



Making Kenora HOME

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS
FOR HOMELESSNESS

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Message From The Co-Chairs

HUB Executive

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

Guiding Principles

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

Making Kenora Home has celebrated its fourth anniversary. When we began, we had expected that it would be a minimum of five years before the construction began. It's validating to know that our projections were accurate. It has been a challenging road to travel but the many volunteers of Making Kenora Home have stepped up and held out until their tasks were done. When they have tired, others have stepped forward and the commitment continues. There have been mountains of tasks spread throughout the community and although the movement has not always been visible, there has been a shifting of perspective and these shifts have reverberated.

Five years ago, there was not an annual Week of Action Against Poverty that demonstrates Kenora's caring. Five years ago there were not shared community feasts that brought together the key contributors to our community's growth. Five years ago, municipal candidates did not address the homeless in their own forum. Gingerbread Lane, Summerfest, Homeless in Kenora publications, housing reports, Christmas Sharing Circles, food drives, street picnics, social networking—the list of strategies that have brought us to this point is long but they have been effective in advocating for the needs of the homeless and inadequately housed in our community.

Our base is established and our expectations are high. Our community members continue to share the vision.

"Building A Community Together"

Nan Normand
Co-Chair

Ralph Page
Co-Chair

OBJECTIVE # 1

Promote Implementation of Recommended Housing Projects

1. Full-time Emergency Shelter: The December funding crisis nearly shut down operation of the winter hostel program but a flood of community support kept the doors open for the 2010 season. A facebook based campaign undertaken by Making Kenora Home generated \$10,000 to offset the \$40,000 loss. A proposal to Trillium Founding that was also supported by HOME received announced \$150,000.00 funding to be spread over 3 years. In addition, the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation has funded a Sustainability Funding & Public Relations Intern position which will provide expertise to the Fellowship Centre for the development of a feasible business plan that will allow for 24/7 operation as well as the continuance of the winter hostel program.



2. Eight Single Room Occupancy Units: The proposal to the federal Social Infrastructure fund for the construction of 8 transitional units for the chronically homeless was not funded. The plans remain tabled until another opportunity presents.

3. Twenty Single Room Occupancy Units: None of the social housing providers have developed proposals for this type of housing despite available Affordable Housing Initiative funding.

4. Ten Single Dwelling Aboriginal Family Units: Aamikkowiish has partnered with Womens Place, Saakaate House, Ontario Native Women's Association and the Ontario Metis



Association to develop their successful proposal to the FIMUR (First Nations Inuit Metis Urban Rural housing) program. The project is part of \$2.89 million local project awarded through the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Support Services Corporation.

5. Tax Discount/Credit and Utility Credit for Low-Income Seniors: Raised unsuccessfully to Kenora Council (2006-2010). To be addressed again to new council.

6. Two Supportive Housing Units: In a creative partnership, Benedickson Court and Pinecrest partnered to offer on site services for seniors within the housing complex. With a varying fee schedule, residents can assess health and assistive living services. Seven transitional housing units for women



fleeing abusive relationships have been funded through the \$2.89 FIMUR project.

7. Rent Subsidization: The Ministry of Health has provided rent subsidization for 4 individuals experiencing mental health dysfunction, 4 whose mental illnesses have brought them into legal conflict and 8 subsidies for those with problematic substance use.

8. Revolving House Trust: Habitat for Humanity has received permission from their national headquarters to begin discussion with Kenora as an extension of the Winnipeg chapter. This is the first cross provincial partnership in Canada so there are many details that are yet unknown. Six home ownerships were funded through FIMUR in Kenora.



Making Kenora Home has continued to participate in housing consultations at all levels of government and were active in the facilitation of a forum for municipal candidates focused on homelessness. HOME has continuing membership in the Homeless and Housing Network of Ontario (HHNO) and the Rural Housing Issues of Ontario (RHINO).

OBJECTIVE # 2

Community Caring Projects

Christmas Sharing Circle. Nancy Morrison continues to facilitate the traditional aboriginal sharing circle and Christmas celebration at the Kenora Fellowship Centre supported by Making Kenora Home. A delicious meal was served to the 60 patrons in attendance.

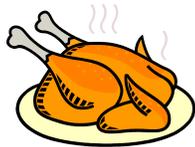


The youthful elves of the Nechee Centre individually wrapped the gifts were distributed to homeless and destitute adults in the community.

Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation. The August campaign provided Saturday meals to almost 300 individuals at the street picnics. This year, live entertainment delighted the patrons. Country music by the Cameron family and the spirited spins of the Freestylin' Junkies added to the summer festivities. The picnic patrons were also well treated to a fish fry organized by Mike Aiken and friends. The annual "Thanksgiving in August" feast was supported with service and pies from the Bethesda Lutheran ladies. Keystone Lock & Safe provided the turkeys. The OPP sponsored a Stuff-A-Boat campaign that contributed \$800 and 400 pounds of food to the Salvation Army food bank.



Nechee's elves reappeared to do summer gifting. The Akwe:go program collected \$700.00 through donation boxes, car washes and spaghetti dinners which was donated to the Kenora Fellowship Centre.



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



Summerfest. The Networking Tenant Neighbourhoods project reappeared as Summerfest.

The Minto neighbourhood hosted the event which featured a free BBQ, entertainment and local information on community services. Twenty three agencies signed up to participate in this celebration of summer.



Entertainment included the Circus Kids, Freestylin' Junkies and Ryan Van Bellingham. Neighbourhood children eagerly tried out stilt walking and hip hopping while the OPP and Fire Department served up burgers to go with the many side dishes offered by other participants. Kenora Patricia Child & Family Services were particularly busy spinning out cotton candy. Best Way Rentals supplied the tent which provided shade during the bright sunny day. The event was well attended by 150 residents and created an opportunity to meet and share within a community context.



Orpheus. The Options Committee worked together with the OPP and the Kenora Metis Centre to develop youth crime prevention proposal for a music drop-in center. The \$20,000 plan was submitted to the Safer and Vital Communities Fund. Although the proposal was not successful, the steering committee will pursue the proposal through other avenues of funding.

OBJECTIVE # 3

Facebook Page. Social networking became a key tool in Making Kenora Home's communications strategy. In response to the winter hostel funding cuts, a page (Making Kenora Home News) was launched. Membership in this page rose to over 400 within a very short time period.

Web Site. Our web master, Karen Sinclair, continues to effectively manage our web site. www.makingkenorahome.com includes events, research, publications and a direct newsfeed on federal and provincial housing matters,

Media Interviews

- o Radio 8
- o Television 5
- o Newsprint 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

“Homelessness may not only be a housing problem, but it is always a housing problem. And you can't deal with whatever other problems a person is facing until they are in stable, appropriate housing.”

David Hulchanski
University of Toronto

**Making Kenora Home Charitable Services Inc.
Profit and Loss
January through September 2010**

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
Donation	1,446.00
Total Income	1,446.00

Expense	
Fellowship Centre shelter	1000.00
Fellowship Sharing Circle	519.26
Legal & Professional Fees	-100.00
Post Office Box Rental	136.50
Sundry Office Expenses	13.52
Service Charges	<u>78.22</u>

Total Expenses	1,647.50
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Net Ordinary Income	-201.50
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Other Income/Expense

Other Income	
Accrued interest on investment	40.91
Service Charge Recovered	72.62

Total Other Income	113.53
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Net Other Income	113.53
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Total Net Income	-87.97
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Membership
Contact Nan Normand at the
Northwest Community Legal Clinic
468-8888.

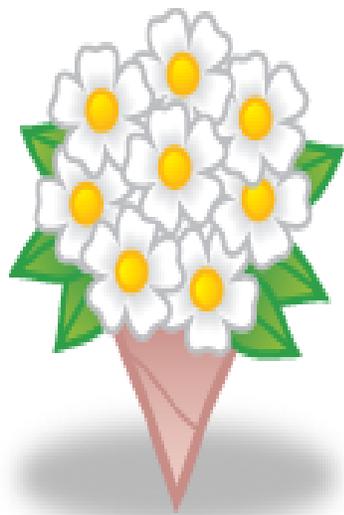
**Making Kenora Home Charitable Services Inc.
Summary Balance Sheet
As of September 2010**

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	8,835.97
Total Current Assets	8,835.97
Total Assets	8,835.97

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity	<u>8,835.97</u>
Total Liabilities & Equity	8,835.97



*Thank you to all of the
volunteers and donors who*

Make Kenora Home