

**CENTRAL
NEIGHBOURHOODS
FIVE YEAR
PLAN
2018-2023**

**CENTRAL PARK, CENTENNIAL,
WEST ALEXANDER**



CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOODS

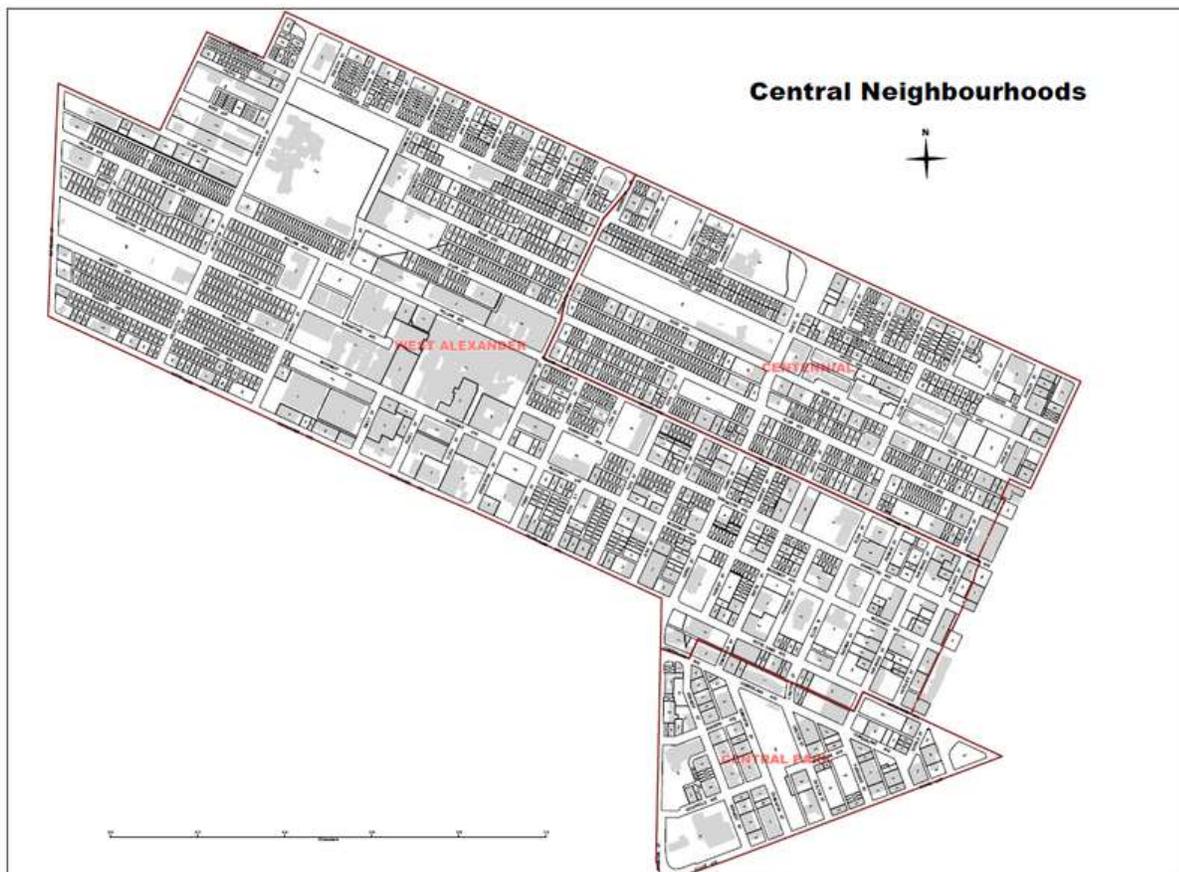
Centennial • West Alexander • Central Park

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOODS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bijaya Pokharel (NEARC)
Cathy Collins (West Alexander resident)
Chantal Ramraj (Centennial resident)
Christine Strike (Artbeat Studio)
Cyndi Oleschak (West Alexander resident)
Jamil Mahmood (SNA)
Raymond Ngarboui (CEDA)
Warren Goulet (Rossbrook House)

“ The community participation in this plan is a strong signal that after the end of the CNDC experience, another efficient neighbourhood development organization is needed to organize resources, catalyze community efforts, and encourage grassroots initiatives that can foster community and community economic development within these most at need, but under-served neighbourhoods in the city.
Raymond Ngarboui, CNAC member ”

NEIGHBOURHOODS MAP



CENTRAL PARK

The Central Park neighbourhood is situated in the heart of downtown Winnipeg. The 2011 census indicated that the population of Central Park is 4,050. After the multi-million dollar renovations in 2008, the Park is home to a new splash pad, soccer pitch, restored Waddell Fountain and many other upgrades and improvements. The surrounding area is a multicultural mix with large numbers of Indigenous people, Black Canadians, primarily of African descent, and people of Asian descent.

CENTENNIAL

The Centennial neighbourhood is located just West of the Exchange District and is designated as a Housing Improvement Zone by the City of Winnipeg. The population in Centennial is 2,335. Over 65% of the population in Centennial live in low-income housing. Centennial is one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the city: 41% identify as Indigenous and 30.2 % as visible minorities, of which 14% are Filipino.

WEST ALEXANDER

West Alexander is one of the original mixed-use residential, commercial, and industrial areas of Winnipeg, having buildings and services dating back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Many individuals of historical significance built, owned, and lived in homes in the area. West Alexander is also a diverse community, with 61.8% of the population identifying as visible minorities, and 14.3% as Indigenous.

BACKGROUND

Since the summer of 2017, the Spence Neighbourhood Association has been working with the residents of the Central Park, Centennial and West Alexander neighbourhoods under the name Central Neighbourhoods, to develop a community Five Year Plan. SNA was uniquely positioned to lead this phase, having many close connections to these neighbouring communities and 20 years of community development and planning experience.

Central Neighbourhoods staff worked with Central stakeholders towards the creation of this document, to ensure it was led and informed by the community.

Community consultations started in August 2017, when staff met with representatives from agencies, groups, schools, residents' associations, community organizations, to introduce the Five Year Plan consultation process, gather information on the past, and collect ideas for the future. Under the guidance of the Central Neighbourhoods Advisory Committee, staff collected the information compiled in this plan through over 380 individual surveys, a series of community conversations and inter-agency meetings, and input from the business community.

We acknowledge and are thankful for 10 years of community development in these communities by the Central Neighbourhoods Development Corporation (CNDC), on whose legacy we are building this work.

GOAL 1:

COMMUNITY PRIDE

PRIORITY 1: COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CONNECTING

- Improve relationships among partner organizations.
- Increase opportunity for connecting in the community, for residents, businesses, agencies and their staff.
- Support the Residents' Associations in Central in connecting with local residents.

PRIORITY 2: PUBLIC ART AND BEAUTIFICATION

- Identify community spaces and improve their aspect and use through public art and beautification projects.
- Advocate for and provide better maintenance and solutions for open and green spaces in the community.
- Seek and ensure community input on public art and beautification projects in the three neighbourhoods.

PRIORITY 3: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY

- Connect residents to meaningful volunteer opportunities in Central.
- Increase access to information on how to be and stay engaged in Central.



“ Through active and purposeful community engagement, we have identified key objectives for us to transcend barriers to our ability to flourish. By drawing directly from community engagement, the Five Year Plan serves to effectively improve our community infrastructures along with our community members' access to stable and healthy communities.

Chantal Ramraj, CNAC member



GOAL 2:

HOUSING

PRIORITY 1: BUILD POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN TENANTS, LANDLORDS, AND HOMEOWNERS IN THE COMMUNITY

- Create venues and opportunities for positive bonding between landlords, tenants and homeowners.
- Support tenants and landlords in resolving conflicts around tenancy in a respectful and positive manner.
- Ensure access to educational opportunities for tenants and landlords on rights and responsibilities of all parties, including awareness on mental health, addictions.



PRIORITY 2: ENSURE MIX OF QUALITY HOUSING OPTIONS - FOCUS ON LOW-INCOME QUALITY HOUSING

- Work with landlords to ensure quality of housing, especially for low income tenants.
- Advocate to maintain and improve current housing stock.

PRIORITY 3: LOCAL RESOURCES FOR INFESTATION PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

- Inform and educate landlords and tenants on preventative action to keep housing free of pest.
- Ensure access to infestation treatment options for all community members.

GOAL 3:

EDUCATION AND LIVELIHOODS

“ I really liked engaging with the community in Central and getting to know their faces and all of the personalities that come with it.

Raymond Flett, youth involved with door step surveying ”

PRIORITY 1: JOB CREATION, WITH A FOCUS ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

- Connect with local businesses and agencies, and engage them in hiring of local residents.
- Build on existing success stories to bring jobs for youth in Central, ensuring opportunities are accessible to Indigenous, newcomer and other youth with barriers to employment.

PRIORITY 2: SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

- Provide and support opportunities for formal and informal training in the community.
- Support and develop partnerships with local businesses and agencies.
- Education supports and educational advancement.

PRIORITY 3: RESOURCES FOR EMPLOYMENT AND JOB READINESS

- Connect residents to job opportunities.
- Connect with and provide pre-employment supports, such as IDs, criminal record checks, etc.

GOAL 4:

SAFETY

PRIORITY 1: CRIME PREVENTION EDUCATION AND SUPPORTS

- Provide opportunities for learning for all in the community on ways to reduce or deter crime.
- Increase knowledge on prevention tools and resources available to all residents, businesses and agencies in Central.
- Help residents, businesses and other stakeholders with safety reports.

PRIORITY 2: COMMUNITY SAFETY AUDITS (CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN)

- Reduce the risks of arson in the community through year-round reporting of bulky waste.
- Increase by-laws enforcement.
- Support other efforts of community alternative solutions to safety, as identified by the community



PRIORITY 3: MORE COMMUNITY POLICING PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION

- Increase the positive interactions between community and police in Central.
- Support businesses, community members and agencies in connecting with the Community Support Units in Central.

GOAL 5:

INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS

PRIORITY 1: PROMOTE A CULTURE OF UNDERSTANDING IN THE COMMUNITY

- Develop engaging and fun ways to introduce people to and explore diversity of cultures, but also gender and sexuality, abilities, etc.
- Gain support from the community and advocate for more safe spaces in Central for groups at risk.

PRIORITY 2: EXPLORE COMMUNITY-LED SOLUTIONS TO SOCIAL ISOLATIONS

- Provide a space open to all in the community to connect in meaningful ways, where everyone is safe and respected.
- Support and develop programming for low income adults, seniors, with an effort on reconciliation and relationship building between Indigenous people and newcomers.
- Ensure access to positive recreation opportunities for all youth in Central, including newcomer and gang involved youth.

PRIORITY 3: PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY AND DIVERSITY

- Organize and promote community events for all in the community, that celebrate the Central community diversity.
- Develop and support fun recreation opportunities through sport, games, to bring people of all ages and backgrounds together.



AT A GLANCE

COMMUNITY PRIDE

- Community events and connecting
- Public art and beautification
- Volunteer opportunities and capacity building



SAFETY

- Crime prevention education and supports
- Community safety audits
- More community policing presence and participation

EDUCATION AND LIVELIHOODS

- Job creation, with focus on youth
- Skills development
- Resources for employment and job readiness

“ The Five Year Plan is a wonderful opportunity to bring residents together and strengthen our community. Warren Goulet, CNAC member ”

HOUSING

- Build positive relationships between tenants, landlords, and homeowners in the community
- Ensure a mix of quality housing options
- Local resources for infestation prevention and treatment

INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS

- Promote a culture of understanding in the community
- Explore community-led solutions to social isolation
- Provide opportunity for celebration of community and diversity