

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

*Building on our past 75 years, working towards
a healthy, just and inclusive community.*



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President's Report

The past twelve months have been witness to incredible shifts in our social landscape. New political leadership has emerged at both the provincial and federal levels. The price of oil has flatlined over months. The waitlist for affordable housing in Alberta has more than tripled in a year.

One thing has stayed constant. Over the past year, the Edmonton Social Planning Council has continued to undertake rigorous research to analyze key trends influencing change in our community and formulate evidenced-based solutions to address the challenges we collectively face. As you will see in the following pages, 2015 was another busy and successful year for our organization.

The work of the Council depends on the contributions of many. On behalf of the board, I would like to congratulate our staff for another year of exceptional work that has helped inform, spark, and influence important conversations in our community.

I would also like to recognize the outstanding contributions of my colleagues on the board. The monthly tasks of the board meeting are rarely celebrated but are a critical component in ensuring the success of the organization.

The board has also shown tremendous dedication in a number of key initiatives above and beyond their regular duties this year, including developing our new strategic framework and contributing to a revamped communications plan. I am always impressed at the quality of strategic thinking you each contribute to our decision-making process and thank you for the time and talent you devote to the organization.

Appreciation as always goes to our volunteers who contribute to the organization in a multitude of ways, and of course our members. It is the people and organizations who share our passion for social issues that continue to motivate us in our work. We look forward to our ongoing partnerships and working together towards an equitable city together.

I have no doubt the year ahead holds great things for Edmonton Social Planning Council and we look forward to sharing it with you.

—Anne Stevenson



Anne Stevenson



Edmonton in 1915 and 2011: the more things change, the more they stay the same.



A volunteer at the 2015 Homeless Memorial.

Executive Director's Report

It never ceases to amaze and surprise me how quickly a year goes by, especially when I start to reflect back on all our accomplishments. 2015 was no exception as it was chock full of many interesting projects, from GSAs (Gay Straight Alliances) to End Poverty Edmonton, to celebrating our 75th Anniversary.

We continued to work in partnership with the Edmonton Community Foundation on the third edition of *Vital Signs*, this year with a focus on Urban Aboriginals. The report included in *The Edmonton Journal* was such an important piece of work both for its education purposes as well as for advocacy.

2015 saw staff continuing the course with our work on poverty issues. We analyzed the data and wrote the report, *Tracking the Trends 13th Edition*, prepared and disseminated the first ever *Edmonton Poverty Profile*, which was used by the End Poverty Edmonton Task Force (endpovertyedmonton.ca) to establish benchmarks, and calculated and established a living wage for Edmonton. As part of both the Research Roundtable and the Income Security Working group of the End Poverty Edmonton Task Force, staff were able to contribute to the important work to end poverty in Edmonton in a generation.

Staff continued to host community lunch and learns in partnership with the Stanley Milner Library; prepared fact sheets on many topics including summarizing both the Federal and Provincial budgets; and prepared four editions of our quarterly newsletter, *The FACTivist*. Our website and social media saw an increase in traffic as the word got out about the wealth of knowledge and resources ESPC provides.



We held focus groups, made presentations to elected officials amongst others, and consulted on affordable housing, just to name a few. As you turn the pages in this report, you will see the many partners we continued to work with, the large array of initiatives we either spearheaded or participated in, and the many ways we contributed towards making Edmonton a great place to live.

As always, my sincere thanks to the staff for their hard work; the Board of Directors for their guidance and direction in their stewardship; the volunteers who continued to offer up their precious time to do research reviews; and our funders for continuing to see the impact of our work by means of continued financial support.

To the ESPC members, I am so pleased you chose to support ESPC through becoming members/maintaining your membership. There are many options out there for ways to contribute to your community, and I am glad you see the value in supporting our work.

We had some staff and volunteers leave us this past year to go on to other opportunities. To them I express my sincere thanks for their contributions. Time does not stand still, and there are so many worthwhile causes and projects for consideration. Again, I am glad that ESPC was a place they chose to impart some of their skills and knowledge.

Looking forward, I am truly excited about our new strategic framework. This new framework will help guide our work, ensure we stay focused, and better communicate to the community the role that ESPC plays in building a strong community.

I invite you to stay in touch and connect with ESPC through various means to remain informed of what we are doing in 2016. I can promise you, it will be another very interesting year.

—Susan Morrissey



Board Development Committee Report

At the 2015 Annual General Meeting, the Council welcomed five new first-year directors and thereby brought the board complement to ten out of a maximum twelve directors. Over the following months, two directors resigned. The Council Board thanks Christine Baron and Bridget Stirling for their service.

Since the Board had the minimum number of eight stipulated in the bylaws, we were going to wait until nearer the AGM 2016 to replenish our ranks. However, Alexandra Seaman stepped forward, was interviewed by the Board Development Committee, and was subsequently introduced to the Board with recommendation for immediate seating. Alexandra was officially brought onto the Board in February 2016, and will join the list of Board members who are offering for election at the AGM.



At the time of writing, efforts are underway to obtain nominations with consent for election to the Council Board. Per the Council bylaws, nominations from the floor are also welcome.

At the 2015 annual general meeting, bylaws were changed so that the limit on number of terms served increased from a possible two 2-year terms to three 2-year terms. The bylaw change takes effect from the 2016 AGM and there is one candidate going forward for a third 2-year term.

During January and February 2016, the Board Development Committee worked on improving the existing explanation and questions for prospective Board members. The ESPC website now contains the updates—much thanks to staff input—and hopefully recruitment to the Board will be a straightforward process.

—Doug Meggison & Erin LaRocque

Strategic Framework Report

For 76 years, the ESPC has been an important player in social research and advocacy in the Edmonton region and beyond.

To build on this strong history, and to guide future success, the ESPC has developed a new Strategic Framework. The Framework defines a bold, new organizational vision that positions the ESPC as the community’s go-to organization for relevant, quality research on social issues.

Developed between October 2015 and March 2016, both board and staff members worked together



Edmonton, 1950s

to identify options for the future of the organization. Mark Holmgren Consulting aided the planning process by providing advice and facilitation assistance through several working sessions. These sessions allowed staff and board members to grapple with defining the way ahead for ESPC. The result is a framework that will guide decision making in the organization and clearly articulates ESPC’s role in the community.

An important component of the framework is a revised mission statement: “Through rigorous research, detailed analysis, and community engagement, we deepen community understanding of social issues, influence policy, and spark collaborative actions that lead to positive social change.”

The Framework also establishes three impact statements—high-level statements that define the organization’s desired outcomes—through our work, we seek to achieve:

- An informed community that is knowledgeable about social issues, challenges, and potential actions;

- An engaged community that works together to determine priorities and organize efforts; and
- A changed community that benefits from positive social change.

A set of guiding principles help to describe the type of organization we strive to be. For example, the Framework directs the ESPC to be an independent and non-partisan organization that prioritizes research that can lead to action.

The plan also prioritizes working with diverse partners and ensuring a wide range of audiences can access our reports.

The Framework also defines a set of strategies to guide the operational activities of the ESPC. These strategies confirm the Council’s leadership role in conducting and disseminating research to help

Edmontonians understand current issues, policies, and potential courses of action. The strategies also reaffirm our commitment to work in partnership with other organizations to leverage resources and achieve shared goals.

The Framework defines several strategic shifts for the organization.

For example, the Framework directs the Council to focus on supporting learning outcomes and capacity building for our partner organizations. The Framework also commits to enhancing the way we share information, whether through online forums or in-person events.

Moving forward, the Framework will guide the development of an operations plan and a communications strategy for the organization. To obtain a copy of the Strategic Framework, visit www.edmontonsocialplanning.ca.



Our new vision and mission statements

—ESPC Board of Directors

Finance Report

In December 2014, the Edmonton Social Planning Council board approved a balanced 2015 budget. A glance at the actual statement of operations for 2015 shows that for the second year in a row, the ESPC realized a surplus in operations. This was about 5.6% over all expenses.

This surplus will remain in unrestricted funds until it is used for operations or transferred in whole or in part to restricted funds. The Board will make an informed decision about this after the 2016 AGM.

ESPC realized a surplus in 2014, and the Board reasoned at the time that this would be a one time occurrence. In the face of financial uncertainty, the Board decided to give all employees a one-time payment at year end, pro-rated to hours worked, rather than a percentage wage increase. Percentage increases are built in to costs and are paid into the future. One-time payments are just that. To achieve a modicum of fairness in this situation, a 1% increase was made to the employer share of the employees' pension arrangements, effective January 1, 2015.

As 2015 rolled by, our quarterly financial reports indicated another surplus was likely. Leading up to the 2016 budget year, the Board decided to offer a percentage wage increase to all employees. Since salaries and benefits make up more than two-thirds of operations expense, the percentage wage increase that took effect January 1, 2016, may absorb some of the accrued surplus. In any event, the 2016 budget is also a balanced budget and was approved on November 10, 2015.

The 2015 surplus and the 2014 surplus derived from exceptional work by all staff.



All non-profits are under pressure to use social entrepreneurial approaches to maximize grant and project funding, largely because core funding does not increase very much or very often. It is a constant stress on the organization to maintain our financial balance. In 2015, because project revenue was not as much as the previous year, core funding from United Way of the Alberta Capital Region showed a relative increase to 55.7% of revenue (2014: 49.5%, 2013: 54.7%). The amount of the United Way contribution to our core funding had been the same for several years, but will increase by 1.5% in 2016. ESPC has been a member agency of the United Way since inception.

Council continues to do a volunteer casino every second year. These revenues represented 10% of our 2015 operations year (2014: 8.4%, 2013: 12%).

The ESPC's August 9–10 2015 Casino realized \$81,313 which will be used over the two year period until the expected 2017 Casino. There were 24 individual volunteers recruited from the ESPC membership and friends of the ESPC to staff our summer event.

In addition, we had one modest fund raiser as part of our 75th anniversary events. This was the silent auction held June 13, 2015 at the home of Marie Chidley and Doug Meggison. \$344 was raised—not a large sum—but a pleasant time was had by the thirty guests.

Council executive director Susan Morrissey has continued to successfully—and dare we say relentlessly—pursue and capture fee-for-service research and evaluation contracts. Don McFarlane continues as our contract bookkeeper, and administrative assistant Stephanie Haar takes responsibility for most postings.

Our 2015 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,
and Gwen Feeney, member

Committees and Coalitions

To fulfil 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 2015 ESPC worked with:

- Action to End Poverty in Alberta
- Age Friendly Edmonton
- Alberta Poverty Network
- Alberta Quality of Life Commission
- Campaign 2000
- CEASE—Building Blocks for Families Project
- 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 Journal Community Advisory Committee
- End Poverty Edmonton Information and Research Roundtable
- End Poverty Edmonton 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 Funded Partner Network

Funders

Nonprofits rely on funders to continue their work. Our funders believe in our mission and support our work. Thank you to our 2015 funders:

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

Partners and Supporters

Our partners and supporters help us in a variety of ways, from pooling resources to hosting our events. We’re pleased to have worked with these excellent groups in 2015:

- Capital Region Housing
- City of Edmonton
- Edmonton Community Foundation
- Edmonton Public Library
- Edmonton Realtors Association



1

Our 75th



Held our 75th Anniversary Launch and Media Event at City Hall, with 90 guests.

2

Vital Signs



In partnership with ECF, launched the 2015 Vital signs with 150 guests.

3

A Profile of Poverty in Edmonton



Presented to four groups including The United Way and E4C, reaching a total of 82 people.

4

Low Income



Shared our research with 20 board and staff members at the John Howard Society.

5

Poverty Trends



Spoke on poverty trends with Edmonton Funders Network at the United Way.

6

Food Security



Susan was the guest speaker at the Meals on Wheels AGM, sharing research on poverty and food security in Edmonton.

7

Tenancy



John presented his research findings on Understanding Tenancy Failures and Successes to Homeward Trust.

8

Consultations



At the request of Minister of Finance Joe Ceci, ESPC organized and hosted a pre-budget consultation group for 62 stakeholders.

9

To CoE

Presented to City of Edmonton Executive Committees on Affordable Housing, Realizing Housing Potential, and Low Income Transit Passes.

10

Co-Sponsors



ESPC and ECOHH co-sponsored an all-candidates forum on housing for the federal election.

PRESENTATIONS

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2015 Lunch and Learns

Our vision: A healthy, just and inclusive community.

The Lunch and Learns held in 2015 focused on community building.

How did ESPC help others make Edmonton into a stronger community?

January



March

Family Literacy with Joanna Grad

We learned how literacy weaves through all aspects of family and community and is the foundation for all other learning. It's an approach to learning that links adult education, parent education, and preschool and primary education to enhance the literacy of both adults and children.

Community Mapping with Deborah Morrison

We learned how an Edmonton organization is using the latest geographic information systems and community mapping technologies to enhance the local delivery of social programs and services.

34 Attendees

Poetry, Imagination, Reality with Candas Jane Dorsey

We were reminded yet again that poetry in all its forms, whether in words, music or visuals, is a practical tool of social imagination.



April

One of Us

May

Yarn Bombing with Cailin Mills

We heard about a new form of public art. While graffiti may be expressive, territorial, socio-political commentary, or vandalism, yarn bombing is about reclaiming and personalizing sterile or cold public places.



June

Creating an Age-Friendly Community with Donna Durand

We learned strategies communities can use to better address the needs of their seniors.

Senior Friendly™

September

Why We Need More Bike Lanes with Jeremy Derksen
Jeremy argues that with the Ice District, LRT expansion, the Brewery District, and increasing urban density funnelling more people than ever before into the downtown core, investing thinly stretched infrastructure dollars on a low percentage travel mode will actually improve traffic flow.

Access for Everyone



2015

A little of this, a little of that:
2015 was a great year for us.

Here's a look back at some of
the work we did, fun we had,
and contributions we've made.

Whether it was kicking it up at
City Hall or the Metro Cinema,
or expressing our sorrow at the
Homeless Memorial, our board,
members, volunteers, and
staff made a lasting mark on
Edmonton. Here's to 2015!

January

January 10th saw us kicking off our 75th Anniversary at City Hall.

On January 31st, we co-hosted *We Are Listening—Sparking Public Conversation on GSAs*, an event held in response to the introduction of Bill 10, which would allow Alberta school boards to reject student requests to create peer-support groups known as gay-straight alliances.



Vasant Chotai & Susan Morrissey receive a certificate of congratulations from Mayor Don Iveson

The event, moderated by Ward I City Councillor Andrew Knack, was presented by the City of Edmonton Youth Council, Pride Centre of Edmonton, Edmonton Social Planning Council, and Public Interest Alberta.

February

We released our final report *We Are Listening—Sparking Public Conversation on GSAs*, with testimony from youth, parents, educators and concerned citizens. Emailed to every MLA in the province, we believe that this report helped the Alberta government in their decision to amend Bill 10 so that it requires all schools to establish GSAs on school property.

March

ESPC sponsored Terry Jorden and his band to play at the 5th United Way Red Tie Gala.

April

On April 17, we went to the movies! We teamed up with director Anne Wheeler, actress Rebecca Jenkins, and The Film and Video Arts Society of Alberta to host a 25th anniversary screening of the film *Bye Bye Blues*, which is set in Edmonton during WWII, a special time for us at the ESPC! WWII served as a catalyst to increase awareness and programs to serve those less fortunate.

May

Our 75th AGM? How time flies! Check out the minutes a little later on in the report.



Terry Jorden and Richard Monkman get ready to perform at the United Way Red Tie Gala

June

June saw the release of our report on Edmonton's living wage, *More than Minimum: Calculating Edmonton's Living Wage*.

Organizations in the city are now using our data on living wage to benchmark wage expectations in employment programs that they negotiate for on behalf of their clients.

On June 5th, we co-hosted the annual Homeless Memorial. We paid our respects and pledged to continue our work in improving the lives of the poor.

July

We released our Spring fACTivist, focusing on affordable housing. In it, nine Edmontonians told us what affordable housing meant to them.



Elder Jerry Wood at the Homeless Memorial

August

We held our casino nights at the Baccarat. Thanks to all our volunteers who helped make this night excellent!

Thanks also to our Social Justice Intern, Andrew Ha, who researched and prepared a report titled *Issues in the Treatment of Youth in Conflict at the Youth Restorative Action Project*. Watch for it on our website in spring 2016!

September

Our report *A Profile of Poverty in Edmonton* was included as a resource in End Poverty Edmonton's *End Poverty in a Generation Strategy*. Thanks John Kolkman and Manuel Escoto for your excellent work!



December 3, 2015, sharing hot chocolate and a roaring fire

October

We launched the *2015 Edmonton Vital Signs* report on October 6th, a partnership between the Edmonton Community Foundation and the ESPC. Through our research findings, this publication offers a richer understanding of the issues and contributions of the Edmonton urban Aboriginal population.

November

Autumn is always an exciting season for us, and 2015 was no exception! After releasing *Vital Signs*, we released *Tracking the Trends!* John Kolkman, our Research Coordinator, said about the publication: "An overarching message in this year's *Tracking the Trends* is that—following several years of strong employment and income growth—Edmonton is entering a period of increased uncertainty due to a collapse in oil and natural gas prices. The impact of this change is starting to show up in some of the trends we follow," a prescient message indicating how important research and organizations like the ESPC are to developing policy.

On the 26th, we held our annual bake sale in support of the ESPC United Way Employee Campaign. With the support of volunteers and staff we raised about \$300.

December

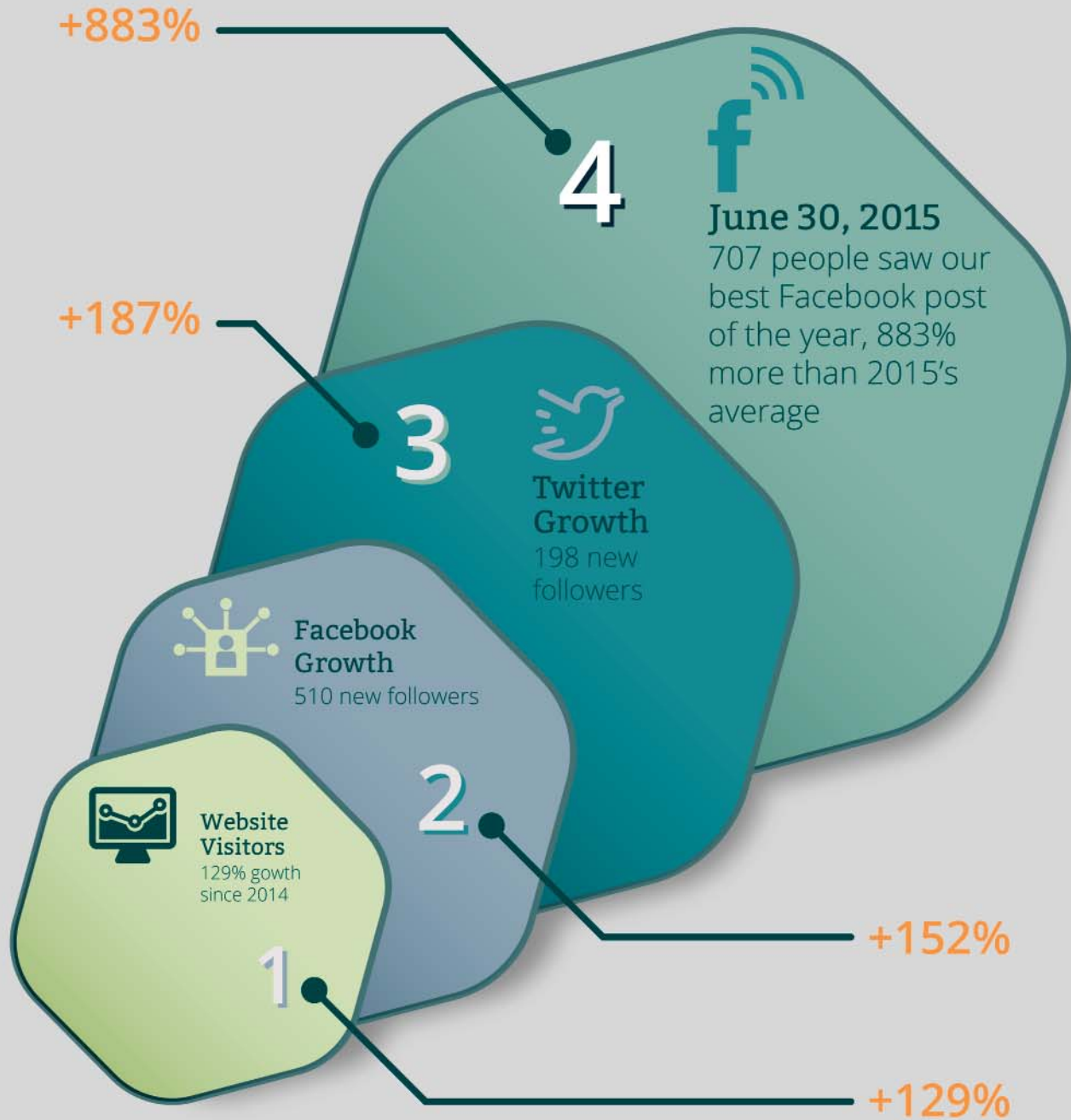
In a new twist for our annual seasonal celebration, we took the party outdoors and welcomed the community with a roaring fire and hot chocolate. What a delicious way to participate in Edmonton's WinterCity initiative!

We also said goodbye and thank you to Manuel Escoto, whose career path has taken him away from us. Best of luck, Manuel!

At the end of the month, we said goodbye to Terry Jorden, who has moved on to the next step in his career. Thanks for everything Terry, and good luck!

in review

Social Media 2014–2015

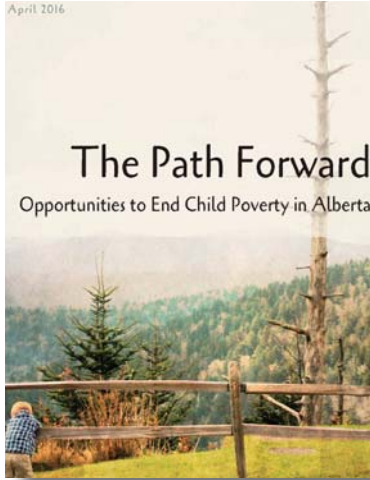


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Where We're Headed

After 75 years, it's time to think about our next 75.

With the departures of Manuel Escoto and



Our highly lauded poverty report

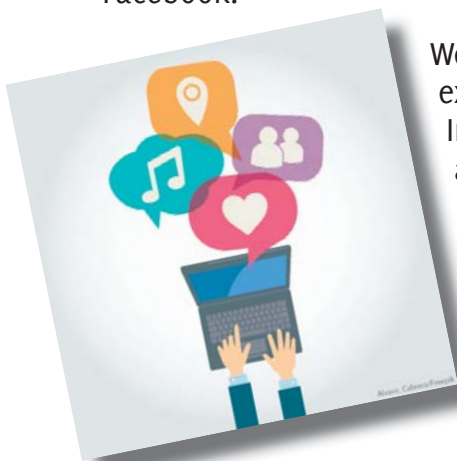
Terry Jorden, we've hired new staff. Please welcome Rebecca Fletcher, Communications Officer, and Jihan Sharifi, Research Officer and Volunteer Coordinator. We look forward to seeing their work highlighted in the

2016 annual report!

Staff continue to provide stability and mentorship in the office as we work towards our future.

With the contribution of the new strategic framework from the Board, 2016 is shaping up to be an exciting year.

Rebecca has added new social media channels on a trial basis. As research into social trends indicates that millennials are more likely to donate, and are highly influenced by their peers, 2016 seems like the ideal time to branch beyond Twitter and Facebook.



We are currently experimenting with Instagram, Periscope, and Pinterest. We've also added a LinkedIn page, and we encourage everyone to link their profiles to ours.

Jihan has begun showcasing her excellent research skills, working on a mixed-methods project funded by the Edmonton Community Foundation.

2016 sees the continuation of Lunch and Learns, where we have the opportunity to engage with community members and inform them about social issues and share the excellent work being done by social agencies.



Through our research findings and regular publications including our quarterly newsletter, the fACTivist, FACT Sheets, and our popular electronic research updates, we will continue to expand knowledge of social issues and best practices to address the key social issues in our community, including poverty, homelessness, and food security. We continue to present our work to elected officials, people working in the field, and students. At the date of printing, our work has been cited 57 times in other academic work since 2006.



Spring 2016, outside the ESPC offices



Connect with us today! @edmontonspc



75 Years of the ESPC

The Beginning

Lillian Thomson arrives in Edmonton on January 27 to begin work as ESPC's first executive director.

A Continuing Bond

The United Community Fund is formed (a precursor to the United Way), and the ESPC negotiates a "special relationship as a planning organization with the fund" because the ESPC's work was "broader than that of the Fund as it reflected a different type of membership."



A Rocky Start

The ESPC faces criticism because other agencies aren't completely sure what its mandate is. ESPC changes its structure and enters a period of growth.

A Milestone Publication

In 1972, the ESPC undertakes a major research project about a "Decent Standard of Living" in an effort "to be in a position to lead policy development not simply react to government proposals relative to this subject."

The Future

Will Edmonton have met its 10-year goal to end homelessness? Will Canada have eliminated food insecurity? Will child poverty be eliminated? What social justice issue will ESPC face down in the next decade?

A Major Goal

The ESPC focuses its work on poverty.



A New Era

ESPC moves into the digital age with a website, access to digital resources, and social media accounts.

An Excellent Idea

ESPC begins Brown Bag lunches as an effort to engage Board Members in social issues. They immediately become popular with the public.



Design and Icons by Freepik.com/Icons by flaticon.com/Information from Mildon, Marsha. (1990). A wealth of voices: A history of the Edmonton Social Planning Council 1940–1990. Canada: Edmonton Social Planning Council.

membership survey results

why are you a member?*

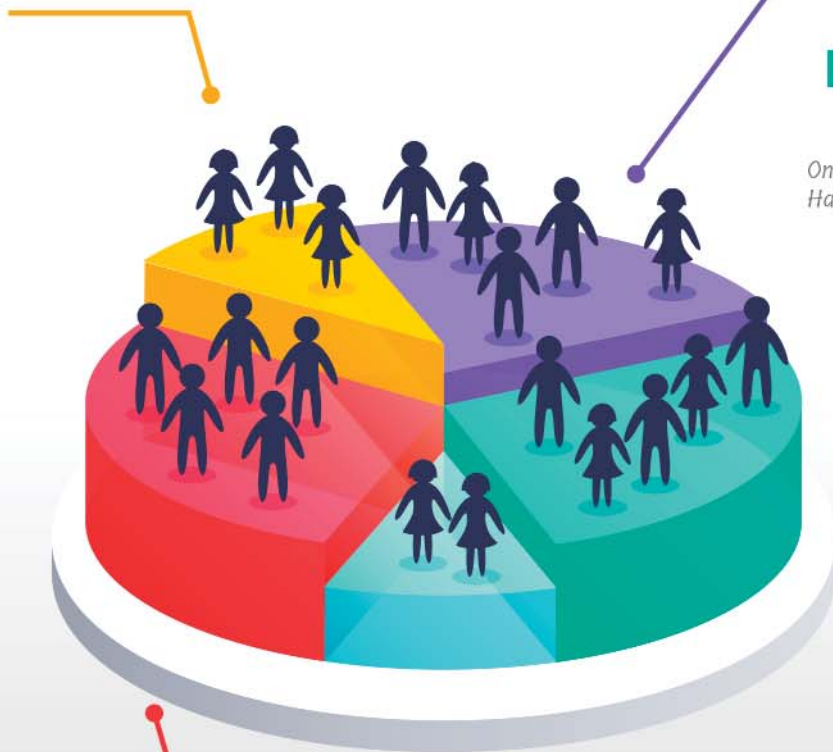
The work of the ESPC supports my own work38%
 I believe that my membership helps me make
 a difference in Edmonton43%
 I want to keep informed about social issues67%

how do you stay informed about our work?*

Reading emails and/or publications76%
 Social media38%

how do you access our resources?

Online only29%
 Hard copy and/or online67%



The strength of our voice is dependent upon the support of people and organizations concerned about social issues—people like you. By getting involved with the Edmonton Social Planning Council, you add your voice to our message of positive social development and policy change.

Join today!
<http://edmontonsocialplanning.ca/index.php/membership-fees>

perceived effectiveness of mission

74%
 "... always offering information on very current issues."

average rated value of membership

7.5/10
 "... more community focus groups on key issues."

*Respondents could choose more than one answer. Totals will add up to more than 100%.

Volunteers and Volunteering

Every year, we count on our volunteers to help us reach our mission by researching social issues, writing articles, and helping in community engagement. Not only could we not do our work without them, our volunteers expand our reach exponentially.



Volunteers with Raise the Roof sold toques at our seasonal celebration

Thank you, volunteers, for helping craft our message, and for spreading it among your networks!

This year, we extend a special thank you to everyone who worked at our casino nights. We hold casinos every two years to raise funds, and to say it's a lot of work is an understatement. We appreciate your hard work!

We gratefully submit an anonymous shout-out to everyone who participated in our focus groups. In 2015, we held four focus groups on affordable housing for Capital Region Housing. Focus groups help inform our research. To those individuals who shared their stories and opinions with us—you know who you are—thank you.

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer? ESPC matches volunteers' availability, interests, and skills with volunteer opportunities such as:

- applying to the Board of Directors
- assisting with fundraising contributing to fACTivist newsletters
- helping our community partners
- writing research reviews

For more information on becoming a volunteer, go to edmontonsocialplanning.ca and click on **About Us**, then select **Volunteer Opportunities**.

You may also email our new Research Officer, Jihan Sharifi, at researchofficer@edmontonsocialplanning.ca.

Who We Are

2015-2016 Board of Directors

President: Anne Stevenson

Treasurer: Doug Meggison

Board Directors

- Madeleine Baldwin
- Candas Jane Dorsey
- Gwen Feeny
- Erin LaRoque
- Alexandra Seaman
- Cody Spencer
- David Trautman

2016-2017 Board of Directors Candidates

(At time of publication)

First Term, 1st Year Candidates:

- Alexandra Seaman
- Maxwell Harrison

First Term, 2nd Year Continuing Candidates:

- Madeleine Baldwin
- Gwen Feeny
- Erin LaRoque
- Cody Spencer
- David Trautman

Second Term, 1st Year Candidates:

- Candas Jane Dorsey

Third Term, 1st Year Candidate:

- Doug Meggison

2015 Staff Members

Executive Director, Susan Morrissey

Research Coordinator, John Kolkman

Research Assistant, Manuel Escoto

Communications Officer, Terry Jorden

Executive Assistant, Stephanie Haar



L-R, front: Susan Morrissey, 2014-2015 Board President Vasant Chotai, Manuel Escoto; L-R, back: Terry Jorden, John Kolkman

75th Annual General Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2015

5:30–6:30pm

1. Welcome and President's Remarks

The meeting was convened at 5:38 p.m. by Vasant Chotai, President of the Edmonton Social Planning Council, who welcomed everyone and delivered a brief opening statement. Vasant welcomed Kate Quinn from CEASE and former recipient of the Award of Merit, Richard Feehan, new MLA, Sheila Pittman from the United Way, Bryan Sandiland, Peter Faid, former Executive Director of the ESPC and all the ESPC Board and ESPC members attending.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: MOVED by Perri Garvin, seconded by Candace Jane Dorsey to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion: CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes of May 6th, 2014

Motion: MOVED by Candace Jane Dorsey, seconded by Rose Marie Tremblay to approve the minutes from the May 6th, 2014 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 the City of Edmonton Youth Council and Youth Action on Poverty.

5. President's Report

Vasant Chotai reflected on the work of the Board and Council for the year 2014 and asked people to review our 2014 Annual Report.

He thanked past board members, current board members and ESPC staff for their great work and support during his tenure on the board.

6. Operations Report

Susan Morrissey, Executive Director, reflected on the work of the Council and change within our community, and province for the 2014 year and referenced the work we did in early 2015 on the city of Edmonton's Poverty report. She is optimistic on the future projects already begun in 2015.

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

7. Presentation of Financial Report

Doug Meggison, Chair of the ESPC Finance committee reported on the 2014 financial activities of the Council.

a) Presentation of the 2014 Audited Financial statements. Carla Walker presented the Audit Report.

Motion: MOVED by Anne Stevenson, seconded by Dave Trautman to approve the audited 2014 financial statements as presented.

Motion: CARRIED

b) **Motion:** MOVED by Doug Meggison, seconded by Bridget Stirling to appoint Peterson, Walker to complete the 2015 audit.

Motion: CARRIED

Doug Meggison thanked Carla Walker for her work.

8. Board Development/Nominating Committee Report

Vasant Chotai introduced Doug Meggison, Interim Chair of the Board Development Committee.

Doug Meggison thanked retiring board member Vasant Chotai for his work over the past 4 year on the ESPC Board and presented him with a token of appreciation.

- a)** Introduction of continuing Board Members
- Bridget Stirling
 - Anne Stevenson
 - Doug Meggison
 - Candas Jane Dorsey
- b)** Doug Meggison introduces new nominees to the Board
- Erin LaRocque
 - Dave Trautman
 - Madeleine Baldwin
- c)** CALLS for nominations from the floor.
- Anne Stevenson nominated Cody Spencer and Christine Baron to become a members of the ESPC Board of Directors.
 - Bridget Stirling nominated Gwen Feeny to become a member of the ESPC Board of Directors.

Motion: MOVED by Doug Meggison, seconded by Candas Jane Dorsey, that nominations cease.

Motion: CARRIED

Motion: MOVED by Anne Stevenson, seconded by Candas Jane Dorsey 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 amendment to the Edmonton Social Planning Council's Bylaw 6.1.3.3.

Motion: MOVED by Dave Trautman, seconded by Vasant Chotai that be it resolved that Bylaw 6.1.3.3 is repealed, and replaced by the following: "The term of office shall be two years. Directors shall be eligible to serve a maximum of three consecutive terms of office. A Director having served three consecutive terms of office shall remain off the Board for one year before begin eligible for re-election."

Motion: CARRIED

10. Other Business

NONE

11. Adjournment–(adjourned at 6.50 pm)

Motion: MOVED by Candas Jane Dorsey, seconded by Perri Garvin to adjourn the business portion of the 75th ESPC Annual General Meeting.

Motion: CARRIED

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!



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Edmonton Social Planning Council
Suite 37, 9912 - 106 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 1C5

T: 780.423.2031
F: 780.425.6244
E: info@edmontonsocialplanning.ca