

# A Catalyst for Sustainable Economic and Social Development



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## Thanks to Our Supporters

The SPC offers sincere thanks to our funders and other contributors, who have enabled us to provide our services to the community. Please see the full list of contributors on pages 15 to 17.

In particular we would like to thank:

**United Way / Centraide Ottawa** for its very generous support of our major services including our key research projects, our information services, our website, our supports to numerous networks, and our planning activities.

**Our private donors, whose considerable contributions were invaluable;**

And, of course, thanks to our **members and volunteers** who helped us in more ways than we can say!

### Board of Directors 2007 – 2008

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Paul Schauerte\*

Carol Silcoff\*\*

Steve Webster\*

Haiyan Zhang

\* Resigned during the year

\*\* Appointed during the year

### SPC Staff

Marie-Christine Gauthier, Program Coordinator

Marie Kagaju, Program Director\*

Pierrette Lemieux, Office Manager

Chola Mulenga, Research Director\*

Dianne Urquhart, Executive Director

\* Resigned during the year

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## 2008 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is an honour for me to write this President's Report for the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Social Planning Council of Ottawa (SPC). Our city, and our society in general, has changed dramatically since that meeting of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1928 when 24 social service agencies in Ottawa applied for membership in the newly established Ottawa Council of Social Planning Agencies. The SPC has also changed dramatically, in step with the city that it serves.

The SPC has played an integral role throughout Ottawa's modern history. In an age of more rapid formal service/resource development, the SPC was key to the development of Para Transpo, the Youth Services Bureau, the Council on Aging, Centretown Community Health Centre and others. Such organizations continue to provide services that greatly enhance the quality of life for thousands of residents.

Today, the SPC operates in an environment in which actual service development dollars are much more scarce, despite the continuing needs of many Ottawa residents, particularly those from traditionally marginalized communities – persons with disabilities, persons of low-income, and persons who are new to Canada.

The SPC has responded to this environment by redefining its role in relation to the people that it serves. Our focus is **community-based social planning**. We provide communities, particularly marginalized communities, with the research, planning and networking support they need to identify pressing issues and to work collaboratively to constructively address their concerns. We are here to help provide a voice to those marginalized communities whose voice is so often lost in public discourse.

It is our work at the neighbourhood and community level, supporting people as they enhance the quality of their lives in tangible, concrete ways, that helps to make democracy real at the grassroots.

I would like to thank the Board members who had to leave us during the year, due to the heavy time commitments of their work and other involvements: Steve Webster, Paul Schuaerte and Jean-Denis Gabikini. We wish them all the best of luck in their endeavours. I would also like to thank the two outgoing Board members who are finishing their terms on our Board: Glenn Drover and Sean McKenny.

It has been a pleasure for me to serve as Chair of the Board for another year. The breadth of experience and skills of my fellow Board members has provided me with much learning and their strong commitment to the organization is a constant source of inspiration.

I would like to thank our exceptionally dedicated staff, particularly our Executive Director, Dianne Urquhart. I have the utmost admiration for her commitment to community-based social planning and development and for her unfailing integrity in bringing forward the perspective of community members in all SPC initiatives.

I would also like to thank Pierrette Lemieux, our SPC Office Manager for the last 22 years. I have certainly benefited from her years of experience over the past six years as well as from her most enjoyable sense of humour. We all wish her the very best in her retirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Gullen, President, on behalf of the Board of Directors

# Research with Impact

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The SPC provides authoritative research and information on which many depend for planning services, responding to changing needs, training staff and boards and presenting to various levels of government. In 2007 alone, we answered over 90,400 requests for our research, reports or for customized information requests.

## **New publications in 2007 - 2008:**

- Sizing Up Ottawa's Voluntary Sector
- Good Examples: A Resource Manual for Parents of Young Children
- Nine publications in the project: Communities Within: Diversity and Exclusion in Ottawa
  - Examining the Degree of Exclusion for Ottawa's Lebanese Community
  - Examining the Degree of Exclusion of Ottawa's Chinese Community
  - Examining the Degree of Exclusion for Ottawa's Somali Community
  - Exclusion Within Ottawa's Visible and Ethnic Minority Communities: The Intercase Study
  - Housing and Neighbourhood Exclusion of Ottawa's Visible and Ethnic Minority Communities
  - Income, Employment and Education of Ottawa's Visible and Ethnic Minority Communities
  - Civic Engagement of Ottawa's Visible and Ethnic Minority Communities
  - Demographic Characteristics of Visible Minorities in Ottawa. Fact Sheet No. 1, 2007
  - Socio-Economic Characteristics of Visible Minorities in Ottawa. Fact Sheet No. 2, 2007
- Three editions of the SPC Community Bulletin:
  - The Cost of Attending Elementary and Secondary School
  - Is Everybody Here? Inclusion and Exclusion of Families with Young Children in the Ottawa Area
  - The Cost of School Supplies: A Challenge for Many Families
- Ottawa Buy Local Guide – 3rd edition
- A Statistical Portrait of Ottawa's Rural Communities. Our Social Capital, Vol. VII, No. 1, Spring 2007
- What You Need To Know About School Fees in Elementary and Secondary Schools (in English, French, Somali, Mandarin, Spanish, Arabic)
- Best Practice in Community Knowledge Mobilization: A Literature Review (English only)
- Poverty in Ottawa, 2001 (Fact Sheet)
- The Working Poor in Ottawa, 2001 (Fact Sheet)
- Understanding Poverty (Fact Sheet)

The SPC's website at [www.spcottawa.on.ca](http://www.spcottawa.on.ca) is *the* source for community based social research about Ottawa, with access to research, free data and resources to support work in the community. This year saw a continuing high demand for the site, with over 2 million hits in 2007 alone. All SPC documents are provided for free on the website with free data on the "Bank of Knowledge" portion of the site. At "Communities Within: Diversity and Exclusion in Ottawa" residents can access research related to exclusion and inclusion of Ottawa's immigrant and visible minority residents (<http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/CW/index.htm>). We are grateful to United Way / Centraide Ottawa for its' generous funding of our research and website. Additional funds were provided by the City of Ottawa, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Social Development Canada and Canadian Heritage.

## New Initiatives for Sustainable Livelihoods

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Throughout its' history, the SPC has been best known as the place where people come together to find solutions for pressing social issues and to develop new services. In recent years we have focused on developing new initiatives in three areas: programs which support sustainable livelihoods for residents facing barriers in the local economy, meeting basic needs and increasing inclusion. Our most recent successes are listed below.

### Buy Local Food Campaign



Established in 2003, and hosted by the SPC, “Just Food Ottawa” brings together a broad range of people concerned about all aspects of food security in Ottawa. A major success of Just Food Ottawa has been its leadership on a Buy Local Food campaign.

Just Food Ottawa is a lead partner in a very successful joint initiative launched this year, called Savour Ottawa, which includes the City of Ottawa and Ottawa Tourism to promote local culinary products and experiences. The initiative aims to bring together food producers, vendors, the restaurant industry and the tourism sector to develop and promote products, experiences, events and venues that will brand Ottawa and area as a culinary tourism destination. The initiative is part of an Ontario government strategy aimed at supporting and developing culinary tourism in five regions in the province.



In addition, Just Food has created a community supported agriculture network, with the provision of technical assistance, to encourage this innovative production model in Ottawa. Finally, the 2007 Buy Local Map produced by Just Food encourages local residents to support Ottawa’s agricultural sector by buying locally produced food. With over 22,000 copies distributed, the Map has increased farm gate sales volumes.

Funding for the Buy Local Map and for the expanded Buy Local Campaign has been generously provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, with additional support from the City of Ottawa, Ottawa Tourism and the Community Economic Development Technical Assistance Program.

## Ethnic Minority Business Training and Mentoring

The Ottawa CED Network, hosted by the Social Planning Council, undertook a third year of an innovative project to support ethnic minority entrepreneurs establishing small businesses. Participants received training on core business elements and were linked with mentors who were established ethnic minority business owners. The program has grown from 20 participants in the first year, to 60 participants in the third “class” of entrepreneurs, who will graduate from the project in June 2008. The program has led to the creation of several new businesses in Ottawa each year. For those still in the development stage, a monthly “Entrepreneurship Café”, held at the SPC, offers the opportunity to continue peer learning and support as participants advance in their business planning. Funding for the Ethnic Minority Business project was provided by the City of Ottawa.



## Community Economic Development

The Ottawa Community Economic Development Network (OCEDN) creates social and economic opportunities for those who face barriers to fully participating in the economic life of our community. The SPC founded and continues to be the host organization for the OCEDN. The OCEDN provides technical assistance voluntary sector organizations undertaking community economic development initiatives including social enterprises. Highlights this year included workshops on social enterprise development and a very successful conference on innovative practices for social enterprises meeting the employment needs of people with developmental or psychiatric disabilities. Through the generous support of the Canyon Foundation (with funds administered by the Community Foundation of Ottawa) the OCEDN undertook a research initiative to identify a comprehensive technical assistance strategy for community economic development in Ottawa.

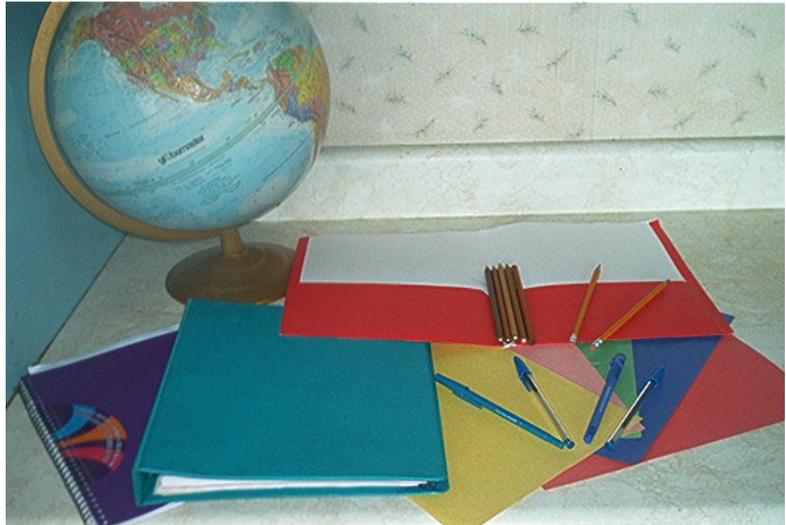
The group continues to advance on a new organizational structure which will increase capacity to support community economic development in Ottawa through stronger partner involvement. Funding for the OCEDN was generously provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the United Way of Ottawa, the City of Ottawa and the Community Foundation of Ottawa.

## New Initiatives to Meet Basic Needs

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### Addressing School Fees

The growing challenge of school fees for low and middle income parents was highlighted through the participatory research in the Kids and Community project (below). In response, the parent leadership group put significant focus on the issue. Through the support of the SPC, they developed various information resources, including an information sheet for parents available in six languages. Stakeholder forums were held in Ottawa and Renfrew County to find inclusive solutions. This initiative



has resulted in numerous school and boards in the Ottawa Valley re-visiting their school fees policies and practices to make their schools more inclusive. A local working group has been established, which continues a multi-faceted strategy including community education, local and provincial policy work, and coordination of remedial services. As well, the issue has been picked up by others across the province who are using our experience here to increase inclusion regarding school fees in their communities.

We are grateful for funding from Social Development Canada, and in-kind support from Family Services Ottawa.

### Poverty Reduction Strategy

Since May 2007, the Social Planning Council of Ottawa has been part of an initiative by the Social Planning Network of Ontario (SPNO) and Campaign 2000 (C2000) to support the development of a poverty reduction strategy for Ontario with specific targets for achievement. The SPNO launched a very successful cross community campaign to make poverty reduction a priority election issue in the 2007 Provincial election. Since then, the SPNO, C2000 and the Income Security Advocacy Centre have been facilitating a process for policy input to the Province as it moves forward on its strategy. In Ottawa, the SPC is working with a group of local stakeholders led by the Child and Youth Health Network for Eastern Ontario, to ensure low income residents in Ottawa participate in the Province's consultation process. As well, the SPC was pleased to host a conference of key provincial stakeholders, the highlight of which was a formal consultation session on the policy framework, targets and measures with the Honourable Deb Matthews (Minister of Children and Youth Services) who is responsible for the poverty reduction strategy.

## Access to Fresh Food for Low Income and City Residents

Just Food Ottawa continued with four projects to respond to the pressing need for low income residents to have more access to fresh produce. We started the growing season with a series of urban gardening workshops for residents who wanted to start a small kitchen garden. As well, we held a series of canning workshops for low income residents who wanted to preserve local produce for use through the winter. As part of the workshops we donated canning kits to several low income neighbourhood groups to be shared among community residents.

In collaboration with the Ottawa Food Bank we continued with the “Plant A Row – Donate A Row” project, in which backyard gardeners are encouraged to plant an extra row of vegetables to be donated to the Food Bank. As well, we organized an innovative gleaning project in which school children learned about agriculture by helping out on a farm and harvesting some surplus produce. Through the generosity of local farmers and the labour of the young people, several thousand pounds of produce were donated to local food banks.



Through a generous contribution from Ace Bakery, our community kitchen project works with community members to develop practical strategies to stretch their food budget.

Funding for Just Food Ottawa has been provided by the City of Ottawa. An in-kind contribution from Bernardin is also gratefully acknowledged.

## Community Garden Network



The Community Garden Network of Ottawa (CGN-RJC) is an information and resource sharing network that supports the sustainable development of community gardens in Ottawa. We support community garden groups to grow the skills and resources necessary to start and manage community gardens. The network is comprised of volunteers from community gardens and a part-time coordinator who, through education and advocacy, work to grow the community garden movement in Ottawa. As of spring 2007, Just Food (at the Social Planning Council) is the new location of the CGN. This year the CGN-RJC was very active, working on the development of three new gardens, and delivering an extensive series of workshops to build food gardening and preservation skills in the City.

# Creating Inclusion

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## Inclusion for Families of Young Children

The SPC, through the support of Social Development Canada (Social Development Partnerships), continued its work on a social inclusion project for families with children under 6. The project, called “Kids and Community”, builds on previous work by the SPC and the Social Planning Network of Ontario to increase inclusion for all residents. Through the collaboration of four other social planning councils in Ontario, the goal of the project is to improve inclusion in opportunities for early learning and healthy development for all families with young children.

The project is working with low income families, Aboriginal families, families of diverse backgrounds, and families where a parent is Deaf or has a disability. As well, through community partners in Renfrew County, we are exploring social inclusion for families of young children in Renfrew county. The project is led by a Parent Advisory Group, and assisted by a group of organizational representatives. The project is building parent-community partnerships and encouraging policy and program change.



Based on feedback from roughly 200 parents in 23 focus groups, the project partners developed an action plan to address the most important barriers to inclusion.

- Parents shared good examples of inclusion activities which could be implemented in schools and recreation services with limited costs. The information has been published in “Good Examples: A Resource Manual for Parents of Young Children”.
- As identified above, the group put significant focus on the challenging issue of school fees.
- The group held a very successful forum for multicultural parents on strategies to improve their young children’s transition to the school system. Over 80 participants shared what was working and what wasn’t.
- Following this, small self-advocate groups serving distinct immigrant and visible minority communities have continued to meet monthly on additional topics which are of concern to their community members as the children begin their school careers.

Thanks to Carlington Community Health Centre, Overbrook-Forbes Community Resource Centre, and the Ottawa Carleton District School Board for in-kind resources to support meetings and print materials. The project received significant support from student volunteers from the School of Social Work at Carleton University, particularly in 2007 / 2008 from Christina Jabalee.

## Addressing Barriers Faced by Immigrant and Visible Minority Residents

“Communities Within: Diversity and Exclusion in Ottawa” is a multi-year research and community development project documenting the nature and extent of social exclusion experienced by Ottawa’s visible and ethnic minority populations in all aspects of life – the economy, civic participation, and neighbourhoods. Findings of the research were released at a community meeting in February 2008. 140 community members discussed the implications of the research and made further suggestions related to the recommendations from the project.

Research findings examine the experience of the Chinese, Lebanese and Somali communities in Ottawa, and draw lessons from their experience which shed light on the experience of other ethnocultural groups. Results of the research can be found on the SPCs website, including recommendations pertinent for the individual communities and for other groups. The research identifies a three pronged approach to reduce exclusion and increase inclusion including:

- Enhance supports for individuals, families and communities experiencing exclusion in order to increase their access to resources and opportunities;
- Build inclusive environments, and
- Support the networking, social capital, planning and monitoring capacity of the community infrastructure within the various visible minority communities and within organizations addressing exclusion.

The project has resulted in an initiative to establish a coalition of ethno-cultural organizations in Ottawa. A one year development process will be undertaken, beginning in May 2008, to engage self-advocate groups in the development of the coalition.

Funding for this initiative is gratefully acknowledged from Canadian Heritage (Multiculturalism and Aboriginal Program).



# Strengthening the Voluntary Sector

The Social Planning Council focuses a significant portion of our research, planning and networking activities toward addressing key challenges affecting Ottawa's voluntary sector. Through the support of United Way / Centraide Ottawa the SPC provides a broad range of community development supports and professional services which research has identified as important to the capacity of the sector.

## A Centre for Voluntary Sector Activity

As part of our program to incubate new initiatives, the SPC provides a home, including office space, administration and infrastructure support for a variety of services. This is particularly important in an era of project funding, where core and infrastructure funding are difficult to obtain. For more information on the various initiatives, please visit their websites, also hosted by the SPC.



**Just Food Ottawa** including the Ottawa Community Garden Network has an extensive and informative site, found at [www.spcottawa.on.ca/ofsc](http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/ofsc). It includes the web version of the buy local map, and resources for food security and community gardens in Ottawa. Funding for this portion of the site is acknowledged from the City of Ottawa and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



The **Eastern Ontario Child Poverty Resource Network** sub-site features resources and information to assist in addressing child and family poverty in Ottawa and the surrounding rural counties. Thanks to the George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation for the funding to establish this site, found at [www.spcottawa.on.ca/EOCPN/](http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/EOCPN/).



Through generous support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, information about community economic development in Ottawa can be found on the site of the **Ottawa Community Economic Development Network** at [www.ced-dec-ott.net/english/ced\\_directory\\_eng.asp](http://www.ced-dec-ott.net/english/ced_directory_eng.asp).

In 2007 over 60,000 visits were made to the "One Stop Access to Ottawa-based Research and Evaluation Tools", part of a sub-site the SPC hosts for the **Community Based Research Network of Ottawa**. At [http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/CBRNO\\_website/home\\_cbrno.htm](http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/CBRNO_website/home_cbrno.htm) residents can find annotated listings of completed Ottawa-focused social research by agencies, governments and academics, as well as a wide range of research and evaluation tools.

The "On-Line Directory of Organizations Serving Immigrant and Visible Minority Residents" [www.spcottawa.on.ca/bok/directory](http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/bok/directory) enables small organizations to network with each other.

## Understanding Ottawa's Voluntary Sector

This year's lead research report entitled, "Sizing Up Ottawa's Voluntary Sector, provides a picture of Ottawa's voluntary sector, it's strengths, challenges and impact on the local economy. On November 28, 2007, in collaboration with the Ottawa Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, we held our Annual Consultation highlighting the findings of the report. The event brought together almost 100 people from government, the voluntary sector and funding agencies to hear strategies and develop skills to enhance the stability and capacity of Ottawa's non-profit sector. Funding was received from the United Way / Centraide Ottawa and the City of Ottawa.

## Information Infrastructure for the Voluntary Sector

The SPC is developing two innovative projects to significantly improve the ability of voluntary sector organizations to access the data and research they need to plan their services.

First, with the collaboration of the Child and Youth Health Network for Eastern Ontario and the Social Planning Network of Ontario, the SPC continues to develop a sustainable and leading edge on-line mapping and data portal. The initiative will provide easy access to up-to-date information on key socio-economic and population health issues, including data, research and networking supports. Funding for this initiative has been provided by GeoConnections.

Second, in collaboration with an Advisory Group of stakeholders, we are developing a community of practice for exchanging knowledge and information between community organizations, academics and decision makers. The initial focus is on the information needs of services supporting young adults who have not completed high school, including many who are working poor. Funding for this initiative has been provided by the Canadian Council on Learning.

## Services to the Voluntary Sector

The Social Planning Council supports community networks and voluntary sector organizations through the provision of a range of services including customized research, management, consultant services, facilitation, GIS mapping services, evaluation design, community development services, office space, administration, strategic planning, fundraising and organizational development.



# Honouring Community Leaders

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## Celebrating the Public Good

On November 14, 2007, the Social Planning Council of Ottawa (SPC) held its third Annual “Defender of the Public Good Ottawa” Awards Dinner to celebrate the achievements of three wonderful nominees. The Award celebrates individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and leadership in serving the public good in our community. The keynote address was given by Marvyn Novick Professor Emeritus from Ryerson University. Prof. Novick discussed the public good with particular focus on the poverty reduction strategy set out in his recent publication for Campaign 2000, entitled “A Call to Stewardship”.



The 2007 nominees were then honoured for their work, in recognition that each has made a significant difference to the lives of people living in poverty. The nominees were:

- **Bob Crook**, who has been involved in a variety of social justice issues including the development of landmark programs to benefit people facing barriers to employment ;
- **Rob MacDonald**, deeply committed employee of Housing Help, who has worked to prevent homelessness and to develop policy changes to protect tenants; and
- **Mary-Martha Hale**, Director of Anglican Social Services and chair of the Alliance to End Homeless.

The 2007 Defender of the Public Good Ottawa Award was presented to *Mary-Martha Hale*.

## In Memoriam

With great sadness we report the loss this year of three respected supporters of the SPC and of the wider voluntary sector.

**Joseph Assabgui** was a long time active volunteer with the SPC and other organizations serving the Francophone community. He was a member of the SPC Board, numerous SPC Committees and the Assemblée francophone et comité interagences.

**Malini Duguay** was Executive Assistant to Jim Zampreli, working for the SPC from 1993 – 97.

**Bill Zimmerman** was Executive Director of the Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton in the 1970s. Mr. Zimmerman played a key role in policy development at all levels of government and in developing community programs for transient youth. He helped create the Council on Aging.

# Our People

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## Thanks to Our Term and Contract Staff

**Cindy Flynn**, Accountant  
**Moe Garahan**, Director, Just Food Ottawa  
**Marie-Christine Gauthier**, Project Co-ordinator, Kids & Community Project  
**Christina Grammenos**, Project Coordinator, Ottawa Community Economic Development Network (OCEDN)  
**Heather Hossie**, Coordinator, Savour Ottawa and the OCEDN  
**Katherine Joberty**, Researcher - Writer  
**Terri O'Neill**, Administrative Assistant, Just Food  
**Nelson Ovalle**, Co-Director, OCEDN  
**Ted Oliver**, Researcher  
**Asha Philar**, Program Staff, Just Food Ottawa  
**René Rivard**, Project Coordinator, Community Based Research Network of Ottawa  
**Vilma Luna Sanchez**, Project Coordinator, OCEDN  
**Kristin Stark**, Project Coordinator, Just Food

## Thanks to Our Volunteers

The SPC benefited tremendously from the assistance of over 70 volunteers, working more than 3,000 hours as supports to administration, research, community forums, or community projects. We offer our sincere thanks to those volunteers who contributed substantial time this year:

Assia Aahdmenacer	Cliff Gazee	Augusto Paez
Marion Balla	Patrick Glémaud	Ted Oliver
Jaime Baquero	Dawn Grigor	Brenda Richardson
Antonio Blanco	Jennifer Harju	Carlos Rios
Laura Booker	Ken Hoffman	Helen Saravanamuttoo
Susan Brooks	Susan Isaac	Amanda Shaughnessy
George Brown	Rob Kalajian	Saide Suleiman
Kamarebe Bugingo	Denise Leroux	Wack Thiam
Marie Desjardins	Gabriella Lopez	Abigail Whitney
Carolina Duarte	Evan MacDonald	William Xie
Pam Fitzgerald	Elsbeth McKay	Nimo Yussuf
Simon Foster	Elinor Mueller	

## Placement and Practicum Students

**Mathieu Blanchard**, *University of Ottawa, Faculty of Education*  
**Maxine Cléroux**, *University of Ottawa School of Social Work*  
**Erin Elston**, *Carleton University School of Social Work*  
**Christina Jabalee**, *Carleton University School of Social Work*  
**Melanie McGinnis**, *Carleton University School of Social Work*  
**Marie-Eve Verret**, *University of Ottawa School of Social Work*

# Our Donors

## Our Individual Donors

Caroline Andrew  
Marion Balla  
Michael Bulthuis  
Ann Clifford  
Scott Feschuk  
Elspeth Gullen  
Jennifer Gullen  
Joan Gullen  
Karen Hill  
Joyce Ireland  
Susan Isaac  
Fran Klodawsky  
Suzanne Lavergne  
Mary Pat MacKinnon

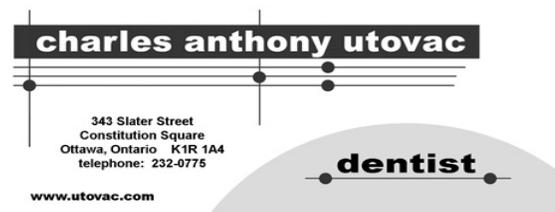
Frank Martin  
Elinor Mueller  
Vivien Runnels  
Helen Saravanamuttoo  
Prof. Herbert I. H. Saravanamuttoo  
Msgr. Peter Schonenbach  
Aron Spector  
Richard Stewart  
Joyce Turnbull  
Richard Stewart  
Bill & Susan Van Iterson  
Sabina Wassarlaus  
Steve Webster

We are grateful for a donation received in honour of Jane Jacobs.

## Our Corporate Donors



**Ace Bakery**



## Our Funders

The SPC offers sincere thanks to our funders:

In particular, **United Way / Centraide Ottawa**, for its' continuing generous funding of our major services including:

- our key research projects
- our information services including our website
- much of our participatory planning activity
- our supports to networks
- the Community Based Research Network of Ottawa
- the Ottawa Community Economic Development Network.



**THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION**

The **Ontario Trillium Foundation** for its' generous support of

- the Ottawa Community Economic Development Network
- the “Ottawa Buy Local Guide” of Just Food Ottawa
- our geographic information system capacity through the provincial project of the Social Planning Network of Ontario called “Geographic and Numeric Information System”.



**LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO**

The **City of Ottawa** for its support of

- Just Food Ottawa, the Community Garden Network and the “Ottawa Buy Local Guide”
- The Ethnic Minority Business project of the Ottawa Community Economic Development Network
- Our lead report.



The **Community Foundation of Ottawa** for its support of

- The Community Economic Development Network
- The Bank of Knowledge.



The **Canyon Foundation** for its support of the Ottawa Community Economic Development Network.

**Human Resources Development Canada** for its support of a summer student placement.

**Canadian Heritage (Multiculturalism and Aboriginal Programs)** for its support of “Communities Within: Diversity and Exclusion in Ottawa”

**Social Development Canada** for its support of “Kids and Community: A Parent Readiness Project”.

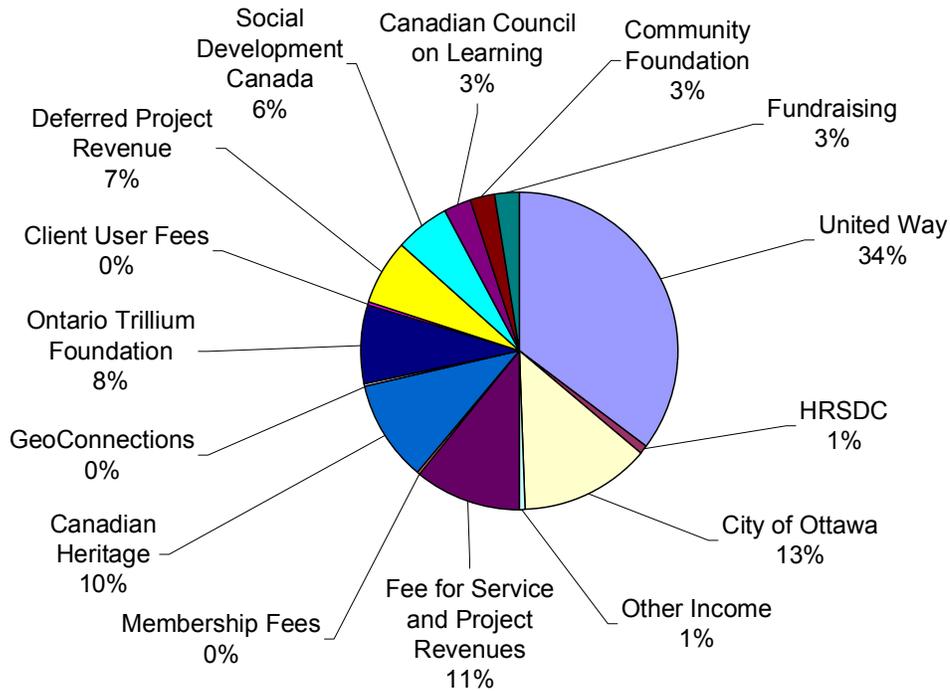
The support of the **Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration** is acknowledged.

The **Canadian Council on Learning** for its support for the creation of a knowledge mobilization infrastructure with respect to the needs of young adults who have not completed high school.

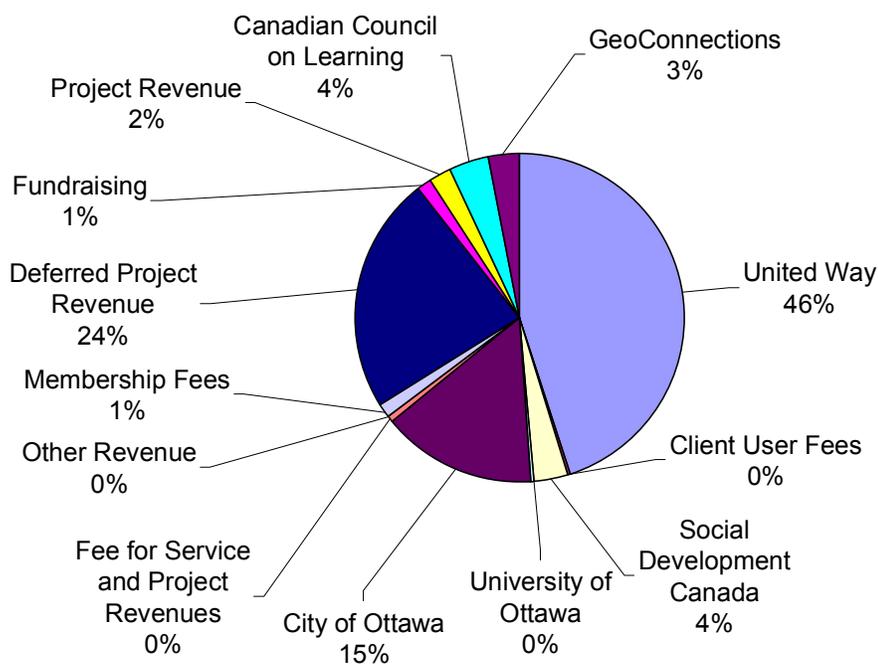
## Revenues

For more details, please see the audited financial statements which follow.

### Total Revenues 2007 (audited)



### Revenues Committed for 2008 as of May 2008 (unaudited)



**SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
OF OTTAWA**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

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## **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Directors of  
Social Planning Council of Ottawa

I have audited the balance sheet of the Social Planning Council of Ottawa as at December 31, 2007 and the statement of revenue, expenditure and deficit for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at December 31, 2007 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

**STEPHEN H. SASLOVE**  
Chartered Accountant  
Licensed Public Accountant

Ottawa, Ontario  
March 25, 2008

**SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF OTTAWA**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 9,747	\$ -
Accounts receivable	100,917	20,616
Prepaid expenses	<u>6,770</u>	<u>6,101</u>
	117,434	26,717
<b>COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND ASSETS (note 3)</b>	5,808	3,953
<b>FUNDS HELD IN TRUST (note 1(b))</b>	956	1,056
<b>RESTRICTED RESERVE ASSETS</b>	<u>24,004</u>	<u>33,554</u>
	<u>\$ 148,202</u>	<u>\$ 65,280</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Bank indebtedness	\$ -	\$ 12,606
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	67,376	38,277
Deferred revenue from special projects (note 4)	<u>123,950</u>	<u>53,128</u>
	<u>191,326</u>	<u>104,011</u>
<b>COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND (note 3)</b>	<u>5,808</u>	<u>3,953</u>
<b>FUNDS HELD IN TRUST (note 1(b))</b>	<u>956</u>	<u>1,056</u>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>		
Unrestricted	(73,892)	(77,294)
Restricted reserve (note 1(g))	<u>24,004</u>	<u>33,554</u>
	<u>(49,888)</u>	<u>(43,740)</u>
	<u>\$ 148,202</u>	<u>\$ 65,280</u>

On behalf of the Board:

\_\_\_\_\_ : Director

\_\_\_\_\_ : Director

**SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF OTTAWA**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND DEFICIT**  
**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	<u>General Operations</u>	<u>Research, Planning &amp; Networking</u>	<u>Special Projects</u>	<u>2007 Total</u>	<u>2006 Total</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>					
Deferred project revenue from previous year	\$ -	\$ 11,652	\$ 41,476	\$ 53,128	\$ 53,003
United Way of Ottawa	-	263,527	25,000	288,527	238,527
City of Ottawa	-	92,354	18,000	110,354	41,828
Other income	8,338	67,392	19,308	95,038	47,538
Canadian Heritage	-	84,105	-	84,105	75,343
The Ontario Trillium Foundation	-	36,700	28,000	64,700	97,900
Social Development Canada	-	-	46,113	46,113	48,350
Canadian Council on Learning	-	21,750	-	21,750	-
Community Foundation of Ottawa	-	-	21,187	21,187	14,400
Fundraising	17,261	3,432	-	20,693	14,624
HRDC	-	4,713	-	4,713	3,915
Membership fees	2,435	-	-	2,435	3,570
GeoConnections	-	2,425	-	2,425	-
CHEO	-	-	-	-	23,200
Data Consortium revenue	-	-	-	-	5,000
University of Ottawa	-	-	-	-	3,900
Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration	-	-	-	-	<u>2,127</u>
	<u>28,034</u>	<u>588,050</u>	<u>199,084</u>	<u>815,168</u>	<u>673,225</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b> (Schedule of Expenditure)	36,881	500,459	149,838	687,178	667,481
<b>DEFERRED REVENUE</b> (note 4)	<u>-</u>	<u>74,450</u>	<u>49,500</u>	<u>123,950</u>	<u>53,128</u>
	<u>36,881</u>	<u>574,909</u>	<u>199,338</u>	<u>811,128</u>	<u>720,609</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE (EXPENDITURE OVER REVENUE)</b>					
	<u>\$ (8,847)</u>	<u>\$ 13,141</u>	<u>\$ (254)</u>	4,040	(47,384)
<b>UNRESTRICTED DEFICIT, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>				(77,294)	(29,393)
<b>TRANSFER TO RESTRICTED RESERVE</b>				<u>(638)</u>	<u>(517)</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED DEFICIT, END OF YEAR</b>				<u>\$ (73,892)</u>	<u>\$ (77,294)</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements)

**SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF OTTAWA**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

**1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

(a) **Nature of Business**

The Council is incorporated under the laws of Ontario without share capital by way of letters patent. The Council is a private, not-for-profit and registered charitable organization directed by a volunteer board of directors. Its mission is to provide the residents of Ottawa with the means to exercise informed leadership on issues affecting their social and economic well-being. The Council is dependent on grants from various levels of government and the United Way of Ottawa in order to maintain its current levels of service.

(b) **Funds Held in Trust**

Funds which are administered on behalf of other organizations are not included in the statement of revenue, expenditure and deficit.

(c) **Furniture and Equipment**

Furniture and equipment are charged against operations in the year of acquisition.

(d) **Donated Assets, Goods and Services**

The value of furniture, equipment, goods and services donated to the Council are not reflected in these financial statements unless there is a cash transaction associated with such donations since the fair value of such donations is often not reasonably determinable.

(e) **Deferred Revenue**

Deferred revenue represents advance funding for the subsequent calendar year for the Council's special projects.

(f) **Revenue Recognition**

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

# **SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF OTTAWA**

## **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

(g) **Restricted Reserve**

The Council maintains a portion of its surplus in an internally restricted reserve. The terms and conditions of the amount, use and restrictions of the reserve are determined by the Council.

(h) **Use of estimates**

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. This requires management to make estimates and assumptions concerning assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses reported upon in the fiscal period. For instance, management may have to assess the value of receivables in advance of their collection. Similarly, management may have to estimate amounts payable in advance of receipt of suppliers' invoices. These procedures are necessary in order to prepare financial statements within an appropriate time period. Consequently, actual amounts could differ from these estimates.

## **2. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, Community Foundation Endowment Fund assets, restricted reserve assets, bank indebtedness, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, deferred revenue and funds held in trust. It is management's opinion that the Council is exposed only to normal interest, currency and business risks associated with these instruments. Unless otherwise noted, book values of the financial instruments approximate their relative market values.

## **3. COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND**

In 2004, the Council established an endowment fund with Community Foundation of Ottawa. The fund was established in order to begin the process of providing long term funding stability. The initial contribution to the fund was \$3,200. At December 31, 2007, the fund had a balance of \$5,808 (2006: \$3,953) due primarily to contributions received in the year.

**SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF OTTAWA**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

**4. DEFERRED REVENUE FROM SPECIAL PROJECTS**

During the year the Council obtained funding for its special projects. The balance of \$123,950 (2006: \$53,128) represents the funds available for subsequent years' expenses for special projects existing at year end and is comprised of the following:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Research, planning and networking	\$ 57,007	\$ 11,652
Community Economic Development Network	44,907	41,476
Just Food - Community Garden Network	17,443	-
Kids and Community	<u>4,593</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 123,950</u>	<u>\$ 53,128</u>

**5. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

A statement of cash flows has not been provided as management feels it would not provide additional useful information.

**SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF OTTAWA**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

	<u>General Operations</u>	<u>Research, Planning &amp; Networking</u>	<u>Special Projects</u>	<u>2007 Total</u>	<u>2006 Total</u>
Contract personnel	\$ -	\$ 113,495	\$ 72,520	\$ 186,015	\$ 124,534
Salaries/Honorariums	9,128	157,561	15,114	181,803	270,768
Consultant fees/evaluation	-	56,929	3,769	60,698	20,799
Employee benefits	2,425	35,790	9,841	48,056	47,258
Occupancy and shared services	7,398	34,693	1,785	43,876	43,878
Translation	171	8,352	16,962	25,485	25,467
Printing, photocopying and desktop publishing	85	15,804	3,092	18,981	16,447
Office equipment maintenance and leases	607	15,821	2,500	18,928	8,690
Public meetings	191	9,048	8,895	18,134	17,919
Sundry, local transport and participant expenses	195	5,612	7,436	13,243	16,929
Conference, travel and staff development	-	4,544	6,007	10,551	6,775
Bookkeeping	1,842	7,278	150	9,270	7,434
Fundraising	6,143	513	-	6,656	6,732
Miscellaneous expenses	1,309	5,073	212	6,594	4,973
Annual consultation	312	4,806	-	5,118	1,917
Community Garden Network - start-up	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Website/Internet	317	4,026	332	4,675	2,899
Audit	860	3,468	33	4,361	3,658
Stationery and supplies	481	3,218	652	4,351	3,865
AGM and annual report	3,892	-	-	3,892	2,976
Telephone	597	2,762	319	3,678	3,152
Insurance	634	2,763	-	3,397	3,284
Postage and shipping	195	2,209	77	2,481	1,996
Equipment and furniture	-	721	119	840	-
Volunteer/Board support	-	653	23	676	1,663
Subscriptions and publications	99	255	-	354	352
Information and data purchase	-	65	-	65	23,116
	<u>\$ 36,881</u>	<u>\$ 500,459</u>	<u>\$ 149,838</u>	<u>\$ 687,178</u>	<u>\$ 667,481</u>