



Task Force for the Elimination of Poverty Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2015 4:00 - 8:00 PM
William Tomison Room, Sutton Place Hotel

MINUTES

Present:

Members: Mayor Don Iveson (Co-Chair), Tiffany Linke-Boyko, Carman McNary, Daniel McKennit, Janice Melnychuk, Sarah Eadie, Zahra Somani, Dr. Louis Francescutti, Anne Smith, Fiona Cavanaugh, Jeffrey Bisanz, Maria Mayan Yvonne Chiu, Sandra Huculak

Regrets: Bishop Jane Alexander (Co-Chair), Councillor Ben Henderson, Councillor Amarjeet Sohi, Mark Holmgren, Eugene Ip, Kate Chisholm, Joe Doucet, Justin Archer

Guests: Tanis Liebrich, Catrin Owen, Corinne Saad, Katie Soles, Sue Heuman, Laura Templeton, Robert Philp, Katie Soles, Sue Heuman

COE Staff: Lyall Brenneis, Jay Freeman, Ward Antoniuk, Walter Trocenko, Kate Gunn, Bin Lau, Joshua Manego, Lucenia Ortiz, Stephane Contre, Kris Andreychuk, Dallas Dyson

Minutes

Discussion	Actions
1. Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Mayor Don Iveson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.■ The April 22, 2015 minutes and the May 19 agenda items were approved.■ Mayor Iveson informed Task Force members that Bishop Jane Alexander sent her regrets as she is overseas and welcomed Robert Philp, AB Human Rights Commissioner and member of a Working Group.■ Mayor Iveson designated Sandra Huculak to chair the meeting when after his departure at 6:45 to attend the RISE Awards event.	
2. Co-Chairs Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Mayor Iveson opened the meeting reminding Task Force members of the outcomes for this meeting. The Task Force will have the opportunity to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Dialogue and exchange ideas about the recommendations.o Confirm those recommendations the Task Force can	

<p>confidently take forward for a thoughtful deliberation and analysis at the June workshop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Lay the groundwork for a deeper process in June that will more fully articulate the recommendations and direction of the Task Force. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ National Poverty Summit in Ottawa Maria Mayan shared key insights from the National Poverty Summit that has implications to plan development that the Task Force such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The need for a strong framework that will connect the root causes of poverty to inform discussions on governance o Lack of federal presence at the summit points to challenges around advocating for national policies that impact poverty o The importance of evaluation that is informed by defining outcomes and measures early on o Reiterated the big three core solutions to reducing poverty: affordable housing, education and employment and skills training <p>Kate Gunn also provided a brief summary of key learnings the project team took away from the conference. In addition to the insights that Maria shared, the human rights approach presents an important lens to the plan and certainly resonates with the recommendations from the Justice and Democratic Participation working group.</p>	
<p>3. Families First Presentation</p> <p>Jeff Bisanz introduce this current Families First Edmonton (FFE) study focusing on analyzing the case notes of 100 families involved in the initial longitudinal study in early 2000s. This follow-through research is a partnership with the City, United Way and the Edmonton Community Foundation. The preliminary report intends to identify resonance and gaps with draft recommendations developed by the Working Groups based on the lived experience of families living with low income.</p> <p>Laura Templeton, FFE researcher presented the findings from case notes of six families. The highlights of the presentation were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Poverty is as much an issue for families as are individuals; focus not only on the needs of individuals, but also on the complex, multi-generational needs of families. ■ Two narratives or lenses are important in determining impact 	

<p>of recommendations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, between immigrant and refugee; each have unique circumstances that need to be considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two key areas that have significant impact on lifting families out of poverty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a holistic approach to child care beyond spaces and programs that is about creating a nurturing environment for children at home and in the community ○ role of navigators/mentors aimed building capacity of individuals and families to access resources and opportunities by helping them to understand how the system works <p>The presentation was well-received by the Task Force members indicating a strong interest to explore implications of the study at the implementation level and to keep the task Force informed of progress of the research. The narratives provided in the report reflect the multiple challenges facing those affected by poverty and offer an example of the power of stories that EPE may incorporate in the September plan and report.</p>	
<p>4. Presentation of Draft Recommendations Survey Results and Analytics</p> <p>Kris Andreychuk and Stephan Contre presented the results of online Task Force survey of the draft recommendations. The results showed that only 9 out of 22 Task Force members or 41% responded to the survey, noting the short turnaround time. Over-all, most of the recommendations (84%) were voted by survey respondents to go forward (green) for discussion and analysis in June workshops.</p> <p>Supplemental to the draft recommendations survey was a report using data analytics tools to check recommendations for concepts in the literature using Wikipedia and the Library of Congress. This concept matching could be useful in identifying thematic elements among recommendations.</p> <p>The data analytics team will provide the Task Force with a link to see the full report which is dynamic and nature. This is a good first step to explore the use of technology and data analytics in the work to end poverty and will be pursued further.</p>	

<p>5. Draft Recommendation Exercise</p> <p>Using the survey results as a starting point for discussion, the Task Force members were divided into three small groups to explore, review and discuss the recommendations of 3 Focal Areas each. The task of the small groups were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm with changes , if any, all the recommendations that have been coded GREEN to move forward for further deliberation at the June workshop • Move the recommendations coded Yellow to GREEN with changes or to RED to the PARK or those that do NOT move forward at this time but are parked until the fall or winter work on the implementation plan 	<p><u>Action:</u></p> <p>Task Force directed Project Team to update/revise recommendations based on suggested changes and comments from this meeting for the June Workshop, including combining/coordinating similar or like recommendations.</p>
<p>6. Wrap-Up and Next Steps</p> <p>Sandra Huculak, Acting Task Force Co Chair, congratulated the Task Force for their time and effort in coming up with a suite of recommendations, including changes, to bring forward to the June workshop. She reminded Task Force members of the work that lies ahead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough discussion of the recommendations at the June workshop to be facilitated by Drs. Jacques Chevalier and Daniel Butler from Carleton University • Discussion of the EPE Plan content and format at the June 25 Task Force meeting 	
<p>7. 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"> • June workshop on criteria development- TBD June 9 and 10 evening • June 25 • July 23 • Sept. 2 <p>Important dates: September 14, 2015 - Community Services Committee Meeting September 22, 2015 - City Council Meeting</p>	