

NAMERIND HIGHLIGHTS: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Namerind's Board of Directors has been an integral part of the evolution of the organization's mission over the past decade. The seven person Board meets monthly to review the shared vision between volunteers and staff to deliver the highest quality homes to families in need while building the community.

"Namerind's development of our unique model of providing affordable housing while working towards becoming self-sustaining as an organization and forging key partnerships in our community would not have been possible without our dedicated Board of Directors," said Namerind President and CEO Robert Byers.

Board Chair Randine Akapew joined the Board as a Director nearly a decade ago as Namerind was undergoing some critical changes.

"It was the time that saw our moving from being a more typical affordable housing organization to the community leader that Namerind is today," says Akapew. "Having been involved for the

entirety of this evolution as a Director now gives me a great perspective as Chair as we continue to develop policies and procedures to realize the vision we as the Board share with Namerind's staff. The development of diversified revenue streams to fund our affordable housing portfolio has revolutionized the way that Namerind is able to deliver and sustain housing for Regina families."

The seven Board members will move in the coming months to a quarterly meeting schedule from the current monthly one, allowing for a focused agenda on Namerind's developing projects and revenue streams, such as the exciting development Namerind Place in downtown Regina.

Akapew continues, "I believe I speak for the whole Board when I say that it is rare to find an organization like Namerind where the whole staff is equally committed to a shared vision with the Board. It is truly a team environment made up of individuals committed to making a difference for Regina families."



Spotlight on Board of Directors:

Randine Akapew, Chair



"As a front-line social worker, I see the real need for high quality, safe, affordable housing every day. Namerind does such important work in our community and it has been my pleasure to be involved for the past decade to see today's vision realized. There is more need than ever before for affordable housing organizations to become self-sustaining and I look forward to continuing to work with the Board and staff to see what the future holds."

C O N T A C T

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Meet our Staff



Name:

Blondell Kelsey,
Tenant Relations Assistant

Describe a typical day for you at work:

I work in tenant relations with both current tenants and prospective tenants. I spend a lot of my time answering calls from prospective tenants about the application process and how they might qualify and also doing things like attending showings and directing those with repair needs to our maintenance department to have a work order filled out. I'm also in training to expand my role in tenant relations as many of us here at Namerind are cross-trained in different areas. It's a real family environment and we like to be able to help each other out whenever possible.

What is your favourite thing about working at Namerind?

I really enjoy helping people and giving back to the community. The best days for me are when I get to see a family really feel good about their home and take pride in a home they can afford. It can be emotional at times talking to these families but it's what I most look forward to. It's wonderful to come to work every day and have helping the community be a part of my job.

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

I have a son and several pets, so I like to spend time with my family. I also really enjoy gardening and all things in nature. I would call myself a 'foodie', I love cooking and food in general. I also love art – painting, drawing, fashion design, sewing and crafts, which I like to work on whenever I have time. I enjoy traveling when I can and would love to see the world – I was married last year in Hawaii, which was beautiful.

Blondell has been part of Namerind's team for approximately 4 months.