



# 1994 Annual Report

**David Hewitt**  
President

It has been a challenging year for the Edmonton Social Planning Council as new staff were added, the management model changed and the Council explored new ground by undertaking two demonstration projects which involved service delivery. Throughout 1994 the Board and staff have continued to fulfil the Council's mandate to create, to advocate and to support changes in policies, attitudes, and actions in order to enhance social rights and freedoms. It's a job that is increasingly difficult given the direction our provincial government is taking. The Council continues to speak out on cuts to social services, health and education—which affect low-income people disproportionately. We have emerged as one of the few organizations which is willing to voice concerns when many others can not or will not.

Our profile was boosted over the year as our Executive Director continued to be approached by media for interviews on a wide scope of issues. Membership in the Council has grown over 1994 and people continue to request our publications from all over the province and country. The organization has managed to maintain financial stability in times when many other organizations have had to close their doors.

Collaboration with outside organizations locally and nationally helped to position the Edmonton Social Planning Council as a respected and valuable member of the community of Edmonton and beyond.

The Board has reaffirmed the direction of the Council and we have provided some new ideas for future challenges. I am confident the Board and staff will continue to work for the good of the community in 1995.

**Jonathan Murphy**  
Executive Director

I present, with mixed feelings, my fifth and final report to the members of the Edmonton Social Planning Council. I have faced many and varied challenges, and the rewards have been equally bountiful. The support and understanding I have received from the Board, staff, and members has made my stay at the Council a treasured highlight of my life. Nevertheless, it is time for me to take on fresh challenges, and I also believe the Council will benefit from the vision and renewed passion of new leadership.

The Council has grown considerably since 1990. In fact, our revenues and expenditures have more than doubled these past five years. This reflects major expansion of project funding. Many new research, demonstration, and evaluation programs have been supported through national sources, bringing new resources to Edmonton's human service community.

We also emphasize collaboration. Particularly, we recognize the practical skills of front-line agencies, which can be deepened through association with our professional staff, who have extensive experience in project design and implementation, resource development, and evaluation. The Council will continue to seek opportunities to demonstrate innovative service delivery practices. We are not, however, interested in competing with existing agencies to deliver permanent direct service programs.

Fiscal crisis has led government to try to balance budgets by cutting programs. In response, the Council has advocated strongly that Alberta and Canada maintain comprehensive health and social security programs. In recent years, we have focused our public education on income support issues, but during 1994 we also played the key role in the Friends of Medicare group. In the next year, plans to privatize child welfare and proposed cuts to federal programs will require close scrutiny. If these changes reduce program standards and accessibility, the Council will need to respond vigorously, emphasizing constructive alternatives.

In conclusion, I thank the Board of Directors for its tireless work during 1994, and express my appreciation to the staff whose dedication and professionalism assures the organization a bright future.

# 1994 Highlights

- Aboriginal Projects:** The Edmonton Aboriginal Community Services Demonstration Project got underway in 1994. Consultations were held with existing service agencies and community groups and priorities identified to address crime prevention through social development.
- Child Poverty:** The Council was an active participant in the Children and Families Initiative (CFI) which was developed to raise awareness and promote long term change for Edmonton children living in poverty. We provided a lot of coordination and support over the two-year span of this initiative. Three main projects evolved out of the CFI. The first involved income security—a report was compiled and presented to the Federal Standing Committee of Human Resources Development. The second involved Child Welfare—recommendations were made to the provincial government on the revision to delivery of services to children and families. The third evolved into a project called Success By Six which will pilot a program in north-central Edmonton aimed at reducing the effects of child poverty. We also continued to be part of the Child Poverty Action Group in the city.
- Evaluations:** We conducted an evaluation of the Alberta Community Development Board Development Program as well as evaluating the programs offered by the Sexual Assault Centre. We also began an evaluation of the Brighter Futures program in Breton and Buck Creek.
- Inner City Work:** The Prostitute Resource Centre (Kindred House) opened its doors in November. By year end there were several women coming into the house, with services set up to meet their needs. The Council also participated in the Safer Cities Initiative and the Edmonton Inner City Violent Crime Task Force which examined many issues such as family violence, alternative sentencing, prostitution and employment.
- Multiculturalism:** The Council continued to take part in the United Way's Challenge To Change project which involves eight organizations. The project was aimed at helping organizations embrace multiculturalism, but by the end of the second year the focus had shifted to address diversity in broader terms. We published the manual *People Jobs and the Changing Workplace* in 1994 as well as an *Alberta Facts* fact sheet 'We Are Not Racists But...'
- Other Projects:** The Council received funding from Youth Service Canada to set up and run the YouthWorks program for young people between the ages of 18 to 24 who had previous involvement with the law. The project involved a work experience placement program as well as a life skills and an Aboriginal cultural awareness and spirituality component. The Council continued in its role of provincial coordinator for Nobody's Perfect, a parenting program funded through Health Canada. We completed work on the Health and Welfare Canada study of current workforce trends and through this we developed research papers which were presented to the federal government. We received funding from the federal AIDS Community Action Plan to develop and deliver specialized educational programming for female offenders. This program will be offered in the new federal women's institution and negotiations are underway to allow the program to be used in provincial facilities as well.
- Welfare Advocacy:** We continued to speak out against the cuts to social programs at both the provincial and federal levels. We published an updated version of the *Other Welfare Manual* which included a chapter on benefits and programs for people with disabilities. The Council worked with a committee of lawyers, advocates and Supports For Independence clients to challenge the provincial government over the changes being made to the SFI program. The group looked into getting funding from the Court Challenges program so they could continue to make a case against the province of Alberta.

**Publications:** A new *Family Budgeting Guide* was published in 1994 which incorporated Calgary and Edmonton costs for raising a family. An updated version of the *Other Welfare Manual* was also published along with the 1994 edition of *Tracking The Trends* which had a special focus on youth. Four issues of our magazine *First Reading* were published: The Indigenous Challenge; An Issue of Family; The Other Women's perspectives in the 1990s; and A Tattered Safety Net. Two *Alberta Facts* were published, both were titled Poverty and Illness—An Unhealthy Connection. One focused on the effects on infants and children and the other focused on the effects on teens and adults.

**Public Events:** The Council hosted a dinner with guest speaker Human Resources Minister LLOYD Axworthy. We had a casino fundraiser in 1994 and one Brown Bag Forum which focused on the health care concerns of Aboriginal people. The Council also hosted a forum on the social security review in December 1994 with the federal Secretary of State for Training and Youth Ethel Blondin-Andrew and MP Judy Bethel.

## Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	David Hewitt
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	Harry Boddington Jackie Fiala Hubert Kammerer
<b>Members</b>	Ibrahim Alladin Richard Arcand Anke Eastwood Kevin Feehan Lois Gander Val Kinjerski Nancy Kotani Lynn Laviolette Sylvia Novik David Schneiderman Shirley Serviss

## Staff

<b>Executive Director</b>	Jonathan Murphy
<b>Program Director</b>	Christopher Smith
<b>Executive Assistant</b>	Alison Roppel
<b>Social Planners</b>	Alison MacDonald Anne Fitzpatrick Dana Diamond Pearl Bennett •
<b>Coordinator, Aboriginal Initiatives</b>	Jeannette Sinclair
<b>Publications Editor</b>	Sheila Kushniruk
<b>Graphic Designer</b>	Lesli Thompson
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	Shelley Bowles
<b>Office Assistants</b>	Bola Fadeyi Beverly Wright Marie Krosova •
<b>Project Staff</b>	Jason Brown Bill Burrows Shirley Hardman • Evelyn Hamdon Priscilla Bishop Sandra Morrison Louise McRee •
<b>Volunteer Librarian</b>	Dean Eleniak

•Left Council during 1994

## Statement of Revenue and Expenditures (Year Ended Dec. 31, 1994)

	1994 (Budget)	1994 (Actual)	1993 (Actual)
<b>Revenue</b>			
United Way	183,150	182,340	182,308
Project revenue	235,000	373,550	286,123
Government grants			
Federal Government	20,000	25,695	10,345
City of Edmonton	21,500	21,500	21,000
Provincial Government	-	591	552
Other receipts	40,000	29,931	41,967
Casino	20,000	10,444	36,848
	<u>\$519,650</u>	<u>\$644,051</u>	<u>\$579,143</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Project expenses	140,000	327,951	227,154
Salaries and benefits	285,000	227,847	250,052
Office expenses	38,300	41,905	46,785
Building occupancy	28,000	18,049	23,049
Professional fees	7,500	7,570	7,939
Meetings	5,500	7,299	5,926
Library	1,500	2,416	1,317
Transportation	1,500	2,054	1,439
Promotion and publicity	2,000	1,979	2,257
Recruitment and education	3,000	1,973	1,497
Insurance	850	1,368	1,476
Miscellaneous	6,500	1,291	2,800
Alberta and Edmonton Facts booklets	-	83	1,052
Agency publications	-	78	2,835
Professional services	-	-	1,705
	<u>\$519,650</u>	<u>\$641,863</u>	<u>\$577,283</u>
Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures	-	<u>\$2,188</u>	<u>\$1,860</u>

## Statement of Members' Equity (Year Ended Dec. 31, 1994)

	1994	1993
<b>Equity in Capital Assets</b>		
Balance, beginning of the year	62,531	51,502
Capital asset additions during the year	8,955	11,029
Balance, end of the year	<u>\$71,486</u>	<u>\$62,531</u>
<b>Unappropriated Funds</b>		
Balance, beginning of the year	19,982	18,122
Excess of revenue over expenditures	2,188	1,860
Balance, end of the year	<u>\$22,170</u>	<u>\$19,982</u>

### Notes on financial statements:

The statement of revenue and expenditures and the statement of members' equity have been extracted from the December 31, 1994 financial statements as audited by Bruha, Whelan and Hawkings. The financial statements are available from the Council office.

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The Edmonton Social  
Planning Council is a  
member of the



**United Way**  
Alberta Capital Region