

**Update: City of Learners**

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	City of Learners
<b>City Council Lead(s):</b>	Councillor Iverson
<b>Department Lead(s):</b>	Lyall Brenneis, Community Services

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**Objective:**

A network of Edmonton organizations and representatives invested in lifelong learning formed an informal committee in 2008, under the leadership of Councillor Iverson, to explore approaches necessary to cultivate Edmonton as a Learning Community. There is a strong belief that by bringing together many representatives and organizations across the city and by working together more effectively in this diverse urban setting, we can make substantial gains to improve lifelong learning for all and contribute to the development of sustainable and inclusive communities. Working together, the committee focused on the following objectives:

**Phase One (2010): Completed**

- To develop a vision and definition of a 'Learning Community' and establish some preliminary directions for the initiative.
- To prepare a Civic Declaration with respect to the importance of Learning to our community.
- To develop an Asset Inventory of potential partner agencies operating in Edmonton that deliver learning opportunities in our community.
- To hold a Dialogue Event with public and partner agency representation and generate discussion about opportunities for collaboration.
- To identify priorities for action based on the Asset Inventory & Public Dialogue Event.

**Phase Two Activities (2012): Completed**

- To discuss, clarify, align, and design effective strategies for each one of the priorities and prepare a community learning plan.
- Through partnerships, to develop, implement and monitor an inclusive Community Foundational-Learning Plan.
- Establish a governance model to help advance a go-forward strategy amongst the partner organizations.
- To develop a transition plan for the initiative to become self-sustaining.

**Key Outcomes, Projects or Activities and their Status as of May 2013:**

As noted, the initiative's key objectives have been achieved. Going forward, the initiative will be transitioned into an implementation phase, with the Edmonton Public Library taking a lead role.

**Future Steps:**

- The outcomes identified in the terms of reference have been completed; hence, the Community Foundational-Learning will be submitted to the Community Services Committee as information on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013.
- The initiative will be transitioned so that it can continue to be organized under the City of Learners banner, with the Edmonton Public Library serving as the 'home' of the coalition.