

SPANN

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Serving the communities of Britannia-Youngstown, Canora, Glenora, Glenwood, Grovenor and West Jasper Sherwood

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Variant Edition is now located at 10086 164 Street NW



Variant Edition - New Digs, Bigger Dreams

“Working with the problems instead of against them”

Since late January 2024, the Revolution Square shopping complex on 151 Street and Stony Plain Road has been a hub of activity, impacted by a catastrophic basement flood forcing its closure and rehabilitation. For some tenants, such as Longshotz Golf, closure was the only feasible option. Others have sought out other locations, with Revolution Cycle moving to new digs along Jasper Avenue, and Wolfhouse MMA operating in a temporary location along Gateway Boulevard.

For businesses dependent on commercial-grade food processing spaces, the battle is more nuanced. Plant-based bakery King of Tarts, which has been offering their wares at the Old Strathcona Farmers Market, recently found commercial kitchen space in Sherwood Park. Neo Juicery, on the other hand, has opted to temporarily close during this time, being dependent on their juicing equipment locked behind doors.

For Variant Edition, a sunrise can finally be seen over the horizon - And that's not just figuratively. Having recently acquired a new location at 10086 164 Street NW, their new view welcomes the morning sun. It represents a return to a sort of normalcy for owners Brandon Schatz and Danica LeBlanc after more than four months of adaptation, pivots, and determination.

The brick-and-mortar location offers two levels; the main floor

is segmented into several smaller rooms beckoning for themed sections of comics and graphic novels, while stairs leads to a bright and open space above with plans for a children's section, and large enough to accommodate group events. Brandon also has plans for one room's transformation into a digital media production space, to continue engaging with their local customers and the global comic community at large via video and web blogs.

Community is Everything

That community engagement is pivotal; "A business is nothing without a community, and a business BECOMES nothing if they don't build one of their own." These words from Brandon's blog post emphasize the need to foster connective ties, and that such work cannot take place only when one finds themselves in an emergency. With an existing relationship with tabletop game store Pe Metawe Games (11804 94 St NW), Danica and Brandon were graciously offered a rent-free pop-up space to engage an audience the two businesses share. This allowed them to focus their energy on customer inquiries and home delivery of orders from a larger, behind-the-scenes inventory.

Engaging their existing clientele and advising of their situation and how customers could help

with the new reality was pivotal in accommodating change during a highly stressful time. Having already spent energy building community, starting at what exists, and then strengthening it through rallying cries of action, helped ensure Variant Edition's survival.

Discovery - A Changing Reality

A new space represents not just a return to a sense of normalcy, but also in reinstalling the environment of discovery that is crucial for young minds to explore, get lost in, and percolate within imaginations. But comics have changed over the years - In an increasingly corporatized world of intellectual property acquisition, comic staples such as Marvel and DC are now owned by subsidiaries of Disney Company and Warner Bros respectively. The desire to maximize profits while streamlining production costs inevitably changes the types of stories, the risks taken in telling them, and the money spent doing so.

Brandon emphasizes how single-issue comics are becoming more of a collector's item these days. With production costs going up and quality going down, larger anthologies are now a growing norm. Disney, rather than produce content in-house, has begun licensing some Marvel of the production out to third parties, with some being quite successful. With a market undergoing so much change,

engaging customers to ensure their needs are being met and represented in store is key.

The Future Is Changing - We Must Change With It

The experience of Variant Edition can be viewed through multiple lenses, many of which apply to a swath of businesses along Stony Plain Road today. The combined impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the subsequent delayed start of Valley Line West LRT construction, and global difficulties due to economic inflation have impacted their realm of business as much as anyone's. If anything, the world we knew prior to late 2019 has shifted significantly - perhaps emphasizing how unsustainable it really was, and how necessary sustainable connections are.

Variant Edition is placing emphasis on the local audience who share in the global love for these stories and their characters. A new physical gathering space allows that work to continue, while a potential shared audience with nearby tabletop board game locale Authentic Dungeons a few steps away offers positive headwinds for the future. Hopefully, the sun shines bright.

Check out Brandon and Danica's full article on the Eisner-nominated blog *The Beat*: <https://www.comicsbeat.com/the-indirect-market-how-to-survive-the-closure-of-your-business>

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Jasper Place Arts Festival - June 8th!

Check out Butler Memorial Park on June 8th from 12- 6 pm. Everyone is invited to experience and be part of an immersive afternoon of art, community, and celebration. Expect a steady program of live music, street performances, interactive art displays, live painting, face painting, storytelling, poetry and more!

You can peruse the Artwalk, have your fortune told by puppets, discover local talent, and grab a snack at the Coast Lunch Box food truck. There will be a public feedback wall to express yourself and document your experience alongside live Muralists and other artists. Connect with your community, and come see what there is to see in the heart of Jasper Place. You are part of it. We guarantee there will be something for everyone, and the best part is, it's free!

This inaugural event is being created with support from the We Belong in Jasper Place projects grants, in partnership with the Stony Plain Road Business Association, and with additional support from the Edmonton Arts Council. This is the first event produced by the Jasper Place Arts Society, which is a newly formed grassroots collective of local artists who seek to promote, present and foster the arts in Jasper Place.



Jasper Place has a rich history as an arts hub. The Grant MacEwan Jasper Place Arts campus used to occupy the Orange Hub building and was an incubator for arts and culture since it opened in 1981. Several of the festival's collaborating team were once students there. Sheena Misenas, is a local musician and community educator. she recalls her experience of finding belonging through the arts; "I finally felt like I belonged and found my community. There were so many artists in the same building... always feeling connected because of the proximity to each other and the support from each other."

Allison Ochoa is the lead artist behind this community art project. When asked what this festival is about she explained, "Jasper Place is my hometown, where I was born and brought up. It is where I have now settled down to raise my own children, put down roots, and grow! When We Belong in Jasper Place asked the question, 'How might we - as a wider community - foster a stronger sense of belonging for everyone who lives, works, and plays in the Jasper Place area?' the answer for me was crystal clear: through the arts!"

Ochoa is joined by local artists and community members; Elizabeth Sommer, Taro Hashimoto, Sheena Misenas, Don Ross, Alex Labarda and Brett Myers; and local business owners Eveline from signworks, Marian from the Gilded Rabbit, Brian and Carol from Brandenburg music, Nadia and Victor from Ch. cafeteria, and Todd from the Stony Plain Road Business Association - people in a growing network of community partners that are bringing this arts festival to life!

Arts for everyone: this group of

artists are creating opportunities to experience living art and performance in Jasper Place. Let's grow and foster creative spirits as a community. You are invited to join in, take part and help shape this inaugural event into something truly memorable and unique to us, for years to come.

Check out our website and festival program here jasperplaceartsfestival.ca

Jasper Place Arts Festival
June 8th, 12pm - 6pm
Butler Memorial Park

JPAF
JASPER PLACE ARTS FESTIVAL
2024

SATURDAY, JUNE 8 2024

ARTS FOR EVERYONE!

ART WALK:
live mural making
feedback mural
live painting
tiktok selfie station
Street performers
Empire of Sand
Puppet fortune teller
Face Painting

LIVE MUSIC
FEATURING:
BRASSTACTICS
SAMPLER CAFE
The Way Back When's
Tzadeka
Little Birds Combo

POETRY/SPOKEN WORD

DANCE

SPECIAL GUESTS

Coast Lunch Box
FOOD TRUCK

GET INVOLVED!
SCAN BELOW

Butler Memorial Park
(157 Street, 100A Ave)
Noon - 6 pm

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
Mural sponsors- Peach and Rico Krupa; Myers Projects Inc.
Sound Production sponsors- Long & McQuade music
Drum Kit sponsor- Brandenburg Music
We Belong in Jasper Place project Grants - Stony Plain Road Business Association

www.jasperplaceartsfestival.ca

10086 - 164TH STREET NW, EDMONTON, AB



VARIANT EDITION IS BACK IN THE
SPR BUSINESS DISTRICT!
FILL YOUR SHELVES WITH US!

GRAPHIC NOVELS • COMICS • VARIANTEDMONTON.COM

Unique, Authentic, Diverse - SPRBA

Todd Janes, Executive Director, SPRBA

It's summer and I wanted to talk about community and economic development.

As Executive Director of Stony Plain Road Business Association I approach our work through an asset-based lens, and that influences what we do and how we work. This approach has transformed our work as a business association, and also influenced how we work for our member businesses. This year, with the larger project of We Belong in Jasper Place which is directly focused on increasing the sense of belonging, is truly about community development and connecting people. We are proposing that if individuals have a stronger sense of belonging, they will care more about their community and the people involved. Literature illustrates that there are correlations between community safety and well-being.

We are Unique

Stony Plain Road and our larger community of Jasper Place have a strong history of commerce, trading and innovation. Jasper Place was the first area in Alberta to offer late night shopping and Sunday shopping. Jasper Place has long been a place to gather and do business and celebrate. We are building and investing significantly on place-making and gathering sites over the next three years. With the construction for Valley Line West you will see most of this manifest in the western part of our district (west of 156 Street) through murals, electrical box wraps, and special events like our Annual Summer Movie event in RioCan Mayfield on August 18.

We are Authentic

Using asset-based approaches means that we identify assets (or ones that are already recognized by the community) and amplify them. Within economic development we know that transformation and urban renewal happens block by block and so does community development. This is why we are



Todd Janes

creating authentic experiences through the grant funded projects of We Belong in Jasper Place and our programming of events. Recognizing that a good portion of our residents and consumers live in apartments and condos, having green space is essential. These spaces

offer us sites to relax, connect, and reduce our social isolation. That is why we have invested in lighting up Butler Memorial Park in the darkest of winter months (Nov - Feb) and this summer starting a new initiative of Music in the Park on Wednesday evenings starting in June. These live music concerts will provide a relaxing and intimate setting for you to unwind during "Hump Day" to keep you relaxed and recharged.

We are Diverse

Within our BIA we have over 550 diverse businesses, and we are fortunate to have almost everything you need within 30 city blocks - We value these assets greatly from food and grocery, to restaurants and shops, to many medical and commercial services. You could easily get your teeth cleaned, your body massaged, and your tires rotated all in one afternoon - but not at the same business. This diversity is important and with programs like our community currency Big Bucks it helps build up bonds between residents and the local businesses in our area. We also believe that there is capacity for growth, adding another 50 - 100 businesses in our area to offer you more options and services.

SPANN is an excellent vehicle which connects businesses and residents, and underscores much of the work of the business association, because we value and depend on your patronage and business. Our members are located here due to a long history, a strong customer base, and a real connection between our community. We hope that you are on this journey with us, and are as excited for the summer as we are.

*Todd Janes, Executive Director
Stony Plain Road Business Association*

Stony Plain Road and Area News Network **SPANN**

Serving the communities of Britannia-Youngstown, Canora, Glenora, Glenwood, Grovenor, and West Jasper Sherwood

Volume 5, Number 2 Summer 2024

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SPANN is published by the Stony Plain Road Business Association.

It is a print and online communications platform intended to connect communities and enhance a sense of place. It seeks to engage area stakeholders (residents, business owners, and agency representatives) with news and information about the area in a way that positively presents Stony Plain Road/Jasper Place as a location that is desirable to live, work, attend events, dine, and shop.

The opinions expressed in SPANN are those of the people named as the authors of the articles, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Stony Plain Road BA. Any submissions may be subject to editing for length and suitability.

CORRECTION: Our Spring issue incorrectly listed two Canora Park Watch events, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Annual Mini Carnival, as being produced by the Canora Community League in 2024. Additionally, our Projects for Belonging article incorrectly listed the Nordic Walking for Older Adults program as being open to youth.



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New Businesses Defy Stony Plain Road Area Construction

Justin Keats, Editor

In a blink, spring is now almost summer, and construction is in full swing on Stony Plain Road. We're seeing progress made on the Valley Line West LRT, with curb and sidewalk infrastructure starting to take form; a welcome sight for business owners!



Justin Keats

Jasper Place Arts Festival taking place this June, further emphasize the desire of regular citizens to breathe new perspectives and life into our neighbourhoods. Enjoy this issue of SPANN, and remember to explore your neighbourhood this summer!

Despite the inconveniences of construction, our area is still seen as an attractive place to do business - As the former Town of Jasper Place, an existing Main Street of commercial properties was amalgamated into the city of Edmonton, and continues to serve the area as a shopping destination.

In this issue, the experiences of Variant Edition and Zula emphasize the tightrope all businesses must walk, including the additional challenges of construction and unexpected events. Community engagement and placemaking initiatives, such as the featured

Check out some of the newest businesses that have chosen to make Stony Plain Road their home in 2024!

- **African Spice**
10060 - 156 Street NW
- **Famoso Pronto**
17007 100 Ave NW
- **The Lobster Mobsters**
17011 - 100 Avenue NW
- **Odd Burger**
336a Mayfield Common NW
- **Sephora**
322 - Mayfield Common NW
- **Specsavers Jasper Place**
15031 - Stony Plain Road NW
- **Tommy Guns Original Barbershop**
336 - Mayfield Common NW

How Budget 2024 Helps Small Businesses

Randy Boissonnault, MP

The recent federal budget recognizes the invaluable contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs to our economy and to the livelihoods of millions of Canadians.

First, the new Canada Carbon Rebate for Small Businesses will return proceeds from the price on pollution from 2019-20 through 2023-24 to an estimated 600,000 businesses, with 499 or fewer employees through a new refundable tax credit. This would deliver over \$2.5 billion directly to these small and medium-sized businesses.

Next, Budget 2024 also has incentives to encourage entrepreneurship, including:

- Empowering Young Entrepreneurs with an investment of \$60 million over five years for Futurpreneur Canada, a national not-for-profit organization that provides young entrepreneurs with access to financing, mentorship, and other business supports to help them launch and grow their business. By 2029, Futurpreneur Canada predicts this investment will enable an estimated



Randy Boissonnault

6,250 additional businesses owned by young Canadians to launch and scale-up their businesses.

- Investing in Canadian Start-ups with \$200 million over two years, starting in 2026-27, to increase access to venture capital for equity-deserving entrepreneurs, and to invest in underserved communities and outside key metropolitan hubs.

- Supporting Indigenous-owned Businesses by providing \$350 million over five years to Indigenous Financial Institutions, including \$30 million for Métis Capital Corporations.

We will also be Boosting Government Procurement for Small- and Medium-Sized Businesses by announcing the government's intention to propose legislated procurement targets for small and medium-sized businesses and innovative firms.

There are also a couple of significant changes to the way Capital Gains are addressed:

- A Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption Increase from the current amount of \$1,016,836 in capital gains tax-free on the sale of small business shares

and farming and fishing property to \$1.25 million, effective June 25, 2024. The Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption will continue to be indexed to inflation thereafter. In 2025, Canadians with eligible capital gains of below \$2.25 million will be better off under these changes.

- A new Canadian Entrepreneurs' Incentive to reduce the inclusion rate to 33.3 percent on a lifetime maximum of \$2 million in eligible capital gains. When this incentive is fully rolled out, entrepreneurs will have a combined exemption of at least \$3.25 million when selling all or part of a business.

And finally, a note on the Capital Gains changes in the budget - in a room of 1,000 people, one person, who makes an average of \$1.4 million each year, is being asked to pay a little more so that we can fund programs like the National School Food Program and Investment Tax Credits that are bringing industry and jobs to our communities. The other 999 people in that room make, on average, \$60,000.

Randy Boissonnault, PC, MP

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Valley Line West LRT: Upcoming Work on Stony Plain Road

Submitted by Marigold Infrastructure Partners

The Valley Line West LRT project, constructed by Marigold Infrastructure Partners (MIP) for the City of Edmonton, is set to transform public transit in West Edmonton. This 14-km light rail line, stretching from downtown to Lewis Farms, will serve the communities along Stony Plain Road—a key area along the route. Here's what you need to know about the ongoing and upcoming work in your community:

Current Construction on Stony Plain Road

1. Mobilization of the 144 Street & Stony Plain Road Utility Complex

Marigold crews are beginning to construct a utility complex on the northeast side of 144 Street and Stony Plain Road. The utility complex acts as a substation for the electrical power supply for the LRT's overhead catenary system. Residents should expect:

- Increased traffic near the site.
- Heavy equipment and some construction noise, with crews mindful of minimizing disruptions.
- Most of this work will occur during daytime hours (7 a.m. – 9 p.m.), however, occasional overnight work can be expected.

2. Traffic Shift on 149 Street at Stony Plain Road

Starting May 13, 2024, Marigold crews resumed drainage and roadworks along Stony Plain Road at the southeast corner of 149 Street.

- Northbound and southbound traffic on 149 Street has shifted west, maintaining two northbound lanes and one southbound lane.
- Eastbound and westbound traffic on Stony Plain Road is shifted north, with one lane open in each direction.
- Access to Summit Drive from 149 Street is closed.
- Pedestrian access will be maintained within the west and north crosswalks.
- Work is expected to continue until mid-August.

3. Access Closures on Stony Plain Road at 151 Street, 153 Street, and 154 Street

Roadworks resumed on the south side of Stony Plain Road between 151 Street and 154 Street

- Access to/from the south side of Stony Plain Road at 151 Street, 153 Street, and 154 Street will be closed.
- Traffic on Stony Plain Road will be shifted north and permanently reduced to a single lane in

either direction.

- Pedestrian access will be maintained; however, detours will be in place. Please follow the area wayfinding signage.
- Work at 151 Street and 153 Street is expected to last until the end of August, and work at 154 Street is expected to last until Fall.

4. Drainage Works Near 156 Street Between 99 Avenue and Stony Plain Road

Earlier this month, Marigold crews began drainage works on the east side of 156 Street between 99 Avenue and Stony Plain Road. Work is also taking place on Stony Plain Road between 156 Street and 154 Street.

- Traffic on 156 Street between 99 Avenue and Stony Plain Road will be shifted west.
- Traffic on Stony Plain Road between 156 Street and 154 Street will be shifted north.
- Pedestrian access will be maintained; however, detours will be in place. Please follow project wayfinding signage in the area.
- This work is expected to last until the end of August.

5. Closure of Stony Plain Road between 131 Street and 139 Street

Marigold crews resumed construction activities along Stony Plain Road between 131 Street and 139 Street on April 30, 2024 to perform permanent paving, bridge approaches, and more.

- East/west traffic on Stony Plain Road between 129 Street and 139 Street will be closed until the end of August.
- North/south access across Stony Plain Road will be maintained on 134 Street.
- East/west pedestrian access on Stony Plain Road between 131 Street and 139 Street will be closed until the end of August.
- This road closure is expected to last until the end of August; however, construction will be ongoing until completion.

As we approach the warmer months, construction is ramping up along Stony Plain Road. Marigold's stakeholder relations team also continues to meet with those near the Valley Line West LRT alignment to share construction information, address concerns, and listen to feedback.

To learn more about the Valley Line West project, and stay up to date with further construction impacts, visit marigoldinfra.ca or marigoldinfra.ca/email-sign-up/ to subscribe to our newsletter.

Marigold's contact information:

Email: public@marigoldinfra.ca
Call: 780-412-2183
Website: marigoldinfra.ca

City of Edmonton contact information:

Email: LRTprojects@edmonton.ca
Call: 780-496-4874 (voicemail)
Website: edmonton.ca/ValleyLineWest

News From the Ledge



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George Orwell's iconic novel, *Animal Farm*, published in 1945, is known as a satire of the Russian Revolution with a wider application. I would say that the current situation in Alberta is one example of its wider application. I first read it in high school many years ago. I'll remind you all of one of the elements. The Seven Commandments for the farm were written on the side of the barn by the pigs. The pigs at first were considered just one species of the animals living on the farm. All animals were equal.

Indeed, the 7th commandment indicated that explicitly. It reads: All animals are equal. The other commandments include whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy; whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend; no animal shall wear clothes, no animal shall sleep in a bed; no animal shall drink alcohol; no animal shall kill any other animal.

By the end of the novel all the commandments have been broken by the pigs and the 7 commandments on the side of the barn are no longer. The barn wall reads simply: All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.

While sitting in the legislative assembly this novel keeps popping into my head. Time after time the UCP rewrite the truth and pretend, as the pigs did, there is nothing to see here.

Some examples of this are:

UCP says:

"The NDP doesn't know anything about fiscal prudence."

Fact – Rachel Notley as Premier along with our Ministers kept our expenses to one quarter of the Kenney government. We don't have the numbers yet for the Danielle Smith Government but from what I've seen, their spending will be even higher.

UCP says:

"The NDP hates the oil and gas industry."

Fact – Premier Rachel Notley made the deal for the first new pipeline to tidewater in over 50 years. That pipeline, The Transmountain Pipeline, began commercial operation May first which is a huge game changer for our province. Rachel's skillful negotiations with the federal government convinced them to buy the project. This was essential as private industry was pulling out due to the high risks associated with the project. It was the NDP, working with the federal government, that made this happen, not the conservatives, despite decades of forming government.

UCP says:

"The NDP Government raised taxes higher than any previous government because of our job killing carbon tax."

Fact – We created a climate leadership plan that was renowned the world over.

Our plan meant Albertans would receive rebates and leverage the Federal Plan for our benefit as well as protect our environment.

UCP says:

"The NDP goes door to door handing out illegal drugs."

Fact – We expanded supervised consumption sites as these evidence-based harm reduction services save lives.

The UCP greatly reduced supervised consumption sites and tragically 6 Albertans are dying every day due to toxic drug poisonings. Recently we learned that 2052 Albertans died in 2023 from drug poisonings, a 17% increase from the previous year. The UCP's recovery model is not working with heartbreaking consequences.

UCP says:

"The NDP increased the number of Albertans on the waitlist for affordable housing by 70%."

Fact – We invested \$1.2 billion in affordable housing which was four times more than previous and subsequent conservative governments.

I'm sure you could all add to the animal farm rewrite of the truth. I could go on, but I think I'll leave it at that.



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Report Incoming on Financial Assistance for Businesses Impacted by Major Construction Projects

Councillor Andrew Knack

On June 19th, 2024 my motion on Financial Loss During Major Construction Projects will be coming to Executive Committee with a council due date of July 3, 2024.

The purpose of this report is to revise a draft financial assistance policy based on Edmonton City Council discussions and on the motion made at October 4, 2023 City Council meeting:

That Administration prepare a Financial Loss During Major Construction Projects policy using the draft policy report from March 23, 2022 (report IIS00397) and incorporating the



Andrew Knack

following features:

1. Financial assistance be provided directly to business owners (not landlords).
2. A cap on forgiveness (example: 50 per cent of property taxes for the years of construction).
3. Forgiveness to be repaid in years subsequent to construction completion should revenue increase to a level (example: 15 per cent) higher than pre-construction values.
4. Forgiveness to be based on business revenue, not net income. Income from the specific business must be at least 50 per cent of gross revenue of this and

all related businesses.

As always those with any questions or concerns are more than welcome to contact me and our Ward Nakota Isga Office at, 780-496-8122 and andrew.knack@edmonton.ca

As well, we will be hosting a Community Conversation in the community of Mayfield on June 18th at the Mayfield Community League, for more details check out our social media channels at @andrewknack

Zula Kitchen And Wine Bar: The “Secret Stash” Of Stony Plain Road!

By Justin Keats

One of the first impressions upon entering Zula Kitchen and Wine Bar is the warmth exuded from the natural wood surfaces and patterns that criss-cross the space. This natural and warm theme is replicated again with hanging lights in woven baskets, while a cascade of greenery tumbles from the ceiling from the pothos plants that border nearly every wall.

With a rough slang translation in Turkish meaning "secret stash", Zula is a fusion-celebration of Mediterranean cuisine and the culinary expertise owner Yuksel Gultekins acquired while working on cruise ships in an area that included Spain, Italy, Russia, Cyprus, and more. His first restaurant, Sofra Turkish Restaurant & Wine Cellar located downtown, has been open for almost two decades. After 40 years of experience in the restaurant business, Yuksel values creating dishes that reflect the traditional flavours he has encountered and researched over time, introducing others to them in innovative new ways that are both familiar and exotic.

Stony Plain Road Beckoned

Even before opening Sofra, Yuksel was aware of the potential along Stony Plain Road, noting the disposable income of individuals in the Glenora neighbourhood. “60% of my Sofra clientele live here [Stony Plain Road],” he says, “what might have happened if I opened up here instead?”

The area also proved attractive during COVID-19 as Yuksel opened Zula. Downtown had experienced a degradation due to an increase of houseless individuals, open drug use, and a perspective of lack of safety. Surviving the pandemic was “easy”, according to Gultekin, with delicious food being the primary mechanism that ensured orders kept

coming in. He avoids using delivery apps at Zula, stating that the 30% margin such food delivery services cost nullifies his profits. He shares a humorous perspective within the chaos during the pandemic, where app drivers began to appear at Zula’s doors with orders destined for the United States, having never signed up for the service in the first place.

Adapting to LRT Construction

Despite success throughout the pandemic, urban construction has proven to be the true thorn in Zula’s side today. With the Valley Line West LRT Glenora stop being built directly next to the West Block Glenora development, a mural fence erected to hide the construction site and shield against dust and debris has become a larger problem than solution. Unfortunately, the mural runs quite close to Zula’s outdoor patio, blocking any views

while contributing to a sense of claustrophobia.

One solution attempt has been a 50% off happy hour promotion, but such a discount reduces profitability, and Yuksel has had to let go the majority of his afternoon staff despite this great offer. Still, he is hopeful for a change in the tide, as part of Zula’s charm is the physicality of their experience in its curated space, which adds to the considerable value already reflected in both the food and prices. He also hopes that ARPA, Zula’s companion butchery which recently re-opened (Monday to Saturday, 11-6pm) will add to that draw with its custom, fresh-made sandwiches.

Yuksel recognizes that the City of Edmonton holds mechanisms to help local businesses navigate this path; emphasizing that some sort of taxation relief would be a valuable mechanism for numerous

business owners. It is a hard sell to expect a business to be successful when customers choose locations that do not feature pounding, scraping, and vibrations from a construction site next door. He is eager to see what might be presented in the near future, such as a relief formula posited by Councillor Andrew Knack that is due at Council in the summer.

The Future

Zula Kitchen and Wine Bar represents years of experience, quality, and unique healthy food. Yuksel bases his menu on demand, each dish a response to what he believes his customers would like or are asking directly for. Flavours are

carefully balanced so as not to overpower each other, or ruin a dish by overwhelming it within a single sauce or garnish - The art in cooking not seen in today’s modern, pre-packaged food options and presentation.

With a highly-visible location (that is, once the mural wall is removed), Yuksel built Zula with optimism. However the back-to-back impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, economic inflation, and the West Valley Line LRT construction has muddled that path for a significant number of Stony Plain Road businesses.

Show local businesses like Zula some love - Consider booking your next staff meeting, celebration, or casual dining experience there! Confirm and reserve a table in minutes using their OpenTable app on their website, zulakitchenandwinebar.com. And most importantly, come by for a taste of authentic Mediterranean cuisine and flavours, made fresh from scratch!

Zula Kitchen and Wine Bar

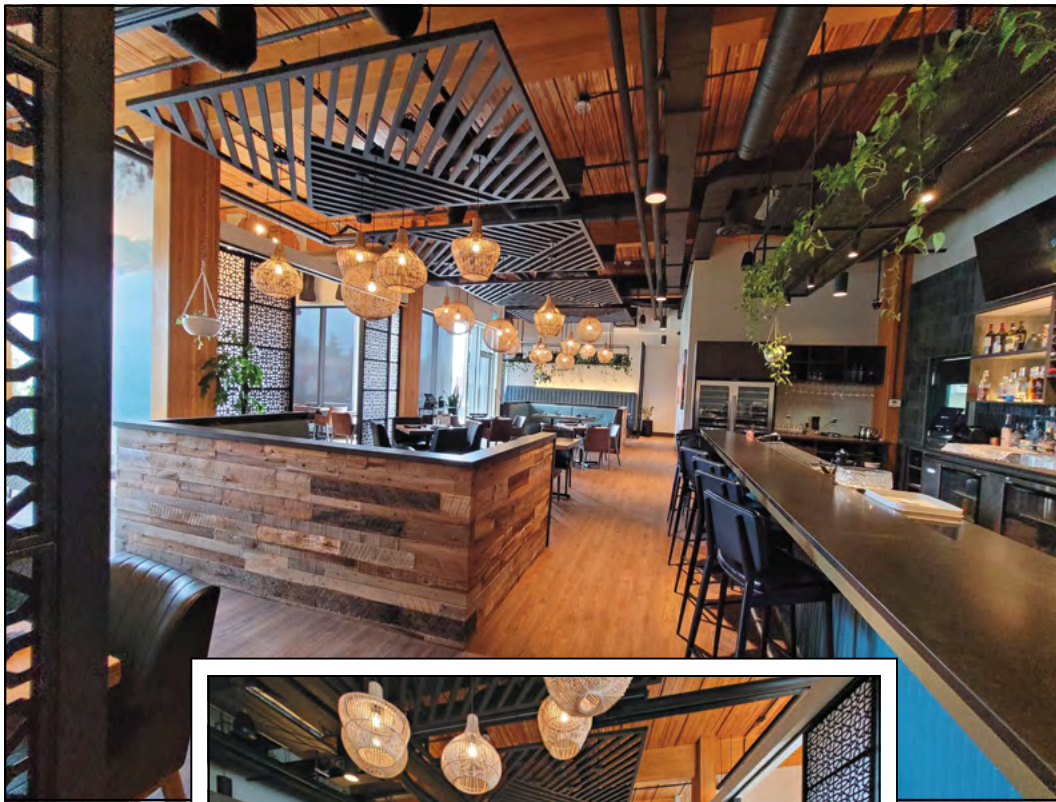
120-14055 West Block Dr NW
(780) 929-3112

zulakitchenandwinebar.com

Mon-Fri: 4-11pm

Sat: 5-11

Sun: Closed



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Vision Zero Street Labs Public Engagement

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- Pinpoint problem areas on the **online map**
- Register to attend the **in-person engagement session, June 12, 5:30 – 7:30pm at Britannia Youngstown Community League**



Scan the QR code or visit edmonton.ca/StreetLabs to learn more and engage by **June 25, 2024**.

ADVISE

VISION ZERO 

Food Security in Jasper Place: Part Two

Food and water delivery.



Paula E. Kirman

The Davis water truck got water from a tap at the back of Terminal Store on the east side of 149th Street and Stony Plain Road, which was in the City of Edmonton. Photo ca. late 1940s.

Courtesy of City of Edmonton Archives, EA-275-1860. Hook Signs Ltd.

In a time period when food security was often precarious, families who lived in Jasper Place, before it became part of Edmonton, often used delivery services to meet their nutritional needs. Here are some memories.

Colleen: My mom got eggs from the egg man, and chickens and turkeys from another fellow who came round.

Paul: We lived at 9524 156 Street. Mom bought pheasant eggs from a lady who had a farm near where the zoo is today. She also bought honey from a Mrs. McCrumb who lived on the hill just above Whitemud Creek on the south side of the creek.

Linda: I do remember a big wood wagon rolling down 93 Avenue in front of our house filled with farm vegetables and I think some fruit as well. I know it had come from a farm but I can't remember if it was a truck with a big bed on the back or if it was really a wagon or cart pulled behind. But I'll never forget seeing all those vegetables. And not one of them was in a can! I also remember the Hutterites coming into Meadowlark in the early '60s with their chickens and selling them door-to-door. My strongest memory of that is one year when they were the toughest bird ever and it seemed like everyone's mom had bought one.

Chrystia Chomiak, in an interview with the Jasper Place Community History Project (JPCHP) recalls: Specifically, my mother was a huge lover of fish, and she could prepare all kinds of different ones. Where we got our fish from, it was from the Métis people that would come around, Métis fishermen, and she would buy them from them. We were a household that the Mennonites would come to, either First Nations or Métis people with fish, with whitefish particularly. She also liked jackfish.

In addition to meat, eggs, and vegetables, many people used delivery services to get dairy products. There were a number of local dairies that served the area, such as Star Dairy and Jasper Dairy. Star Dairy's large dairy barn was located on the northwest corner of Arthur Elliot Park, where the West Jasper Sherwood Community League is now located (9620 152 Street). Operated by the Visser family in the early '30s, the barn was demolished in the '50s after dairy operations ceased in the '40s, and the barn appears to have been demolished in the 1950s **1**.

As well, there were numerous dairies in Edmonton at the time, and their delivery boundaries were not neighbourhood specific. This was advantageous if a family had a preference for a specific dairy **2**.

Donna: We had milk delivery and ice delivery in a horse-drawn wagon. Later, I had bread delivery as well. Jasper Place Bakery. As an aside, my sister married her milkman.

Heather: We had milk delivery from Nu-Maid Dairy and also baked goods from Hollandia Bakery. The only food delivery I recall was Chicken on the Way.

Shirley: We had milk delivery from Silverwoods and bread delivery from Sunrise Bakery.

Karen: We had milk delivery from Silverwoods Dairy.

Val: Milk from Silverwoods (my dad worked there). Thought we were very posh getting Chicken on the Way cooked in front of our house.

Carl: We had milk, cheese, butter. It was delivered by Jasper Dairy. The first I remember it was delivered by a Divco truck. Wagons were before my time but I remember riding in the truck in the summer because my father was the milkman. When Jasper Dairy closed its doors my father went to NADP [Northern Alberta Dairy Pool], delivering and for a short time he was a supervisor, I think.

Calvin: Another thing you may want to make note of is that the milkman, bread man etc. all wore company uniforms. This was not just a food delivery thing though. Gas and electric meter readers and service station attendants also wore uniforms.

In addition to food, water is also vital to proper health. Jasper Place did not have its own water and sewer systems until the late '50s. Until that happened, a water truck filled up in the City of Edmonton at Terminal Store on the corner of 149th Street and delivered water to Jasper Place. As for bathroom facilities, homes had outhouses.

Linda: I remember milk and bread. We also had water delivery before indoor plumbing.

Donna: We had water delivery too. Our water was stored in a cistern in the basement (well, dugout). We used to joke that we had running water because the pump always seemed to leak and the water would run down the hall.

Barrie Touchings told the JPCHP in an interview: The house had been built in '47; it was a couple of years old. It was small; I'm guessing 600 or 700 sq. ft. It had two bedrooms, a living room, and a kitchen. There was a kitchen table where we ate our meals, and that was it. The basement was a bit of a dugout, and that's where we had our water barrels. Once a week they would come along and fill these,

I think it was two, maybe three, 45-gallon barrels. We had a pump; we'd pump the water from these barrels for our consumption. No bathroom; it was an outdoor toilet. For bathing, we had a tin tub. That was it. We did have electricity. No phone; we didn't get phones until mid-'50s, and when we got a phone, it was a party line, three people on a line.

Ken Newman was also interviewed by JPCHP: We lived in a small house, a little white house on the property, that really consisted, I think, of two bedrooms and one large room which consisted of the living room and the kitchen area, which was separated by a curtain that we pulled back and forth. There was a porch at the back end that contained a great big water barrel that would get filled up by the Davis water truck. This was a big truck – what would be classified as a three-ton truck – with a large wooden barrel on the back, that serviced the west end of Edmonton, or Jasper Place. He would come every so often – I can't remember what the frequency was – but he'd fill up our large barrel inside the porch. That was where we got our water from. We didn't have plumbing in the place; we had an outhouse. That was quite normal for all the properties along that area of 156th Street.

An expanded version of this article, including information about bakeries in Jasper Place, will be posted at jasperplacehistory.org. Our third and final part of this series will be about corner stores.

Did you live in Jasper Place prior to amalgamation? Did you or your family use food delivery services? We would love to learn about your memories. Send us your stories: jasperplacehistory@gmail.com

Paula E. Kirman is a freelance writer who grew up, and still lives, near the Jasper Place area.

Notes and References

* Unless otherwise specified, quotes are from responses to questions posted in the Facebook group "I Lived In Jasper Place Before It Became Part of Edmonton." Only first names are being used. Responses have been edited for length and clarity.

1 "Visser Residence," in Donald Luxton and Associates Inc. and The City of Edmonton, *Jasper Place Historic Resources Inventory, City of Edmonton: February 2019, pp. 88-91.*

2 "City Dairies Against Set Milk Routes," *Edmonton Journal, Nov. 12, 1963, p. 25.*

Create A Neighbourly Block

Get to know the people who live near you!

Howard Lawrence

It's a lot easier than you may think to create more connections in your neck of the woods - Check out these great tips showing how easy it is to engage your neighbours!

Why be neighbourly?

Your street or building is one of the best places to meet people. It is also a convenient place where we can all reach out and make a difference. When we know our neighbours we can easily help out in short and simple ways.

Across the world, cities are recognizing the importance of caring and connected neighbourhoods.

At The City of Edmonton we believe that more neighbourliness on every block in the city will increase a sense of belonging, security, and inclusion, ultimately leading to a more liveable city.

How can you be more neighbourly?



Create a neighbourly vibe

- Wave hello
- Introduce yourself and start a conversation
- Share tools, books, or food with a neighbour
- Do something kind for a neighbour

Gather neighbours together

- Use any excuse to initiate a party! Birthdays, new neighbours moving in, sports watch parties,
- Holidays and cultural celebrations are some of the many great reasons to gather together.
- Try a joint garage sale and conclude

with a party.

- Find neighbours on your block who are keen to help organize a block social with you.
- Different seasons bring out different activities. This can lead to new people with different interests attending. Try initiating fall, winter and spring gatherings in addition to the common summer gatherings.
- Pick a date, time and location considering the needs of individuals and families on your block.
- Send out invitations by text, email or in person. Extending an

invitation to a neighbour may be as important as the gathering itself.

- Don't over prepare. Low key hospitality works well and increases the likelihood that the gathering will actually happen, i.e. make it a "bring your own food and beverages".
- Plan social activities to create connections. Name tags, personal introductions, "get to know you," and "icebreaker" games can help.

Sustain connections over time

- Create a contact list of neighbours for your block. Get permission to provide print or email copies.
- Connect your neighbours with other neighbours according to their interests and experiences.
- Use your contact list to keep neighbours updated on Community League or neighbourhood news and events. You can do this with flyers, emails or best of all, an in-person visit.
- Check in with your neighbours when you can, especially with those who may need extra care.

The City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Resource Coordinators (NRCs) and Revitalization Coordinators are happy to work with you to build stronger connections among your neighbours.

Contact us: keep.neighbouring@edmonton.ca or call 311. Thank you for your commitment to community building in your neighbourhood! More information: www.edmonton.ca/keepneighbouring

Projects for Belonging: *Where We Are Now*

By Lindsay Humber, We Belong In Jasper Place

As the Projects for Belonging grant program progresses, we are thrilled to share some of the events that are strengthening our community's sense of belonging. Here's a small snapshot of what we've been up to:

Recent Highlights

North Glenora Living Library

The North Glenora Living Library hosted their first event this spring. Just like a regular library, you could check out a book, but with a twist—the books were people. Community members with diverse life experiences shared their stories in small group settings, fostering deep connections and understanding. The event was a resounding success, bringing people together in a unique and meaningful way.

Chocolate and Jazz

Another exciting project was the Hot Club Jazz Duo concerts held at CH Cafeteria on Stony Plain Road. These Sunday afternoon jazz sessions attracted many community members who enjoyed the music, connected with their neighbors, and indulged in the delicious treats and chocolates offered by CH Cafeteria. The events provided a wonderful opportunity for people to experience local music and strengthen community connections.

Creating Connections Through Art

The Red Road Healing Society is collaborating with the Art Mentorship Society of Alberta (AMSA), a non-profit art wellness organization, to provide crucial access points for artists in Edmonton through the "Art Within Us" project. Every Monday, they facilitate art classes that offer artists the resources, support, connection with community members and exhibition opportunities they need to promote their work and develop professionally. This collaboration is a beautiful approach to fostering inclusive belonging within our district.

Upcoming Events

Jasper Place Arts Festival

Mark your calendars for the first Jasper Place Arts Festival, happening on Saturday, June 8th (from noon to 6 p.m.)! Organized by the newly formed Jasper Place Art Society, this festival will be a vibrant celebration of our community's diversity and artistic talents. They are currently seeking volunteers and participants who want to be part of this exciting event. Join us in Butler Memorial Park for a day filled with art, music, and community spirit!

Building Community in High Park

The High Park Community League is kicking off their "Playing with Blocks" project, designed to bring neighbors together through block socials and free community league memberships.

This initiative aims to ensure everyone feels connected both to their neighborhood and to their immediate block. By hosting block socials, residents will have the opportunity to engage with their neighbors, fostering a stronger sense of community and belonging.

Looking to the Future: Your Input Needed

As we near the completion of the current phase of the We Belong in Jasper Place initiative, funded by the City of Edmonton, we are planning for the future. We are committed to concluding this phase by May 2025, and we need your input to shape the next steps. We have drafted two potential scenarios for using the remaining funds, but we want to hear from you—our community.

This initiative continues to be entirely community-driven, meaning your ideas and feedback are crucial. Please review the proposed scenarios and share your thoughts by scanning the QR code included here. Together we can make Jasper Place a place where everyone truly belongs.

Want to stay up to date with everything that is happening with these Projects for Belonging? Our news page will keep you in the know if you want to support what our community members are doing. For more details and to stay connected, visit us at webelonginjasperplace.ca.



Facilitating Community Connections: Boyle Street Community Services

Mark Unruh,
Boyle Street Community Services

Boyle Street Community Services is a social services agency whose mission is to end chronic homelessness in Edmonton. We are happy to announce that our first Community Connections space is at 15308 Stony Plain Road and is open seven days a week from 8:00AM to 8:30PM.

Our Community Connections program provides space for those in our community who may not have anywhere to relax, take a breath, socialize, or shelter from sweltering heat and poor air quality.

The location was previously one of our winter warming locations, which are spaces funded from November to May that help Edmontonians shelter from our harsh winters. In fact, this was our busiest winter warming space. It met a critical need in our city: from December 30 to May 18, 1,513



Some of the works created at the art station by patrons of the Community Connections program.

unique individuals visited this space. And of these 1,513 unique individuals, 402 had never accessed services with us before - Over 25% of individuals.

This shows there are many Edmontonians near Stony Plain Road who are not accessing the programs and services we offer.

These programs and services are designed to support people in meeting their goals and breaking cycles of poverty.

We strive to meet people where they are, which is why 15308 Stony Plain Road is our first Community Connection space. If you are living on the street, there is rarely time

to simply rest and recuperate, things that we all need to get through our days. At this location, people are free to access the space, visit with others, and get snacks and coffee.

Harm reduction supplies are available, as are regular programming and cultural support. There are also support workers on staff, and we are adding a case manager for the deeper, wrap-around level of support that should be available to anyone - No matter where in Edmonton they live.

At Boyle Street, we believe healthy communities are built on healthy relationships, and we want to thank the Stony Plain Road community for their support and warm welcome.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Sean Proctor, the Program Manager of Community Connections, at sproctor@boylestreet.org.

Britannia-Youngstown Community League

Upcoming Events & Opportunities!

Submitted by Debbie Yochim

- **Sign Up For Our Garage / Craft Sale - June 22**

Britannia-Youngstown Community League is having a garage/craft sale at our hall, located at 15927-105 ave. The date is Saturday, June 22, from 10-4pm. Weather permitting, we would like to host it in the skating rink outside. If not, we will have it inside the hall. Table rentals are \$10 per. If interested in having a table, please contact Debbie at 780-966-3561 or email dyochim@hotmail.com

- **Green Shack Program Returns In 2024!**

The Summer Green Shack program is a free drop-in program for children ages 6-12; however, all are welcome to participate. Get active and join in on games, sports, crafts, music, drama and special events! Stay tuned for more details

- **BYCL Membership Drive - August**

We are planning to do a Membership drive in August. If you are interested in helping us with any of the door knocking, building surveys, organizing events, or you just want to get involved with your community pls call Barb (BYCL president) at 780-996-2345

- **Be Part Of Your Community**

Britannia-Youngstown is looking for volunteers for the roles of Treasurer and a Soccer Coordinator. If you can help, or would like more information, pls contact Barb (BYCL president) at 780-996-2345

- **Crib Night In September!**

There will be a crib night starting in September. It will be held at the community hall the second Saturday night of every month. Details to come

Feed Your Soil This Summer!

Submitted by Apache Seeds Limited

Compost (partially decomposed plant and animal matter) is one of the most valuable components that you can add to your soil for vigorous and healthy vegetables, flowers and shrubs.

Soil-grown plants depend on soil to retain moisture and nutrients. Compost is like a sponge - it holds onto water and releases it as needed. It is also a low-dose organic fertilizer.

Compost sold in garden centers is derived from many different sources. Sheep and cattle manure are a couple of the most commonly available composts. These are good to work into the soil around heavy feeder plants such as roses. Mushroom compost is the 'soil' that mushrooms are grown in. It is high in calcium and can be very helpful for growing tomatoes. Vermicompost is compost made by worms, and many people love it because a little goes a long way for their indoor plants. There are many other types of compost available to purchase (including popular blends

of fish and wood waste) and, you can always make your own.

Apply any type of compost as follows: For outdoor plants, apply a layer 1-2" deep to shrub and flower beds and work it lightly into the soil. For vegetable gardens, work a 2-4" layer into the soil before seeding or planting. Compost can also be applied throughout the season between the plants as a mulch or incorporated into the hole at planting time. For containers, incorporate a few handfuls of compost into the potting soil if the mix seems too light and/or you're reusing potting soil from the previous season. Sprinkle some compost onto the surface of indoor container plants - it will provide some micronutrients that may not be present in the fertilizer you feed the plants with.

Simply put, healthy soil = healthy plants!

Get all your 2024 gardening supplies at Apache Seeds Limited
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SHE SAVED MY LIFE

Edmonton resident Dawn had been experiencing the painful side effects of peripheral neuropathy, "My feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do. That I would have to take gabapentin for the rest of my life." Then she met Edmonton's very own Acupuncturist, Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac.



Captured: Dawn and her dog Max

Peripheral neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage to the peripheral nervous system. Dawn explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the washroom were overwhelmingly painful.

"How can you live for the next 30 years when you don't even want to get out of bed to do the simple things?"

She was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling, and sharp pains that those suffering from peripheral neuropathy often describe" The way that I would describe it, it's the equivalent to walking on glass." Dawn hadn't worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would "touch" her feet. Unfortunately, Dawn's story is all too familiar for the over one million people in Canada suffering from peripheral neuropathy.

If you're unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis, you're not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet. You have difficulty walking, shopping, or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain. You're struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor told you to, **"just live with the pain"** and you are taking medications that just aren't working or have uncomfortable side effects.

Fortunately, four months ago Dawn read an article about Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. and the work she was doing to treat those suffering from peripheral neuropathy without invasive surgery or medication.

Doctor of Acupuncture, Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. founder of Accessible Acupuncture in Edmonton, AB, is using the time-tested science of acupuncture and technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

"Now when I go to bed at night I don't have those shooting pains. I don't have the burning sensation. I don't have pain coming up my legs," Dawn enthusiastically describes life after receiving Melanie's treatments.

"I can wear socks and shoes!" Dawn and her sister now operate a successful dog-walking business, sometimes covering 5 kilometres a day.

"Its' life-altering. As far as I'm concerned Melanie saved my life!" Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. has been helping the senior community for over five years using the most cutting-edge and innovative integrative medicine, with a special interest in chronic pain and helping people who have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results. **Sponsored Content**

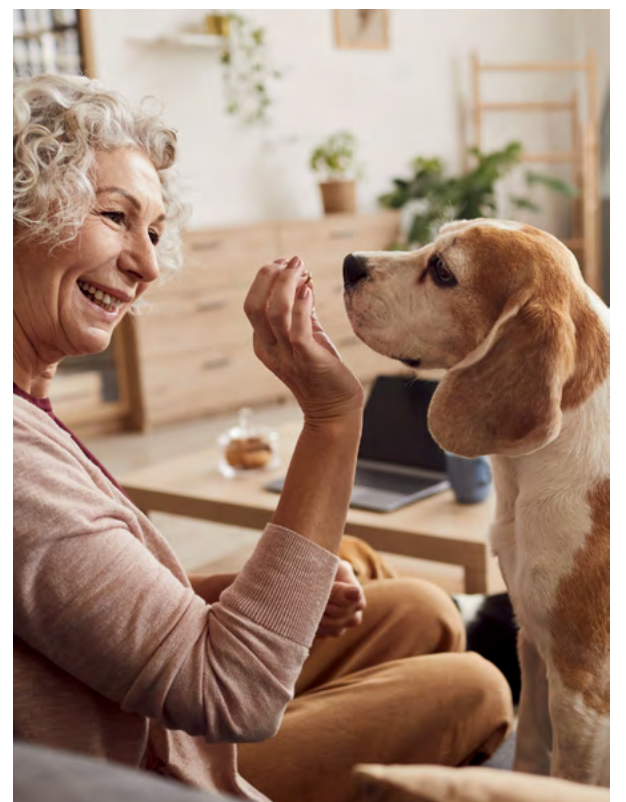
What was once a missing link in senior health care is now easily accessible to the residents of the Edmonton area including St. Albert and Sherwood Park.

If you have been missing too many tee times because of your pain or you've passed on dancing because you're afraid of calling it's time to call Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac and the staff at Accessible Acupuncture.

It's time you let your golden years BE GOLDEN!

Accessible Acupuncture is now accepting new patients but only 10 new neuropathy patients will be accepted per month

Call 587-879-7122 to schedule today.



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