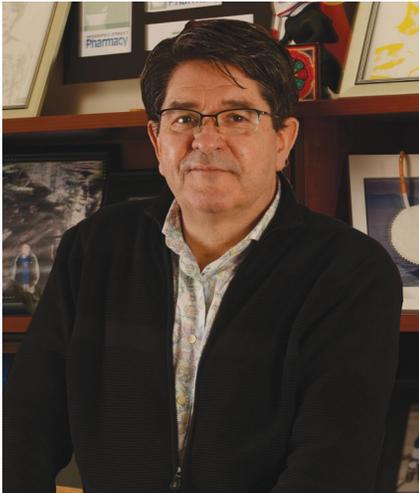




# Namerind NEWS

www.namerindhousing.ca

March 2018



## Our Path Forward

I am pleased to share some of the initiatives Namerind has been working on in support of our community and families. We have been building partnerships and relationships to do our part to end homelessness, improve employment and advance other opportunities. We have continued to champion Raising Hope in support of the well-being of at-risk mothers and their babies while, at the same time, remaining focused on our many tenant-families. Each partnership and relationship with which Namerind is engaged creates a path forward, grounded in communication, understanding and trust.

As we look forward to the promise of spring, we welcome further connections with the wider community and look forward to your ideas and opportunities to work together!

Robert

## Our Families Sara's Story

Sara experienced many struggles in her young life; her personal situation was extremely difficult. As a single mother with a little boy, she was, in her words, "basically homeless, living here and there." She knew she wanted something "better in life" for her son and their future together, so she decided to take a course and further her education. There, she met a woman who happened to be a tenant of Namerind. The woman suggested Sara apply for housing assistance and went further, putting in a recommendation for Sara. Hopeful, Sara went in to Namerind and applied for housing. She felt very fortunate that, not long after, she had a place for herself and her son to live. That was about thirteen years ago.

In talking about Namerind, Sara reflects that was her "first real home" and, even though she still "had lots to overcome," she knew she could count on a roof over their heads and this support helped her to provide for her son.

Today, Sara has two children and thoughtfully reflects on her life. She knows "the decisions [she makes] directly impact the lives of her children." She is thankful for Namerind since "having affordable housing meant that, over the years, [she] had a bit of extra money for her children and their needs, including sports." She's "glad to know there are organizations like Namerind who go above and beyond to help our people." Over the years, she has come to know many of the Namerind team members. According to Sara, the staff have "all been so wonderful and welcoming" which has meant another level of support for her. She is proud to say she's "been a part of Namerind and is grateful for the chance and opportunity they provided years ago!"

### OUR MISSION

At Namerind, our mission is to provide safe, affordable quality housing and economic development opportunities for Indigenous People.

### CONTACT

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# Our Partnerships

Namerind has been pleased to participate with the Regina Advisory Group which is a City of Regina initiative. The focus of this group is to develop a strategy and action plan in support of the Truth and Reconciliation report with the objective of establishing meaningful employment opportunities for Indigenous People.

February saw the launch of Regina's plan to end homelessness. As a member of the Community Advisory Board, whole goal is to end homelessness in Regina, Namerind will work together with other community leaders to develop an action plan and key deliverables in the upcoming months. Homelessness is an injustice. By working together, we will advocate for some of the most vulnerable people in our community.



Namerind also appreciated the opportunity to enter into a partnership agreement with Kids First Regina which has now been finalized. Kids First Regina is an organization dedicated to supporting children and families by enhancing parenting knowledge, promoting healthy behaviors and building on family strengths. Namerind fully upgraded and renovated six of its homes to accommodate families in the Kids First Program. As a result, six families have a safe, affordable home where children and families can flourish.

Our organization is always open to consider other opportunities to partner with community-based organizations in Regina. Please give us a call!

## OUR GRATITUDE!

We were honored to host our annual luncheon December 8, invite our partners and thank everyone for sharing a meal with our team. Sadly, it was our last year at the Austrian Club. We will miss their great food and service and sincerely thank them for our past luncheons.

Thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas Hamper Fund. There were 105 families who enjoyed a great meal because of the generosity from Namerind and its contractors.

There are many examples of where our team members, partners and relationships with people in our community have come together in support of Namerind. We would like to say THANK YOU to everyone as we look forward to the future!



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## MEET OUR TEAM MEMBER



### Jon Fitzsimmons

Grounds Maintenance Technician

#### Describe a typical day for you at work

– Our team huddles first thing every morning to talk about priorities and plan our day. Once our meeting is done, I go to the shop to load the required

equipment and drive to various the sites. During the summer months, my job involves a wide-range of duties including trimming trees, cutting grass, weed control and other related work. In winter months, I remove snow and ice from properties. Throughout the year, I ensure safety protocols are followed, conduct equipment checks, perform demolition/scrap-out work and do minor repairs as needed. At the end of each day, I return the equipment and service machines before returning to the office.

**Why do you like working at Namerind?** I like this role because there are a variety of tasks and it's easy to keep busy. Each season brings new duties, and I like the changes to my position depending upon the time of year. Namerind is focused on safety and I appreciate that as an employee.

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

I enjoy spending time with my girlfriend outside of work. I also have two german shepherd dogs who keep me pretty busy. In my spare time, I like spending time outdoors hunting and fishing.

*Jon has worked for Namerind for over two years.*