



the belgravian

Jul/Aug 2020

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 (phone currently not monitored as hall host hours cancelled)
COVID-19 Response Team: 780-802-3666 or
pastpresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Hall host hours:

Cancelled

Visit us online:

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

Next Submission Deadline:

Aug 19, 2020

Advertise in the belgravian:

adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Banner Photo: Arts Park

Save the Date!

**Our AGM is scheduled on:
Saturday September 12th, 2020**

Time & location TBD

Newsletter Administrator Needed!

Do you enjoy reading the belgravian? Do you have an interest in communications? Do you want to help promote community and neighbourliness in Belgravia?

We are looking for an enthusiastic team player to join the BCL communication team as the newsletter administrator. This role involves working collaboratively with the Communications Director to:

- highlight the great activities of BCL -
- plan, edit & typeset content -

The role requires approximately 6-10 hours a month (for 10 months of the year).

For more details, email
communications@belgraviaedmonton.ca

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
Planning & Place Director	Marcel Huculak	planning@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Transportation Committee	Jordan Hoffart	transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Communications Director	Imogen Sellman	communications@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Website administrator	Tim Janzen	webmaster@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Facebook administrator	Jonathan Chan	facebook@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravian ads manager	Lena Jones	adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravian distribution team leader	Susanne Rowe	communications@belgraviaedmonton.ca
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	Ken Goble	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	Erin Flaherty	erin.flaherty@edmonton.ca
Belgravia Elementary Liaison	Cory Dawson	info@belgraviaedmonton.ca
U of A community consultation	Sean Gerke	director4@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belmac Soccer Coordinator	Carley Haynes	belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com

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)

**To reach the BCL COVID-19
Neighbourhood Response Team:
780-802-3666 (9 am-4 pm)
pastpresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca**

President's Message

Personally, this issue's President's Message would ring hollow without comment on the conflict we have all witnessed south of the border. Our own political leadership has asked that we turn the mirror towards ourselves and take inventory of our own systemic, overt, and other racial biases.

Black lives matter. We stand in solidarity with our neighbours, with all Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour, who are suffering. The Belgravia Community League has a responsibility to uphold and advocate for the rights and dignity of all our community members. In addition to advocating for concerns about development, traffic, or greenspace, we need to be advocates for human rights and dignity.

The Belgravia Community League believes that racism and prejudice have no place in our Community, or our collective communities whether those be Municipal, Provincial, National, or Global. We condemn racially motivated aggression and oppression. We will continue to work on our strategic priority of broadening the reach and diversity of our Community League and continue to draw on our social and political capital to do just that.

We, as a Community, are an active, engaged group of individuals from a wide variety of demographic backgrounds. I invite you to be as involved with our community as you are able. I recognize that we each only have so much time and energy and that we all have our own personal and professional responsibilities, but I invite you to attend this year's AGM and provide your feedback, input, or commitment. The time and location are still yet to be determined, as we are waiting to see how the next few months will unfold but mark your calendar (Sept 12) and I look forward to seeing you there.

In the interim, and as always, I welcome your emails on any issue that is important to you, or that you think is important to our community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me by email at president@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Time for upgrades to Charles Simmonds Park

Charles Simmonds Park lies at the border of McKernan and Belgravia, at 115 St. and 79 Ave. It has not been updated in many years and needs attention to make it a greater feature for residents in both communities.

Gail Fraser-Steffler, a long-time resident, is putting together a group to look at what the park would need to make it more welcoming to families, seniors, students and all other potential park users.

She has drafted a concept document that the group will consider as it begins its work of consultation, fundraising and navigating City bureaucracy. Some ideas to be considered include:

- renew the existing playground with equipment that is fun, safe and clean to be enjoyed by preschool and elementary school aged children
- add strategically located benches and picnic tables to be enjoyed by seniors, families and groups of friends
- add community garden plots for use by those in condos, apartments and small lot houses
- incorporate community maintained flower garden(s) (similar to the McKernan pocket park)
- provide a fenced or clearly delineated off leash section for local dog owners

Both the McKernan and Belgravia community leagues support this project and see it as a great collaborative effort to improve the green space in our communities. Developers building in the community could also be approached for financial support.

If you are interested in helping out or contributing, contact Gail at gfs@shaw.ca

Connecting Neighbours

While practising physical distancing, we believe there's no reason to experience social isolation. We encourage you to reach out to your friends and neighbours through emails, phone calls, social media or video chat apps as well as meeting outdoors in small groups while maintaining 2m distance from one another.

Technologies enable us to stay connected during crisis times like this. But please remember you may have neighbours on your block who are not tech savvy. They need social connection too, and they may need assistance with accessing information or getting needed supplies.

Local Neighbourhood Based Social Media app

Nextdoor Belgravia is the neighbourhood hub for trusted connections and the exchange of helpful information, goods and services. This is a great tool for connecting with neighbours. If you haven't heard of or joined Nextdoor yet, we encourage you check it out: ca.Nextdoor.com Join the group Belgravia Block Connectors on Nextdoor!

Take it a Step Further And Become a Block Connector

Do you know the neighbours on your block or would you like to get to know them? Do you like listening to the experiences of your neighbours? Do you like bringing people together? Do you want to make sure vulnerable neighbours can access the help they need? Can you help get information to people and help neighbours make connections and find resources? If you answered yes to any of the above questions, then you would make a great Block Connector! Now more than ever, we need to be watching out for and helping our neighbours.

Email Cam at
programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca



Meet Samantha Graham and Irene Andersson, our new Neighbourhood Block Coordinators. Read about their passion for community on pg 8.

Folk Art Bench in Arts Park

Next time you are on a walk around the neighbourhood, head over to the east side of Belgravia Arts Park and see the bench nestled within the Native Plant bed under the shelter of a tall spruce tree. The handcrafted bench has been donated to the BCL by Wendy Davis.

Painted by her friend Asma in the style of Indian Folk Art, it fits so nicely in with the Arts Park theme. Please feel welcome to sit on the bench and enjoy the little swing to it! It is a great vantage point to see the work of the Arts Park Native Plant Bed team, lead by Kathy Goble every other Tuesday evening throughout the summer.



Hats Off To Our 2019-20 BCL Volunteers!

BCL Board

Cory Dawson, President
Michael Cohen, Past President
Samantha Graham, Secretary
Greg Jones, Treasurer
Susan Andrew, Memberships
Brendan Hemens/Ken Goble, Facilities
Marcel Hukulak, Planning & Place
Cam McGregor, Programs
Imogen Sellman, Communications
Kevin Taft, Director-at-Large
Christina Hoang, Director-at-Large
Barry Edgar, Director-at-Large
Sean Gerke, Director-at-Large

Programs Team

BCL Playschool Charise Sherwin (Chair) Miranda Dawson Heather Edwards Karr-Hong Lee Monika Fouad (Teacher)	Physical, Arts & Social Programs Pat Galbraith Barb Krahn Anita Nawrocki Dilini Vethanayagam
Abundant Belgravia Cam McGregor Ruth Craig Barry Edgar Theresa Gaetz	David Ridley Gillian Thompson Richard Thompson Toni Wittenberg Olive Yonge

Facilities Team

Hall Hosts Jeanette Boman Yvonne Collinson Ruth Craig Ken Goble Joanne Hamilton Denise McIver Jane Norby Phyllis Schneider Bonnie Walter	Hall & Rink Management Security: Parker Fjeldberg Rentals: Jeanette Boman Repairs & Projects: Phil Haswell Rink Manager: Jim Sawada/Simon Gosgnach Assistant: Don Wilson
Arts Park Kathy Goble (Leader) Vera Chornoluk Ruth Craig Bonnie Van Delfsen	Ken Goble MJ Gurba Linda Haswell Joanne Wynn

Communications Team

Belgravian Newsletter Imogen Sellman (Administrator) Lena Jones (Ads Manager) Susanne Rowe (Distribution) Alex Abboud Irene Andersson Barb Clarke Catharine Compston Angela Espejo Isabella Garros Ken Goble Bev & Hugh Hoyles Caitlin Huynh	Kim Kelly & Rufus Scrimger Roger & Arlene Laing Jean & Ron Lawson Joe & Joan McVea Lisa Mentz Rita & John Murray Shirley Perry Tamara Petter Linda Seale Debbie Topinka Teresa Truong Binh Truong Raneek Wickramasekera Sheila Zane
Online Media Imogen Sellman (BCL Updates, Twitter)	Jonathan Chan (Facebook) Tim Janzen (Web Page)

Membership Drive Team

Susan Andrew Jeanette Boman Katie Brechtel Adrienne Cheng Jessica Duff Jane Eaket	Barb Forbes Therese Gaetz Kristin Gardner Audrey Inouye Jen Klein	Barb Krahn Larry Krusheinitzky Jean Lawson Dolly McGee Eleanor Olszewski	David Ridley Shirley Perry Heather Scherer Sarah Symes Marie Walker
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BCL Events and Projects

Casino Team

BBQ & Membership Drive Susan Andrew Nina Babcock Jonathan Chan Michael Cohen Jack Francis Brendan Hemens Beth Hendricksen James Hendricksen Barb Krahm Mike Krahm Larry Krusheinitzky Irene Lau Peter Lau Christina Lau Hoang Lise-Anne Lavigne Cam McGregor John Murray Rita Murray Reg Norby Eleanor Olszewski Dale Rowe Lucia Secchia Imogen Sellman Louise Sellman Midori Tsuyuki Tricia Unsworth Weilin Qiu Welchen Qiu	
Pumpkin Party Reg Norby Jane Norby Carolyn Jones Sean Jones	Holiday Marketplace Phyllis Schneider Jeanette Boman Pat Galbraith Brenda Philp
Made in Belgravia Jeanette Boman (Coordinator) Naomi Caufield Greg Hunter Juliet McMaster Anna Mioduchowska Kaitlyn White-Keys Olive Yonge Anthony Zeberoff	Covid-19 Committee Michael Cohen (Chair) Jeanette Boman Sean Gerke Christina Lau Hoang Eleanor Olszewski
Friends, Family and Volunteer Christina Lau Hoang Jeanette Boman Cam McGregor Jane Norby	Appreciation Day Kaitlyn White-Keys Tyler White-Keys Ruth Craig

Reg Norby (Manager)
Margaret Allen
Sam Arja
Gayl Berwald
Julia Boberg
Roma Burt
Michael Cohen
Barry Edgar
Maxine Farr-Jones
Robert Forrow
Pat Galbraith
Ken Goble
Sam Harbison
Linda Haswell
Beth Hendricksen
Lorraine Hinch
Tom Hinch
Marilyn Johnson
Mark Johnson
Sean Jones
Jennifer Lambert
Maureen McMillan
Mel McMillan
Cam McGregor
John Murray
Someshwar Sharma
Kevin Taft
Toni Wittenberg

Survey - Bringing home energy transition: the role of community leagues

Did you know that Belgravia Community League has taken steps to move towards renewable energy?

Please participate in this short survey to share your views on the subject as well as to help us understand if these steps have helped you learn about and experience renewable energy technology first hand.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYtWEhndRAeP8HS5IDn3RrbiQcceqtsi3C9dcUkEyc6xiEag/viewform?usp=sf_link

This research is being conducted by the Urban Environment Observatory (<https://cms.eas.ualberta.ca/UrbanEnvOb/>) at the University of Alberta in partnership with Green Leagues, Edmonton (<https://efcl.org/events--projects/green-leagues/>).

Upcoming Virtual Events

TD Edmonton International Jazz Festival - free performances and interviews with musicians every weekend during July. <https://www.edmontonjazz.com/on-demand/>

This year **Edmonton Heritage Festival** are planning a virtual celebration, August 1-3. <https://www.heritagefest.ca/>

Celebrate **Canada Day** at home with virtual celebrations, and interactive, creative and educational activities for the whole family.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/canada-day.html>



Paths for People: Webinar Series

Paths for People are hosting a webinar series exploring how to create a more people-focused, climate resilient and equitable Edmonton through transportation and city planning. Each webinar features Geography and Planning Students' Society and other students/grads from the Urban and Regional Planning program at the University of Alberta sharing their valuable research.

<https://pathsforpeople.org/events/>

2019 Vision Zero Annual Report

Read how far the project has come, and what's next to make Edmonton's streets safer and neighbourhoods more livable.

edmonton.ca/visionzero

Veg Instead! is a pilot project to encourage and help Edmontonians grow vegetables, for personal consumption and/or sharing, in non-traditional areas of their private property such as front and side yards and balconies.

edmonton.ca/veginstead

Rover Dog Sitting Service

My name is Cindy. I grew up taking care of dogs all my life and love and respect them. My heart and my home are wide open for looking after your dog when you need a dog boarding service. I am a patient, flexible and attentive person who loves to pamper dogs with lots of rubs and playtime. The multiple trails within 3 minutes walking distance from my home lead to Capilano, Gold Bar and Rundle parks for lots of exercise and exploring. I have experience with oral medication, special needs dogs and senior dog care. Overnight stays (\$45/night).

Contact: <https://www.rover.com/members/cindy-j-home-full-time-near-river-valley/>

Meet Your Neighbour: Q&A With Samantha Graham and Irene Andersson, Abundant Belgravia Community Neighbourhood Coordinators

1. What interested you in becoming an Abundant Belgravia Coordinator?

Irene: Two ingredients make the cake they say. First, I really enjoy organizing and project management. Second, helping build a more connected Belgravia, starting at the block level, will have an impact on nearly every area of life that I care about: children's wellbeing (a safe "village" in which to grow up), improved health, intergenerational socialization, easy access elder care, sustainability (by increasing local opportunities to work and play). How could I not want to be involved in building a sense of community?

Samantha: The first neighbourhood event I attended in Belgravia was the 2018-19 BCL AGM where I became the 450th member for that year! People were kind, thoughtful and community-minded; something that ultimately impressed me enough to take on the vacant secretary position for the BCL. As an Abundant Belgravia Coordinator, I will have the perfect chance to practice what I experienced that evening and throughout this past year. I believe a thriving community is composed of neighbours who care and look out for each other. I am thrilled to be in a position where I will be able to enrich Belgravia by finding ways for people to get to know each other.

2. Tell us a little about yourself ... how did you come to live in Belgravia? How long have you lived here?

Irene: I moved to Canada from Sweden 14 years ago and lived in an apartment close to the U of A where I worked. I planned to stay for 2 years and then move back home. Whenever I biked through Belgravia though, I was quite enchanted by how it felt like a green, quiet, hidden oasis, close to the river valley and full of trees. It felt safe too ... and ultimately a wonderful place to raise a family. When Andreas and I became pregnant, we moved to our house on 115 Street & 72nd Avenue. That was 10 years ago now. I found such support in neighbours with our two small children, a rather

lonely time for me, as my own family was across the ocean.

Samantha: I moved to Edmonton from Saskatoon in 2018 to pursue my Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology on a scholarship at the U of A. Belgravia has become my extended family where volunteering is an important basis for building community. When I am not studying, I also volunteer with the Special Olympics Edmonton Swimming, the U of A Track and Field teams and as leader of the U of A's Student Invested in Health Association's Local Outreach team. Volunteering in Belgravia has lead to my meeting some pretty awesome people.

3. How will Abundant Belgravia make the neighbourhood even better?

Irene: One thing that I loved about Canada when I arrived was the diversity of people - a diversity we perhaps don't see and cherish enough in Belgravia. I hope the friendly neighbour initiative that characterizes Abundant Belgravia will bring to the surface and embrace people from all walks of life and different backgrounds. I hope all Belgravia residents will feel that they have something to contribute to our community and as a result, feel they belong. The relative simple act of connecting people on a block has become a lifeline for some and a way to make use of talents or hobbies for others.

Samantha: Abundant Belgravia is a way to give structure to the neighbourhood relationships that already exist in our community, and to reach out to our neighbours who we may not know. Living on a block where people are aware of and look out for each other makes Belgravia a safer place for everyone. Abundant Belgravia has the potential to connect us together, and gives us the chance to be part of a healthy, diverse community who learn and grow together. When a situation like COVID-19 hits, we can lean on each other to give and receive help and support the people who live closest to us – our neighbours.