

Constable Ezio Faraone Memorial Park and the Alberta Legislature



CENTRAL EDMONTON - THE HEART OF THE CITY











This walk provides views of the University of Alberta and the High Level Bridge from the top of the river's south bank, as well as an introduction to the history of Alberta's seat of government. You have many choices of things to do and see in this area, including a tour of the legislature if you book ahead.

TO GET TO VICTORIA PARK

Watch for the Victoria Park sign on the north side of River Valley Road near the east end of the Victoria Park Golf Course, and turn into its large parking lot. A well maintained skating oval is located there in the winter.

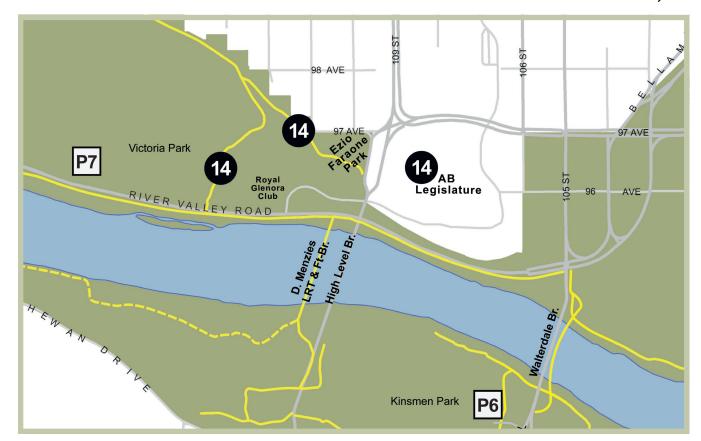
DIRECTIONS FROM VICTORIA PARK, 12130 RIVER ROAD

- Walk east to the smaller parking lot (west of the Royal Glenora Club tennis courts) just east of Picnic Site 6 in Victoria Park.
- Continue on the path behind the Royal Glenora Club.
- Walk up the hill on the gentle paved path (or take the stairs just east of the Royal Glenora—about 180 of them) to Constable Ezio Faraone Park.
- Go to the northeast corner of the park, cross 97 Avenue at the crosswalk and walk east to 109 Street. This corner has walk lights to help guide you across four

more crosswalks to the north parking lot of the legislature, by the Korean War Memorial. Alternatively, use the underground pedway by walking north from Ezio Faraone Park for about a block on the sidewalk from 97 Avenue and on the west of the railway (now streetcar) tracks until you reach the Grandin LRT Station's Government Centre north entrance on 110 Street and 98 Avenue. This station has stairs and an elevator to the pedway under 109 Street. This pedway leads you to the interpretive centre and legislature.

- To return to River Road, you have two choices:
 - 1) Return the way you came by walking west through Ezio Faraone Park and down the path or stairs to the Victoria Park parking lot.
 - 2) Go to the south side of the Legislative Building and take the road on your right (west side), which leads down to the Royal Glenora Club and west to Victoria Park.

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PARKING LOTS



Kinsmen Sports Centre



Victoria Park



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FOR A LONGER WALK

Start at the Kinsmen Sports Centre, 9100 Walterdale Hill. Walk west across the river on the LRT bridge to the Royal Glenora Club and hike up the hill (or walk up the stairs) to Ezio Faraone Park and access 109 Street to the Legislature.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

The paths in the Ezio Faraone Park and the legislature grounds are multi-use and wheelchair accessible (with limited wheelchair parking on the grounds). The trail from the Royal Glenora Club to Ezio Faraone Park is uphill but easy because of the switchback.

LENGTH OF WALK

The walk from Victoria Park to the Royal Glenora Club is 0.5 km. The trail up the hill from the Royal Glenora to Constable Ezio Faraone Park is 0.5 km. Allow about 2 hours or more to enjoy this area, including the Legislature grounds.

AMENITIES

- Washrooms in Victoria Park, the Legislative Building, the band shell on the legislature grounds, the Legislature Annex Building and the Interpretive Centre north of the reflecting pool.
- Lunch, coffee or snacks: Treed picnic sites in Victoria Park (can accommodate large groups); cafeterias in the basement of the legislature and the Haultain Building (interpretive centre).

DESCRIPTION

Victoria Park has a speed skating oval, horseshoe pits, a small playground and a shale ball diamond. The area of the park, including the golf course, is 111.67 ha.

Constable Ezio Faraone park is pleasantly landscaped, and benches provide good views of the nearby busy High Level Bridge and University of Alberta skyline.

The Legislative Building, Annex and Interpretive Centre are sited on 23 ha of manicured lawns and trees. These buildings are open to the public every day except Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Good Friday, and free tours of the legislature are available. The steps leading up to the entrance have seen many speakers, demonstrations and rallies.

While touring the grounds of our landmark domed Legislative Building, look for these sites:

 Korean War Memorial and J. Percy Page tree on the south side of the legislature parking lot.

- The Centennial Flame south of the building, which began burning in 1967 to commemorate the 100th birthday of Canada.
- Plaques marking the northwest and northeast corners of historic Fort Edmonton (west of the Centennial Flame).
- The Lois Hole Memorial Garden on the east side of the building.
- The Interpretative Centre featuring changing exhibits illustrating the history of Alberta and a gift shop.

The fountains and pools on the north side of the Legislative Building are flanked by some outstanding sculptures.

HISTORY

The Alberta Legislative Building, with its conspicuous dome, was completed in 1912.

High Level Bridge. Opened in 1913, the bridge is 0.8 km long and 46 m above the water. It was the first bridge in Canada to carry trains, streetcars, automobiles and pedestrians simultaneously. The Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) ceased operations in 1989 but in summer a streetcar carries people from the north terminus near the legislature between 109 and 110 Street north of 100 Avenue and the south terminus in Old Strathcona, at the north end of the farmer's market.

Ezio Faraone was an Edmonton policeman who died in the line of duty in 1990 when he was just 33 years old. Officers Nixon (1919) and Reevers (1909) are also recognized on nearby plaques in Ezio Faraone Park.

Percy Page was Lieutenant Governor of Alberta from 1959 to 1965 and the organizer and coach of the famous Edmonton Grads basketball team.

Sir Frederick W. Haultain, who practised law in Fort Macleod, Alberta, was premier of the North West Territories from 1897 to 1905.

Lois Hole served as Alberta's Lieutenant Governor from 2000 until her death in 2005. The Lois Hole Garden fittingly remembers her extraordinary expertise as a gardener and her passion for gardening and education.

Edmonton Yukon & Pacific Railway. As you walk up the hill to Ezio Faraone Park, you can see the very level stretch of paved path that was once the railway bed for the EY&PR.









