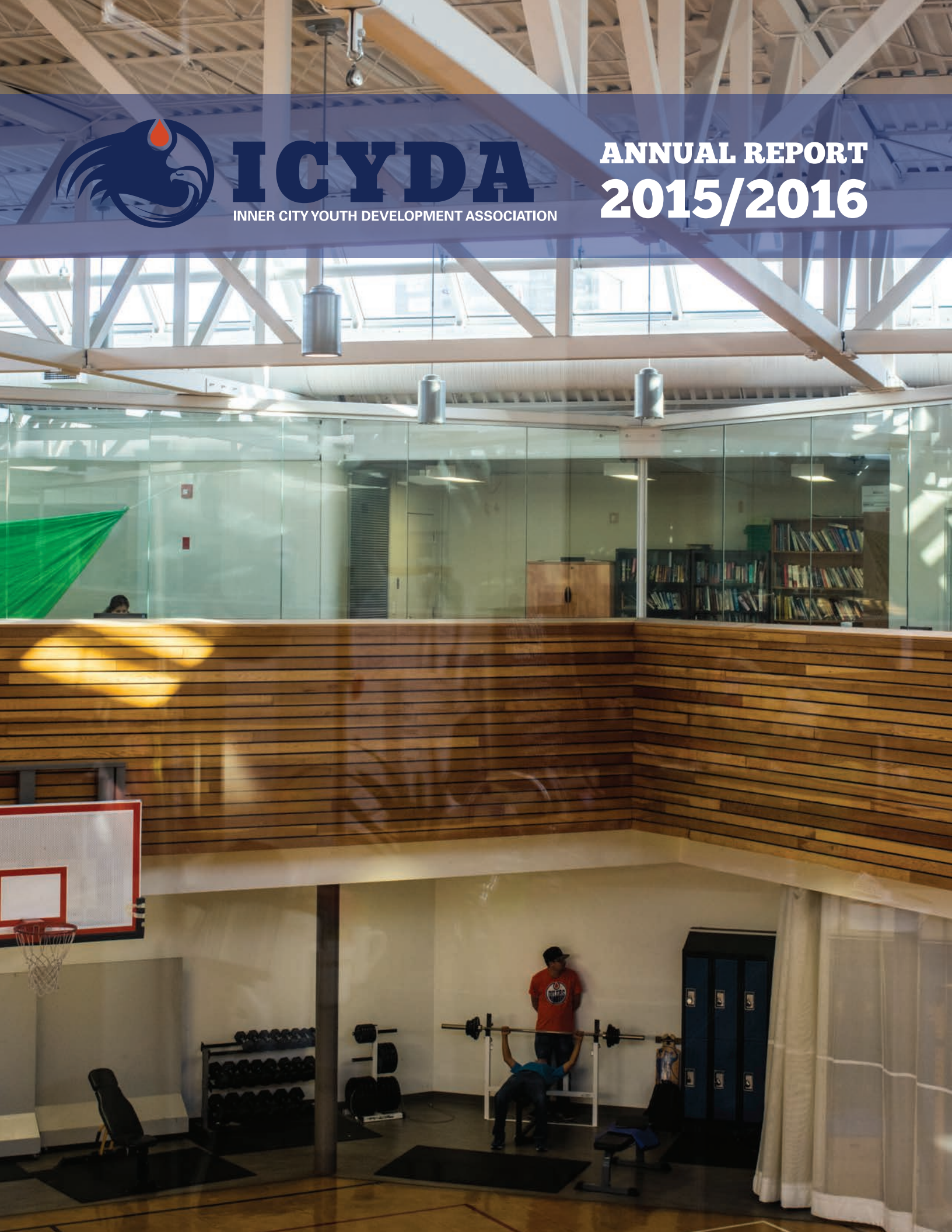




ICYDA
INNER CITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL REPORT
2015/2016**



A Message From The Directors'



This year marks our 26th year programming for Edmonton's most vulnerable youth. The practice, breadth and technological base of our programming has kept pace with the changes in our society. Our program philosophy of narrative development through the arts and multiliteracies reinforced with a strength based approach to academic studies in Inner City High School still underpins our work. The wrap around nature of our programming has deepened, broadened and kept technologically apace with the changes in our society.

Our direction is pointed by the needs of the youth in our programs and has broadened to meet their needs. We respect the resiliency of those we serve, their strength and courage as they struggle to overcome barriers such as lack

of basic resources, homelessness, and desperation. Their strength keeps us moving forward.

We appreciate and respect the collective efforts of our staff and Board as we work together to provide arts and academic programming for Edmonton's high risk youth. Our collective response to the needs of our youth as they struggle to make positive changes in their lives are detailed in the pages that follow.

Joe

Alexina

Board of Directors

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

PRESIDENT

Murray Goodwin, M.A., B.S.W

VICE PRESIDENT

Roisin McCabe, M.A

TREASURER

Pei San Chan, B.Com. CPA, CA.

DIRECTOR

Tram Le, B.A. (Econ.), CPA, CMA

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Joan Shaben B.A. (Econ), DC

DIRECTOR

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

DIRECTOR

Doug MacLennan, CPA, CA. CIA

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Alexina Dalgetty, MFA

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Joe Cloutier, PhD.



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OUR VISION

Our vision is to provide Edmonton's high risk 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.

Organizational Overview

Inner City Youth Development Association (ICYDA) has offered programming to Edmonton's youth at risk since 1986.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide Edmonton's high risk youth with preventative, educational programs that promote and facilitate independence and responsibility in those we serve, empowering them with their own desires to become active, constructive, caring members of the community.

VALUES

ICYDA Programming is based on the values of trust, respect, cooperation, and non-violence.

TRUST

ICYDA staff members are committed to entering into trusting relationships with the youth in our programs. Youth are accepted for who they are and trusted that they want to create positive change in their lives.

RESPECT

ICYDA staff members respect the self determination of young people and are committed to building relationships built on respect but at the same time realize that respect from youth, who are naturally wary and often emotionally wounded, must be earned.

COOPERATION

ICYDA staff members are committed to developing relationships built on cooperation. In this context cooperation means that youth have a voice, wherever possible, in the creation, structure, and operation of ICYDA programs.

NON VIOLENCE

ICYDA staff members are committed to developing and facilitating non violent relationships in every aspect of the agency's operations. Violence, in this sense, is not restricted to physical acts of violence but includes verbal exchanges and the structural violence of agency policies and practices.





Demographics

The 314 youth we served in our 2015/2016 program year were usually without parental support, often in crisis, and from a variety of backgrounds. The following demographics profiled our client base (and change little from year to year):

Our demographics paint a picture of the youth who access our programs. It is also a similar background to many of the inmates in our provincial jails and federal penitentiaries.

10% lived in group homes

90% lacked basic resources

90% were without parental support

85-90% were of Aboriginal heritage

85% lived in unsafe or unstable housing and would fit the official definition of homelessness

21% were completely homeless when they first registered with us; sleeping in homeless shelters, bus shelters and anywhere else they could lay their head

25 youth were placed in group homes by our youth and social workers

THE NEED FOR OUR PROGRAM

Our programming has evolved and adapted in a direction that the youth have pointed us. The issues that emerge in our work with youth are problems for our society. When youth fall through the cracks, and are unable to participate in our society in constructive and meaningful ways they do so in destructive ways. The low literacy rate among inmates in our jails is well known. The lack of skills, unemployment, and poverty, create a dependent population. When desperation becomes part of this tragedy, abuse and criminal activity are often the result. The result for society is a great loss of human potential and the creation of a dependent population; thereby, incurring enormous financial and social costs for the community. ICYDA programming facilitates the transition of inner city and other high risk youth into contributing members of society.





The Year in Review

THE YOUTH SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Inner City Youth Support Program grew out of the realization that the youth who come to our programs were lacking in basic resources. They wanted to make changes in their lives but lacked the resources, attitudes, and skills to make the necessary changes. How can you go to a program, school or work, without bus tickets, regular meals, clothing, and a regular schedule? The Youth Support Program was established to address these needs. This past year some of the resources and counselling we provided to the 314 youth we served are detailed below:

RESOURCE	QUANTITY
Breakfasts served	4,472
Lunches served	5,480
Suppers served	1,493
Bus Passes provided	342
Bus tickets provided	8,560
Housing Referrals	90
Other Crisis referrals	84
Completed Suicide Safety Plans	25
Visits by public health nurses	14
Grocery cards provided (from \$20-\$50)	107
Grocery Bags provided	121
Pregnant and parenting program for youth. Number of classes	29

The distribution of these resources give an indication of the desperate circumstances faced by the youth and the comprehensive and preventative nature of Inner City Youth Development Association (ICYDA) programming.

IN THE PAST YEAR OF THE YOUTH WHO REGISTERED IN OUR PROGRAM:

21% were homeless when they first registered with us; sleeping in homeless shelters, bus shelters and anywhere else they could lay their head

25 youth were placed in group homes by our Youth and Social Worker

25 youth completed suicide safety plans with one of our Youth Support or Social Workers

IN THE 2015/2016 PROGRAM YEAR OUR YOUTH SUPPORT/COURT WORKER KEPT YOUTH FROM INCARCERATION IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- Helping youth clear 67 warrants for their arrest
- Through 240 contacts with court legal services
- Through contacts with 86 probation officers
- By supervising 215 community service hours
- By making 45 court appearances in support of youth



OVER THE YEAR YOUTH WERE ENGAGED IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- Daily talking circles that promote discussion of personal and social issues
- Digital Arts: graphic arts and music creation
- Informal counselling
- Breakfast, lunch, and supper
- Popular Theatre workshops and presentations exploring personal and social issues
- Regular visits by the public health nurses resulted in youth being provided with information, vaccinations, and referrals.
- Non violent resolution of conflict
- Role playing exercises offered on a regular basis
- Action plans and Career planning
- Housing and financial referrals are made on an ongoing basis.
- Circles with our Cree Elder
- Addictions circles and counselling
- Capacity Building through leadership opportunities
- Aboriginal cultural activities and presentations

IN THE PAST YEAR:

- Youth accessed, with the support of our youth support workers, emergency supports, assistance in obtaining identification documents, groceries, and transportation.
- Youth were encouraged to take leadership roles and act as facilitators in group activities whenever possible
- Several youth worked with community artists and professionals to create works that helped develop their skills and built capacities that allowed them to lead arts based activities throughout the year.
- The Edmonton Oilers hockey team catered a Christmas Dinner for the youth, interacted with them throughout the afternoon and gave each youth a \$50 gift card for Christmas.

When discussing the results of a recent national survey of youth programming and how it aligned with ICYDA programming researchers stated “we didn’t find another gem like this one” in all of our research.

THE PROGRAMMING ABOVE RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME	MEASURE
Youth respond to crisis in increasingly more constructive ways	63%
Youth display improved conflict resolution skills	72%
Youth have increased respect for self and others	76%
Youth have increased awareness of public health issues	71%
Youth have increased ability to analyze personal and social issues	67%
Youth have increased ability to articulate personal and social issues	67%
Youth are introduced to technology that was previously unavailable to them	85%
Youth are able to complete projects using digital images and the new media for personal and in some cases social analysis	78%
In daily circles youth become actively involved in decision making	69%
Youth develop an awareness of their social situation and work to change it	71%
Youth display increased stability in their lives	63%
Youth begin to act cooperatively in Inner City programs and in relations with their peers	78%
Youth become interested in and pursue opportunities in education and career planning	71%



Programs Offered



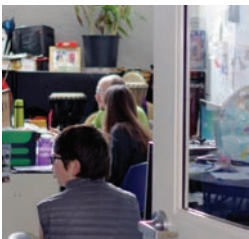
YOUTH SUPPORT PROGRAM

Inner City Youth Support Program provides youth with the tools, attitudes, and resources that they need to change their lives. From popular theatre to bus tickets this program makes it possible for youth to succeed. The Youth Support Program provides counselling to repair damaged lives, meals to feed hungry youth, transportation when needed, housing referrals, and other preventative programming.



OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Outreach Program ran Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The program serves youth who are involved in other ICYDA programs and from the community. Sports, graphic arts, music creation and recording, digital photography and digital video are offered through workshops and open access programming. Attendance averaged at 8-15 youth. Supper is provided each night.



INNER CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Inner City High School is an independent senior high school accredited by Alberta Education. The success of Inner City High 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 20 years of providing educational programming for Edmonton's marginalized urban youth that we must create the conditions for pedagogy to take place through our wrap around programming before academic studies can begin. Many youth carry years of unsuccessful experiences, lack of support, lack of resources and have long since given up on school. They require encouragement, small successes, flexibility, understanding and respect.

The purpose of the Youth Support Program is to introduce Edmonton's marginalized urban 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 Edmonton's high risk youth to earn a high school diploma, pursue post-secondary education and/or full time employment; as a result, prevent their return to a life on the street.

We offer a flexible but structured environment with small classes that average between 4 and 8 students with a teacher and a teacher aid, small group and one-on-one support. Without this support many youth 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."

We have an active partnership with the Journeys Cultural Exchange Program which pairs university students with youth from our programs in an ongoing cultural exchange and analysis of their cultural realities. This past year we served 314 youth many of whom, as the outcome data shows, added a degree of stability to their lives, developed plans and hope for the future. Eight students graduated with academic high school diplomas which make it possible for them to pursue post-secondary education.



EDUCATION AND THE VIRTUAL WORLD

This past year seven staff members working through avatars participated in a virtual world project that transported them through time to an Alberta pre-contact virtual environment where they experienced the impact of colonization, residential schools and the "Sixties Scoop" on Canada's indigenous population. The latent impact of the colonial and residential school experiences on Edmonton's high risk youth was the focus of this project. A secondary focus was to create a deeper understanding of the colonial process among our staff members. The project concluded with an exploration of ways our staff could contribute to a more hopeful future for the Aboriginal youth who come to our programs.





Recognition of Success

- One of the finalists for Edmonton’s Smart City Award (1998)
- Subject of the National Film Board/Lorna Thomas Productions’ video *Beating The Streets* (1998)
- Recognized in the City Of Edmonton’s Salute To Excellence (1999)
- Recognized by the University of Alberta with an Alumni Award (2000)
- Rotary Integrity Award, Edmonton Strathcona Rotary Club, (2002)
- Presented with the Alberta Centennial Medal (2005)
- Selected as Edmonton Oilers Legacy Project (2007) (The Oilers Legacy Project includes limited support up to 2020 for the Inner City Youth Development Association.)
- 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)

Helping Youth
Help Themselves

Looking Ahead to 2016/17

At a time when the term inner city is synonymous with poverty, crime and violence, this report shows that there is, as one might expect, a great need for basic resources. However, there is also a great resource of untapped human potential. Intelligent, marginalized, urban youth labeled high risk often just need an opportunity to escape the cycle of poverty and desperation they are caught in. Our Association was created to provide youth with opportunities to make positive changes in their lives. We will continue in that direction and ensure that our staff are working collaboratively with the same goals, mission should be focused, with respect, and with understanding. We thank our donors and the community support we receive for helping us make youth opportunities and success possible.





Wraparound Programming and Community Support

The Inner City Youth Support Program provides the resources and supports that bridge to Inner City High School. The wrap around component to our programming and the resources that make it possible for youth to succeed in Inner City High School are dependent on community support for the Youth Support Program. The Inner City Youth Support Program provides the resources and supports that bridge to Inner City High School. The wrap around component to our programming and the resources that make it possible for youth to succeed in Inner City High School are dependent on community support for the Youth Support Program.

Nurturing the potential of Edmonton's high risk youth makes it possible for many youth to leave the street behind, make positive changes in their life direction and become contributing members of society. In 2015/16 the following organizations and individual donors recognized the human, social and economic value in nurturing the potential of Edmonton's high risk youth.

Thank you to the Allen Family, the Krishan Joshee Family, the many supporters of our Annual Superhero Fun Run, and many other individual donors and volunteers.

THE CITY OF EDMONTON

Thank you to The City of Edmonton for their long standing support of the Inner City Youth Support Program.



GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA CULTURE & TOURISM

We have benefited from the support Alberta Culture's Community Initiatives Program at critical times in our history and this past year was no exception.



THE CITY OF EDMONTON

Thank you to The Butler and Melton Foundations for their support of our Elder and addictions programming.



EDMONTON OILERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Thank you to the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation for their commitment to Edmonton's marginalized urban youth, for their ongoing support of the Inner City Youth Development Association and for their deep commitment to the betterment of our society.



THE STOLLERY FOUNDATION

The Stollery Foundation's support was instrumental in preventing incarceration for several youth.



SUPERHERO FUN RUN

We thank all the supporters of our annual Superhero Fun Run. This event has raised fun and funds for our programs.



THE GANDHI FOUNDATION

The Gandhi Foundation has consistently supported our work with Edmonton's high risk youth.





Financial Report 2015/2016

REVENUES

Alberta Education	2,364,449
Edmonton Oiler Community Foundation	155,745
Stollery Foundation	40,333
Butler Family Foundation	13,750
Melton Foundation	13,750
Other Foundations	28,597
City of Edmonton, Community Services	78,991
Fee For Service	37,062
Donations	35,326
Federal and other Provincial Grants	33,333
Other	8,850
Amortization	5,617
Total Revenue	2,815,803

EXPENSES

Expenses	Youth Support Program
Wages and Benefits	316,259
Direct Client Expenses	70,006
Facility	22,164
Trans & Ins	44,462
Professional Fees	4,768
Total Expenses	457,659

Expenses	Inner City High School
Wages and Benefits	1,973,302
Program Expenses	236,612
Facility	109,531
Professional Development	10,133
Professional Fees	14,897
Total Expenses	2,344,475

TOTAL REVENUE **2,815,803**

Inner City High Expenses	2,344,475
Youth Support Expenses	457,659
Amortization	13,429
Total Expenditures	2,815,563
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	240



Helping Youth Help Themselves



ICYDA
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