

QUINT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

# 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Quint's Mission is to strengthen the well-being of Saskatoon's West-Side core neighbourhoods through community-based economic development.

## OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CORE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Citizens who are caring, self-reliant, self-determining and have a sense of pride.

A safe, stable and caring community, where all citizens can participate and grow.

Quint providing leadership in community economic development in ways that build a healthy social and economic environment for all.

A vital local economy that uses local resources and sustains jobs, businesses and community enterprise.

Neighbourhoods that are prosperous, beautiful, and environmentally sustainable.

The community initiating and supporting cultural, recreational, educational and socio-economic opportunities for the good of all.

#### LONG TERM OBJECTIVES

To facilitate the development of social enterprises.

To improve the quality & availability of affordable housing.

To increase job readiness and participation in the labour market.

To nurture community vibrancy and resilience.

#### **2018/2019 BOARD MEMBERS:**

Jacqui Barclay (Vice Chair) - not present



#### A TRADITION OF MAKING CHANGE

Working for change has been core to Quint's purpose since our formation 24 years ago. "Quint was formed by people interested in a means to create jobs and economic opportunities that would bring about change in the five neighbourhoods." (Quint's 1999 Annual Report)

We see Change Making as creating positive and sustainable change for people in our communities. We are working to create a solutions-based local economy that addresses community challenges and improves the quality of life of marginalized individuals in our community. At Quint, we turn community problems into opportunities.

In the past year, Quint has launched two major initiatives that will create significant opportunities for community residents.

In June of 2018, we opened Oski Mācipayin (New Beginnings), our new 26-unit townhouse development in Pleasant Hill. The success of this new rental housing demonstrates the pressing need for affordable rental housing for hard-to-house families. This development transformed the 200 block of Avenue O South and is now home to almost 82 residents.

In July of 2018, Quint launched a new social enterprise called Build Up Saskatoon (BUS) in partnership with STR8 UP. BUS offers contracting services in the area of residential renovations, maintenance, and landscaping. The objective is to operate a business with a social purpose to employ, mentor, and provide life skills and other forms of job readiness training for people who face multiple barriers to employment through traditional labour market channels. Most of the

people employed by BUS are former gang members and/or people with criminal records. We are pushing all levels of government to adopt social procurement policies that will lead to more employment opportunities for Build Up Saskatoon employees.

We are also pleased that all of our existing programs continue to innovate to meet the constantly changing needs in the community. However, as recent news reminds us, there continues to be significant challenges facing the core neighbourhoods. We remain committed to working with the community to address these issues and seek opportunities for positive change.

Thank you to our volunteer Board members for their commitment to and leadership of this organization. We also want to acknowledge the fantastic team that make up Quint's staff. There are now close to 50 committed and skilled change makers working for Quint. Finally, we want to express our deep gratitude to our funders, community organizations and businesses that work with us in our ongoing journey to create positive change in the west-side core neighbourhoods.

Respectfully submitted,



Oranford Len Usiskin

**Board Chair** 

**Executive Director** 





#### MATHIAS. BUILDUP EMPLOYEE

"Ten years ago, I was involved in gang life and cycling in and out of prison. My best friend got killed and it pushed me over the edge to leave. Even though it was very hard to leave my brothers and sisters, I knew I had to do it. I joined STR8 UP 8 ½ years ago and have been involved in their mentoring programs ever since.

I have some work experience and have always wanted to work. However, once a potential employer sees my criminal record check, they always change their tone and say, 'I'll give you a call if something opens up.' I've never received that call.

Build Up is a chance to finally have a job in an environment where I won't be judged for my past. For the last year, Build Up has given me a reason to get up every morning, have cereal with my kids, and head out the door to work. Now, my kids always have food to eat and I don't have to worry about them struggling.

At Build Up, I'm working with people that I'm comfortable with. The staff at Quint offer me support in lots of different ways. Having regular work in a supportive environment removes some of the pressure in my life. If it weren't for Build Up, I'd probably be back in jail."

Part-time and Casual employees were hired in 2018/2019

were Indigenous

had less than a Grade 10 education

had no other source of income at the time of hire

moved on to other employment or educational programs





In 2018, Build Up Saskatoon was formed as a joint initiative with STR8 UP, an organization that supports former-gang members who have left a criminal lifestyle.

Build Up is a non-profit social enterprise that provides residential contracting services. As a social enterprise, Build Up offers employment and mentorship to individuals who have barriers to employment due to a previous criminal record or limited skills and work experience. A journeyman site-supervisor and an experienced program manager ensure that employees learn valuable skills on the job and complete projects to an industry standard.





## SUSANNE RICHER, CLIENT

"I hired Build Up Saskatoon in the fall of 2018 to build a fence and gate for my yard. The workers were polite and helpful in trying to accommodate my needs...My new fence is beautiful to look at and very solid. I am very happy with the work done and am looking forward to having Build Up Saskatoon do more projects in our house."

#### SUSAN SAVILLE, ED, STR8UP

"Being able to refer STR8 UP members to Build Up is very helpful. Our members have a difficult time finding a job as many don't have a driver's license, a vehicle, any real work experience, or good references. Therefore, finding work can be very discouraging. Build Up gives them the opportunity."





#### ADAM, CNAW PARTICIPANT

"I'm 24. Eight months ago, I got my first job.

I graduated from high school in 2013. However, I didn't look for a job for many years because I worried that a workplace would be like high school, which had some very bad days.

My mom made my first appointment at Quint because I was too nervous to do it. I hadn't been social for quite a while because my high school friends had treated me badly and I felt like I wasn't worth a whole lot. It was hard to talk to people in general, including the staff at Quint. However, I did talk to Alethea, an Employment Coordinator with the Core Neighbourhoods at Work program. If she had been mean, I would never have come back to Quint. However, Alethea was kind and very helpful as I figured out what I was going to do to find a job.

Quint helped me register for several workshops to learn about rules and responsibilities in a workplace, chemical safety, and Food Safe. Because I didn't have any experience, Alethea encouraged me to volunteer. By volunteering with CHEP and the needle clean-up, I learned to do some gardening and general skills that I could use in real life. These experiences helped me get my job because people have now seen how I work and could offer a reference. I'm a worker who focuses well on what I have to do. Without my volun

Of the participants seeking support through CNAW in 2018-2019:

21 % ne

needed support to obtain one or more forms of ID

51 % needed

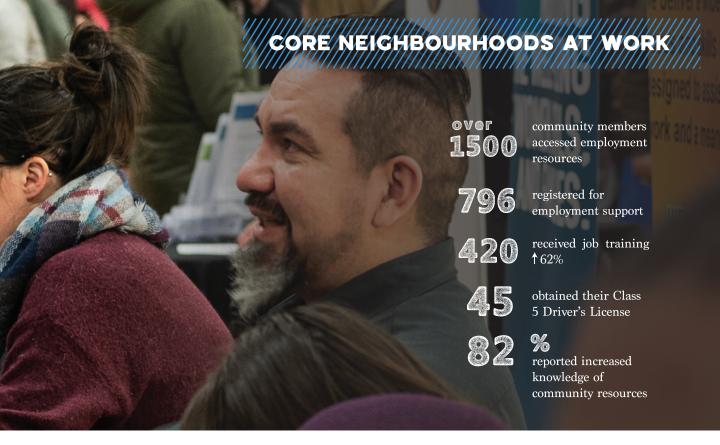
needed a driver's license

38

reported no income

46

received some form of government assistance



teering, not many people would have known that about me. It's great to know that so many people see that in me now.

I decided that TJ's Pizza would be a great place to work. I prepared a resume and walked in to introduce myself. Two days later, they called me back for an interview. I went to Quint on the morning of my interview to get some advice. I was nervous about the interview and worried that I wouldn't have the confidence to give good answers. My regular employment coordinator was away but Miali sat down with me to discuss interviews and have a practice interview together. During my interview at TJ's, I felt prepared and nothing was a surprise. They asked if I could start later that week. I was hired! On my first day of work, I felt a mixture of nervousness and excitement. Two hours into my shift, I wasn't nervous anymore.

Since I've been employed at TJ's, I'm more social and I've learnt a lot of new skills. My job is rewarding and I've made some friends at my workplace. My coworkers are nice and I feel excited when I go to work.

Even though I've been employed since September, I still drop in to Quint to give the staff updates on my life. I see the people at Quint as people who care about me because they are so happy for me when good things happen."

CNAW also supports employers in their hiring search through job fairs, employer spotlight events, and direct referrals.

job seekers connected directly with employers

job seekers attended the 8th Annual Community Job Fair

interviews occurred on-site during hiring events

employers worked with CNAW





#### **ALANNA, AHP TENANT**

Through the growth of her family and career, Alanna has relied on Quint for a stable and supportive housing community.

In 2014, Alanna moved into an apartment in Paul Wilkinson Place. One year later, Alana was accepted into a 2-year Correctional Studies Program and moved away to Prince Albert to attend school. After a year of living in Prince Albert, Alanna decided to move back to her community in Saskatoon and commute throughout her second year of school. When moving back to Saskatoon, Alanna chose to return to a Quint apartment building because "I respected [Quint] and [Quint's housing coordinators] respected me. I knew I was a good tenant and that you would see that I was a good tenant."

Alanna recognizes that living in this apartment helped her achieve her goals because "when I was travelling back and forth to PA for school, having affordable rent made it easier to finish school because I was on a student allowance." housing applications received

209 tenants

of our tenants identify as Indigenous

of our tenants are children

weeks between initial application and move-in

people benefit from our wheelchair-accessible units

family reunited because we were able to offer them a townhouse large enough for four children



During her school program, Alanna gave birth to her second child. Once her second daughter was born, Alanna moved into a larger Quint townhouse where she still lives with her daughters and her mother. Alanna and her family often attend the community events in her building because "being on a budget and not having a lot of money, it is hard when I try to find activities for my girls to attend. So when you guys host [community events], it's so nice to attend something that I don't have to pay for. I like getting to know other tenants and kids. Christmas celebrations and dinners are really fun and no one else is providing free meals and presents for the kids so it means a lot."

Alanna has now finished her school program and works as a Case Manager and Interventionist at CUMFI. When asked about her experience with Quint, Alanna says that she "continues to see how far I have come using all the services that Quint offers. I also love the idea of being part of a bigger family. The atmosphere and the neighbourhood makes me stronger and keeps pushing me."

The Affordable Housing Program strengthens the feeling of community in our buildings through family-friendly events and activities. Our housing co-ordinators know the names of our tenants and the names of their children and we support and celebrate their successes.

35

children at our Easter Egg hunt and party at Oski Mācipayin



social events





#### PLEASANT HILL PLACE, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN

### DINAH AND FAMILY, PLEASANT HILL PLACE RESIDENTS

"When I came to PHP, I did not have my older children. Since living here, I have gotten my children back and have had them for 7 months!" – Dinah

"Living at PHP is great! I love everyone in the house and the [brand new] couch!" - Louisa, 6 years old

"I have a bed, a room, and my mom." - Dakoda, 3 years old

During 2018-2019, 5 mothers and 8 children lived at Pleasant Hill Place. Each year, our house is the site of multiple birthday parties, trips to the playground, and story times. Our staff excel at both playful games and serious conversations as we support mothers to raise healthy children and make changes so they can live independently with their children.

In 2018-2019, Pleasant Hill Place residents participated in:

parent for mo

parenting skill workshops for mothers

12

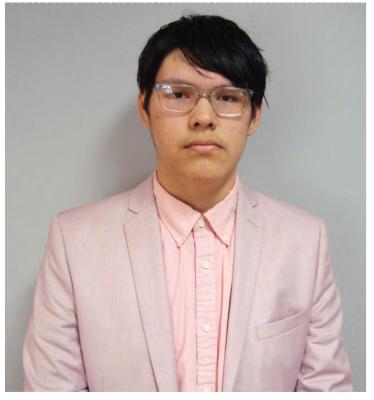
workshops about physical and emotional self-care

activities around Indigenous culture

#### MANY

family activities, community events, movie nights, and trips to the Forestry Farm, Flynn's Forest, and the Shaw Centre pool







#### MALE YOUTH LODGE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR YOUNG MEN AGES 16-21

Our staff create a safe and supportive home for young men who are (or at risk of) experiencing homelessness.

#### **CELYSTIN, YOUTH LODGE RESIDENT**

"I had to make the call to social services and explain the situation that my brother and I were in...I was accepted into the Lodge and, at first, I was scared to be there. I have been at the Youth Lodge for a semester of grade 12 and it is fun but I still have things that I'm struggling through.

At the Youth Lodge, I am not around alcohol and drugs. I get an allowance twice a month and I don't have to worry about what to eat because I am being fed three meals a day. My favorite meal is when staff make breakfast for supper as it makes it feel more like a home for me... I like that we have interactive group discussions where we learn practical life skills. My education is going well and I am learning new things every day. I am on track to graduate in June of 2019.

I'm strong because of the stuff I have been through. I feel the future generation deserves to have someone to look up to."

101 DAYS

Average length of stay for a resident

23

young men lived at the Youth Lodge

100

residents that were enrolled and attending secondary school

37

life-skills learning nights

recreation nights at pools, gyms, and community events

12

different interactive sessions to discuss and build emotional skills

06

residents played on a sports team at their high school

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## CHANGE FOR RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES:

Our objective to nurture community vibrancy and resilience means that we celebrate and support community initiatives that create cultural, recreational, educational and socio-economic opportunities in the core neighbourhoods. Quint has endorsed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, which informs much of this work. Creating change occurs through our community partnerships, special events, industry presentations, and workplace practices. All of our staff participate in the Rock Your Roots Walk for Reconciliation, and we sponsor the National Aboriginal Day Celebrations

Our workplace culture includes training, initiatives, and committees that support cultural diversity and inclusion.

Our staff's Diversity Awareness & Engagement Committee brings awareness and education on human rights, equity and discrimination, and makes recommendations on the ways that we can address these issues in our programs and practices.





Hosted two family-friendly, inclusive events to support access to free arts and culture in the downtown core neighbourhoods.



Presented at 2 national conferences on our experiences of working to create equitable access and sustainaable employment for marginalized job seekers.



Participated in 15 community events & initiatives that supported our vision of safe, stable and caring communities.

#### QUINT ENVISIONS COMMUNITIES THAT OFFER CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CITIZENS.

#### ALONE AT HOME: A REZ CHRISTMAS STORY, A PRODUCTION OF THE GORDON TOOTOOSIS NĪKĀNĪWIN THEATRE.

Thank you to our community partners that supported this initiative: Saskatoon Public Library, Great Plains College, Sheri Benson - MP for Saskatoon West, University of Saskatchewan College of Arts & Science: Department of Indigenous Studies, Department of English, and Kin Canada - Saskatoon & District Kinette Club.



QUEEN SERAPHINA AND
THE LAND OF VERTEBRAAT,
A SUM THEATRE PRODUCTION
FOLLOWED BY A COMMUNITY BBQ IN OPTIMIST PARK







## JACQUI BARCLAY CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

This year marks Jacqui's 20th anniversary as a member on Quint's Board of Directors. Jacqui joined the board in June, 1999 and is the longest serving director in Quint's history. Jacqui appreciates Quint's vision for working on upstream and positive solutions to address core neighbourhood issues. She has always said that Quint's work is complimentary to her work in the Street Health Program with the Saskatchewan Health Authority and that she sees the impact that Quint's work has on the lives and health of her clients and their families

Jacqui has always been a very engaged, hard-working board member and advocate for Quint. She has held many leadership positions on the Board, including serving as Chairperson for many years. Jacqui was appointed as a director on the Station 20 West Development Corporation board and was instrumental in making the dream of Station 20 West a reality. She continues to chair Station 20 West's Community Mobilization Committee, which raises thousands of dollars each year.

For many years, Jacqui has been a committed volunteer and advocate for social justice and community development. The West-Side Core neighbourhoods and our city are stronger due to her efforts. We honour and appreciate all that she has given to Quint.

"The dream of Station 20 West was to actually have a place to provide services and an anchor to revitalize and strengthen the community." - Jacqui, 2009

Thank you to Jacqui - a true change maker.





## LORETTA WARDEN 15 YEARS WITH QUINT!

When asked about her many years of co-op membership and employment with Quint, Loretta says,

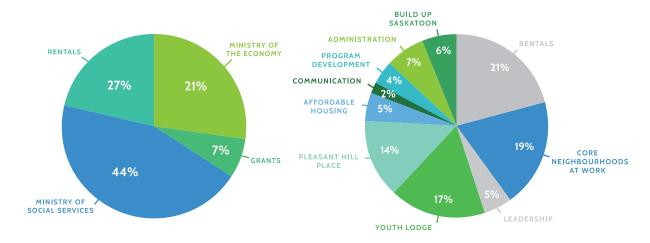
"I'm just proud of working there with the youth and toddlers and brand new babies. It's all been great. I've learned a lot and am so thankful to Quint for giving me a chance."

Loretta retired on May 30, 2019 after fifteen years with Quint in various roles. We first met Loretta when she became a tenant in the Oskikamik apartment building. The intervening years saw Loretta grow into a homeownership co-op member, a member of the Quint staff, a leader in the Pleasant Hill Place and Youth Lodge programs, and a director on Quint's governance board. We have been thrilled to witness Loretta's contributions over these years and fortunate to have her skill, caring nature, and dedication as a leader in the community.

Loretta is a nurturing and thoughtful person who has provided hours of support to her colleagues and the participants of Pleasant Hill Place and the Male Youth Lodge. Loretta says that "the boys were very respectful to me and I loved working [at the lodge] with them. Some even called me 'Kohkum." Loretta cares deeply about others and contributed to holistic support at the lodge in many ways, including burning sweetgrass in the mornings so that the residents could wake up in a clear and healthy space that was free of bad energies.

Loretta has been a positive role model to many people and we wish her well on her retirement.

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



2018/2019 REVENUES \$2.7 MILLION 2018/2019 EXPENDITURES \$2.6 MILLION

Detailed financial statements are available on our website: www.quintsaskatoon.ca

## FUNDING PARTNERS, WITH THANKS:



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

















