

# City Council Update

## Councillor Linda Sloan, Ward 1

### **Seniors Home Improvement Survey**

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I am interested in knowing the need amongst our senior citizens for home maintenance services including basic yard work, snow shoveling, house cleaning, house painting and minor repairs. We are basing our survey on a program that Calgary delivers to seniors living on low incomes with little or no family supports, who may be finding it hard to stay in their own homes because they are finding it hard to do certain chores. The program in Calgary is offered free of charge and also provides employment and training for persons who may otherwise not have employment. If you are over 65 years of age, living on a fixed or limited income and the owner of your own home, I am interested in whether a service to assist with home renovations or repairs would be of interest to you. If so, please contact my office at 496-8122 or the Citizen's Action Centre at 496-8200.

### **Citizen Advisors**

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In my role as Councillor I am often asked to consider proposals by Administration and other organizations on a variety of issues. I would like to involve citizens more in these discussions, particularly when they are important and have to be decided on quickly. I would like to send proposals via E-mail to citizens who may have an interest in a particular area and would be willing to provide some feedback to me. The areas would include Business, Environment, Quality of Life, Arts, Sports and Recreation, Youth, Traffic and Public Transit. Ideally, these citizens should have access to the internet and email. If you would be interested in this, please send me an email with your areas of interest at [Linda.Sloan@edmonton.ca](mailto:Linda.Sloan@edmonton.ca).

### **Advocacy for Sports**

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In the fall of 2005 I became aware that minor league soccer and hockey teams were having difficulty getting practice space from the public school system and city arenas. Inquiries were made on both issues and both Councillor Leibovici and I met with the Public and Catholic School Boards at a Community Services Committee meeting. Additional time was made available for community soccer teams and committees have been set up as part of the Joint Use Agreement between the City and Schools to address this and other issues arising from the Agreement.

Following a report to Community Services on the allocation of city ice, it was agreed that if Edmonton Minor Hockey Association (EMHA) initiates a pre-season meeting (which they have committed to do for the 2006/07 season) the City would freeze bookings for a 48hr window to ensure the allocation of ice is sufficient.

### **City Surplus**

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The City Manager has recently announced a surplus for 2005 of approximately \$30 million. Should some of these funds go to maintaining city recreation facilities and potential one time grants to community leagues? Call or E-mail me your thoughts.

(780) 496-8122  
[linda.sloan@edmonton.ca](mailto:linda.sloan@edmonton.ca)

2nd Floor, City Hall  
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square  
Edmonton T5J 2R7  
F: (780) 496-8113

Linda  
**Sloan**  
COUNCILLOR, WARD 1

