

MAY 2023

Next League Meeting:
Monday June 12, 2023 7pm

THE MCKERNAN MESSENGER

Since
1954

A publication of the McKernan Community League

Circulation 1,100

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP KITS

The McKernan Community League has procured 'clean-up kits' from the City of Edmonton's Capital City Clean-Up program. Each kit contains nitrile gloves, black garbage bags, a blue recycling bag, a trash picker tool, and a Litter Clean-Up Safety Guidelines booklet. Kits are available to any enterprising community member who wants to keep McKernan tidy. To request a kit and arrange for delivery to your home, email Alison at:

mckernanmembership@gmail.com

Volunteer citizens, community groups, schools, and businesses are an essential part of the Capital City Clean Up program, which promotes litter reduction and graffiti prevention to keep Edmonton clean, safe, and attractive.

THANK YOU

For Making the Big Bin Event a Success

A huge thank you to our Big Bin event volunteers: Alison Stephens, Arthur Kloc, Ingrid Poulin, Jennifer Branch-Mueller, Peter Skoda, Roberta Franchuk, Rolinda Graham, and Phil Kloc

-The McKernan Community League



Braving the 'spray tunnel' at the McKernan Spray Park. The McKernan Spray Park opened on May 10. The city is hoping to have all spray parks open by the May long weekend.

MCKERNAN COMMUNITY LEAGUE AGM RECAP

by Phil Kloc, MCL President

April's AGM was a success, and completed in record time, most likely because there was a playoff game to get to, as opposed to any meeting skills or planning on my part.

We decided to finally do away with hybrid meetings and run entirely in person. With that, we had 19 people join us, three more than last year. Many stuck around after the meeting (despite the hockey game) and were able to enjoy some wine and cheese and face-to-face chit-chat with neighbours.

Roberta was in fine form as the scrutineer this year, ensuring the nominations and elections moved quickly.

We bade farewell to a few board members, namely Rekha Shepherd (Director/Social Convenor), Marilyn Johnson (Director), Jerry Zhang (Vice President), and Jen Bodnar (Treasurer) who has now taken on the role of Hall Manager. Thank you all for your hard work.

Welcome to our new board members. Jennifer Branch-Mueller steps in as Treasurer.

If you recognize the name it's because she's been our treasurer before. We're super thankful Jennifer is willing to bring her skills back to the board. BJ Serink steps in as a Director, and is interested in helping plan "the fun stuff" as Social Convenor. Angela Espejo joins as a Director, and is also our Community Historian, with lots of great ideas

- SAVE THE DATE -

The McKernan Fall BBQ will be held on Sunday, September 10, 2023 at the McKernan Community Hall

on helping us get to know McKernan. The Vice President position is currently vacant, so if anyone is interested in an easier job on the board, please reach out.

We have a great board again this year, and we're looking forward to serving our wonderful community.

Community Contacts

PRESIDENT	Phil Kloc	780-965-0773
	president@mckernancommunity.org	
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	780-438-0460
	www.ascacricket.com	
SKATING RINK	Greg Jones	780-222-2096
CASINO CHAR	Vishal Sharma	
HISTORIAN	Angela Espejo	
	angela.s.espejo@gmail.com	
POCKET PARK	Michelle Jones	780-289-0635
	4ourpocketpark@gmail.com	
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.

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
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DISTRIBUTION	Cherie Hoyles

www.mckernancommunity.org

WEBSITE MANAGER	Roberta Franchuk	780-431-4924
	webmaster@mckernancommunity.org	

City of Edmonton

CITY COUNCILLOR (Ward papastew)	Michael Janz	780-496-8146
	michael.janz@edmonton.ca	
COMMUNITY SERVICES	Kate Russell	780-496-5915
	kate.russell@edmonton.ca	



Heather McPherson

Member of Parliament
Edmonton Strathcona

Contact my office for assistance with:

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- Celebratory Messages

780-495-8404
10045 81 Ave T6E1W7

 **NDP**

heather.mcpherson@parl.gc.ca
Follow on   

Visit my website at www.heathermcpherson.ndp.ca



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. More information about the hall and how to rent it is available at www.mckernancommunity.org.

Capacity & Rates

	Main Hall	Meeting Room
Capacity	150	60
Hourly Rate (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.

Community Events

Alberta Provincial Election

(As if you didn't know) there is a provincial election happening Monday, May 29, 2023. McKernan is entirely within the riding of Edmonton-Riverview, currently represented by Lori Sigurdson of the NDP. There are five candidates registered in Edmonton-Riverview. Our voting location on election day is Parkallen School (6703 - 112 St) and polls are open from 9am to 8pm. Advanced voting will also be available from Tuesday May 22 to Saturday May 27 at multiple locations across the city, including the Saville Centre. For complete elections information visit elections.ab.ca.

Theatre at St Paul's United

The Geriactors & Friends theatre company is proud to present the original shows *Be Careful* and *Now That We're Older* on June 1, 2, and 3 at St Paul's United Church (11526 - 76 Ave). The Geriactors are a multi-generational theatre group that fosters positive intergenerational interaction and authentic views of aging. Email geriactors.friends@gmail.com or call 780-248-1556 to reserve tickets. A limited number of tickets will also be available at the door.

A Day in the Park (Charles Simmonds Park!)

Come to Charles Simmonds Park on Sunday, June 4, 2023 for an afternoon of food, games, and information on the park renewal project. This event has been organized by the Charles Simmonds Park Renewal Committee and runs from 1-4pm. See poster at right.

Front Yards in Bloom

While nominations are not yet open, the city is slated to launch its 2023 Front Yards in Bloom program. This well-loved tradition promotes gardening, beautification, and community.

If there is a front yard or balcony that brightens your day, take the time to nominate the dedicated green thumb. See www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/landscaping_gardening/front-yards-in-bloom for more information.

River Valley Junior Golf

Registration is now open for River Valley Junior Golf (RVJG), a non-profit organization promoting the game of golf amongst youth in Edmonton. RVJG offers different memberships allowing juniors to play at city golf courses. Visit rvjg.ca for more information.

Playgroup Organizer

The community league is currently looking for someone to organize the McKernan Playgroup, a casual, weekly, drop-in playdate that can take place indoors at the hall or outside in a park, depending on weather. If you have young children and are interested in meeting other parents and families and helping with the playgroup, please email:

philipgkloc@gmail.com

CHARLES SIMMONDS PARK

115 St. & 79

Bouncy Castle

Tug of War

Free Food

A Day in the Park

Sunday, June 4

1-4 PM

Face Painting

Try Disc Golfing

Craft Table

Wide Games

Community Garden Info

This community event for all ages is being organized by the Charles Simmonds Park Renewal Committee. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the park.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this fun event please email gfs@shaw.ca.



Strathcona Kendo Club

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McKernan District Community Hall

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ACCEPTING NEW STUDENTS STARTING MAY 22, 2023!

TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT

strathconakendo.com



MCKERNAN BELGRAVIA COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE

In October 2022 The McKernan Messenger reported on Michael Frost's presentation to the Community League in which he expressed his intention to create a community garden somewhere in the McKernan-Belgravia area.

Since that presentation he has formed a working group that has been meeting regularly since January. Two possible locations for the garden were explored: McKernan Park and Charles Simmonds Park. After conversations with a City Neighbourhood Recreation Coordinator, as well as feedback from the Charles Simmonds Park Renewal public engagement, the group has decided to propose Charles Simmonds Park as the location for the community garden. They are currently in the strategy phase of the project. They have submitted the proposal to city administration for initial feedback.

The group will have an information table at the June 4 event at Charles Simmonds Park (see Pg 3 for details).

Michael is still looking for individuals who would like to contribute to this project. No gardening experience is required. If you would like to learn more or would like to participate in the working group, email Michael Frost at:



greenland101@gmail.com

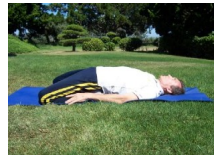
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or

Patty Linke - Stillmovement.ca 780 690 5984

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NO MINIMUM LEVEL OF FLEXIBILITY REQUIRED!

Plant Profile: Nanking Cherry

by Allan Suddaby



Nanking cherry blossoms in a McKernan yard.

One of the loveliest parts of May in McKernan is the generous sour cherry blossoms blooming throughout the neighbourhood. My two favourites are the Nanking cherries in the Pocket Park. The scientific name of Nanking cherry is *Prunus tomentosa*. "Prunus" means plum (think: prune), and "tomentosa" means densely hairy, referring in this case to the underside of the leaves. Nanking cherry is native to the far east, hailing from places like the Himalayas, China, and Japan. "Nanking" is the old roman-alphabet word for the Chinese city now more commonly transliterated as Nanjing.

Nanking flowers are white with a pink blush that contrasts beautifully with the roan colour of the wood. Proverbially ephemeral, the blossoms start to fall off about a week after first appearing.

Nanking leaves are elliptical, 2-3 inches long, with irregularly serrated edges. They are deeply veined, and a bit fuzzy, especially on the pale underside.

Nanking cherry bushes need another *Prunus* plant to pollinate them. In other words you need to have another Nanking cherry near by, or any type of cherry, plum, or apricot. The fruit ripens to a brilliant crimson in mid July. Unlike the image of cherries that most of us have in our brains, Nanking cherries do not grow in drooping clusters, but rather are connected to the branches by very short stalks and form lines of fruit up and down the length of the branches. When they are ripe they are a good balance of sweet and sour and can be comfortably eaten out of hand. Birds love them: robins eat them whole, and sparrows peck the flesh off the pit.

Development Applications

March 21 to May 10, 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 > 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. If you have any questions about a project, contact housingdevelopments@mckernancommunity.org.

11163 - 73 Ave	To construct a Single Detached House with an Unenclosed Front Porch, rear uncovered deck (3.51 m x 3.96 m) and fireplace.
10926 - 72 Ave	To leave as built an Accessory building (detached Garage, 6.82 m x 6.53 m)
11167 - 73 Ave	To construct a Single Detached House with an Unenclosed Front Porch and a rear uncovered deck.
11419 - University Ave	Construction of a new building, Demolition (Editor's Note: this is the exact language on the City of Edmonton website. It is uncharacteristically vague. -AS)
10923 - 77 Ave	To operate a Minor Home Based Business (Photographic Imaging, Print Sales, & Professional Creative Services)
10905 - 73 Ave	To operate a Major Home Based Business (KANDATH LAW OFFICE, maximum 3 visits per day, expires 4/18/2028)
7202 - 112 St	To construct a front uncovered deck (4.88 m x 4.88 m, 1.2 m height)
2, 11105 - University Ave	To develop a Secondary Suite in the Basement of a Row House.
11343 - 76 Ave	To demolish a Single Detached House and Accessory building (detached Garage).
11343 - 76 Ave	To demolish a Single Detached House.
11226 - 75 Ave	To demolish an Accessory building (detached Garage).
11427 - 80 Ave	To install a Renewable Energy Device on a House (24 Solar PhotoVoltaic Panels on the Roof).
11343 - 76 Ave	To demolish a Single Detached House and detached Garage.



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REMINDER: SPRING WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

A reminder that the spring waste collection schedule started in April, with recycling and compostables being picked up every week, and garbage being picked up every other week.



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Organization Profile

THE GREEN & GOLD COMMUNITY GARDEN

by Margaret Milner

The volunteer gardeners at the Green & Gold Community Garden, on the University of Alberta South Campus, are making plans for our fifteenth gardening season! The garden is an initiative of the University's School of Public Health and Faculty of Agricultural, Life, and Environmental Sciences. The garden is totally volunteer run and we have benefitted from the generosity of many supporters through donations.

The vegetables, herbs, and flowers are "spray-free" (no pesticides or artificial fertilizers are used). Anyone is welcome to "purchase" their vegetables at the garden and all the money raised goes to the Tubahumize Association, a non-profit organization in Rwanda that provides socially and economically marginalized women with vocational training, counselling, life-skills coaching, health care education, and opportunities for sustainable income generating activities. Most individuals who benefit from Tubahumize are genocide survivors and many are widows or orphans, HIV-infected, and survivors of physical and sexual violence. To date, the garden has raised over \$450,000 for the Tubahumize project.

In recent years, we have been making the transition to alternative gardening methods to grow our vegetables, herbs, and flowers. Some of these methods include low-till gardening, creation of permanent beds with pathways between them to avoid compaction, use of cover crops, alternative mulching, composting and weed management techniques, and succession planting. The amendments we have made to our soil in recent years has improved the production and quality of our produce, created habitat for bees, worms and other beneficial insects, and reduced the human labour required to control unwanted weed production over more traditional gardening methods. This has freed up valuable time for our volunteers to learn about planting, managing crops, and focusing on community building activities in the garden.

We are now gearing up for the 2023 gardening season, and are looking for new volunteers to join us at the garden. Both novice and experienced gardeners are welcome. If you aren't interested in gardening, but would like to help in other ways (distributing produce, promoting the garden, donating seeds or garden tools) please contact us at:

 **E-mail: gggarden@ualberta.ca**
Web site: www.greengoldgarden.com

If you would like to receive garden e-mails when produce from the garden is available this summer, please send us an e-mail at the above address with a request to be added to the e-mail list.

Summer is a great opportunity to focus on learning in a less high pressure environment

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OR
2. Learn to play your favourite pop tunes at the piano, chords and improvisation
OR
3. Get more great classics under your belt!
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