



Tuesday, September 24, 2013

A Picnic to Thank our Great Volunteers



Enthusiastic CCCU volunteers at our thank-you picnic

More than 400 Capital City Clean Up (CCCU) volunteers swapped litter stories and enjoyed a lunch of burgers, salad, watermelon and Timbits at the 2013 Volunteer Recognition Event on September 7.

The Ismaili Council for Edmonton generously operated the free BBQ and founding Adopt-a-Block program partner Tim Hortons served up coffee, Timbits and cookies at the Queen Mary Park Community Hall.

"It was such a pleasure to meet and reconnect with so many dedicated citizens," said Don Belanger, CCCU program manager. "These volunteers and program partners have really worked hard to make Edmonton a clean and safe community."

Ursula Lautner summed up her Adopt-a-Block volunteer experience perfectly. "It is always nice to have people stop and acknowledge my dedication to keeping our city clean, and I have a lot of people do that. Just yesterday two ladies said what an inspiration I was to them and that they will start doing the same.

"Isn't that nice? I'm so proud to be a volunteer."

Our Volunteers are CCCU TV Stars!

It was "Lights! Camera! Action!" earlier this month at the 2013 Volunteer Recognition Event.

Global TV Productions filmed aerial shots of about 100 volunteers picking up litter for a recruitment commercial that will run on local stations next spring. Global captured some great footage of volunteers hard at work collecting litter.

We hope to share the new spot with you all in the next few months, so stay tuned!



Local Sportscasters Marked as Giants



Artist Kris Friesen and the stars

Five broadcasters who delivered some of the city's most exciting sports events are the newest [Giants of Edmonton](#).

Ernie Afaganis, Bryan Hall, Al McCann, Rod Phillips and John Short grace the colourful mural on Capilano Centre's north wall at 10050 50 Street.

Not only have these announcers brought the thrill of hockey, football and the Olympics to city sports fans over the last 50 years, but they've also showcased Edmonton to the world.

Their mural is part of a series that highlights the people, places and things that make Edmonton a great place to live. At the same time, the murals prevent graffiti vandalism.

Fall Tidying = Less Spring Cleanup



By picking up the litter and leaves around your property this fall, you'll cut down on the work you'll need to do next spring—and it won't be a soggy mess! Keep these pointers in mind:

- Clean out your garden to prevent winter mould and other contamination.
- Don't overstuff bags with leaves and twigs. A bursting bag means extra work.

- Pick up any forgotten litter around your waste bins, especially if they live in a back lane.
- Put yard items away to enjoy next year. Who wants rusty tools or water-logged lawn furniture?
- When you're out for a walk, bring a bag to collect some litter—even one or two pieces makes a difference!

Officers Butt Out Cigarette Litter



Smokers may be a bit more careful with their outdoor butt disposal, given that City bylaw and peace officers chatted with 282 them over the summer.

Officers ticketed 33 smokers and warned 41 more during blitzes in eight commercial districts where outdoor ashtrays are currently installed, as well as in hot spots identified in the [2012 Litter Audit](#).

But a whopping 208 smokers who put their butts into ashtrays received complementary Tim Hortons coffees—a nice surprise for acting responsibly!

Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign



Edmonton's 2013 municipal election is in full swing, and candidates are busy

Graffiti Prevention 101 for Officers

Almost 90 participants—mostly police officers—learned about crime links, investigative techniques, bylaw success and CCCU's Graffiti Management Program at a graffiti enforcement workshop at the end of August.

Edmonton Police Service sent almost 50 delegates, while 25 attended from surrounding RCMP jurisdictions and 15 came from the City's Community Standards Branch.

Presenters included Sergeant Valerie Spicer from the Vancouver Police Department and Constable Dave Ladic with the Calgary Police Service's graffiti unit. Sharon Chapman, senior program planner with Community Standards, spoke about sharing graffiti reports and tracking tagger information through Edmonton's innovative graffiti vandalism audits.

After the workshop, surveyed participants felt they had a better understanding of graffiti crime and said they would spend more time looking at tags.

planting signs around the city to prepare for the vote on October 21.

Most candidates and their volunteers know where they can [legally place their signs](#). Failure to do so can result in a \$250 fine. All signs must be removed 72 hours after the election is over.

Unfortunately, many signs are defaced or shredded. If you see a vandalized sign, call the candidate's office and report the sign's location so the candidate can deal with the problem directly.



Sergeant Val Spicer from the Vancouver Police Department shares her findings about graffiti vandalism at CCCU's graffiti enforcement workshop.

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