

## Erlton Community Association Newsletter – January 2024



### Presidents Message

Neighbours,

First off, we at the ECA hope you and your loved ones had a very happy holiday season and that your 2024 is off to a great start.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, January 10 at 7pm in the Riverview Room at the MNP Centre. We hope to see you there!

I'd like to make another appeal for past members to renew their memberships and there are several reasons for this. First, membership gives you access to several perks with local businesses ([link here](#)). Second, membership allows you to vote on issues that come before our association and in order to vote you must have held a membership for 30 days. So that means if an issue comes up that matters to you, you can't just buy a membership the day before the meeting and come down and vote on it. Since all memberships expire at the Annual Meeting in November each year, irrespective of when it was purchased, renewing it earlier in the year gives better value for your \$10.

We are excited to get 2024 going at the ECA. We have exciting projects in the works for our community garden, some public artwork, Neighbour Day, and more! We continue to monitor developments with the West Elbow LAP, Residential Parking Permit changes, and the proposed redevelopment of the former Erlton School site. What priorities are we missing? Join us and let us know!

Dylan Rayburn

President, Erlton Community Association

*Erlton and Surrounding Area Cemeteries.  
(<https://www.calgary.ca/parks/cemeteries>)*

*The City of Calgary operates several cemeteries in and close to our community. The Chinese Cemetery, Union Cemetery, Burnsland Cemetery and St. Mary's Cemetery are considered historically significant cultural landscapes that have played important part in the settlement and establishment of Calgary as a city.*

*St Mary's and the Pioneer Cemetery. – Calgary's Historic Catholic Resting Place.*

*In 1876, the Roman Catholic Mission established a cemetery at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW that was used until 1897 when the St. Mary's Cemetery was completed. The graves at 2<sup>nd</sup> St. and 24 Ave. were exhumed and moved to the new cemetery. The City of Calgary assumed management of St. Mary's cemetery in 1935 and has expanded it to the surrounding areas. The original northern portion of the cemetery is known as St. Mary's Pioneer Cemetery where many of Calgary's early Catholic pioneers and founders are resting.*

*Union Cemetery – 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Spiller Road SE*

*In 1884 The City of Calgary recognized the need for a Protestant cemetery as Non-Catholics were being buried in unsanctified lands. The Shaganapi Point cemetery was developed and used for a few years but it was not ideal because rocks and hard soil made digging the graves very challenging. The Union Cemetery was then established in 1890 as an alternate location for the Protestant cemetery. The graves at Shaganapi Point Cemetery were exhumed and moved to the Union Cemetery, many of Calgary's early Protestant pioneers and city founders are resting.*

*Burnsland Cemetery – 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Spiller Road SE*

*The Burnsland Cemetery was built next to the Union Cemetery because more burial sites were needed once the Union Cemetery was at capacity. The Burnsland Cemetery is where most of Calgary's World War 1 veterans are resting.*

*The Historic Chinese Cemetery – Erlton Street and Macleod Trail SW*

*The Chinese Cemetery was established in 1908 where many of Calgary’s early Chinese Pioneers are resting.*

*Many of these people came to Calgary from Southern China over 100 yrs. ago and encountered very difficult times while they lived here. The immigration laws at that time prevented them from bringing family members to Canada so a lot of many of these people did not have any relatives or descendants in Calgary.*

*The City began managing the cemetery in 1935 and includes burial sites, a pagoda with an oven for offerings to loved ones and a concrete and granite historical Chinese monument.*

*For a more detailed history of our cemeteries, please use the following link:*

*(<https://www.calgary.ca/parks/cemeteries>)*

***DID YOU KNOW?*** *That you can take a walking tour through Calgary’s historic cemeteries to learn about the people and events that helped to shape our city to where is it today?*

*YUP! – You can - call the Cemetery office at 403-221-3660 or email [Calgarycemeteries@calgary.ca](mailto:Calgarycemeteries@calgary.ca)*

***Fun and Fun***

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| <i>Jan. – Mar.17<sup>th</sup>:</i>               | <i>Ice Skating at Olympic Plaza</i>                                  |
| <i>Jan.26 - Feb.25<sup>th</sup>:</i>             | <i>Curling on the Island - Free curling on St. Patrick’s Island.</i> |
| <i>Jan.6<sup>th</sup> – Mar.10<sup>th</sup>:</i> | <i>East Village Hygge Hut – Free admission</i>                       |
| <i>Mar.22<sup>nd</sup>:</i>                      | <i>Spring Equinox bonfire at the Erlton Garden.</i>                  |
| <i>June 15<sup>th</sup>:</i>                     | <i>Neighbor Day party – details to follow in coming months.</i>      |

**2024 Erlton General Meetings at the MNP Riverview Room at 7pm.**

*Jan.2024: January 9<sup>th</sup>.*

*Feb.2024: February 13<sup>th</sup>.*

*March 2024: March 12<sup>th</sup>.*

*April 2024: April 9<sup>th</sup>.*

*May 2024: May 14<sup>th</sup>.*

*June 2024: June 13<sup>th</sup>.*

*July 2024: No meeting*

*August 2024: No meeting*

*September 2024: September.10<sup>th</sup>.*

*October 2024: October 8<sup>th</sup>*

*November 2024: November 12<sup>th</sup>*

*December 2024: December.10<sup>th</sup>.*

**Erlton Garden Beautification Project:** *Volunteers needed to help us spruce up the park in the spring, please email [Erltonparks@gmail.com](mailto:Erltonparks@gmail.com) if you would like to help out.*

**Readers Garden Café:** *Your ECA membership entitles you to 10% discount on drinks at the Café. We are working on an email confirmation for our members to present at the Cafe.*

*Volunteering with ECA as a Director or Committee member is a great way to meet some new friends, have some fun and make a positive impact in our community. Please email [Erltonsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:Erltonsecretary@gmail.com); [Erltonpresident@gmail.com](mailto:Erltonpresident@gmail.com); [Erltoncommunications@gmail.com](mailto:Erltoncommunications@gmail.com) if you are interested.*



## Calgary in January



Average Low Temperature: -12°

Average High Temperature: -2°

Sunrise on Jan 1st at 8:39 AM and Sunrise on Jan.31st at 8:14 AM

Sunset on Jan.1st<sup>st</sup> at 4:40 PM and Sunset on Jan.31st 5:25 PM

## West Elbow Local Area Plan.



*The West Elbow Local Area Plan is a planning document that will guide development in our neighborhoods for many years. As such it is important to get it right when it comes up for review, as it is now. This spring, representatives from many affected communities met to talk in general about the document and our hopes and expectations for it. We felt that we wanted to seek feedback from our residents with our own survey, a link to which you find below. There will be many opportunities to provide feedback during the process but we as leaders*

*wanted to understand the perspectives of our members and residents before starting a formal engagement with the City. I'd like to thank Lisa Poole, President of the Elbow Park Residents Association, for leading this effort and for compiling the responses to the survey. Please let Dylan (President) or Mona (Vice President) if you have any questions about the West Elbow LAP engagement. These survey questions have been developed by the communities involved in the LAP process, we are hoping for honest feedback from our community residents.*

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XRNT76R>. Deadline Jan.15, 2024



***Test your Smoke and CO detector after you're finished reading this newsletter to ensure they are working properly.***

*GamePLAN - Calgarians Invited to help Reimagine Public Recreation. (City of Calgary).*

*How do you stay active, healthy and social? The City wants to get a better picture of how you spend your free time.*

*GamePLAN is a public engagement and research initiative to support the development of a long term vision and strategy for public recreation in Calgary. Public recreation is a network of recreation service providers who share a mandate to provide quality, accessible, affordable and inclusive recreation opportunities for Calgarians.*

*GamePLAN will result in a long-term strategic vision that will shape The City's approach to delivering inclusive, equitable and sustainable recreation services over the next 10 – 30 years.*

*GamePLAN will guide future business planning and investment, shape policy and The City's approach to service, and inform strategies for advancing the goals of sustainability, inclusion, accessibility and equity.*

*Help us reimagine public recreation in Calgary. Tell us what's important to you at [Calgary.ca/GamePLAN](https://calgary.ca/GamePLAN). Deadline Jan.31.2024*

***Alpha House is in need of Winter Clothing. Please have a look at the "How You Can Help" Page for a list of needed items. ([www.Alphahousecalgary.com](http://www.Alphahousecalgary.com))***



***Winter Solstice Bonfire at the Erlton Garden Dec-22<sup>nd</sup> – photos by Dave G***



***Our Community bonfires are becoming more popular – join us on Mar.22<sup>nd</sup> at the Garden.***