



Task Force for the Elimination of Poverty Meeting
Thursday, June 25, 2015 4:00 - 8:00 PM
Heritage Room, City Hall

DRAFT MINUTES

Present:

Members: Mayor Don Iveson (Co-Chair), Bishop Jane Alexander (Co-Chair), Councillor Ben Henderson, Janice Melnychuk, Zahra Somani, Dr. Louis Francescutti, Fiona Cavanaugh, Jeffrey Bisanz, Maria Mayan Yvonne Chiu, Sandra Huculak, Eugene Ip, Kate Chisholm, Joe Doucet, Justin Archer, John Thomson

Regrets: Councillor Amarjeet Sohi, Mark Holmgren, Carman McNary, Sarah Eadie, Tiffany Linke-Boyko, Dr. Daniel McKennitt

Guests: Tanis Liebrich, Katie Soles, Sue Heuman, Laura Templeton, Laurie McCaffrey

COE Staff: Lyall Brenneis, Ward Antoniuk, Kate Gunn, Bin Lau, Joshua Manego, Lucenia Ortiz, Kris Andreychuk, Dallas Dyson, Mark Torjusen, Patricia Waisman, Jenny Kain

Minutes

Discussion	Actions
<p>1. Call to Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Mayor Don Iveson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.■ The May 19, 2015 minutes and the June 25 agenda were approved.■ Mayor Iveson welcomed John Thomson, Executive Director of Strategic Policy Initiatives Branch in the Policy and Community Engagement Division of Human Services.■ Mayor Iveson outlined two key decisions in this meeting:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Confirm priority recommendations identified by the Task Force members at the June 9-10 Criteria and Priority Setting Workshop. We are on the way and need to review the outcome priorities tonight and move forward.▪ Confirm our consensus vision for the EndPovertyEdmonton Plan outline - also drafted at the June 2 day workshop- to help guide our plan writer, Sue Heuman.	
<p>2. Co-Chairs Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hosted the Mayor's Breakfast with the Government Ministers and MLAs. EndPovertyEdmonton was part of the presentation.	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Successful Working Group Gathering and Thank you Last Week: Over 75 working group volunteers attended. A great event, a group of people who have helped shaped our ideas, and our plan, and who are keen to support this work to end poverty! 	
<p>3. Strategic Priorities and Actions</p> <p>A brief presentation on the key highlights of the Criteria and Priority Setting Workshop held from June 9-10, 2015 to provide a context for the discussion of the proposed strategic priorities and actions.</p> <p>Three small groups were formed to generate feedback on the five strategic priorities: Aboriginal, Human Rights, Basic Needs, Upstream Investments and Changing the Conversation. Three questions were posed to guide the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Are these the areas/ clusters that speak to you as a Taskforce? Can we get behind this? If not how would you re-label them? ■ Are the recommendations in the right cluster? ■ What are we missing? <p><u>Key points from the small group discussion</u></p> <p>Two of the three groups agreed with the overall clustering of the priority recommendations (with discussion around changing the wording). Further work needs to be done with the strategic priorities to incorporate the following feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Have some clear headlines that catch attention; make them as action statements ■ Priorities should aimed to build a sense of empowerment ■ Change the Living Wage recommendation to include a broader concept of Living Income which can include Guaranteed Annual Income ■ Add actions on skills enhancement, social enterprise, financial literacy as part of the Living Wage recommendations; it should be an employment and income strategy ■ The priorities and actions should use the language of the business community so the business sector can find themselves in the plan i.e. role of business in post-secondary education ■ Need to include a recommendation about how the City can change its operations to promote and support poverty elimination (institutionalizing actions) 	<p>Action:</p> <p>The Task Force has given the plan writer the liberty to change the wording in the remaining recommendations for clarity, consistency and impact; however the content will not be changed and incorporating the feedback and suggestions discussed at the meeting.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Review the recommendation on free public transportation; suggested free transportation for children under 12 years old; this recommendation be examined with a political lens ■ Make the strategic priorities more coherent; headings should reflect recommendations ■ Re-draw the visual to show interdependence of the four key areas (Aboriginal, Human Rights, Basic Needs, Upstream Investments) and maintaining the Changing the Conversation in the outer circle. 	
<p>4. EndPovertyEdmonton Plan Outline</p> <p>A proposed EPE Plan Outline was presented to the Task Force building on the initial proposal by Jeff Bisanz and integrating the suggestions from the June 9-10 meeting.</p> <p>There was over-all support for the draft EndPovertyEdmonton Plan outline with no major changes. The Task Force suggested the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Include narratives about barriers that people in poverty face ■ The plan a living document that can engage people and continue to evolve and be adaptive to emerging issues ■ The plan will look different from the recommendations format; it needs to be a focused, sharp and digestible document that is appealing to City Council and to the larger community. ■ The EPE Plan in September will be a document will be an accessible, engaging platform to engage the public with in the fall. ■ A compendium of the Working Groups with backgrounds, ideas and actions for people who are interested in a more complete context will accompany the plan. ■ An aspect of the plan where people can see the causes of poverty ■ Can answer the question: "What would be different in my life after September?" ■ A plan for accountability and evaluation will be included in the Implementation plan <p><u>Updated milestones and timelines:</u></p> <p>Mayor Iveson announced that the EPE Plan and report will be presented directly to City Council on September 23 instead of going through the Community Services Committee. The Task Force is a City Council committee and should report to Council; there is no provision in the TF By-Laws that indicate having to report to another Committee.</p>	

<p>In this regard, these are the milestones and timelines for our work in the coming months:</p> <p>July 17 2015- A draft text of the plan will be completed for a high level review and available for comments from Task Force members</p> <p>July 23 2015- Task Force meeting to approve draft EPE Plan with changes</p> <p>Sept 22 2015 - Task Force presents draft EPE Plan to City Council for approval in principle and get go ahead to engage, solicit input and begin implementation planning.</p> <p>October 2015- Carry out formal engagement and robust public input to validate strategy and ideas with Edmontonians; policy and experts review of the EPE Plan.</p> <p>December 15 2015- Present the engagement report and the enhanced and/or validated Strategy to City Council again in December for approval; continue with implementation plan development</p> <p>April 2016- Present the 10 year Implementation Plan to City Council for approval.</p>	
<p>5. Frameworks</p> <p>Bishop Alexander opened the discussion that this is an agenda item that has been trying to remerge on the agenda since April. Many of the Task Force members have asked that the work that was done on Frameworks be presented. There was a lot of hard work that went into developing the framework and perspectives and would like to give the groups that developed the framework and perspectives the time to share them with you.</p> <p>Members from the Aboriginal Round Table, Information and Research Roundtable and the Project Team presented four frameworks. The Task Force members were appreciative of the thoughtfulness out into the creation of the frameworks and found interesting elements in each element. It was also emphasized that frameworks should show relationships between the elements.</p> <p>The process framework highlighting the focal areas was the one that the Task Force found to resonate with the journey of developing the</p>	

<p>EPE Plan in the most concise way, thus permission was given to use this illustration in the draft plan.</p>	
<p>6. Wrap-Up and Next Steps</p> <p>The follow-up actions arising from this meeting were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Heuman, our plan writer will commence writing the plan using inputs from discussions at the June 25 Task Force meeting. She will also meet with the Communications Committee to brainstorm the approach, theme, feel of the report • The Project Team and Sue will regularly touch base on progress of the work. 	
<p>4. Adjournment</p> <p>Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.</p> <p><u>2015 Task Force Meetings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 17 (Tentative) • Sept. 2 <p>Important dates: September 22, 2015 – City Council Meeting</p>	