

NOVEMBER 2025

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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

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the time this issue goes to the publisher (mid-October), we are pondering two important questions. The first impacts this newsletter directly, and is whether Canada Post will have resumed delivery service. Our October newsletter came out during the strike. While this does not impact those of you who receive the newsletter electronically or access it on the BRCA website, we know those who rely on receipt via mail delivery will have missed out. We provided copies at the Hall and Board members living in condo and apartment buildings tried to make copies available to their neighbours. Hopefully delivery services will have resumed by the time this issue is ready for distribution.

Also up in the air at this moment are the results of the October 20 municipal election. While we don't know who the successful candidates will be, we do know that Ward 9 will have a new councillor representing our interests at City Hall. Thank you to the seven candidates who committed themselves to running for this position. Stepping forward to campaign for public office takes courage and conviction. To the new Ward 9 Councillor, the BRCA looks forward to establishing a strong, productive relationship with you during your first term. Thanks also to those of you who attended the Ward 9 Candidates Open House at the Hall on October 8 to meet the councillor hopefuls.

The campaigns for mayor, councillor, and school board trustee positions highlighted the serious issues facing residents of Calgary. Growth, community safety, affordable housing, transportation, fiscal responsibility, planning/zoning, maintenance of infrastructure, and education funding were all debated during the campaign and will need to be addressed by the new City Council and School Boards. With Calgary's population projected to reach nearly two million by the time of the next municipal election, the need for strong, effective leadership is greater than ever, as is the need for residents to take an interest in the issues that concern us as a community and a city. Hopefully you demonstrated your willingness to make your voice heard by exercising your right to vote on October 20.

Alex MacWilliam



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**2025 Membership
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75th Anniversary Celebration

Thank You Letter

by Pam Swan, BRCA Hall Manager

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our 75th Anniversary celebration on September 13 such a memorable success.

Throughout the day, we welcomed 800 to 1,000 guests, many of whom joined us for both the BBQ and the movie in the park. We couldn't be happier with the turnout and the wonderful energy that filled our community.

The day began with Board Member Deb Lee sharing the history of our association, reminding us that our roots are in bringing neighbours together through sport. We are proud to continue that legacy today with programs such as children's soccer, the farmers' market, seniors' wellness classes, and so much more. We were also honoured to have Elder Charlotte Yellowhorn McLeod offer a blessing, speaking to the importance of community, gathering together, and cherishing the next generation. We also appreciate that MLA Kathleen Ganley, Mayor Jyoti Gondek, and Adam Schwartz from the Federation of Calgary Communities were able to attend and spend some time mingling with guests.

A special thank you goes to our top sponsors, Bridgedale Pharmacy and Bridgeland Crossings Dental, who joined us in person to host information booths and connect with our guests.

The afternoon BBQ was filled with energy and laughter, with a variety of games and activity stations to keep everyone engaged. Green Fools Theatre delighted guests of all ages with their mini circus workshop—teaching how to juggle, spin plates, walk a tightrope, and even try out stilts. Younger children enjoyed the toddler play area from Sprog and Sprocket, while the Crate Art Therapy booth was buzzing all day with creative little hands at work. Kiss Productions kept the music lively, and the inflatable obstacle course, jumping races, and lawn games brought out plenty of fun competition and smiles.

As the sun set, families and friends gathered in Murdoch Park with blankets, lawn chairs, popcorn, and mini



doughnuts to enjoy the *How to Train Your Dragon* movie under the stars. It was the perfect way to end a truly wonderful day of celebration.

We were very fortunate to have the help of 25 incredible volunteers who welcomed guests, ran activity stations, and handed out prizes. Your time, energy, and enthusiasm made all the difference in keeping the celebration running smoothly. A special thank you as well to Mitzi, who created a wonderful slideshow featuring photos from our archives, and to Chelsea, whose creative posters and signs added so much fun and colour to the event.

Finally, we are deeply grateful to our local business community for the overwhelming financial support we received. Your generosity helped make this milestone celebration possible. With all our appreciation to our sponsors:

- Entertainment Sponsors: Mari Bakery, Bridgedale Pharmacy, and Bridgeland Crossings Dental.
- Activity Sponsors: Rising Sun Psychological Services, Amy Skinner Law, Jemm Properties, Bridgeland BIA, Servus Credit Union, and Calgary Foundation.
- Community Sponsors: Inglewood Art Supplies, Village Ice Cream, Little Big Recycling, Bono Coffee, Doodle Dogs, and Bucci.
- Door Prize Sponsors: Jin Bar, La Brezza, Leela Eco Spa, Calgary Flames, Lil Empire, and 5 Vines.

This anniversary was a celebration not only of our history, but also of the strong and vibrant community we continue to build together into the future. We are deeply grateful for everyone's support and participation in making this milestone so special – thank you!

Cheers,

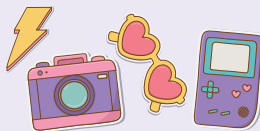
Pam



GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess the 2000s Movie!

1. This parody pokes fun at films like *Scream*, *I Know What You Did Last Summer*, and *The Sixth Sense*.
2. In this crime thriller, Guy Pearce plays Leonard who suffers from an untreatable form of memory loss that makes finding his wife's killer nearly impossible.
3. This legal drama involves Julia Roberts, a car accident, and a devastating legal cover-up.
4. Two cheerleading squads duel it out and uncover some shady practices going on during the national championship.
5. Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson star in this sci-fi thriller that takes "survival of the fittest" to a whole new mysterious realm.
6. A handsome, young professional living in America lives two separate lives: one an urban businessman, the other a knife wielding killer.



SCAN THE
QR CODE
FOR THE
ANSWERS!



SAFE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Creating a safer community through
building strong community connections

Tuesday, Nov 4
7:00 PM
BRCA Hall
917 Centre Ave NE



safecommunity@brcacalgary.org



BRCA TECH 101 FOR SENIORS WORKSHOP

**Wednesday November 12
@ 4:30-5:30pm @BRCA Hall
917 Centre Ave NE**

**Presented by
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Murdoch Park – Footprint of “The General”

by Deb Lee, BRCA Heritage and CGH Commemoration Project

After 88 years of service to the city, the Calgary General Hospital was imploded in 1998. Over the next year, truckloads of debris were carted away. Those assigned with planning the next steps for the land sought a way to commemorate the hospital and its important place in Calgary history. One of the ways they chose was to preserve the footprint where the hospital once stood. The area formerly occupied by the hospital, between Centre Avenue and McDougall Road and from 7A to 9 Street, was designated as a park, and called Murdoch Park. The full development, which became known as the Bridges Project, then focused on building multi-family housing surrounding the park, to be constructed over three phases. With the exception of one plot of land, the Bridges Project is now completed.

How Was the Name Chosen for the Park?

The hospital's address had been 841 Centre Avenue, but this road had originally been named Murdoch Road. Evidence of this history can still be seen in the sidewalk stamp at Centre Avenue and 10 Street that shows the Murdoch name. The proximity of Murdoch Road to the former hospital and the importance of George Murdoch to Calgary history were the reasons behind the naming of the park.

Who Was George Murdoch?

George Murdoch was Calgary's first mayor. He was a Scottish-born man who had arrived here in 1883, the same year that the Canadian Pacific Railway reached Calgary. Murdoch was a harness maker who opened a business in the young settlement. In addition to working extensively with the North-West Mounted Police, he also worked with the Blackfoot people, even learning their language. Murdoch was active in civic affairs and was soon elected mayor of the town in the first election in 1884.

A bronze plaque was developed for Murdoch Park and was mounted in the SE corner, near McDougall Road. Unfortunately, the plaque was stolen several years ago. It was replaced with another bronze plaque, only to be stolen again. The base has remained blank to this day.

The name of our community's biggest and much-loved park has been a bit of a mystery for many people. Google Maps has not always been clear or consistent about the name. And without a sign or plaque, there's no visible evidence of the correct name.

An Important, Happening Place

What we can be sure of is the importance of Murdoch Park to the growing number of residents who live here, as well as visitors. The park is busy much of the day. Students from Riverside School play sports and conduct their field studies. Walkers, with and without dogs, stroll along the tree-lined promenades. People can be seen sitting on the benches lining the park, drinking coffee, eating ice cream purchased from nearby businesses, reading a book, visiting with friends, watching the activities, or contemplating the beauty of the day. The field itself is often busy with people of all ages playing soccer, football, volleyball, bocce, basketball, exercising, and doing yoga. A hang glider has also lifted off from the sloped western edge of Murdoch Park.

Occasionally, festivals are booked on the grounds. They add the vibrancy of music, dancing, and variety to the park. Murdoch Park is a happening place, where everyone is welcome. It is a fitting replacement for the great Calgary General Hospital that stood here for 88 years.



Murdoch Park photo by Deb Lee

Brain Freeze

That sharp headache from cold treats? Doctors call it “sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia”. Try saying that the next time you eat an ice cream and get brain freeze!



Meet Your Board Member: Cheryl De Paoli

by Linda Poetz, BRCA Board Secretary

How did you first get involved with BRCA as a volunteer?

I saw an email asking for residents to put their name forward for the Board.

What led you to consider serving on the Board?

I have had a connection to Bridgeland for many years. My family immigrated to the neighbourhood in the 1950s and throughout the years various extended family members have lived in the neighbourhood. I moved to Bridgeland in 2010 and wanted to contribute back to the community.

What is involved in being a Board member?

It involves attending events in the community, reading emails, and bringing forth discussion points to the Board meeting for conversations that matter. All it takes is curiosity and willingness to put forward your ideas and connect with your neighbours.

What do you enjoy about being a BRCA Board member?

Meeting wonderful people that live in the same community and learning about what can take Bridgeland forward — how do we plant the seeds today for a full harvest of projects and ideas that will keep our community safe, beautiful, and connected.

What would you say to community members about joining the Board?

Take the leap! Come out to a Board meeting and bring your thoughts and ideas for making Bridgeland a better and stronger community.

Calgary General Hospital Commemoration Project

Find out more about the CGH project by scanning the QR code or visit the BRCA website: brcacalgary.org.



If you have a story about “The General” that you’d like to share, we’d love to hear from you! Contact us at cghproject@brcacalgary.org.

Tasty Art

What do “The Persistence of Memory” and the Chupa Chups logo have in common? Well, they were both created by surrealist Salvador Dalí! Asked by founder Enric Bernat to improve the candy wrapper, Dalí sketched the now-iconic daisy-shaped logo in a café on a piece of newspaper.





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Green Cart Collection Update

by the City of Calgary

Starting in November, green cart collection will shift to an every-other-week schedule. This seasonal change helps match service to the lower volumes of yard waste we typically see once colder weather arrives.

Weekly green cart collection will return in April 2026, just in time for spring clean-up season when yard waste begins to pick up again.

We understand Calgary's weather can be unpredictable, and to keep the Green Cart program reliable and cost-effective, we set the schedule using long-term trends. This means collection times are based on when green cart volumes usually decline and when snow conditions are more likely. By planning well in advance, the City ensures the right number of trucks, drivers, and resources are in place to keep the program running smoothly.

There are a few easy ways to stay on top of your collection days and keep things simple:

- Visit calgary.ca/cartschedule to check your cart pickup schedule or sign up for free reminders.
- Download the Calgary Garbage Day app to get automatic notifications about collection days and seasonal changes.

Thank you for helping keep Calgary clean and green, no matter the season!



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 calgary.ca/311 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 - ab.211.ca and be connected to a broad suite of social resources and supports.

PLEASE BEGIN BY REPORTING ALL CONCERNS TO 311

 HOMELESSNESS + ROUGH SLEEPING Alpha House HELP Team *Formerly the DOAP Team T: 403-998-7388	 ENCAMPMENTS Alpha House Encampment Team T: 403-805-7388 *Please be sure to report all encampment concerns to 311	 TRANSIT SAFETY Transit Safety (24/7) Text 74100 or call 403-262-1000 (option 1) Alpha House Transit Team T: 403-827-7106	 NEEDLE DEBRIS 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	 MENTAL HEALTH + ADDICTION 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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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:**
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Seniors Art Workshop

Holiday Card Making with Whitney

Wed Nov 19

1-2pm

BRCA Hall - 917 Centre Ave NE

FREE, max 20 people

RSVP: programs@brcacalgary.org
or call 403-263-5455



Yielding to Emergency Vehicles

by Alberta Health Services



For everyone's safety, it is important motorists understand how to correctly yield right-of-way to emergency vehicles when their lights and sirens are activated. You can help all first responders navigate roads quickly and safely by following these basic rules.

When an emergency vehicle approaches with lights and siren activated:

- If you're in the middle of an intersection when an emergency vehicle approaches with lights and siren activated, safely clear the intersection; be prepared to pull over.
- On a one- or two-lane road, motorists should move to the right side of the road, slow down, and then stop, remaining parallel with the road. Remember to signal.
- On one-way streets move to the nearest curb, either the right or left.
- On a road with three or more lanes, motorists should move to the nearest side of the road and stop. If driving in the centre lane, move to the right side of the road and stop. Remember to signal.
- Come to a complete stop and wait for the emergency vehicle to pass. Shoulder check for more emergency vehicles before re-entering traffic flow. Remember to signal.

- Emergency vehicles might use any available road space to maneuver. This could include shoulders or turning lanes, etc., in order to safely pass other traffic.

When operating a vehicle:

- Reduce speed to 60 km/h or the posted speed, whichever is lower, when passing any stopped roadside vehicle with flashing lights activated (emergency vehicles, tow trucks, maintenance trucks, etc.). This law applies to the lane immediately next to the stopped vehicles. If you're not in the lane next to the stopped vehicles, it is recommended to reduce speed and leave lots of space between yourself and emergency personnel.
- Do not break the rules of the road in order to give right of way to an emergency vehicle. This could include proceeding through a red light or making an illegal turn. Actions such as these jeopardize all motorists in the area.
- Drivers must place their full attention on the road and the safe operation of their vehicle at all times. The fine for distracted driving in Alberta is \$300 and three demerit points.
- Do not drive within 150 meters of an emergency vehicle with its siren and/or flashing lights on. For reference, 150 m is nearly 1.5 times the length of a football field.

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BRIDGELAND CONTENT

News, Events,
& More



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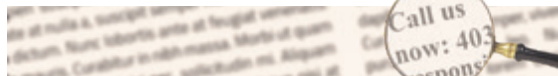
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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

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