

# TRANSCONAVIEWS

## Transcona Community Network Bringing Together the Transcona Community

by  
Brian Campbell

The Transcona Community Network evolved from a community based project begun by the Transcona Springfield School Division (now the River East Transcona School Division) approximately 20 years ago.

“It is a grassroots involvement of local Transconians coming together to share information about what is happening in their world to the larger community,” says co-chair Stacy Boone.

“The goal of the organization,” adds co-chair, Carol Fletcher (Minister of Transcona Memorial United Church), “is to bring together residents and community stakeholders, for the purpose of understanding community news, projects and opportunities, and to enrich the lives of the people of Transcona, so we can support and help each other in particular projects.”

They have always tried to stay ahead of the curve. In fact, one of their early projects involved looking into public Wi-Fi spots. Currently, they are working with the City of Winnipeg and the Eastern Corridor Study to help develop an effective Rapid Transit System from Transcona to downtown Winnipeg.

Of course this is only one of many projects and initiatives TCN is involved with. Other ongoing discussions include: seniors’ health, the Transcona Library, youth employment, among many more.

Stacy says, “At each meeting we hope to build connections in the Transcona community through creating a web of connections with those who attend.”

They also discuss and share upcoming community events, such as the Trans + Form Street Art Festival, the Transcona Council for Seniors’ Annual Health Fair, the Healthy Together Now Grant, the Transcona Trails Youth Photography Contest, open forums held by local MLAs and more.

Stacy is personally involved in one of these initiatives. “As the WRHA Community Facilitator, the project I am currently working on is our Healthy Together Now (HTN) Grant,” she says. “HTN is a community led program to help prevent chronic disease in Manitoba through distribution of grant funding for community programs. I am looking for grant applications up to \$1,000 from community organizations in Transcona that promote physical activity, healthy



eating, tobacco prevention and reduction and mental well being. Deadline for applications is November 15 and can be found at [www.healthytogethernow.net](http://www.healthytogethernow.net).”

The membership of Transcona Community Network is fluid and any number of different stakeholders can show up at a meeting, which is held approximately four times a year at Access Transcona. Membership includes the Transcona Biz, representatives of all three levels of government, WRHA, River East Transcona School Division, local churches, Transcona Council for Seniors, local not-for-profits, other service organizations and members of the community.

“We are not a one issue group,” Carol says. “There are multiple issues for which we care very deeply.”

Stacy adds, “Transcona is its own little town. The people here like to make where they live the best place to live!”