



May 2020 Newsletter

MNPCHA Member Resources

Suppliers of Disinfectant Products, Personal Protective Equipment, and other resources

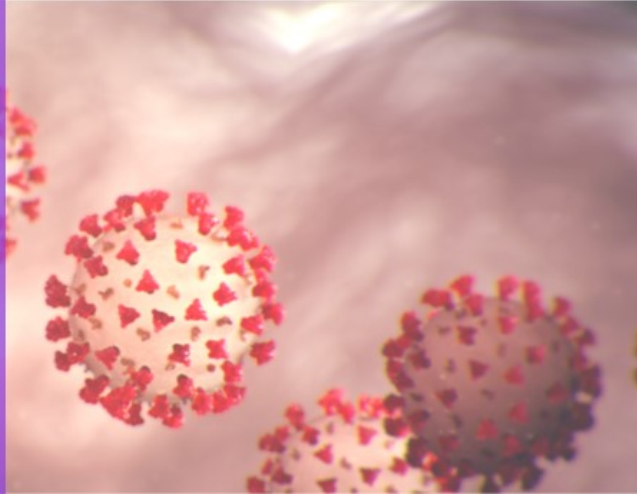
We have researched suppliers of various high-demand products related to COVID-19. Not all suppliers have products in stock at all times. If you would like more detailed contact information for them, please contact Si at membership@mnpha.com or by phone (204)997-4022.

- Disinfectant and cleaning supplies: [Complete Purchasing](#); [Wood Wyant](#); [Swish](#); [ZEP](#); [Jani-King](#); [Share Canada](#); [HD Supply](#); [Eco-Plus Sanitation](#); [Miracle Sanitation Supply](#); [Busy Bee Sanitary Supplies](#)
- Masks and Hand Sanitizer: [Seven Oaks Janitorial Services](#); [Scientific Supplies Centre](#)
- Gloves: [Seven Oaks Janitorial Services](#); [Scientific Supplies Centre](#)
- Face shields and Protective Goggles: [Scientific Supplies Centre](#)
- Wipes: [Staples Business Advantage](#) (eway, under Janitorial Supplies)

*note, Scientific Supplies Centre website is not easy to navigate. Contact Sales Manager Haider Hussain for up-to-date supply information: T: 204 990 1241

COVID-19 Resources for Non-Profit Housing Providers in Manitoba

[https://mnpha.com/
covid-19/](https://mnpha.com/covid-19/)

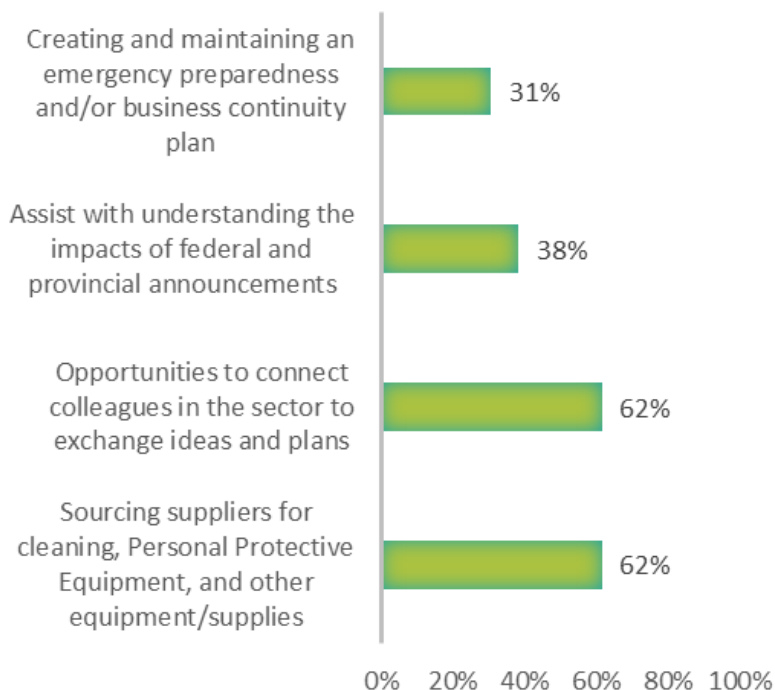


MNPHA has been sending members weekly COVID-19 related updates. If you are a member and do not receive these, please contact us to update your contact information.

You can also view our website for the most up-to-date COVID-19 resources and information relevant to non-profit housing providers, including information on Federal Government resources for landlords and tenants, Residential Tenancies Branch, Public Health, resources for employers, and more: <https://mnpha.com/covid-19/>

We have created a short survey for members on how COVID-19 is impacting you, and how MNPHA can best support you at this time. It should take 5-10 minutes to complete, and we are still accepting responses.

WAYS MNPHA CAN SUPPORT YOU/YOUR ORGANIZATION



The survey has been informing how MNPHA supports you and your organization at this time.

You can view the full [survey response summary here](#)

[Complete the Survey Now](#)



MNPHA's partner, Dulux Paints, is now offering Sani-Spray products.

Sani-Spray is designed for sanitizing, disinfecting, and deodorizing spaces.

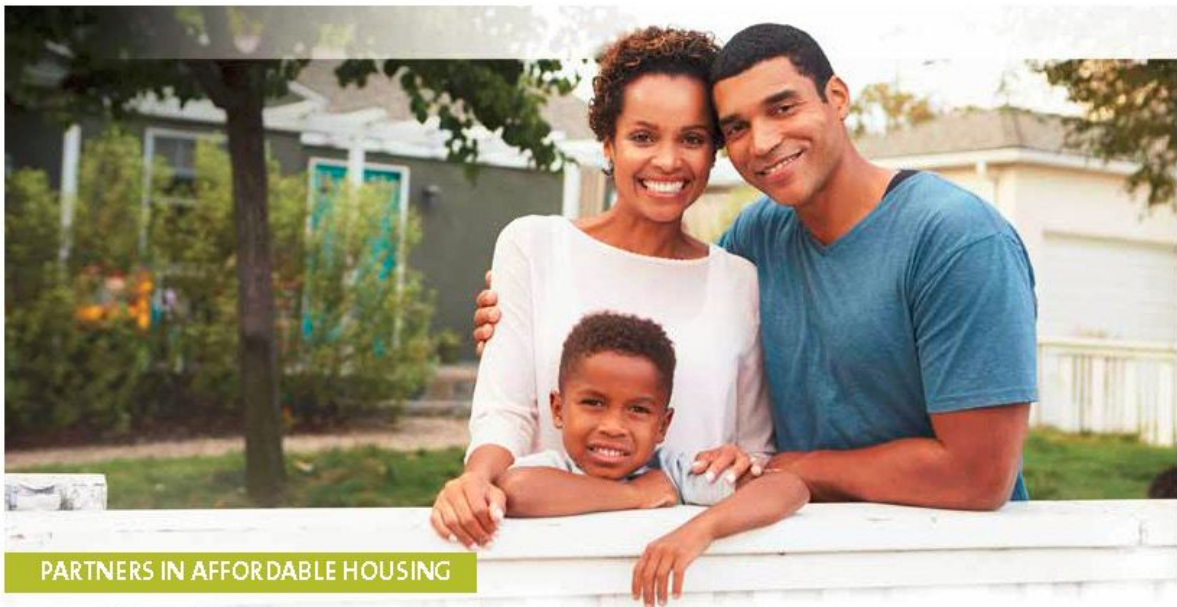
[Learn more](#)

For Pricing, contact **Alvin Bali** at:

abali@ppg.com

(431) 374-4214

www.dulux.ca



MNPHA is pleased to renew our partnership with Assiniboine Credit Union, CHF Canada, and HLC Consulting Inc. to provide preferred pricing on Building Condition Assessments and Capital Reserve Studies. Up to 5 organizations can access this benefit until March 31, 2021. Offered on a first come basis.

Benefits to Members

All MNPHA and CHF Canada members in good standing will receive access to:

- Preferred Pricing: 25% Discount on Building Condition Assessment Report (BCA) and Reserve Fund Studies (RFS)
- Grant: \$2,000 reimbursable grant towards cost of BCA
- Education: Access to FREE workshops on specific subjects:
- Understanding BCA content and benefits
- Understanding RFS content and benefits
- Understanding Financing options for renovations/new builds

[Learn more and apply today](#)

MNPHA Events



MNPHA Q & A: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT MAY 6, 9-10:00AM

Q & A with Chantelle Riddle-Yarycky,
Infection Prevention & Control Specialist,
WRHA

Register to add your questions to the agenda



MNPHA MEMBERS ONLY Q & A WITH RTB MAY 13, 9AM

Join us for an open Q & A with
Michelle Corrigan, A/Director of
Residential Tenancies Branch

Register with your questions by May 6
www.mnpha.com/education



MNPHA AGM and Board Nomination

MNPHA is planning to hold our Annual General Meeting on **June 26, 2020**. The date may change depending on the distancing measures in place at that time, and members will be notified with a full agenda at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.

MNPHA's Board of Directors currently has four directors up for re-election, and one vacancy.

Nominations for the Board of Directors are open, and will remain open up to seven days before the AGM. You are invited to send nominations by e-mail to the Nomination Committee at execdir@mnpha.com. Nominations should include:

- Name
- Organization (must be a housing provider member of MNPHA)
- A brief bio (1-2 sentences)
- A brief statement of interest (why you want to serve on the Board, 1-2 sentences)

This information will be provided to those voting at the AGM.

Government Relations

Assisting Renters

Manitoba's Rent Assist
in the Context of Canada's
National Housing Strategy



By Sarah Cooper,
Jesse Hajer and
Shayna Plaut



Assisting Renters Research Report

Rent Assist - a Manitoba rent supplement program introduced in 2014 - offers a unique approach to providing financial assistance to low-income Manitobans. Because eligibility for Rent Assist is solely income- and family size-based rather than tied to a particular unit or demographic, it has been identified as one of the more innovative rental supplement programs in the country. Therefore, when the 2017 National Housing Strategy was released with a provision for a portable rental supplement, Rent Assist was identified by housing advocates in Manitoba as a possible exemplar.

The Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association (MNPMA), the Canadian Centre for Policy

Alternatives-Manitoba (CCPAMB) and University of Manitoba researchers came together to study Manitoba's Rent Assist program and determine what is working, what is not working, and what can be better from the perspectives of tenants, private landlords, and non-profit housing providers throughout the province. The intent of this report is to share the insights and lessons learned for future national and provincial housing programs.

Read the [report and watch a video of the launch, here](#)

Read the [Opinion Article on Rent Assist as a response to COVID-19 published in the Toronto Star](#)

Recommendations for Provincial Response to COVID-19

MNPMA has submitted recommendations for the Province of Manitoba to support the non-profit housing sector and the thousands of Manitoba families it serves through this pandemic.

1. **Establish a provincial Rent Bank.** We support the Professional Property Managers Association proposal for a Rent Bank, provided to the Premier and Minister of Finance. Our members do not have the financial means to carry non-payment of rent. A number of provinces have long-established Rent Banks, which provide valuable emergency supports to renters who have a short-term loss of income. This initiative reduces the risk for landlords at this time, and provides renters immediate support until they can access other resources.
2. **Directly support renters.** Many of the people our sector serves are in very precarious financial situations; not all will be eligible for Federal programs or will have stable income once this crisis is over to be able to repay debts. Therefore, while a rent bank will serve a large number of people, there will also be a need for income support for renters. MNPMA recently completed a research project on the impact of Manitoba's Rent Assist program. We developed a number of recommendations to expand or adjust eligibility for Rent Assist so it can respond to the needs of low-income renters during the

COVID-19 pandemic.

3. **Directly support non-profit housing providers.** Many non-profit housing providers have fixed-rate subsidies or no funding agreement with government yet they provide internal subsidies or below-market rents. They have already seen increased costs associated COVID-19 due to increased cleaning, equipment, and transition to remote work. At the same time, they are seeing reduced revenues due to increasing arrears, inability to deal with vacant units, or rent adjustments.
4. **Develop and resource a response plan for the Residential Tenancies Branch once eviction hearings can be convened.** Manitoba acted fast to support renters and put a rent increase and eviction moratorium in place. MNPFA members are in the business of housing people, not evicting people, and are therefore supportive of these measures. However, we anticipate increased demand on the services of the Residential Tenancies Branch to support and respond to breaches in mediated agreements in the very near future, and as these restrictions are lifted. A swift response plan to have hearings for evictions or mediated agreements for payments must be in place. Waiting months for a hearing will only cause further strain on housing providers and tenants.

[Read the full letter sent to the Government of Manitoba on behalf of MNPFA](#)

Information and Updates

Supports and Resources for Housing Providers for COVID-19 Impacts

Emergency Community Support Fund

This new investment of \$350 million will support charities and non-profit organizations that deliver essential services to vulnerable Canadians.

The investments will flow through national organizations, including United Way Canada, the Canadian Red Cross, and the Community Foundations of Canada, to local community-based organizations that work with vulnerable populations, including seniors, persons with disabilities, members of LGBTQ2 communities, veterans, newcomers, women, children and youth, and members of Indigenous communities and racialized communities. Activities that will be funded include:

- increasing volunteer-based home deliveries of groceries and medications,
- providing transportation services, like accompanying or driving seniors or persons with disabilities to appointments,
- scaling up help lines that provide information and support,
- helping vulnerable Canadians access government benefits,
- providing training, supplies, and other required supports to volunteers so they can continue to make their invaluable contributions to the COVID-19 response, or
- replacing in-person, one-on-one contact and social gatherings with virtual contact through phone calls, texts, teleconferences, or the internet.

More details about how the fund will be implemented will be shared soon.

Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

The CEWS covers 75 per cent of an employee's wages - up to \$847 per week - for employers of all sizes and across all sectors who have suffered a drop in gross revenues of at least 15 per cent in March, and 30 per cent in April and May. The program will be in place for a 12-week period from March 15 to June 6, 2020.

An eligible employer's entitlement to the CEWS will be based entirely on the salary or wages actually paid to employees. All employers would be expected to at least make best efforts to top up salaries to 100 per cent of the maximum wages covered. Further information on the CEWS about eligibility and how to apply [can be accessed here](#).

The Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)

Provides interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 to small businesses and not-for-profits, to help cover their operating costs during a period where their revenues have been temporarily reduced.

To qualify, organizations will need to demonstrate they paid between \$20,000 to \$1.5 million in total payroll in 2019. Apply through your regular bank or credit unions. [Learn more here](#).

The Temporary 10% Wage Subsidy

This is a three-month measure that will allow eligible employers to reduce the amount of payroll deduction required to be remitted to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). You are an eligible employer if you:

- are a(n):
 - individual (excluding trusts),
 - partnership,
 - non-profit organization,
 - registered charity, or
 - Canadian-controlled private corporation (including a cooperative corporation) eligible for the small business deduction;
- have an existing business number and payroll program account with the CRA on March 18, 2020; and
- pay salary, wages, bonuses, or other remuneration to an eligible employee.

Access this program through your payroll remittance. [Learn more here](#).

Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)

This program will lower rent by 75 per cent for small businesses that have been affected by COVID-19. The program will provide forgivable loans to qualifying commercial property owners to cover 50% of three monthly rent payments that are payable by eligible small business tenants who are experiencing financial hardship during April, May, and June.

The loans will be forgiven if the mortgaged property owner agrees to reduce the small business tenants' rent by at least 75% under a rent forgiveness agreement, which will include a term not to evict the tenant while the agreement is in place. The small business tenant would cover the remainder, up to 25% of the rent. Program information will be [available mid-May here](#).

Province of Manitoba Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program

The Summer Student Recovery Jobs Program promotes the hiring of high school and post-secondary students who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program provides wage subsidies of up to \$7/hour for up to 5 students to employers from the private and not-for-profit sectors to employ students aged 15 to 29.

The organization must not be receiving any other COVID-19 related financial support from the Government of Canada for any positions. [Learn more and apply here](#).

Help an isolated senior

Just a quick call to 311 connects seniors with help during the COVID-19 pandemic

Grocery
Delivery



Medication
Delivery



Social
Services



Phone
Wellness
Check



Funded by the Government of
Canada's New Horizons for
Seniors Program

Canada

Winnipeg

THE
WINNIPEG
FOUNDATION

A&O
Support Services
for Older Adults

WINNIPEG
HARVEST

CAA

United Way
Winnipeg



Community Housing
Transformation Centre
Centre de transformation
du logement communautaire

The Centre Launches the "Indigenous Housing Databases Project"

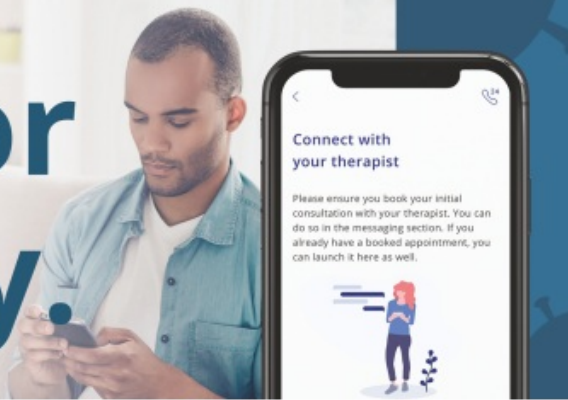
As part of their strong commitment to Indigenous communities, the Community Housing Transformation Centre has launched a major project to build three Indigenous-specific databases. This contract project is being undertaken by Louise Atkins, Principal Consultant, with Michael Rice and Catherine Boucher as Associates.

Over the next four months, they have very ambitious targets to achieve! To build the three Indigenous Databases, they will be seeking:

- 50 to 100 Volunteer Grant Proposal Reviewers.
- 500 + resources tailored to Indigenous and Indigenous-serving Housing and Homelessness service providers.
- 300 Indigenous-focused Housing and Homelessness service providers and related Indigenous Organizations.

They will be reaching out to Indigenous housing organizations shortly. Should you have any questions, or want to learn more, please do not hesitate to contact Louise Atkins, Principal Consultant, la.db@sympatico.ca

Help for anxiety.



NEW Digital Therapy Program Now Available

If you are 16 or older, you can access a **free and confidential** digital mental health therapy program to help address anxiety symptoms brought on by the challenging aspects of the pandemic:

- uncertainty
- social isolation
- caring for family and community members
- information overload and stress management

The Manitoba government is offering this program as part of a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Go to manitoba.ca/covid19 to get started today

Need help now?

- **Klinic Crisis Line**
204-786-8686 or 1-888-322-3019
TTY 204-784-4097
- **Manitoba Suicide Prevention & Support Line**
1-877-435-7170 (1-877-HELP170)
- **Kids Help Phone**
1-800-668-6868
- **Manitoba Addictions Hotline**
1-855-662-6605
- **Klinic Sexual Assault Crisis Line**
204-786-8631 or 1-888-292-7565
TTY 204-784-4097
- **Manitoba Farm, Rural & Northern Support Services**
supportline.ca - online counselling
1-866-367-3276 (hours Mon-Fri 10 am to 9 pm)
- **First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line**
1 855 242-331

manitoba.ca/covid19



PEOPLE FIRST HR SERVICES

Ask The Expert: COVID-19 and Work From Home

COVID-19 has created a new business operating environment. With little chance to prepare, employees in many sectors are suddenly working remotely to protect themselves and others and ensure compliance with physical distancing requirements. This forced transition to remote work has proven to be a difficult task for employers who do not have established processes. Although not every workplace is perfectly suited to remote work, most industries have roles or tasks that can be effectively completed outside of regular 'office' environments. The challenge is to identify these roles, and once identified, provide structure and guidance so those working from home are productive, and not isolated.

Despite the many challenges COVID-19 presents, there are benefits to employees working from home. Employees will feel trusted, valued, cared for, and, most importantly, that their workplace health and safety are your priority. When moving your teams to remote work, consider the following tips:

- Be realistic
- Set clear expectations
- Adapt leadership styles
- Embrace new technology
- Location
- Trust

Read the [full article here](#)

MNPHA's partnership with People First HR provides discounted access to HR @ Your Service. To learn more about the program, go to:

<https://mnpha.com/membership/partnership-programs/>

Additional HR Resources for COVID-19 Response

- Province of Manitoba information on [how to ensure safe, healthy, workplaces](#)
 - Temporary amendments to [Termination of Employment Regulations](#)
 - Public Health [Emergency Leave information](#)
 - Key responsibilities of [employees, managers, and employers](#)
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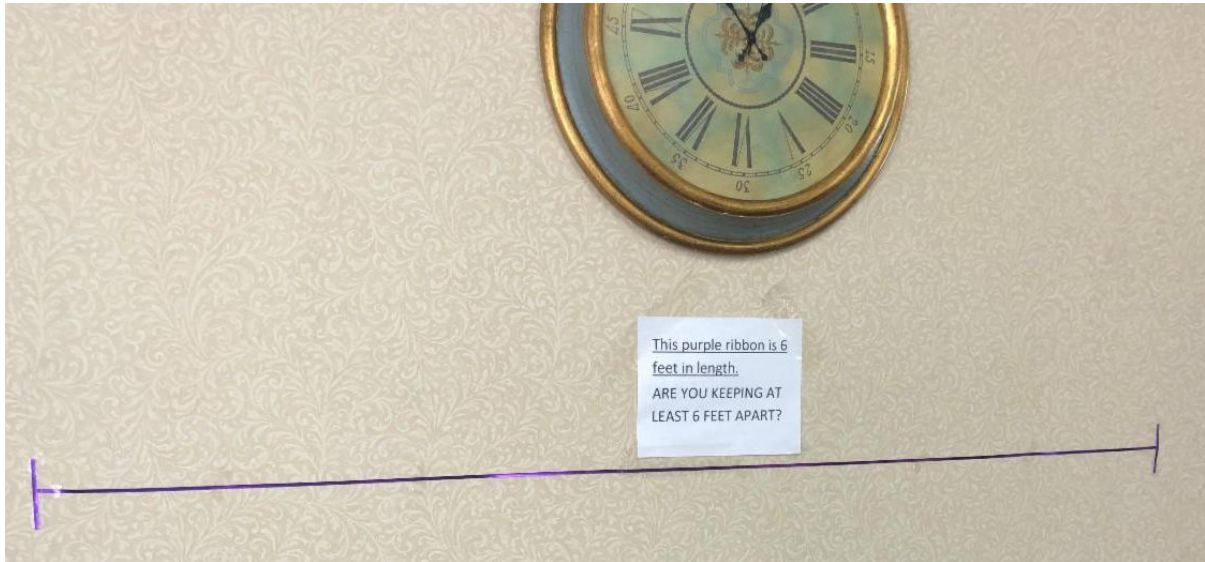
Webinar: New FCM funding for sustainable affordable housing

Are you a non-profit housing provider interested in upgrading your affordable rental units? Are you planning a new capital project and looking for support to make it a winner?

Join FCM and the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) on May 6, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. to find out what you need to know about applying for the Green Municipal Fund's next funding initiative - Sustainable Affordable Housing.

[Learn more and register.](#)

Picture of the Month



May Picture of the Month: Ribbon Marking

Bethel Place has taped a 6ft colorful ribbon on the wall as a visual reminder for tenants to keep distance with each other.

Picture of the Month Feature! As MNPHA's team has been visiting our members, we have seen all the interesting, fun, and innovative things you do to improve the lives of tenants, your staff teams, and the communities around you. We wanted to find a way to share this regularly so members can learn from each other.

Newsletters include "Pictures of the Month" - no idea is too simple or too complex. If you are doing something you think should be shared with your colleagues in the non-profit housing sector, send a photo and brief description to us by May 29 to be included in the June newsletter.

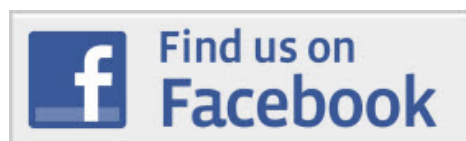
Opportunities Board

Did you know that MNPHA's job postings are the most "clicked" item in our newsletter?

Do you have a position you are trying to fill in your organization? MNPHA is always accepting job and volunteer postings for display on our website.

The Job Board is located under the Resources tab on the [MNPFA website](#).

To have your position added to the board, send the pertinent information to: execdir@mnpha.com



Are you on Facebook?
MNPFA is too.

Click [HERE](#) to visit our page.

See what's happening on our social sites:



**Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association | execdir@mnpha.com | 204-797-6746
| www.mnpha.com**