Columbia Ave. pop up street party encourages connectivity

Edmonton – For one day, the MacEwan University parking lot north of Allard Hall will be transformed into a vibrant public space where food trucks, musical performances, dance workshops, and interactive art will come together to provide a temporary gathering place for local community members, businesses, and students.

"We're asking - and beginning to answer- questions about what it means to be Edmonton's downtown university," says Deborah Saucier, MacEwan's president. "Inviting our neighbours and community members onto our campus is not only a great way to celebrate and elevate the spaces we share, it's an opportunity to start conversations about making positive changes and building a future together."

“The one day pop up street party has activities for all ages, including an inflatable obstacle course, and a bike station for tune-ups,” said MacEwan’s director of sustainability, Kalen Pilkington. “Our aim is to demonstrate that creating a healthy urban space doesn’t have to take a long time or cost a lot of money. We also want to continue to build connections between the university and the broader residential community including the business community north of 105 Avenue.”

Joining MacEwan University’s vice president of University Relations Myrna Khan to celebrate the day will be Ward 6 Councillor Scott McKeen, MLA David Shepherd, and MP Randy Boissonault.

The event is a collaboration between MacEwan University, North Edge Business Association, Alberta Community Builders, with support from the City of Edmonton, University of Alberta, and the Wayfinding Society.

Free tickets can be reserved through Eventbrite or Facebook.

When: September 29
Where: MacEwan University parking lot (105 Avenue and 112 Street, north of Allard Hall)
Time: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Formal program begins at 2 p.m.)