

# ANNUAL REPORT

1984-85



## EDMONTON SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL

### Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Year ended December 31, 1984 with comparative figures for 1983

	1984	1983
Revenue:		
United Way allocation	\$ 129,684	115,351
Grants:		
City of Edmonton	17,000	16,500
Government of Alberta	4,000	7,004
Clifford E. Lee Foundation	6,000	-
Other receipts - publications, donations, memberships, bank interest	13,636	5,397
Fees for service	16,783	29,383
Net revenues from special projects:		
Casino	-	18,371
Conference proceedings	-	6,780
	187,103	198,786
Expenditures:		
Salaries:		
Professional	83,521	110,320
Clerical	38,738	37,750
Student internship	-	3,067
Employee benefits	11,432	6,177
Building occupancy	17,495	18,254
Office expenses:		
New equipment	1,426	2,295
Supplies	2,273	2,521
Postage	2,020	3,201
Xeroxing	2,345	1,391
Telephone	3,755	3,803
Maintenance	481	455
Bonding	86	121
Recruitment and education	4,341	1,546
Promotion and publicity	1,319	2,419
Audit fee	1,246	1,031
Transportation	890	68
Miscellaneous including agency publications	1,655	2,398
Recreational and educational	66	128
Research	3,639	287
Council Project - First Reading (note 3)	18,439	-
Conference proceedings	4,474	-
	199,641	197,232
Excess of revenue over expenditures (deficit) for the year	(12,538)	1,554
Statement of Unappropriated Funds	1984	1983
Year ended December 31, 1984 with comparative figures for 1983		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 13,465	11,911
Excess of revenue over expenditures (deficit) for the year	(12,538)	1,554
Balance, end of year	\$ 927	13,465

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1984-1985

Keith Duggan	President
Leanne Forest-Zapisocky	Vice President
Judy Padua	Vice President
Ruth Wolte	Vice President

Margaret Asch  
Barbara Dacks  
Allan Douglas  
David Douglas  
John Gill  
Pat Hirsche  
Elisabeth Krasnic  
Eva Roche  
Jean Stewart  
Audrey Swaffield  
Howard Welch  
Donna Wood

## STAFF 1984

Peter Faid	-Executive Director
Hope Hunter	-Planner
Nancy Kotani	-Planner
Barbara Sykes	-Planner
Karen Munro	-Research Assistant
Rose French	-Office Manager
Mardy Robdrup	-Secretary
Ellen Ticoll	-Editor, First Reading
Candas Dousey	-Journalist
Tim Trytten	-Project Staff
Brian Chai	-Project Staff
Maurie Feldberg	-Project Staff
Caleb Kwok	-Project Staff
Caroline Mah	-Project Staff
Sandy Prokopiw	-Student Placement

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

In the broadest sense the purpose of social planning is to anticipate and resolve social problems. As a result of the continuing high levels of unemployment in the province and the accompanying social stress, the challenges for social planning have never been greater. Although our resources are limited the Edmonton Social Planning Council has continued to play its part in highlighting some of the damaging social problems that presently confront us and in working with social agencies in the community to develop constructive solutions.

Some of the programming highlights from the past year include the following:

### Unemployment's Social Costs: Strategies for Survival

In February 1984 the Council, along with the Family Services Association and the Department of Family Studies of the University of Alberta, organized a very well attended workshop to enable those in the helping professions to better understand, and respond to, the punishing social costs of rising unemployment in Alberta. Strategies examined during the workshop included maintaining self esteem, gaining financial control, counselling strategies for families of the unemployed and self help strategies for those who are without work.

### Work For All: Changing Perceptions of Work, Leisure, Employment and Unemployment

As a result of the unemployment workshop a network of social agencies began holding regular information meetings on issues relating to unemployment and work. An important development for the network was the decision to organize a two day workshop, entitled "Work for All: Changing Perceptions of Work, Leisure, Employment and Unemployment". The workshop is planned for March, 1985 and will be led by Dr. Robert Theobald, an internationally known economist, educator, futurist and author.

### Workshops on Unemployment

Throughout the year staff of the Council were called upon to present material to various conferences, workshops and committees on the impact of unemployment as a member of a panel on individuals, families and communities. In particular a staff worker spoke at the Conference on Human Work.

### The Social Costs of Unemployment

With financial support from Alberta Manpower, staff of the Council began a study of the social costs of unemployment. The study involves a thorough review and analysis of the literature and the application of the research findings to the present situation in Alberta.

### 'Brown Bag' Lunchtime Forums

During the year the Program Committee of the Board continued to organize monthly 'brown bag' lunchtime forums in order to provide an opportunity for members of the Council and the public to learn more about emerging social questions. In 1984 guest speakers led discussions on such issues as privatization and the implications for the non-profit sector, youth unemployment, women's issues and the social implications of the Alberta government's white paper on Industrial and Science Strategy.

### First Reading

Although financial restrictions did not allow the Council to maintain its publication **First Reading** on a monthly basis throughout the year, interest in the publication has continued to grow. Feature articles during the year included unemployment, wife assault, child abuse, education, the new Canada Health Act, immigration and privatization. A new Editor was recently hired for the publication and it is hoped that in future editions of **First Reading** more members of the Council will be prepared to write for it.

### Inter-Agency Co-ordination

During 1984 the Council received an increasing number of requests for assistance with interagency co-ordination or co-operation. It is apparent that the Council is viewed as an organization which does not have a vested interest in the particular issue, but does have the organizational and planning skills that are necessary to establish some clear direction and purpose.

In this regard the Council was asked to organize a day long workshop that addressed the issue of **the involvement of children in prostitution**. As a result the Edmonton Youth Services Co-operative has been established in order to examine ways of improving services to street involved youth.

The Council was also active in the later part of the year in assisting a planning committee representing Board members of community based day care and out of school care centres who were concerned about the future funding of day care in the city. A workshop entitled **'Keeping the Quality'** attracted over eighty interested Board members and eventually led to the information of the **Edmonton Coalition for Quality Childcare**.

As well research conducted by the Council into **Parenting Programs and Support Services in Edmonton** encouraged the Co-ordinating Committee for Parenting Agencies to approach the Council for assistance in organizing a one day workshop for agencies and individuals involved in providing parent education programs.

### Privatization

With an article in **First Reading**, participation in a 'brown bag' lunchtime forum and a number of presentations at public meetings, staff of the Council have continued their interest in the question of privatization and its likely impact on the quality and delivery of social services in the province.

### Evaluation and Needs Assessments

During 1984 the Council was frequently asked for assistance by social service agencies with program evaluations and needs assessments.

As well as conducting a number of evaluation workshops staff of the Council completed an evaluation for Big Sisters Society and conducted a needs assessment for the Boys and Girls Club of Edmonton.

### Roger Soderstrom Resource Library

Since the official dedication of the Council's resource library work has continued on the classifying and cataloguing of material; including the listing of all of the holdings on the computer. As well the Council has further developed its contracts with other planning councils and national social welfare organizations and has continued to purchase current studies and reports of interest to its members and the community.

### A Guide to Social Development Information in Edmonton

During the summer project staff of the Council produced a very well received **Guide to Social Development Information in Edmonton**. The guide lists and describes over seventy libraries in the city that have holdings of interest to researchers in social work, social policy and social welfare. As well the guide includes a 250 keyword index that identifies the most suitable libraries for finding materials on any particular subject.

### The Nuts and Bolts of Community Based Economic Development

With the assistance of Health and Welfare Canada the Council, published the proceedings of its conference on community based economic development. Requests for the book continue to be received from all parts of the country.

### Training and Consultation

Requests from social service agencies and community groups for assistance with planning workshops, clarifying board staff roles and responsibilities, and problem solving were received in increasing numbers during 1984. Further copies of the **Board Staff Workbook** continue to sell very well right across the country.