

## Contact Info:

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[edmonton.ca/COVID-19](http://edmonton.ca/COVID-19)

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## Messages to our Communities

### Fostering Connections

The City of Edmonton is here to “walk alongside” neighbourhoods so that together we can respond to the range of challenges that are facing individuals, families and neighbours. Being prepared for unexpected situations is not only about having the right supplies but also relying on connections to others such as family, friends and neighbours. We believe to build sustainable connections there is no better place to start than your own neighbourhood.

Here are some ideas and resources to foster connections:

- **Consider ensuring that your block/floor has a contact list** so that you can collectively respond to neighbours who may need help. For support in connecting your block email [abundantcommunity@edmonton.ca](mailto:abundantcommunity@edmonton.ca)
- **Organize acts of kindness** by taking an inventory of ways that neighbours would like to contribute to the care and wellbeing of neighbours. The [Nextdoor App](#), and particularly the Help Map function is one tool that can help
- **Find opportunities to safely connect with neighbours.** Community League websites & their social media pages are great avenues to build connections
- **Call or visit [211 Alberta](#)** a helpline and website that provides information on and referrals to Alberta’s community, social, health-related and government services
- **Reach out to your Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator** with your neighbouring stories, successes, ideas and/or challenges so that we can learn and grow together

### Sport Fields & Court Closures

Effective April 27th, tennis courts, pickleball courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts, disc golf and premier sports fields are closed. This is to ensure the health and safety of Edmontonians and to meet provincial orders around physical distancing. Park spaces like baseball diamonds and soccer fields will be open to the public for casual use starting May 1 (weather permitting). Users of baseball and soccer amenities must continue to adhere to the two metre physical distancing rules, ensure gathering are kept to 15 people or fewer and avoid or limit touching commonly touched surfaces like sporting equipment or stationary field objects. We understand the benefits of outdoor activity and we want to keep everyone safe. Please keep your physical distance and interact with others when outdoors.

## Community Gardeners Start Digging!

Community Gardens will continue to operate for the 2020 growing season. The City encourages residents and communities to start their beautiful gardens that bring so much joy and beauty to the city. It is recreational, a way to beautify a community, a healthy source of local food production and a relationship building activity where gardening knowledge and experience can be shared throughout a community. During this uncertain time, it is the ability to connect as a community that is helping so many people through this period in our lives. A community garden can bring that 'connecting' feeling into a world where distancing is becoming the new norm. The City wants to make sure the health and safety of our citizens still remains our number one priority and that we are all doing our part to follow the physical distancing guidelines set up by AHS and COE. [New 2020 Guidelines](#)

## Farmer's Markets

[On-street farmers' markets](#) are scheduled to open May 1. The province has declared all horticultural businesses and farmers' markets as essential businesses that may remain open. The Province has developed guidelines, including measures to facilitate physical distancing in addition to regular hygiene and food safety requirements. [Read More](#)

## Garage Sales

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all garage sales, regardless of duration, will not be permitted this summer. This decision is to help limit gatherings of over 15 people and maintain physical distancing. We want to limit the spread of the virus, which could happen from people handling money, touching items for sale, and travelling from one garage sale to another within a short period of time. Edmontonians looking to sell items are encouraged to consider online platforms.

## Support Local Businesses - Shop Local

The City has sponsored [Things That Are Open in Edmonton](#) to help easily find local businesses that are still open and what services they are providing. Support Edmonton businesses and buy local when they are able. Businesses are adapting to help all of us stay safe while continuing to provide great products and services.

## Capital City Clean Up Programs

[Capital City Clean Litter Kits](#) - Starting April 27, you can request a litter kit through your local community league. Each kit includes a safety guide, litter grabber, a pair of gloves, and a small and large garbage bag. Due to the restrictions placed on group gatherings, we ask that people refrain from organizing litter clean-up events until restrictions are lifted. Instead, families and those living in the same household are encouraged to participate in this activity together, and are reminded to:

- Wear gloves
- Wash hands regularly with soap and water or hand sanitizer
- Disinfect the litter grabber or any other tool used before and after use, and store it in a safe location
- Secure and dispose of all litter and garbage bags in appropriate disposal locations
- Report needles, graffiti or other hazardous litter by calling 311

At this time, Capital City Clean Up still offers [professional cleaning](#) for graffiti vandalism, [needle pick up](#), and will continue to maintain [needle boxes](#) and [ashtrays](#). For more information, email [capitalcitycleanup@edmonton.ca](mailto:capitalcitycleanup@edmonton.ca).

Due to mandatory social distancing regulations and operational changes due COVID-19, Capital City Clean Up (CCCU) has placed temporary holds on the following programs

- [Community Mural Grants](#)
- [Big Bin Grants](#)

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## Events



### **Did you know ‘June is Recreation and Parks Month’ is just around the corner?**

Connecting communities in traditional ways that bring people together has shifted significantly in recent months. Whether we, as a society are isolating, or practicing physical-distancing, we have never been more in need of connection. In the spirit of raising hope, Neighbourhood Services’ Building Community Through Recreation initiative encourages you to promote ‘June is Recreation and Parks Month’ (JRPM) in your neighbourhoods and communities. JRPM is one way to build connections and a sense of community, while practicing physical distancing to keep everyone safe. Please visit the Alberta Recreation & Parks Association website [Events](#) to find out more and use #BCTR #liveactive and #JRPMConnect in social media posts so we can see what you are doing this June!

### **Edmonton Window Art**

The [Edmonton Window Art Map](#) makes it easy for people to plan “window walk” routes. Just click on a location near you to find windows decorated with messages or art. You can use the map to go for a “window walk”, or decorate your windows and add them to the map.

### **Creativebug Libraries - Free with your Edmonton Public Library card**

Hey Crafters and Artists! Your EPL card now grants you access to the “[CreativeBug Libraries](#)”, a virtual platform hosting arts and craft classes. Enjoy instructional video classes, taught by recognized design experts and artists. This online source has something for everyone. **ACE**

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## Grants & Funding

### **Community and Non-Profit Supports**

Edmonton’s resiliency is only possible through the extensive and collaborative efforts of community groups and non-profits to deliver a wide range of public social services. Visit these [Community and Non-Profit Links](#) for information on new and continuing services for Edmontonians. If you would like to learn more, call 211 or view this [provincial directory](#) of the community, health, social and governmental organizations and services.

### **Neighbourhood Engagement**

To comply with the Alberta Public Health Emergency Restrictions on mass gatherings and risk mitigation strategies, [Neighbourhood Engagement funding applications](#) will continue to be

reviewed and considered under the regular process and criteria; however applications that include aspects or elements of neighbourhood and communal gatherings are on hold at this time, and will not be processed due to the COVID-19 pandemic precautions. Learn more about the COVID-19 situation at [edmonton.ca/COVID-19](https://edmonton.ca/COVID-19).

### Young Edmonton Grants

Edmonton Community Foundation's (ECF) Young Edmonton Grants (YEG) program provides local youth with funding to turn their ideas into reality. This grant program focuses on funding for projects initiated, led, and organized by young Edmonton and area residents. Grants range from \$500-\$3,000 and are available for residents between the ages of 13 and 24. The deadline to apply for the next round of grants is May 15th. For more information go to [ecfoundation.org/grants/young-edmonton-grants/](https://ecfoundation.org/grants/young-edmonton-grants/)

### Rising Youth Micro-grants

TakingITGlobal (TIG) is looking for young people who are inspired with ideas and ready to take action through youth-led community service grants. Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis. For more information, go to [risingyouth.ca/](https://risingyouth.ca/)

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## Learning Opportunities

### ACE Community of Practice Meetings & Workshops

Abundant Community Edmonton will be hosting our next Community of Practice (CoP) meeting on Saturday, May 9th from 9:30am-12:00pm. What is a Community of Practice? A community of practice is a group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do, and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.

ACE will be hosting two workshops in May:

- New Participant workshop: this workshop is for people who would like to learn more about ACE, Asset-Based Community Development and how to connect with your neighbours. May 13, from 6:30pm-8:00pm.
- Recruiting Block Connectors using Digital Platforms: this workshop is for ACE Support Teams, Neighbourhood Connectors or Community League board members involved, or who want to be involved in ACE. May 27, from 6:30pm - 8:00pm.

For more information about ACE, or to sign up for the CoP or workshops, please email [abundantcommunity@edmonton.ca](mailto:abundantcommunity@edmonton.ca).

### Free Community Building Webinars

The [Tamarack Institute](https://www.tamarackinstitute.com/) hosts a number of free webinars throughout the year featuring the latest ideas and thought-leaders from the field of community change. By registering for a webinar, you can participate live or gain access to the recording and presentation slides and resources after the broadcast. Upcoming webinars include:

- May 11 - An Introduction to Collective Impact
- May 12 - The Power of One: The Role of an Individual in Systems Change
- May 20 - The Courage of Conviction: Activism and Change
- May 26 - Theatre for Change: Using Theatre as a Tool for Community Change
- May 28 - Living the Future, Today
- June 2 - Tenacity, Humility, and Collaborative Leadership