

the belgravian

march /april 2014



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Belgravia Community Hall:

11540—73 Avenue

Between issues, and for links to other resources discussed herein, visit:

www.belgraviaedmonton.ca

Facebook:
[facebook.com/belgraviaedmonton](https://www.facebook.com/belgraviaedmonton)

BCL is a member of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues - learn more at: www.efcl.org

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Made In Belgravia!

Karla Barron, Belgravia Resident

Belgravia is home of some great beer making masters and with spring just around the corner we couldn't think of a better topic for our second Made in Belgravia series than beer making!

John Murray has been making beer for over 40 years. On Wednesday, March 26, 7 to 9:00 pm he will be at the BCL hall to share his knowledge about making good affordable homemade beer. John uses products that are easy to find combined with hops grown in his backyard. And guess what? Hops are not that difficult to grow, so you can do this too!

If you are not into beer making but enjoy a pint, you can learn about the different types of beer, and enjoy some good local beer.

Come and learn from John and other Belgravia beer makers how to

make your own homemade beer. Please note that this Made in Belgravia volume is limited to adults only.

To register for this session contact Karla Barron at barron.karla@gmail.com or leave a message at the BCL Hall phone 780 437 1866. Deadline for registration is Monday, March 24.

A small fee of \$5 for BCL members and \$10 for non-BCL members will be charged. Memberships will also be available for purchase at the session.

If you, or someone you know would like to participate with a future Made In Belgravia

from the editor's desk...



Happy March, all you Belgravians! I'm sure you've noticed the days getting longer, as it's a real treat to have the kids walk home after school without the shroud of complete darkness. We're pleased to bring you another *Made in Belgravia* opportunity, featured on this issue's cover. If you were ever

curious about brewing, well you've got the perfect opportunity to indulge said curiosity, right here in your 'hood with John Murray!

In other news, Belgravia is one of the neighbourhoods featured in the April issue of *Alberta Views*, so you'll want to sign up online (look right) in order to receive your copy of it.

Even though spring is on its way, Councillor Ben Henderson has submitted a few thoughts about winter parking that may be of interest. If you're passionate about talk of blading streets, then this one is for you!

Another exciting herald of spring is the BillyCo Junction fruit and vegetable farm share! I have been a member for two seasons now and look most forward to the strawberries and potatoes. Just a quick jaunt over to 119 Street for pick up! Plus, if you order now (form on page 8), there are benefits for Belgravia School too.

Finally, we have some updates on our membership drive and also our inaugural *Letter to the Editor*. Sometimes it's just wonderful to hear back from Belgravians about the generosity and kind-spirited community we are all lucky to call home.

See you soon for the May issue!

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albertaviews

THE MAGAZINE ABOUT ALBERTA FOR ALBERTANS

We're profiling Belgravia in our April issue.

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To sign up to receive your free issue
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403.243.5334 by Friday March 14.

Belgravia Community League Contacts

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Rink Manager	Jim Sawada	rinkmanager@belgravia.edmonton.ca
Transportation	Warren Mulvey	mulveyw@live.com
Hall Renewal	Kevin Taft	kevin.taft@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com
Newsletter	Jessica Jackson	newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Community Plan Committee	Don Grimble	dgrimble@telusplanet.net
End of World Chair	Therese Gaetz	therese.gaetz@shaw.ca

The Heart of Our Community

Kevin Taft, Hall Renewal Chair

Here's some Belgravia history you need to know.

In 1954, Belgravia was a brand new subdivision on the south edge of Edmonton. Many of the lots were still undeveloped. But that didn't slow community spirit. The neighborhood didn't have a community hall, and those first Belgravians were determined to build one. They knew they weren't just building a hall, they were building a community.

So 125 residents gathered at McKernan Hall to form the Belgravia Community League. Within a year they raised enough money to build the original Belgravia Community Hall, which remains the core of our facility today. It was designed by Doris Tanner, an architect living in Belgravia whose daughter still lives here. The hall opened in 1955.

How was the original hall funded? \$15,000 was raised in local donations, the City provided an additional grant, and the hall was built.

Much of that first \$15,000 came from families pledging \$100 each. In 1954, \$100 was a lot of money-- worth about \$870 today.

BCL Casino 2014 - A Note of Thanks!

The BCL held its 2014 Casino February 4 & 5 thanks to the support of some 34 BCL members serving as most willing casino volunteers. The funds raised will be forthcoming in May and aid in the support of many BCL initiatives including: the Belgravian Newsletter; Belgravia Arts Park; Belgravia skating rink; the Belgravia playground; Belgravia Co-operative Play School; Belgravia Out-of-School care; Annual community league BBQ and party; annual Halloween pumpkin party; Skating party; Bike day; Jane's Walk; The Made in Belgravia series; Belgravian Garden Tours; and, the Community hall renewal.

It's great to know you can count on some people to answer the call when needed!
You can expect the next Casino call in the fall of 2015.

On behalf of the BCL, thanks again Belgravia friends and neighbours,
Reg Norby, 2014 Casino Coordinator

Imagine What a New New Community Hall Could Do for You!

- Space for a seniors' bridge club
- Exercise groups for stay-at-home parents
- Wi-fi zone with comfy chairs and a fireplace
- Great place for family get-togethers
- Modern kitchen for cooking classes
- Up-to-date facilities for children's programs
- Maybe even a warm and safe place for Canada Post Super-Boxes

It's the heart of our community, and the possibilities are endless.

Coming this spring-- detailed plans for a renewed community hall.

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Belgravia: A Featured Community in Upcoming *Alberta Views* Magazine

Jeanette Boman, BCL President

This past November, we learned that Doug Horner, Departments Editor of Alberta Views Magazine, was working on a short profile of Belgravia for the magazine's regular section called Community Action. According to Miranda Martin (Editorial Assistant, Alberta Views), "the original purpose of Community Action (formerly Postal Code) was to profile cities and neighbourhoods across Alberta through photos and perspectives from people who live there. Over the years, this mandate has grown to reflect the idea that communities and community-based organizations are capable of doing at the grassroots level what Alberta Views tries to do: inspire Alberta's citizens to choose the common good.

The communities that Alberta Views select to profile are those that exhibit a strong sense of community or have overcome significant challenges as a community. We were asked to suggest people who could be interviewed for the article; people considered to be legends, community activists, volunteers extraordinaire, artists, scientists,

politicians and people who have lived here all their lives. In a community like Belgravia, the list is endless!

The interviews happened, the photos were taken and the Community Action article has been written which Miranda says "focuses on Belgravia's rich tradition of community activism and volunteerism, including recent work done by the community league's End of the World committee and the fundraising effort behind the community hall upgrade. Other elements of the section are a demographic profile of the neighbourhood; colour photographs of some of Belgravia's most striking features; a list of local legends; and nine resident responses to the questions: *What do you love about your community? What most concerns you; and, If it could be the way you wanted, what would your community look like?*

Alberta Views is happy to offer residents in Belgravia a free copy of their April issue ... their way of saying thanks for participating. You can get your copy by:

- 1) calling 403 243 5332 by Friday, March 14; or,
- 2) going to www.albertaviews.ab.ca/belgravia

Here's to reading about our great community and wonderful neighbours!



With: **Dan Skakun**

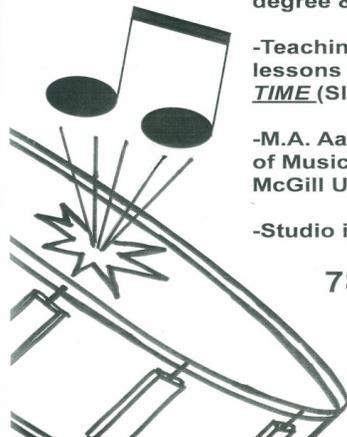
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The Winter Parking Conundrum

Ben Henderson, Ward 8 City Councillor



Three years ago, the winter streets of Edmonton rarely saw a full cycle of neighbourhood blading. At that time, citizens were quite vocal that the general policy of ‘freeze it where it falls until it thaws,’ was not sufficient. In response, Council introduced neighbourhood blading to improve winter driving conditions and

overall snow removal.

The current blading program has some strong benefits, but also some major downfalls. **On-street parking** and the inconvenience it causes to both residents and snow removal crews, is one of the most regular complaints that my office receives.

I understand that to restrict residential parking to garages, driveways and parking pads is not realistic for some families, especially in dense neighbourhoods. However, I also understand that continuing to allow parking on both sides of narrow residential streets may not be the most practical approach considering our snowy winters.

We attempt to minimize windrows but in so doing we still leave 5cm of snow on the roadway that creates havoc in thaw cycles. As we move through February and the snow builds up, many Edmonton streets are beginning to

look like shallow trenches, just wide enough to allow for one vehicle to drive by, never mind two lanes of traffic.

The current policy attempts to balance everyone’s needs by maintaining on-street parking access for motorists, while providing neighbourhood blading for smoother movement through residential areas. Perhaps by trying to have the best of both worlds, we are actually selling ourselves short on both ends.

How should we move forward? I have heard support for a program that would allow residential parking on one side of the street. I have also heard support to go to a rotating short-term neighbourhood ban during scheduled blading. If we could leave a windrow on one side of the street with no parking and ensure there were openings for sidewalks and driveways then we could actually plow to the pavement instead of blading to 5cm and hoping it did not melt and leave quality parking space on the other side.. Is Edmonton ready for this? This winter has not been without its challenges and frustrations. I would like your response on these ideas, so City Council can consider these conversations to decide how to make our winter-city safer and more agreeable to all.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at ben.henderson@edmonton.ca or at 780.496.8146. Follow me on Twitter @ben_hen

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Healthy Fundraising - Fresh Fruits & Veggies

Kim Kelly, Ever Active Parent Chair



Belgravia Ever Active is proud to partner, for a second year, with Billyco Junction Gardens in Lacombe, AB to offer your family fresh vegetables (15 weeks) and fruit (8 weeks) on a weekly basis. Bill and Edie Biel have four grandchildren who attend our school. We are very appreciative of their financial support of our health promoting school program through this fundraiser.

Due to your feedback, a summer sampler option (4 weeks) has been added this year (form available online)!

This will offer some flexibility for those who are traveling or for those with their own gardens who may want to take advantage of Billyco's early produce.

Billyco Junction's produce is grown naturally without the use of harmful chemicals or sprays. Their fruits and vegetables are harvested shortly before delivery to our neighbourhood. Delivery begins in the early summer. Last year's drop-off location was 119 St. and 71A Ave. See www.billycojunction.com for more information.

Last year this fundraiser allowed us to raise over \$900, making our Ever Active program completely sustainable! Some initiatives, funded by this money, include a monthly apple snack for our students and staff, a class set of compasses for orienteering, the purchase of health promoting books for our school library, and a curling experience at Saville.

Fundraising order form is included in this edition of the Belgravian (next page).

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CSA 2014 Fund Raiser * Registration Form

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info@billycojunction.com

Please print clearly:

Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Best time to call you. AM ___ PM ___

Your Address: _____ City: _____ Postal code: _____

Email: _____ How did you hear of us? _____

Name of school / group you are supporting: _____

Choose your vegetable share size

Vegetarian couple / larger family ↓		Couple / Young growing family ↓		Single person ↓	
Full Vegetable share (15 weeks)		Half Vegetable share (15 weeks)		Mini Vegetable share (15 weeks)	
Share Price \$690.00 ____	Donation 6% \$41.40	Share Price \$375.00 ____	Donation 6% \$22.50	Share Price \$210.00 ____	Donation 6% \$12.60

Add a Fruit Share(s) to any vegetable share size - fruit shares are optional and not sold separately.

Share Price \$160.00 ____	Donation 6% \$9.60	<i>Better Buying Tip for smaller families or single people: purchase a larger vegetable share with another family or friend, divide the share or alternate pick up weeks and order another fruit share.</i>
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* More bonuses for you and your school/group:

For you: sign up by March 31, 2014 and receive a 'Get on the Farm Free' card and a 'Thank You Bonus Card' granting a discount towards all on-farm purchases and services, see our web site for services. Shareholders signing up after March 31, 2014 receive a 'Get on the Farm Free' card.

For the organization: 6% from on-farm purchases made by school/group supporters! Please show your card(s) at purchase time.

These bonuses are not to be used in combination with other specials. Cards have no cash value. Expires December 31, 2014

Other CSA options: Please indicate your interest and we will give you a call.

_____ Work shares - we trade share value for good help.

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___ Cash, ___ Interac/debit, ___ Cheque(s). Because this is a fund raiser we are not able to process credit cards due to the extra banking charges.

Cheques are to be made payable to: Billyco Junction Ltd. RR#4, Lacombe, AB T4L 2N4.

Thank you for partnering with us!

Sincerely, Bill and Edie Biel

Edie's cell 403 392-4892

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sarah,

I would like to give a big 'shout-out' to Barry and his team from Laviolette Engineering here in Belgravia. It was a bitterly cold day in December when we came across a woman stuck high on a windrow. We flagged Barry down as he drove by - he stopped, assessed the situation and called his team of engineers to come and help. A strong push from six engineers and the car was once again on its way.

Thanks Barry and team for being great Belgravia neighbours,

Joe McVea



Steve Young, MLA

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How Did We Do with the Membership Drive?

Leigh-Ann Topfer, BCL Membership

We had a particularly long membership drive this year – partly due to a late start, and somewhat due to the weather seemingly working against us. We didn't quite meet our target of 500 community league memberships, and we didn't quite manage to knock on every door in Belgravia. But, we now have over 325 household members and maybe we'll make it to 350 or more by the time soccer registration is over.

Thank you to all of you who purchased a membership this year, and especially, thank you to the volunteer canvassers who knocked on your doors!

We found out a lot about our community through the membership drive. It was wonderful to meet some of the senior citizens in Belgravia, many of whom are in their 90's and still living in their own homes – Belgravia pioneers. In some families, their children have grown up and also stayed in the neighbourhood and they now have

two or three generations living here. Most of all, we heard from (almost) all of you, long-time residents to newcomers, that you love living in Belgravia for so many different reasons.

We also discovered it was more fun to go canvassing with a partner. This is what we'll try to arrange for next year too, so if you're interested in helping with the membership drive don't be shy – we'll send you out with a friend and guarantee you'll enjoy it.

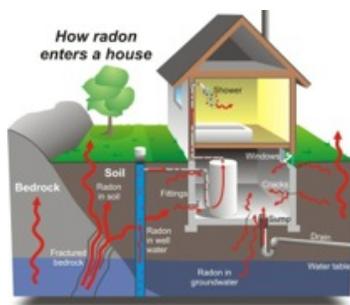
We've covered all but a few blocks of Belgravia, so if we haven't knocked on your door or left a flyer in your mailbox, and you'd still like to get a Community League Membership please e-mail us at: membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca or call 780-432-0119.

Radon...the Invisible Enemy

By Amy Elefson (The Lung Association, Alberta and NWT)

I presented to a small group of people at the BCL Hall on January 29, 2014 and have been invited to submit an overview of the presentation to the *Belgravian* for those of you who were unable to attend the session.

What you don't know can hurt you. Radon is an invisible, odourless, and tasteless gas that is produced naturally in soil and rock as uranium breaks down. Due to its nature, radon can accumulate to high levels indoors and pose a serious health risk to you and your family. Long-term exposure to radon increases your risk of developing lung cancer and is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. For this reason, The Lung Association, Alberta and NWT (TLA) is striving to raise awareness of the risk associated with radon exposure and wants to make test kits easily accessible.

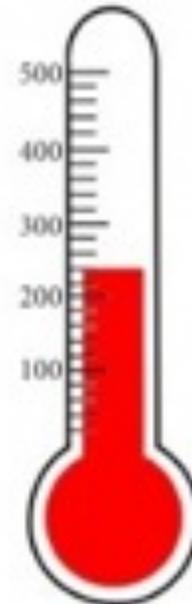


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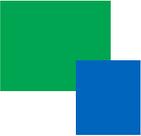
The amount of radon in your home varies. The only way to know if you and your loved ones are at a higher risk of developing lung cancer due to radon exposure is to test your home. Ideally, the best time to test for radon is between the months of October and April. The reason for this is that the windows and doors to your home generally remain closed due to cold weather. By keeping the doors and windows shut, radon gas builds up, which allows you to get a more accurate reading of the radon level in your home.

Testing is both easy and inexpensive. It requires placing a radon test kit in the lowest level of a home (such as a basement or main floor) where it will not be disturbed. Health Canada recommends long-term testing, lasting between three and 12 months. Once the testing period is over, the detector is collected and mailed to a laboratory for analysis and results.

Membership Goal - 500



Burns and Scalds



Every month Alberta Health Services EMS responds to emergencies where a young child has sustained severe burns or scalds. These incidents often occur inside the child's own home. Common causes include a child accidentally tipping hot liquids onto themselves, touching a hot surface, or making contact with an electrical outlet. Fortunately, incidents such as these can be avoided by taking simple preventative measures.

Degrees of burn

- **1°:** Affects only the top layers of the skin; appears red like a sun burn; discomfort is generally tolerable.
- **2°:** Deeper and much more painful than 1° burns; broken skin or blisters commonly develop.
- **3°:** Severe: the deepest layers of skin and tissue are injured; may appear charred or leathery.

First Aid for burns

- Skin may continue to burn if not aggressively cooled. Immediately douse burns with large amounts of cold water.
- Cover the burn with a sterile dressing, or any clean, non-fluffy material to protect from infection.
- Over the counter medications may be used for pain. Adhere to directions given on the label.
- Seek further medical attention from your doctor as required.

Prevention of burns

- Check the temperature of your hot water tank. Many homes keep hot water temperatures as high as 60°C / 140°F. This temperature will scald a child in just seconds.
- Use placemats instead of tablecloths. Tablecloths can be yanked downward causing hot drinks or food to spill on a child.
- Turn pot handles to the back of the stove and ensure cords from kettles, slow cookers, and other electrical appliances cannot be reached.
- Avoid picking up a child while holding any hot liquids.
- Ensure electrical outlets are made secure by installing commercially available safety devices that prohibit access.

If you require immediate medical attention for a burn, **call 9-1-1.**

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