

February
2021



THE McKernan Messenger

Since 1954 A publication of the McKernan Community League Circulation 1100

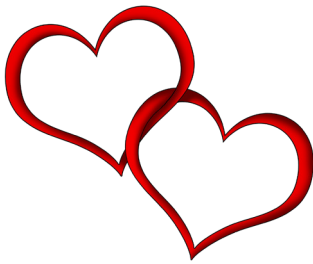
Next league board meeting

MONDAY, March 1

7:00 p.m. online

**(check website for
connection details)**

Visitors welcome. To bring up a topic at the board meeting, please contact President Roberta Franchuk at least one week before the meeting.



NOTICE OF OFFICIAL-TYPE MEETING!

Monday, April 5

Starting 7:00 p.m online.

Annual General Meeting

- Election of officers
(president, vice-president,
directors)
- Year-end business

**Login info at
mckernancommunity.org**



Rink use causing damage

While many community members (and others) are making good, safe use of our rink and skating path, there have also been some unfortunate consequences.

The rink team, following the required COVID-19 health restrictions, has tried to make it clear that hockey games were not allowed on the ice, and had removed the nets to reduce the temptation to play. However, in late January several large holes appeared in the sides of the rink, caused by too-strong hockey shots of pucks against the boards. The league faces a large bill to replace these boards.

Some other leagues have responded to unsafe or improper use of their rinks by closing the ice entirely. McKernan does not want to be forced to do this. We ask that all rink users respect the restrictions on the ice, and treat the facilities and other users with care and consideration so that everyone can continue to enjoy the rinks.

Urban coyote research seeks volunteers

The Edmonton Urban Coyote Project at the University of Alberta is looking for volunteers in McKernan to participate in a project to increase wariness in coyotes that occupy residential neighbourhoods. Like many central neighbourhoods adjacent to natural areas, McKernan has high reported numbers of coyote sightings and interactions. Urban coyotes are increasingly common across North America, and Edmonton has a large population of the animals.

The project will examine community-based aversive conditioning of urban coyotes. Volunteers will be randomly assigned to treatment or control procedures, and must sign a U of A volunteer liability release. Precautions around COVID exposure must be followed along with the procedures for observing and treating coyotes, recording data, and maintaining safety.

The project's website notes that the end goal is "not to remove coyotes from the city, but to reduce their comfort near people and prevent them from denning in residential neighbourhoods, like underneath houses and (near schools)." Denning in residential areas can increase conflicts between humans and coyotes.

More information is available at urbancoyoteinterventionprogram.weebly.com. Anyone who enjoys getting outside in the neighbourhood can find valuable information at this site about urban coyotes. For example, coyotes will almost always run away from approaching humans – but if they don't, they can usually be scared off with sharply-opened umbrella.

The Urban Coyote Intervention Program is operated under the Edmonton Urban Coyote Project, which is led by Colleen Cassidy St. Clair, professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Alberta; M.Sc. student Gabrielle Lajeunesse coordinates the program. The City of Edmonton is aware of the project and is supportive of its goals.

In other coyote news, Edmonton City Council is pondering a bylaw that would prohibit wildlife feeding on private and public property. An initial draft of the bylaw was sent back by council's community and public services committee at the beginning of February after several residents raised concerns about whether it was focussing on the most problematic behaviour. Councillor Ben Henderson noted that the focus should be on clamping down on deliberate feeding of wildlife that creates a risk to public safety.

Someone in need? Call 211 to help

As winter tightens its grip, vulnerable people may find themselves in situations where they need more help, whether shelter, warm clothes or a meal. If you see someone who may need help, you can call 211 and press 3 for the 24/7 Crisis Diversion Team. If someone is in immediate danger, 911 is still the number to call.



Your (free!)
community league
membership lets you
skate on our rink
and trail at
11341-78 Ave.
You must have your
League skate tags
with you.

Capacity: 10 people.
Rink shack is closed.

McKernan Rink open!

Family skate

(priority to families with
kids under 15

Weekdays 3-6 pm

Weekends 11 am-6 pm

Stick and skate

(NO PUCKS)

Daily 6-9 pm

To volunteer for ice maintenance:

Greg Jones, 780-222-2096 or ghajones@hotmail.com

Community centre closed

Our community centre is currently closed to the public as per Alberta Health guidelines. We will reopen for events and rentals when it is safe to do so. We hope to see you in the New Year!

Please contact hallrentalmckernancommunity@gmail.com with questions.



Community Contacts

PRESIDENT	Roberta Franchuk	780-431-4924
	president@mckernancommunity.org	
VICE-PRESIDENT	--vacant--	
SECRETARY	Phil Kloc	780-965-0773
	secretary@mckernancommunity.org	
TREASURER	Jim Martin	
DIRECTORS	Marilyn Johnson	
	Rekha Shepherd	
	Joyce Chung	780-909-2744
	Rolinda Graham	
TRANSPORTATION	Ingrid and Tom Poulin	
	ingrid2323@gmail.com	
HOUSING ISSUES	Housing committee	
	housingdevelopments@mckernancommunity.org	
PLAYGROUP	Mary Cox	
	cox.marylouise@gmail.com	
SCHOOL LIAISON	Michelle Jones	780-436-4134
SOCCER - Adult	Brad Odsen	
	bodsen@telusplanet.net	
SOCCER - Youth	Carley Haynes	
	belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
	https://emsasouthwest.com/	
CRICKET	C. Marathalingam	780-438-0460
	www.ascacricicket.com	
SKATING RINK	Greg Jones	780-222-2096
SOCIAL CONVENOR	Rekha Shepherd	
HISTORIAN	--vacant--	
POCKET PARK	Michelle Jones	780-289-0635
	4ourpocketpark@gmail.com	
SOUTH CAMPUS LIAISON	Wiggert Hessels	780-432-6379

League Memberships

Memberships in your community league support programs, socials, hall activities, newsletters, and more; PLUS the League is looking out for your interests in housing, transportation, services and more. Memberships are ZERO dollars for 2020/2021! See the membership form at www.mckernancommunity.org or in this issue.

MEMBERSHIPS	Joyce Chung	780-909-2744
	mckernanmembership@gmail.com	

McKernan Messenger

The McKernan Messenger is published ten times per year. Advertising deadline: 1st of the month.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT	Roberta Franchuk	780-431-4924
	newsletter@mckernancommunity.org	
DISTRIBUTION	Cherie Hoyles	

www.mckernancommunity.org

WEBSITE MANAGER	Nathan Mol	
	webmaster@mckernancommunity.org	

City of Edmonton

CITY COUNCILLOR	Ben Henderson	780-496-8146
(Ward 8)	ben.henderson@edmonton.ca	
COMMUNITY SERVICES	Kate Russell	780-496-5915
	kate.russell@edmonton.ca	

Volunteers needed

Get involved with your community league! Contact Roberta Franchuk (president@mckernancommunity.org; 780-431-4924) for more details about any of these opportunities.

Casino chair: Manage volunteers and paperwork for two-day casino event (date not yet announced). Assistance from past chair is available

Development committee member: Help evaluate proposed developments, develop guidelines to evaluate proposals, learn about planning and development issues in the community and city-wide.

Newsletter articles: Contribute articles of interest, information or other perspectives to the Messenger.



Dr Katherine Roche
General Dentist



10240-124 Street Edmonton,
Main floor Guardian Building
780-488-8977
www.guardiandental.ca

Patient centered - Evidence based - Environmentally Responsible

Development news

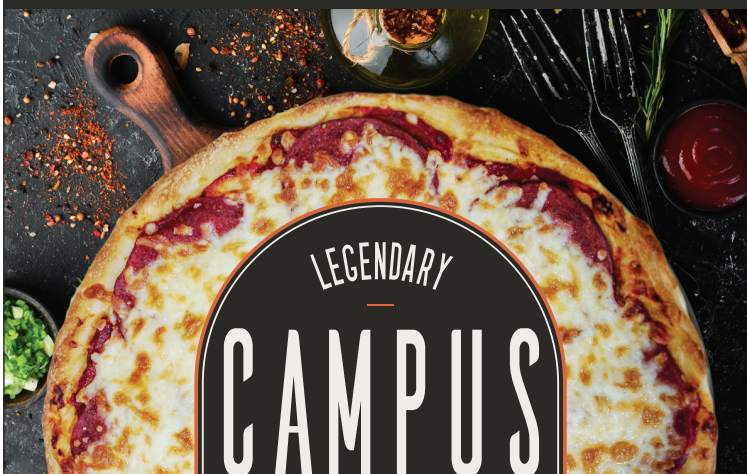
Development applications (Jan. 1 to Feb. 6)

The list below covers permits that have been applied for in McKernan last month. Permits are under review unless otherwise noted. Complete information, including permit number and the name of the applicant, is available at the City of Edmonton mapping website maps.edmonton.ca > Development Applications. Requested and approved planning applications (i.e. for rezoning, not development) are listed at https://www.edmonton.ca/residential_neighbourhoods/neighbourhoods/mckernan-planning-applications.aspx. If you have any questions about a project, contact housingdevelopments@mckernancommunity.org.

10945-73 Ave.	To demolish a single detached house.
11163-73 Ave.	To demolish a single detached house.
1, 10931-77 Ave.	To develop a secondary suite (existing suite).
11159-78 Ave.	To operate a minor home based business. (Weirdstuffbydan)
11539-78 Ave.	To construct interior alterations (basement development, NOT to be used as an additional dwelling).
11329-79 Ave.	To construct a rear uncovered deck.

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Instagram: mckernancommunity

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NEW WEBSITE

MUSIC LESSONS! ZOOM or IN PERSON DURING THE COVID-19



- Are you looking for a **new**, stress-free activity to keep you sane during these **hard times**?

- Have you always wanted to **connect** with **Music** but never had the chance before?

- Do you **need a break** from the daily grind with a **inspiring** diversion?

SIGN UP FOR PIANO or GUITAR LESSONS, ONLINE or IN PERSON

- You can choose between attending Online from your home, or coming to the Studio*!

- You will **Learn Music**, have **fun** and enjoy actual **accomplishments** despite the "new normal"!

- You will hang out with other folks who **Love Music** like you do!



www.EdmontonGuitar.com

*Subject to availability

**Or Call Today ➔ 780 637 0513
TO BOOK A FREE ASSESSMENT**

SURVEY: Charles Simmonds Park upgrade

Charles Simmonds Park (located west of 115 street and north of 78 avenue) is frequently thought to be part of Belgravia. It is actually one of the largest open-green spaces in McKernan, nestled at the edge of what is known as the McKernan Hip, sharing borders with Belgravia. In addition to serving the McKernan community, the park also serves the northern Belgravia community.

Since June of 2020, a group of homeowners surrounding the park have been exploring opportunities to upgrade the space. Recently a committee was formed, in partnership with McKernan Community League and the City of Edmonton, to start planning the project.

As laid out by the City's Neighbourhood Park Development Program, the project will go through five stages: 1) Strategy, 2) Concept, 3) Design, 4) Build and 5) Operate. Our committee has been given the go ahead to start work on stage one, which includes developing a plan to engage the community. After completion of the Strategy stage, we will move into the Concept stage, which will include working with a City project manager and landscape architect on a concept plan with more design specifics. Each stage of the process will include community engagement, feedback and input.



A survey is now available online to identify what type of upgrades community members would like to see in Charles Simmonds Park. We hope you and your family will take the time to complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DHRWP3B> or use the QR code here.

A hard copy version of the survey will be available in the March editions of the McKernan and Belgravia Community League newsletters. Thank you for taking the time to respond to the survey. If you have any questions email: charlessimmondspark@gmail.com.

League notes February

New treasurer joins board

Jim Martin has joined the league board as treasurer. Jim has been a McKernan resident since 2015, and says the past year has reminded him of the importance of community. He has extensive experience in public and private sector finance. Welcome to the board, Jim!

AGM April 5

Our Annual General Meeting will be held April 5 online (unless the COVID situation has dramatically improved by then, OR we're able to host an outdoor event). All community league members are eligible to vote and we encourage you to attend.

The positions of president and vice-president, and two of the director-at-large positions, are open for election for two-year terms.

The Board would particularly like to have representation from a younger community member (university student or young adult). If you are keen on helping to make connections in the community, we'd love to hear from you.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Roberta Franchuk (president@mckernancommunity.org).

Events in the community

Virtual Canadian Birkie, February 12 to 21. In this pandemic year, the Canadian Birkebeiner Society has set up a new event that offers everyone an opportunity to participate. You can classic ski, skate ski, roller-ski, skijor, cycle, run, ice skate, snowshoe, or walk in a 4, 8, 13, 31 or 55 kilometre event. You can go at your own pace, at your own place! Pricing, prizes, registration, and information on the Most Kilometre Group Award at <https://canadianbirkie.com/virtual-birkie/>



Heather McPherson
Member of Parliament
Edmonton Strathcona

Contact my office for assistance with:

- Employment Insurance
- Old Age Pensions
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Citizenship & Immigration
- Canada Student Loans
- Celebratory Messages

780-495-8404
10045 81 Ave T6E1W7



heather.mcperson@parl.gc.ca

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Visit my website at www.heathermcperson.ndp.ca

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