



# *the belgravian*

May 2021

## **Belgravia Community League**

11540 73 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB T6G 0G1

## **Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 52202  
Edmonton, AB T6G2T5

## **Contact us:**

Email: [info@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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:**

May 19, 2021

## **Advertise in *the belgravian*:**

[adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca)

**Banner Photo:** 115 St & 76 Ave, Sept 1957  
Submitted by Bernd Hildebrandt

## **Issue Highlights:**

- Page 3: BCL Board updates
- Page 4: Community Updates
- Page 5: Cleaning up the Community  
Belgravia School Update
- Page 6: History of Belgravia:  
Toonerville Trolley
- Page 8: Historical Photo Contest
- Page 11: Meet Your Neighbour
- Page 12: Junior Belgravian

## **BCL Spring Community Clean Up - May 10-15, 2021**

Let's keep Belgravia GREEN! Clean up your home, your block and alleyways, and our beautiful boulevards and parks! Check out page 5 for more information regarding this event.

## **Volunteer with the BCL board!**

See Page 3 for upcoming openings on the board.

## 2021 BCL Board & Committee Contacts

President	Cory Dawson	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Vice President	Eleanor Olszewski	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	Jerreck Connors	planning@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Transportation Committee	Jordan Hoffart	transportation@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Communications Co-Directors	Sharlene Stayberg & Mark Maxfield	communications@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Website administrator	Tim Janzen	webmaster@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Facebook administrator	Jonathan Chan	facebook@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Newsletter administrator	Lena Jones	newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravian ads manager	Lena Jones	adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravian distribution team leader	Susanne Rowe	communications@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Programs Director	Debbie Smith	programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Made in Belgravia	Jeanette Boman	mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Abundant Community Committee	Barry Edgar	director3@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Pumpkin party, Casino	Reg & Jane Norby	norby@shaw.ca
Belgravia Playschool Chair	Miranda Dawson	playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Playschool Teacher	Monika Fouad	playschool@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Facilities Director	Ken Goble	facilities@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Hall rental coordinator	Jeanette Boman	mib@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	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.

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

### Wanted: Board Members for Edmonton Ten Thousand Villages Society

We are a board of volunteers who run Village Goods, a Fairtrade, Not For Profit shop on Whyte Avenue. If you want to make a difference to families around the world, join our Board.

Contact Helen McCabe:  
[helenmjmcabe@gmail.com](mailto:helenmjmcabe@gmail.com)  
[info@villagegoods.ca](mailto:info@villagegoods.ca)

## BCL Board Updates

### Upcoming Board Positions

Participating in the Community League is a great way to contribute to our neighbourhood, meet people who are passionate about Belgravia and learn new skills. The following BCL board volunteer positions will become available at the 2021 annual general meeting, to be held in June or September. Terms are for two years. Training, mentorship and job shadow opportunities are available. We welcome co-director arrangements for many positions if you would like to share the role with a partner, and participation by students.

Position	Key Responsibilities
President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oversee operations of the BCL</li><li>• Provide leadership to the board of directors, and executive committee</li><li>• Represent the BCL in interactions with the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues, and other organizations</li><li>• Chair monthly board meetings</li></ul>
Vice President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fill in for president during his/her absence</li><li>• Lead special projects or committees as needed</li><li>• Be willing to take on position of president in 2023</li><li>• Member of executive committee</li></ul>
Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manage annual budget of approximately \$75,000</li><li>• Issue payments as needed</li><li>• Lead ongoing adoption of online payment systems</li><li>• Provide monthly financial reports to board</li><li>• Coordinate annual audit of BCL finances</li><li>• Member of executive committee</li></ul>
Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordinate membership sales at events and through door-to-door sales conducted by a team of volunteers, and online sales through our website. The BCL sells about 450 memberships each year!</li><li>• Manage the membership list (Excel spreadsheet)</li><li>• Lead the review of membership policies and costs as needed</li></ul>
Director at Large	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attend monthly meetings, contribute to board discussions and decisions</li><li>• Take on special projects; support 'portfolio' directors as required</li></ul>
Your choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suggest a new initiative and run with it!</li><li>• This could be a junior, or assistant role.</li></ul>

Please contact Cory Dawson ([president@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:president@belgraviaedmonton.ca)) if you would like more information.



## Community Updates

### Support Nature and Biodiversity in Urban Yards - Free Booklet!

In 2020, BCL partnered with Nature Alberta in a pilot project: The Urban Nature Initiative. The goal of this initiative is to increase biodiversity in urban yards by encouraging homeowners to implement beneficial management practices (BMPs). BMPs include creating a bird bioasis, attracting pollinators, improving soil and more!

If you are interested in learning more about ways you can help to support nature and biodiversity in your yard, email Imogen at [sustainability@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:sustainability@belgraviaedmonton.ca) to arrange delivery/pick up of a booklet.

You can also find the booklet online at:  
<https://naturealberta.ca/support-urban-nature/>

### Abundant Belgravia: Neighbours supporting each other

The BCL recently received a letter from resident Ruth Craig, neatly demonstrating the importance of block connection.

“ A Connected Block in Action ...

On March 6, two households in Belgravia woke up to water in their basements due to a break in the water line by their homes. Without warning, the whole block was suddenly left without water. There was much offering of assistance between neighbors but the crowning gesture occurred when one of our Abundant Belgravia block connectors called EPCOR and discovered water would be delivered only to those households that called. Instead of waiting for that to happen she ordered enough jugs for every house and delivered them around the block - heartwarming! “

When something unexpected like that happens, it is great to have a hyperlocal contact list (a block contact map/list) and that is one of the things block connectors are encouraged to create for their block. Does your block have one? Has it come handy? Share your neighbouring story!

WWW.EDMONTONPIANOTEACHER.COM



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## COMPOST SALE!

Cleanit Greenit's annual Compost Fundraiser Sale is happening on  
**Sat. May 8th 9 - 3PM**  
7222-119 St.

Contact [kirstin@cleanitgreenit.net](mailto:kirstin@cleanitgreenit.net)  
780. 720. 0193

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## Community Litter Pick Up

Monday, May 10th - Saturday, May 15th



- Work together with family members and friends at a time of your choice, to pick up litter in nearby alleyways and shared green spaces.
- Follow City of YEG Safety Guidelines available at:  
[https://www.edmonton.ca/programs\\_services/graffiti\\_litter/cccu-volunteer-safety.aspx](https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/graffiti_litter/cccu-volunteer-safety.aspx)
- We encourage you to use whatever resources you may already have at home, but litter kits provided by the City of Edmonton will also be available for pick up at the BCL Hall on Monday, May 10th (10:00am-2:00pm and 4:00pm-8:00pm)
- You can dispose of collected litter in your residential garbage, or at the waste disposal event in the school parking lot on May 15th.
- Please email us ([director2@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:director2@belgraviaedmonton.ca)) and let us know how many bags of litter you collected so that we can share our results with the community, and set an even bigger goal for our next clean up event!

### FIND Edmonton Donation and Big Bin Waste Disposal Event

**Saturday, May 15th 9:00am - 4:00pm @ Belgravia Elementary School Parking Lot**

- You **will require a BCL membership** to dispose of household waste at this event - please consider purchasing your membership online beforehand.
- Reusing items reduces waste, prevents items from going to landfill, and helps to conserve resources that are required to make new items.
- Your donations will directly support local organizations like FIND Edmonton that benefit our greater community! Please see their list of acceptable donations.
- If you have an item to donate that is not on the list, you can find a not-for-profit that may accept your item using this reuse directory:  
[https://www.edmonton.ca/programs\\_services/garbage\\_waste/reuse-directory.aspx](https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/garbage_waste/reuse-directory.aspx)
- We will NOT be accepting household hazardous wastes (automotive, batteries, chemicals, lighting, paints etc.) which should be taken to an Eco Station for safe handling and proper disposal.
- We will NOT be accepting large appliances, mattresses or automobile tires, as these require additional disposal costs.

Look for more information and reminders via e-blast, website and Facebook announcements. Contact Christina ([director2@belgraviaedmonton.ca](mailto:director2@belgraviaedmonton.ca)) if you have any questions, or if you would like to volunteer for this event. Thank you!

### Belgravia School Update

Belgravia School's grade three students have been busy building things. The activity began during online school in January and continued until the end of March. Everything from mini furniture, interactive things, desk organizational tools and bridges were created. Plasticine animals were made and then zoo enclosures that fit the animal's needs also had to be designed and built. Playground structures with swings, slides, sandpits, a waterslide, and even a ferris wheel were put together with recyclable materials, glue and tape fasteners. Our final project included gluing, painting and varnishing wooden birdhouses. Bright colours were used to attract birds to the wooden structures. While walking through the beautiful Belgravia neighbourhood this spring, look around for some nicely decorated bird houses! The Grade 3 class hopes that you enjoy them and that some birds like them enough to move in! *Check out Page 12 for more pictures!*



## History of Belgravia, Toonerville Trolley - Second Edition

Submitted by Emmett Maxfield

On November 9, 1913, the rail line out to McKernan Lake was completed and service was initiated (Hatcher and Schwarzkopf, 1983). The route of Streetcar No. 1 ran along Whyte Avenue (82nd Avenue), turning south on Main Street (104th), and then proceeding west on a single track along 76th Avenue past McKernan Lake until 116th Street. “One week later, large crowds went skating to McKernan’s Lake, arriving via the “red” car line across the Low Level bridge, the special High Level Bridge cars to the Lake or the regular High Level Bridge cars to 109 Street and Whyte Avenue and walking to the Lake” (Hatcher and Schwarzkopf, 1983).



Streetcar #1, [www.edmonton-radial-railway.ab.ca](http://www.edmonton-radial-railway.ab.ca)

Streetcar No. 1 was set-up for double end operation. This meant that on every trip, the motorman had to unhook and reattach the overhead wire, move the controls to the other end of the car and switch the seat backs so passengers faced in the direction they were travelling (Koller, 2016). The conductor relied on the lanterns and house lights of the residents to know when to stop at night; at times the streetcar collided with the bushes when the lights were forgotten. (Hatcher and Schwarzkopf, 1983)

The conductor and riders of this historic streetcar were colourful characters with eccentric mannerisms leading to the trolley being named after the Toonerville Folks cartoon, becoming the Toonerville Trolley (BCL, 2019). Trolley riders included many University of Alberta professors including W.H. Alexander and E.K. Broadus, who both lived with their families in Belgravia close to the edge of the river valley, pursuing a rustic almost rural lifestyle (BCL, 2019).

The Toonerville Trolley gave Edmontonians access to recreational activities throughout the year such as skating, toboggan slides, cross-country skiing, hockey, and even fireworks (Hatcher and Schwarzkopf, 1983; Koller, 2016).



City of Edmonton Archives EA-449-4 First Streetcar into Strathcona 1908



### The Trolley Today

Today, the Edmonton Radial Railway Society restores and operates historic streetcars (including on occasion, car #1 which has been reoutfitted for single end operation). This volunteer organization has the largest fleet in western Canada. You can re-live some Belgravia history and ride one of these beautifully restored cars at Fort Edmonton Park or across the High Level Bridge.

While COVID -19 public health restrictions have resulted in the closure of operations, the Society hopes to operate streetcar services this summer. Visit: [www.edmonton-radial-railway.ab.ca](http://www.edmonton-radial-railway.ab.ca)

Despite the trolley's five-to-ten-thousand-dollar losses per year, community residents saved the streetcar in 1931 by purchasing high volumes of tickets and dispensing them for free (Koller, 2016). Articles were written to gain votes from the south end of Edmonton to have the Toonerville Trolley remain (Koller, 2016). The Toonerville Trolley was discontinued in August 1947 at which time it was replaced by a bus service. Additionally, Edmontonians had turned to cars for everyday life (BCL, 2019).

#### Sources cited:

- Belgravia Community League (BCL). Grant Proposal for History Book Project. 2019.  
Colin K.Hatcher and Tom Schwarzkopf. Edmonton Radial Railway. Edmonton's Electric Transit: The Story of Edmonton's Streetcars and Trolley Buses. 1983.  
Edmonton Radial Railway. Personal communication 2021.  
Katherine Koller. McKernan's Lost Lake. 2016  
<https://citymuseumedmonton.ca/2016/10/25/mckernans-lost-lake>



## Historical Photo Contest

We had a great response to our request for historical images and have awarded prizes to all submitters!

(Right) Mural at TD Insurance Claim Centre of skaters at Edmonton's South Lake in 1915 (submitted by Anita Nawrocki)



### Skating at Edmonton's South Lake - ca. 1915

Image from the Glenbow Archives, NC- 6 - 1643.  
Mural provided courtesy of TD Insurance.



Toonerville Trolley (submitted by Katherine Koller). The Trolley is featured in this issue of *the Belgravian*.



McKernan Lake Line (Toonerville Trolley), c.1916  
(Old Stathcona Foundation)



(Above) Purpur's Groceteria (submitted by Bernd-Hildebrandt). The site is currently occupied by the Belgravia Hub. (Right) Purpur's sign (submitted by John Murray).





(Right) A house on 74 Ave and Sask Dr. Taken in 1958 (Submitted by Bernd Hildebrandt)



(Left) 1967 University Farm Campus aerial (submitted by Cathy Compston) The farm had originally been on the U of A campus, then moved south. At one time, cows grazed where Belgravia is now! This photo is from July 1967, when the farm was mostly where it is now. Belgravia and the U of A are visible to the north.  
(Below) Aerial view of Belgravia (submitted by Barry Edgar) Image taken in fall of 1976 at 6300m altitude. Note the 114 Street traffic circles.



SW Cultural Centre (submitted by Cathy Compston). The Centre was torn down in January 2000 and is where the Arts Park is now. We understand the building may have originally been built in the 1950s by the Provincial Government as a clinic for children with cerebral palsy.



Edmonton Journal Article (submitted by Cathy Compston). Includes statistics from 1996 with numbers of residents, price of houses, and more that we will share in an upcoming issue.

### Belgravia: quiet and upscale

**By Cathy Compston**

Belgravia is a quiet, upscale neighborhood in the heart of the city. It's a mix of old and new, with a mix of people. The neighborhood is known for its quiet streets and upscale homes. It's a great place to live if you want a quiet, upscale neighborhood in the heart of the city.

### OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

**Belgravia**

Belgravia is a quiet, upscale neighborhood in the heart of the city. It's a mix of old and new, with a mix of people. The neighborhood is known for its quiet streets and upscale homes. It's a great place to live if you want a quiet, upscale neighborhood in the heart of the city.

### Belgravia at a glance

DEMOGRAPHICS	LAND USE
Population: 2,009	Residential: 85.5%
Households: 856	Commercial: 0.0%
Median age: 38	Industrial: 0.0%
Properties sold in last 12 months: 27	Institutional: 12.7%
Highest price: \$240,000	Transportation: 0.0%
Lowest price: \$72,000	Vacant: 0.0%
Average price: \$152,219	Open space: 3.0%
Average income: \$17,750	Undeveloped: 1.2%



(Right) Workers Compensation Board (WCB) Rehabilitation Centre, 1995 (submitted by Carol Cass).  
(Below) WCB Parking Lot photo (submitted by Cathy Compston) the site was redeveloped as single family housing in the early 2000s.



Daisy, Spring 1995



2005 Playground  
(submitted by Katherine Koller). Photos of Sophie and Rebekah Wensel.

End of the World/Keillor Point (submitted by Cathy Compston)  
This is a photo of The End of the World, a viewpoint in the river valley ravine just below where Keillor Point is, with the collapsed Keillor road and the cement buttresses, taken in 2005.





## Meet Your Neighbour Block Connector Spotlight: Luciana Erregue

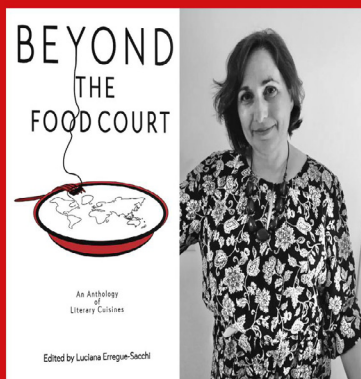
Luciana Erregue (a Canadian-Argentinian poet, writer, editor and art historian) made Belgravia home in 1997. Along with her husband (Mauricio Sacchi, a professor in the Department of Physics at the University of Alberta), she has raised two children, Federico (27) and Bianca (24), both scientists, in our community.

Luciana immigrated to Edmonton 27 years ago from Argentina where she grew up under a military dictatorship and studied Law. After spending time as a stay-home mom, she returned to school, completing back-to-back undergraduate and graduate studies in Art History and Italian at the University of Alberta (2016). Her work has appeared in many international literary publications (Your Impossible Voice (US), The Selkie (UK)) and Canadian anthologies (Looking Back, Moving Forward, Mawenzi House, 2018; Beyond the Food Court, Laberinto Press, 2020). In 2019, she was selected as Artist in Residence for Action for Healthy Communities, a partnership with the Edmonton Arts Council. She is a Banff Centre Literary Arts alumni and maintains her blog SpectatorCurator where she muses on her career and life as a Latinx immigrant in Canada.

Luciana is an activist for diversity in Canadian publishing and she enjoys supporting and collaborating with other artists. That is why in 2020 she established Laberinto Press, the first indie publisher in Western Canada that focuses on underrepresented, ESL writing, and World literature in translation. Their first book, Beyond the Food Court: an Anthology of Literary Cuisines is a collection of 14 non-fiction essays about food showcasing authors from all over the world who call Canada home. Stay tuned for the second anthology, Beyond the Gallery: an Anthology of Visual Encounters, due out in 2021. For more information on this interesting anthology and to see the diversity of stories and cultures included, please see: [laberintopress.com](http://laberintopress.com)

When Luciana is not writing or publishing, she is painting and taking walks along the River Valley and the Belgravia Arts Park with neighbourhood friends, or her husband. Her favourite thing about Belgravia is the combination of being in the city, close to the amenities of Whyte Ave, the LRT, and the tranquil rhythm of the place, with its closeness to parks and trails, and as of late, the arrival of Mood Café!

Pictured is Luciana with her family on vacation in Vancouver ten years ago, and a snapshot of her book and excerpt of her anthology.



"I am the designated cebadora, a five-year-old, making sure the water spills in the centre of the mate gourd, filled three quarters with yerba, and one quarter with sugar, the mate plant sticks floating in the cold water."

Luciana Erregue: "Pen Portraits With Mate and Asado"

# Junior Belgravians! This page is just for you!

## Mother's Day Word Search

R	G	G	C	C	U	H	F	F	G
C	H	O	C	O	L	A	R	E	S
O	F	B	D	T	B	N	F	O	G
V	L	M	R	E	S	A	C	S	I
L	O	V	E	U	F	E	C	G	F
G	W	G	H	L	N	L	E	U	T
S	E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C
F	R	E	H	T	O	M	H	G	M
F	S	K	N	A	H	T	T	H	8
A	P	P	R	E	C	I	A	T	E

Mother  
Appreciate  
Clean

Chocolates  
Brunch  
Gift

Thanks  
Flowers

Love  
Hugs

## Did you know?

The Canadian Tulip Festival was established to celebrate a historic gift of \_\_\_\_\_ p \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_\_ to Canadians following the \_\_\_\_\_ War as a symbol of f \_\_\_\_\_ p \_\_\_\_\_. The Festival honours the role played by C \_\_\_\_\_ troops in the liberation of the \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ and E \_\_\_\_\_, and also commemorates the birth of D \_\_\_\_\_ P \_\_\_\_\_ cess Margriet in \_\_\_\_\_ t \_\_\_\_\_ during World War \_\_\_\_\_—the only royal person ever born in \_\_\_\_\_ n \_\_\_\_\_. Every \_\_\_\_\_, the N \_\_\_\_\_ continues to present C \_\_\_\_\_ with 20,000 \_\_\_\_\_ u \_\_\_\_\_.

From May 14- 24, you can participate virtually in the Festival. Visit: [www.tulipfestival.ca](http://www.tulipfestival.ca)

