



# Prince Rupert

## COMMUNITY LEAGUE

### NEWSLETTER

Issue: December 2011

#### Monthly Meetings

Want updates on the new community league building, police statistics and info about what's happening in and around the neighbourhood? Come to our monthly meetings! All are welcome. We meet the second Wednesday of each month, from 7 – 9 pm at the community league hall.



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Happy Holidays  
from your  
Prince Rupert  
Executive.

[princerupertcommunity.ca](http://princerupertcommunity.ca)

We are excited to have found Lance, our new, enthusiastic ice maker and rink attendant! Look for ice at our rink soon, hopefully by the middle of December, weather permitting.

Once the rink is ready, except when prohibited by adverse weather conditions, the building, rinks and community league grounds shall be available for public use between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on weekdays, between 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturdays, and between 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sundays.

Adverse weather conditions (storms, temperatures above +5oC or a combined temperature and wind chill factor, below -20oC) will mean the rink is closed during regularly scheduled hours of operation.

Community league members with skate tags skate free of charge! Bring your skate tag, or contact Brandy about getting your membership (see the back page of the newsletter for details).

Memberships are \$20 per family and are also available at the rink from the rink operator.

**EDMONTON**

**Prince Rupert Community League Family Learn to Skate**

**For Families of All Ages**

**Prince Rupert Community League Family Learn to Skate**

**Wednesdays**  
Jan 18 - Feb 22  
2012

**6:15 - 7:45 PM**

Dates: Wednesdays, January 18 - February 22

Times: 6:15 pm - 7:45 PM  
6:15-6:30 Skate Tie Up  
6:30-7:15 Lessons  
7:15-7:45 Free Skate


Location: Prince Rupert Outdoor Rink  
11245 113 Street

Cost: \$5 per person

CALL 311 to Register  
Course Code #445789

**PLEASE BRING HELMET AND SKATES  
COME DRESSED FOR THE WEATHER!  
WE WILL BE OUTSIDE!!!**

IF YOU NEED EQUIPMENT OR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT  
HEATHER O'HEARN AT 780-944-7682



**Edmonton**



**INSTANT STORAGE**

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- ✓ *Residential , business, RV and auto storage available!*

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11760 – 109 St, Edmonton  
(780) 461-6684 South  
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(780) 448-1620 North



The Christmas season is fast approaching and with that comes a rise in theft from vehicles. Theft from vehicle is a crime of opportunity and all too often, it is preventable. It's very important to take some simple steps to protect your vehicle to limit your chances of becoming a victim of property crime.

### In Your vehicle:

- Do not store your Christmas purchases in plain view. Lock them in your trunk out of sight or better yet keep them with you when you are shopping.
- Do not leave your vehicle running unattended. All it takes is a few short seconds for someone to break the window and your vehicle to get stolen while your back is turned.
- Secure your vehicle properly. Purchase an invaluable steering wheel locking mechanism or an alarm system.
- It is never acceptable to leave your children unattended in your vehicle.
- Remove all personal items from your vehicle.

### In Your home:

- Secure valuables in a lock box or safety deposit box.
- Close curtains in your living room especially during the evening so that you cannot see the mound of gifts under the Christmas tree.
- After Christmas do not publicize your gifts. The boxes you leave out in the alley for garbage pickup only entice the property criminal and let him/her know what you have inside your home.
- Record and keep a list of serial numbers for big ticket items and keep the list in a safe place in your home.
- If you're away for the holidays have someone check on your home, shovel the snow and collect the mail so that it looks like someone is still home.
- If you have a home alarm, make use of it and make sure that your supplemental key holder information is up to date and that they have an actual key to your house.

Be responsible for your personal property and safety. By being proactive and taking simple steps to protect yourself and your property you limit the chances of becoming a victim of crime. Remember to report suspicious activity to the Edmonton Police Service by calling 780-423-4567. To report an emergency or crime in progress call 9-1-1.

These tips brought to you by the Edmonton Police Service

The Edmonton Police Service maintains an excellent Neighbourhood Crime Mapping website to communicate current crime statistics for the City of Edmonton. The site documents 8 major crime areas or specified periods of time: homicide, assault, theft from vehicles, theft of vehicles, theft over \$5,000, robbery, sexual assault and break and entry. As for criminal activities within our Prince Rupert neighbourhood, it is of some comfort to note that relative to other Edmonton communities, we do not appear to have a high crime rate. This appears to be evident from looking at available statistics such the crime maps, and from communications from the Edmonton Police Service itself which indicate that crime overall within the city was down 18% in 2010 and was 30% less in the first quarter of 2011 compared to the same period in 2010 (notwithstanding, the above average number of homicides).

This of course, assumes that all crime in Prince Rupert is reported to the EPS. Nonetheless, all indications suggest that we are not an overly high crime rate community, especially compared to other adjacent communities. That being said, it still behooves the community to be vigilant and that residents report all suspicious activities to the Edmonton Police Service complaint line (780-423-4567). Suspicious activities may include:

- slow moving vehicles cruising the block
- vehicles being loaded with valuables - a possible theft in progress
- persons looking in parked vehicles
- persons going from door to door, particularly back doors
- persons going from door to door asking to use the phone/looking for an address
- occupied vehicle parked for extended periods of time
- vehicles repeatedly circling an area
- other signs of suspicious activity such as the sound of glass being broken or doors being banged on, especially at night

The Edmonton Police Service stresses the importance of reporting all suspicious activity through the complaint line (780-423-4567). If such activity and crime in general is not reported, then, in effect, there is "no crime" and the EPS will be unable to respond effectively.

Access the EPS Crime Maps at [crimemapping.edmontonpolice.ca](http://crimemapping.edmontonpolice.ca) and follow the directions to see our neighbourhood info.

Compared to monthly statistics from 2009 and 2010, Downtown Division has decreased 12% in violent crime types. Despite the very impressive decrease, the current public perception of violent crimes is that it has increased and/or getting a lot worse in severity.

As a community liaison constable, I am often approached and asked by civilians for tips on how to better protect themselves from danger. The most important tip I give is spatial and environmental awareness. If you are not aware of who is around you, how can you gauge whether or not they may be a threat to you?

Another tip I provide is "carry a whistle". When I say that, I often get a couple laughs or raised eyebrows in disbelief. The new question disbelievers ask me is "how can a little whistle protect me?" Sure, when people think of personal protection, they think of pepper spray (illegal), batons (illegal), and knives (eek! Very concerning), so how can a little whistle compete with the listed items? Well one obvious advantage is a whistle is not illegal to carry and cannot be taken away and used against you. Unfortunately, this does not often sway the disbelievers. Fair enough.

I often ask the disbelievers "why don't you think it works?" The most common answer is "well car alarms don't work, it's the same thing!" Fair analogy, so let us look at car alarms first. Car alarms are a great crime deterrent and work to prevent certain types of vehicle thefts, but why does it not 'work' for the average citizen? It is because we hear 2-10 car alarms go off per day and some car alarms are so sensitive that a passing motorcycle sets it off. As car alarms go off so frequently, we have simply become desensitized to hearing car alarms that we no longer pay much attention to it. So now, do whistles fall under the same fate as car alarms?

No, whistles are much more efficient and effective than car alarms, and this is why. How many whistles did you hear yesterday? How about last week? How many did you hear last month? How about last year?" ZERO! If not zero, I would bet next to nil. In this day and age, whistles are practically none existent! You never hear whistles anymore except in gym class or sporting events. So no, we have not become desensitized to whistles as we did to car alarms.

Another advantage is whistles, like the typical Fox 40 whistle (pictured), must be operated by a person blowing into it. You will never have a whistle just blow arbitrarily. Even police officers directing traffic some times do not use whistles. But I bet you could hear the difference between a long tweet by a calm individual, compared to a very quick and very repetitive tweet, tweet, tweeting of a person panicking because they were just assaulted, or robbed. Continued on page 6.

The main reason why whistles work is it attracts attention. A panicked whistle attracts a

lot of attention, and criminals hate attention. Criminals often conduct their criminal acts when they can get away with it. So blowing a whistle in a panicked state will attract a lot of attention and likely scare that bad guy away.



So, do whistles work? Yes, whistles work in personal protection as it attracts a lot of attention and scares the bad guys away but they don't work simply because no one carries them! Any whistle works, just as long as it is easily accessible. Many office workers have their swipe cards or identification cards hanging on a lanyard around their neck. I suggest keeping a whistle there but highly suggest having a breakable lanyard so if anyone grabs it, it will break away before you get strangled with it. I keep my whistle on my jacket zipper and one on my key chain. There are some whistles out there that flash for added visibility at night. So keep a whistle, they are small and very light, but may be one day, you can use it to attract attention and get out safely.

By Reg.#2737 Cst. HERMOSURA, Downtown Division Community Liaison Constable



**Doug Eniski, MLA**  
*Edmonton-Calder*

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### New look for Alberta.ca

The Government of Alberta website [www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca) has been updated to respond to what Albertans have been telling us: to make Alberta.ca easier to use.

According to Service Alberta's 2011 Survey of Albertans (March 2011), Seventy-three percent of Albertans who have accessed Government of Alberta services or information in the past six months indicate that they have accessed or attempted to access services or information using the internet.

Give it a try: [www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca)

Call our office for assistance with these issues or services:

- Programs for Seniors
- Income Support
- Social Services & Children's Services
- Health Care
- Grant Programs
- Birthday & Anniversary Scrolls
- Marriage Commissioner
- Notary / Commissioner for Oaths



Welcome

Join us in welcoming our new  
Branch Manager, Cynthia Rodrigues.

**Kingsway Banking Centre**

11311 Kingsway Avenue 1.877.378.8728





## Every Sunday

Edmonton's Green Market  
PlaceBuy. Sell. Share. Learn.  
Get Inspired. Network. Eat. Drink.  
Dance. Go Green. Expressionz  
Cafe, 9938-70 Avenue

## Nov 26 - Jan 9

The Snow Queen's Garden  
A thousand poinsettias transform the  
Feature Pyramid into the blue and  
white landscape.  
Muttart Conservatory

## Jan 2

Junior Zookeeper Daycamp  
Celebrate the New Year at  
the Zoo! All week, kids will get  
a taste of what it's like to be a  
zookeeper and have some win-  
ter fun! For kids 6-10 years.  
Edmonton Valley Zoo

## Jan 2

History Whodunit Children's Day-  
camp  
We're looking for the best de-  
tectives around! (Ages 7-11)  
Fort Edmonton Park

## Jan 4

Hard Target  
The next Edmonton Police Service  
personal safety and self defense  
course begins January 4. For more  
information, email [epspersonal-  
safety@edmontonpolice.ca](mailto:epspersonal-safety@edmontonpolice.ca) and ask  
about Hard Target.

## Jan 8

ERS Emerging Artists: Donkyun  
AnSecond in a series of major  
upstarts.  
Holy Trinity Anglican Church,  
10037-84 Avenue

## Jan 13-15

Edmonton Motorcycle Show  
We have a showcase of new 2012 motorcycles, ATVs, scooters, and related products and services! If it is motorized and has wheels, its here!

## Jan 22

ERS presents Amanda Forsyth and Angela Cheng  
A gala homecoming  
Art Gallery of Alberta, 2 Sir Winston Square

## Feb 3

Chamber Ball 2012  
Featuring Tom Cochrane with Red Rider & George Blondheim with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra  
Shaw Conference Centre

## Feb 10 -11

Illuminations: An original outdoor winter circus! Featuring spectacular performances, pyrotechnics, clowns, music, fire and brilliant special effects.  
Louise McKinney Riverfront Park, 9999 Grierson Hill Rd NW  
[www.winterlight.ca](http://www.winterlight.ca)

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### Winter Waste: Keep Walks Clear for Collectors

Imagine trying to lift an awkward 20kg bag or can, while standing on an icy slope, and heaving it up into a truck, many times a day.

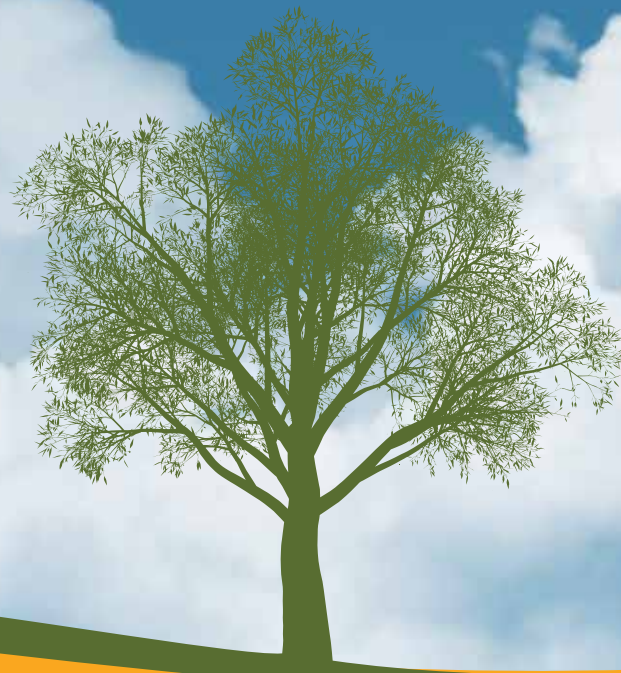
That's a risk City waste collectors face on a daily basis in the winter.

Here are a few things you can do to make garbage collection safer for your collector:

- Clear ice and snow from your garbage stand
- Place your waste on the ground as close to the street or alley as possible
- Put bags and cans on the street side of windrows and snow piles
- Place garbage away from down spouts or sump pump runoffs

"It's so important for Edmontonians to keep their walks shoveled," said Dave Budzinski, general supervisor of collection for the City of Edmonton. "Ice is one of the biggest dangers garbage and recycling collectors face. Keeping walkways free from ice goes a long way in reducing injuries to collectors."





# Prince Rupert

## COMMUNITY LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

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11245 - 113 Street  
Edmonton

Mailing Address:  
Box 87, 11905 - 111 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5G 0E4

### Important Numbers

City of Edmonton Information Services  
311

Citizen Action Centre  
780.496.8200

Community Recreation Coordinators  
780.496.1901

Edmonton Transit  
780.496.1611

Edmonton Police Service (non-emergency)  
780.423.4567

Graffiti Management Program  
780.442.5302

To submit articles or to purchase ad space for this newsletter, contact Curtis at 780.455.3327  
[communications@princerupertcommunity.ca](mailto:communications@princerupertcommunity.ca)

Get your PRCL Family or Individual memberships for \$20, contact Brandy at 780-455-3327 or [membership@princerupertcommunity.ca](mailto:membership@princerupertcommunity.ca).

Check Us Out Online:

[PrinceRupertCommunity.ca](http://PrinceRupertCommunity.ca)