



Toward Healthier Cities across Alberta: Linking Research, Policy and Practice



A Campus Alberta HOPH transdisciplinary exploration linking social equity, the built environment and health

Jane Springett ,Melanie Rock, Candace Nykiforuk, Emma Wilkins, Dawn Rault, Ana Belon.



Centre for
Health Promotion
STUDIES



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Background

- Rise in interest in the role of urban built environment in creating health

Building Population Health Into Municipal Policy

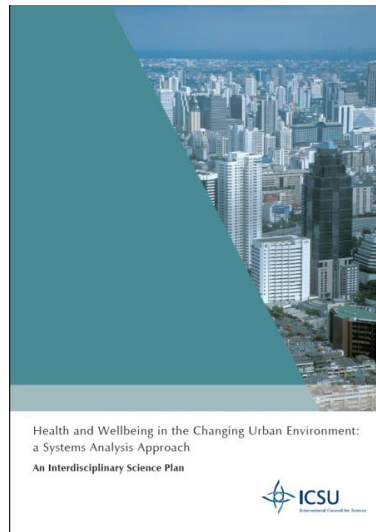
The Use of Health Impact Assessments

By Lisa Marie Williams


Seeking Higher Ground: PART TWO




December, 2013




Vision



Raj works as a planner for his local municipality. He has noticed that it's becoming harder and harder for community members to walk to work or shop for fresh fruits and vegetables, while at the same time people have less and less time for recreational physical activity and must drive longer distances to access healthy foods. Based on these observations, Raj is concerned that rapid and sprawling development in his community may be having negative health impacts, such as contributing to growing obesity rates, because these new developments put more emphasis on moving cars than on moving people.



At the same time, Jane, one of Raj's colleagues in the health department, has been working with Healthy Canada by Design to learn how public health can work more closely with community planners, developers and other stakeholders to ensure that planning and development issues – which determine the physical layout and feel of our communities – are also looked at through a



Alberta's Social Policy Framework Outline

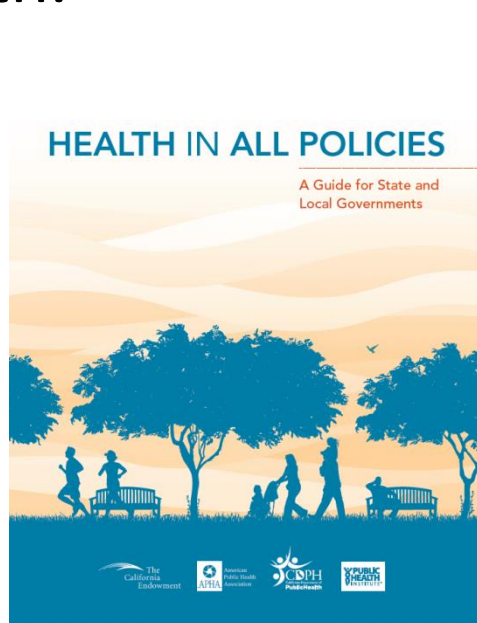


SPF VISION Overall direction for social policy in Alberta In Alberta, everyone contributes to making our communities inclusive and welcoming. Everyone has opportunities to fulfill their potential and benefit from our thriving social, economic, and cultural life.	OUTCOMES Frame and orient activities towards common goals		PRINCIPLES Guide decision making, programs and service delivery	ACTIONS Priority transformational initiatives to realize change*	POLICY SHIFTS Influence and inform policy
	Social Policy Outcomes Albertans are... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe > Live free from fear of abuse and violence Healthy > Achieve the highest attainable standards of health and well-being Secure & Resilient > Support themselves and their households through safe work and career opportunities, with access to effective income supports when in financial need Lifelong Learners > Develop the knowledge, skills, and commitment to learning needed to participate in society and reach potential Included > Feel welcomed in the communities where they live, learn, and work Active & Engaged > Explore opportunities to participate in recreational activities and cultural experiences, and to engage in Albertan society 	System Outcomes Systems are... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligned > Policy is aligned across program areas; tools and supports work together Balanced > Programs and services are balanced between prevention and intervention, support the whole person, and recognize strengths and needs Accessible > Albertans have access to and benefit from cohesive, flexible, timely, and informed services and supports Accountable and Sustainable > Social programs and services are results-oriented, transparent, and sustainable Complementary > Roles are balanced, complementary, and work together to achieve outcomes 			


* This is a list of leading Government of Alberta initiatives and not an exhaustive list of actions by government or other sectors.


Background

- Europe, Latin America and Asia: municipalities in different political systems taking a lead on health.









 Decade of Health & Wellbeing

The Liverpool City-region Health is Wealth Commission


Update
 January 2011






State of the Art:
 Creative Health Talks
Voice from Creative Health and Well-being Stakeholders, Liverpool, European Capital of Culture 2008.

Joint Health Unit


 Liverpool City Council


 Liverpool Primary Care Trust

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
 Update for 2009/2010

Central Liverpool  Primary Care Trust

North Liverpool  Primary Care Trust

South Liverpool  Primary Care Trust



 The City of Liverpool




 STRATEGIC Housing Partnership for Liverpool




 Liverpool PARTNERSHIP GROUP


Health Impact Assessment
 of
 Liverpool City Council's
 Housing Strategy
 Statement

Final Report: 2003


 World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Europe



Addressing the social determinants of health: the urban dimension and the role of local government



 Health's Close 20th Century

Who came

- 21 people from across the province
- Diverse backgrounds
 - Academic
 - different disciplines: public health; health promotion; urban planning; geography; anthropology; law
 - NGOs from social sector
 - GOA
 - MOH
 - Planners
 - Public and private sectors





What we talked about in the Transdisciplinary Inquiry

- World Cafe
 - What is currently happening in Alberta that is contributing to creating healthier cities ?
- Open Space
 - How to mobilise around inequity
 - How to give voice to the powerless
 - How do we sell “health” to health?
 - Walkability as direct/indirect action
 - Role of conflict
 - How to engage others in the broader determinants of health



Examples of what we learnt

- A great deal is going on a community, city , policy level with potential synergy but mostly at community level
 - Complete communities, Abundant communities, Task Force on Poverty, Age friendly
- Some new and exciting partnerships being formed e.g Urban Alliance in Calgary
 - Importance of relationships
- Maslow is not dead



Examples of what we learnt

- Socio cultural environment of the car culture reinforced by school policy, planning policy and tax policy
- Impossible to separate social and physical environment
- Handling conflict better
- Tension of defining community
- More holistic perspective needed
- Role of civic engagement
- Municipal Government Act
- City Mayors



So What?

- Contribution to the conversations going on in the Province
- Importance of Deliberative Dialogue
 - Creates space for meaning making together
- Potential to be grasped
- Individual level action
- Collaboration between Institute for Population Health and Equity and Centre for Health Promotion Studies
- Need for more research and collaborative action
 - Mismatch between research funding and action locally
 - Indicators for collective impact

