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BRIDGELAND

Hi neighbours!

The Bridgeland BIA works closely with the City of Calgary to get information about new programs and initiatives that aim to help business owners. From online webinars and resource pages to about new grants and programs - we will send out a timely newsletter that's packed with valuable information and resources.

[Click here to visit the Bridgeland Calgary website for a list of valuable resources and announcements!](#)



Bridgeland Active Modes Improvements Project update

The second phase of the Bridgeland Main Streets will see operational and streetscape improvements along **1 Avenue N.E. from 4 Street N.E. to 11 Street N.E., and along 2 Avenue N.E. between 6 Street N.E.** and is expected to be in construction until Fall 2025.

To learn more about the improvements being made and to keep up-to-date on the construction activity, visit [Calgary.ca/Bridgeland-improvements](https://calgary.ca/Bridgeland-improvements) or email the project team at bridgeland-improvements@calga

The new Single-Use Items Bylaw starts January 16, 2024

The City of Calgary bylaw applies to any business providing new paper or reusable shopping bags and/or foodware accessories.

For Shopping Bags, including new paper and reusable shopping bags: bags can only be given to customers if asked/requested and there is a minimum fee that must be applied. Information about the minimum fee must be prominently displayed for customers and the fee must appear as a separate line item on receipts given to customers.

For Foodware Accessories, including utensils, straws, stir sticks, pre-packaged condiments, napkins, etc.: business can only provide foodware accessories if the customer is asked or requests them. Both requirements apply to in-store, take-out, drive-thru and delivery orders.

The City is here to provide support and information to help businesses understand how to get ready to meet the bylaw requirements. The goal is to reduce single-use items made from all types of materials, not just plastic.

For more information and tools that can be downloaded and printed off our website go

to: calgary.ca/singleuse

Crime Prevention Support in Bridgeland

The Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association began working last year to increase police presence in Bridgeland, and just as importantly, improve CPS engagement with the community overall.

The fire, interminable repairs, and promotion of our CRO slowed us down, but there was a lot of interest in the project on both sides, so it moved through to the execution of the occupancy agreement last week.

Calgary Police Service will be available at the new "Community Engagement Hub", in the upper Hall, all day Wednesday and Wednesday evenings. Patrols will also use Hall parking areas on the South of the Hub. Officers will have 24/7 access to the Hub for short breaks. If the project is successful we hope to expand it to include more hours onsite.

To further support this initiative, there will be signs indicating Hub hours and a sandwich board outside when they are onsite, inviting members of the community to come in for a chat, questions, or to express concern or report an incident.

The Hub will also be the Mountain Bike Unit (MBU) centre when they are active in the community.

Calgary BIAs Had a Significant Advocacy Win

The BIA's sent a letter on behalf of the Calgary Business Improvement Areas (BRZs) to the mayor's office, the City Clerk, all of Council, the Chamber of Commerce, Calgary Economic Development, and the Federation of Independent Businesses (CFIB) prior to the public hearing on the proposed budget. The BRZ's supported a tax shift, and I am pleased to report that Council voted to approve a tax shift of 1% for the next three years bringing the ratio of residential versus non-residential taxes from 52/48 in 2023 to 55/45 by 2026.

Fast facts - What does this mean for your member's actual tax bill?

1. Without this tax shift advocacy, the average small businesses would have seen a tax increase of \$449/month in 2024. As a result of this advocacy businesses will see a tax bill increase of about \$277/month of \$449. So, for an average (median) small business this advocacy work will save each of our businesses approximately \$173/month (\$2,076/annually).
2. With two further 1% shifts from non-residential to residential in 2025 and 2026 additional savings will be realized in 2025 and 2026.
3. The 2024 shift represents an approximate tax increase of \$16/month for a median homeowner.
4. While your taxes are still going up, they're going up less than without this advocacy.
5. For Bridgeland, which has about 150 small businesses, a rough estimate of the collective savings in 2024 for Bridgeland businesses is more than \$250,000.
6. Across our 15 BIAs representing almost 6,000 businesses a rough estimate of the value of this advocacy to our members is (5,900 business saving about \$2,000 annually) almost \$12M in savings.

Progress in early Calgary General Hospitals

The Calgary General Hospital #1 opened in 1890 with a first donation made by a young Chinese man who had died of tuberculosis. Additional donations and money from the city enabled the purchase of a 2000 sq ft building on 7 Ave and 7 St. Resources were skimpy and very basic: surgery was done on the top of a kitchen table with few instruments – one pair of scissors, one probe and one pair of dressing forceps and a bottle of acid.....

A second 35 bed CGH, purpose built in 1894, and located on 12 Ave at 6 St SE offered more services. But it was CGH # 3, opening in Bridgeland in 1910 that highlighted Calgary's progress as a modern city.

Calgary had attained a population of 40,000 and the long anticipated opening of CGH #3 was attended by 1500 people. The new brick structure had 5 storeys – with a large central unit and two wings, east and west. It had special wards for maternity and for children; nursing staff and students lived on site. There was running water from the city's water supply, with a back up well for emergencies. The larger size of this hospital allowed for the opening of new departments - laundry, dietary and maintenance (to look after the high pressure boilers that provided the heating). Modern new features included an elevator, telephones and patient call bells. CGH #3 was said to be the most modern in Canada. There are many decades and much more to tell about the evolution of the Calgary General Hospital in Bridgeland and we'll do so in future articles.

In the meantime our BRCA Commemoration Project Committee will continue to fund raise and plan for the CGH Commemorative Plaza in Murdoch Park. Committee members Jackie Kleiner and Deb Lee have been visiting local business to tell you about our project. Thank you to all those businesses who have been willing to host a poster and postcards that share the news of our project. If we've missed you or you'd like to be included, we can be reached at cghproject@brcacalgary.org

Check out our QR code to get more information about our project and the link to the Parks Foundation donation page.

- Deb Lee, BRCA Heritage and CGH Commemoration Committee -

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Bridgeland Elves
 Holiday Hamper Drive
2023

Supporting Neighbours in Need

★ Items needed can be found at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)
 ★ Deadline is December 7

Bridgeland.elves@gmail.com

Bridgeland Elves 2023

It's jingle time! Join the Bridgeland Elves for our 11th year of helping neighbours in need. To date we have shared over 350 hampers and are excited to once again share some Bridgeland Love. As in past years Bridgeland Elves will gather donations and wrap gifts for low-income seniors and families living in Bridgeland.

The gift drive runs from **November 12 to December 7, 2023**. BRCA hall will act as our Elf Workshop on Sunday, December 10 for hamper assembly. There are several ways to show some Bridgeland love to neighbours. Please check out the options below and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions. To commit to a selection, click the "Reserve a Spot" button above and then click "register."

- 1. Select a HAMPER ticket** - work with your friends, neighbours or family to create a hamper for a family (I don't have wishlists from each person but groceries and gift cards are common requests - feel free creative,) assemble the hamper and arrange drop off with the Head Elf (Roseanne) by December 7. You may wrap the items if you wish but you don't have to.
- 2. Select an ITEM ticket** - Purchase the needed item and arrange drop off with the Head Elf by December 7.
- 3. Select a STOCKING** - show a neighbourhood senior some love by sharing a stocking. Purchase a stocking, stuff it and arrange drop off with the Head Elf by December 8. The stockings will be given out at Seniors' Coffee later in December.
- 4. Donate FUNDS and have the Elves shop for you** - Visit <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/94992> to donate.
- 5. Volunteer to ASSEMBLE the hampers** on December 10 at 2pm at the BRCA hall.

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7. Have your child sing carols and help DELIVER hampers on December 11 at 4pm at Bishop's Manor.

Once you have done your elf shopping and are ready to arrange drop off, please contact us at bridgeland.elves@gmail.com. The workshop needs your items by Thursday, December 7 at the latest please.

Visit: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bridgeland-elves-2023-tickets-744501222197?aff=oddtcreator>

Holi-Happening in Bridgeland!

We are reaching out as we would like to know what your business has planned throughout the month of December leading up to the New Year. The intent is so that we are able to collate information and share a Calendar of What's Happening in December with neighbors and followers. Some things we would like to highlight are not only events but also specials & sales / holiday deals / holiday drinks and menus/ Christmas parties / NYE e

We will be sure to tag you in our posts and together we will be able to highlight all of the wonderful holiday events / specials and deals happening this n Bridgeland. Together we will be able to amplify what makes Bridgeland the place to be over the holidays and continue to encourage and support local businesses.

EVERYTHING HOLI-HAPPENING IN BRIDGELAND

<p>Five Point Bridgeland</p> <p>2023 CannAdvent Calendars. Limited supply - so plan to preorder. The 12 Days of Kushmas is specially crafted to uplift your holidays. DM Five Point for more details!</p>	<p>DEC</p> <p>1-10</p>	
<p>Pirates Loot Tattoo</p> <p>Any session booked and done with Pirates Loot before the end of the year will qualify for rollback rate \$180/ hr.</p> <p>Gift Certificates Special - Pre-Purchased amount of time \$180/hr - usable any time / available until the end of 2023</p>	<p>DEC</p> <p>1-31</p>	
<p>Good Earth</p> <p>Gingerbread Families have arrived in time for the festive season. A great addition to any hamper/gift we will also be donating \$1 for every bag we sell to the Food Bank during this period.</p>	<p>DEC</p> <p>1-31</p>	
<p>Lil Empire</p> <p>Charity Chow - Feature menu item that works with local charity. \$1 from every Bacon Mushroom Swiss burger sold goes to Magic of Christmas, which provides gifts for families in need.</p>	<p>DEC</p> <p>1-31</p>	

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**HELP (formerly DOAP) Team
(403) 998-7388**

24/7 mobile, non-emergency assistance serving vulnerable individuals under the influence of alcohol or other substances city wide

**Needle Response Team
(403) 796-5334**

mobile response unit for safe clean up and disposal of needle debris on public or private properties

**Encampment Team
(403) 805-7388**

mobile response unit supporting individuals who are rough-sleeping or living in encampments

**Calgary Police/Fire/EMS
911**

for all emergency situations including violence, involvement of weapons, and medical emergencies



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