

GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Managed Alcohol Program and Mobile Withdrawal Management Services

Issued By: Housing, Addictions and Homelessness

Issue Date: September 8, 2025

Submission Deadline:

by no later than October 6, 2025 at

12:00pm (noon) (Central CST Time)

Submission Address:

MHATR@gov.mb.ca

Department of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness Request for Expressions of Interest

In October 2023, the Department of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness, through its mandate letter, identified priority initiatives. This included the direction to expand detox beds and treatment options, so Manitobans have the support they need to overcome addiction. Additionally, in January 2025, Manitoba announced its plan to transition individuals living in encampments into housing with wraparound supports through the *Your Way Home* strategy.

The department is seeking qualified providers to implement either or both the Managed Alcohol Program and Mobile Withdrawal Management Service including for those leaving encampments that will be housed in government-owned housing units as part of a harm reduction support.

The Manitoba government recognizes the critical role that Indigenous-led organizations play in supporting individuals transitioning out of encampments. Through its comprehensive strategy, *Your Way Home: Manitoba's Plan to End Chronic Homelessness*, the province emphasizes a culturally informed and community-driven approach to housing and support services. Preference will be given to Indigenous organizations that apply.

These new investments align with Manitoba's commitment towards supporting Manitobans most in need with substance use, addiction and harm reduction supports.

If you would like to provide a submission:

- 1) Read the **eligibility requirements** and process instructions below.
- 2) Refer to the **Appendix** for service definitions
- 3) Complete Section A
- 4) Complete Section B
- 5) Provide your submission.

Part 1 - Description of Services Required

1.1 Background

Proposals are being requested from organizations, community agencies or Service Delivery Organizations (SDOs) to increase substance use/addictions supports through Managed Alcohol Programs (MAP) and/or Mobile Withdrawal Management Services (MWMS) for those leaving encampments who will be housed in several supportive housing units around the Winnipeg area.

Manitoba recognizes the importance of the services provided by community agencies and values the critical role they play in supporting Manitobans. Therefore, the department is seeking qualified organization(s) to provide one or both of the following addictions services (See Appendix 1 for definitions) in buildings identified by the Manitoba government:

- Managed Alcohol Program
- Mobile Withdrawal Management Services

Managed Alcohol Program:

Type of Service	Target Population	Total Funding
Managed Alcohol	Individuals who have transitioned from	\$600K*
Program	homeless encampments or shelter	

^{*} represents total amount of funding to provide the full scope of MAPs services outlined

- Alcohol will be supplied at cost through Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries (MBLL) for up to 50 participants annually.
- The successful provider will be responsible for entering into an agreement for alcohol purchase with the MBLL. Additionally, the provider, upon approval, will be required to work with the Liquor, Gaming, and Cannabis Authority (LGCA) to confirm licensing requirements and written approval to run a MAP in the housing units.
- The provider will also work with the housing provider to develop a safe and secure storage area for alcohol within each building.
- The provider will work with physicians to issue prescriptions for the alcohol to be issued to individuals taking part in the program. The provider is expected to coordinate and organize dispensing of alcohol in multiple buildings as they come online to house individuals transitioning from shelter or encampments.

Mobile Withdrawal Management Services:

Type of Service	Target Population	Total Funding
2. Mobile Withdrawal	Individuals who have transitioned from	\$700K
Management Services	homeless encampments	

Anticipated participants served annually are up to 300.

One-Time Capital Funding:

Each organization that submits a proposal can request funding for <u>one-time</u> capital funds, up to a maximum of **\$250,000**. This funding can be used to cover the cost of minor

capital projects such as the purchasing of furniture, technology, and other equipment, or renovations associated with existing spaces.

1.2 Scope and Parameters for the Provision of Services

Services are expected to begin operations between December 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026, and budgets must be consistent with the previously identified funding rates. Proposals with an anticipated operating date beyond February 28, 2026, will be considered, but preference will be given to those who can meet the deadline.

All inquiries related to this EOI are to be directed by email to: MHATR@gov.mb.ca. Please include the EOI title in the subject line of the email.

Manitoba, in its sole discretion, will select one or more organizations from those that provide a submission. To be eligible, the Submitter will:

- Be ready to provide services between December 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026
 (If unable to meet this timeline, please indicate the expected date of operation)
- Provide organizational information, including your experience providing the service(s) as outlined under Section A found below.
- Indicate the type(s) of service(s) you intend to provide (see Appendix 1 for service definitions)
- Indicate the service and staffing model to support the expansion/provision of services
- Provide a detailed budget outlining the associated costs that adhere to the funding amounts, implementation planning, and performance measurements as outlined under Section B below.
- Collaborate and work with the service provider already providing supports within the housing units.
- Enter into a service agreement with Manitoba.

1.3 Key Deliverables and Timelines

Deliverable	Timeline
1. Implementation of service(s)	December 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026

1.1 Secure a location for the service(s) to be provided (if applicable)	December 1, 2025
1.1.2 Renovations completed(s) (if applicable)	December 1, 2025
1.2 Secure the staff needed to provide the service(s)	November 1- December 31, 2025
3. Service report and evaluation (quarterly reporting starting in April)	April 1, 2026

Part 2 - EOI Process Instructions

2.1 Expression of Interest Timetable

The table below lists the significant events associated with the Expression of Interest process.

Activity	Date
EOI Issued by HAH	September 8, 2025
Deadline for Proponent Questions	September 8 to 22, 2025
Submission Deadline	October 6, 2025, at 12:00 PM CST (4 weeks from issue)
HAH Response to EOI Submission (Proposal Outcome)	October 20, 2025
Funding Commitment Letter	November 10, 2025

2.2 Submissions to be Provided in Prescribed Format

Submitters should send an electronic version of their submissions to MHATR@gov.mb.ca. The deadline for submissions is October 6, 2025, at 12:00 PM (noon) (CST). Submissions received after the deadline may not be considered. Submissions should be prominently marked with the EOI title (see EOI cover), with the full legal name and contact information of the Submitter.

The submission must consist of two (2) separate sections clearly labeled as:

- i. Section A ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION
- ii. Section B SERVICE DELIVERY OUTLINE

2.3 Amendment of Submissions

Submitters may amend their submissions prior to the Submission Deadline. To amend a submission, the Submitter must withdraw the previous submission in accordance with section 2.4 and submit the amended submission in accordance with the instructions set out above. The amended submission must be received in its entirety on or before the Submission Deadline.

2.4 Withdrawal of Submissions

At any time throughout the EOI process until the execution of a written agreement for provision of the Deliverables, a Submitter may withdraw a submission. To withdraw a submission, a notice of withdrawal must be sent by email to the EOI Contact and must be signed by an authorized representative of the Submitter.

Section A - ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide the following information (submission of this form will not create a contract between the Manitoba Government and the submitting organization).

A1. Organization's Name and Contact Information:

- Organization's name and website
- Mailing Address
- Name of Project Lead
- Email Address of Project Lead

A2. About the Organization and Current Services:

- Vision and mission statements
- Organization's objectives
- Current services provided, service model and the number of years of experience providing the service(s) proposed
- Link to the Organization's Annual Report
- Please identify if the organization is Indigenous Led (Additional points will be awarded)

Section B - SERVICE DELIVERY OUTLINE

Please provide the following information about the proposed delivery of the service.

B1. Implementation Planning

Please describe in detail your organization's proposed implementation plan including timeline, staffing, and proposed services. Be sure to include how you will address the needs of various special populations and how you will work with the service providers already providing supports within housing units.

Additionally, please describe how your organization will incorporate voices of people with lived/living experience of substance use and homelessness into planning, delivery, and evaluation of services (e.g., advisory circles, peer roles, community councils)

B2. Budget

Please provide a detailed budget, including staff, resources, capital, start-up and any other relevant costs to support the delivery of the services, including other funding sources if applicable.

B3. Performance Measurement

Please describe how you will measure success. Explain how you will collect relevant data to support performance measurement.

Please provide your submission in PDF format to the email address below no later than 12:00pm (noon), October 6, 2025. A committee will review the EOI submissions and determine next steps in selecting organizations to deliver services.

Criteria for Evaluating Proposal Submissions

1. Service Model and Implementation (35 points)

Sub-Criteria	Description	Points
Service Delivery Model	Clarity and feasibility of the proposed service model, including alignment with service definitions in Appendix A.	10

Sub-Criteria	Description	Points
Staffing Plan	Appropriateness of staffing levels, qualifications, and roles/titles. Includes rationale for staffing choices.	10
Implementation Timeline	Realistic and detailed plan for launching services between October 15 – Dec 30, 2025. Includes milestones and risk mitigation.	10
Innovation & Responsiveness	Creativity in service delivery and responsiveness to community or individual needs.	5

2. Organization Experience (30 points)

Sub-Criteria	Description	Points
Relevant Experience	Demonstrated experience delivering similar services. Includes examples and outcomes.	10
Quality Improvement	Evidence of continuous quality improvement processes (e.g., feedback loops, audits, staff training).	10
Impact & Results	Measurable results from past services, including individual outcomes or community impact.	10

3. Financial Breakdown (20 points)

Sub-Criteria	Description	Points
Clarity and Detail	Provides a clear and well-organized budget that outlines anticipated costs, including staffing, operations, and resources.	10
Alignment with Goals	Budget reflects a thoughtful allocation of resources that supports the proposed service outcomes and stays within the available funding.	5

Sub-Criteria	Description	Points
Rationale and Transparency	Offers a brief explanation for key budget items, demonstrating a sound understanding of financial planning and service delivery needs.	5

4. Performance Measurement (10 points)

Sub-Criteria	Description	Points
Outcome Clarity	Clear articulation of expected service outcomes.	4
Data Collection Plan	Robust plan for collecting, analyzing, and reporting data.	3
Evaluation Strategy	Thoughtful approach to evaluating success and making improvements.	3

5. Indigenous Preference (5 points) *

Sub-Criteria	Description	Points
Indigenous Led Organization	Additional points will be awarded to Indigenous Led organizations	5

Total: /100

Appendix 1: Service Definitions & Eligibility

Managed Alcohol Programs

Definition: Managed alcohol programs (MAPs) are a harm reduction intervention within the continuum of alcohol use disorder (AUD) care for individuals with severe AUD for whom other treatments are not an effective option – particularly those who face additional barriers to basic care and psychosocial supports due to poverty and homelessness.

^{*} The department will award additional points to organizations that are Indigenous led.

MAPs provide alcohol and support for those with severe AUD to reduce their consumption, prevent deadly symptoms of withdrawal, and provide an alternative to non-beverage alcohol consumption.

Permanent housing, as opposed to transitional housing, centres or shelters, are found to be the most effective setting to implement MAPs. Specifically, Housing First programs are best positioned to allow for positive outcomes for individuals.

Target Population and Eligibility Criteria:

Individuals who experience severe alcohol use and related harms that interfere with housing stability or health access that may benefit from structured, supported alcohol access through MAPs.

Staff can work to recruit these individuals based on the following considerations:

- Severe active AUD and/or assessed high risk of withdrawal symptoms and other serious alcohol-related harms due to confirmed heavy daily alcohol use
- Non-beverage alcohol use
- History of public intoxication
- Ineligibility for housing programs as a result of alcohol use
- Continued alcohol use or alcohol craving during evidence-based AUD treatment
- Experiencing barriers accessing health care or social support needs due to alcohol use (this may manifest in frequent emergency department visits or hospitalizations, or other negative outcomes such as arrests and incarceration)
- Frequent use of emergency departments

Screening Assessment:

Each program should develop screening and assessment procedures to determine individual eligibility, assess harm reduction and referral needs, and inform the development of individualized managed alcohol plans. Results of the initial screening and assessment should be documented and referred to as a benchmark for ongoing monitoring and assessment of program benefits for individuals receiving supports.

The assessment of potential MAP participants should generally include the following areas:

- Active alcohol use (i.e., screening for AUD, establishing quantity and frequency of alcohol use, identifying non-beverage alcohol use)
- Active use of other substances (i.e., establishing type of substance, quantity used, frequency of use)
- Substance use and treatment history
- Urgent or acute medical needs
- Comorbid mental and physical conditions and related needs
- Prescribed medication(s)
- Current access to health care services
- Housing and employment status
- Individual-identified recovery goal

Additional information on guidelines can be found at MAPS National Operational Guidance 2023 ONLINE.pdf

Withdrawal Management Services Home/Mobile Withdrawal Management Services

Definition: This involves voluntary withdrawal management with support provided in an individual's home or other safe accommodation via on-site visits or web-based support. It may also involve visits to a central location (e.g., community addictions program, or a "safe home" in the community) during the day, while returning home at night. This service may involve a medical assessment by a physician or nurse practitioner, and regular monitoring by a physician, nursing, and/or other health care worker during the withdrawal process to provide medical management and support. Before an individual is "discharged", case workers work collaboratively to support the individual and/or those supporting the individual to connect to post-withdrawal management services (e.g., treatment, housing, and other supports).