



# the belgravian

March/April 2013

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### Belgravia Community Hall:

11540—73 Avenue

Published September/October, November/December, January/February, March/April, and May/June by the Belgravia Community League (BCL).

Printed on recycled paper. Please remember to recycle this newsletter.

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

[www.belgraviaedmonton.ca](http://www.belgraviaedmonton.ca)

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

## Set the Course for Belgravia Hall Renewal 'A Place For All' Workshop Invitation

*Kevin Taft, Belgravia Hall Renewal Committee*

The Belgravia Community League is undertaking a renewal project for the Community Hall - and ***you're invited*** to participate in the creation of a facility that is a 'place for all' in the community! Three workshop opportunities are planned in order to accommodate our various schedules. **Mark your calendar:**

### WORKSHOP DATES & TIMES:

Wednesday, April 10, from 7-9 pm.

Thursday, April 18, from 7-9 pm.

Saturday, April 20, from 2-4 pm  
(child-care provision is being worked on at this time)

### LOCATION:

Belgravia Community Hall  
(where else!)

**Project Background:** Belgravia Community Hall has been the heart of this community since 1955, when 250 residents made personal pledges to help pay for its construction. After 58 years and two renovations, it is time for renewal.

Our hall is busy. It is solidly booked from 7 am to 9 pm on weekdays, and on Saturday mornings. It hosts out-of-school-care and a playschool, karate, yoga, exercise classes, Brownies, meetings, rentals and special events - and much more. The change room is a welcome place for skaters to change and warm up.

It's a great resource for the community, BUT more and more our hall is coming up short. Heavy use and children's program regulations mean that some users are being displaced and potential users from *Continued on page 3...*

## from the editor's desk...



I am so happy to write to you as I enjoy the sunny mature-neighbourhood view from my 1950s bungalow! The days are getting longer and there is much to look forward to in the warmer months to come.

For starters, you should mark off Sun May 26th in your calendars for our first ever Belgravia Bike Fair (p7) and think about nominating a note-worthy garden for the garden tour (p8). The more the merrier, so get involved!

In ongoing news, we are eager to hear about your thoughts for our community hall renewal project, so check out the details in our cover story and drop by one of the planning sessions to add your voice to the mix (cover & p3).

As always, we have an Ever Active update with a list of new and fun activities to keep you moving in these transitional months (p6). And, don't forget that it's never too late to become a bonafide Belgravian through your official purchase of a membership! All the perks and reasons why it's worth being "in the club" can be found on page 4.

Finally, I encourage you all to read the Belgravian story about our dear neighbour, Jean Bell. The day after we moved in she dropped off rhubarb cake and a jar of her crabapple jelly. She has treated us like family. The kids are welcome to crawl all over her immaculate lawn, she knit a blanket for my new baby, and she nodded in full agreement when told her I would continue teaching piano just a few months after giving birth. Jean is woman who was, and still is, ahead of her time. I feel so lucky to live next to such an incredible lady.

Cheers to the Belgravians like Jean Bell, that make our neighbourhood so unique and welcoming!

### advertising in the belgravian

Full Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page
7.5"w x 10"h	10"w x 5"h	3.75"w x 5"h
BCL Member: \$75	BCL Member: \$45	BCL Member: \$25
Non-Member: \$100	Non-Member: \$60	Non-Member: \$35

Submit inquiries to [newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca)

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### Belgravia Community League Contacts

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Secretary	Sheila O'Brien	<a href="mailto:secretary@belgraviaedmonton.ca">secretary@belgraviaedmonton.ca</a>
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Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	<a href="mailto:belgraviawatch@gmail.com">belgraviawatch@gmail.com</a>
Rink Manager	Jim Sawada	<a href="mailto:rinkmanager@belgravia.edmonton.ca">rinkmanager@belgravia.edmonton.ca</a>
Director-at-large	Barb Krahn	<a href="mailto:barb.krahn@belgraviaedmonton.ca">barb.krahn@belgraviaedmonton.ca</a>
Director-at-large	Dale Rowe	<a href="mailto:dale.rowe@belgraviaedmonton.ca">dale.rowe@belgraviaedmonton.ca</a>

### Never Too Late!

Buy your BCL membership by contacting [membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca) or call Therese @ 780-436-1918.

"Community Hall Renewal" Continued from page 1... our own community may not even try to book it. Important activities for our neighborhood may never happen because there is nowhere for them to take place.

Each weekday sees 100-150 people use the hall, and that number spikes for special events. Imagine the wear and tear on doors, stairs, toilets, floors, and furnishings. That's just the beginning:

- Codes and standards for the building and children's programs are pressing for upgrades.
- It's not accessible for people with mobility problems.
- There's no access to water or washrooms for people using the park and playground.
- Access to the rink is difficult.
- It can't accommodate more than one user at a time and still meet provincial regulations for children's programs.
- And...
- Its interior space, especially downstairs, is fragmented.

- There are chronic drainage problems from the roof.
- The boys' washroom doesn't get sufficient heat, so it is very cold in the winter.
- Energy efficiency is poor.

Our hall is the hub of one of Edmonton's best neighborhood parks, connecting the school and playing fields with a tremendous playground, an outdoor nature space, small hills, lovely trees, a skating rink, and the Arts Park. The potential for the hall to better serve us all is amazing.

We'd like Belgravia Community Hall to be 'a place for all' in our neighborhood. Let's work on this together.

**Come join the community league to learn, and to share your thoughts and ideas on hall renewal.**

The Belgravia Hall Renewal Committee includes Kevin Taft (chair), Kathy Brodeur-Robb, Michael Cohen, Anneliese Fris, Kevin Klein, Dale Rowe, Kim Sanderson, Jonathan Sharek, and Eugene Silva.

## DELIVER THE BELGRAVIAN

Volunteer on your own time, get some fresh air, meet your neighbours, and help your editor out!



Route #3 (northwest area along Sask Dr and 119 Street) is currently unassigned  
Contact [newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca)



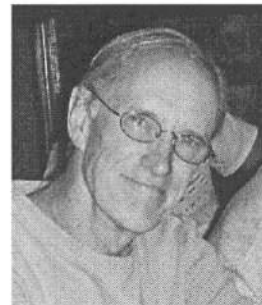
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References**

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# It's Never Too Late to Become a BCL Member!

*Jeanette Boman, BCL Vice-President*

It's never too late to become a member of the Belgravia Community League (BCL), and it's a great way to show your support for the work your league *can* and *wants* to do for the community as a whole.

There are practical benefits as well, like renting the hall at membership rates and using the skating rink.

Plus it is vital to have an organized body represent your needs and concerns with the City, such as how to best manage what has become known as 'The End of the World'.

The community of Belgravia has a reputation for being concerned about and speaking up for the people who live here.

Help keep that voice strong with your BCL membership.

Our newsletter, *The Belgravian*, comes about because of the BCL and its dedicated newsletter production and distribution volunteers.

While it is distributed to everyone in the neighbourhood, a BCL membership you can stay even better connected through BCL e-mail communication between newsletters.

In 2011-12, two hundred and fifty memberships were taken out by families, couples, individuals, seniors (65 +), students (18+), renters and home-owners who live in Belgravia. So far this year, that number is 210.

Some people are missed during the main membership drive in the fall.

If that happened to you and you still want to join the BCL, please get in touch with Therese Gaetz via [membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca).

We will ensure you get your 2012-13 membership.



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## Babysitting Course

For ages 11 – 17 years

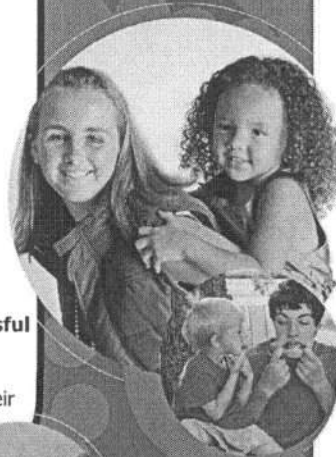
*Learn what it takes to be a great babysitter! This well rounded course covers basic child care, first aid, safety, and introduces participants to the importance of play in a child's life.*

**Belgravia Community Hall**  
(11540-73 Avenue)

**Sunday April 7, 2013**  
**9:00 am – 5:00 pm**

The course will be taught by a qualified instructor and will include role playing, brainstorming, and hands-on exercises. Certificates will be awarded upon **successful completion** of the program.

Participants are encouraged to provide their own lunches, pens & paper.



Edmonton

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# Belgravian Stories: Jean Bell from 1962 to Present

*Barb Krahn, BCL Director-at-Large*

Everybody has a story, says Jean Bell. Hers is about love, family and community, all deeply rooted in Belgravia.

Growing up in Edmonton's McCauley area, Jean developed a love of music and of helping others. As a young woman, she dreamed of combining both in a new music therapy program in the U.S., but at the urging of friends enrolled in nursing at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, singing in choirs and attending concerts in her time off.

Whenever she could, Jean would take the streetcar downtown then transfer to the south side trolley, riding all the way down 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 118 Street, the last stop before the river.

In those days, the south side was foreign to a McCauley girl. "I loved coming down here," says Jean, never dreaming this natural area would one day become her home.

It was a winding path that led her back. One day at the Royal Alex, Jean shared an elevator with a handsome young intern. Harold was from Taber, and Jean was

incensed when he said Edmonton was a terrible town. "I really gave it to him," she recalls.

"He said 'you had to have money to do anything here.' I said 'you don't need money to have a good time!'"

"He was very interested," she remembers with a laugh.

Their first date was at the Trocadero, Edmonton's hottest night club in the 1950s. While the relationship blossomed, Harold soon had to leave for a one-year surgical residency in Montreal. They married during that year, then returned west. After looking at a few towns, Harold took over a practice in Rimbey while Jean nursed at

the hospital. A five-year stop in Edmonton was next, with Harold at the University of Alberta pursuing his Pathology degree and Jean at home with their three children in Parkallen.

A year in Minneapolis followed.

In 1962, Jean and Harold and their three boys finally came home to their Belgravia bungalow. The

neighbourhood was young then, but not brand new. Five doors down lived Dr. Bob Fraser, his wife Jean and their four girls. To welcome the Bells, the Frasers drew up a plan of the crescent with the names and addresses of everyone who lived there. Parents sent their children over to ask the boys to play, and while Harold and Bob had known each other as interns, it wasn't long before their wives became a "pair of Jeans."

By now Chairman of Clinical Laboratories at the University Hospital, Harold loved coming home for lunch. The Bell house was filled with music, with Jean teaching piano, David playing clarinet, Graeme violin and Gordon cello. There was skiing at Snow Valley and in the mountains, bike riding, hockey and David's river valley adventures with golden

lab Sarge. Jean says David, now a doctor in Victoria, still talks about the freedom of those days.

Today, both Graeme and Gordon are teachers. Graeme lives just around the corner from his childhood home, on 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue. His wife Joan – who also grew up in this neighbourhood – teaches at Belgravia School.

Jean still lives in the same bungalow where she and Harold raised their family. Every day, she looks out her living room window to the very same spot she hopped off the streetcar all those years ago.

For Jean, this is home, and always will be.



# Belgravia Elementary School's Ever Active Update

Kim Kelly, Ever Active Committee Chair



Ever Active schools are gaining momentum across Alberta! We are proud of our successes thus far at Belgravia Elementary and look forward to new initiatives that will encourage student leadership.

Ever Active's Health Promoting School model has been easy to implement in such a supportive community setting. Currently, 34% of schools in Alberta are Ever Active schools and the number is steadily growing.

We are excited that McKernan has recently become an Ever Active school and we would like to welcome active community member, Audrey Inouye, as their Chair.

Upcoming events for March and April:

**KIDS' DANCE PARTY** – Sunday, March 17, 1 to 3 p.m. at community hall; Jack from Grade 4 to DJ

**OLD SCHOOL PLAYGROUND GAMES** – Sunday, April 28, 1 to 3 p.m. at school tarmac

**10:10 BOOT CAMP** – Tuesday mornings 10:10 to 10:40, school gym (use front entrance). All adults welcome – community members, parents with tots, friends.

**ADULT WALKING GROUP** - 8:45 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays, meet at SW school doors, 1 – 1.5 hour walk

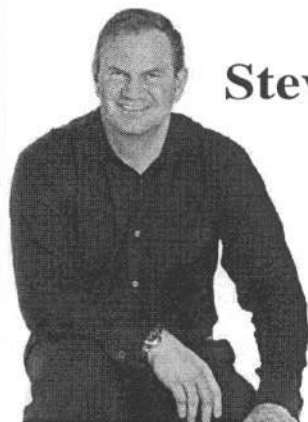
## Belgravia New Moms Group

Have an infant and want to meet other new moms in Belgravia? Join our Moms Group!

Activities Include: Stroller Walks, 'Hood Playdates, Stars & Strollers Movies, Meal Exchanges, Etc

Email Carrie Ye with your name & contact info, and your child's name and birthdate

[ye.carrie@gmail.com](mailto:ye.carrie@gmail.com)



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Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6  
Phone: 780-427-1879 Fax: 780-415-0968

[edmonton.riverview@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:edmonton.riverview@assembly.ab.ca)

## Kids' Dance Party!

**Sunday, March 17  
1-3 p.m.**

**Belgravia Community Hall**

*Featuring D.J. Jack from Grade 4*

**Come and learn a dance to Party Rock Anthem!**





# Belgravia Bicycle Fair!

## Sunday May 26th

Afternoon, Exact Time TBA

- \* City of Edmonton Learn-To-Ride For Kids
- \* Tune - Ups
- \* Bike Browsing
- \* Bicycle Commuting Info Booth



### Morning Movement

(Hatha with Flow)

M,W,F 9-10:15

### Afternoon Lift

(Vinyasa flow)

M,W 3-4:15

### Relax & Renew

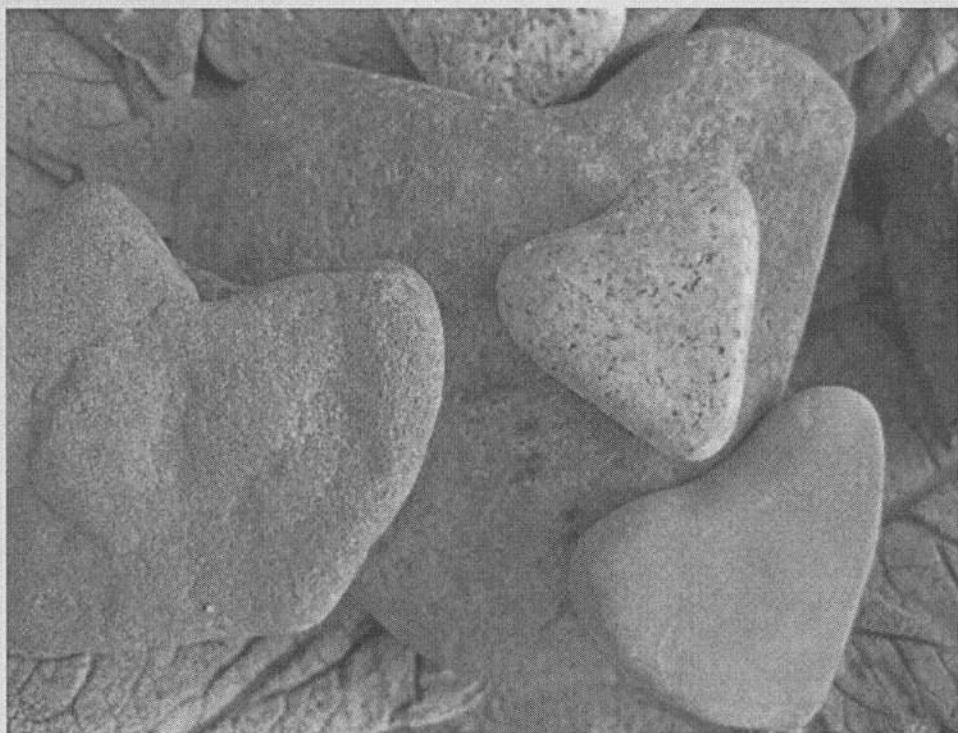
Th 5-6:15

### Saturday Rejuvenate

9:15-10:30

*Classes are ongoing @15\$ ea; you  
can mix and match classes &  
join at any time with a  
commitment of 10 classes*

Unite  
mind, body, breath  
Be



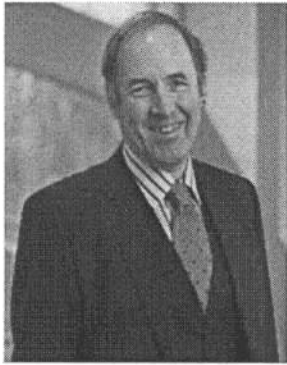
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# Complete Streets project aims to have city streets serve all users



*Ben Henderson, Ward 8 Councillor*

Over the past five years the City has made major commitments to its long term planning and vision for the City. That work has all been captured in a series of documents fondly referred to as 'the Ways.' One of the first of these documents to be developed was 'The Way We Move,' which is the City's New Transportation Plan.

This plan recognized that we must be far more conscious of how land use planning and transportation planning tie together. Also the City must recognize that to move people, goods and services around, we need to build a system that could support the full array of transportation options, everything from walking and biking at one end of the spectrum, to LRT and truck movement at the other.

Stating these as goals is one thing, understanding how to make them happen is another. And that is the piece the City is currently working on in a project they call Complete Streets.

The challenge of Complete Streets is to move us away from a fixed set of design standards for our roadways, to a more flexible approach that recognizes that every roadway in this city has a different context and a different set of demands.

We need a way of recognizing how a roadway fits in a community, what kind of movement and use it needs to handle, what other kinds of ways the roadway is used, and then adapt our design to best meet all the needs and effects of it being there.

No one expects sidewalks along a major freeway like the Yellowhead, but how pedestrians can link across a freeway may be important.

A street through a main street commercial area with many pedestrians is going to need different things from the same street in an industrial area.

A road with large demand for bicycle traffic will need to be thought of differently from an area where there may be no real demand for active transportation use.

An arterial road running through a residential area with its pedestrian and other traffic crossing is going to need to accommodate differently than an arterial on the outside of a neighbourhood.

This Complete Streets work is being designed to give us a greater ability to answer all of these questions as we move forward to building and rebuilding our City. The City has already held open houses but you can find out more through the City's web page as well as provide your feedback at:

[http://www.edmonton.ca/city\\_government/city\\_vision\\_and\\_strategic\\_plan/complete-streets.aspx](http://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/city_vision_and_strategic_plan/complete-streets.aspx)

Or, as always, let me know your thoughts via email at [Ben.Henderson@Edmonton.ca](mailto:Ben.Henderson@Edmonton.ca)

## BELGRAVIA Garden Tour

Do you know a beautiful garden in our neighbourhood? Nominate it for the 2013 Belgravia Garden Tour!

This year, the Belgravia Garden Tour will take place in July (date TBD). To get involved or to nominate a garden – including your own – contact Barb at 780-430-1220 or [barbkrahn@shaw.ca](mailto:barbkrahn@shaw.ca).



**Come back with Jack!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Open House**

**Heritage Stable  
Museum**

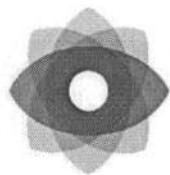
**Saturday, April 13  
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Located in the Old Dairy Barn at  
South Campus,  
just north of the Saville (GO)  
Recreational Centre

Fascinating new stuff since last year,  
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**We hope you can come!**





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## EDMONTON

### Belgravia Dogs Off Leash Site

Effective March 15, 2013

Signage has recently been posted to clarify the boundaries of the Belgravia Dogs Off Leash Area.

Over the past decade a number of physical changes in the area occurred, including:

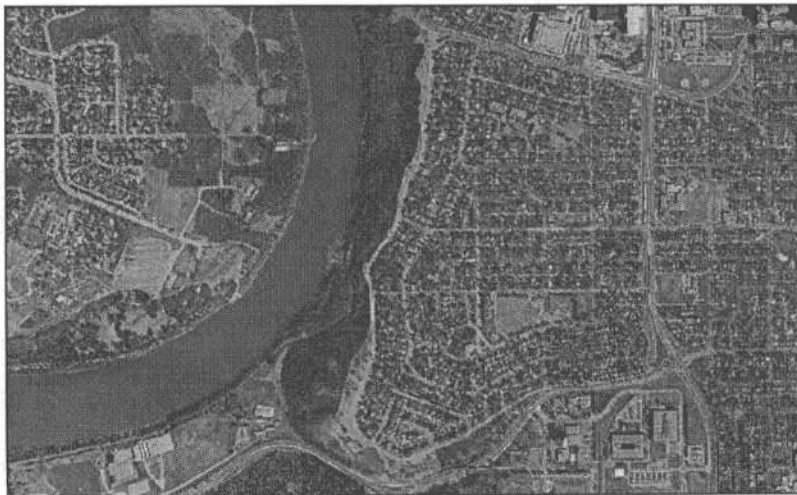
- WCB site development, and
- Drainage issues & related landscaping

These factors have impacted the boundaries of the dogs off-leash area. In response to a citizen inquiry, the City of Edmonton canvassed seventeen houses between the current boundary at the footbridge and previous boundary near 210 Saskatchewan Dr. to gather input from adjacent residents. Based on the feedback received, a clear and enforceable boundary has been established. See map below.

If you have any questions, please contact 311.

For further information regarding Off Leash sites visit:

[http://www.edmonton.ca/attractions\\_recreation/parks\\_rivervalley/off-leash-park-sites.aspx](http://www.edmonton.ca/attractions_recreation/parks_rivervalley/off-leash-park-sites.aspx)



#20 - BELGRAVIA

Off-Leash Area

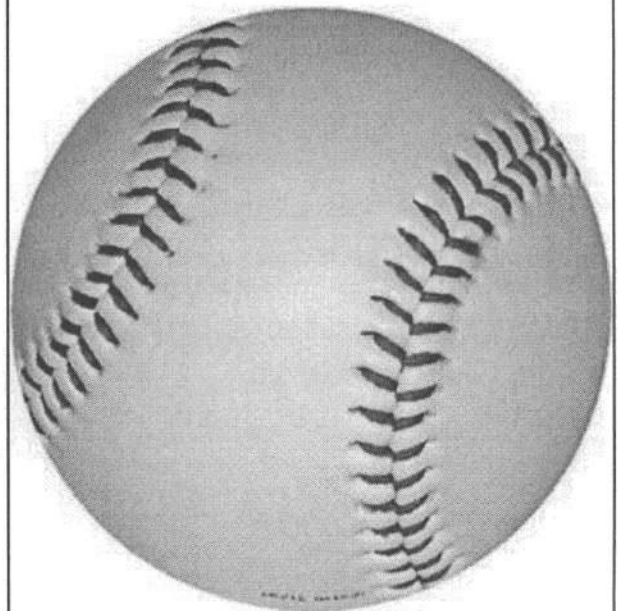
Saskatchewan Dr. top of bank from University Avenue south to the west side of tree stand across from the intersection at 202 Saskatchewan Drive South

PARKS HEALTHY, by nature

Edmonton

February 2013

### Little League Baseball Edmonton Registration: February and March



Season: End of April through end of  
June 2013

[register4baseball.ca](http://register4baseball.ca)

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