Executive Summary: City of Learners 3 Year Strategic Plan 2018 – 2020

About

The City of Learners is a community-led initiative that lives at the Edmonton Public Library. It works collaboratively with partners to develop inclusive learning experiences for all Edmontonians. The City of Learners is guided by a steering committee made up of community partners who serves as a consultative advisory resource to enhance planning and decision making related to the City of Learners.

Background

In 2008, then Councilor Don Iveson led a group of learning sector stakeholders to explore the idea of a learning city project. Based on stakeholder discussions and input from community dialogues, the Edmonton Learning City Initiative was formed, and brought together organizations to work together more effectively in promoting lifelong learning for all Edmontonians. The result of their work was compiled into the *Community Foundational Learning Plan* (2013), which shaped a vision, identified shared strategies and established learning priorities for what would eventually become the City of Learners.

As the initiative moved forward, the network of organizations, which included the Edmonton Public Library, formed under the "City of Learners" banner, and in 2013, the City of Edmonton established the Edmonton Public Library as the 'home' of the City of Learners. Under the stewardship of the Edmonton Public Library, the 2014-18 Strategic Goals focused on learning as one of its four strategic directions and specifically committed to being "the home of the City of Learners."

City of Learners 2018-2020: Strategic Goals & Objectives

In 2016, the City of Learners worked with Edmontonians in a series of Learning Habitats to discuss how they envision Edmonton as a learning city. Feedback from these learning Habitats were translated into the following three strategic goals and associated objectives for the City of Learners initiative.

Wherever possible, priority will be given to developing learning opportunities and action items that meet the priorities established by the Community Foundational Learning Plan: literacy, early learning and health & learning.

Strategic Goal 1: Engage

Edmontonians are excited about the innovative and engaging life-long learning opportunities that are available to them in the city.

What We Mean: The City of Learners works to generate interest and excitement about learning by raising awareness about learning opportunities that meet a wide variety of interests and needs.

> Objective 1.1: The City of Learners is responsive to the learning needs of Edmontonians

> Objective 1.2: The City of Learners develops or partners to deliver learning opportunities that are relevant, responsive and varied.

> Objective 1.3: Learning opportunities offered by the City of Learners and its partners are highly used and valued.

Strategic Goal 2: Connect

Edmontonians are connected to existing and emerging learning opportunities through the city.

What we mean: The City of Learners connects with existing and emerging learning initiatives to raise awareness about learning opportunities available throughout the city and connects Edmontonians to the full breadth of formal and informal learning organizations available to them. This may include active networking, as well as the development of marketing or promotional materials that can be used to share the message.

> Objective 2.1: The City of Learners regularly partners with learning organizations in Edmonton to develop or cross promote learning opportunities available to citizens.

Strategic Goal 3: Innovate

Edmontonians have opportunities to engage in innovative and unique learning experiences.

What we mean: The City of Learners collaborates with formal and informal learning organizations to create innovative and useful learning opportunities that meet a wide variety of interests, needs and levels.

> Objective 3.1: Development of learning opportunities are driven by experimentation, trial, new ideas and experiences.

> Objective 3.2: Learning opportunities are varied, easy to access and emphasize inclusivity for all community members.