

The ECVO gratefully acknowledges the support of our funders:



# ANNUAL REPORT • 2006

# ECVO

Membership is open to individuals and non-profit groups in the Edmonton region.

Check out our website for details: [www.ecvo.ca](http://www.ecvo.ca)

Contact Us:  
[ecvo@interbaun.com](mailto:ecvo@interbaun.com)

EDMONTON CHAMBER OF VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS



## MISSION STATEMENT

*The ECVO is a charitable organization dedicated to providing leadership and mobilizing the collective resources of the voluntary sector, to enhance programs, services, operations and governance of not-for-profit organizations in the Edmonton region.*

*The ECVO is working to develop a cohesive and credible voice on important issues and to promote the value of volunteerism and the important contribution made by the voluntary sector.*

*ECVO's primary mandate is to be a collective voice for the not-for-profit sector, to build the sector's capacity and to advocate for those cross-sectoral issues that have the greatest impact on the organizations we represent.*



*The ECVO Staff Team, Left to Right: Val Mayes, executive director, Andrea Schuld-Ergil, associate director, Rene Mauthe, webmaster, Beth Hunter, CSL Liaison.*

## REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VAL MAYES

The 2006 year was one of substantial growth for the ECVO. Our staff component increased with the addition of the full-time Associate Director position, ably filled by Andrea Schuld-Ergil. We also saw the CSL Liaison position increase from half-time to full-time, and our Webmaster's hours increased as more features and sections were added to the website. We also added a part-time bookkeeper and data entry clerk to our team. Our e-bulletin moved from a monthly feature to a weekly event (with an ever-growing number of subscribers) and we found ourselves being consulted regularly on sector-related issues.

Throughout the year the ECVO participated in wide range of initiatives and projects, at municipal, provincial and federal levels, all the while focusing on serving the nonprofit community in the Edmonton region. We continue to receive positive feedback from our members and stakeholders, and we look forward to another exciting 12 months.

### **Membership and Contacts:**

Our membership numbers at the end of 2006 were at 31 individuals and 36 organizations, for a total of 67. Our list of contacts receiving the weekly e\*bulletin was over 600 by the end of December. The numbers for 2007 are looking very good, with current membership at 22 individual and 39 organizational, for a total of 61, with a renewal rate of 91% as of April 20.

### **Partnerships:**

The ECVO continues to work closely with Volunteer Alberta, Volunteer Edmonton, the Board Development Program, the Resource Centre for Voluntary Organizations (RCVO) at Grant MacEwan College, the Community Service-Learning Program at the University of Alberta, our colleagues at the Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations and the Canadian Federation of Voluntary Sector Networks.

This year we also provided support to the City of Edmonton's Salute to Excellence awards, the Connect2Edmonton website and Edmonton's Next Gen initiative. We also developed an excellent working relationship with the "Engage Page" feature of the Edmonton Journal.



**Projects:**

With funding from the United Way, an inventory of Edmonton area nonprofit groups was undertaken to determine the size, scope and needs of ECVO members and stakeholders. Results were impressive – there are over 8,000 nonprofits in the Edmonton area! With funding from the City of Edmonton, we launched two Peer Learning Circles for executive directors, each meeting monthly with a facilitator. We also hosted three CSL students who researched the topic of board governance as part of their placement with the ECVO.

**Presentations:**

In November 2006 we made a presentation to Edmonton City Council as part of the annual budget hearings, making the case for supporting nonprofit groups and the contributions they make to quality of life in our communities. We also spoke to university classes, the Community Services Advisory Board, and groups of funders.

**Events:**

**Advocacy 101** - Two successful workshops, held in June and September, that helped participants understand the basics of planning and delivering advocacy campaigns.

**Insurance Tool Kit workshops** - Six well-attended workshops, offered around the city from April to October, helping participants understand their insurance needs and options.

**Relationships Between Boards and Staff** - An informative session, in cooperation with RCVO, presented in August by ECVO board member Kelly Sloan as part of her Muttart Fellowship work.

**Human Resources Issues Focus Group** - Held in November to gather input on the HR crisis in the Edmonton's nonprofit sector.

**Seasonal Open House** - A networking get-together in December to connect members, supporters and stakeholders.

The ECVO has been a key player in the Alberta Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector Initiative (ANSVI), that evolved from the “Framework for Action” group which has been working with representatives of the provincial government since 2004. In June of 2006, a Leaders Council was created, and endorsed by the Minister of Community Development, Denis Ducharme. The ECVO was designated as a member of the Leaders Council, working with other nonprofit sector partners and representatives of 6 provincial government departments to prepare a Framework Agreement for the minister by January 2007. The agreement will serve as a mechanism to establish how the government and nonprofit/voluntary sectors will communicate and work together.

In September of 2006, when the federal government announced a series of funding cuts with significant impacts on Canada's nonprofit sector, the ECVO created a new webpage on its website and tracked the reactions to the cuts from across sectors and across the nation. ECVO members and contacts received regular updates on various campaigns that were underway, and were encouraged to let the ECVO know what actions they were taking.

In November of 2006, the ECVO developed an Advocacy Plan. The plan included an “Action Alert” which was sent out to all ECVO contacts, focusing on the issue of the human resources crisis in the nonprofit sector. The ECVO announced that it would be taking a lead role in gathering information on the impact of the HR crisis in Edmonton and in sharing this information with stakeholders and decision makers. At the same time, the ECVO undertook identification of strategies already underway and some ways to support these strategies. A webpage on the ECVO website was created to document the activities around the initiative, a PowerPoint presentation was developed to help groups deliver common messaging, and a Working Group was formed in anticipation of future work.

Throughout the year, the ECVO continued to be involved with the Alberta Voluntary Sector Insurance Council (AVSIC), through work on the Insurance Tool Kit project, presentations on Insurance and Risk Management, and with the election of the executive director as co-chair of the Council in June. The work of the Council also included strengthening relationships between the nonprofit sector, insurance industry representatives, and government representatives.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It has been an exciting year for ECVO. One of our strategic goals in 2006 focused on developing a cohesive and credible voice on important issues. I believe we have made great strides in this area. When I look at some of the work we have done around the insurance issue, relationships with decision-makers, and advocacy, more specifically in the area regarding the crisis that is facing us in the human resources area, we have been able to support organizations and coalitions in working together to look at some of those broader strategies.

And I must say that this work would not have been as successful if it had not been for the dedication and commitment we receive from Val Mayes, our Executive Director. Val's contract with ECVO is finished as of June this year. It is with sadness for us as an organization but happiness for her in that Val is following her dream by moving out to BC to immerse herself in a much more healthy environment.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of not only our Board of Directors but the membership as a whole to thank her for all the work she has done in bringing us to where we are today and wish her all the best in her future endeavors. She will be missed by all.

- Bev Parks

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following individuals have served on the board of the ECVO over the past year. The ECVO thanks them for their dedicated service.

**Catherine Cole**  
**Russ Dahms**  
**Larry Derkach, *Secretary***  
**Jim Gurnett**  
**Nena Jocić-Andrejević**  
**John Mahon, *Treasurer***

**John Meston**  
**Liz O'Neill, *Vice-chair***  
**Bev Parks, *Chair***  
**Kelly Sloan**  
**Donna Woodford**



*Back Row, L to R: Jim, Liz, Larry, Catherine, John Meston.  
Front Row L to R: Donna, John Mahon, Bev, Kelly.*



## 2006 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### To the Members of Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations

We have audited the statement of financial position of Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations as at December 31, 2006 and the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on except for the effect of any adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the contributions referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as noted in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the organization derives revenue from memberships, donations and workshops the completeness of which is not susceptible of satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization, and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to contributions, excess of revenue over expenses, current assets and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of any adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the contributions referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 2006 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

- approved by the Board April 19, 2007

### Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31,	2006	2005
<b>Revenues</b>		
Grants	\$ 180,000	\$ 247,500
Membership fees	9,350	1,600
Leasing income	9,802	8,785
Interest	2,831	1,235
Revenue deferred from prior years	126,032	17,350
Revenue deferred to future years	(117,900)	(126,032)
	<b>210,115</b>	<b>150,438</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Communications	5,887	4,455
Educational services	926	1,171
General and administrative expenses	8,262	5,341
Governance	909	1,213
Management salaries and benefits	135,493	87,655
Office operations	27,613	25,035
Payroll and contractor services	16,062	24,964
	<b>195,152</b>	<b>149,834</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 14,963</b>	<b>\$ 604</b>

### Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended December 31,	2006	2005
<b>Surplus, beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ 2,445</b>	<b>\$ 1,841</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>14,963</b>	<b>604</b>
<b>Surplus, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 17,408</b>	<b>\$ 2,445</b>

### Statement of Financial Position

December 31,	2006	2005
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash and short term investments	\$ 135,721	\$ 144,947
Accounts receivable	1,692	3,970
Prepaid expenses	1,990	1,990
	<b>\$ 139,403</b>	<b>\$ 150,907</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 4,095	\$ 22,430
Deferred revenue (note 3)	117,900	126,032
	<b>121,995</b>	<b>148,462</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>17,408</b>	<b>2,445</b>
	<b>\$ 139,403</b>	<b>\$ 150,907</b>



**Notes to Financial Statements**

**December 31, 2006**

**1. Nature of operations**

Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations was incorporated in 2002 under the *Alberta Companies Act* as a non-profit organization. The organization is a registered charity under the *Income Tax Act* and is exempt from tax.

The objectives of the organization are to advance education by promoting the study, understanding and appreciation of Canada's voluntary sector and the role of the volunteer, by strengthening the effectiveness and capacity of the voluntary sector and the role of the volunteer.

**2. Significant accounting policies**

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by management in the preparation of these financial statements.

**(a) Revenue recognition**

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in net assets.

Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

**(b) Property and equipment**

Capital assets, consisting of computer equipment, are expensed in the year of acquisition.

**(c) Contributed services**

Volunteers contributed time to assist the Society in carrying out its program. Because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

**(d) Use of estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**December 31, 2006**

**2. Significant accounting policies (continued)**

**(e) Financial instruments**

All significant financial assets, financial liabilities and equity instruments of the organization are either recognized or disclosed in the financial statements together with other information relevant for making a reasonable assessment of future cash flows, interest rate risk and credit risk. Where practicable the fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities have been determined and disclosed; otherwise only available information pertinent to fair value has been disclosed.

**3. Deferred revenue**

	2006	2005
Grants	\$ 113,000	\$ 126,032
Membership fees	4,900	-
	<b>\$ 117,900</b>	<b>\$ 126,032</b>

**4. Statement of cash flows**

Inclusion of a statement of cash flows would not provide any additional information that is not evident from the financial statements already presented. Therefore, a statement of cash flows has not been presented.

