

Task Force on Poverty Elimination
Information and Research Round Table Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

CN Tower, Room 820

In attendance: Katie Soles, Fiona Cavanagh, Peter Faid, John Kolkman, Allan Undheim, Deanna Williamson, Pieter deVos, Jolene Volpe, Ward Antoniuk, Kris Andreychuk, Lucenia Ortiz, Bin Lau, Janice Melnychuk, Marian Bruin

Regrets:

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action items
Task Force (TF) Road Map and Critical Milestones	Katie Soles presented the TF Road Map and Critical Milestones	
Updates from the April 30, 2014 TF meeting	Jolene provided an overview of the April 30 TF meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The TF developed a critical path for their work, including some items they would like the roundtable to undertake• Requested that the work be completed in advance of their next meeting on May 27	
Presentation by Allan Undheim - Edmonton Poverty Elimination Strategy and Steering Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions and discussion about presentation and relationship to Information Research Round Table (IRRT) work	Allan provided an overview of the Edmonton Poverty Elimination Strategy and Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kris to upload the foundational research cited in the reports to Basecamp
Discussion and initial development of parameters/scope and criteria to guide our work as a committee	Initial TF requests were presented <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recommendation of a specific definition of poverty• Briefing on the various models and frameworks that have been developed relating to poverty in Alberta and Canada	Request 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter to draft a response to the first request based on Peter Townsend's definition, incorporating the Low Income Measure• IRRT to review and provide feedback, once posted to Basecamp

		Request 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRRT to recommend, and share, suggested models and frameworks to inform the development of the second request
Revised Terms of Reference (ToR) and responses to key questions from last meeting	The revised ToR was reviewed and accepted	
IRRT Liaison and key information to provide to the TF for their next meeting	Suggested that, like the ART, the TF liaison rotate amongst the membership of the IRRT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> John is scheduled to present at the upcoming TF meeting – will act as liaison
Additional IRRT members-skills and expertise needed	IRRT received a membership inquiry for consideration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decisions concerning additions to the IRRT will be based on skill and expertise gaps in the IRRT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRRT membership to reflect on the skills and expertise necessary

Questions and suggestions from the first meeting

1. Should the role of the IRRT be to take focused and meaningful action on the five Focus Areas for Action cited in [Edmonton's Poverty Elimination Steering Committee Summary Report](#)?
2. Should the IRRT produce a series of potential options, pros/cons, tensions and implementation considerations related to the foundational poverty elimination work done to date?

Comments and suggestions

- Two step process communication between the IRRT and TF
- A coming together of the IRRT and TF at various points
- Possibility of a half-day IRRT/TF facilitated session to foster a common language and starting place
- Obtain clarity on the geographic scope of the undertaking
- Suggested reframe from poverty elimination as 'family economic success'
- Propose long terms solution with short terms goals – alleviation strategies that have the potential to eliminate poverty
- Inform the guiding path to poverty elimination with the experiential perspective unearthed in [Engaging Edmontonians to Thrive and Prosper: What We Heard](#)
- Information should be presented visually (e.g. infograms) when possible to facilitate comprehension
- The proposed definition aligns with the five Focus Areas for Action cited in [Edmonton's Poverty Elimination Steering Committee Summary Report](#)
- IRRT funds are available to support research and writing
- Engage grad student(s) in the process – Fiona has inquired with Dr Alison Taylor regarding her spring session on poverty