlier. Specific diets have been formulated for pets suffering from kidney, liver, and heart disease. Some diets are for joints and include products for enhanced mobility. There is even a diet to try and slow the progress of canine dementia.

Unlimited water is imperative in the elderly pet. Kidneys are fragile. If your pet begins to drink and urinate ex-

cessively this is an early symptom of many serious, but often treatable, geriatric diseases.


People use physiotherapy or try alternative therapies for aches and pains. These therapies are equally beneficial to our pets. Old bodies get relief with heat packs, massage, range of motion exercises, and physiotherapy. Acupuncture, cranio-sacral therapy, chiropractic medicine, and numerous herbal and homeopathic formulas are used successfully to treat old joints, muscles and bone. To this end remember five or 10 minutes gentle exercise three times daily is preferable to 40 minutes of intense exercise with fragile pets. Like you pets stiffen up and hurt! Older pets have a much reduced tolerance for heat and cold extremes.

Because they don’t exercise as much, some older cats and dogs tend to need their nails trimmed more often. Elderly pets find it more difficult to groom and may need more help. Cats may not be able to contort themselves to reach places on their backs and hind end and fur can become matted.

Older pets may become crankier if sore and maybe are more easily startled if their hearing and sight is failing. Try to make allowances, especially where children are involved, don’t startle or pounce on elderly pets.

There are many anti-inflammatory and painkillers now on the market for older dogs and cats to reduce pain. Older pets deserve a comfortable and gentle retirement, but if all of your best efforts can no longer maintain your friend in a comfortable state and there are many more sick painful days than not, knowing when to say goodbye is the least selfish thing you will ever do for an old loved companion.


Jennifer L. Scott, D.V.M.




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IN & AROUND CALGARY

EMS: Burns and Scalds

Alberta Health Services EMS paramedics respond to a number of emergencies where a young child has sustained severe burns, or scalds. These incidents often occur inside the child's own home. Common causes include: a child accidentally tipping hot liquids onto themselves, touching a hot surface, or making contact with an electrical outlet. Fortunately, incidents such as these can be avoided by taking preventative measures.

Degrees of burn

1°: Affects only the top layers of the skin; appears red like a sun burn; discomfort is generally tolerable;

2°: Deeper and much more painful than 1° burns; broken skin or blisters commonly develop;

3°: Severe: the deepest layers of skin and tissue are injured; may appear charred or leathery.

First Aid for burns

- Skin may continue to burn if not aggressively cooled. Immediately douse burns with large amounts of cold water.
- Cover the burn with a sterile dressing, or any clean material to protect from infection;
- Over the counter medications may be used for pain. Adhere to directions given on the label;
- Seek further medical attention, as required.

Prevention of burns

- Check the temperature of your hot water tank. Temperatures as high as 60°C / 140°F will scald a child in just seconds;
- Use placemats instead of tablecloths. Tablecloths can be yanked downward causing hot drinks, or food to spill on a child;
- Turn pot handles to the back of the stove and ensure cords from kettles, slow cookers, and other electrical appliances cannot be reached;
- Avoid picking up a child while holding any hot liquids;
- Ensure electrical outlets are made secure by installing commercially available safety devices which prohibit access;
- If able, have children avoid the kitchen area while appliances are operational.
- If you require immediate medical attention, call 9-1-1.

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ASK SAM

Q: How important is marketing in real estate?

A: Marketing matters tremendously. I spend far more than most realtors on marketing — as much as \$300,000 a year — and that's a very strategic investment. Good marketing can make all the difference in a slow market. In fact, some of Calgary's "slowest" years in real estate have been some of my best, and my clients have seen great results.

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IN & AROUND CALGARY

March is Community Association Membership Awareness Month!

Did you know that Mayor Nenshi declares the month of March as Community Association Membership Awareness Month?

Did you also know that there are 150 community associations in Calgary that are run by your neighbours? In fact, more than 20,000 volunteers are involved in community associations here in Calgary, making it the LARGEST collective volunteer movement in the city!

Are you a member of your community association? If not, you are missing out on numerous benefits, including sizeable discounts at local businesses. Membership is extremely affordable with most community association memberships averaging under \$30 a year!

Throughout the month of March we encourage you to “be part of it” and find out what your community association can do for you! It’s easy and you may be surprised by the many benefits and options available to you as a resident.

Community associations are run by your neighbours, they bring residents together, they provide endless opportunities right in your backyard, and they act as a voice for your community. Most importantly, these hard-working volunteers are dedicated to making sure your community is a great place to live, work, and play. Purchasing a community association membership is a great way to get involved and show your support for the many ways your neighbours work to ensure you love where you live.

For example, this very community newsletter is just one of the many ways your community association works to keep you informed on events, topics and issues of interest close to home, written and compiled by your neighbours.

So take a minute during March Community Association Membership Awareness Month and find out more about your community association and how you can get involved!

IN & AROUND CALGARY

READYCALGARY 2016

READYCALGARY is a **FREE** community preparedness program developed by the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) for the citizens of Calgary. It has been designed to inform, educate and build resiliency to the impacts of emergencies and disasters. Visit Calgary.ca/READYCALGARY for more information or to register today!

Program Structure:

This course, delivered in a workshop setting facilitated by CEMA, has been purposefully designed to reflect the diverse needs of its participants by dividing course material into two distinct sections:

- **Section 1:** Covers the fundamentals of emergency management (preparedness, response and recovery) particularly significant for individuals and families. As personal preparedness education and awareness is applicable to all, Section 1 is the foundation of this program.
- **Section 2:** Further develops on the material in Section 1 to reflect the needs and requirements of a whole community. This section is for individuals interested in further contributing to their neighbourhood and community.

2016 Session Dates:

- Program and registration details, as well as online versions of course materials, can be found at Calgary.ca/READYCALGARY
- The registration process is available online via 311 or email your preferred dates to CEMATraining@calgary.ca
- Participants must register for both Section 1 and Section 2 to complete the full program. Section 1 must be completed before Section 2, but participants may register for any available sections at their convenience (Sections do not need to be taken in the same month).
- Note that the registration deadline is 7 days prior to the session of choice.

Section 1: March 8 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

Section 2: March 22 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

Section 1: April 6 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

Section 2: April 20 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

Section 1: September 15 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

Section 2: September 22 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

Section 1: October 4 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

Section 2: October 18 (17:30 - 20:30 at CEMA)

calgary reads

CBC Calgary / Calgary Reads Big Book Sale

One of Calgary’s most anticipated and attended events!

More than 1,000,000 previously-loved books will be ready to be purchased and find new homes. This is a signature fundraising event for Calgary Reads.

Our 14th annual event! Held at the Calgary Curling Club, 720 3rd St. NW, Calgary:

- **Friday May 13 - 9am – 9pm**
Author reading 7pm
- **Saturday May 14 - 9am – 9pm**
Back by popular demand! Shop to the musical sounds of **Midnight Blue** with cash wine bar 7 – 9pm.
- **Sunday May 15 - 9am – 1pm**
Other special activities during the Big Book Sale will be announced on our website as they confirm: calgaryreads.com.

Donate books: We welcome donation of adult and children books for the book sale! (We do not accept encyclopaedias, text books, Harlequin Romances, Readers’ Digests, book tapes, VHS, cassettes, 8-tracks or magazines.)

Book collection locations, dates and times:

At **Calgary Food Bank**, 5000, 11th Street SE, Calgary:

- Monday to Thursday April 25 to 28 - drop off at Door #3 from 8:30am – 7pm
- Friday, April 29 - drop off at Door #3 from 8:30am – 3:30pm

At **Calgary Curling Club**, 720 3rd St. NW, Calgary:

- Thursday to Sunday May 3 to May 6 from 9am - 7pm sharp
- Monday and Tuesday May 7 and 8 from 9am - 4 pm sharp

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FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 22

"I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:6)
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**YOUR COMMUNITY/CITY EVENTS
 AT A GLANCE...**

- **April 1 - Taste of Bragg Creek:** Taste of Bragg Creek returns for its fourth year and showcases some of the best that local restaurateurs, caterers and food and liquor merchants have to offer. www.tasteofbraggcreek.ca
- **April 6 - Video Games Live: Bonus Round!** This concert is a combination of synchronized lights, lasers, video clips and live music from some of the world's most popular games performed by the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. www.calgaryphil.com
- **April 6 to 17 - Canmore Uncorked:** This mountain food and drink festival is 12 full days of special set-price menus, cooking classes, progressive dinners and cooking events. www.tourismcanmore.com
- **April 11 to 13 - Dance at Noon:** The junior students in the University of Calgary Dance program's choreography and performance concentration showcase their original compositional work. www.scpa.ucalgary.ca
- **April 11 to 17 - Calgary Underground Film Festival:** The festival has been carefully programmed to include thought-provoking, entertaining and sometimes obscure movies of all genres that defy conventions. www.calgaryundergroundfilm.org
- **April 15 to 17 - Dreams of Broadway:** 26 performers and 31 hit Broadway songs collide in this inaugural production by Imagine Performing Arts! This whirlwind production will have you laughing, crying and dancing in your seat! www.musicandplay.ca
- **April 22 to 24 - The Adventures of Robin Hood:** Unleash your imagination and follow the adventures of a band of brothers looking to rob the rich to help the poor. www.vertigotheatre.com
- **April 26 to 29 - Annie:** The well-loved, family-friendly musical Annie is based on the popular comic strip Little Orphan Annie. It's a feel-good production with the same energy and warmth of the original. www.calgary.broadway.com
- **April 28 to May 1 - Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo:** For four days, Calgary celebrates science fiction, comic books, film, television, horror, fantasy, pop culture and more. www.calgaryexpo.com

**APRIL 8 TO 9
 DANCE AT NIGHT:**

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The House of Commons in Ottawa resumed sitting on January 25th, 2016 and will continue until adjournment on June 23, 2016. Within that time frame, the House generally sits for two weeks followed by a week break for constituency work so I will be back in the riding and available for consultations. Please contact our office if you would like to set up an appointment. We are excited to be 'open for business' after renovations that resulted in a longer than anticipated delay so we appreciate your patience.

With several of my colleagues from the Conservative caucus, I hosted a Pre-Budget Round Table Discussion with Conservative Leader Hon. Rona Ambrose and Hon. Lisa Raitt, Conservative Finance Critic. We invited several industry leaders from in and around southern Alberta. I was very pleased with the diverse representation with CEO's and VP's from the energy sector, agriculture, communication, business, commercial development, Chamber, and finance in attendance, and the honest conversation that occurred during that meeting. Ms. Ambrose, as Opposition leader, took away the very serious messages that were relayed that day and promised that they would be delivered to the federal government. I will be hosting more of these sessions with different themes over the next few months and will be looking for engagement from various stakeholders. Details will be forthcoming in the future.

While the House of Commons sit for this session, I will

continue to bring the message from Calgary Signal Hill residents that the government needs to continue to focus on jobs, the economy, and growth. The economic situation in Alberta is, and will continue to be, my main priority. I will work to ensure that the Liberal Government understands we need to get our products to the world market. The realization has to be this is not just in the best interest of Alberta but in the best interest for all of Canada.

On January 28th, 2016 the Official Opposition set the Agenda in the House of Commons. We asked all Members of Parliament to express their support for the proposed Energy East Pipeline. This project would not only be good for a struggling industry in Alberta, but one that would provide significant benefits to the Canadian economy. Unfortunately, the other parties chose not to support our motion and this is another indication that they do not understand the seriousness of the economic situation in our province. To view my statement to the House of Commons, please visit my website at www.ronliepert.ca. Please feel free to send me comments with regard to this or other important issues that affect you in Calgary Signal Hill.

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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

Who Is Responsible to Educate the Children?

Louise Ridout, B.Sc. (Hon Math), M.S. (Stats)

As a teacher and tutor, I recently attended a presentation to learn best practises for getting results in mathematics education and ideas to support children's learning.

At the end of the presentation, I heard the announcement: "It is the job of the Province to educate the children. It is not the job of parents to educate the children."

I shook my head. Did I hear correctly? Why would anyone ever have the idea that it was someone else's responsibility to educate their children? We have knowledge and values that we want to pass on to our children. How can we expect anyone else to educate our children about the things that are important to us? How can we expect anyone else to care about our children or know our children as well as we do!

Governments collect tax money from us and use some of that money to build schools, hire teachers and set curriculum. Can we count on them to educate our children? Should we hand over responsibility to the government to do that? Do you trust the government to make sure your children learn what you believe is important? Or to tailor their teaching to fit your child?

My answer would be a resounding NO. I often disagree with things that governments do. They don't always speak for me. I need their help to educate my children. I appreciate the schools and teachers that the government hires to teach. I must work together with teachers to make sure my children learn what I know they need to learn and to learn well.

What do you think? Do you think the government always teaches your children what is most helpful for them in the best way possible?



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TransCanada Highway and Sarcee Trail Interchange

We required that the development at the base of the east Paskapoo Slopes include an interchange just south of the TransCanada Highway (TCH) on Sarcee Trail for access to the new development that ensures uninterrupted traffic flow for local and commuter travel. There were two public information sessions held at the end of January for residents to see these designs and speak with the project team. Feedback was positive and residents were encouraged to learn that there would be a continuous flow of traffic on Sarcee Trail at current speed limits.

East/west and north/south regional traffic flow will continue to operate as it does today and drivers will not be impeded by local traffic. The Sarcee Trail bridge deck over the TCH will be rehabilitated and reconfigured for better safety and efficiency; the west bound ramp on and off of the TCH will also be upgraded. Please reference the diagram.



A condition of Community Association support for this development was that priority consideration be given to how pedestrian and cycle traffic and connectivity could be made better through this development. The interchange provides access for local communities, a roundabout for easy entry and exit into the new development, including a pedestrian underpass, as well as a regional network pathway connection.

We negotiated that the developer be responsible for all of the costs associated with the development of access at Sarcee Trail, including the new ramps, bridges, and the roundabout. This negotiation also included the cost of building a pedestrian bridge connecting the development over the Trans-Canada Highway just west of Sarcee Trail to Bowness, and half the cost of an underpass which will connect to Edworthy Park and the Bow River pathway, both of which may be used by cyclists and pedestrians. Detailed design is approaching final stages and construction is expected to be functionally complete by the end of 2016, with all final work finished by summer 2017. Most of the construction will be done off of the major roads which alleviates the need for road closures or significant detours. For detailed information and visuals, please visit www.trinityhills.ca/tchsarcee.

construction is expected to be functionally complete by the end of 2016, with all final work finished by summer 2017. Most of the construction will be done off of the major roads which alleviates the need for road closures or significant detours. For detailed information and visuals, please visit www.trinityhills.ca/tchsarcee.

YYC and NAV CANADA Open House Meetings December 2015 and January 2016

Several representatives from YYC and NAV CANADA hosted open houses this past December and January to communicate proposed changes to current flight paths at the north and south ends of the city (RNP Approaches). We would like to thank YYC, NAV CANADA and everyone who came out to learn and voice concerns.

These open houses were focused on RNP flight paths, but the key interest to many attendees was the original 2014 flight path changes, and seeking options to address the noise impact that high frequency, low flying planes are having on communities.

The following are two options that were frequently voiced, and ideas we would like to have further discussions with NAV and YYC to reduce the constant impact to West Calgary communities:

1. Spread the flights out across many communities rather than substantially impacting just some (similar to the previously spread out paths prior to 2014). As global aviation transitions to concentrated flight paths, this is the direction NAV CANADA is instructed to proceed. Therefore, the "spread out" solution is currently not being explored. We believe this is the fairest long-term solution to this issue, which is occurring in many cities across Canada and the world.
2. Utilize less populated areas for flights when possible.

NAV CANADA stated this is difficult for our area due to the conflict between arriving and departing flights. NAV CANADA's explanation was difficult to visualize and understand. We would like to see fully explored studies involving this.

Attendees brought up the topic of legal compensation if a solution was not identified. Lawsuits exist in the US over the introduction of concentrated flight paths, and legal settlements have been awarded in Europe. To avoid this, YYC is very open to hearing concerns and suggestions. A satisfactory outcome is more likely if **residents actively vocalize their concerns**. To do this, visit www.yyc.com or www.wcatc.ca.

A solution is required, as air traffic over West Calgary will increase in the future. This is not an easy issue, but it is not impossible to come to a fair compromise to solve the negative effects of air space change. This will require the aviation industry to listen to communities, achieve a better understanding of life under concentrated flight paths, to fully understand the effects on physical/mental health, and the real cost to property/domestic life. We encourage NAV CANADA to become world leaders in this and successfully find safe solutions for everyone in the air, as well as on the ground.

West Calgary Air Traffic Concerns
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