



# Naming Committee

Honouring People and Places in Our City

THE CITY OF  
**Edmonton**

7th Floor, 10250 - 101 Street  
Edmonton AB T5J 3P4  
Phone: 780-496-6226 Fax: 780-496-6054

## Margaret Tryphena Francis Crang

(1910-1991)



Margaret Tryphena Francis Crang was born in Edmonton, Alberta on August 30, 1910. She was a lawyer, political activist, widely known speaker, and a City Councillor.

In 1930, Miss. Crang received a Bachelor of Arts degree followed by a Bachelor of Law degree in 1932, both from the University of Alberta. She was admitted to the bar in 1934. She also obtained a School of Education diploma.

At the age of 23, Miss. Crang became the youngest woman elected to City Council and one of the youngest citizens in Edmonton to ever be elected to civic government. During her tenure as a City Councillor, she tirelessly worked to increase assistance to the unemployed, but this proved to be a challenge. She was “an out and out socialist- eager to see the present economic system changed into a socialistic state, that thousands of people now suffering might have a better lot in life.”

In 1936, while still on City Council, Miss. Crang was appointed as a delegate to the Peace Conference in Brussels, at which she represented the Alberta section of the League Against War and Fascism. On another occasion, she entered Spain with the International Brigades to fight on behalf of the republican government against the Fascists. On one occasion while in Spain, she exchanged shots with Spanish rebels outside of Madrid and is said to have “met General Gilan [who was] defending Madrid’s water supply” and “went up to a sandbag barricade, borrowed a rifle, and fired two shots for the Government side”. At the time, this was considered an act of great heroism because the Federal government had banned any support for Republican Spain.

Miss. Crang was a member of the League Against War and Fascism, Canadian Labor Party, Canadian Commonwealth Federation, and very active in Communist Party organizations of the unemployed. She was a member of the Royal Alexandra Hospital Board and also held a membership in the Canadian Business and Professional Women’s Club.

After her four years of service as a City Councillor, she ran unsuccessfully three times in provincial elections. She later became a reporter for the Montreal Gazette.

Margaret Crang relocated to Vancouver in 1953 and passed away in January of 1991.

*Written by Danielle Ferchoff  
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### CITATION ON FILE

“Miss Margaret Crang, B.A., L.L.B.,” Edmonton Bulletin, 10 June 1936, City of Edmonton Archives. Clipping Files.



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