

WINNIPEG COMMITTEE FOR SAFETY

Report to the Community



WCFS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY: STEVEN ACKERMAN & JERRY GRAJEWSKI



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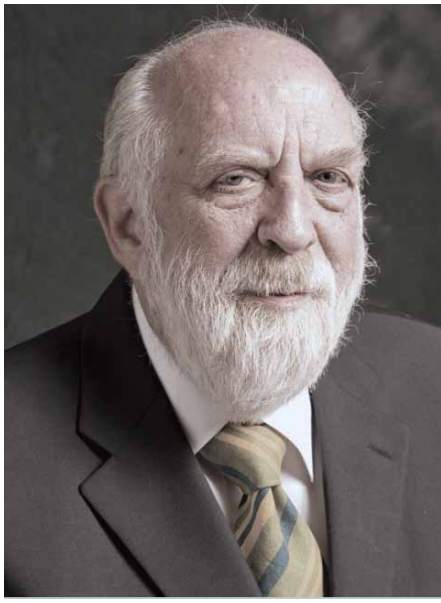
Since 1999, the Winnipeg Committee for Safety (WCFS) has supported, assisted, stimulated, and mobilized the community on safety concerns. However, 2013 marked a renewed focus for the WCFS, bringing community development to the forefront at a grassroots level.

We are a leader in this respect, both locally and nationwide, with representation from citizens, City departments, the Winnipeg Police Service, business, community organizations, and other orders of government.

We aim to work proactively to maintain and improve the safety of each of our citizens.



Message from the Chairman



This past year has seen many great accomplishments in our city including urban structure planning, changes to the transportation system and a commitment to the Sherbrook Pool – all factors which contribute to a safe, vibrant and sustainable Winnipeg.

As we continue to revitalize our downtown, we have also seen the emergence of great initiatives such as The SHED (Sports, Hospitality & Entertainment District), which is designed to reenergize Winnipeg's downtown core.

Continued plans include So/Po Square – the centre of The SHED - boasting the best mixed-use urban real estate in Canada. While the project is undergoing feasibility studies, it's a shape shifter for our city, showcasing the innovation and energy Winnipeg has. It's these plans that will catapult a resurgence of the activity, culture and commerce that Winnipeg knew in its time of greatest prominence.

The underlying theme of our work is that every program works to solve a portion of the issue, relying on the existence of other programs to combat the entirety. Be it youth engagement programming, anti-gang programs, or community unifying initiatives, each program is a continuation into another, which acts as a key component to make our city safer.

This understanding has enabled us to position ourselves not just as the monikers of safety for Winnipeg, but has also given us the ability to see the strength and importance of a renewed focus on community, social, and youth development. It is through social and community development programs that we foster empowerment, resilience and independence. By improving engagement, integration and connection to the community, we help to develop skills, knowledge, talents, creativity and strengths that positively impact the well being in the community. The impact of these programs on our youth is undeniable as mentorship is a key resource for promoting positive youth development. You'll read on about how programs provided by The Broadway Neighbourhood Center supports effective relationship building, engagement and bridges gaps in our community.

In this annual report we will analyze and discuss initiatives in our city, and reflect on the year's activities to improve the safety of our citizens. But at the core of this report, we are sharing with the public our work to improve safety and community involvement in our city. We believe wholeheartedly in Winnipeg, and love this city dearly.

Councillor Harvey Smith





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Councillor
Harvey Smith


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Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is the active use of the physical environment to reduce the opportunity and incidence of crime. WCFS actively supports and aids this initiative, and has been working closely with the University of Manitoba conducting workshops and information sessions, writing curriculum and helping with assignments in Winnipeg communities.

Throughout 2013 the Committee provided CPTED training sessions to law enforcement and community service officers, urban area and park planners, engineers, educators, city administrators, as well as community and neighbourhood groups. This initiative was a huge success and a call for additional training has been mandated.

The training sessions focused on the CPTED principles and applications, showing how environmental design can work to greatly reduce the incidence of crime in the concerned area. They cover outdoor lighting, environment planning and zoning, and how to best utilize spaces to support crime prevention. Participants were instructed in the means to carry out and lobby for crime-preventing environmental design and assistance, by way of report writing, presentation skills, and plan review and modification.

Revitalizing Our Streets and City

The city is committed to developing our downtown into a vibrant center filled with culture and entertainment, with an emphasis on pedestrian safety, accessibility, and movement.

The resurgence began last year when City Council approved the $2.5 million Cultural District Streetscaping program. The revitalization commenced with widening sidewalks on Market Avenue and improving pedestrian lighting, and continues with number of other features including benches, bike racks, planters and waste receptacles.

Although most intriguing, is the permanent urban installation of 3D interactive light sculptures called "Listening Lights", which the city hopes will draw more people out.

Various City of Winnipeg departments and other key stakeholders are working together to celebrate the distinctiveness of the Cultural District, and this project is the first phase of an intense community development strategy slated over the next few years.

"This exciting revitalization of this very special corner of our community will be enjoyed by so many for years to come."

- Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz



Committed to Community Development

Community development is about creating a strong, prosperous and safe environment where people within the community can identify problems and work with community-based organizations to help solve those problems.

The Winnipeg Committee for Safety has adopted a leading role in pursuing layered, interconnected and community-focused approaches to addressing neighbourhood-specific needs, and acts as an information hub and point of contact.

Effective planning centers around one thing, proactivity - acting, rather than reacting. It starts with meeting with the community, and speaking with them about their concerns, potential and existing issues, and the resources available to them. We work to determine the priority issues that require attention at the community level, and brainstorm ideas and options that will aid residents in feeling safe and secure in their homes and neighbourhoods.

Hearing from members of the public helps us learn how to best service the citizens of our city. Knowing what specific neighbourhoods need allows us to create plans that are as effective as possible.

It is through this interconnectivity that allows The Winnipeg Committee for Safety to be a salient information centre.

Committee Members

The committee's success would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of its volunteer members.

2013 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Councillor H. Smith, Chairperson • His Worship Mayor Katz, Ex-Officio • Ray Ali • Angela Falk Jacquie Habing • Steven Hennessey • Kerry LeBlanc Sonja Musto • Douglas Smith • Ed Young

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE MEMBERS

- Karen Beaudin, Community Resource Coordinator
- Patrol Sergeant Rich McDougall, Winnipeg Police
- Service Constable Pat Chabidon, Winnipeg Police
- Service Constable Glen Kostyk, Winnipeg Police
- Service Clerk Jennifer Ridge, City Clerk's Department



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Mayor
Sam Katz

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REVITALIZATION
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Financial Report

EXPENDITURES	
Contract Fee	$ 40,000.00
Communications/ Community Outreach	$ 24,520.01
Education and Training	$ 926.15
Meeting Costs	$ 1,059.62
Office Expenditures	$ 625.24
TOTAL	$ 66,204.87

The Importance

BROADWAY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE >



# of Mentorship

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JUST TV > JUST TV PRODUCTION - OUR HOUSE, OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD > PROJECT PHOENIX



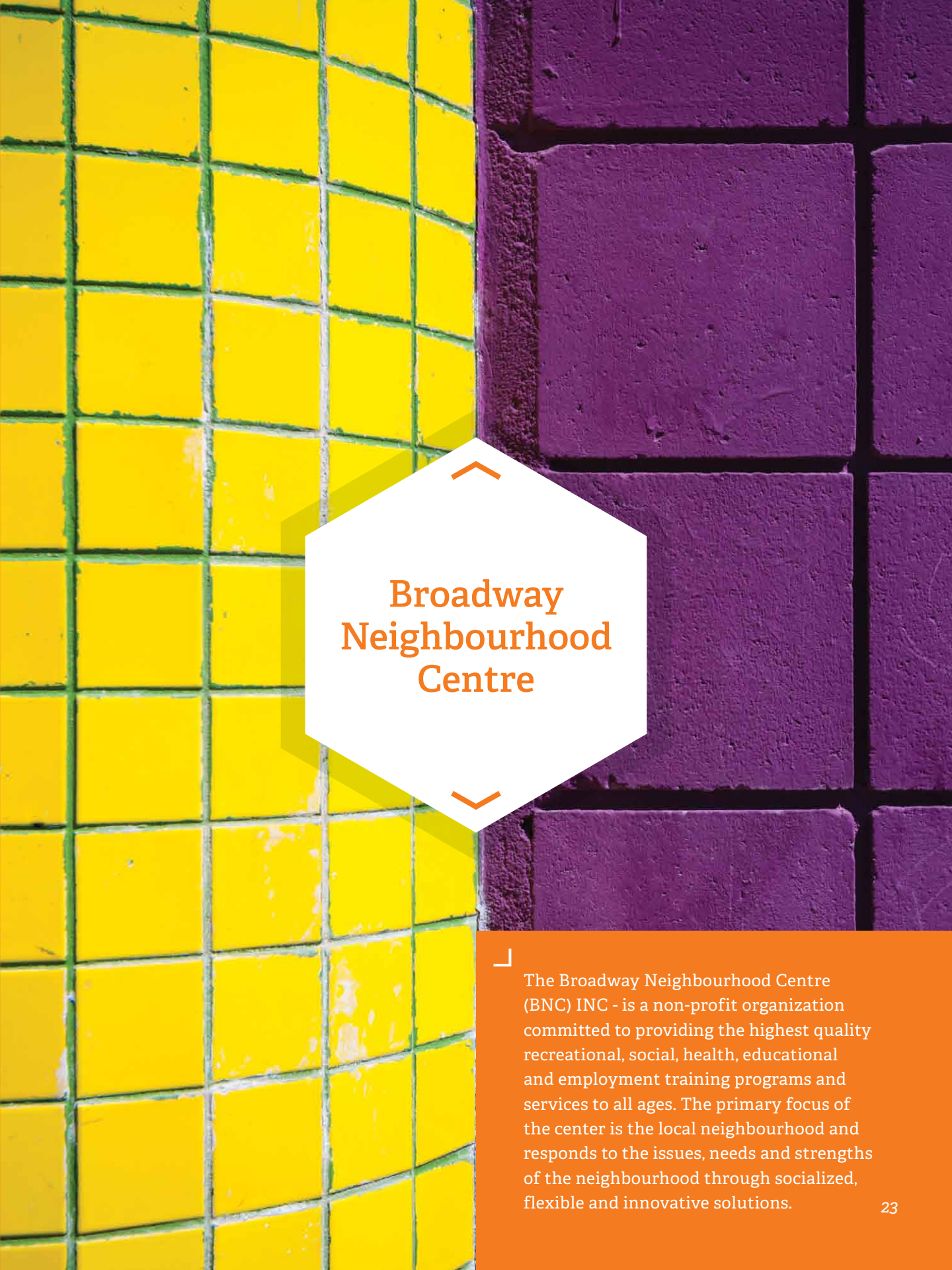
We hope that children will grow up healthy, happy and productive, and who have the skills to contribute to their own well-being and to the well-being of their families and communities. The Winnipeg Committee for Safety is committed to providing support programs that develop curricula to support families in their efforts to help children develop positively, be competent, confident, and caring individuals who have positive social connections, good characters and contribute to the betterment of their communities and society.

Youth possess much strength such as the capacity to change their behavior, the ability to develop new cognitive abilities, cultivate different interests, acquire new behavioral skills, and establish new social relationships. Aligning these strengths with the strengths of families, schools, and communities in a nurturing and positive manner catapults healthy development of themselves and others, allowing them to thrive in their own ecologies.

Key facets that promote positive youth development are the people in youth's lives, such as parents, teachers, coaches and mentors, the institutions present in the community, the opportunities for youth and adults to work together in valued community activities, and the accessibility of all these assets.

Mentorship programs promote positive adult-youth relations, build life skills, and involve youth participation and leadership within their communities, and we at the Winnipeg Committee for Safety are dedicated to provide the support and programs needed for our youth to thrive.


BROADWAY COMMUNITY CENTRE
RECREATION AREA IMPROVEMENTS
AMÉLIORATION DES INSTALLATIONS RÉCRÉATIVES
ACTION PLAN D'ACTION
Canada
ACTIONPLAN.GC.CA | PLANDACTION.GC.CA
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Broadway Neighbourhood Centre

The Broadway Neighbourhood Centre (BNC) INC - is a non-profit organization committed to providing the highest quality recreational, social, health, educational and employment training programs and services to all ages. The primary focus of the center is the local neighbourhood and responds to the issues, needs and strengths of the neighbourhood through socialized, flexible and innovative solutions.

This Neighbourhood Centre is accessible to all members of the community – mainly through a variety of activities, programming and community events. And include Drop-In/Resources, youth and family oriented athletic and recreational facilities, food programs, hygiene programs, computer lab; youth oriented music and art programs; employment training programs, aboriginal culture programs; parenting support; teen sexuality programs; venue rentals; seniors programs and more.

Highlights of the BNC programming include Just TV, which provides youth with opportunities to express themselves through multimedia in a safe, fun, creative environment; Sweat Lodges held at Birds Hill Park that include traditional teachings in and around medicines and Native spirituality; the Nourishing Potential program where children learn about good nutrition and the importance of developing lifelong healthy eating patterns; and BRAVE – a project engaging young men to educate and challenge and ultimately end their communities' and peers perceptions, attitudes and behaviors towards domestic violence.



– Lawrence "Spatch" Mulhall

Lawrence "Spatch" Mulhall has been a contributing staff member since 2000 and has been in the role of Executive Director for the past 10 years. During his tenure, he's overseen the development of a Neighbourhood Greenspace, assisted in obtaining sustainable funding for the Just TV program as part of the City of Winnipeg's Community Services Department, and played a great role in contributing to the growth, development and empowerment of the youth who attend the Centre.

Spatch says, "One challenge that we have seen over the years has been a high gang presence in the Neighbourhood; at points many community members were reluctant to venture into the neighbourhood. With the completion of the Green Space and increased programming we have seen a substantial decrease in crime and a marked increase in community activity and participation".

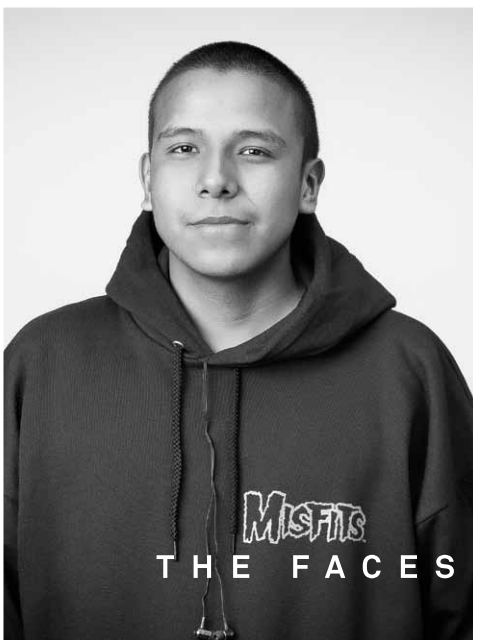
A visit to the centre shows the cultural diversity of its staff and youth, who are truly the faces of tomorrow.

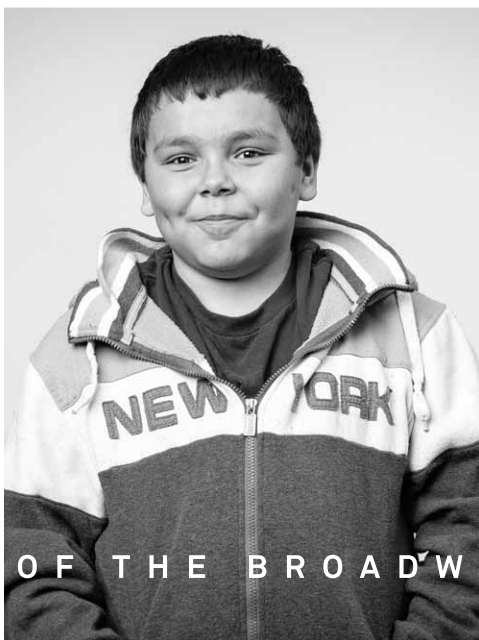








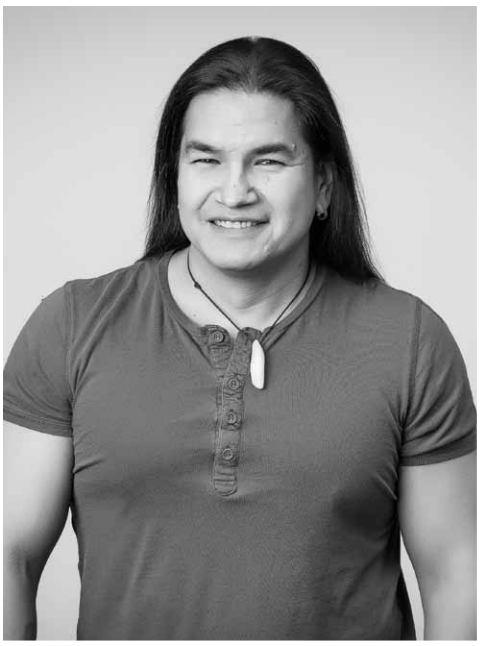


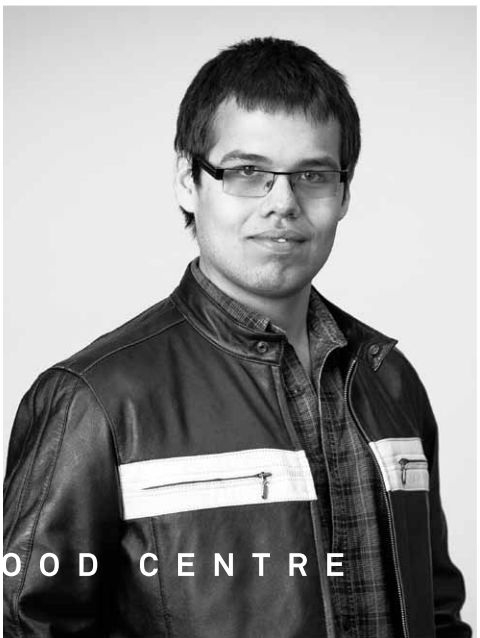


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AY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

Just TV

Just TV provides youth with opportunities to express themselves through multimedia in a safe, fun, creative environment as an alternative to negative influences such as drugs, gangs and violence.

This program teaches youth to complete a video from start to finish by teaching script writing, set design, photography, acting and production as well as team building and life skills. The program targets youth who are at risk of involvement in gangs, criminal activity or substance abuse. Proud showcases of all videos projects are featured at the end of the sessions for families to see.

Operating since 2008 Just TV has provided youth the opportunity to gain extensive skills in the multimedia field. A number of participants have received internships at the City of Winnipeg Aboriginal Youth Strategy; participated in the NSI – New Voices Program, received paid internships at the Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards, as well as extensive speaking and presentation opportunities.

Youth who graduate from the program are encouraged to return and mentor their peers; youth mentors lead by example and new participants are able to witness their peers' successes and envision their own potential.

Over the past 3 years a Social Enterprise component has been added to the program. Youth are hired to work on projects from external sources (businesses, other non-profits etc) and gain on the job experience and technical skills as they are trained under skilled technicians in a safe and encouraging environment. Any revenues that are made through these projects go into youth wages and the improvement of the centre.

Just TV youth are the heart, soul and "Face" of the program. When asked to do presentations, showcase Just TV works, and speak to the Program in general – youth who have experienced the program are the best experts. They inspire each other, show tangible successes and are the best indicator of true success of the program.

Just TV strives to give youth a voice; our goal is to invest in the young people in our community and in the City of Winnipeg.

Just TV Production

Our House, Our Neighbourhood

"Our House, Our Neighbourhood" is a culmination of efforts between the Broadway Neighbourhood Center, Just TV, and The Winnipeg Committee for Safety. Councillor Harvey Smith originally conceived the concept to produce a short film depicting the challenges & opportunities in one's neighbourhood. He suggested that Just TV develop a 10-15 minute play concerning the plight of homeowners that live beside a suspected "party/gang/drug" house.

This film gave at-risk youth an outlet to express themselves and provide possible solutions to the issues that they see every day in their community. The screenplay was conceived, written and produced in conjuction with the youth participants of Just TV.

Project Phoenix

Project Phoenix is a very unique and truly exciting endeavour that will give at-risk youth the exceptional opportunity to be part of an auto racing team.

Corporate sponsors of the program include Montana's Cookhouse and its ownership group, as well as a line up of additional partner(s) in its auto racing team and the Red River Co-Op Speedway. Partners will be sought to add an educational component.

Youth participating in Project Phoenix will learn auto mechanic skills and be mentored by the Montana's Cookhouse auto racing team. Successful at-risk youth may be given an opportunity to be part of the auto racing team's pit crew.

Throughout their experience, participating youth and their families will have the opportunity to attend races and enjoy the full experience at the Red River Co-Op Speedway. Montana's Cookhouse will provide catering, host the events, and give participants an opportunity for employment at Montana's Cookhouse.

The long-term goal of Project Phoenix is to have at-risk youth, under the mentorship of the Montana's Cookhouse racing team and educational institutions, build a racecar from the ground up. If successful, this Project Phoenix racecar would then hit the track at the Red River Co-Op Speedway and compete for a championship.

A communications/media strategy will be a key component of Project Phoenix, bringing to the forefront the importance and benefit of key mentorship programs and the positive impact they have on our youth.

SAFETY TOOLKIT

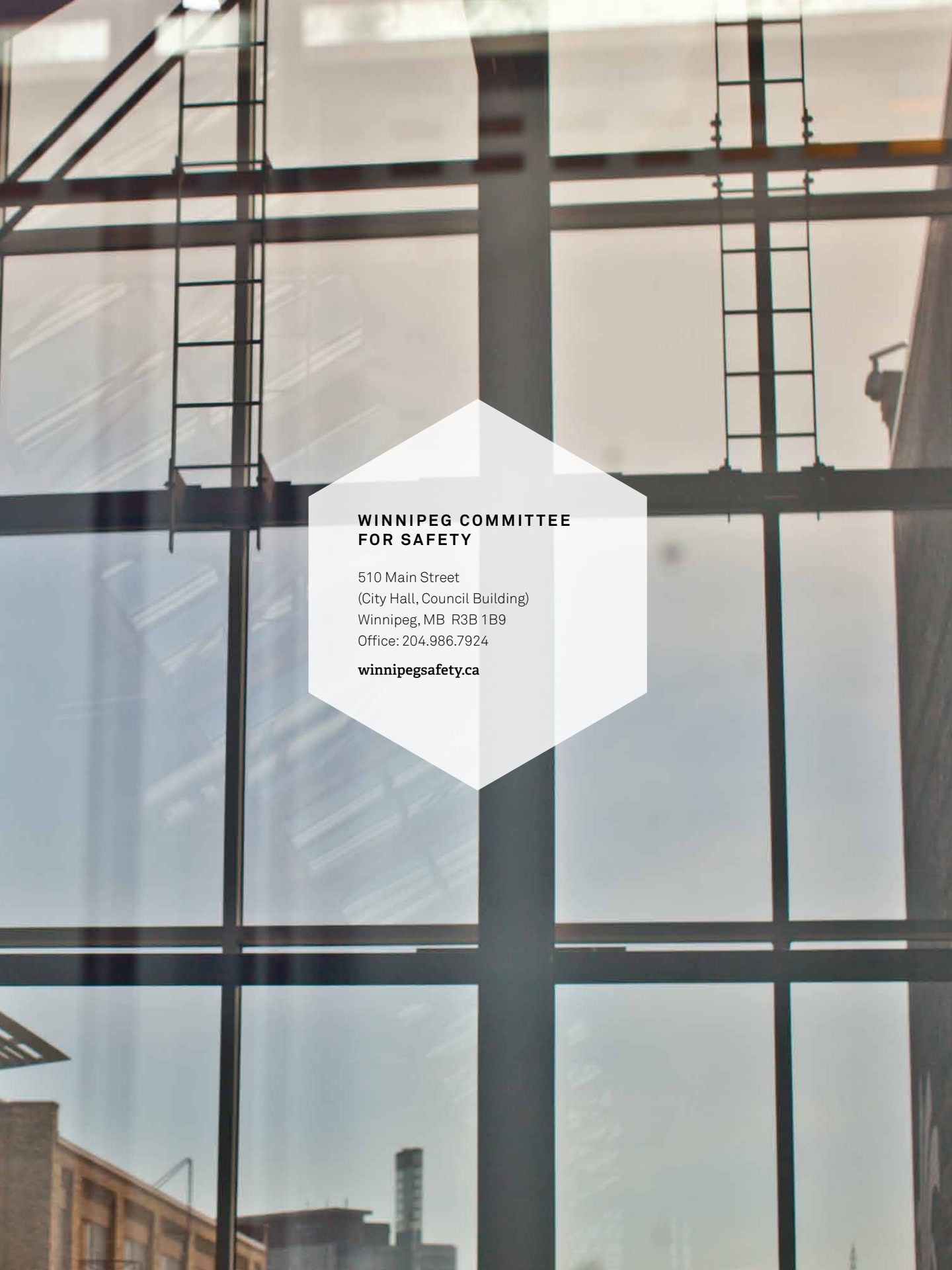
In an effort to meet the demands of today's multimedia world, a revisit to the 'Safety Toolkit' is a necessary step.

The information will be condensed and modified, taking what is most valuable, and providing it to communities in a more user friendly, current, and interactive way. With a new website and various print materials underway, this new media will put the safety information our communities need at their fingertips.

This is one of the many ways The Winnipeg Committee for Safety is working to achieve goals for building a robust safety culture, and to meet the obligations to its communities.




WCFS



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