

Municipal Policies and Programs that Reduce Poverty (published January, June, September)

June 22, 2016 Update

Note: black text explains hyperlinked (blue) items. **Green highlights indicate new items** since previous issue (January 25, 2016).

City/strategy	Food Security	Homelessness	Housing	Recreation	Affordable Transportation	Poverty Reduction
Victoria	<p>Urban Food Systems</p> <p>Growing in the City initiative - kitchen gardens, community orchards and gardens, City Studio downtown garden project</p> <p>Boulevard Gardening Guidelines</p>	<p>Mayor's Task Force on Affordable Housing</p> <p>RFP for storage of shopping carts used by the homeless population. [See City of Victoria Strategic Plan 2015-2018, Objective 7, p.12]</p> <p>Participation in 2016 Homeless Count</p>	<p>2014 Housing Report</p> <p>Municipal Housing Strategy</p> <p>Secondary Suites guidelines</p> <p>Garden Suites policy</p>	<p>LIFE program provides annual credit and program savings to eligible low-income individuals and families</p> <p>Community Centres – operated by neighbourhood associations</p> <p>Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan Process</p> <p>Crystal Pool public engagement process</p>	<p>(BC Bus Pass; province offers low-cost pass for seniors, low-income earners)</p> <p>Biketoria initiative to build protected bike lanes</p> <p>Douglas Street dedicated bus lanes</p>	<p>[See City of Victoria Strategic Plan 2015-2018, Objective 5, p.9]</p>
Vancouver	<p>What Feeds Us: Vancouver Food Strategy 2013</p> <p>Strategy background, news</p> <p>Sole Food Street Farms – transforming pavement to food, jobs; City funding</p>	<p>Vancouver's Housing and Homelessness Strategy, 2012-2021, A Home for Everyone, Approved 2011.</p> <p>May 2016: City releases 2016 homeless count results and updates on low-income housing</p>	<p>Housing page, consolidates research & housing information</p> <p>May 2016: City set to approve first Downtown Eastside tower with 60% social housing requirement</p>	<p>Leisure Access Program, OneCard discount card for low-income residents</p>	<p>(BC Bus Pass; province offers low-cost pass for seniors, low-income earners)</p>	<p>No specific plan. Goal 5 of "A Healthy City for All" aims to reduce the city's poverty rate by 75% by 2025 and increase the median income by at least 3% every year</p> <p>City Council supports BC Poverty Reduction Coalition's call for a provincial poverty reduction plan</p> <p>Supportive initiatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Childcare initiatives 2. Community Grants, 3. Diversity in Hiring, 4. Vancouver Economic Commission, 5. Vancouver's Housing and Homelessness Strategy
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Calgary	<p>Calgary EATS! Vision&Action Plan, 2012</p> <p>Calgary Food System Assessment and Action Plan</p>	<p>1.10-Year Plan to End Homelessness, 2008, updated 2011</p> <p>2.Updated Plan, 2015</p> <p>3.Plan to End Youth Homelessness in Calgary, 2011</p> <p>4.Plan to End Aboriginal Homeless in Calgary, 2012 (all administered by Calgary Homeless Foundation)</p>	<p>City's Role in Affordable Housing</p>	<p>Fee Assistance for Recreation</p> <p>Fair Entry Program established – 1 application for subsidized recreation programs</p>	<p>Low Income Monthly Pass</p> <p>May 2016: Province invests \$13.5 million over 3 years in city's Low Income Transit Pass</p>	<p>Enough for All Poverty Reduction Strategy, 2015</p> <p>Enough for All Quarterly report, April 2016 edition</p> <p>Additional: FCSS Family and Community Support Services. Partnership with AB govt; supports preventive social programs including poverty reduction</p>
Edmonton	<p>fresh: Edmonton's Food & Urban Agricultural Strategy, 2012</p> <p>Food Council established, 2013. Food Council 2016 work plan focusing on food security.</p>	<p>A Place to Call Home: 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, 2009</p>	<p>Housing & Economic Sustainability Branch, work includes: Cornerstones II: 2012-16. A 2nd 5-year plan for Affordable Housing; First Place Program, an affordable housing program for 1st time home buyers</p>	<p>Leisure Access Program for low-income earners</p>	<p>May 2016: Province invests \$6.2 million over 3 years towards a Low Income Transit Pass in Edmonton</p>	<p>EndPovertyEdmonton Strategy, updated & approved by City Council, Dec.2015, 28 priorities</p> <p>May 24/16: City approves First Poverty in a Generation: A Road Map to Guide Our Journey</p>
Toronto	<p>Toronto Food Strategy (currently under review)</p>	<p>Homelessness Partnership Strategy supports: 2014-2019 Housing Stability Service Planning Framework</p>	<p>2014-2019 Housing Stability Service Planning Framework</p> <p>Housing Opportunities Toronto, the 10-year affordable housing action plan, is undergoing a 5-year review</p>	<p>Welcome Policy: Financial Assistance for Low-Income Families</p>	<p>July 2014: Council votes to study fare discounts for low-income residents</p>	<p>TO Prosperity Poverty reduction strategy adopted by Council, Nov.2015</p> <p>Research on Poverty</p>
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Montréal	<p>definitions, descriptions</p> <p>portrait of food security</p>	<p><i>Parce que la rue est une impasse</i>, Homelessness policy, 2014-17</p> <p>July 2015 Release of the homelessness count report Link</p> <p>Complementary survey of homeless people, August 2015</p> <p>Homelessness 'protector' hired April 2016, former director of L'itinéraire</p> <p>Two warming room grants renewed</p> <p>Public consultation for the redevelopment of Viger Square</p>	<p>Accès-Logis (social housing components: low rent, rent supplement, affordable)</p> <p>Strategy for the inclusion of affordable housing in new residential projects</p> <p>2014-2017 Action Plan to Combat Unsanitary Housing</p> <p>Plan de fidélisation des familles 2014-2017</p> <p>Counters suburban flight for cheaper housing</p> <p>Reference service: help for those at risk of becoming homeless</p>	<p>Lower-cost access, membership card: Accès Montréal Card</p>		<p>Social economy focus: The Social Economy Partnership for Community-Based Sustainable Development (begun in 2006). Overview</p>
Halifax*	<p>Mobile Food Market Project</p>		<p>City's role in Affordable Housing</p> <p>Halifax Housing Needs Assessment</p>	<p>Community Facility Master Plan</p> <p>The Playbook – a sports and rec guide for people with disabilities</p>	<p>3 affordable transportation projects, assistance from the province</p>	<p>Mayor's note, Healthy and Livable Community</p>
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* The Halifax municipal website states: "The management and employees support council decision making, recognize and encourage diversity and deliver efficient, effective and responsive services for the residents of Halifax." Currently favouring programmatic responses over policy or strategy development, watch this space for details on municipal services in the areas under review.

Other related policies

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City/strategy	Overall Direction	Sustainability	Neighbourhood	Equity	Labour Market
Victoria	<p>Official Community Plan, Updated March 2016. Annual Review, Dec. 2015</p> <p>City of Victoria Strategic Plan 2015-2018, amended Feb. 2016</p> <p>Strategic Plan website area</p> <p>Civic Engagement Strategy</p>	<p>Economic Development and Downtown Prosperity Task Force</p> <p>Action plan: Making Victoria, Unleashing Potential. 6 economic dev. engines: Advanced Education and Research & Development; Ocean & Marine sector; Experiential Tourism; Government; Techno-logy; Entrepreneurship, Start-Ups & Social Enterprise</p> <p>E-vehicle city fleet</p>	<p>Neighbourhood plans 2016 posting: 10 new plans will be created over the next 4 years. They will focus on neighbourhood village centres, transportation corridors community priorities</p> <p>Great Neighbourhoods Initiative (link includes information on the Great Neighbourhood Placemaking grant program)</p>	<p>Accessibility Task Force</p> <p>Recreation Integration Victoria (RIV): “Facilitating active lifestyles for people with disabilities.”</p> <p>Youth Council</p> <p>2016 action: Council Liaison to work with Esquimalt and Songhees Nations [See City of Victoria Strategic Plan 2015-2018, Objective 2, p.5]</p> <p>Truth and Reconciliation [See City of Victoria Strategic Plan 2015-2018, Objective 7, p.13]</p> <p>Youth Strategy “For Youth, By Youth” [See City of Victoria Strategic Plan 2015-2018, Objective 2, p.5]</p>	
Vancouver	<p>A Healthy City for All (12 areas, goals & targets, 2014-25) First 4-year Action Plan adopted July '15</p>	<p>Webpage: Greenest City Action Plan</p> <p>Greenest City 2020 Action Plan</p> <p>Greenest City 2020 Action Plan Part Two: 2015-2020</p> <p>2014-15 Implementation Update</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Planning</p>	<p>Accessible City</p> <p>Aboriginal Communities</p> <p>Diversity and Multiculturalism</p> <p>Seniors, Women and Youth</p>	
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Calgary			Strong Neighbourhoods Initiative	<p>Fair Entry (single entry system for all City subsidy programs)</p> <p>Accessibility Policy</p> <p>Age-Friendly Strategy (approved by Council June 2015)</p> <p>Diversity issues: Welcoming Community Policy and Welcoming Calgary Local Immigration Partnership</p> <p>Aboriginal Policy</p> <p>Payday Lending, Municipal Oversight</p>	<p>Monthly Labour Market Review</p> <p>Calgary and Area Labour Market 2015 - Q1 Report</p>
Edmonton	<p>Edmonton's Municipal Development Plan (to 2010)</p> <p>City Vision and <i>The Way</i> strategic plans</p>	<p>Energy & Climate Change in Edmonton</p> <p>Edmonton's Energy Transition Strategy</p> <p><i>The Way We Green: Edmonton's Environmental Strategic Plan</i></p>	Neighbourhood Strategy and Supports Program (formerly "Great Neighbourhoods")	<p>Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (volunteer, Council appointed)</p> <p>Aboriginal Relations Office</p> <p>Multicultural Relations Services</p> <p>Age Friendly Edmonton</p> <p>Child Friendly Edmonton and Nextgen</p> <p>People with Disabilities</p>	<p>Monthly Labour Force Survey</p> <p>Aboriginal Workforce Participation Initiative</p>
Toronto	<p>Official Plan (to 2031)</p> <p>City of Toronto Strategic Actions (2013-18)</p> <p>Indicators (March 2016)</p> <p>Toronto Social Development Dashboard website</p> <p><i>Indicators explained, PowerPoint slides</i></p>	<p>Environment and Energy Division</p> <p>Climate Change Action Plan (2007)</p> <p>Transformation Toronto 2050 project; terms of reference adopted May 2015 (2-year project)</p>	<p>Neighbourhoods and Communities</p> <p>Wellbeing Toronto, web app allows viewer to combine various indicators about neighbourhood wellbeing (to access, Google "Wellbeing Toronto")</p>	<p>Newcomers – Access T.O.</p> <p>Toronto's Seniors Forum and Progress report, Dec.9/15</p> <p>Working Group: "Building an Equitable City Together"</p>	Toronto Labour Market and Information
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Montréal	Building Montréal 2025 Master Plan , English Indicators (French only)	Montréal Community Sustainable Development Plan, 2010-15 (progress reports every two years) Montréal Urban Agglomeration Land Use and Development Plan (enacted April 1, 2015)	Revitalisation urbaine intégrée (integrated urban revitalization, by borough) Stratégie Centre-Ville. Consultation document for Fall 2016 event.		Provincial Government (<i>Emploi Quebec</i>) employment and labour market report, Region of Montreal (available in French)
Halifax		Sustainability in HRM		Inclusion website Accessibility website The Playbook – a sports and rec guide for people with disabilities	
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Additional resources

City of Toronto – [Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategies Across Canada: A Summary Report of Emerging Principles and Practices](#)

Vibrant Communities Canada, Cities Reducing Poverty maintains a [web collection](#) of Canadian cities’ poverty reduction strategies.