

# African Multicultural Centre(AMCC) Project Background

## Where We've Been

Incorporated in 2006, The Africa Centre is the largest pan-African non-profit organization in Western Canada. Founded out of a need for a centralized hub that provides critical programs and services to the African descent community of Edmonton. These services range from early learning and childcare, youth programming, seniors wellbeing, gender equity, economic development, mental health outreach, and scholarship opportunities. The Africa Centre is committed to delivering quality services from a place of cultural competency and sensitivity.

Since 2013, the Africa Centre and the City of Edmonton have been engaged in collaboration towards the development of the African Multicultural Community Centre. From 2013-2015, a business case, functional program and site analysis were completed. The AMCC project was put on hold in 2018 while the administration was in a transitional phase.

## Where We Are Now

In 2022, Edmonton City Council approved an operating budget amendment to fund the completion of an updated business case for the AMCC and re-initiation of the development of the Centre. Reimagine Gathering was commissioned in August 2023 to complete an updated business case for the AMCC. The intent of the business case is to present to Edmonton City Council an analysis of the need for the Centre and options for capital and operating models. This project is a partnership between the Africa Centre and the City of Edmonton. A steering committee with representatives from both organizations will oversee the project. The options presented in the business case will be informed by the findings gathered from two parallel tracks of key community engagement:

- i. **Athlone Neighbourhood Engagement** will target all residents of the neighbourhood where the AMCC will be built, irrespective of their racial or ethnic background, and to be completed by the Consultant.
- ii. **Engagement of diverse communities of African Descent** will be completed by a CNEORM Services Ltd. procured separately by the Africa Centre

## Where We're Going

The development of the African Multicultural Community Centre (AMCC) is a pioneering initiative aimed at enhancing the cultural, social, economic, and civic vibrancy of Edmonton's communities of African descent. This centre, envisaged to be established on the former Wellington Junior High School site, will be a nucleus encapsulating Edmonton's African, Caribbean, and Black community's rich and diverse heritage. With proposed potential programming features such as a cultural centre, community services, offices, and educational and recreational spaces, and community daycare, this will be a hub for the Athlone neighbourhood, one where all people are welcome to gather, learn, work, and celebrate each other.



## AMCC Project Location Map



For more information, please email us at

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