

ICC Activities (April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024)

Introduction

The Intentional Community Consortium (ICC), with the ongoing support of Batay Reena, achieved significant progress during the reporting period. The ICC continued its work to address the deeply affordable housing crisis for individuals with diverse abilities, focusing on advocacy, member engagement, and operational improvements.

Key Activities and Achievements

1. Advocacy and Policy Influence

- **Day on the Hill 2024:** Successfully organized with 65 participants from 47 organizations, featuring engagements with MPs from all major political parties and a bilingual press conference to promote inclusive housing solutions. This event reinforced ICC's advocacy focus and drew support from sponsors and member organizations. This was the first year as a 2 day event and with unanimous support will be a 2 day event again next year.
- Federal budget submissions and discussions emphasized the need for targeted funding for housing solutions for people with developmental disabilities

2. Membership Growth and Engagement

- Expanded membership with new sponsors (Community Living Toronto, OASIS, Provincial Network on Developmental Services, Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence, KW Habilitation, karis Developmental Services, Empower Simcoe) and advocates. Efforts were made to enhance clarity around membership benefits and expectations, including updates to the ICC website and resources

3. Website and Communication Enhancements

- Undertook a significant redesign of the ICC website, aligning with updated mission and vision statements. The site now features success stories, membership benefits, and actionable advocacy tools

4. Project Planning and Development

- Participated in the CMHC Housing Supply Challenge and other funding opportunities to support innovative housing solutions
- Continued collaborative work with Reena on housing projects, demonstrating the ICC model for affordable and supportive housing

5. Operational Improvements

- Secured Directors' Insurance to enhance governance and protect Board members

6. Capacity Building and Networking

- Participated in national conferences such as CHRA's National Congress on Housing and Homelessness, fostering connections and sharing best practices across Canada
- Laid the groundwork for the **Housing 101 Session**, planned for October 2024, to be hosted by KW Habilitation and Karis Developmental Services in Kitchener-Waterloo. This session aims to educate stakeholders on affordable and supportive housing development