

COMMUNITY LEAGUE NEWS SOUTH

Serving the community leagues of
Argyll, Hazeldean, Ritchie and Strathcona.



June/July 2020

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June is Bike Month and the Bike Gloves Have Been Thrown Down

It's a Bike Challenge and Which League Will Bike the Farthest?

Hazeldeaners Are Ready to Wheel Away

Do you love to bike? Are you a commuter, weekend warrior, or just love a leisurely ride through the ravine every so often? Starting June 1, start logging your kilometers to prove that Hazeldean leaves other community leagues (Ritchie, Strathcona, Bonnie Doon, etc.) in the dust when it comes to cycling. Log your kilometers by using downloading the Strava group to your phone, and join this group: <https://www.strava.com/clubs/hazeldean-cyclists-674105>.

Ritchie: Let's Peddle On

June 3 is World Bicycle Day, but Ritchie wants to celebrate all month long. It launched a friendly competition between community leagues to see which can log the most kilometers. Find out if your community is taking part and how to report your rides to it. Weekly results are published on the Ritchie website, so you can see who is in the lead.

(If you live in Ritchie, join the Ritchie United Club in the Strava activity-tracking app or track your kilometers on your own and e-mail them to ritchie-united@ritchie-league.com weekly by Sunday at 11:59 p.m.) So get on your bikes. Tell your neighbours. Tell the garbage collectors. Tell everyone. And pedal harder than you've ever had to in your COVID lives!

Strathcona: Bike Helmets On and Ready to go

Strathcona Community League is excited to be participating in a community league challenge to see which neighbourhood can collectively bike the most kilometres!

How to participate?

1. Automatically track your bike kilometres in the Strava App by joining the Strathcona CL June Bike Challenge club at www.strava.com/clubs/BikeSCCL. Alternatively, you can send your



weekly km to green@strathconacommunity.ca.

2. Check out the SCCL website and Facebook group for announcements of weekly bonus challenges for both adults and kids!

3. Get out and ride as much as possible! Our goal is first to meet 1918 km (the founding year of our league), and then to beat all the other participating neighbourhoods! Totals for all participating neighbourhoods will be posted weekly.

At the end of the challenge we will give away prizes to the member who logged the most kilometres and to members who participated in the most bonus challenges!

Information about COVID-19

Stay up to date on current information from reliable websites:

Alberta Health Services
<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx>
Government of Alberta
<http://alberta.ca/covid19>
City of Edmonton
<http://edmonton.ca/covid19>
Government of Canada
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

EPS Mobile App

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Stay informed: Direct route to EPS' media releases, alerts, and crime files.

Stay safe: Report a crime online, locate the station nearest you, and get through the stress of a collision with our handy collision tips.

City Services & General Information

Visit www.edmonton.ca/311 or call 311 for information about City of Edmonton services. 311 agents are available 24 hours a day, every day.

Meet me at City Hall School



By Ward 8 Councillor Ben Henderson

Ben Henderson goes back to school: candid interview with a future leader from Hardisty School and Ward 8 Councillor Ben Henderson as part of the Virtual City Hall School. Councillor Henderson answers questions about his work on Council and talks about the positive ways people have found to keep

connected and help each other during this extraordinary time. Go to the City website <https://www.edmonton.ca/cityhallschool> The playlist on the webpage is for the Virtual City Hall School interviews with Councillor Henderson and many others via YouTube. You can reach Ben via mail at ben.henderson@edmonton.ca.

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Strathcona Centre News

Address: 10139 – 87 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2P3

website: www.strathconacommunity.ca

STRATHCONA CENTRE COMMUNITY LEAGUE EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Maureen Duguay president@strathconacommunity.ca
Past President	Jeff Samsonow pastpresident@strathconacommunity.ca
Vice-President	Delianne Meenhorst vicepresident@strathconacommunity.ca
Treasurer	John de Haan treasurer@strathconacommunity.ca
Secretary	Anya Manukyan secretary@strathconacommunity.ca
Membership Chair	Lois Hameister membership@strathconacommunity.ca
Communication Chair	Delianne Meenhorst communication@strathconacommunity.ca
Programs Chair	Donna Fong programs@strathconacommunity.ca
Social Chair	Nathan Carroll social@strathconacommunity.ca
Soccer Co-Chairs	Cheryl West-Hicks Jenn Costigan soccer@strathconacommunity.ca
Civics Chair	Derek Kaplan civics2@strathconacommunity.ca
Occupational & Safety Officer	Yixi Song safety@strathconacommunity.ca
Building and Grounds	Brian Moffat grounds@strathconacommunity.ca
Green Initiatives	Kasia Kaputa green@strathconacommunity.ca
Community Garden Chair	Daniel Auger garden_co@strathconacommunity.ca
Hall Use Committee	Jeanie McDonnell hall@strathconacommunity.ca
Community & Neighbourhood Liaison	VACANT
Community Hall	Scott Wright rentals@strathconacommunity.ca 780-439-1501
Website Manager	Karen Rowsell webmaster@strathconacommunity.ca
Information	info@strathconacommunity.ca

Address: 10139 – 87 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2P3
Community League website: www.strathconacommunity.ca
EFCL website: www.efcl.org
Community Leagues...where neighbours meet and great things happen!

Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, September to June, at 7:00 p.m. All community league members are welcome to attend. For more information phone 780-439-1501 or e-mail at info@strathconacommunity.ca

The Strathcona Centre Community League is on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter @StrathconaCL

The copy deadline for the August-September 2020 issue of Community League News South is July 27, 2020. Please contact Donna Fong, Newsletter Editor, at 780-433-5702, or by e-mail at donna.fong@shaw.ca

Strathcona Rail Community Garden

Gardening activities at the Strathcona Rail Community Garden resumed on May 6. The Strathcona Community League would like to acknowledge Strathcona Spirits' contribution to the operation of the garden by providing

hand sanitizer to disinfect tools and frequently touched surfaces. The garden provides an opportunity to more than 65 families to grow their own food. Thank you, Strathcona Spirits!

Memberships

Although our hall and programs are currently closed/suspended due to COVID-19, our board members are still busy (some busier than ever!) ensuring that the league runs smoothly. We are working continuously with the City of Edmonton, the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (EFCL) and Alberta Health Services to ensure we are following the necessary protocols and that we will be ready to implement new phases of opening: the hall is undergoing major cleaning and some minor upgrades; the Civics committee continues its work with planning and development issues; communication with members is ongoing; and occasional virtual or distance social activities are planned.

Due to this ongoing work, you are still getting many of the benefits of being a community league member, and memberships are still available for purchase. We've added an e-Transfer process for your convenience and safety.

How to become a member:

ON-LINE: buy a membership online through <http://www.efcl.org/membership> (note: the EFCL charges a \$5 surcharge)

CHEQUE: You can mail or drop off a cheque

to the Strathcona Community League at 10139 87 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T6E 2P3, enclosing a note advising that you want a membership. Include membership type (family, single, senior), names of adults in the household, home address and if desired, an email address. A membership card will be mailed or dropped off at your home.

E-TRANSFER: send an e-Transfer to payments@strathconacommunity.ca; in the comments section of the e-Transfer list the names of adults in the household, home address and membership type (family, single, senior). A membership card will be e-mailed or dropped off at your home.

Memberships are \$20/family, \$15/single, \$5/senior.

If you have any questions, email membership@strathconacommunity.ca, or leave a voice message at the hall at 780-439-1501.

The membership year coincides with the school year, so watch for our membership drive for 2020-21 in September. If the situation allows, we will come door-to-door. Alternatively, we will contact our members via email and social media.

2020 Neighbourhood Renewal Update

Strathcona's second year of neighbourhood renewal construction began at the end of April as planned. Work will continue through the fall in central and east Strathcona, between 82 and 87 Avenues from Mill Creek Ravine to 101 Street. A new active mobility path along the streetcar line will also be completed this year.

Along with new roads, sidewalks and street lights, some blocks could also see changes to trees.

Those living along 86 Avenue will see the addition of boulevard trees between 97 and 100 Streets, on both sides of the avenue. This will mean 86 Avenue's streetscape will grow to look and feel more like other neighbourhood streets in our community. Those living on 97 and 98 Streets will also see trees added or removed. And 100 Street, between 83 and 84 Avenue will see a handful of trees removed to allow for construction of a parking bay and active transportation lanes.

Any tree that is removed by the City of Edmonton for renewal construction will be

replaced by an equal value of trees, as determined by the Urban Forestry branch.

If you have any questions or concerns about neighbourhood renewal construction please contact the delivery project manager, the Building Great Neighbourhoods department or phone 311.

Strathcona Delivery Project Manager: Aladdin Benayad

Phone: 780-496-4057

Email: aladdin.benayad@edmonton.ca

If you'd like to see what construction will look like near your home, and throughout Strathcona, you can find plan details, and project history, at the dedicated page for our neighbourhood renewal at the City of Edmonton's website, edmonton.ca/buildingstrathcona.

If you have any questions or suggestions about how the community league can help keep neighbours informed about renewal construction, please reach out to Past President Jeff Samsonow at pastpresident@strathconacommunity.ca.

League Programs

All registered programs, urban poling walks, and play groups continue to be suspended until further notice. Thanks to several league contract instructors who reached out to their students to provide access to online classes this past spring. To stay connected with the instructors, please contact them directly.

Melanie Kidder, Pound Fitness and Zumba for kids, teens and adults

Online classes at Fitness Studio.

email melstrand_5@hotmail.com | phone 780-722-7558

Kim Novotny, Move with Ease and Joy for adults

Online movement therapy classes to help people move, breathe and live with more ease. email kim@novotny.ca

Berna Ponich, ARTAGOGO Art Classes for ages 6 and up

Enjoy live art classes in the comfort of your home via Zoom.

email Berna, B.Ed., at berna@telus.net

Corinne McNally, Yoga for adults

email corinnemcnally@gmail.com | phone 780-239-6164 www.lotusmoonyoga.ca

Heat Related Illness



With the return of summer weather, 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 or call 9-1-1.

Prevention

- Stay well-hydrated by drinking plenty of water;
- 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 11am-3pm, even on cloudy days.

www.albertahealthservices.ca

Community Safety

The Strathcona Community League hosted a webinar on community safety and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) on April 30th with Connie Marciniuk, Community Safety Liaison Officer of the City of Edmonton, and Cst. Corinne Kline. We would like to use this opportunity to give Connie and Corinne a big thank you for their time, investment and their availability.

The Edmonton Police Service (EPS) highly encourage citizens to report all suspicious activities and crimes as crime statistics will allow EPS to better allocate policing resources.

Citizens can report certain crimes online at the EPS website www.edmontonpolice.ca/reportacrimeonline

Reportable crimes include Damage/Mischief to Property, Damage/Mischief to Vehicle, Lost Property, Theft under \$5000, and Theft from



Vehicle under \$5,000, and Theft under \$5000.

If you have difficulties while entering your report, please call the online reporting help line at 780-391-6001.

For other types of crimes, call 9-1-1 for an emergency or a crime in progress. For non-emergencies, please visit a police station, enter #377 from a mobile device or call 780-423-4567 from a landline.

Temporary Off-Leash Pilot Program Suspended for 2020 Season

The temporary off-leash pilot program within community league rinks (tennis courts at Strathcona Community League) has been suspended for the 2020 season due to COVID-19 pandemic and the City of Edmonton's current financial reality.

The letter (dated June 1, 2020) from Beckie Boutilier, Dogs Off-Leash Program Coordinator, City of Edmonton, stated: We understand

and appreciate the desire to open up additional spaces for dogs and their owners to enjoy physically distanced playtime, but must continue to balance stability and sustainability, as well as health and safety, in our relaunch activities.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support. We look forward to working with our community league partners as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve.

Argyll News

Argyll Hall Put to Good Use During COVID-19



You may have noticed some activity around our community hall lately.

Argyll has been hosting a COVID Response Community Cuisine group who are funded by the Edmonton Community Foundation and the John Humphrey Society (part of End Poverty Edmonton) in our kitchen for the past couple of weeks. They are making hot meals for the homeless in Edmonton in response to the closure of many other street level services during the past couple of months (such as the Hope Mission, and Bissell Center). Recently they needed to find a new kitchen to work out of. We offered them ours since it is a commercial grade kitchen. They will operate there until such time as restrictions end.

They are a small group of local chefs donat-

ing their time to make meals for various agencies as well as for some home deliveries. They get donated food items and whip up some pretty interesting dishes. Volunteers will be visiting the hall each day to pick up food packs so you may see some traffic around our building. Don't be concerned. It's all being overseen by our Facility Manager and these are professionals who understand the requirements for food handling. As the centre is still closed to the public we hope no one will interfere with their drivers or with supply trucks. We expect this operation will end once the kitchens in other service agencies get back up to full speed.

Sincerely,
Dave Trautman, president
Argyll Community League

Argyll Online

As always, our web site has the most current information. Check-in weekly to see what's changed. Send us things you think the community would be interested in. A new section has been added to the web site which features announcements and news about the Committee work various residents are involved in. Look for it the next time you visit our site.

The web site address is: www.argyllcl.ab.ca

If you wish to be added to our EVENTS e-mail distribution list get your name into argyll.social@gmail.com.



Argyll Community Hall
6750 - 88 Street
Edmonton, AB T6E 5H6
www.argyllcl.ab.ca

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Hazeldean News

Hazeldean Board of Directors

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Secretary	Maggie Smith	secretary@hazeldean.org
Treasurer	Lien Le Kavanagh	
Facilities	William Elgert	
Publicity	Rachel Sinn	communication@hazeldean.org
Memberships	Heather Chiponski	
Soccer	Alexis Parker	hazeldean@southweastsoccer.ca
Director at Large	Rineke Steenberg	movies@hazeldean.org
Director at Large	Alys Caswell	
Hall Administrator	Dawn Banner	hazeldeanleague@shaw.ca
Social	Christine Drysdale	
Civics	Caleb Sinn	civics@hazeldean.org

BiodiverCITY



From June 11-14th, participate in Edmonton's first BiodiverCITY Photo Bioblitz challenge! There are three easy steps to participate: 1) Download the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute's (ABMI) 'NatureLynx' app, 2) Search for the Edmonton BiodiverCITY challenge in the app, and 3) During June 11 - 14th, take photos of your wildlife sightings and upload them to the app and tag to the BiodiverCITY group - it's that simple! Look out for the neat birds we have in our neighbourhood - Northern Flicker, Red Breasted Nuthatch, Chickadee, Robin, and various sparrows and woodpeckers to name a few.

Get your COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP today!

Benefits of Membership:

Stay informed and have a voice on community issues

Support fun community events and activities

Up to 20% discount at City-owned rec centres

Discounts on hall rentals

Community League Memberships available at Hazeldean Drug Store and the Dairy Queen on 70th avenue and 99th Street. \$10 for single memberships or \$20 for a family.



Stay In Touch!

Phone: 780-439-0847

Email: hazeldeanleague@shaw.ca

Website: www.hazeldean.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Hazeldean-Community

Twitter: @hazeldeanyeg



Constituency Office

Suite 101 10328 - 81 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T6E 1X2

(780) 414-0702

edmonton.strathcona@assembly.ab.ca

@RachelNotley



Rachel
Notley

MLA, Edmonton-Strathcona

Upcoming Events

Keep an eye out for information about a sidewalk chalk beautification event that will be happening in Hazeldean's very own greenbelt! This event is made possible by the support of Park's People, who support groups across the country who organize events in Canada's urban parks. The event will involve being assigned a strip of the greenbelt at a certain time, being given sidewalk chalk, and then the rest is up to you! The event is still being confirmed, but will occur on a weekend at the end of June or early July. Details will be posted on our website and Facebook page!

Community League Swim 2020/2021 Season

Since the pandemic started in March, the City of Edmonton facilities have been closed. As far as re-opening, they have announced they are operating on a month to month basis; our current Community Swim which usually runs until the end of June (Sunday afternoons @ Commonwealth) is now completed. At this point, we are unsure whether or not our Community Swim will resume in September, but we will keep you updated via our website and Facebook page with details once confirmed.

Invasive Species in Hazeldean



Love the idea of taking pictures of wildlife and plants, but wonder sometimes if it is native to Alberta? Good thinking! Invasive species are not native to Alberta, and have the potential to reduce native biodiversity by out-competing native species, or by changing native species' habitat. Some invasive species also have the potential to damage infrastructure, or can grow so dense that they reduce aesthetic value or recreation ability. In Hazeldean, invasive species that are the most common to encounter are plants - most recently identified invasive species such as Garlic Mustard or Great Burdock have been reported in or near Hazeldean. Use the EDDMapS platform (website: <https://www.eddmaps.org/alberta/>, or app), to learn more about invasive species that threaten Alberta, report sightings of any that you see (in or out of Hazeldean), and see other sightings across the province. You can also learn more from the Alberta Invasive Species Council (<https://abinvasives.ca/>).

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info@contactrenovations.ca
www.contactrenovations.ca








Heather McPherson

Member of Parliament
Edmonton Strathcona

My team and I are here to help you through the COVID-19 crisis.

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- Old Age Pensions
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780-495-8404
heather.mcpherson@parl.gc.ca





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 INFO@STRATHCONAREGISTRY.COM

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Ritchie News

Connect with Ritchie Community League

7727 98 Street | Edmonton, AB | T6E 5C9 |
780-433-7137 | inquiries@ritchie-league.com

The land on which we live, work and play is Treaty 6 territory and a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous groups. Today, it remains home to Cree, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, Métis and other Indigenous peoples. The Ritchie Community League acknowledges that we are all beneficiaries of this peace and friendship treaty.

BOARD

President: Cecilia Oteiza Ayres (president@ritchie-league.com)

Vice-president: Peter Willetts (vice-president@ritchie-league.com)

Treasurer: Ehab Zeidan (treasurer@ritchie-league.com)

Secretary: Maureen O'Neil (secretary@ritchie-league.com)

Casino & Fundraising Director: David Woo

Civics Director: Allan Bolstad

Communications Director: Keesa Elickson and Karl Jensen (communications@ritchie-league.com)

Community Engagement Directors: VACANT

Events Director: Dan Tyrkalo (events@ritchie-league.com)

Facilities Directors: Ed Retzer and Len Wampler

Green Initiatives Director: Carly Steiger (environment@ritchie-league.com)

Hall Revitalization Director: Jeff Ollis (hall-revitalization@ritchie-league.com)

Membership & Volunteer Director: Avnish Nanda (volunteers@ritchie-league.com)

Programs Director: Tracy Price (programs@ritchie-league.com)

Soccer Director: Kane Dozorec (soccer@ritchie-league.com)

Rink Director: Leonard Wampler

Director-at-large: Dan Munch

Director-at-large: Cristian Munoz

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Board meetings are 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month. Meetings are being held via Zoom web-based video conferencing during the COVID-19 crisis.

Newsletter: Keri Walmsley (newsletter@ritchie-league.com)

Hall Managers: Dee Armstrong (inquiries@ritchie-league.com)

Website: www.ritchie-league.com

Facebook: facebook.com/WelcometoRitchie

Twitter: @RitchieYeg

Instagram: [ritchie_league](https://www.instagram.com/ritchie_league)

RIP: Ritchie School



Ritchie's castle, the three-storey brick school built in 1912, was slated for demolition in the 1970s when it was sealed off from students. But the 108-year-old structure didn't come down until this spring. Here's a timeline, thanks to Dan Ryksen of the Forgotten Edmonton blog.

2020: Still to come: Renovation of the 1970s gym.

June, 2020: Paving, pouring sidewalks and landscaping.

May, 2020: Demolition began, starting with 1913 structure, progressing to later additions. Commemorative bricks were made available for pickup, first-come, first-served. Signs from the structure (Boys, Girls and 1913) were donated to the community league.

April, 2020: Asbestos abatement of old school.

March, 2020: Construction of Joseph Moreau replacement junior high school completed. Students were to have begun classes in the new building after spring break.

2018: Construction began on the new school. Estimated project cost: \$21.6 million.



2016: Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord bought the school.

2009: Edmonton Public School Board rented property to Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord for its Francophone junior high program.

2008: EPSB voted to close Ritchie Junior High.

2007: EPSB estimated restoration and conversion of school to a K-9 would cost \$14 million. Idea died on paper when the board voted to leave nearby Mill Creek Elementary school open.

1970s: Gymnasium added. Old Ritchie sealed off from "new" additions. Demolition plans were shelved due to lack of funds to move the heating system to the additions from the basement of the original building.

1954, 1956, 1961: Additions.

1914: The first of ongoing problems with basement flooding due to the location of the building on marshy land.

1913: First students welcomed.

1912: EPSB began construction to serve Edmonton's booming population. Estimated cost: \$120,000.

Affected by infill?

Share your thoughts with the Residential Infill Working Group, comprised of various community leagues. It is developing recommendations to address shortcomings with the city's infill policy. Its goal: reduce the potential risk of infill-related damage to both neighbours of infill and communities in which infill is being built. You can find the Neighbours of Infill Survey online at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qJ3VL8x_Kk0b-4ug4IzCqQf-EGYbZ6JoLZjLuvdunow/edit#

With thanks, we say goodbye

Two amazing community builders stepped away from the league this spring. Hall manager Stephanie Tremblay moved to Quebec, leaving her co-manager Dee Armstrong in charge, while board member Amanda Bird stepped down as director of community engagement to focus on her family. We thank them for their many contributions to making Ritchie the great place we know and love.

Facility decisions follow City's lead

As of June 1, Ritchie's outdoor sports facilities were open, along with the city-run playground next to them.

When the league closed everything in March, it followed the city's lead. Likewise use of its tennis and basketball courts, and outdoor hockey rink, will now be in-line with City Guidelines for Sports, Play and Open Space Amenities. For the most up-to-date rules, go online to https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_ser

[vices/emergency_preparedness/covid-19](https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_ser)

The spray deck is closed for the season. There will not be any Green Shack programs nor any city-run summer camps this year.

The league may decide to run summer camps of its own online or in the hall if restrictions are eased. As of June 1, the hall was closed and all league activities held there cancelled.

By continuing to follow public health orders, we can keep each other safe.

Ward boundaries redrawn

City council approved changes proposed to electoral boundaries by the Ward Boundary Commission in May. A public meeting may be held in June in advance of a final decision being made.

The proposal places Ritchie in a ward bordered by Mill Creek ravine, Whitemud Creek, the North Saskatchewan river and 23 Avenue.

While these new boundaries are not what were considered in January, the recommended ward is still much better than our current

situation, says Allan Bolstad, Ritchie's civic's director. This is because we--Ritchie and Hazeldean--would join a number of communities with similar interests (i.e. Strathcona, Garneau, Queen Alexandra, McKernan, Pleasantview and Belgriavia) and other mature neighborhoods. "We will no longer be dominated by Mill Woods communities that really didn't share a lot of our concerns, such as lower residential speed limits, infill housing and the use of Mill Creek ravine."

Housed but hungry

Since the Neighbour Centre reopened in West Ritchie in May, as many as 55 people have been lining up outside for take-away hot meals, three times a week. "These aren't people who are sleeping rough. Most of them live on the Ave., but they in need of food security," says Nova Winter, the Centre's supervisor.

Before the pandemic temporarily closed it in March, it was providing up to 150 people each day with access to showers, washing machines and nurses. Many of these clients were stran-

gers to the staff. Now that the Expo Centre is providing those day services, the Neighbour Centre is only seeing and trying to feed its regulars.

While the Food Bank provides most of what's needed for the hot meals, the Centre can always use donations of soft fruit, yogurt and other take-away snacks to tide people over between meals, as well as hygiene items. No clothing or fabric items at this time. Donations can be dropped off Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:30 p.m.

Nuts about doughnuts

By Lisa Howatt

Ritchie is known as "Edmonton's Icing District" given our concentration of bakeries. For your benefit, the league conducted a highly scientific and impartial doughnut taste test one weekend in May. Here is a two-reviews-in-one doughnut diary:

BIRTHDAY CAKE SPRINKLE (FARROW)

We kicked off the weekend with the most festive looking selection: a traditional vanilla doughnut with a complexity of flavours in the sugar glaze. It had an excellent, smooth texture. We split the doughnut 50/50 and declared it a perfect Friday treat.

CLASSIC GLAZED (ACE COFFEE ROASTERS)

At this point, we were only one doughnut in and were already looking with concern at the number remaining. The only solution was to share the wealth. With three classic, glazed yeast doughnuts in hand, we headed off to a physically-distanced outdoor gathering. This trio was universally declared exceptional, balancing sweetness, a chewy texture and the lightest of glazes.

CHOCOLATE CHIP (FRICKIN' DELIGHTS DONUTS)

Saturday morning, I drove to the outskirts of Edmonton for a run, leaving a chocolate chip doughnut in my car as a treat for afterwards. It had a cake-like texture and hint of cinnamon. Both qualities hit the spot! Only later did I discover that it was a vegan delight. Well done!

BROWNIE (FARROW)

Sunday afternoon arrived and we had finally completed the most tedious of tasks, sanding and re-staining the deck. This called for a celebratory treat, topped with dark chocolate and decadent brownie chunks. We once again went 50/50 and declared that the doughnut almost made up for staining the deck.

CRONUT (FARROW)

It was seven Monday morning. We were



feeling a little drowsy and had a Zoom call to lead. Bring on the Cronut! Its vanilla filling was a nice surprise that contrasted well with the flaky dough and toasted coconut topping. Paired with coffee, it gave us the extra boost we needed.

GINGERBREAD (FRICKIN' DELIGHTS DONUTS)

By Tuesday, with the work week in full swing, I snuck the gingerbread in between conference calls. Yum. No picture was taken, no tasting notes transcribed. We shall not speak of this again.

CARAMEL (FRICKIN' DELIGHTS DONUTS)

Tuesday night on return from a bike ride, we found ourselves staring wistfully at the final doughnut in the box, a delightful cake with caramel glaze. We toasted with a glass of water and enjoyed.

Open parking up for debate

By Allan Bolstad, Ritchie Civics Director

City council is scheduled to consider a recommendation from its administration June 23 that would eliminate on-site parking requirements. If approved, homeowners and businesses can decide what parking they want to provide when they develop their property.

This is a significant change. Homeowners are now required to provide at least one stall (either in a garage or on a driveway) for each housing unit on site, while businesses must provide stalls based on the size of their build-

ings and nature of their use.

The new rule, called "open parking," will likely result in far fewer on-site parking spaces and much greater use of street parking throughout the city. It may also make developments more affordable since surface parking can cost \$5,000 to \$10,000 per stall while a stall in parking garages costs even more: \$25,000 to \$50,000.

The Ritchie Community League had not taken a position on this issue at press time, but encouraged residents to contact the city directly if they have questions or concerns.

Two scavenger hunts

Photos by Keesa Elicksen, Avnish Nanda, Maureen O'Neil, Dan Tyrkalo

Ritchie is "rich" with interesting sights. So many, in fact, that when the League set out to make a scavenger hunt this spring, it ended up with two: Ritchie Whimsy and Art Walk. Both can be found on the Ritchie website. Here's a sample:



Mill Creek tradition continued



The annual ravine cleanup went ahead despite social distancing. There was no mass start. No post-cleanup BBQ. And it extended over a week rather than a single afternoon. As Josh Perryman and Kristin Kunkel found, there was enough trash to go around.

Self-isolating? Help's available!

If you need to self-isolate even as other restrictions are relaxing, neighbours are ready to help! Call the league: 780-433-7137

E-mail: inquiries@ritchie-league.com

Join the private Facebook group Ritchie Community Assistance.

League meeting through summer



With COVID-19 circulating through society, Ritchie's board has opted to meet monthly through the summer to adapt to changing guidelines from the city and province. Its AGM, originally scheduled for May, has been postponed until August. The exact date will be announced by social media. Monthly board meetings will continue on Zoom July 9 and August 6.

Help break seniors' isolation

Donate your cast-off tech to allow seniors to video chat with loved ones as the COVID-19 pandemic wears on. Project Joy puts gently used tech in the hands of seniors in facilities

in Spruce Grove, Edmonton, St. Albert and Sherwood Park. Physical distancing is leaving many of these seniors increasingly isolated. Call Project Joy: 587-635-3006.

COVID close to home

SPOILER ALERT: This story has mostly happy endings.

Adrian Heiford was one of three city transit employees self-quarantined in April after a difficult passenger coughed on them. But getting the space he needed to keep his wife and boys safe (one of whom has asthma) would have been tricky in his Ritchie bungalow. So All-Star

RV of Sherwood Park delivered a home-away-from-home to his driveway.

"We were so touched that the RV company came to the rescue," says wife Amanda. To everyone's relief, Adrian tested negative for COVID-19. (Of his colleagues, one tested negative; the other positive.) "It really reminded us that there are good people and helpers everywhere."

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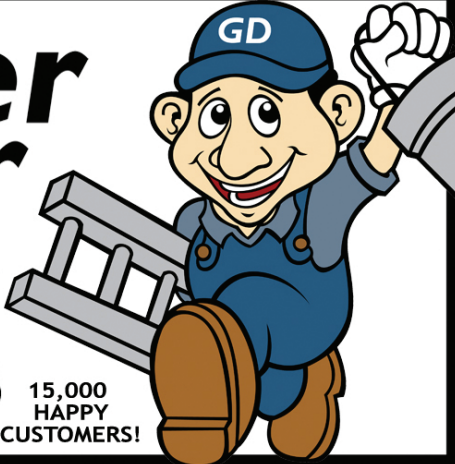
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