

DECEMBER 2025

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# BRIDGELANDRIVERSIDE

## BRIDGES

THE OFFICIAL BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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## Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Addie, Renfrew



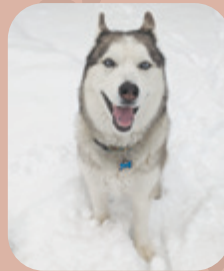
Billy, Woodbine



Charlie, Diamond Cove



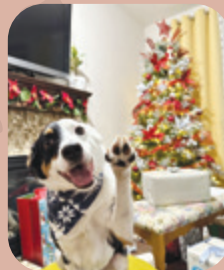
Eowyn, Edgemont



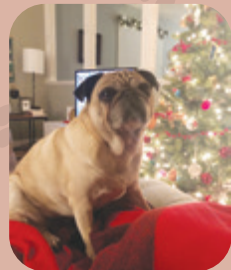
Meeko, Cranston



Pepper, Evergreen



Sammie, Walden



Talbot, Queensland

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## MEMBERSHIP FORM

New and returning members, please apply online at [brcacalgary.org/](http://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**

Membership type: (please check one)

Individual ☐

Family ☐

Senior ☐



Member information: (please print clearly, attach additional family member names)

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Or, please feel free to communicate with us about community events at [events@BRCAcalgary.org](mailto: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 5,615.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."

So said the author John Steinbeck and I believe these words are particularly meaningful to Canadians. The harshness of our winters makes us truly appreciate the summer season.

As 2025 draws to a close, I reflect on the events of a milestone year for the Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association—our 75<sup>th</sup>. I also look forward to what 2026 has in store for our community. Full completion of the Main Streets work will add to the vibrancy of our commercial avenues, as will the arrival of several new businesses.

This month's issue of the newsletter features a story by frequent contributor and BRCA Director Deb Lee on baseball in the community and the ball diamonds formerly located on lands now occupied by condominium and apartment buildings. Deb was too modest to mention her own significant contribution to this sport in our community. With the old ball diamonds gone, Deb was a key member of a dedicated group of volunteers and sponsors that refurbished the diamond in Riverside Park on McDougall Road at 11 Street. To recognize her extensive volunteer work in the community, Deb was recognized by the Canada Sports Hall of Fame as its 2013 Everyday Sports Hero. Check out the plaque honouring Deb near the ball diamond in Riverside Park.

During this season of giving, please consider those less fortunate. Food banks, shelters, and other charitable organizations desperately need our support and welcome any and all contributions. Let's continue to show that we are a kind and caring community.

On behalf of the BRCA, I wish you and yours the best of the Holiday Season.

*Alex MacWilliam*




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events, programs, and community news.**

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## Calgary: The Next 150

by Anthony Imbrogno (*The Calgary Heritage Initiative Society/Heritage Inspires YYC*)

Together, we've journeyed through a thousand years of human history in the Calgary area. I hope you've enjoyed discovering its history and character.

Two points of summary arise. First, Calgary has grown rapidly over its short history. From the Indigenous bands that camped here, to becoming the home of 1.5 million, Calgary's pace of change is astounding.

The second is Calgary's heritage is strongly tied to its economy. Fort Calgary was raised where the buffalo migration and continental trading routes crossed—X marks the spot of this resource-rich area.

Yet rapid change has come at the expense of our heritage assets.

There are reasons to preserve them. Seeing a historic building is like time travelling. It leads you to recall the legacy we've inherited and to consider what meaningful role you could have that lasts for 100 years or longer.

That feeling of awe and awareness is awaiting you here, whether its Stephen Avenue, Lougheed, or Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump.

### How Can We Keep Calgary's Heritage Assets?

It's incumbent on Calgarians to advocate for legal protections. But since protecting everything with public funds is costly, what else can be done?

The answer is the mission of the Calgary Heritage Initiative Society (CHI). CHI is a volunteer-run group that advocates for the preservation and promotion of the productive use of buildings and areas of historic significance.

As we seek to preserve and honour the heritage of Calgary, the other articles in this series raise one last question—what era is next?

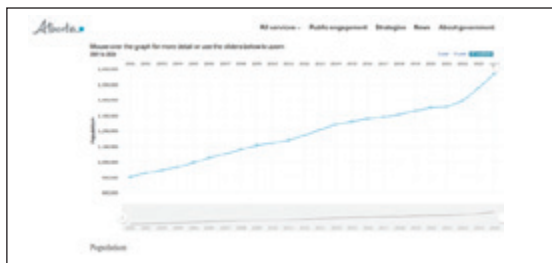
It could be called Skyscraper City. Or what about Logistics Hub? Instead, I think the next era is Calgary as Prairie Capital.

This means we'll provide our neighbours and allies with the gifts of this land: life-giving energy, the best quality food, and the fruits of our innovations and passions.

We will remain true to our roots. We'll honour Indigenous heritage, and we'll remember our Cow Town past and bring it to life as Stampede City. And we'll build on the legacies of Oil Town and Olympic City.

Thank you for joining me on this journey through Calgary's history.

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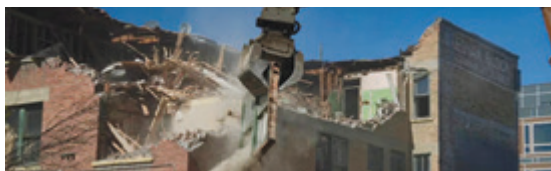
Calgary - Population, 2001 to 2024 (Alberta Government).



View of the National Hotel from the southeast (ca. 1910) Glenbow Archives, NA-1075-9.



Saddledome, Calgary, June 2025 (Anthony Imbrogno). From Scotsman's Hill.



The Gresham Block was a 114-year-old building in Calgary's Inglewood neighbourhood that met its end when it was demolished this year. (Helen Pike/CBC).



Stephen Ave Quarter Building Classification (National Trust for Canada).



## Cold Weather Safety

by Alberta Health Services



Emergency Health Services (EHS) – Alberta responds to cold weather emergencies each winter. You can reduce your risk of sustaining a cold weather emergency by taking a few precautions. Dress by wearing warm, insulating layers close to the body covered with wind and waterproof layers on the exterior – cover as much skin as possible. Carry an emergency roadside kit in your vehicle containing extra clothing, blankets, and emergency supplies and ensure your mobile phone is fully charged.

### Frostnip

- Frost-nipped skin is extremely cold, but not yet frozen.
- It commonly affects the ears, nose, cheeks, fingers, and toes.
- The skin may look red and possibly feel numb to the touch.
- When treated promptly, frostnip usually heals without complication.
- Move to a warm environment and immediately, but gently, re-warm the affected area through skin-to-skin contact (i.e. hand covering tips of ears).

### Frostbite

- Frostbite occurs when skin becomes so cold, the skin and underlying tissues freeze.

- Affected skin may look white and waxy and will feel hard to the touch.
- Move to a warm environment immediately and place the affected area in warm, not hot, water until fully re-warmed.
- Seek further medical attention as required.

### Hypothermia

- Hypothermia is abnormally low body temperature, less than about 35°C (as compared to normal body temperature of about 37°C).
- Early hypothermia may manifest as profound shivering; moderate hypothermic patients may act inappropriately: stumbling, mumbling, and fumbling, as their body temperature continues to drop resulting in severe hypothermia (<30°C).
- Left untreated, severe hypothermia may progress to unconsciousness or death.
- Early recognition and prompt medical attention is key. Don't forget to protect yourself from the factors that originally lead to the patient's situation.
- Initiate gentle re-warming as quickly as possible. Remove any wet or constrictive clothing; cover with blankets or sleeping bags. Protect from further heat loss: eliminate contact with cold surfaces, and shield from wind and moisture.



# ***BRCA YOGA & STRENGTH TRAINING***

***REGISTRATION  
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SESSIONS (JAN-  
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DECEMBER.  
CHECK WEBSITE  
FOR DETAILS***



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Swish is a locally-owned dental clinic where oral care meets self-care. Since opening our doors in 2022, we've earned over 600 5-Star Reviews for our people-first, hospitality-inspired approach to dentistry. Our mission? To make every dental appointment feel less like a chore, and more like your favourite self-care routine.

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care? It all starts  
with our people.

Book an appointment with  
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Bridgeland or University  
District.

Book in, kick  
back, and relax.

We're here to make  
sure you're feeling  
your best, whatever  
that looks like for you.



## First up, Advanced Whitening

Our advanced in-clinic whitening service has you in the chair for 1.5 hours and is where we pull out all the stops. It's the best option for a really bright, instant smile. If you're wanting a glow-up, this is your sign to book.

## Yep, we do Botox too

Beat the daily grind - literally. We use Botox™ and Dysport™ at our clinic to treat a variety of functional and aesthetic concerns, including jaw clenching and teeth grinding.

### Get in touch.

Simply scan this QR code to select your appointment time and submit a request. Be sure to select Bridgeland as your preferred location.





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[bridgeland@swishoralcare.ca](mailto:bridgeland@swishoralcare.ca)



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# BRCA SENIORS *Holiday* PARTY

Thursday, December 11th

At 1-3pm

BRCA Hall 917 Centre Ave NE

Live Music by Paul Lau

Snacks and Refreshments

## Gift Exchange

Bring a small \$15 gift to exchange.

If you need support with this gift (financial or getting out shopping), Bridgeland Elves can supply stockings to exchange. REQUEST during registration.

**FREE** but you must **RSVP:**  
[programs@brcacalgary.org](mailto:programs@brcacalgary.org)  
or call 403-263-5755



## CALGARY GENERAL HOSPITAL SURVEY COMING SOON!

We are preparing a survey  
to get your feedback on the  
Calgary General Hospital (CGH)  
Commemoration Project.

Watch for the QR code  
to access the CGH Project survey  
in the January 2026 newsletter,  
BRCA website,  
emails, and social media.



CGH Commemoration  
Project Committee



## ALLODOXAPHOBIA

Living in a society, we all feel a bit insecure or anxious about fitting in sometimes. But did you know there is actually a phobia called Allodoxaphobia that is the fear of other people's opinions? It is an anxiety disorder that can cause people to avoid engaging in discussions or debates for fear of being judged or criticized. Be kind out there! We're all just trying our best.

## SOCIAL DISORDER WHO TO CONTACT

SOCIAL ISSUES SUCH AS HOMELESSNESS, ADDICTION, ENCAMPMENTS, ROUGH SLEEPING, OR MENTAL HEALTH ARE NOT TYPICALLY A CRIMINAL MATTER. TO BEST SUPPORT COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN CRISIS OR FOR HELP DURING NON-EMERGENCY SITUATIONS THAT REQUIRE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY RESOURCES:

311 CALGARY	ALPHA HOUSE	TRANSIT SAFETY	211 ALBERTA
311 allows you to access City services and information 24/7. The information reported to 311 helps the City record keep and direct their response where needed. Call 311, visit <a href="http://calgary.ca/311">calgary.ca/311</a> or download the 311 app.	Alpha House offers a range of outreach programs aimed at engaging clients into services and helping reduce the impact of addiction and homelessness on the broader community and public systems.	Calgary Transit partners with Peace Officers, the Calgary Police Service, and the Alpha House DOAP Team to respond to situations as they arise. On-call support is available 24 hours a day, seven days per week.	211 provides access to a network of community, social, health, and government services. You can call, text, or chat online - <a href="http://ab.211.ca">ab.211.ca</a> and be connected to a broad suite of social resources and supports.

### \*PLEASE BEGIN BY REPORTING ALL CONCERNS TO 311\*

<b>HOMELESSNESS + ROUGH SLEEPING</b> Alpha House HELP Team *Formerly the DOAP Team T: 403-998-7388	<b>ENCAMPMENTS</b> Alpha House Encampment Team T: 403-805-7388 *Please be sure to report all encampment concerns to 311	<b>TRANSIT SAFETY</b> Transit Safety (24/7) Text 74100 or call 403-262-1000 (option 1) Alpha House Transit Team T: 403-827-7106	<b>NEEDLE DEBRIS</b> Alpha House Needle Response Team Call/Text 403-796-5334 *After hour requests will be answered the following day. Urgent after-hours needle debris collection: call 311	<b>MENTAL HEALTH + ADDICTION</b> 211 Alberta (24/7) If you or someone you know is seeking help for addiction or mental health, contact 211 for available local resources.
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# Baseball in the “Hood”

by Deb Lee, BRCA Heritage Committee

Everyone was watching the World Series on TV as the Toronto Blue Jays took it to Game 7 before being defeated by the LA Dodgers. It was a nail-biter, and all of Canada was united behind our team!

Baseball was a big deal in past days of Bridgeland-Riverside. Prior to the implosion of the Calgary General Hospital, there were three well-used baseball diamonds close to where our community centre used to be, south of McDougall Road. Those old ball diamonds occupied much of the space where the Bridge, Steps, and McPherson Place buildings are located today. In the 1990s, the Ladies Softball League regularly played there, and staff teams from the General Hospital were also active in the area. George's Pub, located in our community hall, was a great place for ball players and other community residents to congregate, socialize, and quench their thirst after a game.

Bridgeland-Riverside baseball history goes back much further than the 1990s. Our Community Association, then known as 'The BRAA', regularly fielded teams that competed with other community association teams. The BRCA Beavers was a boys' team that was coached by local dads. You can see them in the 1975 team picture, with the Bridgeland Outdoor Swimming Pool and the George Boyack Nursing Home in the background.

Ev Altenhof, who grew up in Bridgeland, tells of the BRCA Juniors team, made up of 16- to 18-year-old boys, which won several Alberta titles. Coached by locals Bill Speck, Ed Nowak, and Mel Leinweber, the team advanced beyond their usual Boys' League. For a few years in the 1960s they participated in the Major Men's Fastball League, with games played at Corbett Field in Renfrew. Ev, who played with the team, credits the firm and skilled leadership of the coaches, lots of practice and hard work, starting with ball throwing in the Langevin School gym in February, and the talent of the boys, for carrying the team to success.

Walking around Bridgeland-Riverside on a day between World Series games, I encountered a father and his son practicing baseball at Schule Park. Located to the rear of Delta West School, there are two baseball diamonds, recognizable by their ball screens. They are small, informal diamonds, but perhaps this is where the next generation of top-notch Bridgeland baseball players will get their start.



Baseball 1975 BRCA Beavers. Historic photo.



Baseball - Father and son playing baseball at Schule Park, October 2025. With permission. Photo by Deb Lee.



Baseball 1960s BRCA Juniors. Historic photo with permission of Ev Altenhof.

# Light up Bridgeland-Riverside *Shine Together This Season!*



Join us in spreading **holiday cheer** by decorating your home, balcony, or storefront this holiday season!

Whether it's a single balcony, a row of glowing houses, or an entire building lit from end to end, every light adds warmth and wonder.

*Let's brighten the season together and  
make our beloved neighbourhood shine!*



[brcacalgary.org](http://brcacalgary.org)



# BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

For business classified ad rates contact Great News Media  
at 403-720-0762 or sales@greatnewsmedia.ca

## Bridgeland Real Estate Update

Last 12 Months Bridgeland  
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
October 2025	\$474,900	\$465,000
September 2025	\$359,900	\$360,000
August 2025	\$475,000	\$442,500
July 2025	\$477,411	\$462,500
June 2025	\$398,800	\$395,000
May 2025	\$429,900	\$420,000
April 2025	\$385,000	\$372,500
March 2025	\$444,950	\$439,950
February 2025	\$449,900	\$440,000
January 2025	\$702,500	\$692,000
December 2024	\$417,450	\$419,500
November 2024	\$529,900	\$522,500

Last 12 Months Bridgeland  
MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
October 2025	18	13
September 2025	28	15
August 2025	22	19
July 2025	26	14
June 2025	16	17
May 2025	28	17
April 2025	20	21
March 2025	26	18
February 2025	26	17
January 2025	23	6
December 2024	10	14
November 2024	14	13

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

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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.

**ENROLLMENT ONGOING AT CHILDREN'S PLACE DAYCARE:** Your "home away from home." Newborn to 6 years old. Flexible hours: full-time, part-time, drop-ins. We provide 3 homemade meals for no additional fees, as well as French and preschool classes. Schedule a tour now. 403-262-4433. #200,115 2 Ave SW. Open 6:30 am-5:30 pm. Childrens97dc@hotmail.com.



# Create More Memories and Less Waste This Holiday Season

by The City of Calgary - Waste and Recycling Services



The holidays bring joy—and extra waste. We generate about 25% more this time of year from wrapping paper, packaging, and leftover food. Small changes can make a big impact:

- Give experiences instead of things. Time together creates lasting memories.
- Make or repurpose gifts. Handmade or passed-down items tell a story.
- Wrap creatively. Reuse bags, bows, or wrap with fabric.
- Shop with purpose. Plan ahead and choose thoughtful gifts.
- Reduce food waste. Stick to a grocery list, use leftovers, or send extras home with guests.

## Christmas Tree Composting

When the holidays are over, give your real Christmas tree a green goodbye by choosing one of the following options:

- Green Cart Pickup: Remove decorations, cut into small pieces, and place in your green cart.
- Drop-Off (until January 31): Take your undecorated, unbagged tree to a designated site.

Find locations at [calgary.ca/christmastree](https://calgary.ca/christmastree).

## Holiday Collection Changes

Please note blue, black, and green cart pickup date changes in your community!

- Thursday, December 25 moves to Monday, December 22.
- Thursday, January 1 moves to Monday, December 29.

Regular Thursday collection resumes January 8. Check your schedule at [calgary.ca/cartschedule](https://calgary.ca/cartschedule).

Thank you for helping keep Calgary clean and green. Happy holidays!

# How Does Your Main Street Measure Up? Take The Short Survey Now

by The City of Calgary

Successful main streets bring people together. To help understand how Calgary's main streets are doing, The City of Calgary conducts an annual Main Street Metrics survey, which collects and tracks data related to how our main streets:

- Support a social and healthy environment
- Facilitate improved mobility and functionality
- Demonstrate a unique character and identity
- Create areas of economic vitality

Let us know how Calgary's main streets support communities and businesses in these areas by completing our short survey. Your feedback will help inform future main street improvements.

Visit [calgary.ca/mainstreets](https://calgary.ca/mainstreets) to complete the short survey.

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