



the belgravian

september 2017

In this issue:

Fall Barbecue - p1
 Fall Programs - p3
 Traffic Update - p4-5
 New Hall Bulletin Boards - p7
 Belgravia Square Development - p8
 Membership Information - p9
 Meet Your Neighbour - p10

Belgravia Community Hall

11540 73 Avenue
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Next Submission Deadline

September 15, 2017

Banner Picture - Swinging

Belgravia Community League Day & Fall Barbecue September 16

Come out to the annual Belgravia Fall Barbecue on September 16, 2017. It's a great chance to have some fun and meet your neighbours.

The 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). Memberships will be available for purchase at the event.

The annual Belgravia Hustle 10 km run, 5 km run, 3 km dog walk and 2 km family walk will be held at 3 pm for those of you feeling energetic. This event is sponsored by the Belgravia Cooperative Playschool.

There will be a bouncy castle on site for the kids



2017/2018 BCL Board & Related Committee Chairs

Past President	Kevin Klein	pastpresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca
President	Michael Cohen	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Vice President	Heather Scherer	vicepresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Secretary	Joanne Wynn	secretary@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Treasurer	Barry Edgar	treasurer@belgraviaedmonton.ca
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2. Hall Renewal Chair	Kevin Taft	kevin.taft@shaw.ca
3. Rink Manager	Jim Sawada	rinkmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca
4. Arts Park Team Leader	Kathy Goble	facilities@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Programs		programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
1. Belgravia Playschool Chair/Teacher	Chair TBA/ Monika Fouad	playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca
2. Made in Belgravia	Jeanette Boman	mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca
3. Pumpkin Party, BCL BBQ, Casino	Reg & Jane Norby	norby@shaw.ca
4. Belmac Soccer Coordinator	Linda Cameron	llcameron2002@yahoo.com
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1. End of the World Committee	Roger Laing	edmontoneotw@gmail.com
2. Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com
Community Connections		
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2. Belgravia Elementary Sch. Liaison	Michael Cohen	
3. UofA Community Consultation		info@belgraviaedmonton.ca



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2017 Fall Programs

Another busy year has been planned for the Belgravia Community Hall. We look forward to seeing you at the hall.

Program & Location	Day/Dates	BCL Member Non-member Fee	Info/Registration Contact
Soapstone Carving (Upper Hall)	Mondays (7-9 pm) Sept 11 – Nov 20	\$120/145 (Min 10/Max 12; no drop ins)	mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Guides (Lower Hall)	Mondays (6:30 – 8:30 pm) Sept. 11 – June 25	Check with tonya.wolfe@gmail.com	tonya.wolfe@gmail.com
Chair Yoga (Lower Hall)	Tuesdays (10:30 – 11:30 am) Sept 26 – Nov 28	\$80/100 (Min. 10/Max. 20; drop ins \$15/20)	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Taekwondo (Lower Hall)	Tuesdays After school (Start date TBA)	Check with adrienne_cheng@hotmail.com	adrienne_cheng@hotmail.com
Hip Hop (10-14 yrs) (Lower Hall)	Wednesdays (4:30 – 5:30 pm) Tentative: Sept 27 – Nov 29	\$80/100 (Min. 10/Max. 15; no drop ins)	mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Taekwondo (Lower Hall)	Thursdays After school (Start date TBA)	Check with adrienne_cheng@hotmail.com	adrienne_cheng@hotmail.com
Zumba Kids (4-6 yrs) (Lower Hall)	Thursdays (6 - 6:45 pm) Sept 14 – Oct 19	\$80/90 (Min/Max =10 spots; no drop ins))	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Adult Zumba (Lower Hall)	Thursdays (7 – 8 pm) Sept 14 –Nov 1	\$80/100 Drop in: \$15/20	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Strength & Stretch (Lower Hall)	Fridays (11:30–12:30 pm) Sept 28 – Nov 30)	\$80/100 (Min. 10/Max. 20; drop ins \$15/20)	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
U FIT Boot Camp (Lower Hall)	Saturday (8:30 – 9:30 am) Sept 30 – Dec 16	Check with ufitexcel@gmail.com	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Belgravia Traffic Update

Since becoming president in June, I've been communicating with City of Edmonton engineers and community relations staff to learn about current and future actions related to Belgravia's various traffic problems. Here is a report on what I've gathered so far. There are still many important unanswered questions.

1. Traffic backup on 76 Ave during afternoon rush hour

As part of the Engage 76-106 project (<http://Edmonton.ca/engage106-76>), several changes will be made to 76 Ave between Saskatchewan Dr and 114 St. The overall goal is to make 76 Ave more bike- and pedestrian-friendly and to make it look less like a high traffic thoroughfare. Construction will take place during the summer of 2018. The changes include:

- Lanes for cars will be narrowed in both directions.
- A two-way shared use path will be installed on the north side.
- Raised crosswalks and/or curb extensions will be installed at several intersections.
- A traffic circle will be installed at 119 St. (Consultations are in progress with a resident whose front yard will be affected.)

An open house with City managers of the Engage 76-106 project will be held in Belgravia in November, after the municipal election.

It appears to me that the above changes will reduce speeding, but it is questionable whether they will reduce traffic volume. I was told that there is precedent from other neighbourhoods, e.g. 76 Ave-106 St in Queen Alexandria, that traffic shortcutters adjust to other routes during construction and do not all return to their earlier routes once construction is completed. This may result in reduced traffic shortcutting through Belgravia in the near term. But assuming that congestion on University Ave persists, shortcutters will return to Belgravia eventually.

2. Signal timings at LRT crossings at University Ave and 76 Ave

The City does not have current plans to adjust the signal timing/sequence at these intersections. City engineers sent me the following explanation for the current signal timing/sequence:

The LRT signalling has been optimized to the best degree possible, given the constraints of the roadway traffic signalling system. The LRT signal system accepts a status from the traffic signal system that will hold trains at the nearby stations if the traffic system is in a poor state to be ready for the train to come through. The LRT signal system also will hold trains at the nearby stations in order to ensure a meet of the northbound and southbound trains at University Ave, if both trains are close enough, in order to prevent repeated crossing activation close in time.

To me, this does not explicitly explain why the signal sequence resets to the same starting point each time the barriers are raised, nor whether this procedure is optimal or merely the only option available with the current signaling software. My investigations continue.

Last year two BCL board members were invited to the City traffic modelling room to view simulations of various signal options. The City has extended an invitation for another visit if there is interest.

3. 77 Ave-116 St intersection

In July the City circulated three draft redesigns to residents living near the intersection, representatives of St Paul's church, and the BCL board. All three options are far less disruptive than the trial redesign that was briefly installed during the winter, which involved two triangular islands. A public forum to discuss the three options will be hosted by the City on August 30 at 7:30 at the community hall.

4. University Ave-115 St intersection

This intersection has long been slow and dangerous for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians exiting Belgravia. Changes to improve safety will be made during the neighbourhood renewal in summer 2018. These will include better signage to indicate that cars exiting the Cross Cancer Center and Edmonton Clinic parking lots are not permitted to head straight south and enter Belgravia at 115 St.

In summary, while the above provides some new information on these four issues, the changes planned so far will not result in a resolution to the rush hour traffic problem. In addition, none of the changes to 76 Ave and areas north will occur until summer 2018! We as a neighbourhood need to continue to work with the City (and adjacent neighbourhoods such as McKernan and Windsor Park) to evaluate other options. The BCL is looking for new volunteers to represent Belgravia in these discussions, including a new traffic coordinator to lead our team. Please contact me at president@belgraviaedmonton.ca if you would like to volunteer. Thank you.

Michael Cohen



Belgravia Cooperative Playschool is now accepting registrations for three and four year olds for the 2017-18 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.belgraviaedmonton.ca
or by contacting:

playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca.



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Session 2: Sundays, Nov. 5 to Dec. 17

2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$105/sessions or drop in \$20/class

MIXED: Sundays, Nov. 5 to Dec. 10, 12:15 to 1:45 p.m.

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For further information or to register call Peter Rausch
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**October 4, 5, 6, 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM,
University of Alberta Hospital Foyer**

Proceeds go towards purchasing supplies for the activity groups. Handmade items created by people with lived experience of mental illness or a mental health challenge in the Canadian Mental Health Association – Edmonton Region Peer Connections activity groups: Scrapbooking-Fun With Paper, Knit & Crochet, Quilt Club Plus More.

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Check out the New Bulletin Boards at the Hall

A huge thank you goes out to Phil Haswell for taking on the task of getting the new bulletin boards at the hall built. Check each of them out: one at the lower south entry door, another at the upper west entry door and one on the skate change room door on the north side of the hall. The job required coming up with a free standing design to ensure the integrity of the stucco walls. With Phil's metal worker resource, Douglas Cameron, the two of them came up with a design and each of them constructed the component parts to allow maximum access by community members and maximum protection from the wind and rain.



With the work completed, we are happy to pass along the bulletin board design, construction process & contacts with other community leagues and organizations. In the meantime, here's the photo of the lower south entry door board.

So, start posting your community notices on the boards and keep an eye out for ongoing displays of creative works from the play school on the lower south door board. And last but not least, feel free help us keep the boards current and tidy ... happy posting!

Neighbourhood Renewal Update re: 73 & 74 Avenue Drop Off Bays

Some people were wondering about drop-off bays at the school along 74 Ave and the Community Hall along 73 Ave between 115 St to 118 St. These were not included in the final plan and Emily Zukowski, Project Engineer, Building Great Neighbourhoods provided the following explanations:

1. Due to the narrow road width of 74 Ave, construction space required to install a drop-off bay and sidewalk involved removing trees in front of the ice-rink and school. The space was again examined after the removal of the compromised spruce tree at the end of the sidewalk between the school & BCL rink & hall. Due to grading issues to achieve positive drainage and the proximity to the 74 Ave and 116 St intersection, a drop-off bay would create sight line issues at the pedestrians crosswalk and therefore, deemed not possible.
2. While there was some room along 73 Ave, earlier discussions with the school to assess the feasibility of constructing a drop-off bay resulted in a decision that a drop-off was not essential. However, in view of one being useful for access to the BCL hall, the City is reassessing whether the north side of 73 Ave east of 116 St can be marked with signs for a drop-off zone. The City will get back to us as soon as a decision is made about this.

Thanks to Ken Goble for pursuing this matter.

Belgravia Square Development

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 28, 2017-08-18

McKernan Community Hall

TIME: 4:00pm-10:00pm

Niche Developments has applied to rezone three lots on the south side of 76 Avenue west of 115 Street to a DC2 Zone. A DC2 zone provides the opportunity for direct control over a specific proposed development, where the proposed mix of uses, or the development regulations cannot be accommodated in a standard zone.

The process to rezone started with a pre-application, when we were asked to reply to the developer with concerns/kudos. The developer then told the city what they intend to do about the concerns. It could be something or nothing. At this stage we do not know. Then the next stage is the application and that is where we are now. Again we as community members are asked to voice our concerns/kudos, this time to the city. The city will also circulate the application internally and the city administration concerns, if any, along with those of the community, will be presented to the developer. Again the developer may or may not make changes.

Now the next stage is the public meeting scheduled for September 28 at the McKernan Community Hall. This is when the developer will present his final plan.

There is the opportunity to respond to the plan at the meeting. After that, the next step is the Public Hearing when Council decides whether to grant the zone change requested. Public input is again possible at the public hearing. There will also be input from the city administration which will recommend for or against the development.

Until the developer gets permission for the zone change at the Public Hearing, nothing can actually occur on the site. Although there may be promotional material available now about Belgravia Square it really is contingent on the zone change which has not yet taken place. The Public Hearing will occur sometime after the municipal election. No date has been set.

Information about the Belgravia Square Development is available on the Belgravia Community Website: <http://belgraviaedmonton.ca/major-development-proposal-for-review/>



Belgravia School Biking.
Group of over 25 Belgravia students, staff and parents met after school regularly for bike rides. It is part of Belgravia Ever Active activities.

Belgravia Community League 2016-2017 membership

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

1. 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**
2. Online by credit card through the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues at <http://www.efcl.org/>. There is a \$5 processing charge.
3. Memberships will be sold at community league events
4. Email Jennie Lambert at membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca for a form and more information.



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

Cost of membership is Family (\$35), Single (\$15), senior (60+, single/couple) (\$15), couple (\$20), and Associate (\$10)

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 city community league rinks with 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 delivered to all homes in the community

Belgravia Community Hall Rental

Upper hall only (Capacity 60): \$30/hour
Upper hall and kitchen: \$40/hour
Lower hall only (Capacity 75): \$40/hour
Lower hall and kitchen: \$50/hour

For single event rentals lasting more than 4 hours, the hourly rental fee is reduced by \$10/hour for every hour thereafter.

For single events contact:
hallrental@belgraviaedmonton.ca

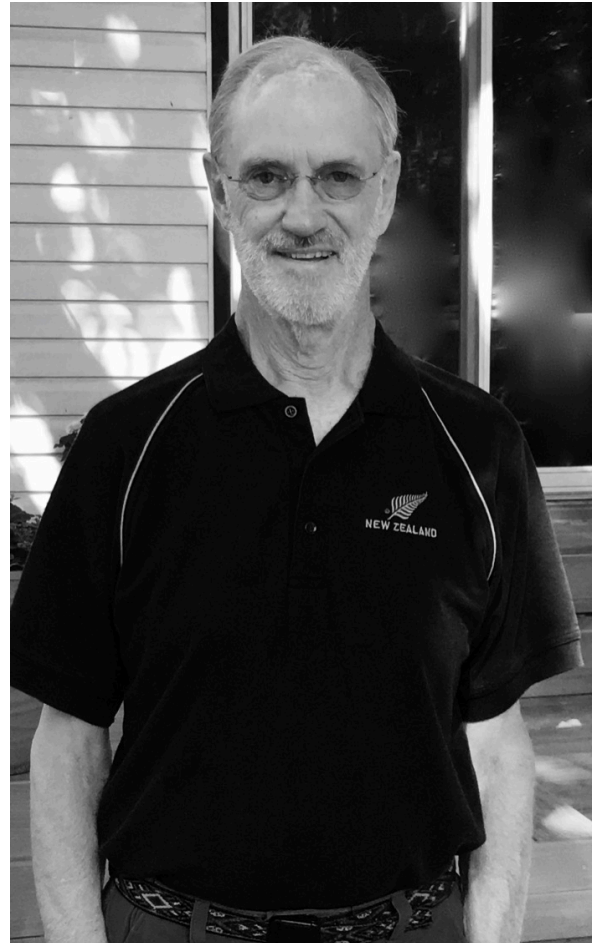
Meet Your Neighbour: Dave Richards

For many years an add ran in The Belgravian for Dave Richards, Neighbourhood Journeyman Carpenter, General Contractor... No job too big or small. We like many other Belgravians responded to the add, and Dave built our deck. Now he's retired so we thought we should catch up with Dave.

Dave has lived in Belgravia for about 25 years. He grew up in Windsor Park so his ties in the Windsor Park, McKernan and Belgravia communities run very deep. In fact much of our conversation was comparing notes on who we both know.

Dave first took up carpentry when he was in New Zealand in the early 70's. When he came back to Canada he got his education degree. He was offered a teaching position but decided to stick with carpentry as he enjoyed the work, taking a project from start to finish, and the people he was working with. In the early 80's he went to NAIT to become a journeyman carpenter. He says that when there were occasional downturns in construction work he would wonder if maybe he should have gone with teaching but carpentry has been a rewarding career. He has lived and worked in New Zealand, Japan and Australia and has found that being self employed has allowed him a freedom to pursue his other interests.

Although he didn't follow up on the education degree, his time at university introduced him to two other lifelong passions, singing and running. He sang with the U of A Mixed Chorus and other choirs throughout the years and was sometimes called the singing carpenter. He still likes to get together with friends to sing and play the guitar. Dave ran with the Chasquis running group for many years and still keeps in touch with many of his running friends. Dave has also been an avid hiker, hiking in the Rockies, Nepal, BC and New Zealand.



Dave and his partner of 30 years, Sheila have one daughter who is a palaeontologist working at the museum in Drumheller. He spends some time in Drumheller, usually combining some work on his daughter and son-in-law's house with his visits. This seems to be pretty typical of Dave's visits to family and friends. He built his sister's house in New Zealand and is off next week to visit a friend who is needing some renovations. Dave says he's always willing to work for food.

These days Dave is still hiking, he just returned from doing the West Coast Trail, and really enjoys walking in the river valley. Proximity to the river valley and the great people who live in Belgravia are what makes this community so special to him.

So is Dave retired? Not really. He still has many clients in Belgravia and Windsor Park who call him when they need something done. He still enjoys the work and more especially the interactions with people in the community.