

# Community Leagues 101



**EFCL** ORG

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**How  
Familiar are  
you with  
Edmonton's  
Community  
Leagues?**

# What is one community you belong to?

Interest

Religion

School/  
Work

Geography

Culture

Life Stage

# What are Community Leagues?

The Community League provides a space and structure for you to find community in your neighborhood! Unlike other types of community that you choose to be a part of, your neighborhood will be uniquely diverse.

# History of Leagues

- 1917 the first league is formed,
- 1921 -9 leagues formed the EFCL (100 years old!!)
- Adapted from city club model (U.S)
- More inclusive mandate: **non partisan**
- Neighborhoods outside the core of Edmonton came together to have their needs heard at City Hall
- **Membership by geography** not age, gender, religion, or other

# Unique to Edmonton

- Centralized green space in every neighborhood
- 162 Community Leagues in Edmonton.
- Leagues are registered not for profits under the Society Act.
- Municipal Reserve Land/ Tripartite Agreement
  - The City of Edmonton owns the land and Leagues own the assets on the land.
- Funded in part by the City based on household numbers in the neighbourhood represented by the League.

# Who Runs Leagues?

- Volunteer-run boards
  - Nominations for positions usually at League AGMs.
- Larger leagues may have paid staff
- Accountable to their members & the neighborhood
- Meetings open to the public
  - Ask your local League to attend an upcoming board meeting
- No professional board experience required
  - The EFCL provides board development training

1500

## VOLUNTEER LEAGUE BOARD MEMBERS

Plus 1000s of volunteers helping with  
the operations & programming

# What Do Leagues Do?

**#1**

# **Bring Neighbours Together**



**#2**

# Recreation and Programming




 tara mccarthy    
 @CBCradiotara

Oliver Park in #YEG is now home to the Oliver Community Pantry. The structure was anonymously donated for community members to leave or take non-perishable food items and other needs. @OCLYEG Vice President Luwam Kiflemariam showed me the pantry and shared the story behind it.





**#3**

# **Develop & Maintain Amenities**

**\$500 MILLION+**  
IN AMENITIES &  
INFRASTRUCTURE





57

COMMUNITY  
GARDENS



**250**

**PLAYGROUNDS**

46

# BASKETBALL COURTS





**10**

**BMX  
BIKE TRACKS**



**55**

# **WATER SPRAY PARKS**

A person is shown from the waist down, wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt, black leggings, and white sneakers. They are holding a tennis racket in their right hand and a yellow tennis ball in their left hand. The background is a blue tennis court with white lines. The image has a dark blue overlay.

**24**

**OUTDOOR  
TENNIS COURTS**

A photograph of three people ice skating on an outdoor rink at dusk. The rink is surrounded by snow and evergreen trees. In the foreground, a man in a bright yellow jacket and a woman in a blue jacket are holding hands. A child in a green and white patterned jacket is skating to the left. The background shows other skaters and a line of trees under a dark sky.

119

# OUTDOOR SKATING RINKS

126

COMMUNITY  
HALLS

Ritchie  
Community League

OKTOBERFEST  
OCT. 12 7<sup>PM</sup>  
LIVE MUSIC!  
\$10 @ THE DOOR  
NO MINORS

[www.ritchielc.com](http://www.ritchielc.com)

Hall Rental 433-7137





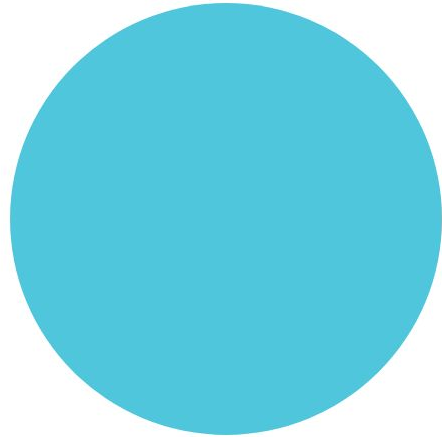
# 10 YEAR VENTURE

Completed under budget  
with multiple partners

#4

# Represent Community Interests





**Questions before we  
continue?**

**Success &  
Opportunities  
within the  
Community  
League  
Movement**

# Leagues Contribute to...

- Poverty Reduction
- Health and Wellness
- Resident Retention
- Recreation (local and affordable!) for all ages
- Increased social capital/combat social isolation
- Youth resiliency and protective factors
- Disaster preparedness

# Challenges of Leagues

- Every League has different capacity and resources
- Engaging with all demographics in the community
- Volunteerism ebbs and flows
- Funding security
- Understanding their role on subjects where residents have diverse opinions

# Opportunities

- Grassroots, bottom-up
- Citizen-led
- Community of geography
- Strong ties to COE supports
- Sustainable- 100 years of leagues
- Local solutions
- Legacy and experience of thousands of volunteers

# How can you get involved?

Run events in your neighbourhood

Go to League events!

Join the Board

Find your league's website

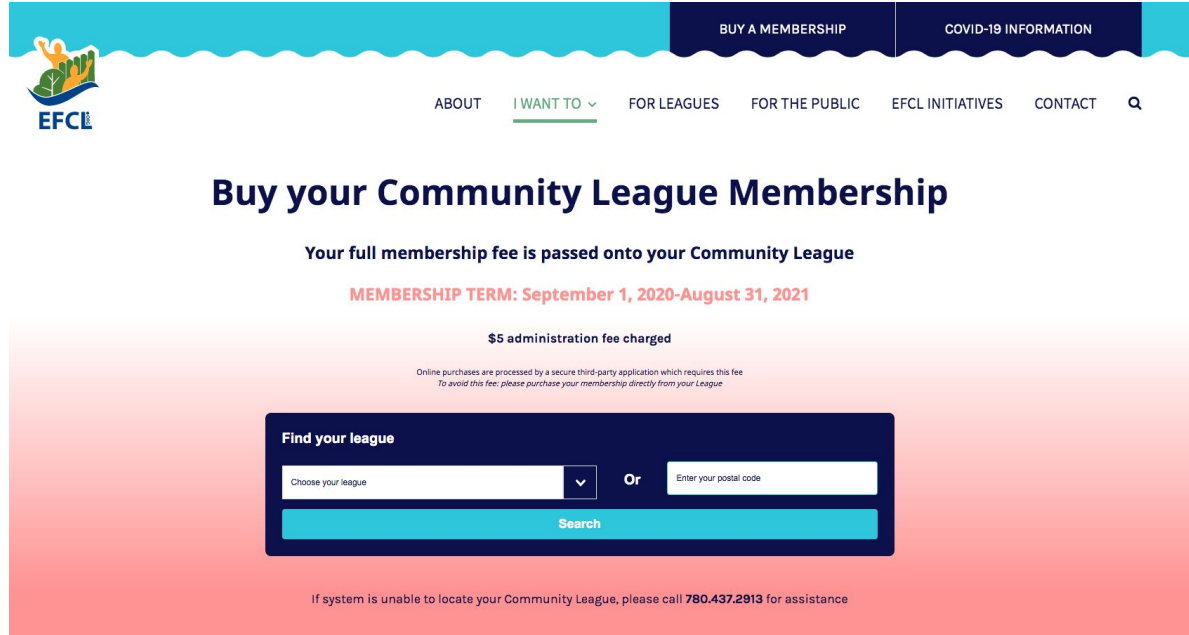
Serve Hot dogs at the BBQ

Skate at your local rink!

Buy a membership

EFCL Committees

# Individuals can become a member



The screenshot shows the EFCL website's membership page. At the top left is the EFCL logo. To its right are navigation links: ABOUT, I WANT TO (with a dropdown arrow), FOR LEAGUES, FOR THE PUBLIC, EFCL INITIATIVES, CONTACT, and a search icon. Further right are buttons for BUY A MEMBERSHIP and COVID-19 INFORMATION. The main heading is "Buy your Community League Membership". Below it, a sub-heading states "Your full membership fee is passed onto your Community League". A red text line indicates the "MEMBERSHIP TERM: September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021". A blue box highlights "\$5 administration fee charged". Below this, a note explains that online purchases are processed by a secure third-party application and that to avoid the fee, users should purchase directly from their league. A search form titled "Find your league" contains a dropdown menu labeled "Choose your league", an "Or" separator, and a text input field labeled "Enter your postal code". A blue "Search" button is at the bottom of the form. A footer note says "If system is unable to locate your Community League, please call 780.437.2913 for assistance".

**BUY A MEMBERSHIP**    **COVID-19 INFORMATION**

ABOUT    I WANT TO    FOR LEAGUES    FOR THE PUBLIC    EFCL INITIATIVES    CONTACT    🔍

## Buy your Community League Membership

Your full membership fee is passed onto your Community League

**MEMBERSHIP TERM: September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021**

**\$5 administration fee charged**

Online purchases are processed by a secure third-party application which requires this fee  
To avoid this fee, please purchase your membership directly from your League

**Find your league**

Choose your league     Or    Enter your postal code

**Search**

If system is unable to locate your Community League, please call 780.437.2913 for assistance

www.efcl.org



# Why Join the League?

- Build the neighborhood you want to live in !
- Get to know your neighbors
- Board experience/Resume/Volunteer Hours
  - Ask your local League for what positions are open.
- Building social capital
- Living local!
- Mobilizing your strengths and assets to benefit your neighborhood

# Organizations- Partnership

- Allows opportunity for you and the clients you serve to have accessible programming located within a client's vicinity
- Allows you to support a grass roots, neighbourhood community building movement
- Expands the outreach and capacity of both your organization and the Community League



WHAT DOES **EFCL** DO?

# EFCL IS THE **UMBRELLA** **ORGANIZATION** SUPPORTING COMMUNITY LEAGUES

We help to champion the **needs** and **concerns** of the city's neighbourhoods.

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## CHAMPIONING COMMUNITY LEAGUES

Advocacy  
& Engagement

Broadening Reach  
& Diversity

Building Effective  
Operations

Supporting League  
Leadership  
& Capacity

# Services we provide to Leagues

- **Membership support**  
Online sales, supplies & communication support
- **Advocacy on city-wide issues**  
Initiatives impacting majority of Leagues
- **Board support**  
Training, workshops, one-to-one
- **Supports to League volunteers**  
Diversity & inclusion training, mentorship program

# Facilitate League-Organization partnerships

**Communications**

**Equipment Lending**

**Resource Creation**

**Lunch and Learns**


**League Experts**

**Sublease Opportunities**

**League Connections**

**Resource Library**

# Working with 5+ Leagues?



## Partnership FORM

### Organizational League Partnership Form

Thank you for your interest in partnering with our Community Leagues. They're excited to work with you to help animate their spaces and neighbourhood. Remember that Leagues are volunteer-powered, so make your ask clear and be patient. Please submit this form and any additional questions or comments you may have to the EFCL's Community Outreach team at [leaguesupport@efcl.org](mailto:leaguesupport@efcl.org).

We encourage you to reach out to Leagues directly. This form is for opportunities that can be provided to 5 or more Leagues. If you want to work with a specific League but are having troubles connecting with them you can contact us at [leaguesupport@efcl.org](mailto:leaguesupport@efcl.org) and we can support you.

If you're looking for support from the EFCL to promote an opportunity to all Leagues via our communication channels please use this form: <https://forms.gle/M7uvq1UaVfJZ2nmG7>

The EFCL's Community Outreach Team will follow up with all those who fill out this form accordingly to arrange next steps.

\* Required

Name of Organization \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

# Next Steps

- Check out your Local League
  - Purchase a membership
- Interested in your organization partnering with Leagues?
  - Find more information about Leagues at <https://efcl.org/for-the-public/>
  - Email us at [leaguesupport@efcl.org](mailto:leaguesupport@efcl.org) to discuss how the EFCL can support you in connecting with Leagues



[facebook.com/yegCLs](https://facebook.com/yegCLs)



[@efcl](https://twitter.com/efcl)



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[efcl.org](https://efcl.org)

# Questions:

1. What are some benefits you see of involving your clients/service users in the league movement?
2. What are some barriers to participation in leagues faced by your clients?
3. Other thoughts or questions?

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