



## COMMUNITY CONNECTING

Community Connecting in Spence is about getting to know each other through fun and meaningful opportunities! It's also about cultivating safety in the neighbourhood through initiatives and projects that address the needs of our community. This year we want to hear all voices in the community regarding safety. What do you envision for a safer Spence? What does a safe community look like to you? Through hearing your experiences, ideas, and dreams, we want to create a Community Safety Charter. The charter will represent the visions and values of our community so that it is a safe and beautiful place for everyone. For the next 5 years in Community Connecting the charter will serve as the basis of our goals and actions in the Spence Neighbourhood. However, we need your help to address the needs and wants of this community! Here's how to get involved:

1. We need members of the community to help guide this process. Please consider sitting on the Advisory Committee for the Community Safety Charter. We need your valuable input on the process of creating this charter!
2. Join a consultation, and let us know your thoughts! We'll be hosting smaller focus group consultations, and larger community consultations this winter and spring to hear from you. Please come out and have your voice heard!

To be part of the Advisory Committee, or to hear more information, contact Kristen at the phone number below!

Kristen Wiltshire | (204) 783-2758 |  
safety@spenceneighbourhood.org



## SINGING CIRCLE

Early in December the women of our singing circle came together to learn traditional throat singing from an up and coming performer. The girls were shy to start, but once we offered private spaces for people to practice the "growling" noises required for the songs, we saw them start to shine!

In the last class of the year we came together to learn a song "in the round" which is a 3-part harmonizing song. We also identified musical notes on a staff, and practiced pitch-matching. All in all it has been an exciting year for this pilot project.

The Women's Intergenerational Singing Circle will continue in January on the 15th and 29th. This will be the last month of our pilot. During January we will be evaluating everyone's experiences and we hope to return in the near future, incorporating your ideas into the program!

Makaria | Community Liaison

## CALLING ALL YOUTH WRITERS!

Our West Central Times wants you! If you have an idea for an article, a few photos, a poem, or even a song that you want to have published in our upcoming December - February issue, please contact Makaria at the information below. Deadline for Submissions is November 13 at noon. Come with your own ideas, or we can supply them! Great for your resume and personal experience.

Makaria | (204) 783-5000 |  
liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org

WWW.SPENCENEIGHBOURHOOD.ORG WE'RE ON FACEBOOK; TWITTER & INSTAGRAM:@SNACOMMUNITY

HQ: 615 Ellice Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 0A4 Phone (204) 783-2758 Fax (204) 775-1802

430 Langside Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2T5 Phone: (204)783-5000 Fax: 1-800-515-8757

MAKARIA A. LABUN, Community Liaison Email: liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org

# SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2016

## Committees & Announcements

**Environment & Open Spaces Committee:** January 4, 6PM | 615 Ellice

**Housing Committee:** January 6, 6PM | 615 Ellice

**Safety Committee:** January 6, 6PM | 615 Ellice

**Community Economic Development Committee:** January 12, 6PM | 615 Ellice

**Youth Committee:** January 12, 7PM | 430 Langside

**Tenant's Committee:** January 18, 6PM | 430 Langside

**SNA Board Meeting:** Date TBA, 5PM | 430 Langside

**Announcements:** AGM January 19, 6:00 - 9:00 PM | 430 Langside

**MERC returns to normal hours January 4 | 615 Ellice returns to normal hours January 11**

**Nominations for the Don Miedema Community Service Award are open! p.g. 7**



picture caption: West End youth help launch the crowdfunding campaign on November 25. Photo credit: Tevor Dineen, CBC Manitoba

## WEST END 24/7

Our community has spoken loud and clear - open 24-hour safe space for youth! In less than three weeks more than 300 people showed their support for West End 24/7 Safe Space by donating over \$25,000 - the goal of a crowdfund campaign launched on November 25. This incredible generosity speaks clearly of a desire to see a 24-hour safe space option for youth in the West End. We are incredibly grateful to all of the donors - large and small - who showed their support. Many left their names and wonderful comments - you can find them online at GoFundMe.com/WestEnd247

The \$25,000 raised on Go Fund Me will pay for an Elder/Grandmother and a youth position, part-time for a year to ensure there is loving guidance and peer mentorship for youth accessing the safe space in the overnight hours. The full funding proposal for a year is about \$190,000 and can be found linked at the top of Facebook.com/WestEnd247 or at www.SpenceNeighbourhood.org The strong support people have shown has sent a clear message to our elected leaders. As a result, we are very hopeful that funding partnerships will soon help make this dream a reality!

Meetings will start again in the New Year - follow us on Facebook.com/West-End247 to stay updated. We are a grassroots, community-led organization and all are welcome to join. In a village it is the responsibility of us all to ensure the most vulnerable among us stay safe.

We hope to see you at our meeting in the new year!





**SNA SPORTS- Basketball is well on its way!**

This year, SNA is hosting 10 basketballs teams under the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre, or MERC, banner. SNA is hosting five teams courtesy of our partner organizations. These are the Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg (BGCW) with two boys teams ages 12 and 14; the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba (IRCOM) with two boys teams ages 13 and 18U; and Peaceful Village with one boys team aged 18U. The other five teams consist of youth who regularly attend SNA programming and those in the community, many of which are returning for a second or third year in the basketball program. And what is the program if not for the efforts of our coaches...

Coaches new to the program this year are: Patrick Polvorosa & Tony Wong- 10 yr boys Grimmsley Feng & Tolu Ilelaboye-10-11 yr girls Seth Kamabu & Olamide Ajibola- 12 yr old boys Lavonne Alexander, assistant coaching -13-14 yr girls

Returning coaches, all with 3 or more years under their belts, are: Mitch Gusdal & Sarah-Anne Bartram – 13-14 yr girls Lavonne & Chris Wait, Neil Shah, & Lindsey Camjo – 12 yr boys.

Thank you to all coaches for your commitment and dedication to the program. Without you, the success of the basketball program is impossible! You are appreciated!

Even with such a wonderful volunteer coaching staff, we are still looking for a few more individuals to help

out as basketball coaches in the program. If you are highly motivated, enjoy working with youth, and looking to contribute greatly to the community, please contact the SNA Sports Program

The first half of the basketball season is soon coming to an end for the Holidays. If you haven't had a chance to support one of our teams at a game, check out [www.wmba.ca](http://www.wmba.ca) and click "Schedule" at the top of the page to find out when and where we'll be playing December 5, 6, 12, and 13. After those dates we break; the season will resume early January.

Many of the youth in the program had the opportunity to attend and participate in the NBA All Star Tour that came through Winnipeg November 20. There, the youth practiced and showcased their skills in a number of drills at the YMCA Downtown gymnasium. In addition, they all got a chance to be taught by an NBA legend, Mr. Tyrone "Muggsy" Bogues of the Charlotte Hornets, among other top NBA teams.

Mubo Christine Ilelaboye | SNA Sports Coordinator  
[sport2@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:sport2@spenceneighbourhood.org) | (204) 783-0290

### Continuing to work hard for the people of Minto

**Andrew Swan**  
 MLA for Minto

204-783-9860  
[AndrewSwan.ca](http://AndrewSwan.ca)

**NOTICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

**THE SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL GENRAL MEETING WILL BE HELD JANUARY 19TH, 2016 6:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M. AT THE MAGNUS ELIASON RECREATION CENTRE (MERC) 430 LANGSIDE ST.**

**COME JOIN IN KEEPING YOUR COMMUNITY STRONG, ELECT THE SNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND HEAR HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2015 YEAR.**

**FOOD AND CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED. FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT MAKARIA @ 204-783-5000**

**E-MAIL:**

**[LIAISON@SPENCENEIGHBOURHOOD.ORG](mailto:LIAISON@SPENCENEIGHBOURHOOD.ORG)**

**DON MIEDEMA AWARD**

Once again the nominations for the SNA Don Miedema Community Service Award (DM Award) are open! The DM Award is to be given to someone in the Spence Neighbourhood whose acts of kindness or service bring neighbours together to build community connections, encouraging a caring community. A person can be recognized for either one-time events, or a series of contributions. The names of suggested recipients can be put forward by persons living in the Spence community. Suggested recipients must be persons living in the Spence Neighbourhood. A person cannot nominate themselves. Members of SNA, the SNA board or their immediate family are not eligiable.

To nominate someone in our community, please go to our website, on the front page for a copy of the namination form, and submit it to the executive director.

Jamil | [jamil@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:jamil@spenceneighbourhood.org)



**VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

At Violence Prevention, youth ages 12-19 learn about healthy relationships, self-esteem, and systemic violence. Youth gather to understand the issues facing our community and work for social change. Over the past few months, we've been discussing gender, sexuality and healthy relationships, and in particular, discussing the issues facing LGBT\* (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, etc) community. In a conversation the following week, a group of youth were asking a staff about her spouse. Rather than assuming she had a husband, one youth specifically asked, "So what does this lovely human do?" We were so impressed that the youth was intentionally using inclusive language, because homophobia is a major issue in our community. Another youth, after a session about LGBT\* rights, stated: "It's okay to be lesbian or gay." It is an exciting change of pace, to see that being LGBT\* is slowing becoming accepted into the wider community.

Laura-Lynne | (204) 783-0292  
[vpc@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:vpc@spenceneighbourhood.org)

### Cindy Gilroy

*City Councillor for Daniel McIntyre*

**Let's work together**

510 Main Street  
 (204) 986-5951

[cgilroy@winnipeg.ca](mailto:cgilroy@winnipeg.ca)  
[www.cindygilroy.com](http://www.cindygilroy.com)





BUILDING BELONGING

In December we attended events for the Grey Cup! Everyone had a blast learning how to catch, tackle, and score a touchdown at the MacDon Grey Cup Fan Experience, held at the U of W's United Health and RecPlex. Getting to know more about the players and the game inspired some big dreams! Our Holiday Party took place on the 12th and was bustling with over 160 community members taking part! Families got to take home photos with Santa and win great door prizes, including a christmas food hamper. SNA staff and volunteers made mountains of pancakes and all children 12 and under received a gift thanks to our generous donors. Our kids paid it forward by spending the month making cookies, chocolates and gifts for their loved ones. In January we will take out our skates and helmets so everyone can enjoy the outdoor rink at MERC. We're always accepting donations of mitts and toques to keep kids warm on our outdoor adventures. Please contact Allison or Lauren if you would like to drop-off gently used winter gear. Special Thanks To: Bakken Invest AS Bjorn Inge Bakken Dairy Farmers of Manitoba Volunteers from U of W's English Language Program Pregnancy Family Support Services MacDon Grey Cup Fan Experience

Building Belonging is FREE to all kids ages 6-12. Safe pickup from John M King and Sister Mac Schools and drive/walk home are available if needed.

Allison & Lauren | (204) 783-0292  
buildingbelonging@spenceneighbourhood.org



HOMELESS OUREACH

The homeless outrach mentor has been an integral part of what SNA can offer to the displaced people in our community . However it's always been difficult for us to judge exactly what the impact of those resources are on the people we help, long term. The following is a letter to our homeless outreach mentor recieved from a client:

“This is an open letter to anyone who reads this. I found myself with nothing and alone recently and no one I could turn to that I trusted. I ask God as I know him for help and he directed me to Spence Neighbourhood Association. I explained my crisis to a few of the staff there and they showed compassion and caring. I was directed on how to pick myself up again and carry on. They helped me feel good again and to make the right decisions for my situation and myself. Big Thanks to SNA. Remember, if you're down they will help.

Thanks again.”

Almera Oduca | (204) 783-4141  
row@spenceneighbourhood.org

Wishing every day of the New Year  
be filled with success, happiness  
and prosperity

**Robert  
Falcon-Ouellette**  
*Member of Parliament,  
Winnipeg Centre*

(204) 289-1997 | Robert.Falcon@parl.gc.ca

YOUTH DROP-IN

The Youth Program has been offering monthly Sweat Lodges for the members of program. Craig Settee, our veteran Outreach worker, has a friend that has offered us the use of his land in Brokenhead for the ceremonies. Every youth that has participated have had positive experiences. One said that he felt lighter after the ceremony; he definitely lost some water weight from the high temperatures in the lodge. During the ceremony a beautiful safe space is created to help heal us from our past experiences. It is a wonderful way for our community to get to know each other on a different level and spend some time together outside of the city. “Sweats” are open to people of all cultural backgrounds! We have even found that some youth recall similar ceremonial experiences from their home country. We have organized three Youth Sweats so far and plan to hold another in early January, and every month following, indefinitely. Watch for the announced dates on our facebook page and our calendars! The ceremony usually takes place on a Sunday; we take a carpool from the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre in the late morning. Lunch is usually provided, and we have the youth back in the neighbourhood by dinner time.

Katie & Mischa | (204) 986-5467  
newcomer@spenceneighbourhood.org

YOUTH OUTREACH

On November 19th, Kara McArthur, Johny Merasty and Natty McKinnon from SNA Outreach attended the Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards (MAYAA). MAYAA is an award ceremony held once a year and highlights the achievements of indigenous youth 16-24 that are role models and leaders within the community. The evening was a celebration of indigenous achievement and culture and was a very positive experience for the outreach youth in attendance. Youth enjoyed hearing the inspiring personal stories of resilience and achievement of each award recipient. They were even able to see a past SNA employee, Ivana Yellowback receive an award for community volunteerism!

Sheila & Craig | (204) 986-5467  
outreach1@spenceneighbourhood.org

Volunteer Opportunity

- Position:** Community Program Volunteer
- Schedule:** Minimum commitment of 1 day a week for 2-3 hours (evening and weekend times available)
- Qualifications:**
- Experience working with diverse populations
  - Willingness to be actively engaged in programming
  - Some experience in behaviour management is an asset
  - Completion of a criminal record check and child abuse registry check
  - Completion of an SNA volunteer orientation
  - Experience or interest in working with youth
  - Interest in sport and recreation
- Description:** Community programming at the Axworthy Health & Recplex strives to provide barrier free access to sport and recreation programming and facilities to community members living in and around the Downtown area. The primary role of all Drop-In Volunteers is to act as a liaison between the University of Winnipeg and the community at large.
- Duties include:**
- Acting as a liaison between community users and university staff
  - Being an advocate for the community and community programs
  - Supervising drop-in programs
  - With the support of RecPlex staff, managing drop-in sign-ups
  - Developing positive relationships with university staff and community users
  - At all times serving as a positive role model and promote teamwork, community-building and personal development
  - Assisting staff with the management and maintenance of program equipment
  - Various tasks as assigned

For more information contact Laura Kathler – 204-988-7635 / sport@spenceneighbourhood.org

The United Health & Rec-plex is seeking dedicated volunteers to support sign up now! See above for more information

Community Access Programming! The RecPlex is currently seeing approximately 1,200 active users every week participating in a variety of free programming. While we have seen incredible success in our first year, we are looking to expand while continuing to prioritize the development of positive relationships with all children, youth and adults accessing the facility. If building positive relationships with community through sport and recre-

**Proudly Serving  
the Spence  
Neighbourhood**

**Rob Altemeyer**  
MLA for Wolseley  
204-775-8575  
RobAltemeyer.ca





# JANUARY 2016

The **Spence Neighbourhood Association** works with the people of Spence to revitalize and renew their community in the areas of *holistic housing, community connecting, community economic development, environment and open spaces*, and *youth & families*.



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Spence  
Neighbourhood  
Association

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>WISC:</b> Every Second Friday 5:00 – 6:30 PM @ WECC (586 Ellice) in the MPR <b>SNA Board Meeting:</b> Date To Be Announced <b>Youth program Holiday Hours:</b> December 19 - January 10 <b>BB program Holiday Hours:</b> December 19 - January 3 <b>615 Ellice Holiday Hours:</b> December 12 - January 10 <b>Girls Night:</b> Every Friday Night, 6:30 – 9:00pm @ Recplex (350 Spence)					 <b>1 New Year's Day SNA / MERC Closed</b>	<b>2</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm
<b>3</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm	<b>4</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Drop-in: 6:30 – 9:00 <b>EOS Committee: 6pm 615 Ellice</b>	<b>5</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Drop-in: 6:30 – 9:00 <b>Housing Committee: 6pm   615 Ellice</b>	<b>6</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Drop-in: 6:30 – 9:00 <b>Safety Committee: 6pm   615 Ellice</b>	<b>7</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Drop-in: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>8</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Drop-in: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>9</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm
<b>10</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm	<b>11</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>12</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00 <b>CED Committee: 6PM 615 Ellice</b>  <b>Youth Committee: 7pm   430 Langside</b>	<b>13</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>14</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>15</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00 	<b>16</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm
<b>17</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm	<b>18</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00  <b>Tenants Committee: 6pm   430 Langside</b>	<b>19</b> FP: 3:30 – 6:00 Drop-in: 6:30 – 9:30 <b>SNA Annual General Meeting: 6:00pm 430 Langside</b>	<b>20</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00  <b>Kitchen Circle: 5pm 615 Ellice</b>	<b>21</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>22</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>23</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm
<b>24</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm	<b>25</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>26</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>27</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>28</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00	<b>29</b> BB: 3:30-6:00 Y: 6:30 – 9:00 	<b>30</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm
<b>31</b> FP: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Y: 4:00 – 10:00 pm						

**NOTE:** BB = Building Belonging (6-12 yrs) | Y = Youth (13-18 yrs) | FP = Free Play (6-12 yrs) | HW = Homework Club (6–18 yrs). Activities are held at 430 Langside St.