



BEV ESSLINGER
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Dear Students, Staff & Guests,

Edmonton has a long and rich history of incredible, strong women who wanted to change the world. Starting with the five courageous and idealistic Alberta women who stepped onto the world stage to challenge the Canadian constitution in 1929 that said that only "qualified persons" - meaning men only - could be appointed to the Senate.

By insisting that women be officially recognized as persons in the fullest legal sense of the word the "Famous Five" set a stirring example of leadership that changed the course of history.

For nearly 100 years the work of Emily Murphy, Irene Parlby, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney and Henrietta Muir Edwards has continued to inspire and empower generations of women.

Today, I want to congratulate you on celebrating your *Pink Tea!* These gatherings were both inspiring and encouraging as well as cunningly strategic. I hope that today you will also be inspired and encouraged as you celebrate the past and look forward into your futures.

Remember, you have a voice, you have a choice, and your participation matters. It takes every single one of us to make a difference in this world, and we need you! Congratulations on a great event!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bev Esslinger".

Bev Esslinger
City Councillor - Ward 2