

January
2008



THE McKernan Messenger

Since 1954 A publication of the McKernan Community League Circulation 1100

League Meeting
Tuesday, February 5
at 7 p.m at the hall.

All welcome!

HELP

WANTED

**Do you love the feel of cold,
hard cash?**

Thousands of dollars will be yours to handle when you volunteer for a shift in the Count Room for the McKernan Community League Casino, Wed., February 6 and Thur., February 7, 2008 at the Palace Casino at West Edmonton Mall.



**Volunteers are particularly needed
for the night shift, 9:30 p.m. to
3:30 a.m.**

Contact Hilary Gray at 434-0480 for more information.

Many thanks to all those who have already volunteered. The money raised will be going towards building improvements at the hall.

Secondary Suites get green light

Questions and concerns remain

City Council passed a new zoning bylaw December 12 to significantly change the development rules for secondary suites in single family homes and in detached garages. The bylaw will allow self-contained secondary suites and garage suites in certain houses at corner locations, near commercial and apartment sites and along service roads.

Some lots in McKernan meet the requirements under this bylaw and we may expect legal secondary suites to be developed here, in addition to the numerous illegal secondary suites that already exist throughout the community.

The Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues had objected to being left out of the consultation process and was "disappointed that a number of improvements supported by community leagues to address major shortcomings were not accepted."

The suggested improvements, not accepted by council, were:

- to allow city staff and neighbours time to consider and discuss a secondary suite before it happens;
- to have the owner of a single family home with a secondary suite live there too; and
- to prevent excessive density in low density neighbourhoods.

In particular, the bylaw allows secondary suites in certain places as a Permitted Use. This means that as long as the development meets the requirements, it can not be opposed by neighbors if it is not a good fit with the neighborhood or despite any problem that might arise. There would be no requirement to notify neighbors of such a development.

There have also been concerns from fire officials that owners of illegal secondary suites may not apply to have their suites made legal, out of fear that upgrading these suites to meet minimum fire code standards will be too expensive.

New secondary suite development in McKernan will be monitored by the housing committee. If you have concerns or questions, contact Hilary Gray at 434-0480.

- To read the EFCL concerns about the bylaw: www.efcl.org>EFCL News
- City of Edmonton bylaw information and Frequently Asked Questions: www.edmonton.ca/secondarysuites

Illegal suites

Many if not most of the secondary suites that currently exist in McKernan are illegal. These suites will not automatically be accepted under the new bylaw; instead, a homeowner must apply to the City to ensure that their proposal for a suite, existing or new, conforms to the Zoning Bylaw and the Alberta Building Code.

The majority of existing secondary suites are illegal for one or more of the following reasons: the suite is not allowed under current zoning; the suite does not meet the requirements of the Alberta Building Code or Fire Code; or the suite does not have a valid development permit and/or building permit.

**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 memberships and skate tags, contact Hilary Gray at 434-0480 or visit the Maurice Pharmacy on 76 Ave.



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

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.

Broomball: Tu: 8 to 10 p.m.

Community Contacts

PRESIDENT	Ann-Marie Thivierge	433-4277
	president@mckernancommunity.org	
PAST PRESIDENT	Hilary Gray	434-0480
VICE-PRESIDENT	Wayne Rogers	916-6275
PROGRAMS OFFICER	-- needed --	
PLANNING OFFICER	Hilary Gray	434-0480
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	Neil Armstrong	780-665-0918
SECRETARY	Leah Trueblood	641-9890
MEMBERSHIPS	-- needed --	
TRANSPORTATION ISSUES	Frank Weichman	435-7811
HOUSING ISSUES	Hilary Gray	434-0480
	housing@mckernancommunity.org	
TREASURER	Bob Gansel	435-0739
EFCL & CAC REPRESENTATIVE	Wayne Rogers	916-6275
BASKETBALL	-- needed --	
SOCCER - Adult	Brad Odsen	436-0938
SOCCER - Youth	Dianne Gillespie	
	belmacsoccer@telus.net	
CRICKET	Christie Marathalingam	438-0460
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HISTORIAN	Ed Stover	436-4089
HALL RENTAL	Jody Pantel	433-9622
HALL CARE & UPKEEP	McKernan Child Care	437-1971
BABY SITTING REGISTRY	Lori Janssen	437-3159
SOCIAL CONVENER	Ann-Marie Thivierge	433-4277
	socialevents@mckernancommunity.org	
POCKET PARK	Rob Wilson	988-0612
RINK	Adrian Kense	
U of A LIAISON	Bente Roed	436-9398
COMMUNITY SERVICES (City of Edmonton)	Terri Johnson	496-5926

McKernan Community Hall

Our community hall at 11341-78 Avenue is available for rental hourly or daily. Call Jody Pantel at 433-9622 for booking information. Discounts are available for community league members.

McKernan Messenger

The McKernan Messenger is published ten times per year. Deadlines are:
 advertising submissions: 1st of the month
 content and letters: 7th of the month

Contact Roberta Franchuk at newsletter@mckernancommunity.org.

On the Web: www.mckernancommunity.org

The website is managed by Camille Cunningham, 428-4323;
 webmaster@mckernancommunity.org.

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 student (without skating) only \$5. A bargain! See the membership form in this issue, or purchase at the Maurice Pharmacy on 76 Avenue.

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Gift certificates are available.

I look forward to meeting you!

Mady Mooney, R.M.T.

Call 242-6065 (Edmonton) or e-mail
 mamoooney@telusplanet.net for your
 appointment.

Development Applications

(December 1, 2007 to January 1, 2008)

This month's 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 website www.edmonton.ca > Permits and Licenses > Monthly Building Permit Summary. For further information, or if you are concerned about a development, contact Hilary Gray, 434-0480; housing@mckernancommunity.org.

Address	Permit(s) for:
7905 - 115 St.	To demolish a single detached house and a detached garage. To construct a single detached house with front covered veranda and fireplace; to construct an accessory building (detached garage).
11340 - 73 Ave.	To construct an addition to an accessory building (To enlarge an existing detached garage and to put a second storey on the existing detached garage and on the proposed addition).

Duplex at 11349-79 Ave. under discussion

While a permit is yet to be applied for, plans for a duplex at 11349-79 Ave have been presented to the Housing Committee and have not been approved. The duplex would contain a total of seven bedrooms plus an attached, partially-underground garage. The Committee has concerns about shadowing, drainage and parking with a development of this nature. Discussions with the developer are continuing.

Message from the President and Vice President

Happy New Year McKernanites!

On behalf of McKernan Community League, Wayne Rogers, Vice President and I, wish you all a prosperous and safe 2008.

Our goal is to continue to serve the McKernan Community to reach out to those who need our help in various capacities and to welcome those that moved within the community youth, students, families of all ages .

McKernan Community League has a number of short and long term objectives for year 2008. One of these objectives is to raise funds for a new Community League facility. Our first step is having a fundraising casino in February 2008, for which we need Volunteers! Donations are also appreciated.

The community league is made up of executive and general members, each with his or her own portfolio. Committees include SLRT construction, Housing Issues, Safety, City Planning/Development and many others. We continue to strive for excellence in what we do and we know with hard work and dedication, our dream will be realized. Thanks to all the volunteers and committee members who guided our community to success in 2007 we honour you all!

We continue to strive for change. We as community members are working hard for positive change for the community. We do not have all the answers and questions, but will endeavour to keep searching. We are here to promote ideas and develop goals that reflect the needs of the community. In doing so, we have a two major social events every year which are always advertised in the McKernan Messenger newsletter and website. Be on the look out for many social events and special meetings with special guests appearances.

As President and Vice President, we will give you our full devotion to a successful community league. We look forward for ideas and comments from the community. Please send your ideas and suggestions by email at athivier@telusplanet.net or go to our web site at www.mckernancommunity.org.

We have Community League meetings the first Tuesday of every month at the McKernan Community League Hall commencing at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend, listen and give ideas on what they would like to do and have within the community league.

Let us all come together to build the community that we always dream of. Also, be on the lookout for our Mission Statement in the next issue.

*Ann Marie Thivierge, President
Wayne Rogers, Vice President*



Community briefs

Dance and movement for kids

This exciting new and unique dance/movement program for children is designed to offer a broad variety of movement, dance and combined arts experiences to stimulate growth in many aspects of your child's development. Sessions are at McKernan Hall. For schedule and information, contact Jazz Moves Dance School at 436 1590 or vandot2@telus.net,



or see www.geocities.com/jazz_moves.

Programs for kids and youth

South side community leagues are offering programs for children and youth. For more details, call 496 4999, press 2 or visit the nearest City of Edmonton Leisure Centre.

Babysitting and Beyond ages 12 17

Yellowbird East: Feb. 28 and 29

Pleasantview: May 3 and 4

Hip-Hop Dance ages 9 12

Yellowbird East: starts Mon. Jan. 21, 6 to 8 p.m.

Hip-Hop Dance ages 6 9

Yellowbird East: starts Mon. Jan. 21, 6 to 8 p.m.

Chocolate Making ages 6 9

Blue Quill: Sat. Mar. 15, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Winter Sports ages 6 12

Yellowbird East: Sat. Mar. 8

Easter Crafts and Activities ages 6 12

Yellowbird East: Sat. Mar. 8

Get moving in 2008

If you have just started being active, or increased your level of activity, share your story and win! Active Edmonton's Get Active Contest runs until April 18. See categories and rules at www.actedmonton.ca.

Show off your Talent

Community league members age 5 to 17 are invited to the 57th Annual EFCL City Wide Talent Show, April 10, 11 and 13 at the Stanley Milner Library Theatre. Try for 30 cash prizes and a chance to appear in the Finale. Registration deadline is Fri., Feb. 1. See www.efcl.org for details.

Winter Walk Day

On February 6 join thousands of Albertans for Winter Walk Day. Walk to school, to work, or to a friend's house; walk alone or with your dog, family or friends. Register your event at www.shapeab.com and receive info, tips and ideas.

Transit update

by Frank Weichman

New items on the West End High Speed Transit Issue: the City has a new approach to the Bus Rapid Transit proposals. The routes will stay the same, one to Foote Field and one to the City Centre. Even the 'stations' will remain the same, i.e. Lewis Estates, WEM, likely Misericordia Hospital, then Meadowlark, plus a few more. So will the installation of bus-priority lights and possible bus-only lanes. However, there will be no fancy stations for the buses with modern electronics to tell you when the next bus is due. The money saved on bells and whistles is to be applied to LRT expansion. Another idea to be implemented will be that the buses will first circulate through West End Communities to pick up passengers, then become Super Express lines from Lewis Estates/WEM to the downtown or Foote Field. There is also a new name for the service: Super Express replaces of Bus Rapid Transit.

Our SLRT is going ahead to Heritage (Century Park), and then is likely to be extended farther south rather than swinging toward Millwoods. An extension at the Clareview end is also high on the recommended list. A new line from Churchill station to Grant MacEwan College, the Royal Alex Hospital and NAIT is on the detailed planning stage. There were open houses for this proposal early in December. Eventually this line can be extended to St Albert.

The consultants, ISL, then gave us an estimate of costs for LRT construction for both the West End to Foote and then to Health Sciences, and for West End directly to Health Sciences by way of University Avenue. Both came in at the 1.2 billion dollar mark. Travel time from the West End to Health Science will be quicker by the direct route, 17 compared to 24 minutes. We, the communities, had considered the 87 Ave./University Ave. route already two years ago, but had been discouraged from discussing it seriously because the Cancer Clinic was adamantly opposed the route due to anticipated interference with diagnostic equipment. It now turns out that sufficient amelioration can be provided.

A few details: The Foote Field route requires either that it terminates there and passengers transfer, as currently envisaged for the buses, or that the trains keep going north from Foote Field, stop at 76 Ave, Health Science and continue on downtown. At peak hours, trains going north from the 76 Ave station and trains going south from Health Sciences would coordinate their departures with the traffic lights at Univ Ave and cross at the same time.

The direct route will require that a cut and cover tunnel be built under the service road on the south side of Univ Ave, which will cause serious disturbance for the local residents for a year or two. The track will stay underground and finally surface on the north side of University Ave just before it gets to the Health Science station.

For both routes, as many as 230 houses may have to be removed to provide right of way for the LRT.

Our community consultation group will meet again in February. There will be open houses after that and I will keep you posted on further developments.

If you have comments or questions about transit planning, contact Frank at 435 7811, or weichman@phys.ualberta.ca

League digest: January

If you have comments about any of these issues, contact Ann Marie Thivierge at 433 4277, president@mckernancommunity.org.

Walkable McKernan

McKernan is one of the most "walkable" neighborhoods in Edmonton. Since walking is a key component of an active lifestyle, McKernan is looking to promote walkability to improve the health of its citizens. We will be working with Active Edmonton, a group that encourages "all Edmontonians to value and regularly participate in physical activities," and with Walkable Edmonton, a city initiative for active transportation. We would like to do a walkability audit of the community and create a neighborhood walking map, Active walkers and those who would like to become more active are encouraged to take part in these initiatives. Cyclist input is welcome too.

More information is available at: www.activedmonton.ca and at the City of Edmonton website www.edmonton.ca>City Government > Departments & Branches > Community Services > Plans & Initiatives > Walkable Edmonton.

Hall Development Committee

Hilary Gray and the Hall Development Committee are still laying the groundwork for an improved hall. Architects are putting together ideas for a new facility, whether a renovation or a complete rebuilding. The fundraising Casino that will help pay for these plans happens on Feb. 6 and 7, and volunteers are still urgently needed. Contact Hilary at 434 0480.

McKernan Community League Membership 2007/2008

Member Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

of Children: _____

Type of Membership (please circle):

Family -- \$30 Amount Enclosed: _____

Single Parent Family -- \$20

Single (with skate tag) -- \$15

Single, Senior or U of A Student (no skating) -- \$5

of Skate Tags required: _____ League Donation: _____

Willing to volunteer? Yes No In what capacity? _____

Comments: _____

Clip and mail to: McKernan Membership Committee
c/o Mary Heacock
7231 - 112 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 1J4

Thank you for your continuing support.

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