



THE Belgravian

April 2025

BELGRAVIA COMMUNITY LEAGUE

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Website: belgraviaedmonton.ca
Facebook: [belgraviaedmonton](https://www.facebook.com/belgraviaedmonton)

This newsletter is published within Treaty 6 Territory and the Métis homelands and Métis Nation of Alberta Region 4. We acknowledge this land as the traditional territories of many First Nations such as the Nêhiyaw (Cree), Denesuliné (Dené), Nakota Sioux (Stoney), Anishinaabe (Saulteaux) and Niitsitapi (Blackfoot).

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Next submission deadline: **June 16, 2025**

About Our Newsletter

2025 NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

ISSUE	SUBMIT BY	DELIVERY
February	Jan 13	Jan 25/26
April	Mar 24	Apr 5/6
July	June 16	June 28/29
October	Sept 15	Sep 27/28
December	Nov 17	Nov 29/30

Published by the Belgravia Community League (BCL), *The Belgravian* connects you with community news, programs, events and other developments in and around the Belgravia area. We deliver 1,100 copies to homes in Belgravia. You can also read *The Belgravian* online: belgraviaedmonton.ca/newsletter

SEND US YOUR STORIES

Article submissions are subject to editorial discretion and available space. To submit an article, contact: newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca

ADVERTISE WITH US

Submit ads to: newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Ad formats: PDF, JPG, PNG, TIFF

Ad Payment Methods

E-transfer: treasurer@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Include message: "Newsletter Ad"

Cheque: make payable to "Belgravia Community League"
Mail to: Belgravia Community League, P.O. Box 52202, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2T5

Rates: Get a 10% discount for multiple ads paid in advance.

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8.5 cm x 6 cm

1/4 page (vertical)
8.5 cm x 12 cm

1/2 page (horizontal)
18 cm x 12 cm

All businesses
BCL Member: \$25
Non-Member: \$50

Belgravia, McKernan, Windsor Park businesses only
BCL Member: \$50
Non-Member: \$75

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Board & Committee Contacts

BCL BOARD MEMBERS		
President	Michael Cohen	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca
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Belmac Soccer Coordinator	Mike Blennerhassett	belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com

Get Involved: Become a Member

Belgravia Community League (BCL) owns and operates the community hall and rink, built the playgrounds by Belgravia School, and developed and maintains the Arts Park – all on land leased from the City of Edmonton. For over 70 years, BCL has provided engaging programs and activities, and represented our neighbourhood interests to City Council on neighbourhood densification, transportation and other issues. You can support your community by buying a membership and volunteering.

BCL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- BCL Hall rental privileges and member rates
- Member advertising rates for *The Belgravian* newsletter
- Member rates for programs at the BCL Hall
- Complimentary access to select BCL events such as the annual Community League Day BBQ, Halloween party, and Holiday Market
- Option to sign up for member email updates with timely BCL news between newsletter issues
- Participation in kids' city soccer and hockey (S.W.A.T.) programs
- Discounts for passes and monthly memberships at City of Edmonton recreation facilities through the Community League Wellness Pass

THINKING OF SELLING?

Scan here for a no obligation market evaluation of your home with QR Code.

PATTI
780.909.5140
patti@proctorteam.com

CHRIS
780.709.0811
chris@proctorteam.com

PROCTOR TEAM

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BELGRAVIA

The BCL Needs You!

NEW BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED FOR THE BCL

It's a great time to join the BCL board of directors! We have a beautiful, renovated hall, lots of money in the bank, a popular slate of programs and special events, ideas for new capital projects including a skating rink renewal, and a current roster of dedicated and welcoming directors.

Some of our directors have been in their positions for several years and are ready to pass the torch. They have lots of experience and are eager to help new directors settle into their positions. The timing is perfect for new people join the board and build on the league's longstanding success. Please consider volunteering for your community!

To apply for one of these positions, contact president@belgraviaedmonton.ca

PRESIDENT

This is a great volunteer role for someone who enjoys networking with neighbours and others in Edmonton, leading a team, and handling diverse responsibilities. Michael Cohen has been president for seven of the past nine years and, while he loves the job, he's ready for a well-deserved break.

VICE PRESIDENT

The VP position is currently vacant. We'd love to have someone begin in this position and prepare to take over as President when ready. The VP can take on various responsibilities according to their interests.

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

There's always a lot happening at the Hall – see our program list starting on the following page of this newsletter. The programs director attracts program providers to our hall and facilitates their interaction with the community. The programs director also works with teams of volunteers to stage special events such as Community League Day, the Big Bin Event, and Family Day. Jeanette Boman, our current director, has everything running smoothly and plans to devote her energies to other projects.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Be the next editor of *The Belgravian*, our community's beloved newsletter! The communications director helps spread the message about the BCL by providing strategic advice to the board and overseeing our various communications channels. This includes managing our website and social media, and producing our newsletter and e-blast content. Lou Morin, our current communications director, has moved to Victoria. But she graciously manages this position remotely from the traditional lands of the Lekwungen people while we search for her successor.

The communications director can recruit other volunteers to share the responsibilities of this role. This is a great opportunity for those with an interest in storytelling, writing, editing and digital communications.

Editor's note: It's been a thrill to work with the talented, enthusiastic writers in this community!



BCL News: Zoning and the Future of Belgravia

by Kevin Taft

In January 2024, city council's new zoning bylaws and district plans came into force, and they have major consequences for Belgravia. A community discussion held at the Belgravia Community League Hall on March 11 was well attended by residents who brought up their concerns.

Two streams of changes flow from council's decisions:

RESIDENTIAL SMALL ZONE

The first stream comes because of the new RS (Residential Small) zone. The RS zone covers virtually all the single-family homes in Belgravia, replacing the previous RF1 zone. The changes are substantial. Perhaps the biggest change is that one "residential unit" can be built per 75 square meters of property. A 50 x130 ft lot, a common size in Belgravia, covers 603 square meters, which means 8 residential units can be built there. Each unit has a kitchen, bathroom, and up to 3 bedrooms, so more than 20 residents can live in one of these buildings.

The new RS zone also:

- raises the maximum building height by 1.6 meters (5 feet)
- allows buildings to cover more of the lot
- removes regulations for window locations and basement elevation
- eliminates the need for front setbacks to be consistent with neighbours

In addition, processes for neighbour consultations and appeals have been removed, so neighbours have no say on what's built beside them. There is no requirement to provide parking, and buildings do not need to be oriented to the front street. A number of these RS buildings are underway in Belgravia. Under the new zoning bylaw, their approval is virtually automatic.

RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM ZONES

The second stream of change flows from the increased opportunity for developers to rezone properties to higher density zones than RS, such as RSM and RM (Residential Medium). These zones allow buildings of 3 to 8 stories and are guided by the city's new District Plans and District Policy, especially sections 2.5.2.5 and 2.5.2.6 of the District Policy. Rezoning applications must go to a public hearing of city council.

Higher zones are allowed near collector and arterial roads and within 100 meters of corridors. In Belgravia there are 3 collector roads:

- all of 76 Avenue
- 18 Street south of 76 Avenue to 73 Avenue
- Saskatchewan Drive from 76 Avenue to University Avenue

And we are bounded by 3 arterial roads:

- University Avenue
- 114 Street
- Belgravia Road

In addition, 114 Street is designated a secondary corridor, as is 76 Avenue from 114 to 116 Streets.

See the zone map on page 8.

BCL News: Zoning and the Future of Belgravia (continued)

KEY IMPLICATIONS

The City Plan, Zoning Bylaw and District Plan and Policy are online, but they are complicated. For Belgravia, the following key implications are clear:

1. Because they are on collector roads across from green spaces and parks, all of Saskatchewan Drive from 76 Avenue to University Avenue (much of 118 Street between 76 Avenue and 73 Avenue), and portions of 76 Avenue west of 118 Street, may be open for rezoning to 3-storey-or-more apartment and condo buildings.
2. Many corner lots adjacent to or across from a park or green space may be open for rezoning to 3-storey-or-more apartment and condo buildings.
3. Most lots along University Avenue, and presumably lots along Belgravia Road east of 116 Street, are open to rezoning to 3-storey-or-more apartment and condo buildings.
4. Every property within a 400-meter radius of the LRT station is open to 3-storey-or-more rezonings. As a reference point, 400 meters is 1,320 feet, about the distance from the traffic lights to half a block west of St. Paul's Church.
5. Every property within 100 meters (330 feet) of 114 Street, or within 100 meters of 76 Avenue from the traffic lights to the church, is open to 3-storey-or-more development.

Given the speed of applications – several RS eightplexes were underway at the time this newsletter was printed, plus 6 rezonings, and projects previously approved such as Metro 78 and Belgravia Heights on 76 Avenue – Belgravia could be unrecognizable within a few years.

RESOURCES

www.edmonton.ca/city_government/urban_planning_and_design/about-district-policy-plans

Situate is a local consulting firm that provides services for infill developers. Visit the Resources section of their website: situateinc.ca/resources/

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

You can direct your questions or concerns about zoning in Belgravia to city council.

Send a message to all city councillors via the city clerk. Be sure to say you want your message shared with all members of council:

- Email: city.clerk@edmonton.ca

Contact councillor Michael Janz:

- Email: Michael.janz@edmonton.ca
- Phone: 780-496-8146

BCL News: Zoning and the Future of Belgravia (continued)

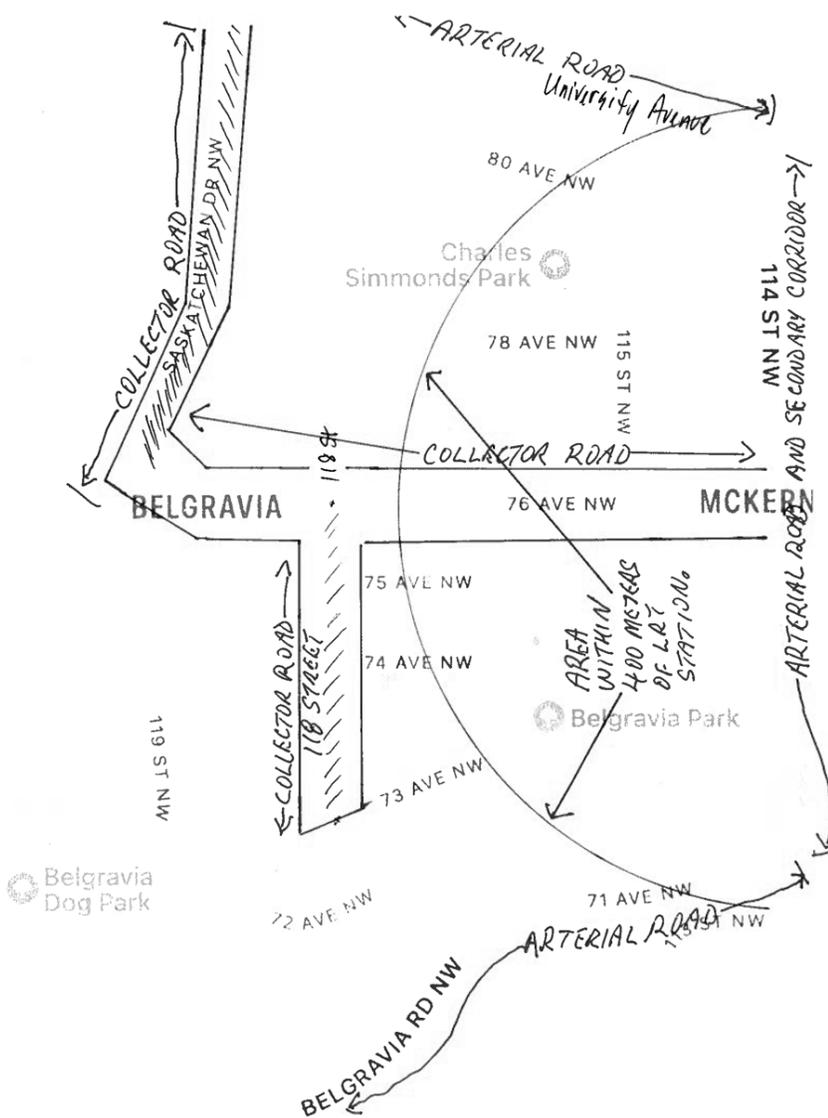


Diagram of Residential Medium (RM) zones in Belgravia. Image credit: Kevin Taft

Excerpts from City of Edmonton District Policy

2.5.2.5 Support **Low Rise** development (residential, commercial or mixed use) in locations outside of **Nodes** and **Corridors** that meet at least one of the following criteria:

- On corner sites at the edge of the neighbourhood where the block face fronts onto an **Arterial Roadway** or **Collector Roadway**,
- On or adjacent to sites zoned for greater than **Small Scale** development or for commercial or mixed use development and along an **Arterial Roadway** or **Collector Roadway**, or
- Within 400 metres of **Mass Transit Stations** and along an **Arterial Roadway** or **Collector Roadway**.

2.5.2.6 Consider additional scale in locations that meet at least two of the following criteria:

- In a **Node or Corridor Area** or within 100 metres of a **Node or Corridor Area**,
- Within 400 metres of a **Mass Transit Station**,
- Along an **Arterial Roadway** or a **Collector Roadway**,
- At a corner site or adjacent to a park or open space, and/or
- Adjacent to a site zoned for greater than **Small Scale** development.

Programs at the BCL Hall

Spring is in full swing at the Hall, soon to be followed by green things sprouting across Belgravia! Connect with neighbours and start moving by signing up for a course. As details can change, see the latest schedule at: belgraviaedmonton.ca/programs

ACTIVITY	DATE, TIME & PLACE	FEE	REGISTRATION CONTACT
Pilaga	Mondays: April 7–June 23 8:30–9:30 am	BCL/Non-BCL rates Drop-ins	Susan Middleton: pilatestoday@yahoo.ca
Soapstone Carving Club	Mondays (except holidays): 7–9 pm	Set by group	Lorne Wensel: lorne@wensel.ca
Girl Guides	Mondays: 6:30–8:30 pm	Set by Girl Guides Canada	Christine Schneider: discoveringthefun@gmail.com
Boot Camp	Tuesdays: 7–8 am Thursdays: 6:30–7:30 am	Drop-in \$15	Emma Klein: ecklein@ualberta.ca
Matt Yoga with Elise Ure	Tuesdays: Mar 18–April 29 Thursdays: Mar 20–May 9:45–10:45 am	\$85 BCL/\$90 Non- BCL Drop-in \$15	Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Fit for Life with Elise Ure	Tuesdays: Mar 18–April 29 Thursdays: Mar 20–May 1 11 am–Noon	\$85 BCL/\$90 Non- BCL Drop-in \$15	Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
BCL Knitters	Wednesdays: 7–9 pm Community Living Room, BCL Hall	BCL Membership	Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Sound Bath with Bev Ross	Last class on Apr 30 (room for drop-ins) 7–8:30 pm	\$30 BCL/\$35 Non- BCL drop-in rates	Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Music & Movement: Dinosaurs!	Wednesdays: April 2–May 28 10:15–11 am	Set by teacher	Nancy Hunt: nancysnotesmusic@gmail.com
Belgravia Walking Club	Wednesdays: 10 am Meet at playground area by Upper Hall	Open to all walkers in the community	Cam McGregor: cam.mcgregor@shaw.ca
NIA Fitness	Thursdays: April 24–May 29 7–8 pm	\$72 BCL/\$90 Non- BCL \$15 BCL/\$20 Non- BCL drop-in rates	Kirsten Bartel: fleurishmovement@gmail.com
Essentrics® with Sharlene Stayberg	Fridays: April 11–May 30 (no class April 25) 12 noon–1 pm	\$85 BCL/\$90 Non- BCL \$15 BCL/\$20 Non- BCL drop-in rates	Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Zumba	Saturdays: April 12–May 3 9:30–10:30 am	BCL/Non-BCL rates Drop ins	Allison Moore: moore4movement@gmail.com

ACTIVITY	DATE, TIME & PLACE	FEE	REGISTRATION CONTACT
Friday Night Movies	6:30–8 pm, Upper Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2: Harold and the Purple Crayon • June 13: Inside Out 2 	Drop in, parents or guardians to stay with kids 12 and under. Popcorn, cookie & juice box concession stand.	Scott MacLean, Arianne Fielding & Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Edmonton Insight Meditation (EMI)	3rd Saturday of month starting Jan 18 8:30 am–12:30 pm	Open to all Belgravia residents Fee set by EMI	Janet Smith: smithjanet166@gmail.com
Sunday Potluck Dinner & Cooking Demo	Sunday, May 25 (Featured ingredient: Nuts) 5–7 pm	Bring your own vegetarian dish to share	Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca
Pedalheads	June 28–July 11 8:30 am–4 pm	Set by Pedalheads	Jeanette Boman: programs@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIES AT THE HALL

When: Fridays, 6:30–8 pm

Where: BCL Upper Hall

Remember to bring your pillows and a couple of loonies for snacks and drinks! Note that parents or guardians must stay with kids 12 and under.

Upcoming movies:

- May 2: *Harold and the Purple Crayon*
- June 13: *Inside Out 2*

PLANT-BASED COOKING DEMO & POTLUCK

When: Sunday, May 25, 5–7 pm

Where: Upper BCL Hall

Cooking demo theme: Nuts

RSVP: mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca

The next food-themed demo & potluck evening takes place on May 25th and will feature nuts. Watch a cooking demonstration covering easy recipes, then enjoy a potluck meal with your neighbours. Bring your favourite vegetarian dish and recipe to share after the demo. Please also bring your own cup, plate and cutlery.

NEW PROGRAM: ESSENTRICS® CLASSES

When: Fridays, April 11–May 30 (no class April 25), 12 noon–1 pm

Where: BCL Upper Hall

Essentrics® is a dynamic full-body workout that draws on the flowing movements of tai chi and the strengthening theories of ballet for improving balance, flexibility, strength and an overall sense of well-being. Suitable for men and women of all ages, low-impact and equipment-free except for a yoga matt and water bottle. Facilitated by Sharlene Stayberg, Belgravia resident and certified Essentrics® teacher. See the Programs table above for registration details.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our well-attended Cooking Demo & Potluck evenings have produced a bounty of delicious plant-based recipes. We're looking forward to sharing some of these recipes with you in the next instalment of *The Belgravian*.

Upcoming Events

MIB: FOOD REVOLUTION SUMMIT DOCUMENTARY SCREENINGS

Embark on an enlightening journey about health, wellness, and our planet as Monika Fouad presents a captivating series of documentary screenings from the 2024 Food Revolution Summit. Monika has selected six films from the series to stimulate our thinking about pressing health and environmental issues facing the world.

Where: Upper BCL Hall

When: 7 pm–9 pm (Doors open at 6:45 pm)

Open to all: a small donation is appreciated to support this event and the plant-based snacks and tea

RSVP: To help us prepare, please contact mib@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Register today for one or more of the following screenings:

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Beyond The Deception: Exposing Big Agriculture, Big Food, and Big Pharma – and reclaiming our Path to Wellness

These sectors, though established to serve the public, often put profit before people's health and well-being. We aim to expose these industries' hidden practices and empower you to navigate beyond their influence and make informed decisions that truly benefit your health and well-being.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

The Brain Episode: How diet and lifestyle can help you think clearer, feel better & prevent Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's rates are set to triple and mental health issues are on the rise. This documentary explores the vital link between lifestyle and brain health. Learn from renowned doctors and researchers about the impact of diet on conditions like depression and anxiety, and how to enhance brain health and reduce cognitive decline.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Beauty and Vitality: How to create beauty from the inside out

Global dermatology, health, and wellness experts discuss the harmful practices and unrealistic standards set by social media and the beauty industry. Explore strategies to avoid these harmful attitudes and products and ways to enhance your natural beauty.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

Heartbeat of Life: How diet and lifestyle can end the world's #1 killer

Nearly 18 million lives are claimed each year by heart-related conditions. Learn about the power of nutrition in preventing and possibly reversing heart disease, and how leading experts are pioneering innovative approaches to heart health through the foods we eat.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

The science of Nutrition: Exploring comprehensive studies, hot controversies, and the critical nutrients you need

Dive into the science and the controversies surrounding nutrition. For example, do some people need animal products or supplements to be healthy? Which vitamins, minerals, and other nutrients should we be mindful of? Do we get enough protein- and what kind of protein is best? Do we need fish to get enough omega-3 fatty acids? Is grass-fed beef healthier?

WEDNESDAY JUNE 11

The future of Life on Earth: How to be part of the solution with the food on your plate

Witness the powerful relationship between our dietary choices and the fate of our planet. This film highlights the potential of individual actions to reduce environmental impacts and foster global change.

Join us for a Pilgrimage Walk

You're invited to take part in a special *Pilgrimage for Reconciliation and Renewal* led by Lewis Cardinal. Lewis is project manager for kihcihkaw askî-Sacred Land Ceremonial Site, Canada's first designated urban Indigenous ceremonial and cultural grounds.

EVENT DETAILS

- **Date:** Sunday, May 4, 2025, 12–4 pm
- **Starting point:** 12 pm at St. Paul's Church
- **Route:** We'll walk from St. Paul's along the North Saskatchewan River, visiting natural springs and an ochre site before arriving at kihcihkaw askî – located just off the Whitemud Ravine near Fort Edmonton Park.
- **Ending point:** The pilgrimage will end with traditional teachings and a feast.

WHAT TO KNOW

- The pilgrimage will take 4–5 hours.
- The walk takes place in the river valley, so wear comfortable walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing.
- Limited parking is available at the destination site, located at 14141 Fox Drive NW.

We hope you'll join us on this meaningful journey.

To register, scan the QR code below or contact Shirley Perry:

- 825-439-7960
- stbperry@shaw.ca



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Recent Events

FRIDAY NIGHTS IN & AROUND THE HALL

by Irene Andersson

FEBRUARY 7: SKATE AND FIRE SOCIAL

This past winter, BCL volunteers created memorable opportunities for Belgravians to break from hibernating and chase the long winter away. On February 7, a cold winter evening was warmed by a crackling wood fire and friendly neighbours. Over 25 adults and kids showed up to skate and hang out. We roasted marshmallows and drank hot chocolate (compliments of BCL) while some roasted hot dogs over the flames. The \$2 that was charged per sausage collected \$46 towards the rink renewal project! *The Wild Robot* movie played upstairs, complimenting the outdoor activities. The combination made for a cozy evening in and around our amazing community space.

MARCH 21: FREE PLAY AT THE HALL & FIREPIT

Spring was in the air on March 21st when the neighbourhood was invited to free play with a variety of equipment including stacking cups, bowling, balls, spike ball, kindly borrowed from the UofA thanks to Christina Lau. We also roasted hot dogs over the fire pit (the toonies collected added up to \$38 towards the rink renewal project), and enjoyed hot chocolate (compliments of BCL) to fight off the slight chill. *The Garfield Movie* drew a large crowd in the upper hall.

Thank you to all who helped made these two events run smoothly!



Feature: Preserving Belgravia Trees

By Katherine Koller

On our walks in the neighbourhood, my husband and I take note of new demolition and construction projects. We pay close attention to the trees on the lots – especially those on public property that are protected by City of Edmonton bylaws.

REPORT TREE BYLAW VIOLATIONS

When we see a demolition permit posted but no tree protection or fencing, we report it by calling 311 and choosing the bylaw option. A bylaw officer will ask for the address of the site in question and your phone number, and a City Urban Forester will later visit the site and share their assessment with you.

Builders are required to have a **Public Tree Permit** and a preservation plan *before* starting any work within five metres of a public tree. Protected trees must also be enclosed by a specific barrier, as described in the City's **Boulevard Tree Protection Zone** guide – but we rarely see these barriers.

OUR DWINDLING TREE CANOPY

We're concerned because so many trees are being removed from private property due to infill construction. The City's goal is to reach 20% tree canopy coverage, up from 13% in 2012. Our neighbourhood was at 30%, but McKernan (33%) and Windsor Park (34%) both surpassed Belgravia's coverage. According to Edmonton-based educator and master gardener Dustin Bajer, 56% of Edmonton's tree canopy grows on private property. In Belgravia, that number is shrinking as trees are removed for infill construction.

At 11618 77 Avenue, an arborist told me that he'd "just cut down the most beautiful oak tree" he had ever seen. The stump was 90 cm wide at ground level and only 90 cm from the side fence. Although city rules require a 1.2 m side setback, this tree was just 60 cm over that – and likely less at breast height. Yet it still came down. Another mature tree nearby could also have been saved. I believe heritage trees should be assessed by a City Urban Forester to determine if construction could proceed without removing them. In total, five mature trees were removed from that site, which will be redeveloped into eight townhouse units.

DONATE YOUR LIVE TREES

If you're selling your home and are worried your trees may be removed, consider donating them to the City for replanting on public lands. Edmonton accepts up to 20 trees per year through its **Tree Donation Program**. Trees must be healthy, well-shaped, and between 8-20 cm in diameter at chest height. They also need 2.4 m of clearance for removal equipment. The City doesn't accept Poplar, Manitoba Maple, fruit trees, Cedars or Junipers.

OUR TREES ARE OUR NEIGHBORS, TOO

Let's protect them.

Boulevard Tree Protection Zone:

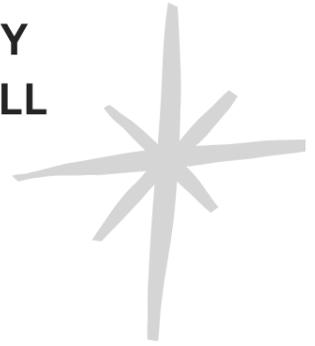
www.edmonton.ca/sites/default/files/public-files/LA101A_Boulevard-Tree-Protection-Zone.pdf?cb=1742850036





Bike Fest

BELGRAVIA
COMMUNITY
LEAGUE HALL



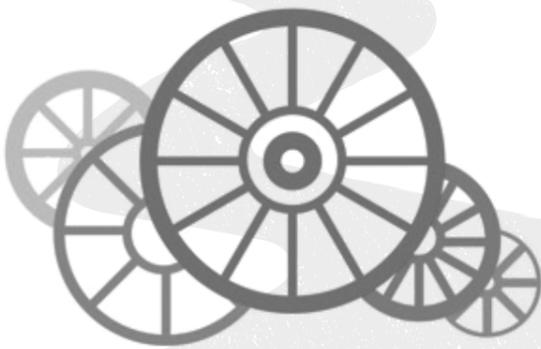
1-4
PM

SATURDAY
MAY 10

Celebrate spring cycling season!

Get help tuning your bike for spring riding and join in the festivities:

- Bike obstacle course & Tour de Belgravia
- Tours of local bike routes
- Buy/Sell/Swap bikes & accessories
- Show and Shine your ride and accessories
- Door prizes
- Membership sales
- Food & refreshments



For more info or to help:

abundantbelgravia@belgraviaedmonton.ca

BELGRAVIA COMMUNITY LEAGUE PRESENTS