### **Sharing the Podium**

Social Investment and Innovation In the Post-Olympic Era

Taking Stock
National Alliance for
Children and Youth
March 23, 2010
Ottawa, Ontario

If you must play, decide on three things at the start: the rules of the game, the stakes, and the quitting time.

Chinese Proverb

# Community Context

- Child Poverty/All Poverty
- Homelessness/Affordable Housing
- School Readiness
- Under-employment
- Population Growth/Diversity

#### **Economic Context**

- Global Recession
- Low Interest Rates
- Poor Investment Returns
- High Canadian Dollar
- Commodity Pricing
- Peak Oil
- Green Economy

#### Socio-Political Context

- Absence of Public Policy
- Private Sector Orientation
- Health and Education Priorities
- Deficit Budgeting
- Social Role Valorization
- Individualized Funding
- Social Capital/Profit
- Generation in Transition

#### Cost Pressures

- Harmonized Sales Tax
- Medical Insurance Premiums
- Labour Costs (MPP)
- Redefinition of Administration Costs
- Budget Reductions
- Narrower Funding Mandates
  - United Way
  - Gaming Grants

# Be the chess player, not the chess piece.

Ralph Charell

# Hopeful Trends

- Government Non Profit Initiative
- Board Voice
- Province-Wide Activism
- CEO Network
- Society Act Review

# Choosing a Response

- Agency Closures
- Mergers
- Social Enterprise
- Empowerment Strategies

# Anyone who lives within their means suffers from a lack of imagination.

Oscar Wilde, Irish dramatist and novelist