



VACCINATION ELATION 2 ▲



ROOF RENOS AT NEW DESTINY CHURCH 8 ▲



BRIDGES AGAINST HATE 11 ▲



HOTC PROFILE: SEBASTIAN BARRERA 12 ▲

Boyle McCauley News

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VOL. 42 NO. 3 PUBLISHED ON TREATY 6 TERRITORY VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1979

Quarters Arts' GLOW Was a Go

Saturday night in Boyle Street, COVID-style.

ANITA JENKINS

On Saturday March 20, my Boyle Street neighbour Audrey Whitson and I attended the Annual Spring Equinox Light Sculpture Exhibit (GLOW). I was interested because I had previously participated in several of the Quarters Arts Society's truly magical spring lantern parades.

But in view of COVID-19 restrictions and limitations, I was not expecting much this time around. I thought it would primarily be an opportunity to get some steps on my Fitbit by walking to and from the new CO*LAB arts space, located at 9641-102A Avenue.

I was wrong. Quarters Arts managed to produce an event that was different but still wonderful. A carefully limited audience sat around fire pits in the courtyard at the back. We were asked to stay for only 30 minutes so that others could be admitted without over-extending the COVID limits.

A line-up of performers – several musicians and a poet – entertained us from inside the building. We watched them through the open doors and on a screen in the courtyard area. Through the building's warehouse windows, we could see restored lanterns from previous GLOW parades, along with artwork from the iHuman Youth Society. As a bonus, we admired the courtyard's spectacular view of downtown Edmonton.



A lit GLOW sign and lantern outside of CO*LAB. Supplied by CO*LAB

Three enormous 15-by-7-foot inflatable chickadees had been installed on the building's roof. Unfortunately, the birds had to come down that evening because of high winds.

During our allotted time there, Audrey and I were introduced to Chubby Cree, an Indigenous hand drum group consisting of the remarkable 11-year-old vocalist, Noah Green, and his grandmother, Carol Powder. This group is receiving worldwide attention online. The performances were also streamed live and remain accessible online at colabyeg.ca.

Lorin Klask, Quarters Arts artis-

tic director, lives in the community. She says Boyle Street has "always been full of life." Yet, because CO*LAB was established during the pandemic, it faces many challenges.

"GLOW's success makes me hopeful," Klask says. "We would like to offer similar events through the spring and summer. The livestreaming component is good, but not everybody wants to watch a screen after working from home all day via Zoom and other media platforms."

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

Quarters Arts, a non-profit society, engages in citizen-led projects that honour the heritage and explore the diversity of Boyle Street. For details about its community-run arts facility go to colabyeg.ca

Follow the links to donate, volunteer, and watch the GLOW performances.



Dining Out SHAN SHAN BAKERY ■ PAGE 2

THE PANDEMIC AND THE PAPER

“... the paper's Board of Directors has made the decision to suspend the print version of Boyle McCauley News until September. ■ PAGE 3

ASKING "HOW ARE YOU?"

“Those three words show kindness, concern, and caring, and would be truly welcome.

■ PAGE 4

SAFER MCCAULEY

“... the community is resilient and the will to address the challenges is strong.

■ PAGE 9

Vaccination Elation



Colleen Chapman after receiving her COVID-19 vaccination. Supplied

Colleen Chapman, our intrepid Volunteer Coordinator, escaped the confines of the Glenrose Hospital to get her COVID-19 vaccination on Tuesday, March 9th at Market Drugs (10203 97 Street).

Market Drugs has a fantastic set-up to administer the vaccine. Colleen reports that her appointment went smoothly. She was

thrilled to gain protection - and that the injection was thankfully painless!

Market Drugs has been serving our area for around 60 years, and has been supporting **Boyle McCauley News** as an advertiser since we began 42 years ago. Call them at 780-422-1397 to make a vaccination appointment.

Sweet Treats and Surprises



Treats from Shan Shan Bakery. Paula E. Kirman

DINING OUT

Shan Shan Bakery

10552 97 Street
780-974-7788

PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

Chinatown's Shan Shan Bakery offers a wide variety of both Chinese and western baked goods, including cakes, cookies, tarts, and buns.

I ordered a variety of treats, including a bag of egg cookies, a butter cream chocolate cake roll, two kinds of mini mooncakes (red bean and lotus paste), a fresh fruit tart, a custard egg tart, and one slice of Black Forest cake. The latter is my favourite dessert and I was incredibly curious about how Shan Shan's version would compare.

It was surprising, to say the least. A light, fluffy chocolate cake with a mound of sweet cherry cream on top, garnished with a chocolate wafer and fruit. If you like your cake to cream/icing ratio weighted heavily in favour of the cream/

icing, you will love this. It was definitely not a traditional Black Forest cake, but it was memorable (and delicious).

On the other hand, the slice of butter cream chocolate cake roll was exactly what I expected: chocolate cake rolled with a sweet and salty buttercream. The fresh fruit tart was small but delightful, with three pieces of fruit nestled in whipped cream and a dense shell. The custard egg tart was a bit bigger, with a filling that was firm and not too sweet, and a flaky crust.

I haven't had mooncakes in ages. These were small, but densely packed with their respective fillings. The red bean paste had a satisfying, subtle sweetness, while the lotus had a nutty flavour almost reminiscent of marzipan.

The egg cookies - originally ordered as an afterthought - were amazing. The dollar-sized cookies were crispy, buttery, and a perfect accompaniment to my afternoon coffee.

You can go to Shan Shan directly, or order via Uber Eats for delivery like I did.



You are warmly invited to virtually attend:

A McCauley Community League SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, May 16, 2021
2:00 p.m.

Further to our most recent AGM held December 2020, the purpose of this Special General Meeting will be to present the McCauley Community League's 2019 Financial Statements. We hope you can make it!

If you wish to attend, please email league@mccauleycl.com before May 14, and we will send you the Zoom meeting link.

Please watch for an announcement regarding our upcoming Annual General Meeting.

that **Bloomin'**
garden show
& art sale

Alberta Avenue Community Centre
93 St & 118 Ave
More info at albertaave.org

Saturday, May 8
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

NEW! Art Walk & Outdoor Market!
PLUS! Our Annual Compost Sale!

"Summer Dance" By LShulba.com

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The Pandemic and the Paper



PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

MCCAULEY MUSINGS

The ongoing pandemic has created a lot of uncertainty for non-profit organizations that depend upon casinos as a source of funding. *Boyle McCauley News* is no exception.

We don't know when we will get another casino. To be honest, we have reached a critical point. We have to make serious changes to our publishing and staffing model until we get another casino.

As a result, the paper's Board of Directors has made the decision to suspend the print version of *Boyle McCauley News* until September. This will help conserve our financial resources and allow us to publish again when the third wave will

(hopefully) be over.

Even then, we don't know what the next while will look like. But you can help. **Please consider donating to our Toss Us Your Toonies campaign at bmcnews.org/donate.** No amount is too small. Your donation can be one-time or ongoing. All funds will go towards the paper's operations.

We also have a (socially-distanced) fundraiser on the horizon. The details are a surprise for now, but let's just say that it's going to be a hair-raising experience. Details will follow online and in a future issue of the paper.

Thank you to those community members who have already stepped up, whether to help financially or to volunteer in some capacity like our contributors, proofreaders, carriers, board members, and distribution crew.

Don't let the paper become a victim of the pandemic. If you can help, now is the time.

EDITOR'S NOTES

It's time for issue number three of the paper for the year. As I explain in detail in my column on this same page, it is also going to be our last print issue for a while.

Our biggest challenge at the moment is keeping the paper sustainable. "Toss Us Your Toonies" is our micro-donation campaign which allows you to donate as little as \$2 each month. Every little bit helps. The paper is hitting a critical point financially, and your support is needed. Head to bmcnews.org/donate for more information.

During this "down" time, we are go-

ing to continue to keep our website updated with stories from around the area by our contributors and from community organizations. Visit bmcnews.org, and sign up for our free e-newsletter which will be delivered straight to your inbox.

We will also keep posting updates to our social media users. Please follow us. Like our posts. Share our content. We post new content and photos, as well as related news from other sources. We're @bmcnews on Facebook and Twitter, and @bmcviews on Instagram.

Thank you all for your support of the paper. Your volunteerism, financial donations, and even words of encouragement are appreciated.

OUR NEXT ISSUE. . .

Volume 42, Issue 4 will be published September 15, 2021. Articles and photos concerning community news, events, and opinions are welcome. We also accept submissions of poetry and cartoons. Deadline: August 22, 2021. Send submissions to: 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. 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 August 22, 2021.

Boyle McCauley News

Boyle McCauley News is a non-profit newspaper published eight 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.

Advertisements from political parties and politicians are paid for. *Boyle McCauley News* does not support or endorse any political party or viewpoint.

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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.

WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

Attilo_FS, Adam Borman, Mark Davis, Corine Demas, George Ellis, Gary Garrison, Anita Jenkins, Paula E. Kirman, Joanne McNeal, Timiro Mohamed, Liz Pittman, Ian Young

BOYLE STREET AND MCCAULEY CRIME & SAFETY RESOURCES

- **24/7 Crisis Diversion:** Call #211 + press 3 when you see a person in distress
- **Needle Debris - public property:** 311
- **Needle Debris - free clean-up on private and public property:**
Boyle Street Ventures: (780) 426-0500
- **Free sharps container and/or litter clean-up kit:** mark.davis@reachedmonton.ca
- **Illegally dumped junk - free pick up (in McCauley only):**
Gregory.Brandenbarg@edmonton.ca
- **Litter/Graffiti:** 311; capitalcitycleanup@edmonton.ca
- **Report a Problem Property - search:** Edmonton Report a Problem Property
- **Report an Encampment:** 311; Edmonton.ca/homelessness
- **EPS McCauley / Quarters Beat Officers:**
Corey.Grant@edmontonpolice.ca
Greg.Quirke@edmontonpolice.ca
Steven.Lawn@edmontonpolice.ca
Andrew.Jarvis@edmontonpolice.ca
- **EPS Chinatown BIA Beat Officer:** david.chow@edmontonpolice.ca
- **For persistent issues at specific locations:**
CommunityEngagement@edmontonpolice.ca
- **EPS Non-Emergency:** (780) 423-4567
- **EPS Non-Emergency mobile access:** #377
- **EPS Emergency:** 911
- **EPS website:** edmontonpolice.ca
- **EPS Crime Prevention:** Facebook @epscrimeprevention
- **Crime Stoppers:** 1-800-222-8477
- **Report Gang Activity:** (780) 414-GANG (4264)
- **Stay informed & get involved:** safermccauley.ca and on Facebook @safermccauley

Asking “How are You?” is a Life-Saver for Family and Friends

JOANNE MCNEAL

We are all experiencing this pandemic together, and we need to help each other to get through it. For some of us, our busy lives have been reduced to staying home and hardly ever seeing another soul, except at the grocery store. I know many of us find the isolation difficult, especially seniors. So let's make a pact to phone or send a text or e-mail people we care about. That will help all of us feel better - and it won't cause the pandemic to get worse. We all need to hear someone ask, “How are you?” and share concerns.

All my life I've lived a busy life as a wife and mother and teacher. My days were filled with people. As a single parent I raised two daughters by myself, worked as many as four jobs at once besides taking care of my girls, and fixed up several old houses. Every day was filled with people - talking, listening, and sharing common concerns.

Although we may have many friends, COVID-19 has made seeing

them difficult. Sometimes months go by without seeing another human being, even though I walk my dogs twice a day past houses with families of busy people inside. I know how it feels to seem to be really alone, yet living near others who are also alone. We are all in our own cocoons due to the pandemic.

What we all need is a caring neighbour, family member, or friend to call or send an e-mail and just ask, “How are you doing today?” So if you have a mom or dad, or other senior relative, or a colleague who is now retired and alone, why not call them and just ask “How are you?” Those three words show kindness, concern, and caring, and would be truly welcome.

Joanne has lived in McCauley for 15 years. She retired from full-time positions in 2006 and has since taught future teachers at the U of A about teaching art, coordinated the painting of 500 feet of murals along the Stadium LRT line, and helped with the garden contests in McCauley.

Fear of '21

GARY GARRISON

1. Fear the warm breath of others. Vapour-borne viruses might force you to ventilation.
2. Fear your own breath, a weapon that could kill your grandmother even if you wear a mask.
3. Fear most the half-masked strangers who test tomatoes' firmness: fingerprint germs in your mouth.
4. Host super-spreader parties. Invite infected people. Death's a number on TV.
5. In a pixel-only world my own eyes are a wide screen, my brain inoculated.
6. Tree limbs waggle in the wind, wave leafless wood through sunbeams, observe us, trapped under glass.
7. 2020 is undone. The pandemic carries on. At least COVID's having fun.

Gary lives in McCauley. A note from the poet: “I've committed to writing at least one poem a month on the theme of '21.' I've called the project 'Cures for Eikosienophobia' (which means fear of 21 in Greek). In this poem, I've modified the three-line haiku form into three lines of seven syllables each. I call it a 21-er. I've put seven of these together and made a 21-line poem out of it. This poem talks about seven different ways of dealing with the fear of '21.”

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)
- 95 Street & Jasper Avenue (North by the CIDEX Hat at Five Corners)
- 86 Street & Jasper Avenue (by Riverside Towers)
- 90 Street & Jasper Avenue (bus stop by Highlands building)
- 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:

- Lucky 97 (10725 97 Street)
- Italian Centre (10878 95 Street)
- Zocalo (10826 95 Street)

THIS LIST IS USUALLY LONGER, BUT A NUMBER OF OUR REGULAR DROP-OFF SITES ARE CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19. WE WILL UPDATE THIS LIST AS THINGS CHANGE.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE THE PAPER IN YOUR BUSINESS?

If you have a business in (or near) the area and would like papers dropped off, contact us at editor@bmcnews.org.

VOLUNTEER TO DELIVER THE PAPER

Would you like to volunteer to help deliver the paper to your block or building? Contact editor@bmcnews.org for more information.

Enjoying pictures of your neighbourhood?
Loving stories about your community?
We need your support to continue publishing Boyle McCauley News in print and online.



bmcnews.org/donate

Micro-donate just \$2/month to keep Boyle McCauley News going strong. That's less than the price of a cup of coffee!

If only 15% of the 5000 people who read this paper gave a tiny amount every month, we'd be in great shape!

MCCAULEY NEIGHBOURHOOD REVITALIZATION COORDINATOR
GREGORY BRANDENBARG • 780.496.4178 • GREGORY.BRANDENBARG@EDMONTON.CA



MCCAULEY REVITALIZATION STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

CHANGES TO MCCAULEY REVITALIZATION MATCHING FUNDS

While the quicker granting of \$350 Revitalization Small Sparks for new ideas and innovations in McCauley remains very much the same, and we encourage you to apply, some of the parameters of the Revitalization Matching Funds have changed. For organizations, groups and associations we have now disconnected the necessity for there to be a 1:1 matching ratio whether with cash, in-kind donations or volunteer hours. This means you can apply for funding without having 50/50 matching in place. Please contact Greg Brandenburg to discuss your project idea in advance - gregory.brandenbarg@edmonton.ca

As always, you can apply for funds for up to 12 months in advance so you can apply now and essentially begin your project a full year later. We are really trying to emphasize capacity strengthening projects so if you have ideas for how your board, group, association or business could enhance its capacity then we should talk. If you are not sure what that might look like then we should talk. Please contact Greg Brandenburg at gregory.brandenbarg@edmonton.ca

SHELTERS AND TENTS

As a response to the challenges around safe spacing and, at times, needing to isolate during the winter, the City of Edmonton opened an emergency 24/7 in 3 extra locations - the Cessco building (southside), the Edmonton Convention Centre (downtown) and the Commonwealth concession area (McCauley). The Commonwealth 24/7 since November 2020 has had between 110-130 people per night with other key services provided. It is scheduled to close on April 18. This creates several other questions. The following information is prepared by the City to answer some of those questions. As to what happens after the closure of Tipinawaw at the Edmonton Convention Centre:

- Community and Social Services, Alberta Health Services and the City of Edmonton have been working together to support the delivery of 24/7 shelter and day services for vulnerable groups that will be established after the closure of Tipinawaw.

- The Government of Alberta, Community and Social Services, is responsible for the delivery of emergency shelter services. If you have concerns or questions about these services, please contact the ministry of Community and Social Services or the Premier's office.

As it relates to tents and encampments:

- The City's encampment response is in effect. City staff and outreach workers continue to respond to encampments and encourage anyone with concerns to call 311, report online or use the 311 App and share details about the location of the encampment(s). For the most up to date information and to see our encampment process at a glance, visit edmonton.ca/homelessness.
- If one or multiple calls are received about the same encampment, park rangers are notified by 311 to investigate the site within 3-5 days. If the encampment is not occupied, then it's added to the clean-up schedule. Following the snowmelt in the spring, abandoned encampments that become visible are addressed as quickly as possible in order to prevent re-occupation.
- If you are concerned about the well-being of someone who appears to be in distress, please contact the 24/7 Crisis Diversion Team. For additional information on community resources, call 211. In cases of emergency, call 911.
- Municipal Enforcement Officers have the appropriate authority to work with property owners in order to respond to private property encampments. Edmonton Police Service is available for standby at these encampments if/when required on a case-by-case basis.
- The City and partners do not want to see another large encampment emerge this spring. We are working with Edmonton Police Service and partners on an enforcement plan. Information will be shared publicly about this plan in April.
- Encampments are not viable long term solutions to homelessness. Permanent housing is the solution. While more supportive housing is created, alternatives are available for those who are sleeping rough.

CITY PROVIDES UPDATE ON PLANS TO CARE FOR OUR CITY'S MOST VULNERABLE

The City, Community and Social Services, Alberta Health Services, Homeward Trust and agencies have been actively planning to provide 24/7 shelter and day services for vulnerable groups after Tipinawaw at the Edmonton Convention Centre and other temporary accommodations close this spring.

"COVID-19 has increased both the number of people falling into homelessness and the gap in services to support them. With careful consideration of available funding, spaces at facilities and resources, we are able to keep people safe during the pandemic by providing essential services and leading to greater housing outcomes," said Christel Kjenner, Director of Housing and Homelessness, City of Edmonton. "None of this would be possible without the tremendous collaboration of all parties involved."

OVERNIGHT SHELTER PLAN

The pandemic response sees a transition from a small number of large congregate facilities to smaller, more dispersed service locations across the city. This approach helps to limit the potential for large outbreaks and allows for services to be tailored at each location.

Tipinawaw, the temporary shelter at the Edmonton Convention Centre, is scheduled to close on April 30. Individuals staying overnight at Tipinawaw will be supported in accessing other shelter spaces. Mustard Seed closed its temporary 99 Street shelter location March 31 and transitioned services to several churches on the south side of the river and to the Strathcona Neighbour Centre. Hope Mission will move operations from Commonwealth Stadium to the Spectrum building, part of the former horse race track site south of the EXPO Centre. The City will license the Spectrum building to Hope Mission for temporary use.

These overnight spaces will be supplemented with up to 200 new transitional housing spaces. For more information please use this link: https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/initiatives_innovation/homeless-on-public-lands.aspx

THIS CENTRESPREAD IS SPONSORED BY BOYLE MCCAULEY NEWS

Heart of the City Festival 2021

For a complete and up-to-date schedule: [HeartCityFest.com](https://www.heartcityfest.com)



Keep on Singing!

Heart of the City Festival has been bringing music and visual art to McCauley for the last 18 years. Over these years, we expanded our scope to include dance and spoken word, storytelling, poetry, and comedy. Unfortunately, for the second year in a row, we cannot meet in Giovanni Caboto Park (which is our regular haunt), but we are going to keep on singing! With the ever-changing regulations, we are working on new and innovative ways to bring you talent and art from your neighbourhood and around the city. This year we will be hosting four workshops online. We will also be presenting a Spoken Word Variety Show, where you will hear some stellar poetry and comedy! Due to the unpredictable nature of the live music scene, and because of recently expanded COVID-19 restrictions, we are not yet able to confirm what form Heart of the City Festival will take for live music. We are currently working on a strategy to bring music from the downtown core to our neighbours.

Please check our website for updates: [HeartCityFest.com](https://www.heartcityfest.com)

Heart of the City Story Slam 2021

Sunday, June 6

4 p.m. on Zoom

What is a story slam? It is a story-telling competition. Each competitor is given 5 minutes to tell a family-friendly story in which they try to convince the judges that they deserve to win our \$100 prize! Stories are judged on a 10-point scale. Who can enter? Anyone from Edmonton age 14 and up can enter this contest! There is still time to register to tell a story in our story slam.

Send us an email to register:
heartcityfest@gmail.com

Those of you who'd like to be in our audience can go to our website to find a Zoom join link.

Workshops

Heart of the City is dedicated to providing free workshops. This year we have a few writing workshops and a cultural sharing workshop which will be offered on Zoom.

Please check our website for a complete and up-to-date list of workshops and times: [HeartCityFest.com](https://www.heartcityfest.com)

If you would like to sign up for a workshop, send us an email and we will send you more information and the join link:

heartcityfest@gmail.com



Photo: Liz Pittman

WORKSHOP / Stefani Alzati: Channeling the Inner World

Stefani uses guided meditation to settle the mind and open a channel to the inner world. In this 2-hour workshop, we settle into ourselves, write short poetry, and share our creations together. Listen to your heart and speak your truth with poetry!

Stefani Alzati is an artist, writer, and spoken word poet from Edmonton. She incorporates somatic principles and sensory modalities into her work. She believes that poetry can heal the world. She is the readings coordinator for Parkland Poets and sits on the board of the Heart of the City Festival.



WORKSHOP / Lady Vanessa Cardona: Oral Storytelling and Theatre

In this workshop, led by Lady Vanessa Cardona, we will look at the importance of spoken word. We will explore why we share orally, how traditionally nations, tribes, and communities have gathered to share stories for thousands of years. We will discuss the importance of oral storytelling and how it brings people together, how stories warn us, guide us, and gives us hope.

In this workshop, we might be asked to create a whole new story together or share our stories. We might be called to create Shadow Puppet Theatre or learn other tools that can be used and learned to share our stories, tools that stimulate all or more than one sense at a time, not just the sense of hearing.

"My name is Lady Vanessa, yo soy Caleña, Colombia. I am the 2018 'Canadian' Individual poetry slam champion. I am a former youth mentor of "Newcomers are Lit". I am a playwright, author, and performer of the play "Three Ladies" and co-creator of "Whiteface." I am the Founder of Sinergia, Fiesta y Resistencia and "Remix the Ritual"- A Hip Hop theatre collective."



WORKSHOP / Sissy Thiessen Kootenayoo: Powwow 101

Powwow dances are practiced by First Nations People in Canada as a form of prayer, ceremony, and celebration of culture. It includes a variety of dance styles, cultural regalia, and drum songs. During this experience, participants will learn about Powwow, what it is, its importance to Indigenous People, stories of each style, and teachings of respect and integrity.

Sissy Thiessen Kootenayoo is a Treaty 6 Nakota Sioux, Cree, and German cultural facilitator, Powwow dancer, crafter/beader, spoken word poet, singer, and creative writer with ancestral roots in both Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation and Steinbach, Manitoba. Sissy has performed Powwow dance, spoken word, and song all over Edmonton, Alberta and in Montana, U.S. For more information about Sissy and her services, please visit: [wasesabaexperiences.ca](https://www.wasesabaexperiences.ca)



Photo: Timiro Mohamed

WORKSHOP / Nisha Patel: Poetry Editing Workshop

Sunday, June 6 at 1 p.m.

In this workshop, poets will be encouraged to treat their creations with care and ruthlessness, refining their works to serve their audiences and enabling their truest meaning and forms to emerge.

Nisha Patel is an award-winning queer poet and artist. She is the City of Edmonton's Poet Laureate, and the Canadian Individual Slam Champion, as well as the 2021 Regional Writer in Residence with the Strathcona County Library. Her debut collection, COCONUT, came out April 2021 with Newest Press.

Spoken Word Variety Show

**Saturday, June 5
7 to 9 p.m. on Zoom**

Please check our website for a link to join the Zoom event: [HeartCityFest.com](https://www.heartcityfest.com)

In this family-friendly show on zoom, we will be joined by spoken word artists; poets, and comics. Hosted by Stefani Alzati, our comics and poets will make you laugh and possibly cry. They will entertain and challenge you. Join us for some thought-provoking poetry and a few laughs with local spoken word artists.

Comedy

Comedy on Zoom is hard. Real hard! And it can lead to some of the most intensely funny moments, as comedians try to read the room of a bunch of blurry faces, with muted mics, staring back at them from across the Internet. It can be awkward. It can be risky. And most of all, it can make you laugh! A muted laugh is nearly indistinguishable from a painful stomach ache, so come ready to laugh till your belly hurts.

FEATURED COMEDIANS:



Cindy Rivers (she/her) has performed and headlined all over Canada and even the USA. She's performed at festivals and clubs such as, Nextfest, Big Pine Comedy Festival, Grindstone Comedy Festival, World Vibe Festival, LA Comedy Club in Las Vegas, Los Angeles Diversity In Comedy Festival by Second City, Just for laughs Northwest, and opened for the

world-renowned Hannah Gadsby. She's slightly awkward and quirky, but all funny.



Dan Taylor talks to people. He does it on comedy stages all over North America. He does it on television on CBC, CTV, YESTV, and others. He does it for corporations and universities and churches and clubs. Drawing on his experience as a husband, father, social worker, pastor, and barista, Dan's unique background enables him to connect with a diverse audience.

We are also featuring **Simon Glassman**.

Poetry

Poetry can take your breath away. It can change the way you see a small detail or help you see from someone else's vantage point. Poetry will challenge and enlighten you. It will help you feel all the feels. Expand your horizons and join us!

FEATURED POETS:



Winnipeg Wallace (he/him) is a spoken word artist who has twice represented Edmonton at the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word. He enjoys bulldogs, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, and most of all, sweet beautiful poetry.



Mikayla Bortscher is a student of English and Philosophy at the University of Alberta. In her spare time, she writes poetry, plays harp, and goes running. She finds inspiration for her poetry primarily from life experience, nature, and reading non-fiction on philosophy and science. She has been published in Glass Buffalo, Grip Magazine, and the anthology "Liminal Space."

We are also featuring **Meghan Ekar** and **K'alii Luuyalkw**.

CreArt Youth Stage

The Youth Stage is organized primarily by youth who work with CreArt Free School of Art under the direction of Sebastian Barrera. We are excited to announce that these talented young folks will be producing live-streams featuring local musicians ranging in age from 14 to 27 years-old all summer! Please check the CreArt website for a schedule of events: [createdmonton.com](https://www.createdmonton.com)

FEATURED YOUTH STAGE ARTIST AND MENTOR:



George Zhang "I am a Chinese Canadian, with a passion for music and education. I am a CreArt board member and a community mentor. Every Saturday afternoon, I host a free guitar workshop on the CreArt website. I am also organizing the 2021 online Heart of the City Music Festival youth stage, where we host weekly performances for our local artists."

Meet Our New Music Director!

Heart of the City is pleased to be working with Mike Chenoweth. Mike has a challenging job this year due to COVID restrictions and we are keeping him on his toes.



Mike Chenoweth is an Edmonton-based veteran singer/songwriter whose roots run deep in the Edmonton and Central Alberta music scene. He's a well-experienced performer, recording artist, music teacher, jam host, luthier, and emcee. Mike has had a number of his original songs receive airplay by CKUA, CJSR, and CBC radio stations and has written and recorded the score for the independently released movie, Happy Hour.

New Roof Shingles for New Destiny Church

New Destiny Church (10605 96 Street) recently received a brand new set of shingles to cover the roof.

Already an overdue project, re-shingling became essential when last summer's rains caused some damage to the interior of the building. After a concentrated effort at fundraising - including personal donations, garage sale projects, and creating a scenic wall calendar to sell from Pastor Ray Baillie's hiking trips - New Destiny hired JPG Roofing to do the job in early March, before this year's rains could begin again and create more problems.

New Destiny Church is one of the oldest church buildings on Church Street. Originally built in 1905 as Grace Methodist Church, it later housed a number of different congregations including St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in

1930 and Second Christian Reformed Church in 1954. Family Worship Centre moved here in 1985 and changed its name to New Destiny Church in 2016.

The high-pitched roof was a challenging job, but the crew from JPG were able to handle it. The fundraising is essentially over, the job is complete, and everyone has breathed a sigh of relief that the building is secured. Pastor Ray says the roofing project is a good metaphor of what the Church is all about: providing a shelter from the storms of life through the ministry of Jesus Christ.

For information about New Destiny's services and programs, you can contact them at info@newdestiny.ca.

Article and photos submitted by New Destiny Church.



New Destiny Church after the roof work was completed. Supplied



A close-up of the damaged roof last June. Supplied



BOYLE STREET
COMMUNITY LEAGUE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Join the Boyle Street Community League in making our great neighbourhood even better!

BSCL volunteers work together to build a more vibrant, connected community. As a community league we rely on the time, talents, and community spirit of our neighborhood residents to make this vision a reality. No contribution is too small!

Go to boylestreetcl.com and click on the 'volunteer' link or send us an email at info@boylestreetcl.com.

**VISIT US ONLINE AT BOYLESTREETCL.COM
EMAIL US INFO@BOYLESTREETCL.COM**

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SAFER MCCAULEY

New Chinatown Safety Council

MARK DAVIS

REACH Edmonton collaborates with community partners to develop strategies that make Edmonton a safer and more vibrant city. One way REACH builds capacity within neighbourhoods is by supporting local safety councils in specific geographic areas in Edmonton. One of those areas is the Chinatown Business Improvement Area (BIA), where REACH is convening and coordinating the newly formed Chinatown Safety Council.

In the summer of 2020, REACH was tasked with coordinating an effort to support Chinatown to address its safety concerns. Two large stakeholder meetings took place. Priority concerns and manageable first steps to address them were identified. REACH then proposed the creation of the Chinatown Safety Council, which began meeting regularly in February 2021.

The formation of the Chinatown Safety Council delivers on Action 1 of the 2017 Chinatown Strategy: "Develop integrated connections between social agencies, businesses, and community to advocate and collaborate to identify issues and opportunities on solutions regarding safety and security." Council membership includes community groups (Chinatown and Area Business Association, Chinatown Transformation Collaborative, Chinese Benevolent Association, Edmonton Chinese Young Leaders Council), social agencies (Mustard Seed, Hope Mission, Boyle Street Community Services), City of Edmonton (Community Standards, Revitalization), EPS, and REACH.

The Chinatown Safety Council has had some notable early success. The business community's relationships have been strengthened with social agencies - most notably with Hope

Mission, which has the largest footprint in the BIA. Workshops are being discussed to build bridges between business owners and unhoused individuals. Translated safety resources are circulating more widely. Discussions are taking place to strengthen the community's relationships with EPS. Dedicated safety council social media and a community events calendar are being developed. A campaign to equip businesses with motion activated lighting for back entrances is in the works. And a volunteer base is being mobilized to support safety council actions.

Chinatown faces layers of challenges. Poverty and services addressing poverty have concentrated in the area for years. A persistent opioid crisis, COVID-19, and anti-Asian racism exacerbate the situation. Many businesses have closed over the past year. But the community is resilient and the will to address the challenges is strong.

In bringing diverse stakeholders together in a collaborative and coordinated way, the Chinatown Safety Council provides some cautious optimism. It's beyond the capacity of the council to eliminate poverty and homelessness or solve an addiction crisis. But by building cohesion and breaking larger, complex issues into manageable actions, positive things can happen.

Chinatown is a wonderful, unique, and historic asset in Edmonton. Those of us in Boyle Street and McCauley are particularly fortunate that it exists within our neighbourhoods. Whenever possible, please consider supporting its businesses.

Mark is Program Manager for REACH Edmonton's Neighbourhood Organizing Initiative. He can be contacted at mark.davis@reachedmonton.ca.

Staying Well, Safe, and Optimistic

IAN YOUNG

ABILITY AND COMMUNITY

"I think 2021 will be the year of patience. We can do it!" - Alexandra Couette Turgeon (Edmonton disability advocate)

Spring has sprung! The outdoors is calling! Like in 2020, we still have public health orders to follow, and things can change. It is always a good idea to keep updated. Our local news channels give daily updates and also www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx is a good link for information.

With vaccinations rolling out, we are making progress to keep healthy. It is always very important to consult a health professional with any concerns.

Our community is strong and dis-

plays a lot of unity. Support our array of businesses. Say hello to your neighbours. Sunny days are ahead. A safe-distancing outing is good for the mind and spirit. Patience is a virtue. Stay well, stay safe, and stay optimistic.

If you are feeling uneasy many resources are available. The Canadian Mental Health Association's distress line (edmonton.cmha.ca/programs-services/distress-line) is a great, non-judgemental support.

We have come far. At times it seems we are not moving towards a solution, but we are. We have never experienced anything like this. Let us learn from, support, and respect each other. The time will come when we will see loved ones and enjoy things we miss. We can do it together!

Ian is a columnist with the paper. He lives in the area.

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WE FIT AS MANY ADS HERE AS WE CAN. FOR MORE CLASSIFIEDS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT BMCNEWS.ORG.

PLEASE NOTE: THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES LISTED ON THIS PAGE MAY BE AFFECTED BY HEALTH REGULATIONS CONCERNING COVID-19.
PLEASE CONTACT THE SPECIFIC ORGANIZATION/AGENCY IN ADVANCE TO CONFIRM.

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.

BOYLE MCCAULEY HEALTH CENTRE

10628 – 96 Street

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Women's Health Promotion Evening: Thursdays (except the last Thursday of the month) from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. preceded by yoga class at 3:30 p.m. for one hour.

Foot Clinic - Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 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

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

ADDICTIONS &

RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

9611 -102 Avenue

(780) 429-4274

Men's Transitional Housing, Transformations Addiction Recovery Program, Community Support Services, Chapel Service, Volunteer Opportunities.

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINIC

Located in the Women's Emergency Accommodation Centre is open Monday - Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Closed on Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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

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 is held at 9 a.m. from

Monday to Saturday and on Sundays at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,

4 p.m. at Sacred Heart School Gymnasium and 7 p.m. Mass

is held at Santa Maria Goretti Catholic Church. Currently, we

are allowed to have 85 participants for the Sunday Masses

and we request that people to register before they arrive.

Monthly Baptism preparation class is available to prepare

parents for their child's Baptism, First Communion, and

Confirmations. Due to COVID-19, the following programs

are on hold until further notice: Traditional Native Wakes and

Funerals in First Nations, Métis, and Inuit traditions; AA; and

Edmonton Inner City Children's Project Society. (Our Sacred

Heart Church is under renovation.)

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.

Two locations: Boyle Street Community Services and

Abbottsfeld Mall.

Contact: Denis Lapierre, Coordinator

780-429-0675 or email: dl.learningcentre@shaw.ca

NETWORKS ACTIVITY CENTRE

780-474-3363, EXT. 302. Volunteer! JOIN OUR TEAM! Net-

works Activity Centre provides adults with brain injury a

program that promotes an active lifestyle through opportu-

nities 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 sup-

port, 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 provid-

ed. Call (780) 424-5514 for more information.

BUILDING BRIDGES

Building Bridges All Nations First Nations Fusion Church Ser-

vices Sundays, 3 to 6 p.m. at St. Faith's Anglican Church,

11725-93 Street.

FRESH ROUTES MOBILE GROCERY STORE

Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

YMCA Boyle Street Plaza, 9538-103A Ave.

Healthy affordable food including veggies, fruit, bread.

Cash, credit, and debit accepted.

Bring your own bags.

Open to all community members.

FREE COMPUTER LITERACY, DIGITAL SKILLS, AND IN-

TERNET SAFETY WORKSHOPS

Drop-in sessions, Thursdays 4-7 p.m.

YMCA Boyle Street Plaza

9538-103A Avenue

For information call: 780-426-9265

BOYLE STREET PLAZA/YMCA FAMILY RESOURCE

CENTRE WEEKLY COLLECTIVE KITCHEN CLASSES

Tues. 1-3 p.m.

Wed. 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m.

Thurs. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Cost \$3/portion

U/G Parking \$1/hr - access on 104 Avenue between 95

Street and 96 Street

For information and registration call Jody at 780-429-5701

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

HANDS ON LTD. CONTRACTED SERVICES

Offers: Residential and office cleaning. Move ins and

move outs and yard maintenance. Call Linda at (780)

619-4776.

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 DETAIL-

ING - Make sure you check out my Facebook page!

WECAN FOOD CO-OP

WECAN Food Co-op is a great way to stretch your

food budget. The City Centre depot currently runs

out of the McCauley Apartments office: Suite B08,

9541-108A Avenue. To place an order,

call Kathryn at 780-964-3444.

EDMONTON INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

EIC (9538 107 Avenue) strictly follows Government

of Alberta guidelines for its operations. Our building

is currently open for essential services only. Build-

ing hours are 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on weekdays.

EIC accepts gym bookings only for one-on-one train-

ing with professional trainers and low-intensity train-

ing as of March 1st. Building hours may be extended

for gym use under Stage 2 restrictions. Masks are

required in the building. We have implemented strict

sanitizing protocols that include sanitizing each

shared space between usage by different groups.

Contact us if you are in need of space for low-inten-

sity fitness space.

COMICS WANTED

Disabled adult looking for unwanted comic book/

graphic novel collections. In exchange will do-

minate to a children's charity in your name and pro-

vide receipt. Some comics will also be donated

where needed. (587) 920-8272.



e4c Community Development and Wellness:

Programs are going online!

Please visit our Facebook page

@e4cwellness for a full schedule of ses-

sions and groups. We also have resources

for mental health, links to local activities, and

information on food resources and other

supports.

Women's Wellness Party

Online gathering for mental health, selfcare,

crafts, and connection, facilitated by Sissy

Thiessen Kootenayoo. Fridays 3:30 to 5

p.m. on Zoom: weekly link available on the

@e4cwellness Facebook page.

COVID Support

You do not have to be alone during the pan-

demic. Please visit our Facebook page @

e4cwellness, or contact Kathryn at the e4c

McCauley office at 780-424-2870. Email

krambow@e4calberta.org.

Lonely? Bored? Check out the Wellness

Network: online courses are always being

added, or meet in person with a wellness

navigator to help you map out your wellness

journey, FREE! 780-699-3253 or

wellnessnetworkedmonton.com

WECAN Food Co-operative is still run-

ning! Purchase inexpensive meat and

produce for pickup once per month at

McCauley Apartments. Visit wecanfood.com

or call the e4c McCauley Office at

780-424-2870 for help to order.

GARDENERS: Alex Taylor School Com-

munity Garden has lots of plots available

for the 2021 season, starting in early

May. Book now! Call Kathryn at 780-964-

3444 or krambow@e4calberta.org

Plots Available!

\$15.00 per season or pay what you can



Contact Kathryn at e4c:
krambow@e4calberta.org or
780 964-3444

New Kinistinâw Park: A Community Hub



Kinistinâw Park. Adam Borman

Mary Ann Debrinski, Director, Urban Renewal, City of Edmonton, recently received this message from a community member. Kinistinâw Park runs along 96 Street between 102A and 103A Avenue.

Last Saturday my husband took our two daughters to Kinistinâw Park to play after a Farmers Market/ice cream run, while I was at work. When they arrived, an older couple had set up a speaker and were using the boardwalk to practice their two-stepping. Meanwhile, another dad and his young daughter were playing on the rubber hills. The three girls hit it off right away and the dads exchanged

contact info for future play dates.

During their conversation, plans for a new Boyle Street playground came up. The other dad, who also lives close by, volunteered to help with the project. While they were talking, a couple in their 20s, who came to the park via the 96 Street bike lanes, hopped off their bicycles and were soon seen dancing alongside the older couple.

In the course of an hour or two, this space saw music, play, new friendships between neighbours, volunteer engagement, active transportation, and spontaneous, intergenerational recreation. We're going to spend a lot of time here.

Bridges Against Hate: March and Rally Against Racism, Hate, and Discrimination



Around 200 people took part in Bridges Against Hate on March 27th. The march and rally began at Wong's Benevolent Association at 10242 96 Street. From there, participants walked to Churchill Square for a program of speakers talking of their lived experiences with racism, hate, and discrimination. Bridges Against Hate was organized by a coalition of community organizations including Asian, Black, Indigenous, Muslim, and LGBTQ2S+ representation. Similar rallies took place on the same day in Calgary and Lethbridge. Paula E. Kirman

HEART OF THE CITY FESTIVAL SOCIETY ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

Sebastian Barrera: “Art should be accessible and free to people.”

CORINE DEMAS

Sebastian Barrera is an artist and community activist living and working in the downtown core of Edmonton. Sebastian is a director with the Heart of the City Festival Society and the founder of CreArt Edmonton, an organization that utilizes the arts for social transformation.

I asked Sebastian how he got involved with Heart of the City. “At the beginning, I didn’t know what would be my role, how I would fit, how my skills fit. Little by little, I started identifying that there was overlap between the work that I was doing with Heart of the City and my work with CreArt. Then, the Youth Stage was an idea and I brought it to the table. We decided that the Youth Stage should be run and supported by Heart of the City and CreArt, but it should be run by youth.”

Sebastian said, “CreArt started a couple of years ago. When I was a new immigrant and I didn’t speak English at all, I was playing guitar everywhere. A dude from the community league said, ‘why don’t you



Sebastian Barrera. George Ellis

do classes at the community hall?’ and I started doing free guitar lessons there. I saw the opportunity to grow the project to something more ambitious: a mentorship program that encourages people who have been mentored to start mentoring others. It’s the pay-it-forward concept.”

He continues, “Art should be accessible

and free to people. If people want to express themselves, we need to provide the venue for people to express whatever they want to express in the way they want to express it, and provide the right spaces for people to do that. This is what CreArt is about: free programming and, of course, collaboration between different members of the community. We want to foster spac-

es where we can promote what artists are doing in the scene.”

CreArt Edmonton is working to produce 340 hours of programming this year. As well as hosting free music lessons every week, CreArt is working on six projects. The projects are The CreArt Round Table (a discussion of art and mentorship with local artists), Heart of the City’s Youth Stage, The Mural Project down the Kinnard Ravine (in which they will renovate 50% of the murals in the ravine), The Immigrant Artist Community Dialogue (in which they will tell the stories of several immigrant artists), and an African Film Festival which will be held late in the year 2021.

If you want to be involved with any of these projects, take lessons, or if you want to donate to CreArt, check out their website: www.creartedmonton.com

Corine Demas serves as volunteer President and Spoken Word Director of the Heart of the City Festival Society of Edmonton. Corine is passionate about poetry, storytelling, and her city, Edmonton. She lives in McCauley.

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Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca

Fighting for you **Jagmeet Singh**

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Edmonton Griesbach

Authorized by the Official Agent of Blake Desjarlais

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