

APRIL 2024

Next League Meeting:
Tuesday, May 14 - 7pm

THE MCKERNAN MESSENGER

Since 1954

A publication of the McKernan Community League

Circulation 1,100

Yard Sale and Big Bin Event

Are you moving, doing your spring cleaning, or just have unwanted junk sitting around? On Sunday April 28 bring your stuff to McKernan Hall (11341-78 Ave) to sell, donate, or throw away! Yard sale and big bin disposal both start at 10am and run until 3pm.

Sell. Register for a table at mckernancommunity.org. If your items haven't sold by the end of the sale, you can either take them home or toss them in the big bin.

Donate. Bring your items that may have some resale value to the McKernan Community League tables, and we will attempt to sell the items to raise funds for the renewal of Charles Simmonds Park. Most unsold donations will be tossed in the big bin at the end of the event.

Freecycle. If it's not worth the effort of selling, but could still be useful to someone, bring it to the "Free" table. These items will be tossed in the big bin at the end of the event.

Throw away. Get rid of your oversized junk by hauling it to the hall parking lot and chucking it in a big bin. Almost anything can be put in there, except for hazardous waste, tires, oil/gas or propane tanks, paint cans, and appliances with compressors (fridges and freezers).

City Recommends 8.7% Tax Hike

On April 10 the city released its spring operating budget adjustment report, which recommended an 8.7 per cent increase to property taxes for 2024 in order to respond to increasing cost pressures and to continue to provide the services outlined in the 2023-2026 budget. This is an additional 2.1 per

Continued on Pg 5



On a brisk but sunny March 30 the McKernan Community League hosted its inaugural Easter egg hunt. The event was very well-attended, with dozens of children searching for eggs and candy in the McKernan School field and around the community hall. [Photos: Lisa Zieminek]

Community Action Saves Residential Parking Program in McKernan, Belgravia

Residents will need to pay for parking passes

Community action and feedback have successfully reversed a city decision to remove McKernan and Belgravia from the Residential Parking Program (RPP).

On March 19, 2024 Global News reported that Edmonton city council would be removing McKernan, Belgravia, and several other neighbourhoods from the RPP. Starting in June 2024, residents of these neighbourhoods would not have been able to receive parking passes from the city. In fact Jenny Albers, from the city's Planning, Permitting and Traffic Operations department, stated, "all the [parking] signs are being removed, so it would be open parking for visitors and residents to park." (Source: Global News)

The announcement caught many by surprise, and the Belgravia Community

League invited Ward papastew Councillor Michael Janz to their April 9 meeting to provide information and listen to concerns. Residents were also encouraged to email Janz and the department of Parking Assests with their concerns.

After reviewing community feedback, the city has decided to extend the RPP back into McKernan and Belgravia, following boundaries that are almost exactly as they were previously. Residents will however need to pay an annual fee of \$120 for a parking pass. Streets will still have hourly parking for visitors (maximum 2 hours).

Current residential parking permits expire at the end of May.

Further questions or concerns can be sent to michael.janz@edmonton.ca

Community Contacts

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| PRESIDENT | Phil Kloc president@mckernancommunity.org | 780-965-0773 |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | Judy Ross | |
| SECRETARY | Ingrid Poulin ingrid2323@gmail.com | |
| TREASURER (temporary) | Roberta Franchuk | |
| DIRECTORS | 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 | Mike Blennerhassett belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca https://emsasouthwest.com/ | |
| CRICKET | C. Marathalingam www.ascacricket.com | 780-438-0460 |
| SKATING RINK | Greg Jones | 780-222-2096 |
| CASINO CHAR | Vishal Sharma | |
| HISTORIAN | ---vacant--- | |
| 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.

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
newsletter@mckernancommunity.org

DISTRIBUTION
Cherie Hoyles

www.mckernancommunity.org

WEBSITE MANAGER
Roberta Franchuk
webmaster@mckernancommunity.org

City of Edmonton

CITY COUNCILLOR
(Ward papastew)
Michael Janz
michael.janz@edmonton.ca

COMMUNITY SERVICES
David Fletcher
david.fletcher@edmonton.ca



The Main Hall at the McKernan Community Centre

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 hall@mckernancommunity.org. 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.

New Online Booking System

Hall bookings can now be done ONLINE at www.mckernancommunity.org/hall-bookings

Simply go to the Hall Rentals page and select « BOOK ONLINE » to see our the calendar.

Look for openings in the schedule that may work for you. There's no need to LOG IN, simply click the "Add/edit" button. Add your event details and click "Create event".

Once booked online, your event will appear as "pending approval".

Please make sure to leave your phone number so we can call you back.

We will be in touch with you after you book your event!

McKernan Greenspaces

by Roberta Franchuk

Spring is here, and there are many opportunities to brighten up McKernan's green spaces!

POCKET PARK

Our pocket park at 113 Street and University Avenue has been a joint effort of the McKernan and Garneau communities for many years. Our dedicated Pocket Park team is out in the spring to clean up and plant, and regularly weeds and waters the space over the summer (Thursdays at 6:30 pm). They're keen on getting more volunteers to help out a little or a lot - so if you enjoy the pocket park and would like to contribute, consider dropping by to help. It's also a great way to get in touch with nature, have fun, and meet some very experienced gardeners if you're just starting out with plants. Donations of cucumber, zucchini, or strawberry plants would also be appreciated in the spring, as would donated compost! Contact pocketpark@mckernancommunity.org or keep an eye out for the spring cleanup and maintenance schedule on mckernancommunity.org.

PARTNERS IN PARKS

The City also has opportunities for volunteers to do light maintenance (removing litter and weeding) in existing City-owned shrub beds. Or, you can go one step further by planting non-invasive annuals or perennials, watering or mulching. You can join the Partners in Parks program at www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/landscaping_gardening/partner-in-parks (sites will be opened soon but you can add your name to the list to be notified). Locations in McKernan are usually available.

LITTER PICK-UP

You can help keep the city litter free by participating in the Capital City Clean Up. Request a Litter Kit now at https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/graffiti_litter/litter-services. Each litter kit includes three black garbage bags, one blue recycling bag, and three pairs of nitrile gloves. Litter pickup tools are also available for a limited time. When you're done picking litter, send in your hours for recognition.

CASINO Volunteers Needed

Our biennial casino fundraiser has been set for August 4 and 5, 2024, at PURE Casino on Argyll Road. This is a major fundraising event, the proceeds of which should retire the debt from our hall construction! We need volunteers for shifts over the two days, both daytime and evening. Anyone over 18 years of age is eligible. The work is easy and you will get time to meet other community members. Sign up using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COB4EAAA72AA3F8C43-48010915-mclcasino>



Relief and relaxation are just a short walk away!

*Thorough and personalized acupuncture and massage.
Modern evidence-based approach.
15 years of experience, proud to be a 5-star business.*



#203, 7609 - 109 Street | acupuncturereturningpoint.ca



Eric Wong, CFA, CFP, CPA, MBA, CMT
Senior Investment Counsellor & Portfolio Manager

BMO Private Wealth | Tel.: 780-408-0170
10175-101 Street NW, | kaieric.wong@bmo.com
20th Floor | <https://privatewealth.bmo.com/kaieric.wong>
Edmonton, AB, T5J 0H3

BMO | Private Wealth

© Registered trademark of Bank of Montreal, used under license. BMO Private Wealth is a brand name for a business group consisting of Bank of Montreal and certain of its affiliates in providing private wealth management products and services.

GUITAR & PIANO LESSONS



Did you get a New Guitar or Piano for Christmas?

Then this is the right time to LEARN TO PLAY IT!

Our lessons will get you started efficiently and effectively: NO TIME WASTED!

BOOK TODAY YOUR FREE INTRO-SESSION



CALL 780 637 0513
Or Visit:

www.EdmontonGuitar.com

Korean Comfort at Steel Wheels

by Allan Suddaby

For U of A students and other south side kids that spend their weekends on Whyte Avenue, Steel Wheels has an almost mythic reputation. It is licensed, and open till 3am: a natural place to round out the night with a few more drinks, buffered by an eclectic blend of pizza and Korean comfort food. But while Steel Wheels is definitely *of* Whyte Avenue, it is not *on* Whyte Avenue: one must walk a small odyssey to find the dimly lit entrance on 85 Avenue, across from the old armoury. Heading north on Gateway, the din of Whyte quickly recedes behind you. North of 83 Avenue all the buildings are dark, and the walk starts to seem a lot longer than it really is, especially on a cold night.

There is no dining room that better represents the reckless, rowdy essence of a Whyte Avenue Saturday night. Every surface - the tables, the booths, the walls - is a decades-old palimpsest of graffiti written in Sharpie marker, paint, and white-out. The ceiling and the upper portions of the walls are lined with paper plates that patrons have used as impromptu substrates to draw pictures in ballpoint pen. Many are loving caricatures of Phil, a man who once commandeered the counter at Steel Wheels. He always wore a pink cowboy hat, and his unflappable good nature and strongly accented shouts were defining elements of the Steel Wheels experience for many years. Since his retirement he has become a semi-legendary figure, and an enduring part of the Steel Wheels mythology.

Steel Wheels is first and foremost a pizzeria.



Pizza, dumplings, and jjigae at Steel Wheels (10307 - 85 Avenue NW)

In fact its full and proper name used to be Steel Wheels Rock 'n' Roll Pizzeria. The most notable pie is the bulgogi beef pizza, which Steel Wheels was making years before cooky toppings like perogies and donair meat became common. In a sober blind tasting the pizza might be described as utility-grade: a thick, bready crust, sprinkled with industrial cheese. But the unremarkable pizza is easily excused because with Steel Wheels the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Dunk that dryish crust into some Korean stone bowl soup and it becomes one of the more memorable pizzas of your life.

The heavy stone bowls are pre-heated to near-volcanic temperatures before being filled. Soup comes to the table at a sustained, seething boil. Many people have grown up with this style of soup, but for neophytes it is awe-inspiring, almost magical, like seeing fireworks for the first time. Eventually the boiling subsides and you can enjoy some profoundly nourishing food.

Kimchi jjigae is a fiery soup based on kimchi, with hunks of tofu and pork belly bobbing in the red broth. It is hot, spicy, and deeply savoury, with funky inflections from cabbage, daikon, and seafood. It is an instant cure for drunkenness, and focuses the mind more sharply than a pot of coffee.

Budae jjigae ("army base soup") is a rich broth crammed with sausage, Spam, instant ramen noodles, and canned beans, garnished with a slice of processed cheese that melts into the soup to become a subtle, savoury overlay. It is a sophisticated and flavourful version of the common bachelor's dinner of elbow macaroni, baked beans, and sliced hot dogs. I believe it holds roughly the same place in ever Korean heart as Kraft Dinner does for Canadian children.

There are also noodles, rice bowls, dumplings, spring rolls, cardboard trays of kimchi, and at least a dozen other items on the menu.

On weekends, after midnight, Steel Wheels is a madhouse. Every bench is full and the line goes out the door. It is loud, raucous, vulgar, and one of my favourite places in the world. It is the only place in my entire life that I have witnessed an actual food fight. However if you find yourself wanting dinner

Seeking Bookkeeper!

The McKernan Community League is currently seeking a new bookkeeper!

Responsibilities include:

- assisting in production of Year End reports
- writing cheques for payables (beginning and end of each month)
- bank runs (when cash transactions are required)
- monthly bank account reconciliation, using Quickbooks
- monthly utility invoicing of hall tenants
- deposit of utility reimbursements and rent for MCCC
- invoicing newsletter advertisers
- issuing damage deposit refunds
- payroll (by cheque)
- sales report reconciliation from debit/credit transactions
- producing monthly reports for League Board
- Yearly AGLC Casino account reconciliation
- corresponding with SEF with regards to mortgage
- deposit cheques
- assist in production of Year End reports for annual review at AGM

This position requires approximately 10-15 hours of work per month.

Please send resumes and cover letters to

- hall@mckernancommunity.org
- president@mckernancommunity.org

on a weeknight, you can have a much calmer, more approachable experience while still enjoying the food and ambience.

In an age where restaurants are intentionally contrived for social media, Steel Wheels stands as an authentic, totally unique space that has been carved up and painted by its patrons over many years. A natural and understandable intersection of youth drinking culture (for better or worse), immigrant families, and international students. A confluence of pizza sauce, ranch dressing, and gochujang, that is very much Edmonton, and undeniably rock and roll.

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.

Development Applications

March 10 to April 17, 2024

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.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11419 - University Avenue | To demolish a house. |
| 7333 - 113 Street | To construct a covered deck/patio/veranda |
| 7333 - 113 Street | To construct a detached garage, 10.36 m x 6.71 m |
| 11106 - 72 Avenue | To demolish a single detached house and detached garage. |
| 11167 - 72 Avenue | To construct a detached garage. |
| 11106 - 72 Avenue | To construct a mutual detached garage. |
| 10971 - 76 Avenue | To construct a detached garage, 4.33 m x 6.79 m |
| 11167 - 73 Avenue | To construct a detached garage. |
| 11118 - 78 Avenue | To demolish a house and detached garage. |
| 11414 - 76 Avenue | To demolish a semi-detached house and detached garage. |
| 10934 - 72 Avenue | To construct a front uncovered deck to a semi-detached house. |
| 11414 - 76 Avenue | To demolish a single detached house and detached garage. |

TAX HIKE Cont'd pg 1

cent increase than what was approved in November 2023.

The recommended budget adjustments will allow the City to maintain funding for its 70 services, including the attractions, emergency services, parks, roads, trails, bridges, recreation centres, social supports and transit that Edmontonians use every day. It will also allow the City to deliver on the service increases that City Council approved for 2024.

The city CFO Padbury stated in a press release: "During the pandemic, the City kept tax increases below inflation to support Edmontonians, but now we need to catch up with rising costs. We've reached a point where we need to make choices between increasing taxes or reducing service levels to ensure that the City remains in its current fiscally sustainable position."



GLOBAL CARE PHARMACY

Pharmacist Walk-In Clinic

 Prescribing Pharmacist

 Free prescription pickup & delivery

 Blister Packaging

 Botox Treatment

 Compounding Services

 Travel Consultation

 Direct Billing to insurances

 Strep Throat & COVID-19 Test

 Blood Pressure Monitoring

 Chronic Condition Management

 Injectable Vaccine & Medicine Administration

 825-480-4500
 825-401-0333
 825-401-4141



Heather McPherson

Member of Parliament
Edmonton Strathcona

Contact my office for assistance with:

- Employment Insurance
- Old Age Pensions
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Citizenship & Immigration
- Canada Student Loans
- Celebratory Messages

780-495-8404

10045 81 Ave T6E1W7



heather.mcpherson@parl.gc.ca

Follow on   



Visit my website at www.heathermcpherson.ndp.ca

CALL FOR CHILDREN'S DRAWINGS OF FRIENDLY MONSTERS!

Children's artwork to be used in new 'Vibrant Crosswalk'

The McKernan Vision Zero Street Lab will be installing a vibrant crosswalk at 112 Street and 78 Avenue, and they are looking for help from McKernan children! The theme of the crosswalk will be "Friendly Monsters", and McKernan-area children can submit their art for a chance to have their creature painted onto the walk!

The McKernan Street Lab aims to increase the safety of children and cyclists on 112 Street between University Avenue and 76 Avenue. Parents have flagged the marked school crossing at 78 Avenue as potentially unsafe due to speeding cars.

All McKernan-based children are invited to submit drawings of friendly monsters for this project.

If you would like to participate, submit one or more drawings following the guidelines below.

Guidelines

- any number of submissions per child is allowed
- drawings should depict friendly, funny, or warm-hearted monsters
- as the drawings will be stencilled onto the street, they need to be cartoon-like and may be modified by our team to be suitable for spray painting
- place the name or initials of your child on the back of each drawing
- draw only one monster per sheet of letter-sized paper
- leave the backgrounds plain white as we will design the colours of the background grid
- don't fold the drawings but place them in a folder, a large envelope, or email them
- please include the form (below) with your submissions
- each parent whose child's drawing is selected as inspiration for the project will be contacted by email

Submission deadline: May 25, 2024

Submission location (please call ahead):

Peter Rausch

780 437-5238

11244 - 77 Ave

Or email submissions to: ingrid2323@gmail.com



Friendly Monsters Release Form

I am pleased to submit drawings by my child/children to the Vision Zero Street Lab Friendly Monsters vibrant crosswalk project to be installed on 112 Street and 78th Avenue. I understand that submissions will be juried and that selected drawings may be modified to suit the location, stencilling method, available colours etc.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Children's names or initials as marked on the back of each drawing:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please indicate your preferred option:

- I would like my child's full name included in the publicity for this project
- I don't want my child's name included in publicity for this project
- I only want my child's first name included in the publicity for this project