

THE CORNERSTONE

The *heart* of London

332 Richmond Street

The Cornerstone would not exist without the generous funding provided by the City of London.

Our gratitude to other funders who have made this re-development possible:

Andersen Corporate Foundation
City of London

Community Enhancement Fund of the Western Fair
Government of Canada
Government of Ontario

Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Sifton Family Foundation
The Home Depot Canada Foundation
Walter J. Blackburn Foundation
Westminster College Foundation

To learn more about this unique project, and how you can be involved, please contact:

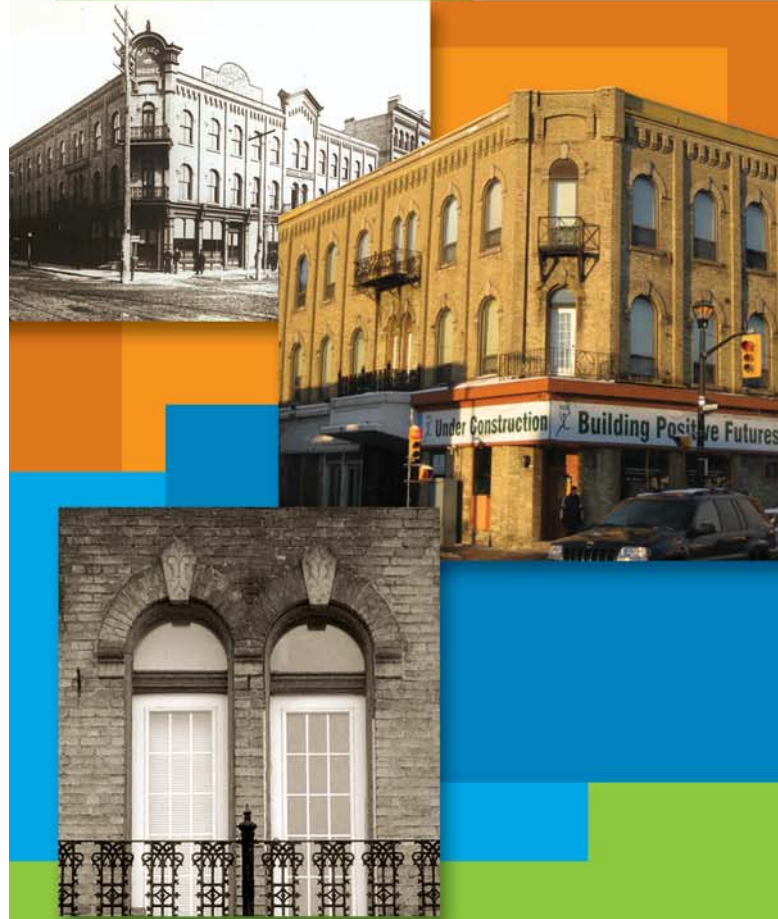
Steve Cordes
Executive Director
519.432.1112 x 354
steve@you.on.ca

Christine Dirks
Director, Marketing & Communications
519.432.1112 x 351
christined@you.on.ca

Since 1982, Youth Opportunities Unlimited has provided **transition**, **career development**, and **enterprise services** to local youth. We provide a caring and active place where all youth are engaged in learning and creating opportunities to build their future.

141 Dundas Street, Second Floor, London, Ontario N6A 1G3
t: 519.432.1112 f: 519.432.2883
www.you.on.ca

Registered Charity #119307668 RR0001



YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED

In 1879 the three-story building at 332 Richmond Street opened as the American House. In 1933 it was renamed The Grigg House after innkeeper Samuel Grigg. Since then the landmark building has undergone many transformations. In 2007 **Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU)** purchased the building. In 2009 it was renamed The Cornerstone, after a public naming contest by YOU. The new name honours the building's past as a cornerstone in London's development and the building's future as a place where young people can turn a positive corner and where the regeneration of this one heritage building can turn a positive corner for the downtown block in which it resides.

This **exciting project** will take a London landmark with more than 130 years history and give it a bright and prosperous future. The Cornerstone will be a national prototype in providing extensive holistic services and supports for local youth in the areas of affordable housing, health and nutrition, alternative education, mentorship, counselling, skills development and employment opportunities.

Interior renovations to the main floor will include an apprenticeship training centre, alternative education classroom, entertainment/recreation area, offices and the **YOU Made It Café**. The Café, with retail store and wireless internet, will be the public portion of an industrial kitchen and training operation for young people. Revenue from the Café will support YOU services in the building and in the community. The Café will be staffed by local youth employed in YOU's Enterprise Services division. The youth will prepare and serve meals, produce the Market Quality Preserves (MQP) line of gourmet jams, preserves and salsas, provide **YOU Made It** catering services and promote and sell the MQP line and wood furniture made by local youth employed in the **YOU Made It woodshop**.

Environmentally friendly renovations will include alternative energies such as solar power, geothermal heating and cooling and grey water collection to eliminate storm runoff and reduce our environmental footprint. Further, we will introduce many recycled and renewable materials into the construction.

An **8,000 square foot rooftop garden** will yield herbs, flowers and produce, all planted and harvested by youth for the **YOU Made It Café**. The garden will serve as an outdoor classroom for youth employed in the Café. Seating areas in the garden as well as a rooftop boardroom will provide tenants and visitors with a unique and beautiful vista in the heart of our city.

Exterior renovations will restore the building's façade to approximate the original appearance while integrating many new features suited to its future. The existing 28 apartments in the Cornerstone will continue to be leased to youth at rates far below market rate. These bachelor, one and two bedroom units have been fully occupied since 2008. The affordable housing lessens the pressures on youth surrounding daily needs and enables them to focus on building successful futures.

With **community involvement**, dynamic youth services, an environmentally friendly renewal and respect for all involved, our historic landmark will be a place where London's heart beats stronger.

"Without The Cornerstone's affordable housing I don't know what would have happened to me and my son. I truly owe our health and safety to YOU. Without their help I may well have been where I did not want to be, back on the street. I hope the affordable housing and the staff at YOU will always be there for those who need it - the youth of London."

Angella, resident of The Cornerstone

