

Change is coming!

We have been helping alleviate poverty for over 150 years. The name has changed, programs have been added, programs have ended, and countless clients, volunteers and staff have passed through these doors.

In our present form, the Brunswick Street Mission is an incorporated, registered charity, governed by its own Board of Directors. Our work is supported by the United Church of Canada, many local churches (including a mosque), schools, foundations, and especially individuals. People care.

We're watching change occur around us. Halifax is growing. Immigration and refugee populations are growing. Gentrification and high rents have forced many low income people out of the city centre. And more...

We've watched these changes and wondered how to respond. In 2017, we committed to the process of Strategic Planning. The Board of Directors held extra meetings, completed a lot of homework, and rose to the challenges.

I've been Executive Director of Brunswick Street Mission for 10 years. We've become stronger, more accountable and more determined. And now, we are ready to do more. I'm excited to share these new directions with you!

Sandra A Nicholas
Executive Director

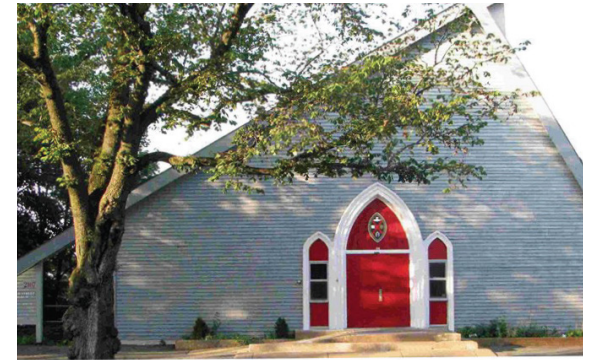


On October 24th, the team from First Choice Haircutters donated cut-and-styles to over 80 guests. It was an amazing day - we couldn't believe how happy it can make a person when they feel pampered and look their best! It even made a great story for local tv news.

THANKS, FIRST CHOICE!



The Brunswick Street Mission seeks to inspire a better quality of life through a ministry of care that addresses physical, emotional, practical, and spiritual needs for those experiencing poverty.



**BRUNSWICK STREET
MISSION**

FALL 2018

**2107 BRUNSWICK ST.
HALIFAX, NS B3K 2Y4
902-423-4605
902-423-4838 (FAX)
bsm1@eastlink.ca**

WWW.BRUNSWICKSTREETMISSION.ORG

1. NEW PROGRAMS:

a) Social Centre: We will create a safe and welcoming social drop-in program. We will add some practical supports for our guests, like laundry machines and computer/internet access. Known gaps in our community involve people who work - they often cannot access services that are only available in the day. So we will add regular evening drop-in activities. This will also help us provide access to other services such as the tax program and food bank that are normally only available in the day.



b) Outreach Program: Agar Smith has run our Benevolent Program for many years. The program tries to provide one-time support for people in a financial crisis, but we know paying a bill once does nothing to change the underlying problems. Agar began using the program to find people with the capacity and desire for change, and has helped support people to remove barriers and to access training and other employment opportunities.

We will now engage a Registered Social Worker to expand this concept and create an effective one-on-one support program for people who can move out of poverty.



c) Mobile Services: Urban development has pushed many low-income people out of the city core. We will begin with a mobile clothing service, taking our donated clothing out to low-income neighborhoods in suburban areas. Once established, we will add regular mobile access to other services such as our tax program and food bank.



2. HUMAN RESOURCES

The Mission has accomplished much with only a handful of staff and a great many amazing volunteers. But to add more programs and services, we need to increase staff. We cannot build solely on our extraordinary volunteers - they need training, support and flexibility from us.

In addition to a fundraising professional, we will need to increase staffing for volunteer management and program administration. With these roles in place, we will then be able to invite and mobilize many more volunteers.

3. EVOLVING GOVERNANCE

The Mission's Board of Directors has had to focus on stabilizing the organization for the past several years. Now, with the underlying strength that has been built, the Board is entering a new phase of development, and will now focus on building capacity, establishing new services, and leading the organization in more proactive approaches to addressing poverty.

4. ADVOCACY

The Mission has long focused on alleviating the symptoms of poverty. But Canada is a rich nation, and we believe far more can be done to reduce poverty. The Board of Directors will be selecting a new director tasked with involving the Mission in advocacy strategies, and helping us give voice to those we serve.

5. INCOME DEVELOPMENT

To build new programs and to respond to the changing needs of our community, the Mission will need to stabilize and increase income. To that end, we will be hiring a fulltime fund development professional to help access grants, increase corporate support and appeal to new donors who are not presently aware of our work.