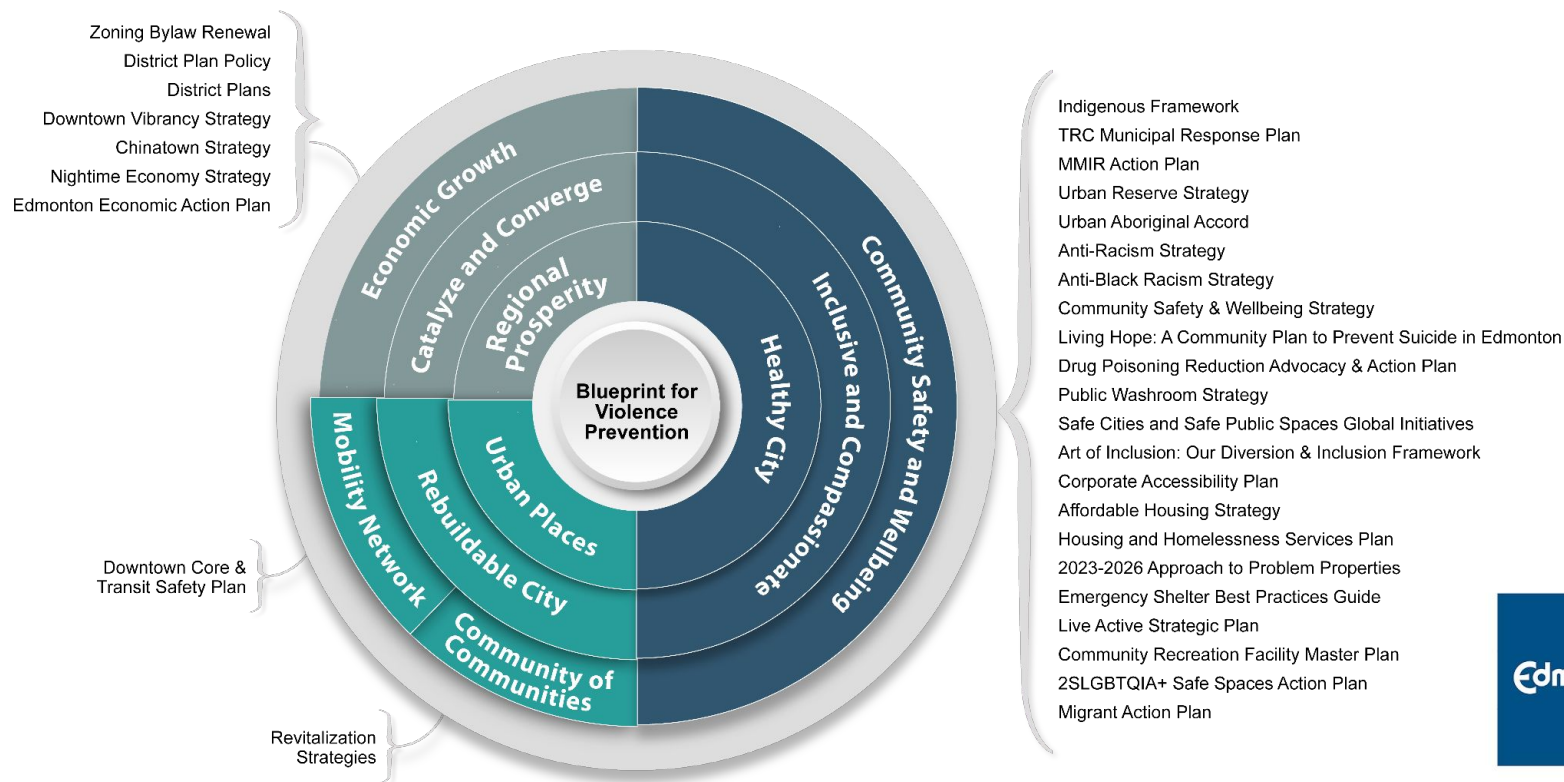


# Violence Prevention Action Plan (Blueprint for Violence Prevention)

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)



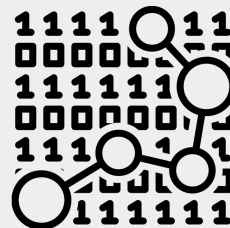
Research



Focused Engagement



Jurisdictional Scan



Multi-Source Data Analysis

Edmonton

# 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

### **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

### **Prevent Violence in the Near Term**

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

## GOAL

### **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



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# Thank You

Edmonton