

EDMONTON SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

**Year ended December 31, 1986
with comparative figures for 1985**

Revenue:	1986	1985
United Way allocation	\$ 148,519	137,352
Grants:		
City of Edmonton	18,000	17,500
Government of Alberta	4,000	3,200
Special projects	49,513	39,270
Publications	10,219	1,793
Donations	567	875
Memberships	3,345	3,000
Bank interest	849	..
Training and consultation	7,014	15,723
	<u>242,026</u>	<u>218,713</u>
Expenditures:		
Salaries:		
Professional	91,078	103,469
Contract	14,974	..
Clerical	41,042	39,952
Employee benefits	14,305	11,351
Building occupancy	18,519	16,774
Office expenses:		
New equipment	..	543
Supplies	2,722	2,920
Postage	2,993	3,509
Xeroxing	868	1,231
Telephone	3,849	4,412
Maintenance	1,142	844
Bonding	82	87
Bad debt expense	1,350	..
Recruitment and education	2,474	3,229
Promotion and publicity	2,513	221
Professional fees	1,996	1,300
Transportation	551	225
Agency publications	1,868	..
Miscellaneous	820	515
Research	..	762
Special projects	28,377	23,792
First Reading	9,856	6,948
	<u>241,379</u>	<u>222,084</u>

Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ 647	(3,371)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1986 - 1987

Patrick Hirsche - President
 Andy McCready - Vice-President
 Caroline Fairbrother - Vice-President
 Al Harris - Vice-President
 Beth McCullough - Vice-President

Walter Cavaleri*
 Arch-bishop Kent Clark
 Harvey Krahn
 Cal Lee*
 Terry Lind
 Elizabeth Massola
 Sarah Miller
 Jeff Pearson
 Bill Phipps
 Kathy Vandergriff
 John R. Young

STAFF 1986

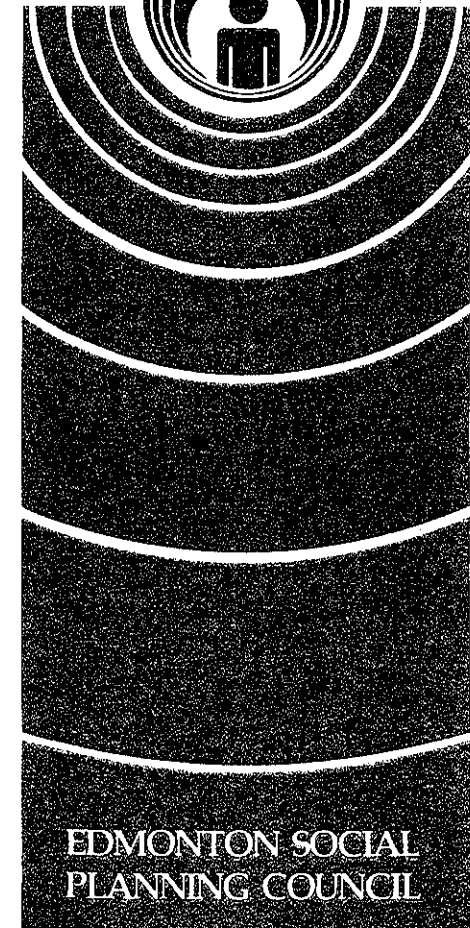
Peter Faid	Executive Director
Thomas Grauman	Planner
Barbara Sykes	Planner
Henry Dembicki	Planner
Diana Salomaa	Planner
Rose French	Office Manager
Mardy Clark*	Secretary
Linda Patriquin	Secretary
Rita Kleinfelder	Librarian
Gavle Dreaver	Project Manager
Linda Zajac	Research Assistant
Teresa Brook	Project Staff
Vaughn Bowler	Project Staff
Mario Allende	Student Practicum

* resigned during the year



ANNUAL REPORT

1986



**EDMONTON SOCIAL
PLANNING COUNCIL**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE CHALLENGE

The time is upon us again at the Edmonton Social Planning Council to reflect on our 46th year and to use the insights gained to more effectively meet the tremendous challenge of the coming year.

The social and economic lives of millions of Canadians, hundreds of thousands of Albertans and thousands of Edmontonians has been increasingly bleak and helpless. For those people who are unemployed (approximately 150,000 in Alberta), who are underemployed and living well below the poverty line (154,000 working poor in Alberta) and the escalating numbers forced to try and survive on social allowance, the price paid for the failures of our economic and social systems has been very high indeed.

The Edmonton Social Planning Council continues to be in a unique and important position within the community. With an independent voice, the Council has addressed the issues of unemployment, the working poor, social allowance inequities, social service privatization and inadequate child care. Using a variety of means, the Council has attempted to increase public awareness, influence social policy and provide the "victim" of our social problems with the information to advocate for themselves.

Every year presents challenges, however, the coming year will undoubtedly present a greater demonstration for a response to these issues in a competent and effective manner. The rising rates of unemployment, underemployment, poverty and social allowance, coupled with the cutbacks in social services, health and education create frightening possibilities.

The Edmonton Social Planning Council has and must continue to face these circumstances with vigor and determination to help improve the social well-being for these disadvantaged groups.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This past year, the Board of Directors was confronted with the unique situation of beginning the year with almost an entirely new group of directors. The past twelve months has seen the board meet this challenge with enthusiasm and dedication.

Some of the more notable accomplishments include: the rewriting of the Council's mission and goals to more clearly reflect the contemporary social environment within which the Council exists; the restructuring of board committees to allow the board to become more intimately involved in social issues, and the commissioning of an agency evaluation to help determine future direction and methods for the Council.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to commend all staff members of the Edmonton Social Planning Council for their dedication to social justice, their hard work and their contribution to board committees. The high degree of success of our endeavors is due to these qualities in our staff.

The coming twelve months will present the Edmonton Social Planning Council with the opportunity for the Board of Directors, the staff and Council members to work together to effectively address pressing social problems and issues of universal concern.

Patrick Hirsche

Welfare Advocacy

With the support of a grant from the Clifford E. Lee Foundation, the Council was able to publish and distribute 7,000 copies of *The Other Welfare Manual*. The manual provides assistance to social allowance recipients who need information regarding rights, responsibilities, entitlements and eligibility criteria. The provincial Department of Social Services contracted with the Council for 30,000 revised copies to distribute through its offices.

The Council developed a two day welfare advocacy workshop to assist social allowance recipients and third party advocates to fully access the welfare system. Almost 200 participants attended the workshop.

In addition, the Council participated in the inter-agency Income Security Action Committee. The Committee promoted improvements in the social allowance levels of support, in policy matters and in the administration of the present system.

Privatization

In response to indications from the provincial government of increased privatization of social services, the Council developed a resource base. The focus of this resource base was to ensure that privatization would not compromise the well-being of social service clients. Addresses to several major provincial organizations were made in Edmonton, Calgary, Red Deer and Grande Prairie.

University for the Unemployed

The Council assisted Athabasca University to establish a University for the Unemployed. The initial step of this project, to be conducted in 1987, is a free-of-charge credit course for 25 unemployed people entitled "The Sociology of Work". Additional enrichment opportunities will be developed to accompany the more formal elements of the program.

Singles and Divorced Speak Out

The group was established with assistance from the Council to lobby for changes in the provincial Widows Pension Plan and the Federal Spouses Allowance Program as both are discriminatory on the basis of marital status. Following a publicity campaign throughout the province, the group approached the Court Challenge Program, administered by the Canadian Council on Social Development for funding to allow for a formal court challenge. This support has been granted and it is anticipated that the challenges will be filed in 1987.

Agency Evaluations

Two major program evaluations were conducted at the request of the Edmonton area human services agencies. One evaluation assessed the "People in Crisis" program of the Victorian Order of Nurses. The second evaluation focussed on programs offered by St. Albert Parents' Place.

Town of Slave Lake Review of Counselling Services

Following the acceptance of a contract with Lakelands Family and Community Services, the Council reviewed the relationship between crisis needs and intervention in Slave Lake. The study inventoried intervention services and recorded service providers' perceptions of existing gaps in services and of potential needs in the future. Recommendations were included to overcome blockages and gaps in services.

Socially Responsible Investments

As the outcome of a student practicum, the Council encouraged the development of a Canadian movement to create investment opportunities for socially responsible investors. In addition to researching the U.S. equivalents and sponsoring a round table discussion, the Council assisted in the formation of a socially responsible pooled trust fund, headquartered in Edmonton.

Alberta Facts

The Council published the first two mass distribution editions of *Alberta Facts*, an educational guide on socio-economic conditions in this Province. The first two editions covered poverty and income distribution respectively. *Alberta Facts* will be a quarterly publication. It is produced in co-operation with the Social Justice Commission (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton), Citizens for Public Justice, Church in Society (Edmonton Presbytery) United Church of Canada.

First Reading

First Reading continues to consolidate gains made in 1985 most notably in its circulation figures and in editorial material submitted by guest writers. Bi-monthly issues of *First Reading* reported on breaking developments in such areas as charity and philanthropy, the McDonald Commission Report on income security, freedom of information, prisons, socially responsible investments and wages. The Publication Distribution Service continued to appear as an insert, drawing increased purchase demand for books published by the Council, The Canadian Council on Social Development and the National Council of Welfare.

Brown Bag Lunchtime Forums

During 1986, the Council maintained its tradition of offering a spring and fall series of monthly lunchtime forums. Guest speakers led discussions on such issues as malnourished children in Edmonton, the aging population, pensions, feminism, foster parenthood, labour laws, the family farm, youth employment programs and work and welfare.

Inter-agency Coordination

The Council continued its well established role of responding to requests from Edmonton groups to assist with planning and networking. One such venture involved the promotion of regularly scheduled suicide prevention training workshops in Edmonton. Another on-going initiative was taken with the Edmonton Youth Services Co-operative whose function is to improve the availability of services for street involved youth.

Training and Consultation

Requests from social service agencies and community groups for assistance with planning workshops, problem solving, clarifying board and staff roles and responsibilities, establishing self-help groups, conducting self-evaluations of agency programs, public relations and advocacy continued to be met by the staff of the Council during 1986. As well, the Council received a constant flow of inquiries for correct information on social trends in the community.

In 1986 the Council developed a needs assessment guide for United Way of Edmonton agencies. The guide assists agencies in identifying characteristics of their client population so that programs can be tailored to meet client needs.