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# Malmo Plains Community News

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www.malmoplains.com December 2015

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## League Membership Has Its Privileges

As a resident of Malmo, you are entitled to join the Malmo Plains Community League. Membership allows you and your family to use all Community League facilities, such as the community hall, the skating rinks, and the sand volleyball courts. It also allows children in the household to participate in community-level organized sports. And of course, there are the social and recreation events organized by the Community League. Past events include the annual Spaghetti Dinner, the Winter Carnival, the 50th Anniversary Celebration, to name but a few.

Being a League member also provides benefits and discounts at City of Edmonton recreation facilities, including:

- 10 free visits at select City of Edmonton Recreation Centres
- 20% discount on passes at City Recreation Centres

### Your Community. Your Community League.

League membership is also a way to get involved in your community. Many volunteer opportunities are open to League members, including:

- Coaching or managing soccer teams.
- Organizing / helping with social events.
- Participating on community, EFCL, and City committees
- Writing, photography, and lay-out, of (ahem) fabulous newsletters.
- Contributing to the League website.
- Blogging on community topics.

You can also build your civics chops as a member of the League's executive. Case in point: before he was Mayor of the City of Edmonton, Don Iveson, was the Vice President of this fine Community League.

### Join Now

Joining your Community League is easy and the cost is low. Simply go to the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues website to join on-line. <http://efcl.org/membership>. If you prefer to buy your membership from a human being, then contact Membership Coordinator Justin Townell, at [membership@malmoplains.com](mailto:membership@malmoplains.com). Justin will arrange a mutually-convenient time and place to facilitate you joining the best little community league in the southwest.

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## Rink Ice Maker Retained

### There Will Be Skating!

The Malmo Community League has retained a local small business to make and maintain the two rinks on the community league grounds. Barry Bakstad, a resident of Lendrum, has made rinks for other communities and is looking forward to working on the Malmo rinks. Barry will start work as soon as temperatures stay consistently below the freezing point. He hopes to have ice in-place in time for the Christmas break.

So, sharpen up those blades and hope for cold weather!



**IRC Chair Murray Tenove**

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## IRC Makes Progress

The League's Infrastructure Redevelopment Committee (IRC) met in November and made good headway on project to redevelop the existing Malmo Community Hall.

The IRC has a project plan in place that follows the City model for redeveloping parkland. Major phases of the project are: Strategy, Concept, Design, Build, and Operate.

The project is now in the Concept phase. The Committee's work during this phase includes ensuring the project complies with City policies for accessibility, tree conservation, and public input.

Any Malmo Community League member interested in joining the IRC is encouraged to contact IRC Chair Murray Tenove at [ircchair@malmoplains.com](mailto:ircchair@malmoplains.com). The more expertise at the table, the better the outcomes will be for the League's new community hall.

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# The City of Edmonton Embraces Winter

By Michael Walters, Ward 10 City Councillor

Winter in Edmonton is coming and it's never too early to get prepared. On a personal note, my snowshoes are ready for that first beautiful snowfall. Bring it on!

This year, the City's Roadways department is starting two new pilot projects: one for the creation of a publicly available map system for snow removal, and another a GPS tracking system.

The mapping pilot allows residents to monitor snow removal on priority routes, and see where a road sits in the priority chain for clearing. The map will be updated thrice daily, showing how much of any priority route is cleared.

The GPS pilot is being installed on five plows in the Southwest. The system will deliver live data on the snow clearing that the vehicles have completed. The dispatch centre then looks at the routes taken and optimize the routes to reduce costs through less fuel consumption, staff time, and wear on equipment. A similar system was implemented a few years ago in Colorado. It improved the efficiency of their snow removal teams by 28%. They were able to clear the arterial road system within 8 hours. We will need to see what the up-front investment would be to install the trackers on more equipment, but if the costs are not prohibitively high, the investment would pay for itself in reduced costs.

We are also aiming to enhance snow removal in school drop off and windrow free zones. Clarifying the windrow policy for school drop off zones will lead to safer winters near our schools and, hopefully, less hectic drop offs and pick ups for parents and students.

If you have concerns about snow removal this winter, your first stop should be 311. They will pass your concern expeditiously to Roadways. In case of further problems, email me at [michael.walters@edmonton.ca](mailto:michael.walters@edmonton.ca) or call me at 780-496-8132.

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## Westcorp Construction Continues

The project to build the first phase of the Westcorp residential development on the northwest side of the Malmo community continues apace. Construction of this phase began in April 2015 and is expected to be completed in late 2016. It will be comprised of seven buildings totaling 110 stacked townhome units. Westcorp encourages people to send their comments or questions about the current construction to their Senior Project Manager, Doug Haines at [dhaines@westcorp.net](mailto:dhaines@westcorp.net).

Two more phases of construction at the Westcorp site will follow. When completed, the entire development will comprise about 500 dwelling units, in the form of stacked townhomes and mid-rise apartment buildings. Westcorp has designed the project to appeal to young families, young professionals, students, and mature households. Rental units are expected to become available in mid-2016. Leasing information will be posted on the Westcorp website once occupancy dates are confirmed.

Westcorp entered into a Good Neighbour Agreement (GNA) with the Malmo Plains Community League in 2014. The GNA provides the guiding framework for a working relationship that is responsive to the needs of both the developer / operator and the needs of the community. The GNA between Westcorp and the Malmo Plains Community League is the first of its kind undertaken for a market rental project in the City of Edmonton.

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## Library Events

The Whitemud Crossing branch of the Edmonton Public Library (EPL) offers a number of programs for parents and tots, young people, and adults. Here are a few of the events being run in December.

### Evil Genius Club

Robot battles, Arduino hacks, DIY music, art, Minecraft, photography, 3-D design and printing are just the beginning for this club of manical makers. You're invited to hang out, bring friends, try things and make stuff at this drop-in program.

### Reading Buddies

Do you love to read? Do you want to have fun, make new friends and practise your reading skills? Reading Buddies is a program that matches teen mentors with kids in Grades 2-4.

### Practise English @ Your Library

Are you learning English? Practise your English language skills, meet new friends and have some fun. A library staff member will lead the group. English speakers at all levels are welcome!

For more information on these and other events at the Whitemud Crossing branch go to [www.epl.ca](http://www.epl.ca). The branch is located at 4211 - 106 Street.



**A view of the Westcorp site.**

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## Winter in the City

The City of Edmonton's 2015/16 Winter Excitement Guide is available at [www.edmonton.ca](http://www.edmonton.ca). Here are some of the awesome activities.

### Festival of Light

Dec 4 – 13. Edmonton Valley Zoo  
Stroll through the zoo after dark and experience one artistic installation after another.

### Santa Shuffle Fun Run

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2015  
William Hawrelak Park  
This merry event helps The Salvation Army assist families and individuals in need during the Christmas season. 5K Santa Shuffle and the 1K Elf Walk.

### Wild Things in Winter

Saturdays and Sundays in Dec.  
John Janzen Nature Centre.  
Experience the wonders of winter in the River Valley! May include snowshoeing, winter scaping and other winter-themed activities. Call ahead for snowshoeing.

### Luminaria

Dec 5 and 6, 2015  
Devonian Botanic Garden  
Thousands of candles light the paths of the Kurimoto Japanese Garden in a breathtaking display. Snow sprites, singers, food and drink.

### Christmas Reflections

Dec 11 - 30, 2015  
Fort Edmonton Park  
Step back in time to a Christmas past. Celebrate winter the way it was a century ago. Discover how people hosted one another, what they did for recreation, and more.

### New Year's Eve Downtown

December 31  
Sir Winston Churchill Square and City Hall  
This fun-filled family event will include live entertainment, crafts, ice skating, fireworks and much more.

## Sustainability Role Created at the League

For many people interested in environmental sustainability, Malmo is a great place to live. The community is within walking distance of a grocery store and other shops and services. Malmo is well-served by public transportation. Being centrally located, living in Malmo shortens car-based commutes and makes bicycle commuting practical.

At its regular meeting in November the Malmo Plains Community League Executive created a new role for the League: Sustainability Coordinator. Current League Membership Coordinator Justin Townell proposed the role. Said Justin, "the Sustainability Coordinator can be a catalyst for grassroots environmental initiatives in Malmo. We can leverage the City's 'You're Gonna Love Green' and other resources." Justin foresees the League being a place where Malmo residents come together to work on local sustainability. Said League President Murray Whitby, "the new role will help increase the relevance of the League for many Malmo residents." Justin Townell volunteered to take on the role of Sustainability Coordinator. You can reach him at [membership@malmoplains.com](mailto:membership@malmoplains.com).

## Have Input to Rollie Miles Athletic District

### Pool or No Pool? Deadline for City Survey is December 6

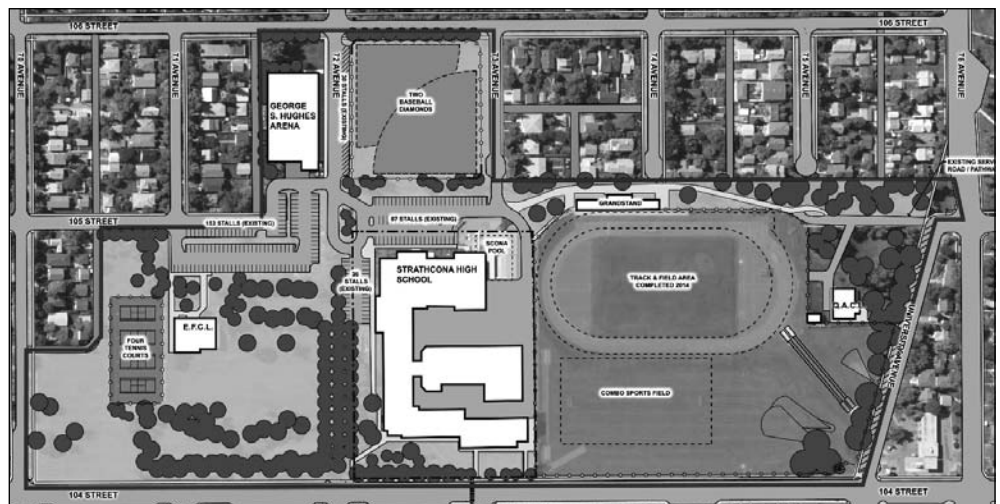
The City of Edmonton seeks your input on the future of the Rollie Miles Field Athletic District. Located at 104 Street and University Avenue, the district includes the athletic fields and parks around Strathcona High School, the George S. Hughes (Southside) Arena, and the Scona Pool.

The key question the City asks in an on-line survey is whether or not you want the redeveloped athletic district to include an aquatic centre. The question is relevant, as the City is planning to close Scona Pool.

Scona Pool is home to the Strathcona High School Swim Team. Training at Scona Pool, the team has won the city high school swim championship for 29 consecutive years.

The fate of the George S. Hughes Arena is also under consideration, but will be addressed in a future City initiative.

To have your input follow this link to City's survey <http://goo.gl/4dhUYC>. Deadline to complete the survey is December 6.



**The existing layout of the Rollie Miles Field Athletic District.**

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## League Contacts

**President** Murray Whitby  
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## League Meeting

The regular meeting of the Malmo Plains Community League Executive will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 7:00 pm, in the Malmo Hall. Any Malmo resident is welcome to attend as a guest. You can also drop by to purchase your Community League membership.

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## Editor Wanted

The Malmo Community League has an opening for a Newsletter Editor. This is a great role for anyone interested in flexing their creative side in the areas of writing, photography, and layout. The Editor has wide latitude in the content and look-and-feel of Malmo Plains Community News. E-mail [malmoplainsweb@gmail.com](mailto:malmoplainsweb@gmail.com) to apply for the Editorship or to help.

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## Classified Ads

### Snow Windrow Removal

If you require the windrows moved off the front of your street, please contact Blair @ 780-996-2041 or [reallysimple@shaw.ca](mailto:reallysimple@shaw.ca). I also sell professional grade ice melter that is good to -32 degrees. A 20kg bag is \$14, including GST.

### Free Firewood

Spruce and birch log segments on a first come first served basis. In the alley behind 11447 51 Ave. Call John at 780-432-0904 to see what is still available before you come.

### Steeped Tea

Need to replenish your tea supply or want a great gift? Need a new, easy fundraiser? Earn 40%! Call Cheryl @ 780-439-1587 for quality loose leaf tea or go to my website: [www.mysteepedtea.com/cherylmc](http://www.mysteepedtea.com/cherylmc).

### Carpentry and Drywall

Anything from fixing doors to patching holes. No project is too small. Call Adam at 587-984-4291.

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## Classified Ads

### Pottery Sale—December 5

The Lendrum Pottery Group Christmas Sale is Sat. Dec. 5, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Lendrum Community Hall, 11335 – 57 Ave. Pottery for all tastes at reasonable prices.

### Sweater Sale—December 5

Windsor Park Community Hall 11840 87 Ave., Sat. Dec. 5 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Hand-knit scarves, hats, vests, sweaters. Pima cotton/alpaca. Adult and children sizes.

### Electrical Work

Master electrician. All types of residential electrical work, including service changes. Please call Rob at 780-433-3837.

### Personal Accounting Service

Individual tax filing and bookkeeping services. Please call Nancy at 780-807-1231.

### Automotive Mechanic

Mechanic available in Malmo for all your automotive needs. Very reasonable prices. Please call or text Tyson at 780-341-5958.

### Travel Agent

Located here in Malmo. Call Jay at 780-916-0112 [jay@swantravel.ca](mailto:jay@swantravel.ca).

### Plumbing and Gas Fitting

Call Brett at 780-668-4788.

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## Newsletter Info

Malmo Plains Community News is published by the Malmo Plains Community League and distributed free to all homes in Malmo, including Michener Park. Send story ideas and classified advertisements to [malmoplainsweb@gmail.com](mailto:malmoplainsweb@gmail.com).

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