

JUNE 2026

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Support Victoria Fortuna and Her Family After a Tragic Highway Accident



Victoria has been left with life-threatening and life-altering injuries. She is currently fighting for her life and receiving critical medical care at the University Hospital in Edmonton. Donate to this GoFundMe to help ease the inconceivable financial hardship the Fortuna family is facing.

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Dear Brentwoodians,

Blanket Rezoning Repeal

Very soon after last month's issue was submitted to our publishers, Calgary City Council voted to repeal the contentious blanket rezoning policy. As regular readers will know, much has been written about this in the *Bugle* over the last couple of years. We have acknowledged the very real need to create more density and affordability in Calgary, while opposing drastic changes in the look and feel of Brentwood. Going back over my columns as well as the Development and Transportation Committee's monthly reports, some key points stand out:

- The rezoning went too far, too fast. Expecting residential neighbourhoods of bungalows and split-levels to welcome (what are in effect) eight-unit apartment blocks on every side street was foolish. A better path to more density is allowing double infills and duplexes.
- Transit needs to come first. A dense city and a car-centred transportation network are fundamentally incompatible, and transit funding needs to be a priority. Multiple new C-Train or tramway lines should be planned, as well as a significant expansion of bus routes and frequency.
- The market does not create affordable housing: developers will always seek to maximise their return on investment. The City must either require that developers build some permanent non-market units as part of permitting for multi-unit developments or acquire land and build non-market housing itself.
- Trees and green space are important. Research demonstrates the negative impact of treeless neighbourhoods and also charts the unequal distribution of canopy in our city (<https://www.cbc.ca/newsinteractives/features/calgary-city-of-haves-and-have-nots-when-it-comes-to-trees>). Instead of allowing mature trees to be cut down in greener neighbourhoods (often for no better reason other than to facilitate access for construction crews), we should preserve these and plant more in neighbourhoods that lack tree cover.

I will add another thought: there are many areas in Calgary that are badly underused. One prominent example is 16 Ave North, which is full of ugly single-

story retail buildings and parking lots. This would be a perfect corridor to build a long stretch of four to six story residential buildings with shops and restaurants on the ground level. Add dedicated transit lanes, or better yet, a tramway running from end-to-end and it could become a vibrant part of the city.

Repeal of the blanket rezoning doesn't have to mean a return to the status quo of endless sprawl and housing insecurity. Carefully crafted plans will look at what works around Calgary and elsewhere and seek to replicate those approaches while still respecting the unique character and attributes of our neighbourhoods.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Jucker,

Editor, Brentwood Bugle





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June 2026 is Buddy Up Month!

Throughout June, the Centre for Suicide Prevention is promoting its Buddy Up program to prevent male suicide, see <https://www.buddyup.ca> for resources and information on how you can get involved or perhaps nudge someone to get involved. UBC also has some great resources at <https://headsupguys.org/>.

Suicide is a leading cause of death for men and is three times higher in men than women. So-called “deaths by despair” - suicide, drug overdoses, alcohol, lung cancer from smoking - are highest in men aged 30 to 59, higher than car accidents. Surprisingly, the suicide rate in these prime working years is higher than for younger men aged 20 to 29 years.

You can help make a difference in the lives of men you know and love. Make sure people are aware of workplace and community resources like corporate EAP programs, 2-1-1 community support, 9-8-8 suicide support (for people in crisis and if you're looking for help for a friend), and personally offering support and checking in with men you are worried about. If you are a manager, teacher, or community leader, could you bring Buddy Up into your workplace or school?

The Centre for Suicide Prevention works hard to dispel the many myths of death by suicide.

I invite all men to join the Buddy Up Champions in promoting authentic conversations among men and their buddies. One way is taking part in the June Challenge. And women to nudge their men.

Together we can help shift the statistics, and hopefully you won't have to help a father choose a casket for his son. Personally, for me, it was a life changing experience, one reason why I'm a Buddy Up champion, and why I'm active in wellness and kindness promotion.

Cam Howey



MYTH	FACT
Suicide prevention should be left to professionals.	Anyone can learn how to intervene with someone at risk of suicide.
Talking about suicide increases the risk.	Talking openly and directly about suicide does not “put the idea in someone’s head.” Instead, it reduces the risk, helps them feel heard, and opens the door for them to seek help.
Suicide happens without any warning.	There are almost always warning signs before a suicide attempt, such as behavior changes, increased substance use, or talking about hopelessness.

PARTICIPATE IN THE JUNE BUDDY UP CHALLENGE

Visit buddyup.ca/challenge at the end of June to submit your activities.

#01 EXERCISE WITH YOUR BUDDY	#02 MAKE COFFEE WITH A BUDDY	#03 CHECK OUT A BUDDY UP WEARABLE	#04 GET OUTDOORS WITH YOUR BUDDY
#05 HAVE A BITE WITH BUDDIES	#06 REGISTER FOR CPSS (NON-PROF. LIFE)	#07 SEND A LONG WELCOME TO YOUR BUDDY	#08 RECONNECT WITH A DECADE BUDDY
#09 SHARE BUDDY UP POST FROM @CPSPYC	#10 WATCH SPORTS WITH YOUR BUDDY	#11 CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY	#12 GAME WITH YOUR BUDDY
#13 SHARE A MEAL WITH A BUDDY	#14 POST WHAT YOU'RE DOING TODAY @BUDDYUP	#15 READ A BOOKS WITH YOUR BUDDY	#16 REFLECT AN ACTIVITY OF YOUR BUDDY
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BUDDYUP.CA/CHALLENGE

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Energetic and Helpful

by Lee Hunt

“She is very energetic and always willing to help out with volunteering wherever it is needed.” With these words, Brentwood Community Association President, Bonita McCurry, describes Shinee Choudhary.

Shinee stepped in as interim Secretary to the Board in Spring of 2024 and was officially elected to the position at the Annual General Meeting in September of that year.

This position means that Shinee attends and takes notes at monthly Board meetings and then types up these minutes which are distributed to Board Members. Shinee told me that she enjoys being on the Board as it is “a great way to get to know people and the community”.

Born and raised in India, Shinee moved to Saskatoon where she attained her B.A. at the University of Saskatchewan. Being “especially drawn to the prairies,” Shinee moved to the University of Calgary to pursue a master’s degree in social work. As part of that goal, she works as a student researcher “seeking to improve services for youth plus seeking to understand housing insecurity in rural areas.” Shinee has one more year of study to complete her M.A., then “wants to work with people.”

Shinee enjoys having a vegetable plot in the Brentwood Community Garden where she has had “the opportunity to grow produce and to learn a lot about plants.” She and her husband, Benjamin, who is originally from Denmark,

both “really like the prairies.” The pair especially likes “Calgary’s numerous parks plus the opportunity to meet people from everywhere.”

Shinee relishes travel – with Australia’s Victoria and Melbourne being two of her particular favourites. She also enjoys reading – especially non-fiction. Shinee is becoming more and more interested in painting and drawing with particular focus on such watercolour landscapes as prairie sunsets. When I asked Shinee if she had a separate room for doing her artwork, she chuckled and replied, “No... I do my art at a tiny little desk.”

Shinee’s interest in art is partly what drew her to membership in Brentwood Cares. Shinee painted the new Little Free Library which Brentwood Cares installed about two years ago. She also helped the group to apply for and obtain government funding.

We in Brentwood are fortunate to have community members who volunteer to serve on our Board of Directors. We have an effective balance of long-time members, medium-time members, plus relatively new ones such as Shinee. Our grateful thanks to all.

Plus, a special thanks to Shinee for the enthusiasm which she brings to her volunteer endeavours in our community.



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Off the Bookshelf

by Rosemary Brown

Dina Gilio-Whitaker's *As Long as the Grass Grows: The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice from Colonization to Standing Rock*, offers a very informative and insightful analysis into the historical and contemporary relationships between Indigenous peoples, government, academics, and non-Indigenous activists in the United States.

Gilio-Whitaker is an author, journalist, and environmental activist who teaches American Indian Studies at the California State University (San Marcos). She descends from the Colville Federated Tribes located in the state of Washington and is of Okanagan and Sinixt heritage.

She begins *As Long as the Grass Grows* with an account of the 2016-2017 Dakota Access Pipeline protest led by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. Although the pipeline went through, this protest involved thousands of participants and drew worldwide attention to the long-standing Indigenous struggle for environmental justice.

She then discusses the rise of the environmental justice movement and makes a distinction between it and Indigenous environmental justice. She argues that governments, scholars, and non-Indigenous activists have failed to understand the long history of injustice created by colonization and white supremacy, as well as the fact that Indigenous peoples' relationship with the land differs significantly from that of non-Indigenous peoples. It is a relationship based on reciprocity and a web of responsibilities with the land and the natural world. These in turn are grounded in ceremony and spiritual beliefs.

Next she traces the historical and contemporary process of colonization, which includes land dispossession and forced removals from ancestral lands onto reservations; the disruption of traditional plant and animal food sources, including the deliberate destruction of the buffalo; termination policies, and impoverishment; and industrial pollution and contamination related to uranium, coal, copper mining, and pipeline development.

Gilio-Whitaker also reviews the usually inadequate responses by federal and state governments to

Indigenous activism for Indigenous rights and environmental justice. These included the creation of environmental legislation and bodies. A key piece of legislation that did result was the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975, which gave tribes more control over programs. Gilio-Whitaker points out that while this legislation was a positive step forward, it has also meant that with more control over natural resources, impoverished tribes have faced the dilemma of trying to balance economic development through resource extraction with protecting the environment.

She also addresses the tensions that have arisen among Indigenous and many non-Indigenous activists which weaken the struggle for Indigenous environmental justice. These tensions arise from the lack of understanding of the history of colonization and Indigenous culture and spirituality. They also reflect individualistic as opposed to collective approaches to the work.

Of special interest to me was Gilio-Whitaker's discussion of the key role played by Indigenous women in fighting for environmental justice as well as her description of tensions that arose at Standing Rock among women in the protest camp. Non-Indigenous women arrived with no understanding of Indigenous protocols related to ceremony. As a result, they came unprepared to dress appropriately with long skirts, and to not take part in ceremonies during menstruation. There was a complete lack of respect not only for protocol but in acknowledging where the leadership lay.

The book ends with some examples of campaigns in which non-Indigenous people have been willing to re-examine their world views and to respectfully follow Indigenous leadership. For Gilio-Whitaker these are signs of hope as strong alliances are needed more than ever as the Trump administration denies climate change, and environmental protections are rolled back in the US.

While *As Long as the Grass Grows* focuses on the United States, parallels exist with the processes of colonization in Canada. There are also lessons to learn if we are serious about building the collaborations among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples that are necessary to ensure the future of the natural world of which we are an integral part.

A Crossroads for Brentwood

Melanie Swales on behalf of the Development and Transportation Committee

Ten years from now, I think that we will look back and see 2025-2026 as a crossroads for redevelopment in Brentwood.

Until now, the majority of the Development Permits (DPs) received by Brentwood's Development and Transportation Committee (DTC) have been for basement secondary suites, additions, new houses, commercial uses, or signage. All of a sudden, the DTC received five applications for multi-plex units, ranging from eight to ten units on properties that previously held a single house. (Regarding the number of units, the City refers to four units plus suites, but residents repeatedly tell us that this is misleading since there will be eight sets of tenants; I will use eight as the total number, counting all units on the site.) In addition, there are five current Backyard Suite applications under review.

In each case, we've received a large amount of feedback from our residents opposing the scale of the proposals. Many writers state that they do not oppose density or any change in their neighbourhood; they understand the need for additional housing options, especially affordable housing. Most letters then express that redevelopment has to be sensitive and contextual and should fit into the neighbourhood, not overpower it. Going from one house to eight units is not gentle density; it is a steamroller approach. Given that many Brentwood houses are bungalows, an 11 metre (36 foot) building next door is overwhelming. Residents are also very concerned about the trees that are being lost, especially when the new buildings can cover 60% of the lot.

We've heard you loud and clear. When Brentwood was originally developed, most people bought houses as homes that they intended to live in, usually long-term. Now, houses are increasingly investment-driven purchases. The goals of an investor (seeking to maximize profitability) are often at odds with residents who want to stay long-term. Many residents have told me that they feel like the developers are calling the shots. To some extent, they are, simply because they are building to the maximum allowed under the zoning rules (the Land Use Bylaw). When blanket rezoning allowed for R-CG buildings, which allowed for eight units on most properties, we started receiving the applications.

Blanket Rezoning was repealed in April, and in August, properties will revert back to their original zoning – R-C1 in most cases in Brentwood. However, a property owner could still apply for a multi-unit building, except that now it would require a public hearing before Council. Most current existing applications are “grandfathered.”

The Community Association is circulated on all DPs and has the right to comment on them. To do so, we need your feedback. If we don't hear from you, we have to assume that you are in favour of the proposed building. If we receive your feedback, we make sure to include it in our submission. For example, three of the recent DPs showed that existing “City” trees (on public space) would have to be cut down to make room for the proposed development, and all of the feedback we received opposed cutting down those mature trees. We can only know what matters to you if you tell us.

If a DP meets all the zoning bylaws, and does not require any relaxations, it will likely be approved. This doesn't necessarily mean that the building will be a good fit for the street; remember that the Land Use Bylaw is the same city-wide. It doesn't distinguish between a house in Brentwood and one in Edgemont or Tuscany, even though the housing forms are quite different. That is where the MDP (Municipal Development Plan) and Sections 35 and 36 of the Land Use Bylaw come in. From the MDP, “The City promotes infilling that is sensitive, compatible, and complementary to the existing physical patterns and character of neighbourhoods.” Sections 35 and 36 reference aspects such as “the appropriateness of the location and parcel for the proposed development”, “the compatibility and impact of the proposed development with respect to adjacent development and the neighbourhood,” and more.

So, what happens next? For existing Discretionary DPs, you have to right to appeal at the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB). An appeal has to be filed within 21 days of the approval; once construction has started, it's too late to complain. There are 44 current appeals city-wide at the SDAB, many of them for multi-unit buildings, which is an indication that many people think that the building form is simply not compatible with their area. The bigger picture is that many citizens feel that changes are required for R-CG: reduce the overall height, reduce the lot coverage, and reduce the overall number of units on a lot. What if duplexes were allowed, possibly with suites, allowing for a total of four

units? How can we incorporate some gentle density, while retaining some of Brentwood's greatest assets, such as a tree canopy?

That's where your feedback really does matter. Any changes to the Zoning Bylaw require a vote of Council, so make sure to copy your Councillor's office. Work is well underway on a new Zoning Bylaw, plus there will be more Local Area Plans (LAPs) starting soon. Get involved at the early stages. Yes, zoning can be a boring topic, but once the bylaws are set those are the rules. The same applies to a future LAP; take an active interest because it will impact you. Remember that if you don't participate, somebody else will and it might be just developers and investors, who may not have the same vision for the community as you do.

Finally, support your Community Association. By taking out a membership, we can contact you for engagement or participation events. Equally important, it shows that you support our efforts on your behalf. Check out the Brentwood CA website at <https://brentwoodcommunity.com/>, and check out the DTC website at <https://brentwoodcommunity.com/developments/>.

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News from the Friends of Nose Hill

by Anne Burke

The City Nature Challenge is a global community citizen science event wherein community groups, experts, and residents collaborate to find all types of nature around them. In the Calgary Metropolitan Region, the top 150 users in 2024 surpassed 10,000 observations. By then, they had uploaded a total of nearly 40,000 observations of Calgary's local flora and fauna. The year marked the tenth anniversary of both iNaturalist and the City Nature Challenge. For the Calgary Area, in 2025, there were 15,923 observations, 28,462 identifications, 891 species, 659 identifiers, and 356 observers. In 2026, the eighth annual Calgary City Nature Challenge focused on data quality for plants, insects, fungi, and wildlife. All information on Calgary's natural areas posted on iNaturalist can be used to revise and update the 1980 Calgary "Green Book" by 2030. Although you do not need an expert to lead a nature walk, John McFaul of Nature Calgary, in cooperation with Bird Friendly Alberta, guided field trips on Nose Hill. The group met near the 64 Ave and 14 Street NW parking lot. Much of their trip was off paved trails and on unlevel ground. A previous walk started at the Berkley Gate and 14 Street NW entrance. Calgary was one of the first certified Nature Canada Bird Friendly Cities. Injured birds can be rescued, in early morning and at night, but, of course, prevention is preferred. The aim is to identify and reduce threats since, in an urban environment, city lights and reflections cause collisions. Window treatments can help. Also turning off unnecessary lights. During fall and spring migrations, downtown is unsafe due to tall buildings, especially at night. Wildlife cameras examine how birds travel and weather radar is used to predict flight directions to support conservation and research. Learn more at <https://birdcast.org/>.



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Calgary is a city that builds, competes, volunteers, and shows up. That is why I was pleased to see the Spring Economic Update include \$755 million in sports funding. This investment will help more kids and families become active, support community programs and facilities, and back the world-class athletes who make Canadians proud.

Sport is community-building. It is where youth learn teamwork, where families connect, and where local organizations create belonging — on fields, rinks, courts, and tracks.

The update also includes measures that matter for affordable housing in Calgary. At Midfield Heights, 176 new homes received \$20 million through the Alberta Housing Partnership Program, part of a ten-year, \$678 million cost-matched investment to get homes built for Albertans. These are safe, affordable homes made possible through partnership, showing what happens when governments and community organizations work together to move housing from idea to reality.

The Spring Economic Update continues that work nationally, with measures to unlock new housing supply, accelerate low-cost financing for rental homes, support factory-built housing, and help provinces and territories remove construction barriers. For Calgary families, that means more homes, more options, and stronger, more connected communities.

There is also support for workers and young people, including Team Canada Strong, which will help train and hire the skilled trades we need for housing, infrastructure, and major projects. The update builds on 175,000 employment and work-integrated learning opportunities through Canada Summer Jobs, the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy, and the Student Work Placement Program.

For Calgary, these measures mean stronger communities, more affordable homes, more opportunities for youth, and better pathways into skilled trades. As your MP, my focus is making sure federal policy keeps delivering to build a Calgary, Alberta, and Canada strong for all of us.

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GUTTER DOCTOR: Home Exterior Services. Gutter cleaning/repair/installation, window cleaning, gutter guards/leaf screens, fascia, soffit, siding, permanent outdoor holiday lighting, roofing, cladding, heat cables, pressure/soft washing. Local business since 2003 with more than 70,000 happy customers! Licensed, insured, WCB, A+ rated BBB member, multi award-winner. Quality work with a warranty! www.gutterdoctor.ca, 403-714-0711.

JEFFREY ELECTRIC: Friendly, professional electrical service for your next residential project, large or small. Since 2012, WCB, CQT, Master Electrician, licensed, insured. Competitive rates for quality electrical work. Panel upgrades from 60amp to 200amp. Car chargers, aluminum rewiring, custom lighting and LED install. Call for estimates. www.cejelectric.com. Clayton Jeffrey. 403-970-5441.

SEE MORE WINDOW CLEANING: Offering residential window cleaning all year long, weather permitting. Inside and out, and commercial low rise. Wall washing, chandelier cleaning, etc. Also, if you need a general handyman, we can do it. Need a reno job? Contact us for a free estimate: 403-274-1404 or seemorewindowcleaning.ca or seemorewindowcleaning@gmail.com.

OUT ON A LIMB PROFESSIONAL PRUNING: Tree and shrub pruning, shaping and restoration. Tree removal and stump grinding. New tree and shrub selection and installation. Rage + organic fertilizer application. Liquid worm casting treatments. Licensed & Insured. Journeyman Landscape Gardener and certified Arborist. Call Jim at 403-265-6965 or email outonalimbprofessionalpruning@live.ca.

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SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!

MONTEREY PARK—SARATOGA CLOSE.....SOLD for 93.5% of asking price
BRENTWOOD—BRANTFORD CRESCENT.....SOLD for 100% of asking price

ON THE MARKET

3152 BLAKISTON DRIVE NW (BRENTWOOD)

Charming bi-level family home offering approx. 1,960 sq.ft. of total comfortable living space. Exterior siding on home and garage (2021), windows and doors (2018).

Asking \$719,900 mls# A2279381

34, 1234 EDENWOLD HEIGHTS NW (EDGEMONT)

Perched at the top of Edgemont, this top floor suite delivers sweeping views of the city and Nose Hill from the living room and private balcony.

Asking \$251,900 mls# A2294846

122 PANAMOUNT DRIVE NW (PANORAMA HILLS)

Two-storey townhouse with over 1,220 sq.ft. Faces the open green space. The primary suite includes a four-piece ensuite accessed through a pocket door.

Asking \$359,900 mls# A2296783

4707 BROCKINGTON ROAD NW (BRENTWOOD)

Well-maintained, renovated four-level split. The layout flows into the open concept kitchen, dining, and living areas, creating a comfortable setting for everyday living.

Asking \$799,900 mls# A2294635

4803 BROCKINGTON ROAD NW (BRENTWOOD)

Beautifully renovated bungalow blends warmth, functionality, and long-term value. Features a single attached garage. Close to all amenities.

Asking \$759,000 mls# A2290285

4824 CLARET STREET NW (CHARLESWOOD)

This bungalow offers a total of five bedrooms. A newly built, legal, and registered secondary suite finished with durable Hardie Board siding sits above a brand new triple detached garage.

Asking \$1,299,000 mls# A2297164

105, 934-2 AVENUE NW (SUNNYSIDE)

Charming and spacious ground-floor corner condo offering around 800 sq.ft. of comfort. This beautifully updated condo features two bedrooms and one full four-piece bath.

Asking \$249,900 mls# A2275156

320 HARVEST HILLS WAY NE (HARVEST HILLS)

Wonderfully appointed three bedrooms, two and a half bath, three-storey townhouse with an air-conditioning system, central location in Harvest Hills, and proximity to the Calgary International Airport and Deerfoot Trail.

Asking \$499,900 mls# A2305843

1405 SALE HILL GROVE NW (SAGE HILL)

Standout townhome backing onto the ravine. Two spacious primary bedrooms, each with its own full ensuite and walk-in closet. Quick access to major routes.

Asking \$469,900 mls# A2304486

BRENTWOOD—BRENTWOOD BLVD.

Modern farmhouse bungalow in Brentwood. The home now offers over 2,350 square feet of refined living space with a layout that is modern, open, and purposeful.

Asking \$1,029,000 mls# A2292577

PENBROOKE MEADOWS—10 AVENUE

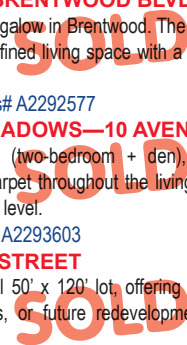
Two-storey townhouse (two-bedroom + den), freshly painted and featuring brand new carpet throughout the living and dining areas as well as the entire upper level.

Asking \$234,900 mls# A2293603

KILLERNEY—36 STREET

Bungalow sits on a full 50' x 120' lot, offering excellent potential for homeowners, investors, or future redevelopment. Positioned within minutes of downtown.

Asking \$929,900 mls# A2299465



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