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### **Belgravia Community Hall**

11540 73 Avenue  
Edmonton AB T6G 0G1

### **Next Submission Deadline**

April 15, 2016

BCL is a member of the Edmonton Federation of  
Community Leagues ([www.efcl.org](http://www.efcl.org))

Visit us online at [belgraviaedmonton.ca](http://belgraviaedmonton.ca)

Follow us on Twitter @BelgraviaYEG

### ***BCL Casino 2016***

### ***A Note of Thanks!***

The BCL held its 2016 Casino March 1 and 2 thanks to the support of some 35 BCL members serving as most willing casino volunteers. The funds raised will be forthcoming in May and aid in the support of the Hall renewal renovations and expansion.

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 late fall of 2017 or early 2018.

Those who can - do.

Those who can do more - volunteer!

On behalf of the BCL, thanks again Belgravia friends and neighbours,

Reg Norby, 2016 BCL Casino Coordinator

BCL Board & Community Contacts		
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2. Belgravia Elementary Sch. Liaison	David Shanks	daveshanks@me.com
3. South Campus Neighbourhood Coalition BCL Rep	Bob Kamp	info@belgraviaedmonton.ca
UofA Comm Consultation	Cory Dawson	info@belgraviaedmonton.ca

## Program Planning for our New Hall

In the life of a child, 4 ½ years seems like a long time ago. As the time it has been since we began planning for our new hall, it is but a blip in the life of the hall and all it will be and do for Belgravia. Thus, while the hall construction process is progressing nicely, we must not forget why we began the project in the first place.

Some of you will remember and likely attended one or more of the meetings where we asked what you would like to see in a new hall. Kim Sanderson and the Belgravia Hall Renewal Committee led us through these assessment meetings and came up with a complete summary of your feedback. These hopes and expectations served as the basis for the new design and ultimately, the structure that could be built with funds that have been raised.

From the beginning, our task was to create a community hall to support our unique needs in Belgravia. Our hall will be accessible to everybody. It will be safe and comfortable. We want it to stimulate community connections, to support the needs of the people who live here, to build our sense of community, to be a place where people gather, to bump into each other and have some fun. We'd like the BCL and its hall to be seen as the soul of Belgravia because it is here for everyone.

Now, we need to make sure that happens. A beautiful hall without the programs for children, young families, teenagers, students, empty nesters, seniors, singles, couples and multigenerational families is only a beautiful hall.

Heather Scherer, BCL Vice President, Annette Stupar Cairns, Programs Director & Jeanette Boman, BCL Past President are heading up a program planning process and want to hear from you (email addresses in table to the left). Let them know what you want to see happen at the hall this coming fall and are willing to help facilitate. With your input and the organizational efforts of the BCL, we'll make sure our 'Hall for All' not only looks the part but acts like it too.

## President's Message

Happy spring everyone! Although given the weather Edmonton has been experiencing the last few months, it feels to me like spring started in February!!

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you all on some of the things going in in the community:

- 1) The hall renewal process continues to move along. You may have noticed the new roof is on the building, along with new windows. If everything continues as planned, we should be fully completed mid-summer 2016.
- 2) Our informal Family Day event in February turned out to be a wonderful day full of family fun. My best guess is almost 100 neighbours showed up for the hot dogs, fire pit, and toboggan rides. A big thank you to Annette Stupar-Cairns for once again organizing a fantastic event!
- 3) We have now officially set the date for our 2016 AGM. We are planning on combining the Annual Community League Day, the Annual General Meeting and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Belgravia Hustle into one action filled day! **We have booked Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> for the event... mark your calendars and stay tuned for details!**
- 4) I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude for all of the people that volunteered for our annual casino fundraiser. We cannot run all of these community events without the help of many of you. Also, an extra special thank you to Reg Norby for once again organizing the entire event. Belgravia really appreciates all you do!
- 5) Lastly, I would like to reach out to the community to let you know we are currently looking for a new Communications Director. If you want to learn more about becoming a member of the BCL board, please contact me directly. It is an excellent way to get to know your neighbors and give back to your community.

That's all for now. As always, if you have questions or concerns about any community related issues, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kevin



Belgravia Cooperative Playschool is now accepting registrations for three and four year olds for the 2016-17 school year.

Located in the newly renovated Belgravia Hall, the not-for-profit preschool program has been serving the area for more than 40 years.

Registration forms available at:

[www.belgraviaplayschool.com](http://www.belgraviaplayschool.com)

or by contacting:

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



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&  
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11330-76 AVENUE

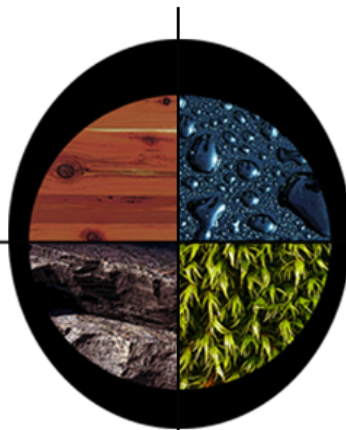


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**CELEBRATE 60 YEARS**

**JOIN THE**



# **LIVING TIMELINE**



**THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016 3:30 - 6:30 BELGRAVIA SCHOOL**

Sixty. The Big Six-O. That's a lot of years since Belgravia School welcomed learners through its doors.

Since then, Belgravia students and teachers have shared in a tradition of learning that has shaped the city, province and country. And the world.

On Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 - 6:30 pm, Belgravia School is celebrating that legacy and you're invited. We're going to make Belgravia School a living timeline of people, memories and things that all can join in, whether you were there when it started, or are just getting started.

- Theatre and Musical Performances, including the School Song
- Library Legacy Book Fair
- Living Timeline throughout the school
- Refreshments & Food
- Belgravia School spirit wear available!

We'd love you to get in touch with us and to help us get in touch with others. Stay in touch with what's going on at <https://sites.google.com/a/epsb.ca/celebrate60years/>

There's lots of easy ways you can contribute to celebrate the school and the making of a community. You can contact Tina Yonge at [tina\\_yonge@hotmail.com](mailto:tina_yonge@hotmail.com)

Sponsored by Belgravia School, Belgravia School Parents Council and Belgravia Community League.

## **Edmonton in 1955-56**

Population: 209,000 (1955), 223,000 (1956)

Opening of the Groat Road Bridge over the North Saskatchewan River

Edmonton's and Alberta's first shopping mall opened, Westmount Shopper's Park

Ross Sheppard and Strathcona Composite High Schools open



## 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)  
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# Protecting Our Mature Trees

- **Ben Henderson**

Mature trees are a crucial part of Edmonton's beauty, desirability and livability. What we can do to protect trees largely depends if they are "city trees" or "private trees." City trees, usually found on boulevards, are public property; as such no person may remove, damage, prune, cut, repair, or preform any other work on a tree without special authorization. The City owns and maintains over 320,000 trees and monitoring them all can be a challenge. If you see work being done that endangers or damages a city tree please call 311 and report it to our urban foresters.

Trees are quite valuable and our older elms can be \$70,000 - \$100,000. If a tree is damaged, or has to be removed, then the value of that tree is reinvested into the community through plantings. You can find a map of Edmonton's trees as well as value specifications on [Edmonton.ca](http://Edmonton.ca).

Sadly, I can't count the number of times I've heard "That tree is at the end of its life; it's over 70." This is simply untrue. Many of our tree species live past 100, and some of our oak species reach 600. Elms can easily live for 250 years. If we properly care for our trees, they will be here for generations to come.

Unfortunately, no matter how old or majestic there is nothing the City can do to prevent a private tree from being cut down. We have explored a variety of tools, but they each have

loopholes too large to be effective. Other provinces have passed special legislation enabling their cities to protect private trees and we are lobbying the province to make these changes here. If you care about this issue I would encourage you to contact your MLA.



For now we're adding trees as required landscaping. This cannot prevent someone cutting down a mature tree, but it does require a minimum number of trees be planted. If a developer keeps a mature tree it will count extra towards that requirement.

Administration has committed to me that we will now water and fertilize trees 1 year in advance of Neighborhood Renewals. This is in addition to the 3-5 years of watering/

fertilizing we already do after construction. When fully replacing a road and sidewalk, it is next to impossible to avoid impact on trees, but this will help the trees have the strength to recover. In addition, I am pushing to require all City trees be hoarded during construction. Hoarding is a protective box placed around the tree, and new rules should be in place this May.

If you have ideas or suggestions regarding mature tree protection, let me know.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at [ben.henderson@edmonton.ca](mailto:ben.henderson@edmonton.ca) or at 780.496.8146.

Follow me on Twitter @ben\_hen



## Year Round Green Shack Program

**FREE Community Drop-In  
Recreation Program**

**@ Queen Alexandra Park**  
10722 - 73 Avenue

Children ages 6-12 can experience a variety of activities, crafts, cooking and more!  
Families are welcome!

**April 26 – May 21, 2016**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00- 7:00 pm**  
**Saturdays 1:00- 5:00 pm**

\* May 14<sup>th</sup> Green Shack will have a one hour **Bike Safety Program**. Ask your leader for more details!

\* All activities are outside, please ensure that you come dressed for the weather.

\* Children under the age of 6 must be supervised by a parent or guardian.

Find all  
community  
drop-in  
programs at  
[edmonton.ca/  
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nityprograms](http://edmonton.ca/dropincommunityprograms)  
or call 311



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## SOFTBALL Spring Registration NOW

**SEASON BEGINS MAY 2, 2016**

Edmonton Softball Zones Register Players Ages 4 to 19



**Early Bird Registration Deadline: March 30, 2016**

**FOR REGISTRATION  
INFORMATION:** E-mail:  
[info@eysa.ca](mailto:info@eysa.ca)

[eysa.ca](http://eysa.ca)

## Bike Safety Program

**Coming to SW Neighbourhoods in May & June 2016!**

Fun and basic bike safety skills are the focus of this  
**free, drop-in program for all ages.**

Participants will enhance their bike safety skills while  
participating in games and activities. Program will be  
adapted to the age and skill level of participants.  
**Children 5 and under require a guardian to attend.**

All programs are outdoors. Please dress for the weather!  
Programs may cancel in the event of inclement weather.

Date & Time	Neighbourhood	Location
Saturday May 14 1 pm - 4 pm	Aspen Gardens	Aspen Gardens Community League Hall 12015 - 39 A Ave
Sunday May 15 1 pm - 4 pm	Leger	Terwilliger Community Recreation Centre parking lot D 2051 Leger Road
Saturday May 28 1 pm - 4 pm	Brander Gardens	Riverbend Jr. High School parking lot 14820 - 53 Ave
Saturday June 4 2 pm - 5 pm	Allard	Allard Rink 660 Allard Blvd SW
Sunday June 5 1 pm - 4 pm	McKernan	McKernan School basketball courts 11330 - 76 Ave (114 St)
Saturday June 11 10 am - 1 pm	Steinhauer	Ermineskin Community League Hall 10709 - 32A Ave

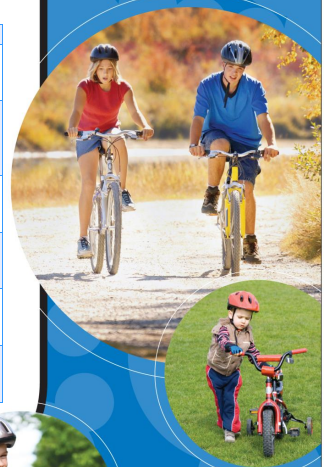
For all bike safety programs city-wide, call 311  
or visit: [edmonton.ca/dropincommunityprograms](http://edmonton.ca/dropincommunityprograms)

**Participants  
must bring  
their own:**

\* Bicycle

\* C.S.A. approved  
helmet

\* Close-toe  
shoes



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## **Belgravia Neighbourhood Renewal, Engage 106-76 and Traffic Management**

The City of Edmonton presented their preliminary design for the Belgravia Neighbourhood Renewal on March 22. 160 Belgravia residents attended the meeting to view and provide comments on the City's plans for roadways and sidewalks.

The City staff stressed that this is a preliminary design and they want feedback from the residents, as we know our neighbourhood best. All the material presented at the meeting is available online on the City of Edmonton website under Building Great Neighbourhoods - Belgravia/McKernan (west of 114 Street).

The City would like to receive our feedback within six weeks of the meeting (May 3), which they will then use to for the next stage of their design. You can go online to provide your comments.

There will be another meeting scheduled in late 2016 or early 2017 to give the community an opportunity to review the next stage of the design.

The neighbourhood renewal does not include 76 Avenue, as that is being handled by a separate initiative, the Engage 106-76 Project. A meeting is being held on April 7, 2016 at St. Basil's Cultural Centre ([10819 71 Avenue](#)), from 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm, to view the draft concept plan for 76 Ave. and 106 St. You can go online and search for Engage 106-76 to get more information on this project.

A third initiative impacting Belgravia is the Belgravia Traffic Management Plan. This project will be starting in late April to address the problems of shortcutting and speeding in Belgravia. If you want to participate or have any questions you can contact Steve Schroeter at [transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca).

## **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](mailto:programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca)

## **Events in the Community:**

### **Law Day**

Edmonton Law Courts will host fun, educational activities for the whole family. Mock trials will be held throughout the day, highlighting common issues in civil, criminal, constitutional & family law.

Edmonton Courthouse, 1A Sir Winston Churchill Square, Edmonton, AB

Saturday, April 16, 2016, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**WEBSITE:** [www.lawdayalberta.com](http://www.lawdayalberta.com)

**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/LawDayAB/?fref=ts>

### **Green and Gold Community Garden**

We are now gearing up for the 2016 gardening season, and are looking for new volunteers to join us at the garden. Both novice & experienced gardeners are welcome. If you aren't interested in gardening, but would like to help in other ways (distributing produce, promoting the garden, donating seeds or garden tools) please contact us at:

**E-mail:** [gggarden@ualberta.ca](mailto:gggarden@ualberta.ca) **Phone:** 780-492-4087

**Web site:** [www.greengoldgarden.co](http://www.greengoldgarden.co)

## Meet Your Neighbour - Elfi Wensel

Elfi Wensel is a native Belgravian. Elfi grew up in the neighbourhood, attended Belgravia Co-operative Playschool and Belgravia Elementary School, Class of 97. It's always a pleasure to see her smiling face around the community.

*What do you like best about Belgravia?*

The people. I love that after living in the neighbourhood for so long I still meet people I know. I also like that I can go months or years without seeing someone and run into them and it seems like no time has passed.

*What is your favourite Edmonton restaurant?*

DaDeOs. Really great service, really great food. Not a family restaurant but great for 18+.

*What is your favourite vacation spot?*

Victoria. The climate is a plus for me. I have only been once, but fell in love and would love to go back.

*What's your favourite film?*

Sound of Music. A classic and I love the music in it.

*What is your guilty snack food pleasure?*

Gum. Not sure if that is a snack or not, but I am rarely seen without it.

*What are you reading now?*

"Seriously... I'm Kidding" by Ellen DeGeneres

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

Well, for starters, I dislike being stuck in elevators and non-functional elevators to begin with. I am usually very cranky when this happens (way too much) but if I have to be, I would love to pass the time with Queen Elizabeth II. I am not sure that she would want to be stuck with me as I would probably be quite rude and negative, but I am sure she would be fascinating.

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

My phone. I would be without communication, organization and music without it. I am currently writing this on my phone.

*What are your words to live by?*

"At first dreams seem impossible, then improbable, then inevitable." Christopher Reeves



Elfi, volunteering at the BCL St. Paul's Holiday Marketplace.