

HOUSING FOR ALL



Unlocking Tomorrow's Communities



In a world where housing is not just a necessity but a fundamental cornerstone of thriving communities, the stage is set for a symposium that will shape the way we envision our future. The Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) is proud to be hosting a symposium as catalyst for change and regional action. Under the theme Housing For All, the REenvision Housing Symposium will dive deep into the housing continuum, exploring vital questions that demand answers:

- What critical factors must we address to secure housing in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region?
- How can we collectively engineer a thriving, healthy, and globally competitive Region?
- How do we address the housing needs of our Region today, and those that will accompany a growing and diverse population?

HOSTED BY



- Who are the visionaries and pioneers we must attract to our Region, and what will it take to entice them to join our journey?

This symposium is not just a meeting of minds; it's a forum where elected officials, developers and builders, thought leaders, practitioners, and community builders will come together to identify solutions and pave the way to action.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allan Gamble".

Mayor Allan Gamble
Board Chair, EMRB

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Wichuk".

Karen Wichuk
CEO, EMRB

AGENDA

TIME Focus Areas

7:30 AM **Breakfast/Registration**

8:00 AM **Greetings**

8:30 AM **Keynote: Chris Fair** President and CEO, Resonance Consultancy Ltd.
The Path to Prosperity: Building More Livable & Lovable Communities

9:30 AM **Coffee**

9:45 AM **AM Panel**
Housing for All: Exploring the Housing Continuum

11:00 AM **Remarks**

11:15 AM **Breakout Sessions #1**

- A Embracing Multigenerational Living and Innovative Housing Solutions
- B Closing the Housing Gap: Strategies and Solutions for Thriving Rural Communities
- C The Unseen: Housing Needs and Non-Market Housing

12:15 PM **Lunch**

Remarks
Presentation: Shaun Cathcart, Senior Economist, Canadian Real Estate Association

1:15 PM **Breakout Sessions #2**

- A Downtown Livability and Challenges in the Centres
- B Understanding Changing Demographics
- C Navigating Affordability Challenges

2:15 PM **Coffee**

2:30 PM **PM Panel**
What We Heard: Bringing Together the Learnings of the Day and Opportunities for the Region

3:45 PM **Closing Remarks**

4:00 PM **Reception**

KEYNOTE

The Path to Prosperity

Building More Livable & Lovable Communities

What are the critical factors needed to drive economic competitiveness in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region? What can we collectively do to build an attractive, thriving, healthy, and globally competitive Region? Who are the changemakers and innovators we need to attract to our Region and what are they looking for to make the move?

Looking to the best regions around the world, the session will share the key drivers and essential attributes that make regions attractive, livable, and prosperous. This inspiring and thought-provoking keynote will enable attendees to discover how prioritizing housing, transportation, and cultural amenities are key to leveraging economic competitiveness. The keynote address will share how having a place to call home is central to our communities and highlight that the role of demonstrating strong leadership is essential to creating an inclusive, sustainable, and thriving Region.

Through collaborative and innovative approaches to planning, design, and development, we can foster inclusive communities that support affordable and attainable housing, equitable access, and sustainability.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Chris Fair

President and CEO,
Resonance
Consultancy Ltd.

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Futurist & World's Best
Cities Author



AM PANEL

Housing for All

Exploring
the Housing
Continuum



SCAN THE CODE TO
DIG DEEPER INTO
THE SPEAKERS
AND SESSIONS.

Housing or a place to call home is not only a basic need but is the foundation of vibrant and thriving communities. With the Region's population expected to grow by another million people, the panel will speak to the needs, opportunities, and potential for the Edmonton Metropolitan Region.

In this discussion, we will delve into the diverse range of housing challenges and solutions across the entire housing continuum. From houselessness to affordable housing to market affordable housing and full market housing, the discussion will identify the gaps and build on common interests to explore solutions for attainable housing options for all. Panelists will each shed light on the various issues and reflect on the potential for advancing the housing agenda in meeting the needs of complete communities.





Moderator

Mary Rowe

PRESIDENT AND CEO, CANADIAN URBAN INSTITUTE



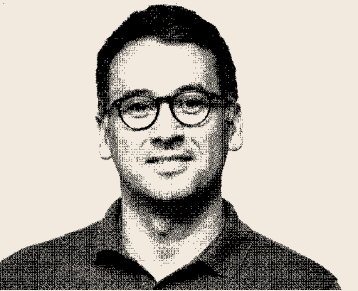
Angie Staines

FOUNDER, 4B HARM REDUCTION SOCIETY



Bree Claude

VICE PRESIDENT, CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AND
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, CIVIDA



Dr. Joshua Evans

RESEARCH LEAD, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
(AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOLUTIONS LAB)

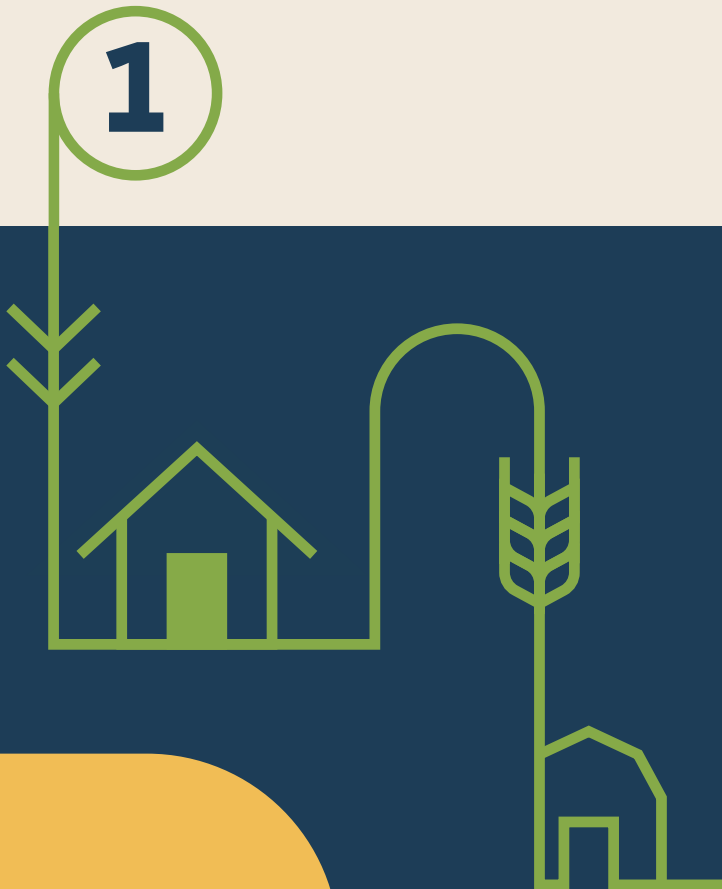


Jodie Wacko

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, CANTIRO

Breakout Sessions

1



OPTION A Embracing Multigenerational Living and Innovative Housing Solutions

Discover the transformation of multigenerational living and innovative housing solutions in this engaging breakout session. Despite being one of the youngest populations in the country, it is critical to understand the challenges and opportunities associated with the changing realities for youth, an aging demographic, and a range of cultures with diverse needs making this Region home. Increasing costs of housing, the evolving needs of seniors and youth, and fiscal budget constraints all require new and innovative housing models that foster multigenerational connections, promote independence, and create inclusive communities. Attendees will reimagine opportunities for housing through commercial conversion and zoning changes to gain insights into the creative strategies being employed to optimize land use and address the growing housing demands of our rapidly changing world. Housing developers, homebuilders, architects, healthcare providers, policymakers, and community advocates passionate about multigenerational living must work together to create age-friendly communities.

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Kalen Anderson – Moderator
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, URBAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE – EDMONTON METRO

Adil Kodian
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, ROHIT GROUP OF COMPANIES

Greg Christenson
PRESIDENT, CHRISTENSON GROUP OF COMPANIES

Dr. Haidong Liang
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WESTEND SENIORS ACTIVITY CENTRE

OPTION B

Closing the Housing Gap

Strategies and Solutions for Thriving Rural Communities

This session will dig into key topics such as limited access to affordable housing, infrastructure constraints, economic disparities, aging-in-place, and the preservation of rural community identity. Attendees will learn about successful rural housing programs, including government initiatives, public-private partnerships, and community-led efforts that have effectively addressed housing challenges in rural settings. Working together to bridge the gap in rural housing, foster sustainable growth, and maintain the high quality of life for residents in rural communities. This session will share the value of supporting our agricultural sector and rural economic development with housing solutions. Participants will hear from experts to learn about effective programs and strategies to build a better Region.

Heather Thomson – Moderator
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA (CENTRE FOR CITIES & COMMUNITIES)

Linda Bernicki
DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Patrick Shaver
PRESIDENT, AVILLIA DEVELOPMENTS LTD

Paul McLaughlin
PRESIDENT, RURAL MUNICIPALITIES OF ALBERTA

OPTION C

The Unseen

Housing Needs and Non-Market Housing

Affordability and secure housing are the fundamentals to supporting those most vulnerable. Without a place to call home, there is an increased risk of falling into poverty cycles and homelessness. This session will share the unique needs and perspectives from Indigenous communities, the challenges facing downtown Edmonton, and highlight the value of a housing needs assessment tool for the housing sector. Panelists will offer insights into the current state of affordable housing, where and what kind of support is needed, and challenges related to funding initiatives.

Catherine Keill – Moderator
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, KEILL & CO. INC.

Kayli Avveduti
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONFEDERACY OF TREATY 6 FIRST NATIONS

Margot Hagarty
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LEDUC REGIONAL HOUSING FOUNDATION

Nancy Simmonds
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, HEARTLAND HOUSING FOUNDATION

LUNCH PRESENTATION

Shaun Cathcart

SENIOR ECONOMIST AND
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING DATA
AND MARKET ANALYSIS, CANADIAN
REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION



Canadian Real Estate Association – Housing Market Outlook

Shaun Cathcart will share valuable market intelligence on key trends, including market fluctuations, housing supply-demand dynamics, impacts of mortgage rates and inflation, and regional variations that are essential for informed decision-making. Providing a national and regional environmental context of the key factors impacting the housing market and housing attainability, Shaun will dive into the statistics that will give attendees a better sense of what is driving some of the key challenges we are facing today. Shaun will highlight the current state of housing markets in Canada, who is coming, and explain what the data means as the Edmonton Metropolitan Region prepares for the next million people.

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Breakout Sessions

2



OPTION A Downtown Livability and Challenges in the Centres

What defines the heart of the centres of our communities? The core of our Region? The centres of our communities? The municipalities within the Edmonton Metropolitan Region, like many regions in North America, have prized and prioritized downtown districts to create dynamic communities, build economic growth, and develop tourism and entertainment hubs. The rise of work-from-home culture, increased office vacancy rates, disproportionate climate impacts on the most vulnerable, challenges in houselessness, and the mental health and addictions crisis have all contributed to the struggling downtowns and centres in many communities across the nation. This session will invite discussion about centres as complete communities for families, seniors, and businesses alike and look to the solutions and tools that are critical to the recovery and livability of our regional core and community centres throughout our cities, towns, and hamlets.

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Catherine Keill – Moderator
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, KEILL & CO. INC.

Dr. Annette Trimbee
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR, MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Cory Wosnack
PRINCIPAL AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, AVISON YOUNG

Jill Robertson
PARTNER, DIALOG

Susan McGee
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, HOMEWARD TRUST

OPTION B

Understanding Changing Demographics

This breakout session will explore the changing demographics driving informed decision-making. It will provide insights into the Region and how the changing nature of the population, including new Canadians, youth, and a growing Indigenous population, needs to be considered when planning for housing options. What will make the communities in our Region more attractive and help persuade the next generation of Canadians to choose to live and work here? Using market research, data analytics, and economic forecasting, this session will empower participants to make informed choices to meet the needs of the Region today and into the future.

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Heather Thomson – Moderator
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA (CENTRE FOR CITIES AND COMMUNITIES)

Allison Watson
VICE PRESIDENT, LEGER

Cheryl Whiskeyjack
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BENT ARROW TRADITIONAL HEALING SOCIETY

Laura Jo Gunter
PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NAIT

Rispah Tremblay
SENIOR MANAGER, SETTLEMENT SERVICES, EDMONTON MENNONITE CENTRE FOR NEWCOMERS

OPTION C

Navigating Affordability Challenges

This breakout session delves into the critical issues of housing affordability and explores creative ideas to retain our competitive advantage of being an affordable Region. Experts in finance and economics, the housing industry, and the non-profit sector, will share their insights on ways to address fiscal pressures on homeowners, the market, and the industry, as they look into the future. Attendees will learn about the complex relationship between housing affordability and housing needs. Panelists will shed light on trends and challenges related to navigating affordability and discuss solutions that may need to be put in place to find ways to ensure housing for all. Participants will gain valuable insights into the intricacies of this dynamic landscape and what tools may be explored to advance housing attainability.

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Kalen Anderson – Moderator
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, URBAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
EDMONTON METRO

Shaun Cathcart
DIRECTOR & SENIOR ECONOMIST, HOUSING DATA AND MARKET ANALYST, CANADIAN REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION

Tim Richter
PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
CANADIAN ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS

Maurizio Capano
PRINCIPAL AT PROBUS PROJECT MANAGEMENT INC.

PM PANEL

What We Heard

Bringing Together
the Learnings
of the Day and
Opportunities for
the Region

Following an invigorating keynote, engaging panel discussion, and a series of inspiring and educational breakout sessions, the final panel will cap off the day, bringing together the most impactful discussions and insights. This panel will bring together a diverse group of experts who will share their reflections on the symposium and summarize the key lessons learned. The panelists will highlight breakout sessions they moderated, sharing the themes, messages, and valuable takeaways from each session.

Panelists will encourage participants to reflect on the symposium's outcomes and identify actionable steps for shaping a future of housing that is accessible, competitive, and supportive of the Region's growth and potential.

Pulling in the audience, this closing session will be just the start of the conversation. By the end of this final session, participants will be equipped with a clear understanding of the symposium's key takeaways, the opportunities and successes that exist within the Region, and the importance of ongoing collaboration and leadership in advancing the goals of housing attainability, economic competitiveness, and sustainable growth.



Moderator

Mary Rowe

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
CANADIAN URBAN INSTITUTE



Catherine Keill

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, KEILL & CO. INC.



Heather Thomson

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(CENTRE FOR CITIES AND COMMUNITIES)



Kalen Anderson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, URBAN DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE – EDMONTON METRO

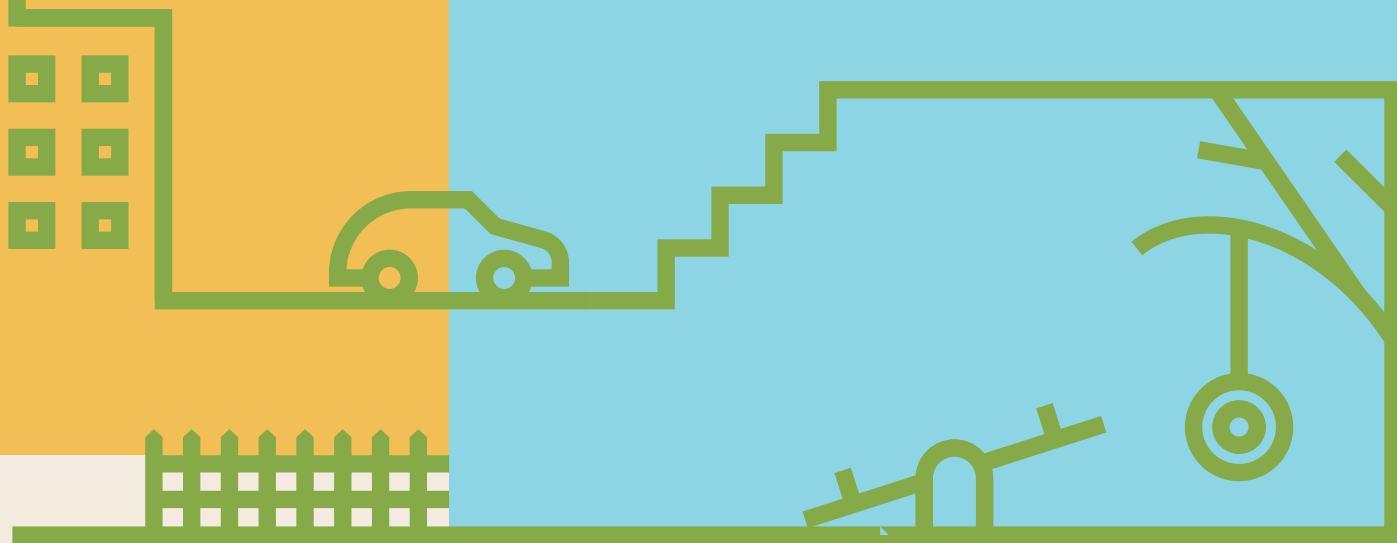


REenvision HOUSING 2023

HOSTED BY



Edmonton Metropolitan
Region Board



Scan the code to dig deeper
into the speakers and sessions.

emrb.ca

#HousingForAll #REenvisionHousing