

JUNE 2021

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BRIDGELANDRIVERSIDE

BRIDGES

THE OFFICIAL BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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- 

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Blush Lane

ORGANIC MARKET

VISIT US AT
617 MEREDITH RD NE

by Alex MacWilliam

I am constantly amazed by the great things happening in Bridgeland-Riverside. Litter has been dealt a blow due to the Clean-Up Day efforts of many, many dedicated volunteers. Others are taking steps to add to the beautiful art gracing the buildings, fences, and, yes, the garages (see cover photo) in our community. Valiant efforts are being made by Bridgeland businesses to find ways to connect with their customers and clients in the face of COVID-related restrictions and lockdowns. Each month brings new challenges for all of us. Yet, this community continues to thrive. October will bring a civic election with opportunities for voters to question candidates on their positions on issues of concern. Urban planning, safety, transportation, and economic diversification will figure prominently in the campaign. All of this is happening in the midst of an unprecedented global pandemic. New approaches to longstanding issues facing communities like ours will be required. Adapting to change will be the new normal.



Hey Parents! Want a week of free fun?

We are looking for product testers for a social, physical, emotional, and cognitive development family board game for children ages 3-6.

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www.thespecbox.com

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BECOME A BRCA MEMBER

- **When:** BRCA Membership Drive - May & June 2021
- **What:** Renew or get your 2021 BRCA membership (individual, family, senior) as a resident or non-resident.
- **Plus:** It's free for 2021! Due to COVID, BRCA has decided to offer the membership for free this year. Your 2021 membership will be valid until the end of 2021.

Sign up & join in! brcacalgary.org/connect/membership/
403-263-5755



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MEMBERSHIP FORM

New and returning members, please apply online at brcacalgary.org/ membership or use this form and mail or drop off along with cheque made out to:

Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association
917 Centre Ave. N.E.
Calgary AB T2E 0C6

Membership type: (please check one)

- Individual
- Family
- Senior



During this time, membership fees are waived; you can still sign up to be a member and when you do so, you will not be charged a fee.

Member information: (please print clearly, attach additional family member names)

Last name: _____

First name: _____

Address: _____

Postal code: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Or, please feel free to communicate with us about community events at events@BRCAcalgary.org

Bridges contains editorial content and information provided by Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association and is distributed free to community residents and businesses 11 times per year. Circulation is approximately 5,600.

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Roseanne Penner

How long have you lived in Bridgeland-Riverside? What do you like about living here?

June will be our 15- year anniversary as Bridgelanders. We love that it has all the benefits of small town living while being in an urban centre.

How did you get involved in volunteering in our community?

I am a strong proponent of “Be the change you want to see in the world”, and therefore knew I wanted to contribute to my new community. It started with just community clean-ups and evolved from there.

What kind of volunteer activities have you done?

Community clean-up, soccer coach, organized pub nights, board member (activity coordinator and later Vice President), helped organize Bridgeland Ladies nights, and started the Bridgeland Elves.

What ideas do you have for volunteering in the future?

What interests or excites you?

I am currently working with Forward Housing to make “Welcome Home” bundles for the new residents of Bishop Manor, a new low-income housing building in Bridgeland. My passion is trying to ensure everyone feels cared for and a part of our amazing community.

Strong community connections improve so many aspects of our lives. It is something everyone benefits from.

What would you tell others in the community about volunteering?

Volunteering helps me realize everyone can make a difference, even when we think it is just “a little thing”. Also, that commitment doesn’t need to be huge or time consuming, there is a fit for everyone.

What do you like most about volunteering for the Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association?

I remember thinking that I knew so many of my neighbours. But after volunteering in Bridgeland, I feel as though I know almost everyone. I love that!

During the pandemic are you still able to do volunteer activities in a safe manner?

Bridgeland Elves actually had our best year ever this past Christmas. There were aspects of making hampers we

couldn’t do, such as gathering to assemble the hampers, but we adjusted. There were more email communications to arrange safe drop off of items, but it actually wasn’t very difficult. When you are passionate about something, it isn’t that hard to figure out workarounds.

What is a hidden gem in Bridgeland-Riverside that you have discovered and would like to share?

Tom Campbell’s Hill dog park. I have met such amazing people walking my dog every morning. It has been my therapy during stressful COVID times.



Bridgeland New-Mom Writes Heart-Warming Story Documenting the Highs and Lows of Being Born in a Pandemic

Hello, my name is Morgan Van Dam and I live in Bridgeland.

I originally wrote and illustrated *Pandemic Baby* as a fun memento for my son, but quickly realized that my sister and many friends are going through the same motions of being a new parent in a pandemic. Like me, they are looking for a moment of levity in an otherwise difficult time.

Pandemic babies (those born in 2019, 2020, and 2021) don’t get to experience a lot of things they should - the hugs and holds of grandparents, the stimulation of group music and swimming classes, the welcomed germs from an indoor play gym. With that, the parents lose out on the childcare, community, and comfort that comes with having a ‘tribe’ that can be seen in person. Who holds your baby while you go take a break? No one, we’re in a Pandemic.

I decided to do a 100-copy print run from a local printer and felt confident my friends would appreciate the story. What I didn’t expect was for 100 copies to sell out within hours of launching *Pandemic Baby*.

I ensured the pricing of the book was fair so that I could make my money back from printing and donate the rest to a local Calgary charity, The Children’s Cottage Society.

As the popularity of my first book soars, I am working on a second book called *Pandemic Baby’s First Trip*. This book is a nod to the babies who don’t live near their relatives and may find themselves travelling and meeting family members in person for the first time.

Another Successful Community Clean-Up Day!



A “Litter Brigade” of 110 adults and 40 children came together Saturday, May 1 to pick up litter throughout Bridgeland-Riverside. A dozen dog owners also picked up dog waste on Tom Campbell’s Hill (TCH). Many Bridgelanders also dropped off trash, organic waste, electronics, scrap metal, and donated household items at the Rehabilitation Society building. All in all, Bridgeland-Riverside is Greener and Cleaner as a result of our highly successful Clean-Up Day!

The BRCA Beautification Committee organized the day in partnership with: City of Calgary, Drop In Centre, Technotrash, Evraz Metals, and Flori & Deborah at TCH. Here are some highlights for the day:

	2021 Clean-Up Day	2019 Clean-Up Day
Trash: 2 Garbage Trucks	1,030 kg	6,625 kg
Organics: 1 Garbage Truck	545 kg	1,170 kg
Electronics Recycling	1,229 kg	282 kgs
Scrap Metals Recycling	1,820 kg	800 kg
Drop-In Centre Donated Goods	23 Cubic Meters	N/A
Litter Brigade	200 Bags	N/A
TCH Dogs’ Best Friends	6 Pails of Dog Bags	N/A

The 2021 totals are much bigger than 2019 because the 2020 Clean-Up was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Litter Brigade registration was done outdoors at the BRCA Hall with COVID protocols. Volunteers picked their spots on the Bridgeland-Riverside map, which showed easy, intermediate, or hard areas based on hillside slopes, flat spaces, and streets/alleys. We had more volunteers than areas, so we were able to provide double coverage for high density litter zones.

A feedback survey, emailed to pre-registered volunteers, generated good information and suggestions for the 2022 Clean-up Day:

- The clean-up experience was rated ‘Excellent’ and ‘Good’.
- Give out more litter bags.
- Improve litter bag drop off at Rehab Society.
- Add litter bag drop offs as per 2nd Avenue corners.
- Lots of cigarette butts especially around food businesses. “Butt cans” have been placed at benches in Murdoch Park and tables in the Piazza.
- Several new litter hot spots were identified.

After the Clean-Up Day, we have noticed Bridgelanders picking up litter on their own initiative. This is fantastic and strengthens our community. Our Beautification Committee continues the battle with litter by holding monthly “Litter Brigade” evenings on: May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16. All are welcome to join fellow Bridgelanders in the Piazza at 6:30 pm. Pickers, bags, and gloves will be supplied. Register online at www.brcacalgary.org, email hall@brcacalgary.org, or just show up at the Piazza.

The pathway and riverbank along Memorial Drive are not part of our Clean-Up Day because of safety concerns. However, the citywide Pathway and River Clean-Up will happen September 17 to 19. See www.calgary.ca for information and registration.

The BRCA thanks all volunteers for coming together and making this a total community success! Special thanks to Jennifer Toothill, event photographer, and event coordinators John, Sarah, Lucia, and Allan.

Your Beautification Committee





Beautifying/ “Helenizing” our Lanes

Bridgeland is a creative community. From interesting architecture to the many art murals around the ‘hood, to amazing flower beds to the creative people that live here, our community is known for its interesting vibe. Some community members have gone even further and have added some interest and beauty to their back alleys. The inimitable Helen set the tone last summer and planted some lovely flowers along her back lane fence near 11a Street. Wouldn't it be great if we all got involved and made our back alleys more usable and enjoyable? What would happen if our back alleys were as inviting as our streets? How could we use these spaces? Might they feel safer?

One way that our neighbouring community of Sunnyside has brought some love to their back spaces is through art. We have heard from many people in Bridgeland that they would like to bring our unique style to the community through some garage door painting. We have been doing a little research, contacting artists, and looking into the process.

If you are interested in “Helenizing” your back alley through garage door painting or planting, please check back on the BRCA website (www.brcacalgary.org) or look out for more information coming soon. There will be info posted on the Bridgeland/Riverside Facebook page and Bridgeland Betty Instagram as well.

Janel Nail, Beautification Committee

BRCA FARMERS' MARKET COMMITTEE



June Farmer's Market Box on Sale

\$125 per box - limited quantity

ORDER BY:

• June 14 by 1:00 pm

PICK UP:

• June 17 - 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Bridgeland Community Association Hall

Please follow us on social media for the most up-to-date information.

Thank you for your support of our box and your favourite local vendors.

https://www.brcacalgary.org/farmers_market.



We are working on reducing our footprint

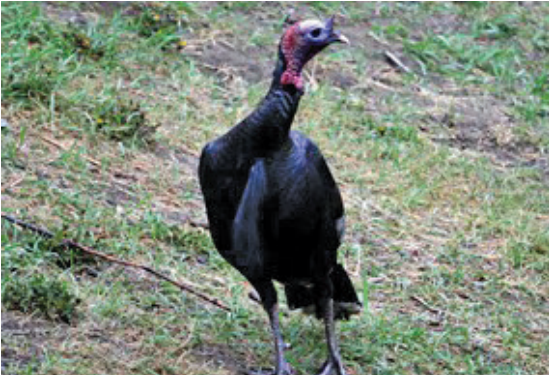
BYOB- Bring your own box/bag to pick-up!



Let the Wild Remain Wild

by Coral Lukaniuk, Wildlife ambassador and resident of Bridgeland

Let wildlife remain wild so we can coexist. It can be exciting to see wildlife, but always best to observe safely. These pictures of Turk (the turkey that captured our hearts) and a coyote, were taken from my yard in Bridgeland.



Turk the Turkey stopped by one day in 2020. DSLR photo.



Coyote sighting in June 2020. Phone photo.

Wild animals want to keep their distance from humans, and at the same time, they form an important part of the ecosystem. If the animals remain wild, it works very well, as animals like bobcats and coyotes will prey on animals such as mice, rabbits, and squirrels.

But humans cause issues when they feed wild animals. At first, this may seem innocent, but then those animals start to associate humans with a food source, and their comfort around humans increases. As their comfort increases, so does the risk of aggression and injury to humans. To avoid this, it is simple - never feed a wild

animal, including but not limited to, bobcats, coyotes, and deer. Urban environments, including the green spaces in the cities, provide a natural habitat for the animals to thrive. Wild animals frequently visit Bridgeland due to the community's proximity to the Bow River and Nose Creek. On that note, if you are aware of coyotes or bobcats nearby, it is best not to attract squirrels (and other small animals) to your yard by feeding them. The increased small animal population is easy prey. Speaking of prey, small dogs are vulnerable, so maybe keep them close. On the flip side, did you know coyotes see dogs similar in size to them (or bigger) as a threat?

Remember that an animal that becomes habituated to humans loses its natural fear of humans. There are things you can do to keep animals wild:

- Give them space, make noise, and never feed wildlife.
- Takeout foods and picnics are popular, but please place the trash in a garbage can. If the can is full, find another or take your trash with you.
- Attractants in your yard, like garbage or pet food, should not be accessible to wildlife.
- Protect your pets by keeping them on-leash unless in a designated off-leash area; if there are predators present, leash up your dog, even in an off-leash area, and keep your cats indoors.
- Teach children never to approach wild animals and supervise young children outside. Skunks and other critters may enter yards.
- Talk to your neighbours, especially if they are causing issues by attracting wildlife.

If a wild animal becomes habituated, never attempt to poison it. This is inhumane, and you may inadvertently poison a pet or child. Use other methods to encourage animals to move away from your house.

What you do matters. We all play a role in keeping the community safe.





Are you looking for Adventure?

Then, Scouting is the place for you!



We are a volunteer organization for youth aged 5-26 years. If you are interested in volunteering or registering your child, please visit our website at myscouts.ca for information and group locations. We are an inclusive organization and financial assistance is available.

Help desk toll free number: 1-888-855-3336



Essential numbers for seniors in Calgary

9-1-1 Emergency (24-Hour)	403-SENIORS (403-736-4677) The Way In
For EMERGENCY medical, fire and police response. Call the non-emergency police line at 403-266-1234 to report an incident that is not an emergency.	Information, advice and help accessing programs and benefits for older adults.
8-1-1 Health Link (24-Hour)	403-266-HELP (403-266-4357) Distress Centre and SeniorConnect (24-Hour)
Health advice (including dementia advice) from a registered nurse.	Crisis support and urgent social work response (including if you are concerned about a senior at risk in the community).
3-1-1 City of Calgary (24-Hour)	403-943-1500 Access Mental Health
Information on all City of Calgary services. www.calgary.ca	Non-urgent advice on navigating the addiction and mental health system.
2-1-1 Community Resources (24-Hour)	403-705-3250 Elder Abuse Resource Line (24-Hour)
Information and referrals for community and social services. www.ab.211.ca	Confidential information and support, or to report a suspected case of elder abuse.

Telephone language interpretation service available on all lines.

Spring 2021 Soccer Announcement

SOCCER PROGRAM

brcacalgary.org/soccer

With the restrictions created by the current COVID-19 guidelines for kids' sports, the BRCA Board has decided not to host a modified soccer program this spring. We look forward to more restrictions lifting in Phase 4 and hope we can offer a soccer program in the summer or fall. Please keep an eye on our website and social media for updates. <https://www.brcacalgary.org/soccer>.

Heat Related Illness

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.

Prevention

- Stay well-hydrated by drinking plenty of water at all times.
- 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 a broad spectrum, waterproof sunscreen with a minimum SPF of 30+, especially for children. The sun's UV rays peak between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm, even on cloudy days.

Bridgeland Riverside Continuing Care Centre Construction Update

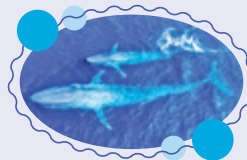
from The BRCCC Project Team

The BRCCC Project Team is providing the following update to the Community. Regular updates will be provided as construction progresses.

- The Bridgeland Riverside Continuing Care Centre is progressing into the next phase of construction.
- The construction trailer compound has been installed and perimeter fence installation to secure the site began on the east side of the site in early May 2021 and will continue until the site is completely secured.
- Excavation and removal of soil on the west side of the site continues and will be complete by early summer.
- Piling activities started early in May 2021 and will continue until early summer. It is expected water and utility services will be installed throughout the summer.
- The project team and contractor continue to monitor dust and will, when required, have a water truck available for dust control.
- The project team continues to be committed to the community of Bridgeland-Riverside and are available to address concerns which the community may have. Please use the email address noted (INFRAS.BRCCC@gov.ab.ca) to forward your concerns and a response will be issued.
- Thank you for your patience as construction continues to build a facility the community of Bridgeland-Riverside can be pleased with.



One Big Baby



The blue whale is an amazing animal. With stunning features and the ability to survive in the treacherous waters of the ocean, it is no wonder the blue whale is so well known. Incredibly, in its first year, a newborn blue whale will gain about 200 pounds a day. That's one big baby!



LEN T. WONG
& ASSOCIATES
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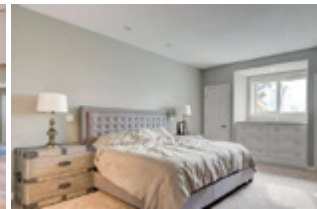


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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

LANDSCAPING, WINDOW CLEANING, AND YARD CARE: Weekly yard care starting at \$36. Mulch, rock, and sod installation. Window and gutter cleaning starting at \$99; interior/exterior/screens. Garden beds, stone patios, walkways, raised beds, rock walls, deck and fence builds, small concrete jobs, and pressure washing. A+ Member of BBB, 4.1 Google stars. Licensed. Insured. WCB. 403-265-4769 | YardBustersLandscaping.com.

HERITAGE POINTE GOLF COURSE DREAM HOME FOR SALE: See this executive custom-built & recently renovated bungalow with fully developed walk up basement backs onto Heritage Pointe Signature 9th Hole with views of the large pond. Visit <https://calgaryluxuryhomesearch.com/>, or call Len @ 403-606-8888 (Greater Property Group) for more information.

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Calgary Confederation
Len Webber, MP

2020 10 St NW, T2M3M2

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✉ len.webber@parl.gc.ca

Summer 2021 isn't quite what we envisioned last year. We've been through a third wave of COVID-19, and while we're thankful to be able to get some fresh air and sunshine, we are still working within the guidelines set by our Chief Medical Health Officer. We have sacrificed a lot over the last year because we care about our neighbours and are willing to do our part.

Community associations and organizations are planning their events with distancing and safety in mind, while still providing opportunities for Calgarians to connect. I am so thankful for the work they do. Now more than ever, it's important to get involved with your local community association, volunteer, become a member, and take part in the activities they work so hard to organize in our neighbourhoods.

Students are on a well-deserved summer break at the end of this month. Education has been top of mind for many constituents, and many of you have reached out to me with concerns about the curriculum re-write. As a Member of the Opposition, I am relieved that topics like computer science skills, financial literacy, and consent from the NDP-developed curriculum have stayed in. However, I share the concerns I've heard from parents about how this curriculum may not adequately prepare our children for a future economy. Heavy emphasis on memorization, lack of critical thinking skills, lack of inclusion and relevant Canadian history are just some of the concerns I've heard from community members. I encourage you to share your thoughts at www.KidsDeserveBetter.ca.

As always, I'm happy to hear from constituents. Please keep in touch through my constituency office at Calgary. MountainView@assembly.ab.ca or 403-216-5445.

717 New Jobs Coming

Every year, I have actively encouraged local businesses and organizations to apply for the Canada Summer Jobs program and it has paid off. If local businesses and organizations do not apply, our community will not get the available funding.

This year the Canada Summer Jobs program will create 717 jobs in our community with \$2,697,184 in funding.

This is a new record and up from 415 jobs last year, 530 in 2019, 495 in 2018, and 361 in 2017. In addition, the funding associated with those jobs has doubled the amount of money coming into our community in just three years. I applaud all the applicants for ensuring that our community gets its fair share.

All jobs are required to be posted on www.jobbank.gc.ca to ensure equal access to all residents.

The Canada Summer Jobs program provides funding to assist employers to create summer opportunities for young people aged 15 to 30 years who are full-time students intending to return to their studies this fall.

With this funding, young people will learn or improve job skills and gain work experience with local employers in areas such as retail, hospitality, marketing, technology, research, and communications.

We all know the difficulties the pandemic has had on young workers and I believe this funding will go a long way to helping many youths in our community get that critical job experience they need.

If you are an employer and are having trouble filling a position, please let me know and I will share the opportunity in my newsletter. Together we can help those in our community seeking new employment.

Anyone seeking employment opportunities is encouraged to visit www.jobbank.gc.ca to see a wide variety of career opportunities in Calgary and across Canada.



mybabysitterlist

Calling All BABYSITTERS
Enroll free at mybabysitter.ca and choose the Calgary communities you would like to babysit in.

Calling All PARENTS
Visit mybabysitter.ca and find available babysitters in and around your community.




Volunteering
is good for the soul

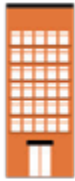


Condominium Board Members

Lenyx Corp. is a professional and fully licensed Real Estate Brokerage specialized in Condominium Management with a unique approach. Currently, we are overseeing several buildings in your community.

Why choose *Lenyx*?

- Manages Condominium buildings as a team, not with a single manager.
- Performs routine site visits to ensure maintenance and safety are held to a high standard.
- Offers customized and flexible services to fit your building's needs.
- Distributes financials and budgets that are both professional and easy to understand.
- Provides 24/7/365 answering & emergency response service.

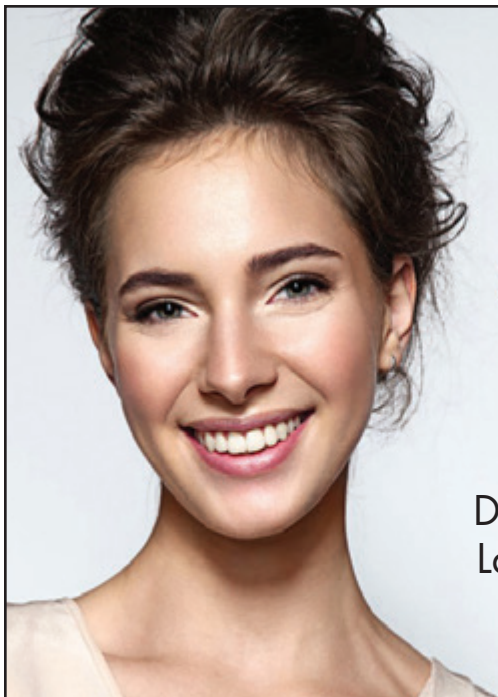


We manage high and low rise buildings, as well as townhouse complexes.

Contact us today for a complimentary quote at:

Info@LenyxCorp.ca or [587-475-8800](tel:587-475-8800)

www.LenyxCorp.ca



403.452.9959

124 - 8th Street NE

info@elegancecalgary.com

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Calgary



We're **reinventing** downtown for the new economy

Downtown is central to Calgary's economic recovery. We need a strong core to grow our economy, create jobs and help fund the City services we rely on every day. When our downtown thrives, Calgary thrives. We all benefit.

The heart of our city needs to evolve. Changes in the energy industry and in the way we work demand a new path forward.

Calgary's Greater Downtown Plan is our vision, roadmap and commitment to rebuild a thriving city centre. Our future success relies on downtown being a place people want to live, visit and set up businesses.

Calgarians have shown incredible community spirit throughout many difficult years and this persistent pandemic. Together, we'll shift downtown from vacancy to vibrancy.

Learn more about how we're reinventing downtown at calgary.ca/respond

