



**ACTION FOR HEALTHY  
COMMUNITIES**

People and Communities in Action

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2021–2022**

ECRRC COVID-19 Vaccine Pop-up Clinic, July 2021

# BOARD CHAIR MESSAGE

John Alexander



To all involved with Action for Healthy Communities (AHC), I'd like to thank you on behalf of the AHC Board of Directors. 2021/22 was another challenging year, both locally and globally. I couldn't be prouder of everyone involved with AHC, both our supporters and those we support, for continuing to work with our organization to build more robust and healthy communities. We're incredibly grateful to all with whom we work – without you, our organization wouldn't exist.

Through difficult times have come perseverance and growth. Action for Healthy Communities, led by its exceptionally gifted employees, has continued to lead the way in support of our organization's goals, which is to support the individuals and families we serve, particularly those who have recently arrived in Canada and Northern Alberta. If AHC can play a small part in your contributions to your colleagues, neighbours, schools, workplaces and places of worship, we consider ourselves incredibly grateful for the opportunity and thank you for welcoming us into your life.

I mentioned in December during a virtual year-end celebration that I was specifically proud that Action for Healthy Communities was chosen to shepherd nearly \$2 million of government funding, on behalf of over 10 local charities, which was intended to provide emergency pandemic-related relief to those in need. Funding aside, to be entrusted with that level of responsibility, and to see our team take efficient and effective action to ensure these funds were used in an impactful way, makes my colleagues and I incredibly proud.

I will be stepping down as Board Chair following the 2021/22 AGM, becoming past chair. Next year, I will still be around to continue to serve this organization that I have grown to love over nearly five years on the AHC Board. To our Executive Director, Aftab Khan, and his talented team – thank you. To our funders, volunteers, community colleagues, and partner organizations – thank you. To my fellow board members – thank you. And to those we serve in the community – it is our privilege and honour to work alongside you, and we're incredibly grateful you continue to give us the opportunity to do so. To growth, happiness, and prosperity in the year to come.

All the best,

John Alexander

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Aftab Khan



This year has been the most challenging and complex year in the history of our organization. A global pandemic was on its peak impacting the entire world required new ways of conducting business and our personal lives. There were a lot of uncertainties and no clear pathways to move forward as we all struggled to learn to work and live in a new reality.

AHC was indeed fortunate to be able to continue providing required support and services to our patrons and program participants, thanks to our funders, supporters and partners. As required, we developed safety plans and closed our offices multiple times to follow the public health guidelines but we quickly determined how best to provide services through alternative means, we developed multiple communication outlets, more frequently interacted with our staff, surveyed our client's and addressed a multitude of concerns in a constantly changing environment on a daily basis.

The AHC Staff was remarkable to rise to the challenge. Adaptability, flexibility and resiliency became the norm and our support and services not only continued in these circumstances but we added a lot of new supports and services for the COVID-affected individuals and their families. Although, the safety protocols shifted quite frequently to accommodate client needs we consistently went above targets in all areas of our support. We engaged with multiple new stakeholders and developed new partnerships which have increased our clients as well as a resource base to expand our support in Northern Alberta including Small Towns.

The development and implementation of Tech-based solutions to reach out to our clientele and provide required support followed by a hybrid mode of Implementation was an invaluable approach for future growth and capacity of the AHC. A continued focus on digital transformation as a priority over the next few years will address the growing demand for information to help us become more responsive and achieve our mission.

I have had the great fortune of working with staff, board of directors, community colleagues, volunteers and funders who care deeply about our target populations including newcomers and are willing to do the required work to ensure these individuals and families do build a future to fully participate in the society, which in turn, strengthens our communities and our country.

I feel great pride over what AHC Alberta has achieved during the last couple of years, especially in 2021.

Thank you to all for allowing me the honour to be a part of AHC Alberta.



# AHC OVERVIEW

## OUR MISSION

AHC works with all people but especially with marginalized and disadvantaged individuals and communities, to build their capacity to address the determinants of wellbeing and prosperity.

## OUR VISION

Active individuals and groups committed to using their skills, knowledge, culture and values to build a stronger and healthier society.





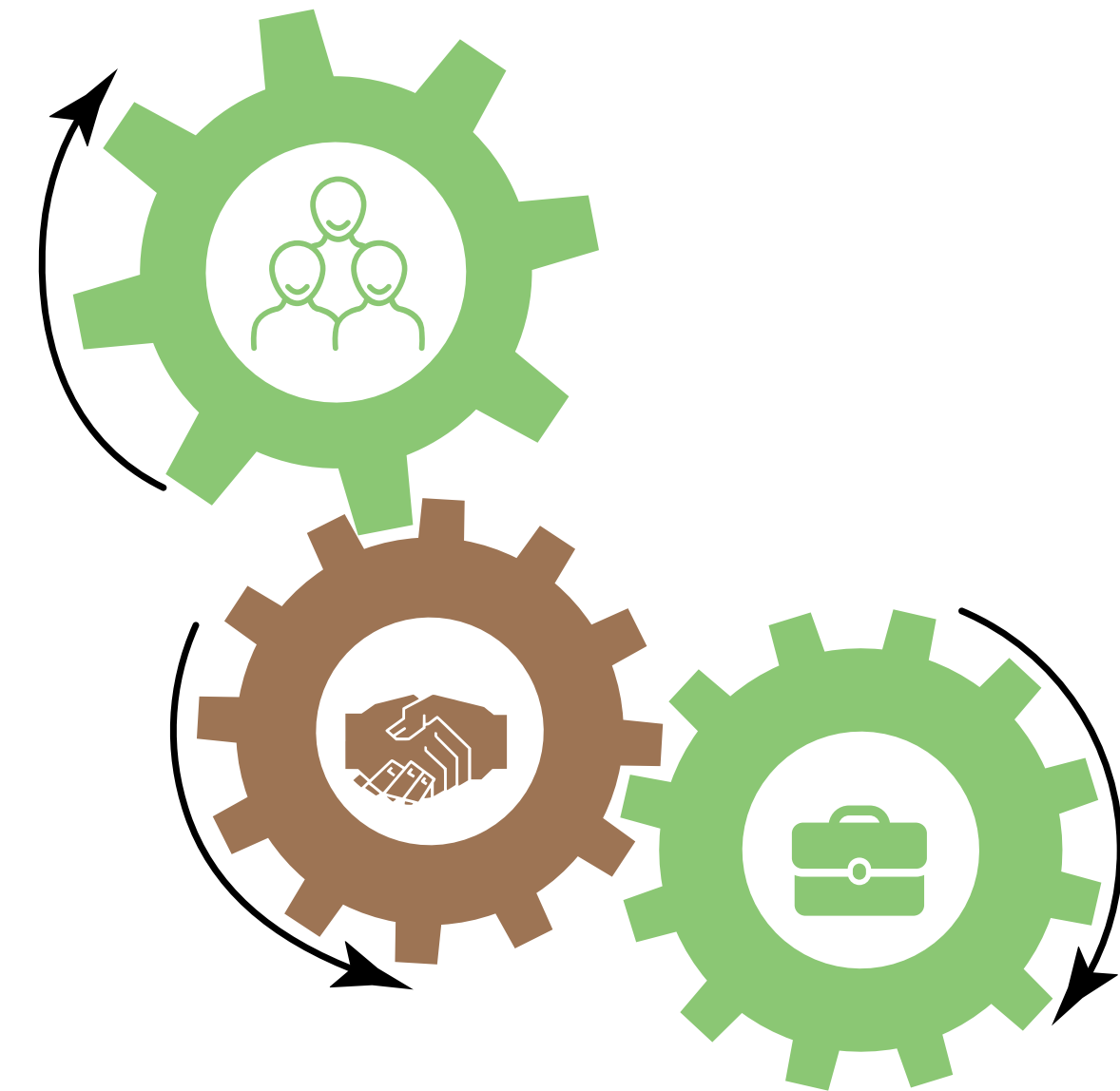
# AHC OVERVIEW

**15,000+ CLIENTS SERVED**

**150+ PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS**

**80+ PROGRAM SITES**

**30+ LANGUAGES SPOKEN**



# AHC STRATEGIC PLAN 2022–2026

The Board of Directors and Staff of AHC developed the updated strategic plan through several planning sessions. The plan was developed to ensure the organization leverages its strengths and opportunities while mitigating its weaknesses and threats.

AHC's Strategic Plan is and will continue to be used as a tool for: continuous planning, program management and evaluation, and communication. This is an updated working version of the Society's Plan for the next 5 years (2022-2026). It will be reviewed and updated by the Board of Directors and staff annually to reflect and guide the evolution of AHC's programs.



**Scan the QR code to access our  
updated strategic plan or visit  
[a4hc.ca/publications](https://a4hc.ca/publications)**



# OUR REGIONAL OFFICES



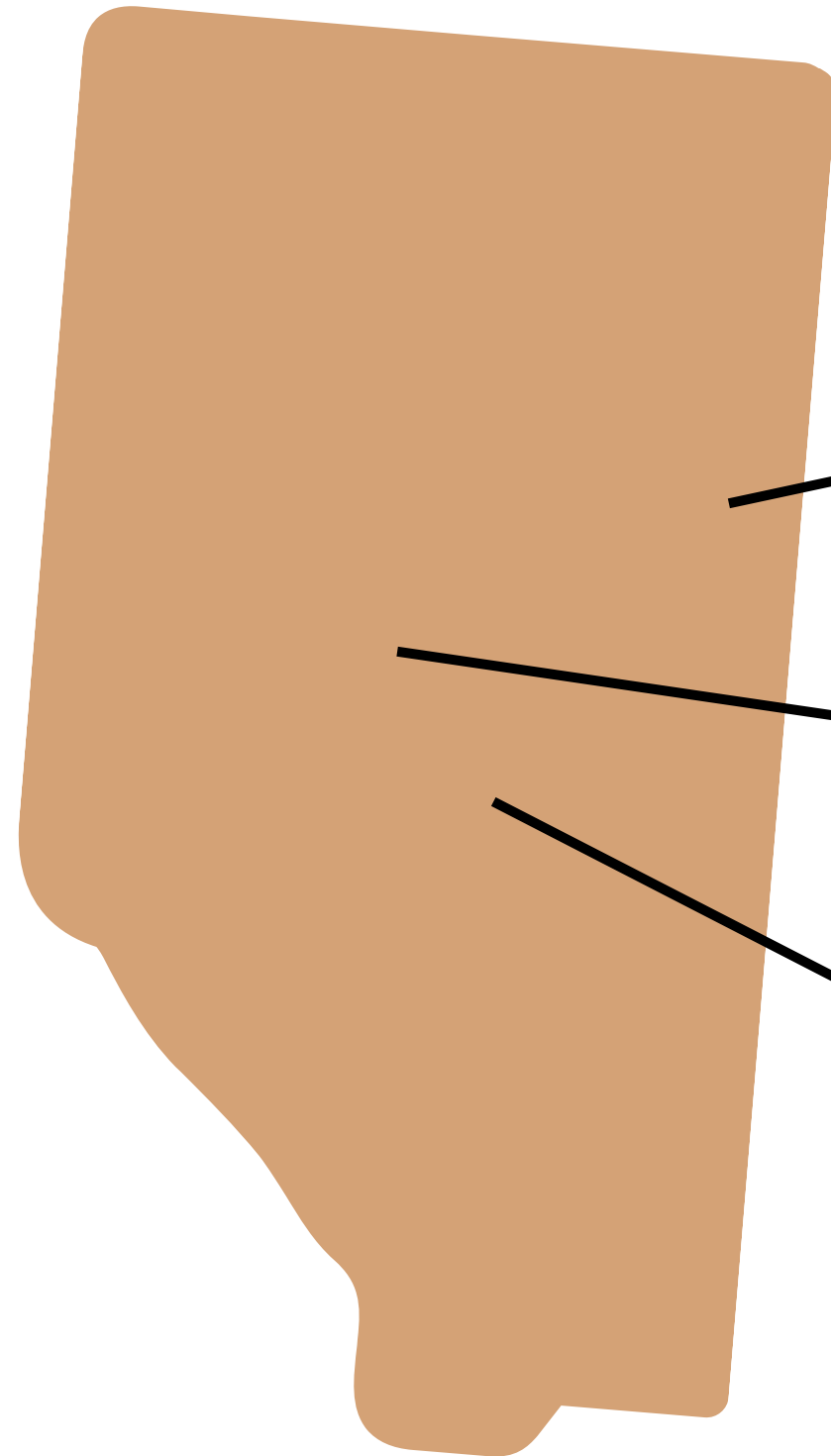
## AHC Main Office

#100 10578 113 Street NW  
Edmonton, AB T5H 3H5





# OUR REGIONAL OFFICES



## **Lakeland Region**

Located in the Community Futures  
Lakeland, 5010 50 Ave, Bonnyville, AB  
T9N 2J4



## **Leduc and Beaumont Region**

Located in the Light House co-working space  
Suite 100, 4810 50th Avenue, Leduc, AB T9E 6X9



## **Camrose and Battle River Region**

Located in the Camrose Family Resource Centre Association  
4823 51 St, Camrose, AB T4V 1R9





# AHC SPECIAL INITIATIVES



# **EDMONTON COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE COLLABORATIVE (ECRRC)**

Between March 1 to December 31, 2021, AHC collaborated with 12 other local agencies to form the Edmonton COVID-19 Rapid Response Collaborative (ECRRC), funded by the Government of Alberta.

During the 9-month period, the ECRRC supported Edmontonians affected by COVID-19 with several supports, including:





# EDMONTON COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE COLLABORATIVE

- Hotline number, offering supports in over 30 languages
- Culturally and health appropriate food hampers
- Financial support (rent, mortgage, bills)
- Individual and group mental health sessions
- Cultural mental health workshops
- COVID-19 vaccine pop-up clinics
- Information sessions offered in 9 different languages





# ECRRC Achievements between March–December 2021



**2674**

Household members supported

**1256**

Culturally and Health appropriate hampers delivered

**537**

Financial support (Rent, Mortgage, Bills)

**221**

Individual Mental Health and Culturally relevant sessions



# ECRRC Achievements between March–December 2021



**18**

Pop-up clinics: Shots, Information, Food Support

**579**

Shots (1st and 2nd doses)

**1151**

Attendants to clinics

**11**

Information sessions in 9 different languages: AIMGA, PCN



# **EDMONTON NEWCOMER ZONAL OUTREACH (ENZO)**

ENZO is a collaboration of Settlement Sector Agencies in Edmonton, working together under the Urban System Approches Initiatives of IRCC to reach out and connect more newcomers to free anglophone and francophone settlement services in Edmonton.

For more information call the NewcomerLinkline:  
1-833-738-7727





# **AHC PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**



# NEW PROGRAMS AT AHC!

## P.A.S.S PROGRAM

Participating in Sports, Arts, and Society (PASS) is a project aimed to identify and address barriers that prevent racialized youth (including newcomers) from accessing sport activities.

This goal is reached by implementing different activities and events such as Community Information Sessions (CIS), introduction to new sports events, anti-racism education, and a forum of stakeholders. Learn more by visiting: [a4hc.ca/children-youth](http://a4hc.ca/children-youth)





# NEW PROGRAMS AT AHC!

## PATHWAYS TO STEM FOR RACIALIZED IMMIGRANT GIRLS

This project is funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) to support a feminist response by understanding and addressing the barriers and challenges that prevent racialized immigrant women from exploring STEM fields as potential careers. The goal of this STEM project is to increase awareness and retention of racialized Immigrant women in STEM degrees and occupations while addressing gender stereotypes. Action for Healthy Communities in partnership with Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science, and Technology (WISEST) at the University of Alberta will look to identify the gaps and challenges faced by racialized immigrant women and consolidate this information to create strategies and interventions for families and youth to drive change and challenge standard beliefs and by expanding the social networks of underrepresented youth and facilitating discussions on the challenges women face in various sectors starting in Edmonton and expanding into new geographic locations across Alberta

Learn more by visiting: [a4hc.ca/children-youth](https://a4hc.ca/children-youth)





# SETTLEMENT & INTEGRATION PROGRAM



**3260**

Total number of Settlement and Integration clients supported during the fiscal year

**2400**

Total number of unique clients for all program components

**6690**

Total number of one-on-one sessions



# SETTLEMENT & INTEGRATION PROGRAM



**1200**

Total number of tax clinic clients served

**330**

Total number of group workshop participants

**166**

Workshops and group session held



# HEALTHY CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM



**921**

Total number of youth in Newcomer Youth and HACK during fiscal year

**190**

Total students in in-school program (Elementary, Junior and High school)

**187**

Total number of participants in youth club activities



# HEALTHY CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM



"The Youth Entrepreneurship program taught me how to start a business, what skills you need to start a business, what resources you need, how to be successful and social media skills."

- Hana Sadek Ali, Youth Business Training Program



## 94

Number of Spring Break and Summer Camp participants

## 113

Number of Youth Ready to Work and Youth Entrepreneurship participants



# HEALTHY CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM



**45**

Total number of youth leadership participants

**87**

Number of students engaged in the Learning Table (academic support)

**153**

Total number of participants in the HACK program



# RURAL SMALL CENTRES PROGRAM



6

Total number of school divisions served

12

Total number of communities supported



# RURAL SMALL CENTRES PROGRAM



26

Total number of schools served in Camrose, Lakeland area, Leduc and Beaumont

158

Total number of Rural Small Centres clients served during the fiscal year



# EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS PROGRAM



Interacting with the Employment Supports team gave Darmi a safe space to practice her English skills, connect with employers, and gain confidence. After taking part in the Rogers Place hiring event, Darmi was hired as a cook, a job that gave her the opportunity to learn and get experience.

- Darmi Guyo, Employment supports client



## 512

Total number of 1-on-1 virtual personalized supports offered during the fiscal year

## 322

Total number of clients provided with employment supports

## 190

Total number of participants in employment programs (group activities and events)



# ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUPPORTS AND I.M.P.A.C.T PROGRAM



**2494**

Total number of hours business consultants provided to entrepreneurs

**2063**

Total number of consultation sessions provided to entrepreneurs

**94**

Total number of entrepreneurs engaged



# ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUPPORTS AND I.M.P.A.C.T PROGRAM



"Thanks to the enhanced supports offered by ESP, I recently completed a 3-year income statement model, complete with a sales forecast model by balloon type and typical upsell. Thank you AHC for all the unbelievable supports you offer to Entrepreneurs."

- Adriana Villareal, Owner of Boomballons Gift Shop



## 28

Total number of entrepreneurs engaged in the I.M.P.A.C.T Project

## 11

Number of facilitators, business consultants and business mentors



# ADULT LITERACY AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



**2885**

Total number of ALSD classroom hours

**984**

Total participants engaged in ALSD classes

**350**

Program participants who graduated during the year



# ADULT LITERACY AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



"I am a student of the Basic English for Work and Business offered by AHC. I am very satisfied with the class. Every new class, I understand better the importance of English in work and business. We have learned knowledge and skills such speaking in business meetings, speaking by phone, what a good resume, dress code, business etiquette, how to speak in public, delivering presentations for effective communication, how to have a good job interview, etc."

- Rolando Bolivar, Basic English for Work and Business student



## 485

Total number of students in English language classes

## 171

Total number of students in Digital Literacy (computer classes)



# ADULT LITERACY AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



**167**

Total number of students in Artificial Intelligence Literacy Club

**127**

Total number of students in Legal Literacy classes

**34**

Total number of students in Health Literacy Classes



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



**2980**

Total number of clients engaged in community development across all areas

**2032**

Total number of participants involved in multicultural gatherings (in-person and virtual)

**900**

Total number of participants engaged in community initiative groups

**Amhara Association**  
*Community Initiative*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



**780**

Total number of participants in leadership training/  
professional development

**162**

Total number of community meetings (In-person and virtual)

**36**

Total number of community initiative groups engaged

**Syrian Canadian Integration Centre**  
*Community Initiative*



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



"Despite COVID-19, Gurkha Warriors the SEED grant has allowed us to continue our indoor soccer program, and promote health and well-being of our youths. In addition, the SEED grant has helped to build the capacity of our youths through participation in various workshops."

**Gurkha Warriors Sports Club**  
*Community Initiative*

**26**

Total number of leadership training/  
professional development sessions held

**12**

Total number of multicultural  
gatherings (in-person and virtual)



# VOLUNTEER SUPPORTS



**160+**

volunteers and placement students



**10,000+**

hours of support





# VOLUNTEER SUPPORTS



"Volunteering as a front desk receptionist at Action for Healthy Communities was an invaluable experience. The organization represents a wonderful cultural nexus in Edmonton, and during my time there I had the privilege to interact with newcomers from around the world and dedicated staff from equally diverse backgrounds. It was a place to learn and grow as an effective communicator, and I am honoured to have had the opportunity to contribute even my small part to the important work being done at AHC."

- Elizabeth Quinn, Front Desk volunteer



"I have been volunteering with the AHC for two years. I really enjoy helping people in the community by completing their tax returns. The environment in the facility is also great, as volunteers and staff help each other, while having a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. AHC is striving for continuous improvement, hence the 2022 Tax Clinic was arranged more efficiently than last year, which made the tax filing process flawless."

- Vitalii Rudoi, Income Tax Clinic volunteer



# OUR FINANCIALS

| REVENUES                     | VALUES    |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Federal government grant     | 3,514,162 |
| Municipal government grant   | 2,173,484 |
| Other grants                 | 172,270   |
| Other revenue                | 172,077   |
| Casino revenues              | 61,583    |
| Provincial government grant  | 52,297    |
| Interest income              | 4,420     |
| Donations and fundraising    | 2,590     |
| Participants and memberships | 170       |
| Total Revenue                | 6,153,053 |



| EXPENSES                                                               | VALUES    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Salaries and wages + COVID support                                     | 4,766,092 |
| Rent and utilities                                                     | 356,773   |
| Professional fees, staff professional development & subcontracts       | 419,376   |
| Office supplies and materials, printing & copying                      | 195,490   |
| Amortization of tangible capital assets                                | 92,979    |
| Advertising and promotion                                              | 54,864    |
| Participant program expenses                                           | 47,401    |
| Telephone, fax and internet                                            | 35,938    |
| Volunteer                                                              | 25,333    |
| Travel, transportation and parking                                     | 20,013    |
| GST                                                                    | 19,813    |
| Fairs & community meetings                                             | 15,478    |
| Memberships                                                            | 2,859     |
| Interest and bank charges, insurance, rental equipment & miscellaneous | 5,961     |
| Excess over Revenues                                                   | 94,683    |
| Total Expenses                                                         | 6,153,053 |



# AHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021– 2022



**John Alexander**  
*Chair*



**Meghan Mackintosh**  
*Treasurer*



**Amanda Serra**  
*Secretary*



**Michael Beard**  
*Past Chair*



**Dr. William Wei**  
*Director*



**Brooks Hanewich**  
*Director*



**Colin Christensen**  
*Director*



**Zedingle Ghebremusse**  
*Director*



**Nikki Marchiel**  
*Director*



**Adana Mahase-Gibson**  
*Director*



# AHC TEAM

## **Executive Director**

Aftab Khan

## **Director of Programs**

Suzana Dumo

## **Senior Manager**

Sherry Park

## **Manager**

Lisa de Gara

Abdelmenan Suliman

Abdoulaye Barry

Abida Tahir

Adiki Puplampu

Ahmad Al-Shabani

Aisulu Andykadyrova

Ali Faour

Amalia Cameron

Amanda Liew

Amy Kim

Anane Dabala

Andrea Streisel

Basem Alabd Alrahim

Catherine Montero

Conan Wong

Elizabeth Ariaya

Fang Tong

Fariha Asif

Ingabe Gashayija

Javaid Hayat

Jereecah Dela Cruz

Jing Zu

Joelle Kacou

Keer Chol

Leah Stuparyk

Lida Arguello

Maria Lucila Mejia

Maria Vega

Mark Chaney

Mark Palma

Michelle Bautista

Michelle Luyimbazi

Nadine Moore

Nafiaa Alokla

Nebiyeleul A Habtu

Nelson Pereira

Nilton Romero

Oghenekevwe Dabor

Omar Al-abdullah

Palmira Gacia

Paola Shanks

Rahel Okbamichael

Reham Hamzah

Roaqia (Mina) Kazimian

Rola Chehayeb

Romi Khabra

Sarah Smith

Shazia Ambreen

Shelly Dunsford

Soliana Okbamichael

Suraj Khatiwada

Tabrina Rehman-stenz

Tripat Kaur

Tulin Sadouzai

Verna Fisher

Wendy Mah

Xiang (Edward) Li

Yanyu Zhou

Yasmin Hussein

Yawa Idi

Zeinab Abdelaziz

Zoila de Paz-Gendreau

Zubair Ahmed

# OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

## **Settlement & Integration**

Alberta Health Services  
Amity House  
University of Alberta  
Norquest College  
MacEwan University  
Penny Appeal Canada  
Christmas Bureau Edmonton  
Millwood Senior Association  
Nepal Heritage Society (Community Initiative)  
Edmonton Food Bank  
Islamic Family and Social Service Association (IFSA)  
Alberta Supports Center  
Edmonton Mennonite Center for Newcomers (EMCN),  
Career in Business Program

## **Healthy Children & Youth**

### **Newcomer Youth**

Edmonton Public School Board  
Edmonton Catholic School District  
Edmonton Public Library  
C5 Hub  
Commonwealth Games of Canada  
RBC Bank

Catholic Social Services (CSS)  
United Way  
Basically Babies  
Glenora Rotary Society  
Afghan Canadian Society  
Edmonton Afghan Charitable Society  
St. Francis LINC program  
Clareview Recreation Center LINC Program  
C5 Hub  
Millwood Senior Association  
Pakistan Canada Association of Edmonton Alberta

## **Healthy Active Community Kids (HACK)**

Athlone Edmonton Public School  
Inglewood Edmonton Public School  
Sherwood Edmonton Public School  
Alex Janvier Edmonton Public School  
Ross Sheppard Edmonton Public School  
St. Catherine Edmonton Catholic School  
Grovenor Community League  
North Glenora Community League  
Strathearne Community League  
Sherbrooke Community League  
Edmonton Public Library



# OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

## **Rural Alberta - Small Centres**

Alberta Health Services  
Battle River School Division  
Black Gold School Division  
Bonnyville Adult Learning (Portage College CALP)  
Camrose Adult Learning Council  
Camrose District Support Services (CDSS)  
Camrose Family Resource Centre  
Camrose Open Door Society  
Camrose Public Library  
Camrose Women's Shelter  
Camrose Wildlife Stewardship Society  
Central Alberta Community Legal Clinic  
Central Alberta Refugee Effort (CARE)  
Camrose Refugee Support Committee  
City of Camrose Community Services Department  
City of Edmonton  
Cold Lake Community Learning Centre

Elk Island Catholic Schools  
Hope Mission  
Lakeland Catholic School District  
Lakeland Community Futures  
Lighthouse Co-work  
Neighbour Aid Camrose  
Northern Lights School Division  
Portage College  
STAR Catholic School Division  
Southfork Community Group

## **Employment Supports**

CLAC Foundation & CLAC Training Edmonton  
Force Inspection Services  
Compass Group Canada  
Tip of Spear  
Sorrentino Restaurant Group  
Keller Construction

# OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

## **Entrepreneurship Supports Program and IMPACT**

EMCN

C5 Hub Neighbourhood

MacEwan University/Alberta College

Diversity Magazine

Northeast Business Association

Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

Aspen Pharmacy

Le Conseil de développement économique de l'Alberta

Alberta Women Entrepreneurs

ABMK Engineering Ltd.

Elevation Massage

Nu-Tec

L6SBC

M.A.P.S. Alberta Capital Region

Arts on the Ave

Cold Lake Chamber of Commerce

Edmonton Irish Sports & Social Society

Federation Des Aines Franco Albertains

Indigenous Tourism Alberta

Lac La Biche Tourism

M.A.P.S. Alberta Capital Region

Metis Nation of Alberta

Red Deer Tourism

Sylvan Lake Recreation, Culture and Tourism

Edmonton Immigrant Services Association

Centre d'accueil et d'établissement of Northern Alberta

Edmonton Community Development Company



# OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

## Adult Literacy and Skills Development

ICAN Seniors Association

Edmonton Community Legal Centre

Community Standards & Neighbourhoods, Citizen Services, City of Edmonton (Central McDougall & Queen Mary Park & Inglewood)

Edmonton Police Service

Student Legal Services of Edmonton

St. Francis Women's LINC Program

Alberta Artificial Intelligence Association (Alberta AI)

Albert Health Services

Edmonton Oliver Primary Care Network

University of Alberta, School of Public Health

Students Invested in Health Association (SIHA), University of Alberta

Chinese International Student Development Society, University of Alberta

John Barnett School

Edmonton Food Bank

Santa's Anonymous

# OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

## Community Development Supports

Alberta Health Services

Health for Two

Sobeys/Safeway

Arctic Chiller

C5 Hub

Walmart

The City of Edmonton - Small Sparks & Matching Funds

YEG Ambassador

Kingsway Mall

Shiloh Baptist Church

Computers for Schools

Edmonton Food Bank

MacEwan University - Career Development &

Experiential Learning University of Alberta - Community Service Learning

Alberta Ballet AMPIA/ Media Production

Remax Edmonton

## Volunteer Development

MacEwan University

NorQuest College

University of Alberta

Catholic Social Services - Links for Success

CDI College

Robertson College



# OUR FUNDERS AND DONORS

Funded by:

Financé par :



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada



Women and Gender  
Equality Canada

Femmes et Égalité  
des genres Canada



Canadian  
Heritage

Patrimoine  
canadien



PARGON SOIL



Foundation



# CONTACT US!



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# FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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Action for Healthy Communities







**THANKS FOR  
SUPPORTING  
AHC!**