

Since  
1954

NOV 2023

Next League Meeting:  
Monday, Dec 11 - 7pm

# THE MCKERNAN MESSENGER

A publication of the McKernan Community League

Circulation 1,100

## COMMUNITY EVENT RECAPS

**Pub Night October 20.** October's Pub Night at the McKernan community hall was a solid success. Neighbours new and old gathered to enjoy tasty brews from Bent Stick Brewery, as well as wine and interesting non-alcoholic beverages. It was great to get together again after such a long period of restricted visiting.

Thanks to Scott Whetham, Greg Jones, and Dietmar Kennepohl for organizing and handling all the details; also to Michelle Jones and Astrid Kennepohl for setup and assistance.

We are tentatively planning the next Pub Night for late January or early February - including live music this time! Keep an eye out for info in the Messenger, at [www.mckernancommunity.org](http://www.mckernancommunity.org), or on the league's social media on Facebook and Instagram. - Roberta Franchuk



**Haunted Shack October 28.** The McKernan Community League held its inaugural Haunted Shack event on October 28, and it was a big success! We had over 150 people of all ages come through, some choosing "tame" for a mildly spooky experience, while most chose "terror" and were thrilled with jump-scaries and other surprises. Some loved it so much they even went through multiple times! Afterward, many enjoyed sitting around the campfire, roasting marshmallows, and chatting with their neighbours. A big thank you to BJ Serink for organizing the event, and to all the volunteers: Phil, Greg, Fiona, Carmen, Aurora, Adelaide, Naomi, and Hems.



## SAVE THE DATE!

December 10, 2023

4pm to 8pm

### Holiday Potluck at McKernan Community Hall

- Bringing a dish to share is optional
- Games and crafts for kids
- A special visitor from the north pole
- Help reduce the use of disposables by bringing your own plates, cups, and utensils

## Volunteer Opportunities

The McKernan Community League is currently seeking volunteers to fill the following roles.

- **Rink Manager.** With winter approaching the league is urgently seeking a new rink manager. Email [ghajones@hotmail.com](mailto:ghajones@hotmail.com) if you would like more information about this important community role!
- **Treasurer.** The league currently has an interim treasurer, but is looking for someone to fill the position for a longer term. Email [phil\\_kloc@yahoo.com](mailto:phil_kloc@yahoo.com) for more information
- **President.** Current President Phil Kloc recently decided this will be his last term. A new president will be elected at the League's Annual General Meeting in April 2024.

Consider contributing your time and talent to our community!

# Community Contacts

PRESIDENT	Phil Kloc president@mckernancommunity.org	780-965-0773
VICE-PRESIDENT	---vacant---	
SECRETARY	Ingrid Poulin ingrid2323@gmail.com	
TREASURER	Jennifer Branch-Mueller	
DIRECTORS	Angela Espejo Rolinda Graham Milap Petigara BJ Serink	
PAST PRESIDENT	Roberta Franchuk	780-431-4924
TRANSPORTATION	Ingrid and Tom Poulin ingrid2323@gmail.com	
HOUSING ISSUES	Housing committee housingdevelopments@mckernancommunity.org	
PLAYGROUP	---vacant---	
SCHOOL LIAISON	Michelle Jones	780-436-4134
SOCCER - Adult	Brad Odsen bodsens@telusplanet.net	
SOCCER - Youth	Alykhan Sumar belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca https://emsasouthwest.com/	
CRICKET	C. Marathalingam www.ascacricicket.com	780-438-0460
SKATING RINK	Greg Jones	780-222-2096
CASINO CHAR	Vishal Sharma	
HISTORIAN	Angela Espejo angela.s.espejo@gmail.com	
POCKET PARK	Michelle Jones 4ourpocketpark@gmail.com	780-289-0635
SOUTH CAMPUS LIAISON	Wiggert Hessels	780-432-6379

## League Memberships

Memberships in your community league support programs, socials, hall activities, newsletters, and more; PLUS the League is looking out for your interests in housing, transportation, services and more. See the membership form at [www.mckernancommunity.org](http://www.mckernancommunity.org).

MEMBERSHIPS Alison Stephens  
mckernanmembership@gmail.com

## McKernan Messenger

The McKernan Messenger is published ten times per year. Advertising deadline: 5th of the month.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT Allan Suddaby  
allansuddaby@gmail.com

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## www.mckernancommunity.org

WEBSITE MANAGER Roberta Franchuk  
webmaster@mckernancommunity.org

## City of Edmonton

CITY COUNCILLOR Michael Janz  
michael.janz@edmonton.ca

COMMUNITY SERVICES Kate Russell  
kate.russell@edmonton.ca

## Community League Memberships

Don't forget to buy or renew your membership with the McKernan Community League! Membership benefits include:

- access to all league skating rinks (city-wide!)
- reduced rates for hall rentals
- reduced rates at city recreation centres
- discounts at selected businesses
- a voice in your community

Visit [efcl.org](http://efcl.org) to purchase your membership.

## RENT THE McKERNAN COMMUNITY CENTRE!

The community centre, located at 11341-78 Avenue, is open again! Our newly renovated facility includes smaller meeting spaces along with a refurbished hall complete with danceable wooden floor and air conditioning. For bookings, contact [hallrentalmckernancommunity@gmail.com](mailto:hallrentalmckernancommunity@gmail.com). More information about the hall and how to rent it is available at [www.mckernancommunity.org](http://www.mckernancommunity.org).

### Capacity & Rates

	Main Hall	Meeting Room
<b>Capacity</b>	150	60
<b>Hourly Rate</b> (GST will be added)		
Weekend (Fri evening, Sat, Sun)	\$65/hr	\$55/hr
Weekday (day and evening)	\$45/hr	\$35/hr
Long-Term Rentals (multi-week, with contract)	\$40/hr	\$30/hr

Residents of McKernan who are members of the community league receive a 15% discount on one-time hall rentals. GST will also be charged on rentals. Damage deposit will also be required, and renters must obtain their own event insurance.



The Main Hall at the McKernan Community Centre

# Community Events

## Holiday Potluck at McKernan Community Hall

On Sunday, December 10, from 4pm to 8pm, there will be a Holiday Potluck at the McKernan Community Hall. See Page 1 for more info.

## Strong Towns!

On December 13, the president of Strong Towns, Charles Marohn, will be presenting at the Metro Cinema in Garneau.

Strong Towns encourages municipal development that is financially strong and resilient.

This is a ticketed event.

# SNOW REMOVAL ASSISTANCE

We've enjoyed a very mild autumn, but we all know what's coming for us: snow and ice! The McKernan Community League is hoping to offer free snow removal to selected McKernan residents this year. To qualify for assistance you must fall into one of these categories:

- seniors (65+)
- persons with a disability with reduced ability to remove snow and ice from their residential walk (18+)
- persons with limited mobility
- newcomers to Canada requiring assistance with their first Canadian winter

If you fit any of these criteria and need snow removal please contact [mckernanmaintenance@gmail.com](mailto:mckernanmaintenance@gmail.com) to schedule a visit.

# BLACK KNOT PRUNING

## A Message from the Edmonton Urban Forestry Department

Black knot (*Apiosporina morbosa*) is a fungal disease that causes greenish brown to black swellings in the stems of plum and cherry trees. Black knot deforms branches and reduces the growth of trees. Heavily infected trees often become stunted and may eventually die from the disease. The disease spreads during periods of warm, wet weather with the spores dispersed by splashing water, wind, birds, and insects.

Trees located on boulevards and in maintained parks susceptible to black knot are pruned by City arborists on a four-year pruning cycle. This allows for an annual focus on a specific quadrant of the city.

You can help to maximize the City's black knot pruning efforts by ensuring trees on private property are pruned for black knot between late fall to early spring.

For additional information on black knot and pruning guidelines, please visit:

[www.edmonton.ca/programs\\_services/pests/black-knot](http://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/pests/black-knot)

# McKernan Snaps

Some of the characters that were lurking about the McKernan Haunted Shack the evening of October 28, 2023.



*The Grim Reaper himself tended the bonfire outside the Haunted Shack*



*This ghastly (but dapper) skeleton greeted guests of the Haunted Shack*

## Counter Culture - Where to Eat in Scona District

# FLAT BOY BURGERS: bona fide hidden gem

by Allan Suddaby

The first thing that anyone will tell you about Flat Boy Burgers is that it is located in a curling club. The Granite Curling Club in Garneau, to be precise. There is a mechanical boot brush at the entrance, and the dining room, such as it is, looks onto eight sheets of cobbled ice. In this unlikely location Flat Boy makes one of the most distinct burgers in the city. If the two things that make a restaurant a hidden gem are an obscure location and excellent food, Flat Boy has outdone itself in both regards.

I have no doubt that the HVAC system at the Granite meets or exceeds all local regulations, but as soon as you enter the club the air is scented with beef fat and onions; it nearly drives me to a frenzy.

It's a wide world, with plenty of room for all kinds of hamburgers. From thin, industrial fast-food burgers, to thick pub-style burgers, to self-aware burgers topped with arugula, there is a time and place for all of them. But the style of hamburger that has most captivated Edmonton's imagination the last several years is the smash patty. To make a smash patty, ground beef is pressed thin onto a smoking-hot flat-top griddle and seared, creating a caramelized crust that holds the thin, juicy patty together.

Jack's Burger Shack of St Albert was an early champion of the smash patty in our region.



*A single cheeseburger and fries at Flat Boy Burgers*

Others, like Fox Burger and Gravy, have since done the style admirably. However, if these places provide crunchy “burger candy” as a textural nuance, Flat Boy delivers it so generously as to transform the central character of the sandwich. When you pick up the burger you can feel the patty crackling inside the soft bun. The funky aroma of beef fat and onion is intoxicating. The depth of flavour from the hard sear is delicious and inscrutable. At three ounces, the patties are on the small size, and I strongly suggest a

double-burger.

Part of smash burger culture is a nostalgic reverence for simple, mid-century toppings. We're talking about processed American cheese and iceberg lettuce: don't expect to find Brie or mizugula here.

The fries are similarly “flat”: a quarter inch thick but as wide and long as your thumb. One “Flat Fries” portion is unreasonably large. I appreciate value and generosity as much as anyone, but you can share an order with a dining companion and still leave uncomfortably full.

A more casual dining room does not exist. There are flatscreen tvs hung from the ceiling, though most guests are content to watch the curling. Flat Boy is not licensed but the “Extra Ends Lounge” upstairs will graciously welcome you and your burger.

*Allan Suddaby is a Red Seal Chef, Certified Chef de Cuisine, and Culinary Arts Instructor at NAIT Polytechnic. He lives in McKernan with his wife and two children.*

**FLAT BOY BURGERS**  
8670 - 107 St NW  
(in the Granite Curling Club)

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ON CITY PLANNING

The City of Edmonton's District Planning project is developing two new planning tools to guide how 15 districts (collections of neighbourhoods) will redevelop and change as Edmonton reaches its next population milestone of 1.25 million people:

Fifteen district plans contain district-specific context, area-specific policies, and maps showing how the citywide District Policy directions will be applied in the districts.

District plans will guide the long-term physical change of Edmonton's neighbourhoods.

Your district plan will say where taller and denser buildings should go and where the City needs to invest in support growth.

The last chapter of the City's multi-phase public engagement on the draft district plans will feature in-person drop-in public engagement sessions, including:

Thursday, November 30: 5 to 8 p.m. at Queen Alexandra Community League Hall (10425 University Avenue)

Stop by to speak with staff from the District Planning Project for an in-person session to learn more about the draft district plans,

what they mean for your neighbourhood, and ask your questions and to share your thoughts.

McKernan would become part of the Scona District Plan. As part of this change, the city is recommending that the McKernan-Belgravia Station Area Redevelopment Plan be repealed.

Other engagement session dates and times are listed at <https://engaged.edmonton.ca/districtplanning>, along with important documents around the City Plan process.

# Development Applications

October 15 to November 15, 2023

The list below covers permits that have been applied for in McKernan. Permits are under review unless otherwise noted.

Complete information, including permit number and the name of the applicant, is available at the City of Edmonton mapping website [maps.edmonton.ca](https://maps.edmonton.ca) > Development Applications. Requested and approved planning applications (i.e. for rezoning, not development) are listed at [https://www.edmonton.ca/residential\\_neighbourhoods/neighbourhoods/mckernan-planning-applications.aspx](https://www.edmonton.ca/residential_neighbourhoods/neighbourhoods/mckernan-planning-applications.aspx). If you have any questions about a project, contact [housingdevelopments@mckernancommunity.org](mailto:housingdevelopments@mckernancommunity.org).

7728 - 112 Street	To construct a side uncovered deck.
11167 - 73 Avenue	To construct a detached garage)
11167 - 73 Ave	To construct a detached garage.
10918 - 76 Ave	To demolish a single detached house and a detached garage.
10918 - 76 Ave	To demolish a single detached house and detached garage.



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## New Single-Use Federal Regs will Override Municipal

Federal regulations take effect December 20, 2023. These regulations will override some exemptions to Edmonton Single-Use Item Bylaw: Charities will no longer be able to use plastic shopping bags or Styrofoam, plates, cups, and containers. All organizations including charities are expected to comply with the new single-use plastic prohibition.

Visit [edmonton.ca/SingleUse](http://edmonton.ca/SingleUse) for more info and resources to help your organization prepare.

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# PLEASE DONATE! TO THE CHARLES SIMMONDS PARK RENEWAL

The Charles Simmonds Park Renewal requires \$25,000 more in community funding in order to proceed. The fundraising deadline is December 1, 2023.

The project will provide a new playground, benches, picnic tables, a gazebo, and a path along the north side while maintaining the wide, open character of the park.

The park at 115 St between 78 and 80 Avenues serves both the Belgravia and McKernan communities.

Visit [mckernancommunity.org](http://mckernancommunity.org) for details on making a donation.



## Commemorative Benches Available

The City of Edmonton Benchmark Program was established to offer individuals and groups the opportunity to honour loved ones or to celebrate special occasions through the placement of a commemorative plaque on a bench in City parks and open spaces.

You can have a commemorative plaque on one of the four new benches in Charles Simmonds Park. Your donation of \$2,500 includes the cost of the bench, individualized bronze plaque, and related maintenance over a 10-year period.



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