

March
2011



THE McKernan Messenger

Since 1954 A publication of the McKernan Community League Circulation 1100

OFFICIAL- TYPE MEETINGS!

Brief business meetings
followed by fun:

**Tuesday
April 5**

starting 7 p.m at the hall

Special General Meeting

- Adoption of revised bylaws

Annual General Meeting

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

Wine and Cheese Mixer

- Meet the executive
- Find out how you can help
- Discuss your concerns



The end of the tight squeeze?

Buses and emergency vehicles need better access

Navigating the rutted snowy roads of McKernan could be easier next year if council adopts a transportation policy that will ban on-street parking on snow routes in the winter, and along one side of narrow roads year-round.

Although the city has had signed snow routes for years, the no-parking policy has not been always enforced. That would change next winter; after major snowfalls, residents will be notified that vehicles parked on the streets must be moved to allow for snow removal.

In McKernan, 72 Ave. and 76 Ave. are signed as bus routes and will be affected by the snow route policy. In any case, on-street parking will be reduced along 76 Ave. when bike lanes are installed along the road, a project that is scheduled for this summer (more information to follow this spring).

City Transportation has also recommended that parking be allowed only on one side of streets narrower than nine metres. This would affect the majority of east-west running

avenues in McKernan, although many of the wider north-south streets will not be affected.

Currently many roads in McKernan are almost impassible in winter. Road users must navigate icy ruts while avoiding cars parked on both sides of the snow-narrowed streets. Scraped sides and broken mirrors attest to the damage that can be caused. Even in summer, vehicles can barely pass through some of the more congested streets.

Of greatest concern, however, is access for emergency vehicles. Fire engines and ambulance can certainly not manage streets that are too narrow for regular vehicles.

There is no magic formula to decide which side of a street would lose its parking. To minimize the cost and work involved, Transportation would simply install signs on the existing street lights to convert that side of the street into the no-parking side.

Council will be deciding on the policy recommendations later this spring.

Rink hours (as long as the ice remains)

Your community league membership buys you free skating on our rinks at 11341-78 Ave.

You must have your League skate tags with you. For league membership information see page 2.

Public skating / Shinny:

M, W, Th, F: 6 to 9 p.m.

Tu: 6 to 8 p.m.

Sa, Su: 1 to 9 p.m.

Kids under 14:
M-F: 3:30 to 6 p.m.

Broomball:
Tu: 8 to 10 p.m.



Hardy snowshoers of varying ages took part in the Family Snowshoe activity in February at Gowan Park

Community Contacts

PRESIDENT and EFCL & CAC REP	Wayne Rogers president@mckernancommunity.org	780-916-6275
PAST PRESIDENT	Ann-Marie Thivierge	780-433-4277
VICE-PRESIDENT	-- needed --	
SECRETARY	Rashmi Mandhane secretary@mckernancommunity.org	780-430-7970
TREASURER	Wiggert Hessels	780-432-6379
TRANSPORTATION	Frank Weichman	780-435-7811
HOUSING ISSUES and HALL DEVELOPMENT	Hilary Gray housing@mckernancommunity.org	780-434-0480
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	Neil Armstrong	780-437-0002
BASKETBALL	-- needed --	
SOCCER - Adult	Kelvin Jones kelvinejones@mac.com	
SOCCER - Youth	Linda Cameron llcameron2002@yahoo.com	
CRICKET	C. Marathalingam www.ascacricknet.com	780-438-0460
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Edda Loomes	780-436-0209
SOCIAL CONVENOR	-- needed --	
HISTORIAN	Ed Stover	780-436-4089
POCKET PARK	-- needed --	
U of A 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 \$30 for family or organizations, \$20 for single parent families. Single memberships with skating are \$15, seniors and students only \$5. A bargain! See the membership form at www.mckernancommunity.org, or purchase at the Maurice Pharmacy on 76 Avenue.

MEMBERSHIPS	Sean Jones	780-990-0385
	Cian Hackett	780-297-5805
	memberships@mckernancommunity.org	

McKernan Messenger

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

NEWSLETTER CONTENT	Roberta Franchuk newsletter@mckernancommunity.org	780-431-4924
DISTRIBUTION	John and Molly Crabb	780-435-2597

www.mckernancommunity.org

WEBSITE MANAGER	Camille Cunningham webmaster@mckernancommunity.org	780-428-4323
-----------------	---	--------------

City of Edmonton

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

McKernan Community Hall

Our community hall at 11341-78 Avenue is available for rental hourly or daily. Discounts are available for community league members. See info at www.mckernancommunity.org.

HALL RENTAL	Ray Pallard hallrental@mckernancommunity.org	780 438 0367
-------------	---	--------------

Enthusiastic people needed

Keep your community strong and healthy, and help McKernan continue to be one of the best neighbourhoods in the city: become involved with your community league!

Many of these posts require only a small time commitment, and are a great way to meet your neighbors.

Unless otherwise noted, contact Wayne Rogers at 916-6275 for more details about any of these opportunities.

Join the Board

It's election time in McKernan! The Annual General Meeting April 5 will see elections for a president and vice-president, along with four directors-at-large. If you are looking for a way to contribute to the league or to increase your community involvement or leadership experience, consider putting your name in for one of these positions.

Housing Development Committee

Construction season is gearing up already, and the housing development committee needs an extra set of eyes to review development proposals. Minimal time commitment, but a good eye for plans would be helpful.

Social Convenor

We are looking for a social, active person to help organize one or two events per year.

Experts of all kinds

Want to help your community using your skills in LAW or CONTRACTING/TRADES? McKernan needs your expert assistance with our hall redevelopment project! Contact building committee chair Hilary Gray or president Wayne Rogers to find out how you can help with our exciting sustainable building project (see contact info this page).

Your ideas here

Do you have something you'd like to see the league do? A suggestion for a program, activity or issue? Skill you'd like to contribute? Get in touch and let us know.

Development news

Towering garages

A reminder to neighbours of new developments: when you review the building plans don't forget to check the finished height of the garage as well as the main building(s). More and more garages are being built with extra space above, and the height might impact your enjoyment of your property — for example, by shadowing your yard.

Development Applications

(Feb.1 to Mar. 5)

This list covers permits that have been applied for in McKernan last month. 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. For further information, or if you are concerned about a development, contact Hilary Gray, 434-0480; housing@mckernancommunity.org.

Address	Permit(s) for:
11340-73 Ave.	To construct exterior alterations to a garage suite (excavating under the garage suite)
11106-76 Ave.	To construct a semi-detached house with rear detached garages, rear uncovered decks, front covered verandas, wood fireplace in left unit, gas fireplace in right unit and to demolish single-detached house and single detached garage.
7619 - 111 St.	To construct exterior and interior alterations to a semi detached house.
11531 - 80 Ave.	To construct a secondary suite (existing without permits).

Community briefs



Spring clean the neighbourhood

Be part of the Capital City Cleanup. Volunteer to keep your block (or an area special to you) litter-free for 16 weeks from May to August. Sign up at www.edmonton.ca/capitalcitycleanup until April 22.

Census jobs available

Statistics Canada is hiring field staff across Canada to work on the collection phase of the 2011 Census. Crew leaders and enumerators are required between March and mid-August 2011. These non-office jobs require work in neighbourhoods and communities across the country. The pay range from \$14.72 to \$18.04 an hour. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, eligible to work in Canada, and able to commit at least 20 hours a week, including days, evenings, weekends and holidays as required. For more information and to apply online, go to www.census2011.gc.ca.

Nominate your Good Neighbour today!

It's often the small gestures and actions that add to our lives and improve community safety. You can nominate a neighbour that makes a difference in the life of your neighbourhood. Learn more at www.reachedmonton.ca and complete a nomination form, or call 311 for details. Nomination deadline is March 31.

Neighborhood services

Advertise your neighborhood services for free! Maximum 140 characters. Send to newsletter@mckernancommunity.org or drop in the mailbox at McKernan Hall (11341-78 Ave.) Space is limited and ads are accepted at the discretion of the editor.

Linda Duncan

MP, Edmonton-Strathcona

Working for our community

Contact my office:

- employment insurance
- citizenship & immigration
- Canada pension & taxes
- student loans
- information requests
- celebratory messages



Web: www.lindaduncan.ndp.ca
 Ph: 780-495-8404 E: DuncaL1@parl.gc.ca
 10049 – 81 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T6E 1W7

wholefamilyhealth

An integrated approach to the health of your whole family!

A devoted and experienced team of leading acupuncturists and massage therapists.

We apply the traditional wisdom of Chinese medicine to the needs of modern families treating a broad range of ailments, naturally and gently.

Contact us!
 2nd Floor 6523 111 Street
 Edmonton, AB T6H 4R5
 p. 780.756.7736
 w. wholefamilyhealth.ca
 e. info@wholefamilyhealth.ca



acupuncture • massage • nutrition • family medicine • reproductive health • pregnancy



The McKernan volunteer rink maintenance crew is hoping to stretch another week or so out of the ice. Rink manager Peter Gray praises his “consistent and reliable helpers” (from left), David Sulz, Greg Jones, Bryan Alm and Ben Robinson, with Peter. The crew was out most nights starting in November, scraping and flooding to keep the ice surface in good shape. Thanks from all skaters for the hard work!

Events in the Community

Belgravia Cooperative Playschool Open House (11540-73 Ave.) Thurs. Mar. 24, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Please join us and check out our fabulous program for 3 and 4 year olds!

Jeff Allen Gallery: Strathcona Place Senior Centre (10831 University Ave.) Mon. to Fri. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. Until Mar. 30 it's *Nature Themes* by Julie Drew (watercolours and coloured pencil). From Apr. 1 to 27 enjoy the fibre art of the Edmonton Needlecraft Guild with the exhibition *Blossoms*.

40th Anniversary Easter Evening Dinner: Strathcona Place Senior Centre (10831 University Ave.) Wed. Apr. 13, 5:30 p.m. A delicious meal of chicken vol-au-vent or tofu vol-au vent, steamed veggies, salad, dessert, and tea or coffee will be followed by entertainment 'Strathcona's Got Talent.' Tickets \$10 per person; call 780-433-5807.

Professional Piano Instruction

- 15 years experience, B.Mus.
- Warm, patient approach with children
- Focus on process based learning
- Sound pedagogical and technical background
- Accepting beginner to advanced students

McKernan/ University area

780-424-3385 or email kochr97@gmail.com

McKernan Christian Church

A caring church that is "Reaching Out" to Serve Those in Need

11304-78 Ave NW
Edmonton AB T6G 0M9
780-436-4089

pastor@mckernanchurch.ca
www.mckernanchurch.ca



Come and share the experience!

League notes March

AGM and bylaws meeting in April

The official McKernan Annual General Meeting will be held April 5 at the hall (see notice page 1). Preceding the AGM will be a Special General Meeting to approve bylaw revisions that will change the makeup of the league executive. Bylaws can be viewed at www.mckernancommunity.org. The revised bylaws propose a nine-member board: five executive members (president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and ex-officio past president), plus four directors-at-large. If the bylaws are passed, elections for the positions of president, vice-president and the directors-at-large will be held at the AGM. The April meetings will wrap up with a wine and cheese mixer.

New hall partner on board

Alberta Adaptabilities Association has agreed to move forward on a partnership with the League that will see the association use the lower level of the new addition to the hall to expand their respite care program. As their contribution to the partnership, the association will be providing funding toward the construction. The first portion of \$50,000 has already been offered to the League, with another \$200,000 to come. This partnership and the funding it brings moves the hall redevelopment project one step closer to reality.

Wading pool seeks one-season reprieve

Although McKernan has received funds to proceed with the conversion of the McKernan Park wading pool to a spray park, as directed by Alberta Health Services, construction on the site will not begin until 2012. This leaves the operation of the pool in summer 2011 open to question. The city has directed all parks to convert to a simple spray nozzle, but McKernan has applied to Alberta Health for an exemption for 2011 to allow it to operate as a wading pool with chlorination, as it has done for the past two years. Park users have argued that a single spray nozzle is not adequate for the number and young age of children using the park. Alberta Health argues that other communities face the same issues and have not been exempted. The decision on the form of our water feature for this summer will be made in mid-March.

Bike lanes coming to 76 Ave.

The City of Edmonton's Sustainable Transportation Section is planning on installing painted bike lane markers on 76 Ave from Saskatchewan Drive to Gateway Boulevard, and on 106 Street from 34 Avenue to Saskatchewan Drive. The facilities are designated as major routes in the city wide cycling system. Community meetings will be held this spring to discuss the design of the lanes. On-street parking will be affected. More information will be available in April.

Pedestrian crossing timing

Transportation rep Frank Weichman is agitating for changes to the pedestrian-activated lights on 114 St. at 73 and 78 Ave. during peak times. The current configuration delays pedestrians for up to two-and-a-half minutes waiting for a red light, even though traffic may be at a standstill because of congestion. A yellow flashing warning light that warns motorists without stopping all traffic might suffice at these times. This would allow faster pedestrian crossings without delaying the motorists who have to stop when the light eventually changes to red — by which time the pedestrian may have crossed and be long gone. There is as yet no word from Transportation on whether a combination red light/peak-hour yellow flashing light is a suitable or possible compromise. Improvements are also needed at 115 St. and University Ave, says Frank, adding that “traffic flow for outlying residents seems to trump over the preservation of residential quality of inner city communities.”