



Industrial Areas Foundation Canada
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ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

*Presented by the Rev. Deborah Cameron-Fawkes, President
IAFC Board of Directors*

IAFC Administration improvements

The Board of Directors, on behalf of its member affiliates, made a decision this year to invest in an automated donor management system, to provide greater transparency and to facilitate a more thorough and efficient handover to future treasurers. In addition, through IAFC the affiliates pay a percentage on their respective charitable transactions to our online donation platform, Canada Helps, which we value especially for its ease of use and appeal to prospective individual donors. The costs of general administrative functions are shared equally among the affiliates.

On behalf of community leaders across all our affiliates, allow me to express appreciation for their colleagues who step up to become our Board members, and who give not only of their time but often of their own resources for the success of IAFC.

Charitable Activities by Affiliate

CALGARY ALLIANCE FOR THE COMMON GOOD (CACG)

Community Leadership Training

Foundations of Community organizing

We adapted Foundations of Community Organizing training so that it could be offered online. Forty-seven people participated in this training in November of 2020, and another 38 in April of 2021.

Leaders Lunches

- Preserving Public Life – October 7th, 2021
- Leading Connected and Resilient Communities – March 2021
- Implicit Bias – April 19th, 2021
- Strengthening Resilience – June 16th, 2021



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CACG cont.

Core Team Trainings (equipping volunteers for community relationship-building)

- Responding to the COVID Winter – January 20th, 2021
- Stories of Lessons Learned in Building Core teams – May 2021
- A Core team training was expanded to be – 101 Meeting with Politicians – March 11, 2021

COVID-19 Response

In a highly successful mobilization of volunteers, CACG:

1. Developed 14 institutionally based teams to identify and respond to needs.
2. 43 signed up as block captains, 9 meet bi-monthly as a community of practice in partnership with YMCA, HSCA
3. 116 signed up as community volunteers. With Care Connect and Calgary Food Bank volunteers delivered 77 hampers, with YYC Grocery performing 481 deliveries.
4. Provided online training on (Number attending): Building Support Teams (48), Block Captains (21), Mental Health Basic Support Skills (83), Grief and Covid (90), Crisis Intervention (55), Trauma-Informed Care (43), Domestic Violence (19).
5. Met regularly to identify collective responses to community needs. This process led to strategic campaigns for further volunteer efforts. These included:
 - a) Access to technology/internet
 - b) Financial Supports – Connecting people to current supports, developing a Basic Income team, a webinar on basic income (95), and a collective letter for a basic income.
 - c) Jobs and a Sustainable Stimulus – through research, leaders developed the successful Green Line Campaign.
 - d) Transit system’s financial viability
 - e) With other alliances hosted an online event to develop a vision for how we respond to this crisis and shape our future.

Mental Health Grant

Four areas of focus for research and strategy:



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1. Changing Crisis response by expanding the MRT/PACT teams (campaign to do so succeeded)
2. Early Intervention and Prevention in the School Systems (also succeeded)
3. Having the Province adopt Trauma-Informed Care
4. Internal education campaign to develop people's mental health skills (monthly workshops on such topics as Suicide Prevention, Grief, Self-Care, Psychological First Aid, Spirituality, Self-Compassion and Resilience)

Truth and Reconciliation Grant

(IAFC notes with gratitude that this work involves and benefits all our affiliates.)

- Hired an Indigenous Organizer, to lead our team in this area.
- Developed a curriculum called Wrestling with the Truth of Colonization, in collaboration with IAF Alliances from Canada, the United States, Australia, and New Zealand.
- Offered this content in workshops (70 participants).
- Elder Led Reconciliation process: member-institutional leaders meet regularly with Elders to develop and implement Truth and Reconciliation plans.

GREATER EDMONTON ALLIANCE (GEA)

Recovery Jobs and Living Wages

- Research into living wages and quality jobs during the covid crisis, and into advancement of living wages/quality jobs as the economy starts to recover after lockdown periods
- Bi-weekly education/training sessions for the Living Wage/Quality Job Research Action Team to prepare for March 4 assembly – with 3 Edmonton City Councillors and several provincial MLAs
- Workshops as part of the Alberta Living Wage Council, researching living wage employers and development of an Alberta “living wage calculator”
- Monthly Institutional Leaders gatherings to encourage collaborative volunteerism

METRO VANCOUVER ALLIANCE (MVA)

MVA, currently without a staff Organizer, is rebuilding its membership and financial base. No IAFC funds were drawn for charitable activities in the last fiscal year.



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GREATER VICTORIA ACTING TOGETHER (GVAT)

Community Leadership Training

Due to the pandemic, turnout was low for our intended spring 2021 event, “Foundations of Community Organizing” training. Therefore it was cancelled, and the material was reconfigured for shorter, virtual events that were very well attended. These were formatted as “Learning Tuesdays”, most Tuesdays during the lunch hour, with topics including “Unconscious Bias Training,” book discussions through an IAF organizing lens, and “Intro to IAF Organizing.” “Core team” trainings, to develop civic leadership and collaborative volunteerism within our member organizations, did occur as planned.

Significant organizer effort also went into fully constituting the GVAT Strategy Team (an active body of volunteers willing to take leadership in alliance activities), along with board and strategy team policy development for improved not-for-profit governance.

Workshops: De-stigmatizing Homelessness

Finally, GVAT’s volunteer leaders developed (and carried out) ten community workshop series on homelessness in neighborhoods across Greater Victoria. By centering storytelling by individuals with lived experience, the intent was to destigmatize homelessness, to build understanding of obstacles to housing, and to build connections between those experiencing homelessness and those currently housed that lead to broader coalitions of support for supportive and affordable housing in local neighborhoods.