



Mount Royal

COMMUNITY NEWS



JULY • AUGUST 2007

President's Message



How wonderful to walk down the streets of our community with the beautiful gardens so meticulously maintained, smelling the flowers, listening to the birds chirp and the rhythmic pounding of the construction crews! Welcome to Mount Royal.

An industrious group of residents took it upon themselves to beautify the traffic circles and their efforts are most appreciated by everyone driving by. Thanks to a few generous donations we have funds available to improve others as well. I know Bob Weaver would like to have more input on his Landscaping committee both manpower and donations are welcome.

I have been receiving many compliments about the work your Executive have been doing since the AGM in November. Your comments are most appreciated and we continue to keep up the good work. It has been a challenge since we are short of volunteers and the Directors are fully committed in many other areas of their lives. If you have a few extra hours per month, please consider

making a commitment to your community and serve on the Executive. The website will have the current postings of positions available at www.mountroyalstation.ca We meet the first Monday of the month generally from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. except long weekends in which case it is the next Monday. More time is required depending on the committee or Director's position you fill. Your commitment starts in November after the AGM.

The tennis courts are finished and it's wonderful to see so many people using the courts. Your membership includes the use of the tennis facilities and the locking code system has been replaced with the honour system.

How much fun was the Family Barbeque on the 22nd of June? Neighbours out enjoying the festive atmosphere, the smell of the barbeque and the laughter of children piercing through the beat of the steel band.

Hope you have a great summer and Happy Stamping!!

- Marla Klassen

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MOUNT ROYAL COMMUNITY NEWS

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For Advertising, Inquiries or Submissions; Contact newsletter@moutroyalstation.ca
Ad submissions are included at the discretion of the Communications Director.

NEXT ISSUE (SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER)

Deadline for Submission – AUGUST 12, 2007

Advertising Rates (Prepayment Required)

\$50	business card	3.5" w x 2" h
\$75	1/4 page	3" w x 4" h
\$300	1/2 page	7" w x 4.5" h

Mount Royal Community News is published bi-monthly.

Five lines free...

Would you like to nannyshare? We have a nanny who will likely be starting in June. We have a 14 month old daughter and are interested in connecting with neighborhood parents to discuss options and possibilities. Please email Kari at tanquin@shaw.ca

Babysitting Services

BABYSITTER LIST

- Caroline, 244-6955
 - babysitting certificate
- Hanna, 244-8432
 - babysitting certificate
- Kristen, 244-4373
 - Red Cross Babysitter's Card
- Tom, 245-5283
 - babysitting certificate

Like to add your name to the Babysitting Services list? EMAIL the Communications Director newsletter@moutroyalstation.com



Report from Alderman King

Many of you have responded to a phone call letting me know your views on key priority issues. Thank you for taking the time to give me your comments; they certainly do help to ensure your views are known and taken into consideration when decisions are being made. This telephoning is using new technology, which I'm hoping will prove to be a useful tool in providing good service to you.

One early result has been the identification of homelessness and affordable housing as a top priority - so I wanted to take this opportunity to share some thoughts.

I have served on the City's Affordable Housing Committee and the Homeless Foundation for some time, but now am also on the leadership committee of the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness, where the City is represented politically by the Mayor, Ald Druh Farrell and myself. It is a remarkable group of business leaders, healthcare, mental health, addictions, spiritual leadership, provincial and federal governments - and the research and debates are very significant. Later this year the team will formulate a plan to significantly reduce homelessness year by year over the next ten years. Similar plans are proving very effective elsewhere, particularly in the U.S., and there's no reason it can't succeed here too.

The plan will include strategies to prevent people falling into homelessness. For instance, approximately 70% of our homeless population suffers mental illness or addictions - and many of those have proved too difficult for healthcare and other services to deal with and have therefore been discharged into homelessness. We need to change that by ensuring everyone has a home from where they can access the services they need to enable them to live sustainably "in the community".

This may sound expensive, but it is only now being widely recognized that homelessness costs

the taxpayer a lot of money for emergency services and healthcare as well as police and other front line responders. The story of "million dollar Murray" can be found at http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2006/02/13/060213fa_fact

The plan will also include strategies to shorten the time people spend being homeless. This will need new ways of providing affordable housing and supported housing. Several possibilities are currently being investigated - more rent supplements, the City continuing to add two hundred new homes each year as well as a new housing foundation providing new units annually, the possible use of surplus school lands (as is being done in Edmonton), tax incentives for the private sector to develop more affordable rental units, secondary suites, and the possibility of including affordable housing as a percentage in all new large developments (as is being done in many areas of the U.S.).

The loss of rental units to condominiumization is obviously a big concern. At present municipalities have no discretion - they have to rubber-stamp such applications. I hope the Province will give the City the right to develop guidelines that might better suit a crisis like we're in now. We need the tools to make some tough choices.

Whatever happens, the private sector is a key partner. We cannot achieve a significant increase in the availability of affordable rental units without the private sector being willingly involved.

Affordable homeownership may also be an important key to success. Several jurisdictions are helping with easy financing, and some starter homes have only the key rooms finished, leaving the new homeowner to finish the rest as their time and ability allow. A truly great "hand up" rather than a "hand out"!

Some of the choices ahead will be tough for many of us - but we will need to work together to get out of our current crisis. And, thank goodness, it doesn't look as if a major downturn in our economy is going to be any part of the solution!

UPDATE ON TREATMENT OF DISEASED TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

- from Charlene Prickett

Sadly, some Mount Royal tree lined boulevards are looking a bit ragged this summer! Most of our majestic elms and many ash trees are under attack from insect pests which suck the life out of them.

Without treatment, many won't survive. After wrestling with this problem for the past two years, City of Calgary entomologist Jim Watts is the voice of experience and the primary source of information for this tree update. A representative from City of Calgary Urban Forestry Dept concurred entirely with Watt's suggestions. Pests don't respect property lines. Though the City of Calgary has treated virtually all elm and ash trees on City property in Mt Royal, untreated trees on private property threaten our lovely boulevard trees and nearby treated private property trees with reinfection. There are two methods of tree treatment — topical application involves spraying various mixtures of dormant (mineral) oil, soap and pesticide on affected trees. Topical treatment only kills pests on contact. With the second method, systemic treatment, pesticide is injected directly into the tree and is delivered throughout the tree nutritional system. Systemic pesticide kills insects feeding on bark and leaves over the period of a year or more. The systemic pesticide Confidor is again available in Calgary for commercial use due to the diligent efforts of Jim Watts who spear headed the emergency use registration of Confidor and experimental treatment of City owned trees over the past three seasons. Confidor has proven particularly effective on elm scale. It is not a threat to birds, squirrels, cats, etc.

Virtually all elms in Mount Royal suffer from some degree of scale. Those severely affected present blackened bark as though they've been scorched by fire. In a desperate attempt to survive, diseased elms try to produce leaves and small branches down the trunk of the tree rather than up in the canopy.

If your private property elms were injected with Confidor last summer, no further treatment is needed this summer UNLESS your elms are in close proximity (next door or two doors away) to untreated elms. Because the reinfection rate from nearby trees is high, it is worth your while to interface with neighbours in an effort to get all elm trees systemically treated to put the problem down for good.

Timing for Confidor treatment is critical. It must be done by mid-July, but for best results, it should be injected by July 10 (before Stampede). Only one treatment per 2-3 years may be required. It begins to work within 48 hours, though a diseased tree may need several seasons and sufficient moisture to bounce back to good health. Although this pesticide is expected to become fully registered for use across Canada, there could be a time gap between the expiration of Calgary's emergency permit and total availability in 2008. Property owners who have not treated before, should treat diseased elms THIS spring.

Jim Watts is monitoring Mt Royal trees and is pleased with the state of most elms treated last summer on both private property and city owned boulevards. Elms were late leafing out this summer, but scale is substantially reduced. Jim assures us that mature elms take several seasons to recover from the effects of scale. While treatment can't restore dead branches, treated elms should recover even though the bark remains black this summer. It is important that recovering trees get sufficient water during the growing season.

Sixty-one Mt Royal residents joined a group treatment program last summer and enjoyed a reduced group price for treatment. Owners of treated elm trees should check for the following good signs. On hot days, you should NOT see the mist of honeydew falling from the tree canopy.

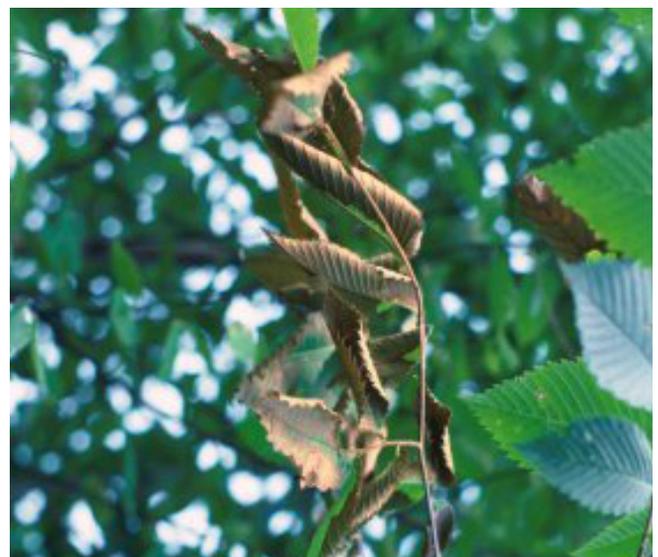
Patios, decks, lawn furniture, rock walls under the tree canopy should NO longer be sticky with honeydew. If you have pressure washed these areas, the dark colouration from falling honeydew should NOT reappear. If your treated elms are not at risk to reinfection from nearby untreated trees, your only chore is to keep them well watered this summer and fall. Water under the entire tree canopy regularly, right until freeze up. Deadwood should not be pruned off until November at the earliest. You should NOT see more deadwood appear!

The outlook for Manchurian and black ash trees is less optimistic. Ash trees affected by psyllid present distorted leaves which “cauliflower up” with little bumps. Like elm scale, these pests can kill a tree in just a few seasons and can reinfect neighbouring trees by riding the wind. Last summer, the City of Calgary completed Confidor treatment of most Manchurian and black ash trees on Mount Royal boulevards and parks, but Confidor treatment of ash trees was much less successful than for elms. For unknown reasons, ash trees, particularly mature trees, do not uptake the pesticide throughout the tree system as thoroughly as elms. Alas, Calgary has lost many ash trees. Jim estimates that systemic treatment may have saved only 25% of the ash inventory. Jim suggests that untreated black and Manchurian ash should be treated topically as soon as possible with a spray solution of soap and 0.5% Permethrin, a pesticide approved by Health Canada. Ash trees treated with Confidor injections last summer should NOT be injected again this summer. Since the systemic Confidor injections require drilling small holes in the tree trunk, the repeat of that stress on a diseased tree two years in a row is unwise, especially since this treatment has limited success on ash trees.. If psyllid has reappeared on Confidotreated trees, Jim suggests they now be sprayed with the soap / Permethrin solution.

Last year ArborCare was the only local tree service offering Confidor treatment. This year there are a few other companies offering the service as



Infected Elm Tree



Leaf wilt



Infected sap-conducting vessels, under the bark

(UPDATE ON TREATMENT OF DISEASED TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY con't)

well. ArborCare has again offered a group rate to Mt Royal residents, and the price is better than last summer. The cost of treatment includes a service charge of \$65 (down from \$85 last summer) which includes the pesticide application of one tree plus the cost of the Confidor at \$3.75 per inch of the diameter of the tree. Treatment of additional trees on the same property cost \$20 per tree over 6 inches in diameter and \$10 per smaller tree. Chemical costs for additional trees are calculated as above. Group rate spraying (soap,0.5% Permethrin mix) for ash trees is \$85 service charge which includes the first tree. Spraying of additional ash trees on the same property cost \$20 per tree over 6 inches in diameter and \$10 per smaller tree.

Properties which require treatment for both ash and elms will be charged one service charge of \$65 which will include one tree. Additional trees are

priced at rates shown above.

ArborCare treats three or more properties in the same trip to our community. Charlene Prickett will collect names, addresses and phone numbers of all Mount Royal residents wanting to join together for one of several treatment windows scheduled between June 19 and July 9. Each property owner will pay his own treatment bill to ArborCare and, as a part of this treatment schedule, will enjoy the reduced group rate. ArborCare will phone each resident to plan treatment, set up dates, etc.

To sign up for treatment, email name, address and phone number to Charlene Prickett at sales@charleneprickett.com. Call Charlene with questions at 244-6621. For questions regarding treatment protocol, contact Bonnie Rogers at ArborCare, tel 273-6378.

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Traffic News - Bob Weaver

The other day I was reading an article on traffic issues in New York City, and the plan to put in place a toll to limit vehicles in the congested city core. London, England has a similar strategy. Up the cost for personal vehicle use to encourage travel by public transit. In Mount Royal we have the distinct advantage of being close enough to the downtown core that walking to work is a healthy alternative, and of course, we have frequent Calgary Transit services. So we are not necessarily bound to our automobiles. However, we have less control over the folks who commute from further afield and use our neighbourhood as a shortcut to avoid Calgary's increasingly congested and overloaded system. In some areas of the neighbourhood, routes have been permanently blocked limiting drive-through traffic while in other areas the recent installation of traffic calming measures are starting to yield the desired results. So for the folks in the neighbourhood who benefit from these traffic calming measures it would appear that we are on the right track. Unfortunately there are still areas of Mount Royal where cut-through traffic, speeding, high volumes and poorly designed traffic measures are a major concern. When we stop to think about why we need to limit traffic in Mount Royal – to provide safer, less noisy and busy roadways, to encouraging the greening of the community and to ensure pedestrian friendliness; we need to be holistic in our approach and work to apply these principles to the entire community. It is for these reasons that we are aggressively pursuing additional traffic calming measures for the community. A group of Mount Royal residents met May 17th to discuss traffic safety issues and together came up with a list of actions.

Things that we can do right now include:

1. Becoming vocal and involved. If you observe someone driving dangerously let them know it and report this to the authorities. Our community Liaison Officer Cst. Kristy Verheul can be reached at pol3122@calgarypolice.ca or by phone at 567 6200
2. Talking to your neighbours and soliciting their support for more policing and more aggressive traffic calming measures for those areas of the community where we are still experiencing problems
3. Lobbying City Hall mking@calgary.ca
4. Driving slowly and cautiously – set the example

In addition to finishing up the work with the current traffic calming construction we feel that it is necessary to carry out further traffic calming measures. This could include:

1. Implementing of the next phase of traffic calming by restricting west bound traffic on Royal and Hillcrest Ave. and south bound traffic on 7th Street
2. Improving the aesthetics and function of the traffic circles on Royal Ave.
3. Standardizing all current no-turn and no-entry restrictions from 0700 to 0900 hrs
4. Implementing additional no-turn and no-entry restrictions to limit rush hour traffic entering Mount Royal from 5th Street SW, 17th Ave SW and 14 Street SW
5. Determining ways to reduce the high traffic volumes experienced on some of our streets and avenues, such as 8th Street
6. Collecting, analyzing and profiling traffic data to gain a better understanding of trends and the potential impacts to Mount Royal
7. Investigate the use of technology (such as cameras and other innovative solutions) to augment enforcement.

8. Investigating ways to profile Mount Royal as a caring and concerned community, perhaps with welcoming signage to “Historic Mount Royal” please drive cautiously, etc.

I am sure that there are many other ideas and approaches that we can take as a community as we strive to maintain the unique character that Mount Royal holds in this rapidly growing city. However there is one belief that I feel we all subscribe to – that traffic, especially high volumes and speed; downgrades the quality of the community, its desirability for families and ultimately, property values.

Together we can make a difference. I encourage you to share your views and participate in our traffic committee sessions as we work to make our community roadways safer.



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Would you like to teach for us? Call Carol! *Students of all ages are always welcome!*



Mount Royal Information

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOUNDARIES

- North** 17 Avenue
- East** College Lane; Royal Avenue; Hope Street (both sides); Earl Gray Crescent; Ridge between Earl Gray Crescent and 29 Avenue
- South** Council Way; 10 Street; Premier Way; 8 Street (both sides)
- West** 14 Street

CRIME STATISTICS:

UPPER MOUNT ROYAL												
	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Year	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	07	07
ASSAULT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
STREET ROBBERIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
COMMERCIAL ROBBERIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BREAK AND ENTER - HOUSE	0	0	2	4	1	3	0	2	0	1	2	0
- SHOP	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
THEFT OF VEHICLE	0	1	0	2	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0
- FROM VEHICLE	1	0	3	0	0	6	4	2	3	0	3	0
MISCHIEF	0	1	4	2	1	1	0	1	4	0	2	0
Crime Rate:	2005		2006									
Person Crimes (per thousand population):	2		NA									
Property Crimes (per thousand population):	30		NA									

LOWER MOUNT ROYAL												
	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Year	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	06	07	07
ASSAULT	1	6	2	5	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	1
STREET ROBBERIES	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	1	2	2	0	0
COMMERCIAL ROBBERIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BREAK AND ENTER - HOUSE	3	2	3	6	2	2	1	3	1	2	1	1
- SHOP	4	22	7	0	4	0	4	0	2	2	0	1
- OTHER	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THEFT OF VEHICLE	0	5	4	4	5	8	4	3	3	6	6	1
- FROM VEHICLE	15	7	4	8	21	8	12	11	10	7	2	3
MISCHIEF	5	10	11	7	9	6	13	6	5	8	5	1
Crime Rate:	2005		2006									
Person Crimes (per thousand population):	16		NA									
Property Crimes (per thousand population):	102		NA									

Report Vandalism
Damaged Street Signs
Graffiti
Personal Property
 No Matter How BIG or SMALL
 CALL THE POLICE • 266- 1234
 Our Area “COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER”
 Cst Kristy Verheul • 567-6200
 EMAIL: pol3122@calgarypolice.ca

Bylaw Bulletin

www.calgary.ca/animalservices

Top Five Bylaw Picks for Summer

Bylaws are written to protect the environment, ensure high standards of public health and safety and maintain an orderly appearance in our communities. The City of Calgary's bylaws set a minimum standard for neighbourhoods, helping to ensure all Calgarians live in safe, clean and healthy communities.

Summer bylaws relating to your home and property.

1. **GRASS:** Grass must be less than six inches (15 cm) tall. You are responsible for caring for and maintaining your lawn and areas adjacent to your property including to the centre of the back alley. See Community Standards Bylaw 5M2004
2. **WEEDS:** Keep weeds under control and ensure they don't spread from your property. See Community Standards Bylaw 5M2004
3. **TREES & SHRUBS:** Keep hedges, trees and shrubs on your property trimmed so they don't interfere with pedestrians using the sidewalk or vehicles using the street or alley. See Streets Bylaw 20M88. Citizens are prohibited from cutting, removing, pruning or moving City trees and spraying them with any substance other than water. See Tree Protection Bylaw 23M2002.
4. **NOISE:** You have a right not to be disturbed by noise and the responsibility to not make noise. Noise can include shouting, loud music, horns, power tools and air conditioners. Specifically you are prohibited to operate power tools, lawn mowers and other motorized devices between 10pm and 7am Monday to Saturday and 10pm to 9am on Sunday and holidays. See Community Standards Bylaw 5M2004.
5. **YARD ACCUMULATION:** Loose garbage, household furniture, appliances, yard waste and automotive parts cannot be stored so they are visible from outside your property. Accumulation of material that creates unpleasant odours or attracts pests, such as animal feces, is prohibited. See Community Standards Bylaws 5M2004.

For more information about City bylaws go to www.calgary.ca/animalservices (click Bylaw Services, then Bylaws of Frequent Reference) or call 3-1-1 and ask for the following brochures - Yard and perimeter maintenance and Activities on and around your property.



THE CITY OF
CALGARY
ANIMAL & BYLAW SERVICES

Report on Community Development - Michael Evans

The Mount Royal Development Review Committee consists of a committee of eight community volunteers who meet every month to review all new projects in our community that require a development permit.

A development permit is required for the construction of a new single family home, a renovation or an addition to your home that results in the change to the exterior. This scope of work entails the majority of the work of our committee, although, we also review and comment on any new commercial project or addition to an existing commercial project within the bounds of Mount Royal. We also review applications for home businesses and applications for rezoning property.

After an application has been made to the City of Calgary, the planner assigned to the application will do a code check to ensure that the plans conform to the land use bylaws. This review by the planner ensures that the plans conform to the minimum side, front and rear yard setbacks, maximum height allowed and other criteria such as minimum parking requirements and site coverage limitations. A copy of the plans together with the planner's code check comments are then sent to the community for review at the next scheduled meeting.

Generally, we review approximately five applications at each meeting. Prior to each meeting we ensure that all affected neighbours around each proposed development receive a notice which is delivered by hand advising them of the application. The notice states the date, time and location of the meeting where we will be reviewing the application. It is at this meeting where affected neighbours may review the detailed development permit plans and voice any concerns or support for the project.



The format of the meetings allows the owner or his representatives to present the project to our committee and to any interested or affected neighbours. If the plans do not conform to code requirements as highlighted by the planner, we discuss this with the proponent. We then hear any concerns from neighbours who are directly affected or other community members.

The committee then votes to support the project or alternatively, to register the concerns that the committee and/or neighbours have with the application.

It is important to understand that our committee is not the final arbitrator or judge on any application that we review. Our role is to provide grass roots feedback to the planner including directly affected neighbours. The planner then issues a permit, denies the permit or attempts to negotiate with the proponent for changes that will address the concerns that the city, a neighbour or the community has with the application.

We view our role as a catalyst to bring together the proponent/owner who wishes to develop or change his property with the neighbours directly affected and the community at large. Where there is potential negative impact on a neighbour as a result of a new project, we attempt to broker a compromise solution for the design. This may not be exactly what each party wants but what everyone "can live with". This is the consensus solution that we seek in order to avoid long term litigation and conflict between future neighbours.

In the event that compromise is not possible

because an affected neighbour or proponent/owner is unhappy with the issuance of a permit or the denial of a permit, one has the option of filing an appeal to the SDAB (Sub Division and Development Appeal Board). This board is quasi-judicial and is the final decision-making body that passes judgment on matters of conflict regarding development permits in the City of Calgary.

If someone is contemplating a new project in Mount Royal, we highly recommend the following suggestions:

1. Hire a competent and experienced architect. A firm that specializes in residential inner city communities like Mount Royal is ideal.
2. During the design process, put yourself in the position of your neighbours. How will they react to your plans?
3. As the design evolves, meet with your

neighbours in order to listen to and hopefully, address their concerns and issues.

4. Submit all required plans, including a streetscape plan, and ideally, a coloured rendering, so that your project can be understood easily by all concerned.
5. Your design should conform to the land use bylaw regulations for the zoning in our community. Minor relaxations are occasionally allowed but only if your immediate neighbours concur.

I close by encouraging any of you who love Mount Royal to consider joining our committee. We are all busy with many responsibilities but this is important work. The overall objective of your committee is to preserve the character and quality of life in our community. If this is something that you would like to explore, call me at my office (Michael Evans at 270-5901).



**WHAT IS YOUR TAX STRATEGY
FOR THE NEW YEAR?**

Each year, countless individuals pay an excessive amount of tax to Canada Revenue Agency. Although tax is an unavoidable reality within even a well-composed estate, there are many tools available that may reduce a family's taxation liabilities. In order to preserve the value of your assets, it is vital to structure your estate in a strategic manner. By proactively addressing potential tax issues before they become real hindrances, you can ensure a secure future for yourself and your family.

Want to know more? On Tuesday, March 6th or Tuesday, March 27th at 7:00pm, MacMillan Estate Planning will be holding two complimentary wine and cheese seminars. At these times, senior Trust and Estate Practitioner, Sheri MacMillan will offer advice and insight into all your estate planning inquiries.

For more information, please inquire online at www.yourestateplan.ca or call (403) 266-6464.



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Estate Planning Corp.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6TH
TUESDAY, MARCH 27TH
AT 7:00PM

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Wine & Cheese Seminar
on Estate Planning*

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In Trust We Share

Going Green - Winnie Tam

Another rainy spring has given way to magnificent gardens and majestic trees in Mount Royal. Indeed we love the green, but how can we BE more green ourselves? Believe it or not, there are ways to make a difference to our planet, and no it's never too late! Saving the world may be a little too ambitious than this article can preach but there are small ways we can contribute to a greener planet:

- Remember the 3 R's. Simply put, the 3 R's is still the essence of where being green begins. Keep the 3R's at the back of your mind when you go about your day, and notice how this can affect your choices.
- Make Green Buying Decisions. Buy bulk instead of individually packaged goods, choose environmentally-friendly biodegradable detergents and cleaners. Believe it or not good old soap and water can clean just as well as the fancy so-called anti-bacterial products out there!
- Dispose Responsibly. Take old clothes Women in Need Society and Salvation Army. Take Old electronics/appliances to designated electronic recycling sites. Garage sales and eBay are also creative and fun ways to make some spare change on old junk.
- Don't Drown the Lawn. Thanks to all the rain this spring, our lawns have turned green without needing the sprinklers— but when they do come out, know that grass only needs 1-1.5 inches of water a week. Keep track of this by leaving a upturned frisbee out while you water the lawn— you're done when it's filled.
- Rejoice for Recycling. Our city is a little behind on this front, but Calgarians can breathe a sigh of relief, since the city's curbside recycling program is approximately 18 months away. Recycling

depots are still a great way to unload our recyclables, but please be considerate that these sites are not dumps or landfills so don't treat them like one!

- Go Crazy for Composting. Carried out at home. composting is a great way to reduce the amount of waste going into our landfills. Fruit/vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, and leaves are all things that can be composted and turned into a nutrient-rich mixture for your garden. You can build your own composter or buy them as they are subsidized by the city.
- Bottles, Cans, and Tetra Packs, Oh My! Along with cans and bottles, did you know that you can also bring tetra packs and baby food/juice bottles to the bottle depot?
- Click or Call for Further Knowledge. Tips and answers from the City of Calgary are only a click or call away. There really is no excuse for not knowing better!

Visit the City of Calgary's Environment site @ www.calgary.ca click on "City Living," then on "Environment." OR, call 3-1-1, the City's number for every question under the sun!

When it all comes down to it, we need to acknowledge the fact that one person can make a difference, because when you think about it, one person gives way to one family, one family gives way to one community, and once that ball gets rolling, it can pave the way to a healthier planet earth. Have a happy (and green) summer!

Winnie Tam who grew up in Mount Royal and is a new marketing graduate from the University of Calgary who is currently looking for a career in communications and public relations. Any questions to her can be directed to wwgtam@shaw.ca or (403) 708-2256.

Mount Royal Junior High School- Principal Janice Staines

We have had a tremendous spring and we look forward to an exciting new year after a summer of rest and relaxation. Our track season was outstanding with over one-third of our students participating in the divisional track meet where our senior boys won the pennant and the school was second overall. The entire school participated in the intramural track day with challenging and fun events for homerooms and the delicious Mount Royal burgers. In late May, we had a Celebration of Culture where we honoured the many nationalities and languages of our staff and students. Deputy Mayor Madeline King gave the keynote address which was followed by slide presentations and a demonstration of student talent. We hope all of our students are successful on their final exams and enjoy a safe and relaxing summer with their families.

Keep Connected

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS IN OUR RECORDS
Have you had a change of address? - or a change of email address? Our community is using email to let you know what is happening. Keep your info with us up-to-date. Go to the Address Update page on our website...www.mountroyalstation.ca

...give it a try if you want to receive email reminders and mailings from the community.



Taxpayer Bill of Rights...

On May 28th Canada's New Government introduced a Taxpayers Bill of Rights - consisting of 15 rights with an additional five Commitments to Small Businesses - to make sure Canadians are treated fairly when dealing with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

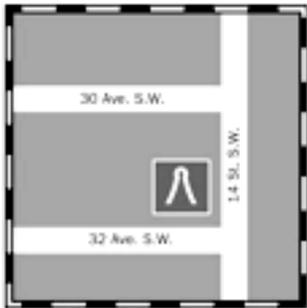
Your Rights include:

- The right to lodge a service complaint and expect to be provided with an explanation of our findings;
- The right to a formal review of your file if you believe that the CRA has not applied the law correctly or that you have not received your full entitlements;
- The right to have the CRA minimize your costs for you to comply with your tax obligations; and
- The right to consumer protections and to be warned of questionable tax schemes by the CRA in a timely manner.

The Taxpayers Bill of Rights is another example of Canada's New Government getting things done, for all of us. The complete list of rights can be found online at www.cra.gc.ca.

Contact us...

If you have an issue or event that you would like to share, please contact us. Our address is: Suite 105, 1410 11th Ave SW Calgary, T3C 0M8 or phone (403) 244-1880. Our e-mail address is Richardson.L@parl.gc.ca.



Alexander Calhoun Library

3223 – 14 Street SW

Hours:

Monday - Thursday

Friday & Saturday

Sundays (mid-Sept to mid-May)

10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

12:00 – 5 p.m.

Telephone: 260-2600



Looking for titles to include in your summer reading? Check our website at www.calgarypubliclibrary.com for a new list of books recommended by library staff every month. Here are some of the picks. Let the reading adventure begin!

- 1 - Caught in the light. Goddard, Robert, 1954. MYSTERY GOD
- 2 - Beneath the snow /Carver, Caroline. MYSTERY CAR
- 3 - The many lives & secret sorrows of Josephine B., Gulland, Sandra. FICTION GUL
- 4 - The secret life of CeeCee Wilkes : [a novel] / Chamberlain, Diane, 1950- FICTION CHA
- 5 - Red star rogue : the untold story of a Soviet submarine's nuclear strike attempt on the U.S. / Sewell, Kenneth / Richmond, Clint. 359. 9330947 SEW

Programs are FREE with a valid Calgary Public Library card. Support your Library by making sure every member of the family has an updated Library card.

ESL Conversation Club. Practice your English listening and speaking skills and learn about the Library's many resources. Tuesdays, Jul 10 to Aug 21. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Drop-in Baby Storytime. Thirty minutes of active songs, rhymes, and stories. Ages 6 to 23 months with a parent/caregiver Tuesday, Jul 10, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.

Reading Buddies. This program pairs struggling readers in grades 1 to 3 with teen volunteers. Under the direction of library staff, the group meets at the library where,

over a 7-week period, they read one-on-one as well as participate in fun group activities. For more information on how to volunteer or to refer someone to the program, call 260-2709 or 221-2062.

Grades 1 to 3. Thursdays, Jul 12 to Aug 23 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Computer Buddies. Teen volunteers help elementary students to learn about searching topics on the Internet and how to create documents in Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point. Wednesdays, Jul 11 to Aug 22

Drop-In Family Storytime. Turn off the TV and drop in for 30 minutes of stories, songs, fingerplays, and/or a video. Ages 2 to 5 with a parent/caregiver. Tuesday, Jul 17, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.. Watch out for Drop-In Family Storytimes on Monday mornings in July and August!

Library will be closed on Monday Aug 8 for Heritage Day.



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ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A REWARDING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY?

The Calgary Police Service is looking for volunteers to work in the District 2 office located at 4506 17 Avenue S.W.

Volunteers can assist with a variety of administrative and analytical duties and will have the opportunity to work on various police programs. It's a great opportunity to get involved and make a difference in the community.

The Subpoena and Collision Call-Back Phoning programs are looking for volunteers who can put their communications skills to work. A direct link between the Service and the public, you can help provide important information and assistance to those who need it most.

The Business Liaison Program is also recruiting volunteers to collect and compile information about local businesses. You will be in direct contact with business owners and managers discussing crime and safety issues that concern them most. Part of your job will involve working closely with Community Liaison Officers who work with the businesses to identify problems and develop solutions. As a volunteer, you will also assist with providing information on upcoming crime prevention seminars and conduct follow-ups with victims of crime.

Whether you want to learn new skills, are considering joining the Calgary Police Service or just want to help out, volunteering makes a difference in your life and your community.

To volunteer you must:

- be a minimum of 18 years of age
- have Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status
- have no criminal convictions for which a

pardon has not been granted

- have good written and verbal communication skills

For more information, please contact Constable Cole at 567-6200 in the District 2 office, 4506 17 Avenue S.W.

DISTRESS CENTRE VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED



Calgary, AB May 22, 2007- Calgary's exponential growth has many people feeling stressed out over the escalating rent hikes, higher prices at the pumps, and an ever congested transit system and roadways. With the city's growing pains comes the need for Calgarians to lend a listening ear to other Calgarians in crisis. Are you looking for a way to give back to your community? Distress Centre volunteers provide 24 hour phone support for people in crisis.

The Distress Centre provides training; all you need is the will to help. Volunteers experience personal growth through helping, and gain first hand crisis intervention experience. This volunteer position is perfect for many prospective career and education opportunities.

Detailed information is available on the Distress Centre website www.distresscentre.com

For further information on our programs and services, or about volunteering with the Distress Centre please contact Nav Ghali at (403) 266-1634.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Canadian Red Cross needs data entry clerks to process donation information and assist with other clerical duties as necessary. Join a fun, hard-working team that ensures that donations to the Red Cross get to the people who need it the most.

For more information about the please contact Shri Venkatesan at 541-6100 or shri.venkatesan@redcross.ca

HOT WEATHER TIPS FOR PETS - Amba Balu

Dogs and cats are much more susceptible than humans to hot weather related conditions such as dehydration and heat stroke. They have sweat glands only on their paws, and mostly pant to cool themselves. Pets with “pushed-in” faces, like pugs, are especially prone to heat stroke as they cannot cool themselves as efficiently by panting. Heat stroke can be fatal. Dogs and cats can also suffer from sunburn. Here are some important hot weather safety tips:

Never leave your pet alone in a vehicle. Even with a moderate outdoor temperature and open windows, the vehicle can quickly become a furnace. A pet can die within minutes.

Exercise your pet during the cooler parts of the day and never after a meal. Always carry cold water for your pet and allow him to drink frequently—he might be feeling overheated even if you’re not. Soaking your dog’s coat with cool (not cold) water before exercising may help, especially if it’s long-haired.

Make sure your pet is well-conditioned for a particular activity. Be especially sensitive to overweight and old pets.

Never leave your pet standing on hot asphalt—it may burn its paws.

For pets kept in the backyard or in a cat or dog “run,” provide plenty of water and shade. Bring your pet indoors during the hottest part of the day. Never leave your pet on a leash for prolonged periods.

Don’t shave your dog’s hair down to the skin. This takes away sun protection and may cause sunburn.

Heat stroke is an emergency and can occur quickly. Signs are excessive panting, hot skin and dark pink or reddish gums. If these are present, soak your pet in cool water and take him immediately to the nearest veterinarian.



Josiane is a medium-haired, love bug abandoned by her people. She’d happily spend hot days safely inside.

Remember, prevention is key.

The MEOW Foundation is a no-kill cat rescue charity operating in the Calgary area. MEOW has helped thousands of homeless cats since 2000.

 Meow Foundation

www.meowfoundation.com (403) 230-6033

Vehicle Theft on the Increase - Steps you can take to prevent it

Imagine going to retrieve your vehicle from where you had parked it – whether on a street, in a parking lot or even on your own driveway – only to discover it is missing.

For increasing numbers of Calgarians, this isn’t difficult to imagine, as it has happened to them.

Roughly 17 vehicles stolen each day in Calgary are considered ‘theft for transportation,’ enabling thieves to go from ‘point A to point B,’” says Sgt. Tim Dardis of the Calgary Police Service Community Response Unit.

In many cases, these vehicles are found abandoned, often with severe damage. Valuables

are also usually stolen from within vehicles.

“It isn’t just high-end vehicles that are stolen,” says Sgt. Dardis. “Because thieves often look for the easiest way to get where they need to go, any vehicle can be a target.”

Many vehicle-related crimes, including vehicle theft and theft of items from the vehicles are committed to support other criminal activities, such as drug dealing and robberies. Any vehicle is susceptible.

The Calgary Police Service works to reduce auto theft, through initiatives such as the high Enforcement Auto Theft Team (HEATT) as well as efforts from district offices.

There are steps that vehicles owners can take, in order to reduce the risk of theft.

- Do not leave a vehicle running with the keys in the ignition for any length of time, even with the doors locked.

- Never hide a second key in or on the vehicle.
- Always close the windows, lock the doors and pocket the key.
- Park in well-lit and well-traveled areas.
- Take valuables with you or hide them out of sight.
- Use anti-theft measures such as a steering wheel lock, a vehicle immobilizer system or an alarm system.
- Report suspicious activity. If you see suspicious people in or around motor vehicles, call the police.

“With the substantial increase in auto thefts in Calgary, every vehicle owner should take steps to reduce the risk of their vehicles being targeted,” says Sgt. Dardis.

“Every vehicle is at risk of being stolen, and all Calgarians are encouraged to use the appropriate measure in order to reduce this risk.”

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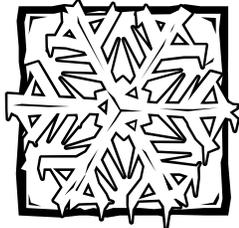
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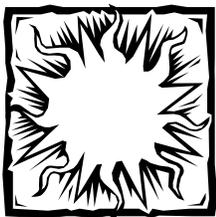
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that generously prints this newsletter.

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