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## Keeping the Focus Where It Belongs

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North Central, the neighbourhood selected for ANC in Regina, offers a clear picture of a key challenge presented by community development work: how to know which cooks to have in the kitchen and how to pick the best recipe for community success.

Unlike the other four ANC neighbourhoods, Regina's North Central has already undergone the early phases of neighbourhood development. It offers the lessons of engagement, conflict and the reconciling of disparate cultures and visions that can become the engine of positive change in a community.



When ANC was launched in February 2005, its goal was to complement the work already undertaken by the Regina Inner-City Community Partnership (RICCP) by getting residents engaged in imagining and creating the type of neighbourhood in which they wished to live. RICCP's operation reflected a top-down perspective of how change is made, while ANC understood that its mandate was to work from the ground up.

 [Read this community story!](#)

## Resources

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**Building Communities from the Inside Out** - This guide to "asset-based community development" summarizes lessons learned by studying successful community-building initiatives in hundreds of neighbourhoods across the United States. Learn more [here](#).

**Multi-Partner Funding for Neighbourhood Revitalization in Toronto** - This report provides an overview of the history, challenges and successes of neighbourhood investment strategies and a template for mobilizing multiple funding partners for revitalizing neighbourhoods in Toronto. Download the full report [here](#).

## ANC Updates – What’s New

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### Five Cities in Six Days: Project Managers’ Tour

Over the week of March 26-31, ANC project managers travelled to Vancouver, Toronto, and Thunder Bay, where they visited the Bridgeview, Scarborough Village, and Simpson-Ogden neighbourhoods, and met with the local United Way in each city.

The tour was an opportunity to share experiences and knowledge, learn from one another, and observe and celebrate the neighbourhoods at work. Project managers also met with representatives from the Vancouver Agreement, the City of Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy, and the Regent Park Neighbourhood Initiative.



It was clear that the ANC neighbourhoods are incredibly diverse. And yet, all face some common challenges; and all are brimming with enthusiasm and purpose. People returned from the tour tired, but enriched with new ideas, and energized by the way the work is unfolding.

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### Global Fusion in Bridgeview

On March 24, ANC hosted a multicultural celebration in Bridgeview at the Community Hall. It was an evening for neighbours from different cultures and countries to get together with traditional food, to meet friends, and to share ideas for change in their community. The event was a massive success, as over 80 adults and 30 children took part.

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### NFB projects wrap up in Bridgeview and Spryfield

#### Tales from Bridgeview

In Bridgeview, the NFB ran a series of digital storytelling workshops for youth over the course of ten weeks.

The first few workshops focused on writing and editing the students’ stories. The students then worked on their narration, while participating in workshops on camera and composition. Next came tutorials on Photoshop and Final Cut Express. The students had hands-on experience under the supervision of a personal mentor/editor. At the end of each workshop the students were given an assignment to prepare for the following week, for example, rewriting their story, preparing pictures or illustrations, or shooting photos or video. The students completed their projects by the final workshop, and final editing and a DVD compilation was completed by the end of March. The premiere of *Tales from Bridgeview* was held April 8.

#### Discover Spryfield

16 residents of various ages took part in the *Discover Spryfield* video workshop. Participants used media to discover something new about the community, and to use the process to develop new relationships among citizens who might not interact otherwise.

After choosing four themes around which to develop stories (diversity, history, environment, education), the group held weekly workshops, including ones on camera, sound, and story editing. In addition, individual groups planned their own meetings to story board and schedule their productions. They scouted locations, researched archival materials, secured location releases and participant approvals, and took advantage of test shooting with a used Sony PD150 camera kit that has been purchased for the project. The short films will be screened at a community meeting on April 29.

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**Community stories published!**

The Caledon Institute has released a new set of ANC community stories. Check them out [here!](#)

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