

# COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT Community Safety and Well-Being Strategy

THIS ITEM WAS REQUISITIONED TO CITY COUNCIL WITHOUT A COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

#### **Administration Recommendation**

- 1. That the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy, as outlined in the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991, be approved.
- 2. That adjustments to the 2022 and 2023 operating budget, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991, be approved, with funding from the Edmonton Police Services funds within Financial Strategies.

### History

- At the May 16/17, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee meeting, Councillors T. Cartmell and K. Tang requisitioned the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991 to City Council without a Committee recommendation.
- At the May 16/17, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee meeting, the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager reports OCM00568, OCM00991, OCM00888 and Financial and Corporate Services report FCS00226 were considered together.
- The Committee heard from P. Martinez, E. Jones and D. Rhodes, Edmonton Public Library; J. Gebran, Gebran Enterprises Inc. O/A Kingsway McDonald's, Downtown, and central west Edmonton; L. Hagen, Action on Smoking & Health organization; S. Zaidi, Downtown Recovery Coalition; T. LaRiviere, Accessibility Advisory Committee; K. O'Neill, YWCA Edmonton; S. Haji, Africa Centre; S. Leavitt-Wright, Jewish Federation of Edmonton; P. McBryan, Edmonton Downtown Business Association; R. Houle; H. Leong, Chinatown Transformation Collaborative Society; H. Ali; L. Cunningham-Shpeley, Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues; L. Hugo Francescutti, Bridge Healing; F. Omole, Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton; P. Brown; A. Irfan and H. Shu, City of Edmonton Youth Council; S. Sinha, Anti-racism Advisory Committee; and S. Oborowsky, Edmonton Police Foundation Community Solutions Accelerator.
- At the May 16/17, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee meeting, Councillor
   M. Janz made the following motion that was not put to vote:

- 1. That the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy, as outlined in the May 16, 2022 Office of the City Manager report OCM00991 and Attachments 2 and 3, be approved.
- 2. That the following adjustments to the 2022 and 2023 operating budget, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the May 16, 2022 Office of the City Manager report OCM00991, be approved, with funding from the Edmonton Police Services funds within Financial Strategies:
  - i. That the Office of the City Manager 2022 operating budget be increased by \$1,500,000 on a one-time basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Services Funds held within Financial Strategies for the purpose of creating microgrants as per the Community Safety and Well-being strategy as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
  - ii. That the Office of the City Manager 2022 operating budget be increased by \$1,500,000 in 2022 and \$555,000 in 2023 on an on-going basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the Integrated Call Evaluation and Dispatch Centre purpose as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager OCM00991 report.
  - iii. That the Social Development Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$811,000 on an on-going basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the Indigenous Framework Implementation as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
  - iv. That the Infrastructure Planning and Design Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$1,000,000 on a one-time basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the Indigenous-led Shelter as outlined in the report and Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
  - v. That the Social Development Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$1,000,000 on a an on-going basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the Extreme Weather Protocol as outlined in the report and Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
  - vi. That the Social Development Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$25,000 on a one-time basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the purpose of Drug Poisoning Response as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
  - vii. That the Community Standards and Neighbourhoods Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$415,000 on an on-going basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the purpose of Community Safety Peace Officers Training and Professional

- Standards Centre of Excellence as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
- viii. That the Social Development Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$1,622,000 on an on-going basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the purpose of Community Wellness as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
- ix. That the Boards and Authorities/Edmonton Public Library 2022 operating budget be increased by \$200,000 on a one-time basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the purpose of Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn Program as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
- x. That the Social Development Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$290,000 on a one-time basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Service Funds held within Financial Strategies for the purpose of Bridge Healing Centre as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991.
- At the May 16/17, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee, Councillor K. Tang made the following amendment that was not put to vote:
  - Part 2. ix., Edmonton Public Library: Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn Program:
  - That Action 9, Edmonton Public Library: Sing, Sign, Laugh and LearnProgram, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991, be removed and that the funding be used to supplement Action 6, Drug Poisoning Response, for tangible actions other than education and awareness campaigns, working with service providers to address current Council motions on the opioid crisis.
- At the May 16,/17, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee, Councillor J. Wright made the following amendment that was not put to vote:
  - Part 2. ii., Integrated Call Evaluation and Dispatch Centre:
  - That Action 2, Integrated Call Evaluation & Dispatch Centre, be removed and the funds be re-allocated as follows:
  - That the Social Development Branch 2022 operating budget be increased by \$400,000 on an ongoing basis for the Drug Poisoning response to enable Social Development to hire a full-time employee (FTE) to manage the file, continue the coordination of partners and to fund key activities as outlined in Attachment 3.
  - That the Community Standards and Neighbourhood Branch 2022 operating budget hold the remaining funds in abeyance for further engagement with the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues to support local community initiatives for safe, healthy and active communities as they move towards COVID-19 recovery.

Related motions passed at the May 16/17, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee meeting

### • Safer for All Strategy - Community Safety, Well Being, Inclusion and Anti-racism

- That Administration work with:
- 1. the Downtown Business Association and Edmonton Police Service, to request the use of up to \$1 million from Provincially provided downtown safety resources to fund social workers and mental health specialists to be partnered with law enforcement in Human-centred Engagement and Liaison Partnership Unit (HELP) teams throughout the downtown core and Chinatown, and to supplement daytime shelter space led by Indigenous Community Organizations; and
- 2. the Downtown Recovery Coalition, to allocate up to \$4 million from 2022-2024 from City provided Downtown Vibrancy Initiative recovery funds to fund social workers and mental health specialists to be partnered with law enforcement in the Edmonton Police Service and Administration to enhance The Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT), Human-centred Engagement and Liaison Partnership Unit (HELP) and Community Outreach Transit Team (COTT) resources in the Downtown, Chinatown and the Transit system, to expand the YEG Ambassador Program, and to supplement daytime shelter space led by Indigenous Community Organizations.
- That Administration provide a report detailing federal, provincial and municipal responsibilities in relation to the work of the Community Safety and Well-being strategy including but not limited to: housing, mental health, addictions, corrections; Reconciliation and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit leadership and responsibilities; and policing, diversion, prevention, reduction strategies. This report should also detail the comprehensive strategies that have been developed by the City to address these areas of responsibility.
- That the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00568, be received for information.

# Community Safety and Well-Being Methodology and Results

That the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00888, be received for information.

 ConnectEdmonton Next Steps - Community Safety and Well-being and Edmonton's Healthy City Goal

That the May 16, 2022, Financial and Corporate Services report FCS00226, be received for information.

#### **Attachment**

May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991

COUNCIL REPORT



#### COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING STRATEGY

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Community and Public Services Committee recommend to City Council:

- 1. That the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy, as outlined in the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991, be approved.
- 2. That adjustments to the 2022 and 2023 operating budget, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the May 16, 2022, Office of the City Manager report OCM00991, be approved, with funding from the Edmonton Police Services funds within Financial Strategies.

### **Report Purpose**

#### Council decision required.

Council is being asked to approve the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy in order to align and support the long-term outcomes identified in ConnectEdmonton and The City Plan, as well as funding recommendations for community safety and wellbeing initiatives starting in 2022.

# **Executive Summary**

- Administration has refined its approach to Community Safety and Well-being (CSWB) based on the feedback of community, emerging needs (including those highlighted through the pandemic), direction from City Council and desired future state (including the transformational goal of becoming Canada's safest city by 2030).
- Administration has developed a CSWB Strategy, which includes a seven-pillar framework:
  - o Anti-racism:
  - Reconciliation:
  - Safe and Inclusive Spaces;
  - o Equitable Policies, Procedures, Standards and Guidelines;
  - Pathways In and Out of Poverty;
  - Crime Prevention and Crisis Intervention; and
  - Well-being.

- The proposed CSWB Strategy is City-led but community driven, and takes a system-wide, city-wide approach to CSWB.
- The Strategy is strongly aligned to The City Plan both through its advancement of the Big City Move of Inclusive and Compassionate and many of The City Plan values (belong, thrive, live, access, preserve and create).
- As the Strategy is implemented, it is anticipated that different pillars will have different needs at different times. Administration will take an agile, equitable approach to provide what is needed in order to advance both a particular pillar and the framework as a whole.
- Through the framework, Administration and its partners will achieve the overall intention of CSWB, which has been defined as:
  - Each person making Edmonton home feels a sense of purpose, safety, and stability, curated through connectedness to self, land, culture and each other and rooted in reconciliation, anti-racism, removal of systemic barriers and transformation of thinking, interacting and being.
- Through implementation of the CSWB Strategy, Edmonton will be positioned to become Canada's safest city by 2030 (as noted in cross-referenced Financial and Corporate Services report FCS00226, ConnectEdmonton Next Steps).
- There is \$8.4 million currently available from the Edmonton Police Services Funds held within Financial Strategies in 2022 on an ongoing basis, increasing to \$18.7 million starting in 2023.
- Administration has made funding allocation recommendations through CSWB business cases that align with the priorities identified by City Council and the community.

#### **REPORT**

#### **Background**

The CSWB Strategy is a roadmap for inclusive, connected and coordinated safety and well-being planning that is aligned to the values in The City Plan. Its success is a shared responsibility amongst all Edmontonians and City partners, including but not limited to other orders of government; social service and business sectors; and the broader community. The Strategy represents an interconnected and multifaceted ecosystem from a demographic, needs and desires perspective.

In looking at other jurisdictions, Administration learned of various safety and/or well-being work underway. Based on the research completed, Edmonton will be one of the first Canadian cities to take a system-wide approach to CSWB. While this is both exciting and daunting, the research highlighted gaps that Edmonton will need to address, including:

- Collection of disaggregated data,
- A better and shared understanding of how money in the CSWB ecosystem can be tracked to outcomes, and
- Systems that require evolution to meet community needs vs. communities being asked to adjust to current structures.

Lastly, as referenced in the Financial and Corporate Services report, FCS00226 ConnectEdmonton Next Steps, and also at the May 16, 2022 Community and Public Services Committee meeting, Edmonton will be moving towards the transformational goal of becoming the safest city in Canada by 2030.

#### **CSWB Strategy**

The overall intention of CSWB is that:

"Each person making Edmonton home feels a sense of purpose, safety, and stability, curated through connectedness to self, land, culture and each other and rooted in reconciliation, anti-racism, removal of systemic barriers and transformation of thinking, interacting, and being."

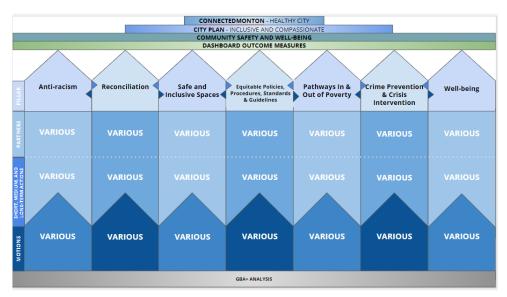
This is a commitment that involves many partners who share a desire to place:

- a deliberate and concerted effort to put community at the center of the model,
- a citywide perspective that ensures those living in any part of the city have equitable access to resources, and
- funding and resources in order to bring strategy to life.

The CSWB Strategy outlined in this report aims to do all three, with a view that this is a strategy that can only remain relevant by being attuned to the changing needs of local, national and international society. Administration took a deliberate perspective to define CSWB for *each person making Edmonton home* as we want individuals to feel safe in our city no matter where they are from or how long they are staying.

The strategy has been informed by a number of sources, including but not limited to City Council direction (priorities and motions); feedback from community (conversations with over 80 people from over 40 organizations); alignment to CSWB Task Force recommendations, partner strategies and the strategic direction and actions outlined in ConnectEdmonton and The City Plan.

The strategy is underpinned by a seven-pillar framework as further described in Attachment 2, CSWB Framework. Together, these pillars form the foundation by which CSWB can be advanced in Edmonton. The pillars are interdependent and represent the essential elements for success.



The seven pillars are:

- Anti-racism;
- Reconciliation;
- Safe and Inclusive Spaces;
- Equitable Policies, Procedures, Standards and Guidelines;
- Pathways In and Out of Poverty;
- Crime Prevention and Crisis Intervention; and
- Well-being

Although the framework is City-led, it is community-driven with collaboration essential to each pillar. This means, in order to advance the strategy in partnership with community, an iterative, integrated, and equitable approach must be taken with each pillar.

#### **Methodology and Measures**

As described in the cross-referenced Office of the City Manager report, OCM00888, CSWB - Methodology and Results, Administration used several tools to build the CSWB Strategy. Change narratives and logic models were used for each pillar:

- Change narratives identify the conditions that need to change and are typically focused at a systems level.
- Logic models identify how to make the changes and typically focus on the program/implementation level.

Administration used the Culturally Responsive Indigenous Evaluation (CRIE) Model (Bowman & Cram, 2015) for the reconciliation pillar as it combines western practices with Indigenous paradigms to create a blended approach to evaluation. Indigenous paradigms, or research methodologies, have been described as the fundamental belief that knowledge is relational, shared with all creation, and therefore cannot be owned or discovered.

CSWB outcomes were developed based on the change narratives and logic models. The long-term outcomes were tested through several rounds of conversations with community partners. Actions that could support progress towards an outcome were identified and assessed against six principles to determine if they would be appropriate for the CSWB Framework. Those principles include:

- community led
- data informed
- equity based
- person centered
- safety or well-being focused, and
- trauma informed.

Administration also completed an extensive interjurisdictional scan of Canada's major cities and municipalities within the United States who have CSWB work underway and/or have demonstrated early success in this space. The research validated the importance of root cause analysis and made clear that due to the multi-dimensionality of CSWB, collaboration is a major

tool in establishing shared outcomes, mitigating risk, building pragmatic solutions and designing evidence-based innovation.

Administration developed business cases based on Edmonton's needs, desired outcomes, actions/potential actions, and learnings from other jurisdictions. The business cases found in Attachment 3 have identified incremental, moderate and transformational investments that Council may wish to consider in order to advance CSWB.

Extensive GBA+ reflection and research was completed to inform the development of the CSWB Strategy. Each pillar is considered interconnected to the others. While Administration brought varying perspectives to the GBA+ with different gender, race, and cultural backgrounds, it was acknowledged that seeking a further understanding of people's social identities, experiences with colonialism, systemic racism, ableism, classism and sexism is integral to understanding how the CSWB Strategy will have different impacts or barriers to equity-seeking or marginalized groups. While the GBA+ research did not identify specific equity measures, it affirmed via the data that the pillars are addressing gaps and that the strategy itself is an equity measure in this space. A GBA+ framework will continue to be used during implementation and evaluation of the CSWB Strategy.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the CSWB Strategy, a dashboard will include indicators and measures that monitor the progress not only towards long-term outcomes but more immediate and shorter term outcomes/activities as well. Targeted for Q4 2022 release, the dashboard will also incorporate external data sources pertinent to the CSWB Strategy, including the Edmonton Police Service dashboard, and any information made available through open data sources and shared-use agreements.

#### Pillar #1 - Anti-Racism

Racism must be addressed in order to achieve the full potential of CSWB. Each person in Edmonton should feel safe and welcome in their community. The Anti-Racism pillar identifies key actions that must be made in order to make tangible progress towards ending racism in Edmonton and within the City of Edmonton as an organization.

Anti-racism work requires an intersectional lens, recognizing the historical and structural context of social inequalities across generations. It must ensure an in-depth understanding of the compounding impacts of systems, policies, practices and programs on the individual experiences of many different peoples. Marginalization and racism must be addressed at an interpersonal level between people as well as across communities. Equitable access to opportunities is essential to the social, environmental, physical and economic health of Edmonton.

The work of CSWB, with an anti-racism focus, is grounded in the outcome of social cohesion as the city continues to grow in its diversity. The concept of a "socially cohesive city" helps imagine the absence of fractures or divisions within society and the ability to manage such divisions. It is a city that creates a sense of belonging, promotes trust, fights exclusion and marginalization and offers its members the opportunity of upward mobility.

Administration is committed to an anti-racism approach that underpins all of the pillars. While Anti-Racism is its own pillar with specific initiatives and outcomes, anti-racism is also essential to the success of other pillars, such as offering safe and inclusive spaces or well-being opportunities.

In collaboration with community partners, the Anti-Racism Strategy (report CS00872) presented to Community and Public Services committee on February 14, 2022 defined anti-racism as "the active, ongoing strategy and process that seeks to identify and eliminate racism by changing systems, institutions, policies and attitudes that perpetuate racism." Anti-racism is an ongoing, lifelong learning journey that is based on self-reflection and action toward addressing systemic racism for community and City staff.

The Anti-Racism Strategy included three recommendations:

- 1. An independent Anti-Racism Body
- 2. High-level Anti-Racism Organization at the City of Edmonton
- 3. Core Operational and Capacity-Building Funding.

Council approved 2022 operating expenditure budget for the Social Development branch to be increased by \$2 million on a one-time basis, with funding from the Edmonton Police Services funds held within Financial Strategies to move forward with the implementation of the Anti-Racism Strategy.

The City is working on an implementation plan to develop action plans and outcomes to advance the work of anti-racism with community collaboration. The related City Plan outcomes, indicators, and directions are identified in Attachment 4.

Long-term Outcomes	Action Examples	Measures
<ul> <li>Policies and structures are anti-racist, reconcilatory and support equity and inclusion.</li> <li>Individuals and communities who have experienced systemic racism and historical trauma are included, valued and respected</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A commemoration policy to identify and address art, benches, and other public items that are socially, historically or culturally inappropriate and/or inaccurate</li> <li>Where the City does not have direct control, such as federal anti-hate legislation, Administration continues to advocate for funding and solutions from other orders of government</li> <li>Beginning to explore alternatives to traditional systemic responses to social marginalization; fostering communication channels with grassroots and mutual-aid groups</li> <li>Improving disaggregated data collection in collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Healthy City indicators of ConnectEdmonton (particularly Discrimination and Racism and Sense of Community)</li> <li>Economic indicators as expressed through sources such as the municipal census, the government of Alberta's economic dashboard and Statistics Canada reporting</li> <li>Actions the City will take in the implementation of the Anti-Racism Strategy</li> </ul>

with Edmonton Data for Racial Equity Collective	
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#### **Alignment Examples**

- Anti-Racism Strategy
- EndPovertyEdmonton's strategy and roadmap (particularly racism game changer and scaling systems)
- CSWB Task Force's Safer for All recommendation three:
  - o Enhance recruitment and training to build diverse, inclusive, anti-racist organizational cultures.

#### Pillar #2 - Reconciliation

According to 2016 Census data from Statistics Canada, Edmonton is home to the second largest urbanized Indigenous population. It is a very diverse Indigenous population, where various Treaty 6 and Treaty 8 Communities have members that come to the city to access services, expand their education, seek employment and/or other opportunities, and at the same time maintain their connection to home communities. It is the headquarters of the Metis Nation of Alberta, the parliamentary capital of the Metis Settlements General Council, and the gateway to many northern communities of Inuit. The diverse Indigenous voices that make up Edmonton must continue to be heard and represented across all seven pillars of the CSWB framework in order to continue the journey of reconciliation.

To develop the reconciliation pillar, the Culturally Responsive Indigenous Evaluation (CRIE) Model (Bowman & Cram, 2015) and Indigenous Framework was used. The CRIE model combines western evaluation paradigms with Indigenous paradigms for a blended approach to evaluation. As a result, the reconciliation outcome for the CSWB Strategy has been described as Edmontonians, Indigenous Peoples, and the City have authentic, interconnected relationships that honour, understand, and collaboratively integrate Indigenous experiences, histories, and cultures.

The foundations of these relationships require an awareness of the past, acknowledgement of the harm that has been inflicted, atonement for the causes and actions to change behaviour. The conditions that need to change to be successful include addressing political exclusion, anti-Indigenous racism, broken treaties, economic exclusion and exclusion of Indigenous knowledge and practice.

Administration has initiated efforts to increase awareness of the past and encourage change. One example is the adoption of the Indigenous Framework in 2021. The Framework is meant to guide City staff on their learning journeys of reconciliation and relationship-building with Indigenous Peoples. The Framework identifies four roles (Listener, Connector, Advocate and Partner) for all City employees to embody in their work and seven commitments which guide how the City of Edmonton will strive to honour and enact the Framework through its policies, programs and services. Part of the Indigenous Framework includes a commitment to report annually on the concerns, needs, and recommendations of Indigenous peoples to City Council and Indigenous communities. An update to Council is currently scheduled for May 30, 2022.

Examples of actions underway within this pillar are varied and include symbolic placemaking and awareness building as well as partnerships and service provision. A partnership between the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations, Government of Alberta and the City of Edmonton, is working together to develop a Treaty Six monument that will be unveiled in Edmonton later in 2022. The intention of the monument is to raise awareness and help educate residents and visitors about the Treaty and the commitments, rights, and responsibilities that Edmontonians have as Treaty people. Another example is the Metis Urban Housing Corporation and its contribution to the City's affordable housing strategy by building affordable housing in northwest Edmonton for their members. The Corporation's ongoing efforts add to Edmonton's affordable housing stock for Indigenous Peoples and at the same time help build relationships and connections in neighborhoods between diverse communities.

While efforts have been made to share truths and build relationships, Administration understands much work remains. City Council has directed Administration to develop a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Action Plan. Work is also underway to develop a corporate response to the 94 Calls to Action within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Along with the CSWB Strategy, these are a few examples of how Administration is taking tangible steps forward on its continued journey of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Long-term Outcome	Action Examples	Measures
<ul> <li>Quality relationships with Indigenous Peoples that honours and strives to understand Indigenous experiences, histories and cultures</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Truth and Reconciliation         Commission - 94 Calls to         Action Response</li> <li>Indigenous Housing</li> <li>Urban Reserves</li> <li>Kihciy Askiy</li> <li>Confederacy of Treaty Six First         Nations monument</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Progress related to the seven commitments identified in the Indigenous Framework</li> <li>Actions the City will take with respect to the 94 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action</li> <li>The actions the City can take or currently does take to address the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls National Inquiry Final Report Calls for Justice (as described in CS00434 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls National Inquiry Final Report Update and Implementation Plan Development)</li> <li>Number of Indigenous housing units and shelter spaces created</li> </ul>

#### **Alignment Examples**

- Indigenous Framework
- Truth and Reconciliation Final Report and 94 Calls to Action
- Building upon the City's earlier Indigenous Relations work of the Urban Aboriginal Accord and broadly
  informed by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and
  Reconciliation Calls to Action, and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice.

- The ongoing development of memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with neighboring First Nation and Metis communities to build relationships and pursue shared community and economic development (e.g. Urban Reserves)
- Recommendations two, three and five from the CSWB Task Force's Safer for All report:
  - Expand the number and use of crisis diversion and alternative policing teams.
  - o Enhance recruitment and training to build diverse, inclusive, anti-racist organizational cultures.
  - Identify how collective agreements are contributing to systemic bias and work to address these challenges.

Similar to the way the Indigenous Framework was co-created, additional outcomes and measures will continue to be identified through conversations and co-creation with the Indigenous Peoples who reside in Edmonton and within Treaty Six territory.

#### Pillar #3 - Safe and Inclusive Spaces

Safety has been a long-standing priority for the City of Edmonton. Within the CSWB Framework, Safe and Inclusive Spaces includes digital (such as service tools like the 311 app), public transportation spaces (including transit, pedestrian and bike nodes) in addition to physical spaces, such as recreation centres, community leagues or Edmonton's extensive park system. Every person visiting a public space should feel welcomed and comfortable regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or personal circumstance.

Across the city, investments have been made towards a variety of amenities and experiences - many of which are free for anyone to access. Edmonton's parks and other outdoor public spaces have created opportunities for people to gather, learn and celebrate. Public spaces are more than a physical space - they are a mechanism of inclusion, equity and reconciliation.

Over the years, Administration has pursued various initiatives, programs and partnerships intended to improve safety in Edmonton. However, there continue to be challenges. The pandemic highlighted increased experiences of domestic, elder and family abuse and the need for enhanced and innovative supports. There also continues to be public hate-motivated incidents, including recent attacks on Edmonton mosques during Ramadan.

Administration is aware that much of the current data available is based on publicly reported incidents. Unfortunately, community conversations have confirmed that many additional incidents go unreported - whether inside the home or in public spaces. Further, specific communities are disproportionately being targeted including the Black, Indigenous, Muslim, Asian and Jewish communities. Partner research has also shown that people with disabilities are more likely to be targeted.

Further, Statistics Canada has reported population growth in all urban centres from 2016 to 2021, with immigrants being far more likely to settle in an urban area rather than in a rural setting. By 2050 it is anticipated that, when Edmonton is predicted to have a population of two-million people, 50 per cent will be immigrants. This demographic change has highlighted the importance of finding ways to create spaces which are safe, accessible and inclusive within Edmonton.

Administration is committed to continuing to work with community in order to realize the long-term outcome that communities are supported and empowered to lead the cultivation and sustainment of safe, inclusive, vibrant, sustainable and resilient spaces.

Long-term Outcome	Action Examples	Measures
Communities are supported and empowered to lead the cultivation and sustainment of safe, inclusive, vibrant, sustainable and resilient spaces	<ul> <li>Increase the use of multi-disciplinary approaches for education, social support and outreach, such as Neighbourhood Empowerment Team and the Encampment Response Team</li> <li>Extreme Weather Response</li> <li>Using community-based collaborative strategies and responses such as the City of Edmonton's Family Violence Prevention Team and the Domestic Abuse High-Risk Team partnership program</li> <li>Members of the United Nations Women Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global</li> <li>The recently approved Transit Safety Plan (Report OCM01037 Transit Safety and Security presented to City Council on February 24, 2022)</li> <li>The recent enhancement of the Problem Properties Initiative (as described in report CS00896 presented to City Council on April 19, 2022)</li> <li>Transit Safety Tripartite Agreement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>REACH's social return on investment measures related crisis diversion and safe space cultivation</li> <li>ConnectEdmonton's Healthy City indicators of personal safety, sense of community, crime severity and the Urban Places indicator of access to amenities</li> </ul>

#### **Alignment Examples**

- Neighbourhood Revitalization Program
- Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues five-year strategic plan
- Recover: Edmonton's Urban Wellness Plan
- REACH Business Plan and the REACH initiatives of Chinatown McCauley Safety Resources
- Accessibility for People with Disabilities policy
- #YEGAmbassador partner program
- United Nations Women Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global program
- Recommendations two to five and 10-13 from the CSWB Task Force's Safer for All report:
  - Expand the number and use of crisis diversion and alternative policing teams.
  - Bring more transparency and independence to public complaints processes.
  - o Implement measurement and reporting to drive change and encourage
  - ongoing improvements.
  - Enact policies and standards that place focus on proactively and effectively providing support to disadvantaged Edmontonians.
  - o Invest in urgently needed priorities for community safety.

#### Pillar #4 - Equitable Policies, Procedures, Standards and Guidelines

Defined as the design and delivery of fair and equitable policies, programs and services that facilitate the full participation of all people, this pillar has identified the conditions and processes needed to support the actions and outcomes of each pillar.

Policies, procedures, standards and guidelines provide Administration with operational direction. They ensure compliance with bylaws, legislation and provide guidance for the prioritization and allocation of resources. An example of an action in this pillar is the 2021-24 Corporate Accessibility Plan that supports implementation of Policy C602 Accessibility for People with Disabilities. The policy and plan ensure people with disabilities are treated with respect, have equitable access and opportunities to participate in the city and that Administration considers their needs in program and service delivery.

When reflective of the communities they serve, equitable policies, procedures, standards and guidelines enable large, complex organizations, like the City, to respond efficiently, equitably and effectively to emergent issues. For example, when the City's minimum shelter standards were established, the first guiding principle was to "promote inclusion and welcome all who need services regardless of gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, cognitive or physical abilities." This approach ensured coordination between partners and the City to help keep *all* people experiencing homelessness safe.

Administration has recognized the need to update various procedures, standards and guidelines and has used a GBA+ approach to conduct a preliminary scan of Council's policies, procedures and bylaws that may be impacted by the CSWB Framework. Of the 191 bylaws screened, 14 were identified for further examination with 11 related to enforcement, regulation and safety and three related to licensing. Of the 125 City Council policies screened, 14 were identified for further analysis, including ones that set out approaches and methods or that define strategy and outcomes.

Reviewing Council policies and bylaws supports the CSWB Task Force's recommendation to "enact policies and standards that place focus on proactively and effectively providing support to disadvantaged Edmontonians," as well as EndPovertyEdmonton's expressed priority to decriminalize poverty through actions such as the amendment of bylaws.

Administrative policies (including former Corporate Administrative Directives) and procedures are currently being reviewed against the requirements of the Corporate Policy Framework, which requires the use of GBA+ in the policy development and review processes. Some of these may be connected to bylaws or Council policies and future revisions will be integrated across the policy framework, as appropriate.

By design, the CSWB Strategy weaves the City's Reconciliation and Anti-Racism commitments throughout all of the pillars. Alongside the GBA+ efforts across the corporation, Administration will follow the path provided by the Indigenous Framework and the forthcoming Anti-Racism strategy to bring an Indigenous worldview and anti-racist lens to policy, procedure, standards and guidelines development and review.

Long-term Outcome	Action Examples	Measures	
People making Edmonton home have enriched experiences through equitable access to programs, services and spaces	<ul> <li>Accessibility Framework</li> <li>Scan of Council's policies, procedures and bylaws</li> <li>Corporate Policy Framework - review of Administration's policies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>ConnectEdmonton's Healthy         City goal and equity         indicators of affordable         housing, crime severity,         income equality and poverty</li> <li>Economic indicators as         expressed through the         municipal and federal census,         as well as the Alberta         government's economic         dashboard</li> </ul>	

#### **Alignment Examples**

- The Corporate Accessibility Plan and the Accessibility for People with Disabilities Policy
- Equitable review of Edmonton's Zoning Bylaws
- Coalitions Creating Equity initiative through REACH
- Ethnographic and community based research
- Local school boards anti-racism, inclusion and equity policies
- Transit Safety Tripartite Agreement
- Recommendations five, nine and 11-13 from the CSWB Task Force's Safer for All report:
  - Identify how collective agreements are contributing to systemic bias and work to address these challenges
  - Implement measurement and reporting to drive change and encourage ongoing improvements.
  - Enact policies and standards that place focus on proactively and effectively providing support to disadvantaged Edmontonians
  - Invest in urgently needed priorities for community safety

Administration is committed to ensuring all of the City's policies, procedures, standards and guidelines are equitable and transparent.

#### Pillar #5 - Pathways In and Out of Poverty

While strategies and plans are often developed to support people out of poverty, Administration recognizes there are circumstances and structural factors that contribute to people falling into poverty. In order to advance CSWB, Administration has examined both aspects through the framework.

Within the CSWB Framework, Pathways In and Out of Poverty is defined as the use of advocacy, policy, and funding levers, as well as community-driven interventions to change the conditions that contribute to and perpetuate poverty in our city.

The Pathways In and Out of Poverty pillar is broad, diverse and intersectional. It includes key areas of investment, including in preventative social services, affordable housing and programs that further access to education and employment opportunities. An example of the pillar's intersectionality is that while much of the 2015 EndPovertyEdmonton strategy aligns with Pathways In and Out of Poverty pillar, the strategy also noted on page one that "eliminating poverty as a profound act of reconciliation."

Interventions and investments in the full housing spectrum - from emergency shelter spaces and bridge housing to supportive, social, and near market housing - is a prime example of an area of work that can yield outcomes across pillars. While investments in the housing spectrum are foundational for the success of every pillar, affordable housing is a primary component of the Pathways In and Out of Poverty for several reasons.

Affordable housing was identified as one of six "game changers" in End Poverty Edmonton's Road Map and is one of the top three poverty reduction strategies identified in the United Way's Poverty Reduction Strategy. Housing is a basic need and unaffordable housing costs can trap people and families in poverty. Housing First programs rely on securing safe and adequate housing as one of the first steps in helping people escape the cycle of homelessness, and they have successfully housed over 14,000 people since 2009.

The most effective approach to ensure people have safe, affordable, and adequate housing that suits their household size, is to deploy a comprehensive suite of tools and actions that act on all parts of the housing spectrum. These tools and actions must be implemented with various partners, in a collaborative and integrated manner. Furthermore, collective action to destigmatize affordable housing and foster a shared sense of belonging within mixed income communities is required for safety and wellbeing to truly take hold.

The role of the City is also diverse within this pillar. The City of Edmonton has been involved in the delivery of affordable housing (in partnership with other orders of government) for Edmontonians since the 1950s. There are actions the City can directly influence using its limited resource base, while others require a strong advocacy or partnership role.

The City supports affordable housing development through the provision of land and limited capital funding. Most recently, as part of the 2019-2022 budget cycle, the City of Edmonton contributed over \$132.9 million over four years to support the development of affordable housing.

However, income support and direct rent subsidies constitute income redistribution and belong under the purview of the provincial or federal governments. Similarly, the wrap-around supports needed to support those experiencing the deepest levels of poverty - mental health and addictions treatment, health care, access to education and employment training end to - fall under the provincial government's jurisdiction and are often delivered by social service agencies.

Administration met with several provincial ministries and Alberta Health Services (AHS) to share the proposed framework and intended outcomes. With a shared desire to improve CSWB in Edmonton, these partners have indicated an openness to enhanced support ranging from additional funding to stronger coordination on drug poisoning, reconciliation, mental health supports and data sharing.

In addition to enhanced coordination with the Province and AHS, Administration has viewed the CSWB Strategy as a mechanism to coordinate alignment with regional and federal partners by emphasizing that an Edmontonian is an Albertan and a Canadian. Further, through a coordinated approach that is guided by the intended outcomes for this pillar, funding allocations can be better coordinated and provide a stronger return on investment.

Long-term Outcome	Action Examples	Measures
Edmontonians have the economic, social and cultural resources to have a quality of life that sustains and facilitates full and meaningful participation in the community. (In other words, meeting basic needs is not enough. To contribute to the cultivation of a safe and well community, all Edmontonians need the opportunity to thrive)	<ul> <li>Full housing spectrum         (encampment to market         housing)</li> <li>Accessible and affordable         transit</li> <li>Access to mental health         services</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduction in overall poverty rates (reported poverty at 12.9 per per cent in 2019)</li> <li>Number of detoxification treatment beds, supportive, social and affordable housing units created</li> <li>Community support program enrollment and indicators</li> <li>ConnectEdmonton's Healthy City indicators of community wellness, equity and personal wellness; Urban Places indicators of transportation system, housing options and neighbourhood vibrancy (access to amenities); and Regional Prosperity indicators of competitiveness (education levels) and prosperity (disposable income and employment growth)</li> </ul>

#### **Alignment Examples**

- Encampment Strategy
- Affordable Housing Investment Plan
- Edmonton Public Library's five-year strategic plan and Edmonton Public Library's Digital Initiatives
- Providing Accessible Transit Here (PATH) and Ride Transit Program
- EndPovertyEdmonton's strategy and roadmap
- The Edmonton Food Bank's Beyond Food Program
- Alberta Health Services mental health programs and services
- Vibrant Communities Canada
- Incorporation of recommendations two and 11-13 of the CSWB Task Force's Safer for All report:
  - Expand the number and use of crisis diversion and alternative policing teams
  - Implement measurement and reporting to drive change and encourage
  - o ongoing improvements
  - Enact policies and standards that place focus on proactively and effectively providing
  - o support to disadvantaged Edmontonians
  - Invest in urgently needed priorities for community safety

#### Pillar #6 - Crime Prevention and Crisis Intervention

Crime prevention and crisis intervention was defined in the CSWB Framework as the appropriate and balanced response to community needs within the civic compliance and crisis intervention ecosystem. In order to advance CSWB, crime prevention and crisis intervention must further engage and include the communities that the framework is intended to serve. In conversations with community leaders, Administration has heard communities have a strong sense of the prevention and intervention activities that would be most effective and culturally-appropriate for

them, but that they require the City's and partner support (including Edmonton Police Services) to facilitate access to resources.

Programs such as DIVERSIONfirst connects first-time youth offenders with community and family supports in order to support building a positive future away from crime. The program allows EPS to offer youth a restorative justice approach, instead of a criminal charge. DIVERSIONfirst is part of the Young People Strategy launched by EPS in 2021. The long-term outcome of the strategy aims to reduce the frequency and severity of offending and victimization by and of young people, while the immediate outcome focuses on providing the right response at the right time to match the individual needs of the young person.

While the Edmonton Police Services remains the primary agency responsible for crime response, crime prevention involves a broader group of agencies and community groups. Addressing the root causes of crime and disorder through early intervention allows communities, programs and activities to contribute to long-term outcomes. For example, investing in afterschool recreational programming in the well-being pillar, providing social skills training for children, or even youth wilderness challenge programs can lead to crime reduction.

Similarly, intentionally designing, building and caring for spaces that are aligned to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED), can prevent crimes and disturbances, ultimately creating safe and inclusive spaces. The way public service organizations actively monitor and deploy resources and staff in public spaces can also have a significant crime reduction and prevention effect. For example, a robust CCTV program with active monitoring via artificial intelligence can predict potentially violent encounters and provide an early warning for intervention.

Crime prevention and crisis intervention is accomplished by a thorough understanding of spaces, neighbourhoods, and community needs. By addressing root causes, focusing interventions on specific areas and by coordinating actions across sectors and between agencies, crime and crises can be managed, reduced, and prevented.

Long-term Outcome	Action Examples	Measures
All people feel safe and secure throughout the city because crime has been reduced through community-collaboration and culturally appropriate approaches	<ul> <li>Expansion of the         Neighbourhood         Empowerment Team (a         partnership between the City         of Edmonton, Edmonton         Police Service, The Family         Centre and United Way of the         Alberta Capital Region)</li> <li>Community Outreach Transit         Team (COTT)</li> <li>Neighbourhood revitalization</li> <li>Community Social Workers         and Neighbourhood         Resource Coordinators work         with community</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>ConnectEdmonton Healthy         City indicators of personal         safety and crime severity</li> <li>Crime Severity Index</li> <li>HELP and youth referrals</li> <li>EPS misconduct and public         complaints</li> <li>EPS and Peace Officer use of         force occurrences</li> <li>Diversity in EPS senior ranks</li> <li>EPS crime prevention         occurrences in suppression         zones</li> </ul>

- Review and improve the recruiting and hiring process, training curriculum, professional standards transparency and use of force expectations for Administration's enforcement officers
- Localized program for racialized youth who are victims of violent crimes

#### **Alignment Examples**

- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Framework
- REACH Edmonton Crisis Diversion Program
- Recommendations one-four and 11-13 of the CSWB Task Force's Safer for All report:
  - Move to an independent, integrated call evaluation and dispatch model, with representation from Edmonton Police Services (EPS), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Edmonton Fire Rescue Services (EFRS), Community Standards and Neighbourhoods, mental health services, crisis diversion and key social service partners
  - Expand the number and use of crisis diversion and alternative policing teams
  - o Enhance recruitment and training to build diverse, inclusive, anti-racist organizational cultures
  - Examine and pursue ways of preventing the unnecessary use of force by police, peace and bylaw officers
  - o Implement measurement and reporting to drive change and encourage ongoing improvements
  - Enact policies and standards that place focus on proactively and effectively providing support to disadvantaged Edmontonians
  - Invest in urgently needed priorities for community safety

#### Pillar #7 - Well-being

The Well-being pillar of the CSWB Framework is intended to represent both personal and urban-wellness perspectives. Within the Framework, well-being has been defined as a complex mix of variables and factors that contribute to the Indigenous concept of "pimatisiwin" - defined as a good life, and a sense of balance and connection to self, body, land, culture, community, human development and spirit.

As such, the pillar includes recreation, sport and leisure centres, outdoor pools, arenas, stadiums, sports fields, golf courses, river valley parks, and nearly 100 partnerships with sport and recreation organizations. Parks, playgrounds, trails and other free outdoor park amenities also contribute to well-being. Also included are a wide variety of programs that encourage healthy living and overall well-being for people of all ages. Some examples are the Green Shack Program, Play Rangers for kids, youth based programs such as Youth in Action, Nikaniw Indigenous Youth Leadership Program, For Girls By Girls Program and other after school programs with partners such as C5, Africa Centre, Riverbend Rocks and Free Play. Arts, history and nature experiences are also available through on-demand, day camp, in-person and virtual group programs. This includes visual arts, performing arts (drama, dance, music), pottery, culinary arts, crafts, interpretive drop-in programs, tours, exhibits and special events.

In developing the CSWB Strategy and Framework, Administration ensured alignment to the significant work that has been conducted in this space. For example, in July 2017, City Council directed Administration to examine how to best serve Edmonton's vulnerable population and to create an urban wellness plan - now known as RECOVER: Edmonton's Urban Wellness Plan. Similar to the premise of the CSWB Strategy, RECOVER uses ethnographic research to apply data-driven, people-centered approaches that use the Well-being Framework, which includes six types of connection. These connections (to land and ground, body and self, family, friends and community, the sacred, culture and the human project) are reflected in how Administration defined CSWB.

Long-term Outcome	Action Examples	Measures
Edmontonians have the capacity and opportunity to pursue experiences of connection to self, body, land, arts and culture, community, human development and spirit	<ul> <li>Expansion of the Leisure         Access Program and Ride         Transit Program eligibility</li> <li>Neighbourhood Connections         Grant Program</li> <li>Promotional awareness of         drug poisoning (overdose)         prevention</li> <li>Live Active Strategy</li> <li>Community-based         collaborative strategies and         responses such as the         Community Mental Health         Action Plan and Living Hope:         A Suicide Prevention Plan</li> <li>Partnerships for after-school         programming in City         recreation centres, including         Free Play</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of emergency calls related to drug-poisoning</li> <li>Number of active users of Leisure Access Program and Ride Transit Program</li> <li>Number of recreation, cultural, and educational centres and programs attended</li> <li>ConnectEdmonton Healthy City indicators of arts and culture and personal wellness; Urban Places indicators of access to amenities</li> <li>Economic indicators as expressed through sources such as the municipal census, the government of Alberta's economic dashboard and Statistics Canada reporting</li> </ul>

#### **Alignment Examples**

- Edmonton Public Library's five-year strategic plan
- Edmonton Public Library's Digital Initiatives
- Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues energy transition plan
- Edmonton Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program
- United Way of the Alberta Capital Region initiatives
- The Edmonton Food Bank's Beyond Food Program
- Reach's 24/7 Crisis Diversion initiative and Out of School Time program
- RECOVER: Edmonton's Urban Wellness Plan
- Vibrant Communities Canada
- Recommendations 12 and 13 of the CSWB Task Force's Safer for All report:
  - Enact policies and standards that place focus on proactively and effectively providing support to disadvantaged Edmontonians.
  - Invest in urgently needed priorities for community safety

For the long-term outcome, the words "capacity" and "opportunity" were intentionally chosen to reflect input from communities who are marginalized. Administration has heard that barriers to

participation include having the capacity to engage in opportunities while also struggling to meet basic and complex needs (such as securing stable, affordable housing, accessing child care, education and employment opportunities, etc.). The pillars of the framework need to work together in order to effectively address people's unique circumstances and to give them the capacity and the opportunities to pursue their well-being.

To encourage well-being, the City strives to provide equitable access to people of all ages, abilities, incomes, cultures, genders and ages to be active, play and connect through many attractions and amenities. Administration offers several low cost, discounted or free services and programs to ensure all Edmontonians have access to recreation and wellness opportunities such as the Leisure Access Program, minor sport discounts and access for schools under the Joint Use Agreement. A report will be coming to the Community and Public Services Committee on May 30, 2022 about expanding free and low cost after school youth programming in recreation centres.

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

On July 6, 2020, City Council directed that the Edmonton Police Services (EPS) budget be reduced starting in 2021 by \$11.0 million on a permanent basis, with the reduction split over 2021 and 2022. Through the Fall 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget Adjustment, City Council formally approved a reduction of \$5.5 million to the EPS operating budget in 2021 and an additional \$5.5 million in 2022, for a total reduction of \$11.0 million on an ongoing basis.

During the fall 2021 Supplemental Operating Budget Adjustment, City Council reduced the EPS operating budget starting in 2022 by an additional \$10.9 million on an ongoing basis.

The combined impact of these adjustments was a reduction to the EPS operating budget of \$5.5 million in 2021 and an additional \$16.4 million in 2022 (\$5.5 million from original reduction on July 6, 2020, plus an additional \$10.9 million reduction in fall of 2021) resulting in total funding available starting in 2022 of \$21.9 million.

The funding removed from the EPS budget on an ongoing basis was held in financial strategies, for reallocation to support addressing houselessness, community development towards community safety, social services, prevention and response programs, and initiatives as determined by Council.

Council has fully allocated the \$5.5 million in funds in 2021 for one-time items. Of the \$21.9 million available in 2022, Council has approved \$3.3 million for use on ongoing items and \$10.3 million on a one-time basis. As a result, as of the date of writing this report, \$8.4 million in funds are available in 2022 on an ongoing basis, increasing to \$18.7 million starting in 2023.

The table below provides a summary of the EPS funds reallocated to financial strategies and Council approved uses of those funds to date prior to the recommendations in this report.

#### **Community Safety and Wellbeing Funding Schedule**

Community Safety & Well-Being Funding			
(Edmonton Police Servcies operating budget realloca	ted to Financial S	trategies)	
(\$000's)			
	2021	2022	2023
Opening Balance - Ongoing	5,500	21,943	18,693
Ongoing Allocations			
EndPoverty Edmonton		(2,100)	
Reach Edmonton Crisis Diversion		(250)	
Indigeneous led Encampment Support		(900)	
Total Ongoing Allocations	-	(3,250)	
One-Time Allocations			
RECOVER Urban Wellbeing		(250)	
Edmonton Community Development Company		(280)	
Community Investment Operating Grant	(3,751)	(3,750)	
Community Safety & Well-Being Task Force	(349)		
Anti-Racism Grant	(1,400)		
2022 Anti-Racism Strategy		(2,000)	
Transit Safety Plan		(1,655)	
Woman's Shelters		(880)	
Community Property Safety Team		(850)	
Problem Properties		(915)	
2021 Carry-Forward of Unused Funds		300	
Total One-Time Allocations	(5,500)	(10,280)	
Available Balance - Ongoing	-	8,413	18,693

#### **Recommended use of EPS Funds within Financial Strategies**

As part of this strategy, Administration has developed a number of recommendations to use this funding for additional CSWB actions, as outlined in the business cases and summarized below. All of these recommendations have a city-wide impact.

At this time Administration is recommending to utilize the \$8.4 million in funds available in 2022 (for a combination of one-time and ongoing initiatives), and \$3.6 million in funds available in 2023 (for ongoing impacts of 2022 recommendations) for the CSWB initiatives noted in Attachment 1 . Further decisions on use of EPS funds held with financial strategies for initiatives starting in 2023, are recommended to be made through the 2023-2026 budget deliberation process later this fall, concurrent with other 2023-2026 budget decisions. This will also allow Council and Administration to further consider other potential community safety and well-being funding needs arising over the remainder of this year starting in 2023.

Funding decisions for CSWB purposes for 2022 should be limited to the \$8.4 million available in EPS funds within financial strategies. The 2022 property tax bylaw was approved by Council in

late April, and therefore there are no opportunities to increase the tax-levy for 2022. The 2022 available funds can be allocated on a one-time basis in 2022, or an ongoing basis starting in 2022.

The impact of the recommendation on available EPS funds within financial strategies is also reflected in Attachment 1. If all the funding recommendations proposed in this report are approved, there will be no further funding available in 2022 and \$12.8 million in ongoing funding available starting 2023.

In addition to the EPS funding held within Financial Strategies, Administration is exploring other potential sources of funding to help fund CSWB initiatives, including the Building Safer Communities Fund. This is federal funding that can be used to combat gun and gang violence and the root causes of these issues. The City is currently in discussions with the federal government to secure funding under this program, with funding being available from 2022 to 2026. If the grant funds are received by the City, Administration will return with a budget adjustment to include the funds within the budget and obtain Council's approval on the use of the funds. Depending on the terms of the agreement and the effective date, the funds may be able to be retroactively applied to CSWB project expenditures previously approved by Council to be funded with amounts from financial strategies, including approvals of funding for the projects in this report. If this were the case the original approved funding would be returned to financial strategies to be used on future CSWB initiatives.

#### **COMMUNITY INSIGHT**

As a relationship-based city, Administration used the following commitments in its approach to gathering feedback on the CSWB Framework and proposed outcomes:

- Wisdom comes from many sources;
- Together we will listen, learn and lead;
- Meaningful change requires us to do things differently; and
- We may have different, but complementary, definitions of success.

More than 80 community members across over 40 organizations were consulted during the development of the CSWB Framework. A full list of the strategies and stakeholders referenced is in Attachment 5. As described in cross-referenced Office of the City Manager report OCM00568, Safer for All Strategy - Community Safety, Well Being, Inclusion and Anti-racism, community conversations will continue to inform the framework. Insights gathered will be included in a repository of CSWB research and engagement data that will support the City in taking evidence-based and data-informed action.

#### GBA+

The City of Edmonton used GBA+ to help make evidence-based decisions, challenge assumptions, and adjust programs, services and spaces in order to offer enhanced life experiences for those experiencing marginalization in Edmonton.

As the function of the framework is intersectional, so too is the consideration of the people it is intended to serve. People may see themselves in many pillars from many perspectives. A summary of the findings included:

- Considerable public input and a variety of plans and strategies are already advancing work in Edmonton's safety and well-being ecosystem.
- There are many experiences of CSWB that are different to the western concepts of the individual pursuit of happiness, wealth, power, etc. Thus, solutions can emerge from these different conceptual models, and from the unique perspectives and experiences of different groups.
- Programs must consider the intersectional, lived experience of marginalized communities in order to address root causes and advance equity.
- Unconscious biases affect interactions with police, peace officers and health professionals.
- Research has demonstrated repeatedly that marginalized communities have unequal access to core health and well-being services, such as mental health providers, which could seriously limit the impact of preventative factor/resiliency/well-being initiatives to a percentage of Edmonton's population.
- Representing different perspectives and experiences are key to the community-led component
  of the CSWB Strategy. Meaning, Administration must continue to actively engage people
  through the different intersectional lenses that may represent them and define their
  experiences in Edmonton, such as age (youths to seniors), geographic (urban to suburbanite),
  gender, sexual, religious, cultural and other intersectional identifications.

Attachment 6 provides the detailed methodology and findings of the GBA+ approach for this report.

#### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

Through the logic model and change narrative work, Administration has identified key considerations and potential risks as follows:

Risk Element	Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Score (with current mitigations)	Current Mitigations	Potential Future Mitigations
If recommenda	tion is approved					
Macro- economic risk	Changes in the cost of food, housing and other CPI components may increase demand for services in the social and well-being space	4 - likely	3 - major	12 - medium	Awareness of economic stressors built into the city's monitoring of measures and feedback loops	

Competing priorities of partners	The external partners of COE may have different priorities that compete for those groups resources inhibiting the City's ability to achieve its long-term outcomes	4 - likely	3 - major	12 - medium	Conversation, collaboration and co-creation of solutions/programs and activities to ensure alignment of priorities	
Recurring pandemic waves	COVID-19 causes further shut-downs or partial interruptions in the daily activities of Edmontonians, particularly marginalized groups	3 - possible	4 - severe	12 - medium	Monitoring of public health developments by the City's COVID response team	Lessons learned in previous waves on how to quickly adapt to changes in daily life including access to resources.
If recommenda	ntion is not approved					
Adhoc solutions	Adhoc solutions continue to address specific issues in a meaningful way but do not move the ecosystem towards long-term outcomes	4 - likely	4 - severe	16 - high	Without defined long-term outcomes, COE can still act as a conveyor in this space to achieve shared goals	

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Recommended Actions
- 2. Community Safety Well-Being Framework
- 3. Proposed Business Cases
- 4. City Plan Alignment
- 5. Community Insights Overview
- 6. GBA+ Methodology and Findings

# Community Safety and Wellbeing - Recommended Actions (\$000s)

	Expenditures (Incremental)		One-Time / Ongoing	Branch	
	2022	<u>2023</u>			
Recommended CSWB Actions					
1 Microgrants	1,550		One-Time	Office of the City Manager	
2 Integrated Call Evaluation & Dispatch Centre	1,500	555	Ongoing	Office of the City Manager	
3 Indigenous Framework Implementation	811		Ongoing	Social Development	
4 Indigenous-led Shelter	1,000		One-Time	Infrastructure Planning and Design	
5 Extreme Weather Protocol	1 000		Ongoing	Social Development	
3 Extreme Weather Protocol	1,000		Ongoing	Social Development	
6 Drug Poisoning Response	25		One-Time	Social Development	
o brog reiserming response	23		One mine	Social Development	
7 Community Safety Peace Officer Training And Professional				Community Standards and	
Standards Centre Of Excellence	415		Ongoing	Neighbourhoods	
8 Community Wellness	1,622		Ongoing	Social Development	
				5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
9 Edmonton Public Library: Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn Program	200		One-Time	Boards and Authorities/Edmonton Public Library	
1 Togram	200		One mine	i done Library	
10 Bridge Healing Centre	290		One-Time	Social Development	
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

# Community Safety and Wellbeing - Recommended Actions (\$000s)

	Expenditures (Incremental)		One-Time / Ongoing	Branch
	<u>2022</u>	2023		
Total CSWB Recommended Actions - 2022	8,413	555		
Funding Strategy				
Edmonton Police Servcies funds held within Financial Strategies	(8,413)	(555)	_	Corporate Expenditures/Corporate Programs
Net Impact	-	-		

# Community Safety and Wellbeing - Recommended Actions (\$000s)

Expenditures (Incremental)

# Edmonton Police Services funds held within Financial Strategies Schedule Impact of Recommendations (\$000's)

	2022	2023
Opening Balance - Ongoing (Prior to Recommendations)	8,413	18,693
Ongoing Allocations (Recommended)		
Integrated Call Evaluation & Dispatch Centre	(1,500)	(2,055)
Indigenous Framework Implementation	(811)	(811)
Extreme Weather Protocol	(1,000)	(1,000)
Community Safety Peace Officer Training And Professional Standards Centre Of Excellence	(415)	(415)
Community Wellness	(1,622)	(1,622)
Total Ongoing Allocations	(5,348)	(5,903)
One-Time Allocations (Recommended)		
Microgrants	(1,550)	-
Indigenous-led Shelter	(1,000)	-
Drug Poisoning Response	(25)	-
Edmonton Public Library: Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn Prograi	(200)	-
Bridge Healing Centre	(290)	_
Total One-Time Allocations	(3,065)	-
Available Balance - Ongoing (After Recommendations)	-	12,790

		- 3	

### ell-being

	Commun	nity Safety and W
V	V.	

Anti-racism	Reconciliation
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Safe and Inclusive **Spaces** 

**Equitable Policies**, Procedures. Standards and Guidelines

various

Accessibility Framework

(people with disabilities)

**Pathways** In & Out of Poverty

**Crime Prevention Crisis Intervention** 

**Well-being** 

PILLARS

DASHBOARD INDICATORS

various

Truth and Reconciliation

Commission - 94

Recommendations

Missing and Murdered

Girls action plan

Indigenous Women and

DASHBOARD INDICATORS

DASHBOARD INDICATORS

DASHBOARD INDICATORS

various

Full housing spectrum

(encampment to market

housing)

Accessible and affordable transit

Access to mental health services

Alberta Poverty

Reduction Network

various

EPS + Bylaw

Multi-disciplinary

Response Team

Joint Operations

Governance Structure

Neighbourhood

Organizing Initiative

Downtown Safety

Neighbourhood

**Empowerment Team** 

ACB Residential program

DASHBOARD INDICATORS

various

RECOVER

Leisure Access Program

Live Active

Community Connections in

Recreation Centres

Crisis Diversion Team

Opioid Overdose Prevention

United Way

EPL:

Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn

PARTNERS

Anti-racism Committee

**Grant Funding** 

Anti-racism Strategy - Independent Anti-racism Body - High Level Anti-racism Office in City Administration

- Core Operational and

Capacity-Building Funding

Mayor's motion

on anti-racism

Civic agency remuneration

Ommittee representation Anti-racism Advisory

various

Indigenous Housing Urban Reserves Kihciy Askiy

various

Downtown Vibrancy Community Outreach Transit

(COTT) Safety Team **Problem Properties** Extreme Weather Response

Bystander Awareness 311 / Digital Safe Spaces Public Washrooms Accessible Communication

Address problem properties Work with BIAs to foster safe and activated environments in business and

entertainment areas

Services in Registered

Recreation Programs (Pilot Project)

> \$2.26M public washroom pilot Promote adoption for minimum shelter standards

\$2.1M for

**EndPoverty** \$280k for ECDC poverty reduction Transit fine repayment options

and low income fare review.

Police Funding Formula Review

\$250k for REACH 24/7 Crisis Diversion

\$900k for additional

encampment outreach

**Grant program** \$250k for RECOVER

\$3.75M to Community

Investment Operating

Update on Task Force Recommendations

MOTIONS

MOTIONS

**EXAMPLE ACTIONS** 

**GBA+ Analysis** 

# Attachment #3

# **Proposed Business Cases**

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# Attachment #3

# **Risk Descriptors**

Impact	Description
Minor	Noticeable disruption to results; manageable
Moderate	Material deterioration in results; a concern; may not be acceptable; management response would be considered
Major	Significant deterioration in results; not acceptable; management response required
Severe	Fundamental threat to operating results; immediate senior management attention
Worst Case	Results threaten survival of program area in current form, potentially full-time senior management response until resolved.

#### **MICROGRANTS**

Pillars: All

#### **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

#### Incremental Outcomes (TBD up to \$1.550 million one-time operating required)

This is the most likely use of the Microgrant funding:

- Short term outcomes
  - Address emergent or urgent needs
  - Allow nimbleness in addressing small windows of opportunities
  - Aligned with principles in CSWB Strategy
  - o Further the progress in any pillar

#### **Moderate Outcomes (TBD up to \$1.550 million one-time operating required)**

This is a less likely use of the Microgrant funding:

- Medium term outcomes
  - Single or multi-year but not indefinite ongoing commitments (two years at \$20,000 for example)
  - Aligned with principles in CSWB Strategy
  - Further the progress in any pillar

Note: This business case request is **\$1.550 million total**, however due to the nature of the grant program any split between Incremental and Moderate Outcomes is not yet known.

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Microgrants are meant to respond to emergent needs or opportunities and will be managed through the Office of the City Manager through a streamlined process. Grant funding is not intended to be an ongoing source of funding or programming, though finite multi-year opportunities may be considered. Administration of these grants is expected to be nimble in order to maximize short term opportunities with broad funding and the criteria, within the confines of the CSWB Strategy and the principles in particular.

#### **IUSTIFICATION**

Microgrants are not intended to replace traditional funding mechanisms but are meant to enhance work in the Community Safety and Well-being space. These grants will be either opportunistic where the window of opportunity is small or based on urgent and emergent needs where a longer administrative process may delay the delivery of services or programs.

Supporting Data/Measures/Indicators for the Insight:

• Intended outcomes for each grant will be tracked and reported on and where possible measurement of the impact of the grant will be recorded.

#### **RISKS**

Impact on Citizens	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MINOR	MINOR	MINOR

#### Attachment #3

#### INTEGRATED CALL EVALUATION AND DISPATCH CENTRE

**Pillars:** Crime Prevention and Crisis Intervention; Equitable Policies, Procedures, Standards and Guidelines

#### **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

Transformational Outcomes (\$1.5 million initial operating costs + \$2.055 million/year ongoing required)

While providing 24/7 dispatch services the outcomes are:

- System Outcomes
  - Appropriate Resource Allocation
  - Reduced number of times clients with complex needs require access to emergency services
  - Interorganizational Dependency
- Community Outcomes
  - o Improved Citizen quality of life
  - o Improved Customer Services and Quality of Care

#### **DESCRIPTION**

A joint dispatch centre aligns emergency services and various partner agencies toward collective outcomes. Specifically the building of an integrated call evaluation and dispatch system that addresses general enhancement of the service to the public, particularly, requests for service with an addiction, mental health or social services component. Funding the request will provide for:

- 1. An executive director to lead the dispatch centre and work with the necessary community partners
- 2. A project manager to lead the development of processes and governance structures in order to make the initiative successful
- 3. Sixteen staff/team members to work in the centre and answer the calls/direct resources

#### **IUSTIFICATION**

The goal for the integrated Call evaluation and dispatch system is "To eliminate barriers, increase understanding and engagement by stakeholders, and move the response from a traditional emergency response of Police, Fire, and EMS toward an integrated continuum of response". Through a comprehensive and iterative process of interviews, workshops, literature review and two working papers, the objectives of the system were defined - these are a system that must be scalable, sustainable, interoperable and measurable.

To be successful, the right partners need to be involved and identifiable outcomes and accountability must exist across the board. All of the partners involved will have a responsibility to track the value of this work and share data to ensure effective intake, response and post-response. Moving away from a siloed approach will allow the achievement of the stated outcomes.

#### Attachment #3

Supporting Data/Measures/Indicators for the Insight:

- Edmontonians receive a timely and correct response on the first call Number of repeat calls for services from clients with complex needs
- Edmontonians receive consistent service through all intake lines Number of clients satisfied with the level of customer service
- Provincial legislation requires emergency services contacted through 911 require that 90 per cent of the time the caller's location, phone number and which organization (service) they to be transferred to be evaluated within 60 seconds.

#### **RISKS**

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MODERATE	MINOR	MODERATE

#### INDIGENOUS FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION

**Pillar:** Reconciliation

#### **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

#### Incremental Outcomes (Investment Required: Current State, No Investment)

Currently there is no funding allocated to the Indigenous Framework Implementation.
 Each department will be responsible for resourcing the framework accordingly from existing budgets.

#### Moderate Outcomes (\$811,000/yr ongoing required)

- This investment will allow an additional **2.0 FTEs** in the Indigenous Relations office to support the implementation of the Indigenous Framework across the corporation with two subject matter experts that can support the implementation of each department's action plan (and fulfill the corporate action plan).
- In collaboration with the City Manager's Office Senior Executive Advisor:
  - The investment of **3.0 FTEs** for the Indigenous Relations Office in Social Development will provide the human resources to move forward on the Truth and Reconciliation and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Municipal Responses.
  - The investment of 1.0 FTE for the Indigenous Relations Office in Social Development will provide additional support for the actions related to community spaces and intergovernmental work. In particular, this position will support project management related to Urban Reserves, a profile expected to only expand over the coming years.
  - Currently, this work is not resourced in the IRO, with a small operational team, to manage and meaningfully achieve these outcomes this work needs additional human resources.
- The investment of **1.0 FTE** for the Community Standards and Neighbourhood branch to implement a branch action plan for the Indigenous Framework including trauma-informed reconciliation opportunities between enforcement and the communities they impact.

#### **Transformational Outcomes (Investment Required: TBD)**

- Reconciliation is a transformative goal in the City Plan and ConnectEdmonton. Human resources will allow us to begin actioning this work, but additional funding for programming and investments both across the city and in the community will lead to transformative change. Separate motions are expected to fully fund and resource the following plans in order to achieve the actions and outcomes as outlined in the reports to council:
  - Truth and Reconciliation Municipal Response
  - Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Municipal Response

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The three elements of the Framework (guiding principles, four roles and seven commitments) are meant to guide City staff on their learning journeys of reconciliation and

relationship-building with Indigenous communities. The framework and its actions are part of the city's commitment to reconciliation. Included in this, is addressing the municipal role in the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice. Throughout this year, Council will learn about these responses and the proposed actions the city can take to repair and build relationships with Indigenous communities in Edmonton. Investment in these positions will significantly increase the Indigenous Relations Office's (and the corporation's) ability to respond to these action plans in meaningful ways while still continuing the ongoing community and economic development work already underway in the office.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

Endorsed by City Council in February 2021, the Indigenous Framework is the foundation for how the City of Edmonton can best support and build strong relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Developed with the guidance of Elders, the Indigenous Framework is the City's commitment to the journey of reconciliation and sets our accountability to increase relationship-building capacities with Indigenous peoples in Edmonton. The City needs to resource the work internally to advance the municipal actions we have committed to. The growth of this portfolio has increased dramatically and yet resourcing has only reduced over the past number of years.

Supporting Data/Measures/Indicators for the Insight (sources & more info in notes)

- 2016 federal census indicated that there were 76,205 Indigenous peoples living in Edmonton, which was the second-largest urban Indigenous population in Canada
- According to EndPovertyEdmonton, 40 percent of Indigenous residents in Edmonton live in poverty and have a median income of only two-thirds that of non-Indigenous.
- Administration found 120 calls for justice directed at municipalities within The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MODERATE	MODERATE	MINOR

### **INDIGENOUS-LED SHELTER**

Pillar: Reconciliation; Pathways In and Out of Poverty

# **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

# **Incremental Outcomes (\$1 million one-time Capital required)**

- Initiate a City funded capital project to advance planning to the Project Development and Delivery Model Checkpoint #2.
- Working with Indigenous-led community partners, develop the project scope and outcomes and complete a functional program and a site location analysis. Together, these deliverables would inform next steps for design and delivery of the facility, including budget and schedule estimates.

# Transformational Outcomes (Investment Required in Operating and Capital is to be determined )

- Creation of an effective pathway out of homelessness for Indigenous individuals experiencing homelessness that are not well served by the existing emergency shelter system
- Increased capacity and services offered by the Indigenous operator
- Overall emergency shelter capacity in Edmonton will increase (30-50 spaces)
- Improved housing outcomes, reducing the number of Indigenous people experiencing homelessness
- Access to culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people experiencing homelesses, in alignment with the City's commitments through the Indigenous Framework, Truth & Reconciliation (TRC), Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIWG) and Girls and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP).

## **DESCRIPTION**

Administration has been directed to develop options for an Indigenous-led shelter that will work to provide a pathway to permanent housing for Indigenous people experiencing homelessness. Ensuring Indigenous women have increased access to culturally appropriate emergency shelters was identified as a call to action in the MMIWG report, and will support the City's commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) recently announced a call for proposals for an Indigenous-led shelter. The City hopes to work with Indigenous Services Canada and Indigenous-led community partners to leverage this opportunity. The City is currently engaging with Indigenous stakeholders to gather feedback on increasing Indigenous led shelter, housing and programming in Edmonton.

One time capital costs will be required to establish the shelter, and are dependent upon the desired built form and operating model, which are both unknown at this time.

### **IUSTIFICATION**

Indigenous peoples continue to be disproportionately represented among people experiencing homelessness, due to various factors including lack of access to safe, affordable,

and culturally appropriate housing, and experiences of systemic racism and discrimination. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the housing challenges, increasing the number of people falling into homelessness. The majority of available emergency shelter services present barriers to access for Indigenous peoples, especially those with historic or intergenerational trauma or complex health needs. Indigenous people experiencing homelessness are also more likely to sleep outside than their non-Indigenous counterparts.

Unsheltered homelessness has been increasing in Edmonton over the last seven years. In 2018 Administration commissioned OrgCode Consulting to report on the increasing number of people sleeping outside. In this report, lack of culturally appropriate emergency shelter options in Edmonton was noted as a barrier to accessing emergency shelter. It is critical to acknowledge and provide appropriate resources regarding the unique experiences of Indigenous people with culture and racial identity within the homeless population to create community support and a sense of belonging, and address the spiritual connection and mental health needs. An Indigenous-led shelter would be best situated to provide a bridge for Indigenous individuals to (re)connect with their culture and support individuals on their journey out homelessness. As such, cultural support is a crucial service as it addresses the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of humans. In particular, it welcomes Indigenous people to have a place to feel connected with their identity, spirituality, customs, ceremonies, medicine, and language. Lastly, having cultural support available honours Truth and Reconciliation, and demonstrates to the First People of this land that having their basic needs met includes having access to their cultural practices with no barriers.

Supporting Data/ Measures/ Indicators:

- Edmonton's homeless population as of March 2022 is 3,050 and in December 2019 was 1,350.
- More than 60 per cent of Edmonton's homeless population are Indigenous, despite making up only 5 per cent of Edmonton's total population.
- Between 800-900 people are estimated to be sleeping outside on any given night.
- More than 80 per cent of those who received Housing First remained housed after the first year.

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MODERATE	MODERATE	MINOR

### **EXTREME WEATHER RESPONSE**

**Pillar:** Safe and Inclusive Spaces (Primary), Pathways In and Out of Poverty; Equitable Policies, Procedures, Standards and Guidelines;

### **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

### **Incremental Outcomes:**

- City Policy C620 will continue to be implemented, adapting to emergent conditions and needs, with costs absorbed by various relevant City budgets
- Sufficient services will be in place to protect vulnerable Edmontonians during extreme cold periods only through a coordinated response involving homeless serving agencies, supplemented by City supports

# **Moderate Outcomes (\$1 million/yr ongoing required)**

- Sufficient services will be in place to protect vulnerable Edmontonians during extreme cold periods only through a coordinated response involving homeless serving agencies, supplemented by additional City supports
- As a result of a dedicated budget for extreme weather responses:
  - o Improved annual planning will be enabled
  - City services will not experience reductions in service levels due to diversion of resources for emergent extreme weather conditions (e.g. Peace Officers, ETS, City facilities, etc.)

# **Transformational Outcomes (Up to \$12 million/yr ongoing required)**

In addition to the moderate outcomes above:

- A consistent, reliable, and scalable emergency shelter that adheres to the City's Minimum Emergency Shelter Standards will be available throughout the winter months, and for all extreme weather conditions that may arise throughout the year
- Overall emergency shelter capacity in Edmonton will increase and the risk of harm to vulnerable Edmontonians due to exposure and other hazards associated with inadequate access to shelter will significantly decrease
- Improved housing outcomes will be enabled, reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness
- Long term and proactive planning will be enabled

### **DESCRIPTION**

City Policy C620 - Supporting Vulnerable People During Extreme Weather was approved by City Council in 2019, with the goal of ensuring a "systematic response to Extreme Weather Conditions in order to safeguard the health and lives of Edmontonians who are Vulnerable People." The City's role in this response is to supplement and support the existing community-wide response, work closely with Sector Emergency Response (led by Homeward Trust) and the Government of Alberta to ensure sufficient services are in place to protect vulnerable Edmontonians from extreme weather hazards. The response is triggered by:

- A weather warning being issued;
- Emergency shelter services are at or above 90 percent capacity; and
- A decision is made to implement an extreme weather protocol by a body composed

of representatives from Homeward Trust Edmonton, City of Edmonton and shelter organizations.

Typically, there are three circumstances that would require a response: extreme cold, extreme heat, and extremely poor air quality. Providing sufficient shelter is paramount in extreme cold and poor air quality conditions in order to safeguard the health and well being of vulnerable Edmontonians. In extreme heat conditions, the provision of water and at least temporary reprieve from poor air quality and heat are the most important responses. Transportation is key for all types of extreme weather conditions, to ensure vulnerable populations are able to get to critical services.

# **JUSTIFICATION**

The critical need to be prepared for emergency responses in extreme weather conditions is driven by the increasing effects of climate change on Edmonton's environmental conditions. In addition, pandemic pressures over the past two years have resulted in drastic increases in the number of vulnerable people that might be at risk during extreme weather, in particular people experiencing homelessness.

City Policy C620 requires the City to provide the supplemental actions needed to ensure the health and well-being of vulnerable people during extreme weather conditions. The increased demand for services associated with the growth of homelessness over the past two years has meant that shelters are regularly operating near capacity, which increases the likelihood that the City's response will be needed to assure safety. Continued planning and coordination with homeless serving agencies and the provincial government will be needed to effectively implement Policy C620 and provide the services that the most vulnerable Edmontonians rely upon when trying to survive the hazards and harms resulting from emergent extreme weather conditions.

Supporting Data/Measures/Indicators:

- Local shelters need at least 1,200 beds to adequately address the need through the winter.
- This past winter an average of 985 clients accessed shelter each night, with the need exceeding 1,100 beds during extreme cold events.
- Edmonton currently has only 634 permanently funded shelter beds.
- Current projections indicate that by the 2050's Edmonton has a 50 per cent likelihood to have five consecutive days below 30 degrees and 100 per cent chance of 5 consecutive days of extreme heat.

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MODERATE	MINOR	MODERATE

# **Drug Poisoning Response**

Pillar: Well-Being

### **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

Incremental Outcomes (Investment Required: \$25,000/yr one time)

- In partnership with the Community Liaison Committee: Partners in Drug Poisoning Prevention, Administration will collaboratively implement activities that have been identified as a priority, this may include activities such as:
  - Enhancing education and awareness efforts regarding drug poisoning
  - Increasing the supply of NARCAN in the community
  - Engagement of people with lived and living experience
- Will enhance some of the key areas of work to prevent drug poisoning in Edmonton.

Moderate Outcomes (Investment Required: \$400,000/yr ongoing required for FTE, Program Dollars & NARCAN- Will be reviewed and potentially brought forward for the 2023-2036 budget pending direction from City Council)

- Increase the resources at the disposal of the Social Development branch to dedicate staff to the systems coordination role, bringing together key stakeholders and partners to respond to the crisis.
- Increase the resources at the disposal of the Social Development Branch to fund initiatives, educational campaigns and community-led work to address the drug poisoning crisis.

# **DESCRIPTION**

There is a need to coordinate with partners to continue to respond to the evolving crisis around drug poisonings. The City of Edmonton currently coordinates the Community Liaison Committee (Partners in Drug Poisoning Prevention). The committee meets monthly and consists of key stakeholders and community organisations. The Social Development branch allocates 0.75 of an FTE to this work currently, with no program budget or ability to fund any expenses (such as educational campaigns, NARCAN supplies or otherwise). Administration is recommending an incremental investment at this time, pending direction from Council on outstanding motions.

Moving forward, an investment of \$400,000 per year will enable Social Development to hire a Full-time FTE to manage this file and continue the coordination of partners. It will also give Social Development and Community Standards and Neighbourhoods access to program dollars that can fund key activities and responses to the drug poisoning crisis including:

- Supply of NARCAN for peace officers
- Provide funding and support to local harm reduction efforts.
- Operating funds for the Community Liaison Committee: Partners in Drug Poisoning Prevention to implement activities they identify as a priority.

- Expanding the availability of projects such as the Addictions Don't Discriminate Exhibit.
- Education and awareness efforts.
- Research and analysis support on issues related to the drug poisoning crisis.
- Funds to support the engagement of people with lived and living experience.

Note: The City of Edmonton is a collaborating partner in a project entitled *Preventing Drug Poisoning in Edmonton: Neighbourhood outreach and public education/awareness campaign* which was recently funded through the Substance Use and Addiction Program (SUAP) with Health Canada. This work will occur between April 2022 and March 2023 and would supplement the activities listed above.

# **Upcoming Motion (Potential Impacts):**

Council has made a motion around decriminalization and an additional motion on 'drug checking'. Pending the results of these motions and the direction from Council resources may be required to support a response.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

The drug poisoning crisis, primarily fueled by opioid-related overdoses, is having a devastating effect on Edmonton and its communities. Acute deaths have nearly doubled over the last few years and show no signs of easing. COVID-19 has led to an increase in the toxicity of the drug supply, which is significantly contributing to the number of poisonings we are seeing today. Public health measures during COVID-19also contributed to higher risk for people using substances through behaviours such as using alone and a limitation in the services and supports that were available.

Supporting Data/Measures/Indicators for the Insight

- In 2021, 1,750 Albertans (including 618 Edmontonians) died from drug poisoning making it the deadliest year on record.
- Between 2018 and 2021, on average, 64 per cent 74 per cent of overdose deaths happened in private Edmonton residences and 23 per cent in 2021 were in public.
- Pilot study in Vancouver in 2017 found that only 19 per cent of substances purchased as opioids in fact contained the expected substance and 88 per cent contained fentanyl.
- 12,830 reversals were self-reported between 2016-2019 in Alberta due to the use of naloxone kits. Due to this number being self-reported it is likely that the true number of reversals in the community is significantly higher.

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MODERATE	MINOR	MODERATE

# COMMUNITY SAFETY PEACE OFFICER TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

**Pillar:** Equitable Policies, Procedures, Standards and Guidelines

#### **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

# **Incremental Outcomes (\$415,000/yr ongoing required)**

- Adding 2.5 FTE for creation of a centralized team focused on professional development and standards in Community Standards and Neighbourhoods
- Creation and maintenance of a dashboard for transparency in professional standards
- Internal evaluation or audit of the professional standards process
- Internal evaluation/audit of mandatory training requirements and funding allocation
- Embedded equity practices in professional standards and development for City enforcement officers
- Once the evaluation or audit is complete, the Community Standards and Neighbourhoods branch will reallocate resources to implement recommendations.
- Review, changes and additions to ongoing training standards, course refresher timelines and community-led training opportunities.
- Modernization of Administration's enforcement policies, procedures, standards and guidelines.
- Ensure full, transparent oversight of professional standards complaints investigations

### **Moderate Outcomes (Investment Required TBD)**

In addition to the incremental outcomes:

- External evaluation or audit of the professional standards process from different cultural perspectives
- External evaluation/audit of mandatory training requirements and funding allocation
- External evaluation of gaps in understanding of community that can be solved through training
- Allocation of funding to mandatory training and recertifications for City enforcement officers

### **Transformational Outcomes (Investment Required TBD)**

In addition to the moderate outcomes:

- Establishing a formal program that tailors training and professional standards in alignment with community and deployment models to support an appropriate, well-trained and compassionate response.
- Funding estimates are expected to be available after extensive planned engagement with community and stakeholders.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The CSWB report requires complaints and investigations against officers to be modernized and for enhancements in transparency. CSN will modernize the workforce through building a professional standards and subject matter specific training area for the branch. This area will oversee the peace officer professional standards investigations and policies, as well as the upkeep of their professional designations and re-certifications training. It will also own the

CPOIP induction training for peace officers, as well as the schedule for branch-wide and section-specific training calendars. This office will allow the branch to move past legally-mandated training and create a calendar of training specific to community needs, including trauma-informed training, procedural justice, and crisis intervention. Although some of this work can be accomplished by reallocation within the branch, it will need additional budget asks to be fully realized. Also as requested by Council in 2021 - a public dashboard for Use of Force information will be available with information on complaints of service against City enforcement employees (no personal info shared). The complaints process against City enforcement employees will be audited then adapted for equity-related barriers.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

Trust is the foundation for the legitimacy of public institutions and a functioning democratic system. One of the ways municipal governments can build trust and accountability with communities is through the development of publicly-available performance dashboards. The CSWB Task Force recommended creating a public community safety and well-being dashboard to better track safety concerns. In addition to transparency, as outlined by the CSWB Taskforce, "comprehensive, systematic training programs for police, peace and bylaw officers will drive fundamental culture changes that embrace and live in inclusivity and anti-racism." In addition, research shows training has effects on an organization's reputation for attracting top talent, staff retention and utilizing staff diversity which are all key factors in building a successful workforce.

Supporting Data/Measures/Indicators for the insight

- 40 per cent of employees who don't receive the necessary job training to become effective will leave their positions within the first year, the turnover cost is estimated to be between 20-40 per cent of that employees annual wage.
- 70 per cent of employment seekers check for an organization's reputation before applying, 80 per cent of employed professionals claimed they would leave their current position to work at a company with a positive reputation
- 67 per cent of job seekers find diversity incredibly important and 57 per cent of people think their company should be doing more to promote diversity initiatives.
- In CSWB 142 Edmontonians expressed their perspectives about racism in our city and their experiences with policing. It was clear that far too many Edmontonians do not feel safe.
- In 2020, 63 per cent of Edmontonians indicated they feel totally safe overall in Edmonton, 28 per cent indicated this feeling was attributed to Police/Law enforcement.
- 45 per cent of Canadians say they don't trust the government to do what is right

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MINOR	MINOR	MINOR

### **COMMUNITY WELLNESS**

Pillar: Well-being

# **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

# Moderate Outcomes (\$1.622 million/yr ongoing required)

### • Outcomes of the Suicide Prevention Plan are:

- Edmontonians understand the connection between mental health and suicide to reduce stigma, and increases the understanding of how to help someone.
- The whole continuum of services (prevention, intervention, postvention) is fully accessible so that those working with individuals and communities impacted by suicide care for them appropriately.
- Continuation of the prevention based activities (awareness building, training) and enhanced efforts on the postvention activities (supports for those impacted by suicide).
- Community-based teams have the resources and knowledge to champion, steward and maintain implementation activities.

# • Outcomes of the Community Mental Health Action Plan are:

- Edmontonians understand the connection between mental health, addictions, and community safety & wellness, to reduce stigma (campaigns, training, & conversations), and increase the understanding of how to help someone (building connections & natural supports).
- Edmontonians have access to a coordinated mental health care system,
   where allied community partners and collaborators work together to address needs and improve outcomes in Edmonton.
- Policies and practices that promote positive mental health and safe spaces are developed and implemented based on a combination of lived experience, evidence and best-practice.
- Community will be able to identify situations and appropriate responses because of provided training opportunities that are trauma informed and culturally appropriate.
- Edmontonians are resilient, knowledgeable and have access to appropriate support services when needed.

# • Outcomes of RECOVER Urban Wellbeing are:

- Greater understanding of problems grounded in the perspectives of people at the center of them such as those with lived experience of marginalization, as well as greater understanding and use of the wellbeing framework and social research and development, along with tools such as ethnography to improve wellbeing.
- New ways to collect data and authentically and deeply engage Edmontonians typically left out.
- Design and testing of solution ideas to support community safety and wellbeing, using the wellbeing framework.
- Safe/brave spaces created for people to connect across differences, cultivating conditions that support healing.
- Stronger community care networks and connections in neighbourhoods.

 Prototypes that show the most promise are supported to grow and be led through partnerships.

#### **DESCRIPTION**

This will fund the renewal of the Living Hope Suicide Prevention Implementation Strategy, integrate the current efforts of the Community Mental Health Action Plan and further support the work of RECOVER Urban Wellbeing for the next four years to continue the efforts related to these portfolios. While the impacts are not immediate, the investment over time creates the continuity and sustainability required to bring about systems and service changes. This investment includes:

# 1. Renewing the Living Hope Implementation Strategy (\$1 million/year over four years)

The original implementation plan (approved by Council in March 2018) was developed by dedicated organizations and individuals who believe that suicide can be prevented in our city. The plan aims to bring the community closer to preventing suicide in Edmonton. The plan has outlined specific interventions and action, key organizations involved and their roles, resourcing required, timelines and an evaluation. The strategy was set for a timeline of 2018-2021. In Fall 2021, Council provided the strategy with one year of funding so that the evaluation process could be completed and Administration could return to Council with a plan forward as part of the 2023-2026 budget process. Administration intends to bring this update to Council in Spring 2022.

# 2. Integrating the Work of the Community Mental Health Action Plan (\$300,000/year over four years)

The Community Mental Health Action Plan was developed to facilitate a lived experience, community driven, and stakeholder created, collaborative set of solutions to mental health system challenges. The work in this sector is far from being complete, and with the onset of Covid-19, the need was amplified for more consistent and equitable access to mental health supports. In an effort to increase efficiency, effectiveness and collaboration, the work of the Suicide Prevention Strategy will now be woven in more tightly to the overall continuum of supports resulting in an even further partnership among key stakeholders, reducing any duplication and streamline the workloads of community agencies and representatives. The resources in this plan will continue to support community-based responses to ongoing recovery from the pandemic.

# 3. RECOVER Urban Wellbeing (\$350,000/year over four years)

The RECOVER Urban Wellbeing approach is rooted in the practices of Social Research & Development and co-design; where work is done with people to test out ideas that could improve wellbeing within their communities. Work is done within a wellbeing framework, towards the outcome of people feeling a deep sense of connection and balance. This is done by conducting deep research and then co-designing solutions that are often community-based and are designed to help people feel more connected to themselves, the land, and others, as a means of building community, healthy people, and safe, vibrant spaces.

# **JUSTIFICATION**

In alignment with the Community Mental Health Action Plan, FCSS Program Guide for 2023, RECOVER's Soulful City guiding document and Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention, further resources need to be set aside for the increase in suicide and mental health resources in light of the impacts of Covid-19.

Supporting Data/Measures/Indicators for the Insight

- 211 database shows calls associated with Mental Health in 2019 to 2021 have nearly doubled.
- Estimated 2,114 excess suicides in 2020-21 in Canada
- Children and youth, age 6–18, found that 67–70 per cent experienced deterioration in at least one mental health domain during Covid
- 3,163 suicide-related calls made to the Edmonton Distress line in 2021 and 439 suicide-related calls received by Edmonton 211.
- Based on preliminary data from 2021, Edmonton experience a 3.45 per cent increase from 2020 in the number of deaths by suicide reported by Alberta's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.
- RECOVER's ethnographic research has shown that wellbeing isn't the presence or absence of just one thing: it's the relationship between self, family, society, nature and cosmos, and must incorporate consideration of non-material factors such as respect, purpose and connection.
- Community plays an essential role in helping to identify, design and implement opportunities/ideas for community safety and wellbeing.

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MODERATE	MINOR	MINOR

# HOW SING, SIGN, LAUGH AND LEARN CONTRIBUTES TO COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

Pillar: Well-being

### **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

## Incremental Outcomes (\$200,000 one-time funding)

EPL will increase its support to families with children from birth to age three by increasing the number of early literacy Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn (SSLL) classes offered at library branches across Edmonton beginning in 2023. With the addition of 2.0 FTE to its current Library Assistant FTE complement, EPL will be able to offer as many as 5,484 SSLL classes system-wide with an annual attendance of over 137,000 without compromising quality standards, ensuring these free classes continue to help children develop the literacy skills they need in the critical early years. The investment works out to a cost of \$36.50 per class.

# **Transformational Outcomes (Investment Required TBD)**

With strong literacy skills, children are more likely to go further and succeed in school, find future employment, have a higher income and be healthier and happier throughout life. When we invest in children, we're investing in a prosperous and sustainable community.

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn (SSLL) is an early literacy class offered to parents/caregivers and their children aged 0-3. SSLL format and content is based on research and best practices in health, child development, communication and literacy and is offered in partnership with Alberta Health Services Edmonton Early Intervention Program (AHS-EIP). SSLL is an inclusive class designed to enhance the early literacy and communication skill development of all children, including those with developmental delays. It includes community time to encourage families to build social connections and provides parents with strategies to use with their children at home - extending learning beyond the library.

EPL requires funds to expand early literacy programming capacity. Well-being isn't only about preventing bad things from happening; it is also about ensuring enough good things do happen. EPL wants to help more preschool children develop strong early literacy skills by expanding its popular and highly regarded Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn programming. An additional \$200,000 annually would give more Edmonton children access to one of the good things while minimizing long-term negative impacts of COVID-19 and increasing opportunities for children to develop into resilient, productive and educated life-long learners.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

EPL is a vital educational, cultural and social institution with extensive reach throughout the city. An important free, public learning space and community hub for Edmontonians of all ages, EPL strives to support all citizens, including the littlest, through its community-led approach, building relationships and fostering social connection.

An ounce of prevention: "Poor reading skills correlate heavily with lack of employment, lower wages, and fewer opportunities for advancement. Significantly worse reading skills are found among prisoners than in the general adult population. And deficient readers are less likely to

become active in civic and cultural life, most notably in volunteerism and voting." (National Endowment for the Arts, 2007). A focus on early literacy continues to be one of EPL's key strategies to support literacy and lifelong learning. Children need a strong start - the first five years is a critical time for developing a positive attitude toward learning and the skills needed for reading and success in school. Researchers have found that vocabulary and communication skills at 22 months predict educational qualifications at age 26 and that children entering school with low language skills may never catch up. That's why support in early childhood is the best investment society can make to yield the highest rate of return. Effect of the pandemic. Since COVID-19 restrictions were first imposed, the widespread disruption to daily routines, lack of consistent access to extracurricular activities and ever-changing public health guidelines have had a significant impact on children. Research is showing concerning trends in disengagement, absenteeism, depression, anxiety, developmental delays and learning loss. Effects are uneven – children who were already disadvantaged or struggling fell further behind. Everything EPL is hearing from Edmonton schools, Alberta Health Services, and other community partners underscores both the need and the urgency in addressing these health and literacy concerns.

EPL is uniquely positioned to help. EPL has the expertise, resources and reach to support Edmonton families and help every child reach their full potential. Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn (SSLL), a foundational class available through every EPL location, is offered in partnership with Alberta Health Services Edmonton Early Intervention Program. It places particular emphasis on the use of functional language and visual strategies, including sign language, to develop vocabulary and communication skills in all children, including those with developmental delays. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate in community time after the class to build social connections; they are also taught strategies to use with their child in the home - extending learning beyond the library. Classes are free and families can attend multiple times per week. An OECD (2020) report found that "children from even the most socially deprived home can thrive when they have sustained access to high-quality, responsive learning environments."

EPL requires funds to expand early literacy programming capacity. Well-being isn't only about preventing bad things from happening; it is also about ensuring enough good things do happen. EPL wants to help more preschool children develop strong early literacy skills by expanding its popular and highly regarded Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn programming. An additional \$200,000 annually would give more Edmonton children access to one of the good things while minimizing long-term negative impacts of COVID-19 and increasing opportunities for children to develop into resilient, productive and educated life-long learners.

Without this funding, EPL would not be able to keep pace with population increases without negatively affecting other library services or decreasing the quality (and many of the early literacy benefits) of the SSLL program itself. Children born in 2023 will be 27 in 2050, statistically when most of them will be starting families of their own. The sooner EPL has resources in place to meet the needs of all Edmonton families for free, community-based, early literacy programming the better as EPL can mitigate the possible long-term effects of the pandemic - ensuring Edmonton has a more literate populace into the future.

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MINOR	MINOR	MINOR

### **BRIDGE HEALING**

**Pillar:** Pathways In and Out of Poverty

# **RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

# Incremental Outcomes (\$290,000 one-time)

\$290,000 for a one-year pilot with Royal Alexandra Hospital emergency room using the existing third building on 160 Street and 100 Avenue. This would provide 144 patients experiencing homelessness with immediate housing and wraparound services and would be ready to start July 1, 2022.

### **Moderate Outcomes (Investment Required TBD)**

### **Transformational Outcomes (Investment Required TBD)**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Bridge Healing addresses the existing gap between the homeless being released from the emergency departments with no place to go and the current homeless shelters and permanent housing.

Bridge Healing is an innovative intervention with a goal of providing an intensive acute care delivery system that will assist in supplying integrated support across many domains in order to truly address the root causes of homelessness and improve the quality of life of those affected.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

Bridge Healing would be able to reach the most vulnerable citizens of Edmonton: those who have been missed by other poverty-reducing initiatives. By coordinating various health and social supports with housing, the Bridge Healing will work to stabilize those most affected by homelessness in a way that also saves money. The residential stability of the Bridge Healing along with the variety of services it will provide can plausibly reduce demands placed on emergency departments. Considering the persistent nature of homelessness in Edmonton and its cost to the healthcare system, something new needs to be done to create and sustain long-term change.

Impact on Edmontonians	Impact on Corporation	Reputational Risk
MAJOR	MODERATE	MODERATE

# **City Plan Alignment**

The seven pillars of the CSWB Framework are aligned (but not limited) to the outcomes, indicators and direction in the City Plan. Given the intersectionality of the CSWB Framework, some of the outcomes, indicators and direction may appear in more than one pillar.

Every effort was made to accurately interpret the alignment between the City Plan outcomes, indicators and direction and the CSWB Strategy (including consideration of the principles for action).

## **Anti-racism**

- 1.1.2.2 Address systemic racism and historic trauma experienced within local communities through the work and practice of City administration
- 1.1.3 Promote opportunity, equality and personal safety for women, girls and gender minorities in Edmonton.
- 1.1.3.2 Participate in multilateral efforts to address violence against Indigenous women and girls.
- 1.2 Edmontonians can connect, be active in their community and celebrate Edmonton's heritage, diversity and unique identity.
- 1.2.2.5 Apply a gender-based equity lens in the design and application of City infrastructure, policy, programs and services.
- 1.2.3 Promote the unique histories, cultures and identities that define Edmonton.
- 1.3.3.2 Address equity in the delivery of policies, programs, public services, investment and infrastructure delivery.
- 2.3.3.3 Provide gathering and event spaces for hosting Indigenous cultural and ceremonial practices.
- 3.1 Edmontonians acknowledge and celebrate Indigenous heritage while honouring the diverse cultures, perspectives and experiences residents bring from around the world.
- 3.1.1 Support the ability of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples to celebrate, grow and flourish.
- 3.1.1.1 Commemorate and celebrate Indigenous history and culture through the planning and design of civic spaces.
- 3.1.1.2 Integrate the perspectives of Indigenous peoples through community engagement and reduce barriers to participation.
- 3.1.1.3 Encourage Indigenous-led projects, programs, events and services.

- 3.1.1.4 Improve the safety of Indigenous persons by creating community supports and educating service providers on Indigenous culture and history
- 3.1.2 Support equity among the diverse communities that contribute to Edmonton's sense of place, wellness and identity.
- 3.1.2.1 Include representatives and seek out views of diverse communities in city building processes.
- 3.1.2.2 Address racism and discrimination in Edmonton.
- 3.1.2.3 Embrace multicultural activities and events.
- 3.1.2.4 Continue to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action that reference municipal governments including adopting the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People as a framework for reconciliation.
- 3.1.3 Support access to employment and a broad range of economic opportunities for all of Edmonton's diverse communities.
- 3.1.3.4 Partner with organizations that promote and support equity and entrepreneurship in the community.
- 4.1 Edmonton advances equity through access to universally accessible spaces, services, facilities and transportation networks.
- 4.1.3 Ensure the equitable access of affordable services and amenities to all Edmontonians.
- 5.2.1.5 Collaborate with Indigenous communities to understand and recognize cultural landscapes and traditional land use areas.
- 5.2.1.6 Incorporate and reflect the diverse heritage of local communities through stories, structures and spaces.
- 5.2.1.7 Partner with Indigenous communities and cultural groups to name places and spaces to be culturally reflective of the diversity of Edmonton.
- 6.1.1.1 Encourage diverse representation of Edmonton's population on advisory boards and committees through civic education.
- 6.1.1.2 Provide opportunities and support early engagement of community members when developing programs and policies to effectively respond to their needs and priorities.
- 6.2.1.2 Collaborate with arts and culture communities to design a public realm that supports inclusion and belonging.

### Reconciliation

• 1.1 Edmonton fosters wellness and mental health by providing opportunities for all people to engage in community life and supporting those who are isolated, marginalized or at risk.

- 1.1.3.2 Participate in multilateral efforts to address violence against Indigenous women and girls.
- 1.2.2 Ensure vibrant and inclusive communities where children, youth and families can live, learn and grow together.
- 1.2.3 Promote the unique histories, cultures and identities that define Edmonton.
- 1.2.3.1 Acknowledge Treaty Six and recognize the First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples and their connection to this land.
- 1.2.3.2 Develop opportunities for public education and storytelling on the contributions of Indigenous peoples, culture and history.
- 1.2.3.3 Facilitate programs and services that preserve, document and celebrate the city's heritage.
- 1.2.3.4 Exchange ideas and expertise between Edmonton's arts, heritage and cultural communities.
- 2.2.2.3 Increase access to social supports and resources including safe, clean and affordable housing options for the urban Indigenous population.
- 2.3.3.2 Collaborate with adjacent municipalities and Enoch Cree Nation to identify opportunities for shared investment in recreation and cultural facilities.
- 2.4.1.1 Through relationship building, integrate Indigenous values and knowledge with environmental management and stewardship practices to enhance environmental protection.
- 3.1.1 Support the ability of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples to celebrate, grow and flourish.
- 3.1.1.1 Commemorate and celebrate Indigenous history and culture through the planning and design of civic spaces.
- 3.1.1.2 Integrate the perspectives of Indigenous peoples through community engagement and reduce barriers to participation.
- 3.1.1.3 Encourage Indigenous-led projects, programs, events and services.
- 3.1.1.4 Improve the safety of Indigenous persons by creating community supports and educating service providers on Indigenous culture and history.
- 3.1.2.4 Continue to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's
  Calls to Action that reference municipal governments including adopting
  the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People as a
  framework for reconciliation.
- 5.2.1.5 Collaborate with Indigenous communities to understand and recognize cultural landscapes and traditional land use areas.

- 5.2.1.7 Partner with Indigenous communities and cultural groups to name places and spaces to be culturally reflective of the diversity of Edmonton.
- 6.2.1.3 Use art and heritage interpretation to tell the story of Edmonton and this land.
- 6.2.1.5 Encourage art and creative enterprise to celebrate Indigenous history and culture.

# Safe and Inclusive Spaces

- 1.1 Edmonton fosters wellness and mental health by providing opportunities for all people to engage in community life and supporting those who are isolated, marginalized or at risk.
- 1.1.1 Promote personal and community wellness and connection through inclusive and welcoming places.
- 1.1.1.1 As long as homelessness persists, establish basic amenities throughout the city for people experiencing homelessness.
- 1.1.1.2 Design new and retrofit existing open spaces networks to encompass wellness, celebration and ecology at the district level.
- 1.1.1.3 Collaborate with school boards to identify, allocate and deliver municipal and school reserves that will allow for educational spaces and community facilities that provide learning, recreation and gathering opportunities.
- 1.1.1.4 Encourage healthy and active living by supporting community-focused recreational, leisure, social and cultural programs.
- 1.1.1.5 Develop, enable and animate community hubs for intergenerational gathering.
- 1.1.2.3 Enhance existing and identify new cultural facilities to provide diverse multicultural and social opportunities
- 1.1.3.1 Create safe opportunities for women, girls and gender minorities to meet, connect, participate in and enjoy community and civic life.
- 1.1.4 Ensure seniors have the opportunity to access services and amenities that support a high quality of life.
- 1.1.4.1 Improve access to equitable, appropriate and culturally relevant amenities and facilities for seniors at the district level.
- 1.2.1.1 Enable publicly accessible spaces that invite exploration and support interaction and learning for people of all ages.
- 1.2.1.2 Design and integrate formal and informal play spaces into the built environment.
- 1.2.1.3 Encourage and support the use of public space in formal and informal ways throughout the year.

- 1.2.1.4 Design public spaces that are safe and easy to navigate for people with disabilities.
- 1.2.2 Ensure vibrant and inclusive communities where children, youth and families can live, learn and grow together.
- 1.2.2.1 Incorporate needs and voices of children, youth and those around them into plans, programs and amenities that serve and impact them.
- 1.2.2.2 Design open space and play space to accommodate intergenerational use.
- 1.2.2.3 Enable accessible child care facilities in a variety of locations throughout the city.
- 1.2.2.5 Apply a gender-based equity lens in the design and application of City infrastructure, policy, programs and services.
- 1.2.3.1 Acknowledge Treaty Six and recognize the First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples and their connection to this land.
- 1.3.1.1 Establish and invigorate districts where daily life, work and play intersect.
- 1.3.1.2 Provide opportunities for people to easily connect to and experience open space and features within districts.
- 1.3.1.3 Encourage diverse design and development in all neighbourhoods so communities can continue to evolve over time.
- 1.3.2.2 Increase opportunities for Edmontonians to be physically active throughout all seasons.
- 1.3.2.3 Encourage winter events, activities and festivals through community and business partnerships.
- 1.3.2.4 Improve and integrate winter city design through the development of buildings, the public realm and open spaces.
- 2.1 Edmontonians feel safe and secure in their communities and benefit from public spaces and infrastructure that support health and wellbeing.
- 2.1.1 Ensure that publicly accessible spaces and facilities are designed and maintained for the year-round safety, security and comfort of all users.
- 2.1.1.1 Improve access to the North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine system.
- 2.1.1.2 Design, build, maintain and operate public infrastructure to facilitate movement and universal accessibility in all seasons.
- 2.1.1.3 Design public spaces that are easy to navigate and explore for Edmontonians and visitors.
- 2.1.1.4 Facilitate access to City activities and programs for people of all ages and abilities.

- 2.1.1.5 Develop and retrofit publicly accessible spaces and facilities to incorporate safe access for all Edmontonians.
- 2.1.2 Support the physical and mental health of Edmontonians by integrating housing, services, amenities and natural systems with active transportation networks.
- 2.1.2.1 Incorporate health outcomes into strategy, planning and design of the built environment.
- 2.1.2.2 Provide safe, comfortable and direct active transportation connections between neighbourhoods, community facilities and schools.
- 2.1.2.3 Manage the impact of environmental stressors on people and natural systems including excessive noise, air and light pollution.
- 2.1.2.4 Incorporate nature and natural systems into the built environment.
- 3.1 Edmontonians acknowledge and celebrate Indigenous heritage while honouring the diverse cultures, perspectives and experiences residents bring from around the world.
- 3.1.2.3 Embrace multicultural activities and events.
- 4.1 Edmonton advances equity through access to universally accessible spaces, services, facilities and transportation networks.
- 4.1.1.1 Design and build high quality, aesthetically pleasing and user-friendly transit facilities.
- 4.1.1.3 Respond to gaps in the mobility system to improve accessibility and safety
- 4.1.2.5 Improve personal and collective safety by working with residents to develop community-based solutions.
- 6.1.2 Promote community-based placemaking to retrofit and redevelop open spaces and public facilities.
- 6.1.2.1 Encourage communityled park redevelopment through coordination, planning and design.
- 6.2.1 Promote the integration of art, design and culture into the fabric of the city and its communities.
- 6.2.1.4 Integrate public art as a means of activating open space and public facilities throughout the city
- 6.2.2 Promote a well connected, attractive and delightful city through beautiful architecture, animation and urban design excellence.

# **Equitable Policies, Procedures, Standards and Guidelines**

 1.2.2.5 Apply a gender-based equity lens in the design and application of City infrastructure, policy, programs and services.

- 2.1.1 Ensure that publicly accessible spaces and facilities are designed and maintained for the year-round safety, security and comfort of all users.
- 2.1.1.4 Facilitate access to City activities and programs for people of all ages and abilities.
- 2.2.1.4 Use full City authority in the provision of environmental reserve, municipal reserve, or municipal or school reserve, or cash-in-lieu in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*.
- 2.3.2.1 Align the capital and operating budget with growth priorities and city-wide budget planning.
- 2.3.2.2 Require Council authorization prior to the preparation of any new statutory plan.
- 4.1 Edmonton advances equity through access to universally accessible spaces, services, facilities and transportation networks.
- 4.1.3 Ensure the equitable access of affordable services and amenities to all Edmontonians.
- 4.1.3.2 Provide services and programs that reduce barriers for low income residents to community recreation facilities.
- 4.1.3.3 Improve efficiency and effectiveness of programs and services in collaboration with other orders of government, community organizations or citizens' groups.
- 4.1.3.5 Provide people with disabilities equitable opportunities to participate in the workforce, access services and amenities, and contribute to the development and implementation of policies, programs and infrastructure.
- 6.1.1.2 Provide opportunities and support early engagement of community members when developing programs and policies to effectively respond to their needs and priorities.

# **Pathways In and Out of Poverty**

- As long as homelessness persists, establish basic amenities throughout the city for people experiencing homelessness.
- 1.1.2 Support and welcome newcomers to settle in Edmonton.
- 1.2.2.4 Encourage medium and high density residential development that serves households above the average Edmonton household size.
- 1.3.3 Support the elimination of poverty, its root causes and disparity in Edmonton's communities.
- 1.3.3.1 Partner with organizations, agencies and private sector leaders in the collective effort to end poverty and homelessness in Edmonton

- Maintain and enhance Edmonton's relative affordability advantage within the context of Canada's big cities.
- 2.2 Edmontonians have the ability to live locally, with access to diverse and affordable housing options in communities that support their daily needs.
- 2.2.1.3 Anticipate, avoid and mitigate displacement of vulnerable populations as redevelopment occurs.
- 2.2.1.5 Facilitate housing and job growth and intensification within nodes and corridors.
- 2.2.2 Ensure affordable housing and local food options to support social equity and meet the needs of all Edmontonians.
- 2.2.2.1 Streamline provision of affordable housing in all neighbourhoods through continual regulatory and procedural review and improvement.
- 2.2.2.2 Participate with other municipalities in planning to meet affordable housing needs within the context of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Growth Plan.
- 2.2.2.3 Increase access to social supports and resources including safe, clean and affordable housing options for the urban Indigenous population.
- 3.1.3 Support access to employment and a broad range of economic opportunities for all of Edmonton's diverse communities.
- 3.1.3.3 Partner to reduce barriers to education, employment and business opportunities for Indigenous people and newcomers.
- 3.1.3.6 Collect and share data with public, institutional and not for profit groups.
- 4.1.3 Ensure the equitable access of affordable services and amenities to all Edmontonians.
- 4.1.3.1 Deliver welcoming public facilities and services that are friendly for all ages and abilities, as well as universally accessible.
- 4.1.3.2 Provide services and programs that reduce barriers for low income residents to community recreation facilities.
- 4.1.3.3 Improve efficiency and effectiveness of programs and services in collaboration with other orders of government, community organizations or citizens' groups.

# **Crime Prevention and Crisis Intervention**

• 1.1 Edmonton fosters wellness and mental health by providing opportunities for all people to engage in community life and supporting those who are isolated, marginalized or at risk.

- 2.1 Edmontonians feel safe and secure in their communities and benefit from public spaces and infrastructure that support health and well-being
- 2.1.1 Ensure that publicly accessible spaces and facilities are designed and maintained for the year-round safety, security and comfort of all users.
- 2.1.2.2 Provide safe, comfortable and direct active transportation connections between neighbourhoods, community facilities and schools
- 3.1.1.4 Improve the safety of Indigenous persons by creating community supports and educating service providers on Indigenous culture and history.
- 6.1.1.3 Partner with community, business and not for profit organizations to broaden Edmonton's collective community leadership and capacity.
- 6.1.1.4 Create opportunities for residents to explore and generate solutions through information sharing and open data.

# Well-being

- 1.1 Edmonton fosters wellness and mental health by providing opportunities for all people to engage in community life and supporting those who are isolated, marginalized or at risk.
- 1.1.1 Promote personal and community wellness and connection through inclusive and welcoming places.
- Design new and retrofit existing open spaces networks to encompass wellness, celebration and ecology at the district level.
- 1.1.1.3 Collaborate with sch ool boards to identify, allocate and deliver municipal and school reserves that will allow for educational spaces and community facilities that provide learning, recreation and gathering opportunities.
- 1.1.1.4 Encourage healthy and active living by supporting community-focused recreational, leisure, social and cultural programs.
- 1.1.1.5 Develop, enable and animate community hubs for intergenerational gathering.
- 1.1.2 Support and welcome newcomers to settle in Edmonton.
- 1.1.2.1 Provide clear and accessible communication about city spaces, programs and services.
- 1.1.2.3 Enhance existing and identify new cultural facilities to provide diverse multicultural and social opportunities.
- 1.1.4 Ensure seniors have the opportunity to access services and amenities that support a high quality of life.

- 1.1.4.1 Improve access to equitable, appropriate and culturally relevant amenities and facilities for seniors at the district level.
- 1.1.4.2 Partner with external agencies to design and deliver seniors' services and programming.
- 1.1.4.3 Integrate age-friendly design to connect seniors and reduce social isolation.
- 1.2 Edmontonians can connect, be active in their community and celebrate Edmonton's heritage, diversity and unique identity.
- 1.2.1 Promote active communities through the design of diverse, welcoming and playful public places.
- 1.2.1.1 Enable publicly accessible spaces that invite exploration and support interaction and learning for people of all ages.
- 1.2.1.2 Design and integrate formal and informal play spaces into the built environment.
- 1.2.1.4 Design public spaces that are safe and easy to navigate for people with disabilities.
- 1.2.2 Ensure vibrant and inclusive communities where children, youth and families can live, learn and grow together.
- 1.2.2.1 Incorporate needs and voices of children, youth and those around them into plans, programs and amenities that serve and impact them.
- 1.2.2.2 Design open space and play space to accommodate intergenerational use.
- 1.2.2.3 Enable accessible child care facilities in a variety of locations throughout the city
- 1.3.1 Promote and celebrate the distinct communities that contribute to Edmonton, its quality of life and unique sense of place.
- 1.3.1.1 Establish and invigorate districts where daily life, work and play intersect.
- 1.3.1.2 Provide opportunities for people to easily connect to and experience open space and features within districts.
- 2.1 Edmontonians feel safe and secure in their communities and benefit from public spaces and infrastructure that support health and wellbeing
- 2.1.2 Support the physical and mental health of Edmontonians by integrating housing, services, amenities and natural systems with active transportation networks.
- 2.1.2.1 Incorporate health outcomes into strategy, planning and design of the built environment.
- 2.1.2.3 Manage the impact of environmental stressors on people and natural systems including excessive noise, air and light pollution.

- 3.1 Edmontonians acknowledge and celebrate Indigenous heritage while honouring the diverse cultures, perspectives and experiences residents bring from around the world.
- 3.1.2 Support equity among the diverse communities that contribute to Edmonton's sense of place, wellness and identity.
- 4.1.3 Ensure the equitable access of affordable services and amenities to all Edmontonians.
- 4.1.3.1 Deliver welcoming public facilities and services that are friendly for all ages and abilities, as well as universally accessible.
- 4.1.3.2 Provide services and programs that reduce barriers for low income residents to community recreation facilities.
- 4.1.3.3 Improve efficiency and effectiveness of programs and services in collaboration with other orders of government, community organizations or citizens' groups.
- 4.2.3 Ensure active transportation networks serve a variety of purposes including recreation, commuting, commerce and fun.

# **Community Insights Overview**

Administration met with representatives from the following organizations between November 2021 and May 2022 on the response to the Safer for All recommendations and the development of the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy and Framework:

- Africa Centre
- Alberta Health Services
- Anti-Racism Advisory Committee
- Bear Clan Edmonton
- Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Boots on the Ground
- Boyle Street
   Community Services
- Boys and Girls Club
- Buddhist Community
- Canadian Council of Muslim Women
- Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton
- Catholic Social Services,
- Chinatown and Area Business Association
- City Manager's Faith Leaders' Roundtable
- City of Edmonton Youth Council
- Community Safety and Well-being Task Force members (select)
- Confederacy of Treaty
   Six First Nations

- Downtown Business Association of Edmonton
- Edmonton 2 Spirit Society
- Edmonton Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Edmonton Chamber of Commerce
- Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations
- Edmonton Community Foundation
- Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities
- Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues
- Edmonton Public Library
- Edmonton Public Schools
- Edmonton Shift Lab
- EndPovertyEdmonton
- Francophonie Albertaine Plurielle
- Government of Alberta (various ministries)
- Harm Reduction
   Support (HARES) YEG
- HomeEd
- Homeward Trust

- Interfaith Centre for Education & Action
- Islamic Family & Social Services Association
- Ismaili Council of Edmonton via the City Manager's Faith Leaders Advisory Group meetings
- Jewish Federation of Edmonton
- John Humphrey Center for Peace and Human Rights
- Migrante Alberta
- REACH Edmonton
- Saffron Centre
- Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (SACE)
- Sifarish Network
- Sisters Dialogue
- University of Alberta
- Water Warriors YEG
- Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton (WAVE)
- Youth Restorative Action Project
- YWCA Edmonton

The following is a summary of the strategies, and initiatives that were referenced in order to inform the creation and refinement of the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy and Framework.

Strategies and initiatives referenced:

- #YEGAmbassador partner program
- Accessibility for People with Disabilities policy
- Affordable Housing Investment Plan
- Alberta Health Services mental health programs and services
- Coalitions Creating Equity initiative through REACH
- ConnectEdmonton
- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Framework
- Edmonton Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program
- Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues energy transition plan
- Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues five-year strategic plan
- Edmonton Public Library's Digital Initiatives
- Edmonton Public Library's five-year strategic plan
- Edmonton Safe City: Community Response to Preventing and Addressing Sexual Violence Against Women and Girls in Public Spaces
- Encampment Strategy
- EndPovertyEdmonton's strategy, roadmap, logic models, and scaling systems change (implementation, key activities, outcomes; 2021 secretariat outcome report, scaling systems change brief)
- Equitable review of Edmonton's Zoning Bylaws
- Ethnographic and community based research
- Local school boards anti-racism, inclusion and equity policies
- Providing Accessible Transit Here (PATH) and Ride Transit Program
- REACH Business Plan and the REACH initiatives of Chinatown McCauley Safety Resources
- REACH Edmonton Crisis Diversion Program
- Reach's 24/7 Crisis Diversion initiative and Out of School Time program
- RECOVER: Edmonton's Urban Wellness Plan
  - RECOVER's Soulful City; Theory of Change
- Safer for All Task Force Report and Recommendations (March 2021)
- The City Plan
- The Corporate Accessibility Plan
- The Edmonton Food Bank's Beyond Food Program
- Transit Safety Tripartite Agreement
- Truth and Reconciliation Final Report and 94 Calls to Action

- In addition to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Calls for Justice report, Council Reports and attachments (previous and current reports)
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- United Nations Women Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global program
- United Way of the Alberta Capital Region initiatives
- Urban Aboriginal Accord
- Vibrant Communities Canada

# **GBA+ Methodology and Findings**

# Methodology

A review of academic literature pertaining to concepts of safety and well-being for a variety of racialized and marginalized groups in Canada was conducted. Search terms included: concepts of safety, concepts of well-being and Black/Asian/Latinx/Indigenous/LGBTQ2S+/people with disabilities in Edmonton/Canada through an intersectional lens.

A brief scan of Edmonton news outlets was conducted to find articles related to feelings of safety and well-being for racialized and marginalized groups.

Research also included a variety of sources that use both qualitative and quantitative data sets, including: 2016 Census Data, Health Canada surveys, Alberta Health Services reporting, and localized data sources such as Homeward Trust, Edmonton Social Planning Council and the City of Edmonton's Citizen Perception Survey.

# **Findings**

Literature and Media Scan

Edmonton has some excellent resources for understanding well-being from an Indigenous perspective: RECOVER and the Soulful City resources can teach us a great deal about how well-being is achieved through good relationships and a sense of purpose, rather than through possessions or stable housing.

Edmonton: Safe City Project (2018) provides insight into the physical safety concerns of women, Indigenous women and girls, newcomer/racialized, LGBTQ2S+ individuals, and women with a disability, in public spaces. This document provides data (2011- 2015) on the amount and types of sexual violence against women in an Edmonton and Canadian context.

In 2020, Edmonton Transit Services made Edmonton one of the first cities in North America to use a GBA+ analysis to improve safety and security for transit users who identify as women. The work to improve safety and security on transit, particularly in and around LRT stations, continues at the City of Edmonton through a variety of partnerships, policy changes and initiatives.

LGBTQ2S+ people and people with a disability span all races and demographics, but are frequently overlooked when discussing health, well-being or public policy. A comprehensive understanding of well-being and safety would include this population using an intersectional lens.

People with disabilities have traditionally been seen as "sick" or in need of "repair", so well-being has often been understood as related to their impairment. This attitude is changing so their well-being should be discussed irrespective of their disability.

Federal Data: Safety & Crime

According to the 2019 General Social Survey (GSS) on Canadians' Safety, nearly half (46 per cent) of Black people aged 15 years and older reported experiencing at least one form of discrimination in the past five years, compared to 16 per cent of the non-Indigenous, non-visible minority population.

Of all Black people, four in ten (41 per cent) experienced discrimination based on their race or skin colour, about 15 times higher than the proportion among the non-Indigenous, non-visible minority population (3 per cent).

Forty-four per cent of First Nations people had experienced discrimination in the five years preceding the survey, as had 24 per cent of Métis and 29 per cent of Inuit.

First Nations, Metis, Inuit (FNMI) homicide victims represented 26 per cent of the national homicide count in 2019 and 27 per cent in 2020, despite only representing 4.6 per cent of the total Canadian population.

Eight per cent of Aboriginal people living in the provinces and territories compared with 18 per cent of non-Aboriginal people reported being the victim of one of the eight types of offences measured by the General Social Survey (GSS) on Victimization.

In 2014, the overall rate of violent victimization among Aboriginal people was more than double that of non-Aboriginal people (163 incidents per 1,000 people versus 74 incidents per 1,000 people).

Aboriginal females (220 violent incidents per 1,000 people) had an overall rate of violent victimization that was double that of Aboriginal males (110 per 1,000), close to triple that of non-Aboriginal females (81 per 1,000) and more than triple that of non-Aboriginal males (66 per 1,000).

The higher rates of victimization observed among Aboriginal people appeared to be related to the increased presence of other risk factors among this group, such as experiencing childhood maltreatment, perceiving social disorder in one's neighbourhood, having been homeless, using drugs, or having fair or poor mental health.

### Health

57 per cent of FNMI people (568,940) reported suffering from long-term health problems, of which 17.7 per cent reported chronic mood disorders and 19 per cent reported chronic anxiety disorders. Canadian immigrants and refugees are roughly half as likely to receive mental health support/treatment.

19.7 per cent of FNMI people report not having a regular medical doctor. FNMI experience a life expectancy 8.8 years lower than non-FNMI Canadians.

# Poverty/Income Inequity

24.2 per cent of FNMI households reported not having enough income to meet basic household needs, while 53.8 per cent of FNMI households reported having the bare minimum.

36.7 per cent of FNMI reported they would be unable to cover an unexpected expense of \$500.

29.8 per cent of Urban FNMI children live in poverty. This rate jumps to 51.2 per cent when a child or children are within a lone-parent household.

Amongst Urban FNMI people, 50 per cent lived in a rented dwelling versus 29 per cent of non-FNMI population.

11 per cent of FNMI people live in a dwelling that needs major repairs compared to 19.4 per cent non-Urban FNMI; 3.6 per cent live in a crowded dwelling compared to 18.3 per cent non-Urban FNMI.

Median FNMI household income in 2016 was \$34,205 against the Canadian 2016 Median Household income of \$57,000 or 40 per cent lower than the Canadian median.

### Provincial Data

FNMI represented 40.4 per cent of all custodial admissions (prison sentencing) in Alberta in 2019/20, this is 10.6 per cent higher than national FNMI custodial admissions. This is taken under consideration in the context that Edmonton has the second-highest urban FNMI population in Canada.

Unemployment amongst FNMI Albertans is 5.2 per cent higher than non-indigenous identities and 2.1 per cent higher in Alberta than the national average. Albertan FNMI had the highest unemployment rate of any province in 2021 at 13.7 per cent.

34.8 per cent of FNMI Albertans do not feel a sense of identity to their culture.

27.6 per cent of FNMI Albertans report a negative sense of belonging to their culture.

### Edmonton Data

In a study of 50 major Canadian cities, Edmonton was tied for eighth on the dissimilarity index with a score of 0.23, signaling Edmonton FNMIs are moderately segregated from the broader community.

FNMI represents 9 per cent of Edmonton's total population but represents 60 per cent of the houseless population.

32 per cent of Edmonton's Islamic Community reported not to have adequate resources to practice social distancing during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Edmonton's Islamic Community cited: social isolation (58 per cent), mental health (48 per cent) and providing food (32 per cent) as their largest struggles in the pandemic.

# Social Forecast Insights

Edmonton has significant ethnic diversity, with 46.2 per cent of people identifying as a conventional ethnic minority.

The gender Wage Gap is, as of 2020, \$0.87 to the male dollar.

Race, skin colour and ethnicity are reported to be the three most prevalent experiences of discrimination.

Anti-Asian racism followed worldwide trends due to COVID-19.

Increasing violent hate crimes are being experienced by Muslim women.

Domestic violence (against women) calls have risen by 48.6 per cent over the last 10 years.

50 per cent of Edmontonians reported experiencing racism or discrimination in 2020.

Edmonton's three largest minority communities are: East/South East Asian (15.3 per cent), South Asian (9.1 per cent) and FNMI (8.8 per cent).

# **Gap Analysis**

Data collection and use has been central to the development of the proposed Community Safety and Well-being Framework and will also inform the implementation of the Framework. The City understands that data use for this project must take into consideration the historical harm of data and prioritize transparency for how the data is being used and shared. The City will ensure

that data collection includes the perspectives and voices of marginalized communities in how and why it is being done in order to avoid causing harm.

The development of a system of disaggregated race-based data collection in Edmonton is in early stages. Disaggregated data can support to better identify the challenges and problems and inform policy making, program development, and budget allocation more effectively and equitably.

Several initiatives led by Administration, such as RECOVER and CSWB, are working on collecting better data.

Edmonton Planning and Social Council wrote a report outlining both the dearth of disaggregated local data and recommendations on how to address this moving forward. Several local initiatives, such as the Edmonton Data for Racial Equity Collective, EndPovertyEdmonton and Coalitions Creating Equity, are also looking at strengthening their disaggregated race-based and gender-based data collection.

Edmonton Public School Board passed a Recommendation Report near the end of 2020 to create a model for the collection of race-based disaggregated data.

Unfortunately, there will be quite a bit of lead time before nuanced insights can be gained from these programs. Most are currently in the design and prototyping phases, which will take time to fully develop so it may be a few years until the data sets are robust enough to draw insights from.

Significant data does exist in these areas at provincial and national levels; in the short term, quantitative inferences could be drawn from these, complemented by qualitative studies and storytelling methods into the community, led by Administration, community organizations or through partnerships. Marginalized communities should be included in the ways stories are told about their communities and how the data is used to impact their communities.

Currently, the 2021 Federal Long Form Census is semi-aggregated, differentiating between the majority, visible minority and FNMI. At all levels of government, core demographic tracking is not nuanced to disaggregate between racial lines effectively. This is a major issue Statistics Canada is seeking to improve within the 2026 Census through a \$172 million investment.

The literature review focused primarily on available local data and news as well as regional and national data. Additional research on best practices for implementing GBA+ informed programs or equity measures could be useful.

The City will endeavor to use a GBA+ lens to ensure that data collection is done respectfully with marginalized communities and that diverse voices are included in data collection and analysis. The City will use foundational data from the federal census on the following categories to ensure an equity-based perspective in the analysis:

- Age in five year cohorts children, working age adults and seniors
- Average household income by neighbourhood
- Education level
- Language
- Population (X people in Y households)
- Sex
- Gender
- Race & Ethnicity (Visible minority in federal census)
- Status immigrants, residents without Canadian citizenship, residents with citizenship

In the work of Community Safety and Well-being, data collection and reporting are important tools to help address the harm experienced by the marginalized communities in Edmonton. The collection of disaggregated data is vital to advance the work of safety, inclusion, and well-being through a commitment to anti-racism and reconciliation.