



Action for Neighbourhood Change Simpson-Ogden News February 2006

Action for Neighbourhood Change Vision and Planning January 14, 2006



More than 70 residents and invited guests from government and United Way Canada spent a recent Saturday afternoon and evening together in Thunder Bay celebrating their neighbourhood and planning for its future.

The Simpson-Ogden Visioning Workshop on January 14, 2006 saw participants prepare ideas for a better neighbourhood and share jokes, stories, great food and dancing. The ANC team and the new Neighbourhood Advisory Committee now have a clear direction for future planning as well as many excellent ideas for neighbourhood projects.

Residents spoke with pride about the many positive reasons for living in the Simpson-Ogden area and about their commitment to make the neighbourhood a better place by addressing issues of safety, housing and the need for improved social and recreation services.

"This is the first Saturday afternoon in seven years of living here that I have felt part of a neighbourhood," commented one of the residents. Fourteen people commented that the highlight of their day was meeting people. Feedback from those attending indicated that people are more willing to work toward improving the neighbourhood, they better understand how ANC will work in the neighbourhood, and that the day was a good use of their time.

Neighbourhood Volunteers for Change

We live in a great neighbourhood filled with dynamic people who care about where and how they live. When you think about it, despite our differences, we're all in this together. By working together to nurture a sense of spirit and foster a feeling of camaraderie, our neighbourhood can grow and thrive in harmony.

It all starts with the individual. Each of us has to realize that as neighbours we share a common bond. Building neighbourhood spirit depends on many things: adequate resources, accurate information, open communication and, perhaps most importantly, the dedication of the residents. We invite all residents to come out and meet other neighbours at our **Neighbourhood Volunteers for change** meeting.

February 20, 2006 7:00pm at Ogden Community Centre. Come out and enjoy a night of planning and socializing.

For more information please contact: Lorraine @ 626-1765 or Donnalee @ 622-3753



Policy Validation Group

Vision: *To develop and become a working Place Based Policy Group in the Simpson/Ogden neighbourhood.* In order to achieve this the group will begin work in the following areas: media, education, accountability and explore and discover.

History: Back in March, 2005 Doug West, a Political Science Professor at Lakehead University, participated in one of ANC's initial community consultations. At this time he thought it would be extremely beneficial to the ANC process and the Simpson/Ogden neighbourhood to have policy discussions and learning at the community level. He offered his time and expertise to help facilitate this with ANC. ANC began planning how to bring together and work with a group of neighbourhood residents and other interested community members who would like to learn more about policy and neighbourhood revitalization.

Getting Together: The Policy Validation Group held its first meeting in July 2005 and has been meeting monthly since. The group has brought many new ideas and suggestions to the table. In December the group participated in a planning activity to develop a vision and working areas. Darren Borg, Focus Coordinator at the NorWest Community Health Centre facilitated this activity and from this meeting a vision was developed.

In upcoming meetings of the Policy Validation Group we will begin to look at ways we can assist the work of the newly established "Simpson/Ogden Neighbourhood Advisory Committee" and learn more about the capacity building process and neighbourhood revitalization in the Simpson/Ogden neighbourhood.

Volunteer: The Policy Validation Group is looking at increasing resident and service provider participation in this group. If you are interested in learning more please call Sandra Albertson at Action for Neighbourhood Change at 626-1767 or by emailing salberts@unitedway-tbay.on.ca



Policy Validation Group Members: Sandra Albertson, Trudi Jones, Betty Richmond, Ada Dholucky, Doug West, and Darren Borg

INVITATION FOR BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Mahmowenchike Family Development Centre is seeking Board Members for their program. The person does not have to be of Aboriginal ancestry, if interested please contact Janet Owen, the Executive Director or attend the annual general meeting on March 13th, 2006 at 5:30 PM at 229 Pacific Ave W. She can be reached at 623-9580.

Idea Bank

Since ANC began we have been hearing 100's of excellent ideas, if only we could accomplish them all. By developing a public place for others to see the ideas we are hoping that these ideas will inspire action. The purpose of this Idea Bank is to gather suggestions from citizens in Thunder Bay regarding ways to better our community, economy, and way of life. This idea was provided by Doug West, Policy Validation Group volunteer and can be found at www.simpsonogden.ca

Need Information?

Call CIRC (Community Information and Referral Centre) information line at (807) 626-9626 or visit www.lspc.ca

Project Pool Funding \$80,000 Projects Selected

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.

Lutheran Community Care Centre/Neil Otke, Street Chaplain \$14,300

To open a resource centre on Simpson Street to provide a place for socialization, information and referral for street people.

Aboriginal Arts and Heritage/Thunder Bay Art Gallery \$18,000

To identify and promote Simpson Ogden Aboriginal artists and crafters and to provide an Aboriginal Awareness Program with traditional cultural teachings and drum and regalia making culminating in a multicultural showcase.

Underground Gym-/Peter Panetta \$24,000

To renovate part of the building owned by the gym to create a suitable space for a boxing ring and boxing program for at risk youth.

Neighbourhood Women's Committee/ based at Elizabeth Fry Society/ NorWest Community Health Centres \$5,700

To introduce Dream Catchers Program to the community through two workshops with women who offer his program in Winnipeg as a strategy to assist young women wanting to exit the sex trade. There will be a community workshop and an interagency workshop.

Regional Food Distribution Association \$18,000

To initiate and support the development of 20 neighbourhood communal gardens linking would be gardeners with available garden space e.g., elderly people who no longer want to garden.

Thunder Bay Economic Justice Committee Meeting

Monday, Feb 27, 2006 at Canadian Mental Health Association 3:00 pm



Alice Sabourin Community Liaison for Action for Neighbourhood Change

Alice Sabourin is the community liaison for Action for Neighbourhood Change; she is of Ojibwa ancestry and has worked in Thunder Bay for many years as a social worker. Her specialization is community research. Her interest in Aboriginal Art as a means to strengthening community connections will be a big part of what she does for ANC. Alice will be working closely with the youth in the neighbourhood as well as families. She is currently developing arts events to help bring unity and strength to the community.

The Youth Engagement Strategy will entail working with organizations, residents, educational institutions and governments to collectively support and create resources that are readily available for Youth that build and strengthen current resources and help extend the youth to learn and develop. The direction will be drawn from the consultations ANC facilitated.



WHERE IS THE ANC FUNDING COMING FROM? *The ANC budget is jointly funded by:*

- National Secretariat on Homelessness (HRSDC)
- Office of Learning Technologies (HRSDC)
- National Literacy Secretariat (HRSDC)
- Canada's Drug Strategy (Health Canada)
- Crime Prevention Strategy (PSEPC)



What is meant by local assets?

- **Social** participation, pride, voice, and influence
- **Service** programs, collaboration, etc
- **Physical** housing, shopping, & transit
- **Diversity** language, settlement, employment
- **Safety and Mobility** participate safely without fear

NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES – VISION STATEMENTS

*A total of 55 people participated in the visioning exercise on January 14, 2006. The priority headings were ranked highest to lowest by the number of people working in each priority group.

1. RECREATION/SOCIAL

“We want to bring the neighbourhood together by providing safe, people-orientated programs and services. We want awareness of existing programs (through word of mouth, newsletters etc.) and develop programs that address the gaps. The community should be encouraged to enhance the look of the community. Get to know your neighbour.

Examples:

- Free activities for youth
- Family activities
- Safe transportation or walking activities
- Suitable times for people to participate in activities
- Awareness of programs that exist
- Want to develop respect and pride
- Community clean up and beautification activities
- Help/meet our neighbours programs

2. SAFETY

“A safe and inclusive neighbourhood. Pride and camaraderie among residents. Residents striving for excellence”.

Examples:

- More policing – trained citizen street patrol
- More lighting in streets and lanes
- Community members forming groups to take back the night and neighbourhood
- Speaking out & reporting to keep the neighbourhood safe
- Neighbourhood beautification
- Protection for teen and adult sex trade workers
- Awareness of resources
- Safety in numbers, people working together as neighbourhood.
- More eye in the sky programs

3. HOUSING

“We want safe, decent and clean housing where people want to live. No junk or garbage in the lanes and no more unsafe rental units”.

- How do we get there? (examples):
- Make back lanes work or close them down.
- Neighbours work with the city in making our wish happen – neighbourhood voice is important.
- We need stricter enforcement of by-laws.
- The city needs to invest time and money in the neighbourhood & work with us.

4. INFRASTRUCTURE

“To create an inclusive community for accessibility by cleaning up abandoned buildings, create green spaces and develop a central resource centre for supporting opportunities and affordability”.

Examples:

- Abandoned buildings;
- Clean up – identify common goals and communicate;
- Green spaces and playgrounds;
- Accessibility –inclusive;
- Gathering places – central resource center;
- Affordable & accountable;
- Opportunities
- Neighbourhood pride, fix up exteriors, beautify –positive PR for neighbourhood

- Make it a place to come to
- Train effective lobbyists for the neighbourhood to impact all levels of government
- Attract and promote new businesses to the area

5. INCOME, POVERTY & ECONOMY

“The vision for the income, poverty and economy facet of the Simpson-Ogden neighbourhood is to create a strong pull for attracting successful businesses, which will in turn, provide an attractive destination for community shopping, which will in turn increase employment opportunities for its citizens.”

Examples:

- Jobs
- Businesses attractive
- Training provided to businesses
- Parking
- Lower operating costs
- Abundance of skilled workers
- Interested customers
- Utilize traffic flow
- Unique destination
- Competitive area
- Look attractive
- Promote community
- Businesses closing and not re-opening
- Eliminate residences on Simpson Street
- Attract residents-residents are customers
- Unique businesses that provide a destination for the community shopping
- Use local labor on improvement projects (can double as training projects and use C.E.C. funding.)

6. HEALTH

“In order to achieve the other areas –safety, housing, recreation etc., health has to be part of it all. All kinds of health – physical and mental, with services that support it.”

Examples:

- Doctors and clinic
- Counselling and recovery programs
- Street level social and mental health workers
- Healthy mind, health heart
- Emotional not just physical
- Stigma
- Support network for language challenges
- Poor language services
- Dry facility with lockdown

Free literacy services for adults!

The Adult Learning Centre provides daytime classes in reading, writing, math and computers. We also provide one to one volunteer tutoring. Our program offers confidential assessments and individual study plans. Brush up on your writing or math skills to get a better job, or help your kids with their homework. All of our classes are free for adults. For more information call the Thunder Bay Literacy Group at 475-7211 or visit our website at www.tblg.org

Scrabble@Magic Fundraising tournament takes place on February 25, 2006 at Intercity.

For more information:

Thunder Bay Literacy Group, P.O. Box 10508, Thunder Bay P7B 6T9
Fax 807-475-7266

Action for Neighbourhood Change

500 Simpson Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7C3J4
Phone: 807-626-1765
Fax: 807-626-1768
anc@unitedway-tbay.on.ca

www.anccommunity.ca



Action for
Neighbourhood
Change

Quartiers
en
essor

ENGAGE ALL
*To make this
neighbourhood
vision a reality,
community input
and information is
needed.*

**Please contact ANC
staff about how you
can help!**

Volunteers are needed for:

- Special event planning
- ANC communications
- Administrative tasks
- Resource developer
- Data collection
- Policy group
- Walking group

To volunteer
please call
Lorraine at
626-1765.

MOVING FORWARD! SIMPSON/OGDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD ADVISORY GROUP FORMS

Residents, service providers and business owners from the Simpson/Ogden area stood up to be heard and be part of the change process happening in their neighbourhood. Twenty-two people came forward to be become members of the Neighbourhood Advisory Committee. This group will take on the leadership role to carry forward renewal priorities in the neighbourhood.

The group will be meeting over the next couple of months to determine, based on neighbourhood priorities, a vision that will guide upcoming work. Also, work will be carried out in building a solid committee structure to ensure good working relationships.

If anyone from the neighbourhood is interested in being part of this group or learning more about it please contact Sandra Albertson at Action for Neighbourhood Change by calling 626-1767 or by emailing salberts@unitedway-tbay.on.ca

NOTICE OF AWARDS

Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat www.citizenship.gov.on.ca

If you know of someone who is an outstanding citizen there are volunteer service awards, outstanding achievement awards, Senior of the Year Award, Senior Achievement Award, The Order of Ontario Award, Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship and you would like to nominate someone please send your information to ANC attention Alice Sabourin @ 626-1765

Website being launched

www.simpsonogden.ca was developed to compliment the national Action for Neighbourhood Change website www.anccommunity.ca which covers the five sites across Canada. www.simpsonogden.ca was developed with the neighbourhood in mind and utilizing software that is easy to use and update the pages as the Neighbourhood Advisory Committee, Volunteers for Neighbourhood Change, and people move forward and have news to communicate. Find out or tell others what is happening by using the site calendar!

Insert Color Your World Add Here

Audrey Sarginson

Placement Student at Action for Neighbourhood Change (ANC)

Audrey is a third year student in the Native Child & Family Worker Program at Confederation College. As a third year student, one of the components is a field placement. She was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to be a part of the Action for Neighbourhood Change team. She has been a long time resident in the Simpson-Ogden neighbourhood and truly believes that there is great potential for positive change.

Marietta 'Starr' Sainnawap

Placement Student at Action for Neighbourhood Change

Marietta Sainnawap, known as Starr, was born on January 10, 1978 in Dryden, Ontario. Although born in Dryden, she was raised and proud to be from her home community of Big Trout Lake. Starr lives with her partner who is on dialysis for kidney failure and daughter who is eight years old. She is currently in the third year of the Native Child & Family Worker Program at Confederation College. Starr is completing her third year placement with *Action for Neighbourhood Change* in the hopes that she can gain the knowledge or revitalizing a community and possibly implementing this towards the future of her home community of Big Trout Lake. When not occupied with school, placement, looking after her partner and daughter, Starr likes to take long drives by herself and enjoy peace and quiet.

Audrey and Starr (left to right)



EMPIRE HOTEL, FORT WILLIAM

“Stigma Busters!”

Maybe you have seen ANC in the news...if so you may have noticed that the tone of the press, television, and radio is upbeat and positive. ANC staff and volunteers emphasize what Simpson-Ogden has going for it rather than getting bogged down with problems. Talking about solutions and getting behind action plans will move the neighbourhood forward. Thank you for sharing with us the 120 good things (assets) in the neighbourhood over the last year.

Thunder Bay Urban Aboriginal Strategy's Neighbourhood Capacity Building Project

Community Kitchen

Regional Food Distribution Kitchen
704 McKenzie Street
Mondays @ 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Good Food Box Program

Purchases on the first Thursday of each month, then delivery on the third Thursday of same month

For more information on Community Kitchens/Gardens or the Good Food Box program contact:
Food Security: Matt Roy @ 472-3779 or Celinda Patayash @ 768-2310

www.heliumhighs.com

Helium Highs

- **Balloons**
- **Fresh flowers**
- **Costume rentals (hats-wigs-makeup)**
- **Party supplies**
- **Flamingos**
- **Wedding supplies**
- **Professional decorating for all occasions**

623-5555
903 Simpson Street
Thunder Bay, ON CA, P7C 3K5



Events

Métis Nation of Ontario
Thunder Bay Métis Community Centre
226 S. May Street

Mon., Feb. 20 @ 11:30-12:30 - Exercise Class
Tues., Feb. 21 @ 1-3:00 pm - Craft Circle
Wed., Feb. 22 @ 11-12 - Blood Pressure Clinic
Mon., Feb 27 @ 11:30 - 12:30 - Exercise Class

Feel free to contact me at anytime:
Annette Choquette,
Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Coordinator
phone: 624-5022 / fax 623-7036
email: annettec@metisnation.org

Thunder Bay Urban Aboriginal Strategy's
Neighbourhood Capacity Building Project

McKellar Park School
After -school Program:

Mondays 4:00-7:00 pm &
Fridays 4:00-6:00 pm

- Snack Program
- Homework Club
- Cultural Programming
- Recreational Activities

For More Information on the above contact:
Nathaniel G. Moses or Sharon Angecone
807-472-3998

March Break @ your Library March 13—March 17

[Brodie Resource Library](http://www.tbpl.ca) Phone: 623-0925
www.tbpl.ca

Mon., Mar.13 @ 2:30 pm - Puppet Show: Pigs' Picnic (all ages)**

Tues., Mar. 14 @ 10:30 am - Beginning with Books: Drop in storytime for babies, children and their caregivers (ages baby-5)

Wed., Mar. 15 @ 2:30 pm - Tri-Wizard Tournament! (ages 8+)*

Thurs., Mar. 16 @ 2:30 pm - Family Concert with Flipper!**

Fri., Mar. 17 @ 10:30 am - Dora the Explorer: Stories and fun (ages 3-7)*

*Pre-registration is required for this program (beginning 2 weeks before program date, by phone or in person)

**Tickets are required for admission to this program (pick up at Library branch beginning 2 weeks prior to program).

ABORIGINAL ARTS & HERITAGE PROGRAM

SIMPSON-OGDEN
ACTION FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGE

Social & Program Sessions

FREE!

Sunday's

1 pm—4 pm @

Ogden Community Centre

600 McKenzie Street

Feb 12 – Registration & Information Session

Feb 19, Feb 26, Mar 5 & March 19 – Social/Programs

Programs: (Limited Spaces available)

Programs Include:

- Traditional Teachings • Dream Catcher Making
- Drumming • Bannock Making
- Dancing • Arts & Crafts
- Hand Drum Making • Logo Contest
- Regalia Making

Socials: Open to everyone (no Honorariums)

Come out and Enjoy an Afternoon of Drumming & Dancing

For more information Contact: Jeanette Posine or David Wilkinson

@ 625-8574 or 472-8146

Email: info@tbaahd.com

EVERYONE WELCOME

Proudly Sponsored by:



Thunder Bay
Aboriginal Arts &
Heritage Group

Thunder Bay
Art Gallery



THANK YOU!

Event Volunteers

Fay Gleeson Celtic
Irish Dancers
led by Linda DePiero

Satu's Belly Dancers

ANC
Volunteer
Committees:
Steering,
Policy, &
Project Pool
Funding

Blitz Volunteers

Print Pro's

The "Vision Squad"
Mrs. Linda Bruins, Miss Linda
Bruins, Bruce Pailing, Sue
Pailing, Trudi J. Jones, and
Lorraine Alarie

Thank you Simpson-Ogden Residents, Businesses,
and Organizations!

For your contribution to the January 14th Vision and Planning:

Warehouse 500, The Remnant House, Simpson Meat & Deli, T&M Electronics, Sasi Spring Water, Raffaele's Tailoring, The Rock Worship Centre, Cindy's Corner Deli, Maier Hardware, Irma's Bridal Boutique, The Gingerbread House, Ceremonies of Significance Trudi J. Jones, Alice Sabourin, Signal Resources, Helium Highs, Robin's Donuts, Supreme Auto Body, Forward Auto Supplies, Color your World, and NorWest Community Health Centres