



## NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

Virginia Park is a small, centrally located residential neighbourhood just northeast of downtown Edmonton along the North Saskatchewan River Valley. The residential portion of the neighbourhood is bounded by 112th Avenue to the north, Wayne Gretzky Drive to the east, Ada Boulevard to the south and 76th Street to the west. The northern half of the neighbourhood is dedicated to recreational land use and is home to Borden Park.

Virginia Park was one of many areas subdivided during the pre-World War I land boom. Despite the fact that the Highlands streetcar line (no longer in operation) passed through the neighbourhood, it was an area that developed relatively slowly. Approximately three-quarters of the original structures within the neighbourhood were built before 1950. Virginia Park has also experienced sustained redevelopment and infill over the years. As a result, the neighbourhood contains residential structures from both the very early and very late 1900s. Approximately half of the housing units are low-density single and semi-detached homes, and the other half of dwelling units are located in low-rise apartment buildings in the northwest corner of the neighbourhood.

The neighbourhood contains two prominent landmarks, Concordia College to the west and Borden Park to the north. As well, Edmonton Northlands is located directly north of the neighbourhood and the Light Rail Transit (LRT) line runs down 80th Street. With the North Saskatchewan River Valley immediately to the south and Borden Park to the north, many recreational opportunities are located nearby.

The origin of the neighbourhood name is not known, but the neighbourhood was home to the former Virginia Park Greenhouse, established in 1912, which was located right in the middle of the neighbourhood. The greenhouse continued to operate in its original location until 1981 when it was moved to Ellerslie Road and 111th Street.