



# ICYDA

INNER CITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2018/2020**

ATTENTION

RESIDENCE UNDER  
SELF ISOLATION  
DUE TO COVID-19

NO VISITORS UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE

THANK  
YOU

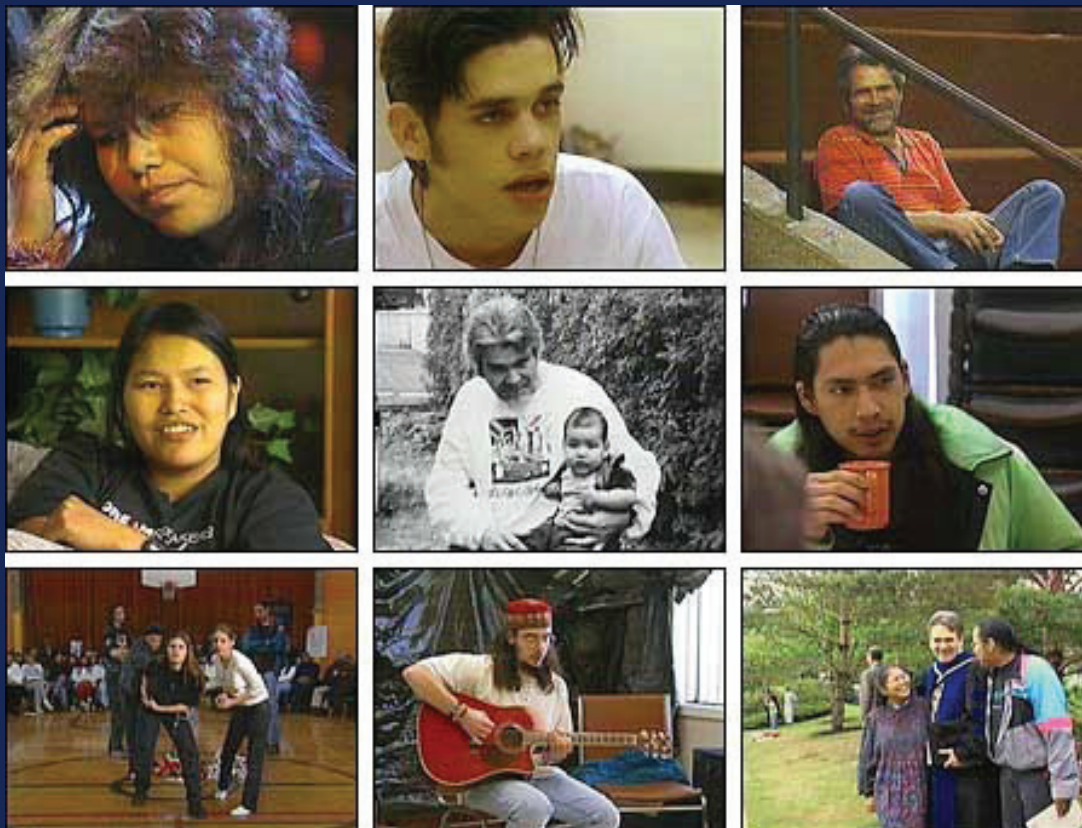
TENANTS

**PANDEMIC EDITION**

**Inner City Youth  
Engagement Program**

**Inner City High School**

## THREE DECADES OF COMMUNITY SERVICE



Over the past 30 years the Inner City Youth Development Association has been at the leading edge of merging the Arts with Education. Our programming and program structure has evolved and changed with the times and is specifically designed to meet the needs of Edmonton's Marginalized Urban Indigenous and Other Youth.



## Our Vision

To provide Edmonton's marginalized urban Indigenous and other youth with the supports and education necessary to break the cycle of poverty, desperation, and dependence that dominates their lives, enabling them to reach an educational level and career choice that facilitates their becoming contributing members of society.





## OUR MISSION

To make this vision a reality, our mission is to provide Edmonton's marginalized youth with preventative social service and educational programs that promote and facilitate independence and responsibility, empowering youth to become active, constructive, caring members of the community.



## OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to operationalize our vision and mission. To accomplish this task, social workers and youth workers in our **Youth Engagement Program** reach out to youth at the street level and offer essential supports such as transportation, regular meals, a food bank, public health, counselling, addictions services, housing and other referrals. With this support we are able to bridge youth into **Inner City High School** and offer needed supports as they make their way through school to eventual graduation.



## **A NOTE FROM THE COO**

First, I would like to give my sincere recognition and respect to the marginalized youth we serve. Their intelligence, strength and resilience in overcoming situations that many of us could barely imagine, let alone the psychological pressures they must deal with to walk through our doors, humbles me. They have made our building their home, their safe place and, their community.

I am not alone in this recognition; our donors see the light and possibility in the young lives we serve. Without their support, thousands of youth would not have the life-changing opportunities they did.

Our staff members work with full hearts. They go beyond traditional boundaries and expectations, ensuring youth receive support for essential needs, social issues, opportunities, and educational programming. And in these difficult times, they also work to keep us all safe from the ravages of Covid-19.

This years' Annual report is a special Pandemic Edition that required, in some parts, reporting for two years. The Financial Report covers the 2019/2020 period.

This year's report is also exciting in the Philanthropic sense. It acknowledges the major gift of the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation (EOCF). The Foundation donated the building we leased from them to our organization; a Five Million Dollar gift.

Sincerely,  
Joe Cloutier  
Chief Operating Officer



All of these demographics are strikingly similar to those of inmates in our provincial and federal jails. This tragedy is an unacceptable loss of human potential and an incalculable cost to our social system.

## WHO ARE MARGINALIZED URBAN INDIGENOUS AND OTHER YOUTH?

- **BETWEEN 80 AND 90% ARE INDIGENOUS**
- **85% LIVE IN UNSAFE OR UNSTABLE HOUSING AND WOULD FIT THE OFFICIAL DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS**
- **10 % LIVE IN GROUP HOMES**
- **72% HAD PAST OR CURRENT CONTACT WITH ALBERTA CHILDREN'S SERVICES**
- **90% LACK BASIC RESOURCES**
- **90% ARE WITHOUT PARENTAL SUPPORT**
- **5-10% ARE ABSOLUTELY HOMELESS WHEN THEY FIRST REGISTERED WITH US; SLEEPING IN HOMELESS SHELTERS, BUS SHELTERS AND ANYWHERE ELSE THEY CAN LAY THEIR HEAD**
- **CLOSE TO 90% HAVE CURRENT OR PREVIOUS CONTACT WITH THE JUSTICE SYSTEM**



### THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES...

The future for these youth, without meaningful support, can be quite bleak.

- While only 6% of the general population, Indigenous youth accounted for 24% of all male youth in the correctional system and 34% of all female youth.
- In a Health Canada report on the rate of suicide among Indigenous males between the ages of 15-24 years the data shows a suicide rate five times that of non-aboriginal males.
- For young women in the same age grouping, the rates are even more startling at seven times that of non-Indigenous women.
- When youth first register, most have low literacy and numeracy skills and lack basic resources. Their often-dysfunctional behaviours, lack of safe stable housing, substance abuse problems, and other unhealthy habits have their roots in the adaptation to a hostile and dysfunctional environment.
- Some of the ways these issues manifested in the period of this report were in suicide ideation, attempted suicide, and conflict with the justice system.

**"If it wasn't for you guys half these youth would be falling through the cracks."**

**Alberta Children's Advocate**

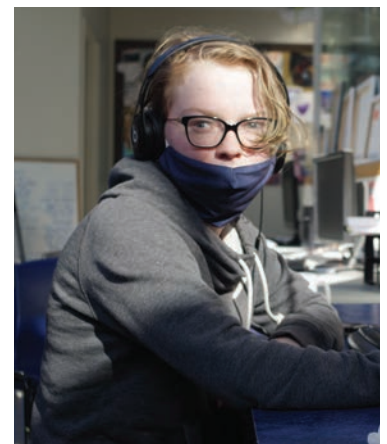
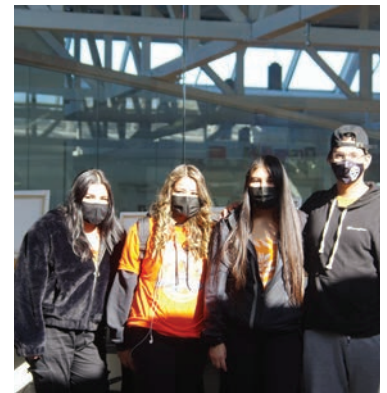
In this case the cracks can be addictions, crime, incarceration and even suicide.





In the period of this report:

- We served breakfast daily until the Covid Lockdown.
- We served a hot nutritious lunch every day until Covid hit.
- We distributed over 741 grocery bags from our food bank to youth and during the Covid lockdown we delivered another 120 grocery bags to youth
- During the lockdown our social workers delivered hot lunches every day.
- Informal counselling, a check in, socially distanced meetings and smudging circles were arranged outside.
- We completed 78 suicide safety plans with youth.
- We helped youth clear 38 warrants for their arrest.
- Supervised 128 Community Service hours in lieu of youth from being sent to jail.
- Our court worker made 49 court appearances in support of youth.
- At our site, in partnership with Alberta Health Services youth participated in 120 visits with an addictions counsellor.
- Public health nurses from the Boyle McCauley Health Center paid 40 visits to test youth for various medical and general health.
- In partnership with Alberta Health Services and Bent Arrow Healing Society, we offered 31 Parenting programs. In one meeting an Indigenous Elder shared stories of traditional parenting teachings. In other meetings, young parents made baby blankets for their children and discussed raising children. Overwhelmed young parents became more confident and caring.
- Many youths went from being angry and distrustful to cooperative and respectful.
- Along with counselling and the provision of essential resources many youths gained their first high school credit as they were bridged to Inner City High School on site and on line.







**“Tom was supported by the Youth Engagement staff to address problems of depression, self-harm, housing and, legal issues. In addition, previous lack of support, lack of confidence and, unpleasant school experiences left him with severe anxiety when it came to his starting school work. With the support of our social workers, counselling, one on one and small group work, Tom was bridged into Inner City High School and graduated last year.”**



## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

- Selected as Edmonton Oilers Legacy Project (2007)
- The Oilers Legacy Project includes limited support up to 2020 for the Inner City Youth Development Association (ICYDA)
- Recognized for Outstanding Contribution to the Aboriginal Community (2009) Award presented by Native Counselling Services of Alberta.
- Presented with the Telus Innovation Award (2011) in recognition of our work with Edmonton’s high risk youth
- Among the finalists for the Alberta Excellence in Teaching Award (2011)
- Presented with the Alberta Lieutenant Governor’s True Award for work with Edmonton’s high risk youth (2014)



In 2018/19 eleven students graduated and in 2019/20 twelve students graduated for a total of 23 youth graduated from Inner City High School, most with full academic diplomas giving them access to post-secondary schools and a scholarship provided by the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation.

## **INNER CITY HIGH SCHOOL**

We are an independent senior high school accredited by Alberta Education. The success of the School in creating opportunities for Edmonton's marginalized urban youth to succeed is built on a solid foundation of experience. We have learned in over 25 years of providing preventative social service and educational programming for Edmonton's marginalized urban youth that we must create the conditions for pedagogy to take place before academic studies can begin. This support is provided through our wrap around programming. Many youths are scarred by traumatic events, by lack of support, lack of resources, and carry years of unsuccessful school experiences. Most have long since given up on school. They require encouragement, small successes, flexibility, understanding and respect.

The purpose of the school is to introduce our youth to the possibilities that an education can bring, to replace hopelessness with hope, and to enable youth to develop basic skills, habits, and attitudes that will make academic success possible. Inner City High School provides opportunities for marginalized youth to earn a high school diploma, pursue post-secondary education and/or full-time employment, preventing their return to a life on the street.

We offer a flexible but structured environment with small classes, small group and one-on-one support. Without this



support, many youths who are now completing an education program would be statistics in our social service and/or justice system. In the words of well-known educator Ira Shor, "this [Inner City High School] is a municipal gem."

Chantel came to Inner City after negative experiences in other schools suffering from crippling anxiety and depression. Following a slow period of becoming comfortable in the school, engaging with social workers, counselling and other supports she was bridged into Inner City High School. In the school Chantel benefited from small class sizes, flexible deadlines, and a strength-based approach. Her artistic talents bloomed. She graduated last year and is intent on attending university to study design.

Chantel's background is sadly typical but like with many youths, by support and encouragement they can overcome traumatic events in their lives and excel.

### **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT SUPPORTS**

We have always done whatever we could to support youth caught in the court system, however, adding a full-time dedicated court worker in this area made a big difference. For example, in the past year the court worker was instrumental in helping youth clear 36 warrants for their arrest. He supervised youth performing 257 community service hours in place of incarceration; thereby, preventing youth from serving time in jail and having further contact with a more hardened criminal element. Once a youth is incarcerated they often get involved with and learn the ways of more hardened criminals. When released they can sink deeper into the world of crime and drugs.

Having youth disclose active warrants requires building trust with those who do not trust easily and who often avoid formal institutions. Sports and activities build trust, create a sense of community and builds self-confidence. To this end, the court worker is also the recreation coordinator. Youth develop a trusting relationship that leads to disclosures regarding pending legal issues. We also have regular visits from our Elder for counselling, conversations with youth, cultural ceremonies and activities. We also provide addictions counselling, housing referrals, bus tickets and other emergency supports.



Before Covid, we had regular visits from our Elder (Fernie Marty) for counselling, conversation and ceremonies.



Our programming is designed to build trust, foster a sense of community and build self-confidence among youth.



Five days a week, we serve breakfast and a hot lunch.

# Draft Financial Report 2019/2020

## Youth Engagement Program (YEP)

### Revenue

Foundations	233,129
Federal Grants	105,115
City of Edmonton, Community Services	91,778
Donations	40,685
Fee For Service	12,119
Other	13,874
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>496,700</b>

### Expenses

Wages and Benefits	323,369
Direct Client Expenses	74,975
Facility	78,421
Transportation and Insurance	17,200
Professional Fees	2,445
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>496,410</b>

## Inner City High School

### Revenue

Alberta Education	2,820,605
Foundations	175,763
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>2,996,368</b>

### Expenses

Wages and Benefits	2,375,818
Direct Client Expenses	180,040
Facility	273,160
Transportation and Insurance	43,394
Professional Fees	5,792
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,878,204</b>

## Excess of Revenue over Expenses

	<b>YEP</b>	<b>ICHS</b>
Total Revenue	496,700	2,996,368
Total Expenses	496,410	2,878,204
Amortization		7,824
Totals	496,410	2,886,028
Surplus/Deficit	290	110,340

## Board of Directors, 2019-2020

We are fortunate to have a Board of Directors that has a deep commitment to the mission, values and vision of our Association. Our leadership team and staff are grateful for the board's investment of time, expertise and resources.

### **PRESIDENT**

Roisin McCabe, M.A

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Michael Ho, M.Sc., O.T. M.B.A.

### **TREASURER**

Cory Chan, Tax Lawyer

### **SECRETARY**

David Anli, P.Eng., M.B.A

### **DIRECTOR**

Alexina Dalgetty, M.F.A.

### **DIRECTOR**

Harmail Natt, P. Eng., M.B.A.

### **DIRECTOR**

Patrick Twin, BA, M.B.A.

### **STAFF REPRESENTATIVE**

Nikolai Linden, BA

### **STAFF REPRESENTATIVE**

Joe Cloutier, PhD.



## Our Supporters

Our programming depends on ongoing community support. We strive to assess the current needs of our community, and to adapt and grow in response to new challenges and new opportunities. From large corporations, to government agencies, to individuals — our sponsors believe in our work. They know that the young people in our programs and high school deserve the support and opportunities that others take for granted. Simple things like bus tickets, housing, food, a friend who cares, hope for the future, and support while they struggle to realize their dreams.

### EDMONTON OILERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

For the donation of our home, a \$5,000,000 completely renovated building to house our programming.



### TREATY SIX GRAND CHIEF WILTON LITTLE CHILD

For his support and personal donations.

### GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Thank you to the Government of Canada, Urban Programs for Indigenous People, Indigenous Services Canada, and DIA.



### EDMONTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Thanks to the Edmonton Community Foundation for critical programming support.



### THE CITY OF EDMONTON

Many thanks for contributions by the City of Edmonton's Donate A Ride program



### WALMART CANADA

Thank you to Walmart stores for their ongoing support.



### THE CITY OF EDMONTON

A special mention to FCSS Edmonton for their long term support and understanding of the needs of Edmonton's marginalized urban Indigenous and other youth. Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is a joint municipal/provincial partnership that funds preventative social service programs.

### FCSS

Family & Community Support Services



### REALTORS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Thank you to the Realtors Community Foundation for helping us feed hungry youth.



### THE GANDHI FOUNDATION

Thank you to the Mahatma Gandhi Canadian Foundation for World Peace, Edmonton for your continuous support.



### ALBERTA CULTURE AND TOURISM

For supporting Edmonton's high risk youth through a grant.

### ALBERTA EDUCATION

For their support and understanding for the need for Inner City High School

## TELUS, ELLIS GROUP & SSUC

Thank you to each for their ongoing support.



## Individuals & Organizations

Special thanks for your important and appreciated ongoing support to The Krishan Joshee Family, the Rae and Carol Allan Family and the Deepak and Vija Chaitanya Family. In 2017/2018 the support of the following individuals and organizations to helped to make our programming possible.

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Original Joes                          | Christina Moen                        |
| FLG Sports                             | David Ho                              |
| Costco                                 | Esther Kim / Todd Christopher Shipman |
| Lucky 97 Supermarket                   | Kimberly Shulha                       |
| Chrome Studio                          | Larry Sibbald                         |
| Henry K. Wong Professional Corporation | Alexina Dalgetty                      |
| Joan Endres                            | Laura Swanson                         |
| Verin Joshi                            | Marcela Mandeville                    |
| Amy Fisher                             | Maria Llavallol                       |
| Cheryl Joyce                           | Martin McCabe                         |
| Elizabeth Marchand                     | Taylor Rubin                          |
| Jason Spoor                            | Angela Endres                         |
| Nancy Jarnevic                         | Dr. G. Ahmed                          |
| Devinder Pannu                         | Scott Paterson                        |
| Reva Joshee                            | Lisa Workman                          |
| Myrna Guenter                          | Katrina Filice                        |
| Richard McCabe                         | Femke Pennings                        |
| Siu Yin Ho                             | Barbara Sommerfield                   |
| Valerie Jepson                         | Andrew Ho                             |
| Yue Yat Ho                             | Sandra Fisher                         |
| Berend Wilting                         | Hök Nik Creative, Inc.                |
| Anna Kochendorfer                      |                                       |

## Staff, Elders, Philanthropists & More

Thanks to our many supporters and Edmonton's philanthropic community. Your support of Edmonton's marginalized Indigenous and other youth helps change lives. Thank you to our Indigenous Elders and our skilled and committed staff of social workers, youth workers, administrative support, and chef whose cooking helps keep us all together.

Finally a most respectful thank you goes to the many youths who have overcome so many barriers to make positive changes in their lives.



**ICYDA**

INNER CITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

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Helping Youth Help Themselves