# KILLARNEYGLENGARRY

THE OFFICIAL KILLARNEY & GLENGARRY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER





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**KGCA VISION** 



### **YOUR KGCA**

2828 - 28 Street SW Calgary, Alberta, T3E 2J3 403-246-6668 gm@kgca.ca

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# TO SUPPORT AND CONNECT OURCOMMUNITY.

#### HOW?

Through the creation and delivery of program, events, and strategic initiatives.

#### WHY?

To encourage involvement and to inspire pride in both our residents and visitors.





# **Killarney-Glengarry Community Association Board of Directors**

BOARD POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
President	Thomas Mo	pres@kgca.ca
Vice President	Kristi Mulrain	vicepres@kgca.ca
Treasurer	Vacant	treasurer@kgca.ca
Secretary	Elena Gadaeva	secretary@kgca.ca
Director of Communications	Jason Smiechowski	comms@kgca.ca
Director of Development	Colin Knoll	development@kgca.ca
Director of Fundraising	Gloria Esionye	fundraising@kgca.ca
Director of Facilities	Vinod Balakrishnan	facilities@kgca.ca
Director at Large	Vacant	
Director of Events	Vacant	
Director of Safe Streets	Vacant	
Director of Volunteers	Vacant	
Director of Membership	Vacant	
HALL STAFF		
GM	Julie Patton	gm@kgca.ca
Bookkeeper	Natalie Palmer	
KGCA Community Garden	Chris Knobel Dan Hauser	garden@kgca.ca

# KGCA Members That Inspire Community

KGCA is committed to supporting local. If you are a member with a local business that inspires community building, we want to hear about what you're doing! Please email comms@kgca.ca with details!



APPLICATION

2828 28 St SW Calgary, Alberta T3E 2J3 403-246-6668 | gm@kgca.ca

**Family: \$35** 

Student (Under 25) | Senior: \$10

Individual: \$15

GST is included in all these prices.



Thanks for supporting your local community association Cut out and mail with cheque made payable to Killarney Glengarry Community Association or sign up online at www.killarneyglengarry.com

# Connect

Send cover photo submissions, story ideas, and community event announcements to gm@kgca.ca



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@kgca.yyc

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for an amazing Food Truck Frenzy!

We're thrilled to share that our annual Food Truck Frenzy was a huge success—and it's all thanks to you!

A big shoutout to YYC Community Food Truck Group for partnering with us once again. This year, we welcomed seven incredible food trucks: Viet 2 Go, Shahba Shawarma, Lemon Heaven, Vanilla Bean Ice Cream, Mini Donut Factory, Ribo Chicko, and Arepas Ranch. Thanks to your support, \$1,634 from food sales was donated by the Food Truck Group to directly support the KGCA—including our events, maintenance, and future capital projects.

We're also grateful to:

**Bow Tie Pizza** – Not only did they sell out, but they also generously donated slices to over 20 of our hardworking volunteers and more than 40 talented youth from the School of Rock bands!

**Biggies Glizzies** – Sold out their delicious dogs and smokies and have also donated \$239 in sales to the KGCA.

**Live Performers** – Huge appreciation to Ken Drabinsky and the Eh Train, Malissa Rush, School of Rock (Killarney and Douglasdale), and Cooper Robinson for keeping the music going for over seven hours—even in the heat!

**Activities and Demos** – Thank you to Anastassia and Amber for five full hours of face painting, Calgary Reptile Parties for engaging and educating the kids, Triwest Soccer for fun games, and Steamoji Calgary West for interactive STEM demos.

**Cabin Brewing** – Our beer garden heroes! Cabin kept the drinks flowing, almost sold out, and donated \$401 of their sales back to the KGCA.

**Our Market Vendors** – Thank you to Steamoji Calgary West, Life 'n Balance Wellness Centre, Flame and Faucet, Katie Berry Insurance Agency, True Gents Barbershop, MHK Taekwondo, Janet Eremenko, Embrace Montessori, Spirit of Math, and Jennifer Hooper. (Shoutout to PuppyAura—we missed you!)

**New KGCA Memberships!** – We sold 20 KGCA memberships at the event! Every dollar from memberships goes towards KGCA improvements.

**Our Sponsors** – We truly could not do this without you. Thank you for making events like this possible:

- Jennifer Hooper of Royal LePage
- MLA Janet Eremenko
- Co-op Richmond Road
- Glamorgan Bakery
- WCEF Grant

We estimate over 500 people came through throughout the day—a fantastic turnout that shows just how special our community is. Thank you for supporting local food, beer, music, and businesses—and for supporting KGCA.

If you keep showing up, we'll keep bringing the events, connection, and community spirit you love.

Thomas Mo

**KGCA President** 





On July 3, 1608, a trading post was established on the site of presentday Québec City

that was part fort and part village. Samuel de Champlain fostered fur trades and used this building as a base. We're sure it looked a whole lot different back then!



#### I Am Canadian

On March 9, 2025, at 91 years old, the Honourable Jean Chretien, Prime Minister 1993 to 2003, said it best, "I have to say thanks to Mr. Trump for uniting us together like never before. He should be given the Order of Canada," he roared with a big belly laugh!

Canadians have responded to Trump's call for tariffs and



Photo Credit: Cole Keister

his intention to annex Canada by shaking off our general inclination to always be kind and 'nice'. What a wonderful response it has been. We're generally not big flag wavers unless it's July 1 or when a Canadian hockey team wins the Stanley Cup again. But look at us now!

Everywhere you go we see Canadians standing together, strong and free... and intending to stay that way. The US World Population Clock says the US population is 341,461,544 and the Canadian Population Clock reads 41,645,985. We are roughly 10% of the US population, but we are mighty!

Canada's Debt as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 98.2% in 2017 vs the US' of 103.8 GDP. Life expectancy for Canadian males is 80 and for American males it is 73. For Canadian women it is 84 and 79 for American women.

Canada's total health spending was \$344 billion in 2023 or \$8,740 per person. That's about 12.1% of GDP. In 2022, the US national health care expenditure was US \$4.5 trillion or 17.3% of GDP, the highest health spending based on GDP among developed countries.

In 1947, Tommy Douglas, voted Canada's Greatest Canadian in 2004, implemented universal public health insurance in Saskatchewan making it the first jurisdiction with universal health coverage in North America. This insurance initially covered hospital care in 1947. In 1961, his NDP government passed the Saskatchewan Medical Care Insurance Act; the first comprehensive healthcare insurance plan in Canada.

I was born in Calgary and raised in Swift Current, Saskatchewan and had the benefit of dental care as a part of that plan. Every year when I go to my dentist, Dr. Larry Stanley can never find a problem with these teeth! I attribute that to Tommy Douglas' dream!

In 1966, following the Royal Commission on Health Services, the Canadian Federal Government passed the Medical Care Act for all Canadians. How fortunate Canadians are for that pioneer work.

The United States is better at higher education than Canada as the US has more top universities world renowned for their cutting-edge research, extensive funding opportunities, and strong industry connections. We have work to do in that respect.

Canada and the US have been sports rivals for many years. Ice hockey has been the most important. The first Olympic Hockey Tournament was held in 1920 when the Canadians won, and United States was not able to defeat Canada until the 1960 Winter Olympics! The competition goes on!

That and so much more brings us to 2025 when the world has been turned upside down. We have had a long and complex relationship with the United States. We have considered ourselves to be the closest allies in history, the economy, and culture. We share the longest border of 8,891 kilometres or 5,525 miles. We have considered ourselves best friends and for many of us, part of our families.

And now we have a conundrum. Who are we? Who are they? Canadians are struggling to know. Is it a divorce or a short-term separation? Who knows? But I do know, I am forever Canadian!



### What's happening

## **KGCA News**





### Food Truck Frenzy

What. A. Day. Huge thanks to everyone who came out to our Food Truck Frenzy! Over 500 of you showed up, ate local, rocked out, and helped us raise \$\$ for the KGCA (community events, upkeep & projects!). As this event continues to grow each year we cannot thank community enough for your continued support!





### **New Toy Chest**

Big thanks to our amazing neighbours Scott, Kennedy, and Skipper Wilson! The Wilsons have generously donated a toy chest full of fun to the KGCA Playground!

The chest is there for everyone to enjoy - feel free to donate or swap toys anytime. Let's keep the fun growing and bring even more play to the KGCA!

## Upcoming Events:

Outdoor Yoga:

July 7, July 14, Aug. 11,

Aug. 25 | 6-7PM |

\$14/class

KGCA 75th Anniversary:

Sept. 21 | 3-7PM

For more info on events visit our website.

Email us to volunteer with event set up/take down.

Follow us on Instagram @kgca.yyc



HUMANS OF KILLARNEY

# Living Connected: Jeremy's Story of Land, Community, and Conservation

by Titash Choudhury

"Leave things better than you found them." That's the advice Jeremy Hogan has carried with him across continents, careers, and communities. For him, it's more than a saying; it's a commitment to land, to people, and to the generations that follow. Jeremy was born in Killarney and spent his earliest years on 25 Street before his family moved away. He studied biology at the University of Victoria, where he fell in love with conservation science, then pursued graduate studies in primatology at the University of Calgary. His research led him to Costa Rica, where he spent nearly a decade studying white-faced capuchins.

While working in Costa Rica, Jeremy met Dr. Dan Janzen, a biologist tracking the collapse of insect populations, largely due to habitat loss surrounding the protected park. Dr. Janzen wasn't waiting on policy or funding to avoid collapse: "When your house is burning,"



he told Jeremy, "You don't need a thermometer, you need a fire hose." The urgency with which Dr. Janzen mobilized communities, conservation partners, and landowners to restore and reconnect fragmented habitats left a lasting impression on Jeremy. Over time, the effort became a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and insect populations began to recover. It shaped how he sees conservation today and brought him back to Canada with a new sense of purpose. Today, Jeremy is the Director of Prairie Grassland Conservation at the Nature Conservancy of Canada, helping protect one of Earth's most threatened ecosystems right here in our own back yard: Canada's prairie grasslands.

"People think of Canada as vast and untouched," he says. "But in reality, only a small portion of land is habitable and farmable, and that's where most of our species at risk live."

Grasslands once covered the prairie provinces. Now, more than 80% is lost to agriculture and development. What remains is fragmented and at risk, often stewarded by ranchers who've cared for the land for generations. Jeremy partners with these families through trust, not restrictions, working together to protect what is left.

"These ranchers know the land, and care for it, better than anyone," he says. "We're just helping make sure their hard work carries through to the next generation."

Jeremy added that he also sees Calgary's critical role in this ecosystem. Sitting at the meeting point of mountain and prairie, the city forms a vital corridor for birds, pollinators, and wildlife.

When this role brought him back to Calgary in 2016, it felt like coming full circle. His family chose Killarney soon after. For them, the decision was easy. Killarney is deeply rooted in the community, close to nature, and just minutes from downtown. With Weaselhead Flats, the Douglas Fir Trail, Glenmore Reservoir, and the Elbow River nearby and neighbourhood streets lined with mature trees, school gardens, and green spaces, nature isn't something one has to seek out. It's already part of how people live here.

Jeremy and his family are also deeply involved in the community. From school boards to garden cleanups and community events, they've always been present. He jokes that Killarney is one of the few neighbourhoods where you can grab Thai takeout, swing by a yoga studio, wave at a neighbour at the post office and



debate where to get the best pizza because there's an abundance of good choice. Jeremy says his parents played an important role to shape his need to give back: his dad volunteered to flood the rink in winter in his community, his mom served on the school parent's council, and Jeremy grew up watching them show up for the place they lived. It stayed with him.

When asked what he hopes for Killarney's future, Jeremy points to three things: having people planting more native flowers, to see local businesses growth and contributing to the vibrant, sustainable community, while promoting thoughtful, long-term development. He believes that change and densification are inevitable, and if done well, it can add to community resiliency. It doesn't have to be at the expense of nature: with intention, he believes we can build better. He also hopes to see improved pedestrian safety through more cautious driving habits, especially in a neighbourhood full of young families.



When asked what grounds Jeremy most, he said the small, everyday moments with his kids, meeting friends through preschool, chatting at the playground, bumping into neighbours at the pool, and volunteering at events. These daily "collisions," as Jeremy calls them, turn a neighbourhood into a community. To Jeremy, Killarney already offers much of that balance: a place where land, people, and conservation don't just coexist but strengthen one another. So, if you see him and his family biking through the neighbourhood or planting native flowers in the garden, stop and say hi!

Thank you for taking the time to read our new series, Humans of Killarney. Share your story, your neighbour's story, or the story of inspiring community members with Humans of Killarney. Contact Titash Choudhury at titash.chodhury@gmail.com to nominate someone for Humans of Killarney.

As the KGCA celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, we're excited to deepen our commitment to the community by introducing new events, programming, and initiatives designed to connect us all.

Stay tuned for next month's issue!





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Learn more about the position at kgca.ca.

Submit questions and inquiries to pres@kgca.ca.



### **RENT THE HALL!**



The Killarney-Glengarry Community Hall is open for rental for any event. Whether it's a party, regular classes, a meeting, concert, or any other occasion, you can make it happen! Find more details about renting on our website at www.kgca.ca

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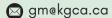
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