# inside Edgemont

www.edgemont.ab.ca





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BEFORE

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#### 33 Edgevalley Circle NW, T3A 4X1

Phone: 403-239-1211 • Fax: 403-547-5799 • Email: office@edgemont.ab.ca Web: www.edgemont.ab.ca • Facebook: Edgemont Community Association X (Twitter): @EdgemontCA • Instagram: @edgemontcommunity

Genie Han

Heather Hubert

Business Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Submissions to Inside Edge due on the first of every month

VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS			
Pamela Wilson	President president@edgemont.ab.ca		
Barb Elms	First Vice President barb@edgemont.ab.ca		
Margaret Anne McCaughey	Second Vice President margaret@edgemont.ab.ca		
Deirdre Harris	Secretary deirdre@edgemont.ab.ca		
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Charmaine Grills	Director charmaine@edgemont.ab.ca		
Jymi Chun	Director jymi@edgemont.ab.ca		
EDGEMONT VOLUNTEERS			

# **OFFICE 403-239-1211**

volunteers@edgemont.ab.ca

Office Administrator office@edgemont.ab.ca

Jymi Chun

dgemo	With the second
	STRONGER TOGETHER.
	COMMUNITY
VO	ving a membership allows you to have a voice in ur community. Get involved in your community ough events, board initiatives, and much more!
	Visit edgemont.ab.ca to get your membership

Treatric Trabert	heather@edgemont.ab.ca
Cst. Dennis Smithson 4788	Community Resource Officer DSmithson@calgarypolice.ca
Evezi Esiehor	Newsletter Submissions and Communications Coordinator evezi@edgemont.ab.ca
Lori Holford	Edgemont Elementary

Tom Baines School Rep

**OTHER CONTACTS** 

Office Manager

genieh1@educbe.ca Anthony Gong Sir Winston Churchill High Rep Vacant Mother Mary Greene Rep

Rick Wierzbicki Rink Coordinator rink@edgemont.ab.ca

Disc Golf discgolf@edgemont.ab.ca

ELM askELM@edgemont.ab.ca

# Need a special event room?

#### The Panorama Room: Capacity 180

- · Beautiful mountain view
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- Round tables, upholstered seating

#### The Mountain View Room: Capacity 70

- Mountain view
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- Round or rectangular tables

The Board Room: Capacity 20

For more information call 403-239-1211



On July 3, 1608, a trading post was established on the site of presentday Québec City

that was part fort and part village. Samuel de Champlain fostered fur trades and used this building as a base. We're sure it looked a whole lot different back then!



# Edgemont WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ECA

### **President's Message**



July is here and in Calgary that means two things: Stampede and a busy construction season! Thanks to the volunteers who helped us get our Stampede celebrations started at our June 28 pancake breakfast

and Nordic Rodeo. Were you one of the participants to try the luge or laser target shooting? Popular activities both! Some of us needed a bit of a break after indulging on the plate of pancakes and sausages so we were among those cheering the others on!

Road construction seems to be a necessary evil that's part of urban life. In our area, construction is expected to start at the Shaqanappi Trail NW ramp and include on/off ramps at 53 Street NW, Sarcee Trail NW, Nose Hill Drive NW, and Crowfoot Parade NW.

Work on mainline Crowchild Trail NW and several ramps was completed in 2024.

#### **Impacts On Traffic and Area**

- · Nighttime Work: Milling and paving work will be completed between 11:00 pm to 5:00 am to minimize impacts on commuter traffic.
- · Lane Closures: Speeds will be restricted to 50 km/hr, please follow posted road signs. Overnight lane closures will be in effect.
- · Noise and Vibrations: Residents and businesses may experience construction noise and vibrations. Efforts will be made to minimize disruption.
- Transit: Transit along the Crowchild Trail NW may be impacted by ramp closures. Visit calgarytransit.com for more information.

Thanks to Councillor Chu's office for keeping us up to date on these matters.

Check the website in July for information about our upcoming music evening. We are making arrangements for musicians to join us for an outdoor evening concert at the community centre. Plan to bring your picnic, chairs, and blankets to enjoy an evening with your neighbours. Details will be published as soon as finalized.

Remember the food trucks when you are looking for something different. Great options and no dishes. https:// www.edgemont.ab.ca/events/food-trucks-2025/.

The Farmer's Stand is back. Check the website for more information. https://www.edgemont.ab.ca/events/farmstands-2025/.

Thanks to the businesses that have stopped using median signs. It's one of the issues I get the most complaints about. If there are signs that are a nuisance to you, call 3-1-1 to complain. If businesses want to advertise to Edgemont residents, consider this newsletter. Send an email to our office at office@edgemont.ab.ca with the subject "Newsletter Advertising" and the office will send you the advertising information. Inquiries channelled through our office will be eligible for a discount. The newsletter is delivered to over 5.000 civic addresses in the sub-division.

In closing, I want to thank those who joined the Board for our AGM. We elected Deirdre, Margaret, Charmaine, Jymi, Rick, and Barb, Further details are elsewhere in the newsletter. I'd also like to thank those Board members who retired. They include Kathleen and Shaffic. Tina who served as our Volunteer Coordinator and supported Jeff Edwards is retiring as well. These individuals gave freely of their time and expertise in support of the Edgemont Community Association and its programs.

There's one individual in particular that gets a big pat on the back. At the AGM, MLA Julia Hayter attended to make a presentation of the King Charles III Coronation Medal, awarded to individuals who deliver extraordinary service to their community. The presentation was made to Barb Elms. We are thrilled that all the work that Barb does was recognized in this manner. Well done, Barb!

Enjoy the summer!

Pamela Wilson

President



# 2025 Summer Camps at Edgemont!

# Mr. D.'s Awesome Summer Teen Drama Camp - Full, Waitlist Only

Grade 6 to 12 | July 7 to 11 | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm daily

Back with over 20 years of amazing summer memories behind us this drama camp is active, exciting, and awesome. Our high-tech play will take us on an amazing adventure to Jurassic Park.

We will play "Jurassic Park Survivor" with awesome new drama games, dino challenges, and prizes for everyone. Camp t-shirts, T-Rex talent show with Gigantosaurus Donuts, summer comic book day, and Mr. D.'s awesome cooking show and more surprises are all on the menu. Lights, camera, action! Let's make a summer camp movie too. All of our families and friends are invited to our big show Friday afternoon. Your favourite camp counsellors are back too.

Registration starts May 1 online. Register early as this camp sells out fast.

# Mr. D.'s Awesome Summer Drama Camp from a Galaxy Far, Far Away - Full, Waitlist Only

Ages 8 to 15 | July 14 to 18 | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm daily

Calling all Jedi to the Edgemont community centre. Light sabres and pod racers will ignite the summer full of fun and energy. We bring back the best of the past and all new games, prop building, magic and fun you do not want to miss out. It's a week of awesome Jedi Challenges, amazing races, Bounty Hunter games with special guests, comics, and dramatic good times. Our stage play will be off the charts with lights, sound, and you, the star! We'll have our own Sci-Fi Convention. Don't miss the movie day, death star donuts, awesome camp t-shirts, and Amp - your friendly neighbourhood Stormtrooper.

Registration starts May 1 online. Register early as this camp sells out fast.

Registration Fee is \$265.

#### **Little Medical School**

July 21 to 25 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm | Little Veterinarian School Summer Camp: Future Dog and Cat Veterinarians | Ages 6 to 11

July 28 to August 1 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm| Future Medics Summer Camp: Wilderness Medicine and Sports Medicine | Ages 6 to 11 August 11 to 15 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm | Little Doctor School Summer Camp: Calling All Future Doctors | Ages 6 to 11

Register at www.littlemedicalschool.com/calgary | calgary@littlemedicalschool.com | 403-755-2151 | Check our FB page: www.facebook.com/littlemedicalschoolcalgary

#### **Polyglots Summer Camps**

Join us for a fulfilling learning experience this summer with our imaginary adventures and learn French or Spanish. No previous language experience required. Full of fun activities, games, arts and crafts, and language learning.

July 21 to 25 | Kids vs The Wild | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday | Weekly Tuition: \$320

July 28 to August 1 | Natural Wonders and Curiosities | Half Day | Weekly Tuition: \$165

#### Kids vs The Wild

What if you were lost in the jungle or stranded on a deserted island? Discover the incredible true story of teens shipwrecked on a remote island and four brave children who survived the Colombian rainforest alone. This engaging week combines outdoor adventures with hands-on learning. Campers will create art using natural materials, identify plants, practice knot-tying, build shelters, and navigate marked paths.

The language focus will be on expressing needs and mastering essential survival vocabulary—all while having fun outdoors!

#### **Natural Wonders and Curiosities**

Half Day | 9:00 am to 12:00 pm or 1:00 to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday | Weekly Tuition: \$165

Embark on an exciting journey to explore the natural wonders and curiosities of our world! This week, children will discover the incredible wildlife from lemurs and chameleons in Madagascar to pudu and Patagonian mara in South America. They will learn the importance of protecting endangered species and environmental conservation. We'll explore ancient cave art and create our own cave paintings. Through exciting games, creative art projects, and outdoor activities, this week is packed with curiosity and adventure!

Email: contact@polyglots.ca. Telephone: 587-287-8979.

#### **Sewing Camp**

July 7 to 11 | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Contact Karolina: goldynstudio@gmail.com.

#### **Mad Science Camps**

Robots, Gizmos, and Gadgets  $\mid$  July 7 to 11  $\mid$  9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Mad Science Mayhem | July 28 to August 1 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

#### **ABAITC Coding Summer Camps**

Minecraft Game Development Course | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm | Daily, July 7 to 11 and July 14 to 18

Python Programming Class | 9:00 am to 3:00 pm | Daily, August 11 to 15 and July 18 to 22

Contact June: 587-926-9005. Email: aitech201905@ qmail.com.

#### **Calgary Stars Basketball Camps**

July 7 to 11 | 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

August 8 to 22 | 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Keep an eye out in our newsletter and on our website or social media as more summer camps become available for registration!





by Anne Burke

Connect: Calgary's Parks Plan replaced the Open Space Plan and the Natural Areas Management Plan. Calgarians have historically and consistently had a strong desire for the inclusion of natural areas as Open Space. As early as 1914, The Mawson Plan recommended protection for the riverbanks. In the 1940s, the public wanted natural park environments to be preserved. Little or no management was considered. In the early 1970s, The Calgary Bird Club assessed several natural areas, including East and West Nose Hill, before specific natural areas management policies were identified. By 1980, City Council adopted the first Nose Hill Park Master Plan, to ensure that natural habitat would remain for wildlife species that use it. The Nose Hill Biophysical and Land Use Inventory was a major project, but any unexpected problem or difficulty was beyond its scope. Instead, The Nose Hill Park Management Advisory Committee was followed by the Nose Hill Park Trail and Pathway Plan.

The Natural Areas Management Plan called for longterm conservation methods to support appropriate public uses. Some activities were dog walking, hiking trails, and weed control. For Nose Hill, as a Major Natural Environment Area, there were guidelines about grazing, wildlife, signage, fallen trees, and brush. As in all Natural Environment Parks, the approach was based on habitat types, with the general principles being fire management, life cycling, planting, restoration, and reclamation. To communicate the aims of protection, management, and permitted uses in a natural environment park, staff training and public education were planned, so as to share information regarding natural areas and natural history in Calgary. The plan was to evolve, with more research and new techniques for managing urban natural areas, as the public perception of Open Space changed, not only in Alberta but across North America.

Edgemont Community Centre, 33 Edgevalley Circle NW or online.

For more information, call the office at 403-239-1211, or check www.edgemont.ab.ca.

Please note that some programs are only offered during the school year while others are year round.

### **Self-Development and Healthy Living**

#### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Meets at Edgemont Community Centre every Friday evening. Contact ECA: 403-239-1211.

#### **AL-Anon Family Group Meeting**

Support for friends and family of alcoholics. Thursdays at 10:00 am in the Boardroom. For more information, email livingthelegacies@gmail.com or call 403-266-5850.

#### **Good Food Box**

Small Box: \$30, 15 to 20 lbs of fruits and vegetables\* Medium Box: \$35, 25 to 30 lbs of fruits and vegetables\* Large Box: \$40, 35 to 40 lbs of fruits and vegetables\* \*Please note weights are approximate.

Order by 6:00 pm	Pick Up
July 21	July 30
August 18	August 27
September 15	September 24
October 13	October 22
November 17	November 26

Order link: edgemont.getcommunal.com/parent\_programs. Email GFB@edgemont.ab.ca for information.

#### Farm Stands at the ECA

Location: Edgemont Community Association, 33 Edgevalley Circle NW.

Weekly farm stands at the ECA starting May 22. Every Thursday, 3:30 to 7:00 pm.

In partnership with The City of Calgary and Edgemont CA, FreshPal Farms is running a farm stand in our community. Get some fresh Alberta veggies to spice up your dinner plans!

#### Food Trucks at the ECA

Location: Edgemont Community Association, 33 Edgevalley Circle NW

Indulge and enjoy a variety of cuisines.

\*Location of events and programs are at the Edgemont Community Association unless otherwise specified.\*\*

Monthly, May to September, 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

Dates: July 17, August 21, September 18.

#### Childcare

#### **Edgemont EduSARC**

Before and after school-age program serving the Edgemont Elementary School. Please call 403-241-0131 or email edusarc@gmail.com.

#### **Kaleidoscope Kids**

Preschool for ages 3 to 4 years. Monday to Friday. Contact 403-547-1020, or visit www.kaleidoscopekidspreschool.com.

#### **Babies, Children and Youth**

#### 193 Scout Group Edgemont

Activities and adventures for youth ages 5 and up. We need new parent leaders to help us open up more spots for youth! No experience necessary, and full training provided. Come and have fun with Scouting! Contact Graham at 193edgemontand4triwoodscouts@gmail.com.

#### **Fencing Calgary**

Learn to play the fencing way! Programs for children and youth aged 7 to 14. Equipment included. Visit www.fencingcalgary.com.

#### **Art Drawing Class, STC Arts**

Thursday, Saturday, Sunday classes for ages 5 and up. Includes cartoon, sketch, and watercolour painting. Visit www.artsstc.com/.

#### **ABAITC**

Al Junior Coding Class | For more information or to register call 587-926-9005 or email aitech201905@gmail.com | abaitc.org.

#### Casey O'loughlin Academy of Irish Dance

Saturday mornings for ages 4 and up. For more information or to register, call 403-520-0059 or email caseyoloughlin@academy.com.

#### Junior Philatelists (Stamp Club for Youth)

Meeting the second Saturday of the month, January to May, and September to November. Each gathering includes discussions on the history, geography, and culture of stamp issuing countries. Ideal age range would be from 8 to 16, and no previous background in the hobby is necessary. For further information, please contact Jim Senecal at 403-547-7681.

#### Mavericks Football (Atom, Peewee, Bantam)

https://www.mavericksfootballclub.com

#### **Rhythmic Gymnastics**

We offer rhythmic and acro gymnastic classes for ages 5 and up. For information, email h.palmer@shaw.ca or visit www.rgcalgary.ca.

#### Sportball

Indoor parent-and-child sports program. Ages 2 to 3 with a parent; ages 3 to 5 do not require a parent to attend. Call 403-700-7994, or visit www.sportball.ca/ calgary/return-to-play.

#### Stars Basketball (Grades 1 to 6)

Our coaches are trained to promote joy, ignite passion, and develop skills. Email info@starsathletics.ca.

#### Suzuki Baby

Music classes for ages 0 to 2. Visit www.suzukibaby.ca/.

#### **Thunder Basketball**

Tykes to U18

www.thunderbasketball.ca

#### **Youth and Adults**

#### **Momentum Dance Academy**

We offer Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, Acro, Hip Hop, and Tap! Come dance with us! We offer both recreational and competitive options.

Contact office@momentumdanceacademy.ca for more information. www.momentumdanceacademy.ca

#### Seiwa Kai Karate

Seiwa Kai Karate was established in Calgary in 1979. Presently, the club has five branches located in northwest and southwest Calgary. The club offers classes for beginners, children, and adults. All students of Seiwa Kai Karate are members of the National Karate Association and Karate Alberta Association.

Email info@seiwakai.ca or call 403-560-4508.

Visit www.seiwakai.ca for more information.

#### Alan Colter Karate

Koryu Uchinadi karate club based in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Call 403-926-3535 or email sensei.alan@bunbukankarate.com.

#### **Koala-Tea Conversations**

Student-run English Conversation Club designed to

help ESL and native speakers with communication skills while having

fun. Ages 12+. 7:00 to 8:00 pm weekly, Fridays in the North Rock Room, Contact koalateaconversations@ amail.com.

#### **Adults and Seniors**

#### **Gentle Yoga**

In-person yoga on Thursdays. To register, email savannah.nocera@gmail.com, or call 403-852-5415.

#### Second Sixties Outdoor Club

Open to age 50+. If you enjoy any of hiking, walking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing or beginner golf, check out www.secondsixties.ca for more information.

#### Speakers' Edge Toastmasters

Meets Saturdays.

Contact speakersedgetoastmasters@gmail.com.

#### Calgary Silver Thimbles Quilters Guild

Quilting guild meets at 7:00 pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month from September to June. Zoom meetings are held for some of the third Wednesdays during the winter months. Quilters of all levels are welcome. For more information contact cstgg1@gmail.com.

#### Calgary Chinese Seniors Recreation Society-Ping Pong

We provide a variety of recreational programs, giving our members the opportunity to build their social network, showcase their talent and improve the seniors' quality of life. Contact Frank at 403-870-8878 or franky8y@hotmail.com.

#### Calgary Chinese Elderly Citizen's Association CCECA

The Calgary Chinese Elderly Citizens' Association (CCECA) is a non-profit social service organization. IthasbeenservingChineseolderadultscitywidesince1985. It provides a great variety of services and programs including social services, community support, health service, etc.

Visit https://www.cceca.ca/ for more information.

#### Spiritual

#### Mountain Creek Community Church (formerly Northwest Community Church)

10:30 am Sundays. See nwcchurch.ca.

Contact Pastor Jeff Edwards at 403-616-6480 or pastor@nwcchurch.ca.

continued on next page

Please call organizers for more information

#### Calgary True Light Gospel Church 真光教会

10:30 am Sundays. See calgarytruelight.com.

Chinese Service.

Ke Wang 587-717-5826.

#### **Gospel Church**

Sunday evening services Visit www.edgemont.ab.ca for details.

#### **ECA Board of Director Meetings**

ECA board meetings are generally held on the third Tuesday of the month starting at 7:00 pm. If you have an item that you would like added to the agenda, email secretary@edgemont.ab.ca. ECA members are welcome to attend meetings in-person. Let the secretary know so we can be assured that we have sufficient meeting space.

#### **Upcoming Events and Projects**

Go to www.edgemont.ab.ca for more information.

#### **Music and Picnic Night**

August 10



### A Message from Your Volunteer Coordinators

This is Jeff Edwards writing today. I would like to honour and thank Tina Chen for being an amazing Volunteer Coordinator for our neighbourhood for the last couple of years. She has stepped back now, and we thank her profusely for her excellent service. She coordinated volunteers for major events like Frost Fest, the spring and winter markets, and the Holiday Hampers. She connected volunteers from all over the community for eleven community events and eight year-round programs. Her smile was infectious, and her community spirit was inspiring. Thank you, Tina!

Now, I would like to introduce to you our new primary Volunteer Coordinator, Jymi Chun! We are excited that she has just joined the ECA Board and is keen to promote volunteerism in Edgemont. Jymi is taking over coordinating our volunteer projects and is happy to connect with you on our volunteer email. Please welcome her! Volunteering is alive and well in Edgemont.

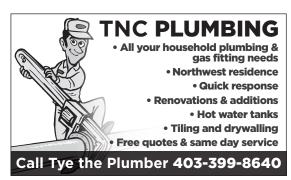
Loving our neighbourhood,

Jymi Chun and Jeff Edwards

volunteers@edgemont.ab.ca









#### **ECA AGM 2025**

The community general meeting was held on May 15. The business of the community association was reviewed and approved, and elections were held for director positions.

#### **President's Report**

- For most of the 2024/25 reporting timeframe the Board operated with nine directors supported by a stable staff complement. This model worked well. Meetings were held every month with the exceptions of December and July. In-person attendance was supplemented by Zoom attendance or speaker-phone participation.
- In 2023/24 we had created a two-year business plan to guide our activities and annually, we approved an operating and capital budget. We strived to establish a reasonable, but conservative, budget and I am pleased to report, we have come back into the realm of a surplus – a nice change from those COVID years!
- We have completed the renovation project thanks to the hard work of both the Building Admin. Committee and the stewardship of ECA staff. We have just reviewed the maintenance work on our 2025 "to do" list and will be updating tasks identified in our Lifecycle Report. One outstanding issue is the skylight replacement and after being given the go-ahead by the City, we will be negotiating with the Calgary Board of Education to get this going. The timeline is two to three years so this will not be a quick job.

#### Treasurer's Report

- Our Audited Financial Statements for 2024 reported that the Association is not exposed to any significant market or credit risks.
- Our Current Assets have increased primarily because of property upgrades made last year and excess income earned; same for the increase in Net Assets.
- The 2023 audit was corrected to recognize that there were no funds in general that belonged in the restricted account.
- Overall, we are in good standing with net assets of \$2,095,000 and a surplus for the year of \$74,000.
- The community casino held in October raised over \$84,000.

#### **Special Resolution**

• Special Resolution: Moved by Pamela Wilson that Rick Wierzbicki be granted a two-year extension to his term of office. Those two years will begin at the adjournment of the Annual General Meeting 2025 until the adjournment of the Annual General Meeting 2027. Seconded by Barb Elms. Approved.

Election, the ECA can have up to 15 directors, we now have 11.

Directors returning for second year of two-year term:

- 1. Pam Wilson
- 2. Joanne Nowak (on leave until after municipal election)
- 3. Umar Kukkadi
- 4. Kieran Fitness

Thank you to Directors who have retired:

- 1. Kathleen Stewart
- 2. Aurora Wen
- 3. Tina Chen
- 4. Shaffic Fazal

Members elected for first year of two-year term:

- 1. Rick Wierzbicki
- 2. Barb Elms
- 3. Jeff Coombes
- 4. Deidre Harris
- 5. Charmaine Grills
- 6. Margaret Anne McCaughey
- 7. Sing (Jymi) Chun

A link can be found on our website to the AGM presentation and supporting documents: https://www.edgemont.ab.ca/annual-general-meeting/.



Edgemont: Community Association, 33 Edgevalley Circle NW In partnership with The City of Calgary and Edgemont CA, FreshPal Farms is running a farm stand in our community. Get some fresh Alberta veggies to spice up your dinner reland.



# **Edgemont Youth Press**

# Shining the Spotlight on Program Leaders in Edgemont

by Julia M., Sofia N., and Anneleise L.



#### Rick Wierzbicki (Rink Team)

Rick Wierzbicki, an Edgemont resident since 1984, has already dedicated nearly four decades to the Edgemont community rink. He began alongside

longtime volunteer Barry Palmer, back when the rink was a seasonal setup assembled each winter with boards on open grass. After Barry's retirement, Rick took the lead, guiding its transformation into a permanent facility with an asphalt base, steel-framed boards, and modern lighting. Today, the rink serves as a community hub year-round—as an ice rink in winter, and a street hockey and basketball court in summer. Despite the growing challenges of warming winters from climate change, Rick and the rink team are determined to continue to preserve this cherished community space for future generations.



# Cari Middleton and Marty Evans (Casino Fundraisers)

Cari Middleton and Marty Evans are cornerstones of the Edgemont community. In the 1990s, Cari ran our first softball league and Marty set up our first neighbourhood



Block Watch program. Eventually, Cari and Marty found themselves organizing casino fundraisers—dealing with paperwork, communications, and volunteer recruitment. Each fundraiser generates \$75,000 to \$85,000 for the community which goes

toward crucial upkeep, bills, and programs. Cari says that being a part of the casino fundraisers has made her a "life-long learner" and is a feeling she describes as "filling your soul." Marty also recognizes that casino fundraisers simply "cannot run" without the continued support of extraordinary Edgemont volunteers. So, for the next fundraiser, Marty reminds us that "no experience is necessary" and Cari wants to see "just what Edgemont can do"—a phenomenon which they have both witnessed over and over. Marty and Cari want to see volunteers come together to learn, give back to the community, create life-long friendships, and find a place of belonging right here in Edgemont—just like they did.



#### Jan Brigden (Good Food Box Program)

Jan Brigden's work on the Good Food Box program began two years ago, when she was a volunteer delivery driver. She is now the coordinator

of a vital community resource providing fresh, highquality produce through monthly pre-orders. Operating with help from the Calgary community kitchen's distribution centre, Jan and her team of volunteers handle everything from order collection to distribution, even offering home deliveries when needed. But as Jan explains, the best part is forming connections with community members and other families. The initiative's "no contracts, no income requirements" philosophy reflects Edgemont's spirit of inclusion, where anyone can order as often as they like. Together with her dedicated team of volunteers, Jan hopes this program will continue making good food accessible for all of Edgemont—one box, and one connection, at a time.



#### **Deidre Harris (Food Bank Branch)**

In July 2023, Deirdre Harris started the Calgary Food Bank's Westminster Presbyterian Church location. For two years, she's worked tirelessly without pay

to support Edgemont. She's helped many people some just once but notes the need for more, specifically cultural food, hygiene products, and baby items. By autumn 2024, this location was distributing 20 hampers daily. Across Calgary, about 800 go out each day. This surge began after COVID, when job losses and economic collapse forced hundreds to seek help. While numbers have dropped since, they remain higher than before—housing costs, low wages, and food prices leave many struggling even with full-time work. Despite this reality, stigma still persists, so the food bank runs school programs and redesigned their space like a grocery store. Yet families can't rely on it completely and most work full-time while using other supports too. Throughout our community, volunteers have been helping the food bank, as well as other organizations, succeed by volunteering and donating. Keep up the good work, Edgemont!













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e-mail: nancy@swanby.com (house calls and after-hours appts. still available)

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# **BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS**

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