



EDMONTON
**lifelong
learners**
ASSOCIATION



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION

The Lifelong Learner

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Website www.my-ella.com

Email: exella@ualberta.ca

ELLA Office:

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Phone #: 780-492-5055

Renew your ELLA membership TODAY!

Don't forget to renew your membership – you can't register for Spring Session without it!

Important Dates:

ELLA Spring Session – **May 1 to 19, 2017**

We are offering more courses than ever before. Tell your friends about ELLA Spring Session....your testimonial is the best promotion that the program can get!

Program Guide available – February 13 (access the guide here: <http://my-ella.com/2017-spring-session-course-guide/>)

Registration Commences – March 14

ELLA had a makeover!

ELLA had a makeover! You will start to see a new logo, colors and recognizable formats in our promotional materials. These changes will be phased in over the next few months

Our look may have changed and our programming has expanded to meet increasing enrolment but our mission remains the same. Our goal is to serve our members by fulfilling our purpose, honouring our common values, accomplishing our mission and continuing to grow a dynamic community of life long learners aged 50 and over.

Thank you for being part of our community!

Our Mission

Purpose

The Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA) exists to provide a variety of educational courses to adults 50+, through its partnership with the University of Alberta. Reflecting the diverse needs and interests of adults, the courses are current and relevant, challenging, and fun opportunities to promote mental and physical well-being. ELLA is wholly volunteer-driven. Its community of volunteers ensures that course fees do not present a barrier to participation.

Vision

A dynamic community of lifelong learners (adults aged 50 and older) who actively participate in learning

ELLA's Mission

To offer adults, in partnership with the Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta, high quality and affordable non-credit educational courses, and workshops which stimulate both mind and body by exploring liberal arts, fine arts, sciences, humanities and physical activities.

Values

We believe:

- that maintaining intellectual and physical health by the continued acquisition of learning contributes to an improved quality of life for older adults
- that the cost of attending ELLA programs must be maintained at a level that encourages the participation of retired individuals on a fixed income
- in providing a non-threatening and physically accessible environment for ELLA programming
- in the engagement and involvement of older adults in the planning, design and administration of their own programs
- that volunteers are our most valuable resource
- that a volunteer led, not for profit organization independent from and in partnership with the U of A is an excellent vehicle for providing ELLA programming
- that an equitable relationship with the University of Alberta will enhance the university status in the community

So..... what would you like to learn in 2017?

Around this time of year I am reminded of the immortal words of Harry Potter's Hogwarts school song that describe the students' heads as "...bare and full of air, dead flies and bits of fluff." Perhaps it's just the winter "blahs" but that is pretty much how I feel. And then I start to really look forward to spring and the upcoming ELLA Spring Session.

This year our course list has expanded so you will be able to choose from more numerous and diverse subjects than ever before with ELLA. For music fans, D.T. Baker will be back with the first dozen years of rock and roll, artists will be able to try carving in bark, and tech minded folk will be able to look at the growth of artificial intelligence, the basics of space travel, or examine how engineering got us where we are today. Laurie Greenwood will be with us to celebrate books with book lovers. Those who like to learn about other cultures will have a chance to explore, China with Gordon Houlden, Director of the China Institute, Islam with a Quranic scholar or the Cree language with an award winning teacher.

Take up Line dancing. Learn more about nutrition. Embrace meditation. Sing your way through the development of choral music. Find out more about alternative sustainable energy. Satisfy your curiosity about the history of organized crime in North America. Pursue understanding of money and financial crises. You get the idea....

So, what would you like to learn in 2017?

Submitted by
Gay Maddin
Program Development Coordinator



Joyce is thinking spring!!

Today is a cold, beautiful blue sky Alberta day. But my focus, as with the other members of the ELLA Board, is on the first week in May when spring session begins. It is going to be another successful year!

The Board has been working hard to get all of its ducks in a row – the Program has been identified, rooms are being booked, and the Course Guide is being finalized. It will all be available to you on February 13, so plan to log onto the website and check it out.

The website you see in February will have been updated – our new IT Chair (Jimm Valentinsen) and his committee, including Carol Volge have been working hard to move all of our information to one site and present information in a more readable and accessible format. We hope you enjoy.

Cindy Hanson (Marketing Chair) and her committee have worked with a designer and we now have a new ELLA-owned logo. You will see it being used consistently on all of our publications from now on.

We continue to connect with the Faculty of Extension to explore long term options and the Board is working to identify a vision for our future.

It takes many hours and all of our talented people to continue to stay up to date with technology and provide our members with high quality educational opportunities.

Thank you for your support.

Joyce Madsen
President
ELLA

Renew Your Membership now.....

You must be a current ELLA member to register for Spring Session so renew now!

Access to a Computer? Use our ELLA online membership system!

ELLA is GREEN - No need for paper, envelopes and stamps! Our office volunteers are happy to help! Go to my-ella.com and select [Purchase a New Membership](#) OR [Renew Your Membership](#) from the Membership tab.

Follow the steps outlined. Payment may be made by Visa, MasterCard or by cheque (payable to **ELLA**). Credit card is confirmed online and a notice sent to your email address. Cheque payment is confirmed through your preferred communication after the cheque is processed at the ELLA office.

To Change Your Membership Email Address: If you want to use a different email address than the one you used since purchasing your most recent ELLA membership, you must change it within Eventbrite® FIRST, then change it in your ELLA account. Follow the steps online.

Eventbrite® - ELLA uses [Eventbrite®](#) for processing our event registrations and memberships. Each ELLA member must have their own account with [Eventbrite®](#) and a VALID email address that is UNIQUE to you. It cannot be shared by another member registered with ELLA. The email address you use is your Username for both Eventbrite and ELLA. You also need to create your own password that will be the same for your Eventbrite and ELLA account. Record your Username and Password in a safe and secure location.

No computer access? No email address? Provide the form to ELLA office by: mail, phone or in-person!

An ELLA volunteer can enter your membership information for you. Payment options: credit card information, cheque (payable to **ELLA**), cash. Please **do not mail cash**. Confirmation is provided to you as per your preferred communication.

Membership year runs from October 1 – September 30. A membership purchased after May 1st is applied to the next membership year. This ensures that you are able to enrol in the following Spring Session or any other ELLA sponsored event.

ELLA SPRING SESSION INFORMATION

www.my-ella.com

exella@ualberta.ca

ELLA is a registered not-for-profit organization with charitable status run entirely by volunteers. We work in partnership with the University of Alberta / Faculty of Extension to offer an annual 3-week Spring Session of affordable, relevant, challenging and fun learning to promote mental and physical well being for adults 50 and over.

Spring Session 2017 promises to be another amazing three week opportunity! Talk to your friends, invite them to come to this year's program and tell them about your past experiences at ELLA. Over 95 % of last year's participants said that ELLA was very good or excellent.....your testimonials are the best promotion that Spring Session can get! If you have any questions please contact the office by email: exella@ualberta.ca or by phone: 780-492-5055. We have a team of enthusiastic volunteers who are eager to help! See you at ELLA Spring Session 2017!!

ELLA Office Hours

(Closed on Statutory Holidays)

January & February:	Monday, Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.,
March 1 to 10	Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 10:00 – 2:00 p.m.
March 13	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Exception:
March 14	closed 10:00 to noon (to process registrations) and open from noon to 2:00 p.m.
March 15 to 17	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
March 20 to April 28	Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
May 1 to 19	The ELLA office is closed during Spring Session
May 20 to Oct 2	Office is closed for the summer but volunteers will still respond to emails, phone messages and letters.

Registration

- To register, you must be a member of ELLA. The membership fee is **\$20** annually. You can join online at my-ella.com or contact the office at 780-492-5055.
- You may take 1 to 4 courses for the set fee of **\$250**.
- Each registrant may only register in one of the five half day Art Courses and in one of the four Fitness courses, in order to allow access to as many students as possible.
- The Program Guide will be available on line on **February 13, 2017**. Check out all of the courses available!
- Registration opens on **Tuesday, March 14 at 10:30 a.m.**
- **Monday, April 24 at 2 p.m.** is the deadline for registration and/or course changes.
- **Wednesday, April 26 at 2 p.m.:** Deadline for Withdrawal to obtain a refund minus \$75 U of A administration charge.
- All registrations are handled through Eventbrite®, and courses are filled in the order that registrations are completed on Eventbrite. Courses can fill quickly.

Online Registration

All current ELLA members will receive an **ACCESS LINK** for registration by email by March 7th. Check your trash/spam folder or please call the office, if you don't receive it. Memberships bought after March 7th will receive their Access Link within 7 days.

For a more detailed description of the online registration process please go to www.my-ella.com

Mail, Phone or Walk in Registration

ELLA volunteers will begin processing registrations on Eventbrite® starting on Tuesday, March 14 at 10:30 a.m.! Registrations are processed first come first served so the earlier your forms are received before March 14, the better your chances for high demand courses.

Location

Classrooms are in the University of Alberta Education Centre (11210-87 Ave) on the north side of 87 Avenue and in the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy (ECHA) (11405-87 Avenue) across the street on the south side of the avenue.

Transportation and Parking

- The Education Centre is easily accessible by LRT and bus – See <http://www.takeets.com> for routes and schedules.
- Bicycle racks are located near most doors.
- University Parking Permits can be purchased **online** from **March 20 to April 13, 2017** for **\$77**.

Financial Assistance: Bursaries of **\$175** are available. Online registration is not available for bursary applicants. ELLA registration deadlines apply. Processing may take up to 3 weeks so apply early.

How to apply for financial assistance:

1. Send the registration form (both pages) and a cheque for **\$75** (non-refundable administration fee) payable to the **University of Alberta**. Attach a letter stating your need to:
ELLA BURSARY, Office of the Dean, Faculty of Extension / University of Alberta,
Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Ave, Edmonton, AB T5J 4P6.
 2. Send a **second registration form** (both pages) to the ELLA office in a separate envelope addressed to ELLA, indicating your application for a bursary, with an **Initial** in the box under "Financial Assistance."
 3. Steps 1 & 2 of the bursary application must be completed as indicated, before the bursary application proceeds.
- Submit your application ASAP. Do not wait until registration opens on March 14, 2017, due to the 3-week processing.
 - In-person drop off: Please go to Extension Student Services Office [ESSO] - Registration Desk on the main floor of Enterprise Square. If the ELLA office is not open, drop off your ELLA envelope at the Registration Desk, as well, and it will be forwarded to the ELLA office.

Accommodations: Please see St. Joseph's College -Spring & Summer Residence information: www.stjosephscollege.ca. SJC has both a women's and a men's residence. Accommodations are NOT organized by ELLA

Noon Hour Presentations and Activities: In addition to courses your Spring Session registration also includes noon hour presentations, an art show and the opportunity to get involved in a variety of interest circles

See you at ELLA Spring Session 2017!

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If you have any questions about ELLA, want more information or have suggestions for your Board of Directors please contact the ELLA office at 780-492-5055 or exella@ualberta.ca