

Message from CEO Robert Byers



Summer is the season for enjoying the outdoors and our Grounds Guys team has been hard at work landscaping for our customers, as well as properties of the many other clients they serve. Only two years old, we have seen tremendous growth in this part of our business and this issue of our newsletter will provide some insight into their growth and approach to client service.

We also recently hosted our annual Family Day BBQ, a wonderful chance for all of our staff, tenant families and contractors to get together and enjoy a day of food and games, as well as our thanks for being a part of the Namerind family. We are proud to provide reliable, affordable housing to families in Regina as well as opportunities for wealth and growth to our community.

I hope you are all enjoying the summer season and look forward to sharing more of our exciting projects with you in the Fall issue of Namerind News.

Robert Byers

GROUND GUYS: SOCIAL ENTERPRISE GAINS MOMENTUM



Approximately two years ago, Namerind purchased a franchise of Grounds Guys, a residential and commercial landscaping business. This endeavour augmented the number of projects that Namerind hosts within its social enterprise portfolio. One hundred percent of the profits from each of these projects and businesses are reinvested by Namerind into affordable housing,

helping Namerind work towards its ultimate goal of becoming a financially and environmentally self-sustaining organization.

“Our expansion into landscaping allowed us to provide more professional landscaping for our properties, while offering additional services to our community,” said Namerind President and CEO Robert Byers. “The momentum that we have seen in only two years since this Grounds Guys franchise opened has been incredible and has allowed us to create jobs as well as providing additional services to our tenants.”

Grounds Guys has seen growth from one staff member to five staff members, who focus on snow removal

in the winter and maintenance and landscaping in the summer. The winter season serves more commercial contracts, along with the servicing of Namerind properties, while the summer months see the staff serving more residential customers in Regina. This summer, Grounds Guys has many different service contracts with a range in scope from planting and maintaining gardens to sodding and cutting lawns to general maintenance.

“We owe the great success we have seen so far with Grounds Guys to our dedicated and talented employees,” said Byers, “We look forward to continuing to serve our Grounds Guys customers with the high level of customer service that has become synonymous with the Namerind brand.”

For more information about Grounds Guys, please visit <http://www.groundsguys.ca/locations/saskatchewan/regina/>.

Family Day 2015

On June 26, 2015, Namerind hosted its annual Family Day BBQ – with swimming, games, food and fun for the whole family. This annual event is held each June to provide Namerind staff the opportunity to thank the tenants and contractors whom they work with throughout the year.

With Namerind staff manning the bar-b-ques, kids could enjoy face painting, picnic games, badminton or some time in the pool on what turned out to be a beautiful day outside. Approximately 175 people attended this year, giving tenant families a better chance to get to know Namerind staff and contractors.



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Meet our Staff



Name:

**Joe Cornish, Operations Manager
at Grounds Guys**

**Describe a typical day for you
at Namerind:**

During a typical day, I would start out by going over our plans for the day and discussing daily assignments with our staff. We also take the time each morning to address any issues or learnings and talk about the day before. I then spend my day visiting various sites and doing quality checks and onsite visits with our employees and our customers. Essentially, my job is to plan and orchestrate all of our service jobs and to make sure everything is running smoothly.

**What is your favourite thing about
working at Grounds Guys?**

It's been really exciting to see the growth of the Regina franchise of Grounds Guys so far. I was the second employee at this franchise and have been here from the beginning. I've been able to help grow the team and have a leadership role here. I really enjoy having the opportunity to turn rundown or neglected spaces into beautiful ones. I've always had a passion for landscaping, so I love what I do but it's also a pleasure to come to work with great people who work hard. Grounds Guys, and Namerind as a whole, is a company with great values and a wonderful team.

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

In the winter, my schedule can be a bit unpredictable as we are at the mercy of the weather when it comes to our schedule for plowing snow. In the summer though I am able to enjoy many different activities outside of work – things like camping, kayaking and other outdoor sports. I also really enjoy crafts and creative activities like leatherworking. The creative skills you use when making art are very similar to the skills that we use when creating landscape designs.

Joe has been part of Namerind's Grounds Guys team for two years.