

**EDMONTON
SOCIAL PLANNING
COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

1969



PRESIDENT'S ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is the custom on this occasion for the President to report to you, the significant developments of the Social Planning Council in the 1969-70 program season. We have been deeply and actively involved in a great many projects, meetings and consultations. These are described for you in another part of this annual report. In my comments here, I would like to acknowledge some of the people and other community organizations that lie behind the details of that program report.

This Edmonton Social Planning Council, which on the one hand is planning for and with the community, is itself a micro-reflection of one segment of this community. As such, it has come face to face with some of the explosive and deep rooted questions of our decade. It has been exciting, absorbing, demanding and sometimes contentious year for the staff, board and committee members. These persons, on your behalf, have given extraordinary energy and time to the definition, clarification, resolution and action philosophies of organization, research methods, functions of the Council and many specific programs. On your behalf, and for all that it has meant to me as your President, I want to thank them enormously for patience, devotion and diligence. To Dean Shepherd, Dale Phillips and Nancy Ragan, all members of the original Executive, go acknowledgement of service and good wishes in their new endeavours in Montreal, Vancouver and University. To Sam Agronin and David Crawley who replaced them in the Executive Committee at mid-year, also goes special acknowledgement for the exceedingly heavy load they have carried in our executive that was reaching and testing for new ideas.

Some members of long standing retired from the Board this year: Doris McKenzie, Enid Wyness and Edna LaForge. Their aggregate years of service amounts to thirteen years of volunteer time to the Planning Council and includes contributions to all of its major committees and projects. To my

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fellow Board members, may I express my great appreciation for their continued contributions. A number of members are retiring from the Board this year and on your behalf may I say to them that their assistance has been greatly appreciated. Some have pledged continued involvement in action committees of the Council.

To the staff, I would like to express my deep appreciation. This is by no measure, a "usual" year. Through negotiations recently completed with the United Community Fund our Executive Director, E. Stewart Bishop resigns to take up special evaluation and planning responsibilities in the Edmonton United Community Fund. His personal secretary and office manager, Mrs. Edith Goard retired April 30th, after 16 years with the Council. To both of them for their diligent and loyal years, I express on your behalf our earnest and sincere gratitude. The Executive and Board on behalf of the membership, have acted to express in permanent form, our esteem, appreciation and good wishes to both of them.

Your Social Planning Council has many formal and informal contacts with organization in our community. We have formal representations on the Social Service Advisory Committee, the Mayor's Committee on Human Resources Development, and the City's Human Resources Planning Group. Members of both the Board and staff have met with community agencies and governmental departments during the year.

Our collaboration with the United Fund expanded and intensified. Staff members of both organizations have consulted frequently and the Council provided space consultation and staff to the special study on Youth Services, Men's Emergency Overnight Shelter, and the Boyle Street milieu in total was

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the subject of reports to the United Community Fund. Staff consultation was provided to their Admissions and Evaluation Committee. This Committee shared in the testing of new information gathering techniques in Boyle Street. John Schlosser, the Fund representative on the Board, was a member of the Council's special study on internal organization and structure. The resulting revision in planning roles and program evaluation methods of the two organizations for the year ahead promises to be a better alignment of functions between the two. For their financial and moral and staff support, we thank the United Community Fund.

We also acknowledge our appreciation to the City Social Service Department and the Provincial Government for their continued financial support. Planning and planners from time to time must courageously advocate 'unpopular remedies'; our funding groups have been steadfast in their support of the Council's planning role in the life of the city, even when the remedies strike close to their home grounds. To all members of the staff including those who like Father Barrier, are so close to the Council that we tend to look upon them as our own - a sincere thank you for your vital contribution and long hours of meetings and consultations. Noteworthy has been the consistent work of the Welfare Information Service, which now looks forward to an enlarged staff and an enlarged role in the general problem of information movement in the 'communications city'. For a citizen body which sees information movement as one of the central issues in urban problems we cannot function without the attentive and constant assistance of the Press, radio and TV. The council acknowledges sincerely the continuing ready cooperation of the media through out the year.

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With the submission of this report, I complete my responsibilities as President of the Edmonton Social Planning Council. This year as your President has been exciting, demanding, challenging and supremely rewarding. I thank you for entrusting to me the fortunes of the Council, and the opportunity to serve our community.

EDMONTON SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1969 - 1970

President	-	Mr. Gerald Wright
1st Vice President	-	Rev. D.P. Crawley
2nd Vice President	-	Mrs. N. Ragan *
Treasurer	-	Mr. G. Levine
Secretary	-	Mr. Dale Phillips

* Resigned Mid-year, term completed by Mr. S.I. Agronin

DIRECTORS:

Mr. J. Corlett
Mr. Philip Ketchum
Mrs. L.R. LaForge
Mrs. C.H. Loeber
Mrs. K.A. McKenzie
Mrs. M.R. Nigro
Mr. Francis O'Hara
Mr. Richard Price
Mr. Roger Soderstrom
Dr. R. Taylor
Mrs. F. Thiemann
Mrs. Enid Wyness

REPRESENTATIVES

U.C.F.

Mrs. Enid Crockett
Dr. P.B. Rose
Mr. J.L. Schlosser

STAFF:

Mr. E. Stewart Bishop - Executive Director
Mrs. B. Hewes - Planner
Mrs. Marion Stonell - W.I.S. Director
Mr. Ed DeLong - Director Teen Centre
Miss Lynne Hannley - Detached Worker

Mrs. Edith Goard
Mrs. Marie Coventry
Mrs. Vivian Henwood
Miss Lorette Brandenburg

REPORT ON COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Downtown Teen Centre

Committee operated until centre was established to secure location, staff and continuing public relations.

Overnight Shelter for Men

Study recommendations re support of this service

Aging

A study of the feasibility of an organization to provide information and consultation to the elderly and to co-ordinate existing community services; has led to the formation of "The Society for the Retired and Semi-Retired."

Mossman Report & Recommendations

Council study has led to the service "Emergency Shelter for Women" operating since February, 1970.

University & the Community

Study has led to Council project - submission to the Worth Commission on Education.

Community Development

Report to the City of Edmonton

Services to Single Men

An inquiry into the requirements, experiments of action research and developmental research to discover and re-define the issues; brief to the Justice O'Byrne Commission on the Provincial Men's Hostel; preparation of proposals of alternatives to current service system.

Educational T.V.

Proposal for a series of programs designed to improve understanding between service workers, recipients and the community.

Mayor's Committee on Human Resource Development

Study and response to the Request for Proposal.

Discrimination in Housing

Brief to Cabinet re legislation and practice to prevent discrimination.

COUNCIL PROJECTS:

Employment for single men

An experiment of three months duration in the use of indigenous workers to consult with employers, place employees and continue support.

Submission to the Worth Commission on Education

Preparation of a film and supporting material.

COUNCIL PROJECTS - continued

Community Newspaper

An experiment in supporting a newspaper, content, design and distribution to be controlled entirely within the designated community; evaluation of newspaper as a technique for moving information within a neighborhood.

Public Meeting on the Canadian Welfare Council
Social Policy Statement.

Meetings with Mr. Michael Audain
C.W.C. Housing Consultant.

CONTINUING CONSULTATION AND RESOURCES:

Inner Spirit - Downtown Teen Centre ✓
Human Rights Association
Future Society
Hardisty Social Action Committee
Emergency Shelter for Women
Citizens for Better Housing Society
Humans on Welfare - H.O.W.
Growing Up Together - Mothers' Group
Native Brotherhood - Information Centre

LIASON:

United Community Fund
Disability Team Assessment
Mayor's Policy Committee on Human Resource Development
Mayor's Planning Committee on Human Resource Development
City of Edmonton Social Services Advisory Committee
Advisory Committee to the Minister of Social Development
City of Edmonton Resource Mobilization for Employment
Project
Canadian Welfare Council Community Funds and Councils'
Conference
C.W.C. Immigration Committee
C.W.C. Transient Youth Study
C.W.C. National Day Care Study
Norwood Readiness Centre

WELFARE INFORMATION SERVICE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman - Mr. S.I. Agronin

R. Maxwell, Mrs. S. MacDonald, Mr. D. Nachtigall

Miss Enid Wyness, Mr. R. Cumming, Mr. G. McDermott.

Recognizing that many human needs escape the agency network, the basic function of central Information and Referral is to serve as a catalyst to bring people and services together. In order to move information on the availability of services to meet neglected problems, Welfare Information Service has endeavoured to co-operate with groups working around selective areas of needs, e.g. poverty; aging; civil rights; transient youth etc.

Welfare Information Service, in working with such groups, attempts to supply special information. We present this in the total context in order that services are not provided in a fragmented fashion, which leads to confusion, frustration and delay for the client involved.

In view of increasing demands on Welfare Information Service and, because of requests for the provision of information in various forms other than those envisaged when the service was originally organized, a review of the function of Welfare Information Service was undertaken in the past year. Out of this study came Edmonton Social Planning Council's acceptance of a new policy that would sanction and allow formalization of an educational process; and institution of follow-up procedures to determine the effectiveness of our referral. Welfare Information Service has long been aware that in some cases a further dimension is required beyond the referral process. To this end, we have been most fortunate in having at our disposal capable and sensitive persons who have volunteered to fill this gap and to follow through.

Welfare Information Service - Advisory Committee

Principal Needs and Concerns Indicated Include:

Need for regular meetings of Agency Directors

Need of information on services in other parts of Alberta to meet an increasing number of enquiries from outside Edmonton.

Need for time, staff and funds to produce booklets of appropriate, specific information on services for special groups, e.g. senior citizens; persons coming out of prisons etc.

Housing: discrimination, renters' protection, high rents, evictions, need of a central registry.

Housekeepers: shortages in all areas

Youth: a marked increase in transients during 1969. Need access to food, clothing, health care, accommodation. Increased need of counselling related to drug use, and discord at home.

Children: neglect and mistreatment reported in foster homes. Increased demands for day care, particularly in the west end.

Unwed Mothers: reports of exploitation in wage homes. Poor worker/client relationships.

Senior Citizens - shortage of all accommodation; difficulty in understanding changing health plans and pensions; inability to pay rents and increased costs of medical coverage. Difficulty in getting housekeeping and casual work done due to manpower shortages. Lack of knowledge of institutional staff about health plans and welfare programs. Need of funds to reprint our booklet "Services for Senior Citizens."

Discharged Prisoners: (male & female) need of accommodation, clothing, retraining, employment.

Welfare Information Service - Advisory Committee

Our Year's Activities:

13,900 enquiries processed during office hours.

9,852 enquiries received after hours and recorded for statistical and research purposes.

"Community Services Directory" revised, updated and reprinted.

"Services in Edmonton for Senior Citizens" - prepared and distributed

"Senior Citizens' Information" pamphlet broadly distributed.

115 lists supplied (service clubs; nursing homes and homes for special care, etc.)

98 items of special information prepared (field trip suggestions for schools of nursing; mailing lists for agencies etc.)

18 speaking engagements fulfilled (Schools of Nursing; Churches; schools; Service Clubs; N.A.I.T.; University of Alberta.

Publicity: - two radio stations

spot announcements on radio

10,000 "If" cards distributed

Looking to the Future:

The need is apparent that Welfare Information Service must study various methods of disseminating information, in order that this data is more accessible to more people, in more places and for various purposes. We must explore systems of data storage and retrieval that will enable us to expedite provision of information to meet any type of request.

CHRISTMAS BUREAU
Annual Report, 1969

Once again the Christmas Bureau operated during the Season with success, providing donors and recipients with a channel for expressing their wishes. Because of publicity in the news media, the Bureau itself received many monetary contributions. After several discussions by a sub-committee of the Advisory Board, the function of the Bureau has been clearly defined as one of coordination. Agreement was reached by the Advisory Board that:

1. All monies received in the Bureau office will be prorated and given to the three major donor agencies for distribution, these agencies being The Bissell Centre, The Catholic Charities, The Salvation Army;
2. All agencies would grant the option of a voucher or hamper to the recipient;
3. Donor agencies want the names of recipients directly from the Provincial and City Welfare Departments;
4. The Social Planning Council be asked to review the operation, contact recipients to establish their reactions to this manner of Christmas giving.

It is suggested that a new Chairman and Director be appointed during the Summer months so that these innovations will be operative at the Fall meeting of the Advisory Board.

Eleanor Thiemann, Chairman

EDMONTON SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Statement of Income and Expenditure
Year ended December 31, 1969

	<u>Council</u>	<u>Welfare Information Service</u>	<u>Teen Centre</u>	<u>Total</u>
Income:				
Funds received from:				
United Community Fund of Greater Edmonton	\$57,600	3,157	-	60,757
The City of Edmonton	12,000	9,800	-	21,800
Directory Sales	-	1,042	-	1,042
Sundre	204	-	-	204
Total Income	<u>69,804</u>	<u>13,999</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,803</u>
Expenditures:				
Salaries	51,143	10,206	2,500	63,849
Pension contribution	1,303	250	-	1,553
Group insurance	353	75	28	456
Group medical insurance	189	-	20	209
Canada Pension Plan	553	151	41	745
Rent	5,387	648	-	6,035
Stationery, office supplies, printing and mimeographing	1,708	276	3	1,987
Maintenance of office equipment	265	84	-	349
Purchase of furniture and fixtures	498	497	-	995
Books, publications and directory	171	985	-	1,156
Postage	767	100	-	867
Telephone and telegraph	1,311	599	2	1,912
Telephone answering service	-	2,415	-	2,415
Utilities	204	36	-	240
Audit fee	275	375	-	650
Accounting fee	780	-	-	780
Membership fees	222	-	-	222
Meeting expenses	400	35	7	442
Conferences and travel	1,467	-	-	1,467
Transportation and car allowance	1,063	75	148	1,286
Insurance	75	10	-	85
Christmas Bureau operating expenses	-	-	-	-
Sundry	79	9	129	217
Total expenditures	<u>68,213</u>	<u>16,826</u>	<u>2,878</u>	<u>87,917</u>
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 1,591</u>	<u>(2,827)</u>	<u>(2,878)</u>	<u>(4,114)</u>