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# CONTENTS

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- 6 DALHOUSIE REAL ESTATE UPDATE
- 8 RESIDENT PERSPECTIVES: THE ART OF FINDING WORK - YOU CAN MINIMIZE THE ODDS OF BEING GHOSTED
- 10 SAFE AND SOUND: COLD WEATHER SAFETY
- 11 DECEMBER CROSSWORD
- 13 BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS



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News, Events,  
& More



Crime  
Statistics

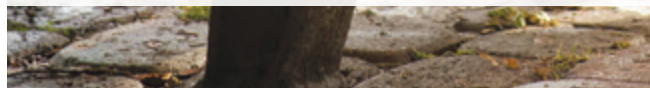


Real Estate  
Statistics



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# City Kids: Exploring 4-H Beyond the Farm

by Lori Nielsen, Senior Program Coordinator for 4-H Intro Clubs

The Intro Clubs in our city have been buzzing with excitement! We're wrapping up another round of daytime and evening programs, filled with hands-on workshops that let kids try new things and make connections with friends over six weeks.

Kids have enjoyed a wide range of activities, from pottery and beekeeping to crafting their own Grinch trees. Each workshop sparked creativity and teamwork, and the feedback from families has been fantastic. Along the way, the kids picked up core 4-H skills like leadership, communication, record-keeping, and community service.



One highlight was our Sourdough Workshop, where participants got a taste of bread dough-making, complete with a wheat grinding demonstration! They also learned about the science behind sourdough and had fun making pizzas with sourdough crust. The aroma of fresh pizza filled the air, and the favourite part was tasting their creations.

We're excited to announce that the Sourdough Workshop will be back in January as part of our next round of clubs, so those who missed it will get another chance!

The Intro Clubs are a great place for kids to grow, make friends, and have fun. We can't wait for the new workshops and activities coming up! For more information on upcoming clubs, please email [introclubs@4hab.com](mailto:introclubs@4hab.com). Thank you to all the families who've joined us on this journey—stay tuned for updates, and we hope to see you at our next workshop!



## Dalhousie Real Estate Update

### Last 12 Months Dalhousie MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
October 2024	\$ 419,900	\$ 420,000
September 2024	\$ 399,900	\$ 411,069
August 2024	\$ 499,900	\$ 492,500
July 2024	\$ 359,990	\$ 355,000
June 2024	\$ 498,000	\$ 505,000
May 2024	\$ 504,500	\$ 562,000
April 2024	\$ 449,000	\$ 475,000
March 2024	\$ 377,449	\$ 391,500
February 2024	\$ 395,900	\$ 390,000
January 2024	\$ 246,900	\$ 238,266
December 2023	\$ 354,900	\$ 346,250
November 2023	\$ 290,000	\$ 277,125

### Last 12 Months Dalhousie MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
October 2024	14	12
September 2024	16	13
August 2024	24	16
July 2024	19	19
June 2024	20	21
May 2024	30	20
April 2024	23	19
March 2024	15	16
February 2024	17	23
January 2024	13	8
December 2023	5	8
November 2023	12	14

To view more detailed information that comprise the above  
MLS averages please visit [dalh.mycalgary.com](http://dalh.mycalgary.com)

# Five Benefits of Longer-Term Therapy

by Nancy Bergeron, R.Psych. | [info@nancybergeron.ca](mailto:info@nancybergeron.ca)



Longer-term therapy offers a more comprehensive, sustainable, and transformative approach to mental health compared to crisis management. While both approaches serve important roles; longer-term therapy provides deeper benefits beyond immediate relief, by addressing the root causes of psychological distress and fostering long-lasting personal growth.

**1. Addresses Root Causes** – Crisis management focuses on immediate stabilization and symptom relief. Its primary goal is to help us regain control in acute moments of psychological distress or trauma. While this is vital in emergencies, crisis management often lacks the time or depth to explore the underlying causes of our mental health challenges. Longer-term therapy allows us to delve into the root causes of our issues that may stem from our childhood experiences, unresolved trauma, or ingrained behavioural patterns. By addressing these underlying factors we can work through our long-standing issues, leading to more profound and enduring changes in our mental health.

**2. Develops Self-Awareness** – One key advantage of longer-term therapy is the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of ourselves over time. Therapy is a journey of self-exploration where we learn to recognize patterns in our thoughts, emotions, and behaviours. Conversely, crisis management doesn't usually allow the time needed for introspection. With regular sessions over time, we can identify our emotional triggers, unhealthy coping patterns, or self-defeating behaviours. This heightened self-awareness helps us not only resolve our current issues but helps to prevent future crises due to the healthier strategies we've adopted through longer-term practice and accountability.

**3. Builds A Therapeutic Relationship** – The relationship between the therapist and ourselves is a crucial element of our healing process. In longer-term therapy, the relationship has the chance to develop trust, safety, openness, and healthy boundaries attachment. Overtime, we may feel more comfortable in sharing deeply personal experiences, feelings, and vulnerabilities that might not have surfaced during a short-term crisis intervention. This formation of trust creates a space where we can process painful emotions and difficult truths, allowing us to work through our challenges more effectively. Unfortunately, crisis management often doesn't allow for the time necessary for such a deep therapeutic relationship to form.

**4. Prevents Relapse** – Crisis management is reactive. It helps us cope with a crisis after it has occurred. It may provide immediate relief, but it does little to prevent future episodes. Longer-term therapy takes a proactive approach to mental health. Through ongoing support, we can build coping strategies, resilience and emotional regulation skills that reduce the likelihood of future crises. By working through the issues that contributed to past crisis, we can learn to manage stressors more effectively, decreasing the chances of relapse or recurrence of acute mental health episodes.

**5. Personal Growth and Transformation** - Longer-term therapy is not only about symptom reduction; it's also about personal growth and transformation. In the process of therapy, we often discover new aspects of ourselves, develop a stronger sense of identity, and cultivate a greater capacity for emotional and relational intimacy. This leads to a more fulfilling and authentic life, which crisis management, with its focus on immediate stabilization, cannot provide. Longer-term therapy encourages growth beyond just managing symptoms, helping us to thrive, not just survive.

While crisis management is necessary for short-term stabilization during emergencies, longer-term therapy offers a far more in-depth and sustainable approach. It allows us to explore root causes of our distress, build self-awareness, foster a strong therapeutic relationship, prevent future crises, and experience deep personal transformation. These benefits make longer-term therapy a more effective and holistic option for achieving lasting mental health and well-being.

# The Art of Finding Work - You Can Minimize the Odds of Being Ghosted

by Nick Kossovian



When job seekers complain about being ghosted—a form of silent rejection where candidates hear nothing after submitting an application or having been interviewed—I wonder if they're unaware of the changes in social norms and mannerisms. Do they not know that social norms and the workplace are intertwined? Since the advent of social media, manners, courtesy, and empathy have significantly diminished.

If there's one thing job seekers can be certain about, it is that they'll be ghosted multiple times throughout their job search. It wouldn't be a stretch to say ghosting candidates has become a norm. It's worth pointing out that companies don't ghost candidates, the company's employees ghost candidates. When the recruiter or hiring manager is of a generation that finds ghosting an acceptable way to terminate a relationship, romantic or otherwise, it shouldn't come as a surprise when they ghost candidates.

**Bad News:** You can't change or control other people's behaviour.

**Good News:** You can take proactive steps to minimize—as with all human interactions, there are no guarantees—the chances of being ghosted.

### **Build a Strong Relationship. Focus on Being Likeable.**

Understandably, hiring managers—recruiters less so since they won't be working with the candidate—look to hire candidates they can envision getting along with; hence, most job seekers would significantly boost their chance of job search success by focusing more on being likeable.

By likeable, I mean being pleasant, respectful, and expressing genuine interest in the company and the role. I've yet to meet a hiring manager who hires candidates they don't like. As I've mentioned in previous columns, likeability supersedes your skills and experience. Most job seekers don't focus enough on being likeable.

The stronger the relationship you establish with the recruiter or hiring manager, the more likely they won't ghost you. From your first interaction, focus on creating a rapport beyond just transactional communication.

Personalizing your correspondence can make a significant difference. Use the hiring manager's name instead of a generic 'To Whom It May Concern.' Find commonalities such as place of birth, hobbies, schools attended, associations you belong to, favourite restaurants, and people you know.

### **Avoid Appearing Confrontational**

Anyone reading this can relate to the number one reason why people ghost: to avoid confrontation. Today, many people feel entitled, resulting in job seekers being frustrated and angry. You only need to scroll through LinkedIn posts and comments to see that bashing employers has become an unproductive trend. Hence, it's likely that a candidate will become confrontational if told they don't get the job.

Smile throughout your interview! Avoid appearing desperate! My best interviews have been those in which I was nonchalant; I was indifferent to whether or not I got the job. In addition to being a turn-off, showing signs of desperation will raise questions about how you'll react if told you aren't hired.

Lastly, tell your interviewer how much you enjoyed talking with them and that you look forward to hearing back.

"I really enjoyed our conversation, Khloe. Thank you for taking the time to meet with me. I look forward to hearing your hiring decision."

"Either way, please call or email me to let me know about my application status."

You're more likely to receive a response by asking explicitly for communication.

### **Earn Your Interviewer's Respect**

People tend not to ghost someone they respect.



Respect must be earned, starting with one of life's golden rules: Treat others how you want to be treated. In other words, give respect to get respect.

Throughout your job search, be professional and courteous. Respond promptly to emails and calls and thank people for their time. Approaching recruiters and hiring managers politely and professionally improves your chances of being treated similarly.

### **Ask For Advice, Not Feedback**

Asking for advice encourages communication. As your interviewer is wrapping up the interview, mention that you'd welcome their advice. "Given your extensive background in project management, any advice you may have for me wanting to advance my career would be greatly appreciated."

Why ask for advice and not feedback? The first problem with asking for feedback is it puts the other person on the spot. The second problem is feedback can lead to disagreement, hurt feelings, or defensiveness, a common reaction resulting in confrontation. On the other hand, asking for advice is asking for guidance and suggestions to achieve a better result. Essentially, you're acknowledging the other person's experience and massaging their ego. Do you know anyone who doesn't like being asked for advice?

### **Send a Thank You Note**

Sending a thank you note expressing appreciation for the interview and the insights you gained reinforces your interest and keeps the lines of communication open. Conclude with a forward-looking statement, encouraging the recipient to respond.

"I look forward to hearing from you regarding the next steps."

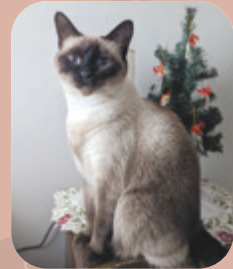
"I look forward to staying in touch."

Job searching aside, direct, open, and honest communication—say what you mean, mean what you say—which I highly value, has become rare, which explains the prevalence of ghosting. When you're ghosted, assume the company isn't enthusiastic about hiring you. Silence may be golden in some things, but ghosting is not one of them.

## Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Chip, Woodbine



Echo, Signal Hill



George, Huntington Hills



George, McKenzie Towne



Lola, Calgary



Misty, Queensland



Pedro, Sandstone Valley



Walden

To have your pet featured, email [news@mycalgary.com](mailto:news@mycalgary.com)

# Cold Weather Safety

by Alberta Health Services

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) paramedics respond to a number of cold weather-related emergencies every winter. However, by taking appropriate measures to dress properly, anticipate sudden weather changes and preparing to be out in the cold, may reduce your risk of sustaining a cold weather illness/injury. It's also advised you store an emergency kit in your vehicle at all times containing extra clothing, blankets and other road-side supplies.



## Frostnip

- Frost-nipped skin is extremely cold, but not yet frozen skin;
- It commonly affects the ears, nose, cheeks, fingers and toes;
- The skin may look red and possibly feel numb to the touch;
- When treated promptly, frostnip usually heals without complication;
- Move to a warm environment and immediately, but gently, re-warm the affected area through skin to skin contact (i.e. hand covering tips of ears).

## Frostbite

- Frostbite occurs when skin becomes so cold, the skin and underlying tissues freeze;
- Affected skin may look white and waxy and will feel hard to the touch;
- Move to a warm environment immediately and place the affected area in warm, *not hot*, water until fully re-warmed;
- Call 9-1-1 or seek further medical attention as required.

## Hypothermia

- Hypothermia is abnormally low body temperature, less than 34°C (as compared to normal body temperature of about 37°C);
- Early hypothermia may manifest as profound shivering; moderate hypothermic patients may act inappropriately: stumbling, mumbling, and fumbling, as their body temperature continues to drop resulting in severe hypothermia (<30°C);
- Left untreated, severe hypothermia may progress to unconsciousness or death;

- Early recognition and prompt medical attention is key. Call 9-1-1. Don't forget to protect yourself from the factors that originally lead to the patient's situation;
- Initiate gentle re-warming as quickly as possible. Remove any wet or constrictive clothing; cover with blankets or sleeping bags. Protect from further heat loss: eliminate contact with cold surfaces, and shield from wind and moisture.

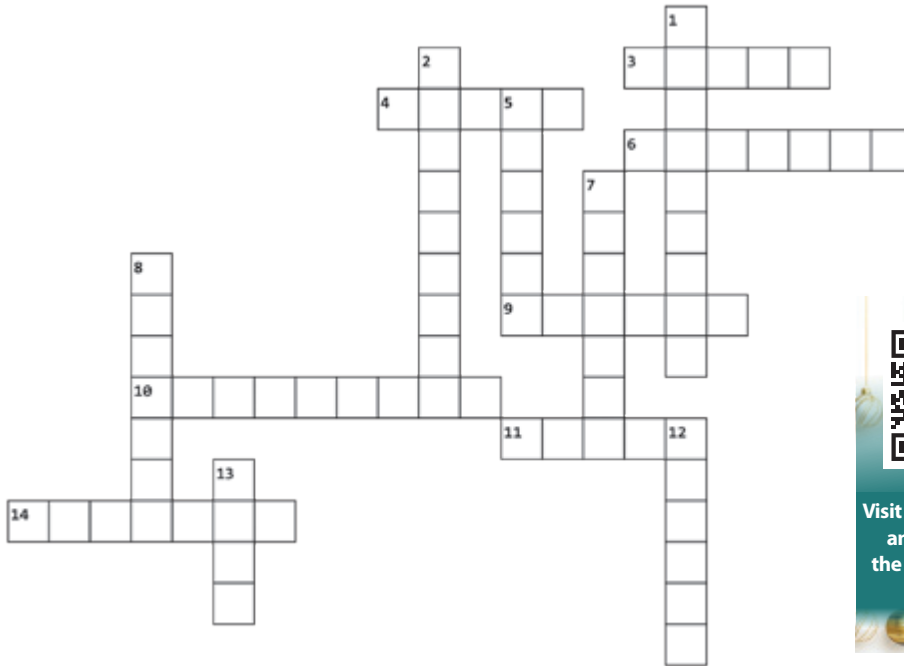
## BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

1				4	3		6	5
9		6	1		2			
		3			6	1		
5								
6				8	1		5	
	8		6				7	1
3	2						1	
	6			1	7			
				6			9	

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE SOLUTION



# December Crossword



## Across

3. On December 5, 1991, Jostein Gaarder's novel, *Sophie's \_\_\_\_\_*, was published and tells the story of a Norwegian teenager on a journey of discovery about the history of philosophy.
4. *Driving Miss \_\_\_\_\_*, starring Morgan Freeman as a chauffeur to an elderly widow played by Jessica Tandy, was released on December 13, 1989.
6. Canadian singer, Nelly \_\_\_\_\_, was born on December 2, 1978, in Victoria, British Columbia.
9. This Christmas tree decoration, originally made from real silver that was shredded, was first invented in Germany in 1610.
10. December's official birthstone has the same name as the colour that it is.
11. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Nobel \_\_\_\_\_ Prize on December 10, 1964.
14. James Cameron's \_\_\_\_\_ was first released on December 19, 1997, and is one of the highest-grossing films ever.

## Down

1. International \_\_\_\_\_ Day was mandated by the UN General Assembly in 1985 and takes place every year on December 5.
2. December's birth flowers are the \_\_\_\_\_ (also known as paperwhites) and the holly.
5. On December 24, 1818, a choir in Austria first performed the popular Christmas carol "\_\_\_\_\_ Night".
7. This annual holiday celebrating African American culture is observed from December 26 to January 1.
8. On December 29, 1989, the Associated Press named hockey player Wayne Gretsky and tennis player \_\_\_\_\_ Navratilova Best Athletes of the Decade.
12. Canadian actor and comedian, \_\_\_\_\_ Levy, was born on December 17, 1946, in Hamilton, Ontario.
13. On December 1, 2003, the final film of *the Lord of the Rings* trilogy, *The Return of the \_\_\_\_\_*, premiered in New Zealand.



Councillor, Ward 4  
**Sean Chu**

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ward04@calgary.ca  
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Dear Ward 4 Neighbours,

As the year draws to a close and the winter season settles in, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes to each of you for a joyful and restful holiday season. This time of year is a special opportunity to pause, reconnect, and cherish the spirit of community that makes Calgary such a wonderful place to call home.

Whether you're celebrating at home or traveling to be with family and friends, I hope this season brings you warmth, peace, and plenty of moments to savour. Here in Calgary, we're so fortunate to have a community that supports each other in countless ways. From local events to friendly neighbours lending a hand with snow shoveling, these small acts remind us of the strength and kindness that define our neighbourhood.

Don't forget—if you have any City of Calgary-related issues or concerns, you can easily reach assistance by calling 3-1-1, visiting online, or using the 3-1-1 mobile app.

Wishing you a season filled with joy, health, and all the things that make your holiday bright.

Warm holiday wishes,

*Sean Chu*

Councillor, Ward 4



MLA Calgary-Edgemont  
**Julia Hayter**

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@NDPjulia  
@NDPjulia  
@NDPjulia

### Tis' the Season to Spread Joy!

The holidays are coming fast, and I extend my best wishes to everyone this December.

I appreciate everyone who has taken the time to come over to say hi while I've been at your community events. It is exciting to be out in the community to deliver some holiday cheer to different organizations and attend some holiday celebrations and markets.

This month is a reminder to be grateful for our loved ones and for the blessings that we have in our lives. We sometimes take things for granted that others do not have, like a roof over our heads, food on the table, and healthy family members. It's important to take a breath sometimes and appreciate all that we have.

There are many people in Calgary-Edgemont that do not have these luxuries. During this affordability crisis, I'm hearing more and more that families may not be able to afford gifts for their children, big family dinners, or are maybe missing a family member all together. It's important to spread kindness and love this holiday season. My office is currently collecting period products, diapers, and baby formula that will be donated to families living in Calgary-Edgemont.

As promised, I continue to be out in the community speaking with you and your neighbours. You can follow me on social media at @NDPJulia to hear about all my adventures. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have questions or need assistance related to provincial matters: calgary.edgemont@assembly.ab.ca or 403-288-4453.

Enjoy the memory making with your friends and family.

Happy Holidays.



## Royal Flush

Alfred Hitchcock's movie Psycho is thought to be the first Hollywood movie to show (and really focus on) a toilet flushing on-screen. You can hear it as well! This was very unusual in 1960 when this movie was released. I guess you could say the movie was a Royal Flush!



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### Christmas Help

This month, many families will gather around the table to celebrate Christmas with loved ones. Unfortunately, the meal will not be as grand as it once was for a growing number of families.

Food Banks Canada has reported that food bank use in Canada is setting all-time records with shocking regularity. They report that up to 25% of Canadians are living in a state of poverty, while 35% feel worse-off financially. Canadians are struggling to keep their heads above water, relying on food banks to survive.

Food bank use in Canada has doubled since 2019 with over two million visits in March 2024 alone. This is 6% higher than last year and this year will likely set a new record.

Food Banks Canada blames inflation, housing costs, and insufficient social supports for creating the food insecurity problem.

At the same time, a 23% hike in the carbon tax is not helping. If you tax the farmer who grows the food, and the trucker who ships the food, you end up taxing the Canadian who buys the food.

One-third of those using food banks are children. One-in-five is employed and 70% live in market rent housing. These are people struggling to keep up. Food insecurity has a huge impact on one's mental health and overall health outcomes. This in turn puts additional stress on other social services and the healthcare system.

This Christmas season, if you are able, please donate to a food bank or food pantry so that we can all celebrate Christmas like we used to.

While the need for donations continues throughout the year, your Christmas donation sends a special message of support to those who need it the most during the holiday season.

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# ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU

On December 21, 2019, Mariah Carey officially 'defrosted' when her song "All I Want for Christmas Is You" finally topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart for the first time since its release in 1994. Talk about a Christmas miracle - 25 years in the making!



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## GAMES & PUZZLES

### Guess the Holiday!

1. This holiday seems like it could be named after a sport, but it has nothing to do with one.
2. This incredibly bright festival celebrates good winning over evil and the arrival of a new season.
3. This holiday typically revolves around one shape.
4. Eggnog, trees, and bells are classic elements of this holiday.
5. Costumes are a huge part of the fun of this holiday.
6. This holiday happens on the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox.



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