

Summer 2009



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E4C Annual General Meeting Board President's Address

"My name is Kristin Morra and I am the President of the Board. I have served on this board for over 13 years and I am passionate, excited and exhilarated about the work that E4C does.

I have watched E4C grow and thrive. I have struggled to understand why poverty and disenfranchisement is cheaper than hope and dignity. I have been here to watch E4C emerge to the forefront of innovative thinking and ways of helping those in need. I am excited about the things we do. I am particularly excited about E4C initiatives towards homelessness and affordable housing. The 'Housing First' approach that E4C has adopted in its housing services that works to give all Edmontonians a place to call home is something I can really get excited about—sink my teeth in. I cannot imagine what it would be like to be homeless.

You may think that a homeless person chooses to be homeless, that they are street people, drug addicts or those living on the fringe of society. That may be true, but many of Edmonton's homeless are that way because they cannot afford housing—even with a steady job and a stable life. I am not homeless, I have a beautiful home for my three



Kourch Chan, E4C Chief Operating Officer presents Kristin Morra, E4C Board President, with a bouquet of flowers after her speech at the May 28 AGM.

daughters. I have a husband. I have a steady job that I have been at for 13 years. I work full time. I have saved for the

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Changing Lives • Growing Community

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Courage

Compassion

Connection

Commitment



Words from Michael Farris, Chief Executive Officer

“Where has Leadership Gone?”

In the last edition of Envoy, I wrote ‘Invest or Squander the Opportunity’ in advance of this year’s provincial budget. Now that we have received the budget, we can evaluate whether

our government has made a decision to invest or if another course has been set.

Difficult Times or a Brighter Future?

As the last few months have shown, the economic ‘disaster’ that we encountered through 2008 and early 2009 has been moderated by national government interventions throughout the world. The ill-advised deregulation of the marketplace and of banking led by the United States brought us to the brink of a global disaster. With the recent strategic intervention of more realistic and reasonable approaches and the impending reintroduction of market and banking regulation, economies are recovering and faith in the marketplace is returning.

Certainly we can expect more difficult times on the road to full recovery. The old automobile industry and its supply network are still undergoing severe adjustment and with this thousands of jobs are in limbo and whole communities are in severe recession. Other sectors also have a less than sunny forecast. However, there is more than a glimmer of hope. Recently, oil prices have climbed above \$72 a barrel and investment in new development is again being considered or restarted. The world looks much brighter now than last winter. The road to full recovery is beginning but will likely be a long and challenging journey.

In my last article, I advocated an approach of ‘people investment’ for Alberta; this is the time to invest in individual, child and family success. Instituting an aggressive plan to house the homeless, prepare children for school and end child hunger would be imaginative and proactive. We could act to minimize the social conditions that make us all poorer in the long run. We could stimulate the local economy through housing development, strengthen communities under stress with fundamental skill development and improve child and family success with locally focused initiatives. So, what did the budget provide?

Budget Restraint Ignores the Realities of Children and Families in Jeopardy

This year’s provincial budget is a repeat of old style approaches that have proven to be inadequate and in many cases further compound ongoing community issues. One example is the

budget restraint in child and family services which continues to ignore the realities of Albertan children and families in jeopardy. The budget ignores regional realities such as large caseloads and the increasing size of populations in distress. It reduces the investment made in providing safety and healing, dooming more children to removal from family and allowing for potential abuse and limited growth and as a result creating more cases of long-term dependency. The approach seems to be one that panders to short-term deficit control at the cost of long-term social growth and long-term cost.

Alberta needs to come to grips with the reality of communities in decline and families and children in jeopardy. We have the capability of contributing to the growth in child and family success and community health. This would require some imagination because doing the same old thing and expecting a different result is madness. We need to build on programs and approaches that have demonstrated fundamental success in building healthy families and strong communities. We need to make the investment NOW, while the scope of the issues is still manageable. Hesitancy and delay will condemn us to a future that is bleak and full of human and community tragedy.

Alberta Needs Leadership

We need imagination combined with knowledge and sound judgement. We can no longer accept the old and disproven ways of occasional or haphazard planning and inadequate funding investment. We can no longer accept a royalty regime that panders to the multinational and ignores our own communities and our people. Why can’t we plan and conduct business as in other jurisdictions? Other countries have shown imagination and skill in negotiating terms with industry that are good for industry and make it possible to invest in people.

Our future and our social and economic health are built on the decisions and investments we make today. If we want a future with safer and healthier communities, if we want children to have school and job success, if we want to stop having homeless people on our streets, in our jails and our hospitals, we need to invest in actions that lead to these results.

Now is the Time to Invest in Individual, Child and Family Success

We need to revisit the budget decision of earlier this year. We need to seize the opportunity to make long-term investment that leads to long-term success. We need our leaders to be willing to make a statement that Alberta is building for the future.

future because I could. Things for me are great. But if things were different, if I was a single mother of three children I would struggle to make ends meet every month.

I am educated and can easily find a job, but with three children, I need to work during the day. This limits my ability to take a shift work job or a restaurant job or anything that isn't 9 to 5. Let's say I make \$25 per hour, \$48,000 per year at my full time, office job, and this would be the high-end for most administrative people. This would be about \$15 an hour more than most daycare workers, social services employees, caregivers make! This would give me a before tax income of \$4,000 per month or take home pay of just over \$3,000, according to the Alberta taxation website. This is a pretty good amount of money. This is not a minimum wage, dead end job. I am a taxpayer and a contributor to society. But when I look at expenses, this money does not last long.

My rent would be about \$1,200 per month for a 3-bedroom duplex in southeast Edmonton. Not a fancy home with a back yard—a duplex, with a concrete front yard and parking in the back. Daycare costs for three school-aged children is \$1,600 per month. It might be less if I can get a subsidy, but \$48,000 per year is considered a good job and no subsidy is likely offered, according to the provincial website.

So, we haven't eaten yet. We haven't bought the necessities of life, such as clothing, heat and water. We definitely haven't been able to pay for extra-curricular activities such as sports and leisure. With only rent and child care in the mix, the income from my full time, good job, is down to \$200 per month. That isn't much. It would be pretty easy for me and my children to end up in arrears—to owe more than we have, to lose our home.

Everyone deserves a place to live. Everyone needs an address. An identity. Dignity. The 'Housing First' model, the model E4C has adopted for its housing services, gives all Edmontonians that opportunity. Giving a person and their children an affordable, stable, safe place to call home is the first step in giving that same family hope, confidence, security and happiness. This is not a luxury—this is a necessity to keep Edmonton the vibrant, caring community that it is."



At the AGM we were honoured to bestow upon Pat Macdonald the title of Honorary Life Member to the E4C Board of Directors.

Kristin Morra presented a plaque to Pat which reads:

Working together to make strong and safe communities.

*H. Pat Macdonald
Honorary Life Member
E4C Board of Directors*

*In recognition of your tireless efforts
on behalf of the community and E4C.*

One person can make a difference in our community.

Pat is a long time supporter and advocate for E4C. He was there when it all started. He was a member of the first WEAC Advisory Committee—and the only male member—but stayed on as long as the committee was in existence.

Pat is a strong advocate for the women and for WEAC. He truly understands the continuing need for a shelter for homeless women.

E4C is privileged to have had Pat's continuous support, expertise and wisdom all these years.



Kourch Chan, E4C Chief Operating Officer and Kristin Morra, Board President, present gifts made by children in E4C programs to Mayor Stephen Mandel after his keynote address.

E4C was honoured to have Mayor Stephen Mandel as our keynote speaker at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, May 28, 2009. Below are excerpts from his speech.

"I am a keen advocate and supporter of the work of E4C. So when I saw your invitation for tonight's event asking the question about changing the world, I immediately answered... that's what these good folks do every day!

At a time when many things are uncertain, there's one thing that I can count on and that's the continuous courage and commitment of E4C to build compassionate connections with our community.

Whether it's through your supportive living programs, emergency shelters, Kids in the Hall Bistro, ArtStart, the Teen Centre, or Head Start program, you know that the more we invest in keeping people out of the criminal lifestyle, the more we save on police and courts.

More importantly though is that we gain so much more by helping people realize their dreams and full potential so they can take every opportunity to succeed.

Your perspectives will be collaborated with others from all across the city, from those who feel the effects of crime, and that's all of us. They've also talked with businesses, seniors, immigrants and other agencies and they've spent time with kids who are at risk of making the wrong choices.

I'd like to thank E4C for not leaving anyone behind. Each day your courage and compassion for connecting the community changes the world, one citizen at a time.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and tireless efforts of your countless volunteers, staff and board members for making such a difference in the lives of our citizens. I appreciate the outstanding contributions of your donors to support these ventures and trust that your effective work will be maintained in the years ahead. At this time of uncertainty for many, you bring confidence, stability and direction to the many lives you touch each day. May your commitment never waiver, may your optimism prevail and may your social conscience be the gold standard to which we achieve our future success."

E4C Staff Recognized for Efforts

Housing Manager Receives Men of Honour Award



E4C Facility Manager and PAAFE Men of Honour Award recipient Kelvin Ernewein with his wife Trudy and his three daughters (from left to right) Bailey, Kelsey and Megan at the award ceremony on April 17.

As E4C's Facility Manager, Kelvin Ernewein's job duties are as varied as E4C's housing services. While he is responsible for taking care of the many houses, apartment buildings and other facilities run by E4C, his job involves much more than just building maintenance and repairs.

E4C's long-term and transitional housing services shelter hundreds of people each year and because many tenants require additional supports, Kelvin has become a familiar face for many of E4C's tenants. For the past 15 years Kelvin has worked in Edmonton's inner city helping the homeless and those living in supportive housing. In that time he has earned a reputation for being non-judgmental and a compassionate listener who is eager to work with tenants to help them stay in healthy housing situations. In April of this year Kelvin's dedication to supporting tenants was recognized with a Men of Honour award given out by the Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton (PAAFE).

At the awards gala held in Edmonton on April 17 Kelvin was recognized along with 13 other outstanding local men. In attendance were Police Chief Mike Boyd,

MP Laurie Hawn and many others who felt it was important to recognize the significant work being done in our community to improve the lives of all Edmontonians.

Kelvin's wife Trudy and their three daughters were in attendance to watch their father receive his Men of Honour award. While Kelvin was modest about receiving the award, his wife Trudy beamed with pride. She praised her husband's ongoing efforts saying, "He puts everything he's got into his job, he's on call, not just 24 hours a day, but he is always thinking of E4C. He loves it. I am very happy for him." Kelvin's daughter Bailey echoed her mother's comments saying, "One of my father's best qualities is that he gives everyone second chances, including me."

The Men of Honour Awards were established in 2006 by PAAFE to recognize the significant efforts men make towards the development and the vision of the organization. PAAFE's vision is for "a community where there is hope, respect and transformation for individuals, families and communities affected by sexual exploitation" and it is nice to know that a member of the E4C family has been recognized for his contribution to advancement of that vision.

Everyone Deserves a Place to Call Home

E4C provides both long term and transitional housing for those who may otherwise not have a place to call home or a place to stay.

E4C's Housing & Mental Health Services

E4C's housing is tailored to the needs of the community; housing people in shared living situations, in supportive accommodation and in individual units.

- GC Place
- Gold Nugget Suites
- Holmes Place
- Meadow's Place
- McCauley Apartments
- Our Place
- Our Other Place
- Sorensen Place
- Stollery Place

E4C's Transitional Services

For those living in desperate circumstances, E4C provides emergency and transitional services, giving hope, healing and shelter to individuals moving on to a better life.

- Crossroads Programs
- Elizabeth House
- Women's Emergency Accommodation Centre (WEAC)
- Women Moving Forward

For more information about how E4C is providing safe, secure and affordable housing in our community go to our website at: www.e4calberta.org.

E4C Housing Innovation Housing Support Services Hub wins 'Home Award'

The Housing Support Services Hub was recently awarded the Canadian Mental Health Association–Edmonton Region's Home Award for its innovative work helping to ensure safe, affordable housing is accessible to all. A partnership of 14 agencies and services including and administered by E4C, the Housing Support Services Hub has, since its inception in 2008, helped over 180 individuals.

The Home Award was received by Housing Support Services Hub Team Leader, Tanya Tellier and E4C Chief Operating Officer, Kourch Chan.



Feeding Hungry Kids Flaman Foundation Supports E4C's School Lunch Program

Making a positive difference at home and around the world is the goal of the Frank J. Flaman Foundation.

The foundation is making a difference right here in Edmonton through its support of E4C's School Lunch Program. The foundation has generously donated \$40,000 to help E4C's School Lunch Program continue its work of feeding children each school day in elementary schools in some of Edmonton's least advantaged neighbourhoods.

Established by Frank Flaman, founder of the Flaman Group of Companies, the Flaman Foundation is funded through fundraising events, donations and the personal contributions of Frank Flaman.

E4C's School Lunch Program operates in 12 of Edmonton's high-needs elementary schools feeding children nutritionally balanced, delicious food. The program operates with the support of many generous community partners and the recent donation by the Flaman Foundation will help the program provide lunch to almost 2,300 hungry school children each school day.

The Flaman Foundation has supported many local and overseas charities, but the goal of the foundation has always remained the same, to end suffering and build a better world. The significant contribution to E4C's School Lunch Program will help hungry children in Edmonton get the fuel they need to succeed.



Frank Flaman stopped by Eastwood Elementary School in northeast Edmonton to meet some of the students who benefit from his foundation's generous donation to E4C's School Lunch Program.



Upcoming Events!

Kids in the Hall Bistro Gala

Annual Dinner & Auction
Friday, October 16, 2009

City Room at City Hall
Cocktail Reception & Five Course Gourmet Dinner

Tickets: \$200.00 each
(includes a \$140.00 donation receipt)

To purchase tickets:
Phone: 780-413-8060 ext 3 Fax: 780-423-7959
e-mail: events@kidsinthehallbistro.com

E4C Needs Volunteers

Help Prepare Healthy Snacks for Kids

To volunteer or for information call Arlene at:
780-424-5408 or e-mail athompson@e4calberta.org

Volunteers are needed for a minimum of 3 shifts (9 AM to noon
weekday mornings) from July 6 to August 21.

E4C Helping Others...

Give your budget a break and join us for a Collective Kitchen

Are you interested in making healthy, low-cost meals for your family? Join E4C's Collective Kitchen and prepare meal dishes for your family to enjoy. The cost is \$3 per person (e.g. \$9 for a family of three). If you would like to join us, or for more information, please call Teresa at E4C's School Lunch Program at 780-424-5408 or e-mail .



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E4C Services Include:

Nutrition Services
School Lunch Program
Snack Programs

Early Learning
ArtStart
Clareview Head Start
Early Head Start
Northeast Community Program

Transitional Services
Crossroads Programs
Elizabeth House
Women's Emergency
Accommodation Centre (WEAC)
Women Moving Forward

Affordable Housing & Mental Health Services

Case Management Team
G-C Place
Gold Nugget Suites
Holmes Place
Macdonald Place
McCauley Apartments
Meadow's Place
Our Place
Our Other Place
Sorensen Place
Stollery Place

Social Enterprise
Kids in the Hall Bistro Program

Founded in 1970, E4C is a registered charitable human services organization.

Charitable Registration # 13155 8140 RR0001



Change the world?

Start here.

E4C

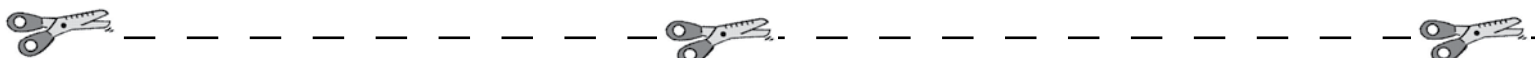
Enhanced Charitable Tax Credit

In 2007, Alberta's tax credit increased by more than 60 per cent for total annual charitable donations over \$200. Including the federal tax credit, Albertans will now receive a 50-cent tax credit for every dollar donated over the \$200 threshold. How do you take advantage of this new enhanced tax credit? Simply claim your total charitable donations on your next income tax return.

Your charitable donation goes farther:

Example

Total Annual Donations	Alberta Tax Credit	Federal Tax Credit	Total Tax Credit	Your Actual Cost	Donation cost per day
\$500.00	\$83.00	\$117.00	200.00	\$300.00	\$0.82



Changing Lives • Growing Community

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E4C is registered at CanadaHelps.org to make online donations.
 Giving made simple.

Enclosed is my tax deductible donation for:

\$50 \$100 \$150 \$200 \$500 \$ _____ Other

Cheque Visa MC

Card Number: _____ Exp: Date _____

Gifts can be made: One Time Monthly for _____ months (Monthly gifts can be given via postdated cheques or credit card)

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

e-mail: _____

Charitable Reg. # 13155 8140 RR0001
Edmonton City Centre Church Corporation operating as E4C

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06/09