

Parkallen News

Bringing your community to you.

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The Parkallen history project . . . so far!

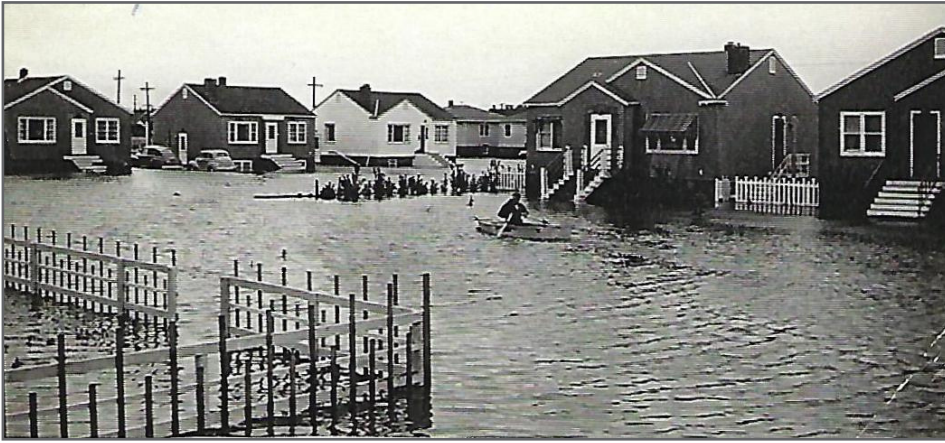
By Theresa Faulder and Natalia Pietrzykowski

For most of the world, 2020 has been a challenging year. As we move into a new year, we at the Parkallen Community league would like to take the opportunity to celebrate our 100th birthday and reflect on our amazing community.

In 1920, the Parkallen Community league was formed. Did you know that Edmonton was the first city in North America to establish community leagues? And that Parkallen was the first planned neighbourhood in Edmonton?

Since its inauguration, Parkallen has been home to many acclaimed and inspiring figures. Violet Archer was a renowned composer and musician and recipient of the Order of Canada. In 1985, a small park in the community was named after her, and you can check it out today at 109th street and 70th avenue!





Flooding is a problem as old as Parkallen itself

Babe Belanger, a member of the famous Edmonton grads basketball team, also lived in Parkallen. (cover photo) She represented Canada at four Olympic games between 1929 and 1937 and was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 1974.

And did you know that much of Parkallen used to be covered by a lake?

Because of this, massive flooding and drainage issues have plagued our community for many years. Hence, the dry pond project happening just outside our doors! Are you interested in learning more? Follow the Parkallen Community League on our Facebook and Instagram for updates on our history project!

Next, we'll be discussing the Papaschase, the indigenous people who lived in the area before Parkallen was established, and the Wilson farmhouse (the very first house in Parkallen--and it's still there!).

We at the Parkallen Community Association hope that you and yours have a beautiful holiday season. We appreciate each and every one of our residents and we thank you for making our community spectacular. We'll see you in 2021!



Violet Archer at her piano.

Memberships still available

Have you bought a Community League Membership for yourself or your family?

A Parkallen Community League Membership supports our community events and initiatives and gives you a range of benefits. From skate tags and rink access across the City, to discounts at participating retailers, your membership fees go a long way.

It's not too late to get your 2020-2021 membership and there are many ways to get yours:

email: membership@parkallen.ca and pay via e-transfer

Go online at efcl.org (note: there is a n additional \$5 fee when you purchase through the EFCL)

For more information visit our web page: parkallen.ca/membership

Happy Holidays from Parkallen!

Tis' the Season for a Scavenger Hunt!

Join us for our ONE MILLIONTH Parkallen window scavenger hunt (okay, we've lost count). Cool prizes and COVID-safe fun guaranteed! If you are interested in taking part, please contact Theresa at programs@parkallen.ca.

Check our Facebook and Instagram for updates!

Express your Artistic Side in a Snow Sculpture Competition!

Join us for a fun snow sculpture competition—from the safety of your front yard!

Email Leanne at president@parkallen.ca if you would like to take part.

Dates and details TBA!



Share the cheer
this year!



Drawing
by C. Christie
(9 year old)

Do you know someone in the neighbourhood who needs a little extra cheer this year? Want to do something great for an exceptional neighbour? You can spread the holiday love by going to <https://bit.ly/ShareTheCheer2020>. Fill out the form and one of our awesome volunteers will drop something special down their chimney!



CIVICS CORNER:

MAJOR CHANGES COMING FOR INFILL DEVELOPMENT

By Jan Hardstaff and Simon Mackintosh

In the last decade, the City began increasing density in mature neighbourhoods to curb urban sprawl, renew older housing and better use existing infrastructure. To date, over 80 infill redevelopments have been built in Parkallen. In a 2015 Parkallen Newsletter article, *Neighbourhood Watch – Inception to Infill*, Councillor Michael Walters indicated that the City wanted to increase the percentage of new homes added as infill, then at 14% up to 25%. Recently we learned that the City Plan has doubled that target to 50%.

When we emerge from the current economic downturn and the COVID 19 pandemic, the pace of infill redevelopment may begin to accelerate. We may also see dramatic changes in what is built. This is reflected in the changes proposed for a new Zoning Bylaw that will significantly increase infill redevelopment site intensity and size.

Is Parkallen protected from negative impacts?

The following provides a glimpse into the City's plans for infill development. (Note: Links to City documents are provided in the online version of this newsletter available at parkallen.ca/newsletter.)

Edmonton's City Plan - Approved by Council in September

This important planning document sets an ambitious target for Edmonton to grow to a population of 2 million. Fifty percent of net new housing is to be provided through infill redevelopment that will accommodate 600,000 new residents, as described under the *Big Bold Move – A Rebuildable City*, Edmonton's City Plan.

Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative

A major overhaul of the Zoning Bylaw is scheduled for completion by Fall 2022. The



City has released 12 Discussion Papers including Overlays, Residential Zones and Notifications & Variances. These provide insight into what is being proposed for the future Zoning Bylaw.

Mature Neighbourhood Overlay (MNO)

The MNO is a set of special regulations for low-density development in mature neighbourhoods. After two years of public engagement, the MNO was revised in 2017 to better align with development demand, while still ensuring infill remained sensitive to the context of existing development.

The City's Overlays discussion paper discusses eliminating MNO regulations. At present, the MNO limits height to 8.9m and a maximum of 2.5 storeys. The Residential Zones discussion paper proposes to increase in height to 10m and a maximum of 3 storeys. Under MNO regulations, the rear setback (the distance from the house to the rear property line) must be a minimum of 40% of the site depth. For an average lot in Parkallen, this would be about 16m from the rear property line. The discussion paper proposes reducing the rear setback to 7.5m from the rear property line. This would allow for a much larger building to extend all the way to a garage located at the very rear of the yard. Under current MNO regulations, rear attached garages are not allowed; proposed changes could allow continuous development from the front to the back of the lot.

Residential Zones Discussion Paper

This paper recommends consolidating 15 existing residential zones into two new residential zones to simplify the Zoning Bylaw.

This would leave it up to industry discretion and market demand to determine what is built.

Small Scale Residential Zone (SSR Zone)

Under the proposed Zoning Bylaw, all house lots in Parkallen would be rezoned to SSR, allowing one to three storey development (see *Zoning Summary, Residential Zones Discussion Paper* pp.26-27) - including alternate housing types such as tiny homes; garden suites; subdivided narrow lots, single detached, semi-detached or duplex housing. All of these could have secondary suites and likely also garden suites; and three-storey row housing and small apartments. An average lot in Parkallen could have up to six dwelling units.

Unless major opposition is expressed by communities, this zone will increase maximum height to 10.0 m and reduce rear setback to 7.5m, allowing principle buildings much larger than currently allowed under the MNO.

A contextual front setback, within 1.5m of the abutting front setbacks, is the only regulation that will be kept. Maximum site coverage is not mentioned in the Zoning Summary, other than they “will be within the range of existing maximums.” The Residential Low-Density Zone (RLD) is an existing zone which allows up to 58% site coverage and zero lot line development.

This is 38% higher than what the MNO currently allows and about triple the total building coverage of the average lot in Parkallen. This would leave very little remaining area for outdoor green amenity space which we have come to value in 2020. Over time, this may reduce the climate resilience of our community and the efficacy of our new dry ponds.

Low Rise Residential Zone – larger scale, four to six storeys (see Zoning Summary on pp.28-29) including fourplex, row housing, stacked row housing, courtyard apartments, low rise (four-storey) apartments, and mid-rise six-storey apartments.

Zoning Bylaw Omnibus Report CR_8487 Zoning (ZBO 2020)

A renewed Zoning Bylaw will not be presented to Council for approval until 2022. City Administration is attempting to fast track some changes. The ZBO 2020 report was presented to Council’s Urban Planning Committee on October 27. Public Engagement has, to this time, been limited to industry consultations. The Urban Planning Committee was persuaded to give the public a few weeks to review the many proposed changes in this report before it goes before Council in early January 2021. The report suggests amendments are urgently required to



Residential Infill Working Group

2020 Neighbours of Infill Survey

A link to the 2020 Residential Infill Working Group (RIWG) survey report and analysis will soon be distributed to all mature neighbourhood community leagues, the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues, the City and the Province. The survey results will be presented along with the RIWG’s report to Council at the January 19, 2021 Urban Planning Committee meeting. This survey was conducted by the RIWG in 2020. Parkallen was one of 43 communities that participated in the survey with 14 submissions. To receive updates from the RIWG, please email riwg@gmail.com and ask to be added to the mailing list, and follow on Facebook: RIWG.YEG

accelerate the City Plan's building outcomes and support business in light of the COVID pandemic.

One proposed amendment is to eliminate the mailing of Class A notifications to neighbours of future infill redevelopment. Parkallen suggested neighbours would benefit from the City providing more comprehensive and helpful information in the mailed notifications, rather than eliminating the notifications as proposed. This is the only amendment Committee accepted.

The Omnibus also proposes to remove the need to show unnecessary hardship or practical difficulties when a variance is applied for, thus making it easier for builders to get approval for variances that allow them to build outside current regulations. Parkallen maintained that regulations should be applied consistently to ensure development is predictable, rather than varied for a site and situation that is not unique. (See also *Notifications & Variances Discussion Paper*)

One of the proposed 'big moves' is to allow both secondary suites and garden suites in conjunction with semi-detached/duplex housing and row housing. Major Home Based Business and Child Care Services would also be allowed on Sites with Secondary Suites or Garden Suites.

Parkallen will be submitting a letter with recommendations to Council in response to the ZBO 2020 report by December 15.

Please contact the Parkallen Civics Committee at civics@parkallen.ca if you would like more information or would like us to email links to the documents mentioned here.



Several members of the Parkallen Community Civics Committee recently attended a presentation by the Central Area Council of Community Leagues (CACCL) on the 109 street redesign. The presentation discussed the *109 Street Corridor Streetscape Design Handbook*. While this handbook is not available for public distribution, members of the Civics Committee have copies and will happily share them. Get in touch: civicscommittee@parkallen.ca

CACCL supports the use of 'Silva Cell', a modular suspended pavement system that uses soil volumes to support large tree growth and provide stormwater management.

The Council also agrees to support the development of an Ideal Furnishing Zone (the area between the roadway and the sidewalk) incorporating the work of professional artists from adjacent communities; continuity of streetscape elements and materials along the corridor both north and south of 82 Avenue; and a terminus viewing point at the north end of 109 street accessible to pedestrians and cyclists.

If you are interested in learning more about the Envision 109 project, please contact: civics@parkallen.ca or visit this link: https://www.edmonton.ca/projects_plans/design_studies/109-streetscape.aspx.

**How do you like the newsletter? Are you a fan on Facebook?
Checking us out on Instagram?**

We're giving you a chance to bend our ears on how we communicate.

Watch for our Parkallen Communications Survey in the New Year.



Parkallen
Community League

Know any frontline workers?

Some of our neighbours can't work from home.

Consider showing your appreciation for all they do by shoveling their walk, or dropping off a giftcard!



Fitness with Julia - Classes via Zoom

For anyone who is looking to get healthy and active, I am offering monthly yoga and strength-training classes, right here in our beloved Parkallen community! Each month, we will have a different theme. January's theme is "Get Moving to Detox, Jump Starting the New Year"

Who: My name is Julia Kim. I studied Kinesiology at the U of A, and have been in the fitness industry for 6 years. I'm an experienced personal trainer and yoga teacher and am passionate about living a healthy lifestyle and helping others do the same!

What: Yoga & Strength Training

Where: Via the Zoom platform, in the comfort of your own home

When: Mondays and Wednesdays at 12:30pm-1:15pm. Starting every month from January in 2021

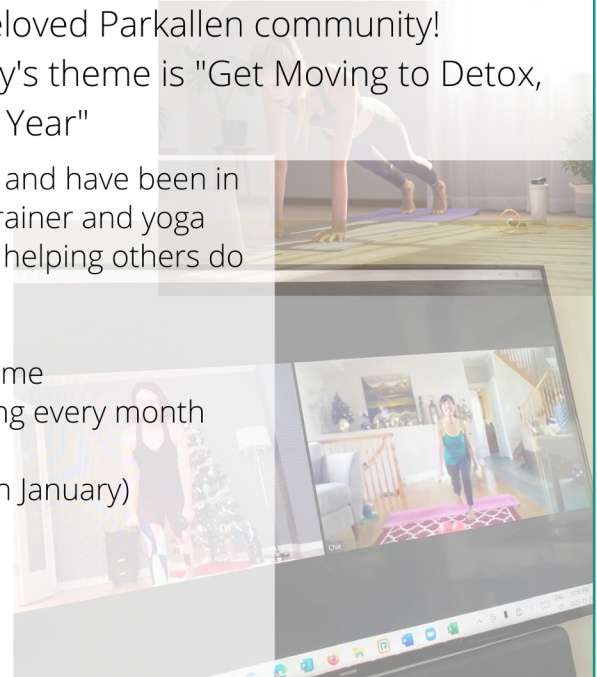
Price: \$10/class (prepay at the beginning of the month: \$80 in January)

Contact Julia for any inquiries, or to register!

Email: simplibyjulia@gmail.com

Phone/text: 780 446 3421

Social: Facebook group to be announced shortly



DRUM LESSONS

WITH DAN SKAKUN

Dan, currently teaching drums for MacEwan University's degree and diploma programs, is offering **private drum lessons**, with over 35 years of experience. Dan also has a studio in Parkallen.

All Levels. All Experiences.

TO BOOK A LESSON PLAN

Contact Dan at (780) 436 - 5024



**DAN
SKAKUN**
JAZZ & DRUMS

Phone (780) 436 - 5024
Email dan@skakundrums.ca
Website www.skakundrums.ca



WE LOVE OUR LEAGUE!

Allison

SOCIAL AND EVENTS
COORDINATOR



Allison with her mom

RESPONIBILITIES

Organizing fun events for residents of the community!

WHAT ALLISON LOVES ABOUT VOLUNTEERING

I love to give back. As a nurse, it's in my nature to give and help. Volunteer work allows me to give back in my community. I have always been on the helping end of things my whole life. My mom volunteered at our school, church, neighbourhood and local nursing home. She is my inspiration. I feel it is so important for my kids to see that there is more to life than just looking out for oneself. They've grown up in a caring and supportive community that has given them a chance to give back too. For teenagers right here and now, this is especially needed. For a community to stay strong, we must all come together and help each other in any way we can; the current pandemic we are in makes this apparent now more than ever. There is an old saying that I like....."more hands make less work". For me, helping my neighbours provides comfort and peace of mind; it reminds me that we are all in this together. If we all can do just a little something for someone else, our community and our world will be a much better place to live for all.

WHAT SHE'S DOING RIGHT NOW

"It has been a great challenge for me trying to come up with safe ideas for community members in the midst of the pandemic and the current restrictions.. A table-top Christmas tree-making class has turned into a giving of Christmas cheer to neighbours in need of some kindness. If you know a neighbour who needs some cheer, let me know at my email."

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT ALISON

"Allison is an endless source of ideas and energy. Her commitment to the community is legendary. She brings a joyful generous spirit to everything she does - and she does a lot. In addition to the countless hours of volunteer work, she is a front line workers risking her own health to take care of the most precious and vulnerable. Thank you Allison, for everything you do."

"Allison is a huge contributor to our Parkallen Community. She is creative, pragmatic, and fun! As social director for Parkallen, she is always open to new ideas and the possibilities. Thank you Allison!

"Allison is dedicated to the community and genuinely wants to see people have fun and enjoy Parkallen. She is caring, compassionate and has a great sense of humour. If there is someone who needs some cheer, she is the first to reach out to help."

Community Survey Results are In!

By Lori Hill and John Alexander

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Parkallen Community Survey! The survey was open from June 16 to September 13, 2020 and 198 people responded. It is so amazing to see how much people love our neighbourhood. We reviewed the survey results and are excited to share a summary of the insights. With the 'future projects' question, recurring themes included offering opportunities for more physical activity such as adding volleyball courts and including a ninja fitness course into the dry pond. Throughout the comments, establishing an off-leash area for dogs was noted at least 20 times. Almost 50% of respondents were very interested in having the community plan music festivals and block parties. Suggestions provided in the comments covered a wide range of planning goals including offering more classes, community activities, and physical fitness opportunities. A couple of people suggested a food truck night in Ellingson Park!

Over 53% of respondents use the open green space in Ellingson Park on a daily or weekly basis. The next highest is just over 36% using the playground daily or weekly. Violet Archer Park did not fare as well with the overwhelming number of community members never using its facilities. The park's safety is mentioned as a concern.



Heather McPherson

Member of Parliament
Edmonton Strathcona

Contact my office for assistance with:

- Employment Insurance
- Old Age Pensions
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Citizenship & Immigration
- Canada Student Loans
- Celebratory Messages

780-495-8404
10045 81 Ave T6E1W7
heather.mcperson@parl.gc.ca



Follow on   

Visit my website at www.heathermcperson.ndp.ca



Respondents offered a wide range of suggested improvements for Ellingson Park with adding seating and picnic tables being common themes. A 'wait and see' until the dry pond construction is finished put suggestions on hold for some people. This survey reflects the opinions of those who responded, and once again, thank you to all who did. The board was excited to see that many of the items mentioned in the survey were aligned with what has been offered in the past. We are looking forward to exploring programming and further development opportunities in the future, bearing in mind necessary Covid-19 restrictions. Special thanks to John Alexander for his work analyzing the data and helping us communicate the key results.

The Community League is always looking for new energy and enthusiasm to help realize your great ideas. Why not sign up to help out? Contact volunteer@parkallen.ca



Thank You!

A big thank you to manager Nathan Fletcher at the Edmonton Strathcona Home Depot for donating cedar greens for our Christmas trees. Social coordinator Allison Chevrette and her helpers made these adorable 'Grinch' trees (we see nothing Grinchy here - do you?) for neighbours and businesses who needed some extra cheer this year.

COVID in Parkallen

To everyone who's following the rules and helping to stop the spread - thank you. New mandatory rules are in effect across Alberta. Please make this Christmas safe and happy for everyone by staying up-to-date on masking and physical distance rules for indoor and outdoor gatherings. Our rink staff are working hard; you can help them do their job by exhibiting COVID-safe behaviour on the ice and in the park. For complete information consult the Alberta Health Services website: www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans



Green Circle Preschool



**Registration open for
Winter-Spring 2021
Semester, Ages 3-5**

Class Options
M,W,F AM
Tu,Th AM
M-F AM

Get in touch with us or find out more at
<https://greencirclepreschool.com>
info@greencirclepreschool.com

Thank to Epcor for hearing us!

After some discussion with the Community League, Epcor agreed to move their fencing and open the hill for sledding.

We remind residents that the dry pond is not open for recreation use this winter. This is an active work site and is not safe. Damage to the area will delay the reopening of the space for months.



Did you know?

The **Nextdoor** App has a 2020 Holiday Cheer map.

Download the app, create an account, and find the Holiday Cheer Map. Just hop in the car, go for a drive, and lift your Christmas spirits :)

Parkallen Community League Volunteer Board

Interested in joining the board, but not sure where you would fit? We have many fun, flexible positions suited to your skills and interests. Find out more: president@parkallen.ca. We look forward to hearing from you!

President	Leanne Kohn	president@parkallen.ca
Vice-president	VACANT	vice-president@parkallen.ca
Secretary	Lori Hill	secretary@parkallen.ca
Treasurer	Rob Dean	treasurer@parkallen.ca
Casino	VACANT	casino@parkallen.ca
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	volunteer@parkallen.ca
Social Director	Allison Chevrette	social@parkallen.ca
Communications Director	Anne Pratt	communications@parkallen.ca
Newsletter, Graphics and Social Media	Theresa Faulder, Silken Conradi, Lindsay Erickson	newsletter@parkallen.ca
Civics Directors	Simon MacKintosh, Jan Hardstaff	civics@parkallen.ca
History	Theresa Faulder	history@parkallen.ca
Statistics and Survey Advisor	John Alexander	stats@parkallen.ca
Newsletter Delivery	Kathy Carter	delivery@parkallen.ca
University of Alberta Liaison	Ed Hudson	uofa@parkallen.ca
Hall Coordinator	Jenny Proctor	hall@parkallen.ca
Rink Manager	Matt Larouche	rink@parkallen.ca
Soccer Coordinator	Meghan Dunnigan	soccer@parkallen.ca
Community Garden Liaison	Ashley Bouchard	garden@parkallen.ca
Membership Coordinator	Terri Roy Brenneis	membership@parkallen.ca
Programs	Theresa Faulder	programs@parkallen.ca
Web Developer	Marc Pearce	webmaster@parkallen.ca
Fall Drive Coordinator	Laurel Miyashita	falldrive@parkallen.ca

Classifieds:

Park Maid Cleaning Services: Bonded and insured. A Star-rating with Better Business Bureau. 780-504-PARK or parkmaids@gmail.com

Electrician and plumber: Journeyman Electrician and Plumber/Gasfitter with 18 years of commercial and residential experience. Contact: Clint@sparksanddrips.ca or 780-913-2682. No job too small!



ParkallenCommunityLeague



www.parkallen.ca



Parkallenyeg