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**News, Events,
& More**



**Crime
Statistics**

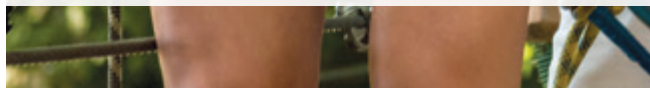


**Real Estate
Statistics**



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Fireworks

Out enjoying fireworks on Canada Day? Did you know that fireworks originated in China over 2,000 years ago? Ancient firecrackers came to be when bamboo stalks exploded after being thrown into firepits.



BRAIN GAMES

SUDOKU

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SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR THE SOLUTION



Sidewalks Are for Walking—Even in Summer

by The City of Calgary



Summer school programs, camps, and recreation activities keep school areas active even when classes are out. During these times, sidewalks play an important role in keeping children and families safe.

Parking on sidewalks forces pedestrians—including children, seniors, and people using mobility aids—into the roadway. This increases the risk of collisions and close calls, especially when visibility is limited.

Parking rules around sidewalks help ensure everyone can move safely and predictably. Choosing legal parking options and leaving pedestrian spaces clear supports safer travel for all road users.

Keeping sidewalks clear is a simple way to support safe, welcoming communities during the summer months. Learn more at calgaryparking.com/safeschools.

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Finding the Right Therapist: How to Search for the Help You're Actually Looking For

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



Searching for a therapist can feel overwhelming. A quick online search can bring up hundreds of profiles, all using different titles, specialties, and approaches. If you're already struggling with anxiety, depression, relationship issues, trauma, or another challenge, figuring out where to start can feel like another burden.

Start With the Problem You Want Help With

Many people begin their search by simply typing "therapist near me" into Google. While this can generate a list of providers, it's often more effective to search based on the specific issue you're experiencing.

For example:

- Depression counselling
- Couples counselling
- Trauma therapist
- ADHD therapist
- Grief counsellor
- Intimate betrayal trauma therapist
- Addiction therapist

Look Beyond the Therapist's Credentials

A therapist's designation tells you they have completed certain educational and licensing requirements. However, it doesn't tell you what they actually spend their time helping clients with.

When reading therapist profiles, pay attention to:

- Their areas of specialization
- Their experience treating your concerns
- Additional training or certifications
- Whether their approach resonates with you

Understand That Not All Therapy Is the Same

Some therapists focus on helping you understand patterns from your past. Others teach practical skills for managing symptoms in the present. Some specialize in relationship dynamics, while others focus on trauma recovery or behavioural change.

You don't need to become an expert in therapeutic modalities, but it can be helpful to ask questions such as:

- What does treatment usually look like?
- What can I expect in the first few sessions?
- Do you have experience helping people with situations similar to mine?

Read the Therapist's Website

A therapist's website often tells you much more than a directory profile.

As you read, ask yourself:

- Do I feel understood?
- Does this therapist seem knowledgeable about my concerns?
- Do they explain things clearly?

Sometimes a therapist's personality and communication style are just as important as their credentials.

Don't Ignore the Importance of Fit

Research consistently shows that the relationship between therapist and client is one of the strongest predictors of successful therapy.

After a consultation or first session, consider:

- Did I feel heard?
- Did I feel comfortable enough to be honest?
- Did this therapist seem to understand what I'm going through?

Ask Questions Before Booking

Many therapists offer a brief consultation. Use this opportunity to ask questions such as:

- Have you worked with concerns similar to mine?
- What is your experience with this issue?
- What does therapy usually look like?
- How often do clients typically attend sessions?
- Do you offer virtual or in-person appointments?

You are interviewing the therapist just as much as they are assessing whether they can help you.

Trust Your Gut

Credentials, experience, and training are important, but so is the feeling that you're sitting across from someone who genuinely understands you and knows how to help.

The right therapist won't have all the answers immediately. They won't promise quick fixes. What they will offer is a safe, supportive relationship, a clear path forward, and the expertise to help you navigate whatever challenges brought you to therapy in the first place.



News from the Friends of Nose Hill

by Anne Burke

The 1992 Master Plan Review recommended a Natural Area Management Plan for Nose Hill after a land use study. The job was to document compatible recreational opportunities because of native grasslands with some deciduous shrubs and trees. The Nose Hill Park Trail and Pathway Improvement Plan relied on the earlier research and did further consultation, before concluding that activities in the multi-use zone (top of the Hill) should be separated from all Park native vegetation. Over 86% was Western wheatgrass, Rough fescue - Parry oatgrass, Smooth brome, and Rough fescue-Golden bean. There was strong support to extend the multi-use zone towards the Edgemont entrance but increase habitat protection along the south side of Porcupine Valley. The earlier study assessed the sensitivity of vegetation from recreational trampling (foot traffic). Rough fescue-Golden bean has the greatest distribution in the Park and contributes almost 75% of the moderate to high at-risk areas. Most of the grassland is along the sloped areas of the Park's escarpment. Rough fescue grasslands are significant since they are in great abundance on Nose Hill (up to 35%) but have been lost in much of western Canada. Native Rough fescue grassland along the escarpment is prone to erosion due to more trails and off-trail uses, so having rules will help minimize impact and disturbance to reduce the invasion of non-native species (weeds). Due to its rarity, Nose Hill Park's Rough fescue is a nationally significant ecosite and preservation of the grassland is a great management concern. It is also important to consider that while the native grasslands have higher sensitivity to trampling, heavy recreational use and other disturbances also support the invasion of non-native species (weeds), for which natural recovery times could take several decades.

The Pressure to Make Summer Count

by Rebecca Pink, Registered Provisional Psychologist



Summer is often associated with rest, joy, and freedom. Yet for many people, it can quietly become one of the busiest and most emotionally demanding seasons of the year. Between vacations, social events, family commitments, longer days, and the pressure to “make the most” of the season, summer can begin to feel surprisingly overwhelming.

As a mom of two teenage daughters, I can feel the pace of summer pick up quickly. Between schedules, activities, social plans, and the quiet pressure to make the most of the summer, it becomes very easy to confuse staying busy with actually being fulfilled. Even the things we genuinely look forward to can begin to feel overwhelming when there is little room left to simply slow down.

But a full calendar is not always the same thing as a fulfilling season.

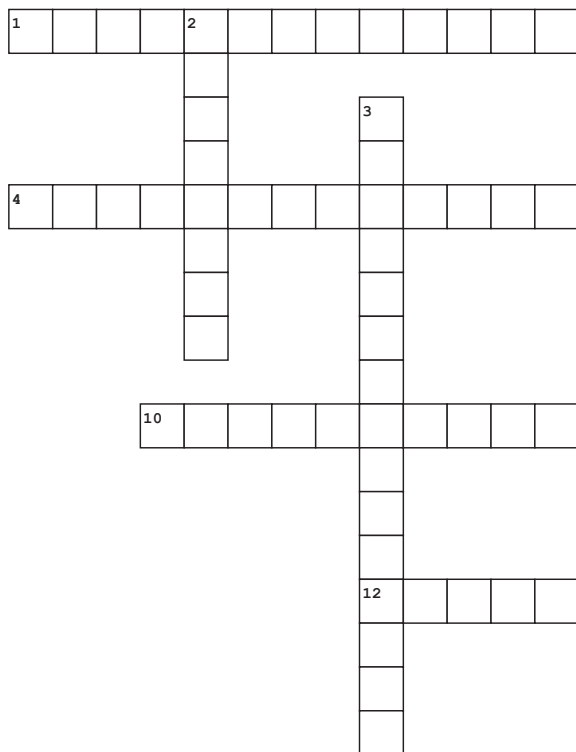
When every weekend is booked and every sunny evening feels like something we should maximize, we

can lose the very thing many of us are craving most: genuine presence and restoration. Even seasons that are meant to feel light-hearted can be surprisingly demanding, and our nervous system still requires time to rest and recharge.

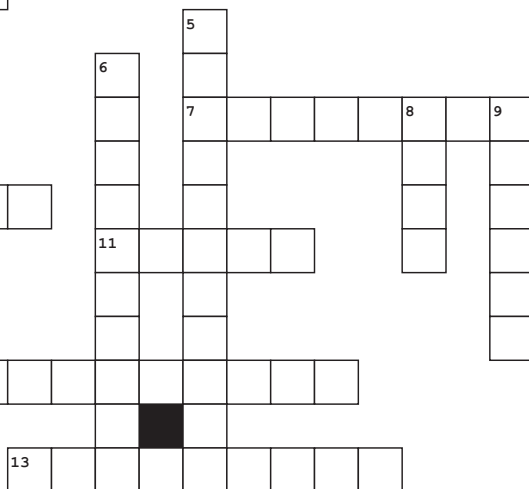
Sometimes, the healthiest thing we can do is leave room for slower moments; an unplanned evening, a quiet walk, time at home, or saying no to plans we do not truly have the capacity for.

In a culture that often equates busyness with success, choosing rest can feel uncomfortable. We may find ourselves trying to make the most of every moment, only to create the very stress we were hoping to escape. Building in time for rest, flexibility, and simply “being” supports emotional resilience and overall well-being. Rather than asking how much you can fit into your summer, consider asking what experiences will leave you feeling most restored, connected, and fulfilled. Here’s to a summer that feels less rushed, more intentional, and rich in the things that truly matter.

July Crossword



Visit bit.ly/mycalgaryanswers or scan the QR code for the answers



Across

1. On July 20, 1969, this astronaut took humanity's first steps onto the surface of the moon.
4. This rom-com released on July 13, 2001, follows a very fashionable college student attending Harvard Law.
7. These ducks can be seen all over Calgary; identified by the male's green head.
10. This Noah Kahn song was released as a single in 2022 before appearing on his 2024 album with the same name.
11. Florence + The Machine released this album July 3, 2009, featuring the famous song, *Dog Days Are Over*.
12. This very popular member of the royal family married Prince Charles III on July 29, 1981.
12. This event on July 1 is normally celebrated with red and white fireworks.

Down

2. On July 6, Earth will reach this part of its orbit—the furthest distance from the sun.
3. This annual event is known as "The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth."
5. These tiny birds can fly backwards and upside down.
6. This Canadian author and illustrator is most known for his children's books, *I Want My Hat Back* and *The Skull*.
8. This fiery July birthstone was worn by Burmese warriors; they believed the stone made them invincible.
9. These tiny stickers were released to the public July 1, 1847, with the intention of preventing unpaid mail.



July 30 is National Cheesecake Day!



Try baking one of your own to celebrate!

Ingredients

- 2 cups of graham crumbs
- 1/2 cup of butter or margarine, melted
- 1/4 cup of white granulated sugar
- 2 tsp of nutmeg (optional, make it whatever flavour you would like)
- 2 blocks of cream cheese (6oz)
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 3/4 cups of white granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tbsp vanilla extract, or vanilla bean paste

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 325° F. The lower temperature will help the centre cook without burning the exterior.
2. In your 9' spring pan or baking dish, pour in your graham crumb, 1/4 cup of sugar and melted butter. Using your hands gently combine everything until it becomes equally incorporated. It should feel like wet sand. If mix seems too dry you can add a little more butter to help it stick.
3. Spread the mixture evenly across the base of the pan and firmly press down into an even layer. Feel free to use a heavy glass or another pan to help pack it down.
4. Set aside while preparing the filling.
5. In a large bowl add your cream cheese blocks, sour cream, nutmeg, and sugar.
6. Beat the two ingredients together either with a hand mixer on speed 2, or by hand if you prefer. We are looking for the mixture to be smooth and fluffy.
7. Add the eggs and vanilla and continue mixing. At the end you should have a smooth, thick batter that coats the blades of your mixer.
8. You've made it! This is the easy part. Simply pour your batter overtop of the prepared base, smooth out the top to make it as even as possible, and place it in the oven. Let it bake for 45 minutes to an hour. If you're feeling fancy, you can spray some water into the oven around the halfway point. This steams the oven and can give the cheesecake a more even tone. You know it is done when you gently shake the pan and there is little to no movement in the centre
9. Remove from the oven, rest at room temperature until completely cooled, and enjoy your delicious cheesecake.

Heat-Related Illness

by Alberta Health Services



ALTA Paramedic Health would like to remind everyone to stay safe in the heat and sun this season. While children, older adults, and individuals with underlying health conditions may be more susceptible to the effects of heat and sun, everyone should take basic preventive measures to avoid heat-related illness during periods of hot, humid weather. Text HEAT to 88111 to receive tips on heat safety.

Heat Exhaustion

- Heat exhaustion can occur due to excessive fluid loss during prolonged sweating in a hot and/or humid environment (indoors or outdoors).
- Symptoms may include headache, weakness, fatigue, nausea/vomiting, thirst, chills, and profuse sweating.
- The person is often cool and damp to the touch, and the skin may appear pale or dusky grey.

Heat Stroke

- Heat stroke is a medical emergency and, without prompt treatment, can be fatal.
- It occurs when the body is unable to regulate its temperature (e.g., through sweating), causing body

temperature to rise to dangerous levels.

- Due to severe dehydration and failure of the cooling system, the skin may appear hot, dry, and flushed.

First Aid

- First aid for all heat-related illness begins with removing or sheltering the person from the hot environment.
- Remove excess or tight-fitting clothing and allow the person to rest in a cool environment.
- If the person is conscious and alert, provide suitable fluids such as water, juice, or a sports drink.
- If you are concerned, seek medical attention.

Prevention

- Stay well hydrated by drinking water regularly.
- Be aware that excessive alcohol and caffeine consumption may contribute to dehydration.
- Wear a broad-brimmed hat to protect your face and neck from the sun.
- Apply (and reapply) water-resistant sunscreen with a minimum SPF of 30+, especially for children.
- The sun's UV rays peak between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm, even on cloudy days.

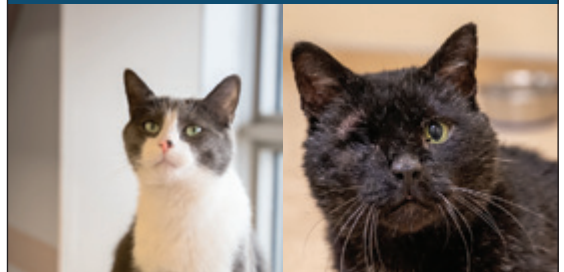
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July's Reflection

by Michelle Macdonald, Letter Writing and Mail Club Enthusiast.

If you were given a travel pass, but could only visit fictional places (think myths, fairytales, movies, or books), where would you go, and how would you pass the time?

Dear reader,

When I considered this delightful question, one place instantly captured my imagination: Hobbiton from *Lord of the Rings*. The thought of stepping into that beautiful, safe, cozy world evokes a powerful sense of nostalgia and longing for a pastoral life. Since watching that movie decades ago, I have thought about how idyllic life would be in Hobbiton. The soft, rolling hills, lush green grass, and livestock in the paddocks create such a romantic setting.

Hobbiton represents an escape from the chaos and harsh realities of the world. Life in Hobbiton is quiet and simple, offering a refreshing break from our busy modern life.

In this charming world, I would spend my days in the paddocks, tending to my flock of sheep. Every seed I plant would thrive and grow enormous, plump, and absolutely delicious fruit and vegetables. I would also enjoy gathering wildflowers and decorating my home with them, brightening up the enclosed hobbit home with colour and life. In this fantasy, they wouldn't make me sneeze, and I wouldn't be allergic to them!

A life in Hobbiton would force me to be present and grateful for the beauty of everyday life, which is something I could use more of. However, knowing my restless nature, I may eventually grow bored with the monotony and seek out some excitement. Good thing wizards come to visit, and Middle Earth is close by.

Happy writing,

Michelle

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