



View the ANC Newsletter online at: http://www.anccommunity.ca/ANC_Newsletter/ANC_Newsletter.htm

ANC celebrates!

In late February, representatives from national, local, and government partners came together over two days to review ANC's key accomplishments, challenges and lessons learned to date and consider the initiative's next steps.

Lively conversations emerged as participants considered what excited us about each partner's work in ANC, assessed progress on goals related to community engagement, mobilization, capacity building and planning, significant challenges, and appraised ANC's growing legacy.



We also celebrated the successes of ANC at a reception attended by over 70 people from the private, public and voluntary sector on the evening of February 23rd. The reception, featuring comments and reflections from Al Hatton (CEO, United Way of Canada – Centraide Canada) and Bayla Kolk (Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing and Homelessness), built support for the project while reaching out to people and organizations interested in community building and neighbourhood revitalization.

As ANC plans for the future, partners were delighted to celebrate together the many achievements of this still-young initiative.

Observations and insights from the reflection session will be captured in a final reflection paper on ANC's work to date being prepared by the Caledon Institute of Social Policy.

[More...](#) [ANC: A summary presentation](#)

Resources

Building Communities, Changing Lives - This report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation explores the contribution of large, independent neighbourhood-based regeneration organizations in tackling social exclusion and provides practical recommendations to boost these organizations' ability to build vibrant, integrated communities. To learn more, click [here](#).

Neighbourhood Management and the Future of Urban Areas - This paper, from the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion at the London School of Economics, focuses on low income neighbourhoods, their organization and management, and also addresses environmental and social problems within neighbourhoods to foster a wider understanding of social exclusion, sustainable development and the need for greater care of urban communities. Download the paper [here](#)!

ANC Updates – What’s New

Caledon releases three new papers!

Reading, Writing and Neighbourhood Renewal - Renewal efforts in communities typically concern themselves with bricks and mortar. Safe, decent and affordable housing comprises the core of a healthy community. But there has been growing recognition of the equally important social components of revitalization. Improved literacy lies at the heart of these efforts. This paper by Sherri Torjman discusses recent findings on the status of literacy proficiency in Canada and describes various measures that communities can take to promote literacy. Download the paper [here](#).

Rethinking Neighbourhood Renewal: Review of the US Experience and Possible Lessons for Canada - This paper by Steve Pomeroy is the third in a series of policy papers developed in support of ANC. The paper presents a brief overview of the historic influences, early attempts and current program framework for neighbourhood renewal in the US. It discusses the mechanics of renewal strategies in that country, their effectiveness and possible lessons for Canada. Download the paper [here](#).

Remaking Neighbourhood Renewal: Towards Creative Neighbourhood Renewal Policies for Britain - This paper by Duncan Maclennan, the fourth in a series of policy papers developed in support of ANC, focuses upon the policies and strategies for implementing neighbourhood renewal in England. It presents a brief review and evaluation of UK policies and practices and proposes some lessons for Canada. Download the paper [here](#).

Project pool announcements made in Thunder Bay and Halifax

The Project Pool of funds is available to assist in the work of the five local ANC sites. All eligible projects must fall within the scope of the ANC, and therefore each project must:

- build the capacity of the neighbourhood to realize its vision, or move the local project closer to completing a vision statement and plan;
- enhance or improve the assets within the community;
- engage local people; and
- be evaluated and assessed.

In addition, each project must accomplish at least one of the following:

- undertake one of the actions identified through the visioning exercise;
 - contribute to the development of resources for neighbourhood revitalization; or,
 - leverage additional funds for neighbourhood work.
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5 Projects Selected in Thunder Bay

Action for Neighbourhood Change received 15 applications requesting some \$238,000 in funding. A committee of six people, three from the United Way and/or wider community, three from the Simpson-Ogden neighbourhood and Brenda Reimer, Fund Coordinator, reviewed the proposals. The committee will continue to be involved by working in teams to monitor each project on behalf of the United Way.

Learn more about the Thunder Bay projects in February's Simpson-Ogden newsletter [here](#).

8 Approved Action Grants in Spryfield

The Spryfield Action Grants Review Committee has been hard at work reviewing the 16 applications for the Action Grants in Spryfield. Organizers are pleased to announce eight residents and organizations will receive Action Grants on behalf of Action for Neighbourhood Change.

These groups were singled out for their focus on improving Spryfield neighbourhoods and community as a whole. Their projects had a component of innovation, involved numerous residents, and were, ultimately, designed to help revitalize Spryfield. Well done!

Learn more about the approved grants [here](#).

A Guide for Neighbourhood Planning

Tamarack has produced a guide for organizations that have decided to use a *Comprehensive Community Initiative (CCI)* approach to renewing community life. Designed for the staff responsible for community initiatives, local residents, and community organizations, the resource may be helpful to groups who prefer to focus more narrowly (i.e. not to work comprehensively), but the principles that guide the resource are based on an assumption that your planning group has decided to use a comprehensive approach.

This resource has been developed with the life cycle of CCI's in mind. However, it recognizes that while the end product of a planning process needs to be a solid plan, it is just as important that the process be used as a tool for mobilizing people, organizations, and resources for the work that comes after the planning is done.

Download *A Guide to Neighbourhood Planning* [here](#).

Policy Dialogue Update

Work continues on finalizing two new products. Drafts have been reviewed by the larger policy dialogue group. Additional work is being done to include a theory of change with the neighbourhood revitalization logic model. Links have been made to the three year Effectiveness of Community Interventions Project between the Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada.

- [English](#)
- [French](#)

The second tool is a discussion paper on investing in community capacity building aspect of neighbourhood revitalization. This exploration is tied to local efforts, both ANC and others, to "make the case" in very practical terms.