



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Edmonton Chamber
of Voluntary Organizations

Future-focused. Change-ready.

In 2017, ECVO began a process of clarifying our impact. Our vision remains the same, but our path to get there is evolving alongside a changing non-profit sector. Our renewed Theory of Change hones in not only on the content and focus of our opportunities, but the varied approaches we must take in supporting a resilient and confident non-profit community.

Our goal is to be a trusted advisor and thought leader that works with change-ready public benefit voluntary organizations. We work with them to build their resilience and increase their capacity and confidence to address pressures they face. We support them to build capacity for effective collaboration by facilitating the transition from conversation to action.

Organizations with varying needs require engagement in varying forms. We recognize that leading a diverse sector to build capacity requires different approaches, namely broad market, defined market, and single organization requests that allow ECVO to become more reflexive and accessible in our capacity-building work.

We're energized by the direction that voluntary organizations are heading, and we look forward to listening to ideas on how we can help you prepare for a shifting non-profit landscape.

174

MEMBERS

135

ORGANIZATIONS

39

INDIVIDUALS

1173

PARTICIPANTS

attended ECVO
capacity-building
events in 2017

OUR VISION IS A STRONG, VIBRANT COMMUNITY STRENGTHENED BY AN EFFECTIVE VOLUNTARY SECTOR WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS.

VIEW THE DIGITAL VERSION OF 2017 ANNUAL REPORT AT ECVO.CA/ANNUALREPORTS

A whole greater than the sum of its parts.

In 2017, ECVO worked with the Partnership Brokers Association to bring their globally-recognized Partnership Brokers Training back to Edmonton. A total of **18 non-profit organizations** participated in the **four-session workshop series**, learning new insights and techniques to build strong and fulfilling partnerships.

Setting a template for strong leadership.

In 2017, **Moving to Action** took several successful steps toward its goal of enhancing effectiveness and collaboration across Edmonton's human services sector.

What began as a discussion in 2012 on how to foster collaboration and collective action in human services organizations has evolved into an ongoing and developing series of initiatives that support strong leadership, stimulate innovation, and strengthen strategic alignment throughout the community.

- **A series of Leadership Labs** facilitated by Think Jar Collective brought diverse representatives from Edmonton's nonprofit and voluntary sector together to discuss, explore, and experiment with ideas around sector leadership: where it is, where it's heading, and how it may be best guided.
- **Three reports** came out of the Leadership Labs—a report on collective capacity building in the human services sector, and reports on leadership from conversations led by both emerging non-profit leaders and current Edmonton-area board members.

VISIT WWW.ECVO.CA/MTA FOR THE LATEST UPDATES FROM THE MOVING TO ACTION PORTFOLIO

BUILDING CAPACITY

Training topics included:

- Financial Management
- Charity taxation and legal requirements
- Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation
- Employment Standards Code changes
- Human resources fundamentals



Creating spaces for connection.

Networking is an essential aspect of keeping the non-profit community alive and learning. In 2017, we created numerous spaces for the community to gather, whether it be to exchange insight, learn new tricks, or merely share their experiences.

THINK TANK CONVERSATIONS FOR VOLUNTEER MANAGERS

A total of **59 volunteer managers** came together across four quarterly events to share stories and insight about their approaches to working with volunteers.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NETWORKING

Executive Directors are eager to connect with other leaders in the community. In 2017, we hosted three Executive Director networking nights, during which **78 attendees** connected over drinks in a safe and casual atmosphere.

BOARD TO BOARD NETWORKING

Board to Board has been an essential networking event for Edmonton area board members since 2014. This is a space for board members to come together to learn about how other boards are creating impact in their communities. **30 attendees** joined us at two 2017 events.

Upside down thinking for collaboration.

ECVO partnered with the Tamarack Institute to present Upside Down Thinking, a workshop exploring how to think differently, challenge basic assumptions and foster collaborative visions.

102 PARTICIPANTS took part.

 **TAMARACK**
INSTITUTE

The essence of healthy and vibrant communities.

ECVO partnered with the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, End Poverty Edmonton and the City of Edmonton to host a community roundtable on Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy.

79 PARTICIPANTS

from Edmonton's human services non-profit community took part, providing their insight and expertise on poverty reduction towards a report delivered to Canada's Minister of Families, Children and Social Development.





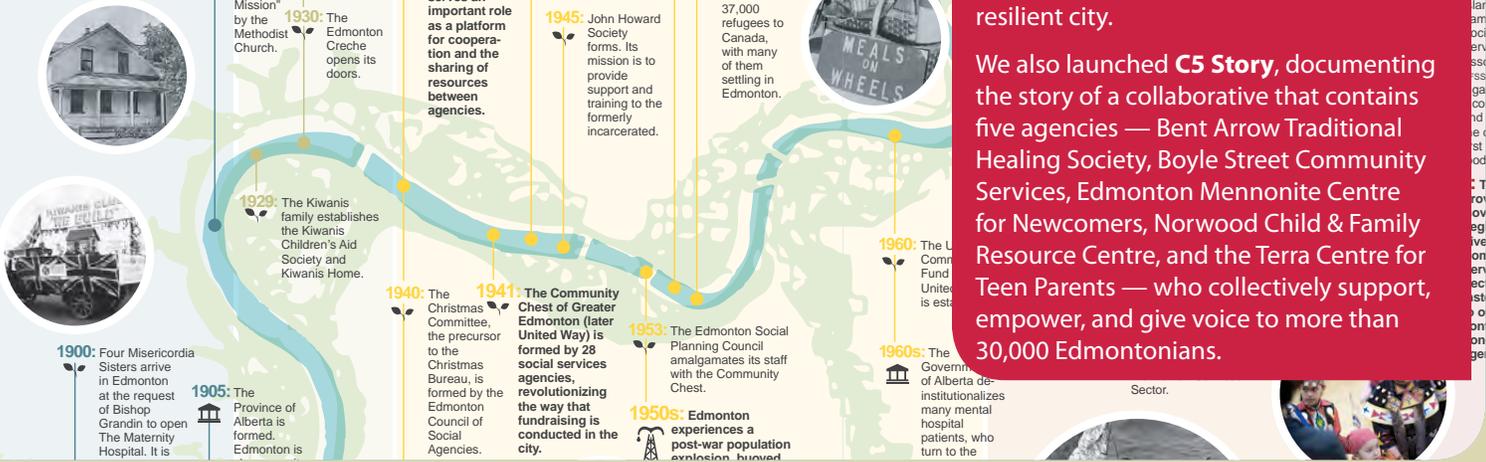
ECVO: A Timeline of Edmonton's Human Services Sector

Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations

Legend

- Establishment: 1890–1918
- Economic Uncertainty: 1919–1939
- The War Years and Baby Boomers: 1939–1969
- The Big Oil Boom: 1970–1991
- The Klein Era: 1992–2006

- Internal/Sector
- Economic
- Global/Migration
- External/Government



Preserving our history of collective action.

In April, we publicly launched the History of Edmonton's Human Services Sector project at Edmonton's City Hall. The project gathered the rich and diverse stories of the city's many human services organizations, and captured the Edmonton's historic essence as an innovative, cooperative, and resilient city.

We also launched **C5 Story**, documenting the story of a collaborative that contains five agencies — Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society, Boyle Street Community Services, Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Norwood Child & Family Resource Centre, and the Terra Centre for Teen Parents — who collectively support, empower, and give voice to more than 30,000 Edmontonians.

VOLUNTEERS ARE AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITIES

READ THEIR STORIES AT ECVO.CA/VOLUNTEERS

Advice From Experience 	Better Together 	C5 FAQ: What are the characteristics of the five organizations that make up C5, allow C5 to work?	Partnerships
Redefining Partnership 	The Fort McMurray Emergency 	What about the personal characteristics of the people involved, that make C5 work?	

Giving voice to Edmonton's volunteers.

Inspired by Canada's 150th birthday, we celebrated Edmonton's volunteer spirit and history of giving by turning the lens back onto the volunteers and voluntary organizations that have supported citizens throughout our history and into the present.

Throughout 2017, we gathered 150 unique volunteer stories and put them on full display online. The **150 Volunteer Voices** project captures conversations with volunteers of all ages, genders, and backgrounds who shared what inspires them to donate their time and energy to their communities.

The project was supported by the Edmonton Community Foundation's Community Fund for Canada's 150th.

150 VOLUNTEER VOICES

Connecting non-profits and civic leaders.

Leading up to the 2017 Civic Election, ECVO hosted a mixer inviting City Council candidates and non-profit representatives to connect around how the City of Edmonton can continue supporting the voluntary sector.

64 COUNCIL CANDIDATES

took advantage of the opportunity to meet leaders in Edmonton's non-profit community.

Inspiring the next generation of board members.

In 2017, ECVO developed and launched an online learning course instructing participants on the essentials and best practices of board governance in an Alberta context.

Designed in partnership with Suncor Energy, the five-module course covered everything from effective meetings and strong bylaws to understanding financial matters and setting strategic direction.

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE OUR FUNDERS



54 ORGANIZATIONS

connected with thousands of prospective volunteers at ECVO's seventh annual **Volunteer Fair**, held during **National Volunteer Week 2017**.

Financial Outlook



- Operating Grants
- Project Grants
- Membership Fees
- Interest
- Fees & Miscellaneous
- Expense Reimbursements



- Amortization
- Governance
- Human Resources
- Marketing & Communications
- Office Operations
- Organizational Operations
- Sector Services
- Research & Analysis