



**END HOMELESSNESS
WINNIPEG**

Report to the Community: 2015-16

**Housing
Opportunity
Potential
Engagement**



Is it possible to end homelessness in Winnipeg?

Yes. If we all work together we can end homelessness by 2025.

“Why would we settle for anything less? The economic case is clear, the human rights case is compelling, and it is the essence of a caring community.”

Cindy Coker and Rob Johnston, co-chairs of the Community Task Force to End Homelessness

Hope and a plan

This past year, our community began a courageous journey to end homelessness in Winnipeg. We are very grateful to the Community Task Force to End Homelessness for equipping us with the 2014 comprehensive long-term Plan to End Homelessness in Winnipeg. This has become our path, our north star to set course, a shared vision of a better Winnipeg for all citizens especially our most vulnerable.

We are deeply honored and humbled to serve as the founding co-chairs of the Board of Directors for End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW). Incorporated in May 2015, EHW is a backbone support organization that brokers stakeholder relationships and coordinates efforts through our various committees and working groups. We are committed to a collective impact approach that will ensure lasting solutions to end homelessness among adults, youth and families in Winnipeg.

Our work is made possible due to the diverse team of dedicated community leaders who serve on the Board of Directors, along with our excellent staff who work diligently to execute the plan and engage our community in exploring issues and designing solutions that fit the needs of our community. Winnipeg is a vibrant, diverse, and dedicated community that includes a deeply caring and competent NGO sector. To all of the volunteers and organizations who have stepped forward and engaged with us in this important work, we say thank-you.

Special acknowledgment to our funding partners: City of Winnipeg, Province of Manitoba, United Way Winnipeg, and Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. We are sincerely grateful for your support and commitment to work with us on difficult and complex social issues and look forward to our on going work together.

This next year we will focus on strengthening our work. Given the complexity of the systemic issues that create the conditions for homelessness, we are called on to create new relationships, connect our knowledge and reinforce each other's work. We are also asked to forge a common vision of a community without homelessness. We are motivated by those who courageously share stories about their daily struggles and hopes. These stories and relationships give us courage and hope. Hope is our compass as we move forward. We are honored for you to join us on this journey.



Diane Redsky

A blue ink signature of Diane Redsky.

Co-Chair, End Homelessness
Winnipeg Board of Directors

Executive Director
Ma Mawi Chi Itata Centre



Charles Loewen

A blue ink signature of Charles Loewen.

Co-Chair, End Homelessness
Winnipeg Board of Directors

Board Chair
Loewen Windows

While some people believe that homelessness is a social phenomenon that will always be part of the fabric of our community, there is a growing belief that it is possible to end homelessness in Winnipeg. I share this belief.

Why do I believe we can end homelessness? Because our community has developed a ten-year plan that shows us how, and End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW) has the determination to engage all sectors, work out the details, secure the necessary resources, generate widespread support, and get it done.

The ten-year plan was developed by the Community Task Force to End Homelessness, a group of fourteen people that United Way Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council asked to tackle one of Winnipeg's biggest challenges. The task force spent hundreds of hours consulting leaders from all three levels of government, labour, health, community and social services, and other sectors.

The task force held community forums to learn about homelessness from people who are or have been homeless, consulted with the Aboriginal community, and received guidance from a group of Elders. The Task Force also investigated the work being done and successes being achieved in other communities that were already implementing multi-year plans to end homelessness.

The result of all of this consultation, research, and careful thought is a ten-year plan that identifies actions and deliverables to prevent homelessness, increase housing supply, support individuals with tailored care and services, and measure progress.

In May 2015 the task force handed the ten-year plan to the newly formed End Homelessness Winnipeg and I began work as CEO in November.

EHW is a community-based organization with only one purpose: to provide the leadership, coordination, and support necessary to end homelessness. We approach this work knowing that a vision as large as ending homelessness can only be realized if it is embraced by all Winnipeggers and supported by all sectors. The magnitude of the task requires a collective approach.

We are committed to working with others to develop a shared understanding of challenges, to coordinate diverse activities, and to collect and analyze data to monitor progress. In short, EHW will provide the practical, backbone supports that are essential for a collective impact initiative and we will communicate openly and consistently with the community starting with this, our first annual progress report.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Louis Sorin', written in a cursive style.

Louis Sorin, CEO
End Homelessness Winnipeg

Opportunity taken

Getting a new organization up and running takes some time – time to hire staff, recruit volunteers, rent space, etc.

While all this was being done, EHW joined the steering committee that is overseeing development of the Winnipeg Plan to End Youth Homelessness (WPEYH), worked with the Winnipeg Public Intoxication Alliance to ensure its approach aligns with the ten-year Plan to End Homelessness, and became an ex officio member of the Community Advisory Board for the federally funded Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS).

Our community and EHW recognizes the importance of the Winnipeg Plan to End Youth Homelessness. We fully support this emerging community-led strategy that focuses on the unique needs of youth and the organizations that have come together to serve them better. EHW is partnering with WPEYH to ensure its success.



By participating in these and other initiatives, EHW is deepening its knowledge, building relationships and linkages, and beginning to provide the backbone supports and coordination necessary to eliminate homelessness.

In the past year, EHW contributed funding from the Province of Manitoba to the Doorways Collaborative Intake and Assessment Project at Aboriginal Health and Wellness. This initiative oversees the assessment and placement of individuals who are struggling with chronic and episodic homelessness. To date, over 150 individuals have been assessed and nearly 70 individuals have been placed in community agencies who have supported housing and provided tailored and wrap-around services. Each individual who has been supported through this process has had measured improvement to the quality of their health and housing outcomes.

Through work led by EHW and others, progress has been achieved on all four of the ten-year priorities.



One of the best ways to eliminate homelessness is to prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place.

Sometimes people become homeless because of family breakdown, conflict, or violence. Of the 1,400 homeless people identified during the October 2015 street census, 39% cited these as the reasons they first experienced homelessness.

Other people become homeless when they are released from a healthcare facility or prison and have nowhere to go, or when they transition from the care of Child and Family Service. Others become homeless because of addictions or mental health issues, because they can't find an affordable place, lose their job and can't pay their rent or mortgage, or are evicted – often because their rent is in arrears.

The ten-year Plan to End Homelessness identified several ways to prevent homelessness such as establishing an eviction prevention service and creating a registry of affordable, appropriate housing units.

To better understand these approaches, in 2015-16 EHW supported two research studies that have already been completed. The first study developed quality standards for assessing rental units and rooming houses. The second study investigated the feasibility of establishing a registry of housing that is appropriate for people transitioning out of homelessness.

This registry would complement the list of landlords who accept housing-first tenants that was developed by the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS).

Potential developed

Susan became homeless after a long period of incarceration. With housing-first supports she has been successfully housed for two years. During this time she has learned about her rights and responsibilities as a tenant and her landlord's rights and responsibilities. She has developed effective communication skills, become more confident and knowledgeable about resources that are available and how to access them, and demonstrated strength, determination and resilience.

Susan has maintained a successful tenancy with a challenging landlord; is living a healthier, happier, and safer life; and is working toward reunification with her family.

Fred lost his home in a fire and then spent several months struggling with the shelter system before enrolling in a housing-with-supports program. The program helped him learn to communicate effectively and respectfully, how to ask for help when he needs it, and how to better manage some of his health concerns and physical disability on his own.

After two years, Fred continues to receive assistance from the housing-with-supports team. He has reached out to people in his neighbourhood and is known and liked by local businesses. Being liked is a new experience for Fred.

John started using solvents after a ten-year abstinence. This cost him his wife and his home and left him sleeping in cars and bus shacks in -30 weather. When the Bear Clan referred John for housing-first services, he had no identification and no source of income.

Today John has ID, income, and housing. He is still involved with the housing support program as a regular member of weekly drop-ins and a volunteer cook.

These are true stories about Winnipeggers who received housing first supports from CMHA's Community Housing with Supports program and Ma Mawi's Wi Che Win program. Susan, Fred, and John are not their real names.



Increasing housing supply

Since the ten-year plan was developed, the vacancy rate for housing units with monthly rents under \$500 has risen to 4.8% (CMHC, 2015) and the city's overall vacancy rate has increased to 3% after several years of being under 2% (2015 rates per CMHC). While these changes in market conditions help to address a shortage of housing, they are not sufficient.

Homeless people at various stages of homelessness require different services to get housed and stay housed. For example, transitional housing with some support can be effective for people who have relatively simple problems. In contrast, people with more complex problems generally need more intensive case-managed programs with longer-term, in some cases permanent, support. This is called housing with supports or the Housing First model.

EHW's housing supply and housing support working groups have been considering these diverse needs. Their work is being consolidated into a comprehensive action plan to increase the number of safe, affordable units and the supply of housing with supports. This will be completed mid-2016.

In February, EHW partnered with the Mental Health Commission of Canada, the WRHA, and the City of Winnipeg-HPS to bring Sam Tsembersis, founder of the Housing First approach, to Winnipeg. Sam provided a day of training for almost 50 Housing First front-line workers and spent time helping their organizations assess their housing support programs and identifying gaps and priorities in Winnipeg's Housing First system.

This was EHW's first investment in knowledge and capacity building – there will be more.



People who are homeless say they have to tell their stories over and over to shelter workers and other service providers while frontline workers complain about the time they spend tracking down historical information about their clients. These frustrations can be addressed and service delivery improved by implementing a centralized database for recording information about homeless people, tracking the services they receive, and monitoring their progress.

Winnipeg shelters and Housing First agencies understand the value of a centralized data system and all have agreed to begin using the same software and shared database in 2016. The system they have selected – the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) – is used by more than 30% of emergency shelters across Canada to register and track clients, report on shelter use, provide real-time information, and generate statistics.

Increasingly, EHW will play a leadership role in the gathering and analysis of system level performance data that will enable planning and decision making.

Measuring progress and understanding what we do

Ending homelessness requires two separate yet complementary data systems: one system to record and track the progress of every homeless person (the HIFIS system that Winnipeg shelters and Housing First agencies will implement in 2016) and one to periodically count the number of homeless people everywhere in the city at particular points in time.

Together these data systems provide a baseline for monitoring progress, evaluating the effectiveness of individual strategies and programs, informing decisions on funding priorities, and guiding the development of new or revised plans.

In 2015 the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg coordinated Winnipeg's first point-in-time street census, which involved more than 20 other organizations as partners and supporters.

Over a 24-hour period beginning on October 25, over 300 volunteers hit the streets, visited shelters, and conducted interviews. On October 25, when Winnipeg's temperature hit a high of 7 degrees and a low of 4, these volunteers determined that at least 1,400 citizens were homeless.

This is some of what they learned:

347 people	stayed at an emergency shelter , domestic violence shelter or youth shelter	25%
333 people	stayed at someone else's place temporarily	24%
281 people	stayed in transitional housing for homeless people	20%
242 people	stayed in an institutional setting like a hospital or detox centre and did not have a permanent home to return to	17%
132 people	stayed outside in a public space like a bus shelter or park, a tent or car, or walked around all night to stay safe	9%
65 people	stayed at a hotel or motel	5%
1,400 people	were homeless	100%
	identified as Indigenous	76%
	lived in foster care or a group home as a child	60%
	grew up in a First Nations community	50%
	experienced homelessness for the first time because of family conflict or breakdown	39%
	were still young: 121 children, 225 youth under age 30	25%

Want to know more? Go to <http://streetcensuswpg.ca/>



MAXIM
INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS

2007
IJF
WORLD WRESTLING
CHAMPION
CANADA
Winnipeg

Engagement

with community

As a backbone organization, EHW leads some initiatives and also supports initiatives that are created and led by other organizations. These dual roles are evident in the summary of activities and progress outlined in this report.

In 2015-16, EHW established its first Board of Directors, formed four board committees, and established working groups that are looking at ways to increase the supply of safe, affordable housing and housing supports. The board, committees, and working groups all depend on volunteers who believe in EHW’s vision – ending homelessness – and are willing to devote their time, insights, and expertise to make it a reality. The progress outlined in this report is a result of their work and commitment to ending homelessness.

Board of Directors	Board Committees	
Charles Loewen, Co-Chair, Loewen Windows	Audit	Housing Action Plan
Diane Redsky, Co-Chair, Ma Mawi	Bill Dinsdale, Assiniboine Credit Union	Avrom Charach, Kay Four Properties Inc.
Abdikheir Ahmed, Immigration Partnership Winnipeg	Clive Wightman, City of Winnipeg	Jill Perron, Government of MB
Allan Fineblit, Thompson Dorfman Sweatman	Crystal Laborero, Laborero Consulting	Kathy Mallet, Aboriginal Seniors Co-op
Bertha Fontaine, Native Addictions Council of MB		Sherman Kreiner, University of Winnipeg Community Renewal Corporation
Clive Wightman, City of Winnipeg	Governance	
Crystal Laborero, Laborero Consulting	Allan Fineblit, Thompson Dorfman Sweatman	Marketing and Communications
Ian Rabb, Winpark Dorchester	Charles Loewen, Loewen Windows	Charles Loewen, Loewen Windows
Jason Whitford, Shawenim Abinoojii Inc.	Ernest Merasty, Lived Experience	Jennifer Rattray, Government of MB
Jennifer Rattray, Government of MB	Jill Perron, Government of MB	Pam Sveinson, WPRC/United Way Winnipeg
Jill Perron, Government of MB	JoJo Sutherland, Native Women’s Transition Centre	Sean Barnes, PCL Constructors
Real Cloutier, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	Kelly Holmes, Resource Assistance for Youth, Inc. (RaY)	
Sean Barnes, PCL Constructors		
Susan Lewis		
Tammy Christensen, Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc.		

Working Groups

Housing Supply

Al Wiebe, Lived Experience Circle/CMHA
Angela Mathieson, Centre Venture
Bill Dinsdale, Assiniboine Credit Union
Chad Keuler, PCL Constructors
Clark Brownlee, Right to Housing Coalition
Dan Muller, RBC
Derek Pachal, Jubilee Fund
Dwayne Rewniak, MB Housing
Greg McPherson, West Broadway Organization
Josh Brandon, Social Planning Council of Winnipeg
Gord McIntyre, Winnipeg Rental Network
Karampaul Sandu, Sandu Developments
Kathy Mallet, Aboriginal Seniors Co-op
Keith Horn, Northern Hotel
Laiza Pacheco, Siloam Mission
Laura Devlin, Riverside Lion's
Marcia Fifer, City of Winnipeg
Menno Peters, Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corp.
Noah Yauk, City of Winnipeg
Richard Walls, Red Road Lodge
Rick Kathler, rooming house owner
Shannon Watson, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Sherman Kreiner, University of Winnipeg Community
Renewal Corporation
Sherwood Armbruster, property owner
Terry Wotton, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corp.
Travis Unger, rooming house owner
Winston Yee, City of Winnipeg

Housing Support

Don Robinson, WRHA
Gord McIntyre, Winnipeg Rental Network
Jason Hildebrand, Government of MB
Kerri Scott, Resource Assistance for Youth
Lisa Spring, West Central Women's Resource Centre
Marion Cooper, Canadian Mental Health Association
Paula Hendrickson, Aboriginal Health and
Wellness/Doorways Collaborative
Malcolm Cook, Urban Eagle Transition Centre
Shannon Watson, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Sherrriann Dexter, Canadian Mental Health Association
Stephanie Skakun, Canadian Mental Health Association
Terry Cormier, City of Winnipeg
Toni Tilston-Jones, Mount Carmel Clinic

Partners

In addition to the volunteers acknowledged above, EHW thanks the many organizations in all sectors that have consulted, engaged, and partnered with EHW and invited EHW to participate in the work they are doing to end homelessness.

Funders

Manitoba



Winnipeg Regional
Health Authority
Caring for Health

Office régional de la
santé de Winnipeg
À l'écoute de notre santé



United Way
For a Better Winnipeg



Financial Statements of

END HOMELESSNESS WINNIPEG INC.

March 31, 2016

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of End Homelessness Winnipeg

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of End Homelessness Winnipeg Inc. which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2016 and the statements of revenue and expenditures and net assets and cash flows for the 323 day period then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the 323 day period then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

The signature is written in a cursive, handwritten style. It reads "Deloitte" in a large, flowing script, followed by "LLP" in a smaller, more upright script.

Chartered Accountants

July 13, 2016
Winnipeg, Manitoba

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END HOMELESSNESS WINNIPEG INC.
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures and Net Assets
323 Day Period Ended March 31, 2016

	<u>2016</u>
REVENUE	
Grants (Note 3)	\$ 1,275,000
EXPENDITURES	
Operating expenditures	
Salaries and benefits	130,868
Office expenses	35,247
Professional fees	10,096
Computer hardware and software support	6,979
Lease and leasehold improvements	3,368
Insurance	897
Innovation and engagement	610
United Way of Winnipeg administration fee	85,000
	<u>273,065</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>1,001,935</u>
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	-
NET ASSETS, END OF PERIOD	<u>\$ 1,001,935</u>

END HOMELESSNESS WINNIPEG INC.

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2016

	<u>2016</u>
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 409,935
Accounts receivable	700,000
Prepaid expenses	1,922
	<hr/> \$ 1,111,857
 LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 109,922
 FUND BALANCES	
Net assets	1,001,935
	<hr/> \$ 1,111,857

APPROVED BY THE BOARD



..... Charles Loewen, Co-Chairperson



..... Diane Redsky, Co-Chairperson

END HOMELESSNESS WINNIPEG INC.

Statement of Cash Flows

323 Day Period Ended March 31, 2016

	<u>2016</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 1,001,935
Net change in non-cash operating working capital items:	
Accounts receivable	(700,000)
Prepaid expenses	(1,922)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	109,922
	<hr/> 409,935
NET INCREASE IN CASH POSITION	409,935
CASH, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	-
CASH, END OF PERIOD	<hr/> \$ 409,935

END HOMELESSNESS WINNIPEG INC.

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

1. NATURE AND OBJECTIVE OF THE ORGANIZATION

End Homelessness Winnipeg Inc. (the "Organization") was formed by Articles of Incorporation under the Corporations Act of Manitoba on May 14, 2015, without share capital, is a non-profit organization and therefore, is exempt from income taxes.

The Organization receives grants to help bring an end to homelessness in the City of Winnipeg. As a non-profit organization, the goal of End Homelessness Winnipeg ("EHW") is to use a community-based approach towards ending homelessness. EHW is a backbone support organization that brokers stakeholder relationships and coordinates efforts through its various committees and working groups using a collective impact approach. EHW both leads and supports initiatives that are created and led by other organizations.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

a) *Revenue recognition*

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted revenues are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted revenues are recognized in accordance with the restrictions placed on them by the funder.

b) *Financial instruments*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognized at fair value when the Organization becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Subsequently, all financial instruments are measured at amortized cost.

The organization does not have any financial instruments measured at fair value.

With respect to financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost, the Organization recognizes in net earnings an impairment loss, if any, when it determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows. When the extent of impairment of a previously written-down asset decreases and the decrease can be related to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized, the previously recognized impairment loss shall be reversed in net earnings in the period the reversal occurs.

END HOMELESSNESS WINNIPEG INC.
Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 2016

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

c) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

3. GRANT REVENUE

	<u>2016</u>
United Way of Winnipeg	\$ 600,000
Government of Manitoba	375,000
City of Winnipeg	150,000
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	150,000
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,275,000



Want to end homelessness in Winnipeg? Then join EHW.

If your organization supports EHW's aims and objectives, then it should become a member. Membership is open to any organization in any sector. There is no membership fee.

Member organizations from the community sector may vote to elect community members to serve on EHW's board of directors. Members from the private sector may vote to elect private sector members of the board.

For more information, email info@endhomelessnesswinnipeg.ca or call 204.942.8677



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July 2016