



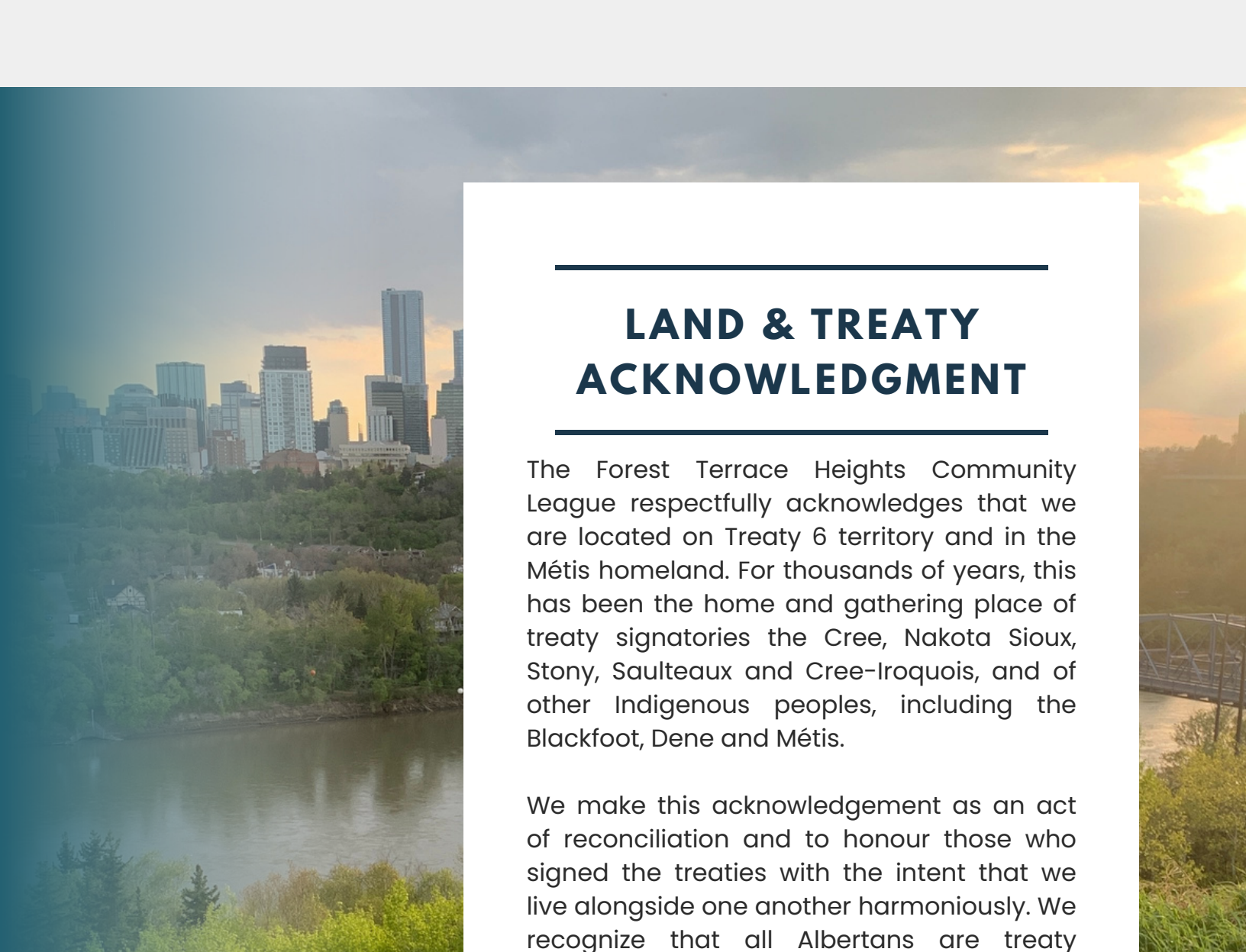
2024-25

ANNUAL REPORT

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LAND & TREATY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Forest Terrace Heights Community League respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory and in the Métis homeland. For thousands of years, this has been the home and gathering place of treaty signatories the Cree, Nakota Sioux, Stony, Saulteaux and Cree-Iroquois, and of other Indigenous peoples, including the Blackfoot, Dene and Métis.

We make this acknowledgement as an act of reconciliation and to honour those who signed the treaties with the intent that we live alongside one another harmoniously. We recognize that all Albertans are treaty people and have a responsibility to become aware of our shared history and to understand the spirit of Treaty 6 so that we can create a just future built on peace and friendship.

We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work and play on this land and to the people whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to enhance our community.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello neighbours,

Since stepping into this role four years ago, I've focused on building a strong team with bold ideas and the drive to bring them to life. Today, we're proud to have one of the largest boards in the city and a growing list of community-led programs.

This past year, we focused on strengthening our core operations. With a new brand, updated bylaws, and refreshed leadership structure in place, we turned our attention to three key areas: our community hall, rink, and garden.

Community Hall:

Hall rentals and programming have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, turning the space into a true hub of activity again. This would not have been possible without the dedication of our hall team, who manage bookings, security, cleaning, and maintenance with heart and precision.

Outdoor Rink:

What once seemed an impossible challenge has become one of our proudest successes. Thanks to strong leadership and an outstanding team of volunteers, we've delivered a high-quality winter ice surface and year-round programming, including soccer in spring and summer.

Community Garden:

After years of heavy lifting by a few dedicated volunteers, we've reintegrated the garden into our board operations and simplified how it runs. With new leadership, it's now more sustainable and accessible—and we're excited about growing it further in the years ahead.

Looking forward, we're revitalizing previously paused services. We've welcomed a new Events Director, and for the first time since the pandemic, we have both a Seniors Director and a Neighbourhood Watch liaison. These latest additions mark an exciting next chapter.

To our amazing board members and volunteers, thank you. Your passion and commitment have made this community stronger, more vibrant, and more connected.

I'm excited for the year ahead and always welcome your feedback. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warmly,

Jeffrey R. Behrens
President

president@forestterrace.org

2024-25

MEMBERSHIPS

This year, we reached nearly 400 memberships in the Forest Terrace Heights Community League. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the league's activities by purchasing an annual membership.

Residents of Forest Heights and Terrace Heights can obtain a membership online at forestterrace.org. You can also purchase a paper membership at Grower Direct on 101 Avenue. The official membership year runs from September 1 to August 31 the following year. Membership prices are:

\$30/family
\$15/individual
\$10/senior

Did you know that first memberships are always free for newcomers to the neighbourhood? Contact memberships@forestterrace.org to get your free card today.

BY THE NUMBERS

What a year it has been! We were thrilled to receive a generous casino payout this year—huge thanks to all the incredible volunteers who made it happen. These funds allow us to continue offering the programs and events our community loves, make essential upgrades to the hall, and even try a few new things along the way.

Like many households, we're seeing rising costs across the board. As a result, we're projecting a planned deficit next year as we put casino funds to good use and navigate higher operating expenses.

We're proud to keep investing in the people and places that make Forest Terrace Heights feel like home.

\$79K

Casino Proceeds

17%

Increase in Hall Rentals

1

Amazing Ice Rink!

Income	Projected 2025-2026	Actual 2024-2025	Actual 2023-2024
Casino	\$ -	\$79,411.46	\$ -
Grants, Dues and Other	\$34,000.00	\$33,337.72	\$45,157.93
Hall Rental	\$10,000.00	\$9,892.29	\$8,454.46
Programs and Events	\$11,800.00	\$10,449.93	\$11,355.51
Total Income	\$55,800.00	\$133,091.40	\$64,967.90
Expenses	Projected 2025-2026	Actual 2024-2025	Actual 2023-2024
Admin and General	\$40,000.00	\$21,021.22	\$30,109.03
Building Maintenance	\$39,000.00	\$41,230.39	\$30,790.47
Programs and Events	\$49,250.00	\$32,546.13	\$30,939.84
Total Expenses	\$128,250.00	\$94,797.74	\$91,839.34
Net Income (Loss)	(\$72,450.00)	\$38,293.66	(\$26,871.44)

GRANTS

It takes more than great neighbours and good vibes to keep our community league running—it also takes grants! This year, the Forest Terrace Heights Community League received two key grants that helped us do what we do best: bring people together, support local initiatives, and keep the rink in great shape.

The first grant was from the **City of Edmonton–Community League Operating Grant (CLOG)** for **\$17,274**. This big one helps cover the essentials—keeping the lights on, running programs, partnering with awesome local groups, and launching new ideas that make our neighbourhood even better. The second was the **EPCOR Rink Grant** for **\$800**. This cool boost (literally) helps us maintain the ice and keep winter fun alive at the hall rink!



\$17,274

**Community League
Operating Grant (CLOG)**

\$800

**EPCOR
Rink Grant**

Our board keeps an eye out and applies when it makes sense. If you spot a grant or funding opportunity that could add value for folks in Forest Terrace Heights, please let us know! We love hearing your ideas and working together to make them happen.

Thank you to our funders for helping us build a stronger, more connected community!

EVENTS

This year was filled with laughter, community spirit and the unveiling of several new events!

Ice Cream Social - September 29

Our Ice Cream Social was a sweet success! We welcomed many young families—especially those with children under five—and handed out approximately 134 ice cream cups to FTH members. Highlights included Sportball, live music from Eddy Wiens, glitter tattoos, and our always-fun garden harvest contest. Special thanks to MLA Marlin Schmidt and Councillor Ashley Salvador for stopping by, and our amazing volunteers who made it all possible!

Skate & Social - February 16

Our Skate & Social event brought neighbours together for a heartwarming winter celebration—despite the frigid temperatures! Forty-nine community members, including 27 kids and 22 adults, braved the cold to enjoy outdoor skating, tasty treats, and cozy indoor activities. We're incredibly grateful to Bloom Cookies, Second Cup, amazing volunteers, and hard-working Rink Attendants for making the event possible.

Clothing Swap - February 16

This year's Clothing Swap was a huge success, thanks to the generosity and spirit of our community! We received 149 bags of donations—that's over 7,450 lbs of clothing! More than 320 people attended the event, and just 14 bags remained, which we donated to Blenderz, Salvation Army, Smile Edmonton, and the Terra Centre. A big thank you to everyone who donated, attended, and volunteered—you made this event another one for the books!



PROGRAMS

It was another fantastic year for programs in Forest Terrace Heights! In 2024–25, we offered a full slate of activities that brought neighbours together to move, learn, and connect—including Zumba, High Fitness, Sewing Club, Sportball, and several well-loved camps.

We were especially excited to expand our programming through the summer months. For the first time, High Fitness continued all summer, and Kerri Gold launched a weekly Wednesday Sewing Club that continues to grow with new members and projects.

We also hosted two summer camps—Mad Science and Sportball—which were a big hit with local families. Mad Science returned in March with an action-packed spring break camp with fantastic attendance.

Throughout the year, we consistently offered programs four days a week:

- **Mondays:** Zumba with Darlene and Shawna
- **Tuesdays:** High Fitness with Layton, and new in spring 2025, Not Falling for You (a balance and mobility program for seniors)
- **Wednesdays:** Sewing Club with Kerri
- **Thursdays:** Sportball (three seasons, three sessions each)

These programs continue to get great feedback from participants of all ages. We're proud to offer activities that help build community, promote health, and bring people together—and we can't wait to keep it going in 2025–26!



Kids' Camps & Sports

76 Participants

Mad Science | Sportball



Weekly Fitness Programs

255 Participants

High Fitness | Zumba



Clubs & Community Learning

140 Participants

Sewing Club | NFFY



Youth Workshop

10 Participants

Period Positivity Workshop

COMMUNICATIONS



18,000+

Southeast Voice
Reach



1,500+

Newsletter
Subscribers



1,800+

Facebook
Followers



600+

Instagram
Followers

Keeping our neighbourhood informed is a big job—and one we take seriously! In 2024–25, we continued to use a mix of channels to share timely, relevant information with our community.

The Southeast Voice newspaper remains one of our favourite tools for reaching residents, and it is delivered monthly to 18,000 households in the area. We also send a monthly newsletter to over 1,500 subscribers, featuring upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and community news.

Our social media accounts continue to grow and play a key role in promoting Forest Terrace Heights Community League programs, events and activities. We also help spread the word about local fitness, health, arts, sports and cultural opportunities—whether offered by nearby organizations like SEESA, GESA, McNally High School or the City of Edmonton.

Social media has proven especially valuable for sharing timely updates on parking bans, snow removal, safety tips and city-wide events that directly impact our neighbourhood.

This year, we saw strong growth across our platforms:

- Facebook followers increased from 1.6K to 1.8K, with reach up 28.1%
- Instagram followers rose from 541 to 620, with reach increasing by 92.7%

To stay in the know, [subscribe](#) to our newsletter and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

CIVICS

It's been another busy year in Forest Terrace Heights, with plenty of change, some challenges, and lots of progress to celebrate.

Community safety was top of mind for many residents this year, especially following the opening of the Morningstar supportive housing facility in Terrace Heights. In response to growing concerns, the Community League invited Boyle Street Community Services to our October 2024 board meeting. Their team openly acknowledged the issues, shared that internal changes were already underway, and even offered optional training to our board members—showing a real willingness to work with the community.



Over in the local business scene, we said goodbye to Fleisch restaurant in March, but the corner of 106 Avenue and 80 Street didn't stay quiet for long. We now have two new neighbours to welcome: The Colombian coffee shop and Birch & Bear Pizza! Sadly, the Hilltop Pub—closed since a 2023 fire—remains out of commission (for now).

We also saw some long-awaited upgrades around the neighbourhood. The city completed repairs to the river valley shared-use path near Riverside Golf Course, and new signs popped up along pathways (like behind McNally High School) to help guide cyclists and pedestrians.

Some good news for commuters! Repairs to the Dawson Bridge are finally moving forward. Most of the work will take place on weekends, with one shared-use path staying open the whole time. Construction starts this summer and should wrap up by the end of the year.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

It's been a great start to the 2025 garden season! We welcomed a new Garden Director this year and are thrilled to report that all plots are full—with gardeners of all ages and experience levels digging in and getting their hands dirty.

Thanks to ongoing support from the Forest Terrace Heights Community League, we continue to maintain and enjoy our eight accessible garden plots.

Whether you've got a green thumb or you're just starting to turnip the soil, our garden is a great place to grow something good—plants, friendships, and community spirit. Want to get involved or learn more? Lettuce know at garden@forestterrace.org.

We hope to see you in the garden!





OUTDOOR RINK

This season started strong with early floods and the rink shack reopening for the first time in over two years!

Our new partnership with McNally High School's Business and Innovation Program was a standout success. Out of 40+ applicants, four students were selected as Rink Attendants, bringing tremendous energy and professionalism to the role—we're excited to grow this program next year.

Despite the usual weather ups and downs, the rink was open most days and nearly every weekend. A February highlight was our First Annual Parent Skate & Social, where families braved the cold for skating and indoor activities—a tradition we hope to continue.

Thanks to support from the EFCL and Sport Edmonton's Fresh Net Program, we added two brand-new hockey nets to the rink.

In warmer months, the rink continues to serve the community through programs like Community League Soccer and Pedalheads. We're also exploring ideas to transform the space into a year-round, multi-use hub.

A big thank you to our amazing volunteers—this season wouldn't have been possible without you!





Thank you to the 100 neighbours who took the time to share their thoughts in our 2025 Community Survey!

The message was clear when asked what you want to hear about: keep it local! Thank you for sharing dozens of creative and exciting ideas for future events and programs! Highlights included:

- We're excited to explore many of these as we plan the year ahead. Thanks for helping shape a vibrant, inclusive, and connected community!

Survey Responses

Average Age of Respondents

**Want more info on
Community Events**

Want to get info by Email

Want more Fitness & Wellness Programs



WORDS FROM OUR NEIGHBOURS



"I love how close to the river valley it is and all of our wonderful parks. McNally has one of the best lookouts in Edmonton! I am thankful more young families are moving in as well as businesses. There is a nice relaxed pace of living while still having access to all of Edmonton's amenities."

"Forest Heights is a hidden gem! A perfectly residential, peaceful, character-filled neighbourhood mere minutes from downtown. We love it so much that when it came time for our family to move homes, we would only consider options in the same neighbourhood!"

"I love our old Elm trees, the parks and proximity to our beautiful River Valley."

I love the trees and the beauty of our neighborhood. I also love being so close to the river valley. Neighbors are friendly too! I also like the playgrounds and water spray park for the kids. The Autopro garage is also an excellent garage.

"It has a small town feel."

"I adore our neighbourhood. I feel like the streets are crawling with strollers and young families. I love how close we are to the river and pathways!"

"There are some pretty amazing people. Love that we are so close to nature walks in the river valley, and people care about where they live."

CONTACT

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