

Hillhurst Sunnyside welcomes back local farmer's market

BONNIE ELGIE
FOR THE FEDERATION OF
CALGARY COMMUNITIES

One of the nicest things about summer is the abundance of fresh produce available, and there really is no better place to find it than at a farmer's market. Veggies and fruit are picked at their peak, tasting fresh and downright delicious! While Calgary is home to several farmer's markets, one of its best-kept secrets is the Hillhurst Sunnyside Farmer's Market, held in the northwest community of Hillhurst Sunnyside.

The market originally began in the mid-90s, running for several years before closing down in 2008. The Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association implemented a community survey last fall, and local residents gave resounding feedback to bring back the market in 2009.

Cayley Thiessen, the community association Farmer's Market Coordinator, says, "Residents really appreciate the market. It is convenient for people coming from work



One of Calgary's best kept secrets has been reopened for business.

Photo courtesy FCC

and is set right here in our community, which makes it unique. The Community Association has generously provided the market with space for the vendors and is a great supporter."

Thiessen says that the market features 14 - 17 vendors, offering a wide variety of produce, homemade baked goods and

flowers, as well as jewellery, blankets, sweaters and art.

"Typically, we have about 200 people who come through on any given Wednesday. The vendors are selling things that the community is interested in and want to buy," she adds.

It is an Alberta-approved farmer's market,

operating under the guidelines of the Alberta Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development, and the Food Establishment permits of the Regional Health Authorities. The "new again" Hillhurst Sunnyside Farmer's Market is gaining momentum and is promoted through the community newsletter, 1060 Classic Country radio, on-line and on-air mentions with a variety of radio stations, as well as signs and flyers in the community.

The farmer's market runs every Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and will wrap up with its last market of the year on October 7, 2009.

For more information, call 403.283.0554 or visit www.hillhurstsunnysidecommunity.com.

This story has been sponsored by:



The official sponsor for the Federation of Calgary Communities. Visit www.communitynaturalfoods.com for a location near you.

Community Profile: Lynwood

Lynwood Ridge is located in Millican-Ogden, which is one of the oldest communities in Calgary. It is named after the Millican family, homesteaders who settled in the area in the early 1900s, and I.G. Ogden, the former Vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway. With the construction of the Ogden Shops in 1912-1913 the area gained the distinction of being the only CPR repair shop between Winnipeg and Vancouver. Millican-Ogden is located in the SE, and, due to its long history, is home to several vintage homes including the historic Ogden Hotel. The area also contains numerous restaurants and strip malls. There is plenty of open space in the area, particularly in the Bow River Valley, as well as numerous parks. An outdoor pool and the Jack Setter's Arena offer recreation opportunities to residents. There are also both public and separate schools in the area.

Millican-Ogden's community association offers a variety of innovative services. The center has both a Main Hall and a Sports

& Event Lounge for private rental. The community hosts Jelly Bean dances, public skating, Teen swim and a variety of other activities. Community Days, Canada Day celebrations and Winterfest are all held annually to enable community members to connect with one another in a fun atmosphere. The community has a Family Resource Centre located at 2734 - 76 Avenue SE. The resource centre provides playgroups, parenting classes, job search support, computer skills training, a toy lending library and an emergency food bank. Transitional housing, a project spearheaded by the Calgary Police Service, is also offered to meet the needs of homeless families. These programs aid Millican-Ogden in their efforts to improve the standard of living for all community members.

Schools

Banting and Best Elementary School - Public
Sherwood Community School - Public
St. Bernadette Elementary School - Separate

Demographics

Located in Ward 9, Ogden has a population of 8,786 (2006 Civic Census) with approximately 24.8% comprising the immigrant population (Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada). A total of 1,515 families accounted for 2,460 children still living at home with 35.6% of these being 6-14 years old. According to Stats Canada, 2001 Census of Canada the median household income for Ogden in 2000 was \$53,446. In addition, 25.7% of the population over 20 completed college, attended university or graduated university with a degree - an additional 14% graduated from Trade Schools (Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada).

There are a total of 3,665 occupied private dwellings in Ogden with 51% being single detached dwellings (Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Canada).

This Community Profile has been sponsored by:



The official sponsor of the Community Builder Award

WHAT DOES
community
MEAN TO YOU?

"We were born to unite with our fellow men, and to join in community with the human race."

- Cicero