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# RANCHLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

🏠 **RCA OFFICE:** 7713 Ranchview Drive NW Calgary AB T3G 2B3 • 📞 403-241-0335

✉️ ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com • 🌐 www.ranchlandscommunity.com

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026

|                   |                                                            |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| President         | Kathy Ervin<br>president@ranchlandscommunity.com           |
| Vice-President    | Sharon Blackwell<br>vice-president@ranchlandscommunity.com |
| Secretary         | Miranda Christin                                           |
| Treasurer         | Bukola Abdul                                               |
| Director at Large | Jeannette Biazon, Mike Luinge, Amjad Cheema                |

### PROGRAM CONTACTS

|                        |                                                       |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Ranchlands Food Pantry | Contact RCA Office<br>www.ranchlandscommunity.com/RFP |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|

|                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Skating Rink Coordinator | Darren Angell     Contact RCA Office |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|

|                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 186th Ranchlands Scouts | 186thRanchlandsScouts@gmail.com |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|

|                                           |                                    |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Girl Guides of Canada: Wichewakn District | register.girlguides.ca/web/en/unit |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

### COMMUNITY CONTACTS

|                              |                                      |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ranchlands Elementary School | 403-777-6350<br>ranchlands@cbe.ab.ca |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|

|                                       |                                                      |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| St. Rita's Catholic Elementary School | Cindy De Paoli<br>403-500-2083<br>stritas@cssd.ab.ca |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

|              |                                     |
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| Rise Calgary | 403-204-8280<br>info@risecalgary.ca |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|

|                  |                                                     |
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| MLA Julia Hayter | 403-288-4453<br>Calgary.Edgemont<br>@assembly.ab.ca |
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| MP Pat Kelly | 403-282-7980 |
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| Ward 2 City Councillor | Jennifer Wyness<br>403-650-6936<br>www.calgary.ca/ward2 |
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| CBE School Trustee | Vacant |
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|                     |                               |
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| CSSD School Trustee | Myra D'Souza     403-500-2761 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|

### RCA OFFICE AND HALL RENTALS

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#### News, Events, & More



#### Crime Statistics



#### Real Estate Statistics





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Spring Turns into Summer

As July comes upon us, we look forward to recreational activities, outdoor fun, and some relaxation. With expenses being so high right now, we are all looking for ways to enjoy our city and province in economical manners. While it sometimes takes a bit of digging, there are many parks around the city that can be enjoyed at no cost. Family and friend walks and picnics can feel like a trip away if you venture to another part of the city. On the City of Calgary website, it is noted that there are more than 8,500 hectares of parkland and natural areas, as well as 1,000 km of pathways for us to enjoy. Their website lists so many!

We would enjoy you sharing your adventures with your fellow Ranchlanders—you are invited to submit an article for the *Roundup* about a park or new area you explored that you recommend. Photos are most welcome!

### Happy Summer! Neighbour Day was June 20

This event will be in the past as you read this. Neighbour Day is a celebration and recognition of the support we shared and experienced during the flood of 2013. There was a bit of flood anxiety early in June this year that many Calgarians would have experienced as the river level rose, and we had a lot of rain. It was a relief to see the water levels go down, everyone breathe a sigh of relief, and plan to enjoy June leading to summer. I am reasonably sure that I can say with confidence that we had a great day with our neighbours at the Neighbour Day celebration. There will be opportunity to provide feedback for future events.

### Ranchlands Annual General Meeting

While we don't want to wish the summer away, please save the date for our AGM—we are set for Sunday, November 8. The items to note are:

- For the third, and hopefully final time, we will move to approve the revised bylaws. The ones that were passed at our meeting in 2025, have one reference missing and Alberta Registries denied the request to amend. Third time's a charm!
- As some current members not returning, we will have Board of Director vacancies, (that is non-incumbent), for the Secretary and two Directors at Large, we are eager to support new faces. Please consider joining us!

- In addition, based on our current bylaws, all Board positions are available for election.

If you are interested stay tuned for information about the application process. In the meantime, I would be happy to discuss Board opportunities with you, to explore your interest and answer questions.

Regards,

Kathy Ervin

President, Ranchlands Community Association



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## IN THE COMMUNITY

**Rise Calgary (formerly Bowwest Community Services):** 14 – 1840 Ranchlands Way NW

**Westview Baptist Church:** 1313 Ranchlands Way NW

**St. James Anglican Church:** 6351 Ranchview Drive NW

**Islamic Association of NW Calgary:** 7750 Ranchview Drive NW

**Al-Salam Centre:** 6415 Ranchview Drive NW

**Good Food Box:** Ranchlands' Depot is St. James Anglican Church

## Come On In — Let's Chat

Ever walk by the rink and notice the 'Open' sign on at the community centre? That's your cue to come on in. Whether you'd like to say hello, check the bulletin board, grab some bread from the bread shelf, use the restroom, or just warm up for a few minutes, you're always welcome.

If the sign is on, the Ranchlands Community Association office is open and happy to see you. It's a good time to stop by, ask a question, share an idea, or let us know what's working well in the community—or what could be better. We love hearing from our neighbours.

The office is open Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and Wednesday from 12:00 to 5:00 pm, unless otherwise posted.

## Freezie Fridays

Swing by the community center  
Fridays 12–5pm and  
chill out with a  
free Freezie!

Starts  
June 26

## 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.



## Lego Club is Here for the Summer!

Looking for something fun to do on Friday afternoons? Join us for Lego Club all summer long!

Whether you're building a towering castle, a speedy race car, or creating something completely unique, Lego Club is a great place to get creative, make friends, and have fun!

Fridays, 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

Kids who are comfortable participating on their own are welcome to attend independently, however, parents and caregivers are encouraged to stay and build alongside younger children. While Lego Club is not a supervised program, Community Association staff are available in the office should any assistance be needed.

If you would like your child to attend, please visit our website for full program details. You'll find more information under the Events section, along with a waiver form that parents or guardians can complete.

## Another Successful Parade of Garage Sales

The rain held off, and we were thrilled to see such a great turnout for this year's Parade of Garage Sales!

A special thank you to our sponsor, Maria Cristofaro, Realtor with Royal LePage Benchmark, for her support, refreshments, and signage that helped make the event a success.

It was wonderful to see residents out and about—whether you were clearing out the basement, hunting for hidden treasures, or simply enjoying a day in the community. Events like this are a great reminder of what makes our neighbourhood special.

Thank you to everyone who participated, and we look forward to seeing you again next year for this long-running community tradition on June 5, 2027!





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## A Community Cleanup to Remember

Our Community Cleanup on May 23 was a tremendous success, with 248 vehicles coming through the site over just five hours; that's close to 50 per hour which is an incredible feat. The event helped residents responsibly dispose of unwanted items, connect with local donation and recycling services, and send larger items and trash to the landfill at no cost (11,930 kg of trash to be specific)!

These events are just one of the many different things the Ranchlands Community Association holds throughout the year for our residents, and sometimes the impact is far greater than it seems.

Among the 248 vehicles was a local family whose backseat was packed with items to donate and dispose of, leaving no room to install their baby's car seat. While waiting in line, the mother thought her water may have broken and that a hospital visit could be imminent. The Cleanup allowed them to quickly clear out the vehicle and make room for the car seat before heading home. Their baby was born on May 31, and their visit a memorable reminder that Cleanups are about more than just cleanup—they're about neighbours helping neighbours.



We want to welcome the newest little Ranchlander to the neighbourhood and extend a heartfelt thank you to the amazing volunteers who made this event possible. From directing traffic and unloading vehicles to answering questions and keeping everything running smoothly, our volunteers were at the heart of the day's success. We are grateful for the time, energy, and community spirit they contributed to make this event possible.



## Discover Ranchlands: A Summer Photo Challenge

Do you have a sharp eye and a love for our neighbourhood? Join us for a community-wide photo hunt celebrating the secret spots, quiet beauty, and overlooked treasures of Ranchlands!

### Age Categories:

- Under 12
- 13 to 17
- Adults (18+)

### Rules and Guidelines:

- One photo per person.
- Photo must be taken in July 2026.
- Digital files only.
- You must agree to have your photo displayed publicly on our social media during online and in-person voting.
- Be creative, have fun, and show us what makes Ranchlands special to you!

### Judging and Prizes:

Public voting will be available online from, July 27 to August 6. One winner will be chosen from each category! \$25 gift certificate for each winner.

### How to Submit:

Email your photo (JPG or PNG format, high resolution), along with;

- Your full name
- Age category
- Photo Title
- Contact information

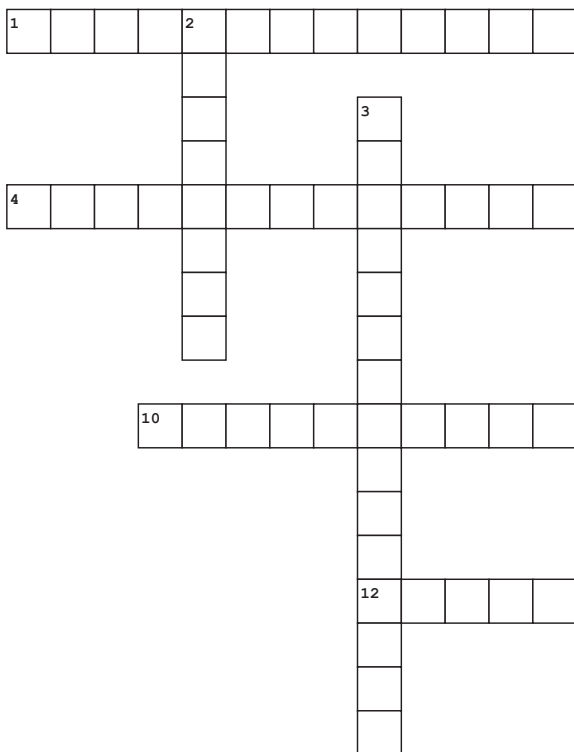
to [contest@ranchlandscommunity.com](mailto:contest@ranchlandscommunity.com) by July 25, 2026.

Let's celebrate the beauty of Ranchlands!

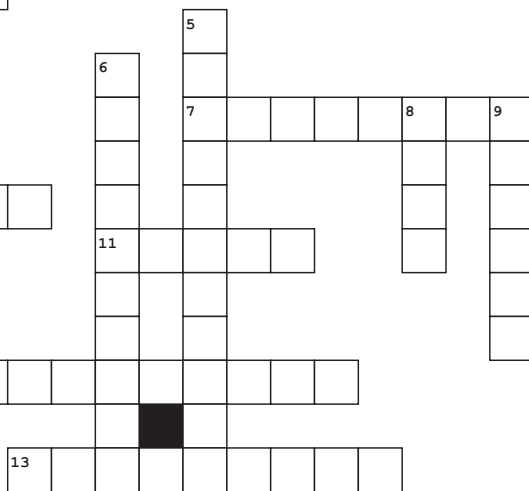
## Upcoming Schedule

|                 |                                                             |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>July 7</b>   | Chair Yoga<br>11:45 am with Joanne                          |
| <b>July 21</b>  | Chair Meditation and Lunch<br>11:30 am                      |
| <b>August 4</b> | Dance Lesson – Beginner Line dancing<br>12:00 pm with Paula |

# July Crossword



Visit [bit.ly/mycalgaryanswers](https://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.



## Could Ranchlands Use a Few Wombles?



When I was a kid growing up in the UK, I loved *The Wombles*—a classic British children’s television show about friendly characters who quietly cleaned up litter and cared for their community. Their motto was to “make good use of bad rubbish,” and they became famous for leaving places a little better than they found them.

That spirit of community pride and caring for shared spaces is inspiring a new idea here in Ranchlands.

We are beginning to explore a neighbourhood initiative that encourages residents—young and old alike—to safely help tidy up litter around the community. The idea is simple: while you are out walking, biking, heading to the park, or enjoying the pathways, why not pick up a few pieces of litter along the way? Small actions by many people can make a big difference.

The city will be helping out by providing gloves and garbage bags, and more details will be shared as the plan develops. But even before everything is officially launched, we wanted to put out the call: Ranchlands is the kind of community where people care about where they live.

This is not about creating work—it is about creating pride, connection, and a sense of shared ownership. Children can take part with parents, neighbours can work together on a block, and individuals can simply do a little while out on a walk. Every small effort matters.

So perhaps it is time for Ranchlands to channel a little Womble spirit—helping out, pitching in, and leaving the community just a little better than we found it.

More details—and perhaps even a fun community name for the initiative—will be coming soon!

## Photo Gallery

Images by Syed Adeel Hussain



*Waterfalls are love*



*Green Ravine*



*Secret Boardwalk*

## Calling Retirees: Help Shape Our Fall Daytime Programs at the Community Hall

Our seniors-focused Encore Club pilot program will be wrapping up soon. The program was offered twice a month and featured a variety of social and recreational activities designed to bring community members together. Those who attended enjoyed the diverse programming, but unfortunately participation levels were not high enough to sustain the program in its current format.

As we look ahead to the fall, the Community Association is exploring a different approach. Rather than offering a different activity every session, we are considering shorter daytime courses or activity series that would run weekly over several weeks. The goal is to create opportunities for retirees to try something new, meet new people, stay connected, and enjoy daytime activities right in our neighbourhood.

Possible ideas we are exploring include:

- Beginner line dancing.
- Bridge or card-playing groups.
- Painting or creative workshops.
- Book or discussion clubs.
- Chair yoga or wellness programs.
- Coffee and conversation groups.
- Hobby or interest-based gatherings.
- Guest speakers or local interest sessions.

With the Ranchlands Community Hall often available during daytime hours, we would love to explore how the space could support active, connected, and engaged retirees in our community. We also do not want to limit participation only to Ranchlands residents—retirees are welcome to bring along friends from other parts of the city as well.

We are also encouraging people to keep an eye out for interesting ideas being offered in other communities, seniors centres, libraries, or organizations that could potentially work well here in Ranchlands. Sometimes the best ideas come from hearing about something enjoyable or meaningful happening elsewhere.

So, if there is something you have always wanted to try now that work or family responsibilities have changed,

let us know. Or if you are a retiree with a special interest, talent, or hobby—or know someone who could lead an engaging daytime session or short series—we would love to hear your ideas.

We would love to hear from you! Please share your ideas for programs, activities, or events with us at [ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com](mailto:ranchlandscommunity@outlook.com). Your feedback will help us shape daytime opportunities that reflects the interest, curiosity, and experiences of retirees in and around our community.

# 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.





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# From Hesitant to Confident: A Growing Year for 4-H Intro Clubs



What happens when you give kids a welcoming place to try new things, make friends, and build confidence all in just six weeks?

This year, 4-H Alberta's Intro Clubs continued to grow across urban communities, with nine clubs hosted in Calgary and two in Edmonton. Two additional summer clubs, one in north Calgary and one in south Calgary, will wrap up the season at the end of July.



Although many people still associate 4-H with rural communities and livestock

projects, today's 4H programs offer a wide variety of opportunities for urban youth as well. From baking and science to leadership, communication, community service, and creative projects, 4-H helps young people build life skills through hands-on learning experiences.

Designed as a short-term introduction to 4-H, the Intro Clubs give youth the opportunity to experience friendship, leadership, responsibility, and community involvement in a welcoming environment for busy families.

For many participants, the experience became much more than just an after-school activity.

One parent shared that their son arrived nervous and unsure on the first day, but by the end of the program he was excited, enthusiastic, and sad to see it end. Another family described the program as "extraordinary" and praised both the hands-on learning and the welcoming atmosphere created by the leadership team.

A special part of this year's success was the involvement of 4-H Ambassador and member, Devyn, who worked



alongside club leaders to mentor younger members and help create a positive and encouraging environment.

Whether youth were presenting speeches, participating in community service, trying new activities, or simply making new friends, Intro Clubs helped families discover what 4-H is truly about: belonging, confidence, leadership, and learning by doing. Contact [introclubs@4hab.com](mailto:introclubs@4hab.com) to find out more!

## Summer in Bloom in Ranchlands

Summer is one of the best times of year to get out and enjoy everything our community has to offer. Whether it's an evening walk, time spent gardening, relaxing on the deck, or simply noticing the beauty around us, this season is a reminder to slow down and enjoy our neighbourhood.

One of the things that makes Ranchlands special in the summer months is the pride residents take in their outdoor spaces. From colourful flowerpots and vegetable gardens to hanging baskets, tidy yards, and creative landscaping touches, these small efforts help make our streets more welcoming and vibrant for everyone.

A beautiful garden does not need to be elaborate or expensive. Sometimes it's simply a few flowers by the front step, a well-loved planter, or a bench surrounded by greenery that brings joy to neighbours and passersby alike. These touches help create a sense of warmth, care, and community spirit throughout the neighbourhood.

Summer is also a wonderful time to reconnect with neighbours, spend time outdoors, and enjoy the parks, pathways, and green spaces that make Ranchlands such a great place to live. As you are out and about this season, take a moment to appreciate the hidden beauty around you—and perhaps even add a little extra colour or creativity to your own corner of the community.

Here's to a summer filled with sunshine, fresh air, blooming gardens, and the simple pleasures of being outdoors in Ranchlands.



## Mariana Trench

Did you know the Mariana Trench reaches a depth of over 35,000 ft? That's the height of 63 CN Towers!



# 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.

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**GUTTER DOCTOR:** Home Exterior Services. Gutter cleaning/repair/installation, window cleaning, gutter guards/leaf screens, fascia, soffit, siding, permanent outdoor holiday lighting, roofing, cladding, heat cables, pressure/soft washing. Local business since 2003 with more than 70,000 happy customers! Licensed, insured, WCB, A+ rated BBB member, multi award-winner. Quality work with a warranty! [www.gutterdoctor.ca](http://www.gutterdoctor.ca), 403-714-0711.

## Word of the month

**Zephyr:** noun (zeh-fur)

A light, gentle, or mild breeze.  
During the summer months,  
we may experience a gentle  
zephyr blowing in.



### Support Victoria Fortuna and Her Family After a Tragic Highway Accident



In the early evening of February 8, 2026, the Fortuna family's life was forever altered by a devastating and senseless accident.

Victoria (21) and her father, Paul (53), were the innocent victims of a tragic vehicle accident that occurred in Edmonton. Sadly, her father succumbed to his injuries at the scene, and Victoria has been left with life-threatening and life-altering injuries. She is currently fighting for her life and receiving critical medical care at the University Hospital in Edmonton.

Donate to this GoFundMe by scanning the QR code to help ease the inconceivable financial hardship the Fortuna family is facing.

Scan to  
donate or visit  
[gofund.me/31fdeef6f](https://gofund.me/31fdeef6f)



Any help is  
appreciated ❤️

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