

GNP COMMUNITY PLACE CORPORATION

<https://www.facebook.com/greatnorthernpeninsulacommunityplace/>

Port au Choix, NL

Fostering healthy, vibrant communities on the Great Northern Peninsula through accessible health services and community spaces.

Organizational type: Non-profit

Mission: The mission of the board is to establish and oversee the operations of the Great Northern Peninsula Community Place, to ensure that it meets the needs of the communities that it serves. The board will work in partnership with health care providers, with community groups, and with government agencies whenever possible. The board will also work with researchers to demonstrate the impact of the services on the health of the population.



ACTIVITIES

The GNP Community Place Corporation has purchased a building which rents space, at affordable rates, to health practitioners and community groups. The rentals generate revenue which offsets operating costs while enhancing services in the community. This symbiotic relationship benefits both the professionals and the community at large.

Additionally, GNP Community Place has been operating a community kitchen since January 2023, providing a holistic approach to community services.



EXPERIENCE WITH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

The non-profit has an experienced "Community Broker", supported by a volunteer board of directors, who have been leading the initiative. The Community Broker is an experienced practitioner of social enterprise, however, there is recognition of a need for capacity building among other volunteers and community members.

Recently, the GNP Community Place Corporation secured funding to hire its first staff member. This role will be focused on developing an impact measurement strategy for the organization, with the hopes of validating its work through data-driven evaluation.



EXPERIENCE WITH SOCIAL FINANCE

The GNP Community Place Corporation got its start from an interest-free loan from the Town of Port au Choix, and generous donations from community members. Since then they have accessed government grants to support various programs and projects. They also generate revenue from modest rental fees for the office spaces and through the community kitchen and catering activities. GNP Community Place is actively working towards securing core funding, while currently operating on a mix of earned revenue, donations, and grants.

The volunteer board and leadership are keen to deepen their understanding of social finance with a view to implementing it in the organization.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

"When you invest in social enterprise in small communities, it helps the government to provide services to the community." - Joan Cranston (Community Broker, helping to develop the GNP Community Place Corporation)

Joan believes that investing in social enterprises (SE) within small communities amplifies the government's ability to deliver services in these small communities, creating a synergy that enhances community welfare and government efficiency.



Mapping Financing Opportunities and Experience Among Community Organizations in Newfoundland and Labrador

