

NORTHEAST VOICE

Serving the community leagues of Evansdale, Kilkenny, and McLeod

October 2022



Published by Calder Publications. To advertise please call 780-434-9732 or email info@communityleagueneews.com

McLeod At EPL Londonderry!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Weekly:

Settlement Practitioner (Adult)

***Check in with the LON branch for ongoing schedule updates.

Tuesdays/Wednesdays 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Fridays 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

We offer Settlement Services to help you with common questions about moving to Canada and settling into a new home.

Sing Sign Laugh and Learn (Baby & Toddler)

Mondays 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM, 2:15 PM – 3:00 PM, *No class Oct 10th

Tuesdays 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Wednesdays 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Saturdays 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

You and your child from birth to age three are invited to join us for songs, rhymes and signs.

STEAM Lab (9-12)

Tuesdays 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

From robot battles to hovercrafts to building your own games, discover all things Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math.

LACE Conversation Circle (Adult)

Thursdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Drop in and join others who also want to practice their English.

Teen Lounge (Teen)

Thursdays 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Join other teens in the program room to play video games, make a DIY project, meet friends or just hang out.

Tech Time (All/Adult/Senior)

Fridays 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM *Note: NEW TIME!

Need some one-on-one tech help? Bring your device (or use one of ours) and come www.communityleagueneews.com

prepared with a tech-related question or challenge you would like to explore with a savvy staff member.

Youth Talk (Teen)

Fridays 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Practice your communication skills and gain familiarity with Canadian society and culture in this conversation-based program designed for newcomer youth.

Reading Buddies (Grades 2 – 4)

Thursdays 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Reading Buddies matches teen mentors with kids in Grades 2–4 to practice reading skills.

One-Time Events:

Book Clubs of EPL

Wed 10/26/2022, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Come join us for lively discussions on all types of fiction and non-fiction.

October's Book: Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

November's Book: The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro

At EPL McConachie

Weekly:

Sing Sign Laugh and Learn (Baby & Toddler) *No class Oct 10th

Mondays 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

You and your child from birth to age three are invited to join us for songs, rhymes and signs

Baby Laptime (Baby & Toddler)

Wednesdays 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Enjoy delightful stories, songs, books, rhymes, finger plays and more, especially for babies.

Break-In at Evansdale Community League

On August 8, 2022 shortly after 6:00am the Evansdale Community League experienced a theft at our facility. The chain on our large gate was cut and our shed was broken into. Our winter tractor and snowblade were taken.

The individual(s) entered the side door of the shed, hot-wired the tractor, put on a hard hat plus safety vest, turned on the tractor flashers and drove away. Upon viewing the video from our cameras it was apparent that this was a targeted

theft and planned out well. Unfortunately our cameras did not capture any image of their faces.

We are currently dealing with our insurance company and the hard part is finding equipment for the winter. Wish us luck, If anyone in the neighborhood saw anything or by chance lives near-by and has any video footage from that morning please give the police a call. This is a huge loss for us as a community and our rinks this winter.

Evansdale 2022 Pickleball Season



The 2022 Pickleball season at Evansdale is coming to end and it has been an excellent year! Our membership grew to 77 participants; which is a huge increase from last year. The word is starting to get around that we are open.

This year we also offered beginner coaching sessions taught by Ted and Derick. All participants who attended their classes were so

pleased. They had such great reviews which in turn caused some of their classes to be full!

Our community would like to give a big shout out to Ted and Derick for the great job they did with the lessons, and for the time they gave so generously. [More info on page 5](#)

Kilkenny Events Coming Up

Oct 29 – 11am-3pm Halloween Kids Party

Nov 03, 2022 Annual General Meeting 7 pm

Nov 17, 2022 – 11am- 5 pm Arts and Craft Vendors and Other

Looking for Vendors. Contact Anna at President@kilkenny.ab.ca

Table rental is \$20 a table.

Swim Times

Londonderry Pool Sun 4:15 to 5:45

Grand Truck Pool Friday 7pm to 9 pm

O'Leary Pool Saturday 3:45 to 5:45

McLeod AGM – October 27

The McLeod AGM will be held Thursday October 27th at 6pm at McLeod Hall. Please come out and join us to hear what's going on with

your Community League and meet your Board.

This is also a great opportunity to volunteer for a Board position!

McLeod Community League News

McLeod Community Safety Director

October 2022 Alberta Traffic Safety Calendar primary focus is Pedestrian Safety. "WHEN EYES LOCK IT'S SAFER TO WALK" Pedestrian safety is a shared responsibility.

Pedestrians here is some safety tips to help get you across.

Be aware of your surroundings and stay alert when crossing the street

Obtain and Maintain eye contact with drivers wait until vehicles have stopped before you cross

Cross the street only at designated crossing points. Do not jaywalk.

Do not wear dark clothing when walking in low light or poor weather conditions. If you can, wear reflective vests or jackets

Don't start crossing after the walk light has ended

Stay off your phones and turn your music off, including your headphones, when crossing

Be aware of vehicles turning as you cross intersections

If one vehicle stops for you at a crosswalk, ensure other lanes of traffic also stop before proceeding

Drivers here are some tips to help keep pedestrians safe.

Be aware of your surroundings at all times

Watch your speed

Remember that distracted driving like texting and talking on your phone is unsafe and illegal

Use extra caution where children and pedestrians are likely to be nearby such as school and playground zones, bus stops, crosswalks, parking lots, alleys and residential areas.

REMINDER: Playground Zones are in effect 365 Days a year from 7:30 AM to 9:00 PM. Please follow the Maximum 30 Km/hr Speed Limit.

Speed Limit Change

Unless posted the speed limit is now 40 km/h on most residential and downtown streets in the City of Edmonton.

By reducing speed limits on residential streets, down-

town, and high pedestrian areas it makes our streets safer, calmer, and quieter for everyone. Slowing down vehicles gives drivers more time to react and dramatically reduces the chances of severe injuries or death.

Speed Limits on Township and Range Roads

Township and Range Roads speed limit is 80 Km/Hr unless otherwise posted.

Smoking in Vehicles with Minors present

In 2014, Alberta banned smoking in cars when anyone aged 17 and younger is present. In section 3.1 of the Tobacco, Smoking and Vaping Reduction Act it states, "no person shall smoke in a vehicle in which a minor is present. If caught you may be issued a Violation Ticket for \$300.00

Winter is Coming-Be Prepared

Prepare for an emergency You could get a flat tire, get stuck in traffic, get into an accident, have your car break down or slide into a ditch on a less traveled road. It is im-

portant to always be prepared with an emergency kit. Stock it up with a first aid kit, bottled water, snacks, flashlight, batteries, tire gauge, jumper cables and blankets.

Have your vehicle serviced by a licensed mechanic shop to ensure all necessary repairs are done. If you can afford it purchase winter tires.

Do not drive your vehicle with your windows still obscured with fog, snow or ice. This puts you and everyone else at risk on the road. Violation Ticket that can be issued for this is \$162.00.

Home Safety

Theft from garages, vehicles and yards remains an issue in our community. Please double check and ensure all vehicle and house doors are locked, do not leave your garage door openers in your vehicles, ensure bags of bottles or outdoor tools and bikes are not visible in your yards. Secure your gates or sheds with locks and consider installing motion sensor lights and or security systems

in your home. Trim Trees or Bushes away from doorways or windows.

Halloween Safety Tips

For Parents

Costumes should fit properly to prevent trips and falls. Avoid items such as oversized shoes, high heels, long dresses and long capes.

Dress your child for the weather. Add layers if needed.

Children under 12 should be accompanied by an adult for trick or treating. By the age of 12, some children are ready to go trick-or-treating with a group of friends. Make sure your child is in a group of at least 3 people. Make a plan with your child that includes which areas they will be going and what time to return at. Ensure they have a cell phone if they need to contact you or call for help. If possible, leave the find my phone app on in case of emergency.

Remove make-up before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.

For homeowners:

Turn on outdoor lights and

replace burnt-out bulbs.

Remove items from your yard or porch that might trip a child.

Sweep wet leaves from your steps and driveway.

If you don't plan on participating, then please leave your lights off

Ensure pets are put away to avoid them getting out, avoid anyone getting attacked and will help relieve the stress or anxiety of the yelling, doorbell and strangers attending the property.

For Drivers:

Drive slowly through the residential neighborhoods. Add extra time to your trip for increased pedestrians crossing the roads, increased traffic with lower speeds.

For Residents

Whether you participating or not be a good neighbor and watch for any suspicious persons or activities even on Halloween. If something doesn't seem right it usually isn't. Report any suspicious persons or activity to the Edmonton Police at 780-423-4567.

Kaizen Karate Dojo



Time to break out of your routine – get off your couch and get on our floor. Okinawan Goju ryu Karate and Ryukyu Kobudo are back at McLeod Hall on Tuesday nights.

Get yourself, your kids or the whole family active. We have family rates available.

Karate is a great activity that helps calm and focus the mind, strengthen and stretch the body and help you manage stress better. And learn some awesome karate moves!

Why break the bank when you can train locally, support your community and receive

quality instruction in a Karate Alberta-affiliated dojo, where you will receive top instruction from an internationally-ranked instructor? All for a fraction of the cost! Find us on - facebook.com/Ryukyu-KaratedoKobudo or text/ call 7806193136.

Find 10 differences.



Celebrating New School Beginnings in 2022-2023 Edmonton Catholic Schools Trustee Sandra Palazzo



With a new school year upon us, I am delighted to welcome our students, families, teachers, administrators and staff to another year of learning and growing together. We extend a special welcome to our new students, families and staff, and congratulate our newly appointed school administrators.

We look forward to working together to enhance student learning and well-being. The Edmonton Catholic School Division (ECSD) theme for this year comes from Matthew 5:16: "Let Your Light Shine Forth." At its core the theme is a message that instills our schools with a renewed sense of hope as we return to school this year. What is most inspiring is how fitting this theme is for us as our ECSD family returns to schools and

workplaces to strive to make a positive difference in our school communities and beyond. It is our hope that our students and staff will experience the joyful blessings that come through living our calling to shine our light.

The start to the school year has been a success. Over the summer months, the Division's central administrative staff moved into our beautiful new Lumen Christi Catholic Education Centre. The anticipated operational and administrative cost savings, increased synergies between departments, and staff workplace satisfaction will allow the Division to be in a stronger position to deliver on our mission and vision to provide the best Catholic education possible to our stu-

dents.

In addition to the many school opening meetings for our administrators and staff, schools have been joyfully celebrating the many new playgrounds and outdoor classrooms at many of our sites. Schools also took the opportunity to celebrate and honor the life of her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

Life in our classrooms has also been busy. With the new provincial curriculum being

implemented across Alberta schools in Physical Education and Wellness (K-6), English Language Arts and Literature (K-3), and Mathematics (K-3), ECSD's Board of Trustees was proud to host a parent evening on September 20th along with our curriculum experts to walk parents through the changes happening in the classroom which can be accessed @ https://www.ecsd.net/_ci/p/46714

On September 30th, ECSD will recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. Our students and staff will be encouraged to wear an orange shirt to show their support for this grassroots, Indigenous-led event that raises awareness of the inter-generational impact of residential schools on individuals, families, and communities, and honors the thousands of Survivors of residential schools. Every Child Matters!

Every October 2, National Custodian Day, we take time

to recognize the people who diligently work to ensure our schools and workplaces are clean, spotless and in excellent shape and we are thankful to them for their commitment to ensuring our schools and worksites are healthy, safe and welcoming places.

ECSD is once again excited to celebrate READ IN Week. Although literacy and learning events occur throughout the year, READ IN Week is a special time for our schools and city to celebrate reading. READ IN emphasizes sharing your love of reading with others and introducing friends and family to your favourite books. To increase awareness of the importance of reading, ECSD schools will be hosting READ IN from October 3-7, 2022 in honour of this year's theme, 'Choose Your Own Adventure.'

Our Division is committed to ensuring that our students feel safe, welcome and included, and become successful learners. We know that we cannot do this alone and we look for-

ward to our continued collaboration with our partners and stakeholders as we embark on another academic year filled with positive outcomes. We are excited to continue building on our successes as we strive to make a difference in the world by shining our light forth. We wish you all a rewarding and inspiring journey during the year ahead.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving, with the hope that you and your loved ones take time to reflect on the blessings in your life as we embark on another successful year of learning and working together.

I welcome the opportunity to engage with our community as I am committed to making decisions that are in the best interests of our Division and ensuring the well-being of our students is at the forefront of all that we do!

Best wishes for a safe, enjoyable and exciting 2022-2023 school year!

Sponsored by Sandra Palazzo

Involved in a Collision?

Report to a Collision Reporting Centre





edmontonpolice.ca/ReportACollision



Support & Encouragement on your weight loss journey

Wednesdays- 6:45 – 8:00 pm
McClure United Church
13708 – 74 Street NW (Basement)

Contact Lorraine for more info
at 780-476-7788

www.tops.org





Get Comfortable With Big Savings!

Bundle and Save On A New Lennox Furnace and Air Conditioning System



LENNOX Air is life. Make it perfect.™

**Receive up to \$1,200 in rebates
on the Lennox Ultimate
Comfort System**

**AND Make No Payments
Until 2023!**



firstcallheating.ca | 780.464.3337



EDMONTON
POLICE
SERVICE

Halloween



SAFETY TIPS

1. Walk with other kids or have your parents walk with you.
2. Stay on the sidewalks and don't cut across people's yards.
3. Cross at intersections and obey traffic lights.
4. Make-up is better than a mask. A mask may makes it hard to see..
5. Have a plan for walking so you cross the street only when necessary.
6. Don't go into other people's houses. Stay outside.
7. Go only to houses that are well lighted.
8. Wear bright, reflective colors so that drivers can see you when it gets dark. Remember that just because you see the cars doesn't mean the drivers see you.
9. Be courteous and say "Thank you" to the people who give out treats.
10. Have your parents check your treats for tampering before you eat any. If you see something suspicious, throw it away. Make sure that the treats are in their original wrappers. Don't eat homemade treats unless you know the people who gave them to you.
11. Carry identification, including your name, address, and phone number.
12. Trick-or-treat only in your own neighborhood.
13. After dark, take a flashlight along. This will help you see where you are going, and let drivers see you.
14. Wear costumes that are fireproof and not too long or too loose.



KAYANA
DESIGNS

Certified in:
Styling for Living
Colour Consulting
Real Estate Staging
Green Living (Eco-Pro)
Senior Transitioning Services
Virtual Staging and/or Styling
Residential Renovation Project Managing



780-915-3029

kayanadesigns.com
michelle.allen@kayanadesigns.com

Karen Principle

Your City Councillor, Ward tastawiyiniwak

Always here to help...

✉ karen.principle@edmonton.ca
☎ 780.496.8128
f facebook.com/councillorprinciple

www.communityleagueneews.com

Evansdale Community League News

Serving: Evansdale — Belle Rive — Eaux Claires



Evansdale 2022 Pickleball Season (continued)



The pickleball group really enjoyed their access to our facility; (including access to free parking, washrooms, water) and the use of our windscreens and the new awning for shade. We

hope next year we will see all of you out playing and enjoying the game and the outdoors!

Jeff Muiselaar
President Evansdale Community League

2023 Pickleball Coaching Sessions

After the success of the 2022 Pickleball coaching sessions we will be offering them again in the 2023 season. Currently the planned format for these coaching sessions will be the following: Max of 8 students (Mon & Wed 7-9) and a Max of 8 students (Tues & Thur 7-9) with each group

receiving 6 weeks of instruction before their graduation. Once these first groups complete their series we will open the sessions for more groups. Please stay tuned for more information closer to the start of next season.

www.communityleagueneews.com

the Gutter Doctor

Home Exterior Services

GUTTER CLEAN, FIX & INSTALL
FASCIA • SOFFIT • SIDING REPAIR

780-709-6825 Over 50,000 happy customers since 2003!
gutterdoctor.ca



Denture Specialist - Over 35 Years Experience

Londonderry Denture Clinic

FREE CONSULTATION

M. Lucyshyn DD

R. Lucyshyn DD

780-476-2529

- New dentures in one day
- Repairs in 30 minutes
- Emergency after hours appointments

SENIORS
Ask how you may receive your dentures **AT NO COST TO YOU***

*Some conditions and restrictions apply.

www.londonderrydentureclinic.com 13594 Fort Rd. Northeast Edmonton



Tracker

HOME INSPECTIONS

- Buyers' Home Inspections
- Sellers' Home Inspections
- Home Maintenance Inspections
- Radon Testing
- Thermal Imaging Inspections

780-965-1130

trackerhomeinspections.ca



Neighbourhood Renewal Program

Great neighbourhoods are the building blocks of a great city. The City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal Program ensures our neighbourhoods are well connected to all forms of transportation and provide access to housing, recreation, schools, parks and employment.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Program outlines a cost effective, long-term approach to renew and rebuild roads, sidewalks and street lights in existing neighbourhoods and collector roadways. The program balances the need to rebuild in some neighbourhoods while taking a preventative maintenance approach in others. Projects can take from three to five years from start to finish, depending on the size and scope of the neighbourhood.

The process begins with the City reaching out to neighbourhood residents to understand the unique needs and wants for amenities, parks and public spaces. Our goal is to create community spaces and places for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities. To make our neighbourhoods more liveable and enduring, we plant new trees, design open spaces and provide access to a range of mobility options - walking, biking, transit and vehicles.

DID YOU KNOW

11 neighbourhoods are currently in planning and design.

10 neighbourhoods are currently in construction.

Neighbourhood Renewal projects are underway in Killarney and construction continues in Lorelei/Beaumaris.

In 2021, over 200 lane-kilometers of local roadway were renewed, over 70 kilometers of sidewalks were replaced, 13.9 kilometres of alleys were reconstructed, and approximately 3,000 Edmontonians provided feedback as part of the Neighbourhood Renewal engagement process.

Corner Store Grants are available to eligible properties located in recent or active Neighbourhood Renewal areas. These grants are intended to revitalize commercial areas in Edmonton's mature neighbourhoods.

Local improvements - projects considered more beneficial to the property owner and local area than to the city as a whole - are paid for through a cost sharing process between the City and an additional tax levy on the neighbourhood.

To learn more about the Neighbourhood Renewal Program and for updates on current projects, visit edmonton.ca/NeighbourhoodRenewal

If you have any follow up questions or other concerns please feel free to contact City Councillor Karen Principe at Karen.Principe@Edmonton.ca or phone 780-496-8128.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH

p	r	s	f	b	z	d	q	y	i	j	l	q	b	p	m
i	p	m	q	c	o	t	o	m	a	g	i	c	s	x	y
z	a	r	h	m	a	f	z	l	p	e	v	m	e	n	a
m	l	n	q	b	o	l	y	h	m	t	v	s	a	a	u
f	i	h	v	g	c	c	b	u	h	o	b	q	g	s	x
g	e	w	e	t	z	k	t	g	c	y	r	t	s	b	k
h	n	x	u	q	r	s	i	o	t	b	a	a	y	q	g
o	c	a	p	e	o	n	p	r	b	o	d	w	n	m	e
s	k	r	x	c	d	w	a	c	v	e	f	z	l	g	r
t	k	j	l	i	s	p	l	p	u	e	r	k	v	n	e
n	b	o	m	a	q	o	l	b	o	n	e	r	z	d	m
g	g	x	y	c	o	f	f	i	n	l	o	e	g	d	s
r	e	h	a	l	l	o	w	e	e	n	n	g	t	a	f
y	t	n	j	t	c	t	a	l	c	e	l	a	n	u	f
j	u	v	a	m	p	i	r	e	d	g	s	o	o	t	l
f	s	c	w	p	j	f	d	b	v	h	i	o	t	u	o
j	o	h	y	r	h	l	y	e	m	t	o	q	z	m	r
c	j	v	z	a	b	a	f	m	o	x	f	z	j	n	k
n	u	j	f	n	l	c	t	p	j	h	e	g	z	c	e
n	l	d	i	k	v	a	m	o	o	n	u	e	q	o	q

moon
vampire
ghost
cat
autumn

coffin
costume
bat
bone
alien

prank
magic
mask
midnight
hat

october
party
orange
halloween
potion

Kilkenny Hall Rentals



Times	Auditorium	Meeting Room	Both
Weekdays / Weeknights	\$200	\$100	N/A
Fridays (after 5 pm)	\$400	\$100	\$500
Saturdays	\$550	\$100	\$650
Sundays	\$400	\$100	\$500
Two Day Wedding & Gift Opening (Sat – Sun)	\$750	\$100	\$850
Full Weekend (Fri @ 5pm – Sun @ 6pm)	N/A	N/A	\$1000
Hourly Rate (4 hour min.)	\$100	\$50	N/A

The Kilkenny Hall is available for rental!! It is the perfect space for your special event, meetings, weddings and any other social event.

Please go to <http://www.kilkenny.ab.ca/facilities/view> to have a look and click on “Book Facility” to...you guessed it... book the facility!

The website will also show you when the hall is available. Feel free to call 780-478-2481 to leave a message for bookings as well.

Discounts available for those who hold a consecutive membership for a minimum two years with Kilkenny Community League.

We would like you to help Kilkenny



Looking to become a bigger part of our community? Needing to fulfill volunteer requirements? Have a passion you would like to share? Kilkenny Community League is looking for amazing community members join our team!

We currently have a vacancy for our Baseball/Softball Director. The position would come with training from our outgoing director. Questions, always feel free to ask any of our amazing team!

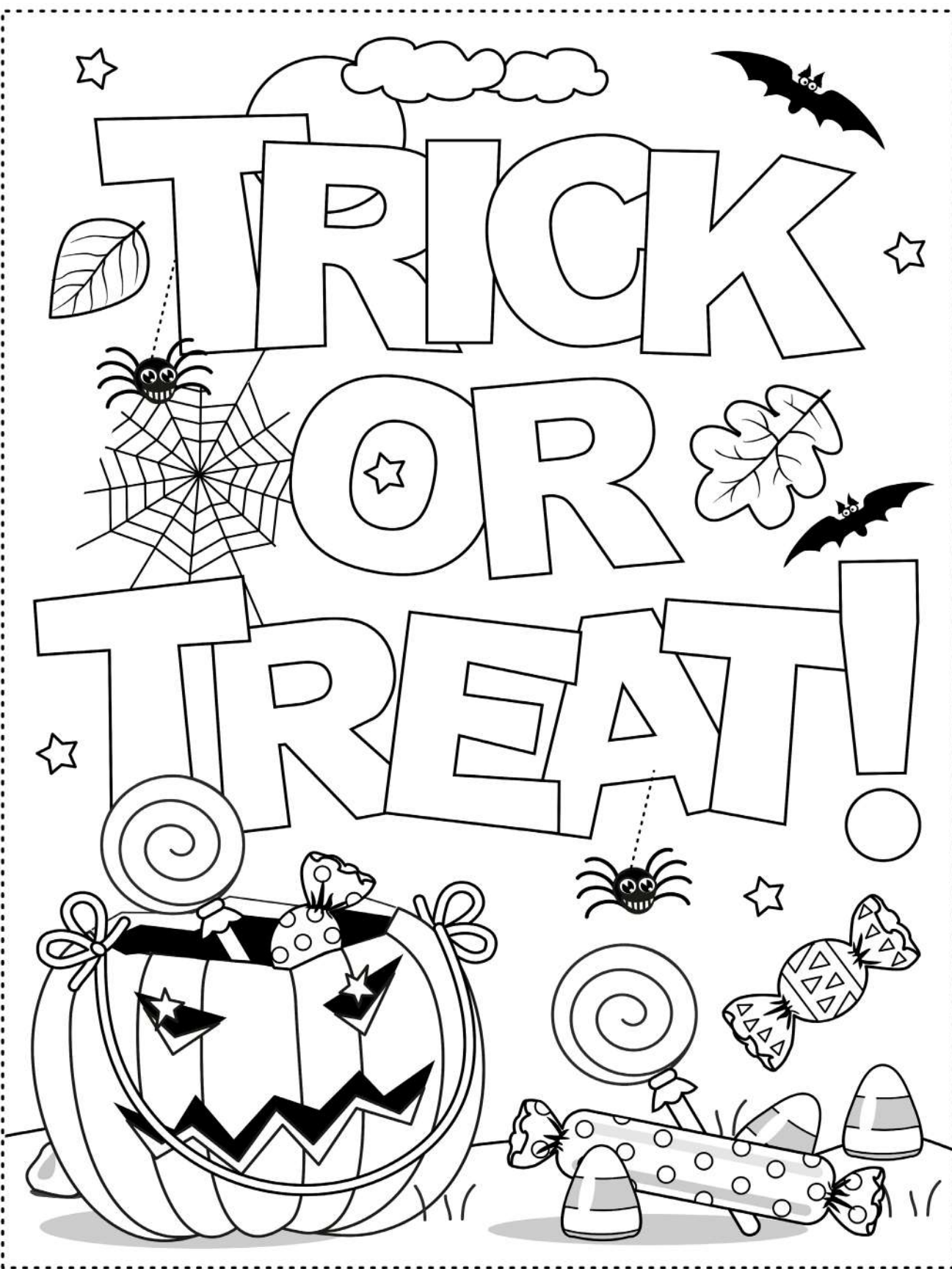
Are you that “techy” person? We aren’t! Our website is looking for some TLC. If you love mixing tech with a touch of design, have we got

a position for you! We would need some items updated periodically, which are provided by our various directors.

Not looking for a specific position? Have some ideas you think we would love to hear? We also have Directors-at-Large positions open. This position gives you a chance to join the board, and see if you can find your place within it!

Our board meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month. If you're interested, but not sure, let us know and we can give you more detail. You can even come to a meeting to see if it is a good fit for you! We hope to see you soon!

Colouring Corner



Be "Rail Safe" around LRT tracks

The City of Edmonton recognized Rail Safety Week, from September 19 to 25, and reminded residents about the importance of being safe around trains, tracks and rail crossings.

Transit riders are encouraged to be aware of their sur-

roundings when in the presence of LRT crossings and tracks. By minimizing your distractions when approaching the LRT, you improve your personal safety. Cross at a designated spot and pay attention while crossing as LRT trains can come from either

direction at any time. Avoid texting, listening to loud music or other distractions that may prevent you from seeing or hearing an oncoming train.

The City also encourages transit riders to be vigilant at all rail crossings. Not every crossing has gates, bells and

lights to warn you of an oncoming train. Look both ways and, if the warning lights are flashing, do not cross.

By crossing responsibly, and being aware of LRT tracks, we can all do our part to avoid preventable injuries and incidents.

OUR FAMILY HELPING YOUR FAMILY SINCE 1977.



**WITH ALL WE DO, THERE IS BOUND TO BE A
DEAL WAITING FOR YOU!**

**CHECK OUT OUR SPECIALS PAGE!
WEISS-JOHNSON.COM**

NOW HIRING – Apply Today!

WEISS-JOHNSON CAREERS

WJCAREERS.COM • CAREERS@WEISS-JOHNSON.COM

Blake Desjarlais

**Member of Parliament
Edmonton Griesbach**

Constituency Office

10212 - 127th Avenue NW,
Suite 102

780-495-3261

BlakeDesjarlais.ndp.ca

Blake.Desjarlais@parl.gc.ca

@BlakeDesjarlaisNDP

@DesjarlaisBlake



Pledge to advance women in law enforcement

On September 19, 2022, the City of Edmonton signed the 30x30 Pledge to increase the recruitment, retention and promotion of women in law enforcement in the City of Edmonton's Community Standards and Neighbourhoods branch to 30 per cent by 2030. Currently, 19 per cent of the City's Community Standards Peace Officers are women. This is below the national average of 22 per cent and below the demographic breakdown of Edmonton's population.

"Our enforcement officers play a critical role in the city and I'm delighted that we're committing to ensuring we have a diverse representation of officers," said Jennifer Flaman, deputy city manager for Community Services. "It's important that officers in enforcement be reflective of the communities they serve. Encouraging women to pursue careers in law enforcement is a critical step in our recruitment efforts."

"We need more women on our team and the innovative ideas they can bring," said David Jones, branch manager for Community Standards and Neighbourhoods. "At its core, being a peace officer is about listening to people, building trust and problem solving."

Our focus over the next few years will be to improve recruitment and hiring practices, and break down barriers for women getting into enforcement in our branch."

Downtown Community Peace Officer Erin Blackmore was drawn to serve with the City of Edmonton more than seven years ago by a friend who worked as a peace officer at a local hospital.

"My friend nudged me to apply for a role with the City and ever since taking the position I've loved the job and the work-life balance it offers," said Blackmore. "One

day I'm doing patrols by bike and another day, I'm walking a downtown festival. I like the aspect of helping people and being the boots on the ground."

My experience has shown that being a woman in uniform can be very powerful. People find me approachable and someone safe to talk to. It's a challenging role but very rewarding."

There are approximately 190 Peace Officers and 40 Municipal Enforcement Officers at the City of Edmonton. City of Edmonton Peace Officers and Municipal Enforcement Officers are trained in Indigenous awareness, mental health awareness, de-escalation techniques and how best to work with youth and Edmontonians experiencing homelessness.

The 30x30 Initiative is hosted by New York University's Policing Project and has a mission of increasing the representation of women in law enforcement in the United States and Canada to 30 per cent by 2030.

Agencies who sign the 30x30 Pledge agree to:

- take measures to increase the representation of women in all ranks of law enforcement.
- ensure that policies and procedures are free of all bias.
- promote equitable hiring, retention and promotion of women officers.
- ensure the culture is inclusive, respectful and supportive of women in all ranks and roles of law enforcement.

Those interested in learning more about joining the Community Standards and Neighbourhoods Branch are urged to visit https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/bylaws/enforcement-officers