

News Release

May 7, 2007

Edmonton's top-10 discussion topics for May

— *C2E online community buzzing with 35,000-plus postings*

A bold new online concept launched less than one year ago, Connect2Edmonton.ca (C2E) now has 1,294 registered members in 24 countries.

Here are the top-10 global discussion topics among Edmonton enthusiasts as announced today by C2E:

1. **Downtown Retail**

Downtown Edmonton's current revitalization is going in the right direction but C2E members have practical suggestions on how retail development can contribute to renewed downtown energy.

2. **New high-rise city**

Read both sides of this excellent debate over the development of a "new city" in Strathcona County that would feature high-rise apartments and pedestrian-friendly streets.

3. **Edmonton's bid for the World's Fair**

Tremendous online support is evident for recent suggestions by Edmonton media and some city councillors to develop a formal World's Fair bid. C2E members want to know how they can help support the next step.

4. **New downtown bar**

The new Oil City Roadhouse bar is a welcome addition downtown but C2E members are calling for the outside building signage to be improved and wondering if Jasper might evolve into another Calgary's Electric Avenue.

5. **Heritage church demolition**

The demolition of the Central Pentecostal Tabernacle on 116th Street has triggered pointed questions about how the process was handled and when historic buildings should be torn down.

6. **Provincial museum renovation delay**

C2E members express frustration and questions regarding the recently announced delays to the Royal Alberta Museum renewal plan. Is this a temporary delay or a major setback for our region?

7. International flights

A lively discussion sparked by the success of the new direct flights from Edmonton to London's Heathrow Airport have C2E members wondering which international flights should be added next.

8. Edmonton's trolley fleet

This very active thread of images, photos and maps describes a creative collection of ideas to improve Edmonton's outdated trolley system.

9. Affordable Edmonton?

Despite soaring house prices, a recent Century 21-survey indicates that Edmonton remains among the 10 lowest-priced cities for downtown-district executive homes in the world.

10. Subsidized drug therapy to Edmonton family?

See the results of the online survey asking if the province should cover the costs of an unapproved and costly enzyme therapy that treats genetic disorders. An Edmonton mother is fighting for this \$1-million-a-year drug therapy that could help prolong the lives of her terminally ill sons.

C2E was conceived and funded by Edmonton Economic Development Corp. with promotional support from Edmonton Airports, Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations and the City of Edmonton. It is an autonomous, non-political, member-led organization supported by a cadre of pro-Edmonton volunteers and representatives from partner organizations. Membership is free.

Visit www.connect2edmonton.ca to join Edmonton's global revolution.

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