



Spruce Avenue Community Newsletter
FALL 2018

**Please join us for our
Annual Community League Membership Drive**

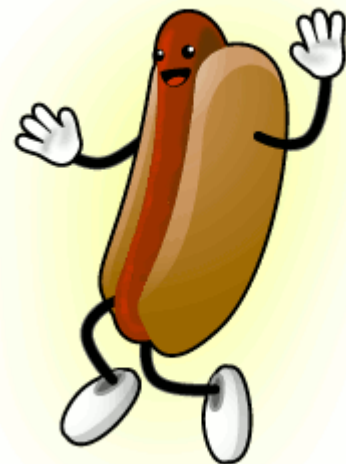
When: Saturday, September 15 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Where: Spruce Avenue Community Hall, 10240 - 115 Avenue

Activities:

- Front Yards in Bloom will be recognizing the many yards nominated for their valuable contribution to the beauty and spirit in Spruce Avenue
- Purchase your 2018/2019 community league membership
- A final splash in the water park, weather permitting!
- FREE HOT DOGS!

*Invite your neighbours; everyone is
welcome!*



Why be a community league member?

Membership benefits include:

- Access to community programs, including sports such as soccer, baseball and hockey
- A voice on community issues and future planning
- *Free* access to community skating rinks
- *Free* swimming and recreational activities offered at the Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre, Sundays from 1 pm to 3 pm
- Reduced rental rates at the Spruce Avenue Community hall

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Family - \$15

Single - \$7.00

Seniors - \$7.00

Or free with volunteer hours towards the league!

Memberships are valid until August 31, 2019



NEIGHBORHOOD RENEWAL

Neighbourhood Renewal is part of the City of Edmonton's Building Great Neighbourhoods initiative and has been underway in our neighborhood since the spring. It is a two-year project concluding in 2019. For more information, go to the City of Edmonton website under Building Great Neighbourhoods, and choose Spruce Avenue.

You may have noticed the wider sidewalk on the north side of 114 avenue - it is the new extension to the bike and multi-use path running along the LRT tracks. This path will extend east of 97 street along 114 avenue.



SPRUCE AVENUE CELEBRATES HISTORY

UPDATES

Our community history project, started in 2016, continues in 2018.

4th Annual Jane's Walk

We had a very successful Jane's Walk featuring the Spruce Ave House Histories Tour this past May, as part of the worldwide festival of community walks. Over 40 folks from the neighbourhood, elsewhere in the city, and as far as Saskatoon and Toronto joined us for an educational and social stroll through Spruce Ave. The Rat Creek Press newspaper wrote an article about our walk.

Heritage Home Signs

A big thank you to the over 25 homes and buildings throughout the neighbourhood now participating in the house history sign program. Look out for the green and white signs on front lawns and in windows on your walks to learn more about our built history and first residents. We have a small amount left in our grant for a few more signs. Contact Wesley at 780-885-5670 or spruceavehistory@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.



Spruce Avenue in the Art Gallery

In July, the Art Gallery of Alberta invited History project participants and league board members to tour the *Herbert Hohn: Edmonton Entrances* exhibit at the gallery downtown. You can check it out for yourself until November. A number of Spruce Ave 1940s and 50s era homes were featured in the exhibition which was originally commissioned by the Art Gallery in the 1970s.

<https://www.youraga.ca/exhibitions/HerbertHohn>



Neighbourhood Watch Update

To reduce crime is to reduce crimes of opportunity.

Reminders to keep your home and belongings secured:

- Close and lock your car doors and windows.
- When you drive out of your garage, press the remote control, look back and check to see if the garage door has completely closed. Sometimes it springs back up if an object is in the way. Also: make sure your garage entry door is also locked.
- It's important to lock house windows when leaving as thieves look for easy opportunities to commit crimes through unlocked doors and windows

HOW TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF DISCARDED NEEDLES

If you come across needles, the City recommends using gloves and tongs like BBQ or kitchen tongs to pick them up. Then put them in a sealed bottle or secured container and drop it off at a pharmacy such as Superstore. You can also call 311 for needle disposal if you don't feel comfortable picking it up. People from Capital City Clean Up, who are already out removing graffiti from public buildings/infrastructure, will swing by in a vehicle to pick up needles.

Let's make our playground and community safe by calling 311(Fire Rescue Service no longer does this) to report needles in our community or safely dispose of them ourselves.

You can read about safe disposal here:

https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/graffiti_litter/safe-needle-disposal.aspx.

Elke Siebels, Spruce Avenue Neighborhood Watch



CAPITALCARE NORWOOD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Alberta Health Services and Alberta Infrastructure want to thank everyone who participated in the spring 2018 CapitalCare Norwood Redevelopment Project open house. Since then, the rezoning and land use amendments permits have been submitted to the City of Edmonton and are currently under review. Planning and design work continues. Alberta Infrastructure and project consultants have met with the City of Edmonton to discuss traffic circulation and related issues.

Negotiations with the homeowners whose houses needed to be acquired to make way for the project have been completed. In the coming weeks, preparation for demolition of these houses will begin. To reduce vandalism, fencing will be installed around the houses and testing for hazardous materials will occur. This is a standard safety precaution and not an indication there are any hazardous materials in the houses. It is anticipated that demolition of the houses may occur in late November but we will provide an update to the community once a date is confirmed.

In the fall, some geotechnical testing is expected to take place on 105 Street and on the land of the acquired houses. Drilling will be done to take samples to test the ground beneath. A Request For Proposals (RFP) for a site parkade has been issued and design work will start this fall. The project site plan includes surface parking lots to accommodate site visitor parking. Construction timelines are dependent on City approval of the permits but they are hoping to begin work in 2019. More updates as schedules are confirmed



FRONT YARDS IN BLOOM

There were over 6,000 nominations received for Front Yards in Bloom for the City of Edmonton. In Spruce Avenue more than 34 houses were selected for Front Yards in Bloom. Many residents in our neighborhood like to make their front yards attractive for the walkers to enjoy! Bouquets of thanks to those of you who enjoy making your FRONT YARDS attractive. A huge thank you goes out to these residents.



Elke Siebels and Verna Stainthorp, Front Yards in Bloom



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Spruce Avenue Community League meetings are held the *4th Tuesday of the month at 7 pm*. The new league (as elected at the AGM) meetings start **November 27**. Please note: there will be no meeting in December. Please email proposed agenda items to secretary@spruceavenuecommunity.com.

Free Swimming and Recreational Activities for Spruce Avenue Community League members at the Commonwealth Community Recreation Center, 11000 Stadium Road, **Sundays** from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. SACL Memberships available at the upcoming Membership Drive or by calling 780-479-8019. Email treasurer@spruceavenuecommunity.com.

Big Bin Events: Sept 22-23, Commonwealth Stadium, 112 Avenue and 90 Street

Annual General Meeting for Spruce Avenue Community League: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 @ 7:00 pm. We encourage you to attend.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Dear dog-walkers – a gentle reminder that Spruce Avenue Park and Playground are not off-leash areas. Call 311 or visit http://www.edmonton.ca/activities_parks_recreation/parks_rivervalley/off-leash-sites.aspx to locate the nearest off-leash locality.

Volunteers needed! No different than any other not-for-profit organization, we are always looking for people to help out. If you have some spare time and would like to get involved please call Rebekah @ 780-477-9803 or email bekprine@hotmail.com.



CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT

- www.spruceavenuecommunity.com
- <https://www.facebook.com/SpruceAveCommLeague/>
- Email:
 - president@spruceavenuecommunity.com
 - vp@spruceavenuecommunity.com
 - secretary@spruceavenuecommunity.com
 - treasurer@spruceavenuecommunity.com including hall rental inquiries

