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# ELBOW VALLEY COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

	Pro	perties	Median Price			
	Liste	d Sold	Listed	Sold		
December 2	<b>2</b> 1	0	\$0	\$0		
November 2	2 4	3	\$1,488,000	\$1,440,000		
October 2	<b>2</b> 3	2	\$1,167,500	\$1,152,500		
September 2	<b>2</b> 1	4	\$1,374,000	\$1,275,000		
August 2	<b>2</b> 3	4	\$1,449,500	\$1,418,000		
July 2	<b>2</b> 4	2	\$1,435,000	\$1,382,500		
June 2	<b>2</b> 9	8	\$1,589,500	\$1,534,000		
May 2	<b>2</b> 7	4	\$1,442,600	\$1,415,000		
April 2	2 11	8	\$1,368,944	\$1,378,500		
March 2	2 7	7	\$1,399,000	\$1,410,000		
February 2	<b>2</b> 7	9	\$1,495,000	\$1,427,300		
January 2	<b>2</b> 6	5	\$1,298,000	\$1,241,875		

To view more detailed information that comprise the above MLS averages please visit elbv.mycalgary.com

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# Decluttering? Tips for Selling Your Used Items Online

From the Better Business Bureau

The start of a new year is a great time to clean out your home and organize your living spaces. But what should you do with the gently used clothing, furniture, home items, or electronics that you aren't using anymore? Fortunately, online marketplaces, such as Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace, Ebay, and Poshmark, make it easy to sell without even leaving your home.

That said, there are a few perils to selling used items online. To avoid the dangers and to successfully make sales, BBB recommends the following tips.

#### **How to Stay Safe When Making Online Sales**

#### Choose an appropriate platform

Nerdwallet recommends that "before you sell stuff online to make extra money, determine the ideal venue for your goods." There are dozens of online marketplaces to choose from, but many of them focus on a specific kind of used goods, such as electronics or designer clothing. Before you create an account with a marketplace, make sure it is a good fit for the kind of goods you want to sell.

#### Know the worth of your items and price appropriately

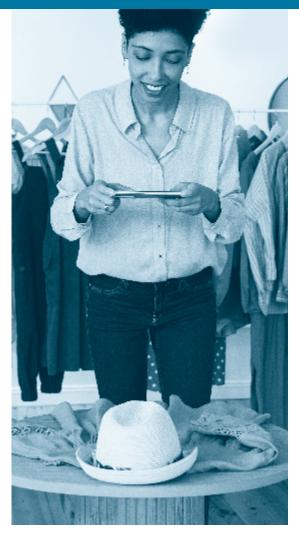
To determine the value of an item you want to sell, Consumer Reports suggests searching for similar items on the site where you plan to list. If you are selling an item that was never used and is still in its original packaging, remember that technically it is still coming to the buyer second-hand, so you'll need to charge a little less than the original retail value if you want to make a sale.

#### Watch out for shady buyers

Con artists often pose as buyers in scams. Sometimes they offer to overpay for an item, but that's not their only tactic. Beware of buyers who ask you to make transactions outside of the selling platform or those who ask for personal information, such as your banking information.

#### Be extra cautious when making local sales

Some platforms allow you to meet up with people in your local area to exchange your item for cash in person. While this can be an effective way to sell big items and



avoid marketplace fees, use caution when meeting up with strangers. Don't be quick to give them your home address, instead ask buyers to meet you in a safe place, such as outside your local police department. Never meet up with a buyer you don't know alone. Always bring your partner or a friend to make the transaction.

#### Always protect your personal information

As you sell items online, keep your sensitive personal information under lock and key. Avoid communicating with buyers outside of the online platform you are using to make the sale and don't give out your home address, phone number, or email address.



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## BRAIN SUDOKU

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FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 10

#### **MENTAL HEALTH MOMENT**

## **An Exercise in Building Intimacy**

by Nancy Bergeron, RPsych | info@nancybergeron.ca



The person we often crave to feel most known by is our partner. This is the person with whom we share the most intimate details of our lives. It's the person who sees us at our best and our worst. The one who knows our history and is a primary part of our future.

We want them to know us, to really know us, and these questions can help. Dr. Catron says, "Most of us think about love as something that happens to us, we fall and sometimes we get crushed. But what I like about this study is how it assumes that love is an action."

This activity should be done at a slow pace and should last at least 45 minutes.

Grab a couple of comfortable chairs and place them facing each other. Knees should be about a foot or so away from each other. Turn off phones and all other distractions.

- 1. Given the choice of anyone in the world, whom would you want as a dinner guest?
- 2. Would you like to be famous? In what way?
- 3. Before making a telephone call, do you ever rehearse what you are going to say? Why?
- 4. What would constitute a "perfect" day for you?
- 5. When did you last sing to yourself? To someone else?
- 6. If you were able to live to the age of 90 and retain either the mind or body of a 30-year-old for the last 60 years of your life, which would you want?

- 7. Do you have a secret hunch about how you will die?
- 8. Name three things you and your partner appear to have in common.
- 9. For what in your life do you feel most grateful?
- 10. If you could change anything about the way you were raised, what would it be?
- 11. Take four minutes and tell your partner your life story in as much detail as possible.
- 12. If you could wake up tomorrow having gained any one quality or ability, what would it be?
- 13. If a crystal ball could tell you the truth about yourself, your life, the future, or anything else, what would you want to know?
- 14. Is there something that you've dreamed of doing for a long time? Why haven't you done it?
- 15. What is the greatest accomplishment of your life?
- 16. What do you value most in a friendship?
- 17. What is your most treasured memory?
- 18. What is your most terrible memory?
- 19. If you knew that in one year you would die suddenly, would you change anything about the way you are now living? Why?
- 20. What does friendship mean to you?

- 21. What roles do love and affection play in your life?
- 22. Alternate sharing something you consider a positive characteristic of your partner. Share a total of five items.
- 23. How close and warm is your family? Do you feel your childhood was happier than most other people's?
- 24. How do you feel about your relationship with your mother?
- 25. Make three true "we" statements each. For instance, "We are both in this room feeling \_\_\_\_\_."
- 26. Complete this sentence: "I wish I had someone with whom I could share "."
- 27. If you were going to become a close friend with your partner, please share what would be important for him or her to know.
- 28. Tell your partner what you like about them; be very honest this time, saying things that you might not say to someone you've just met.
- 29. Share with your partner an embarrassing moment in your life.
- 30. When did you last cry in front of another person? By yourself?
- 31. Tell your partner something that you like about them already.
- 32. What, if anything, is too serious to be joked about?
- 33. If you were to die this evening with no opportunity to communicate with anyone, what would you most regret not having told someone? Why haven't you told them yet?
- 34. Your house, containing everything you own, catches fire. After saving your loved ones and pets, you have time to safely make a final dash to save any one item. What would it be? Why?
- 35. Of all the people in your family, whose death would you find most disturbing? Why?
- 36. Share a personal problem and ask your partner's advice on how he or she might handle it. Also, ask your partner to reflect back to you how you seem to be feeling about the problem you have chosen.

Now that you are done asking and answering questions, look into each other's eyes for four minutes (try not to giggle too much).

The formal activity is complete. Now, talk about how this exercise made you both feel.

# The Northernmost Settlement



Alert, Nunavut (Qikiqtaaluk Region) is the northernmost settlement in the entire world; this scientific and military hub is only 817 kilometres from the North

Pole! February is typically Alert's coldest month and unbelievably, their record temperature low is -50 °C. I don't know about you, but Calgary isn't sounding so bad in comparison!



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### **February Is Heart Month**

Do you know the signs and symptoms of a heart attack and what to do if someone experiences these? Knowing may make the difference between life and death. Recognizing and responding immediately to the warning signs of a potential heart attack may significantly improve survival and recovery. February is Heart Month: take the time to be heart safe and learn how you can reduce your risk.

#### **Common Signs of a Heart Attack**

(Any, or all, of these signs and symptoms may occur)

- Chest discomfort described as simply a mild pressure up to a 'crushing' pain; may also be 'squeezing' or a 'heavy' sensation.
- Discomfort may move to the shoulders, arm, neck, or jaw.
- May include shortness of breath, sweating, or nausea/ vomiting.
- Signs may vary person to person and can differ between men, women, and the elderly.

#### **Heart Attack Risk Factors**

- Obesity\*
- Sedentary lifestyle\*
- Smoking\*
- · High cholesterol\*
- Age/Gender
- Family history

Speak with your doctor about how to treat your modifiable (\*) risk factors and learn to be heart safe.

#### What To Do When Seconds Count

- Call 911, immediately. Early treatment can greatly reduce heart damage and be the difference between life and death.
- Treatment starts the moment EMS arrives. Paramedics can provide oxygen, start an intravenous, and perform an electrocardiogram (ECG).
- Paramedics can also administer important medication(s) in the early minutes of a heart attack to lessen heart damage.
- During transport, EMS will share information with the hospital so that definitive treatment can begin immediately upon arrival.
- Take a CPR/AED course. Training is widely available from many reputable organizations. It's easy and could make a significant difference in the outcome of someone experiencing a heart attack.

#### **TAKE ON WELLNESS**

#### **Overcaffeinated?**

Many people don't realize that caffeine is a drug. It's a stimulant that's found in many types of pain and cold medicine, as well as in foods and drinks, including coffee, tea, chocolate, some energy drinks, and some painkillers.

#### What Are the Short-Term Effects?

The effects of caffeine usually start within five to 30 minutes and can last from eight to 12 hours.

Larger amounts of caffeine can:

- cause shaking
- · make you have trouble sleeping
- · make you very agitated
- cause a fast, irregular heartbeat (might feel like your heart is racing)
- · make you feel irritable, restless, and nervous

People who have panic attacks shouldn't use large amounts of caffeine. It can trigger nervousness and anxiety, and they might be more sensitive to its effects.

It's rare for adults to die from a caffeine overdose. However, children can die from as little as one gram of caffeine. A single cup of coffee contains between 40 and 180 mg.

Caffeine doesn't decrease your appetite so there's no point in using it to diet or decrease your hunger.

Caffeine doesn't help you sober up if you are drunk.

As your body gets used to caffeine, it needs more and more of it to get the same effect. As the amount of caffeine goes up, so does the risk of side effects.

You can become mildly dependent on caffeine from regularly drinking 350 mg (about two to four cups of coffee) a day. If you suddenly stop drinking caffeine, you might have withdrawal symptoms such as:

- headaches
- · problems sleeping
- · feeling irritable, tired, and depressed
- lack of energy
- · feeling down
- · having trouble focusing or concentrating

Withdrawal symptoms begin 12 to 24 hours after you stop caffeine. Most symptoms go away within a few days.



#### What Are the Long-Term Effects of Caffeine?

More than 300 mg of caffeine (about two to three cups of coffee) in a day may be linked to miscarriages and low-birth weight babies. Caffeine is passed through breastmilk, which might make your baby irritable or have trouble sleeping. If you're pregnant or breastfeeding, you may want to limit or avoid all caffeine.

Some women who drink more than three cups a day may be at risk of bone fractures as they get older.

Regular use of more than 600 mg of caffeine might cause long-term effects including chronic insomnia, constant anxiety, depression, and stomach problems. It can also cause high blood pressure or make high blood pressure worse.

#### **Caffeine and Young People**

Because their bodies are smaller, caffeine may have a stronger effect on a child than on an adult. Children who drink pop or energy drinks with caffeine might feel anxious, be irritable, have trouble sleeping, or wet the bed.

Some teens and young adults who use a lot of caffeine may have health problems like an increased or abnormal heart rate or chest pain. If this happens, they may need to go to the hospital or need an ambulance.

For more information on caffeine and health, call the 24-hour Addiction Helpline at 1-866-332-2322.







## BRAIN SUDOKU

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2	7	3	5	6	8	1	9	4
6	1	5	9	7	4	3	2	8

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