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THE OFFICIAL BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER





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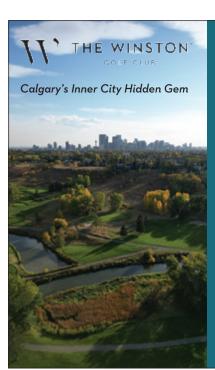


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Membership type: (please check one)

Individual

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Newsletter Submissions: newsletter@brcacalgary.org

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

New and returning members, please apply online at brcacalgary.org/
membership or use this form and mail or drop off along with cheque
made out to:

Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association
917 Centre Ave NE
Calgary AB T2E 0C6

enior BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	
Member information: (please print clearly, attach additional famil nember names)	у
ast name:	_
irst name:	_
Address:	_
Postal code:	_
mail:	_
Phone number:	_

Or, please feel free to communicate with us about community events at events@BRCAcalgary.org

Bridges contains editorial content and information provided by Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association and is distributed free to community residents and businesses 12 times per year. Circulation is approximately 5,820.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Alex MacWilliam

I don't know about you folks, but I have to say I'm getting very tired of looking at spring snow blanketing Murdoch Park and the rest of the neighbourhood, following several days of balmy weather. You will see in this issue that the temperamental Calgary weather brought out the creative whimsy in some of our neighbours.

Assuming we will finally be done with snow by the time this issue is delivered, I hope you all will be looking forward to our BRCA spring activities such as the kids Soccer Program, the Farmers' Market, and the Rooftop Garden. To address the litter that has accumulated over the winter and help you dispose of unwanted items in your homes, our Community Cleanup will take place on May 4.

I encourage BRCA members to attend our Annual General Meeting at the Hall on June 13. Further details are provided in this issue of the newsletter and on the website. If you haven't renewed your memberships on the website, you can sign up at the door. This is a great opportunity to meet our Board members and your neighbours and to be informed about the various activities and events organized and supported by the many volunteers at the Board, committee, and event levels.



Tips to Support Small Local Businesses

Get to know the small businesses in your area and learn how you can support with these five easy tips!

We love our small businesses in Bridgeland and with the construction that has kicked off we are asking you to please continue to make a point of supporting the heart of Bridgeland – and that is all of our amazing businesses that call our community home.

Here are five easy tips to help you support local and small business in Bridgeland.

- 1. Follow local and small businesses, such as stores, merchants, and restaurants, on social media and engage with their content!
- 2. Share your experience by writing a review.
- 3. Encourage your friends and family to support local businesses by purchasing gift certificates or gift cards from a local store.
- 4. Shop local both online and in-person.
- 5. Sign up for their emails and newsletters!

Remember – your support goes a long way.



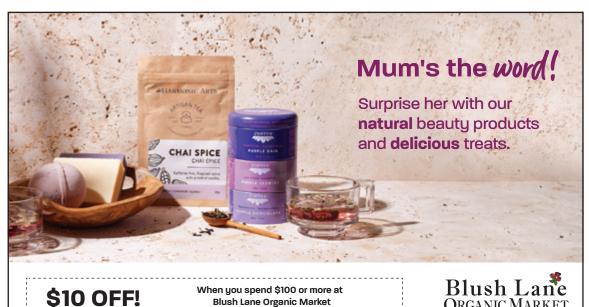
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Did you know the Bridgeland-Riverside community hall is available to rent for meetings and workshops?



For meetings and workshops the Bridgeland-Riverside Community Hall offers:

- Space for 15 100 people
- Large windows with lots of natural light
- Wifi
- · Projector and screen
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For more information visit brcacalgary.org/facility-rentals or email hall@brcacalgary.org



Do you know a young person thinking about suicide?

Skills for Safer Living is a free four-week support group program for youth ages 12-24 with thoughts of suicide and their caregivers.

Learn more: www.suicideinfo.ca/workshops



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The Calgary General Hospital School of Nursing

by Deb Lee and Lou Winthers, CGH Commemoration Committee

Over the past months you have seen several articles here about the Calgary General Hospital (CGH), primarily focused on the evolution of its hospital buildings. But what of the people? Last month, the important role of volunteers was highlighted. This month, we are writing about CGH Nurses, bastions of strength and key to the evolution and service history of 'The General'. The CGH School of Nursing graduated just under 3,000 nurses from 1895 to 1974.

Mrs. E. Hoad served as matron of the 1890 'Cottage Hospital', followed by Mary Ellen Birtles from the Winnipeg General Hospital, who was the first graduate nurse hired for the new Calgary General in 1894. She quickly recognized the need to train nurses to staff the hospital. A young woman from Glenbow, Marion Moodie became the first to start on the job training as a nurse. She kept a journal that outlined the rigorous demands and difficult working conditions she experienced at the time. By 1910 there were 25 students 'in training'. Of note, the first CGH graduate nurse, Marion Moodie (1898) was followed by her niece, Peggy Munn, in 1930 and grand-niece Catherine Munn Smith (1962).

Caring for the sick dominated the lives of the student nurses, working twelve-hour shifts, six days a week, with the possibility of an hour off, about mid-day, if circumstances allowed. Periodic classes, taught by doctors, were held in the evening. It was mandatory to pay close attention to appearance; uniforms were immaculate, white, and starched, shoes freshly polished and a cap placed neatly on one's head. In addition to patient care, student nurses also completed menial tasks such as cleaning rooms, equipment, floors, etc.

There is no doubt that student nurses were essential to the operation of the hospital. Hiring enough graduate nurses was a continual challenge, as in those early days they could not be employed once they were married. Additional difficulties were faced during the first World War when many doctors and nurses left to serve overseas or in nearby military hospitals. Devoted to their patients, during these times student nurses worked for weeks without a day off.



Originally, the nurses and students were housed within the hospital. In 1955 a brand new ten-storey nurse's residence was completed near 10 Street at Centre Avenue. With a greater focus on education, it had modern classrooms and an underground tunnel to access the hospital. The students developed a meaningful connection to the people of Bridgeland when they ventured out to shop or to take a walk on their days off.

A highly respected nursing leader, Miss Gertrude Hall, was hired in 1952 to reorganize both the nursing service and the nursing school. Her introduction of a new philosophy meant a stronger focus on education and advanced, specialized knowledge and skills. Nurses who graduated from CGH's three-year program were well regarded and sought-after employees.

Important bonds were created between the student nurses during their challenging training days. These young women supported each other as they witnessed medical crises, patient suffering, and death. They learned to assess patient needs, conduct procedures and to provide caring and support to patients and their families.

Loyalty to the Calgary General Hospital and to friendships with their nursing colleagues has been an enduring legacy of the student nurse's experience. The CGH Alumni Association was established in 1936 to continue support to community, the hospital, volunteer activities, fund raising, and to the sisterhood of nursing. The School of Nursing closed in 1974, but several hundred CGH graduate nurses continue to gather each year in May for their annual alumni banquet.

As the CGH Commemoration project unfolds, the generous support of the General Hospital nurses has been much appreciated. They join us in ensuring that the story of 'the General' is told.

CALGARY GENERAL HOSPITAL

A Story of Our Neighborhood & Calgary

1910 - 1998



JOIN US!

Bridgeland Riverside Community Centre 917 Centre Avenue NE

Learn about the evolution of the Calgary General Hospital from its very humble beginnings thru 1998. Share your memories of the hospital. Hear about the plans to commemorate it - creating a place to pause, remember and learn about the Hospital's important role in the neighborhood and health care over its many years serving Calgarians.

Choose one from:

February 13 (Tuesday) 1:00 - 3:00 pm March 4 (Monday) 7:00 - 9:00 pm March 14 (Thursday) 1:00 - 3:00 pm April 24 (Wednesday) 7:00 - 9:00 pm May 14 (Tuesday) 1:00 - 3:00 pm June 6 (Thursday) 1:00 - 3:00 pm



Contact us: cghproject@brcacalgary.org

By Car

Parking available on south side of the community hall

By C-Train

Blue Line - Bridgeland Memorial Station

By Bus

#90 - Bridgeland/University of Calgary

Bridgelanders Get Kraken

When Mother Nature decided to give us a record amount of spring snow, Bridgeland resident Simon Wedel didn't let it get him down. He rounded up his family and friends and decided to make the most of the situation. Inspired by Calvin and Hobbes cartoons of the past, Simon and his crew built an awesome Kraken and a beautiful mermaid in Murdoch Park. While it's great to see such creativity, we hope Simon's team doesn't get an opportunity to create more snow sculptures until next winter rolls around.









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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

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continued on next page

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SENIORS ADVANCED

monpays

EVENING VIN VANG TUESDAYS 7:00 - 8:15PM

7:00 - 8:15PM MAY 21 - 0UN 25

\$78

DAYTIME VIN VANG
FRIDAYS
11:00AM - 12:15PM

ALL CLASSES HAVE A MAXIMUM OF 18 PARTICIPANTS AND ARE LED BY KIM FESTA AT THE BRCA COMMUNITY HALL (917 CENTRE AVE NE)



REGISTER ONLINE BY MAY 12TH AT

WWW BPGRCRICAPV.ORG

OR BY CALLING 403-263-5755 OR EMAILING
PROGRAMS@BRCACALGARY.ORG

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EVENING OI GONG

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may 21 - 50n 25

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE







Don't forget to RENEW your BRCA Membership for 2024

Cost: Pay what you can or donation Types: Individual, Senior, Family

The Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association (BRCA) aims to create a strong and vibrant community that is inclusive and engaged.

Renew at www.brcacalgary.org



BRIDGELAND WALKS MAY 2024

JOIN US AS WE WALK AROUND AND BEYOND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, FOLLOWING A DIFFERENT THEME AND ROUTE EACH WEEK Wednesdays at 7 pm

Meet at the BRCA Hall 917 Centre Ave NE

Email us at bridgelandwalks@gmail.com to be added to our monthly schedule distribution list.

May 1 Overview of the 'Hood

Here's a sampling of the different themes for our walks this year. Bring a friend or meet a new one. May be hilly, 5 km.

May 8 Blossoming Trees

Let's hope for good timing so that we can smell the blossoms on our varied flowering trees around the parks and streets of Bridgeland. Mostly flat, 5 km.

May 15 Remembering Riverside

Much of the visible history of our 'hood can be seen around 4th Street. See where it all started on the original "International Avenue". Mostly flat, 5 km.

May 22 Walk on the Wild Side

Grizzly bears, nesting osprey, and other wildlife might be seen on this walk along the Bow River. Quite an adventure! Mostly flat, 6 km.

May 29 Parks West

Hidden green spaces, reclamation of a lost area, places for kids, dogs and people. We'll find them all. May be some hills, uneven ground, 5.5 km.



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