

AUGUST 2022

DELIVERED MONTHLY TO 5,105 HOUSEHOLDS

# BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE

## BRIDGES

THE OFFICIAL BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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Community Association**

917 Centre Ave NE  
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# MEMBERSHIP FORM

New and returning members, please apply online at [brcacalgary.org/membership](http://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. NE  
Calgary AB T2E 0C6



Membership type: (please check one)

Individual

Family

Senior

*For 2022 we will not be charging membership fees but invite members, if they wish, to pay what they can.*

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](mailto:events@BRCAcalgary.org)

Bridges contains editorial content and information provided by Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association and is distributed free to community residents and businesses 12 times per year. Circulation is approximately 5,100.

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## PRESIDENT/EDITOR'S MESSAGE

by Alex MacWilliam

I'm putting the finishing touches on this month's newsletter while listening to the fireworks on the last night of the Calgary Stampede. It's so great to see the Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth back in full swing, and our city buzzing with visitors and locals enjoying the sights and sounds of the Stampede and everything else Calgary has to offer in the summer. Of particular local interest will be Taste of Italy Calgary, taking place at the BRCA Hall on September 11.

It is obvious to all of us that much is happening right here in the neighbourhood. The Thursday Farmers Markets are a welcome return to our community, thanks to the efforts of our volunteers, sponsors, and local vendors. We are welcoming hundreds of new residents to Bridgeland as the Bucci Dominion and JEMM Bridge apartment complexes reach completion. Still under construction is the Minto Era condo building on Edmonton Trail. These projects also include new retail businesses that will provide additional services to the community and added vibrancy to the 9th Street and Edmonton Trail corridors. Speaking of street life, the City's Main Streets project is finally underway in Bridgeland-Riverside with Phase 1 construction primarily taking place at the Gateway and on Edmonton Trail between Memorial Drive and Second Avenue. Details can be found at the City of Calgary Main Streets website ([www.calgary.ca/pda/pd/main-streets/bridgeland-main-street.html](http://www.calgary.ca/pda/pd/main-streets/bridgeland-main-street.html)).

We are now the beneficiaries of a significant piece of public art. On June 30, the Wishing Well was officially unveiled at Bridge on the corner of 9 Ave and McDougall Road. As seen on the cover of this issue (photo credit Kelly Hofer), this striking sculpture was brought to Bridgeland thanks to a partnership between the City and JEMM Properties. It is an interactive artwork piece that will convert text messages into braille text dots that are sent to a virtual music box that translates words into melodies and light patterns. Check it out and send your own wishes for all to enjoy.

Construction has begun on the Bridgeland Sports Court in Murdoch Park and this new community amenity should be available for all to enjoy by the fall. Thank you to the many volunteers and 90+ donors for making this project, that was two years in the making, a reality. Who knows, there may soon be future NBA and WNBA stars learning their hoop skills in our neighbourhood.



**Bridgeland-Riverside**  
**FARMERS MARKET**

Thurs 3:30-7:30 pm June 23 - October 6, 2022  
Bridgeland-Riverside Community Hall 917 Centre Ave NE  
**Rain or Shine** [BRCA Calgary.org](http://BRCA Calgary.org)

The poster features a green background with various colorful icons representing market items like a bicycle, tomatoes, a hot pepper, a watermelon, a bottle, and people. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.



### To View Additional Community Content

INCLUDING

► **News and Events**

► **Real Estate Statistics**

► **Crime Statistics**

and More...

SCAN HERE



# BRCA SENIORS PROGRAM

BRING A FRIEND!

## AUGUST @ BRCA HALL (all activities are free)

- Aug 2 – Drop in Walk @ 10 am
- Aug 3 – Gentle Chair Yoga @ 10 am – (register)
- Aug 9 – Drop in Walk @ 10 am
- Aug 10 – Games Day (drop in) @ 1 pm
- Aug 16 – Drop in Walk @ 10 am
- Aug 17 – Presentation – *Blood Pressure Clinic* by Chealsea Jani from Longevity Care @ 10 am
- Aug 23 – Nordic Pole Walk @ 10 am – (register)
- Aug 30 – Drop in Walk @ 10 am

### All Activities Free, To Register

Email: [programs@brcacalgary.org](mailto:programs@brcacalgary.org)

Phone: 403-263-5755

For more details go to [www.brcacalgary.org](http://www.brcacalgary.org)

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BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Calgary



On behalf of Calgary Community Standards & Waste and Recycling Services

## Thank you, Bridgeland - Riverside Community Association

Congratulations on a successful **Community Cleanup** on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The weight collected for this year:

**Garbage: 9825 kg**

Thank you to the Community Association and residents for your commitment to keeping our communities healthy, safe and vibrant.

# BRIDGELAND WALKS 2022

--- Join us **Wednesday evenings 7pm** from  
May 4 – Sept 28 for our walks around the  
neighbourhood. We follow a different theme  
and route each week. **Meet @Community Centre  
917 Centre Ave**



Contact us @ [bridgelandwalks@gmail.com](mailto:bridgelandwalks@gmail.com)  
to have your email added to the  
distribution list for our monthly schedule.

## August 3 Heritage Homes

Calgary's Heritage Inventory hosts several 100+ year old Bridgeland homes.  
How many can we see? 4km, mostly flat

## August 10 Search for our Italian Past

Once known as "little Italy", Bridgeland was home to many Italian families and  
businesses. 4.5 km, flat

## August 17 Walk to the other side- Crescent Heights West

The west side of 4 Street was once considered part of Riverside. Nowadays its  
Crescent heights with some interesting places to explore. 5.5 km, hilly

## August 24 Riverside Art Walk

We've got new and long standing murals that tell lots about our community.  
Learn more about them. 5 km flat

## August 31 Quirky Places Scavenger Hunt

Part of what makes Bridgeland Riverside interesting is the unique decorations  
on homes/ gardens. Join us to find the quirky side of our village. 5 km  
mostly flat

### Accidental Poisoning

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) would like to remind parents and caregivers of precautions they can take to prevent accidental childhood poisonings around the home. Ingesting prescription or over the counter (OTC) medications is a significant cause of accidental childhood poisonings. Other causes include ingesting or contact with household items such as dishwasher or laundry tablets, mouthwash, or chemicals such as paints, solvents, or cleaning products.

#### Medication Storage

- Place all medications in locked containers and store in an area inaccessible to children.
- For easy identification, store all medications in their original packaging; do not mix multiple medications in a single bottle.
- Install child locks on all cabinets or drawers where medications are stored.

#### Safety Tips

- Child-resistant medication bottles are not child proof. They can still be opened by a child.

- Take extra precaution with medicines designed to appeal to children such as chewable vitamins or flavored cough and cold syrups.
- Promptly dispose of any medications or toxic household products no longer in use.

#### Prevention

- Store household products, cleaning supplies, and cosmetics in locked cabinets or drawers.
- Install child latches on cabinets children might also access by climbing on counters or chairs.
- Label all plants in and around your home and garden.
- Antifreeze, windshield washer fluid, and pesticides are extremely poisonous. Even small amounts of these can cause serious illness if ingested.

Poisoning information can be obtained by calling the Poison and Drug Information Service (PADIS) at: 1-800-332-1414.

In case of a poisoning emergency, call 911.

Provide the name of the product ingested and, if it is safe to do so, a sample of the substance for EMS to inspect on their arrival.





# BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE FIELD DAY



**August 27, 2022**  
**12 – 4 pm**

Join us for a fun free event for all ages at Riverside Park (aka McDougall Park).

Lots of activities like baseball, kickball, frisbee, bocce ball, food trucks, yoga, music, picnic in the park, and more!

Details and activity schedule on our website: [brcacalgary.org](http://brcacalgary.org)

**BRCA**  
BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



## *National Waffle Day*

August 24 is National Waffle Day in Canada! The day commemorates the creation of the patent for the first modern waffle iron. It's crazy to think that we're still using this invention 153 years later!





## Thank You OEB!

The Bridgeland-Riverside Farmers Market would like to thank OEB Breakfast Co. for helping to make the Farmers Market even better this year. We've missed hosting our regular market the past few years and are so excited to be back. We love seeing our friends and neighbours every Thursday supporting local vendors, having a picnic, relaxing, and socializing. Thank you OEB for supporting the following aspects of our market:

**Community Entrepreneur Table** - Providing opportunities for home-based businesses, persons just starting out, and youth to try out our market. This program aims to increase community participation and remove barriers.

**Kids Activities** - When the kids are busy having fun, everyone is having fun. We offer games, crafts, face painting, and more for kids every week.

**Picnic Area** - Grab one of our picnic blankets, or bring your own, and sit and enjoy some dinner, music, or just people watch.

OEB is also sponsoring our Special Event Market on August 11 – Local Food Week. We celebrate Local Food Week as we are an Approved Alberta Farmers Market, meaning 80% of the products for sale are made, baked, or grown in Alberta. In celebration, we have additional vendors attending and extra activities. With the generous support of OEB we will have a special band perform and extra fun kid's activities. See the poster in this newsletter for additional details.

Thank you OEB Breakfast Co. for supporting the Bridgeland-Riverside Farmers Market!

[www.brcacalgary.org](http://www.brcacalgary.org).

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# The Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer at the Bridgeland Swimming Pool (1960 to 2004)

by Deb Lee and the Heritage Committee



Hot summer days, spending time with your friends, learning to swim, diving off the high board. For 44 years the Bridgeland Pool provided safe fun and immense enjoyment for several generations of local kids. Most of us living in the community now have no inkling that such a wonderful place existed here, but it did, and the Bridgeland Pool left fond memories for many previous residents.

The pool, originally funded by the Kinsmen, was located adjacent to the Bridgeland-Riverside Community Hall, which at that time was south of McDougall Road at 9 Street, the present location of Bridgeland Crossings. Our community looked very different in those days. The Calgary General Hospital dominated the skyline to the north of the pool as you can see in the photo.

Closed and demolished in 2004 – the pool, along with the community centre, an outdoor skating/ hockey rink, and a couple of baseball diamonds are now only memories. Outdoor swimming pools were expensive for the city to operate, and plans were being made for an entirely new inner-city development called “The Bridges” to be built here after the General Hospital was imploded in 1998. It was suggested that a water park could replace the pool but that has never happened.

A request for stories from members of the Historic Bridgeland Riverside Facebook page netted some good memories...

Darrin tells us that the Riverside School would offer swimming lessons for the students before school was let out for the summer. He says he got his first three badges there.

Carlo says he spent his childhood summer holidays at the pool when it had a high-diving board, and he kept in good shape with his pool activities.

Karen reminisced with Kathy about how they went to the pool every day and Kathy taught her friend how to swim underwater. Because the hospital extended like a solid wall from 7A to 9A Street, it was a long way to walk around the hospital. Kathy and Karen, and many a Bridgeland kid, solved this problem by cutting through the hospital in via the front door off Centre Ave (or Murdoch Road as it was known then), taking the stairs to a lower level and exiting at the Emergency department near McDougall Road. The girls remember buying candy in the hospital tuck shop on their route.

Kids of all ages went to the swimming pool and spent many hours unaccompanied by parents... such a change from nowadays.

Cory spent lots of time at the pool and says he got ‘the worst burn ever’!

Dubravka, Tammy, Judy, Izabella, Heather, ShoSho, and Vincent all say their summers spent at the pool left them with many fond memories of growing up in Bridgeland.

Others, who shall remain nameless, remember scaling the fence and getting into the pool after hours... perhaps for a little skinny dipping!

Marilynne was a lifeguard at the pool in the mid ‘60s. She says the pool could get very busy at times and kept the four lifeguards on their toes. They had to periodically clear the pool to ensure all was well. She remembers there were no lockers in the change room, so swimmers stored their clothes in a mesh bag that they checked-in for safekeeping. The ‘adult swim’ was 12:00 to 1:00 and often staff from the hospital swam then. Adult lessons happened in the early evening and then family swim was until closing time at 9:00 pm.

Bridgeland Pool was a happening place and a treasured part of our community’s history!

# The Trees of Murdoch Park

by Laura and the BRCA Tree Team

Our tree gathering and walk with the City Parks educator on June 15 was a great success. We met with Meara before the walk, and she answered questions and provided information pamphlets and wildflower seed packets to attendees. About 20 people came on the walk around Murdoch Park, co-sponsored with the Bridgeland Riverside Walks group of BRCA. Meara was an enthusiastic and knowledgeable teacher. Here are some of the things we learned:

The system of tubes that carry fluids and nutrients up and down the tree (the xylem and phloem) is just under the bark, so damage to the bark can kill that side of the tree or the whole tree. Weed whackers are notorious for this kind of damage, which is why it is best not to have grass growing right up against your tree. (it's also why those of us putting cords around trees for sports/hammocks should pick trees with thick sturdy bark.)

Concrete next to a tree reflects light which can burn the bark (another reason the trees along 1 Ave aren't doing very well – we thought it was just the lack of access to rainfall!) She recommended planting shrubs around the base of trees.

Green Ash trees, which grow along the Centre Ave side of the park, are late to leaf in the spring and early to lose their leaves in the fall. Some of us had thought they were poor choices for that reason, but Meara explained that this helps them survive well in Calgary where we get late and early snowfalls that can break the branches of leafed-in trees – “smart ashes” as one of the people in our group labelled them!

The Larches along the top of the tobogganing hill are also well-adapted to our winters, as they are conifers but not evergreen – they shed their needles in the fall to keep from drying out over the winter.

The Columnar Aspens that grow near the General Hospital memorial wall are a good fit for spaces where there is little room for spreading branches, but they are vulnerable to bronze leaf disease, so the City isn't recommending planting them. Single trees may have more success than groups of identical trees – a diversity of plants is helpful to decrease disease spread.

The City also picks species of trees that have been bred for certain characteristics. The Hawthorns (trees with small white flowers along the central path and top of the tobogganing hill) have been bred to reduce their spiny thorns. The pink flowering trees along the path at the southeast corner of the Park, which many of us thought were cherry trees, are in fact ornamental Crabapples that have been bred for showy flowers but tiny inedible apples, so they don't create what Meara referred to as applesauce on the ground in the fall. Just north of the Crabapples are taller trees with white cluster flowers which are Schubert Chokecherries (not Maydays as many of us thought). You can tell the difference between the apple and cherry families of trees by opening a fruit and looking at the seeds – multiple for apples, single for cherries, just like the edible fruit.

One of our walkers asked why the City isn't planting more Evergreen trees. Meara explained that those trees tend to grow tall, with shallow root systems, so they are more likely to fall over in windstorms, which can damage power lines and buildings.

We ended the walk by showing Meara our Heritage Street – 8 St between 1 and 4 Ave, with its huge elms planted in 1942. We hope to have future Tree Educator walks every spring.

## Tree Team Update

Our work with the City Urban Forestry went very well, with 116 new trees planted in the community in June, and more to come in 2024. Our next goal was to share information about trees with the community, so we have been writing monthly newsletter articles for you and posting them on the BRCA website, as well as organizing the tree educator walk. Much of what we wanted to share has been covered now, so we won't be posting monthly articles over the winter, but we will submit occasional ones when relevant. Our future goals include looking at how to “keep our canopy” and preserve the trees we have.

You may have noticed the removal of trees along Edmonton Trail – the City has assured us that they will be planting many more there than are currently being removed. Please let us know if there are any topics about trees you would like to read about in the future, or if there are any other tree-related issues you would like the team look into. You can reach us at [trees@brccalgary.org](mailto:trees@brccalgary.org).

The Bridgeland Riverside Farmers' Market  
presents a special market:

# Local Food Week

## August 11

Join us on Thursday August 11th, 3:30-7:30pm for this special event! We'll have all your favorites plus additional vendors, live music, food trucks, face painting & activities for adults & kids!  
More info: [www.brcacalgary.org](http://www.brcacalgary.org)

Local Food Week occurs every year in early August across Alberta. It provides the opportunity for you to meet farmers and entrepreneurs who work to put nutritious food on our plates, and to show support for all things grown, made and harvested in Alberta.

FARMERS'  
MARKET



OEB  
BREAKFAST CO.



## Discounted Monthly Transit Passes

by the City of Calgary Transit Department

Calgary Transit is offering adult and youth monthly passes for \$56 in August and September. That's a 50% discount off our adult monthly pass!

It's a great opportunity for families to explore using transit to make their way around their community and beyond. Take transit to your events and recreational opportunities throughout the city this summer.

Discounted passes can be purchased beginning July 15 in person at local vendors and Calgary Transit Customer Service Centres, or electronically, using My Fare, our mobile ticketing app. You can also buy your discounted pass online at [calgarytransit.com/Shop](http://calgarytransit.com/Shop) after July 6.

Visit [calgarytransit.com/SummerDiscount](http://calgarytransit.com/SummerDiscount) for details.



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## The Women's Centre Summer Girls Programs

The Girls Programs provide all individuals who identify as a girl safe spaces where they can learn about and share their knowledge of leadership, activism, and community building. We facilitate various activities that include crafts, discussions, and most importantly, girl-led sessions where girls practice their leadership skills. Girls tell us that our programs are fun and that they help them feel more confident and connected. Discussions and activities center on topics that girls are interested in from a gender-specific lens.

The programs are free, and the Women's Centre will provide all supplies. For in-person programs, we will provide light breakfast, snacks, and lunch. Bus tickets will be available for girls to attend program as needed.

Summer programs will be taking place at the Women Centre (39 4th St NE Calgary AB T2E 3R6).

### Programs

#### **Girl Power (Grades 5 to 6)**

Online: August 2 to 5 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm

In-person: August 8 to 11 from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

#### **Girl Force (Grades 7 to 9)**

Online: August 2 to 5 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm

In-person: August 15 to 18 from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

#### **Girls Lead YYC (Grades 10 to 12)**

In-person: Every Wednesday from July 6 to August 17 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

To register, email [era@womenscentrecalgary.org](mailto:era@womenscentrecalgary.org) or call 403-264-1155.

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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](http://www.communitymediation.ca), 403-269-2707.

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# Thinking of selling this summer?

Zach Terlier

REALTOR | FATHER | NEIGHBOUR



**\$325,000**

716 5 Street NE #104  
**Beds: 2 | Baths: 2**  
**SqFt: 934 | Built: 2005**



**\$208,000**

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**Beds: 2 | Baths: 1**  
**SqFt: 767 | Built: 1990**

**Zach Terlier | Realtor**



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