



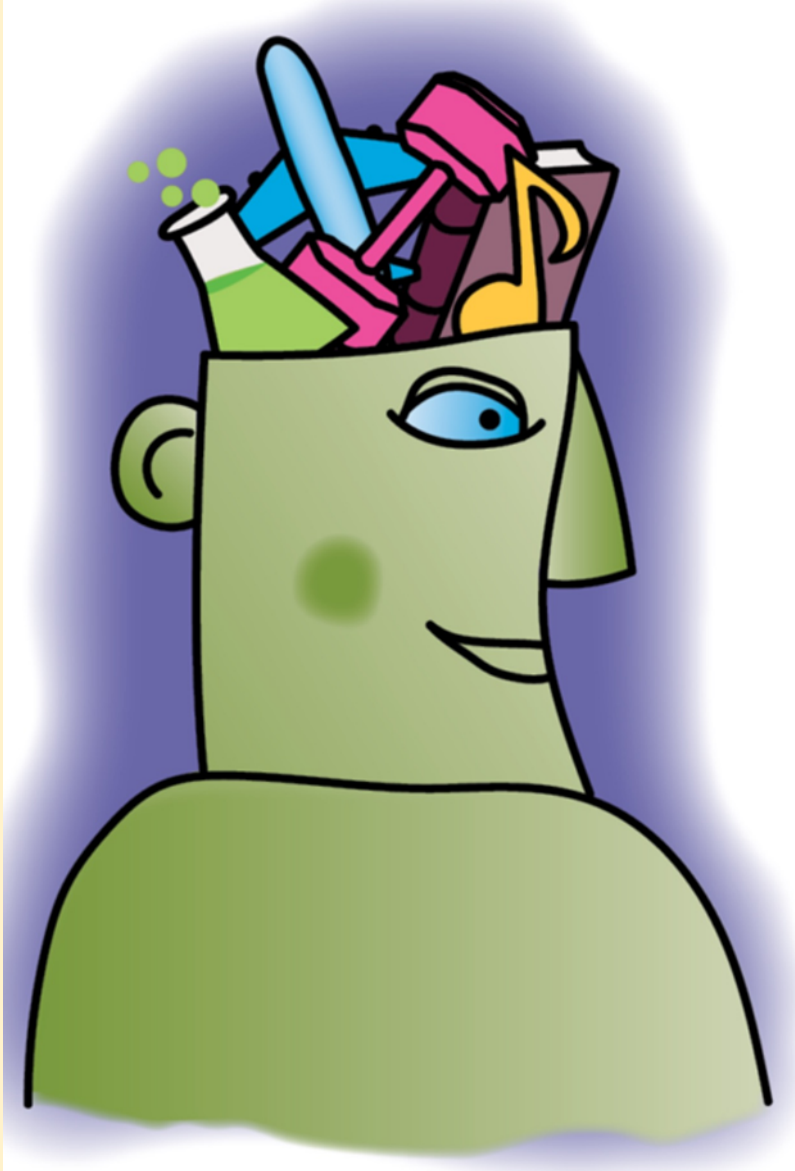
EDMONTON
**lifelong
learners**
ASSOCIATION

2024 Winter Session Noon Hour Presentation 8 March 2024

ELLA acknowledges that this online presentation originates from traditional lands referred to as Treaty 6 Territory and all peoples here are beneficiaries of this peace and friendship treaty. We honour all of the first Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples who have lived, traveled and gathered on these lands for thousands of years. It is the generosity of these Indigenous peoples whose history, language, medicines, culture and teachings continue to nourish our spirits, and make our learning and teaching experience as older adult learners possible.

**Walter Archer and
Lynne Moulton**

**Feed Your Mind: Delving
into Older Adult Lifelong
Learning**



Feed Your Mind

Delving into Older Adult Lifelong Learning

Walter Archer and Lynne Moulton

March 8, 2024

Learning and education: What's the difference?

Learning is what individuals do:

- deliberately, to increase their knowledge and abilities, or
- it may be incidental or accidental
- it is sometimes the result of education (possibly self-directed)

Education is generally what a society or a religion does, in an attempt to increase learning among its members

“Adult education floats in a sea of learning.”

Alan Thomas (1928–2009)

Purposes of Education

- Serve a religion (e.g., first universities were run by the Catholic church mainly to train priests)
- Serve the state – the government needs people with certain abilities, such as the ability to read and write and do arithmetic
 - Scribes, other civil servants
 - Train rulers (e.g., Plato wanted to train philosopher-kings)
 - Educate ordinary citizens – important in a democracy
- Serve the private interests of individuals
 - Make a good living
 - Produce good employees

Timing of Education

- Generally in childhood
- Sometimes also young adults
- Recently, a movement to lifelong learning or lifelong education, which now tends to focus on older adults

Purpose of Public Universities in Western Canada in Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries

According to Henry Marshall Tory, first President of the University of Alberta, in his opening address in 1908:

“... a university should be the most practical of all institutions. It should strive to find the answers to the economic and social problems of common everyday people and then share its knowledge with them.

...

The modern state university is a people's institution. The people demand that knowledge shall not be the concern of scholars alone. *The uplifting of the whole people shall be its final goal.*”

Tory's Inaugural Address (Continued)

“Mr. Chancellor, I consider that extension of the activities of the university on such lines as will make its benefits reach directly or indirectly the mass of the people,

carrying its ideals of refinement and culture into their homes and its latent spiritual and moral power into their minds and hearts, is a work second to none that can be undertaken by any government.”

[Emphasis added]

From Corbett, E.A. (1954, 1992). *Henry Marshall Tory: A Biography*, p. 100.

The Department of Extension

- In 1912 the UofA created the first Department of Extension at a Canadian university
- A.E. Ottewell was appointed first Director of Extension
 - He had been in the first graduating class of 40 students at the University
 - Tory grabbed him as soon as he graduated in 1912
 - For his M.A. (at UofA, in 1915) he wrote a thesis titled *The University Extension Movement*.

President Tory re the Purpose of the Department of Extension

“This establishment [the University], in addition to capital expenditure in building and equipment, costs the people of Alberta over half a million dollars a year.

Many of them will never see the place, much less have an opportunity of attending or having their children attend its classes. Yet we want the citizens of the Province to feel that the University belongs to them, that it exists to serve them.

The time may come when the existence of a university will depend on the public’s assurance that its thinking and research are of vital importance to the community.

The job of the Extension Department is to find out from the people what the University can do for them beyond the classroom and the laboratory.”

President H.M. Tory, 1912 [Emphasis added]

E.A. Corbett (2nd Director of Extension) re Purpose of Extension Work

“Our [Extension’s] job was to bring to the remote places of the Province whatever cultural and entertainment values the University could offer as a means of encouraging community solidarity, strengthening morale, awakening the civic conscience in regard to better home and school conditions;

to bring colour and some kindness into the hard and lonely lives of frontier people.”

E.A. Corbett, *We Have With Us Tonight*, 1957, p. 25.

Extension Director Albert Ottewell (Seated) and Extension Staff (About 1918)



CKUA Transmitter Towers Behind and South of Pembina Hall

Engineering students helped to build them, which saved a lot of money.

CKUA was the first educational radio station in Canada



Broadcast booth on the rugby field



CKUA Radio Orchestra 1929



A.Y. Jackson & student, Banff Centre, 1940s



Lawrence Twigge With Travelling Library 1945



Historical Demographics of Canada

“Demographics explains two-thirds of everything.”

David Foot, Canadian demographer

Population of Canada in 1851

	0 to 14	15 to 64	65 +
Male	44.4	52.9	2.7
Female	45.2	52.5	2.3

Population of Canada in 1911

	0 to 14	15 to 64	65 +
Male	31.6	64.0	4.5
Female	34.8	60.4	4.9

Population of Canada in 1961

	0 to 14	15 to 64	65 +
Male	34.3	58.3	7.3
Female	33.5	58.5	7.9

Population of Canada in 2016

	0 to 14	15 to 64	65 +
Male	17.3	67.1	15.6
Female	15.9	66.0	18.1

Older Adults “Get Educated”

- **Université de Troisième Age (UTA)** – the French model
 - Originated at l’Université de Toulouse in 1972
 - The program was organized and administered by the University
 - Pierre Vellas was the professor at the U. de Toulouse who started it
- **University of the Third Age (U3A)** – the British model
 - Originated in 1981 in Cambridge, England
 - “Peer learning” or “self-help” model – members served as both teachers and learners, in an “intellectual democracy”
 - No connection to any conventional university
 - Peter Laslett was the central figure in the emergence of this model
 - In 1989 he published *A Fresh Map of Life: The Emergence of the Third Age*.

New Models of UTA/U3A

- Culturally Hybrid
 - Spring Session for Seniors, run by the Faculty of Extension, was clearly on the French model, but ELLA now fits the culturally hybrid model
- French-speaking North American (Sherbrooke and its “offshoots”)
- South American
- Chinese

UTAs in Canada

- The UTA at the U. of Sherbrooke was founded in 1976, and claims to be the first in N. America
- From the U. de Sherbrooke web page:

“The Université de Sherbrooke is host to more than 31,170 students, and another 8434 who are registered at the University of the Third Age.”

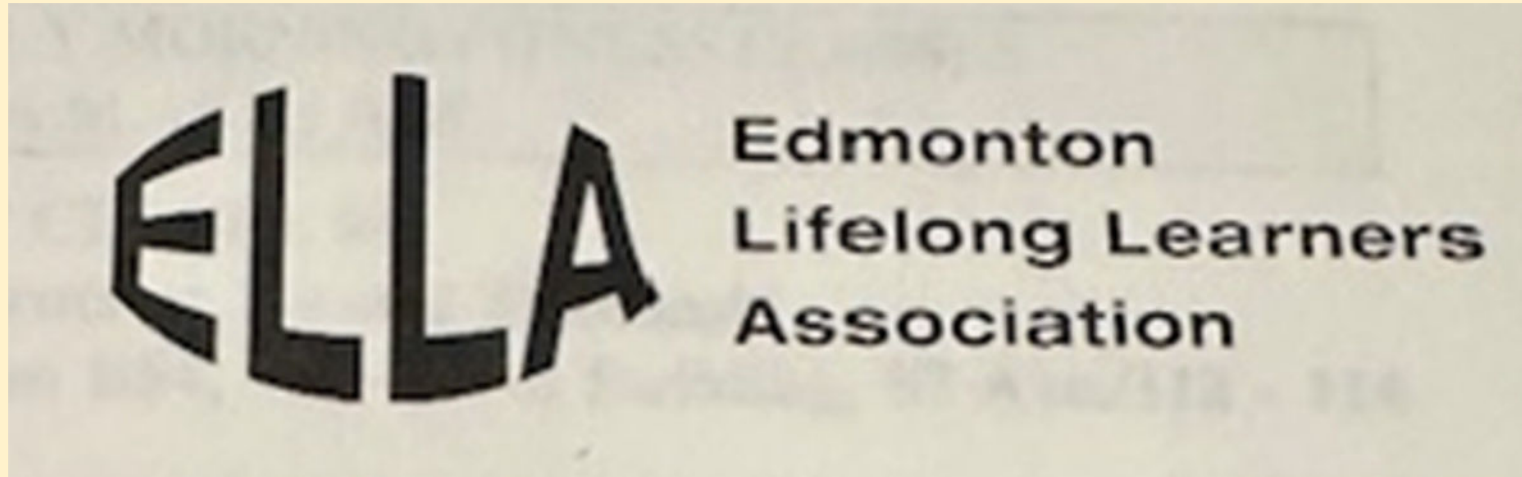
<https://www.usherbrooke.ca/about/>

- This includes the 30 “offshoots” of the U. de Sherbrooke UTA, which are all run by Sherbrooke
- In the rest of Canada and the USA the UTA-like associations are called by various other names, such as ELLA

UTAs Now Exist in Over 60 Countries

- China – 19,300 centres, 1.81 million members
- Australia – 211 centres, 64,535 members
- New Zealand – 60 centres, 10,154 members
- UK – 731 centres, 229,000 members

“Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association”



**Registered under the Societies Act
of Alberta as of August 24, 2001**

Lifelong learning will live on

EDMONTON INSIDE & OUT

by Mike Sadava

Seniors won't give up their classes

They call it lifelong learning, but it came close to dying at the University of Alberta.

The faculty of extension has been offering the Spring Program for Older Adults, an intensive three weeks of courses for the over-55 set for the past 25 years.

The cost of running the course was fairly expensive and the university subsidized it to keep the tuition to a reasonable level.

Tuition rose to \$191 last year, which was unaffordable to some seniors, and the university was still losing thousands.

With the university's financial crunch, rising tuition and undergrads facing huge debts by the time they finish their courses, the faculty decided it couldn't continue to lose money on the program.

It has already cut a fall program for seniors.

The only way for seniors to keep it going was to take control and that's exactly what they are doing.

It's not like the takeovers of buildings or college campuses during the '60s — it has received the university's blessing and co-operation. But the seniors had to be aggressive to get it.

When word got out that the program



ELLA spokeswoman Valerie Coad promises course won't go the way of the dodo.

If you know of any interesting people, places, issues or activities in the Edmonton region from the serious to the ridiculous we'd love to hear from you.

Please send us your suggestions by phoning us at 478-5862, fax at 429-5500 or e-mail: mickdove@thejournal.southam.ca.

courses, such as introduction to pharmacology, can be beneficial for seniors and the understanding can help them stay healthy.

Coad hopes that a combination of taking over these functions and attracting a larger enrolment will enable them to lower the tuition.

ELLA and the dean of the faculty of extension will be sitting down in the next couple of weeks to work out a partnership.

"This is new for us," says Dennis Foch of the faculty of extension. "We have never entered into this kind of partnership before. This is really exciting."

The direction the program was taking was not affordable either to the university or many seniors. In fact, enrolment went down when tuition went up, but Foch is optimistic the new arrangement will work for all parties.

A similar group of seniors in Toronto has entered into a partnership with Ryerson University, and has put a great deal of energy and expertise into it, he says. Many seniors taking courses are retired professionals who can organize and market their skills, while the university provides the academic people.

Coad says learning in the university environment is like a shot of youth for many seniors, even if they are riding scooters. It's not just the courses themselves, but the collegiality.

"We actually manage to talk to each other, and for once it's not about whether we have arthritis."

For further information, please call 481-5860.



*Annual General Meeting - Members assemble
in auditorium*

Lifelong learning sessions at U of A in May


The Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA) is holding its fourth annual spring educational session for older adults from May 2 to 20.

current events and music, and there will be a horticultural tour of the university.

The spring session for older adults is held at the University

are available for members in need of financial assistance and must be applied for at the time of registration.

Enrolment in the courses is



ELLA: Spring Session for Older Adults **May 2-20, 2005**

The **Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA)**, in cooperation with the U of A Faculty of Extension, offers older adults a 3-week Spring Program with a variety of non-credit courses in liberal arts, fine arts, science and the humanities, as well as emphasizing physical and mental well-being.

Course Offerings: All classes are held in the U of A Education Building (87 Ave/112-114 Street), unless otherwise noted.

Early Morning Fitness Classes – 7:30 to 8:45 am

course #		Instructor
EL 11	Tai Chi	Hiromi Takahashi
EL 12	Walking for Fitness*	Lynne Willis

* held in the U of A Butternut

All Morning Art Classes – 9:00 to 11:50 am

course #		Instructor
EL 13	Advanced Watercolour (Week 1 & 3) Drawing with Charcoal, Ink & Watercolour (Week 2)	Frances Alty-Arscott
EL 14	Watercolour – Beginners	Brenda Mackinson
EL 15	Oil & Acrylic Techniques	Joanna Moore Lorraine Ure

Morning Classes – 9:00 to 10:20 am

course #		Instructor
EL 16	Plants and Man	David Cass
EL 17	The Art of Storytelling	Merle Harris
EL 18	Music Masterpieces of the Great Romantics	Robert Klakowich
EL 19	Provocative Art from 1850 to 1910	Frances Kingle
EL 20	Shakespeare's Greeks and Romans	James Marino
EL 21	Nazism in Hindsight	Bohdan Somchynsky
EL 22	Poetry in Everyday Life	Shirley Serviss

Writer-in-Residence: Individual Writing Conferences (EL 10)

Mid-Morning Classes – 10:40 to 12 noon


course #		Instructor
EL 23	Greek Mythology: Divinities, Demons and Humans	Margaret Drummond
EL 24	Aging Well	Dennis Foth
EL 25	The Geology of Alberta	Sam Ghossein
EL 26	Literature & Place	James Gifford
EL 27	Faith and Politics	David Goss
EL 28	Current Affairs: the Politics of Food	Murray Hawkins
EL 29	Philosophers of War	Larry Pratt

Early Afternoon Classes – 1:30 to 2:50 pm

course #		Instructor
EL 30	Legal and Ethical Issues of Health Care	Tracy Bailly
EL 31	Bring Them Back Alive	Mary Dawe/ Alison Kydd
EL 32	Alberta and Western Canada 1870-1971	David Hall
EL 33	Canada and Global Politics	Tom Keating
EL 34	The History of the Movies	Colin Maclean
EL 35	Astronomy	Richard Vanderberg
EL 36	Education – What is it and Why is it?	David Wiegler

Mid Afternoon Classes – 3:00 to 4:20 pm

course #		Instructor
EL 37	Line Dancing	Billie Anders
EL 38	Let's Have a Rousing Chorus!	Karen Mills
EL 39	Drama: a Fun Reflection on the Nature of the Human Animal	David Nattress
EL 40	Short Stories in English Translation	Tamara Navarro Tara L. Brubaker



University of Alberta • Faculty of Extension

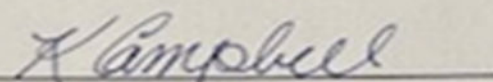
*Excellence in Innovation and Design
for Lifelong Learning*

This award recognizes the degree to which the

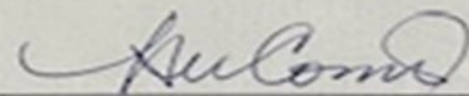
Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA)

has facilitated learning through a program that best exemplifies the learning-centred mission of the Faculty of Extension "to contribute responsibly to social and individual betterment through research and scholarship to discover, disseminate and exemplify the ideals of a civil society."

Presented on the 16th of November, 2006 at the *Celebration of Lifelong Learning*, Edmonton, Alberta.



Dr. Katy Campbell
Chair, Faculty of Extension Awards Team



Dr. Bill Connor
Dean, Faculty of Extension





Computer lab - fingers at the ready!





Philosophy Course



The iconic ELLA sweatshirts introduced in 2003



FRIENDS,
FELLOWSHIP AND
FUN

The ELLA Spring Session for Older Adults is not only a time for learning. It is a time to renew friendships, mourn the loss of old friends and form new and lasting ones. We are drawn together by a common bond – the love of learning and exploration and with learning comes a need for relaxation and recreation.

The time for fun and friends, enlivened by the aroma of coffee or a good bowl of hot soup is focused around the cafeteria, sitting around tables or outside in the courtyard with the sweet smell of spring and listening to the chirruping birds.

Have fun too! We invite you to enjoy the next few pages showing ELLA students at play



The Centre for Professional Development



Education Centre



Robert Clark - One Day Learning and Discussion



An excellent discussion for all



Registration - Meeting 2 of 3



100-100 - 1000 - 10000



100-100 - 10000 - 100000



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Edmonton
Lifelong Learners
Association



Current Affairs | Ethics | Anthropology

INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE WITH ELLA'S LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLDER ADULTS

ELLA OFFERS YOU:

- A Spring Educational Program during the first full three weeks of May
- At the University of Alberta in cooperation with the Faculty of Extension
- Covering a wide variety of non credit courses in the Arts, Sciences and Humanities to stimulate your mind and body
- Plus Physical Education Classes to start and end your day
- Presented by experienced instructors who are university professors and experts drawn from the community
- On Campus accommodation is available on request

MEMBERSHIP IN ELLA:

- An annual membership fee allows older adults to enroll in the courses offered. No other prerequisites are necessary
- For one billion fee members may enroll in as many courses as they can fit into their timetables. Discounts are available
- Founded in September 2001, ELLA is a non-profit association registered under the Societies Act of Alberta
- ELLA programs are administered by a volunteer Board of Directors and several committees
- Donations are welcome and tax deductible



Adult Students off to Classes

Special Events & Luncheon Speeches

Aging Concerns

Meditation



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Literature

Writing

Sciences

Classics

Music

History

Art

Physical Activity

**ELLA**Edmonton
Lifelong Learners
Association

ELLA, a non-profit organization, was established in 2001 for older adults to explore liberal arts, science, fine arts and humanities and to promote physical and mental well being.

ELLA develops and administers the Spring Program with an independent Board of Directors and Committees composed of volunteers. The Spring Program is offered in partnership with the U of A Faculty of Extension.

ELLA aims to adapt to the growing number of mature, part-time students. Ideas and energy of all members are welcome!

An annual membership ensures you will receive the Spring Session Calendar in January.

For further information call
1.780.492.5055

ELLAEdmonton
Lifelong Learners
Association

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
for
ADULTS 50+



Spring Program
First 3 Weeks in May

EXPLORE!
REACH!
GROW!



... other events throughout the year ...



**Promoting ELLA
above 2006; left 2022**



**Classes ran from
7:30am to 4:20pm!**

Science, Humanities,
Fine Art & Art
Instruction, Physical
activity.

Noon Hour speakers
2009 or earlier



ELLA grows!

- Steady membership growth 2011 thru 2019
- Courses on offer
- Diverse non-course offerings over the noon hour
- Post Spring Session 'Encore' and Art exhibit



2004 ELLA invited to display art work after Spring Session





Displaying art created during Spring Session continues.

Now considered an honoured ELLA tradition.





**ELLAs
former 'in-
person'
office L-012
located in
Enterprise
Square**

**3 volunteers
sitting cheek
to cheek!**

Essense of ELLA

ELLA is passionate about the opportunity to create the learning we want in a community of lifelong learners

ELLA is best at providing quality well-rounded learning in a welcoming, warm and fun environment

ELLA's resource engine is our dedicated, committed volunteers and leadership working in partnership with the university to deliver a unique ELLA form of learning



**The last of the
'Before Days'**

Fast forward to 2020.... Our world turned upside down

The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying the homepage of the Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA). The browser's address bar shows the URL "my-ella.com". The page features the ELLA logo on the left, which includes the letters "ella" in a stylized blue font and "EDMONTON lifelong learners ASSOCIATION" in a smaller font. On the right side of the header, there is a blue button labeled "Login to My Account" and a white box showing a shopping cart icon with "\$0.00". Below the header is a green navigation bar with white text links: "HOME", "ABOUT US", "COURSES", "MEMBERSHIP", "VOLUNTEER", "CONTACT US", and "DONATE". The "DONATE" link is highlighted in a red box. The main content area features a large photograph of three elderly people smiling and raising their fists in a celebratory gesture. Overlaid on this image is the text "Welcome to the Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA)" in white, with a white button below it that says "Learn More About Us".



**Spring Session 2022
was a *toe in the water*
return to in-person**



emerging

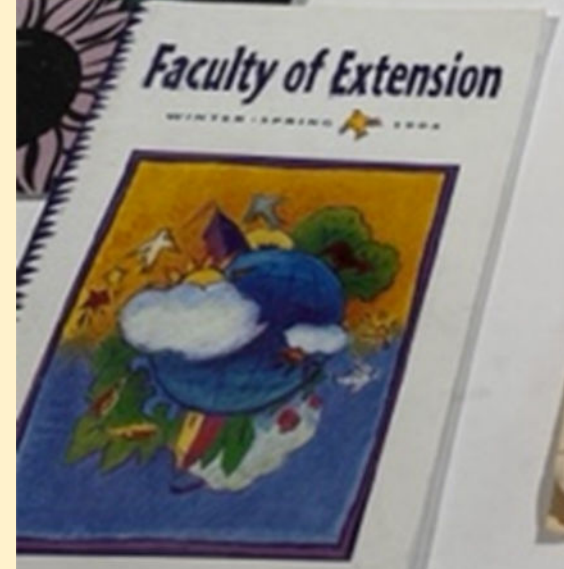
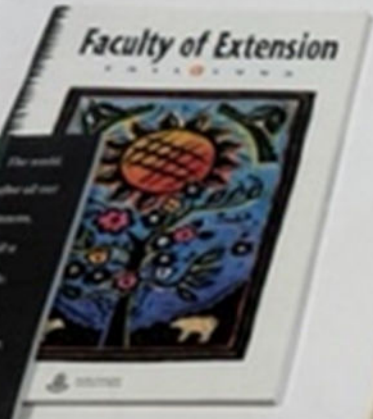
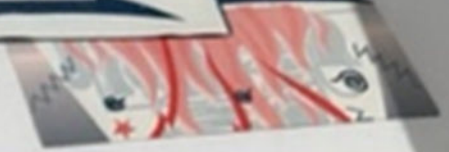
celebrating visual art certificate students

practices

* Curated by **Megan Bertagnolli**

Emerging Practices celebrates the final graduating class from the Visual Arts Certificate offered by Online & Continuing Education (formerly the Faculty of Extension). Their work reflects their unique interests that brought them to the program and illustrates their growth as artists.

Together, these students exemplify the breadth of adult learners who have prioritised their free time to honing their skills as artists and what it means to be a lifelong learner. Though emergent as artists, they now share in the legacy of those incredible students and instructors before them.



INSTRUCTORS



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Spring Session

Keep Learning— Stay Connected!

Continuing Education
Courses for Adults 50+



Scan the QR Code
to download the
program guide.



EDMONTON
lifelong
learners
ASSOCIATION

my-ella.com

QR
code?



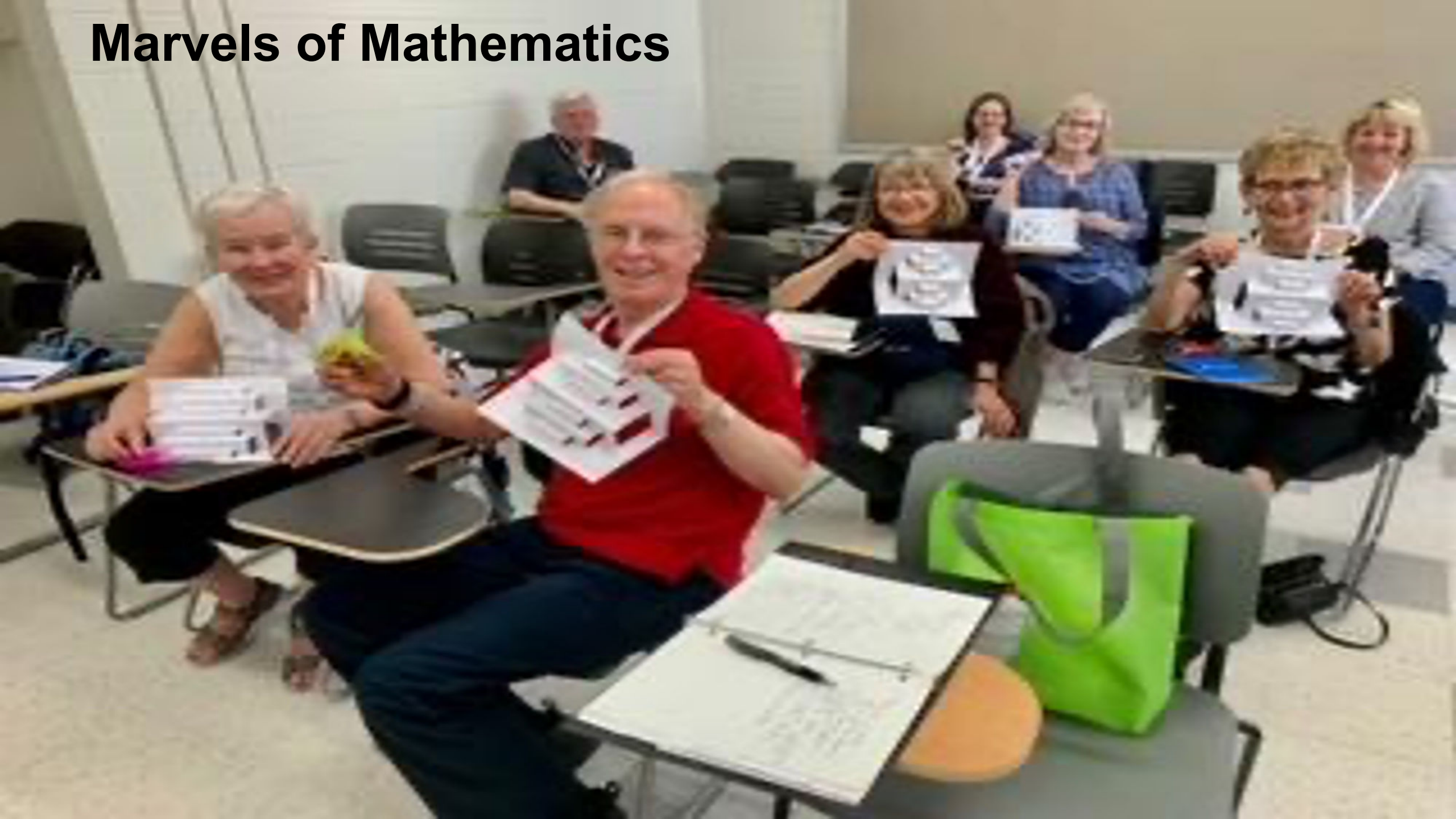
Bring a Book - Take a Book





Intro to the Islamic Tradition

Marvels of Mathematics





Bugs in your Backyard



Improv!



Beading Craft Workshop

Volunteer Table



Woodcarving





Art Instruction









Many thanks to -

Carol Vaage, Shirley Forrest
Gertie Dean, Vivian Mattia
Shirley Zylstra, Germain Chau
and Cecilia Mullikin

Even more thanks to the many
members who have shared their
recollections of ELLA with us!

And to all of those ELLA members
who came before us. Especially the
ones who created the photo albums
and saved documents!



**Thank you to all ELLA
members, new and old, for
your ongoing support of
lifelong learning!**

Walter Archer
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Lynne Moulton
pic.chair@my-ella.com

