



MNPCHA NEWS



Registration Open: 2023 National Congress on Housing and Homelessness

The annual **Building Partnerships conference** is going to be held in partnership with the **Canadian Housing and Renewal Association's National Congress on Housing and Homelessness**, April 18-20 at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg. A great opportunity to learn about national trends and initiatives in community housing, to connect with colleagues across the country, and to show Manitoba's unique contributions to community housing. Have your say on key issues, learn about the latest developments in the sector, and get inspired for the future!

Register for this year's Congress to:

- enjoy information sessions and workshops on topics of critical importance for the community housing sector
- hear from leaders in the Canadian housing sector
- celebrate leading individuals and organizations within the sector with CHRA's National Awards
- focus on urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing at the first ever full-day Indigenous Innovation Forum
- connect with Indigenous community housing providers at the Indigenous Caucus meeting
- hear about the newest innovations and transformations in the sector
- make new connections and catch up with your colleagues
- connect with businesses and suppliers at the CHRA Tradeshow, and more!

MNPCHA members register at cost, receiving a substantial registration discount (\$350/person rather than \$775)!

[To learn more about this year's Housing Congress click here](#)



Ask the Lawyer. Submit your question!

The Building Partnership Conference will be featuring an "Ask the Lawyer" session with [Kristen Wittman](#), partner from Taylor McCaffrey.

We are taking questions, whether about confidentiality/privacy, creating bylaws, human resources, selling or purchasing assets. This is your chance to get your questions answered.

Deadline 5pm April 3rd.

[SUBMIT QUESTION HERE](#)

HOUSING NEWS

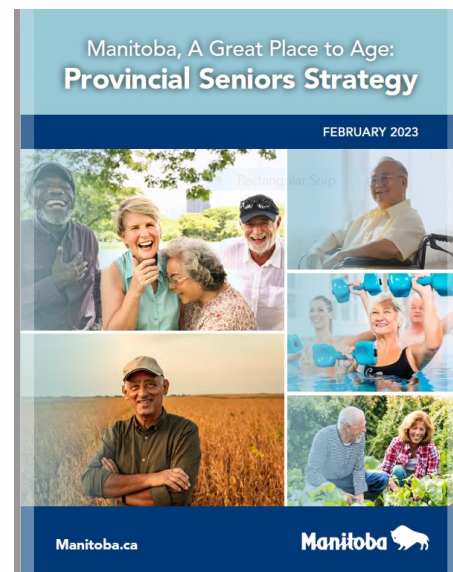
Five Things to Know about Manitoba's Seniors Strategy

The newly created Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care developed a [Strategy to make Manitoba a Great Place to Age](#). Their process of co-development involved collaboration with a diversity of stakeholders including seniors, families, caregivers, front-line service providers, senior serving organizations, clinical services, and various government departments. The Department has committed to ongoing collaboration and partnership in the implementation of the strategy, which will include a partnership and advisory structure that supports integration and communication, as well as a performance framework.

MNPHA was pleased to participate in this co-design, which to date has been an integrated, engaging, and effective strategy development initiative. Here are five things for the Community Housing sector to know about the strategy:

1. The goal of the strategy is for Manitobans to live vibrant and independent lives that allow each to age in our home or communities for as long as we wish and for as long as it is safe to do so. The vision for Manitoba's seniors strategy is older Manitobans are valued and empowered to live healthy and productive lives in our communities, making Manitoba an ideal place to age.
2. Strengthening home care, in every setting, is foundational.
3. The concept of a village shapes the vision for communities in the future. These villages can be physical or virtual, and include a range of supports and services that can support Manitobans as we age on a continuum.
4. There are not clear or commonly understood definitions of the various types of housing seniors are accessing. The strategy aims to explore how capacity can be increased and how to define the role and types of housing settings with services (including independent living, assisted living, and supportive housing), leveraging village and multi-generational housing models that include co-locating other services and supports, while taking into consideration affordability and safety.
5. In addition to defining the roles and types of housing, the strategy will also involve developing quality standards, guidelines, and governance for seniors services delivered by public, not-for-profit and private providers, with an initial focus on seniors housing, home care and personal care homes.

[Click here for a direct link to the Manitoba Seniors Strategy](#)

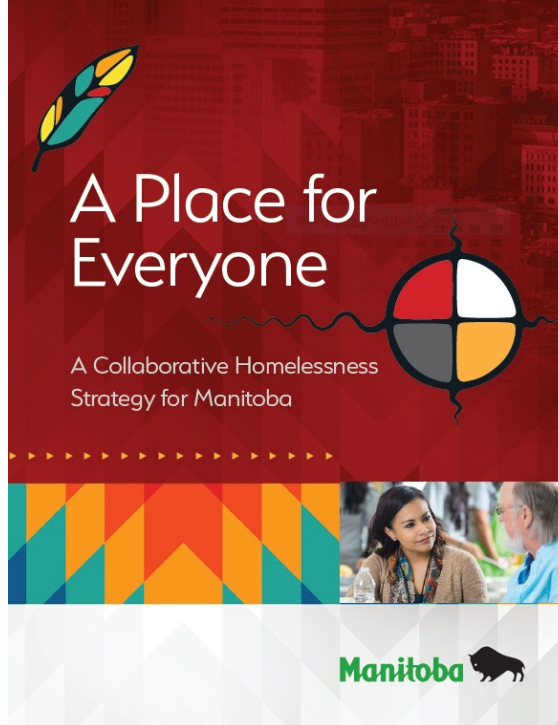


Ten Things to Know about Manitoba's Homelessness Strategy

Manitoba has released its [homelessness strategy](#), announced in the 2022 throne speech and developed over the year through consultation internal and external to government.

The homelessness strategy includes initiatives that will impact a variety of sectors and stakeholders. This analysis focuses on the initiatives related to the Community Housing sector. A number of initiatives respond to MNPHA's longstanding policy objectives: new supply of community housing, capital funding for community housing, and supports within community housing.

1. New social housing units will be created. This will begin with 700 in 2023/24, a welcome contribution after many years with limited new supply.
2. The planning and development of these units will be led by Manitoba Housing. This is also a welcome shift, as the non-profit and cooperative housing sector has had to piece together funding from various levels of government and charitable donations to develop housing since the release of the National Housing Strategy, without a clear and ongoing source of funds at the provincial level.
3. These 700 new units will be created through a combination of construction, acquisition, and rent supplement agreements, with 400 of them being rent supplement. While substantially more than 300 new units are needed to meet demand, there are benefits to the immediacy of rent supplements and it means that some non-profits that have units available at market rents could potentially access the supplement to be able to offer rent-geared-to-income units to individuals experiencing homelessness.
4. The government is increasing the maintenance budget for social housing to deal with vacancies that occur due to units requiring repair. The extent of this increase is unknown until the budget comes out, March 7.
5. Support for tenants, through a variety of methods and a continuum of need, is included. These support services include staffing in new supported housing facilities, and three levels of service for tenants: low levels of need for those who only require minor housing assistance; medium intensity to facilitate access to provincial health and social services; and high intensity for clinical supports and assistance with daily living.
6. Capital funding and operational funding for transitional housing projects are included in the strategy, expanding the diversity and availability of transitional housing for those who need it. Only projects in Winnipeg are identified at this time.
7. An EIA-equivalent assistance fund is being developed for those who are waiting for intake and assistance to EIA. This will support rapid access to housing for those who do not yet have income supports.
8. [The Rent Relief Fund](#), which MNPHA has developed over the past two years, will continue and will be evaluated for one more year. As of December 31, 2022, the Fund has supported over 875 households to prevent eviction, including many in community housing who would likely experience homelessness if they were evicted from the rent-geared-to-income home.
9. Manitoba Housing is doubling the Bed Bug Grant program, which funds community agencies to support clients in dealing with pests.
10. [The Housing Supports Initiative](#) is being extended, with funding from 2023-25. This funding has supported 19 different projects across Manitoba to support tenants in accessing case management, housing supports, eviction prevention, and to build the capacity of the non-profit sector to provide housing to those experiencing and at risk of homelessness.



[Click here for a direct link to the Manitoba Homelessness Strategy](#)

Highlights from the Diversity and Inclusion Workshop

February kicked off with a three week learning series with Nina Condo and Jackie Hogue. Attendees learned that opening our doors to diversity wasn't enough.

We reviewed why and how to support diversity and inclusion in our workplaces by reflecting on the following questions:

- > Is there a plan for movement that stretches people beyond the usual practices and typical power relations?
- > Who speaks more, or with a greater sense of confidence?
- > Who speaks less, or more tentatively?
- > Who is acknowledged? Who is ignored?



Nina kindly agreed we could share the "cost of doing nothing" table with you.

For an easy to understand review of systemic racism [click here](#)

A banner for the Urban Indigenous Housing Forum. On the left is a photograph of a modern, multi-story apartment building with a curved facade. On the right, a dark teal background contains white text. The title "URBAN INDIGENOUS HOUSING FORUM" is at the top. Below it, the agenda is listed: "Agenda to include: Manitoba Housing CEO and Executive Director discussion and updates, Training from Manitoba Housing Standards & Quality Compliance on Core Policy Awareness, followed by a round table." The date and time "FRIDAY, MARCH 17 9:00AM - 3:30PM" and location "CANAD INNS DESTINATION CENTRE POLO PARK" are listed below. At the bottom right, it says "Learn more at mnpha.com/education" and features the MNPHA logo.

URBAN INDIGENOUS HOUSING FORUM

Agenda to include: Manitoba Housing CEO and Executive Director discussion and updates, Training from Manitoba Housing Standards & Quality Compliance on Core Policy Awareness, followed by a round table.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17 9:00AM - 3:30PM

CANAD INNS DESTINATION CENTRE POLO PARK

Learn more at mnpha.com/education

MNPHA

Urban Indigenous-led housing organizations in Manitoba are invited to attend the annual Indigenous Housing Provider Forum. This session is only open to Indigenous-led housing organizations. The forum is designed to bring Indigenous organizations together to network, learn from each other, and engage in the issues impacting them.

This year's agenda includes a discussion with Manitoba Housing's CEO and/or Director of Portfolio Management; Policies, Standards, and Practices: Training from Manitoba Housing Standards & Quality Compliance on Core Policy Awareness, followed by round-table discussion on practices, challenges, and solutions; and a presentation on good practices for pest control.

[Register Now](#)



**Telelink: 145,295 categorized calls.
One maintenance trends report.**

From metropolitan condos to affordable housing, and seniors' accommodations, Telelink's report covers it all.

Get insight into Canadian property management trends from 2022.

[Get the
Report](#)

1.2M renters yet to apply for Canada Housing Benefit, and time's running out

Low-income renters in Canada have less than six weeks left to apply for the one-time \$500 [Canada Housing Benefit](#). The government of Canada encourages [eligible renters](#) who have yet to apply for this non-taxable and non-reportable benefit, to submit their application ahead of March 31.



The federal government launched the benefit on Dec. 12 to assist lower-income individuals and families "who struggle with the cost of rent." So far, more than 500,000 Canadians have applied and 1.2 million [renters](#) have yet to apply to receive the benefit.

Please Note: while EIA does not consider this income and will not reduce benefits due to receiving it, renters who have EIA pay their rent directly do not qualify.



Housing Supports Initiative Profile: Sara Riel helps Tenants at the McLaren Hotel

Last month Tara Snider, Executive Director of Sara Riel, invited MNPHA's Cheryl Krostewitz and Jo Dworschak for a meeting and tour of the McLaren Hotel. This historic hotel has 150 single room occupancy units. With program funding from the [Housing Supports Initiative](#), Sara Riel has a case manager and community mental health worker supporting 130 people on-site each day.

At this time, tenants have limited access to running water, no kitchen in the building, and microwaves and toasters causing breakers to overload.

While many had assumed the tenants were previously homeless a tenant survey confirmed 70% of tenants were living in better accommodations, but moving to McLaren prevented them from experiencing homelessness. There are renovation plans for each unit to have its own bathroom, and two large communal kitchens would be added to the building, both the ideas from the current tenants. It was wonderful to see the passion and commitment of all those involved in making a positive impact on the lives of those who call the hotel their home.

EDUCATION AND EVENTS



TODAY'S NON-PROFIT CHALLENGES

FROM THE LIFE LEASE GOVERNANCE TRAINING SERIES:

Thursday, March 23 - 10 AM to 2:00 PM
Bourkevale Community Centre
100 Ferry Road, Winnipeg



Life Lease Governance Training: Today's Non-Profit Challenges

Wendy Bulloch from Building Up has created materials and topics specific to Life Lease governance based on feedback from Boards, Management, and Tenant Representatives about their training needs.

The workshop includes case studies of Manitoba Life Lease Boards that have been successful in the areas of tenant representation, and covers board director responsibilities, reviewing bylaws, succession planning, and orienting new board members. It is in person, includes a light lunch and is free of charge.

March 23, 9:00am-2:00pm, Bourkevale Community Centre in Winnipeg

Hosted in partnership with the Manitoba Life Lease Occupants Association, and funded by the Community Housing Transformat

Register Now



HOMELESSNESS 101

This special workshop, led by social policy consultant Nick Falvo will explore the national homelessness landscape, the major factors that drive homelessness, emerging themes, and policy solutions.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21ST 9:00AM - 4:00PM
SILOAM MISSION, 300 PRINCESS STREET, WINNIPEG

Learn more at mnpha.com/education



Homelessness 101

Dr. Nick Falvo is internationally recognized as one of Canada's most prominent researchers in affordable housing and homelessness.

This special workshop, led by social policy consultant Nick Falvo will explore the national homelessness landscape, the major factors that drive homelessness, emerging themes and policy solutions.

*If cost is a barrier to attending this session, please reach out to us at membership@mnpha.com.

April 21, 9:00am to 4:00pm at Siloam Mission, 300 Princess St, Winnipeg

Register Now



HOUSING DAY

Manitoba's annual Housing Day is a members-only event that will share the successes and challenges of the affordable housing sector with elected officials.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10 - FRIDAY, MAY 12

Learn more at mnpha.com/education-and-events



Manitoba Housing Day

Our province is currently facing high rates of homelessness, a lack of dignified housing for seniors, and housing affordability challenges impacting thousands of renter households. There are billions of dollars' worth of assets in affordable non-profit and public housing in Manitoba that will soon be mortgage-free and have increased flexibility to serve the next generation of Manitobans. Yet, these assets require rejuvenation including repairs and modernization.

Housing Day is a chance for MNP members to share their experiences, stories, and solutions to Manitoba's housing challenges with elected leaders.

This is a member only event and registration will be limited to 2 people per organization.

AGENDA:

May 10, 2023 – 12 Noon – 4:30 PM

- Introduction, presentation on key messages and discussions
- How to talk with Government – presentation on Advocacy 101
- Other speakers (Lobbyist, Media, and Government officials)

May 10, 2023 – 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

- Meet and greet with MLAs at a casual networking event

May 11 – 12, 2023 – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

- Different groups meet with Provincial Party Caucuses

* Date and time for the meeting with the party caucus will be sent as soon as the meetings are confirmed.

Register Now

Affordable Housing Development 101

[Canadian Network of Community Land Trusts](#) is offering Affordable Housing Development 101. The workshop covers the basic information a non-profit need to know to create affordable housing in Canada. The presentation identifies the different types of affordable housing (mixed, supportive, etc.), types of development (new construction, acquisition, redevelopment), 3 core elements (land, capital & capacity) to a project, the project team, development stages and the financial basics to make your project viable. Throughout the presentation Cahdco demonstrates the content with case study examples of recently completed affordable housing projects.

March 22, 1-3pm CT, click here to [Register](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Murdoch Management is looking to hire a full-time maintenance caretaker (37.5 hours per week) for a 55+/Seniors building in southwest Winnipeg, with responsibilities for cleaning, garbage duties, yard and exterior maintenance including grass cutting and snow shoveling, and with handyman skills for basic maintenance. This can also be a live-in position with a rent benefit. We are also willing to consider a caretaker couple/duo to split the work and duties. Wage begins at \$32,000 annually with an additional rent benefit to be discussed. The employee will be under the direction of management and would be provided a list of duties but the employee will need to be able to work with minimal supervision.

Please send your resume to Dennis@lifelease.ca or inquire should you have interest.

Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association | www.mnpha.com
membership@mnpha.com | (204)797-6746 ext.3

