

JUNE 2025

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the CRESCENT view

THE OFFICIAL CRESCENT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

STAMPEDE BREAKFAST JULY 13



Cover Photo by Judith Umbach



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IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Featuring works by:
Adam Schwartz,
Colleen Peters,
Rob Ward,
Sandra Melnik,
Sky Weir &
Stoneface Creations

**EXHIBITION OPENING
JUNE 28TH
11:30 A.M.**

MEETING POINT: GALLERY NO. 1

EXHIBITION IS UP
JUNE 28 - AUGUST 31.

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WANTED

Stampede Breakfast Volunteers

We need to wrangle some
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on July 13th a success!

We need people on the grill,
serving up grub, setting up and
taking down and so much more!

To view volunteer positions
and sign up go to:
bit.ly/chca-stampede

For any questions email:
stampedebreakfast@crescentheightssyc.ca





THE CRESCENT VIEW

Newsletter Deadline

The *Crescent View* is published 12 times per year. The submission deadline is 6:00 pm on the fifth of each month for the following month.

For example, to be published in the June issue, the deadline is May 5.

Please email your articles or event listings, as an attachment in MS Word form, to the editor at: newsletter@crescentheightsyyc.ca.

Digital photos that are community related are always welcome as an attachment to the email and be sure to send a caption and/or the names of people who are in the photo. The requirements are 250 KB for a smaller picture and 1-3 MB for a larger (full-page) picture.

Editor:

Elizabeth Stady

Email: newsletter@crescentheightsyyc.ca.

Vision, Mission, Values

Vision

We are a vibrant inner-city community with engaged and connected residents.

Mission

Crescent Heights Community Association works with residents, members and stakeholders to improve the quality of life for its residents by:

- Developing and enhancing community enjoyment, safety, connection and belonging and;
- Advocating on behalf of the community.

Values

- We value integrity and transparency in our communication with all stakeholders.
- We value a sustainable future.
- We value diversity of our residents.
- We value inclusivity and compassion as we work to build community.
- We value the contributions our volunteers make to build a strong sense of community.
- We value community engagement through the arts and support local artists.
- We value protecting and enhancing our public spaces, forests and historic resources.

CHCA Board of Directors

We are always looking for people to join our core group of volunteers. It's a great way to learn/exercise leadership skills and a great way to build and connect your community. If you're interested, then go to our Volunteer page and send us a message.

The Board meets at 7:00 pm every fourth Tuesday of the month and all CHCA members are welcome. If you are planning to attend, please send an email to secretary@crescentheightsyyc.ca at least 24 hours before the meeting.



Crescent Heights Community Association

Join Our Board!

We are looking for people for the following roles:

Engagement Director
Facilities Director
Stampede Breakfast Event Coordinator

If you are interested or have any questions, please reply to: president@crescentheightsyyc.ca

VOLUNTEERING

Connects you to others
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Can help start or advance your career
Bring fun and fulfillment to your life

JOIN THE CRESCENT HEIGHTS
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (CHCA)
MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS YOU, YOUR
FAMILY AND YOUR NEIGHBOURS
HAVE A VOICE
HELP US GROW COMMUNITY!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-25

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Traffic and Mobility: Spaces as Places	Marie Semenick-Evans	marie@crescentheightssyyc.ca
Traffic and Mobility: Spaces as Places	Adam Schwartz	adam@crescentheightssyyc.ca
Living Green Director	Stephanie Ho Lem	stephanie@crescentheightssyyc.ca
Membership Director	Jeff Deere	memberships@crescentheightssyyc.ca

We need you!

We're looking for **new board members** to join
the **Crescent Heights Community Association**
Board of Directors.



Are you looking for a way to get involved in our community?

For more info contact president@crescentheightssyyc.ca

Mini Galleries Showcase Crescent Heights Artists in New Exhibit: 'It's A Beautiful Day in the Neighbourhood'

'It's a beautiful day in the neighbourhood' opens in Rotary Park's mini galleries on Saturday, June 28 at 11:30 am and runs all summer. Meet your creative neighbours and find out what inspires their art. Here's a snapshot of who you'll meet and what you'll see!

AGS.YYC is a multi-disciplinary artist who focuses on "attaching stuff to city stuff" to make our city more vibrant, enjoyable, and inclusive. He works with found objects, recycled materials, bright colours, and engaging displays to answer questions about the ways citizens interact with their public surroundings. His work is hidden throughout our neighbourhood, turning obscure and meaningless spaces into mysterious and whimsical places.

Bill (Stoneface Creation) creates garden art from wood, stone, and antlers – inspired by nature, illusion, and magic. He's creating a mushroom themed diorama for the exhibit. "Sometimes I just see things, when I'm looking at a piece of wood or stone," Bill says. "Then I'll come up with an existential explanation after I've finished the piece."

Sandra Melnik is on a journey of exploring textile arts. Intuitively driven, following original sketches or interesting photographs, she hopes to inspire the viewer to make their own story when enjoying her pieces.

Colleen Peters (Artist at Play) says her current art practice is a nightly meditative postcard-sized painting in watercolour. She works spontaneously, without a preset idea of what she will paint.

Rob Ward creates animated objects and three-dimensional assemblies by repurposing everyday found objects. You may have seen his installation at the recent Festival of Animated Objects 'Worlds in Motion' exhibition at C-Space in Marda Loop. Rob is preparing a piece for the mini galleries summer exhibit titled – 'Two Riders Were Approaching.'

Textile artist Sky Weir employs a lengthy and repetitive process of screen-printing textile yardage, where

colour drives the composition, spontaneously building pattern when mixed and applied intuitively. Her latest series, 'Reactive Patterning irregular Composition', was exhibited in Calgary at cSpace and in Victoria at the Colwood Arts and Culture Gallery.

If you're a local artist and would like to participate in a future mini galleries exhibit, contact minigalleries@crescentheightssyc.ca.



Crescent Heights artist Rob Ward creates animated objects and three-dimensional assemblies by repurposing everyday found objects.



Textile artist Sky Weir's practice is also rooted in a longstanding interest in language-based messaging, exploring civic responsibility and its manifestation for social interaction to foster agency. Her VOTE COAT series was released during the 2023 Alberta election season.



Stoneface Creations are inspired by nature, illusion, and magic. Every garden should have one!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Crescent Heights!

What a fantastic spring it's been! A huge thank you to everyone who came out in May to help with our community cleanups. Whether you were hauling garbage bags out of the river valley, picking up litter on the bluff, or directing neighbours as they dropped off their unwanted items, your efforts made a big difference. Crescent Heights looks amazing thanks to you!

We're now looking ahead to one of our favourite summer traditions — our Stampede Breakfast on Saturday, July 13! Mark your calendars, dust off your boots, and come hungry. We've got pancakes, entertainment, and that great community spirit we're known for. Want to help out on the grill or serving up food? There's still time to volunteer — check elsewhere in the newsletter for more info.

A big shoutout to our Heritage Committee for organizing five completely sold-out Jane's Walks during Heritage Weekend (May 2 to 4). These walks explored the east, west, and commercial parts of the community and were a great way to connect with the stories of our neighbourhood's past.

And speaking of heritage — if you haven't already, take a stroll through Rotary Park to see 'Gone Forever', a powerful display of paintings by local artist Jackie Ramsay, showcasing heritage homes in Crescent Heights that have been lost to redevelopment over the years.

With the warmer weather, June is a great month to get out and enjoy all the things that make Crescent Heights so special — our beautiful parks, our awesome local shops and cafés, and of course, the friendly neighbours who help make this such a great place to live.

See you out there!

Marie



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Aug 5-8 - *NEW* Pre-Elementary Camp
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Clean Up Our Laneways

**Spring is here – it's
time to clean up our
laneways!**

Let's create places
for people to feel
comfortable and
safe to move
through our
community.



Spread the word on your block!
Let's work together and take pride in our laneways.

CHCA Transportation Planning and Mobility (TPM) Committee

Blocks Connected by Baskets

by Christie Page



3 Ave and 2 Street NE comes to an abrupt dead end that could be activated.

Community and Connection is the secret to happiness and belonging. Here is an idea to help foster that by inviting more people to use the public space the community of Crescent Heights already has.

There are at least 15 cul-de-sacs in Crescent Heights. Some of them are part of the original design to manage the steep slopes as the prairie spills into the river valley. Some of these roads with limited egress have been created to thwart drivers from using the neighbourhood as a shortcut, to fly through as quickly as possible, to reach their far-off destinations.

However these impasses came to be, the result is the same, a dead-end space. A circumference of give or take 15 meters of roadway sits empty just waiting for a car to drive in, spin around and drive out again. Could we better use all this asphalt?

One of the most cost effective and inclusive activities that could be implemented in these instances is the installation of a basketball net and if really keen, a little bit of road paint to mark out a half court. An intervention of this sort does not change the ability of the road to function as it was intended. All it offers is another way to use the space the other 99% of the time.



Just like street hockey, if a game is in session, when a car approaches one simply yells “car,” and everyone steps off the road while the car does its car thing and then the game resumes.

Basketball is one of the most accessible sports. If the infrastructure exists, all you need to be able to play is a ball. It’s a game

that can be enjoyed by anyone. It is an activity you can do alone, or with a group. A basketball net is a place where people can come together, make new friends, and build community.

If you live near one of these cul-de-sacs and like the idea of building opportunity for connection, please talk to your neighbours and see if you can find a way to activate these void spaces. A basketball net is just one idea, other innovations that can bring people together would also be wins for everyone in Crescent Heights.

Celebrating Our Stories: A Jane's Walk Success in Crescent Heights

by the Crescent Heights Heritage Committee



Heritage Homes Walk - Isabelle Jankovic starting the Heritage Homes Walk in Rotary Park.

What a weekend! From May 2 to 4, Crescent Heights was proud to host five Jane's Walks as part of the annual Jane's Walk Calgary Festival — and what a turnout we had! Over 200 people registered across the weekend, with participants joining us not just from Crescent Heights, but from communities across the city, eager to explore the history, art, and spirit that make our neighbourhood so unique.

For those unfamiliar, Jane's Walk is a global movement of free, citizen-led walking tours inspired by urbanist and author Jane Jacobs. These walks celebrate neighbourhoods through the eyes of the people who live there — with an emphasis on storytelling, exploration, and community.

This year, the Crescent Heights Heritage Committee organized five unique walks over three days, each showcasing a different facet of our community:

- A heritage homes tour that highlighted architecture and stories from Crescent Heights' earliest days
- A walk exploring gathering places like churches, parks, local businesses, and recreational facilities
- An artist-led tour and walk through the 'Gone Forever' mini galleries exhibit, featuring paintings of lost heritage homes

- Two walks dedicated to the quirky and curious art and installations tucked throughout our streets and alleys

Each walk brought out new perspectives and conversations, and many walkers shared personal stories that enriched the experience for all.

A heartfelt thank you to our amazing walk leaders: Isabelle Jankovic, Krista Beavis, Adam Schwartz, Dan Evans, Brenda Erskine, and Jackie Ramsay — and to everyone who shared their stories and time to help bring our community's history to life.

We're already dreaming up what we can do next year! Until then, keep wandering — Crescent Heights has stories about our rich heritage around every corner.



Gathering Places Walk – Dan Evans in front of the former Black Orchid B&B in NW Crescent Heights.



Gone Forever Walk - Artist Jackie Ramsay leading the Artist Walk at the mini galleries in Rotary Park.



Off the Shelf

BOOK REVIEW BY JUDITH UMBACH

Transcendent Kingdom by Yaa Gyasi

Gifty is a highly respected scientist; an expert in researching the exact mechanism of the brain in choosing a reward or not. But at home, Gifty is the child of her mother. In *Transcendent Kingdom*, Yaa Gyasi explores the hold of family on members and the pain that can it bring.

When her two children were little, Gifty's mother abruptly left Ghana for the United States, where she was sure they would have a better life. Eventually, their father followed. And, then he left again, phone calls eventually petering out. Gifty was never sure about the role of a father.

As a teenager, Nana, Gifty's younger brother, plunged into the physical delights of basketball, practicing endlessly at home and at school. Until after a sprained ankle, a careless prescription for painkillers instantly turned him into an addict. All the love and anger showered on him by his mother and Gifty could not overcome his brain's insistence on ever-more-frequent satisfaction.

Gifty's research life in a university lab is tranquil compared to her family life. A reputation for extremely meticulous work was born from her desire to escape what she could not control. Because research is emotionally safer, her personal life is almost non-existent.

After Nana's death, their mother cannot recover any kind of equilibrium. Her deep faith that regularly took them all to church lost its efficacy. She had prayed for her son – had God ignored her?

Because Gifty is a kind, responsible, loving daughter, she brings her severely depressed mother into her apartment to live. Without any meaningful interaction developing between them, Gifty struggles to understand any kind of faith. She sees her mother subsumed by relentless grief. The pastor's good words seem to have no effect on her or Gifty, who has already given up on organized religion. Yet, she finds herself talking to God – in a way, recognizing that scientific research doesn't deny God. The human urge to have faith and express it confuses her, in part because it is so persistent. She can't seem to break into the future until she has answered these questions from her past.



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WORD OF THE MONTH

Acumen: noun

(uh-kyoo-muhn, ak-yuh-)

A keenness; the ability to make quick, good decisions.

Her sharp business acumen meant she would be a great CEO at the company.



Why Industrial Carbon Pricing Is Important

by Stephanie Ho Lem, CHCA Director of Living Green

2025 is becoming an eventful year. Prime Minister Trudeau resigned, and Carney replaced him calling an election for April 28. While Carney was interim, he removed the consumer carbon tax effective April 1. Canada's carbon pricing system, under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, consists of two main types: a fuel charge for consumers and an output-based pricing system for industries. The carbon tax was designed as a financial incentive for people and businesses to change their behaviour to burn less fossil fuel and transition to greener forms of energy, thus helping Canada lower its emissions.

The carbon tax was later renamed carbon rebate, but the change was too late. Not understanding the incentive, the carbon tax divided the country. The price on pollution for gasoline translated to a cost of about 17.6 cents per litre. Since my car uses premium gas, currently with the tax removal, I pay about \$10 less for 50 litres. Enmax is my utilities provider and in their annual energy report, my house compared to other homes in my neighbourhood is more energy efficient. Overall, I am ahead and will miss the annual carbon tax rebate I've been receiving. In fact, most Canadians will likely feel the loss of the rebate.

Climate change remains a problem. How can our governments get everyone behind a plan to reduce carbon?

It would make sense to keep industrial carbon pricing as it is one of the most important policies Canada has for cutting climate pollution and creating a competitive

clean economy. Carbon intensive operations by emitters are monitored and if they exceed, they are required to pay. While others that produce less can profit by having surplus credits to sell. This scenario will attract investment for emissions-reduction projects.

How it works is that firms can generate credits they can trade for cash, helping Canadian firms compete for international capital, at lower cost to governments than subsidies like those provided under the Inflation Reduction Act in the United States.

According to Michael Bernstein, the president of Clean Prosperity, "the industrial carbon price is the single largest policy contributing to reducing Canada's overall emissions...It's the one that we've seen many industry associations and others be most in favour of...Industrial pricing should be the core of driving reductions across heavy industry, which is half of all the emissions in Canada."

As a Canadian, although we produce less than 2% of the world's carbon emissions, I recognize climate change is happening and will note one of David Suzuki Foundation's comments: "As a developed nation with a high standard of living, we are more able than most to manage the costs of a transition away from fossil fuels. We therefore have the moral responsibility to cut emissions at home and to support developing countries with the increasing costs of responding to the climate crisis."

Please note that the content provided is for informational purposes.

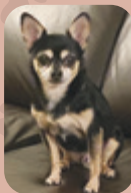
Sources: Canadian Climate Institute, David Suzuki Foundation, Clean Prosperity

stephanie@crescentheightsysc.ca

Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Bart, Heritage Park



Chico, Shawnessy



Elsbeth, Airdrie



Harry, Lakeview



Icy, North Glenmore Park



Jagger, Richmond



Millie, North Glenmore Park

To have your pet featured, email news@mycalgary.com

Paw Patrol, Cat Control

by Monika Wenzel-Curtis

Every May, I send out the following Facebook post:



"I love cats. I love birds. I implore all my likeminded human beings to keep their furry friends inside while the feathered ones are nesting or at least make them wear a loud bell so they don't contribute to the increasing decline of Alberta's songbirds. The statistics are staggering. Do the right thing."



The reactions have been 50/50. Rage has surfaced from the thread of cat owners who refuse to acknowledge

the bylaws in place and the obvious guilt associated with a role in what we know is a bad result of roaming cats. We take it personally when someone criticizes our children and our pet's actions, it is human nature.

Much like other bylaws, the rules around responsible cat ownership rely on a buy-in that society has rules in place for a purpose. In Calgary, current bylaws mandate that cats must be confined to their owner's property. Roaming cats are considered a community nuisance, as they can damage gardens and pose a threat to local wildlife, particularly songbirds. The City encourages pet owners to keep their cats indoors or within enclosed areas to ensure their safety and protect the environment.

Here are the words from the city site:

"Calgary's Cat Bylaws and Enforcement

Confined to Property: Cats must remain on their owner's property.

Community Nuisance: Roaming cats can damage gardens and harm wildlife.

Trapping and Reporting: Residents can humanely trap roaming cats and bring them to the Animal Services Centre. Before trapping, individuals must sign an agreement and have the trap inspected by a Community Peace Officer. Trapped cats must be brought to the Animal Services Centre within 24 hours."

Do you know anyone who traps cats on their property? I have never gone to that extent, but I understand the frustration of repeat offenders using your garden as a litterbox and waiting under your feeder for the opportunity to snatch another migrating songbird from existence. When you invest in a motion camera, you can track the visits and find out their destructive schedules. Obviously, knowing your neighbours and voicing your concerns, respectfully, is the first and best course of action. You can't choose your neighbours, but you can try to appreciate their point of view despite political, and bylaw abiding differences, making it a workable challenge. Pet owners have a strong bond in their love of animals.

Rules regarding roaming cats are all over the map in this province and not easy to enforce. A 2024 article in the *Lethbridge Herald* by Al Beeber lays out the grisly truth. Between 150 million and 300 million birds are killed annually by domestic cats in Canada alone but only about 38 percent of communities in this country have bylaws on the popular pet.

A study suggests that between two and seven percent of birds in the southern regions of this country are killed annually by cats with many species potentially vulnerable because they feed or nest at or close to ground level. The Community Safety Standing Policy Committee of Lethbridge states that while communities have long had dog bylaws, "historically, cats have been allowed to be unsupervised because of a belief that cats are independent and need to explore outdoors. We think of cats as being able to 'look after themselves' more than other pets. This ignores the fact that cats have been domestic pets for thousands of years and do not belong in the wild."

Yes, cats are doing what they were instinctually born to do. I left my front patio door open for five seconds, and my cat took advantage of a new fledgling robin, bringing it past my two screaming children all the way to the basement before she presented it to me, expecting praise and receiving outrage. So, I keep the door closed during this time of year and supervise backyard excursions. It is an inconvenient necessity. The only way to prevent a cat from killing a bird is to keep it inside, however, keeping it inside is not always easy, especially for people who adopt or inherit outdoor cats. Catios, leashes, and harnesses are always options. Please, do not walk them to the local dog park, it is not a cat park! Outdoor cats live significantly shorter lives,

and the current coyote/bobcat population isn't helping their life expectancy.

Development brings people who bring pets. Natural areas and wildlife bring balance to our human sprawl, and there are reasons beyond the bylaws to keep it that way. Seeing the world through an Indigenous lens and looking seven generations ahead should be normalized before we succumb to the damage we are inflicting on a precarious planet.

SAFE AND SOUND

Backyard Play Safety

by Alberta Health Services, EMS

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) would like to encourage parents and caregivers to ensure their backyard play area(s) is made safe for children. Although direct supervision is the best method to reduce the chance of injury, always ensure play equipment in your yard is in good repair and is suited to the age and skill of the children using it. Check the equipment often; replace or repair any worn or broken parts.

Water Hazards

- Drowning contributes to unintentional injury-related death among young children.
- Children can drown in just a few centimetres of water if it covers their mouth and nose.
- Ensure all backyard swimming pools are fenced. The fence must be at least 1.8 metres* high and have a self-latching, self-closing, lockable gate. (*Alberta Building Code)

Lawn and Garden Tools

- Keep young children away from outdoor power equipment.
- Serious burns may result from touching hot engine surfaces.
- Ensure that all sharp tools, fuel, chemicals, and other hazardous substances are stored in a secure, locked area. A simple latch may not be sufficient.

Insect Bites and Stings

- Minimize the risk of attracting insects by not wearing strong perfumes or scented lotions.
- Avoid wearing brightly coloured clothing outdoors.
- Consider destroying or relocating hives and nests situated near your home.
- To avoid injury through inadvertently stepping on a stinging insect, always wear footwear outdoors.
- If your child has received an 'EpiPen, Junior' prescription from your physician (for anaphylactic reactions only) ensure they understand when and how to use it.
- If your child experiences a severe reaction to an insect sting, or other environmental cause, seek medical attention, or call 9-1-1.

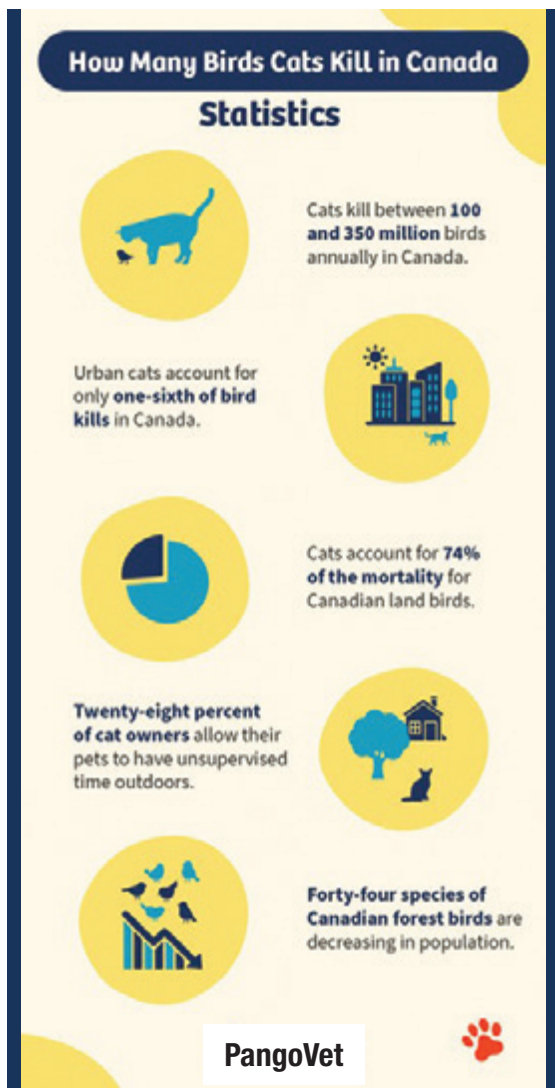


Image provided by <https://pangovet.com/statistics/how-many-birds-do-cats-kill-in-canada/>



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Musical Stamps

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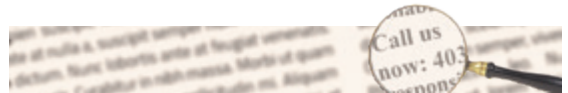
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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

GUTTER DOCTOR! Home exterior service experts. Services include gutter cleaning, repairs, and installations as well as fascia, soffit, siding, roofing, cladding, heat cables, gutter guards, window cleaning, and pressure washing. Local business for over 23 years with more than 70,000 happy customers! Licensed, insured, WCB, A+ BBB member, multi award-winner. Quality work with a warranty! www.gutterdoctor.ca, 403-714-0711.

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Joke of the Month



Why was the cellphone scared to go to the dentist?

He didn't want him to remove his blue tooth.

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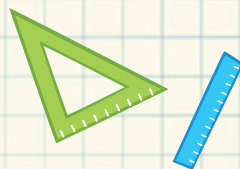
Real Estate
Statistics





SAB CONNECTIONS

ANNUAL BACKPACK PROGRAM



**A PROGRAM TO HELP STUDENTS
IN NEED TO ASSIST THEM WITH
BACK-TO-SCHOOL FEES.**



Give the gift of learning! We need the following school supplies:
School bags, water bottles, ziplocks, lunch bags, pencil cases, art supplies,
scissors, crayons, hygiene kits, markers, highlighters, glue, school snacks,
and juice boxes.



DROP-OFF LOCATION:

150 Martinbrook Rd NE, Calgary, AB T3J 3E3

or we can send a volunteer to pick up the items

FOR MORE DETAILS:

Email us at contactsabconnections@gmail.com
or call (403) 708-7924



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