



# SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION



## annual report 2011 / 12



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# Empowered by Volunteers

## The Spence Neighbourhood

**Association** would not be able to do all that we do without the dedicated support of so many volunteers. The true roots of community development lie in engaging the community and empowering them to do the work of developing the neighbourhood. Many people generously gave their time and energy towards SNA work, and for all of you this page is a dedication to the commitment and energy volunteers have put into SNA this year. We will be honoring all our volunteers with a display board that will be mounted at our 615 Ellice office with the list of all of this year's volunteers.

**Sincerest thanks from  
everyone at SNA!**

## SNA Board 2012

The SNA Board is made of up to 12 representatives. This includes:

Eight area directors from different geographic areas of the neighbourhood and four director-at-large positions.

The board meets once a month to oversee the organization and provide direction

## Board members for 2012

President	Joan Hay
Vice President	Travis Unger
Secretary	Meredith Mitchell
Treasurer	Lynne Somerville
Area Director	Tim Johnson
Area Director	Wade Kovacs
Area Director	Lori Westman
Director at large	Mario Lopes
Director at large	Greg Tutor
Director at large	Gerry Berard

## The board is supported by:

The Holistic Housing Committee/  
Environment and Open Spaces  
Committee / Youth Committee Commu-  
nity Economic Development Committee/  
Community Connecting Committee.

These committees are made up of community residents, resourced by SNA staff members, and meet monthly to review programs, current issues, plan, and make recommendations to the board.



## President's Message



**Welcome all to the SNA 2012** Annual Report. It has been another year of amazing achievements. Another year of empowering through inclusion.

Now to mention just a few highlights from the year:

- Chief Grizzly Bear's Garden, an Aboriginal park project in the works for years, moved from dream to reality. It is set to become the crown jewel of the neighbourhood and a park for all to enjoy.
- The SNA youth program and the MERC were honoured with a visit from NBA Cares Canada. A new gym floor has been installed, which has resulted in an increase in the number of neighbourhood youth developing their basketball skills.
- Since our local newspaper "Streets" ended its run, the SNA has become a publisher. Our new community newspaper, "Our West Central Times", publishes quarterly, with input from our neighbours the DMSMCA.

These are just few of the many highlights you will read about in the annual report.

We, at the SNA, look forward to helping make our neighbourhood an even better place in 2013. Thank you to our members, funders, partners, staff, board and volunteers. Developing our community, in the midst of challenges, such as the complexities of urban poverty, would not be possible without each and every one of you. Again, thank you, and all the best in 2013.

Joan Hay  
President

## Executive Director's Message



**Hello** to Community Members, Funders, Partners, Volunteers and everyone else who has taken the time to support or participate in the Spence Neighbourhood Association over this past year.

I would like to start off by first thanking all the staff, board members, and volunteers here at SNA. Every day that I come into work I am inspired by the dedication, commitment and compassion you all bring to this community. You make me feel so grounded and compelled to do my best each day in order to keep striving for the community we want to see, while enjoying the community we have. This year has been a year of hard work to maintain and sustain all the important work we have set out to do. This has moved us towards making the community five year plan a reality.

2012 - the numbers and accomplishments will speak for themselves as you flip through this annual report. I implore you to look not just at the program highlights or statistics, but look deeper into the true impact our staff and our programming is having on the lives of those who call Spence home.

Try to see all those youth in our newly rejuvenated gym thanks the NBA and Manitoba Lotteries, who can dream of one day playing in the NBA - or just to make their junior high team! See those proud home owners who worked diligently to get a housing grant to make improvements on their homes, investing in where they live. See the community gardeners - some up at first sunlight, others gardening late into the night to keep our green spaces alive and vibrant.

These are the amazing things I get to see each day I come into work. These are the things that an annual report can only try to convey. What we are working on here is building a community; we have our hands in all different aspects of community work, but it all boils down to building a strong community.

One of the things I am most proud of this year is SNA's work in collaboration and partnership with so many strong communities, agencies and more. In our neighbourhood we have a strong West Central Connect Network with our list serve and monthly network meetings. Our youth staff are involved in many coalitions and partnerships like Gang Action Interagency Network and Youth Agency Alliance to name a few. As part of our work with housing, we are organizing the West End Housing stakeholder meetings and involved in the Winnipeg Rental Network etc.

We have worked with our neighbouring Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations and those from across the province in the Coalition of Manitoba Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations. We are taking our programming, and sharing our best practices and experience to strengthen programs across the city and province.

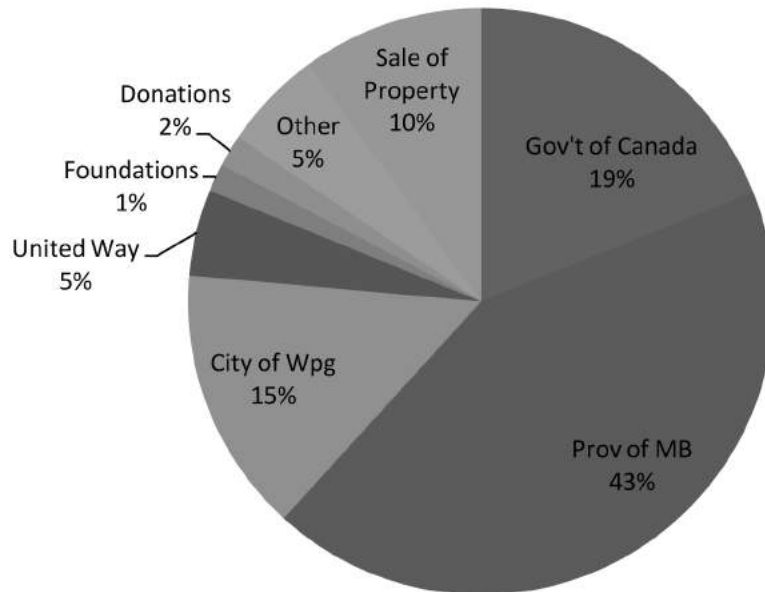
Looking forward to 2013, we have set out ambitious goals. We will be working hard to see tangible results, as well as impact that cannot be measured in statistics, in the goals we have set out in our 5 year plan.

Jamil Mahmood  
Spence Neighbourhood Association

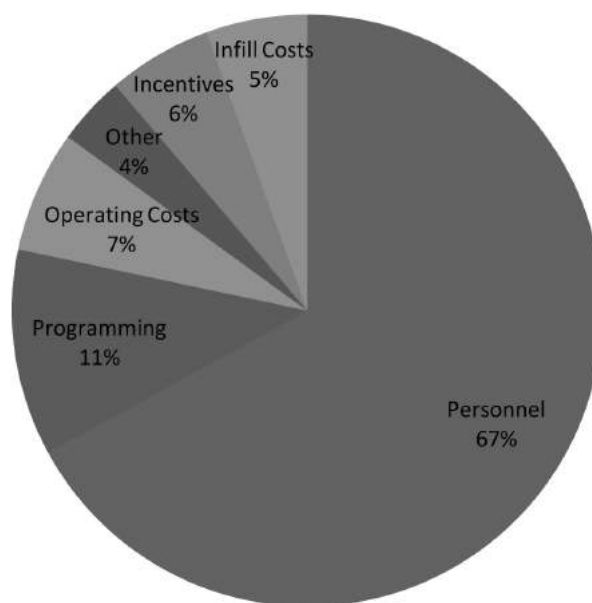


## SNA Funding Breakdown

### 2011/12 Breakdown of Revenue Sources



### 2011/12 Breakdown of Expenses



## Empowered by our Staff

**SNA** is fortunate to attract so many strong staff people. We have staff with all different backgrounds, ethnicities and levels of education. This diversity amongst our staff is reflective of the diversity of the programs we run and the community we work in. Many of the jobs we do are very intense and take a lot of emotion and passion from our staff to do them as best they can.

We are fortunate each day to have such dedicated staff working and that have worked for us over the year. Our staff love their jobs and it shows in the high quality work they do.

Day in day out we are here for the community. Thank you to all of you for your passion inspiration and drive.

### Current Staff:

*MERC (430 Langside St.)*

Ida Bakken  
Liz Bend  
Allison Besel  
Jesse Gair  
Dale Goulet  
Marleah Graff  
Leslie Kwok  
Cameron MacLean  
Erin Oluyemi  
Cortney Sinclair  
Kelly Stefanation  
Ferosh Tailor  
Ashley Tolentino  
Matt Zereselasie

*615 Ellice Ave.*

Mary Burton  
Robin Falk  
Denise Greyeyes  
Isabel Jerez  
Molly Johnson  
Jamil Mahmood  
Don Miedema  
Samantha Mitchell  
Almera Oduca  
Tanya Suderman

*First Jobs 4 Youth staff*

Brad Blackbird  
Randi Bushie-James  
Janaye Comegan  
Courtney Hager  
Dakota Harper-Barten

Gloria Luna-Aguilar  
Akech Mayuom  
Pacifique Mbabazi  
Joseph McKay  
Jordan McKinnon  
Fartune Mohamed  
Joselyn Moise  
Corbett Powell  
Melissa Royea-Morrison  
Moses Shyllon  
Shelby Smith

*Youth Crew staff*

Rayshannah Bighetty  
Brad Blackbird  
Htoo Blae  
Tyler Booth-Begal  
Elemar Borja  
Joel Borja  
Jomar Borja  
Mariel Borja  
Darian Boubard  
Zahura Bucini  
Tomaring Camara  
Dorianna Campbell  
Jenna Comegan  
Ana Cotton  
Christine Daniels  
Destiny Daniels  
Phoenix Hayes  
Ahzarni Htoo  
Lahmay Htoo  
Abigail Letander  
Megan Letander  
Zach Letander

Tek Mahat  
Omar Mahomed  
Donovan Mason  
Akech Mayuom  
Aveena McKinnon  
David McKinnon  
Nataniel McKinnon  
Joselyn Moise  
Jadzia Morrison  
Alexander Niyonkuru  
Thiery Niyubuhungiro  
Okoth Obeing  
Pajack Obeing  
Elijah Ochigi  
Mehr Rakhshani  
Micki Tabaro  
Esperence Shima  
Bettina Shyllon  
Moses Shyllon  
Jason Skead  
Cheyanne Stevens  
Warren Swampy  
Christopher Thompson  
Valentyn Tsapiak  
Bob Umar  
Siwema Wyaranse  
Borzah Yankey

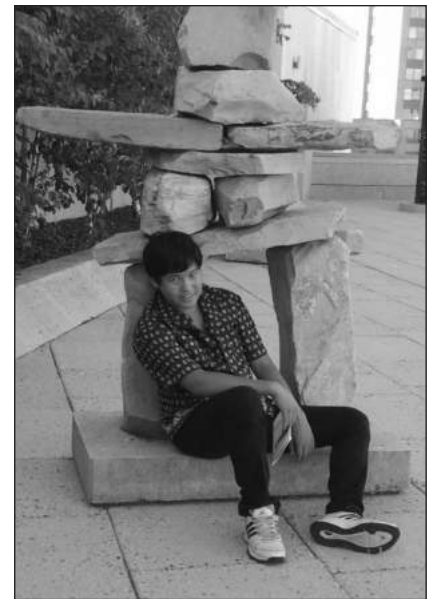
### Past staff

Chino Argueta  
Dave Colvinson  
Micki Tabaro  
Ronann Mariano  
Ronna Mariano  
Holly Steele

## SNA in 2012: by the Numbers

**T**he Spence Neighbourhood Association has had a great year, some highlights of what we were able to work with the community to achieve are:

- This year SNA programs and staff have work with 3,150 participants/community members
- In 2012 SNA programs and staff spent 15,859 hours working directly with the community
- This year SNA hosted 395 events in the community, this includes community meetings.





# Empowering The Community

**Once again** this year, the Spence Neighbourhood Association received \$50,000.00 from Neighbourhoods Alive! to provide incentives for community projects in the neighbourhood.

SNA gave out 27 individual incentives ranging from a few hundred dollars to a maximum of \$5,000 to organizations and groups of individuals in the community for community building and community connecting projects and activities.

The small incentives fund was established to enable local community based groups, organizations and groups of residents within the Spence neighbourhood to undertake small projects that enhance the strength and cohesion of the community.

## Organizations that received SNA small incentives in 2013 include:

- West End Cultural Centre (Ellice Street Festival)
- West Central Women's Resource Centre (Welcoming Community Women community art project)
- Music at the MERC program
- Family Food Group
- Immigrant Women's Association of Manitoba (Immigrant mentorship program)

- Daniel MacIntyre St. Matthews Community Association (Our West Central Times joint SNA/DMSMCA community newspaper)
- Youth Agencies Alliance (Rotary Leadership Circle)
- Aboriginal Circle of Educators (Beading workshops)
- Art from the Heart (Annual art sale)
- Pregnancy and Family Support Services (Aboriginal arts and culture program)

**Area director funds:** Each year, a certain amount of small grants are dedicated to each of the eight areas of the Spence neighbourhood. Board members from those areas direct the funds. The following is a list of projects supported area director funds:

- Ellice Street Festival
- Neighbourhood block parties
- Tool Lending Library
- 683 Agnes St. green space fence
- Jacob Penner Park redevelopment
- Furby Street ice rink

**Youth funds:** Each year \$5,000 is set aside for youth-led projects. The youth of the Spence neighbourhood put together a proposal listing all their cost getting quotes and explaining how the money will benefit the Spence community. They then have to present to the SNA board. This year they spent the money on new computers for the lobby at MERC (430 Langside St.), six skateboards for the MERC skateboard club, tools for the MERC kitchen kitchen, masks for painting, and paint for the MERC washroom.



# Empowering The Community

## Community Housing Improvement Initiative Grants

- **31 Homeowner projects** were completed where the homeowner received \$44,498 for it and they contributed \$37,837 of their own money.
- **11 Rental projects** were completed where the rental property owner received \$23,500 for it and they contributed \$31,993 of their own money.

## Roofing Grants

6 roofs completed

## COMMUNITY CLOTHING BANK

This project began in August, 2008 to help meet the basic needs of neighbourhood kids and families, and has been running steady ever since.

Every Sunday, gently used clean clothing, house wares, and furniture donated from Wolseley Wardrobe are laid out on one side of the gym at the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre, about the same time that Food not Bombs prepares their community meal.

People come and gather clothing for their family, chat with friends, and enjoy a coffee and a meal while kids play on the other half of the gym. Between 60 and 120 people come every week; most families have a child in SNA Youth Programming.

This year we saw a increase with many newcomers attending, because of this clothing bank hosted a multicultural celebration during one of the clothing bank Sundays.

Generously supported by Wolseley Wardrobe, Tall Grass Prairie Bakery, West 49, and Superstore.





## Housing & Rental



**O**ver the last year SNA's holistic housing work with renters, homeowners, and the homeless has continued. Affordable housing is a common concern for all. In response, SNA's housing committee and staff have developed programs and created opportunities that encourage collaborations through programs developed for the Homeless Outreach and Rental Safety Programs.

**Staff working in the program:**  
Mary Burton, Don Miedema and  
Isabel Jerez

### Community Housing Improvement Initiative Grants

- 31 Homeowner projects were completed where the homeowner received \$43,772 for it and they contributed \$37,940 of their own money.
- 11 Rental projects were completed where the rental property owner received \$23,500 for it and they contributed \$31,192 of their own money.

Roofing Grants - 6 roofs completed

Rental Outreach Worker & Safety Rental Coordinator - On a monthly basis an average of 26 clients are assisted

## Rental Tenancy and Renovations

The rental housing in Spence Neighbourhood is undergoing a major change. The affordable rents appear to be a thing of the past. The apartment buildings are being sold from one generation to the next and the new owners see an opportunity to do the much needed upgrades and take them from under rent control for up to five years. This has a major impact on Spence where 40 per cent of the land parcels are occupied by rental properties and 82 per cent of the total living units are rental.

We invited landlords and tenants to come to a Rental Tendency Branch session to learn about the ins and outs of rent increases. About 30 people from Spence, Daniel Macintyre and West Broadway attended.

We wanted to know how landlords could increase the rents charged and how the tenant could have a voice in these changes. Daren Cooper of RTB explained that there are two main ways; first, if costs have escalated, landlords can ask for above-guideline increases. The second is through doing major renovations where a property can be exempt from rent control for up to five years.

In either case, the landlord has to make an application to justify rent increases containing support documentation for the increases. Letters are sent to the tenants to invite them to come to the RTB office to view the application and related documents.

In the case of a major renovation project, tenants are invited to come to a hearing. If they cannot view the documents or come the hearing during regular working hours, special arrangements will be made up on request.

Coming to hearings and seeing support documents is very important for tenants. In many cases, your future in where you live is at stake. A major renovation means a major increase in rent to cover the landlord's investment. The tenant will want to know if the increase is justified, how much more rent they may have to pay and if they may have to look for a different place to live.

After the workshop, people stated that they appreciated knowing both sides of the application process. Now we have to encourage people to use the process to the fullest.

Over the last 10 years, the Spence neighbourhood between Balmoral Street, Agnes Street,

continued

## Housing & Rental

continued

Notre Dame Avenue and Portage Avenue has seen some major changes. For the most part, the work has been done by non-profits with funding from all three levels of government.

Some funding went directly to homeowners and community incentives were administered by Spence Neighbourhood Association. Major renovations and builds have been balanced between rentals and homes for private ownership.

The major player in developing rental units was Lazarus Housing an arm of New Live Ministries. SAM Management built the 16 new pocket suites.

On the home renovation side, the majority was done by Winnipeg Housing and Rehabilitation Corp (WHRC). Their co-operation with SNA was exemplary of how two organizations can work together.

SNA played a major role in giving oversight to the building of over 33 homes. Housing Opportunities Program has also been a major player in renovations and, in recent years, building new housing.

Private investors made some starts and stops over the last five years but now appear to be staying.

Initially, work was done with assistance from government programs such as Rental Residential Repair Assistance Program

but now for-profits feel that the market will allow for millions to be invested in apartment buildings. Currently, about 12 the large apartment buildings have been or are in the process of being renovated.

For-profit contractors are also building new homes in the area. Three new houses are going up on Spence and Young streets. Some houses are also being renovated, and a burnt out house in Agnes Street is a good example of the good work that can be done.

However, good news stories also have their down side. That for-profit businesses are investing is an indication that market prices have risen enough to give them a return on their investment. This means that rental rates and property values in Spence have risen dramatically and many people now living in Spence cannot afford the much higher rents.

SNA struggles with how to find a balance between development and displacement. Our rental services are available as we try to help the people displaced by the development find new places to live.



# Rental Safety

**T**his year, we have started a service package for landlords in the Spence community. We will facilitate small repairs and hire someone to do the cleaning of common areas for the landlord. The Rental Safety Coordinator will work closely with the tenants and the landlords to ensure that things run smoothly for everyone.

Mary has worked with many community members to ensure that they are not being evicted, or at risk of being evicted. She works with the landlords and tenants to ensure that all issues that the landlord or tenant may have are being addressed in a timely manner.

**Staff working in the program:**  
Mary Burton

## BY THE NUMBERS

Since I started in April 2012 I have worked with 5 landlords and 21 tenants. I have installed 21 locks for various tenants. Supplied safety lights for 6 area residents.

I have handed out 45 bed bug mattress covers and 25 pillow covers I have done three presentations for volunteers here at SNA how to fill out housing applications, safety personal and property safety, and RTB questions

## Good news story

The Rental Safety program provides bed bug supplies to tenants and landlords in the Spence community. I have been working closely with James Lyons, who has been hired by the Daniel MacIntyre/St. Matthew's Community Association to address the bed bug issues in the Spence, West Broadway, Daniel MacIntyre and St. Matthew's communities. Education sessions for front-line workers, tenants and landlords have happened, as well as work towards a cohesive approach in dealing with bed bugs.

We provided information sessions for tenants on the Residential Renancies Branch, safety and how to apply for Manitoba Housing.

This year we are working on a rooming house service package. We will be helping to keep rooming houses clean. If any repairs need to be done we will work with the landlords to get them done.

We have worked on doing a pesticide-free bed bug program for rooming houses. It will be a three to six-month project.

In April, I handed out 45 bed covers and 25 pillow covers. I have also changed several locks for landlords and tenants. I will continue to hand out bedbug covers and pillow covers. I have also handed out safety supplies to community members and landlords. I will continue with the landlord service package and the bed bug rooming house project.







# Homeless Outreach



**T**he Homeless Outreach Mentor works with community members who are homeless by helping them find places to live and support them staying housed. This past year, Almera has been busy. Below is a breakdown of results that were achieved over all.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- 30% House in Rooming house and Private Housing
- 10% Permanent Housing and Subsidies Housing
- 30% moved x2 and x3
- 10% Still Homeless
- 10% No contact
- 10% Volunteer at SNA HOM program

The results show the percentage of participants that were helped in different areas because providing the exact numbers that were served is challenging to determine. The approach used is the hands on approach and the client centred model that focuses on building relationships.

Appointments are not required at SNA, therefore the number of community members that come to our office are endless and their range for housing requests and supports are vast. As a result, we ask ourselves if a community member that needs to be pointed in the right direction in a onetime conversation is a client?

What we want you to know is that we are here to assist and therefore all our efforts are not represented in these numbers although they are significant. Accompanying clients to appointments, providing assistance in completing rental applications and leases, providing life skills training in the areas of personal well-being, budgeting and problem solving are some of the ways that help is provided to address some challenges such as literacy/ language barriers and lack of understanding how to access and retain services.

There are other results from the work done that should be recognized...and we do acknowledge it. We consider success when we overhear a conversation where a past client educates a newer one of services or an approach that can be more successful than what they were currently using. These conversations happened often and were overheard at the monthly gatherings and holiday celebrations this year.

We provided the venue throughout the year for community to share their resources. When we see community members helping each other, we know that we are creating a helping culture within our community. There is not one expert, it is a community that supports each other and looks after one another.

The shortage of affordable quality housing in and outside of our neighbourhood

has forced us to look around and assess what we have; to recognize and value the knowledge that has been acquired by individuals that have navigated through the system. This year through the Rental Outreach program, Almera has worked on highlighting the value of the individual. We look forward to continuing to build on this work.

**Staff working in the program:**  
Almera Oduca

## Good news story

My volunteering makes me feel good because I clean up my neighbourhood, which it needs very badly. This Volunteer money greatly helps me with my expenses, rent, food and bills. I deeply appreciate having the chance to do this and would like to thank the Social Service and SNA.

I like volunteering for SNA because I suffer badly from depression. It forces me to go out and do some things. If I am too down one day to go, SNA is flexible so that I can wait a few days. That way when I feel better I can go and do it. I get to meet people and help the community. Thank, I hope that I can continue.

## EVENTS

Summer Party / Christmas Party  
connecting with tenant committee/  
Once a month volunteer gathering

# Skills Bank

**T**he Skills Bank is a community economic development project whose purpose is to connect community members to odd jobs within the Spence neighbourhood and surrounding area. Skills Bank has been successful due to the collaboration of other organizations in the Spence neighbourhood.

Local residents are empowered when given the opportunity to supplement their income. They can continue to afford housing with the increasing housing costs, connect with other community members, contribute to their community, and integrate into the workforce.

Residents and organizations in the community hire Skills Bank members, who also live in the community, to provide a service, such as lawn care, snow shoveling, painting, or cleaning. Odd jobs provide members with work experience as well as supplemental income. This year we were able to support over 350 jobs for community members.

Another part of the Skills Bank is the ID Program. The ID program came to an end in March 2012. The program had overspent its budget while financially helping many community members obtain their ID. Thanks to funding from the Assiniboine Credit Union, the ID Program started up again in July 2012 and was greeted by a flood of eager community members

seeking help with the identification.

Skills Bank is also supported by the Tool Lending Library. The Tool Lending Library received several donations by the community in 2012. These donations are great contributions to the community from the community and allow Skills Bank members and the community access to a variety of tools.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**Seven (7)** Skills Bank members (workers) participated in the program

**Four (4)** Skills Bank members were sent out on request (this means good references can be provided)

**Six (6)** community members accessed the program due to criteria





# Skills Bank



## Good news story

Skills Bank has created great connections in the neighbourhood. As a result existing contracts have been renewed in the neighbourhood on a regular basis and new contracts have been developed with other organizations and residents.

Organizations and residents have become familiar with the work done by specific Skills Bank member and have requested members by name. The levels of trust and connections that have been developed have opened up more opportunities for Skills Bank members.

The lawn care program was developed with a goal of not only providing work and training opportunities for workers but also for the benefit of the homeowner. Assistance to residents who do not have the finances or ability to maintain the grounds keeping of their homes supports the beautification of the Spence neighbourhood. The majority of the clients this year have been seniors who have been introduced and encouraged to interact with the Skills Bank workers. As a result, further job opportunities were presented to the worker and a variety of resources were shared with the homeowner, such as the tool lending library, homeowner grants, volunteer opportunities, special event info, and other department information at SNA that would be of interest.

In other words, registering for the lawn care program put community members on the radar of SNA staff to approach them for any additional beneficial opportunities surrounding assistance with their property.

Samantha Mitchell, the new Skills Bank Coordinator, was hired this year. She has worked tirelessly to make sure that a consistency with the program continues.

She has made contact with new seniors in the community through the housing grants at SNA. She has also taken a chance with new Skills Bank members and has increased the list of active members in the data base of reliable/ steady workers.

In the spring, Sam contacted the previous year members from the lawn care program and found that some moved away, passed on, and another bought a lawn mower. She placed an ad in the SNA newsletter to inform community that opportunities for lawn care were available. The response was minimal. As a result, six community members accessed the program in the summer which consisted of two cuts a month but for the winter, the service to the homeowners have been more regular and on an as-needed basis.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**Males: 150 Jobs**  
**Average hrs per job is 3**  
**Approximate hrs worked is 429**

**Females: 214 Jobs**  
**Average hrs per job is 2**  
**Approximate hrs worked is 432**

**Staff working in the program:**  
Samantha Mitchell



## Environment and Open Spaces



**E**nvironment and Open Spaces works to improve the quality of the Spence environment. The committee, staff and community worked on two large park projects. The first was Jacob Penner Park. We created a community garden with new beds and three compost bins. We provided feedback to the city on the park's new developments, including skate park elements and new basketball courts.

Ogemah Makwa Okitaygaan (Chief Grizzly Bear's Garden) at Sargent Ave. and Sherbrook St. turned from talks, dreams and consultation into a reality. This was made possible by the work of the steering committee and the City of Winnipeg. These projects have been in the works for a long time and it was great to see them happen.

Environment and Open Spaces now supports 11 community gardens and their gardeners in the community. We support them by hosting many workshops and educational resources.

This year, we hosted many workshops, including seed-starting, with five seed-starting workshops, which seeded over 1,600 plants. We also held the IndiSPENCEable documentary series, which brings world environmental issues, education and discussion into our community.

## EVENTS

**Kids' garden programming:** 40 +  
Greening staff days in the garden working with Building Belonging to grow harvest and eat food.

Spring Clean-up / Annual Plant Sale /  
Garden Celebration / Garden Tour /  
Jacob Penner Community Garden Grand  
Opening / Tree banding / Fall Clean-up

## BY THE NUMBERS

**EOSP community participants  
in workshops and events:** 312

**EOSP events:** 33 (workshops,  
celebrations, work days)

**Community gardeners:** 86

**Staff working in the program:**  
Tanya Suderman

## Good news story

The building of Jacob Penner Park's community garden took place during the summer of 2012. Although the rest of the park update - including new basketball and skateboard elements - will happen in the spring of 2013, we were able to fill all of the 15 garden beds with plants and flowers.

Ogemah Makwa Okitaygaan (Chief Grizzly Bear's Garden) also started its construction in fall of this year. The planting is waiting for spring, but we are happy that the once-vacant lot will be filled.

There are many stories coming out of all the projects and events held in 2012. One that sticks out is the story of the development of 683 Agnes St.

In January, community youth, adults and volunteers worked hard to keep 683 Agnes St. a community green space. The youth made giant words saying "OURS." The Environment and Open Spaces Committee gathered and worked to keep the property from being sold and advocated for the SNA green plan. People gathered together to keep our green space green.

In Spring, the EOSP committee decided that we needed to make it known that 683 Agnes St. was the community's.

A fence was built and garden beds were assembled on a very hot day with the help and hard work of neighbours. Tomatoes, cucumber and melon were planted and watered by kids who lived across the street.



## Empowering A Community Voice



**T**he Spence Neighbourhood Association works hard to inform the community about the services we offer. SNA publishes the Our West Central Times quarterly community newspaper with the Daniel MacIntyre/St. Matthew's community association. The paper is delivered to all homes and businesses in the West Central area. It doubles as the newsletter for SNA and DMSMCA during the month that it's published. In addition, SNA publishes a monthly newsletter, delivered to all houses and businesses in Spence. Both the newspaper and newsletter are supported by ad sales.

SNA also maintains a strong presence online. With our website, Facebook and Twitter pages, we are able to reach clients and community partners outside our official boundaries.

### BY THE NUMBERS

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**15,300** copies of the monthly SNA newsletter delivered (9 issues in 2012)

**22,500** copies of OWCT newspaper delivered (3 issues in 2012)

**270** "Likes" on SNA Facebook Page

**427** Twitter followers

Public screening of documentary  
"West Central: A view from here",  
August 2012

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### Good news story

Besides great writing, nothing makes a newspaper story grab readers' attention more than a great photograph. Including a photo with a story immediately helps the reader understand what it is about. Also, a story without a photo may be skipped over. Pictures signal to a reader that a story is important.

Many community newspapers rely on their writers to take photos. Although there are many competent writer/photographers out there, having a dedicated photographer helps keep the look and quality of a paper consistent. At Our West Central Times, we've been fortunate to be able to call upon the talents of a young West End photographer named Joel Penner. I first met Joel when he responded to a call SNA sent out to the community, asking for help for families who were displaced by an apartment fire in January, 2012. He created a website to solicit donations and took photographs of some of the families. From there, I discovered that Joel had a vast body of photographic work, and he's handy with digital editing software. When I asked if he would like to be our photographer, he immediately said yes.

Joel's work has now appeared in three issues of Our West Central Times. His photos are professional quality, but he lets us have them for free. We are honoured to be able to display the talents of this young West Ender. Although we haven't found a way to pay him yet, I was able to hook him up with a job that uses his considerable skills. When my co-worker with the City of Winnipeg asked if I knew someone who could lead a digital photography course for inner-city youth, I immediately suggested Joel. For nine weeks in the fall of 2012, he ran a program twice a week for children in the West End and West Broadway. He is sharing his gifts with our community in more ways than one.

Joel's is just one positive story from a year that has seen incredible growth at the paper. Advertising sales have increased to the point where we are no longer simply covering the costs of printing and are now making a profit. We have more people writing for us than ever before, and some regular writers are becoming recognizable names in our publication. We look forward to even more success in 2013.

**Staff working in the program:** Cameron MacLean



## Community Connecting

**S**NA's Community Connector works to facilitate the creation of social bonds in the Spence neighbourhood. The Community Connecting program has done work in many different areas over the year. In January and February, as a response to an apartment fire on Sherbrook, SNA took on a role coordinating the donation of funds and goods to displaced residents.

In the spring, we launched our back lane address plate project and doubled the number of back lane number plates on the residential properties in the neighbourhood. The goal of this project is to make it easier for both emergency responders (fire trucks, ambulances, police cars) to find addresses and also to help to with the proper collection of bulky waste and repair of infrastructure.

This spring and fall, we conducted several community walkabouts/safety audits in the neighbourhood, including specific audits of the Cumberland corridor (in partnership with the Environment and Open Spaces committee) and the MERC (with the Youth committee). The MERC audit report was prepared with the assistance of junior staff and has been given to the City of Winnipeg for information. We also held an e-waste roundup and delivered the goods to Equal Opportunities West for training purposes.

This fall the Community Connecting program has also been working with the Environment and Open Spaces coordinator to assist with the city-wide launch of the Winnipeg FoodShare Co-op. The 615 Ellice Ave. office is one of the new depots for the bi-monthly delivery of fresh and affordable food.

Participation in this year's community connecting activities has included canvassing for and installing back lane number plates in the neighbourhood, participating in community walkabouts/safety audits, volunteering with the Winnipeg FoodShare Co-op, and attending monthly meetings. The program has paid Skills Bank folks, relied on volunteers, and worked in partnership with other SNA staff and volunteers. The community connecting programs have also worked with many other local organizations, such as the West End BIZ, the West Central Women's Resource Centre, the Spence Street Thrift Store, and the neighbouring Daniel McIntyre/St. Matthews Community Association.

Several hundred back lane number plates were distributed and installed throughout the neighbourhood. This increased the coverage from approximately 25% to 45% in six months. The program is ongoing and will continue to distribute and install free back lane address plates to those who need them.

Dozens of neighbourhood residents participated in community walkabouts/safety audits in many areas of Spence. Participants engaged with many of their neighbours as the audits traversed back lanes and streets throughout the area.

Staff met with many community residents while attending block parties, family days, and other neighbourhood events such as community consultations, garden celebrations, and meetings. Staff were also able to connect residents with many other programs and projects in the neighbourhood, both at SNA and throughout the area.

**Staff working in the program:**  
Cortney Sinclair/Molly Johnson



# Community Connecting

**EVENTS** Community walkabouts/safety audits (including specific audits of the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre and the Cumberland Ave. corridor) / E-waste drop off / Participation in community BBQs/block parties, family and youth events, community meetings, board information sessions, and community consultations.

## Good news story

The Spence Neighbourhood Association promotes community connecting in many ways.

After January 2011, when a fire destroyed the apartment building at 577 Sherbrook St., many residents were without fire insurance and struggled to find temporary housing.

The Spence Neighbourhood Association, together with many other neighbourhood organizations and individuals across Winnipeg, responded by collecting household items, clothing, and food, as well as monetary donations to be distributed to those in need.

SNA also assisted with replacing some types of identification that were lost in the fire.

In the spring, we launched our back lane address plate project. We doubled the number of back lane number plates on residential properties in the neighbourhood.

The goal of this project is to make it easier for both emergency responders (fire trucks, ambulances, police cars) to find addresses and also to help to with the proper collection of bulky waste and repair of infrastructure.

This fall, we conducted several community safety walkabouts to identify safety issues in the neighbourhood. These walkabouts included audits of specific areas like the Cumberland corridor (in partnership with the Environment and Open Spaces Committee) and the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre (with the Youth Committee).

The MERC audit report was prepared with the assistance of junior staff and has been given to the City of Winnipeg for information.



# Empowering Our Children

**F**unding from the Winnipeg Foundation's Nourishing Potential Fund and the Child Nutrition Council's After-School Vegetable and Fruit Program, along with feedback from students from The University of St. Boniface nursing program, helped our meal and cooking programs provide daily nutritious meals to all our kids. They also helped provide cooking classes and nutrition education.

Our kids learned about our environment by harvesting vegetables and participating in workshops such as vermicomposting and juice-making with our Kids Garden. They visited Fort Whyte, the Living Prairie Museum, and the Manitoba Museum and Science Gallery, and took weekly Let's Talk Science activities at the U of W's Wii Chi-waakanak Centre.

We provided much needed access and exposure to recreation programming with cross-country skiing, fishing, archery, weekly swimming at Sherbrook pool, special outings to pools across the city, skateboarding outings to local parks and the North End YMCA, and a new wrestling program with coaches and student athletes from the U of W.

Our skating program was supported by the donation of skates and hockey equipment from CBC Radio listeners and helmets from the Manitoba Coalition for Active and Safe Kids.

We brought in the UWSA's Bike Lab to work on bike repair with the kids and MPI's Bike Rodeo to teach bike safety.

Six lucky kids attended Juni Camp at Camp Y through the Youth Agencies Alliance.

To experience the vibrant culture and history in our city we brought our kids to Folklorama, Festival du voyageur, and three plays at the Winnipeg Fringe Festival. This year we became part of the access programs with the Manitoba Children's Museum and the Winnipeg Art Gallery. With weekly workshops with Art City, classes in hip-hop dancing, drama or Aboriginal drumming and in instructors for individual music lessons for piano, signing, guitar and drums we helped kids develop their own creative voice.

## EVENTS

Family Party Jan. 27 / Festival du Voyageur outing Feb. 25 / Family Party Feb. 17, Family BBQ March 30 / Community Cleanup April 28 / Family Talent Show May 18 / United Way Day of Caring at the Red River Ex – June 20 / Ellice Street Festival carnival games and prize table- June 2 / Juni Camp July 2-4 / Family BBQ & Art Show July 27 / Shaw Park Free Day with United Way July 30 & 31 / Olympics MERC Family Olympics with MPI Bike Rodeo and UWSA Bike Lab August 17 / Freestyle w/UWSA Oct. 3-5 / Fall Community Cleanup Oct. 13 / Boo @ the Zoo Oct. 24 / MERC Family Halloween Party Oct. 31 / Family Meeting Nov. 19 / MERC Family Holiday Party Dec. 9



# Empowering Our Children

## BY THE NUMBERS

**Kids registered during 2012:** 234

**Average attendance:** 21 boys/20 girls

**Community participants (Family):** 979

**Programming Hours:** 906.5

**Volunteers:** 18 with 30 (SOAR Heartland) during Spring Break

**Youth Workers:** 1 (YmYwca Student Work Summer Exchange) /2 First Jobs  
4 Youth summer placement/ 2 First Jobs  
/4 Youth fall placement

**Practicum Students:** 1 UofM /3 (RRC)

**Staff working in the program:**  
Allison Besel, Ida Bakken



## Good news story

We've brought in Loa Olafson to teach hip-hop for several years but sometimes only the most dedicated will show up. Following and absorbing a dance routine is hard for our kids. Kids with short attention spans will become distracted, the most enthusiastic get impatient and then the room gets noisy. Boys can feel that dance is just for girls if they're the only one in the room. Everyone has to feel safe and comfortable enough in their bodies to commit to the movements.

Loa is patient with the kids but moving through routines requires a level of attention and discipline that was often beyond them. This summer we started to see a change. The room started to fill up with girls and boys of all ages and a new focus emerged. Chatting, bouncing kids would snap into focus once the music turned on. Having so many kids engaged helped others overcome embarrassment or insecurity. In October the kids get to take part in the UWSA's Freestyle celebration of urban culture with hip-hop workshops for three straight days ending with a public performance. Usually the numbers start high, but keep dropping as the kids get tired of perfecting the routine. This time over 20 kids right from 6-12 stood up in front of their friends and danced through 3 routines before busting out Gangnam style.

The next time Loa came in they were back asking for songs by name and falling easily into the old routines. Kylla and Mah are two veterans of Loa's dance classes. Even when no one else shows up they're there. This year Loa asked them to join her at the Freestyle workshops for youth. Even though they were the youngest kids there, at the final performance at the U of W in front of a huge crowd of strange youth and adults they were some of the most confident and comfortable out there moving through their routines and b-girl moves. That is the most I can hope for all of the kids who participate in our programs. Not to be the best dancers or wrestlers or swimmers or artists but to be confident showing off what they can do.



# Empowering Our Youth

**T**he Youth Drop-In Program runs during the evenings for youth aged 12-18. The program has seen an increase in attendance this year with a particular rise in the number of newcomer participants.

The youth program continues to run programming seven-days-a-week, engaging youth in a variety of activities.

The youth have participated in programming that addresses various aspects and interests including athletics, cultural activities, outdoor adventures, arts, nutrition and cooking, sexual education, engagement with racism and peacebuilding and many others.

The diverse population of youth that attend programming have collaborated on projects and can be seen almost any day of the week playing basketball together in the gym.



## Good news story

This year we were fortunate to have the gym at the Magnus Eliason Rec. Centre re-done by NBA Cares Canada. The new gym attracted a lot of attention when the mayor, NBA players and coaches, the City of Wpg and Spence Neighbourhood Association visited for a press conference.

Since the opening of the new gym there has been an increase in the number of youth dedicated to practicing their basketball skills. Youth have a renewed drive after taking place in several NBA events.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**Total participants: 9983**  
**Total community hours: 1 131**  
**Newcomer attendees: 4779**

**Staff working in the program:**  
Elizabeth Bend, Matt Zereselasie



## EVENTS

This year the youth program put on numerous events and outings for youth including: Paintball outings, youth dances, holiday parties, fishing, beach days, family events, Wii Chii wwakanak (meet with and eat with elders, drumming, cultural activities), Girls night/Guys night. Winnipeg Folk Festival drumming, Hip Hop Dance Classes, Cooking/Baking, "Fear Factor", Sexual education provided by Sexuality Education Resource Centre (SERC), Rollerskating, Bowling, Swimming, Football, Family Events, Mini Golf, Baseball, Skating, Water Fights, Skateboarding, Go Karts, Teen Talk, Illustration Lessons, Daily meals and drive home.





# Empowering Youth and Culture

**C**ultural Integration Youth Outreach is a new project that works with aboriginal and newcomer youth at risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system or who are having difficulty successfully integrating into the community. In the past year we have:

- Matched 22 youth in intensive mentorship relationships with outreach workers who facilitated goal-setting and self-actualization, community networking, personal cultural exploration, and provided a support system for these youth
- Facilitated cultural programming within SNA evening youth programming, expanding youth participant's understanding of different cultures
- Helped youth complete their restorative justice hours (community service and specialized behavior workshops) to return into the Youth Program
- Helped youth from the community complete their community services hours successfully
- Empowered youth to share their cultures with others through writing articles, dancing and leading activities
- Employed 22 at-risk youth and 10 youth leaders in our Junior Staff program

## EVENTS

Every month, outreach youth participated in an Outreach Group outing. Some of the outings were to the Corn Maze, Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards, Caribbean Folklorama Pavilion, Towne 8 movies, and the Winnipeg Folk Festival.

**Staff working in the program:**  
Marleah Graff, Ferosh Tailor  
and Kelly Stafanation

## BY THE NUMBERS

- Total number of community participants this year: 488
- Total number of programming hours: 883
- Total number of hours worked by Junior Staff: 150
- Total number of cultural activities led by youth: 12
- Total number of restorative justice hours completed: 47
- Total number of community service hours completed: 76
- Total number of cultural activities facilitated: 104
- Total number of connections made to services in the community: 138
- Total number of personal goals achieved by outreach youth: 127



# Empowering Youth and Culture

## Good news story

CIYO Outreach workers help youth identify and work towards goals in their lives. Two CIYO youth identified wanting to work towards becoming NBA basketball players. CIYO helped these youth get YMCA passes to work-out, and their outreach worker spent countless hours with the boys perfecting their skills on the court. Due to their dedication, the boys were selected to participate in the NBA Cares basketball workshop and made the Inner City Triumphs Rising Stars team this fall.

Many of CIYO youth also choose to work towards educational goals. One youth's goal was to improve her reading. Working daily to learn basic words with her outreach worker, she gained confidence and can now read a couple books entirely by herself. Another youth worked hard to transition back into the neighbourhood after being in the Manitoba Youth Centre. With the support of her outreach worker, she graduated Grade 10 and was hired for the summer at a leader in training with Momenta summer camps.

A few CIYO youth enter the program with a lot of community service hours to complete. One youth worked hard all summer and by the fall he had completed 60 hours of work within the MERC and the community.



# Empowering Our Young Athletes

**S**NA's sports program provides access to organized sport activities for youth that live in our neighbourhood. An overwhelming majority of our participants are newcomer and aboriginal youth.

This year was the first time I ran the soccer academy and the futsal soccer league. For this, the kids from the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre partnered up with The Boys and Girls Clubs, Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba, Newcomer Employment and Education Development, West Broadway Youth Outreach, Winnipeg Housing and the University of Winnipeg.

Over 150 participants registered for the soccer academy, followed by 16 boys and girls teams registered for the futsal league. These two soccer programs ran through the entire summer starting May and ending in August.

We continued with the sports program by transitioning from soccer to the Winnipeg Minor Basketball Association (WMBA) Basketball Season. Currently I convene for eight full teams, six boys teams and two girls teams, and two Rising Stars teams, one for boys and one for girls. The Rising Stars team members that have moved on from WMBA.

Another thing the sport program has done this year is wrestling. I thought the sports program needed to expand from its regular soccer, basketball and swimming programs. Why not try something new?

I have teamed up with Adrian Bruce, the head coach of the University of Winnipeg wrestling team, and created a free weekly wrestling training camp for participants 13 and under. We started in November as a "trial run" and have kept go-

ing weekly up till December 12. We now have up to 35 kids registered for this program, all participants from the Building Belonging program we have at the MERC. We've had 20 kids attending the training each week. We are planning on continuing with this program and spreading the news throughout the inner-city area in January. We would like to expand this to eventually have youth participants as well.

**Staff working in the program:**  
Ashley Tolentino

## EVENTS

NBA Basketball Camps (Footlocker Fantasy Camp, NBA Team Camp) / Futsal League Soccer Day Tournament



# Empowering Our Young Athletes



## Good news story

The majority of the girls have never, and I mean NEVER, played soccer in their lives. Most of them had also never played to-gether. New friendships were created and everyone got along and worked together it was nice to see.

We had girls as young as five and our oldest was 12. As their coach for the soccer sea-son, it was always great to see them dressed up, ready to go and amped up to play soccer “When do we start coach?! Who do we play?! Do we get to play double games?!”

After a few times meeting them at the field, I was noticing that we started to build a small fan base of family and friends of the kids on our team. Posters were made and cheering from our supporters made the girls feel awesome!

The girls have displayed determination, shown the willingness to learn, and seen what it looks like to just have fun and enjoy the game. I would like to thank our girls of the MERC Soccer Team; Hyabel Belay, Esther and Ie-sha Carter, Misa and Mah Rahkshani, Su-dan Parke, Najma Sheikj-Hassan, Amy

## BY THE NUMBERS

Futsal:	100 Boys
	50 Girls
Soccer Academy:	71 Boys
	46 Girls
Basketball Summer:	2 Teams:
	24 Participants
Basketball Fall/Winter:	8 Teams
	90 Participants /
	2 Stars teams
Wrestling Camp:	35 Boys & Girls
UofW Basketball:	22 Youth
Israel Idonije Football Camp:	10 Participants

In total, the sports program provided access to sport to 300-350 children and youth in the community. / We provided 984 – 1,000 hrs of programming to the community.





# Empowering Our Young Leaders



**T**he Weekend Youth Drop-In Program runs for youth 12-18.

The year 2012 was exciting. Two events that really stick out is going to an East Indian Concert/Show during the month of April, and participating in an event called “cuts for cancer” in May.

## BY THE NUMBERS

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Over the Past year we saw a total of 1793 visits from various youth at the MERC during the weekend programming.

The total number of hours programmed this year were 228 hours (Every Saturday and Sunday from 6:00pm-9:00pm).

The total number of unique youth, counting each youth once for the entire year we saw 92 different boys and 43 different girls.

Every Sunday, during the weekend Programming (1:30pm-2:30pm) there is a community clothing bank that attracts, on average 45 people weekly.

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## EVENTS

The weekend program is attractive for youth because of the variety of outings, and fun activities that we partake in. Some examples include, indoor mountain climbing at vertical adventures, going to the movies at town 8 cinema, basketball and various sport tournaments, visiting historical sites in Winnipeg (St Norbert Monastery), tobogganing, our famous Cruz Night, beading, crafts and many more.

## Good news story

The year 2012 was exciting! Two events that really stick out are an East Indian concert during April, and participating in an event called “cuts for cancer” in May.

The East Indian show was special because tickets were donated to the Weekend Program by the University of Manitoba’s Indo-Canadian Students Association. Nine lucky youth were given the opportunity to go see the concert. It included various fast paced dances, lively entertainment and delicious food.

The concert was a formal event, so I took the youth to Value Village to buy them formal attire. The youth enjoyed shopping for shirts, jeans, belts and shoes.

The youth had an amazing time, and ate delicious food. Some of our youth were even dancing in their seats!

During the month of May, our youth had the opportunity to participate in an event called Cuts for Cancer, put on by the Society Salon on Donald Street. I called and explained to them we were a non-profit organization, and asked if it would be ok if I brought some youth for haircuts. They were more than happy to accommodate us. The youth had an awesome time being in a fun-filled environment with lots of music, food and refreshments. They also got a chance to promote a brand new radio station, 99.1 Fresh FM. They all looked real slick and felt very confident after getting their fabulous haircuts!

Every Sunday there is a clothing bank open to the community. This is a place where community members can come and “shop” for clothing. Numbers have been steady, averaging about 50-60 people on a weekly basis, and it runs from 1:30 p.m.—2:30 p.m. at the MERC (430 Langside St).

The clothing bank was created by Charlie Medd. She has been volunteering her time for the past five years, on a weekly basis. Her years of service, commitment, dedication and hard work is not overlooked. I want to give her a big “Thanks.”

**Staff working in the program:**  
Ferosh, Dale





# Empowering Our Youth through Employment



**T**he First Jobs 4 Youth program continues to reach out to youth in search of employment experience. First Jobs provides employment and education coaching, training and resources.

This program features a summer component where youth are hired for part-time work within SNA's programming. Aside from hands-on work experience, youth receive certification in Workplace Safety and Health, Rights of the Young Worker, WHMIS and Emergency CPR/1st Aid Level C.

Graduates of the summer program go on to do part-time work placements in local businesses, agencies and institutions during the Fall/Winter component.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- Over 135 community participants
- Total number of hours spent working with the community is 4500-5000.
- 48 Youth recruited to the FJ4Y Job Fair held every June
- 11 Youth hired to work in the FJ4Y Summer Program
- Youth completed 1510.25 hours in the FJ4Y summer program
- Approximately 20 youth received training every summer.

### Staff working in the program:

Leslie Kwok, Micki Tabaro, Akech Mayuom, Brad Blackbird, Abigail Letander, Zach Letander, Megan Letander, Ahzarni Htoo, Lahmay Htoo, Avena

Approximately 20 youth benefitted from this program this year.

The Youth Crew program is an opportunity for children and youth ages 11-16 to develop skills and work experience in a variety of odd jobs; catering food for special events and meetings, yard care maintenance including tree-banding for worms, painting, cleaning and some administrative tasks.

These jobs come from within SNA programming and from local residents, business and agencies. Youth are provided with training in basic workplace safety and health and Rights of the Young Worker. Approximately 60 youth benefitted from this program this year.

## EVENTS

FJ4Y Job Fair / 2-CPR/1st Aid Level C Certification Workshops /WHMIS Certification Workshop / 15 – workshops in basic Workplace Safety and Health and Rights of the Young Worker for our Youth Crew participants /FJ4Y Summer Program Graduation

McKinnon, David McKinnon, Bettina Shyllon, Moses Shyllon, Bob Umar, Christine Daniels, Christopher Thompson, Destiny Daniels, Donovan Mason, Elemar Borja, Jason Skead, Jomar Borja, Joselyn Moise, Mariel Borja, Mehr Rakhshani, Nataniel McKinnon, Thierry Niyubuhungiro, Okoth Obeing, Pajack Obeing, Phoenix Hayes, Tomaring Camara, Warren Swampy, Tyler Booth-Begal, Valentyn Tsapiak, Tek Mahat, Alexander Niyonkuru, Esperence Shima, Omar Mahomed, Jadzia Morrison, Darian Boubard, Jenna Comegan, Joel Borja, Borzah Yankey, Cheyanne Stevens, Dorianna Campbell, Htoo Blae, Rayshannah Bighetty, Elijah Ochigi, Siwema Wyananse, Zahura Bucini and Ana Cotton

## Good news story

A past FJ4Y participant is now a City of Winnipeg Recreation Technician reinstated with the City of Wpg after a short break

Another past FJ4Y participant and City of Wpg Recreation Technician is now working full-time with the Inuit Centre on Burnell Street.

Youth Crew Program Assistant Brad Blackbird applied to the City of Wpg for a part-time Library Page Internship job through the assistance of our office and was hired on. The Library Page Internship has the potential for permanent full-time work.

20 youth found work de-banding our trees in the spring and banding them again in the fall in cooperation with our Environment and Open Spaces program. This program helps to protect the trees in our neighbourhood from disease-spreading insects.

Over 50 youth have found work catering for SNA board and committee meetings and for our community clients.

20 other youth found work in areas of snow removal, bulky waste reporting, prepping and painting interior rooms and participating in community events like community clean-ups and election forums.

# Empowering Our Young Minds

**T**his year, 10 youth participants aged 9-14 participated in our Rotary Leadership Circle. The Rotary Crew this year participated in many activities, such as volunteering at Siloam Mission and other community organizations, working in community gardens, attending workshops on employment, and going on fun and educational outings. After a summer of volunteering, the participants had another highlight; going on a \$200 shopping spree! Many bought new clothes and supplies for the upcoming school year. A small reward for a job well done.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Total participants: 10

Total programming hrs: 120

## Good news story

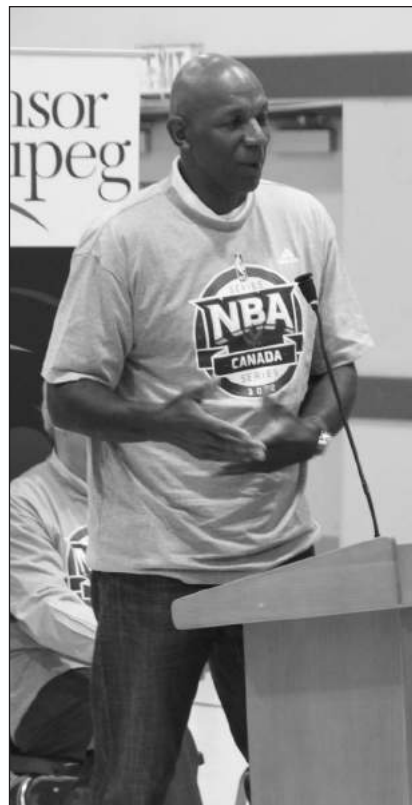
One of the highlights of this year's Rotary was working on a huge mural on Sorrento's wall with the West End Biz. Led by an Artist Mentor, the participants got to design and paint their piece of the creation. After several days of working in the hot sun, the youth learned teamwork, painting skills, and what it takes to plan and complete a job. The mural is now a testament to their hard work and a source of pride for the youth and the community.

## EVENTS

### Art Show

This year we participated in the Youth Agencies Alliance Art Show. In partnership with 10 other Rotary Groups we helped to produce the film "The Great Animation". The groups met at Studio 393 to make characters and sets for the movie and learned how to do stop animation.

The movie primer was a red carpet event at the Globe Cinema.



# Empowering Our Young Minds

**T**he Homework Club runs after school five days a week to provide Spence kids with one-on-one help. Homework Club was once again very popular this year. On average, 15 kids worked one-on-one with volunteer mentors every day. That number increased during exam times, with teens participating in Ronann's Exam Prep system. Individual education plans were created for teens to help support them in achieving their credits and graduate high school. This was done in coordination with the youth, teachers and parents.

Frontier College volunteers were a huge help within Homework Club. On top of volunteering countless hours, they also donated many books for our Building Belonging participants. Participants were then able to earn and take the books home. Our Building Belonging participants also worked on art, math and writing creative stories.

This school year our Homework Club is up and running again with our new Education Coordinator Erin Oluyemi.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Total of participants this year: 75

Total number of visits: 1015

Total programming hours: 260

## Good news story

Homework Club was once again very popular this year. On average, 15 kids a day worked one-on-one with volunteer mentors.

During exam time, that number increased, with teens participating in Ronann Mariano's Exam Prep system.

Individual education plans were created for teens to help support them in achieving their credits and graduate high school. This was done in coordination with the youth, teachers and parents.

Frontier College volunteers were a huge help within Homework Club. On top of volunteering countless hours, they also donated many books for our Building Belonging participants. Participants were able to take the books home.



# Empowered Through Partnership

## Funders

Manitoba Competitiveness,  
Training and Trade

Community Places

The Downtown Parent-Child  
Coalition

Cooperative Development  
Initiative

Environmental Youth Corps

Local Investment Towards  
Employment

Manitoba Community  
Services Council

Manitoba Homelessness  
Partnering Strategy

Manitoba Housing

Manitoba Immigration  
and Integration Program

Manitoba Justice

Neighbourhoods Alive!

Sustainable Development  
Initiatives Fund

Urban Hometown Green Team

Waste Reduction and Pollution  
Prevention Program

Manitoba Lighthouses

### Winnipeg

Aboriginal Youth Strategy-  
Oshki

Anishinabe Nigaaniwak

City of Winnipeg

Housing Improvement Zone

Harvey Smith, Councilor

Government of Canada

Canada Mortgage  
and Housing Association

Canada Summer Jobs

Centre for Aboriginal  
Human Resources Development

Citizenship and Immigration  
Canada

Community Housing  
Improvement Initiatives

National Crime Prevention  
Centre

Tri Level Funders

Winnipeg Housing and  
Homelessness Initiative

Winnipeg Partnership  
Agreement

## Foundations

Blennerhassett Family  
Foundation

Child Nutrition Council of  
Manitoba After-School  
Vegetable and Fruit Program

George Weston Foundation

Graham C. Lount Foundation

Great West Life

Heifer International

Literacy Partners of Manitoba

Manitoba Alternative Food  
Research Alliance

Manitoba E-Association

Royal Bank Foundation

Sogo Active

Thomas Sill Foundation

The True Sport Foundation

United Way Nourishing  
Potential Fund

The United Way of Winnipeg

Weston Company

The Winnipeg Foundation

## Donors

Rob Altemeyer

ArtsJunktion

Assiniboine Credit Union

Bjorn Inge Bakken

Bob Axeworthy

Tom Axworthy

Gerry Berardy

Angelica and Frank Bergen

Big Brothers & Big Sisters

Sonia Bookman

Joanne Braun

Laura Campbell

Canad Inns

CBC Radio

CityTV

Concordia Entreprises

Andrew and Pam Cooke

Carlie Cramstad

Cheryl and Gerald McNabb  
Davis

Desperado

Di-Tech International

Dollar Thrifty Rent a Car

Donna Holenski

Ryan Einarson

The Fabris Milano Group

Pat Fallis

Festival du Voyageur Inc

Julie Fine

Forzani Group

Harman's Café

Susan and Gary Harrison

Foster Built Homes

Fringe Festival

Grace Campbell

Great West Life

Just like New for You

Doug Goltz

Ryan Herdman

Homer's

In Motion

Aklilu Kidane

Lacoste Garden Centre

Local Investment Towards  
Employment

John and Sarah Lundgren

Johnson Waste Management

Malibu Homes

Manitoba Children's Museum

Manitoba Coalition for  
Active and Safe Kids

Manitoba Museum

Pat Martin

Clint and Angie Masse

McDonalds

Medichair Ltd

# Empowered Through Partnership

Kent and Barb Magarell  
 Dave Mills  
 Ben Monkman and Family  
 Nhy Quynh Restaurant  
 Greg Niblett  
 The Opp Shop  
 Parish of St. Mary Magdalene  
 Anglican Church  
 Plant Science Graduate  
 Students  
 Association  
 Prairie Originals  
 RCE Holdings  
 Carlie Scramstad  
 MCC Thrift Shop, Sargent  
 MCC Thrift Store, Selkirk  
 Dave and Dianne Sjoberg  
 Don and Trudy Sjoberg  
 Harvey Smith  
 Sport Manitoba  
 Sorrento's Pizza  
 Normand Sourisseau  
 St Mary's United Church  
 Subway  
 Andrew Swan  
 Syrotech Industries  
 Sean Ledwich  
 Taking Charge!  
 Nick Tanchuk  
 Glen Torgorson  
 Hien Tran  
 U of M Agricultural  
 Economics

Students Association  
 University of Winnipeg  
 U of W Students Association  
 West 49  
 West End Biz  
 Westwood Mechanical  
 Dorcas and Kirk Windsor  
 Winnipeg Fringe Festival  
 Winnipeg Goldeyes  
 Community Zone  
 Winnipeg International  
 Kidsfest  
 Winnipeg Housing  
 Rehabilitation  
 Corporation Senior Tenants  
 Elli Wischnewski  
 Ruth and Dan Wiwchar  
 Greg Wood  
 Zoological Society

## Partners

Art City  
 Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs  
 Assiniboine Park Conservatory  
 Aurora Family Therapy Centre  
 Basketball Manitoba  
 Jim Beckta, technical  
 consultant  
 Black Sheep Diner  
 Boys and Girls Clubs of  
 Winnipeg  
 Broadway Neighbourhood  
 Centre  
 Burnell Fire Station

Camp Manitou  
 Canadian Centre for Policy  
 Alternatives  
 Canada World Youth  
 Canadian Mental Health  
 Association  
 CBC  
 CCEDNet  
 Casa Burrito  
 Central Neighbourhoods  
 Development Corporation  
 City of Winnipeg  
 City of Winnipeg Planning,  
 Property and Development  
 City of Winnipeg Water and  
 Waste  
 City Church  
 CKUW 95.9fm  
 Cross Country Ski Association  
 of Manitoba & Windsor Park  
 Nordic Centre  
 Crossing Communities  
 Daniel McIntyre St/Matthews  
 Community Association  
 (DMSMCA)  
 Diversity Foods  
 Gang Action Interagency  
 Network (GAIN)  
 The Edge Skatepark  
 Ellice Cafe  
 Legal Aid Manitoba  
 Food not Bombs  
 Fort Whyte Alive!  
 Freeze Frame Film Festival

Friends of Sherbrook Pool  
 Frontier College  
 Fuel For Fun  
 Gordon Bell High School  
 Graffiti Art Programming Inc.  
 Pat Harrison  
 Housing Opportunities  
 Program (HOP)  
 Immigrant and Refugee  
 Community Organization of  
 Manitoba (IRCOM)  
 Indian and Metis Friendship  
 Centre  
 Inner City Aboriginal  
 Neighbours,  
 Inner-City Landlords  
 Association  
 The John Howard Society  
 John M King School  
 Ka Ni Kanichihk  
 Kinew Housing Inc.  
 Klinik  
 Lions Club of Winnipeg  
 Lions Housing Centres  
 Living Prairie Museum  
 Audrey Logan, Gardener  
 MamiWiiChiItata Centre  
 Manitoba Children's Museum  
 Manitoba Food Matters (for-  
 mally Manitoba Food Charter)  
 Manitoba Hydro  
 Manitoba Soccer Association  
 Manitoba Urban Native  
 Housing Association



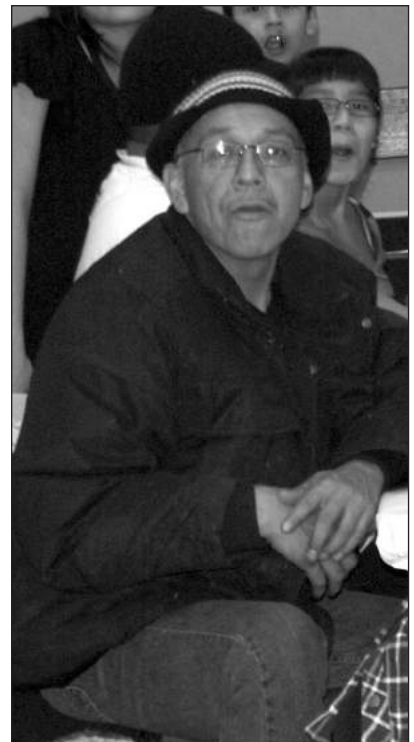
# Empowered Through Partnership

Mediation services  
Menno Simons College  
Sarah Michaelson  
Ndinawe  
NEEDS Centre  
New Directions  
North End Community  
Renewal Corporation  
Loa Olafson  
Opportunities for  
Employment/ House of  
Opportunities  
Our Whole Lives  
ParIT Worker Cooperative  
Public Interest Law Centre  
Calvin Pompana, Elder  
The Red Robe Women's Drum  
Group  
Main Street Project  
The Manitoba Harm  
Reduction Network  
Maples Youth Activity Centre  
Millie Richard, Horticultural  
Therapist  
Red River Community College  
Resource Conservation  
Manitoba  
Resource Assistance for Youth  
Rossbrook House  
Safe Manitoba- Workplace  
Safety and Health,  
Sage Garden Herbs  
Sage house  
SAM Management Inc.

St. Charles Soccer Association  
St. Matthews/Maryland Com-  
munity Ministry  
The Salvation Army  
Sister MacNamara School  
SOAR Heartland  
Social Planning Council of  
Winnipeg  
Sport Manitoba  
Steve Nash Youth Basketball  
Superstore  
Tall Grass Prairie  
Teen Stop  
The True Sport Movement  
United Nations Platform on  
Action Committee  
U of M Let's Talk Science  
The University of Winnipeg  
University of Winnipeg  
Athletics Department  
The University of Winnipeg's  
Faculty of Education  
The University of Winnipeg  
Institute of Urban Studies  
U of W Let's Talk Science  
University of Winnipeg  
Students' Association  
UWSA Bike Lab  
The University of Winnipeg  
Wesmen  
Urban Eatin'  
Valour Community Centre  
Warm Up Winnipeg  
West 49

West Broadway Development  
Corporation  
West Broadway Youth  
Outreach  
West Central Community  
Program  
West Central Women's  
Resource Centre  
West End Cultural Center  
West End Biz  
Westminster Housing Society  
Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning  
Centre  
Winnipeg Art Gallery  
Winnipeg Community Garden  
Network  
Winnipeg Folk Festival  
Winnipeg Foodshare Coop  
Winnipeg Harvest  
Winnipeg Housing  
Rehabilitation Corporation  
Winnipeg Minor Basketball  
Association  
Winnipeg Police Victim  
Services Unit  
Winnipeg Public Library  
Winnipeg Regional Health  
Authority  
Winnipeg School Division #1  
Winnipeg Somali  
Confederation Union  
Winnipeg Youth Soccer  
Association  
Wolseley Wardrobe  
X-Cues

YmYwca  
Youth Employment Services  
Youth Peacebuilding Project  
Youth Peace Gathering  
Youth Agencies Alliance



## Head Office

Administration, Housing, Rental, Skills Bank, Environment and Open Spaces and Community Connecting

615 Ellice Avenue

Winnipeg Manitoba R3G 0A4

Ph: 204.783.2758

Fax: 204.775.1802



## Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre

Community Liaison and All Youth Staff

430 Langside Street

Winnipeg Manitoba R3B 2T5

Ph: 204.783.5000

## Website: [www.spenceneighbourhood.org](http://www.spenceneighbourhood.org)

E-mail: [liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SpenceNeighbourhoodAssociation>

Twitter: @SNACommunity