NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

Development in Strathcona began with the arrival of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway line in 1891. Early development centred on the area of Whyte (82) Avenue, now called Old Strathcona. Subsequent commercial development extended along Whyte Avenue where, from 1908 to 1949, a streetcar line joined Strathcona and downtown Edmonton (via 99 Street). The neighbourhood became part of Edmonton when the City of Strathcona amalgamated with Edmonton in 1912.

While Strathcona is recognized for its historic older homes, walk-up and high-rise apartments supply the majority of dwelling units. Major traffic routes run through the neighbourhood and provide access to major commercial, educational and employment centres in the Downtown and at the University of Alberta. Outdoor recreation areas are also nearby with the North Saskatchewan River Valley to the north and Mill Creek Ravine to the east. Beginning in the 1980s, public and private initiatives rejuvenated the Old Strathcona area as an entertainment and commercial hub with an "old town" ambience.

Strathcona was named for Lord Strathcona, Hudson Bay Company Governor (1889-1914) and the man chosen to drive the "last spike" of the CPR transcontinental railway.