

AUGUST 2023

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BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE BRIDGES

THE OFFICIAL BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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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

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PRESIDENT/EDITOR'S MESSAGE

by Alex MacWilliam

I couldn't think of a theme for this month's message, so you're getting a potpourri of items from me. You will see from this issue's cover photo (courtesy of Harold Krause) that the solar panels have now been installed on our community hall building. With all the sunny weather we have enjoyed this summer, we are looking forward to reducing our consumption of non-renewable energy sources and lowering the operating costs at the hall.

Speaking of the hall, the repairs are at long last completed and you will see the "save-the-date" in this issue. I hope you can join us to celebrate the re-opening of the hall for functions and meetings. I would like to express our appreciation to the many organizations that contributed their space to the BRCA and other groups impacted by the hall closure. These kind folks include the Centre Street Church (Bridgeland Campus), JEMM Properties (The Bridge), Calgary Buddhist Temple, LDV Pizza, Bridgeland Crossings, and the Italian Cultural Centre. A big thank-you also goes to our general manager, Pam Swan, for dealing with insurers, contractors, the City, and hall users during the past 10 months and doing all this without being able to work from her office in the hall.

It's easy to see that there is lots going on in the neighbourhood these days: work on the Main Street projects on Edmonton Trail and 1 Avenue continues while repairs to the grass and the playground in Murdoch Park are intended to keep our "central park" in good condition for all types of users.

Thank you to the folks at the Calgary Drop-In Centre for their first contribution to our newsletter. We look forward to continuing to foster good relations with our neighbours across the river.

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GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess That Canadian City!

1. This city hosted Canada's first and only Summer Olympics in 1976.
2. Ginger beef was invented in this city in the 1970s.
3. Terry Fox began his "Marathon of Hope" in this city.
4. This city has the highest population and is the most visited in the country.
5. In the 1900s, illegal tunnels were built in this city to hide Chinese immigrants who were avoiding discrimination or who couldn't afford the head tax.
6. This town is dubbed the "polar bear capital of the world."



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FOR THE ANSWERS!

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BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE FARMERS MARKET

10
YEARS!

RAIN
OR
SHINE



THURSDAYS // 3:30 – 7:30 PM

JUNE 22 – OCTOBER 5, 2023

Bridgeland Community Hall,

917 Centre Ave NE | brcacalgary.org



We All Have the Power to Help Solve Homelessness for Somebody

by Sandra Clarkson, Executive Director, Calgary Drop-In Centre

Compassion. Empathy. Understanding. I'm not saying exercising these traits is all it takes – but putting them into practice for another can be the start of what sparks someone's exit from homelessness. I've seen it. Many of you have too.

It takes community to build community and the community supporting people who are experiencing homelessness or near homelessness is no exception.

Everyone's journey into homelessness or near-homelessness is unique to them, as are their paths to exit. We welcome any and all who need our help, with no barriers to accessing services. By meeting people where they are, we can focus on helping each person to create for themselves a new life full of connection, hope, happiness, friends, self-determination, and good health.

Community provides strength in numbers and strength in unity. Because we're working toward a common goal, we leverage one another's strengths, working much better than individual players, each trying to be all things to all people.

We know homelessness is fraught with complexities, and a one-size-fits-all solution, which unfortunately isn't going to cut it. Different parts of the homelessness-serving continuum are needed by different people at various points of time and progress. Collaboration is the only way to be truly effective.

Exercise your compassion, empathy, and understanding for folks who may not look like you, act like you, or live like you. It's in your power to use your gifts to make the world a better place for all.



Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Baloo and Walter, *Springbank Hill*



JC Cat, *Evanston*



Pepper, *Evergreen*



Tuxedo Joe, *Cranston*

To have your pet featured, email news@mycalgary.com



BRCA Community Hall
Grand Re-Opening

SAVE THE DATE

September 15, 2023
Details to Follow!

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Accidental Poisoning

by Alberta Health Services



Emergency Medical Services (EMS) would like to remind parents and caregivers of precautions 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 of poisoning include ingesting or coming into contact with household items such as dishwasher tablets, mouthwash, or chemicals such as paints, solvents and 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 9-1-1. 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.

Neighbour Day in Bridgeland-Riverside

by April Vande Beek

As the City of Calgary explains it, “Neighbour Day is an annual event celebrated in Calgary on the third Saturday of June. The event encourages Calgarians to get to know their neighbours and build stronger, more connected communities. It was first introduced in 2014 as a response to the devastating floods that hit the city the previous year, as a way of bringing people together to celebrate the community’s resilience and strength. Since then, Neighbour Day has become an important tradition in Calgary, with neighbourhoods hosting a wide range of activities and events, such as block parties, BBQs, community cleanups, and more.”

For a block of us in Bridgeland, this year that ‘and more’ consisted of a dunk tank, egg toss, patio playlist, pizza, and a parrot attendee, to name a few. Our mission was two-fold: connect our Bridgeland community block and also raise money for the Calgary Food Bank.

Even before we got the chance to start target practice on the dunk tank or meet soon-to-move-in neighbours (hey there, Lauren and Stuart!), the opportunity to team up and dream up the day fostered the Neighbour Day spirit. While Bridgeland is too inner-city to get together

for a barn raising, it’s fair to say that the lawn-tent hoisting achieved a similar sense of shared purpose.

Amidst all the excitement, the true impact of our collective efforts became apparent as we raised over \$3,500 for the local food bank, showing the strength of what we can do when we come together to support our neighbours in the city who are experiencing food insecurity.

The success of our efforts would not have been possible without the tremendous support of our local sponsors with food, drink, and raffle prize contributions. Thanks to: Toto Pizza, Baya Rica Cafe, Bike & Brew, Sotheby’s International Realty Canada, Junction 9, Bridgeland Sport & Spine, Maud Medical Clinic, Village Brewery (thanks, Steve!), Bridgeland Vet Clinic, Sierra Dental, YYC Sport & Spine, Bridgeland Crossings Dental, Doodle Dogs, Bridgeland Distillery, Peace Beauty & Cafe, Village Ice Cream, Lukes Drug Mark, Jarman Flower Shop, TO Cigar Boutique, Elite Brewing, and Starbucks Coffee. Your contributions highlight your commitment to our community and neighbourly connections.

Let’s make everyday Neighbour Day. Whether it’s borrowing a cup of sugar, lending a hand on the tools, receiving deliveries for next door, or popping by with some food during a hard time, having kind and connected neighbours makes daily life a little less stressful and a lot more fun.





GIRLS SUMMMER PROGRAMS

The Women's Centre is offering summer leadership programs for girl-identifying and gender diverse youth going into grades 5-9

GIRL POWER (GRADES 5-6)

July 10th - 13th (9:30AM - 4PM)
August 8th - 11th (9:30AM - 4PM)

GIRL FORCE (GRADES 7-9)

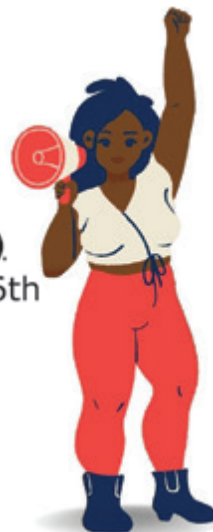
July 17th - 20th (9:30AM - 4PM)
August 14th - 17th (9:30AM - 4PM)

GIRLS LEAD YYC (GRADES 10-12)

Every Wednesday July 5th to August 16th
5PM - 7PM

END OF SUMMER EVENT

AUGUST 23rd, Tme: TBA



Please note you can only join one summer program

All programs are free

Supplies, lunch and bus tickets provided

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A Genealogical History: Bridgeland-Riverside Project WikiTree

by Devon Blean

If you are a descendant of one of Bridgeland-Riverside's older families, you might be interested in the Bridgeland-Riverside and Nose Creek one-place studies that have been started on WikiTree. This means that several people may be writing about the same person and adding or amending information. I started doing folks from Bridgeland-Riverside and Nose Creek about two and a half years ago and now have added hundreds of profiles of people who lived in the area, all documented with sources obtained from Ancestry, Familysearch, Newspapers.com, and Find A Grave.

Recently, the 1931 Canada census has appeared on Ancestry so that's a help. Sometimes, I've been able to contact people on Ancestry who have allowed me to use their family photos. On occasion, there are useful photos found in the Glenbow Archives. Volunteers from the neighbourhood often go out to obtain photos of places where people lived if the houses still exist. And I have my own cache of neighbourhood photos from 2007 to 2009 that I took before we moved away to the west coast. How I wish I had taken more of peoples' houses since so many have been torn down since that time.

I've been concentrating on the earliest settlers in an effort to recreate the neighbourhood in the 1910s and 1920s. Since there were so many marriages among the local residents, perhaps eventually, as other people add their family information, we shall get almost everyone who lived here at that time. Interestingly, just a few months ago, another person from Edmonton started a Boonie Doon one-place study. Already, we have found connections from Bridgeland to Edmonton.

You can google Bridgeland-Riverside Project WikiTree to see if your family members have had profiles written about them. I am always looking for more detailed family information in order to spark up the profiles and make them real biographies and not just a recitation of birth, marriage, and death dates like you see on Find A Grave. If you're interested in working with me, please contact dblean@hotmail.com.

YOUR CITY OF CALGARY

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from the City of Calgary



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- A twelve-month City of Calgary license
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