



the belgravian

June 2016

In this issue:

Decorative Streetlights - p3
Hall Update - p5
Belgravia School OLC - p6
Infill & Mature Neighbourhood Overlay - p7
Events in the Community - p8
Belgravia Traffic Management Plan - p9
Meet Your Neighbour - p10

Belgravia Community Hall

11540 73 Avenue
Edmonton AB T6G 0G1

Next Submission Deadline

June 24, 2016

BCL is a member of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (www.efcl.org)

Visit us online at belgraviaedmonton.ca

Follow us on Twitter @BelgraviaYEG

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Please remember to recycle this newsletter.

Save the Date!

September 17, 2016

Belgravia Community League:
Grand Hall Opening
Annual Community League Day
Annual General Meeting
3rd Annual Belgravia Hustle

September 17th will be a big day for our community. Mark your calendars.

If you would like to volunteer or have any suggestions for our hall opening contact

programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca

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Decorative Streetlights

Were you disappointed to read in the Belgravian that Belgravia would not be pursuing Decorative Streetlights as part of the Neighbourhood Renewal due to insufficient interest? I was, particularly after comparing the Standard streetlights installed in Queen Alexandra to the more attractive Decorative lights in both Lendrum and Laurier. I have therefore volunteered to lead the process.

The following are the firm timelines established by the City. When dates fall on the weekend, the deadline is the next business day.

- July 2:** Send the decorative streetlight option to the City.
- September 1:** City sends Expression of Interest (EOI) package to registered property owners.
- November 15:** Property owners return signed petition to City.

To begin the process, a community meeting of property owners will take place on **Wednesday, June 15th at 7PM at Gracious Goods**. The outcome of the meeting will be the selection of the design. This includes the following three components:

- Colour:** Black, Green or Blue
- Pole Design:** Octagonal or Fluted
- Decorative Arm:** Newport, Scroll or Heritage.

Details about the Decorative Streetlights can be found at http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/on_your_streets/decorative-lighting.aspx.

If you are interested in having Decorative Streetlights in Belgravia, please plan to attend the meeting. If cannot attend the meeting but would like to provide input, please advise me of your first and second choices for colour, pole design and decorative arm.

The EOI package that will be sent to the property owners will indicate the Decorative Streetlights chosen and the associated cost. The cost will be determined by the option selected, the borrowing finance rate and the number of property owners sharing the expense. Property owners may pay a one-time, lump sum payment or a property tax levy amortized over 15 years. The exact cost will be included on your tax notice the year following the sidewalk construction.

To proceed with the Decorative Streetlights in Belgravia support is required from 50% + 1 of the registered property owners. Therefore, if you are in favour of the installing Decorative Streetlights, please make sure to provide your support. We will need volunteers to help canvas property owners. I can be reached at streetlights@belgraviaedmonton.ca.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Laurie de Grace



Dave Richards

Neighbourhood Journeyman Carpenter
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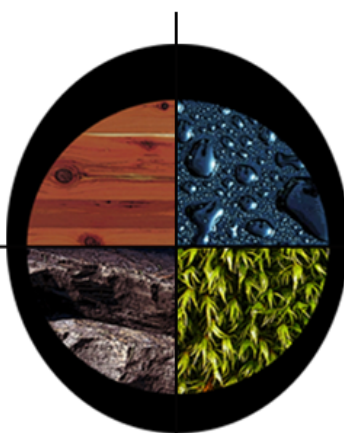
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Community Hall Update

What a difference four months have made.

If you haven't been by the hall in a while then you'll be amazed. On January 14, the roof was lifted onto place at the hall, which was just a shell. By May 14, the building was nearing completion: windows, insulation, drywall, heat, electricity, and so much more. It looks good and should work well. The hall will be completed by summer and the grand opening will be in September. We plan to install solar electric panels in 2017, to be unveiled on Canada's 150th birthday.

Since the last newsletter the community league has received several more contributions, pushing our total from families in the neighborhood to over \$300,000. Every penny of that will go to good use for a building that will serve the community for many decades to come.

It is never too late to make a contribution. We need your support, and you will be acknowledged. The average contribution has been over one thousand dollars-- amazing generosity. You can contribute through PayPal at Belgraviaedmonton.ca, or mail a cheque to "Belgravia Community League" to P.O. Box 52202, Edmonton, T6G 2T5.

A Hall for All--- brought to you by the people of Belgravia.

The Belgravia Hall Renewal Committee is Kathy Brodeur-Robb; Michael Cohen; Kathy Goble;

Dale Rowe; Eugene Silva; Kevin Taft, chair. If you have questions please chat with us.



Belgravia School Outdoor Learning Centre

It's hard to imagine the grove of trees, shrubs and undulating terrain along the east side of Belgravia School was just a flat space of grass 20 years ago. But that's all it was until the parent council, staff and students at the time decided it was a perfect space for developing a natural landscape with room for growing some vegetables too.

While most controversial aspect of the project was the pond and making it safe for children playing around it, Belgravia School's multi-faceted Outdoor Learning Centre (OLC) took shape and has matured into what it is today.

During the day it is a place for exploring, playing hide-and-seek and learning to plant and care for plants; a small, safe place for children to experience nature. There's a herb garden and places to sit and read, to do science experiments and art. While not intended to produce prize-winning vegetables, the garden plots produce food for learning and eating too along, not to mention learning about the importance of composting. Some years the pond has been a home for reeds and frogs with even a couple of mallards discovering it as a nice little resting spot one year. Rabbits and no doubt, other small four legged creatures make the OLC part of their community nocturnal rounds.

As one of the oldest school garden and natural landscape in the city, the OLC is an example of what a school community can achieve. In agreement with the City of Edmonton, the school Parent Council is COMPLETELY responsible for the care and upkeep of everything in the space. This is no small feat as over the years this has involved hundreds of school families and dedicated parent leaders ... community building at its best.

This year the Parent Council has committed significant funds for upkeep and maintenance of the OLC. Heather Kerr, current Parent Leader of OLC crew reports plans are underway to repair the bridge deck, add more shrubbery, bring in more pea gravel, build more seating areas and purchase more tools. One priority was the need for an OLC shed and easy access to gardening supplies. The BCL partnered in helping make this happen when Ken Goble (BCL Facilities Director) agreed to put the shed together. As a result of this collaboration, the Belgravia Arts Park Weeding team will also have a place to store their tools. A win-win for the school and the community league ... and a huge thank you to Heather and Ken for making this happen!



The new shed and its builder, Ken Goble.

Infill & the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay

Neighbourhoods are living things. They progress through life cycles, where populations change and character evolves, reflecting changes in preferences, demand, demographics and many other factors. When these changes involve new development, that development is called 'infill', which can include either replacing old houses with new houses or increasing the number of dwellings though different housing styles.

Infill is not new and has been happening in the City for over 100 years as old buildings wore out and were replaced by new ones. Recently there has been a great increase in infill, especially in post-war neighbourhoods as the housing stock begins to age, and demand for more centrally located properties increases.

In 2001, Edmonton introduced the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay (MNO), a set of regulations that helps keep new development as sensitive as possible to existing residential development. But the MNO is not perfect. There are parts that are working, parts that could work better, parts that should be added, and parts that should be removed. The MNO has never been a static document, and changes have been made to it along the way, as our understanding of development has changed and grown, but there has never been a comprehensive review of the document.

Our planning department has begun that review, and it is important that you be involved. Whether or not infill increases density, it offers an opportunity to rejuvenate neighbourhoods and provide more diverse housing options that meet the changing needs of our population. We need to ensure that the decisions we make today help this rejuvenation happen in a thoughtful and healthy way that will build the communities we want to live in for the next 50 or 100 years.

The next opportunity to be involved in the review is May 28 (see link below), but I know you may get this after that date. However there will be many more opportunities to become involved I would encourage you to go to:

edmonton.ca/matureneighbourhoodoverlay.

There is a sign up link for the newsletter in the top right hand corner, as well as information about the various sessions.

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

Follow me on Twitter @ben_hen

Ben Henderson

Chicken John's Petting Zoo

@ Belgravia School - Southwest Tarmac

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Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>

Open to the whole Community from 3:30-4:30



The Belgravia Play School is organizing their annual Petting Zoo and it's getting better every year. With support from the City of Edmonton and the Belgravia School Parent Council, our play school and school children will meet and get to know many furry, feathered, two legged and four legged animals at scheduled times during the afternoon.

From 3:30 to 4:30 pm, the Petting Zoo is open to the whole community (Admission: \$2.00). Come by and see, hold, pat a few animals you won't usually find in this neighbourhood. We're pretty sure they will make you smile!

## Events in the Community:

### Pop-Up Play - McKernan Park

7535 112 St.

Join in games, sports, crafts, music, drama, and special events! Ages 6 to 12 are welcomed, ages 5 and under must be supervised by a parent or guardian.

July 4 - August 25

Mondays & Thursdays - 2:30 - 6 PM

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### Green Shack Program - Windsor Park

11840 87 Ave.

Free community drop-in recreation program where children ages 6 - 12 can experience a variety of games, sports, crafts, music drama and special events.

July 4 - August 25

Monday - Friday 10:00 - 1:30 PM

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### Leaders In Training

If you are between the ages of 13 and 17, why not take the opportunity to build your leadership skills and get involved with your community? The City of Edmonton Leaders in Training (LIT) Program will provide you with valuable volunteer leadership experience at a neighbourhoods Day Camps or

Green Shack program. During two days of fun and interactive leadership training staff will help you discover your inner leader and prepare you for volunteering with children in our summer programs. Find out more at [www.edmonton.ca/youth](http://www.edmonton.ca/youth), [www.twitter.com/YEGYOUTH](https://twitter.com/YEGYOUTH), email: [youth@edmonton.ca](mailto:youth@edmonton.ca) or call at 780-944-7413.

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### Bike Safety Workshop

McKernan School Basketball Court

Sunday June 5, 1 - 4 PM

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### 100In1Day - June 4

Small actions. Big CHANGE.

What if hundreds of people united, each taking one small action to improve their city, all on the same day?

100In1Day is a global festival of civic engagement coming to Edmonton for the 1st time on June 4, 2016. Imagine the possibilities for our city if hundreds of people united to participate in small initiatives to spark change. The long list of project ideas includes chalk murals, art installations, flash mob dance parties, and pop-up street furniture.

Join the movement today by submitting your project, participating in a workshop, and helping to spread the word.

[makesomethingedmonton.ca/100in1day](http://makesomethingedmonton.ca/100in1day)



The Belgravia Arts Park is a lovely place to sit and contemplate or perhaps have a picnic



## Belgravia Traffic Management Plan

The City will be holding an open house and workshop in the third week of June, time and location to be announced, to provide Belgravians with the opportunity to participate in the development of a Community Traffic Management Plan (CTMP). As part of the CTMP process, City staff would like to make sure that all Belgravia residents and those residents of McKernan West of 114 Street have an opportunity to express their views on neighbourhood traffic issues, and suggest possible measures to address these concerns.

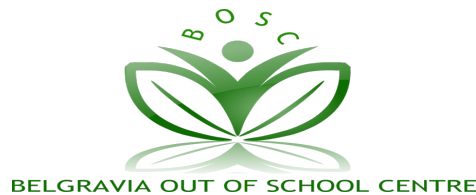
Volunteers from Belgravia have had some initial meetings with City staff, and 200 Belgravians responded to a November 2015 telephone survey to identify neighbourhood traffic concerns. Additionally, all the traffic issues identified in the Belgravia Neighbourhood Renewal feedback and the Engage 106/76 Project have also been provided to the City.

Please take the time to attend the meeting and provide your input. If you are unable to attend you can provide input to the Transportation Committee at:

[transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca).

A project webpage will be available by Friday, May 27 on the City of Edmonton website. Information on the project, links to the Belgravia Neighbourhood Renewal Project and Engage 106/76, and opportunities to provide input will be made available and updated as the CTMP develops.

Traffic Management Plan measures will be tested in late 2016 and 2017 and then the final solution will be implemented in 2018, in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Renewal reconstruction in north Belgravia.



### Summer Camp Program 2016

**Belgravia Out of School Centre is excited to offer care for your children this summer!**

We are conveniently located in the Edmonton Vietnamese Alliance Church, 7302-118 Street, in Edmonton. Just a short walk to a wonderful playground, minutes to McKernan spray park and several other great playgrounds right in our area. Several field trips will be planned weekly exploring Edmonton's activities. We have many daily activities planned - never a boring moment! Your children will experience sports, cooking classes, art, science projects and much more.

Our camps are available for elementary school aged children (your child must have completed kindergarten and be going into grade 1). Our staff are Government certified, have first aid, criminal record checks and lots of enthusiasm!

**Monday – Friday; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

If you require care for the summer months (you do not have to be a member to attend summer camps) and would like to explore the summer camps at BOSC, please contact: 780-278-2672 and ask Stephanie. We offer weekly camps and prices.



[info@ebosc.ca](mailto:info@ebosc.ca)  
[www.ebosc.ca](http://www.ebosc.ca)

## Meet Your Neighbour - Laurie Cheung

Born in a refugee camp in Thailand and raised in Calgary, Laurie is a busy mom of two who thinks the term "busy mom" is just redundant. She works three days a week as the Communications Director at the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, loves to run (she's training for a half marathon race in August), and thinks her husband is pretty cool.

Laurie and her long-time friend, Veronica Young, launched the startup, Squid Arms, this year. SquidArms.com connects busy families, seniors and professionals with Helpers in the local community to get chores done - from cleaning to organizing, grocery shopping, errands, pets, office work, landscaping and even handyman work. It's the Airbnb for getting chores done.

Laurie wanted to create Squid Arms because with more arms to get things done, she can spend less time on chores and more time chasing after her hilarious kids. She hopes Squid Arms can help fellow busy Belgravians spend more time doing the things they love - like hanging out with neighbours or reading The Belgravian!

*What do you like best about Belgravia?*

I pretty much can't stop singing praises about Belgravia. I keep telling all my friends to move here! It's a beautiful neighbourhood with friendly people. I love the community too: from the Belgravia Community Watch (you're awesome, Richard!) to the events like Belgravia School's anniversary and Library 73, it's just a great place, actually, it's the best place, to live.

*What is your favourite Edmonton restaurant?*

I have many favourites, including Nomiya, Xu HueH and Sabor. It really depends on what I'm craving that day.

*What is your favourite vacation spot?*

Maui. If I didn't live in Belgravia, I'd live in Maui. Haha!

*What's your favourite film?*

Inception and Emma

*Who would you most like to be stuck in the elevator with?*

Someone who can get me out

*What is your guilty snack food pleasure?*

Charcuterie

*What are you reading now?*

A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking and Forgotten God by Francis Chan (yes, I like to read more than one book at a time!)

*What is the one item you can't live without?*

I hate to be that person who says, "my phone," but I'm going to have to say, my phone. That, and the news. I'm a current events and news junkie, which is why I need my phone!

*What are your words to live by?*

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

