

Neighbourhood Services

CREATE A CONNECTED NEIGHBOURHOOD

Edmonton

Get to know the people who live near you!



Why connecting with neighbours?

Your street or building is one of the best places to meet people. It is also a convenient place where we all can reach out and make a difference. When we know our neighbours we can easily help out in short and simple ways.

Across the world, cities are recognizing the importance of caring and connected neighbourhoods. At The City of Edmonton we believe that more neighbourliness on every block in the city will increase a sense of belonging, security and inclusion, ultimately leading to a more liveable city.

How to connect with your neighbours

Create ways to connect

- Wave hello
- Introduce yourself and start a conversation
- Share tools, books, or food with a neighbour
- Do something kind for a neighbour

Gather neighbours together

- Use any excuse to initiate a party! Birthdays, new neighbours moving in, sports watch parties, holidays and cultural celebrations are some of the many great reasons to gather together.
- Try a joint garage sale and conclude with a party.
- Find neighbours on your block who are keen to help organize a block social with you.
- Different seasons bring out different activities, which can lead to new people with different interests attending. Try initiating fall, winter, and spring gatherings in addition to the common summer gatherings.
- Pick a date, time and location considering the needs of individuals and families on your block.
- Send out invitations by text, email or in person. Extending an invitation to a neighbour may be as important as the gathering itself.
- Don't overprepare. Low-key hospitality works well and increases the likelihood that the gathering will actually happen. Make it a "bring your own food and beverages" event.
- Plan social activities to create connections. Name tags, personal introductions, "get to know you," and "icebreaker" games can help.

Sustain connections over time

- Create a contact list of neighbours for your block. Get permission to provide print or email copies.
- Connect your neighbours with other neighbours according to their interests and experiences.
- Use your contact list to update neighbours on Community League or neighbourhood news and events. You can do this with flyers, emails or, best of all, an in-person visit.
- Check in with your neighbours when you can, especially with those who may need extra care.

The City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Resource Coordinators (NRCs) can help you build stronger connections with your neighbours.

Contact us: keep.neighbouring@edmonton.ca or call 311

Thank you for your commitment to community building in your neighbourhood!

More information:

www.edmonton.ca/keepneighbouring