



## Second Quarter 2015 Update First Place Program

Good afternoon,

Here is the second quarterly 2015 update from the surplus school sites team at the City of Edmonton:

### Role of Liaisons

If you are receiving this e-mail, it is because you have volunteered to be a liaison for First Place, Seniors or Remaining sites. This is a friendly reminder of the important role liaisons play in this process. As liaisons, you're the link between the City and residents in your respective communities. Your role includes sharing annual and quarterly liaison updates which contain important information on school site sign placement, new showhome openings, soil testing, upcoming open houses and more. Your neighbours are relying on you to share information with them, and the City appreciates your time and your help with this.

If you are no longer able to be a liaison, please e-mail me at [felicia.michie@edmonton.ca](mailto:felicia.michie@edmonton.ca) and you will be removed from the list.

### Website Update

In May 2015, the City launched new web pages for each of the surplus school sites. In response to liaison suggestions, we've redesigned the pages for easier access to information that is specific to each site. The web pages provide residents with updates on upcoming open houses, opportunities for public engagement and more. We

welcome your feedback on the new [website](#) layout.



### Signage on Surplus School Sites

At Council's direction, the City has been finalizing the placement of large signs on all surplus school building sites, to create better understanding and awareness of areas approved as building sites, open space, and the future development that will occur on school building sites. Sign placement is nearly complete, with a total of 25 signs now installed.

Sign placement will occur on Blue Quill, Bulyea Heights and Wedgewood Heights after building location reports have been reviewed by Council over the summer.

### Belle Rive & Kirkness

In April, the City hosted First Place open houses in Kirkness and Belle Rive. The purpose of the open houses was to share information, answer questions about the First Place program, and to collect names of volunteers for the design engagement groups who will participate with the City and builders in designing the new townhomes.

Click here to see the [Kirkness](#) and [Belle Rive](#) *What We Heard* summary reports.

### Kirkness and Belle Rive Design Engagements

In May, the City and builders began working with volunteer residents from Kirkness on the design of the new townhomes. The design engagement process for Belle Rive will begin in July. The builders are [Landmark Homes](#) for the Kirkness site and [Rohit Communities](#) for the Belle Rive site.

### Haddow Design Engagement

Congratulations to the volunteer residents from Haddow on their successfully completed design engagement process. The latest information on the progress made by the Haddow design engagement group





can be viewed [here](#).

*Design Rendering from the Haddow First Place Design Engagement Process*

The Kirkness design engagement is well underway. The latest information on the progress made by the Kirkness design engagement group can be viewed [here](#).

#### Larkspur Brochure

In March, residents in Larkspur received a [brochure](#) in the mail about the successful completion of the design engagement process in their area. The brochure shows a draft conceptual plan for First Place homes in Larkspur developed by resident volunteers, the City and Rohit Communities. The plan includes landscaping, lighting, roof lines, entry features and more details that will ensure a harmonious “fit” with the surrounding community.

#### First Place Showhomes

Please visit the First Place showhomes in:

- Casselman Landing: 5203 149 Avenue, built by Rohit Communities
- Kernohan: 311 Clareview Road, built by Landmark Homes

#### Sales Activity

In February 2015, sales began for First Place homes by Rohit Communities in Larkspur. The Kernohan show home opened in June 2015 with 25% of homes sold before the showhome was complete. First Place homes in Bearspaw will be on sale in July by the builder, Landmark Homes.

First Place homes continue to sell faster than anticipated. A total of 163 homes were sold in Caernarvon, Tawa and Casselman combined.

#### Soil Testing

This year, the City conducted soil tests in Kirkness and Belle Reve to ensure suitability for First Place construction. Advance notice was provided to residents immediately surrounding the site. Soil testing will also occur for 2016 engagement sites in Dunluce and Sifton Park.

#### Construction

Construction will begin in Larkspur and Haddow later this year.

#### Reports To Council

On June 23, Council discussed next steps required for developing First Place homes in [Blue Quill](#).





Council directed Administration to prepare changes to Blue Quill site zoning and statutory plans to support the recommendation to move the First Place building site to the alternate location described in the [report](#) (at the corner of 112 Street and Saddleback Road). This location was preferred by the majority of residents who responded to the public engagement efforts for this site.

The next step will be for Council to consider the related amendments and rezoning at a public hearing. Once confirmed, the public hearing date will appear on the [Agendas](#) page and will also be shared on the City's [Blue Quill](#) page.

On July 7, Council will discuss next steps for the First Place building site in Bulyea Heights. This fall, Council will discuss the seniors' building location in Wedgewood Heights. The recommendations will take community input into account.

Please be in touch if you have questions.

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Regards,

Felicia Michie

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City of Edmonton



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