





Mission

The CYC promotes the well-being and seeks to improve the quality of life of residents in Cabbagetown and St. James Town. It does this through the provision of social and recreational programs developed in response to community needs. The CYC serves as a focal point in developing leadership and encourages self-help and mutual aid.



Spiros' Message

It just keeps on getting better!

2008 was a banner year for the Cabbagetown Youth Centre where, through the dedication of volunteers, donors, the community, staff and the kids themselves, we continued to turn dreams into reality every, single day.

The ongoing success of the **CYC Performing Arts Program**, that was a mere dream only a few years ago, captured this spirit with its "*It Was All a Dream*" production that not only reminded us that anything really is possible but created and launched **CYC's Anthem** at the Bathurst Street Theatre which brought the house down in August. Accolades also included a standing ovation by the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education. Add this to performances across the city and outstanding successes at competitive events and it was impossible to remember a time before the Performing Arts Program.

In 2008, **CYC** is proud to have taken the lead, city-wide, in providing the *Boys2Men Mentoring Program*, expanding its role from 2007 by assisting agencies and not-for-profits serving the highest risk communities across the GTA in building, enhancing and providing programs to children and youth. These joint efforts are creating a city-wide network to provide young boys & men with opportunities to learn skills and real life experiences to improve their chances for success and develop empathy and a sense of civic responsibility.

Today, it is **CYC's** dream to continue to be a trustworthy resource and positive influence on the lives of those in the communities we serve. Although our programs and services keep on getting better, the quest has not gotten any easier. Funding continues to be a challenge.

In 2008, **CYC** has embarked upon a capital improvement campaign to repair the roof and update the physical structure at 2 Lancaster Avenue. The challenge has been to find the resources while ensuring that programs are funded and that their delivery remains uninterrupted. Thanks to the support of donors and funders such as Manulife Financial, Rotary Club of Toronto, The Howard Webster Foundation, as well as dedicated community support, **CYC** has been able to maintain its dream of continuing as a trustworthy, positive focal point in the community.



Spiros Papathanasakis
Executive Director





CYC's success has always been built upon a passion to serve and a vision to strengthen the "hearts" in the community by opening a door to happiness, pride, dignity and respect. We have been able to realize our dreams, year after year for the past 36 years, by focusing on this vision and welcoming the support of volunteers and the community as well as partnering with and supporting other agencies, as well.

Although it has never been easy, these challenges will not curtail our dreams. In 2009, the **CYC** will continue to reach out and help to make dreams come true, no matter how insurmountable the task may seem. In this climate, our programs are needed more than ever before. The **CYC** will continue to respond to community needs by building literacy as a cornerstone to all programs so that the dream of one community centre can make dreams more accessible to hundreds every single day and while creating hope, community capacity and well-being.

Thank you to everyone who made it all happen in 2008, especially the children and youth for constantly inspiring us and preserving our hope today, tomorrow and every day after!

*Providing Recreation,
Skill Development and
Community Programs
and Services to the
Cabbagetown,
St. James Town and
Regent Park
Communities*

Spinos Papathanasakis



History

The **Cabbagetown Youth Centre** was formed in 1972 by volunteers to provide social and recreational programs for youth in the eastern inner city core of Toronto. The **CYC** is a private, not-for-profit organization governed by an 11 member board of community residents.

The **CYC** was developed in response to a need for preventative services in a community with one of the highest youth crime rates in Metro Toronto. It has gradually expanded programs from sports to social activities to learning skills, health promotion and vocational development for residents of all ages.

In 1996, a site at 240 Wellesley Street East was developed. It includes classrooms for ESL instruction and computer training, child-care facilities and a large auditorium.

In 1999, the **CYC** redeveloped an old YMCA in the sub-basement of a large apartment building in St. James Town. Since then, recreational, community and skill development programs have been offered at 650 Parliament Street. The site operates at capacity six days a week and is presently straining existing resources.





What We Do

The **CYC** has evolved from a single program to a full range of recreational, social and skill development programs for a diverse, multicultural and constantly changing population.

The **CYC** provides a complete range of recreational, social and skill development programs for ages ranging from pre-school to seniors. Most programs are free of charge. Recreational programs include martial arts, boxercise, indoor soccer, volleyball, basketball and wrestling. Social programs include after-school programs, summer camps, dance and music, a youth club, drug awareness, leadership training, pre-school nursery and parent-child programs. Skill development includes sewing, computer, Basic English and citizenship classes.

While the **CYC** has evolved in response to community needs, it has also been a catalyst for the diverse community it serves. Each program is linked with other services, effectively mobilizing a diverse and evolving community comprised of many different cultural and socio-economic groups. Parenting and Family Literacy Centres function as a gateway to many **CYC** programs as well as to community and social services in general. The focus of programming is on developing local strengths and initiatives and soliciting local residents through volunteer contributions and paid employment to deliver services in the community.



Programs

Programs are designed in response to expressed community needs and ongoing community feedback. The **Cabbagetown Youth Centre** strives for a balance between recreational, skill development and community programs, encouraging participation at an early age with opportunities for ongoing involvement as children, youth, adults and seniors. Many of our programs are run by a community council which sets program objectives, gets the community involved and responds to the needs of the program as they are identified through our internal evaluations.



Child & Youth

- After Four Programs
- Youth Sports includes basketball and Indoor Soccer
- Dance
- Drama
- Singing
- Snack Program
- Summer Sports Camp
- Summer Performing Arts Camp
- Summer Jr. Playgroup
- Summer Basketball Camp
- Summer Tennis Camp
- Summer Soccer League

Sports & Recreation

- Adult Dance
- Martial Arts
- Tai Jitsu
- Aerobics
- Dance
- Boxing
- Weight Room
- Wrestling
- Boys to Men

Community

- Internet Café
- CAP-C
- AESL
- Parenting & Family Literacy Centre
- Cooking from the Heart
- Gym Program
- Movement & Music
- Fathering Program
- Community Home Visitor
- Peer Nutrition



Responding to Community Needs



The Cabbagetown Youth Centre provides social, recreational and skill development programming to residents from birth to seniors. **CYC** programming aims to empower children and youth in all areas of their lives, as well as helping to improve the quality of the lives of individuals and families in the community. In addition to the recreational programming, the **CYC** offers skill development and social programs to empower and provide residents with the opportunity to participate in the social and economic life of the community.

Volunteerism plays a key role in the **CYC**'s success. In fact, its positive impact is two-fold! Volunteers are an invaluable resource. Through fundraising, sharing of skills and resources, assistance in renovation projects, service hours and program support, volunteers make many programs possible while also gaining invaluable training and leadership experience. It is through these relationships that the **CYC** not only succeeds in meeting its communities' needs, but also evaluates, at a grass roots level, its changing needs.

Here are just a few examples of the many programs **CYC** is proud to offer in direct response to identified needs:



- **CYC Summer Camp** offers recreational and educational activities to campers in the areas of Sports Leagues, Performing Arts and Excursions and has been commended by the City of Toronto for its high quality and programming. This program gives a summer camp experience to kids who otherwise would not be able to enjoy summer camp.
- **CYC After-Four Programs** provides children with a supervised, supportive and safe environment after school to boost the skills and knowledge gained in the classroom. Programs offer age appropriate social, recreational and educational opportunities that include Homework Club and Tutoring, Literacy Instruction, Skill-Based Athletics, Recreational Free Play, Hands-On Math & Science, Music Instruction, Performing Arts, Nutrition and Computer Training. These programs promote self-esteem, foster peer relationships and provide the environment for positive, social integration.
- **As sponsoring agency for the CAPC programs, CYC** works in partnership with the Toronto District School Board, Hincks-Dellcrest Centres and Public Health to provide community children between the ages of 0-6 years and their caregivers with a variety of educational, recreational and supportive programs and services. The overall goal of the nine programs offered is to encourage the development of the children's social, emotional, cognitive and physical development as well as providing caregivers with useful information about healthy child development, parenting and community resources.
- **CYC Youth Programs** include recreational programming to engage the youth, and support services, skill development, entrepreneur training as well as educational and retraining opportunities (including literacy and computer training). These programs help develop self-esteem, self-confidence, leadership skills and provide positive alternatives to youth while promoting a sense of belonging to the community and providing a place youth can call their home.



Our community

The **CYC** serves a richly diverse and multicultural community. Residents from the St. James Town, Cabbagetown and Regent Park communities represent a variety of different cultures including Sri Lankan, Filipino, Chinese and Indian. In fact, St. James Town is often the first Canadian home for immigrants from around the world.

Within its 18 high rise buildings, St. James Town houses over 65,500 people per square kilometre, compared to 7,000 residents per square kilometre in the rest of Toronto, making it the most densely populated single block in Canada. Residents of St. James Town are more likely to be renters, recent immigrants, seniors living alone, low income earners or on public assistance. The residents are likely to speak a first language other than English or French, to have low birth-weight babies, to have less than a high school education and to be teen mothers or lone parent families. This diverse and high-risk population shares local medical, educational and recreational services and resources that are stretched, inaccessible or *simply non-existent* in the community.



Partners

Toronto Parks and Recreation
 Toronto District School Board Parenting & Literacy Program
 Toronto Catholic District School Board
 Winchester Park Public School
 Toronto Police Services, 51 Division
 Operation Springboard
 Toronto Pre-School Speech and Language
 Rose Avenue Public School
 Toronto Public Health
 Canadian Charities
 Hincks-Dellcrest Centres
 Salvation Army
 Native Child and Family Service
 Tamil Academy of Culture and Technology
 United Filipino Association of St. James Town
 Toronto Police Services
 Silayan's Community Centre
 Parliament Wellesley Property Management
 Winchester Residents Association
 Second Harvest
 Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School
 Serve Canada
 Children's Aid Society
 Heart to Heart
 KidSport Ontario
 Philpott Tennis
 614 St. Jamestown
 St. Stephen's Community House
 Wellesley Community Recreation Centre
 Winchester Street Theatre
 Sprucecourt Public School
 Regent Park/Duke of York Public School
 The Children's Book Bank
 Kids Up Front
 Bathurst Street Theatre



Board of Directors

Ron Caulfield
Gerald Graves
Louise Koepfler
Marilyn Marshall
John McFadyen
Kevin Moore
Spiros Papatanasakis
John Raftery
Al Quance
Sandra Riches
Judy Shields
Henry Toran
Mark Warner
Peter Wylie

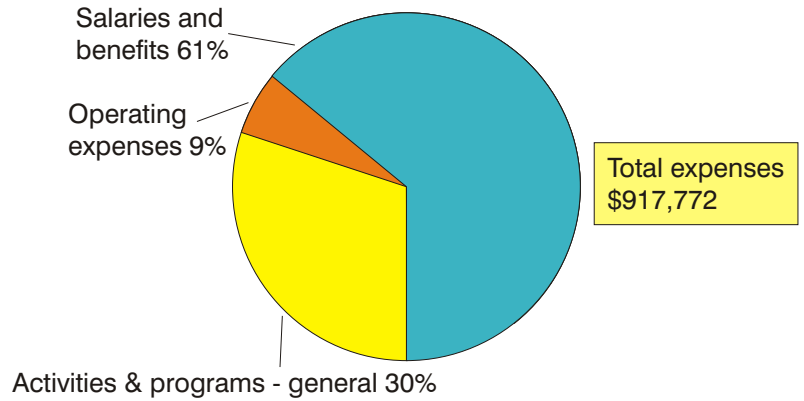
Our Donors

BMO Foundation of Hope
Beaver Bible Class
Blair's Run Mini-Marathon Foundation
Blair's Run - Street & Team Donations
CIBC Children's Miracle Foundation
City of Toronto
Cobs Bread
Government of Canada
– Social Development Canada - Human Resources & Skill Development Canada
– Health Canada
Hermant Family Foundation
ING
Kids Up Front
Manulife Financial
National Ballet of Canada with SunLife Financial
Ontario Science Centre
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Parents
Raptors Foundation
Regent Park
R. Howard Webster Foundation
Rotary Club of Toronto
Second Harvest
Sony Canada
Sun Life Financial
The Salvation Army
The Shriners
Toronto Women's Insurance Association
United Way - Donor Designations
Wellesley-Parliament Square
Winchester Public School

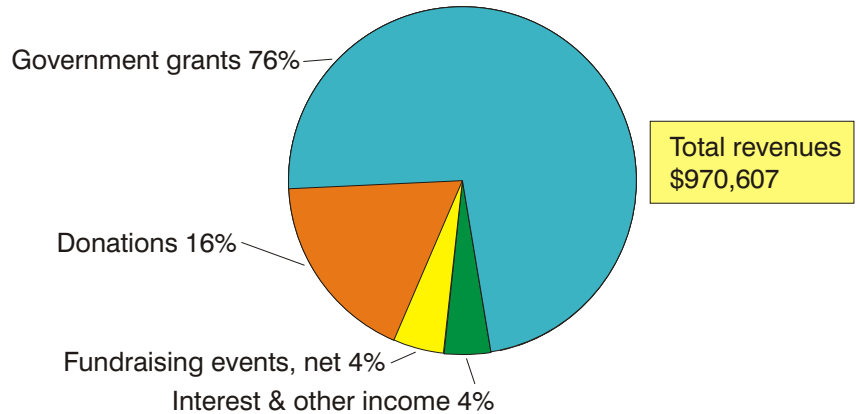
Sponsors (of Evening Soccer League)

Merchants of Cabbagetown

Expenses



Revenues



CABBAGETOWN YOUTH CENTRE INC.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended December 31

	2008	2007
REVENUE		
Government grants	\$736,229	\$559,566
Donations	158,369	37,427
Fund raising events, net	35,284	47,628
Interest and other income	40,725	42,507
	970,607	687,128
EXPENSES		
Activities and programs - general	266,941	137,482
Activities and programs - equipment	—	—
Operating expenses	91,208	88,623
Salaries and benefits	559,623	525,034
	917,772	751,139
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	52,835	(64,011)

PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Cabbagetown Youth Centre Inc. (the "Centre") is an organization operating social and recreational programs in the Cabbagetown and St. James Town communities of Toronto, Ontario. The Centre is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act.

Audited Financial Statements are available upon request.



Cabbagetown Youth Centre Inc.
Charity BN/Registration #: 88862 1893 RP0001

2 Lancaster Avenue
Toronto ON M4X 1C1
Tel 416 960-1032
Fax 416 960-0113
cabbagetownyouth.ca

650 Parliament Street
Toronto ON M4X 1R3
Tel 416 513-9802
Fax 416 513-9804

280 Wellesley Street East
Toronto ON M4X 1G7
Tel 416 963-9528

240 Wellesley Street East
Toronto ON M4X 1G5
Tel 416 923-0984

Other Program Locations

Rose Avenue Public School, 675 Ontario Street
260 Wellesley Street
Winchester Public School, 15 Prospect Street