

WELCOME MAJOR ISOBEL LIPPERS

Hello from Major/Chaplain Isobel – WOW, I’ve been here now since July 1<sup>st</sup>. can you believe it? I can’t! It has been like a whirlwind for me, but Praise God, I am now starting to feel a wee bit grounded!

As I have been praying and thinking about this awesome ministry here in Edmonton, I’ve come to realize that The Salvation Army’s new vision statement really sums up who we are and what we do here as a team. The vision statement - “We are an innovative partner, mobilized to share hope wherever there is hardship, building communities that are just and know the love of Jesus.” AMEN. This is what we as a team do here at the Edmonton Centre of Hope. Matthew 25:23 reads, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant’. Every believer longs to hear those words from Jesus’ lips someday in heaven.

My vision is that the Edmonton Centre of Hope becomes a spiritual lighthouse for all who come in contact with us. And, that we eventually will have chaplaincy presence every day of the week.



Majors Ben and Isobel Lippers

**Great News:** Downtown Chapel for staff and participants starts **Wednesday October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am.** We will be providing a free lunch for all program participants following Chapel. ALL WELCOME - Come and join us if you can!

**More Great News:** Major Ben and I have started to pick up program participants from Downtown, Keystone and Cornerstone locations so we can attend church together at Castledowns. There’s a sign-up sheet at each site for those wanting to join in for worship and fellowship and would like a ride. A packed lunch will be provided to all attending.

The Chaplaincy Dept. will be holding another **Silent Auction November 17 & 18 for Partners in Mission.** So far this year ECOH has raised \$4423.50 and we are hoping to keep that number going up.

Please start thinking about what you can donate for this fun fundraising event. If you have any items to donate, please call Pastor Ben 780 217 8097 or Pastor Doug at 780 616 0030. More information to follow soon!

RECOVERY PROGRAMMING UPDATE

Greetings ECOH Team! Just wanted to let you know of some program changes happening with our Transformations and Keystone programs. Yes the rumors are true ... we have been approved for 24 fully funded Residential Recovery Beds by Alberta Health Services. This is something that we have been working on for about 7 years ... funding for our recovery programming is a significant milestone for The Salvation Army in Edmonton. What this means for ECOH is that the Transformations beds as we know them, are indeed closed. However, the Keystone Program will be enhanced from 13 to 24 Recovery beds and full programming will soon be underway at that location. For the transition, the guys in the Transformations program will finish their program at the Keystone location and then receive their certificate/graduate. Some may chose to stay at Keystone following their completion and participate in the recovery program there. Exciting days ahead. Thank you to the ECOH Recovery Team for all your hard work and AHS for making this possible! -Vanessa Sim



The Salvation Army  
Edmonton Centre of Hope

Transitional Housing  
9611 102 Avenue

Stepping Stones  
9304 103A Avenue

Community Support Services  
1434 120 Street

Cornerstone  
11838 82 Street

Grace Manor  
12510 140 Avenue

Keystone  
11830 85 Street

For submissions contact:  
Executive Assistant

Phone: 780-904-8385  
Fax: 780-426-5392  
E-mail:  
joanne.diletzoy@salvationarmy.ca



The ECOH Connection



Grace Village Construction—September 2021

Construction is well underway at our new Grace Village location with the foundation poured, water line is on site, and other utilities are in process. Most of the walls are already built and ready to be installed as soon as the go ahead is given. The Geo-thermal heating system is underway, and progress is good. A few hiccups and delays but Synergy assures us that they hope to gain the time a little further into the project. The anticipated completion date is summer of 2023, pending no further delays – so hopefully two years from today’s date, I’ll be writing for the newsletter from the Grace Village Location. We are still struggling to get the live feed working for public access, so once that’s ready, we will circulate the link.

GRACE VILLAGE UPDATE



Major Elaine Bridger and Vanessa Sim visit Construction Site



Our territorial mission reminds us of why we exist and our territorial vision looks forward, showing us where we are heading. Our territorial values demonstrate what we look like when we show up in the world. The purpose of our territorial strategy is to guide us toward our vision; it tells us how we will get there.

Our territorial strategy includes four strategic pillars, each with a set of strategic objectives. Under each strategic objective are actionable strategic initiatives that will help bring the pillars to life.

The four pillars of the new strategy will see the territory:

- **Strengthen Spiritual Health**—ensuring that our ministries and communities are places of spiritual vibrancy.
- **Optimize Mission Impact**—how and where we can have the most impact.
- **Design for People**—creating people-centered processes and ensuring that we are a place driven by Christian love that enables us to be a strong, sustainable, growing movement.
- **Forge Stronger Partnerships**—building on and harnessing the strength of our internal and external partnerships.

One of the greatest qualities of a strategic plan is that everyone can find their place in it. Ultimately, this plan will set the course for your ministry unit, team, or department to achieve the vision, which means that the important work you do will be guided by this plan.

A good strategy identifies what we start, stop, and continue doing, which gives focus and clarity to our mission. And as a mission people, the strategy informs all that we do and how we do it. All of our divisional, departmental and ministry unit plans will be aligned with the territorial strategic plan, allowing each and every one of us to work toward the achievement of our vision.

For more information visit: <https://salvationist.ca/mobilize-2-0/ltv/>



LUNCH IN THE PARK 2021

Sharing Love in the Time of the Pandemic

This past summer reminded me why we are so fortunate to work in the human services field. We had the opportunity to serve our community through our Lunch in the Park Meal Program. Working in community for most of the staff was new, which brought much enthusiasm. It brought a refreshing feeling for some of them to catch up with former participants and community partners though we are facing a health crisis.

We had the chance of meeting community needs in a time when hope appears to be a distant friend. As part of the Lunch in the Park initiative, we were delighted to engage community intentionally by exhibiting our organization’s core values in a palpable way such as

- Hope:** holding one on one conversations with vulnerable individuals by showing them how much we care, giving reassurance and extending a warm hand shake or an elbow contact,
- Service:** offering sandwiches freshly prepared by our staff and other resources including hygiene packages,
- Dignity:** showing respect to each individual and recognizing their worth through positive re-enforcement,
- Stewardship:** responsibly sharing the resources that our program could provide to each individual.

**A Hope Story:** We encountered one individual who was experiencing years of unresolved trauma. This was picked up by one of our staff engaging with this community member. She was reassured of how valuable she was, our chaplain spent some time listening, and she was then referred to a trauma centre for more in-depth assistance.

Many community members that crossed our paths echoed sentiments of gratitude towards our services and gifts. Some even commented on how delicious the meals tasted with comments such as “my compliments to the cook”. Lunch in the Park 2021 brimmed with positivity and purpose.

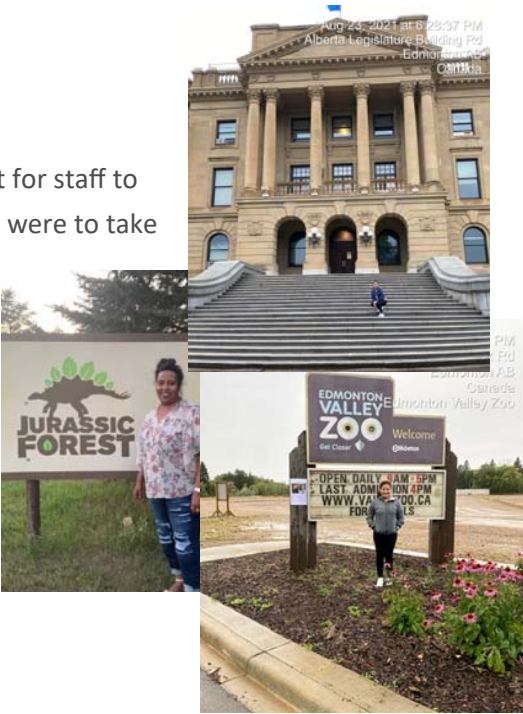


Community Support Services Team

SELFIE SCAVENGER HUNT

The ECOH Social Committee organized a Selfie Scavenger Hunt in August for staff to compete and have some fun discovering Edmonton. Participating teams were to take selfies of 20 beautiful locations in Edmonton and submit a passport photo of the locations. A few of the locations were: The Valley Zoo, Rainbow Park and the Legislature Grounds.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team to submit all the locations was “Hunters for Hire”. Team members Terhas Ambaye, Lovely Cortez, Stephaney C Patterson and Jenelle Lockhart remarked that “they did not know that Edmonton had so many beautiful sights”. Thank you also to teams “Stepping Stone Scavengers” and “Here 4 the Win” for participating.



COMMUNITY BBQ 2021



The first word that comes to mind when thinking of the Community BBQ for 2021, is **TOGETHERNESS**. This event has allowed the community to draw closer together for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship. ECOH Community Support Services and Crossroads Church, under the banner of The Salvation Army, provided light in these unprecedented and challenging times to 530+ community members.

It was great to have Freedom Band with us once again to entertain the audience with great music selections. Fun for the kids was the Sparkle Stop Face Painting artist and Backyard Balloon Artist. We love having them join this event each year.

The delicious meal was prepared by our staff under the supervision of our very own Central Services Manager, Kiran Chhetry. We are always grateful to have the support and donations of our close partner in services to community, the Edmonton Food bank, who donated a vast amount of the supplies for the event. The community Resource Centre also provided giveaway treat bags for each community member present at the event. Finally, our volunteers internally and externally, a big thank you for giving of your time and talent to community.



SAFETY CORNER



Jeremy Stevens, ECOH Safe Work Advisor

Hello everyone - I want to start by sharing with you one of my favorite quotes.

*When anyone asks me how I can best describe my experience in nearly forty years at sea, I merely say, uneventful. Of course there have been winter gales and storms and fog and the like. But in all my experience, I have never been in any accident...or any sort worth speaking about. I have seen but one vessel in distress in all my years at sea. I never saw a wreck and never have been wrecked nor was I ever in any predicament that threatened to end in disaster of any sort.*  
-E.J. Smith, Captain, RMS Titanic

Smith uttered this eerie statement in 1907 and we all know what happened 5 years later. In my career I have heard many quotes like Smiths from workers such as, “It’ll never happen to me”, “I’ve done this over 1000 times”, “I haven’t been trained but I know how to do it”, “taking shortcuts allows me to get more done in the day”.

One of the biggest causes of workplace injury is complacency which, like many things, is 100% preventable. So please be vigilant with everything you do while at work. Always be prepared for any incident, remember your training, report hazards, report all incidents, review policies and procedures, look out for one another and return home safely.

I am so proud and excited to be part of The Salvation Army as your Safe Work Advisor. I am here as a support for all of you. Please do not hesitate to email me [Jeremy.stevens@salvationarmy.ca](mailto:Jeremy.stevens@salvationarmy.ca).