Mission

To create opportunities for women in North Point Douglas to develop their potential and to engage fully as citizens in their neighbourhood and in the broader community.

Our history

The North Point Douglas Project for Women came together in 1999 to address poverty issues and work for a better community.

That same year, a grant allowed them to start a women's empowerment project, and they began sharing the family resource room at Norquay School. The project incorporated as the North Point Douglas Women's Centre in 2002.

When a local corner store became available in 2001, the Centre, working with the North End Community Renewal Corporation, acquired the building, renovated the space, and in 2003, opened the Centre.



of the community

Support the Centre

We are a registered charity, and we rely on the generosity of the community. We truly appreciate donations of any size. All donations receive an official tax receipt.

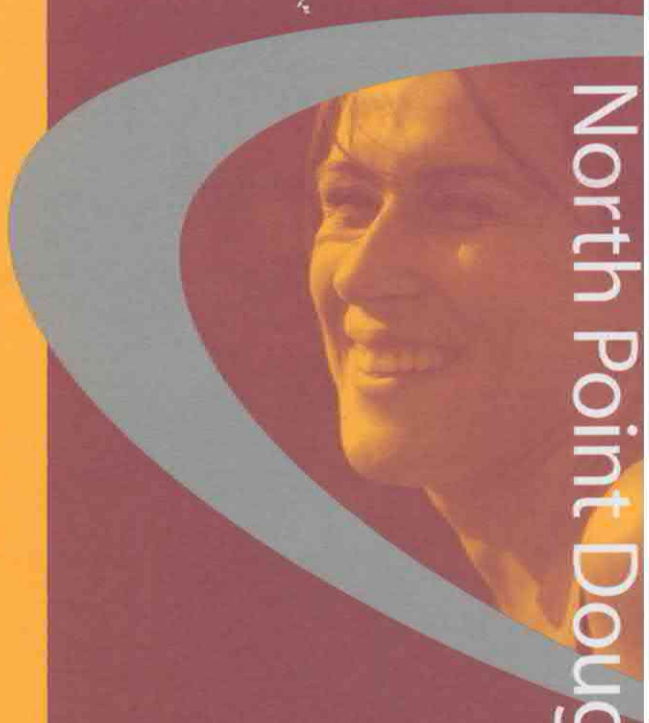
With warm thanks we recognize our funders and partners, including:

Assiniboine Credit Union
Canadian Friends Service Committee—Quakers Fostering Justice
Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development--CAHRD
Community Financial Counselling Services—Volunteer Income Tax Program
Families and Children Together (FACT)
Government of Canada—Canada Summer Jobs
Government of Manitoba—Education, Citizenship and Youth—Urban Green Team
Government of Manitoba—Energy, Science and Technology (Community Connections)
Government of Manitoba—Neighbourhoods Alive!
Healthy Child Manitoba—Chronic Diseases Prevention Initiative
Investors Group
Jewish Foundation of Manitoba—Women's Endowment Fund
Mediation Services
Mount Carmel Clinic
North End Community Renewal Corporation including North End Revitalization Inc. (NERI), the North End Food Security Network and Tenant Landlord Cooperation
Point Douglas Residents Committee
Recovery of Hope
The Thomas Sill Foundation
United Way of Winnipeg
The Winnipeg Foundation
Winnipeg Harvest
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Youth in Philanthropy

Thanks also to the many individuals who donate their time, money, and material resources.

North Point Douglas Women's Centre

North Point Douglas Women's Centre
221 Austin Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 3M8
Phone: 204-947-0321
Fax: 204-957-8978
Email: npdirector@mymts.net



North Point Douglas Women's Centre

Working to create a safe, healthy, and vibrant community for women and their families in North Point Douglas

North Point Douglas Women's Centre

The Winnipeg Foundation

Lindsay Wiley



The Centre is a safe place, open to all

We work with residents and local groups to build community through partnerships, information sharing, and advocacy.

We offer services and programs that

- help meet basic needs;
- build job, life, and social skills;
- make the community a safer place;
- give parents information and support;
- provide recreation activities for children and families; and
- encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Meeting a wide range of needs

During our drop-in hours, residents come for food; to use our phone, computers, fax machine and laundry facilities; to relax and socialize; and to let their children play.

We also help residents to access information, and to communicate with the often challenging bureaucracies that touch all of our lives.

Although we began as a centre for women and children, we have expanded our services to respond to the needs of men in the community.

Our "women's only" hours are for women and their children. Men are welcome for an hour in the morning and for two hours in the afternoon, Monday to Friday. On Saturday, everyone is welcome.

The Centre also serves as a much-used meeting space for community groups.

Working with the community

We are part of the growing network of residents and groups in North Point Douglas who are a force for change.

We collaborate to address the common needs and issues affecting all residents: our children, young people, families, single adults, and seniors. These include safety, poverty, and access to basic resources.

We participate in neighbourhood safety walks, community beautification activities, and act as a proactive voice at community meetings with various levels of government.



Responding to the needs of the community

North Point Douglas Women's Centre

Street Safety Tips

1. Be aware of your surroundings at all times, trust your instincts. If you feel unsafe you probably are.
2. Always have a back up plan, let some one know where you are going and what time you are going to return.
3. Always walk with another person, being in a group is safer than being alone
4. Leave your valuables at home or keep them out of sight, especially MP3 players cell phones and purses.
5. If you feel you are being followed, enter the nearest store or public place for safety.
6. Always walk in well lit areas, especially at night. Avoid dim parks, back lanes, and places that your are not familiar with.

North Point Douglas Women's Centre

221 Austin. St.
Wpg. Mb.
R2W-3M9
Phone:204-947-0321
Fax: 204-957-8978

North Point Douglas Women's Centre

Youth Outreach Workers

Phone: 998-3676

Youth Outreach Workers

What we do:

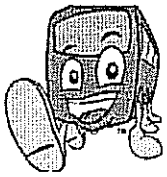
Street outreach We are actively on the streets and in community programs and schools linking youth and families to the programs they need.

Resource and Advocacy We offer you support, resouces, and one on one help through the complicated and confusing situtations you might face to ensure your needs are always met.

Employment Resouces We offer youth resouces for employment, resume help and job readyness opportunities such as odd jobs and volunteering locally in the community.

Bullying Bullying comes in many forms and none of them are acceptable. Your should never feel unsafe at home, school or work because of bullying. We are here to offer support, guidence and resolution for any conflict, bullying situation or violence.

Current Projects:



Walking School Bus

Walking School Buses promote safer streets, education, and getting to know children around the neighborhood. It also gives support to parents sending children to school so they don't have to walk alone.

Austin Street Festival

The Austin street festival made its first grand appearance August 2010. We are striving to make it bigger and better this year and welcome youth, parents, business and community groups to join in and volunteer or come by just to have some fun.

Youth Safety Council

A neighborhood Youth Safety Council that meets once a monthly to discuss issues in the neighborhood. We volunteer, work on neighborhood projects and provide other youth with informational on safety Call us to join and take part in making a better community for every one.

Bike Rodeo

Our annual bike rodeo focuses on road safety, free helmets, free bike maintenance, prizes, free BBQ and of course fun and games. Please call us to find out when the next one is happening.

Youth Resources:

Norqway Community Centre- 943-6897

Norqway Boys & Girls Club- 982-4940

Graffiti Art Programming- 667-9960

Rossbrook House-949-4090 (24/7drop in)

Turtle Island -986-8346

Kids Help Line- 1-800-668-6868 (24/7)

Suicide help line- 1-877-435-7170 (24/7)

Youth Mobile Crisis Line- 949-4777 (24/7)

Mount Carmel Clinic- 582-2311

(teen clinic and other health resources)

RAY Resource Assist for Youth-783-5617

(clothing and food bank for youth)

Ma Mawi- 925-0300

Ndinawee-586-2588

(youth drop-in and shelter)

Rainbow Resource Centre-284-5208

Macdonald Youth Service Shelter

(24/7) 477-1809

Youth Outreach Workers: 998-3676

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221 Austin St. N
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 3M8
Phone (204) 947-0321
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Email: npdirector@mts.net

North Point Douglas
Women's Centre

January 6, 2011

Councillors Eadie, Pagtakhan and Sharma
City of Winnipeg
510 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 1B9

Dear Councillors

The North Point Douglas Women's Centre is asking the City of Winnipeg for a grant of $50,000 to contribute towards the important work that we do for the community of North Point Douglas, and consequently for the City of Winnipeg.

The Women's Centre provides important services to the residents of North Point Douglas. We provide a drop-in space for community members. Part of our drop-in time is for 'Women Only' although we know that when women come in frequently they are accompanied by children. Part of the time we are open to all in the community including men. An in depth evaluation of our Drop-In just completed by '4Teen-Twenty8' **reported that users of the Centre identify us as a safe place to be, and as the go-to organization in the community when they have needs to be met.**

We provide a variety of services responding to basic needs. We provide information and undertake advocacy for community residents on a variety of issues including housing. We provide **recreation activities** for women at the drop-in and for women and children during summer, winter and March school vacations. We offer some **health programming**: visits from the public health nurse, information sessions on health issues, and programs that encourage increased physical activity. We have re-instituted our community kitchen program in partnership with the Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre which has made its wonderful kitchen facilities available to our program. Also in the planning stages is a community oven program that will provide an outside facility for community events, community kitchen, will encourage food security and will offer an opportunity for a community art project

North Point Douglas has worked hard together over the past several years to address safety issues in our community. **The North Point Douglas Women's Centre continues to play a lead role in safety programming in North Point Douglas, with a Safety Coordinator and a Youth Outreach Worker being key members of our staff.** We have initiated a walking school bus in partnership with Norquay Community School which currently is accompanying thirty-two children to and from school. Last summer our Safety Coordinator supervised the Centre's Urban Green Team actively collaborating with the Point Douglas Residents Committee, North Point Douglas Seniors' Association and the Boys and Girls Club in providing a variety of services to the community. The community gardening that was done through these partnerships provided meaningful activity for some community young people and supported food security and

beautification throughout the community. The youth outreach work done by our staff has helped our youth to feel safer in the community. **Over seven hundred safety audits of the community have been completed in the past two years and over 3000 interactions with youth have taken place.** Last summer, for the first time and coming out of work done by our safety team and a crime reduction committee, we co-sponsored the Austin Street Festival. The Winnipeg Police Service was our active partner in this event. Over four hundred people attended, eating perogies, hot dogs and police-provided ice cream. **The event was attended by Chief McCaskill and Inspector Brian Cyncora both of whom viewed the event as hugely successful.**

We work with partners on a variety of activities including being on the editorial committee and organizing the delivery of the community newsletter, *The Point*. **We provide the only on-site counseling in the area in partnership with Recovery of Hope.** Other partners providing service to the community through the Women's Centre are Mediation Services, Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development (CAHRD) and the WRHA public health nurse. All of this contributes to making North Point Douglas a healthier, safer and happier community.

The Centre has a variety of sources of funding. We are pleased to receive core funding from the United Way, but this covers only about twenty per cent of our expenses. We receive a number of program grants from Neighbourhoods Alive! which provide for three of our staff positions—the two safety positions and our Neighbourhood Resources Coordinator—and our pilot program of on-site counseling. We receive funding from Winnipeg Foundation, the Manitoba Community Services Council and from a variety of small funders. Because much of this funding is short term project based rather than core funding **this configuration results in a fundamental lack of stability and sustainability for the Centre.**

What more could we do if we receive this funding from the City?

It would allow us to continue and further **expand our safety work**. We are delighted that Neighbourhoods Alive! has refunded our safety staff for another year, at a level that will allow us to increase the number and amount of youth outreach that we can do. Funding would allow us to initiate a program we have wanted to implement for some time: Odd Jobs for Youth. Offering young people activities that pay them would provide an alternative to destructive activities such as gang involvement. The funding would allow us to expand the Austin Street Festival and ensure another effective year for the walking school bus.

The second key contribution it would make would be to provide us with resources **to establish a capacity building volunteer program at the Centre**. We now have a staff person in place who brings volunteer coordination skills and experience to the Centre. One challenge is to free her time to implement the vision we have as she also has responsibilities in the Drop-In. Funding would allow us to develop some basic volunteer training at the Centre for participant volunteers and community members. These skills, such as first aid, food handlers etc., as well as benefiting the Centre, would provide job readiness for participants. Another development we want to implement would be to offer the child minding training offered by West Central Women's Resource Centre in North Point Douglas. Graduates would then be able to provide the child minding that we and other NPD organizations need, providing income generation for the graduates. It also would provide a small stream of potential revenue for the Centre in managing the child minding services along the

model used by West Centre WRC which charges $1 for each hour of child minding it provides through its child minders. We see great potential for expanding a capacity building volunteer program with the appropriate resources.

Thirdly this grant would make **a significant contribution to our Drop-In program.** This program serves many in our community, including women with mental health issues and nowhere else to go for support. It would make a contribution towards staffing the Drop-In as well as contributing towards key program areas: refreshments which always are on, recreation programs for women and children and the bus ticket loan program we operate. The bus ticket loan program was designed to respond to one of the greater issues faced by many participants at the Centre—access to transportation. This may be for people on assistance or low income people needing assistance in getting to work or other activities. It was designed using some of the ideas of social enterprise that recognize participants' access to a variety of resources that enable them to repay the small loans—ex. people attending meetings with workers may be given bus tickets when they get there, people having the ability to pay for their loans through doing work at the Centre which is valued at minimum wage rate. The Centre then needs to find resources to 'pay for' the work done by participants so that we can continue to purchase bus tickets for the program. The program circulates between 100 and 300 bus tickets monthly.

Finally the grant would provide a modest contribution to **security of leadership** for the Centre. Our ED provides program planning, development and implementation, undertaking some critical counselling in some of the more challenging situations faced by our participants. She is our human resources manager, the facilities manager, undertakes much of the financial management and fund raising. She staffs all of our committees, including the Board, and is responsible for partner and funder relationships. Providing support for this position makes an important contribution to securing the future of the Women's Centre.

We believe that the City benefits from our work. We are key partners in achieving the City's mandate of providing services and safety to citizens and businesses of North Point Douglas. Businesses in the area some of whom do make charitable donations to the Centre, benefit from the prevention and intervention of our safety staff. Citizens benefit directly from the services we provide and by the changes that result in our community because of the work that we do. We are asking the City to support us by making a contribution to our work.

Sincerely yours

Irene Brown
Chair of the Board

Encl: 2010 AGM Reports
Budget for 2010/2011 and 2011/2012
Budget and notes for the $50,000

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	**Area**	**Details**		**Amount**		**Subtotals**		**Total**
2	Safety							
3		Austin St Festival		5,000				
4		Odd Jobs for Youth		4,000				
5		General Safety		5,000				
6		Walking School Bus		3,000		17,000		
7								
8	Volunteer Program							
9		Contribution to coordinator salary		8,000				
10		Volunteer Program		4,000		12,000		
11								
12	Drop-In Program							
13		Contribution to coordinator salary		7,000				
14		Refreshments		3,000				
15		Recreation Programming		5,000				
16		Bus ticket loan program		3,000		18,000		
17								
18	Leaadership support	towards Exec Director salary		3,000		3,000		
19								
20	**Total**							**50,000**

SAFETY AND YOUTH OUTREACH
NPD WOMEN'S CENTRE
YEARLY STAT SHEET
Sep/09 – Aug/10

Data Collection Info	Sep/09	Oct/09	Nov/09	Dec/10	Jan/10	Feb/10	Mar/10	Apr/10	May/10	Jun/10	Jul/10	Aug/10	Year End Totals
Youth Contacts	367	239	226	379	142	110	51	86	129	151	81	275	2236
Parental Contacts	80	61	41	112	24	15	12	30	49	92	56	273	845
Program Referrals	9	25	6	19	12	8	2	2	7	21	9	17	137
Program Contacts	8	4	2	4	31	27	13	22	27	37	17	37	229
Bullying Intervention	4	1	0	2	1	0	3	2	6	2			14
High Risk Incidents	7	9	1				2		3	3	5	4	34
Safety Audits	69	51	40	32	50	47	26	50	47	56	28	53	549
Community Events	6	7	3	4		1		1	2	5	8	6	43
Networking Meetings	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	4	4	4			19
Youth Council Meetings	1	1				1	1		1		1	2	8
Youth Advocacy				1									1
Safe Walks					12	21	11	12	41	28			125
Safety Talks	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	10	54

Safety Talk Participants	10	10	10	40	65	60	40	40	45	45	40	60	465
Crime Reduction Plan Meetings											1	3	4
Crime Reduction Plan Participants											15	60	75
Community engagement meetings					2	1	2	1	1	1	1		9
Walking School Bus						40	40	40	40	40	40	40	280
Safety Daily Supervisions	20	20	20	18	20	20	20	15	20	20	20	20	233
Bike Rodeo Participants										75			75
Austin Street Festival Participants												400	400

North Point Douglas Women's Centre

Safety Coordinator and Youth Outreach Worker Program

Executive Summary and Key Findings: February 2011

Executive Summary

The North Point Douglas Women's Centre's (NPDWC) vision is to create a *safe, healthy, vibrant community for women and their families in which all forms of violence against women are addressed by engaging the community in prevention and remediation strategies.* The centre offers programs that address safety through partnership and community development. The Safety Coordinator and Youth Outreach Worker (SCYOW) program at NPDWC works with partners to deliver outreach, education and advocacy. Programming is provided by one full time Safety Coordinator who coordinates all activities and provides supervision and support to one part time Youth Outreach Worker (YOW).

In addition to delivering local safety programs such as community events, outreach and a walking school bus, the Safety Coordinator is working closely with local police, service providers and residents to develop a Community Crime Reduction Plan. To support planning and ensure that the SYCOW program was meeting its objectives, the North Point Douglas Women's Centre worked with Health in Common to create an evaluation framework, undertake an initial evaluation of the program and build capacity for ongoing evaluation.

The evaluation framework outlines the following questions:

1. *What are the perceptions of safety among at-risk residents?*
2. *Are North Point Douglas residents aware of and using the activities and services offered by the safety program?*
3. *Are the activities and services offered by the SCYOW program accessible to at-risk residents of the community?*
4. *Does the SCYOW program effectively engage residents in addressing community safety issues?*

Key Findings

From July to October 2010, initial evaluation activities included implementing revised data collection forms for the YOW, conducting a Community Safety Survey and reviewing key documents and reports. Initial findings include:

- Overall, residents feel safe in the neighbourhood during the day. Feelings of safety are lower at night, in particular among women.
- 16% of participants felt unsafe at home.
- Drug and alcohol abuse, gang activity and violence were identified as the biggest safety issues facing North Point Douglas.
- Improving safety, greater police presence and dealing with drug and alcohol related-issues were identified as the most important neighbourhood needs.
- Between July and October, 2010, violence and crime were the most commonly reported on area news stories. Stories on gang activity and drug and alcohol abuse did not appear in the media.
- 92% of those surveyed were aware of the services and programs offered by the SCYOW program. There was no difference in the use of programs between men and women, and over half of respondents indicated they used the services often.
- From October to December, the YOW had regular contact with 436 youth, 74 service providers and 130 parents. The YOW contributes to safety in the neighbourhood by providing safe walks (59 times), park surveillance (56 times) and intervening in incidents related to (4 times) and drugs (2 times).
- Most people surveyed felt the SCYOW programs made the community feel safer: Walking school bus (65%); Community Barbecues (65%); Community Gardens (61%); Safe walks (57%) and Youth Outreach Worker (57%).

- Residents are actively involved in addressing community safety by participating in Crime Reduction Plan meetings, carrying out safety audits and safe walks and as monitors with the walking school bus. On a scale of community engagement that starts at 9 (low engagement) and goes up to 45 (high engagement), residents had an average score of 29. Older residents were more engaged with the community than younger ones.
- The program coordinator facilitates the Community Crime Reduction Plan committee which includes residents and local service providers who meet regularly to identify strategies to address neighbourhood concerns.

North Point Douglas residents are aware and mindful of safety issues in their neighbourhood. Programs and services provided by the North Point Douglas Women's Centre are known to the community. Community residents are already engaged in several of the program's activities as volunteers, Walking School Bus monitors and as participants. In the future, more detailed information could be gathered through focus groups and review of attendance records to have a clear picture of the program's reach within the community. This will help determine what, if any, gaps or barriers exist to accessing SCYOW programs. Continued evaluation is planned to determine the overall impact of these initiatives on community safety in the long-term.