

# 12 COMMUNITY CONNECTOR magazine

quarterly news

SPRING  
2024



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Welcoming Abbeydale to  
the Community Connector!

Staying safe on the move!

Weekly events for all ages!

you're  
not  
alone

KidsHelpPhone.ca  
1 800 668 6868

Kids Help Phone

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# A MESSAGE FROM 12 CSI

Happy Spring, East Calgary!

We have a packed issue this quarter with lots of great safety information. We are excited 311 has added a call back feature as you will see later in this issue. We hope this will help you all when considering calling 311, knowing you won't have to wait on hold. Another interesting tid bit I learned is that if you use the 311 app on your smartphone, the request goes directly to the department involved, saving time to get your request actioned faster than calling.

As the weather gets better, it's time to start thinking about getting out into your community. As such we are excited to start scheduling Community Action Walks (CAT walks) in our 12 communities. Reach out to your community association and they can contact us to arrange it. We will invite decision makers like Bylaw and Police, depending on the issue your community has. As this is printing, we are doing one in Crossroads community at a pedestrian crossing on a busy roadway with City officials. We will be scheduling some in Erin Woods and Southview likely soon.

Street racing or stunting has become an issue in many of our communities. Often when people hear the car drive by, they don't report it as the car would be long gone. We recommend you make note of when you hear or see this activity over time, then bring the results to your community association who can pass it along to the CPS representative for the community association. The more data they have, the better they can help to solve the problem.

Our Ambassador team continues to be out on International Avenue and beyond helping people find help. They are here to help make your communities in the East Central Calgary safer and inclusive for all. If you see the "purple people" give them a wave and say hi.

Keep in touch with us on our social media channels. We will always provide the latest community and safety information to keep you up to date. Find us on Facebook, Twitter (x), YouTube and Instagram. Our YouTube channel has 164 subscribers, 130 videos, with the top video at over 2700 views. Join us today!

Always remember, "Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."



**LARRY LEACH**  
Executive Director 12 CSI

## REACH OUT!

 12 COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE  
UNIT 250, 3515-17 AVENUE SE

 on the web  
[www.12CSI.ca](http://www.12CSI.ca)

 GENERAL INQUIRIES  
[info@12csi.ca](mailto:info@12csi.ca)

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 [youtube.com/@12CSI](https://youtube.com/@12CSI)  
 [facebook.com/12CSI](https://facebook.com/12CSI)

 ADVERTISING INQUIRIES  
Larry Leach  
[larry@12csi.ca](mailto:larry@12csi.ca)

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the spirit of reconciliation, 12 Community Safety Initiative acknowledges the ancestral home, culture and teachings of the Treaty 7 nations, including the Siksika, Piikani, Kainai, Stoney Nakoda and Tsuut'ina. We also recognize the Métis people of the Alberta Region 3, Districts 5 and 6. We are grateful for the traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us.

**CONTENT**  
**DESIGN/LAYOUT**

**CONTRIBUTORS**  
12 CSI Committee  
Chris Kavanagh

**COVER PHOTO**

Ann Craig

# WELCOME!

## NEW BUSINESSES IN OUR COMMUNITY

Amber the Indian Cuisine

4303 - 17 Ave SE

Awet Convenience Store

3917 - 17 Ave SE

Big Guys Chicken

4715 17 Ave SE

Brar Indian Cuisine & Sweet House

#15, 5315 - 17 Ave SE

Bread & Rusk Bakery

122, 4909 - 17 Ave SE

Galitos Flame Grilled Chicken

150, 5115 - 17 Ave SE

Green Pizza

3908 - 17 Ave SE

Go Fresh Produce

5701 - 17 Ave SE

Maria's Kitchen and Grill

4, 1704 - 61 Street SE

Ostrich Breakfast house

1919D 31 Street SE

Sallora Yemini Restaurant

3920 17 Ave SE

Saigon Chef

3213 17 Ave SE

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# Abbeydale COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

abbeydalehallmanager@gmail.com  
abbeydalecommunity.ca

403-248-2229

PRESIDENT  
Phillip Lounsbury

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
821 Abbeydale Drive NE

Hello All,

It's a pleasure to be back in the 12 Community Connector Magazine, it's been a very long time.

We've had a whirlwind of changes going on at the Community Centre here in Abbeydale. For a bit more than a year, pretty close to the entirety of the Board of Directors and Executive are new. For all of us, it's been like drinking from a fire hose on what it takes to manage and maintain a community association.

The past year we had a major focus on creating events for the kids of the community as we've been seeing families asking and looking for such programs, from the Jellybean Dances, Nerf nights, Community gatherings and Breakfast with Santa, it's been fantastic to meet, visit and dine with our residents.

This year, we're working hard on creating programs for the youth here and adding some more connection events for seniors. All of these and the improvements that are starting at the hall are going to keep us all busy (like upgrading the lights on our rink) and help us make the hall into the central hub here in Abbeydale.

We do have a new website where we post all the major public events and we also regularly share updates and reminders on our Facebook page, with myself sharing a video update every Sunday.

Take care,

*Phillip Lounsbury*  
President

## EVENTS

### MARCH

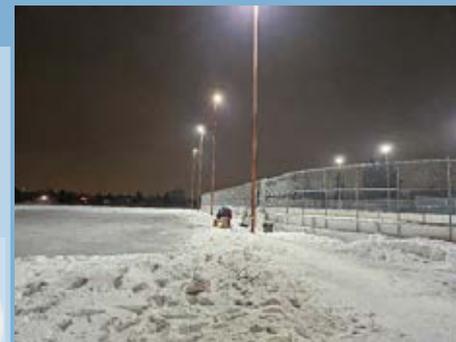
1<sup>st</sup>: Teen Drop-In Night 7-10pm  
22<sup>nd</sup>: Adult Nerf Night 8pm-12am

5<sup>th</sup>: Spring Jelly Bean Dance 6:30-9:30pm  
12<sup>th</sup>: Teen Drop-In Night 7-10pm  
26<sup>th</sup>: Pub Night (18+) 7pm-12am

### MAY

3<sup>rd</sup>: Spring Craft Fair 6-9pm  
4<sup>th</sup>: Spring Craft Fair 10am-3pm  
17<sup>th</sup>: Teen Drop-In Night 7-10pm

### APRIL



Both sheets of ice are now well lit for skating in the evenings, we used to only have lights on the hockey rink!



299 Erin Woods Drive SE  
Calgary AB. (403) 273-8919  
<http://eastcalgary.ca>

## **DID YOU KNOW**

This arena is owned by 7 local  
Community Association.

## **DID YOU KNOW**

Over 300 groups used this arena  
There are 6 major youth groups and 3 major adult leagues  
and we had 18 tournaments /events this year.  
PLUS . . .Our lounge, "The Capital Bar and Grill",  
is exceptionally successful.  
A great place for the whole family to watch the game

## **DID YOU KNOW in 2024**

The roof will be replaced and  
PUBLIC SKATING will have REGULAR slots,  
and please be prepared to volunteer at our  
one-and-only fundraiser.....  
our CASINO, September 9th and 10th, 2024

## **DID YOU KNOW**

Individuals can purchase an ECTAS membership for \$10.00.  
This entitles you to a voice to ensure  
the continuance of this facility.

### **Public Skating**

For dates and times, please check website or  
phone 403-273-8919





**erin  
woods**  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
83 ERIN PARK DRIVE S.E.  
CALGARY, ALBERTA T2B 3A2

erinwood@telus.net  
ewcacalgary.ca

403-273-7209

**PRESIDENT**  
Shannon Coleman

**COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
83 Erin Park Drive SE

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
2nd Monday at 7pm

Happy Spring! It seems like it's been an extremely nice winter, with not too many extremely cold days, thankfully. I hope everyone has been getting out and taking advantage of our ice rink to get in a skate or two! Our ice rink has seen plenty of use since our recent cold snap. Thank you to Rink Coordinator Jonathan Masri and his team, for all your hard work making and maintaining the ice for everyone to enjoy!

A special thank you to the Mighty 70th Scout for donating their time to help with Jonathan's rink team get the ice ready for the community to enjoy. Along with setting up a table at our children's Christmas party and donating the supplies and your time to make delicious marshmallow men, that everyone enjoyed.

The weather was pleasant on December 2nd for the Kids' Christmas Party, and everyone enjoyed the horse-drawn sleigh rides around the park, and then went inside for hot chocolate, coffee and snacks, as well as a visit from Santa! We had such an amazing turnout, which we loved seeing. EWCA sends a huge thank you to Champion Life Centre which provided donations of cookies, and hot chocolate, along with crafts for the kids. Along with our goodie bags for Santa to hand out to the children. They did all that, along with donating their time to decorate for the party and help out at the party. A special thank you to Victoria Quilts for donating all the hampers.

We were able to give out to families in need in our community this year. Thank you to all the volunteers who came out and made this such a successful event. Everyone in the community really appreciates everything you've done for us!

### **COMMUNITY FRIDGE PROJECT**

Our dedicated team will be breaking ground again as soon as it warms up enough to allow us to finish building our foundation. We are looking for volunteers in all areas of the project along with contributors to donations, to helping stock the fridge and pantry.

We are also looking for building supplies, and a fridge at low cost or donation. If anyone in the community has any recommendations or can donate any supplies, please feel free to reach out to Christina at 403-273-7209 or email erinwood@telus.net.

Community Fridges are spaces where anyone can access free, quality food that would otherwise go to waste, connect with others, learn about the environmental impact of food, and share knowledge and skills. Our next Community Fridge Meeting is February 22 @ 7:30 PM at the Community Hall.

### **CATwalks**

We are looking at possible dates to begin our CATwalks (Community Action Team) again in our neighbourhood. It is a program through the 12 Communities Safety Initiative. It is a walk designed to learn about the proper ways of reporting issues, and who to report them to. We also give out cards to homes that keep their small part of Erin Woods clean. More information will be posted on our new Erin Woods Community Associations Crime Watch page once we confirm a date to begin again.

### **EWCA BOARD MEETINGS**

They are usually the 2nd Monday of the month, 7 pm at the EWCA Hall @ 83 Erin Park Dr SE. Please consider supporting your community by becoming a member or continuing to renew your membership. Get involved by volunteering at events, on committees, or joining the Board of Directors, and help steer the direction of the community, which will continue to make it a great place to live. We are always looking for people to fill positions on our board and on our subcommittees - like help with the community garden or sign at the 3-way stop. If interested, please contact us. Any and all help is appreciated!

### **BINGO DATES**

March 15, May 15, July 9, and August 12 at the Bingo Palace (2600-35 Ave NE) - all volunteers receive a \$50 credit towards youth & sports programs. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us.

### **AGM**

The AGM will be held on Monday, May 13th at 7:00pm, at the Erin Woods Community Hall: 83 Erin Park Dr SE. We are currently looking for a new first vice president, secretary, and directors at large. Hope to see you there! There are many more projects our board is working on, and more information will be available in coming months.

We will be needing more volunteers to participate in upcoming events in order to make them larger, and even more successful. I am calling out to the community for people who want to help organize or lend a hand on the days of community events, like the Stampede Breakfast, the Community Cleanup, the Children's Christmas party, etc.

If you are interested in volunteering your time, please reach out to us at 403-273-7209 or email erinwood@telus.net. A huge thank you goes to all residents for their continued support of Erin Woods Community Association and the work we do. Hope to see you at our upcoming events!

**Shannon Coleman, President**  
Erin Woods Community Association

Reminder: there are both a Little Free Library and Little Free Pantries located at the EWCA Hall. Please donate to, or use, as you are able to, or need. These initiatives are stocked entirely by people like you in Erin Woods.



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## FREE ART WORKSHOPS

Upcoming free art workshops:

- March 11, 2024 - Journal Paper Making
- March 19, 2024 - Edible Art
- April 9, 2024 - Mexican Masks
- *\*\*more will be added for March-May*

To learn more or to register, visit: [www.iaacc.ca](http://www.iaacc.ca)

## Art Exhibit - April 3, 2024

The Artist In Residency Sponsorship Program for winter 2024 will be ending at the beginning of April. To help them celebrate their achievements there will be an art Exhibit featuring the masterpieces created, interaction with the artists, refreshments.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Wednesday April 3, 2024 6:00pm at Fuse33 Makerspace. For more information visit: [www.iaacc.ca](http://www.iaacc.ca)

## ARTIST CALL!!

Are you an artist who resides (or works) in Greater Forest Lawn? Then we are looking for you!

IAACC is seeking local to Greater Forest Lawn artists for:

- Teaching workshops (honorarium & supplies paid)
- To be part of Art Hives - monthly meetup of local artists
- To be part of the Greater Forest Lawn Artist Directory

For more information, email [finance@iaacc.ca](mailto:finance@iaacc.ca)

## YOU ARE INVITED.....





Calgary Marlborough  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

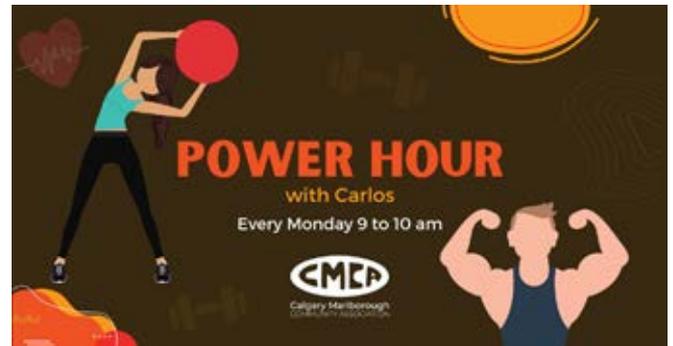
636 Marlborough Way NE, Calgary, AB T2A 2V9  
403-273-5894 info@calgarymarlborough.com  
CalgaryMarlborough.com



Calgary Marlborough  
**CHAIR  
YOGA**  
WEDNESDAYS  
10 - 11 AM

Hello Marlborough Community!

As the new season arrives, it's the perfect time to strengthen our community bonds. Joining the Calgary Marlborough Community Association is an incredible way to connect with your neighbours, make a positive impact, and contribute to the growth of our neighbourhood. By becoming a CMCA member, you gain access to a wide range of exciting programs, events, and resources. Additionally, we value the incredible contributions of our dedicated volunteers who bring our community to life. If you have a passion for service and want to make a difference, we encourage you to join our volunteer team. Together, let's create a spring season filled with warmth, unity, and community spirit.



**POWER HOUR**

with Carlos

Every Monday 9 to 10 am



Calgary Marlborough  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Calgary Marlborough Events

### March

6th	7pm	Community Meeting
15th	6:30-8pm	NERF Games
22nd	6-9pm	Jelly Bean Dance
30th	7 -11:30pm	Open Mic

### April

3rd	7pm	Community Meeting
12th	6:30-8pm	NERF Games
19th	6:30-9:30pm	Jelly Bean Dance
27th	7 -11:30pm	Open Mic

### May

1st	7pm	Community Meeting
10th	6:30-8pm	NERF Games
25th	7 -11:30pm	Open Mic



**GENTLE  
FITNESS**

EVERY FRIDAY, 9-10 AM  
at Calgary Marlborough  
Community Centre



**Tai Chi**

New program at Calgary  
Marlborough Community Centre

Tuesdays  
from 10:30-11:30 am



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SIGN UP NOW  
FOR YOUR  
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Calgary  
Marlborough

**SOCIAL  
WALKING  
GROUP**

Tuesdays, 8 - 10am

*Save the dates!*  
**2024**

- March 14 - St Patrick Breakfast
- March 28 to Apr 27 - Tax Clinic
- April 11 - Easter Breakfast
- April 18 - AGM
- May 11 - Mother's Day Tea
  
- Remember our Birthday Supper is the 4th Thurs of each month



# GFL55+S

## Adulting ... Your Way!

- Arts/Crafts
- Bingo
- Cards/Games
- Computers
- Dancing
- Dining
- Exercise
- Excursions
- Bike Shed & Men's shed
- Coffee & Conversation
- Meet New Friends
- Music, Jams, Choir
- Pool/Darts
- Pickleball
- Dinners



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**And much, much more!**



3425 - 26th Avenue SE,  
Calgary, AB T2B 2P2  
403-272-4661 [info@gfls.org](mailto:info@gfls.org)  
[www.gfls.org](http://www.gfls.org)



# Southview Community Association

southviewyyc.com  
southviewyyc@gmail.com

403-272-1407

**PRESIDENT**  
Wendy Whitehouse

**COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
2020-33 STREET SE

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
3rd Wednesday @ 7pm

## President's Message

This week, at the time of writing, the weather is fabulous. We hope that everyone gets out to enjoy the sunshine and warm weather before we get another cold snap.

We love to see people out skating and enjoying the outdoor rinks and, as much as we love the warm weather, the freeze and thaw situation does make it challenging for maintaining ice rinks. We ask for your patience and understanding when the weather doesn't cooperate.

And, as always, a big shout out to our rink coordinator who puts in many, many volunteer hours to maintain the ice rinks.

The Southview Garden Crew will be meeting again in March. If you'd like to join the Garden Crew to discuss all things gardening and beautifying the community, please email: southviewyyc@gmail.com - subject gardening.

We'd like to thank the Federation of Calgary Communities and Enmax for the Energizing Spaces grant that we received in late 2023 and all of the work that they do to support Calgary Communities.

The Southview Community Association is 100% managed and operated by volunteers. If you would like to share your skills and knowledge email southviewyyc@gmail.com - subject Volunteer.

## SOUTHVIEW WEEKLY EVENTS

### WEDNESDAY

**Dance Club Society**  
Main Hall  
7 PM  
**Contact** fsloan@shaw.ca

### THURSDAY

**Crib Night**  
Main Hall  
7 PM  
**Contact** blshelvet42@gmail.com  
403-803-3012

### SATURDAY 1st, 3rd, 5th

**Poker Night**  
West Hall  
7 PM  
**Contact** blshelvet42@gmail.com  
403-803-3012

### SUNDAY

**Antyx Community Art**  
Youth Art Programs  
East Hall  
**Register Online**  
www.antyx.org/youth-programs

## BOOK YOUR EVENT!

<b>Main Hall</b>	Fits 200 people	\$550 - \$800/day
<b>West Hall</b>	Fits 60 people	\$35/hour
<b>East Hall</b>	Fits 50 people	\$30/hour

**COMBINE ALL THREE ROOMS FOR 310 PERSON EVENT!**  
15% discount for Southview Community Association Members

### TO BOOK

Shannon Kelsick, Hall Manager  
403-272-1407  
SVCARentals@gmail.com



## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

**Twitter** @SOUTHVIEW\_YYC  
**Facebook** @SOUTHVIEWYYC  
**Instagram** @SOUTHVIEWYYC

# Kindergarten

## Info sessions & tours

For fall 2024 registration

Times & dates: [phoenixfoundation.ca](http://phoenixfoundation.ca)

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SAT, MAY 25

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# Marlborough Park Community Association

marlpark.ap@shaw.ca  
www.marlpark.ca

403-248-1775

## Community Message

PRESIDENT  
Kathy Canu

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
6021 Madigan Drive NE, T2A 5G9

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
2nd Wednesday at 7pm

Hello Marlborough Park Residents!

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and warm.

We are excited that we are open and having events at our hall once again. Watch for coming community events but if there is something you would like to see happen, come let us know at the board meetings on the second Wednesday of every month or call the office.

We are trying to track the street racing in our community. If you see or hear any street racing, please take note of the date and time. At the end of the month, you can send it into the hall and we will combine the data to show the police. You will be kept anonymous.

You can also call 311 to report any activity.

Stay safe,

**President Kathy Canu**

### MARLBOROUGH PARK PRESCHOOL NEWS

We are happy that our Preschool is fully operational with 2 exceptional teachers. We offer 2, 3 and 5 days a week from 9am to 11:30am, and from 12:15pm - 2:45pm. Subsidies available. We will be accepting registration for the 2024 - 2025 school year, starting April 8th, 2024. Please call 403-248-1775 for more information.

### GOOD FOOD BOX

<b>Paid by (to MPCA):</b>	<b>Box Arrival date:</b>
MARCH 12, 2024	MARCH 22, 2024
APRIL 16, 2024	APRIL 26, 2024
MAY 7, 2024	MAY 19, 2024

HALL RENTALS: If you are in need a space to hold meetings or gatherings, we offer various amenities for rent. For more information regarding price and spaces please call the hall at 403-248-1775 or drop by the hall at 6021 Madigan Drive NE.

## EVENTS

### ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS AT THE HALL FROM 1PM-3:30PM

- Monday: Drop-in Adult Pickleball
- Tuesday: Crib
- Wednesday: Loma Seniors Whist
- Thursday: Drop-in Adult Pickleball
- Friday: Crib



Bingo Palace, 2604-35 Ave. N.E.

April. 1	Mon.	4:30pm-9:00pm
April. 13	Sat.	10:30am -3:30pm
April. 21	Sun.	4:30pm-9:30pm
May. 8	Wed.	4:30pm-9:30pm
May. 18	Sat.	4:30pm-9:30pm

### MARCH

March 8/23 OPEN MIC NIGHT

### APRIL

April 12/24 OPEN MIC NIGHT

### MAY

May 10/24 OPEN MIC NIGHT  
Community Cleanup DATE UNKNOWN

### JUNE

June 21/24 OPEN MIC NIGHT  
Community Cleanu DATE UNKNOWN



# Welcome to Momentum

Ready to break some barriers? We offer low and no-cost programs in:

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- › Entrepreneurship
- › Financial Empowerment

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Call **403-272-9323** or visit **momentum.org**

100, 525 28th Street SE, Calgary, AB



## Albert Park/Radisson Heights Community Association

aprh@shaw.ca  
calgarycommunities./  
albert-park-  
radisson-heights-  
community-association

403-272-7317

PRESIDENT  
Nancy Kearney

COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION HALL  
2636-12 Avenue SE

Hello everyone in our great area of Calgary.

Well, you have probably heard the proposed development for David D Oughton has been presented and with that said, not to our liking. So, I called a meeting and thanks to Forest Lawn community we used their facilities. The meeting was very well attended, and the developer was there to explain what the type of housing will be built with an approx. 230 families be in that area. Can you imagine.

So, where is our community hall, education wing and our seniors independent living building? As I promised, I will battle for APRH. Neighbors have come forth so we will have a very nice size committee to visit city hall. Still room for more joiners if you wish. More bodies the better.

If any of you wish to send letters in support you can get the e-mail address from our office. Lots of people not happy with the closed-door meetings with city council. Also, we have another issue affecting APRH. The development of approx. 8 apartment buildings in the parking lot of Franklin station. Dumping grounds? We have to be very adamant that these are not wanted. More traffic in front of schools.

Now on a happier note: Spring isn't far off and gardening is in the air. Our plots are for rent. Also, quotes are in for the fencing of the complete garden, so we will not have the same problem as last year. We won't be having as many plants as last year as our green thumb is having some health issues, but she always comes through. The ice at the rink was here and gone. Nice weather took it out fast.

So, take care in your communities and you can follow us and our progress.  
Hope you are all well.

God Bless  
Nancy Kearney  
President APRH

Ann Craig FLOWERS



# CALGARY 311

## 311 Calgary introduces new call back feature to reduce on-hold wait times!

The City of Calgary has launched a new feature for its 24/7 services and information line. When you call 311, you'll be notified of the wait time, and you can choose to receive a callback if it is longer than 1 minute.

If the expected wait is longer than one minute, the system will advise on the estimated wait time before providing the option for a call back.

"This technology allows for 311 to strengthen our commitment and focus on providing enhanced customer service to our citizens," says Clarke Bellamy, Manager, 311, Customer Service & Communications. "We anticipate this new feature will provide additional options to callers that prefer not to wait on hold."

The call back feature is available on the 10-digit 403-268-CITY (2489) and 311 lines between the hours of 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., seven days a week.

These hours of operation experience the highest volume of call demand, often resulting in longer wait times.

The City of Calgary is the first 311 service in western Canada to offer a daily callback feature.

Contact 311 via mobile app and by phone for City information and non-emergency services, such as bylaw-related issues, snow removal concerns, potholes, street cleaning and tax account inquiries. Language translation and accessibility services are available.

Find out more at [calgary.ca/311](http://calgary.ca/311).

Spend less time  
on the line.



Calgary now offers a callback feature when you call 311.

# Perceptions of Safety on Calgary Transit Improving, New Survey Shows

Following focused investments by Council, Calgarians say they feel safer now than six months ago in and around Calgary's transit system, according to a perspectives survey on safety from The City of Calgary.

Of those surveyed, 72 per cent said they feel safe riding a CTrain during the day, up from 67 per cent in May 2023 when the survey was last conducted. Also up are the percentage of people who said they feel safer waiting at a CTrain station during the day (70 per cent in November compared with 64 per cent in May).

The survey results also show an increase in people feeling safe while riding a CTrain after dark (39 per cent in November compared to 33 per cent in May) and while waiting for a CTrain after dark (34 per cent in November compared to 27 per cent in May).

**When it comes to people feeling safer using the transit system overall, Calgarians continue to say they avoid taking the bus or CTrain due to safety concerns (49 per cent). These stats stayed relatively on par with those gathered in May of 2023 (47 per cent). Of note, Calgarians say they feel safer using our transit buses than riding the CTrain (75 per cent).**

“This is due to the coordinated community emergency winter response we have with our partners, like the Calgary Homeless Foundation and Calgary Police Service,” says Choi. “Gatherings at transit stations have so far decreased this winter over last winter by approximately 56 per cent, even with the extreme cold weather we just experienced.”

## THE FACTS

71 per cent of respondents continue to agree Calgary is an overall safe city. More specifically, 95 per cent feel safe walking alone in their community during the day; 75 per cent at night, and two-fifths (40 per cent) of Calgarians say Calgary is 'more safe' when compared to other large Canadian cities.

Along with perception of safety trending in the right direction, the number of reported incidents caused by social disorder (i.e. disturbances such as verbal fighting/insults, open drug use, overdoses/drug poisonings) on CTrains are also down. Between Oct. 1 and Dec. 15, 2023, a total of 3,450 social disorder incidents were reported compared to a total of 4,146 incidents reported between Oct. 1 and Dec. 15, 2022.



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# SAFETY FIRST

## ALWAYS IMPORTANT:

Stay alert about your surroundings wherever you are – know where you are and what's going on around you. Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable in a place or situation, leave right away and get help if necessary.

Carry your purse close to your body and keep a firm grip on it. Avoid theft by carrying your wallet in an inside coat pocket or front trouser pocket.

Get to know the neighbourhood and area where you live and work.

## ON YOUR FEET



Choose busy streets and avoid going through vacant lots, alleys, or other empty areas. At night, walk in well-lit areas whenever possible.

Try not to walk or jog alone. Take a friend. Regularly change your route. If you sense that you are being followed, go to the nearest place of business to seek help.

Don't walk and talk on your cell phone, listen to music, search in your purse, or do anything else where you are not paying attention and can easily be overpowered. It's a good idea to walk in the centre of the sidewalk away from any bushes.

## ON THE BUS



When using the bus, be sure to have your fare ready before you step on the bus.

Plan your route to use the busiest, best-lit stop possible, both to get on and off a bus.

Sit near the driver but not right next to the door and don't fall asleep as it can make you an easy target. Keep your purse, shopping bag, backpack, or other packages in your lap, on your arm, or between your feet.

## IN THE CAR



Always park in well-lit areas and approach your vehicle with your keys ready. Lock your doors and keep them locked. Keep valuables out of sight.

Be aware when getting into your car in a parking lot or parking garage. Look around you and in your car.

By being aware and taking responsibility, you can avoid being a victim of an assault and/or theft.

# WHAT TO DO WITH OLD, BROKEN, UNWANTED ITEMS?

There's always clutter that needs to get cleared out of closets, the basement and the garage, but do you know what to do with all those unwanted items?

## The search tool will let you know:

- ✓ What items can go in your blue, black and green bins
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- ✓ How to safely dispose of hazardous items

You can look up hundreds of different items from televisions, light bulbs, toys, bicycles, furniture and so much more. Try the What Goes Where tool today at [calgary.ca/whatgoeswhere](http://calgary.ca/whatgoeswhere).



  **GO** 

# BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR!

Help Improve Your Community

## TAKE CARE OF APPEARANCES

- ✓ Keep your yard clean and tidy. Discard trash and remove unnecessary items from around your house.
- ✓ Encourage your neighbours to keep their yards clean and tidy.
- ✓ Fix broken windows, doors, and fences. These are also safety issues.
- ✓ Call the bylaw department if you see old vehicles parked in yards or neighbours not cleaning up after pets.
- ✓ Take part in a community cleanup. These are usually free and a good way for you to meet your neighbours.

## GET INVOLVED!

Join **Block Watch** and look out for people damaging or stealing property from neighbours.

Join **Block Parent** and provide a safe place where a neighbour, especially a child, can go for help if hurt, lost, or afraid.

Join your community association!

## REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Report anyone hanging around a property when the residents are not at home.

Report any suspicious activity that may suggest a home is being used as a grow-op to SCAN (Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods) or 311. Look out for darkened windows; condensation on darkened windows; some rooms (usually basement) brightly illuminated all the time; skunk-like smells; humming or fan-like noises; houses that appear to be vacant; and children's toys in the yard but no children.

Report any suspicious activity that may suggest a home is being used to deal drugs to SCAN or 311. Look for cars frequently driving by slowly; graffiti on structures in the area; numerous short visits to the location by people in vehicles, on bicycles, or on foot; activity at odd hours; and occupants seeming unfriendly or secretive.

*Good neighbours build good communities.*

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**RIGHT:**  
32nd Street Mural

**BOTTOM:** Berries



**PHOTOGRAPH  
SUBMISSIONS:**

Ann Craig



# CFD

## Medical Response Unit to Help Offset Increase in Medical Calls

The Calgary Fire Department (CFD) today announced a second Medical Response Unit is now in service to help manage the increase in emergency medical first response calls.

These are dedicated, smaller vehicles that only respond to medical calls, freeing up our engines and other heavy apparatus to respond to other emergencies at our highest volume stations.

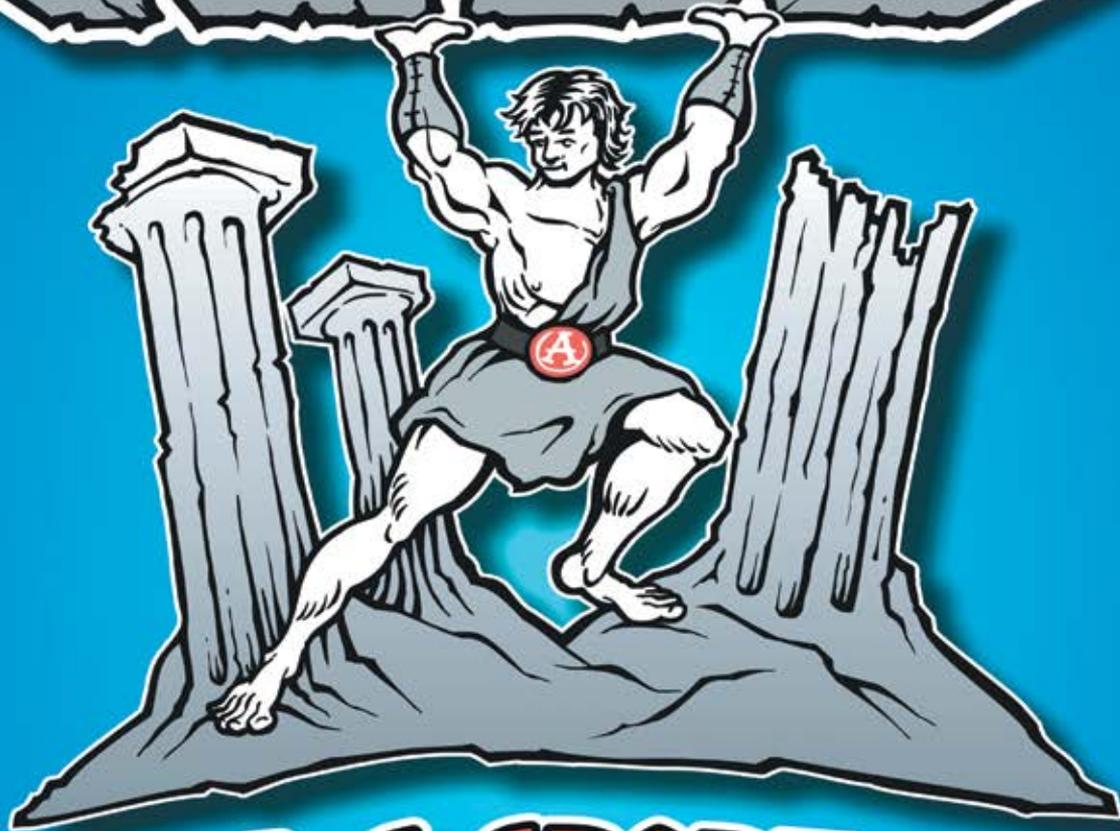
In 2023, CFD responded to 52,000 medical calls, which is up 18% compared to 2022, and represents over 55% of CFD's total 2023 annual call volume. Medical calls represent more than all other types of calls combined.

Each unit is staffed with two firefighters. The vehicles are not designed for patient transport. Firefighters remain with the patient until Alberta Health Services EMS arrive and often support them with patient care and transport throughout the call.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 1** Each year, CFD responds to over 70,000 fire and fire-related incidents, critical medical interventions, motor vehicle collisions, hazardous conditions, specialized technical rescues including water rescues, and calls for public service assistance.
- 2** CFD has 43 fire stations and 1,415 firefighters providing life-saving emergency assistance to Calgarians and visitors across 848 square kilometres.
- 3** It is anticipated that these Medical Response Units will collectively respond to approximately 10,000 calls in 2024.
- 4** The number of responses to opioid calls in 2023 was 45% higher than in 2022 (4,765 vs. 6,889).

# ATLAS



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