Housing and Strategic Initiatives Division
Activity Report to the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee
2014 Quarter 1 (January to March)

Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve

- Five projects were approved by the Director for a total of $162,000.
- Eleven Payment Claims for progress on existing approved projects were processed for a total of $118,135.

Activities and Accomplishments

- Division staff consulted with representatives of other divisions and departments regarding the Draft Winnipeg Housing Policy Implementation Plan, and finalized the draft for presentation to the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee.
- Division staff attended nine meetings of Housing Stakeholders (monthly or bi-monthly meetings) in Housing Improvement Zone neighbourhoods where funds are allocated from the City's Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve. These meetings serve not only to discuss use of allocated funds from the City but also to foster collaboration between the community, non-profit and for-profit developers, and the three levels of government.
- Division staff continued to participate on the Visitability Task Force project undertaken by the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies, with the ultimate goal of increasing the supply of visitable housing in Winnipeg as well as other communities.
- Division staff continued to participate in the Intergovernmental Strategic Aboriginal Alignment (ISAA) pilot project for the 21-block area of the North End. Meetings included representatives from Community By-law Enforcement regarding efforts to improve housing conditions in the target area.
- Division staff attended the "Collaboration Across Sectors and Systems" workshop sponsored through the ISAA to increase collaborative efforts among government sectors and other community stakeholders.
- Division staff gave a presentation to 311 trainees regarding funding and other supports provided through the Housing and Strategic Initiatives Division.
- Division staff discussed projects with three separate for-profit developers to determine how they could collaborate with the City in meeting housing objectives under the Winnipeg Housing Policy. These discussions are on-going and may result in proposals for funding if projects are appropriate and endorsed by respective communities in which they are proposed.