

## **182 ½ Days Musings by Mufty**

365 days in a year divided by 2 is 182 ½ . Tonight, I will add my 183<sup>rd</sup> photograph to a Power Point Slide show called The Covid 19 Pandemic; a half a year of photographs illustrating our lives with Covid 19. On each picture I put the date, the number of new cases in Alberta and the total of cases since the beginning. I began the project on March 15<sup>th</sup>, when there were 29 cases in Alberta. Half a year later there have been 15,415 cases in Alberta and numbers are still climbing; half a year of learning to live with fear of an invisible lethal droplet lurking on an elevator button, a grocery bag or a door knob.

The photographs are intended to show our new life with Covid19. Some do. Friends bringing groceries wearing masks; picnics with family members sitting six feet apart; great-grandchildren seen only over the fence at the back of their property.

But many do not. Mostly, I note, they record nature. The fabulous blossoms on Victoria Promenade in Spring; Lily of the Valley spreading on Wendy's south garden; a bee in a rose; baby goslings at Hawrelak park; a rainbow over the High Level bridge; trumpeter swans at Elk Island Park. These are things that are unchanged. The river flows on; the full moon circles the night sky and loving family members find ways to meet.

So much has changed and yet so much remains the same. On days when I think I'll go nuts because I want to go to a theatre production or walk into London Drugs to get some Mentos or hug a grandchild, I can look at the pictures of nature minding its own business as it gets on with the world turning another 182 days to finish its year.