

Canadian CED Network
Place Based Poverty Reduction
Summary information on two additional Social Enterprises
using Sustainable Livelihoods
and Social Return On Investment (SROI) measurements

Atira Property Management Inc. (APMI) is a socially responsible for-profit property management company that is wholly-owned by Atira Women's Resource Society (AWRS). Formed in 1987, the society provides transition and second-stage housing as well as non-residential support programs for women and children impacted by violence in the Greater Vancouver region. All of the profits from APMI are donated to the society. APMI is dedicated to creating long term, quality employment for individuals with barriers to economic security and creates additional social impacts through the creation of related businesses, cross selling of products and services of other social enterprises and creating affordable home ownership and safe, affordable housing for AWRS and APMI employees.

In 2006 in a sample group of 14 employees of APMI (100% of whom were unemployed or underemployed before hire and 78% of whom were receiving government income assistance) there were the following successes:

In terms of Social Return On Investment (SROI) the average change in societal contribution per participant or the difference between the direct societal 'cost' or 'benefit' contributed by the employee before versus after hire was \$8,904 (Annual Government Financial Assistance Before Hire - Annual Income Tax Paid Before Hire + Annual Income Tax Paid After Hire). Therefore **the total cost savings to society of the 14 people participating in the program was \$124,656** (the dollars saved that year by employing target group and eliminating or lessening government financial assistance).

Using the Sustainable Livelihoods framework the following outcomes occurred:

- Majority of target employees (with children) reported that since their employment at APMI, their lives and their children's have improved
- 78% do not need government income assistance after APMI employment
- 22% target employees were able to career ladder into better positions– within APMI, AWRS and to external employment opportunities

Information retrieved from <http://www.atira.bc.ca/index.htm> and http://www.socialcapitalpartners.ca/sroi_reports.asp

Inner City Development Inc. (ICD) is a social enterprise incorporated in 2002. ICD is a corporation providing construction, janitorial and property management services, primarily but not exclusively, to the non-profit sector in Winnipeg's inner city. The mission of Inner City Development is to provide quality full time employment for inner city low income residents and quality services to inner city non-profit community organizations. ICD provides better-than-average sector wages and benefits and provides education and training, leading to skills and certification to its workers. It does this through the operation of Inner City Renovation Inc. (ICR). ICR is a general contractor and construction manager. It offers a complete range of services in the commercial and residential markets. Projects have ranged in size from a few thousand dollars to more than half a million dollars.

In 2005 in their sample group of 14 individuals (46% of whom had not finished high school and 50% of whom had criminal records) ICD had the following successes:

In terms of Social Return On Investment (SROI) the average change in societal contribution per participant or the difference between the direct societal 'cost' or 'benefit' contributed by the employee before versus after hire was \$9,700 (Annual Government Financial Assistance Before Hire - Annual Income Tax Paid Before Hire + Annual Income Tax Paid After Hire). Therefore **the total cost savings to society of the 14 people participating in the program was \$135,800** (the dollars saved that year by employing target group and eliminating or lessening government financial assistance).

Using the Sustainable Livelihoods framework the following outcomes occurred:

- Established multi-stakeholder partnership to deliver Canada's first company run savings/asset development program
- ICR target employee completed first year apprenticeship and earned one of the highest grades in the class
- Two target employees formally recognized by Aboriginal community at Elders ceremony
- Target employee able to be reunited with his children because of his now stable livelihood

Information retrieved from

<http://www.icdevelopment.ca/> and http://www.socialcapitalpartners.ca/sroi_reports.asp