

SEPTEMBER 2024

Next League Meeting:
WEDNESDAY October 2
7 pm at the hall

Welcome to fall!

Welcome, new residents

A warm welcome to anyone who has recently moved to our community, be you students, new homeowners, or new arrivals to Edmonton. We hope you find our community pleasant, healthy and vibrant.

Drop by our fall BBQ on Sept. 21 to find out more about the community!

Volunteers needed

BBQ

We need a few volunteers to help with things like setup, takedown, and cooking/serving.

Haunted Shack

Our Haunted Shack was a big hit last year, and we need some volunteers in order to be able to run it again! Planning will begin in September and setup will occur weekly in October on whatever day works best for the volunteers. The event will run on Oct. 26 from 6 to 10 p.m.

If you are able to help out with either of these events, please email Bj at director3@mckernancommunity.org

What's on in the
community?

See our event calendar on
page 6!

THE MCKERNAN MESSENGER

Since
1954

A publication of the McKernan Community League

Circulation 1,100



Oscar (above) and Cora (right) with their friendly monsters

New bright crosswalk on 112 St. thanks to local young artists

A big thank you to all the kids and parents who submitted drawings for the McKernan Vision Zero Street Lab vibrant crosswalk project. We received over seventy fantastic drawings! We wish we could have created a vibrant crosswalk at every street corner.

We will be reaching out individually to all the kids whose drawings are now on display, but we want everyone who participated to know how much we appreciate your time and effort. Our community is home to a remarkably talented group of kids, and we look forward to more children's art projects in the future.

A special thanks also goes to the City of Edmonton. Their team meticulously stencilled the drawings onto the street. While they had to simplify the designs somewhat, they worked hard to stay true to the original children's artwork as much as possible.

We hope that our joint efforts contribute to making the street safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

18th Annual McKernan Community Barbecue

Saturday, Sept. 21

Outside the hall (11342-78 Ave.), 1 to 4 p.m.

Games for adults and children

Food & prizes

Have some fun and meet your neighbours

Buy your league membership in person and save the online surcharge!

Reduce waste — bring your own dishware.

Community Contacts

PRESIDENT	Alison Stephens	president@mckernancommunity.org
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Ross	vicepresident@mckernancommunity.org
SECRETARY	Ingrid Poulin	secretary@mckernancommunity.org
TREASURER	Rita Bakshi	treasurer@mckernancommunity.org
DIRECTORS	Rolinda Graham	director1@mckernancommunity.org
	Milap Petigara	director2@mckernancommunity.org
	BJ Serink	director3@mckernancommunity.org
	Roberta Franchuk	director4@mckernancommunity.org
PAST PRESIDENT	Phil Kloc	pastpresident@mckernancommunity.org
TRANSPORTATION	Ingrid and Tom Poulin	
HOUSING ISSUES	Housing committee	development@mckernancommunity.org
PLAYGROUP	---vacant---	
SCHOOL LIAISON	---vacant---	
SOCCER - Adult	Brad Odsen	bodsen@telusplanet.net
SOCCER - Youth	Mike Blennerhassett	belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca https://emsasouthwest.com/
CRICKET	C. Marathalingam	780-438-0460 www.ascacricket.com
SKATING RINK	---vacant---	
CASINO CHAIR	Vishal Sharma	
HISTORIAN	Nancy Corrigan	
POCKET PARK	Laura Querengesser	pocketpark@mckernancommunity.org

League Memberships

Memberships in your community league support programs, socials, hall activities, newsletters, and more; PLUS the League is looking out for your interests in housing, transportation, services and more. See the membership form at www.mckernancommunity.org.

MEMBERSHIPS Alison Stephens memberships@mckernancommunity.org

McKernan Messenger

The McKernan Messenger is published ten times per year. Advertising deadline: 5th of the month.

NEWSLETTER Roberta Franchuk
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www.mckernancommunity.org

WEB MANAGER Roberta Franchuk info@mckernancommunity.org

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**See the latest news at
www.mckernancommunity.org, or follow us
on Facebook or Instagram!**

We appreciate our casino volunteers

Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who gave up time on the August long weekend to work at our community casino. We expect that the proceedings of this casino should help us pay off the outstanding balance of our loan for the hall.

Our deep thanks go to: Vishal Sharma, Steve Koehn, Ryan Pellejo, Martin Mueller, Jennifer Branch, BJ Serink, Michael Baggaley, Roberta Franchuk, Alison Stephens, Raymond Pallard, Tom Poulin, Richard Hackett, Sai Joo-Hackett, Hitomi Suzata, Susan Speichert, Deborah Rumsey, Norm Godbout, Muritala Bakinson, Dietmar Kennepohl, Nancy Corrigan, Stanley Walter, Mark Stephens, Astrid Kennepohl, Rita Bakshi, Susan Neuman, Alison Stephens, Roberta Franchuk, Raymond Pallard, Tuhin Bakshi, James Muir, Hitomi Suzata, Susan Speichert, Deborah Rumsey, Melissa Naguib.



RENT THE MCKERNAN COMMUNITY CENTRE!

The community centre, located at 11341-78 Avenue, is open again! Our facility includes smaller meeting spaces along with a main hall complete with danceable wooden floor and air conditioning. More information about the hall and how to rent it is available at www.mckernancommunity.org. For bookings, contact the manager at hall@mckernancommunity.org.

	Main Hall	Meeting Room
Capacity	150	60
Hourly Rate (GST will be added)		
Weekend (Fri evening, Sat, Sun)	\$65/hr	\$55/hr
Weekday (day and evening)	\$45/hr	\$35/hr
Long-Term Rentals (multi-week, with contract)	\$40/hr	\$30/hr

Residents of McKernan who are members of the community league receive a 15% discount on one-time hall rentals. GST will also be charged on rentals. Damage deposit will also be required, and renters must obtain their own event insurance.



Charles Simmons Park construction update

Construction has been moving briskly at Charles Simmonds Park. The playground equipment is on schedule for an August installation – except for the large climbing structure, which is on back order and will be installed next season. The playground will be open once the bulk of the equipemtn is in. The gazebo and paths will be worked on in September, followed by the benches and picnic tables.

Watch for a grand opening party in spring 2025!

Meet our new historian



Hello readers! I'm Nancy Corrigan. My husband Jim (b.1955-d.2017) and I purchased a house on 73rd avenue in 1982. I'm an artist/art facilitator/art mentor in Edmonton and other parts of Alberta since 1978. Art is a bridge to yourself, between us, and within us. Historical stories between neighbors become part of our community narrative. My thesis is available for purchase, 'Drawing on Life Stories: A Phenomenological Inquiry into the Sensing of Beauty.

In 1997-98, the McKernan School grade 9 art students created a mural with me called The Seasons of McKernan Lake. It was erected on the west wall of the old community league building. Since there is no room for it on the walls of the new community league building it remains for now in storage.

I look forward to being McKernan's new historian. The past comes to the present through facts and story.

Nancy Corrigan, M.A. EXA — Art Mentor, Artist

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Water fight in McKernan Park draws a crowd

A family-friendly water fight in McKernan Park on August 11, set up by board member BJ Serink, drew close to 100 people of all ages. Hot sunny weather meant that getting splashed with water guns, pails or sponge-balls felt amazing! The league brought in ice cream for all, and the local firefighters also made an appearance. Thanks to everyone who took part!

Apartment zoning approved on 76 Ave.

On July 2, the application to rezone three lots on the south-east corner of 114 St and 76 Ave. was passed by city council at a public hearing. The new rezoning, from small scale residential zone (RS) to the new medium scale residential zone (RM) will allow the construction of a multiunit building with a maximum height 23.0 m (approx. 6 storeys)

The owners had earlier proposed a direct control (DC2) rezoning to the site under the old Zoning Bylaw, but the new Zoning Bylaw, which came into effect January 1, 2024, allows a similar development without the direct control provisions.

City administration spoke in favour of the rezoning at the hearing, noting the ideal location due to its proximity to the LRT plus active transportation corridors. The rezoning also aligns with City Plan and Strathcona District Plan by increasing density at an appropriate location near an LRT stop, supporting intensification along secondary corridor, and mitigating impacts to neighbouring properties.

Concerns were raised by residents both in online consultation and in presentations to council. These include the impact on the historic character of the neighbourhood and height and sunlight impact on surrounding properties.

One resident noted concerns about the location on or near the old lakebed of McKernan Lake and asked if the soil on the site is stable enough to support a 6-storey structure. Administration noted that this would be assessed using engineering standards at the development permit stage, after rezoning.

Many expressed concerns about traffic, particularly due to the proximity of McKernan School and its pedestrians, and parking. Councillors Knack and Janz agreed that parking management in the area overall needs a complete overhaul as the university communities have multiple parking pressures, and pointed to the review that city administration has planned for 2026 after the failure of parking changes suggested earlier in 2024 (see the July issue of the Messenger for details).

Councillor Stevenson asked why the site was not proposed to go even higher, perhaps to 8 storeys; the proponent replied that residents and the leagues preferred the lower height.

The motion to rezone passed unanimously.

Development permit still in review

While a specific building has not yet been approved for development on the site, on July 31 the site owners applied to build an 80-dwelling building on the rezoned lot. According to their council presentation, the building would include an underground parkade providing limited underground parking for fewer than half of the units — although each unit will be provided with a bicycle parking spot. The building would feature 8 three-bedroom units (an increase from the 3 three-bedroom units included in the original DC2 design) and a significant number of the units will be affordable, according to the owner. Stepbacks will reduce the area above the 4th floor (higher than 16 m) along the south and east sides to reduce impact on neighbouring houses, and the building will have a corner orientation along 76 Ave. and 114 St. The construction will also include upgrades to the alley.

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Development Applications

July 1 to Aug. 31, 2024

The list below covers permits that have been applied for in McKernan. Permits are under review unless otherwise noted. Complete information, including permit number and the name of the applicant, is available at the City of Edmonton mapping website maps.edmonton.ca > Development Applications; or in more detail at the Open Data Portal (data.edmonton.ca and search for Development Permits Map view).

Requested and approved planning applications (i.e. for rezoning, not development) are listed at https://www.edmonton.ca/residential_neighbourhoods/neighbourhoods/planning-applications. If you have any questions about a project, contact development@mckernancommunity.org.

11343-76 Ave.	To construct a residential building (80 dwelling multi-unit housing building with an underground parkade).
11106-72 Ave.	To demolish and construct a residential use building in the form of a semi-detached house with unenclosed front porches, rear uncovered decks (5.33m x 3.05m) and secondary suites in the basements.
1, 11310-72 Ave.	To construct a residential use building in the form of a 4 dwellings row house with 3 secondary suites in the basements (Units A, C & D).
11106-73 Ave.	To construct a residential use building in the form of a backyard house (1 dwelling with garage).
11108-73 Ave.	To construct a residential use building in the form of a backyard house (1 dwelling with garage).
11162G-73 Ave.	To construct a residential use building in the form of a backyard house with main floor garage and to install a renewable energy device on the roof.
11170-73 Ave.	To demolish and construct a residential use single detached house with secondary suite(s).
10980-74 Ave.	To construct a residential use building in the form of a semi-detached house with an unenclosed front porch(s), fireplace(s), and balcony.
11314G-75 Ave.	To construct a residential use building in the form of a backyard house (2 dwellings with garages).
7716-110 Street	To construct a residential use building in the form of a 4 dwelling row house with unenclosed front porches and 4 secondary suites in the basements, and to demolish a residential use building (single detached house) and an accessory building (detached garage).
1, 11135-77 Ave.	To construct a residential use building in a form of a 4 dwelling row house with 3 secondary suites in the basements and partially on the main floors.
11425-79 Ave.	To construct a residential use backyard house.
11315 University Ave.	To construct a residential use building in the form of a 2 dwelling backyard house (convert an existing rear detached garage).

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Reminder: comment on Street Lab installations

Temporary measures to calm traffic and protect pedestrians have been installed in McKernan for the summer. These include::

- speed humps on 111 St. and on 73 Ave.
- speed humps with bypasses for cyclists on 115 St.
- curb extensions for pedestrian crossing on 72 Ave. at 111 St.

Data including public feedback and speed surveys will be collected on these temporary measures to determine their effectiveness and whether permanent speed humps/extensions should be installed in 2025 or 2026. Full details are at <https://www.edmonton.ca/sites/default/files/public-files/McKernan-Street-Labs-Installation-Public-Notice.pdf>. Comments and questions can be sent to saferoads@edmonton.ca

Ask a planner: What can you build on a residential site?

COMMUNITY MEETING: Understanding the new RS zone

The new city Zoning Bylaw allows many new building forms on small-scale standard residential lots (now called an RS zoning), including row houses and garden suites. Join a discussion with City Planning Department staff to understand what is now allowed to be built on what were formerly single-family lots in McKernan and to ask questions.

Note that the McKernan Community League plans to host future sessions on parking issues and on higher-density zoning; this session will concentrate on the building form on RS-zoned sites only.

Thursday Oct. 3 7:15 to 9 pm
McKernan Hall meeting room (11341-78 Ave.)

Community event calendar

Presented by the McKernan Community League and/or other community partners.

EVENT	Location	Date/Time
Fall BBQ	Outside McKernan Hall	Sat. Sept. 21 1 to 4 p.m.
Understanding the RS Zone	McKernan Hall, meeting room	Thurs. Oct. 3 7:15 to 9 p.m.
Board Game Nights	McKernan Baptist Church	Thurs. Oct. 3, 17, 31 Nov. 14, 28
Free Leaf Raking	Your yard! Sign up at www.mckernanbaptist.ca/lawnraking	Sat. Oct. 19
Pub Night	McKernan Hall, meeting room	Sat. Oct. 19 7 to 11 p.m.
Haunted Shack	McKernan Rink Shack	Sat. Oct. 26 6 to 10 p.m.
Holiday Potluck	McKernan Hall, Weichman and meeting room	Sun. Dec. 8 5 to 8 p.m.
Free Swim	Confederation Pool (membership required)	Sundays 4 to 5:30 p.m.



Membership time!

Get your Community League membership now! The membership term is September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025.

Memberships can be purchased ONLINE through the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues website (<https://efcl.org/membership-purchase/>), or you can get one in person at our Sept. 21 community BBQ.

Benefits of league membership

McKernan Community League members get a 15% discount on event rentals at McKernan Hall (see page 2)!

You also get reduced rates to city recreational facilities through the Community League Wellness Program, participation in organized sports, use of skating rinks (at all leagues!), free Sunday swimming at Confederation Pool, and discounts at business such as Cloverdale Paints, House of Wheels, Yardly, Orbis Sports, and U of A Bookstore.

And most importantly, membership gives you a voice in the shaping of your community!

Volunteers needed

Membership Director

We need a membership director! Requirement are not too onerous:

- Access to computer and the ability to learn a user-friendly program (Communal)
- Able to deliver membership cards in the community in a timely manner
- Interest in working with the board to optimize benefits to members

Contact Alison at president@mckernancommunity.org for more info.

Social Media Guru

Are you plugged into social media? Are you able to promote community events and local happenings on Facebook and Instagram? Contact Roberta at messenger@mckernancommunity.org

mckernancommunity.org to find out how you can help us get the word out.

Newsletter Editor/Writer

We need a new editor! Ideally you would have:

- Experience in graphic design and access to a design program
- Ability to produce monthly issues throughout the year
- Interest in community events and civic happenings

Or, if you'd like to help out with writing or anything else, but don't want to take on the whole editing job, contact Roberta at messenger@mckernancommunity.org and let's talk.