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THE OFFICIAL BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



*Cover Photo by Kelsey Emes*



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# Brentwood COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**www.brentwoodcommunity.com | Community Centre, 1520B Northmount Drive NW**

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**Linda Van Holst – Office Manager • Steve Dietrich – Arena Manager**

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VAN HOLST, Linda	Office Manager	<a href="mailto:Office@brentwoodcommunity.com">Office@brentwoodcommunity.com</a>



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### News, Events, & More



### Crime Statistics



### Real Estate Statistics



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Dear Brentwoodians,

### Back to School

It is hard to believe that when you read this, summer will have drawn to a close – and I have already spotted Halloween candy in the grocery store. I find it very hard to imagine that candy purchased in August will still be on hand by October 31!

With back-to-school time always comes a lot more traffic—yellow buses, cars, bicycles, and pedestrians—so please remember to be careful as you make your way through our neighbourhood and others. We all want to be on time for school or work, but being a few minutes late is greatly preferable to risky behaviour on our roads and sidewalks and the possibility of causing a collision. Please be safe out there!

### Thank You, Melanie!

As you will read in this issue, long-serving Development and Transportation Committee chair Melanie Swales is stepping down from her post. She has been a tireless advocate for our community over the past eight years, and her impact will be felt for a long time in Brentwood. I wish her well on her next endeavours, and I hope that she will continue to be an occasional contributor to these pages. She has been wonderful to work with, and it has been a pleasure to bring her thoughts and views to our readers. Please take some time to read her final column in this month's *Bugle* and perhaps consider if you have a contribution to make to the BCA!

### 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](mailto:bcabugle@telus.net).

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Jucker

Editor, Brentwood Bugle



## BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: September 4th, 2025

TIME: 7:00 pm

LOCATION: Brentwood Sportsplex Hall  
1520B Northmount Dr NW

*Registration starts at 6:30 pm*  
Meet and greet social following AGM.

## BCA 2025 Christmas CRAFT MARKET

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## Public Skating

**Mondays: 10:00 to 11:30 am**

September 8 to December 22, 2025

January 5 to March 23, 2026

**Wednesdays: 1:30 to 3:00 pm**

September 10 to December 17, 2025

January 7 to March 25, 2026

**No Public Skating Dates:**

October 13, December 24, 29, and 31, 2025,

February 16, 2026

\*No public skating on Statutory Holidays

**Cost: \$1 per person (pay at the office)**

Public skating only – no sticks, pucks, sleds, or strollers. We do not supply skating assistance equipment. Anyone under age 18 must wear a helmet.



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## News from the Friends of Nose Hill

*by Anne Burke*

Learn how citizens fought to preserve Nose Hill, its history, how it unfolded. The Calgary Local Council of Women recommended that all development of Nose Hill be delayed, until after a major study by the Calgary Planning Commission of city growth. The only existing control was the absence of zoning approval for development and should be delayed, until such time as the City had sufficient funds. Calgary had never expended significant monies for parkland. In its natural state, the only cost for their proposal would be land acquisition, without any capital expenses, facilities, and maintenance.

They believed that Nose Hill is a beautiful natural area. We must preserve prime natural areas to offset urban sprawl and the concrete City Centre. Nose Hill is to Calgary what Citadel Hill is to Halifax; Battlefield's Park to Quebec City; Mount Royal to Montreal; Stanley Park to Vancouver; and Beacon Hill Park to Victoria. Calgary would become the first city in Western Canada to have a natural area of prairie vegetation. Tourists will visit the natural grassland of Nose Hill or view it from the Calgary Tower.

The group proposed that approximately 3,500 acres, bounded on the West by the Sarcee Trail right-of-way, South by the John Laurie Boulevard, East by the existing development adjacent to the escarpments of Nose Hill, and North by the highlands and escarpments of Nose Hill to and beyond 80 Avenue NW, be zoned as Natural Parkland in perpetuity.

The Hill is a dominant geographical feature in Calgary since its southern slopes can be seen from most locations, providing a constant reminder to citizens of the prairie landscape surrounding them which has played such an influential role in our economic and cultural development.



### 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](http://buynothingproject.org).

### Calgary Police Service on Nextdoor!

Calgary Police Service now has a dedicated space to engage with community residents. <https://ca.nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ab/calgary/calgary-police-service/>.

For more information or to join Nextdoor, download the app or visit [nextdoor.ca](http://nextdoor.ca) today!

### CPS Community Safety Guide

<https://brentwoodcommunity.com/2024/11/21/cps-community-safety-guide/>.

### Your Representatives in Brentwood

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

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

**MP:** Corey Hogan (Calgary Confederation)

**CPS Community Police Officer:** Constable Reinders:  
[pol4241@calgarypolice.ca](mailto:pol4241@calgarypolice.ca); 403-428-6342.



## Brentwood Community Association Membership Application

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Family \$35   ☐ 55 Plus (Couple) \$25

☐ Individual \$12.50

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**5107 - 33 Street NW, Calgary**  
**Alberta T2L 1V3**  
**[office@brentwoodcommunity.com](mailto:office@brentwoodcommunity.com)**

**403-284-3477**



## Lessons Learned from Eight Years of DTC

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

On February 8, 2017, the first meeting of the Brentwood Community Association's Development and Transportation Committee (DTC) was held; I have been privileged to have served as Chair ever since, but I will step down from the role in September 2025. I'm not sure yet what is next, or if I will continue to write for the *Bugle*. Thank you to everyone who has supported the DTC, especially those who have written me notes or responded to the *Bugle* reports.

A huge thank you to Peter Johnson, who has been invaluable as my "right-hand man". Peter does a lot of the behind-the-scenes work, keeping track of all the Development Permits on meticulous spreadsheets and ensuring we meet the deadlines for our community feedback. He has attended countless meetings with me, submitted hundreds of letters to the Planning Circulation Department, and written up hundreds of Neighbour Notifications. If you've ever received a letter notifying you of a DP near your home, it was Peter who hand-delivered each one. Above all, Peter has always been there to help figure out how to proceed on a difficult matter. Thank you, Peter!

### So, What Lessons Have I Learned In Eight Years?

#### 1. It Takes a Village (Or Rather, An Active Community Association)

Our DTC membership has changed over time, but we have been fortunate to always have had a core group of eight to ten people who attended meetings and helped with our tasks: it would be a long list if I named each person who participated since 2017. When I talk to members of other CAs, they are often astonished that we have more than just a few individuals taking part. Each person has brought unique perspectives and ideas to the group, and I have appreciated each of you very much.

#### 2. Community Associations Matter

You may think of CAs for their role in soccer or hockey programs, or maybe hall rentals. However, CAs are considered to be "directly affected" by community

planning items from the City, and are entitled to have notice from, and to be heard by, decision-makers. There are currently 150 active CAs in Calgary, relying mostly on volunteers to provide programs, services, and communications to our residents. If you couldn't turn to the CA, where would you find out more about developments or changes proposed near you?

The BCA celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2024. For most of these 60 years, there wasn't much redevelopment happening and planning issues weren't a priority in Brentwood. That has changed, especially with the approval of blanket rezoning, a new Zoning Bylaw slated for 2026, and a future Local Area Plan (LAP) which will determine which streets will be designated for higher density, taller buildings.

Community Associations need to be the point of first contact between residents and the City.

#### 3. Taking Part Makes a Difference

For a long time, I didn't join the CA or get involved either, but I wish I had done so sooner. It's been rewarding to get to know so many people in the community and to feel that my participation mattered, even in a small way. Planning items can spark widely differing opinions and perspectives, which lead to welcome fresh ideas, discussions, and reviews. You can help ensure that when there is a proposed development or a major planning initiative, our residents are able to access information or have a voice at Council.

#### 4. The Impact of Blanket Rezoning or New Zoning Bylaws

If the house next door to you sells, will it be to another family or to an investor? In Brentwood, our first application for a rezoning to allow for an eight-plex unit (four up and four basement suites) will likely be approved by early September. If you are thinking that you live on a quiet street where this won't happen, think again. Look on the DMap to find examples scattered throughout established communities (<https://www.calgary.ca/development/permits/permit-application-search.html>). The impact on neighbours can be significant, both in terms of the size of the building (lot coverage, removal of trees, number of bedrooms), and also the impact from many more people living on the site (parking,



garbage bins, etc.).

### **5. If You Don't Speak Up, Nobody Else Will**

I've learned that most residents are passionate about their street and their area. But the reality is that nobody else cares as much as you do. If you don't say anything, we have to assume that you either like the proposed plans, or don't care about them one way or another. We have always delivered a Neighbour Notification to adjacent homes to ensure that residents are aware of a development proposed near them and encouraged to submit their comments on that application. The CA tries to represent our residents' views, but we can only do so if we get your opinions and feedback. Numerous times, we have received no feedback at all until the project is underway: then we are contacted and asked how such a large building was permitted, or why they were allowed to cut down every tree. Unfortunately, once the DP is issued, there is nothing that can be done: the time to comment is in advance.

### **6. The People Making Decisions May Not Know Your Community**

Brentwood is the place where we live, work, play, attend school, and shop. We each know our communities, and public participation ensures that we have input in how they evolve. We often hear people say, "why bother?" or "they will just do what they want anyhow". Sometimes this seems true, but by submitting our input, we can help the CA, our elected officials, and the City understand what is important to us, and show that we want to be involved in decisions that affect us. Keep in mind that out of 14 councillors and the mayor, only one of them directly represents your ward. The rest have a vote on proposed changes, even though they might have never set foot in your community, and almost certainly not on your street. If you want them to understand your opinions, you need to speak out. Also keep in mind that the investors proposing changes for your community might not know your area or even your city. Stay involved, or they will be the only ones dictating how or what gets built in your community.

### **7. City Planning Doesn't Have All the Answers**

Many planning ideas or principles are really theories about what creates vibrant streets or public spaces, or what works to create affordable and liveable

areas. Does blanket rezoning bring affordability? Are three-storey townhouses a good building form? Should commercial spaces be on the main floor of all multi-unit buildings? Bylaws, building codes, and other regulations provide physical guidance, but that doesn't necessarily mean that these are the best ways to build or redevelop.

### **8. Attend the Brentwood CA Annual General Meeting – September 4**

Each committee will present a short summary of activities. Following the meeting, there will be a meet and greet social event – it's a great way to get involved and to meet new neighbours. Join the BCA. If we have your email, you will be on a mailing list for notification of important events and developments.

### **9. Vote!**

On October 20, 2025, make sure to vote. Research the candidates, attend a forum, talk with your friends and neighbours. Most of the Councillor candidates will likely attend the AGM, so it's a great way to meet them and ask questions.

### **10. Join the Development and Transportation Committee**

Lend your voice to future developments in Brentwood! Changes will happen, with or without you. If you think that you don't know anything about planning, we'd be happy to teach you, or to connect you with many resources and free learning sessions. The best advice comes from Larry Beasley, a noted Canadian Urban Planner, and the author of *Vancouverism*:

"You start from one basic principle as a planner: Citizens are as smart or smarter than you are, and they have a lot more information at the local level than you can ever have. .... Neighbourhoods are one of the fundamentals of a liveable city. Cities are getting so huge and complex that local sense of place is becoming even more important. Neighbourhoods are at the essence of what I think good communities are about."

If you are interested, please send an email to the office ([office@brentwoodcommunity.com](mailto:office@brentwoodcommunity.com)) and let us know how you would like to get involved. Bring your talents into the group. We need you, and you may need us some day as well!

# Off the Bookshelf

by Rosemary Brown

Carole-Ann Hilton is Hesquiaht from the west coast of Vancouver Island, and traces her ancestry to the Ahousaht Nation, also on the west coast of Vancouver Island, and Makkah Nation on the Olympic Peninsula. She is the founder and CEO of the Indigenomics Institute, is an Adjunct Professor at the Royal Roads University School of Business in Victoria, and holds an MBA from the University of Herefordshire in England.

In her 2022 book *Indigenomics: Taking A Seat at the Economic Table*, Carole Ann Hilton makes an eloquent argument for why we should integrate Indigenous understandings of economy into the business decisions we make, not only in Canada but around the world.

She lays out common aspects of Indigenous world views, contrasts these with Western views, challenges narratives about the foundations on which Canada was built, and debunks many of the common myths and stereotypes about Indigenous peoples—in particular about how much “is given” to Indigenous peoples at “our” expense, and that Indigenous peoples are a drain on the economy. This latter myth permeates the thinking of many Canadians, as demonstrated by recent comments by a Lac La Biche County Councillor in discussions about a request from the Beaver Lake Nation for \$36,000 to repair an intersection of a road on the reserve.

Hilton also highlights the number of court cases initiated by Indigenous peoples protecting their land and water base from unbridled resource extraction and how these have changed the power dynamics between Indigenous nations, corporations, and the government; and notes numerous successful Indigenous economic initiatives that integrate Indigenous world views.

Hilton paints a backdrop of a contracting world economy in crisis, the incompatibility of the growth imperative with finite resources, increasing economic disparity, and the ecological crisis as the rationale for why we need to look to different ways of designing our economies. She echoes those who argue that more economic models exist than capitalism and socialism and asserts that Indigenomics is one of these.

The way forward is laid out in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The Federal government can continue to resist true nation-to-nation relationships when it comes to decision-making around resource extraction industries, or it can find new ways of doing business that would incorporate Indigenous ways of knowing about the relationships among humans and the natural world and the responsibilities we have to each other. Hilton argues that the risk of not changing is too high for all of us.

This book will challenge our thinking about economies and business and at the same time point a path forward into the future for Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike.



## The David

As a symbol of the strength and independence of the Florentines, the statue of David was commissioned to be placed at the entrance of Palazzo Vecchio. On September 8, 1504, this marvellous piece was revealed to the city. Unsurprisingly, everyone loved it!



## Long Time Brentwood Politician Retires

by Lee Hunt



"After 21 years of public service and 60 years of calling Brentwood home, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. Serving this community has been one of the greatest honours of my life."

These are words spoken by Len Webber, who has recently retired from political office after 11 years as MLA for Calgary Foothills followed by ten years as MP for Calgary Confederation.

Len grew up in Brentwood and with his wife, Heather, raised their family here. In fact, they did so in the very same home where Len had been raised. Len attended Brebeuf School in Brentwood for grades one through nine, then Bishop Carroll for high school. "When not in school, I literally spent all of my waking hours at the Brentwood outdoor rink playing hockey in the winter months and baseball on the diamonds of Captain John Palliser in the summer."

Together, Len and Heather "enjoyed the simple beauty of day-to-day life – walking the dog up on Nose Hill Park, attending our daughters' dance recitals." Heather also taught aqua-fitness classes at SWC Rec Centre, plus coached and helped out at community fundraising events. Sadly, Heather succumbed to breast cancer in 2010 at age 47 – certainly a "devastating punch to my young daughters and to me."

But Len persevered. Through his 21 years in public office, Len enjoyed "the opportunity to serve people directly ... representing a community's hope, concerns, and future". When I asked Len about what he viewed as one of his greatest accomplishments in public office, he spoke of his "work on organ and tissue donation". Thanks primarily to Len's efforts, organ donation registration can now be indicated on a person's driver's licence. In addition, in B.C., Ontario, and Nunavut, a



*Len and Heather*

person can sign up on their income tax form to be an organ donor. Alberta is set to introduce this option on the 2025 income tax form.

Asked about his decision to retire from political office, Len told me that, "after 21 years... it is time to allow new voices and fresh perspectives to carry the work forward". But Len is not retiring from work, as he will now be the VP of Business at Webber Academy. Len will also manage the Webber Academy Athletic Park in Springbank. (As an aside, Webber Academy was founded by Len's father, Neil Webber, who served as Calgary Bow MLA for 15 years.)

As he looks forward to savouring additional time to share with his three daughters, three sons-in-law, and four grandchildren, Len asked me to thank the people of Brentwood, "for your trust, your support, and the privilege of serving you for all these years. Brentwood will always be 'home' in my heart – and its people my inspiration".

We at The *Bugle* thank you for your 21 years of public service, Len. All the best in the years ahead.

## Let's Keep Our Kids Safe as They Head Back to School

by *The City of Calgary*



As we gear up for the school year, we are asking people who drive to prioritize the safety of our students, and remember these safety tips:

- The kids are counting on us. Slow down and look out for them, especially in playground zones and around schools. It takes less than a minute to travel through most playground zones and speeding typically only “saves” a driver ten seconds. Be safe and slow down.

- Watch the crosswalks. Stopping or parking too close to a crosswalk creates dangerous conditions for pedestrians. People crossing the street cannot see past a car that is parked too close and approaching drivers cannot see pedestrians. Stopping too close to a crosswalk, even for just a minute, is too long. Be safe and watch out—please do not block crosswalks.
- Double parking creates unsafe conditions. Double parking is when a vehicle stops or parks in the roadway alongside another already parked car. Double parked vehicles not only obstruct the flow of traffic but can block the view of other drivers, making it difficult to see pedestrians or other vehicles. Encouraging passengers to get out of the car when double parked puts them in harm’s way. When you choose to double park, even just for a minute, our kids are at risk of getting hurt. Be safe, park smart!

When driving, please choose safety over convenience—the kids are counting on us.

Learn more at [calgary.ca/besafe](http://calgary.ca/besafe).

## Photo Gallery

*Backyard Visitors*



by *Ken Wright*



by *Hans Berkhout*



by *Kelsey Emes*





## Weeds in Brentwood: Can You Help?

Recommended non-chemical removal methods.

- Learn more at [abinvasives.ca/](http://abinvasives.ca/)
- [www.calgary.ca/parks/pests/invasive-plants.html](http://www.calgary.ca/parks/pests/invasive-plants.html)
- Dispose of all removed plant parts by bagging and putting directly in the black cart (never compost weeds).

### Creeping Bellflower

#### 1. Digging

- Deep and thorough: Dig at least six to eight inches deep and several inches around the plant to remove the entire root system.
- Use a garden fork: This helps loosen the soil and avoid breaking off roots.
- Inspect the soil: Check for any remaining root pieces or leaves, as they can regenerate.
- Dispose of roots properly: Bag all removed plant parts and dispose of them in the general waste (not in compost).



Photo by  
Elizabeth J. Czarapata

#### 2. Smothering

- For small patches. This method is most effective when the bellflower is contained in a limited area.
- Cover with newspaper and mulch: Lay down several layers of newspaper or cardboard, then cover with a thick layer of mulch, like wood chips or straw.
- Deprive of light: This will eventually kill the plant, but it may take several months
- Avoid introducing this plant to your yard through wildflower seed mixes.



Western  
Goat Beard



Canadian  
Thistle

### Western Goat Beard/Yellow Salsify and Canada Thistle

#### 1. Hand-pulling

- Best done when the soil is moist after rain, making it easier to remove the entire root.
- Use a shovel or spade to dig a wide trench around the plant, ensuring the root ball remains undamaged.
- Gently lift the plant out, avoiding pulling to prevent breakage.
- Pull early, pull often.

#### 2. Mowing

- Regular mowing can prevent yellow salsify and Canadian Thistle from producing flowers and seeds.
- Cut the plant before it goes to seed to significantly reduce its ability to spread.
- Canadian Thistle, like Creeping Bellflower, is very hearty, and may take many attempts to eradicate. The City of Calgary, UofA, and other sources recommend professional chemical treatment for large infestations.

## Brentwood Cares

### 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration & Food Drive





## Sunday September 14th

### 3624 Boulton Rd NW 4:30-6:30pm

- Pot luck dinner
- **Food Drive** Non-perishable items:  
**Canned: vegetables, fruits, beans, meat and fish, pasta sauce, soup**  
**Peanut butter, pasta, rice, nuts, cereal, insta-noodles, crackers**
- Meet friends, new & old
- Share stories and new ideas




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**Samaritan Club  
of Calgary**

## Semi-Annual Super Thrift Sale

**Saturday, September 27**

**9:00am-1:00pm**

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1320 - 5th Avenue NW**

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## Top #2 Team in the Year of 2024

### ON THE MARKET



#### **8408 ADDISON DRIVE SE (ACADIA)**

This gorgeous bi-level home features 4 total bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, a south-facing backyard,

renovated illegal basement suite (2024), central A/C, water softener, newer windows on the main floor, and a double detached garage! Behind the home is a stretch of green space off the paved back alley, perfect for dog runs, summer walks, and a community connector with privacy!

Asking \$674,900 mls# A2233365



#### **179 SCENIC HILL CLOSE (SCENIC ACRES)**

Prime corner lot in Scenic Acres, perfect family home. Beautifully maintained and extensively

upgraded 1,923 sq.ft., 3 bedroom / 3.5 bathroom two-storey split home. The main level features vaulted ceilings and bayed windows in the spacious living and dining rooms, flooding the space with natural light. The vaulted ceiling in the kitchen offers vertical space and airflow, and there is a large walk-in pantry. The fully finished basement offers a spacious rec room, private office/den, and an additional 3-piece bathroom—ideal for guests or a home workspace.

Asking \$724,900 mls# A2231744



#### **VARSITY—50 STREET**

Quiet 2 bedroom condo, balcony faces courtyard, a well-maintained building in the heart of Varsity! This gorgeous end unit features 853 sq.ft. of living space across two well-appointed bedrooms and one full bathroom, with luxury vinyl plank flooring throughout and updated light fixtures. Located right across from Market Mall, this complex is convenient with public transit nearby, close to key transportation corridors (Shaganappi Trail, Crowchild Trail), a short walk to the University District, and proximity to U of C, Alberta Children's Hospital, and Foothills Medical Centre.

Asking \$272,900 mls# A2234026

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