



ANNUAL REPORT

for the period October 2007 to October 2008

HUB Executive

Nan Normand, Co-Chair
Ralph Page, Co-Chair, Treasurer
Karen Essery, Secretary
Don Denver
Emily Goss
Dan Jorgensen
Pieter Joubert
Frank Kowal
Erika Olson
Diane Pelletier
Jennifer Rasmussen
Joan Schelske

Message From The Co-Chairs

Making Kenora Home has celebrated its second anniversary. Two years is a short time in the world of community development. Two years is a long time in the life of a homeless or underhoused person who is waiting for affordable and adequate housing. As we review our activities over the past year, we are acutely aware of the frustration experienced by those who wait. We also are keenly aware of the challenges of the work before us. Between these two polarities lies our working reality.

Guiding Principles

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

The commitment of Kenora's citizens has not faltered during our rush through tight timelines and tidal needs. People continue to volunteer as they are able. Sometimes a skill is offered. Sometimes it's a smile and kind word. Both are equally valued within our vision.

This shared vision has led us to the actions reviewed in this annual report. These diverse activities represent the various strategies used to bring us closer to our goals and objectives. Taking action that is values based will lead us to success.

"Act Like A Community"

Nan Normand
Co-Chair

Ralph Page
Co-Chair

Community Solutions For Affordable Housing

Recommendations:

1. 24 hours emergency shelter.
2. 8 single room occupancy (SRO) units.
3. 20 SRO rent geared to income.
4. 10 single dwelling Aboriginal family units.
5. Tax discount, utility discount or maintenance tax credit for low fixed income seniors.
6. 2 supportive housing projects; 10 transitional units for victims of violence, 10 units for senior supportive health and assistive living.
7. Rent subsidization; 15 units for single parent housing and 10 units for individuals experiencing mental health dysfunction.
8. Revolving housing trust for low income families.

Kenora has the opportunity to improve its quality of life by investing in these recommendations in addition to working in creative partnership.

OBJECTIVE # 1

Promote Implementation of Recommended Housing Projects

The Implementation Working Group met with Habitat for Humanity on June 18, 2008 to begin discussion on potential partnering opportunities.

The HUB collaborated with the City of Kenora in preparing their submission on affordable housing need for presentation at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Also in August, the Options Working Group assisted the Kenora Fellowship Centre to develop their application to the Homelessness Partnership Initiative for a housing proposal developer.

OBJECTIVE # 2

Community Caring Projects

Community of Friends. This continuing neighbourhood support group meets Wednesday evenings at the Minto Family Resource Centre . 112 attendees



Networking Tenant Neighbourhoods. Four neighbourhood organizing BBQ's were held to promote community development and decrease NIMBYism. 196 tenants attended these events



Christmas Sharing Circle. A traditional aboriginal sharing circle and Christmas celebration was held at the Kenora Fellowship Centre. Fifty packsacks, filled with gifts individually wrapped by the UMYAC of the Nechee Centre, were distributed to homeless and destitute adults in the community.



Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation. The August campaign provided Saturday meals to 113 individuals at the street picnics. A youth concert (HomeAid 2), charity BBQ (Lakewood Credit Union) and food drive/fundraiser (WalMart) provided funding for Making Kenora Home and the local food bank.



Tins for the Bin. Donation bins are located and promoted at various locations in the community including Extra Foods and the recreation centre. Special event bins are set up at community gatherings.



OBJECTIVE # 3

Community Awareness and Education

Week of Action Against Poverty. Activities ranged from clothing drives to concerts to public presentations. The Up From the Streets art show was an empowering event which has led to commissions for the artists featured. Separate report available upon request.

Gingerbread Lane.

Housing wishes were expressed through construction of gingerbread houses. This seasonal attraction brought attention to the issues of homelessness during the holiday season.



Newsletters. Newsletters were distributed throughout the community in January, May and October.

National Hunger Awareness Day. To mark this national event, a community sharing BBQ was held at the Kenora Fellowship Centre.

Homeless in Kenora. A booklet authored by local citizens without homes was compiled and presented to the community. Copies available on request.

Media Interviews

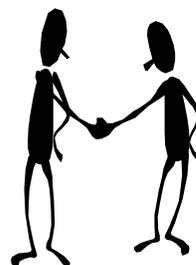
- Radio 5
- Television 4
- Newsprint references 76

Visit our web site at

www.makingkenorahome.ca



Membership



Contact Nan Normand
at the Kenora
Community Legal Clinic
468-8888.

Total Net Income

7,919.76

Makng Kenora Home Charitable Services Inc.

Profit and Loss

As At October 31, 2008

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Bracelet Sales	2,122.00
Donation 2Pianos 8 hands	1,989.00
Donations	8,438.81

Total Income 12,549.81

Expense

Bracelet Purchase	1,120.00
Street BBQ's	314.29
Professional Services	1,907.28
Service Charges	140.14

Total Expenses 3,481.71

Net Ordinary Income 9,068.10

Other Income/Expense

Other Income

Service Charge Recovered	116.18
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Total Other Income 116.18

Other Expenses 446.37

Reimburse Salvation Army	568.15
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Returned Cheque	250.00
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Total Other Expenses 1,264.52

Net Other Income -1,148.34

ARTICULATING OUR VISION

What is Making Kenora HOME?

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

How do we achieve this?

- ◆ Community education and awareness about homelessness and poverty
- ◆ Promoting the implementation of our May 2007 report *Community Solutions For Affordable Housing Projects*
- ◆ Community caring projects to address poverty.

Why is Making Kenora HOME important to us?

- ◆ Stable housing is one of the most effective ways to break the cycle of poverty
- ◆ Kenora will become a more inclusive and caring community

Kenora has a zero vacancy rate for tenancies. The average local rent for a two bedroom unit is \$747.00 not including utilities. The maximum Ontario Works shelter allowance for a two person unit is \$560.00. The average wait time for social housing is 2 – 5 years.

Homeless in Kenora

A Collection of Stories (exerpts)

“This is not something that I ever thought I would have to go through. And it is embarrassing not knowing day to day where I am going to live with my child”
“We’re sick of drinking, but there’s nothing to do when you’re homeless except drink.”
“When it gets cold, I sleep anywhere there is a vent. I’ve slept under the Lakeside Inn and I use cardboard boxes for a mattress.”

Homeless in Kenora: Stories of Hope will be released during Week of Action Against Poverty (February 8-14, 2009)



UMAYC Wraps It Up at the Neechee Friendship Centre