



THE ALEXANDRAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY LEAGUE

WINTER 2010 — COMMUNITY EDITION

ASSISTED WASTE COLLECTION



If you haven't heard about it, the Assisted Waste Program is a free year-round service designed to help citizens with mobility concerns who cannot get their waste to the curb. For participating residents, Collectors will walk up to the home to pick up garbage and recycling. This is of particular interest to

seniors who have trouble carrying heavy items to the curb in winter's icy conditions.

For more information about or to apply to this program go to QACL.ca for the link to the City's website or call the City's Waste Management Customer Support line: 780-496-5698.

BE A SNOW ANGEL!

Keeping sidewalks clear for all pedestrians is a challenge, even at the best of times! Seniors in particular need extra help in the winter, keeping their sidewalks shoveled, ice-free and safe.

Anyone can be a Snow Angel! All you need to do is shovel snow for a person in need in your neighbourhood. By doing so, you will help create a safer community for everyone to enjoy. You will also help people in need meet their responsibility to remove ice and

snow from their sidewalks within 48 hours of a snowfall under the Community Standards Bylaw.

HELPED BY A SNOW ANGEL?

Want to say thanks and help them get their wings? If you have had snow shoveled by a good neighbour, nominate them for Mayor's recognition and a chance to win great prizes.

For more information, call 311 or visit:

www.edmonton.ca/snowangels

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by Michael Janz, EPSB Ward
F Trustee

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LEAGUE EVENTS AT-A-GLANCE

JANUARY 25, 7:00PM
Monthly General Meeting
Queen Alexandra Hall

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

GET THE LATEST LEAGUE NEWS & UPDATES AT
WWW.QACL.CA

**QUEEN ALEXANDRA
COMMUNITY LEAGUE**

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OH THE PLACES WE'LL GO

by Michael Janz Edmonton Public School Trustee (Ward F)

Thank you for electing me as your Edmonton Public School Trustee. I am eager to serve and help strengthen our public education system--the cornerstone of our democratic society and the best investment in our shared future.

These are exciting times in Edmonton Public and in our provincial political climate. We have a newly elected school board, a new city council and we are in the midst of a tremendous education reformation, "Inspiring Education" and a School Act review. Some ambitious changes have been proposed to challenge our conventional conceptions of public education. We must better prepare our learners for the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead. We must foster creativity within each individual student and teach our future leaders to think adaptively. In order for Alberta to transition to the diversified, knowledge economy of the future, we must ensure we are investing in our learners today and equipping them with the competencies and the right tools they will need to succeed.

Premier Stelmach has indicated that a spring provincial election could be around the corner. If the recent municipal election was a weathervane, it's quite possible the provincial election could similarly be an "Education Election." I heard many hot-button issues on the doorsteps; special needs education; class sizes; public education reform; school closures; community schools; creative community usages of unused school

space. These are just a few of the myriad of issues that you shared with me, and I would encourage you to share with your provincial representatives.

I would like to invite you to take a leadership role in our public education system:

STAY UPDATED

Subscribe to my e-newsletter on my website, follow me on Facebook/Twitter, or check for blog updates on www.michaeljanz.ca. I will regularly be posting and sharing relevant community & education information.

JOIN A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Attend a school council meeting at your local school. Continue to volunteer and support your community league. There are hundreds of volunteer opportunities to help support public education in our own neighbourhoods at the local level.

PARTICIPATE IN WARD COUNCILS

Over the course of my term I will be hosting nine informal community gatherings. These gatherings are a chance to discuss and brainstorm about important educational issues affecting Edmonton. There are no "sacred cows" and everything is up for discussion. The community sets the agenda so if you would like to help set the direction, please email me michael.janz@epsb.ca.

Thanks for reading and please be in touch. I'm always happy to meet for coffee!

SKATING IN QUEEN ALEX

NEW QAACL SHORT BOARD SKATING RINK

After many years absence, the skating rink at Queen Alexandra Community League is back! Everyone is welcome to come out for shinny hockey and leisure skating.

The rink is located to the east side of the hall close to the front entrance on the Rollie Miles Athletic Field property. There will be no attendant on site, so we ask that people skate at their own risk and recommend wearing appropriate protective gear and helmets (especially children).

The heated skate shack hours are yet to be determined as details about the rink are still being worked out. A big thanks to Ken Bond who organized the skating rink's revival. Ken wants to know if anyone is interested in helping with the rink maintenance. If so, you can email info@qacl.ca.

CITY OF EDMONTON FREE PUBLIC SKATING

Free public skating is offered at City of Edmonton arenas year-round & during holiday breaks. Supervised by ice marshals. No sticks or pucks allowed. Helmets recommended. Sponsored by the City of Edmonton and the Kinsmen Club of Edmonton.

TIPTON ARENA (10849 81 AVE)

- Mon 6:15-7:15pm
(except Dec 27)

DONNON ARENA (9105 80 AVE)

- Mon 6:15-7:15pm
(except Dec 27)

CONFEDERATION ARENA (11204 43 AVE)

- Fri 1-2pm (Parent & Tot skate)
- Sat 12:15-1:15pm (except Dec 25)

SHINNY HOCKEY/PUBLIC SKATE & OTHER INQUIRIES

Call 311 or visit the City of Edmonton website.

SNOWY MONDAYS AT THE HILL

By Julie Kusiek

Anyone home (kids and adults without kids alike) on a Monday morning this winter is welcome to come to the hill at the 73 Avenue & 107 Street playground starting at about 10am for some fun sledding action or just to visit with the neighbours. Please bring your own toboggan and thermos of hot chocolate! We should be there so long as the weather is about -15°C or warmer. Any questions, feel free to send Julie an email at kusiekj@yahoo.ca.

LEAGUE NOTES

QAACL WELCOMES OUR NEW EFCL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

At the November meeting, QAACL welcomed Lindsay Smith as the new District I Representative on the EFCL Board of Directors. Mr. Smith, President of the Grandview Heights Community League, represents 15 Community Leagues, & intends to attend at least one meeting of each league. His role is to act as a communication conduit between QAACL & the EFCL Board.

The EFCL is an umbrella organization. When the City wants community league input, it generally goes through EFCL, so it is important that he understand the issues important to the community leagues which he represents. He will be happy to attend future QAACL meetings when he has the opportunity. Some of the issues currently affecting local community leagues include the U of A South Campus development and the proposed Walterdale Bridge replacement.

SENIOR'S SNOW REMOVAL & YARD WORK SERVICES

- **Lifestyle Helping Hands Seniors Association**
780-450-2113
- **Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (SAGE)**
780-701-9011
- **Seniors Caring About Seniors**
780-465-0311

SCONA POOL UPDATE

by Julie Kusiek

In case you haven't yet heard the fantastic news, Scona Pool has been placed back into the city's base operating budget!

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Well, it means that Friends of Scona Pool doesn't have to go back to council year after year asking for another year of operations. Scona Pool will be operating indefinitely.

WHAT ABOUT FACILITY UPGRADES?

This budget does not give any money towards the capital upgrades that are required to keep Scona Pool in good repair. It also does not specify what Scona Pool will look like in the future as a result of these capital investments— whether it will be exactly as it is now, moved to a nearby location or simply upgraded. These discussions will take place with future year budget deliberations.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Keep swimming, keep swimming, keep swimming. Have fun! This is our pool and it's here to stay. City council has been impressed with the increase in user numbers and the community action projects that Friends of Scona Pool produced over the past number of months. We need to show them that this is the real thing and that they can expect the pool will continue to be used in the future as it is today.

If you've got ideas to make the pool a great place to be, act on it!

Send an email or letter to City Council, letting them know that you appreciate their decision.

Awesome work everyone. This has truly been a community endeavour and it has paid off. Let's enjoy it. As always, if you want to be on the Friends of Scona Pool email listing, send a line to Julie at kusiekj@yahoo.ca.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOW TO JANUARY 9

Return of the Magic

Whyte Avenue

Nine animatronic window displays along Whyte Avenue. Window characters are part of a collection from the 40s–60s that have been restored. Windows have been designed and animated. Each window has been voiced. MP3 files are available on the returnofthemagic.com web site. Scavenger hunt games can be downloaded or printed.

JANUARY 13–23

Ice on Whyte Festival Park

(85 Avenue & 104 Street)

Ice on Whyte is bigger than ever this coming year as we celebrate ties with China and our sister city, Harbin. The expanded site will contain a pagoda, dragon slide, ice and snow carvings. Guest carvers from the world famous Harbin festivals will be carving ice and snow. The international ice carving competition will feature several carvers from other countries along with Alberta artists. Full info at iceonwhyte.ca.

JANUARY 25, 7:00PM

QAACL General Meeting

*Queen Alexandra Community Hall
(10425 University Avenue)*

All League members are welcome and encouraged to attend. No meeting in December.

SCONA POOL WINTER CAMPS

CHRISTMAS BREAK CAMPS - DECEMBER 20 & 21

Have you always wanted to learn to scuba dive, try kayaking, experience canoeing, and do a fun water workout? Now you can!

RiverCity Recreation invites you to register for our Christmas Break Day Camps at Scona Pool

December 20th and 21st, 2010, from 9am-3pm (early drop-off and late pick-up is also available).

Full details about the camps, as well as Scona Pool's public swim schedule, can be found at sconapool.com.

GET THE LATEST LEAGUE NEWS & UPDATES AT WWW.QAACL.CA