

END POVERTY EDMONTON

End Poverty Edmonton is a city wide movement to end poverty in Edmonton in a generation. Its five year (2017–2021) Road Map identifies 35 actions anchored in 6 key areas called Game Changers. These Game Changers have a ripple effect that will result in significant, positive change for Edmontonians experiencing poverty.

THE CITY PLAN Building Blocks

The City Plan considers what our city will look like at 2 million people. To get there, new information will be gathered over the next two years. But it will also rely on much of the work and policies that have recently been completed or are currently advancing. These important pieces of work will form the building blocks of the City Plan, the foundation to support us as we move towards a new view of our city.

SIX GAME CHANGERS

Research indicated that there are six key areas of actions that will make a significant difference to individuals and families struggling with poverty.

- 1 **ELIMINATE RACISM**
- 2 **LIVABLE INCOMES**
- 3 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
- 4 **ACCESSIBLE & AFFORDABLE TRANSIT**
- 5 **AFFORDABLE & QUALITY CHILD CARE**
- 6 **ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES & ADDICTIONS SUPPORTS**

A HOLISTIC DEFINITION OF POVERTY

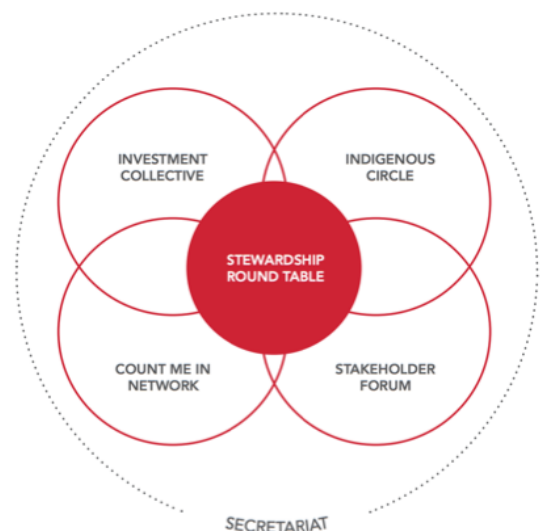
“Edmontonians experience poverty when they lack or are denied economic, social and cultural resources to have a quality of life that sustains and facilitates full and meaningful participation in the community.” Living in poverty is about much more than income. It is linked to a loss of culture, traditions, language and spiritual connection.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Over 108,000 Edmontonians, including 34,000 children, live in poverty
- 44% of Indigenous children under 5 live in poverty in Edmonton
- Managing poverty in Alberta costs from \$7 to \$9 B annually – or about \$3000 per taxpayer

COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP

A new community driven collective, *End Poverty Edmonton*, stewards the vision, movement and Road Map. A small but robust team called the Secretariat will provide coordination, communication and administrative leadership to make sure that *End Poverty Edmonton* can fulfill its promise to the community and achieve its outcomes.



End Poverty Edmonton Road Map 2017-2021

IMPLEMENTATION

Ending poverty will enhance the health, wellbeing and life of all Edmontonians, especially those stuck in the vicious cycle of poverty. Edmonton City Council approved the 5 year Road Map in 2016 with significant municipal investment dedicated to implementation. Of the 35 Road Map actions, 18 are City led actions. Among these are:

- **Three actions related to Transit:**

- Ride Transit Low Cost Pass
- Passes for vulnerable youth and adults
- Free Transit for Children 12 and under with an adult

- **Three actions on Affordable Housing:**

- Renewing affordable housing agreements and a social marketing campaign
- A Centre of Excellence for Housing
- Creation of the Edmonton Community Development Company

- **The creation of an Indigenous Culture and Wellness Centre, along with other actions speaks to the focus on Indigenous perspectives and anti racism efforts.**

WHY THE POVERTY LENS IS A CRITICAL BUILDING BLOCK

The *End Poverty Edmonton* Strategy offers a critical lens for the City Plan. Applying the equity perspective, with a focus on lived experience, reconciliation and human rights, will help the City Plan resonate with citizens and will highlight some of the key issues facing our young, growing city today:

- Poverty robs Edmontonians of the chance to live a life of dignity. As a recognized Human Rights City since 2003, Edmonton is one of the first Canadian cities to ground its anti poverty strategy in human rights. This shift from a charity-based view of poverty to one of human rights underpins *End Poverty Edmonton's* Road Map and will inform the City Plan with a focus on equity.

- Ending poverty is a profound act of reconciliation. Located on Treaty 6 territory, this young and increasingly diverse city is rooted in Indigenous history. The City Plan must advance reconciliation with Indigenous citizens.
- Community change requires collective action. No single organization, order of government or sector can successfully tackle a complex issue like poverty alone. Similarly, the City Plan will draw from the many perspectives within our city to find new solutions together.

**For more info www.endpovertyedmonton.ca
or @endpovertyeg.**