



# Annual Report

## 2021

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**URBAN  
REZ**  
SOLUTIONS  
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE



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# ***ABOUT URBAN REZ SOLUTIONS SOCIAL ENTERPRISE***

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Urban Rez Solutions Social Enterprise delivers comprehensive conflict management, mental health wellness, community engagement strategies, entrepreneurship training, tools to fight anti-black racism, and diversity and inclusion training. It also facilitates programming with service providers, corporate organizations, community groups, and Individuals to bring about various aspects of positive change and pro-social development, education, and widespread community advancement (including the SAY IT LOUD campaign).







# ***OUR WORK***

## **COMMUNITY**

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

## **SCHOOLS**

In order to teach young minds we must reach young minds. Therein lies the important distinction between school and education.

## **FACILITATION**

Communication is defined as message sent, message received and message understood. Before holding the messenger accountable, might we consider the clarity of the message first?

## **JUSTICE**

"Equality exists when everyone has shoes...Equity is attained when everyone has shoes that fit them." Therefore, does justice for one truly mean justice for all?







# ***PRESIDENTS MESSAGE***



While the past couple of years have been challenging for everyone, here at Urban Rez Social Enterprise, we simply see these challenges as opportunities for us to make positive impacts and work toward change that benefits our community.

One such opportunity is related to the fact that it often feels like we are working backward and trying to fix problems that already exist, rather than creating a stronger future where these problems will naturally be resolved.

By working to empower and inspire the next generation of Black youth, we are laying the foundation for a future where other parts of the population have confidence in and an appreciation of Black culture and excellence—but perhaps more importantly, where the Black community itself recognizes and celebrates its own excellence.

The Say It Loud! program was a great step in the right direction, directly targeting Black youth here in Canada. We were very excited to see the diverse range of talents that our young generation has to offer.

Of course, this is only one of many programs that UrbanRez is currently pursuing. We have much more planned for the near future and are confident that our work will be successful and effective, largely due to the support and funding of our partners and stakeholders. We realize the sacrifices that our partners make in supporting the organization, particularly in this time of economic recession, and are proud of the faith and confidence that each of you have put in us. The fact that you believe in our mission as much as we do is proof to us that we are on the right track and gives us hope for a better and brighter future for all people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clunis Hunter'.

Clunis Hunter  
President



# **CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE**

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Most of us understand how important the work being done by Urban Rez Solutions Social is—that's the reason we support the organization and contribute our energy, talents, and resources to the cause. But we can often become so focused on our goals and projects that we forget to step back and celebrate what we have accomplished and how far we have come.

The programs that Urban Rez Solutions Social Enterprise has been able to present over the past year with the support of our partners give us confidence that we are on the right track and that we are truly making a difference in our community. A quick look at the focuses of these projects provides a clear picture of what our priorities are and what type of future we are working to create. The Youth Violence Prevention and Youth Violence and Human Trafficking programs are targeted at creating a safer environment where young people in our community can grow and thrive, recognizing that without stability and security, it is impossible to make any real social progress. Meanwhile, the Mentor Me and Student Family Advocates programs represent concrete steps that we are taking toward helping equip young people with the skills and education necessary to thrive in the modern economic climate.

Finally, Say It Loud! not only provides inspiration and confirmation for young Black members of our community, but also highlights their talents and ideas in order to help overcome negative stereotypes and biases.

All of these programs are making a big difference here in Canada, building toward a future in which equality, justice, and opportunity are universal priorities. With the generous support of our partners and the hard work of our volunteers and community stakeholders, we are creating a better tomorrow—one in which the values of organizations such as Urban Rez are no longer simply lofty ideals, but instead ubiquitous, commonsense pillars of our society..



# **CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE CONT'D**

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At URSSE, our structure is based on a co-executive directorship (co-ED) model. The co-ED model benefits from the convergence and collaboration of two distinct and effective leadership styles while distributing and sharing leadership of the organization to tap multiple talents, better manage the work demands/expectations of the position, and move in a direction that creates more leadership opportunities. We have entered into this new model strategically, creating authentically shared leadership and power rather than a training or assistant directorship in disguise. To date, this has been a successful approach.

Our modus operandi is to remain vigilant about how we distribute authority, leadership, and power. We have several vehicles through which we are doing so.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Brereton'.

Roderick Brereton  
Co-Executive Director



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'F. Nwaigbo'.

Farley Nwaigbo  
CO- Executive Director



SINCE NOVEMBER OF 2019 URSSE HAS EXECUTED THE  
 FOLLOWING INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS:

# ***URSSE INITIATIVES***

PROJECT	START DATE	END DATE	FUNDER
Say It LOUD	NOV 2019	APRIL 2021	Government of Canada Department of Heritage
MentorME Say It LOUD) (derivative	NOV 2021	PERPETUAL	Sponsorship
Youth Violence Prevention	JAN 2020	MARCH 2023	City of Toronto
Student Family Advocates - SFA	APR 2021	MAR 2023	MCCSS - Ministry of Children Community and Social Services
YVHTP - Youth Violence and Human Trafficking Prevention	MAY 2021 MAR	MAR 2025	MCCSS - Ministry of Children Community and Social Services
Future Shock	MAY 2021	NOV 2022	Rverson University
Future Employment Readiness			



# ***FINANCIAL STATEMENT***

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Government grant	536,965	346,527
Other	315,591	163,370
	<b>852,556</b>	<b>509,897</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising and promotion	3,586	142,480
Consultants	339,664	138,439
COVID community relief program		35,945
Insurance	1,195	1,151
Office and general	61,616	64,154
Program	267,034	
Travel, meals, and accommodation	25,124	20,351
	<b>698,219</b>	<b>402,520</b>
<b>Surplus of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>154,337</b>	<b>107,377</b>
<b>Net Assets - Begin of year</b>	<b>138,858</b>	<b>31,481</b>
<b>Net Assets - End of year</b>	<b>293,195</b>	<b>138,858</b>





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