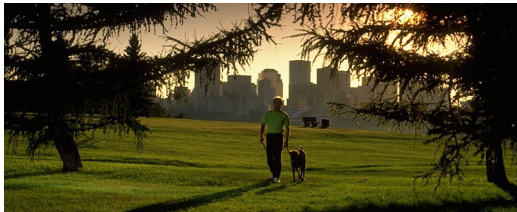
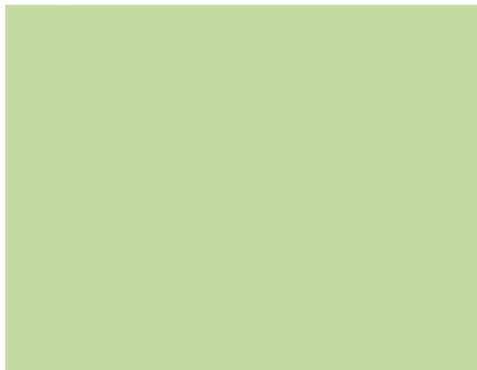




City of Edmonton  
Community Services Advisory Board  
2006 Annual Report to  
City Council



August 2007





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# Vision, Mission and Mandate

## City of Edmonton Community Services Advisory Board

### VISION:

We have an uncompromising commitment to a better quality of life for individuals, families and communities — today and tomorrow.

### MISSION:

The Community Services Advisory Board is a diverse group of citizens that provide a community perspective on *People, Parks and Places*, to City Council and the Community Services Department.

### MANDATE: *(Updated June 2003)*

The Community Services Advisory Board's mandate is to facilitate informed decision making by:

- gathering information and sharing knowledge;
- raising issues and awareness;
- providing advice and recommending policy;
- making recommendations on funding; and
- offering alternative strategies.



## 2006 Board Membership

### Community Services Advisory Board 2006 Membership

#### Members at Large:

Holly Palmer — Chair  
Alifeyah Gulamhusein — Vice Chair  
Carl Brodie  
Michael Chow  
Dave McInnes  
Elna Nash  
Kieran Quirke  
Issam Saleh  
David Schaaf (to Aug 31)  
Maria Seeber  
John Skone  
Shelley Tupper  
Carl Ulrich  
Deryl Kloster — General Manager, Community Services Department (Jan-Mar)  
Rob Smyth — Acting General Manager, Community Services Department (Mar-May)  
Linda Cochrane — General Manager, Community Services Department (May-Dec)



#### Family and Community Support Services Committee Members:

Alifeyah Gulamhusein	Chris Douglas
Issam Saleh	Phil O'Hara
David Schaaf (to Aug 31)	Lorne Pendleton
John Skone	Liz Reid

#### Community Investment Operating Grant Community Members:

Dave McInnes	Mary Belcourt	Lynette Bodnarchuk	Anna Der
Maria Seeber	Peggy Gilchrist	Diane Gunn	Susan Jamieson
John Skone	Candy Khan	Valerie Mayes	Blair Morling
Carl Ulrich	David Moulds	Jim Mullins	Asri Ningsih
	Elana Scraba	Tera Spyce	Craig Stumpf-Allen

## Board History

In 1997, the City of Edmonton created the Community Services Department by amalgamating the Parks and Recreation Department and the Community and Family Services Department. At the time of the amalgamation, two separate bodies served in advisory capacities to City Council in relation to services provided by each of the previous departments. These advisory groups were the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Advisory Board (PRCAB) and the Community and Family Services Advisory Committee (CAFSAC).

The mandate of the Community Services Department is to provide a continuum of integrated “people” services.

On January 5, 1999 City Council (“Council”) approved Bylaw 11926 repealing the Community and Family Services Advisory Committee Bylaw, and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Advisory Board Bylaw; and enacting the Community Services Advisory Board.

Actions of the Advisory Board are directed by the Board’s Terms of Reference, developed in 1999. Duties and responsibilities assigned by Council include:

- 1. provide advice to Council and the Community Services Department about Community Services’ three-year business plan, its strategic plan, and its funding priorities;*
- 2. raise issues and offer advice related to the scope of the Department’s mandate (arts, cultural, multicultural, parks, recreation, sports and social policy);*
- 3. make recommendations to the General Manager of the Department about the allocation of funds as required under the Family and Community Support Services legislation;*
- 4. make recommendations to Council for applicable Community Investment Grants, and other awards as required; and*
- 5. undertake activities and programs as mutually agreed to between the Board and Council, or the Board and the Department.*

In 2006, the Community Services Advisory Board had 13 volunteer positions filled by members representing the community. All members were appointed by City Council. The General Manager of the Community Services Department, or his or her designate, also sits on the Board. The General Manager possesses all the rights of the Board members, except the right to vote.



## Highlights

The mandate of the Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB) is to facilitate informed decision-making. The Board does this by addressing arising issues, creating awareness of these issues, providing advice on policy and strategy, and making recommendations. The Board is comprised of 13 volunteer citizens of Edmonton who possess tremendous diversity of experience in human and community development.

During 2006, the Board created three new sub-committees. These included the Diversity and Inclusion, Joint Use Agreement, and Meetings with City Councillors, bringing the total to 11. These committees review and provide advice on a range of subjects from grant applications to out-of-school care and volunteerism.



In addition, in 2006 CSAB members were invited to sit as representatives on three other City committees: Recreation Facility & Sports Field Plan Advisory Committee, Social Development Strategy Committee, and the Focus Edmonton (Plan Edmonton).

In 2006, there were two key administrative changes within the Community Services Department. Linda Cochrane was appointed as General Manager after Deryl Kloster retired. The Parks branch was moved from Community Services to Asset Management & Public Works (AMPW). CSAB members strongly support keeping contact with the Parks Branch, and AMPW General Manager Bill Burn agreed to continue the Branch's relationship with the Board.

Much of the Board's work in 2006 involved board development; succession planning and issues related to the length and number of terms that members could serve.



The Board reviewed and endorsed several programs, policies or reports, including: Assessment & Short Term Counselling Audit recommendations, Volunteer policy, Urban Parks Management Plan, and the FCSS Review report. The Board asked Mayor Mandel to advocate for increased funding by the Federal government of daycare and out-of-school care, and to advocate for increased funding for FCSS from the provincial government.

Most important is the Board's role in reviewing and recommending FCSS and CIOG grants. CIOG grant recommendations are then forwarded to City Council for approval. In 2006, Bylaw 12157 was created that formally outlines CSAB's delegated authority with regards to Community Investment Grants. The Board has two sub-committees that review applications and make recommendations, and two appeal committees. In 2006, 146 grants were recommended for approval, 36 were denied, and 11 appealed.



## Summary of Board Activities 2006

The Board held 11 regular meetings during 2006 and one planning retreat in June. During the year, the Board completed significant work in advising the Administration and City Council on a variety of issues. The following are selected examples of the work of the Community Services Advisory Board:

1. Provide advice to Council and the Community Services Department about Community Services' three-year business plan, its strategic plan, and its funding priorities.

### Interacting with City Council

The Board had numerous interactions with City Council during 2006.

- In February, City Council considered a report by the Department regarding the future of assessment and short term counselling services, and agreed with Option A to retain those services. In November 2005, the Board wrote a letter to City Council supporting the continuation of assessment and short term counselling services as part of the Community Services Mandate.
- In April, the Board approved the Department's response to the provincial FCSS Discussion Guide, which was subsequently presented to and approved by council.
- After some discussion, the Board agreed that a letter would be written to the mayor to request that he send a copy of the City of Edmonton's response, along with a cover letter to all Edmonton area MLAs.
- On August 29, a meeting between the Board and members of City Council provided the opportunity to introduce new Board members to Councillors, and for the Board to hear about Council initiatives. In particular, the Board advocated for on-going funding for the Access to Recreation program. The Board created a new standing committee, "Meetings with City Councillors" to set agenda items and discussion points for future meetings.
- In September, the Board carried a motion to send a letter to City Council asking for an increase in the number of CSAB members (at a subsequent meeting it was decided to hold off on asking for additional members for another year) to review the policy regarding six-year term maximums, with a two-year waiting period before serving on a board again.

- The Board also agreed to submit a letter asking that council review the policy concerning the requirement of a two year waiting period before a volunteer can serve on another civic board or agency.
- As part of 2007 budget preparations, Community Services Department branch managers provided an update at the March 23, April 27, October 26 and November 9 meetings.

### CSAB Reports to Community Services Committee and City Council

- *CSAB 2005 Annual Report* — The Board's 2005 Annual Report was presented to Community Services Committee on August 21, 2006.
- *CSAB 2006 Chair Report* — The Board Chair presented the 2006 CSAB Chair Report to the members of the Community Services Committee. (October 2006)

### 2. Raise issues and offer advice related to the scope of the Department's mandate (arts, cultural, multicultural, parks, recreation, sports and social policy).

#### Policy Filter Statement

CSAB used the Policy Filter to determine appropriate areas for it to be involved. The Policy Filter reads: "On behalf of the citizens of Edmonton, CSAB will review matters of community issue and develop a viewpoint for consideration by the City of Edmonton."

#### Emerging Issues

CSAB members regularly discuss emerging issues, and identify issues for consideration by the Department and/or Council, or for review at subsequent Board meetings. Some issues discussed in 2006 include:

- In February, the Board created two new sub-committees, Diversity and Inclusion Committee and Joint Use Advisory Committee, to provide a formal opportunity to offer input into these issues.
- The Board participated in formulating the City of Edmonton's response to a provincial survey regarding FCSS.
- In March, representatives of the Edmonton Sport Council approached CSAB

to seek their support for the development of a business case to increase the CIG grants budget by \$450,000. The Edmonton Sport Council also requested that the maximum on CIG grants be increased from \$15,000 to \$30,000. The Board agreed to ask Community Services staff to develop the business case.

- In August, Community Services staff presented a draft business case to the Board. The business case supports an additional \$500,000 in funding for CIG Grants. The Board reviewed the draft and provided comments. Further amendments were made by the Board at its September meeting. CSAB members spoke in favour of the funding increase at City Council's Public Hearing on the Budget, November 16 and 17. As a result of CSAB's efforts, an additional \$450,000 was added to the Community Investment Operating Grant budget for 2007.



- In May, the Board approved a motion to send a letter of support for the Urban Parks Management Plan.
- Through the year, Board members were asked to act as CSAB representatives on several committees, or provide input into various initiatives:
  - Two Board members volunteered as representatives on the new West Edmonton Recreation Facility and Sports Field Plan Committee.
  - One Board member volunteered to represent CSAB on the Families First Sounding Board.
  - Two Board members joined the Focus Edmonton committee (one main representative and one alternate).
  - One Board member attended a meeting to provide input into the Fire Rescue Master Plan.

There was a significant number of requests for CSAB members to participate on other committees. This led to the discussion of the Board to consider a request to increase the number of members on CSAB.

## Summary of Board Activities 2006

### Department Updates to the Board in 2006

Community Services Department staff provided the following updates to the Board:

Topic	Presented By	Month
Policy Driver Review	J. Agnew	January
Joint Use Agreement	R. Smyth	February
2007 Budget Update	R. Smyth	March
General Department Direction 2006-2008	R. Smyth, L. Cochrane, K. Barnhart, L. Brenneis (AMPW)	April
2007 Budget Update	R. Smyth, K. Barnhart, L. Cochrane, L. Brenneis (AMPW)	April
Community Mapping Project	A. Fitzpatrick, D. Morrison (Coordinator, Community Mapping Project)	May
Families First Sounding Board	M. Kankkunen	June
Recreation Facility and Sports Field Plan Advisory Committee Terms of Reference	B. Ireland	August
Child Friendly Edmonton	E. DeBenedetto	September
GO Community Centre	H. Oswin	October
2007 Budget Update — Service Challenges	L. Cochrane, W. Trocenko, R. Smyth, C. Burton-Ochocki	October
Volunteerism Federal Funding Cuts	C. Burton-Ochocki	November
2007 Budget Presentations — Timelines	L. Cochrane, B. Burn	November

## City of Edmonton Updates/Presentations to the Board

Staff from other City Departments provided the following updates to the Board:

Topic	Presented By	Month
Urban Parks Master Plan	L. Brenneis, R. March (AMPW)	May

## Presentations from Other Organizations

Representatives of other organizations provided the following information to the Board:

Topic	Presented By	Month
Two representatives of the Edmonton Sport Council made a presentation, and asked CSAB to consider developing a business case to increase CIG grants.	G. Shelton, Executive Director, Edmonton Sport Council; and M. Stuffco, Board Chair, Edmonton Sport Council	March
Members of the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations (ECVO) made a presentation on their role in advocating for issues related to the voluntary sector.	V. Mayes, Executive Director EVCO; Jim Gurnett, Executive Director, Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers; L. Derkach, Executive Director, Edmonton Jewish Family Services.	August



### 3. Make recommendations to the General Manager of the Department about the allocation of funds as required under the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) legislation.

There were two funding cycles with FCSS in 2006, as additional dollars were received from the province as a result of the 2005 census and the annual provincial budget. As recommended by CSAB, the following principles guided the review and analysis of the 2006 Additional FCSS funding process:

1. that the additional FCSS allocations are one-time only and are to be directed to new and innovative programs/projects; and
2. priority be given to programs/projects and services that support City Council's initiatives (seniors; youth; immigrant and refugee communities; Aboriginal peoples; children; support to housing) and the promotion of volunteerism to support the social services infrastructure.

- On July 13, 2006, the FCSS Committee and the FCSS Liaison Team met to discuss the 2006 Additional FCSS Funding Submissions and produce a report summarizing the FCSS Committee's deliberations, recommendations and allocations.
- At the July 27, 2006 CSAB Meeting, the FCSS Liaison Team presented to the Board the recommendations for the additional dollars received from the province for 2006 in the amount of \$541,981. CSAB passed a motion that the FCSS one-time funding recommendations be approved.
- The board allocated \$516,981 to 18 new preventive social service programs/projects (15 from currently-funded agencies and three from new organizations). Priority was given to programs/projects and services that support City Council's initiatives.
- A contingency fund of \$25,000 was put aside for appeals. There were three FCSS Appeals submitted for the January 13, 2006 deadline. Unfortunately, none of the submissions were successful and the Contingency Fund was immediately redistributed among the three recommended organizations from the review process.
- Colleen Burton-Ochocki presented to the Board a recommendation through the Community Services Department from the 2006 FCSS one-time funding, requesting \$30,000 to be allocated to the Community University Partnership (CUP) Initiative. This request would enable CUP to expand its research capacity in the area of community-based research, extend the consulting services to enable stronger community-university partnerships, and increase CUP's capacity to mobilize knowledge from research for the betterment of children, youth, and families. CUP was also seeking funds from several other partners.



- In November 2006, Community Services allocated \$30,000 to the CUP.

The 2007 FCSS Funding Criteria and Priorities used current research and trend analysis to identify priority areas or local gaps in service in the following target populations:

- Aboriginal Families
  - Immigrant/Refugee Families
  - Volunteer Sector — Volunteerism and Organizational Capacity
- In November, the Board approved funding of \$9,879,600 to 98 programs from 67 agencies in Edmonton. Of the 12 agencies offering 17 programs identified for a Comprehensive Review, 11 agencies with 15 programs were recommended for a multi-year funding agreement for the term 2007, 2008 and 2009. The Committee recommended allocated funding for 11 new programs and 87 currently funded programs that address the 2007 FCSS funding priorities.



4. Make recommendations to Council for applicable Community Investment Grants, and other awards as required.

### Community Investment Operating Grants

- The CIG Committee finished reviewing all of the applications before the January 31st deadline.
- In 2006 there was a total of 146 applicants, 36 were denied, 11 appealed.

- In January, the Board approved \$36,808 in the 2006 Community Investment Operating Grant Appeal Budget.
- Also in January, the Board also formed an Appeals Committee to review the appellant's original application and appeal letter. The applications and appeal information were re-evaluated to determine an appropriate funding requirement. Dave McInnes, David Schaaf and Kieran Quirke volunteered to sit on the CIG Appeals Committee.
- Of the 11 appeals, four were recommended for funding under appeal and one for an increase to the original recommendation. All five recommendations came to a total of \$32,491 and the remaining \$4,317 of the appeal budget will be reallocated to eligible applicants.

### Community Investment Grants Business Case

- Community Investment Operating Grants have assisted in creating and supporting the not-for profit infrastructure in the City of Edmonton, which offers a wide range of programs and services in the sectors of Social Services, Multicultural and Recreation/Amateur Sport. Operating grants are highly valued by not-for-profit organizations, as the monies can be used to support the day-to-day expenses such as utilities, staff and rent.
- In 2006 the total eligible expenses for all organizations receiving a grant award was over \$104 million. With the maximum grant of 25 percent of eligible operating expenses, the total funds that all organizations receiving a grant award could be eligible for was \$26,122,564. However, the total grant funds available for distribution were \$1,472,300.
- The Grant's Office, the CIG Committee, the CSAB Board and the Edmonton Sports Council all participated in a 3-5 speaker panel at the November 16, 2006 Public Budget Hearing to present the Community Investment Grants Business Case to City Council. City Council approved the \$450,000 for the 2007 budget year, increasing the overall budget to \$1,956,200. The requested maximum amount increased to \$20,000 and the minimum amount increased to \$650.

### Community Investment Hosting Grants

- In January, CSAB approved the 2006 CIG budget allocations, including \$93,300 for Travel and Hosting.

- In June, City Council approved Bylaw 14157 Community Investment Grant Bylaw and Policy C211F Community Investment Grants to Organizations and Individuals Policy.
- In June, CSAB approved twelve of the fourteen hosting grant awards in the amount of \$20,870. These were the first hosting grants approved since the new bylaw was passed. As a result, the Hosting Grant applicants were able to benefit from an increase in funding.
- The remaining funds in this program were used for the September 1, 2006, Hosting Grants and the 2006 Travel Grants.
- In September, CSAB approved two of the three applicants for hosting awards, in the amount of \$2,190. Events hosted outside Edmonton do not meet the eligibility requirements for the grant program; therefore, one application was not recommended for funding.
- The remaining funds in this program were used for the 2006 Travel Grants.

### Community Investment Travel Grants

- CSAB approved the 2006 CIOG budget allocations, including \$93,300 for Travel and Hosting.
- In November, the funds available for this program (Community Investment Travel Grant Program) were approximately \$40,653.
- There were a total of 64 Travel Grant applications received at the Community Services Department. CSAB approved 43 applications for funding and 21 were denied.

### Universiade '83 Grants

- In March, the Board approved the 2006 Universiade '83 Grant recommendations as presented.
- The total funding available for distribution for 2006 was \$30,429.
- Fourteen organizations applied for a Universiade '83 grant by the December 4, 2006 deadline. Seven organizations were categorized as Sport and seven organizations were categorized as Art and Culture.
- Ten of fourteen applicants were recommended for funding.

### 5. Undertake activities and programs as mutually agreed to between the Board and Council, or the Board and the Department.

#### Board Development

- In June, Maria Seeber, Kieran Quirke and Holly Palmer attended a course offered through the City Clerk's Office on Robert's Rules of Order.
- The Board took a strong position on both the required number of members on CSAB and the City of Edmonton's rules with respect to the waiting period between terms. Due to the increasing number of requests for CSAB to be involved on other committees, the Board would like to consider the need for additional members.

#### Family and Community Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) Board Committee — Members: Carl Ulrich, John Skone

- In August, the Board approved three resolutions to be presented at the 2006 FCSSAA Conference with respect to a national child care services program, increased FCSS funds, and the establishment of a preventative health and social services endowment fund. These resolutions subsequently received unanimous approval at the FCSSAA Annual General Meeting in November.
- In September, John Skone was selected to join Carl Ulrich as the City's representatives on FCSSAA.
- Both representatives attended the Annual FCSSA Meeting in Red Deer, AB on November 23-25, 2006.



## Board Committees

The Community Services Advisory Board may establish or disband standing committees and ad-hoc committees to deal with matters within the scope of the Board. Board members were appointed to various committees for the 2006 term as follows:

### Community Services Advisory Board Committees — 2006

Standing Committee	Members
Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Committee	John Skone, Issam Saleh, David Schaaf, Alifeyah Gulamhusein
FCSS Appeals Committee	Maria Seeber, Dave McInnes
Community Investment Grants (CIG) Committee	Shelley Tupper, Carl Brodie, Michael Chow, Kieran Quirke
CIG Appeals Committee	David Schaaf, Dave McInnes, Kieran Quirke
Out-of-School Care Advisory Committee	Maria Seeber, Carl Ulrich
Family and Community Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA)	Carl Ulrich, John Skone
Quarterly Council Meetings Committee	Michael Chow, Holly Palmer, Dave McInnes, David Schaaf

Ad-hoc Committee	Members
Urban Parks Advisory Committee	Holly Palmer
Volunteerism Committee	Shelley Tupper, John Skone
Families First Edmonton Sounding Board	Carl Ulrich
Outdoor Aquatic Advisory Committee	Elna Nash, Maria Seeber
Diversity and Inclusion Committee	Issam Saleh, Maria Seeber, Kieran Quirke
Joint Use Advisory Committee	Elna Nash, Michael Chow, Carl Brodie

### Standing Committees

#### *FCSS Committee (John Skone, Issam Saleh, David Schaaf, Alifeyah Gulambusein)*

The purpose of the FCSS Committee is to:

- provide advice to the Community Services Advisory Board and the General Manager of the Community Services Department (the “Department”) about the allocation of funds as required under the Family and Community Support Services legislation;
- Provide advice to the Board and the Department regarding FCSS funding-related issues e.g. funding priorities, funding to new programs.
- FCSS has made a change as to how the Committee evaluates agencies. The Minutes of the February 12, 2007 meeting were distributed along with a short summary of the proposed funding process for the upcoming funding cycle. The Committee wants to expand their duties throughout a whole year instead of the short timeframe that has been used in the past (April-December).
- Six applicants submitted résumés for the Call for Volunteers to fill the 2 vacant positions for community members.

#### *CIG Committee (Shelley Tupper, Carl Brodie, Michael Chow, Kieran Quirke)*

The purpose of the Community Investment Grant Committee is to:

- Provide recommendations to the Board on the three-year funding Program Priorities and Guidelines for not-for-profit organizations (social services, Multicultural, recreation / amateur sport) for Community Investment Operating Grants;
- Provide recommendations to the Board on the allocation of Community Investment Grants — Operating and Hosting, in accordance with City Policy C211E (Community Investment Grants to Organizations and Individuals).
- The term for the CIG Committee runs from June to May of the following year. It is not a requirement according to the CIG Subcommittee Terms of Reference, but it is common practice that there is some overlap from one year to the next.

### *Out-of-School Care Advisory Committee (Maria Seeber, Carl Ulrich)*

The Out-of-School Care Standards Advisory Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Community Services Department and addresses issues related to the implementation of the Approved Out-of-School Care Standards. This committee also serves as an appeal body for out-of-school care operators and out-of-school care staff qualification applicants.

The two joint representatives from the Community Services Advisory Board act as liaisons, ensuring communication and information flowed both ways.

- A Child Friendly Edmonton Coordinator was hired to further the goals of Child Friendly Cities in Edmonton.
- A new supervisor for Out-of-School Care was hired.

### *FCSSAA (Carl Ulrich, John Skone)*

The Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta are supported by local Councils and Boards responsible for local decisions about FCSS funding. The FCSSA provides representation to the Provincial government and advocates on behalf of its members. CSAB members are typically appointed as City of Edmonton representatives on the FCSSA.

- See update provided on page 11.

### *Quarterly Council Meetings Committee (Michael Chow, Holly Palmer, Dave McInnes, David Schaaf)*

- This sub-committee was established in July to help plan the Board's future desire for quarterly meetings with City Council.
- CSAB wanted to be persuasive in our presentation and that it would better to have one spokesperson that is prepared to go before Council as a unified voice representing the CSAB.
- The Board indicated that it was the responsibility of the subcommittee to suggest agenda items and to facilitate the preparation of briefing notes for City Councillors prior to the meetings.



### Ad-Hoc Committees

#### *Urban Parks Advisory Committee (Holly Palmer)*

The Community Services Department developed an Urban Parks Management Plan that provided a long-term strategy for the acquisition, development and maintenance of school and parkland including natural areas in the River Valley and Ravine System. In 2006, the Urban Parks Master Plan was adopted by City Council in May. Upon approval of the plan, the Advisory Committee was dissolved at the July CSAB meeting.

#### *Volunteerism Committee (Shelley Tupper, John Skone)*

In 1999, the Community Services Advisory Board established a Volunteerism Committee to respond to the recommendations from the Volunteer Research Project Advisory Committee. The Volunteer Research Project Advisory Committee made some broad-based recommendations to the Community Services Advisory Board for transmittal to and consideration by the City of Edmonton as they fit within the Board's mandate, under City Bylaw 11926, "to have a key role in developing a long-term plan for community services in Edmonton."

- In March the Board reviewed the draft Volunteerism policy and approved a motion to endorse the Volunteerism Policy with a letter of support to City Council from the Chair of the CSAB Board.
- The Volunteerism Policy was approved by City Council in July. Upon passing of the policy, Edmonton became one of the first municipalities to adopt a policy in reference to volunteers.
- The City is going to have a paid person in place to ensure consistency of the application and screening process for City volunteers. The Volunteerism Committee was put on hold pending the possible hiring of a Volunteer Coordinator.
- In August the Board felt that the Committee had accomplished what it set out to do and that they need to wait to see what Council does with the Policy before the Board proceeds with recreating a new Volunteerism Committee.



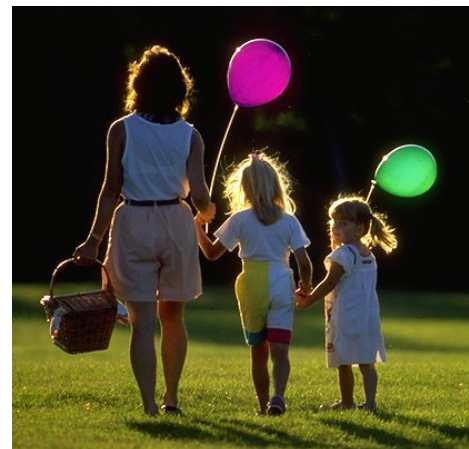
### *Families First Edmonton Sounding Board (Carl Ulrich)*

Families First Edmonton Research Project is designed to examine the comparative effects and expense of proactively offering an integrated mix of health, recreation and social services versus a self-directed, single provider-initiated health and social services packages to parent(s) and their children.

Members of the Sounding Board draw on their experience and knowledge of the needs of families living in poverty, and the health, social service and recreation service delivery to families. The Sounding Board provides the Steering Committee and their supporting committees with analysis, advice and information related to the initiative.

The Sounding Board consists of 8-12 members that are appointed by the Families First Steering Committee. The Sounding Board is active during the project with an anticipated 10-12 meetings between September 2003 and when they conclude in late 2006 or early 2007.

In June CSAB passed a motioned that Carl Ulrich would represent the Community Services Advisory Board on the Families First Sounding Board. During the October CSAB Meeting Carl provided his first update about the Sounding Board. Carl informed the board that the recruitment process starts in January 2007 and so far there are almost 1,200 families participating. There was talk at the meeting that there are numerous restrictions on the guidelines. The Families First Sounding Board decided to use the same criteria as the Leisure Access Program. The Sounding Board have funding in place until January 2008.



### *Outdoor Aquatic Advisory Committee (Elna Nash, Maria Seeber)*

- In February, a Community Services staff had been assigned to coordinate the Outdoor Aquatic Strategy.
- Bea Fricson was assigned to help develop and advise the committee strategy.

### *Diversity and Inclusion (Issam Saleh, Maria Seeber, Kieran Quirke)*

- The Diversity and Inclusion Committee was established in February to provide input to the Department on issues and initiatives related to diversity.
- The committee had discussions with Community Services staff and staff from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion about the potential role of the committee.
- In June, the Board received the draft Terms of Reference for the committee. The Board provided input into the brochure “Including You.”
- The final Terms of Reference were approved in November. The Committee will have five members and will focus its work on immigration and settlement issues that relate to the Community Services Department so there should be no overlap with work being undertaken by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

### *Joint Use Agreement (Elna Nash, Michael Chow, Carl Brodie)*

The Joint Use Agreement (JUA) is a legal agreement between the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Public Schools, and Edmonton Catholic Schools, that describes how the partners work together to plan, develop, and share school and park facilities. The Agreement outlines how school gymnasiums and other parts of school buildings are made available to community groups during after-school hours and how swimming pools, arenas, tennis courts and picnic sites are made available to school children during school hours. The current Joint Use Agreement term ends in 2006.

- In February, the Board was asked to provide two representatives on the Community Services Department’s Joint Use Agreement committee.
- The JUA will collaborate with the JUA Review Team on the “shared issues” portion of the agreement.
- In July CSAB was invited to provide input into the Joint Use Agreement.
- Committee representatives attended several meetings in 2006.

## Future Challenges and Priorities

At the close of 2006, Carl Ulrich, David Schaaf, Rob Smyth, Deryl Kloster concluded their service to the Board. CSAB expresses its appreciation for their service and contributions.

Looking forward to 2007, the Board anticipates discussing the following priorities:

- Collaboration between Civic Boards
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Succession planning / Amendment of city policy for board members
- Neighbourhood and community engagement
- Issues surrounding affordable housing and homelessness





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