

Newsletter

2023 Fall/Winter



Saturdays on Sargent

This summer, the West End BIZ got to work to make Sargent Avenue more fun to explore for residents, visitors, and shoppers.

We came up with Saturdays on Sargent as a title for our street activation project which ran every Saturday from 2 to 6 pm, starting July 15th to September 23rd. **Saturdays on Sargent is an invitation to all Winnipeggers and tourists to eat, drink, shop and explore** Sargent Avenue throughout the warmer months.

"Sargent is the kind of place that's fun to explore. But Winnipeg is a driving city, and when you're driving you tend to miss all the little shops, restaurants, and eateries that truly make the West End's dynamic business scene." said Harry Mogatas, owner of Rice Bowl Restaurant, a local Filipino restaurant on Sargent Avenue.

To rise to this challenge, and encourage shoppers to walk from business to business, we wanted Satur-

"With sidewalk fronting storefronts and a diverse selection of small businesses, **Sargent Avenue is a great place to visit.** We wanted to capitalize on that using Sargent as a gateway into the rest of our lovely neighborhood." shared Joe Kornelsen, Executive Director at the West End BIZ.

days on Sargent to focus on the pedestrian experience along Sargent Avenue. So, together with our partners and sponsors, we set up a bike valet at the RBC Royal Bank on Sargent. We reached out to Curbside Concerts, and they provided the most fantastic line-up of street performers.

We found artists to create three new murals so pedestrians could marvel at live mural painting. We also created the Explore Card challenging pedestrians to walk into new or unfamiliar businesses.

It was a joyous time on Sargent and a fruitful time for business. Business owners reported receiving traffic from Saturdays on Sargent, and residents reacted very positively to the street performances.

Akin's Business Centre Brings the West End Business Community Together

A thriving business hub in the West End, Akin's Business Centre has become one of the best destinations for all your business needs in the city. From AI, marketing and finance workshops, mentorship programs, business events, networking events to available co-working space and private office rental space, the centre even offers their own CRM and digital marketing software.

Akin's Business Centre was created in December 2022 and their grand opening was on May 1st, 2023. Within the period of just five months, the organization has distinguished itself as a leader in the community bringing together entrepreneurs and business owners of diverse backgrounds from all over Winnipeg in what the co-founders have termed "a mentor inspired business gym."

The business centre's commitment to improving the business community is apparent in the many initiatives taken by the co-founders. Although it is a membership-based organization, the centre caters to the entire business community in the West End and beyond. Most, if not all, of their events are free of charge for business enthusiasts to get inspired and grow their expertise by learning from each other.

The co-founders, Mubarak Nsekarije, Susanne Williams, and Elizabeth Ogidan Lawal, are deeply passionate, responsive and such a joy to work with. Akin's Business Centre was the proud sponsor of part of the Explore Card giveaway for Saturdays on Sargent, which we greatly appreciate.



Networking Opportunities

Never Eat Alone Breakfast Event

On August 26th, Akin's Business Centre officially launched their monthly breakfast event, Never Eat Alone hosted by Mubarak Nsekarije. This is a great event for creatives, entrepreneurs and business owners to break bread and get inspired by the guest speakers selected by the host.

We were invited to the event launch, to eat, mingle, and listen to Deputy Mayor, Markus Chambers, who was the selected guest speaker on that day. It was a positively enriching experience. We highly recommend attending this business event. Check their website, akinsbiz.ca, for more events.

Energize Mural Tour Reception

Come network with us at our Energize Mural Tour Mixer happening at Akin's Business Centre on Thursday November 2nd from 4:30 to 6 pm. It will be an evening filled with music, mingling and art. We have an exciting guestlist, so don't miss out!

2023 AGM

This Annual General Meeting will take place at noon on Wednesday November 15th, in the Convocation Hall at the University of Winnipeg. See you there!

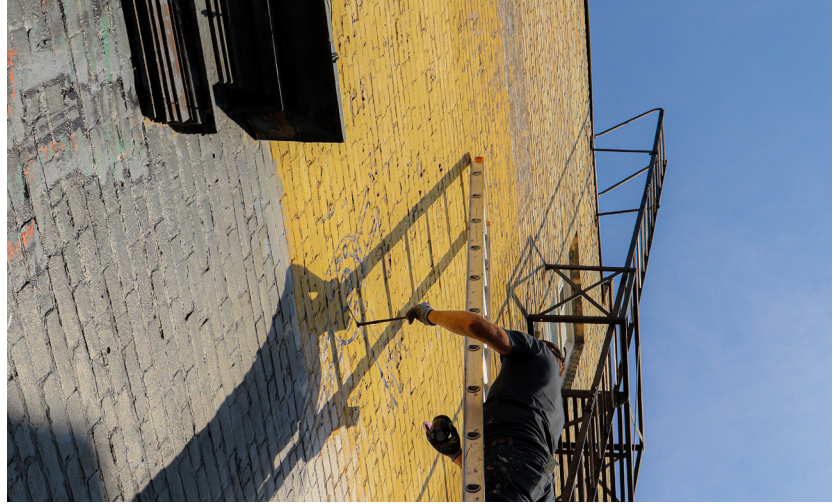
What's New in the West End?

Murals

There are three new murals in the West End, and we cannot wait for you to discover them if you haven't yet!

The mural at 528 Sargent was created by Charlie Johnston, the mural at 683 Sargent was created by Kevin Celestino, and the mural at 814 Sargent was created by Rachel Lancaster.

We invite you to our Energize Mural Tour Reception taking place at 4:30 p.m. on November 2nd at Akins' Business Centre on 819 Sargent Ave.



Edible Veggie & Herb Planters

In an effort to be more sustainable and offer more to the community, this summer the West End BIZ started a project involving a switch from planting annual plants in some of our planters, to mixed vegetables and herbs.

A simple switch from planting annual flowers to vegetables and herbs in 3 key locations will benefit the public's health and wellness, while also providing public access to healthy foods.

Bike Racks

The West End BIZ has been working hard to get almost 40 new bike racks installed throughout the neighborhood this past summer. The bike racks have been installed prioritizing new business requests as well as those that we had lost over winter due to snow plow damage and weathering.

We are aiming to target new locations with a high need for active transportation infrastructure and are always open to new requests.



Reach out to:

Maintenance and Graffiti Department

We will be offering limited on-request snow removal services to our members over the winter. Please email Ryan at ryan@westendbiz.ca or call 204-954-7900 ext. 304 for assistance.

[Scan QR Code to learn more >>>](#)



Economic Development Department

If you need a grant to improve your business storefront or you would like assistance with business safety, please email Prashanta at prashanta@westendbiz.ca.

[Scan QR Code to learn more >>>](#)



Marketing and Communications Department

For event sponsorship, partnership or promotion, please email glorian@westendbiz.ca for assistance.

[Scan QR Code to learn more >>>](#)



Street Beautification Department

If you would like a planter, a bike rack or a mural, please email Anna at anna@westendbiz.ca. [Scan QR code to learn more >>>](#)



Safety Patrols and Ambassador Program Department

If you would like a patrol to walk with you, please call them directly at (204) 229-2502.

[Scan QR code to learn more >>>](#)



Newest Businesses

Casa Ilocandia

1069 Sargent Ave

Griffith Plaster and Stucco

1335 Erin St

Seven8nine Lounge

789 Portage St

Click Flooring

942 Erin St

Raph's Jamaican Joint

Unit (B - 100)

686 Portage

Skin By Abie

775 St Matthews

Miss Luxe

466 Sherbrook St

Cleocatra Café

859 Portage Ave

Caspian Foods

634 Sargent Ave

WH Import Solutions

859 Portage Ave

Wolseley Eyecare

986 B Portage Ave

Zizu Barbershop

632 Notre Dame Ave

Zelite Hairstyling

370 Notre Dame Ave

Sprinter Auto Repair

1350 Wall St

VIP Lube

1089 Ellice Ave

WMH Barber Shop

612 Ellice Ave

Dancel Law Office

800 Sargent Ave

D&D Afrikana

Restaurant

789 Ellice Ave

Kanwest Immigration Services Inc

589 Sargent Ave

Power Boxing

653 Sargent Ave

GK & Chogah Tailoring

1314 Portage Ave

Sky and Ceiling

Construction

984 Sargent Ave

Connect with us!

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621 Erin Street, Winnipeg, MB

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