

# **HOUSING DAY** A MNPHA members only event, Housing Day allows leaders

**MAY 14,** 

2025

A MNPHA members only event, Housing Day allows leaders in non-profit housing to share the successes and challenges of the sector with elected officials and raise issues that matter to Manitoba's affordable housing community.

# **Housing Day**

200 Main Street, Winnipeg Wed, May 14 9:00am - 8:00pm

Housing Day is a members-only event that welcomes leaders in non-profit housing to share the successes and challenges of the sector with elected officials and raise issues that matter most to Manitoba's affordable housing community.

The agenda includes a presentation about how best to work with the government, a discussion of how the health and housing sectors can work together more effectively with CEOs of Manitoba's Health Authorities, and a discussion with Minister Bernadette Smith.

Housing Day has become an anticipated and well-regarded event for our members and elected officials in the province. MLAs know more about non-profit housing and our common needs. Because of the relationships built in the event, they come to MNPHA for advice and input when there are decisions being made that impact our sector.

After the formal presentations, we'll reconvene at the Capital Bar and Grill for networking, drinks, appetizers as well as a meet and greet with MLAs. This event is included with registration to Housing Day. Registrants must be members to attend Housing Day. **To become a member <u>JOIN HERE</u>** 

Register Now!

# **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

# Federal Election April 28, 2025

The Federal election is coming soon, and MNPHA is working with our colleagues across Canada to help our sector and the voting public to raise the solutions the community housing sector offers to Canada's housing and economic issues with candidates and their parties.

The Canadian Housing and Renewal Association has led this work, including:

**CHRA** and partners have developed a policy plan, Housing Canada: A Sovereign Plan to Protect Canadians and Build a Resilient Housing System.

This comprehensive strategy outlines the key federal actions needed to address the housing crisis, including:

- Doubling the share of community housing through new funding mechanisms and incentives.
- Ensuring public lands are used for affordable housing to unlock land for development.
- Creating an immediate housing safety net with rental supports and eviction protections.
- Rapidly Expand Indigenous Urban, Rural and Northern (URN) Housing to meet the housing needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and communities.
- Developing a national housing skills strategy to train workers and support faster construction.

We need all federal parties to commit to these bold, achievable solutions. Read the full Housing Plan.

CHRA has created an Election Toolkit with resources to help you engage with your candidates and

push for community housing commitments this federal election.

We're stronger when we stand together. Join us to make community housing a top priority for candidates across the country.

What's inside:

- Key messages for speaking with candidates and media.
- A guide on how to contact and question your local candidates.
- Tips on hosting local events to keep community housing at the forefront.

Take action now. Download the CHRA Election Toolkit.

## MNPHA's Manitoba Housing Budget Summary, 2025

Manitoba's <u>Provincial Budget</u> was released March 20, 2025. It includes positive news for the community housing sector, some unknowns, and potential challenges on the horizon.

#### The Details

The budget for the Housing, Addictions, and Homelessness department has increased from \$796m to \$854m, or a 7.3% increase. At a time of fiscal constraints and potential economic challenges, this recognizes that housing and investments in ending homelessness are economic drivers for the province and contribute to productivity.

This is detailed to include:

- \$78m for Manitoba Housing capital renewal program, allowing the repair of at least 5,000 units. This is a 0.2% increase from last year, and includes:
  - \$12.4m in existing supply of social housing including \$4m additional towards modernization and improvement of sponsor-managed portfolio
  - Funding towards capital repairs and renewal of the Urban Indigenous housing portfolio
- Other operating budget highlights for Manitoba Housing include:
  - \$4m more towards maintenance and repair
  - \$4.4m to ensure units are available after expiry of agreements
- \$73.7m in new funding for <u>"Your Way Home" Plan To End Chronic Homelessness</u> This total budget is a compilation of spending from different divisions and departments, which may include some of the funding detailed above in the Manitoba Housing capital and operating budgets.

Read more on MNPHA's Budget summary here

# **HOUSING NEWS**

# Housing first, not housing only - strategies must build community to succeed (The Uniter)

The Manitoba government recently unveiled a new plan to end chronic homelessness. Your Way Home, a document released by the NDP government, outlines the new strategy, aimed at getting Winnipeg's unhoused population into homes.

Its primary focus is on the estimated 700 Manitobans who are currently living in encampments. It also mentions transitional housing options and wraparound community-type supports, including rent subsidies. Though the focus on decommissioning encampments might be hiding broader issues with less visible types of homelessness, advocates seem cautiously hopeful about it being a step in the right direction.

Looking deeper at the needs of folks experiencing homelessness and unstable housing situations shows that the key to any plan's success is the importance of community, stability and collaboration in any strategy tackling the problem.

Christina Maes Nino, executive director of the Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association (MNPHA), says one step to addressing housing is closing the gap between incomes and the cost of rent. "Incomes, particularly for people on social assistance, are not enough to be able to afford safe, dignified housing," she says.

The Housing First model is a philosophy on tackling homelessness that prioritizes getting unhoused people into homes as the first step in improving their situation.

Advocates of the Housing First model differentiate it from a previous approach, which they often call the "housing ready" model, where people were expected to recover from addictions and mental-health troubles before they could be ready to get into housing. With Housing First, people get a safe home to tackle other issues from. "It comes from the idea that we all have a right to safe, dignified, affordable housing," Maes Nino says. <u>Read More</u>

# **EDUCATION**



## **Media Training**

Tuesday, May 13 -1:00pm-4:00pm WestEnd Commons, Winnipeg

Learn how to use media to advocate for your organization's mission and non-profit housing broadly. Develop impactful key messages, get the headlines you want and the confidence to communicate effectively, on the spot. This interactive workshop will prepare you for interactions with the media. Nicole Harris will provide the tools and strategies necessary to manage media relations and communication while embracing opportunities and leaning into challenges.

During the Media Training workshop, you'll learn:

- Transition from off-topic questions to on-message responses.
- Manage adversarial and hostile questioning.
- Remain "on-message" without compromising authenticity.
- Spot and avoid reporters' tactics.
- Create the right "feedback loops" through effective body language.

Register Here!



### **Crisis Communication Training**

Tuesday, May 13 -9:00am-12:00noon WestEnd Commons, Winnipeg

Your reputation matters, and how you deal with crises from tenant complaints to HR issues to fires and floods can put it all at risk.

Learn proven techniques for managing reputational crises, including key messaging and damage control strategies. Manage high stress situations safely and effectively. Communicate confidently and turn even the most complex situations to your advantage. This

engaging and informative workshop has been tailored for MNPHA members. Learn how to stay on message and divert negative publicity.

During the Crisis Communication workshop, you'll learn:

- Manage appropriate body language, tone, and delivery of messages.
- Deliver accurate information without appearing misinformed.
- Negotiate an interview and maintain control while staying on message.
- Identify media traps and master skills to avoid them.
- · How to conquer anxiety, clearly express yourself, and adapt your message
- Points to think on your feet and handle difficult questions

**Register Here!** 

### **Urban Indigenous Housing Forum**

Thursday, June 5 -9:00am-3:30pm Norwood Hotel, Winnipeg

Urban Indigenous-led housing organizations in Manitoba are invited to attend the Annual Indigenous Housing



Provider Forum. The forum brings Indigenous organizations together to discuss issues impacting them, share experiences, learn from each other, and exchange ideas.

This event is only open to Indigenous-led housing organizations.

Register Here!

# **JOIN MNPHA - Member Renewal Not a Member?**

# **MNPHA Membership Benefits**

BUILDING A THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE NON-PROFIT HOUSING SECTOR TOGETHER









W ■ membership@mnpha.com ● online at www.mnpha.com The Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association represents over 100 organizations who collectively provide affordable housing to 26,000 households across 25 communities in Manitoba.

We build partnerships within Manitoba's non-profit housing community and with other sectors that support resilience, relevance, and innovation.

## **Benefits For Members**

#### MNPHA is the Voice of the Sector

Manitoba news groups know we're a reliable contact for opinions and information for housing news. Executive director, Christina Maes Nino continually uses this platform to advocate for our members and a sustainable non-profit housing sector.

#### There's Strength in Numbers

Members belong to a community of influence who work with all sectors, levels of government, and each other to promote safe, secure, and affordable housing throughout our province. Together our members help determine the direction of non-profit housing in Manitoba.

#### Access to Member Only Events

MNPHA hosts exclusive member-only events, including Breakfast Club, Housing Day, webinars and funding opportunities. Get access to all MNPHA's resources, including research, reports, planning guides, our board toolkit and policy templates, including an End of Operating Agreement Guide.

#### Being a Part of Our Network

We're your connection to the non-profit housing community! Since 2011 MNPHA has built trusting relationships with stakeholders from housing professionals, service providers, fellow non-profit organizations and all levels of government, procuring a wide range of information.

#### News You Won't Hear Anywhere Else

Be the first to know about housing news and funding announcements. MNPHA provides members with a monthly inspiration-packed newsletter covering funding, employment, volunteer, and training opportunities, as well as trends, resources, innovations and issues impacting our community.

#### Members Save Money

Take advantage of exclusive discounts, up to 50% off registration on workshops and events, including the Building Partnerships Conference. Our partnership programs offer members bulk purchasing discounts. MNPHA's energy efficiency service supports members in accessing and navigating energy efficiency funding.

#### Supporting Rural Housing

MNPHA continues active outreach across Manitoba to assure all members are heard, have access to the information they need and get the most out of their membership.

Inquire Here!

## Take Part in the Compensation Survey

The compensation results will assist organizations in setting wages and the community housing sector in advocating for appropriate funding to address those wages. The information is be kept anonymous, and will be provided back to MNPHA members in a non-identifying format.

To complete the survey, have information regarding your organization's number of paid positions, salaries (or average salaries) by job title, and benefits available. It takes about 10 minutes to enter the information. Deadline to participate is April 15, 2025

**Take Survey** 

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## Properties Available for Affordable Housing in Winnipeg

The City of Winnipeg is making five City-owned properties available for sale or lease to build affordable housing. The properties are available to interested non-profits, Indigenous organizations, or housing developers.

The sites are available through the Housing Accelerator Fund's Land Enhancement Office. The City created the Land Enhancement Office to support the development of affordable, supportive, and mixed-income housing on City-owned land.

The five properties and description of development opportunity include:

- 825 Taché Avenue land lease
- 795 William Avenue unique partnership or sale
- 425 Osborne Street unique partnership
- 1350 Pembina Highway sale
- 569 Watt Street sale

Expressions of interest for each property are open until April 28, 2025. Find out more here

## Housing Starts Here: Capital and Operating Funding to Expand Social Housing



Manitoba Housing has introduced Housing Starts Here, to expand housing supply and end chronic homelessness in Manitoba.

Manitoba Housing will prioritize funding projects that create:

• Social housing, with <u>rent-geared-to-income</u> set at 30% of tenants' household income (see <u>program income limits</u>), accompanied by support services

• Affordable housing, with rents and tenant incomes at or below the Affordable Housing Rental Program limits

• Market housing — see the Rental Housing Construction Incentive

Through the new streamlined intake, organizations with housing proposals can submit one application to apply for multiple programs any time while funding remains available, including:

- Proposal Development Funding
- Capital Funding Program
- Rental Housing Construction Incentive
- Support Services Funding for New Supply
- Operating Funding for New Supply

Learn more



## SAVE THE DATE:

Breakfast Club June 11 at the Dauphin Neighbourhood Renewal Community Centre

## **MNPHA's Building Partnerships Conference**

October 6 & October 7 at the Victoria Inn, Winnipeg

**CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS** - If you have a session you'd like to present at our conference or have an idea for one contact Jo Dwor-Sule at <u>social@mnpha.com</u> by 5pm. April 9th

#### Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association www.mnpha.com

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