

**Belgravia Community League**

11540 73 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T6G 0G1

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 52202
Edmonton, AB T6G 2T5

Contact us:

Email: info@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Phone: 780-437-1866

Hall host hours:

Mondays 6 – 8 pm
Tuesdays 7 – 10:30 am
Wednesdays 10 am – 1 pm
Thursdays 10 am – 1 pm
Fridays 10 am – 1 pm

Visit us online:

@belgraviaYEG (twitter)
belgraviaedmonton (facebook)
<https://www.belgraviaedmonton.ca> (website)

Next Submission Deadline:

February 21, 2020

Advertise in the belgravian:

adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Banner Photo: Winter at the Arts Park

Upcoming Events:**Friends and Family Day**
Monday, February 17th, 2pm - 8pm.

We are planning a great program for Friends and Family Day this year. Dance, games, kids events, dinner and a dessert potluck!

Come for a cooked dinner prepared by Nait trained chef, Caitlyn White-Keyes (RSVP required) and bring a potluck dessert to share!

Stay tuned for more details – on BCL website, social media & via email!

Interested in volunteering? We will need volunteers on the day (volunteer sheet will be on our website soon). If you have time to help with the planning, please drop Cam a note at programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Hope to see you at Friends and Family Day!

Neighbour to Neighbour Discussion: Fall Prevention, January 31st, 7pm. See pg. 6

Made in Belgravia February 11th, 7pm:
Sleight of Hand Sleight of Mind ... the magic behind war propaganda. See pg. 4

Belgravia Playschool Open House March 12th, 5-6pm. See pg. 7

2019/2020 BCL Board & Committees Contacts		
President	Cory Dawson	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Vice President		vicepresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Past President	Michael Cohen	pastpresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Secretary	Samantha Graham	secretary@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Treasurer	Greg Jones	treasurer@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Membership Director	Susan Andrew	membership@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Director at Large	Kevin Taft	director1@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Director at Large	Christina Lau Hoang	director2@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Director at Large	Barry Edgar	director3@belgraviaedmonton.ca
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Transportation Committee	Jordan Hoffart	transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca
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Belgravian ads manager	Lena Jones	adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca
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Programs Director	Cameron McGregor	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Made in Belgravia	Jeanette Boman	mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Abundant Community Committee	Cameron McGregor	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Pumpkin party, Casino	Reg & Jane Norby	norby@shaw.ca
Belgravia Playschool Chair	Charise Sherwin	playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Playschool Teacher	Monika Fouad	playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Facilities Director	Brendan Hemens	facilities@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Hall rental coordinator	Jeanette Boman	hallrental@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Rink manager	Simon Gosgnach	rinkmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Arts park team leader	Kathy Goble	facilities@belgraviaedmonton.ca`
Community Connections		
Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator	Kate Russell	kate.russell@edmonton.ca
Belgravia Elementary Liaison	Cory Dawson	info@belgraviaedmonton.ca
U of A community consultation	Sean Gerke	info@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belmac Soccer Coordinator	Carley Haynes	belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com

President's Message

As we pull ourselves through the recent deep freeze, I am able to console myself with remembering how beautiful the weather was at the end of the year and how active me and my family was able to be. Thinking back to the number of days we spent on our fabulous outdoor rink I wanted to focus on the theme of being active: not only being active physically but also being active in in the community.

I would invite everyone in the community to be active with the Belgravia Community League by any of the number of possible ways: Check out the programming offered by the Community League and take advantage of the opportunities to be physically active. Or, if you are more inclined, put on your civic engagement active wear and join the BCL Board: We are still in search of a Vice President, but we also always welcome any of the Belgravia residents to attend our Board Meetings: the next one is scheduled for Thursday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m.

If you are concerned about development in the neighbourhood, whether that be single family residences or some of the proposed multi-unit developments proposed for Belgravia and our neighbours in McKernan, your input and experience is an invaluable piece of our advocacy for the community. The Board is always looking for ways to ensure it represents the views of the residents as best as it can and so we ask that you reach out and email me or our Planning & Place Director.

Finally, I invite you to be active in your gratitude and take a small moment to thank anyone who contributes to our neighbourhood and its wonderful community feel. I wanted to thank our Rink Manger and his devoted team as my two young children could have spent the entire break on the ice. Their tireless efforts are greatly appreciated. Purchase your BCL membership, lace up the skates, and we'll see you on the ice!

Drop into the BCL Community Living Room

Hall Host on Duty:
When you see this sign - **Community Living Room OPEN** - outside the upper hall entry doors, you know a volunteer Hall Host is on duty. Stop in to warm up in front of the fire place, have a cup of tea, visit with neighbours, get your BCL membership or register for a program.

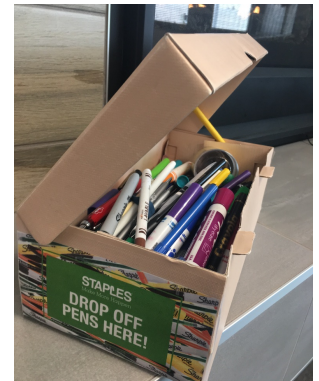


Left something at the BCL Hall? Check out the Lost and Found box in the upper hall foyer or ask the Hall Host if anything has been turned into the BCL office.



The Community Living Room is a great place to bump into neighbours and see what books have been donated to the BCL.

The Staples Pen Recycling Box is in the Community Living Room ... a convenient place to drop off spent ball point pens, felt pens and mechanical pencils.



BCL Casino

November 29 & 30, 2019

A Note of Thanks

from 2019 BCL Casino Coordinator Reg Norby

The BCL was able to hold it's recent November Casino thanks to the support and generosity of 35 BCL casino volunteers who donated some 300 hours of their time and talents.

The funds raised are expected in February and will aid in providing support for the programs, events, and facilities of the BCL over the next two years.

You can expect the next "Casino Call" for volunteers in the fall of 2021 for our next BCL Casino which will be held in the first quarter of 2022.

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

Thanks for answering the call once again!

BCL has been involved in a joint effort with the City of Edmonton and other community groups to create a Community Walking Map for Belgravia, Windsor park, Garneau and Mckernan.

We will be delivering the map door-to-door next month, but if you would like a copy sooner you can pick one up from the community hall during open hours!

Other community walking maps are available online at edmonton.ca/walkmap



February Made in Belgravia Session

February 11, 2020 (7 – 8:30 pm), BCL Upper Hall

Greg Hunter, a long time Belgravia resident and retired science teacher with a career spanning 30 years; one that included being a finalist in the 1999 Alberta Excellence in Teaching awards and a frequent presenter at Alberta Teachers' Conventions and The Centre for Global Education. Greg believes that to understand the world we should rely on evidence and reason. He is particularly interested in how our own cognitive biases can be manipulated by others. A reviewer describes his talks as "multi-media extravaganzas that challenge teachers—and all of us—to never assume that received narratives are necessarily true. Such skepticism is the basis of real democracy."

Greg is giving 5 talks at this year's upcoming Teachers Convention. One of those, ***Sleight of Hand Sleight of Mind ... the magic behind war propaganda*** compares war propagandists to magicians who target our cognitive biases with sensory and psychological misdirection. Greg has offered to share this session with community members interested in the processes that propagandists use. In today's world, this seems like a timely topic to explore.

Greg suggests checking out the following Free Media link and invites you to bring your own perspectives for a lively discussion:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t002GqSLqS8W06POxG-Fky16GfBnMIQCgQFIhqDULn0/edit>

Refreshments and nibbles will be served. **To allow for us to prepare for the session please RSVP to Made in Belgravia (mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca) by February 7 ... thank you!**

Winter 2020 BCL Programs at the Hall

Please let Cam know if you would like to register for a program by emailing
programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Program/ Location	Day/Dates	BCL Member/ Non-member Fee
Strength & Stretch Leader: Tara Mayne Location: Lower Hall	Mondays 11 am - 12 pm Jan 13 – Mar 23 (No class Feb. 17)	\$120/\$140 Drop ins: \$15/20
Soapstone Carving Leader: Pat Galbraith Location: Upper Hall	Mondays 7 - 9 pm Jan 13 – Mar 23 (No class Feb. 17)	\$150/170 No drop ins
Arts & Crafts Drop in Leader: Anita Nawrocki Location: Community Living Room	Mondays 12.30 - 2.30 pm Jan 13 – March 23 (no drop-in Feb. 17)	BCL or Associate Membership
Morning Mat Yoga Leader: Elise Ure Location: Upper Hall	Tuesdays 10.30 – 11.30 am Jan 14 – Mar 17	\$120/\$140 Drop ins: \$15/20
Morning Chair Yoga Leader: Elise Ure Location: Upper Hall	Tuesdays 11.30 - 12.30 pm Jan 14 – Mar 17	\$120/\$140 Drop ins: \$15/20
BCL Knitters Location: Community Living Room	Tuesdays 7 – 9 pm Ongoing	BCL or Associate Membership
Experimental Techniques in Watercolour Leader: Pat Galbraith Location: Upper Hall	Wednesdays 1-3 pm Jan 15 – Mar 18	\$150/\$170 No drop ins
Belgravia Walking Club Location: Upper Hall Entrance	Wednesdays 10 am About 1 hr walks	BCL or Associate Membership
Nia Aerobic Dance Class Leader: Kirsten Bartel Location: Lower Hall	Thursdays 7 - 8 pm Jan 16 to Mar 5	\$100/120 Drop ins \$15/20
Morning Mat Yoga Leader: Elise Ure Location: Upper Hall	Fridays 10.30 – 11.30 am Jan 17 to Mar 20	\$120/\$140 Drop ins: \$15/20
Fit for Life Leader: Elise Ure Location: Upper Hall	Fridays 11.30am – 12.30 pm Jan 17 to Mar 20	\$120/\$140 Drop ins: \$15/20

Winter 2020 Other Programs at the Hall

Program/ Location	Day/Dates	Fee	Register With/More information...
Guides Leader: Tonya Wolfe Location: Lower Hall	Mondays 6.15 – 8.15 pm Starting January 13	Contact Tonya Wolfe	tonya.wolfe@gmail.com

<https://belgraviaedmonton.ca/services-programs/>

Neighbour to Neighbour Heart Discussion on November 22, 2019

Did you know that elimination of high blood pressure (hypertension) around the world could lead to significant improvement in human life? And that hypertension is not detectable without measuring blood pressure (BP)?



Dr. Ross Tsuyuki (PharmD) and Dr. Michael Chan (cardiologist) talked about this, and much more, at the informal discussion at the Community League hall in the evening of Nov. 22. It is unusual to have the opportunity to question and have clear responses for two such involved and knowledgeable neighbours. We covered some of the following topics:

- Hypertension – Those of us who are older or are starting to have higher blood pressure at the doctor's office should consider home measurement. Go to www.hypertension.ca to learn more. The website includes a list of good measurement devices available in Canada.
 - If you walk about 45 minutes 3 times a week you can lower your blood pressure (BP) by 6-7mm
 - If you reduce your salt intake to Food Guide levels you can further reduce your BP by 6-7mm
 - If you lose about 7 lb, you can further reduce your BP by 6mm
- The heart has no pain receptors. Chest pain can be an important indicator for men that a heart attack is imminent or occurring; however, women have different symptoms. A new pain in the jaw, at the end of the elbow can be an indicator. Phone 911; we have an excellent heart response system.

- LDL levels can be managed by the use of drugs such as statins with little side effect. The target levels of LDL are different depending on whether you have other indicators of heart disease.
- Heart attack is the most common problem of the heart. Other problems include:
 - Atrial fibrillation – an arrhythmia caused by different contraction rates of the top and bottom of the heart.
 - Heart failure – when the pumping action of the heart is diminished by repeated heart attacks.

A very engaging evening with two of Alberta's leading scholars in this field. Many Thanks to Dr. Dilini Vethanayagam for arranging this discussion for us!

**Join us for the next discussion on
January 31st, 7pm at the Community
League hall.**

Dr Angela Juby, a geriatrician at the University of Alberta, will talk about falls in the elderly.

Jane Austen's 244th Birthday Celebration, December 15, 2019

The Upper Hall was filled on December 15th with an audience eager to learn more about Jane Austen. We enjoyed readings from various novels and an interesting discussion about Jane Austen and her work. Thank you to Juliet McMaster & members of the Jane Austen Society of Edmonton!



Belgravia Playschool Update



December activities:

Christmas table centre pieces: festive and joyful!

Decorating gingerbread houses, yum!



Staying active in the cold:
kicking, catching and throwing ...
... twirling and crawling ...
... and squealing with glee - of course!



Belgravia Co-operative Playschool Open House

March 12th, 5-6pm

Please join us on March 12th, 2020 from 5-6 pm at Belgravia Community Hall. The Playschool teacher Ms. Monica will be there to meet and greet and answer questions that parents may have. There will also be parents there volunteering. Light snacks and refreshments provided!



Apartment Building Proposed Near LRT Station

Pinto Properties, an Edmonton-based property management and development company, is proposing one apartment building on each side of 78 Avenue immediately west of the LRT shared use path (78 Ave and 114 St). The proposal is in the first steps of the City's development process. The developer has twice met with McKernan Community League leaders as well as nearby residents and representatives from the Belgravia Community League. The City has not received a formal application for the proposed development.

The development is in the McKernan Hip and we have committed to support the McKernan Community League throughout the process

Pinto's presented a proposal at a November 14 meeting, which included:

1. Four or five story building, which meet the height requirement for a RA7 zoning with 54 bachelor or one bedroom units, including four ground floor units with direct outdoor access to the LRT shared use path. An example of an RA7 building in terms of height is the Grand Scala. However the new building may be closer to the property lines as compared to an RA7 such as the Grand Scala.
2. An expanded lot (approximately 800 m²) for each apartment building, incorporating green space acquired from the City.
3. A new north-south alley between the new buildings and the existing homes, connecting 78 Avenue to the respective rear lanes, with ten surface parking stalls accessed from the new connecting lanes.
4. Removing the existing paved turnaround and replacing it with a park, seeking input from the community as to what the communities would like to see in the park.
5. A large bike parking room on the main floor to accommodate approximately 24 bikes hung vertically.
6. An indoor ground floor amenity room and a rooftop patio.
7. Pinto intends to build and operate the

apartment buildings as rentals. The rental manager attended both meetings with the community.

Pinto told the community that they believe their proposal meets the overarching plan known as The McKernan-Belgravia Station Area Redevelopment Plan (see the City of Edmonton website for more details on this Redevelopment Plan). They plan to apply to the City for a zoning change to a DC2 zoning, which will be written specifically for these two sites and planned buildings.

At this point a number of key issues have been identified, including the:

1. Number of car parking stalls and the overall impact on on-street parking, traffic congestion, and increase to lane traffic.
2. Width of the green corridor.
3. Emergency vehicle access due to the removed turnaround and changed lane connections.
4. Lack of family sized units.
5. The proposed density and number of units.
6. Additional traffic in the rear lanes due to the missing turnarounds and to the garbage truck needed for the new apartment building.

The next steps in this process largely assume Pinto wants to proceed. Pinto would submit formal plans to the City. These will trigger further negotiations as well as a public meeting in our community. Then city administration prepares a zoning bylaw amendment for Council's consideration at a public hearing. The time frame for all these steps is likely at least 3 months but is often longer.

If you have any questions or comments about this development or any other development in Belgravia or the McKernan Hip, please email Marcel Huculak at planning@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Interested in learning more about the development? Attend the community meeting at BCL Upper Hall on February 7, 6-8 pm (more details on next page)

Community Meeting for Proposed DC2 Rezoning

February 7, 2020 (6pm - 8pm), BCL Upper Hall

All interested community members are welcome to attend this facilitated meeting to discuss the proposed DC2 rezoning for two four-storey micro-unit apartments in the green spine along the LRT line at 78 Ave and 114 St. The discussion will include:

- 1. Current status of the proposal**, including initial design, current community concerns, conversations with the City, Councillor, developer and community members to date
- 2. Larger City development context and the rezoning process**
- 3. Community priorities**, different ways these can be addressed as well as possible levers and trade-offs
- 4. Tools for effective negotiation with developers and City Council**

Tree Risk Mitigation work along Saskatchewan Drive

The City's Natural Area Operations conducted tree risk mitigation work along the trails/roadway along Saskatchewan Drive, from University Ave to south of Keillor Point during December 2019.

The trail and roadway were assessed for tree risk management and were mitigated based on the level of risk present to the public or property. The Natural Area Operations unit also assessed part of the natural area for fire risk using FireSmart principles.

A risk rating was determined by assessing: distance from buildings, types of trees, surface vegetation, ladder fuels and slope. The assigned fire risk rating may be low, moderate, high or extreme. In this case, the fire risk was assigned as low, particularly as there aren't any properties directly adjacent to the tree line.

With regards to mitigation of the risk, the largest component based on this assessment that would reduce risk would be removing a percentage of the live coniferous trees (as this reduces the risk for a crown fire). However, live tree removal is the least preferred mitigation measure, particularly in an area that has been assessed as low risk. In addition, deadfall was not assessed as abundant in this area and will be left to decompose. The majority of the material through the tree risk mitigation will be chipped and blown back into the stand where possible to leave the nutrients on site, ensuring that the mulch is evenly distributed for faster decomposition.

The long-term strategy for managing fire risk in the City of Edmonton will consist of assessing the Wildland Urban Interface and prioritizing fire risk mitigation by using a fire risk analysis to classify all natural areas with a risk rating.

The next step will be to develop mitigation strategies to minimize the fire risk in areas identified as priorities. Collaboration with internal and external stakeholders will be a key component to executing mitigation measures for the management of fire risk, as there are other mitigation methods that the City can use, such as reaching out to Fire Services to determine a better access route, or increased public education.

With over 2,000 hectares of natural areas to assess, the Natural Area Operations unit would like to ensure an accurate, thoughtful approach for work planning and mitigating fire risk hazards, while still ensuring that the ecological integrity of our natural areas is maintained.

Since this approach is unique to Edmonton, the exact timelines of completing this analysis have not been identified, but the unit is hopeful it will take place next year.

For questions or concerns, please call 311 and refer to 'Tree risk management along Saskatchewan Drive'. Inquiries will be directed to Natural Area Operations staff.

For more information on what citizens can do on their own property visit:

<https://wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart>

Belgravia Holiday Marketplace 2019

Thank you to everyone who came to our 2019 Holiday Marketplace to support our local community makers!

From tasty treats, books and jewelry to art and crafts there really was something for everyone!



Ideas for Winter Activities during Jan/Feb

Learn to Skate: Drop in Programs (Jan 6 - Feb 16, 2020)

Grandview Heights (6225 - 127 St) - Mondays, 4:30 - 7:30 pm

Windsor Park (11840-87 Ave) - Wednesdays, 5 - 8 pm

This free program is targeted for children ages 6-12 and their families, however, all are welcome to attend. Bring your skates and a CSA approved helmet.

City of Edmonton Outdoor Skating Rinks and Toboggan Hills

Find locations and current conditions of City rinks and toboggan hills:

https://www.edmonton.ca/activities_parks_recreation/outdoor-ice-rinks.aspx

https://www.edmonton.ca/activities_parks_recreation/toboggan-hills.aspx

Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes Jan 12 – Feb 17 2020

Visit edmonton.ca/winterscapes for ideas, see past entries, and get details about this winter's contest.

More ideas for fun winter activities:
edmonton.ca/programguides



TOWN HALL with
Heather McPherson
Member of Parliament / Edmonton Strathcona

Wednesday, Feb. 12
7–8:30 pm
Ritchie Community Hall
7727 98 Street

Come with your questions
and concerns about federal
government issues.

All welcome!


Constituency Office: 10045 81 Avenue
780-495-8404
heather.mcperson@parl.gc.ca
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(d.cass@ualberta.ca)



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HOURS OF OPERATION

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8:30am to 9:00pm	9:00am to 5:00pm	12:00pm to 4:00pm

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INFO@STRATHCONAREGISTRY.COM
[/STRATHCONAREGISTRY](https://www.facebook.com/STRATHCONAREGISTRY)
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The Christmas Card Tree in Belgravia Dog Park

By Phyllis Schneider

Our neighbours who visit the Belgravia off-leash area overlooking the Equine Centre will already know about one of our area's distinctive features: The Christmas card tree. Every year, dog owners put up a home-made greeting card from their dogs! For about 20 years now, cards go up in late December, featuring pictures of the dogs with their greetings for their human and canine friends.

A bit of research revealed that the practice started with Bob and Sylvia, long-time Belgravia residents and dog owners. They were inspired when on a visit to relatives in Ottawa, where the practice was well-established. The following December, Bob put up a card from his dog... no one else followed him that year... but the next Christmas there were a number of other cards on the tree and the tradition began!

The practice has been extended to other community notices including about people moving out of the neighbourhood as well as other announcements. The trees have become a communication device for the Belgravia community. While the other notices have moved around, the Christmas cards have stayed on the same tree.

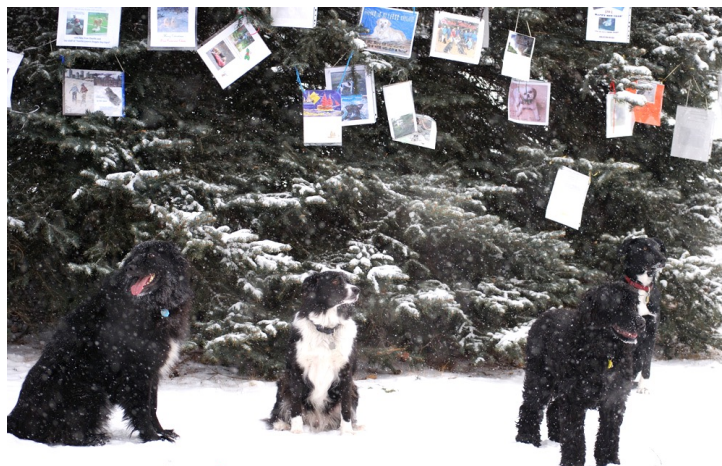
If you are not familiar with the tree, have a look out for it next year. It is just a few steps to the north along the path from the open area of the off-leash. Feel free to hang a card of your own!



Dog park visitors admire the home-made cards on the Christmas card tree!



Lovely messages are shared by our human and canine friends.



Paco, Rosie, Tikko and Buckley pose next to the cards!