

Newsbriefs

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The Far View in Teulon

When they were dreaming up the idea of **Interlake Housing Co-op** in Teulon, **Lorne Ferley** wanted it to be a 10-storey building. He had once seen the great view he could get from a local doctor's house where, "the house had a flat deck up on top and on the third storey you were above the trees." In the end, they only got five storeys but they did get the view.

Interlake is a 31-unit co-op across the street from the hospital in Teulon, Manitoba. There are views from some suites that take in a vista far across the prairies and in other directions, the downtown towers in Winnipeg, 58 km away. The sign on the co-op calls Interlake, "Farview Place." [2] ▶



1-2

Interlake Housing Co-op

A co-op in Teulon remembers its beginnings and the community collaboration that helped make it the well managed seniors' co-op it is today.

3

Events

Along with the AGM in Winnipeg this June, mark your calendars for the Networking Luncheon in April, and the Manitoba Advisory Forum in May.

4

Noteworthy

A Winnipeg area co-op management leader is the newest CHF Canada Manitoba delegate to the Co-operators' regional meetings.



cover teulon

Interlake members enjoy Thursday night bingo at Farview Place. Front to back: Frances Moore, Esther Campbell, Jean Komonko, Ev Olson, Doreen Briggs, Mary Jensen (caller), Jessie Drohomereski, Anne Mankewich and Elsie Davies.

◀ [cover]

Lorne is a retired schoolteacher and principal, fiddle player and enthusiastic storyteller, with a wealth of contacts and history in his community. “I believe I was the person who initiated the action” (to build Interlake). In the late 1980s, he recalls seeing an ad in the *Winnipeg Free Press* stating that CMHC was holding a meeting and anybody who was interested in improving housing for the community was invited to come. Lorne was interested. So he went. He met **Kathy** (Kathleen) **Mancer**, from DSI Tandem Co-op Resources, a local co-op housing consultants group, who told him to find five other people and incorporate. Mancer would then work with them to build a co-op in Teulon.

Lorne and his family own three farms in Teulon and some other real estate there. They had a one-acre lot across the street from the hospital that seemed like a good place to build. So Lorne found five other people in the community, a pharmacist, the elementary school principal, a farmer, a teacher, and Lorne’s son, Michael, a mechanical engineer. They met Saturdays in the elementary school staff room and “Kathy held us by the hand.”

Lorne paid the \$150 to get incorporated as a co-operative. DSI Tandem conducted the research to



measure the community need for housing. They came up with a request for 30 units of housing. At first it looked like they might only get 15, with the total 30 units split with another housing project. And when Lorne got a call telling him he didn’t need to come to a meeting with CMHC, he thought it might mean bad news.

“Let’s face it, putting up a five-storey building in Teulon is a pretty ambitious project.”

But in the end, Interlake was approved for a \$2.54 million mortgage, and a local architect, the son of a friend, drew up a plan.

Dione Wytinck has been the general manager at Interlake for the past three years.

“The co-op is 17 years old and they’ve been well managed from the start. We manage our funds, we have a replacement reserve fund. We’ve had no problems with collections. Last year I asphalted the parking lot, put in a rust removal

system. We try to do nice things every year to upgrade and take care of the building – it’s a very pretty and well-kept, clean building.”

Interlake was originally designed for anyone who needed co-op housing, but over the years they’ve phased in a 55+ policy and are now a seniors’ co-op. Dione says it is a very friendly and supportive environment for their members. Now that Interlake is a seniors’ co-op Lorne is especially pleased that Interlake got the view.

“All these other seniors’ homes are just down on the ground looking at the grass grow; it seems to me being up on a higher level must make things more interesting.”

Being so close to Winnipeg, Interlake is well placed to take part in the Annual Meeting this June. Both Dione and Lorne plan to attend.

“I am very much looking forward to it,” says Dione. ☺

events

Networking Luncheon

What you need to know about The Agency for Co-operative Housing

If you work in a federally funded co-op office or sit on the board of a federally funded co-op, you'll want to join us for this informative session on the Agency.

The Agency for Co-operative Housing is a non-profit, non-governmental organization incorporated under the *Canada Cooperatives Act*. It is now administering federal housing co-op programs in BC, Alberta, Ontario and PEI, and will soon replace Manitoba Housing as the point of contact for housing co-ops in Manitoba under federal co-op housing programs.

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

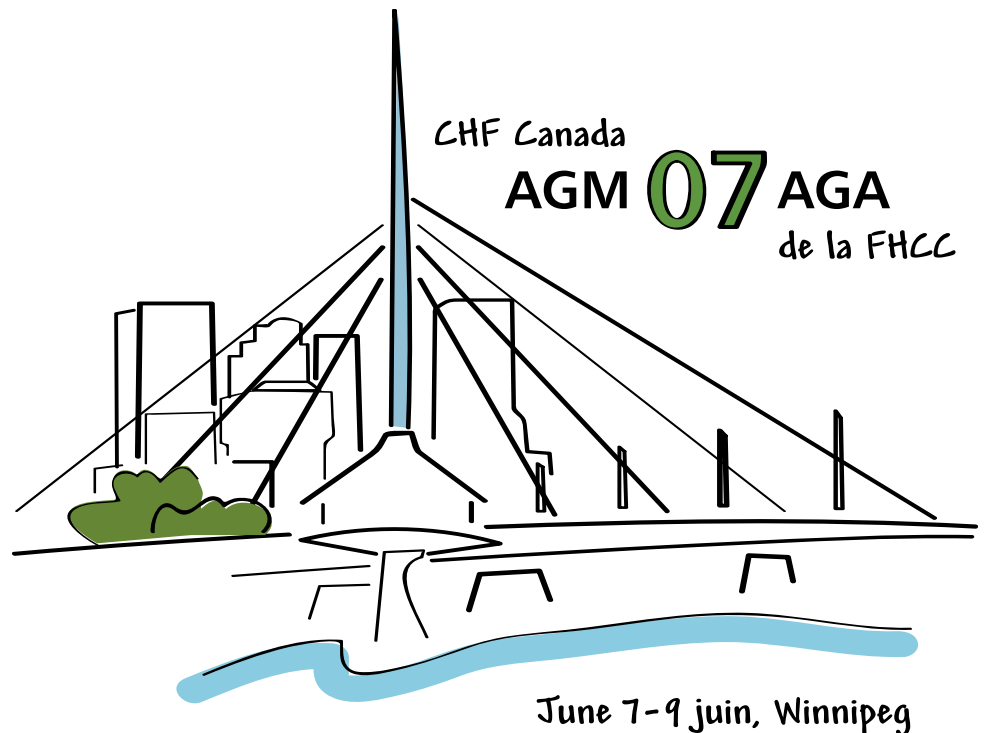
11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Viscount Room, Viscount Gort Hotel
1640 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg
CHF Canada members: \$15
Non-members: \$30

A hot buffet luncheon will be served. Registration deadline: April 16, 2007.

Manitoba Advisory Forum Meeting

The Advisory Forum of the CHF Canada Manitoba Office will meet in Winnipeg on **Tuesday, May 8, 2007**. At the meeting, delegates will review the resolutions that will be discussed and voted on at the 2007 CHF Canada AGM, held in Winnipeg from June 7 to 9, 2007.



Manitoba and the AGM

The AGM is coming to town! June 7 to 9, the city of Winnipeg will host this year's annual general meeting – and what a meeting it promises to be!

Looking to the future

This year, the future of our co-ops is on the table. And it might not be a coincidence that CHF Canada's annual meeting will be held here, in Winnipeg, with our wide-open view of the sky and horizon. As many co-ops near the end of their operating agreements, we'll have workshops in the Member Education Forum and Co-op Management Conference where members can come together to discuss the steps they need to take now before their agreements end. We'll learn about the 2020 Compass, a tool to help members prepare for this transition and "map the road ahead." We can all set our sights on a future for housing co-ops well past the year 2020.

And still with an eye on the future, members have chosen environmental sustainability as this year's Annual Meeting theme. We will be pioneering a "green" co-op movement that protects our co-ops and communities for future generations.

The CHF Canada Annual Meeting is the premier meeting for all members and staff – don't miss it! [4] ►

A call for volunteers

To make the meeting the best it can be, we need volunteers. Are you interested in being part of the AGM as a volunteer? The local 2007 AGM committee needs the help of about 100 volunteers before and during the AGM. Here are just some of the opportunities that you could help out with:

- assembling delegates kits
- acting as tour guides during our Co-op Bus Tours
- greeting delegates at the airport and at our Information Desk at the Convention Centre
- helping out at the Red River Celebration on Thursday evening
- designing decorations for the Saturday evening closing banquet
- runners and vote counters during the business meetings on Friday afternoon and Saturday
- handing out registration kits and translation devices
- checking workshop rooms for equipment/signage

Interested in helping us out? If so, contact **Jocelyn Peifer Ross** at 1-888-591-3301 or 204-989-5963 (in Winnipeg) or email her at jpeiferross@chfc.ca.

AND WE'LL BE HAVING A PARTY!!

Here's your chance to show the rest of the country what makes Manitoba a great place to live and Winnipeg a truly diverse and entertaining city. Manitoba is the host province for this year's annual meeting for CHF Canada members from across the country. On Thursday night, June 7, we'll kick things off at

8:00 pm at the Red River Celebration at the Franco-Manitoban Cultural Centre in St. Boniface. There will be local entertainment and dance, a silent auction and door prizes. Members can take in the music, eat and drink, or just stroll down the hall for a quiet, relaxed discussion with friends in the foyer of the Historical Society of St. Boniface.

Come and join in the fun as the rest of Canada discovers Manitoba-style hospitality!

For tickets, contact **Jocelyn Peifer Ross** at 1-888-591-3301 or 204-989-5963 (in Winnipeg) or email her at jpeiferross@chfc.ca. Or, just order your ticket when you register on-line to attend the AGM workshops. Tickets are \$10/each. ☺

noteworthy

Laurie Socha appointed delegate to Co-operators for CHF Canada Manitoba

This summer the CHF Canada Board confirmed the appointment of **Laurie Socha** as our second delegate to regional meetings of **The Co-operators**, CHF Canada's partner in our insurance programs. She will attend the meetings with our other delegate, **Mel Willis**, CHF Canada Regional Director. These regional committees meet twice each year, and CHF Canada is entitled to two delegates in each Co-operators region. Laurie Socha is the General Manager of **SAM Management**, a housing management company that specializes in social housing in Winnipeg and she works with five of our area co-ops.



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