

Intentional Community Consortium (ICC) Annual Report

Reporting Period: April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

Chair's Report – Gary Gladstone

Introduction

The Intentional Community Consortium (ICC) continued to advance its mission of finding solutions to the deeply affordable housing crisis faced by individuals with diverse abilities, focusing on housing, support services, and community engagement across Canada. Over the past year, the ICC strengthened its advocacy, membership, and operational capacity—while successfully hosting national and regional events that built momentum toward real housing solutions.

A major milestone this year was the launch of ICC's partnership with **Property Law**, announced at the *Building Bridges to Housing* National Launch event in Toronto on **March 18, 2025**. This groundbreaking collaboration marked a new era of sustainability for ICC, with the first **\$50,000 contribution received** to support education, outreach, and the expansion of affordable housing initiatives nationwide.

1. Major Events and Advocacy

Exploring Affordable Housing Solutions for People with Diverse Abilities – Kitchener-Waterloo Forum

Held on October 8, 2024, and co-hosted by KW Habilitation and Karis Disability Services, this forum brought together organizations, funders, and builders to discuss practical pathways to affordable housing development. The event showcased innovative building models, including modular construction and accessibility design, funding mechanisms, and was filmed by Cribwolf Talks for national distribution. Attended by 66 person from 42 organizations.

National Launch – Building Bridges to Housing: Transforming Housing Solutions for Canadians with IDD

On March 18, 2025, ICC hosted its most significant event of the year in Toronto—the National Launch: 'Building Bridges to Housing'. This milestone gathering marked the national announcement of ICC's partnership with Property Law, a groundbreaking collaboration aimed at transforming housing opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The event brought together leaders from housing, developmental services, and government sectors, highlighting how this partnership will enable ICC to expand its national reach, grow membership, and invest in knowledge-sharing tools and educational programming. 93 persons attended and the majority were given tours of LFRR.

Day on the Hill 2025 Postponement

Originally planned for March 2025, ICC's annual Day on the Hill in Ottawa was postponed to October 2025 due to the House of Commons recess and parliamentary uncertainty. Planning

continues for a strengthened fall program that will engage federal policymakers, MPs from all parties, and housing leaders.

2. Membership and Growth

ICC's membership grew to over 45 organizations nationwide. ICC maintained close collaboration with OASIS, CLO, and the Provincial Network on Developmental Services to align advocacy and educational initiatives.

3. Sponsorship and Financial Growth

The Property Law partnership was the year's defining achievement. The collaboration, announced at the National Launch, includes an initial \$50,000 contribution in early 2025, followed by quarterly donations tied to real estate transactions, projected between \$120,000–\$200,000 annually. These funds will support ICC's programming, events, and capacity expansion nationwide.

4. Operational and Structural Developments

ICC opened a dedicated business account with Scotiabank and implemented digital banking systems. Directors' insurance was renewed, and all Board members reaffirmed their commitment for another term. Importantly, ICC approved the hiring of Jennifer Alexandroff as ICC Coordinator (three days per week ICC, two days per week Reena Stakeholder Relations), bringing added capacity for communications, administration, and event management.

5. Grants and Strategic Partnerships

ICC submitted a \$134,100 EnAbling Change Grant proposal to the Province of Ontario to create an accessibility education toolkit, deliver workshops, and develop a best-practices guide for accessible and inclusive housing. Collaboration with CMHC continued throughout the year, emphasizing the need to meet the National Housing Strategy target of 2,400 units for individuals with developmental disabilities. ICC also advanced advocacy for more flexible funding models, including recognition of for-profit developers partnering with developmental service agencies. The application was not successful.

6. Communications and Media

ICC's visibility increased through national media exposure, including a CTV News feature on the housing challenges faced by individuals with autism. Cribwolf Talks produced a professional video series covering ICC's events and housing innovations. Website updates and social media engagement continued to attract new members and amplify ICC's advocacy message nationwide.

7. Looking Ahead

For 2025–2026, ICC will focus on:

- Delivering the rescheduled Day on the Hill in October 2025
- Launching a National Knowledge Hub for affordable housing solutions, if funds permit

- Advancing federal and provincial policy reform to accelerate inclusive housing

Conclusion

The past year marked a period of transformation for the ICC. The Property Law partnership established a sustainable path forward, while regional and national events expanded engagement and capacity. As the ICC enters the next phase of growth, it remains dedicated to ensuring that all Canadians with developmental disabilities have access to affordable, inclusive, and supportive housing.