

A Day in the Life of Edmonton
By IACC Historian Mufty Mathewson
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One of the best events undertaken by our club happened on March 7, 1985. Our vision was to create a slideshow capturing "A Day in the Life of Edmonton." It was a terrific experience for 51 members who photographed the city -- its people, its events, and its buildings -- for a full 24 hours.

Each participant chose their own subject matter. We all captured interesting stories and a wide range of images to share the happenings on that day. The project began with a shot of the Irving Klien Clock in Churchill Square at midnight. Participants took shots of the railway yards at night, an all-night pancake house and people stocking grocery shelves new the wee hours. The photos also included a new LRT station, a man in hospital with his leg in traction, and morning radio station CJCA, just to name a few.

My favourite photos were those I took of my son, an Edmonton Telephone installer, up in a cherry picker; my daughter Wendy in her recreation department at the Lynwood Convalescent hospital; and the Lt. Governor of Alberta, Honourable Helen Hunley, leaving her home with her chauffeur at her side. I ended my day at the Kinsman Field house where 4,000 people came to hear Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross speak on "Life, Death and Transition." I was admitted to the press conference and photographed from her three feet away!

Each participating club member had a minimum of three rolls of 36 exposure slide film. The processing was done gratis by Carousel Photographics (forerunner of today's Technicare). The most difficult part of the project was choosing 480 slides from the 14,000 taken that day to include in a story book and a scripted slideshow.

A Day in the Life of Edmonton was a fabulous event for the club. Those 480 treasured slides are now with Edmonton Archives to be kept carefully forever!

Some Mufty Mathewson's photos taken during "A Day in the Life of Edmonton."



Lt. Governor of Alberta, Honourable Helen Hunley, with her chauffeur.



Mufty Mathewson reading to patients at Lynwood Convalescent hospital.



CJCA Radio DJ Bob Arnold on air.



Young ballerinas at rest.