



**EDMONTON FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY LEAGUES**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**REGULAR MEETING PACKAGE**

**DATE: Thursday, July 09, 2015**

**DINNER: 6:00 PM / MEETING 7:00 PM**

**LOCATION: EFCL Office, 7103—105 Street**

## **EFCL Board Planning Calendar July/August, September, October 2015**

### **July/August**

**2015**

- 09 EFCL Board Meeting
- 17 Klondike Days Parade
- 22 EFCL Planning & Development Committee Meeting
- Aug.01-03 Heritage Days Festival
- Aug.04-07 EFCL Office Closed

### **September**

**2015**

- 10 EFCL Board Meeting
- 19 Community League Day
- 23 EFCL Planning & Development Committee Meeting

### **October**

**2015**

- 08 EFCL Board Meeting
- 20 Fall General Meeting
- 28 EFCL Planning & Development Committee Meeting

**Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues**  
**Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**EFCL Office: 7103—105 Street**  
**Thursday, July 09, 2015, Dinner 6:00 PM / Meeting 7:00 PM**  
**AGENDA**

**Item 1.0**

- 1.0 Call To Order (7:00 PM)**
- 2.0 Agenda Review (pgs. 3-4)**
- 3.0 Urgent Matters / Presentations**
- 4.0 Approval of June 18th Board Meeting Minutes (Attached)**
- 5.0 Decision Items (7:15 PM)**
  - 5.1 Appointment Of Growth Study Consultant—In Private**
  - 5.2 RE:SOUND Negotiation—In Private**
  - 5.3 Community League Winter Workshop (pg. 5)**
  - 5.4 2016 City Budget Request (pgs. 6-8)**
  - 5.5 Rink Roof Funds Reallocation Committee (pg. 9)**
- 6.0 Exemptions (8:15 PM)**
- 7.0 News From The City of Edmonton**
  - 7.1 Monthly Report (pgs. 10-11)**

“That the EFCL Board receive the written report for information.”  
Stephane Labonne, Office of Great Neighbourhoods, City of Edmonton
- 8.0 Board Reports— N/A**
- 9.0 Staff Reports**
  - 9.1 EFCL Financial Report (pg. 12)**
  - 9.2 Londonderry Financial Report (pg. 13)**

————— **Coffee Break (8:30 PM)** —————
- 9.0 Staff Reports Continued (8:45 PM)**
  - 9.3 Marketing Director’s Report (pgs. 14-17)**

“That the EFCL Board receive the Marketing Director’s written report for information.”
  - 9.4 Communications Report (pgs. 18-19)**

“That the EFCL Board receive the Communications Director’s written report for information.”
  - 9.5 Community Development Report (pgs. 20-21)**

“That the EFCL Board receive the Community Development Advisor’s written report for information.”
  - 9.6 Board Development Report (pgs. 22-26)**

“That the EFCL Board receive the Board Development written report for information.”
  - 9.7 Community Planning Advisor’s Report (pgs. 27-28)**

“That the EFCL Board receive the Community Planning Advisor’s written report for information.”
  - 9.8 Executive Director’s Report (pgs. 29-30)**

“That the EFCL Board receive the Executive Director’s written report for information.”

**10.0 Correspondence (9:30 PM)**

**10.1 Extended Casino Hours Survey (pgs. 31-32)**

**11.0 Work In Progress (pgs. 33-34)**

**12.0 Notice of Motion**

**13.0 Motion on Notice**

**14.0 District Updates/Feedback**

- N/A

**15.0 Private Matters**

**16.0 Next Meeting/Announcements**

**16.1 Thursday, September 10, 2015, Dinner at 6:00 PM/Meeting at 7:00 PM, The EFCL Office**

**17.0 Adjournment**

9:45 PM

## 5.0 Decision Items

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 5.3 – Community League Winter Workshop  
**PREPARED BY:** Allan Bolstad, Executive Director

**Item 5.3**

### **Recommendation:**

**That the EFCL allocate \$6,000 to host a full-day, Community League Winter Workshop, this fall.**

### **Report:**

The EFCL has been asked by David Dodge, the federation's representative on three Winter Cities Committees (Winter Life Committee, Winter Festivals Committee and Winter Cities Council) to host a one-day winter workshop for community leagues.

The workshop would have two key components, namely rink operations and winter programs.

The rink operation component would be targeted to rink managers and would review all aspects of running an outdoor rink – from supervising rink activities to managing liability and insurance issues, the provision of equipment (skates, sticks, pads, helmets), rink maintenance and snow removal. It would be similar to a workshop the EFCL ran about five years ago, which was well attended and drew positive reviews.

The winter program component would review the many types of outdoor activities leagues could offer in the winter, including festivals, rink activities, cross country skiing, snow sculpting and the building of snow hills.

If approved, the federation would attempt to find a contractor willing to oversee all aspects of the workshop. This would include locating speakers, program development, advertising, registration, materials, securing a location and refreshments. We would expect to pay the contractor \$5,000.00 which would leave \$1,000.00 for other expenses.

We would also draw upon Winter Cities Staff for any resources that they could make available and help with promotion.

### **Important Note**

*It should be recognized that this item is not included in the federation's 2015 budget and if approved, could result in the EFCL posting a deficit in 2015. Unfortunately, we just don't have the flexibility to accommodate a change of this magnitude.*

If this recommendation is not approved, the EFCL will attempt to include a session on winter programming at League's Alive, which is scheduled for Nov. 21. This session would not be as extensive as what has been requested, but would cover some components of the Community League Winter Workshop.

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015

**Item 5.4**

**AGENDA ITEM # :** 5.4 – 2016 City Budget Request

**PREPARED BY:** Amanda Henry, Asst. Director/Board Development

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**Recommendation:**

**That the EFCL refrain from submitting any individual service package requests in 2016, and that the operating funding we request for ourselves and leagues be adjusted for inflation, while the capital grant to leagues (CLIP) remain unchanged at \$3 million.**

**Report:**

We are at the time of year when the EFCL board of directors needs to finalize its request for financial assistance in next year's city budget.

The request, along with a good deal of background information about the EFCL and its current operation needs to be submitted by Aug. 20 each year. Our request is then combined with others from various agencies and all of the city department in a report that is presented to city council in early November. Council then hears from all of the proponents in the latter part of November and makes decisions on each of these requests, as part of its budget setting exercise in early December.

The EFCL has been in the habit of asking for an inflationary increase to the operating grant it receives from the city each year, which currently sits at about \$538,000. This represents about 65% of our basic operating budget of \$824,000, which does not include the \$48,000 we have sitting in unrestricted reserves from previous years. We are funding several special projects out of the unrestricted reserves including office hardware upgrades (\$7,000), website development (\$13,000), the growth plan (\$24,000), and a new photocopier lease (\$5,000).

In addition, we have typically asked the city to help us fund other initiatives each year, above and beyond our basic operating program. For example, in 2014 we were successful in obtaining city support for our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project (\$600,000) and half of our business plan expenses (\$40,000) and in 2015 the city supported our growth strategy which went forward to Council as the Development of a new Financial Sustainability and Governance Model for the EFCL (\$39,000).

This year the EFCL Board appointed an ad hoc committee comprised of Jamie Post, Jesse Watson, Amanda Henry, and Allan Bolstad to develop EFCL's 2016 budget request. Members of the committee met on June 29, 2015 to review the budget process and the preliminary proposals developed by EFCL staff.

The budget proposals were as follows:

**1. Double the Community League Emerging Grant (to \$6,000)**

The City of Edmonton provides a grant of \$3,000 per year that is released to community members trying to start up a new league upon the recommendation of EFCL. There are two main reasons why we should consider requesting an increase to this grant:

- A) The City has a policy that requires that community leagues be in operation for more than 1 year before they are eligible to apply for a community league operating grant (policy C502A). In our recent experience, this creates a gap in funding between when a league qualifies for emerging grant support and when they can access their first operating grant, sometimes of as much as 18 months (depending on when the league incorporates). This funding gap puts especial pressure on leagues who need to jump right in to playground fundraising and organizing children's sport in new neighbourhoods where there may not be schools or where the schools open without playgrounds. EFCL has approached the City administration about requesting a change to the policy, but was advised that increasing the amount of the emerging grant would likely be a more successful approach.
  - B) New community leagues are continuing to form and could increase in number in the future. The emerging grant is based on a reality where one new league was forming every couple of years. We expect to see this increase in the next five years.
2. Potential projects from the business plan. EFCL administration reviewed our business plan and highlighted some projects that could proceed as they were largely unrelated to our growth strategy. Those projects were
- A) EFCL will identify the key drivers that impact a community's or individual's ability to develop strong, community relationships.** (e.g. language, culture) (WMC). This is a project for improving our reach and diversity and would involve holding focus groups with different populations (immigrant, aboriginal, socio-economic etc. to explore barriers and sharing our findings with leagues.
  - B) Park Bench program:** a 'pocket parks' initiative where EFCL leads the development of more benches throughout Edmonton. The intent is to improve the accessibility of a walk around the block for people who make frequent stops (e.g. seniors).
  - C) Sports registration program for refugee and aboriginal children:** Habib's already done some work on this project. Making sports more accessible is pretty core to EFCL's historic work with leagues on recreation and part of improving our reach and diversity.
  - D) Review building needs/options for new leagues (leagues without halls):** this project has is based on a directive of a past EFCL board. Likely a ~\$30,000 project if we work with consultants
  - E) Consider designing and offering condensed "Planning Academy" training for new civics directors with emphasis on role of leagues and league planning committees:** This may in fact be a growth strategy item, but it may be a good candidate for a pilot project.
  - F) Work with City to update Community Resource Binder and develop an app for electronic deployment of the resource.** We've been talking to the administration and it's time for this. It's a surprisingly big undertaking though, even without the app – probably near the \$100,000 range when all is said and done, and likely a 2-3 year process. It's very important that we do this at some point in the next 3 years.

### 3. Increase EFCL Operating Grant (not discussed at committee)

Allan and Amanda also had a discussion in preparing this report where we discussed the possibility of asking for a larger inflationary increase to EFCL's operating grant. Given that the Community League Infrastructure Program funding is not indexed to inflation, our consolidated service package has an average inflationary increase well below the city's calculated cap. We could request an increase to the EFCL operating grant line item while remaining under the maximum for our consolidated budget. This would help relieve some of the pressure we're experiencing as an organization that has necessitated the growth strategy.

## **Rationale**

Given that the request for the emerging grant is so small, it was the feeling of the board members on the committee that it only made sense to go forward as part of a larger package of requests. It was also felt that we may build up some goodwill if we demonstrate that we're focused on completing the work of our growth strategy, with a view to approaching Council with a larger, ongoing funding request for fiscal year 2017. Our key messages for this year would be to set the expectation for that substantial request.

## **Next Steps**

Assuming the board is supportive of this recommendation, our next step would be to prepare a presentation that focuses on our growth strategy, so council members are well aware of the federation's future plans.

We will also need to do some work to streamline EFCL's operations next year, as the financial picture is quite tight.

If the board decides it would like to see a service package request go forward, our next step would be to solidify our estimates for the amount of our requests. This would be forwarded to the city in mid August.

The ad hoc committee will need to continue discussions and will likely meet again prior to our budget presentation in November, to finalize our key messages.



**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015

**Item 5.5**

**AGENDA ITEM # :** 5.5 – Rink Roof Funds Reallocations Committee

**PREPARED BY:** Allan Bolstad, Executive Director

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**Recommendation:**

That the board appoint one or more members to a rink roof fund reallocation committee.

**Report:**

The EFCL board of directors decided at its June 18 meeting that all funds dedicated to the federation's rink roof program be directed to another project.

It should be noted that this change will require the consent of the EFCL membership, as approximately \$78,000 has been allocated to the rink roof program and a change of this magnitude requires the consent of the membership. This rule – where any budgetary change exceeding three per of the federation's budget (which works out to \$25,000) - was approved by the membership at the Oct. 23, 2012 general meeting.

Hence, the board will need to identify the project that is to be funded. The next opportunity to present this recommendation to the membership will be the fall general meeting, which is set for Oct. 20.

The committee would need to have its recommendation approved by the board at its Sept. 10 meeting, in order to meet the federation's notification requirements for the fall general meeting.

## 7.0 NEWS FROM THE CITY

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 7.1 – Monthly Report  
**PREPARED BY:** Stephane Labonne, Office of Great Neighbourhoods

**Item 7.1**

### News From The City Of Edmonton EFCL Board Meeting, July 9, 2015



**THE WAY WE MOVE:** Supports the 10-year Goal - *Shift Edmonton's Transportation Mode*

#### Go Downtown

Going downtown should elevate your spirits, not your blood pressure. Ease the pain by visiting [edmonton.ca/GoDowntown](http://edmonton.ca/GoDowntown). You'll learn the latest project updates, understand the construction impacts and traffic disruptions, check out upcoming events. You can also sign up for the monthly Downtown newsletter, and all of this information delivered to your inbox.

**THE WAY WE GROW:** Supports the 10-year Goal - *Transform Edmonton's Urban Form*

#### Blatchford Redefines Community Design

City Council has approved the first special area zones for the Blatchford community, making Blatchford one step closer to becoming one of the world's largest sustainable communities.

"Building a community that functions and feels different than a typical neighbourhood requires examining every choice right from the beginning," says Mark Hall, Executive Director, Blatchford Redevelopment. "At each step of the development process, including zoning, we are examining what we can do to create a community like no other in Canada."

Some of the unique elements of the approved Blatchford zone include:

- The building design in Blatchford will create an urban feel that contributes to a vibrant and unique street life. Ground floor residential units will have private entries facing directly onto the street to create a direct connection to the community.
- Mixed-use buildings in residential areas will be zoned for small-scale retail only. Drive-throughs will not be permitted.
- All residential and commercial parking will be located underground or at the rear of buildings. There will be no front driveways or garages.
- Buildings will require double the amount of bicycle parking normally required.

- Secondary and garage suites in the townhomes. In addition to increasing density in the community, the approved development of these suites in townhomes will help support Blatchford's affordable housing goals.
- Solar panels, rooftop decks and gardens.
- Community gardens and greenhouses located in park spaces.

Construction of the first stage of development on the west side of the site is scheduled to begin later this year.

Council's vision for Blatchford is to create a community with family-oriented housing, urban agriculture, enhanced urban design, improved affordability, and additional green space.

**THE WAY WE GREEN:** Supports the 10-year Goal - *Preserve and Sustain Edmonton's Environment*

### **Highlighting the Great Outdoors: @yegparks**

Did you know that Edmonton has the largest expanse of urban parkland in North America with over 460 parks, including 22 major parks in the 48 km long river valley? Did you know that you can see photos and learn about Edmonton's green spaces on Facebook and Twitter?

Parks and the river valley system will continue to get a voice this summer thanks to social media. City of Edmonton Parks on Facebook and @yegparks on Twitter will highlight our beautiful green space, fantastic parks and natural spaces that the City maintains for residents and visitors.

The pages will feature parks, playgrounds, community gardens, picnic areas, off-leash areas, tree stands, and other natural areas this summer, while also highlighting special community programs and events for residents and visitors to check out.

Have a suggestion on what you'd like to see featured on these pages? Follow us today:

Facebook: [facebook.com/cityofedmontonparks](https://facebook.com/cityofedmontonparks)


Twitter: [twitter.com/yegparks](https://twitter.com/yegparks)

Instagram: [instagram.com/yeg\\_parks](https://instagram.com/yeg_parks) (use Chrome to open link)

## 9.0 STAFF REPORTS

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.1 – EFCL Financial Report  
**PREPARED BY:** Linda Crosby, Financial Advisor

**Item 9.1**

EDMONTON FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY LEAGUES									
FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY									
Five Months Ending May 2015									
REVENUE	THIS MONTH			YEAR TO DATE			YEAR END		
	Budget	Actual	Var	Budget	Actual	Var	Budget	Proj.	Var
Grants - Municipal - C of E	44,778	44,778	0	223,890	223,890	0	537,335	537,335	0
Grants - Municipal - Other	0	0	0	39,000	39,000	0	39,000	39,000	0
Grants - Rink Program	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000	0
Income	8,909	11,599	2,690	73,793	73,051	-742	158,500	158,500	0
Casino	3,333	0	-3,333	16,667	8,176	-8,491	40,000	40,000	0
Membership Campaign	24,850	11,844	-13,006	24,850	12,305	-12,545	25,000	25,000	0
Windflags	0	12,600	12,600	0	12,600	12,600	0	20,035	20,035
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>81,870</b>	<b>80,821</b>	<b>-13,649</b>	<b>378,200</b>	<b>369,022</b>	<b>-9,178</b>	<b>804,835</b>	<b>824,870</b>	<b>20,035</b>
Staff Resources	39,322	38,901	421	197,071	201,082	-4,011	507,500	507,500	0
Contract Services	1,667	1,342	325	8,333	8,062	271	20,000	20,000	0
Operations	7,525	7,254	271	37,625	37,121	504	91,300	91,300	0
Governance	4,750	1,060	3,690	13,250	8,296	4,954	21,000	21,000	0
C.L. Services	8,800	3,417	5,383	23,000	19,768	3,232	81,500	81,500	0
Membership Campaign	1,000	216	784	23,500	22,231	1,269	24,000	24,000	0
Windflags	0	11,154	-11,154	0	20,654	-20,654	0	20,977	-20,977
Onetime - Growth Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	39,000	39,000	0
Professional Fees	300	0	300	1,200	150	1,050	9,000	9,000	0
Recruitment	750	0	750	750	0	750	1,500	1,500	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>64,114</b>	<b>63,344</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>304,729</b>	<b>317,364</b>	<b>-12,635</b>	<b>794,800</b>	<b>815,777</b>	<b>-20,977</b>
<b>NET OPERATIONAL</b>	<b>17,756</b>	<b>17,477</b>	<b>-12,879</b>	<b>73,471</b>	<b>51,658</b>	<b>-21,813</b>	<b>10,035</b>	<b>9,093</b>	<b>-942</b>
<b>CAPITAL purchases</b>									
<b>Unrestricted Reserves 1/1/2015</b>							48,001	48,001	
Computer Upgrades	0	0	0	1,396	1,396	0	7,000	7,000	0
Growth Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,000	24,000	0
Printer	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000	0
Website Development	0	0	0	11,663	11,663	0	13,000	13,000	0
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13,059</b>	<b>13,059</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-999</b>	<b>-999</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>VARIANCE</b>									
<b>REVENUE</b>							<b>YTD</b>		<b>PYE</b>
Income	>	Facility Rental not invoiced as of yet.					-742		0
Casino	>	Timing variance, spending to increase when proceeds rec					-8,491		0
Membership Campaign	>	Windflags unbudgeted					12,600		20,035
Membership Campaign	>	50% invoicing completed, remainder invoiced in June					-12,545		0
							<b>-9178</b>		<b>20035</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>									
Staff Resources	>	Overtime payout, contract wages slightly under, net					-3,740		0
Operations	>	Small variances throughout, on track					504		0
Governance	>	Timing General Meeting May 25th, expenses not all in					4,954		0
Professional Fees	>	Nothing spent to date					1,050		0
Recruitment	>	Nothing spent to date					750		0
C.L. Services	>	Windflags unbudgeted, offset in revenue					-20,654		-20977
C.L. Services	>	Timing variances					3,232		0
C.L. Services	>	Underspent in Membership Campaign					1,269		0
							<b>-12635</b>		<b>-20977</b>
 Allan Bolstad, Executive Director									
								Date	

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.2 – Londonderry Financial Report  
**PREPARED BY:** Linda Crosby, Financial Advisor

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**Item 9.2**

**Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues  
Londonderry Community League(A/C 2214)  
Financial Report as at June 30, 2015**

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Actuals</b>
Hall Rentals	3901.25
Karate Program Fees	<u>725.00</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4626.25</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Advertising (Affordable Signs)	158.88
Annual Membership Dues (Sept. 1, 2012 to August 31, 2014)	1290.00
Annual Membership Dues (Sept. 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015)	875.00
Annual Membership Supplies (2014)	108.00
Annual Membership Supplies (2015)	17.00
Fire Extinguisher ( Tyco Simplex Grinnell)	596.55
Hall Cleaning (Blue Sky Cleaning Services arrears)	6273.00
Hall Cleaning ( Blue Sky May 2015)	1694.00
Hall Cleaning (Blue Sky June 2015)	1694.00
Hall Facility Manager (Theresa Muiselaar)	1661.10
Hall Supplies (Evansdale Community League)	116.75
Hall Supplies (Theresa Muiselaar)	18.97
Utilities - Epcor	<u>1854.82</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>16358.07</b>
<b>Londonderry Community League (A/C 2214)</b>	<b><u>-11731.82</u></b>

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.3 – Marketing Director’s Report  
**PREPARED BY:** Nora Begoray, Marketing Director

**Item 9.3**

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project Update

### **Historical Research**

Leslie Holmes our historical researcher has officially started work on a part-time basis. She can be reached at [Leslie.holmes@EFCL.org](mailto:Leslie.holmes@EFCL.org). She will mainly work from home but will be in and out of the office as needed for meetings and research. Her next **in office** date is Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.



She will begin with some research on similar projects and seeking out what we have as source material both in our EFCL library and at the archives. She will be digging for resources that are relevant to the themes and the iconic stories that the 100 Story committee has identified are a priority to share about our 100 years of history.

### **Fundraising**

EFCL has strategically and intentionally arranged to apply for the **Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program** under our own organization rather than applying through the city. The city, as the owner of the park space is supposed to apply for the grant, or the lease holder of the park space is to apply – so it is a little bit of a stretch for us to be considered as an eligible applicant under that criteria. However, we have obtained permission from a departmental staff person and we feel that making an application on our own gives us a much better chance of receiving funding, as we know our application would not have been among those the city prioritized in its own application for federal funding.

We asked for \$249,900, which is just under the \$250,000 threshold that separates smaller and larger grant applications. We think we might have a better chance in that category, in part because we think that government might want to approve more grants and hence focus on the smaller ones, as it has done in the past. We also know that the City of Edmonton submitted several applications for large grants which would have competed with ours.

On another front, we have signed the funding documents with the Provincial Government for the CFEP grant award of \$500,000 so we are that much closer to receiving a cheque! Arrangements will be made to make a media splash with a cheque presentation.

We have also met with the City of Edmonton to re-negotiate the terms of our COE funding agreement which in its current state provides \$600,000 in funding *once 100% of our project budget funding has been secured*. Our request is for the agreement to reflect our intent to phase the project and our need to have a portion of their funding released to us and available to begin construction in the spring of 2016. The City of Edmonton has agreed with this staged strategy and is redrafting our funding documents to allow for funds to be forwarded to us except for a small holdback as we continue to raise the remainder of our funding.

A report on this change, along with several other reports on our project will go before city council for final approval in the fall.

We have officially launched the public fundraising campaign and the \$100 Club at our recent Community League Showcase. A total of \$5,100 was raised that night. Our donor website is now in service, although a number of functions still have to be added.

## **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video Complete**

Please see and share this video link with your districts and your networks. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztbUslHP6uk&feature=player\\_embedded](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztbUslHP6uk&feature=player_embedded)

We would like everyone to see this video as it really captures everything that we want to say about the project, why it is important, what we are trying to do and how people can help and get involved. Please let me know if you are able to find the project information, the video and how to donate on our website via your desktop or your cell phone in a manner that flows well and makes sense to the general public. It is still a work in progress so all feedback is sought and greatly appreciated.

## **Project Design Update**

Urban Systems and Lafarge are working together to submit the 30% detailed design drawing submissions to City of Edmonton for circulation and approval. These are expected to go in this week. Some adjustments are being made to the design as the fine details are being examined (like where exactly the path is going and exactly which tree that placement will effect). We are very excited to begin this level of detail as it will assist us to get a clear indication of the exact costs and design decisions we need to make in order to stay within our budget.

The project design and management fees are still being closely scrutinized with regards to incorporating the evolution of the project from the concept and agreements made initially to the current design potential and options. It has been a challenge to keep the project within our budget and not allow design and other costs to creep in, but we are very committed to stay our course and we are ready to make adjustments as necessary to keep on track.

## **Community League Showcase Update**



We are pleased to report that we had over 250 people attend our Community League Showcase event on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Santa Maria Goretti Centre.

From all the feedback received it was a smashing success. Honorees said they felt special and appreciated. Others said they were impressed, proud and inspired and all in all really enjoyed themselves.

This is very wonderful to hear as there were a number of logistical problems that were encountered each day in the weeks leading up to the event and very long hours were put in by the organizers to make it go off as well as it did. The night of the event also presented many last-minute hurdles, such as illnesses on staff, last-minute volunteer replacements, a complete re-organization of the floor plan design to meet the needs of the catering staff at the venue and on and on and on..... Given all of these challenges, we were particularly pleased with the results.

The mandate from the board was stage a classy event - with a wow factor – that would elevate the expectations of our league members and help them develop a sense of pride and inspiration in the community league movement. And it was all supposed to be done on an \$8,000 budget. We think we achieved that mandate, however, it was obvious early on that it could not be done within this budget. The cost for food alone came it at \$7,188. And this was a *steal of a deal* because we were unable to locate any other venue that didn't start the food cost at \$1,500 higher than the Santa Maria Goretti Centre (SMGC), while also charging for the venue, corkage and bartender, which all was provided to us through an in-kind sponsorship from the centre.

Part way through our planning we were given permission to increase the budget to \$11,000 (\$7,000 from general EFCL financing and \$4,000 from the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary budget) and we were able to leverage that to put on essentially a \$30,000 event for EFCL.

We were able to accomplish this with the help of the following:

\$4,000 in cash sponsorship.

\$8,000 worth of in-kind sponsorship for the awards, decorations, and ALL the Audio Visual equipment of lights, screens, draping, microphones etc.

In addition, we received special consideration by the following groups:

**Bare n Von Hair** – our entertainers, agreed to accommodate our budget, which left them with the lowest fee they had ever charged....AND they offered to throw in the piano playing prior and the award accompaniment and during the event.

SMGC guests have never been given expressed permission to park at the coliseum before June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Professional Photography was provided by a gracious Steve Edgerton, who brought in all his own equipment and took the photos in return for a *'thank you'* from us.

The videographer agreed to live within our budget, so long as we agreed to not let anyone know the special price we got.

**Prudent buying** – Safeway flowers ( two different stores), London Drugs frames ( 4 locations) and Dollar store additions to fill in the decorations provided from Special Event Rentals and then some strings pulled by some board members to get Dr. Rob pricing at the printers.

**Prudent borrowing:** Easels from City of Edmonton sources, cocktail tables from a community centre. Extra staff: Our friends, family and colleagues to step into registration roles, pick-up and delivery roles.

I mention all this because it is important for future planning to accurately value the event. This is a \$30,000 event for an EFCL price tag of approximately \$11,000 (some costs still have to come in) and cannot be easily replicated.

Finally all our amazing volunteers - busy people themselves - like Russ Dahms at ECVO who sat on the program committee and Dez Melenka from CTV, who got our showcase nominations on the news and was our Co MC with Mark Nicoll.

Truly this event was a collaborative effort of many and we owe a great deal of thanks to our supporters for being so flexible in working with us on this pivotal project.

See this link for event pictures, the project submission boards, the special volunteers honoured and more.... <http://efcl.org/events--projects/community-league-showcase/>

Note: I do have a list of 58 things that could have been improved but I will reserve that for a future report.



## **K-DAYS – Wind flags and Parade Update**

We are on track to producing a K-Days Parade entry that will include 230 people and stretch at least one city block on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Some leagues are bringing their own float, or their soccer team or their dance troupe (one league is bringing some classic cars – can you guess which one?) and all will be proudly waving their Community League Spirit Flag!

**We also invite our board members to carry the EFCL wind flags, EFCL pennants and/or the EFCL banner and show your organizational pride. Please rsvp to Nora, bring your wife/husband and kids - this is a family volunteer opportunity.**

**July 17<sup>th</sup> – 8am – 12pm ish.... Specific location details TBA soon.**

## **K-Days – Onsite: Visit EFCL Park and Community Hall at our On-Site Display.**

We will have special volunteer passes and parking passes for those Board members that are interested to spend an hour at K-Days visiting our EFCL Park in the Community Hall in Northlands Hall C – and meeting the public that might have questions about community leagues. Masood and Shaffeek identified this as a potential opportunity to connect with a demographic that is usually hard for us to reach so if you are interested in being an Ambassador for an hour, we will have brochures, nametags, signage, water bottle and everything you would need to stop by and connect with the public and hear some feedback about how we are doing raising the profile of EFCL and Community Leagues in Edmonton. The time slot is from 4:00 p.m to 6:00 p.m. is the time slot.

We have upped our display profile, which was identified last year as a priority. In addition to the ‘faux’ Community league hall, which will have league project boards and our videos on display, we invite you to check out the Community League Park - We have a faux Community Rink, Soccer pitch, community garden, and playground in the heart of Kids Town in Hall C of the EXPO Centre. Big thanks to Canadian Arena Products, Playworks and Kuhlmann`s for supporting this area!

## **Heritage Festival Event**

The responsibility for this has been transferred to Habib Fatmi, my event partner last year. The sponsorship contract with Heritage Days was renewed, the give-aways for the football toss have been ordered and received and some decorative pennant flags and community garden décor planters have been arranged – we hope to use some of the K-Days onsite displays. So with the basics in place....my awesome colleague Habib will take it from there! Thanks Habib.

**Community League Day Event and Boxes** – little time to do any planning so far – but rising to the top of the priority list. I Booked the **Media Event Launch for Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> 12:15 – 1:15pm – save the date!**

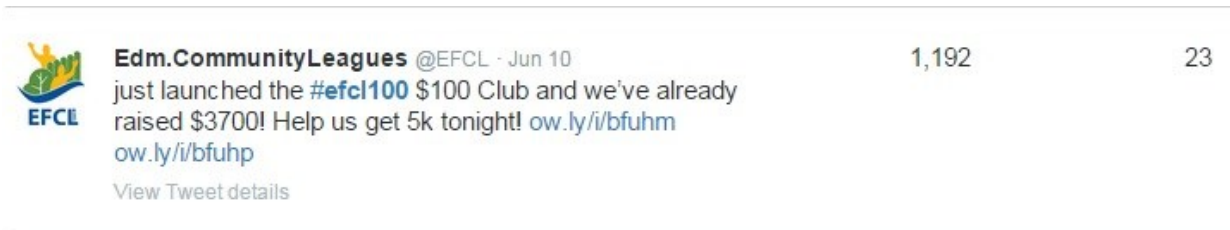
**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.4 – Communications Report  
**PREPARED BY:** Barb Martowski, Communications Director

**Item 9.4**

For this report, I thought it would be nice for the board to see what’s attracting the attention of our followers, friends, subscribers and visitors.

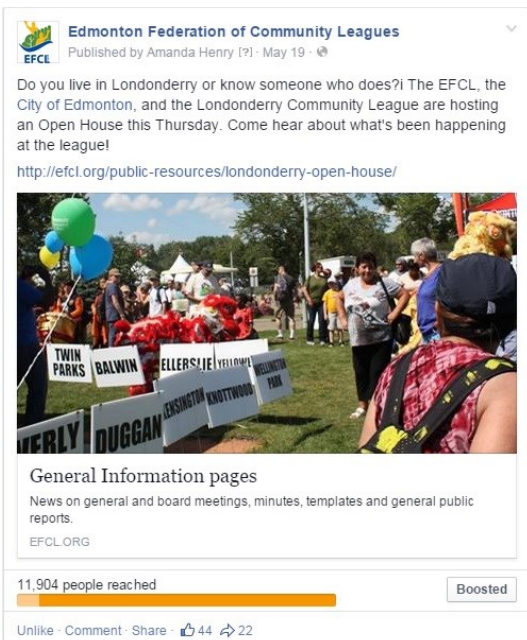
Over the last several weeks, there has been a number of stand-out tweets on our part; National Aboriginal Day earning 1,064 impressions and 1,080 for a shout-out at the EFCL AGM.

The post that garnered the most attention in the last eight weeks was our warning to west-end folks to stay inside the night Const. Daniel Woodall was killed (1,535), and not far behind was:



While we may be down a little in subscribers for our ENews, we are up in click-thrus (clicking links in ENews for the bigger story). The industry average is 2.3% and we have averaged 3.6% in the last four editions. The top reads were: Heritage Days Volunteer sign-up for June 24, the new 100<sup>th</sup> video for June 16, the EFCL Infill Session for May 27 and finally, Bev’s Destructive Construction news article for on May 4 with 21% of people clicking through to read it.

When it came to Facebook, the standout post was on the Londonderry CL Open House on May 19; it reached 11,904 people, had 52 likes and was shared onto other time lines 22 times.



Two areas on our website which have the greatest number of visitors are the League Directory and Membership purchase – they both continue to be the most popular. Of interest to us for this report is what else was popular during the two month period. Top billing goes to the content created for the special deal FIFA 2015 set up for league members to purchase tickets, followed closely behind by our Showcase section. Visitors to the Showcase section spent an average of two minutes and 12 seconds going through the section, which shows us they were genuinely interested in the content.

### **Quick & Dirty Bi-Monthly Analytics (Engagement Numbers)**

**On our website**, with an average of \*8,995 unique visitors over the last two months (a little up) who are spending an average of 2.15 minutes on the site per visit – a few seconds short of the last report.

**In our ENews**, with \*\*1,776 subscribers and an open rate of 32.2%, above the non-profit industry standard of 20.7%.

**On our Facebook page**, we've gained 61 new followers, bringing our total to 1,642 followers with an average weekly reach of \*2,423 people.

**On our Twitter page**, we've gained 134 new friends, bringing our total to 4, 852 with an earned impressions of \*47.7K or an average of 918 per day.

\*Stats from May. 1, 2015 to June 21, 2015 \*\* June 24, 2015 ENews issue only

### **Definitions:**

Twitter - **Earned Impressions** – the number of people our tweets reach - directly as a follower and they see our tweet on their timeline, or one of our tweets is shared by others and it shows up on their timelines. We also earn by direct searches – people searching our handle @EFCL or our hashtag #yegCLs to see our tweets.

ENews – **Open Rate** – those who actually open our ENews and read it.

Facebook – **Post Reach** – The number of people who have seen a post of ours – either directly or by someone sharing it on their own timelines to their followers.

Website – **Unique Visitors** - refers to the number of distinct individuals requesting pages from the website during a given period, regardless of how often they visit.

### **Edmonton's Media**

We are continuing to do league profiles in The Examiner, and while the response has been terrific from a reader stand-point and the program is helping us to raise league awareness, the commitment to producing four articles a month (including Masood's column) is not always achievable. This is especially true during the event crunch time from April to the end of September, and as a result, we will be talking to The Examiner about a more realistic schedule.

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015

**Item 9.5**

**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.5 – Community Development Report

**PREPARED BY:** Habib Fatmi, Community Development Advisor

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### **Mill Woods History Walk**

The Mill Woods Living Heritage is a written history of the area which will be used to improve understanding between diverse cultures in Mill Woods, and between residents of Mill Woods and those in other parts of the city. One feature of this project was a two hour walk where residents were able to join with civic leaders and long-standing members of the community to learn some of the history of the area. The walk started from Leefield Community Hall, travelled along 36 Avenue, past Grace Martin School, down the pipeline corridor, to the Keegano Housing Co-op and back along Richfield Road, past Synergen Housing Co-op and ended at the Markaz-Ul-Islam mosque.

Residents were told about house designs, the history of the Papaschase Indian Reserve, how land was assembled, some urban design concepts, examples of affordable and cooperative housing, and the impact that a major gas explosion in 1979 had on the community. We stopped at Keegano Housing Coop for refreshments and to view clips from oral histories. Participants also visited the mosque at the end of the walk.

### **City of Edmonton By Law**

The Community Standards Branch of Community Services, City of Edmonton has decided to gather information from newcomers at the EFCL booth at Heritage Days. The branch has put together a brief survey that it will ask visitors to complete when they visit our booth.

The survey staff of 15 for the three days will be hired and trained by EFCL in association with City and paid by City directly. The city will also share in the cost of some giveaways, booth supplies and snacks.

Community Standards will also have at least two bylaw officers each day to assist with kids games. Some of their staff will also help with setup and cleanup of EFCL Heritage Pavilion.

### **Heritage Festival**

Heritage Festival Association had meeting for all the pavilion's chairs to let them know about the rules and requirements for participants in the festival.

The Heritage Festival Association is celebrating 40 years of hosting the festival and is expecting around 400K visitors to this year's event. There will be a special opening reception with fireworks and the EFCL has been invited to bring up to 20 Community League Representatives.

This year, the city's Community Standards Branch and another sponsor, featuring a cell phone charging station, will join us at our booth.

EFCL also hired a contract person to help us plan the event and supervise the volunteers during the long hours of the festival.

All board directors are requested to volunteer for at least 3 hours. This will not give them an opportunity to see our pavilion and note how it is working, as well as provide encouragement to the volunteers.

Please encourage people to volunteer by going on the EFCL website and fill the online volunteer form.

## **Leefield Open House**

The Leefield Community League Open House/Meet and Greet was a success with around 60 new residents in attendance and eight agencies hosted information tables.

The cost of the event was under \$700. The Mill Woods Community Services branch contributed \$200 and the remaining \$500 was provided by Councilor Mike Nickel. The Leefield Community League provided the hall without charge and the EFCL helped organize the event and coordinate the participants. We also had a good deal of help from volunteers, with the event set up and food preparation.

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015

**Item 9.6**

**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.6 – Board Development Report

**PREPARED BY:** Amanda Henry, Asst. Director/Board Development

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## **1. Meeting with the Federation of Calgary Communities**

While in Calgary for the Connections Conference, I met with Paul, the Member Services Coordinator of the Federation of Calgary Communities. We had an extensive and detailed discussion about AGLC rules and processes that I shared with Allan. We also compared notes on how our respective organizations work.

One of the really interesting things we discussed is an environmental scan that the FCC conducted on community league/association network structures throughout Canada. They found that each of the ten municipalities they researched had various types of community-based, not-for-profit networks, but that of the community association networks they found, Edmonton was most similar to Calgary & Winnipeg, though we have stronger funding support from the City than the Calgary system does and both Calgary & Edmonton's community associations are more autonomous from the City than Winnipeg's.

This report is included elsewhere in the board agenda package.

## **2. Connections Conference (Calgary)**

I attended the Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organization's Connections Calgary Conference in April of 2015. Like the ECVO session (discussed later in this report), one of the key messages from the Connections Conference was a call to non-profits to do more advocacy work, particularly with the provincial government.

Key insights:

- Community engagement is a state of being, not an event, and time is on your side: you have time to immerse yourself in the relationships you build along the way, to be strategic in who and how you consult.
- Community still matters to people, and 59% of people surveyed feel that geographic proximity is a part of community (by Paul Born as part of his research for his book *Deepening Community: Finding Joy Together in Chaotic Times*). That same research found that overwhelmingly people believe that community is a good thing and that people want more of it.
- Critically examining your organizational 'sacred cows' can help your organization understand how sometimes you're your own worst enemy, and help you drop the barriers you've put in your way through narrow and traditional problem-solving approaches.
- Best practices around strategic planning are changing. The world is moving faster and many organizations are feeling the pressure of professionalizing in an increasingly complex context.

Neat ideas to keep in the back of our minds

- Citizen Reference Panels: the group behind Living a Creative Life invited 5,000 Calgarians chosen at random from the four quadrants of Calgary to participate in a panel. They got 250 responses and ultimately built a surprisingly representative panel of 36 Calgarians to work on their strategy.
- What 'deepening' community looks like: Communities that unite people and build mutually beneficial and trusting connections between them that withstand passing disagreements.

- Practice 'upside down thinking.' Mark Holgrem from the Bissell Centre provided this thought activity, but the very basic idea is to state your solution and then treat or even restate it as a problem. Example of a solution statement: to get meetings to run on time, we need a better agenda. 'Upside down' problem statement: agendas are why meetings are a waste of time. The underlying principle is that many of our organizational challenges are actually wicked problems, and that the 'same old' thinking won't fix them, and if it had that power, the problem would already be solved.
- EFCL should look into emerging work on the so-called 'social return on investment' to see if this analytic lens could help us more effectively communicate the impact of our work (<http://www.neweconomics.org/issues/entry/social-return-on-investment>)

Interesting organizations I heard from or connected with:

- Living a Creative Life ([www.livingcreative.ca](http://www.livingcreative.ca)): an arts development strategy for Calgary, by Calgarians, championed by the Calgary Arts Development Agency. They've done incredible work building and sustaining a coalition of people building a creative Calgary.
- The Tamarack Institute ([www.tamarackcommunity.ca](http://www.tamarackcommunity.ca)), a Canadian institute for community engagement. An in-depth survey about what community means to people is available here: <http://www.deepeningcommunity.org/bonus>
- The Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations. CCVO has a bit of a different focus than ECVO, and it was interesting to connect with some of the resources they put out, like their new Alberta non-profit data portal: <http://www.calgarycvo.org/dataportal/>
- The Alberta Real Estate Foundation – our funder for the social media training project

I recommend that someone from EFCL attend this conference periodically. It's a very informative conference that gives a great overview of the sector. The only limitation is that because it's a Calgary event the networking aspects of the event are not as useful for us. A similar event in Edmonton would be a perfect conference for us to attend.

I think the concept that's really stuck with me in the months since the conference is the opening story from Paul Born's new book, *Deepening Community* (which I bought after his keynote address):

*Many times...I've been asked "What is the most important thing people can do to make a difference in the world?"*

*"That's simple," I almost always reply. "Bring chicken soup to your neighbor."*

*"Really?" is the typical response.*

*I say yes, and then add, "But remember, I said the answer is simple. But the act of bringing soup... well, that takes work."*

*How so?*

*It requires that you know your neighbor.*

*It requires that you know they are not vegetarian and like soup.*

*It requires that you know them well enough and communicate regularly enough to know they are sick.*

*Once you know they are sick, you must feel compelled to want to help and make this a priority among the many calls on your time and energy.*

*Your neighbor must know you well enough to feel comfortable in receiving your help.*

*And you must have enough of a relationship to know what they prefer when they are sick, whether it is chicken soup, pho, chana masala, or even ice cream.*

*So you see, the work takes place long before you perform the act of bringing soup.*

It occurred to me that a simple way to sum up what community leagues strive to be are organizations that make it possible for us all to bring our neighbours soup.

### **3. ECVO Session: Essential Political Insights**

On June 23, 2015, I attended a panel discussion hosted by ECVO about the changed political landscape in Alberta and its implications for non-profits. The panelists were Graham Thompson, Ricardo Acuna, and Paul McLoughlin. <http://www.ecvo.ca/index.php/training/view/132>

Key insights:

All members of the Legislature (government and the opposition parties) are learning new jobs in uncharted political waters.

The NDP government is likely to be friendlier to the non-profit sector, but they will not necessarily always take the side of non-profits. The practicalities of governing in a bad economy may limit their ability to deliver on rejuvenated support for the sector, and some parts of the caucus see the trend of government awarding contracts to non-profits for public service delivery as a form of privatization that they will oppose.

Tell your story effectively/with a view to why government should care. Remember to cultivate relationships with opposition parties as well as with the new government. The NDP is sensitive to criticism at the moment.

### **4. EFCL Growth Strategy (Development of a Financial Sustainability and Governance Model for the EFCL)**

I've been working closely with Allan and the Growth Strategy Committee on the RFP process for securing our expert partners to help us with this process.

To recap for new board members: this project was tabled for discussion at the July 10, 2014 EFCL Board Meeting, finalized at the July 22, 2014 EFCL Board meeting, and subsequently affirmed in EFCL's 2015 budget. Data arising from the research conducted by the Centre for Public Involvement and Western Management Consultants during the strategic planning process, coupled with the business planning exercise undertaken by the EFCL staff after the strategic plan was finalized, showed a clear gap between EFCL's current capacity and the expectations of our members and partners in terms of the array of services we should be offering. As noted in our successful request to City Council for funding: "If the federation is to grow, we need to review the financial sustainability of the EFCL, as well as look at how it is managed and governed.

In our quest for additional resources, we need to fully explore alternatives to government funding, including the willingness of leagues to increase their contributions. We also need to understand the degree to which the city is willing to finance additional work.

From a management and governance perspective, we need to determine how we can re-organize the operation of staff and board to handle future growth. For example, this could include the delegation of board responsibilities to committees, which would lighten the board's workload.

### **5. Londonderry Hall**

EFCL has been managing the operations of the Londonderry Community League Hall since May 6. I'm working closely with Allan, Teri (our hall manager for the hall) and City staff as we sort out the hall's financial situation.

Teri is now accepting new bookings for the hall. We've updated EFCL's website, the signs at the hall, and we've rented a portable sign and placed it on 137 Avenue. The Londonderry League doesn't have a website or presence on social media.



The City requested that the Londonderry Community league supply them with financial statements by June 30, 2015. As of July 2, the City had not received those statements.

Our next priority is to convene a working group of Londonderry residents to chart out a course for the future of the hall and support the revitalization of the community league. Recruitment is underway for that body.

## **6. Leagues Alive**

The Leagues Alive board development conference will be November 21, 2015. I'm going to start confirming presenters this month. We will be hosting 13-15 sessions depending on whether we offer the Senior's Workshop and whether we do a 2 part Winter Cities workshop.

The following are confirmed topic areas (some of these will end up being more specific after we've talked to a presenter):

- Tri-Partite License Agreement Refresher
- Winter City Activities
- League Financial Management
- Resources for Leagues as Employers
- League insurance matters (presenter: Foster Park Brokers)
- League legal issues (presenter: RMRF)
- AGLC Use of Proceeds (presenter: GAIN)
- EFCL Civics Session
- EFCL Community Development Session or Seniors Workshop (see below)

Possible topic areas:

- Seniors Workshop: Habib and I have discussed the idea of having our annual Seniors Workshop happen concurrently with Leagues Alive. This would make it easier to encourage people who don't self-identify as seniors to attend. The Seniors Workshop would be in blocks 1 and 2.
- Boosting Board Productivity (Presenter: Community Development Unit Repeat from last year)
- Successful Succession Planning (presenter: Community Development Unit)
- Panel Session: Topic TBD, possibly volunteer appreciation or a president's panel.
- Understanding Connections between you and your membership (repeat from Board Leadership 2015)
- Writing good bylaws, policies and procedures.
- Conflict resolution

## **7. Board Leadership: mark your calendars for October 3**

<http://www.boardleadership.ca/>

The EFCL serves on the organizing committee of the Board Leadership Coalition, which includes ECVO, private industry, Volunteer Alberta, and the representatives from the province and the City.

Board Leadership is hosting a board development conference for experienced board volunteers and senior staff on October 3. This conference would be very appropriate for EFCL board members and long-serving community league board members to attend.

## **8. Other Projects**

I'm supporting the work of the Partnership/Growth Strategy committee and working with Jesse and Jamie on EFCL's budget submission to the City for this fall.

My available slots for board development workshops are booked through to Thanksgiving.

I'm investigating options for an all-staff professional development day at the end of the summer.

A research report on the league's financial statements that we received last year will be sent to the board as soon as I squeeze in time to finish the report

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015

**Item 9.7**

**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.7 – Community Planning Advisor’s Report

**PREPARED BY:** Bev Zubot, Community Planning Advisor

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### **Joint City-EFCL Consultation On City Bylaws**

The city’s Bylaw Implementation Unit has a new staff supervisor as well as a whole new team with a refreshing new approach to working with the EFCL Planning and Development team. They have shared their project work plan with timelines and have asked for our input on the consultation process for a number of projects. We have offered to assist with league consultations.

### **EFCL, Leagues, City and Building Industry Work on Infill Construction Issues**

Each group within the city’s multi-stakeholder Construction Issues Committee worked on their own projects in June. The EFCL organized a very successful educational session for leagues. Thirty-two people from 18 leagues attended the very informative June 3<sup>rd</sup> session.

Tips for dealing with construction issues were given by a city Enforcement Officer, Urban Forester and an Alberta Occupational and Health Safety Officer. People picked up resource material including the city’s new ‘Evolving Infill Good Neighbour Guide’.

Several people formed the EFCL Construction Issues Committee to strengthen EFCL’s work with the city’s committee. In late June a couple of the volunteers helped analyze the 14 construction stories submitted by residents. We identified about a dozen issues and a number of suggested solutions. These will be reported to the city’s construction committee and City Council. The whole EFCL Construction Committee will be meeting again in the fall to do further work on solutions.

### **Height Changes Reviewed**

The fifth and perhaps final draft of the changes to Height Regulation has been reviewed. Leagues were notified of the July 6 Public Hearing and given the summary version of all the changes as well as the analysis done by the EFCL Planning Committee.

In a letter to Council we recommended:

- The maximum height of roof ridges be kept at 1.5 m above the maximum roof midpoint, rather than 2.5 m.
- Height of flat roof buildings be determined by measuring to the top of the highest parapet, not to the midpoint of the parapet
- Developments with roof types with no measurement methods defined in the Zoning Bylaw be Type B developments requiring notification to neighbours and leagues.

### **Mature Neighborhoods Overlay Review Proposal**

A proposal plan to help leagues review the Mature Neighborhood Overlay has been prepared and potential technical help has been identified. Our next task is to secure resources for the project.

## **Grant Application for Public Participation Education Session for Leagues**

The U of A Centre for Public Involvement and EFCL have submitted a \$5,000 grant application to do an education session for league leaders on public participation. The application was sent to We Are Cities. The grant program is part of a new campaign to engage Canadians across the country to shape a vision and action plan for how we can build livable cities as exciting and healthy places to live, work and play.

## **Winter City Guidelines – Final Draft Reviewed**

The Planning Advisor's volunteer assistant – Elaine Solez - and I reviewed the final draft in detail. In addition, I worked with the Light Efficient Community Coalition to review the document in order to ensure that the Light Efficient Community Policy of the city is being followed in the guidelines. We also tried to ensure that the Winter City Guidelines were consistent with the city's Energy Transition Policy.

## **Siting of Mailboxes**

Shauna Rae, EFCL's representative on the Trails, Paths, Routes Advisory Committee is connecting with the appropriate city staff and some councillors in an attempt to change the criteria being used to decide the placement of residential mailboxes. With the advice and support of the Planning Committee she is attempting to give higher priority to placements which reduce auto traffic.

## **Planning Committee Meeting Schedule Revised**

The June meeting was cancelled. Instead there will be a meeting July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 9.8 – Executive Director’s Report  
**PREPARED BY:** Allan Bolstad, Executive Director

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**Item 9.8**

## **1. Leagues Express Interest in Obtaining Charitable Status**

There wasn’t a spare chair to be had at the EFCL’s recent workshop on charitable status.

Altogether, 15 people – representing eleven community leagues – packed the EFCL board room to hear more about the pros and cons of obtaining charitable status.

Each league in attendance said their main motivation was to see if they could find a way to offer tax receipts to individuals or companies that might donate to a major capital project. Most of the people in attendance said their league was planning to build a new hall. Two or three others said they were planning to do a major hall renovation. One league was hoping to build a substantial community garden.

Stacey Padbury, Acting Branch Manager of Financial Services with the City of Edmonton, provided the group with a good deal of background on the ins and outs of obtaining and maintaining charitable status. After her presentation, it became evident to the group that the best approach a league could take would be to try to obtain charitable status for itself, as opposed to starting a separate society that would operate to the league’s benefit.

The problem with starting a separate society, like a building society, were as follows. Charities can only transfer money to charities. Hence, if a building society raised money for a league building, it would have to own the building – not the league. This is not consistent with our tripartite license agreement. In addition, the separate society would need to have its own volunteer board of directors, throughout the life of the society. Many in attendance wondered where a league would find these volunteers. Also, when a charity is dissolved, it needs to turn its funds and facilities over to another charity, or be subject to paying a tax equivalent to the full value of its remaining assets.

These restrictions made it clear that the creation of a building society was not a viable option.

In the end, the city was asked to obtain legal advice which would help us determine whether or not one or more of our leagues is likely able to obtain charitable status for itself, given the nature of league operations. If this appears to be a viable option, the leagues that attended the workshop will be polled to see if anyone wants to give it a try.

It is our hope that if one or more leagues are successful in obtaining charitable statuses, we could use their experience to help others follow their lead.

## **2. Leagues Inquire About Hall Construction Costs**

The EFCL continues to hear from a number of leagues wondering about the cost of constructing a new hall.

Ritchie, Cumberland/Oxford and Blackmud Creek have each asked for our assistance in recent weeks, as they try to determine how feasible it would be for their league to undertake such a project. The same request for information was brought forward by a number of leagues attending the recent EFCL workshop on charitable status.

Earlier this year, the EFCL board of directors decided to postpone its request to the city to prepare a report on hall construction costs. The decision was made after it was learned that the city is producing a report that could impact how it works with non-profit groups on capital facilities. We were told this report was due to be released in June. It has now been postponed until September.

### **3. Leagues Concerned About Constraints On Casino Funds**

The EFCL continues to hear from leagues that are being told they cannot use their casino funds on a capital project, like building a new hall. This includes two leagues – Ritchie and Prince Rupert – who have both reported hearing from the Alberta Liquor and Gaming Commission (AGLC) in the past couple of weeks.

This restriction makes it very difficult for a league to undertake a major capital project, like a new hall, as most grants require matching funding. Manning a casino is one of the only ways a league can raise a significant amount of money.

This may well be an issue the EFCL wants to pursue with AGLC and/or the provincial government in the near future.

### **4. City Plans to Create Civic Engagement Advisory Committee**

City staff have told the EFCL that the city will soon be creating an advisory committee to map out a new civic engagement strategy.

We were also assured that we would be on it.

The advisory committee will be charged with assembling and considering all of the concerns and suggestions that various stakeholder groups and citizens have raised during the city's recent review of its civic engagement practices.

The EFCL wants to ensure that community leagues have a central role in the new civic engagement strategy, particularly when it comes to considering the impact that civic decisions have at a neighborhood level.

### **5. Minister David Eggen Agrees To Meet With EFCL Board**

The EFCL was pleased to hear that the Honorable David Eggen, Minister of Education, Culture and Tourism, would be happy to meet with the federation's board of directors. His office is currently looking for an appropriate time.

The federation wants to talk about grant funding to non-profit groups, along with the inclusion of community space in new schools and the construction of new schools in all parts of the city.

## 10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 10.1 – Extended Casino Hours Survey  
**PREPARED BY:** Alberta Gaming & Liquor Commission

**Item 10.1**

### Extended Casino Hours Review



Thank you for taking the time to provide the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) with your feedback on the extended casino table game operating hours.

Your feedback is very important to us and will be kept in confidence. A summary report of the overall feedback received will be shared with all respondents and will be posted on [aglc.ca](http://aglc.ca). While some comments will make it into the report, no individuals or groups will be identified.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Mr. Matt Bécigneul, Manager, Strategic Policy at (780) 447-8952 or [matt.becigneul@aglc.ca](mailto:matt.becigneul@aglc.ca).

#### 1. At which casino did you conduct and manage your charitable casino event?

- At which casino did you conduct and manage your charitable casino event? Apex Casino, St. Albert
- Baccarat Casino, Edmonton
- Boomtown Casino, Fort McMurray
- Camrose Resort Casino, Camrose
- Cash Casino, Calgary
- Cash Casino, Red Deer
- Casino Calgary, Calgary
- Casino Dene, Cold Lake
- Casino Edmonton, Edmonton
- Casino Lethbridge, Lethbridge
- Casino Yellowhead, Edmonton
- Casino by Vanshaw, Medicine Hat
- Century Casino, Calgary
- Century Casino, Edmonton
- Cowboys Casino, Calgary
- Deerfoot Inn & Casino, Calgary
- Eagle River Casino, Whitecourt
- Elbow River Casino, Calgary
- Great Northern Casino, Grande Prairie
- Grey Eagle Casino, Calgary
- Jackpot Casino, Red Deer
- Palace Casino, Edmonton
- River Cree Resort and Casino, Enoch
- Stoney Nakoda Resort and Casino, Morley
- Unsure

#### 2. Which of the following categories best describes your group?

Descriptions of eligible groups can be found on page 11 of [2013-2014 Charitable Gaming in Review Report](#).

Which of the following categories best describes your group?  
Descriptions of eligible groups can be found on page 11 of [2013-2014 Charitable Gaming in Review Report](#). Agricultural Fair or Exhibition

- Aid of the Distressed
- Arts
- Associations of Employees, Occupations or Professions
- Chamber of Commerce/Board of Trade
- Children's Groups
- Community Leagues/Associations
- Education
- Ethno-Cultural
- Fundraising Groups
- Governance (Arm's Length)
- Historical Resources
- Hobby/Social
- Liaison
- Medical/Health Aid and Relief
- Nature Conservation
- Non-Profit
- Promotional
- Related Groups
- Religious
- Senior Citizens
- Sports
- Umbrella Groups
- Veteran, Service and Fraternal
- Youth
- Unsure

**3. Thinking about your most recent casino event, please share with us your thoughts and/or experiences regarding table game hours being extended to operate from 10 a.m. to 3 a.m.**

We noted how the length of the shifts are too taxing on our volunteers, many of whom are seniors, so we decided to go with three, six hour shifts, which meant we had to find more people and spend more time recruiting and scheduling.

**4. Again, thinking about your most recent casino event, do you have any additional comments that you would like to share at this time that may assist us in our review?**

We would like to see a review of the volunteer requirements for casinos. We often have chip runners doing very little. Other positions are quiet at times as well. We believe some positions could be trimmed or perhaps combined with others, which would reduce the number of volunteers we need to provide.

Thank you for your participation in this survey.

A summary of the feedback received will be shared in approximately six weeks.

If you have any further comments or questions, please contact Mr. Matt Bécigneul, Manager, Strategic Policy at (780) 447-8952 or [matt.becigneul@aglc.ca](mailto:matt.becigneul@aglc.ca).

Done



## 11.0 WORK IN PROGRESS

**MEETING DATE :** July 09, 2015  
**AGENDA ITEM # :** 11.1 – EFCL Work in Progress  
**PREPARED BY:** Allan Bolstad, Executive Director

**Item 11.1**

MEETING DATE	REF.	ITEM	STATUS
2012/04/12	5.3	<b>Reporting Form For EFCL Representatives</b> "A reporting form is to be created to be provided to anyone representing the EFCL in any capacity on external Committees or Sub-Committees, to report back to the EFCL a minimum of at least once annually."	Ongoing
2013/02/14	5.3	<b>Leagues Without Halls</b> "1. That the EFCL survey all of the leagues without halls to determine what they are doing to meet their space needs and whether or not the EFCL can be of assistance. 2. That the EFCL hold a meeting with the leagues without halls to discuss this situation and determine what role the EFCL might play."	Ongoing
2013/10/10	5.6	<b>Meeting with Edmonton MPs</b> That the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues host a meeting with the Edmonton Members of Parliament to discuss key items of interest.	Ongoing
2014/12/11	8.2	<b>City Budget Decisions</b> S. Labonne advised he would check what the final CLIP grants amount totaled.	Ongoing
2015/02/12	5.3	<b>Elimination of Grant Waiting Period For New Leagues</b> "That the EFCL ask the City of Edmonton to drop its requirement that new community leagues be in business one full year after incorporation before becoming eligible for an operating grant. " "That the EFCL explore with City Administration the possibility of making exceptions for new community leagues, where financially feasible, to receive their full operating grant prior to the one year waiting period after incorporation."	Ongoing
2015/04/09	5.3	<b>Hall Construction Cost Assessment Report</b> "That the EFCL Board table further discussion of this Item until the report from Community Services is available for review."	
2015/04/09	8.2	<b>Meeting With Edmonton Minor Soccer Association</b> A. Bolstad to survey community league soccer directors about community league soccer operations, which we will bring to the attention of EMSA.	

MEETING DATE	REF.	ITEM	STATUS
2015/06/18	5.2	<p><b>Meeting With Minister David Eggen</b>            "That the EFCL request a meeting with the Honourable David Eggen, Minister of Education, Culture and Tourism."</p>	