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# THE MISSION STATEMENT



The Newsletter of the Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Association

July/August 2007

## CBMCA Launches Heritage Designation Program

*By Bill Longstaff, for the  
Heritage Committee*

Is your house of historical interest? Or your apartment building? If the answer is yes, you may be interested in a new program initiated by the Community Association's Heritage Committee.

Cliff Bungalow-Mission is one of the oldest and most historic communities in Calgary. It harbours a wealth of heritage treasures deserving of recognition by residents and visitors alike. It encompasses the site of the land grant obtained by the Oblate Fathers in 1883 in the hope of establishing a French-speaking community west of St. Boniface. The area became the village of Rouleauville, named for the Rouleau family which included Charles Borromée Rouleau, a judge of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories, and his brother, Dr. Edouard Hector Rouleau, who helped establish the Holy Cross Hospital. Although the influx of English-speaking settlers via the CPR ended the dream of a French-speaking community, many reminders of that era remain, including St. Mary's Cathedral, Sacred Heart Convent, the Holy Cross Centre and St. Mary's Parish Hall (now the home of the Alberta Ballet). Although the area has long been part of Calgary, it retains its village character with older homes, mature trees, and a variety of shops and restaurants along Fourth Street (our "high street").

The Community Association is committed to retaining the community's heritage and its urban village character. This commitment is reflected in the Association's mission statement which reads: "CBMCA exists to provide leadership, support and resources to protect and enhance the unique and diverse natural, architectural, historic and social environment of the community."

To fulfill this commitment in part, the Heritage Committee has established a Heritage Designation Program which will allow community residents to participate directly in recognizing and celebrating what is special about our neighbourhoods. Residents are invited to nominate their own home, or any other site they consider to be of historical value, for community heritage designation. Proposals will be considered by a jury. If the jury deems a site worthy, the Community Association will offer the owner a handsome plaque to be provided and installed at no cost to the property owner. The plaque is currently being designed and will be illustrated in the next edition of the Statement. Unlike provincial or municipal designation, no legal obligation to maintain the site will be imposed on the owner. The nominator should, nonetheless, attempt to obtain approval of the site's owner.

Nominations may be made by any resident of Cliff Bungalow-Mission. Sites may be man-made or natural (the Big Poplar on 20th Avenue will almost certainly be nominated). If you have a site in mind, submit it to: The Heritage Committee  
Cliff Bungalow-Mission  
Community Association  
#462, 1919B – 4th Street SW  
Calgary AB T2S 1W4

Include a description, explain why you think your nomination is deserving, and provide any information you have that may help the jury, i.e. date built, the builder or architect, architectural value, historical connections, etc. For more information, call 246-3878 or email [marilynwilliams@shaw.ca](mailto:marilynwilliams@shaw.ca).

We live in a very special place. This is an opportunity for us to show our appreciation of its charm, its character and its history. 🏡

## What does \$75 buy these days?

A tank of gas for a mid-size car; one hockey ticket; one concert ticket, ONE good NIKE running shoe (honest!), five packs of cigarettes, a good dinner for two, one bottle of vintage, or half-a-dozen bottles of mid-price wine;

OR

A fun-filled, delicious, entertaining community evening – **Essence of Mission** – spent with your neighbours, while supporting riverbank improvement features which will benefit all of us, as well as Calgary visitors to our unique neighbourhood!

– See event poster and ticket ordering instruction inside! –

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## THE MISSION STATEMENT

July/August 2007

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## LETTERS

### Reflection on Two Way Streets Approved

After doing half a year of reflecting and observing (nothing compared to the 17 year battle), I would like to extend my thanks also to all the volunteers and to those who supported our petitions for two-way streets in our community.

My family and I extend our sincerest thanks to everyone that helped make this change possible.

Cliff Bungalow and Mission are now a single, liveable community and not two neighbour-

hoods divided by inner city speedways. Our community is way cool as the kids would say!

What is next on our slate of continuous community improvement....ridding us of the scourge of Shopper's and other suburban monstrosities? Where's the community gauntlet?

Special thanks goes to Bob Lang for keeping us informed of where we could voice our support for this improvement. 🍄

Auvo Wahlberg



Michelle Hebert

**Friendly Frogs Add Character to 4th Street**  
The three 10 foot high frogs lounging on a steel bench was created by Peter Smith in 1994. The frogs are constructed of hand-welded steel and sheet metal, then painted with urethane.

"I have often used frogs metaphorically. In this place, these frogs are hanging out. Because of their size, they are able to dominate a frog/human interaction - who is watching

whom? However, these amphibians are friendly. They may even make room on the bench for a stranger to shoot the breeze."

Peter Smith, a resident of Calgary, studied at the Alberta College of Art where he received the Forth Year Graduates award in 1972. He has exhibited in solo and group shows throughout Alberta and BC and has commissioned works in Calgary and Vancouver. 🍄

- Fourth Street Art Walk brochure

### Tell us what you think

If you have comments on the Newsletter or on issues affecting our community, we want to hear from you! Write to the Editor, Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Association, 462, 1919B-4th Street SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1W4, or e-mail us at editor.cbmca@hotmail.com. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Feature articles must be no longer than 600 words.



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Check out these local businesses serving Cliff-Bungalow Mission

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Michelle Hebert

## Community Activity at the Lilac Festival

By Michelle Hebert

I enjoyed my second Lilac Festival living in this community. Judging by the size of the crowds, the festival was as popular as ever. There was such a crush of people in front of the beach volleyball court at Original Joe's, I came to a complete stand still. I imagine there were other bottlenecks down 4th Street but I stopped at the community tents in the parking lot at 21st Avenue.

The Community Association hosted a tent that gave away free historical walking tour booklets to interested people. If you missed getting a booklet, make sure to join Rick and Marilyn Williams August 3rd when they host an historical walking tour in this community on August 3rd. See the "In Brief" section for more details.

Bob Lang, Marilyn, Rick and others in the community provided information and made available a petition urging the legislative assembly to place a temporary limit of ten per cent on the amount that rent may be increased and prevent landlords from avoiding the one year notice requirement for condominium conversions by forcing tenants to leave due to unreasonable rent increases. There was quite a lot of interest and support for this initiative and at last count, I believe there were 11 or 12 full pages of signatures.

Good news - the owners of the apartment building at 515 - 23rd Avenue have notified

their tenants that the planned condo conversion has been put on hold for a year and the tenants can stay another year at reasonable rents. Perhaps the petition and community outcry had something to do with their decision.

Eilish Hiebert and a team of volunteers, including Dan Dankewich, Murray Hiebert, David Couroux, Olive Lukey, John Gilpin, Miriam Palomino, Sharon Cirankewitch, Paul Varga staffed a Riverbank Pathway Committee tent and disseminated information about this project. In particular, they spread the word about the September 22nd fundraiser that sounds like it's going to be extremely well organized and a ton of fun.

They have retained Loose Moose Theatre to provide the entertainment and I can attest to their exceptionally funny skits. The best part is that they are going to focus their skits on our community and the riverbank in particular. That makes all of us in the community "insiders" and I'm sure we'll all enjoy the performance as well as an excellent meal. A Mountie poet is also coming to participate in a re-enactment of the area's history. See elsewhere in this issue further details.

Dave, from Books on 4th, members of his band, the Downstairs Band, plus some guest musicians provided excellent entertainment. Also, Adele and the Kruisers attracted a crowd as they played the blues in the afternoon.



Michelle Hebert



Rick Williams

Fortunately, the rain held off until the festival was winding down and we were able to pack everything up while it was still dry. It was great to see some of our neighbours and chat with people who have moved from this community but come back to visit. 🍷

**Images clockwise from top left:**

- The morning parade kicked off the 18th annual Lilac Festival.
- Adele and the Kruisers jazzed up the audience.
- Marilyn Williams inside the CBMCA tent.

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# What is This Neighbourhood We Live In?

By Peter Atkinson

So what happens to your beloved neighborhood when the people who make it what it is, get forced out and can't afford to live there anymore? It seems that this past spring has been full of people I know being forced out of Cliff Bungalow/Mission because of condo conversions and expensive housing prices. People who have lived here for years are suddenly being told that their rent is increasing to an astronomical amount but that they do have the option to leave if they like. The condo conversion syndrome has surfaced repeatedly in the news in the past months but I am interested in talking about what developers are doing about community.

Calgary is a town that has always relied on the conservative ideals that one fends for themselves; however, these conservative ideals of ever escalating economic growth are starting to leave behind a lot of the other values that many Calgarians, I hope, deem to be important: community, diversity, culture. In a city that is driven by economics, how do you convince a developer that making space affordable to artists, musicians, so that interesting, eclectic shops can flourish on a street, rather than just places like Shoppers Drug Mart and Flight Centers who can afford their markup? How do you convince cities, and institutions that spending money on quality architecture actually makes a difference to the way people live and enjoy their communities? Is it the developers' responsibility at all to worry about these issues, or should they just make their money and move on to the next project?

One of the ways that Cliff Bungalow Mission has kept its diversity to date has been through some older rental units within the community. However, once these rental units start to be converted to condos, our low end or 'affordable' house stock diminishes. Currently, there are few developments throughout the city that incorporate affordable housing into their new development plans, which makes the eclectic nature of both Mission and Cliff Bungalow slated for boom time redevelopment into something slick and freshly packaged and more expensive than most of the interesting people who live in our streets can afford. Apparently, it is becoming more and more difficult to understand that after this boom tapers that we need to like the city we have created for ourselves, not just the dollars that were created and spent.

While there is quite a bit of buy and sell going on in the neighborhood, fortunately there are a few pockets starting to pop up that are helping to ensure some of our street life and interesting neighbors are not always displaced by superblocks and superstores. At the base of the Europe Apartments on 19th Avenue and 4th Street a cool little shop has opened called Rumors. It's a shoe and clothing store that caters to the post baby boomer generation, as if to remind the community that the demographic in this neighborhood includes 30.3 per cent and 28 per cent 25 to 34 year olds in Cliff Bungalow and Mission respectively, the largest demographic in each community, followed by the 35 to 44 year olds. A little to the north, across 18th Avenue from Lululemon in the Hillsboro Tower, a restaurant has started renovations and has a Development Permit Application in for an extensive redesign of their patio, making it more open and active, including two fireplaces. Initially called BLVD, this development could potentially bring some fresh life to the North of 4th Street, however, the Community Association wants to make sure that the establishments respects the character of 4th and its immediate neighbors.

Working back to the south, the City has sided with the Community Association's recommendation to use a "T" intersection on the strategic site between 20th and 21st. This type of decision has the community's long-term future in mind and is an important step to making sure those developments fit within the city and that the city not reshape itself to fit a developer's agenda. Sincere thanks to Madeleine King on this one as she was instrumental in getting the vari-

ous city departments and the developers to work through a solution that kept the community's best interest at heart.

While it was sad to see Mission Cycle close its doors, the Community Association has met with a local consultant who is looking to reopen the Mission Cycle building as a restaurant, preserving the character building for reuse. The Community Association was supportive of this endeavor, anticipating that this establishment will contribute to the vitality of 4th.

Within the mass development of both of the communities, these projects are ones that could see a large transformation to the character of 4th. It becomes imperative to continue to battle to maintain the values that are true to the neighborhood, especially with large developments. These large developments are the ones that shape the neighborhood and if the community does not actively tell them what they want then communities are simply left with what they have been given.

We need to actively seek out our politicians and let them know we want our older buildings protected, that we want affordable housing built in to our community with every development, and we are concerned about our environment and how the buildings that are being built affect the earth both locally and globally.

It becomes up to the community to generate a voice. It becomes up to you to have a conversation with the people around you. What are your thoughts? What are your ideas? 🍷

## Calgary on the Elbow – 75 Years Later

This is the name of a Sunday September 23rd Heritage Park Water Workshop, presented by John Gilpin, author and water historian, designed and organized by CBMCA's Eilish Hiebert, and facilitated by consultant George Campbell.

First Nations Guest speaker Tony Starlight will join John Gilpin, as well as Robin McLeod\* from S2G.

You will see some great DVD footage, enjoy an S.S. Moynie paddle-steamer overview tour, and a short walking tour of Heritage Park's Sam Livingstone house (land used

for reservoir); You will learn what an amazing difference the Glenmore Dam has made to lives of ordinary Calgary citizens, all the way along the river to where we live today!

To register for this free workshop, e-mail [jgilpin@telusplanet.net](mailto:jgilpin@telusplanet.net), or phone 245-0551. Please wear sturdy walking shoes, and dress for the weather September 23rd!

\*Robin's original 'citizen scientist' workshop, Glenmore Dam to Stanley Park Preservation Society, took place in the Spring, due to funding timelines. Learn more at this workshop about water testing! 🍷

# It's All About... Community!

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We understand the importance of community - it's not just a place where you shovel snow, and hang your hat at the end of a day. It's where you live. Where your children grow up. Where you are surrounded by friends and neighbours.

And where you live makes an enormous difference. It's a wonderful thing when you are surrounded by caring, supportive neighbours in an active community.

Your Community Association plays an important role too! They put on special events and programs for residents of all ages, promote active living and recreation, work towards the improvement of the community.

### Isn't it time to get involved?

- Join the board.
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## THE URBAN LANDSCAPE

# A Tree is a Long Term Plan

By Nancy Tice

William Pearce, an early Calgary pioneer, was a land surveyor with a keen interest in trees. Pearce envisioned transforming Calgary's stark prairie landscape into a city of trees. The first documented public boulevard tree planting took place along Atlantic Avenue in Inglewood under his direction in 1895. Back then it cost a grand total of \$12 to plant 80 trees.

Early pioneer families often arrived in Calgary with a living memory of home tucked in with their belongings. Many a hardy rose or lilac cutting survived the journey west poked into a potato, waiting for the chance to take root in unfamiliar soil. Fragrant shrubs such as lilacs were planted near porches and entry doors, a tradition which remains visible in Cliff Bungalow-Mission today. In 1899, Manitoba maples were imported to Calgary from Brandon and made available to residents yearning for shade from the prairie's hot, summer sunshine. In 1905, the CPR brought in spruce trees from the mountains and sold them for ten cents each. The greening of Calgary had begun.

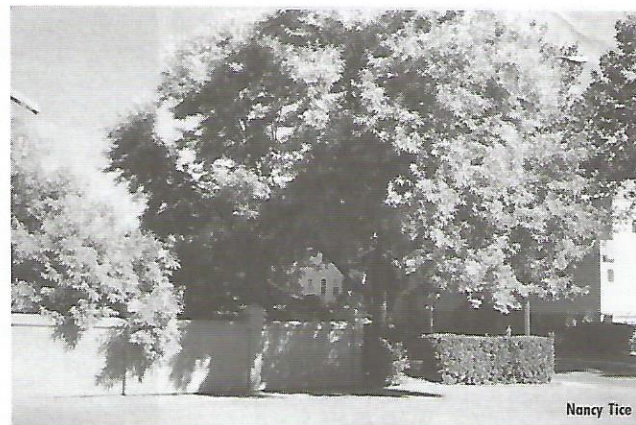
Public boulevard tree planting closely followed the desire of residents to enhance their own, private properties with trees, shrubs and gardens. William Reader, Superintendent of Parks from 1913 to 1942, made an enormous impact on Calgary's landscape. He initiated the installation of formalized boulevards planted with trees, and designed or improved most of the parks in what we now refer to as the inner-city. By late 1914, boulevards in Mission had been

planted with trees, and boulevard planting in Cliff Bungalow was partially complete.

Archival files contain several letters from irate Mission homeowners of that era already demanding replacement trees for those damaged by horse-drawn wagons, sewer installation, and other construction activities – sound familiar? Except for the horse-drawn wagons, some things never change. Regardless of the fate of individual trees, the traditional boulevard planting pattern had been established and still endures today. And a surprising number of the original boulevard trees have thrived for nearly a century in an increasingly urbanized environment.

The Alberta Heritage Tree Foundation hopes to gently remind us that trees share our history. The Foundation began to request nominations for (non-statutory) provincial heritage tree status in 2006. Though trees may be worthy of nomination for a variety of reasons, it is often the oldest, largest trees which inspire us to fill out a nomination form. Heritage tree plaques will begin to appear in Calgary later this season and there will be several in Cliff Bungalow-Mission. Both neighbourhoods are still graced by lovely trees and some of them date to William Reader's original boulevard plantings of 1914-1915.

When you notice a plaque, take a moment to consider the importance of trees in our lives, and think kindly of the people who



The Russian olive tree with silver leaves is a well known local landmark along 5th Street SW.

planted them. Arborists who just plain love trees will often say the best time to plant a tree was yesterday. The sooner a tree is planted, the sooner it will begin to provide the many well-documented benefits accruing to a community from mature tree canopy. Every magnificent tree was once a frail sapling, and 90-year-old trees are mere teenagers in the world of freedom.

Our public boulevard trees are threatened by petty vandalism, careless driving, frenetic redevelopment activities, and life cycle issues – aging public trees are removed when they become structurally unsound. The key to retaining the grand tradition of tree-lined streets and avenues within Cliff Bungalow-Mission lies in ensuring that replacement trees are provided, and that healthy trees are treated with respect, nurtured, and protected from damage.

A tree is a long term plan and the best time to begin to show appreciation and respect for the urban forest was yesterday. If you're already concerned about the future of the urban forest in Cliff-Bungalow-Mission it's not a moment too soon to hug a tree, plant a tree, report violations of the public tree protection bylaw, join the Neighbour Woods stewardship initiative, and make sure Ward 8 Alderman Madeleine King knows you're in favour of tree-lined streetscapes.

For more information about the Alberta Heritage Tree Foundation, visit their website: [www.heritagetreefoundation.com](http://www.heritagetreefoundation.com).



## Order Your Tickets Today for Essence of Mission

To order tickets for Saturday 22nd September\* Riverbank enhancement community fundraising food and entertainment event (see poster this issue), please make cheques are payable (\$75 per person) to "Parks Foundation, Calgary".

Please make sure you put in the subject line: "September 22nd/07 Riverbank Fundraising Dinner" – write small to fit all this into those little cheque lines!

Then snail-mail your cheque to:  
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#15, 101 – 25th Avenue SW

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We will mail your tickets to your cheque address, where Parks Foundation will also mail your tax receipt (unless you instruct us otherwise).

Please note: we are limiting tickets to 80, due to fire codes for CBMCA hall.

Order your tickets today!

\*We booked the date unaware that it is Yom Kippur. We apologize for this oversight!

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## IN BRIEF

### Cliff Bungalow-Mission Historical Walking Tour

Join us August 3rd at 7:00 pm.

The tour will take about two hours and begins in Cliff Bungalow School, a municipal heritage property at 2201 Cliff Street SW, east entrance.

Did you know that Mission was once a village named Rouleauville? That the original St. Mary's Cathedral was demolished due to structural weaknesses? Or that Cliff Bungalow Park was once a campground used by the Tsuu T'ina people when they visited Calgary? Some pretty cool people lived here, too – from rock stars to premiers.

Join Rick and Marilyn Williams to learn about this and more; they will draw from the excellent walking tour of James Bowman, a local resident and archivist with the Glenbow.

### Water Savings for Calgary residents

Calgarians have one of the best water systems in North America, with a seemingly plentiful supply from the Bow and Elbow rivers. However, several factors are putting increasing pressure on our water resources.

As Calgary's population grows, we use more water and water treatment services. Demand for water from other municipal, recreational, industrial, and agricultural users upstream and downstream from Calgary is also growing.

While demand increases, there are many stresses on our water source in the Bow and Elbow watersheds. Climate change may also cause lower water levels in the future. The combination of increasing demand and decreasing supply means Calgarians can no longer take water for granted.

The good news is that each of us can make a real difference by making small changes in our daily activities. Read on to find water conservation tips that help us preserve – drop by drop – the fresh water that we rely on every day.

#### The dirt on dishes...

- Run the dishwasher only when it's full.
- Scrape instead of pre-rinsing your dishes before loading your dishwasher.
- If you only have a few dishes to do, use your sink and clean them the old-fashioned way.
- Soak tough-to-clean pots and pans over-

night, instead of letting the water run while you scrape them.

#### Cook conservatively

- Wash fruits and vegetables in a bowl or basin using a vegetable brush instead of letting the water run.
- Choose the proper size pans for cooking. Large pans require more cooking water than may be necessary.
- Defrost your food in the refrigerator instead of in a pan of water on the counter or in the sink.

#### Quench a thirst

- Chill your drinking water in the fridge instead of running the faucet until the water is cold.
- Use recycled water to treat your plants. Water left from boiled eggs, teakettles and washed vegetables are all good sources.
- Fertilize your plants with the water from your fish tank after cleaning it. They will love the rich nitrogen and phosphorous.

See more information at [www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca).

### Electronics Recycling

Did you know that you can recycle your old televisions (all sizes), laptop and desktop computers, printers, and computer monitors? These electronics contain chemicals and heavy metals that are harmful to the environment if buried in the ground, so recycling is the best way to dispose of them.

The City has several permanent recycling depots including those located at: 2405 MacLeod Trail SW; and the Chinook Staples located at 321 – 61st Avenue SW. ♻️

## Memorial Park Library

Register for these free programs in person, by phone at 260-2600, or online at [www.calgarypubliclibrary.com](http://www.calgarypubliclibrary.com). A valid Calgary Public Library card is required.

#### Author Readings

The Intrepid Explorers by Ernie Lakusta. Enjoy the explorations of James Hector in the Canadian Rockies. Held in conjunction with the annual Historic Calgary Week. Tuesday, July 31st, 7:00 to 8:30 pm. No registration required.

#### 'Tents to Towers' in Photographs by Doug Coats

An illustrated history of Calgary. Held in conjunction with the annual Historic Calgary Week. Thursday, August 2nd, 7:00 to 8:30 pm. No registration required.

#### ESL Conversation Club

New Canadians with intermediate ESL skills can practice English listening and speaking in small groups. Mondays July 9th to August 20th, 2:30 to 4:30 pm.

#### For Kids... Summer Reading Adventure – Pirate Pursuit!

Sail the high seas of adventure by joining the Calgary Co-op's Summer Reading Adventure. Collect a new chapter every two weeks, read and win prizes!

#### Wireless Internet Access

Calgary Public Library now offers wireless Internet Access. All you need is your own valid library card and a laptop running Windows XP equipped with a wireless network card. ♻️

### Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Association

## Membership Form



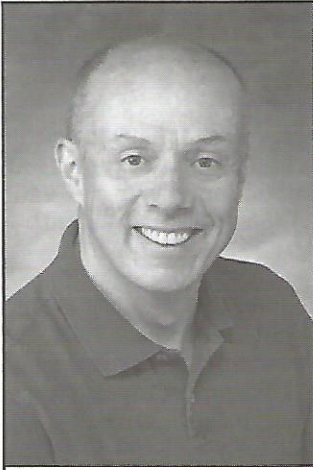
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- Single (\$5)       Full (residents only)      Memberships are valid until the  
 Family (\$10)       Associate      next Annual General Meeting

Please send form and cheque payable to CBMCA to:  
462, 1919B-4th Street SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1W4



# Report from Dave Taylor MLA

Calgary Currie Constituency

2108-B 33rd Avenue S.W.

Ph: 246-4794 / Fax: 686-1543

calgary.currie@assembly.ab.ca

The spring session of the Legislature has come to a close. While Edmonton's a lovely place to visit, I'm glad to be back home in Calgary and am

looking forward to seeing as many of my constituents as possible. It was great to see so many of you at the 4th Street Lilac Festival this year. I spent the day there with Kevin Taft, Leader of the Alberta Liberal Caucus and we were delighted to hear such great feedback on a range of issues. I have been listening to you and taking your concerns up to Edmonton to ensure your voice is heard.

Throughout the spring session, I dedicated my time in the Legislature to doing my best to keep the priorities and issues that are important to you at the top of the provincial agenda. Of course, getting the Stelmach government to *actually do something* about your concerns is another issue entirely. We've had some success, but the fact remains that the pressures affecting our communities have not been properly addressed by the Conservatives.

In this year's budget, Stelmach poured \$285 million into affordable housing but there's no clear plan for putting that money to work. Without a plan, a year from now that money will be spent and we'll have nothing to show for it. Everybody needs a home, and our strategy will allow renters to keep a roof over their heads, while making real strides to create a sustainable supply of new affordable housing. We can solve the affordable housing crisis, but it takes money wisely spent *plus* the willingness to change bad laws *plus* leadership. I will continue to help those

seeking affordable housing and press the government on this crucial issue.

Calgary is not a city that will settle for mediocre solutions to complex problems. Whether it's roads, schools, health care, recreation, environmental protection, public transit, police and emergency services, housing, neighbourhood preservation or anything else that goes into making a great city, we are an innovative people who want the Province of Alberta to share our vision and grant us the flexibility to get there.

I would like to extend congratulations to Craig Cheffins who won the By-election on June 12th and will represent the constituents of Calgary-Elbow. As a neighbouring constituency, Calgary-Elbow faces some of the same issues and concerns that we do, and I am looking forward to working with Craig as a part of a growing Alberta Liberal Caucus in Calgary.

I am always happy to receive invitations to community events, so please keep me informed and I will do my best to attend. I would also like to take this time to invite everybody out to our **Annual Stampede Breakfast on Tuesday July 10, 2007 between 8:30 am to 10:30 am in the Marda Loop Centre at 33rd Avenue and 20th Street SW.** For more information, please contact my office at 246-4794. I look forward to seeing you all there.

**Dave Taylor MLA**  
**Calgary Currie Constituency**



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## River Walks Sunday afternoons in July and August

Don't forget to join us on July 22nd and August 19th, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm for free Sunday river interpretive walks. Your summer visitors are also welcome! Meet at Mission Bridge at 2:00 pm.

## Your Riverbank Musings to Shape Plaque Information

Next time you're walking along the Mission 26th Avenue Elbow River Path, here's a question for you: "When you look out over the river and area, what do you wonder about? What kind of questions come to your mind about this timeless river?"

Your question or ponderings will help shape the information that goes on plaques along the renovated 26th Avenue pathway. If you would just like to wander along the river by yourself, and respond by e-mail, at your leisure, we'd love to hear from you at [elbowriverbank@yahoo.com](mailto:elbowriverbank@yahoo.com), or snail mail your response to this newsletter address inside front cover (*Attn. Riverbank Question*). Thanks! We look forward to hearing from you. 🐾



Above: Paul Varga, Environment Director, and Claudia joined volunteers to clean up the riverbank on May 6th.

Below: Some Riverbank volunteers were active on Earth Day: Miriam Palomino, Eilish Hiebert, Kathryn Gillis, Bill Longstaff, Sharon Cirankewitch and Robin McLeod.



## Fall Adult River Contest

Get your thinking caps on for our contest to be announced in our September/October Mission Statement. Do you have a story to tell about the importance of the Elbow River in our community: past, present, future; in prose, or photo (with story caption)?

A concurrent contest for local schools will be launched in June, run by volunteer Pat McCurry, working with author/historian John Gilpin.

If you have some ideas percolating, this is your chance to develop them! You will be eligible for prizes; to attend the Display and Awards Party; and the chance to be published in local media and possibly to contribute to an upcoming book (John Gilpin).

If you are interested in becoming a jury member to assess either school (four age categories) or community entries (18 - 98 years old!) you can do this work at home. Please e-mail [elbowriverbank@yahoo.com](mailto:elbowriverbank@yahoo.com). Just remember that you can't judge your own entry! 🐾

# ESSENCE OF Mission

A RIVERBANK PROMENADE FUNDRAISING EVENT

Featuring 4TH STREET RESTAURANT CUISINE

"TIME TRAVEL THROUGH THE CLIFF BUNGALOW & MISSION AREA"

Featuring LOOSE MOOSE THEATRE (Plus... a Mountie & local personalities!)

Saturday, September 22nd 2007 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Cliff Bungalow Community Association Hall

2201 Cliff St. SW (access from 5 St. & 22nd Ave. S.W.)

Tickets \$75 (\$50 tax receipt)

(Sliding scale for low-income. Complimentary ticket if you volunteer as a server or entertainer!)

For tickets  
& information:  
[elbowriverbank@yahoo.com](mailto:elbowriverbank@yahoo.com)  
245-9587 / 252-9686

Fundraising for the 26 Ave.  
Mission Historic River Path  
Promenade Project

We are grateful for City of Calgary commitment to cover most costs of the project. This fundraising is to cover extra costs of historic and other features designed to make the pathway unique to our community & residents in order to revive citizen interest in a vibrant part of our community, the Elbow River.



Lee Richardson

Member of Parliament Calgary Centre

## 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.

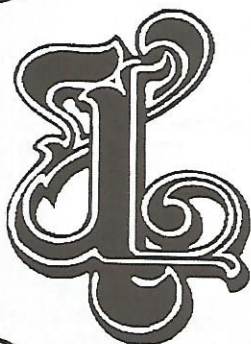
The Taxpayers Bill of Rights is another example of Canada's New Government getting things done, for all of us. The complete list of rights can be found online at [www.cra.gc.ca](http://www.cra.gc.ca).

### Contact me with your comments...

If you have an issue or event you would like to share, please contact us.

Our address is: Suite 105, 1410 11th Avenue S.W., Calgary, T3C 0M8 or phone (403) 244-1880

Our email address is [Richardson.L@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Richardson.L@parl.gc.ca) or visit our Web site at [www.leerichardson.ca](http://www.leerichardson.ca)



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# A Vegetarian's Mission

By Jana Lait

There are many reasons why I love 4th Street; one of the reasons is some of my favourite restaurants are just outside my door. As someone who doesn't eat meat, I like places that know how to treat a vegetarian right. If you're a vegetarian, or looking to take a break from meat, here are my recommendations of where and where not to go.

The range of international cuisine in the area makes avoiding meat easy, as most of the world isn't as meat-obsessed as North America. For fantastic Mediterranean, Aida's is the place. Make sure to book a reservation because this cozy spot is always busy. Rajdoot does a vegetarian dinner-for-one that I enjoy, but I find their buffet choices not quite as tasty. Hana Sushi, Towa Sushi, and Sushi Kawa are a vegetarian's dream. Start out with miso soup and then dig into the vegetarian rolls. All three restaurants have great rolls with a variety of veggies packed in, but even a few cucumber and avocado rolls are satisfying. Try the tempura vegetables (these are not vegan as there is egg in the batter). My favourite of the three Japanese restaurants is Sushi Kawa, but they're all solid.

Earl's has a noodle dish called Hunan Kung Pao that I love, but I try not to go there because the patio sends horrible music down my street. My neighbors and I often wonder why this place is so busy – do the patrons actually like listening to Vanilla Ice?

For lighter fare, The Purple Perk has yummy and hearty salads, sandwiches, and wraps. The chickpea salad is my favourite. Le Chien Chaud has a vegetarian hot dog that is much better than the one at their 17th Avenue competitor, and their toppings are top-notch.

For the pub situation, The Wildwood has fantastic food made from scratch with lots of non-meat choices. The vegetarian pasta dish is probably the best pasta I've ever had. Original Joe's has a few ho-hum options but don't go out of your way for them. The Joyce needs to bring back their portabella mushroom burger as their menu comes up short in the non-meat department. (The potato nachos don't cut it).

Overall, 4th Street is a great place for vegetarians and for anyone who wants to give their arteries, the planet, and the animals a break by enjoying a meat-free meal. 🌱

## HERITAGE HIGHLIGHT



### Marilyn Manor (ca. 1945) 2106 Cliff Street SW

by Jim Bowman

Marilyn Manor provides an example of post-World War II architecture in Cliff Bungalow. The clean lines, flat roof and glass block windows are typical of the style that became popular at that time. It was first owned by Felix George Lennon, who left Durham, England at age thirteen. By the time he bought this property, Lennon had worked his way up to become manager of Renfrew Motors Ltd. and a member of the Calgary Petroleum Club. 🏠



### Flowers on the Elbow River

Photographer  
Lucille Tobey

Do you have  
a view of Cliff  
Bungalow-  
Mission that  
you'd like to  
share?

Send your photo by  
e-mail to  
editor.cbmca@  
hotmail.com.  
Include a description of  
what is in the photo and  
a brief explanation of  
why it is noteworthy.

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In influencing how your  
community develops  
into the future?

If the answer is yes, opportunities  
are available. Join the  
Community Association and  
express your interest. See the  
application form on page 11.

Note: The editor's e-mail address  
has changed! If you're interested  
writing an article or have questions  
about The Mission Statement,  
contact Michelle Hebert at  
editor.cbmca@hotmail.com.

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# Summer Season Brings Illegal Activity to Area Parks

By Rick Williams

Summer is here and the camping season is upon us. Unfortunately for residents of Mission and Cliff Bungalow the advent of warmer weather means our riverbanks and natural area parks will once again become makeshift campgrounds for the ever-growing number of homeless and displaced souls of the inner city. With the increase in transient traffic comes an increase in property crime, vandalism and crimes of opportunity. Natural area parks are especially inviting in the warm weather and can quickly

become filled with garbage, sleeping bags, pornography, needles and worse. The escarpment on the western edge of Cliff Bungalow is usually one of the hardest hit. One homeless man I talked to last fall said he doesn't go there anymore because it's too crowded.

In the escarpment area, the heavy rains and associated flooding of two years ago devastated soil slumps and made slopes unstable which has caused the area to be impossible to navigate. Many of the small poplars and bushes are leaning precariously and large trees are in danger of falling. What used to be a beautiful pathway frequently used by joggers, bikers and dog walkers is now an impenetrable mess.

As a result it has created an ideal habitat for campers, drug deals and drinking parties. An obvious solution would be to selectively clear the brush in the area to open the slope to Cliff Street and re-establish the pathway system, in much the same way that the escarpment in Sunnyside has been maintained. The City is reluctant to do this, especially in light of pending litigation with the residents above. Their rear properties are not so slowly sliding down the bank



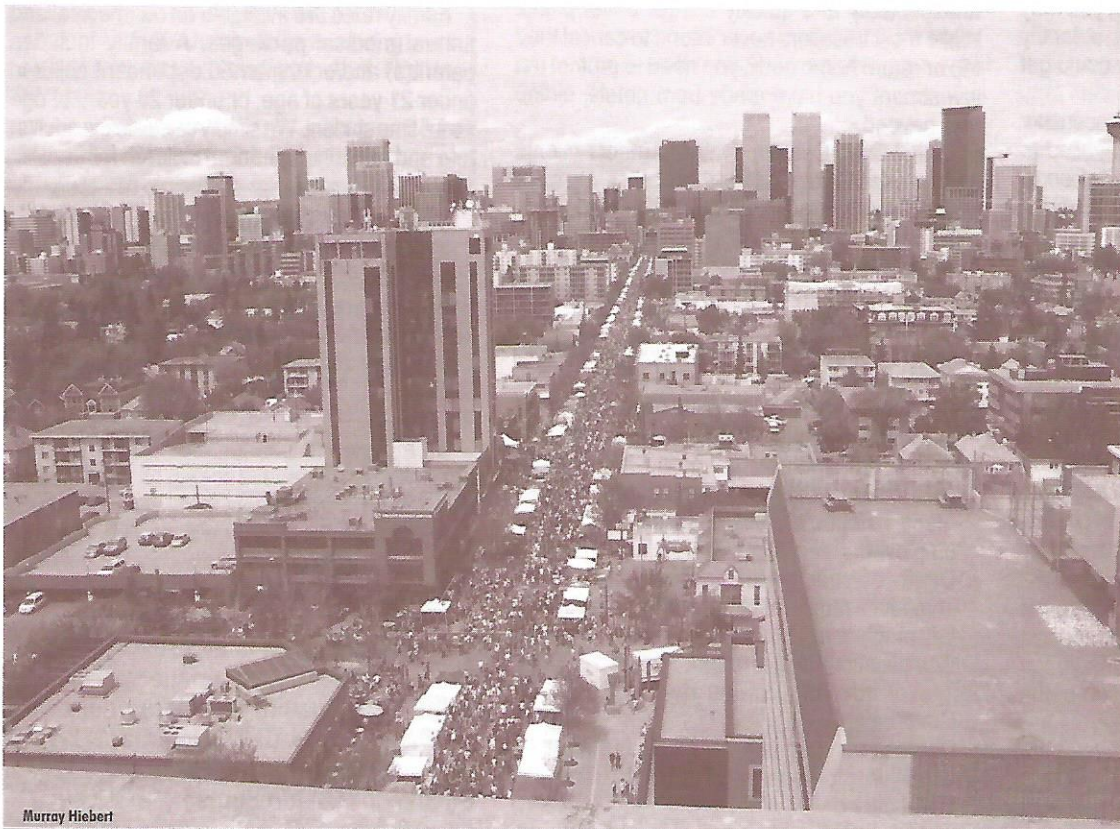
**Evidence of campsites in a community public area.**

into our neighbourhood. In the meantime, the residents of Cliff Bungalow and Mission will do their best to keep our river and parks system safe for everyone. If you see any illegal activity or evidence of camping, call it in to the Police non-emergency line at 266-1234 or call 3-1-1. The Parks department and Alderman King can also be reached through the 3-1-1 line.

On a final note, it will be interesting to observe the impact that increased policing of the downtown and Beltline area has on our community this season. The Calgary Police Service is aware that there will be a trickle down effect on near city neighbourhoods and is prepared to respond to illegal activity reported by residents. The trick is getting residents to call it in. 🐾



**Erosion problems contribute to the difficulties in cleaning up the escarpment area.**



**A warm sunny day at the Lilac Festival brought large crowds to 4th Street.**

Murray Hiebert

# UNIGLOBE® Custom Travel

## Travel Insurance – Don't Leave Home Without It!

At UNIGLOBE Custom Travel we offer a wide range of travel insurance options that cover individuals or families, and our policies can be purchased separately or as part of a travel package.

Whether you travel near or far, it is important to ensure you are always protected for the unexpected. Emergency medical situations, trip cancellation or interruption expenses, and loss or damage to your personal property or baggage, can happen anywhere.

We are happy to provide you with an overview of some of our travel insurance options in order to help you and your family stay protected.

### Travelling Within Canada Insurance

When packing up the kids for the annual family trip, it's easy to forget some of the small but important things. You may think about travel insurance for a vacation to Europe or the Caribbean, but it may not cross your mind when you are travelling within Canada. In fact many people believe that their provincial health care plan will fully protect them wherever they are travelling within Canada.

The unfortunate reality is; your provincial health care plan has limitations. You may need emergency medical assistance. Emergency expenses generally **not** covered by government health plans include ambulance services, x-rays, emergency dental treatments and more. Even when you are travelling within Canada, you may need to cancel and return home for a family emergency, or your personal property could get damaged or lost.

Take into account the following real life scenario:

*Alan Brown, a Toronto resident, travelled to Banff to enjoy a week of skiing recently with friends. On the third day Alan lost his footing and collided with a tree. At the local hospital, he was found to have three broken ribs and a serious back injury. Alan had to undergo immediate rehabilitative treatment for his spinal injury.*

**Alan's Classic Medical Policy - \$24. Alan's Total Claim \$26,360 paid entirely by RBC insurance.** Cost of unused hotel and prepaid lift tickets, ground ambulance, phone calls home, transport of Alan's family to his bedside, air ambulance with physician escort from Calgary to Toronto.

### Emergency Medical Insurance

Emergency medical situations happen – even on a short trip. The cost of medical services can be very high, and Canadian health insurance plans typically cover only a small portion of the costs. Without insurance coverage you are responsible for paying any medical costs you incur on your own, and that can be very expensive.

*When Morton and Arlene Biback left on their*

*trip to Mexico, they were looking forward to a relaxing vacation. While in Mexico, Mr. Biback suffered a heart attack. 'The hotel doctor wanted to take my husband to San Antonio, but wanted \$16,000 US up front – and I don't exactly carry that kind of money around with me,' said Mrs. Biback. 'I was in a strange country and did not know the language and it was very scary – my husband was having a heart attack and I did not know what to do.' 'When I remembered we had insurance and I called RBC Insurance it was like finding a lifeline. The people were amazing.' RBC Insurance arranged to have Mr. Biback transported to a certified hospital in Guadalajara, where he had emergency surgery; covered the full cost of the procedure and hospital stay; covered the accommodation and transportation for Mrs. Biback, and helped the family deal with the hospital's administration, and paid for the medical expenses and air ambulance up front.*

**Mr. Biback's Deluxe Package Policy: \$88.00. Mr. Biback's total claim \$57,000 paid entirely by RBC insurance.** Medical expenses \$37,000, air ambulance \$18,000 and subsistence allowance and expenses \$2000.

### Cancellation and Interruption Insurance

No matter how carefully you plan your trip, illness, accidents and family emergencies occur unexpectedly and quickly disrupt travel plans. While most travellers never intend to cancel their trip or return home early, you need to protect the investment you have made from hotels, airline and beyond.

UNIGLOBE Custom Travel protects clients against expensive penalties that occur if you have to cancel your travel plans due to an insurable risk. This type of insurance also provides coverage, in the event travellers have to interrupt their trip and return early or stay longer, due to a covered situation.

Some commonly covered risks include, but are not limited to:

- Emergency medical condition of an immediate family member (includes spouse, parent / step-parent, grandparent, grandchild, in-law, step-child, brother / sister / step-siblings, aunt / uncle, niece / nephew), business partner or key employee.
- Death of your travelling companion, their immediate family member, business partner or key employee.
- Complications due to pregnancy
- Travel advisory issued by the Canadian Government
- Delay of a scheduled carrier due to weather conditions, for a period of at least 30% of the travel period

*Clare Thomson was looking forward to a trip to Disneyland with her son and his family. Two days before the trip her grandson fell ill and was admitted to hospital. He was unable to travel and Clare had to cancel the entire trip.*

**Claire's Non Medical – Trip Cancellation Policy: \$94. Claire's total claim \$6983 paid entirely by RBC insurance.**

### Deluxe Package Insurance

Our Deluxe Package insurance combines the most comprehensive protection with emergency medical coverage, cancellation and interruption insurance for over 40 specified risks, baggage damage and loss coverage, and flight and travel accident insurance.

### Annual Plans

Annual Plans are available for frequent travellers who make several trips a year out of province or outside of Canada. We are able to provide insurance for an unlimited number of trips within a twelve month period. Simply let us know the length of your average trip. Our annual plans provide you with the peace of mind knowing that you are covered every time you travel.

*Family of Four – 2 adults – ages 36 and 42, children ages 10, 7 and 5. – Total: \$100*

### Family Plans

Family rates are available on our medical and annual medical packages. A family includes parent(s) and/or unmarried dependent children under 21 years of age, or under 26 years of age if a full time student. We simply calculate the adult(s) rate and add the dependent children for free!

### Visitors to Canada

If you have friends and family who come to visit you in Canada, are on a valid work or student visa, or are a new immigrant awaiting government health insurance plans, UNIGLOBE Custom Travel can also provide Visitors to Canada insurance.

As a preferred partner with RBC Insurance our travellers have access to emergency assistance from anywhere in the world, 24 hour a day, 7 days a week. You will also benefit from access to our top tier hospitals, doctors and other medical service providers as well as up front payment of covered medical services.

**Travel insurance is an essential part of every trip. Please contact the specialist at UNIGLOBE Custom Travel for your travel insurance needs. Call us today at 272-1000 or stop by and see us at Suite 800, 2424 4<sup>th</sup> St. S.W. in Mission Square.**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



**Heritage Committee Meeting**  
*Next meeting: Wednesday, July 11th and  
Wednesday, August 8th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm,  
Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community  
Centre.*

**Guided River Walks**  
*Sunday, July 22nd and  
Sunday, August 19th*  
*Plan to attend one of these guided walks  
with experts covering different aspects  
of the Elbow: its history, its natural  
environment, as well as the water itself.*

**Calgary Historic Week**  
*August 3rd- 7:00 pm*  
*The tour will take about two hours and  
will begin in Cliff Bungalow School, a  
municipal heritage property, located at  
2201 Cliff Street, east entrance. See more  
details in the "In Brief" section.*

**Essence of Mission**  
*Saturday, September 22nd*  
*The Riverbank Project group is  
organizing a community fundraiser which  
will include food and entertainment. See  
more details elsewhere in this issue.*

**Calgary on the Elbow -  
75 Years Later**  
*Sunday, September 23rd*  
*A Heritage Park Water Workshop  
presented by John Gilpin and guest  
speakers Tony Starlight and Robin  
McLeod.*

**Mission Statement Deadline**  
*August 4th deadline for submissions to  
the September/October issue*

## Volunteer Needed!

The Community Association is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the scheduling and maintenance of the Community Hall located at 2201 Cliff Street SW.

This is a 10 to 15 hour per month commitment. We need someone to respond to rental enquiries, and keep a record of hall bookings.

Please contact Pat Maiani at 802-4822 with any questions or to volunteer.



**Madeleine King**  
*Alderman, Ward 8*

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

## Homelessness and Affordable Housing Key with Calgarians

well as police and other front line responders. The story of "million dollar Murray" can be found at [www.newyorker.com/archive/2006/02/13/060213fa\\_fact](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! 🙏

– *Thought to Ponder* –

***"Confidence is not turning the knob  
after you've locked the door"***

– *Purple Perk street board*



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**The wisdom of being protected.**

The best way to get your family vacation off to a great start is by getting the travel insurance coverage you actually need. Often, the travel coverage you get from employer benefits and credit cards is more limited than you might expect. Here's how you can make sure your family is always protected.

**"Why do we need insurance if we're travelling in Canada?"**

Provincial health insurance does not always give you full coverage in other provinces. Check your coverage before you leave, so you can buy a travel insurance policy that fills in significant gaps.

**"What are some of the things my insurance should cover?"**

The right policy covers more than health costs if you fall ill while travelling. An ear infection, for example, is a small thing, but it could prevent a family from flying home. Without the right coverage, the resulting costs – medical expenses, hotel bills and flight cancellation fees – could be considerable.

**"How do we ensure we're fully covered?"**

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