

A Tamarack Institute Webinar

WHEN RESIDENTS LEAD: CREATING CHANGE BY COMING TOGETHER LOCALLY

*With Laura Cunningham-Shpeley, Jon Morgan
and Rak Prasad*



Gratitude & Acknowledgement

We begin this webinar by acknowledging that we are meeting on Indigenous land. As settlers, this recognition of the contributions and historic importance of Indigenous peoples must be clearly and overtly connected to our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities.

As part of our commitment to Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Process, we recognize the importance of land recognitions as one small way of honouring and demonstrating respect for the diverse histories and cultures of all First Nations people.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **We've got you covered** - You will receive a full recording of the call, the slides as well as a collection of links & resources
- **Join the conversation** - Use the Q&A panel or chat box on your Zoom client to submit and up-vote for questions you'd like us to discuss
- **Technical Support** - You can use the chat panel to ask for technical support throughout the webinar



Laura Cunningham-Shpeley,
*Executive Director, Edmonton
Federation of Community Leagues*



Jon Morgan,
*Board Member,
Edmonton Federation of Community
Leagues
President,
Heritage Point League*



Rak Prasad,
*President,
Newton Community League*



Community Leagues of Edmonton

When Residents Lead by
Coming Together Locally

1. What are Community Leagues?

1. Case Studies

1. Q & A



What is a League?

- A group of neighbourhood people who join up to make their neighbourhood *better*
- Open to *all* residents
- A League is *not* a neighbourhood association, homeowner's association or other type of organization

Part of how Edmonton was built



FIRST COMMUNITY LEAGUE HALL
KING EDWARD PARK 1923



Democratic structure

- Membership based on geography (neighbours)
- Volunteer-run boards
- Registered as not for profit organization
- Accountable to bylaws, Societies Act of Alberta, Tripartite agreement, EFCL Code of Ethics and one of their funders – the City of Edmonton
- Accountable to membership

Role of the Municipality

City policy enables:

- Space (tax-free land in every neighbourhood) provided for Leagues (halls, amenities)
- Money (seed grant to form, yearly operational grant)
- Support (City staff plus funding EFCL)
- Codified structures (Tripartite, relationship, engagement)

What Do Leagues Do?

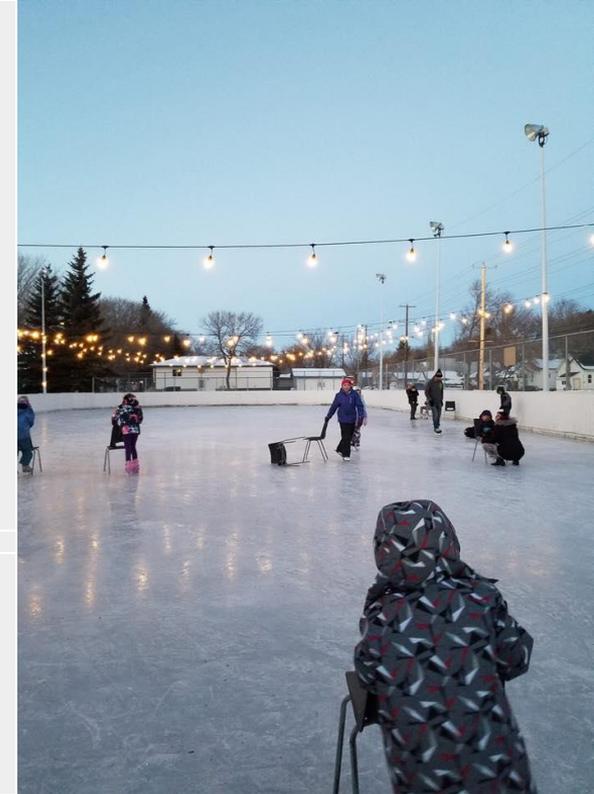
#1

Bring Neighbours Together



#2

Recreation and Programming



Oliver Park in #YEG is now home to the Oliver Community Pantry. The structure was anonymously donated for community members to leave or take non-perishable food items and other needs. @OCLYEG Vice President Luwam Kiflemariam showed me the pantry and shared the story behind it.



#3

Develop and Maintain Amenities

A photograph of a basketball court with several people. One person in a white tank top is jumping for a shot. A person in a red hoodie is sitting on the ground in the foreground. A basketball hoop is visible in the background.

46

**BASKETBALL
COURTS**

A photograph of a playground with several children. One child is climbing a wooden structure, while others are sitting on a bench or playing nearby.

250

PLAYGROUNDS

A photograph of a community garden. A young child is sitting on a wooden stool, looking at plants in a raised garden bed. The garden is filled with various vegetables and flowers.

57

**COMMUNITY
GARDENS**

A photograph of a woman and a young girl playing in a water spray park. The woman is crouching down, and the girl is standing next to her, both enjoying the water spray.

55

**WATER
SPRAY PARKS**



126

COMMUNITY
HALLS



24

OUTDOOR
TENNIS COURTS



119

OUTDOOR
SKATING RINKS



10 YEAR VENTURE

Completed under budget
with multiple partners



#4

Represent Community Interests

- Grassroots democracy
- Citizen engagement
- Local solutions



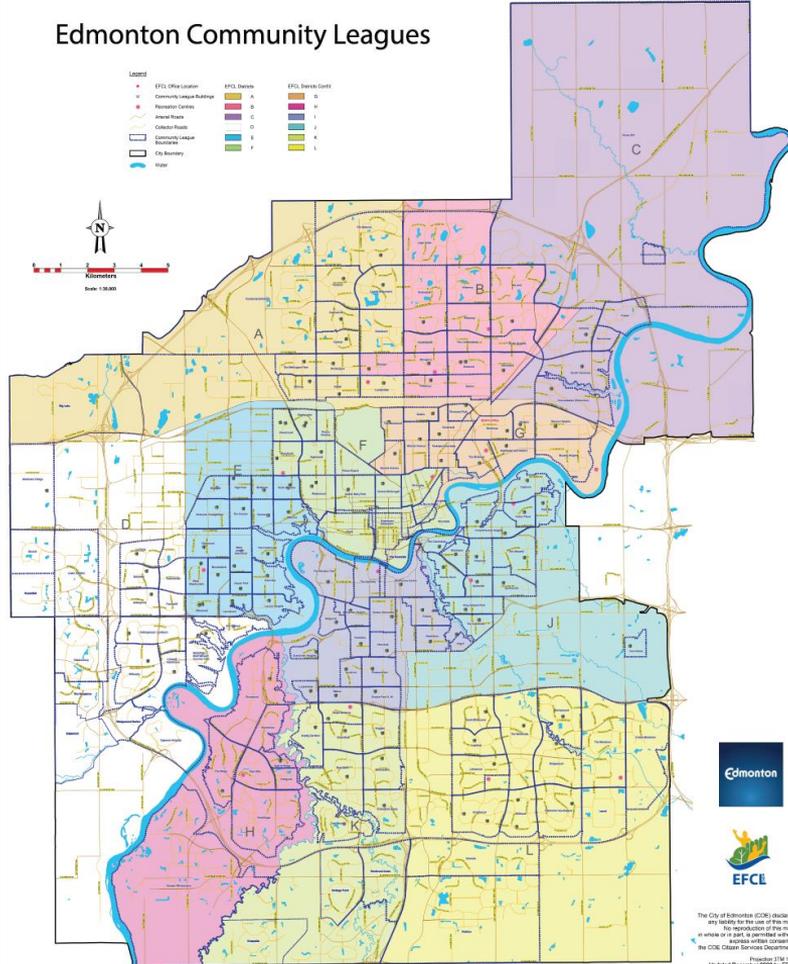
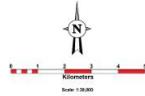
5 Ingredients of the Movement

1. Use of parkland by citizen groups
1. Ownership of community assets
1. Accountability structures
1. City grants
1. Citizen led

Edmonton Community Leagues

LEGEND

• EFCL Office Location	EFCL District A	EFCL District G
□ Edmonton League Strategic Plan	EFCL District B	EFCL District H
• Regional Centre	EFCL District C	EFCL District I
• Major Road	EFCL District D	EFCL District J
• Collector Road	EFCL District E	EFCL District K
□ Community League	EFCL District F	EFCL District L
□ City Boundary	EFCL District M	EFCL District N
• Water		



The City of Edmonton (COE) assumes no liability for the use of this map. The reproduction of this map, in whole or in part, is prohibited without the written consent of the COE, City of Edmonton.

Production: 2014
 Updated December 2024 by EFCL
 Date: 2024-12-19
 © 2024 EFCL



Role of the EFCL

102 Years of
Connecting
Edmonton's
Leagues
Est. 1921

162 Community Leagues

÷

12 Districts

=

12 District Directors

=

1 EFCL Board

↓

EFCL
Staff



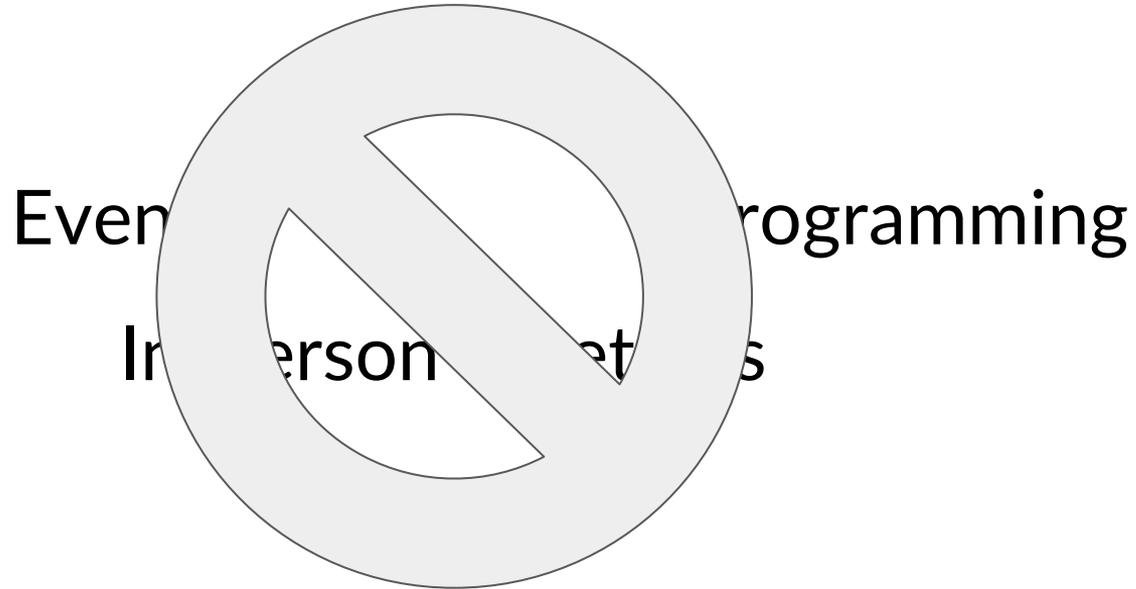
CASE STUDY:

Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community



CASE STUDY # 1: Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community

March 2020



CASE STUDY:

Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community

How can we help?

CASE STUDY:

Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community

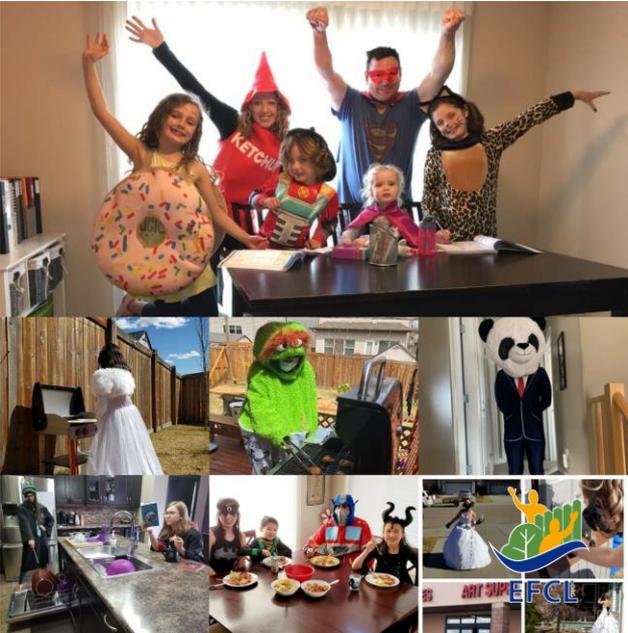
Three things of note:

1. A need to maintain connection
2. Tangible, immediate needs
3. A path back to recovery when COVID was behind us

CASE STUDY:

Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community

Connection Through Isolation



CASE STUDY:

Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community

Meeting the needs of Community



CASE STUDY:

Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community



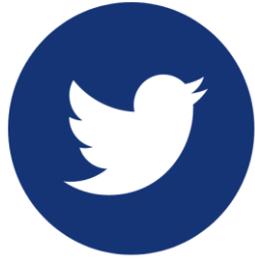
CASE STUDY:

Responding to the Changing Needs of a Community

Post COVID: Return to New Normal







@efcl



facebook.com/theEFCL



@theEFCL

efcl.org

QUESTIONS?

ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WHEN COMMUNITY & MUNICIPALITIES MEET IN THE MIDDLE

JUNE 6-8, 2023 | ST. ALBERT, ALBERTA

 **TAMARACK**
INSTITUTE

