

JANUARY 2026

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# BATHROOM RENOVATION SALE

## SUPREME ULTIMATE

- Remove all old materials from bathroom and job site
- Supply & install new acrylic soaker tub
- Supply & install new toilet with soft close seat
- Supply & install new Delta pressure balance taps
- Supply & install new showerhead & diverter spout
- Supply & install new mold-resistant board
- Supply & install new tile to ceiling
- Supply & install one corner caddy & soap dish
- Supply & install new subfloor
- Installation of new tile flooring
- Supply & install new vanity
- Supply & install new granite or quartz countertops with undermount sink
- Supply & install new Delta vanity tops
- Supply & install new drain system & pop-up stopper

**ABSOLUTELY NO HIDDEN COSTS**

*Some restrictions may apply.* **Reg: \$17,679**

**SALE \$13,879**

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## SUPREME TUB TO SHOWER CONVERSION

- Remove all old materials from bathroom and job site
- Supply & install one custom shower stall 60" x 30"
- Supply & install new water resistant board
- Tile Schluter base
- Supply & install new tile to ceiling
- Supply & install custom shower doors
- Supply & install new Delta pressure balance taps
- Supply & install new toilet with soft close seat
- Supply & install new corner caddy with soap dish
- Supply & install new subfloor
- Installation of new tile flooring
- Supply & install new vanity
- Supply & install new granite or quartz countertops with undermount sink

**ABSOLUTELY NO HIDDEN COSTS**

*Some restrictions may apply.* **Reg: \$20,679**

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Statistics**



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## EVANSTON-CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

EvanstonCreekside  
Community Association | ECCA

PO Box 47059

20 – 12192 Symons Valley Road NW, Calgary, Alberta T3P 0B9  
[eccacalgary.com](http://eccacalgary.com)

For a list of Directors or if you are interested in  
joining the Board, contact  
[board@eccacalgary.com](mailto:board@eccacalgary.com).

### Evanston Board Meetings

are held on the first Tuesday of every month.

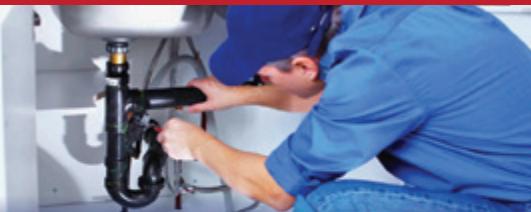
All community members are welcome and encouraged  
to contribute.



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# Tobogganing/Sledding Safety

by Alberta Health Services



Emergency Health Services (EHS) – Alberta would like to remind parents and children about toboggan/sledding safety tips. Injuries may result from collisions with stationary objects on the hill, such as trees, poles, rocks, or even collisions with other people. Unprotected falls can also result in more serious injury if you lose control at high speeds. However, everyone can be safe on the hill by following these reminders.

### Equipment

- Always ensure your toboggan, or sledding device, is in good repair. Inspect it for any damaged or missing parts before each use.
- Be certain the operator is fully capable of staying in control of the sled at all times.
- Wear a ski helmet designed for use in cold weather and high speeds.

### Hazards

- Avoid hills that are too steep or icy.
- Choose hills free of all obstacles such as trees, rocks, utility poles, benches, or fences.
- Beware of loose scarves, or clothing containing drawstrings, which could present a strangulation hazard if they become caught or snagged.
- Look out for others. Move quickly to the side after finishing a run and stay to the side of the sliding path when walking up the hill.

- Children should be supervised by an adult; try not to toboggan alone.
- Sledding at night is not advised.

### Plan Ahead

- Anticipate weather changes and plan accordingly.
- Wear warm, insulating layers closer to the body, and wind/waterproof layers on the outside.
- Consider bringing extra sets of gloves and toques to exchange wet garments for dry ones.
- Take breaks out of the cold to warm up.
- Even when properly protected from the elements, the fingertips, toes, ears, the tip of the nose, and other high points on the face such as the forehead and cheek bones can be affected by frostbite; therefore, attempt to cover up any exposed skin.
- If frostbite has occurred, treat it by first getting out of the cold environment, or at least sheltered from any wind chill.
- Gently warm the affected skin by placing a warm hand over it, or by placing the affected part in warm - not hot - water until rewarmed.

### BRAIN GAMES

# SUDOKU

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

SCAN THE QR CODE  
FOR THE SOLUTION



# Caring for an Aging Parent: Strategies for When the Going Gets Tough

by Nancy Bergeron, R. Psych | info@nancybergeron.ca



### Emotional Strategies (Inner Work and Regulation)

#### 1. Acknowledge Complex Feelings

Allow yourself to feel grief, anger, guilt, resentment, or sadness—without judgment. Write or talk about your emotions rather than suppressing them. “It’s okay to love my parent and still feel hurt by them.”

#### 2. Release the Hope for Transformation

Accept that your parent may never change, apologize, or become kind. Focus on who you want to be in this relationship—not who you wish they were. Acceptance is not approval—it’s choosing peace over constant disappointment.

#### 3. Separate Compassion from Tolerance

Compassion = understanding their limitations and pain. Tolerance = letting them mistreat you. You can have empathy while maintaining strong boundaries.

#### 4. Name and Limit Emotional Triggers

Identify patterns that consistently lead to hurt (e.g., criticism, manipulation, guilt trips). Develop calm exit strategies when tension rises (“I need to step out for a minute,” or “Let’s talk later.”)

### 5. Practice Grounding Techniques

Use breathing exercises, mindfulness, or sensory grounding before and after visits. Create “emotional decompression rituals”—e.g., a walk, journaling, or music after caregiving tasks.

#### 6. Reframe Your Role

Instead of “being the good child,” think of yourself as a care coordinator—doing what’s necessary, not what’s emotionally reciprocal. This mental shift reduces guilt and over-responsibility.

#### 7. Find Validation Outside the Relationship

Seek empathy and support from friends, therapy, or caregiver groups. Don’t expect emotional reciprocity from your parent; that’s not where healing will come from.

### Situational Strategies (Practical Boundaries and Care Structures)

#### 1. Clarify What You Can and Cannot Do

Define your caregiving “job description.” Example: “I manage their medication and groceries, but I can’t

handle daily visits." Say it out loud, write it down, and share with other family members if needed.

## **2. Establish Firm Communication Boundaries**

Limit exposure to verbal abuse or manipulation. End conversations that become cruel or degrading: "I'm not willing to be spoken to that way. I'll come back when you're ready to talk respectfully."

## **3. Use Neutral, Brief Responses**

When provoked, respond with calm neutrality ("I hear you," "That's your opinion," "Okay"). Avoid arguing, explaining, or defending—it fuels conflict.

## **4. Set Structured Routines**

Predictability helps both you and your parent. Schedule visits or calls at consistent times to minimize last-minute demands.

## **5. Engage Outside Help When Possible**

Look into: Home care aides or respite programs, adult day centers, geriatric care managers, volunteer respite programs or faith-based support. Even a few hours of relief can help you sustain caregiving long-term.

## **6. Protect Your Physical Space**

If your parent lives with you, designate "off-limits" areas or private times. If you live separately, establish boundaries around unannounced visits or excessive calls.

## **7. Use Written Communication for Sensitive Topics**

For logistics (medications, finances, appointments), use texts or emails—it reduces emotional escalation and provides a record.

## **8. Plan for Respite and Breaks**

Schedule non-negotiable downtime—a full day or weekend off every few weeks. Even short breaks prevent burnout and resentment.

## **9. Involve Professionals for Tough Conversations**

Use a doctor, social worker, or counselor to mediate when your parent refuses help or denies issues. Hearing it from a professional, lands better than hearing it from a child.

## **10. Prepare for Emotional Pushback**

Difficult parents often use guilt, martyrdom, or control when they feel powerless. Recognize it as fear, not truth. "They're scared of losing control—that's not mine to fix."

# **Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary**



Betty White, Cranston



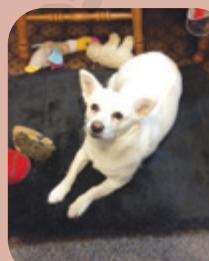
Dazi,  
North Glenmore Park



Jack, Seton



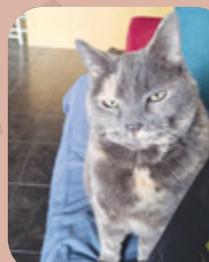
Leo, Nolan Hill



Rosie, Renfrew



Tango, Palliser



Teffy, Mount Pleasant



Toulouse, Killarney

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## The Art of Finding Work: What if I Told You Ageism Doesn't Exist?

by Nick Kossovan



When you read the title of this column, where did your focus and mental energy immediately go?

What if, when job searching, instead of obsessing about all the things you can't control—biases, economic factors, the job market, employer's hiring process—you focused on what you can control, such as creating and maintaining a professional network, tailoring your resume and cover letter for each application, managing your digital footprint, and cultivating a positive mindset. Wouldn't this be a more effective approach to your job search?

Every job seeker I encounter seems fixated on what they can't control. LinkedIn has become an echo chamber

of pity, dominated by posts vilifying employers, giving unsolicited advice to employers who'll never read it, and venting about ageism, being overqualified, or ghosting. Participating in these discussions doesn't reflect well on you when employers check your profile to evaluate whether you're interview-worthy.

You're likely familiar with the quote attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr: "Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." This emphasizes the importance of accepting situations you can't change and directing your energy towards what you can influence.

### **As a job seeker, you can't control:**

Someone's Biases: Do yourself a favour; stop trying to control the beliefs and behaviours of other people. Whether it's age, ethnicity, or any other characteristic, you can't change how someone perceives (read: interprets) you. Biases are a fact of life, and dwelling on them only drains energy.

Speaking of biases: Why do people fail to recognize their own biases but see them in others?

The Economy and the Job Market: Yes, economic downturns, market fluctuations, industry trends, government policies, and global events contribute to the job market landscape, but you have no influence over them. My advice is to say to yourself, "It is what it is," and turn your attention elsewhere.

The Hiring Process: Employers own their hiring process. You can't control how an employer structures their hiring process, accesses candidates, or how long they take to make a decision. Since no two employers hire the same way, job searching is unpredictable, leading to frustration if you let it dominate your mindset.

I often see the unpredictability of hiring; what one employer views as a positive might be seen as a negative by another. For example, hiring manager A might determine, based on the level of your previous job and/or your age, that you're overqualified and, therefore, will soon become bored and leave. Conversely, hiring manager B might perceive you as a potential role model for younger employees, in addition to bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Subjective perception, the basis for creating bias, plays a crucial role in hiring decisions.

Company Culture: You're either a fit or you're not. Trying to contort yourself in hopes of appearing to be someone who'll "fit in" is pointless. If you get the job but can't be yourself, you won't be happy. Hiring managers know their company's culture much better than you, especially its nuances; hence, trust them if they determine you won't be a good fit.

Past Experiences: What's done is done. If there's anything to learn from a mistake, do so and move on. Dwelling in the past only creates unnecessary anxiety.

### **As a job seeker, you can control:**

Creating and Maintaining a Professional Network: Your professional network is your lifeline in terms of job search and career advancement; thus, it's the most influential factor in your job search. Given that the correlation between networking and job search success is common knowledge, you undoubtedly know the primary benefit of networking is access to unadvertised opportunities.

I highly recommend reading *Never Eat Alone* by Keith Ferrazzi.

Tailoring Your Resume and Cover Letter: Each job application should feel personalized, highlighting your skills and experiences that directly relate to the position you're pursuing. "I applied to over 700 jobs in three months" isn't a flex. As far as job searching is concerned, submitting two quality applications daily is significantly better than the 'spray and pray' method that most job seekers resort to.

Your Digital Footprint: Be mindful of your online presence. Your social media activity reflects your professionalism. A messy digital footprint is a red flag to employers, just as not having one makes you appear out of touch.

Practicing Interview Skills: The best hack I know for honing your interview skills is to have more conversations with family, friends, acquaintances, and strangers and ask more open-ended questions ("How did you spend this past weekend?" "What made you decide to become an accountant?" "What's your go-to restaurant?"). The more comfortable you become having conversations, the better you'll perform in interviews, which are essentially a conversation.

Maintaining a Positive Mindset: Your attitude impacts your job search. Control your mindset by practicing mindfulness and gratitude. Focus on what you can achieve, not on what you believe is holding you back.

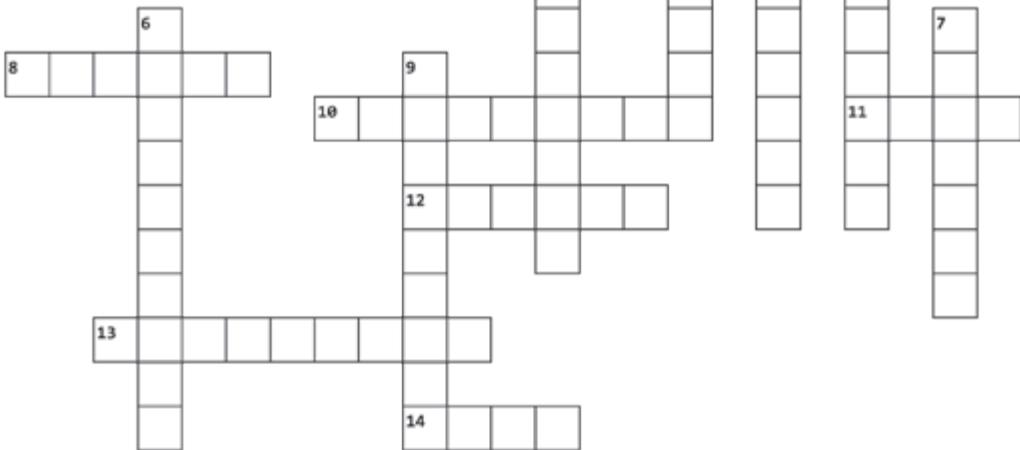
Another book recommendation: *Rewire Your Mindset: Own Your Thinking, Control Your Actions, Change Your Life!* by Brian Keane.

As in life, what you focus on determines where your energy goes; therefore, choose your focus wisely.

# January Crossword



Visit [bit.ly/mycalgaryanswers](http://bit.ly/mycalgaryanswers) or  
scan the QR code for  
the answers



## Across

4. The world's largest office building, which houses the U.S. military, was completed on January 15, 1943.
8. Rare snowfall occurred on this North African desert on January 7, 2018.
10. January's birth flower is also the official flower of Mother's Day.
11. In 2015, New Zealander Lydia Ko became the youngest person to be ranked number one in the world in this club-and-ball sport at the age of 17.
12. In 45 BC this calendar took effect for the first time as decreed by Roman ruler Julius Caesar.
13. This free-content online encyclopedia launched on January 15, 2001.
14. On January 15, 2024, Elton John won an \_\_\_\_\_ award for his television special *Elton John: Farewell From Dodger Stadium*, completing his status as an EGOT winner.

## Down

1. On January 3, 1892, writer J.R.R. Tolkien was born in this South African capital city.
2. World \_\_\_\_\_ Day is celebrated on January 2 to honour quiet, reserved, and sometimes shy individuals.
3. On January 23, 2018, \_\_\_\_\_ James became the youngest player to reach 30,000 NBA points.
5. The first Prime Minister of Canada, John A. Macdonald, was born on January 11, 1815, in \_\_\_\_\_, Scotland.
6. The crime drama series, *The Sopranos*, starring James \_\_\_\_\_ premiered on January 10, 1999.
7. Former professional footballer, Owen Lee Hargreaves was born on January 20, 1981, in \_\_\_\_\_, Alberta.
9. Jane Austen's romance novel *Pride and \_\_\_\_\_* was originally published on January 28, 1813.



## 4-H INTRO CLUB

# Grow Something New This Winter With 4-H Intro Clubs



Have you heard of 4-H? Many know 4-H for its long history in rural and agricultural communities, but today 4-H is thriving in cities, including right here in Northwest Calgary. Alongside our traditional, year-long 4-H clubs, we also offer a short-term program designed for families who want to explore 4-H before making a longer commitment.

4-H Intro Clubs are a six-week program for youth ages 9 to 15 that provides a hands-on introduction to the 4-H experience. These are not traditional clubs. During intro clubs, youth attend once a week for two hours, learn all about running meetings and try a different hands-on activity each session, giving them a fun and friendly way to explore what 4-H has to offer.



One popular winter activity is the Potato Pet Hair Garden, where youth learn about seeds, plant growth, and patience in a silly and hands-on way. Using a potato, paper towel, water, and chia or alfalfa seeds, participants create a "potato pet" with sprouting hair, then track growth over the week. Along the way, they practice observation skills, explore plant life cycles, and get a taste of science in action, all indoors during the cold winter months.

### Try It at Home: Create your own Potato Pet Hair Garden:

- Wrap a potato in a damp paper towel or cotton strip.
- Draw a face and add googly eyes.
- Place it on a jar of water so the bottom touches the water.
- Spread chia or alfalfa seeds on top, like hair.
- Mist daily and watch the sprouts grow in four to seven days!

Learn more about intro clubs starting in January by visiting [4hab.com/member](http://4hab.com/member).

Send us your potato head photos or ask us a question at [introclubs@4hab.com](mailto:introclubs@4hab.com).



## On Deerfoot Trail

by Garth Paul Ukrainetz

On Deerfoot Trail the potholes grow  
A little larger every day  
They never seem to fill them in  
We zig and zag along the way

On Deerfoot Trail bad tempers show  
The need for speed in rush hour mess  
The faster lane ain't always faster  
The quicker route ain't always best

On Deerfoot Trail the snow plows blow  
They clear the slushy slop away  
But cars still slide into the ditch  
On icy road there's hell to pay

On Deerfoot Trail the tail lights glow  
Like blood cells flow within a vein  
The city's major artery  
Bright Stampede Red this freeway train

On Deerfoot Trail a rodeo  
Corralled commuters, Calgary  
Bronc riding on this road together  
Until we exit, until we're free



**MLA Calgary-North**  
**Hon. Muhammad Yaseen**  
104 – 200 Country Hills Landing NW T3K 5P3  
✉ calgary.north@assembly.ab.ca  
✉ @muhammadyaseenyc

As we welcome the New Year, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes for health, happiness, and success in the year ahead. May 2026 bring new opportunities, meaningful connections, and moments of joy for you and your loved ones.

Premier Danielle Smith and Prime Minister Mark Carney have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to secure long-term economic security and work towards turning our country into a world energy superpower. We are thankful the federal government has been responsive to our concerns and has worked with us to address them – especially the oil and gas production cap and the net-zero power regulations. This MOU is a roadmap to move ahead and focus on growing our economy, increasing production, and building critical nation building projects. With an Indigenous co-owned Alberta bitumen pipeline to Asian markets as a project of national interest in addition to the Trans Mountain expansion, Alberta is now positioned to reach its goal to increase oil production to six million barrels per day by 2030 and eight million by 2035.

Alberta's government is investing nearly \$6 million to support 26 agencies providing supports and services for the victims of family violence around the province. The Taking Action on Family Violence grant program supports the Alberta government's commitment to ending gender-based violence. We will continue to invest in strategies that promote healthy relationships and support individuals who have experienced violence. This includes programs targeted for those struggling with abusive behaviours.

Thank you to my constituents for your support, wishing you all a joyous and prosperous New Year.



**Councillor, Ward 2**  
**Jennifer Wyness**  
✉ 403-268-2430  
✉ Ward2@calgary.ca  
✉ Calgary.ca/ward2 **Ward2Wyness**  
✉ @WynessJennifer **X@JenniferWyness**

Happy New Year Ward 2!

As we start 2026, I want to share a few important updates that matter to households across our community.

#### **Review Your 2026 Property Assessment**

Property assessments arrive on January 14, and the Customer Review Period runs until March 23. Your assessment helps determine your share of property taxes, and this is your chance to confirm that your assessment is accurate and reflects real market value. When reviewing, check that the value is reasonable as of July 1, 2025, confirm that the property details are correct, and compare your assessment with similar homes in your neighbourhood.

You can estimate your 2026 bill at [calgary.ca/taxcalculator](http://calgary.ca/taxcalculator). For detailed property information and comparison tools, log in at [calgary.ca/mytax](http://calgary.ca/mytax). Questions can be directed to 3-1-1 or [calgary.ca/assessment](http://calgary.ca/assessment).

#### **Nominate a Neighbour for the Calgary Awards**

Do you know a Ward 2 resident, group, or business making a meaningful impact? Consider nominating them for a Calgary Award. Categories include Community Advocate, Youth, Arts, Education, Accessibility, Environmental Achievement, and more. Nominations close January 26 at [calgary.ca/calgaryawards](http://calgary.ca/calgaryawards).

#### **Stay Safe Around Storm Ponds**

Storm ponds may look frozen, but ice conditions on them are never safe. Water levels change constantly and contaminants weaken the ice. Please keep children and pets away. For safe winter activities and outdoor rinks, visit [calgary.ca/winteractivities](http://calgary.ca/winteractivities) and [calgary.ca/rinks](http://calgary.ca/rinks).

#### **Prevent Frozen Household Water Lines**

Frozen pipes can cause major damage, but simple steps can reduce the risk. Keep your thermostat set to at least 15°C, seal cold drafts in basements and crawl spaces, insulate exposed pipes, and disconnect exterior hoses. Allow warm air to circulate around plumbing and run water regularly. More information is available at [calgary.ca/frozenpipes](http://calgary.ca/frozenpipes).

Thank you for staying informed. My office is here to support you throughout the year, and you can always reach us at [ward2@calgary.ca](mailto:ward2@calgary.ca).

## GAMES & PUZZLES

### Guess the Cartoon!



1. Mojo Jojo is always trying to cause havoc in this female-led cartoon.
2. Joe Barbera first considered calling this classic cartoon *The Gladstones*.
3. This group of mystery solvers was brought to life in 1969 and led to multiple shows and movies.
4. One of the main characters of this cartoon is named Finn and though he is an adventurer, he is afraid of the ocean.
5. Stephen Hillenburg, creator of \_\_\_\_\_, was actually a marine biologist!
6. This cartoon follows a family who lives life in Orbit City with their dog Astro.

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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](http://www.communitymediation.ca), 403-269-2707.



### Word of the Month



**Zenith:** noun  
(zee-nith, zen-ith)

**The highest point  
of something.**  
Their career reached  
its zenith in the 1970s.

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