

Neighbour Day

Toolkit

FOR COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATIONS





WHERE TO START

1 Choose Your Location

You can host an event in your front yard, backyard, in a park or even apply to host a block party on a residential street! If you choose to host an event on private property, no permit is required! Events held on streets or in parks require a permit, but don't worry, Block Party and Green Space permits are free for Neighbour Day!



2 Brainstorm Ideas

Neighbour Day is what you make it! This is a chance to be creative and have fun planning with neighbours. See if anyone in your neighbourhood wants to plan an event with you - this is a great way to connect and have neighbours feel a sense of spirit and pride.



3 Choose a Time

Neighbour Day events can happen between 10am and 10pm if they are on a public street or in a park. Consider the people that live in your neighbourhood and try to offer a time range that people can attend.

4 Do You Need a Permit?

You can book a park, pathway, greenspace or street block for your event.

Permits are FREE on Neighbour Day.

5 Fund Your Event

Decide how you will fund your Neighbour Day Event. Here are 3 commonly used Neighbour Day Grants:

- Arts & Culture Microgrant
- ActivateYYC
- #YYCNeighbourDay Microgrant *NEW*



6 Spread the Word

How will you invite people to the event? Talking to people in person, passing out flyers, and using social media are a great way to invite people to the event.



NEIGHBOUR DAY IDEAS

Potluck

Anytime there is food, people will gather.

*Safe food handling permit may apply.

BBQ

Anytime there is food, people will gather.

*Safe food handling permit may apply.

Movie in the Park

All you need is a screen, projector & a good movie

*Weather dependent.

Paint the Pavement

Turn your space into place with a little bit of paint or sidewalk chalk.

Parade of Garage Sales

Invite your neighbours to post their garage sales on your community map.

Live Music

Do you have some talented neighbours? Showcase them at your event.

Community Swap

Give your items a second life. Swap clothing, books, or other items with your neighbours

Scavenger Hunt

Create a little friendly competition with a community scavenger hunt!

Pancake Breakfast

Pancake breakfasts are not just for Stampede!

*Safe food handling permits may apply.

Bike Parade

Decorate your bikes & head out for a community bike ride

Community Cleanup

Inspire community pride by hosting a community cleanup.

Board Games

Challenge your neighbours to your favourite board or card games.

Water Fights

Refreshing summer activity for all ages.

Food Donation Drive

Support local food security or refill your community fridge or pantry.

Host a Market

Encourage your community to support local farmers or crafts people

Host an Art Show

Do you have some talented neighbours? Showcase them at your event.

Host a Carnival

Ringtoss, a three-legged race and some face-painting and you've got yourself a carnival!

Repair Party

Tune up bikes, or mend clothing. Promote a sustainable culture in your community.

Bouncy Castles

Inflate your bouncy castles & watch those soar!

Host a Workshop

Workshop? Really? Yes! You could learn how to build birdhouses, paint watercolours or mold clay with your neighbours!

Offer Recreation

Kick up a friendly game of soccer, badminton or flag football.



PERMITS YOU MIGHT NEED



Block Party Permit

What's it For:

- Blocking off a public street for activities

What You Need To Apply:

- A petition signed by the majority of the residents on the affected block

Cost:

- FREE on Neighbour Day

More Information:

<https://www.calgary.ca/roads/permits/block-parties.html>

Apply at least 15 days before your event.

Greenspace Permit

What's it For:

- Booking a park, pathway or greenspace for an event

Cost:

- FREE on Neighbour Day

More Information:

<https://www.calgary.ca/bookings/parks-greenspaces.html>

Apply at least 30 Days before your event.



Street Use Permit

What's it For:

- to exclusively use any City road right-of-way, that is, a street, a sidewalk, an alley, a walkway, a back lane, or a boulevard
- Paint the pavement projects require a street use permit.

More Information:

<https://www.calgary.ca/communities/paint-the-pavement.html>

Apply at least 4 weeks before your event.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



#YYCNEIGHBOURDAY Microgrant

What is it:

- Up to \$2,500 for small-scale, free-to-attend Neighbour Day events.

Eligibility:

- Community Associations, Business Improvement Areas & Other Non-profits

More Information:

calgary.ca/events/neighbour-day

Deadline August 31, 2025

Arts & Culture Microgrant

What is it:

- Up to \$5,000 to help local non-profits celebrate arts & culture

Eligibility:

- Community Associations, Business Improvement Areas & Other Non-profits

More Information:

calgary.ca/events/neighbour-day

Apply 30 days before the event.



ActivateYYC

What is it:

- Up to \$5,000 for placemaking initiatives

Eligibility:

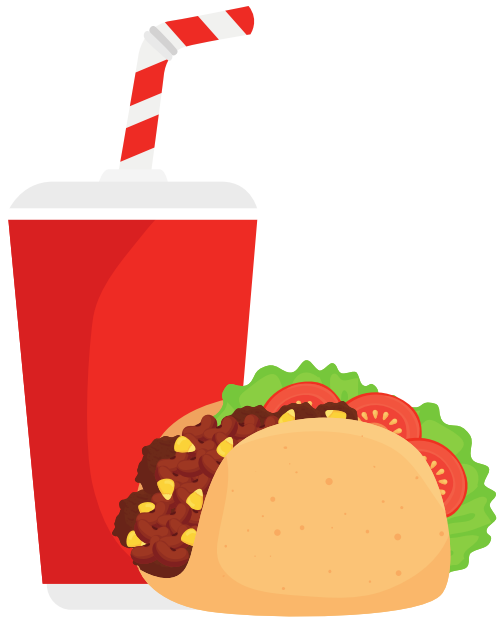
- Community Associations, Business Improvement Areas & Other Non-profits

More Information:

calgary.ca/events/neighbour-day



KEEP IN MIND



Food & Drink

Note that the sale of food or drinks may require a food handling permit. [Click HERE](#) to learn more.

Weather

Be prepared for different weather on the day of your event. Tents or tarps can be great for providing shade or shelter from rain.



Engagement Opportunity

This is a great opportunity to show the community what you do! Don't just host the event; be part of it. Talk to people about the organization, be able to talk about the work you do and be ready to sell memberships if folks are interested.



You Can Invite Special Guests

You can invite your city councillor, local police or peace officers, or request a fire truck for your event. Go to <https://www.calgary.ca/events/neighbour-day.html>

