

# 2016 Activity Report



**Social Development Centre**  
— WATERLOO REGION —

Equity and fairness

Compassion

Legacy for the future

Community of voices

# Information Access Initiatives

- Older Adult Technology Training & Coaching
- Agent for Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)
- Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP)

# Events, Projects & Consultations

- *Visitable Housing: From Concept to Reality* forum
- Partners of *Heatwaves Project*
- National Housing Strategy Consultations
- *What's Your Story?* - Advocacy Training Workshop
- *Finding a Better Way to End Poverty* - Basic Income Pilot Forum
- LRT Pedestrian Crossing Study
- Updated Sidewalk Safety Checklist
- Cherry Park Neighbourhood Connection *What Powers Your Action?*
- *24th Festival of Neighbourhoods* Season

# Action & Advisory Groups

- Disabilities & Human Rights Group
- Poverty Free KW
- VisitAble Housing Task Force
- Poverty Free WR
- Living Wage WR

# Advocacy

- Poverty elimination
- Access & inclusion
- VisitAble Housing
- Digital Inclusion
- Submission to Standing Committee on General Government re: Bill 201

# Social Media

	Social Development Centre Waterloo Region	Increase from 2015
Facebook Likes	472	75
Twitter Followers	2027	110

**An estimated 2 000 contacts were made through updates, newsletters, and communication broadcasts.**

## What's Different?

- A name change from *Social Planning Council of Kitchener-Waterloo & Community Information Centre Waterloo Region* to *Social Development Centre Waterloo Region*
- A new location at 74 Frederick St. Kitchener (Trinity United Church)
- Community Information Centre defunded by City of Kitchener, updates to the community directory continue thanks to the partnership with the CCAC.

# Board Report

This report finds us celebrating 50 years of social innovation through the Social Development Centre of Waterloo Region. Many of the issues faced by youth, the elderly, the disabled, ethno-cultural communities and those with limited incomes in Waterloo Region have been considered and acted upon through the work of the Social Development Centre over the years. These issues are not going away. It is still important to remain informed about a wide diversity of issues and the services and programs available to help people locally.

During the past year, our staff, along with our Board and the Community Social Planning Council, have spent much time considering what makes a decent life and a strong neighborhood. Developing this evaluative framework for neighbourhoods is an important means of making sure that everyone can have a stronger local neighbourhood.

The Disabilities and Human Rights Group continues to meet monthly. People with disabilities are still being challenged by the barriers posed by simple things such as unclear sidewalks (at any time of year) and LRT tracks at intersections. In recent months, we have also hosted meetings for the ALIVE group. We welcome this group that provides Awareness for Low-Income Voices into our fold.

We have not had a strong year financially. Yet we maintain the resolve that the work we do is necessary and important. For over a year now, the Social Development Centre has been an agent for the Ontario Electricity Support Program, helping to bring government assistance to those who have found paying for hydro more and difficult. Helping people apply for financial assistance for their arrears for gas bills is a more recent addition to our services. There is no doubt: some people locally are struggling.

We thank the Board and Council members, especially those who have left us during the year. Your contributions to our efforts were important and helpful on our journey to continually discover how to keep rooted in the community and to assist people with the issues they are facing, regardless of what those issues are. Thank you to the staff and students in the past year who have helped make the Social Development Centre what it is. "Thank you" seems an inadequate expression to extend to our Executive Director, Trudy Beaulne who steered the ship through this exceptionally challenging year. Trudy's efforts to live out the values of the Social Development Centre have never challenged the rest of us quite like they did this past year. Our thanks also to Trinity Church who have collaborated with us to provide our location for a little over a year now.

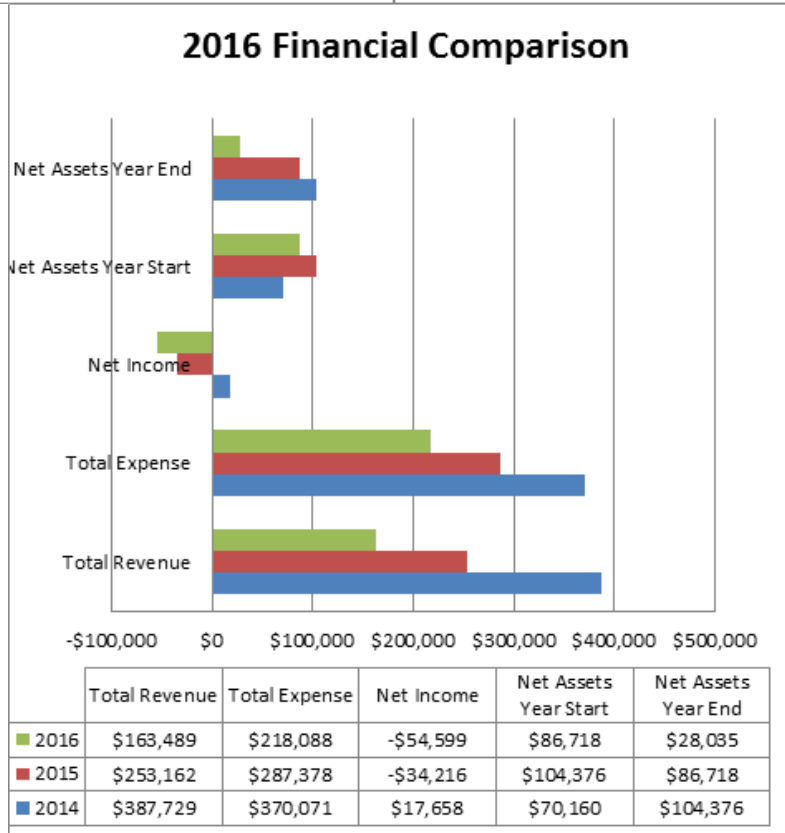
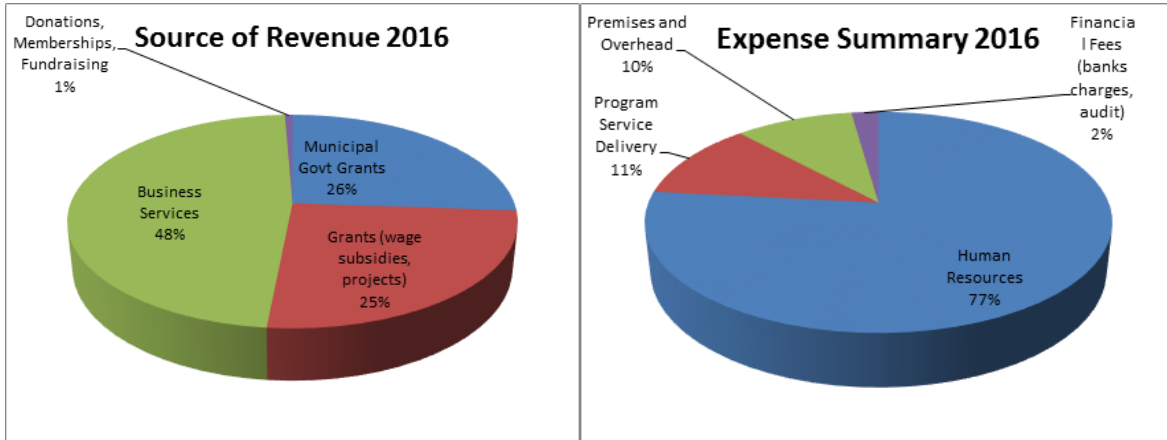
Respectfully Submitted,

Brad Ullner and Carol Motuz  
2016-2017 Vice Presidents



# 2016 Financial Summary

Figures used in this report for 2016 are from unaudited statements. Figures for 2015 and 2014 are taken from financial statements audited by KPMG. The 2016 revenue sources and allocation of expenses presented in the following charts are composite subtotals.



# 50th AGM & Tunnel In Coffee House Revival



Annual General Meeting welcomed new members to the Board of Directors and the Community Social Planning Council, presented the 2017 Social Development Awards Awards, and discussed a vision for moving forward in the next 50 years.



The Tunnel In Coffee House was a popular music hub and outlet for youth in the 1960s and 1970s. Many original Tunnel In performers are returning for the 2017 Revival fundraiser to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Social Development Centre. Performers included Daniel Kramer, Darrell Martin, Glen Soulis, Helen Basson, Terry Jones, Ted Parkinson, Philomene Hoffman, Jeffrey Beckner and more.

Social Development Centre's 50th

## Get in Touch

# Social Development Centre Waterloo Region

74 Frederick St., Kitchener, ON, N2H 2L7

Community Help Line: 519-579-3800

Phone/TTY: 519-579-1096

Toll Free: 1-877-579-3859

Fax: 519-578-9185

<http://www.waterlooregion.org>

Facebook: Social Development Centre Waterloo  
Region

Twitter: @SPCofKW



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