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THE OFFICIAL BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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News, Events, & More



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Dear Brentwoodians,

This month Lee Hunt celebrates another anniversary, the fifth birthday of Brentwood Cares. Born of the pandemic, this group has become a fixture in our community and does amazing work. Brentwood is seen as a fairly affluent community, but that doesn't mean there isn't need among us. Cam, Liza, and their team of amazing volunteers have done a great job of building connections within our community and beyond. I will add my thanks for their contribution and congratulations on five successful years!

Community Consultation

Melanie Swailes touches on the issue of community input in this month's DTC report. In my work, I have learned that what passes for "community engagement" in various contexts is almost always sorely lacking. It mostly amounts to going to a community and saying, "here is what we intend to do, we hope you like it, since we aren't going to make anything more than minor changes based on your feedback." If there is opposition to the basic concept of the proposal, the "engagement" then becomes an exercise in marketing, cajoling, and politicking to push the original plan through regardless—a guaranteed way to build resentment and disenfranchisement.

True community engagement does not try to advance a particular idea or agenda and should be open to any possible outcome. Perhaps instead of waiting for developers to say, "we want to build x or y", city planners should ask communities, "what kind of building forms do you want in your neighbourhood? Where should denser forms be located? What should they look like?

What is the character of your community and how can we maintain that while addressing the need for more housing?"

The outcome of such a consultation could then be used to inform future development proposals and increase the "buy-in" of the community, avoiding much of the rancour and contention that surrounds some of the examples Melanie cites in her piece.

New Voices

I was glad to hear from a new contributor in the wake of my call last month for new voices and perspectives. Please look out for the piece in this issue by Leticia Hernandez in which she sings the praises of our community and all it has to offer.

And if you have something to say, please get in touch - experience not necessary!

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) and 2400 x 1600 pixels minimum size. 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





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 Road at any time. Hats off to Brentwood for your continued support!

Liza and the Brentwood Cares Team

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.

Calgary Police Service on Nextdoor!

Calgary Police Service now has a dedicated space to engage with community residents.

You can expect to see posts on the following topics:

- Awareness and updates: events, initiatives, and updates in our community
- Crime trends and prevention: education, resources, and tools
- Community engagement: a place to share concerns, ideas, and feedback
- Emergency alerts: immediate notifications that affect our area

You can find the Calgary Police Service's space on Nextdoor here: <https://ca.nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ab/calgary/calgary-police-service/>.

Your Representatives in Brentwood

City Councillor: Sean Chu (Ward 4):
ward04@calgary.ca; 403-268-3727.

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

MP: Corey Hogan (Calgary Confederation)

**FOOD BANK BOOSTER SUMMER
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Off the Bookshelf

by Rosemary Brown

In *Braiding Legal Orders: Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)*, editors Borrows, Chartrand, Fitzgerald, and Schwartz bring together a fascinating and informative range of essays by legal scholars and policy analysts.

Their purpose, as explained in part one of the introduction, is to examine the relationship of UNDRIP to Canadian Constitutional Law, specifically section 35 on Aboriginal Rights, Indigenous laws, and other international laws or legal instruments. Their goal is to “bring International and domestic law in line with Indigenous laws.” They believe that doing so will result in true Nation to Nation relationships and enhance the process of Reconciliation, and through this will come to “reconceive the very idea of laws and how they are created.”

It is impossible to recount all of the themes covered in this volume, but I will discuss a few that stood out for me.

There were two that addressed gender: they discussed the negative impact colonization had on traditional gender roles and the status of Indigenous women. Often disregarded has been the fact that Indigenous women possessed different knowledge of the land and its plant and animal resources than men. Resource extraction also impacts Indigenous women differently. It is argued that a gendered lens needs to be applied to domestic laws and that UNDRIP would need to be used in conjunction with other international human rights instruments in order to fully protect the rights of Indigenous women.

There were also essays exploring Indigenous legal traditions as these relate to the land and water. Based on centuries of observation and experience they speak to the responsibility of Indigenous people to each other

and to the natural world around them. These include discussions of Anishinaabe and Mi'kmaq beliefs and how they have informed actions to protect the land.

Several chapters discuss the “duty to consult”:

“The Government of Canada has a duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Indigenous groups when it considers conduct that might adversely impact potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights. The duty stems from the Honour of the Crown and is derived from section 35 of Canada’s Constitution Act, 1982, which recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and treaty rights”.

Many Canadians think that this “duty to consult” protects the rights of Indigenous peoples, their lands, and resources. However, Canadian courts have offered a restrictive interpretation of the duty to consult, based on the Doctrine of Discovery whereby ultimate sovereignty over Crown land (almost 89% of Canada’s land base, with 11% being privately owned and another 0.36% making up First Nations reserves) rests with the Crown. This is the land on which the Federal and provincial governments issue permits for resource extraction, heedless of the fact that these are the ancestral lands of Indigenous Nations which they have a sacred responsibility to protect.

In these essays it is argued that until Indigenous nations have the right to veto proposed resource development projects, we will not have Nation to Nation relationships, nor true Reconciliation.

Authors in *Braiding Legal Orders* argue that Articles 26, 27, and 28 of UNDRIP guaranteeing Indigenous rights to their ancestral lands could be used in the courts to correct this power imbalance.

For all of those interested in the subject of Indigenous rights, especially when it comes to land and resources, I highly recommend this book.

Word of the Month

Filipendulous: *adjective* (fil-i-pen-du-lous)

Suspended by a thread.

The artist crafted a gallery full of filipendulous drawings and artworks.



Who Gets to Decide?

by Melanie Swailes on behalf of the Development and Transportation Committee

I wish the word “NIMBY” (Not in My Backyard) would stop popping up in media reports on some recently proposed redevelopments. This pre-supposes that any redevelopment must be good or desirable, and that residents opposing it are self-centred or hostile to any change. NIMBY has become a convenient way to dismiss opposition without examining the reasons why.

Often it is the scale of what is being proposed that causes the opposition: in many cases area residents support redevelopment, as long as it is appropriate and contextual to the area. But who gets to decide the meaning of “contextual” or “appropriate”?

Some recent examples: In January, in the West District area, a development company announced that it would be applying to change the approved area plan, which limits condos to ten storeys, so that it could build up to 30 storeys. In December, the Glenmore Landing redevelopment was narrowly defeated by Council: it would have allowed up to 15 towers, ranging from 11 to 30 storeys. At the time of writing, the Viscount Bennett site will soon go before Council, proposing eight buildings up to 16 storeys high. In each case, it has not been a question of whether the land should be densely developed, but rather opposition based on the sheer size and intensity of the use on that property.

Residents are not NIMBYs when they oppose something whose scale they could not have anticipated and when they feel that local context has not been considered. Existing communities are not blank slates. “Community character” can be a difficult concept to define. What I’ve noticed is that in general, the further away you are from a redevelopment, the less likely you are to be impacted. You may even support the proposed redevelopments because there may be some potential benefit to you and certainly no harm. How much input should the local area have?

A good example of a community rallying against a development occurred in Lakeview in 2016, when McDonald’s wanted to build a 24-hour restaurant/drive-thru at the corner of 63 Avenue and Crowchild Trail SW, in Lakeview Plaza. The application was strongly

opposed by the community (through petitions, letters, submissions to City Council) and was turned down by the Planning Department, but McDonald’s appealed. Ultimately, a multi-day SDAB (Subdivision and Development Appeal Board) hearing result agreed that a development permit should not be issued, and the proposal was turned down.

Look up the SDAB Decision and read the lengthy case: 2016 CGYSDAB 59 (CanLII) | SDAB2016-0059 (Re) | CanLII. The majority of community residents felt the proposed development would negatively impact their area, but there were also a few submissions in support of the McDonald’s. You might not want a McDonald’s or other high-use business next door, but you might eagerly support the same business a few blocks away. Who gets to decide what is appropriate or not suitable for an area?

This is one of the difficulties with Councillors voting on rezoning applications. Often, the vote is for a community far away, possibly an unfamiliar area: voting on a significant change in other communities is an easier decision than in your own. Likewise, a new eight-plex unit a few blocks away doesn’t impact you at all, but if it is next door, the massing and shadowing might destroy your ability to grow your garden, or might render your expensive solar panels ineffective. Weighing the often-competing interests of residents, would-be residents, and developers is difficult. Residents are usually not opposed to all change - the feedback we receive is often along the lines of “I’d be okay with two storeys, but not three” or “Why can’t we make sure that some of the big trees are retained?” It is those nuances that matter.

Discretionary Permits allow for community feedback. Ideally, citizen engagement would include a meaningful review process that shows how the development team actually listened to concerns, and more importantly, acted on them by incorporating some of the feedback to evolve the plans. Perhaps NIMBYism reflects a failure on the part of planners and developers to involve the local community in meaningful ways in the first place.

Does this mean that nothing would ever get built? No, not at all. Rather, it would put more onus on the developer to ensure that a proposed development “fits” into the area without a drastic change. Context changes gradually over time.

Your input should matter if you will be impacted by a new development. There are existing statutory guidelines in the Land Use Bylaw and in the Municipal Development Plan that reference sensitive and contextual redevelopment. But in order for it to matter, you have to speak up (submit comments, call for more information, voice your concerns). Decisions will be made one way or another. Don't be afraid to speak out to support the things you love about your community!

Contact the BCA at office@brentwoodcommunity.com or at 403-284-3477.



An Ode to Brentwood

by Leticia Hernandez

I've lived in Calgary for two years now, and both of those years I've had the pleasure of calling Brentwood home. It didn't take long for me to understand why our neighbourhood is ranked among the highest in Calgary. The vibrance of our community is seen in the blend of nature, community, and opportunity we have.

When I first moved to Calgary, I hoped to end up downtown. After all, that's where the supposed "heart of the city" is. However, once I nested in Brentwood, I quickly realized that everything I could want, and the true heart of Calgary, is right here in our neighbourhood.

There are endless possibilities when it comes to a day out in Brentwood. With a different place for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, couples can create meaningful memories without having to journey far from home. These options are what I love most about Brentwood. Whether I want to have a romantic coffee date with my partner or trivia night with my friends at the pub, I don't have to leave my neighbourhood. It's also a bonus if I am able to say hello to a neighbour!

Now that the weather is in full swing, it would be an injustice to not acknowledge the abundance of green space in Brentwood. From tree-lined streets to doggy parks, there is no shortage of outside spaces to get your steps in and soak in the sun. A particular favourite of mine is Nose Hill Park. With its stunning views of the city, a walk up the hill is a perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon. I find it hard to find time outside of my 9 to 5 routine to get out and touch some grass, but Nose Hill offers us Brentwoodians the chance to enjoy a hike without having to plan a trip to the mountains (or pay that pesky park entrance fee in Banff).

Living in Brentwood has opened my eyes to the different ways in which one neighbourhood can serve you. From nature walks to late nights at the pub, Brentwood has shown me how lucky we are to have a community that creates a sense of belonging. It is not just a place I call home, but the heart of my Calgary experience.

BRAIN
GAMES

SUDOKU

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SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE SOLUTION

Brentwood Cares Celebrates Its 5th Anniversary

by Lee Hunt



Liza, Cam, and Lee.

"We wanted to convert kindness into action." With these words, Brentwood resident Liza Lorenzetti explained how Brentwood Cares came into being.

Five years ago, in the midst of the COVID pandemic, U of C Social Work Professor Liza Lorenzetti had a Zoom call with social workers from across the city. They were concerned about the isolation that Calgarians were experiencing, so decided to each set up a care group in their respective neighbourhoods. Thus, Liza brought Brentwood Cares into existence. Soon she was joined in this important endeavour by fellow Brentwoodian Cam Howey. The two approached Brentwood Community Association (BCA) President Bonita McCurry who was immediately on board. Liza and Cam are so grateful for Bonita's (and thus the BCA's) ongoing support. As Liza puts it, "Bonita always says 'yes' and does so much for us." In fact, it has been a family affair as Bonita's husband Paul Duguay has delivered hundreds of flyers for Brentwood Cares, and her grandsons Zach and Xander have helped out as well.

Likely when you think of Brentwood Cares, the first endeavour which comes to mind is the Little Free Food Library located in front of 3624 Boulton Road NW. For five years, Brentwoodians have kept the LFFL going with

their donations – be those food items or cash. (Again, the BCA has helped out by having a food drop box at most of its events.)

But Brentwood Cares has since branched out to so many other endeavours. Do you recall during COVID when we were all encouraged to stand on our balconies or doorsteps to beat a wooden spoon on a pot or pan? Brentwood Cares was behind that activity in our community.

From that beginning, Brentwood Cares continued to reach out: in 2021, they enlisted Brentwood artists to create a number of colourful small murals on fences along community pathways, and in 2022 organized the Art Walk which drew 600 people to visit those murals. In 2023, Brentwood Cares helped out with our BCA's 60th anniversary celebration.

But there is still so much more to Brentwood Cares. Over the years, the group has supported the seniors at Carroll Place by drawing chalk art out in front for occasions such as Easter, Canada Day, and Halloween, and by collecting games and books for the activity room. Thanks to Hope Lutheran Church for helping out with those collections.

In addition, Brentwood Cares started the tradition of giving homemade cookies and cards to the Carroll Place residents at Christmas. This tradition has been taken over by the students at Brebeuf School for the past few years.

Brentwood Cares has also sponsored a series of free art classes, as well as provided articles to *The Bugle*. And have I mentioned that they have held bottle drives which raised \$2,000 to sponsor three Pakistani girls to attend school? To say nothing of the many winter coats which the group has collected for migrant workers in Calgary. The group gathered hygiene products for clients of the Mustard Seed, and volunteer drivers delivered hampers for the Food Bank.

But Brentwood Cares doesn't stop there either. Each summer they arrange help for Brentwood residents who need assistance with yard work. Summer also brings sponsorship of Calgary House Concerts, held outside the Skate Shack near the Community Garden. Of course, attendees are asked to donate to the Little Free Food Library.

In the winter, with the help of Brentwood donors, Brentwood Cares prepares two holiday food hampers for Horizon Church to donate to families in need.

As you can tell, Brentwood Cares has been a very active and generous entity over the past five years. Liza and Cam wish to thank the numerous individuals and groups which have supported them. Those include the Brentwood Community Association and President Bonita McCurry, Rosemary Brown, Susan Templeton, Rayan Alfuhaid, Di Wu, Isabel Chan, Melanie Swailes, Horizon Church, plus many other unnamed individuals who have helped by donating food, money, and time. They have all helped to make Brentwood Cares such a success. And a success it is! As one recipient of the Food Library told Liza, "This food has saved me."

The thread running through all of the Brentwood Cares endeavours is "kindness and its impact on happiness" and its "ability to foster a sense of wellbeing," as Liza put it.

We at The *Bugle* offer Brentwood Cares a huge thank you plus all the best in your future endeavours helping others. Happy fifth anniversary!

P.S. – Brentwood Cares could always use more volunteers. If you would like to help out, please contact Cam Howey at cam.howey@gmail.com.



Brentwood

Community Association

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First Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

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Community Association**

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5107 - 33 Street NW, Calgary
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403-284-3477



GROUND CONTROL TO MAJOR TOM

On May 12, 2013, an unlikely beautiful voice in space emerged. Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield, aboard the International Space Station, fittingly recorded a cover of David Bowie's "Space Oddity". His video, featuring him floating in zero gravity while singing, quickly went viral.





Scouts - 4th Elks Triwood

Spring 2025 Updates

It has been a busy season for our scouting section this year. The Beavers had a sleepover dance party event in March while the Cubs and Scouts did a winter camp at Alford Lake where they learned about firearms safety, archery, and tried their hand at ice fishing. Scouts had a great time at SAIT's 3D print lab this past February. The Cubs took to the pool in February for another session of scuba diving.



Beavers doing a campfire story at the sleepover dancer party.



Cubs learning archery skills at the winter camp at AHEIA's Alford Lake camp.



The Scouts at SAIT's 3D print lab.

The Scout section was successful in getting a grant from the Chinook Council's Grizzly Den to help fund their five-day canoe adventure in June.

The Beavers and Cubs are going to close out their season with a camp in Dinosaur Country.

Registration

If you're interested in registering your youth or learning more about our group, feel free to email us, check out our Facebook page, or see our website for details.

Fundraisers

Thanks to those of you who provided bottles at our bottle drive this past April. We have completed our fundraising campaigns for the year. We look forward to seeing you next year for our coffee and popcorn sales and bottle drive events!

Become a Leader

We need leaders to make these programs happen. If you are new to Scouting or want to get back into it and are interested in building your outdoor skills along with your youth, there is a place for you at 4th Elks. Contact us at 4thElksTriwood@gmail.com.

Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Honey, Woodcreek



Kona, Woodlands



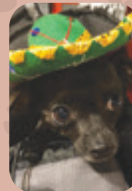
Marjory, Walden



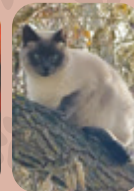
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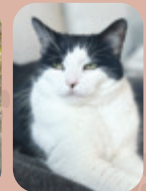
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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

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E.G.K. GENERAL CONTRACTING/RENOVATIONS AND HANDYMAN SERVICES: Drywall, taping, texturing, painting, tile work, t-bar ceilings, flooring, plumbing, water line breaks, flood and fire restoration, mold remediation, electrical and more. 40+ years of experience. Licensed, insured, carry W.C.B. B.B.B. accredited A+ rating. Check out my website at www.egkcontracting.com or call Erich at 403-606-2493.

JEFFREY ELECTRIC: Friendly, professional electrical service for your next residential project, large or small. 10 years serving Calgary, City Qualified Trade, Master Electrician, licensed, insured. Very competitive rates for quality electrical work. Service panel upgrades from 60 amp to 200 amp. Car chargers, aluminum rewiring, custom kitchens and basements. Free estimates. www.cejelectric.com or call Clayton at 403-970-5441.

GUTTER DOCTOR: Home exterior services. We do eavestrough cleaning, repairs, and installation as well as downspouts, fascia, soffit, siding, roofing, cladding, leaf screens, heat cables, window washing and pressure washing. Local business for over 20 years with more than 60,000 happy customers! Licensed, insured, and WCB. A+ rated BBB member. Multi award-winner. Quality work with a warranty! www.gutterdoctor.ca, 403-714-0711.

OUT ON A LIMB PROFESSIONAL PRUNING: Tree and shrub pruning, shaping and restoration. Tree removal and stump grinding. New tree and shrub selection and installation. Fertilizing and insect pest management. Licensed & Insured. Journeyman Landscape Gardener and certified Arborist. Call Jim at 403-265-6965 or email outonalimbprofessionalpruning@live.ca.

continued on next page

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

continued

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

HOUSE AND YARD MAINTENANCE: Spring and fall yard cleanups, power raking, leaf cleanup, flower beds, hedge trimming, top dressing, and weeding. Eavestrough cleaning/leak sealing, window cleaning, fence work, gates, drywall repairs. Exterior painting such as decks, trims, and window frames. Commercially insured. Call Ryan at 403-202-1263.

PET VISITS NEEDED: Looking for a retired person or stay-at-home parent to visit my 15-lb cockapoo in my Brentwood home three times per week while I'm at work. Rate is \$20/visit for a trusted, reliable pet visitor. Contact Kelly at 403-667-6763 by text or by phone to arrange a meet and greet.

TLC CLEANING: Over 20 years' experience in the business! TLC Cleaning is a small and personalized house cleaning company with an eye for detail. Licensed, insured, bonded, and WCB covered for your peace of mind. Excellent rates and references; environmentally-friendly options too. Everyone needs a little TLC! Free estimates; please call Carol at 403-614-8522 or email tlc.cleaning@shaw.ca.



The Gutter Doctor

403-714-0711
gutterdoctor.ca

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44 COLLINGWOOD PLACE NW (COLLINGWOOD)



An outstanding brand new luxury home in the heart of Collingwood! >3,000 sq. ft. of opulent living space - stacked with plenty of features, the builder has planned and executed meticulously throughout the process. This home has a legal 2 bedroom basement suite and a double attached garage. Separate furnace systems, with AC installed for the main dwelling unit. Close to the Calgary Winter Club.

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2104, 99 SPRUCE PLACE SW (SPRUCE CLIFF)

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