

MAR 2023

Next League Meeting:
Monday April 17, 2023 7pm

THE MCKERNAN MESSENGER

Since 1954

A publication of the McKernan Community League

Circulation 1,100

ROLLIE MILES ENGAGEMENT

On March 15 a revised design for the Rollie Miles Recreation Centre was unveiled at an online public engagement session. The city is currently looking for feedback. Edmontonians are invited to share their thoughts on the new design by completing a brief survey. The project team will use the input collected from the survey, along with the technical requirements of the project and city policies, to continue to develop the design.

The size and location of the facility, the main program elements, and the related amenities were previously determined through public engagement and accepted by City Council.

The Rollie Miles Recreation Centre project is funded for planning and preliminary design. Detailed design and construction are currently unfunded.

The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and is open until end-of-day March 29

Visit edmonton.ca/rollie-miles-recreation-centre to take the survey..

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



Making tire de neige (maple taffy) outside McKernan School. The Canadian Maple Shack gave students a taste of this traditional sweet during the school's celebration of National Francophone Week.

You're Invited: McKernan Community League Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The McKernan Community League AGM will be held on Monday April 17, 2023 at 7pm at the Community Centre. The meeting will include year-end business and election of officers, and will be followed by a wine-and-cheese social. All community members are welcome. Attendees do not need to be running for a position, and are free to come simply to meet others in the community or learn about the League.

There are several board positions open this year.

President. The president supervises the affairs of the Board; chairs all meetings of the League, the Board, and the Executive Committee; and acts as the spokesperson of the League.

Vice President. The vice-president presides over meetings in the President's absence; replaces the President at various functions; and is responsible for the annual review of Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures

Treasurer. The treasurer deposits fees and income paid to the League; presents a detailed account of revenues and expenditures at every Board and General Meeting; prepares and presents an audited financial statement at the Annual General Meeting.

Director-at-Large (two positions available). Directors attend meetings of the League and the Board, and carry out League business as required.

A current McKernan Community League membership is required to hold these positions, and to vote in the elections.

If you are interested in running for a position, make sure your league membership is current, and contact philipgkloc@gmail.com. The Board is always especially interested in having representation from young community members, youths or university students. Attending League meetings is a great introduction to civics and community.

Community Contacts

| | | |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| PRESIDENT | Phil Kloc | 780-965-0773 |
| | president@mckernancommunity.org | |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | Jerry Zhang | |
| SECRETARY | Ingrid Poulin | ingrid2323@gmail.com |
| TREASURER | Jen Bodnar | |
| DIRECTORS | Marilyn Johnson | |
| | Rekha Shepherd | |
| | Milap Petigara | |
| | Rolinda Graham | |
| 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 |
| SOCIAL CONVENOR | Rekha Shepherd | |
| 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.

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Heather McPherson

Member of Parliament
Edmonton Strathcona

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 **NDP**

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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

Seedy Sunday

March 26 is Seedy Sunday, a public event that brings together home and community gardeners, seed savers, native plant collectors, and agricultural conservation groups. Local seed companies sell open-pollinated varieties of vegetables, fruits, flowers, grains, and herbs. This is also a perfect opportunity to learn about gardening basics from some of Edmonton's experts. The central event is 11am to 4pm at the Alberta Avenue Hall (9210 118 Avenue NW).

Root for Trees

The Root for Trees Program is the City of Edmonton's volunteer tree planting initiative. Help plant native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers in Edmonton's naturalized areas. Registered group planting program bookings will open on March 31. For more information visit edmonton.ca/city_government/initiatives_innovation/root-for-trees.

Development Applications February 15 to March 20

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.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 7218 - 112 St | To construct a Semi-Detached House with fireplace, secondary suite, uncovered deck, and veranda. |
| 7218 - 112 St | To construct a Garden Suite with balcony. |
| 11251 - 79 Ave | To install a Renewable Energy Device On a House (19 Solar PhotoVoltaic Panels on the Roof). |
| 11318 - 75 Ave | To develop a Secondary Suite in the Basement of a Semi-Detached House. |
| 11320 - 75 Ave | To develop a Secondary Suite in the Basement of Semi-Detached House. |
| 7202 - 112 St | To construct interior alterations to a Single Detached House (Basement Development: 1 mechanical room, 2 bedrooms, and recreation space) and Kitchen Renovation, NOT to be used as an additional Dwelling. |
| 10943 - University Ave | To demolish a Single Detached House. |

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McKERNAN:

For Whom is our Neighbourhood Named?

by Angela Espejo, McKernan Community Historian

Incentivized by Alberta's riches, namely fur and coal deposits, the family McKernan travelled west from Winnipeg to become one of Edmonton's fledgling settler families. In 1878, Robert and his spouse Sara built their generous two-storey homestead on the land that currently houses McKernan School. The surrounding marshy lake, later named McKernan Lake, was a favourite recreational spot for the McKernans, their growing family, and many friends.

Robert and Sara had eleven children, ten of whom survived childbirth. Their son John, our neighbourhood's namesake, became a prominent businessman in the City of Strathcona, where the family had made their home since the late 1870s.

Robert McKernan later became a real estate developer. In the early 1900s, he built the Dominion Hotel, one of the most striking buildings of its time. The hotel was a prominent landmark in the budding Strathcona community, and is now recognized by the Alberta Register of Historic Places. If you walk past the Gainer Block (around 103 St and Whyte Avenue), you can see the building's original facade-stone cornices, brick facade, and original ornamental woodwork.

Across the street, Robert's son John, known as "Jack", erected the Princess Theatre in 1914. You may have caught a film at the historic theatre, or attended a private function in the intricate, unparalleled space. The venue remains available for a variety of functions (if you're interested in booking, learn more at princesstheatre.ca)

And now you know a little more about the person and family for whom our neighbourhood is named! Perhaps the next time you walk through our elm-lined streets and spot signage boasting the name "McKernan", you'll think of the brave and entrepreneurial family that made a name for itself in our very streets.



The Princess Theatre c. 2010. Source: CBC.ca



The Dominion Hotel, c. 1900. Source: City of Edmonton Archives

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