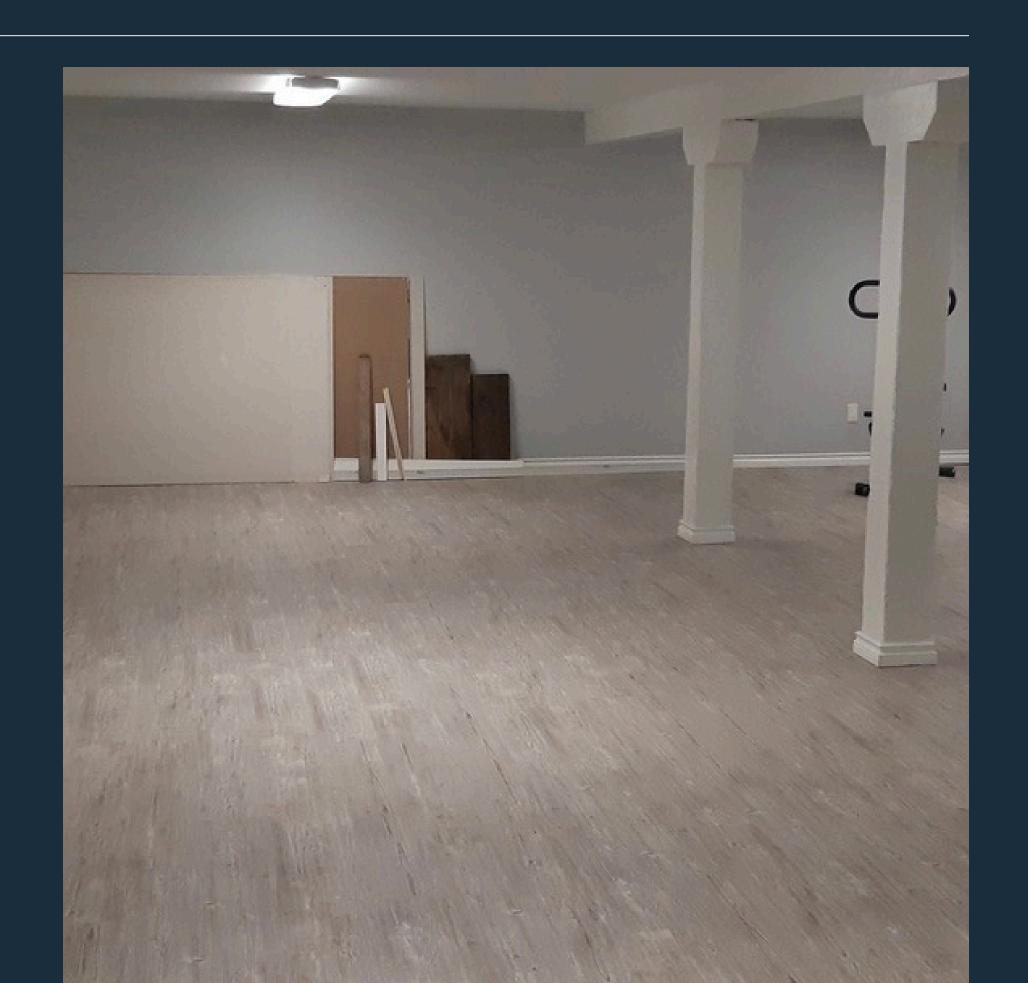
Mobilizing Unused Spaces for Community Capacity Building





Introduction

Today we're going to talk about recreation programs and services, and how we can revitalize and shape our spaces and places.



What is Recreation?

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Recreation encompasses the activities, programs, and spaces that support leisure, wellness, social connection, and personal enrichment within a community.

Promotes Well-Being

Recreation provides opportunities for people to stay active, reduce stress, and enjoy healthier, more balanced lives.

Builds Community

It creates shared spaces and experiences that strengthen relationships and foster a sense of belonging.

Encourages Personal Growth

Recreation supports
learning, skill development,
and exploration at every
age and stage of life.

Why are Recreation Programs Important?

Recreation Programs are a Sourcee of Revenue

Revenues from the administration of recreation programs support viable, stable communities.

Lifelong Learning and Growth

Through recreation, individuals can develop new skills, explore interests, and gain confidence at any age.

Economic Development

Investment in recreation, arts and culture stimulates

local economies, attracting tourism and creating jobs and opportunities for communities

Framework for Recreation in Canada

Goal 2: Inclusion and Access

Increase inclusion and access to recreation for populations that face constraints or barriers to participation.

Goal 3: Connecting People and Nature

Help people connect to nature through recreation and community programs.

Goal 1: Active Living

Foster active living through physical recreation. Focus on getting the inactive, active, rather than the active, more active.

Goal 4: Supportive Environments

Ensure the provision of supportive physical and social environments that encourage participation in recreation and help to build strong, caring communities

Goal 5: Recreation Capacity

Ensure the continued growth and sustainability of the recreation field.

Framework for Recreation in Canada Priorities

Placemaking

Placemaking is a wellestablished concept that involves shaping public spaces to bolster the connection between people and their environments.

Technology

Hybrid models, which blend in-person and digital program delivery, have the potential to engage a broader audience, catering to diverse recreation preferences.

Social Connectednes

Social connectedness is the "sense of belonging and subjective psychological bond that people feel in relation to individuals and groups of others."

Mental, Physical, and Social Health

Engaging in sport, physical activity and recreation is proven to promote good physical, mental, and social health.

Transforming Recreation

Identifying Community Infrastructure Gaps

Limited Venues

There is a **severe shortage** of

multipurpose venues

available for community

events and activities.

Lack of Resources

Many local organizations face **insufficient funding** and resources to support recreational and cultural initiatives.

Structured Programming

There is a **severe lack** of structured programming and capacity to deliver recreation programs and services.

Leveraging Investments

There is a need for the community to leverage its investments and to invest in physical and social infrastructure.

The Big Issues?

What are some of the main challenges to sustainable recreation programs in the community?

Administration Fees

Admin feeds are a major source of revenue! No administration fees are being levied for the administration of any capital projects.

Governance

Boards provide guidance and oversight but should not be managing daily programming.

Day-to-day programming and operations are managed by staff.

Lack of Resources

Many local organizations face **insufficient funding** and resources to support recreational and cultural initiatives.

Leveraging Investments

There is a need for the community to leverage its investments and to invest in physical and social infrastructure.

What have we accomplished so far?

March: Qualified Donee

Registered with the Canada Revenue Agency as a Municipal or Public Body Performing a Function of Government in Canada.

August: Digital Infrastructure Upgrades

Ensuring the community upgraded its digital infrastructure with Starlink.

April: Arts Programming

Approached the Ontario Arts Council Multi and Inter-Arts Projects Program to support capacity building for arts and recreation programming.

Sept: Jamboree, Artist and Farmer's Market

Hosted the music jamboree, artists and farmers' market. This event drew attendance from across the region.

July: Training and Events

Mobilizing musicians, artists and events. Capacity building, interdisciplinary arts workshops, communicating and shaping our digital spaces and resources.

November: Opportunity to Mobilize and Grow!

Mobilizing community resources to establish a non-profit recreation services provider for our communities.













Conceptual Space Transformations

This page showcases inspiring **visual examples** of refurbished recreation spaces. Each transformation demonstrates the potential for enhancing community engagement through versatile environments that support recreation, arts, and heritage initiatives.















Shaping our Digital Spaces!

Web Site

The community web site is underutilized and needs to be improved.

Google for Non-Profits

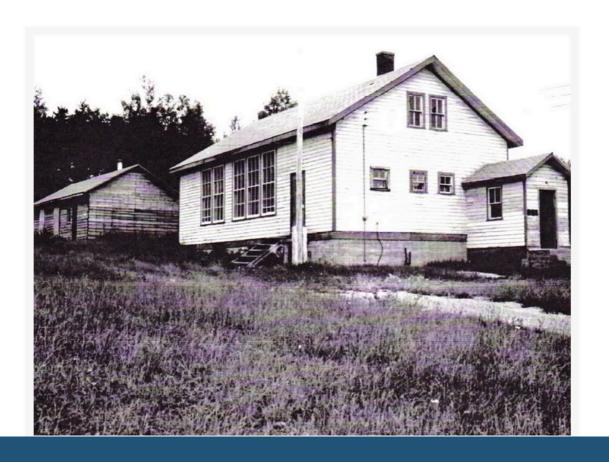
A very powerful package of tools to support community non-profits organizations worth more than \$125,000 per year.

Dyment, Ontario, Canada

HOME ABOUT EVENTS EXPLORING FEATURED MOMENT MEETING INFO LOOKBOOK STORIES MORE >

Dyment, Ontario | Est. 1898

Welcome to the Dyment Community





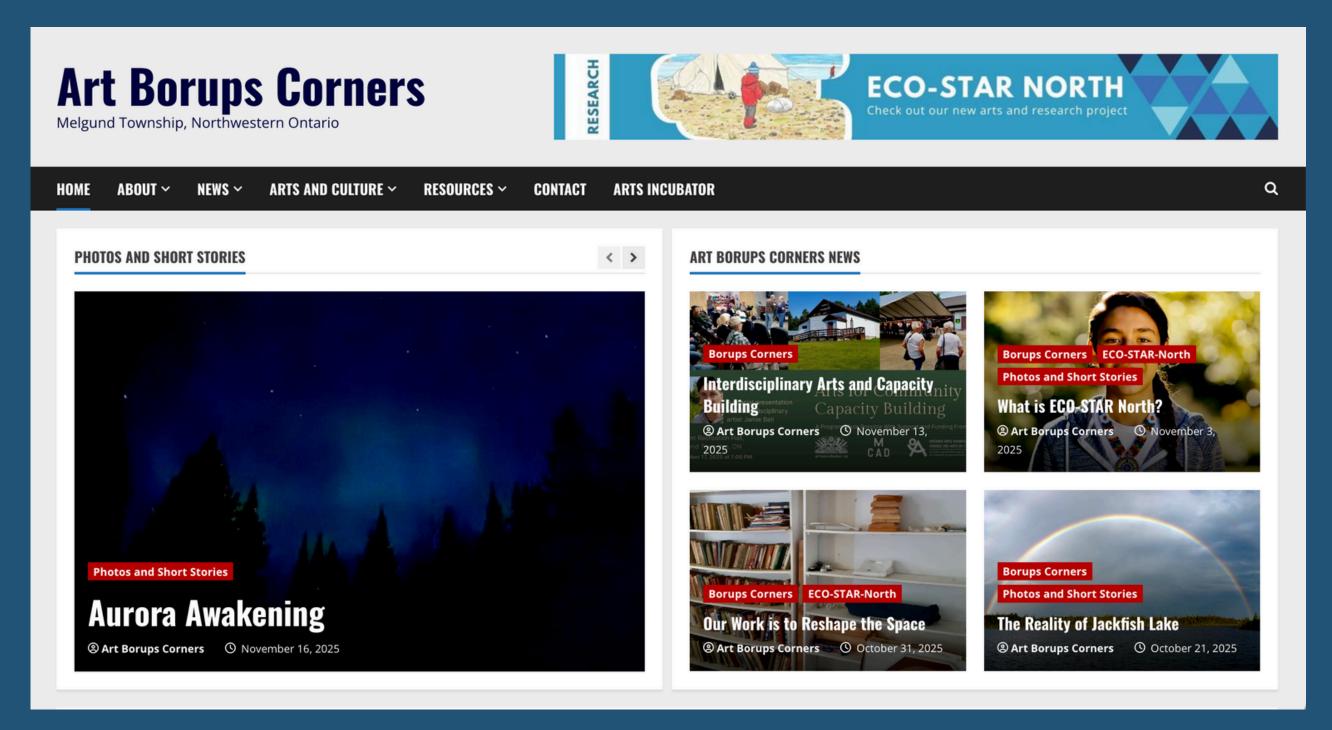
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So ... What can we do next?

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Cutting the Grass? Tendered Out. Garbage Services? Tendered Out. Snowplowing? Tendered Out. Why are Recreation Programs and Services completely ignored and neglected?

Transforming Recreation

Create a Recreation Committee Establish a Nonprofit Recreation Services Provider Chase that Funding! Be Seen Doing Good.

POWER 6: RECREATION

The Board may by by-law,

- (a) contract for the use of recreation facilities or participation in programs of recreation;
- (b) provide for the carrying out of programs of recreation; or
 - (c) acquire, establish, construct, operate and maintain recreation facilities,

and may charge fees in respect of the programs of recreation or the recreation facilities.

Committees

(4) A Board may appoint such committees to advise it in the conduct of its affairs as the Board considers appropriate. R.S.O. 1990, c. L.28, s. 7 (4).

Creating a Recreation Services Provider

Things that can be done right now

Recreation Committee

The Local Services Board of Melgund is encouraged to establish a Recreation Committee.

Update Web Site

The web site is an underused resources that is critical for engaging and attracting funders, partners and sponsors.

Start Communicating!

Most northern organizations and non-profits are not communicting effectively, if at all.

Community Census

Who lives here full time? Who are the seasonal residents? Who is our community?

Timeline Estimates

Create a realistic timeline for each phase of the project, from planning through completion and evaluation.

Reporting & Communication

Establish regular communication of impacts and outcomes, to track progress and outcomes effectively.

Non Profit Next Steps!

Planning

Outline the project goals, objectives, and develop a comprehensive plan for execution and evaluation.

Funding

Identify potential funding sources, including grants, community contributions, and partnerships with local organizations.

Working Group

Engage existing recreation programs and community partners to establish a working group and Recreation Committee.

Community Involvement

Encourage community participation to ensure projects reflect local values and needs.

Effective Planning

Create a realistic timeline for each phase of the project, from planning through completion and evaluation.

Reporting & Communication

Establish regular communication of impacts and outcomes, to track progress and outcomes effectively.

Opportunities for Collaboration

Local Artists

Engage local artists to create vibrant, community-focused arts programs that foster creativity and expression.

Regional Institutions

Partner with regional institutions and organizations to support hybrid programs, activities and events.

Collaborate with commun

Collaborate with community organizations to expand outreach and resources for diverse recreational programs.

Community Organizations

Funding Partners

Seek funding partners who share a vision for enhancing community resilience and supporting local initiatives.

Government Agencies

Work with government agencies to secure support and funding for facility upgrades and programming.

Volunteers

Mobilize volunteers to assist in program delivery, maintenance, and event coordination within the community space.

Funding Sources

There are many funding programs available!

You don't get anything if you don't apply!

Funding Sources Include

- FedNor
- NOHFC
- Canadian Heritage
- Digital Museums Canada
- Employment and Skills
 Development Canada
- Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Province of Ontario
- Universities and Colleges



Thank You To Our Partners and Funders



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL

an Ontario government agency un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario





Canada Council Conseil des arts for the Arts

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