

Message from CEO Robert Byers



Happy New Year! From our entire team at Namerind, I wish you all the best in the coming year. We are off to a busy start as always with new partnerships in full swing and new projects on the horizon. It's an exciting time for Namerind as we continue to work on projects and programs to support those in our community who most need help, while finding new ways to support affordable housing.

In this issue, you will read about our partnership with *Raising Hope: Moving Families Forward*, which is a new program for Namerind. We have been thrilled to be involved with the great work done by this initiative. The end of 2013 allowed us to reflect on all of our wonderful new partnerships with organizations throughout our community. While affordable housing continues to be the core of what we do, partnership is our way of supporting those who need additional resources, counseling and support.

As always, please feel free to get in touch or stop by our office for more information on any of our activities or to share your ideas.

Recent Announcements

Namerind Joins *Raising Hope: Moving Families Forward*

Namerind Housing is excited to announce its new partnership with the initiative *Raising Hope: Moving Families Forward*, our newest community support partnership.

To support this project, Namerind purchased a 12-unit apartment building, renovated and updated it to ensure each unit was up to the latest standards and would provide a comfortable home for mothers and their children. The facility provides substance using pregnant and early postpartum Aboriginal mothers between the ages of 15 and 25 with transitional housing and intensive support care as they rehabilitate towards good health.

"We were happy to be involved in this initiative," said Robert Byers, President and CEO of Namerind. "Children are the future of our community and this program is a wonderful opportunity to support their getting a healthy start to life."

The only program of its kind in Regina, *Raising Hope* not only provides the 12 transitional housing units, but also supports an additional 30 women in the community who can access crucial services and programming.



"Our partnership with Namerind has been incredible," said Noelle, Coordinator at *Raising Hope*. "On January 12th, we celebrated the first birth of a chemical-free baby in our building, which was an exciting milestone for everyone. The goal of our program is to keep mothers and babies together, and to equip women with skills for healthy living so that they can raise strong and healthy families."

For more information on all of Namerind's projects and partnerships, please visit www.namerindhousing.ca.



Namerind Holiday Hamper Campaign

In December of 2013, Namerind distributed 31 holiday hampers to tenant families. This project has now become a favourite for staff and tenants alike. Each hamper contains all the food needed for a festive holiday meal for the whole family as well as holiday treats, to allow each family to spend quality time together at the holidays. Namerind staff spend the month before the holidays shopping for food and assembling the hampers, then deliver them right to the door of recipient families.

Different families receive the gift hampers each year, families chosen for the Christmas hamper are ones in great need. The program is supported by all Namerind staff members, contractors and individuals that Namerind works with throughout the year:

Namerind staff and contractors also made a holiday donation of long johns, socks and underwear for men and women to the Carmichael Outreach Center.

C O N T A C T

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Meet our Staff



Name:

Michael Smith

Position

General Manager, The Grounds Guys

Describe a typical day for you at Namerind:

As General Manager at the Namerind owned franchise of Grounds Guys, my day basically depends on the weather. I might spend the day plowing snow and removing ice, or mowing lawns and working on yard maintenance in the summer. Part of each day is also spent fielding calls and questions from customers, meeting with my team and our customers and working on planning and scheduling. I have to make sure that all our machines are maintained in good working order and that all of the tasks of running and expanding our business are taken care of.

What is your favourite thing about working at Namerind?

I have to say it's always a pleasure to come in early to have coffee with my colleagues. What makes Namerind special is the people who work here, as well as the fact that no matter what you're doing over the course of the day, you know that you have some part in contributing to all of the good work that Namerind does in our community. It feels good to know that by doing our jobs, we are helping those less fortunate and supporting our neighbours.

Outside of work, what are some of your favourite ways to spend time?

I do spend a lot of time watching the weather! When I'm not at work, I'm usually at home with my wife and baby, either working on projects around our house or spending time with my family.

Michael has been part of the Namerind team for 6 years.