

FALL 2022

lotus link



Connecting the Genesis Centre and Surrounding
NORTHEAST CALGARY COMMUNITIES

Genesis Centre: Home of the North of McKnight Community Hub

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Lotus Link
Online!
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Saddle Ridge

Late Season Garden Décor

Partners Development Group

Phase 5 of Homestead

Academy of Learning

Genesis Centre Campus

The City of Calgary – Ward 5

Let's Get Involved Together

Antyx Community Arts

Antyx Hip-Hop Club

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Connecting the Genesis Centre and surrounding Northeast Calgary Communities.

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1000voices

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Lotus Link is published four times per year by the Genesis Centre. To submit stories and photos contact your Community Association Board or email the Lotus Link editor at jardiel@genesis-centre.ca.

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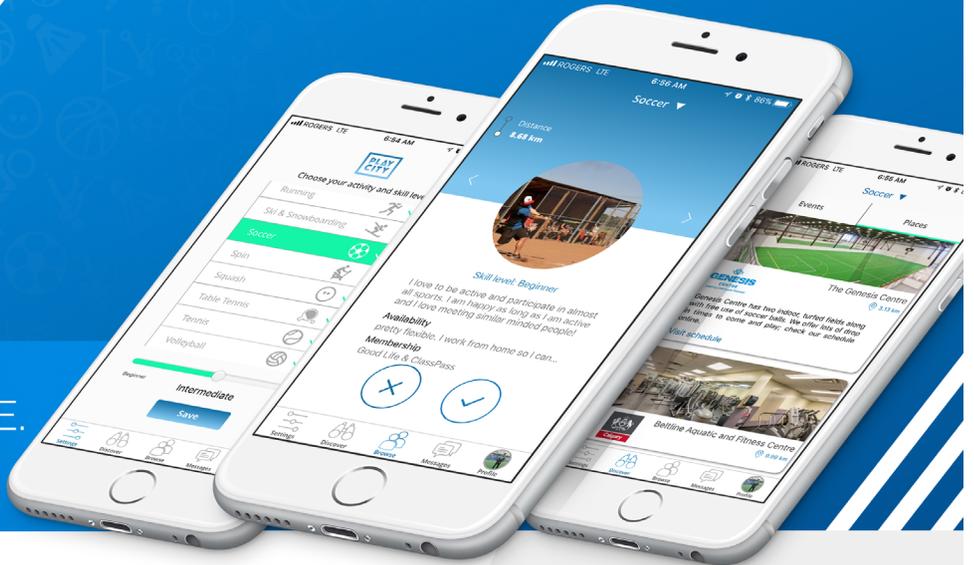
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OPENING SOON



SADDLE RIDGE

Message

*from the
President*



I hope everyone is enjoying the sunshine while it lasts!

By the time you have this issue in-hand, we will have finished our free recycling event. This event happens every year in September with city garbage trucks, electronic recycling and sometimes tyre and bicycle recyclers participating.

We are also planning to paint the pavement as a part of placemaking project we did with the University of Calgary Urban Planning department. The traffic island we chose is at Saddletowne Circle and Saddlemont Blvd.

The SRCA has applied for a study with the University of Calgary student to work with us to identify places that can be improved in our community – whether it is more seating for seniors, placemaking, more trees or way finding. We are excited for the possibility of working with their graduate class.

Please keep your surrounding area clean, especially around mailboxes. Junk mail can be recycled at home instead of littering. We need to take the ownership of our community and keep it clean.

Lastly, the SRCA is always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested or know anyone who is curious how our community association works, please do not hesitate to reach one of us. I might sound like a broken record, but I cannot emphasize enough on signing up for the Saddle Ridge Community Association membership. The more funds we have, the more opportunities we can create for residents to participate.

We hope you all have a great fall! 🍁

Asim Baig
President, SRCA

DIRECTORY

**Saddle Ridge
Community Association**



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27 7555 Falconridge Blvd NE
Calgary T3J 0C9
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SADDLE RIDGE

Filipino Heritage Month

Filipino Heritage Month is a month-long celebration that celebrates, appreciates, and honours Filipinos within Canada during the month of June. It recognizes the contributions, dedication, and hard work Filipinos have contributed to Canada within the past decades, as well as the heritage that Filipinos possess and pass down to new generations here in Alberta. We celebrate the talent, art, food, people, and the heritage of Filipinos in Canada!

In 2018 the NDP proclaimed June to be Filipino Heritage Month after Alberta took notice of the City of Toronto passing the motion to declare this month-long celebration. It began with a petition started by Paulina Corpuz, a Toronto-based community leader and the President of the Philippine Advancement Through Arts and Culture (PATAC) who was inspired by Black History Month and conceptualized a version for Filipino-Canadians.

In 2016, Corpuz brought the idea to three Ontario MPs who agreed to bring the idea forward as a motion, but unfortunately it failed. Frustrated, Corpuz decided to start smaller by presenting the idea to a Toronto councillor, Neethan Shan, who agreed to represent this idea to city council. Shortly after, Toronto's city council unanimously passed the motion to approve Filipino Heritage Month to be held annually every June. This motion gathered attention and soon Alberta became the first province to proclaim Filipino Heritage Month in 2018. Canada's House of Commons would soon follow to pass Motion-155 recognizing Filipino Heritage Month on a national level.

Filipino Heritage Month is more than just a celebration of our community, culture, and heritage, but a way to establish Filipino heritage for future generations. Additionally, it's a time to reflect on the struggles and issues that Filipino-Canadians still face today; the lack of recognition of professional credentials being recognized in Canada,

the normalization of disposable labour, the lack of support for localized Filipino businesses. It's a call for change to the nature in which Filipinos are stitched in the Canadian fabric.

Simon Bondoc, part of the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) of Fiesta Filipino and a member of Anakbayan Alberta, said that even though this establishment of Filipino History Month has been quite recent, it feels very natural. Filipino-Canadians have long been recognized as creative and talented people that have good food and good energy, and it's great that we're finally recognizing this with a national celebration. Bondoc is happy that we're finding outlets to celebrate Filipinos, and that we're finding our space and a sense of empowerment for Filipino-Canadians that was not established before.

Filipino Heritage Month was created to help benefit future generations of Filipinos that come here to Canada—especially the generations of Filipinos born in Canada who seek the lens of what it means to be Filipino from our family, cousins, friends, and media. Filipino Heritage Month helps to ensure our heritage is getting passed down to the next generation.

When it came to reflecting on this month and what it means to be Filipino, my cousin Alyssa mentioned that Filipinos have good food and that our community treats everyone like family. If you've ever been to a Filipino family get-together, you'll know how generous we are with our guests and how much food we'll feed you! Another cousin, Lizelle, mentioned that our generosity is something we share with others. It's an impact of what our heritage leaves with the next generation.

Being Filipino myself, it's important to understand that even though our community has been here



ABOVE: The Philippines archipelago.



for decades, it wasn't until recently that it's been celebrated. I remember so many people I met who were Filipino, yet didn't want to make the effort to showcase their heritage. Bondoc had added that there's a mindset for many immigrants that because they immigrated or were born in Canada, they should not care for or associate with our homeland anymore. Thankfully this sentiment is changing. Being in the Northeast of Calgary with a large Filipino community, I didn't lose the path of my heritage. I have cousins, titos (uncles), and titas (aunts) that have been here since the 1960s. I went to schools that were predominantly Filipino where we bonded through family get-togethers and cultural similarities. We celebrated ourselves and made sure to stay proud of who we are.

Although we know how to build a community to celebrate one another, Filipino Heritage Month is the true knot that unites us into celebrating our heritage. Filipino Heritage Month is more than a celebration of Filipinos, it's an uplifting of our culture and identity here in Calgary, in Alberta, and in Canada, and helps connect new generations with Filipino heritage and legacy. Every June we recognize our impact in Canada and reflect on what future changes we can continue to develop as we influence our nation as proud Filipino-Canadians. 🌸



Raphael Ramos (pictured above)

SADDLE RIDGE

Late Season Garden Home Décor



LEFT: Centrepiece with gathered cone accents.

In the summer, if a gardener wants to add a bit of the garden to home décor, cut flowers can be the solution—a lovely bouquet of in season blooms is always nice. Regular cutting of many annual flowers such as zinnia, calendula, nigella, and cosmos for bouquets encourages more blooms.

Now that it's fall, what can the gardener do? Well, it's a traditional time for door wreaths. And just like planning to have a cut flower garden, a gardener can plant with late season décor in mind. Throughout the year, and especially now, collect dried seed heads to add to décor pieces. Ideally, throughout the growing season the gardener would collect blossoms to dry and save seed heads. Some gardeners grow strawflowers. These plants produce blooms with dry straw-like petals that preserve beautifully and add a splash of colour to whatever arrangements they are used in. Many Calgary gardeners grow Anabelle hydrangeas and double-flowered peony varieties. These full-blossomed flowers if picked just after opening and hung upside-down to dry, make beautiful additions to dried arrangements and accents in seasonal wreaths.

Grape, twig, or ribbon covered wreath bases can be accented with the dried material collected from the garden. Plants for late collection include sea holly (*Eryngium*), globe thistle (*Echinops*), and stoncrop (*Sedum*). These plants have very durable seed heads that remain throughout the winter, especially if it is cold and dry. The seed heads of coneflowers (*Echinacea*) are also quite durable. If you grow silver wormwood (*Artemisia ludoviciana*), it makes a lovely silver accent. If collected before the first hard frosts, it can be dried bent in a curve, then used as a wreath base—naturally silver and elegant.

In fall, there is a lull in gardening tasks. If the weather is nice, there are some maintenance chores that can be done such as ensuring the eaves are cleared of leaves, mulching perennial beds after the ground freezes, and tidying the garden shed. This leaves plenty of time for more artistic pastimes for the gardener.

CALGARY
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM: Rose hip berries add colour to your arrangements; Grape vine wreath bases pair well with foraged garden plant materials for an artistic touch; Annabelle Hydrangea make for beautiful additions to seasonal wreaths.

Fresh evergreen wreaths are commonly hung on doors as part of our holiday traditions. The evergreen wreath can also be decorated with foraged garden accents. If you have a spruce or pine tree, the cones are lovely seasonal additions that never fade. If you're crafty and enjoy a few faux touches, try adding a little white paint and glitter to the cones for snow- or frost-like touches.

Other material from garden shrubs can also be used in the wreaths. Cutting stems of dogwoods with red, gold, or green stems will add a bit of colour. Branches with leaves that failed to fall, will add texture as well as colour. Don't forget about berries! Rose hips and mountain ash berries will add a splash of red to an arrangement.

This year, when displaying season décor include material foraged from the garden. Next year, add a few plants with fall décor in mind and choose some with coloured stems or interesting and durable seed heads. It's the quiet season, time to work on your garden plan and dream about what you'll be planting next year!

If you would like to learn more about gardening, visit the Calgary Horticultural Society website at calhort.org. 🌿

Deborah Maier
Calgary Horticultural Society





We are not Recreating the “Community” Wheel

Canada’s largest career college network is now open at the Genesis Centre

For over 30 years, **Academy of Learning Career College (AOLCC)** has helped over 100,000 people, from all walks of life, earn more money in careers they love. And our mission statement is always top of mind; to improve the lives of under-served students and the communities in which they live.

So when we open a new college campus, there are a few critical elements we must have.

We Must...

- Offer programs that train our students for real jobs that pay well.
- Have the flexibility to meet the unique training needs of our students.
- Be experts at government grant funding and student financing.
- Have a great team of people who care about student success.
- Build a sense of community for our students, graduates, and alumni.



 @myaolcc  /myaolcc.genesis

And that community piece is so important - the AOLCC community within the local community. Where students encourage one another. Where graduates go out into the workplace with confidence. Where alumni stay engaged and connected to inspire and support the next generation of AOLCC students.

Ask any Academy of Learning Career College graduate why they chose AOLCC or why they found success and they’ll often tell you that it’s not about the programs we offer, it’s about the people. It’s about the community that supported them through their program and into their new job.

What we find most exciting about opening our newest campus in the Calgary Genesis Centre is that we don’t have to reinvent the “community” wheel. There is already a vibrant community, nestled in the heart of Calgary’s northeast.

The Calgary Genesis Centre is already filled with people who care about each other, people who work hard together, people who celebrate together, and people who seek to better themselves and each other.

We’re excited to be a part of this community and serve this community by providing convenient access to a college education that leads to life-changing career opportunities.



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Learn more at myaolcc.com/genesis. 

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\$500 Refer a Friend Program

Know someone who could use a fresh start? Refer them to Academy of Learning Career College and we'll give you \$500 when they start their program.



Calgary's New Northeast Continues to Grow with Phase 5 of Homestead

With endless prairie field views to the east and beautiful Rocky Mountain views to the west, Partners Development Group has been reinventing how people see life in Calgary's northeast since launching their new community, Homestead, in early 2021. Accessible via McKnight Blvd at 84th Street, Homestead has continued to bring a breath of fresh air to NE Calgary with its master-planned design centered around family, nature, and connectivity.

Following a highly successful 2021, Homestead has continued its strong sales and growth through 2022 and heading into the final quarter of the year, they are showing no signs of slowing down. "We were thrilled to see how strongly people connected with our community vision, and the lifestyle we are trying to promote here with Homestead" says Cale Marklund, Marketing Manager with Partners

Development Group. "We're excited to now officially be selling in Phases 3 and 5 of Homestead as it continues to grow and provide beautiful homes for families in Calgary."

Everyone deserves to live somewhere they love, and we want to be able to make that possible.



Cale Marklund
Marketing Manager

These new phases of Homestead feature a greater variety of home options, as the community now features front-drive garage homes, laned homes, no condo fee street towns, and the newest addition to the impressive mix of housing options – paired homes. "It's important to us that we provide options to meet every lifestyle and every level of affordability" says Marklund. "Everyone deserves to live somewhere they love, and we want to be able to make that possible."

Homestead has been master-planned to include an abundance of outdoor recreation possibilities including a 19-acre environmental wetland, 4-kilometers of pathways, pickleball and



PLANT YOUR ROOTS



PHOTOS: Choose from four award-winning builders and multiple home styles.



basketball courts, soccer fields, a cricket pitch, and a 3-acre community association featuring additional outdoor space and a community garden.

One of the most exciting features coming soon to Homestead is the 4-acre neighbourhood commercial shopping site called Homestead Landing. Construction on the site has already begun, and when completed, will feature a variety of food and dining options, grocery store, childcare facility, medical center, fitness center, convenience store and gas bar, and many other amenities to serve residents of Homestead.

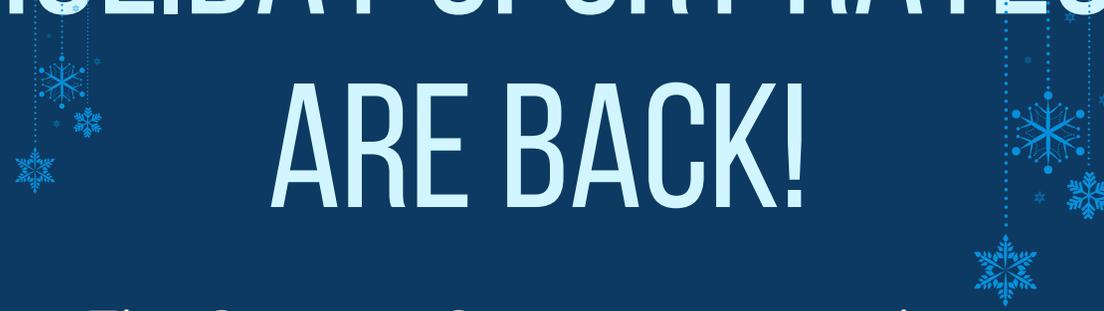
With only the one access point to the community currently, it will soon get much easier to travel in and out of Homestead. There are three more direct access points coming to the community, with the soonest being an overpass from 80th Ave NE.

With four award-winning builders, multiple home styles, and nature at your doorstep, Homestead is the perfect community for your growing family to plant their roots in northeast Calgary. Learn more at liveinhomestead.ca. 

Homestead

a **partners** community

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Treehouse-dwellers

We are foreigners.

We live in these houses,
yet have no home.
In the same neighbourhood,
with little expectation of neighbourliness.
In this diverse city,
yet not connected by diversity.

We are unique
neither Here nor There
our countries, roots and branches in our identity
yet, our countries do not consider us citizens,
claiming our identities invalidate us

Truthfully, our identities are
confused?
Our home is here,
A treehouse made of the bark of woods we have lived in.
Our roots are elsewhere,
An immovable forest whose bark we have taken to build our treehouse.
And neither bark nor root recognize us as theirs
because there is too much of us that isn't theirs.

too much 'Western' to be traditional
too much 'traditional' to be Western
neither Here nor There,
existing in Nowhere and Everywhere at once
in our claustrophobic treehouse.

Yet, it is between Nowhere and Everywhere
that we find treehouses like ours,
hewn together from the fine barks of their countries
international citizens with identities that are just as confused?
living in treehouses unrecognized by neither bark nor root

and, as demoralizing as it may seem,
we, the treehouse-dwellers, find hope
in the place between Nowhere and Everywhere

for there, living in those claustrophobic treehouses,
live foreigners like us
who recognize us
as one of their own

those who know the new subtlety of racist nuances
who shred the blankets of stereotypes placed upon them
by their own countries
who stand firm when their identities are brought into question

who recognize us
because we are one of their own:
foreigners.

We are them.
They are us.
And we, the treehouse-dwellers, find hope
because,
even if our treehouses share no common bark,
they were built the same way

By foreigners
who nicked their hands as they tore away each strip of bark
from their country's forest,
caught themselves in the sticky strings of love they used as glue
to hold their treehouse together,
who housed hope when their treehouse seemed out of place,
who opened their arms to other treehouse-dwellers,
who stand united with other treehouse-dwellers

And we stand united with other treehouse-dwellers
because they are us
and we are them. 🌿

Ariana Nazem

*She/Her, University of Calgary Student
Instagram @ariana.nazem*

HAPPY

HALLOWEEN

Genesis Centre encourages you to dress up in your spookiest outfit on Monday, October 31st (Halloween!) to receive some treats from the front desk.

**GENESIS**
CENTRE

An Inspired Community



Pre-Kindergarten Academy
Ages 3-5 years (Pre-K)

WISHING ALL THE FAMILIES A HAPPY SUMMER!

REGISTRATION IS ON-GOING FOR 2022-2023

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THE GENESIS CENTRE | 7555 Falconridge Blvd NE

Pre-Kindergarten Academy (Ages 3-5 years)

Pre-Kindergarten is an early literacy focused program combining ample play with learning. Our children play and explore our child-centered classroom, while gaining valuable social skills. Activity centers include math readiness, science, literacy, fine motor work (printing/cutting), arts/craft/painting, in addition to all of the typical preschool centers of sand/water, playdough, puzzles, blocks, story corner and toys. The children enjoy off-site trips and in-class visitors which are chosen to complement programming. Our program has a strict and thorough regimen of cleaning protocols which staff follow. Please feel free to ask questions.

PRE-K NEWS

We wish all of the families a very happy summer! We value the time that we had with your children and trust that they have made lasting memories with us. We have enjoyed many special activities, including a trip to the corn maze, visits by Mad Science, Santa, the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, and the Alberta Institute for Wildlife, and had a blast at our Year End Picnic! The time has just flown by and we are now setting our sights on planning for the upcoming school year, 2022-2023. We have many fun things planned for our little ones next year. Some space is still available in our program, but as we operate with small class sizes which maximize teacher and child interactions, please register soon to secure your spot.

www.Pre-KindergartenEd.com

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ANTYX COMMUNITY ARTS

Antyx Hip-Hop Club at the Genesis Centre



PHOTOS: Antyx Hip-Hop Club runs every Friday night at the Genesis Centre.



Since 2017, the Genesis Centre has been a hub for Antyx Hip-Hop Club bringing new opportunities for collaboration and idea sharing within the hip-hop community. This year we have expanded what's being offered within the program to include open-mic emceeing and open-deck deejaying in addition to open-floor dancing! This has brought exciting new partnerships and collaborations to the community, simultaneously enhancing the mission and vision of Antyx Hip-Hop Club.

This program is designed to give youth participants the chance to embrace leadership roles and make their voices heard to positively impact their self-esteem. Often, we see our youth grow professionally throughout the program

Genesis Centre of Community Wellness



and become partners once they have aged out of the program. One of our current youth, Dredyn Vasquez, has inspired the resurgence of one of our biggest hip-hop events, organizing the sixth edition of Culture Shock - a free public event in collaboration with the Genesis Centre to celebrate Alberta Culture Days.

Competing in 2019, Dredyn took the initiative to instead become the head event planner with guidance from our facilitator Bryan Francisco during Hip-Hop Club sessions. The September event featured all-styles battles and breaking competitions, successfully bringing the community together and revitalizing a piece of Antyx history.

Antyx
FRIDAY HIP-HOP CLUB
FREE YOUTH PROGRAM

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Join Antyx for a weekly in-person series of open-floor and open-deck cyphers at the Genesis Centre! Learn how to participate in a cypher and spin decks with us.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
GENESIS CENTRE
7555 Falconridge Blvd NE #10
AGES 12 - 18
TO REGISTER EMAIL:
SIMONE@ANTYX.ORG

Safe + Inclusive Supported By: @ANTYXARTS Funded By:

GENESIS CALGARY CALGARY FOUNDATION FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

If you are interested in collaborating with Antyx Hip-Hop Club or know of youth between the ages of 12-18 who would like to join the program, email Simone at simone@antyx.org. This free program runs every Friday night from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the upper mezzanine at the Genesis Centre. 🌿

GENESIS CENTRE

Genesis Centre: Home of the North of McKnight Community Hub

Did you know that the Genesis Centre is home to one of five City of Calgary-recognized Community Hubs in the city? The official name of the community hub at the Genesis Centre is the North of McKnight Community Hub. The North of McKnight Community Hub is operated by the co-located partners at the Genesis Centre, including the Genesis Centre, Saddletowne YMCA, Saddletowne Library, and Trellis.

What are **Community Hubs**?

“Community Hubs are welcoming and inclusive spaces where residents go to make friends, pursue common interests, and find support when they need it. It’s a place that’s welcoming, inclusive and connecting. There is no one single model or right way of creating a community hub. They can be formal or informal, loose, or structured. A communal garden, a group of grandparents who knit scarves for kids, a drop-in workshop where people learn how to write a resume, access the Internet, or play with their children—these can all be community hubs. A hub may start out simply as a place for people to get together and later add programs and other functions that serve the community. Community hubs provide a different mix of resources that address area-specific needs. In this way, hubs reflect and strengthen the communities that create them. In keeping with the Enough for All poverty reduction strategy, everyone should have at least three people to call on in a time of need, and hubs forge these vitally important social connections.”

What makes the **Community Hubs Initiative** unique?

“Each Hub site is unique, just like the community it serves. What is consistent across the sites is that they are intentionally working to activate the four key features. The Community Hubs Initiative creates opportunities for connections and fosters relationships with residents, community groups, services providers, agencies, levels of government, corporate and philanthropic partners, donors, and so much more. Each Community Hub has four features:

- Welcoming and inclusive gathering spaces
- Connections to each other and the community
- Easy access to supports, services, and resources
- Platforms to spark community economic outcomes

What are some features of the **North of McKnight Community Hub**?

“Some key highlights of the North of McKnight Community Hub include newcomer and youth programs, free tax clinics during tax season, and accessible and affordable space for community groups and grassroots organizations. In addition to this, the North of McKnight Community Hub also has staff positions working to build community and serve residents around the neighbourhood. These positions and individuals are profiled below.”

– *United Way of Calgary and Area*

Anu
Community Connector



What are you looking forward to doing as the Connector?

I will be continuing to focus on creating the Hubs space a more welcoming and inclusive one. I will continue to create more and more opportunities for resident skill building, collaborate with residents to organize events and activities based on the need and vibe of the community.

What do you enjoy about your neighbourhood?

The more I live in NE, the more I realize that NE is such “a caring community”. We have community members who are supportive to each other. This was clearly visible especially during the Pandemic, when we stood together to help each other, which showed the true spirits of our Communities in NE. Apart from that, I love to easy accessibility to various amenities here in NE, the recreation centres, parks, walkways, ethnic grocery stores, easy accessibility to downtown and what not!

Pooja
Community Connector,
Mental Health &
Wellness Portfolio



What are you looking forward to doing as the Connector?

Making a joyful, welcoming environment is something I’m looking forward to! My favourite aspect of my job as the mental health community connector is the breadth of opportunities it offers. It helps me to open important dialogue in the neighbourhood, learn more about what sort of learning activities people there are interested in, and work with them to plan workshops focused on mental health and wellness.

What do you enjoy about your neighbourhood?

The more I stay in Northeast, the more I understand how compassionate and diverse the area is, and the more I feel as though I am in my hometown. There are many people in our community, and they support one another. This is what we observed as everyone came together to assist one another in our shared situation. Many items in this community are incredibly convenient for me to obtain: Indian and Pakistani supermarkets, trains, buses, libraries, retail stores, and so forth.

Sue
Community Connector,
Food Portfolio



What are you looking forward to doing as the Connector?

I am really looking forward to the gardening club and fresh fruits and vegetables preserving that we will be doing this summer.

What do you enjoy about your neighbourhood?

The thing that I love most about my community is the willingness of people to connect and share their experience and knowledge with others.

Contact

For more information on the Community Hubs Initiative, please visit <https://calgaryunitedway.org/impact/communities/community-hubs/>.

For individual questions about each of the community connectors’ portfolios, please email:

- pooja@hubsconnector.ca
- sue@hubsconnector.ca
- anu@hubsconnector.ca 🌸



WARD 5



Let's Get Involved Together

I hope you and your families had a fantastic summer and that you were able to enjoy the beautiful weather and sunshine. My team and I stayed busy in July and August, taking tours of the ward with developers and City of Calgary Administrators to discuss bringing amenities to your neighbourhoods. I procured benches and chairs for some of our parks and identified areas for playgrounds and playing fields for emerging sports like cricket and field hockey. We continued our alley clean-up project in Falconridge and Skyview Ranch. And in September, we mapped out our priorities as we head into discussions about the next four-year budget plan. All in all, we had and continue to have plenty of projects going on to improve life in Ward 5 communities and Calgary as a whole.

Stay up to date

The best way to always keep track of what I'm up to is through my personal website. It's regularly updated with pictures and stories from my meetings and visits with Ward 5 residents, the events I attend around the city, and the work I do with my fellow councillors. You'll also find a list of Ward 5 resources for you and your family and a contact page to send me your concerns and compliments.

While you're there, also take a moment to subscribe to the monthly newsletter so you can have my updates sent directly to you. That just makes it even more convenient to keep me accountable.

Access the website at www.rajyyc.ca.

Budget engagement

As I mentioned earlier, City Council is busy preparing the service plans and budget for the next four years. The budget is the roadmap

The City of Calgary will use to deliver services to you and the financial plan to make it happen. The City is a massive corporation with thousands of employees across dozens of departments working to improve your lives and communities.

This is a huge undertaking when you think about everything The City provides and all the people and departments involved to make it all work. So, it's important for you, the residents, to provide your input! I want to hear what matters to you. What services do you want The City to focus on? What should I advocate for that will improve your lives?

- Improving transit service and security?
- Enhancing snow and ice clearing?
- Parks and grass maintenance?

The official engagement process on Calgary's website ended on September 30, but you can still reach out to my office with your thoughts. Just send an email to ward5@calgary.ca.

Become friends with 311

Staying on top of addressing your concerns is one of my top priorities as your councillor. My team at the Ward 5 office handles all types of issues you might have. In just one year, we've helped hundreds of residents take care of everything from traffic problems to littering to trees needing replacement.

If you don't already, I'm requesting you use **The City of Calgary's 311 service** as much as possible. This allows us to track the number of reports we receive on a particular issue and ensure we follow up with actions and solutions. For example, I noticed we received many



Learn more about your community association:

Saddle Ridge
mysrca.ca

Taradale
taradale.org

Martindale
martindaleyyc.ca

Falconridge Castleridge
falconridgecastleridge.ca

Skyview Ranch
svrca.ca

complaints about illegal business signs on the sides of roads. I used this as evidence to bring it up at a Council meeting, and the Community Standards team promptly addressed it.

Lately, we've received a lot of emails about homeless encampments along Metis Trail, in the storm ponds and behind businesses. **Filing a 311 report is the best move for them too.** It allows The City's Encampment team to know exactly where to go out to find them, talk to them and start the process of moving them. If you wonder why it might seem like nothing's happening, it's because The City gives those folks a few days to move on their own. If they don't move on their own, The City will force them out and clean up the site.

The more our residents use 311, the more The City can see what needs to be addressed, and they'll allocate resources toward it. **Please don't feel like you're bothering them with your reports.** This is why they're there! 311 also offers service in many languages with agents ready to help you 24 hours a day. And if you don't want to talk to someone, you can use the online tool or the phone app. With the app, you can simply take a picture of the problem and upload it! Once you have your SR number, we can help move it along.

Please bookmark this link for easy access and help us be our eyes and ears: www.calgary.ca/311.html

Get involved with your community association!

I know you love where you live -- and I hear from people all the time about the great things they want to do to contribute to and improve their communities. You have many great ideas, from creating more beautiful public spaces to keeping areas clean of litter. One of the best ways to get stuff done is through your local community association. Community associations have unique access to funding and can activate other volunteers to turn your ideas into a reality. They also have numerous programs that can support your family, including access to children's programs and recreational facilities. If you're passionate about your community, absolutely consider joining your local community association. They love seeing more people involved and so would I. Let's move Ward 5 forward, together! 🌸

Raj Dhaliwal
Councillor Ward 5, City of Calgary

Q: WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE OUTDOORS, INDOORS?

A: With Green Calgary's Green Kids Program!

Studies have shown that students learn better when they are stimulated by nature, both by learning outdoors and by including outdoor elements in the classroom. All of Green Calgary's Green Kids programs bring nature to students' fingertips with hands-on activities that encourage curiosity and are designed to link in with both the old and the new curriculum.

New for this school year, Green Calgary is introducing edu-kits for teachers, allowing them to extend their lessons beyond our visit.

Here are some of Green Calgary's most popular programs!

- **Waste in Our World**; explore how a landfill works by building your own!
- **Worms Love Leftovers**; meet our red wiggler friends and learn how worms breakdown our waste.
- **YYC's Citizen Scientist**; discover wildlife in your own backyard and help actual scientific discovery with this fun outdoor program delivered in two parts (in partnership with CPAWS).



green calgary
Greening Life Together

 @green.yyc

 @greencalgary

 /greencalgary.org

Like what you see? Teachers can find all our programs at greencalgary.org and parents can tell your child's teacher about Green Calgary's programs! Let nature be your classroom! 🌱



Did You Know That More Than **2 Million Tonnes** of Edible Food are Discarded in Canada Annually?

Green Calgary's **Spill the Beans** program will help you waste less, save money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing food waste. This program intends to help the community to understand

concepts like best before/expiry dates, food label terminology, food preservation techniques, and much more.

Stay tuned for more details at greencalgary.org 

It's Time to Check for Air Drafts!

Using a draft detector, lit candle, or incense stick, inspect a few key areas in your home for air drafts and take steps to reduce your winter energy use.

Learn more about home energy efficiency and register for a free public session at www.greencalgary.org/energy. 



Draft Checklist	Solution
✓ Windows	Apply plastic window film; reseal cracked silicone caulking
✓ Doors	Replace old weather stripping; install door sweep at base
✓ Attic hatch	Add insulation/weather stripping
✓ Power outlets (exterior walls)	Seal air leaks with foam outlet covers/plug protectors



Genesis Centre **Active Living Program Providers**

Alberta Tunisian Association (ATA) Soccer

info@albertatunisianassociation.ca
www.albertatunisianassociation.ca

All Canadian Karate Union

jbray@acku.org • (403) 232-0228
www.acku.org

Best Beginning

www.birthandbabies.com/best-beginning-program

Calgary Bengal Tigers SC

cbengaltigers@gmail.com • (403) 804-1747 • (403) 554-6426
www.calgarybengaltigers.ca

Calgary Hornets Lacrosse

hornetslacrosse.com

Calgary Junior Table Tennis Association

calgaryjtta@gmail.com
www.cjtta.com

Calgary Knights Lacrosse

registrar@calgaryknightslacrosse.com • (403) 568-3573
www.calgaryknightslacrosse.com

Calgary Minor Soccer Association (CMSA)

info@calgaryminorsoccer.com • (403) 279-8686
www.calgaryminorsoccer.com

Calgary Northeast United (CNEU) FC

info@cneu.ca • (403) 585-7500
www.cneu.ca

Calgary Roller Hockey

www.calgaryrollerhockey.com

Calgary Sport & Social Club

info@calgarysportsclub.com • (403) 244-7529
www.calgarysportsclub.com

Calgary United Soccer Association (CUSA)

info@cusa.ab.ca • (403) 270-0363
www.cusa.ab.ca

Calgary Women's Lacrosse League

womenslacrosseyyc@gmail.com
www.calgarywomenslacrosse.com

Calgary Women's Soccer Association (CWSA)

office@mycwsa.ca • (403) 720-6692
www.mycwsa.ca

Destiny Martial Arts Club

info@destinymartialarts.com
www.destinymartialarts.com

Dodgeball Calgary

info@dodgeballcalgary.com
www.dodgeballcalgary.com

Kshatriya Badminton Academy

kshatriyabadmintonacademy.ca
kbaamit@gmail.com • (587) 225-7786

Legacy Academy

legacyacademysports@gmail.com
www.legacyacademysports.com

Lions Soccer Club

(403) 607-0751 / (403) 432-6666
www.lionsoccer.ca

Little Kickers

mpalma@littlekickers.ca • (833) 444-5425
www.littlekickers.ca

Nachda Punjab Bhangra Academy

(403) 835-8963
www.bhangracalgary.ca

North Calgary FC

www.northcalgaryfc.com

Pre-Kindergarten Educational Services

register@prekindergartened.com
www.pre-kindergartened.com

Soccer Elite Academy

calgary@soccereliteacademy.ca • (403) 771-5399
www.soccereliteacademy.ca

Spartans Soccer Club & Academy

spartanfcainfo@gmail.com
www.spartansoccerclub.com

Team Rise Collective Inc.

info@riseup-hoops.com
www.riseup-hoops.com

The Hills Women's Soccer

thehillssoccer@gmail.com

UMOJA Community Mosaic

office@umojamosaic.org • (403) 764-5234
www.umojamosaic.org

United FHC Calgary

unitedfhccalgary@gmail.com • (403) 973-1012 • (403) 667-2524
www.ufhc.ca



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Hours of Operations

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