

Edmonton John Howard Society

Government Relations (GR) Plan

June 2023

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I. Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to create a clear and concise roadmap for the next 6-12 months to effectively engage Edmonton John Howard Society (EJHS) with Government. The intent is to keep building strategic relationships to improve awareness of EJHS and to ensure that EJHS' priorities are top of mind when legislative and funding decisions are made. The overall strategy and action items are intended to bring positive outcomes to the four main objectives listed in the next section.

II. Objectives

1. Building awareness of EJHS priorities within the current party and cabinet and the Official Opposition
2. Ensure the legislation and policy priorities of EJHS are taken into consideration by the Government of Alberta when writing legislation that impacts the non-profit sector and community safety.

III. Considerations

Considering the recent events involving the Chief Justice, moving forward, our primary objective is to build relationships with Ministry ADMs and DMs in three key ministries: Justice, Public Safety, and Children and Family Services. These collaborations will enable us to expand our network and amplify the impact of EJHS initiatives while ensuring EJHS remains informed and aware of any changes to GoA procurement and contract renegotiation processes.

While engaging with the NDP Opposition is important, we must ensure that EJHS's policy priorities do not become embroiled in partisan disputes. We should keep the NDP informed about the progress made on our priorities but refrain from directly soliciting their advocacy. By maintaining an open line of communication and providing updates, we can foster a cooperative atmosphere that transcends political affiliations and focuses on the greater good. Ultimately, our aim is to build consensus and garner support for EJHS's initiatives across party lines.

Current EJHS Policy Priorities:

- Coordinated reintegration from justice to community
- Fair, accessible, and efficient court and justice services
- Improved corrections supports
- Building relationships with key ministry ADMs and DMs

IV. Strategy and Action Items

Considering the recent developments between the GoA, justice system, and EJHS, this revised GR plan includes action steps dedicated to building relationships with key DMs and ADMs.

Priority #1: Building relationships with key ADMs and DMs, while maintaining existing relationships with Minister's

Action Item 1.1: Engage with the Ministry of Justice

- Request a meeting with Minister Amery
- Request a meeting with Chief of Staff
- Request a meeting with Deputy Minister Malcolm Lavoie
- Request a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Elizabeth Macve
- Update communication materials as needed

Action Item 1.2: Engage with the Ministry of Public Safety

- Request a meeting with Minister Ellis
- Request a meeting with Chief of Staff
- Request a meeting with Deputy Minister Rae-Ann Lajeunesse
- Request a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Ross Nairne
- Update communication materials as needed

Action Item 1.3: Engage with the Ministry of Children and Family Services

- Request a meeting with Minister Turton
- Request a meeting with Chief of Staff
- Request a meeting with Deputy Minister Lisa Sadowink
- Request a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Cynthia Dunnigan
- Update communication materials as needed

Action Item 1.4: Engage with Other Decision Makers as Needed

- With direction from the other Minister's offices, engage with other offices, as needed, including bureaucracy and other ministries

Action Item 1.5: Engage with Members of the Official Opposition

- Meet with relevant MLAs when appropriate
- Organize initial meeting(s) with appropriate caucus staff

Priority #2: Advocate for Improved Coordination and Reintegration from Justice to Community

Action Item 2.1: Engage with the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services

- Request a meeting with Minister Ellis
- Request a meeting with Chief of Staff
- Request a meeting with Deputy Minister Rae-Ann Lajeunesse
- Request a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Ross Nairne
- Update communication materials as needed

Action Item 2.2: Engage with Other Decision Makers as Needed

- With direction from Minister Ellis' office, engage with other offices, as needed, including bureaucracy and other ministries

Priority #3: Advocate for Fair, Accessible, & Efficient Court & Justice Services

Action Item 3.1: Engage with the Ministry of Justice

- Request a meeting with Minister Amery
- Request a meeting with Chief of Staff
- Request a meeting with Deputy Minister Malcolm Lavoie
- Request a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Elizabeth Macve
- Update communication materials as needed

Action Item 3.2: Engage with Other Decision Makers as Needed

- With direction from Minister Amery's office, engage with other offices, as needed, including bureaucracy and other ministries

Priority #4: Advocate for Improved Corrections Supports

Action Item 4.1: Engage with the Ministry of Justice

- Request a meeting with Minister Amery
- Request a meeting with Chief of Staff
- Request a meeting with Deputy Minister Malcolm Lavoie
- Request a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Elizabeth Macve
- Update communication materials as needed

Action Item 4.2: Engage with Other Decision Makers as Needed

- With direction from Minister Amery's office, engage with other offices, as needed, including bureaucracy and other ministries