## SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTE



### **July 2016**



SNA executive director Jamil Mahmood, left, with West End 24-hour Safe Space staff on the opening night.

### West End 24 hour Safe Space Is Now Open For Youth

West End 24-hour Safe Space for youth opened on the weekend of June 17, giving young people who need help a safe place to be during the overnight hours. Some of those young people showed up, immediately showing the real need for the new West

thing, we have such awesome staff working there," Spence Neighbourhood Association executive director Jamil Mahmood said in a CBC radio interview. Jamil also thanked the many community members who worked for more than a year, as well as everyone who donated money, to make the safe space a reality.

End safe space. "They got food. They got connected to resources. They connected with our staff. It was such an amazing

The safe space located at 430 Langside Street (MERC) is open year-round on Friday and Saturday and school holidays nights from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am. That means starting July 1st to September 5th (school summer break) the safe space will be open 7 days a week!

A phone line is dedicated for youth to call or text (204-333-9681) and a new Facebook profile for youth who wish to connect with staff online is www.facebook.com/sna.twentyfourhours

The email address for the safe space is We24@spenceneighbourhood.org

We are excited to be open! But we also still need support, we are looking for donations of socks and hygiene products. We are also looking for volunteers - general, professional and drivers. For volunteer opportunity descriptions look for the safe space webpage on www.spenceneighbourhood.org

Thank you to everyone who helped make this wonderful day possible!

West End 24-hour Safe Space governance meeting welcome all those from the community! Next meeting is Tuesday, July 12th, 5:30 at 430 Langside st. (MERC..the safe space!) All are welcome!

### Committees and Announcements

**Housing Committee** July 5, 6pm - 615 Ellice

**Community Economic Development Committee** July 14, 6pm - 430 Langside

**EOS Committee** July 14, 6pm - 615 Ellice

#### Announcements

July 1: Canada Day - All offices will be closed

July 4: Youth and Rotary Summer programming starts

July 11: Building Belong summer Programming starts

### **First Jobs 4 Youth**



First Jobs 4 Youth had their annual Job Fair on the evening of Thursday, June 9, 2016 at the lower level of West End Commons as this is where our new offices are located. This was an opportunity for youth interested in our program to ask questions and explore the employment options that we will be offering this summer. We had great participation by our many summer employers and many potential First Jobs 4 Youth participants were in attendance. Some of the summer employers are the Building Belonging program, the Environment and Open Spaces Program, the West Central Women's Resource Centre and the Daniel McIntyre / St. Matthews Community Association.

First Jobs 4 Youth offers part-time employment/training opportunities for local youth, ages 16-18 every summer within SNA's programming. Youth may work in the Building Belonging program (children 6-12); Sports; Environment and Open Spaces; or Front Desk work at our 615 Ellice office for example. Once a week training workshops are a part of the programming: CPR/First Aid; WHMIS and Safe Work; and tours of the University of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg, and Red River College. After graduating from our summer program in August, Youth receive school year work placements with local employers, such as the University of Winnipeg and other businesses and agencies. Every spring, our office assists past participants with applications to the City of Winnipeg for jobs as Recreation Technicians at local community centres.

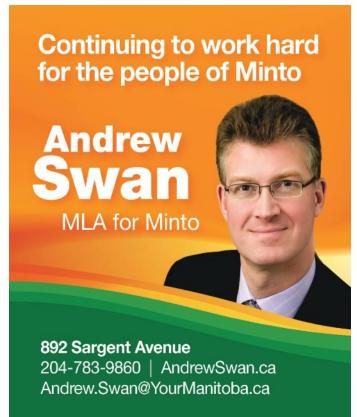
For more information drop in at 104-641 St. Matthew's Avenue, Monday to Friday 4:00 - 7:00PM, call Leslie or Aaron at 204 786 3470 for an appointment or email us at firstjobs@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Kicking-Off SNA's Inner-City Futsal Program

SNA's Inner-City Futsal program is well underway. Having launched at the beginning of May the Skills Academy portion of the program is quickly approaching its finish. At the end of June, participants who have successfully completed the Skills Academy will have the opportunity to compete in our very own Summer League. Before that happens, we have one very important task to complete! We will be decking out all the participants with full soccer kits and brand new cleats! Coached by a team of committed athletes from the University of Winnipeg men's and women's Wesmen Soccer teams, this program is sure to be a huge success! Looking to visit and see the next generation of all-star soccer players? Swing by the University of Winnipeg Axworthy Health & RecPlex every Tuesday (males) and Wednesday (females) from 5:00 - 7:00PM.

Note: We are still accepting female registrations. Registration is open to ages 7-14.

Contact: **Kieran Rice-Lampert** | sport2@spenceneighbourhood.org | 204-988 7635



### Community Economic Development

#### **CED 5 Year Plan Consultations**

CED has been busy this past month with community engagements and preparations for writing our first ever five-year plan. We had four engagements throughout the community in May, and had a lot of fun hosting the CED booth at the Ellice Street Festival. At these events we spoke to everyone about CED in Spence, heard their opinions, came up with some great ideas, and played some mean Plinko! We've been able to gather some great information from multiple idea boards and over one hundred surveys so

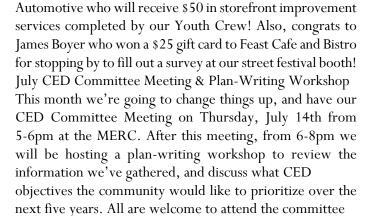
far, with more still coming in!



Thank you to everyone who has come out and participated. We had two lucky winners from our survey draws.

Congratulations to

Can West



meeting, workshop, or both! Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please contact:

Kayla Penelton
204-783-2758
skillsbank@spenceneighbourhood.org

### **Community Connecting**



Summer Community Walkabouts have begun! Twice a month, residents gather to go out and make the community safer by assessing safety risks in backlanes of the neighbourhood. We look at missing backlane address plates, abandoned waste, fire hazards, and graffiti. This year we will also be carrying safe needle disposal containers with us to keep the streets and sidewalks clean and safe. With the information we gather on the walkabouts, we let residents know the free resources that they can access through community agencies such as backlane address plates and graffiti removal! Everyone is welcome to join the walkabouts and learn about community safety. It is always a great time walking and chatting with neighbours, plus you receive a Tim Horton's gift card for your help! Check out the photos to see some great walkabout memories.

Questions, concerns, comments, or ideas around safety and community connecting? Contact the Community Connector at 204-783-2758 or

saftey@spenceneighbourhood.org









## July 20

The Spence Neighbourhood Association works with the to revitalize and renew their community in the areas community connecting, community economic develop and open spaces, and youth & famili

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Building Belonging: Summer Programming starts July 11th! Reg Rotary: Summer Program

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### **Community Gardens and More!**



Did you know that our Environment and Open Spaces Department is about more than just community gardens? Some of the other issues we are working on, in partnership with the community include: composting and waste management (including community compost

depots, organizing our annual community clean-up), food security (reliable access to safe, affordable and culturally-appropriate food), active transportation (working towards accessible and safe walking and cycling), environmental education (weekly Kid's Garden programming, and community workshops), and maintenance of community gardens and green spaces (mowing, planting, weeding, and more!)

We are always looking for community members who are passionate about these issues to get involved and volunteer, or join our Environment and Open Spaces Committee to help us plan events, discuss relevant concerns, and work towards developing our next 5-Year Green Plan. If you live, work, or volunteer in the Spence neighbourhood and have ideas about how we can work to address any of the issues mentioned above, feel free to join in on one of our committee meetings. They are held every second Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at 615 Ellice Avenue. Snacks are always provided!

A hot weather gardening tip: It's important to make sure your plants are getting enough water throughout the hot days. Tomato plants especially, require consistent watering so the plants and fruit can develop properly, and withstand rot and disease. It's best to water early in the morning or at night so less water is lost from the soil due to evaporation. In the heat of summer, thoroughly water plants 3-4 times per week.

If you have any questions, or want more information about our committee meetings or the work of the Environment and Open Spaces Department, contact David (EOS Coordinator), or Cotelle (Summer Garden Coordinator) at 204-783-2834.

### Residential Tendency Branch Staff to Talk About Repairs

When you move into a rental unit, you want to make sure it's in good condition. Be sure to do a move-in condition report with the landlord and write down any repairs that are needed and when the landlord will do them. Make sure to tell the landlord as soon as you notice that repairs are needed. If the landlord doesn't do the repairs, you can call or come to the RTB for help.

Never hold back your rent – this can put your tenancy at risk for eviction.

Staff at the RTB will get you to fill out a Request for Repair form. We will talk to your landlord about the repairs and RTB staff may come out to inspect your unit. We need to be able to get in touch with you to do this. We will also need you to be home for the inspection. If we agree that the repairs must be done, the landlord will be given some time to do the repairs. If they are not done, we will order the landlord to do them. If the landlord still doesn't get the repairs done, the RTB can hire a contractor.

RTB staff will talk about what tenants can do to get repairs done at the Tenant's Committee meeting in July.

### **Rotary Season is Back!**

Rotary Leadership Circle is here yet again! By the time you're reading this, SNA's group of youth leaders will have been picked and primed to embark on their summer of volunteering, community engagement, and outings to strengthen their leadership skills and sense of togetherness with the Spence neighbourhood. For the unfamiliar, Rotary Leadership Circle is a 6 week, 60 hour program of skill development and volunteering for preteen youth. Our 10 youth leaders will also have a chance to interact with participants from the 16 other youth clubs and neighbourhood associations doing Rotary across the city. Upon completion of all their hard work, the youth leaders are rewarded with an elaborate grad ceremony and a \$200 shopping spree! Last year's highlights included a day making food boxes at Winnipeg Harvest, an art show, a trip to the Living Prairie Museum, and a bake sale that raised funds for D'Arcy's Animal Resource Centre. This year we have a slew of new volunteering placements, outings, and activities that the youth are more than excited about. Here's to what is hopefully the best year of rotary so far!



### **Building Belonging**

Another school year is done and summer is finally here! It was so nice to see everyone out at the JMK Family BBQ and Sister Mac Fun Fest and enjoying the Ellice Street Festival! Our families also got the chance to check out the magic, music and mayhem at this year's Kidsfest at the Forks thanks to their generous ticket donation. The University of Winnipeg's English Language Program international students stopped by to help us make picture frames and cards for Father's Day. Our summer programming will run Monday to Friday 12-4:30pm starting July 11, 2016 with pickup from home 11:00am 12:00pm and walk/drive home from 4-5:00pm. Kids can register throughout the summer and forms can be picked up at the MERC front office. Six kids will get the full camp experience with swimming, canoeing, mountain biking and more at the Youth Agencies Alliance Junior camp from July 18-20. We will host two local youth workers as part of SNA's First Jobs 4 Youth Program and two Francophone students as part of the Ymca –Ywca's Student Work Summer Exchange. Join us for weekly gymnastics programing and environmental education in the Kids Garden. Drop-in on Wednesdays for piano, guitar and voice lessons led by qualified instructor with Music (a) MERR. We also have special outings planned to the Assiniboine Park Zoo to see the animatronic dinosaurs and the Winnipeg Fringe Festival to watch the outdoor performers and take in a play. Spend the summer swimming, gardening, creating and meeting new friends with **Building Belonging!** 



### Special Thanks:

Kidsfest, Winnipeg Fringe Festival, Greg & Oonaugh Wood, Assiniboine Park Zoo, Youth Agencies Alliance, GymKyds Gymnastic Centre, West End Biz, University of Winnipeg English Language Program, Ywca-Ywca Student Work Summer Exchange

Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre (MERC) 430 Langside St.

Open to all kids ages 6-12 at no cost!

Contact Allison and Makaria @ 783-0292

buildingbelonging@spenceneighbourhood.org

Monday-Fridays 12-4:30pm, Snack 12pm

Safe pickup from home and drive/walk home available



### **GAIN Coordinator Hired!**

Robyn Dryden has been hired as the Program Coordinator for the Gang Action Interagency Network.

G.A.I.N is a network of agencies, government, law enforcement officials, working on grass roots solutions to the gang problem in Winnipeg. GAIN is a network committed to taking action to address and solve the gang problem by building on research, current practices, and developing the resources needed to prevent youth from joining gains and help youth get out of gangs.

### **Youth/Newcomer Drop-in**



This month many of the youth headed down to the University of Winnipeg Duckworth Centre to attend the 2016 Hoops From the Heart fundraiser. The proceeds of the games funded heart research at the St. Boniface Hospital and went into university scholarship funds that are awarded to inner city youth

to go play basketball for our local universities. One hundred youth from across the city came together to watch teams made up of players from the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba take on a team of all-star players. Spirits were high, and the competition was fierce! Even though the scores were neck-and-neck, players from both teams took the time to sign all of the youth's new Hoops From the Heart t-shirts. Not only did the youth get to watch some awesome basketball, but also got to compete in a huge bump competition to win prizes and were all given basketballs at the end of the event. One of our youth program participants was even interviewed by CBC!

Contact: Mischa -

newcomer@spenceneighbourhood.org or Katie youthprogrammer@spenceneighbourhood.org

### **HOUSING**

This past month we have been working on various projects in housing at SNA. Some highlights below show the range of topics that we focus on. The variation is necessary to work in a holistic manner and it also provides an opportunity for community members to participate and share their strengths, talents and have fun in shaping their community. If you have a comment, opinion or idea about housing in the Spence neighbourhood I would like to hear from you.

The 5 year Community Plan - the housing portion has kept us busy speaking with community members and housing workers from the neighbourhood. We continue to collect data on housing so that the community priorities are highlighted and at the forefront of the work we do.

Our aim to receive housing input from every member of the community. We hope to have a draft copy by the end of the summer.

The SNA housing inventory started early this year thanks to the help of two Red River College students that began the work. Each summer, staff looks at boarded buildings, empty lots, buildings that should be demolished, abandoned buildings, houses, apartments, rooming houses, properties that require repairs, and ones that are bylaw

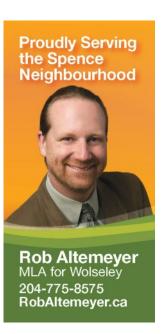
infractions. A current understanding of the housing in the neighbourhood serves as a way to know what we have, to connect owners to resources and to let people know what SNA has to offer for improving their housing needs. The inventory will continue throughout the summer - see you around the neighbourhood.

Home Repair Incentives/ Grants - The yearly Exterior Home Incentives are currently underway. Over 40 applications from homeowner and rental projects were received. Throughout the summer you will see various projects underway ranging from new or repaired fences to roof work.

Additionally, the Homeowner Renovation Assistance Program (RHAP) helped a few neighbourhood homeowners complete

extensive interior projects. Staff will continue to connect and assist community members in accessing these Provincial grants.

The Rooming House Assistance Program had its second call for proposals (ever) in the spring. Staff coordinated an information session for owners that were interested in the details of the program. We continue to spread the word and encourage rooming house landlords to access these funds in order to improve the conditions of existing rooming houses.



Contact Isabel: 204-783-4141 or housing@spenceneighbourhood.org