



CHINATOWN SAFETY COUNCIL

2021 PROJECTS SUMMARY





BACKGROUND

The Chinatown Safety Council is composed of community groups, non-profits, businesses, enforcement agencies, City of Edmonton departments and REACH Edmonton. Together, we work towards collaboratively understanding the safety and well-being needs of the community. Working alongside community members, we aim to develop safety and well-being projects that are designed by the community and are owned by the community.

Community Partners:

- Chinatown Transformation Collaborative
- Edmonton Chinese Young Leaders Council
- The Chinese Benevolent Association
- Chinatown and Area Business Association
- REACH Edmonton
- HOPE Mission
- Boyle Street Community Services
- The Mustard Seed
- Edmonton Police Service
- McCauley Revitalization
- City of Edmonton

ACTIVE PROJECTS

Chinatown Safety Council Meetings:

- The Chinatown Safety Council features 13 stakeholder groups
- The Council has met four times in the past 12 months. 2022 meetings will follow a quarterly or bi-monthly schedule
- These meetings are an opportunity for all members to update the group about their safety and well-being work in Chinatown
- Assist Community Services and CBA Youth will be invited to join the Safety Council

Chinatown Working Group:

- The Chinatown Safety Council features a Working Group that includes representation from CABA, CTC, and REACH
- The Working Group meets every two weeks to maintain momentum around identified priority projects
- These meetings are an opportunity to bring in other Safety Council members to discuss and support specific projects
- In 2022, we will aim for 6 (bi-monthly) Safety Council meetings and approximately 22 (bi-weekly) Working Group meetings

Chinatown Safety Council Website:

- CSC website is now live: <http://chinatownsafetycouncil.ca>
- A “Defining Safety” page allows stakeholders to identify their priority safety and well-being concerns: <http://chinatownsafetycouncil.ca/defining-safety>
- A “Resources” page includes the Chinatown & McCauley Safety and Cleanliness Booklet, the McCauley Chinatown Who to Call Postcard in English and Traditional Chinese, and information about useful safety and well-being resources and contacts
- Translation of the postcard has been provided by CTC

Chinatown Safety Council Facebook:

- CSC Facebook is now live: <https://www.facebook.com/yegchinatownsafetycouncil>. Please follow and like the page – and encourage others to do so
- The page features scheduled posts in English and Traditional Chinese, highlighting resources and contacts to address different safety and well-being issues
- Translation of the Facebook posts has been provided by CTC

McCauley Chinatown Who to Call Postcard:

- REACH, CTC, and Revitalization developed a McCauley Chinatown Who to Call postcard in English and Traditional Chinese. It is available in hard copy, and can also be downloaded at the CSC website
- #YEGAmbassadors have delivered copies to Chinatown businesses
- Copies are available at CTC and CABA offices; and additional copies are available for anyone wanting them



ACTIVE PROJECTS

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Chinatown & McCauley Safety and Cleanliness Booklet:

- REACH and Revitalization collaborated with enforcement and social agency partners to create the comprehensive 14-page Chinatown & McCauley Safety and Cleanliness Booklet. The booklet will be updated annually

CTC Litter Clean Ups/ Volunteer Database:

- With initial support from REACH, CTC has established the monthly Chinatown Litter Clean Up
- 7 events have attracted 221 volunteers and cleaned up 200 bags of litter
- The events have helped CTC create a volunteer database of approximately 80 volunteers to support Chinatown events
- Volunteers have also included #YEGAmbassadors, REACH Edmonton Students Association, Community Standards Peace Officers, Councillor Stevenson, MLAs Irwin and Shepherd, and MP Dejarlais
- Material support is provided by REACH/ Safer McCauley and Capital City Clean up
- Revitalization funding is allowing CTC to provide lunches for volunteers after the events



ACTIVE PROJECTS

Needle and Litter Clean Up (City-CABA-Social Enterprise)

Partnership: Chinatown BIA, CoE Local Economy, SeedWorks

- Area: Chinatown BIA
- Needles: 2,081
- Bags of Litter: 643 bags
- Pressure washing: 92,128 ft²
- Hours worked: 1,025
- Cost: \$44,345 (\$26,523 needle & litter collection and \$ \$17,822 pressure washing). Split 50-50 economic recovery grant and our annual budget.

Partnership: CoE CCCU, Boyle Street Ventures

- Area: 97 St - 100 Street, from 105 Ave - 107 Ave.
- Needles: 1236
- Bags of Litter: 689
- Hours worked: 840 (May 19 - August 31. 7 days / week, 4 hours / day x 2 staff)
- Cost: \$19,600.

Partnership: CoE CCCU & Revitalization, SeedWorks

- Area: Chinatown & Broader McCauley
- Needles: 1,847 (Chinatown: 550; McCauley: 1,297)
- Bags of Litter: 530 (Chinatown:176; McCauley: 354)
- Hours worked: 837 Hours (Chinatown: 232; McCauley: 605) (May to October)

Total needles: 5,164

Total Bags of Litter: 1,862 + 200 (CTC Clean Ups) = 2, 062

Community Patrol:

- #YEGAmbassadors, Mustard Seed, City of Edmonton Community Standards and Community Safety/ NET and attended Working Group meetings to discuss activation of a Community Patrol. The possibility of a volunteer community member patrol has been put on hold in favour of increased presence of outreach workers and programs like Community Safety Ambassadors





ACTIVE PROJECTS

Motion Lights:

- REACH and CTC collaborated on a successful Revitalization grant to provide motion activated lighting to Chinatown businesses free of charge, to improve visibility and deter crime in some of the darker areas in Chinatown
- Installation has begun. An additional grant application will be submitted for stronger lighting for businesses, and many of the current lighting units will be redirected to residential settings

Safety Audit:

- A preliminary walkabout of Chinatown took place on June 23, involving the Neighbourhood Empowerment Team (NET), CABA, CTC, and REACH
- NET attended a Working Group meeting to discuss a strategy for a Chinatown Safety Audit, to 1) understand the safety opportunities and gaps; and 2) develop safety recommendations for the Chinatown area. The discussion will continue at an upcoming Working Group meeting

Building Bridges:

- Several Safety Council members volunteered as members of a Building Bridges project team to investigate strengthening relationships between businesses and the houseless population
- In 2022, the project team will meet to discuss opportunities, including:
 - community workshops and community conversations
 - presentations to community about agency operating models;
 - purchase of meals from Chinatown restaurants to feed vulnerable individuals
 - sharing of volunteer opportunities
 - good neighbour agreements
- Boyle Street Community Services is attending the Feb 24 Safety Council meeting to discuss it's plans to relocate to Chinatown
- Good Neighbour Agreements:
 - Moving forward, Good Neighbour Agreements will feature in the Building Bridges project; and may be a key part of the evolving relationship between the neighbourhood, Boyle Street Community Services, and other social agencies



DISCUSSED & INVESTIGATED - RE-EVALUATE

EPS Beats Office:

- Safety Council members met with Downtown Division EPS to discuss the creation of a Chinatown EPS Beats Office. Create an EPS beats office to support the work of beats officers and bylaw officers

Project Goals:

- Increase connectivity
- Improved EPS relationships community
- Dedicated phone/voicemail
- Scheduled drop in hours
- Distribution of print resources

Public Lanterns & Music:

- To celebrate Chinatown heritage and to boost the vibrancy of the area, we plan to work on installing public lanterns to light up our streets, and music to unite businesses together
- CABA has applied for a Revitalization grant to support the purchase of 25 lanterns, to be installed by EPCOR
- CTC has communicated with our Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator (NRC), who can support with navigating City systems to attain permits and licencing for beautification and vibrancy projects

POTENTIAL - RE-EVALUATE

Crime Reporting Hotline:

- A phone line for community and business to use to inform EPS beats officers of their safety and well-being concerns

Project Goals:

- Improved communications
- Dedicated communication channel for Chinatown
- Overcome language barriers
- Find alignment with EPS beats office

Graffiti Clean Up Grant Campaign:

- Create a campaign that raises awareness of the grant that community members can apply to for graffiti removal. \$750 available through this grant.

Project Goals:

- Raise awareness of the grant
- Removal of graffiti in Chinatown
- Reduce and remove graffiti in Chinatown
- Have volunteers map out where all the different graffiti in the area are.

Grant Streams:

- Create a collection of grants we can apply to for additional project funding

Garbage Can/ Trash Mapping:

- Develop a map of garbage cans and areas of acute litter to better inform Capital City Clean up of Chinatown's litter needs

