

**2024/25**

**COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**

**HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND  
HOMELESSNESS (BA24)**

**2024 Committee of Supply**  
**HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS**  
**as at September 19, 2024**

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## **Housing, Addictions and Homelessness (BA24)**

### **Committee of Supply Attendee List**

Minister:	Honourable Bernadette Smith
Director of Ministerial Affairs:	Andrée Forest
Deputy Minister:	Catherine Gates
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Minister:	Karen De Blonde
Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer:	Robert Cann
Assistant Deputy Minister:	Vacant
Assistant Deputy Minister:	Carolyn Ryan

## **Housing, Addictions and Homelessness (BA24)**

### **List of Government Committees Minister Attends**

#### **Honourable Bernadette Smith**

1. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit (MMIWG2S+) and Gender-Based Violence Committee of Cabinet
2. Poverty Reduction Committee of Cabinet
3. Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet

# HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS SUMMARY BUDGET

## A. SUMMARY BUDGETING OVERVIEW

2024/25 Voted Appropriation Expenditure Request \$000s		2023/24 Summary Budget Expenditure Request \$000s		2024/25 Request: Loans/Guarantees and ORE Capital Investment \$000s
Part A	Part B	Operating	Capital	
793,517	-	712,251	-	92,871

The department's Summary Budget includes one operating entity: The Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation (MHRC).

MHRC provides housing assistance to approximately 29,000 households through various programs. Within the housing portfolio, MHRC owns approximately 16,400 units, of which 11,700 are directly managed by MHRC. The remaining 4,700 units owned by MHRC are managed by non-profit/cooperative sponsor groups or property management agencies. MHRC also provides subsidy and support to private, non-profit, and cooperative housing operators that own and manage a further 13,050 units, enabling families and individuals to meet their housing needs in communities across the province.

The Housing and Renewal Corporation Act provides MHRC the following mandate:

- Enhance the affordability of, and accessibility to, adequate housing for Manitobans, particularly those persons of low-to-moderate income of those with specialized needs.
- Maintain and improve the condition of existing housing stocks.
- Ensure that there is an adequate supply of housing stocks in Manitoba.
- Stimulate the activities of the housing market to the benefit of Manitobans as a whole.

**B. SUMMARY BUDGET INFORMATION**

Summary Budget 2024/25 Housing, Addictions and Homelessness \$000s						
	2023/24		Variance			
	Adjusted Print	2024/25 Print	Inc/(Dec)	%	Expl #	
<b>Revenue</b>						
Fees and Other Revenue - service fees and other misc charges	100,400.0	98,174.0	(2,226.0)	-2.2%		
Shared cost and other federal transfers	63,029.0	95,253.0	32,224.0	51.1%	1	
Sinking Funds and Other Earnings	184.0	1,300.0	1,116.0	606.5%	2	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>163,613.0</b>	<b>194,727.0</b>	<b>31,114.0</b>	<b>19.0%</b>		
<b>Expenses</b>						
Administration and Finance	1,574.0	1,840.0	266.0	16.9%	3	
Mental Health and Addictions Service Planning and Policy	44,973.0	46,586.0	1,613.0	3.6%		
Housing	227,265.0	282,440.0	55,175.0	24.3%	4	
Physician Services - Psychiatry	72,079.0	83,881.0	11,802.0	16.4%	5	
Funding to Health Authorities	297,952.0	300,848.0	2,896.0	1.0%		
Costs Relatd to Capital Assets of Other Reporting Entities	820.0	820.0	-	0.0%		
Amortization Expense	65,496.0	75,010.0	9,514.0	14.5%	6	
Interfund Activity	2,092.0	2,092.0	(0.0)	0.0%		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>712,251.0</b>	<b>793,517.0</b>	<b>81,266.0</b>	<b>11.4%</b>		
<b>Summary Net Impact before Debt Servicing</b>	<b>(548,638.0)</b>	<b>(598,790.0)</b>	<b>(50,152.0)</b>	<b>9.1%</b>		
Debt Servicing	33,866.0	36,388.0	2,522.0	7.4%		
<b>Summary Net Impact after Debt Servicing</b>	<b>(582,504.0)</b>	<b>(635,178.0)</b>	<b>(52,674.0)</b>	<b>9.0%</b>		
<b>Capital Asset Acquisitions</b>	<b>63,000.0</b>	<b>73,871.0</b>	<b>10,871.0</b>	<b>17.3%</b>		
<b>HAH Expenses breakdown:</b>						
	2023/24		Inc/(Dec)	%	Expl #	
	Adjusted Print	2024/25 Print				
Salaries and Benefits	45,790.0	45,553.0	(237.0)	-0.5%		
Other Expenditures	281,073.0	348,414.0	67,341.0	24.0%	7	
Grants/Transfer Payments	319,892.0	324,540.0	4,648.0	1.5%		
Amortization	65,496.0	75,010.0	9,514.0	14.5%	6	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>712,251.0</b>	<b>793,517.0</b>	<b>81,266.0</b>	<b>11.4%</b>		

**C. SUMMARY VARIANCE EXPLANATION**

For summary consolidation and variance explanation purposes, Housing, Addictions and Homelessness expenses are reduced by amounts paid to Other Reporting Entities (OREs) in the healthcare system and are only identified when they are a final expense on Summary. The impact to summary would be when a Service Delivery Organization uses the funding to pay for an expense outside of the health reporting entity.

**1. Shared Costs and other Federal Transfers**

Increase of \$32.224M is primarily due to:

- \$27.809M in Federal Bilateral Agreement funding

- \$8.743M in National Housing Strategy funding per agreement
- \$(4.328M) in declining funding of the Social Housing Agreement with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

## 2. Sinking Funds and Other Earnings

Increase of \$1.116M in bank interest revenue using Bank of Canada 2% rate, net of 1.95% reduction by RBC of the average monthly cash balance.

## 3. Administration and Finance

Increase of \$0.266M is primarily due to:

- \$0.203M salaries and operating expenses for the Executive Financial Officer and administrative support
- \$0.063M related to merit increases and salary adjustments

## 4. Housing

Increase of \$55.175M is primarily due to:

- \$20M capital grant contribution
- \$10M for affordable housing partnership program
- \$5.65M increase in principal and interest
- \$5M to support of the department's mandate to end chronic homelessness over eight years
- \$4.35M incremental program expenses for new funding model under National Housing Strategies (net of federal funding)
- \$4M for repairs and maintenance
- \$2.8M in consolidation adjustments which includes grants to other ORE and sale of Waverly west
- \$1.4M salaries and benefits incremental funding that is part of the target allocated to Manitoba Housing Renewal Corporation
- \$1.1M other miscellaneous operating (grants in lieu of taxes, utilities, security, IT)
- \$1M rent supplement for new housing supply to support plan to end homelessness
- \$1M demolition costs of 22 units in 11 communities
- \$1M in support to pest control program
- \$1M rent relief fund to Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association
- \$0.652M salaries and benefits and operating expenses of hiring of previously approved FTEs
- Offset by:
  - \$(2.22M) in staff turnover allowance
  - \$(0.800M) in base budget for Rent supplement
  - \$(0.400M) in not for profit/cooperative program
  - \$(0.250M) increase in revenue from the Property Transition Policy and Affordable Homes Program
  - \$(0.100M) for public campaign

## 5. Physician Services - Psychiatry

Increase of \$11.802M primarily due to:

- \$1.208M related to volume and collective bargaining increase – Alternate Funding
- \$10.594M related to volume and collective bargaining increase – Fee for Service

## 6. Amortization Expense

Increase of \$9.514M is primarily due to:

- \$7.73M in asset amortization due to completion of projects that were delayed in prior year as well as expected projects completion in 2024/25
- \$1.79M in Asset retirement obligation amortization.

## 7. Other Expenditures

Increase of \$67.341M related to the following appropriations:

- 24.1 Administration and Finance - \$0.010M in operating expenses for two new FTEs
- 24.2 Mental Health and Addictions Services Planning and Policy - \$1.884M due to increases/decreases in Mental Health programs as follows:
  - \$2M for the supervised consumption site
  - \$1.5M in withdrawal management and supportive housing
  - \$1.1M Integrated Youth Hub Expansion
  - \$1M in suicide prevention
  - \$0.435M for drug testing equipment
  - Offset by:
    - \$(4.151M) related primarily to one-time spending commitments
- 24.3 Housing - \$53.996M due to increases/decreases in Housing programs – details in Item 4 above
- 24.3 Housing - \$(5.351M) due to consolidation adjustments which includes grants to other ORE and sale of Waverly West
- 24.3 Housing - \$5M in End Chronic Homelessness Support Services
- 24.4 Physician Services - Psychiatry - \$11.802M related to volume and collective bargaining increase

# Printed Estimates of Expenditures

## Departmental Program and Financial Operating Information – Part A Expenditure and FTEs

Administration and Finance (Res. No. 24.1)

### Main Appropriation Description

Provides executive planning, management, agency accountability, financial planning and management services including budget review, comptrollership, and administrative support to the department.

Sub-appropriations	2024/25		2023/24		Expl.
	FTE	\$(000s)	FTE	\$(000s)	
Minister's Salary	1.00	47	1.00	42	
Executive Support	10.00	986	10.00	922	
Financial Services	9.00	807	8.00	610	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>19.00</b>	<b>1,574</b>	
<b>Expense by Type</b>					
Salaries and Employee Benefits	20.00	1,725	19.00	1,469	
Other Expenditures		115		105	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>19.00</b>	<b>1,574</b>	

Explanation:

1. The increase reflects salaries for the department's executive financial officer and 1.00 incremental FTE to provide administrative support for the division.

## Mental Health and Addictions Service Planning and Policy (Res. No. 24.2)

### Main Appropriation Description

Establishes strategic direction, policies, guidelines, standards, monitoring and legislation for service delivery organizations and funded community agencies on mental health, addictions, and recovery. Provides strategic leadership in support of the objectives and priorities of the department.

Sub-appropriations	2024/25		2023/24		Expl.
	FTE	\$(000s)	FTE	\$(000s)	
Mental Health and Addictions Treatment and Recovery	22.30	29,683	22.30	29,716	
Mental Health Promotion and Harm Reduction	13.00	13,238	13.00	9,995	1
Corporate and Strategic Services	22.00	1,900	22.00	3,459	2
Chief Provincial Psychiatrist	2.90	1,437	2.90	1,484	
Mental Health Review Board	3.00	328	3.00	319	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63.20</b>	<b>46,586</b>	<b>63.20</b>	<b>44,973</b>	
<b>Expense by Type</b>					
Salaries and Employee Benefits	63.20	5,940	63.20	6,211	
Other Expenditures	-	40,591	-	38,707	
Grant Assistance	-	55	-	55	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63.20</b>	<b>46,586</b>	<b>63.20</b>	<b>44,973</b>	

### Explanations:

1. The increase includes \$1M for suicide prevention action plan including addressing the needs of Indigenous and 2SLGBTQ+ youth, \$2M for a supervised consumption site, additional \$1.1M for integrated youth hubs, and \$0.435M for drug testing services to reduce the harms associated with unregulated toxic drug supplies.

This increase is offset by reductions of one-time spending in 2023/24 including increase in STA - \$(0.112M), return of one-time initiatives - \$(0.600M), and conclusion of thrival kits funding - \$(0.580M).

2. The decrease reflects reductions of 2023/24 one-time spending of \$(1.5M) and net reduction of \$(0.059M) in salaries due to increase in STA.

## Housing (Res. No. 24.3)

### Main Appropriation Description

Provides for the delivery of public housing operations as well as funding programs to individuals and organizations to meet housing needs in communities and to address chronic homelessness across the province.

Sub-appropriations	2024/25		2023/24		Expl.
	FTE	\$(000s)	FTE	\$(000s)	
Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation	567.30	239,234	567.30	186,858	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>567.30</b>	<b>239,234</b>	567.30	186,858	
<b>Expense by Type</b>					
Salaries and Employee Benefits	567.30	35,796	567.30	36,018	
Other Expenditures	-	30,340	-	25,395	1
Grant Assistance	-	173,098	-	125,445	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>567.30</b>	<b>239,234</b>	567.30	186,858	

### Explanations:

1. The increase primarily reflects \$5M for initiatives aimed at ending chronic homelessness.
2. The increase includes \$20M for a capital grant program to acquire, renovate or construct social housing units, \$10M for an affordable housing partnership program, an increase of \$4.35M for new agreements with the non-profit housing sector to maintain social housing units, an increase of \$4M for repair and maintenance, an increase of \$5.65M in principal and interest payments for capital projects, \$1M for a pest control program, \$1M to continue rent relief fund administered by Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association, and a net increase of \$0.200M for rent supplement program. It also includes \$1.103M in Utilities, Grants in Lieu of taxes, and other Project Operating Expenditures, and \$1M in Demolition.
3. Decrease of \$(0.650M) to reflect reduced volume in non-profit housing coop program and increase in revenue from the Affordable Homes Program.

## Physician Services - Psychiatry (Res. No. 24.4)

### Main Appropriation Description

Provides for psychiatry services insured under the Manitoba Health Services Insurance Plan in respect of fee-for-service claims submitted by physicians as well as non-fee-for-service payments to physicians, physician assistants, and clinical assistants for psychiatry and mental health services.

Sub-appropriations	2024/25		2023/24		Expl.
	FTE	\$(000s)	FTE	\$(000s)	
Fee-For-Service	-	40,744	-	38,727	1
Alternate Funding	-	43,137	-	33,352	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>83,881</b>	-	72,079	
<b>Expense by Type</b>					
Other Expenditures	-	83,881	-	72,079	
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>83,881</b>	-	72,079	

### Explanation:

1. Reflects estimated price and volume increases.

## Funding to Health Authorities (Res. No. 24.5)

### Main Appropriation Description

Funding to health authorities and Shared Health for mental health and recovery services, physician psychiatry services, and wellness and health promotion programs.

Sub-appropriations	2024/25		2023/24		Expl.
	FTE	\$(000s)	FTE	\$(000s)	
Mental Health and Addictions Services	-	286,587	-	283,691	1
Wellness and Health Promotion Services	-	14,261	-	14,261	
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>300,848</b>	-	297,952	
<b>Expense by Type</b>					
Other Expenditures	-	300,848	-	297,952	
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>300,848</b>	-	297,952	

### Explanation:

1. The increase primarily includes \$1.52M to service delivery organizations to alleviate inflationary pressures, \$0.500M to expand eating disorder programming and services, \$0.211M for mobile withdrawal management services, \$2.240M increase for health human resources.

Offset by reductions of \$(1.575M) for one-time spending and unallocated funding in Mental Health and Addictions.

## Costs Related to Capital Assets of Other Reporting (Res. No. 24.6)

### Main Appropriation Description

Provides funding to health authorities for principal repayment on approved borrowing and interest.

Sub-appropriations	2024/25		2023/24		Expl.
	FTE	\$(000s)	FTE	\$(000s)	
Principal Repayments	-	570	-	570	
Interest	-	250	-	250	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>820</b>		<b>820</b>	
<b>Expense by Type</b>					
Grant Assistance		820		820	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>820</b>		<b>820</b>	

## Part B, C and D - Capital Investments, Loans and Guarantees

The department does not have Part B Capital Investments.

	2024/25	2023/24	
<b>Part C – Loans and Guarantees</b>	<b>\$(000s)</b>		<b>Expl.</b>
Provides expenditure authority for non-budgetary capital and operating investment requirements.			
Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation			
Non-Profit Mortgage Funding	5,000	5,000	
Loan Guarantee Program	10,000	10,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	

	2024/25	2023/24	
<b>Part D – Other Reporting Entities Capital Investment</b>	<b>\$(000s)</b>		<b>Expl.</b>
Provides for the acquisition, development or enhancement of strategic infrastructure that includes housing stocks and development of land owned by The Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation.			
Capital Program	-	1,600	
Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation	-	-	
Infrastructure	73,871	63,000	1
Land and Proposal Development Fund	4,000	4,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77,871</b>	<b>68,600</b>	

Explanation:

1. Related to new acquisitions and alternative sponsor delivery allocations.

## Capital Project Highlights

This section lists major capital projects outlined in the capital plan and are located in Winnipeg.

- 1380 Raleigh Street - Exterior Retrofit, Site Work, Parking Lot and Paving
- 394 Keenleyside Street - Exterior, Mechanical, Ventilation, Site Upgrade
- Burrows and Keewatin - Gilbert Park - Site Improvement and Sanitary Waste and Storm Water Piping Upgrades
- Lawson Lodge/Prairie Oasis - Deep Refresh
- Monash Manor - 865 Sinclair Street - Structural Improvements
- 738 Nassau Street - Demolition/New Build

Note: These projects are in early stages and will require tenant management plans in tandem with design development.

**HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS  
SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS  
\$(000s)**

**PART A - OPERATING**

Printed Estimates of Expenditure 2023/24	439,282
October 2023 Re-Organization	164,829
Restated Print 2023/24	<u>604,111</u>
In-Year Approvals	(29)
Estimates of Expenditure 2023/24 (Adjusted)	<u><u>604,082</u></u>

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**PART B - CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

The department does not have Part B Capital Investments.

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**PART C - LOANS AND GUARANTEES**

Printed Estimates of Expenditure 2023/24	-
October 2023 Re-Organization	15,000
Estimates of Expenditure 2023/24 (Adjusted)	<u><u>15,000</u></u>

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**PART D - OTHER REPORTING ENTITIES CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

Printed Estimates of Expenditure 2023/24	1,600
October 2023 Re-Organization	67,000
Estimates of Expenditure 2023/24 (Adjusted)	<u><u>68,600</u></u>

**2024/25 ESTIMATES**  
**HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS**  
**GRANTS AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS**  
**\$(000s)**

	2024/25 Print	2023/24 Adjusted Print
<b>24-2 MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS BRANCH</b>		
<b>1) Peer Connections Manitoba - Mental Health Education Resource Centre</b> (formerly Manitoba Schizophrenia Society Inc.)  The purpose of this grant is to offer an array of current, comprehensive, evidence-based materials that meet the needs of a broad audience.	55	55
<b>Total 24-2A-3</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>24-3 HOUSING</b>		
These grants support delivery of public housing operations as well as funding programs to individuals and organizations to meet housing needs in communities  <b>1) Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation (MHRC)</b>  <b>2) Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association Inc.</b>	171,798 1,300	123,540 1,300
<b>Total 24-3A-3</b>	<b>173,098</b>	<b>124,840</b>
<b>24-5 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</b>		
These grants provide funding to health authorities and Shared Health for mental health and recovery services, physician psychiatry services and addiction services.  <b>1) Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority</b> <b>2) Southern Health-Santé Sud</b> <b>3) Prairie Mountain Health</b> <b>4) Northern Regional Health Authority</b> <b>5) Winnipeg Regional Health Authority</b> <b>6) Shared Health</b> <b>7) Other Service Delivery Organizations</b>	8,402 16,728 29,074 14,517 78,198 116,185 37,744	8,343 16,635 28,876 14,421 77,631 113,533 38,513
<b>Total 24-5</b>	<b>300,848</b>	<b>297,952</b>
<b>24-6 COST RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS OF OTHER REPORTING ENTITY</b>		
<b>Other Service Delivery Organizations</b> This grant provides funding to health authorities for principal repayment on approved borrowing and interest	820	820
<b>Total 24-6</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>820</b>
<b>Total Grants and Transfer Payments</b>	<b>474,821</b>	<b>423,667</b>

**2024/25 ESTIMATES  
HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS  
CONTINUING SERVICE AGREEMENTS (CSA)  
\$(000s)**

	<b>2024/25 Print</b>	<b>2023/24 Adjusted Print</b>
<b>24.2 MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION BRANCH</b>		
<b>MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS TREATMENT RECOVERY</b>		
1) Addictions Recovery Inc	222.6	222.6
2) Bruce Oak Recovery Centre	1,916.3	1,916.3
3) Ester House Inc	87.2	87.2
4) Heartwood Healing Centre Inc	833.0	833.0
5) Indigenous Women's Healing Centre	79.0	79.0
6) Keewatinohk Inniniw Minoayawin Inc (KIM) Thompson	1,340.0	1,340.0
7) Main Street Project	919.0	919.0
8) Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre (MATC)	60.0	60.0
9) MAPS - Men are Part of the Solution	30.2	30.2
10) Native Addictions Council	663.0	663.0
11) Nor'West Co-op Community Health Centre Inc	1,027.0	1,027.0
12) Re/Act Winnipeg Expansion	132.9	132.9
13) Regensis Centre for Recovery (Women's)	350.0	350.0
14) Resource Assistance for Youth Inc. (RaY)	275.6	275.6
15) St. Raphael Wellness Centre	394.0	394.0
16) Tamarack Rehabilitation Inc.	526.9	526.9
17) Tamarack Rehab Inc Employment and Income Assistance Clients	43.0	43.0
18) The Behavioural Health Foundation Inc	4,197.0	4,197.0
19) The Link Youth and Family Supports	1,547.3	1,547.3
20) Two Ten Recovery Inc	372.7	372.7
21) Winnipeg School Division	770.0	770.0
22) Youth for Christ (Winnipeg) Inc.	8.6	8.6
<b>Total 24.2A</b>	<b>15,795.3</b>	<b>15,795.3</b>

**2024/25 ESTIMATES  
HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS  
CONTINUING SERVICE AGREEMENTS (CSA)  
\$(000s)**

	<b>2024/25 Print</b>	<b>2023/24 Adjusted Print</b>
<b>MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION AND HARM REDUCTION</b>		
1) Anxiety Disorder Association of Manitoba	371.3	371.3
2) Artbeat Studio Inc.	88.4	88.4
3) Aulneau Renewal Centre Inc	59.3	59.3
4) Canadian Mental Health Assoc Central Portage Branch	59.3	59.3
5) Canadian Mental Health Association - Wellness Skills Support	288.1	288.1
6) Canadian Mental Health Assoc Norman Self Help	36.4	36.4
7) Canadian Mental Health Assoc Swan Valley Branch Inc	47.8	47.8
8) Canadian Mental Health Assoc Thompson Region Inc	20.8	20.8
9) Canadian MH Assoc - Manitoba and Winnipeg Admin	90.5	90.5
10) Canadian MH Assoc Partnership for Recovery Program	61.4	61.4
11) (CMHA) Winnipeg	208.0	208.0
12) Compassionate Friends - Winnipeg Chapter	23.0	23.0
13) Family Dynamics	130.0	130.0
14) Gilbert Park Going Place	239.2	239.2
15) Helathy Schools	260.0	260.0
16) Healthy Schools Division Prohgram	83.2	83.2
17) Healthy Schools Provincial Program	166.4	166.4
18) Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc. Turnabout Mentorship	309.4	309.4
19) Kids Help Phone MB	52.0	52.0
20) Ma-Mawi-Wi-Chi-Itata Centre Inc. (Solvent Abuse Prevention)	113.4	113.4
21) Manitoba Artist in Health Care	22.0	22.0
22) Manitoba Harm Reduction Network	93.6	93.6
23) Mood Disorder Association of Manitoba	369.2	369.2
24) New Directions for Children, Youth, Adults & Families Inc.	184.1	184.1
25) New Direstions-Trauma Workshop	48.9	48.9
26) Northern RHA - Play it Safer Network	0.6	0.6
27) Northern RHA Safer Choices Northern Network	0.8	0.8

**2024/25 ESTIMATES  
HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS  
CONTINUING SERVICE AGREEMENTS (CSA)  
\$(000s)**

	<b>2024/25 Print</b>	<b>2023/24 Adjusted Print</b>
28) Obsessive Compulsive Centre Inc	30.0	30.0
29) PAX/PAX Dream Makers	270.0	615.0
30) Peer Connections Manitoba	397.3	397.3
31) Peer Connections MB - Mental Health Education Resource Ctr	117.5	117.5
32) Rainbow Resource Centre Inc.	443.0	443.0
33) School Based Suicide Prevention Initiatives	73.8	73.8
34) Sources of Strnght	100.0	0.0
35) Spence Neighbourhood Association Inc.	104.0	104.0
36) Sunshine House	25.0	25.0
37) Unallocated funding Previously for Horizons Management	0.4	0.4
38) University of Manitoba	612.6	67.6
39) Wpg Aboriginal Sports and Recr'n Assocn-Suicide Prevention	520.0	520.0
40) Youth Employment Service (Youth Now)	665.6	665.6
<b>Total 24-2B</b>	<b>6,786.3</b>	<b>6,486.3</b>
<b>24.3 - HOUSING</b>		
1) Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation	350.0	0.0
2) CMHA Swan Valley	1,282.8	582.8
3) (CMHA) Thompson	277.8	277.8
4) Community Health and Housing Association	184.8	-24.6
5) End Chronic Homelessness	5,000.0	0.0
6) End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW)	4,110.0	4,110.0
7) Homeless Shelters	16.6	0.0
8) Homeless Public Campaign	0.0	100.0
9) Main Street Project	3,243.5	2,209.5
10) Main Street Project	0.0	434.0
11) MB Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO)	350.0	0.0
12) Not Relevant	-0.2	-0.2

**2024/25 ESTIMATES  
HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS  
CONTINUING SERVICE AGREEMENTS (CSA)  
\$(000s)**

	<b>2024/25 Print</b>	<b>2023/24 Adjusted Print</b>
<b>13)</b> Red Road Lodge	1,159.5	1,159.5
<b>14)</b> Resource Assistance for Youth Inc. (RaY)	718.9	718.9
<b>15)</b> Salvation Army Inc.	6,794.6	6,794.6
<b>16)</b> Samaritan House Ministries Inc	501.9	501.9
<b>17)</b> 24/7 Shelter Oper	0.0	2,600.0
<b>18)</b> Siloam Mission	2,241.2	1,641.2
<b>19)</b> Spense Neighbourhood Association Inc.	61.6	61.6
<b>20)</b> Stand Up For Oscars Place	0.0	226.0
<b>21)</b> The Pas Homeless Shelter	32.3	32.3
<b>22)</b> Thompson Homeless Shelter	508.1	508.1
<b>23)</b> West Central Women's Resource Centre Inc.	61.6	61.6
<b>Total 24-3A</b>	<b>26,895.0</b>	<b>21,995.0</b>
<b>Total Continuing Service Agreements (CSA)</b>	<b>49,476.6</b>	<b>44,276.6</b>

**2024/25 Committee of Supply**

**List of Major Contracts**

Information based on contracts valued at \$50,000.00 or greater as of March 25, 2024

Vendor Name	Total Contract Value	Reference Text	Validity Start	Validity End	Description
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No contract valued at \$50,000 and above for the Department as of April 1, 2024

**Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness  
Out of Province  
Travel Expenses**



**For Quarter 1 – April 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023**

<b>Item#</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Nil Report	Nil Report	Nil Report	Nil Report

**For Quarter 2 – July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023**

<b>Item#</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Nil Report	Nil Report	Nil Report	Nil Report

**For Quarter 3 – October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023**

<b>Item#</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Nil Report	Nil Report	Nil Report	Nil Report

**For Quarter 4 – January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024**

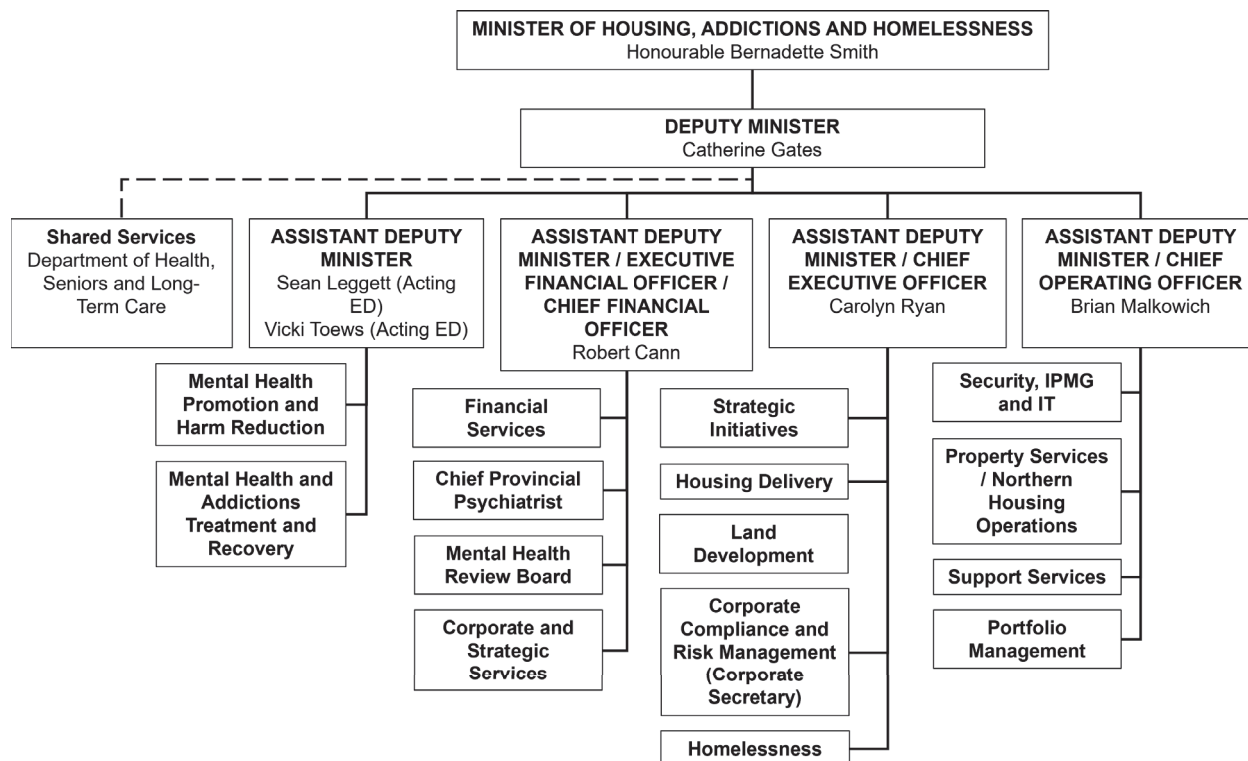
<b>Item#</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
1	February 6 - 9, 2024	Attend FPT Ministers Meeting on MMIWG and 2SLGBTQI+ People	\$2,468.33

**DETAILS OF ESTIMATED REVENUE  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2024  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, ADDICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS**

SERVICE	2024/25 \$ (000s)	2023/24 \$ (000s)
<b>1. TAXATION:</b>	-	-
<b>2. OTHER REVENUE:</b>		
a. Manitoba Housing Land Development	<b>6,362</b>	7,487
<b>3. GOVERNMENT OF CANADA:</b>		
<u>Health Funds</u>		
1. Workforce Development Agreement (WDA)	<b>4,368</b>	4,368
2. Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP)	-	377
3. Working Together to Improve Health Care	<b>28,186</b>	
Sub-Total Health Funds (Mental Health)	<b>32,554</b>	4,745
Total Government of Canada (Mental Health)	<b>32,554</b>	4,745
<b>Total Department of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness</b>	<b>38,916</b>	12,232

## Organizational Structure

### Department of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness as of August 31, 2024



#### 24.1 Administration and Finance

Provides executive planning, management, agency accountability, financial planning and management services including budget review, comptrollership and administrative support to the department.

#### 24.2 Mental Health and Addictions Service Planning and Policy

Establishes strategic direction, policies, guidelines, standards, monitoring and legislation for service delivery organizations and funded community agencies on mental health, addictions and recovery. Provides strategic leadership in support of the objectives and priorities of the department.

#### 24.3 Housing

Provides for the delivery of public housing operations as well as funding programs to individuals and organizations to meet housing needs in communities and to address chronic homelessness across the province.

#### 24.4 Physician Services – Psychiatry

Provides for psychiatry services insured under the Manitoba Health Services Insurance Plan in respect of fee-for-service claims submitted by physicians as well as non-fee-for-service payments to physicians, physician assistant and clinical assistants for psychiatry and mental health services.

#### 24.5 Funding to Health Authorities

Funding to health authorities and Shared Health for mental health and recovery services, physician psychiatry services and wellness and health promotion programs.

2024/2025 Committee of Supply

B.2 Staffing Overview (as of February 29, 2024)

App #	Main Appropriations	2024/25 Print	2023/24 Adjusted Print	Increase / (Decrease)
24-1	Administration and Finance	20.00	19.00	1.00
24-2	Mental Health and Addictions Service Planning and Poli	63.20	63.20	0.00
24-3	Housing	567.30	567.30	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>650.50</b>	<b>649.50</b>	<b>1.00</b>

2024/2025 Committee of Supply

<b>B.3 Minister's &amp; Deputy Minister's Staff (as of August 31, 2024)</b>			
<b>Total:</b>		<b>12</b>	
		<b>Count</b>	
Regular		7	
Political		3	
Term		2	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	
	<b>Total in Minister's Office</b>	7	
	<b>Total in Deputy Minister's Office</b>	5	
	<b>Branch</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Name of Employee</b>
	Deputy Minister's Office	DEPUTY MINISTER	Gates, Catherine
	Deputy Minister's Office	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DM	Gonzales, Maria
	Deputy Minister's Office	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DM	Kukharskyy, Tetyana
	Deputy Minister's Office	SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER	De Blonde, Karen
	Deputy Minister's Office	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	Andersen, Lisa
	Minister's Office	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER	Bhardwaj, Ritu
	Minister's Office	ADMINISTRATIVE CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY	Kasala, Estella
	Minister's Office	ADMINISTRATIVE CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY	Ginter, Cheryl
	Minister's Office	DIRECTOR OF MINISTERIAL AFFAIRS	Forest, Andree
	Minister's Office	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER	Bradburn, Rachel
	Minister's Office	INTAKE COORDINATOR	Manitowabi, Jennelle
	Minister's Office	POLICY MANAGER	DePape, Noelle
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	

**2024/2025 Committee of Supply****B.4 List of Political Officers and OIC Appointments****Political Officers (as of August 31, 2024)**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
<b>1</b>	DePape, Noelle	POLICY MANAGER
<b>2</b>	Forest, Andree	DIRECTOR OF MINISTERIAL AFFAIRS
<b>3</b>	Bradburn, Rachel	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

**OIC Appointments - Political (as of August 31, 2024)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
Bigrigg, Cynthia	PRESS SECRETARY
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

2024/2025 Committee of Supply (March 1 to August 31, 2024)  
 B5 Competitions and Direct Appointments

<b>Appointments**</b>
-----------------------

Competitive Appointments	Count
Competition - Closed	1
Competition - Internal	0
Competition - Open	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>

Event Type	Count
Acting Status	21
In-Service Appointment	38
New Appointment	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>

Direct Appointments	Count
Acting Status	20
Acting Status to Reg	3
Diff. to Recruit Pos	4
Employment Equity In	1
Former Employee Return	1
OIC - Political	1
Only Available Individual	1
Workforce Adjustment	3
Reasonable Accommodation	1
Reassignment	2
Retired Civil Servant	2
Term to Regular	2
Temporary Placement	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>

**2024/2025 Committee of Supply (as at August 31, 2024)**

**B.6 Vacancies**

<b>Total Value of Vacant FTEs:</b>	<b>120.70</b>
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**2024/2025 Committee of Supply (March 1 to August 31, 2024)**  
**Summary of total department retirements and terminations**

<b>B.7</b>	<b>Total Terminations</b>	31
	<b>Total Retirement(s)</b>	10
	<b>Proportion Retirement(s) to Terminations</b>	32.3%

## HOUSING

### ISSUE TITLE: Funding and Revenue Sources

#### ISSUE

- Funding and Revenue Sources

#### SPEAKING POINTS

**Housing received a 28.0 per cent or \$52.376 million dollar increase for 2024/25. Why is that?**

- Housing has an approved budget of \$239.234 million for 2024/25. The increase of \$52.376 million or 28.0 per cent from the 2023/24 Adjusted Vote is due to the following items:
  - a. Net increase of \$52.376 million in Housing Operations.
    - \$1.4 million incremental funding in salaries and benefits that is part of the target allocated to the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation
    - \$0.652 million increase in salaries and benefits and operating expenses of hiring of approved FTEs
    - \$4.0 million increase for repairs and maintenance
    - \$20 million increase for capital grant contribution
    - \$10 million increase for affordable housing partnership program
    - \$4.35 million increase in incremental program expenses for new funding model under National Housing Strategy (net of federal funding)
    - \$1.0 million increase in rent supplement for new housing supply to support Homelessness Strategy
    - \$1.0 million increase for demolition costs of 22 units in 11 communities
    - \$1.0 million increase in support to pest control program
    - \$1.0 million increase to Rent Relief Fund to Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association
    - \$5.65 million increase in principal and interest for debt repayments
    - \$1.1 million increase for other miscellaneous operating expenses
    - \$0.250 million increase in profit for Rural Homeownership and Asset Repurposing asset sales
    - \$5.0 million increase in support of the department's mandate to end chronic homelessness over eight years
    - Increase in staff turnover allowance by \$ 2.22 million
    - \$0.100 million decrease for public campaign
    - \$0.800 million decrease in base budget for Rent Supplement
    - \$0.400 million decrease in non-profit/cooperative program

b. Net increase of \$4.415 million in Recoveries:

- \$8.743 million increase in National Housing Strategy funding per agreement
- \$4.328 million decrease in declining funding of the Social Housing Agreement with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- The transfer payment from the Manitoba government is provided to cover the shortfall between Manitoba Housing’s gross expenditure and its projected revenues that come from rental revenue, federal funding and other recoveries.
- Declining federal funding under the Social Housing Agreement as projects expire for funding under the agreement adds pressure to the Manitoba Housing transfer payment from the province. Federal funding was \$31.581 million in 2022/23, reduced to \$25.942 million in 2023/24, and will be reduced to \$21.614 million in 2024/25. The expiry of federal funding for projects under the Social Housing Agreement aligns with the maturity of the debt incurred to finance for the original construction costs of these projects.
- For 2024/25, Manitoba Housing’s budget includes general operating increases for debt servicing, property taxes, and insurance. The rental revenues increase is based on prior years’ average. The increase in budget is mainly in repairs and maintenance and utilities. Manitoba Housing’s total operating budget for 2024/25 is \$386.975 million:

<b>Funding Sources to Cover Manitoba Housing’s Operating Budget</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate (in millions)</b>
MHRC Funding:	
Rental Revenues	83,392
Federal Recoveries - Social Housing Agreement	21.614
Federal Recoveries – National Housing Strategy	41.085
Revenue Generated from sales of assets	1.050
Recovery from the City of Winnipeg	0.600
Transfer Payment from the Department in appropriation 24.3	239.234
<b>Total Manitoba Housing Operating Budget</b>	<b>386.975</b>

**Can you explain further so I can understand the transfer payment?**

- The Member could refer to the Estimates Supplement for a more detailed breakdown of Manitoba Housing’s expenditures.
- Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation is a Crown Corporation and, through the annual Estimates process, obtains budgetary approval for its net provincial share of its housing operation requirements. The Estimates are first budgeted for at the gross expenditure level, which for 2024/25 is \$386.975 million. The balance remaining, after applying the rental revenue and recoveries, represents the net provincial requirement budgeted under the Manitoba Housing Appropriation in the amount of \$239.234 million.

- The individual lines of the Estimates Supplement are explained at a high level as follows:

**Direct Managed** – This represents the cost of operating approximately 11,700<sup>1</sup> of Manitoba Housing-owned, direct-managed units. It reflects costs, such as repair and maintenance, utilities, administration, grants in lieu of taxes, amortization and interest, and insurance less rental revenue, which is shown separately.

**Sponsor Managed** – This represents the cost of operating approximately 4,700 of Manitoba Housing-owned, sponsor-managed units. It also reflects costs, such as repair and maintenance, utilities, administration, grants in lieu of taxes, amortization and interest, and insurance less rental revenue, which is shown separately.

**Non-Profits / Cooperatives** – This represents the subsidy cost under individual operating agreements of the 13,050 units owned and operated by non-profit, Urban Native and cooperative housing groups.

**Rent Supplement Program**- This fills the gap between the market rent and the tenant's ability to pay for the 3,010 units in the program.

**Housing Development** – This includes programs that enable additional rental and cooperative housing and create homeownership opportunities. These programs are funded primarily through the National Housing Strategy, a \$302.706 million bilateral agreement between Manitoba and Canada that will help address the housing needs of Manitobans between 2019/20 and 2027/28. Included under Housing Development are programs that support the Provincial Territorial Priorities, the Canada Community Housing Initiative and the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit.

**Other Manitoba Housing Expenditures** – This includes administration (salary and branch operations for Manitoba Housing staff), land inventory carrying costs on the vacant land holdings, coop complementary assistance and Elderly and Infirm Persons Housing grants.

**Recoveries** – This includes federal funding under the Social Housing Agreement, federal funding under the National Housing Strategy, net profit from Manitoba Housing affordable homeownership program and recovery from the City of Winnipeg.

**Portable Housing Benefits and Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit** – This includes financial support for low-income individuals with mental health disabilities who need additional assistance to secure and maintain suitable housing in the private rental market. The program is delivered by community mental health service providers who determine eligibility, assist recipients in securing housing, while providing support services to maintain and maximize tenancy success.

- In addition to budgetary operating dollars, Manitoba Housing also has \$77.871 million in Part D funding and \$15.000 million in Part C Funding.

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<sup>1</sup> Unit count is as of 2024/25 Supplement to the Estimates of Expenditure. Does not include units under construction.

**What items are included in the Recoveries number?**

<b>Manitoba Housing Recoveries</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate</b>
Recoveries	
Federal Funding - Social Housing Agreement	21,614
Federal Funding – National Housing Strategy	41,085
City of Winnipeg	600
MHRC Homeownership Programs	1,050
<b>Total Manitoba Housing Recoveries</b>	<b>64,349</b>

**Manitoba Housing Homeownership programs:**

<b>Manitoba Housing Homeownership Program</b>	<b>2023/24 Adjusted Vote (in millions)</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimates (in millions)</b>	<b>2024/25 Net Adjustment (in millions)</b>
MHRC Affordable Homeownership Program	600	750	150
Property Transition Policy	200	300	100
<b>Total Manitoba Housing Homeownership Program</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>250</b>

- Manitoba Housing’s Affordable Homeownership program provide homeownership opportunities through the sale of identified Manitoba Housing-owned single and semi-detached homes, scattered in rural communities throughout the province to qualified households. The program will provide participants up to 35 per cent of the sale price of the property as a forgivable loan, as initial equity and additional financial assistance to subsidize real estate soft costs.

23(1)(a)

**Why does the direct-managed housing operations budget increase?**

- Manitoba Housing owns and operates approximately 11,700 units. Direct-managed operations has an increase of \$8,904 to its budget in 2024/25. This is mainly due to:
  - \$3.019 million increase for Repairs and Maintenance of housing stock
  - \$3.801 million increase for debt-servicing costs associated with capital improvements on the existing housing stock
  - \$0.152 million increase for grants in lieu of taxes
  - \$0.280 million increase in utilities
  - \$1.652 million increase in Other project operating

**Why does the sponsor-managed housing operations budget increase?**

- Manitoba Housing owns units but has also entered into agreements with property management agencies to manage units on behalf of Manitoba Housing. The increase of \$2.863 million is mostly attributable to increase repairs and maintenance and other operating:
  - \$0.800 million increase in repairs and maintenance of housing stock
  - \$1.932 million increase in debt-servicing costs associated with capital improvements on the existing housing stock and new capital supply
  - \$0.051 million increase in grants in lieu of taxes
  - \$0.080 million increase in Utilities

**Why does the Non-Profits / Cooperatives budget decrease?**

- The decrease of \$2.056 million is mainly due to a reduced requirement for amortization and interest as loans mature, combined with matured mortgages under the Urban Native Program as they either matured in the prior fiscal year or they mature during 2024/25.

**What is the Housing Development line?**

- The Housing Development line includes:
  - Programs that enable additional rental and cooperative housing and create homeownership opportunities. These programs are funded primarily through the National Housing Strategy, a \$302.706 million bilateral agreement between Manitoba and Canada that will help address the housing needs of Manitobans between 2019/20 and 2027/28.

**Why the increase to the Housing Development line?**

- The increase of \$40.435 million in 2024/25 is a result of total program expenses under the National Housing Strategy agreement that was not accommodated through existing program expenses.

**How are we cost matching the National Housing Strategy?**

- In 2024/25, Manitoba plans to cost match primarily through its Modernization and Improvement activities and Department of Families Non-EIA Rent Assist program.

**Why is there an increase of \$0.900 million to Other Manitoba Housing Expenditures in 2024/25 and what is included in this line?**

- The net increase of \$0.900 million is mainly due to the demolition costs of 22 residential units in 11 communities.

**What is included in the Debt Servicing for 2024/25?**

- A total of \$111.843 million is included in the overall Manitoba Housing budget for debt servicing. This is related to debt incurred from the original construction in the 1970s to recent capital improvements on the Manitoba Housing-owned housing stock and new builds.
- Debt servicing has increased in the last few years due to the capital improvements on the existing housing stock and the construction of new housing supply. The 2024/25 debt servicing amount related to land debt of \$0.042 million, capital improvements is

\$78.740 million, original builds is \$14.107 million and new builds is \$18.954 million.

- Total Manitoba Housing debt is \$889.725 million as of March 31, 2023, based on its Audited Financial Statements.

**What happens to the overall net profit or loss of Manitoba Housing on its financial statements?**

- The profits, revenues, and expenses of Manitoba Housing are consolidated into the summary financial statements of the Manitoba government – the budgeted results of Manitoba Housing are reflected in the province’s Summary Budget.

**Can you provide a breakdown of what the \$386,975 million of operating expenditures in Manitoba Housing is allocated towards?**

<b>Manitoba Housing Operating Expenditures</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate (in millions)</b>
Direct Managed Housing Operations	184,342
Sponsor Managed Housing Operations	64,201
Non-Profit/Cooperative Housing Programs	24,206
Rent Supplement Program	10,952
Housing Development Programs	55,028
Homeless Strategy	1,357
Homelessness Support Services	28,755
Portable Housing Benefit & Canada-Manitoba Housing Support	1,423
Corporate Operating Expenditures	16,711
<b>Total Manitoba Housing Operating Budget</b>	<b>386,975</b>

**What is approved amount for Part C and D for the Manitoba Housing in 2024/25? What is the breakdown?**

Part C and Part D (funded from Loan Act Authority) for 2024/25 is \$15.000 million and \$77.871 million respectively broken down as follows:

<b>Part C approved spending authority</b>	<b>2024/25 in millions</b>
Non-Profit Mortgage Funding	5.000
Loan Guarantee	10.000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15.000</b>

<b>Part D approved spending authority</b>	<b>2024/25 in millions</b>
Continuing Projects	42.785
New Projects	21.086
Annual Allocations	14.000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77.871</b>

Annual Allocation includes:

Acquisitions and Alternative Sponsor delivery	10.000
Land Development	3.000
Proposal Development fund	1.000
Total annual allocation	14.000

**Non-Profit Mortgage Funding – \$5.000 million**

- This funding is required for second mortgage financing where projects owned and operated by a non-profit require major capital repairs and do not have sufficient reserves in place. As mortgages are maturing for these non-profits and their subsidies end, it is expected that more will require assistance to fund their capital repairs. The financing will be in the form of a repayable loan with repayment terms and conditions established by Manitoba Housing.

**Loan Guarantees – \$10.000 million**

- There is no current outstanding guarantee issued. This spending authority is intended to fund private not-for-profit sector debt financing in case of default and where Manitoba Housing issued a Loan Guarantee, which is required for the proponent to secure bridge financing to support their affordable housing project. Manitoba Housing is required to secure Treasury Board approval before issuing any Loan Guarantee.

**Continuing Projects Modernization and Improvement – \$73.871 million**

- Funding for Manitoba Housing's Modernization and Improvement Program is used to perform eligible capital improvements to the Manitoba Housing owned public housing stock that fall under the Manitoba Housing's Tangible Capital Asset Policy. This approved amount is comprised of continuing projects - \$42.785 million; new projects - \$21.086 million; and acquisitions and alternative sponsor delivery allocation of \$10.0 million.

**Land Development Costs - \$3.000 million**

- This relates to the development of the Waverley West lands, which now includes all servicing and proportionate external road costs for the Bridgwater neighborhood, including Bridgwater Forest, Bridgwater Lakes, Bridgwater Centre and Bridgwater Trails. The funding for 2024/25 is required for landscaping and fencing requirements in Bridgwater Lakes, Bridgwater Centre and Bridgwater Trails as well as some servicing of Bridgwater Trails and Bridgwater Forest.

**Proposal Development Funding - \$1.000 million**

- Proposal Development Funding provides interest-free loans to assist non-profit community groups and cooperative housing organizations cover the costs of bringing affordable housing proposals to approved status. The objective is to develop affordable housing for low-to-moderate-income households, persons with disabilities and seniors to meet existing government commitments.

**What is the current interest rate on the funding borrowed?**

- The interest rate for Manitoba Housing borrowing is provided by Manitoba Finance. The current unfunded interest rate as of March 1, 2024, is 5.5 per cent. Interest is

paid quarterly based on invoices from Manitoba Finance. To fix debt, terms and conditions are set with Manitoba Finance at fixed-term loan interest rates, which are currently 15 year – 4.85 per cent and 25 year – 5.05 cent (crown rates as of March 1, 2024).

**BACKGROUND**

- None

**CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

- None

**CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** National Housing Strategy

### ISSUE

- Provincially administered housing programs under the National Housing Strategy

### SPEAKING POINTS

**What is the status of the National Housing Strategy bilateral agreement?**

- In 2024/25, federal funding under the agreement is \$40.09 million, including \$11.9 million for the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit. This funding is cost-matched by Manitoba.
- Manitoba received approvals for its second three-year action plan (2022/23-2024/25) and the document is posted on Manitoba Housing's website.
- Manitoba is currently developing its third and final action plan (2025/26-2027/28) under the National Housing Strategy, which will be informed by stakeholder engagement.

**How is the Manitoba government spending National Housing Strategy funds?**

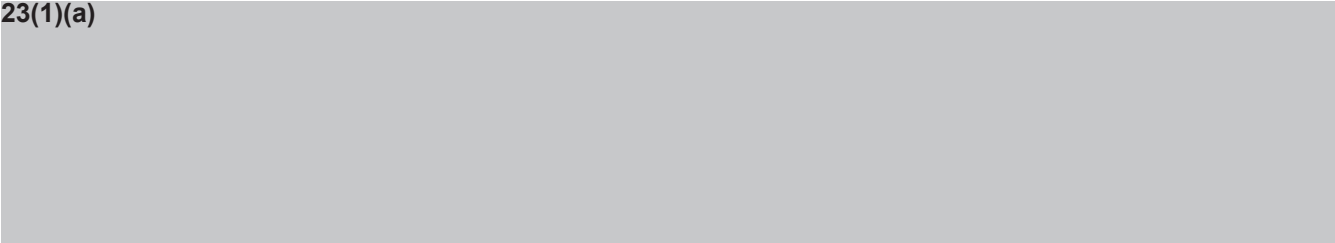
- Under the terms of the bilateral agreement, Manitoba is required to meet targets, including continuing to offer a minimum number of social and affordable housing units, expanding the supply of affordable housing, repairing its existing portfolio, and improving the energy efficiency of its units.
- In 2024/25, federal and provincial funding under the National Housing Strategy will be used toward new social and affordable rental housing, operating subsidies for community housing units formally funded under the Social Housing Agreement (including Urban Native social housing units) and providing affordability supports for low-income renters in the form of rent supplements, shelter benefits and other subsidized housing.

## BACKGROUND

- The bilateral agreement under the National Housing Strategy (NHS) was signed by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Manitoba Housing in 2019. The agreement concerns \$320.61 million in federal funding for three provincially administered funding streams, Manitoba Priorities, the Canada Community Housing Initiative, and the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit (CMHB), between 2019/20 and 2027/28. Federal funding under the agreement is cost-matched by Manitoba.
- Manitoba Housing launched the CMHB, a portable rent benefit targeting youth aging out of the child welfare system, those experiencing or at risk of homelessness and persons living with mental health and addictions in April 2021.
- A new stream of the CMHB targeted toward survivors of gender-based violence was launched in March 2024.
- Throughout the course of the agreement, Manitoba is required to submit a public-facing action plan every three years that describes how funding contributes to mutually agreed-upon targets and outcomes.

## CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER

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## CONTACT

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Federal Housing Programs

### ISSUE

- Federally administered housing programs under the National Housing Strategy and Canada's Housing Plan

### SPEAKING POINTS

**How much has been allocated to Manitoba under federally administered housing programs under the National Housing Strategy (NHS)?**

- Most federal National Housing Strategy programs are applications based. However, some Manitoba communities have received specific allocations under the Rapid Housing Initiative and the Housing Accelerator Fund.

**How else does the Manitoba government participate in federal housing programs?**

- The Manitoba government recognizes that housing is a shared responsibility and continues to work in partnership with all levels of government, community stakeholders and the private sector to address the housing needs of all Manitobans.
- The Manitoba government encourages municipal and Indigenous governments to consider participating in the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF), including in-kind contributions as this may raise federal funding for local projects.
- The Manitoba government has committed funds to projects that have applied for funding from the Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) and the Rapid Housing Initiative RHI).

## BACKGROUND

- On April 12, 2024, the federal government released Solving the Housing Crisis: Canada’s Housing Plan. The housing plan is organized into three pillars:
  1. Building more homes
  2. Helping Canadians who can’t afford a home
  3. Making it easier to rent or own a home
- Many housing initiatives announced in the plan overlap with initiatives announced in the 2024 Federal Budget.

### Affordable Housing Fund (AHF)

- The federal government announced the \$13.2 billion National Housing Co-Investment Fund in 2018. In fall 2023, the program was renamed the AHF. Typically, the AHF is applications based, with two funding streams related to new construction and repairs, and assistance in the form of grants, low-interest loans, or a combination thereof.
- Federal Budget 2024 announced \$976 million over five years, starting in 2024/25, and \$24 million in future years to launch a new Rapid Housing Stream of the AHF to build deeply affordable housing, supportive housing and shelters for vulnerable Canadians. Further information on this stream has yet to be announced.

### Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI)

- First announced in 2020, the RHI was an initiative of the federal government to help address the urgent housing needs of vulnerable Canadians. The RHI consists of two streams, a project stream and a major cities stream. There have been three rounds of RHI announced. See table below for the amounts received in Manitoba under the major cities stream.

City	RHI 1.0 (2020)	RHI 2.0 (2021)	RHI 3.0 (2022)
Winnipeg	\$12.5 million	\$12.7 million	\$11.6 million
Brandon			\$5.0 million

### Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)

- The federal government launched the HAF in the spring of 2023, which will invest \$4 billion over four years to support communities across Canada to increase housing supply. A \$400 million top-up to the Housing Accelerator Fund, known as HAF2, was announced to increase housing supply and invest in affordable housing. HAF2 is only open to unsuccessful applicants from the first round of HAF.
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation announced it has entered into HAF agreements with two Manitoba cities. Winnipeg's agreement was for \$122 million in funding to fast track the development of 3,100 new housing units, including 900 affordable units over the next three years. Brandon's agreement was for \$6.2 million to build 168 homes over the next three years.

### Unsheltered Homelessness and Encampments Initiative

- Budget 2024 announced \$250 million over two years to be cost-matched by provinces and territories (PTs), starting in 2024/25 to address urgent issues of encampments and unsheltered homelessness. Manitoba Housing is participating in preliminary bilateral discussions with federal officials to better understand program parameters, including eligible use of funds and cost-matching requirements.

### Canada Builds / Apartment Construction Loan Program (ACLP)

- The ACLP provides low-cost loans to encourage the construction of sustainable rental apartment projects. The ACLP focuses on standard rental apartment projects with general occupants where there is a need for additional rental housing supply.
- As part of budget 2024, a \$15 billion top-up to the ACLP was announced to establish partnerships with PTs to launch ambitious housing plans through a new federal partnership initiative, Canada Builds. Canada Builds is financed through low-cost loans to support the construction of market rental housing.

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## **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit

### ISSUE

- The Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit and recommended temporary pause of its homelessness stream due to high intake

### SPEAKING POINTS

**What is the status of the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit (CMHB)?**

- The CMHB launched on April 1, 2021. As of June 30, 2024, a total of 3,181 people were in receipt of the benefit.
- At present, the CMHB homelessness stream is overspent due to unprecedented levels of demand. The federal funding is insufficient to meet the demand for the program; therefore, a temporary pause in intake by End Homelessness Winnipeg has been initiated.

**What is the CMHB?**

- The CMHB is a portable rental assistance program intended to provide greater access to the housing market and improve housing affordability for vulnerable populations experiencing core housing need.

**Who can apply for the CMHB?**


- The CMHB initially targeted three vulnerable populations: youth and young adults transitioning out of care of Child and Family Services, those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and Manitobans living with mental health and addictions issues living in designated supportive housing buildings.
- On March 26, 2024, an additional CMHB stream for survivors of gender-based violence was announced, which is targeted toward women, children and 2SLGBTQI+ people exiting gender-based violence living situations.

## How much rental assistance does a client receive under the CMHB?

- The CMHB rent benefit varies depending on income. The maximum is \$350 per month with an additional \$72 for utilities (if applicable), effective July 1, 2023.
- In the new gender-based violence stream, the CMHB assists individuals with their rental or mortgage housing costs. The benefit is calculated based on the number of bedrooms required for the household. The maximum benefit is up to \$350 per month for studio or one-bedroom units, up to \$610 per month for two-bedroom units, and up to \$805 per month for three-bedroom or larger units.


## How much funding is available in 2023/24 under the CMHB?

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## How many people are accessing the CMHB?


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## BACKGROUND

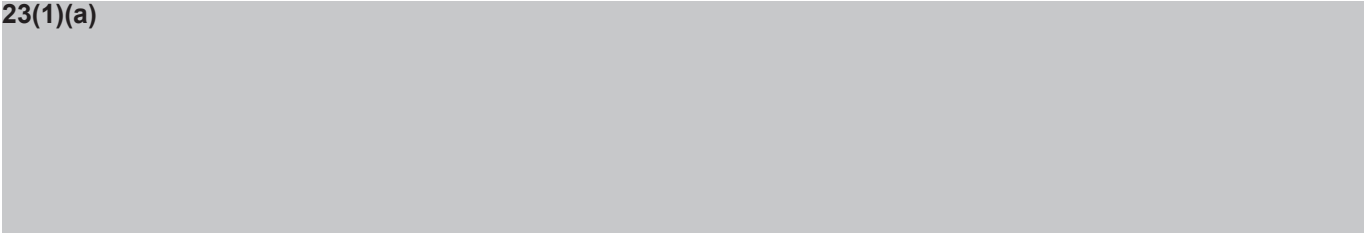
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation (MHRC) signed the bilateral agreement under the National Housing Strategy (NHS) in 2019.
- An addendum to the NHS bilateral agreement, signed in May 2020, provides a \$77.3 million federal allocation for the CMHB. The CMHB is cost-matched using a portion of Manitoba's existing expenditures on non-Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) Rent Assist.

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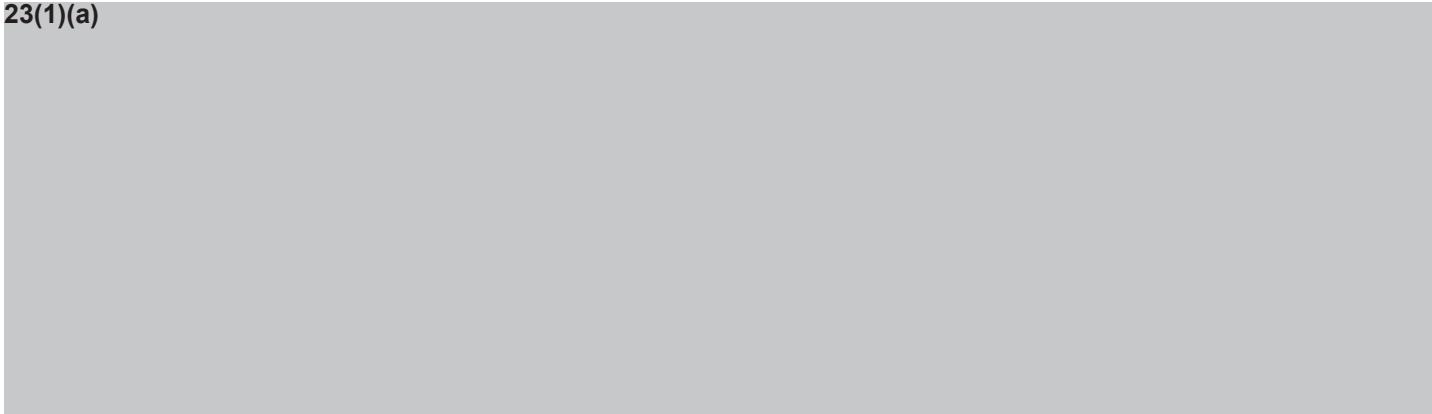
- On April 1, 2023, Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation launched the delivery of the homelessness stream across all regions in Manitoba. On November 1, 2023, the Canadian Mental Health Association Thompson launched the homelessness stream in Thompson.
- The mental health and addictions stream is delivered by the Rent Supplement program of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness (HAH).
- The Department of Families' Provincial Services branch delivers the youth stream and the survivors of gender-based violence stream.

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## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

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## **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** New Funding Model for Community Partners

### ISSUE

- Project operating agreements in Manitoba's non-profit housing sector are nearing expiry, <sup>23(1)(a)</sup> [REDACTED]

### SPEAKING POINTS

**What is the new funding model and why this model?**

- The new funding model is a way of delivering subsidy assistance to non-profit housing providers based on a fixed annual amount, paid monthly to assist with cash flow. This model allows non-profit housing providers to proactively implement the social and affordable housing programs to meet the housing needs of their respective communities.

**What are the responsibilities of Manitoba Housing under the new funding model?**

- Under the new model, Manitoba Housing will provide an annual subsidy to the non-profit housing providers and review the annual reports to ensure compliance in maintaining the social and/or affordable housing units.

**What are the responsibilities of the non-profit housing providers under the new funding model?**

- Non-profit housing providers will maintain their units under the social and/or affordable housing program. Non-profit housing providers are responsible for managing the funds allocated to their organization and will retain any operational surplus/savings for reinvestment or allocation to the replacement reserve fund. Under this model, the non-profit housing providers benefit from the ability to align their operational decisions and service delivery more closely with their budget and the funding provided by Manitoba Housing.

## BACKGROUND

- Under the Social Housing Agreement (SHA), federal funding will decline annually as individual agreements expire. At the onset of the agreement, federal funding was \$76.4 million per annum, which declined to \$21.6 million in 2024/25. <sup>23(1)(a)</sup> [REDACTED]
- All projects owned by third parties have operating agreements that set out the program requirements, as well as the associated subsidies. In most cases, the date of the expiry of the operating agreements coincides with the end of the subsidy and mortgage maturity.

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**CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0567

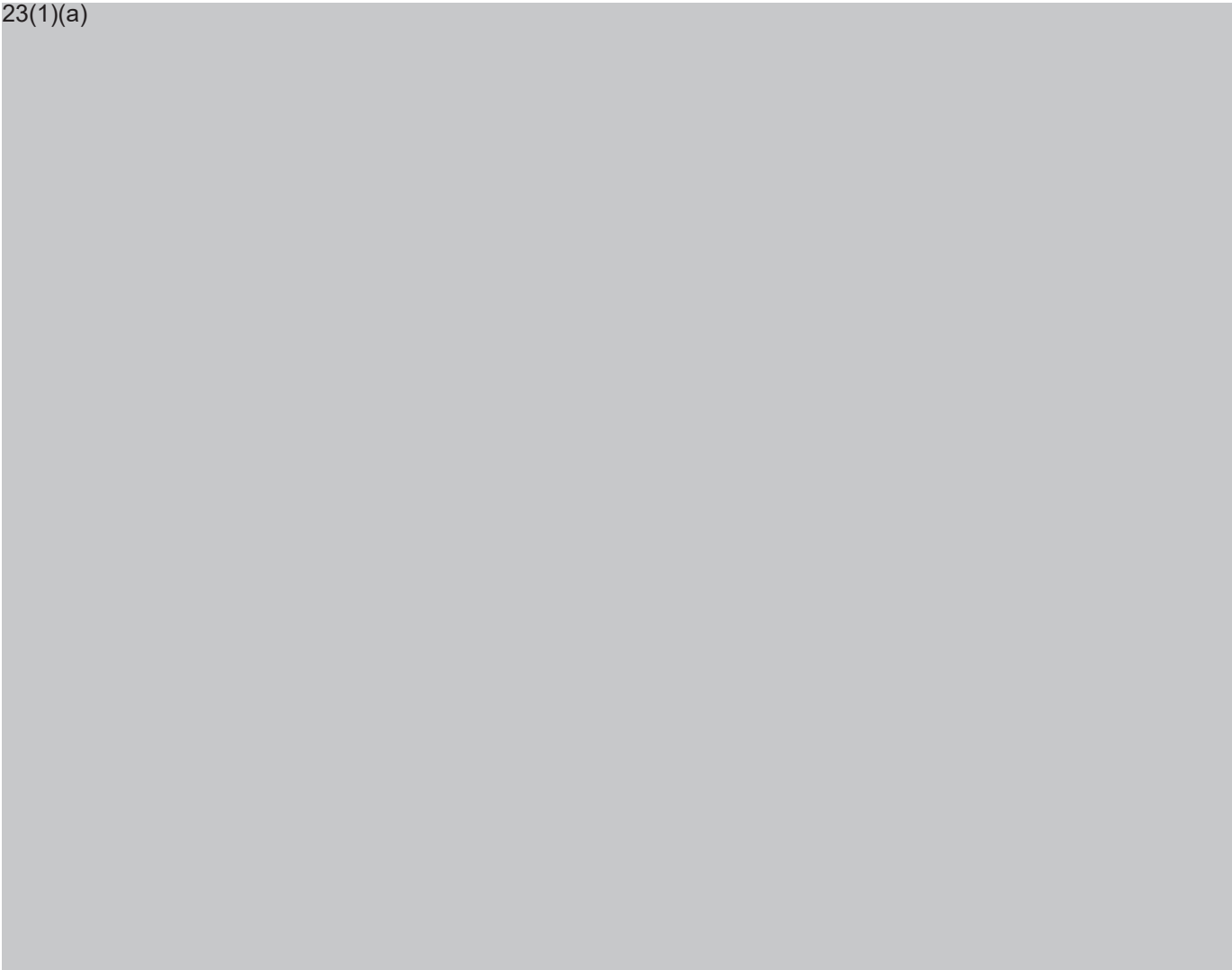
# HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Homeownership opportunities


## ISSUE

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## SPEAKING POINTS

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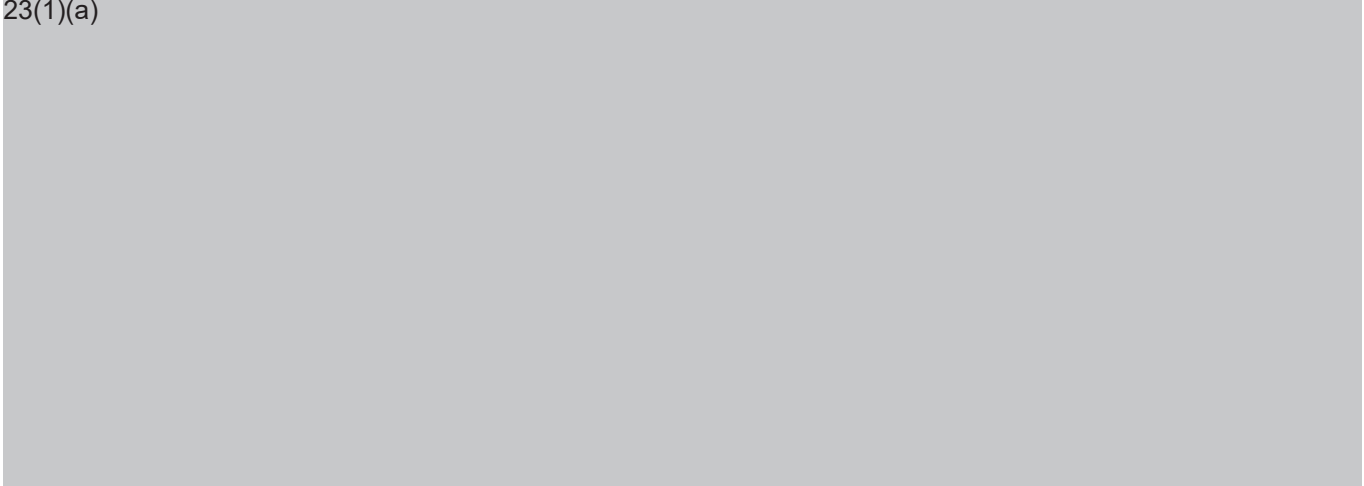


## **BACKGROUND**

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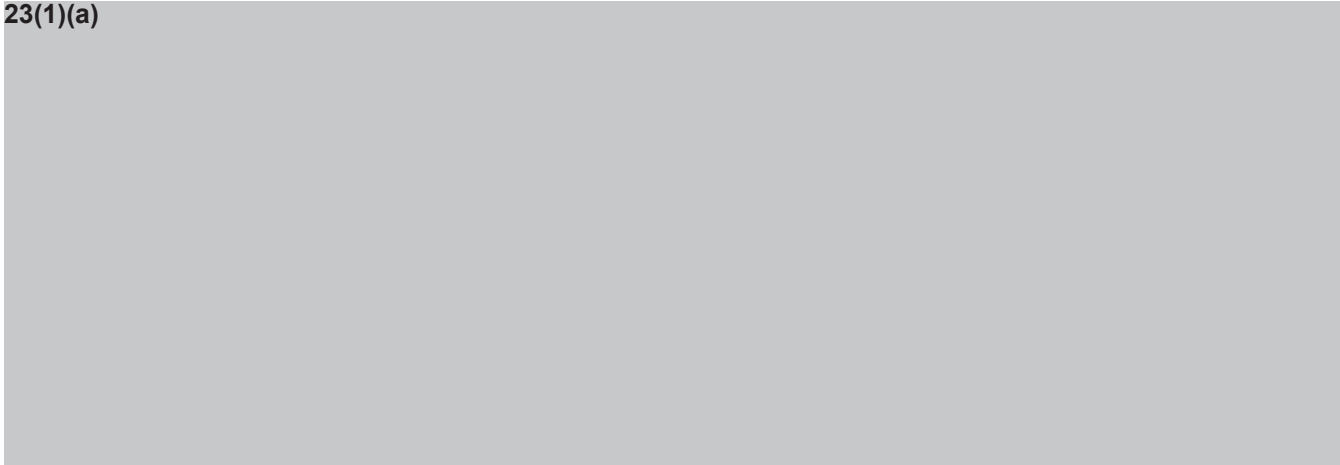


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### **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

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### **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

### **ISSUE TITLE:** Rental Assistance Programs

### **ISSUE**

- Provincially administered rental assistance programs: Rent Supplement programs, Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit, Rent Assist, and Rent Relief Fund

### **SPEAKING POINTS**

#### **What types of rent assistance programs are available to Manitobans?**

- The Manitoba government provides a variety of programs aimed at assisting low-to moderate-income renters in securing housing in the private market. These programs provide individuals and families with housing at a cost they can afford.
- Rental assistance programs are key to expanding the housing options of low-to moderate-income Manitobans by increasing the number of affordable rental units available within the rental market universe.

#### **Rent Supplement Programs**

#### **What are Rent Supplement programs?**

- Rent supplement programs subsidize housing units in the private and non-profit rental market.

#### **How many Rent Supplement programs are offered?**

- Manitoba Housing currently offers two rent supplement programs, the Rent Supplement program, and the Affordable Rent Supplement program.

## **How do the Rent Supplement programs differ?**

- The Affordable Rent Supplement program is targeted toward families or individuals who spend more than 30 per cent of their income on housing. The subsidy is applied to the difference between the affordable rental rate, which is established annually by Manitoba Housing for the Affordable Housing Rental Program, and the market rent for the unit up to a maximum allowable subsidy for the program.
- The Rent Supplement program provides access to rent geared-to-income housing in the private rental sector or non-profit housing sector. The subsidy is applied to the difference between the rent geared-to-income rate paid by the tenant and the market rent. Manitoba Housing pays the supplement to the housing provider and the tenant pays their portion of the rent.

## **How is eligibility for Rent Supplement determined?**

- Eligibility for Rent Supplement programs are based on the criteria outlined in the Social and Affordable Rental Housing programs. Rent Supplement program participants must not be receiving any other shelter allowance or subsidy.

## **Can an applicant be eligible for either program?**

- An applicant can be eligible for either program dependent upon the household income. If a tenant's income exceeds the program income limits for the Rent Supplement Program, they may be transitioned to the Affordable Housing Rent Supplement program.

## **Once a tenant is deemed eligible for rent supplement programs are they permanently enrolled in the programs?**

- No. A tenant's eligibility must be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that a tenant's income falls within current program income limits for either program.

## **How are rent supplements calculated?**

- The program income limits and rental rates outlined in the Social Housing Rental Program and Affordable Housing Rental Program are used to calculate rent supplement amounts, up to a maximum payable subsidy for both programs.

### **Are the subsidies provided to the tenant?**

- While applicants must apply to either program, Manitoba Housing enters into agreements with owners/operators of private and non-profit housing to subsidize a designated number of units and the rent supplements are given to these providers.

### **How many agreements are there with housing providers?**

- As of July 2024, there are a total of 3,188 Rent Supplement units under these agreements.
- Not all Rent Supplement units are occupied by Rent Supplement tenants. As of July 2024, there are 1,746 units active and occupied by Rent Supplement program tenants (subsidized) and 1,442 occupied by non-Rent Supplement program tenants (non-subsidized) or vacant.

### **Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit**

#### **What is the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit?**

- The Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit is a benefit that reduces housing need in targeted vulnerable populations by providing rent assistance.

#### **Which vulnerable populations are served under the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit?**

- The Canada Manitoba Housing Benefit assists people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, youth leaving the care of Child and Family Services, people with mental health and addictions issues and survivors of gender-based violence.

#### **What is the maximum monthly benefit amount under the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit?**

- For people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, youth and young adults leaving Child and Family Services care and people with mental health and addictions issues, the maximum monthly benefit amount is \$350 plus an additional \$72 for utilities.
- For survivors of gender-based violence, the maximum benefit amount varies depending on the number of bedrooms required. For more detail on the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit and the maximum benefit amounts, see briefing note C-b3.

## **Rent Assist**

### **What is the Rent Assist program?**

- Rent Assist is a financial benefit that supports two groups of Manitobans with their shelter costs: people who receive Employment and Income Assistance (EIA Rent Assist) and low-income private renters not receiving Employment and Income Assistance who are renting in unsubsidized housing (non-EIA Rent Assist).

### **How is the benefit amount for Rent Assist determined?**

- The amount of the Employment and Income Assistance Rent Assist (EIA) benefit is based on rental costs, the number of people in a household, whether a family receives subsidized housing benefits or is paying rent in unsubsidized housing and whether utility costs are included in the rent.
- The amount of Non-EIA Rent Assist depends on the number of people in the household and the total household income.

### **How many Manitobans receive Rent Assist?**

- As of April 2024, over 12,800 households were in receipt of Non-EIA Rent Assist.
- As of June 2024, approximately 26,700 households receiving income assistance or supports for persons with disabilities were eligible to receive EIA Rent Assist.

### **Who delivers the Rent Assist program?**

- Both the EIA Rent Assist stream and the Non-EIA Rent Assist stream of the program is delivered by the Employment, Income and Health Supports branch of the Department of Families.

## **Manitoba Rent Relief Fund**

### **What is the Manitoba Rent Relief Fund?**

- The Manitoba Rent Relief Fund offers fast-access crisis intervention loans of up to \$2,500 to bridge a temporary interruption of income or unexpected expenses that result in rent or utility arrears and/or a pending eviction. The loans are interest-free and can also be used to secure housing.

**Do the loans have to be repaid?**

- While the loans are expected to be repaid, repayment terms are flexible, and repayments can be deferred. In cases where loan repayment may cause undue financial hardship, Manitoba Rent Relief Fund staff will work with recipients on a payment plan they can afford.
- The ultimate goals of the program are housing stability and eviction prevention and as such, there have been instances where the loans have been closed without full repayment.

**Are Manitoba Housing tenants eligible for the Manitoba Rent Relief Fund?**

- Manitoba Housing tenants are not eligible for Manitoba Rent Relief Fund loans because a tenant household would not be at-risk of eviction if they experienced a temporary interruption of income or unexpected expenses that result in rent or utility arrears. They would work out a payment plan with the Manitoba Housing property manager.

**How many loans have been provided through the Rent Relief Fund?**

- A total of 1,746 Manitoba Rent Relief Fund loans were approved from May 2021 to July 31, 2024, with most being provided to single parent households.

**BACKGROUND**

- The Rent Supplement Program delivered by Manitoba Housing provides a subsidy to decrease the amount of rent paid by tenants in the private and non-profit rental market. Assistance is based on household income and affordable housing units are provided through landlords who have agreements with Manitoba Housing.
- The Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit program is a component of the National Housing Strategy and is jointly funded by the provincial and federal governments. The program helps vulnerable populations who face specific challenges related to accessing housing in the rental market. The program targets for population groups: youth leaving care of Family Services, homeless or those at risk of homelessness, persons with mental health or addictions issues, and survivors of gender-based violence.

- The Rent Assist program provides a flexible shelter benefit to low-income renters and homeowners. The program assists both Employment and Income Assistance recipients and eligible low-income renters who do not receive Employment and Income Assistance. Rent Assist is delivered by the Employment, Income and Health Supports branch of the Department of Families.
- The Manitoba Rent Relief Fund allows low- to moderate-income renters to secure, maintain or stabilize housing through the provision of interest-free loans. The loans can be used toward rent or utilities by those at-risk of eviction or disconnection of essential utilities due to a temporary or unexpected financial crisis. The goals of the program are housing stability and eviction prevention.

### **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

- None

### **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Building More Social and Affordable Housing

### ISSUE

- Manitoba Housing, in partnership with private, non-profit, and cooperative housing organizations, delivers a range of programs and services to meet the housing needs of low-and moderate-income Manitobans. This includes support for the construction of new social and affordable rental units and homeownership supply.

### SPEAKING POINTS

**How does Manitoba Housing support the construction of new affordable rental housing supply?**

- The Manitoba government was pleased to endorse the bilateral agreement under the National Housing Strategy (NHS), representing \$302.7 million in federal funding to help address the housing needs of Manitobans between 2019/20 and 2027/28.
- In 2023/24, Manitoba Housing allocated \$32 million to non-profit organizations through various programs to create new affordable and social housing units and pre-development work required to advance projects to the construction stage. The \$32 million included \$9.1 million in bilateral funding through the NHS and \$1 million in loans through the Proposal Development Funding (PDF) program.
- The \$32 million will see the creation of up to 560 social housing units and 310 affordable housing units.

- Manitoba Housing units that are damaged or destroyed are eligible for compensation through insurance. However, in some cases, the recovered funds cannot be effectively utilized, particularly in communities where the demand for social housing has diminished. To address this issue, Manitoba Housing is collaborating with the Department of Finance's Insurance and Risk Management Division to consolidate insurance claims and redirect funds towards the development of new housing units in communities where there is a demonstrated need.
  
- Manitoba Housing partners with government and external stakeholders in the development of housing strategies and delivery of housing-related funding. Most recently, Manitoba Housing:
  - Collaborated with the City of Winnipeg and City of Brandon to deliver the third round of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Rapid Housing Initiative Funding.
  - Partnered with the Department of Finance to reinstate the Rental Housing Construction Tax Credit, which will be administered by Manitoba Housing on behalf of the Department of Finance.
  - Collaborated with the City of Winnipeg on the development of the Density Bonus Program. This initiative aims to encourage the integration of affordable housing units within developments by allowing developers to surpass the standard density.
  - Manitoba Housing is exploring a streamlined funding approach, involving all three levels of government, to facilitate easier access to funding for non-profit housing groups. This coordinated effort is intended to enhance support for municipalities in delivering Housing Accelerator Funding allocated to the City of Winnipeg and the City of Brandon by CMHC.
  - In 2023/24, Manitoba Housing provided commitments through the Rent Supplement program to help two projects leverage federal funding. The Rent Supplement program provides a rent subsidy to landlords which allows them to receive affordable rents for Rent-Geared-to-Income units. With the rent subsidy, developers can secure loans to develop these units.

- Manitoba Justice, through its Criminal Property Forfeiture Unit, partnered with Manitoba Housing on a negotiated request for proposal that will see the transfer of seven seized properties in the Point Douglas neighborhood to a non-profit organization that will redevelop the lots into new or rehabilitated homes for low to-moderate income Manitobans.
- Manitoba Housing will require multi-family properties in Bridgwater trails to have a percentage of affordable housing in new residential developments.

### **How much has been committed in 2023/24 to develop new social and affordable rental units with provincial funding?**

- In 2023/24, Manitoba Housing allocated \$32 million to non-profit organizations through its various programs to create new affordable and social housing units or for-pre-development activities. The \$32 million included \$9.1 million in bilateral funding through the NHS.
- In addition to capital grants and loans, Manitoba Housing committed to transferring 575 Balmoral Street, commonly referred to as Centre Village, for social housing redevelopment by the Winnipeg Housing and Rehabilitation Corporation.

### **Are there any provincial funding opportunities for new social or affordable rental project development available under the 2024/25 Budget?**

- Manitoba Housing will make available \$30 million in capital funding in 2024/25 in partnership with all levels of government and other funders with an emphasis on housing Manitobans who are experiencing homelessness.
- The \$30 million includes \$10 million for the creation of an Affordable Housing Partnership Program.
- Manitoba Housing will relaunch the Rental Housing Construction Tax Credit in partnership with the Department of Finance. The intake for the Rental Housing Construction Tax Credit is anticipated to start in the fall of 2024.


- Manitoba Housing will launch a new integrated intake model for all new supply funding in Fall 2024, which will include a PDF program, offering up to \$1 million in loans and up to \$4 million in grant funding to support the development of affordable and social housing projects.
- The Department of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness (HAH) is receiving \$10 million from Internal Service Adjustment funds as grant assistance to support the formation of a Collaborative Housing Alliance Real Estate Investment Trust (CHA-REIT). The CHA-REIT will aim to provide affordable and low-income rental units and seek to increase the availability of non-market and market housing in the province.

## **BACKGROUND**

- Non-profit organizations seeking to develop affordable housing in Manitoba face a complex funding landscape that includes navigating government grants, tax incentives, low-interest loans, philanthropic donations, partnerships with private developers and community collaborations, requiring strategic planning and resourceful approaches to secure diverse sources of funding.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

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## **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, ADM, Manitoba Housing Phone:  
204-803-0576

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Condition of Manitoba Housing Assets

### ISSUE

- Condition of Manitoba Housing assets, improvements to domestic violence shelters, and elevator maintenance.

### SPEAKING POINTS

**What is Manitoba Housing doing to improve the condition of its existing social housing stock?**

- Manitoba Housing maintains a five-year capital plan for modernization and improvement of provincially owned housing assets, which is then reviewed and updated annually. A key factor in the prioritization of work is the condition of the asset, along with the demand for specific areas and units.

**How does government decide what goes in the capital plan?**

- Responsibility for capital plan delivery transitioned from Manitoba Housing to the Department of Consumer Protection and Government Services (CPGS) on April 1, 2020. CPGS consults with Manitoba Housing on a quarterly basis to determine the priority of capital repairs.
- Properties within the capital plan are prioritized based on their condition, with consideration given to relative housing demand in the area. A building condition assessment for Manitoba Housing's entire portfolio is currently being completed and this will help inform the capital prioritization process.
- Properties may have an engineering report prepared in-house through CPGS, or through an engineering or architectural consulting firm to assess specific needs.

**What is the Department’s budget for capital modernization and improvement work?**

- In 2023/24, Manitoba Housing/CPGS received a budget of \$63 million for modernization and improvement of its existing social housing stock. This excludes land development projects and proposal development funding. In 2024/25, this was increased to \$73.8 million (an increase of \$10.8 million), including acquisition and sponsor delivery.

**Where has this funding been spent?**

- This funding is spent on large and small capital projects across the province and includes deferred maintenance and improvement work. Funds are primarily directed towards small and medium projects related to site improvements, roof replacements, exterior and common area retrofits, suite renovations, fire and life safety upgrades and mechanical and security upgrades.

**What is Manitoba Housing doing to support victims of domestic violence?**

- Provincial funding was invested in the following domestic violence shelters:

Capital Improvements to Domestic Violence Shelters as of March 31, 2024			
Shelter	Community	Amount Spent (\$s)	Notes*
YMCA Westman Women’s Shelter	Brandon	\$69,233	Completed 2013
Thompson Crisis Centre	Thompson	\$388,844	Completed 2014
Aurora House	The Pas	\$102,115	Completed 2014
Agape House	Steinbach	\$479,835	Completed 2016
Genesis House	Winkler	\$327,146	Completed 2021
Genesis House	Winkler	\$38,013	Completed 2023
Nova House	Selkirk	\$2,996,368	New build. Completed 2017
Portage Family Abuse Prevention Centre	Portage la Prairie	\$860,917	Completed 2018. Funded through SIF and LAA
Westman’s Woman Shelter	Brandon	\$616,314	Completed 2019. Funded through SIF and LAA
Thompson Crisis Centre	Thompson	\$1,073,899	Completed 2019. Funded through SIF and LAA
Ikwe-Widdjitiwin (IKWE)	Winnipeg	\$5,272,789	Completed 2022. Funded through IAH and LAA
Oscar’s Place	The Pas	\$57,450	Completed 2022
<b>TOTAL - Completed</b>		<b>\$12,282,923</b>	

\*Funding Sources: Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF), Loan Act Authority (LAA) and Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH)

## **What is Manitoba Housing doing to ensure elevator access in its mid-rise and high-rise properties?**

- Manitoba Housing performs several major elevator upgrades each year as part of its five-year capital plan.
- Elevator upgrades demonstrate Manitoba Housing's commitment to maintaining and improving Manitoba's social housing portfolio.
- Manitoba Housing has standing offers and service agreements with service providers to complete inspections and maintenance on elevators in buildings owned and managed by Manitoba Housing.
- Several major capital elevator upgrades to control systems are performed each year. While this takes place, the elevator is out of service for about one week per floor in the building. When the planned repair involves hydraulics, the parts are ordered in advance to minimize downtime.

## **What is done to accommodate people with mobility challenges while elevators are being serviced?**

- Manitoba Housing works closely with tenants in preparing for maintenance and strives to accommodate individuals' needs and limit disruption to tenants.
- Fire safety plans are in place for all of Manitoba Housing buildings. This includes identifying units where tenants will need special assistance in case of an evacuation.
- When an elevator is expected to be out of service for an extended period:
  - The authority that has jurisdiction is notified, such as the local fire department and/or the Office of the Fire Commissioner.
  - Written notices are provided to tenants weeks in advance of any planned shutdowns.
  - Tenant forums are held to advise tenants of the upcoming work, including anticipated schedule and support services available during the shutdown.
  - Tenants with mobility issues may be temporarily re-located.
  - Outside agencies supporting tenants are notified.

## **BACKGROUND**

- None

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

- None

## **CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing,  
204-782-6057

**HOUSING**

**ISSUE TITLE:** Manitoba Housing Properties - Direct Managed

**ISSUE**

- Number of Direct-Managed Manitoba Housing Units

**SPEAKING POINTS**

**How many housing units does Manitoba Housing own and manage?**

- As of March 1, 2024, Manitoba Housing owns and directly manages 11,611 units in Manitoba. The units serve low-to-moderate income households across Manitoba. There are approximately 28,000 individuals residing in these units.

<b>District</b>	<b>Units</b>
<b>Rural</b>	
Brandon	995
Dauphin	760
Portage la Prairie	1,091
Selkirk	1,211
Churchill	336
The Pas	557
Thompson	420
<b>Subtotal Rural</b>	<b>5,370</b>
<b>Winnipeg</b>	
Central Park	1,385
Gilbert Park	1,574
Lord Selkirk	1,870
Winnipeg South	1,412
<b>Subtotal Winnipeg</b>	<b>6,241</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,611</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

- None.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

- None.

## **CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing,  
204-782-6057

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Vacancies and Waitlist in Manitoba Housing (Eligibility/Evictions)

### ISSUE

- Overview of vacant units in properties managed by Manitoba Housing.

### SPEAKING POINTS

**How many social housing rental units does Manitoba Housing fund?**

- As of March 1, 2024, Manitoba Housing funds and provides subsidy and/or support to 5,343 units owned by private and non-profit groups.

**How many social housing rental units does Manitoba Housing own?**

- As of March 1, 2024, Manitoba Housing owns 15,875 social housing units. 11,611 of these units are direct-managed and 4,264 are sponsor-managed.

**How many people are on the eligibility list for Manitoba Housing units?**

- There were 5,748 individuals on Manitoba Housing's eligibility list as of March 1, 2024.
- The waitlist list is currently under review by staff, who are actively reaching out to everyone listed to confirm their ongoing need for housing support. A bi-weekly report detailing the statistics is being submitted to the Deputy Minister's office for review.

**How many Manitoba Housing units are vacant?**

- As of March 1, 2024, there were 266 units, or two per cent of the portfolio, that were vacant and available for rent; 1,716 units were unavailable due to ongoing repairs, repurposing, redevelopment, or because there was no demand. This constitutes 15 per cent of Manitoba Housing's portfolio.

**Where are the vacant units located?**

- Vacant units are located across Manitoba:
  - 50 per cent in Winnipeg
  - 14 per cent in northern Manitoba (Swan River and locations further north)
  - 36 per cent in rural southern Manitoba

**Why are there so many vacant units with so many applicants on the eligibility list?**

- 1,370 (12 per cent) of our portfolio are being repaired or renovated.
- 166 (1 per cent) are vacant due to a lack of demand in the community.
- 204 (13 per cent) are available for offer.
- 169 units (1 per cent) have been targeted for repurposing primarily in northern and rural Manitoba. These units include those planned for demolition or rebuilding, those with open insurance claims, and those repurposed to provide space for our strategic partners to offer ongoing services to our tenants.
- 16 units (less than 1 per cent) are vacant; however, they have been accepted by an applicant.

**What is Manitoba Housing doing to address these vacancies?**

- Manitoba Housing attempts to reduce vacancies by expediting the unit repair and offer processes.
- To reduce the number of vacancies in communities with a lack of demand for rental housing, Manitoba Housing divests single and semi-detached homes through either the Affordable Homeownership Program or the Property Transition Policy.

## How many households does Manitoba Housing evict?

- As of March 1, 2024, Manitoba Housing ended the tenancy of eight households under the Safer Communities Initiative for impairment of safety and behavioral issues.

## BACKGROUND

- Factors that contribute to Manitoba Housing vacancies include:
  - Regular turnover of units (approximately 122 per month in 2023) resulting in new vacancies being created each month.
  - Capital projects requiring units to be vacant for the work to take place.
  - Lack of demand for units due to safety concerns in some urban neighbourhoods.
  - Pest activity requiring the unit be kept vacant for treatment.
  - Abandoned goods belonging to previous tenants are required to be kept in place for a prescribed amount of time.
  - Demand for more operational dollars particularly at the end of the year. Lack of demand in some rural communities due to demographic changes.
  - Vacant maintenance positions.

## CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER

- None.

## CONTACT

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-792-6057

## HOUSING

### **ISSUE TITLE:** Transfer of Housing Management

### **ISSUE**

- Transfer of direct-managed public housing units to community-based delivery

### **SPEAKING POINTS**

#### **How many units have been affected by the transfer of management?**

- Beginning in 2016, Manitoba Housing was directed to pursue the transfer of directly owned and managed housing units to community housing providers. The initial transfers were done through two public Requests for Proposals, direct outreach and a Request for Expression of Interest.
- As of December 2021, 1,511 units were transferred, representing approximately 12 per cent of the direct-managed stock. No transfers have taken place since 2021 and the practice has been suspended.
- Sponsors recently handed back the management of 22 units in Inwood, 299 in Swan River and 107 units in Winnipeg (Columbus Courts) back to Manitoba Housing.

#### **Why was the Manitoba government transferring management and not selling the buildings? Why is this beneficial?**

- The previous government believed that the transfer of property management of social and affordable housing units would support a practical, sustainable, and community-driven approach to social and affordable housing delivery.
- Retaining ownership of these assets allowed Manitoba Housing continued oversight of capital repairs and provided flexibility for future use of the properties. However, since October 2023, this practice has ceased and there will be no more properties transferred to community organizations for operation.

## **What lessons were learned from the management transfers?**

- A longer timeline, improved communication and higher levels of support for groups assuming management of properties would have been beneficial. Certain elements of the transfer such as responsibility for the various building security features were complex and difficult to navigate.
- While some groups had the capacity to expand their property management portfolio, other groups were encouraged to undertake the additional responsibilities despite limited capacity. Smaller groups are at a disadvantage with limited budgets and staff and cannot rely on the economies of scale for various property management services.
- Transferred units are still being tenanted by low-income households, however by transferring management Manitoba Housing lost its ability to select applicants of the highest need.

## **BACKGROUND**

- Manitoba Housing transferred housing management to the non-profit and municipal sectors. Manitoba Housing worked with housing providers to ensure they had the capacity to take on a growing housing portfolio and ensure that vulnerable tenants were not put at risk.
- From 2016 to December 2021, over 1,500 units were transferred to community-based housing providers (see Appendix A for more detail on management transfers).
- Since that time 428 units have been returned to Manitoba Housing.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

- None

## **CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-782-6057

**Appendix A – Direct-Managed Units Transferred to Community-Service Providers**

	Property	Community	Units	Community Based Housing Provider	Completed or expected
NRFP - 1	40-60 Chesterfield Rd.	Winnipeg	133	Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation *	April 2019
	260 Nassau	Winnipeg	121	Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation *	April 2019
	529 Country Club	Winnipeg	107	Bethania Group	April 2019
	601 Osborne	Winnipeg	205	Bethania Group	April 2019
NRFP - 2	1390 Rothesay/ 355 Sutton	Winnipeg	78	Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation *	November 2019
	385 Carlton	Winnipeg	122	Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation *	November 2019
	145 Powers	Winnipeg	100	Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation *	November 2019
	WPG House - Brandon	Brandon	78	Brydges Property Management	November 2019
	Grand Valley Place	Brandon	52	Brydges Property Management	April 2020
Direct Outreach	Swan Valley Region Scattered Units	Bowsman Barrows Birch River Benito Dawson Bay Mafeking Minitonas Novra Pelican Rapids Swan River	299	Elbert Chartrand Friendship Centre Housing	September 2020
	Scattered Units	Riverton	21	Riverton-Bifrost Holdings	September 2020
	149 – 4 <sup>th</sup> St. S.E.	Portage La Prairie	68	Portage Aboriginal Housing	September 2020
	Various Buildings	Brandon	78	Brandon Friendship Centre Housing Authority	September 2020
REOI*	Various Buildings	Winnipeg	49	Wahbung Abinoonjiag	TBD
		Total	1,511		

\*Request for Expression of Interest

## HOUSING

### **ISSUE TITLE:** Pest Management in Manitoba Housing Properties

#### **ISSUE**

- In-house and contracted pest control services are directed through the Integrated Pest Management Group.

#### **SPEAKING POINTS**

##### **How many Manitoba Housing units have cockroaches in 2024?**

- As of January 2023, the number of rental units with live cockroach activity was 1,087. In July 2024, there were 411 units reported to have live cockroach activity.

##### **Is the problem with cockroaches in Manitoba Housing getting worse?**

- No. Cockroach activity increased in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, but currently the numbers are below pre-pandemic levels. The Integrated Pest Management Group (IPMG) had treated 579 units in February 2020, while the number rose to 1,153 by January of 2022.

##### **How many Manitoba Housing units have bed bugs in 2024?**

- The IPMG scheduled 236 treatments for bed bugs in August 2024.

##### **Is the problem with bed bugs in Manitoba Housing getting worse?**

- No. Bed bug infested units reached a low of 177 units in January 2023. While this number has increased to 236, the number of infested units is almost 50 per cent lower than in 2015.

##### **What is the status of the Non-Profit Community Bed Bug Grant Program?**

- New program parameters were implemented in the 2020/21 fiscal year, including raising the maximum grant to \$3,000 for industrial washers and/or dryers. The maximum grant of \$2,000 remains unchanged for all other items or services. The grant increase was funded from the existing annual program budget of \$200,000.

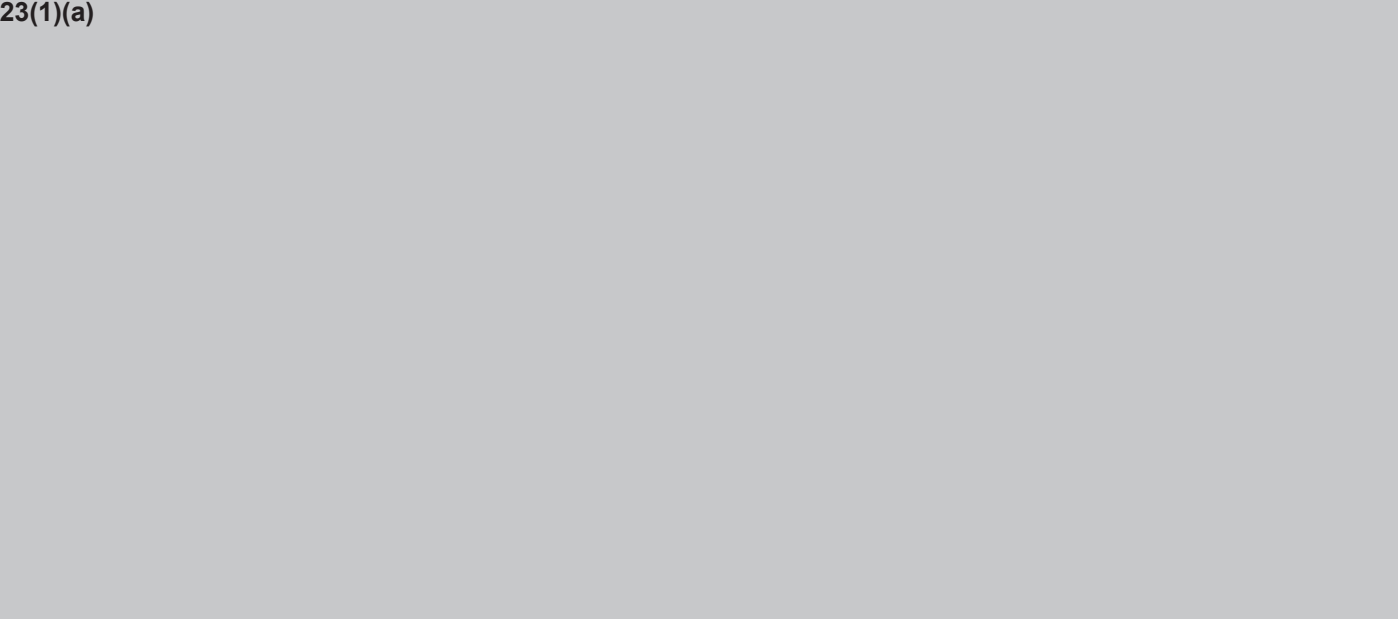
- The program budget was doubled in 2023/24, with an additional \$200,000 allocated, for a total of \$400,000. This new funding has an eviction prevention focus as part of the provincial homelessness strategy.

## **BACKGROUND**

- The IPMG is responsible for:
  - Expanding awareness of pest control issues among Manitoba Housing staff, contractors, and tenants.
  - Scheduling approximately 25,000 pest treatments a year.
  - Conducting pesticide applications on Manitoba Housing direct-managed properties, as well as some of the sponsor-managed buildings.
  - Documenting bed bug treatments/pesticide usage, a requirement under the Pesticide Use Permit issued by the Environmental Approvals Branch of Manitoba Conservation and Climate.
  - Managing contracted pest control services working on Manitoba Housing properties.
  - In 2018, the Non-Profit Community Bed Bug Grant Program, previously delivered through Manitoba Health, Seniors, and Active Living, was transferred to Manitoba Housing. The program provides grants to non-profit community organizations and licensed childcare facilities for bed bug mitigation through prevention, treatment, and education.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

23(1)(a)



## **CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-782-6057

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Security in Manitoba Housing Properties

### ISSUE

- Provision of security services in Manitoba Housing direct-managed properties.

### SPEAKING POINTS

**What is being done to address criminal activity, safety, and security incidents on Manitoba Housing properties?**

- Providing security services that improve the safety and well-being of tenants and employees is a priority for Manitoba Housing.
- Manitoba Housing has more than 3,000 security cameras in service at 77 properties throughout the province.
- Manitoba Housing Security Investigators work collaboratively with the Winnipeg Police Service, Brandon Police Service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Public Safety Investigations Unit of Manitoba Justice (Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act) to address drug distribution concerns.
- The Housing Communications Centre operates 24 hours, seven days a week, 365 days of the year. Call Centre staff responded to 28,173 security calls in 2023/24. In Winnipeg, tenants can call public and emergency services at 204-945-4663 (HOME) or 1-800-661-4663 toll-free to report security and safety concerns.
- Manitoba Housing has added four additional Mobile Security Officers to its workforce, and when required, Manitoba Housing contracts with private security firms to provide on-site security and patrols.


### BACKGROUND

- Manitoba Housing has completed numerous safety and security improvement projects over the past nine years, including:
  - Expanding use of card access systems in apartment buildings and offices.

- Installing Housing Communications Centre monitored alarms within Manitoba Housing offices.
  - Upgrading and installing new floor-by-floor security camera systems.
  - Improving lighting on apartment and townhouse properties.
  - Implementing a restricted key system.
- Between April 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024, Mobile Security attended to 15,082 security and maintenance dispatches in Winnipeg.
  - Of the 15,082 Mobile Security Officer attendances, 48 per cent were for security related matters, 34 per cent were for lock calls, and 18 per cent were for property services and maintenance issues.
  - The largest security issue resulting in Mobile Security Officer attendance was trespassing, with 3,159 dispatches in 2023/24. This represents an increase of 31 per cent from 2,406 dispatches in 2022.
  - Direct-managed properties in Winnipeg, Brandon, Dauphin, and the Provincial Evacuation Site (PES near Gypsumville) are currently serviced by Paladin Security. Sirius Security provides services in Portage la Prairie, EyeQ Security in The Pas and Securitas in Selkirk. Government Protective Services provides additional patrolling in Brandon and Portage la Prairie.
  - In 2023, security upgrade projects were completed at: 300 Aspen Grove in Flin Flon, as well as 210 Ellen St, 25 Furby St, 75-83 Morrow Ave, 340 Princess St, 30 Wynford Ave, 757 Furby St, 1030 Selkirk Ave, and 641/645 Spence St in Winnipeg.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

23(1)(a)



## **CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-782-6057

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Tenant Supports

### ISSUE

- Supports for Manitoba Housing tenants

### SPEAKING POINTS

**Does Manitoba Housing collaborate with other organizations to support tenants?**

- Manitoba Housing supports a wide range of organizations that assist and enhance the quality of life for tenants and the broader community, including social services, childcare, resource centres, regional health authorities, seniors' resource councils, community partners and tenant groups.

**Does Manitoba Housing provide funding to tenant groups?**

- Manitoba Housing provides funding to 50 tenant groups and 15 community resource centres for educational and recreational programs.

**Does Manitoba Housing provide space to community groups?**

- Manitoba Housing provides permanent space for many community groups to operate their programs and activities, including approximately 200 residential suites, common areas and commercial offices used as a platform to serve vulnerable Manitobans.
- Manitoba Housing provides these spaces as in-kind support to community organizations.

**Beside property management, what other programs and services does Manitoba Housing provide for the tenants?**

- Manitoba Housing provides programs and services to help tenants achieve successful tenancies, including tenant support services, connections to health and social services support, educational bursaries, educational and recreational programs, and a meal program.
- Manitoba Housing has partnered with community-based organizations to provide housing while the community agency focuses on tenant supports.

### **Why is Manitoba Housing providing bursaries?**

- Manitoba Housing recognizes the vital role education plays in improving quality of life; therefore, Manitoba Housing, in partnership with the Winnipeg Foundation, provides approximately 14 Building Foundations bursaries each year for part-time and full-time post secondary students of \$1000 and \$2000, respectively. Applicants must be living in subsidized rental housing units operated or funded by Manitoba Housing to qualify.

### **Has Manitoba Housing increased supports to tenants?**

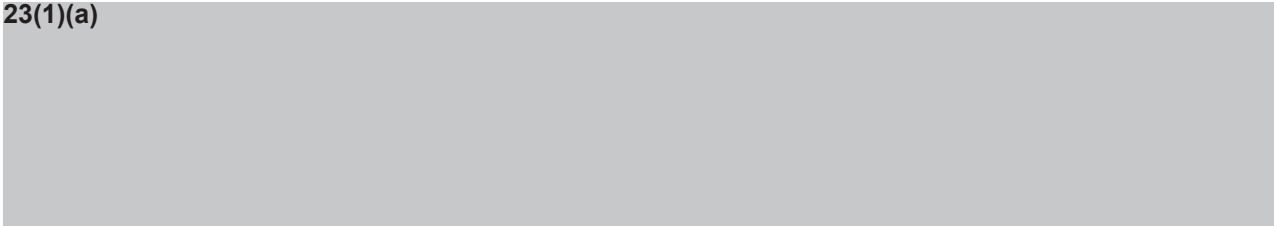
- Manitoba Housing has increased supports to tenants by adding nine new Tenant Service Coordinators to work with tenants to help them maintain their tenancies.
- Manitoba Housing has assigned four Program Managers to supervise staff and manage services to tenants living in Manitoba Housing units.
- Manitoba Housing has hired two Indigenous Cultural Care Providers to introduce programming and services through the lens on indigenous cultural teachings for tenants and staff of Manitoba Housing.

### **BACKGROUND**

- None

### **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

23(1)(a)



### **CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-782-6057

## HOUSING

### **ISSUE TITLE:** Expiry of Operating Agreements

### **ISSUE**

- Federal-Provincial subsidies end when operating agreements expire.

### **SPEAKING POINTS**

#### **How many operating agreements have expired to date? How many units are affected by these agreements?**

- As of March 31, 2024, there are 140 operating agreements that have expired, representing a total of 6,330 units.
- Operating agreements that expired since April 1, 2019, are being assessed by Manitoba Housing for federal funding under the National Housing Strategy.
- By the end of fiscal year 2023/24, Portfolio Management had signed agreements with 10 projects, totaling 372 units, and allocated a total of \$1,445,000.

#### **How will the Manitoba government support non-profit and cooperative housing providers with expiring operating agreements?**

- The expiry of operating agreements is an important issue across Canada. The National Housing Strategy (NHS) was launched in 2017 and is, in part, the federal government's response to expiring operating agreements.
- In June 2019, Manitoba and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) signed a bilateral agreement under the NHS that will provide \$302.7 million in federal funding to help address the housing needs of Manitobans between 2019/20 and 2027/28.
- Federal NHS funding is cost-matched by the province to support new housing supply, preservation and affordability and is divided into three provincially administered funding envelopes. Provincial/Territorial Priorities, the Canada Community Housing Initiative, and the Canada-Manitoba Housing Benefit. These funding streams will be used to modernize and improve the long-term sustainability of the non-profit and cooperative housing sector and help providers with the expiry of operating agreements.

## **How is the Manitoba government addressing the issue of expiring agreements?**

- The Manitoba government is encouraged by the federal government's commitment to support non-profit housing providers under the NHS. The non-profit housing sector plays a key role in affordable housing provision for Manitobans in need.
- Manitoba Housing continues to work with non-profit and cooperative housing providers to assist with planning for the end of their project operating agreements and sector sustainability. This support includes succession planning, sustainability planning, and ways to diversify revenue options and cost controls to achieve financial stability. Manitoba Housing has the authority to provide short-term operation subsidies or loans to assist with capital upgrades.
- Manitoba Housing has conducted a robust assessment of how it will offset declining Social Housing Agreement (SHA) funding through a new funding model involving provincial and federal NHS investments.
- The new funding model, which has been approved, will deliver subsidy assistance to non-profit housing providers through a fixed annual amount, providing predictable and flexible funding to support their operations.
- Manitoba Housing's approach in implementing the new funding model is aligned with the government's commitment to increasing social and affordable housing units and supporting the long-term sustainability of the non-profit housing sector.


## **BACKGROUND**

- In 1998, the SHA took effect, transferring management and administration of social housing programs from the federal government to participating provinces. In Manitoba, the 37,179 housing units transferred under the agreement are owned either by Manitoba Housing or by third parties, primarily non-profit organizations, or cooperatives.
- Under the terms of the SHA, federal funding will decline annually as individual agreements expire. At the onset of the agreement, federal funding was \$76.4 million per annum, which declined to \$21.6 million in 2024/25.

- 23(1)(a) [REDACTED] All projects owned by third parties have operating agreements that set out the program requirements, as well as the associated subsidies. In most cases, the expiry date of the operating agreements coincides with the end of the subsidy and mortgage maturity.
- Pre 86 housing programs with expired operating agreements were designed with the view that providers would be financially self-sufficient when the agreements expired. However, some organizations have not raised rental rates to keep pace with inflation, have increased operating costs, or have insufficient funds for required capital repairs. Without further subsidy, providers will be required to raise rents and/or reduce the number of units allocated to low-income households.
- 23(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Provincially administered funding streams under the NHS, particularly the Canada Community Housing Initiative, will be used to modernize and improve the long-term sustainability of the non-profit and cooperative housing sector.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

23(1)(a)



## **CONTACT**

- Brian Malkowich, Chief Operating Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing,  
204-782-6057

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Chronic Homelessness

### ISSUE

- Ending chronic homelessness in eight years

### SPEAKING POINTS

#### **What is chronic homelessness?**

- The Manitoba government has committed to ending chronic homelessness in eight years. The goal is for anyone who becomes homeless to be rehoused within six months.

#### **What actions have been taken to address homelessness since October 2023?**

- In December 2023, the Manitoba government invested \$5.7 million to support a Winter Response to Homelessness with a focus on meeting the needs of unsheltered Manitobans during the cold winter months. The winter response assisted over 300 Manitobans including helping 129 to secure permanent housing.
- Budget 2024 invested \$116 million to build at least 350 units of social and affordable housing and repair over 3,000 more. It also invested \$5 million towards new incentives to end chronic homelessness.
- In July 2024, the Manitoba government invested over \$1 million to establish a voluntary sobering centre at N'Dinawemak. The centre will provide a safe space for intoxicated individuals and connect them to programs and services.

#### **How many new social housing units have been created since October 2023?**

- Since October 2023, the Manitoba government has added 32 new social housing units through the rent supplement program.

**How will the Manitoba government address homelessness in the coming year?**

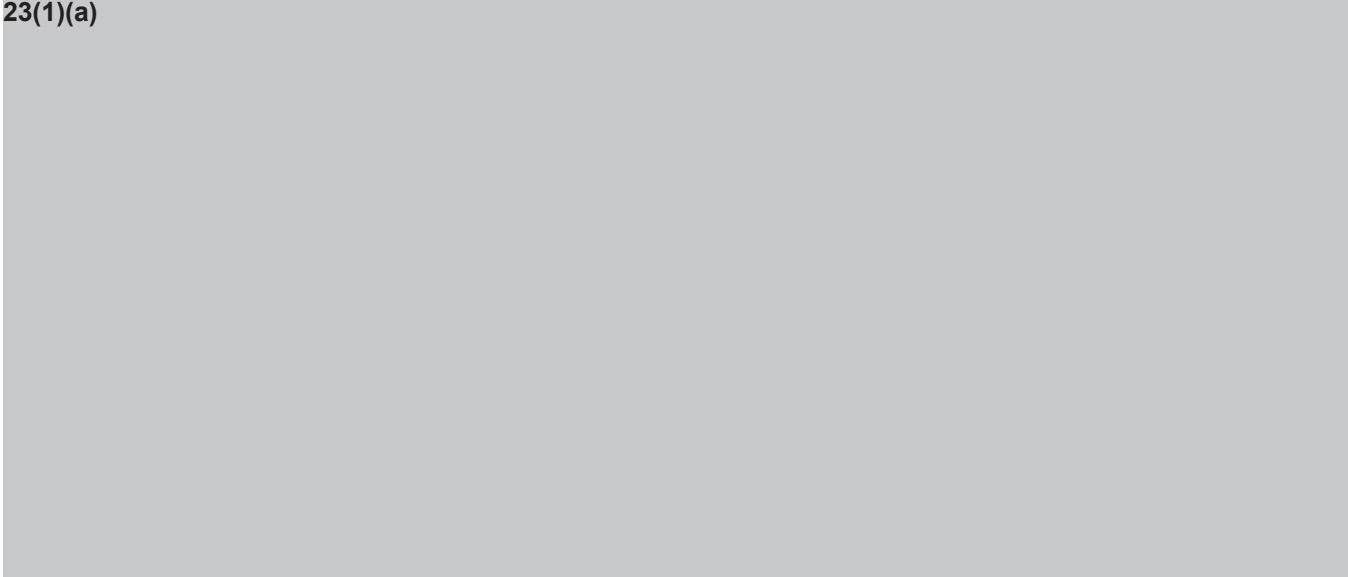
- The Manitoba government will implement an eight-year plan to end chronic homelessness. The plan will take a collaborative approach with other levels of government and stakeholders to address homelessness by connecting people who are experiencing homelessness to housing and wraparound supports.

**BACKGROUND**

- In February 2023, the previous provincial government released A Place for Everyone: A Collaborative Homelessness Strategy for Manitoba. It included 35 initiatives of which 25 have been implemented, eight are in progress and two have not been started.
- As part of the 2023 election campaign, the government committed to ending chronic homelessness in eight years. This commitment was reiterated in the 2023 Speech from the Throne and the Premier’s mandate letter to the Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness.
- The federal government defines chronic homelessness as being unhoused for six months or more in the past year or recurrent overnight stays over the past three years with a duration of at least 546 nights.
- The Housing First model—moving people into long-term rental housing with wraparound supports—is the most effective approach to addressing chronic homelessness.
- 23(1)(a) [Redacted]
- In December 2023, Minister Smith formed a collaborative action circle to develop a winter response to homelessness with a focus on women and 2SLGBTQIA+. Key initiatives from the winter response included:
  - Providing interim housing at hotels
  - Developing new units of supportive and transitional housing
  - Extending safe spaces’ hours of operation
  - Restarting a safe ride service for women
  - Expanding Indigenous women-focused outreach teams

**CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

23(1)(a)



**CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

### ISSUE TITLE: Homeless Population

#### ISSUE

- Overview of the number of people experiencing homelessness in Manitoba

#### SPEAKING POINTS

##### **How many people are currently experiencing homelessness in Manitoba?**

- According to data from the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System as of June 2024, there were 4,193 individuals experiencing homelessness in Brandon, Thompson, and Winnipeg.

##### **How does the Manitoba government plan to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the province's homeless population.**

- The Manitoba government is developing a plan to end chronic homelessness in two terms. The plan will include collaboration and partnerships with Indigenous governments and agencies, supporting Indigenous-led housing and support service projects for people experiencing homelessness.

#### BACKGROUND

- Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) is a database created by the federal government that allows service providers to log data about individuals and coordinate services in their community. Responsibility for the governance and use of local data resides with community entities funded under the federal government's Reaching Home strategy.

- In Manitoba, the community entities are End Homelessness Winnipeg, City of Thompson, and Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation. Non-Indigenous agencies who receive Reaching Home funding are required to use HIFIS. HIFIS use is optional for Indigenous agencies.

23(1)(a)



- In 2023 and 2024, the department asked community entities to provide the number of unique individuals experiencing homelessness from HIFIS.

City	June 2024 Individuals in HIFIS
Brandon	638
Thompson	522
Winnipeg	3,038
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,193</b>

- Nearly 70 per cent of the people enumerated in the most recent Winnipeg point-in-time count had been homeless for six months or more. Fifty (50) per cent were involved with the child welfare system at some point in their lives and 50 per cent had their first experience of homelessness when they were 18 to 24 years old. Additionally, the count identified 62 youth (aged 19 or under) experiencing homelessness.
- Indigenous people are overrepresented in the homeless populations of all three cities, accounting for 75 per cent or more of the people enumerated in each community’s point-in-time count.

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23(1)(a)



### **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

### **ISSUE TITLE:** Homeless Shelter Funding

### **ISSUE**

- The department funds seven homeless shelters in Manitoba based on a standardized funding model.

### **SPEAKING POINTS**

#### **How many homeless shelter beds are funded by the Manitoba government?**

- The Manitoba government provides \$9.4 million annually to operate 473 beds in seven homeless shelters. We provide \$813,000 annually to support casework positions in the shelter sector. The government also provides \$2.6 million annually for daytime service hubs in shelters during the winter months (October to March).

#### **What does provincial homeless shelter funding support?**

- Provincial funding for homeless shelters covers core operating costs for administration, salaries, and facility maintenance. It also includes premiums for safety, accessibility, cultural programming, staff wellness and training.

#### **What role will homeless shelters play in the province's future response to homelessness?**

- The Manitoba government recognizes that, while homeless shelters are critical to meeting the immediate needs of unsheltered people, they do not end homelessness. To address homelessness, we are investing in new social rental housing and Housing First support teams as well as continuing to give people experiencing homelessness priority access to Manitoba Housing rental units.

**BACKGROUND**

- In December 2021, after a decrease in shelter beds from COVID-19 social distancing requirements, End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW) led a coalition of organizations to develop N’Dinawemak: a 24/7 warming space and 150 bed homeless shelter. Because N’Dinawemak was established as a temporary measure, the Homelessness Branch periodically secured operating funds for the shelter until annualized funding was approved in 2023/24 Estimates.
- In the summer of 2022, the Homelessness Branch led a program and financial review of provincially funded shelter and transitional housing services. It found that existing funding was inequitable and that the rates were amongst the lowest in Canada. Following the review, the team received approval to implement a new funding model for shelter and transitional housing services.

<b>Shelter &amp; Transitional Housing Services*</b>	<b>Previous Rates</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>
Small Shelters – South (12hr rate)	\$13.50	\$55.00
Small Shelters – South (24hr rate)	N/A	\$109.00
Small Shelters – North (12hr rate)	\$28.64 - \$37.41	\$58.00
Small Shelters – North (24hr rate)	N/A	\$112.00
Large Shelters – South (12hr rate)	\$13.50	\$38.00
Large Shelters – South (24hr rate)	N/A	\$75.00
Transitional Housing (With meals)	\$35.00	\$64.00
Transitional Housing (Without meals)	\$26.00	\$51.00
<b>Casework Services</b>	<b>Previous Rates</b>	<b>Current Rates</b>
Casework Services – South	\$51,000	\$61,600
Casework Services – North	\$51,000	\$64,680

\*100 or more beds is large; less than 100 beds is small.

- As of October 2022, the province has funded homeless shelters, transitional housing and casework services based on the new rates. Current funding for shelters is:

Shelters	Location	Hours of Operation	Number of Funded Spaces	Regular Funding	Casework Funding
Main Street Project	Winnipeg	12hr	120 beds	\$1.664M	\$184.8K
N'Dinawemak	Winnipeg	24hr	130 beds	\$3.858M	N/A
Oscar's Place (operated by CMHA Swan Valley)	The Pas	12hr	26 beds	\$550.4K	\$64.68K
Safe and Warm (operated by Samaritan House)	Brandon	12hr	25 beds	\$501.9K	N/A
Salvation Army	Winnipeg	12hr	43 beds	\$863.2K	\$184.8K
Siloam Mission	Winnipeg	12hr	105 beds	\$1.456M	\$184.8K
Thompson Homeless Shelter (operated by MKO)	Thompson	12hr	24 beds	\$508.1K	\$194.0K

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- Beginning in 2023/24, the province is providing additional funding to operate daytime services from October 1 to March 31. A total of \$2.6 million annually is provided to the following agencies:
  - Main Street Project (\$600K)
  - Siloam Mission (\$600K)
  - Oscar's Place in The Pas (\$250K)

- Thompson Homeless Shelter (\$350K)
- Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation (\$350K)
- CMHA Swan Valley in Dauphin (\$450K)

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### **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## HOUSING

**ISSUE TITLE:** Encampments

### ISSUE

- Overview of encampments in Manitoba

### SPEAKING POINTS

#### **How many people are living in encampments?**

- Based on estimates from service providers, there are 500 sleeping rough people in the province: 300 in Winnipeg, 70 in Swan River, 50 in Thompson, 30 in The Pas, 20 in Dauphin and 30 in Brandon.

#### **Does the Manitoba government fund outreach services to people living in encampments?**

- A variety of community agencies deliver outreach services to encampments using funds provided by private donations, the federal Reaching Home program and the City of Winnipeg. As part of the provincial Winter Response to Homelessness, the Manitoba government provided \$279,000 to support Indigenous women-focused outreach teams in Winnipeg.

#### **How will the Manitoba government address encampments as part of the larger response to homelessness?**

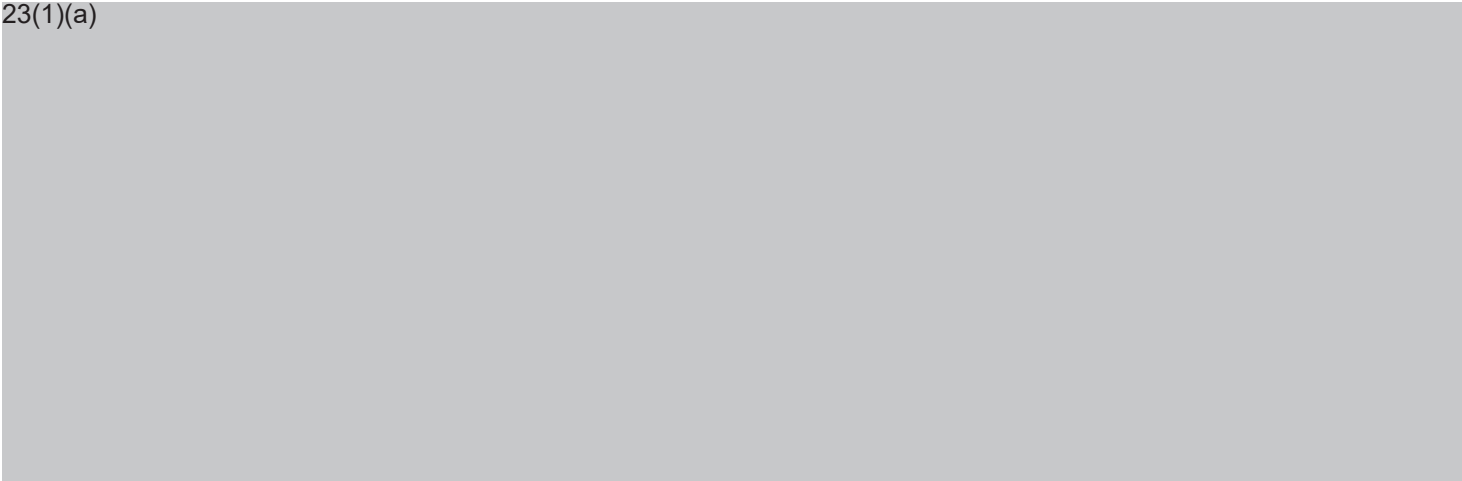
- The Manitoba government recognizes that encampments represent an effort by people experiencing homelessness to meet their most basic need for community and shelter. We know that encampments are not a safe and sustainable solution. Our responses to homelessness will focus on moving people from encampments into housing with wraparound supports.

### BACKGROUND


- In February 2024, the Federal Housing Advocate released a final report on its review of homelessness encampments. According to the report, there has been a significant increase in encampments since the COVID-

19 pandemic. Notably, while encampments had previously been confined to larger cities, they are now found in both large and small communities, as well as in rural areas.

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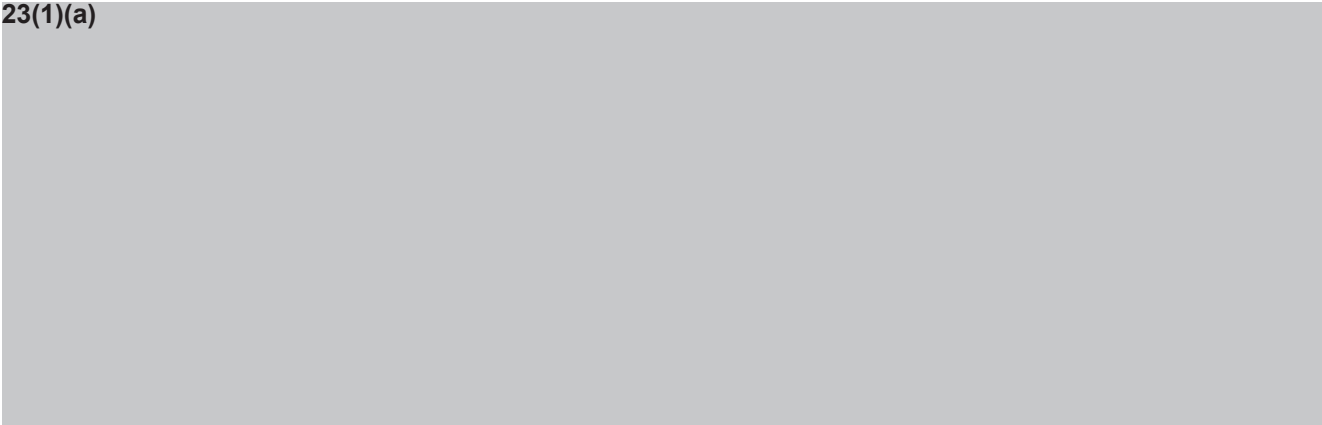


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## **CONTACT**

- Carolyn Ryan, Chief Executive Officer / ADM, Manitoba Housing, 204-803-0576

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

**ISSUE TITLE:** Addictions Services – Capacity and Wait Times

### ISSUE

- Overview of addictions services/wait times.

### SPEAKING POINTS

**What is the government doing to address the wait times for addiction services?**

- Ensuring that individuals have access to appropriate and timely substance use and addictions services and support is a priority for the Manitoba government.
- This government is investing \$1.5M in 2024/25 to expand capacity for Withdrawal Management (Detox) Services and treatment options to ensure that Manitobans struggling with substance use have better access to the support they need.
- Manitoba will also be engaging with Indigenous-led service providers, rightsholders, and governing bodies, to expand access to Indigenous-led Day/Evening Treatment Services over the next year.

**Have the additional spaces supported through the Community Addictions Treatment Expansion been implemented?**

- The recently completed Community Addictions Treatment Expansion added 1,121 new beds/spaces, including:
  - 725 spaces annually for people seeking Mobile Withdrawal Management Services (400 of these are in the process of being implemented).
  - Nine new Medical Withdrawal Management beds (two of which are in the process of being implemented).
  - 270 spaces for people seeking Intensive Day/Evening Programming
  - 55 Supportive Recovery Housing Beds.
  - 62 Adult Primary Treatment Beds (six of which are being implemented).

**How many youth treatment beds are there?**

- The number of youth addiction beds in Manitoba are as follows:
  - Marymound - Provincial Youth Drug Stabilization beds: eight beds (four voluntary and four involuntary); Intoxicated Persons Detention Act: two beds.
  - Hope North - Thompson Non-Medical Youth Stabilization: two beds (involuntary).
  - Compass - Youth Primary Residential Treatment: 14 beds.
  - Whiskeyjack Treatment Centre (federally funded through Indigenous Services Canada): 22 beds.

**How many people are served by withdrawal management services?**

- Once all services have been implemented, Mobile Withdrawal Management Services will be available in all health regions and will provide services to up to 925 people annually.
- Combined, the Community Bed-Based, and Hospital Bed-Based Withdrawal Management Beds in Manitoba have the capacity to support 1,500 to 2,000 unique individuals each year.
  - Manitoba funds 60 Community Bed-Based Withdrawal Management Beds.
  - There are 20 Hospital Bed-Based Withdrawal Management Beds in the province, however, two of them are not yet operational (see Appendix A).

**How many adult primary treatment beds does Housing, Addictions and Homelessness fund?**

- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness funds 323 Adult Primary Treatment Beds through several community agencies and service delivery organizations (see Appendix A).

**How many day/evening treatment spaces does Housing, Addictions and Homelessness fund:**

- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness funds 556 Day/Evening Addictions Treatment Spaces annually (See Appendix A).

**How many supportive recovery housing units does Housing, Addictions and Homelessness fund?**

- Supportive Recovery Housing is shorter-term accommodation (usually up to six months but may be longer) in a safe and supportive environment that offers recovery services.
- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness funds 236 Supportive Recovery Housing units (beds) through several community services (see Appendix A).

**BACKGROUND**

- Manitoba offers a continuum of substance use and addictions services and supports for adults including:
  - Hospital Bed-Based Medical Withdrawal Management Services
  - Non-Medical Community Bed-Based Withdrawal Management Services
  - Mobile Withdrawal Management Services
  - a variety of Community-Based Services
  - Opiate Agonist Treatment
  - Short- and Long-Term Primary Bed-Based Addictions Treatment
  - Supportive Recovery Housing

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**CONTACT**

- Sean Leggett, A/Executive Director, Mental Health and Addictions Treatment and Recovery

**Appendix A: Addiction Services Listing and Capacity**

<b>Child and Youth Addiction Services</b>		<b>Capacity (Beds)</b>
Youth Addictions Stabilization Unit (YASU) – Marymound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short-term program to support families with a child 17 years of age and under who has an addiction to alcohol or other drugs.</li> <li>• 4 voluntary beds</li> <li>• 4 involuntary beds</li> <li>• 2 Intoxicated Persons Detentions Act beds</li> <li>• Located in Winnipeg.</li> </ul>	10
Compass In-House Youth Program (Shared Health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-house program for young people who want support to change their use of alcohol or drugs.</li> <li>• The location is near Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.</li> </ul>	14
Hope North Recovery Center for Youth (Northern Health Region)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services include a Crisis Stabilization Unit, a Youth Addiction Stabilization Unit, and a Mobile Crisis Team</li> <li>• Located in Thompson, Manitoba.</li> </ul>	2
Whiskeyjack Treatment Centre – Norway House Cree Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is funded through the Indigenous Services Canada.</li> </ul>	22
<b>Total</b>		<b>48</b>

<b>Mobile - Withdrawal Management Services (WMS)</b>		<b>Current Capacity (spaces)</b>
Winnipeg	Klinik	200
Brandon	Prairie Mountain Health	125
Selkirk	Interlake Eastern Regional Health Authority	125
Portage	Southern Health-Sante Sud	75
Thompson	Keewatinohk Inniniw Minoayawin (KIM) Inc *	400
<b>Total</b>		<b>925</b>

\*KIM services are not yet operational; however, they are expected to be implemented in Q2

<b>Bed-Based Community Withdrawal Management Services</b>		<b>Capacity (Beds)</b>
Thompson	Eaglewood - Non-Medical Withdrawal Beds	6
Brandon	Community Health and Housing Association Westman Region (Joshua Jacks Centre)	6
Winnipeg	Main Street Project Men's	21
Winnipeg	Main Street Project Women's (River Point Centre)	27
<b>Total</b>		<b>60</b>

<b>Hospital Bed-Based Medical Withdrawal Management Services</b>		<b>Capacity (Beds)</b>
Winnipeg	Health Sciences Centre Addictions Unit	11
Brandon	Brandon Regional Health Centre	4
Ashern	Lakeshore General Hospital	2
Portage la Prairie	Portage District General Hospital*	1
Flin Flon	Flin Flon General Hospital*	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>

\*Services are not yet operational

Adult Primary Treatment Beds		Current Capacity (Beds)
Men	Addictions Services Men's (former AFM) (Winnipeg)	38
Men	Bruce Oake Recovery Centre (Winnipeg)	50
Women	Addictions Services Women's (former AFM) (Winnipeg)	35
Women	Behavioural Health Foundation (BHF): Breezy Point Women's Only (St. Norbert)	14
Women/Non-Binary	Regenesis Centre for Recovery*	6
CO-ED	Addictions with a Substance Use and Gambling rotation (Brandon)	20
CO-ED	Willard Monson House (Ste. Rose du Lac)	28
CO-ED	Eaglewood (Thompson)	18
CO-ED	BHF: Men's, Women's, and Family Program (St. Norbert)**	86
CO-ED	Rosaire House (The Pas)	16
CO-ED	Tamarack Recovery Centre (Winnipeg)	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>323</b>

\*Regenesis services are not yet operational, they will be participating in a conditional use permit appeal with the City of Winnipeg in September 2024.

\*\*BHF was formerly reported as having 100 beds, however, some of them were for the children of participants. This has been corrected to 86 beds for adult participants.

**Note:** Native Addictions Council of Manitoba (NACM) originally had 22 Primary Treatment Beds. They lowered their capacity to ten beds and have now advised that they have switched to a day treatment model on a temporary basis while they undergo renovations.

<b>Adult Day/Evening Treatment</b>		<b>Current Capacity (Annual Spaces)</b>
Brandon	Prairie Mountain Health – Re/Act - Men	60
Winnipeg	Re/Act Expansion – Men	50
Winnipeg	St. Raphael Wellness Centre (Men's and Women's cohorts)	136
Winnipeg	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority/Canadian Mental Health Association (WRHA/CMHA) (Men's and Women's cohorts)	160
Winnipeg	Native Addictions Council of Manitoba (NACM) (Co-Ed)	150
<b>Total</b>		<b>556</b>

<b>Supportive Recovery Housing (SRH)</b>		<b>Current Capacity (Beds)</b>
Winnipeg	River Point Apartments	28
Winnipeg	River Point Centre Community Pathways (male)	7
Winnipeg	Esther House	6
Winnipeg	Addictions Recovery Inc.	14
Winnipeg	Two Ten - Men's	14
Winnipeg	Two Ten – Cole's Cottage Men's	6
Winnipeg	Two Ten – Destiny House Women's	12
Winnipeg	Siloam Mission	20
Winnipeg	Tamarack Recovery (The Branch)	10
Winnipeg	Riverwood House	40
Brandon	Community Health and Housing Association	9
Brandon	Westman Youth for Christ	18
Thompson	Men are Part of the Solution	24
Winnipeg	Forward House	28
<b>Total</b>		<b>236</b>

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

**ISSUE TITLE:** Mental Health Programs

### ISSUE

- Overview of mental health programs in Manitoba.

### SPEAKING POINTS

#### **What are the wait times for mental health services in Manitoba?**

- Those experiencing a mental health and/or addiction crisis are prioritized and have more immediate access to services, however those with less urgent needs wait longer.
- There is no universal wait time for mental health services due to the range of clinics and programs, acuity and complexity of patient needs, and delivery of care through hospitals and health centres in the health regions, as well as through non-profit and other community organizations.
- However, overall wait times for mental health services in Manitoba have been increasing, due to an escalating need which was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and has been continued to escalate since. This demand for services far outpaces resources available.
- Wait times for specific mental health treatments or services will vary depending on several factors including the nature of the care an individual needs, location, level of urgency, current demand for service, and staffing availability.

#### **How many mental health beds are there in Manitoba?**

- There are 566 adult hospital-based mental health beds in Manitoba. This includes 367 *acute care* beds for mental health admissions at facilities across Manitoba – 214 in Winnipeg hospitals (Health Sciences Centre, Victoria General Hospital and St. Boniface Hospital), and 153 in the health regions outside of Winnipeg. This also includes beds in hospitals and at Eden Mental Health Centre and at Selkirk Mental health Centre – where there are an additional 199 mainly longer-term beds for forensic, rehabilitation, acquired brain injury and geriatric services.
- It should be noted that besides acute care beds and the longer-term beds mentioned, several other mental health and addiction services are offered by individual health regions as outpatient services and through non-profits or other third-party community organizations that do not require a bed or have treatment spaces that are not considered medical beds.

#### **What is available for people experiencing a mental health crisis?**

- Anyone experiencing a major medical emergency or facing a threat of violence should call 911 or visit the nearest emergency department.

- The Crisis Response Centre (CRC) and crisis phone line are central points of access open 24 hours a day for adults experiencing acute mental health challenges requiring urgent mental health assessment and treatment. The CRC has eight assessment spaces and has seen an increase in the number and acuity of individuals presenting for service over the past number of years.
- The 16-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit offers short-term care and treatment service for individuals experiencing an acute mental health crisis. Individuals may also have an overlapping substance use, addiction or gambling issue.
- Support is also available through the Provincial Virtual Crisis Service, which aims to address gaps in specialized care in rural and remote parts of the province, providing timely access to advice and assessment for individuals in a mental health crisis regardless of where they live. There is an emergency daytime consultation service and 12 virtual beds for in-community follow-up care available through this service.
- Work is underway to expand the virtual aspect of these services so more Manitobans can benefit. The Provincial Virtual Consultation Service (PVCS) and a Provincial Bed Flow Coordinator have helped to increase timely access for frontline healthcare providers and nursing stations where mental health assessments and, in some cases, admissions to hospital are necessary. This has ensured a centralized, standardized approach to mental health interventions for those with acute needs.

### **What is being done to improve access and wait times?**

- Manitoba is committed to the development of an integrated, provincial approach to mental health and addictions.
- The development of innovative service models, and recruitment and retention of staff with specialized skills – locally, and internationally – are key parts of the provincial response to growing mental health care needs.

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- Initiatives to address staffing, wait times and improved access for various mental health and substance use services are ongoing and include:
  - The expansion of Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinics across the province, with recently expanded hours and an Indigenous-led location in Winnipeg (the seventh in Manitoba) opened at the Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre in December of 2023;
  - The addition of 17 new psychologists, ten of whom are already in place or will be starting later fall, 2024, with ongoing recruitment nationally;
  - Expansion of clinical psychology residents from 12 to 13, with funding to expand to 17 in the next two years;
  - The addition of 11 new psychiatrists, and increasing the number of psychiatry trainees from 12 to 17 by next year;

- The expansion of virtual mental health psychiatry services, including crisis stabilization and emergent telepsychiatry services;
- Expansion of the locally developed cognitive behavioural therapy with mindfulness (CBTm) education program that helps participants develop skills to improve mental health and well-being. The CBTm program is offered through both virtual group-based programming and as an online course for optimal access;
- The creation of a five-year strategy on workforce recruitment, training and other supports identified as priority initiatives including efforts to recruit and retain psychiatrists and psychologists; and
- Continued efforts working with service delivery organizations and other partners including universities, colleges, unions, associations, and regulatory bodies to strengthen and support our province's mental health workforce, and increase training and educational opportunities.
- In addition, the psychiatry top-up agreement with incentives/stipends for work in acute care facilities and underserved areas of the province has been successful. Fourteen psychiatrists have been recruited so far, all of whom remain working in the province. In the last year, seven psychiatrists were recruited with the loss of only one from the system. This is in stark contrast to the period between 2020-2022 where two to three psychiatrists would be lost for each one recruited. The top-up agreement launched and piloted in psychiatry is now being considered by other departments (i.e. emergency medicine, obstetrics and gynecology) to recruit new specialists to rural areas.

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**BACKGROUND**

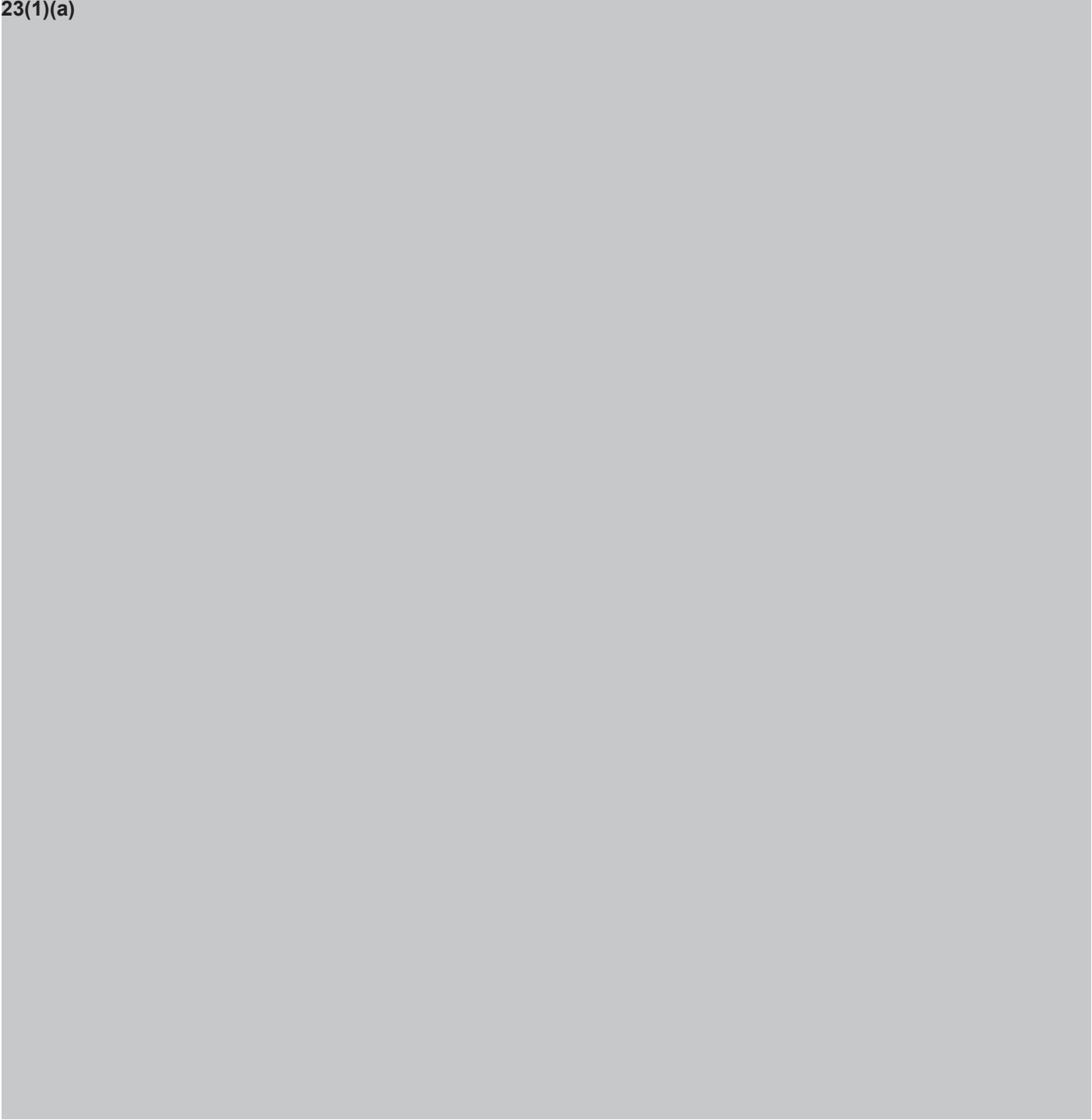
- There are multiple levels of resources and programs available for those seeking care for mental health and addiction challenges in Manitoba. This includes inpatient and outpatient care in hospitals, services coordinated in primary care and at sites such as RAAM clinic locations, in-house treatment programs across the province, and programming for people of all ages and backgrounds.
- The Peachey and VIRGO provincial reviews both recommended a significant increase in the number of doctoral clinical psychologists to reach the national benchmark level, identifying the value-added services psychologists provide, and targeting expansion specifically in the publicly-funded health system to ensure access for Manitobans.

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- Dr. Jitender Sareen, Provincial Specialty Lead, Mental Health and Addictions, Shared Health and Department Head, Psychiatry, University of Manitoba, 204-787-7056
- Dr. Lesley Graff, Provincial Medical Specialty Lead – Clinical Health Psychology, Shared Health and Department Head, Clinical Health Psychology Max Rady College of Medicine, University of Manitoba, 204 787-3490
- Ben Fry, COO, Mental Health and Addictions, Shared Health, 204-803-0806.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

**ISSUE TITLE:** Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinics

### ISSUE

- Overview of Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine (RAAM) clinics in Manitoba.

### SPEAKING POINTS

#### **How many RAAM clinics does Mental Health and Addictions fund?**

- There are currently seven RAAM clinics in Manitoba; three in Winnipeg, and one each in Selkirk, Brandon, Thompson and Portage la Prairie. Virtual services have also been launched, using nurse-led Digital Front Door clinics, to expand accessibility more widely across the province.

#### **When are RAAM clinics open?**

- Hours of operation vary somewhat by location, with most clinics open five days per week, and physicians available for defined clinic times. Saturday services are also offered by two Winnipeg Clinics (CRC and AHWC).

#### **How many people are served by RAAM clinics in Manitoba?**

- Across the province, there are between 117 and 142 client presentations walk-in RAAM clinics each week.
- Between August 2018 and June 30, 2024 over 11,000 unique individuals (counted once per year) received RAAM services, resulting in almost 59,500 service sessions including over 30,000 Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) service episodes provided during follow-up sessions – across the province.

#### **What happens if a RAAM clinic is full for the day? Are people turned away?**

- RAAM walk-in services are provided largely on a first come, first served basis, with some prioritization based on urgency. However, the demand for these services is very high, and as a result many walk-in RAAM clinics will reach capacity during clinic hours on days of operation, particularly in Winnipeg.
- When a RAAM clinic is full for the day, education and harm reduction support is provided in the moment by clinic staff and individuals are encouraged to attend the next RAAM clinic if appropriate. Individuals may also be referred to other services in the community and, in Winnipeg, are given the option of connection to a peer.

- When individuals access RAAM for treatment they are also in need of follow up appointments to monitor and ensure stability during their treatment period. Once stabilized the goal is to transition these individuals to their primary care provider (and if they don't have one, to help enable this connection). Work with primary care to enhance primary care knowledge, support and integration of services is underway. Transitioning stable individuals to primary care helps create added capacity within the RAAM clinics to see new clients.

### **We have heard of people desperate for help who couldn't access a RAAM clinic. How can this happen?**

- RAAM clinics are walk-in clinics that are appropriate for people wanting help for high-risk substance use and addiction without an appointment or formal referral.
- RAAM clinics are not for people needing urgent medical attention for either physical or mental health symptoms. These more urgent needs are better met at an emergency/urgent care department or the Crisis Response Centre, depending on the situation.
- Anyone dealing with challenges related to alcohol or other substance use or concerned loved ones can also contact the Manitoba Addictions Helpline, a free and confidential service available weekdays that puts Manitobans in touch with a trained counsellor who can help find the most appropriate service for those in need.

### **What is the RAAM Hub?**

- In 2019/20 the RAAM Hub was established with a mandate to lead collaborative provincial actions to help improve timely access to addictions treatment through RAAM, and to address the highly concerning and continued increase in drug poisoning deaths.
- The RAAM Hub provides strategic planning, oversight and coordination to the regional health authorities in charge of operating provincial RAAM clinics, and consists of executive leadership from Shared Health as well clinical leads with extensive experience in addictions medicine, treatment and mental health.

### **What has the RAAM Hub done lately?**

- The 2022/23 to 2024/25 fiscal year RAAM Hub strategic plan focuses on a number of initiatives and actions with four key strategic priorities, with a particular focus on the unique challenges faced by Indigenous peoples:
  1. Increase patient outflow from RAAM clinics to primary care.
  2. Increase access to RAAM clinics and provide services closer to home.
  3. Improve RAAM data quality to enhance services and develop research partnerships to create innovative solutions for addressing addictions treatment and recovery.
  4. Ensure daily clinic and staff resource needs (including workforce, infrastructure, etc.) are met and sustained.

- Recent progress on meeting these goals includes the creation of a RAAM-First Nations working group, establishing a referral form and a pathway to RAAM services. Other progress includes the creation of a Primary Care Addiction Steering Committee with the aim of enhancing substance use care within the primary care setting.

### **What is the government doing to address the rising need for these services?**


- Ensuring individuals have access to appropriate addiction supports and treatment when they need them is a priority for Manitoba.
- The continued investment in RAAM clinics and the addition of virtual services through the *digital front door* and the northern referral pathway is providing patients with more options to access RAAM services, particularly for individuals living in remote and rural areas.
- Educational initiatives are ongoing to increase addiction medicine capacity within primary care, including RAAM Knowledge Exchange Days and the ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) community of practices project, which creates knowledge-sharing networks through multipoint video conferencing. These virtual communities of practice are led by interdisciplinary, specialist 'hubs,' that join with participants 'spokes' to share knowledge and best practices.

### **BACKGROUND**

- RAAM clinic walk-in services provide information to clients on how to make choices that will lower the risks of substance use.
- RAAM clinics provide wraparound supports and information including assessment; counselling; referrals to withdrawal management or other specialized services, community treatment programs and primary care physicians; and prescription of addiction medication including opioid agonist treatment (OAT) for individuals seeking help to reduce substance use harms and/or recover from addiction.
- In June 2023 the Provincial Addiction Medicine-Primary Care Steering Committee – a very active and busy table – was created to improve treatment pathways between RAAM clinics, primary care and the Manitoba Opioid Support and Treatment (MOST) program.
- Also in June 2023, the First Nations-RAAM Working Group was created through a partnership between the RAAM Hub and the First Nations Inuit Health Branch. The group's purpose includes enhancing provincial pathways to and from RAAM.

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## CONTACT

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## **MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS**

**ISSUE TITLE:** Eating Disorders

### **ISSUE**

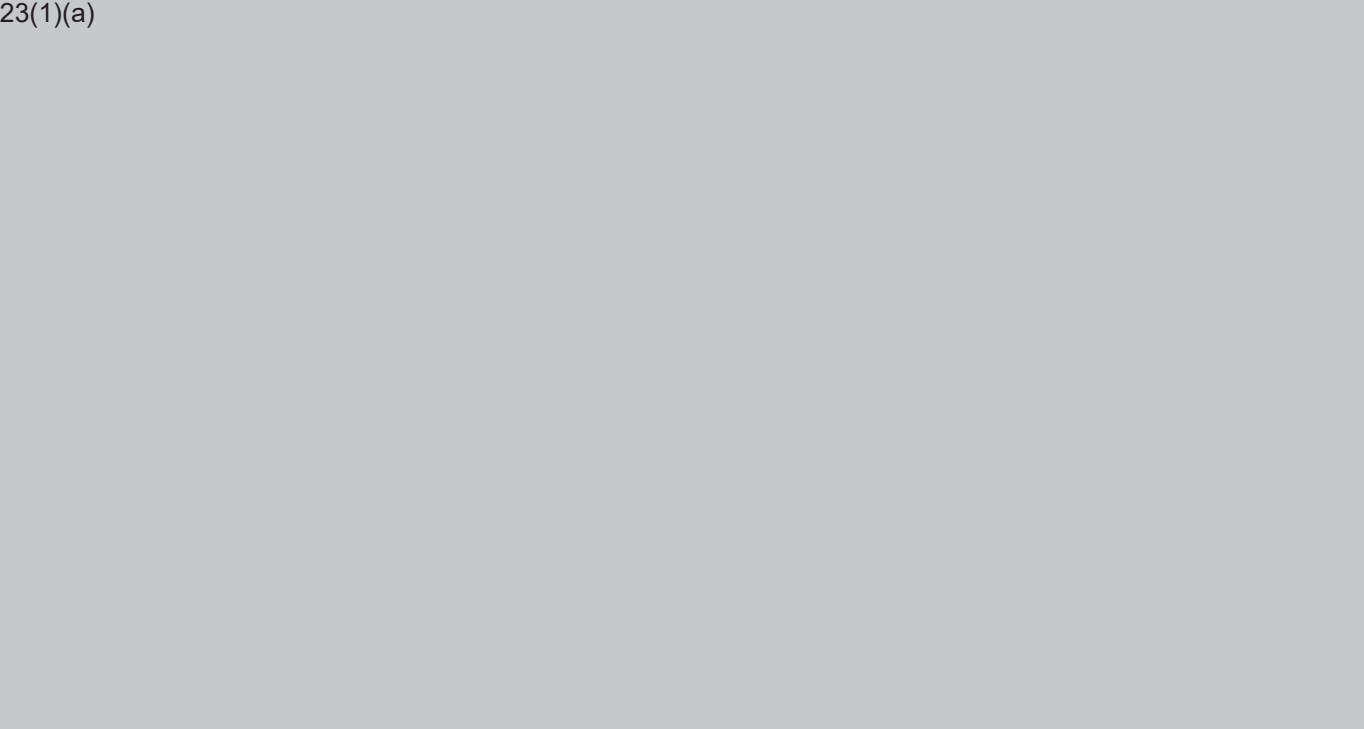
- Access to eating disorders supports and services.

### **SPEAKING POINTS**

**What are the current wait times for eating disorders treatment in Manitoba?**

- Eating disorder programs in Manitoba continue to see increased demand for treatment services. Wait times vary between inpatient, outpatient, and community services.

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**What is Housing, Addictions and Homelessness doing to improve access to eating disorders support and treatment services?**

- Ensuring that Manitobans have access to eating disorders support and treatment services when they need them is a priority for this government.
- The province is focused on decreasing wait times for eating disorders treatment and increasing access to treatment for children and youth so they can remain in the community with their support systems in place.
- Investments to expand the eating disorders programs at the Health Sciences Centre and the Women's Health Clinic have increased capacity, ensuring more Manitobans have access to support and treatment.
- Further, the programs at Health Sciences Centre and Women's Health Clinic have

both expanded their scope to offer support and treatment to individuals on their waiting lists.

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## BACKGROUND

- Health Sciences Centre provides inpatient and outpatient eating disorders programs for adults. In addition, they provide outpatient and day treatment programs for children/adolescents.
- As of 2023/24, Housing, Addictions and Homelessness (HAH) provided nearly \$1.74M annually for eating disorders programming in the province (this does not include the \$500K committed through the 2024/25 Budget).
- In July 2020, the province announced an annual ongoing investment of \$611K to expand the adult eating disorders program at Health Sciences Centre, to include increasing inpatient and outpatient capacity, and the development of Manitoba's only Nutrition Clinic that provides meal supports for inpatients or those receiving care in the community.
- In January 2023, Manitoba invested nearly \$225K of additional funding to expand capacity within Health Sciences Centre's child and adolescent eating disorders program. This funding allowed Health Sciences Centre to recruit a nurse therapist and social worker to support additional families annually.
- The Women's Health Clinic Provincial Eating Disorder Prevention and Recovery Program (PEDPRP) offers outpatient community-based eating disorders treatment, including individual therapy, dietitian support, and group therapy.
- HAH provides annual funding of approximately \$901K for the PEDPRP. This funding is flowed through the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA).
  - A provincial COVID-19 Emergency Expenditure Request was approved in 2021 to invest approximately \$303K to reduce wait times at the PEDPRP. This investment was approved in Estimates on an ongoing basis in 2023.
  - The remaining funding (\$598K) is provided by WRHA through an annual funding agreement with WHC.
- The funding outlined above represents more recent investments and annual funding from WRHA but does not include the baseline funding to Shared Health for the programming out of HSC. As this funding is provided through global funding, a detailed breakdown by program is not available currently.
- The Westwind Eating Disorder Recovery Centre, a private centre in Brandon, closed in 2022. Further, there appear to be two other private, fee-for-service eating disorder service providers in the province, the Winnipeg Eating Disorders Clinic that provides therapy and nutritional counselling, as well as Aurora Recovery Centre, a bed-based treatment centre in Gimli.

- On June 1, 2022, the provincial Eating Disorders Awareness Act was given Royal Assent, marking February 1 to 7 of each year as Eating Disorders Awareness Week.

**CONTACT**

- Sean Leggett, A/Executive Director, Service Planning and Policy

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

**ISSUE TITLE:** Mental Health Bed Capacity

### ISSUE

- Overview of mental health system capacity in Manitoba.

### SPEAKING POINTS

#### **How many mental health beds are there in Manitoba?**

- There are a number of resources and programs available for those seeking care for mental health and addiction challenges in Manitoba, and not all of these services require beds. This includes inpatient and outpatient care in hospitals, services coordinated in primary care and at sites such as Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine (RAAM) clinics, in-house treatment programs across the province.
- There are 566 adult hospital-based mental health beds in Manitoba. This includes 367 *acute care* beds for mental health admissions at facilities across Manitoba – 214 in Winnipeg hospitals (Health Sciences Centre, Victoria General Hospital and St. Boniface Hospital), and 153 in the health regions outside of Winnipeg. This also includes beds in hospitals and at Eden Mental Health Centre and at Selkirk Mental health Centre – where there are an additional 199 mainly longer-term beds for forensic, rehabilitation, acquired brain injury and geriatric services.

#### **How many hospital-based mental health care beds are available in Manitoba?**

- Hospital-based mental health care beds, include beds that provide acute, forensic, rehabilitation, acquired brain injury and geriatric services.

**Provincial Adult Hospital-Based Mental Health Beds, Over 5 Year Period**

Hospital name	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Current (as of Sept. 6)
Brandon General Hospital	47	47	47	47	47	25 at Centre for Adult Psychiatry 22 at Centre for Geriatric Psychiatry 47 TOTAL
Dauphin Regional Health Centre	10	10	10	10	10	10
Eden Mental Health Centre	25	25	25	25	25	25
Health Sciences Centre	92	92	100	100	94	105
Selkirk Mental Health Centre (SMHC)	252	252	252	252	252	53 Acute 20 Acquired Brain Injury 73 Rehab 75 Geriatric 31 Forensic 237 TOTAL
St. Boniface Hospital	34	34	34	34	34	34
The Pas Health Complex	8	8	8	8	8	8
Thompson General Hospital	10	10	10	10	10	10
Victoria General Hospital	75	75	75	75	75	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>566</b>

- It should be noted that besides acute care beds and the longer-term beds mentioned, several other mental health and addiction services are offered by individual health regions as outpatient services and through non-profits or other third-party community organizations that do not require a bed or have treatment spaces that are not considered medical beds.

**How many crisis beds does Shared Health support?**

- Anyone experiencing a major medical emergency or facing a threat of violence should call 911 or visit the nearest emergency department.
- The Crisis Response Centre (CRC) and crisis phone line are central points of access open 24 hours a day for adults experiencing acute mental health challenges requiring urgent mental health assessment and treatment. The CRC has eight assessment spaces and has seen an increase in the number and acuity of individuals presenting for service over the past number of years.
- The 16-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit offers short-term care and treatment service for individuals experiencing an acute mental health crisis. Individuals may also have an overlapping substance use, addiction or gambling issue.

- Support is also available through the Provincial Virtual Crisis Service, which aims to address gaps in specialized care in rural and remote parts of the province, providing timely access to advice and assessment for individuals in a mental health crisis regardless of where they live. There is an emergency daytime consultation service and 12 virtual beds for in-community follow-up care available through this service.
- Work is underway to expand the virtual aspect of these services so more Manitobans can benefit. The Provincial Virtual Consultation Service (PVCS) and a Provincial Bed Flow Coordinator have helped to increase timely access for frontline healthcare providers and nursing stations where mental health assessments and, in some cases, admissions to hospital are necessary. This has ensured a centralized, standardized approach to mental health interventions for those with acute needs.

## **BACKGROUND**

- There are a number of resources and programs available for those seeking care for mental health and addiction challenges in Manitoba. This includes inpatient and outpatient care in hospitals, services coordinated in primary care and at sites such as RAAM clinic locations, in-house treatment programs across the province, and programming for people of all ages and backgrounds.
- Wait times for specific mental health treatments or services will vary depending on several factors including the particular supports an individual is requesting or needs, the level of urgency, the current demand for service, and staffing availability. Those experiencing a mental health and/or addiction crisis are prioritized and have more immediate access to services with little to no wait.


## **CONTACT**

- Dr. Jitender Sareen, Department Head, Psychiatry, Provincial Specialty Lead, Mental Health and Addictions, 204-787-7056

**MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS**


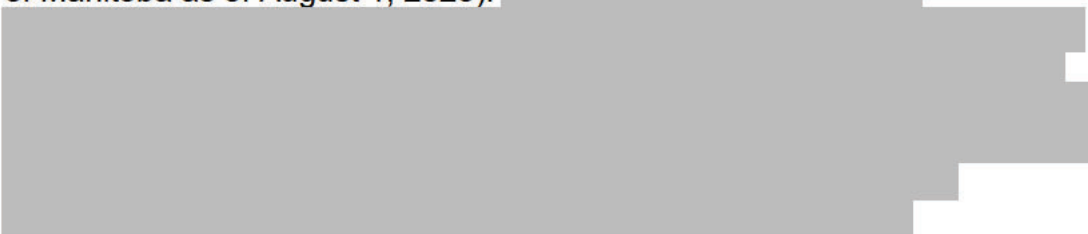
**ISSUE TITLE:** The Status of the Mental Health Workforce, Challenges, and Strategies

**ISSUE**

- As of July 2023, mental health workforce size, including the number of full-time equivalent employees in the public mental health system, totaled 2,241.38 FTE allocated among different roles including community support, professional/technical staff, nursing, clinical support, and medical staff.
- Psychiatrists play a central role in Manitoba's mental health care system. <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>  

- The shortage of clinical psychology staffing in the publicly funded health system has intensified since the pandemic, affecting the availability of mental health and acute and chronic disease care services.

**SPEAKING POINTS**

**How many regulated health professionals work in the mental health and addictions sector?**

- The number of regulated health professionals in the mental health workforce is as follows:
  - Psychiatrists:
    - 218 (members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba, as of August 25, 2023). <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>  

  - Clinical Psychologists:
    - 253 (registered for independent practice with the Psychological Association of Manitoba as of August 1, 2023). <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>  

  - Registered Psychiatric Nurses:
    - 1,185 RPNs in Manitoba (total practicing members of the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Manitoba, including graduate nurses, as of August 25, 2023). There are also nurses working in non-nursing roles (e.g., community mental health workers).
- The above totals are based on the most recent figures made available by each listed profession's respective regulatory body.

**What are the allocations of FTEs among the mental health and addictions workforce?**

- As of July 2023, the number of full-time equivalent employees in the public mental health system was 2,241.38<sup>a</sup> FTE (including Selkirk Mental Health Centre). Below are the allocations of FTEs among the mental health and addictions workforce:

<b>Manitoba Mental Health Workforce by Sector</b>	<b>As of July 2023,</b>
Community Support	235.38 FTE
Prof/Tech (MGEU)	732.28 FTE
Nursing - Direct care	547.35 FTE
Clinical Support (HCA, Psych Assistants)	218.08 FTE
Facility Support (non-direct care)	280.69 FTE
Medical Staff:	
Psychiatrists	139.20 FTE
Psychologists	88.4 FTE
<b>TOTAL FTE (Budget)</b>	<b>2,241.38 FTE</b>

<sup>a</sup> Casual and contract positions are excluded (budget FTE is provided unless stated otherwise and may be filled or vacant, with totals subject to rounding). Facility Support FTE does not provide direct-care mental health services. Excluding facility support, 1,960.69 FTE provide direct mental health services.

**Why are there significantly more RPNs than total nursing FTEs in the mental health sector?**

- The total number of registered psychiatric nurses includes part-time nurses, nurses working in areas that are not part of the provincial health care system (education, justice, private, or federal), retired nurses, or nurses on leave who have maintained their registration but are not working.

**BACKGROUND**

- The provincial government underscores its commitment to an integrated approach to mental health care, acknowledging the importance of a well-supported and adequately staffed workforce to ensure access to services for Manitobans.
- The government has further committed to expanding 10 post-graduate medical education seats for clinical psychologists <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>
- The government has also committed to hiring 100 mental health workers to work alongside law enforcement.

**CONTACT:**

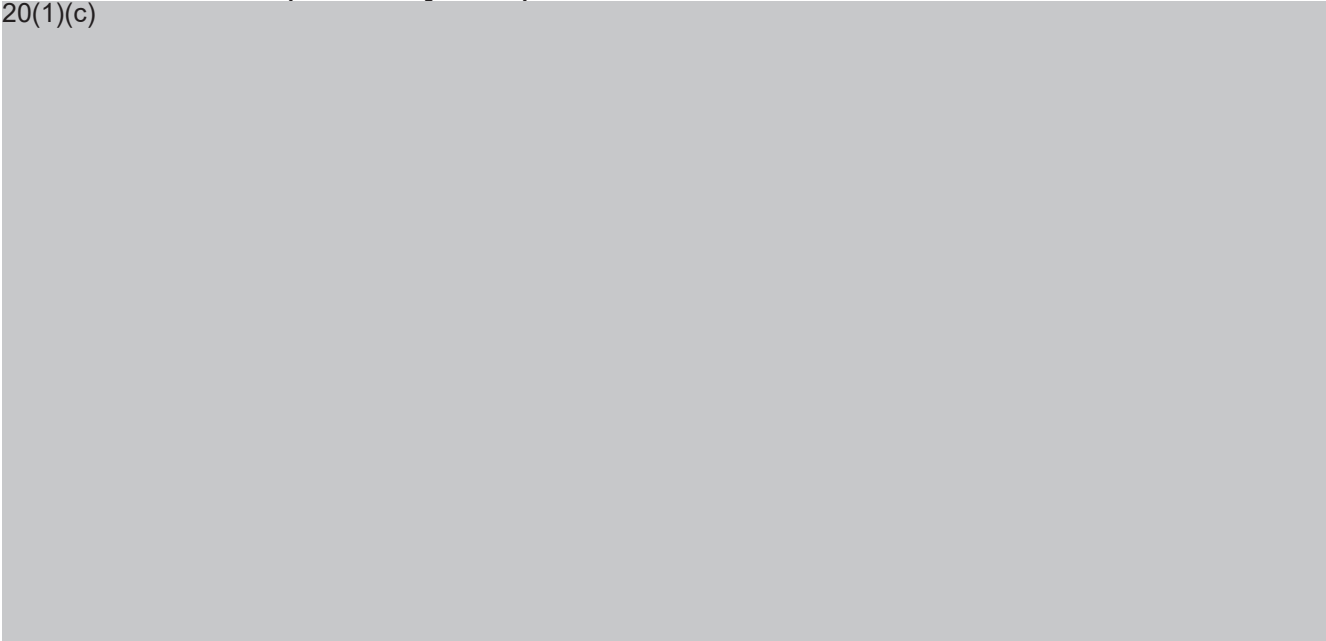
- Michele Lane, Provincial Lead, Health Care Retention and Recruitment Office, Manitoba Health Seniors and Long-Term Care

**APPENDIX**

**Mental Health Workers Per Region:**

**Shared Health (as of July 2023):**

20(1)(c)



23(1)(a)

Vacancy Rates (Note: Figures last updated July, 2023)

- FTE Vacancy rate for HSC Mental Health is 10.1% (improved from 13.3% in April 2023)
- FTE Vacancy rate for SH Mental Health Program is 25.9% (decline from 24.81% in April 2023)
- FTE Vacancy rate for Physicians is 24%
- FTE Vacancy rate for Psychologists is 55%

**Winnipeg Regional Health Authority:  
Budgeted FTE (full table updated by WRHA on April 20/23)**

FTE	2023	2023	2022	2021	2020
Job Sector	June (Q1)	March	March	March	March
Community Support	46.15	46.15	26	30.22	25
Facility Support	26.9	26.7	22.6	22.6	21.6
Nursing	8.7	8.7	1.4	1.4	2.1
Out of Scope	3	3	3	3	2
Professional-Technical	120.9	118.9	130.25	130	127.62
Psychiatrists	42				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>205.65</b>	<b>203.45</b>	<b>183.25</b>	<b>187.22</b>	<b>178.32</b>

**Southern Health-Santé Sud:**

Job Sector:	2023	2022	2018	2012
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Community Support	10.3 FTE	62.0 FTE	62.0 FTE	62.0 FTE
Facility Support	12 FTE	15.6 FTE	13.6 FTE	13.6 FTE
Nursing	12 FTE	3.0 FTE	0	0
Professional-Technical	74.2 FTE	0	0	0
Psychologist	2.0 FTE			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110.5 FTE</b>	<b>80.6 FTE</b>	<b>75.6 FTE</b>	<b>75.6 FTE</b>

**Eden Health Care Services:**

<b>Job Sector:</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Community Support	8.8 FTE	8.7 FTE	8.8 FTE
Facility Support	2.15 FTE	2.15 FTE	2.15 FTE
Nursing	19.74 FTE	19.74 FTE	18.74 FTE
Professional-Technical	28.39 FTE	28.39 FTE	28.39 FTE
Psychologists	2.26 FTE	2.26 FTE	2.26 FTE
Psychiatrists	8 FTE	8 FTE	8 FTE
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69.34 FTE</b>	<b>69.24 FTE</b>	<b>68.34 FTE</b>

**Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority:**

<b>Job Sector:</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Community Support	11.2 FTE	69.0 FTE	65.0 FTE
Facility Support	8.3 FTE	7.0 FTE	7.0 FTE
Nursing	14 FTE	16.0 FTE	13.0 FTE
Professional-Technical	45.8 FTE	11.0 FTE	9.0 FTE
Psychologist	2.0 FTE		
Psychiatrist	2.2545 FTE		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>83.55 FTE</b>	<b>103.0 FTE</b>	<b>94.0 FTE</b>

**Prairie Mountain Health:**

<b>Job Sector:</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Community Support	71.6 FTE	149
Facility Support	9.8 FTE	24
Nursing	92.5 FTE	99
Professional-Technical	173.1 FTE	N/A
Clinical Support (HCA)	19.88 FTE	
Psychologists	7.5 FTE	8
Psychiatrists	9.2 FTE	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>383.58 FTE</b>	<b>289 FTE</b>

- 2023 includes the addition of Addictions Services (former AFM moved to PMH)
- The above chart for PMH represent all currently funded positions. This data was pulled from budget data, and not from HRIS. Not included in Community Support are Proctors which are casual positions.
- Vacancy rates fluctuate year to year for all positions.
- There will be no private psychiatrists in PMH, with two winding down their practice currently.
- PMH has recruitment prospects for Psychiatry, but the current vacancy is 50%
- The current psychology vacancy is 97.53%

**Northern Regional Health Authority:**

<b>Job Sector:</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
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	<b>Substance Use &amp; Recovery</b>	<b>Mental Wellness &amp; Recovery</b>
Community Support	12 FTE	27.63 FTE
Facility Support	7.5 FTE	11.0 FTE
Nursing	2 FTE	19 FTE
Professional-Technical	14.5 FTE	37.6 FTE
Psychologists		2.0 FTE
Psychiatrists		2.6 FTE
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37.6 FTE</b>	<b>99.83 FTE</b>

- Previous year NRHA data has been removed due to data quality concerns.
- Psychiatry (Wellness & Recovery):
  - There are currently 1.6 EFT (one full-time, one 0.6) psychiatrists employed within the NRHA, both based in Thompson, with the vacant position in The Pas being covered weekly by locums.
  - Not included in the calculations above are one contract for adult psychiatry provided to the community-based Mental Wellness & Recovery Program, two days per month. As well as 1 contract with Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre (MATC) for the provision of Child & Adolescent services within the Region, equivalent to one day per week.
  - MATC also provided child & adolescent psychiatry service through the Rural & Northern Telehealth Service (RNTS) within First Nations communities, including those within the NRHA.
  - There are no private psychiatrists operating within the Northern Health Region.
- There are also mental health workers including counsellors and social workers who are in private practice in the Region, however we do not have access to reliable data.

**Position Breakdown Chart:**

Examples of positions falling under each heading are as follows:

- Community Worker: CUPE working in community
  - Examples: Housing Support Workers, Residential Care Worker, Crisis Worker
- Nursing: MNU Front-line nurses RN, RPN, LPN, NP
  - Examples: RAAM, Medical Withdrawal
- Prof-Tech: MAHCP/MGEU positions regardless of location of service
  - Examples: Community Mental Health Worker, Community Addictions Worker, Rehab Counsellor, Addictions Counsellors, Social Worker, Allied Health,
- Clinical Support: CUPE working Inpatient
  - Examples: Health Care Aide, Psych Nursing Assistants, Rehab Assistant
- Facility Support: Non-front-line positions
  - Examples: Admin, Facility workers (cooks, maintenance), Coordinators

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

### ISSUE TITLE: Psychiatrists

### ISSUE

- Psychiatrists play a central role in Manitoba's mental health care system. Staffing shortages and increased patient demand for clinical psychiatry services, combined with patients presenting with more complex needs, have intensified over the last few years, resulting in increased wait times, service closures, and decreased capacity to provide timely supports.

### SPEAKING POINTS

#### How many psychiatry professionals work in the mental health sector?

- As of August 25, 2024, there were 210 psychiatrist members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba practicing in the province, <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>

#### What are the allocations of FTEs among the mental health and addictions workforce?

- Of the 2,241.38<sup>1</sup> full-time equivalent employees (FTE) in August of 2024, 143.6 FTE (6.41%) were allocated to psychiatrists in the public mental health system (including Selkirk Mental Health Centre).

#### Where are psychiatrists in Manitoba trained?

- The University of Manitoba's Max Rady College of Medicine offers a five-year residency training program in psychiatry. The residency training program is well established, medium-sized, and designed to produce psychiatrists with broad academic and clinical orientations. The program admitted 12 psychiatry residents for 15 positions in July 2023, <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>

#### How are the psychiatrists in Manitoba remunerated?

- Psychiatrists in Manitoba are remunerated through several different payment modalities, including fee-for-service, alternate funding models (e.g., salary, independent contractor, sessional, or stipend), or blended combinations of Fee For Service (FFS) and alternate funding.

#### What priority service models are impacting the psychiatry workforce?

- As the health system continues to evolve and as part of the response to changes in practice settings due to COVID-19, Manitoba Health and Shared Health have reviewed three priority service models for psychiatry that will have an impact on the psychiatry workforce:

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<sup>1</sup> Casual and contract positions are excluded (budget FTE is provided unless stated otherwise and may be filled or vacant, with totals subject to rounding). Facility Support FTE does not provide direct-care mental health services. Excluding facility support, 1,960.69 FTE provide direct mental health services.

- Interim Safe ED: The Safe ED initiative led by Shared Health (also known as the Acute Medical Sobering Unit) is intended to expand the number of mental health and addictions assessment spaces and create a safer environment in the ED. Under this model, additional psychiatrists, addictions specialists, and staff have been added to EDs to perform assessments, preferentially on patients with addiction issues.
- 23(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- The Manitoba government has also invested in Shared Health's rural/remote telepsychiatry service and virtual crisis stabilization beds. This increases access to telepsychiatry services for rural EDs and First Nations communities and utilizes virtual crisis stabilization unit beds to provide ongoing patient care and support to medical professionals that are onsite with the patients.
- Both the Telepsychiatry Assessment Program and Virtual Crisis Stabilization Unit initiatives have demonstrated evidence of relieving pressures on EDs by providing timely psychiatric assessments and reducing unnecessary transportation for assessment and admission to the hospital between regions.

## **BACKGROUND**

- The provincial government underscores its commitment to an integrated approach to mental health care, acknowledging the importance of a well-supported and adequately staffed workforce to ensure access to services for Manitobans.
- Ensuring that Manitobans have access to mental health care services is a priority for government.
- The development of innovative service models is a key part of the provincial response to growing mental health care needs.

## **CONTACT:**

- Michele Lane, Provincial Lead, Health Care Retention and Recruitment Office, Manitoba Health Seniors and Long-Term Care
- Dr. Jitender Sareen, Provincial Specialty Lead, Mental Health and Addictions, Shared Health and Interim Medical Director at SMHC, 204-294-7344

**Appendix**

**Winnipeg Mental Health Inpatient Cases by Fiscal Year**

Patient Service	Winnipeg facility	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2022-23
Psychiatry	Grace Hospital	230	236	227					
	Health Sciences Centre	1015	1105	1662	1832	2046	2000	2056	2031
	Seven Oaks General Hospital	249	309	254					
	St. Boniface General Hospital	417	482	584	691	748	784	715	782
	Victoria General Hospital	348	364	513	1008	1073	1162	1201	1020
	<b>Summary</b>		<b>2259</b>	<b>2496</b>	<b>3240</b>	<b>3531</b>	<b>3867</b>	<b>3946</b>	<b>3972</b>
Pediatric Psychiatry	Health Sciences Centre	565	516	529	500	348	467	510	536
	Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre	46	46	50	43	71	62	52	44
	<b>Summary</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>580</b>
<b>Summary</b>		<b>2870</b>	<b>3058</b>	<b>3819</b>	<b>4074</b>	<b>4286</b>	<b>4475</b>	<b>4534</b>	<b>4413</b>

*Based on Mental Health Main Patient Service  
 Data Source: DAD-ODS Cognos  
 Report generated September 11, 2024*

The College of Physicians and Surgeons Manitoba (CPSM) has provided the number of practicing psychiatrists in Manitoba by year. However, they are unable to determine private vs. public psychiatrists.

Description:	2024 Total
Child Psychiatry	21
Forensic Psychiatry	4
Geriatric Psychiatry	8
Psychiatry	177
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>210</b>

**Vacancies**

<b>Region</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>	<b>Vacancy Rate</b>
Northern RHA (Dr. Adegoke Adelufosi)	<b>2.6</b>	1.0 vacant	<b>38.5%</b>
EMHC/SHSS (Dr. Matt Toews)	<b>7.5</b>	1.5 vacant	<b>20.0%</b>
Prairie Mountain RHA (Dr. Keith Jenkins)	<b>11.2</b>	1 vacant– one geriatric	<b>8.9%</b>
SMHC (Dr. J. Sareen)	<b>9.7</b>	1.5.0 vacant – one adult 0.5 vacant geriatrics	<b>15.5%</b>
IERHA (Dr. Charles Penner)	<b>2.2</b>	0.2 vacant - Adult Community Mental Health Program. 0.1 vacant - Child and Adolescent Community Mental Health Program	<b>13.6%</b>
MATC (Dr. Andrew Hall)	<b>10.9</b>	2.35 vacant - child psychiatry	<b>21.6%</b>
HSC (Adult & Child) Dr. T. Sala, Dr. Katz	<b>50.5</b>	2.0 vacant – child Psychiatry 3.5 vacant – HSC adult psychiatry (3 adult and 1.5 forensics)	<b>10.9%</b>
SBH (Dr. J. Sareen)	<b>19</b>	3.0 vacant - adult psychiatrists	<b>15.8%</b>
VGH (Dr. Vishal Kaushik)	<b>15</b>	2.0 vacant - two adult	<b>13.3%</b>
Community (Dr. James Bolton)	<b>16</b>	2.0 vacant – one adult and one geriatrics	<b>12.5%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>143.6</b>	<b>21.15</b>	<b>13.9%</b>

- **current as of August 2024**

**MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS**

**ISSUE TITLE: Clinical Psychologists**

**ISSUE**

- Clinical psychologists are vital specialists in the health system. The shortage of clinical psychologists in the publicly funded health system has intensified since the pandemic, affecting the availability of mental health and acute and chronic disease care.

- 23(1)(a)  23(1)(a)

**SPEAKING POINTS**

**How many clinical psychologists work in the mental health sector?**

- Currently, there are 266 (registered for independent practice with the Psychological Association of Manitoba as of September 1, 2024), of which 30 are out-of-province or nonpracticing, leaving 236 actively practicing across all sectors, including part-time, private, non-health and health sectors. \*NOTE: Most school psychologists are not registered with the Psychological Association of Manitoba, and they do not practice in the health sector.
- Close to one third are practicing in the publicly-funded health system, accessible to the public for clinical services. Of the funded positions in the health system, approximately 60 per cent are in direct mental health services, and 40 per cent in direct health/medical services.
- NOTE: Psychologists in the private sector are fee-for-service and are not covered by Manitoba Health; as such they are not accessible to most Manitobans.

- 23(1)(a) 

**What are the FTE allocations for clinical psychologists in mental health?**

- Of the 2,241.38 full-time equivalent employees (FTE) in the mental health workforce as of July 2023, 88.4 FTE (3.94%) were allocated to clinical psychologists in the public health system (including Selkirk Mental Health Centre).

\*Note: Casual and contract positions are excluded (budget FTE is provided unless stated otherwise and may be filled or vacant, with totals subject to rounding). Facility Support FTE does not provide direct-care mental health services. Excluding facility support, 1,960.69 FTE provide direct mental health services.

**Where do clinical psychologists work in the publicly funded health system?**

- Clinical psychologists are salaried medical staff and work in acute care hospitals providing inpatient and outpatient services in mental health and medical clinics, as well as in health centres, and some primary care clinics across Manitoba. Most are organized centrally through the Clinical Health Psychology program, Shared Health. The remainder (<15%) are hired and have operational oversight through the Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre, Selkirk Mental Health Centre, and Child and Adolescent Treatment Centre (PMH). Psychologists work with children, youth, adults and seniors, depending on their training and specialty.

**What are the main factors causing shortages in the clinical psychology workforce?**

23(1)(a)

**What investments have been in place to address the shortages in the clinical psychology workforce?**

- Increasing seats in the doctoral and residency training programs, and increasing funding for psychologist positions in priority areas are two core strategies underway to start addressing the shortage of psychologists in the province.
- The Departments of Health and of Housing Addictions and Homelessness have coordinated their efforts to address the shortage through funding of additional psychologist positions in prioritized areas in the health system. This includes
  - Five positions funded for psychologists in 22/23 in mental health;
  - 17 positions funded for psychologists in 23/24 – seven in mental health and 10 in health/medical, spanning child to geropsychology services; and

- Three positions funded for psychologists in 23/24 through the Diagnostic and Surgical Recovery Taskforce for permanent programs – two pain psychologists for the Manitoba Provincial Pain Care program, and one child psychologist for the GDAAY Clinic pediatric gender-affirming care service.
- These investments are intended to increase the number of clinical psychologists in Manitoba.
- Government requested ongoing planning for annual increases of clinical psychologists over a five year cycle, to build toward national benchmark rates and address the continued need for psychologist services. <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>
- Training investment:
  - The training seats in the doctoral clinical psychology program at the University of Manitoba have been doubled, implemented as a phased approach starting in fall, 2024 with an increase from eight to 12, <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>  
 The training expansion includes emphasis on additional capacity for child psychologists and on Indigenous mental health.
  - Residency training seats in the Max Rady College of Medicine have also been funded to increase from 12 to 17 positions, in a phased approach starting in 24/25. The timing for expansion depends on the success of retention efforts to keep established psychologists in the health system.

**How is Manitoba positioned to address the shortage of clinical psychologists?**

- Manitoba is well-positioned with a longstanding accredited doctoral training program, an accredited residency program with an excellent national reputation which attracts strong candidates, and success retaining trainees when there are funded positions for them. <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>
- <sup>23(1)(a)</sup>


**BACKGROUND**

- The provincial government underscores its commitment to an integrated approach to mental health care, acknowledging the importance of a well-supported and adequately staffed workforce to ensure access to services for Manitobans.

- Ensuring that Manitobans have access to mental health care and behavioural health care for acute and chronic diseases is a priority for our government. However, clinical psychologist staffing shortages in public health care systems are a challenge across Canada, and require competitive solutions in Manitoba.
- Manitoba has identified several short-term and medium-term actions to promote the development of the clinical psychology workforce in Manitoba. These include strengthened efforts at recruitment and retention and increased training opportunities.

### **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

23(1)(a)



### **CONTACT:**

- Michele Lane, Provincial Lead, Health Care Retention and Recruitment Office, Manitoba Health Seniors and Long-Term Care
- Dr. Lesley Graff Provincial Medical Specialty Lead – Clinical Health Psychology, Shared Health and Department Head, Clinical Health Psychology Max Rady College of Medicine, University of Manitoba, 204 787-3490

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

### ISSUE TITLE: Overdose Deaths and Reporting

#### ISSUE

- Information on substance-related deaths is a valuable tool in responding to the addictions crisis. Access to information can help inform and respond to the needs of communities.

#### SPEAKING POINTS

##### How many substance-related deaths occurred in Manitoba in 2024?

- From January to April of 2024, there have been 171 substance-related deaths.
- From January to December 2023, there were 445 substance-related deaths, a decrease from 467 over the same period in 2022.

##### What is Housing, Addictions and Homelessness (HAH) doing to improve provincial and national reporting of substance-related deaths?

- As Manitoba continues to experience a toxic drug supply, our government remains committed to improving public reporting of the impacts that substance use is having throughout our communities.
- Manitoba is committed to transparency when it comes to reporting on substance related fatalities and has been working with the Public Health Agency of Canada to ensure Manitoba's data informs the national response to the overdose crisis.
- A cross departmental substance-related harms working group has been working to improve the timeliness and accuracy of provincial and national reporting.
- An impediment to national reporting was a lack of a federally appointed Public Health Officer position in Manitoba who could liaise with the Public Health Agency of Canada and provide them with the data they require in the form they require it. This issue was successfully resolved in Spring 2024, with the welcome inclusion of a new Public Health Officer, who has joined the substance-related harms working group and is already hard at work.
- I am pleased to share that we have successfully made updates to Manitoba data on the Government of Canada's Health Infobase. We will continue to ensure that Manitoba data is accurately captured in the national Opioid and Stimulant-Related Harms in Canada Infobase in a timely manner.

## What is HAH doing to reduce the number of overdose deaths?


- Housing Addictions and Homelessness is addressing the adverse impacts of substance use and the number of related deaths by:
  - Expanding detox beds and treatment options
  - Engaging with public health experts to take a harm reduction approach
  - Implementing a supervised consumption site in Winnipeg
  - Creating a system for testing toxic drugs.
- Manitoba's Take-Home Naloxone Program, overseen by Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care, distributed over 50,000 kits in 2023. Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can temporarily reverse the effect of an opioid poisoning.

## BACKGROUND

- Substance-related deaths reporting is a complex process that involves the Departments of Justice, Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care and Housing, Addictions and Homelessness.
- Substance-related deaths in Manitoba are defined and reported by the Chief Medical Examiner (Justice). In efforts to support timely reporting, substance-related deaths totals remain subject to change as more information becomes available from the Chief Medical Examiner.
- The vast majority of substance-related deaths occur with the combination of multiple substances present at the time of death. This is consistent across Canada and is described as a toxic supply.
- The combination of substances may or may not be known to the individual at the time of consumption. Fentanyl, methamphetamines, and cocaine are the most commonly detected substances in substance-related deaths.
- Manitoba experienced 171 substance-related deaths from January – April 2024, and 445 substance related deaths from January – December 2023, 22 fewer substance-related deaths compared to January – December in 2022 (467). See Appendix A for 2024 monthly totals.
- Manitoba began including the sex and age range of substance-related deaths in fall, 2023.

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**CONTACT**

- Vicki Toews, A/Executive Director, Mental Health Promotion and Harm Reduction

**Appendix A: Total Substance Related Deaths**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022*</b>	<b>2021</b>
January	56	39	43	31
February	33	23	40	30
March	29	41	42	44
April	53	28	42	31
May		44	39	41
June		41	37	34
July		27	31	37
August		36	40	57
September		36	33	31
October		40	44	33
November		36	34	40
December		54	42	27
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>445</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>436</b>

*\*2022 data updated by the Government of Manitoba Office of the Chief Medical Examiner on March 26, 2024*



## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

**ISSUE TITLE:** Suicide Prevention Strategy and Data

### ISSUE

- Manitoba has the highest rate of suicide of any Canadian province and the annual rate continues to rise.
- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness is committed to implementing a province-wide suicide prevention strategy which will include a focus on youth, Indigenous and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities.

### SPEAKING POINTS

**What is the department doing to reduce the high rates of suicide in Manitoba?**

- It is time we take stronger action to help prevent suicide, especially among those most at risk. For this reason, we are developing a comprehensive provincial suicide prevention strategy.
- In 2024/25, \$1M has been identified to support the development of a Suicide Prevention Strategy and the implementation of anticipated suicide prevention priorities.
- Our strategy will focus on Manitobans most at risk of suicide, including youth, 2SLGBTQIA+, Northern and Indigenous communities.
- The department is committed to working with community, subject matter experts and other departments to improve the mental well-being of all Manitobans by providing mental health education, promotion and early intervention services.

**What has the department done to date to address the suicide issue in Manitoba?**

- The department has recently implemented several evidence-informed, school-based and community-based suicide prevention programs. These actions include:
  - Indigenous Youth Mentorship Program: expanding this evidence-based after-school program into an additional 24 Indigenous communities to support healthy development and reduce substance use and suicidality among Indigenous children and youth. 23(1)(a)
  - Sources of Strength: Partnering with the department of Education and Early Childhood Learning to enhance and expand implementation of this best practice, school-based youth suicide prevention program designed to increase help seeking behaviours and promote connections between peers and caring adults to prevent suicide.

- Regional Suicide Prevention Networks: Networks in each regional health authority in Manitoba have completed community assessments and are developing local implementation plans for suicide prevention.

### **How will the department develop a suicide prevention strategy that reflects the needs of Manitobans?**

- The department continues to work with stakeholders to create a Suicide Prevention Strategy with a focus on prevention, intervention and postvention support and services.
- The department has brought together a Suicide Prevention Advisory Group which includes Indigenous governments and organizations, the 2SLGBTQIA + community, Elders and youth to ensure these perspectives are incorporated in a future Strategy.
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### **What are the rates of Manitobans who have died by suicide?**

- In 2022, 222 Manitobans died by suicide. Preliminary numbers for 2023 indicate that 249 Manitobans died by suicide (see Appendix A). In 2022, 36 Manitoba youth between the ages of 10 and 19 died by suicide. Preliminary numbers for 2023 indicate that 27 Manitoban youth died by suicide. (Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, April 2024)
- Manitobans aged 20-29 have the highest rate of death by suicide compared to other age groups (Office of the Chief Medical Examiner).
- Northern and Indigenous people have much higher death by suicide rates in Manitoba.
- In addition, males had higher rates of deaths by suicide than females (see Appendix B).

### **BACKGROUND**

- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness began developing a strategy in early 2023 through research, information gathering and the establishment of an initial Advisory Group to provide expertise and guidance. The initial Advisory Group has now been expanded to include a more diverse group of representatives.
- The department is committed to addressing Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth (MACY) recommendations as part of the approach to reducing suicides.
- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness participates at the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Meetings on Suicide Prevention led by the Public Health Agency of Canada. Current agenda items include the pan Canadian 9-8-8 Suicide Helpline (launched in November 2023) and the National Suicide Prevention Action Plan, which was released in Spring 2024.

**CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

- None.

**CONTACT**

- Vicki Toews, A/Executive Director, Mental Health Promotion and Harm Reduction

**APPENDIX A – Annual Manitoba Deaths by Suicide by Age Group – 2015-2023**

<b>Annual Manitoba Deaths by Suicide by Age Group 2015-2023</b>									
<i>Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, updated April 2024</i>									
<b>Year</b>	<b>10-19</b>	<b>20-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>60-69</b>	<b>70-79</b>	<b>80+</b>	<b>Totals</b>
2015	26	46	29	27	27	20	6	1	<b>182</b>
2016	21	39	43	24	34	26	9	4	<b>200</b>
2017	30	51	37	31	38	19	6	5	<b>217</b>
2018	25	63	28	31	44	28	8	9	<b>236</b>
2019	22	55	50	29	35	27	9	5	<b>232</b>
2020	16	55	52	32	26	21	7	6	<b>215</b>
2021	29	50	37	25	28	13	16	5	<b>203</b>
2022	36	43	55	32	19	26	4	7	<b>222*</b>
2023	27	55	46	44	35	24	10	6	<b>249*</b>

*\*Note that the number of deaths by suicide are preliminary and may increase as further data is processed. This data was obtained from Office of the Chief Medical Examiner April, 2024.*

**Appendix B – Annual Manitoba Deaths by Suicide by Gender – 2015-2023**

<b>Annual Manitoba Deaths by Suicide by Gender 2015-2023</b>			
<i>Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, updated April 2024</i>			
<b>Suicides</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
2015	119	63	<b>182</b>
2016	140	60	<b>200</b>
2017	144	73	<b>217</b>
2018	162	74	<b>236</b>
2019	172	60	<b>232</b>
2020	150	65	<b>215</b>
2021	133	70	<b>203</b>
2022	151	71	<b>222*</b>
2023	161	86	<b>249 *</b>

*\*Note that the number of deaths by suicide are preliminary and may increase as further data is processed. This data was obtained from Office of the Chief Medical Examiner April, 2024.*

## **MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS**

**ISSUE TITLE:** Harm Reduction

### **ISSUE**

- A harm reduction approach to the addictions crisis is a priority in Manitoba.

### **SPEAKING POINTS**

**What is Housing, Addictions and Homelessness doing to address the addictions crisis?**

- Our government is listening to public health experts and is committed to bolstering our harm reduction approach in response to the overdose crisis and increased incidence of sexually transmitted and blood borne infections.
- This includes establishing Manitoba's first supervised consumption site in downtown Winnipeg and providing opportunities for Manitobans to test their drugs for toxic substances using drug checking machines. These services will allow Manitobans to make more informed decisions about their health and well-being.

**How is Housing, Addictions and Homelessness working with public health experts to address this issue?**

- We are engaged in cross-departmental working groups with public health experts in Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care to advance harm reduction initiatives, including service delivery standards to ensure regional health authorities offer evidence informed and consistent approaches to harm reduction services.
- The Deputy Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness also co-chairs an Interdepartmental Policy Table with the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer focused on developing an HIV strategy to identify harm reduction opportunities to address the increasing prevalence of HIV in the province.

**How much funding does Housing, Addictions and Homelessness direct towards harm reduction initiatives?**

- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness currently invests over \$1.5 million annually in harm reduction initiatives, including specialized programming and the distribution of harm reduction supplies.

- Budget 2024/25 includes \$2M in new funding to establish Manitoba's first supervised consumption site and \$435K to provide drug testing services to reduce the harms associated with an unregulated toxic drug supply.

### **What harm reduction initiatives are funded?**


- Funding supports community organizations and regional health authorities and includes harm reduction programming, promotion of sexually transmitted and blood borne infection testing and treatment and supply distribution (needles, safer smoking and sex supplies, and naloxone).
- Our department also works closely with Public Health to ensure Manitobans have access to naloxone in the event of a drug-toxicity or overdose, through Manitoba's Take-Home Naloxone program which distributed 50,000 kits in 2023.
- Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can temporarily reverse the effect of an opioid poisoning.

### **BACKGROUND**

- Manitoba has one of the highest rates of new HIV cases per year in Canada; sharing of drug injection equipment has become the most common mode of transmission.
- Substance-related deaths continue to be a significant concern.
- Poorer health outcomes occur among marginalized populations, who experience disproportionate impacts related to sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections and substance-related harms.
- The department collaborates with Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care to address substance-related harms and deaths and provides policy, planning, funding and oversight to harm reduction.

### **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

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### **CONTACT**

- Vicki Toews, A/Executive Director, Mental Health Promotion and Harm Reduction

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS


**ISSUE TITLE:** Supervised Consumption Site

### ISSUE

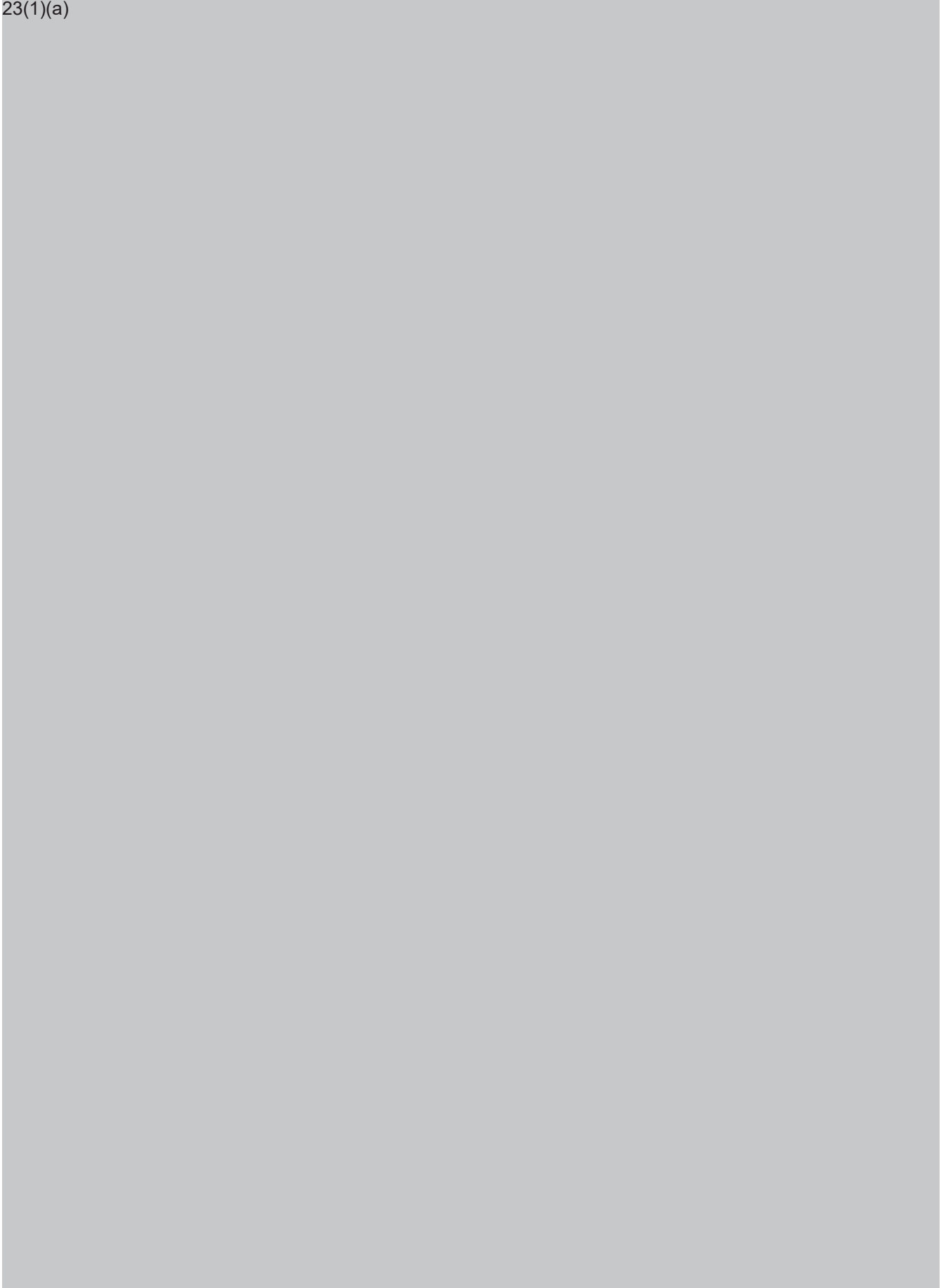
- The government is partnering with the Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre of Winnipeg Inc. and Shared Health to establish an Indigenous-led supervised consumption site in downtown Winnipeg.

### SPEAKING POINTS

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**BACKGROUND**

- Supervised consumption sites provide people who use drugs with a safe, non-judgmental environment, sterile consumption equipment and may offer ancillary health and social services, including housing supports, primary medical care and mental health treatment.
- Supervised consumption sites utilize a harm reduction approach to reduce the risk of overdose, can help to facilitate entry into addictions treatment programs, provide access to important health and social services, reduce the spread of blood borne infections (ex. HIV, Hepatitis C) and reduce strain on emergency medical services.
- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness is partnering with the Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre of Winnipeg Inc. and Shared Health to implement the Indigenous-led supervised consumption site.
- Efforts are underway to secure a suitable location, which includes viewing potential buildings, mapping pertinent data (ex. overdose data, locations of schools and daycares), and discussions with the City of Winnipeg's Zoning division.

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- None.

**CONTACT**

- Vicki Toews, A/Executive Director, Mental Health Promotion and Harm Reduction

## MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

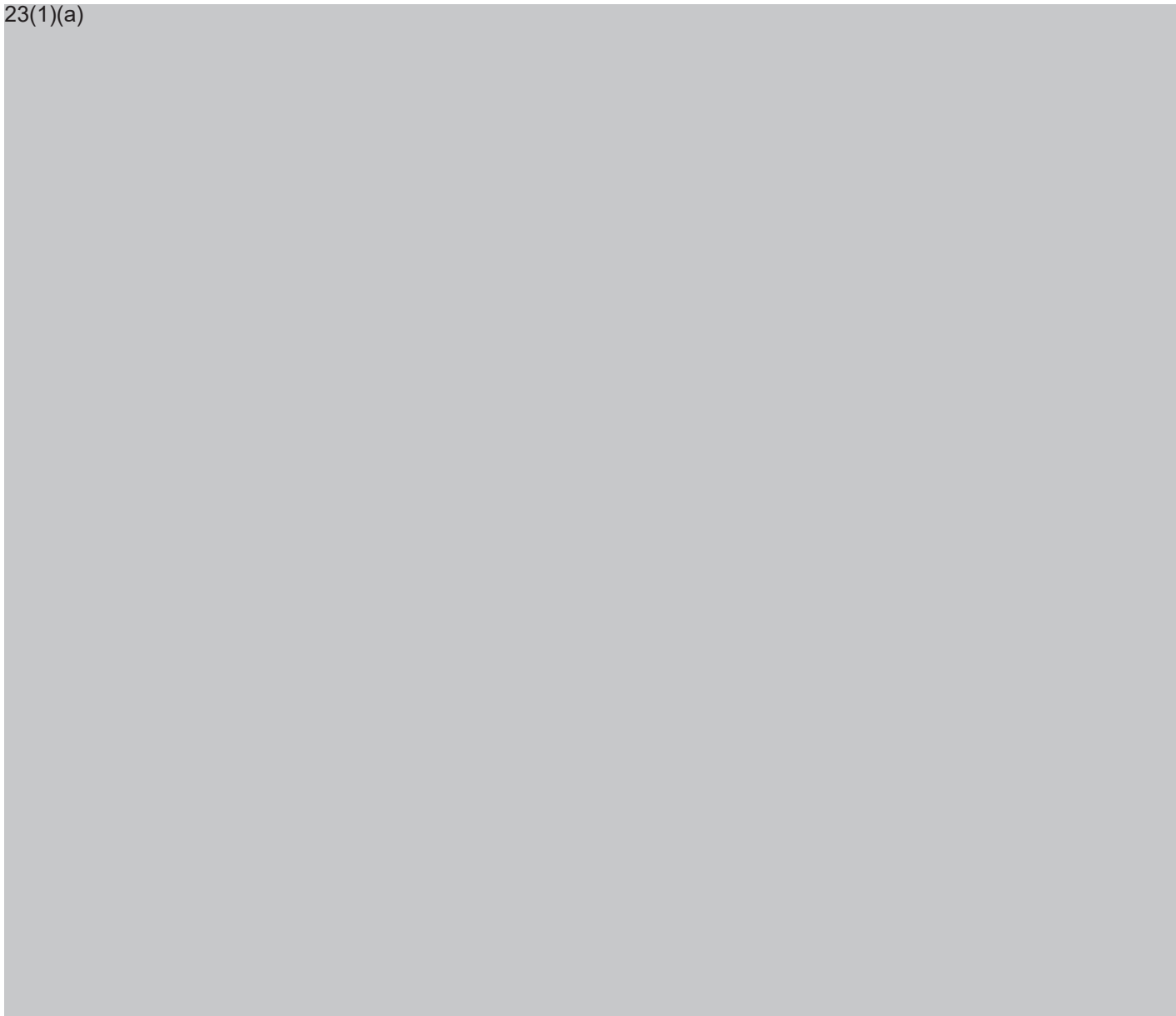
**ISSUE TITLE:** Drug Checking Services

### ISSUE

- The Department of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness is actively engaged with experts to initiate drug checking services as one response to the increasingly toxic drug supply.

### SPEAKING POINTS

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**BACKGROUND**

- The department is working collaboratively with Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care, service delivery organizations and local and national subject-matter experts to understand and inform Manitoba's implementation for provincially funded drug checking services.
- Drug checking services are a harm reduction tool that aim to reduce substance-related harms, including overdose and death. These low-barrier services are offered anonymously, providing the opportunity for individuals to test their drug samples so they can be informed on the contents of their supply.
- Research demonstrates that the most impactful drug checking instruments are those that can provide highly accurate information about the types and quantities of substances present in a sample.
- Service providers offering drug checking services are required to obtain an exemption to the federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness provided \$200K to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority in 2023/24 to support the purchase of two drug checking machines to be operated in Winnipeg by Street Connections and a second community organization.
- Drug checking services at Street Connections commenced on June 10, 2024, and are currently offered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1:00 – 3:00pm.
- Housing, Addictions and Homelessness has secured \$435K in 2024/25 for expansion of drug checking services to rural and remote areas of Manitoba.

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### **CONTACT**

- Vicki Toews, A/Executive Director, Mental Health Promotion and Harm Reduction

## **MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS**

**ISSUE TITLE:** Integrated Youth Services in Manitoba (Huddle)

### **ISSUE**

- Integrated Youth Services bring together mental health, addiction services, primary care, peer support and other social services into a single, youth-friendly, easy to access location.
- Manitoba is working with stakeholders across systems to create a comprehensive, collaborative mental health initiative for children and youth that will address access, wait times, and equity for every child in the province.

### **SPEAKING POINTS**

#### **What is the department doing to support youth in community?**

- The department provides funding to Shared Health, Regional Health Authorities, and community agencies to deliver mental health programs and services for youth.
- One of these investments is Integrated Youth Services, which bring together mental health, addiction services, primary care, peer support and other social services into a youth-friendly, easy to access location.
- Other department investments in youth mental health promotion, early intervention, and suicide prevention programming include the Indigenous Youth Mentorship Program, Sources of Strength, Project 11, Kids Help Phone, and Strongest Families Institute, to name a few.
- Service investments through Shared Health and Regional Health Authorities help support youth with more severe and complex needs.

#### **Who does Integrated Youth Services serve?**

- Integrated Youth Services provide evidence-based services tailored to youth ages 12-29 through six Integrated Youth Services sites, which are referred to as Huddle sites in Manitoba.
- Of the six Huddle sites in Manitoba, four are in Winnipeg, one in Brandon and one in Selkirk. The four in Winnipeg are: Huddle South Central, Huddle Broadway, Huddle Ka Ni Kanichihk, and Huddle NorWest.

#### **What types of services are available at the sites?**

- Integrated Youth Services sites activate the strengths of communities, families and other supports to improve the coordination of services for youth and ensure they are connected to the services they need, in the moment and down the road.

- Manitoba’s Huddle sites provide low barrier, integrated services for young people and their families in a “one-stop-shop” model. The intent of these youth sites is to bring together mental health, addictions services, primary care, peer support and other social services into a youth-friendly, easy to access location or access point.
- Huddle sites rely on community partnerships, with several different organizations often coming together to deliver services under one roof.

### **How are Integrated Youth Services/Huddle sites different from drop-in centres?**

- The purpose of drop-in centres is to offer a safe space, provision of basic needs, and to refer youth to external services as needed.
- Integrated Youth Services/Huddle sites operate in a way that is trauma-informed, culturally safe, prioritizes access to mental health care and other services in a “one-stop-shop”.

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### **What kind of data or metrics do you have to show if youth are using Integrated Youth Services?**

- In 2023/24, a total of 6965 youth were served across all six sites. There were 3391 counselling appointments provided, and 661 mental health support group sessions facilitated.
- Data is critical to ensuring Huddle sites are delivering the right care. Plans are currently in place to collect site-specific data through a Measurement Based Care model of data collection. We are continuing to work diligently with our partner, United Way Winnipeg, to improve how we collect data and how it will be used to guide decision making.


### **BACKGROUND**

- Integrated Youth Services is a pan-Canadian and international movement that aims to build effective, youth-focused and integrated services for mental health, substance use and related issues.
- The goal of Integrated Youth Services is to integrate and augment existing services that are often fragmented, siloed, or difficult to navigate in the health care systems by creating more timely, easy to access, and coordinated care for Manitoba young people.

- Integrated Youth Services rely on community partnerships with several organizations coming together to deliver services for youth under one roof. Integrated Youth Services hubs are intended to offer a variety of services in a “one-stop shop” designed for youth, by youth.
- Integrated Youth Services sites in Manitoba are guided by and integrated with a Canadian framework of emerging evidence and best practices. Manitoba participates in two national tables to connect with Integrated Youth Services sites across Canada.
- Manitoba funds six Integrated Youth Services sites for a total of \$2.135M. Five are funded through the United Way Winnipeg: Huddle Broadway, Huddle South Central, Huddle Ka Ni Kanichihk, Huddle Selkirk, and Huddle Brandon (\$350K per site; \$1.75M annually). NorWest is funded \$385K separately through funding to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. NorWest also received \$200K in one-time funding to improve service times for youth on the waitlist for counselling services.
- In addition to funding from the Government of Manitoba, support comes from each of the supporting community organizations as well as from philanthropic organizations who fund the United Way Winnipeg’s Backbone Team. The Backbone Team is responsible for planning, implementing and overseeing Integrated Youth Services Huddle sites, including data collection as part of the measurement-based care model.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO THE MINISTER**

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## **CONTACT**

- Vicki Toews, A/Executive Director, Mental Health Promotion and Harm Reduction