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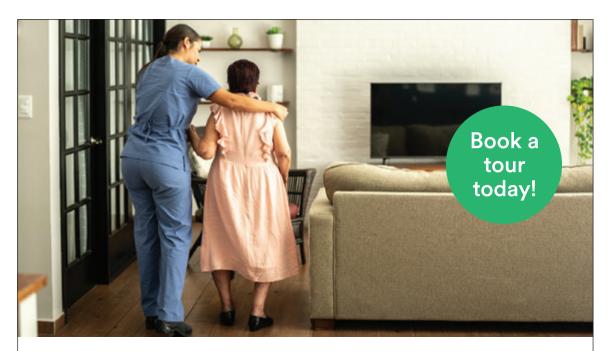
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Longest Day

Mark your calendars - this year's summer solstice will take place on June 20. Calgary will experience approximately 16 hours and 35 minutes of daylight. That means there is plenty of time to play, relax, and maybe even forget what bedtime is!





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Overcoming the Barriers of Fruit and Vegetable Intake

by Alberta Health Services



Did you know that since 2015, intakes of vegetables and fruit by Canadians have been steadily decreasing? Only 16 percent of Albertan men consume vegetables and fruit five times or more per day.

Most people know that vegetables and fruit are good for their health.

Research has shown that men identified the following barriers to getting enough vegetables and fruit daily: lack of time, taste, and cost. Read more to find out about these obstacles and tips on how to incorporate more fruit and vegetables in your daily life.

Lack of Time

Having a busy schedule, whether it is due to work, family, or other daily activities, may make it difficult to plan, shop for, and prepare healthy meals and snacks. The following tips provide ways to add vegetables and fruits into your daily diet, without making meal preparation too overwhelming.

Plan Ahead

Look at your schedule at the beginning of the week and brainstorm meal and snack ideas for the week.

Choose vegetables and fruits that can be used for multiple meals in that same week to reduce waste. Try filling half of your plate with vegetables and fruits at every meal.

Feeling like you have no time to cook? Try preparing your meals in bulk on your days off for the week ahead. This way, you can come home after a busy day to a completed meal full of vegetables.

Grocery Shop with Ease

Make a grocery list and stick to it. This may reduce food waste and additional grocery trips.

Buy vegetables, fruits, and other ingredients needed for your meals and snacks ahead of time so you have enough for the week ahead.

To reduce food preparation time, try pre-cut or pre-washed vegetables such as baby carrots and spinach or frozen mixed vegetables.

Prepare

Place washed and cut up vegetables in containers to always have options ready to go.

Add it to your breakfast: berries on cereal/oatmeal, vegetables to omelets, spinach to smoothies.

Add it to your lunch or dinner: broccoli to macaroni and cheese, peppers and mushrooms on pizza, extra vegetables in stir-fries.

Choose fruits that come in their own "package." Bananas, oranges, and apples are foods that require no cutting or to be put into containers.

Texture and Taste

Flavours and textures of some vegetables and fruits may not be appealing to all people. However, with some various preparation and pairings, these suggestions might influence you to retry your least favourite vegetable or fruit:

• Try New Cooking Methods and Textures

Roasted: Roasting is a slow cooking process that uses dry heat (like an oven) at high heat to cook and create browned edges on the food. Try roasting broccoli and topping it with parmesan cheese or thinly slicing sweet potatoes into fries.

Pureed: Pureeing changes the textures of solid foods by turning them into a smooth texture with no lumps. Use a blender or food processor to puree berries into a sauce or squash into a soup.

Steamed: Steaming uses indirect heat from hot steam to cook food. Try steaming frozen or fresh corn and add it into a dish.

Grilled: Grilling is a quick cooking method that uses direct heat at a high temperature. Try placing mushrooms and peppers on a skewer and placing them on your BBQ or even place them directly onto the grill.

Sautéed: Sautéing uses a hot pan with a small amount of fat over high heat while constantly stirring the food.

Use chopped onions, broccoli, and carrots with some olive oil to add into your next meal.

Add Some Flavour

Drizzle olive oil or lemon juice and add herbs or garlic to vegetables.

Pair with Foods You Enjoy

Add bananas, apples, or berries into pancakes.

Add carrots, zucchini, or apple into muffins and loaves.

Add mushrooms or peppers into your favourite omelets.

Add tomato and lettuce to a burger.

Cost

With grocery prices rising, it can be difficult to incorporate vegetables and fruit into your diet. Check what you have at home in your pantry, fridge, and freezer before going out to buy more vegetables and fruit. See if you can use what you already have.

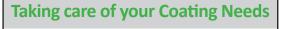
Plan your shopping trips and compare prices with different grocery stores to find the cheapest products. Some stores will even match a lower price product found at a competitor's store. Compare brand names, as some popular brands may be more expensive than a generic brand. Look for grocery stores with discount days, where you can save money off your total grocery bill. Fresh, frozen, and canned vegetables and fruits are equally healthy options. Research fresh produce in season or choose frozen and canned options for lower prices of your favourite vegetables and fruits. Choose items with close best before dates if you can use it within the date, as they may price it lower.

Store food properly. Storing vegetables and fruit properly will reduce waste, prevent extra grocery store trips, and save you money. Some vegetables and fruit should be stored at room temperature, while others need to be refrigerated. Freezing produce can allow them to last longer and to be used at a later time. Visit Canada.ca/FoodGuide and search "Storing Vegetables and Fruits" to find out more information.

Find more resources on healthy eating including meal planning, recipes, and grocery shopping tips at HealthyEatingStartsHere.ca.

Find more tips on incorporating vegetables and fruits into your diet at Canada.ca/FoodGuide.







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SAFE AND SOUND

Backyard Play Safety

by Alberta Health Services, EMS

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) would like to encourage parents and caregivers to ensure their backyard play area(s) is made safe for children. Although direct supervision is the best method to reduce the chance of injury, always ensure play equipment in your yard is in good repair and is suited to the age and skill of the children using it. Check the equipment often; replace or repair any worn or broken parts.

Water Hazards

- Drowning contributes to unintentional injury-related death among young children.
- Children can drown in just a few centimetres of water if it covers their mouth and nose.
- Ensure all backyard swimming pools are fenced. The fence must be at least 1.8 metres* high and have a self-latching, self-closing, lockable gate. (*Alberta Building Code)

Lawn and Garden Tools

- Keep young children away from outdoor power equipment.
- Serious burns may result from touching hot engine surfaces.
- Ensure that all sharp tools, fuel, chemicals, and other hazardous substances are stored in a secure, locked area. A simple latch may not be sufficient.

Insect Bites and Stings

- Minimize the risk of attracting insects by not wearing strong perfumes or scented lotions.
- · Avoid wearing brightly coloured clothing outdoors.



- Consider destroying or relocating hives and nests situated near your home.
- To avoid injury through inadvertently stepping on a stinging insect, always wear footwear outdoors.
- If your child has received an 'EpiPen, Junior' prescription from your physician (for anaphylactic reactions only) ensure they understand when and how to use it.
- If your child experiences a severe reaction to an insect sting, or other environmental cause, seek medical attention, or call 9-1-1.







ELBOW VALLEY COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

Properties Median Price Listed Sold Listed Sold April 25 \$1,572,500 \$1,582,500 March 25 \$1,412,500 \$1,402,500 **February** 25 \$1,495,000 \$1,510,000 5 January 25 \$1.185.000 \$1.157.500 December 24 3 \$1,624,500 \$1,574,450 November 24 \$1,595,000 \$1,492,500 October 24 \$2.998.000 \$2,970,000 September 24 \$1,463,950 \$1,452,500 August 24 \$1,395,000 \$1,395,000 24 July \$2,499,000 \$2,600,000 June 24 \$2,349,000 \$2,275,000 24 May \$1,495,000 \$1,515,000

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Roasted Chickpea Salad

by Jennifer Puri

Chickpeas are often considered a superfood due to their high nutritional value and have been enjoyed by humans for over ten thousand years.

Grown in over fifty countries, chickpeas are a type of legume and in the same family as peanuts and kidney beans.



The high plant-based protein and fiber of chickpeas may also promote healthy ageing and assist in retaining our skin's elasticity and firmness.

Roasted chickpea salad is delicious on its own or can be served with pita bread or as a side salad.

Prep Time: 30 minutes **Cook Time:** 30 minutes

Servings: 4 Ingredients:

- 1 540 ml can of chickpeas
- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 tsp. paprika or hot pepper sauce
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. ground black pepper
- 4 cups of chopped head lettuce
- 4 cups of cooked quinoa
- 1 cup Kalamata olives
- 1 cup sliced radishes
- 1 cup cucumber chopped
- 1 cup chopped tomatoes
- 1 small container of store-bought red pepper hummus

Dressing:

- ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
- ¼ cup almond butter
- 3 tbsp. fresh squeezed lemon juice
- 2 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp. maple syrup
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. coarsely ground black pepper
- 5 to 6 tbsp. cold water

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 450 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Rinse, drain, and pat dry the chickpeas and place in a small bowl, then combine with the olive oil, salt, black pepper, and paprika or hot pepper sauce.
- Spread chickpeas on a foil lined baking tray and bake in the oven for about 25 to 30 minutes until brown and crisp. Remove from the oven and allow to cool.
- In a screw top jar place the olive oil, salt, pepper, Dijon mustard, lemon juice, and maple syrup, and shake until combined. Next add the almond butter and 5 to 6 tbsp. of cold water and stir until you get a smooth consistency.
- To serve divide the quinoa among the bowls and top with lettuce, olives, radish, tomatoes, cucumber, roasted chickpeas, red pepper hummus, and some dressing. Serve with pita bread if desired.

Bon Appétit!





Stop Apologizing Already

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

This is something that really took me some time and awareness to change. Maybe it's because I'm Canadian...sorry?! Over-apologizing can be rooted in people-pleasing, a fear of conflict, feeling like you're a burden, or that you don't have a place to express yourself freely. The good news is you can unlearn it by becoming more aware of when you say "sorry" and replacing it with more confident or accurate expressions.

Here's how to start:

1. Notice Your Patterns

Start paying attention to when you say "sorry." Is it when you:

- Ask a guestion?
- Express a need?
- Walk past someone?
- Take up space?

Awareness is the first step.

2. Swap "Sorry" for More Empowering Phrases

a). When you're late

Instead of: "Sorry I'm late."

Try: "Thanks for your patience." or "I appreciate you waiting for me."

b). When you didn't respond right away

Instead of: "Sorry I didn't get back to you."

Try: "Thanks for your patience while I got back to you." or "I appreciate your patience."

c). When you need something

Instead of: "Sorry to bother you, but..."

Try: "Do you have a moment?" or "Can I ask you something?" or "Are you free for a consult?"

d). When you accidentally bump into someone

Instead of: "Sorry!"

Try: "Excuse me." or "Pardon me."

e). When you disagree

Instead of: "Sorry, but I think..."



Try: "I see it differently." or "Here's another perspective..." or just be curious and ask for more information on the topic.

f). When you're expressing emotion

Instead of: "Sorry I'm crying." or "I'm sorry I'm so angry."

Try: "Thanks for being here while I process this." or "I'm feeling a lot right now." or "Wow, this is overwhelming."

3. Use Apologies Intentionally

Apologize when you genuinely hurt someone or made a mistake. That keeps apologies meaningful. For everything else, aim for assertiveness and gratitude.



Can Physiotherapy Help You?

by Alberta Health Services

Physiotherapy can provide many benefits for anyone of any age. The goal of this treatment is to make daily tasks and activities easier and can help with recovery after some surgeries. Your healthcare provider may suggest physiotherapy for injuries or long-term health problems such as arthritis or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

Physiotherapy may be used alone or with other treatments. It can help you move better and may relieve pain, along with improving or restoring your physical function and fitness level.

What Does a Physiotherapist Do?

Your physiotherapist will examine you and talk to you about your symptoms and your daily activity. Your therapist will then work with you on a treatment plan. The goals are to help your joints move better and to restore or increase your flexibility, strength, endurance, coordination, and/or balance.

First, your therapist will try to reduce your pain and swelling. Your physiotherapist also may use manual therapy, education, and techniques such as heat, cold, water, ultrasound, and electrical stimulation.

Physiotherapy almost always includes exercise. It can include stretching, core exercises, weightlifting, and walking. Your physiotherapist may teach you an exercise program so you can do it at home.

Treatment may cause mild soreness or swelling. This is normal but talk to your physiotherapist if it bothers you.

What Should You Look for in a Physiotherapist?

You'll want a therapist who has experience with your health problem. Some physiotherapists are certified in areas such as orthopedics, sports, and neurology and may offer more specialized care. Physiotherapists can also specialize in certain types of care, such as:

- Back and neck pain
- Cardiac rehabilitation (rehab)
- Wound care
- Cancer-related problems
- · Treatment of children or older adults

When Can Physiotherapy Help?

Physiotherapy and Recovery from Injury

Physiotherapy can help you recover from an injury and avoid future injury. Your physiotherapist can help you reduce pain in the soft tissues (muscles, tendons, and ligaments), build muscle strength, and improve flexibility, function, and range of motion. They can also evaluate how you do an activity and make suggestions for doing the activity in a way that is less likely to result in an injury.

Physiotherapy and Chronic Health Conditions

Physiotherapy can help you live more easily with chronic or ongoing health conditions such as spinal stenosis, arthritis, and Parkinson's disease. Your physiotherapist will work with you to establish your goals. Then they will create a program of educational, range-of-motion, strengthening, and endurance activities to meet your needs.

Physiotherapy and Health Conditions Requiring a Rehabilitation Team Approach

Some conditions involve several body systems and can lead to significant disability. These conditions—such as stroke, spinal cord injury, and major cardiopulmonary (heart and lung) problems—are usually addressed by a team of health professionals through programs such as cardiac rehab and stroke rehab. The team can include doctors; nurses; physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and speech therapists; psychologists; and social workers, among others.

Physiotherapists are a critical part of this team. They address the issues of range of motion, strength, endurance, mobility (walking, going up and down stairs, getting in and out of a bed or chair), and safety. The physiotherapist may also get you the equipment you need, such as a walker or wheelchair, and make sure you can use the equipment appropriately.

Physiotherapy and Significant Health Conditions of Childhood

Physiotherapists also work with children who have major injuries or health conditions, such as cerebral palsy. They address the usual issues of range of motion, strength, endurance, and mobility. Also, the therapist considers the child's special growth and developmental needs.

Treatment is often provided in school or in a facility just for children. The way physiotherapy and other services are delivered in schools varies among the provinces. Talk to your child's doctor, school, or your local health unit if you think your child may qualify for evaluation or treatment services.





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