



# 2015 CommunityWise Member Survey

## Report to Members

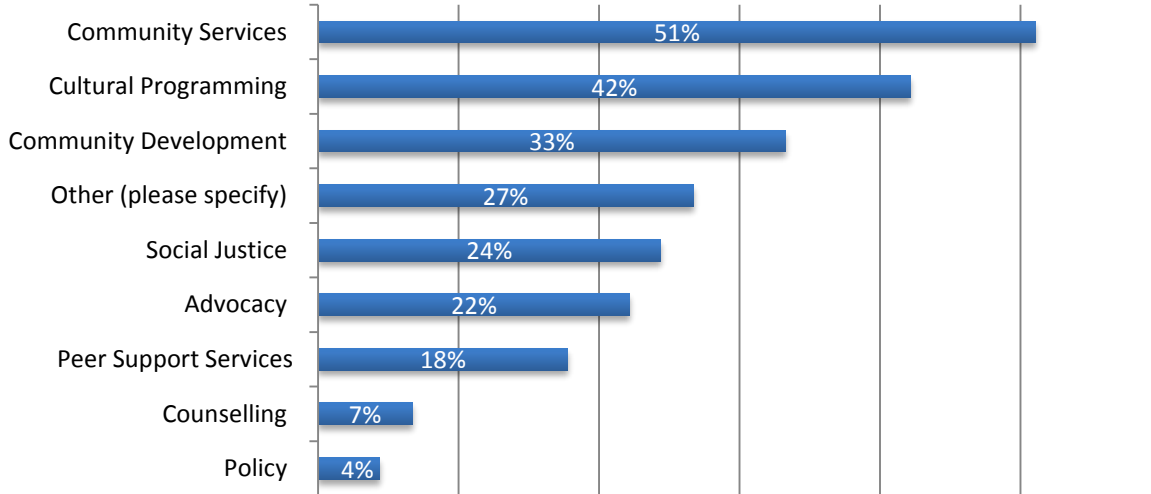


*CommunityWise AGM, May 2015*

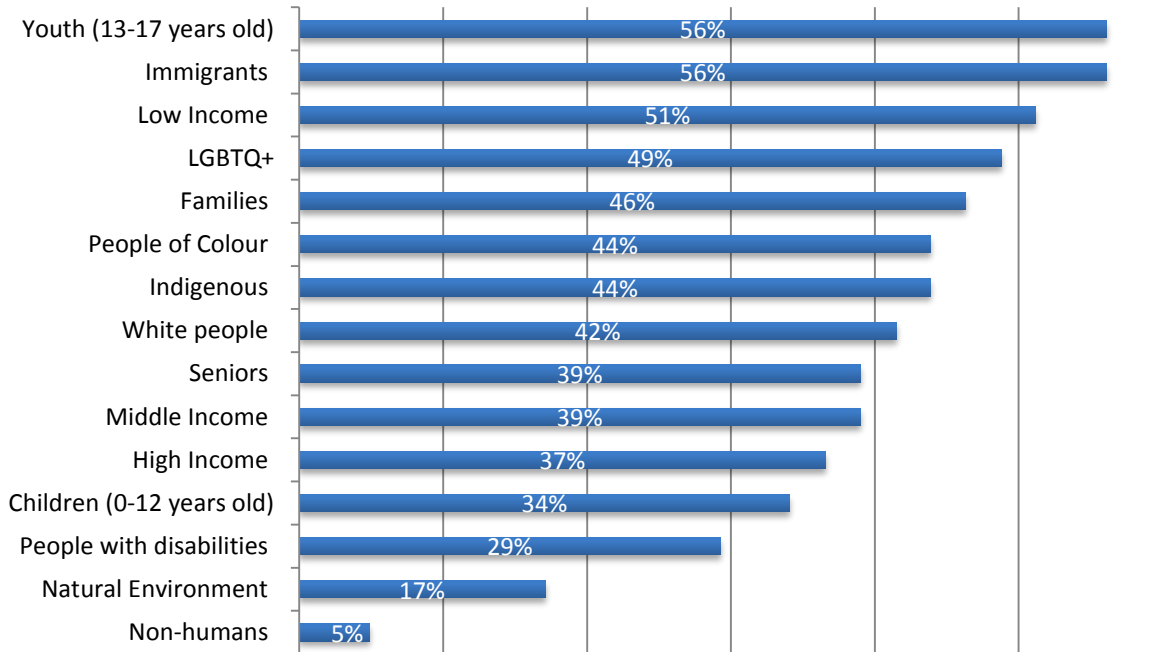
Under the tremendous leadership of CommunityWise Summer Student Dheny Rivas, CommunityWise conducted a member survey in summer 2015. Representatives from 47 of our approximately 80 member organizations (59%) filled out a survey. This report provides a summary of survey highlights for our members.

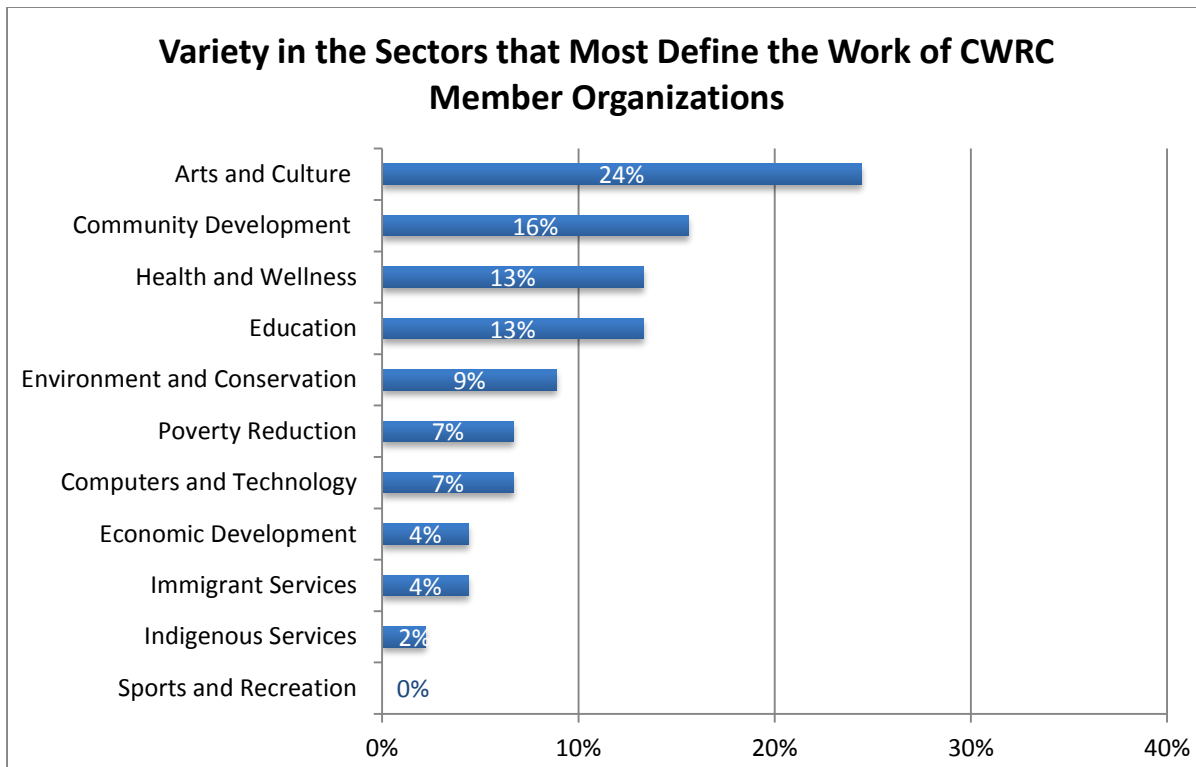
**Lots of variety in the work that CommunityWise Members do!**

**Variety in the Type of Work CommunityWise Members Do**



**Variety in CWRC Member Organization Target Populations or Communities**



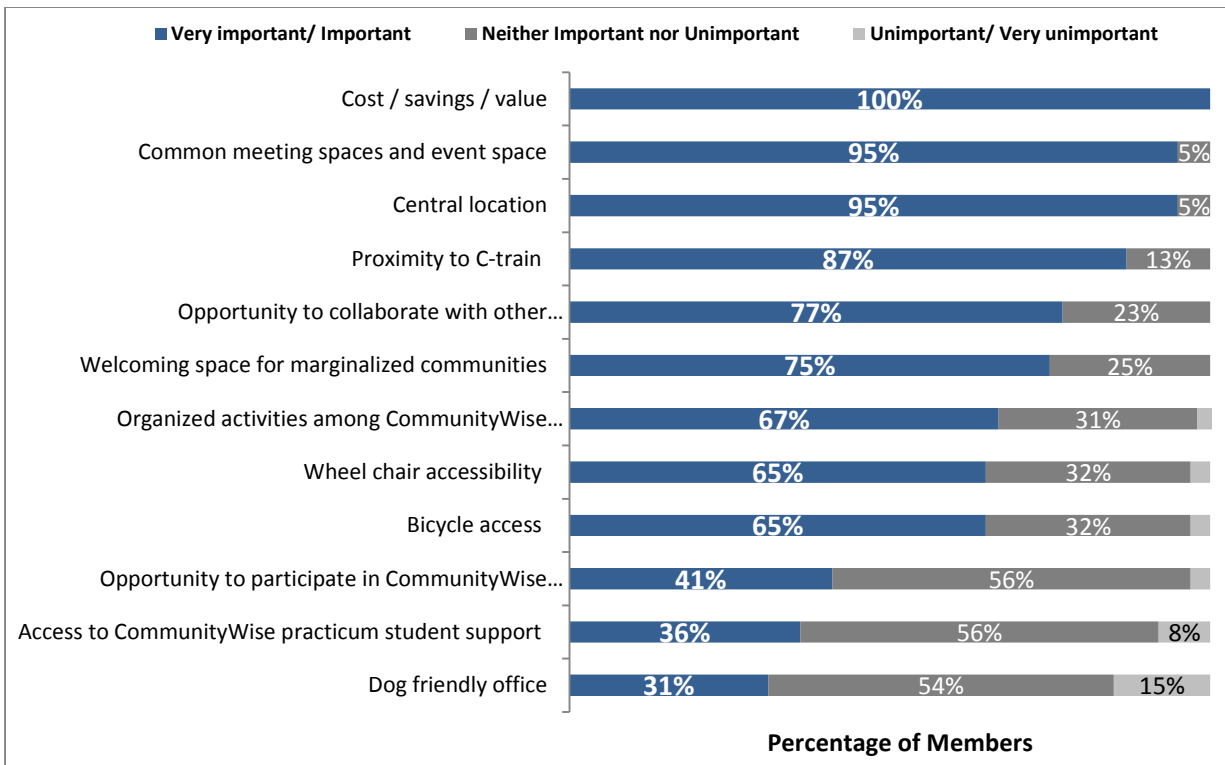


**Many member organizations serve a lot of people, with small budgets and few staff**

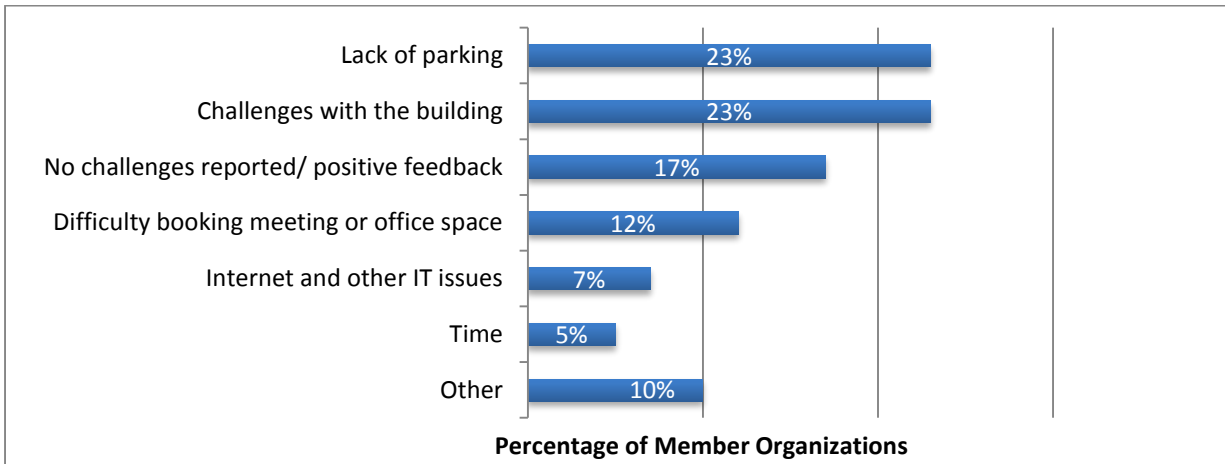
- Though many of you reported that your organization serves hundreds or thousands of people, **34% of member organizations have no paid staff and another 27% had only 1-2 paid staff.**
- Around half of members had budgets under \$100 000 per year. **30% of members reported budgets of \$15 000 and under, and 17% reported budgets between \$16 000 and \$35 000.**

**Lots of variety in how member organizations use CommunityWise**

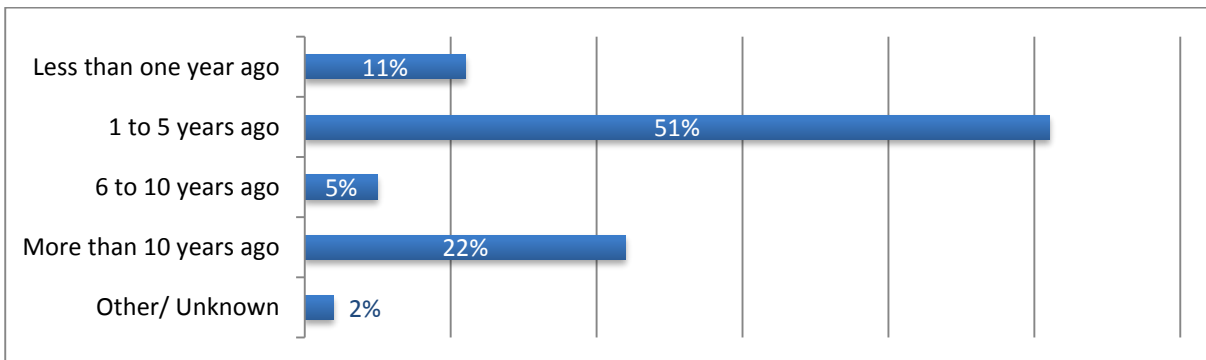
- Over half of you use CommunityWise for meetings, events, quiet workspace, administrative work or socializing. Fewer members (less than 30%) use CommunityWise for peer support, advocacy, classes, or refuge.
- There are a lot of things about CommunityWise that you feel are important, especially cost/savings/value, common meeting spaces and event space, and central location (see graph below).



- You also experience some challenges with CommunityWise (see graph below).



- Half of you became members 1 to 5 years ago, about a quarter more than 10 years ago (see graph below).



**What you had to say about working at CommunityWise...**

*“Being a part of a large, progressive community group like CommunityWise is integral to our work... CommunityWise does an exemplary job of providing a centre where all are welcome!”*

*“Being a CommunityWise member is important for reducing isolation for staff and providing a space for convening volunteers and meeting members of the community.”*

*“Being a part of CW allows us to reach a broader network of people.”*

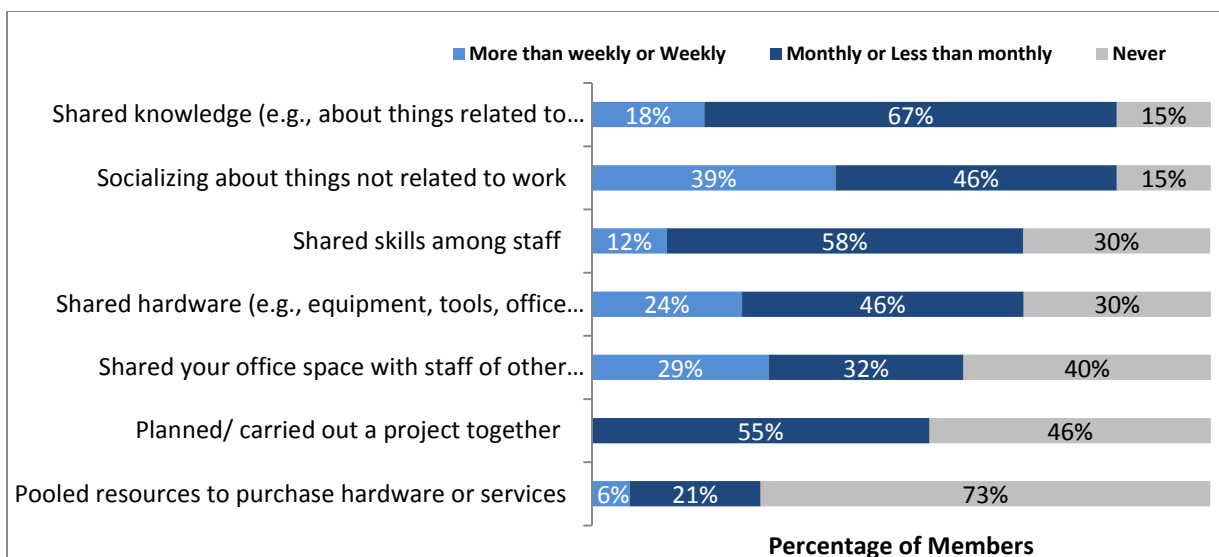
*“We really value the community that CW creates.”*



*CommunityWise Member Night, April 2015*

**Many member organizations feel collaboration is important, yet most collaboration is happening monthly or less than monthly**

- 77% of you felt that opportunity to collaborate with other members was important/very important and 67% felt that organized activities to socialize and network was important/ very important.
- More than half of CommunityWise Members report collaborating in different ways, though most collaboration was reported as happening monthly or less than monthly (see graph below).



**Your comments suggested that some of you collaborate quite a bit with other members...**

*“Tons! I have volunteered multiple times with my neighbours. I was a volunteer DJ, and ride leader with Two Wheel View. I have received input on projects, and access to resources through the membership and input from staff. CW staff connected me to Elder Service Corp.”*

**For others, things like lack of time and not renting space at CommunityWise get in the way of collaborating, but events are a good time for you to come together...**

*“We do not have a rented space at the centre. The only time we met members of the centre would be when we volunteered for CommunityWise casino events.”*

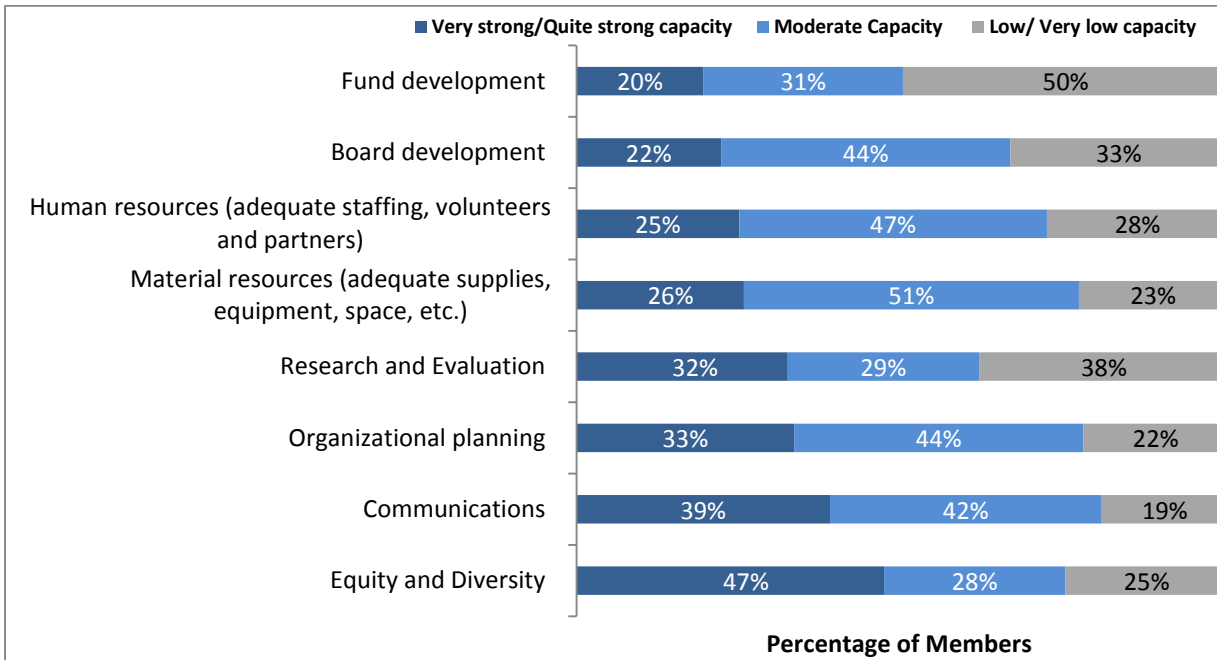
*“Unfortunately, due to our small numbers we have no have the opportunity to reach-out to other members.”*

**Many of you also suggested that you would like to collaborate more!**

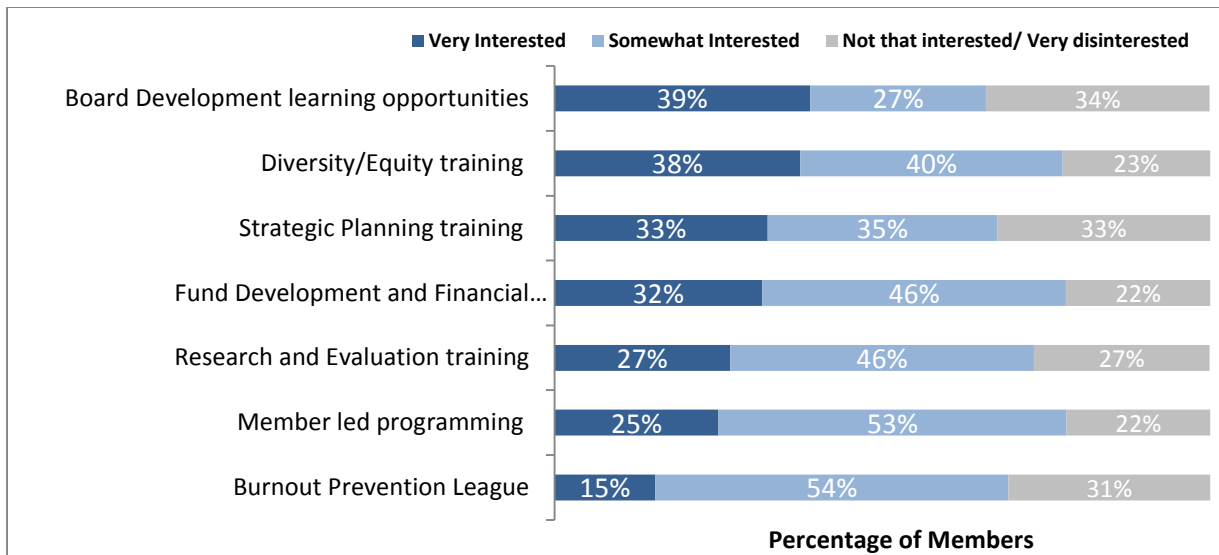
*“We have had preliminary discussions with several groups about exploring partnership opportunities. Having only been here since last August, we have yet to connect with everyone, but are confident that will happen over time.”*

**Few members report having strong capacity in many areas, but few members showed strong interest in programming and support in these areas**

- Less than 35% of CommunityWise Members reported having *Very strong/ Quite strong capacity* in most areas (see graph below). Fund development may be an area that needs more capacity development



- Though many of you did not report having strong capacity in different areas, less than 40% of you were interested in different types of programming and support options. Interestingly, though more of you listed equity and diversity training as an area with very strong/quite strong capacity, this was also an area that you showed the most interest in for programming and support (see graph below).



*Thank yous!*

- Dheny Rivas, CommunityWise Summer Student, for her survey development, member outreach and engagement, and final report
- Robyn Sachs, CommunityWise Evaluator, for putting together this summary report for members
- Reg Tiangha, CommunityWise Member, for the photos contained in this report
- And of course, thank you to everyone who completed a survey!



CommunityWise Members Night, August 2015