



Belgravia CommunityDay, September 17, 2016

Grand Hall Reopening, Community League Annual General Meeting, Belgravia Hustle, Community League and Belgravia Elementary Welcome Back Barbecue

- 12:30-1:00 Membership sales in upper hall.
- 1:00 Ribbon cutting & bag pipe procession with preschool children.
- 1:30 - 2:30 Belgravia Annual General Meeting in the upper hall
- 3 - 4:30 Belgravia Hustle 10 km run, 5 km run, 3 km dog walk and 2 km family walk
- 3:30 - 6:30 Membership sales outside west side
- 4:30 - 7:30 BBQ
- 5:45 - 6:30 Family soccer game
- 6:30 Cake cutting and coffee
- 7:00 Draw for Gift Bags
- 8:00- 8:30 Musical Grand Finale on hall west side
- 8:45 Fireworks begin on hall west side.

Barbecue is complimentary for 2016/17 Community League members and families of Belgravia School students (\$5/burger for non-members of the BCL or the school).

- Beer available for purchase in the indoor beer gardens, located in the upper hall
- Musical performances, with around 20 musicians participating, will be in the lower hall.
- Glitter tattoos, balloon animals and bouncy castle from 5-7 p.m.
- Family soccer game from 5:45 p.m. until 6:30 in the school field.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

In this issue:

September 17 Schedule - p1
President's Message - p3
Decorative Streetlights - p4
Parking Issues - p5
Community League Membership - p6
Hall Renewal - p7
Engage106-76 Update - p9
Events in the Community - p10
Belgravia Traffic Management Plan - p10
Meet Your Neighbour - p12

Belgravia Community Hall

11540 73 Avenue
Edmonton AB T6G 0G1

Next Submission Deadline

September 23, 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, like us on

BCL Board & Community Contacts		
Past President	Jeanette Boman	pastpresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca
President	Kevin Klein	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Vice President	Heather Scherer	vicepresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Secretary	Looking	secretary@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Treasurer	Barry Edgar	treasurer@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Memberships	Jennifer Lambert	membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Facilities	Ken Goble	facilities@belgraviaedmonton.ca
1. Hall Renewal Committee Chair	Kevin Taft	kevin.taft@belgraviaedmonton.ca
2. Hall Rental Coordinator	Liz Yih	hallrental@belgraviaedmonton.ca
3. Rink Manager	Jim Sawada	rinkmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca
4. Arts Park	Looking...	facilities@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Programs	Annette Stupar-Cairns	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
1. Belgravia Playschool Teacher	Monika Fouad	playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca
2. Belmac Soccer Coordinator	Linda Cameron	llicameron2002@yahoo.com
Communications	Looking	communications@belgraviaedmonton.ca
1. Belgravian Editor	Gail Fraser-Steffler	editor@belgraviaedmonton.ca
2. Ads Manager	Phyllis Schneider	adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca
3. Distribution Team Leader	Susanne Rowe	editor@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Planning & Place	Susan Kamp	planning@belgraviaedmonton.ca
1. Transportation Committee	Steve Schroeter	transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Director-at-Large	Dale Rowe	dale.rowe@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Community Safety		
1. End of the World Committee	Roger Laing	edmontoneotw@gmail.com
2. Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com
Community Connections		
1. City Recreation Coordinator	Kate Russell	kate.russell@edmonton.ca
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

GOODFELLA'S ENTERPRISES LTD.

**FREE ONSITE EVALUATION
FOR ALL BELGRAVIA RESIDENTS!**

**“We Listen; We Advise; We Act; We Care;
We Do Our Best!”**

**Almost anything you can imagine for your home or office,
We can turn into a reality you will be proud to show off!**

Owner: John Perri
john@goodfellas-reno.ca

780.441.5687
Website coming soon



Glass Monkey

GASTROPUB

5 minutes from Belgravia!

5842-111 Street 780.760.2228
www.theglassmonkey.ca



Tilman Reimnitz
Golden Tree Traditional Arborist Ltd
**professional
tree work**

tilman.wr@gmail.com
goldentreearborist.com
780 221-1712



Tired of feeling voiceless about your incontinence?



If you are a woman who uses containment products (pads, panty liners, etc.) let a University of Alberta research team know about your continence product experience.

We encourage you to fill out this quick survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/stopitcontinence

Contact Nicholas Smith with any questions at 780-492-6855

Presidents Message

Hello neighbours, and welcome back!

It is hard to believe that summer is winding down and fall is just around the corner.

There are lots of exciting things happening in the community over the coming months...let me fill you in!

Belgravia's 2016-2016 Annual General Meeting will be held on September 17th at 1:30pm in the new hall. Come on out and take a tour of the new facility, get your new BCL membership and enjoy a complimentary BBQ. We have an action packed day that includes our 3rd annual Belgravia Hustle, music performances, a community soccer game organized by the Belgravia School Parent Council and a fireworks display you won't want to miss!!! Please have a look at the schedule outlined in this issue for details on times and events.

On the topic of the new hall...it is hard to believe that we are finally at the finish line. The hall looks incredible inside and out and we all owe a huge special thanks to Kevin Taft and the rest of the Belgravia Hall Renewal Committee (and the Construction Steering Committee). Years of work has gone into making this possible and I am so proud that our community has rallied together to make it happen. We are still working out the fine details of the new hall's rental policy and plans are currently underway to find programs and activities to fill our beautiful new hall with. If you would like to book an event or discuss social activities in the new space, please contact our Annette at programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca or hallrental@belgraviaedmonton.ca and we can help you out.

Lastly, I want to point out that all of the amazing activities, events and programs in our community are run by volunteers. We cannot run a successful and thriving community without help from each other so if you have some spare time or a willingness to get involved in any way, big or small, please contact me at president@belgraviaedmonton.ca and I will be happy to discuss. We are currently looking for new directors for the board, specifically a communications director and a secretary so don't hesitate to get in touch.

That's it for now...please stop by and say hello on September 17th...I am always looking to meet new people.

Kevin Klein



780.484.2100
mraerator@hotmail.com

Industrial Tow Behind Aerator
Residential & Commercial
Full Core Aeration

Water the night before for maximum core!

Why choose us?

- We disinfect aerator between sites.
- We clean up cores off walkways.
- We schedule.



Dave Richards

Neighbourhood Journeyman Carpenter
General Contractor
No job too big or small...
Including plumbing and electrical

Phone: 780 886 6005

Decorative Streetlights

A group has come forward with a proposal for decorative streetlights in Belgravia. The process now is that all residents will receive an EOI (Expression of Interest) notification from the City. Each household will then have the opportunity to vote for or against having decorative streetlights. The following pieces represent the two opposing positions on the decorative streetlight issue.

Yes to Decorative Streetlights

Some neighbours have asked why we are pursuing decorative streetlights. The answer is that our streetlights will be replaced as a part of the scheduled neighbourhood renewal and we have the option to choose decorative lights.

As an already beautiful neighbourhood, one in which we all take pride in looking after our homes, we now have the opportunity to further enhance the streetscape with a black pole and a decorative light rather than the galvanized poles. The new roads and sidewalks will improve the appearance of Belgravia and decorative lights will be the "icing on the cake"!

Just as with everything we do to maintain and improve the appearance of our properties, there is a cost associated with the decorative option, albeit a very minimal one. The average frontage in Belgravia is 15.24 m. or 50 ft. With the estimated cash rate per meter of \$12.70 this means the total cost to most property owners for decorative streetlights would be either a lump sum of \$193.55 or an annual cost of \$15.24 paid over 15 years. A beautified neighbourhood can only serve to enhance our property values making it likely that the small additional expense associated with the decorative lights will be offset.

The City has prepared the EOI which will be sent to all property owners on September 1. To ensure that we can move forward with the Decorative Streetlights, please sign and return the document to the City or stop by the table at the Grand Opening of our Community Hall on Saturday, September 17th.

Laurie de Grace



Decorative Streetlight



Galvanized Pole

No to Decorative Streetlights

In June, some residents selected a "Decorative Streetlight" design for the Neighbourhood Renewal Program. The City is responsible for the cost of "standard, non-powder coated streetlight poles and luminaires, and will only install "decorative streetlights", if Property Owners agree to the additional costs. The Octagonal design costs 15% more. Some of us believed this option was not being pursued, due to the lack of interest. However, since a design was submitted, the Property Owners will now have to complete an "Expression of Interest", which will direct the City on the type of streetlight to install.

The EOI is your opportunity to voice your opinion. The vote must be 51% to proceed either way. You simply check off your choice on the EOI. If you drive through Belgravia you will notice that most of our streetlights can't be seen because of large trees. So, some of us question: "Why we would want pay additional taxes for something we don't see?" As a long-term resident, I ask that you consider the additional costs, when completing your EOI. In Lendrum, the 2015 cost was \$3,515 per house for decorative lights and sidewalks. Costs will be more for the Belgravia upgrade. This could be difficult for some, so please consider the options carefully and help us keep the cost of living in Belgravia reasonable! Pictures of the streetlight choices are included. Please contact me at hallbon@yahoo.ca.

Hilary Allbon, CAP, MOS

How to Deal With Parking Issues in Belgravia

With its proximity to various medical facilities, the LRT station and the University, Belgravia experiences frequent parking by vehicles whose destinations are not within the community. For this and other practical reasons, many of Belgravia's roads have various types of parking restrictions, clearly marked by signs.

Where there are no signs restricting parking, or where motor vehicles have visible permits indicating that they are not subject to the signed restrictions where they park, standard vehicles may be parked for up to 72 hours without being moved, except in special circumstances such as snow clearance or street cleaning activities.

If you notice vehicles parked illegally on a regular or repeated basis, you may report

them to Edmonton Police Services at 780-423-4567 and indicate that you are calling with a parking concern. Be prepared with details such as locations, times, licence plate number(s) and vehicle description(s) such as make, model, colour, and approximate year if known. City policy for repeat offenders includes towing the vehicle if it receives more than three parking violations within a three block radius.

Residents who leave abusive or threatening notes on parked vehicles or deliver verbal abuse or threats to people parking vehicles, no matter whether legally or illegally parked, may be reported to police and may be subject to law enforcement consequences.

The City of Edmonton website has a very informative FAQ ("Frequently Asked Questions") page at: http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/driving_carpooling/parking-faq.aspx

MASSAGE THERAPY: *Pain Relief is in sight...*

Individually Designed Treatment Plans

- Deep Tissue & Accupoint Massage
- Therapeutic Exercise • Myofascial Release
- Tension • Stress • Prevention • Relaxation • Back & Neck Pains
- Flexibility • Pain Relief • Whiplash Injuries • Frozen Shoulder
- Migraines • Headaches • Obesity Issues • Arthritis • Accident
- Poor Posture • Complex Regional Pain Syndrome • Exercises
- Strengthening • Fibromyalgia • Lewy Body Dementia
- Balance Nerve & Muscle Tension • Sciatica

FOOT CARE: *Corns • Callus • Heel Cracks*

Thickened Deformed Discolored NAILS

LASER for Fungus Free Feet

Trained in Germany, **Maria Krieg**
works wonders on aching
backs as well as on needy feet.

People of ALL ages & lifestyles
benefit from Massage Therapy.



BACK BASICS MASSAGE THERAPY & FOOT CARE

CARE FROM HEAD TO TOE SINCE 1981

There is no substitute for experience.

ENJOY INDIAN SUMMER !



Massage Therapy and Foot Care
Ask for your Belgravia Discount

Valid till Oct. 31st, 2016

You deserve Good Health and Beauty too.

Maria Krieg, RMT • 11610 - 75th Ave, Edmonton • www.backbasics.ca • Phone: 780 - 436-8059

Belgravia Community League 2016-2017 Membership

Please show your support. Memberships can be obtained as follows:

1. By coming to the Community Day BBQ on September 17
2. Online by credit card through the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues at <http://www.efcl.org/>. There is a \$5 processing charge.
3. A door-to-door campaign will run in September and October. If you have time and would like to meet your neighbours please consider volunteering for the drive. Contact Jennie Lambert at membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca
4. Email Jennie Lambert at membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca for a form and more information.

Please note the new category of Associate (non-voting) membership for non-residents of Belgravia who would like to support the community. Associate members need to purchase a membership in home community first.



Cost of membership is Family (\$30), Single/couple/senior (\$15), and Associate (\$15)

Your Belgravia Community League (BCL) Membership benefits include:

- Drop-in access to the BCL Hall Community Living Room
- Access to Wifi at the BCL Hall
- BCL member advertising rate in The Belgravian newsletter
- BCL member rate for programs at the hall
- Access to the BCL skating rink and other community league rinks in the city with your membership skate tag
- Complimentary access to BCL community events like the fall BBQ, Pumpkin Party and Family Day events at the hall.
- Optional inclusion on BCL Member e-mail list used for disseminating NB messages
- participation in City soccer and hockey (S.W.A.T.) programs for children
- 10% discount on annual and multi-admission passes, and monthly memberships at City of Edmonton recreation facilities (like the Kinsmen Sports Centre)

The BCL is only as strong as its members who make it possible for the Board to:

- Reflect the needs of Belgravia at the City level about infill & densification, traffic, transit and parking matters.
- Address community concerns about safety and security
- Build and maintain community resources like the hall, rink, playgrounds, the Arts Park
- Produce the *Belgravian*, our community newsletter that is delivered to every household in the community

KW Landscaping & Snow Removal



- Neighbourhood Landscaper
- Yard Work & Snow Removal
- Reasonably Priced
- No Job Too Small

Phone: (780) 691-2011

Email: kwittenberg@timberframes.ca

Hall Opening Coming Fast!

The opening of the renewed community hall is coming up fast. We faced some delays this summer, largely because of rain, but the doors will open soon.

This project was made possible by the remarkable financial contributions of people in Belgravia. Our fundraising campaign promised anyone contributing \$1000 or more an invitation to a Hall Preview Reception prior to the Grand Opening Celebrations. The response was amazing: we received 113 contributions of \$1000 or more, including eleven of \$5000 and six of \$10,000 or more, and all these contributors have been invited to a Hall Preview Reception on September 11.

The Grand Hall Opening on September 17 is open to everyone in the community with a ribbon cutting ceremony slated for 1 pm and after that, the hall begins working for us, marking the end of phase one of our hall renewal. The second and final phase is set for late next spring, when solar-electric panels will be installed on the south roof, generating enough electricity to power the hall from the sun. Then we'll have another celebration (or should we say "solar-bration").

This project was as much about building our community as about building a hall. The energy of the volunteers on the hall renewal committee and the BCL board of directors never faded because the support from across the neighbourhood was inspiring. Contributions came in many forms: kids holding lemonade sales; big contributions from unexpected sources; comments of friendly encouragement; and heavy-lifting from men and women who moved out the furniture and a year later moved it back in. The list goes on and on.

Every contribution helped, no matter what or how small it was.

A giant hug goes out to the people of Belgravia for helping fulfill our dream-- A Hall for All.

The current members of the hall renewal committee are Kathy Brodeur-Robb, Michael Cohen, Kathy Goble, Dale Rowe, Eugene Silva, and Kevin Taft, chair.

EHBA Asociación
Hispanica
Bilingüe de
Edmonton

**TOO BUSY TO LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE?
NO PROBLEMO!**

**10-WEEK
SESSIONS**
BEGINNER
TO ADVANCED
& CONVERSATION

**TUESDAY EVENING
OR
SATURDAY MORNING**

**AT
MCKERNAN
SCHOOL
11330-76 AVENUE**

**¡No hay
problema!**

**ESPANOL
FOR FUN!**

**AFFORDABLE
PRICES!
SPECIAL PRICING
AVAILABLE!**

Come and learn Spanish!

EHBA.ORG / (780) 472-0532 / FACEBOOK.COM/EHBA

TOWN HALL WITH HONOURABLE LORI SIGURDSON

You're invited! Come have a conversation with your MLA for Edmonton-Riverview
All welcome - Hope to see you!



Location: Crestwood Community Hall 14325- 96 Avenue
Date: Wednesday, November 16th 2016
Time: 7:00PM-9:00PM
Light refreshments will be served

Belgravia is home to 433 UAlberta alumni who are doing great things in this community and beyond.

Show your
Green & Gold pride
Sept. 23, 2016
at home, at work,
online!

WEAR IT &
SHARE IT!

500 FREE Green and Gold Day Alumni

Pride Packs are available.

Packs include: Alumni lawn sign, T-shirt, stress ball, link to Forever Green & Gold twibbon.

Order yours while they last at uab.ca/alumniwear

   @UAlbertaAlumni

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
ALUMNI 

Come Sing with Us!

- Award winning organization
- Professional conductors
- Travel locally, nationally, internationally
- Variety of musical styles

Junior Choirs - Ages 6-12

Boys' & Girls' Choirs - Ages 12-15

Youth Choir - Ages 15-24

REGISTER NOW FOR NEXT SEASON

Now with a new Southside location, 10740-19 Ave.

Contact us for more information about our choir programs

info@EdmontonYouthChoir.ca

www.EYCC.ab.ca | 780-994-6539


EDMONTON
Youth and Children's Choirs
"Your Home for Choral Excellence"



Proceeds to
educational
projects

www.peointernational.org

SALE OF GENTLY USED BOOKS

*From the bookshelf...
to the night table*

**ST.
PAUL'S
UNITED
CHURCH**

11526 76 Ave NW

Saturday, Sept 10
10 AM to 4 PM

Engage 106-76 Community League Update September 2016

On April 7, 2016 Engage10676 held an Open House to get feedback on the draft concept plan for 106 Street and 76 Avenue. We had a spectacular turnout, with 349 people attending. The draft concept plan presented that evening was the culmination of almost a year of public consultation with Community Partners, led by a core team of community volunteers and City staff.

Based on feedback received, the City Design Team then found ways to improve the concept plan further and better achieve the project's goal: To transform 106 Street and 76 Avenue into walkable, bikeable, liveable public spaces that connect people.

The Queen Alexandra concept plan has been finalized within City of Edmonton internal departments and City staff are putting the finishing touches on concept plans for Allendale, McKernan, Strathcona, and Belgravia. Work on the Belgravia concept plan is also being coordinated with the Belgravia Community Traffic Management Program. We will begin to reengage with the communities of Pleasantview and Empire Park over coming months.

Engage10676 will be hosting a Celebration event in late September/early October to present the final concept plans. The plans at this point will be final and this will be your opportunity to learn more about how your feedback influenced the concept plans.

The Celebration event will also serve as the kickoff to consultation on the preliminary/detailed designs. This includes things like wayfinding, where to replace trees within the neighbourhood, and useful places for bike racks. Later on, Community Partners may also be invited for additional feedback on design features.

If you have not signed up for the project, please do so by going to our project website, engage10676.info. Signing up as a Community Partner says that you're interested in the project and want to participate in making it a success. You have ideas and experiences to share, and you want to make the streets work well for everyone, no matter how they choose to travel.

If you are already a Community Partner, please check your email in the coming weeks as we will be sending out additional updates.

Sincerely,
Engage10676 Core Team

Events in the Community:

Girls Hockey

Registration is already open for the 2016-2017 season, and our Try It Day and Learn to Play programs are affordable opportunities for girls of all skill levels to come out to have fun, make friends, and play hockey. Information for these programs along with the online registration is available on our website: <http://www.egha.ab.ca>

Alumni Weekend

The annual Alumni Weekend is a time for fun, reminiscing, and gathering of former graduates, families and community members who love the U of A. This year, there are activities that will take place on Corbett Hall's grounds such as a drive-in movie and tethered hot air balloon ride. Go to <https://www.ualberta.ca/alumni/events/alumni-weekend> to get more information

BELGRAVIA TRAFFIC CONCERNS - HAVE YOUR SAY!

YOU'RE INVITED

Join in a conversation about traffic management in Belgravia. The City of Edmonton is hosting a street lab and public event for residents to test experimental traffic measures installed in the neighbourhood and provide feedback.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016
6-9 PM**

St. Paul's United Church (11526 76 Avenue)

RSVP at belgravia.eventbrite.ca or call 311

The meeting will include a workshop and group tours to the street lab. The experimental traffic measures will remain until **September 16** for residents to experience and consider. A second public event will be held later in the fall.

Can't make it to the meeting? We still welcome your feedback on our online survey, which will be available on the project webpage after September 6.

The logo for the City of Edmonton, featuring the word "Edmonton" in white, sans-serif font on a dark blue rectangular background.

BACKGROUND

During public engagement for Belgravia Neighbourhood Renewal and the Engage 106/76 projects, residents, businesses, and other community stakeholders expressed concern about significant traffic issues in Belgravia.

In response, the City of Edmonton is partnering with the community to examine traffic challenges and explore potential traffic management solutions through a Community Traffic Management Plan (CTMP). Feedback from residents on the other projects has provided a starting point for Belgravia traffic management.

FAQ

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT THIS PUBLIC EVENT?

Two different types of traffic calming measures will be temporarily installed around Belgravia: curb extensions and a raised crosswalk. The “street lab” will allow residents to experience these measures as both pedestrians and drivers. The “street lab” will be followed by group discussions about what you saw and how your experience can be applied to traffic management in the neighbourhood.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN A “STREET LAB”?

The “street lab” is a short-term installation of potential traffic measures to effectively address shortcutting and speeding issues. The installation period will allow residents to experience what it would be like to live with these measures. Their locations do not reflect identified hot spots, but rather offer an experience of what they might mean for Belgravia.

WHERE WILL THE STREET LAB TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MEASURES BE LOCATED?

Curb extensions at: Raised crosswalk at:

- 78 Ave/116 St
 - 75 Ave/116 St
 - 74 Ave/118A St
- 77 Ave/115 St

WHAT IS A CURB EXTENSION?

A curb extension is a widened sidewalk that can reduce pedestrian crossing distance and narrow the roadway. Curb extensions can be installed at intersections or mid-block.

Considerations of curb extensions:

- Reduce pedestrian crossing distance and time.
- Make pedestrian crossing points more visible to drivers.
- Place the pedestrian in the driver’s field of view.
- Prevent drivers from passing turning vehicles.
- May visually enhance the street through landscaping.
- Define and protect parking.
- May create winter roadway maintenance concerns.

WHAT IS A RAISED CROSSWALK?

Raised crosswalks are constructed 3-4 inches above the roadway. They typically have a profile similar to a speed table and are intended to reduce vehicle speeds where pedestrians will be crossing.

Considerations of raised crosswalks:

- Reduce vehicle speeds.
- May generate noise from vehicles decelerating, accelerating, and crossing the speed table.
- May create winter roadway maintenance concerns.



RAISED
CROSSWALK



CURB
EXTENSION

WHAT'S NEXT?

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Sept 6 | Street lab and community event (feedback can be provided at the event and throughout the installation) |
| Sept 16 | Street lab is removed from neighbourhood |
| Sept 18 | Deadline for feedback |
| Early October | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trial traffic measures installed• Second public event to present concept plan for trial traffic measures |
| Spring 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public event to get feedback on trial measures—this will inform integration of traffic measures into final concept plan for Neighbourhood Renewal• Neighbourhood Renewal begins south of 74 Avenue |

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT edmonton.ca/belgraviattraffic
OR EMAIL belgraviattraffic@edmonton.ca

Meet Your Neighbour - Bill Smale

Billy Smale, his wife Lynn and son, Hue moved into their lovely new home in our neighbourhood last December. When asked 'Why Belgravia?', Billy talked about how peaceful and beautiful the community seemed when they came this way to visit Lynn's parents or to walk their dog in the off leash park. With the river valley, University Avenue, the LRT and Belgravia Road as clear boundaries, it seemed more like a small town than just another community in the city. They discovered how easy it was to talk to people and how they in turn were so connected to others in the neighbourhood. Living close to the U of A where Lynn works, Whyte Avenue and the LRT were added bonuses. To Billy, it was the first time since living in Edmonton for the past 15 years that a community actually felt like 'home'.

And we're pretty lucky to count Billy as our neighbour. One of the first things he did after receiving the Belgravian newsletter in his mailbox was to get involved in the BCL. When we met him, we discovered some pretty amazing things about him ... like his having been a provincial, national and international competitive rope skipper with a national speed record that stood for 10 years! In fact, he was the Alberta Coach for rope skipping when he was only 19 and went on to be Team Canada's head coach for international competitions.

It is no surprise to learn that Billy's expertise in skipping lead to career opportunities in health promotion. These included the Heart & Stroke Foundation's Jump Rope for Heart Program and the U of A's School of Public Health's Apple Schools Health Promotion Initiative where he facilitated and built programs around healthy eating, active living and student leadership.

This fall Billy starts some courses towards his MA in Public Engagement at the U of A and begins his first term as a community representative on the Edmonton Food Council and the City Council's Initiative on Public Engagement. The BCL will benefit from Billy's volunteer spirit when he facilitates the first of our 2016-17 Made in Belgravia series this fall. Stay tuned for details about his session on Youth and Community Leadership as we work the details out with him.

And maybe, if we're really lucky, someday we'll talk Billy into giving us a few tips on rope skipping too!

