

Solar and Energy Program Energizes Leagues



Left, Rob Harlan of the Solar Society of Alberta and right, EFCL President David Dodge, present the merits of the Solar & Energy Savings Program to 17 Leagues at the June 4 Information Session at EFCL offices.

Partnering with Edmonton's top energy consultants and the City of Edmonton, the EFCL has worked out a fantastic funding opportunity that will help Leagues take significant strides in the development of renewable energy, reduction of operating costs, and greater engagement of the growing green minds in the community.

Funding for the program, from both the EFCL and City of Edmonton, will facilitate the participation of seven community leagues. For an investment of \$6,000, each league will receive the following:

- ✓ A five panel 1.2 KW Solar Package
- ✓ An electronic message board and Solar PV Monitoring System.
- ✓ Consultation and project management from Edmonton's top solar and retrofit experts
- ✓ An energy audit and return of investment

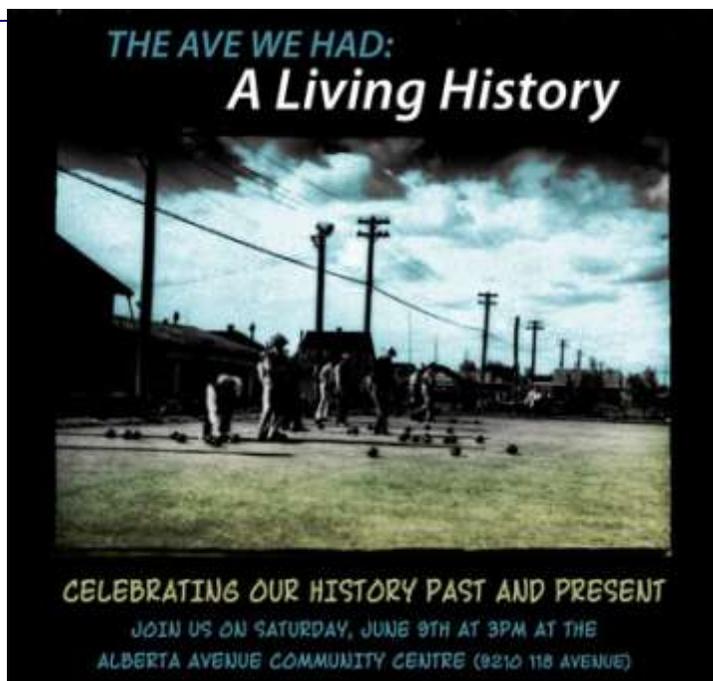
Arts and Heritage Grant Accepting Applications

The EFCL, Edmonton Arts Council, and Edmonton Heritage Council are offering the Living Local Arts and Heritage Program again in 2012. The objective of this program is to connect community leagues with local artists by commissioning projects that will recognize the historical and artistic character of their neighborhood.

Examples of qualifying projects: an event (festival, community celebration), artwork (mural, book, video, sculpture), heritage interpretive outcome (exhibit, interpretive program, publication, performance)

Leagues will once again be eligible to receive a grant of up to \$20,000 to commission an artistic project that reflects the history or character of the neighborhood. This could be a work of art, such as a painting, sculpture or mural, or a live performance or a workshop. The applicant will be asked to once again cover one third of the cost, wither from the Community League or an outside source.

More information and applications online at efcl.org/ [EFCL Activities / Arts & Heritage Grant](#)



Above, 2011 grant recipients, Parkdale-Cromdale, Eastwood, and Alberta Avenue cooperated with local artists and historians to produce an oral history from local residents and to produce a play based on the heritage information that was gathered.

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Volunteer Coaches The Key:

EFCL Explores Opportunities With Indigenous Games

The Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues is working on a partnership proposal with the organizers of the Alberta Indigenous Games, which is set for Aug. 5-9, 2013.

The plan focuses on the recruitment of volunteer coaches, to help run team sports such as soccer, softball, volleyball, basketball, ball hockey, lacrosse and canoeing, as well as coaches for individual sports like golf, archery and athletics.

The coaches would prepare the athletes for a month or two prior to the games, which will be held in Edmonton, St. Albert, Leduc and Enoch. All participants on Edmonton teams in the games would need to have a community league membership in order to participate. Participants, largely with the help of their coaches, would then be introduced to community league and other community-based programs after the Games.

"We think it's a win-win situation" said Indigenous Games co-chairman Allan Ross, in making his pitch to the EFCL board of directors on June 14.

"We get help putting on the games. The youth get instruction in a variety of sports and the community leagues get access to a large number of new members."

Ross and co-presenter Dawn Marie Marchand said they

expect to have between 2,000 and 3,000 participants, aged 12-18, in the Games. They will include people from First Nation, Metis and Inuit backgrounds.

The Games follow the four-step circle of courage – which is to help provide the participants with a sense of belonging, give them an opportunity for success, teach them about independence and self accountability and leave them with a spirit of generosity or willingness to give back.

Once the Games have concluded, the organizers believe that many of the participants will be looking for other teams to play with and will rely on any assistance their Game's coaches can provide.

The EFCL plans to hold meetings with interested sports organizations to help get this project off the ground.



More Money needed for Community Connections:

Downtown Arena Plan Raises Questions



Above, concept drawing of arena on Edmonton.ca

As impressive and comprehensive as the development is – and it is both of those things - stakeholders at a recent presentation on the downtown arena left with one big question unanswered.

Where is the money going to come from to pay for all of the features the developer has in mind?

This question reared its ugly head when it was revealed, almost at the end of the presentation, that the \$450 million budgeted for the project would only cover the arena and underground parking.

All of the features that would help connect the project to the community – including the "Winter Garden" area and 104 Avenue

pedway overpass, a community ice rink, a 24-hour pedestrian corridor and connection to an adjacent LRT station and an open air plaza south of 104 Avenue will have to be funded separately.

This will bring the total bill for the project to \$578 million – not including the plaza. The plaza has yet to be designed or costed out.

Representatives of nearby community leagues, among other stakeholders, found this news to be quite disturbing, as it was felt that these features were critical to the success of the venture. In fact, Scott Ralston of 360 Architecture – the company designing the facility – openly acknowledged that the development would not work as planned without the extra dollars.

For example, he said his company would have to "redo the plan" if the community ice rink was not funded. "We don't know what the replacement would be (in that space)."

Stakeholders were informed that the design would be presented to city council on July 4. Another meeting will be held shortly thereafter to refine a community benefits agreement, which the city is putting together with area residents and organizations. This may include a residential parking plan, a local hiring policy (to build and run the arena), and formation of a committee to deal with any noise, litter, parking or crime issues that accompany the use of the arena.

Solar and Energy Program

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assessment.

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- √ Immediate application for retrofit funding available through the new provincial TAME – Take Action to Manage Energy Buildings Initiative.
- √ Information seminar by the project management team at each community league after the launch of their solar project.
- √ Reduction of energy costs and carbon footprint.
- √ Pride in doing your part to move our world toward renewable resources.

To date four Leagues have submitted their application—Riverdale, West Jasper Sherwood, Ritchie, and McLeod. EFCL has also decided to enter its own office building in the program, at a cost of \$14,000. The EFCL negotiated this arrangement with the suppliers separate from the league program, so that it wouldn't impact the amount of subsidy money available.

If you are interested in learning more visit [efcl.org / EFCL Activities / Solar and Energy Savings Program](http://efcl.org/EFCL_Activities/Solar_and_Energy_Savings_Program) Completed [applications](#) must include a deposit cheque of \$6,000. Application deadline: **4:30 p.m. July 3, 2012**. If we have more than seven leagues submitting an application we will hold a lottery on July 4. If we have less than seven leagues interested, we will keep the program open until the spots are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

EFCL Pitches Programs to Local MPs

The federation was pleased to get an opportunity to pitch local Members of Parliament on some of our key initiatives.

At a meeting hosted by Edmonton-Ellerslie MP Mike Lake, the federation identified its 100th Anniversary Project and Cultural Inclusion Programs as two areas in which we would like to see federal funding. We also asked the MPs to personally help us with our campaign to exempt community leagues from SOCAN's tariff #21, where leagues are charged an annual fee for the right to play music in their hall.

The federation was given contacts to work with on each of its projects, which are now being pursued. Mike Lake asked for - and has now received - a copy of our letter of appeal on the SOCAN tariff.

Other Edmonton MPs in attendance were Rona Ambrose, James Rajotte and Laurie Hawn.

The EFCL was represented by Vice-President David Gibbens, along with board members Shafeek Ali and Alf White and staff members Allan Bolstad and Shahriyar Khan.



Above, environmental benefits of the solar energy generation will be live online along with additional statistics and can be used as an educational piece in the hall foyer and on the League website

Infrastructure Assessment Program Winding Down

Community leagues have until December 31 of this year to apply to the EFCL for infrastructure assessment funding, according to decision reached by the board at its June 14 meeting.

After that date, all remaining funds in the program will be redirected other federation projects.

The infrastructure assessment funding is available to any league that needs to do work that wasn't covered in the basic hall assessment that was completed by Stantec or Williams Engineering in the past couple of years. Sample projects are geotechnical reviews, to determine the integrity of the hall foundation, as well as investigations to locate and determine the degree of hazard presented by asbestos in the hall.

The EFCL is willing to cover 80% of the cost of the review, on projects up to \$20,000. Leagues are expected to obtain three quotes for the work before applying to the federation for funding.

Applications should be sent directly to the EFCL executive director, Allan.Bolstad@efcl.org

New Community League Forming In Tamarack

Approximately 50 people turned out on April 16 to help launch a new community in Tamarack. Currently served by The Meadows Community League, the area is located east of 17 Street and south of Whitemud Drive. It already has a school (Blair McPherson), where the group is meeting and a multi-purpose recreation centre is under construction at 17 Street and 23 Avenue. The group is also working on plans for a new playground.

The federation and local CRC Julie Cournoyer is helping the group get started. Once incorporated, the new league will bring the federation's membership to 156.

Record Turnout of Leagues:

Major Decisions Made At Annual General Meeting

A record-breaking 122 people turned out to the EFCL's Annual General Meeting on April 30, including 114 league representatives from 70 community leagues.

The heavy turnout led to the most successful election the federation has had in years, as five people were elected to the board of directors and six to the planning committee.

League representatives also voted overwhelmingly in favor of the federation's 100th Anniversary Project in Hawrelak Park. The three-phase development includes a Community League Plaza near the southeast corner of the main lake, upgrades to an adjacent stream and a water play feature near the existing children's playground.

Leagues agreed to help pay for the project through a supplemental, per league membership fee of \$400 each year for the next five years (2012-2016). This will raise approximately \$310,000.

The EFCL made a variety of presentations on upcoming events and initiatives, such as its new [Solar and Energy Savings](#) program and the second phase of its [Living Local Arts and Heritage program](#).

The federation also took the opportunity to present gifts of appreciation to three retiring board members – Rob Agostinis, Veronica Vinge and Ken Shapka – and long-time EFCL liaison Kathy Barnhart, who has been transferred to another position within the department.

Delegates in attendance were also the winners of quality door prizes, provided by Foster Park Baskett and the EFCL.

Two issues arose at the meeting that need to be addressed.

The first is to find a way to get more people to RSVP. Responses to our office lead us to expect a crowd of 72 people for the meeting and 63 for the dinner. Consequently we ran short of most things, including food, dishes, agendas and reports.

The second is to find a way to connect properly with our members within the allotted time at the meeting. It is getting increasingly difficult to present all of our material and hear back from members at one annual and one semi-annual meeting, given the heightened activity level of the EFCL in recent years.



Above, Rob Agostinis thanked for his service on the EFCL board.



Right, Kathy Barnhart says a word of appreciation for the time she has spent in service to Community Leagues



Above, EFCL President, David Dodge, presents Brad Tilley, President of Griesbach, a certificate to welcome League #155, to the Federation

40 km/hr Project Rejected by Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

A draft Speed Management Strategy in Neighbourhoods, including the 40 km./hr. speed limit policy, was presented to City Council's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (TIC) on May 8, 2012. The committee voted to direct the administration to cease all work on this particular initiative.

This motion flies in the face of the direction provided by the committee at its meeting on October 4, 2011, where it directed the Administration to provide a report on Speed Management Strategies that can achieve the objectives of improving safety in neighbourhoods, including road engineering, speed enforcement, education plans, school and park zones and traffic calming measures. The committee at that time also directed the administration to propose a process to engage neighbourhoods for the 40KM/hr speed limit program.

Criteria for 40KM/hr program

As per TIC directives, the committee developed the following process to engage all those neighbourhoods who want posted speed limit reduced to 40KM/hr in their community:

Once a Community League submits a request for a speed limit review, transportation services will undertake reviews of traffic speed and collisions and the history of concerns within residential neighbourhoods, and will undertake a review of potential evidence based speed management strategies to ensure that operating speeds are consistent with the design standard of the roadway and character of adjacent land use and to ensure safety, particularly within communities. If it is determined, through joint assessment of alternatives by the Administration and the Community that use of a reduced 40 km/hr neighbourhood speed limit is appropriate, a draft Traffic Bylaw amendment will be prepared for consideration by Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and approval by City Council. This would need to be accompanied by:

- ◆ A letter of support by the Community League
- ◆ Recommendation of support from Administration outlining the appropriateness of the measure and other alternatives considered
- ◆ Evidence of community support (minimum 60%) through surveys undertaken by Administration

This policy would not apply to arterial roadways within or on the boundary of communities. Arterial road speeds are addressed through other speed management strategies, including corridor specific measures. The purpose of this policy was to ensure that criteria for reducing speed limits to 40 km/hr in residential neighbourhoods are outlined to ensure appropriate use of this measure in the context of available strategies for speed management and safety within residential neighbourhoods in recognition of risk to vulnerable road users.

In its presentation to the committee, the EFCL supported the proposed strategy, and argued that a number of other Canadian cities have reduced residential speed limit from 50KM/hr to 40KM/hr, and that we are not

exceptional. The EFCL argued that on the matter of traffic safety, we, as a responsible City, must show leadership.

During discussion, the TIC members asked a number of questions. One councillor described the proposed strategy as a "patch work" which would create confusion for the drivers. That member was also concerned with the cost associated with the program. The EFCL argued that it would like posted speed reduced to 40KM/hr on all the residential roads, but we also need to acknowledge that not every community might want it.

Councillor Don Iveson, Chair of the Committee, supported the strategy while other members of the committee, Councillor Kerry Diotte, Councillor Jane Batty, and Councillor Linda Sloan were opposed to it. After a lengthy discussion between the committee members and other councillors about the committee's jurisdiction on the matter, the proposed strategy was rejected by the Committee. It was obvious from the discussion that many of the councillors were not happy with the committee decision. In their view the matter falls under City Council's jurisdiction because of its city-wide implications.

Council Takes Another Look

Two weeks ago, Councillor Ben Henderson provided notice for a motion to bring the issue back to the Council for a decision. The EFCL has asked community leagues to convey their opinion on the matter to their respective councillors. It is hoped the motion will come up for discussion in the next Council meeting on June 20th. Please ask your membership to send letter of support for the proposed strategies to their respective ward councillors.





Get to Know the New Kids on Your Block

Michael Janz
Marketing Director

Right - Giant Jenga was a hit
Center - ID VIP brings in live talent

Bottom left - participants win prizes courtesy of YELP and have a laugh or two.



Being a community league board member shouldn't be a life sentence. With new residents moving into our neighbourhoods monthly, and over six hundred thousand Edmontonians under the age of 40, there is enormous potential for new league leaders—if we can figure out how to entice their involvement. What sort of events appeal to the under 40 audience? What sort of communication methods are best to reach them?



recommendations from the participants on ways leagues can reach out to under 40s. We have also produced an [event planning guide](#) available in our Resources.

We continue to work with the City of Edmonton's NEXT GEN committee. We are helping with the Edmonton Community Challenge 2012 and encourage leagues to explore opportunities to win big prizes: www.ecc.edmontonnextgen.ca.

We'd like to give a big THANK YOU to our sponsors. We worked with Alley Kat Breweries (liquor sponsorship), YELP.ca (social media newsletter promotion) and ID VIP Productions (Music and events) to reach out to different demographics and help promote community league engagement.

Two EFCL Next Generation Recruitment events were held (May 3rd West Meadowlark and May 31st Strathcona Hall). Initially three had been scheduled but we had to cancel the Southwood event due to very low RSVPs.

Approximately 150 people engaged in the two events. Everyone was given information on how to purchase a community league membership and how to get more involved in their local community league. Anyone who contacts the EFCL is always connected to their "home" community league and told when the next meeting or event is.

The mainstream media were very excited by this initiative! We received earned numerous media mentions for these events including articles in the Examiner, Metro News, the Sun, and the Edmonton Journal and coverage on SHAW TV.

Our next steps will include tabulating a report of

NOTABLE QUOTE:

Jeff Samsonow, President, Strathcona Centre Community League on the party at Strathcona:

"Thanks again for a great night. I have a bunch of new ideas, as I'm sure other league representatives do.

Pushing community leagues to those who don't have families or own their own home is also an area of great interest to me in the Strathcona neighbourhood, as I believe it's a large demographic left out too often. Great work!"

ID VIP TEAM

Offers Live Music Event to Community Leagues

Looking to host a music-themed event at your hall but you don't know where to start?

Are you looking to promote local musicians or artists in your community but don't know where to make the connections?

Recently the EFCL and ID VIP Team collaborated to host exciting musical parties in [West Meadowlark and Strathcona](#) with a great turnout and fun had by all. You can see the photos on the EFCL website.

ID VIP Team, led by Brian Ho, is a non-profit music and arts promotion and production agency that strives to connect local talent and artists to opportunities. Working with Brian's team was a breeze and it was great to support a few homegrown local musicians. The EFCL looks forward to further collaboration with them in the future.

I've heard from many leagues that they would like to host more musical events, but they don't know where to begin. I took a few minutes to interview Brian and ask him what advice he would share with Edmonton Community Leagues. It's never too early to start thinking about future events, big or small!

I had a chance to sit down for a quick Interview with Brian:

What services do you offer?

We offer comprehensive services from the planning and production of musical events and design to online promotions and much more.

If we know a local artist who could use mentorship, are you taking new clients?

We always are looking for unsigned artists to help. We do



Above, New Kids on the Block party atmosphere set with complimentary music from ID VIP at the Strathcona event on May 31.

have criteria and we encourage artists to contact us.

What sort of opportunities could community leagues take advantage of?

Any event where community leagues are looking to increase their audience involvement or profile we would love to help.

We can help connect leagues with live performers, help organize local concerts and much more.

What sort of costs should leagues be budgeting for a musical event?

Costs can range for events depending on the size. The host sets the budget and their needs, and based on their budget we bring them a proposal for what we can do based on their budget. We try to figure out how best to meet your needs within your own budget. We've done small coffee shop events all the way up to a full-production, 18 artist, 10 hour concert.

Where can we contact you to get more information?

(780) 907-3682 brian@idvipteam.com www.idvipteam.com

Tips for Your Next Recruitment Party

We recently held two district-wide community league recruitment parties specifically targeting individuals under 40. They provided us with excellent feedback on different ways to recruit new members to community leagues. If you are looking to host your own recruitment event this summer, here are a few of the tips that they shared with us:

Fun:

Food:

Liquor Sponsorships:

Bring a Friend Day:

Social Media Promotions:

Connect to a Cause:

Check out the details on how to flush out the young blood in your community online on our [NextGen page](#)



Running Effective, Timely Board Meetings

“HOW MUCH LONGER?!?!”

~ Andrea Sage

Board Development Director

How well you use members' time at board meetings is one key to developing a cohesive leadership group. Sadly, board meetings themselves are more often part of the problem than part of the solution. Meetings can often be tedious, overly-long events that often rotate between boring reports and long-winded diatribes, with little in the way of real discussion or tangible meaning. One way to make board meetings more productive, interesting and supportive of the board's leadership role is to make meeting agreements explicit. Have a discussion at a board meeting or retreat about how to make meetings more efficient and still participatory.

The most effective way to start a meeting on time is...to start the meeting on time!

In this way you signal to board members that you are serious about respecting both their time as volunteers and the overall governance needs of the organization. **Start on time and end on time!!** If meetings do not normally start/end on time, check with members to verify that they are held at the most convenient time for the majority of board members. If socializing before the meeting makes it difficult to get the meeting started, request members to come half an hour early.

If ending on time is the problem, you can:

- √ Use a consent agenda.
- √ Set the time for adjournment (A motion is needed to change it)
- √ Enforce the meeting agreements.
- √ Reduce the amount you try to cover in a single meeting and/or add another board meeting to the schedule.

Stick to the topic!

Limit your comments to the topic at hand and wait until an appropriate time to introduce new ideas. Sometimes meetings need to deviate from the planned agenda, and that is fine as long as everyone agrees to the change.

Participate and encourage others to join in the discussions.

As one media-related nonprofit board expressed it, “Share the air time.” **One way to allow room for everyone to speak is to speak concisely yourself.** Another way to encourage participation is to go around the room and ask each member to offer their point of view about a given topic. Anyone who does not want to speak can “pass.”

Do not repeat your point.

It is often tempting to repeat an idea, particularly if you feel strongly about a certain outcome. If you do not think you have been heard, however, you may need to do so. If it is clear that people have heard you (and particularly if they do not agree), **do not keep restating your point in the hope of changing minds.** More often than not it will only annoy the other member(s).

Listen.

Allow other people to finish their thoughts. **Hearing out others (particularly when in conflict) is a good way to model how you would like your own ideas to be received.** Also, **listen to what someone is saying, not necessarily to how they are saying it** (no matter how much you may disagree).

Focus on ideas, not people.

By directing comments to the ideas presented, rather than the people or person offering the idea, the group has a better chance of reaching a solution. When people feel personally attacked, it is very difficult to get to the heart of an issue and come to a final decision.

Be respectful.

This is often a difficult challenge since what one person feels is respectful behavior might be seen as unacceptable to another. Actions like interrupting can be the norm in some cultures, while offensive in others. The best way to determine what constitutes respectful behavior is to talk about it explicitly, and make meeting agreements on what is/is not acceptable.

CHECK OUT THESE INTERESTING LINKS FOR MORE INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS ON RUNNING EFFECTIVE MEETINGS!

<http://www.feld.com/wp/archives/2009/08/the-best-board-meetings.html>

http://www.marcsmile.com/marcsmile/tools/html_files/other/running_effective_board_meetings.html

<http://www.nursingsociety.org/Chapters/Resources/Pages/effectivebodmeetings.aspx>

<http://richardmale.com/how-to-run-an-effective-board-meeting/>

<http://blog.elkocpa.com/nonprofit-tax-exempt/board-governance-%E2%80%93-how-to-run-an-effective-board-meeting>

Cultural Inclusion Project Report Released

Recommended Transformation for Leagues



Above, Workers meet with Shahriyar Khan, Community Development at EFCL

While the inclusion and integration into mainstream society is of paramount importance for the wellbeing of newcomers, there are cultural and social barriers in the process. To respond to these challenges, the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues launched a cultural inclusion initiative to reach out to immigrants, ethno-cultural and Aboriginal communities, to encourage them to take an active part in City's civic, social, and recreational activities through the historic community league system.

The Federation hired seven part time outreach staff from diverse backgrounds to support the initiative. The staff worked with individuals, families, and communities of diverse background, shared community league information, promote leagued memberships and facilitated membership and sport registrations. They presented community leagues programs at community gatherings, workshops, and town hall meetings. They also identified a number of barriers and challenges preventing people from

accessing community leagues and their programs, as well opportunities for building bridges to various ethno cultural communities. Their finding indicated that the EFCL, community leagues, immigrant serving agencies, City of Edmonton, and provincial government needs to work together towards formation of a Newcomers Integration Policy, and develop the type of programs that can help build bridges between ethno-cultural and mainstream communities. The project also identified the need to transform community leagues into a welcoming place for Edmonton's ethno-cultural community, with programs and activities that would attract people from other cultures. It has been suggested that the City of Edmonton, EFCL, immigrant and Aboriginal serving agencies work with the leagues to develop these programs.

Read the [complete report](http://ercl.org) online at ercl.org / **EFCL Activities / Activities worth reminiscences / [2011 Cultural Outreach](#)**

Come Join Us at the EFCL Heritage Festival Booth!

August Long weekend! Save the date! August 4 to 6 the EFCL will be hosting a pavilion at the Heritage Festival to promote Community Leagues, Community League Day, and sign up as many volunteers as we can!

If you haven't volunteered before, the EFCL needs volunteers to give information, collect sign-ups, and give out prizes at the EFCL football toss.

We need 20 volunteers to take 3 hour shifts. Volunteers will be rewarded with snacks, food tickets, EFCL merchandise and high fives.

If you are available, please email Michael.Janz@efcl.org



~ Bev Zubot

EFCL Community Planning Advisor

[Time for Communities to have a say in the Growth Strategy](#)

How shall the City Grow?

New growth will impact your community whether growth is on the edge of the city or in your neighbourhood. For the past year the City has been consulting greenfield developers about how the city should grow. Now it is your turn to be consulted. The EFCL has formed a Growth Management Committee which is taking a close look at the City's proposed growth coordination strategy. Join the group or email your thoughts to planner@efcl.org and growthcoordinationstrategy@edmonton.ca.

To view the City's draft Strategy go to www.edmonton.ca and search for [Growth Coordination Strategy](#).

The EFCL has been grappling with a number of concerns and questions. For instance, can the city afford to provide services and amenities to existing neighbourhoods while also providing services and amenities to dispersed, partially built out new neighbourhoods? Which neighbourhoods should get priority? At what point should a developing neighbourhood be given services such as transit, schools, libraries and recreation facilities which are funded and maintained by the city?

The city's draft growth strategy proposes to coordinate growth, rather than managing or controlling growth. Could the city not take a more active role in managing growth by giving priority to neighbourhoods closest to existing infrastructure such as drainage facilities, transit routes, schools, fire stations and community league facilities? Could City Council not refuse to approve any more neighbourhood plans until existing areas were near completion?

The goal of the Growth Strategy is to have infill development comprise 25% of all city growth. Should the growth in established areas be on vacant lands-- Airport Lands, abandoned gas station sites, surface parking lots and underutilized commercial strips and industrial areas? Or should infill be targeted to desirable streets in mature neighbourhoods? What proportion of infill housing should be family-oriented?

The draft Growth Strategy focuses on reaching the housing density targets of the Capital Region. However, if we are to create a compact, efficient city, would employment density not be just as important? How can we create more employment density downtown and in the

sprawling industrial areas?

Help EFCL and the City answer these questions and more. Join EFCL's Growth Strategy discussion group by contacting EFCL, or [join the new online discussion](#)

Calling all Urban Planning Geeks

The EFCL Planning Committee invites you to join them in discussions about a number of the city's planning strategies, in preparation for input to the City. Check out the following city website links and let EFCL know if you would like to join our lively discussion groups and help create EFCL's input into the following city strategies:

[Complete Streets](#) - design streets (roadways) for the benefit of all users and the neighbourhood. How would you change the existing design of roadways? Do you want more separated bike lanes rather than painted bike lanes on roads?

[Designing New Neighbourhoods](#) - As community leaders, you know what makes a great neighbourhood!

[Growth Coordination Strategy](#) - Where should the city grow? What areas should be stable, "no growth" areas? Where should infill be? Do we need to slow down the creation of new neighbourhoods in order to ensure existing neighbourhoods are built out and serviced without burdening taxpayers?

The Future of Food and Agriculture

We want to hear from you! A [public opinion survey](#) on the future of food and agriculture in Edmonton is now being conducted. The survey is one of the tools we are using to gather input from citizens for the development of a food and agriculture strategy. The survey closes on June 23, 2012. Those who participate in the survey have a chance to win an iPod Touch!

The survey is available now at www.edmonton.ca/FoodandAg

Draft Cell Tower Policy Falls Short of Expectations

The EFCL Cell Tower Committee is not satisfied with the April draft telecommunications policy, despite making major advances during their consultations with the City and the telecommunications industry. The EFCL Committee is hoping that their latest recommendations submitted to City Administration will have a significant impact on the final policy which will be going to Executive Committee of Council on June 27th, 2012.

(To read the EFCL Committee's [detailed](#) or [summary](#) review of the draft policy, go to efcl.org/planning_matters/civic_documents and search for the 120430 cell tower documents.)

Here are some of the major recommendations: EFCL has recommended a minimum setback from residential buildings equal to the height of the tower. The City's draft policy does not require a minimum distance between a cell phone tower and nearby residential buildings.

EFCL is recommending a number of improvements in the notification of the required public consultation meeting, including standard envelopes for written notifications which specify the purpose of the content, thus alerting the recipient to the importance of the content. EFCL is also requesting that the policy require a formal (town hall style) meeting which is clearly defined in the policy. The telecommunications industry and City Administration did not agree to require both a public meeting and a "paper (survey) consultation".

The EFCL Committee is requesting the city policy clearly state that the objective for the Policy is for the City to minimize adverse land use impacts within the City of Edmonton, while at the same time allowing development of telecommunications facilities necessary to serve residents and businesses within the City. The City appears to take the position that it has no authority whatsoever with regard to the location of antenna systems. The policy and the City's practice may be excessively and unnecessarily deferential to Industry Canada and the telecommunications companies. It is the role of the City to minimize land use impacts.

The EFCL Cell Tower Committee would like the City to pursue a means to appeal the cell tower location decisions made at the municipal level, and at the federal level. At the federal level there are appeal processes for the proponents – the telecommunications industry, but there are no appeal processes for the public at the federal or municipal level. Fred Mitchell, the chair of the EFCL Cell Tower Committee warns, "If there is no appeal process, no matter how good or bad the City's policy is, the City administration and the proponents can and will ignore the policy whenever they choose." One solution is to put the cell tower policy into the 12800 Edmonton Zoning Bylaw, thus making decisions appealable to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. For notes on the appeal process solutions go to [efcl.org/Planning Matter/Civic Affairs](http://efcl.org/Planning_Matter/Civic_Affairs) documents and search for the [120430 Cell T Appeal Process Notes](#) document.

For additional background information go to edmonton.ca and search for [Telecommunications Policy](#).



[Help EFCL identify the Implications of proposed Zoning Bylaw Changes](#)

The Devil is in the Detail

What appear on the surface to be harmless changes to the Zoning Bylaw could create unwanted negative results for neighbourhoods. EFCL is scrutinizing zoning text amendments and could use your help. EFCL is in discussions with City Administration about zoning changes and can bring your ideas forward.

There are a number of proposed changes which will likely impact neighbourhoods and may be considered by Council as early as August 27, 2012:

- ◆ **Reduced parking requirements and 25% increased density for Supportive Housing** (including seniors housing)
- ◆ The introduction of new **congregate living** classes to help control the size and location of **social housing projects**
- ◆ Changes to **low density zones** to allow more duplexes and small lots, plus relax Mature Neighbourhood Overlay requirements, including consultation requirements and much more
- ◆ Amendments to increase the number of venues for artists. The proposed changes have numerous unintended consequences such as making it easier for non-alcohol serving food establishments to morph into pubs. These unintended consequences were discussed with the arts community in early June and they are taking the input of community leagues very seriously. The discussions on **Arts-Related bylaw changes will continue June 28th, 6:30 pm at the EFCL Office, 7103 105 Street**. All are welcome.

For more information on all proposed text changes to the Zoning Bylaw go to: http://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/urban_planning_and_design/zoning-bylaw-text-amendments.aspx. If you want to view the draft amendments which may not be posted on the city's web-site, or you want to give feedback to EFCL, please contact Bev.Zubot@efcl.org.

Register for the City of Edmonton Planning Academy and receive half your tuition back on graduation!
EFCL's Edo Nyland Scholarship Worth \$70 Available to Community League Members upon completion of 3 core courses and 1 elective. Courses are 3 or 6 hours each. To register, search for the [Planning Academy](#) on www.edmonton.ca



Valerie Pachal

Communications, Assistant Director



Membership Cards Issued Online

EFCL has been issuing 2012-2013 cards with the online purchase of a membership at efcl.org since May 2, 2012. So far we have not discovered any abuse of the system, and have not received any complaints, neither from Leagues nor users.

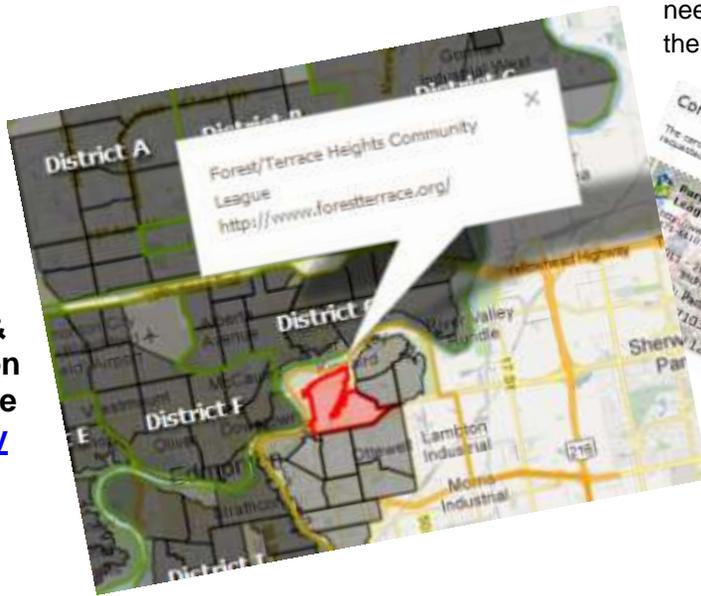
You can get your new member information online when you login at efcl.org with your League Admin account. Please contact our office if you need assistance with this.

We have been recommending that Leagues who need to distribute skate tags do this at the rink, when the new member presents the card to be verified on a list generated from the sales online.

Feel free to contact us with your concerns, comments, or questions.

communications@efcl.org

Users at efcl.org can now find their League & District on our online [boundary map!](#)



League Supplier Marketplace in Need of League References

Category	No. of Articles	No. of Views	Options
Caterers	4	238	View All.
Community Gardeners	1	75	View All.
Contractors	2	129	View All.
Equipment	1	51	View All.
Events	2	97	View All.
Fundraising	1	32	View All.
Landscapers	1	52	View All.
League Management	4	215	View All.
Network Specialists	1	69	View All.
Plumbing and/or HVAC	2	67	View All.
Printers	1	59	View All.
Programs	1	46	View All.
Renovations	1	93	View All.
Seminars & Speakers	1	75	View All.
Web Design	1	55	View All.

Our supplier marketplace has been launched for over two months now and is receiving a fair few visits - over 500 in May alone. Only three Leagues to date have referred one of their preferred suppliers, with the bulk of referrals coming from companies the EFCL has dealt with. Please share the good news with our peers and help cut down the leg work for our fellow Leagues.

Visit the marketplace at [efcl.org / resources / Supplier Marketplace](http://efcl.org/resources/SupplierMarketplace)
Use [our handy recommendation form](#) to refer your suppliers.

Presenters Sought for League's Alive Conference

EFCL Board members were asked to bring forward the names of community league executives who would be willing to make a presentation at the federation's conference on Nov. 3. Confirmed topics at the conference are as follows:

Consensus Building

Role of the President

Role of the Treasurer

Connecting with your Community

Volunteer Engagement and Recruitment

Social Media

Community Gardening

Building Operations

Crime Prevention

Board Governance Basics

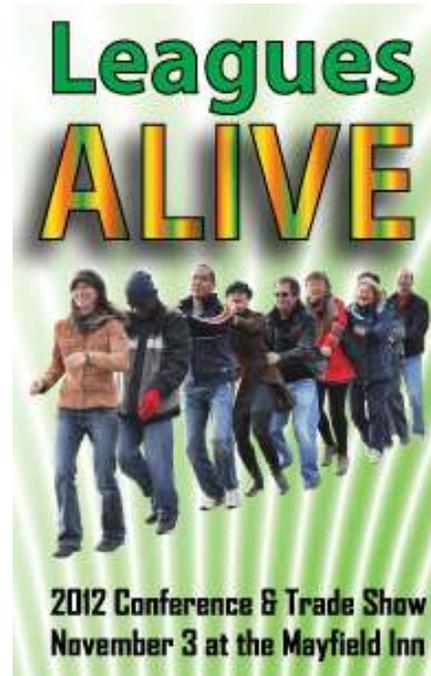
Developing Policy

Bylaws

Road to Accountability

Use of Gaming Proceeds

Watch for workshop registration online soon



EFCL.ORG Partner Announcements

New Horizons for Seniors Program Grant Opportunity

provides funding for community projects that are inspired or led by seniors. These projects enable seniors to share their knowledge, skills and experiences with others and help communities increase their capacity to address local issues. This program has been well received by organizations in our region. There is currently an open call for proposals and you are able to apply for funding by June 29 2012.

[Read more online](#) or call 780-495-7705

Get the [CommuniTEA Van](#) to your league event!

"Unpack & Play" is a free 12-week interactive program for parents/ caregivers and children (up to 5 years old). Offer it at your community league - [info online in the community classifieds](#)

Fun Team Alberta has Easy to Run Events & Programs

FunTeam is designed to guide parents, community-minded individuals and even student volunteers in the organization and implementation of sport in their own neighbourhood or community. Read more [online in our Community Classifieds](#)

HOW TO GET YOUR LEAGUE INVOLVED WITH RUNNING A GIRL GUIDES PROGRAM Plus get Cookies for your board meetings!

For the benefits of having Guiding Groups check out our [online article in community classifieds](#)

C.O.W. Classroom on Wheels

The Centre for Family Literacy runs the classroom on wheels, a free drop-in family literacy program for parents and their children from birth to 6 years old that helps support family learning. The bus comes to the community once per week. For more information call 780-421-7323.

Outdoor Movie Event Company

(equipment / service) please contact Fresh Air Cinema www.freshaircinema.ca

Creating Safe Environments Workshop

§ Considering updating policies or practices?

§ Seeking new and proven ways to deal with an issue (such as bullying)?

§ Working with a new (or not previously identified) population?

All people deserve to be safe. This workshop introduces a guide to developing, implementing and monitoring risk management strategies to keep all personnel and participants safe from violence, abuse and harassment. [More info . . .](#)

For More Deals and Resources

[community classifieds](#)

Nancy Rempel [Features](#)

[League stories](#) and posts

community events on

SHAW TV, CBC Radio, and in the Edmonton Examiner.

We showcase them. Share your story with us

communications@efcl.org

and nancy.rempel@efcl.org

The 2012 Edmonton Small Business Eco Challenge

The City is 'greening up' and it's time to celebrate the environmental actions of small businesses through the City of Edmonton's Small Business Eco Challenge.

The [2012 Small Business Eco Challenge](#) will recognize businesses (100 employees or less) who take positive actions to reduce their environmental footprint.

The challenge begins on June 6 and runs until September 28, 2012. It's open to small businesses that are just starting to become green and to those who are on a green footing and deserve recognition for their environmental innovation and commitment.

Edmonton's Small Business Eco Challenge supports the city's environmental strategy, The Way We Green. For more details or to apply visit Edmonton.ca/ecochallenge.

The Future of Food & Agriculture

We want to hear from you! A [public opinion survey](#) on the future of food and agriculture in Edmonton is now being conducted. The survey is one of the tools we are using to gather input from citizens for the development of a food and agriculture strategy. The survey closes on June 23, 2012. Those who participate in the survey have a chance to win an iPod Touch! The survey is available now at www.edmonton.ca/FoodandAg

Wanted - Noxious Weeds!

This growing season, the City of Edmonton is doing more to hunt down some of our worst offenders on private and public property: noxious weeds. These weeds are armed and dangerous. They grow and spread quickly, invading crops and ecosystems, and making properties unsightly, overgrown and infested.

So the City's running a noxious weeds awareness campaign to remind people about their role, and the City's role, in managing these wanted weeds. When it comes to noxious weeds, it's high time we work together to mow 'em down, pull 'em up and move 'em out!

Weed laws Alberta regulates the spread of noxious weeds through the Weed Control Act. The City of Edmonton sets standards for keeping yards tidy through the Community Standards Bylaw. Property owners are required to cut weeds and grass to prevent the spread of noxious weeds and keep yards tidy.

The City doesn't regulate nuisance weeds, like dandelions, on private property. However, the City controls both noxious and nuisance weeds on City property using green turf management practices.

What you can do

We all share responsibility for managing noxious weeds. As a property owner, you have many options for controlling them:

- ♦ Mow your property to 10 cm (4") or less. Cutting weeds before they go to seed, with mowers or weed eaters, will kill them in a couple of years.
- ♦ Pull weeds out of the ground by hand to control small numbers.
- ♦ Keep your lawn healthy so it's difficult for weeds to grow or go to seed.
- ♦ Spraying is also an option. Consult your local greenhouse to learn about eco-friendly products and how to apply them properly.

If you have a concern about a weed infested property, file a bylaw complaint.

www.edmonton.ca/wantedweeds

Summer Solstice Tree-planting event

The City's Urban Forestry section is partnering with other organizations for a Summer Solstice celebration on June 23 at John Janzen Nature Centre. They are looking for folks to lead [four](#) 1/2 hour nature walks between 10:30-12:30.

Please let me know if you're interested! And a reminder that our new Walk Guides are ready to go, and should be a good resource for this kind of volunteering.

angela.hobson@edmonton.ca

Check online for programs and information at Edmonton.ca efcl.org or these great sites.

[Capital City Clean Up](#)

[Graffiti Clean Up Kit](#)

[Mural Matching Grant Program](#)

[Front Yards in Bloom](#)

[Walkable Edmonton](#)

www.gettinginvolved.ca

www.OurSharedResources.org

RENT OUT YOUR HALL TO GREAT PROGRAMS AND PARTNERS

This new website sponsored by the City of Edmonton helps pair up partners with the space you might have available!

edmontonspacefinder.ca/



7103 - 105 Street
Edmonton, AB T6E 4G8

Phone: 780-437-2913

E-mail: communications@efcl.org

Executive Director Allan Bolstad - Manages all EFCL operations, initiates programs and carries out policy directions from the board. Allan.Bolstad@efcl.org

Board Development Director Andrea Sage - Coordinates workshops and training for League Board Members and offers individual board revitalization. Andrea.Sage@efcl.org

Planning Advisor Bev Zubot - Guides Community Leagues in the consultation process and assists with zoning, bylaw, transportation, planning & development issues. Bev.Zubot@efcl.org

Receptionist Joanne Booth - Answers public and League inquiries. Coordinates Membership Supplies. Provides administrative support to EFCL staff. Joanne.Booth@efcl.org

Finance Advisor Linda Crosby - Provides training to ensure an easy transition for new treasurers and is full of expert advice for setting up books, accounting programs, grant applications, and more. Linda.Crosby@efcl.org

Marketing Director Michael Janz - Promotes Community Leagues, organizes events, and raises the awareness of the role of Community Leagues in wellness of the city. Current projects also include Involving the Next Generation, the EFCL Business Plan, EFCL Charitable Status. Michael.Janz@efcl.org

League Interviewer Nancy Rempel - Contact Nancy with your League events for media coverage. Nancy.Rempel@efcl.org

Community Development Officer Shahriyar Khan - Develops and promotes programs as dictated by our members needs. Focus at the moment is on Aboriginal groups, Newcomers to Canada, Speed limits, Arena & Swim times. Shahriyar.Khan@efcl.org

Asst Director, Communications Valerie Pachal - Facilitates communications with Leagues, offers technical support for online services and advises Leagues for web development of their own, develops promotional campaigns. Valerie.Pachal@efcl.org

For an overview of all EFCL services visit efcl.org / [EFCL Activities](#)

Online League Directory - Contact Information, Hall, board, meeting location information. Provide updates and additions to communications. [Check our info now.](#) Download forms to update your :
[hall info \(excel\)](#) [hall info \(pdf\)](#)
[board info \(excel\)](#) [board info \(pdf\)](#)

Online Resource Guide - Everything from soups to nuts with help to run your League. [Visit now](#)

EFCL Executive:	District:
David Dodge, President	B
visit the District B Blogspot	
David Gibbens, VP External	E
Christine Bremner, VP Internal	G
Al Innes, Treasurer	C
EFCL Directors:	
Barry Davis	H
Lindsay Smith	I
Manon Aubry	F
Masood Makarechian	K
Sandra Mueller	A
Shaffeeq Ali	L
Vacant	D, J
Bios & pics online Planning Committee	

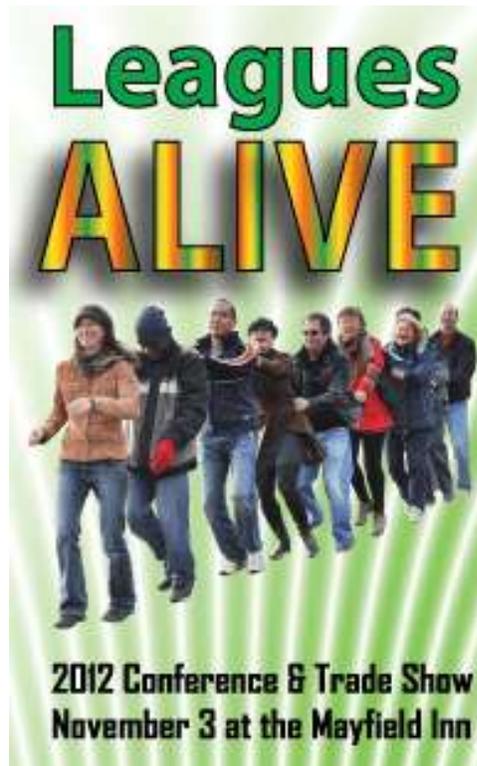


Important Dates:

July 3 - Deadline for [Solar & Energy Savings Program Application](#)

August 4 to 6 - EFCL Sponsored Rest Area at **Heritage Days** - Join us! Or Volunteer! Michael.Janz@efcl.org

October 23 - EFCL RGM Britannia Youngstown
15927 - 105 Avenue
5:30 registration & dinner
6:30 meeting
Reservation required: RSVP@efcl.org



September 15
Community League Day

Have you [registered](#) your Fall Event yet?

Don't miss this important promotional opportunity



Community League Board Orientation Strategies

Tips, Tools, and Resources designed to

get your Board into top gear quickly!!!



What does the Board need to know in order to do their job as best they can?

Thursday, September 27, 2012, 6 - 9 pm
EFCL Offices, 7103 - 105 Street
Please RSVP Andrea.Sage@efcl.org

Get Your Board Into Gear

A well planned orientation is a great way to give new board members a positive direction:

- ✓ New Board members need to feel like they're an integral part of the Board as soon as possible. If they don't feel comfortable voicing their opinions, you're all losing valuable input! **Information is what will help everybody feel at ease.**
- ✓ Board orientation is a **process** to thoughtfully provide Board members with the precise information they need regarding **their role** in the organization.
- ✓ Getting Board members comfortable with Board responsibilities and participating in meetings is a key objective. Not only do the new directors start contributing right away during the meetings, they also develop a good working relationship with the veteran Board members.

Attend the Board Orientation workshop

on September 27, 2012, 6-9PM
EFCL Offices, 7103 - 105 Street
RSVP Andrea.Sage@efcl.org

Please Recycle by giving this to your neighbour

