

Dec 10, 2020

Dear Members of the Edmonton Bridge Centre,

Our Board and I would like to give you an update on our club.

This week is the time when we would usually have our Santas Anonymous and other Christmas parties. In the past, we would share our greetings for the season and collect funds and toys for local charities. It is difficult to not be able to be together this holiday season. We can, however, still share our generosity with local groups. Last year we collected lots of toys and over \$900 for Santas Anonymous, the Bissell Centre, and the Edmonton Food Bank. If you wish to donate food or toys, leave them in the boxes provided at your local store entrances. If you wish to send cash donations to these or any other groups, the easiest way is through [www.canadahelps.ca](http://www.canadahelps.ca). All these groups use this service, and you can quickly and easily get a tax receipt for your generosity. Thank you for your help.

With your input into the October members' survey, the board has renewed our lease with the landlord for 5 more years. The rent is the same and we have an option to leave after 2 years if necessary.

The Board also discussed club membership. They have agreed to leave membership at \$40 each for 2021. We hope that you see the value in being a member and supporting our club. You can of course wait until we are able to be together, but it would be great if we could collect this as we go into the new year. You can use Interac e-transfer from your bank account to ours at [club@edmontonbridge.ca](mailto:club@edmontonbridge.ca) (direct deposit, no passwords). Or, if you wish you can send a cheque by mail to:

Edmonton Bridge Centre  
11810 Kingsway Ave NW  
Edmonton T5G 0X5

With wage and rent subsidies, and BBO income we have been able to continue our operations, but if you wish to add a donation to our club it would be received with gratitude.

The Board and I continue to discuss when re-opening the club will be feasible. We cannot re-open until Alberta's COVID situation improves and the Board and members feel it is safe to do so. With the advent of vaccines, we hope this will be by spring 2021.

Online bridge, especially Bridgebase Online (BBO), has been popular for many of our members. Our virtual club games offer many benefits including the opportunity to connect with friends and fellow club members. They are inexpensive and fun. More information about our online club, links to calendars, game results and hand records are available at our homepage: [www.edmontonbridge.ca](http://www.edmontonbridge.ca) .

The Fall Team League is nearing its conclusion. Final matches and playoffs will continue into January. 32 teams are playing in three flights and having lots of fun. Thanks to Don for continuing to organize this event and Virtual bridge.

Thank you, everyone, for your interest and participation in our club. Be sure to stay in touch with other members through this difficult time. We wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a hopeful and healthful new year.

Matthew

Please pass on this info to others who may not have email or are not on our lists.