



City of Edmonton

COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

2011 Annual Report







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VISION, MISSION AND MANDATE

Vision

A front-line partner with citizens and communities—committed to creating a safe, healthy and vibrant city.

Mission

The Community Services Advisory Board is a diverse group of citizens that provide a community perspective on People, Parks and Places, to City Council and the Community Services Department.

Mandate

The mandate of the The Community Services Advisory Board is to facilitate informed decision making by:

- gathering information and sharing knowledge;
- raising issues and awareness;
- providing advice and recommending policy;
- making recommendations on funding; and
- offering alternative strategies.

BOARD HISTORY

In 1997, the City of Edmonton created the Community Services Department by amalgamating the Parks and Recreation Department and the Community and Family Services Department. At the time of the amalgamation, two separate bodies served in advisory capacities to City Council in relation to services provided by each of the previous departments. These advisory groups were the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Advisory Board (PRCAB) and the Community and Family Services Advisory Committee (CAFSAC).

The mandate of the Community Services Department was to provide a continuum of integrated “people” services.

On January 5, 1999 City Council (“Council”) approved Bylaw 11926 which repealed the Community and Family Services Advisory Committee Bylaw, and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Advisory Board Bylaw, and enacted the Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB).

Actions of the Advisory Board are directed by the Board’s Terms of Reference. Duties and responsibilities assigned by Council include:

1. Provide advice to Council and the Community Services Department about Community Services’ three-year business plan, its strategic plan, and its funding priorities;
2. Raise issues and offer advice related to the scope of the Department’s mandate (arts, cultural, multicultural, parks, recreation, sports and social policy);
3. Make recommendations to the General Manager of the Department about the allocation of funds as required under the Family and Community Support Services legislation;
4. Make recommendations to Council for applicable Community Investment Grants, and other awards as required;
5. Undertake activities and programs as mutually agreed to between the Board and Council, or the Board and the Department.

In 2011, the Community Services Advisory Board had 13 volunteer positions filled by citizens of Edmonton who possessed tremendous diversity of experience in human services and community development. All members were appointed by City Council. The General Manager of the Community Services Department, or his or her designate, also sits on the Board and possesses all the rights of the Board members, except the right to vote.





BOARD MEMBERSHIPS 2011

*Community Members

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Carl Brodie
Barry Cavanaugh (Chair)
Crystal Graham
Wendy Lickacz
Blair Morling
Mike Sandomirsky

Craig Stumpf-Allen
(Vice-Chair)
Vicki Van Vliet Vaitkunas
Linda Wood Edwards
Catherine Workun
Sharon Yeo

Sarah Leib
Andi McDonald
Phillip O'Hara (May
appointment)
Logan Mardhani-Bayne (May
appointment)

The Board thanks Carl Brodie, Craig Stumpf-Allen, Wendy Lickacz and Mike Sandomirsky for their many years of service to the Board. The Board appreciates all the time and effort they provided toward bettering the Community.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Craig Stumpf-Allen (Chair)
Catherine Workun (Vice-Chair)
Mike Sandomirsky

Wendy Lickacz
Annah Jaricha*
San San Sy*

Lan Chan-Marples*

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT OPERATING GRANT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Blair Morling (Chair)

Subcommittee—Social Services

Sharon Yeo (Chair)
Jackie Lee*
Sylvie Keane*
Karen Gibson*

Subcommittee—Social Services 2

Mike Sandomirsky (Chair)
Lorraine Chaput *
Murray Paterson*
Catherine Shier *

Subcommittee—Recreation/Amateur Sport

Carl Brodie (Chair)
George Multamaki*
John Skone*
Helen Rusich*

Subcommittee—Multicultural

Vicki Van Vliet Vaitkunas (Chair)
Maryetta Harper*
Michaela Roman*
Anne Marie Kallal*

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sharon Yeo (Chair)
John Skone*
Vicki Van Vliet Vaitkunas

Dereje Berenda*
Lucy Tse*
Blair Morling

Rawle Ashford Teekah*
Anne Marie Kallal*

THE WAY WE LIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Linda Wood Edwards

Vicki Van Vliet Vaikunas

Crystal Graham



STANDING COMMITTEES

Community Investment Operating Grant Committee

The Community Investment Operating Grant (CIOG) Committee provides recommendations to the Board on the allocation of Community Investment Operating Grants, in accordance with City Policy C211F—Community Investment Grants to Organizations and Individuals and Community Investment Grant Bylaw 14157.

In addition, the CIOG Committee provides recommendations to the Board on the administration of the program, including the three-year funding program priorities and guidelines.

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee provides input to the Community Services Department (the “Department”) and to CSAB on issues and initiatives related to diversity.

The D & I Committee worked with Community Services to review the \$10,000 and \$20,000 grant applications submitted through the Emerging Immigrant and Refugee Community (EIRC) Grant Program. Input and direction for the 2012 EIRC Grant was also provided by the Committee.

FCSS Committee

The Family and Community Social Services (FCSS) Committee provides advice to the Community Services Advisory Board and the General Manager, or delegate, of the Department about the allocation of funds as required under the Family and Community Support Services legislation. In addition, this committee provides advice to the Board and the Department regarding FCSS funding-related issues (e.g. funding priorities, funding to new programs).

The Way We Live Committee

The Way We Live (TWWL) is Edmonton’s first people plan. The plan sets directions, establishes priorities and guides decisions about current and future people services. City Council approved The Way We Live Plan in July 2010 and the implementation plan was developed shortly after. The implementation plan will build on the extensive work Administration is currently involved in to make Edmonton one of Canada’s most livable cities.

In 2011, Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB) committed to Council to be part of the accountability process. CSAB formed an advisory committee, The Way We Live (TWWL) Committee. This committee reports directly to CSAB on the progress of the implementation of TWWL.



BOARD ACTIVITIES **2011**

The Board held seven regular meetings throughout 2011. The three standing committees of the Board and their sub-committees met at least once a month over the year and CSAB members contributed many volunteer hours. In 2011, CSAB and community members spent approximately 3,458 volunteer hours fulfilling their mandate.

During the year, the Board advised the Administration and City Council on several issues. The following are selected examples of the work of the Community Services Advisory Board, as grouped under the five duties and responsibilities identified in the Board's Terms of Reference.



Mandate 1:

Provide advice to Council and the Community Services Department about Community Services' three-year business plan, its strategic plan, and its funding priorities.

INTERACTING WITH CITY COUNCIL

- CSAB presented recommendations from the Community Investment Operating Grant (CIOG) and Hosting grants to the Community Services Committee. The recommendations were then approved by City Council.
- CSAB identified priority areas of support and concerns about the 2012 department budget. This information was presented at the City Council public hearing held November 23, 2011.
- CSAB recommended that the funded agencies provide success stories to be shared with City Council via the annual report.
- CSAB 2010 Annual Report—The Board's 2010 Annual Report was presented and reviewed by the Board and presented to the Community Services Committee.

Mandate 2:

Raise issues and offer advice related to the scope of the Department's mandate (arts, cultural, multicultural, parks, recreation, sports and social policy).

POLICY FILTER STATEMENT

CSAB uses a Policy Filter to determine appropriate areas in which it should be involved. The Policy filter reads: "On behalf of the citizens of Edmonton, CSAB will review matters of community issues and develop a viewpoint for consideration by the City of Edmonton."

EMERGING ISSUES

CSAB members regularly discuss emerging issues and determine which should receive further consideration by the Department and/or Council, or be reviewed at further subsequent Board meetings. Some issues raised in 2011:

- The Terms of References for all CSAB committees were reviewed and updated to more closely align with CSAB's mandate and the Way We Live. The Board had several discussions on member participation, time commitments and committee direction and structure.
- CSAB will continue to offer its input on the long-term strategy on not for profit space currently underway.
- There was no increase to the provincial FCSS funding in 2011, thus putting constraints on agency operations, staff retention and growth opportunities as well as the City's capacity to respond to emerging issues. CSAB continues to advocate to the Province through the Family and Community Social Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) for additional funds and has voiced its concern to Council.
- CSAB continues to be a supporter of Great Neighbourhoods and its continued work on Neighborhood Revitalization projects. The Board is provided with updates on progress throughout the year.



Mandate 3:

Make recommendations to the General Manager of the Department about the allocation of funds as required under the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) legislation.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

The Community Services Advisory Board, through Bylaw 11926 and City Policy C417A Family and Community Support Services Program, has the authority to make recommendations to the General Manager regarding the allocation of FCSS funds to not-for-profit agencies in Edmonton offering preventive social services.

One of the basic tenets of the FCSS program is that each community funds locally driven preventive social service programs that enhance the well-being of individuals, families and communities, provided the requirements of the FCSS Act and Regulation are met. FCSS funding is provided by the province and has remained status-quo; no new applications were accepted and no additional funding was available to agencies.

- The FCSS agency budget in 2011 was \$ 11,979,294 , which supported 98 programs from 72 agencies in Edmonton.
- During the 2011 budget debate, City Council agreed to provide a one time increase to the Community Services Department budget of 1 million dollars, for currently funded agencies facing emergency financial pressures. The Community Services Department, along with CSAB, offered two opportunities for submission of emergency funding applications in 2011. Approval was made for 28 requests totaling \$958,389.

- In spring 2011, FCSS Committee members, along with FCSS staff, visited those organizations that were being considered for a three year funding agreement or whose three year funding agreements were up for renewal. In September, the FCSS Committee began review of 2012 FCSS funding applications. The Committee scheduled presentations with organizations that needed to provide more information.
- The FCSS Committee held its retreat November 4–5, 2011, at which time funding recommendations were made for 2012. These recommendations were for funding in the amount of \$12,177,999.

For more information on the FCSS program and FCSS approved funding, please visit www.edmonton.ca/fcssgrant

CSAB ALSO SUPPORTED FCSS CONTRIBUTIONS TO PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS, WHICH INCLUDE:

An Ounce of Prevention

A funded partnership with REACH Edmonton, supported the advancement of the shared goal of safe and healthy communities and individuals. Using a strength-based approach, organizations applied for a grant to address the criteria of leveraging new partnerships from diverse community sectors and offering creative and innovative approaches to creating safe, healthy communities.

44 submissions were received and 11 programs were provided with funding totaling \$200,000.

Shared Services Pilot Project

The Edmonton Shared Services Steering Committee was formed in May 2009 as a result of research and a study relating to FCSS funding. Shared Services describes a model of providing services in a combined or collaborative way; sharing processes and technology.

The shared services that not-for-profits in Edmonton most frequently identified a need for included: financial management, human resource support, and coaching/mentoring. The United Way of the Alberta Capital Region acts as fiscal agent to support pilot projects for each of these shared services components.

Partners for Kids

Partners for Kids (PFK) is an evolving collaboration of funders, human services organizations and education providers working in Edmonton. The goal of PFK is to support the long term success of children and families with complex needs, many of whom have traditionally resided in inner city neighborhoods.

PFK participating organizations share the intention of embedding a strength-based framework that supports children, youth, caregivers, schools and communities.

FCSS programs reported providing services to over 226,173 individuals in 2011!

InKind Centre Partnership

CSAB continues to support the partnership between the City of Edmonton and the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region InKind Centre.

The InKind Centre provides a place that helps agencies access inkind goods that offset or better manage operating costs through the gleaning and distribution of office furniture, technology, office and program supplies, personal care products, etc. It also takes a lead role in delivering the Tools for School and Coats for Kids and Families Program. FCSS funded agencies are able to become members of the InKind Centre, with or without charitable status.

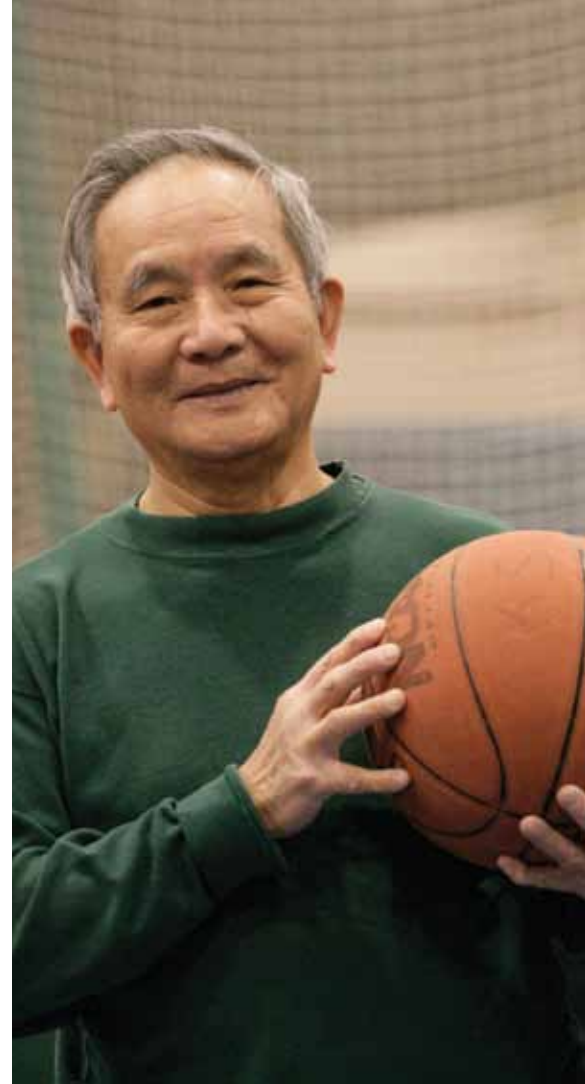
Funding to Support Aboriginal Initiatives

In addition to its annual allocation of funding to agencies serving urban aboriginal programs, FCSS participated in the collaborative granting process, which involves all three orders of government along with other funders. This is a mechanism to bring funders together to look at the same funding applications at the same time, and create an opportunity for funders to “pool” resources to support urban aboriginal initiatives in Edmonton. Wicahitowin facilitates this collaborative granting process.

Boyle Street Community Services Homeless on Parkland Outreach Work

The Homeless on Parkland Outreach is in response to the growing number of homeless people living on parkland in Edmonton. In partnership with the Park Rangers, outreach workers reach out to homeless people. The objectives are to engage with these individuals, build trust, address some immediate emergency needs and develop relationships in order to connect these individuals with other supports (including appropriate housing that lead to greater independence and reduce the likelihood of their becoming victims of crime).

The outreach work covers the City’s river valley area from 184 Street in the west to Hermitage & Rundle Park in the east. Since October 2011, the service has extended to include: the Central McDougall area, Oliver neighbourhood, and the Boyle–McCauley/ Chinatown region. The City provided the funds this project needed to hire additional staff to serve the neighbourhoods indicated above.



*FCSS Programs have reported
over 536,413 volunteer hours!*



OUTCOME MEASURES

Edmonton FCSS continues to report on the Provincial Outcomes Measures Project. The Outcomes Measures Project was initiated to support FCSS programs in the development of Program Logic Models (PLM) and to strengthen their capacity.

In order to build on current provincial models and utilize common organizational capabilities, representatives of three funders of prevention and early intervention programs; City of Edmonton FCSS, Region 6 CFSA and the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, have come together to collaborate around outcomes reporting. As a result, the Common Outcomes Working Group (COG) continues to:

- Explore and identify opportunities to increase efficiency and effectiveness.
- Work together with representatives from funded agencies to develop a common framework, common outputs, outcomes and indicators of success.

Edmonton FCSS continues to support and build capacity to encourage the use of outcome measurement as part of program evaluation by all FCSS funded programs. A team of consultants led by WellQuest Consulting Ltd. was contracted to support agency training and capacity on outcome measures.

Using the newly established data reporting system, the Outputs and Outcomes of 85 programs out of 98 were collected. From the data collected, here are some of the reported outcomes from the program participants:

81%

of **Children and Families** felt supported.

The majority of **Seniors** felt they were connected to community resources.

93%

of **Youth** increased their network of social support.

89%

of **Adults** developed skills to address personal issues.

Volunteers contributed positive change to the community.

Over **Five Sectors**,

89%

increased their network of social support.

"It is an excellent program not only for the pre-schoolers but also for the whole family. When your child started to learn his initial skills you are also learning about community activities and at the same time you get to socialize and even make friends in parent group."

Early Years and Family Support

The Early Years and Family programming primarily focuses on children 0 to 5 years of age and their families. In this sector, the Edmonton FCSS program supports one-on-one and group activities that strengthen families by increasing knowledge and skills about parenting, promote positive parenting, and increase the capacity to cope; offer information and referral; enhance life skills; and activities that nurture the bond between parents and their young children. FCSS also supports early childhood development through funding for early start/nursery school programs.

OUTCOMES:

1. Participants develop interpersonal and group skills which enhance constructive relationships among people
2. Participants have improved family functioning.
3. Participants develop independence, strengthen coping skills and become more resistant to crisis.
4. Parents develop the knowledge and skills needed to provide a nurturing environment for their children.

School-aged Children

The school-aged children programming primarily focuses on children 6 – 12 years. In this sector the Edmonton FCSS supports programs that focus on strengthening relationships, safety, self-confidence, peer acceptance and friendship; independence and healthy nutrition.

Mentoring programs for school age children are offered in the community, in schools and in groups. Through education and recreational based activities, these programs encourage school age children and their families to overcome the challenges, explore interests, and discover their personal strength to pursue their dreams.

OUTCOMES:

1. Children have developmentally appropriate skills
2. Participants increase their network of social support

Youth Sector

The primary focus is to provide youth services to individuals from 13 to 24 years of age, with particular emphasis on programs for marginalized/at risk youth facing multiple barriers to moving forward in their development.

These programs provide a range of services including information and referral, public education, advocacy, individual and group support, social, recreational and arts activities, homework help, life and leadership skills, mentoring, and volunteer opportunities. The goal of the programming is to build resiliency in youth participants through the development of self esteem and the skills necessary for moving toward healthy autonomy in adulthood.

OUTCOMES

1. Participants develop independence, strengthen coping skills and become more resistant to crisis.
2. Participants increase their network of social support.



"It is incredible to see how much of a difference spending one-on-one time with a student can make. I have noticed that by simply sitting, listening and taking the time to explain concepts and work through different questions and problems with them, is a huge help for the students. Each of the children is so special, and has so much potential, and they deserve the best quality of education possible."

“Participants demonstrate incredible courage in surviving extreme adversity and in taking control of their lives. Those who have lost family, home, friends, work, and health have shown tremendous courage in rebuilding their lives amidst threats, intimidation, and chaos.”

Adult Support Services

Adult Support Services are targeted to citizens that are over the age of 18 years old. Edmonton FCSS supports programs that deliver, preventive social services that “enhance the social well-being of individuals and families through the promotion or intervention of strategies provided at the earliest opportunity.”

Edmonton FCSS funded programs offer services that:

- Help people to develop independence, strengthen coping skills.

- Help people to develop interpersonal and group skills.
- Provide supports that help sustain people as active members of their community.

OUTCOMES

1. Participants develop independence, strengthen coping skills and become more resistant to crisis.
2. Participants have the skills needed to address identified issues.

groups by providing them with the skills they need to effect change in their own communities.

Edmonton FCSS funds community development programs that use a number of different approaches like capacity building or community economic development. The capacity building process involves supporting individuals, groups and organizations to identify their important concerns/issues and to plan and implement actions to address or resolve those concerns or issues.

Seniors

The senior's sector main focus is to provide services for individuals 55 and over. The programs provide outreach services and support to seniors who might be “at risk” due to isolation and/or have other barriers that can lead to decreased independence and quality of life. The programs provide information, referral, socializing opportunities, continuing education, self-improvement, and leisure activities for seniors in Edmonton. The programs promote health and well-being among seniors and allow seniors to enjoy healthy, productive and independent lives and to successfully cope with life's transitions, social change and community evolution.

OUTCOMES

1. Participants are sustained as active participants in the community.
2. Participants increase their network of social support.

OUTCOMES

1. Communities assume responsibility for decisions and actions which affect them and participants develop an awareness of social needs.
2. Participants have the skills needed to address identified issues.

Volunteer Support

Volunteer programs are grounded in the belief that people should have an opportunity to be of service to their community and to other human beings. The volunteer programs facilitate and support opportunities for individuals, groups and organizations to become actively involved with their community, especially, with people in need. Some of the volunteer programs activities include: volunteer coordination, recruitment, appreciation events, regular volunteer orientation/training sessions and evaluation.

OUTCOMES:

1. Participants develop an awareness of social needs and participants are sustained as active participants in the community.
2. Participants increase their knowledge and skill through their volunteer involvement.

Community Development

Community development is an integral component of FCSS. It is a process by which citizens are encouraged to participate in enhancing the quality of life of their community. Community development enables individuals and





"It gives me pleasure to use the facilities and services provided. I get physical exercise from the exercise program especially offered for seniors. I also get to interact with others at the centre. I am happy that my wife, who is physically disabled, is very well looked after at this centre. She lives in the General Hospital and this place provides her some emotional satisfaction because of interaction with people here at various events."

TRENDS IDENTIFIED BY FCSS AGENCIES, STAFF AND COMMITTEES

POVERTY

- › Increased number of families making less than \$15,000
- › Economic downturn has dramatic impact on families
- › More referrals to the food bank. More so from families of Aboriginal descent
- › Difficulty meeting basic needs
- › Unemployment

TRANSPORTATION

- › Affordability
- › Accessibility

HOUSING

- › Homelessness
- › Lack of affordable housing
- › Long waiting list

ABORIGINALS

- › Increased number of seniors and Aboriginal families

IMMIGRANT/REFUGEES

- › Increased number of refugee claimants
- › Overall increase of immigrant/refugees families to the City, including children, youth and seniors.
- › Temporary Foreign workers seeking services
- › Language barrier
- › More individuals from the ethno-cultural communities want to volunteer
- › Isolation

MORE COMPLEX ISSUES

- › Parenting challenges
- › Family violence
- › Addictions
- › Mental health

NOT-FOR-PROFITS

- › Some not-for-profit organizations may cease to exist as a result of sluggish economy
- › Increased demand for services
- › Challenge securing space for the not-for-profit sector
- › Funding stays the same while operating costs are increasing
- › Donor fatigue and government funding cuts
- › Staff recruitment and retention challenge due to low salary and benefit levels

VOLUNTEERS

- › Recruitment and retention
- › Difficulty recruiting experienced Board members
- › Decrease of volunteers due to aging
- › More willingness from volunteers to commit to short-term assignments
- › Greater support and participation of volunteers from different backgrounds and cultures



Mandate 4

Make recommendations to Council for applicable Community Investment Grants, and other awards as required.

Community Investment Operating Grants

- The Community Investment Operating Grant (CIOG) budget for 2011 was \$2,492,332. After the applications were reviewed 184 groups were recommended for funding. To increase awareness and understanding of the CIOG granting process for the following grant cycle, workshops were held to inform interested not for profit groups about the program.
- To continue support to the not-for-profit organizations that access City funding, a partnership between the Edmonton Chamber of Volunteers Organization (EVCO) and the Community Services Department was formed to offer financial training sessions. The sessions are to be launched in early 2012. The workshops were designed to make financial reporting measures simple and more manageable for not-for-profit groups.

Travel and Hosting Grants

In 2011, 49 travel applications were received and 39 were awarded to teams and individuals. The travel grants assist Edmonton residents with the cost of travel to an invitational national or international recreational or multicultural event.

Community Investment hosting grants assist eligible organizations with the hosting of provincial, national or international recreational, amateur sport or multicultural events within the city of Edmonton. Fourteen hosting grants were awarded in 2011.

Emerging Immigrant & Refugee Community Grant Program

Four CSAB members were appointed to the Diversity and Inclusion Committee (D & I). They worked together with five volunteers recruited from the community to review grant applications and advise CSAB on the EIRC programs.

The total Emerging Immigrant & Refugee Community (EIRC) budget was \$593,757 and is allocated to the following five grants:

- Community Based Project grant up to \$5,000 and \$10,000
- Community Based Matching Grant of \$20,000
- Community Event Grant
- Space Subsidy Grant

Observations and feedback in the EIRC Grant Program since its beginning in 2007 have included a growing awareness that small grass roots community organizations were increasingly attempting to address complex social issues with small project grants and, often, in isolation. This awareness provided an opportunity to encourage and fund two pilot partnership projects in 2011.

ETHNO-CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT PROJECT

This partnership of three organizations, Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Action for Healthy Communities and the Edmonton Multicultural Coalition, developed and delivered 15 workshops to members of emerging immigrant and refugee community organizations on topics related to community capacity building and organizational development.

OUT OF SCHOOL TIME SUMMER PILOT PROJECT

This partnership focused on established service providers and emerging, newcomer communities working together to deliver summer programs for 750 children and youth at ten sites across Edmonton. All organizations involved reported high levels of learning and positive outcomes for their organizations and for the children/youth participants.

The positive outcomes from both pilot partnerships led to the development of a "Program Delivery Partnership Grant" under the 2012 EIRC Grant Program. This grant will provide funding for partnerships between emerging immigrant organizations and established service providers to work in existing programs and services making them more accessible to immigrants and refugees.

For more information on the Community Investment Operating Grant visit www.edmonton.ca/ciogrant





Mandate 5

Undertake activities and programs as mutually agreed to between the Board and Council, or the Board and the Department.

Council had initiated a review of all Advisory Boards, Committees and various project groups in order to maximize the value each group contributes and move them into alignment with the Ways. The Community Services Advisory Board participated in a feedback session to provide input on its direction, mandate and level of contribution. The review will be completed in 2012.

The Board members were invited to attend the FCSSAA Provincial Conference held November 25–27, 2011.

Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA)

FCSSAA is a not-for-profit organization that is made up of representatives from the eight FCSS regions across the province. It provides representation to the Provincial government and advocates on behalf of FCSS programs around issues and challenges that impact the provision of preventive social services. The Edmonton FCSS program is located in the Edmonton/Evergreen region, which has two members appointed as representatives to the FCSSAA – one from the outlying Evergreen region, and one from the City of Edmonton FCSS program. CSAB appoints the Edmonton FCSSAA representative. In 2011, Andi McDonald was appointed to represent the FCSS Edmonton Program.

The CSAB representative to the FCSSAA provided monthly updates to the Board on the Association's activities. The 2011 FCSSAA Provincial Conference was held November 25–27, 2011. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was November 25, 2011 with Edmonton representatives attending.

The Way We Live Committee

In order to assist with "The Way We Live" (TWWL) Implementation Plan, CSAB established a TWWL Plan Committee. Terms of Reference were approved to:

- Identify and review performance measures and actions to track progress of the Implementation Plan;
- Provide advice on performance measurement results;
- Provide citizen input in an advisory capacity.

A project plan was also completed and, following a facilitated process and input from the Community Services Department, CSAB selected a dozen initiatives for the TWWL Committee to monitor.

Subsequent meetings were held with staff where the committee received updates on the measures and tracking actions that have been developed. As we need to wait a year before there is any implementation to measure, TWWL Committee has recommended speakers for CSAB meetings that relate directly to the identified priorities.





FUTURE CHALLENGES

Looking forward to 2012, the Board anticipates addressing the following priorities:

- Continued support of Great Neighbourhoods in their work to improve the livability of Edmonton's neighbourhoods and the lives of the people who live, work, and visit in them.
- Looking at more time in the strategic planning of community initiatives and partake in more high level advisory processes.
- As City Council continues its analysis of the advisory Board and committee roles, CSAB's function, role and responsibilities may evolve. Further review of the mandate of the Board and standing committees will be undertaken.
- Continued support and increased involvement in the development and implementation of The Way We Live plan.
- The impact of no increases in the provincial FCSS budget on FCSS funded programs; Edmonton FCSS funded agencies continue to operate with limited opportunity for growth.

For more information on the Community Services Advisory Board, please visit www.edmonton.ca/csadvisoryBoard or if you are interested in learning more about our other grants, please visit www.edmonton.ca/grants.



