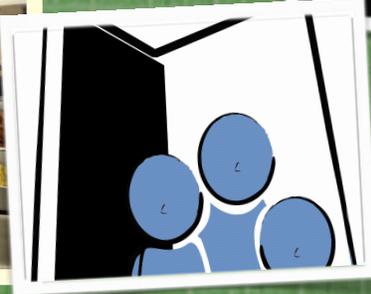


# A PLACE FOR ALL

## WESTON KING NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE



*Assisting in the revitalization of the Weston Neighbourhood since 2001.*

## 2012 Annual Report

### **We anticipate the opening of our new neighbourhood centre in Mt. Dennis in the summer of 2013.**

The Weston King Neighbourhood Centre (WKNC) was presented with an extraordinary opportunity in 2012. The congregation of Mt. Dennis United Church (MDUC) very generously decided that funds acquired through the sale of their former church should be applied towards the needs of the community. Specifically, they wanted to create a new Neighbourhood Centre in Mt. Dennis to help strengthen a community in need. In seeking a partner for this project, they approached WKNC.

This has been a very successful partnership to date and a model of collaboration. We anticipate opening the

new neighbourhood centre in Mt. Dennis in the summer of 2013.

The Mt. Dennis Neighbourhood Centre will create a new hub in a disadvantaged community lacking in resources and community space. Initially the new centre will have a strong focus on food-related programming, a learning kitchen, a community garden and an expansion of WKNC's drop-in programs into the Mt. Dennis community. The new centre will become a hub which will actively engage with community members and will help to connect people with opportunities. It will support people moving from a life of poverty to one of possibility.

In 2012, WKNC applied for funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to hire its first-ever Executive Director. We were informed a few weeks ago that our

application had been successful. An Executive Director will be responsible for the successful launch and sustainability of the new Neighbourhood Centre and for

**In 2012, WKNC was approved for a two-year grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to hire its first executive director.**

the further growth and consolidation of WKNC.

To date WKNC has only had the resources to hire front-line, **(cont'd)**

**ON THE WEB:  
WKNC.CA**

Get to know us! Visit the Centre during regular hours (listed on the back page)

**Weston King Neighbourhood Centre**  
2017 Weston Road, Weston, ON M9N 1X2  
Tel: 416-241-9898 Email: [info@wknc.ca](mailto:info@wknc.ca)

## (cont'd)

program staff. An Executive Director will help to provide leadership, vision and direction during this critical period of growth for WKNC.

While WKNC is prepared to hire its first Executive Director, we will be very careful to maintain the unique character of the centre. WKNC has been marked by a strong volunteer focus, active community outreach, a team environment amongst staff, Board and volunteers, and the creation of a family-like environment for participants. Since its inception, WKNC has been a volunteer-led agency which has prided itself on a community-based, self-help approach. The programs and services of WKNC were initiated by members of the community for others in need. The Mt. Dennis Neighbourhood Centre is being incubated in that same spirit.

Throughout 2012, WKNC continued to access student hiring programs, student and youth placements and the Investing in Neighbourhoods (IIN) program to enhance our staff team. Through Canada Summer Jobs, we were able to hire two students – Ellie Adekur Carlson and Sam Maloney-Lee. Thanks to IIN, for a second year in a row we were able to hire a Community Worker and a Food Services Worker to work alongside our three core staff. We welcomed Patricia Crooks, working with Myriam Canas-Mendes in the drop in, and Miko James Ewachow, working alongside our Food Coordinator Brenetta Nedd. Through a new partnership with the youth agency Eva's Initiative, we welcomed Steven Idzi. We are currently pleased to have Chiara Padovani doing a York University Social Work placement.

A highlight of 2012 was having two WKNC Board members receive the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding contribution to the local community. Medal recipients Barbara Bisgrove and Barbara Stone are well-respected community leaders respectively in Weston and Mt. Dennis.

Our latest programs, such as the Seniors Outreach Support (SOS) Project, have a stronger emphasis on community engagement and on peer volunteers helping others in need. Our new

Employment Resource Centre focuses on confidence-building and job-related skills. We continue to adapt our programs and services in response to visible needs in the community.

We are very grateful for the generosity of the congregation of Mt. Dennis United Church and for their commitment to "*act as a catalyst to create local agents of change through the Mt. Dennis Neighbourhood Centre.*"

We are very grateful to have an extraordinary Board of Directors, a very dedicated staff team and solid volunteers from the local community.

We continue to be very grateful for our partnership with Central United Church and the continued support of the City of Toronto through Shelter, Support & Housing Administration. We are also thankful for our many partner agencies, in particular the Daily Bread Food Bank, Second Harvest, the Syme-Woolner Neighbourhood & Family Centre and Albion Neighbourhood Services.

Ken Theobald, WKNC Drop-in Coordinator

### **Message from Timothy Barlow, WKNC President**

There is a Kenyan proverb that says: Sticks in a bundle never break.

One of our goals two years ago was to create a more cohesive bond between our staff, the board of directors and our participants. The above words of wisdom were clearly illustrated when it came time to measure our success.

We were so excited when first approached by the Mount Dennis United Church (MDUC) to explore a partnership with them to create a new hub in the Mount Dennis area.

Like many new ventures, however, the work involved to actually get it going felt quite overwhelming at times.

MDUC members Barbara Stone and Tim Gernstein were a welcome addition to our board and had an immediate and positive impact on our organization.

As these new plans were developing, we hired two additional IIN workers, two summer students, one youth worker and a

social work university placement as well.

Trying to integrate so many new people into an organization can sometimes be a challenge, but our dedicated staff did a wonderful job of welcoming each new individual into the fold. This helped cement a harmonious environment.

Not only did our staff members take on more responsibility in their individual roles, but often times they did so on their own accord. I am so very proud of them for these accomplishments.

One highlight of the many contributions from our new team involved the creation of a resource centre, which was a much-needed addition to our operation.

It soon became clear that in order to successfully double the size of our organization, the time had come to hire an executive director.

Although we had not been successful in past attempts to secure the funding, there was a new resolve this time.

With the tremendous efforts from board members and staff - and special thanks go out to Ken Theobald and Louise Clunas - we received good news from the Ontario Trillium Foundation that our grant application was approved.

Last year, we concentrated on new visions, new ideas and gathering the necessary components to help us reach these goals.

This year will be about the successful integration of those puzzle pieces into our organization.

I am confident that we have created a special team of individuals and partners who will assist us to do just that.

Henry Ford, founder of the Ford Motor Co., once said, "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

As we look forward to an exciting year of growth, it's important for each of us to remember that we're already successful.

Thank you to all of our friends and partners for being such an integral part of our "bundle of sticks".

# Treasurer's Report for Fiscal 2012 and Summary Graphs

## Treasurer's Report for Fiscal 2012 and Summary Graphs

2012 found Weston King Neighbourhood Centre (WKNC) in good financial health, with audited financial statements being reported on a fund basis. Unrestricted cash reserves stand at \$45,533, representing three months contingency for operating costs.

WKNC is fortunate to receive continued funding for our drop-in program through the City of Toronto's Shelter, Support and Housing Administration envelope. We are grateful to both Daily Bread Food Bank and Second Harvest for their continued donations to the food services program. WKNC was able to expand our programming in 2012 to include a pilot Seniors Outreach Services program thanks to federal funding through New Horizons.

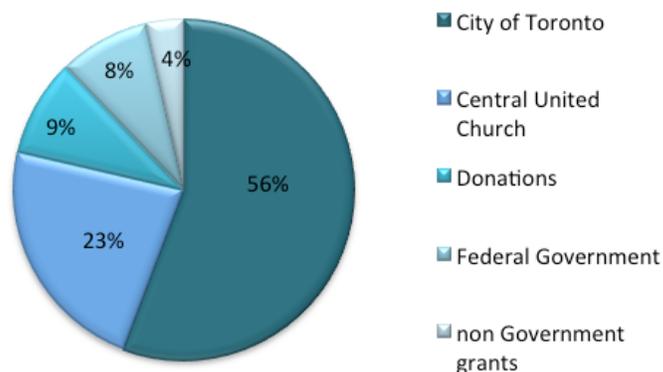
Thanks to our funders, our kitchen was updated with stainless steel counters and shelves, and we were able to train members, volunteers, and staff in CPR/First Aid, including the use of the newly-installed AEDs (defibrillators).

WKNC faces an exciting year of growth in 2013 due to funding secured for both an Executive Director position, and opening of a satellite office in Mount Dennis.

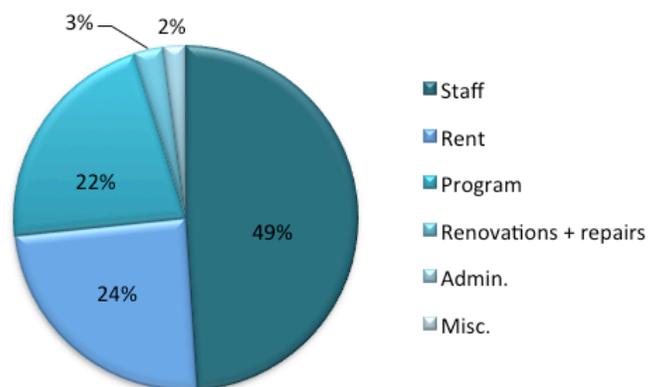


Louise Clunas  
Treasurer

## Funding



## Expenses



## WKNC by the numbers

Funding	Income	Percent	Expenses	Expense	Percent
City of Toronto	\$ 185,577	55.76%	Staff	\$ 152,261	48.93%
Central United Church	\$ 76,000	22.83%	Rent	\$ 76,000	24.42%
Donations	\$ 30,607	9.20%	Program	\$ 67,707	21.76%
Federal Government	\$ 28,639	8.60%	Renovations + repairs	\$ 8,686	2.79%
non Government grants	\$ 12,000	3.61%	Admin.	\$ 6,368	2.05%
	<u>\$ 332,823</u>	<u>100%</u>	Misc.	\$ 140	0.05%
				<u>\$ 311,164</u>	<u>100%</u>

# Valued Partners

**Albion Neighbourhood Services** provides outreach services, housing support and follow-up support to people in the area. **Central United Church** provides rent-free space, janitorial services and maintenance, as well as the Tuesday evening community supper delivered in partnership with several local faith communities. **Daily Bread Food Bank** provides a weekly fresh food delivery as part of the Nutritious Food to Drop-ins project. **Elizabeth Fry Society** provides a weekly "Work Safe Program" for women involved in the sex trade. **Federation of Metro Tenant's Associations** (FMTA) provides quarterly workshops on tenant's rights. **Fred Victor** provides housing help workers. **George Brown College** provides student placements. **Project Water**, provides bottled water for our participants during summer heat alerts. **Project Winter Survival** provides winter survival kits for our homeless and street-involved participants. **Second Harvest** provides the foundation for many of our meals. **St. Elizabeth Healthcare** sends a nurse practitioner to the Centre weekly. **Syme-Woolner Neighbourhood and Family Centre** provides a housing worker to help with eviction prevention, finding subsidized housing, getting people into or out of shelters, advocacy with landlords, and housing searches. They also provide a harm reduction worker who leads the peer workers in outreach activities in the area. **Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts** provides tickets for theatre, dance & other cultural events. **West Park Healthcare Centre:** The Sandwich Samaritan group, provides 10 loaves of sandwiches weekly. **Unison Health and Community Services** conduct periodic on-site workshops healthcare. **Windfall Clothing Service** offers new clothing for distribution to participants.

# Active in Your Community



*Part of our mandate is to be visible in our community. Look for representatives of WKNC at a community event near you.*

“It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.”

~Mother Theresa~



Congratulations to WKNC board members Barbara Stone and Barbara Bisgrove for receiving the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding contribution to the local community.

## Board of Directors

Timothy Barlow, Barbara Bisgrove, Louise Clunas, Michael Kooiman, Lang Moffat, Sylvia Hampton, Wendy Whiteley, Michel Jones, Barbara Stone, Tim Gernstein and Ericson Adapon

## Hours of Operation

Monday: 10 am to 2 pm.  
 Tuesday: 3 pm to 7 pm with the community meal at 6pm.  
 Wednesday: By appointment only from 10am to 2pm.  
 Thursday: (Women only) 10am to 2pm.  
 Friday: 10am to 2pm.  
 Saturday & Statutory Holidays, 10am to 1pm.

