

## *Friends of St. Alphonsus Society*

### *Contact Information*

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### *Organization:*

Legal Name: Friends of St. Alphonsus Society  
Date of Incorporation: May 27, 2016  
Corporate Access Number: 5019731495



### *Facility:*

Name of Facility: St. Alphonsus School  
Street Address: 11624-81 Street  
Physical Location of Project: 11624-81 Street  
Registered Holder of Land Title: Edmonton Catholic School Board

### *About Friends of St. Alphonsus*

The Friends of St. Alphonsus Society works to support St. Alphonsus School and its many initiatives. These include sourcing funding for items not funded through the educational system including school and community activities, playground development, etc.

### *About St. Alphonsus Catholic Elementary / Junior High School*

St. Alphonsus Catholic Elementary and Junior High School is located near central Edmonton home to some of the highest needs residents throughout Edmonton. The school is not just a neighbourhood school, but a hub of the community providing a center for a variety of community services and programs. Currently more than 450 students attend St. Alphonsus.

Our school is home to students with a wide variety of backgrounds and cultures including:

- FNMI: 65 students
- Refugees: 31 Students (26 from various African countries, mainly Eritrea)
- ESL Students: 147 (Students with 5 or less years of English Language Instruction)
- Foreign Language Students: 290 (Students whose language at home or first Language is something other than English)
- Main Ethnic groups: Philippines, Vietnamese, FNMI, in roughly equal numbers.

The school is located in the Parkdale neighbourhood home to more than 3,300 residents. Average incomes in this community are more than 35% lower than the City of Edmonton average. People in the community focus on their day to day needs and as such focusing on extra activities such as fundraising for a new playground is just not feasible. While they are all well intended and hearts are in the right place, trying to achieve a lofty goal of a new school playground is challenging at best.

The existing park is old, outdated and becoming a safety hazard to the public. A replacement is absolutely necessary. The school itself is a high priority for the Edmonton Catholic School District and as such the Friends of St. Alphonsus want to redevelop the playground and allow our site to continue to be a central and focal point of the community.

### *School Community K-9*

A unique opportunity for children and their families to engage in a faith journey from Kindergarten through to Grade Nine. The K-9 experience enables students and their families to maintain familiarity with friends, staff and other school community members. This partnership facilitates growth in faith, hope, and love through a purposeful focus on core values and student learning.

The school is also host to preschool (100 Voices), daycare and afterschool programs. Nearly half of our students attend afterschool programs. In operation year-round, the benefits to the school, students and community are without limit.

### *Our Mission*

The St. Alphonsus community upholds the sacred responsibility to provide the greatest spiritual learning environment through embracing the holistic growth and development of each individual student to enable a journey that inspires constant growth in core values, academic learning, physical and mental health and service toward God in one another.

### *Project Information*

The Friends of St. Alphonsus Society is proposing to redevelop the St. Alphonsus School playground. These facilities are located at St. Alphonsus School at 11624-81 Street. The current play area at the park is in the same location for the new proposed play area as this area is nestled in a sage place with good sight lines.

Parkdale Community is a mature community with the history of the community dating all the way back to 1907. The park play area was first constructed in 1990's, and since then the play area has remained the same. The Parkdale area is a quiet community and is accessible to all parts of the city with available transit.

The Society will be taking into consideration all users of the park and their individual needs in making an enjoyable experience for all. This includes the school, the community and community groups such as the SmartChoice Daycare (onsite), YONA (Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta) who will use the playground in the evenings as well as the All In For Youth (AIFY) after school program. This component of the after-school program is operated by Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

The project will be completed in conjunction with the Edmonton Catholic School District and guided by a Professional Landscape Architect from Urban Systems Ltd.

We see this project as an opportunity to revitalize this community and encourage community involvement.

A preliminary list of equipment to be incorporated into the upgraded playground includes but is not limited to the follow:

- Custom Designed Play Structure
- Space Shuttle

- Stand n’ Spin
- Bucket Spinners
- Tyke Seesaw
- S Surf Board Spring Mount
- Tri Panel Pal
- Rubber Surfacing



The equipment selected for the playground will be finalized through further consultation with children, residents and other stakeholders in the community in addition to the equipment suppliers and landscape architect. A rendering of the proposed playground arrangement and an overall playground layout has been included in Appendix D.

**Project Start Date**

The Society is working hard with the Edmonton Catholic School Board to bring the park redevelopment to completion. Everyone is anxious to complete the playground and provide a new and exciting play area for our children and all members of the community. The following is an estimated schedule of activities and is subject to confirmation of funding and the Edmonton Catholic School Board tendering process.

Activity	Timeline
Fundraising	Ongoing
Final Design	January 2018
Tender	April 2018
Construction	June – August 2018
GRAND OPENING	September 2018

**Project Finances**

One of the most critical components to the successful completion of the playground redevelopment is the identification of funding requirements and subsequent procurement of the funds. The following provides a summary of the anticipated project financials.

Revenues

Funding Source	Amount	Status
Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP)	\$125,000	Application Pending
St. Alphonsus Parent Council	\$10,000	To be confirmed
Alberta Recycling Management Authority	\$30,000	Confirmed
Edmonton Community Playspace	\$20,000	Confirmed
Canada 150 Community Infrastructure	\$200,000	Application Pending
Fundraising	\$185,000	Ongoing
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	

Estimated Costs

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Supply and Install Playground Equipment	\$400,000
Redevelopment of basketball court	\$60,000
Gazebo	\$40,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>