# **EHOUNSFIELD**

**BEACON** 

A QUIET CENTRAL RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY WITH FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURS CONNECTED THROUGH ACTIVE PUBLIC SPACES



OFFICIAL HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS-BRIAR HILL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER | www.hh-bh



#### Hounsfield Heights/ Briar Hill Parent-Child Cooperative Playschool

A place for 3 to 5 year olds to play, grow and learn

Registration now on

Afternoon spots available

We are located in Briar Hill School, Rm. 13 1233 - 21 St. NW

Phone: 403-210-5126 www.hhbhplayschool.ca

## Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill my babysitter list

Name	Age	Contact	Course
Cecilia	15	587-223-1330	Yes
Duncan	16	403-500-9826	Yes
Grace	14	403-282-8823	Yes
Jonahley	50	403-837-6348	Yes
Josephine	13	403-283-0478	Yes
Katelyn	20	403-282-1162	Yes
Lauren	17	403-970-1961	Yes
Lauren	18	403-651-1859	Yes
Madison	12	403-850-6001	Yes
Miriam	13	403-774-8880	No
Sophie	15	403-283-0478	Yes

#### **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.

**Disclaimer:** We recommend for your own peace of mind that references be checked when choosing your babysitter. This babysitter list is provided as a service to the community and is governed by the terms & conditions outlined at mybabysitter.ca.





Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill Real Estate Update

## Last 12 Months Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
September 2014	\$1,440,212	\$1,418,612
August 2014	\$1,389,166	\$1,402,600
July 2014	\$1,609,974	\$1,448,750
June 2014	\$1,164,668	\$1,101,857
May 2014	\$1,218,266	\$1,186,666
April 2014	\$1,749,000	\$1,725,000
March 2014	\$1,246,266	\$1,217,333
February 2014	\$1,350,000	\$1,310,000
January 2014	\$1,494,450	\$1,415,000
December 2013	\$949,844	\$945,000
November 2013	\$709,900	\$700,000
October 2013	\$2,100,000	\$1,875,000

## Last 12 Months Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold			
September 2014	10	8			
August 2014	6	3			
July 2014	5	4			
June 2014	8	7			
May 2014	6	3			
April 2014	2	1			
March 2014	7	3			
February 2014	5	1			
January 2014	5	2			
December 2013	3	4			
November 2013	2	3			
October 2013	6	1			
Total	65	40			

To view the specific SOLD Listings that comprise the above MLS averages please visit

hounsfield\_heights\_briar\_hill.great-news.ca



HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS/BRIAR HILL Community Association

Box 65086, RPO North Hill Calgary, AB T2N 4T6
Phone: 282-6634 (voice mail) (checked 1 - 2 times per week)
Email: admin@hh-bh.ca

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### **NEWSLETTER AD SALES**



Great News Publishing Ltd. 403.720.0762 | 403.263.3044 sales@great-news.ca | www.great-news.ca





## **Hounsfield Heights – Briar Hill Community Association**

#### **Board of directors**

COMMITTEE POSITION	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Robby Sidhu	403-605-9120	president@hh-bh.ca
1st Vice President	Carol Sandahl		vp@hh-bh.ca
2nd Vice President	Gunter Sammet		2nd.vp@hh-bh.ca
Treasurer	Jeff Allan		treasurer@hh-bh.ca
Secretary	Laura Hunt		secretary@hh-bh.ca
Director - Education	Jill Pachell		education@hh-bh.ca
Director - Sears Plume	<b>Emmanuel Malterre</b>		sears.plume@hh-bh.ca
Director - Facilities	Gunter Sammet		facilities@hh-bh.ca
Director - Facilities	Robby Sidhu		facilities@hh-bh.ca
Director - Event Planning	Tejinder Sidhu		events@hh-bh.ca
Director - Communications	Nicole Bradac		communications@hh-bh.ca
Director - Land Use	Terry Woods		land.use@hh-bh.ca
Director - IT	Jeff Marsh		it@hh-bh.ca
Director-at-Large	Kevin Taylor		director.at.large@hh-bh.ca
Kindergarten Secretary/Treasurer	Paul Grunau		
Administrative Assistant			admin@hh-bh.ca
Facility Manager	Chris Lee	587-717-2665	bookings@hh-bh.ca
Indoor Soccer Program	Eve Miller		indoor.soccer@hh-bh.ca
Outdoor Soccer Program	Bart Hulshof/Jill Letal		outdoor.soccer@hh-bh.ca
Youth Badminton Program	Alice Chan		badminton@hh-bh.ca
Beacon Newsletter Submissions	vacant		beacon@hh-hb.ca
Tots Time Children's Program	vacant		tots.time@hh-bh.ca
Louise Riley Library	Kari Brawn	403-260-2718	kari.brown@calgarypubliclibrary.com
Community Police Liaison	Cst. John Kastamonitis	403-567-6300	

### **Board Meetings**

Board Meetings are held at 7pm on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Hall meeting room. Resident's are welcome and encouraged to attend. To include an item on the agenda, please contact the Board at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

#### **Contact the HHBH Community Association at:**

Mailing Address: Box 65086, RPO North Hill Calgary, AB T2N 4T6 Phone: 282-6634 (voice mail) (checked 1 - 2 times per week)

Email: admin@hh-bh.ca

**Beacon Submissions to:** Beacon Editor – email: Beacon@hh-bh.ca

Deadline for submissions for next issue: Fifth of the month

Boardroom/Gym Bookings: bookings@hh-bh.ca

Website: www.hh-bh.ca

**Boardroom/Gym 1922 – 14 Avenue N.W.**Parking is west of the Louise Riley Library, accessed via the library driveway.Hall/Gym is located NE of our parking lot, just across the soccer field.

The HHBH Gym and Boardroom schedule can be viewed online at www.hh-bh.ca.

## HHBH Gym Drop-in Programs

**Badminton**: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm **Pickleball**: Wednesday 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Rates**: \$4 per person, \$3 for seniors (55+)

Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill Community Association

## Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, November 19 2014 at 7:00 pm

HHBH Community Gym 1922 – 14 Ave. NW

Entrance is on the west side of the gymnasium

Become involved in your community;

Board and Committee positions are open.





Send us information about your annual or one-time event.

#### **Community Board Meetings**

Second Thursday of the month at 7 pm in the Community Boardroom. All welcome! To be on the agenda, please contact Caroline or Robby at least 2 weeks in advance.

#### **Family Open Gym Night**

Fridays 6:30 – 8 pm Community Gym

#### **Tots Time Playgroup**

Mondays 9:30 - 11:30 am

#### **AGM Meeting**

Wednesday November 19 @ 7:00 pm HHBH Gym



#### **M**EMBERSHIPS

Your annual membership is good through July 31, 2015 and entitles you and your family to participate in a variety of different community programs and activities. The cost is only \$20 annually per family/household or \$10 for seniors, including GST. Simply fill out this form & mail it in.

HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS - BRIAR HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION						
	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	N 2014-15				
Family Name(s):						
_	1.	2.				
First Name - Children:						
_						
Address:		Postal Code:				
Home Phone:						
Email:						
Would you like to receive the announcements by email?	newsletter and other yes	□ no □				
I would be interested in \	I would be interested in volunteering for:  Membership #					
☐ Land Use	☐ Membership Drive	Valid through July 31, 2015				
☐ Green Space/Reforestation	n	Annual membership (including GST) is :				
☐ Fundraising	☐ Seniors' Programs	□ \$20 per household				
☐ Facilities/Ice Rink	☐ Sports Programs	☐ \$10 for seniors				
☐ Communications/Newslette	er   Social Activities					
☐ Other		Paid by: cash □ cheque □				
Send cheques payable to <b>Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill Community Association</b> Box 65086 RPO North Hill, Calgary AB T2N 4T6						
Privacy Consent: By providing the personal information on this form you are consenting to HH-BH Community Association's collection and use of that information for the purposes of providing you a membership in the community association. This information will be stored in a database of community members for the sole use of the Association. The Association will not sell, barter or lease membership lists or information. We may retain this information until nine months after expire date of the membership.						

## around your community

### **Yielding to Emergency Vehicles**

Time is the enemy in any emergency. You can help EMS, police and fire get to the scene quickly and safely by following the rules of the road. It is important for motorists to understand how to safely yield right of way to emergency vehicles with lights and siren activated, so that everyone stays safe.

### What to do when an emergency vehicle approaches with lights and siren activated

- If you're in the middle of an intersection when an emergency vehicle approaches with lights and siren activated, safely clear the intersection.
- On a one or two lane road, motorists should move to the right side of the road, slow down, and then stop. Remember to signal.
- On a road with three or more lanes, motorists should move to the nearest side of the road and stop. If driving in the centre lane, move to the right side of the road and stop. Remember to signal.
- Come to a complete stop and wait for the emergency vehicle to pass. Shoulder check for more emergency vehicles (there is often more than one) before re-entering traffic flow. Remember to signal.
- Remember, emergency vehicles may need to use any available road space to maneuver. This may include the use of shoulders and left hand turning lanes to pass other traffic.

#### While driving on the road

- Drive attentively and defensively at all times. Be cognizant to sirens of emergency vehicles and be prepared to yield the right of way.
- It is the law for motorists to slow down to at least 60 km/hour (unless a lower speed is posted) when driving past an emergency vehicle which is stopped.
- Do not break the rules of the road in order to give right of way to an emergency vehicle. This could include proceeding through a red light or making an illegal turn. Actions such as these jeopardize all motorists in the area.
- Driver attention must be directed towards the roadway and safe operation of the vehicle in which they are driving, at all times.
- Always leave plenty of space between your vehicle and an emergency vehicle should it need to stop suddenly.









### **Your City Section** Check out these important updates from The City of Calgary

Take Mayor Nenshi's Walk Challenge and walk (or roll) to school this fall! It's an easy way to make our lives and our community better!	calgary.ca/walkchallenge
School and playground zones are now both in effect from 7:30 am to 9 pm. Playground zones are operational all year, while school zones are only active on school days.	calgary.ca/parks
Flu season is almost here and the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) wants you to stay healthy. Visit our website for more information and tips on how to avoid it.	calgary.ca/flu
The Leaf & Pumpkin composting program is underway! Bring your leaves and pumpkins to a depot near you until November 9. Thirty-six locations are available around the city.	calgary.ca/waste
Calgary AfterSchool offers fun, safe and supervised after school programs for ages 6 to 16. Programs are offered during the critical hours of 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Details available online.	calgary.ca/afterschool
Calgarians are doing a great job recycling. But it's important to make sure your recycling counts. Not sure if an item is acceptable in your blue cart? Use our 'What Goes Where' tool	whatgoeswhere.ca
Kids can explore our parks and connect with nature throughout the year using the super-secret OISEAU Agents of Nature Mobile App. Download the app and learn more online.	calgary.ca/parks
Help keep Calgary clean by pitching in at our P.U.P.P.Y. (Pick Up Pooch's Poo Yourself) event! Join us at one of two events this October. Make our parks #1 by picking up # 2.	calgary.ca/parks
Property tax assistance is available to eligible low-income homeowners experiencing financial hardship from this year's property taxes increases. Apply by Dec 1, 2014.	calgary.ca/ptap

## around community

### **Guns and Gangs**

A message from the Federation of Calgary Communities **Building Safe Communities Program** 

Please join us and Sqt. Jason Walker of the Calgary Police Service Guns and Gangs Unit for a FREE informative session on the current organized crime and gang landscape in Calgary. Topics will include the types of criminal organizations and gangs in Calgary, the sophistication of technology in organized crime, and an overview of the Calgary Police Service Gang Strategy.

Date: Wednesday, November 19th, 2014 **Location:** Bowness Community Association

7904 43 Avenue NW **Time:** 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Cost: FREE to the public – space is limited

For more information and to register visit calgarycommunites.com/workshops-events. COMMUNITIES



### BRAIN SUDOKU

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FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 13

## AT A GLANCE...

- November 1 23 Beauty and the Beast performed by Loose Moose Theatre for Kids. For detailed information 403.265.5682 / www.loosemoose.com
- November 3 Gordon Lightfoot performs at Jack Singer Concert Hall, Epcor Centre at 8:00 pm. 403.294.9494 / www.epcorcentre.org
- November 7 The Bills play their acoustic roots music at Southwood United Church as part of Fish Creek Concerts season, www.fishcreekconcerts.com
- November 12 & 15 From Broadway With Love performed by the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra at 8:00 pm each evening – Jack Singer Concert Hall. 403.571.0849 / cpo-live.com
- November 13 Calgary Flames vs Arizona Coyotes at the Saddledome 7:00 pm. www.calgaryflames.com
- November 14 February 15 Pirates of the North Saskatchewan at Jubilations Dinner Theatre. 403.249.7799 / www.jubilations.ca
- November 20 Calgary Flames & Chicago Blackhawks face off at 7:00 pm at the Saddledome. www.calgaryflames.com
- November 21 30 Where the Wild Things Are is one of five Canadian productions for young audiences from Y Stage Theatre Series 2014/2015 season at Vertigo Theatre. Evening performances 7:00 pm, matinees 12:30 and 3:00 pm. 403.221.3708 / www.vertigotheatre.com
- November 21 December 4 J'Aime Paris Festival A tribute to Parisian music performed by Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra at Jack Singer Concert Hall. For detailed information, 403.571.0849 / cpo-live.com
- November 23 Calgary Hitmen vs Red Deer Rebels at 4:00 pm at the Saddledome. www.hitmenhockey.com
- November 27 30 GIRAF is an animation festival featuring interactive workshops, artist talks, and activities for the whole family. Globe Cinema and Quickdraw Animation Society. 403.261.5767 / www. giraffest.ca
- November 28 December 22 Peter Pan the Musical High-flying fun for the whole family performed by Storybook Theatre. More details 302.216.0808 / www. storybooktheatre.org
- **November 30 102nd Grey Cup** in Vancouver at 4:00 pm Mountain time.

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#### **NOVEMBER 8 - DREAMS:**

Ultimate Tribute to Fleetwood Mac at Deerfoot Inn & Casino – wristband 6:30 / show 9:00 pm. 403.236.7529 / www. deerfootinn.com

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#### NOVEMBER 8 – DECEMBER 7 THE GAME'S AFOOT

performed at Vertigo Theatre as part of the BD&P Mystery Theatre Series. Evening performances 7:30 pm — matinees 2:00 pm. 403.221.3708 / www.vertigotheatre.com



### NOVEMBER 8, 12 & 14 SILENT NIGHT

Canadian premiere of this Pulitzer Prize winning opera is performed by Calgary Opera, and tells the First World War story of a truce on Christmas Eve 1914. 403.262.7286 / www.calgaryopera.com



#### UNTIL DECEMBER 24 A CHRISTMAS CAROL

is a spirited production performed by Theatre Calgary. For detailed information 403.294.7447 / www.theatrecalgary.com



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#### DECEMBER 17 COUNTRY CHRISTMAS WITH GEORGE CANYON

is part of CPO's Magic of Christmas. Performance at 7:30 pm. 403.571.0849 / www.cpo-live.com



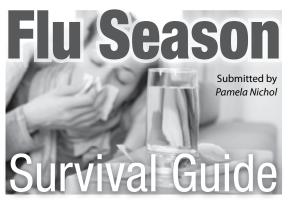
#### DECEMBER 20 CANTARE CHILDREN'S CHOIR: FROST AND FIRE

performed at Knox United Church. 403.685.1132 / www.cantarechildrenschoir.org



## AT A GLANCE...

- December 6 A Merry Little Pops performed by the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. For detailed information 403.571.0849 www.cpo-live.com
- **December 6 Mother Mother** performs at the Grey Eagle Resort & Casino. Doors 7:00 pm, show 8:00 pm www.greyeagleresortandcasino.ca
- December 7 The Christmas Eve Express features well-known classics as well as new holiday songs.
   Performed by the Youth Singers of Calgary at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium. 403.234.9549 / www.youthsingers.org
- December 7 Calgary Hitmen vs Moose Jaw Warriors at the Saddledome 4:00 pm www.hitmenhockey.com
- December 13 Calgary Children's Choir at the Rozsa Centre, University of Calgary. 403.210.3499 / www. calgarychildrenschoir.com
- December 12 & 13 A Traditional Christmas is part of the CPO's Magic of Christmas, performed at Grace Presbyterian Church. Evening performances at 7:00 pm and Saturday matinee at 2:00 pm. 403.571.0849 / www.cpo-live.com
- December 16 Calgary Flames & New York Rangers face off at 7:00 pm at the Saddledome www. calgaryflames.com
- December 18 24 The Nutcracker A seasonal classic for all ages, performed by the Alberta Ballet 403.245.4549 www.albertaballet.com
- December 21 Perfectly Frank Christmas is performed at River Park Church by Calgary Jazz Orchestra. Matinee 3:00 pm / evening 7:00 pm -403.239.8545 / www.calgaryjazzorchestra.com
- Until December 21 Once Upon a Christmas celebrates the charm of Christmas past at Heritage Park. 403.268.8500 / www.heritagepark.ca
- **December 21 Sing Along Messiah** at Knox United Church. 403.208.6094 / www.voicescapes.ca
- December 31 Trooper at Deerfoot Inn & Casino
   wristband 7:00 pm / show 11:00 pm 403.236.7529 / www.deerfootinn.com
- December 31 Calgary Flames vs Edmonton Oilers at the Saddledome 7:30 pm www.calgaryflames.com (SN) e. & o. e.



Pharmacists say being Proactive and Prepared is the key to Flu Season Survival

Taking simple, yet highly effective, steps to preventing influenza (flu) can prevent a trip to a busy hospital emergency room during the upcoming flu season. Influenza can be very serious for those who have health vulnerabilities such as senior citizens, pregnant women, or people with chronic health conditions. Influenza causes about 20,000 people to get admitted to the hospital and about 4,000 deaths in Canada each year.

Health agencies across Western Canada are working to ensure Canadians are prepared to combat the seasonal flu, which can help free up emergency room space for emergency situations.

Knowing the difference between a common cold and the flu is as important as being proactive and getting the flu shot early.

#### FLU SEASON SURVIVAL TIPS

- Be Proactive
- **Get your flu shot early.** Call or visit your local pharmacy to book your influenza vaccination appointment. Ask if you qualify for a free flu vaccination or other recommended vaccine. If not, a fee may apply.
- Wash your hands frequently. Use soap and warm water for at least 15 seconds. If water and soap are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer and ensure you rub your hands until the product is dry.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or into your sleeve. Dispose of the tissue right away and wash your hands afterwards using the tips above.
- Avoid rubbing your nose and eyes. Keep your hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth to keep germs from entering your body.

- Don't share. Avoid sharing food, utensils, water bottles and other things that could pass bacteria and viruses.
- Take a regular daily dose of vitamin C. Vitamin C intake can help decrease the duration and severity of a cold or flu if you get one.
- **Rest well**. If you or a family member is sick, stay home from school or work and avoid contact with others.

#### **Be Prepared**

- **1. Know the signs of influenza.** Influenza is a highly contagious viral infection. Transmitted by airborne droplets and can survive up to 48 hours outside the body; it can take a few days to a week for symptoms to appear. Some examples include:
  - A sudden, high fever (38 to 40 degrees C)
  - Headache, extreme fatigue, chills and sweating
  - Dry cough
  - · Loss of appetite
  - · Muscle aches and pains
  - Runny and stuffy nose, sneezing and sore throat

It can lead to complications such as pneumonia, respiratory failure, or worsening of a current chronic medical condition.

- 2. Have a flu season survival kit on hand. There is nothing worse when you're sick than having to leave your house to find relief. Make sure you have the following on hand for easy self-care:
  - Over the counter cold and flu medications
  - Soup, soda crackers, ginger ale or beverages with electrolytes for rehydration
  - Kleenex
  - Disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer
  - Nasal spray
  - · Herbal tea
  - Thermometer



# **BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS**

**NEPTUNE PLUMBING & HEATING LTD:** Qualified journeymen plumbers/gasfitters, very experienced in Hounsfield Heights & Briar Hill. Upfront pricing. Reliable, conscientious, fully guaranteed. Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. 24 hour emergency service call 403-255-7938. "Showering you with great service."

**CAL-RES COATINGS LTD. RESIDENTIAL PAINTING:** We are a full service painting company offering: Interior & Exterior Painting, Shop Wood Finishing/Specialty Finishes, Elastomeric Stucco Coatings, Kitchen Cabinet Refinishing, Fully licensed and insured. No deposit required. Call for a complimentary estimate. Ask for Joshua 403-369-7534 or visit www.calres.ca.

CONCRETE CUTTING FOR BASEMENT WINDOWS & DOORS & FLOORS: New openings or enlargements cut into foundation for basement windows and doors. Enlarge your existing basement windows to meet fire code for bedrooms, from cutting basement windows, doorways to supply and install quality windows, window-well, weeping-tile, core drilling, excavation and anything concrete cutting. Call 403-570-0555. Email: info@ asapconcretecutting.com.

**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.

For Business Classified Ad Rates Call Great News Publishing at 403-263-3044 or sales@great-news.ca



### LOUISE RILEY LIBRARY

1904 14 Ave NW • Tel: 403-221 - 2046

Monday to Thursday 10:00 am – 9 pm; Friday and Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Sundays 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm www.calqarypubliclibrary.com

**Adult Book Club**: Call for details on specific books. Tuesdays, November 4, and December 2. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Program Centre

**Computer Technology Coaching**: Drop in for one-on-one, volunteer help on using the Internet and Microsoft Office products. Saturdays, September 6 to December 13. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Ebook Doctor**: Looking for help with OverDrive or 3M Cloud? Drop in for assistance with your ebook and e-reader questions. Thursdays, November 6, and December 4. 2 - 3:30 p.m. Magazine Area.

**50+ Coffee and Conversation**: Join us for coffee, conversation and presentations of interest. Ages 50 and up. Mondays, September 8 to December 29 (No program on Oct. 13, November 10, and November 17) 2 - 3:30 p.m.

**Saturday Family Storytime**: Drop in for stories, songs and finger plays the whole family can enjoy. Ages 2 to 5 with a parent/caregiver. Saturdays, September 6 to December 27. 10:30 - 11 a.m.

#### ONGOING PROGRAMS @ YOUR LIBRARY

#### What's all the Hoopla about hoopla?

**Canadian Storytelling Day**: Tell the Truth or Tell a Tale: Celebrate Canadian Storytelling Day with storyteller Betty Hersberger of TALES, Calgary. Bring a 5-minute or shorter story to tell (not read) or just come to listen! Ages 8 to Adult. Ages 8 and up. Saturday, November 1. 3 - 4:30 p.m.

**ESL Conversation Club (Intermediate):** Practice your English listening and speaking skills in this six-week program. Wednesdays, November 12 to December 17. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**Healthy Eating in YYC:** Learn more about healthy eating options and discover great local restaurants, markets and natural food products that can support your health goals without leaving you feeling deprived. Presented by Amber Romaniuk, Holistic Nutritionist, Tuesday, November 18. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Programs are FREE with your library card.

Register in person, by calling 403-260-2620 or online at www.calgarypubliclibrary.com.



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCILLOR Druh Farrell Ward 7

ward07@calgary.ca • www.druhfarrell.ca Twitter: @DruhFarrell • Facebook: Druh Farrell

Debt, Growth, and Budgets - looking for a better way

Calgary remains one of the fastest growing cities in North America. Every five years, Calgary adds roughly the population of the City of Regina to its borders. During my time in office, from 2001 to today, our population has grown by 36%, with over 100% of growth occurring on the edges of the city as older communities hollowed out, causing pressure on both our capital and operating budgets to service these new areas.

With the city's four-year budget deliberations quickly approaching, City Council will once again consider how to fund rapidly increasing demands for infrastructure and services with limited funding. Although a thorough debate on priorities is planned, the lion's share of our budget choices will continue to be shaped by past and future decisions on how we grow as a city.

A booming city poses a number of dilemmas. Growth is costly. Calgary's debt is directly related to growth, with 75% of our infrastructure investment going to support new development. Earlier this year, Council debated on whether we should raise Calgary's self-imposed debt limit to facilitate more growth. I was strongly opposed to this for three reasons: Calgary has the highest debt-per-capita ratio of any city in Canada; it would enable new development in areas that are not ready, forcing us into further debt; capital investment requires additional operating and maintenance dollars. Thankfully, most of Council agreed with my position and took the advice of our Chief Financial Officer and chose not to raise the debt limit, but the question of how to pay for all our new residents' needs continues.

Most new operating costs also go to accommodate growth, and yet the city needs to approve new communities to house all of our newcomers. In the past, Calgary chose to build outwards, ever-expanding the city limits with low-density neighbourhoods. Low-density residential communities never pay for themselves, so this growth pattern came with a significant cost that will continue long into the future.

So that's the bad news. But if the status quo isn't working, what is the alternative? The good news is that a lot of work is already underway. I have been sounding the alarm on growth and debt for many years, and our new City Manager, Jeff Fielding, also recognizes the urgency of our growth, debt, and budget challenges. In next month's article I will talk about how the City, working with the development industry, is seeking a sustainable model that will balance the demands of a growing city.

## BRAIN SUDOKU

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5	7	1	9	6	2	3	8	4
6	4	3	7	5	8	9	1	2
9	2	8	4	3	1	7	5	6



### COMMUNITY ANNOUNGEMENTS

#### Deadline – 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for the next month's publication Contact news@great-news.ca

- ◆ Free announcements: lost/found, household items for sale, wanted, garage sale, student/senior services, etc.
- ◆ Forty word limit



The federal department of Veterans Affairs
Canada states that **November 11** is a day of
"remembrance for the men and women who
have served, and continue to serve our country
during times of war, conflict and peace"; spe-

cifically, the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, and all conflicts since then in which members of the Canadian Forces have participated. The department runs a program called *Canada Remembers* with the mission of helping young and new Canadians, most of whom have never known war, "come to understand and appreciate what those who have served Canada in times of war, armed conflict and peace stand for and what they have sacrificed for their country".

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### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS	911
Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre	403.253.5250
Alberta Health Care	403.310.0000
AHS Addictions Hotline	1.866.332.2322
ATCO Gas – 24 Hour Emergency	403.245.7222
Calgary HEALTH LINK 24/7	403.943.5465
Calgary Police – Non Emergency	403.266.1234
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter	403.234.7233
Child Abuse Hotline	1.800.387.5437
Child Find – Alberta	403.270.3463
Distress/Crisis Line	403.266.4357
ENMAX – Power Trouble	403.514.6100
Poison Centre – Alberta	1.800.332.1414
Suicide Crisis Line	1.800.784.2433
HOSPITALS/URGENT CARE	
Alberta Children's Hospital	403.955.7211
Foothills Hospital	403.944.1110
Peter Lougheed Centre	403.943.4555
Rockyview General Hospital	403.943.3000
Sheldon M. Chumir Health Care	403.955.6200
South Calgary Urgent Care	403.943.9300
South Health Campus	403.956.1111
OTHER	
Calgary Humane Society	403.205.4455
Calgary Parking Authority	
(Towed/Abandoned Vehicles etc.)	403.537.7100
Calgary Senior's Resource	
(SeniorConnect)	403.266.6200
Call Before You Dig (Buried Utilities)	1.800.242.3447
City of Calgary	211 and 311
Elder Abuse Resource Line (65+)	403.705.3250
Kerby Centre for the 55 plus	403.705.3246
Neighbour Mediation Hotline	403.269.2707
Road Conditions – Calgary	1.877.262.4997
Weather Information	403.299.7878

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A Safety Management System (SMS) is all about managing the safety interaction you have with your workers. It's an overall strategy to help you communicate information on hazards and best practices in your workplace so you can develop a stronger, lasting culture of safety within all stakeholders in your organization.

## TOTS TIME PLAYGROUP



We are an informal, caregiver-supervised playgroup providing a venue for social and physically active interaction among babies, toddlers and their caregivers in the community. Our morning consists of free play in the gym, crafts and snack time.

#### Come check us out!!

When: Mondays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Where: HH/BH Gymnasium 1922-14 Avenue NW

North of Louise Riley Library

• Entrance is on SW corner of gym; parking is west of library

Who: Children ages range from newborn – 4 years old

Cost: \$25 per family (Sept. – May) plus community membership. Families from any community are welcome to join, but required to be members of HHBH. Includes coffee/tea, a surprise on your child's birthday and 2 entertainment venues per year. Each family rotates bringing a group snack weekly.

For more information, contact us at tots.time@hh-bh.ca.

We are looking for a coordinator for next season. Please contact admin@hh-bh.ca if you are interested.



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