

EDMONTON  
**HERITAGE COUNCIL**



20  
15

# ANNUAL REPORT

Uniting Edmontonians to make heritage an  
indispensable part of community and civic life.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

**Thank you** for your meaningful support in a year of reflection for the Edmonton Heritage Council.

The 2015-16 board crystallized the work of its five predecessors: summoning a collective determination to shape the communitarian life of the place we call Edmonton today, through the broad and inclusive story of an ever-changing city rooted in a meeting place that began more than 11,000 years ago.

The founding of our community lies in atavistic memory, in the tesserae of spoken remembrances and fragments of dreams. Yet in the EHC's decision to honour and foster the entire eleven-millennium story of Amiskwaciwâskahikan, the place we know today as Edmonton, we give validity and meaning to our own experience on this land: on these bends of the river with ample banks, and the abundance of life it supports.

We are now committed to giving shape and meaning to the report of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada, understanding that our most consequential action is to pursue the reconciliation of all who call Edmonton home.

In March 2016, the EHC board unanimously directed staff to produce a path forward toward this goal — fully recognizing it is a journey that cannot have an end point — for the consideration of the board elected for the 2016-17 year.

In doing so, we were mindful of the perspective that heritage is the entirety of lived experience on this land, whether tangible or intangible; history is the portion which is remembered, often from contested perspectives; and archives are the granular detail that chronicle the human journey.

Reconciliation enables us to share multiple truths and voices that must be heard and included: not to force agreement, but to bring clarity to complexity, and to enable the mingling of experiences and memories—a heritage ecosystem that supports societal development.

Please join us, as we illuminate our past to build our future.

**Satya Brata Das**  
2015-16 CHAIR

# EHC STRATEGIC GOALS

1

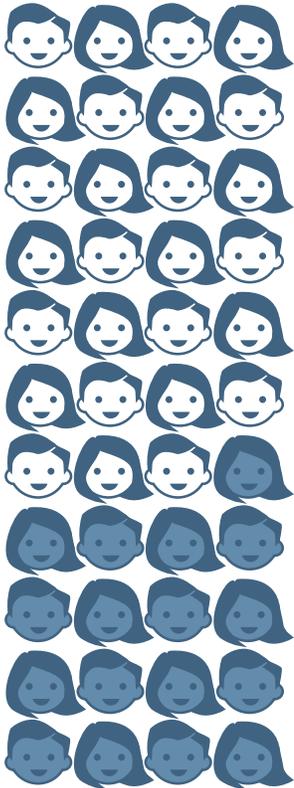
## BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

Strengthen Edmontonians' connection with their city and help create a strong sense of place through Edmonton's heritage

2

## ANIMATE CONVERSATIONS AND SPARK ACTION

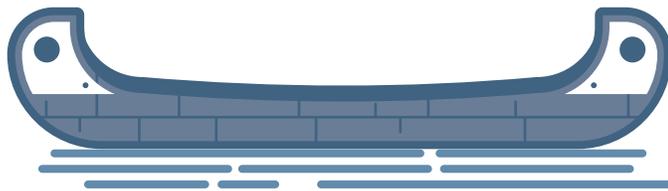
Engage and activate citizens with Edmonton's story and history



27 out of 44 recipients received **HCIP** funding for the first time.

93

explorers experienced unique and provocative views of Edmonton's history on **4 Edmonton City as Museum Project (ECAMP)** tours, including brewing history bus tours and a North Saskatchewan River tour in voyageur canoes.



48 new stories from **24** local writers published through the **ECAMP** website on the people, places, things and moments that make Edmonton unique.

\$13,413

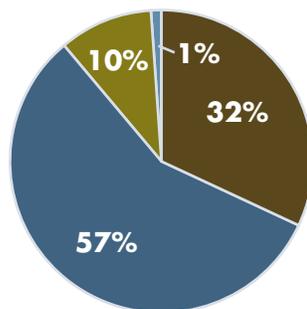
in sponsorships provided to **15** organizations and individuals engaging communities through events and initiatives related to Edmonton's heritage and culture.

\$533,470.33

invested in the creativity and professionalism of Edmontonians through the **Heritage Community Investment Program (HCIP)**, supporting **10** organizations, **4** individuals, and **30** projects. View all recipients on [edmontonheritage.ca/grants](http://edmontonheritage.ca/grants)

### INVESTMENT BY GRANTS STREAM

- Operational Funding \$172,720.43
- Project Funding \$303,404.50
- Living Local \$51,094.00
- Travel \$6,251.40



### PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

#### THE GREEN ROOM'S EDMONTON RUG PROJECT

The Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA) brought communities together to create a prayer rug inspired by Edmonton and one of its historic structures, the Al-Rashid Mosque.

3

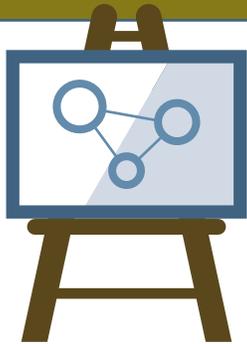
### TRANSFORM AND TRANSLATE EDMONTON'S HERITAGE CLIMATE

Make Edmonton's history and heritage indispensable to citizens

4

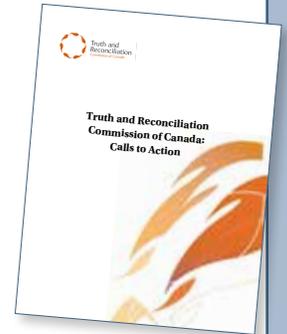
### DEVELOP OUR FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT EDMONTON'S DIVERSE HERITAGE

Evolve EHC's operations to improve programs, partnerships and collaboration



**59** Edmontonians strengthened their professional and organizational skills at **5 Edmonton Heritage Network** workshops focused on strategic planning, volunteer management and social media engagement.

**A commitment** to reflect upon and respond to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action through the EHC's work, initiated by a sharing circle comprised of TRC Commissioner Chief Wilton Littlechild, Mayor Don Iveson, and Rod Loyola, MLA alongside EHC staff and Directors.



**60** places of significance related to **6** local cultural communities published on **Edmonton Maps Heritage**, a collective online effort by Edmontonians to put themselves on the map of local heritage.



**9**

**posts on the EHC Blog**, with staff and collaborators reflecting on the growth and challenges in Edmonton's heritage sector and the role of heritage in our communities.



### RECONCILING EDMONTON

RISE – Reconciliation in Solidarity Edmonton brought together four collaborators—two Indigenous, two settler—to examine the intersections of these histories in Edmonton and to engage citizens in reconciliation through visual art, poetry, performance, and dance.

**4** Partnership Demonstration micro-grants. These **ECAMP**-funded projects supported new creative partnerships inspired by topics of historic and contemporary interest to Edmontonians.



**3 ECAMP momentary museums** in partnership with CKUA Radio providing opportunities for Edmontonians to add their stories and reflections to experimental exhibit spaces.



*Courtesy of the City of Edmonton*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The work of the Edmonton Heritage Council helps connect people through their diverse histories and experiences. These connections have social, cultural and economic value: a healthy, engaged and productive community values the stories of all citizens as integral to the larger story of the city.

In 2015, we focused on increasing the reach of our programs to include more people and communities in Edmonton. We began to audit our organizational programs and policies for greater inclusion and outreach. We look forward to that emerging further in 2016 through key initiatives like the Heritage Community Investment Program (HCIP), Edmonton Maps Heritage and the Edmonton City as Museum Project (ECAMP).

Working with the City of Edmonton and our community partners, we increased heritage investment in the community by over 60% in 2015, adding more sustaining support for heritage organizations and heritage projects.

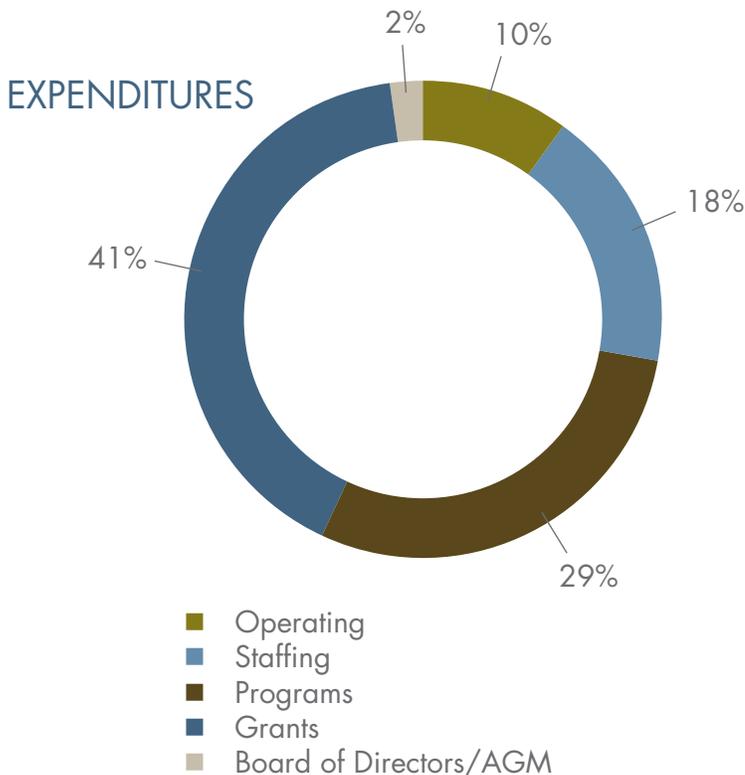
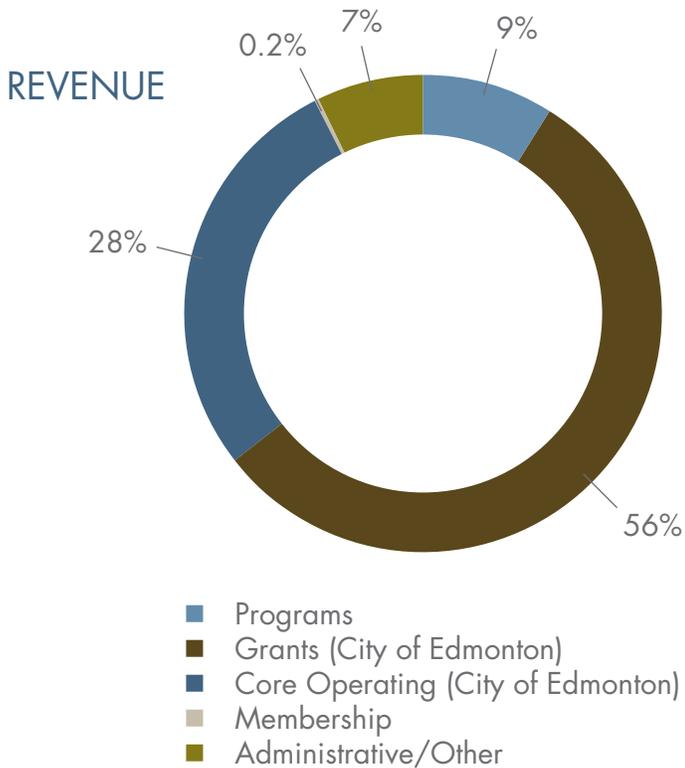
Edmonton Maps Heritage is mapping more and more of the city's places of significance, with 2015's work adding sixty new locations connected to urban Aboriginal experience and the histories of Edmonton's Chinatowns and meat packing industry, among others.

ECAMP continued to advance the development of a city museum for Edmonton. This project draws on the creative energy of Edmontonians in the community and online. In 2015, their input helped refine ECAMP's strategic aims through a community consultation process.

My thanks for the energy and commitment of EHC's small but mighty staff in administering this work that makes Edmonton's heritage vibrant and alive. And thank you to all who are building relationships between citizens and the heritage of the city, making heritage essential to the present and future health of our communities.

**David Ridley**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## 2015 FINANCIALS AT-A-GLANCE



Our audited financial statements are posted at [edmontonheritage.ca/reports](http://edmontonheritage.ca/reports)

## EHC STAFF

David Ridley EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ericka Chemko PROGRAM & OPERATIONS MANAGER  
(TO SEPTEMBER 2015)

Miranda Jimmy PROGRAM MANAGER

Monica Roberts

CITY MUSEUM STRATEGY MANAGER

Meredith Mantooth

GRANTS & PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Ryan Stephens COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Azkaa Rahman ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR  
(FROM MARCH 2015)

Shirley Combden FINANCIAL OFFICER

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Elected & continuing term as of June 2015)

### EXECUTIVE

Satya Das CHAIR

Gregory Bounds VICE-CHAIR

Ana Laura Pauchulo SECRETARY

Lan Chan-Marples TREASURER

Terry O'Riordan PAST CHAIR

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

Alex Abboud

Candas Jane Dorsey

Eric Gormley

Andy Grabia

Judy Half

Beth Sanders

Karen Wall

Jesse Watson

Virginia Stephen (TO JULY 2015)

Pauline Urquhart (TO OCTOBER 2015)

### CITY OF EDMONTON REPRESENTATIVES

Robert Geldart SENIOR HERITAGE PLANNER

Kathryn Ivany ARCHIVIST AND SUPERVISOR,  
HERITAGE AND SPECIAL FACILITIES

Evelyn Ehrman ACTING MANAGER, COMMUNITY  
AND RECREATION FACILITIES, CITIZEN SERVICES

Rob Smyth ACTING GENERAL MANAGER,  
CITIZEN SERVICES



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[www.twitter.com/yegheritage](http://www.twitter.com/yegheritage)