

# Annual Report 2005-2006



## Human Development Council

### Funders

City of Saint John  
Family and Community Services  
United Way of Greater Saint John

### Board of Directors

Mary Ann LeBlanc	President
Sue Davis	Past President
Peter Buck	Treasurer
Jan Lockett	Secretary
Joanne Barry	Robert MacKinnon
Cathy Patterson	Randy Pollock
Anne Rowe*	Derek Jones
Donald Snook	Peter Asimakos
Leticia Adair	Marlene Abbott
Trish Connolly*	

\* Resigned during the year

### Patrons

Norma Beville  
Robert Boyce  
Sue Davis  
Marjorie & Willis Hamilton  
Reginald MacKenzie  
A. William McMackin  
Moosehead Breweries  
New Brunswick Community College  
Senior Watch  
T.S. Simms  
William Stewart  
Unitarian Universalist Church  
Cathy Wright

### Other Funders

The Sisters of Charity I.C.  
(for sponsorship of NEXUS)  
Town of Grand Bay-Westfield

### Staff

Randall Hatfield - Executive Director  
Anne Driscoll - Information Co-ordinator  
Dawn MacDougall - Administrative  
Assistant / Bookkeeper

### Summer Students:

Rhiannon Eves  
Matthew Creamer  
Kathryn Asher  
Stephanie Moore

### Other Project Staff:

Kathryn Asher, Saint John Youth Cabinet  
Monique McCallum  
Brian McConnell

### Volunteers

Shane Cassidy  
Joe Godin  
Marge Hamilton  
Ted Jones  
Cindy Leavitt  
Monique McCallum

## President's Report

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Staff of the Human Development Council. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to our Annual General Meeting.

The mission statement of the Human Development Council is to coordinate and promote social development in Greater Saint John. It seeks to achieve this by pursuing the following goals:

- Study and identify social needs within the community, and the services that exist to meet those needs;
- Advise and assist in planning and developing new services and improving existing ones;
- Initiate opportunities for joint action in the development, coordination, and delivery of services appropriate to community needs;

- Facilitate local citizens access to information about community programs and services;
- Maintain the strength and vibrancy of the Human Development Council to ensure that the above goals are achieved.

These goals help us focus our work and I'm pleased to report that over the last year we have made progress in each and every one of them. As the accompanying reports indicate, increased funding has been secured, our research remains relevant and our information services have expanded. We have good reasons to be optimistic about the coming year.

I would like to thank our staff, board members and volunteers for their efforts. By working together we can help make our communities more inclusive and socially just.

Mary Ann LeBlanc  
President

## Executive Director's Report

"Courage, my friends; 'tis not too late to build a better world." Tommy Douglas

It's been another good year for the HDC. We created a Youth Cabinet, expanded our information and referral service, collaborated on local research and saw our core funding nearly double.

Our involvement in **Inclusive Cities Canada: A Cross-Canada Civic Initiative (ICC)** culminated in our participation in its National Symposium in Toronto last November. Three members of our Civic Panel contributed to an examination of social inclusion issues that had been explored by focus groups in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Burlington, and Saint John.

ICC was a project that gave us a perspective of greater Saint John from key informants in areas ranging from local government and public spaces to housing and crisis services. It revealed cross cutting themes like the challenges of transportation for many of our citizens, the fragility of the non-profit sector and a widespread concern about young people. This latter finding led to the creation of the Saint John Youth Cabinet. We were very fortunate to retain Kathryn Asher, a former summer student who took the ICC recommendation and brought it to life, to lead the cabinet in its first year. Kathryn will be staying on with us to strengthen the youth cabinet and bolster our research efforts. Her report highlights the cabinet's beginning and early growth.

On the research front, we promoted our ICC report *Community Voices, Perspectives and Priorities* and collaborated with Vibrant Communities in the report *Poverty and Plenty*. They are important contributions to the qualitative and quantitative understanding of issues facing Saint John. They will provide the foundation of our next project - a detailed examination of the social and economic conditions of our more vulnerable neighborhoods. We are currently undertaking research for the Children's Health Task Force and remain a community partner in UNBSJ's Community University Research Alliance.

We continue to support the efforts of Vibrant Communities as it enters the second year of its poverty reduction strategy. HDC serves on its leadership roundtable and is co-chair of the research and evaluation committee. We also provide support to the Community Loan Fund, the Urban Core Support Network, the Resource Centre for Youth (TRC), the community's Homelessness Committee. Policy Link NB, the New Brunswick Network of the Canadian Volunteer Initiative and the Canadian Health Promotion Network Atlantic.

The work of our Community Information Centre continues to increase. Anne Driscoll's report sets out our accomplishments and describes our goal of expanding the reach of our information services.

This year we are pleased to report that both the City and the Province have doubled their level of support to the HDC. It is a tremendous validation of the work we have done and bodes well for our plans to coordinate and promote social development. The United Way has increased our allocation for the coming year and we continue to enjoy the support of a growing list of patrons and members.

This year we are celebrating our AGM with the production of *Tommy Douglas: The Arrows of Desire*. It is a tribute to a remarkable individual and inspiration for us as we embark on a new year.

Randy Hatfield  
Executive Director

### Statements of Operations and Net Assets (Unaudited) Year ended December 31, 2005

	2005	2004
<b>Revenues</b>		
City of Saint John	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500
Province of New Brunswick	40,000	41,250
United Way Saint John	21,000	21,000
Membership and donations	9,013	7,835
Inclusive Cities Project	34,272	52,528
Sale of Publications	5,783	-
Interest	559	157
Miscellaneous Projects	32,343	14,176
Other	<u>2,384</u>	<u>2,745</u>
	172,854	167,191
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Salaries, benefits	121,453	116,199
Direct Project Costs	9,515	2,060
Inclusive Cities Costs	1,002	6,298
Online Database	1,178	1,500
Administration	17,281	19,256
Occupancy	8,000	8,372
Publications	2,738	364
Publication of Nexus	2,170	2,699
Equipment	<u>1,271</u>	<u>1,391</u>
	<u>164,608</u>	<u>158,139</u>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenditure for the year</b>	<b>\$ 8,246</b>	<b>\$ 9,052</b>
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ 26,873</b>	<b>\$17,821</b>
<b>Excess of Revenue over expenditure for the year</b>	<b>8,246</b>	<u>9,052</u>
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 35,119</b>	<b>\$ 26,873</b>

# Saint John Youth Cabinet



*Kathryn Asher, Co-ordinator  
Saint John Youth Cabinet*

Over the past year, the Human Development Council has birthed a new initiative - the Saint John Youth Cabinet (SJYC). The Cabinet represents a journey from the theoretical to the practical of an Inclusive Cities Canada recommendation. The journey has meant that my work as a summer student has translated into a position as the Cabinet's coordinator.

The SJYC is a youth-led volunteer group of 13 to 25 year olds who are tasked with advising the Saint John Mayor and Council on issues that affect youth, and engaging and empowering local young people to make the community more youth-friendly. The Cabinet received start-up funding from the United Way and the Greater Saint John Community Foundation, and the City of Saint John provides in-kind meeting space.

The first major event for the Cabinet was held in November; an open house at City Hall to recruit members. The evening provided attendees with an opportunity to mingle, learn about the SJYC through interactive displays, become a member, and voice their views on local youth issues. Mayor Norm McFarlane, Councilor Bill Farren, and Mayor Ron Maloney from Quispamsis were in attendance.

The faces of the Cabinet are diverse. There are 17 official members as well as several others who have expressed interest or attended meetings. Members range in age from 13 to 22 years and represent one middle school and several high schools, as well as the New Brunswick Community College and the University of New Brunswick - Saint John. Some are students while others work full-time, and many juggle both. They bring an impressive variety of experiences to the table, many are involved in other youth councils, the political realm, activism, volunteering, school groups, and much more. We are also very lucky to have Scott Crawford, Youth Development Manager for St. Joseph's Community Health Centre as an advisor; he has been instrumental in keeping the Cabinet afloat since day one.

The Cabinet has begun to solidify a structure. The members have set their sights high, with the hopes of developing seven committees focused on: activities, council relations, the environment, membership relations, orientation, public relations, and social development. The committees are on the backburner until the group has a chance to tackle some preliminary tasks such as writing a constitution, creating an orientation program, putting the finishing touches on a logo and slogan, and developing promotional material and engaging in a large recruitment effort.

Although the Cabinet is in its infancy, the group has its first major initiative under its belt. The Cabinet engaged in a campaign to encourage youth to vote in the federal election earlier this year. As an incentive, young voters who registered with the Cabinet were entered into a draw to win lunch with the new Saint John MP and various other prizes. The winner was Lisa Mason from Saint John.

The Cabinet has also been involved in many external projects and events. The SJYC sent a representative to the Canadian Cancer Society's Tobacco-free Schools Rally, the New Brunswick Multicultural Youth Conference, and the New Brunswick Advisory Council on Youth's Rock the Boat tour (and plans to send a representative to the Council's follow-up conference, the Big Splash, in May). The Cabinet was a participant, and I was the on-site co-facilitator, for TakingITGlobal's Cross-Canada Mapping of Youth-led Initiatives project that touched down in Saint John in February.

Scott and I will accompany six members to the first ever Pan-Canadian Youth Cabinet Conference in Toronto in June. The conference will offer an opportunity for our group to network, build capacity, share best practices and models of governance, and be a part of the development of a national youth lobby. We have also tested the fundraising waters to raise money for this trip with an auction and raffle.

Over the year, SJYC representatives have been fortunate to meet with Mayor Norm McFarlane, Minister Trevor Holder, and the regional mayors. The Cabinet has also enjoyed monthly media attention from print, radio, and television sources.

*Kathryn Asher  
Youth Cabinet Coordinator*

# Community Information Centre

## FOCUS

The Human Development Council's Community Information Centre (CIC) is dedicated to reaching, serving, and empowering individuals, families, and communities in the region. We connect people to what they need, when it is needed. We focus on being an inclusive service to all, including:

- The hungry, the homeless, and those in personal crisis
- Children and youth
- Seniors and persons with developmental disabilities
- Professionals and the greater community

The CIC is the first call for information about community, social, health and government services in the region; it's the only service of its kind in Atlantic Canada. When we receive an enquiry our staff will:

- assess the situation
- help find answers to questions
- provide options and appropriate referrals

This service is free, and confidential.

## MOVING FORWARD

The CIC is moving ahead. We are expanding our online database, (Community Services Database), with nearly 2,000 records from throughout the province. However, our requirements for funding and resources continue to grow too. We continue to explore funding sources and partnerships in anticipation of including even more services throughout New Brunswick, and offering the database in a bilingual format.

Hits to the database are rising and are impressive. In our second 12 months of operation hits increased by 200 per cent.

## STRENGTHENING SERVICE DELIVERY

This past year a variety of publications were printed.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Edition **Human Service Directory** was produced. This edition includes even more services from Charlotte, Kings and St John Counties. The Human Services Directory is the ever-popular print resource with human service professionals. Every front desk and professional resource shelf should include a current Human Services Directory.

**Surviving the Streets** was introduced as a means to assist at-risk youth. Thirty thousand copies of the wallet guide were printed, along with complementary posters, and distributed in the region. Financial assistance for this project was provided by KAIROS Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiative.

We reprinted the **Guide to Seniors Services** – twice; a total of 20,000 copies.

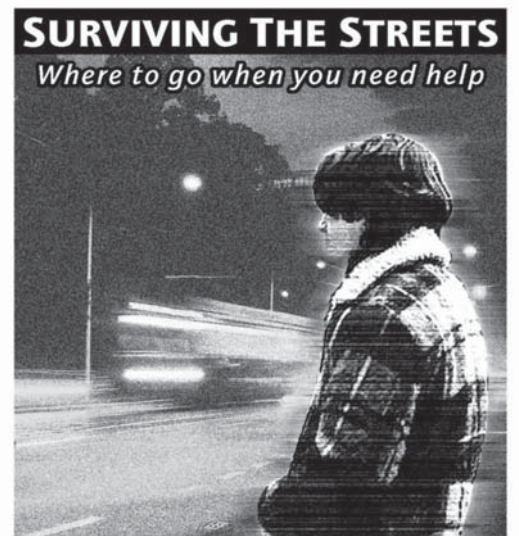
Assistance with this project was received from Chateau de Champlain and St. Joseph's Community Health Center's New Horizons for Seniors program.

The second edition of the **Holiday Sharing Guide** was printed and distributed throughout the tri-county area. This guide is invaluable for anyone wanting to know where to locate services during the holiday season. Special thanks to Transcontinental Printing for making this guide possible.

Also new this year was the introduction of a toll-free telephone number applicable throughout New Brunswick (1-877-322-4636), and, a fresh, new look to our database. We've also added promotional posters and new brochures.

## BUILDING VISION

Bringing a reliable, accessible, and accurate Community Information & Referral service to all in New Brunswick is a goal of the Human Development Council. We are looking to the future - engaging partners, examining best practices in service delivery standards and planning for growth in a sustainable fashion.



**Surviving the Streets**

*Anne Driscoll, CIRS  
Information Coordinator*