

# Making Kenora HOME

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS  
FOR HOMELESSNESS

NEWSLETTER

Volume 11, Issue 1: Spring 2018

## Kay'shi'daay'ing - Where We Live

### Finally Spring (& Moving Into Summer)

Spring in Kenora is eagerly awaited. Growth is green all around us and we look for those buds that promise a time of plenty for all. Our organizational seeds were planted again at our Annual General Meeting and we welcome our new board slate of directors. We will miss Fay Clark-Moore and Joel McGrath as they move on to tackle other tasks in the community but we are grateful for their contribution to the work of Making Kenora Home. We also welcome our newest directors, Keith Myshkowsky, Adam Ward, Matt Boscarior, Gord Day-Janz and Deborah Jonassen who all bring fresh skills and enthusiasm to our board.

It is a time of actualization of many of the objectives that we have promoted over the years. The success of the Housing First Principle has become accepted at all levels of government and is now the best practice model for housing the chronically homeless. The Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) has conducted their first homelessness enumeration which will provide data for regional planning. Through the Ministry of Housing's home for Good program, the KDSB has been allocated monies for the construction and improvement of 150 supportive housing units in the district with 65 units being planned locally. The City of Kenora has committed to providing housing incentives that will be communicated in Housing Information Postcards for developers. The Nechee Centre and KDSB are moving forward to renovate the Knox Church annex to prepare the premises for the new permanent 24/7 emergency shelter. The Kenora Non-Profit Housing Corporation (KNPHC) and KDSB are continuing to seek funding for further development of affordable social housing units. Habitat Kenora is commencing on their third build.

As a housing advocacy organization, can we finally put up our feet? It's tempting but there is still work to be done. At the national housing

conference last fall, we learned that By-Name lists and the SPDAT IV are now the best practices for enumeration and intake of homeless persons. Let's go with the best instead of following the rest! Housing First resources have not been developed yet in

Kenora. Let's get it done! There are best practices also in site development and home design to ensure that neighbourhoods are built rather than warehousing. Let's design our community for inclusion. Further, once people are housed and supported in their tenancies, how do we include them in the economic life of our community? Social enterprise leads the way in other places. Let's encourage the development of sustainable social enterprise locally! We are not done yet but summer is short and perhaps a bit of lazing by the lake is a gift to all the

citizens of Kenora (and our visitors). Enjoy the moments.

#### Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation Campaign

With summer comes our August campaign. Join us at Minto Summerfest, Saturday Street Picnics or at the Stuff-A-Boat fundraiser.



#### HUB 2018 Directors

*Jennifer McKibbon, Co-Chair*

*Diane Pelletier, Co-Chair*

*Nan Normand, Secretary*

*Keith Myshkowsky, Treasurer*

*Matt Boscarior*

*Jen Carlson*

*Gord Day-Janz*

*Betty Getson*

*Judy Underwood*

*Adam Ward*

*Deborah Jonassen*



## Saying Yes To Sheltering Our Neighbours



The Ne-Chee Friendship Centre gave a resounding yes to meeting community need for shelter. Patti Fairfield, Executive Director, admitted to trepidation for the

expansion of their services into providing an emergency shelter but the decision was a decision from the heart. People needed the facilities and the Ne-Chee Board of Directors chose to say yes. There were many reasons to say no-increased responsibilities, funding issues and managerial requirements-but with love and courage, they took on the challenges that no one else in the community were willing to do. Patti acknowledged the crucial commitments made by the Kenora District Services Board in bringing the 24/7 shelter into actuality. She also noted that her shelter staff have provided excellent services despite the restrictions within their temporary quarters. All are looking forward to the fall homecoming in the freshly renovated permanent location. It is a busy, busy season for the Ne-Chee Centre as they move forward, but they are moving forward with heart.

## Social Enterprise Workshop



Bringing expertise and opportunity to Kenora, Shaun Loney (An

Army of Problem Solvers) presented on the mechanics of social enterprise to on March 9. His own empowering and successful enterprises in Manitoba were inspirational and fuelled local enthusiasm for embracing the purposeful

## What is Making Kenora HOME?

*A concerned group working on solutions for homelessness in our community.*

### Guiding Principles

- ❖ **EQUALITY:** *We are all created equal within this world that we share*
- ❖ **INCLUSION:** *Every person living in Kenora is a part of our community*
- ❖ **SHARING:** *As a community we must care for each other*
- ❖ **SELF DETERMINATION:** *Each person has the right to choose his or her own path providing that path does not hurt another*
- ❖ **EMPOWERMENT:** *We are accountable for our own actions and need to look inward first*

development of business that serve the needs of the community while having social impact.

## Week of Action Against Poverty

Events sprung up around town as Kenora citizens considered how poverty impacts us all. Two hundred came out

to view Us & Them, a powerful video on



Elders Teach On Poverty



Valleyview

homelessness. Schools developed their own activities from Stone Soup (King George) to presentations

(Valleyview) to fundraising (PJP II). Red ribbons and prayers wove through the community. The blogged experiences of the Walk in Other Shoes



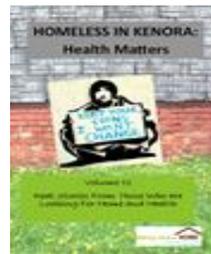
Walk In Our Shoes Bloggers

participants were shared through the web world. Wear Red, office fundraisers and concerts filled activity calendars.



Lakeside Ladies Bible Study

## Homeless In Kenora: Health Matters



The newest edition of our homelessness series is available at: [www.makingkenorahome.ca](http://www.makingkenorahome.ca)

For further information call Nan at the Northwest Community Legal Clinic 468-8888.