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Calgary Humane Society



Age-Friendly Calgary Essential Numbers for Seniors in Calgary

9-1-1 Emergency (24-Hour)

For EMERGENCY medical, fire, and police response. Call the non-emergency police line at 403-266-1234 to report an incident that is not an emergency.

8-1-1 Health Link (24-Hour)

Health advice (including dementia advice) from a registered nurse.

3-1-1 City of Calgary (24-Hour)

Information on all City of Calgary services. www.calgary.ca.

2-1-1 Community Resources (24-Hour)

Information and referrals for community and social services www.ab.211.ca.

403-SENIORS (403-736-4677) The Way In

Information, advice, and help accessing programs and benefits for older adults.

403-266-HELP (403-266-4357) Distress Centre and SeniorConnect (24-Hour)

Crisis support and urgent social work response (including if you are concerned about a senior at risk in the community).

403-943-1500 Access Mental Health

Non-urgent advice on navigating the addiction and mental health system.

403-705-3250 Elder Abuse Resource Line (24-Hour)

Confidential information and support, or to report a suspected case of elder abuse.

Telephone language interpretation service available on all lines.

GRANDPARENT SCAM ALER

WHAT IS THE SCAM?

Scammers are calling seniors claiming to be family members in need of immediate money for bail or hospital expenses.

The scammer will often send someone to the door to pick up payment.

BAIL FACTS:

- Police, lawyers, judges or jails do not call people to get money.
- Bail/fines are typically paid at a courthouse, police station or jail.
- Bail in Alberta is typically \$10-\$500.
- Bail can't be paid using gift cards.



"Court appointed" couriers don't exist. If someone asks to come to your home to pick up payment, it's a scam.



If it has to be now, it has to be no. Using fear or highpressure tactics are usually a red flag.



Always ask for proof of identification and call-back numbers. Talk to family, friends or other people you trust to help verify claims or requests.

CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

If you have lost money or the scam is in progress, contact the Calgary Police Service at 403-266-1234 To report a scam in general, contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501

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SCAN HERE TO VIEW ADDITIONAL RICHMOND / KNOB HILL CONTENT









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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."

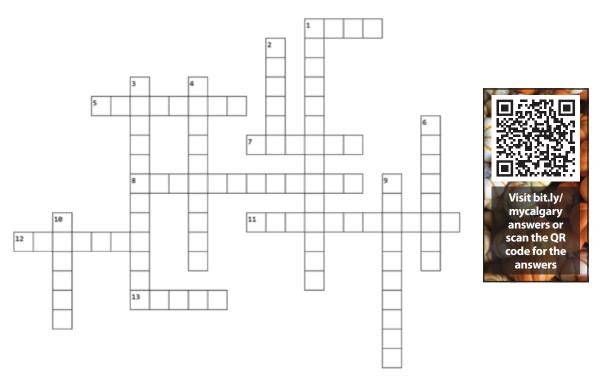
Additionally, frame your skills and qualifications in terms of how they can benefit an employer.

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.

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.
- 8. 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

- 1. 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.

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
- ½ tsp. crushed garlic
- ½ tsp. crushed ginger
- 1 tbsp. sesame seed oil
- 2 cups cooked white, brown, or black rice
- 1/2 avocado sliced

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 2. 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,





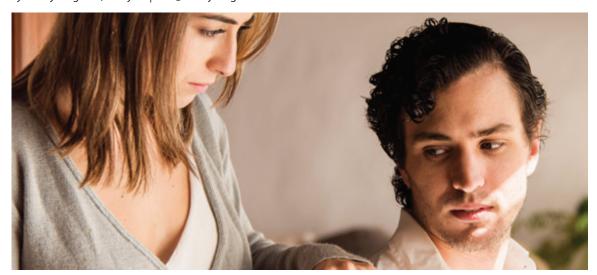
and cut into small chunks.

- 3. 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.
- 5. 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!

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.

Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary







Dobby, Hunterson Place

Guzel, Hunterson Place





Nelly, Dalhousie

Poppy, Tuxedo Park





Sugar, Signal Hill

Todd, Lake Chaparral

To have your pet featured, email news@mycalgary.com

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.



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.

RESIDENT PERSPECTIVES

Should You Buy a Starter Home or Invest in Your Forever Home?

by Virginia Cooper

For many Canadian homebuyers, the tension between buying a modest starter home and stretching for a forever home isn't just about square footage or location. It's about timing, risk tolerance, personal growth, and how you want your living space to evolve alongside your life. The decision runs deeper than budgets or bedrooms—it's a test of how well you know your own trajectory.

Leverage Smart Savings Before You Choose

First-time buyers often don't realize how much leverage they can gain from strategic tax shelters. With the introduction of the First Home Savings Account (FHSA), Canadians can now contribute up to \$8,000 annually up to a lifetime max of \$40,000—while gaining the dual benefits of tax-deductible contributions and taxfree withdrawals. That's a rare pairing. Used properly, tax-deductible accounts help Canadians buy faster by accelerating down payment growth without pushing you into a higher tax bracket. If your choice between starter and forever hinges on readiness, the FHSA can close the gap faster than you'd expect.

Tame the Paperwork with Mobile Tools

Homebuying in 2025 isn't just showings and signatures. It's paperwork across email chains, lender portals, insurance approvals, sometimes all in a single day. If you're working remotely or buying in a different province, keeping track of every document becomes critical. One overlooked friction-solver? Scanning key paperwork from your phone. There are features of a free scanner app that lets you digitize everything instantly mortgage pre-approvals, pay stubs, even handwritten notes from a home inspector, without needing a clunky printer-scanner setup.

Flexibility Often Beats Square Footage

Real estate markets don't wait for you to get settled. That's part of the problem, and the potential. If you're watching interest rates shift or waiting for new inventory, smaller homes can function as strategic footholds. They let you get in, observe from within, and make sharper decisions down the line. There's power



in mobility. In fact, many financial planners argue that starter homes offer agility that can't be matched by a long-term commitment too early.

What Business Owners Should Watch For

If you're running a business—especially from home housing decisions take on a different shape. It's not just about what you can afford; it's about how your home supports your work. Zoning laws, workspace comfort, client meetings, even write-offs. Founders and freelancers need to think beyond mortgage rates and ask what their home enables. A valuable breakdown of housing considerations for self-employed buyers highlights how the home you choose affects everything from tax planning to burnout risk. Entrepreneurs can't afford to misread the fine print on this decision.

Short-Term Moves, Long-Term Wealth

One of the most misunderstood advantages of a starter home is how it compounds wealth, not just saves money. Instead of viewing it as "throwaway square footage," consider how appreciation, modest renovations, and timing the next sale could become a lever. Buying low doesn't mean thinking small, it often means moving smart. Experts suggest that moving twice can build equity more efficiently than stretching into a forever home you can barely afford upfront. The second move is an upgrade backed by value.

There's no universal answer—only alignment. Starter homes buy you time, options, and mobility. Forever homes offer roots and rhythm. The right move depends on where you are, what you value, and how steady your vision feels. Be honest about that. Then act accordingly. That's not just buying smart; that's building a life.

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.







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

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

For business classified ad rates contact Great News Media at 403-720-0762 or sales@greatnewsmedia.ca

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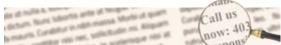
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