

Save the Date!

Belgravia Community League Annual General Meeting

Friday June 21, 2019 7–8pm Belgravia Community Hall

Join the discussion on issues affecting our community and vote in the board of directors for the upcoming year (2019–2020). More details coming soon!

Belgravia Community League (BCL)

11540 73 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T6G 0G1 BCL is a member of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (www.efcl.org)

Visit us online:

https://belgraviaedmonton.ca/ (Website) https://belgraviaedmonton.ca/newsletters/ (Newsletter) @belgraviaYEG (Twitter) belgraviaedmonton (Facebook)

Advertise in the belgravian!

Please contact:

adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Next Submission Deadline:

May 17, 2019

Banner photo: Arts Park Gate, Belgravia Impressions

https://belgraviaedmonton.ca/

Flower photos: courtesy of

https://naomicaufield.myportfolio.com/

Made in Belgravia: How to take beautiful travel photos

You've just returned from a fabulous vacation. You can't wait to show your friends and coworkers the spectacular places you have been... except ... your vacation photos did not turn out the way you saw it. You took along a great camera but...

Here is a chance to get rid of the BUTs in your next vacation with no need for professional cameras – just a point-and-shoot camera or even an iPhone!

Come and see the travel photos of Wei Yew, internationally recognized graphic designer who has lived in Belgravia for the past thrity-seven years. He will show you the common sense to taking great travel photos.

Wei Yew and his wife Sheila, have traveled to over 200 cities in 45 countries, including 125 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In his recent African safari trip, Wei took over 14,500 photos – all with a point-and-shoot camera and his iPhone.

Learn how to capture the photos you want to proudly show your friends and family ...

When: May 22, 2019 at 7pm

Where: Upper BCL Hall

Popcorn and refreshments for a small donation.

RSVP by May 21, 2019 to Jeanette at: mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca



2018–2019 BCL Board & Related Committee Chairs					
Past President	Kevin Klein	pastpresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
President	Michael Cohen	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
Vice President	Cory Dawson	vicepresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
Secretary	Joanne Wynn	secretary@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
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Belgravia Playschool Chair	Monika Fouad	playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
Made in Belgravia	Jeanette Boman	mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
Pumpkin Party, BCL BBQ, Casino	Reg and Jane Norby	norby@shaw.ca			
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Transportation Committee	Jordan Hoffart	transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com			
Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator	Kate Russell	kate.russell@edmonton.ca			
Belgravia Elementary School Liaison	Michael Cohen	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
U of A community consultation		info@belgraviaedmonton.ca			
Keillor Point inquiries	Roger Laing	keillor_point@belgraviaedmonton.ca			

ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 11733-87 AVE.

Has concert/recital space for music teachers and students

- Yamaha C2 Grand Piano
- Beautiful, intimate setting with seating capacity of 150
- Good acoustics
- Proximity to U of A Campus
- Intermission/reception space available

For more information, please contact David Cass (d.cass@ualberta.ca)

the belgravian

Published by the Belgravia Community League

the belgravian reports on community news, programs and events within the Belgravia area.

Frequency:

We publish ten issues per year.

Monthly distribution

We deliver approximately 960 copies to homes in Belgravia.

Copies are also available at Gracious Goods and Belgravia Hub

Advertising

Advertising for businesses located outside Belgravia, McKernan, and Windor Park are limited to business card size.

Editorial submissions

Submissions are subject to editorial discretion and available space. To submit an article please email editor@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Online archive

belgraviaedmonton.ca/newsletters



Belgravia Hustle & Vietnamese Lunch Next Saturday – April 27th!

Join us on Saturday April 27 from 11 am - 3 pm, in and around the Community Hall. Fun events for all ages!

Net proceeds go to Belgravia Cooperative Playschool!

Races

Races start at 12pm!

Run or walk in the 2 km Family Fun Run, 5 km or 10 km or the 3 km dog walk!

Registration Fee: 2K Family Fun Run and 3K Dog Walk – \$15, 5K and 10K run/walk – \$30

Register online at www.belgraviahustle.com or late registration at the Hall (11am)

Lunch & Beer

Lunch starts at 12.30pm!

Vietnamese lunch from locally owned Pho Boy - Pho Soup, Vermicelli bowl, green onion cakes, salad rolls and crispy fried spring rolls (including vegetarian and gluten sensitive options)

Meal tickets: Adults \$12; Elementary School aged children \$6; Playschool aged children, free.

Award winning beer (2018 Brewery of the Year in Alberta) from Blind Enthusiasm served in the upper hall.

More Activities!

From 11am – popcorn, lemonade and cupcake stand, carnival games, giant soccer & more!

Volunteers needed

If you have a couple of hours free and can help out on the day, we have a few volunteer opportunities available; for example: course monitor, games supervisor.

https://www.volunteersignup.org/DE8MK

The race brought to you by Trevor Soll, Multisportscanadat



A shout-out to the dedicated people who get *the belgravian* to your door

Susanne Rowe, Distribution Team Leader, picks up the newsletters from the printer hours after the printer calls her to say they are ready. She counts about one thousand of them out for the Newsletter Distribution Team and gets them into the hands of each team member.

The Distribution Team plays a critical role in this amazing community endeavour: within twenty-four hours of the file leaving the computer of the typesetter, hard copies of the newsletter are in mail boxes across the neighbourhood, entirely due to the good work of many people – all volunteers!

Every household in Belgravia, whether a member of the Belgravia Community League or not, receives a copy of the Newsletter.

A huge thanks to the members of the Distribution Team:

Alex Abboud

Angela Espejo

Barb Clarke

Bev & Hugh Hoyles and family

Teresa & Binh Truong and family

Caitlin Huynh

Catharine Compston

Debbie Topinka

Emma Chris

Isabella Garros

Jean Lawson

Joe & Joan McVea

Ken Goble

Linda Seale

Tara McGee & Miles Parenteau and family

Ranee Wickramasekera

Rita & John Murray

Roger & Arlene Laing

Kim Kelly & Rufus Scrimger and family

Sheila Zane

Shirley Perry

Irene Andersson

Susanne Rowe

Construction Updates South Campus Update March 2019

In March, the University of Alberta updated community leagues on the status of construction on the farm:

- Two soccer fields will be constructed near the 63rd avenue farm entrance this summer. The fields will be ready for the 2020 soccer seasons. One will be sunken (like Lendrum's soccer field).
- To address recent pedestrian-vehicle incidents, the roads adjacent to the Saville Centre will see construction this summer to improve pedestrian crossing safety.
- This year, the University will expand available parking around the Saville Centre and charge \$1.50 a night for users. The gravel parking lot near the LRT will be available at night once the parking fees are in place.
- Near the 60th avenue entrance to the farm, a two-story building called "The Cube" will be built over the next two years. "The Cube" will be about the size of large house and will facilitate the future power needs of south campus.
- The "feed mill" (a structure adjacent to the South West of the Saville Centre) will be demolished in the next year and its functions transferred to the Discovery Centre (the large building at the end of 60th street).
- A double arena is planned to the West of Saville Centre. The City has committed funding but the project needs additional funds to proceed.
- The Department of Kinesiology is exploring the possibility of a cross country ski trail on the farm close to the Saville Centre where existing lighting can be used.
- Demolition of some Mitchener Park residences will start as soon as the buildings are vacated. The university will transfer the land to the University Land Trust. The Trust has not identified a final use for the land.
- The University is doing a broad consultation on the University's public role.



Edmonton Lab Hub Update March 2019

Construction of the new Edmonton Lab Hub began in March 2019. This project is located adjacent to the Neil Crawford Centre near the University of Alberta' South Campus area. For more information about this project, including information presented at the public open house (October 2018), please see: https://toge-ther4health.albertahealthservices.ca/edmonton-lab-hub?tool=news feed#tool tab



The City of Edmonton has adopted a city-wide Affordable Housing Framework in an effort to meet the needs of struggling Edmonton households, with an aspirational target of 16% affordable housing in every neighbourhood in the City.

In the past, community members have expressed a desire for better engagement opportunities when developments of this nature enter their communities. That's why we've enlisted the Edmonton Social Planning Council (ESPC) to help us run targeted focus groups in every Community League District so that we can understand the successes, challenges, and opportunities your communities have encountered during engagement for housing development.

Never had an affordable housing development in your neighbourhood? That's ok — experience with all types of development is welcome and valued. Your feedback will help inform a report being submitted to the City of Edmonton on how to better engage community leagues in these important discussions.

The focus group for Districts I and J will be held on Thursday, May 2nd at 6:00pm at Hazeldean Community League (9630 66 Ave NW) and will run for roughly an hour. Refreshments will be provided.

McKernan Playgroup



Ages 0–5
Welcome to bring a toy to share
Mondays 9:30 – 11:00 am
(not including STAT holidays or summer)
McKernan Community League
11341 78 Ave NW

For weekly updates please check the Mckernan C.L. Facebook group or contact Amanda Reid
780-243-5044

Swing Dance at the Hall

If you've ever wanted to learn how to swing dance the opportunity awaits you at the BCL upper hall with *Hit That Jive Productions*, an Associate BCL Member group that focuses on North American swing dance styles from the 1920s through 1950s. While these include the Charleston, Balboa and Shag, their primary focus in the Lindy Hop, an African-American Jazz Roots dance that began in Harlem, NY, in the 1930s. Most of these dances are African-American vernacular dances that were and still are expressions of the trials and triumphs of the African-American community.

Hit That Jive Productions recognize they do not own these dances but wish to celebrate them, their spirit, and their origins by running workshops, social dances, and classes. Each dance starts with a beginner lesson taught by talented instructors and followed by deejayed music afterwards. No experience or partner is necessary to attend these beginner-friendly events, and everyone is welcome!

Belgravia Community League members get a \$2 discount at these fun and inclusive events for dancers of all types and skill levels. The next scheduled ones are:

May 10: Lesson 8-9 pm, dance 8-11 pm

May 24: Lesson 8-9 pm, dance 8-11 pm

For more and the latest information about *Hit That Jive Productions* go to: www.hitthatjive.ca



Garden Suite Workshop Series & Tour

Workshops: May 14 | 16 | 22 Tour: June 1

Learn the ins and outs of Garden Suites in Edmonton at our upcoming workshops!

Topics include: process to build, regulations, finance/budgeting, inclusive design, builder/designer showcase, owners panel, & much more! See 5 different suites, inside and out on our June 1 tour!

Tickets: www.YEGardenSuites.ca

Spring 2019 BCL Programs at the Hall

Program/ Location	Day/Dates	BCL Member Fee	Register With
Soapstone Carving Leader: Pat Galbraith Location: Upper Hall	Mondays 7–9 pm April 1 to June 17 (no class Apr. 22, May 20)	\$120 No drop ins	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Tuesday Mat Yoga Leader: Elise Ure Location: Upper Hall	Tuesdays 10:20–11:20 am April 9 to May 28	\$80 Drop ins: \$15	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
BCL Knitters Location: Upper Hall Community Living Room	Tuesdays 7–9 pm Ongoing	BCL Membership	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Walking Club Leader: Cam McGregor Location: Meet at Upper Hall	Wednesdays 10 am-12 pm Ongoing	Free	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Friday Mat Yoga Leader: Elise Ure Location: Upper Hall	Fridays 10–11 am April 12 to June 7 (no class April 19)	\$80 Drop ins \$15	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Friday Chair Yoga Leader: Elise Ure Location: Lower Hall	Fridays 11:05 am–12:05 pm April 12 to June 7 (no class Apr. 19)	\$80 Drop ins \$15	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Other Programs at the Hall

Program/Location	Day/Dates	Fee	Register with
Guides Location: Lower Hall	Mondays 6:15–8:15 pm	Contact: Tonya Wolfe	tonya.wolfe@gmail.com
Tuesday Boot Camp Leader: Caitlin Banks Location: Lower Hall	Tuesdays 8:30–9:30 am March 12–May 14	Contact: Caitlin Banks	caitlinvbanks@gmail.com
Wednesday Boot Camp Leader: Caitlin Banks Location: Lower Hall	Wednesdays 7 - 8 pm April 3–May 22	Contact: Caitlin Banks	caitlinvbanks@gmail.com
Sportball for Kids Location: Lower Hall	Sunday Mornings Apr 7–June 23 9–9:30am for ages 16–24 months 9:30–10:15 for ages 2–3.5 years old 10:15–11:15am for 3.5–5 year olds	See website	https://goo.gl/forms/FikX0EAOE- 5tfZ5Gf2



Soapstone carving by Jean Crozier



Interested in having your **brain** scanned for research?

We are looking for **healthy volunteers** (ages 5-95) to undergo an **MRI of their brain** for research

If you would like to learn more, please **contact us** by e-mail: **brainmri@ualberta.ca**

or phone: (780)983-7232



Construction at St. Paul's United Church

Dear Neighbours, renovations are well underway at St. Paul's United Church. We look forward to welcoming you this fall to take a look at our completely revitalized lower level, with a large auditorium, new kitchen, barrier-free washrooms, and program space. We are also excited about our new labyrinth and full-size elevator. Thank you for your patience as we make these changes. Stay tuned for news of our open houses in September. Any questions can be directed to the church office: 780-436-1555, office@stpaulsunited.org

Shona Nichols Legacy Project St. Paul's United Church 780-893-7880



The Buzz on Bees

Pollinating animals have an important role in helping plants make seeds by transferring pollen between flowering plants. In Alberta, bees are one the major pollinators for flowering plants. There are over 300 native species of bees here in Alberta, and the majority of them are solitary bees. These bees are essential in the production of the food we eat, crops we grown, and nature we enjoy. Solitary bees are not aggressive, unlike other types of social bees that swarm and live in colonies. They are very active and efficiency pollinators, visiting hundreds of blossoms a day. However, pollinators in general are in a global decline for a number of reasons, including habitat loss, pesticide use, disease, and climate change.

In urban environments, solitary bees can have a difficult time finding places to safely lay their eggs. Man-made bee hotels attract tunnel-nesting solitary bees. There are many designs for bee hotels, but the main requirement is creating tunnels to lay their eggs. Holes drilled into wood blocks work best, but bamboo or paper straws work as well. A range of tunnel sizes, proper placement, and yearly maintenance of the hotel will help ensure that the bees will use the hotel. For more information on bee hotels or other tips to help pollinators visit the Edmonton and Area Land Trust website! https://www.ealt.ca/protecting-pollinators

By sharing this message, our Community League is entering into a contest to win a Bee Hotel from the EFCL and support the preservation of our bees!



https://efcl.org/events--projects/
green-leagues/april2019-bee-hotel-contest/



Benefits of Composting

According to Environment Canada, biodegradable materials, such as food waste, make up around 40 per cent of all residential waste in Canada. As we continue to place an increasingly higher importance on sustainability and living in an environmentally conscious way, there are a number of simple steps we can take to decrease our impact.

One of the simplest things we can do is reduce the amount of waste that gets picked up, hauled to transfer stations, processed and taken to landfills and composting facilities. When individuals make a small effort to separate organic matter, it opens up room for the City to develop a better system that can more efficiently divert and handle our waste.

Composting is actually quite a simple, straightforward process. Instead of dropping your kitchen scraps into the trash with the rest of your household waste, collect them in a separate container and transfer them to a compost bin that you tend to every so often. If done right you won't notice an odour, and it requires minimal investment of time and money on your behalf. Some neighbourhoods even have compost collection stations in their community gardens you can add to.

This minor change can not only reduce the burden on the City's waste system and positively impact the environment, it has the potential to save the City millions of dollars that can be used for other vital programs. In an effort to make composting as easy as possible the City has a number of online resources at edmonton.ca/composting that describe how to start, what you can and can't compost and tips to ensure success.

The City also offers hands-on workshops where you can learn everything you need to know about composting. Should you need some help along the way, we've gathered a team of Master Composter

Recycler volunteers who have extensive training and are passionate about waste reduction, sustainability and composting. Master Composter Recyclers are reliable and friendly Edmontonians who are excited about helping others with composting and waste reduction.

When we look at the big picture it is simple to see how a few small changes in each of our households could result in an impressive shift for our city. By rerouting 30 to 40 per cent of our organic waste away from our landfills we can save money, add life to our community gardens and build a more sustainable future.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at ben.hender-son@edmonton.ca or by telephone at 780-496-8146. Follow me on Twitter: @ben_hen

MEXICO SCHOOL PROJECT ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

COMPOST SALE

1 bag for \$10 DATE: Sat, May 11th 2019 3 bags for \$25 TIME: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm 5 bags for \$40 LOCATION: 7222 – 119 Street



YOU CAN PRE ORDER YOUR ORGANIC SOIL BY EMAILING: KIRSTIN@CLEANITGREENIT.NET

Cleanit Greenit Composting System Produces a Grade "A" compost, which has achieved the Eco-logo Certification as an "Environmentally Friendly Product". The compost contains essential nutrients and organic matter and is excellent for lawns and gardens.



Lodging Houses

This winter, an application was made to the City to rezone a house on 78 Avenue between 115 and 116 streets from a Single Detached House to a Lodging House. According to City neighbourhood boundaries this area is part of McKernan, but it feels like Belgravia and is of interest to us. The City development officer denied the application on the basis of inadequate parking, increased traffic, and lack of a loading space. The applicant appealed the decision to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB). Several neighbours wrote letters supporting the development officer's decision and a representative from McKernan Community League attended the SDAB hearing on their behalf. However, in late March the SDAB released its ruling and over-ruled the development officer, approving the conversion to a Lodging House.

This case prompted the BCL board to look further into Lodging Houses. We might start to see applications for them in Belgravia.

In general, zoning allows no more than three unrelated persons to live in a Single Detached House unless the owner has obtained City approval. Lodging Houses allow up to six unrelated people to live in one house. One parking spot is expected for every two sleeping units, plus a loading space for things such as commercial laundry trucks.

Zoning allows a maximum of two Lodging Houses per thousand residents in a neighbourhood. About 2300 people live in Belgravia so there could be up to four or five Lodging Houses allowed in total. They are limited to a maximum of two per block.

Here are a couple of points to keep in mind. First, there already may be illegal Lodging Houses operating in Belgravia-- houses where more than three unrelated persons live without proper zoning approval. Unlicensed Lodging Houses can cause various problems, including unsafe and unsanitary conditions for tenants, and noise and disruption for neighbours. If you suspect an illegal Lodging House, the City's "Residential Living Compliance Team" will inspect the situation. Contact them online at: https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/bylaws/making-an-inquiry.aspx, or call 311, or contact the office of Ben Henderson, our city councillor. If illegal Lodging Houses are forced to become legal it can improve the safety of tenants and may reduce the number of new Lodging Houses that will be approved.

Second, keep an eye on sales listings of houses near you because sellers may be promoting them as if they were Lodging Houses even when they do not have legal zoning. For example, just a few doors down 78 Avenue from the house approved to convert to a Lodging House, two brand new skinny houses on a split lot are being marketed through a realtor as each having eight bedrooms, 6.5 baths, and a basement suite. The ads for each house states: "INVESTORS note that this house would bring in an income of about \$6000/month if rented properly." The City has been informed and cautions issued to both owner and real estate agent, but they appear to be persisting. With the soft real estate market and the surge of new building this might become more common. You can review most real estate listings on line.

Well-run legal Lodging Houses can provide quality housing for students and others. At the same time, illegal Lodging Houses can be a serious problem for neighbours and a hazard to tenants.



Choosing Kindness and Connection

Welcoming new neighbours to the community. Expert knitters sharing their passion with novice knitters. Doing the walks for your neighbour for no reason at all except for being a good neighbour. Getting together at the community hall to make jam. Helping a senior to continue gardening and sharing in the harvest. Connecting with others with similar interests. Belgravia has several examples demonstrating its community connections, but are there opportunities to be better neighbours to people who need our help? Are there neighbours who would benefit from a little extra kindness and connection to their community?

The Belgravia Community League is looking for suggestions on how we can become a stronger, more supportive community for those who may need our help. Come meet with your neighbours who want to build on these ideas, with tea/coffee and home-made cookies to keep the discussion going.

When: May 11, 2-4:30 pm

Where: Belgravia Upper Hall

Anyone who needs help getting to the meeting, please contact Cam McGregor at programs@belraviaedmonton.ca

Meet Your Neighbour: Mary-Lou Cleveland

Mary-Lou Cleveland can be seen running in the river valley and, until last year, walking along 76 Avenue on her way to McKernan School where she was Principal until her retirement in 2018. It was a closing of the circle for her, as she had began her teaching career at McKernan. She enthusiastically talks about how much she enjoyed working with parents and students—some of whom are still an important part of her life today, over forty years later. Although she started and ended her career at McKernan, most of her professional life was in Millwoods and the Northeast of Edmonton. The people-based work of an educator and educational administrator prepared Mary-Lou for a retirement focused on social justice and reconciliation.



Reconciliation Walk on Jasper Avenue for Residential School Survivors, July 11, 2018.

Mary-Lou is currently Chair of Inner-City Pastoral Ministry (ICPM), a consortium of churches: Anglican, Lutheran (ELCIC), Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and United. Funding for outreach comes from donations and from grants from the churches. Recognizing that she herself has been fortunate to have a relatively privileged life, Mary-Lou felt moved to seek greater connection with those who have less; a key focus for ICPM is growing in understanding of what it is like to live in poverty over an extended period of time, which is developed by walking along-side those who have not been as fortunate.

The first time Mary-Lou worked at the ICPM booth at Homeless Connect, a bi-annual event at the Conference Centre to provide free services to those who are homeless, she was astonished to see that the most popular goods were briefs, feminine products, and personal hygiene items. She came to a stunning realization that she previously had no idea what people really need.

Over the years of her involvement with social justice work she has grown in her understanding of the impact of homelessness: why winter socks and underwear are so important and continually needed (inadequate/no access to laundry facilities); how difficult it is turn one's life around when what is familiar is constant crisis in one's entourage, dysfunctional relationships, instability, and substance abuse as the way to dull the pain of grief and trauma. One of the aspects of homeless that Mary-Lou came to understand for example is the entrepreneurial skill required of a bottle-picker: it is requisite that the bottle-picker source suppliers, determine the distribution channel (where are the nearest bottle depots), and work out the logistics of transporting the product s/he will sell.

ICPM runs a number of regular programs including a weekly hearty lunch at the Bissell Centre, where they feed approximately two hundred people every Sunday. Monthly women's groups are also part of the regular ICPM program. The organizational aspect of the women's groups involves food and a craft activity; over relaxed conversation, respectful relationships begin to develop with and between people who struggle with inadequate housing and food insecurity. The Four Directions program connects Indigenous and non-Indigenous who do not live in the inner city with those who do. Like the women's groups, Four Directions seeks to provide a venue for people to get to know each other. Mary-Lou is looking forward to attending more powwows this year, joining a group doing medicine picking, and participating in her first sweat.

I ask Mary-Lou what what we as Belgravians can do to help those who we do not know but clearly find themselves in unimaginably difficult life circumstances. She responded simply, "look them directly in the eye. Say hello." It takes just a few seconds of our time to communicate to someone that we recognize their humanity—someone who, were the cards of fate dealt differently, could well be us.