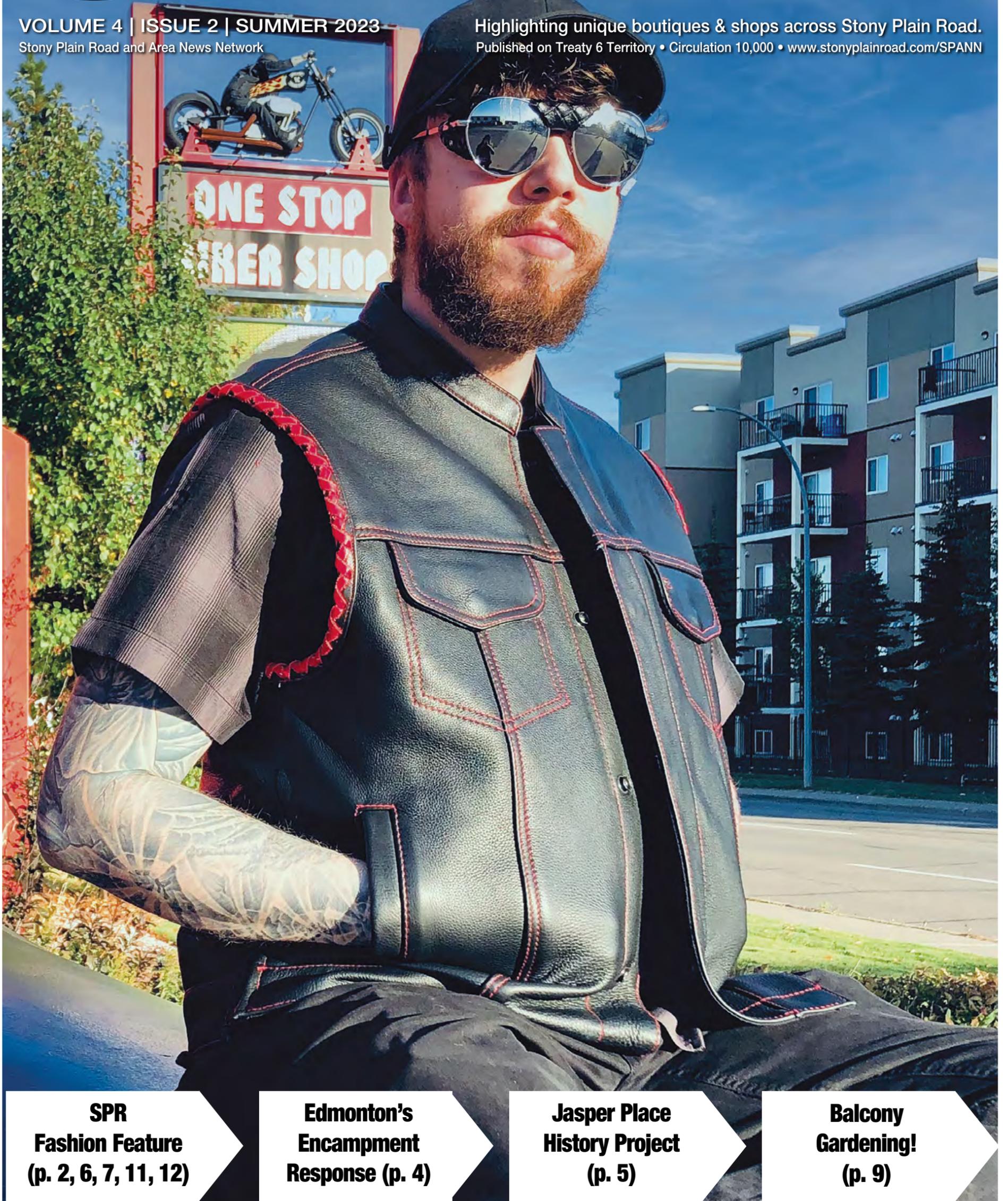


**SPANN** Serving the neighbourhoods of Grovenor, Canora, Glenora, Britannia-Youngstown, Glenwood, and West Jasper Sherwood.

# SPR fashion feature

VOLUME 4 | ISSUE 2 | SUMMER 2023  
Stony Plain Road and Area News Network

Highlighting unique boutiques & shops across Stony Plain Road.  
Published on Treaty 6 Territory • Circulation 10,000 • [www.stonyplainroad.com/SPANN](http://www.stonyplainroad.com/SPANN)



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# Princess & the pea

10059 166 St NW  
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We pride ourselves on being more than a retail store. We're a community that understands the joys and challenges of parenthood. We believe every child deserves the best, and we're dedicated to providing that. At Princess and the Pea, we're not just selling products—we're enriching your child's journey with style and safety. Join our family, where shopping is fun, easy, and always meaningful.

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**Artists:**  
Caitlind r.c. Brown  
& Wayne Garrett




# Editors' Notes



**Justin Keats**

Our staff here at SPRBA is growing, and we've recently revamped our internal roles as we pivot to accommodate the internal conversations with our members, and our external engagement within the Stony Plain Road and Jasper Place District within west Edmonton!

Justin is transitioning to the position of Members Relations and Communications Coordinator, acting as our first point of contact for businesses and their immediate needs, while Deanna takes the helm as our new Marketing and Events Coordinator. Both will be offering their expertise as co-editors of SPANN! We're looking forward to building a multi-pronged approach between



**Deanna Eng**

our two roles to create durable connections between local businesses and the community at large!

We're also incredibly excited to present SPANN's first ever Fashion Feature! Stony Plain Road has many exciting fashion destinations offering unique styles and services, and we're excited to shine a spotlight on some of these home grown fashion locales! A huge thank you to Fellow by Floc and Floc Boutique, One Stop Bike Shop, Princess and the Pea, and Svitlana's Bridal for both their participation and enthusiasm!

Stay sun safe this summer, take it easy on those hazy smoky days, and keep hydrated!

Stony Plain Road and Area News Network

FREE

# SPANN

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

Volume 4, Number 2 Summer 2023

**Editors:** Justin Keats, Deanna Eng.

**Contributors:** Deanna Eng, Todd Janes, Justin Keats, Andrew Knack, Paula E. Kirman, One Stop Biker Shop, Fellow By Floc, Floc Boutique, Princess and the Pea, Svitlana's Bridal.

**Proofreaders:** Deanna Eng, Justin Keats, Todd Janes.

**Designer:** Byron Nilsson.

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.



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## Preparing For a Busy Summer 2023



**Todd Janes**

How can we enjoy our best summer in west central Edmonton? With the areas around Stony Plain Road being less than easy to navigate the summer of '23 will be filled with construction, smoky air, and lots and lots of activity. For our organization it's about navigating the best pathways throughout all of this and to act as community navigators for our businesses, their customers and the diverse neighbourhoods connected with SPR.

There are a number of activities happening this summer. Marigold Infrastructure Partners will be going full force along SPR this summer to speed up the work being done on our streets, especially in our core between 156 to 146 Street. I hope you will notice concentrated efforts in signage, wayfinding and clearer communication to direct traffic to

your businesses after what seemed like a long construction pause in the winter. Thanks to MIP for keeping our road and pathways cleared of snow and ice this winter along construction zones. I know we have mentioned this lots but to keep informed about Valley Line West LRT construction please sign up for updates at [marigoldinfra.ca](http://marigoldinfra.ca)

We are planning two summer events this summer including the return of an expanded Let's Get Physical in July, and a Big Movie Event in August. We will also be working hard to expand our community currency BIG BUCKS which has six new businesses on board since the last issue of SPANN. Come to our event to get BIG BUCKS and also watch out for the first day of the month for special distributions and participating merchants.

We are also working on two other initiatives this summer and continuing into the new year. The first project is a microsite and community outreach to bring customers to our district especially during the long construction period that we are calling RALLY for the ROAD. This microsite will be a one-stop shop for construction updates, business profiles, opportunities, and news. Watch for the launch of the campaign this summer! Many of our businesses and services have been here for you

throughout the pandemic and before, now we are asking you to be here for us during this construction upheaval.

Our second project is a renewed community development initiative. This project is funded through some transfer funds from City Council as a transition from previous Revitalization funds which have ended. We have been working with Lindsay Humer Communications to hold small community conversations around what we could collectively do to build a more resilient community along and near SPR in west central Edmonton within Jasper Place District. We will be holding our next public engagement on July 6th 2023 and to find out more, please visit [tinyurl.com/jpcd-website](http://tinyurl.com/jpcd-website).

Both of these projects address larger concerns and issues that directly impact how and why we want to build a more thriving mainstreet for west Edmonton and why we cannot do economic development in isolation.

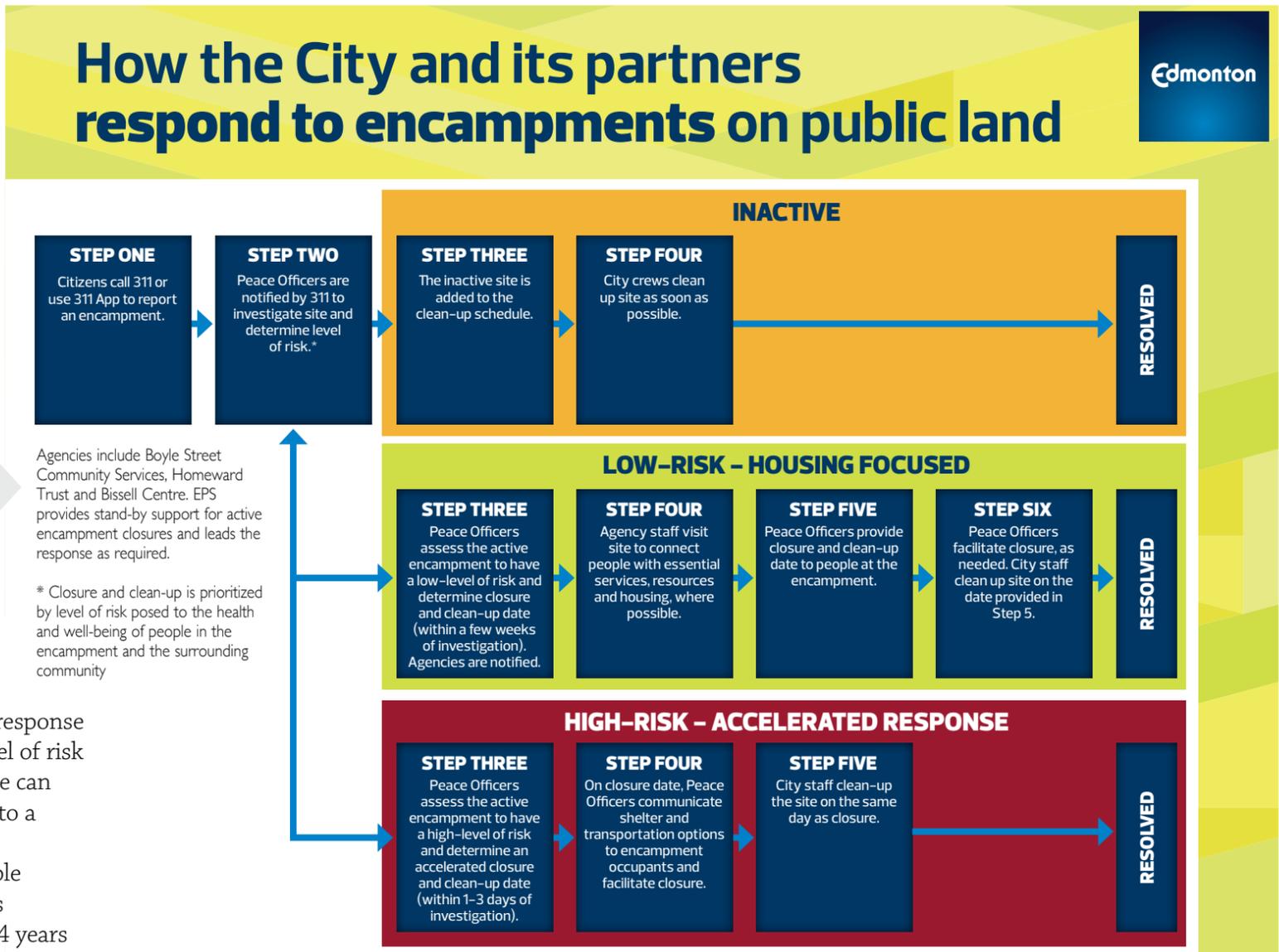
Want to talk things through or want to voice your concerns towards some workable solutions, please reach out to me and our team.

Todd Janes is Executive Director of Stony Plain Road Business Association and can be reached at [director@stonyplainroad.com](mailto:director@stonyplainroad.com) or at 780-807-5526.



Andrew Knack

When someone reports an encampment to 311 the Park Rangers will take the following approach:



As you can see from the response plan, depending on the level of risk in the encampment, closure can take anywhere from 1 day to a few weeks.

With the number of people experiencing homelessness having doubled in the last 4 years combined with the shortage of day shelter and shelter beds, I expect this year will see the most number of encampments ever. This will also mean that it will take longer to address each encampment because while there are more people doing that work in the city, it's not enough to keep up with the growth.

Here is an important chart

that Mayor Sohi put together for Premier Smith for a meeting back in March [below, *Figure 1*].

While Calgary has a larger population than Edmonton, the number of unhoused people is about the same with Edmonton at 2,815 and Calgary at 2,782. Even though we have slightly more

people experiencing homelessness, we have more than 1,100 fewer permanent shelter beds in Edmonton.

To help reduce the number of encampments, one of the most immediate measures that the provincial government can take is to provide Edmonton with the

same number of shelter beds as there are in Calgary. Along with shelter beds, another important change that must be made by the provincial government is to adopt the minimum *emergency shelter standards*. [ <https://www.edmonton.ca/sites/default/files/public-files/MinimumEmergencyShelterStandards.pdf?cb=1680369007> ]

The Government of Alberta's own Coordinated Community Response to Homelessness Task Force released a report late last year which recommended that they implement the minimum emergency shelter standards. To date, they have not been implemented nor has the funding been provided to the shelter operators across the province to put those recommendations into action. The provincial government has done an excellent job over the last few years with increasing the number of addictions treatment beds.

There is still a significant gap for 24/7 supportive housing. Although former Premier Kenney did announce funding for the operations of the 24/7 supportive housing units that the City of Edmonton built in partnership with the federal government and housing providers, the units built over the last 4 years is not enough as seen in the chart to the left.

Although housing is not municipal jurisdiction, we did approve a significant amount of funding for housing in the 2023-2026 budget (over \$120 million). That funding is similar to the funding approved

*Continued next page*

	Edmonton	Calgary
<b>Housing and Emergency Shelter</b>	2,815 unhoused people (Feb 2023) <sup>1</sup> 57% of whom identify as Indigenous  1,335 people who are sleeping outdoors or in emergency shelters (764 sleeping outdoors) (Feb 2023) <sup>2</sup>  278 unhoused per 100,000 Edmontonians <sup>3</sup>  622 permanent shelter beds <sup>4</sup> 0.22 shelter beds per unhoused person  3 shelter operators <sup>5</sup>  <i>Of the 622 permanent shelter beds, Hope Mission is responsible for 525 or 84.4% of the beds.</i>	2,782 unhoused people (Sept 2022) <sup>5</sup> 30.1 % of whom identify as Indigenous <sup>5</sup>  795 people who are unsheltered or in an emergency shelter (137 sleeping outdoors) (Sept 2022) <sup>5</sup>  213 unhoused per 100,000 Calgarians <sup>6</sup>  1,736 permanent shelter beds <sup>4</sup> 0.62 shelter beds per unhoused person  7 shelter operators <sup>5</sup>
<b>Drug Poisoning Crisis</b>	3,479 EMS calls for opioid related events in 2022 and 522 EMS calls in 2023 <sup>7</sup>  556 Drug Poisoning Deaths between Jan - Nov 2022 <sup>8</sup>  56.7 Drug Poisoning Deaths per 100 000 between Jan - Nov 2022 <sup>9</sup>	1,761 EMS calls for opioid related events in 2022 and 299 EMS calls in 2023  465 Drug Poisoning Deaths between Jan - Nov 2022  35.5 Drug Poisoning Deaths per 100 000 between Jan - Nov 2022 <sup>10</sup>
<b>Regional Service Pressures</b> <sup>11</sup>	2 provincial remand and correctional facilities within the Capital Region with capacity for 2,498 adults and 1 facility with capacity for 286 youth - the Edmonton Remand Centre and the Edmonton Young Offenders Centre  4 federal correctional facilities within the Capital Region with a combined rated capacity for 581 adults <sup>12</sup> - three of these facilities (Edmonton Institution, Edmonton Institution for Women, and Grierson Centre) are within Edmonton's boundaries  All maximum security spaces and all spaces for women are in Edmonton  An adult health services catchment of Edmonton, Northern Alberta, and the territories <sup>13</sup>	2 provincial remand and correctional facilities within the Calgary Metropolitan Region with capacity for 1,111 adults and 1 facility with capacity for 116 youth

[\*Figure 1]

# Getting Around in Jasper Place

*Part One: Walking, cycling, or car - what were the most common options for daily living?*



Students from West Jasper Place School walk home from school, April 27th, 1950. Courtesy of The City of Edmonton Archives, EA-600-4293a. Photographer: Eric Bland, The Edmonton Journal.

By Paula E. Kirman

Bike lanes. Walkability. 15-minute cities. All of these buzz terms elicit lots of opinions today. However, there have always been folks who prefer to get around without needing a car, and make their choices of where to live based on that decision.

But what was life like back in Jasper Place before people even had these kinds of conversations? We asked people who lived in JP before (or very close to the time) it amalgamated with Edmonton about their memories of how they and their families most frequently got around. These responses came from a number of social media platforms. Only first names are being used, and responses have been edited for length and clarity.

**Coretta:** We walked almost everywhere. Dad would take our car to work so we walked to Stony Plain Road. In the spring it was so muddy that Dad would have to park on SPR and walk home.

**Barbara:** We walked and there were corner grocery stores we always used.

**Donna:** We lived on 156th Street and 115th Avenue. In order to go to downtown Edmonton, we would have to walk to either 148 street and Stony Plain Road or 118th Avenue and 124th Street. I was in much better shape then.

**Valerie:** We usually walked from 94th Avenue up to Stony Plain road with Mom when Dad was at work. If we needed to go to downtown Edmonton we would walk up to the city bus turn-around just past 149th Street. Dad had a 1949 Dodge that we used (he drove) when we had to go further afield. We got groceries at the IGA on SPR with the car.

**Laura:** Like most of our neighbours, we had one car, which Dad drove to work, while Mom stayed home with the kids. During the week, we would walk to visit neighbours or my aunt who lived a few blocks away. On Saturdays, Dad would drive us all to the IGA for groceries and on Sunday we dressed up and drove to church.

**Susan:** All us kids used our two feet to get around. Mom and I would take the bus to go downtown to shop at Woolworth's or walk to SPR to shop at the stores.

**Laurent:** We lived close to Stony Plain Road so we could walk to most businesses and amenities we needed. We didn't have a car. We kids cycled a lot. We'd walk to the Edmonton Library bookmobile which came on Monday evening to 146th Street and Stony Plain Road.

**Maxine:** We moved to Jasper Place in 1948. My dad did not have a car so we walked a lot. To go downtown we had to walk to 148th street. If it was muddy we carried our shoes under our arms and left our mud boots at the terminal (a bench).

While many families had a car, a lot of people could get exactly where they wanted either by walking or cycling. Could the Hamlet of Jasper Place have been an early example of a 15 minute community? In the next issue, we will look at public transit and taxis in Jasper Place.

Did you live in Jasper Place prior to amalgamation? How did you get around? We would love to learn about your memories. Send us your stories: [jasperplacehistory@outlook.com](mailto:jasperplacehistory@outlook.com)

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

*Continued from previous page*

in the 2019-2022 budget (over \$130 million). Even with the federal funding recently announced, the funding from 2023-2026 won't result in enough units built to help everyone and those new units will likely take around 2 years to build. Considering the size of the provincial surplus and that housing is their jurisdiction, we hope to partner with them to ensure the construction of all the necessary units of 24/7 supportive housing and the operations of those units.

Another area we are looking to fill in on is for the current day

shelter spaces in operations. We learned that Boyle Street is aware that at least 51 people experiencing houselessness have lost their lives in the first 3 months of 2023.

## 51 People

This is a tragic loss of life that should never be allowed to continue. Funding for both Boyle Street and Bissell Centre is running out and without about \$4.1 million, many of their daytime services will stop or be significantly reduced. A motion came to council on May 16th to provide that funding. While this isn't our jurisdiction, I supported this motion because if we don't approve this funding,

there will be even more loss of life and there will be even more encampments than we have now.

Another good example of interim solutions is the site at the old Bedford Inn. In the last 101 days, Jasper Place Wellness Centre has helped 28 people get permanent housing. The bridge housing portion of this space is completely full and there is far more demand than room available. For the emergency shelter spaces, which do not have private rooms, they find that on average, 80 people are staying overnight with more people using the shelter services during the day.

We are at a crisis point. The City

of Edmonton will continue to do everything possible to help but we need the order of government who has the financial resources and the jurisdiction to fulfill their obligations. We are willing partners as we have proven through our collaboration with the federal government, housing providers, and other social agencies. If all orders of government are working together with the social agencies and housing providers, this crisis can be solved quickly. While this challenge isn't unique to Edmonton, we have a clear path to fixing it.

Housing saves lives. Housing saves money. The evidence is clear.



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# Welcoming SPRBA's 2023 Summer Staff!

Esteban Chaparro Castillo is a 4th year Education student at the University of Alberta. You can always find him around the community, whether that is leading student associations, helping out at his parents restaurant, volunteering coaching basketball or volunteering at city events. He loves meeting people and bringing communities together! He is excited to be in this team, nurture community and meet wonderful people at our events!



**Esteban**



**Chloe**

Chloe Anna recently graduated from MacEwan, where she studied graphic design, and will return to school in the fall for a Master's in Museum Studies in London, UK. She grew up surrounded by artistic family members and has a love for art, design, and its place in the world. Chloe took a special interest in advertising during her studies and wishes to take her knowledge and skills to create engaging content for SPR. When not in front of her computer, she can be found crocheting, drinking an abundant amount of coffee, or walking her dog Tallulah.

We're excited to welcome this new talent to the SPRBA team, and look forward to their contributions and fresh ideas!

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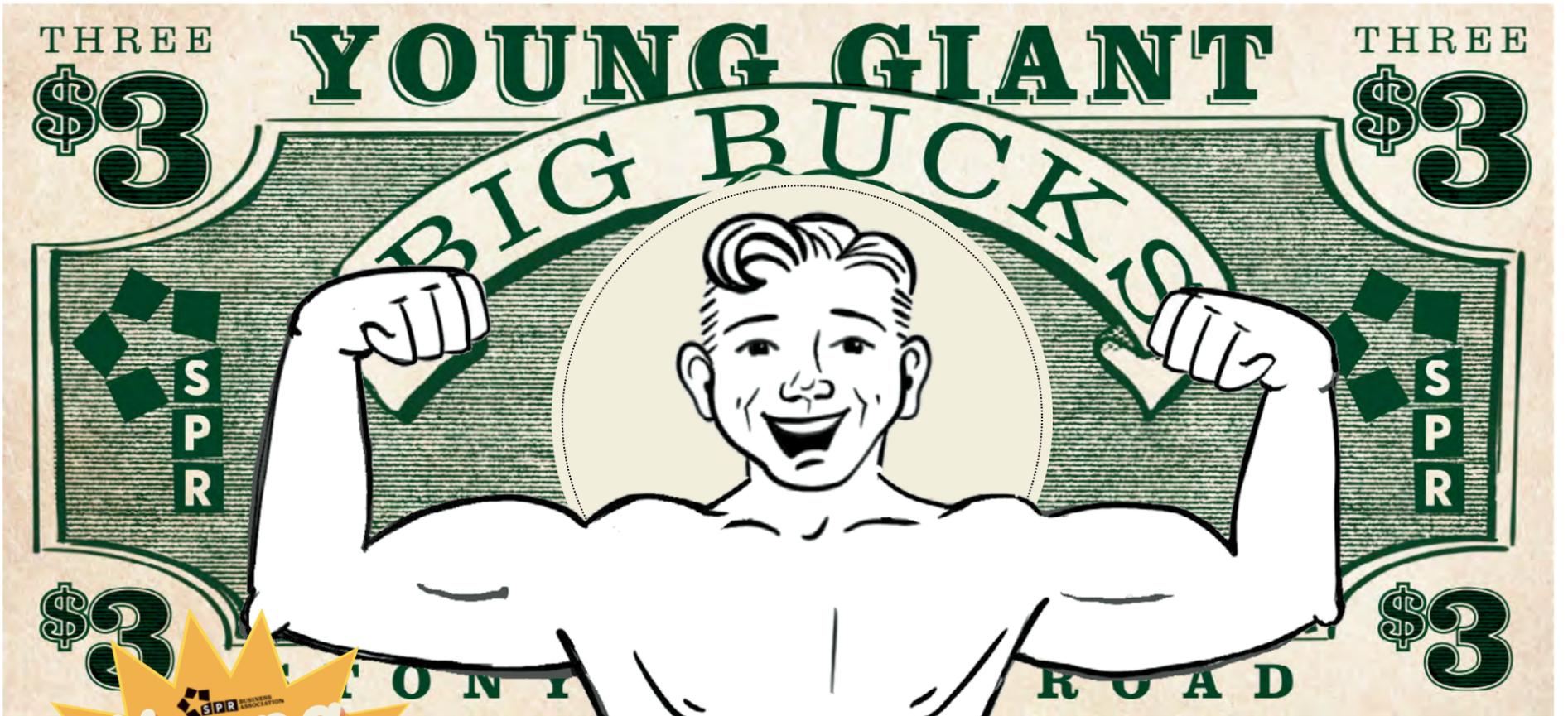


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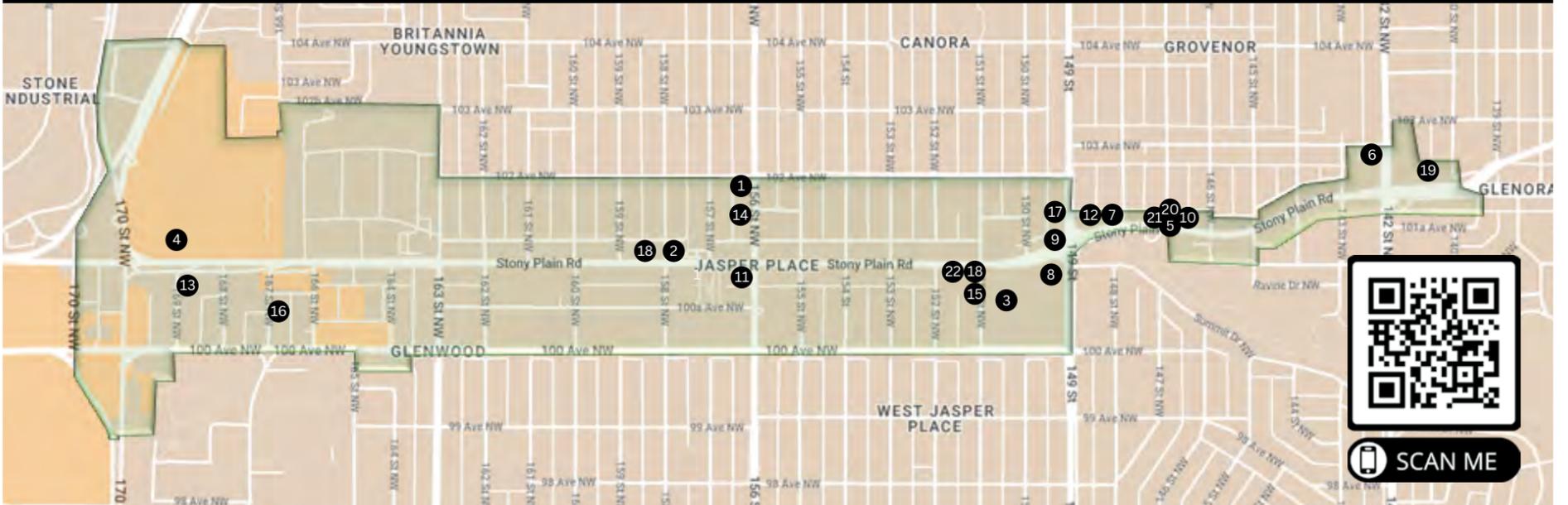


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# Get Growing with Balcony Gardening

Justin Keats

Want a garden, but don't have a yard? No problem - Balcony gardening might be your ticket! Whether growing flowers or food, there's plenty you can do with a little patience and elbow grease. And the best part, is there's still time to enjoy some time in the dirt! Read on!

1. Consult your condo board or property manager to confirm any guidelines or restrictions that may impact your gardening endeavors.
2. Begin with a well-thought-out plan, starting on a smaller scale. Determine the purpose of your space—are you aiming for food production or an ornamental garden space to cozy up and sip coffee in?
3. Take into consideration the overall climate of Edmonton. This region falls within the 4a zone on the Plant Hardiness Index, which means you should select plants labeled 4 or lower. These varieties are better suited for cooler climates.
4. Pay attention to the micro-climate specific to your balcony or garden plot, as it plays a significant role in determining which plants will thrive. Is it windy, or protected? Consider any nearby structures that may cast shadows and block sunlight.
5. Be mindful of your balcony's orientation and sun:

- East-facing balconies receive morning and afternoon sun while retaining some coolness from the previous evening.
  - West-facing balconies receive afternoon and evening sun and tend to be warmer than east-facing ones.
  - South-facing balconies enjoy the most direct sunlight, receiving maximum exposure during the hottest part of the day. Plants in these areas may require additional attention, such as extra watering or shade protection, to prevent drying out.
  - North-facing balconies receive minimal sunlight and are better suited for shade-loving plants.
6. Plant according to your sunlight:
    - Consider shade-friendly plants such as begonias, lobelias, pansies, ferns, hostas, ivy, and leafy greens like lettuce, spinach, and Swiss chard.
    - Sunnier areas are ideal for plants like



One of the authors' many balcony gardens over the years, 2014.

- marigolds, petunias, junipers, potato vines, tomatoes, strawberries, container eggplants, and herbs such as dill, thyme, and oregano.
  - Always research the specific requirements of each plant by reading plant tags, conducting online research, or seeking advice from gardening experts.
7. Take height into account. Balconies located on higher floors tend to be cooler, especially as summer comes to an end. Wind can also impact plants at higher elevations. Protect your plants from strong winds by using a windscreen or strategically positioning pots to shield more delicate plants.
  8. Consider purchasing seedlings rather than seeds to give your garden a head start.
  9. Opt for larger containers to prevent overcrowding and maintain an organized appearance. Take into account the space requirements of each plant to ensure optimal growth.
  10. Enhance insulation and reduce water evaporation by using double-layered clay pots or glazed pots. Since soil space is limited, water your plants at least once daily to prevent them from drying out.
  11. Lastly, remember to enjoy the process and have fun! Gardening should be a pleasurable experience, so embrace it!



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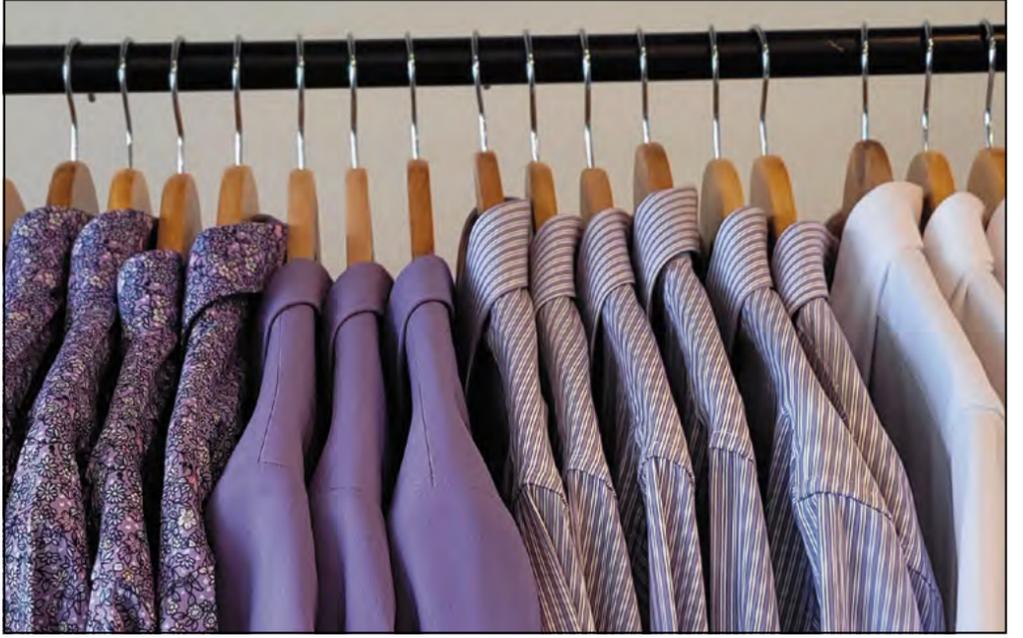
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