

# The Ward 9 Guide to Recreation

This map is just the start of a great conversation! What are some of the ways that you recreate in Ward 9? In Calgary? More importantly, what are some of the ways you'd like to recreate that aren't currently available to you? This is our time to build the city that we want Calgary to become. What recreation projects are you going to advocate for to help make that happen?

**GREAT Ward 9 NEIGHBOURHOODS**  
GIAN-CARLO GARRA

## 60 Ways to Recreate in Ward 9

1. Play outdoor soccer at Renfrew Athletic Park
2. Meet your friends for a game of pickleball at the Renfrew Tennis Courts
3. Take swimming lessons at the Renfrew Aquatic & Recreation Centre
4. Play racquetball and squash at the Trail Courts
5. Play bike polo at Delta West Academy on Tuesday nights
6. Bike along the Nose Creek Pathway
7. Play table tennis and tetherball at Flyover Park
8. Fly a kite or LARP in Murdoch Park
9. Walk your dog on Tom Campbell's Hill
10. Toboggan, raft, or catch Pokemon on St. Patrick's Island
11. Cross country ski around Fort Calgary
12. Listen to a live show along the Music Mile at Jack Long Memorial Park
13. Throw some bowls at the historic Inglewood Lawn Bowling Club
14. Shoot the rapids in a kayak at the Harvie Passage
15. Meditate or picnic at Pearce Estate Park
16. Practice your fly fishing at the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery
17. Slackline in Mills Park
18. Shoot hoops in Gopher Park
19. Swing the trapeze at Calgary Circus Studio
20. Run stairs and enjoy the view at Scotsman's Hill
21. Shred the half pipe at the Compound Skate Park
22. Join a spikeball league at the Beach YYC
23. Play a game of wiffle ball by the soon-to-be Inglewood Pump Track
24. Get your binoculars out at the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary
25. Learn to flip your kayak at the Bow Waters Canoe Club
26. Contemplate Canadian pluralism at Journey to Freedom Park
27. Paint en plein air at the Southview Escarpment
28. Swing a club or throw a rock at the Inglewood Golf and Curling Club
29. Skate the day away at the Southview Community Association's ice rink
30. Take part in the many activities facilitated by the GFLS 55+ Club
31. Spend a day at "the beach" at Valleyview's splash park and volleyball courts
32. Grow veggies at the Albert Park Centennial Garden
33. Play tennis at your local court
34. Play kickball at Fonda Park
35. Dive into the Forest Lawn outdoor pool
36. Perfect your monkey vault at Breathe Parkour
37. Play cricket at Mountview Park
38. Take your kids to the Accessible Playground at Applestone Park
39. Find 8 geocaches in Elliston Park
40. Rollerblade or skate around Elliston Lake
41. Play street hockey in Forest Lawn
42. Play flag football in Dover
43. Play ice hockey at the East Calgary Twin Arenas
44. Play bocce ball in Erin Woods Park
45. Channel Katniss at the Calgary Archery Centre
46. Ride your bike along the Ward 9 Dream Network with Gian-Carlo
47. Jog or scooter along the Elbow River Pathway
48. Celebrate Canada Day at the Insect Playground in Manchester
49. Aim for a bulls-eye at Axe Throwing Calgary
50. Hit a tabletop at the Calgary BMX Association
51. Bowl a strike at Century Sports
52. Boulder at the Calgary Climbing Centre
53. Prepare for the zombie apocalypse at the Calgary Shooting Centre
54. Get some air at the Fairview Pump Track
55. Play disc golf at the once and future big course at Old Refinery Park
56. Hit a home run at Pop Davies Athletic Park
57. Play Capture the Flag at George Moss Park
58. Horse around at the Calgary Horseshoe Club
59. Play futsal at the Calgary Soccer Centre
60. Hoe Down with your Ultimate Frisbee buddies at the Calgary Rugby Union

**Every Income**  
You can participate no matter how much you or your parents make.

**Every Age**  
From our first 2000 days to our golden years, and every day in-between!

**Every Skill Level**  
From first-timers to Olympians, and everyone in-between!

**Every Ability**  
Most importantly, recreation should be inclusive!!!

**Every Scale**  
From your kitchen table and your neighbourhood park to the Continental Divide!

**Every Season**  
In our golden summers, our bright blue winters, and those times in-between!



# Great Recreation Makes Great Citizens

Welcome to the second offering in the Ward 9 Map Project - Great Recreation Makes Great Citizens!!! Like our first - the Ward 9 Dream Network - this map is intended to do two things: first, it celebrates what we have - an amazing and remarkably extensive suite of opportunities to recreate within Ward 9; secondly, it charts our path towards an even better future.

Why focus on Recreation? The slogan, "Great Neighbourhoods make a Great City," requires definition, and recreation is always front and centre when describing the elements that make a neighbourhood great: "live, work, and play."

Not only is play/recreation a best practice in city-building, but they have also always been deeply intertwined projects. Play is fundamental to being human. The formalization of play as recreation, and its role as a necessity of contemporary life, emerged over a century ago as a key response to the ravages industrialization was having on public health and city life. The love we have for leafy green natural spaces is not just a deeply human evolutionary trait; it is also born out of a relatively recent rejection of how polluted, unhealthy, and depressing the industrial city had become. To recreate, was literally, to re-create oneself as a happier and healthier version of our best selves.

Calgary's 2012 celebrations marked the centennial of so many of Calgary's treasured heritage buildings and institutions - notably including both the City of Calgary's Parks and Recreation Departments. These celebrations made it very clear that in 1912, our forebearers were not just building to serve the city that they were; they were establishing the foundations for the City that they wanted to become. We find ourselves today - in this global pandemic and in the face of the restructuring of our City's economy - in a very similar historical moment. The time is now to double down, not just on opportunities to re-create ourselves but also to activate the driving role recreation must play in re-creating our city. This map is our contribution to the conversation of how best to chart that course.



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## Recreation Centres



Look for orange pins on the map

Calgary's fleet of Recreation Centres has reached a moment of generational renewal. The City is committed to equitable distribution of a next generation of these beloved assets. The new fleet will combine right-sized and adaptable buildings with robustly mixed-use programs - ideally including libraries and schools, city and social services, arts and cultural spaces, and housing and supportive commercial uses. They will be anti-poverty and mental health and wellness-affirming community hubs.



### Renfrew Aquatic & Recreation Centre

This aquatic centre is sitting on a huge swath of playing fields adjacent to the MAXOrange transit line and its ideal location has been identified by the North Hill Local Area Plan to become the inner-northeast's Next Generation Recreation Centre over the course of the next decade.

### Max Bell Centre

This renovated twin ice rink facility is located between the BlueLine and MAXPurple transit. The land it sits on and the view it commands makes it an exciting opportunity for expanded recreational offerings as Calgary's Next-Generation Recreation Centre program reaches maturity.



### East Calgary Twin Arena

One of the backbones of Calgary's indoor ice sheet fleet, this Erin Woods facility, along the future MAXBronze line, is a testament to both the importance of hockey and other ice-based sports to East Calgary communities, as well as the chutzpah of these communities in getting their recreational needs fulfilled.

### Great Plains Recreation Facility

A new addition to Calgary's ice sheet fleet, the need for and location of this facility - also on the future MAXBronze line - was identified through community advocacy and built by the City as a package that included the new Central Library and the Remington, Shane Homes, and Brookfield YMCAs.



### Repsol Sports Centre

This iconic building along the RedLine is owned by the City and overseen by the Lindsay Park Athletic Society, which is preparing to significantly update its world-class high-performance facilities. The City has identified it as being perfectly located for fulfilling the inner-southeast's family recreation aquatic needs and to address downtown's recreation gap to become the pioneering model for Calgary's Next-Generation Recreation Centre.

### GFL Future Recreation Centre

As Greater Forest Lawn prepares to undertake Local Area Planning work and pilot a new multi-community governance model, a major piece of that work will surround the design and development of a much-needed Next-Generation Recreation Centre for East Calgary. The City has proposed the MAXPurple and future MAXBronze-adjacent Forest Lawn Athletic Park as the perfect location for this facility.



### Calgary Soccer Centre

The original indoor, all seasons home to Calgary's exploding soccer community - as well as many other field sports - this future MAXBronze-served facility has expanded to include outdoor artificial turf fields. It provides the model for both a distributed and much needed fleet of community-scaled fieldhouses, as well as an artificial turf program for Calgary's most used playing fields.

### Remington YMCA in Quarry Park

Fulfilling the live-work-play promise of Quarry Park, this brand new facility includes the public library relocated from Ogden, all within a short walk to the future GreenLine Station.

## Regional Parks



Look for green pins on the map

Calgary is a city of parks and natural spaces; these are inextricable from our deep-seated culture of recreation. From some of the biggest municipal natural spaces on earth, like Nose Hill and Fish Creek, through our longest-in-North-America river pathway system, to our unparalleled collection of parks and playgrounds that place quality green space within a five-minute walk of every home.

Calgary's Regional Parks are the crown jewels of this system, of which Ward 9 enjoys the following:

### Fort Calgary

Since time immemorial Treaty 7's Indigenous peoples have gathered at the confluence that the Niitsitapi called Moh'Kins'Tis - the Elbow. Today, it's the national historic site where our city was founded by the arrival of the Northwest Mounted Police in 1875. Come visit the park at the centre of the expanding River Walk.

### St Patrick's Island

This award-winning "backyard" to the densifying urban north-east completes the promise Calgarians fought for in the lead-up to the Canadian Centenary. Come walk and wade, play and relax, picnic and explore where nature reclaimed meets best-in-class urban park amenities.

### Enmax Park

The Calgary Stampede has transformed this former industrial area into a green oasis to temper the bustle of their yearly fairgrounds. More importantly, it is the home of the Truth and Reconciliation-driven Elbow River Camp, which celebrates the preservation of Treaty 7's Indigenous peoples' sacred traditions. For the rest of the year, this park is a lovely riverside greenspace.

### Inglewood Bird Sanctuary & Wildlands Park

First established as a migratory bird refuge in the 1920's, this former homestead of Colonel Walker has grown into a premier conservation landscape, slowly reclaiming industrial lands - most notably the former Gulf Oil Refinery - into a stunning and expansive patch of nature.

### Pearce Estate Park

This park is the former homestead of early Calgary booster William Pearce. Today the Province of Alberta maintains our fish populations out of the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery, Calgarians picnic amongst old growth poplars, an engineered wetland bioremediates the outflow from the Hatchery, and the Harvie Passage celebrates our City's love of our rivers as one of Canada's top 100 public spaces.



### Stanley Park

From Calgary's premier outdoor pool and Elbow River beach, to the best community ice rink in the city, and from a field of dreams little league stadium to that most excellent game of lawn bowls, Stanley Park is an all-seasons and all ages magnet for recreation.

### Valleyview Park

A significant early step towards bridging the "Deerfoot divide," this park is aptly named along the Dover escarpment and nestles into the community. Home to the Calgary Beach Volleyball Association, a spray park, playing fields and walking trails, this park is one of the main reasons Dover is a hidden gem.



### Elliston Park

This lakeside park does double duty as stormwater retention and landfill reclamation while hosting pathways, picnic tables, a rose garden, an off-leash area, and playgrounds. Every August, it hosts the Global Fest International Fireworks Competition and its east-facing natural amphitheatre and the reflective waters of the lake make it one of the best venues to view fireworks on earth!

### Old Refinery Park & Beaver Dam Flats

A landscape in active reclamation from historic heavy industry, this area will emerge in the years ahead as four distinct park spaces: an expansion of Pop Davies Athletic Park, a continuation of the Beaver Dam Flats natural area, a park for neighbouring communities, and a future regional park - potentially a major festival grounds - served by the Green Line. In the meantime, Calgarians enjoy this vast landscape as a dog walk and disc golf destination.

rec-re-a-tion  
noun: an activity done for enjoyment when one is not working



Share your thoughts with Team Ward 9  
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— EDWARD BELLAMY

"If bread is the first necessity of life, recreation is a close second."

GIAN-CARLO GARBA  
GREAT WARD 9 NEIGHBOURHOODS

The Ward 9

# Guide to Recreation

includes 60 ways to recreate!

