Your Investment
Thank you for your support of the Center’s work in Millinocket, Maine! With another year behind us, it’s clear that momentum and the town’s sense of pride is growing. The changes in Millinocket continue to garner national attention and wider local involvement. We are thrilled to be a part of this evolving story.

Millinocket Housing Initiative
We are happy to report that the Center’s renovated properties continue to be fully occupied. Most of our tenants are new to the community or have returned, eager to participate in its revitalization. They’ve commented on the town’s spirit, the number of activities, the abundance of trails, and the sense of opportunity many of them feel.

We’re also seeing positive gains in the town’s real estate market, where median sales prices have doubled over the past two years. This increase surpasses our early projections and has helped long-time homeowners rebuild equity for the first time in decades.

While we remain open to new real estate acquisitions in Millinocket, our commitment is to finalize our renovations and ensure that our current properties receive proper care and maintenance. We are very excited for the potential of 100 Katahdin Avenue, our largest property. Weather and contractor availability pushed back our schedule, but renovations are now well underway. We have installed a new rear foundation and are nearly finished with the building’s exterior. Plumbing, heating and electrical components will be installed shortly. Once renovations are completed in early summer, the space will provide for three new apartments that overlook Veteran’s Memorial Park.

Please see reverse for more.
Community Revitalization Programming

Outside of our investment fund, we continue to raise philanthropic support to lead complementary programs to attract and retain the next generation of residents to the town. This summer, using New Markets Tax Credits, we were able to bring $550,000 in grant funds to the Millinocket Library’s renovation, filling a crucial funding gap to finish the campaign. We also worked with Katahdin Area Trails to develop a business plan for their next phase of trail development and promotion of mountain biking and cross-country skiing trails.

Partnering with various stakeholders across the Katahdin region, we are developing a comprehensive wayfinding program to direct visitors to the surrounding recreational amenities.

Earlier this year, the Center and its partners secured Millinocket’s participation as one of three communities nationwide to take part in a multi-day design workshop put on by the Citizen’s Institute for Rural Design (CIRD). “The Town of Millinocket is extremely honored to have been selected from this highly competitive national pool of applicants,” said Cody McEwen, chair of the Millinocket Town Council. “We think its affirmation for the potential Millinocket has in its revitalization. The energy is high right now in the Katahdin region as we continue to work with our partners and community in redevelopment, and we’re ready to make some impactful change.” Ailish Keating, the Center’s Katahdin Program Manager, attended the first CIRD workshop in West Virginia on behalf of the town earlier this year.

Finally, we’re pleased to share that two of our Center team ran in the Millinocket Marathon this past weekend and brought back stories of restaurants overflowing with visitors, Penobscot Ave. crowded with booths of cookies and hot chocolate, and visitors from across the country impressed by the vitality and excitement apparent in the community. What an opportunity to introduce the community to thousands!

Again, thank you for joining with us in creating a model for rural community revitalization. Please let me know if you’re interested in a tour of our buildings or if you have any questions or input. We look forward to updating you on our progress in 2020!

Thank you.

Rob Riley