



## A Young Community Artist

### Brings smiles to his neighbours

By: Braeden Kelly

You may have seen my artwork around the Terwillegar and Riverbend area the past month as you go out for your evening walks. My name is Braeden Kelly and I am 14 years old and attend JH Picard school.

After seeing my little sister Kinsley working on a huge heart with a bunch of chalk in hand, I decided to go out and help. That is where my story began.

I started to draw as soon as I could hold a pencil, and even now I spend every night with my pencil and sketchpad in hand until the late hours. But now I found chalk as a new medium and I liked it. My mom saw many people around the world trying to spread some cheer by creating some art pieces drawn with chalk and so she simply took a picture of mine and posted it on our local Terwillegar Community Page. I was overwhelmed with requests for my art from homeowners and local businesses alike. The art brings me happiness to see so many others enjoying it. To receive the pictures of little kids with their big smiles and adults alike! It helps me relax and escape from all of the goings on in the world and get in to my own zone. Being able to focus on something that brings joy to so many is a great feeling.

I've been so fortunate to turn this passion and love for art in to a great summer job doing what I love most and not many people can say that. Doors have opened for me and I could not have done it without the support of my family and my community, so I thank you all for making this the best summer ever.



## "See You Next Year"

### A young writer shares his perspective on what it would be like to be an ice rink

By: Bennett Henke



started hanging out with me.

Eventually people did not play or hang out on me ever. Then these random people started breaking me up with these big metal things that looked like forks. When it was cold out I would get fixed up all the time but now it feels like no one cares about me.

I used to have so many friends. They would play on me and hang out with me, sliding across me, practicing their tricks on me. Those times made me feel happy because I enjoyed watching kids learn new things on me every day. As spring came less and less people

As my time is coming to an end I see lots of trees sprouting. I see nice green grass starting to grow. Grass and trees make me happy because then I know that the kids that played on me in the colder times of the year will have fun playing on the nice green grass and hiding behind big, tall trees. I also see lots of people doing yard work to make the spring more fun.

My time as an ice rink is coming to an end and I am looking forward to next winter when kids hang out on me and play with me again because I will be less lonely when kids play with me next year. I am just about gone; see you next year.

*This short story was written by Bennett Henke a local Gr. 5 student.*

*Sunset photo above contributed by Ben Eblers, Community Librarian and VP at Riverbend Community League.*



## We are opening June 23!

Thanks for hanging in there, Edmonton! We can't wait to have you back for Family Summer Fun soon.

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## Letter from the Editor

### Change is a good thing!

By: Sherri Henderson, Editor

**M**y first issue and article was in September 2009. As the new editor, I wrote about Lillian Osborne High School creating a foundation for youth. I shared Janet Hancock's (former Principal) vision of creating a school built around mentorship, for students and by community members. And how students would provide meaningful service back into their communities. The new school was also built as a sustainable green building that was more efficient and reduced the impact on the environment. Inside the school, spaces were created for the students to connect and grow physically, mentally, and emotionally, and to support active and healthy living. Students were also provided an opportunity to feel empowered. To become leaders in their schools, where there was a culture of looking after each other, sharing their voices and working with others to become inspiring leaders of the future.

Now as I finalize my last issue, during this unprecedented time within a pandemic and as voices need to be heard, I reflect on the importance of how right now, in 2020, there is an amazing opportunity for us to work together to build a foundation for all people through connection, minimizing environmental impacts, and creating spaces where we are active and empowered to be leaders in our own lives, in our families, in our communities and in the world.

A friend in New Jersey recently sent me Leslie Dwight's words:

*What if 2020 isn't cancelled?*

*What if 2020 is the year we've been waiting for?*

*A year so uncomfortable, so painful, so scary, so raw - that it finally forces us to grow.*

*A year that screams so loud, finally awakening us from our ignorant slumber.*

*A year we finally accept the need for change.*

*Declare change. Work for change. Become the change. A year we finally band together, instead of pushing each other further apart.*

*2020 isn't cancelled, but rather the most important year of all!*



Reflecting regularly on our perspectives, harnessing our abilities to be resilient, understanding impermanence, and practicing hope and faith are essential to living and being organically human through change.

As I say good-bye to years as your Editor, I am excited for new opportunities to open up in my community, for this lively little newspaper, and for connections that I am to make in the next stage of being an engaged community member. My greatest hope is that others are inspired by the young man on the front page who brings smiles to his neighborhood by creating beautiful pieces of art. Or by the even younger community member who shared his experiences of what the last few months have been like for him, through his story of being an ice rink. Let's move away from fear, bias and hatred and build the foundation for all people by learning about each other. And where you can, get involved. Whether that is shopping or eating local, exploring our incredible parks, or volunteering for one of the many great organizations.

On the next page you will meet the new Editor! Michael Ganley comes to this position with a lot of experience, and a passion for this community. I am very excited to hand over the reigns to Michael! Over the next couple weeks, I will send Michael my key contacts and introductions. I hope everyone continues to engage by sharing their stories (and advertising) so this 'lively little paper' continues to be the community connector that it's been for 37 editorial years! We are very lucky to live, work and play in such a beautiful place. Together we make it what it is and can be. Let's make 2020, a more just, equitable and kind world where we can all live, work and play!

Thank you to the Riverbend Community League for a decade plus of love, and to every contributor who has made my role as Editor easy and inspiring!



## Glass Monkey

GASTROPUB

The Glass Monkey is a comfortable, casual, family friendly restaurant located in the Lendrum Shopping Mall, just minutes from Riverbend and Terwillegar. Locally owned and operated, we are open daily from 3:30pm until 10:00pm. Closed Tuesday.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Rob Filipchuk  
Owner

780.760.2228

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### THANK YOU - RAGG DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS!

Thanks to the following volunteers who helped deliver our last issue to businesses, schools, and retirement residences.

**Lita Bablitz, Adnan Black, Jim Bradshaw, Daryl Matter, Jihan Marjan, Tara Martin, Christy Middleton, Karin Shott, Sabine Sintenis, Shelly and Leanne Stevens, Mary Wagner, Helma Voth**

We're always looking for volunteers to help us deliver copies of *The Ragg-Times* to schools, businesses, and retirement homes. If you can deliver *The Ragg-Times* seven times a year, we'd love to hear from you!

Your gift of time and service would be greatly appreciated.

Please call 780-437-7108 or email [info@riverbendonline.ca](mailto:info@riverbendonline.ca) for more details.

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**\*\* Ads Printed as Submitted \*\***

## Meet the New Ragg-Times Editor

### Michael Ganley

By: Michael Ganley

**H**i, my name is Mike Ganley and I live in Ramsay Heights, overlooking the big park and the tobogganing hill. I've lived here for eight years, with my wife, Belinda, and our three kids. Belinda is a social worker with Alberta Health Services. Our eldest, Thomas, is studying engineering at the University of Alberta. Megan will start there (virtually, I'm afraid) in the fall, in the Faculty of Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences. She wants to be a veterinarian. Sarah is going into Grade 11 at Strathcona High School.

I was born in Montreal, grew up mostly in Peterborough, Ontario and met Belinda while studying law in Halifax. I have a day job, in communications and marketing for an Edmonton-based industrial services company, Ketek Group. I'm a journalist by training and inclination, and have been a writer and editor for the last 20 years. For six of those, I was an editor at *Up Here* Publishing in Yellowknife. More recently, I was the editor of *Alberta Venture* magazine, a monthly business publication based here in the city. Sadly, that magazine went bankrupt three years ago.

I've lived all over this great country, and often say I love living in Edmonton, but qualify that by saying that I've loved everywhere I've lived. As my old camp director used to say, "If you have good

neighbours in one place, you'll have good neighbours wherever you go."

When, a couple of months ago, I saw Sherri's editorial that she was stepping down from the position of *Riverbend Ragg-Times* editor, I thought, "Huh, why not try to get back into the game?"

So it is with excitement that I take on this role. I look forward to telling the stories of the people and places *The Ragg-Times* covers, and of bringing you information and opinions that matter to you. Some say the future of news is hyper-local, which is *The Ragg-Times* to a 'T'. I thank the Riverbend Community League for showing this faith in me. If you have story ideas or comments, please reach out to me at [raggtimes@riverbendonline.ca](mailto:raggtimes@riverbendonline.ca).



## SWAT Hockey to Support Families

### The launch of The Co-operators Community Assistance Fund

By: Brad Butterfield, President SWAT Hockey

**I**n September each year, anyone travelling by an arena will see a constant flow of excited kids heading in and out of arenas in our community with the start of a new hockey season. Over the winter the youth in our community are able to experience the joy of playing one of our national games, while building life skills and friendships that last a lifetime.

It is no secret that these past few months have been difficult for everyone, both with the COVID pandemic and the economic challenges in our Province. As community-based hockey programs prepare for the upcoming season we understand that due to the tough economic times we are faced with, returning to hockey may be difficult for some families. Although there are a variety of existing support programs available that assist with registration fees for families in need, we know that they aren't always able provide all of the support needed.

Working with our community partners, SWAT has announced the creation of The Co-operators Community Assistance Fund. This fund will allow SWAT families in need to anonymously apply for a grant to cover 50% of their registration fees for the 2020-2021 hockey season. The inception of this program was made possible through a generous seed donation from Chad MacKenzie and Shaun

Maslyk, owners of The Co-operators in Windermere, as well as other community partners such as Western Living Homes, Adam Dirksen & Associates, and Paul Manning to name a few.

As we launched the program, we've also been approached by Chris Raffa at Allsports & Cycle who has offered to help families approved through the Fund with access to used equipment at no cost.

More information on this program and others (ie. KidSport, JumpStart, and Lace 'Em Up) as well as the application form can be found on the SWAT website at [www.swat.ca](http://www.swat.ca). If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to reach out to [swat.communityfund@gmail.com](mailto:swat.communityfund@gmail.com).

We are lucky to live in a community filled with generous people and organizations who are focused on the support of our youth. Our hope is with the supports available, we will see even more children walking into rinks in September ready to enjoy another year of the game we all love.












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## Terwillegar Riverbend Advisory Council

Updates for our community By: Karin Shott



The Terwillegar Riverbend Advisory Council (TRAC) had their 1<sup>st</sup> ever virtual AGM on April 22, 2020. Congratulations to the 2020-21 new and returning members of the Executive: Monte Weber, President; Annie Allers, Vice President; Nancy Wendt, Treasurer; Dave Rumbold, Secretary and Sue Trigg, Community Advocate.

The current neighbourhood Ambassadors have agreed to stay on for another year: Peter Farnden, Eleni Shaver, Louise Forest, Rob Agostinis, Mike Boychuk, Loretta Bieneck, Gordon Edmiston, Peter Kunkel, Ryan Barber, Felicia Truong, Vanessa Desa for BGR, & Deborah Forst for SWEFM.

The neighbourhoods of Ogilvie Ridge, Brookside & MacTaggart have vacant Ambassador positions and the Seniors Ambassador position is vacant as well. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more information regarding these positions, please contact the TRAC Community Office at [yegtrac@gmail.com](mailto:yegtrac@gmail.com) or reach out to the respective community league.

### TRAC Community Office

As the Terwillegar Community Recreation Center is still closed due to COVID-19, the TRAC Community Office is closed as well. You may still reach the office by email: [yegtrac@gmail.com](mailto:yegtrac@gmail.com) or [tracmail@tracspirit.ca](mailto:tracmail@tracspirit.ca) Telephone messages are also monitored regularly.

Community league memberships are available for purchase by mail at this time. Please see membership form on pg. 9 of this issue. Memberships are also available via [www.efcl.org](http://www.efcl.org) You will be charged an additional \$5 admin. fee but will be issued a digital membership card within minutes.

### TRAC Community Run/Walk

The TRAC Community Run/Walk was cancelled this year due to COVID-19 but will return next year bigger and better than ever!

### TRAC Community Wine

If you're looking for a nice bottle of wine to enjoy, please check out 'The Ridge Vines' which is the latest community wine fundraiser celebrating community leagues in our area. This wine is currently available at Vines Wine Merchants (2331 Rabbit Hill Road). For your convenience curbside pick-up or delivery is now available!

## Neighbourhood Watch

### Crime Active in Riverbend Terwillegar Communities

By: Barb Scott, Edmonton Neighborhood Watch Representative for Riverbend CL

As the weather gets warmer, crime increases in neighbourhoods across Edmonton. The Riverbend communities are seeing various types of activity from theft from vehicles to break and enter violations. Please make sure that your home, garage, and vehicles are always locked. Pickup and put away bicycles, tools, recyclables, and other items that may go missing.



If you are curious about what is happening in your neighbourhood you can visit [crimemapping.edmontonpolice.ca](http://crimemapping.edmontonpolice.ca), choose your neighbourhood and it will display what types of crimes have been committed in your area.

To report suspicious activity, you can do the following:

- If you see or experience an emergency call 911.
- Canadian Mental Health Edmonton programs and services, call 211.
- To report suspicious activity or homeless camps/suspicious or vagrant individuals or drugs/photos please email [jade.scott@edmontonpolice.ca](mailto:jade.scott@edmontonpolice.ca) and call the EPS non-emergency number at 780-423-4567.
- Should you see remaining items/belongings that appear out of place, including drug paraphernalia, please call 311 or the non-emergency line at 780-423-4567.

Together we can all make a difference!

## City of Edmonton

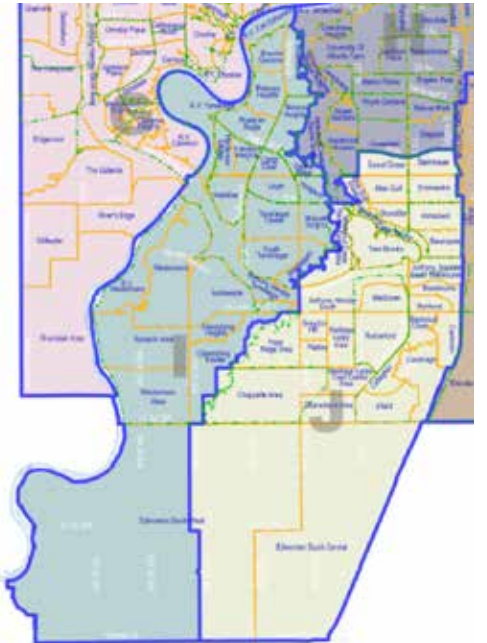
### Ward Boundary Update

By: Dave Rumbold

The City of Edmonton Ward Boundary Commission has just released its recommendations for new Wards. Their report recommending updated boundaries (Ward 'P' as shown) will be voted on by City Council later this year. The new Ward boundaries would come into effect as of the next election, scheduled for October 18, 2021.

The issue with the existing City Wards has been imbalances due to population growth in suburban areas such as the southwest. Riverbend Community League advocated for the new Ward in our area to match the existing Ward 9 as closely as possible, and that is what has been recommended.

More information and details can be found at: [https://www.edmonton.ca/city\\_government/documents/WBC\\_Final\\_Report\\_2020.pdf](https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/documents/WBC_Final_Report_2020.pdf)



**STANDING UP FOR you.**

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## Edmonton-Whitemud

### Updates from your Member of Legislative Assembly

By: Rakhi Pancholi, MLA Edmonton-Whitemud



I'd like to begin by noting that these columns are submitted a few weeks before publication so, in the constantly evolving times we find ourselves in, it is always difficult to predict what will be happening when you read this.

Since late March, my constituency office has been physically closed, but my staff continue to respond to your letters, E-mails and phone calls. Given the size of our office and the ongoing recommendations from the Chief Medical Officer of Health, our constituency will remain closed to walk-in traffic for the time being. However, please continue to contact us to schedule an appointment by phone or videoconference or to drop off documents.

Despite the restrictions imposed by COVID-19, it is more important than ever that we stay connected. I have been inspired by how so many organizations in our community have adapted to the current situation. While so many community events have been cancelled this year, I continue to support local businesses and promote events that are still being held in a modified form, such as the weekly Southwest Farmers' Market. So many restaurants and small businesses in our area have offered modified curbside services, online ordering, and they continue to need your support. Non-profit organizations like the Fort Edmonton Foundation are engaging in creative fundraising efforts to support the reopening of Fort Edmonton Park next year.

I've attended many meetings held by community groups like Oak Hills and Riverbend community leagues, TRAC and Brander Gardens ROCKS, all of whom are working hard to continue to support our communities.

These examples have inspired me to find new ways of my own to reach out to people in the community. One of my personal highlights has been speaking to Grade 6 and Grade 9 students by video conference. Young people in Edmonton-Whitemud have asked some really great questions about my role as an MLA during this time and I look forward to the time when I can meet with them in person at the Legislature again.

I have hosted virtual meetings with different groups of constituents on a variety of topics, including health care, education, child care and the re-opening of Alberta. I plan to actively continue these conversations and encourage you to reach out to me if you would like me to host or participate in conversations you are holding.

The pandemic has initiated important conversations about what the future of Alberta's economy, public health system, and education system will look like. I continue to advocate for an evidence-based approach to our recovery that focuses on what the world looks like now, not what it looked like 40 years ago.

The people and businesses of Edmonton-Whitemud told me that they wanted a consistent set of guidelines and supports for re-opening and

assistance with procuring appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Businesses and non-profits have been calling for substantive provincial support for managing their fixed operating costs like commercial rent support – not just deferrals, but real relief – as they continue to manage no or decreased income. And of course, parents and families are focused on the reopening of our schools and childcare centres in a safe manner so that Albertans can get back to work and children can reconnect with their friends and set them up for a successful learning experience. This will look different for different families and we need to be ready to support that.

My colleagues and I have responded to what we heard from you over the course of the pandemic with a series of proposals to government. For more information on our ideas and the government's response to date, please visit <https://www.albertandpcaucus.ca/work> or contact me directly at [edmonton.whitemud@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:edmonton.whitemud@assembly.ab.ca).

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## Southwest Edmonton Farmers' Market

### Curbside Pick-Up & Fresh Food Boxes Now Available

By: Christie Anderson

The 2020 season of the SWEFM has kicked off!

Find us in our new location of Lot D at the Terwillegar Rec Center (last year we were in Lot E). We have a wonderful line-up of vendors at the market each week! Despite having to cancel most social and “extra” activities at the market, we continue to have a well-rounded market full of the best local food and crafts running for the season. While the gorgeous fruit and veggies are the stars of the show (who can resist plump Rainier cherries, bushels of garden carrots, garden peas, and the juiciest berries you’ll ever see?), we also have a huge variety of prepared foods and food truck meal options. This includes Thai, Indian, Greek, vegan, gluten-free, & Ukrainian to name a few, as well as carefully selected artists, bakers, and meat vendors to ensure there is something for everyone.

We have worked carefully with Alberta Health Services to come up with a social-distancing plan to ensure everyone has the room to feel safe at the market. Common areas (the ATM, porta-pottie) are sanitized frequently and our vendors are spaced further apart to ensure there is no need to come within six feet of another shopper. And, we have ground markings to help you determine where to stand in line at each vendor.

For those who wish to forgo coming into the market, we have a handy Curbside Pick-up Program. Order online by each Monday at 10:00 pm for pick-up at that Wednesday’s market. You will book a timeslot and your fresh food and goods will be brought to your vehicle. Participating vendors include Steve & Dan’s, S4 Greenhouses, Theo’s Greek Kouzina, Confetti Sweets, El Gringo, and more. We also have weekly Basic, Deluxe, and Plant-Based “Fresh Food Boxes”, where you leave the shopping to us, and choose one of our curated boxes (different each week!).

Check it out at [www.swefm.ca](http://www.swefm.ca) (and click on the “Curbside Pick-up” tab) or go to:

<https://www.localline.ca/southwest-edmonton-farmers-market>

The SWEFM runs every Wednesday from May 13 to October 7, from 4:00 - 7:30pm at the Terwillegar Rec Center Parking lot in our NEW LOCATION:  
\*\* Lot D\*\*



## Trustee Talk

### Congratulations to all the Graduates

By: Michael Janz, Public School Trustee

Given the fact that formal graduation ceremonies are cancelled this year due to COVID, I encourage all friends and neighbours in the community to celebrate alongside you (at an appropriate distance) and help mark this important milestone.



To the  
2020 Graduating Class  
**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Do not allow twelve weeks of uncertainty this year to distract from the twelve years of accomplishment! The education you have received from Edmonton Public Schools has helped prepare you for whatever steps you take or adversity you might face. Your work ethic, character, leadership, perseverance, friendships— all of these are in no way devalued and cannot be taken from you. You made it!

#### To your families, THANK YOU!

Public education is truly a partnership and I hope that you are able to celebrate this special milestone together in the traditions of your family. As a parent myself, I believe the saying “the days are long but the years are short” could not be more true. All of those lunches and snacks (\_packed\_), jackets and boots (\_zipped\_), homework and headaches (\_check\_!) over the years have culminated in this great achievement. You also made it!

#### To the graduates: A REQUEST

Along the way when times were tough, I’m guessing a special adult — maybe a teacher, coach, custodian, or mentor in your school helped you, believed in you, sparked a passion in you for a certain subject or gave you that extra push to persevere and pursue excellence. My humble request of you is to find that person and thank them for making a difference in your life and let them know what you want to do next. It will mean the world to them. You may not know it, but they take just as much pride in celebrating your accomplishment as you do and it will re-energize them to keep making a difference in the lives of the next generation. They are proud of you too, and rightly so.

Please celebrate safely and have a wonderful, happy, healthy, physically-distanced-but-socially-connected summer!

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## Seniors Connection News for those 55+ Southwest Edmonton Seniors Association (SWESA)

By: Carol Vaage

*"Just keep swimming Dory!"*

*This storm will pass. Although, it has tested our strength, our foundations, our roots, we will arise stronger, wiser, and smarter. The best is yet to come. ~Charles F Glassman*

**T**hese past few months have been a challenge for everyone, especially for our demographic - the elders of our community. Having longevity has taught us many things about life. That there are rainbows after the storms, that spring follows winter, and that change is inevitable.

For SWESA, with the closure of programs and facility, the loss has been felt by members, employees, and the Board of Directors. The Board has been working on updating policies and the strategic plan, while trying to anticipate a reopening and what it will look like. They, like others, have been impacted financially and are planning a charitable donation campaign later in the year.

SWESA launched a Friendly Phone Call Program to reach out to members and it was well received. The members loved getting a call although most have connected with their SWESA friends and are communicating by telephone, email and social distancing gatherings. Everyone is anxious to meet up in person.

Zoom has become popular for SWESA members as well. Zoom coffee and chats are available every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. The Friday morning Art Group is meeting by Zoom on a daily basis to share their work and catch up. Finding ways to stay connected is important especially for those of us still sheltering in place.

Age Friendly Edmonton has been asking seniors what's great about being this age? My thoughts were about time. We're not usually working full time anymore, so we have more time than the career age group. We're not usually raising children either. So our gift is time.

Time to learn new things, like watercolour painting or another hobby. Time to volunteer for organizations that you believe in. Time

to write – memoirs, reflective journals, poetry.

Time to be with nature to marvel at the tree buds unfolding, the blossoms emerging, the shoots of green grass. To marvel at the changes in our seasons.

We have time to keep ourselves safe from viruses by sheltering in place. There is time to share with our children as they age, so that they know that growing older may be physical aging, but the inner self can be as young as ever. We have time to live in the present and enjoy each sunrise, rainfall, and sunny day. We also have time to have an afternoon nap whenever we wish!

There is more time to be advocates for seniors, especially for those of us who live in senior residences or care facilities. We are fortunate in Alberta that many positive steps have been taken by officials to make changes necessary. Our voices can be added to many others to ensure the well-being of the most fragile of us.

Remember to check the Alberta Health Services website, and if you need help getting groceries or other supplies, ask a family member or neighbor to drop it off for you. We are in this together. This pandemic will change the world, but we will be able to pick up the pieces and recreate our world once again.

Don't forget that we have a dynamic Home Supports Program operated by Barbara Newell coordinating the services for our community, including snow removal, yard work, housekeeping and minor repairs. Contact her at [Hs@swedmontonseniors.ca](mailto:Hs@swedmontonseniors.ca) or 780-860-2931.

### SWESA Seniors Centre

Yellowbird East Community Centre, 10710-19 Avenue - **SWESA Seniors Lounge**

Terwillegar Community Recreation Centre, 2051 Leger Road

**SWESA phone** - 587-987-3200 ~ **SWESA email** - [swedmontonseniors@gmail.com](mailto:swedmontonseniors@gmail.com) **SWESA website** [www.swedmontonseniors.ca](http://www.swedmontonseniors.ca) ~ **LIKE Us on Facebook**

## Community League Membership Application

To verify your League, or purchase a membership online, please visit the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (EFCL) website, [www.efcl.org](http://www.efcl.org)

Adult #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adult #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Type:  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Seniors/Single/Couple/Family (circle one)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ May we send you news by email? Y/N (circle)  
 Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you willing to volunteer? Y/N (circle)  
 Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee (please see CL info on page above): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children's names: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Cash:  Cheque:   
 \_\_\_\_\_ No. of skate tags required: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form, along with payment, to the address below:

"The Community League's Name"  
 c/o TRAC at Terwillegar Community Recreation Centre  
 #5, 2051 Leger Road NW  
 Edmonton, Alberta, T6R 0R9

Forms and payment may also be dropped off at the TRAC office.

**\*Cheque Payable to the Applicable Community League.**

## Riverbend and Brookview Community Leagues

### Community Tennis Program - Summer 2020

By: Ruma Daulay

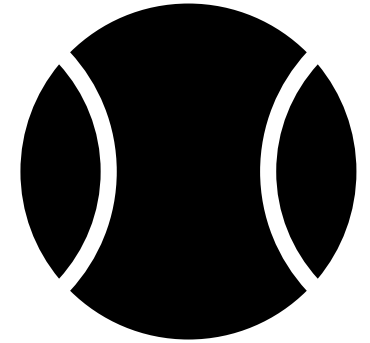
The Summer RCL Tennis Program continues to thrive thanks to the commitment of the Brookview and Riverbend Community Leagues... and YOU!

We anticipate another great season of Tennis programming and are pleased to offer weekly Learn to Play classes for kids ages 6-8 and 9-12 this summer. The Learn to Play Tennis Ages 6-8 classes are 30 minutes scheduled back to back in the morning from 9:00 - 11:45 am, followed by the Ages 9-12 classes that are 45 minutes long held in the afternoon from 12:15-3:00 pm. The Riverbend courts are closed and as a result all programming this year will be conducted again on the Brookview Community League courts. Thank you Brookview Community League for sharing your beautiful courts with all of us!

All of our summer Tennis programs are brought to you by the Riverbend and Brookview Community Leagues and the volunteers that help make our community a better place to live, work and play. Please note that as a Community League members we offer you reduced rates for these lessons. We appreciate and value our members and hope that you will help us maintain a vibrant community by becoming a Community League member.

We are so pleased to have our returning instructor, Hunter Mailo teach the kids this summer. Hunter is a Riverbend resident and a sports enthusiast. He joined us a LTP instructor in the summer of 2015, we are excited to have him return for another successful tennis season. Hunter is completing his Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of Alberta, he is majoring in Accounting and pursuing a minor in Finance. Hunter has extensive experience as a tennis player-- deep rooted from his experience in the Orange County tennis program in South Carolina. Hunter is an accomplished tennis

player, he is a regular in the late rounds of Tennis Canada tournaments at the 5.0 Level—and is currently ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in Canada. Hunter has truly developed a passion for sharing his expertise and knowledge with the young future stars. He is extremely looking forward to seeing you this summer, and help his students further develop their passion for tennis. Welcome back Hunter!




Our Community League will be following the City of Edmonton Guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will be limiting the class sizes to two per class for the 6-8 year olds, and four per class for the 9-12 year olds in order to facilitate singles play, and meet the 2 metre physical distancing requirements. Also, we are mandating that all kids bring their own rackets. We will provide the tennis balls and hand-sanitizer on site. We ask parents to please follow the guidelines, by having your child stay at home if they are sick, or if they have travelled outside of Canada in the past two weeks.

As our Community League Office is not open to the general public, all registrations will be taken online only. We will be opening registration to the general public on June 19.

We will not accept people to come to the courts hoping to drop in for a weekly scheduled class. Your child must be registered to attend and use the courts. Classes fill up quickly, so please don't hesitate, and register your pro today!

Register online at: <http://www.riverbendonline.ca/>

See page 16 for poster



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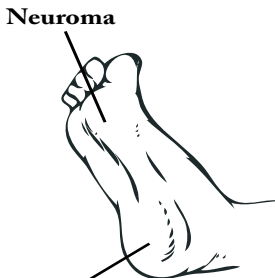
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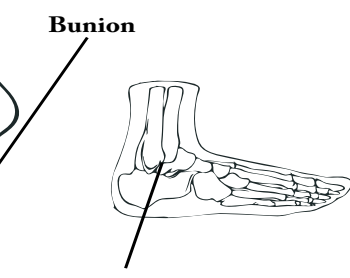
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## Edmonton Riverbend

### Updates from your Member of Parliament

By: Matt Jeneroux, MP for Edmonton Riverbend



The past three months have been incredibly tough for our community. We've all made personal sacrifices to stay home and prevent the spread of COVID-19, but that comes at a great cost to many. I've heard from hundreds of people in our community who are struggling to make ends meet without a paycheque, seniors who are isolated and having trouble getting by with increased costs as a result of the pandemic, and business

owners who are worried about surviving.

We will get through this and my office will do anything within our ability to help.

The federal government has deployed a number of benefits to help Canadians. These benefits include:

- The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)
  - o Those who have experienced job loss as a result of COVID-19 can receive \$2,000 a month for up to four months.
- The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)
  - o Business owners can apply for a 75% wage subsidy backdated to March 15 to keep employees on the payroll.
- Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)
  - o Landlords can apply to receive 75% of the rent their eligible commercial tenants pay.
- Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)
  - o Eligible students can receive up to \$1,250 a month during May to August 2020. Students with disabilities and students with dependants can receive an additional \$750.
- Help for Seniors
  - o Eligible seniors will get a one-time, tax-free payment of \$300 for the Old Age Security (OAS) pension, with an additional \$200 for seniors eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS). There is no application for this program and qualifying seniors will see the benefits applied to future payments.

More detailed information about these benefits, including links to apply, are on my website at [www.mattjeneroux.ca/covid-19](http://www.mattjeneroux.ca/covid-19).

As always, please contact my Edmonton constituency office with your questions at 780-495-4351 or at [Matt.Jeneroux.C1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Matt.Jeneroux.C1@parl.gc.ca). We're going to get through this together.

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or follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/PBJPlaygroup>  
Contact our Registrar at [pbjreg@gmail.com](mailto:pbjreg@gmail.com) for more information  
about our 2020/21 year.

**PEANUT BUTTER & JAM PLAYGROUP**

## Brander Gardens Development Committee

### Survey Results

By: Deann Stein Hasinoff

In the spring of 2019, 94 individuals completed the Brander Gardens Development Committee's community survey. Eighty-four were from Brander Gardens, nine from Ramsay Heights and one from another area. Sixty percent of respondents were between 30 and 55 years, with 26% over 65 years. Thirty percent lived in Brander Gardens for more than 20 years, with 19% residing here for 11-19 years. Responses will be used to complete the neighbourhood vision document for development in our area. Many thanks again to the Riverbend Community League, Dave Rumbold (Civics Director) and Councillor Cartmell for their support and guidance.

Below are the top five responses from questions in the survey:

#### Things valued/appreciated about Brander Gardens:

1. Quiet neighbourhood
2. Proximity to the river valley
3. Safe neighbourhood
4. Pathways for walking and biking
5. Outdoor public places and parks

#### Challenges facing Brander Gardens:

1. Traffic pressures that delay access into or out of the neighbourhood, including for emergency vehicles
2. Aging sewer and water infrastructure
3. Riverbank erosion and implications for top of bank stability
4. Pedestrian safety, particularly adjacent to school zones and commercial property
5. Insufficient access to public transit

#### Housing characteristics/options:

1. Building heights that maintain the privacy of neighbours
2. A variety of architectural styles and housing types
3. Usable yard space (buildings do not take up more than 3/4 of the lot)
4. A balance of single and apartment/condo housing
5. Overall consistency between side and front set-backs (distance from the building to the road)

#### Neighbourhood amenity suggestion (could accompany larger scale development in the area)

1. Safe paths and walkways that connect with the river valley system
2. A public pathway along the top of bank overlooking the river (e.g. top of bank access for residents)
3. Green space (park) that is available to residents for all seasons
4. Naturalized pathways (i.e. native plants, shrubs and trees)
5. Additional walking and biking trails

#### Considerations for development of riverbank properties

1. Development is environmentally conscious and preserves the trees and vegetation
2. Building heights below the mature tree canopy
3. Open green space is the central focus of a larger family development (i.e. rather than hard surfaces like a parking lot)
4. New development is compatible with nearby housing
5. Parking incorporated into development with street parking reduced or eliminated

#### Ways to reduce traffic impact and pedestrian safety with increased neighbourhood density

1. Adequate parking for new development units as well as parking for visitors
2. Public transportation routes that are well thought out and consider ease of access for riders of all ages
3. Traffic calming features in the neighbourhood (e.g. raised crosswalks)

#### Importance of public amenity options (based on weighted average)

1. Walking and biking trails
2. Additional community green spaces (other than sports fields and playgrounds)
3. Recreational opportunities for youth (e.g. basketball courts)
4. Small playgrounds or pocket parks (e.g. a small area containing benches and some plantings)
5. (tied) Additional or expanded community garden(s) Meeting space for clubs or other activities

To view the survey comments grouped into areas of interest/concern, please go to the Riverbend Community League website: [riverbendonline.ca](http://riverbendonline.ca). Comments or questions can be directed to [brandergardensvision@gmail.com](mailto:brandergardensvision@gmail.com).

## Supporting Young Children During COVID

*Helping parents talk to their children* By: Becky, Laurel and Lita, Teachers at Riverbend Playschool

COVID 19 has felt like a very adult problem. So many big concerns affecting day to day life with no person untouched or unchallenged. And that includes children. COVID 19 isn't easy for young children either and there is no "new normal" for young children, there is mostly just now. Adults spend a great deal of time outside of the present, meaning we are often preoccupied by what has been or what is to come. Children developmentally spend most of their time in the present which will give them a unique experience of COVID-19 and unique emergence from COVID-19.

As parents we are teaching them about the virus, about how bugs spread between people, about social distancing, about hand washing and hygiene, and about isolating from others. Some of things are good to learn about in general but many of these things are inadvertently teaching them things they might carry with them into life as we lessen COVID restrictions. Think of it from a child's perspective, we have unwittingly told them that being around others is a risky behaviour, that touch outside of your immediate family is not allowed, that sharing objects and toys is not allowed, and that the world outside is currently unsafe. The concern is that we haven't done a good enough job making sure they will still value contact, touch, togetherness, sharing, and gatherings in a post COVID-19 life. This pandemic will end, one day, and we need to make sure children still feel good about all the good things outside their home. Sometimes, what we do not say speaks volumes. Here are a few things to consider when talking to your child about COVID-19.

- Find out what they know. This will also give you a chance to assess what they might not understand or what they are anxious about. Do they think hugging a friend or teacher/caregiver is a bad thing forever or do they understand that this is a measure we must take during COVID 19? Are they afraid to hug Grandma ever again in case they hurt her?
- Help them articulate their feelings. "You feel disappointed that we can't go on our trip" "You miss your friends and teachers" Let them know their feelings are normal and understandable, maybe you even feel them too?

- Tell them the truth if they ask about COVID-19, if they have thought to ask the question then they are ready to hear the answer. Be factual. Be calm. Assure them many people, including you, are doing all the right things to keep everyone as safe as possible. If they keep asking the same question it may mean they have a lot of anxiety about it rather than they don't understand. Follow their lead. Find out the answers together and you BOTH might feel better. Seek expert advice. This isn't one and done. Keep talking, especially as COVID-19 restrictions ease.
- Be as positive as possible. "Since we have all done such a good job isolating and distancing in Canada our numbers of sick have stayed fairly low" "I don't like that the rec centre is closed either, I miss it, but it's one of the ways we are keeping people safer. They will open again one day and think of how fun it will be!" "Lots of people are wearing masks because they want to keep others safe. Isn't that nice? Some people can not wear masks (because of health or communication requirements) and I bet they really appreciate others helping to keep them safe." "We can't go to the movies but maybe we can have a movie night at home?"
- Limit your child's exposure to media. This will be good for adults too!
- Talk about what you aren't handling well and what you are. You are a human being, children need to know adults struggle too. Resilience grows from struggle.
- Remind your child you are there for them and you love them, and COVID-19 isn't going to change that. What our children need most is a loving parent/guardian/parents/guardians. Not a perfect one(s). The one(s) they have. Full stop. Just remind them that there is still a world of loving, caring, good people out there waiting for them when this is all over. Hugs will come back. Play with friends will come back. School will come back. Friendly smiles will come back. Those are all still very good things. The kids will be ok.



**At Riverbend Playschool, we believe  
children "learn through play",  
and learning should be fun!**

**[www.riverbendplayschool.ca](http://www.riverbendplayschool.ca)  
Phone: 780-988-0704**

# Riverbend Community League

Serving the Neighbourhoods of Brander Gardens, Brookside, Ramsay Heights, and Rhatigan Ridge.

Join in! Visit [www.riverbendonline.ca](http://www.riverbendonline.ca) for updates on community league programs.

## President's Message Miep Raedschelders, RCL President

Birds tweeting and bees buzzing, mosquitoes stinging and Riverbend is once again experiencing the warmth of summer! Nature continues its cycles, without much notice of the strange new normal we have been living for the past months!

Your community league board has continued to serve its members during the last months even though our facilities have been shut down to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Our committees have been working to bring the community garden back to life, clean, sanitize and upgrade our buildings, liaise with community organizations and government representatives and continue the work of maintaining and improving our community infrastructure. If you have a community initiative and want to find out how your community league might help, please reach out.

We are pleased to let you know in partnership with Brookview Community League, we plan to offer our highly regarded tennis lessons this summer focusing on semi-private lessons that allow us to work within Alberta Health Guidelines. Contact Elizabeth in the RCL office for more information.

Your league is also working to help you out with all that spring cleaning you may have been taking care of! Keep an eye out for our shredding/electronics recycling event in the early summer! You can conveniently and safely dispose of paper and electronic waste and finally clear your to-do list!

Seeing neighbours come together to create rock-hunts, chalk and window art for kids, put on driveway concerts, delivering groceries and checking in with each other from a safe distance reminds me of how fortunate we are to live in a community like Riverbend. The uptake for our Capital City cleanup kits was fantastic and we appreciate the pride residents take in keeping our community clean and lovely. Thank you to our Board, all our community volunteers and thank you to all our members, neighbours and friends for all the gifts you share!



### Please support your Community League by purchasing a membership! 2020-2021 memberships available now!

Community leagues are volunteer-driven, neighbourhood-based organizations. All residents benefit directly or indirectly from the projects undertaken by community leagues in their neighbourhoods. As a community league, we have a license agreement with the City of Edmonton, which allows us to occupy city-owned land so that we can provide community-based programming. The summer programs in the parks are a good example of the kinds of programs we provide at no cost to participants. We do not pay municipal taxes as a result. We are also able to gain access to school gyms for programming through the Joint Use Agreement. We are able to access grant money to allow us to build playground, develop parkland, upgrade or replace facilities. We also have a casino license to provide us with funds for larger projects. However, the day-to-day operations of the league are paid for by membership revenue and rental revenue. Other than a small annual grant from the City and casino/grant money for specific projects, the league relies on the support of residents. We simply could not function without the small contribution (\$40) that a family makes toward the community league. Please support your Community League by purchasing a membership! 2020-2021 memberships available now!

### Community leagues add value to their neighbourhoods by:

- building, operating and improving facilities such as community halls, skating rinks, tennis courts, parks and playgrounds
- offering adult and youth recreation, creative arts, and sport programs such as the summer green shack program, mom and tots, soccer, hockey, and softball
- running crime prevention programs like Neighbourhood Watch
- organizing special events and social activities for families and neighbours to come together (e.g., Family Winter Festival, Picnic in the Park, Taste of Riverbend)
- coordinating community gardens
- offering community swim and skate programs at local pools and arenas
- recognizing volunteers that make their communities a better place to live
- advocating on issues such as development, transportation, and the allocation of resources to their communities.

### Purchase your 2020/21 Membership today!

Contact Elizabeth at: 780-437-7108

Or by mail: Fill out form on pg. 9

Or Online: [www.efcl.org](http://www.efcl.org)

### Free Community League Swim

**\*\*Closed Due to COVID-19**

### Riverbend Bridge Club

**\*\*Cancelled due to COVID-19**

For more information, call the community league office at:  
780-437-7108.

### Connecting Online

Stay Up-to-Date on the Latest Events in Your Community!



Riverbend Community League  
[www.facebook.com/RiverbendCL](http://www.facebook.com/RiverbendCL)

The Riverbend Ragg-Times  
[www.facebook.com/RiverbendRaggTimes](http://www.facebook.com/RiverbendRaggTimes)

Riverbend Community League Office Open - Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
258 Rhatigan Road East • 780-437-7108 • [info@riverbendonline.ca](mailto:info@riverbendonline.ca)

## Time for a Will?

*Ensuring your loved ones are taken care of*

By: Tracy King

**W**e do not talk about death. We become uncomfortable and awkward. Somehow, we trick ourselves into thinking if we do not discuss our own mortality, we may just live forever. Spoiler alert: None of us will. But if we spend time thinking about what happens after we die, and we make a will, we have done at least one thing to help our family.



A will is much more than simply naming who gets your property and possessions – though that matters, too. Having a will answers other important questions: Who is going to be the executor and take charge? Who will be your children’s guardian? Who will act as trustee for your children’s inheritance? Should step-children be included? At what age should children beneficiaries get their inheritance? What happens if your immediate family is all killed in a car crash?

Yes, there are laws in place to deal with each one of these questions in the event of an intestacy – when you do not have a will -- but do you know the answer to all those questions in an intestacy? Do you trust the legislated default outcome to properly apply to your own family situation – especially when today’s families are nothing like the 1950’s Leave it to Beaver families and now include divorces, remarriages, step-children, living together, polyamorous relationships...the list goes on.

For those of you feeling a touch smug because you have a will, have you considered whether it may be time to update it?

Was your will made in another century? Do you now have children or grandchildren? What about step-grandchildren? Have you separated from your spouse? Do you want your estranged spouse to inherit anything? Are you now part of a blended family and have step-children? Are you living with someone? Has someone in your own family recently died? These are all reasons to consider updating your will.

Procrastination is easy. Surprisingly, so is taking charge of your estate planning and contacting a lawyer to help you make sure what you want, and who you want to include, is properly set out in your will. Once you have everything in place, you can then rest easy knowing that upon your death, your family – whoever that may include – will not have to live with any unintended consequences of an intestacy.

*Tracy King is a Wills & Estate Lawyer with The Estate House.*

*When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping'*  
~ Mr. Rogers

*Difficult is a far cry from impossible. The distance between these two lies hope. Hope and fear cannot occupy the same space at the same time. Invite one to stay.*  
~ May Angelou

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## City Councillor Updates

### Let's talk and connect

By: Tim Cartmell, Ward 9 City Councillor

**W**ithout question, this has been the most remarkable spring in a generation. I wanted to share a few thoughts with you before we head into summer.

City Council is the only level of government that conducts all of its business in public. Debates and votes happen in public, and you can see directly what Council decisions I have supported, and which I haven't.

Why do I bring that up? Because the physical distancing requirements of our Covid-19 response have prevented City Council from having those very public discussions. We cannot get all of the Councillors in one room, nevermind members of the public as well. Public engagement sessions, Committee meetings, Public Hearings have all been suspended or greatly diminished since mid-March. And that means we have not been able to advance all of the work of City Council.

2020 was intended to be a very busy year at City Hall. The Bus Network Redesign, the new City Plan (and related master transportation plan), revamped waste collection, prioritized budgeting. Council intended to debate all these topics this year.

Between lost revenue and Covid-19 related expenses, the City has additional costs of \$163M, so far. We don't know yet how many property owners will be able to pay even a part of their tax bill. The revenue problem will be bigger come fall, and that means difficult choices about what programs and services continue, which ones are suspended or cancelled, what level of service we offer, and other difficult decisions.

However, there are persistent suggestions that the federal and provincial governments will provide funding to Edmonton to accelerate construction of infrastructure projects - to inject money into the economy, to build or rebuild critical infrastructure, and to provide badly needed economic stimulus.

Beyond money concerns, there are questions about what a "new normal" looks like. How many people will be comfortable on crowded transit vehicles?

Or in a busy recreation centre? What will the physical distancing rules be in Fall?

There is much to think about, a lot to discuss, a lot to consider. And with the cancellation of events involving large gatherings, including all those community events we love, there will be fewer formal opportunities to connect.

I know this could all paint a fairly bleak picture, but there is hope. Our neighborhoods and communities are so vibrant. We will have a lot of time on our hands this summer, so let's take advantage of that time to connect with each other (in small groups), to contemplate our new world, and to figure out those unique, imaginative, innovative solutions our City will need to address the challenges ahead of us.

I really welcome your input and feedback, and I truly enjoy the opportunity for conversations and fellowship. Send me your thoughts. Meet me at a local coffee shop or patio (and support our local businesses in the process). Join me for a run or a bike ride. You can find me on email at [tim.cartmell@edmonton.ca](mailto:tim.cartmell@edmonton.ca), on FaceBook, Twitter, Instagram or by calling my office at 780-496-8130.



*"Let's take advantage of the time to connect with each other (in small groups), to contemplate our new world, and to figure out those unique, imaginative, innovative solutions..."*



**Brookview Tennis Courts are now open to Brookview Community League members** and those from other community leagues who have purchased an associate membership. Please see our website ([www.brookviewcommunityleague.ca](http://www.brookviewcommunityleague.ca)) for more information on access and tennis court rules/etiquette.

**Learn to play tennis this summer at our excellent Brookview Tennis Courts!** For lesson information see page 10, 16. Register online at: [www.riverbendonline.ca](http://www.riverbendonline.ca)

**Spring 2020 has made us even more grateful for our walkable, beautiful neighbourhood!** Recognize your friends, neighbours and community members for their effort in maintaining a beautiful front yard. Show your appreciation by **nominating great yards by June 30 for the "Front Yards in Bloom"** awards at [www.edmonton.ca](http://www.edmonton.ca)

All of us have been watching and waiting for the **re-opening of BrookviewPark!!** The City is in the final stages of finishing the sports fields, grading, seeding and planting trees. The new paved trails and seating nodes will be a great addition to the neighbourhood, providing a safe and beautiful setting to walk, ride bikes and rollerblade. We are hoping that the fences are down and work is completed by the end of June.

**A big "Thank You" to the volunteers who showed up for the Community Clean Up Day on May 9** and to all who regularly pick up trash along the walkways. Our community space is cleaner and better because of your motivation and initiative!

This summer there may be some **remedial concrete work** being done near the **Brookview Community Hall and the Ice Rink**. This is being considered to fix long-standing drainage problems that are affecting the structural integrity of the rink and heaving of the concrete near the hall.

**Summer and Fall programs are uncertain at this time** due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Check the website, [www.brookviewcommunityleague.ca](http://www.brookviewcommunityleague.ca) for updated information.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

**Check us out online at: [brookviewcommunityleague.ca](http://brookviewcommunityleague.ca)**

Brookview  
Community League

*Riverbend*  
Community League

# Learn to Play Tennis 2020

## Weekly Lessons in July and August

### Ages: 6-8 and 9-12 years

Community League Members: \$40

Non-members: \$60

The Learn to Play Tennis program will follow the City of Edmonton COVID Guidelines, including (see page 10 for article):

- Limiting class sizes
- all children will need to bring their own raquet
- balls and hand sanitizer will be on site
- children should stay at home if they are sick
- no drop-ins
- registration is only available online

Brookview Courts  
300 Bulyea Road

Register Online at:

[Riverbendonline.ca](http://Riverbendonline.ca)



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