



ANNUAL REPORT '22 '23



Alison Neighbourhood
community centre

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MISSION & VISION

OUR MISSION

ANCC encourages individual and community growth by providing enriching opportunities close to home.



OUR VISION

An inclusive and thriving neighbourhood where residents can grow together.

MEETING AGENDA

Confirmation Act

"That all acts, contracts, proceedings, appointments, elections, and payments enacted, made, done and taken by the Directors and Officers of the Corporation since the AGM as the same set-out, or referred to in the minutes of the Board of Directors and the general membership, be on and the same approved, sanctioned and confirmed."

- Meeting & Introductions
- Notice of Meeting
 - Acceptance of the 2024 Agenda
 - Acceptance of the 2023 Minutes
- Presentation of Audited Financial Statements
- Message from the Co-Chairs
- Message from the Executive Director
- Elections - Board of Directors
- New Business
- Closing Comments & Adjournment



CURRENT STAFF

Full - Time Staff

SAMANTHA ESMERALDA

Executive Director

EDWIN DONTOH

Community Engagement Coordinator

JAMIE MCCONKEY

Recreation Coordinator

RHYS DESMOND

Recreation Supervisor

Part- Time Staff

DANA COLOMBO

CARMELETA WOJTECZKO

ISABELLA GOMEZ

ALICIA ROZIC

HELI VASQUEZ

ASHLEY SULLIVAN

HAMZA UN NABI

LISA COLOMBO

KARLYN LOIK

LISA PEDREIRA

ETHAN MARENGER

JULIA LUORO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CARLOS ROQUE

Co-Chair

CRYSTAL PARAVINJA

Co-Chair

ERIC BANUMAS

Treasurer

KAREN BECKS

Member at Large

ALLISON LOWE

Member at Large



MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

A UNIFIED VISION FOR 2024: FOSTERING GROWTH AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Dear Alison Neighborhood Community Centre members and stakeholders,

As the Co-Chairs of the Board of Directors for Alison Neighborhood Community Centre, we are honoured to share in the collective achievements and aspirations that have defined our community in the past year. Your resilience, dedication, and involvement have been the driving force behind the vibrant and supportive neighbourhood we have collectively cultivated.

We are delighted to announce the successful commencement of our strategic planning process, a collaborative effort that aims to elevate our community services and programs to new heights. Through thoughtful discussions and your valuable input, we are shaping a strategic vision that not only addresses the challenges we face but also ensures we meet the evolving needs of our residents. The positive outcomes already emerging from this initiative lay a solid foundation for sustained growth and positive impact.

Our community is marked by outstanding programs such as the After School Club, the Breakfast Club, and our Summer Camp.

The After School Club's commitment to creating an inclusive, accepting, and safe environment for every child, coupled with the impactful provision of breakfast for children in need at our Breakfast Club, reflects our dedication to the well-being of our youth.



MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS CONTINUED...



relationships, build self-esteem, and provide a nurturing environment for children and youth to explore and develop their identities.

Looking ahead to 2024, Alison Neighborhood Community Centre is poised for growth, collaboration, and continued positive impact. Your support, participation, and enthusiasm for our strategic planning endeavors and existing programs play a crucial role in enriching the lives of our community members.

As we embark on a new year, let us carry forward the spirit of unity and cooperation that defines Alison Neighborhood Community Centre. Together, we can overcome challenges, celebrate successes, and create a future that reflects the values and aspirations of our diverse and dynamic community.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community's journey. Wishing you and your loved ones a year filled with joy, prosperity, and continued community spirit.

Warm Regards,

Carlos Roque

ANCC BOARD CO-CHAIR

Crystal Paravinja

ANCC BOARD CO-CHAIR

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COMMUNITY LED STRATEGIC PLANNING: A ROADMAP TO SUCCESSFUL PLACE-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

It's hard to believe that another year has passed by. This year was marked with much change and plenty of growth; I am grateful for the team I work for, as we have a lot to be proud of. Alison Neighbourhood Community Centre has accomplished so much in the past year, and we have so many things to look forward to in the coming year.

We wrapped up 2022, looking forward to embarking on our strategic planning process and strengthening our relationship with the City of Cambridge. The Ontario Trillium Resilient Communities Fund enabled our organization to commence its strategic planning process in the summer of 2022.

With a "Community First" mindset and a community development approach, Alison Neighbourhood Community Centre strongly desired to remain true to our mission and vision that ANCC would continue to be a place where residents get involved and grow community together. Where we create opportunities for involvement, provide services close to home, and work with residents and partners to build a thriving, inclusive neighbourhood - together.

Our strategic plan for 2023-2026 has been developed with resident and partner insight, careful analysis, and the efforts of Board members and staff. We first weighed and discussed sector trends to identify their impacts on our work and our neighbourhood. Then, we connected with our broader community, interviewing participants, neighbours, funders, volunteers, board of directors, staff, and partners to discover what matters to them. After gathering all of this feedback, we assessed the information we collected, identified the most important issues ahead of us and began carving out our strategic priorities and milestones for 2023-2026.



**MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR CONTINUED...**

We began implementing our strategic plan in April of 2023, and we know that it will continue strengthening our organization and building up our neighbourhood at a time when needs are felt deeply and people want to get back into the community.

In this plan, we've built a clear path forward to adapt to the continuous changes around us, communicate and engage with residents, and ensure we meet neighbourhood needs.

One of the ways our team will remain accountable to our community and continue to incorporate their expertise and feedback into the strategic planning process is to host Community Conversations quarterly, where we have constructive conversations about our neighbourhood and how we can collaboratively work together to make Alison Neighbourhood an amazing place to live, work and play.



Additionally, in the spring, together with the Cambridge Neighbourhood Organizations (CNO), we worked with the City of Cambridge as we embarked on a revision to the Support to Neighbourhood policy where we identified our varying neighbourhood needs, current service provisions and opportunities for growth.

This is integral as Alison Neighbourhood Community Centre continues to lay the groundwork for reviewing our boundaries to serve city-identified neighbourhoods without a neighbourhood association and applying for charitable status to move through the city funding continuum.

Looking to the summer, we continued our partnership with the Cowan Foundation, integrating Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics into camp programming. Our successful applications for Canada Summer Jobs allowed us to hire camp inclusion staff and office support.



Additionally, in the summer, ANCC received funding from the Community Support Resources Fund (CSRF) to assist our endeavours to embed IDEA into our organizational policies and implement staff and volunteer well-being plans to continue positioning ANCC as an inclusive and equitable employer.

In the fall, ANCC's team revisited the strategic plan, ensuring the CSRF funding continues to support our identified goal of adapting for inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility by continuing to support the organizational policies, operations, and the well-being of our staff and volunteers with an IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility) approach.

As we look to the year ahead, Alison Neighbourhood Community Centre will continue prioritizing place-based community development, our strategic plan implementation, funding partnerships with the City of Cambridge and others, adaptation for IDEA, Board of Director recruitment and continued fundraising and fund development.

I want to thank our staff, board members, volunteers and community members for an amazing year of in-person programs and successful community engagement. I bid a short farewell to ANCC as I take a step back to welcome a new family member at the end of February. I wish the Interim Executive Director much success as they continue the fantastic work ANCC has started.

Thank you for your continued support,



Samantha Esmeralda

Executive Director



RECREATION HIGHLIGHTS 2022 & 2023

1260

Program
Hours

7

Weeks of
Camp

3

New
Programs

190

Rec
Program
Participants

7

Community
Partnerships

310

Summer
Camp
Participants



Learn to Skate!

Introducing children and youth to basic skating skills. This year, we had 27 participants with a waitlist of 13!



Summer Day Camp!

Offered 7 weeks of the summer; filled with games, trips, and special guest artists.



Women in Community

An opportunity for women of the community to come together and make connections, eat food, and learn about each other. Kids get to play exciting games!



After School Program!

Reliable and consistent outdoor recreation with a healthy snack every day after school!



BREAKFAST CLUB IMPACT

SEPT. 2022-JUNE 2023



184

Program
Days

177

Program
Visits

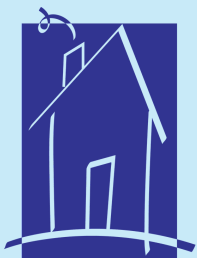
414

Program
Hours



2258

Breakfasts
Served



Alison Neighbourhood
community centre

VOLUNTEERING AT ANCC



2022-2023 AT A GLANCE

Volunteers

93

Volunteer
Hours

4052

After School
Program
Hours

718

Summer
Playground
Hours

3025



We have 8 After School Youth volunteers who donated their time equaling over \$17,000 in wages to ANCC!



Our Summer Camp Volunteers supported camp program and operations. Their donated time was equal to over \$50,000 in staff wages!



**Alison
Neighbourhood
Community Centre**
cannot do all of the
amazing things we
do without our
volunteers.

**Thank you to our
Board of Directors,
Program Volunteers,
and Special Event
Volunteers!**

SPECIAL EVENT HIGHLIGHTS 2022-2023

Neighbourhood Day!

With nearly **700 people** in attendance, Neighbourhood Day continues to be one of the most memorable and magical days of the year! We love getting the chance to connect with new and old families and see everyone have a good time! There is no better way to spend a beautiful day than bouncing in a bouncy castle, eating delicious food, and hanging with the Neighbourhood. We are hoping for an even bigger turnout next year!



Family Apple Picking!

Apple Picking is one of our favorite events of the year. Being able to watch our families interact with one another at the beautiful orchard warms our hearts each fall! This year we had **96 people** register to come out! We picked apples, found beautiful fall mums, and of course ate yummy treats!



Halloween Dance & Haunted House!

This was definitely our most bustling event of the year! With close to **200 people** in attendance, staff and volunteers worked hard to make it a fun experience for the kids. All staff and volunteers collaborated to create a spooky experience for all the kids. Everyone had a fun night of dancing and being scared!

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

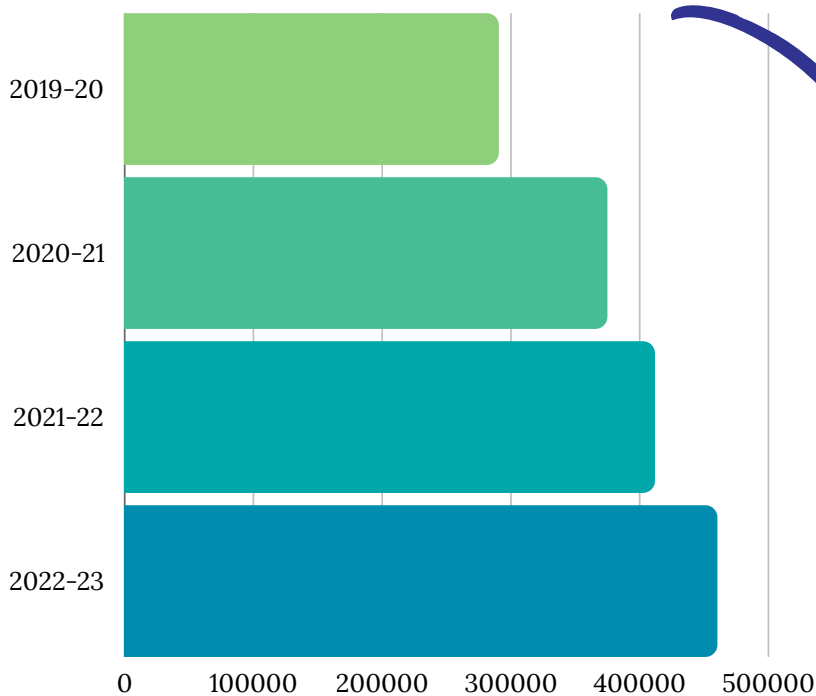
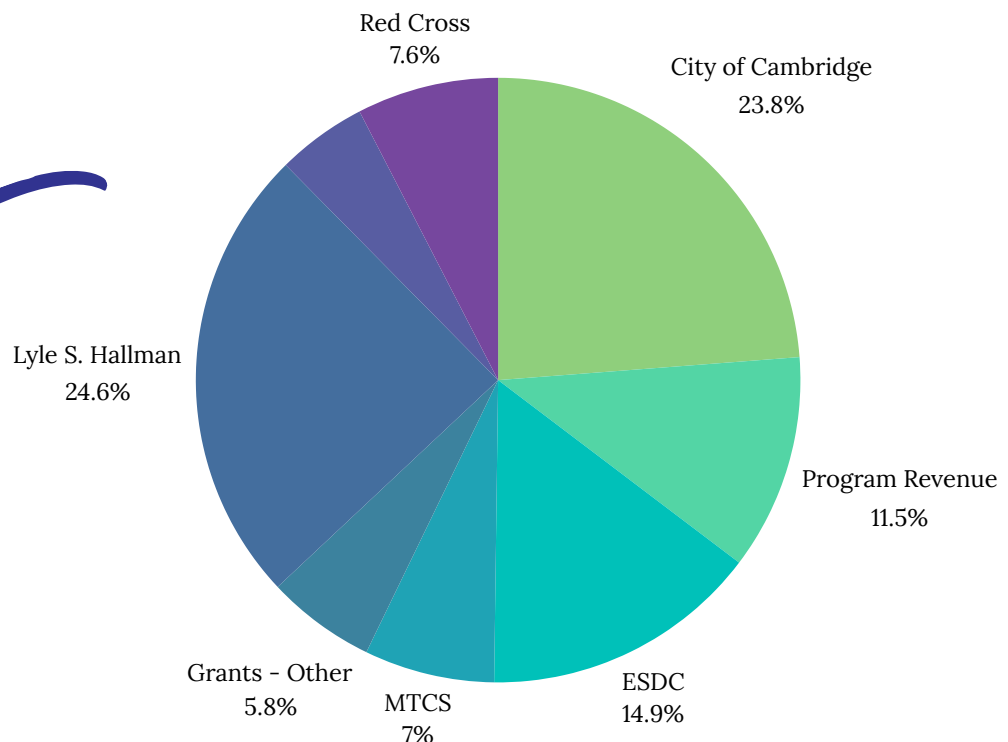


FIGURE 1.

Demonstrates Alison Neighbourhood Community Centre's Total Revenue with fiscal year comparatives. The 2022-2023 FY shows a slight increase due to registration revenue.

FIGURE 2.

An overview of revenue sources and percentage of revenue each funder contributes to ANCC as at August 31st, 2023.



LOOKING AHEAD



Implement and Maintain our Strategic Plan

Prioritize organizational policy review with a focus on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access

Increase Fundraising and Fund Development

Continue meaningful community engagement through our “Community Conversations”

Evaluate ANCC’s Geographical Boundaries and Alternative Space Utilization

Prioritize Board of Directors Recruitment

Actively participate in The Cambridge Neighbourhood Organizations Strategic Network



THANK YOU!

Alison Neighbourhood wants to thank our funders for their support in the last year and their continued partnership for 2023. We simply cannot do our amazing work without you!



LYLE S. HALLMAN
FOUNDATION

Canada



An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

