



# SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

## HOMELESSNESS OUTREACH MENTOR PROGRAM

The Homelessness Outreach Mentor (HOM) works with individuals and families experiencing homelessness to attain permanent, stable housing. The HOM works to resolve income issues, helps with the apartment search and application process, builds relationships between participants and landlords, coordinates rent payments and resolves payment issues, helps with furniture and other basic needs, and provides advocacy for the participant with social services. The HOM builds a network of wraparound supports including health and mental health services, social services, food banks, and other community resources, to ensure long term personal stability. The HOM works with participants, conducting monthly home visits, and building wraparound supports for up to 6 months, or until the participant is ready to continue on their own.

### Who is eligible for the HOM program?

Anyone connected with the west-central area who is homeless, or is facing imminent homelessness, is eligible for the HOM program. This includes:

- Those who are couch surfing with friends or family
- Those who are "sleeping rough" (sleeping outside)
- Anyone leaving incarceration, treatment centre, or hospital with no permanent accommodations to return to
- Anyone staying in an emergency, youth, or domestic violence shelter
- Anyone staying in an abandoned building, empty apartment unit, or any space or structure that is unfit for human habitation ("squatting")
- Anyone facing eviction that will result in imminent homelessness
- Anyone who's living situation is temporary and who cannot find a permanent place to live on their own

### Why do people become homeless?

While the term "homeless" provokes a visceral reaction from most, in reality many of us have experienced homelessness at some point in our lives, or had our housing situation threatened. A problem with your house or rental unit may have left you couch surfing with friends or family; a job loss might have left you wondering if you were going to be able to make rent next month. Homelessness touches all of our lives, directly or indirectly.

According to the Winnipeg Street Census 2018 Final Report (pg. 5), the causes of participants' first experience of homelessness included family breakdown, eviction, loss of income, addiction or substance use, medical or mental health, transition from CFS care, incarceration, death of a family member, poor housing conditions, and natural disaster.

### Connect with us!

If you or someone you know is experiencing homelessness, please contact us!

Phone: 204-999-4485 or 204-783-5000 Ext. 101

Email: [row@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:row@spenceneighbourhood.org)

In-Person: 615 Ellice Ave. (corner of Ellice and Maryland), Tuesday-Thursday, 1-4PM

If you are a landlord interested in working with us to provide housing for HOM program participants, please connect with us using the contact information above.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS THIS MONTH

HOLISTIC HOUSING: FEB. 4  
COMMUNITY CONNECTING: FEB. 6  
CED COMMITTEE: FEB. 11

YOUTH & FAMILIES: FEB 12  
EOS COMMITTEE: FEB 5

# VOLUNTEER FEATURE

## LINDA K.

Linda is a phenomenal volunteer, with a sharp wit and upbeat sense of humor. Not only is Linda always willing to help, she is a devoted learner who spreads positivity and wellness.

Her creative spirit, is always looking for ways to dedicate her time and energy to bettering community. Linda is a driving force behind upcoming smudge walks, and fostered relationships that spurred our Nokomis Full Moon Ceremony into being which is being held on February 9th.

Her desire to help is just as strong as her desire to learn. Community Connecting is grateful to have such a dedicated volunteer.

**Violence Prevention Program**

MPR  
2nd Floor  
430 Langside  
Wednesdays  
6:30-8:30 PM  
Starting Feb. 5, 2020  
10 Week Program

Open to all female identifying, trans and non-binary youth aged 13 - 19  
\$100 Honorarium upon program completion

Join us for workshops on:

- Understanding Violence
- Consent
- Safer Sex
- Healthy Relationships
- Body Image
- Media Awareness
- Community Building
- And more!

To register, email  
aine@spenceneighbourhood.org

Spence Neighbourhood Association

**Trouble with Snow Removal?**

**Youth Crew**

can help seniors in the Spence Neighbourhood

Contact 204-783-5000 ext 116 for more details

## DONATIONS NEEDED

### THANK YOU!

#### Our Place, Safe Place

**Needs:** toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss (travel size), socks (new), sweaters, hats, mitts, Women's underwear: from M-2x (new), nail polish, nail art, cotton pads.

**Drop off:** Daniel McIntyre/St Matthews Community Association (DMSMCA) 823 Ellice Avenue

**Times:** Monday-Friday after 1 pm.

#### Sports

**Needs:** lightly used boxing equipment to rent or borrow, punching bag stand, boxing gloves and pad, etc.

**Contact:** taiwo@spenceneighbourhood.org

#### WE24

**Needs:** warm mitts, warm hats, warm coats, warm sweaters

**Drop off:** 430 Langside Street; 9 am - 3:30 pm

#### **Spence Neighbourhood Association (SNA):**

##### **615 Ellice Avenue (Head Office):**

Community Connecting, Environment & Open Spaces, Finance, Homeless Outreach, & Housing.

##### **430 Langside Street (Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre - MERC):**

Building Belonging, Children, Newcomer Youth Outreach, West End 24 Hour Safe Space, & Youth Drop-In.

##### **365 McGee Street (West End Commons):**

First Jobs 4 Youth, Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program, Homework Club, & Youth Crew.

**HOMELESSNESS OUTREACH MENTOR**

Get help with :

- Searching for Housing
- EIA Support
- Getting ID
- Getting Income Supports
- Completing Housing Applications
- Community Supports
- Health and Social Services

Are you currently experiencing homelessness or couch surfing?

615 Ellice  
Cell: 204-999-4485  
row@spenceneighbourhood.org

##### **365 McGee Street (West End Commons):**

First Jobs 4 Youth, Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program, & Youth Crew.

##### **231 Isabel Street (Central Neighbourhoods):**

Gang Action Interagency Network (GAIN)

##### **350 Spence Street (Axworthy Health & RecPlex):**

Community Sports Program

Phone: 204-783-5000 | Email: liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org |

Website: www.spenceneighbourhood.org

# SNA'S JANUARY PROGRAM/EVENT LISTING

## CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

### Building Belonging

Monday-Friday | 4 - 6 PM | 430 Langside Street  
 Feb 17 | No Program  
 Feb 27 | No program | Drop-in Only | 3:30-6 PM  
 Structured programming for kids ages 6-12 with lunch and snacks provided.  
 Pick up from home & drive home available within the Spence neighbourhood. Registration forms available at MERC.  
 Contact: Allison Besel or Johnathan Kopchuk 204-783-5000

### Youth Program

Monday - Friday | 6:30 - 9:30 PM | 430 Langside Street  
 Feb 17 | No Program  
 Programming & outings for youth grades 7 - 12. Meal provided and drive home available within the Spence neighbourhood, or bus tickets provided.  
 Registration forms available at MERC.  
 Contact: 204-783-5000 ext.113 or newcomer@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Art City Outreach

Mondays | 4 - 6 PM | 430 Langside Street  
 Feb 17 | No Program  
 Express yourself at art workshops for ages 6-12 ft. facilitators & guest artists.  
 Contact: Allison Besel or Johnathan Kopchuk Building Belonging  
 Coordinators 204-783-5000

### Girls Night

Fridays | 6:30 - 9:30 PM | 350 Spence Street in the MPR  
 Girls night is a safe space for female-identifying youth in grades 7 to 12 to share a meal, learn new skills, build self-esteem and make new friends.  
 Contact: newcomer@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Social Circus Intensive

Wednesdays | 3:30 - 6:30 PM | 195 Collegiate St  
 Youth between 16 and 35 come get paid to learn juggling, acrobatics, partner acrobatics, contortion, clowning. New this intensive we will be adding aerials such as trapeze, silk, and hoop!  
 Contact socialcircus@spenceneighbourhood.org

### WE24 Overnight Safe Space

Monday - Sunday | 11 PM - 7 AM | 430 Langside Street  
 An overnight space for youth ages 13-26 to rest and relax, access food, resources, and basic needs in a supportive, kind, and warm environment.  
 Open every day there is not school the next day.  
 Contact: 204-783-5000 ext.110 or david@spenceneighbourhood.org

## 55+ PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### 55+ Social Club

Feb 10 & 24 | Every 2nd and 4th Monday | 1 - 3 PM | 625 Portage Avenue  
 55+ Community members, join us for a cup of coffee or tea. Expect fun activities, great people, and great conversation. Support workers welcome. Accessible venue. Gender-inclusive washrooms. We do not meet on national and provincial holidays. See you at the Goodwill!  
 Contact: 204-783-5000 ext. 106 or sappfyre@spenceneighbourhood.org.

**Spence Neighbourhood Association offices are closed on national and provincial holidays.**

**615 Ellice Ave will be closed on Feb 17.**

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### Holistic Housing Committee

Feb 4 | 5:30 - 7PM | 615 Ellice  
 Contact: Housing Coordinator at  
 204-783-5000 ext.105  
 housing@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Community Connecting Committee

Feb 6 | 5:30 - 7PM | 615 Ellice  
 Contact: Community Connector at  
 204-783-5000 ext.106 or  
 safety@spenceneighbourhood.org

### CED Committee

Feb 11 | 5:30 - 7:30PM | 365 McGee  
 Contact: Youth Employment Hub  
 Coordinator at 204-783-5000 ext.115 or  
 firstjobs@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Youth & Families Committee

Feb 12 | 7 - 8:30PM | 430 Langside  
 Contact: Youth Programs Manager at  
 204-783-5000 ext. 111 or  
 vwiedeman@spenceneighbourhood.org

## MORE WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

### Kitchen Circle

Feb 24 | 5 - 7 PM | 615 Ellice Avenue  
 Cook and eat a healthy, affordable recipe together at this free all ages program. No experience is necessary. Registration required.  
 Contact: 204-783-5000 ext.102 or  
 greenimage@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program

#### Open House January 9: 5 - 7 PM

Thursdays | 5-8PM | 365 McGee Street  
 WSFP is a 14 week, skills based program that decreases conflict & increases positive communication, focusing on the areas of bonding, boundaries & monitoring. Free program, meal, transport and childminding. Families must have at least one youth between the ages of 11-17. Registration required.  
 Contact: 204-783-5000 ext. 125 or seth@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Our Place Safe Space

Fridays | 5 - 11 PM  
 A "comes as you are" drop-in safer space for folks of all ages, genders & nations who identify as sex workers, experiential, victims/survivors of sexual exploitation and/or human trafficking. Harm reduction services and fun free dinner provided. Contact: 204-774-7005 ext.104 or  
 safety@dmsmca.ca

Canada Mortgage and  
Housing Corporation

## First-Time Homebuyer Incentive

- Learn about the CMHC First-Time Homebuyer Incentive, which can help make your first home easier to afford!
- Learn about other financial incentives for buying and owning a home in Spence and the West End

**Wednesday, February 12th**  
**6:00PM-7:30PM**  
**615 Ellice Ave**  
 Corner of Ellice & Maryland

**To Register:** 204-783-5000 Ext. 105  
 housing@spenceneighbourhood.org

*Free parking on Maryland after 5:30PM*  
*Refreshments courtesy of Youth Crew*




# WORKSHOP

**Spence  
Neighbourhood  
Association**

