

2014 Annual Report



Edmonton
Social
Planning
Council



2014 Annual Report

*Edmonton Social
Planning Council,
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Edmonton, AB,
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Our Vision

A healthy, just and inclusive community.

Our Mission

The ESPC provides leadership within the community by addressing and researching social issues, informing public discussion and influencing social policy.

Our Goals

To undertake research into the nature and magnitude of social issues in the community.

To increase public awareness and understanding of current social issues and be an independent voice in the community.

To encourage public participation in the development of social policies and the implementation of programs.

President's Report

The Edmonton Social Planning Council (ESPC) has gained a reputation for conducting non-partisan unbiased research on social issues to inform the public, politicians, government officials and our partnering non-profit community groups. We are recognized for actively promoting improvements in programs and supports for vulnerable individuals and families in our community.

A major focus in 2014 was the plight of low income working people in Edmonton and Alberta. All our submissions – to the provincial government for its Social Policy Framework and to the city government for the Mayor's Task Force on Poverty Elimination – focused on the growing depth of poverty among low-income working Albertans, and on paths to enhance their economic status. We are increasingly providing research data to other non-profit groups for their work; citing an example, the affordability gap data to the United Way Alberta Capital Region and the Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation.



Vasant Chotai

The ESPC also widened the scope of distribution of its research giving it a higher profile in the community. In addition to printing our research reports for distribution and in our publications *The fACTivist* and *From Words to Action*, we have taken research data to the public media. We partnered with the Edmonton Community Foundation and the *Edmonton Journal* to release user-friendly research with a youth focus through the newspaper, namely *Vital Signs Edmonton* that was very well received.

2015 marks the 75th Anniversary of the ESPC. We held a very successful launch of our anniversary at city hall with Mayor Don Iveson. Board members and staff dressed up to reflect the fashion of 1940s when our organization first started. In April 2015, we partnered with the Film and Video Arts Society and others to sponsor a screening of the locally produced movie *Bye Bye Blues* depicting a story of financial hardship women faced while their husbands were overseas during the Second World War. This is the period when the Council was created to bring social agencies together to help families facing hardship. To promote membership, we offered a complimentary ticket to the movie

to those who bought new ESPC memberships. There are other celebrations planned to mark the 75th anniversary and they will be announced in the coming months.

I am pleased to highlight three milestones this year. First, the Council not only managed balanced budgets in two consecutive years but last year produced a surplus as a result of exceptional work from the staff. Second, all board directors attended a board development program last year and created an action plan to make the Board more effective. Third, we are dedicating this year's Award of Merit to "youth social justice in action" by awarding it to two organizations of young citizens in our community who have been working conscientiously for advocacy and social justice. I also encourage you to see details of each committee's activities and achievements in the separate annual reports.

The Board of Directors consists of volunteers and it sees changing membership every year due to emerging family and personal commitments. I would like to thank these fine members who dedicated their time and energy over the past couple of years: Sumeet Shinde, Jarrod Bayne, Darlene Paranaque, Meghan Abbott, Oliver Kamau and Janet Kluthe.

As I complete my term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Director Susan Morrissey and her staff for working so very hard with limited resources. I would like to give a special thank you to John Kolkman for his focused leadership in the research work. I would also like to thank the current Board of Directors for their leadership and expertise to make this a successful year: Rose Marie Tremblay, Doug Meggison, Bridget Stirling, Anne Stevenson, Candace Jane Dorsey, Erin LaRocque and Dave Trautman.

In the coming year, the Council will see considerable activity both provincially and federally – in terms of the economy, government policies and the quality of life of the low-income working individuals and families. The new Board of Directors, the Executive Director and the staff are ready to face any challenge.

Vasant Chotai, Council President and Chair of the Board of Directors.

Executive Director's Report

Looking back, 2014 was an interesting and busy year for the staff of the Edmonton Social Planning Council (ESPC) amidst change at the municipal and provincial levels. As you will see in the pages of this annual report, ESPC remained engaged and focused on our work on issues facing individuals living in low income.

We continued to analyze and interpret data for several annual reports including the Alberta Child Poverty report entitled *No Change: after 25 years of promise, it's time to eliminate child poverty*, the 2014 *Vital Signs* report where we focused our attention on youth in Edmonton and *the Year 5 Update on the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness* report. We also continued to engage our community in knowledge exchange through our Lunch and Learn series, our newsletters, factsheets and through social media.

In 2014, ESPC took on a number of new and different activities to broaden our scope, share our expertise and forge new partnerships. Working with the Edmonton Realtors Association, we researched and wrote ten neighbourhood profiles which were used to further enhance the yegishome.ca website. Piggybacking on the already fine work done by the City of Edmonton regarding neighbourhood information, ESPC took it further to find out additional information that tells a richer, more encompassing story of why people choose to live in the neighbourhoods they do. By doing this pilot project, our hope was to accentuate the positive characteristics and help folks have a more complete picture of possible neighbourhoods they are considering moving to.

In 2014 we also had the opportunity to work in partnership with the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations to host a workshop to assist not for profit agency staff gain a better understanding of how to use the reports and information we produce. The Data for Decision-Making workshop held during the summer allowed agency staff to understand the details behind the statistical data and trends in order to help them plan and implement programs to address the changing and complex needs of vulnerable individuals.

One of the highlights in 2014 was when the Mayor's Task Force to Eliminate Poverty in Edmonton was established. ESPC played a significant role by providing knowledge and support to the task force regarding the

policies and issues facing people living in low income and poverty. In addition, ESPC was able to expand that knowledge to the wider community by researching and writing a *Profile of Poverty in Edmonton* which showed just how many people are facing hardships in our city.

ESPC has been advocating for years for the City of Edmonton to adopt a low income transit pass. In January of 2012, with the help of a few of our keen volunteers, we developed a well-reasoned position statement <http://bit.ly/1PpaP5F> on the benefits of implementing reduced transit fares. We had the opportunity in 2014 to continue this dialogue when we presented with other agencies the need and benefit for low to modest income individuals and students of implementing a low income transit pass. At the time of writing this report, I am happy to say that in fact the City of Edmonton's Transportation Committee has listened and has approved the implementation of a low income transit pass which will take effect in 2016 given budget approval. Rome wasn't built in a day, and so it goes that it can take time and patience when trying to impact policy.

These are a few of the many things ESPC staff were involved with. I thank each and every one of them for their great work. Through teamwork we have been able to continue to bring a voice to those who have not traditionally been able to tell their stories, to educate and increase awareness within our community and to elected officials about social issues and programs and solutions and contribute towards changing policy.

I also wish to acknowledge the support of the ESPC Board of Directors who shared their expertise and knowledge. A good organization needs good governance to ensure we are working to fulfill our mission.

Finally, I wish to once again thank our major funders, ESPC members and volunteers who continue to believe that the work we do can and is making a difference. We truly live in interesting times, here in Edmonton and Alberta and are fortunate to have the support of so many as we work towards the common goal of making this a healthy, just and inclusive community.



Susan Morrissey

Susan Morrissey, Executive Director

Advocacy Committee Report

The purpose of the Advocacy Committee is to identify and prioritize issues for advocacy and determine our positions jointly with the board and the staff. The Executive Director and the President of the Edmonton Social Planning Council or their delegate speak on the issue at large. The Committee also has a role in advising on the means of communication with the public including the website. The Committee had leadership change in the past year due to some board members leaving. I would like to thank Janet Kluthe for her dedication to our work.

In 2014 our main focus of concern was the plight of working poor Albertans. We carried out major research and developed a poverty profile that informed the Mayor's Task Force to Eliminate Poverty as well as provided information for others tackling the issue. Our research findings were quoted in the news media. We provided input to the provincial government when it was developing its policies – and some of the suggestions are reflected in the final outcome like the enhanced Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit and the new Alberta Working Family Supplement. ESPC was quoted in the news media on its analysis of the provincial budget.

Much of the advocacy work is done behind the scenes, and during consultations with the elected officials and their senior staff. A network is an effective way to exchange ideas, research and proposals. Our Advocacy Committee, as it is maturing, plans to play a greater role in the future. We have resolved to publish or submit more Op-Eds on most effective policy options to help the vulnerable segment of our community.

Vasant Chotai, Advocacy Committee Chair.



Policy Committee Report

The mandate of this committee is to provide guidance to the Board of the Edmonton Social Planning Council on governance policy. The committee reviews and makes recommendations on the constitution, bylaws and other Council policies. This year the committee continued its

work to review the terms of reference of the standing and ad hoc committees. In September, the Board attended a Board Development Program facilitated by Alberta Culture, and created an action plan to make the Board more effective. The goal is to create a Code of Conduct and an Ethical Fundraising and Financial Accountability Code for board directors. The Policy Committee is also responsible for adjudicating submissions for the Award of Merit for Advocacy of Social Justice.

Rose Marie Tremblay, Committee Chair



Board Reports

Finance Committee Report

In October 2013, the Edmonton Social Planning Council board approved a balanced 2014 budget which included a percentage wage increase for all staff effective January 1, 2014. The 2015 budget is also a balanced budget and was approved on December 9, 2014.

By the third quarter of our fiscal year, which runs from January through December, there were clear indications that the Council was going to have a significant surplus. The Finance Committee, including Executive Director Susan Morrissey, studied this unusual situation and tested various scenarios with ESPC's accountant.

We reasoned that the surplus was going to be a one-time occurrence, so Council ought not to embed too high a proportion to covering ongoing costs. The Board agreed with our recommendation to allocate the greater part of the surplus to 'unrestricted funds' to cover special projects in 2015/16.

Earlier, the Board had designated a significant amount of 'unrestricted funds' as 'restricted funds' which would be used to cover three months of expense in the event of winding up the Council. It is important to note that none of our core funding has been transferred into either restricted or unrestricted funds.

At 2014 year end, a one-time payment pro-rated to

hours worked was made to all employees. The amount is incorporated within the audited financial report: staff salaries and expenses. Also, a one per cent increase was made to the employer share of the employees' pension arrangements, effective Jan. 1, 2015.

The surplus derived from exceptional work by all staff. Supported by the leadership of the executive director, Council has, in financial terms, obtained significantly more contract revenue from some of our institutional partners. This increased our overall budget and was the source of the 2014 surplus.

All non-profits are under pressure to use social entrepreneurial approaches to maximize grant and project funding, largely because core funding has not increased. It is a constant stress on the organization to maintain our financial balance. In 2014, less than half (49.5%) of the ESPC's revenue came from the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, with whom we continue to partner both directly and indirectly. (54.7 % in 2013) The amount of the United Way contribution to our core funding has been the same for several years. ESPC has been an United Way member agency since inception.

The Council continues to do a volunteer casino every second year. These revenues represented 8.4% of our 2014 budget (12% IN 2013). The next casino is in August 2015 and we are looking for volunteers. In addition, we will be having at least two modest fund raisers as part of our 75th anniversary events.

Executive Director Susan Morrissey has continued to successfully— and dare I say relentlessly — pursue and capture fee-for-service research and evaluation contracts. Don McFarlane continues as our contract bookkeeper and Executive Assistant Stephanie Haar takes responsibility for most postings.

Our 2014 audited financial report will be presented to the AGM by Carla Walker of Peterson Walker LLP and is available to members on request.

**Doug Meggison,
Committee Chair**



**Anne Stevenson,
member**



Board members celebrate during the official kick-off to the ESPC's 75th anniversary year.

Fund Development Committee Report

The Fund Development Committee was created to seek more diverse funding sources for ESPC to ensure the long-term financial stability of the organization in a shifting funding landscape.

In the first stage of our work as a committee, we developed some key messaging to use in fundraising asks to organizational donors and other potential funders.

As the new chair of the committee, I hope to build on this foundational work in 2015. Along with supporting fundraising activities such as the 2015 casino and events around the 75th anniversary celebrations, our goal is to begin outreach to corporate and foundation donors as well as other community philanthropic groups. We also hope to develop a direct campaign to reach out to members and supporters of the organiza



tion and a stewardship plan to thank those who support us through their financial generosity.

Bridget Stirling, Fund Development Committee Chair



Recruitment efforts proceeded and, throughout 2014, we welcomed three new members to the Board who are expected to offer themselves as first term/first year candidates. These appointments followed ESPC Bylaw 6.1.4.1 where if the number of directors falls below eight, the remaining board can fill the vacancies. The Bylaw also specifies that an appointed director’s service ends at the Annual General Meeting.

During the year, the Board experienced other resignations. Three second term/first year candidates: Oliver Kamau, Sumeet Shinde and Jarrod Bayne were thanked for their service.

On September 13, 2014, most of the ESPC Board participated in the Board Development Workshop organized by the previous chair of this standing committee, Oliver Kamau. I expect a priority of the 2015 board will be a review of work already done and possibly doing the workshop again.

Efforts are underway in 2015 to obtain nominations with consent for election to the Council Board. Per the Council bylaws, nominations from the floor of the AGM are also welcome.

Also, to be discussed during the 2015 annual general meeting is a motion to change the limit on the number of terms served from two 2 year terms to three 2 year terms. Having a longer time of service possible without the one year break specified in the bylaws will bring length of service in line with many organizations in the non-profit sector.

Doug Meggison, Acting Committee Chair



Board Development Committee Report

At the 2014 annual general meeting, the Council welcomed five new first year directors and thereby brought the board complement to 11 out of a maximum 12 directors. Over the following months, three of the newly-elected were not able to continue. The Council thanked Janet Kluthe, Darlene Paranaque and Meghan Abbott for their service.

The Year in Review

Major Projects and Events in 2014

JANUARY

FACTivist on Child Poverty

This issue of the newsletter uncovered the latest statistics on child poverty, the Alberta government's promise to end it, the politics of poverty reduction, reducing youth homelessness and poverty among Aboriginal children.



Edmonton public and catholic school boards endorse ESPC's *From Words to Actions* report.

In late 2013 and in January 2014, both school boards unanimously supported the recommendations found in the *From Words To Actions* report calling for modifications of Alberta's tax structure in order to help end child poverty.

MARCH

Fact sheets analyzing federal and provincial government budgets released

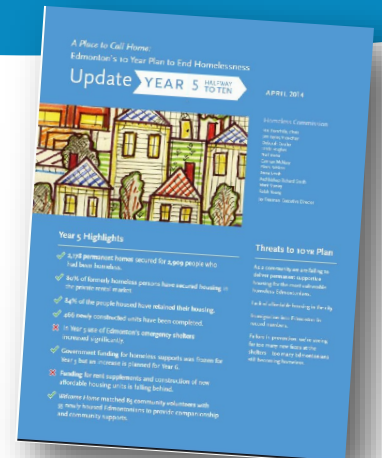
Assessing the impact of federal and provincial government budgets on those living on low and modest incomes has become one of the ESPC's annual activities. The Alberta budget forecast a \$1.1 billion consolidated surplus, with modest reinvestments in service to people while the federal budget forecast a \$2.9 billion deficit.

APRIL

Year Five Update on 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness

ESPC produced a Year 5 Update on Edmonton's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, on behalf of the Edmonton Homeless Commission. *A Place to Call Home*

reported that during the first five years of the plan, 2,178 permanent homes were secured for 2,909 homeless people. The update also showed that 84 per cent of the people housed retained their housing and that 466 newly built units were completed.



MAY

Annual General Meeting/Annual Report/Award of Merit for Advocacy of Social Justice

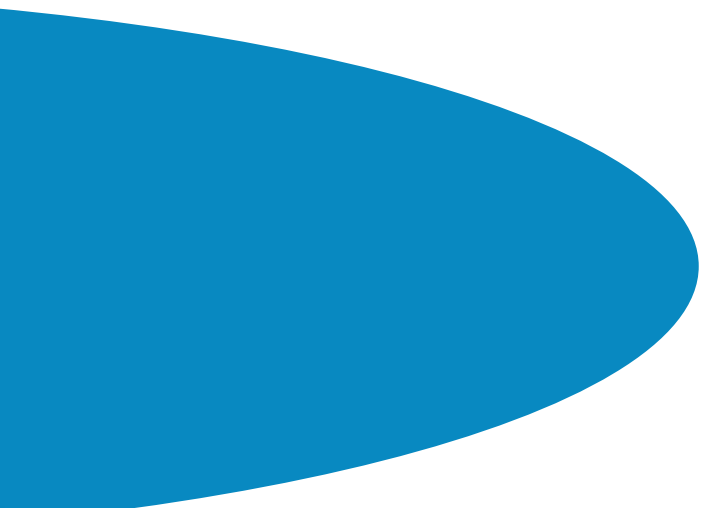
More than 40 people attended the annual general meeting that featured the presentation of the Award of Merit for Advocacy of Social Justice to Kate Quinn, the executive director of the Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation. Edmonton Ward 10 Councillor Michael Walters provided a keynote address and praised the council for its long history of community service.



FACTivist on Homeless Memorial

This issue of the newsletter featured three members of the Inner Voice Choir performing during the Homeless Memorial remembrance ceremony, the benefits of a low income transit pass, a Q & A with Human Services Minister Manmeet Bhullar and reflections on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.





First 10 neighbourhood profiles completed for yegishome.ca

Supported by the Edmonton Realtors Association, ESPC created 10 neighbourhood profiles for the website yegishome.ca. The profiles includes information on each community’s schools, sports, recreation facilities and parks, crime and safety, transportation and other amenities. The project, funded by the Alberta Real Estate Foundation, is expected to include additional neighbourhood profiles in 2015.

JUNE

Fact sheet on food security

This fact sheet was created to coincide with a lunch and learn event on community gardens and food security. The sheet included stats and facts on local food bank use, the cost of groceries for an Edmonton family of four, the locations of community gardens in the region, and stats on households in Canada and Alberta experiencing food insecurity.



ESPC co-hosts Data for Decision Making Workshop

ESPC staff delivered a presentation detailing the findings of *Tracking the Trends 2013* during a workshop hosted by the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations.

AUGUST

fACTivist on Infill

This issue explored the City of Edmonton’s initiative to encourage residential infill development as a way to slow urban sprawl, revitalize older neighbourhoods and better utilize schools, transit systems and other municipal infrastructure. The series of articles revealed how attitudes about population density have changed.



SEPTEMBER

Human Services Systems Serving Youth with Mental Health Challenges completed

Produced for the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, this report explores the legislation and policy affecting youth mental health services, funding agencies, federal, provincial and municipal research and strategies, community-based research and an inventory of youth mental health services in Edmonton.

OCTOBER

Vital Signs on Edmonton Youth released

Produced in partnership with the Edmonton Community Foundation, this project was one of 28 other reports across Canada looking at how individual communities are faring in key quality-of-life areas. Vital Signs Edmonton, distributed through the print edition of the Oct. 7 *Edmonton Journal*, presented a wide range of statistics on housing, education, health, cultural diversity, voting trends, student debt and more, with a special focus on youth. More than 150 people attended a media event at the city hall to release the report.



ESPC Research Assistant Manuel Escoto reviews freshly printed Vital Signs.

The Year in Review ... cont.

Major Projects and Events in 2014

NOVEMBER

No Change: After 25 years of promises, it's time to eliminate child poverty released

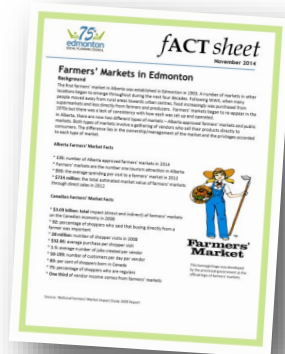
This report shows that 143,200 children in Alberta, or 16.2 per cent of all children in the province, live below the low-income measure. The report, produced in partnership with the Alberta College of Social Workers and Public Interest Alberta, showed that on the 25th anniversary of the all party House of Commons vote to eliminate child poverty, almost nothing has changed. The report showed that despite Alberta's strong economy, Alberta's income inequality has increased faster than the national average.



Raj Sherman, Susan Morrissey and Heather Klimchuk

Fact sheet on farmers' markets in Edmonton

Produced to support a lunch and learn on the same topic, this fact sheet summarized the history of farmers' markets in the city and the province, the average spending per customer visit, jobs created per vendor, total sales and the economic impact these markets have on local economies and vendor incomes.



ESPC United Way Employee Campaign

A total of \$2,175 was raised through donations and the sale of baked goods made by ESPC staff and volunteers.

DECEMBER

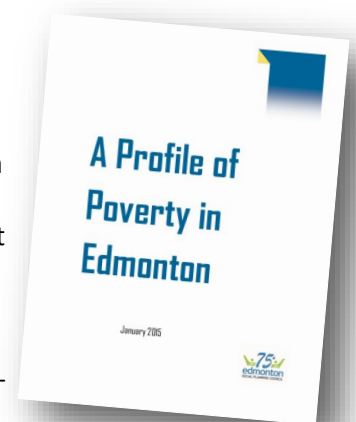
Seasonal Celebration

Human Services Minister Heather Klimchuk and Liberal Party of Alberta leader Raj Sherman were among the guests who attended an afternoon seasonal celebration in the ESPC office boardroom.

DECEMBER-JANUARY

A Profile of Poverty in Edmonton released

Almost 100 people attended a media launch to hear about the findings of this new report on poverty, produced for the Mayor's Task Force to Eliminate Poverty. Using the latest federal, provincial and municipal data, the report showed that one in eight Edmontonians live in poverty and that the province has the highest rate of working poverty in the country.



ESPC starts work on calculating a living wage for Edmonton.

Taking into account food, clothing, shelter, transportation, communications, healthcare, education and more, ESPC began work on calculating the level of a

living wage to provide for a modest standard of living. The ESPC is preparing different scenarios for two parent/two child families, lone-parent families and singles.

Committees/Coalitions

To fulfill our mission, ESPC works with many other organizations in our community. Using our resources wisely, we are able to leverage our efforts while speaking with a common voice. In 2014 ESPC worked with:

- * Action to End Poverty in Alberta
- * Age Friendly Edmonton Community Supports Working Group
- * Alberta Quality of Life Commission
- * Campaign 2000
- * CEASE—Building Blocks for Families
- * City of Edmonton Mayor’s Task Force to End Poverty
- * Community Bridging Steering Committee
- * Edmonton Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (ECOHH) Membership Committee and Research/Communications Committee
- * Edmonton Community Foundation—Vital Signs Partnership
- * End Poverty Edmonton Information and Research Roundtable
- * End Poverty Economic Security Working Group
- * Homeless Connect Planning Committee
- * Homeless Count Committee
- * Homeless Memorial Planning Committee
- * Homeward Trust Research Committee
- * Progressive Researchers Group
- * Public Interest Alberta Human Services & Poverty Reduction Task Force
- * Street Outreach Advisory Committee
- * United Way Capacity Building Working Group
- * United Way Funded Partner Network
- * Urban Core Support Network

Presentations

ESPC staff were called upon to give presentations to other social service agencies and organizations, post-secondary students, elected officials and the general public. This allows us to disseminate our research findings, share best practice information and encourage and stimulate discussion. In 2014, staff made presentations to:

- * Alberta College of Social Workers, annual conference workshop
- * City of Edmonton, Mayor’s Task Force to Eliminate Poverty
- * Edmonton City Council, Transportation Committee, on low income transit pass
- * Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, Data For Decision-Making workshop on *2013 Tracking the Trends* findings
- * Edmonton Food Bank, annual general meeting
- * MacEwan University, Community Research Fair
- * Parkland Institute, annual conference
- * Terra Association, board development workshop
- * University of Alberta, political science class
- * University of Alberta, Faculty of Education, policy studies class
- * University of Alberta, School of Business on board governance

Participation

Recognizing the importance of contributing to the wider community and remaining in-touch with the people we serve, ESPC staff and volunteers actively participate in community events.

- * MacEwan University Community Research Fair (January)
- * Homeless Connect (April & Oct)
- * Homeless Memorial (May)
- * Urban Core Support Network Inner City BBQ (July)



Membership

We would like to thank our current members for their support, which allows the Council to meet its vision of a healthy, just and inclusive community. The strength of our voice and our role in the community is based on the support of people and organizations concerned about social issues. ESPC members add their voices to our message of positive social development and policy change. Our members also benefit by:

Staying informed - ESPC members are the first to receive our newsletters, publications, and other updates.

Getting involved - Members have a say in the direction of the Council by voting for our board of directors, and are eligible to serve on the board.

Supporting their community - The contributions of members help us to remain at the forefront regarding social issues.

Membership remained consistent at 93 memberships in 2014.

Membership by Category

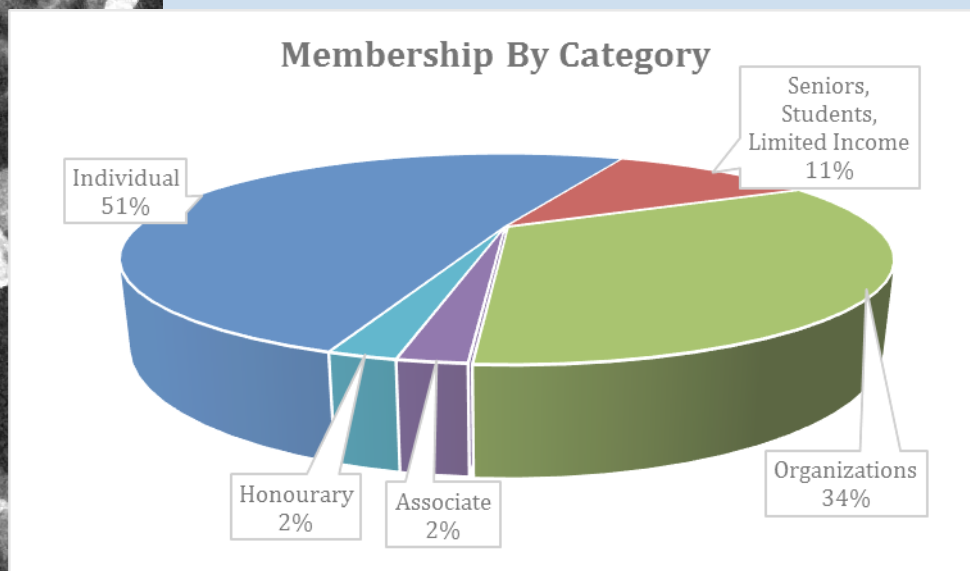
Individual - 48

Senior, Students, Limited Income – 10

Organizations - 30

Associate - 2

Honourary - 3



2014-2015 Board of Directors

President

Vasant Chotai

Policy Committee

Rose Marie Tremblay (Chair)

Erin LaRocque

Finance Committee

Doug Meggison (Chair)

Anne Stevenson

Fund Development Committee

Bridget Stirling (Chair)

Vasant Chotai

Board Development Committee

Doug Meggison (Chair)

Advocacy Committee

Vasant Chotai (Chair)

Candas Jane Dorsey

Bridget Stirling

Dave Trautman

2015-2016 Board of Directors Candidates

First Term - 1st Year Candidates:

Dave Trautman

Erin LaRocque

Second Term - 1st Year Candidates:

Bridget Stirling

Anne Stevenson

Candas Jane Dorsey

Second Term - 2nd Year Candidate:

Doug Meggison

Staff Members

Susan Morrissey	Executive Director
John Kolkman	Research Coordinator
Manuel Escoto	Research Assistant
Terry Jordan	Communications Officer
Stephanie Haar	Executive Assistant

Funders

- * United Way of the Alberta Capital Region
- * Edmonton Community Foundation
- * Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission
- * City of Edmonton Community Investment Grant
- * Alberta Real Estate Foundation



Bredin Centre staff talk about a pilot project to address youth homelessness during one of six ESPC Lunch and Learns held in 2014.

Partners and Supporters

- * Action to End Poverty in Alberta (AEPA)
- * Age Friendly Edmonton
- * Alberta Human Services
- * Bissell Centre
- * Boyle Street Community Services
- * Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation
- * City of Edmonton
- * Edmonton Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (ECOHH)
- * Edmonton Community Foundation
- * Edmonton Homeless Commission
- * Edmonton Journal Community Advisory Committee
- * Edmonton Poverty Elimination Steering Committee
- * Edmonton Public Library
- * Edmonton Realtors Association
- * Homeward Trust Edmonton
- * Public Interest Alberta (PIA)
- * United Way of the Alberta Capital Region
- * Urban Core Support Network (UCSN)

Volunteers

We are so grateful of our volunteers for helping us reach our mission by researching social issues, informing public discussion and influencing social policy. Thanks to all of you. We couldn't do it without your help!

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer? ESPC tries to match a volunteer's policy interests, availability and skills with volunteer opportunities such as:

- * writing research reviews
- * contributing to Fact Sheets and quarterly *fACTivists* newsletters
- * helping our community partners
- * applying to the Board of Directors
- * assisting with fundraising

To become a volunteer go to edmontonsocialplanning.ca and click on **About Us** and select **Volunteer Opportunities** or email manuele@edmontonsocialplanning.ca.

74th Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

Date: May 6, 2014 5:30 pm

Location: Edmonton Room, Stanley Milner Library, Edmonton, AB

1. Welcome and President's Remarks

The meeting was convened at 5:37 pm by Vasant Chotai, President of the Edmonton Social Planning Council, who welcomed everyone and delivered a brief opening statement. Vasant welcomed City of Edmonton Councilors Ben Henderson and Michael Walters, Rev. Dr. Bruce Miller-former MLA and all the ESPC Board members and ESPC members attending.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: MOVED by Vasant Chotai, seconded by Anne Stevenson to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: **CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes of May 8th, 2013

Motion: MOVED by Vasant Chotai, seconded by Jarrod Bayne to approve the minutes from the May 8^t, 2013 AGM as presented.

Motion: **CARRIED**

4. Award of Merit For Advocacy of Social Justice

Rose Marie Tremblay presented Award of Merit for Advocacy of Social Justice to Kathleen Quinn, Executive Director of CEASE.

5. President's Report

Vasant Chotai reflected on the work of the Board and Council for the year 2013 and asked people to review our 2013 Annual Report. He also thanked all volunteers, staff and Susan Morrissey for their great work over the 2013 year.

6. Operations Report

Susan Morrissey, Executive Director, reflected on the work of the Council and change within our community, and province for the 2013 year.

Susan Morrissey, thanked the staff, board of directors, funders and ESPC members for their continued support.

7. Presentation of Financial Report

a) Presentation of the 2013 Audited Financial statements.
Carla Walker presented the Audit Report.

Motion: MOVED by Doug Meggison, seconded by Anne Stevenson to approve the audited 2013 financial statements as presented.

Motion: CARRIED

B) Motion: MOVED by Doug Meggison, seconded by Sumeet Shinde to appoint Peterson, Walker to complete the 2014 audit.

Motion: CARRIED

Doug Meggison thanked Carla Walker for her work.

8. Board Development/Nominating Committee Report

Vasant Chotai introduced Oliver Kamau, Chair of the Board Development Committee.

A) Introduction of continuing Board Members

- * Sumeet Shinde
- * Jarrod Bayne
- * Rose Marie Tremblay
- * Oliver Kamau
- * Vasant Chotai

B) Oliver Kamau introduces new nominees to the Board

- * Janet Kluthe
- * Anne Stevenson
- * Meghan Abbott
- * Darlene Paranaque
- * Bridget Stirling

CALLS for nominations from the floor.

Doug Meggison nominated Candace Jane Dorsey to become a member of the ESPC Board.

Motion: MOVED by Oliver Kamau, seconded by Vasant Chotai, that nominations cease.

Motion: CARRIED

Motion: MOVED by Oliver Kamau, seconded by Vasant Chotai to elect the above mentioned candidate(s) to the Board of Directors of the Edmonton Social Planning Council.

Motion: CARRIED

9. Policy Committee

A) ESPC Bylaw Revision:

Rose Marie Tremblay presented and explained the changes to the Edmonton Social Planning Council's By-laws.

Motion: MOVED by Rose Marie Tremblay, seconded by Bridget Stirling to approve the amended Bylaws of the Edmonton Social Planning Council as presented.

Motion: CARRIED

B) ESPC Objects:

Motion: MOVED by Rose Marie Tremblay, seconded by Oliver Kamau to rededicate the ESPC Objects as printed.

Motion: CARRIED

10. Other Business

NONE

11. Adjournment – (adjourned at 6.40 pm)

Motion: MOVED by Vasant Chotai, seconded by Ron Chalmers to adjourn the business portion of the 74th ESPC Annual General Meeting.

Motion: CARRIED



Thanking our supporters



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