

# END POVERTY IN A GENERATION

A ROAD MAP TO GUIDE OUR JOURNEY

**MAY 2016** 



# The EndPovertyEdmonton Strategy

**Defining Priorities** 

- Toward True Reconciliation
- Justice for All
- Move People Out of Poverty
- Invest in Our Poverty-Free Future
- Change the Conversation: Build a Movement to End Poverty





# SIX GAME CHANGERS

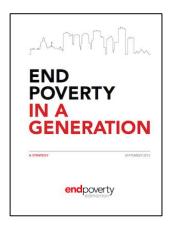
Research indicates that there are six key areas of actions that will make a significant difference to individuals and families struggling with poverty:

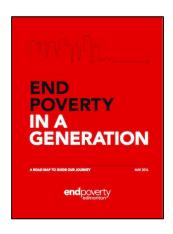
- 1. ELIMINATE RACISM
- 2. LIVABLE INCOMES
- 3. AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- 4. ACCESSIBLE & AFFORDABLE TRANSIT
- 5. AFFORDABLE & QUALITY CHILD CARE
- 6. ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

THESE ARE CRITICAL PLACES
TO START AND ALONG WITH
OTHER LONG-TERM ACTIONS
WILL END POVERTY.

## What is EndPovertyEdmonton?

- Collaboration between governments, nongovernmental organizations, and community members
- Goal of ending poverty in a generation (~30 years)

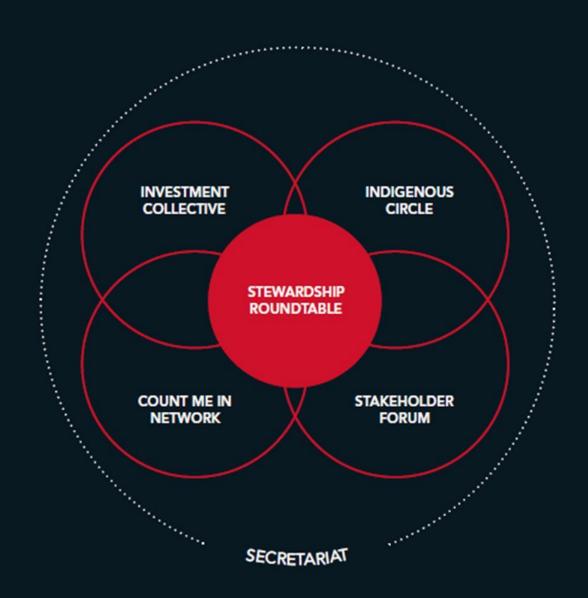








# **EndPovertyEdmonton**



<sup>&</sup>quot;The wheel represents balance and is not meant to be static - it is always moving.

We are all part of the wheel, the more we learn about it the more we become selfless."

Indigenous workshop participant

# **Engaging the community** through partnerships







# 35 Actions in 5 years to lift 10,000 people out of poverty

#### **EndPovertyEdmonton: Road Map Actions at a Glance**

### **GOAL 1:** TOWARD TRUE RECONCILIATION

- Design and plan a new Indigenous culture and wellness centre
- Create spaces, events and opportunities to show and grow the talents of Indigenous Edmontonians
- City of Edmonton to complete a review of programs and services to better reflect the needs of Indigenous peoples and champion the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action
- 4. Launch a Community Witness Program

#### **GOAL 2: JUSTICE FOR ALL**

- Host an annual Day of Dignity to recognize and honour human rights and dignity for all
- Provide opportunities and supports to vulnerable populations to participate in all City committees
- Support and promote training opportunities to build understanding and end stigmatization between vulnerable people and law enforcement personnel
- Develop policies and amend bylaws to provide law enforcement with structured flexibility when issuing minor infractions
- Implement a social lab project to generate ideas and test prototypes to end racism
- Work with local Indigenous and refugee youth on an anti-racism public awareness and action campaign
- Expand initiatives on intercultural competency, anti-racism and trauma informed training as mandatory for City staff
- Incentivize business, educational institutions and not-for-profit employers to implement intercultural competency and anti-racism education in their institutions

### **GOAL 3:** MOVE PEOPLE OUT OF POVERTY

- Implement the "1,000 Families" initiative in five Edmonton communities
- Draft a living wage policy for all City of Edmonton staff and contracted services to be approved by City Council
- Actively encourage local employers in all sectors to learn about and implement living wage policies

- **16.** Expand the spectrum of financial empowerment initiatives
- Initiate a community dialogue to remove systemic barriers and improve coordination of training and employment opportunities
- Implement a low-income transit pass at 60% discount for eligible low-income transit customers
- 19. Provide free passes for agencies to distribute to vulnerable youth and adults
- Conduct a feasibility study of the costs and opportunities of free public transportation for children under 12 years
- Evaluate Edmonton Transit Services (ETS) Late Night Owl Service and expand/improve service as appropriate for shift workers
- 22. Increase supports to the Community Bridge initiative to prevent evictions
- 23. Revisit and renew affordable housing agreements with other orders of government, implement a housing awareness campaign, and initiate a Centre of Excellence for social housing
- 24. Research leading practices on housing design and innovation and raise awareness of the need for and right to affordable housing
- Resource the Edmonton Mental Health Steering Committee to implement the coordinated community mental health action plan
- Advance partnerships to support the implementation of the Edmonton Suicide Prevention Strategy and the Managed Alcohol Program
- 27. Advocate to increase funding and access to mental health services and education including the expansion of full service hours for multi-disciplinary mental health services

 Apply an integrated poverty lens to guide decision-making and operations in the City of Edmonton

## **GOAL 4:** INVEST IN A POVERTY FREE FUTURE

- 29. Resource a new Early Learning and Care Steering Committee to guide the implementation of an integrated system and strategy for early learning and care in Edmonton
- Resource and grow the All In for Youth wrap-around initiative in five school sites
- Establish a Community Development Corporation to invest in affordable housing and community economic development
- 32. Advance the development and stability of local food system providers through access to appropriate business skill training, mentoring, and capital sources (both for start-up and to scale)
- 33. Support ongoing work and facilitate discussion amongst Edmonton's and Alberta's financial systems players, business support agencies and postsecondary institutions to collectively address barriers faced by low income Edmontonians when starting or growing their own businesses

# **GOAL 5:** CHANGE THE CONVERSATION: BUILD A MOVEMENT TO END POVERTY

- Create a "Design by Doing" action lab to catalyze grassroots community-led projects as prototypes to end poverty
- Produce participation toolkits that enable different groups to engage and empower them to action

#### COUNT ME IN!

- Learn more about how poverty impacts all of us and take actions to end poverty.
- Please visit the Count Me In page at www.endpovertyedmonton.ca for ways that you can make a difference!







## **Update on Road Map Progress**

- Indigenous Culture and Wellness Centre
- Low income transit pass
- Community Development Corporation
- Community Bridge
- Suicide Prevention Strategy
- Design by Doing 2.0
- Food security and food systems
- Day of Dignity
- Early Learning and Care Steering Committee





### **Secretariat Priorities**

- Evaluation and telling the story.
- Strategic engagement on ongoing and emerging issues (ex. food security and social enterprise)
- New and ongoing partnerships and collaboration
- Engaging people with lived experience in meaningful and equitable ways.
- Engaging "average Edmontonian" in action on poverty
- Building advocacy agenda
- Keeping "poverty" in other initiatives (ex. Smart City, council priorities, Health City, etc.)
- Supporting provincial and national work on poverty reduction





## **Questions and Feedback**

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