



Edmonton Chamber
of Voluntary Organizations



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

A year of putting theory to action.

ECVO EMERGED FROM 2017 inspired by a newly-minted Theory of Change. It clarified our impact in a rapidly evolving non-profit community and set a stronger framework for how we develop and deliver programs.

We spent 2018 operationalizing the Theory of Change and reframing our programs structure to more clearly recognize the broad spectrum of ECVO's impact, from the simple, everyday opportunities to support individuals and organizations to helping to maintain the momentum of non-profit advocacy across the province.

We experimented. We had wins and we experienced failures. But looking back, 2018 was a year of focus and taking a significant step towards achieving our vision of a strong, vibrant community strengthened by an effective voluntary sector working in tandem with governments and business.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2018

Developed throughout 2017, ECVO's new Theory of Change realigned our impact towards four key categories:

DIRECT SUPPORT
Providing direct support to organizations to address their unique needs.

DEFINED MARKET
Targeted, specialized training and capacity-building focused on areas such as volunteer management, evaluation, and governance.

BROAD MARKET
Training and development in key operating areas, such as financial management and human resources.

COLLECTIVE ACTION
Working with the non-profit community to create opportunities for collaboration, innovation and collective impact as a sector.

Creating space for deeper conversation.
Local insight and global perspectives covered at **Fail Safe 2018**, which connected renowned thought leaders from across the globe with local non-profit, business, and public sector leaders for open and honest discussions about failure and its value as a tool for innovation.




The **Executive Director mentorship** program connected emerging non-profit leaders with experienced mentors, creating a successful foundation for ongoing knowledge-sharing within the sector.


10 experienced **MENTORS** + **10** emerging **LEADERS**




136 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS AND CEOs attended four **Wine & Wisdom Networking Nights** in 2018. These casual and informative evenings have provided non-profit leaders with fun, entertaining, and informal places to share their experiences, learn together, and, most importantly, break down existing silos in the community.



12 VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT SPECIALISTS experimented and tested new approaches to volunteer screening for their organizations and the sector at the **Volunteer Screening Lab**, which launched in 2018 after two years in development. Taking a collaborative and iterative approach to workshopping, the Lab is the first of its kind on this topic in Edmonton.



The **Evaluation Lab** marks a departure for ECVO programs, taking an adaptive approach to workshopping and creating a co-learning environment for participants to explore, test, and adapt evaluation-based concepts to bring back to their workspaces.



More than **200** attended the **2018 Board Leadership Conference**, staying on top of the trends and fundamentals of strong board governance.



The 2018 **Board Leadership Edmonton Conference** sees 200+ attendees.

Alberta Board Member Essentials (ABME) program brings blended approach to governance training

New **Executive Director mentorship program** connects emerging and seasoned leaders to bridge generation gap.

Inaugural **Fail Safe** conference connects sectors for honest conversations about failure, innovation, and resilience.

66 organizations made thousands of new volunteer connections at the 9th Annual **Edmonton Volunteer Fair**, which capped off another National Volunteer Week rife with inspiring stories and new volunteer adventures.



Alberta Community Support Network (ACSN) launches

Volunteer Screening Lab launches after two years in development

HR in a Box takes on the basics of human resources and healthy workplaces

Bylaws Refresher helps non-profits rejuvenate policies for the future.

Volunteer Connector launches, taking its first steps towards becoming Alberta's one-stop-shop for volunteer opportunities

Three **Executive Director Networking Nights** bring non-profit leaders together for evenings of co-learning and silo-breaking



3 THINK TANK CONVERSATIONS saw **65** Volunteer Engagement Specialists convene to share insight and explore burgeoning trends and common challenges for those tasked with engaging volunteers. **THINK TANK CONVERSATIONS** have laid a bedrock for additional communities of practice to be launched in 2019.




BROAD MARKET CAPACITY BUILDING TO STAY ON TOP OF THE ESSENTIALS


Our core offerings cover key operational areas and their most pressing needs. 2018 topics included:

- CANNABIS & THE WORKPLACE**
- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**
- OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY**

59 NEW & EMERGING BOARD LEADERS learned the fundamentals of board governance by way of online learning and in-person role-play during the pilot and first official edition of the **Alberta Board Member Essentials Program**.




A place to go for a helping hand.
The **Alberta Community Support Network (ACSN)** launched in 2018, connecting highly experienced volunteer consultants in second-stage careers with non-profits in need of expertise to tackle their unique short-term challenges. Since launching, this donation-based initiative has already arranged **35 consulting engagements** with the help of **14 active volunteer consultants**.



We partnered with Service Alberta and Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis to deliver two **Bylaws Refresher** workshops, helping non-profits dust off their bylaws and make them future-ready in our rapidly evolving non-profit sector.



ECVO began research into the non-profit and broader community response to the Syrian refugee crisis and the fractures it exposed in Edmonton's settlement system. **Lessons from the Influx** is set to be released in 2019.



Our members are the heart of the Chamber.

ECVO's membership reflects the wide diversity of organizations and individuals focused on maintaining the energy, creativity, and connectivity of the non-profit community.

We are proud to be a part of this growing collective voice working together to empower non-profits and volunteers who consistently prove that effective collaboration and a commitment to collective action is essential to the strength of our sector and our communities.

2018 marked the creation of two new membership levels reflecting our expanding network of supporters. **Community Builders** and **Sustaining Members** are, respectively, businesses and charitable organizations who have invested additional resources towards ECVO's continued development and towards our experimentation with forward-thinking programs to support a stable and effective non-profit community.

SNAPSHOT OF OUR MEMBERSHIP

as of December 31, 2018



33

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS



172

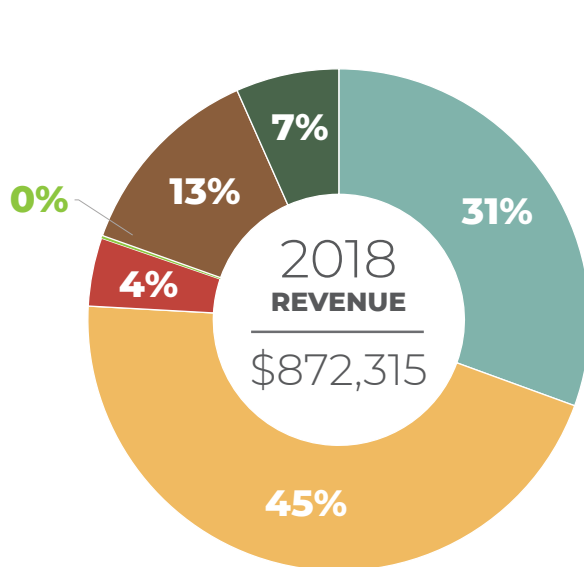
ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS



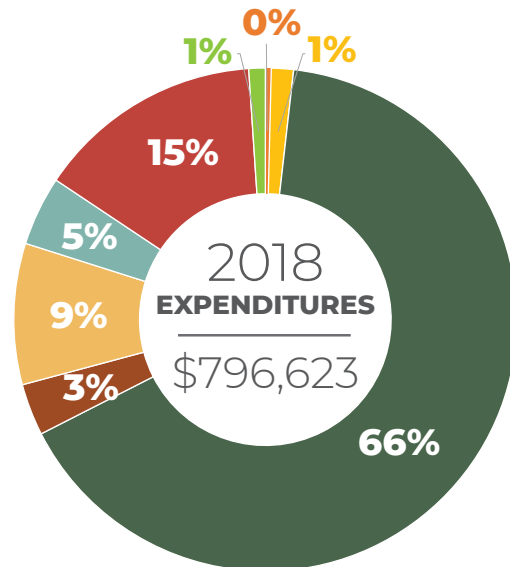
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SUSTAINING MEMBERS

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

DETAILED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDITED BY CROWE MACKAY LLP ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.ECVO.CA/REPORTS

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE OUR FUNDERS FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT OF ECVO AND EDMONTON'S NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY.



United Way
Alberta Capital Region

