

ANNUAL REPORT

2014-2015



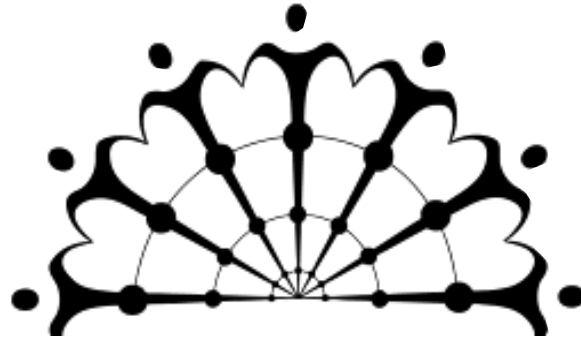
Mission

The NDG Community Council (NDGCC) is an organisation that acts to promote, improve and sustain the well-being of the NDG community and its residents.

The NDG Community Council is a hub of community information and networking in NDG. It works with residents and other organisations, through community organizing and support, to address issues of concern and to find solutions. The Council focuses on quality of life, social justice issues and the involvement of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce residents.

Values

- Inclusiveness, tolerance, representivity (reflecting the community)
- Transparency
- Social justice, preoccupation with vulnerable populations
- Autonomy of community initiatives and projects
- Citizen participation in decision-making that includes consultation and reflection of community values
- Belief in the capacity of individuals and organisations and support for that capacity
- Democracy
- Strong community



This year the Council

- Worked with and served approximately **4900 residents and groups**
- Collaborated with more than **150 groups and residents** on different tables and committees
- Coordinated **8 tables and committees**
- Co-coordinated **2 tables**
- Participated in **7 local tables and committees**



Director's Report

2014-2015 was my 10th year at the Council, a journey that I started as a Community Organiser in 2005. Although I witnessed various changes during the past years, I will call this year "the year of change". While we continued our usual actions to improve and maintain the quality of life for the residents of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. We worked on the development of the structure and governance of the Council with a focus on two dossiers: The Bylaws and the Board structure.

The Bylaws were revised and updated based on the recommendations of last year's public consultation. They were finally adopted at a Special General Assembly in March 2015. In order to have a smooth transition to the new proposed structure, we started to include organisations on the Board of the Council, and the experience was so far very positive. Next year will be the official year to adopt the new structure, and we will observe closely and evaluate the experience.

I had the privilege again to work with an organisation that has strong leadership in a very active community, with a dedicated Board of directors, and to be part of the team responsible for all the accomplishments that I am proudly presenting to you this year. As usual we said goodbye to some valuable staff, but this year most of our staff stayed in place. We said Goodbye to Katrina Heyde, who worked with us on different dossiers at different times since 2007. Katrina, we miss you! Ricardo Botero was the last staff member to move to the Bienvenue à NDG organisation. Last but not least, Ghada Zaki left us to start a new life in Ottawa. We will miss her and we wish her well in her new endeavors.

We also said good bye to some volunteers. Sylvie Charest, who has been with the Council since 2007, and Florence Kastner both left the council to volunteer with other organisations.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our committed partners, devoted board members, enthusiastic volunteers, dedicated staff and funders who have helped the Council in achieving our goals this year.

This year, I am not sure which was harder, the winter or our work at the Council! I enjoyed the latter with all its challenges and accomplishments. Personally, I invested a good part of my time in the restructuring and development of the Council, including the expansion and upgrading of the Council office space and logistics. Currently, we are sharing the second floor of the Wesley Community Center with two organisations, including sharing resources such as the photocopier, internet connection, meeting rooms, and reception services. We continue to work on our space to make it more accessible and friendly for both residents and organisations. So far it has been a very exciting experience that has potential for more development, especially considering the restructuring and austerity measures groups are facing.

I invite you to enjoy our work as well by taking a journey through this report. It is important to have your support and involvement! Please contact us and do not forget to continuously check our website, which is a great tool for and by the community.

Halah Al-Ubaidi,
Executive Director



Report from the Board

I would like to begin by thanking the entire team of the NDG Community Council for their openness and dedication to our community. Without their day-to-day involvement and expertise, the Community Council could not fully play its role in an effective manner.

To my colleagues, members of the board of directors, a great thank-you for your participation and dedication which has allowed us to adopt a host of resolutions, and your involvement that has brought to completion the needed process to adopt new bylaws. This process is the major accomplishment that has marked the past year.

Particular thank-yous to André Mitchell, who ended his participation on the board of the Council this year, and to John Richardson, who is leaving the Council after 10 years of exemplary and unfailing participation. John, we will miss you very much, but I am convinced that you will never be far away and you will be able to come to our rescue when needed...

Our organisation could not function without the engagement, dedication, and leadership of a good executive director, and I can vouch, without the slightest hesitation, speaking for myself and also for the Board of Directors, that we are lucky to have such a director in Halah Al-Ubaidi.

The Council would like to highlight the collaboration of its partners, members of the Table de Quartier Notre-Dame-de-Grace, and the citizens who are involved every day to make NDG a better neighbourhood to live in.

Finally, in this difficult budgetary period for all community organisations, the Council would like to highlight the financial support of all its funders, including : Centraide of Greater Montreal, the Direction de santé publique du Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux (CIUSSS), the City of Montreal, the Borough of CDN/NDG, our representative Kathleen Weil, and all of our generous donors.

Louis Legault
President of the Board



Board Members 2014-2015

Louis Legault (President)
 Andrew Ross (Vice President)
 Marie-Claude Pallett (Treasurer)
 Terri Ste Marie (Secretary)
 John Richardson
 André Mitchell
 Rita Del Grande
 James Olwell
 Ross Chechile
 Helen Fortin
 Sheri Mcleod
 Xavier Vadboncoeur
 Annie Gosselin (Employee Representative)
 Halah Al-Ubaidi (Executive Director)

Council staff members

Halah Al-Ubaidi, Executive Director
 Graziella Bieto Challenger, Admin. Assistant
 Irina Glushko, Website Developer
 Ghada Zaki, Community Organiser
 Nicole Fornelli, Community Organiser
 Annick Munyana, Community Organiser
 Annie Gosselin, Community Organiser
 Lora Milusheva, Community Organiser
 Steve Charters, Community Organiser
 Fahimeh Delavar, Community Worker
 Sharon Sweeney, Community Worker
 Emily Carpenter, Community Worker
 Sarah Gosse, Community Worker
 Katrina Heyde, *Community Worker (until July 2014)*

Bienvenue à NDG Staff

Ricardo Botero (*until January 2015*)

Food Security Coalition Staff

Simon Delorme (*until October 2014*)

Council Contracts

Oliver Cole & Kirisanthi Kugathasan, Accounting and bookkeeping services
 Joe Miller, Computer support and maintenance
 Glenn Cassidy, Repairs and maintenance
 Michael Simkin
 Marilyne-Louise Thibeault
 Huijun Yang
 YongJun Zhang
 Dakmo Souleiman Aouled
 Andrés Toro
 Simone Lucas

Council Interns

ERS Youth Development Corporation

Judith Michael
 Lucia Rea

McGill University

School of Social work

Sarah Gosse

International Community Action Network (ICAN)

Anwar Alhjojo
 Shirly karavani

School of Urban planning

Alon Goldstein

Université de Montréal

Andrés Toro



Members 2014-2015

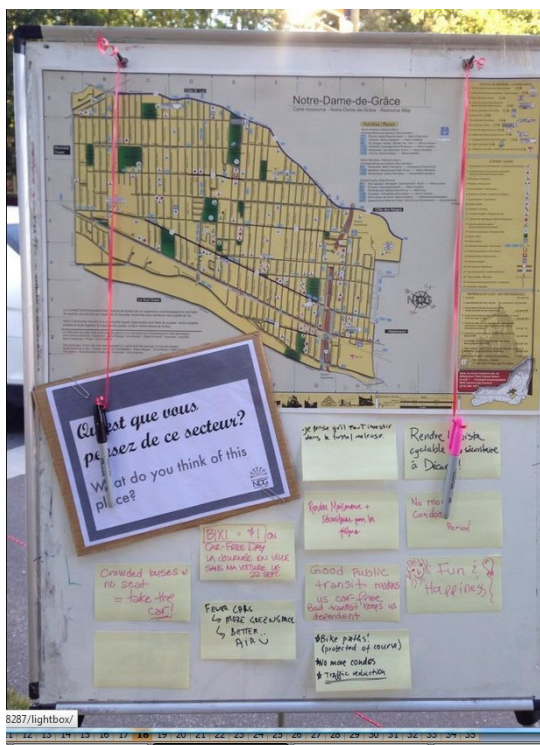
It is our goal to have the voting membership of the NDG Community Council reflect our vibrant and engaged neighbourhood. We are particularly excited this year to have opened up our membership structure to include local businesses and non-voting institutional members. Although we have long supported and collaborated with important neighbourhood actors in both of these categories, we are pleased that now we can move forward in a spirit of official partnership and mutual support.

This year, our official membership consisted of 40 individual members (a 25% increase from last year) and 20 organisational members (a 25% increase from last year).

We hope that with your support, these increases will continue. If in reading this report, you are inspired to become a member of the Council or to invite a friend to do so, the Membership Form is included in Appendix 5.

List of Organisational Members 2014-2015

ACEF Du Sud-Ouest de Mtl
Bienvenue à NDG
CDEC CDN/NDG
Comite Jeunesse NDG
Coup de Balai
Fondation de La Visite
Fraser-Hickson Institute
Head and Hands
Hippy Quebec
Iraqi Community Centre
Les Maisons Transitionnelles 03
Loisirs sportifs Cote-des- Neiges
Maison Cultural de L'iran
NDG Food Depot
NDG Senior Citizens' Council
New Hope Seniors Centre
Prévention CDN/NDG
Queen Elizabeth Complex
St. Philip's Church
YMCA of Quebec NDG



The Importance of Volunteering

The Community Council is the first to recognize the importance of giving back time and energy to your community, and we are so grateful for the volunteers who choose to do that by volunteering here with us. Several of our programs – including the Christmas Dinner and the Tax Clinic program – rely entirely on volunteers to make them a success. From our vantage point at the Council, we are in a position to see the impact of the dozens of residents and caring individuals who spend their free hours on committees and boards to make their community a better place – including, of course, on our own Board of Directors. Even our office itself relies on volunteers who receive phone calls, take appointments, offer invaluable referral information to residents, and provide the first welcoming face to residents who walk through our doors.

In our office this year, we bid farewell to long-time reception volunteers Sylvie Charest and Florence Kastner, and welcomed Tahira Zahid and Chantal Thériault. Zaid Dahdah continued with us all year and Pierre Blouin increased his volunteer schedule to 20 hours per week, spread over 5 days. We offer our deep thanks to these volunteers who give so much to the Community Council office day-to-day!

See Appendix 2 for lists of volunteers where they are available, and to read our words of gratitude to the many volunteers we cannot list by name.



“It is easy to share my impressions of the NDG Community Council after eight and a half years of work as a volunteer here.

What stands out first is the quality of the interpersonal relationships both among the Council staff themselves and with the public. The Council responds to the needs of clients in a remarkable way. Highlights of this response include housing, community resources, the tax clinic, etc. It is important to also thank the other community organisations of NDG for the cooperation they give to both the Council and the general public.

It seems to me that since the start of my volunteering I have acquired the knowledge and ability to manage the multiple requests that we receive. Thank you, NDG Community Council”

-Pierre Blouin, volunteer receptionist since 2006

NDG Community Christmas Dinner

The entirely volunteer-run Christmas Dinner tradition continued this year with 60 turkeys donated and 853 meals served, due to the generous help of many volunteers and donors! The team that organizes and oversees the event would like to thank everyone who made an in-kind or monetary donation to the 2014 Christmas Dinner.



Funding sources

Initiative Montréalaise (funding from Centraide du Grand Montréal, Direction de la santé publique, the Ville de Montréal and l'entente MESS-Ville).

Centraide du Grand Montréal – Mobilisation of residents

Centraide – Benny Farm Community Development

Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montreal (Programme de soutien aux organismes communautaires (PSOC)

Arrondissement CDN/NDG, Fonds de développement social – DCSLDS

Ville-MESS – Fond québécois d'initiatives sociales dans le cadre des alliances pour la solidarité – Soutenons les secteurs défavorisés du quartier Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

Gouvernement of Quebec, Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport -Soutien à l'action bénévole (SAB)

Other (Membership, MIDI, Comité Jeunesse – JES, Centre de la petite enfance – Avenir d'enfants, etc)

Council's Fiduciary Funding

Bienvenue à NDG

Ville de Montreal – Programme de soutien à la diversité des expressions culturelles festivals et événements 2014

Ville-MESS – Fond québécois d'initiatives sociales dans le cadre des alliances pour la solidarité – Je m'engage à NDG

Food Security Coalition

Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal (programme des soutien aux incitatives locales (2013-2018) – De la terre à la table

NDG Community Christmas Dinner

Eric Baker Family Foundation

Ville de Montreal

MESS – Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale

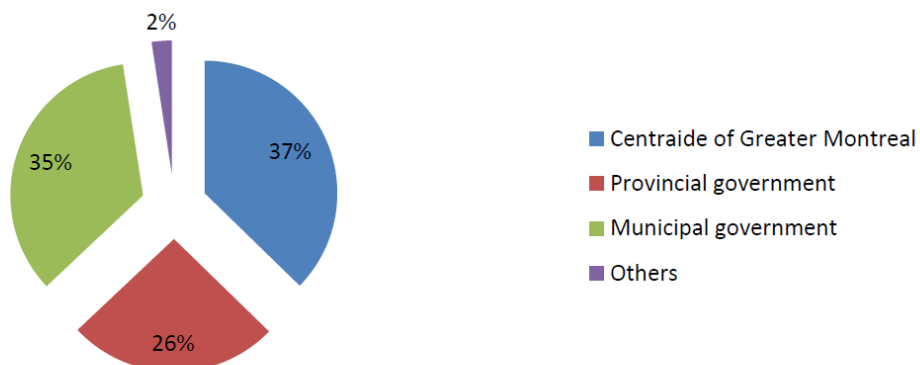
MIDI – Ministère de l'Immigration, diversité et inclusion

JES – Jeunes en Santé NDG – Québec en Form

DCSLDS – Direction de culture, des sports, des loisirs et du développement – Fonds de développement social

JES Jeunes en Santé NDG Québec en form

Sources de financement 2014-2015



NDG Action Plan 2014

STRATEGIC PLAN STRATEGIQUE

2013 • 2016

In June 2014, the Council began drafting the 2014 Action Plan, an inventory of community actions that correspond to the NDG Strategic Plan 2013-2016. The final 2014 Action Plan was released in September 2014, and is publicly available on our website at www.ndg.ca. The Plan represented the culmination of many years of collaborative work by dedicated organisations across NDG, and is a crucial step toward harmonizing community sector activities for the benefit of all NDG residents. It was the first time the community sector went through this process, and we expect it to improve each year until it becomes a regular part of community coordination.

As part of this process, the Council organized 6 public assemblies (for a complete list, see Appendix 1) covering each of the key issues of the Strategic Plan in different venues across the neighbourhood over the summer, to promote the plan and reach out to a wide variety of residents. This included assemblies in each of NDG's vulnerable sectors and was the first time the 2014 Action Plan was presented publicly. 22 organisations participated, and NDG residents were invited to join as an audience. While turn-out from residents wasn't especially high (64 residents in total), audience members actively participated in the forums, asking questions and contributing ideas.

Following the completion of the Action Plan and Public Assembly series for 2014, a new COCO-PS (Comité de Co-ordination du Plan Stratégique) was formed to advance efforts related to the Strategic and Action Plan for 2015 and beyond, and to raise the plan profile in the community. 13 members, representing a broad range of community partners, agreed to serve on the committee. The COCO-PS's efforts have been augmented by free consultation services from external advisers at Groupe Dynamo. Dynamo in particular provided assistance in a pilot review process of Action Plan 2014, which is ongoing.

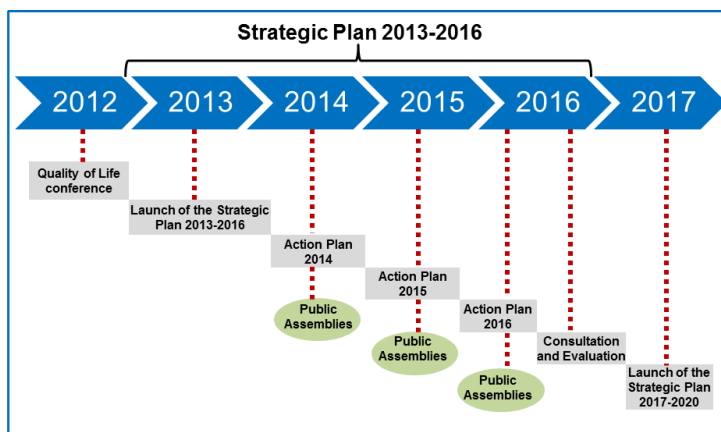
With a new COCO-PS in place, a revised Action Plan template for 2015 was developed and is currently being finalized. Changes to the template were made based on the experience of the 2014 efforts and on feedback from partners, to improve the usability of the future editions of the Action Plan. Actions for 2015 are being collected from tables and partners in an ongoing manner; simultaneously, actions for 2016 are also being gathered in an effort to more quickly complete the Action Plan for that year.

The next steps for the Strategic Plan will be:

- complete the 2015 Action Plan by the end of spring of 2015
- develop a series of public assemblies for the early fall of 2015
- conduct a thorough review of the Action Plan in late fall of 2015
- create the 2016 Action Plan, to be available in the beginning of 2016



NDG Community Strategic and Action Plan Timeline of the Process



For the time line of the process see Appendix 4



NDG Community Council, your “Table de Quartier”

The NDG Community Council is one of 30 “Tables de Quartiers” on the Island of Montreal. These “Tables de Quartiers” are local organisational networks that work collaboratively on social development. This means putting in place the necessary conditions for each individual community member to develop their potential, participate actively in civil society and play a role in enriching the collective good. The objective of the Council is to facilitate collective action in an integrated manner to effectively reduce poverty and improve the quality of life in NDG. By creating spaces and opportunities for local actors to meet, understand each other, and mobilize around common issues we have been able to increase our collective action, develop leadership and maximize impact. The Council is an active member of many sectoral tables, working groups, regional coalitions and Borough committees. All of this is done while remaining attentive to the ongoing challenge of limited resources felt throughout the community.

In addition to their local involvement, Council staff participation is extended to the CDN/NDG Borough and Montreal-wide committees. This work helps strengthen ties within our borough (NDG /CDN), with neighbouring partners (Westmount and Saint Henri) through our participation at the CIQ, and with regional partners throughout the island of Montreal (through our participation at the CMTQ, RCLALQ, FRAPRU and RICOM).

All the work of the Council is organized according to the NDG Community Strategic Plan, developed over two years of consultation in the community. You will see that this report follows the Council’s work through the themes of the NDG Community Strategic Plan: culture and social cohesion, health and well-being, urban and sustainable design, housing and community spaces, community capacity building, and education and youth development.

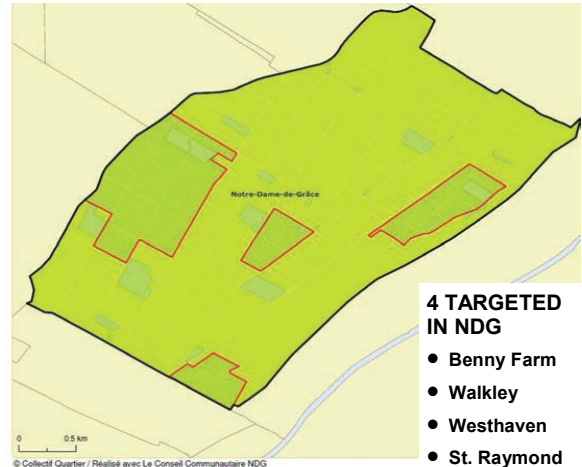
Please see Appendix 1 and 3 for all activities and committees coordinated and/or supported by the Council, or browse our website for more information.





Vulnerable Sectors: Supporting Actions and Mobilizing Residents

As well as organizing across the neighbourhood based on issues, the Community Council works directly with community groups focused on four vulnerable sectors, focusing on improving services in these sectors and working in partnership to support all manner of community development initiatives, from community gardens to social housing development and from provision of information to cultural celebrations. What follows are specific reports on each sector.



Saint Raymond Sector

The St. Raymond neighbourhood has been a site of continuous and substantial change over the last year – most notably on its periphery with the opening of the MUHC mega-hospital and the closing of the rue Saint-Jacques Bridge, further isolating the area. Within St. Raymond, the construction of a new primary school set to open later in 2015 will bring significant changes as well. Given these projects, accessibility and transportation issues significantly affect the community in the coming years.

Within the St. Raymond community, greater community cohesiveness is developing around a core of residents determined to make the neighbourhood more connected and livable, especially for families. Central to this has been the continued development of the social economy Art Hive, intended to be an open community gathering space. With seed funding from the CDEC and the contributions from the Council and from PercoLab, an ongoing community consultation process has mobilized a large number of people and expanded the core network of active residents in the area. Other key events that the Council has helped realize over the last year include the now-annual Melrose Tunnel Halloween decorating activities, a Jane’s Walk, and a guerrilla gardening workshop. Each of these activities met or exceeded attendance expectations.



The Council and our community partners will be building off this momentum in the coming year, with ever-more community activities planned.

Westhaven Sector



Last year, after having formed a neighbourhood committee, the focus in Westhaven was to gain a deeper understanding of what residents wanted to see in the community through surveys and focus groups. As a result of these conversations, the committee created a 3-year strategic plan. Although it was a difficult year for the Westhaven Community Centre, we continued to build this evolving plan throughout the year, formed new partnerships and had successful activities. In order to accomplish the action items, subcommittees made up of residents and partner organisations, have begun to form. Amongst other things, these sub-committees have worked on approaching local businesses such as the Cricket Club, approaching other partner organisations such as the 50+ Club, meeting with Concordia University to discuss the possibility of locals using their facilities, and the creation of an adults' social club.

In the upcoming year, the Westhaven neighbourhood committee will continue to take a leadership role in contacting partners with vested interests in the community, accomplish action items within the plan, mobilize more residents, partner with neighbouring enterprises and foster its partnership with the Westhaven Community Centre and the borough. Please see Appendix 3 for a full list of the partners.

To share a few highlights from this past year in Westhaven: On Friday, May 2nd, a resident organized a Jane's Walk throughout the neighbourhood. Collecting pictures from the past 50 years, she explained the history of Westhaven and had 30 people listening attentively. On Friday, August 8th, the Westhaven Community Centre, in partnership with Prevention CDN/NDG and the NDG Community Council celebrated another successful festival in the park! As usual, the event was held in Coffee Park, the central hub of the Westhaven neighbourhood. Over 200 people attended the event; which was wildly successful. The afternoon kicked off when summer camp was let out, and staff and animators ran



games for the children as setup commenced. Soon, Jeunesse Benny arrived with inflatables and an outdoor movie screen. Kiosks were set up to provide valuable information to the residents. Finally, the last highlight throughout the summer was the community garden. In the spring time, boys from Loyola high school participated in growing the seedlings and building the planter boxes. Throughout the summer, gardening workshops were held weekly and involved children from the summer camp and local residents. Towards the end of the season, a sign was painted at the entrance of the community garden. The second season for our community garden has already begun and we expect it to be just as successful as last year!





Fielding-Walkley Sector

The Fielding-Walkley Revitalization Initiative (Démarche Fielding-Walkley), which is a coordinated effort amongst 36 community partners, continues to work to improve the quality of life for those living and working in the Fielding-Walkley sector. Partnership and resident involvement continue to be key in the success of actions planned for Fielding-Walkley. The community organizer of the Council and the resident mobilisation agent of Prevention CDN

-NDG work closely together to coordinate, as well as stay informed of activities happening in the sector. Strategically, the Council community organizer focuses on working with partners, while the mobilisation agent works to ensure the engagement and participation of residents.

Over the past year, the coordinating committee of the Démarche worked hard to finalize the action plan for the sector, titled: *Plan d'action communautaire et de mobilisation pour le secteur Fielding-Walkley dans l'arrondissement Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce 2013-2016*. Seven themes were identified as priority actions for the Fielding-Walkley sector: 1) Infrastructure, 2) Food Security, 3) Urban Security, 4) Francisation, 5) School Support, 6) Social Support, 7) Housing. In April 2015, the table of partners of the Démarche agreed that the issue of employment and economic development needed to be recognized as a priority action. This issue is now included with the Francisation theme. Each theme group has a representative that gives updates on actions and activities to the Coordinator of the Démarche. In collaboration with those representatives, as well as the coordinating committee, the coordinator of the Démarche updates the action plan twice a year. For the upcoming year, the table of partners, as well as the coordinating committee, will be focused on developing a process to evaluate the Démarche Fielding-Walkley. Under the Infrastructure theme, a main focus of the Démarche will be to provide support to both the Loyola and Walkley Centers to ensure that they have sustainable and quality infrastructure to meet the needs of their clientele. The programming of both these centers has been vital in contributing to the development of the community.

In collaboration with the partners of the Démarche, as well as the residents, many activities took place in the Fielding-Walkley sector over the 2014-2015 year. As a follow up from last year, and in response to the increasing need of social housing, the newly renovated social housing building on Walkley St., which is managed by HCNDG, was completed and ready for tenants in March 2015. Throughout the year, partners in the Démarche continued to establish relationships with landlords and tenants, as well as related housing partners working in the area. Other activities in the sector included a Jane's Walk- which was organized and led by residents, a Fête de Quartier and a residents partners appreciation dinner. (see Appendix 1 for a full list of events)

Due to the hard work of the many partners, residents, the mobilising agent, the coordinator and the coordinating committee of the Démarche, the Fielding-Walkley sector is a vibrant and diverse neighbourhood, with much to celebrate and enjoy.



Benny Farm Community Development



When the Community Council refers to the Benny Farm sector, this refers both to the historic development of mixed-income housing on the Benny Farm property itself, as well as the Sherbrooke Forest housing development across Sherbrooke Street from Benny Farm. Community council efforts are dedicated to community development and capacity building in this sector, which, due to its successful implementation of mixed-income housing, is often overlooked in poverty statistics. Our efforts this year have focused on involving a higher number of residents in activities and leadership roles. This includes both activities to build community cohesion and cultural life, as well as structures to train, develop, and give space for emerging resident leaders. Although we hope in the future that resident structures will replace the need for facilitation, at this time the role of the Council is key to facilitation and organisation in the sector.

The efforts of the dual role of the Benny Farm/Sherbrooke Forest community worker to mobilise residents and link between the two sites, and the diversified funding from Centraide and Ville-Mess, have helped greatly over the past year to reach and mobilize new levels of resident participation: on the Steering Committee, the Horizontal Committee, and at community events.

The Steering Committee is a small committee that includes staff members of several organisations. Their role is to guide, advise, and facilitate a participative governance process in the sector. The Steering Committee currently meets monthly, and has focused this year on participation of residents in the Steering Committee itself as well as throughout the sector. The Committee is currently working on a survey with the dual goals of learning what residents want to see in coming years in the sector and promoting the committee as a decision making space open to all.

The Horizontal Committee is a broader committee with no permanent staff on board. It is designed to bring to the table the interests of every project and development within the Benny Farm sector. Still in development, the Horizontal Committee is clarifying with the Steering Committee their roles and responsibilities. The Horizontal Committee is working with the Steering Committee to develop an information pamphlet for residents clarifying their role and the different representatives of each project that can be approached with general questions.



Because Benny Farm and Sherbrooke Forest contain very diverse housing developments (in income, cultural background of residents, governance, and goals), community cohesion and cultural life are very important to development and leadership-building. As one participant in the Chinese New Year event explained, "I felt truly part of the community for the first time after this event." Our work this year has allowed us to reach new levels of outreach and participation in events at Benny Farm and Sherbrooke Forest, from the Chinese New Year event to two tax clinics, and from inter-generational cooking workshops to a new, innovative storytelling project that connected directly to local history and resident leadership in the Jane's Walk initiative. (For a full list of activities and partners please see Appendix 1 and 3)



NDG Intercultural Table (NDGIT)



The NDG Intercultural Table (NDGIT) came into existence in 2008 to address the socio-economic participation of immigrants and the issues faced by ethno cultural communities within the borough. Currently, the NDGIT is made up of 7 partner organisations and institutions and is co-coordinated by Bienvenue à NDG and the NDG Community Council.

This year, after reviewing its previous mission, vision and action plan, the NDGIT has identified five main priorities in which it will focus on over the coming year: Develop the structure of the table and renewed action plan, strengthen the services that are aimed at supporting immigrants living in NDG, promote the integration of immigrants in the Québec job market, facilitate the learning of French and English, and establish and support initiatives to break the social isolation of immigrants living in NDG.

Under the structure of the NDGIT, there are three functioning sub-committees which work to address the main priorities identified by the table: Francisation, employment, and structure and function of the table. Within the past year, the NDGIT has also promoted a new vision to approach the problem of the integration of newcomers into Quebec's workforce and access to community French programs in NDG. In using a holistic approach, the NDGIT has started to analyse and discuss an initiative that would address these two issues.

Services for immigrants in NDG —Bienvenue à NDG

The Council has actively supported Bienvenue à NDG in a fiduciary role for the completion of two projects, *Je m'engage à NDG 2014* and the *Programme de soutien à la diversité des expressions culturelles festivals et événements 2014*.

The *Je m'engage à NDG* project encouraged the participation of families in neighbourhood life. 25 people from precarious situations were recruited as volunteers and were accompanied through the creation of 6 workshops which were presented to 133 people in the neighbourhood. These workshops allowed the participants (63 women and 70 men) to build links with and within the community. The topics addressed in the workshops were tenants' rights, socio-professional integration, recognition of professional qualifications, work-study-family life balance, income and budget planning, and retirement.

Thanks to the *Programme de soutien à la diversité des expressions culturelles festivals et événements 2014*, Bienvenue à NDG co-coordinated the Fielding-Walkley *fête de quartier*. This celebration was an occasion for families in NDG to meet and share their traditions in a festive, fun, and family-friendly atmosphere.

The Council has also given crucial operational support to Bienvenue à NDG, providing office space and meeting spaces. and office resources including internet connection, telephone, photocopier, etc. The financial operations of Bienvenue à NDG would be impossible without this support.

Food Security Issues in NDG



Food Security Coalition

During the 2014-2015 year, the NDG Coalition for Food Security has focused on building its membership, as well as reviewing its vision, mission and priorities. Currently, the Coalition is made up of 25 members, consisting both of partner organisations and residents. The Coalition, in using a holistic approach, is working towards the development of an integrated and sustainable food system to ensure access to sufficient, healthy, affordable and culturally-appropriate food for all residents of NDG. The Coalition is currently co-coordinated by a community organizer from the CSSS Cavendish and the NDG Community Council.

The Coalition has identified 7 priorities that it will continue to work on over the 2015-2016 year. The 7 priorities include: to conduct a needs assessment and inventory of food security in NDG, to support the development of markets and urban agriculture in NDG, to support the development of a community food hub, to improve communication and knowledge sharing between the Coalition and the community, to draft a food policy or charter for NDG, to support the expansion of food education and food skills development and to outreach to and ensure services are provided to the most vulnerable of our community. To help facilitate some of these priorities, the Coalition has two functioning sub-committees; Communication and Emergency Food Services. The Coalition also works in partnership with an NDG urban agriculture working group.

Finally, the Coalition has participated in city and nationwide initiatives to address food security. This has included meetings organized by the DSP, as well as the Système Alimentaire Montréalaise (SAM). The Coalition also had the great opportunity to send a representative to attend Food Secure Canada's National Bi-Annual Conference in Halifax in November 2014.

De la terre, à la Table

The *De la Terre, à la Table* project has continued to expand over the 2014-2015 year. Based on the report conducted by Coop Interface, as well as the project plan and feasibility study developed by the former project manager, members of the Coalition approved the creation of a community run produce market to be implemented by the NDG Food Depot. The NDG Community Council continues to be the fiduciary of the project. The project, funded by the Direction de la Santé Publique (DSP), is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2015 at the NDG Food Depot. The goal is to expand the community-run produce market to one of the vulnerable sectors of NDG by the fall of 2015. Currently there is an advisory committee that oversees the development of the market. The advisory committee is made up of the market coordinator, two staff from the NDG Food Depot and the two co-coordinators of the Coalition (see Appendix 3 for a complete list of members).

Members of the Coalition would like to express their appreciation for the work that Simon Delorme did as project manager for the project *De la Terre, à la Table*. Simon left the coalition in the fall of 2014, and a process was undertaken to draft an agreement and officially transition the project to the NDG Food Depot. The NDG Food Depot has hired a new project manager, Nicolas Braesch, who began work in winter 2015, to coordinate the community-run produce market.



Jeunes en Santé NDG — Local Action Committee (JES-CAL) and Partnership Sub-Committee



The NDG Community Council participates in two working groups of Jeunes en Santé NDG: the Local Action Committee, as well as the Partnership Sub-Committee. Jeunes en Santé NDG is a local community group that works to promote healthy life habits for children aged 0 to 17 and their families. In collaboration with many other community partners, JES-NDG works to ensure that the resources are available for children and their families have a healthy quality of life. The JES-CAL reviews the JES-NDG action plan and budget and makes recommendations for future initiatives. The Partnership Sub-Committee works hard to strengthen and maintain community partnerships to ensure that the priorities of JES-NDG are being met.





Transportation issues in NDG

The issues surrounding transportation and bus service in NDG has become an ever-growing concern. A few months ago, the Council partnered with the NDG Senior Citizen’s Council and organized a public assembly in order to discuss the issues surrounding transportation in the neighbourhood. As a result of this public assembly, a transportation committee was formed. Mainly comprised of residents, this committee aims to find ways to improve bus service in NDG. Since its formation, various individuals of the committee have attended and asked questions at the STM board meetings, borough council and Comité de bon voisinage Turcot. We have also invited the STM to attend our meetings and had the opportunity to meet with Ms. Kathleen Weil in order to discuss opportunities in NDG. In the coming year, the committee will continue to meet on a regular basis, analyze statistics we have obtained, work in partnership with the STM and the borough, meet with officials on different levels of government and lobby for improved bus service and the construction of the Elmhurst Station.

CIQ (Interneighbourhood Coalition) - Accessibility and Transportation sub-committee

The Council participated in meetings of the CIQ and the Accessibility and Transportation sub-committee. A noteworthy meeting was held between the Director of Communications and Strategic Planning at the MUHC in which opportunities for partnerships and community benefits were discussed. A particularly important issue that arose was the need to construct an accessible entrance to the Vendome metro station (the main link to the new hospital). In order to bring the issue to light in the community, several press conferences were held, articles were written, a petition with thousands of signatures was given to the Treasure Board and several letters were sent to the Minister of Transportation. We also organized a meeting between the MUHC and the STM in order to ensure the provision of temporary measures (a dedicated bus line from Lionel-Groulx metro station to the hospital doors) until second entrance is constructed. As the hospital will have its grand opening in the coming months, the Council sees the opportunity in continuing their participation with this committee and will also focus on other transportation issues that are affecting NDG.



Park(ing) Day

In September 2014, for the second year, the Council participated in Park(ing) Day. Part of a global movement for sustainability in city neighbourhoods, this event brought a new tradition into the vibrant cultural life of our local community. This year the Council worked in collaboration with Transition NDG, the NDG Cyclist & Pedestrian Association, Cycle Alimentaire, and was supported by the Borough of CDN-NDG. We transformed several parking spaces in central NDG into a park filled with community activities. The event attracted over 100 residents.





Housing Issues in NDG

NDG Housing Table

The Housing Table brings together tenants' rights organisations, community organisations, housing managers, and developers to share information and work toward community-based solutions to issues concerning housing. Together, the Table is developing a strategy for healthy and affordable housing for all NDG residents.

The NDG Community Council team continued its coordination role on the Housing Table, which met five times over the last year. The Table is a great place to mobilize and share information on housing issues within the community and beyond (for example, the "*Régie du Lentement*" campaign and the campaign for the renewal and improvement of the AccèsLogis programme of Québec) and on housing projects underway in the neighbourhood. Many Table members work on various other committees related to housing in NDG, the Borough, and the City of Montreal. In this manner, NDG is represented on the borough health and safety coalition, in RCLALQ, and in the FRAPRU. Table members also support to developing housing projects in the neighbourhood.

Further to the publication of the 2012 Report on Housing, a new subcommittee of the Housing Table was established this year, an advisory committee for housing services in NDG. Comprised of organisations working in NDG, tenants, and housing groups that work outside of NDG (for a full list of members, see Appendix 2), the committee was formed to oversee the implementation of a tenant assistance service and to ensure that the service's objectives meet the needs of the community. **It met five times.** The Committee will make funding applications in the coming months to increase and sustain the financial situation of the project, in partnership with other community resources.

CIQ (Interneighbourhood Coalition) Housing Sub-Committee

In collaboration with the team from Solidarity St-Henri and the CLSC, an effort was successful in re-launching the Housing Sub-Committee of the Inter-Neighbourhood Coalition this year. The committee has met three times and will continue its work in the coming months.

Tenants rights service

Tenant services offered by the Community Council are delivered in partnership with other local resources and with the Borough. One day per week, a community worker specializing in housing responds to general questions from tenants by appointment and by phone. Starting in January 2014, a public drop-in service is also offered on 2 half-days each week at the NDG Food Depot, to provide general information about the rights and responsibilities of tenants. During each half-day session, the community worker can see up to six tenants. Offering services in two different locations makes it easier for vulnerable clientele to access the service by being present in community centres that they use frequently. These clients are frequently referred to other relevant community partners including Bienvenue à NDG, the CSSS, etc. in order to meet their broad range of questions. Their housing problems are often accompanied by other challenges. Over the last year, almost 400 people were served by the community worker, staff and volunteers at the Community Council's office (in person or by phone) and more than 350 people were served at the mobile office at the NDG Food Depot. The Community Council team worked in collaboration with other local organisations to provide or promote trainings for tenants and other organisations on important housing issues in regards to tenant rights and responsibilities, as well as housing-related health concerns.





NDG Community Space Coalition

The Space Coalition works to address the increasingly-present issue of affordable and stable spaces to meet the needs of local community organisations. About 20 community groups in NDG are currently represented in the Space Coalition (for a full list, see Appendix 3).

After the unsuccessful offer on the Rosedale Queen Mary church as a possible location for a cooperative, the Space Coalition has been continuously searching for other potential spaces in NDG. To facilitate its search, in August-September 2014 the Coalition worked with a McGill Urban Planning student on the creation of a Space Map that identified available spaces and buildings in NDG for either renting or buying. The main goal was that the map would serve as a search tool when identifying potential venues for new projects.

A major focus of the Coalition since February 2015 has been the CDN-NDG borough's call for proposals for the future repurposing of the Benny Library building located at 3465 Benny Avenue. There were two large meetings hosted by the Space Coalition concerning the call for proposals, during which various community groups participated in an open discussion and created a plan for potential submission of proposals. In this participatory process, the Community Council took on the role of coordinator and led the meetings, provided information, and acted as a link between the borough, the Space Coalition and the community organisations that intended to submit a proposal. The Benny Library building proves to be an excellent opportunity for creating a multifunctional community space that houses community organisations and provides programming to local residents. An update from the borough regarding selection of proposals is expected in late May 2015.

Another project that provoked a lot of interest in NDG in the past year is the idea of creating a coworking space in NDG. In the fall of 2014 the NDG Community Council and the Space Coalition were approached by a group of local activists interested in having a coworking space in the neighbourhood, where local residents can share affordable working and meeting space. This group met with the Community Council and CJE in November 2014, and after receiving support from the groups, presented the idea of coworking space in NDG at a public meeting in December 2014. The meeting brought together 23 residents and groups, many of the residents – local independent workers and entrepreneurs.

The Community Council is committed to continue its coordinating role for the Space Coalition and to support the coworking space initiative in NDG, as it recognizes the critical need for preserving the community spaces in our neighbourhood. Having affordable and more stable spaces is crucial for the functioning of the community organisations in NDG.



Tables, committees and programs coordinated or co-coordinated by the Council



NDG Round Table

NDG Round Table meetings function, above all, to provide a space to create links and build partnerships between community organizers and workers in NDG. They are organized by a committee composed of representatives from local community organisations (see Appendix 3 for a full list). These meetings allow community workers to share information, discuss common struggles and find collaborative working solutions. Representatives of elected officials and funding agencies are also invited to attend to share information with community organisations and help them access existing programs and funding opportunities. The success of the Round Table lies in the dedication of the participants to improve the quality of life for the NDG community.

The main focus of the Round Table this year was on funding realities and budget cuts that the community groups in NDG have been facing. The last four Round Tables aimed to provide a safe space for open discussions where community organisations could share their own experience with budget cuts and austerity measures, support each other, and work together on common actions to help preserve the local services that have been and are currently offered to NDG residents.

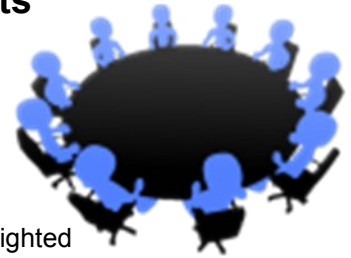
Throughout the meetings, community workers demonstrated strong engagement in the discussions; they were able to exchange ideas, share information, brainstorm together on the budget cuts issue and its meaning for the NDG community, and provide updates. The goal was to share knowledge about the cuts in the programs of the government, the city, and the borough and how the institutional restructuring will affect the local community. A follow-up meeting was even organized outside the Roundtable space to discuss funding realities, continuing on discussions that began at Roundtable meetings.

“What kind of actions should we do as a community?” was a recurrent question raised during the meetings. Hence, another important issue that was examined by the Round Table this year was partnerships. Achieving the most effective and healthy partnerships is key for the NDG community and will continue to be part of Round Table agenda in the future.



Public Assemblies, Discussion Groups, and Public Events

As part of the Council's long tradition to mobilise residents around important issues in their community, the Council's staff organised several public assemblies and discussion groups and many public events, all in collaboration with community partners and residents. The issues discussed in public assemblies are determined by community demand and by the specific context that residents are facing. These events are highlighted throughout the report, and listed in full in Appendix 1.



As part of the NDG Community Action Plan 2014, six public assemblies were organised during the summer of 2014. The objective of these assemblies was to provide a space for organisations to present their actions to residents and create a space for exchange and feedback. Another well-known and very popular activity was the Meet the Candidates event organised by the Council during the School elections in 2014. A public assembly on transportation this year sparked the formation of a new transportation committee in NDG. Another assembly focused on wealth inequality and austerity.

Funding realities in NDG

The 2014-2015 year was a landmark year in terms of mobilization around funding, restructuring, autonomy, and austerity. In addition to the two Roundtable meetings that focussed on this issue, the council organised (in collaboration with partners) several activities that varied from public assemblies and discussion groups to participation in events outside NDG. As we do every year, the Council staff and volunteers participated in the Centraide March of 1,000 Umbrellas. We also participated in various events around austerity in November 2014 and March and May 2015. The Council continues to be involved in events organised by the Coalition of Regional Tables of Community Organisations (CTROC for its initials in French) around the province-wide Estates-General for the community sector.

Finally, we ended the year with a public assembly to offer more information to residents on wealth inequality, austerity, and the 2015 provincial budget. More than thirty residents attended to learn about and discuss the causes of, and solutions to, these issues.



NDG Tax Clinic Coalition

The NDG Tax Coalition, which provides tax declaration services to low-income NDG households, faced good and bad news this year. In the bad news, increased bureaucratic requirements and decreased resources from the government Volunteer Income Tax Program made it more challenging than ever to carry the program through to completion. The good prevailed, however: not only did we succeed, but in response to the challenges we coordinated and collaborated between community groups in the Coalition more closely than ever before. In the end, we brought tax preparation service to more residents than we did in past years and integrated new partners who hosted drop-in tax clinics in community centres, public housing developments, and the Food Depot, reaching geographically across NDG and minimizing travel as much as possible for residents. With these partners, we tripled the number of locations for drop-in tax clinics from last year.



For the second year, the NDG Community Council hosted tax preparation workshops, teaching residents to prepare their own taxes using a simple online software. Like last year, more than half of the participants in workshops were new immigrants, and translator volunteers were present to help explain the software and Canadian tax system in multiple languages.

The Community Council took the lead to coordinate volunteer orientation sessions in French and English with the other members of the Tax Coalition. 50 volunteers were recruited to attend the sessions, and over 30 of them went on to volunteer at tax clinics and workshops in the neighbourhood. Volunteers were extremely flexible and hard-working, even though serious challenges were faced with volunteer registration and a lack of adequate training materials from the government Volunteer Program.

Unfortunately, we are still not able to meet the demand for low-income tax preparation in the neighbourhood, and some residents are still turned away from our drop-in clinics. An important long-term advocacy goal, among many, is to re-instate a simplified tax form for elderly and/or low-income residents. Another is to continue to receive adequate support from the government's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program in the registration and training of volunteers (this support was unfortunately not adequately present this year). We recognize, seeing our own hard work and the demand for the service that still goes unmet, that it is unsustainable for community organisations (no matter how hard-working and well-coordinated) to fill the widening gaps in government services like the Volunteer Income Tax Program. For this reason, the NDG Tax Coalition is working as closely as possible with elected officials to share our experiences and needs, as well as continuing to provide the best service possible to residents under the circumstances.

This year, the 12 members of the Tax Coalition collaborated to provide tax services to over 500 people in clinics, and assisted 87 more in workshops. We had the help of over 50 volunteers (including greeting, registration, and tax preparation volunteers) to achieve this goal.

For a full list of members in the Tax Coalition, see Appendix 3. For a detailed list of the Community Council's tax activities within the NDG Tax Coalition, see Appendix 1. For our words of gratitude to our invaluable volunteers, see Appendix 2.



Information, Communication, and Support

This year we continued to build tools on our website as a part of our strategies and actions to help non-profit organisations, community groups, tables, committees, coalitions and other institutions to exchange and share information between local stakeholders, and to provide partners with the ability to share their information and resources.



Online Resource Centre

The online resource centre remains an important tool that is available to all community organisations and residents. It includes resources organised by subject or by issue, each including useful links and frequently asked questions. Resources are organised according to the categories of the NDG Strategic Plan. This improved our visibility on Google search as well as provide very strong informational support for residents online.

Community Newsletter and Website

What's Happening in NDG, our weekly electronic newsletter and community announcement tool, grew in number of subscriptions this year because of our efforts to make it accessible to all community partners to promote their events, job offers and other activities.

We also continue to support the NDG community calendar for organisational members. It allows organisations to publish and coordinate their events. We have implemented special pages, such as "AGMs in NDG" where a near-complete list of organisations' AGMs is available for public to consult. A page is dedicated to volunteering in NDG as part of our support for volunteer action, where we compiled information about various organisations volunteering requirements, as well as useful links about volunteering. The website's "About NDG" page presents our borough and our activities to residents and newcomers in NDG.

The Council continues to constantly think about online strategies to better serve our community's development.

Resident information

Residents and groups are at the centre of our activities and we prioritize providing clear referral information to various sectors of the NDG population. We have, with the help of a social work student, compiled key information to help the public and community groups find the support they need to better respond to their basic needs and have an understanding of the tools available in the community.

NDG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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- access community services, resources and activities
- leave us your comments

Residents	Groups
Resource center	Tables and committees
Employment	Projects/initiatives/services
Housing/Tenants	Activities and events
Food	Funds and support
Newly arrived in NDG	Resources
Sports and recreation	Members and partners
Education/Schools	Strategic Plan

(514) 484-1471 ndgcc@ndg.ca www.ndg.ca



Featured Tables in which the Council participates

Table Jeunesse

The youth 'Table de Concertation Jeunesse' consists of a group of individuals who work with young people between the ages of 12 to 35 years old in NDG. The members of this group meet in order to consolidate their efforts and to promote initiatives aimed at improving the health and quality of life of youth and their families. This past year, the Table Jeunesse in partnership with Comité d'Action 6-12, continued the Intervenant Communautaire Scolaire (ICS) project. Through various programs and activities the ICS has been providing a needed link between students, schools and their families. This extremely successful project has been implemented in two elementary schools and one high school. The organisation responsible for implementing this project is Bienvenue à NDG. During the coming year, the Council plans on continuing its participation on the Table Jeunesse and sub-committees. There has been growing interest in discussing the lack of services for youth between the ages of 18 and 25 and the Council plans on participating in these discussions.



0-5 Cavendish Table

As in past years, the Council has continued its participation in the meetings of the 0-5 Table. 2015 was a pivotal year for the table, due to the hiring of a new coordinator and the commencement of the action plan. Funding was provided by Avenir d'Enfants.

The Council was responsible for carrying out one of these actions, the Bon Voisinage project. A project coordinator was hired to carry this project out. The project consisted of increasing the number of activities for families with children 0-5 years old within already-planned celebrations in the priority sectors of the neighbourhood. The small Bon Voisinage team was present at the Fielding-Walkley fête de quartier, the Benny Farm picnic, and the decoration activity at the Melrose Tunnel.



Appendix 1

1. 2014-2015: Activities of the Community Council



Date	Activity	Number of Participants
April 2014 to present	Two inter-generational collective kitchens were organized at Sherbrooke Forest (in collaboration with the CJE-NDG), and four at Chez Soi NDG. The participants of the Youth in Action program were invited to cook with the residents of Sherbrooke Forest and Benny Farm. All were invited to share the meal afterwards. Partners: CJE, Sherbrooke Forest, Chez Soi-NDG	60+ residents
April 2014	Workshop on social housing hosted at Maisons Transitionnelles O3.	12 residents
April 31, 2014	Benny Farm Clean Up: Collaboration with Eco-Quartier	15 residents
May 3, 2014	Residents led 2 Jane's Walks, French and English, through the Fielding-Walkley sector. The group of residents, with the support of the mobilising agent, the coordinator of the Démarche and the Walkley Center, organized, planned and led the walks. Titled A Tour Around the World, the walks highlighted and celebrated the cultural diversity of the sector.	30 residents
May 18, 2014	Tenants rights and responsibilities info session in Mandarin. Partner: Bienvenue à NDG	15 residents
May 29, 2014	Safety Audit Walk Report: Follow-up to the safety Audit done by Tandem in collaboration with NDGCC. Presented by Terri St-Marie. SPVM answered questions about the safety audit.	25 residents
June 13, 2014	Meeting between residents and the SPVM (Station 11) held at the Walkley Center with the Commander of police and two Sergeants. The police shared their action plan for the upcoming year, as well as listened to the concerns of residents.	20 residents
June 17th, 2014	Moving Day Activity: organized in collaboration with Prévention CDN/NDG, Tandem, the NDGCC, Éco-Quartier, and Sherbrooke Forest. The partners involved held a table outside of 5252 Walkley street, in which they provided information about moving, tenant rights, property cleanliness, as well other general housing information. The partners were also handing out free boxes to residents to help prepare for moving day on July 1st. 50 boxes were distributed.	30-35 residents
July 2014	Taste Your Neighbourhood : Walking Tour visiting 8 NDG restaurants on Sherbrooke St. West as part of the annual Yellow Pages shop-local initiative. Partners: Transition NDG, St. Raymond Residents' Association	20 residents
July-August 2014	6 Public Assemblies regarding the NDG Action Plan 2014	64 residents and 22 groups
August 2014	Guerrilla Gardening Workshop at the Melrose Tunnel: An outdoor public discussion & workshop on sustainable food production and to the improved use of underutilized space in NDG. Partners: NDG Arts Week, Transition NDG, Cycle Aliemtaire, Coop La Maison Verte, St. Raymond Residents' Association	25 residents
August 2014-April 2015	Planning, poster making and activities preparation at Sherbrooke Forest tenant center & NDG Sport Center; various meetings to prepare for Jane's Walk and other activities	26 residents and groups
August 2014-April 2015	"Listen to Me" storytelling and map-making project activities: 7 meetings and workshops with residents about creating their own story at Benny Farm	20 residents
October 20, 2014	Public Assembly on school elections	100 + residents
December 10, 2014	Caroling for the NDG Food Depot: Benny Farm residents met and sang in front of the Provigo on Sherbrooke/Cavendish for food and monetary donations.	14 residents
December 2014	Open consultation with independent workers and groups regarding Coworking Space in NDG	23 residents and groups
December 2014-February 2015	Skate Drive in Benny Farm: collection of skates and gifts for youth and adults in front of the NDG Sport Center.	30+ residents
February 16, 2015	Celebration of the Chinese New Year at the NDG Sport Center. Benny Farm families and friends were invited	180 residents
February 2015	Public Assembly on public transit issues in NDG	25 residents
February 26, 2015	Participation in a discussion panel on housing at an SPVM training session	15 policemen and -women
January 2015	Round Table: follow up on NDG priorities, NDG Tax Clinic, Funding Realities, discussion on successful AGMs	34 groups



Appendix 1

1. 2014-2015: Activities of the Community Council



Date	Activity	Number of Participants
January 2015	Consultation meeting with NDG groups regarding the funding realities in NDG	10 groups
January 29th, 2015	Partner Appreciation Dinner: residents of Fielding-Walkley organized and prepared an appreciation dinner for partner organisations working in the sector. The residents presented their actions, as well as how they would like to continue working with partners.	35 residents
January-February 2015	Chinese New Year planning committee meetings: made decorations and prepared for the Chinese New year in the Sherbrooke Forest Tenant Centre space.	10 residents and groups
September 2014	Round Table: follow up on after school programs, NDG Action Plan 2014, discussion on funding realities	33 groups
September 6th, 2014	Fête de Quartier Fielding-Walkley: a joint project of residents and many different community organisations. Organized a fun event with free activities so that residents could learn about the many organisations working in the neighbourhood and their services. Held at École Les-Enfants-du-Monde.	300 residents and groups
September 14, 2014	Barbeque between Benny Farm and Prince of Wales for Benny Farm residents. Partner: Table 0-5	80 residents
September 19th, 2014	(Park)ing Day: An annual global event where parking spots are transformed into temporary public parks to raise awareness about how space is used in a city and to spark new ways of thinking by citizens.	100+ residents
October 2014	Halloween Decorating of the Melrose Tunnel: A now-annual event bringing kids together to create Halloween decorations from recycled materials and decorate the Melrose Tunnel, transforming it into a haunted space. Partners – EcoQuatier, Cheap Art Collective, St. Raymond residents Association, Etoile-Filante primary school, Arrondissement CDN-NDG	40 residents
October 16, 2014	Costume workshop for Halloween in collaboration with Éco-Quartier	16+ residents
October 26, 2014	Halloween activity: Organised by the Benny Farm Steering committee in collaboration with the BIL project of Bienvenue NDG, residents and volunteers. The event included a treasure hunt and many more activities at the NDG Sport Center.	100+ residents
November 2014	Round Table: follow up on Food Secure Canada's 8th National Assembly, discussion on budget cuts and what they mean for the NDG community	32 groups
November 6th, 2014	Partners and landlords meeting: In collaboration with housing partners in the Démarche Fielding-Walkley, a meeting was organized with landlords of the sector and relevant community organisations. The objective was to gain a better understanding of the realities of landlords, as well as to present the services available for landlords in the sector.	21 residents
March 2015	2 Consultation meetings with groups regarding the Call for Proposals concerning the future use of the Benny Library building	28 groups
March 2015	12 tax workshop sessions organized by the Community Council in partnership with Bienvenue à NDG, assisting residents to complete their own tax returns	87 residents and 12 volunteers
March 31, 2015	Special AGM on the bylaws of the NDG Community Council	27 residents and groups
March-April 2015	7 drop-in tax clinics organized by the Community Council in partnership with the Walkley Centre, Maisons Transitionnelles O3, Sherbrooke Forest, St. Raymond residents Association, NDG Food Depot, and New Hope Senior Citizens Centre	232 residents and 40 volunteers
March-April, 2015	Fielding-Walkley Jane's Walk 2015 planning meetings: With the support of the Council, residents of FW held three planning meetings to prepare for the Jane's Walk they organized for May 2nd, 2015	7 residents per mtg
March – May 2015	Art-Hive Public Consultation Series: A series of 6 public meetings as part of the St Raymond Art Hive feasibility study, held at various locations. Partners: Cheap Art Collective, St. Raymond residents Association, PercoLab	50 residents
April 29, 2015	Round Table: follow up on austerity, CJE, summer events and shared tools on the ndg.ca website, discussion on partnerships	28 groups
April 4, 2015	Public Assembly Meeting on Wealth inequalities and citizen actions: Feeling poorer lately?	30+ residents
April 18, 2015	Sugar Shack outing: Residents from Benny Farm and Sherbrooke Forest were invited to participate in an outing to a sugar shack outside Montreal.	58 residents
May 9, 2015	Egg Hunt day in Benny Farm	30 residents
Subtotal Resident & Groups		2211



Appendix 1 2. 2014-2015: Je m'engage à NDG Activities



Date	Location	Subject of the workshop/activity	Number of Participants
April 11, 2014	NDG Food Depot	Healthy life habits	16
May 2, 2014	KCKF Church	The Quebec health system	27
June 6, 2014	KCKF Church	Quebec workplace standards	27
July 10, 2014	KCKF Church	Integration and employment	33
September 6, 2014	Les-Enfants-du-Monde School	Neighbourhood celebration	200
October 24, 2014	Montreal Botanical Garden	Visit to <i>Jardins en lumière</i> exhibit	26
October 26, 2014	NDG Sports Centre	Halloween celebration	300
October 30, 2014	KCKF Church	Tenants' rights	22
November 21, 2014	KCKF Church	Integration and employment	16
December 12, 2014	NDG Community Council	Healthy life habits	16
February 5, 2015	NDG Community Council	Social assistance and special loans	19
February 26, 2015	Villa-Maria School	Information session with the SPVM	50
February 27, 2015	NDG Community Council	Recognition of knowledge and competencies (RAC)	28
March 12, 2015	NDG Community Council	New arrivals and finances	38
Subtotal of participants: Je m'engage à NDG activities			818

Appendix 1 3. 2014-2015: Je m'engage à NDG Kiosks

Date	Location	Description	Number of Participants
April 10, 2014	Centre Pauline Julien	Community Resources	80
May 13, 2014	École Sainte-Catherine-de-Sienne	Community Resources	15
May 16, 2014	École de la Mosaïque	Community Resources	15
May 20, 2014	École Les-Enfants-du-Monde	Community Resources	30
May 28, 2014	École Les-Enfants-du-Monde	Community Resources	50
May 29, 2014	Parc Gilbert-Layton	Community Resources	15
June 5, 2014	École Annexe Saint-Luc	Community Resources	10
June 13, 2014	École Marc-Favreau	Community Resources	25
June 13, 2014	École Marc-Favreau	Community Resources	20
June 18, 2014	École Notre-Dame-de-Grâce	Community Resources	10
June 27, 2014	Parc Benny	Community Resources ICS-Summer	50
July 2, 2014	Jardin St Thomas	Community Resources ICS-Summer	10
July 3, 2014	Jardin Les racines de paix	Community Resources ICS-Summer	15
July 9, 2014	YMCA NDG	Community Resources ICS-Summer	13
July 30, 2014	Centre Sportive NDG	Community Resources ICS-Summer	15
August 14, 2014	Parc Benny	Community Resources ICS-Summer	50
August 28, 2014	École Les-Enfants-du-Monde	Back-to-School	50
September 4, 2014	École Sainte-Catherine-de-Sienne	Parents' Assembly	50
September 6, 2014	École Les-Enfants-du-Monde	Neighbourhood celebration	100
September 9, 2014	École de la Mosaïque	Parents' Assembly	60
September 11, 2014	École Marc-Favreau	Parents' Assembly	50
September 11, 2014	École Judith-Jasmin	Parents' Assembly	60
September 11, 2014	École Notre-Dame-de-Grâce	Parents' Assembly	40





Date	Location	Description	Number of Participants
September 16, 2014	École Les-Enfants-du-Monde	Parents' Assembly	30
September 17, 2014	École Saint-Luc	Parents' Assembly	20
September 18, 2014	École Anne-Hébert	Parents' Assembly	20
September 18, 2014	École Annexe Saint-Luc	Parents' Assembly	30
October 2, 2014	École Judith-Jasmin	Parents' Assembly – Welcome class	20
October 3, 2014	CLSC Benny Farm	Family Net	15
October 17, 2014	Mackay Rehabilitation Centre	Volunteer Fair	15
October 22, 2014	École Saint-Luc	Open House	25
November 13, 2014	École Judith-Jasmin / Anne-Hébert	Distribution of information	15
November 13, 2014	École Notre-Dame-de-Grâce	Distribution of information	15
November 13, 2014	École Sainte-Catherine-de-Sienne	Distribution of information	15
November 20, 2014	École de la Mosaïque	Distribution of information	15
November 20, 2014	École Les-Enfants-du-Monde	Distribution of information	20
November 20, 2014	École Marc-Favreau	Distribution of information	20
November 27, 2014	École Annexe Saint-Luc	Distribution of information	10
November 27, 2014	École Saint-Luc	Distribution of information	15
Subtotal of participants reached by kiosks			1133

Appendix 2

Volunteers and Participants

Council Office Volunteers

Pierre Blouin, Sylvie Charest, Ziad Dahdah, Florence Kastner, Chantal Thériault, Tahira Zahid

Bienvenue à NDG Volunteers

Solange Parra, Anyela Reina, Katrina Dutton, Saman Fekri, Dayana Villamil, Fabian Cepeda, Ivonn Conde, Luciana Sannin, Mariana Flores, Eduardo Santos, Mickael Paderna, Faranak Ghaderi, Patricia Acevedo, Mercedes Gharagozlou, Robert Palladini, Gina Berrio, Soledad Cardona, Oxana Kondratyeva, Nailia Latfulina, Adriana Becerra, Raluca Dragote, Yamile Medina, Jimmy Saavedra, Lizbeth Burbano, Lina Wang, Luis Javier Cardona, Edward Watters, Karen Zambrano, Miguel Gomez, Juan Carlos Alvarado, Fernando Trujillo, Ricardo Botero, Eddy Henich, Ivan Rivera, Alan Patiño, Carlos Barrera, Carlos Torres, Sarah Ring, Lilianne Kebouti, Sabrina Hurtado

BIL Project Participants

Narjes ALIPOUR, Adriana BECERRA, Amir FARAHANI, Boris KOLODNER, Oxana KONDRATYEVA, Nailia LATFULINA, Sandra LEON, Robert PALLADINI, Eliana PINEDA, Isabelle RAJAONARISOA, Eva HALUS, Moamen HASSAN, Alaa HANAFY, Marzieh TEYMOURI, Mitra ZOUHMAND, Jianping LI, Andrew BROWN, Ekaterina ALIEVA

Christmas Dinner Volunteers

Every year, the overwhelming response from the community means that volunteers become too many to mention. Their contribution is essential and we extend our gratitude.

Tax Clinic Volunteers

Over 30 volunteers appeared from across Montreal, but primarily from close to home in NDG, to take on the challenging tasks of tax preparation, translation, teaching, and greeting at the NDG Community Council tax workshops and tax clinics this year. About half were returning volunteers; the other half joined us for the first time this year (but, we hope, not the last). These volunteers faced additional challenges this year with technological and bureaucratic changes, and overcame them all to offer patient, helpful, and informative service to NDG residents. We thank them all sincerely.



Appendix 3 Partners and Committees



Council's permanent committees :

Executive Committee: Louis Legault, President, Andrew Ross, Vice President , Marie-Claude Pallett, Treasurer, Terri Ste Marie, Secretary, Halah Al-Ubaidi, Executive Director

Human resources Committee: John Richardson, Terri Ste Marie ,Halah Al-Ubaidi

Finance Committee: Marie-Claude Pallett, Terri Ste Marie , Halah Al-Ubaidi

Nominating Committee: James Olwell, Helen Fortin, Ross Chechile ,Halah Al-Ubaidi

Membership Committee: Rita Del Grande, Xavier Vadboncoeur, Halah Al-Ubaidi

Ad hoc Committee :

Communication Committee: Andrew Ross, Xavier Vadboncoeur, Rita Del Grande , Halah Al-Ubaidi, Irina Glusko, Steve Charters

Table de Quartier Committee : André Mitchell, Louis Legault, Annie Gosselin, Halah Al-Ubaidi

COCOPS Strategic Plan Coordination Committee

Zahia El Masri – Romel, Judith Shapiro – CSSS Cavendish, Marie-Charles Boivin – Table de jeunesse & Table 6-12, Miguel Cristancho – Bienvenue à NDG, Gail Tedstone – Resident, Joseph Lalla – EMSB, Marie-José Mastro Monaco – CSDM, Nikki Schiebel – Éco-quartier, Stephanie Dupont – CSSS Cavendish, Bonnie Soutar – NDG Food Depot, Hans Heisinger – CJE, Valérie Doucet – Bibliothèques Interculturelle Benny, Stéphane Livernoche - Arrondissement de Côte-des-Neiges - Notre-Dame- de-Grâce, Halah AL-Ubaidi — NDG Community Council, Lora Milusheva and Steve Charters (Coordination)

NDG Housing Table

Groupe CDH, CSSS Cavendish, Maison Transitionnelle O3, NDG Community Council, Prevention NDG, R.O.M.E.L, NDG Food Depot, NDG Senior Citizens' Council, Habitations Communautaires NDG, Teninform

Advisory committee for a housing service in NDG

Œil Côte-des-Neiges, Project Genesis, CSSS Cavendish, Habitation Communautaire NDG, 2 residents

Fielding-Walkley Revitalization Initiative

Direction de la culture des sports, des loisirs et du développement social - Arrondissement Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Direction de la diversité sociale, Ville de Montréal, Conseil communautaire Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, CSDM, Commissaire Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, CSSS Cavendish, Table de concertation sur la sécurité alimentaire NDG, Médecins du monde- Projet Montréal, École Les enfants du monde, Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal, Centraide du Grand Montréal, Poste de quartier 11 (SPVM), Prévention Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Comité action 6 à 12 de Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Ministère de l'immigration et des communautés culturelles, Direction aménagement urbain et des services aux entreprises-Arrondissement Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Association du développement jeunesse Loyola – Centre Loyola, Table de concertation jeunesse NDG, Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Dépôt alimentaire NDG, HIPPIY Québec, YMCA Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Maison de La Famille Mosaik, Coup de balai, Quebec Board of Black Educators, Habitations Sherbrooke Forest, Habitations Communautaires NDG (HCNDG), Centre communautaire Walkley, Commission scolaire English-Montréal (EMSB), Corporation de développement économique communautaire (CDEC CDN/NDG), La Fondation de la Visite, Centre Local d'emploi (CLE), NDG Senior Citizen's Council, Bienvenue à NDG, Action Communiterre, Association des locataires Mayfair, Table de concertation 0-5 ans Cavendish

Comité avisé Benny Farm

Maisons transitionnelles O3, Projet Chance, Tango, Private Ownership projects (Prince of Wales V, Prince of Wales IV), Horizontal Condo Committee, Coop Zoo, Coop Benny Farm, Square Benny, Habitation Communautaire NDG, Benny Farm Veteran's, Chez Soi, Centre Sportif NDG, Tandem

Westhaven Neighbourhood committee

Concordia University, Arrondissement Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and Côte-des-Neiges, Loyola High School, Westhaven Community Center , NDG Senior Citizen Council , Action Communiterre, CDEC CDN-NDG, JES, Prévention CDN-NDG, 50+ Club, Cricket Club, NDG Community Council, CSSS Cavendish, Westhaven Residents





Food Security Coalition

Transition NDG/Incredible Edibles, Au Pois Chic, NDG Senior's Citizen Council, Rivers' Edge Community Meal, Walkley Center, NDG Food Depot, Action Communiterre, NDG Community Council, Le Cycle AlimenTerre, St. Thomas Food Pantry, CSSS Cavendish, Arrondissement CDN/NDG, ICNA Relief Montreal Resource Center & Food Bank, City Farm School, CSDM, Déjeuner pour apprendre, Les ateliers Boîte-à-Lunch, La Triade Food Bank, Purple Hope Project, Mercy Food Kitchen, Head & Hands, St. Monica's Food Pantry, Jeunes en Santé, New Hope, Food Secure Canada (supporting member)

Jeunes en Santé NDG Comité Action Locale (JES-CAL): Comité Jeunesse Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Arrondissement de Côte-des-Neiges – Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, CSSS Cavendish, Conseil communautaire NDG, Commission scolaire de Montréal – Réseau Ouest, Table de concertation jeunesse NDG, Table de sécurité alimentaire NDG, Comité action 6-12, Association pour le développement jeunesse de Loyola, Loisirs Sportifs Côte-des-Neiges – Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Bureau coordonnateur CPE-Lieu des petits Secteur Cavendish, CPE Les Petites Chenilles, Action Communiterre

NDG Intercultural Table (NDGIT)

Bienvenue à NDG, Conseil communautaire NDG, CLSC Benny Farm/CSSS Cavendish, Comité 6-12, Table de jeunesse, Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi NDG, Concordia Sustainable Community Engagement, CDEC CDN-NDG.

Community Space Coalition

Anne Williams - EMSB, Brigid Glustein - Loyola Centre, Clarence Bayne - QBBE (Quebec Board of Black Educators), Daniel Rotman - Food Depot NDG, Dominique Poulin - Hippy Québec, Gail Tedstone - Resident, Grace Campbell - Women on the Rise, Halah AL-Ubaidi - NDG CC, Hans Heisinger - Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi (CJE) NDG, Helen Fortin - Fraser Hickson Library, John Richardson - NDG CC, Jon McPhedran Waitzer - Head and Hands (incl. YPP), Julia Girard - Action communiterre, Michael Simkin - Cultural Café, Michaëlle Riché - CDN-NDG Borough, Miguel Cristancho - Bienvenue à NDG, Niall Ricardo - Bureau d'Isabelle Morin, Ross Chechile - YMCA NDG, Sheri McLeod - NDG SCC, Teresa Kaiser - Maison Mosaik, Terri Ste-Marie - Prevention NDG

Tax Clinic Coalition

CSSS-Cavendish, Conseil des aînés de NDG, Conseil communautaire Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi -NDG, Dépôt alimentaire Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Bienvenue à NDG, Italian Community Services, Centre Espoir Nouveau pour personnes âgées, O3 On Our Own, Sherbrooke Forest, St. Raymond Residents' Committee, Centre Walkley

Round Table Planning Committee : Halah AL-UBAIDI (NDG CC), Lora Milusheva (NDG CC), Nikki SCHIEBEL (Eco-Quartier NDG), Gail TEDSTONE (NDG Resident), Sheri MCLEOD (NDG Senior Citizens' Council), Linda BERNIER (YMCA NDG).

La Coalition montréalaise des tables de quartier (CMTQ): groups 30 "Tables de concertation" that works on local social development in Montreal. The CMTQ intervenes on common issues to the neighbourhood such as local social development, improving the quality and living conditions of the residents, the fight against poverty and social exclusion, and the exercise of active citizenship. The CMTQ also works to promote the Tables de Quartier and their finances

Concertation Interquartiers (CIQ): A coalition of institutions and community groups from NDG, St. Henri and Westmount concerned about the impact of the construction of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) on the Glen Campus.

Regroupement intersectoriel des organismes communautaires de Montréal (RIOCM)

Le Regroupement des comités logement et associations de locataires du Québec (RCLALQ) is a militant organisation for the defense and promotion of housing rights that advocates for measures to control the private market, while promoting the right of association and more access to justice for tenants.





NDG Community Strategic and Action Plan Timeline of the Process



**Appendix 5
Membership Form
Please return filled forms to the NDG Community Council**



CONSEIL COMMUNAUTAIRE NDG COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Formulaire d'adhésion
Membership Form
2015

AGA / AGM : 03 / 06 / 2015

Reçu pour les impôts / Tax receipts:

- Individuels / Individuals **(\$10)** Organisations / Organisations **(\$20)**
 Entreprises / Business **(\$20)** Associé / Associate **(\$ 0)**

\$50 \$100 Autre montant / Other amount: _____

Date: / / 2015 Renouvellement / Renewal? Argent / Cash Chèque/ Cheque

Individuels / Individuals

Nom / Name	
------------	--

Organismes / Organisations ; Entreprises / Business; Associés/ Associate

Nom / Name	Délégué / Delegate	Remplaçant / Alternate
------------	--------------------	------------------------

Adresse / Address	
Ville / City	
Code Postal / Postal Code	
Téléphone / Phone number	
Courriel / E-mail	

Veillez adresser votre chèque au nom du Conseil Communautaire de Notre-Dame-de-Grâce / Make your cheque payable to the NDG Community Council

J'aimerais recevoir la correspondance en / I would like to receive correspondence by:

Courriel / Email Courrier / Post

Reçu pour les impôts pour **\$20** et plus / Tax receipts issued for **\$20** and above

REÇU / RECEIPT

Adhésion **Conseil Communautaire Notre-Dame-de-Grâce Community Council** Membership

Nom / Name : _____

Montant / Amount : _____ Date : _____





THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to our funders, our members and our volunteers. With your support, the NDG Community Council can enhance the quality of life of the community we serve in a more rich, successful and meaningful way.



Annual Report 2014-2015 NDG Community Council

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