

Important Message about your Membership

The Edmonton Chapter is now accepting individual lifetime memberships. These lifetime memberships are available with a one-time administration fee of twenty dollars (\$20). Then that is it, you are a member for life. You will not have to renew annually.

How to become a chapter member?

By Mail

- Fill out membership form and send in with payment.
- Payment by cheque (payable to CCA Edmonton Chapter) **or** credit card (Visa / MasterCard.)
- Mail to: CCA Edmonton Chapter, 9, 12122 68 Street, Edmonton, AB T5R 1B1.

By Email

- Fill out membership form.
- Payment by credit card only (Visa / MasterCard.)
- Scan and email to info@celiacedmonton.ca.

By Phone

- Call the CCA Edmonton Chapter office 780-485-2949 during regular office hours (Mon-Thurs 12-3pm) and pay by credit card (Visa / MasterCard.)
- If you get the voicemail, please leave a message with your name and phone number and our office staff will get back to you to complete the transaction.

Your membership is important and there is strength in numbers:

- Help the Chapter maintain status with Alberta Societies.
- Add leverage for fundraising.
- Support local research at the University of Alberta.
- Support local awareness and education activities such as those that target doctors and restaurants.
- Help programs such as Gluten Free Living 101 (an education and support program for individuals on a gluten free diet.)
- Help local and national advocacy for those affected by gluten.

What has changed and why?

Membership at the Canadian Celiac Association (CCA) has changed. Until the recent changes the CCA was composed of Individual Members and Member Chapters such as the Edmonton Chapter. To become a member of CCA an individual would pay dues to the CCA and based on their address they were assigned to a Chapter.

After an organizational review the CCA has made the decision to go to a donor based model and will no longer have Individual Members. Member Chapters will remain. This new model will provide benefit to all people adversely affected by gluten rather than just those who have paid membership dues. CCA Chapters will remain members of the CCA and the issue of Individual Membership becomes the responsibility of each Chapter. This decision has provided your Edmonton Chapter of the CCA an opportunity to also do a review.

The Edmonton Chapter must have members to maintain status with Alberta Societies which is an important element for both Alberta Gaming Liquor Cannabis (AGLC) for our fundraising and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for charity status. This status is of primary importance to the functioning of the Chapter. At a Special General Meeting on November 7, 2019 our chapter bylaws were changed to reflect the above-noted changes to membership.

The good news is that there will be no annual charge for the membership. You will have to register to become a member with a one-time administration fee of twenty dollars (\$20) for registration.

The Edmonton Chapter is and will continue to be an inclusive organization. Every interested person is welcome at any of our events and any person with a concern is provided all appropriate information. We service the gluten free community as a whole and ask for your support by being a member.

How do the changes affect me?

- Continue to have access to the electronic Edmonton Celiac Circular keeping you up-to -date on local events, advances in research, latest news in the celiac world, recalls, recipes and more.
- Receive timely email notification of important information.
- Have access to local product and restaurant reviews.
- Have the voting rights of a member. (Must be of legal age to vote.)
- Being a Chapter Member is your best way to stay informed on current issues.
- Your membership card will indicate your status as a *Member in Good Standing* for discounts at participating retailers and some of our Chapter events.

When do the changes take place?

The CCA stops offering individual memberships 1 January 2020. All CCA memberships will expire by 1 January 2021.

The CCA Edmonton Chapter is now accepting memberships. The membership form can be found in this newsletter as well as on our website.