Mid-Sun messages

THE OFFICIAL MID-SUN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER







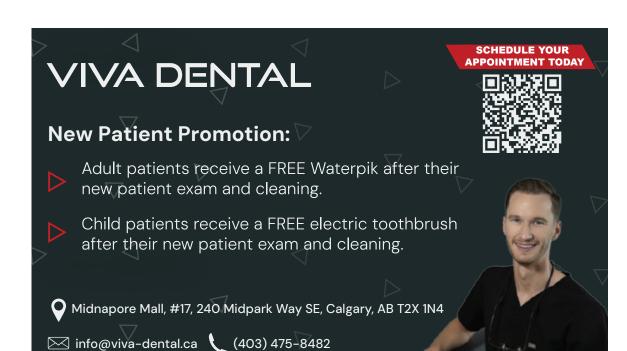
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EFORE

AFTER









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SCAN HERE TO VIEW ADDITIONAL CONTENT: NEWS, EVENTS, CRIME STATS, REAL ESTATE STATS, & MORE

MIDNAPORE









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CHURCHES

Sunwest Christian Fellowship

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Anglican Church

Deer Park United Church

First Alliance Church

All Saints Lutheran

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

New Hope Community Church

Fairview Baptist Church

Spiritual Community Church of the West

Red Deer Lake United Church

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Mountain Creek Community Church

Campbell-Stone United Church

Southview Church

Knexions Church

Bonavista Baptist Church

St. Patrick's Church

Trinity Mennonite Church

Grace and Glory Foursquare Church

NewGate Baptist Church



We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our volunteer base and lend a helping hand with community events such as, June Jamboree, Community Clean Up, Annual Casino Fundraising, and more. If you would like to get involved with community events, please email your interest to info@midsun.org.

Love numbers and teamwork? We're looking for a Treasurer to oversee our finances and help us shine. Join the fun – apply now! Contact president@midsun.org for more information.

JOIN OUR BOARD

YOUR SKILLS. YOUR COMMUNITY. REAL IMPACT!

Looking for someone to join our team in a volunteer capacity

Role: Treasurer



Requirements:

- Experience in finance and accounting
- Attend 6–8 meetings from Sept to June
- Present current financials of the Community Centre to the Board of Directors

Why you should join?

- Show direct support to your Community
- Gain experience and meet some dedicated neighbours
- Put your expertise to work in your own backyard!

Email your interest or questions to: president@midsun.org



Settle into the already established community of Silverado—where nature, everyday essentials, and adventure are always within reach.







Visit us: 15 Silver Spruce Grove SW Mon-Thurs: 12-8 p.m. | Weekends & Holidays: 12-5 p.m.

2025 Community Event Finalist, BILD Alberta. Visit silversprucecalgary.com



Brookfield



Prices and terms are subject to change without notice. See our website for more information. E&OE.

YOUR CITY OF CALGARY

Beltline Community Investment Fund (BCIF) Call for Letters of Intent

by The City of Calgary

The Beltline Community Investment Fund (BCIF) supports capital projects that enhance the wellbeing of residents and visitors in Calgary's Beltline community.

Past funded projects include:

- Upgraded sidewalks and lighting
- Park and open space improvements
- Street trees and landscaping
- Benches, bike racks, and waste/recycling bins
- Public art installations

Applications are accepted year-round and reviewed quarterly by the BCIF Committee. The next review date is December 8, 2025, and the deadline to submit your application for this round is October 31, 2025.

Before applying, organizations must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) for approval. LOIs are accepted and reviewed on an ongoing basis. To get started, email your LOI to BCIF@calgary.ca.

For more information about BCIF and how to apply, go to calgary.ca/bcif.





Mid-Sun AGM Notice

Mid-Sun Community Association will be hosting their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, October 8 at 7:00 pm at the Community Centre! Visit our website (midsun.org) for full details and to register for free. See you there!





Salmon and Broccoli Rice Bowl

by Jennifer Puri

Raw or cooked, broccoli is a nutrient-rich vegetable packed with vitamins, minerals, and fibre.

Steaming or roasting tends to preserve the most nutrients and flavour, but raw broccoli is also a great option when paired with dips or in salads.

Cooking broccoli can soften the tough fibres making it easier to chew and digest. Nutrient-rich and low in fat, broccoli can be a healthy, low-calorie snack.

When purchasing broccoli, choose bright green broccoli with crisp, dark green leaves and tightly closed buds. Store in the refrigerator and wash only when you plan to use it.

Create your own stir-fry sauce or use a store-bought one as shown in this simple and easy to prepare salmon and broccoli rice bowl recipe below.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 20 minutes

Servings: 2

Ingredients:

- 2 fillets of Salmon (4 oz. each)
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 2 tsp. black sesame seeds
- 1 crown of broccoli sliced
- ½ cup store-bought stir-fry sauce
- 1/2 tsp. crushed garlic
- ½ tsp. crushed ginger
- 1 tbsp. sesame seed oil
- · 2 cups cooked white, brown, or black rice
- ½ avocado sliced

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Place salmon fillets on a foil lined baking sheet. Drizzle
 the olive oil on the fillets, sprinkle the salt and pepper,
 and then bake on the middle rack of the oven for 18
 minutes or until salmon is cooked through. Remove
 salmon from oven, sprinkle with black sesame seeds,





and cut into small chunks.

- Heat 1 tbsp. of sesame seed oil in a skillet, add the broccoli florets, and sauté on medium heat for 3 to 4 minutes.
- 4. Next add the garlic, ginger, and stir-fry sauce and continue to sauté until broccoli is tender.
- To serve, divide the rice into two bowls and top with salmon pieces, broccoli, sliced avocado, and lemon wedges. Spoon additional stir-fry sauce on the broccoli if desired.

Bon Appétit!

Mid-Sun Social Seniors' Group

As we enter October there are many mixed reactions. The beauty of the autumn colours mixes with the sense of warmth and happiness and either the anticipation of outdoor activity, or the cozy chill of the upcoming winter. Mid-Sun Seniors' 55+ invite you to put on your sweater and join us for a welcoming atmosphere, lively conversation, and a break from regular home life.

October Activities

Weekly Cards and Games at MSCC: Thursday, October 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.

We offer two sessions 10:00 am to noon or 1:30 to 2:30 pm. Room capacity is limited so entrance cards are distributed at 9:40 am and 1:10 pm. Our members engage in familiar card games and are always open to learning new games. Coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. You are welcome to attend and determine if you would like to join the group.

Bingo: Monday, October 13, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, MSCC multi-purpose room.

Ten games are played with cash prizes. Registration and MSCA membership are required. A limited cash concession will be available. For information about registration, please call 403-254-8058.

Pub Nite: Tuesday, October 21, 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

Each month seniors gather at a local venue to socialize and enjoy delicious food and laughter in good company. Please contact us at seniors@midsun.org for information about October's gathering.



Mid-Sun Seniors' plan a variety of social activities and information sessions throughout the year. We welcome you to join us. Our members also support local food banks. Currently the Veteran's Food Bank and AARCs (Animal Rescue) are the recipients. A total of 69 pounds for the end of August drop off, plus a cash donation was delivered to Veterans. Many of our seniors cultivate garden plots in the Mid-Sun Community Garden, as well as assisting with tasks in the Veteran's Food Bank plots at the garden. During the last weeks of August, a total of 216 pounds of produce was harvested and donated from the Community Garden to the Veteran's Food Bank. This activity will continue until harvest ends. Great work!

For further information about Mid-Sun Seniors' and our activities, please contact us at seniors@midsun.org or call 403-254-8058.

Happy Thanksgiving and Halloween.



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MERRY MID-SUN MARKET

SAT, NOV 15 10:00AM - 3:00PM MID-SUN COMMUNITY CENTRE 50 MIDPARK RISE SE

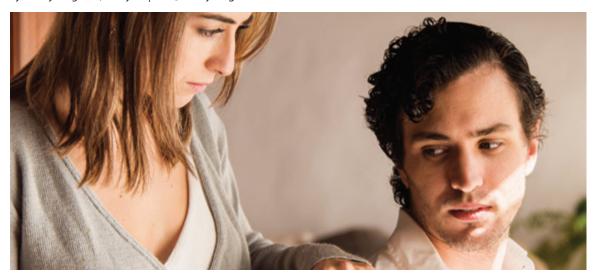
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How You Can Support an Emotionally Avoidant Partner

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



Supporting a partner who struggles with emotional vulnerability can be challenging—especially if your own emotional needs aren't being met. You can offer support, but you are not responsible for doing their emotional work for them. Here are some ways you can create a safer environment for emotional connection:

1. Model Emotional Safety

- Be open with your own emotions in a grounded, nonblaming way.
- Use "I feel" statements instead of "You never" accusations.
- Normalize vulnerability by showing that emotions are human, not shameful.

2. Respect Their Pace—but Hold Boundaries

- Understand that emotional change takes time.
- Avoid forcing deep conversations when they're emotionally shut down.
- At the same time, be clear about your own needs.
 It's okay to say, "I need emotional openness in this relationship to feel connected."

3. Affirm Effort, Not Just Outcomes

When your partner makes even a small attempt to open up, acknowledge it gently. "Thank you for sharing that. It means a lot." "I know that wasn't easy for you to say." Positive reinforcement helps override the fear that emotional vulnerability will lead to shame or rejection.

4. Don't Take Avoidance Personally

Their emotional withdrawal is usually about self-protection, not about you. Try not to interpret their distance as lack of care—it's more often fear, confusion, or discomfort.

5. Encourage—but Don't Rescue

- Invite them into deeper connection but avoid doing all the emotional work.
- Encourage therapy or men's support groups where they can build emotional awareness in a safe space.

6. Stay Connected to Your Own Emotional Needs

Supporting someone else emotionally doesn't mean abandoning your own needs. Therapy, journaling, or support groups can help you stay grounded and clear about what you need in the relationship.

Emotional avoidance doesn't mean a man is incapable of love—it means he may be stuck in old protective patterns. With patience, boundaries, and the right kind of support, many emotionally avoidant men can learn to build deeper, more connected relationships.

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SCAN THE QR CODE								





Sulphur Mountain Sasquatch

by Garth Paul Ukrainetz

Where hot springs flow from long ago Where mountain trees did younger grow A Sasquatch soaked in water hot And all his problems there forgot

But then one day his world would change His dear ol' Rocky Mountain range Banff National Park, the first to be Now tourists flocked for all to see

Up Sulphur Mountain Sasquatch climbed His favourite hot pool left behind He at the top made cave of snow And cried alone in moonlight's glow

From high above he got to scheming He'll go back down while Banff was dreaming So, down below he'd go at night And back up top by morning light

Where hot springs flow from long ago Where mountain trees now older grow A Sasquatch soaks in water hot With one eye open, lest he be caught



Devin Elkin

-WARD 14Rooted in Community

Hello Ward 14 residents, Devin Elkin here.

With this being the last opportunity before we head to the polls on October 20th, I wanted to just take a moment to thank you. For the past 10 years, it has been my joy to serve the residents of Ward 14 as your Ward 14 community assistant. When I reflect on what we have accomplished together it's hard to believe we did this all in that time frame.

To the countless community volunteers that have served on their community association boards, thank you. It was a pleasure working together to make each of your communities the best version of themselves. To those that I have disappointed, know that I tried and sometimes you just can't deliver on the ask. "Your Ward, Your Way" is not as easy as it sounds. In my time serving the ward, I have learned that you will find yourself having to deal with issues that will make some people happy and some will want to tar and feather you in the town square, but know that I wear these failures on my sleeve as reminders to never take this job for granted.

In closing, all I ask is that you have a look at what I have done, and what I will continue to do for those that call Ward 14 home. If you are undecided just make sure you ask one question of all candidates, "How?" How do you plan to accomplish your vision? It's easy to reuse what you hear from residents as policy but truly understanding how to execute vision into reality is so important. Lastly some important dates, advance polls are open October 6th – 11th and election day is the 20th.

Please visit www.electionscalgary.ca to find your voting location and all other related info. If you need a ride to the poling station closest to you, please let my team know at delkin@telus.net and we will make sure you get there and back. Thank you again and here's to getting back to simple civic governance.

Devin Elkin Rooted in Community

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growers do say that when it is in the dark the plant grows so fast you can HEAR the squeaks, snaps, crackles, and pops of its rapid growth. How cool is that?!

GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess the Squash!

- This winter squash is popular in making Jack-o'lanterns.
- The British refer to this summer squash as a courgette.
- 3. This elongated squash grows on a vine and has a bulbous bottom that stores its seeds.
- 4. This squash resembles the shape of a flying saucer!
- 5. This squash shares its name with an elongated yellow fruit.
- 6. Like the fruit of an oak tree, this squash shares the same name and shape.





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NEWS FROM THE MIDNAPORE LAKE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Park Hours

Please check the website for up-to-date park hours. As we move into fall, the park will close earlier in the evening, matching sunset. Park hours will be extended once we open for the winter season.

Halloween

Happy Halloween to everyone!

Midnapore Lake will be holding our fifth annual Pumpkin Hunt on Saturday, October 25. For information, please check our Facebook page as well as our website. This event will require participants to pre-register.

Looking Forward

- October 25 Annual Pumpkin Hunt (Pre-registration will be required)
- December 2025 Skate with Santa (date TBD)
- · January/February 2026 Skating Lessons

Message from the President

As summer winds down and the crisp air rolls in, we want to take a moment to thank everyone for a fantastic beach season! It was wonderful to see families swimming, friends gathering for sunset picnics, and neighbours making the most of our beautiful lake. Most importantly, we appreciate how everyone helped keep the summer safe and enjoyable for all! It was a

wet summer and lake water levels held - we even had surplus to water the park. I think our biggest beach days happened in the last week of August when summer finally seemed to fully arrive.

Now that we're in the shoulder season, there's still so much to enjoy around the lake. Fall is perfect for peaceful walks in the park, casting a line on those quiet, still mornings, or joining in a friendly game of pickleball while the courts are cool. It's a great time to soak in the colours of autumn and keep active even as we shift seasons.

And of course, we couldn't wrap up October without a little excitement—our favourite event of the year is just around the corner! Keep an eye out for details about the Annual Pumpkin Hunt - a fun-filled tradition for all ages. We can't wait to see everyone out there searching, laughing, and celebrating the season together!

See you at the lake,

Jen Hawkins

president@midnaporelake.ca

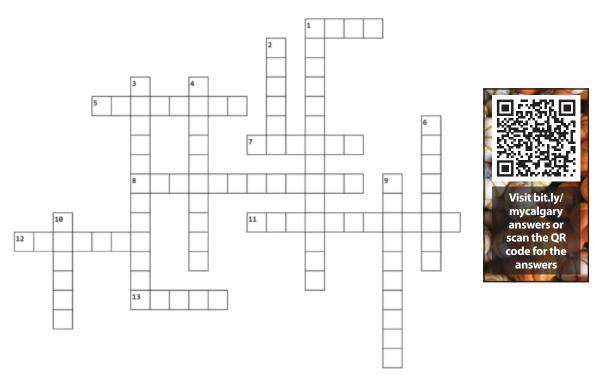
Midnapore Lake Bookings

For your Lake Room, Cookshack, and large group bookings please call the office staff at 403-256-0550.





October Crossword



Across

- This Andrew Lloyd Webber musical debuted on Broadway at the Winter Garden Theatre in October 1982.
- 5. On October 5 World ________'Day is celebrated to honour those who educate us.
- 7. Queen Elizabeth II officially opened this iconic Opera House on October 20, 1973.
- Canadians celebrate this holiday on the second Monday of October.
- 11. The vibrant hues of autumn leaves are due to a lack of what pigment.
- 12. This iconic single by John Lennon was released on October 11, 1971, in the United States.
- 13. On October 8, 2004, Wangari Maathai was awarded the ______ Peace Prize, making her the first African woman ever to receive the award.

Down

- The Orient Express departed on its first journey from Paris on October 4, 1883, to this city now known as Istanbul.
- 2. Stock markets crashed worldwide on October 19, 1987, and became known as Black ...
- 3. NHL star Glenn Hall, nicknamed Mr. Goalie, was born on October 3, 1981, in Humboldt, _____.
- 4. Canadian filmmaker James Cameron released the scifi action hit, *The* ______ in October 1984.
- 6. This beloved Canadian Ryan was born on October 23, 1976, in Vancouver, B.C.
- 9. The dystopian novel where books are banned and burned, ______ 451 by Ray Bradbury, was published on October 19, 1953.
- 10. The "Thrilla in ______" on October 1, 1975, saw Muhammad Ali beat Joe Frazier after 14 rounds.

SAFE AND SOUND

Halloween Safety

by Alberta Health Services



As a member of Calgary's Child Magazine Partners for Safety initiative, AHS EMS would like to remind parents and trick-or-treaters of some Halloween safety tips as October 31 approaches. Partners for Safety vehicles will be out patrolling communities on Halloween night to provide a visible safety resource for parents and trick-or-treaters.

Trick-or-Treaters

- Remember: All regular pedestrian rules still apply. Be sure to cross the road at marked crosswalks, or well-lit corners only. It is safest to work your way up one side of the street, and then cross once to the other side.
- Avoid houses that are not well lit. Do not accept rides from strangers or enter any home you feel is unsafe.
- Let your parents know where you are going to be at all times (route) and advise them if you will be late returning.

Parents

- Be certain that young trick-or-treaters are accompanied by an adult. Older children should stay in groups.
- Pre-determine boundaries to trick-or-treat within and establish a firm time to return home.
- Advise children not to eat anything until they return

home. Dispose of any items that appear to have been tampered with, or that are not properly wrapped.

Costumes

- Choose bright coloured costumes that are highly visible. Adding reflective tape to costumes further increases visibility.
- Consider sending your children with a flashlight for additional safety and increased visibility.
- When purchasing or making costumes, look for materials and accessories that are labeled flameresistant.
- All costume accessories, such as sticks, rods, or wands, should be soft and flexible, with no sharp edges.
- Consider using hypoallergenic make-up kits instead of masks that may impair breathing, or vision.
- Be sure costumes are loose enough to be worn over warm clothing, but not so long that they become a tripping hazard. Costumes should not be longer than your child's ankles.
- Ensure your child is wearing adequate footwear that takes into consideration weather conditions and walking.

YOUR CITY OF CALGARY

The 2025 General Election Is Here

by The City of Calgary

Eligible voters can cast their ballots for the 2025 General Election starting October 6, 2025.

During Advance Vote, from October 6 to 11, voters can vote at any of the Advance Vote stations, regardless of the ward in which they reside.

On Election Day, October 20, voters must vote at their designated voting station.

Voters can use the "Where Do I Vote?" tool on the Elections Calgary website to find their nearest Advance Vote location, as well as their designated voting station on Election Day.

Special (mail-in) ballots are available for request for voters who cannot vote during the Advance Vote or on Election Day for any reason. The last day to request a mail-in ballot to be mailed to you is October 3. The last day for in-person pick-up is October 20 at 10:00 am. All mail-in ballots must be received by the Elections Calgary office by 12:00 pm (noon) on October 20. Mail-in packages can be requested online or by calling 403-476-4100.

More information on where, when and how to vote, voter identification requirements and other important information about the 2025 General Election can be found at electionscalgary.ca/vote or by calling 403-476-4100.





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Celebrating Calgary 150 - Booms and Busts (1967-1987)

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

Calgary has seen many booms and busts, including the turmoil of the 1970s and 1980s. War caused gas shortages and then overdevelopment crashed oil prices, leading to Calgary's worst economic slump.

Great Canadian Oil Sands operated near Fort McMurray (ca.1962), the largest private investment in Canadian history.

Petro Canada became Calgary's newest, tallest building. Toronto-Dominion Square (ca.1977) was built, including Devonian Gardens. Calgary's downtown now has the most skyscrapers in Canada outside Toronto.

Bow Valley College received a building (ca.1972). Nearby the federal government's Harry Hays Building was built (ca.1978), with city hall relocating to the Municipal Building (ca.1985).

General Hospital #2 was demolished in 1973. A preservation society tried to save it. Today, Rundle Ruins holds its original sandstone foundations.

Deerfoot took a decade to build, named after the Siksika man, Api-kai-ees, who was known for winning the 1886 Dominion Day race. The C-Train opened (ca.1981) and has expanded since.

The Flames arrived from Atlanta (ca.1980), beginning a decade-long playoff streak. They occupied the Saddledome in 1983. It has a reverse hyperbolic paraboloid roof (think Pringles chip). But Calgarians saw a horse saddle and the name stuck.

For Calgary's 100th anniversary, Fort Calgary's site was preserved, which hosted a re-enactment of the NWMP's arrival. The Bow River Pathways and Century Gardens were established.

Glenbow Museum opened in 1976, followed by Arts Commons (ca.1985). It hosts the Orchestra in Jack Singer Concert Hall, one of North America's most acoustically acclaimed venues.

Brutalist architecture was all the rage. Mayland Heights School (ca.1968) has open spaces and sloping concrete walls. St. Luke's Church in Brentwood is another example.

More community institutions appeared. St. Vladimir's Church has unique copper-domed towers. Sien Lok Park celebrates Chinatown's preservation.

Nose Hill was also preserved. A stone medicine wheel represents where Indigenous ceremonies were once performed. Fish Creek Park was created from Burns' ranch lands.

1977 was the centennial of Treaty 7, when The Prince of Wales placed a marker at Blackfoot Crossing.

For recreation, Calaway Park (ca.1982) became Western Canada's largest amusement park. At Banff, Sulphur Mountain Gondola received a new complex (ca.1980). The summit had previously hosted a cosmic ray station.

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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/ File:Atlantaflamesgoalhug.jpg. Tom Lysiak (left), center with the Atlanta Flames (NHL), celebrates a goal with teammates during a game against the Colorado Rockies, circa 1978 (Rick Dikeman, image in the public domain).



https://commons.wikimedia.org/ wiki/File:Glenbow_NE_corner.jpg. Glenbow Museum, NE corner, August 2015 (Darthrussel, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International license).

The Birth of Ballet

On October 15, 1581, Catherine de' Medici, the Queen Mother of France, commissioned "Ballet Comique de la Reine" in Paris. The performance depicted the myth of Circe from Homer's *Odyssey* and is believed to be the first true ballet, combining music, dance, plot, and staging.



Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Charlie, Copperfield



Cody, Glenbrook



Dobby, Hunterson Place



Guzel, Hunterson Place



Nelly, Dalhousie



Poppy, Tuxedo Park



Sugar, Signal Hill



Todd, Lake Chaparral

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RESIDENT PERSPECTIVES

The Art of Finding Work: Job Seekers: Be Clear on Your "Secret Sauce"

by Nick Kossovan

Most job seekers present themselves to employers as a jack of all trades, master of none, when they should be presenting a unique set of skills.

You think you're talented.

Everyone you're up against thinks they're talented.

What makes you special?

When you apply for a job, possessing the necessary skills and qualifications is not enough. You need to find ways to differentiate yourself; otherwise, you will blend in with the other job seekers you're competing against.

The key to differentiating yourself and rising above all the noise so you're seen and heard rather than ignored lies in your "secret sauce"—the unique skills, experiences, and attributes that make you one-of-a-kind. Thus, you become what most job seekers aren't: memorable.

Asking Yourself the Following Questions Will Help You Define Your Secret Sauce:

In My Current or Previous Positions, What Were My Favourite Tasks?

For the most part, we enjoy activities we're good at (e.g., working with numbers, designing costumes, conducting research, organizing events, writing blogs). Our inherent strengths and aptitudes create a natural talent for the activity, thereby making it enjoyable since you're not fighting who you are.

List everything, work-related and non-work-related, you enjoy doing.

What Feedback Have I Received from Colleagues or Supervisors Regarding My Work?

Reflect on your career journey. Think of all the positive and negative feedback you received, whether in formal performance reviews or an offhand manner, regarding your work or something you did.

- "I enjoy sitting in on your presentations."
- "You have a knack for listening."
- "The way you motivate your team is impressive."

What Problems Have I Successfully Solved in Previous Positions?

Every position exists to solve a problem. For instance, accountants are hired to monitor a company's incoming revenue and outgoing expenses and oversee its compliance with local tax laws.

What problems have you solved for your employers? Increased website traffic? Decreased spending? Increased customer satisfaction? Decreased safety violations? Increased sales? (employers' favourite).

What Unique Experiences or Backgrounds Do I Have That Contribute to My Skill Set?

A candidate who grew up in Québec City will have a competitive edge being fluently bilingual over someone who simply attended French immersion in Calgary, Alberta. The same could be said for a candidate whose mother was a social worker, making them more attuned to the needs of others, or their father who was a pharmaceutical representative, thus exposing them to human dynamics that influence.

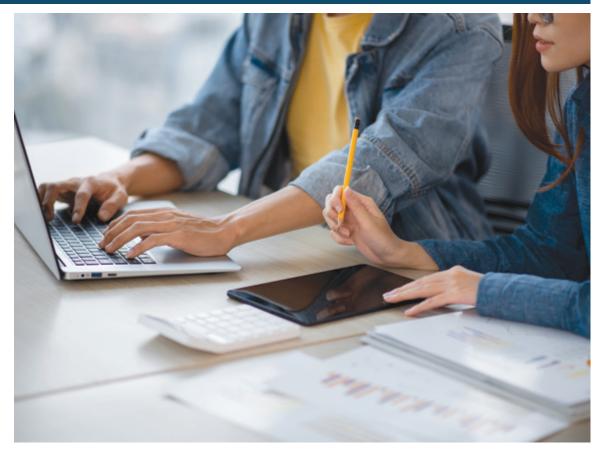
Everyone has a unique story of how their place of birth and experiences, especially first experiences, developed their strengths and passions. Explaining to an employer that your enjoyment of and passion for providing customer service comes from having spent your weekends and summers working the front desk at your family's 85-room hotel in Estevan, Saskatchewan, has much more impact than simply saying, "I like helping people."

What Skills Have I Gained Through Hobbies or Volunteer Work?

I once hired a call centre agent who volunteered at a local suicide prevention hotline for several years. And a candidate who coached a little league baseball team turned out to be one of the best first-time managers I ever hired.

Don't ignore the skills and experience you've acquired outside your employment or education. Skills, experience, and knowledge aren't just acquired at work or school. The skills and experience you gain from volunteering, starting/running a business, being a parent, playing in a sports league, or serving on your condo board can be valuable to employers.

If the above questions don't solicit as many skills as you'd like, seek the opinions of family members, friends,



and colleagues. Ask them what they think your key strengths are. Their insights may surprise you.

Once you've identified your hard and soft skills—your soft skills (e.g., communication, critical thinking, time management) are the most important to employers—you need to communicate your unique skills as selling points. Merely listing your "skills" and "qualifications" doesn't distinguish you from other applicants. You must describe who you are and what you offer in a straightforward, memorable narrative conveying your unique value proposition.

Not memorable: "I speak French."

Memorable: "I was born in Québec City. French is my mother tongue."

Additionally, frame your skills and qualifications in terms of how they can benefit an employer.

No value add: "I have strong analytical skills."

Value add: "During my seven years as a financial analyst at Wayne Enterprises, I developed above-average analytical skills that enabled the company to take advantage of several initial public offerings that turned out to be quite lucrative. One recommended buy resulted in a \$7.5 million gain within less than a year."

Based on my experience, most candidates fail to emphasize their uniqueness; hence, they don't stick in my head. Given the number of candidates I've interviewed throughout my career, one would think I'd have heard many inspiring, funny, entertaining, and sad career and life stories. Unfortunately, that's not the case. Job seekers need to work on being mentally sticky. In a competitive job market filled with qualified candidates, articulating your secret sauce will ultimately set you apart.

RESIDENT PERSPECTIVES

The State of Public Education in Alberta

by Brit Hart, Public School Board Trustee Candidate

Students in public schools across Alberta, including the CBE, face a potential teacher strike and here's what you need to know:

The vast majority of teachers in Alberta (95%) have set forward a motion to strike in the fall. The Alberta Teachers Association has requested wage increases and support to address overcrowded classrooms.

If a strike happens the Alberta Teacher's Association must provide 72 hours notice before initiating job action.

The government's education budget released this year saw an overall spending increase of 4.5% while within this, private school funding increased by 13%.

Alberta spends nearly \$1 billion of public funds on private education each year, the highest in Canada.

Alberta public schools have the highest enrollment rate in the country, expecting to see 33,000 new students this year. 66.3% of these students are in public school, 23.1% separate, 5.3% private, 1.4% charter.

Alberta public school students receive the lowest funding in Canada, \$11,464 compared to the national average of \$13,692 according to Stats Canada.

Despite providing the lowest per student funding in the country, Alberta students rank second globally for science and literacy and seventh in math according to the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

Our teachers continue to do more with less each year. In 2012 Alberta was ranked third for student funding in Canada and in the last 12 years we have dropped to the bottom. While we continue to see the overall rate in which we invest in education decrease, our public school teachers continue to deliver students that rank among the highest globally in academics.

What our educators are asking for is a fair wage increase, more classroom supports, and a plan to reduce classroom sizes. The initial offer from the province included a 12 percent general wage increase and improved benefits



and \$405 million in classroom improvements. Note that there are 1,576 public schools currently in Alberta and this number does not account for projected builds. Classroom improvements can include items like salaries for custodians, building repairs and maintenance, and capital infrastructure costs.

While Alberta teachers are recognized to have some of the highest salaries in the country, their compensation (based on number of students per classroom) is ranked tenth, \$1,600 per student below the national average.

Below is a table outlining recommended classroom sizes vs actual classroom sizes in Alberta, provided by the Alberta Commission on Learning.

	Recommended	Actual 2023/24	Max Size 2023/34
K-3	17	22.5	37
4-6	23	23.4	42
7-9	25	26.3	46
High School	27	28.3	56

If you want more information, the CBE has a Labour Action page to help parents navigate the 2025/26 school year. If you have questions or want to support public education in Alberta it is encouraged that you write to your local MLA as well as the Minister of Education, Demitrios Nicolaides and the Shadow Minister for Education, Amanda Chapman.

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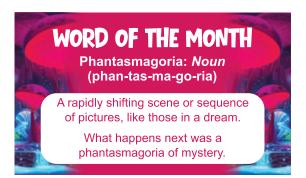


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Gratitude, Community, and Looking Ahead

Happy Thanksgiving!

As we take time this month to gather with loved ones and reflect on what we're grateful for, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the residents of Calgary-Fish Creek. Your engagement, ideas, and support continue to inspire me every day.

I'm looking forward to connecting with many of you at our upcoming Townhall Meeting on Wednesday, October 22 at 7:00 pm, held at Parkland Community Hall (505 Parkvalley Road SE). These gatherings are a chance for us to have real conversations about the issues that matter most to you—from local concerns to provincial policy. I hope you'll join me to share your thoughts, ask questions, or simply listen in.

As we head toward the end of October, I'm also preparing for the next legislative session. There's important work ahead, and I'm committed to bringing your voices into the discussions that shape our province's future. Whether it's healthcare, education, infrastructure, or community safety, your feedback helps guide the decisions made by government.

If you have questions, concerns, or ideas you'd like to share before the townhall or session begins, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office at Calgary. FishCreek@assembly.ab.ca. I always appreciate hearing from you.

Wishing you and your family a joyful and restful Thanksgiving.

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