

A blurred background image of a city street scene. In the foreground, several people are walking, their figures blurred to suggest motion. The background shows a multi-story brick building with windows and architectural details. A dark grey semi-transparent overlay covers the right side of the image, containing the title and other text.

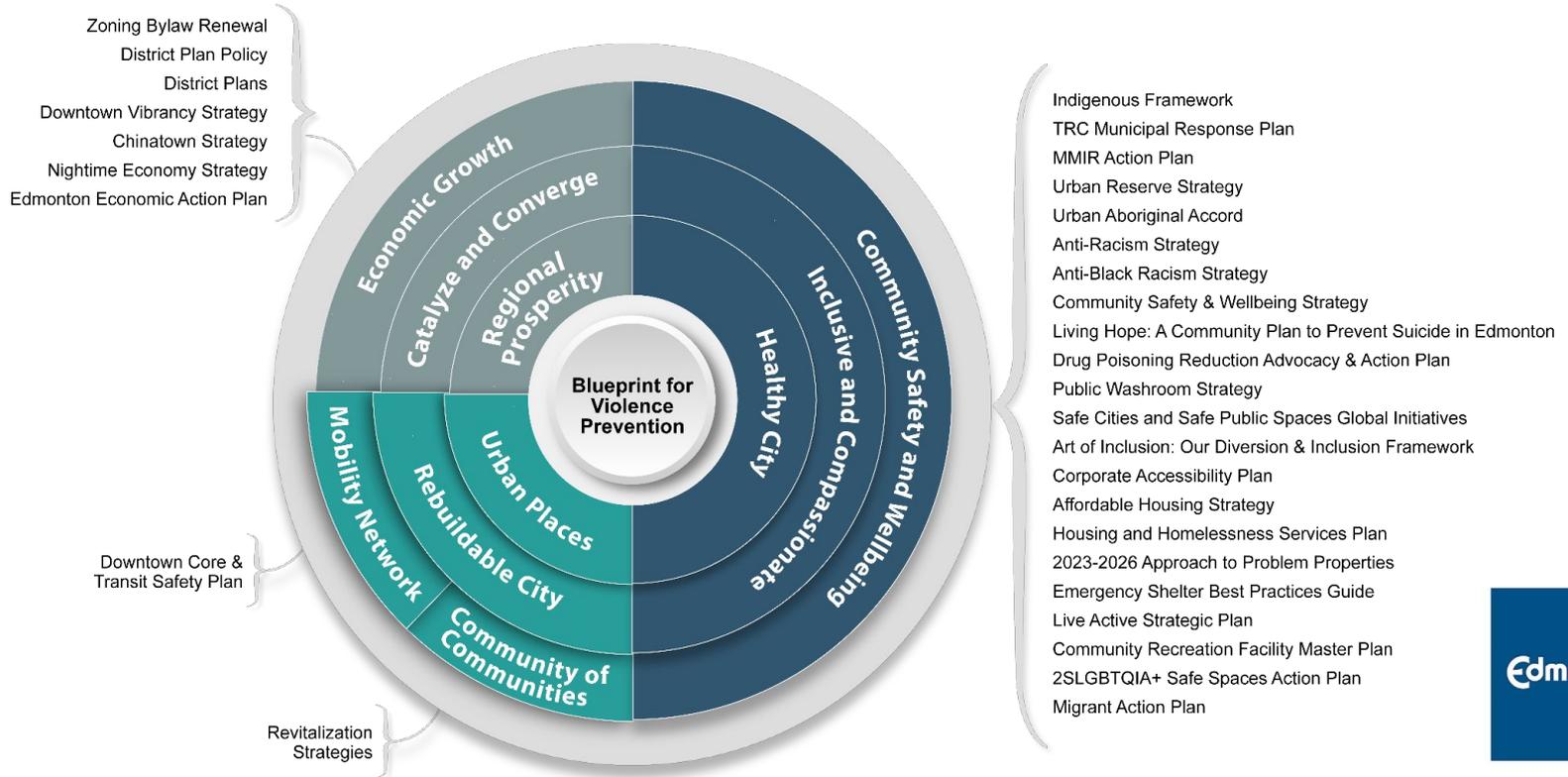
Violence Prevention Action Plan (Blueprint for Violence Prevention)

CS02082

Community and Public Services Committee

March 3, 2025

The Blueprint for Violence Prevention in Context



Definition of Violence

“The intentional use of physical [emotional, psychological and sexual] force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.”

- World Health Organization

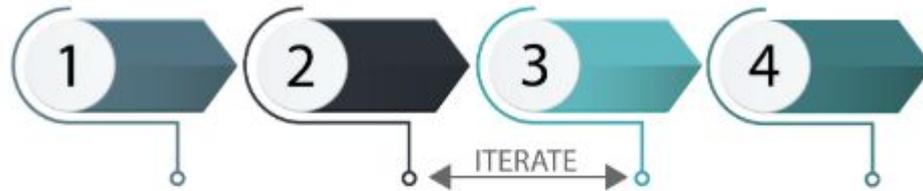
Edmonton Context

Violence in Edmonton

- Edmonton has consistently ranked fourth for violent crime severity index across 10 Canadian municipalities.
- Edmonton Police Service (EPS) data on the total number of city-wide violent criminal incidents increased by 1.8 per cent between 2023 and 2024.
- In 2023, Edmonton reported 4,618 emergency department visits due to violence and purposely inflicted injury, slightly up from 2022 which saw 4,126 emergency visits.
- Violence is experienced disproportionately.

The Public Health Approach to Violence Prevention

The public health approach includes four key steps:



Identify and Define the Problem

This includes uncovering as much basic knowledge as possible about all parts of violence through systematic data collection.

Identify Risk and Protective Factors

This includes investigating why violence occurs and specifically, why some individuals or communities experience different levels of violence.

Develop and Evaluate Interventions

This step includes the design, implementation and evaluation of interventions and strategies to see what works.

Widely Implement Promising Interventions

The final step is to scale up effective interventions for the most significant impact. Evaluate their impact and cost.

System Stewardship Table



City of Edmonton

Role in Violence Prevention

Bylaws and Policy

**Convene &
Coordinate**

Investment

**Intergovernmental
Relations**

**Localized
Understanding of Need**

Edmonton Police Service

Role in Violence Prevention

Role: To be relentless on crime and a leading partner in building community safety

**EPS Strategic
Plan**

**Crime Reduction
Plan**

**Edmonton Young
People Strategy**

REACH Edmonton Council for Safe Communities

Role in Violence Prevention

Role: To bring together community, service agencies and government to get things done, with the ultimate aim of preventing violence to create safe communities.

REACH's 2024 Business Plan includes eight areas of focus aligned with violence prevention:

1. Combating Human Trafficking and Exploitation
2. Diverting Crisis
3. Prioritizing Anti-Racism, Indigenization and Lived experience
4. Supporting Immigration and Refugees
5. Mitigating Addiction and Mental Health Problems
6. Building Safe and Inclusive Neighbourhoods
7. Preventing Violence
8. Promoting Family, Child and Youth Success

Alberta Health Services

Role in Violence Prevention

Role: Delivers health services including health promotion and injury prevention, primary care and acute care across the province.

AHS Health Promotion & Public Health support various communities to create healthy & thriving places to live, learn, work, play and age, by creating community connections and acting on the issues that most matter.

Preliminary Needs Assessment

(How the Blueprint was Created)



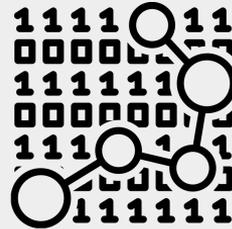
Research



Focused Engagement



Jurisdictional Scan



Multi-Source Data Analysis

What is Needed

A Public Health Approach

A public health approach to violence prevention requires engaging diverse partners and sectors to address the underlying risk and protective factors that influence violence. This is the shared responsibility of multiple sectors.

Sectors include:

- Public health and Healthcare
- Justice (including police)
- Education
- Social Services
- Housing
- Economic Development
- All orders of Government

Focus on Greatest Need

Violence does not affect everyone equally.

Prevention & Intervention are Both Needed

Sustainable Investment

Robust Needs Assessment

Co-Created by communities and multi-source qualitative and quantitative data.

Scale What's Already Effective



Blueprint for Violence Prevention (BVP)

Together we can make Edmonton a safer city.

GOAL

1 Build Structure for Impact & Sustainability

Strengthen and connect existing governance structures and develop shared strategic direction and alignment and a sustainable governance mechanism to operationalize a public health approach to violence prevention.

GOAL

2 Prevent Violence in the Near Term

Address violence that is already occurring through tailored place-based and people-based strategies that interrupt violence.

GOAL

3 Move Upstream

Tackle structural and social determinants to reduce risk factors and promote protective factors for priority populations through investment, skill development and increased access to services and opportunities.

Next Steps

- Convene the Violence Reduction Network
- Complete phase two needs assessment
- Conduct further engagement specifically focusing on priority areas and populations highlighted through needs assessment
- Proof of Concept - Scale up what works
- Develop a Violence Prevention Implementation Plan for BVP
 - ◆ Corporate plan
 - ◆ Investment plan
 - ◆ Evaluation and Accountability Framework
 - ◆ Intergovernmental Strategy

Thank You

The logo for the City of Edmonton, featuring the word "Edmonton" in white text on a blue square background.

Edmonton