

NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

The Rutherford neighbourhood in southwest Edmonton, within the Heritage Valley Servicing Concept Design Brief (SCDB) area. The neighbourhood is bounded by Ellerslie Road (9th Avenue) to the north, 111th Street to the east, 25th Avenue to the south and 119th / 127th Streets to the west. The neighbourhood is still under construction. Prior to urban development Rutherford was a predominantly agricultural area with some country residential land use located along the western perimeter.

The Rutherford's neighbourhood is planned to have a mixture of low and medium density housing with space for recreational, institutional and commercial land uses. Multi-family housing is located near natural amenities, commercial and institutional use, and close to transit service. The main school and park site is located in the south central portion of the neighbourhood and a variety of smaller parks, including the Virginia Park Woodland, are dispersed throughout the neighbourhood. There is also a utility corridor that runs diagonally the length of the neighbourhood, and provides an important pedestrian spine which that connects the various walkways to activity nodes throughout the community.

Rutherford takes its name from Alexander Cameron Rutherford (1857-1941) who was the first premier of Alberta when a majority Liberal government was elected in 1905. Rutherford obtained a Law degree from McGill University and came to the Edmonton area with his family in 1895. Rutherford was instrumental in the construction of the University of Alberta and became a member of the university's senate in 1907 and acted as chancellor between 1927 and 1941. Rutherford's home on the north end of the university campus is an historic site.