



May 2021 Members Newsletter

Spring has finally sprung! We hope you are all enjoying the warmer weather, and finding safe ways to see loved ones despite current restrictions. This 3rd wave will be challenging for everyone, and as we know lower income, Indigenous, Black, and racialized people are disproportionately affected by COVID, and may need extra support at this time. If you have tenants that are struggling we encourage you to direct them to SEED Winnipeg's [Community Financial Helpline](#) and/or this [BIPOC Mental Health Worker list](#). We are also available for questions and will do our best to find answers, so please don't hesitate to reach out.

MNPCHA NEWS



Update on New Funding Initiatives

As you may already know, MNPCHA has received funding from the Province of Manitoba to create programming that will provide housing stability to homeless individuals or those who are most at risk of becoming homeless.

The **Manitoba Rent Relief Fund** is primarily intended to provide financial support to those who may be at risk of losing their housing because of rent or utility arrears. The fund offers a no interest loan with flexible repayment options. To be notified about when funding becomes available, which will be very soon, you can visit our website www.manitobahelps.com and sign up for updates. If you are a housing provider or organization interested in learning more, please contact us at supports@mnpha.com.

The second fund, the **Housing Supports Initiative**, will provide grants to Manitoba organizations to stabilize tenancies by enhancing existing supports for housing providers, and filling gaps in eviction prevention. MNPCHA will be holding four focus groups in May with various community organizations and housing providers to help identify priorities for funding. An invitation will be going out shortly. If your organization would like to be involved in the focus groups, please contact us at supports@mnpha.com. Once priorities are defined, a broad call for proposals will be developed and launched most likely this summer.

Keep your eyes on our newsletters and website for further development.

SECTOR NEWS

CHRA Becomes National Coordinator for Chartered Institute of Housing Canada

The Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) recently announced that it has entered into a partnership agreement with the Chartered Institute of Housing Canada (CIH Canada) whereby CHRA will serve as the new national coordinator for CIH Canada, effective May 1, 2021.

CIH Canada is the national program for education, professional standards and accreditation in Canada's affordable and social housing sector. CIH Canada offers training, coaching and resources to housing professionals and people interested in working in housing. To read more about CIH click [here](#).

Non-Profit Organizations to Develop Supportive Recovery Housing Units in Rural and Northern Manitoba

In November 2019, the province issued a request for proposals to add supportive recovery housing units to the health-care system as part of continuing efforts to strengthen mental health and addiction services. In June 2020, \$2.1 million in funding was awarded to Siloam Mission, Riverwood Church Community Inc. and Tamarack Recovery Inc. to develop 70 supportive recovery housing units in Winnipeg.

As part of the same initiative Men Are Part of the Solution Inc. (MAPS), based in Thompson, will provide an additional 12 units in the northern region targeted to women, while Community Health and Housing Association Westman Region Inc. will provide 9 units for the Brandon region. These new projects will provide the first supportive recovery housing units in rural and northern Manitoba.

For more information about Manitoba's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy head [here](#).

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES


Call for Building Partnerships Conference Committee Members

MNPHA is jumping into planning our 2021 conference, which will be held in November, and are seeking conference committee members! As a committee member you will help shape the content of the conference through brainstorming session topics and potential speakers, and will have a hand in what we anticipate will be a very successful event.

We are specifically looking for additional conference committee members who:

- Are from outside of Winnipeg
- Are from an Indigenous organization

If you are interested please contact Beth at membership@mnpha.com.



Canada - Manitoba Housing Benefit Info Session May 3rd at 12pm

On May 3rd Carly Duboff and Alexie Turchette from Manitoba Housing are joining us for a virtual info session and Q&A about the Canada - Manitoba Housing Benefit.

On **May 3rd from noon to 1pm** Carly Duboff and Alexie Turchette from Manitoba Housing are joining us for an info session and Q&A via Zoom about the Canada - Manitoba Housing Benefit.

Please send questions in advance to Beth at membership@mnpha.com.

Info Session
Registration

MNPHA's AGM Set for September 17

This year MNPHA hold our Annual General Meeting in the early fall to avoid conflicts with other organization's AGMs. We'd love to see you there so please save the date! More information to come.

MNPHA will be seeking two new Board Members at that time. Per MNPHA's bylaws, at least one of the new members must be from an Indigenous organization. If you want more information, [contact Christina](#)

Save the Date for Building Boards

Calling all Board Members! MNPHA has designed Level 2 of our board training program, tailored to board members serving the non-profit housing sector. Whether you're new to non-profit board governance, new to a housing-focused organization, or experienced in both, this custom-designed training for the non-profit housing sector in Manitoba is for you. This next round focuses on strategic planning, financial oversight, and bylaws, policies, and compliance. Registration will be open by mid-May, with the course taking place throughout June. The course is online, self-directed, and takes 2-3 hours to complete.



Housing Supply Challenge: Round 2 – Getting Started: Pre-development Processes Webinar May 12 at 12:30pm

The Housing Supply Challenge is inviting proposals for innovative solutions to barriers that limit the creation of new housing. The Challenge has up to \$300M available, and is aiming to address obstacles to housing supply and affordability while enhancing community engagement. On May 12 from 12:30 to 1:30pm, CMHC is hosting a webinar about the funding for Expert on Community Housing (ECOH) members. For more information about how to become an ECOH member and to register for the webinar head [here](#).

Funding for Youth Employment (Manitoba Youth Jobs and Manitoba Green Team)

The new Manitoba Youth Jobs Program will provide employers a 50 per cent subsidy on wages paid to eligible employees during the program period of May to September 2021, with a maximum of up to \$25,000 per employer.

The Green Team grant program can provide non-profit organizations in Winnipeg and rural Manitoba 100% of wage costs and \$250 per position for support costs.

For more information about the Green Team program see www.manitobago.ca and for the Manitoba Youth Jobs Program see <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/programs/youth-jobs.html>.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Rent Increase Freeze and Education Property Tax Rebate

MNPHA is seeking clarity on the rent increase freeze for 2022 and 2023, in particular for organizations that are exempt from the education property tax. The Residential Tenancies Branch is still in the process of confirming all of the finer details on this rent increase freeze. We are also recommending that we collaborate with the provincial government to develop a replacement to the Elderly and Infirm Persons Housing Act as the education tax benefits will be reduced now that all properties receive a rebate. You can see the letter submitted to Premier Pallister on this [here](#).

MNPHA Gathers Data to Assess Viability of Post-85 Agreement Holders

Government officials have suggested that they believe post 85 projects will be viable without

additional or new subsidy as these agreements expire. MNPFA is working with Steve Pomeroy to collect key data from each provider for each of their post 85 agreements, in order to quantify the issue, associated risks and options to address any viability problems. If you have a post 85 agreement and did not receive our survey link, please [contact Beth](#) before May 15.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH!



On April 26, The Honourable Dan Vandal and Terry Duguid M.P. held a round table on the housing announcements in the 2021-22 Federal budget.

MNPFA and the other participants commended the government for increasing the Rapid Housing Initiative and Reaching Home Funding in response to COVID-19, however expressed disappointment with the lack of funding for an Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy despite the clear urgency of need.

See more of MNPFA's comments on the federal budget in the Winnipeg Free Press [here](#) and see CHRA's summary of the budget [here](#).

MNPFA's team has seen all the interesting, fun, and innovative things you do to improve the lives of tenants, your staff teams, and the communities around you.

"Pictures of the Month" is a way to share this regularly so members can learn from each other. 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 28 to be included in the June newsletter.



New Community Clinics Will Support Covid-19 Vaccine Uptake Among Urban Indigenous People

The Manitoba government has partnered with five community organizations to establish new Indigenous-led COVID-19 immunization clinics. This initiative will help support better access and uptake of immunization among Indigenous people, who have been most seriously and disproportionately affected by the virus. For the full press release and more information [click](#)

[here.](#)

Other recent COVID-19 Resources and Updates:

- People booking a COVID-19 vaccine over the phone can now access service in over 100 languages, and can request a professional interpreter for appointments at super sites. Read details [here](#)
- Transportation information is available through 211. Once an eligible person has a confirmed COVID-19 appointment, they can call 211 with the date, time and location. The 211 navigators will help them identify available options and connect them with the transportation provider they choose. Individuals are responsible for the cost of their transportation service, which could include handi-transit, taxi or a shuttle service. [Learn more here](#)
- Community-based vaccine eligibility means anyone aged 18+ living in the following areas qualify for vaccination:
 - Brandon: East End, Brandon Downtown
 - Winnipeg: Inkster West, Inkster East, Fort Garry South, Point Douglas North, Point Douglas South, Downtown West, Downtown East, Inkster East, Seven Oaks West
 - Powerview-Pine Falls
 - The Northern Health Authority
 - Learn more about community-based vaccine eligibility [here](#)

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