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Guardian Angels open HQ

By **BROOKE MERRITT**

The Guardian Angels officially opened their new Edmonton headquarters yesterday, which will finally give them the chance to satisfy a curious public.

"One of our first visitors was a 17-year-old young man who came in with his father, who gave him consent to join us for training," said local chapter head Dave Schroder.

"Hopefully he'll be our newest recruit. It says a lot about his character, and about Edmonton's youth, that he would come in to take a leadership role in his community."

The Guardian Angels have been patrolling Edmonton streets in some form or another since organizing in 2006.

The local chapter currently has six members and has been visited on several occasions by Guardian Angels founder Curtis Sliwa.

Sliwa founded the non-profit group in New York City in 1979 and chapters have since cropped up in cities around the world.

The group's mandate is to patrol the community, provide positive role models and leadership, and to deter crime through physical intervention and by providing information to police.

Guardian Angels are volunteers and do not carry weapons.

They are trained in self-defence and in making citizens arrests.

Anyone interested in learning more about the group is encouraged to drop by their new office at 8910 Yellowhead Tr. or visit edmontonguardianangels.com