



NECRC

NORTH END
COMMUNITY
RENEWAL CORP.

2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

NORTH END COMMUNITY RENEWAL CORPORATION

2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

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Message from the President of the Board of Directors

Astrid Lichti

At NECRC and NERI, different sectors join to promote the social, economic, and cultural renewal of the North End. As an organization of organizations, Board representative from Business, Resident, Aboriginal, Community Service, Religious & Fraternal, and Labour and Cultural organizations met regularly to give direction to NECRC. We recognize the need to engage the community, strengthen renewal, and communicate well with partners.

The past year has again been one of growth and development as an organization. We wish to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of everyone, past and present, which has brought us to this place today as we look forward to our journey ahead. Our challenges have made us wiser and stronger, and given us a sincere appreciation for each other's gifts and contributions.

Highlights of our achievements this past year include:

- Completion of the North End Wellness Centre, opening its doors this summer with the grand opening being planned for September 2009.
- Expansion of projects and services in Lord Selkirk Park.
- The continued success of the Storefront Enhancement Grants, Residential Housing Fix-Up Grants, the Small Grants Fund and the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund
- The continuation of the Community Financial Services Centre
- The launch of the Building Construction Maintenance Program, in partnership with Manitoba Housing Authority renovating social housing in Lord Selkirk Park and Gilbert Park.
- The implementation of the Winnipeg Housing Rental Registry.
- The launch of the North End Food Security / Greening Program.
- A comprehensive Compensation and Policy Review.
- Board development with sessions on governance, corporate visioning, and unity of vision.
- Prudent financial management, resulting in a solid financial position.
- The continuation of partnerships and the development of new partnerships.

Our major challenge this year was business economic development and safety, and the Board has set these two challenges as a priority. A comprehensive plan will be developed in 2009, for implementation in 2010.

On a more personal note, I have had the pleasure of working with the board of Directors, Staff and Partners of NECRC, for 6 years. As such, I am at the end of my tenure. Senior board members will join new board members and continue to serve NECRC, working together with the community to achieve the needs and aspirations of our community.

Warmest Regards

Message from the Executive Director

Rob Neufeld

Welcome to NECRC's 2008-2009 Annual General Meeting. Once again, the theme for this year's AGM is "Building Community Together". Our mission is to encourage the social, economic, and cultural renewal in the North End. It has been a privilege for me to work together with NECRC's dedicated Board, staff, community members, government, and partners to build community together.

Building Together: NECRC promotes the combined investment of community, organizations, and government for renewal in the North End of Winnipeg. The seven priorities of the North End 5-Year Community Plan (2006-2011) are: 1) *Stronger Communities & Capacity Building* 2) *Economic Development* 3) *Housing Development* 4) *Recreation & Wellness* 5) *Safety* 6) *Employment Development* and 7) *Culture & Diversity*. It is our privilege to build together on this community identified vision.

Partnerships for Renewal: Many partners put their hands together for the vision and investment towards building community. Residents, organizations, and staff did amazing work. The City, Province, Federal government, and private investors provided significant funding to implement housing, economic, community, and employment plans. This report outlines our accomplishments.

Thanks: I would like to thank all of the Board and staff at NECRC for their patience and commitment in serving with the dedicated residents of the community. As special thanks to Astrid Lichti for her 6 years of service on the NECRC Board. Thanks to all our funders who have shown their solidarity to dream with us and invest towards North End Community Renewal. It has been a year of challenges, lessons learned, and growth. It is my privilege to work with you all.

History and Mission Statement

The North End Community Renewal Corporation (NECRC) was founded in 1998 by a coalition of Winnipeg organizations who were concerned about some of the trends in the north end of Winnipeg and who were aware of the good results that community development corporations in other parts of North America were achieving in revitalizing inner city communities.

The NECRC was established to serve the community within the geographic area north of the CP tracks, south of Carruthers Ave., east of McPhillips Street and west of the Red River.

The mandate of the corporation is to promote the social, economic and cultural renewal of the north end of Winnipeg. It does this by improving the quality and accessibility of housing, creating jobs, upgrading commercial and industrial areas, implementing employment development programs, improving the overall image of the community, and reducing crime in the community. The corporation provides co-ordination activities and a strategic focus for many of the other community improvement activities taking place in the north end.

Governance

The Board of Directors may be comprised of no more than thirteen (13) Directors, 12 (12) of whom shall be elected from the organizational class of membership. At least one position will be delegated from each of the categories of organizational membership, except for the Residents' organizations which will be represented in at least 3 positions, as follows:

- Aboriginal Organizations | (one)
- Cultural Organizations | (one)
- Business Organizations | (one)
- Community Service Organizations | (one)
- Labour Organizations | (one)

- Religious and Fraternal Organizations 1 (one)
- Resident's Organizations 3 (three)
- Directors from any of the above categories, but limited to 1 (one) Additional Director per Sectors

Nominations for candidates to unassigned seats can be from any sector such that the number of representatives on the Board, at any given time, from any one sector, not including the "Resident's' Organizations" is limited to a maximum of two (2) with "Resident Organisation limited to a maximum of four (4).

The Board may appoint one (1) Director-At-Large to the Board, based on their specific expertise or knowledge.

Our Development Philosophy

NECRC shall pursue its vision in accordance with the principles of good community economic development as identified by the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet).

NECRC will:

- Use a multi-functional comprehensive approach to community economic development through equity investments in venture and property development, lending or other credit arrangements for local businesses, human resource development through training and counselling, and capacity developing functions (research, advocacy, planning and community development services);
- Merge economic and social goals to empower local people in the governance of NECRC and of the community as a whole;
- Use strategic planning and analysis to define and guide the Corporation's efforts as opposed to relying on an opportunistic and non-systematic approach;
- Strengthen its financial affairs through ownership of assets, building a wide range of financial supporters and not relying on a single or limited source of outside financial assistance;
- Develop strategies that arise from local leadership rather than top-down initiatives;
- Be led by "social entrepreneurs" who have a vision of both social and economic justice; and
- Maintain a non-profit, independent, non-governmental format.

Employment Development

The community within NECRC boundaries is an untapped resource for tomorrow's workforce. NECRC is dedicated to supporting meaningful sustainable employment for the North End community.

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PATH Resource Centre

Located at 627 Selkirk Avenue, PATH was created in response to a gap in services for individuals facing multiple barriers to employment. PATH offers services to help individuals overcome their long-term struggles to obtain meaningful employment and has been a critical revitalization component of the North End since October 2000.

PATH Resource Centre services include:

- In-depth career assessments and one-on-one counselling support
- Supported career and job placement
- Job search, personal development, and computer workshops
- Access to computers, fax, phone and printer
- PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope) – a goal setting tool for clients

2008-2009 Achievements

More than 845 individuals walked through the doors of the PATH Centre. There were approximately 10,000 participant visits for computer access, workshops, counseling, employment information and general services. The Job Search program helped approximately 200 North End individuals with obtaining employment. The Mentorship program provided counseling and other support services to 145 participants over the year. With the increase in employment activity, PATH was able to secure funding for two additional full-time positions and an Elder advisor.

Over 75 participants attended PATH's annual Client Christmas Open House. All participants received a small gift item and were eligible to win one of 15 food hampers and other larger prizes donated by staff. About 30 Mentorship participants enjoyed a bowling and luncheon activity in June.

Employment Development System Committee

The Employment Development System Committee (EDS) was first formed by NECRC in 2000 to identify and respond to gaps in services leading to the employment of North End residents.

EDS Committee goals:

- Identify services provided within the North End
- Identify and build on the strengths of existing services
- Identify and address gaps in service
- Implement action plans as a collective group
- Evaluate the results

North End agencies play an active role in developing employment and training strategies and generating projects to revitalize the North End. The unprecedented level of information sharing between agencies has allowed for effective strategic planning geared towards residents and businesses.

In May 2009, EDS hosted its North End Community & Family Resource Fair in partnership with R.B. Russell High School. Over 250 local residents, including children and youth, came out and met with area organizations, agencies and education institutes, along with several employers. About 50 booths registered for the event.

Employment Exchange Committee

In May 2005 a formal agreement was signed with SEED Winnipeg to act as a liaison between Social Purchasing Portal business partners and North End and Inner City employment agencies that have clients looking for work. From this initiative, the Employment Exchange Committee (EEC) was formed. The EEC now includes 25 member agencies and is growing. To date, 124 businesses participate as active members of the Social Purchasing Portal and circulate job postings through the EEC.

Economic Development

The North End is a historic neighbourhood with unlimited potential for business.

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

NECRC has as a goal of the revitalization of Selkirk Avenue. We have used our resources, and made partnerships toward the development of properties in commercial areas that will increase the vibrancy of the community, add to the "bustle" of the street, and make a safer, more welcoming place for businesses and their customers to operate. In February 2008, NECRC sold the 607 Selkirk Avenue property to Urban Youth Adventures.

NECRC is a key partner in the construction of the North End Wellness Centre. In 2006 architectural plans were finalized, and demolition of the old North End "Y" commenced in 2007 in anticipation of ground-breaking in 2008. The building is schedule to be completed and occupied in the summer of 2009.

Project Makoonsag

- This project is a daycare centre being organized by Urban Circle and supported by NECRC, the William Norrie Centre, Manitoba Day Care, and Red River College all of whom are represented on the Advisory

Committee. The centre acquired green space which is located on three empty lots behind Urban Circle. The inter-generational learning centre will also provide a training program for day care practitioners. It will be built in the former Red Apple building which was purchased by Urban Circle some years ago after community elders identified the need for the day care.

Amphitheatre Renewal

- NECRC, Aboriginal Visioning, community members, City Resource Coordinators, Parks and Recreation, and other partners continue to meet to plan the renewal of the Amphitheatre on Selkirk Avenue. The City of Winnipeg has also approved Powers Avenue as an official route for commuter cyclists. Parks and recreation have communicated their interest and potential funding for the space. An update was given to the community at Lighting Up Selkirk Avenue on December 11th. Next steps are to come up with revised architect drawings, and write a proposal to go to Community, City Council, and Parks and Recreation

We continue to look for opportunities to revitalize properties in the North End.

Culture & Diversity

NECRC, in partnership with local stakeholders, promotes the celebration of cultural diversity in the North End.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Picnic in the Park is an annual event initially sponsored through NECRC in 2000 as a means to celebrate the cultural diversity of the North End.

This will be the 10th consecutive year that Picnic in the Park will be held at St John's Park. This year's event will be held on August 22, 2009, kicking off at 12:00 noon ending at 4:00 pm.

Picnic in the Park was established as family fun day at St. John's park for North End residents to enjoy free: food and beverages; entertainment; children's activities, games, and prizes; displays by local agencies and organizations; and an opportunity to purchase arts & crafts by local artisans.

The event has grown in magnitude and scope of both participants and partner agencies and organizations. Working in partnership with Mount Carmel Clinic, Graffiti Art Program, Aboriginal Visioning for the North End, Indian Family Centre, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and the City of Winnipeg, NECRC coordinates over 50 sponsors and 120 volunteers who donate time, prizes, and financial and/or in-kind contributions to support the Picnic in the Park event.

Highlights of the 2009 event will be:

- The return of multi-cultural entertainment venues to the main stage
- An upgrade to healthier food choices, as a result of increased sponsorship donations

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY SELKIRK AVENUE COMMITTEE

The Selkirk Avenue Committee has been hosting an annual National Aboriginal Day event since 2004. The event is specifically geared to lower-income North End residents who are unable to attend and participate in other city-wide National Aboriginal Day celebrations. For the past four years the event has been held at the amphitheatre on Selkirk Avenue and Powers Street and provides free food; drinks; Aboriginal cultural entertainment; job fair; children's activities, games, and prizes; and arts & crafts. The event also hosts display tables for local agencies and organizations, as well as vendor tables for North End artisans and merchants.

The Selkirk Avenue Committee is presently comprised of various local North End agencies and organizations such as the Indian Family Centre, Ndinawe, the Aboriginal Visioning Project, the North End Community Renewal Corporation, North End Stella Mission, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, as well as representatives from numerous provincial and federal government departments.

A COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY-WIDE ANTI-RACISM STRATEGY FOR THE NORTH END

The North End Five Year Community plan lists an Anti-Racism strategy as a priority. NECRC is supportive of the recent creation of the Center for Anti-oppression Studies. For more information see www.anti-oppressioncentre.org. In 2008 two city-wide workshops were held and supported by NECRC. In the words of the workshop organisers:

“One of the key challenges for inner city educators and human service workers is the development of cross-cultural awareness, knowledge and skills that are required to work in diverse communities. We hope that this workshop provides participants with an opportunity to further develop their knowledge base in this critical area. It is also an opportunity for you to become involved in a network of people that are committed to providing ongoing leadership in our community regarding anti-oppression education, action and practice.”

INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH, SENIORS AND UNDER-REPRESENTED COMMUNITIES

NECRC recognizes the need for NECRC, neighbourhood groups, and partners to do more to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to engage youth, seniors and under-represented communities in all areas of the Five-Year Plan. The recognition of youth, seniors and underrepresented groups in our community is important to celebrate culture and diversity in the North End of Winnipeg. We hope to improve our efforts in this area in the future.

Housing Development

The North End community consistently identifies affordable quality housing as an overall renewal strategy. Our programs cultivate a sense of pride and community ownership in the unique neighbourhoods of the North End.

The purpose of the North End Revitalization Incorporation's (NERI) housing department is to encourage the combined efforts of government, resident groups, and housing organizations to carry out strategic housing renewal in the North End of Winnipeg. While working together with housing partners, the objectives in 2008 were to:

- Comprehend and coordinate the strategic development of housing within the North End
- Update the housing plan priorities of the William Whyte (WW) and North Point Douglas (NPD) communities
- Administer Exterior Renovation Fix-Up grants through North End Revitalization Incorporated (NERI)
- Assist Dufferin, St. John's, and Lord Selkirk Park (LSP) residents in the implementation of their housing plans
- Assist other North End neighbourhoods in the development and implementation of housing renewal initiatives (e.g. LSP)
- Encourage housing renewal initiatives within North End communities (e.g. MB Hydro Low-Income Program, Housing Training Initiative, Tenant Landlord Cooperation, etc.)

NECRC facilitates many housing coordination activities for renewal and NERI administers housing grants.

Partnerships

In the interest of housing renewal, NERI has actively partnered with the following stakeholders: Canadian Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC); City of Winnipeg Property, Planning, and Development; City of Winnipeg By-law Enforcement Unit; City of Winnipeg; Federal Government of Canada; Habitat for Humanity; KINEW Housing; Manitoba Urban Native Housing Association (MUNHA); Neighbourhoods Alive! (NA!); North End Housing Project (NEHP); Point Douglas Residents Committee (PDRC); Province of Manitoba; Manitoba Housing Authority (MHA); SISTARS Community Economic Development Co-Op Incorporated; St. John's Residents Association Incorporated; William Whyte Residents Association (WWRA); Dufferin Residents Association of Winnipeg (DRAW); Winnipeg Housing & Homelessness Initiative (WHHI); and the Winnipeg Housing and Rehabilitation Corporation (WHRC); Manitoba Hydro.

Coordination Activities

- **Housing Networks:** Informed community and strengthened cooperation between the city, provincial government, federal government, non-profit & private developers, and community leaders to: implement

housing plans; to prioritize and develop proposals; and to allocate funding in the Housing Improvement Zones (HIZ) of WW and NPD, and the Neighbourhoods Alive (NA!) improvement areas of Dufferin, St. John's, and LSP.

- **Affordable Housing:** Housing staff worked with community members to identify new infill lots. The network allocated ten new in-fill homes for empty lots; eight in WW, and two in NPD. This affordable housing went to low-income homeowners who qualified for a mortgage. Approximately one half the cost of building the house is to be forgiven over ten years.
- **Rental Housing:** Administered multiple programs geared towards rental issues. With funding from the Winnipeg and Thomas Sill Foundations, hired local area resident as full-time TLC Coordinator to encourage property maintenance. Maintained partnership with MHA through BCMP program to improve the quality of social housing. Hired a full-time coordinator to implement the Winnipeg Rental Network, a citywide web-based service to provide free vacancy listings for landlords with affordable rental housing.

Program Activities

- **Tenant Landlord Cooperation (TLC):** The North End TLC continues to improve relationships between landlords and tenants. With the support of an HRDC summer-student, TLC created a new Access-based landlord registry to map rental housing within NPD and WW. The new registry enabled program information to be mailed out to over 1,300 landlords within WW and NPD. The database was used again and additional information was sent out with the Exterior Fix-up Grants program. A landlord forum was held to solicit input on the program and was attended by over 35 landlords. In partnership with the RTB, delivered workshops in all five areas on Rights and Responsibilities for both tenants and landlords. Worked with all five residents associations to maintain priority access for TLC landlords to the fix-up grants, and expand the scope of work permitted to both exterior and interior repairs.
- **Innovative Housing Renewal:** NECRC continues to support the SISTARS Community Economic Development Co-Op house and daycare development.
- **Housing Training Initiative (HTI):** NECRC promoted the workshops through the Exterior Fix-up and TLC programs through mail outs that reached approximately 1,500 landlords and resident homeowners. Housing Coordinators continue to attend workshops and support the HTI program. Workshops take place at five community locations including: NECRC, Ralph Brown Community Centre, Spence Neighbourhood, Daniel Macintyre, and Centennial. Workshops continue to meet the needs within the community, and housing resource libraries are available at four of the five locations within participating communities.
- **Building Construction Maintenance Program (BCMP):** This program was carried out in partnership with the MHA and RB Russell High School as a training program for youth interested in carpentry and housing construction. The program provides hands-on experience through the maintenance and repair of MHA properties. Under the guidance of one journeymen carpenter and one lead hand, local North End students and/or graduates (many from RB Russell High School), participated in the program. In 2008-2009, the crew completed the renovation of 60 MHA units of housing at Carrigan Green Crest, and built front and rear fences on 256 units at Gilbert Park, thereby improving the quality of social housing within Winnipeg. The program operated on a budget of \$500,000 in salaries for the '08-09 year and saw local North End residents hired to work and build their skills. As a result of the program, four trainees transitioned to permanent work with MHA and the lead carpenter joined MHA's staff in Thompson. The program's first student to be enrolled in the apprenticeship program at Red River Community College completed their first year of the program in September. Currently, BCMP has just signed a contract to employ 50 North End residents for a value of \$1.5 million for employment, training and the interior renewal of MHA housing at Gilbert Park and Lord Selkirk Park.
- **Winnipeg Rental Network:** The Winnipeg Rental Network Coordinator position was a hire by a group of over twenty-one community-based organizations to research, plan, and implement a housing registry and website for median and lower-income renters in the City of Winnipeg. The project's goal is to improve community services and service delivery networks while creating a database of housing providers with vacancies. The WRN held a forum to solicit participation and input that was attended by over 45 organizations. The WRN website has been built and is receiving approximately 125 hits a day. The website provides links to housing resources for landlords and tenants as well as vacancy postings for affordable rental housing.
- **New Neighbourhoods Initiatives:** NECRC assisted St John's, Dufferin, and LSP residents with the implementation of their housing renewal plans, wrote proposals, and managed fix-up grants and TLC programming in their neighbourhoods.

- **Vacant & Boarded-Up Properties:** Properties are being monitored on a regular basis during the Exterior Fix-up Grant Program. Housing Coordinators in each HIZ neighbourhood worked closely with the City By-law Enforcement Unit while collaborating with resident groups to enforce the city by-laws as in-fill housing and new rental supply projects filled empty lots with new housing, and renovation projects renewed distressed properties. A boarded and vacant housing registry and mapping system was developed for WW, NPD, St. John's, Dufferin, and LSP to further track housing renewal.
- **Referrals:** Housing Coordinators advised residents on how to access city, provincial, and federal housing assistance. The Housing Coordinator updated and distributed housing resource information sheets for resident owners, landlords, and tenants.
- **Community Audits:** A general audit of housing and safety issues took place during the Exterior Fix-up Grant Program in the WW and NPD communities. NPD reported issues in the area on a regular basis, while staff reported and/or intervened on housing issues with city inspectors.
- **Staffing:** One full-time Housing Coordinator is dedicated to WW and NPD while a second coordinator is focused on Dufferin, LSP and St. Johns at half time. The remaining half of this full time position is spent facilitating the promotion and access to the MB Hydro Low-income Hydro Grants through the BUILD program. Full time coordinators were hired for the TLC and WRN programs.

With NA! And WHHI funding, NERI housing staff focused on coordinating and implementing the housing priorities of North End neighbourhoods. NERI, (the non profit/non charitable wing of NECRC), is dedicated to supporting the long-term combined investment of government, community, and developers to continue to bring neighbourhood renewal to Winnipeg's North End.

Recreation & Wellness

Recreation and wellness is a priority for the North End. NECRC continues its work to ensure that activities and services are inclusive and accessible for all North End residents.

NORTH END WELLNESS CENTRE (NEWC)

376 McGregor Street will be the site of a new 25,000 square foot multi-service North End Wellness Centre. The facility will be owned by North End Wellness Inc. and filled with dynamic programming by Ma Mawi WI Chi Itata Centre, YMCA-YWCA, Splash Child Care Inc, and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. The centre will include: a gymnasium with a basketball court, game facilities, play structure, and "youth-sized" fitness equipment; a youth recreation centre with a climbing tower; an indoor skateboard park; a unique state of the art child-care facility; a community kitchen; and community meeting spaces.

The project addresses a community identified need for a local North End centre that focuses on wellness and is inclusive and accessible to all. The goals of this community-driven initiative include:

- Encouraging daily physical activity for children and youth
- Promoting recreation opportunities for persons of all ages
- Eliminating financial barriers to participation in recreational activities
- Providing increased quality child-care options in Winnipeg's North End
- Facilitating cooperation and sharing among established community organizations
- Creating increased opportunities for volunteerism

In 2006 NECRC signed agreements with the architect and demolition contractor, facilitated cash-flow, and wrote reports on funding received for the development of the project. In 2007 architectural plans were finalized and the demolition of the old North End "Y" was completed. In 2008 ground-breaking took place and the construction began. The building is now nearly completed. The Centre will open its doors this summer.

Community Development

NECRC continues to work with stakeholders to address the needs of the North End community through the development of partnerships, networking and building community capacity.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Demonstrated community development accomplishments and achievements in 2008 included the following:

- Distributed a quarterly newsletter, the “NECRC Update” to 15,000 North End residents and businesses
- Facilitated a 10-member Resident Advisory Committee, responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on neighbourhood revitalization projects
- North End Revitalization Incorporated (NERI) administered a Small Grants Fund for 5 neighbourhoods that approved \$150,000 for 72 projects in 2008.
- Supported the residents of St. John’s and Dufferin in their annual planning, and assisted in the implementation of community goals and activities

LORD SELKIRK PARK

Lord Selkirk Park (LSP) Resource Centre

The LSP Resource Centre continues to be the “hub” in the community and provides on-site counseling (through partner organizations), free laundry, clothing depot, community phone, monthly community feast, adult arts & crafts, educational/personal development workshops, and general drop-in. Staff also provided advocacy, referrals, volunteer opportunities, and resource materials. In 2008 the Resource Centre had 5566 visits from community residents, which represents a 26% increase over last year. An evaluation of the Resource Centre completed in 2009 demonstrated that the Resource Centre is performing well and meeting the needs of the community. As part of the vision for the community, the LSP Resource Centre will move under the auspice of the R.B. Russell Infant Centre in August 2009. Plans are underway to incorporate the Resource Centre as part of the infant/school aged child care services, located within the community.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Community Advisory Committee meets monthly to network, develop partnerships and address neighbourhood concerns. The committee is made up of residents and community based organizations that live and work in the community. In 2008, an evaluation of the CAC was conducted. Representatives from 25 community agencies/residents participated in the evaluation. It was determined that as a result of the CAC’s work, coordination of efforts have improved, attitudes in the community have changed for the better and progress has been made in improving the LSP community.

Lord Selkirk Park Child-Care & Family Resource Centre

NECRC continues to work with the RB Russell Infant Centre, Provincial Daycare Office, Manitoba Housing Authority and other stakeholders, to plan and develop the LSP Family Resource Centre, located in the heart of the community, at 269 Dufferin Ave. The LSP Family Resource Centre will accommodate 24 infant spaces, 40 school aged spaces, along with the services of the current Resource Centre. Tentative date for completion of renovations is within the next 18 months.

Family Support Program

Through a partnership with the United Way of Winnipeg and the Mount Carmel Clinic, a full-time Aboriginal counselor/family support worker provided assistance/support to 345 individuals (children, youth and families) over the past year. An evaluation of the Family Support Program completed in 2009, indicated the Family Support program had a significant impact on those individuals/families who participated in the program. The Family Support Program will move under the direction of the R.B. Russell Infant Centre in summer of 2009, as part of the overall vision of the community.

Adult Learning Centre (ALC)

In 2008, a naming ceremony was held for the Adult Learning Centre. The Centre adopted a Michif name, **Kaakiyow Li Moond Likol**, which means “All People’s School. During the year, 56 students registered, working

towards their Grade 12 diploma, with a regular attendance of 25-30 participants. Six students will graduate with their Grade 12 diploma in June 2009.

Ogijiita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin, Inc. (OPK)

OPK's mandate is to provide employment, education, basic life skills training, and social support for at risk Aboriginal ex-offenders and Aboriginal youth. The project began in 2001 and was incorporated in 1994 as a non-profit organization. NECRC has provided letters of support for OPK, believes in this project, flows sustaining funding from the United Way to OPK and provides assistance as possible. Currently, OPK has two lead carpenters and one lead hand who are working with 9 trainees. From 2001-2008, OPK has worked with 56 former gang members. The crew has a relationship with Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council (DOTC) doing housing renovation of DOTC's aboriginal housing units. A key outcome of the program is that no participant has been arrested on a gang-related or gang-motivated charge or for planned or organized criminal activity. OPK held their AGM on April 29th where a pipe ceremony took place honouring OPK's important work. Annual reports and positive reviews by the auditor were approved by the 2009 membership.

Safety

NECRC continues to work in partnership with local neighbourhoods in helping to make the North End a safer place to live, work, and visit.

Working with Local Neighbourhoods

In 2008 the Safety Coordinator continued to support resident associations as they implemented safety plans, community cleanup events and initiatives developed to meet the needs of the local neighbourhoods. Residents continued to take a proactive and comprehensive approach to safety concerns in their communities. NECRC supported 7 local resident groups to sponsor local Urban Green Team initiatives in their neighbourhoods. As a result, 20 UGT students worked throughout the north end on greening and community renewal activities.

School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

NECRC, in partnership with the Province of Manitoba, Winnipeg School Division, and the Winnipeg Police Service continues to operate the North End School Resource Officer Program in 15 North End schools. The SRO program, which was renewed for another three years in 2008, continues to be successful in strengthening relationships between police, youth, and community.

Networking and Partnerships

NECRC supported and developed safety initiatives within the North End through involvement on committees such as the Inner-City Safety Coalition, Winnipeg Committee for Safety, United Way Safety Policy Group. These partnerships provided the opportunity to share information, raise awareness, and strengthen policy in areas related to safety within Winnipeg's North End and inner-city. In 2008, the Neighbour to Neighbour Safety Strategy was established as a steering committee with a mandate to work collaboratively with community residents and the Winnipeg Police Service to build relationships that support community safety, specifically within the neighbourhoods of William Whyte, Point Douglas, Lord Selkirk, St. John's and Dufferin. The committee develops strategies to address awareness, education and appropriate interventions to improve community safety. Three priority areas identified are: drugs, gangs, sex trade. NECRC also partnered with the Inner City Safety Coalition to host a Forum on Police Governance in April 2009. 100 individuals attended the event.

North End Community Ambassador (NECA) Program

The NECA Program is a community-based volunteer foot patrol program, established in October 2006 to lower the incidence of crime through visible safety patrols, and to enhance the perception of safety in the North End. In 2008, an Ambassador Bicycle Patrol began operating within the north end. The Ambassador Program hosted a Community Meet and Greet to introduce new community based police officers to the community; 194 residents/stakeholders attended the event. As well, a North End Safety Conference was held in April 2008, with 50 north end residents in attendance. A total of 50 volunteer ambassadors have been enrolled in the program since its inception.

Meet the NECRC Board & Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

President, Astrid Lichti – Business Sector
Vice-President, Greg Johnson–Board Appointed
Secretary, Levett Demchuk–Resident Sector
Treasurer, Gerald Brown-Resident Sector

Resident Sector

Levett Demchuk – William Whyte Res. Assoc.
Gerald Brown – Point Douglas Residents Ctte.
Arlene Jones – Luxton Residents Association
Larry Kinnear –Dufferin Residents Association

Professional Appointment

Greg Johnson – Lawyer

Business Sector

Astrid Lichti – Mosaic Market BIZ

Labour Sector

Gary Swanson – CUPE Local 500

Aboriginal Sector

Rapheala Jonson Diesbourg – Urban Circle
Tammy Christensen – Ndinawemaaganag
Endaawaad Incorporated

Cultural Sector

Vacant

Religious and Fraternal Sector

Monsignor Michael Buyachok – Ukrainian
Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral of
St. Vladimir & Olga

Community Organization

Lorne Belmore – Children of the Earth School
Nona Pelletier – Ralph Brown Recreation Centre

STAFF

509 Selkirk Avenue

Robert Neufeld – Executive/Housing Director
Janice Goodman – Community Development
Director
Tara St. Laurent – Safety Coordinator
Muriel Lamy – Administrative Assistant

Lord Selkirk Park Resource Centre

Dianne Barron – Community Outreach /
Program Coordinator
Candi Beardy – Community Outreach
Coordinator
James Morin – Family Support Worker

North End Community Ambassador Program

Hugh Coburn – NECA Program Manager

Building Maintenance Construction Program

John Webb – Journeyman/Supervisor

PATH Resource Centre

Betty Juselius – Employment Development
Director
Lorna Johnson – Workshop Facilitator /
Job Coach
Janilyn Smith-Epstein – Mentorship Coach
Vlessy Villanueva-Sanchez – Employment
Development Officer
Gerry Hudson – Mentorship Coach
Bonnie Harper – Employment Support /
Intake Worker
Myrna Sinclair – Resource Receptionist
Lianne Tetlock – Career Counsellor

Appreciation

Many individuals and organizations have contributed to the North End's growing strength and continued success. NECRC would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to the supporters who helped turn our goals into reality.

Board of Directors

Astrid Lichti	Business (President)
Gary Swanson	Labour (Vice-President)
Levett Demchuk	Resident (Secretary)
Gerald Brown	Resident (Treasurer)
Arlene Jones	Resident
Rapheala Johnson Diesbourg	Aboriginal
Lorne Belmore	Community Service
Michael Buyachok	Religious & Fraternal
Tammy Christensen	Aboriginal Sector
Nona Pelletier	Community Service
Darrell Brown	Business
Greg Johnson	Board Appointed

Province of Manitoba

Provincial staff and elected officials funded and partnered with NECRC to implement many key projects. We especially acknowledge the partnership of Neighbourhoods Alive! for both core and project supports.

Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative

WHHI is a partnership that comprises three levels of government, and provided funding to NECRC to deliver housing programs in the five designated North End Neighbourhoods Alive! neighbourhoods.

National Crime Prevention Centre

Provided funding for safety initiatives within the North End; a training package for the School Resource Officer project and support for the Comprehensive Community Initiative in Lord Selkirk Park, Burrows, and Dufferin neighbourhoods.

Employment Manitoba, Competitiveness Training and Trades

Provided funding for job search/job placement and mentorship in our Employment Development Program

The United Way of Winnipeg

Provided funding for Employment programs and the Lord Selkirk Park Family Support Worker position.

Assiniboine Credit Union

Provided in-kind contributions to the development of the Community Financial Services Centre.

The Jubilee Fund Inc.

Provided a loan guarantee through the Assiniboine Credit Union on NECRC properties.

Winnipeg Partnership Agreement

Provided core funding to the Community Financial Services Centre, an operational grant to the North End Ambassador Community project, and financial support for the coordination of the Lord Selkirk Park Adult Learning Centre.

Summer Student Employment for Youth

Funded summer students projects a NECRC, Employment Development and Community Development

Manitoba Housing Authority

Provided funding to the Building Maintenance Construction Program.

City of Winnipeg

Provided funding to Exterior Fix-Up Grant Programs in the neighbourhoods of William Whyte and North Point Douglas (administered through NERI).

The Winnipeg Foundation

Provided financial supports for the Community Financial Services Centre and Tenant Landlord Cooperation Program.

Community Committees

NECRC has worked with a huge network of North End and other local stakeholders over the past year, including; resident organizations, community centres, tenant groups, seniors groups, health & recreation organizations, youth organizations, employment agencies, housing agencies, business associations, coalitions, safety organizations, cultural & religious groups, civic organizations, researchers & schools including:

- Aboriginal Vision Partnership
- Board and Vacant Working Group
- Burrows Central Residents Committee
- Dufferin Residents Association
- Employment Development System Network
- Housing Steering Networks
- HTI Steering Committee
- Lord Selkirk Park Community Advisory Committee
- Lord Selkirk Residents Association
- Mosaic Market BIZ
- Neighbour to Neighbour Safety Strategy
- Neighbourhoods Alive! Review Committee
- North End Steering Committee on Safety
- North End Wellness Partnership
- North Point Douglas Women's Centre
- Point Douglas Residents Committee
- Selkirk Ave BIZ
- Selkirk Ave Task Force
- St. John's Residents Association
- TLC Steering Committee
- Turtle Island Integrated Team
- William Whyte Residents Association
- Winnipeg Rental Network

Civic Organizations

- City of Winnipeg Police Services
- City of Winnipeg Community Services
- Winnipeg School Division
- University of Winnipeg
- University of Manitoba
- William Norrie Centre – University of Manitoba

We would like to thank those who have offered their time, resources and skills to make events like our Picnic in the Park and 2009 AGM a success.

Thank you all!

North End 5-Year Community Plan (2006 - 2011)



In February 2006, the NECRC Board of Directors approved a planning process to build on past efforts, solicit critical input from community partners, and to set a broad strategic direction that could guide community renewal efforts by NECRC and its partners.

The planning process involved a large steering committee of approximately 40 individuals drawn from NECRC Board, staff, community partners, and stakeholders. The steering committee endorsed the planning process and met many times to come up with a new **Five-Year Strategic Plan from 2006-2011**.

This is a North End Community Plan Initiative coordinated by the North End Community Renewal Corporation, in consultation and collaboration with a wide variety of partners. The resulting goals encompass a broad range of planning and activities identified by community stakeholders.

These goals will be pursued collaboratively through communication and coordination among community stakeholders.

NECRC welcomes your input on this plan.

For more information call: 927-2333.