

Making Kenora HOME

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS
FOR HOMELESSNESS

NEWSLETTER

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Kay'shi'daay'ing - Where We Live

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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*



Annual General Meeting

Thursday, November 18, 2008 - 5 p.m.
Northwest Community Legal Clinic



Bring a Tin
for the Bin

So Where's the Housing?

Affordable housing was needed four years ago. We advocated vociferously but the shovel has not broken ground yet. As an organization that promised accountability, we are constantly reviewing progress. "Where's the housing" is a simple question with an answer that twists through layers of bureaucracy and political will. Saying "it's complicated" is not a fair response. It is complicated but it is our responsibility as community builders to cut through this murky miasma and lay the issues open before the citizens of Kenora.

Developing housing requires commitment. The average housing project takes five years from inception to door opening. Construction is the easiest phase. It is obtaining community commitment, political will and funding that takes the most time.

Developing housing requires political will at all levels of government. Municipalities, service boards, provinces and the federal government all have a part in developing affordable housing and unless these components are working together, Kenora will not be able to secure desperately needed affordable housing.

Developing housing requires funding. The current economy may not be conducive to risk taking, but affordable housing is a core need. The cost of not providing the housing has been shown over and over again to be higher than the cost of building. Other communities with economic bases similar to our own have pulled together the funding required.

Without affordable housing, the community will be diminished. Homeless citizens will continue to be handled through the more

expensive band aids that don't heal. Low income families will continue to live precariously without basic needs met. Schools will continue to stretch thin resources to address the needs of students who are marginalized by economics. The health care system will continue to bear the cost of poverty through its trauma services. Economic development will continue to be impacted by the impaired quality of life found within communities with inadequate housing.

Making Kenora Home is committed to continuing to advocate for social change through affordable housing. Despite the disparaging commentary heard from cynics at our formation, we will continue until our job is done. At that time, the community will see where the housing is!

Halloween Treating

The Lakeside Baptist Youth Group, led by Tim Rauser, took their commitment to the streets on Halloween night. Rather than tricks, the youth sought food donations for those in need. Pastor

Frank Kowal was beaming when these volunteers hauled in enough treats to fill Jubilee Church's food cupboard. These young people demonstrated that you can have a good time while doing good.



Opportunities

Miracle Marathon
 Rockin' for the Army!
 Operation Christmas Boxes
 Stuff A Cruiser
 CPR Train of Lights
 Gingerbread Lane

Nov. 26 & 27
 Nov. 27 8:30 pm
 Until Dec.11
 Dec.4 10 am-4 pm
 Dec.5, 5:30 pm
 Dec.11 1-4 pm

KTMS Mobility
 Shooters
 Calvary Church
 Walmart, Canadian Tire, Shoppers, Safeway
 CPR Station
 Jubilee Church



Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation

This year's campaign hit an all time high for community involvement. The OPP ran "Stuff A Cruiser" and raised \$800 in cash and 400 pounds of food. Proceeds went to the Salvation Army. The Nechee Centre's Akwe;go program collected \$700.00 through donation boxes, car washes and spaghetti dinners. They gifted the Kenora Fellowship Centre with the proceeds.

The street picnics served up entertainment along with good meals shared by community members. The Cameron family sang out old favourites at one event while the Freestylin' Junkies laid out some new moves that were spell binding. Mike Aiken and friends fished up the lakes to provide a flavorful fish fry for all.

As is traditional, the final event was a full scale Thanksgiving dinner on the final August Saturday. Keystone Lock & Safe donated the turkeys. The MaryRuth Group from Bethesda again provided their services and all the home made pies that ended the meal so completely.

[Check out new items on our website-](#)

[Recommendations Report Card](#)

[Senate of Canada Recommendations on Housing & Homelessness](#)

www.makingkenorahome.ca