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# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

The first edition of the Christmas classic A Christmas Carol, written by Charles Dickens, was originally published in London on December 19, 1843. This story was published as a novella by Chapman & Hall and the first edition sold out by Christmas Eve that first year!



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## Cold Weather Safety

by Alberta Health Services

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

### Frostnip

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

### Frostbite

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

### Hypothermia

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



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



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# Calgary's Christmas Markets

by Anthony Imbrogio (*The Calgary Heritage Initiative Society/Heritage Inspires YYC*)

From malls to promenades to markets, there's plenty of heritage tied to Calgary's history as a bustling commercial city and trading centre.

Christmas markets date back to medieval Europe, with the first in Vienna in 1296. Early markets were not explicitly for Christmas, they were opportunities to gather provisions before winter. By 1310 in Munich, crafts, confectionaries, and roasted chestnuts were on sale at a Saint Nicholas market. As the tradition spread across German-speaking regions, markets became stylized as "Christkindlesmarkt".

Today the winter and Christmas season is marked by annual markets all around Calgary. Two are especially interesting for their heritage aspects. First up is Heritage Park's Once Upon A Christmas, complete with carol singing and wagon rides.

Heritage Park Historical Village opened in 1964 with the goal of connecting people to history and preserving our culture and heritage. It's a living museum spanning the history of the West from Indigenous cultures and the 1860s fur trade to the 1960s.

Many Calgary and area heritage buildings were relocated here, including Banff's NWMP Barracks and Bruderheim Windmill. While it's preferable to retain heritage buildings at their original locations to best interpret local history, relocation is sometimes the only option to preserve a structure. And then there are reconstructions, like the Wainwright Hotel.

At Gasoline Alley Museum, there's a public collection of antique vehicles and artifacts. You can also experience 19th-century travel either by steam train or lake paddle steamer.

Another market happens at Spruce Meadows. Its International Christmas Market began in 2001, following cities worldwide in a revival of markets in the 1990s. The location is a premier international horse sports venue. It was opened in 1975 by the Southern family, who sought a down-to-earth atmosphere for the sport.

The facility hosts equestrian show jumping and breeds and trains Hanoverian horses. In 2019, it became the home of Cavalry FC, Calgary's Premier League soccer team.

Let's not forget the markets held all around Calgary. Check out your neighbourhood's event information for one near you.

And stay tuned in 2025 for a special series of articles for Calgary's 150th anniversary year.

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"Wainwright Hotel, Wainwright, Alberta., [ca. 1911-1912], (CU1126598) by Unknown. Courtesy of Glenbow Library and Archives Collection, Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary. The hotel burned down in 1929. A reconstruction is in Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta. <https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/asset-management/2R3BF1FJKK33?WS=SearchResults>.



<https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/asset-management/2R3BF1OJNKB3?WS=SearchResults>. "First Nations parading on 7th Avenue at the Santa Claus parade, Calgary, Alberta.", 1931, (CU1107062) by Unknown. Courtesy of Glenbow Library and Archives Collection, Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary. First Nations parading on 7 Avenue, Calgary, Alberta. At the Santa Claus parade. Courthouses and land titles building to rear.



<https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/asset-management/2R3BF1OS0U1F?WS=SearchResults>. "Mill at Bruderheim, Alberta", 1934, (CU1114041) by Bamber. Courtesy of Glenbow Library and Archives Collection, Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary. Windmill three miles north of Bruderheim, Alberta. Moved to Glenbow Foundation (1959). Moved to Heritage Park (1983). L-R: Mrs. Mallon, Mr. William Mallon (owner and operator), Mr. Meyers.

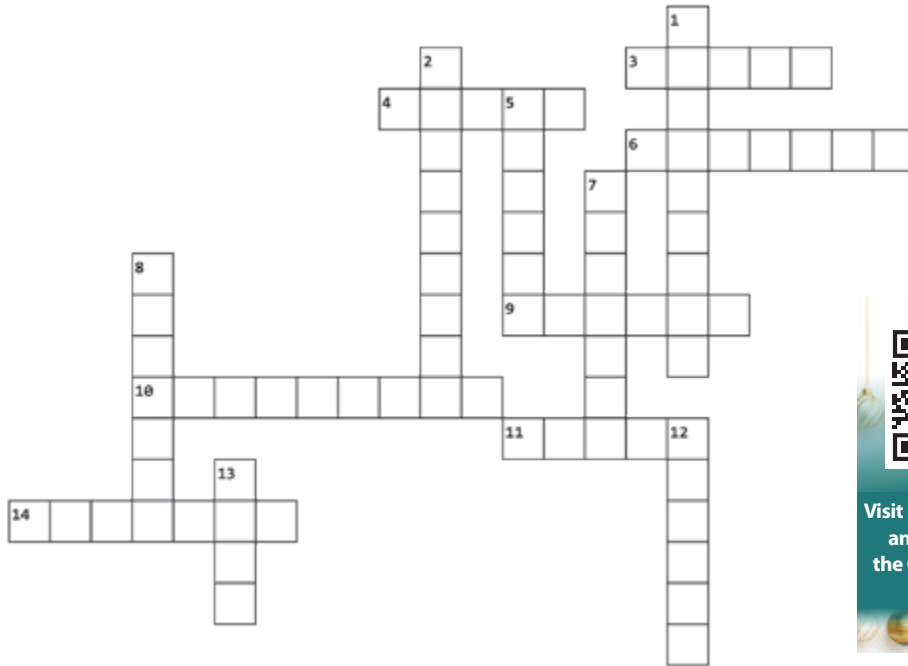


<https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/asset-management/2R3BF1FHF6AE?WS=SearchResults>. "Canmore Mines Limited, locomotive 4, at Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta", 1964-11-20, (CU1131060) by Rosettis Studio. Courtesy of Glenbow Library and Archives Collection, Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary.



Amy Millar for Canada at Spruce Meadows, photo by daveblogs007, 2016 (This image is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic license). [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Spruce\\_meadows\\_Calgary\\_Alberta\\_Amy\\_Millar\\_\(28973543633\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Spruce_meadows_Calgary_Alberta_Amy_Millar_(28973543633).jpg).

# December Crossword



## Across

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

## Down

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





## News from the Friends of Nose Hill

by Anne Burke

Phase 3 of the Connect: Calgary's Parks Plan is underway, and the draft plan was shared with the public and partners before Council's expected approval in early 2025. You can send questions or comments directly to the project team by emailing [parkspan@calgary.ca](mailto:parkspan@calgary.ca). Please note that these will not be included in the final Phase 3 What We Heard Report. A Park is a space set aside for enjoyment, recreation, education, cultural or aesthetic use, or for the protection of wildlife or natural habitats. An urban forest includes trees and shrubs intentionally planted, naturally occurring, or accidentally seeded within city limits. This means all trees in parks, river valleys, streets, roadways, natural areas, and commercial and private lands.

A Natural Area is a City-owned park or open space where the primary role is protection of a (relatively) undisturbed parcel or with a natural/native plant community. Natural areas are categorized to provide guidance for management and permitted uses according to habitat sensitivity and conservation needs. Habitat is the environment where the life cycle of a species is found and characteristics of the place (climate or suitable food and shelter). A Habitat Management Plan means a ten-year operational plan on how we manage natural areas that help maintain or improve the health and function of a park. Calgary's natural ecosystems are categorized by their habitat type (e.g., grassland, forest, wetland). There are also categories for classifying parks with natural environments: Special Protection or Major; Supporting (may be buffers), and other naturalized parks. Naturalization means improving management or repairing some function. For Environmentally Significant Areas, some key natural components recognized by the City of Calgary are Water Quality and Quantity; Rare, Intact, or Biologically Diverse content; and Habitat for Native Species of Interest. Read more at [engage.calgary.ca/parkspan](http://engage.calgary.ca/parkspan).

## City Kids: Exploring 4-H Beyond the Farm

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

by Nick Kossovian



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Avoid Appearing Confrontational**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

People tend not to ghost someone they respect.

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

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

### Ask For Advice, Not Feedback

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

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

### Send a Thank You Note

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

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

"I look forward to staying in touch."

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

## CRIME STATISTICS



### Thornccliffe Crime Activity was Down in October 2024

The Thornccliffe community experienced 3 crimes in October 2024, in comparison to 15 crimes the previous month, and 18 crimes in October one year ago. Thornccliffe experiences an average of 11.9 crimes per month. On an annual basis, Thornccliffe experienced a total of 143 crimes as of October 2024, which is down 20% in comparison to 178 crimes as of October 2023. To review the full Thornccliffe Crime report visit [thor.mycalgary.com](http://thor.mycalgary.com).

### Greenview Crime Activity was Down in October 2024

The Greenview community experienced 2 crimes in October 2024, in comparison to 5 crimes the previous month, and 2 crimes in October one year ago. Greenview experiences an average of 2.8 crimes per month. On an annual basis, Greenview experienced a total of 34 crimes as of October 2024, which is down 29% in comparison to 48 crimes as of October 2023. To review the full Greenview Crime report visit [gre.mycalgary.com](http://gre.mycalgary.com).

*How To Report Crime In Thornccliffe | Greenview: Dial 911 for emergencies or crimes in progress. For non-emergencies dial (403) 266-1234. To report a crime anonymously, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (Talk, Type or Text), submit tips online at [crimestoppers.ab.ca](http://crimestoppers.ab.ca), or text tttTIPS to 274637.*

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## Easy Turkey Chili

by Jennifer Puri

Turkey is a large bird which is rich in protein and other nutrients such as iron, zinc, and selenium. It provides many of the same calories as chicken and most people are easily able to digest it.

Ground turkey is an inexpensive way to consume turkey and over the years has grown in popularity as a substitute for ground chicken. Rich in vitamins and minerals it can contribute to a healthy diet as it is low in fat. Dark meat is more flavourful but has more calories than white meat without the skin.

Turkey can be added to soups, salads, sandwiches, burgers, or Chili as shown in this Easy Turkey Chili recipe below.

**Prep Time:** 15 minutes

**Cook Time:** 1 hour

**Servings:** 6

### Ingredients:

- 1 lb lean ground turkey
- 2 tbsps. olive or vegetable oil
- 3 garlic cloves finely chopped
- 1 medium yellow onion chopped
- 1 red bell pepper finely chopped
- 1 900 ml carton (low sodium) chicken broth
- 1 28 oz can diced tomatoes
- 1 small can corn niblets drained and rinsed
- 1 540 ml can black beans drained and rinsed
- 1 540 ml can red kidney beans drained and rinsed
- ½ tsp Chili powder
- 2 tsps. ground cumin
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp ground black pepper

### Directions:

- In a large pot add olive or vegetable oil, chopped onion, garlic, and red pepper. Sauté the vegetables for 3 to 4 minutes until onions are softened and then add the ground turkey. Sauté the turkey for 4 to 5 minutes until cooked through.
- Add the Chili powder, ground cumin, oregano, salt and black pepper and continue to cook for a couple of minutes.

- Add the black beans, kidney beans, corn, and diced tomatoes and blend in with the turkey.
- Add the chicken stock and bring to a boil and then reduce heat and allow the Chili to simmer for approximately 45 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- Garnish the Turkey Chili with sour cream, shredded cheddar cheese and chopped coriander leaves or taco chips and sliced avocado if preferred.

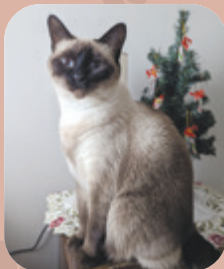
Bon Appétit!



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Echo, Signal Hill



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Lola, Calgary



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# #HealthyTechnologyUse

by *Community Health Promotion Services*

Technology is not going anywhere, in fact, it will continue to advance in the coming years. We use it everywhere, for school, work, and leisure. Strong connections and relationships are a protective factor for us that has been shown to help buffer risk and boost resilience. The availability of computers, smartphones, video consoles, and other electronic devices have given many the opportunity to always be connected. However, it is the time, the content, and reason of use that we want to focus on.

To ensure healthy technology use among the young people in your life, there are 4 Ms that you can refer to:

- **Manage:** The information online can be easily accessed but you can manage this by setting limits and clear expectations of use. It is also useful to continually learn about different platforms, especially those most popular in your life. For instance, using your phone during certain times of the day, what you can post, having limit checks, or learning about privacy settings on apps like TikTok to ensure healthy use.
- **Meaningful:** To see the positive impacts of technology, you want to make sure that the use is active, educational, and social. Is social media being used to post and connect with peers or are the people you love feeling FOMO “fear of missing out” on an event that may be posted by their peers.
- **Model:** If you are setting rules and expectations, you want to also follow what you are asking the young people in your lives to do. Review your own use, are you on your phone during dinner or before bed? Ask them to show you platforms they are using and ask questions about the posts they see, for example, how this makes you feel, or do you know what filters are?
- **Monitor:** The monitoring of use will help you to see if there are any warning signs of problematic use. When they are not using technology, are they bored or angry, have low self-esteem, are they exhibiting worsening symptoms of mental health issues such as anxiety, or does it interfere with school, social interactions, or sleep?

There are pros and cons when using technology. We encourage the use of the 4 Ms as a tool to ensure the positives of technology outweigh the negatives.



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## It's Christmastime in Calgary

by Garth Paul Ukrainetz

It's Christmastime in Calgary  
In foothills west a silent night  
The constellations fill the sky  
Forever sharing starry light

The whitetail deer in Nose Hill Park  
Prancing over city's glow  
Sweet homes of dancing candlelight  
Gentle as the falling snow

And high on top of every tree  
The stars and angels overlook  
For bleak and icy winter hearts  
The melting grace of warm chinook

It's Christmastime in Calgary  
Though heights of mountains cold in snow  
Our gifts stay warm beneath the trees  
Wrapped with love by River Bow



Councillor, Ward 4

**Sean Chu**

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Dear Ward 4 Neighbours,

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

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

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

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

Warm holiday wishes,

*Sean Chu*

Councillor, Ward 4

## Word of the Month



**Absquatulate: Verb (ab-skwoch-uh-leyt)**

**To run away or leave abruptly.**

***The sneaky cat managed to absquatulate any time the door was open.***

Calgary



24-0041117 CRV-32260

8.6"  
8.0"  
7.6"  
7.0"  
6.6"  
6.0"  
5.6"  
5.0"  
4.6"



## The usual suspects for sewer backups

Fats, oils and grease may seem harmless, but even a small amount can block your pipes.

Stay vigilant and keep them out of your drains.

[calgary.ca/protectyourpipes](http://calgary.ca/protectyourpipes)

pools.  
fitness studios.  
social clubs.  
gymnasium.  
running track.  
nordic spa.  
dining.  
golf simulators.



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