

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE IMPACT



ASSOCIATION OF
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES BC

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MOVEMENT



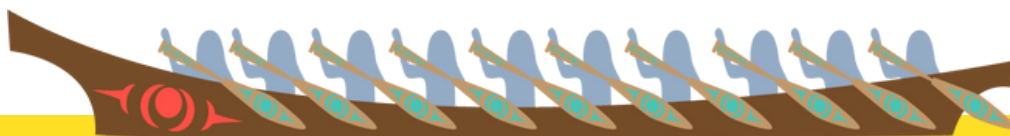
DECOLONIZATION IN ACTION

We acknowledge that our houses and camp operate on the traditional, ancestral and stolen lands of the Coast Salish people, represented by the Musqueam, Squamish, Semiahmoo, Kwantlen, Tsleil-Waututh, Kwikwetlem, Tsawwassen and Sto:lo Nations.

Together with the ANHBC Board, this leadership is doing incredible work to build a path forward for the organization through the lens of anti-racism and decolonization. We have spent the last eighteen months in a transformation process that is meant to touch every member of our team and our neighbours. It is intended to build deeper relationships and connection in all areas – with our neighbours, staff, Boards and volunteers. We are committed to engagement and listening to voices that are unheard, from multiple perspectives and lived experiences. And, is part of change in, and of, itself.

Our goal is to create cohesion; shared understandings of our values and the manifestation of those values. In order to do that, we must work together to shift inequitable structures and systems to create transformational change. Driven by this commitment, we are working to decolonize our policies, practices and ways of knowing to create an inclusive and anti-racist organization.

The artwork throughout this document is by Charlene Johnny - Coast Salish artist from the Quw'utsun Tribes of Duncan, B.C. living and working on the unceded territory of the x^wməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. [Learn more about Charlene's interdisciplinary work here.](#)



Dear ANHBC Members, Friends and Neighbours,

It is our honour to once again share the great work that is happening in our neighbourhoods, work that strengthens our bonds as members of our Association and community. It is these relationships that have been built over the years, and the values that we share, that have helped us to manage these last two, incredibly complex, years and continue the great work done in neighbourhood houses.

Two aspects, relationships and values, have been top of mind throughout 2021 as staff, volunteers and members of our community began to work on ANHBC's strategic transformational plan. At its core, this plan embeds our commitment to decolonization and anti-racism, and builds on the decades of work that has led to our current model of supporting and engaging with diverse communities across BC.



Liz Lougheed Green, CEO

In developing this plan we knew that we wanted to foster deeper relationships and ensure voices that have been unheard are centered in our conversations and planning. This is necessary, but challenging work, as it requires us to examine our role in holding-up inequitable structures and understand our responsibility to reimagine new ways of working together and organizing. We recognize that this builds on the important work of past generations of social change leaders and will take lifetimes of commitment. This plan represents our dedication to advancing and continuing this work – starting with ourselves and our own policies, practices and ways of knowing.

An example of this commitment in action is the development of two new policies, the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) and our Social Procurement Policy. Both of these align with our mission and values using environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG), or an impact investing approach. We recognize that every purchase or investment ANHBC makes has an economic, environmental and social impact, whether intended or not. These new policies are designed to distribute social and economic benefits, and are structured to benefit all people, particularly those who are equity-denied.

We are also embedding this commitment in the ongoing redevelopment of our buildings and in how we understand and deliver programs. The [Cedar Cottage NH](#) redevelopment has engaged Indigenous neighbours in developing and implementing design principles, which resulted in a beautiful submission for rezoning to the City of Vancouver. Other redevelopment work is underway at [Sasamat Outdoor Centre, Gordon NH](#), [Alexandra NH](#) and [Mount Pleasant NH](#) - all of which are centering Indigenous perspectives.

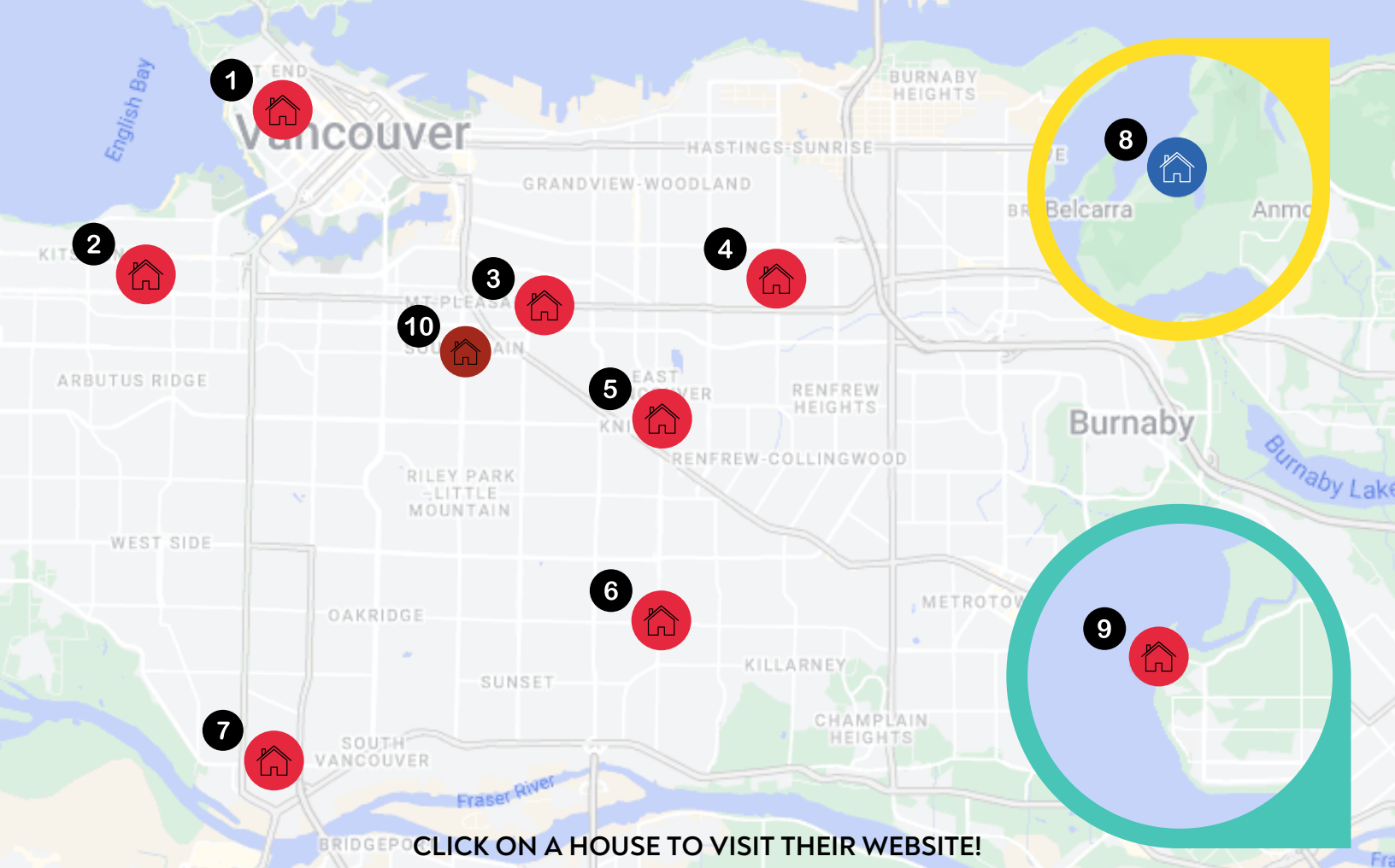


Darius Maze, President

We are humbled by the resilience of staff, who have adapted to changes in how we connect, how we work and how we build community compassionately. This year was remarkable for senior leaders of the organization, many of whom celebrated milestones in tenure ranging from 20–40 years. At the same time, we welcomed three new Executive Directors at Kitsilano NH, Marpole NH and South Vancouver NH. There is much to be celebrated around the organization over the last year, and ANHBC is well positioned for continued evolution, great outcomes, and opportunities for increased impacts in our communities supporting our vision of everyone living in a healthy and engaged community.

Liz Lougheed Green, CEO

Darius Maze, President



HOUSES, CAMP, & CENTRAL

- 1 Gordon Neighbourhood House
- 2 Kitsilano Neighbourhood House
- 3 Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House
- 4 Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House
- 5 Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House



- South Vancouver Neighbourhood House 6
- Marpole Neighbourhood House 7
- Sasamat Outdoor Centre 8
- Alexandra Neighbourhood House 9
- Central Services 10

ANHBC IN NUMBERS

50 SITES IN METRO VANCOUVER

1293 LICENSED CHILDCARE SPACES

40,000+ PEOPLE ASSISTED EACH YEAR

400+ PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

624 EMPLOYEES, **232** FULL-TIME

1818 VOLUNTEERS, **44,134** HOURS

FUNDED BY **3** LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT & DONATIONS



NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE IMPACT IN CONVERSATION



"People bring their gifts and joy to neighbourhood houses everyday."

- Jaylene Tyme,
Two Spirit Artist/Activist -
GNH Community Member



*"My special place is ANHBC!
My family, where I belong! Ever
since I migrated from
Philippines in 2011."*

- Pam Gonzalez,
Central Services Accounting



*"I felt like they were accepting
of me and wanted to give me
that space [to be myself]."*

- Kiko Kung, Alexandra NH
Youth Engagement Facilitator

Total #
Participants
40,781

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE IMPACT

We asked staff and participants
one question:
What does a neighbourhood house
mean to you?



anhbc.org/nhw



IMPACT: DECOLONIZATION

N

Neighbourhood houses across the Lower Mainland have the honour of deep and ongoing relationships with Norm Leech (T'it'q'et, St'at'imc Nation), Executive Director of the Vancouver Aboriginal Community Policing Centre. Norm is a leader and facilitator who inspires thought-provoking conversations through stories and dialogue on topics such as existing systemic inequities, intergenerational trauma and healing, cultural commonalities and connection. Norm has been instrumental in leading and influencing decolonizing work at ANHBC neighbourhood houses, his partnership and friendship are imperative in building trust and real connection.



We are honoured to share a Q&A with Norm around his Neighbourhood House Impact Story:

What first brought you to neighbourhood houses?

Indigenous programs and staff invited us in for collaboration and participation. Generally friends or friends-of-friends are the connection and relationships that bring us in.

Which neighbourhood houses have you been connected to over the years?

Most deeply with Frog Hollow the last couple of years. But peripherally with Cedar Cottage, Mount Pleasant, Kiwassa, and Collingwood over the past five years. I was invited for presentations and sharing at cultural programs and activities, but really only as a guest, until we were engaged by Frog Hollow.

- cont'd next page

What impact do you see neighbourhood houses have on your community?

The potential impact is systemic. True change begins with ideas and sharing those ideas with people we know and trust. Neighbourhood houses are where those trusted relations are created and nurtured, where people help each other and build friendships. They have already helped make Vancouver a city of volunteers. The Community Policing Centres have been built on that same model. That spirit of civic duty and volunteerism may be the greatest asset this city has.

What impact have neighbourhood houses had on your life?

Not a great deal growing up, my family was not involved when I was young. Only in the past few years, as neighbourhood houses explored reconciliation, did we begin to form and build a relationship between organizations, staff and people.

Frog Hollow has gone beyond inviting or welcoming or wanting participation, relationship and connection with Indigenous people and organizations, to the point of deciding that it is necessary for their continued operation in these territories. That is the only real way to reconcile the history and the harms of colonization. I think it has proven mutually beneficial in countless ways and with a synergy that has created results greater than the sum of the inputs.

“Norm has been our mentor, teacher and friend of Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House” shared Gloria Tsui, Intergenerational Coordinator. “Through experiences such as meditations, he has guided us in deeper connection with the land and ourselves. These experientials also open up space for deeper reflection on our work and how to approach our projects in a more decolonized way.”

Thank you Norm for your ongoing commitment and connection to ANHBC neighbourhood houses. Your leadership, experience and perspective push us to continue our path of decolonization, and commitment to good relationships.



Wacus Salee Advisory Circle
Frog Hollow NH

**IMPACT:
DECOLONIZATION**



What impact do neighbourhood houses have on community?

As we emerge from two years of isolation, neighbourhood houses are proving to be more important than ever. Our work to seek social justice, build community, pursue Truth and Reconciliation and foster belonging at the local level is making a difference in peoples' lives. Gordon Neighbourhood House is once again a place filled with laughter, friends and good food - a place of opportunity and connection for everyone. We are happy to be back!

**- SIOBHAN POWLOWSKI,
GORDON NH**



"When you share your culture, it is a gift to all of us."



What impact do neighbourhood houses have on community?

Marpole Neighbourhood House provides a beacon for those searching for connection and a sense of belonging. Members are not only participating in programs and services, but they are also engaging in community development and co-creating safe spaces where everyone is welcome. The ability to get back to in-person activities has given everyone connected to the house an opportunity to re-engage and strengthen relationships with new energy and enthusiasm.

**- NILDA BORRINO,
MARPOLE NH**



IMPACT: YOUTH BELONGING



Youth
Participants
3,956

When I was 15 years old, I moved from downtown Vancouver to the small community of White Rock. It took me a long time to make friends that accepted me for who I was as a depressed, queer, and Asian kid, and I was looking for something to do after school rather than mope around at home.

One day, a friend introduced me to the Youth Collective volunteer group at Alexandra Neighbourhood House (Alex House). The collective was a collaboration between youth workers and youth in our community, and their mission was to create a safe, sober, inclusive space in White Rock – a place for youth to meet new friends and explore their passions, and get support for any challenges they had.

From age 12, I was always worried if I was going to ‘make it’ – I started struggling with suicidal ideation then and still do. I didn’t feel like I was capable of anything. But through the Youth Collective meetings, that started to change a lot! The consistency of meetings gave me something positive to look forward to if I was having a rough week. The best part was the feeling of empowerment I got from just being in the Collective. No one pushed me into doing what I was terrified to do, but instead provided opportunities for me to grow my skills. They trusted me to know what my talents were and how I could help, but I still felt encouraged to take on anxiety-inducing public speaking roles because I knew the Collective had my back.

Now I work at the Youth Space which just hit its fifth anniversary! I facilitate the Rainbow Connection program for LGBTQ2S+ youth, and also give presentations and write grants to gain support for the project. I’m a part of the Strategic Planning Core Team at ANHBC, which makes me really excited because neighbourhood houses get to set an example in our community of how non-profit organizations can implement decolonizing practices. Neighbourhood houses gave me a chance to be myself and find my voice, and an ongoing opportunity to foster the voices of other youth like me!

- Kiko Kung (they/them) Youth Engagement Facilitator, Alexandra Neighbourhood House

*What impact have
neighbourhood houses had
on your life?*

Neighbourhood houses played a key part in my youth. They hosted programs that allowed me to engage with peers who were looking to make a social change. Neighbourhood houses provided me with my first employment opportunities - getting to teach, mentor and coach children and youth through different programming. Those experiences have definitely played a foundational role, and shaped a large part of who I am today.

- TEDDY CHAN,
KITSILANO NH



*What impact do
neighbourhood houses have
on community?*

Sasamat Outdoor Centre is a retreat away from urban life, welcoming people from across the Lower Mainland for an opportunity to experience the outdoors in community. Each season the summer camp and outdoor education centre offer children and youth a place to form relationships and build one's identity, helping so many to overcome challenges they may be experiencing simply through the joy of connecting in outdoor recreation. Serving as a second home for many, Sasamat is a place of lifelong memories and moments of self-discovery and Learning.

- KRISTEN HYODO,
SASAMAT OUTDOOR CENTRE



IMPACT: FOOD JUSTICE

Community
Meals Served
23,011



Every day, one in seven BC families struggle to put food on the table. Their concerns are not just about food, but rather systemic impacts that influence their ability to afford food and other basic needs. Food insecurity affects not only the physical and mental health of households, but the wellbeing and resilience of entire communities. As inflation in Canada reaches a four-decade high and costs of living continue to rise, more and more neighbours are feeling the pinch.

The last 12 months have revealed the fragility of our food systems when faced with crises such as COVID-related disruptions or the sudden and catastrophic flooding of the Fraser Valley. In a matter of weeks, these emergencies have shone a light on the precarious nature of food sources, supply chains, systemic inequalities, and people's access to essential goods and services.

At the same time, these crises also offered a glimpse of new alternatives, and the roadmap for a more equitable and resilient food system. Neighbours supporting one another, mutual aid networks springing up to plug gaps, organizations adapting and piloting new initiatives, and all levels of government working to secure the production, delivery, and provision of food.

As pandemic circumstances shift, we are re-evaluating our approach beyond providing emergency food access and aim to question the power dynamics that create marginalization within our food system. Too often, food insecure neighbours are forced to depend on unreliable, unhealthy, and undesirable food sourced from ad hoc charity. Instead of relying on charity and the compassion of individuals, what if we built caring and compassionate systems instead?

In September 2021, [Gordon Neighbourhood House](#) began a Systems Change Project to advance a place-based and strengths-based approach to food justice and poverty reduction that is unique to Vancouver's West End. Guided by our peer research team, consisting of neighbours who have experienced food insecurity, we are bringing people around the table to build local food systems that work for us. We aim to build advocacy pathways to mobilize and affirm our right to food, while developing food justice initiatives that prioritize and reflect the voices in our neighbourhood. Our vision is a community-driven food system that fosters equitable access, intercultural exchange and dialogue, healthy eating, diverse food traditions, sustainable production, capacity-building, and connection to the land and each other. We are excited to roll this out for the years to come. [Click here for more information!](#)

What impact have neighbourhood houses had on your life?

Neighbourhood houses always remind me of how a collection of people can change lives, systems and communities, if we work together with a purpose. Since working in a neighbourhood house, I have seen my community and neighbourhood differently. I find myself quoting, "building the capacity of our community, is the neighbourhood house way." I look for the multiple individual ideas to form our collective values, not only at work, but also in my home life and interpersonal relationships.

**- MIMI RENNIE,
SOUTH VANCOUVER NH**



What impact have neighbourhood houses had on your life?

Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House is the ultimate place to bring together passion, commitment, and a high standard of quality of care to the community. Our staff come from all corners of the world, and their own journeys of finding meaningful employment and livelihood, have led them to work at Mount Pleasant NH. The space to learn, grow, and reflect in an organization that believes in the human potential and capacity of each and every individual is deeply appreciated.

**- TULIA CASTELLANOS,
MOUNT PLEASANT NH**



DONOR IMPACT



Day Camps
1,142

Sue Melnychuk is a long-time and special champion of neighbourhood houses, with deep connections to ANHBC. Sue's connection to ANHBC began when her son started attending Camp Sasamat every summer with his friends from East Vancouver. This experience was very impactful for her son, guiding his academic career toward Forestry at UBC. Because of their family's ongoing involvement and connection with Sasamat, Sue decided to volunteer on their board in 2010 and eventually became the Sasamat representative on the ANHBC board and then a Director on the ANHBC board. Sue's commitment to volunteering for the Neighbourhood House Movement did not end there, from June 2017 to January 2020, Sue served as the ANHBC Board President. Today Sue continues her support of neighbourhood houses by giving monthly to our newest house: Marpole Neighbourhood House - an important initiative for her, as she feels that establishing neighbourhood houses need the support.

Sue is committed to championing neighbourhood houses because of the local, grassroots work that every house engages in. "The Association of Neighbourhood Houses is able to reach people who often encounter gaps in getting support" shared Sue, "and neighbourhood houses are able to build resilience within and strengthen communities at the local level."

To Sue, the work done at neighbourhood houses is connected to the important themes in our current lives, such as reconciliation and decolonization. Sue has been a learner along with leaders within the neighbourhood house movement who have helped to push a better understanding of our role and shared history across the Lower Mainland. For Sue monthly giving is an easy way to support the work of neighbourhood houses, and she encourages those with the ability to give, to consider making monthly donations to ANHBC.

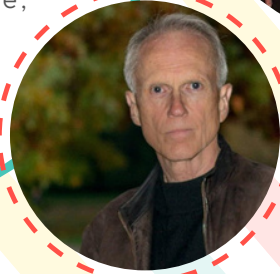
Thank you Sue for your continued connection, support and championing of the Neighbourhood House Movement and its impact within communities across the Lower Mainland

[Click here to learn more](#) about monthly giving and other ways to support ANHBC

What impact have neighbourhood houses had on your life?

Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House has shown me that the most profound impacts come from the simplest expressions of the values of inclusion, acceptance, belonging and love.

**- GARY DOBBIN,
FROG HOLLOW NH**



What impact do neighbourhood houses have on community?

Neighbourhood houses make the world a better place. This work is driven by the belief and values that everyone has something to contribute and has a part to play to make our communities a better place to live. Neighbourhood houses have the ability to activate ideas of social justice, and in our local community it is our work with seniors, children, celebrations and culture.

**- DONNA CHANG,
CEDAR COTTAGE NH**



What impact have neighbourhood houses had on your life?

I often share that discovering neighbourhood house work was like coming home for me. There is lots of room for creativity, while making a meaningful impact in my own neighbourhood. I feel very fortunate to be able to make a difference in the neighbourhood I live in, where I can bring my whole self to my work. I know that the choices I make day in and day out will have an impact on the people around me, that keeps me motivated.

**- PENNY BRADLEY,
ALEXANDRA NH**



IMPACT: REFUGEES AND NEWCOMERS



Newcomer
Participants
2,647

When you walk through the doors of a neighbourhood house you are met with a buzz of action and activity, hear the sounds of a lively diverse community, smell the welcoming warm spices of communal meals, and have a sense that you belong.

Neighbourhood houses are special places throughout the Lower Mainland, where neighbours create a welcoming, safe and comfortable space for all members of the community. They are especially important to newcomers.

In January 2016, Ghfran Alkour arrived in Canada with her husband and their six children after leaving their home in Darraa, Syria as refugees. Coming by way of Jordan, Ghfran and her children—who ranged in age from infant to late teens, ages one to 17—arrived in Vancouver without familial ties, English fluency, or connections to community.

“Everything was very new to us and looked scary as we didn't know much about the country and we didn't have relatives here to help us,” shares Ghfran. “None of us spoke English so we didn't know how to communicate with others and ask for assistance if we needed help.”

Soon after Ghfran arrived in Vancouver, she was connected to Sherifa Azaab, a Settlement Worker at Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House. Sherifa and her colleagues assist newcomers to settle into their communities by providing direct services of information, referrals, advocacy and orientation for families through the process of settlement. They also provide a welcoming and supportive presence in a time of intense uncertainty. According to Ghfran, Sherifa's most important role of all was the deep connections she helped the family make to their new neighbourhood. - cont'd page 19

“Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House was the first place my family and I went to when we faced challenges, and even now after living here for five years, it still plays a key role in our life,” says Ghfran.

For decades, neighbourhood houses across Metro Vancouver have been welcoming and comfortable spaces where all members of the community can take part in programs and develop deep connections with their neighbours. Everyone from youth to seniors, newcomers like Ghfran, to long-time residents can find a sense of belonging at their local neighbourhood house.

During the Syrian refugee crisis, neighbourhood houses responded by working together with volunteers, staff and partner organizations to ensure the families arriving were not only met with services they needed (translation, childcare, food, etc.), but also with a strong sense of connection within their new community.

“Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House was home to us especially when we first arrived, not knowing anyone or speaking English. Sherifa and the Neighbourhood House made our lives here so much easier and helped us to feel that we belong to this community,” shares Ghfran.



“MPNH has helped us overcome many challenges, to build our future here, which I will forever be grateful for. Three of my children are in university now, my older daughter received a scholarship to study at UBC and follow her dreams of becoming a doctor. As for me, despite all the responsibilities I had particularly due to having a big family to take care of, I overcame these challenges and found a job as a teacher, which is in the same field I used to work in back in my home country.”

Now, as Canadians are beginning to welcome Ukrainian refugees, neighbourhood houses are once again stepping up and doing what they do best, responding to the specific needs of people joining the community. Neighbourhood houses are uniquely well suited to welcome and support newcomers because their programs are created by and for the community—the very definition of grassroots support. But neighbourhood houses do more than just meet people’s basic needs: they provide opportunities for connection and growth which is so deeply needed in this moment of time. If we’ve learned anything over the past two years of the pandemic, it’s that we need each other. By coming together, we can learn, grow and thrive.

IMPACT: REFUGEES AND NEWCOMERS

THIS YEAR...

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

REVENUE



- government grants - 55%
- earned income - 30%
- donations and fundraising - 1%
- other contributions - 13%
- investment income - 1%

EXPENSES

- salaries and benefits - 77%
- purchased services and subcontracts - 5%
- program, food and transportation - 8%
- other - 10%



THIS YEAR...

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

OPERATING REVENUE	2022	2021
Earned income	8,698,972	4,666,250
Province of British Columbia	9,572,945	8,675,060
Federal government	3,866,650	5,076,344
United Way	1,779,984	1,883,735
City of Vancouver	1,850,548	1,610,798
Other contributions and miscellaneous income	2,027,240	1,599,388
Gaming	754,675	696,834
Donations and fundraising	322,809	370,662
Investment income	463,201	493,690
	<u>29,337,024</u>	<u>25,072,761</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES	2022	2021
Salaries and benefits	21,515,830	17,617,621
Program, food and transportation	1,975,592	1,726,854
Purchased services and subcontracts	1,739,662	1,235,069
Building occupancy	2,071,056	1,606,902
Other expenses	468,872	387,640
Office expense	437,052	303,645
	<u>28,208,064</u>	<u>22,877,731</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	2022	2021
	1,128,960	2,195,030
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	760,448	636,065
Amortization	(1,027,137)	(816,844)
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	34,996	939,205
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$897,267</u>	<u>\$2,953,456</u>

Note: Full set of consolidated audited financial statements are available at ANHBC upon request.

Auditors: Deloitte & Touche

JOIN THE MOVEMENT



DONATE

Help us grow stronger neighbourhoods by donating to our neighbourhood houses!



VOLUNTEER

Contact your nearest neighbourhood house to ask about volunteer positions!



SHARE

Follow us on social media and share our impact with your friends and family!



CAREERS

Visit our website to see job postings from our Houses, Camp, or Central!



ASSOCIATION OF
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES BC

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