



Naming Committee

Honouring People and Places in Our City

Maynard Leroy “Val” Vallevand

(1924 - 1994)



Maynard Leroy “Val” Vallevand was born in 1924 in Elbow, Saskatchewan. At the age of 14 he left school and joined the Canadian Army three years later, serving in the Second World War as a paratrooper. When we left the army, Val studied at the Ontario College of Art before joining the Ontario Provincial Police.

In 1955, Val and his family moved to Edmonton, Alberta. He became a member of the Edmonton Police Department and one of the three original dog handlers with the Canine Unit.

In 1963, Val’s dog Sarge became a member of the EPS and Val became the first EPS canine handler. This was after they were [called to a drugstore break-in where the EPS members on scene could not locate the culprit](#). Moments after arriving, Sarge located the culprit hiding amongst some cardboard boxes. Subsequently, Val and Sarge were utilized on a callout basis.

The Canine Unit was officially formed in 1967 and consisted of three teams. At this time the police service dogs were kenneled in members’ homes or, when required, at Val’s residence. It was a very close team where each member and their dog were part of the Canine Unit family. This tradition continues today.

The unit moved into a central kennel facility near the Municipal Airport in 1977 and eventually expanded to nine teams and were responsible for the entire City of Edmonton for seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Val retired in 1978 as the Sergeant in charge of the unit and remained a close friend to the members for many years afterward.

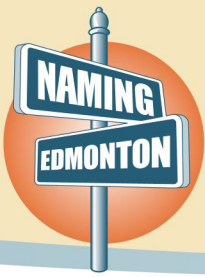
On November 14, 1997, the Canine Unit, now ten teams strong, moved into a new state-of-the-art facility. The building was fittingly named the Vallevand Kennels in honour of the unit’s founder who passed away on August 1, 1994.

*Edited by Danielle Ferchoff
August 2016*

Citations

Edmonton Police. “History of the Canine Unit”. Accessed 19 August 2016.

<http://www.edmontonpolice.ca/communitypolicing/operationalservices/canine/historyofcanine.aspx>



Naming Committee

Honouring People and Places in Our City

NOTE:

THIS MAP IS CONCEPTUAL ONLY,
NOT TO SCALE, AND SUBJECT
TO CHANGE.



SERGEANT MAYNARD "VAL" VALLEVAND PARK

Britannia Youngstown Neighbourhood

August 23, 2016
Naming Committee