



## HOUSING NEWS

### Manitoba Housing Day Highlights

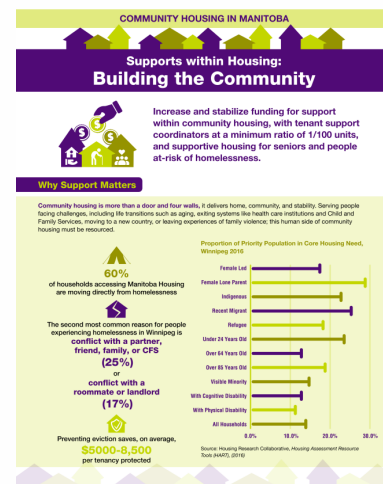
May 10th marked the second annual housing day, which drew much needed attention for elected officials and the media. Housing Day allowed leaders in the non-profit housing sector to share the successes and challenges with elected officials and raise issues that matter most to Manitoba's affordable housing community.

Our Executive Director, Christina Maes Nino was interviewed on CTV News [click here](#) to watch. There was also an article in the Winnipeg Free Press: [Non-profit sector pushes affordable housing as election issue.](#)

Minister Rochelle Squires met with MNPCHA members to confirm the contribution of \$1.4M to keep rents down at some non-profit housing complexes. The government's new program is aimed at the estimated 162 non-profit housing operators — controlling roughly 8,000 units — whose operating/management agreements are set to expire within the next five years. Read the [National Post article here.](#)



### Working with our members we presented the Three Key Asks for the upcoming election to Manitoba's provincial caucuses:



**Establish a \$1.5b capital funding program over 10 years to support community housing, with a program specifically designed by and for Indigenous-led housing organizations.**

Manitoba is facing a looming crisis as deferred maintenance means occupants are living in inadequate housing, units are vacant despite

**Create 10,000 new units of community housing over the next 10 years.**

At the current pace of development, it will take 50 years to meet the needs of the 23,000 Manitoban households in core housing need.

Creating community housing is a

**Increase and stabilize funding for support within community housing, with tenant support coordinators at a minimum ratio of 1/100 units, and supportive housing for seniors and people at-risk of homelessness.**

Community housing is more than a door and four walls, it delivers home, community, and stability.

high wait lists, and buildings are at risk of loss through sale or demolition.

An investment of \$1.5B could preserve the 23,000 homes currently in fair condition; it would cost 4 times more to replace this housing.

sustainable solution, and an investment in community-based economic development, community revitalization, and better health and social outcomes for decades to come. Economists have argued that addressing Canada's housing crisis requires a doubling of the community housing stock over the next 30 years; 10,000 units will put Manitoba on track to meet this target.

Evidence-based solutions are required to offer choice and meet varied needs. Preventing eviction, reducing social isolation, and providing resource connections for tenants creates healthier and safer communities, and reduces the need for high-cost emergency or institutional services.



Mayor Henry Siemens (Winkler), Mayor Scott Gillingham (Winnipeg), Minister Rochelle Squires (Department of Families), Mayor Larry Johannson (Selkirk), and Mayor Jeff Fawcett (Brandon) joined MNPCHA on Housing Day for a discussion on housing need in their communities and opportunities to work together to address it



MNPCHA Members met with the Manitoba NDP, PC, and Liberal Caucuses to discuss the community housing sector's 2023 election priorities for housing.



### ***New funding model through Manitoba Housing to help support non-profit housing as their operating agreements expire***

Manitoba Housing is establishing a block funding model designed to provide predictable and flexible funding to the non-profit sector. The funding is available to housing projects who have already come off their original agreements, and those that will soon be coming off.

Aims of the program include:

- reduce the red tape and administrative burden on providers, so they can focus resources on where they are needed most
- ensure non-profit operators can keep up with the costs of maintaining and operating social housing units and remain viable as affordable units for current renters
- be more responsive to the specific needs of each non-profit housing provider
- help better maintain the social and affordable housing stock
- create more efficiencies in operations
- enable operators to build up their reserve funds for major capital needs
- strengthen the non-profit housing sector

Under the proposed model, the funding can:

- subsidize rents
- meet the rising costs of operations
- support an annual allocation to the replacement reserve fund

Manitoba Housing has allocated up to \$1.4 million toward these new agreements in 2023/24, and depending on uptake, will make additional funding available in future years. At this time, the intent is to share information about the proposed model and determine the level of interest on the part of non-profit housing providers to enter into a new funding agreement on this basis.

MNPCHA has been working with Manitoba Housing to express the needs for a program to address viability at the end of operating agreements for many years, and welcomes a new model that is designed with increased flexibility, recognizes capital needs, and enhances the self-determination of non-profit housing to serve their

tenants and communities. We also recognize that changes in funding programs must be sufficiently funded, long-term, and may require new financial and governance planning capacity. Keep an eye out in the MNPHA newsletter for updates and opportunities to connect with other housing providers to learn more and work together to ensure this program meets its positive aims.

**For more information on the proposed block funding model, and to express interest in participating in the program, please contact the Portfolio Management Branch at 204-945-4661 or e-mail [Portfolioadmin@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Portfolioadmin@gov.mb.ca)**

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## SENIORS AWARDS

Nominate and celebrate senior Manitobans who have made a significant contribution to their families, communities and the province of Manitoba.



### ***Nominations Open for Manitoba 2023 Seniors of the Year Awards***

The Manitoba's Seniors of the Year Awards 2023 will celebrate Manitobans, ages 65 and older, who have made an outstanding voluntary contribution to enrich the social, cultural or civic life of our community. Recognized endeavors may include, but not be limited to, fields such as the arts, literature, community service, education, fitness, sport or humanitarian activities.

Deadline is 4 pm on June 23, 2023 [Click here for more information](#)

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### ***Six Forfeited Houses offer Development of Affordable Homes***

The Manitoba government, through the Criminal Property Forfeiture (CPF) unit, will donate six houses forfeited as proceeds of crime in Winnipeg's Point Douglas neighbourhood for development by interested non-profit and Indigenous organizations to build affordable housing units for low-income families.



The successful non-profit or Indigenous-housing provider will be required to follow Manitoba Housing's Affordable Housing Program income limits for Winnipeg, whereby eligible homebuyers must have a total household income of not more than \$84,600. Manitoba Housing will use a competitive project selection process to ensure the most appropriate and viable project is selected. Further details on the proposal process can be found online at <https://manitoba.ca/housing/progs/rfp.html>.

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Canada

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# *News Release*

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### ***One-Time Affordability Cheques and Higher Maximum Monthly Benefit will Help Make Housing More Stable for Vulnerable Manitobans***

Governments of Canada and Manitoba Announced New Housing Benefit Changes to Support Low-Income

Manitobans in Housing Need. Announced as part of the National Housing Strategy, the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit (CMHB) is providing \$154.6 million in housing benefits to support over 17,000 vulnerable Manitobans. This cost-shared program was co-developed by the federal and provincial governments through the Canada Housing Benefit initiative.

Recipients of the non-EIA Rent Assist program will also receive a one-time payment of \$350 in July. Federal Housing, Diversity and Inclusion Minister Ahmed Hussen said the support helps low-income Manitobans find a safe and affordable place to call home.

It is anticipated that these changes will be implemented to the program starting July 1, 2023. For more information about the CMHB, visit <https://gov.mb.ca/housing/progs/cmhb/index.html>.

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## EDUCATION AND EVENTS

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**MEMBERS BREAKFAST CLUB**  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7 - 8:30AM - 10:00AM  
NORWOOD HOTEL, 112 MARION STREET, WINNIPEG

Skip your regular routine. Join us for a stress-free start of your day with a breakfast buffet and networking event. Let's connect with a good meal, coffee and conversations.

Learn more at [mnpha.com/education-and-events](https://mnpha.com/education-and-events)

**MNPHA**

### **Breakfast Club**

We continue to hear how beneficial it is for our members to network with each other. As housers we share common values and can gain knowledge and support from our time together. That's why we are starting a Breakfast Club, an opportunity to unite with other members.

Join us for a stress-free start of your day with a breakfast buffet at the Norwood Hotel (note, we will have Breakfast Clubs outside of Winnipeg throughout the year!). Let's connect with a good meal, coffee and conversations. To get the most of this event we are limiting attendance to thirty. If we reach capacity, we'll open a waitlist and be sure those receive the first invitation to our next Breakfast Club.

Deadline to Register is Tuesday, June 6th 4pm. [Not a member? Contact us](#)

Register

*Sneak Peek!*  
**TRAINING  
CALENDAR**  
2023|2024  
GET STARTED TODAY!  
[VolunteerManitoba.ca](https://VolunteerManitoba.ca)

VM's Training Manager,  
Kamillah El-Giadaa,  
Discusses How VM's  
Workshops Can Empower  
Non-Profit Professionals!



### **Volunteer Manitoba has released their 2023-24 Training Calendar!**

They have put together a diverse range of professional development opportunities to empower you in your non profit career. We believe the following is most relevant for those in our sector:



#### **Strategies for Board Recruitment**

Building a robust board of directors is crucial for the success of any organization. [More info](#)  
November 21, 2023

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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### NEW HOUSING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

Working in Non-Profit Housing requires a broad skill set. Our network of peers from diverse backgrounds in housing can help those new to the sector thrive.

Assiniboine Credit Union is sponsoring New Housing Professionals for up to \$1000 to attend networking events, educational workshops, and government relations events.

Learn more at [mnpha.com](http://mnpha.com)



### *New Housing Professional Program*

MNPHA created a new program to provide those who are new to the non-profit housing sector the opportunity to connect, get involved and get the tool set they need to succeed.

Assiniboine Credit Union is the exclusive sponsor of New Housing Professional Program. ACU will cover the cost of subsidized attendance at events for participants (up to \$1,000/participant per year). In addition, ACU's team will provide financial training and/or analysis for the New Housing Professional participants, based on their self-identified needs upon program registration.

The program is open to those who have been in the housing sector for 5 years or less, and who are working at a MNPHA member organization. Space is limited, apply by September 1 to participate in the program starting in the Fall.

Apply Now



### *New Program To Help Put An End To Veteran Homelessness*

As part of the National Housing Strategy, the [Veteran Homelessness Program \(VHP\)](#) will support the Government's goal of a 50% reduction in chronic homelessness in Canada by 2027-2028.

The program includes two funding streams:

- Services and Supports (\$72.9 million) – funding will provide rent supplements and wrap around supports such as life skills (e.g., budgeting, job interview training); essential skills (e.g., document and computer use); and general health and medical services (e.g., counselling and substance use support services).
- Capacity Building (\$6.2 million) – funding will support research projects designed to understand, gather, analyze and disseminate data and information about homeless Veteran needs, including for specific groups of Veterans such as Indigenous peoples, racialized Canadians, women and 2SLGBTQI+.

**Deadline is June 23, 2023 at 10:59 pm CDT.**

For More  
Information

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***Finance your green projects with  
the Green Kickstarter Fund!***

is celebrating Earth Day by relaunching the Green Kickstarter Fund.

[The Green Kickstarter Fund](#) is offering grants up to \$10,000 per non-profit housing providers towards a green project.

Some examples of what the funds can be used towards include an EV charging station, energy or water efficiency upgrades or a community garden. It aims to create sustainable communities with benefits such as improved health, community well-being, reduced energy costs, and cleaner air and water.



If you represent a housing co-op, please visit CHF Canada's [Greener Co-op Microgrant page](#), offered in collaboration with the Centre.

For More Information and To Apply by June  
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**Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association** | [www.mnpha.com](http://www.mnpha.com)  
membership@mnpha.com | (204)797-6746 ext.3

