

APRIL 2023

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BRIDGELANDRIVERSIDE

BRIDGES

THE OFFICIAL BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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Call for Youth Soccer Referees!

Hello Neighbours!

We are looking to hire youth soccer referees for the Bridgeland soccer program. If you are between the ages of 12 and 18 and have experience or an interest in refereeing soccer, please contact the soccer coordinator at soccer@brccalgary.org for more information. Games are Tuesday and Thursday nights from May 2 to June 22; the wage is \$25 per game.



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Finally, it's spring! As the snow melts and the leaves start to appear, our community activities will be resuming. With the community hall closed since the end of November (repairs are hopefully underway by the time you receive this newsletter), we are keen to start our outdoor programs for 2023. The kids' soccer program will be bringing lots of activity to Murdoch Park. The Farmers' Market will soon be up and running and the Rooftop Garden will be brimming with action as our neighbourhood green thumbs start their plants, vegetables, and herbs.

Our very popular Bridgeland Walks program will be up and running (OK, walking) providing opportunities to learn about our community while getting some gentle exercise at the same time. Our annual Community Cleanup is scheduled for April 29 and our Beautification Committee Park Stewards will soon be out in full force tending to many of our beautiful green spaces.

Further details about many of these programs can be found in this issue of Bridges, on the BRCA website, and on our social media.

None of these programs and activities would be possible without the dedicated efforts of our many volunteers. These neighbours, young, old, and in between, typify the spirit and pride of place that make our community such a wonderful place to live, work, and play. If you see any of our volunteers in action, please take the time to thank them for what they do for our neighbourhood. Better yet, in addition to thanking them, consider joining our merry band of volunteers. Contributing a few hours of time is a great investment and brings many returns.

Alex MacWilliam



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Bicycle Helmet Safety

from Alberta Health Services

Head injuries are the leading cause of serious injury and death to kids on wheels*. Most injuries occur when a cyclist suffers a fall, strikes a stationary object, or collides with another cyclist/pedestrian. Remember – it's the law in Alberta that cyclists under the age of 18 must wear a helmet (and highly recommended for all ages). Helmets should be CSA approved and worn during recreational activities such as skateboarding, in-line skating, and cycling.

Getting informed

- Wearing a helmet while cycling can prevent a serious injury, or even save a life
- Brain injuries can cause permanent disability or death
- Reduce your risk by always wearing your helmet
- Replace any helmet that has been involved in a crash, even if it appears undamaged

Getting started

- Allow children to assist when buying their helmet
- Cyclists who choose their own helmet are more likely to wear them
- Start the habit early. Young children learning to ride tricycles need to wear helmets
- Parents must lead by example – always wear a helmet when cycling

Getting the right fit

- Take the time to properly fit and adjust your helmet to ensure maximum protection in case of a crash
- When worn properly, helmets should fit level, not tilted up, or down over the forehead
- Helmets should feel snug, but not too tight. To test the fit, the helmet should not fall off when you shake your head from side-to-side while the straps are unfastened
- Adjust the chin straps to form a "Y" below and slightly forward from the ears
- Only one finger should be able to fit under the chin strap when it is fastened
- Do not forget to use the sizing pads included with the helmet. They will help improve the overall fit, comfort, and safety.

* Parachute Canada: <http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/wheeled-activities1>.



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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 NE
Calgary AB T2E 0C6

Membership type: (please check one)

Individual

Family

Senior



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 12 times per year. Circulation is approximately 5,100.

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Meet Your Board Member: Bonnie Kemp

How did you first get involved with BRCA as a volunteer?

I first got involved with the BRCA when I was hired as the Soccer Coordinator for the 2020 season. Though we were unable to move ahead with the 2020 soccer season (or the 2021 season!) due to COVID restrictions, I still wanted to play a role in supporting the community, so in 2020 I joined the BRCA Board as the Director of Planning and Transportation.



What led you to consider serving on the Board?

Having always lived in a neighbourhood with community associations, I have always seen first hand the benefits of having an organized group responsible for ensuring that the community prospers and meets the needs of its members. With the many changes happening in Bridgeland, I felt it was important to play an active role in how my neighbourhood moved into the future.

What is involved in being a Board member?

Being a Board member means collaborating with the other Board members, surrounding communities, and our neighbours to represent and advocate for the needs

of our community. As the Planning and Transportation Director, this means working closely with those impacted by proposed building developments and transportation initiatives, and providing feedback on proposals which reflects neighbours' concerns and excitements. We also work closely with our Councillor and the Ward 9 office to develop policies that will continue to ensure that Bridgeland-Riverside grows in a positive direction.

The BRCA Planning Committee is very busy, and currently has over 100 active applications. This requires significant volunteer time and means we need many volunteers to share the workload. If you're interested in joining the Planning Committee, please reach out for more information!

What do you enjoy about being a BRCA Board member?

Having moved to Calgary in 2019, the BRCA Board has been a fantastic way to meet people in the neighbourhood and get to learn more about Calgary. Being actively involved in understanding and solving local challenges while providing opportunities for neighbours to engage, collaborate, and better our neighbourhood, has made volunteering a worthwhile and rewarding experience.

What would you say to community members about joining the Board?

Bridgeland Riverside is actively growing and developing, and we are at a pivotal time in our development. Walk the talk and join the Board to play a role in bringing the community together and contributing to the Bridgeland-Riverside of tomorrow.

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BRIDGELAND CONTENT**

**News, Events,
& More**




**Crime
Statistics**



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"The BRCA bridges people through engagement across the past, present, and future."

It's time to **RENEW** your **BRCA Membership for 2023**

- ❖ 2023 BRCA Membership fees have been waived!
- ❖ You can make a donation when you renew, which goes towards amazing community programs, activities, and events! *See details online.*
- ❖ Levels: Individual, Family, Senior

(Current memberships expire: Dec 31, 2022)

Renew at www.brcacalgary.org


BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

JOIN BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

Are YOU passionate about Bridgeland-Riverside and want to help make it even better? Then we'd love to hear from you as we have openings on our board of directors. It's a great way to give back to your community and meet your neighbours who share your passion.

Simply email membership@brcacalgary.org with your interest.
Look forward to hearing from you!


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BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CLEANUP

APRIL 29, 2023 9:00 AM -1:30 PM



LITTER PICK UP
VOLUNTEER



OVERSIZED
GARBAGE



RECYCLING

REGISTER ONLINE

www.brcacalgary.org

- We are looking for volunteers like you to help tidy up our beautiful parks and neighbourhood streets
- We also need volunteers to plan & organize the event. If you are interested please email membership@brcacalgary.org

MEET AT THE HALL

On April 29, from 9am-11am meet at the BRCA to sign-in, get supplies & be assigned to an area.

Please come prepared for the weather with gloves, appropriate clothing & closed-toe shoes. Refreshments and snacks will be provided.

QUESTIONS?

- ✉ hall@brcacalgary.org
- ☎ +1 403-263-5755

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Riverside Story – Getting Around on 4 Street

by Deb Lee, Heritage Committee

4 Street NE in Riverside, originally known as Edmonton Trail, has seen a lot of traffic over the years. From the earliest Indigenous peoples travelling on foot on the 'Old North Trail', to the horse and buggy era of the 1900s, to today's vehicles rushing into downtown, it has been a well travelled route. The first Langevin Bridge, built in 1888, had such busy horse traffic that its wooden beams were breaking down and becoming unsafe. This necessitated the construction of the second and much sturdier Langevin Bridge in 1910. That bridge was renamed Reconciliation Bridge in 2016. Millions of feet and vehicles have crossed the Bow River at this location over the years.

If you were travelling by horse, you needed a place to "park" it. This was done in the village of Riverside at Pioneer Livery Stables. Located beside the Riverside Hotel (adjacent to the Bow River); the stable was the place for horses to be fed, rested, and otherwise tended to. Piles of 'you know what' accumulated beside the stable, giving off a very noticeable aroma that was said to permeate all corners of the community.

Horses pulled a variety of conveyances in those early days. Stagecoaches with passengers heading out on the four-day journey to Edmonton, thundered up 4 Street. Deliveries of items such as milk, vegetables, laundry, and ice were made by horse and wagon and supplies would have been distributed to the many small Riverside businesses. A horse-drawn firewagon operated from Fire Station #4 on nearby 6A Street.

The electric-powered streetcar was introduced to Calgary in 1909, and soon after, a north-bound route crossed the bridge and headed up 4 Street. It turned east at the 1 Ave corner (where Lukes is today) toward the Calgary General Hospital in the nearby community of Bridgeland. A second streetcar was needed to carry the many local labourers to their jobs at the Ogden railyards or the Brewery. Later, the diesel-powered #9 bus plied this route, but many wonder if the steel rails for the streetcar still exist under today's pavement.

It wasn't long before automobiles came into use. One of the earliest stories describes a local doctor whose car could not make it up the steep and probably not too smooth incline of Edmonton Trail. He very resourcefully turned the car around and drove up the hill backwards; perhaps a precursor to the front-wheel drive vehicles we have today.

Over the years there have been car businesses as well. For many years Farmer Jones Used Cars operated on the NW corner of 4 Street and Memorial Drive – just south of the Armour/Reliance block. Owned by the colourful Ed Pizinger, this car lot also had a corral with numerous farm animals that was a special attraction for local kids. Further north on 4 Street was a dealership selling Alfa Romeo cars, and later Ansell Motors that sold Russian Lada vehicles, all in keeping with the multi-cultural vibe of Riverside. For many decades, a gas station was located on the NE corner of 4 Street and Memorial Drive. Riverside Service Station, Esso, and the current Centex have all had a presence there.

With the 1970's construction of a new northbound road, known today as Edmonton Trail (from Memorial Drive to 2 Avenue), and the conversion of 4 street to a one-way southbound thoroughfare, the neighbourhood ambiance of 4th was significantly (and many would say negatively) altered. But nowadays new buildings are being constructed and more people are coming here to live. There seems to be an irresistible attraction to Riverside's historic 4 Street. Take a stroll along 4 Street and imagine the fascinating place that it would have been and envision the amazing place it can become!

Thank you to Alan Zakrison and Devon Blean for your intrepid research work over the years.



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May 3 - Sep 28

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Love a Local Park

We love our parks and green spaces in Bridgeland – Riverside, all 15 of them, and want to ensure they are clean, safe, and fun places to spend time. The City of Calgary has an ‘Adopt a Park’ program that supports volunteers, known as stewards, to contribute to the care of our park areas. Stewards’ roles include litter pick-up, minor shrub maintenance/pruning, and playground care. Some of our Beautification Committee members have adopted specific parks and found it a great way to keep the parks in good form. Another bonus is that these volunteer activities put us in a happy state of mind. We hope that more local residents can get involved in the ‘Adopt a Park’ program so that we can have a strong network of park stewards in all areas of our community. To hear more about our volunteer experiences, contact beautification@brcacalgary.org. To learn more about the details of the program and recognition events for stewards (such as education sessions and guided nature walks at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary), and to sign up go to <https://www.calgary.ca/volunteer/parks.html?redirect=/parksvolunteer>.

Your Beautification Committee



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GAMES & PUZZLES

Trivia: Calgary Edition

1. What year did the Calgary Flames win the Stanley Cup?
2. What was Calgary’s original name?
3. What iconic indie pop duo hails from Calgary?
4. In 1969, what cocktail did Walter Chell invent in Calgary?
5. Who was Canada’s flag bearer at Calgary’s 1988 Winter Olympics?



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