

Message from CEO Robert Byers



Happy New Year! 2015 is off to an exciting start for our team at Namerind. After learning that we were successfully awarded our proposal to buy a piece of land from the City of Regina, we can move forward with our plans for a mixed-use development project that will help to revitalize downtown Regina. It's an exciting development for both the City and for Namerind as we move into a phase of unprecedented growth.

As we grow, however, we hold true to the same values that we were founded on in 1977. It remains our mission to provide safe and affordable housing to those in our community who need a home. We also strive to create wealth and opportunity in the Aboriginal community and to this end, continue to work towards our ultimate goal of being an entirely self-sustaining organization.

Our tenants remain the reason that we do what we do each day. We are always looking for ways to improve their lives and homes, whether by installing energy efficient appliances and HVAC systems and using environmentally friendly building supplies, by providing regular, timely maintenance of all of our properties in all seasons, or developing programs to offer our support in various ways. Our Holiday Hamper campaign was a great success once again, providing 36 of our tenant families with food and gifts over the holidays. Read on for more information on this great annual program.

As always, should you have any questions about our projects or the content of this newsletter, I invite you to contact our office or drop by anytime. You can learn more by visiting our website at www.namerindhousing.ca.

Wishing you all the best for a healthy and successful 2015,
Robert Byers

In the Community

Namerind's Holiday Hamper Campaign Supports 36 Families

In December, Namerind staff and contractors once again raised funds to support the Holiday Hamper campaign. Staff assembled and delivered 36 laundry hampers full of all groceries and ingredients needed for a festive holiday dinner, as well as board games and gifts for the whole family.

The program, run annually by Namerind's Housing and Tenant Relations Manager Judith Langen, is greatly anticipated by tenants and staff alike.

"Our staff look forward to shopping for and assembling the hampers each year," said Langen. "At a time when families are especially in need of some cheer, it is wonderful to see the smiles on their faces when we deliver the hampers to their door."

The annual program works on a lottery system, where tenant families are selected at random and delivered a hamper assembled with care by Namerind staff. Namerind would like to thank all of the contractors, suppliers and staff who contributed to making this year's campaign a success.



Recent Announcements

Regina City Council Votes Unanimously to Award Property Purchase of City Land to Namerind Housing Corporation

The City of Regina recently confirmed the success of Namerind Housing's proposal for the purchase of a parcel of land (currently a public parking lot) at Lorne Street and 11th Avenue in Regina. Namerind will purchase the land for \$2.3 million dollars, and will use it to install a mixed-use development to provide housing and services to those in downtown Regina.

This land is adjacent to the office building purchased by Namerind in 2014 and the two sites will make up a two-tower development containing 170 housing units, a daycare, grocery store, other retail space and green space for residents and visitors alike to enjoy.

"We see evidence every day that the need for affordable housing is increasing," said Robert Byers, President and CEO of Namerind. "In order to ensure that we can continue to provide sustainable, safe and affordable housing for generations to come, we must ensure that developments like these can infuse income and funding into organizations like Namerind."

Namerind has been working with a project steering committee on plans for the development for the past three years and will be announcing specifics of the project in the coming months. For more information on this and other initiatives being undertaken by Namerind, please visit www.namerindhousing.ca.



Meet our Staff



Name:

Ray Rondeau, Controller

Describe a typical day for you at Namerind:

My role at Namerind is centered around the financial management of the organization and I also have responsibilities for human resources.

On any given day, I deal with a multitude of things - it could be anything from helping an employee with an insurance claim to dealing with pension and benefit questions to appraisals of our commercial real estate holdings or the financial accounting and tax filings for the organization.

What is your favourite thing about working at Namerind?

There's an extremely broad scope of work in my job here - I never know what will come up and where each new project will lead us.

That keeps things interesting and exciting each day that I come into the office. I really enjoy being part of an organization where the staff are so passionate and really have their hearts in their work. It's unusual to find a team so dedicated to helping others and it's a pleasure to be part of the work that Namerind does in our community.

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

My wife and I are very involved in our church. We facilitate a bible study course and spend a lot of time at church functions. I also have six children, four grandchildren and two more grandchildren on the way, so I very much enjoy spending time with my family whenever I can.

Ray has been part of the Namerind team for nearly one year.

C O N T A C T

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