

# THE TUSCANY *Sun*

OUR COMMUNITY'S VOICE | MAY 2025

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# TUSCANY

community association

www.TuscanyCA.org

## Tuscany Community Association

P.O. Box 27054 Tuscany RPO  
Calgary, Alberta T3L 2Y1

**President:** Erin Chrusch ..... president@tuscanyca.org  
**Vice President & SloPitch Coordinator:** ..... Tom McGovern  
**Past President:** ..... Erik McRitchie  
**Treasurer:** Cara Davidson ..... treasurer@tuscanyca.org  
**Secretary:** ..... Tally Nixon  
**Planning:** Monika Furtado ..... planning@tuscanyca.org  
**TYC Director:** ..... Karen Draper  
**TYC Director:** ..... Marci Carrell  
**Board Member at Large:** ..... Shirley Arbour  
**Board Member at Large:** ..... Paul Agustin

## Elected Officials

**Councillor:**  
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## Tuscany Sun Newsletter

### Editor & Article Submissions:

Allison Campbell ..... news@tuscanyca.org

### Associate Editor: Peter Clarke

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## IN OUR COMMUNITY

# President's Message

After two years as serving as the President of the Tuscany Community Association, I will be stepping down at our next Annual General Meeting this May. It has been a privilege to be able to serve our community this way.

Our Board is made up of people who have also chosen to give their time and talent in various ways to our neighbourhood. I encourage those of you who are interested in learning more about what the Tuscany Community Association does to come to our AGM on May 21.

This year has been quite tumultuous. Perhaps not quite as bad as 2020, but there has been a lot of uncertainty. Life can seem more challenging than it should be. It's at times like these that I am truly grateful to live in Tuscany where we have each other's backs. Don't be afraid to reach out to your neighbours for help, or to help when needed. Check in on each other. Let's work together to continue to make Tuscany a great place to live.

Erin Chrusch

President, Tuscany Community Association

## Children's Book Recommendation:

**REVIEW:** Easy, sing-songy read-aloud; richly coloured illustrations; fun for 2-4-year-olds.



**BASICS:** Published in 1999, 32 pages, author and illustrator have worked together on over 25 books spanning 30 years.

**5-STAR QUALITIES:** Clever main character, fun mid-story twist, engaging from start to finish.



# École Tuscany School Council News

We are in the home stretch before summer! Let's get outside and enjoy the beautiful sunshine and Tuscany's remarkable green spaces!

Families who have registered their child for our Kindergarten program for the 2025-26 school year will have already received an email inviting them into the school for our Welcome to Kindergarten event on May 29th. We are excited to be able to show them what a kindergarten classroom looks like and some of the activities that they can look forward to when they join us for Kindergarten on the first day of school, September 2nd, 2025.

The next Fun Lunch (Papa John's) - (Grades 1-5) and Kinder Snack Day is on Thursday, May 22nd. The upcoming FUNdraiser Treat day is Friday, May 30th (DQ). Please log into [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca) (Grade 1-5 students) and submit your orders the Friday before to ensure your child can participate. Don't forget to wear your Spirit Wear! We are always looking for more volunteers to make these Fun Lunch and FUNdraiser Treat days possible for our kids.

**Other Important Dates for May:**

- Elder Shirley visits École Tuscany School May 5th – 9th.
- Final Book Fair (English) May 20th - 26th
- Kindergarten and Grade 1-2 Swimming lessons May 1st- May 15th
- No School Non-instructional Day Friday May 16th
- Monday May 19th, Victoria Day - No School
- May 29th Welcome to Kindergarten Event 6:00-7:45
- Alien Inline May 23rd – June 12th

We are currently on the lookout for some new, enthusiastic members to fill a few vacant parent council positions. Volunteers at Tuscany School play a very special part in our educational programs. Your help enables us to enrich learning and teaching in a number of ways. Volunteering is a great way to be involved in the school and many of our activities would not be possible without volunteers. The following positions will be vacated by current members of our Tuscany School Enhancement Society (TSES) and Tuscany School Council (TSC) this June:

- Chair & President (Interest shown)
- Vice Chair & Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Spirit Wear
- Kinder Snack Coordinator
- Fun Lunch Coordinator (Interest shown)
- Teacher Appreciation
- CBE Liaison (Interest shown)
- Grade 5 Farewell

For a full description of the above roles, responsibilities and time commitments for each, please visit our website at <https://tuscany-school-council.wordpress.com/about/> - or reach out to Mariana, our current President/Council Chair at [tuscanycouncilchair@gmail.com](mailto:tuscanycouncilchair@gmail.com) for more information, or to ask about job shadowing opportunities for these positions.

Our Event committee is busy planning our annual year end BBQ, which will be held on Thursday June 19th. We are looking for volunteers to assist in some of the planning, organizing, and various tasks before and during the BBQ. If you are interested in helping our amazing Events team, please reach out to them at [tuscanyeventsteam@gmail.com](mailto:tuscanyeventsteam@gmail.com).

Check out our website on the About page to find out more [www.tuscany-school-council.ca](http://www.tuscany-school-council.ca)

Our next council meeting of the 2024-25 school year will be held on Wednesday, May 21st, at 6:30 p.m. in person at the school and via TEAMS. Please check out our website at [www.tuscany-school-council.ca](http://www.tuscany-school-council.ca) for up-to-date info, and follow us on social media Facebook [www.facebook.com/tuscany-school-council](https://www.facebook.com/tuscany-school-council); Instagram @tuscany-school-council and X @TuscanyCouncil for reminders and photos of our adventures together. If you have any questions about becoming involved with the School Council or volunteering for a committee, please email [tuscanycouncilchair@gmail.com](mailto:tuscanycouncilchair@gmail.com). You can also follow Tuscany school on Twitter @Tuscany\_cbe.

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# Councillor Report

Hello, Ward 1! As spring settles in, I want to take a moment to update you on communications from the Ward 1 Office. Starting June 1, there will be restrictions on what we can share, including City-funded newsletters, open houses, and mass emails, which will only be permitted in emergency situations. With that in mind, this will be the last community newsletter from our office until the election in October.

As we move into the summer months, I hope you have the chance to enjoy all that this season has to offer, whether it's spending time outdoors, supporting local businesses, or simply enjoying the company of family and friends. Wishing you all a wonderful and relaxing summer!

**Waste and Recycling Collection**

As the weather warms up, it's a great time to check your waste and recycling collection schedule. From April 1 to May 29, Calgary residents can drop off their yard waste for free at City landfills. The yard waste will be composted instead of thrown away, making it easier to keep your garden tidy and reduce landfill waste. Composting food scraps and yard trimmings is

a simple way to help the environment and enrich your garden. For guidance on what can go in the Green Cart, visit the Green Cart Food and Yard Waste program. For more information, visit: Garbage, recycling and composting pickup schedule.

**Parks and Pathways Maintenance**

The City's Parks Department is busy with regular maintenance of our beautiful parks, pathways, and green spaces. If you see any areas that require attention, such as damaged benches or littering, don't hesitate to report it through the 311 service. Ensuring these areas remain safe and clean is a community effort. For more information on park and pathway management, visit or Parks maintenance and operations or Pathway maintenance and management.

Best regards,

*Sonya Sharp, Councillor, Ward 1*



**Downsizing Seminar**

🏠 Downsizing with a Smile 🏠

**Date:** Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 PM  
**Location:** Rocky Ridge Retirement Community, 10715 Rocky Ridge Blvd NW

Thinking of the next step in your retirement? Let's make downsizing easy! Come enjoy a lively presentation packed with helpful downsizing tips followed by drinks, snacks, and the chance to chat with current residents who've been there, done that!

For more info or to RSVP, give us a call at 403-930-4848. We can't wait to see you there!

[www.RockyRidgeRetirement.com](http://www.RockyRidgeRetirement.com)  
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gather serve nourish

## FRENCH SILK PIE

**By:** Family recipe  
**Servings:** 8  
**Prep time:** 25 minutes  
**Total time:** 4.5 hours

### INGREDIENTS

¾ cup butter, softened  
 1 cup sugar  
 1 Tablespoon vanilla extract  
 3 ounces unsweetened chocolate, chopped and melted  
 3 eggs  
 9" pie crust of your choosing (pastry is traditional, graham is my favourite, chocolate graham or wafer is next level decadence)  
 1 cup whipping cream  
 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar  
 Milk chocolate bar for curling or grating (a vegetable peeler works well for curling but grating is quick and easy)

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cream room temperature butter and sugar. Add vanilla and melted chocolate. When fully incorporated, add eggs one at a time mixing for 5 minutes after each egg.
2. Pour into the pie crust of your choice and let set in the refrigerator for at least 4 hours.
3. Whip the cream with the powdered sugar on high for about 2 minutes or until soft peaks form. Spoon on top of the chilled pie and garnish with the chocolate curls/shavings.



*A Curated Kitchen is a new monthly feature from our chief editor. She looks forward to sharing her favourite recipes, hosting ideas, and a sundry of kitchen tips and tricks to enrich your times of gathering.*



## Eric Harvie School Parent Council News for May

Spring is here! April showers have brought May flowers, and we are so excited for the planters, veggies and flowers to arrive from our Growing Smiles Fundraiser on May 7/8. As usual, the Tuscany community showed up and supported our students by ordering lots of plants. The community will be full of fragrant flowers, savoury herbs will be eaten, and squeals of delight will be heard as children devour the strawberries from their planters! These strawberries have become legendary in some areas of Tuscany! A giant thank you to everyone who ordered through our fundraiser, and all the parents who volunteer their time to make this happen each year.

Our next parent council meeting is on Wednesday May 21 at 6:30pm. All parents/caregivers of a student in Eric Harvie School are welcome and encouraged to attend!

There is **NO SCHOOL** for students on Friday, May 16 or Monday, May 19 for Victoria Day.

**BOTTLE DRIVE FOR GR. 5s** - The Grade 5's are holding a fundraiser to help supplement their Grade 5 farewell party. There will be a truck trailer in the Eric Harvie parking lot on May 7 & 8 during the Growing Smiles Flower pick up times. Please bring your recyclables and place them on the trailer at your convenience. ALL proceeds will go to sending the Grade 5's off in style! These kids have worked hard and have been ambassadors of the spirit of kindness that embodies Eric Harvie school. Let's show them how much we appreciate them and celebrate their hard work over the past few years.

We are seeking volunteers to fill the following positions for next year:

- Council Chair
- Vice Chair
- Fundraising Director
- Volunteer Coordinator

We cannot run our Parent Council, including the fundraisers that provide and support so much for our students and staff at Eric Harvie, without volunteers to fill these positions. You do not need to have any experience or credentials to volunteer, and we are happy to support you as you learn your new role. These are positions that require minimal time commitments, approximately 2-3 hours a month or less, but make a HUGE impact on our school and students. If you have any questions, please email: [ehscouncilchair@gmail.com](mailto:ehscouncilchair@gmail.com)

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# Calgary Magpies

As spring blooms in Calgary, so does the flurry of activity among one of our most intelligent and misunderstood backyard neighbours: the magpie. *Pica hudsonia*, or the black-billed magpie, are members of the clever corvid family—the group of birds that includes ravens, crows, and jays—and are not only known for their striking black-and-white plumage and unmistakable chatter, but also for their remarkable nest-building skills.

Both the male and female magpies take part in nest-building, a process that can stretch from several weeks to nearly two months. It begins in early spring with the selection of a well-sheltered tree or shrub, typically at a height that offers protection for their future chicks. Interestingly, magpies often construct multiple nests but settle in just one—possibly using the others as decoys to confuse predators.

Unlike many songbirds that opt for a simple cup-shaped nest, magpies are known for constructing elaborate, dome-shaped structures designed for both durability and defense. These architectural marvels are up to three feet tall and just as wide, with thick outer walls woven from thorny branches, sticks, and twigs. Inside, a mud-lined 'cup' is carefully padded with grass and, at times, fur from shedding mammals. With a sturdy roof overhead and strategically placed side entrances, these nests offer protection from predators and the elements, while also ensuring a swift exit when needed.

By late May, fledglings begin to take their first steps—and flights—out of the nest. Like toddlers learning to walk, they



spend a few days on the ground practicing short flights under the watchful eyes of their parents. This stage is natural—but also dangerous.

Each year, wildlife rehabilitators like Calgary Wildlife see an increase in injured magpies during this fledgling window. Common causes? Cat and dog attacks, collisions with windows or vehicles, and well-meaning humans mistaking grounded fledglings for orphans.

The best way to help is simple: keep pets indoors or leashed during late spring. If you come across a young magpie on the ground, observe it from a distance. Are adult magpies nearby? Is the chick feathered, active, and alert? If so, it's best to leave it be. But if the bird is injured or in distress, or has been handled by pets, it may need the help of a rehabilitation centre like Calgary Wildlife.

Give them a little space this spring, and you just might witness a quiet masterpiece unfolding, one twig at a time.

Found injured or orphaned wildlife? Unsure if wildlife needs help? Please call Calgary Wildlife at 403-214-1312.

Calgary Wildlife



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 258 Valley Point Way for \$1,375,000</li> <li>• 75 Tuscany Springs Rise for \$660,000</li> <li>• 1-347 Tuscany Estates Rise for \$1,120,000</li> <li>• 22 Mt Brewster Circle for \$675,000</li> <li>• 24 Royal Elm Green for \$950,000</li> <li>• 31 Rowmont View (new build)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1036 Varsity Estates Drive for \$1,193,500</li> <li>• 4210 18th St for \$1,090,000</li> <li>• 4735 23rd Ave for \$855,000</li> <li>• 132 Silver Valley Rise for \$700,000</li> <li>• 755 Schooner Cove for \$796,600</li> <li>• #343-60 Royal Oak Plaza for \$315,000</li> </ul> |
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IN OUR **COMMUNITY**

**The 243 Tuscany Scout Group News**

The 243 Tuscany Scouts youth have been out and about in the community fundraising and doing a food drive! As always, Tuscany has been so supportive, and they were all successful! Congratulations to the 50/50 winner! Thank you so much to the community sponsors for your donations! CO-OP, Cobbs, London Drugs, WinSport, Vertigo Theatre, Calaway Park, Laserquest, Old Dutch, Old Spaghetti Factory, Calgary Theatre and Trail Appliances. Funds raised are helping to support the youth's big adventures as well as operating costs and all section group events.

**Create a Beautiful and Resilient YardSmart Yard This Spring!**

A YardSmart yard stays beautiful longer during hot and dry weather compared to yards completely planted with grass. The City's YardSmart program provides helpful resources that show you how to how to plan, build, and maintain your yard, including:

- Layouts & plant lists for all over your yard – wet, full sun, partial sun, and shade areas.
- Easy to follow information on planting, watering and maintenance.
- How-to videos including how to garden on a budget and creating a pollinator friendly yard.

Remember, new plants need lots of water to get established, especially during the heat of summer. You can do your part to reduce your water consumption and help your yard and garden retain moisture by:

- Installing a rain barrel to use in your yard and garden. It is a simple, yet effective way to reduce your water use by acting as a backup source of water.
- Only giving plants the water they need.
- Mowing less often to keep your grass 5 to 7 cm (2 to 3 inches) high to shade the soil.
- Replacing portions of your lawn with garden features that use less water and help absorb rainwater such as low water-use perennials and shrubs, lawn alternatives or groundcovers.
- Adding good quality soil to help retain moisture and mulch on top to reduce evaporation.

To learn more about how to create a beautiful, resilient yard and garden that uses less water, visit [calgary.ca/YardSmart](http://calgary.ca/YardSmart).

City of Calgary

MAY BOOK REVIEW

***This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger**

Published: 2019  
444 pages

William Kent Krueger's *This Tender Land* is a beautiful, heartfelt tale of survival, friendship, and the search for home. Set against the backdrop of the Great Depression, it follows four orphaned children—brothers Odie and Albert, their mute Sioux friend Mose, and Emmy, a young girl with a mysterious gift—as they flee the harsh and oppressive Lincoln Indian Training School. Forced to escape after a tragic turn of events, the group embarks on a daring journey down the Mississippi River in a stolen canoe, hoping to one day reach an estranged family member in St. Louis and find a place where they can truly call home.

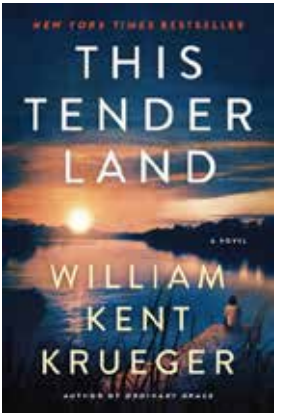
Krueger masterfully weaves together literary fiction, adventure, mystery, and even a touch of romance, creating a novel that is both a thrilling page-turner and a deeply introspective exploration of morality and forgiveness. As the four self-proclaimed 'vagabonds' make their way down the Mississippi River, they encounter a diverse cast of characters—struggling farmers, traveling faith healers, displaced families, and lost souls, each of whom leaves a mark on their journey. Yet, danger looms behind them and keeps them on the move as the ruthless Brinkmans, who run the school, are determined to retrieve Emmy at all costs.

The novel vividly captures the historical struggles of the 1930s, as many characters in the book struggle through bankruptcies,

homelessness, and forced migration in hopes of a better future. The book also showcases the cultural beliefs of the time, such as the allure of traveling revival shows promising healing and prosperity, and the presence of Native American boarding schools. However, the crux of the book is about self discovery and the inherent human desire for belonging. Each of the children carries unique strengths and inherent personal burdens; through this voyage, they discover what it is they are truly running from, as well as what they are ultimately searching for.

With themes of hope, survival, loyalty, and forgiveness, the novel had me reflecting on profound questions such as where do I feel I most belong and how to navigate and persevere in spite of past trials. Most profound of all, I am left pondering where I am harboring unforgiveness in my life, and how overcoming this can lead to personal freedom. As Odie reflects, "Of all that we're asked to give others in this life, the most difficult to offer may be forgiveness."

**Upcoming Read:** The Housemaid by Freida McFadden



TUSCANY				
MLS Real Estate Stats				
	SALES		CALGARY	
	Homes	Condos	Homes	Condos
<b>12/15/2024 - 4/15/2025</b>				
<b>Total Number of Sales</b>	50	26	4041	3034
<b>Average Sale Price</b>	\$764,376	\$505,813	\$787,003	\$406,305
<b>Highest Sale Price</b>	\$1,375,000	\$1,200,000	\$7,525,000	\$3,025,000
<b>Lowest Sale Price</b>	\$550,000	\$335,000	\$230,000	\$99,950
<b>Average Days on Market</b>	25	25	31	38
<b>Home Sq Ft Average</b>	1,722	1,228	1683	1024
<b>Sold Price per Sq Ft</b>	\$454	\$411	\$482	\$384

Source: CREB December 15, 2024 - April 15, 2025 (last 4 months)

**Hon. Rajan Sawhney**  
 MLA, Calgary-North West  
 Minister of  
 Advanced Education

Constituency Office:  
 #7223, 8650 112 Ave NW  
 Calgary, AB T3R 0R5

Ph: 403 297.7104

Email: Calgary.Northwest  
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## BUDGET 2025: Supporting Alberta and Albertans

**A**lberta's Budget 2025 was tabled at the end of February. It contains several measures to help individuals, families and our provincial prosperity.

**Benefitting everyone is an income tax cut.** Effective retroactively to January 1, 2025 (you'll see it by your July 1, 2025 paycheque), income below the \$60,000 threshold is taxed at 8%, down from 10%. Other tax brackets remain the same. For people earning less than \$60,000, the savings will be about 20% in provincial taxes. Those earning above \$60,000 will see a reduction of up to \$750/year. This is intended to help Albertans in the face of US tariff policies and the continual rise in the cost of living.

**The budget also allocates \$10 million over two years to increase hospital capacity** by identifying under-used or vacant space and preparing it for redevelopment. In Calgary, targeted facilities include the *Peter Lougheed* and the *Tom Baker*. There is also \$265 million to increase operating room capacity. These investments build on the recently completed \$84-million expansion of the intensive care, coronary care and endoscopy units at the *Rockyview*, which increased staffed bed capacity by almost 50%; plus the opening of the world-class *Arthur J.E. Child Cancer Centre*.

The budget includes \$1.1 billion over three years for **4,000 more teachers and support staff**. There is also \$55 million to address special learning needs.

Budget 2025 will invest more than \$8.5 billion in the transportation **three-year capital plan**, an increase of \$333.7-million over 2024. This includes \$2.1 billion over three years for projects in the Calgary region such as **improvements to Deerfoot Trail**, \$1.7 billion for existing infrastructure maintenance, \$3.9 billion for municipal infrastructure including Calgary's **Green Line**, and planning funds for a future **link to the airport** from the LRT network.



Alberta.ca/budget

**Tuscany**  
 RESIDENTS  
 ASSOCIATION



The Tuscany Club is operated by the Tuscany Residents Association (TRA) as a private recreation facility for the exclusive use of its members.

212 Tuscany Way NW, Calgary, AB T3L 2J6  
 Phone: 403-241-6402

Email: [customerservice@tuscanyclub.ca](mailto:customerservice@tuscanyclub.ca)

Website: [www.tuscany-connect.com](http://www.tuscany-connect.com)

[www.facebook.com/yycytuscanyclub/](https://www.facebook.com/yycytuscanyclub/)

[www.instagram.com/tuscanyclub/](https://www.instagram.com/tuscanyclub/)

### Regular Hours of Operation

Current Park and Facility Hours:  
 Everyday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

### Access to the Tuscany Club

Are you new to Tuscany or have moved within the community?

- Register your home with the Tuscany Club to be eligible for TRA benefits (i.e., access to the park, participating in programs and events) by bringing in your land title certificate.
- Moving within Tuscany? Bring in your new land title and resident information to be added to your new address.
- If you are a renter, please have the homeowner complete a transfer of privileges form to obtain Tuscany Club privileges.
- Add your children to your account so they can enjoy our great programs.
- Update your email address to stay informed about Tuscany Club happenings.

### Tuscany Club Features

- Gymnasium
- Fitness and dance studio
- Outdoor basketball court & inline skating space (TBD)
- Banquet and meeting rooms
- Permanent skate park (TBD)
- Winter outdoor hockey rink and skating oval (closed for the season)
- Summer splash park (stay tuned for opening date)
- Playground
- 2 outdoor tennis/4 outdoor pickleball courts (TBD)
- Outdoor volleyball court (TBD)
- KinderCare/Out of School Care (currently full with closed waitlist)

### Rent Rooms at the Tuscany Club

Why not host your next event at the Tuscany Club? All rentals include tables and chairs. We have a variety of spaces to choose from including our banquet rooms with kitchen and BBQ access (perfect for weddings, family gatherings, and meetings), studios (perfect for birthday parties and sports team gatherings) and specific weekend gym times. Email [rentals@tuscanyclub.ca](mailto:rentals@tuscanyclub.ca) for information on spaces to fit your needs. Available exclusively to TRA members for private events.

### Sponsorship Opportunities

Did you know that the Tuscany Club hosts 12+ events per year including our Stampede Breakfast, several children's events and an annual clean up? It is a great opportunity to promote your business and engage with our Community. For more information and to view our 2025/26 Sponsorship Guide visit [www.tuscany-connect.com](http://www.tuscany-connect.com)

## May Updates

### Important Membership Fee Information

Invoices have been distributed via email. Payments commenced on April 1, 2025, with all fees due by May 31, 2025.

### Spring Program Guide

#### Registration is Open Now!

We invite you to check out the guide online rather than printed version instead of only having one copy. Child and youth programs include art, basketball, dance & theatre, engineering for kids, karate, knitting club, red cross youth safety, sportball, taekwondo do, tennis and more. We also have a full day of adventure camp.

### Adult Fitness Mash Up

#### Schedule & Registration Available Online

Classes are registered for individually and drop-ins and non-members are accommodated if space permits, join us for modern line dancing, functional HIIT, barre, vinyasa yoga, gentle stretch, body tuning and Zumba. Participants must bring their own mat to each class. All of our talented instructors are able to accommodate a variety of fitness levels and everyone 16+ years of age are welcome to register. Non-members welcome.

### Summer Day Camp Guide

#### Registration is Open Now!

Although our full day licensed day camps are full we still have several other non-licensed (not eligible for subsidy) half and full day options including Film in a Box Camp, Taekwondo, Puddle of Mud, Engineering for Kids, Tennis and our Early Explorers camps. We have something for everyone aged 3 to 14 years of age. Come spend the Summer with us.

### Spring Market

#### Saturday, May 10 10:00am-2:00pm

Come out and shop local. Vendor registration will open for members on Monday, March 10 in person at the Tuscany Club. \$45/table; one table per address. Non-member registration will open on Monday, April 7 for any remaining tables. \$55/table. This is an indoor event and will take place in our gym.

### Summer Program Guide

#### Available Monday, May 26, 2025

Registration opens Friday, May 30, 2025 @ 9:00am

### Tuscany Giant Garage Sale

#### Saturday, June 14 9:00am-3:00pm

Be one of 100+ homes to register and include your home in our community garage sale. Registration is free and all homes registered by June 9 will have their address included on our map and receive a free yellow "garage sale" sign.

### Tuscany Free Little Art Gallery

#### Call for Spring Submissions

**What:** paintings, drawings, sculpture and multi media art (freestanding, maximum 5"x5"x5").

**When:** ongoing; we will accept pieces on a first come first serve basis until capacity is reached and then rotate through additional pieces if necessary.

## TUSCANY LAWN MAINTENANCE EXPERTS



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# Celebrating Calgary 150 - Sandstone City

Why is today's downtown core located west of Fort Calgary? In the 1880s, Inglewood was growing in anticipation of the railway, but then Canadian Pacific Railway built its station where the Calgary Tower stands today. Much of the fledgling town picked up and moved.

Civic leaders then built bridges and ran the Stampede's forerunner, the 1886 International Seed Grain and Hay Exposition. The first General Hospital opened in a house, performing surgeries on the kitchen table.

Calgary's first buildings were constructed with wood, but 18 were destroyed in the Great Fire of 1886. Afterwards, town council mandated building with sandstone from the surrounding foothills.

Hence the nickname Sandstone City. See for yourself along Stephen Avenue National Historic Site. Imperial Bank helped make it Calgary's commercial core. The Alberta Hotel followed and HBC built a department store in 1891.

Smallpox killed several people in 1892, sparking a riot when fearful residents attacked Chinese laundries, the purported source of the outbreak. Many thousands of Chinese had worked on the CPR and settled in Calgary.

An influx of Russian-Germans fleeing persecution arrived in 1892 in Bridgeland-Riverside. Ukrainians and Italians followed. Nuns like Mary Greene established Sacred Heart Convent in 1885. Édouard Rouleau became head physician of Holy Cross Hospital.

The CPR took advantage of the Rocky Mountains' picturesque landscapes. Near Siding 29, Banff townsite emerged in 1883. The presence of hot springs led the government to create a national park in 1887. Opened one year later, Banff Springs Hotel is a modern-day castle, with another one built on Horunnumnay ("little fishes' lake", aka Lake Louise).

The park's founding saw the exclusion of Indigenous people.

Glenbow Archives NA-1406-163



Calgary, Alberta, 1884 (Glenbow Library and Archives Collection)

They also faced Residential Schools that isolated students from their culture and families under sometimes terrible conditions.

At today's Fish Creek Provincial Park, William Roper Hull built a two-storey Tudor Revival-style ranchhouse. Also there was Shaw's family homestead and woollen mill. A store on Stephen Ave sold their goods to many customers headed for the Yukon's Klondike Gold Rush.

Sandstone City was a beacon on the prairies, connected to the world via railway and offering opportunities to many.

*Anthony Imbrogno is a volunteer with The Calgary Heritage Initiative Society/Heritage Inspires YYC. All copyright images cannot be shared without prior permission*

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Bridgeland area, Calgary, Alberta, ca. 1912-1915 (Glenbow Library and Archives Collection)



First General Hospital in Calgary, Alberta, 1920 (Glenbow Library and Archives Collection)



St. Dunstan's Calgary Indian Industrial School, Calgary, Alberta, 1905 (Glenbow Library and Archives Collection)



View of Alberta Hotel, Calgary, Alberta, 1893 (Glenbow Library and Archives Collection)



The first Lake Louise Chalet, Lake Louise, Alberta, ca. 1890-1893 (Glenbow Library and Archives Collection)

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## Reflections: A Journey of Trust

Spread across my desk are years of memories- a collection of real estate advertisements that tell a story far beyond mere property listings. Each page represents a moment, a family, a home, and the incredible journey we've shared with our communities.

Recently, a long-time resident handed me this stack of ads, spanning back to 2009. As we sat together, discussing the sale of his family home, I was deeply moved. He'd been following our team's journey all these years, watching us grow, celebrating our successes, and ultimately choosing us to help transition this important chapter of his life.

It's humbling to realize how many stories we've been privileged to be part of. The neighborhoods we serve aren't just locations on a map for me- they're communities of relationships, of trust built one conversation, one home, one family at a time. These pages aren't just advertisements; they're a testament to the connections we've nurtured and the faith residents have placed in us.

When someone chooses you after years of quiet observation, it's more than a business transaction. It's a profound vote of confidence - a recognition that goes beyond marketing and speaks to something deeper: genuine commitment to understanding and serving these remarkable communities.

If your own home story is beginning to take shape, or if you're curious about the value of your property, I'm always happy to listen and offer insights- no obligation, just conversation.

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