Every Person is Valuable! Every Voice Counts!

Social Development Centre
WATERLOO REGION

BOARD CANDIDATE

INFORMATION

Social Development Centre Waterloo Region
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We value....

Social Justice	We are committed to equal treatment and fair access for all members of the community.
Participatory Democracy	We value democracy practiced daily and encourage everyone to participate in decisions or on issues that affect people.
Community Knowledge	We believe local community based knowledge is a public good and is essential to help all stakeholders understand the community and its people, assets, resources and needs.
Diversity	We recognize, highly value and seek out the multi-dimensional character of community members which includes a rich variety of backgrounds, abilities and experiences.
Relationship Building (Social Capital)	We are committed to building positive relationships in all areas of community and in our face to face contacts, organizational connections and community action.

Our Operating Principles

Community	We focus on geographic community where we find issues and seek solutions. We acknowledge and work with communities of interest as ways people come together to improve quality of life.
Accountability	We are accountable to the community and seek direction from those who use our services and from our membership. Our governing board is elected annually by community members.
Independence	Being community-driven and accountable, we have greater freedom than public sector organizations or direct service providers, to critique existing policies and systems or to propose alternatives.
Knowledge-based Action	We link independent research and lived community experience to the development of action proposals and solutions to identified problems that eliminate inequity and injustice.
Inclusion	We aim to engage everyone, especially those who voices are not typically heard. When we do engage we will be mindful of how we do this to be as inclusive as possible.
Collaboration	We work in partnership and collaboration with others to share resources, expertise and/or experience.
Effectiveness and Efficiency	We aim to provide effective services based on efficient operations and innovative use of technology that builds on our long tradition of knowledge management and community engagement skills.

HISTORY OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Year	Planning Activity	Outcomes
1951	Discussion about purposes of an SPC and filling the gaps in social services	
1965	Memorandum of Agreement about functions of an SPC	
1966	Constitution of SPC formally written	SPC formally created, run by volunteers
1971		First full-time professional staff hired by SPC, doing social planning program
		Community Information, Volunteer Placement, and Legal Information Programs all begun.
1976	Review of mission and goals in light of creation of Social Resources Council	
1979	Review of mission and goals	
1981		Legal information program spun-off to become independent agency.
1985		Volunteer placement program spun-off to become independent agency.
		Leadership development program begun
1989	Review of mission, goals, and structure of SPC	Leadership development program named LAMP in 1989
1991	Community Information Centre Strategic Planning	
1995	Community Information Centre Think Tank and Program Review	
1997	Review of goals and structure of SPC	Adoption of revised goals, structure and operating principles. Restructuring process begins
1998	Revised mission, objectives and program activities.	Integration of Programs into 3 new areas: < Research & Development < Community Information < Community Building Staff structure revised.
1999		Formal agreement signed with SPC Cambridge & North Dumfries
2000	Strategic Planning Board diversity planning	Values & Guiding Principles Strategic Directions set in 98 affirmed and revised: < Information technology development as determined in 98 but also to develop capacity to monitor trends and respond to social issues < 98 goal to build partnerships revised in 2000 to strengthen partnerships < Take steps to restore core funding and to also develop new core funding and respond to opportunities for short term funding < 2000 goal set to build memberships
2001	Strategic planning for: < Technical Development and	

	< Community Problem Solving Board Succession Planning	
2002	Strategic discussions related to: < Building technological capacity < Geographic mandate < Role in addressing social issues and research < Core resource development	
2003/2004	Design Team internal review Strategic planning started	Design Team action plan for policy development and strategic planning process.
2004/2005	Strategic Planning begun Visioning and review of Mission Will set strategic direction for the next 3-5 years	As of March 2005, Affirmation of letters patent, values and principles, Vision statement, draft mission statement, and initial identification of strategic issues.
2005/2006	Strategic Planning continues	Mission statement affirmed – cultivate community knowledge to advance social justice. Strategic priorities: 1. Become the social development leader in Waterloo Region 2. Set up the organization to be more secure and stable in its funding.

2007/2008	Strategic Plan implementation begins	Strategic emphasis:
		   a) take action in ways that increase external profile, build internal capacity and creates an enduring product
		   b) articulate and measure the value we provide to the community
		Develop resource development plan and redefine human resource structure as the foundations to achieve strategic priorities. Strengthen strategic relationships e.g. tailoring of information to the needs of key clients.

2009/2010	Strategic Plan review	Strategic Plan reviewed, vision, mission updated, goals affirmed
2012-2014	Planning for Sustainability - Resource Development Planning	Developing a workable plan to ensure ongoing sustained resources through key direction – core funding, project funding, fee for service, memberships, donations and fundraising.
2015	Implementation of organizational structure change	Rename to Social Development Centre Establish Community Social Planning Council committee Emphasis on community reference, advisory and action group Revised membership structure
2014-2016	Development of Decent Lives/Strong Neighbourhoods Initiative	Development of program infrastructure: Region-wide assessment framework and data gathering; Advocacy support role.
2016-2019	2 Relocations; adjustment to new funding realities; passing of Long - time ED Trudy Beaulne; adjusting to the funding and budget cuts with the change of provincial government.	Activities that generate revenue and/or exposure; grassroots neighbourhood outreach continues; ongoing support to the lived experience groups such as RENT, Disabilities and Human Rights, ALIVe; Meet the Candidate sessions; Equity in Education SPNO initiative & Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group with WRDSB; Social Inclusion Group with the Immigration Partnership and co-convening the Social Inclusion Catalyst Group with the WR Wellbeing; Neighoburhood Leadership and Event in a Trailer working committees, City of Kitchener.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS JOB DESCRIPTION

The Position

The Social Development Centre as an organization involved with social issues, planning, and information needs in the community, must try at all times to reflect the diversity of the community as it determines its policies. Reports and activities must reflect enlightened community concerns in the promotion of positive social change. As the connection to the "real world" therefore, the Board members combine to give the planning process the broadly-based perspective across diverse viewpoints and experiences.

Board members fulfill two essential functions. The Board members should accept responsibility for accountable and transparent stewardship of resources and functioning of the organization. As the Centre is in a specific transition period seeking renewal of the strategies to accomplish the mission and to ensure financial viability, the Board members are required to take on the roles and commit to the working board procedures according to the strategic plan.

Qualifications

A dedication to improving the quality of life in the community.

An acknowledgment of the intrinsic worth of the individual in society.

A willingness to work with others to obtain a common goal.

A desire to see the Social Development Centre develop its potential as a key organization in the community.

A willingness to develop a thorough understanding of the programs of the Social Development Centre

A willingness to develop an understanding of the community, its structures, organizations, and needs.

The ability to take a leadership role in bringing about change in the community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: _____ Member of the Social Development Centre?   YES NO

To be voted in, a Board member has to be a member in good standing before the elections at the Annual General Meeting.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

1. Why are you interested in our organization?

2. What experience do you have from work, education, community or life that you could bring to the Social Development Centre? Include experience in community organizations, social research and/or information technology (e.g. committees, projects); (Attach a resume if relevant)

3. Do you have specific skills or areas of expertise that you think would benefit the Board and organization of the Social Development Centre?

4. Other volunteer commitments:

5. Please enclose a copy of your resume and references.

<div align="center">For Board Use</div>

4	Nominee recruitment activity	Date
	meeting with Board Chair and Executive Director	
	reviewed by the Committee	
	attended a Board meeting	
	interviewed by Committee	
	Action taken by Board:	