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Have you considered renting a spare bedroom in your home to a UCalgary student? Calgary is experiencing a housing shortage, and university students are actively seeking rooms to rent for September. Your guest room could be the perfect solution!

By renting a room to a student, you can provide them with a comfortable living environment while earning some extra income for yourself.

We recommend posting your spare room for rent on either spacesshared.ca or places4students.com if you're interested. SpacesShared connects older adults interested in homesharing with students, and UCalgary's Students' Union works in partnership with Places4Students.



















Off the Bookshelf

by Rosemary Brown

Thomson Highway's 2022 CBC Massey Lecture has been turned into a book entitled *Laughing with the Trickster:* On Sex, Death, and Accordions. This is a short book and a fascinating discourse on language, culture, humour, sex and gender, and death. Keep your eyes open for accordions.

Highway is a prolific and award-winning playwright, novelist, and musician. He was born in Brochet, at the northern end of Reindeer Lake in northern Manitoba, near the Saskatchewan border and only 200 km south of Nunavut. He is Cree and a member of the Barren Lands First Nation. One of 12 children, he was sent south to The Pas for his education at the age of 7 but returned to spend summers on the land with his family, hence he retained his fluency in Cree.

While the book is divided into chapters dealing with the themes mentioned above, the themes are often interconnected, for example language and humour. You can tell that Highway is in love with his Cree language, its expressiveness, and its emphasis on humour and laughter.

He touches briefly on stories about how in the distant past humans and animals spoke the same language, and that one theory of how humans developed language was through their observation of the natural world around them and the "sounds, gestures, and cries" made by animals. He discusses the link between language and mythology. He states while theology centres on God, and cosmology centres on the Universe, mythologies prevalent in North America: Classical (Greek and Roman), Christianity, and North American Indigenous thought (a hybrid of the mythologies associated with each language family).

Highway pursues the theme of mythology in his chapter on culture. He states that Christianity is the youngest of the three mythologies. He describes it as monotheistic, male, heterosexual, and anthropomorphic. In this mythology there is an emphasis on time which is considered to be linear. Only the male force (God) was involved in creation, and that God gave man dominion over nature.

Older than Christianity, classical mythology is polytheistic with many gods and goddesses. Creation involved both male and female forces. Nature was important and natural elements were considered to be Gods and Goddesses, given human or anthropomorphic

form. Classical mythology was a "celebration of senses" and real emotions. Sex was integral. Space took priority over time and time was not linear.

In contrast to monotheism (one God) and polytheism (many gods), North American Indigenous thought is pantheistic with god in everything: "world is spirit" and "everything has a soul". Pantheism is not anthropomorphic, and God is considered to be a "divine energy" neither male nor female.

The world came into being "through a female force (Mother Earth), with no masculine involvement." Space has priority over time and time is not linear but circular with no beginning nor end.

In the chapter on humour, Highway explains that the Trickster was the third being created by Mother Earth and that every Indigenous nation has a trickster, although they may vary in form. He refers to the Trickster as the Clown God who brings laughter, which in turn is medicine. Again he talks about the Cree language as emoting humour and offers several hilarious examples of how words in English are translated into Cree. He describes Cree as having a "madcap energy and sexual innuendo", all related to the Trickster.

In the Chapter on Sex and Gender, Highway again employs the framework of monotheism, polytheism, and pantheism. He points out that there is no word for gender in Cree. There follows a discussion of English, French, and Greek related to gender and hierarchy or lack thereof. He points out that in pantheism there are numerous genders. He also says that those who are Two-Spirit embody "the souls of both genders at one and the same time", and that they "become the shamans, priests, and artists," and they perform caring roles within the community. The Trickster is neither male nor female but both at the same time.

When it comes to death and what happens to us afterwards, Highway contrasts the destinations of heaven, hell, purgatory, and limbo in Christianity with Hades, the only destination in Classical mythology. Hades is a place where "the shades" of everyone go. Here there is "no suffering but also no joy." "Immortality lay in remembrance through monuments and statues." In North American Indigenous thought, upon death our physical selves become one with the earth, but the spirit remains here.

Highway's analysis of the three mythologies, when it comes to culture, humour, sex, and death is far more complex than what I have portrayed, and I simply cannot do it justice. However, it is all quite thought-provoking. And I promise there are accordions in there somewhere!

Scouts About - 4th Elks Triwood



August Updates

Happy summer, everyone! We hope that you are exploring the outdoors over the summer holidays. If you have been on an outdoor adventure, tag us on Facebook @4thElks! At 4th Elks, we are gearing up for the 2023/24 season and we would like to extend an invite to community members interested in joining Scouting. For those who aren't familiar with Scouting, here is who we are and what we do.

Scouting is the largest youth organization in Canada and globally with a mission to develop well-rounded youth for success in the world. Scouting is run through community groups affiliated with Scouts Canada. Each community group is 100% volunteer run. At the 4th Elks Triwood, our parents and leaders collaborated to create our four pillars: Community Engagement, Family Connections, Friendship, and Outdoor Adventures. We incorporate at least one pillar in all the activities that we do. Scouting is open to all ages.

Beavers

Ages 5 to 7, Motto: Sharing, Sharing, Sharing

Highlights for our Beaver Scouts include going to Camp Cadicasu, sleeping over at the Airplane Hangar, and going canoeing on Lake Bonavista. We have more adventures planned for 2023!

Cubs

Ages 8 to 10, Motto: Do Your Best

Cubs ended their year with an overnight backpacking fishing trip. In 2024, there is talk of a five-day camp at the Wilderness Rendezvous in Cypress Hills and/or an overnight canoe expedition!

Scouts

Ages 11 to 14, Motto: Be Prepared

Scouts have big plans to go to Pacific Jamboree (PJ) in July 2024. At PJ, the Scouts will camp out on the west coast with Scout groups from all over western Canada and northwestern USA.

Ventures

Ages 15 to 17, Motto: Challenge

We do not have a Venturer company presently, but we're open to starting one! Ventures have done trips like sea kayaking in Mexico, hiked the Chilkoot Trail in the Yukon, or the East Coast Trail in Newfoundland. As well, Ventures have helped organized large group camps for Cubs!

Rovers

Ages 18 to 26, Motto: Go Beyond

We do not have a Rover company, but Rovers plan epic adventures, are active in community endeavours, and contribute to international aid.

Become a Leader

Email:

Anyone 16 years of age or older can be a leader. If you are interested in building youth and community presence, all you need is a sense of adventure. Don't worry about 'having the skills,' you can build those along the way!

For more information, contact us at 4thElksTriwood@gmail.com.



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403-284-3477



Brentwood Neighbour Day Celebration

by Lee Hunt

On June 17, our Brentwood Community had a joint celebration of Neighbour Day plus our Community's 60th Anniversary.

About 500 people attended the event. Especially popular were the bouncy castle, the petting zoo, the beehives, and the fire trucks - to say nothing of the food and ice cream trucks.

The Nose Hill Library was also a busy spot!

Attendees at our Neighbour Day included Mayor Jyoti Gondek, MLA Luanne Metz, and Councillor Sean Chu.

Thanks, and congratulations to all who organized this event, and thanks to all who attended.

Thanks also to the following people who submitted great photos of the event: Lisa Boychuk, Enid Holtby, Cam Howey, Brad Hunt, Brad Levie, Bonita McCurry, and Linda Van Holst.

Neighbour Day Prize Winners

Congratulations to the following who all won door prizes at Brentwood's Neighbour Day:

- Christine K. Nick's Steakhouse and Pizza t-shirt and steak seasoning
- Melissa K. Coast to Coast Pizza Gift Card
- Sehreet K. Coast to Coast Gift Card
- Jen L. Brentwood Co-op Gift Card
- Paul D. Spolumbo's Deli Gift Card
- Jerry Y. Spolumbo's Deli Gift Card
- Samira H. Freshco Gift Card
- Lithwin Brentwood Pharmasave Gift Basket
- Diane Brentwood 7-11 Gift Basket

CPL Nose Hill Library was into Neighbour Day in a **Massive Wav!**

There were volunteers, chalk paint, games, and the bubble machine outside, and in the Nose Hill Café you could draw Brentwood and participate in other activities. Thank you, Nose Hill Library!











Fire truck makes a brief appearance

Goats having a snack, Checking out the bees, and Telus brought new games



Brentwood's beekeeper Brisebois Bees brought a hive (did you find the queen), honey for sale, and free seed packs and honey samples



Chalk paint - out before 10:00 am, Chalk paint art



Food trucks and bouncy castle, Bouncy castle 8 in and 8 lined up







St Lukes is raisina money to build a new playground; they had all sorts of treats



Part-Time Community Hall Employee Wanted



Are you retired, still physically fit, and looking for occasional work to keep yourself busy and put a little money in your pocket? The BCA is looking for someone to join our team operating the Community Hall (see photo) at the Brentwood Sportsplex. Duties include janitorial work, minor building maintenance, and set up and take down of tables and chairs for events.

Schedule is flexible evenings and weekends based on hall bookings. If you are interested, please contact Steve Dietrich, Sportsplex Manager at steve.dietrich@brentwoodcommunity.com.

Casino Volunteers Needed!

This important fundraising opportunity is coming up on August 11-12, and BCA needs helpers to staff the key positions at the chip kiosk and count room. If you are interested, please sign up at the link below. http://brentwoodcommunity.com/2023/04/01/volunteersneeded-for-bca-casino-in-august-2023.

Brentwood Cares - Little Food Library and More!

With your donations and support, we continue to stock the Brentwood Cares Little Food Library twice daily, for use by people of all ages and circumstances, from elders to students.

Unopened, sealed items can be dropped off in the library itself or in the box beside the door at 3624 Boulton Rd at any time. Hats off to Brentwood for your continued support!

Liza and the Brentwood Cares Team

Seeking Christmas Market Vendors

The BCA will be hosting a Christmas Market on November 4, 2023. If you want to reserve a table for your business, please submit the registration form at the link below. Space is limited so reserve early! http://brentwoodcommunity.com/2023/03/31/seeking-christmas-market-vendors.

Buy Nothing Brentwood

Give freely; share creatively! Post anything you'd like to give away, lend, or share; ask for anything you'd like to receive or borrow.

Check out the Buy Nothing Brentwood/Charleswood/ Collingwood Facebook page, or buynothingproject.org.

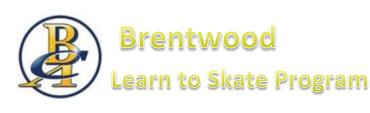
Your Representatives in Brentwood

City Councillor: Sean Chu (Ward 4). info@seanchu.ca. 403-268-3727.

MLA: Luanne Metz (Calgary-Varsity). Calgary.varsity@ assembly.ab.ca. 403-216-5436.

MP: Len Webber (Calgary Confederation). Len.Webber. c1@parl.gc.ca. 403-220-0888.







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BrentwoodSkatingClub@gmail.com

BRENTWOOD DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Housing and Affordability Task Force Recommendations

Submitted by Melanie Swailes on behalf of the Development and Transportation Committee

At the June 6 City Council meeting, the Housing and Affordability Task Force presented their recommendations. After a vote, the Motion was defeated by a vote of 8 to 7. The next day there was a "reconsideration of the vote" along with further amendments and the Motion was carried (approved). If this sounds confusing, it was.

You may be wondering how anyone could have initially voted against affordability measures: as the saying goes, the devil is in the details. What may seem simple, has complicated details that are likely not so straight-forward.

The Task Force website is https://engage.calgary.ca/

On the right side of this webpage, under Document Library, there is a link to the Recommendations. This is a 13-page detailed document, and you need to read it to form your own opinion.

What were the Task Force's six recommendations? The verbatim recommendations as listed in the report are:

- 1. Make it easier to build housing across the city.
- 2. Make more land available to build more housing across the city.
- Ensure that the supply of affordable housing meets the needs of Indigenous people living in Calgary and Equity-Deserving populations.
- Convene the housing sector to facilitate greater collaboration.
- 5. Increase the investment to support housing providers.
- 6. Ensure more individuals have a safe place to call home.

Most people would be supportive of these goals. So how does the Task Force propose that they can be achieved? Let's look at some of the details in #1 – "Make it easier to build housing across the city." Some of the proposals include:

Make the base residential district Residential-Grade-Oriented (R-CG) with guidance for single, semi-detached, row, and townhouses into a single land use district. (R-CG allows primarily for townhouse or rowhouse building forms that face the street with a front door access; four units plus four secondary suites could fit "sideways" on an existing R-C1 lot.)

Enable secondary suites and backyard suites on one parcel of land. (This means there could be a basement suite and a backyard suite on the same property; right now, only one or the other is allowed, but not both.)

Remove minimum parking requirements in all residential districts.

Advocate to the Government of Alberta for legislative change to the Municipal Government Act to allow affordable housing to be defined in a manner that exempts it from certain planning process requirements such as public hearing, which increases certainty and reduces timelines for developers and providers.

If these sound like major changes, they are. The details in the 13-page summary document are important to avert a "why didn't I know about this?" response later when there is an application for a rezoning next door to you. Opinions will likely be divided and only you can determine if you think these measures will be beneficial. Councillors will be voting on this in September and they need to know what you think.

While many of the proposals are intended for redevelopment in Established Areas such as Brentwood, some recommendations would impact new communities as well. For example, under #5 – "Increase the investment to support housing providers," there are potential changes to the Municipal Reserve (MR).

The City currently acquires open space lands (such as local and community parks) primarily through the 10% Municipal Reserve dedication as part of the subdivision process, and through direct purchase on an opportunity basis. Would you be supportive of reducing the 10% figure "to dedicate a portion of the Municipal Reserve for the purpose of establishing land banks in all new communities for Affordable Housing (for example: 1/5 of the overall 10% dedication)"?

The central question: do you think these recommendations will have the desired effect of increasing affordable housing options in Calgary? Do you think that building more intensely on existing R-C1 lots (i.e., building a townhouse/

rowhouse or adding secondary suites) will make more housing available at a lower cost? Or do you think that building should be focused on many of the larger existing brownfield areas (such as Westbrook LRT area, Victoria Park, Midfield Park, Stadium Shopping Centre, etc.)?

Housing has changed a great deal since the 1960s when Brentwood was developed and we're now seeing the effects of the financialization of housing. Houses are often viewed as commodities that can generate a large return on investment and as a means of accumulating wealth: they have become attractive for reasons other than just as a place to live long-term or to raise a family. Prices are climbing while affordability is plunging, leaving many people looking for solutions.

The Task Force made its recommendations, but unfortunately, Community Associations and "regular" citizens were not part of the discussions. If this concerns you, please learn more and get involved. Attend a Brentwood CA meeting in September, attend the Annual General Meeting in September, and join your community association





Dear Brentwoodians,

Many of you enjoyed the Neighbour Day celebration on June 17; I did with my family! Our neighbourhood columnist Lee Hunt gives a rundown of the attractions and announces the prize winners elsewhere in this issue, Cam Howey (Brentwood Cares) provided a photo essay of the day, and we received some other great photos which you will find as you read along.

Brentwood Swag - Have You Got Yours?



Also, thanks to Cam, Neighbour Day was the official release of the new Brentwood swag, t-shirts, carry bags, and stickers. Some selections were sold out on Neighbour Day, so if you want to get yours before they are totally sold out, or place an order for the next printing, please call the BCA Office at 403-284-3477, Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 12:00 pm and 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Photo Contest

The Bugle is looking for Brentwood's best amateur photographers to provide cover images each month. If you have a great snap of our neighbourhood saved on your phone or posted on your social media feed, send it in for a chance to be featured on the cover of an upcoming issue! Photos must be 300 DPI or higher (i.e., from a newer model phone or good digital camera), 2400 x 1600 pixels minimum size, and portrait orientation. If submitting pictures of minors, please make sure that you have direct, express permission to submit the picture from a parent or guardian. Send your photos, or any questions, to bcabugle@telus.net.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Jucker, editor Brentwood Bugle



by Anne Burke

The Open Space Plan says that our city's greatest asset is the natural environment and wildlife, so we should foster stewardship with nature education programs. Calgary parks are linked by pathways and green belts. We must protect and conserve the river valley system, unique prairie, urban forest, and foothill ecosystems.

The Plan conforms with provincial land use policies and the Municipal Government Act. There are some general principles. We will preserve natural environment parks and environmentally significant areas, enhanced by restoration to prevent loss. Site-specific plans recommend that we record biophysical inventories and historical resources for cultural landscapes such as Nose Hill.

The Open Space Plan is under review. One of the aims is learning how to improve natural environment parks through decision-making that puts the environment first. Natural habitats offer places for wildlife to find food, water, cover, and to raise their young. We can reconnect, rest, and mentally recharge. Nose Hill offers sacred indigenous spaces of culture—past, present, and future.

Connect: Calgary's Parks Plan, Phase 1 engagement ran from April 17 to May 19. A What We Heard Report will be published online this summer. Phase 2 starts in October 2023.



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ROTARY RIBFEST - SEPT 8-10: The famous BBQ Rib and Chicken trucks from the Stampede events will be providing the food and the Rotary clubs are hosting the family fun festival with live bands, beer garden, food trucks and fun for the whole family. Check out the website for the schedule of the bands, yycrotaryribfest.ca.



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CHARLESWOOD—23 STREET

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