



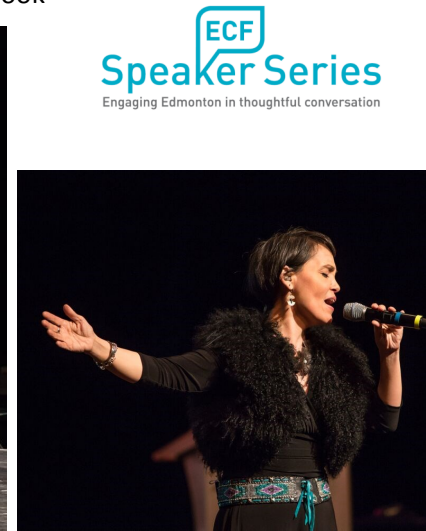
In Touch

Fall 2015

Timeless contributions.

Speaker Series *Wrap-up*

ECF's Speaker Series wrapped up on October 6th with an evening of Aboriginal Women in the Arts featuring Georgina Lightning and Susan Aglukark. This past June we also hosted Dr. Timothy Caulfield on June 16th to talk about celebrity endorsed health regimes. These events were designed to engage Edmontonians in thoughtful conversation and were both well attended. We hope you enjoyed ECF's speaker series this year, stay tuned for exciting events to come in 2016. Visit our Facebook page to see photos from all of our events.



ECF
Speaker Series
Engaging Edmonton in thoughtful conversation

Edmonton Community Foundation



ecfoundation.org 780.426.0015



For change of address please advise:
Edmonton Community Foundation
9910-103 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2V7



In Touch

Fall 2015

Timeless contributions.

Endless possibilities.



Martin Garber-Conrad

CEO Message

It has been another busy year for ECF. In addition to dispersing over 800 grants and hundreds of student awards, we hosted a successful speaker series, launched our third Vital Signs report, and announced several new funding initiatives to help this community grow.

A new initiative this year is \$1 million in matching funds for the United Way's Matched Leadership Donation Program for its 2015/16 poverty campaign. As part of a shared commitment toward the vision of ending poverty in our city, ECF and United Way are working together to realize this goal.

ECF also announced plans to invest at least \$10 million through its Alberta Social Enterprise Venture Fund to help finance social housing projects and programs that create "living wage" jobs for people living in poverty.

The third Vital Signs report was released on October 6th. This year the report checks in with Edmonton's Aboriginal population. The report dispelled many myths, but also shed some light on areas that continue to need assistance. As a result, ECF will grant \$100,000 per year

for three years towards initiatives that address urban Aboriginal homelessness. Visit ecfoundation.org for the full report.

The Speaker Series this year was designed to engage Edmonton in thoughtful conversation and our final two events did just that. On June 16th Dr. Timothy Caulfield debunked the cult of celebrity-endorsed health regimes, and on October 7th Georgina Lightning and Susan Aglukark shared their experiences as Aboriginal women in the arts.

In addition, we hosted our 17th annual Wills Week during October. More than 700 people attended 11 sessions across the city to learn about the importance of having a proper will. Thank you to all of the volunteer lawyers who provide excellent advice to our attendees.

December marks the season of giving to family and friends, as well as to charities. More charitable gifts are made during the next six weeks than at any other time of the year. ECF is committed to meeting the needs of donors, tailoring each fund agreement to honour your philanthropic goals. If you are making a gift this season please contact our Donor Services team with any questions or to help you set up or contribute to a fund.

Thank you again donors, partners, and friends of ECF. Very best wishes from staff and board for the holiday season!

New to *ECF*

ECF is pleased to welcome Monica Smith as executive assistant to the CEO, Chris Roberts as community grants associate, Tracey Gleason as fund development assistant, and Matt Mandrusiak as a donor advisor. Congratulations to Cassandra Lundell, community grants associate on the birth of her daughter Paisley in early July.

We also said good-bye to Lil Zielke and Adrienne Wong and thank them for their contributions.

New to the *BOARD*

ECF is pleased to welcome Clive Oshry to the Board of Directors.

GIVING TUESDAY December 1st



You've probably heard of Black Friday and most likely Cyber Monday... we invite you to join us for Giving Tuesday, a new movement for giving and volunteering.



On Giving Tuesday help ECF tackle Aboriginal homelessness by making a gift to our Vital Signs grant program.

Edmonton Community Foundation



ecfoundation.org 780.426.0015

Vital Signs 2015 - *Myth Busting Edition*

In October ECF released its third Vital Signs report. In addition to a snapshot of the community, the report also focused on Edmonton's Aboriginal population. Since 5.4% of Edmonton's population is Aboriginal it is an important segment of the City's demographic. But, what do we know about this population? Vital Signs looks at the statistics and finds that some of the myths just don't hold up.

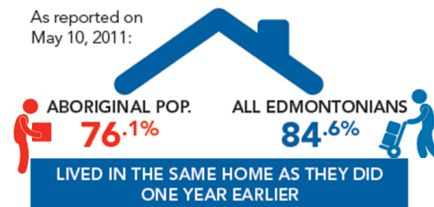
To view a full copy of Vital Signs go to ecfoundation.org

True or False?

Aboriginal people tend to be transient.

False. Most Aboriginal Edmontonians lived in the same home as they did a year earlier. 76.1% compared to 84.6% of all Edmontonians.

MOBILITY OF EDMONTON'S ABORIGINAL POPULATION



Aboriginal people are uneducated.

False. Post-secondary education attainment rates, as well as graduation rates at both Edmonton Public and Edmonton Catholic High Schools are on the rise.

ABORIGINAL POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

The post-secondary education attainment is steadily improving. In 2011, **52.3%** of the Aboriginal population **25 years and older** had a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree (39.4% in 2001).

10.7% had a university bachelor's degree or above in 2011, (only 7.1% - 10 years earlier). More women than men attain a post-secondary degree.

Most Aboriginal children end up in foster care.

False. It is true that the Aboriginal population is over represented in care, most children are *not in care*.

In fact, 94% of Aboriginal children live with their families.

ABORIGINAL CHILDREN IN CARE

IN MARCH 2015, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ALBERTA CHILDREN IN CARE WAS 6,987:

4,788 ABORIGINAL CHILDREN
2,199 NON-ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

Since 2008/09, there has been a focus on providing supports to keep families intact. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of children in care.

ABORIGINAL 11.4% REDUCTION
NON-ABORIGINAL 39.4% REDUCTION

Gifts giving back *happier tax time!*

The holiday season can be a busy time, but it is often the time when people are the most generous. For those who make planned gifts at this time of the year, here is a friendly reminder of some important dates. Don't miss an opportunity for a tax credit on your 2015 return.

December 24th (by noon): Gifts to ECF can be made by cheque or by phoning in your Visa or MasterCard donation to 780-426-0015.

December 31st: Donations can be made by cheque postmarked in 2015 or through CanadaHelps.org.

Please note that gifts of marketable securities must be started by Nov. 30th. Please contact donor services first at 780-426-0015 if you require more information.

Holiday Closure

Our offices will be closed from noon on Christmas Eve until January 4, 2016.

Thank you for your continued friendship in 2015.

We wish you all the best for 2016!

Profile on Grants: *Green Grants*

Story by Elizabeth Bonkink

Fringe Theatre Adventure (FTA) Society has applied for funding for new lighting to green their space, upgrade lighting technology, and to use their resources better.

The application outlines the desire to replace 20-year-old lighting by retrofitting the PCL Studio theatre with an LED system and the larger Westbury Theatre with a combination LED/conventional lighting system. Where applicable, existing lighting will be re-used to outfit the new Backstage Theatre. This change could save the company over \$12,000 in 10 years.

ECF's environmental sub-committee chair Sandy Fleming says, "When non-

profits engage in a project like this, it shows a commitment to ongoing improvement. Savings that result from using resources more wisely can be put towards core services, which is a much more effective use of an organization's hard-earned funds"

"This is a project that is not just about replacing lights for eco-effect. It is also about enhancing a major theatre and performing arts facility," says Stephen Williams, chair of ECF's Arts, Culture and Heritage sub-committee. FTA frequently shares space with other arts organizations including Varscona Theatre which is currently using the Backstage Theatre while their space is

being rebuilt.

This grant has been approved for the Community Investment Project (CIP) and is awaiting funding from donor advised funds. To contribute to this project please contact Alex Draper at adraper@ecfoundation.org.

ECF's committees rigorously review each application for merit and to ensure it meets the needs of our community.

Environmentally focused grants are welcome and encouraged. Interested organizations should contact Chris Roberts, community grants associate at croberts@ecfoundation.org

Donor *Spotlight:* Neil Gower, Q.C., Partner, MLT

What motivated you to set up a fund with ECF?

The grandfather I am named for moved to Edmonton after the war, he lived in an apartment his whole life. My father became an accountant. I have two degrees and my kids are all working on their third. When I think of how far we have come, I realize I am very lucky.

My dad was very involved in the community and I learned that it is important to give back. I have had a fund with ECF for close to 10 years now. I like the idea that it is there forever. It is something my kids and grandkids can be a part of; a way for them to connect with giving.

I tend to designate to literacy organizations because if you can't read, how do you function? Literacy, poverty, housing - to me, it is all connected. When you give to an organization that helps kids be part of society, to have a chance for success, it is an opportunity for dignity.

I have also given to a scholarship fund for lawyers. I hope I can be a role model for new lawyers to learn social responsibility and the importance of giving back.

We would love to hear *your* story. If you would like to be featured in our Donor Spotlight, please contact Elizabeth Bonkink at ebonkink@ecfoundation.org. We will need a recent photo and your answer to the question, "What motivated you to set up a fund (or contribute to an existing fund) at ECF?"

