

**2008 – 2009**  
**Mill Woods Mapping and Beyond Committee**  
**Partnership Agreement**

***Vision Statement:***

More effective services are delivered to children, youth and families in Mill Woods through partnering and collaborative planning by human services providers and other community organizations.

***Statement of Need:***

***Community***

- ◆ Residents lack knowledge of available resources in their community
- ◆ The population of Mill Woods is 110 256 and has steadily been growing over the last ten years. Services and supports have not kept up with this growth.
- ◆ There is a high population of youth in the area. A lack of resources for youth has been identified.
- ◆ The newcomer population is significant and diverse; sometimes reaching 38% of the population in specific neighbourhoods. These families are requesting support from their community.
- ◆ The Mill Woods area has the highest birth rate in the city. (as reported by Capital Health)
- ◆ Support for parents and children is imperative to ensure healthy development.

***Human Service Providers/Partners***

- ◆ Partnering agencies lack information about the community and existing resources.
- ◆ Participant agencies lack the resources to do an extensive needs assessment (Agencies are so busy meeting the needs of families that they don't have time for comprehensive planning)
- ◆ Participating agencies are often unable to participate in community development, as they lack resources.
- ◆ Human service providers are interested in partnering to:
  - ◆ understand each others mandates better
  - ◆ maximize existing resources
  - ◆ ensure they are aware of and can plan for emerging issues/needs
- ◆ Participants are interested in identifying new potential partners.
- ◆ Partners see the value in enhancing partnerships.

***Goals:***

To better serve families, youth and children in Mill Woods.  
To strengthen partnerships between service providers in Mill Woods and area.

## ***Expected Outcomes:***

### ***Community***

- ◆ A stronger continuum of services exists for children, youth, and families
- ◆ Families are more knowledgeable about services and where the services are located within Mill Woods

### ***Human Service Providers/Partners***

- ◆ Increased knowledge of the population, needs, gaps in services in Mill Woods
- ◆ To maintain a Resource Directory with a process in place for updates
- ◆ That relationships between service providers are built and maintained
- ◆ Increase in meaningful involvement in collaborative planning by human service providers and other community based organizations
- ◆ Participants have fun, have increased knowledge of each others systems and increased trust

## ***Shared Principles & Values:***

- ◆ Equity
- ◆ Fairness
- ◆ Respect
- ◆ Inclusion
- ◆ Working towards the greater good
- ◆ Honest & direct communication
- ◆ Humour
- ◆ Cooperation
- ◆ Meaningful participation

## ***Commitment of Each Partner:***

- ◆ Each participant will attend meetings regularly, participate fully & follow thorough commitments
- ◆ Each partner agency is committed to doing their part to uphold the elements of the partnership agreement and to contribute resources as they are able.
- ◆ Each partner agency is responsible for recruiting and orientating replacement representatives when the staff assigned to be their representative is changed.

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## ***Decision Making Procedure:***

- ◆ Strive for consensus; if we cannot achieve consensus, then the majority rules.
- ◆ Continuum of Consensus. (attached) can be used to make complex decisions.

## ***Conflict Resolution Plan:***

- ◆ In the event of a conflict, partners will set a time to discuss the issue confidentially, strive to understand each others' position and come to a satisfactory understanding and/or decision

- ◆ If the agreement cannot be reached, the chairperson of the Mill Woods Mapping and Beyond Committee can be asked to assist.
- ◆ If agreement cannot be reached with the assistance of the chairperson, an outside mediator will be asked to participate.

***Role of the Banker:***

- ◆ Whoever holds funds for this committee must be willing to follow the direction and decision of the committee regarding funds allocated for the use of the work of the committee.
- ◆ In cases where there is potential liability, due diligence must be done to identify legal implications and strategies to address.

***Administrative Support:***

- ◆ Minutes will be taken at every meeting and distributed with the agenda and meeting reminder at least one week prior to an upcoming meeting.
- ◆ Will centralize information about the group and its subcommittees at the City of Edmonton Site.

***Evaluation:***

- ◆ Minimally once a year – either through a focus group or on-line survey
- ◆ 1 annual written survey

***Reporting Accomplishments:***

- ◆ Annual communication with stakeholders and community at large to report accomplishments and plans.
- ◆ Annual summary will be prepared by the chair of each subcommittee and posted online at the Maps Website - [maps.albertacapitalregion.ca](http://maps.albertacapitalregion.ca)