



Making Kenora HOME

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS
FOR HOMELESSNESS

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Message From The Co-Chairs

HUB Executive

Diane Pelletier, Co-Chair
Jennifer McKibbon, Co-Chair
Nan Normand, Secretary
Fay Clark, Treasurer
Jen Carlson
Betty Getson
Joel McGrath
Judy Underwood
Adam Ward

As we celebrate our 11th anniversary and reflect on the past year what stands out most poignantly is the unexpected and tragic loss of our friend and colleague, Dan Jorgenson, in May 2017. Dan joined MKH in 2007 and stepped up to leadership in 2014. He led with humility and heart. Dan was a man of action. If there was a Housing First project to investigate, he'd hop on his motorbike, and do it himself. We miss his passion and surprisingly, we miss his very, very bad jokes and puns.

The past year saw us continue to build community awareness and increase involvement in our annual campaigns and activities with good attendance and great media coverage. After ten years of MKH events like Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation; Stuff-a-Boat; Minto SummerFest; Week of Action Against Poverty; Poverty Challenge; Red Ribbon Campaign etc we're at the stage where the community anticipates our campaigns and activities and we get calls before we even start planning for August and February.

Guiding Principles

- ❖ **EQUALITY**
- ❖ **INCLUSION**
- ❖ **SHARING**
- ❖ **SELF DETERMINATION**
- ❖ **EMPOWERMENT**

Looking forward to 2018 we are excited to be facilitating the development of a social enterprise in Kenora. A Social Enterprise (SE) applies business solutions to social problems –i.e. it is a revenue-generating business whose surpluses are reinvested for their social mission and their social mission is as core to their success as any potential profit. Kenora BUILD - the tentative name for the SE that MKH is facilitating - is based on a successful model of a SE in Winnipeg and is a business that provides renovation and construction services (that's the revenue generating part) *and* trains and supports people who have significant barriers to employment to do the work of the business (that's the social mission piece). The necessary partners are starting to come on board and 2018 could prove to be a busy but fulfilling one for Making Kenora Home as we fulfill our mandate of finding community solutions to homelessness.

"Kenora Cares"

Jennifer McKibbon
CoChair

Diane Pelletier
CoChair

OBJECTIVE # 1

Promote Implementation of Recommended Housing Projects

1. Full-time Emergency Shelter: Eleven years after this recommendation was made, the full-time emergency shelter is becoming a reality. The 48 bed facility will coordinate day services, including counselling, health, education and employment opportunities and a 48 bed rest and hygiene station. Community collaboration and a concerted effort by the KDSB and Nechee Friendship Centre has made this vision a reality. Tenders for design and requests for proposals are being sent out and it is anticipated that construction will be complete by October 2018.



2. Eight Transitional Single Room Occupancy Units: The proposed construction of 8 transitional units for the chronically homeless remains unfunded. The pre-independent living centre in their basement of the Fellowship Centre continues to operate with a maximum occupancy of 11 residents. The Problematic Substance Use Initiative continues to operate their pilot program but despite having a supportive housing worker and housing subsidies, the lack of affordable units continues to impede the progression of citizens from homelessness to residency. The addition of a managed alcohol program at the Morningstar Centre has enhanced opportunities to stabilize homeless persons to enable transitioning.

3. Twenty Single Room Occupancy Units: Funding has been provided for affordable housing regionally and planning is underway. Accommodations for single adults remain a priority for Kenora.



3rd Floor Plan

4. Ten Single Dwelling Aboriginal Family Units: Aamikkowiish partnered with the Kenora Affordable Housing Group to build 10 family homes

under the FIMUR (First Nations Inuit Metis Urban Rural housing) program. The project was part of \$2.89 million local project awarded through the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Support Services Corporation. All are now occupied.

5. Tax Discount/Credit and Utility Credit for Low-Income Seniors: Our municipality does have a tax deferral option for low income seniors. The LEAP (Low Energy Assistance Program) has been replaced with the OESP (Ontario Electricity Support Program) which offers credits applied directly to billings once a customer has been found eligible. The credits are limited and many will still not be able to pay utility bills. The City has developed *building incentives* to increase affordable housing in Kenora through their Community Improvement Plans.

6. Two Supportive Housing Units: In a creative partnership, Pincrest is now providing fee for service assistance onsite for seniors within three social housing complexes. Further assisted living units are under consideration by local developers. Seven transitional housing units for women fleeing abusive relationships were also funded through the \$2.89 FIMUR project. The Home For Good program is funding \$6,535,164 for 65 supportive housing units in Kenora.



7. Rent Subsidization: The Ministry of Health has increased rent subsidization for individuals experiencing mental health dysfunction and whose mental illnesses have brought them into conflict with the justice system. Further subsidization is expected this year.

8. Revolving House Trust: Two homes have been built locally by Habitat for Humanity (Kenora Chapter). A third build is being planned when suitable land is acquired. Six other home ownerships were funded in 2010 through FIMUR.



Making Kenora Home has continued to participate in housing consultations at all levels of government. In 2017, MKH made 3 presentations at City Hall and spoke at the Our Emerging Adults-Supporting Transitional Aged Youth conference.

OBJECTIVE # 2

Community Caring Projects

Week of Action Against Poverty

This year's WAAP looked at the needs of youth in our community. The conference Our Emerging Adults-Bringing Transitional Aged Youth Into Community was a key event that brought together many voices and perspectives in shared purpose. The city released their State of Housing Report which included incentives to encourage affordable housing



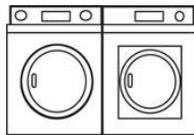
development. Students at several schools ran food raisers, decorated valentines and wore red to celebrate taking action. Hot breakfasts were served on the streets by Community Mental Health



Support Services. Citizens came together to discuss empowering the impoverished at the KACL Arts Hub and economic marginalization through the lens of the Truth and



reconciliation process. A concert by Richard Inman at Unfixed benefitted local charities. Individual actions by youth provided lunch bags for those on the streets and appliances for the Minto Family Resource Centre.



Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation



The Stuff-A-Boat competition raised \$2033.33 and 4,020 pounds of food for local soup kitchens and food banks. Treat 3 Police took home the championship by bringing in 836 pounds of food and \$815.35 in donations. Other teams included the Ornge and Kenora Fire Department, Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources Fire Management Team, Ontario Provincial Police and Northwest EMS.

Summerfest

The annual Minto Summerfest was held on Wednesday August 23rd, from 2:30 – 5:00. Community service agencies gathered under the donated tent from Best Way Rentals to share



information on their resources with participants as they explored the displays, played games and snacked. Over 100 neighbourhood adults and children came out to enjoy the family focused free event. As always, the firetruck and cotton candy activities

were lined up with children waiting to take part. For the first time, local schools also set up welcoming tables to build their relationships with neighbourhood families.

Street Picnics

Four picnics were hosted at the Kenora Fellowship Centre. Each picnic featured entertainment. Volunteerism peaked this year. The Lakeside Baptist Youth Group held an Italian Feast while the Kenora Metis Council, Womens Place and



ONWA held the traditional Fish Fry. A Southern BBQ and Thanksgiving in August rounded out the meals. The Ladies in Black ensured that there plenty of fresh baked

pies for the finale. Volunteerism and donations continue to ensure that this is a community event.

Approximately 278 individuals were served throughout the month. It was noted that approximately 45% of the patrons were under the age of 30 years. Ten years ago this demographic was rarely seen.



OBJECTIVE # 3

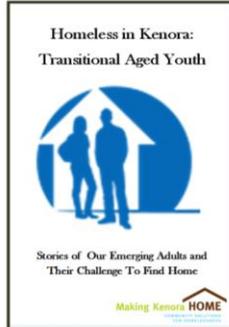
Community Awareness and Education

Newsletters & Pamphlets

Two newsletter editions were published and distributed by email and print editions throughout the community.

Homeless In Kenora Booklet

This year's focus was on the needs of transitional aged youth who are requiring affordable housing and was tied in with a photovoice project facilitated by the peer support program (NWHU). The young authors explored childhood traumas and the impact on the lives as they try to build an adult identity within the community.



The Poverty Challenge.



The Young Professionals of Kenora took up the 2017 challenge. Five participants garnered 9,763 hits on their blogs. Samantha Gould reported that the experience helped her to realize that

“poverty is a full-time job. It is a relentless battle of trying to survive, always working on others schedules and times, always in survival mode.”

Facebook Page

Social networking has become a key tool in Making Kenora Home's communications strategy. Membership in this online community has increased again within the previous year. Currently membership stands at 373.



Web Site

www.makingkenorahome.com features events, research, publications and a direct newsfeed on federal and provincial housing matters, All booklets and reports are downloadable.

Financial Report

Making Kenora Home Charitable Services Inc. Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Year Ended December 31, 2016

Income	
Received Donations	\$ 1,780
Non Received Donations	800
Donations from Other Charities	-
Other Revenue	-
Interest	1
Total Income	\$ 2,581

Expenses	
Interest & Bank Charges	31
Donations	-
Program Expenses	994
Professional Fees	565
Total Expenses	\$ 1,590

Excess of Revenue Over Expenses (\$991)

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Net Assets-Beginning of year \$2,657
Deficiency of Receipts Over Expenses (991)

Net Assets--End of Year \$3,648

2016 statements will be available in June 2017.
As of December 31st, 2016, MKH held an account balance of \$4,148.08

Making Kenora Home Charitable Services Inc. Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Year Ended December 31, 2017

Income	
Received Donations	\$ 11,460.74
Non Received Donations	97.92
Donations from Other Charities	1,350.00
Other Revenue	-
Interest	.58
Total Income	\$ 2,581.00

Expenses	
Interest & Bank Charges	30
Donations	-
Program Expenses	1,482.21
Professional Fees	565
Total Expenses	\$ 1,590.00

2017 statements will be reviewed and available in June 2018. As of December 31st, 2017, MKH held an account balance of \$14,951.08.