

Plan to end homelessness wins award for City of Edmonton

The City of Edmonton has been recognized for its 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, winning the Sustainability in Action Award from the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association.

"The 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness was truly a monumental initiative," said Gary Klassen, General Manager of the City's Sustainable Development department. "It represents a strong collaboration between our community and the City. As a municipality, we are committed to increasing citizens' quality of life by building a forward-thinking, socially responsible and inclusive city. We're humbly honoured to receive the award that recognizes this leadership and partnership with the community."



The 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness is part of the City's 30-year vision for Edmonton. The five-year update released in April shows steady progress towards achieving the goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2019 :

- 2,178 permanent homes were secured for 2,909 people who had previously been homeless
- 80% of formerly homeless persons have secured housing in the private rental market
- 84% of the people have retained their housing
- Between 2008-2012 there was a 30% decline in homelessness; in those years there was a 23% decline in shelter usage

The Sustainability in Action Award is given to a region member who has demonstrated an excellence in its commitment to sustainability. For 2014, the focus was on initiatives that create harmonious and inclusive communities.

"The Municipal Sustainability Awards have very definitive criteria, and are awarded to municipalities who have demonstrated excellence in the area of Sustainability in Action," said AUMA President Helen Rice. "The City of Edmonton and their administration have been instrumental in setting the bar for other Alberta municipalities. I think Edmonton has every reason to be proud."

For more information on the plan, please visit homelesscommission.org.

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