

AUGUST  
2013

ISSUE 7

# Spirit Of SCHUMACHER



A Community Newsletter to Connect the  
Past, Present and Future

CELEBRATING 101 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2013

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO

## SCHUMACHER HOMECOMING COMMITTEE SEEKS COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FOR 2014 CELEBRATION

The first Schumacher Reunion took place in 1968, when a decision was made by the local school board to close the Schumacher High School. The reunion was organized to relive the fond memories which the students of Schumacher and the surrounding areas, had during their high school years.

Then, eleven years later, in 1979, many local people as well as those from afar wanted another reunion, to continue reliving the days spent in Schumacher. At that time, in 1979, the people who attended the festivities, collectively indicated that a homecoming event should be held every five years, and that is exactly what has taken place since 1979. That is why another reunion is being planned for 2014.

Schumacher Homecoming's are not just for the people who attended Schumacher High School - it is for anyone who lives, lived and or worked in Schumacher. The get-together provides an opportunity for all the people who have an association with Schumacher to be proud of the community they call(ed) home, and to meet new friends and renew old acquaintances.

Besides presenting a weekend of fun-filled activities at the McIntyre

Arena & Curling Rink, there is also an open house tour of Schumacher Public School and a BBQ feast at the Croatian Hall. Plus, a significant amount of the proceeds raised from the reunion goes towards scholarships for Schumacher students to pursue their post-secondary education studies.

The 2014 Schumacher Homecoming is scheduled for the May 16, 17, 18 long weekend; and the organizing committee would like residents of Schumacher to become more actively involved in organizing and attending the event. They would like to see the reunion become a "celebration for the entire community" and hope that more people associated with Schumacher sports teams, churches, service organizations, schools, mines, and work related businesses will all participate in the event.

To this end, the organizing committee will be holding a public meeting at the Schumacher Fire Hall at 7pm on Wednesday September 25th, so if you're interested in learning more about the 2014 reunion and how to get involved, please attend this open house. And don't forget to mark the 2014 Schumacher Homecoming reunion in your calendar for next year.



AUGUST 2013



# MY MEMORIES OF SCHUMACHER PUBLIC SCHOOL



Since we are almost ready to put the summer of 2013 in the books, I am remembering how exciting a time fall was for me as a child. Besides the thought of starting a new year at school (yes I enjoyed school) it was a fresh new start for everyone. Catching up with friends you hadn't seen for a couple of months and wondering who was going to be in your class at school, and back in my days at Schumacher Public School, that included seeing hundreds of baby boomer kids that went from kindergarten to grade 8.

My first teacher at Schumacher Public School was Miss Murphy. She was half of a sister team who taught at SPS in the 60s. Betty and Ester both had a distinguished career at the school and were well respected as teachers and citizens in the community.

I lived directly across the school yard at 24 "B" Birch Street and enjoyed the fact I could leave for school five minutes before the bell was rung and never be late. In grade one Miss Kznaric was one of my favourite teachers. SPS was fortunate in having a young energetic staff during my tenure there and classes were always interesting. In those days reading writing and arithmetic were the foundations of our education.

Isabelle Mair was my teacher in grade two. She was the sister of former National Hockey League player Jim Mair. Their parents and my mom and dad were best friends. Grade three was taught by Miss Meehan. Another very effective teacher whose soft spoken ways got results.

In grade four Miss Charron ruled the roost. She was a tough French Canadian woman who demanded complete respect in her class. Being the chatty little freak that I am, I was often chastised by her for not paying attention. As a result she used to call me a "nincompoop." Wow - she wouldn't get away with that today, but back then things were different. My Mom

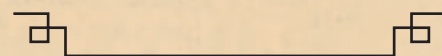
and Miss Charron tangled once during the year when I was forced to kneel in the corner all morning for talking in class. When I went home that afternoon for lunch, my little knobby knees were all red and soon Mom was headed to the school. My Mom was always looking at both sides of the story and if we deserved punishment she would never interfere with the teachers decision, but if she felt the punishment was excessive she had no problems letting her feelings be known.

Grade five was taught by Mrs Phelps, whose husband was also a teacher in the school. Grade six was my first experience with a male teacher in Kerry Laine. He had a wonderful sense of humour and made learning fun. Probably my favourite teacher in grade school was my grade seven teacher Florence Denison. She was kind, understanding and seemed to genuinely love teaching and her students. She had health issues and missed a fair amount of time, so we usually had Mrs. Critchley come in as the supply teacher. She too had a wonderful sense of humour and made learning fun.

My final year at SPS was a great year as well and I had my second male teacher in Mr. Mitchell. He was a hard worker and did well preparing us for the leap into a brand new high school at Roland Michener Secondary School.

Art Murphy was principal during that time and I will never forget the songs we learned during our legendary Friday morning sing song assemblies. I fell in love with the old tunes and novelty songs he taught us with Mrs. Goltz on the piano. Hank Bielek's wife Lucy was our French teacher and Lou Battachio came in weekly to run physical education classes. It was a wonderfully nurturing environment where teachers and parents worked together to prepare us for the world.

**Heather (Campbell) Swietek,**  
*SOS Editor*

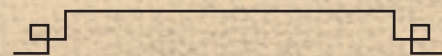


## SIDE NOTE :

I would be remiss if I did not mention to our readers that I became a grandmother for the first time on July 17, 2013. My daughter Courtney and my son-in-law Gord, who live in Schumacher, became parents to Emmitt James Berlinghoff, weighing in at seven pounds 14 ounces. Thanks to Dr. Rick Kavz and the staff at Timmins District Hospital for all the love and care during the birth process.



To try and describe the feeling when I look at the little guy would take too long and too much space. I can hardly wait until I can get him up on skates and take him to the rink at the school yard.



# STAY HEALTHY THROUGH ACTIVE LIVING IN SCHUMACHER

Brianna Yard has spent most of her 23 years in Schumacher. For her, active living has always been a priority. "Exercise has always been part of my lifestyle and living in Schumacher has really been conducive to that, with the Porcupine Ski Runners and the Ross Stringer Trail practically in my backyard." Yard now lives in Whitby, Ontario as a teacher but misses the comforts of Schumacher - the place she will always call home.

As a child and teenager, it was easy for Brianna to run out the back door to access the trails. As a competitive cross-country skier, she had a great advantage just because she lived in Schumacher. Her counterparts in Southern Ontario had to drive hours to get to wooded areas or their club's ski trails.

Yard isn't the only young person who takes advantage of the many trails running through our town. She runs with a group of young women who can be seen jogging through the town most summer nights. They venture into Timmins, but the hills of the Vipond road in Schumacher are their preferred training grounds.

Jogging or skiing make up just a fraction of the activities possible in our town. The McIntyre Community Building houses ice surfaces perfect for figure skating, curling, ringette, or ice hockey. If those aren't enough options, one can take a cue from some of the Schumacher residents who walk to Timmins everyday to save money on gas and get some exercise. The Timmins and District Hospital, a big employer for the city, is only 2.5 kilometres away from Schumacher, while Downtown Timmins is only 2.6 kilometres.

There is also a small movement starting in our area to get people to bike to

work. Both options cut costs and contribute to a healthy life. Schumacher has many advantages for residents who want to exercise in their own neighbourhood, but the town could be more inclusive. A community yoga group or tai chi group would help accommodate some people who otherwise would not feel comfortable taking part in group sports. Both are excellent everyday practices.

Additionally, not everyone is able to walk, run, or skate. For years Schumacher had the best gymnasium in Timmins at THE MAC, and also had the Schumacher Lions Club swimming pool. Unfortunately, we lost them both years ago. But swimming in a pool can accommodate people with mobility issues as well as young children and the elderly, so water exercise can contribute to healthy living as well.

While there are no longer any gyms or pools in Schumacher, there are many ways to get or stay healthy in our town. It's as easy as taking a moment to reflect on the way our ancestors lived. They walked to work and visited their neighbors and friends by foot, and they played road hockey in the street and games in the school yard. Though many of us have the comforts characteristic of our time, it can't hurt to walk a few miles in the shoes of the people who built this town. It's not only good a good way to meet friends and neighbors, but is also good for your health and that of our planet.

**Bridget Yard,**  
*Journalist*



Bridget Yard, Brianna Yard, Maria St Aubin, and Jason Robin in the 2012 Golden Trails Half Marathon. The course crosses into Timmins from the Vipond hills in Schumacher. photo Jack Yard

# GOLDCORP & SCHUMACHER LIONS CLUB PARTNER TO BUILD NEW PAVILION FOR THE MCINTYRE PARK

The Schumacher Lion's Club broke ground on Wednesday July 3, 2013 for a new pavilion which will be located in the McIntyre Park. The project is made possible through a financial donation of \$200,000 by Goldcorp Porcupine Gold Mines and the generous support of several community partners including J.L. Richards & Associates, Gorf Contracting, Epitron Inc., Custom Concrete, Bussiere Consulting, Caron Equipment, Miller Paving, Porcupine Timber Mart, Poly-Fusion and Accurate Electric.

"When Goldcorp approached us about this project, we were thrilled", said Raymond Bussiere, President of the Schumacher Lions Club. "This is the perfect addition to the park and the community of Schumacher and will significantly benefit the greater Timmins area".

In the late 1980's the once popular McIntyre Park was destroyed when ERG Resources Inc. began digging up the area as part of that company's bid to recover gold from the older tailings left from the 1920's and 1930's. The Schumacher Lions Club then took over the park six years ago and began the process of revitalizing the area which today includes walking trails, a playground for children, the Porcupine Miners Memorial and a beautiful pond complete with waterfall.

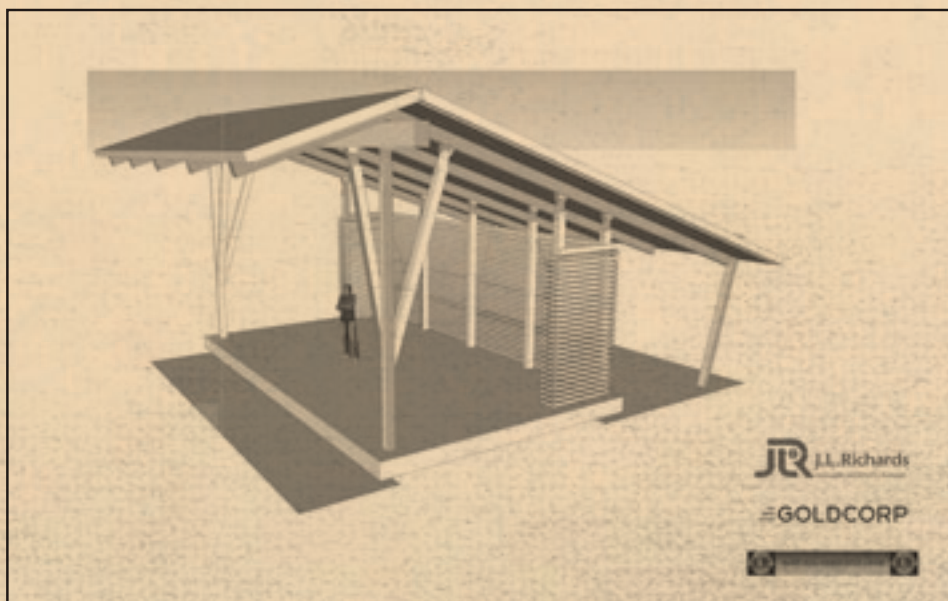
"We are very proud to be part of this project", said Domenic Rizzuto, Manager of Human Resources and Corporate Social Responsibility at Porcupine Gold Mines. "The destruction of parts of the McIntyre Park was a loss

for the community of Schumacher and all others that enjoyed the park. As a leader in environmental rehabilitation and responsible mining, it brings us great pleasure to be a part of the continued revitalization of this beautiful park".

Timmins Mayor Tom Laughren, a former resident of Schumacher, stated that this event shows what mining and the community can do together. "We are fortunate to have companies like Goldcorp and a long time service group like the Schumacher Lions Club in our community working on this very important and needed project. This will build on making the McIntyre Park and Pearl Lake waterfront area more attractive for residents and tourists to visit."

The pavilion, was designed by J.L. Richards & Associates, and will be able to accommodate theatrical events and various other outdoor activities such as concerts and movies. The pavilion design will also integrate the existing McIntyre Park landscape and features such as the Porcupine Miners Memorial.

Construction on the outdoor pavilion is scheduled to be completed this fall once a new storage garage for the Lion Club, also being built in the area, is complete and the old garage is removed.



Architectural drawing of the pavilion.



# SACHA COMMUNITY UPDATES

## SACHA BOARD & COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

The board would like to thank Graham Reid, Leslie Anne Dupuis and Deborah Laffin for the months of volunteer service they provided to the organization since SACHA came into being in December 2011. We appreciate their efforts and wish them all the best in their personal and professional endeavors.

SACHA has a new executive that includes: Mark Chenier (President) Rob Knox (Vice President), Kathy Vukobratc (Treasurer) and Lloyd Salomone (Secretary). Plus, we welcome SACHA's newest board member, Vera (Pupich) Romanowski.

If you would like to volunteer with SACHA – sit on the board or a working committee – please contact Mark @ 705-267-3937, Vera @ 705-267-4416 or visit SACHA's website [www.spiritofschumacher.ca](http://www.spiritofschumacher.ca) for more info.

## UPCOMING SACHA EVENTS

SACHA will be presenting two community events over the next year. The 2nd Annual Schumacher Christmas Social, and the 2nd Annual Mr. Schumacher Day celebration. Both events are designed to bring residents of the community of Schumacher together in a relaxed, fun filled atmosphere where they can meet new people and connect with old friends. Plus, SACHA continues to partner and associate with other community organizations, businesses and government agencies to improve the quality of life in Schumacher and greater Timmins.

## SCHUMACHER LIVES PROJECT

Bridget Yard is the director of *Schumacher Lives*, which is part of a documentary film and interactive website project on the community of Schumacher. To date, the project has received funding from the Schumacher Foundation, and this fall Bridget will be going through hours of footage shot in the community since July 2011. She and the producer (Lloyd Salomone), will then be travelling to Schumacher over the next few months to do more filming. The goal is to produce 5 short films about the community of Schumacher that will be available for viewing on SACHA's Spirit of Schumacher website. So ,if you receive a phone call or email from Bridget or Lloyd, please assist them where possible.

As well, SACHA, producer Lloyd Salomone, and Laurentian University economics professor, Dr. David Leadbeater, are investigating submitting an application to the JP Bickell Foundation, that if successful, would:

- conduct academic research on the community of Schumacher to see what happened to it over the last 100 years (socially, politically, culturally, economically),
- allow SACHA to undertake historical research about Schumacher and promote it via the SOS newsletter and website, and
- help cover some of the prooduction costs associated with the *Schumacher Lives* documentary film & interactive website project.

## SPIRIT OF SCHUMACHER NEWSLETTER RECEIVING POSITIVE FEEDBACK

The first SOS community newsletter was published by SACHA in February 2012, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Schumacher, Ontario, on March 1, 2012. Since then, SOS newsletters have been published quarterly, with positive feedback received from many past and present residents of Schumacher alike.

The main purpose of the SOS newsletter is to connect the people and community of Schumacher with others – and to promote our past, present and future together. To that end, the newsletter has played a part in two significant community projects that are featured in this issue.

The first is the McIntyre Pavilion, where because of a SOS readers' inquiry, Goldcorp officials became aware of a situation in the community, and sought to rectify the situation by contacting SACHA and the Schumacher Lions Club, with the end result being the construction of the new pavilion in the McIntyre Park.

The second is the beautification of F.W. Schumacher Park, where the Timmins Economic Development Corporation applied and received provincial funding, and partnered with SACHA, to plant trees and shrubs that will enhance the monument and park setting.

So "hats off" to the Spirit of Schumacher - your community newsletter – and its editor (Heather Campbell), contributing writers (Bridget Yard, Wally Wiwchar, Cathy Ellis, George Delich, Joe Ferrari, Diane Armstrong, etc.), layout designers (Ben Duncan, Lloyd Salomone), readers who send in letters and emails, advertisers, SACHA members, and you – our subscribers. For without all of you, the newsletter would not exist and make a positive difference in our community.

## SACHA MEMBERSHIP

This past Spring, the SACHA board wanted to expand its reach, and support from the community. To that end, it established a "membership & contribution" program, that would allow people to become members of SACHA and contribute financially towards some of its community based activities. In exchange for their support and generosity, SACHA members will be regularly acknowledged in the SOS newsletter and website.

So, we would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their generous support, and hope that others will see value in supporting SACHA in the future.

**Individual Members (\$15):** Glen Vicevic, Florence Kelley, Ed Pupich, Val Ulmer, Pauline Murry, Al Proulx

**Family Members (\$25):** Polowy Family, Rolly & Zora Chenier, Anthony Salomone Family

**Business Members (\$50):** Flower Power Production Inc.

**Contributors (over & above membership fee):** Glen Vicevic, Florence Kelley, Al Proulx



## WALLY WRITES

# DEVELOPING CHARACTER IN SCHUMACHER

Over many coffees, another Schumacher expatriate Lorne Rowe and I have discussed how growing up in Schumacher built character not often seen in other small towns.

Responsibility took on many forms and we often reminisce about how few of us ever heard of an allowance or saw a need to receive one from our parents. We had many opportunities to learn the value and responsibility that went with earning pocket money, while contributing to society and the local economy.

At an early age we were able to work for Briscoll, Wilson and McNaughton pharmacies and Schumacher Hardware burning boxes or hauling klinkers (coal waste) in five gallon pails out of Furlong's basement. Delivering groceries for any one of the seven grocery stores was

always available. Stores like Zanchins, Sebalj's and the Consumers Cooperative all offered opportunities for us to deliver their products to their customers.

At Christmas time and on holidays we could be found cueing at the beer store with toboggans and sleighs to deliver beer cases to homes. Delivery of the Timmins Daily Press to Schumacher residents was popular with the paper pick up stand at Joe Lannerey's Variety store next door to Zanchins. If that wasn't enough there were Christmas tree sales and snaring rabbits, bagging coal at the Mirkovich coal yard or setting pins at the McIntyre Bowling alley under the supervision of manager Steve Karahan for one cent a line.

With any luck you were noticed by Val Kitchen or Miro Guacci and worked your way into the McIntyre arena as a rink rat.

The tasks varied and you always hoped to work your way up to cutting ice, installing the arena floor and wrestling ring or serving as an usher for hockey games and other events. You could also work the coat check room at the many events catered by The MAC or the weekly summer indoor roller skating. The best of all was a summer job with the Schumacher Summer Skating School. It was one of the best if not the best skating schools in North America and attracted skaters from around the world.

A plum job was also working the garden gang for the McIntyre Mine attending to the park and its many gardens. If memory serves me right it paid 75 cents an hour and on a good day with double duty you could make \$12. During the summer working for visiting attractions like circuses and concerts was also attractive.

Opportunities for the girls in town were less lucrative although there were chances to work at the Mac Coffee shop managed by Kay Curries serving at banquets, lifeguarding at the Schumacher Lions pool or working as a supervisor at the playgrounds during the summer months.

These jobs helped build character and work habits which carried us through life, serving as a foundation for whatever field we chose to pursue in the future.

**Wally Wiwchar,**  
*Guest Writer*



The Consumers Co-Operative Society store was located at 16 Pine Street, ca. 1937. *TMNEC*



Grade 8 photo of Wally Wiwchar at SPS



# ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2013

**SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO -THE MEETING PLACE!**

### September 2013

**Event:** Welcome to Timmins Night

**Date:** 6:30 to 9pm, September 11, 2013

**Location:** McIntyre Curling Rink

**Contact:** Cheryl St.Amour at 705-360-2656 ext. 7

**Event:** Schumacher Homecoming Committee  
Open House Meeting

**Date:** 7pm, September 25, 2014

**Location:** Schumacher Fire Hall

**Contact:** Lou Battochio at 705-264-0974

### November 2013

**Event:** Schumacher Lions Arts & Crafts Fair

**Date:** November 8-10, 2013

**Location:** McIntyre Arena

### December 2013

**Event:** 2nd Annual Schumacher Christmas Social

**Date:** 7pm Saturday December 21, 2013

**Location:** to be determined

**Contact:** SACHA [www.spiritofschumacher.ca](http://www.spiritofschumacher.ca)

## 2014 EVENTS

NOT TO BE MISSED

### 2nd Annual Mr. Schumacher Day – 102nd Anniversary Celebration

**Date:** Saturday March 1, 2014

**Location:** to be determined

**Contact:** SACHA [www.spiritofschumacher.ca](http://www.spiritofschumacher.ca)

### 2014 Schumacher Homecoming Celebration

**Date:** Long Weekend - May 16, 17, 18, 2014

**Location:** McIntyre Arena & Curling Club

**Contact:** Lou Battochio at 705-264-0974



## CONTACT

The Spirit of Schumacher community newsletter is published quarterly (February, May, August, November) by SACHA (Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association), a not-for-profit organization. Printed newsletters are distributed free to all postal boxes in Schumacher and at local retail outlets. A digital (PDF) version of the SOS newsletter is free by subscribing via email to [subscribe@spiritofschumacher.ca](mailto:subscribe@spiritofschumacher.ca). All proceeds from ad sales cover newsletter costs and promoting SACHA's various activities. Editorial Inquiries: Heather (Campbell) Swietek, email [hmswietek@msn.com](mailto:hmswietek@msn.com) or call 705-267-6959; Advertising Inquiries: Lloyd Salomone, email [lloyd\\_salomone@hotmail.com](mailto:lloyd_salomone@hotmail.com) or call 506-459-2599; Design & Layout by Ben.D Graphics; Mail: SACHA c/o PO Box 58, Schumacher, Ontario, P0N 1G0; Email: [info@spiritofschumacher.ca](mailto:info@spiritofschumacher.ca).

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## ADVERTISING

If you would like to promote your business, an event, wish the community of Schumacher or someone you know a happy birthday or anniversary, or have a memorial for a loved one, then please send an email to **[info@spiritofschumacher.ca](mailto:info@spiritofschumacher.ca)** and we will forward you the SOS advertising rate card.

# TEDC & SACHA BEAUTIFY F.W. SCHUMACHER PARK

Years ago, the area in and about F.W. Schumacher Park was the site of children playing and families sliding on Laham's Hill (named after Laham's Grill which stood close by). Today it is home to a monument and park. Constructed in the 1970's the monument and park is the site of mining memorabilia with a concrete mining head frame and a bronzed statue of Frederick W. Schumacher.

In 1972, the Reeve and Council of the Township of Tisdale dedicated the monument and park in memory of Frederick W. Schumacher, philanthropist, philosopher, art patron and civic leader who gave his name to the community. Mr. Schumacher died in June of 1957 but his memory lives on in the hearts and minds of the people because of his ongoing generosity and philanthropy to the community that bears his name.

The Timmins 2020 Strategic Plan identifies rebuilding community pride and confidence as one of its strategic directions. The plan emphasizes that the City of Timmins will lead by example to

instill community pride in its residents. It will identify a high-profile signature project that builds on its brand and increases the community's regional profile. It will encourage residents and community partners alike to celebrate Timmins by leading innovative projects that will increase its appeal and quality of life.

One of the activities in the plan highlights "beautification" as a way to build community pride. It states "To create and implement a community beautification strategy, including waterfront development. Attractive, vibrant and functional public spaces can improve community wellbeing and pride, catalyze economic growth and facilitate cultural and tourism opportunities."

In 2012, the Timmins Economic Development Corporation (TEDC) was successful in receiving funding from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Community Fisheries and Wildlife Involvement Program (CFWIP) in the amount of \$1,930 to help beautify and attract birds to the F.W. Schumacher

Park by planting trees and shrubs. In the summer of 2013, the City of Timmins Parks and Recreation began enhancing the park by removing dilapidated walkways and railings and rejuvenating the area with black soil.

As a volunteer community partner, Schumacher Arts Culture & Heritage Association (SACHA) will be assisting the TEDC to revitalize the area by planting new trees and shrubs in the fall of 2013. SACHA has also committed to help maintain the trees and shrubbery until they take deeper roots in the soil. In the future, it's anticipated that there will be more beautification of the park done by the City, SACHA and community volunteers. If you have a "green thumb" and would like to volunteer with the planting of trees and shrubs at the park this Fall, please contact SACHA's President, Mark Chenier at 705-267-3937.

**Cathy Ellis,**  
*Director of Community Economic Development, TEDC*



Beautifying Mr. Schumcher Park began in July 2013, photo TEDC