

# Community Matters

## November 2018 Issue

### Upcoming Community Events

#### **Silent Auction for the Rio Terrace Preschool**

*Friday, November 16, 7 PM – 9 PM*

A fun adult only event with lots of great items for auction, all in support of the Rio Terrace Preschool

#### **Breakfast with Santa**

*Friday, November 30, 2018 3:30 PM – 9 PM*

Join us on a fun breakfast with Santa at the hall!

Rio Terrace Community Hall

#### **Adventbasar Christmas Market**

*Friday, November 30, 2018 3:30 PM – 9 PM*

A fun German Christmas market with crafts, treats and holiday cheer! Free admission and funds raised will benefit the school.

Rio Terrace Community Hall

#### **Door Hanger Workshop with Joyce Fuerst**

*Friday December 7, 7 PM*

Make your own beautiful Christmas door swag with Joyce Fuerst from the community!

Rio Terrace Community Hall

#### **Illuminight**

*Sunday, December 9, 5:30 – 8:30 PM*

The annual neighbourhood tradition where the streets line up with luminaria, with festivities and sleigh rides at the church.

Rio Terrace Moravian Church

#### **Solar Panel Workshop and Tour**

*Wednesday December 12, 6:30 PM – 9 PM*

Check out the newly installed solar panels at the hall and learn more about solar power!

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### Connect with us!

Website: <http://rioterrace.ca>, Twitter: @RioTerrace  
Facebook: RioTerraceCommunityLeague

# Community Matters



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Proudly serving the neighbourhoods of Rio Terrace, Quesnell Heights, and Patricia Heights.

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[www.rioterrace.ca](http://www.rioterrace.ca)

A member of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues  
[www.efcl.org](http://www.efcl.org)

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February 2019

### Submission Deadline:

January 25, 2019

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# Community Matters

## Rio Terrace Community League Membership

**Memberships are always available for purchase**

Community League memberships are valid September 1st to August 31st. It is encouraged that anyone residing in the Rio Terrace, Patricia Heights and Quesnell neighbourhoods become annual membership holders, however, membership is open to anyone!

### Available at:

- Local Mac's Store, Cheque Only.
- Community Social Events, cash, cheque or credit card.
- Online at [www.efcl.org](http://www.efcl.org) , Visa or Master Card only.

### Cost:

Family	\$40
Single/Couple	\$20
Senior Couple	\$10
Senior Single	\$5

### Benefits:

- Free Access to all community skating rinks.
- Facility rental discounts (25% off hall).
- Free swim every Sunday from 5pm to 7pm at Terwillegar Recreation Facility
- Discount at City of Edmonton Leisure facilities (5% off multi-pass or 20% off annual or continuous pass)
- Special promotions through [www.efcl.org](http://www.efcl.org)

## President's Message

I am sure you are all enjoying the late fall weather we have had of late. Maybe that makes up for a bit of pre-winter weather we had in September...maybe

I am so happy to let you know that we have had some amazing events in our community as of late. Two the best events in our recent past include Pie-in-the-Park and our Annual Halloween Party. These two events tell me that fall is here and our community is ready to party!

Thanks, again, to Jen Osmond and Felicia Dean for this sponsorship of Pie-in-the-Park and thanks to Stephen Deck and Carrie Anne Doucette for their taking the lead on our Halloween Party.

As you know we had our annual general meeting in late September and we now have a new Vice President - Welcome Josh! We know you will do a great job. On that note, I would like to thank Aman Athwal for her amazing work with the community over the past four years. She is not disappearing, but will working on community projects that require her touch. She has been an amazing addition to our board. I would also like to thank Erin Wayne for her work on Membership. You have made that position your own and you will be missed.

With all that being said, we have a few opening on our board that require some new blood. The only requirement is interest. We work well together and we do have fun with the projects we take on. To ensure our community events continue, we require volunteers to help out. I would hate for you to say "remember when the community use to..." Well, that is a real possibility if people don't step up. If you are interested in helping out, give me call and I would be happy to sit down for a coffee and a chat.

See you around the community.  
All my best,

Lance Burns

# Community Matters



# ALD

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# Community Matters

## Community League Board Letter Regarding the Corner Store Project – Dan



Neighbours, friends, and fellow Rio Terracians;

Our local strip mall on 156 St. has seen a lot of activity recently, as part of a city run project to revitalize neighborhoods. This 'Corner Store Project' is meant to include a significant amount of community consultation in its development and design. The second phase of the project, following facade, signage and other building improvements, involves the street-scaping and the use of a substantial amount of money. The design is supposed to be driven by the needs and desires of the community through an

ongoing consultation process. Seeing the results of the first phase, it is difficult to understand its origins. We fear a similar disconnect for the latter phase.

The board has made many attempts to be included in this process, as was promised when the idea was first presented by the city. We have not been successful. Our concern is that our voice is not being heard, and the outcome will be unsatisfactory. We are asking other concerned residents of the area to amplify our voice by reaching out to our elected official, Sarah Hamilton, who's role on city council is to govern those running this project.

Sincerely,

Rio Terrace Community League Board

Contact details for Sarah Hamilton, Ward 5 Councillor:  
sarah.hamilton@edmonton.ca

T: 780-496-8120

<https://www.facebook.com/SarahHamiltonYEG/>

## Rio Terrace Ice Cream Stand – Thank You!



Rio Terrace Ice Cream Stand is very grateful for your support this summer season! Our goal is to build community, one scoop at a time, and we are grateful for all of our neighbours.

Rev. James Lavoy, pastor

Rio Terrace Community Moravian Church

# Community Matters



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# Community Matters

Join us and get involved! The Community League Board needs a Membership Director!



The membership director's responsibilities are:

- be responsible for the organization, timing and completion of the annual Membership campaign,
- keep a record of and maintain the membership lists and other records pertaining to membership;
- ensure compliance with the EFCL Code of Ethics with respect to selling memberships;

It's a great way to get meet people from the community and ensuring that everyone enjoys the benefits of the community league membership.

For more information, contact the president Lance Burn at [Rtcl.president@gmail.com](mailto:Rtcl.president@gmail.com)

## Another Awesome Big Bin Event

The Big Bin event took place last September 22, 2018 at the community league hall, and it was a huge success. Thank you to everyone for sharing labour and ideas, especially those who were a part of the Rio Terrace Playground Fundraising Committee.

We ended up collecting 4 bins of stuff and signed up 40 memberships. This event will definitely continue to be part of our community's annual activities. We hope to see you next year.

## Halloween Recap



Thank you to all the families that came out to the Halloween Party! We had a great turnout this year and so many incredible costumes. We raised \$40 and over 50 pounds of food for the Edmonton Food Bank! We had an amazing balloon twister, Choo Choo the Clown, who could make anything you asked for.



Jeffrey "The Wizard of Magic" thrilled everyone with his magic and put on an incredible show. Jeffrey teaches magic at the Telus World of Science for those that would like to learn more. We hope you enjoyed the popcorn, photobooth, candy, games, cookie decorating and crafts, balloons, and magic! Thanks to our high school student volunteers and our community league volunteers. We hope to see you again next year!

Stephen Deck

# Community Matters



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### **Colleen & Marlene's Neighborhood Holiday Party**

Please drop in and join us for a glass of wine

and

great conversation with your neighbours!

- When? December 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm-11:30pm
- Where? Marlene's House 15107 77 Ave



# Community Matters

## The Community Hall's New Solar System

Here's one more reason to appreciate clear Alberta skies: starting this summer, the Rio Terrace Community League has been making money and reducing our carbon footprint by turning sunlight into electricity. Actually, the plan is to make enough electricity to cover our hall's electrical use over the course of an entire year!

How are we doing this? This past summer, the electricians at Kuby Renewable Energy installed 80 photovoltaic modules on the hall's roof. When sunlight hits those modules, its electrons are made to move around, and this causes an electrical current (DC).

Wiring takes that electricity through inverters to create the type of current that our lights and appliances can use (AC), and then through our electrical panel and our meter. From there it disperses into the electrical infrastructure that supplies power to our homes (the overhead and underground lines that we call the electrical grid).

Our new bidirectional meter tracks how much electricity enters the hall for our use, and how much electricity passes out of the hall for the use of homes connected to the electrical grid. (Those homes that are lucky enough to be nearby our hall will actually use the most significant portion of electricity that our new solar system produces!)

Luckily for us, our electrical retailer provides us with a credit for the electricity that we produce at the same rate that they charge us for electricity that we use! (As would yours!) On sunny summer days we will produce a lot of electricity and consume little. On short overcast winter days we will produce little electricity and consume a lot. In the end, we expect to have no costs from electrical use over the course of a year.

You can check out our solar system's production at [https://monitoringpublic.solaredge.com/solaredge-web/p/site/public?name=Rio Terrace Hall#/dashboard](https://monitoringpublic.solaredge.com/solaredge-web/p/site/public?name=Rio+Terrace+Hall#/dashboard). You can also view the new kiosk at the hall's main entrance.

Since late August we have produced 8.11 MWh of electricity. That's enough electricity to power a household for a year!

And since the project was accomplished with funding from the city and the province, the investment for the community league was very small. Incentives and loan options remain in place for homeowners, and we would strongly encourage community residents to consider the investment. (As a starting point, Kuby Renewable Energy offers free appraisals.)

Rio Terrace Community League even received enough funding to tackle a few more projects in the community hall. Our furnaces, space heaters and hot water heaters have been upgraded, along with all of our lighting - which has gone to LED. These steps should save us about \$4,400 in utility costs and reduce our CO2 emissions by about 26 tons every year!

Because of our great solar and energy efficiency accomplishments the Solar Energy Society of Alberta and the City of Edmonton have chosen the Rio Terrace Community Hall for a popular workshop called Solar PV 101. This information-filled two-hour evening class will teach you how to hook up your home or business to Alberta's grid as a solar micro-generator. This evening class runs from 7-9 on Wednesday December 12. Details and registration can be found here: <https://www.solaralberta.ca/events/solar-pv-101-4>

The class will be taught by SESA executive director Rob Harlan who happens to be a Rio Terrace resident. Attendees will be able to meet the contractors: Kuby Renewable Energy and PanTerra MTE and tour all of the Hall's new upgrades.

**Brett Myers**

# Community Matters



YOU ARE INVITED TO AN

ART SHOW AND SALE

Featuring original and print works of **Isabel Levesque**

Assorted works of other artists, including originals of Shannon Hennessy will also be displayed.

Excellent selection for Christmas gifts.

Prices start at \$1.00 for art cards.

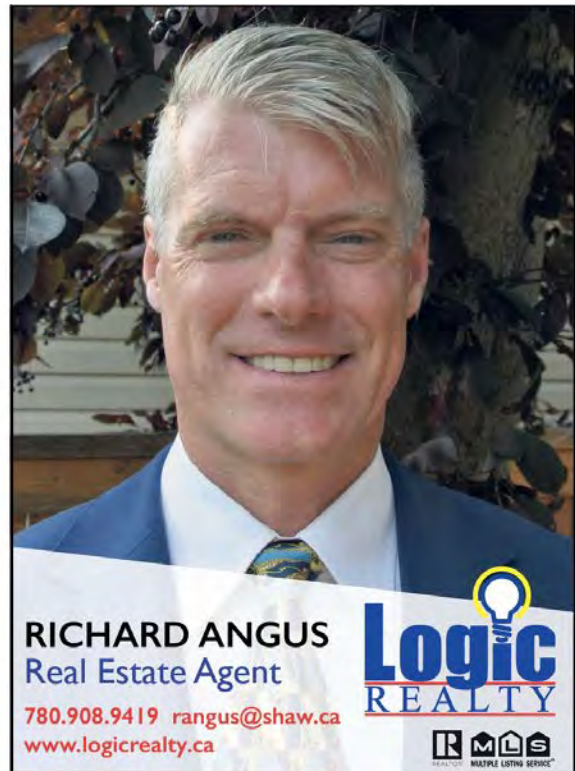
SATURDAY DEC 8<sup>TH</sup>, 1-5 PM

SUNDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 1-5 PM

15209 76 Avenue (in Rio Terrace).

If you cannot attend on Dec 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> but would like to

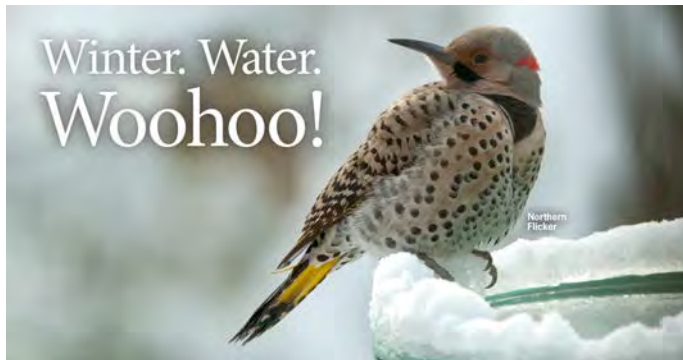
visit, please call **Michele at 780.481.1708.**





# Community Matters

## Wild Bird Question & Answers from Wild Birds Unlimited, Edmonton



**Question: Do birds need water to drink in cold weather? Can't they just eat snow?**

**Answer:** Yes, birds still need to drink water in cold weather. Yes, they could just eat snow. However, with a snow to water ratio of 10:1, birds would expend a lot of energy meeting their daily water needs, energy better expended on finding food and staying warm. Additionally, offering birds clean sources of water is a sure way to see more birds in your yard!

**Question: Do birds need to bathe when temperatures are below zero? Won't they freeze?**

**Answer:** Regardless of season, birds need to keep their feathers clean and in good condition. In order to fly well, their feathers should be free of dust, dirt, debris, and parasites. Additionally, their feathers are smoothed and even repaired through bathing. Well maintained feathers ensure their insulating properties are optimal; clean, healthy feathers help birds cope with the cold.

Like mammals, birds shiver when cold. Unlike mammals, they have those fabulous insulating feathers. They harness the heat generated by their muscles while shivering (always, including after a dip in a bird bath), a method of bathing in sub-zero temperatures but avoiding freezing. The increased eating many of

us have witnessed in the prelude to winter is another measure that assists in maintaining warmth generally and while bathing. A well-nourished bird maintains its body temperature easily in the short time it takes to shake off the water from a bath. Ensuring birds have fats and proteins available at feeders can assist them in maintaining their size, metabolism, and general health.

Scientists speculate that birds may feel the cold for a few minutes following a bath. The few minutes of chill is not enough to freeze them and in fact, ensures they have the ability to stay warm! \*

**Question: How can I provide water to birds when temperatures are freezing?**

**Answer:** To prevent water from freezing in your bird bath, you can either acquire a heated bird bath or a bird bath heater. Keeping the heated baths clean through regular water changes and using gentle cleansers will help ensure your heated bird bath stays free of germs so your birds stay healthy!

\* Pelletier, TC. (February 9, 2011). Birds Bathing in Winter? <http://askanaturalist.com/birds-bathing-in-winter/>

Kim Endell,

Sales Associate, of Wild Birds Unlimited on the corner of 122 St and 107 Ave in Edmonton

Dave Cleary and Jan Chapman are owners of Wild Birds Unlimited at the corner of 122 St and 107 Ave on the northside in Edmonton. The mission of Wild Birds Unlimited is to bring people and nature together. See their website at [www.wbu.com/edmonton](http://www.wbu.com/edmonton) or call them at 587-521-2473.



# Community Matters



## Rhythm, Rhyme & Story Time

A Musical Adventure for You & Your Child! Ages (9mo-5yrs)



@ Laurier Heights Community Hall on Wednesdays (9:15-10am) For more info please visit us @ [www.EdmontonPreschoolMusic.com](http://www.EdmontonPreschoolMusic.com)

## LADIES SHINNY RINGETTE

### FUN AND FITNESS ON ICE!

Join us Monday nights October to mid-March at Crestwood Arena 8:45 pm - 9:45 pm.

No ringette or hockey experience required. Wide range of skills and ages. Equipment is required. Full-time is 20 skates, part-time is 10 skates.

To sign up or make inquiries, please email: [shinnyringette@gmail.com](mailto:shinnyringette@gmail.com)

Go to [www.edmontonringette.com](http://www.edmontonringette.com) for more information on ringette in Edmonton.

Go to [www.ringette.ca](http://www.ringette.ca) and check out "What is Ringette" and "Basics of Ringette" under OUR SPORT for more information on the game.



## RIO YOGA

Increase Flexibility and Relaxation



January 21 - March 28, 2019

Monday & Tuesday 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

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587 986 5053

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# Community Matters

## River Valley News

### **Epcor report on Water Services and Wastewater Treatment**

Council's Utility Committee will discuss Epcor's mid-year water services and wastewater treatment update at its October 25 meeting. Reports related to this topic can be read by clicking on agenda item 6.1 at <http://sirepub.edmonton.ca/sirepub/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=2080&doctype=AGENDA>

There are also agenda items on Epcor's drainage services (agenda item 6.2), its drainage odour and mitigation strategy (agenda item 6.3) and building a mitigation risk-based analysis – next steps and public engagement approaches (agenda item 6.4).

If you would like to speak to this item, contact the Office of the City Clerk at [city.clerk@edmonton.ca](mailto:city.clerk@edmonton.ca) or 780.496.8178 to register to speak. The other option is to show up before the meeting begins at 9.30 am in the River Valley room at City Hall and inform the Clerk that you wish to speak.

### **Big Island Provincial Park? A look back at Big Island as an Edmonton destination**

Big Island in Edmonton's river valley was once a big draw for turn-of-the-century Edmontonians keen for a communion with nature or an afternoon picnic. Every weekend, for decades, women in lace collars and men dressed in their Sunday best would board steamships and head up stream on the North Saskatchewan River for a day of leisure. Read more at <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/edmonton-big-island-provincial-park-history-1.4864680>

### **Amendment to the North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan**

City Council's Public Hearing on November 5 will consider Bylaw 18569 which proposes to amend the boundaries of the southwest portion of the North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan

(NSRV ARP) and North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System Overlay (Overlay).

The NSRV ARP was adopted 33 years ago and since that time land along the edge of the valley has developed and changed. The purpose of this amendment is to ensure the entire valley is protected by updating the boundary of the NSRV ARP using the most recent and accurate locational data available. Reports related to this topic can be read by clicking on agenda item 3.17 at <http://sirepub.edmonton.ca/sirepub/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=2116&doctype=AGENDA>

If you would like to speak to this item, contact the Office of the City Clerk at [city.clerk@edmonton.ca](mailto:city.clerk@edmonton.ca) or 780.496.8178 to register to speak. The other option is to show up before the meeting begins at 1.30 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall and inform the Clerk that you wish to speak.

### **Legal homeless camps are necessary in Edmonton. Here's why**

Last weekend, there was a fire in Dawson Park, back in the hills where camps are hidden from authority but less than 500 metres from people's houses. No one was hurt this time, but the brush fire was big enough to be seen from across the river. It took nearly an hour to get under control, and fire crews reported a propane tank explosion, garbage on site and people fleeing the scene. Read more at [https://www.edmontonexaminer.com/news/local-news/elise-stolte-legal-homeless-camps-are-necessary-in-edmonton-heres-why/wcm/328be093-e696-4a48-992a-cdf27674ca7a?video\\_autoplay=true](https://www.edmontonexaminer.com/news/local-news/elise-stolte-legal-homeless-camps-are-necessary-in-edmonton-heres-why/wcm/328be093-e696-4a48-992a-cdf27674ca7a?video_autoplay=true)

Sincerely yours,

Harvey Voogd

North Saskatchewan River Valley Conservation Society  
780.691.1712



# Community Matters



**Rio Terrace School and Community League invite  
its members and the families of Rio Terrace School to our**



**What is an Adventsbasar?** In Germany, schools traditionally organize a Christmas market where students, teachers, and friends of the school sell handmade crafts and treats to raise funds, usually for the benefit of the school.

The Rio Terrace German program parents and friends, with the support of the Rio Terrace Community League, have organized their second annual Adventsbasar.

Children attending the German Bilingual Program in Rio Terrace and their friends are busy creating fabulous Christmas ornaments and crafts. At the Adventsbasar, the students will showcase their creations and sell them for a token price. The kids are super excited!

**What you will find:** Handmade typical German Christmas market baked goods, gebrannte Mandeln (candied almonds), some additional culinary treats to enjoy, used German books, homemade pottery and soap, and of course, sale stands where our children will show off and sell their handmade Christmas decorations and other crafts.

**Is there an admission?** No, this year admission is free. So is the hot chocolate.

**What will we do with the money?** Any proceeds from this event will be used for a good cause - this is a non-profit event, aimed to bring some German traditional Christmas cheer to the Rio Terrace community. Please come join us!



# Community Matters

## Rio Terrace Preschool Update



We have had a wonderful start to a new year of learning at Rio Terrace Community Preschool. The amazing slide the community league so generously gifted us this past summer is so incredibly loved by the kids. What an amazing addition it has been to our space!

We have been getting to know our new little learners and were surprised, as always, to see how much our returning kiddos have grown and changed! All 3 of our classes have full enrolment, which is always exciting. We saw the return of several executive board members and welcomed some new members to our team. We are always so grateful for the families who volunteer their time to support our preschool in many capacities including the executive team!

The most exciting news we have to share is that our Annual Silent Auction is set for Friday, November 16 at 7:00 pm. This "Winter Wonderland" event is an adult only, night out of shopping, eating, visiting with old friends and meeting new ones! Entrance is free, food is free and there will be drinks to purchase, along with a 50/50 draw and a wine tree

draw! Bring bottle of wine to have your name entered to win the entire wine tree! This amazing event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and the funds raised allow us to take the kids on a field trip each month, buy supplies for the classroom and equipment for the gym. If you would like to donate an item to be auctioned please email shay at [rt-preschool@telus.net](mailto:rt-preschool@telus.net) and we will arrange pick up or drop off of the item. It is so wonderful to see so many community members come out to our Silent Auction and we are looking forward to seeing you there!

Looking ahead, registration for the 2019/2020 school year opens to Rio Terrace, Patricia Heights and Quesnell Heights community members on January 29 and to the public at our open house on February 6 at 6:00 pm. If you would like more information on our program you can find it at [rioterracepreschool.ca](http://rioterracepreschool.ca).

"Children need the freedom and time to play. Play is not a luxury. Play is a necessity."

-Kay Redfield Jamison

Playfully yours,

Shaylene Saxton  
Teacher

**Naoko Henkel**  
Teaching Assistant

Rio Terrace Community Preschool  
780-487-0610  
[www.rioterracepreschool.com](http://www.rioterracepreschool.com)

# Community Matters



COME TO OUR  
*Winter Wonderland*  
SILENT AUCTION

IN SUPPORT OF  
RIO TERRACE COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018  
RIO TERRACE COMMUNITY HALL  
7 P.M. TO 11 P.M.

\*ADULT ONLY EVENT PLEASE

# Community Matters

## Generally Speaking - On The Neighbourhood Dentist and Lifelong Relationships



During the first few months when I was dating my partner, I remember seeing a polaroid photo of him during his childhood years. He was looking straight at the camera, leaning back against a seemingly awkward leather chair, and his name handwritten at the bottom. I asked where the photo came from. He said that it was from one of his annual check-up appointments with his dentist.

While I thought that it is adorable, I also found the concept kind of strange. The dentist-patient relationship is a bit more formal than that from my experience. But seeing a younger version of him just makes me giggle, and I mention it every time I see it in his home office.

He then told me that he has only had one dentist in his life, the same one he continues to see to this day. The dentist's office is located in the plaza in our neighbourhood, right next to the Mac's store.

Naturally when we bought our home and moved to the neighbourhood, he reminded me persistently to sign up and get his dentist to also be my dentist.

My "meet-and-greet" appointment was quite memorable. In between the standard conversations with the dentist about my medical history and procedures I may need, we had some chats about my partner, his sibling and his parents. I do not always meet extended family from his side, so it is a rare pleasure to hear about my in-laws from the perspective of other people.

Just a few weeks ago, I received my annual reminder postcard to book my appointment for the annual check-up. Turns out that is a bit old-fashioned, but I appreciate it because it is quite personable. What was different this year was the quick note at the bottom that said 'He is overdue for a check-up too!' I laughed so hard and told my partner to get moving and book his annual check-up appointment. When I went to book my appointment, the receptionist also asked me to verify my partner's email address for electronic reminders moving forward.

In this day and age, having these kinds of long-term relationships are becoming rare, in my opinion. As people move to different cities, provinces, or even countries, that leads to finding a new service provider for various needs such as haircuts, physiotherapy, etc.

It is kind of nice that in a large city like Edmonton, that those can still happen. We're more than happy to be in this situation, at least until our dentist retires.

Giselle General



# Community Matters



## The Transformation of Rio Terrace



155 Street



149 Street



151 Street

# Community Matters

## The Transformation of Rio Terrace

On April 13, 2015, City Council approved change to Zoning Bylaw 12800 to subdivide and create narrow lots in the RF1 Single Detached Residential zone. That simple, legal process permitted the subdivision (splitting) of existing residential lots that are 50 feet in width or wider. This bylaw change has been seen as the commencement of our City's densification program to accommodate affordable housing. This program applies to mature neighbourhoods like Rio Terrace (even though Rio Terrace has NO back alleys).

Since May 2016, in Rio Terrace a total of 6 original houses have been demolished and the respective lots have been split (subdivided) to create 12 skinny lots. Considering those 12 skinny lots:

- Construction of 4 skinny houses is now in progress.
- 8 of the skinny lots are fenced and vacant.
- 7 of those 8 lots are posted with "For Sale" signs.

It is interesting to note that in May 2018, of those lots for sale and based on available information, the average asking price of a skinny lot was \$333,300. As of the middle of this October, five months later, the average asking price of a skinny lot was \$288,200. This is a drop of approximately 13%. Does this suggest that the City densification program is not working? Does this suggest that the original intent of "affordable housing" is not so affordable? Has lot splitting opened the door for speculators in the lot flipping game? Was lot splitting a doomed experiment and now we Rio Terrace residents are stuck with an undesirable feature in our neighbourhood?

It just so happens that we live next door to the very first lot splitting development in Rio Terrace. During the last seven months of construction on the two skinny lots, there have been a number of

"passer by viewers" who have walked and driven by the site. When the opportunity presented itself, we asked one common question: "What few words would you use to describe what you see?" The variety of responses was most interesting. Here are but a few of those responses: "Despicable. Monstrosity. Miserable. Deplorable, absolutely deplorable. Out of reason. Babel Towers of Rio Terrace. An architectural failure. Lack of community empathy. Ridiculous. Out of character." Those are words of judgement by others.

When the process of lot splitting hit Rio in early 2016, a City Councillor assured us that "You will love it." Well, considering what is taking place immediately next door to our home, it has NOT been a loving experience. We are NOT in an amorous mood! When we look at what we have lost, we have learned that lot splitting residential developments can be boiled down to a simple formula:

- City wins (big \$\$\$ from annual greater property taxes)
- Developer wins (big \$\$\$ from project profits)
- Neighbours lose (they receive no consideration whatsoever)

Win Win Lose. Is that fair?

**Joyce Fuerst & Gordon Fuerst**

Taxpayers in the City of Edmonton,  
Residents of Rio Terrace since 1961,  
Home Sweet Home at 7306 – 155 St.

# Community Matters



## Influenza Season

It happens every fall: influenza arrives in Alberta, and takes a serious toll on our communities. Influenza is a real threat. It's also preventable.

Influenza immunization will be available, starting October 15, free of charge, to all Albertans six months of age and older.

It's the single most effective means of reducing your risk of influenza, particularly when you receive it as early in the season as possible. By getting immunized early, you will give your body the opportunity to respond to immunization, and produce antibodies that will arm you against the influenza viruses you'll be exposed to throughout the season.

Each year, influenza vaccine is developed to protect us against the strains of virus likely to circulate in our community. Though vaccine effectiveness may vary, know this: last season, influenza vaccine cut Albertan's risk of influenza by about 42%. Without immunization, Albertans were completely at risk. And we do mean all Albertans.

Although some individuals (pregnant women, seniors, children, and individuals with underlying health conditions or compromised immune systems) are at greater risk for severe complications, without immunization, even healthy Albertans are at risk of severe illness and even death.

Many pharmacists and physician offices are offering influenza immunization this season. Call ahead to ensure availability before visiting.

For more information on the influenza program, including AHS public immunization clinic locations and schedules, visit [ahs.ca/influenza](http://ahs.ca/influenza) or call Health Link at 811. Prevention is your protection. Get immunized this season.

Alberta Health Services

## On Grief

We all experience losses at some point in our lives, whether it is the passing away of a loved one, the death of a family pet, the dissolution of a marriage, or the termination of a job. Perhaps even the loss of health for yourself or a loved one, retirement, or a miscarriage. Grief is the psychological and emotional response to the loss; while mourning is the outwardly expression of the loss.

The emotions felt through the grieving process are often referred to as a rollercoaster of highs and lows, ranging from feeling shock, sadness, guilt, anger, fear, and disbelief. As time passes, one may move more towards feelings of anxiety, marked by yearning and searching, or preoccupation and intrusive images and thoughts about the loss. Physical symptoms include crying, loss of appetite or interest in activities, digestion issues, disrupted sleep, or could even exacerbate pre-existing conditions. These manifestations are all possible characteristics of the path to acceptance.

The intensity of the symptoms associated with the loss are relative to the individual and the gravity of the loss felt. The grieving process can last anywhere from days to years, pending on the person's own individual journey. There is also no right or wrong way to grieve, and everyone will have their own individual way to get through it.

Most recently a four-stage model of grief has been proposed, contrary to the previously believed five-stages of grief. The four stages are numbness-disbelief, separation-distress, depression-mourning, and recovery. The researcher of the model is clear to note that this is not a step-by-step guide, as grief is a complex process of waxing and waning that cannot be simply reduced to four-steps. But rather these are components that are associated with the grieving process. (Continued on page 21)



(Continued from page 20)

Many are able to get through a loss on their own by taking care of themselves. This includes facing their emotions as they arise rather than burying them; expressing their feelings through journaling, scrapbooking, talking with others or getting involved in an organization that is significant to the loss; by continuing involvement in things they like to do; and looking after their physical health by eating well, sleeping and engaging in physical activity.

However, there are some people who may need to seek support from a mental health professional to move through the grief. Some signs of when someone should reach out for further support include when the feelings are ongoing and intense, while also impacting daily life including work, school, extra-curricular activities, and relationships with their family and friends. Particular symptoms of concern and a time to seek professional support also involve when someone feels that life is not worth living anymore, they blame themselves for what happened, they wish they would have died instead of the loved one, and feelings of depression or anxiety that don't seem to subside. Another critical reason to seek support is if there is an increased use of alcohol or drugs to cope with the loss.



**Kristina Ingram**

MSW RSW #13800

Creating Solutions Inc.

204, 9509-156 Street NW Edmonton, AB, T5P 4J5

P: 780-414-0609 Ext: 403

[www.creating-solutions.com](http://www.creating-solutions.com)

## Contributions Needed! New Year Goals

For the new year, do you have any new goals? Tell us about it! Contact the newsletter team at [2016.rio-terrace.newsletter.ad@gmail.com](mailto:2016.rio-terrace.newsletter.ad@gmail.com). If you feel unsure how to write it, we can interview you and write it down!

- Is there something about your own self, your family or your community that you would like to change?
- Why would you like to change it starting 2018? What is the inspiration behind it?
- What tools, information or process do you plan to use to make this change a reality?

## Translated Word of the Day

How do you say the word 'gift' in other languages used in our community?

- Arabic - hadiat majania
- Chinese (Simplified) - Lǐpǐn
- French - cadeau
- German - Geschenk
- Punjabi - Tōhafē
- Spanish - regalo
- Tagalog – regalo
- Ukrainian- podarunok

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## FAQ's

### Installing TELUS PureFibre to your home.



**Q.** How does the work you are doing to install the TELUS PureFibre™ network affect my property?

**A.** There are two main methods of installing fibre: hanging it aerially, or burying it underground. Sometimes, it requires a combination of the two. It depends upon the area, the property and ground as to which method is used. But even when we have to bury the equipment, the work will not affect your property in any great way. It is our goal to restore all property to the same condition prior to construction per municipal guidelines.

Generally, we conduct our work within two (2) metres of the property line in accordance with approved city permits. This area is referred to as the utility right-of-way.

The most likely inconvenience is the installation of a small flush-to-the-ground 'flower pot' to house a temporary conduit connection. This flower pot will be removed once the new conduit is connected and buried.

If your home has a conduit already in place, and is usable, we will simply pull the fibre through.

We will restore any impact to your property once the work is complete and the weather permits. If your grass has been disturbed, we will clean the area and plant grass seed.



Utility right-of-way/road right-of-way where work is conducted.

Property Line

**Q.** What are the paint lines/flags used for and how will they be removed?

**A.** Taking precautions before installing the new fibre cable is vitally important. Before we begin digging, we hire a company to locate and mark where existing utility infrastructure lies. We also return to mark your actual property once it's time to connect the fibre to your home. The paint helps us ensure we are drilling and installing the new conduit safely away from utilities. The paint is water-based, therefore it dissolves after a number of weeks and after a few rainfalls or cutting of the grass, there should be no trace. Flags will be removed by the construction technicians once the work is completed.



Marking utilities with flags and removable paint. First, on the utility right-of-way and later, on residents' property.

**Q.** Do you cut into driveways, and if so, how do the crews repair them?

**A.** If we need to cut into your driveway, it will typically only entail cutting a small 'coring' hole. These holes are repaired afterwards, usually by filling in the holes with new concrete. The repair depends on the size and scope of the work, so we will determine the necessary work required to repair the area on a case-by-case basis.



Concrete coring hole.



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**Q.** What is the process to get fibre to the point of access in the house?

**A.** Depending on the area, we will either build a connection underground or install it aerially.

**For an underground installation,** we drill a path for a conduit pipe to run from the below ground 'flower pot' box we install, to the house. The drilling is conducted using either a small plow or compact drilling machinery. Both are relatively non-intrusive with very little ground disturbance, as opposed to excavating your lawn with large machinery. There are instances where a service box is required to be installed in the utility right-of-way in addition to the temporary flower pot. In these instances, we make every effort to install this service box in the boulevard.

If there is no boulevard space available, it has to be installed in the utility right-of-way based on the city permit approval.

**For an aerial installation,** we connect a fibre cable from the termination point along the aerial network (typically installed next to a pole and attached to the aerial strand) and directly to the house. A small termination box is installed onto the side of the house. From there, a different kind of fire-resistant, bend-insensitive fibre is installed and attached to the active equipment inside the customer's home for safety and ease of connection.



Installation of service box in utility right-of-way.



Temporary flower pot.

**Q.** Do they still need to dig up my lawn to get the fibre to my house? Is that next?

**A.** It is unlikely your lawn will be significantly impacted. In most cases, we will employ a less-intrusive process of using a small vibra-plow or compact directional drill. Sometimes, small 'hand holes' need to be dug along the route. A small hole will be dug at the base of the termination location to bring the conduit up and into the termination box.

**Q.** Whom do I contact with questions about the right-of-way?

**A.** Please contact your local municipality right-of-way department.



[telus.com/purefibre](https://telus.com/purefibre)

  
the future is friendly®



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## Bus Routes Are Changing!

The city of Edmonton has applied the feedback they received in they spring and has released a new draft bus network redesign. The number 4 has we know it is currently not designed to come through our neighborhood anymore. In the redesign the closest equivalent route is the F7 which goes across 87 ave and then south to Whitemud on 149st. Have a look at the map on the following page to see the routes which will be accessible in our neighborhood.

As with any redesign there will be winners and losers. The proposed bus network may actually be better for you overall, but for my household in particular it will increase travel time. Whether you agree or disagree with the redesign I strongly recommend you get your feedback in while there is still time. I have herd our neighborhood's engagement in the process was not particularly high. Lets change that!

Corey Grajkowski

### Online Feedback

[https://www.edmonton.ca/projects\\_plans/transit/bus-network-redesign-public-engagement.aspx](https://www.edmonton.ca/projects_plans/transit/bus-network-redesign-public-engagement.aspx)

### Drop-In Workshop Locations and Times

#### 11/01/2018 (Thursday)

3pm-7pm  
Southgate Centre, Centre Court  
5015 111 St #51

#### 11/05/2018 (Monday)

3pm-7pm  
Kingsway Mall, Community Room  
1 Kingsway NW

#### 11/08/2018 (Thursday)

3pm-7pm  
Mill Woods Town Centre, Centre Court  
2331 66 St NW

#### 11/15/2018 (Thursday)

3pm-7pm  
Edmonton Tower, Lobby  
10111 104 Ave NW

#### 11/21/2018 (Wednesday)

3pm-7pm  
Castle Downs YMCA, Lobby  
11510 153 Ave NW

#### 11/22/2018 (Thursday)

3pm-7pm  
Lois Hole Library, Lobby  
17650 69 Ave NW

#### 11/26/2018 (Monday)

3pm-7pm  
Idylwyld Library (Bonnie Doon), Program Room  
8310 88 Ave NW

#### 11/27/2018 (Tuesday)

3pm-7pm  
The Meadows Recreation Centre, Multi-purpose Room 207 (second floor)  
2704 17 St NW

#### 11/29/2018 (Thursday)

3pm-7pm  
City Hall, City Hall Room  
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square

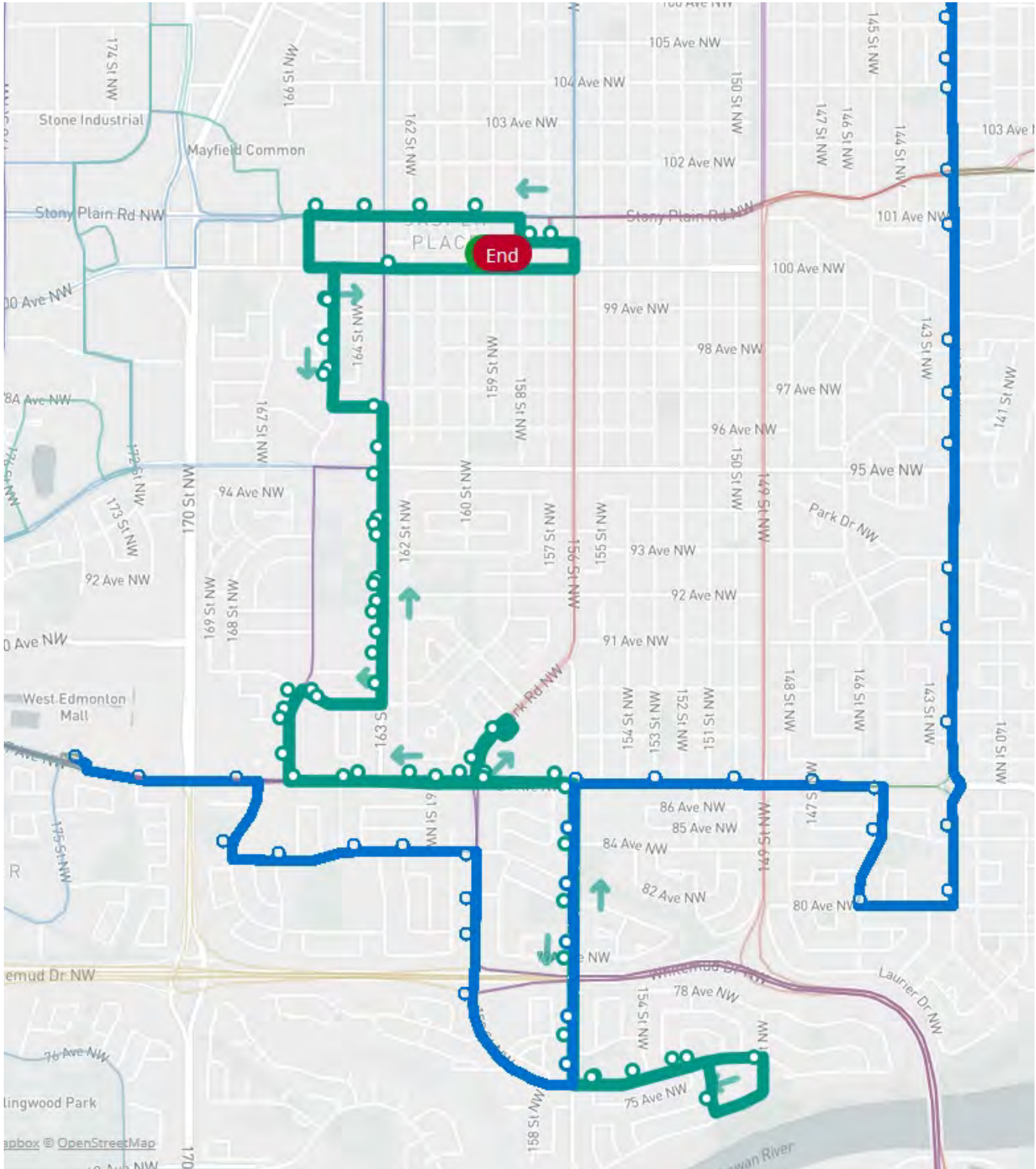
#### 12/04/2018 (Tuesday)

3pm-7pm  
Clareview Recreation Centre, Multi-purpose Room 1 (entrance 2)  
3804 139 Ave NW

#### 12/06/2018 (Thursday)

3pm-7pm  
Terwillegar Recreation Centre, Multi-purpose Room 4 (entrance 1)  
2051 Leger Road

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## The Restrictive Covenant – an Asset or a Liability

In 2015 the City embarked a drive to densify “ma-ture” neighbourhoods without regards to their char-acteristics. To oppose this approach, in February 2018, homeowners registered the Rio Terrace Re-strictive Covenant (RC) on 101 properties of this neighbourhood. More would have been better, but it’s a good start and others will join as they realise how important it is to protect each other against lot splitting.

Many things have been said about the impact of an RC on the value of a property, and on the value of other properties in the neighbourhood. It is still early to draw conclusions. Nevertheless, here are some interesting numbers about recent real estate transactions in Rio Terrace.

Since the beginning of 2016 and until mid-Octo-ber 2018,

3 properties were sold without the RC and without being split,

	Assessment	List Price	Sale Price
Average	546,923	564,153	549,022

5 properties are on the market without the RC,

	Assessment	List Price
Average	636,300	674,940

3 properties were sold with the RC since February 2018. They were not split,

	Assessment	List Price	Sale Price
Average (2 of 3)	482,000	487,000	492,150

2 properties are on the market with the RC,

	Assessment	List Price
Average	1,143,750	1,136,500

6 properties were split.

	Assessment	List Price	Sale Price
Average	n/a	528,425	521,625

Of the resulting 12 “half lots”

- 4 are being built upon,
- 8 are vacant.

From these numbers, we can infer the following for Rio Terrace:

Properties purchased and split are mostly pur-chased by speculators rather than by developers, and the “half lots” are hard to sell, resulting in many long term vacant “half lots”.

The Restrictive Covenant does not appear to be an obstacle when selling a property. The buyers (or sellers) of the 3 properties with an RC explicitly told us that the RC was not an issue.

The presence of so many vacant lots and the style of the “skinny houses” built on “half lots” will lower the value of the remaining properties.

Placing the RC on your property does not seem to lower its value. It is not a liability. And the RC is actu-ally an asset for the neighbouring properties be-cause it preserves their appeal, thereby indirectly preserving the value of your own property.

For more information contact [protect.rio@shaw.ca](mailto:protect.rio@shaw.ca).

Yves Forté



## what's cooking

Recipes can be like a time machine. One taste can instantly transport you back to a time and place in your life when food brought family together. It could have been a family dinner, a picnic, a holiday celebration — or maybe the recipe brings you back to your grandmother's kitchen. These recipes are like a time capsule and why not share them.

Welcome to the first installment of What's Cooking. We encourage you to send us your favorite recipes by either sending us an email to [rioterrace-cl@gmail.com](mailto:rioterrace-cl@gmail.com) or adding the recipe to our community Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/175848156657295/>

Paint us a picture, tell us where the recipe came from. If we get enough interest perhaps we could put together a community cookbook you could purchase.

Here is my favorite:

Once its cold outside I always enjoy a nice bowl of my Aunt Diane's pineapple chili. She was the sweetest lady and just like getting a warm hug.

### **Pineapple Chili:**

Prep Time: 10 min

Cook Time: 4 -8 hours

Total Time: 10 min

Serves: 10 cups

### **Ingredients:**

- 20 ounces Italian turkey sausage (such as Johnsonville)
- 1 medium onion - chopped to equal about 2 cups
- 1 20-ounce can pineapple tidbits in juice (divided)
- 2 28-ounce cans seasoned diced tomatoes (such as Hunt's or Aylmer's)
- 1 15-ounce can black beans, kidney beans or chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 1 6-ounce can tomato paste
- 1 1/2 tablespoons chili powder
- 4 teaspoons ground cumin
- 2 cloves garlic – minced
- Shredded reduced-fat cheese, reduced-fat sour cream and hot sauce (such as Frank's) for serving, if desired

### **Directions**

In a non-stick skillet over medium heat, cook sausage and onions, stirring to crumble sausage. Once sausage is cooked through, drain off any fat and transfer the sausage and onions to your slow cooker. Drain the pineapple, reserving both the juice and the fruit separately. Add the juice to the slow cooker. Cover and store the fruit in the refrigerator (it will be added toward the end of cooking). Add tomatoes, black beans, tomato paste, chili powder, cumin and garlic to the slow cooker. Stir everything to combine.

Cook on low (6-8 hours), adding reserved pineapple during last hour or two of cooking, or on high (4-5 hours), adding pineapple during last ½ hour - hour of cooking. Serve topped with cheese, sour cream and hot sauce, if desired.

Carrie Anne Doucette

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## Let's Draw!

Craft your creations, scan or take a photo and email it to the newsletter team! You can also submit it at the hall. All submissions will be shared on the Community League's Facebook page, and some of our favourites may be printed in the next newsletter.

**What would you be doing in our neighbourhood after a fresh snow fall?**

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## Comics





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RIO TERRACE COMMUNITY LEAGUE  
invites you to join us for our annual

# Breakfast With Santa

**SUNDAY  
DECEMBER  
9<sup>TH</sup>**

PHOTOS *Just* **\$10**  
with Santa

**PANCAKES  
CRAFTS and  
CAROLS**

**HOURS:  
9:00 AM  
until  
11:30 AM**

**ADDRESS**  
15504 - 76 Avenue

Proceeds support the Rio Terrace Playground Project



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Rio Terrace Community League Solar



Evergreen and Gold Renewable Energy

Interested in solar for your home?  
Curious About the Rio Terrace Solar System?



## Solar PV 101



Solar Workshop and Tour  
Rio Terrace Community League  
December 12, 2018  
Free

6:30-7:00 Tour  
Meet the Installers:  
Kuby Renewable Energy  
(the other company)

7:00-9:00 Solar Workshop with  
Rob Harlan  
Executive Director Solar Energy Society of Alberta  
Rob is also a Rio Terrace resident.

To Register and for More Information:

[RTCLPV101.eventbrite.ca](http://RTCLPV101.eventbrite.ca)

780-443-7788

Supported by the City of Edmonton  
and the Rio Terrace Community League



Nu Energy



Kuby Renewable Energy

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## Soccer

Community Soccer for the 2018 – 2019 Indoor Season is now underway.

The 2018 -2019 Indoor community level soccer season began play in mid-October and will wrap up in March 2019. Rio Terrace has 9 teams playing in the U9 through U19 age categories. We also have 2 teams in the U7 age group. The Rio Terrace team rosters are completely full and we have roughly 175 players participating on these teams. As always, these teams are for the most part coached and managed by parents from our Rio Terrace community. We are very fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers from our community that are willing to share their love of the game, expertise, time and patience with the youth of our community.

Registration for 2019 Outdoor Community Soccer will take place in February 2019.

February 2019 is when registration for the 2019 Outdoor Community Soccer program will take place.

Player registration will be completed using the on-line soccer portal that is available on the EMSA West Soccer website. Registration process details will be finalized and made available in January. These details will be available on the Rio Terrace Community League website in January, and will also be provided in the February edition of the Rio Terrace Community newsletter.

The 2019 Outdoor soccer program is aimed at players with birth years from 2000 through 2015. Players born in 2012 through 2015 will play on Monday and Wednesday evenings with all games at the Rio Terrace School fields. The U4/U5 and U7 programs are designed to provide younger players with lots of fun, activity and skill learning and development in a less competitive setting – the focus is on fun and learning, with game scores not being of any impor-

tance. Players born before 2012 will participate in the EMSA/EMSA West Community soccer program with games in these programs involving travel to other communities that are also participating in these programs.

Outdoor soccer generally starts on May 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through to the end of June. The tentative nights of play and game start times for the 2019 Outdoor soccer program are listed below.

Age Group	Birth Year	Tentative Night of Play	Start Time
U4/U5 Mixed	2015 & 2014	Mon & Wed	6:15 PM
U7 Mixed	2013 & 2012	Mon & Wed	6:15 PM
U9 Boys/ Girls	2011 & 2010	Tues & Thur	6:15 PM
U11 Boys/ Girls	2009 & 2008	Mon & Wed	7:15 PM
U13 Boys/ Girls	2007 & 2006	Tues & Thur	7:30 PM
U 15 Boys/ Girls	2005 & 2004	Mon & Wed	6:00/ 7:30 PM
U 17 Boys/ Girls	2003 & 2002	Thur & Sun	6:00/ 7:30 PM
U19 Boys/ Girls	2001 & 2000	Tues & Sun	6:00 / 7:30 PM

Perry Wynn



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## ***MAKE YOUR OWN DOOR SWAG FOR CHRISTMAS! DECEMBER 7, 2018 AT 7 PM***



For 35 years, as owner and craft designer of Pine Cone Plus, Joyce Fuerst has had the opportunity of creating a variety of unique decorative items (baskets, garlands, decorative vases, swags) for the Christmas season. With the demand for "do it myself" artistic works, she has moved some of her time and efforts into offering "hands on classes". Attendees at classes can learn the step by step recipe that she has developed in the process of making Christmas decorations.

On the evening of December 7th, 2018, Joyce is hosting a "make your own door swag" class at the Rio Terrace Hall. She will provide all necessary supplies and materials (fresh evergreen branches, ribbons, spruce cones, berries, dried twigs).

Cost is \$20 per student for one swag. Students should bring wire cutters and pair of pliers.

For more information or to register, contact Emma Woolner at [ENewman@ualberta.ca](mailto:ENewman@ualberta.ca).

A maximum of 15 students will be allowed. Register early to ensure availability.



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## Upcoming Events In Edmonton

### Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley

*November 17 – December 9, 2018*

A witty, fun, “sequel” to the Jane Austen classic, *Pride and Prejudice*. The story focuses on Mary, the bookish, often over-looked middle child, as she navigates a potential romance with Darcy’s smart but awkward cousin Arthur.

Citadel Theater

<https://www.citadeltheatre.com/2018-2019/miss-bennet-christmas-at-pemberley>

### Disney On Ice presents Dare To Dream

*November 29 - December 2, 2018*

Make unforgettable memories with Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse and all your Disney friends when Disney On Ice presents Dare To Dream comes to Edmonton EXPO Centre, Hall D! The ice skating extravaganza features Disney’s Moana for the first time in a live production.

Edmonton Expo Centre

<https://edmontonexpocentre.com/event/disney-on-ice-presents-dare-to-dream/>

### The Festival of Trees

*November 29 – December 2, 2018*

For years, the University Hospital Festival of Trees has been getting Edmontonians geared up for the holidays for a great cause. Wander down Children’s Christmas Lane, where meeting Santa, visiting the North Pole post office (with instant delivery!), storytelling, or getting Christmas crafty are just a few things to do.

Shaw Conference Centre

<http://www.festivaloftrees.ca/>

### Hand2Hand Christmas Market

*Saturday, Dec 1, 2018, 10am – 4pm*

Hand2Hand is Edmonton’s Premium Handmade Market. Over 60 Very talented local Artists will be in one location on December 1st, 2018 to meet all of your Christmas shopping needs. Free admission, free parking, door prizes

Terwillegar Community Church  
1751 Towne Center Blvd

### Luminaria

*December 7 – December 9, 2018*

Winter blues and holiday prepping got you stressed? Then it’s time to escape to a quiet oasis of peace and light. Imagine strolling through the candle-lit pathways of the Kurimoto Japanese Garden, sipping hot apple cider beside a bonfire, enjoying seasonal sounds of strolling a capella singers and spotting magical “snow sprites” within glittering ice sculptures. You can even share this whole experience with a loved one by lighting a candle in their honour in Memory Lane. So, stop with the stress, grab a mug, and soothe your soul at Luminaria

University of Alberta Botanic Gardens  
<https://luminaria.ualberta.ca/>

### Candy Cane Lane

*December 8 – 31, 2018*

Christmas in Edmonton isn’t complete without a visit to Candy Cane Lane! Lights, sleigh rides, Decemberorations. Remember to bring a donation for the Food Bank.

148 Street, between 92 & 100 Avenues  
[www.candycanelane.ca](http://www.candycanelane.ca)  
@yeg\_cclane

### Snowshoe and Stargaze

*December 22, 2018*

Begin your experience with a short guided hike on snowshoes around the shore of Astotin Lake. Take a

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break to warm up and grab some refreshments as you gather around the campfire. Gaze up and stare into the night sky full of stars. With a park interpreter as your guide, navigate the sky of the Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve; without the glow of city lights around you'll see more than you knew existed.

Elk Island National Park

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/ab/elkisland/activ/activ5>

## MLA Lorne Dach

Dear Readers,

It's incredibly important to me and my constituents in Edmonton-McClung that our kids are getting the best education in well-resourced schools that are safe and inclusive. And our NDP government is delivering on that promise.

Some of the curriculum being taught in Alberta schools is over 30 years old – which predates the internet. That's why we're engaging with thousands of parents, teachers, and regular Albertans on what our kids should be learning. They're telling us that schools should not only teach the basics, but give our kids the problem solving skills they need to thrive. I believe updating the curriculum is critical to helping our kids succeed as the economy diversifies and the world changes.

Education Minister David Eggen has been doing terrific work to ensure students in Alberta will be prepared for the future by consulting with Albertans every step of the way, providing an unprecedented level of information about how the process is unfolding, and what steps are being taken to ensure new curriculum is common sense-led, informed by evidence, and will help students realize their full potential in a fast-changing world.

To give you a sense of the work that is going into this curriculum I'd like to share some numbers with you.

During this process we have received over 70,000 responses through our stakeholder engagement work. Through our eengagement and information sessions, we have heard from 4,777 people and we have received 67,698 responses to our online surveys.

There are 377 curriculum working groups and the minister has hosted 185 roundtable meetings and have engaged with Albertans across the province through telephone town halls to hear from everyday Albertans.

The latest drafts of the proposed K-4 curriculum in Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Sciences, Arts and Wellness Education are now available on the Alberta Education website and our newest digital resource – the new LearnAlberta.ca.

This new and modernized curriculum, contrary to what the UCP is telling Albertans, will give kids a good start to life by: improving core skills – like reading, writing, and math; giving kids the problem solving skills they need to succeed; enhancing students understanding of financial literacy, as well as career and life management; and introducing new content on the history and culture of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

I want to be clear that I stand with the teachers, academic experts, other education professionals and Alberta Education staff who are leading this work and I find it incredibly unfortunate that the leader of the UCP is more interested in promoting himself by pushing right-wing conspiracy theories than helping kids succeed, saying he would throw the new curriculum in the shredder and rejecting the work and input of thousands of Albertans.

With very best wishes to you all,

Lorne Dach, MLA for Edmonton McClung.



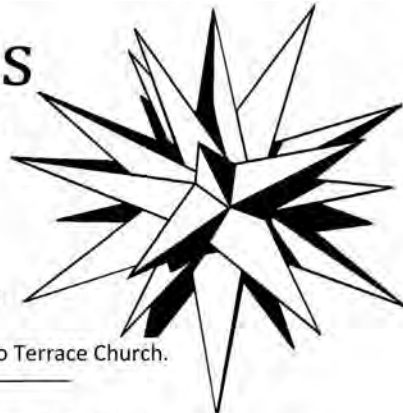
# Community Matters



## Advent *and* Christmas

with Rio Terrace Community Moravian Church

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Rev. James Lavoy, pastor



**Advent** is a time of preparation and spiritual renewal while **Christmas** is a time celebrating the presence of God in our midst. During the hectic Christmas season, come find renewal and peace with Rio Terrace Church.

### Sunday Morning Gatherings

**Each Sunday at 10:30 am**

Sing hymns old and new;  
Be challenged by the messages;  
Experience living in community.

*Our weekly **children's worship** begins with breakfast at 10 am.*

### Christmas Eve Services December 24

#### Children's Lovefeast – 4:30 pm

Our annual Children's Lovefeast is a fun Christmas service where we sing familiar carols, make a craft, eat a snack, and hear the Christmas story in an age-appropriate way. All are invited to this joyful time!

#### Candles and Carols Services – 6:30 & 8:30 pm

We celebrate Christmas in community while singing familiar carols during a candlelit service. All are invited to this moving Christmas tradition.

### Blue Christmas Service

**Sunday, December 16, 7 pm**

This is a contemplative service for those who need a quieter holiday ritual. It will be intentionally open for all.

### Christmas Dinners & Children's Toy Drive

Rio Terrace Church and our neighbourhood sponsor holiday dinners and toys for low income families. If you would like to sponsor a family, please stop in or contact us.



Arise,  
shine!  
for  
your  
light  
has come,  
and the  
glory of  
God has  
risen  
upon  
you.

*Isaiah 60:1*

### Illuminight 2018

**Sunday, December 9 • 5:30-8:30 pm**

Illuminight is an annual Rio Terrace, Patricia Heights, and Quesnell Crescent tradition! The streets are lined with beautiful luminaria, while sleigh-rides, warm snacks, and other activities are offered at the Church.

All proceeds from luminary kits are donated to Jasper Place Wellness Centre, a local organization that seeks to relieve the effects of poverty. Learn more at [jpwc.ca](http://jpwc.ca).

We are grateful for the ongoing collaboration with the Community League and Dean+Osmond Realtors for this event.

[Purchase luminary kits online at RioTerraceChurch.org](http://RioTerraceChurch.org)

### Neighbourhood "Youth Group"

Rio Terrace Church is building a youth group, open to all Jr and Sr high youth in our neighbourhood. The purpose of the group is to foster healthy connections for local youth and hosts a number of fun activities and opportunities for spiritual growth. Any Jr or Sr High young person is welcome, regardless of church participation or membership.

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. Visit [RioTerraceChurch.org](http://RioTerraceChurch.org) for more information.

Rio Terrace Church works hard to affirm all people – including LGBT+ people and their families – on their spiritual journey. *We hope you will feel welcome here.*