



## March 2018 Newsletter



### CCPA study calls for more support for projects like WestEnd Commons

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) study is calling for more support for subsidized housing that is coupled with social supports. The report features **a case study of MNPHA member WestEnd Commons.**

Opening its doors in 2014, WestEnd Commons provides 26-units of social and affordable housing with supports within the walls of St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Winnipeg's West End neighbourhood. Twenty units are for families with low incomes. Residents receive subsidies from Manitoba Housing that enable them to pay rents geared to income (RGI). RGI rates ensure that renters pay no more than between 25 to 30 percent of their household income on rent. The remaining six units are for families living on low to moderate incomes, where residents pay rents based at or below median private market rates.

Families in the 20 RGI units at WestEnd Commons described the complexities and precarity of

living in poverty, and how living in subsidized housing has helped to stabilize their families. One tenant said, "subsidies work for low income. I know I couldn't have been here this long without the subsidy. If I was paying regular rent I would have been out a long time ago."

[CLICK HERE](#) to read a summary of the CCPA report.



## Manitoba Government Releases Housing Consultations Report

In 2016/17, the Manitoba Government invited Manitobans to participate in province-wide consultations on housing issues to inform the development of a new Provincial Housing Strategy.

The response from individual Manitobans, organizations, community stakeholders and Manitoba Housing tenants was remarkable. A total of 1,392 responses from the online survey and 22 written submissions from organizations and individuals

were received.

The final report entitled "*What we Heard*" can be downloaded by clicking [HERE](#).



## Fundraiser for Make Poverty History

Make Poverty History Manitoba (MPHM) is presenting its second annual fundraising concert, **Thursday, March 22 at the West End Cultural Centre**. The concert will feature prominent local artists including award winning songwriter, Ridley Bent. The purpose of the event will be both to raise awareness about poverty and to raise funds to support their efforts to end poverty. Tickets for the concert are only \$20.

[More information about the concert.](#) (Scroll down a bit for concert info)

[Purchase tickets online.](#)



## CHRA responds to the 2018 Federal Budget

The Canadian Housing and Renewal Association released a response to the 2018 Federal Budget that was presented on February 27.

The budget announced allocations for Indigenous housing of

\$600 million over three years for a First Nations Housing Strategy, \$400 million over 10 years for an Inuit-led Housing Strategy, and \$500 million over 10 years for a Metis Nations' Housing Strategy. Furthermore, the Budget announced an increase in the Rental Construction Financing Initiative first introduced in Budget 2016 from \$2.5 billion to \$3.75 billion over the next three years. This program supports the construction of new rental housing; however, it has little impact on housing supply for Canada's most vulnerable populations.

"Although CHRA welcomes new investments in distinction-based housing for Inuit, Metis, and First Nations, the federal government must commit resources to a fourth housing stream, that being urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing" stated Stephan Corriveau, President of CHRA. "With the vast majority of Indigenous peoples living in urban centres, it is imperative that the federal government create a separate strategy and funding stream so that the housing challenges facing Indigenous peoples in urban settings can be properly addressed," he added.

Click [HERE to read](#) the full press release.

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## Job Board feature added to MNPHA website

Have a position you are trying to fill in your organization? MNPHA is now accepting job postings for display on its website.

The Job Board is located under the Resources tab on the [MNPHA home page](#).

To have your position added to the board, send the pertinent information to:

[execdir@mnpha.com](mailto:execdir@mnpha.com)



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