

THE MISSION STATEMENT



The Newsletter of the Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Association

March/April 2007

A Sense of Place: A Vision for Cliff-Bungalow Mission Which is Tied to Its Past

By Marilyn Williams

I first came upon the expression sense of place in an article by Nancy Tausky when I was doing some background research to approach the Community Association about starting a Heritage Committee. In the article Ms. Tausky examines the paradox that heritage preservation is key to creating her dream city of the future. To explore this, she analyses the qualities that are essential to her vision, and explains how each relates to heritage.

The first mentioned is a distinctive sense of place. This quality is more important than ever in the age of the global community, multinational corporations and chain stores. Historic buildings and sites can define the character of a community. Consider Cliff Bungalow: the trademark streetscapes of early 20th century homes fronted by rows of mature trees; 1930s and 1940s apartments like the Gordon Suites and the Laurence; the landmark Western Canada High School and the two brick bungalow schools set against the Cliff Street escarpment.

Next is the ability of the inhabitants to identify themselves in relation to the place where they live. Their connection to the past can give them this sense of identity. Think again about Cliff Bungalow, and images of its early past: the Elbow River valley which served for centuries as wintering grounds for the Blackfoot people and their allies; the first loosely scattered settlements of Métis and English-Canadian farmsteads in the 1870s and the mounted police posts and missions

established to serve them; the arrival of the railway in 1883 and award of land to the CPR; Calgary's first boom in the early 1900s and the subdivision of section 9 of that CPR land, which would later be known as Cliff Bungalow; the building of schools, streetcar lines and businesses to serve the community.



Heritage homes and buildings create a sense of place in Cliff Bungalow

So much of the built environment of Cliff Bungalow reminds us of that past. The characteristic two and two and half storey homes with architectural features like bay windows, verandas, balconies, hip roofs or roofs with gables, wooden clapboards and shingles. Cliff Bungalow also catered to the upper income levels and CPR management, so we also see grander homes of brick, with sandstone lentils and leaded glass windows.

The waves of development which occurred during different periods of history leads to another essential quality: diversity. In sharp contrast to contemporary subdivisions, Cliff Bungalow has evolved over time. This is evident in the architectural styles in this area, including: pre-1911 homes with Victorian influence and embellishments, 1911 Ed-

wardian domestic style, 1930s stucco siding used on new apartments and to resurface older homes, and the Art Moderne style of the early 1940s apartment buildings.

There is also a diversity of sizes – from apartments to cottages to mansions, and later, starting with the depression in 1929, the conversions of mansions into apartments (although we have lost many of these grand homes). The diversity of buildings promotes a diversity of residents – from students to professionals to seniors. There is even further diversity in the variety of residential, commercial and institutional land use along the west side of 4th Street, although to a lesser extent than Mission.

I would add another quality: the sense of community which can be provided from the heritage landscapes: the street orientation and human scale of the old homes; the special tree plantings and parks by William Reader and others; the schools built by Branton and Bates, and their landscaped school yards.

The Cliff Bungalow Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP) is a statutory document used to supplement the land use bylaws to provide guidelines for development so the vision we have of our Community can be protected. Some of its goals and objectives tie in directly with what I have outlined above: to promote and enhance the historic character of the community; to encourage all new development to be compatible with the historic nature of Cliff Bungalow; and to preserve historically significant residences. In

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March/April 2007

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OPINION

From Mission to MacKenzie Town, to Poon McKenzie Town

By Pat Maiani

Picture an old-style neighbourhood with bustling high street shops and classic homes featuring welcoming front porches. Homes designed around friends getting together in the backyard, or stopping to chat with the neighbours while out for a stroll down charming tree-lined streetscapes.

Mission-Cliff Bungalow? Perhaps. Actually, it's Carma Developer's promotional blurb for McKenzie Town. It's ninety years later, and they are trying to recreate what we had.

Contrast that with this friendly promise: "building strong market positions for our clients through well reasoned, relevant and high impact creative design solutions, PMA strives to deliver built environments that effectively support (our) client's corporate and philosophical vision. This is Poon McKenzie Architects, where business meets design solutions."

Poon McKenzie's client is the 'Fourth Street Development Corporation'. The design solution PMA is providing is maximizing return on investment within the flexible constraints of city planning bylaws and guidelines. In other words, this usually means building as many units as possible at the lowest possible cost, and selling at the highest possible price.

Just east of Fourth Street, 20th Avenue SW, there once was a charming tree-lined streetscape with classic homes. Most of the neighbours in those homes were evicted years ago, leaving them open to temporary habitation by crack heads and alcoholics, or just the down and out homeless. The homes are torn down now, and the temporary occupants are gone, to the relief of many. The anonymous human beings (I'm making an assumption here)

behind the Fourth Street Development Corporation have engaged Poon McKenzie to do what they do best – a 68 unit, five-storey condominium project.

All is not so rosy in McKenzie Town either. Carma Developers had originally applied for building permits to construct low-rise condos on the community's north side. Supposedly, city planners turned down the application and suggested Carma apply for re-zoning of the RM5 (medium density) lands to RM7 (high density). The rationale is the city needs more high-density property. If re-zoning is approved, Carma has plans to build 17 storey high-rise condo towers rather than the low-rise condos that exist nearby.

These are just two examples of a conflict that will continue to exist between the people who live in our neighbourhoods, and the people who stand to benefit financially by redeveloping our tree-lined streets. The city says we need higher density and low income housing, yet they've demolished the East Village and Victoria Park, displacing thousands of low income Calgarians. The properties continue to sit relatively idle. Is Mission next? We haven't had this much vacant land in the community since the early 1900s. Calgary's tax policies do nothing to discourage speculators from sitting on empty property for years. Our alderman says it's a provincial issue, and there is nothing she can do.

The Community Association is in the middle. We hear from the developers and the politicians all the time. Now we need to hear from community residents. Do you want new development in Cliff Bungalow Mission to be like McKenzie Town, or Poon McKenzie Town? Send an email to cliffbungalowmission@yahoo.ca.

– Thought to Ponder –

"Cities need old buildings so badly it is probably impossible for vigorous streets and districts to grow without them"

– Jane Jacobs

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@cliffbungalowmission.ca. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Feature articles must be no longer than 600 words.

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Photo Credit: Rick Williams

The Grace Gospel Church group hits the ice for a spirited game of hockey



Community Rink Helps Beat Winter Blahs

By Rick Williams

Our little community skating rink is perfect for a Sunday afternoon scrimmage. It's a great opportunity to lace up the skates, get some exercise and enjoy the winter weather. During the week, there are neighbourhood kids (yes, they do exist) that use the rink every day, as well as students from both schools. Pat Maiani, the community president, deserves major kudos for creating the idea and building the rink. His efforts and the little piece of nostalgia above remind us of why we live in this neighbourhood. 🏒

A Sense of Place cont. from 1

terms of diversity, it recognized the need to encourage redevelopment that is more attractive to families, since the number of children under age 19 is relatively low in our community (three percent in 1999 in Cliff Bungalow-Mission, for example).

For RM-2, defined as conservation and infill for the residential area west of 5th Street, the ARP policy is to allow only small scale development projects which are sensitive to the scale and character of the older homes. For RM-3, medium and low density infill, the residential area east of 5th Street, allows for higher density but at a scale and form complementary to this existing character of the community. The ARP describes the character of the community as being determined by the older houses. The architectural guidelines for RM-2 and 3 development stipulate that new development must be unobtrusive and blend with scale and form of existing homes and larger projects should be designed to resemble a series of smaller projects through sensitive massing, variation of façade, roof slopes, window treatment and architectural details. Another section deals with historical styles in great detail and provides guidelines on roof form, front verandas, and materials and finishes. It is very prescriptive and captures all the special historic features that make

Cliff Bungalow special.

Many of the corners and existing apartments are zoned for RM-5, medium density development which should reflect the character of the original community. Architectural guidelines include sloped roofs, entries at street level, lane access parking and finishing materials which complement the surrounding low density residential character. To extend the life of larger heritage homes, the ARP also allows office conversions in the area between 4th and 5th Streets.

The ARP policy for the commercial areas on 4th Street and 17th Avenue west of 4th Street is to limit the extent and role of commercial development to that which relates well to the character, history, appearance, scale and function of the surrounding residential community. Building guidelines demand sloped roofs with a minimum pitch of 8:12, especially where the building is adjacent to residential neighbourhood. If flat roofs are employed, cornices or pediments should be used to add scale and character to building façades. Designs should incorporate traditional details and forms. As in the residential guidelines there are pages of details around architectural features, building materials, and massing. In addition, there is special focus around maintaining a

pedestrian environment with a variety of narrow (25 foot) store fronts, even for larger stores.

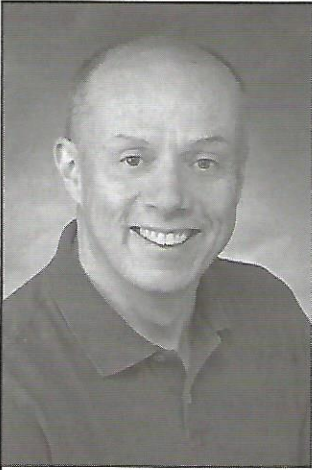
I often hear arguments along the lines that if a heritage property is not going to be preserved, then we might as well allow good quality contemporary architecture in its place. But as you can see, there is so much more to consider regarding the character of our neighbourhood, and the ARP covers it very well.

A final quote from Ms. Tausky: "Of all the physical mementoes of history, historic buildings and landscapes form the most immediate reminders that we and our society have roots in the past and an opportunity to grow beyond our present." 🏡

Calgary Cliff Bungalow and Mission Historical Walking Tour Version 5.4, James Bowman, Calgary, June 22, 1998

The Next London – Visions for the future of a city, Nancy Tausky, Special to the London Free Press, May 20, 2005

Cliff Bungalow Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP), July 1993 – Of course, the ARP covers much more than what is included in this article since it deals with all aspects of community planning. If you are interested in learning more, please visit www.calgary.ca/docgallery/bu/planning/pdf/cliff_bungalow_arp/cliff_bungalow_arp.pdf.



Report from Dave Taylor MLA

Calgary Currie Constituency
2108-B 33rd Avenue S.W.
Ph: 246-4794 / Fax: 686-1543
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When I was a kid I always sat at the kitchen table to do my homework. My children did their homework at our kitchen table. We Taylors are a lucky

family. We were able to buy our house when our children were babies and housing prices were low. As a result we've had a kitchen table in the same house for a great many years.

Unfortunately, not every Calgarian is so fortunate. Many families hoping to enter the market now simply cannot afford the nearly half a million dollars it takes to buy a home, nor do they have ready access to the 5% down payment required for a condominium that hopefully costs less than a house.

Many Calgarians have no choice but to rent their homes. In this city being a renter is a tricky business. In the first place, the vacancy rate has been close to zero for nearly a year. And, if a rental home can be found a sizeable chunk of change needs to be immediately available for the deposit and the first month's rent. Then the cash flow is necessary to pay a monthly rent that can — and often does — rise with terrifying regularity. And the possibility always looms that the landlord will sell out to a developer who will in turn evict all tenants and convert the building to condominiums.

I doubt if anyone who works and/or lives anywhere within the city of Calgary is not aware that we have a problem. And I also doubt any Calgarian is short of ideas

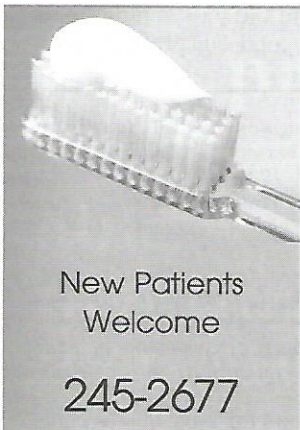
on how to resolve that problem. Many of you have shared your ideas with me, and I thank you for that. Your input helped me create an Affordable Housing Policy for the Alberta Liberal Caucus.

Happily, our new premier also recognizes the problem. Recently he announced the formation of a Premier's Task Force on Affordable Housing. My Alberta Liberal colleague, Bruce Miller, MLA for Edmonton Rutherford, will be a member of that Task Force as will members of the Conservative Party and the NDP. This is a good thing. The need for sustainable affordable housing in this city and this province is not a partisan issue — no matter how their parents vote, all Alberta children should be doing their homework at their own kitchen tables.

Everybody needs a home. We can make that happen.

In a perfect world we will also have an effective Spring session of the Legislature of Alberta. After a very long 8-month break, session was to start February 27. As of this writing it has been delayed until March 7. I hope that by the time you read this session will be in full swing and the business of governing this province will be underway. As your official representative in the Legislature, I look forward to being your voice in Edmonton. Please contact my office at 246-4797 or by email at calgary.currie@assembly.ab.ca and let me know how I can best serve you.

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Development Committee Tackles Lane Closure and Communicates Adherence to ARPs

By Peter Atkinson

There has been much talk within the Community Association about the relevance of contemporary architecture in our historic neighborhoods as of late. In our historically rich area, it becomes of paramount importance to maintain the historic aspects of the neighborhood wherever possible. Part of our community's character comes from the 1910 era houses in rows of uninterrupted porches and narrow lap siding, where we are fortunate, and scattered as singles and pairs in areas of decay. Most recently, six houses on the Mission side of 20th Avenue, which have been boarded up since well before Christmas, have been demolished to make way for a six-storey condo development approved late last year.

With the demolition of the houses, the community gains some safety, not having to worry about who might be hiding behind one of the boarded up windows, but the cost is another piece of our heritage. We also lose the opportunity to take advantage of houses slated for demolition to be used in the intermission for aspects that our community currently lacks: artists' studios, affordable housing, low rent office space to name only a few possible uses.

Houses that sit empty for a long period of time cause problems for the community, and we need a better city process to deal with this growing concern. This is one problem we are talking to the city about trying to fix.

Not to be confused with the Strategic development at 4th Street and 20th-21st Avenues, these houses are a separate development by a separate developer. However, the Strategic site has also been a particularly active development. The open house in early January was the first step in a multitude of meetings in order to ascertain the Community Association's recommendation toward a lane closure. The only recommendation regarding the project that the Community Association has made to the City and to the developer, and the only issue on the table thus far, has been the appropriateness of a lane closure on 4th Street and the method in which that lane closure should

take place. The Development Committee engaged in significant internal debate and numerous discussions with the City, the Community and other professionals regarding a recommendation on the lane closure. With the backing of the Community's Board of Directors, the Development Committee decided a T intersection is the most appropriate solution for dealing with the lane closure. The T intersection provides the most permeable use for the residents who use this back lane and is most in keeping with the urban historic street pattern. This solution also provides the most opportunity for the development of a vibrant, urban space unique to anywhere on 4th Street, but is still in character with the neighborhood. The Community Association gave Strategic Developments the T intersection rec-

ommendation and encouraged them to pursue the project in line with the Community's views. Strategic Development will be attending the next Development Committee meeting to present their response to our recommendation.

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Community members gathered for a screening of the Al Gore documentary, An Inconvenient Truth, and for a discussion about local and global environmental issues.

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THE URBAN LANDSCAPE

The Rear View

By Nancy Tice

Many years ago in a different city I rented an apartment that provided me with affordable student housing. The local neighbourhood consisted entirely of small, solidly built, four-storey walk-ups, each containing eight apartments. Built during a bygone era when graciously humane residential architecture was the norm, each apartment was blessed with abundant windows on three sides. No soaker tub or granite counters as a sop to luxury, but how much would a gloriously sun-filled 1,110 sq. ft. unit overlooking a quiet inner-city avenue cost in Calgary's hot housing market today? In a boom-town economy where people will buy any condo that's available, many are tiny units with one rear exposure. The rear of multi-family buildings now function as the front façade for many Cliff Bungalow and Mission residents.

The concept of lanescaping was raised repeatedly during the lengthy Mission Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP) revision process. The CBMCA Planning and Development Committee has encouraged developers and architects to thoughtfully consider the rear building façade and its relationship with ground level design as much more than the butt-end service area of a building.

Over the past few years, several experienced inner-city architects, working with cooperative developers, have begun to demonstrate a new attentiveness to the lanescapes. A higher density multi-family redevelopment project is similar to a tightly packed jigsaw puzzle. It takes extra effort combined with talented architectural design expertise to integrate all the required rear-service elements with some attractive soft landscaping while avoiding the creation of poorly resolved areas which actually attract graffiti tagging and other problematic behaviours. Most architects have risen to the challenge as we've begun to see ground-level unit entry doors facing the lane, higher-quality rear-building façade design and some interesting efforts to increase rear soft landscaping.

The reduced yard setback requirements in the Mission ARP present an increased challenge for developers who want to maximize profitable building square footage while also providing high-quality soft landscaping. With civic space at a premium in Cliff Bungalow-Mission we don't encour-

age treating the lanes as unsightly waste space.

From the community perspective, lanes are an active part of our transportation network used by motor vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists who share the same space. Lanes are much safer for pedestrians and cyclists when motor vehicles are moving slowly. The legal lane speed limit is 15 km/h (10 mph) – slower than the school and playground zone speed limits which annoy so many drivers. The low speed limit is easier for drivers to tolerate when lanes provide attractive views – a subliminal method of traffic calming.

Given a choice most pedestrians and cyclists prefer to use lanes which seem safe and attractive, and an active level of legitimate lane use provides the rear version of "eyes on the street" which discourages illicit loitering and illegal activity. With pleasant views to enjoy, the residents of rear-facing units provide yet another layer of informal surveillance. Safe lanes also contribute to social cohesiveness within our community. And last but not least, high quality lanescapes increase the value of rear units which have no other view.

Developers will continue to play an enormous role in recreating the fabric of Cliff Bungalow and Mission but old-timers aren't off the hook. Creepy-looking lanes and lanes without attractive visual interest don't provide many benefits for the Community. The owners of older buildings with rear surface parking don't have much wiggle room to improve the existing lanescape design.

As spring approaches some of us might consider making modest improvements. My energetic across-the-lane neighbours power wash their garage every spring. At the very least, garbage scattered along the lanes needs to be cleaned up. Trimming back overgrown shrubs, painting solid

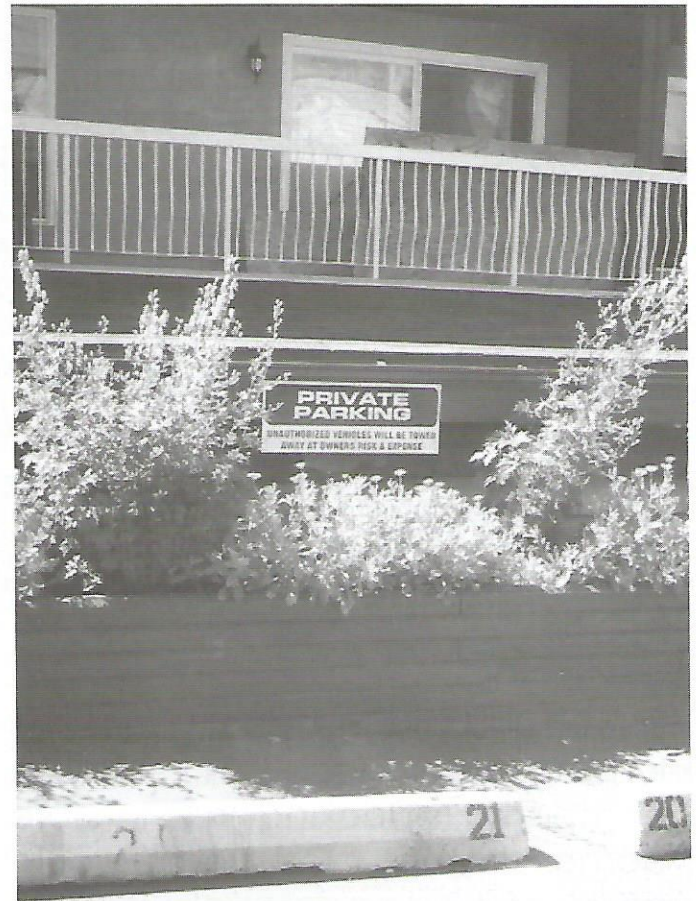


Photo Credit: Nancy Tice

A vintage surface parking area enlivened with flowers.

fencing a light colour, removing graffiti and keeping old garages securely locked are all fairly minor efforts which will help reduce suspicious lane activity. Many hands make light work. An informally organized team clean-up effort is a great way to meet the neighbours, enlivened with flowers.

Development cont. from 7

and Casablanca Video. Thanks also to those businesses who let us put posters in their stores.

We are continually busy these days at the Development Committee with a full agenda almost every time we meet. As we meet and review proposals, it is important that our vision remains consistent and representative of our residents. Whether we are speaking about existing housing stock, sustainable developments, or contemporary or historic design, our aim is to preserve the quality of the past while we look to the development of the future. We are always happy to hear your comments. 🌱

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HERITAGE HIGHLIGHT



Jennison House (1910) – 522 19th Avenue SW

By Elspeth Cameron

This 1910 house is one of two built on a lot sub-divided by Charles N. Bell and his wife. Judge John L. Jennison, former mayor of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, bought this house in 1913. He moved to Calgary 1911, where he was called to the Alberta bar and served as an alderman on City council from 1914 to 1915.

After Judge Jennison's death in 1919, famous oilman Archibald W. Dingman from Picton, Ontario, lived in the house for three years. Dingman worked in the Pennsylvania oilfields and organized the Calgary Natural Gas Company in 1905. He is credited with ushering in the age of oil in Alberta. It was his first Calgary Petroleum Products well that struck naphtha gas in 1914 near Turner Valley, southwest of Calgary. 🌱

How to Follow Through on Your Fitness Resolutions

By Michelle Ancelin, Personal Trainer

If you are finding that your health and fitness resolutions have already begun to fizzle out, here are some surefire and practical tips for reviving them!

- Choose a fitness activity that you actually enjoy doing! Some of your options include yoga, ice skating, cross-country skiing, indoor tennis, swimming, martial arts, in-home personal training, spin classes and the list goes on!
- What time of the day do you feel most energetic? If possible, use that time on a regular basis for your exercise period. This way you won't feel as if you are dragging yourself into it and your performance will be accelerated. When you have a positive experience with your fitness activities, you will feel motivated to continue on with them. (Associating fitness with feelings of success, energy and fun, is the key here!)
- If you are too bogged down to set aside a full hour for a fitness activity, than break your exercise period into two to four 15 minute stints scattered throughout the day. On your morning and afternoon coffee breaks choose to climb stairs, go for a brisk walk or stretch in your office or home rather than grabbing a coffee and donut or muffin. This will have a revitalizing effect on your body and brain, and you will resume work with renewed energy.
- If you enjoy social interactions for motivation, partner up with a friend, colleague or family member and commit to a fitness activity together. Encourage each other by keeping one another on track and accountable to the commitment and have a little friendly competition to challenge yourselves. Aim to team up with a partner who is at a similar fitness level but also contrasts with and compliments your own skills and interests. For instance, if you have a personal goal of improving upon your cycling speed, power or endurance, pair up with a partner who will challenge you in these areas. Likewise, if your partner desires to re-kindle their interest in

cross-country skiing and that is your strength then you can share your experience with them.

- Are you an outdoor enthusiast? Join a club such as the Calgary Ski Club or the Alpine Club. Meet others who share your interests and will assist you in broadening and refining your skill base and/or teach them some new tricks!
- Plan ahead! Set aside slots of time in your day-timer for you! Commit to these times and let associates and family members know in advance that these times are already booked. Strive to maintain consistency in these time slots (ex. "Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:00 pm I have an appointment with my personal trainer; to go for a swim; yoga, etc.>"). It is crucial that you resist the urge to "give in" to their demands and sacrifice this valuable personal time. Once they know you are willing to give it up, they'll continue to expect it. If you are neglecting your own needs, how can you muster up the energy to give to others? This is a matter of re-defining your values and doing so will earn you the respect and personal space you require for your own sense of balance. You will need to be strong with friends and family who are looking for the "old" you. The process of acknowledging and accepting the changes you are making, will require them to reacquire themselves with the "empowered" you.
- Set realistic and attainable goals, with a timeline for successfully attaining your desired outcomes. Write them down, with as much specific detail as possible and review them upon awakening and when retiring (ex. How will you feel physically, mentally and spiritually as well as how will you look, interact with others, sound, etc., when you attain this desired outcome?). When you experience success, reward yourself appropriately by flaunting yourself in a manner that demonstrates your increased quality of wellness. Share with and confide in others you trust, what your aspirations are and ask them to support you lovingly in your endeavors! 🌱



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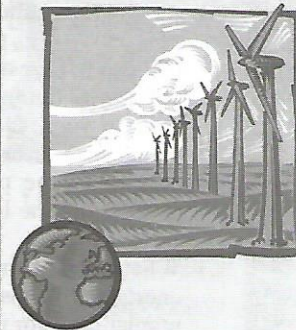
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Open Door Senior Fellowship of Calgary

We are a non-denominational seniors drop-in group located at 1307-4th Street SW in the lower level of the First Baptist Church. Membership is \$12 per year and all seniors are welcome.

Regular Activities

- Mondays Floor Shuffleboard (10:00 am to noon)
- Tuesdays Watercolours (10:00 am to noon)
Bridge (noon to 3:00 pm)
- Wednesdays Cozy Corner Coffee and Chat (10:00 to 11:30 am)
Cribbage (1:00 to 3:00 pm)
- Thursdays Music Appreciation (10:00 am to noon)
- Fridays Exercise (10:30 to 11:15 am)
Bridge (noon to 3:00 pm)

Computer Lessons

- Computers 100 (Beginner) – Thursdays April 12th, 19th and 26th, 3:00 to 4:30 pm.
- Computers 200 (Intermediate) – Wednesdays, April 11th, 18th and 25th, 3:00 to 4:30 pm.
- Computers 300 (Advanced) – Mondays April 16th, 23rd and 30th), 3:00 to 4:30 pm.

March and April Special Events

- Thursday, March 1st noon to 2:00 pm – Luncheon. Entertainment Westside Women's Choir. Non-members must make a reservation by Monday, February 26th. Please phone 269-7900.
- Thursday, March 8th, noon to 2:00 pm – Weekenders Clothing Sale
- Monday, March 12th, 1:00 to 3:00 pm – Movie: Working Girls / Harrison Ford and Mel Griffith.
- Thursday, March 22nd, 1:00 to 2:30 pm – Travel Presentation of Ireland by Dorothy Girling
- Monday, March 26th, 1:00 to 3:00 pm – Movie: Casablanca / H. Bogart and Ingrid Bergman
- Thursday, April 5th, 11:00 am: Annual General Meeting and Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Entertainment by Vi and Vic Harbidge. Early Bird Special Draw for members present by 11:00 am.

IN BRIEF

- Monday, April 16th, 1:00 to 3:00 pm – Movie Matinee (to be announced).
- Monday, April 30th, 1:00 to 3:00 pm – Movie Matinee (to be announced).

Please call 269-7900 for more information and costs of these activities. Come out and join us!

Saturday Afternoon Acoustic Music Jam

The last one was lots of fun! We had many age levels and playing abilities show up, which led to a most interesting mix of songs going round the circle, ranging from CCR to Cat Stevens to Pink Floyd, to Joni Mitchell to Beatles to John Prine to generic bluegrass, blues and more. Thanks to musicians Adrian, Karen, Aaron, Vanessa, Helen, Ivan, Jim, George, Carolyn, Eilish, and a few whose names we didn't get.

Hope to see you guys and any other jammers interested, at the Jam on Saturday, March 17th Jam, 3:00 to 5:00 pm at the Cliff-Bungalow Mission Community Centre. Bring at least one song you are confident enough to lead – it doesn't have to be Irish, but you get a green cookie and a drink if it is! The April Jam will be Saturday, April 28th, 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

Healthy Yards Program

A Calgarian's guide to a beautiful and healthy yard

A new environmentally-friendly approach to yard and garden care. It's good for the environment, easy to do, and can save you money too! The Healthy Yards Program is free and limited to 200 participants each year with a two year program commitment.

The Healthy Yards program helps homeowners create a more environmentally sustainable yard by combining the practices of composting, water conservation, responsible pest management, and grass cycling.

Program participants receive equipment incentives such as a composter, rain barrel and a discount to purchase the right kind of mower (or attachment) for the program (if required).

Healthy Yard participants also receive information and training on how to use equipment (composting, rain barrel use, and use of a mulching mower); plant water-wise alternatives for Calgary's climate; use responsible pest management tech-

Mayor Proclaims March Community Association Awareness Month

Community associations are an important part of life in Calgary. They provide a variety of recreational and educational programs for Calgarians and contribute significantly to the quality of life in our community. These organizations are coordinated entirely by volunteers.

Whereas: there are 135 registered community associations currently operating in and around Calgary;

Whereas: community associations bring residents together in a way that enhances our city, our lifestyles and our surroundings;

Whereas: during the month of March, community associations across Calgary will focus on increasing membership awareness.

On behalf of City Council and the citizens of Calgary, I hereby proclaim the month of March 2007 as Community Association Membership Awareness Month.

-Mayor Dave Bronconnier

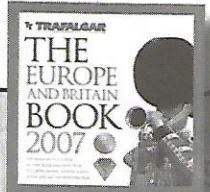
niques; and access the Healthy Yards Hotline for troubleshooting pest related concerns. (For more information visit www.calgary.ca)

Will You Be a Snow Angel?

All you have to do to be a Snow Angel is simply adopt a senior's sidewalk this winter, and keep it clear. Watch for people in your neighbourhood that could use help removing snow from their sidewalks and driveways and ask if you can lend them a hand.

Alternatively, if you and your neighbours or other members of your community would like to develop a more organized snow clearing program, call the Seniors Services Division at 974-3112. (For more information on the Snow Angels program visit: www.calgary.ca) ☎

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- Qualified local city guides in Pompeii, Assisi, Florence, Rome
- Cruise to Isle of Capri
- Welcome dinner & drink
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Oct 2- Depart Canada

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Oct 3- Arrive Rome

Transfer from Rome Fiumicino airport to your hotel. Enjoy a quiet evening after your international flight.

Oct 4 - Rome

Enjoy an extra full day in Rome. Take in a few nearby sites or relax before meeting up in the evening for a Welcome Dinner and drink with your Tour Director and fellow travelling companions in a Roman Trattoria (Continental Breakfast / Welcome Dinner)

Oct 5 - Rome – Pompeii – Isle of Capri (2)

This morning after breakfast we will travel through the area the Romans knew as the 'Campania Felix' and view the Abbey of Monte Cassino, where we visit the World War II cemetery. Then on to Pompeii where we enjoy a guided walking tour with our audio system of the excavations of this Roman city petrified and preserved by the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79. From here we continue our journey to Sorrento where we have time to enjoy the atmosphere of the Piazza Tasso and where we visit an Inlaid Wood factory to admire the fine local craftsmanship. Then we enjoy a short sea-crossing across the Bay of Naples to the beautiful Isle of Capri for two relaxing nights. This evening, dinner is included at our hotel. (Buffet Breakfast / Dinner)

Oct 6 - Capri orientation & at leisure

Today's walking tour of Capri Town with our audio system includes views of the Faraglioni Rocks and Marina Piccola plus the famous 'Piazzetta' – home to the international jet-set. Then enjoy time at leisure perhaps to shop at the elegant boutiques, or explore the coast of this pretty island by private motor launch. Tonight, your Tour Director will be happy to advise you on the best dining in this romantic spot! (Buffet Breakfast)

Oct 7 - Isle of Capri – Naples – Assisi

We enjoy a morning sail across the Mediterranean to 'Bella Napoli' – we drive through the streets of Naples and through the Latium, before heading into the Umbrian hills and to mystical Assisi. Here we enjoy a guided walking tour with our audio system of the town much loved by St. Francis. We'll see the Basilica with its serene Giotto frescoes, as well as the miraculous Church of St. Mary of the Angels before dinner in our hotel this evening. (Buffet Breakfast / Dinner)

Oct 8 - Assisi – San Marino – Padua – Venice (Main.) (2)

This morning, we drive through rolling Umbrian hills to the tiniest Republic in the world – picture postcard San Marino. Then on to Padua, where we view the Basilica of St. Anthony before continuing to the floating city of Venice, where we spend the next two nights. Dinner will be included at our hotel this evening. (Buffet Breakfast / Dinner)

Oct 9 - Venice sightseeing & at leisure

Today we will savour the sights and sounds of this serene city by private motor launch on an included canal cruise to St. Mark's Square, where we will view the Byzantine Basilica, Bridge of Sighs and Doges' Palace. After witnessing a demonstration of the ancient art of Murano glass-blowing, time is your own

perhaps to explore further and relax. Or alternatively why not take a cruise to the island of Burano, and enjoy a fresh seafood lunch? Tonight dinner is included at our hotel. (Buffet Breakfast / Dinner)

Oct 10 - Venice (Main.) – Brenta Canal – Montecatini (Tuscan Hills) (2)

This morning after breakfast, we gaze on the beauty of the Palladian villas as we drive along the scenic Brenta Canal. Then we head south and ascend into the Apennine Mountains, the Emilia Romagna and Tuscany. Here, we make our approach to the spa-resort of Montecatini, for the next two nights. This evening, why not try some of the reputed Tuscan cuisine and Chianti wines? (Buffet Breakfast)

Oct 11 - Florence Excursion

Today it is only a short drive to Renaissance Florence where we spend a full day. On our arrival a walking tour with a local guide using our excellent audio system highlights the Cathedral with its magnificent Baptistry, and visits the Santa Croce Basilica and the Piazza Signoria. Florence is truly a shopper's paradise with bargains in quality leather goods and gold jewellery. For 'culture vultures', there are many museums and art galleries to visit. Later, we return to our hotel at Montecatini for the night. This evening, we will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. (Buffet Breakfast / Highlight Dinner)

Oct 12 - Montecatini (Tuscan Hills) – Siena – Castle of Serre di Rapolano – Rome (2)

A short drive today brings us to Siena - famous for its Palio horse race. Here there's time to admire the architecture from one of the open-air cafés on the fan-shaped Piazza del Campo. Or pick up some local pottery before we continue to the ancient castle of Serre di Rapolano where we stop to visit the grounds and perhaps sip a glass of Chianti or a 'cappuccino'. Later, we arrive back at the 'Eternal City', Rome for two nights. Why not dine out in one of the city's many fine trattorias this evening? (Buffet Breakfast)

Oct 13 - Rome sightseeing & at leisure

A visit to the Sistine Chapel to marvel at the ceiling of Michelangelo provides a thrilling start to our morning sightseeing tour with a local guide making good use of our effective audio system. From here we visit St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, and then cross the Tiber for our walking tour showing us the Forum and the mighty Colosseum. Finally, we stop to view the Circus Maximus, where 'Ben Hur' style chariot races were once the order of the day. The remainder of your day is at leisure perhaps to take an optional excursion to the Catacombs, ancient Tivoli or simply while away the afternoon sipping a cappuccino at a café and watch the world go by! This evening on the final night of your tour, why not enjoy a farewell dinner with your fellow travelling companions. (Buffet Breakfast)

Oct 14 - Rome - Canada

Time to bid farewell before we transfer you to Rome Fiumicino airport for your return flight to Canada. (Buffet Breakfast)

Itinerary is subject to change.

Tour price guarantee excludes fuel surcharges and does not apply to any taxes, changes or levies imposed by any government or their agencies.

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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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Bothered by Community Crime? Call it in!

By Rick Williams

If you traveled east of Fourth on 20th Avenue in the last few days of January you may have noticed a change in the streetscape. In fact, it would be hard not to notice that on the south side of the street there is no streetscape at all, just another massive expanse of dirt and exposed foundations where six old homes used to sit. It will eventually become home to another new condominium development. Though the houses have been boarded up for some time, it still comes as a shock to see an open rubble field where houses and landscaping had been before. There are also seven mature trees in front of the site slated for destruction by the City of Calgary. The City has deemed these trees too old and diseased to be saved and so, they will be cut down. So be it, but the larger problem is that there are no plans for replacement, now or in the future. This block is particularly hard hit. With the hole on 4th Street, slated for a large business block with lane closure, the construction of the LeBeau complex, and now the destruction of the character homes, the area looks like a war zone and will for some time to come.

When the trees are removed there will not be a blade of grass present over two-thirds of a city block. How did this happen? One could say it was a series of unfortunate

Graffiti

- The effects of graffiti are felt by everyone:
- Property owners are faced with the cost and task of cleaning up graffiti.
 - Individuals and identifiable groups are hurt by discriminatory or hateful messages.
 - Graffiti ruins the natural and architectural beauty of a city.
 - Acts of vandalism decrease the city's attractiveness as a place to visit, conduct business and invest in.
 - Graffiti is often profane, obscene and offensive.
 - Chemicals used to create and remove graffiti are detrimental to the environment.

As a citizen, you can help manage graffiti in your community by recording, reporting, removing and volunteering. Together we can reduce graffiti.

To report graffiti vandalism in progress call 9-1-1. To report graffiti on public or private property call 3-1-1 or visit www.calgary.ca and then link to Online Services. 🏠

events but one root cause is the fact that a demolition permit can be granted before a Development Permit is approved. Another unfortunate event is that there is no tax penalty on vacant lots, thus no deterrent to destruction or incentive to rebuild quickly. These are statutory issues under the Municipal Government Act that can be addressed at the civic and provincial level but are not being addressed. We see the results on a number of properties in the community: the lot behind the Aberdeen block; the former daycare site on 5th; the vacant lot with the attractive trailer on 5th and 21st; and so on.

Economic pressure of a hot economy would dictate that time is money and the replacement projects should be sprouting up with the daffodils, but that may not be the case. Recent media and industry reports suggest that the real estate market has peaked and is flattening while present office space construction will largely meet the demand for commercial space. Those condo and office blocks are going to be harder to flog at the projected price point and some developers are revisiting their plans and budgets. (Penny Lane being just one inner city example). Our bottom line? Huge sections of our built heritage, affordable housing and urban forest are being torn down for reasons that are of questionable benefit to the Community. Vacant lots and derelict sites

will become havens for crime with the onset of warmer weather.

Community residents should be concerned and need to get involved – contact your Alderman (Madeleine King) and MLA (Dave Taylor). They are certainly aware of the problem and doing what they can to help but need feedback from the members of the community to bolster their arguments. The more people who call them the harder they listen and the more ammunition they have to convince the City and the Province to fund real changes. Contact Parks and Urban Forestry about loss of trees and green space, and also about their Neighbourhoods and Planting Incentive Program to find out how you can help.

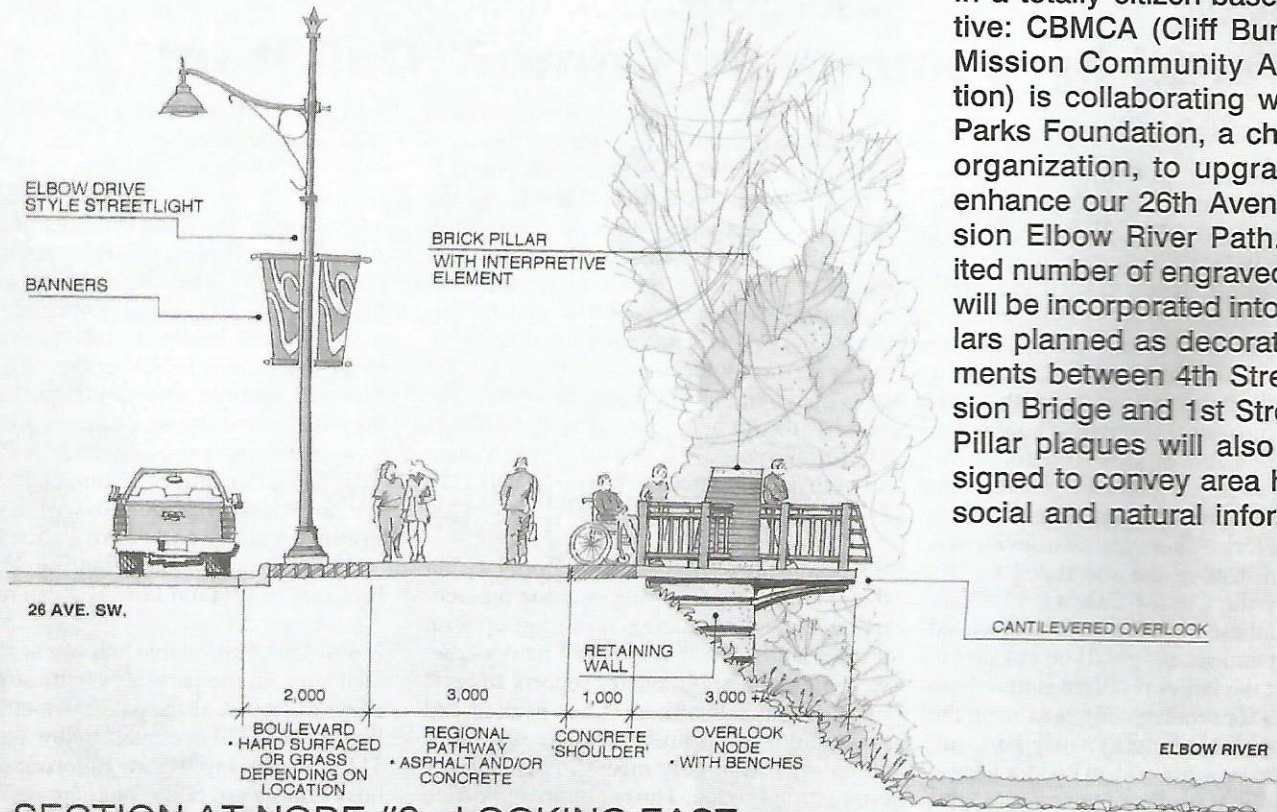
If you see questionable activity around derelict sites, in the parks or on the streets and alleys call it in. Call the police non-emergency line at 266-1234 or contact bylaw services at 311. You may say “Bylaw Enforcement is too busy and its not really my concern” or “I’d really rather not get involved” or “well, what can one call do?”. One call does make a difference. The police log every call and email and prioritize policing assignments on the basis of those calls. They do respond and they do listen, especially when a number of contacts are logged. You can, as an individual, make a difference and our community will be a better place because of it. 🏠



Photo Credit: Michelle Hebert

The boarded up houses and mature trees on 20th Avenue will eventually be destroyed.

SECTION AT NODE #1 • LOOKING EAST



In a totally citizen-based initiative: CBMCA (Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Association) is collaborating with City Parks Foundation, a charitable organization, to upgrade and enhance our 26th Avenue Mission Elbow River Path. A limited number of engraved bricks will be incorporated into the pillars planned as decorative elements between 4th Street Mission Bridge and 1st Street SW. Pillar plaques will also be designed to convey area historic, social and natural information.

SECTION AT NODE #2 • LOOKING EAST

26 Avenue SW Pathway Enhancement

Be immortalized on our peaceful riverbank!

Buy a \$150 brick and word your own inscription

These bricks will personalize our riverbank, enabling you to leave a lasting message, while raising funds for costs above basic City upgrading.

For further information, please e-mail: elbowriverbank@yahoo.com. To order bricks, please use the form below.

I would like to order engraved brick(s) at a cost of \$150 per brick

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Brick inscription, not exceeding 20 characters (including spaces!)

1.

2.

3.

Number of Bricks Ordered: _____ Total Payment Enclosed: _____

Please make cheque payable to "Parks Foundation, Calgary: Mission Riverbank Project" Please mail to: Mission Riverbank Project, Parks Foundation Calgary, 225 - 13 Avenue SW, Calgary AB. T2R 1N8. Thank you!

River Path Project Update

By Eilish Hiebert

The Mission River Path project is steadily gathering momentum in our community. Pictured here are presentations at the Purple Perk coffee shop; the 4th Street BRZ (Business Revitalization Zone) meeting, the 'Fountains of Mission' retirement villa, and a very fruitful preliminary meeting at City Hall, arranged and facilitated by Alderman Madeleine King. We got the green light to proceed beyond the preliminary stage which we've been working our way through for a number of months now. City funding is under way for large portions of basic path upgrading, special pathway lighting and general enhancement. We will present the entire project to all City departments on March 1st. You probably won't see much happening before 2008, but preliminary work (this plan entails a lot of preparation) will start when detailed drawings, negotiations and necessary permits are in place.

In the meantime, we would still like everyone in our community to be aware of the riverbank plans, and get your feedback and

ideas. Besides the physical Mission Riverbank Promenade, we would like to build community by promoting awareness, pride and involvement of as many people as possible in our enhanced river path. We expect to make this community involvement process a prototype for tackling other 'chunks' of our riverbank. We're trying to reach as many residents as possible by both public and private meetings (mostly in secure-entry condominium buildings). We are grateful to be collaborating with The Calgary Foundation which supports community initiatives.

Reaction to this project so far has been enthusiastic, creative and exciting, which show that there is indeed citizen interest, pride and appreciation for our river and its banks! We are having a meeting at the Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Association at 1:00 pm on March 17th (see the Community



Calendar on the last page) to try and come up with a citizen-involved, fun way to launch this project at the Lilac Festival. We have some pretty off-the-wall suggestions for how to do this! Please come out and hear these, and bring your own ideas.

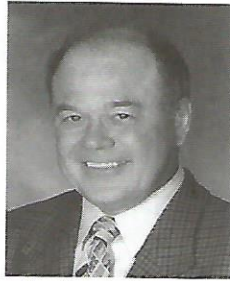
Brick sales are really brisk! (See brick order form facing page). Please keep an eye out for further riverbank information the May/June issue of The Mission Statement. If you have been missed, or you would like a presentation in your area/building, please e-mail us at elbowriverbank@yahoo.com.



Top Right: Alderman Madeleine King (back left) at the Purple Perk joined in with a group of enthusiastic riverbank community attendees; Middle Left: Community meetings for the riverbank project were well attended; Bottom Left: Bill Longstaff, Architect Tim McCulloch, Eilish Hiebert and Mac Logan (City of Calgary); Bottom Right: Paul Varga, CBMCA Environment Director, grabbed a coffee at the Purple Perk meeting and chatted with residents; Photo Credit: Eilish/Murray Hiebert

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Green News

The City of Calgary Parks Urban Forestry NeighbourWoods tree planting program has been launched in our community.

Our community is one of only ten in the city chosen for the NeighbourWoods program in 2007 and Parks Urban Forestry is looking forward to joining together with residents to engage in this community based action. Parks will offer technical assistance and a partnership, helping residents organize, plan, establish, and manage your residential street tree planting.

For further information; contact your Community Association executive, or the City of Calgary Parks Urban Forestry at 216-5252, or visit the City of Calgary web site at www.calgary.ca/parks and follow the links to NeighbourWoods. 🌳

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



*The slow
moving
Elbow River
with the
Calgary Tower
in the
background*

*Photographer
Rick Williams*

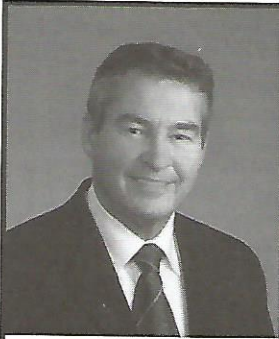
Do you have a view of Cliff Bungalow-Mission that you'd like to share?

WIN a Gift Certificate to a Participating Area Business!

Submit your picture for the next issue and WIN a gift certificate from a local area business.

Send your photo by e-mail to editor@cliffbungalowmission.ca or by snail mail to Editor – The Mission Statement, Box 462, 1919B – 4th Street SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1W4.

Submit as many community views as you would like. The winner will be contacted via e-mail or phone. Include a description of what is in the photo and a brief explanation of why it is noteworthy. Sorry, photos can't be returned.



Lee Richardson

Member of Parliament Calgary Centre

A Year of Accomplishments...

A lot has happened since Canada's New Government took office. We are getting things done for families and taxpayers:

- We passed the most sweeping anti-corruption law in Canadian history;
- We delivered 29 separate tax cuts, including a one percent drop in the GST and put \$20 billion back in the pockets of taxpayers;
- We empowered families by implementing the Universal Childcare Benefit - \$1200 for every child under six paid directly to parents;
- We made our communities safer

by lengthening sentences for violent criminals and taking action against money laundering, organized crime and terrorist groups;

- We rebuilt our long-neglected Canadian Forces, stood 100% behind our troops in Afghanistan and gave deserved recognition to our veterans.

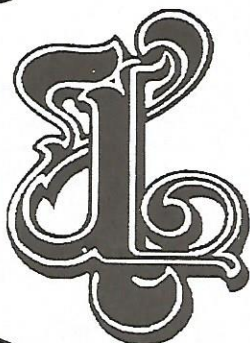
While much has been accomplished, there's still more to do. We will continue to reduce taxes, continue to reduce wait times and improve healthcare and continue moving forward on practical, realistic and achievable strategies for protecting the environment.

Contact me with your comments...

If you have an issue or event you would like to make us aware of, 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 or visit our Web site at www.leerichardson.ca



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Heritage Committee Meeting
Next meeting: March 14th and April 11th,
7:00 to 9:00 pm, Cliff Bungalow-Mission
Community Centre.

Join Marilyn Williams, Heritage
Committee Director, the second
Wednesday of each month for relevant
and interesting information regarding the
history and preservation of the Cliff
Bungalow-Mission neighbourhood.

Riverbank Project
Share our/your ideas for an exciting Lilac
Festival launch event for "Mission
Riverbank Promenade". Saturday
afternoon March 17th, 1:00 pm, CBMCA
Community Hall in Cliff Bungalow School,
2201 Cliff Street (access at 5th Street and
22nd Avenue) We'll have green cookies,
green drinks, green light for great ideas,
and ...even some green songs
afterwards!

**Saturday Afternoon
Acoustic Music Jam**
Saturday, March 17th, and Saturday, April
28th, 3:00 to 5:00 pm at Cliff Bungalow-
Mission Community Centre, 2201 Cliff
Street SW. See "In Brief" for more
information.

Mission Statement Deadline
April 4th deadline for submissions to the
May/June issue

Thought to Ponder

*"Large swatches
of construction built
at one time are
inherently inefficient
for sheltering wide
ranges of cultural,
population and
business diversity"*

— Jane Jacobs



Madeleine King
Alderman, Ward 8

including a significant number of families with children. Unlike elsewhere in North America, almost half the homeless do have jobs, but are still unable to find affordable housing. Whether the big increase in the homeless is a result of the city's rapid growth and excellent economy, or whether it has other root causes, it is a very disturbing trend that demands action.

The Mayor, Alderman Farrell and myself are representing the City on the newly formed Committee to End Homelessness. The provincial and federal governments will also be involved in finding solutions. All available information about why people become homeless, where they stay until they find a home and how long that period is, as well as the support systems they need, is currently being analyzed. In developing a "plan to end homelessness in ten years" we are aided by taking best practices from the 90 or so such plans recently developed in the

Memorial Park Library

Memorial Park Library is located at 1221 2nd Street SW. Register for these free programs in person, by phone at 260-2600, or online at www.calgarypubliclibrary.com.

A valid Calgary Public Library card in your name is required to attend all programs.

Reiki and Reflexology – join practitioner Kim Buckler for a demonstration of how these therapeutic techniques aid in the healing of our health and promote a wonderful sense of well-being. Saturday, March 17th, 2:00 to 3:30 pm.

Quartet 2007 – celebrate the launch of four new books of poetry from Frontenac House with readings, signings, and a reception. Thursday, April 12th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Investment Workshop for Young Professionals – learn how to build and monitor a comprehensive financial plan. Presented by Dave Canary, CFP. Saturday, April 14th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Computer Literacy
Saturdays 10:00 – 11:30 am.
• Internet Part 1 – March 3rd

Homelessness Rising in Calgary

As we are all painfully aware, the numbers of the homeless in Calgary are rising significantly. The City's last count found the number to have risen to approximately 3,500 individuals,

U.S., many of them now into the operational phase. They are based on the view that:

- it's simply not OK to accept that people should be without a home when so many of us have so much.
- it's actually costing a lot to keep people on the street in terms of policing, emergency responses, hospital times, social agencies – and that money would be better employed by providing safe, secure, permanent housing.

The plan, to be developed over the next 18 months, will be based on

- closing the door into homelessness – for example, hopefully providing people with mental illnesses and those with addictions with sufficient supports in their current housing to prevent them from losing that accommodation.
- opening the door out of homelessness – for example, ensuring there's sufficient affordable housing provided in the most cost-efficient way so people spend minimum time in shelters and transitional housing.

This is an important issue for all Calgarians, and I will keep my website updated as we get more information and begin developing plans: www.madeleineking.ca – see the City Issues link under Issues. 🍌

- Internet Part 2 – March 10th
- Introduction to E-mail – March 17th
- Introduction to Microsoft Word – March 24th

CyberSeniors – join us for a four-week session of classes that teach computer basics in a relaxed, self-paced style. Ages 50+. Thursdays March 8th to 29th, 10:00 am to noon.

Job Searching for New Canadians – a career counselor from MCC Employment and Development gives tips and advice, including how to reply to a job ad in the newspaper, interview preparation, networking and more. Saturday, March 10th, 2:00 to 3:30 pm.

ESL Conversation Club – new Canadians with intermediate ESL skills can practice English listening and speaking in small groups. Mondays March 5 to April 23rd, 2:30 to 4:30 pm.

Great Escapes Noon Hour Videos
Michael Palin's Pole to Pole will show Thursdays, March 6th to 27th, 12:05 to 12:50 pm. 🍌

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