



CUISR:

Community – University Institute for Social Research

***Affordable, Accessible Housing Needs
Assessment at the North Saskatchewan
Independent Living Centre***

July, 2003



Building Healthy Sustainable Communities

Affordable, Accessible Housing Needs Assessment at the North Saskatchewan Independent Living Centre

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ABSTRACT

There is inadequate barrier-free housing available in Saskatoon and housing options that include wheelchair access are difficult to find. People with disabilities are also over-represented in the low-income population and are badly in need of housing options that address both affordability and accessibility concerns. The only evidence that such a problem exists is anecdotal and comes from community organizations that deal with housing issues. One such organization is the North Saskatchewan Independent Living Centre (NSILC). NSILC hears of this need, but anecdotal evidence is insufficient without statistical proof. Relevant research must be conducted to address this problem. This study includes demographic statistics and information on the housing needs of people with disabilities that was obtained through a questionnaire, focus groups, and service provider interviews. Findings showed a need for more low-income and social housing home ownership opportunities. The results and their implications are discussed.

BACKGROUND

It has long been understood that there is inadequate barrier-free housing available in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan. People with disabilities comprise nearly 20% of Saskatchewan's population, yet housing options that include wheelchair access are difficult to find. Saskatoon's population is estimated to be 215,000, suggesting that there are approximately 43,000 people in the city with some form of disability.

The most recent demographic data regarding people with disabilities was obtained in 1991. This information was not broken down by region, but rather compiled for Saskatchewan as a whole. Because of the availability of services and facilities in Saskatchewan's two major centres, it is expected that most individuals gravitate to Saskatoon or Regina. In 1991, 23% of people with disabilities lived in Canada's rural municipalities, while 77% resided in urban areas (Statistics Canada, 1992).

In 1991, 19.1% of Saskatchewan's population had a disability compared to 15.5% for Canada as a whole (Statistics Canada, 1992). For the proportion of this population, be it provincial, regional, or national, looking for housing is uncertain. A demographic breakdown of these statistics, such as the number of disabled individuals by age, sex, and nature of disability living in Saskatoon would be extremely valuable.

Research into population characteristics of people with disabilities is especially

important when considering housing issues. Despite that housing options with wheelchair access are difficult to find, there has been no research conducted to date to help alleviate the problem. The only evidence that such a problem exists is anecdotal and comes from community organizations dealing with housing issues.

One such organization that knows of this need for appropriate housing is the North Saskatchewan Independent Living Centre (NSILC), a community-based non-profit organization whose purpose is to assist those with disabilities achieve greater independence. NSILC attempts to remove barriers, such as environmental, attitudinal, communication, and transportation, which presently exist for people with disabilities. There is no other organization in Saskatoon that is “cross-disability” (their services are available to any consumer, regardless of disability) and consumer controlled (their bylaws state that programs and services must be controlled by consumers with disabilities). NSILC regularly hears of the need for affordable, accessible housing, but without hard numbers this anecdotal evidence is insufficient proof that such a need exists.

Without knowing the market scope, few homebuilders risk building houses that match an undocumented need. To address this problem, relevant research must be conducted. Some limited activity has been conducted by non-profit community organizations, but thus far has documented only existing accommodations. Neither the public nor private sector has made an attempt to find reasons why accessible housing options—home ownership and rental—remain so elusive (Audit and Evaluation Services, 1998).

Of 675 apartment buildings surveyed in 1995, only 79 (11.7%) offered some degree of accessibility throughout the building, including some suites. In Saskatoon, there were only fourteen apartment buildings that offered full wheelchair accessibility, all of which were owned by public or non-profit housing groups, such as the Saskatoon Housing Authority (SHA) or Rainbow Housing Co-operative (RHC). SHA reported a two-and-a-half year waiting list for accessible rental accommodation. RHC reported that they did not even keep a waiting list because demand was so high and turnover extremely low.

In the context of housing and building design, “accessibility” is often taken to mean wheelchair users’ ability to enter and exit a building via ramps and similar devices. While this is certainly part of the process, impaired mobility is by no means the only impediment to adequate housing access. Vision and hearing impairments, coordination deficits, chronic pain, fatigue, and numerous other disabling conditions can all restrict a person’s full and effective use of a residence and its surroundings (Unhandicappers Limited, 1984).

People with disabilities face many barriers to participation in the community. These may include physical and transportation barriers, communication issues, society’s attitudes and misconceptions, and barriers created by bureaucratic service providers.

Many with disabilities have personal requirements, such as attendant services, additional time to complete tasks, or high medical needs. They may be managing multiple issues, such as specialized diet, pain management, increased fatigue, or regular therapeutic needs. Systems such as public transportation, public health care, education, or employment may not allow enough flexibility to meet individual needs. Without appropriate supports in place, any of these issues can overwhelm a person's life and become the focal point, leaving little time or energy to address other critical issues, such as housing. Many believe that no other options exist, so they "make do" in inappropriate settings (Wickman, 2001).

Another important facet of accessibility is what might be called "social accessibility"—a notion that physical access to housing is not all that is needed to ensure a fully independent community life. Housing projects' proximity to transportation and community facilities, and unit location within the project itself, are significant considerations.

Homebuilders and designers must realize that they need to do more than take into account necessary internal universal designs for a barrier-free home, such as wider doorways and hallways, larger bathrooms and entrances, and other necessary modifications. They also need to be made aware of basic accessibility to the surrounding community, such as shopping areas, schools, and curbs. Such a commitment to accessibility will serve as an example of a stronger, more inclusive community (Bouchard, 1995).

In a world where stereotypes about people with disabilities persist, it comes as no surprise that the housing industry generally knows or understands little about the housing needs for people with disabilities. Developers, landlords, leasing agents, and others hold misconceptions about people with disabilities that often lead to fear and unreasonable concerns about the former's economic and/or social liability (Associated Planning Consultants, 2000).

Unfortunately, these fears are borne of a lack of information regarding both Universal Design principles, or accessible, barrier-free design, and the rights and responsibilities of both landlords and people with disabilities. Construction and renovation costs that account for Universal Design are not as expensive as the industry assumes (Wickman, 2001). A willingness to learn is the first step to educating the housing industry to more effectively meet the needs of people with disabilities (and seniors), and increase the amount of affordable accessible housing.

Another important concern is that much of the available accessible housing is located in housing developments directed towards those aged 55 and older. These locations are inappropriate for younger adults with disabilities who wish to live independently. There is a great need for a housing development that addresses this specific concern (CMHC Program Evaluation Division, 1994). SHA reports that there are over

thirty young adults inappropriately living in seniors' complexes due to a lack of proper accommodations.

Because the health care system is shifting away from a medical model of institutional care towards consumer-controlled home and community care, people with disabilities are being placed in housing situations that are poorly designed for independent living (i.e. designed for the young, healthy, and mobile) (CMHC Program Evaluation Division, 1994).

Affordability is also of concern. People with disabilities are overrepresented in Saskatoon's low-income population, and, as such, are badly in need of housing options that address both affordability and accessibility concerns.

Those who presently receive income supports from Saskatchewan Social Services are given a housing allowance that does not meet the current housing market's rental costs. A single adult considered "employable" is allocated \$210 per month, while a single adult considered "unemployable" receives \$320 per month. People with disabilities may be granted an additional \$40 per month to pay for extra disability costs, which may include medical costs, transportation, or other non-housing items.

A majority of subsidized accommodations require a point system assessment to determine eligibility and urgency of need. The questionnaire's structure itself lends to discrimination against people who rely on income supports from Saskatchewan Social Assistance, as those receiving assistance are ranked below those who are employed. Taking into account the unemployment rate for people with disabilities (approximately twice that of the able-bodied population), a significantly high number of people with disabilities access income security systems (Statistics Canada, 1992). Many with disabilities experience increased difficulties in finding employment or are physically unable to maintain employment, and therefore have no choice but to receive Social Assistance.

Saskatoon has begun to recognize that there are many young adults with mobility impairments and other disabilities who are faced with a lack of barrier-free housing designed to make independent living possible. People with disabilities expect more inclusion in daily society in contrast to institutional or dedicated special needs housing's social isolation. There is a resulting real and immediate need for affordable, accessible housing in Saskatoon (Steering Committee, 2001).

NSILC proposes to ascertain the housing needs of people with disabilities. In order to assess the problem's extent, this process must start by collecting demographic statistics and information on the housing needs of people with disabilities. Further needs assessment methods can then be conducted to focus on potential solutions. This process includes consumer focus groups and interviews with homebuilders and service providers. This will be performed to help develop an appropriate housing program designed to

meet people with disabilities needs.

METHOD

PHASE ONE

This research project began by developing a questionnaire that collected demographic data and basic housing information, as well as information regarding future housing needs and concerns (see **Appendix A**). The mail-out questionnaire asked basic demographic questions like age, sex, and nature of disability. It was also designed to gather data on participants' current housing conditions and future housing needs. Participants were given an opportunity to receive further information and complete the survey in alternate formats, such as via e-mail or telephone.

The questionnaire was developed through consultation with NSILC staff and members. It was examined and tested for both sensitivity to people with disabilities and ease of completion. These were important points to consider because many with disabilities have lower education levels or physical problems that may prevent them from filling out long questionnaires. Academics also examined the questionnaire for technical errors. Feedback was received and the questions and format adjusted accordingly.

Questionnaires were mailed out to NSILC members (approximately 130 individuals). Additionally, the questionnaire was distributed to other disability community organizations and passed on to their membership lists, so as to reach as much of the disabled population as possible. These other disability organizations were called beforehand to determine how many should be sent (see **Appendix B**). Questionnaires were sent to these organizations by courier in blank pre-stamped envelopes along with cover letters and enclosed stamped return envelopes addressed to NSILC. In order to reduce costs, minimize effort, and protect their membership's confidentiality, NSILC labeled and mailed these envelopes.

The cover letter gave participants an opportunity to complete the questionnaire in alternate formats. Again, this was necessary as some might be unable to fill out a paper questionnaire due to a learning disability, visual impairment, or other physical difficulty. Questionnaire recipients were also given an opportunity to participate in a lottery if they responded before a certain date.

Part One's questions were designed to gather information about respondents' housing conditions. These included questions regarding type of housing, household size, and how both housing type and the surrounding community met or failed to meet respondents' physical and social needs. Part Two gathered basic information on respondents' future housing needs.

Part Three's questions were designed to collect basic demographic information. Questions pertaining to age, sex, and nature of disability were devised to draw an outline of the housing market. Part Three also collected information on respondents' socio-economic level by asking questions about education and income level, employment status, and ethnic background. Little data has been collected on this, and findings from this section may have importance beyond the housing area.

Part Four offered respondents an opportunity to provide personal contact information. This was completely optional. Those who provided personal information consented to receive further information on affordable, accessible housing, and were asked to participate in interviews and focus groups. These respondents were also given the option of receiving a copy of the final results. This information was kept confidential and separate from the rest of the questionnaire.

PHASE TWO

Phase One's results outlined the problem's extent. Focus groups and interviews were conducted to discuss potential solutions in Phase Two. Three focus groups were conducted to explore housing difficulties and the changes that they believed to be necessary and desirable. The focus group methodology allowed for a greater understanding of housing needs from the disabled participant's perspective.

Ten participants in three focus groups were drawn from a list of 85 who had expressed interest in further housing research. Potential participants were telephoned and invited to attend one of three focus groups. Sessions consisted of three to six participants and lasted approximately two hours. The focus groups' facilitator was also a consumer who contributed to the discussion.

Participants received guarantees of security and confidentiality and were asked to sign a consent form prior to the session. Participants were aware that sessions could be halted at any time and that questions that made them uncomfortable did not have to be answered. Participants were also informed that they could receive a copy of the final report.

Focus group facilitation was guided by a set of developed questions and probes, but emphasis was on allowing participants to report their experiences from their own points of view and to allow for interaction. A schedule was used to record subjects' responses to research questions. However, sufficiently nondirective techniques were used to allow the facilitator to pursue other lines of questioning and allow participants to explain themselves more fully and interact with each other. Examples of questions included:

- In your opinion, is there a housing problem for people with disabilities?
- How do you see this problem being corrected?
- What would you like to see happening regarding housing for people with disabilities?

- How do you see this happening?
- What/where is your role in this?

In addition to these focus groups, three individual interviews were held with various key stakeholders. One was with members of a community agency that works with people with acquired brain injuries. Another was with a local land developer, and the third was with a municipal government administrator. Informed consent was obtained prior to the interview. Examples of questions included:

- In your opinion, is there a housing problem for people with disabilities?
- How do you see this problem being corrected?
- What/where is your role in this?

Due to time constraints, transcripts of these sessions were not made.

RESULTS

PHASE ONE

A total of 450 surveys were sent out and 113 returned— a response rate of 25%. Of these, seven were conducted by telephone and two by e-mail. A total of 85 respondents requested both further information and a copy of the final results. Response categories were numerically coded. A research assistant entered these codes into a spreadsheet. The spreadsheet and coded entries were then double-checked for errors by the researcher. Once the data were cleaned, results were analyzed manually and converted into percentages. The number of answers that fit into a certain response category was divided by the total number of responses for that question.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Of the 97 respondents who answered this question, the age range was 15 to 83, with a mean age of 46. Of these respondents, 31 were under 40 years of age (32%), 47 between 41 and 60 years of age (48%), and 20 were 61 years of age or older (20%). Respondents' gender make-up was 54 males (56%) and 44 females (44%). With regards to the nature of disability, 71 respondents had a physical disability (71%), 17 were visually impaired (17%), 4 were hearing impaired (4%), 17 had psychological disabilities (17%), and 14 had other disabilities, such as learning disabilities or HIV (14%). Additionally, 15 reported having multiple disabilities (15%). Sixty-three respondents used mobility aids (65%), while 34 did not use aid of any kind (35%). Of those who did, 5 used scooters (8%), 4 used crutches (6%), 7 used a cane (11%), 40 used wheelchairs (65%), and 3 used white canes (5%).

Figure 1. Age of Respondents

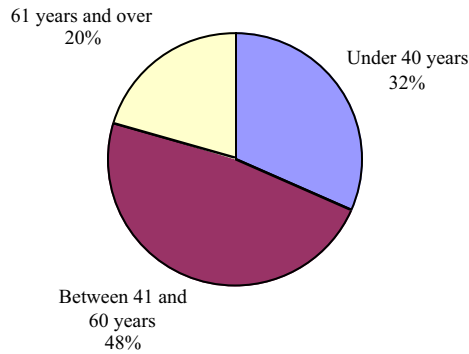
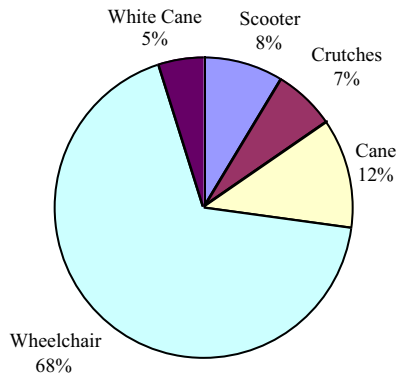


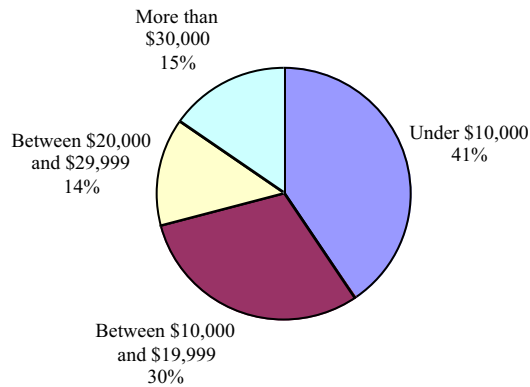
Figure 2. Mobility Aids



Of 98 respondents, 40 reported an income of under \$10,000 per year (40%), 30 between \$10,000 and \$19,999 (30%), 14 between \$20,000 and \$29,999 (15%), and 15 more than \$30,000. When asked about income source, 40 reported receiving social assistance payments (40%), 28 received Canada Pension Plan benefits (28%), 18 had employment income (18%), and 13 received income from other sources, such as insurance settlements or savings (13%).

Of 103 respondents, 25 had less than a grade twelve education (24%), 18 graduated high school or possessed a GED (16%), 30 had some university (30%), and 30 had some technical school/college education (30%). On the subject of ethnicity, 75 respondents were white (74%), 23 Aboriginal (22%), 4 Southeast Asian (3%), and 1 was Chinese (1%).

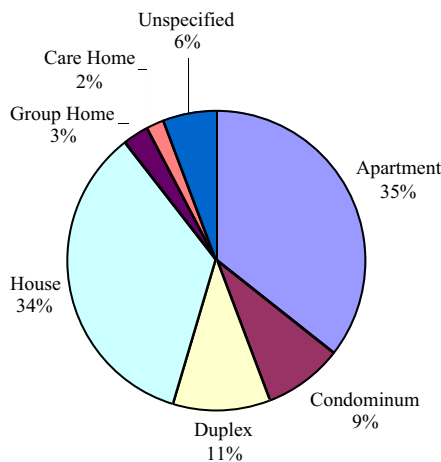
Figure 3. Income Range



CURRENT HOUSING CONDITIONS

There were nine blank responses to this question. Of 104 respondents, 37 lived in apartments (36%), 9 in condominiums (9%), 11 in duplexes (10%), 36 in houses (34%), 3 in a group home (3%), 2 in a care home (2%), and 6 were in other unspecified housing situations (6%).

Figure 4. Current Housing

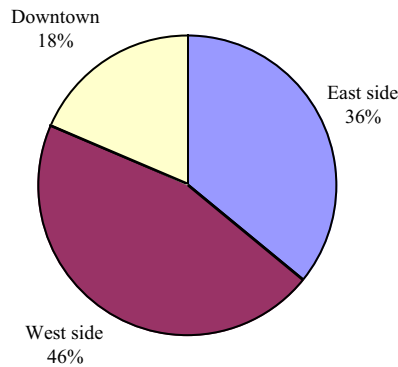


Of 105 responses, 70 found that their housing met their social needs (67%) and 35 felt that it did not (33%). Seventy-one respondents reported living in single person households (68%), 16 in households that consisted of two people (15%), 8 with three

people (8%), and 10 with four or more people (10%). Of those who lived in multiple households, 12 lived with their spouse (alone or with children) or another relative (38%), 13 with children only (41%), 1 with their boyfriend or girlfriend (2%), and 6 with a roommate or tenant (19%).

Of 98 responses, 35 indicated that they lived on Saskatoon’s east side (36%), 18 downtown (18%), and 45 said that they lived on the west side (46%). Of 101 respondents, 80 said that their community was accessible, physically or socially, to them (79%), and 21 claimed that it was inaccessible (21%).

Figure 5. Current Location



DESIRED HOUSING

Of 100 respondents, 20 wanted to live in apartments (20%), 20 preferred condominiums (20%), 7 wanted to live in duplexes (7%), 2 wanted a group home (2%), 1 preferred a care home (1%), and 50 wanted to live in a house (50%). When it comes to dwelling size, 27 respondents preferred one bedroom (27%), 45 two bedrooms (45%), and 28 preferred three or more bedrooms (28%). When asked about home ownership, 30 respondents preferred to rent (30%), while 70 wanted to own their home (70%).

Of 104 respondents, 35 indicated that they did not require special needs housing (34%), while 69 indicated that they did (66%). Of 85 respondents, 20 stated they preferred to live downtown (27%), 46 the east side (61%), and 19 preferred to live on the west side (12%). When choosing a neighborhood, 23 were concerned with transportation (22%), 44 with safety (42%), 4 with being close to friends (4%), and 34 were concerned with proximity to facilities (32%).

Figure 6. Homeownership Preferences

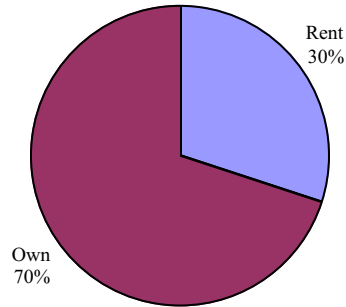


Figure 7. Desired Housing

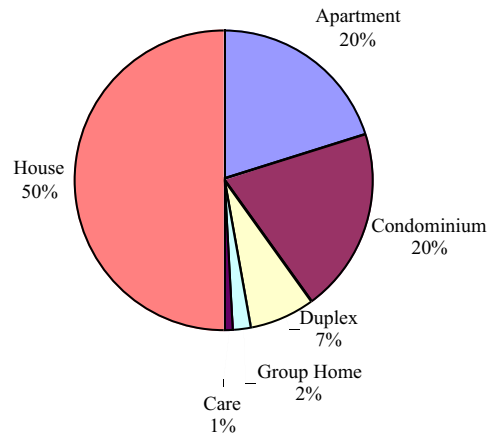


Figure 8. Special Needs Housing

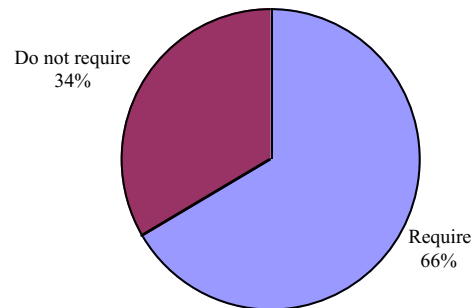
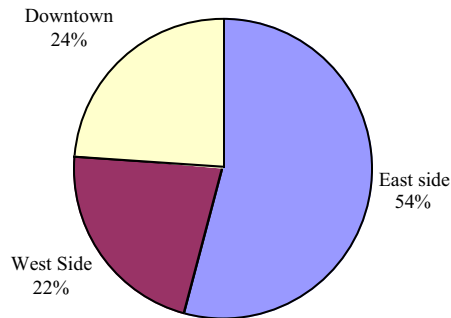


Figure 9. Desired Location



PHASE TWO

FOCUS GROUPS

As noted earlier, all session participants were individuals with a variety of physical, mobility, visual impairment, acquired brain injury, and mental health disabilities. All were unsatisfied with their current housing conditions and willing to move, although there was a lack of appropriate places to which to move. Accessibility was not a major concern as long as they were able to enter and exit the dwelling (most with physical disabilities have learned to adapt living spaces to suit themselves). Affordability was a major concern. Finding and retaining affordable housing is incredibly difficult, especially when employment is hard to come by and Social Assistance payments are insufficient. Pets were another important issue. Because many people with disabilities lived alone, pets are ideal companions, but most landlords do not easily accept them. An ideal housing situation would be an accessible, affordable home in a safe, quiet neighbourhood—that is, everyone’s ideal.

Most people with disabilities see the major problem with housing as a sizable lack of input as to the kind of housing that they would like to see built. Some means to correct this are greater advocacy on the subject, public education, and awareness raising. Most were unsure as to what their involvement in this might entail.

INTERVIEWS

The first interview was held with the ABI Outreach Team at Saskatoon City Hospital. The interview/focus group was held with ten of this team’s staff members, including social workers, case workers, and psychologists. They identified housing as a major concern for their clientele, who range from the severely physically and cognitively

disabled to those with slight emotional disturbances. They indicated a need for a more supportive type of housing that provides services, such as meal preparation, and provides educational and occupational programming that will give their clients the skills necessary to live independently. No such housing exists in Saskatoon, and to achieve this would require major partnership building. However, team members were busy keeping up with daily operations and lack the resources to tackle this additional project.

The second interview was with a City of Saskatoon civic official who worked in the housing area. Having previously worked with NSILC on these issues, he was well aware of an accessible housing shortage. He encouraged NSILC to maintain involvement in this area. For his part, he worked to increase consumer involvement and partnership building, aiming for raised awareness and an increase in accessible housing. He has offered continued assistance to NSILC on this front.

The third interview was with a local land developer who was keenly aware of the housing problem for people with disabilities. He saw partnerships between housing professionals, such as himself, and disability organizations as one potential solution to this problem, or at least a step in the right direction. He was working with NSILC to begin a project that, he hoped, would serve as an example of what could be accomplished.

DISCUSSION

Most accessible housing available in Saskatoon is in housing developments directed towards those aged 55 and older and is inappropriate for younger adults with disabilities who wish to live independently. Other available housing is directed towards families or is too expensive. Findings show that the majority of people with disabilities who are looking for housing in Saskatoon are under the age of 60 years, single, and in the very low-income range. These findings also show a great need for affordable, accessible housing that is designed for young, low-income, single people with disabilities.

The results indicate that a large majority of respondents have physical disabilities and require wheelchair access and other special needs housing. The results also indicate that a majority of people with disabilities would prefer to own their own homes, but for various reasons cannot do so.

The current housing conditions of people with disabilities is different from desired housing conditions. As discussed earlier, most would prefer to own their own homes, but high purchase and renovation costs make this exceedingly difficult. The type of housing that people desire and what they currently reside in differs greatly.

Most people with disabilities in this study would prefer to live in houses or condominiums, which are dwellings often associated with home ownership. Fewer would like to live in rental apartments, group homes, and care homes.

A majority of people with disabilities currently live on Saskatoon's west side, an area typically associated with lower socio-economic levels and limited accessibility. Due to their low income, people with disabilities often have little choice but to live in less accessible neighbourhoods.

These results demonstrate that there are significant issues that need to be addressed in providing housing for some persons with disabilities, including accessibility, availability, and design. However, the various forms of analysis used here provide a mixed message on the problems' severity. While those involved in the focus groups were quite passionate and articulate in voicing the barriers that they must overcome in seeking adequate housing, some questionnaire results suggested a high level of satisfaction. For example, 70% of those surveyed felt that their social needs were currently being met, and 79% felt that their community was accessible physically and socially. Given the discrepancy between the focus group and questionnaire results, it is possible, perhaps, that the questionnaire was too vaguely worded and that respondents were expressing satisfaction with their broader community rather than their actual home. These ambiguities aside, it is clear that programs intended to meet the housing needs of the disabled must be planned in a collaborative manner, especially including the final users of that housing.

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Appendix A. Cover Letter and Questionnaire.

Dear Participant,

I am asking for your help in learning about housing for people with disabilities in Saskatoon. This study is being conducted by the North Saskatchewan Independent Living Centre and the Community-University Institute for Social Research.

Results from this survey will be used to determine the need for affordable and accessible housing in Saskatoon. By understanding the demand for housing, public officials and private developers can do a better job of providing it. And by knowing more about the housing situations of people with disabilities, community organizations and service agencies can help work to increase the supply of appropriate housing.

Even if you do not require affordable or special needs housing or are currently looking for housing, any information you can provide is still valuable.

The questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Your answers are completely confidential and will be released only as summaries in which no individual's answers can be identified. When you return your completed questionnaire, your answers will never be connected to your name in any way. The survey is voluntary. By completing and returning the survey, you are permitting me to use the data in the way described in this letter.

If for some reason you prefer not to respond, please let me know by returning the blank questionnaire in the enclosed stamped envelope. If you would prefer to complete the questionnaire in another format, such as by phone or E-mail, just return Part 4 of the questionnaire and I will call or E-mail you. Your contact information will be kept confidential and separate from the rest of the questionnaire. If you receive duplicate copies, simply return the other(s), noting that it (they) are duplicates.

If you return the completed survey by March 28th, your name (if you choose to share it with me) will be entered into a draw for a \$100 gift certificate as a token of my thanks.

If you have any questions or comments about this study, I would be happy to talk with you. My number is **665-5508** and my E-mail is *kama.soles@shaw.ca*, or you can write me at the address on the letterhead. This study was approved by the University of Saskatchewan Behavioural Sciences Research Ethics Board and any questions regarding your rights as a participant can be answered by the Office of Research Services at 966-4053.

Thank you very much for helping with this study.

Sincerely,

Kama Soles

Community Housing Coordinator

Part 1: Housing Information

Part 1 is gathering information on the kind of housing conditions you are currently living in.

1. What kind of housing are you currently living in?

apartment condominium duplex house
 group home care home other (please specify):

2. In what way does your housing meet your physical needs?

3. In what ways does your housing fail to meet your physical needs?

4. Does your housing meet your social needs?

yes no

If no, please explain why:

5. What area of the city do you live in?(Nutana, City Park, Sutherland, etc.)

6. Is the surrounding community in your area accessible to you?

yes no

Comments (if any): _____

7. How many people are there in your household? _____

What are their ages and relationship to you?

Person 1: _____

Person 2: _____

Person 3: _____

Person 4: _____

Part 2: Housing Needs

Part 2 is to gather information on your future housing needs.

1. What kind of housing would you like to live in?

___ apartment ___ condominium ___ duplex ___ house

___ group home ___ care home ___ other (please specify):

2. How many rooms would you need?

___ 1 bedroom ___ 2 bedroom ___ 3 or more bedrooms

3. Would you prefer to rent or own your own home?

___ rent ___ ownership

4. Do you require any special housing needs?

___ no ___ yes

If yes, please specify: _____

5. What area of the city would you prefer to live in? _____

Why would you like to live in that area? _____

6. When choosing an area to live in, what are your top 3 concerns?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Part 3: Demographic Information

Part 3 is just demographic information and will be kept anonymous.

1. What is your age?

_____ years

2. What is your sex?

_____ male _____ female

3. What is the nature of your disability (disabilities)?

_____ physical _____ visual impairment _____ hearing impairment
_____ psychological _____ other (please specify) _____

3.b If you have more than one, please indicate your main disability:

4. Do you require the use of a device to aid your mobility? (Such as a wheelchair, cane, etc):

_____ yes _____ no

If yes, please specify what kind of aid: _____

5. What is the range of your gross yearly income?:

_____ Under \$10,000 _____ \$10,000 to \$19,999 _____ \$20,000 to \$29,999
_____ \$30,000 or greater

6. What is the source of your income? (Check all that may apply):

_____ Social Assistance _____ Canada Pension Plan (CPP)
_____ Employment _____ other (please specify):

7. What is your level of education?:

_____ Less than Grade 12 _____ Grade 12 _____ University
_____ College/technical school

8. In terms of racial origin, how would you describe yourself?

Part 4: Personal Information (optional)

If you would like to receive more information on affordable, accessible housing and would like to be kept up to date on the most recent developments in the housing area, please write down your contact information. Your information will be kept confidential and separate from the rest of the questionnaire.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Address:

___ **I would prefer to do my survey by E-mail.**

___ **I would prefer to do my survey by telephone.**

___ **Please send me a copy of the results of the survey when they are ready**

Appendix B. Mail-Outs by Organizations.

Organization	# of questionnaires	# of stamps	# of envelopes	Cost (\$)
NSILC	132	264	264	126.72
ABI Outreach	50	100	100	48.00
AIDS Saskatoon	20	40	40	19.20
ATSS	10	20	20	4.80
CMHA	20	40	40	19.20
CNIB	25	25	25	12.00
CPA	50	100	100	48.00
Cheshire	20	20	40	4.80
SHC	20	40	40	19.20
MSSC	50	100	100	48.00
SASG	15	15	30	7.20
DSS	15	15	30	7.20
SHA	62	124	124	59.52
Total	489	903	953	433.44

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