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# Boyle McCauley News

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VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1979

## Agreement is a Community Win

*Legally enforceable agreement will guide Boyle Street Community Services' development.*

**PHIL O'HARA**

It was like a high stakes courtroom drama.

Minutes before a hearing on May 31st, 2023 to review the relocation of Boyle Street Community Services (BSCS) to McCauley, community stakeholders and BSCS signed an agreement outlining conditions for operating the okimaw peyesew kamik (King Thunderbird Centre).

Since BSCS's proposed relocation to the corner of 107A Avenue and 101st Street was announced in December of 2021, a loose coalition of community stakeholders has opposed the move. These included the Chinatown and Area Business Association (CABA), Chinese Benevolent Association of Edmonton (CBA), McCauley residents, and parents of students attending Victoria School.

According to McCauley resident Anna Bubel, "Resistance and persistence allowed us to hammer out a deal. Boyle Street promises not to operate a drop-in or safe injection site at that site. That's a win."

BSCS's Executive Director, Jordan Reininger, agrees it's a win-win.

"We are excited that we were able to agree with the community to conditions on this iteration of our development permit application for okimaw peyesew kamik (King Thunderbird Centre). These conditions clarify our intended uses under this development permit, and our commitment to apply for a new development permit for any changes to how we would use the building in the future. We believe



The building where BSCS will open the okimaw peyesew kamik (King Thunderbird Centre) on 101st Street and 107A Avenue. Leif Gregersen

the okimaw peyesew kamik will be an important part of the solution to many of the challenges community members from all walks of life are facing.

"We hope this agreement with the community begins a new chapter of collaboration as we work together to ensure a better future for everyone in the neighbourhood."

Unfortunately, no one from the CABA or CBA was available for comment by the time of the deadline for this issue of the paper.

Michelle Patterson Nipp has an eight-year-old son attending Victoria School. She, along with two students from the school, presented their concerns to the SDAB (Subdivision and Development Appeal Board) hearing.

"The over-concentration of services near Victoria School has led to an increasing number of unsafe interactions for students. That's why members of the school community came together as the Victoria School Parent Coalition and worked with other local groups to appeal the development.

"We're relieved that the SDAB ruled in our favour and that the conditions of their recently approved development permit prevent Boyle Street from operating a drop-in."

Last November, the SDAB overturned the issuing of a development permit to BSCS. The agency revised its plans and resubmitted them to the City. When a new development permit was issued to BSCS in January of 2023, community stakeholders again

appealed the decision to the SDAB.

With the second appeal to the SDAB pending, BSCS and community stakeholders signed a legally enforceable agreement that outlines conditions that will guide BSCS's development.

The SDAB set a legal precedent in its decision by linking the issuing of a development permit to the agreement on conditions. Unlike Good Neighbourhood Agreements, this deal with BSCS is legally enforceable because the agreement has been integrated into the SDAB decision.

*Phil O'Hara is a long-time McCauley resident. He was part of the loose coalition of community stakeholders opposing BSCS's relocation to McCauley.*



### New OFSS Community Distribution Centre

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### THE MEASURE OF A YEAR

“In a way, every day has elements of stepping out into the unknown. Those little steps can add up.

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### LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

“Our goal is to premiere the short film next summer and we can't wait to update you along the journey.

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### ANSGAR LUTHERAN CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

“Ansgar Lutheran is very much a testament to the continuing existence of a Danish community in Edmonton.

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# The Measure of a Year



PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

## MCCAULEY MUSINGS

My mind sometimes wanders and tries to recall what was happening a year ago on approximately the same date. What was I doing? Who was I with? How was I feeling?

Somehow a year represents a benchmark for expectations of change. Usually something has changed within a year, but a lot can stay the same too. As well, sometimes things that change, whether good or bad, are beyond our control. What we can control is how we roll with those changes. What we learn from changes that disrupt our lives can be lessons that we carry forward as we continue to deal with challenges that life throws our way.

When one door closes, another opens - many of us have heard that saying

before. However, instead of entering through the newly-opened door, some of us try to pry the old one open, and when that doesn't work, we take a crowbar to the window and try to crawl in that way.

Why can we be so resistant to change? Sticking with the comfortable and familiar can feel natural. Sitting with discomfort is, well, uncomfortable. But it's that discomfort that sometimes moves us forward closer towards where we are supposed to be. And on an intellectual level, many of us know this, even as we try to continue to cling to the past.

So, the next time you're tempted to stay where you are or even move backwards in the face of change, ask yourself: where was I last year? Where do I want to be in a year? What can I do now to make that happen? Chances are, it will require making the uncomfortable choices.

In a way, every day has elements of stepping out into the unknown. Those little steps can add up. A lot can happen in a year. Or not. The choice - at least of what is within our control - rests with us.

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to our August-September 2023 edition. We've got a lot of community news and events in this issue. We have also been publishing actively on our website and social media.

If you are part of the online world, visit [bmcnews.org](http://bmcnews.org) to read website exclusives and to subscribe to our free e-newsletter. It is delivered directly to your inbox when we publish a new issue. You can also follow us on social media: we're @bmcnews on Facebook and Twitter, and @bmcviews on Instagram.

New volunteers are always welcome. We are always looking for people who

write, take photos, deliver papers, proofread, and work casinos. Our next casino - our biggest fundraising event - is scheduled between January and March of 2024. If you're interested in volunteering for a shift (or two) or have any other volunteer-related questions, send me a message at [editor@bmcnews.org](mailto:editor@bmcnews.org).

Do you love *Boyle McCauley News* and want to see it thrive? Perhaps you would like to become a member of the non-profit society that oversees the operations of the paper. It's free to join and you will occasionally receive notices and information. The sign-up page is here: [bmcnews.org/membership](http://bmcnews.org/membership).

Enjoy the rest of your summer. See you again in October.

## OUR NEXT ISSUE. . .

Volume 44, Issue 5 will be published October 1st, 2023. Articles and photos concerning community news, events, and opinions are welcome. We also accept submissions of poetry and cartoons. Deadline: September 12th, 2023. Send submissions to: [editor@bmcnews.org](mailto:editor@bmcnews.org). Articles should be 400 words or less and accompanied by photographs (JPG, in high resolution) whenever possible.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do you want to respond to something that you read in these pages or that is going on in the community? Share your thoughts with a Letter to the Editor. Send your letters to [editor@bmcnews.org](mailto:editor@bmcnews.org). Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and may be edited for length or clarity. Publication is not guaranteed. The deadline for letters for our next print issue is September 12th, 2023.

# Boyle McCauley News

Boyle McCauley News is a non-profit newspaper published six times yearly by the Boyle Street McCauley Community Newspaper Society. The Society is made up of the people who live and work in the Boyle Street and McCauley neighbourhoods.

Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors. Any submissions may be subject to editing for length and suitability.

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9613 - 111 Avenue NW, Edmonton AB, T5G 0A9

P: (780) 425-3475 E: [info@bmcnews.org](mailto:info@bmcnews.org)

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## STAFF

### EDITOR

Paula E. Kirman  
[editor@bmcnews.org](mailto:editor@bmcnews.org)

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Colleen Chapman, Paula E. Kirman  
[volunteer@bmcnews.org](mailto:volunteer@bmcnews.org)

### LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Vikki Wiercinski  
[design@bmcnews.org](mailto:design@bmcnews.org)

### ADVERTISING

Vikki Wiercinski  
[ads@bmcnews.org](mailto:ads@bmcnews.org)

### ACCOUNTING

Rosalie Gelderman

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Our goal is to report issues fairly and provide a variety  
of perspectives on issues affecting this community.  
The opinions expressed in Boyle McCauley News  
are those of the people named as the authors of the  
articles, and do not necessarily reflect those of the  
Board, staff, or Editorial Committee of the paper.

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- **Stay informed & get involved:** [safermccauley.ca](http://safermccauley.ca) and on Facebook @safermccauley



# Advocating and Listening

**JANIS IRWIN**

Friends,

As we move into August, I've been enjoying the warm weather, sunshine, and beautiful outdoor spaces here in Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood. I've also been lucky enough to connect with many of you at community events this summer, and I'm looking forward to more opportunities to join you as the summer continues.

In my last letter, I mentioned that the provincial election was right around the corner. Now, a few months later, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for once again putting your faith in me to represent you, your families, and our communities over the next four years. I am so excited to use this time to work with you to keep building a better future for our neighbours in Boyle Street, McCauley, and across the communities I serve.

I'm also truly honoured to have been named the Official Opposition Housing Critic. I asked our leader Rachel Notley for this role, as I know just how critical this issue is for my constituents. Many of you have shared with me that the lack of affordable, accessible, and safe hous-

ing is one of the biggest issues that our communities face. I believe that housing is a human right, and that it demands will and collaboration from all orders of government. I'm committed to do all I can to push for better for our unhoused neighbours and for all who are impacted by the housing crisis.

As I said the last time I wrote to you, I know that we have a long way to go toward building an equitable, kind, and supportive province for all Albertans. I will keep advocating and I will keep listening, and I'm so honoured that you've again given me the opportunity to continue this work together with you.

Whether it's on housing, health-care, education, or any issues that are top of mind for you, I want to hear from you. Please reach out, and know that as always, I'm here.

Take good care of yourselves and each other.

*Janis Irwin, MLA for  
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood*

*Email: [Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca)*

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## Where to Find Boyle McCauley News

*Boyle McCauley News is delivered by our volunteer Block Carriers (in McCauley) and Apartment Ambassadors/Condo Connectors (in Boyle Street) to approximately 2500 homes in the area.*

**If you do not receive the paper at your home, there are numerous places where you can pick up a copy:**

### NEWSPAPER BOX LOCATIONS

10844 95 Street (near Sorrentino's)  
86 Street & Jasper Avenue (by Riverside Towers)  
Boyle Street Plaza (by main entrance)  
97 Street & 103 Avenue (near Farmers Market)  
97 Street & 107 Avenue (near Lucky 97)

### BUSINESSES

We also drop off copies at a number of businesses in and around the area, including:

<b>Sprucewood Library</b> (11555 95 St.)	<b>Tony's Pizza</b> (9605 111 Ave.)
<b>Felice Cafe</b> (10930 84 St.)	<b>Italian Centre</b> (10878 95 St.)
<b>Panini's</b> (8544 Jasper Ave.)	<b>Zocalo</b> (10826 95 St.)
<b>The Moth</b> (9449 Jasper Ave.)	<b>Paper Birch Books</b> (10825 95 St.)
<b>Lucky 97</b> (10725 97 St.)	<b>Boyle McCauley Pharmacy</b> (10817 95 St.)

### VOLUNTEER TO DELIVER THE PAPER

**Would you like to volunteer to help deliver the paper to your block or building?**

**Contact [editor@bmcnews.org](mailto:editor@bmcnews.org) for more information.**

# New Owners at Van Loc

*Maintaining tradition while planning for the future.*

## ANITA JENKINS

For over two decades Van Loc café in Chinatown (10648 – 98th Street) served the delicious Vietnamese sandwiches called banh mi. Two entrepreneurs in their 30s, Wilson Wong and William Chen, took over the business in January of 2023 after the previous owner retired.

Boyle McCauley News had the opportunity to interview Wong, who handles public relations and marketing while Chen is more involved with the menu and food service. This energetic and enthusiastic pair are using most of the original recipes and suppliers, and maintaining the shop's traditional Asian décor, including shrines. At the same time, they are also full of ideas about changes that will move the business forward.

Wong has been promoting Van Loc on Instagram every day since January 19th. He posts on TikTok, and he has been able to land interviews with local media, including Global and CTV.

Wong says their goal is to build something fresh and new in a community that he describes as "tired but full of potential."

"I believe in Edmonton and I believe in Chinatown," Wong says. Wong and Chen are doing as much as they can to support the revitalization of Chinatown. They also support the Front Row Foundation, a charity that provides tickets to concerts and shows to people who could not otherwise attend.

When asked who the customers are,



William Chen (left) and Wilson Wong serving up coffee at Van Loc. Paula E. Kirman

Wong says, "Everyone." He and Chen are trying to attract youth by organizing social activities for them. Elders who patronized the business in the past are also giving the new version of Van Loc a thumbs up. People with low incomes appreciate a menu that can offer lunch for under \$10. "They are coming in several times a week. If the prices were higher, it would be once a week," Wong says. Allowing customers to use credit cards, which is not always the case in Chinatown cafés, is also a draw for people who rarely use cash.

Wong and Chen are paying their staff above minimum wage. The people behind the counter and in the kitchen are mostly students between the ages of 18 and 22. They can speak many different languages (some are international students), which is also a draw for quite a few customers in this part of the city.

"Try us out, give us a shot," Wong says.

**Anita Jenkins is a retired writer and editor who lives in Boyle Street.**

## The Back Story

Wilson Wong and William Chen met when they were second-year students at MacEwan University. Wong was enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts program with a major in Psychology and a minor in Business. Chen was working towards a Bachelor of Commerce in International Business. They found they had a lot in common and soon became best friends. They are both Vietnamese Canadians and Edmontonians. Their parents, who were refugees in the 1980s, established restaurant businesses in Chinatown. So entrepreneurship and Asian food – including banh mi – are in their genes.

"I tried a job in insurance and banking," Wong says, "to have more financial stability. Several of my friends were getting married and having kids, and I saw that they needed a secure income to support their families. I committed to three years to give it a fair try, but it was not a good fit. I enjoy the freedom and risks of entrepreneurship."

The writing was on the wall for Wong as early as age 18. "I was a salesperson for Cutco Knives," he says - "making phone calls, visiting people in their homes, getting referrals, making a presentation, and then closing the deal."

# Lights, Camera, Action!

*Big news from Heart of the City.*

## JACQUELINE DUTTENHOFFER

Heart of the City is making a movie! It will be a short documentary, to be specific. We intend to include as many memorable moments from over the years as possible. We will also include community members, community sponsors, and previous board members who have helped in the continuing success of Heart of the City Festival Society.

We are always accepting new members and volunteers. If you

would like to be a part of this project we would love to hear from you! Our goal is to premiere the short film next summer and we can't wait to update you along the journey.

The board has been busy with this year's theme, Reboot, and would like to extend a thank you to our central artist for 2023, Elliot Taylor. Check out our website and socials to see Elliot's amazing artwork!

We would also like to thank The Canadian Native Friendship Centre for inviting us to their

Indigenous Peoples Day festival at Borden Park on June 17th. We had an absolute blast at our tie-dye workshop. Despite the rain and the overcast weather, over 150 Heart of the City t-shirts were tie-dyed!

We also had the opportunity to pop up at the Edmonton Downtown Farmers Market on July 1st. We spent the day on the second floor next to the Indigenous Artists Collective Market crafting and creating photo booth props for the market's selfie booth. We are always so grateful for the ongoing sup-

port from our fellow community organizations.

We have so much more in the works, and as always, we are looking to add local and emerging artists and volunteers to our roster for upcoming events. You will find all updates and upcoming events on our website and social media. Our website is [www.heartcityfest.com](http://www.heartcityfest.com), and we're @heartcityfest on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

**Jacqueline is the Producer and Director of Marketing and Communications with HOTC.**



# Impactful Results of Edmonton's Problem Property Initiative

Problem properties are occupied or vacant unsecured properties that have serious negative impacts on the well-being of the surrounding community, as well as the people living or working in them. They cause frequent and serious safety concerns and complaints to the City of Edmonton.

In December of 2022, City Council provided Edmonton's Problem Property Initiative (PPI) with permanent funding to implement its 2023 - 2026 long-term strategy and expand its resources to address problem properties. Since then, the new strategy has had several impactful results, including decreased fires at derelict properties, streamlined demolition of derelict buildings, and increased inspections at high risk residential properties. In 2024, a tax subclass will be introduced to triple taxes at derelict properties where owners have not taken accountability for the conditions.

## Property Clean-Ups

One very visible example of the PPI's new strategy is the increased clean up of properties that present significant, often unsecured hazards to the surrounding area. In these cases, the PPI can order the property owner to clean up the property. If the owner does not



A before and after look at the cleanup of a problem property in McCauley. Marko Skendzic

comply, the PPI can undertake the clean-up itself and hold the owner accountable for the costs incurred by the City. This process has been particularly noticeable in McCauley, where several properties destroyed by fire have recently been cleaned up by the PPI.

These clean-ups take several days and require the coordination of multiple agencies and contractors to remove an average of 120,000 pounds of debris and backfill the property with clean dirt.



## PPI Meet and Greets

Another example of the PPI's new strategy is increased communication and engagement with community members affected by problem properties.

This spring, the PPI hosted a series of Meet and Greets across north central Edmonton, to strengthen relationships with community members and increase awareness of its strategy and new resources.

Each Meet and Greet featured a presentation and question and answer session, followed by an opportunity for community members to chat directly with PPI personnel. The three events were attended by 210 people, including 157 community members from 26 neighbourhoods. Community members were invited to provide feedback about the event and the work of the PPI.

- 94% reported that the events increased their knowledge of how the City and its partners address problem properties.
- 88% reported that the events gave them confidence that the City has a good strategy to address problem properties.
- 51% reported that they were beginning to see the impact of the PPI's new teams and resources in the neighbourhood where they live or work.
- 87% registered to receive information through a PPI newsletter.

To learn more about the Problem Property Initiative, visit [edmonton.ca/ProblemProperties](http://edmonton.ca/ProblemProperties).

*Information provided by the City of Edmonton.*

## New Street Blades for Okîsikow (Angel) Way



New street blades are unveiled during Okîsikow (Angel) Way Day on June 14th. Okîsikow (Angel) Way, located along 101A Avenue between 96th and 97th Streets, was named in 2011 to raise awareness of victims of gender-based violence, including women, children, and gender-diverse people. Okîsikow is the Cree word for "angel." Paula E. Kirman

## OFSS Opens a Community Distribution Centre



Staff and board members of the Operation Friendship Seniors Society (OFSS) take part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the grand opening of OFSS's new Community Distribution Centre, located at Alliance Manor (10403 95th Street), on May 26th. The Distribution Centre offers OFSS residents and community seniors access to clothing, toiletries, and housewares at no cost. Items at the Donation Centre are donated to be distributed to people in need. Paula E. Kirman



## MCCAULEY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

# McCauley Community League AGM Report

## CORINE DEMAS

Here is a look at the various activities of the McCauley Community League (MCL) over the past year. A version of this report was presented at our AGM on June 28th.

With the help of employees Dan Glugosh and Albert Bernard, we ran the rink's drop-in skating program. The connections that were made and relationships built at the rink are very important to our community.

We successfully ran our casino and look forward to utilizing the funding we will be receiving. Thank you to our volunteers and to Colleen Chapman for organizing.

Here is a report on the soccer program, prepared by Suzan Gluko:

*The McCauley Soccer Program has had a bustling past year, hosting both an indoor and outdoor season. The McCauley Community League, under the leadership of Allan Suarez (the head coach) and parent volunteers, had kids from age 4 up to age 11 receive training in soccer along with fundamental physical skills and fun games.*

*This program is so much more than soccer itself. It facilitates community and connections to families. The program is premised on being accessible to all. It does not charge fees for participation and welcomes all families within McCauley and beyond.*

During the past year we held a few successful events, including Community League Day where we heard many bands play and saw demonstrations of martial



From left: MLA Janis Irwin, McCauley musician Dana Wylie, and the MCL's Corine Demas at the Family Day party on February 19th. Paula E. Kirman

arts. At the event we handed out 450 hot dogs and served other refreshments. We hosted a holiday skating party with hot chocolate and hot dogs. There was a sleigh ride, food, and the music of Dana Wylie at our Family Day party, and we hosted a very successful New Year's Eve bonfire and skating party with hot chocolate and other refreshments.

Our largest and most successful annual event almost didn't happen this time around. We were told last minute by the Edmonton Police Service that they would not be co-hosting the McCauley Cup, the annual hockey game between EPS and community kids. However, our

rink manager Dan Glugosh got on the phone and made a few calls to ensure that the event went on. The weather was beautiful. With over 356 cops, kids, and community members in total, the event was a wonderful success. It is confirmed that we will be hosting the McCauley Cup in December of 2024.

This year the League made the difficult choice to appeal the move of Boyle Street Community Services to our neighbourhood due to lack of community engagement on the part of Boyle Street Community Services. With support from other individuals and organizations, the appeal was successful. [Please see the

cover story in this issue for more details.] With the help of Reach Edmonton, we executed the "Light Up McCauley" initiative, in which we gave out lights to community members.

We plan to do another round of "Light Up McCauley" in the future, with the support of Reach Edmonton. We will continue to work toward securing a building for our neighbourhood. We plan to have another New Year's Eve Skating party. The McCauley Cup, and parties for Family Day and Community League Day are also on the schedule. In addition, we plan to develop programming for seniors and families who live in the neighbourhood.

Sarah Pearson, John Gee, and I, Corine Demas, joined the board in 2022. Also remaining on the board are Rickard Enstroem and Kevin Jones. Joining the board this year are: David Williamson, Ruth Sorochoan, Imai Welch, Dale Johnson, Beth Storheim, Crista Ferland, and Misty Wells.

We wish to thank supporters of the League including Sports Central, Bijou, Zocalo, the Italian Centre, Boyle McCauley News, E4C, Reach Edmonton, City of Edmonton, Edmonton Police Service, the Pagnotta and Mannarino families, and Canadian Tire. On behalf of the board, I would also like to thank all of our stellar volunteers.

*Corine Demas is the Interim President of the McCauley Community League.*

## A Performance in the Park




Theatre Prospero's Mythic Quest Adventures team did a pop-up performance in Giovanni Caboto Park on June 29th. Paula E. Kirman

## National Indigenous Peoples Day at Bissell



Bissell Centre hosted events for National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21st, including pow wow dancing. Paula E. Kirman







PROUD TO SERVE  
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Councillor

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Come and celebrate!

Everyone welcome!

100th Anniversary of Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church



COMMUNITY STREET PARTY & OPEN HOUSE

Serving traditional Danish pork roast sandwiches and beverage (\$5.00)  
Free hot dogs  
Facepainting, storytelling, balloons and popcorn for the kids  
AC- Dixie Jazz Band  
Introduction of the Church and the new church organ  
Two mini concerts • Evensong at 7:00 pm.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 16TH**  
**4PM - 7PM • 9554 – 108A AVE**



Well  
played.

Eleven-year-old flutist Grace is a proud member of the Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta. With funding from Edmonton Community Foundation, YONA-Sistema is helping young people living in priority neighbourhoods learn social skills, receive support, succeed academically, and gain confidence through music.

Donations to ECF inspire hope, create opportunity and enhance the Edmonton lifestyle. We work with our donors to give, grow and transform.  
[ecfoundation.org](http://ecfoundation.org) hits all the right notes.



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# Ansgar Lutheran Celebrates 100 Years

Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church (9554 108A Avenue) will celebrate a significant anniversary on Saturday, September 16th and Sunday, September 17th. We are pleased and proud to be celebrating our little church's 100th birthday!

The present Church was built 1940-42, at a very difficult time in history. Funds were hard to find during the war years, but the many skilled craftsmen in our congregation, supported by many skilful women, were able to build the church with a bank loan. The unique frame and stucco structure of the church was built according to Danish architectural design, with the noticeable step design over the entrance and at the side of the gable roof. The parsonage was built next door at the same time.

Ansgar Lutheran is a testament to the continuing existence of a Danish community in Edmonton. Our church has been a place for Danish immigrants

and their descendants for about 100 years and has maintained many Danish traditions, both religious and secular. Although originally established as a Danish immigrant church, many others who feel that our church has given them a safe place to gather and hope in a world full of struggles have joined us. Ansgar's doors are open to anyone who wishes to join in our services.

On Saturday, September 16th, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., bring your family and come enjoy a Street Party outside the church with entertainment for kids and adults, food for all, and lots of music. We'll also have an Open House in the church to show off our new pipe organ and introduce it with a couple of mini concerts. The day will finish off with a brief Vespers service at 7 p.m. in the evening. Come and have some fun and see what we're doing to maintain and beautify our little Church!

*Information submitted by Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church.*

## EDMONTON INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

# Ribbon Rouge Foundation (RRF)

*The Edmonton Intercultural Centre (EIC) is a community full of love, caring, and support. In this and future articles, we will inform readers of the non-profit organizations operating in the EIC facility in order to bring light to their many good deeds.*

Ribbon Rouge Foundation (RRF) was selected in February of 2023 by the Edmonton Intercultural Centre's Board of Directors to occupy a rare office space vacancy in the EIC facility. The EIC welcomes RRF as a Member Tenant and is looking forward to working with this fine and progressive organization.

Ribbon Rouge Foundation (RRF) is a non-profit organization with a primary mission to achieve health equity for African, Caribbean, and Black (ACB) people across Alberta. They strive to achieve equity and improved opportunities for Black people experiencing poor-

er outcomes because of racialized health disparities. Their grassroots organization facilitates storytelling, advocacy, networking, and community-engaged arts to create transformative system change.

RRF supports highly vulnerable ACB clients, focusing on people who identify as 2SLGBTQ+, have substance use issues, and are at risk of living with sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBIs), mental health issues, and experiencing incarceration. They take an asset and strengths-based approach that seeks to enhance the gifts and wisdom of community members, volunteers, and stakeholders.

For more information about RRF please visit their website at [ribbonrouge.com](http://ribbonrouge.com).

*Information provided by the Edmonton Intercultural Centre.*



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Edmonton



# Community Classifieds

NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTS GET FREE CLASSIFIED ADS! EMAIL FIVE LINES OR LESS TO [EDITOR@BMCNEWS.ORG](mailto:EDITOR@BMCNEWS.ORG)  
WE FIT AS MANY ADS HERE AS WE CAN. FOR MORE CLASSIFIEDS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [BMCNEWS.ORG](http://BMCNEWS.ORG)

## CHURCH AND AGENCY SERVICES

**BISSELL CENTRE**  
780-423-2285 x 111 (General Inquiries)  
**Community Space:** Closed to support operations at the Edmonton Convention Centre.  
**Bissell Centre Early Childhood Development Program**  
9331-105 Avenue Edmonton Alberta T5H 4E4  
780-429-4126  
Operating Hours: Monday to Friday full-time care 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Lunch provided by parents; centre provides a.m. and p.m. snacks  
FREE Drop-in/respite spaces available Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Spaces are limited, please call ahead to reserve a space for your child.

**RADIUS COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HEALING (Formerly Boyle McCauley Health Centre)**  
10628 – 96 Street  
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Dental: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Streetworks during clinic hours.

**BOYLE STREET COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
10116 – 105 Avenue  
(780) 424-4106  
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Youth night: Wed. 4-7 p.m.  
Adult Drop-In open all day – 8:30 – 4:30  
Lunch: Monday-Friday at 11:30  
Free repairs for eyeglasses every Monday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; housing, family, youth, mental health and outreach programs available.

**INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY**  
10527-96 St. NW  
(780) 424-7652  
Pastor Quinn Strikwerda  
Pastoral Assistants: Jim Gurnett & Michelle Nieviadomy  
Sunday Service: 11 a.m. - noon  
Take-away snack bags Sunday at noon.  
Visits and other pastoral services on request.  
[info@icpmedmonton.ca](mailto:info@icpmedmonton.ca)

**THE ROCK OUTREACH**  
11004 – 96 Street NW  
Phone (780) 426-1122  
Breakfasts: Tuesday to Thursday 7-9 a.m.  
Kids Club: Third Monday of the Month

**THE SALVATION ARMY**  
**Edmonton Centre of Hope**  
12520 140 Avenue  
(780) 244-2962  
Transitional Housing, Addictions Recovery, Stabilization, and Supported Housing.  
**Transitional Housing for Downtown**  
9304 103A Avenue  
(780) 428-4405  
For more information: [www.salvationarmyedmonton.org](http://www.salvationarmyedmonton.org)

**THE MUSTARD SEED**  
10635 – 96 Street  
(780) 426-5600  
The Mustard Seed Church Food Bank Depot is open Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The drop-in is permanently closed. For more information, call The Mustard Seed at (780) 426-5600 or visit: [www.theseed.ca](http://www.theseed.ca)

**HOPE MISSION**  
9908 106 Avenue  
(780) 422-2018  
**HOPE MISSION MEALS:**  
Monday - Friday

Breakfast 7:30 - 8:15 a.m.  
Lunch 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.  
Supper 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.  
Weekends & Holidays  
Brunch 10:45 am - 11:30 a.m.  
Supper 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

**HOPE MISSION SHELTER:**  
Men, Women, Youth  
Doors open 8:30 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**HOPE MISSION COMMUNITY CHURCH:**  
Sunday: 2:00 p.m. Hope Mission Centre - 9908 106 Avenue  
7:00 p.m. Herb Jamieson Centre - 10014 105A Avenue

**HOPE MISSION HEALTH CLINIC:**  
Hope Mission Health Centre  
Family Doctor Monday to Friday  
Walk-in: 9:00-3:00 p.m.  
Psychiatrist Monday to Friday  
by Appointment only - call 780-422-2018 Ext. 278

**NICOTINE ANONYMOUS**  
RICK (780) 474-5593  
GWYNN (780) 443-3020  
Support for smokers who are trying to quit.  
Call Nicotine Anonymous.

**SACRED HEART CHURCH OF THE FIRST PEOPLES**  
Address: 10821-96 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 2J8, and Tel: (780) 422-3052.  
**Daily Mass:**  
Monday to Saturday: 9 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples.  
**Sunday Masses:**

Sunday: 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples. All are welcome.  
Monthly Baptism preparation class is available to prepare parents for their child's Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmations. Please call the office to register their names. For more information, please view our weekly bulletin, our webpage, and our Sacred Heart Facebook.

**THE LEARNING CENTRE LITERACY ASSOCIATION** is seeking volunteer tutors to help adults develop reading, writing and/or math skills. Volunteers participate in group learning, tutor one-to-one, or assist drop-in learners. Skills and Experience: High school level reading, writing, and/or math skills. Openness to tutor and learn with adults with various life experiences, including living with homelessness. For more information: <https://tlcla.org/get-involved-3/>  
Call: 780-429-0675

**NETWORKS ACTIVITY CENTRE**  
780-474-3363, EXT. 302. Volunteer! JOIN OUR TEAM! Networks Activity Centre provides adults with brain injury a program that promotes an active lifestyle through opportunities for social interaction, physical activity, and community involvement. Volunteering with Networks Activity Centre is a wonderful way to enrich your life and touch the lives of those we serve. If you are interested in joining our volunteer team please call 780-474-3363 ext. 302.

**NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO JOIN MCCAULEY CLUB.**  
Kids from age 6 to 17 are invited join after school programs that run from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri., & from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Thurs. Programs include arts & culture, physical activity, health & nutrition, academic support, life skills, and leadership. Drop in at 9425 109A Ave. or call (780) 822-2549 for details. Offered free of charge.

**P.A.L.S. PROJECT ADULT LITERACY SOCIETY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**  
Work with adult students in the ESL - English as a Second Language program. Training, materials, and supplies provided. Call (780) 424-5514 for more information.

**BUILDING BRIDGES**  
Building Bridges All Nations First Nations Fusion Church Services Sundays, 3 to 6 p.m. at St. Faith's Anglican Church, 11725-93 Street.

**BOYLE STREET PLAZA/YMCA FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE WEEKLY COLLECTIVE KITCHEN CLASSES**  
Tues. 1-3 p.m.  
Wed. 10 a.m.-noon  
Thurs. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Fri.: 10 a.m.-noon  
Cost \$4/portion  
U/G Parking \$1/hr up to a maximum of four hours - access on 104 Avenue between 95 Street and 96 Street  
For information and registration call 780-426-9265

**CHILD AND YOUTH PROGRAMS**  
YMCA Boyle Street Plaza will be offering Sportball day camps this summer! At Sportball camps, kids will have a blast while they learn sports skills for life. Visit [bit.ly/sportballymca](http://bit.ly/sportballymca) for more information and to register.  
Visit the exciting new playground at YMCA Boyle Street Plaza this summer by joining in on the City of Edmonton's Green Shack program! Starting in July, drop by any time 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. at 9538 103A Avenue.

**DROP-IN GYM**  
YMCA Boyle Street Plaza  
9538-103A Avenue  
Drop-In Fee: \$5  
**Badminton (ages 16+):** Sundays: 1:30-4:30 p.m.  
Fridays: 8:15-11:15 p.m.  
Saturdays: 1-4 p.m.  
**Pickleball (ages 16+):**  
Sundays: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Wednesdays: 1-3 p.m.  
Fridays: 5-8 p.m.  
For information call: 780-426-9265

## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

**DIRTY CARS NO MORE**  
Dirty car or filthy work truck? NINJATEC DETAILING is my small business and I can detail your vehicles either at home in the Boyle Street/McCauley area or out of my garage in the west end. Prices are about half of what you'd pay at those "other" shops, and I'm a lot more picky and thorough than they are because I do it the old fashioned hotrod way....BY HAND!! (780) 566-2871 anytime...NINJATEC DETAILING - Make sure you check out my Facebook page!

**FORTITUDE PLUMBING**  
Fortitude Plumbing can attend to your plumbing needs. We offer a furnace and hot water tank maintenance program. Contact us at 780-200-8546 or 780-914-1381. Visit us at [www.fortplumb.com](http://www.fortplumb.com). Email us at [fortplumb@gmail.com](mailto:fortplumb@gmail.com).

**BOYLE STREET AND MCCAULEY RESIDENTS GET FREE CLASSIFIED ADS!**

Email five lines or less to [editor@bmcnews.org](mailto:editor@bmcnews.org)



**Drop-In Soccer**  
**Tuesdays 4:30-6 p.m.**  
**Behind Sacred Heart Church (108A Ave. & 96 St.)**

Have some fun playing soccer with your neighbours! We warm up with some stretches, do a few foot-control drills, then we set up a scrimmage game or two. It's all for fun, friends, and exercise! All experience levels welcome. Snacks and cold drinks provided. (Weather permitting.)

**WECAN Food Co-operative**  
Purchase inexpensive meat and produce for pickup once per month at McCauley Apartments (9541-108A Ave.). Visit [wecanfood.com](http://wecanfood.com) or call the e4c McCauley Office at 780-903-9661 if you are not able to use the website to order for any reason.

Please visit our Facebook page [@e4cwellness](https://www.facebook.com/e4cwellness) for information on FREE sessions and groups, open to all. Contact Kathryn or Mike at the e4c McCauley office at 780-424-2870, or email [krambow@e4calberta.org](mailto:krambow@e4calberta.org) or [msiek@e4calberta.org](mailto:msiek@e4calberta.org)



# SHE SAVED MY LIFE

Edmonton resident Dawn had been experiencing the painful side effects of peripheral neuropathy, "My feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do. That I would have to take gabapentin for the rest of my life." Then she met Edmonton's very own Acupuncturist, Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac.

Peripheral neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage to the peripheral nervous system. Dawn explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the washroom were overwhelmingly painful.

**"How can you live for the next 30 years when you don't even want to get out of bed to do the simple things?"**

She was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling, and sharp pains that those suffering from peripheral neuropathy often describe. The way that I would describe it, it's the equivalent to walking on glass." Dawn hadn't worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would "touch" her feet.

Unfortunately, Dawn's story is all too familiar for the over one million people in Canada suffering from peripheral neuropathy.

If you're unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis, you're not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet. You have difficulty walking, shopping, or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain. You're struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor told you to, **"just live with the pain"** and you are taking medications that just aren't working or have uncomfortable side effects.

Fortunately, four months ago Dawn read an article about Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. and the work she was doing to treat those suffering from peripheral neuropathy without invasive surgery or medication.

Doctor of Acupuncture, Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. founder of Accessible Acupuncture in Edmonton, AB, is using the time-tested science of acupuncture and technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

**"Now when I go to bed at night I don't have those shooting pains. I don't have the burning sensation. I don't have pain coming up my legs,"**

Dawn enthusiastically describes life after receiving Melanie's treatments.

**"I can wear socks and shoes!"**

Dawn and her sister now operate a successful dog-walking business, sometimes covering 5 kilometres a day.

**"It's life-altering. As far as I'm concerned Melanie saved my life!"**

Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. has been helping the senior community for over five years using the most cutting-edge and innovative integrative medicine, with a special interest in chronic pain and helping people who have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results.

What was once a missing link in senior health care is now easily accessible to the residents of the Edmonton area including St. Albert and Sherwood Park.

If you have been missing too many tee times because of your pain or you've passed on dancing because you're afraid of calling it's time to call Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac and the staff at Accessible Acupuncture.

**It's time you let your golden years BE GOLDEN!**

Accessible Acupuncture is now accepting new patients but only 20 new neuropathy patients will be accepted in August.

**Call 587-879-7122 to schedule today.**



**Peripheral Neuropathy?**

**SCHEDULE a consultation TODAY**

**CALL 587-879-7122**

**HYS Centre**

**600, 11010 101 st NW Edmonton, AB**

**AccessibleAcupuncture.ca**



HEART OF THE CITY FESTIVAL SOCIETY ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

# Elliot Taylor: “I try to reflect the joy that is actually in my neighbourhood.”

CORINE DEMAS

Elliot Taylor is a visual artist, musician, and writer.

“I’m doing the central art for Heart of the City this year but I’ve lived in the neighbourhood for a long time right across the street from where it’s happening and so I’ve been there a lot,” he says of his connection to Heart of the City. “So there’s a lot of years of painting records. I have a couple hanging up in my room.”

Regarding other aspects of the arts in which he works, Elliot says, “I’m primarily a songwriter and a musician and then I do some writing but mostly to support my music. I’m in a band called Borderline Thrills. We are working on an album. It’s self-titled because we thought it worked with what we were writing about. It’s like all these things that we are almost doing.”

When asked to describe his voice in art, Elliot says, “It’s a hard thing to describe because I do visual art in a lot of different contexts. I really like portrai-



Elliot Taylor. Supplied

ture and I really like drawing people. That’s the biggest thing I do. I draw a lot of musicians, I draw a lot of performers. I really like that. It’s art nouveau inspired. I really like obnoxiously bright colour palettes. It’s things that I like to do, rather than a coherent idea of what my art should be.”

He continues: “I have a thing to say

and I think that using the tools that I have to say the thing that I need and want to say the right way is more important than making sure that it’s cohesive and fits into the brand model of art. I am a trans person, a queer person in a time where it is increasingly dangerous to be both of those things. I grew up in an at-risk community with a bunch of people who were in

much worse situations than I was in and these people were my friends and I empathize with them. Then I moved to a bigger school with people who had more money and I felt different and I wasn’t even at-risk in the way that all of my old friends were. I think speaking to an experience like that and creating an experience like that is something I do in my art.”

Elliot is also trying to break down misconceptions about his neighbourhood through his art. “I try to reflect the joy that is actually in my neighbourhood. I think a lot of people are very afraid of places that are like this: the streets, and the cars, and the sketchy people. That’s not what it is for the most part. There is so much joy, so much creativity, so much interest here. I love reflecting creativity and I take all of that in, growing up here in a big city.”

You can look Elliot up on Instagram: @Elliotataylorart and @Elliotthrills.

Corine Demas lives in McCauley where she is the Interim President of the McCauley Community League and a board member with Heart of the City.

## Blake Desjarlais

Member of Parliament  
Edmonton Griesbach

Constituency Office  
10212 - 127th Avenue NW,  
Suite 102  
780-495-3261

BlakeDesjarlais.ndp.ca  
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## Janis Irwin, MLA

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