2012 2013 2014 **2015** 2016



OurWinnipeg™

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY, 2015

Winnipeg

Cover Photo: Winnipeggers enjoying the Red River Mutual Trail along Assiniboine River. Credit: North Forks Portage Partnership. Photo courtesy of Tourism Winnipeg

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INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present our fourth *OurWinnipeg* Report to the Community, which provides an update on *OurWinnipeg* related activities connected to key areas of the plan from the last 12 months. The report title bears the year in which the report is issued (2015), but activities in the report are predominantly those that were completed or initiated in the previous calendar year (2014). Within this report you will find updated information related to key measures of growth and change, such as population growth and housing starts. Each of the sections also provide an overview of recent city and community activities, programs, projects and initiatives, as well as a tracking progress section which includes a mix of qualitative and quantitative information allowing us to track trends over time.

OurWinnipeg

In July 2011, City Council approved *OurWinnipeg*, a new development plan which will guide the physical, social, environmental and economic development of our city over the next 25 years. *OurWinnipeg* was created with the input of more than 40,000 Winnipeggers through the most creative and collaborative planning process ever undertaken in our city – SpeakUpWinnipeg. *OurWinnipeg* and SpeakUpWinnipeg received the Planning Award of Excellence from the Canadian Institute of Planners in 2011 and the Manitoba Planning Excellence Award from the Province of Manitoba in 2012.

To learn more about *OurWinnipeg* and to read the plan, visit:
www.speakupwinnipeg.com

The City of Winnipeg is in the midst of significant change. Urban renewal initiatives and programming have led to increased investment in our downtown and urban neighbourhoods, while the City continues planning for growth across the urban structure. The continued introduction and revisions of policies, strategies and implementation tools better enables the City to meet the goals and objectives laid out in *OurWinnipeg*. In late 2014, Winnipeg also saw a change in leadership at City Hall.

Working towards *OurWinnipeg*'s vision of "living and caring because we plan on staying", 2014 has seen significant achievements towards sustainability. The City produced innovative building designs meeting LEED gold and silver standards and implemented transportation improvements, accommodating a broader range of travel modes which in turn support a greater range of needs and lifestyles. New waste reduction initiatives expanded on recent successes, and the City established enhanced requirements and accommodations for improvements in ecological development.

Recognizing the diversity of Winnipeggers, the City must continue to strive for a community that is inclusive and harmonious. By celebrating the diversity of our citizenry, and by recognizing, encouraging and supporting social spaces and economic opportunities we can continue to shape a city for all people. Winnipeg continues to build on partnerships with its communities through various program offerings, engagement strategies, and outreach initiatives. By supporting local opportunity and

employment initiatives, Winnipeg can achieve greater prosperity and a more equitable quality of life for all. *OurWinnipeg*'s Report to the Community tracks our progress to date and communicates how Winnipeg is moving forward with the plan.

Looking forward, there are many accomplishments to come, and lots of work to do. In the coming years a formal review of *OurWinnipeg*'s vision and directions will enable us to continue on towards a greater city. Only through reflection, evaluation, and commitment to continued planning will we be able to continue our journey towards a city that thrives.

The initiatives and results captured in this report are a testament to the collaboration of the many thousands of Winnipeg citizens and organizations that have participated in the creation of *OurWinnipeg* and in taking the first steps to implementing our plan.



Ecobuage art project by Plain Projects in St. Vital Park. Credit: Robert Tinker. Photo courtesy of The Winnipeg Arts Council



Winnipeggers gather at the Festival du Voyageur. Credit: Dan Harper. Photo Courtesy of Tourism Winnipeg.

POPULATION GROWTH AND PLANNING FOR CHANGE

Winnipeg's population grew by more than 10,000 people, to approximately 709,253 people. With population growth expected to average 1.2 percent per year to 2035, Winnipeg's population is likely to increase by nearly 200,000 people over the next 20 years. The Winnipeg Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) which includes the City of Winnipeg and 11 surrounding Rural Municipalities is expected to eclipse 1 million people by 2035. Strong population growth has translated into over 4,500 housing starts in 2015, based on residential building permits – an 18 percent increase in starts over last year and a 336% increase in starts over the year 2000. Housing starts are expected to further strengthen in the coming years and are projected to average nearly 6,000 starts by 2035.

URBAN STRUCTURE

In order to plan for growth and change in the City of Winnipeg over the next twenty-five years, we need a good understanding of what exists today, a vision of what kind of city we want for our future, and a clear, yet flexible direction of how we can achieve that vision. *OurWinnipeg* lays out a context-sensitive vision for how growth and development within the city will be accommodated now and into the future. This vision is expressed through the plan's Urban Structure Map.

Policy Direction

Winnipeg will enhance the quality, diversity, completeness and sustainability of stable neighbourhoods and manage the extension of municipal services for new growth. The majority of this growth will be in Transformative Areas, which include the Downtown, Mixed-Use Centres, Mixed-Use Corridors, Major Redevelopment Sites and New Communities. While maintaining sensitivity to the supply and needs of employment lands and rural and agricultural areas, a criteria-based approach, which may include a variety of tools, will be utilized to accommodate sustainable growth in Winnipeg.

Recent City and Community Activities

Council approved a number of local area plans in 2014. The Corydon / Osborne Area Secondary Plan underwent an extensive community engagement process to identify a shared vision for development into the future. The Fort Rouge Yards Area Master Plan was amended in mid-2014 to include a proposed low and mid-rise multi-unit residential property adjacent to the Fort Rouge transitway station. This development closely follows the guidelines of Transit-Oriented Development and complements the various multi-family developments currently under construction in high transit areas such as Downtown.

Several other plans were approved for new development in Winnipeg, including precinct plans 'J' (Dawson Trail Neighbourhood), 'I' (Transcona North Neighbourhood), 'F', (North Point Village Neighbourhood), 'K', 'E', and the Bishop Grandin Crossing (Sugar Beet Lands Major Redevelopment Site) Area Master Plan.

In 2014, the Urban Planning Division made text amendments to the Winnipeg Zoning By-Law to provide better alignment with the *Complete Communities*, and to correct various errors and omissions. Significant consultation was conducted including a public open house, online and paper surveys, and blogs at speakupwinnipeg.com. Some changes include improvements in accommodating multi-family residential development above commercial, parking requirements more flexible to transportation use, pedestrian connectivity requirements in new developments, and an update to permitted uses under existing zoning.



The Alt Hotel, part of the Centrepoint development located at Portage Ave and Donald Street. Credit: Planning, Property and Development Department

Web Links

SpeakUp Winnipeg
www.speakupwinnipeg.com

Local Area Plans
www.winnipeg.ca/ppd/planning_secondary.stm

The Urban Planning Division is in the process of creating residential infill guidelines for low density housing in mature communities. This tool will enable new single-family development within existing communities that is sensitive to the existing neighbourhood context and aligns with the vision and directions as articulated in Complete Communities. The Urban Planning Division has also completed a review of potential planning approaches to consider the interests of Winnipeg's agricultural community as the city continues to grow. An interdepartmental working group is reviewing Winnipeg's approach to patios to provide improved clarity, predictability and consistency in how applications are dealt with. A process will be developed for public input and consideration of neighbourhood compatibility.

Tracking Progress

Much of the new development in Winnipeg will take place in Transformative Areas over the next 20 years, while continued development will be accommodated in Areas of Stability. In 2014, building permits were issued for 4,708 new dwelling units, a 51% increase from the 3,129 permits issued in 2013.

In 2014 a greater proportion of development occurred in downtown, mature communities, and along regional mixed-use corridors than in recent years, marking an increase in use of existing infrastructure.

- Significant momentum and energy continues to build downtown, where approximately 2,000 new dwelling units have been added over the last decade, and 456 in 2014 alone, which accounts for 10% of all new units that year.
- In 2014, 3,265 new units were approved in Recent Communities. The proportion of new dwelling units in Recent Communities has decreased from 83% in 2013 to 69% in 2014.
- Mature Communities had a total of 769 new units in 2014, representing 16% of new units in Winnipeg, up from 15% in 2013.
- Of the total new dwelling units built in 2014, 19% were built within 400 metres of a Regional Mixed Use Corridor, up from 15% in 2013, and 66% of new units were multi-family units, up from 53% in 2013.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

In recent years, Winnipeg's diversion rate hovered around 15%, one of the lowest in Canada. A Garbage and Recycling Master Plan was developed to increase our waste diversion rate to 50% or more by reducing household garbage and significantly increasing household recycling. This comprehensive waste management strategy is an integral part of meeting *OurWinnipeg* goals, including sustainability, liveable communities and being a competitive city.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg calls for the sustainable management and reduction of solid waste and for setting long-term goals for solid waste diversion. The Garbage and Recycling Master Plan integrates and optimizes service levels and efficiency for all facets of the solid waste management system while minimizing environmental impact to achieve these directions.

2014 was the second year of the Near Term phase of the Master Plan (2012 to 2017). Winnipeg's 2014 diversion rate was 29.7%, surpassing the targeted diversion rate of 25%.

Recent City and Community Activities

In its first full year of operation, the new landfill gas system at the Brady Road Resource Management Facility (BRRMF) captured and flared 109,740 tonnes of carbon dioxide. This is equivalent to avoiding the carbon dioxide emissions of 23,046 passenger cars. The system also helps in reducing nuisance landfill odour.

Construction was completed on a new three-hectare pilot facility at the BRRMF that will compost about 20% of more than 50,000 tonnes of nutrient-rich end product of sewage treatment (biosolids) produced each year at the City's three sewage treatment plants.

In accordance with its Environmental Act licence for BRRMF, the City developed plans for the facility's composting operation, landfill gas collection and flaring system, and surface water and leachate management. A landscaping plan was also produced to outline how visual and physical buffers will be used to protect adjacent properties from facility operations. A new berm was constructed along the boundary of BRRMF using lime mud, a natural by-product of the sugar refining process from a former Manitoba sugar beet processing plant, reusing hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of material that would otherwise be landfilled.

The City of Winnipeg continues its partnerships with Wood Anchor, a reclaimed lumber and wood products company, and with the Winnipeg Repair Education and Cycling Hub (WRENCH), which recovered 23 metric tonnes of discarded bicycles and parts from the landfill in 2014.



Tracking Progress

The Garbage and Recycling Master Plan reflects input from public participation, the general principles of zero waste, and a waste hierarchy that encourages efficient use of resources and waste minimization. This transitions the waste management emphasis in Winnipeg from disposal to diversion. The system strives for a balance among:

- environmental protection - through increased diversion, decreased burial of waste and decreased greenhouse gas emissions;
- program costs - understanding that City residents are affected by the costs associated with all program changes; and
- social considerations - understanding that waste management is a service fundamental to the needs of the community.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Diversion (Residential)	18.50%	25.50%	28.10%	29.7%
Residential Waste Disposed (tonnes)	209,741	201,741	173,897	176,011
Residential Recycling Collected (tonnes)	45,835	48,087	53,657	54,465
Leaf and Yard Waste Program (tonnes)	6,598	10,081	23,223	29,754

2014 highlights include:

- 28% increase over 2013 in the amount of yard waste composted.
- 1.6% increase over 2013 in the recycling material collected through curbside, depot and public space collection programs.
- An increase of 60% from the 2011 diversion rate.
- A decrease of 16% in the amount of garbage disposed of in 2011.
- An increase of 18% in the amount of recyclables collected since 2011.
- 3.5 times more yard waste collected than in 2011.

Web Links

Garbage and Recycling Master Plan
www.wwdengage.winnipeg.ca

The Future of Brady Road Resource Management Facility
www.wwdengage.winnipeg.ca

Garbage and Recycling Services
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/recycle
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/garbage

WATER QUALITY AND CONSUMPTION

Safe drinking water is an absolute requirement for protecting public health within our community, and Winnipeggers expect the City to take all necessary steps to provide this essential resource. While Winnipeg has an abundant water supply, we still need to be diligent in using it responsibly and sustainably. The City will continue to provide safe and reliable drinking water and promote water conservation.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg sets a direction to ensure the quality and safety of our drinking water as well as maximizing our existing water supply and ensuring the availability of future water supplies.

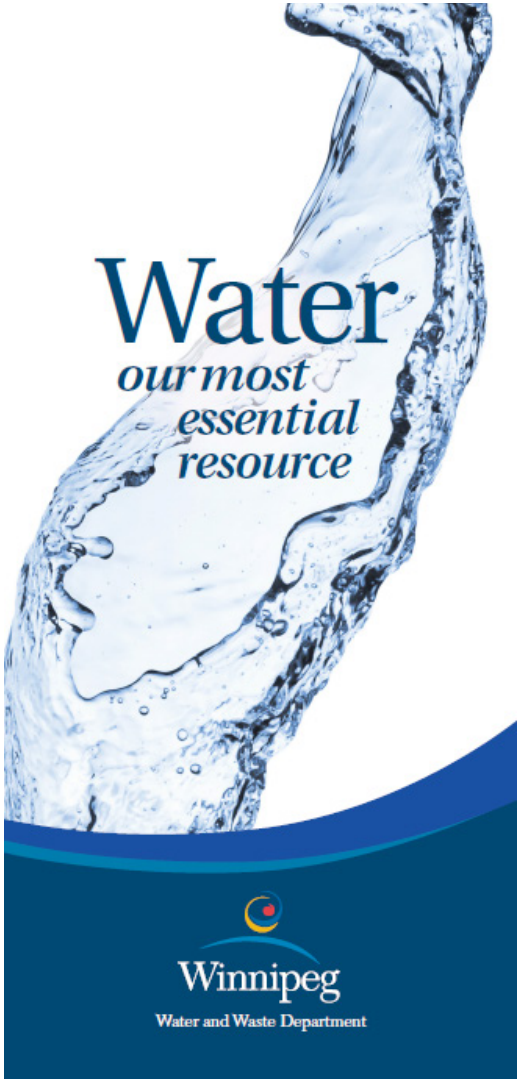
In Manitoba, public water systems are regulated under the Drinking Water Safety Act. The City has a Public Water System Operating Licence PWS-09-412 AA, which sets limits and requirements for the operation of the water supply system and drinking water quality.

Recent City and Community Activities

The Water Conservation program actively promotes the Residential Toilet Replacement Credit Program. Since the program's inception in October 2009, approximately 16,600 credits have been approved, resulting in approximately 376 million litres of annual water savings. The average daily water consumed in 2014 was 172 million litres per day, meaning the City is saving more than two days of treated drinking water annually.

The City continued its partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WaterSense program to promote water efficient fixtures in Winnipeg. The WaterSense label ensures consumer confidence and applies to toilets, urinals, showerheads, bathroom faucets and landscape irrigation controllers.

The City continued its partnership with FortWhyte Alive to promote the Youth Water Education Program for middle year students in Winnipeg. FortWhyte Alive continued its participation in "Fix a Leak Week" by having a Leak Detector Challenge for Winnipeg schools. In the fall of 2014, five schools participated, resulting in approximately 1,800 litres per day in water savings from repaired leaks.



Tracking Progress

Water use in Winnipeg has continued to decline since the peak in 1990. The amount of water that we consume has decreased by more than 39% to 242 litres per capita per day (L/c/d) in 2014 from 399 L/c/d in 1990. The majority of this decrease can be attributed to the promotion of water conservation programs, water efficient technology and government regulations, such as the 2011 Manitoba Plumbing code. In this code, maximum flow rates are listed for toilets, showerheads and faucets. Declining per capita water use allows the City to maintain our abundant water supply and defer capital water infrastructure upgrades.

Winnipeggers enjoy drinking water quality above and beyond the guidelines set out by Health Canada. An Annual Report documenting the drinking water supplied to our customers is submitted to the Office of Drinking Water and is available on the City's website.

Web Links

City of Winnipeg – Water Services
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/water

City of Winnipeg Water Conservation Program – Residential Toilet Replacement Credit Program
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/water/conservation/toiletreplacement

City of Winnipeg Water Conservation Program – Fix a Leak Week
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/water/conservation/fixLeakWeek

City of Winnipeg – Water Supply System Annual Report
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/water/qualityReport.stm

City of Winnipeg – Billed Water Consumption Report
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/water/conservation/consumptionReport.stm

TRANSPORTATION

The ability to provide innovative transportation choices is necessary in supporting *OurWinnipeg*. An anticipated 250,000 new people will call Winnipeg and the surrounding area home by 2031—the highest levels of growth in decades. This growth will result in considerably increased transportation demands, requiring significant changes to the transportation system to accommodate them. The economic prosperity of our city as envisioned in *OurWinnipeg* also depends on the effective and efficient movement of people and goods, and with it, the need for a transportation network that provides sustainable choices.

Policy Direction

A number of key strategic goals, each built on the strength of the vision and directions established in *OurWinnipeg* and its supporting Directions Strategies form the basis for the Transportation Master Plan.

Together, these policy documents stress the importance of integrating transportation and land use planning to ensure that the transportation network supports the city's urban structure through the concept of complete communities. Intrinsic to this is the provision of well-maintained, safe and accessible transportation options for residents of all ages and abilities.

Recent City and Community Activities

In the early part of 2015, Council approved funding to establish a Transportation Management Centre to monitor and adjust traffic signal time and to respond in real-time to potential problems in the transportation system. It will be the primary source of real-time public traffic information.

Design studies initiated in 2014 for improvements to the regional road network include a preliminary design study for the Waverley Underpass, and functional design studies for Marion Street, the Chief Peguis Trail Extension, the William Clement Parkway Extension and the CPR Yards Crossing. All are expected to be completed by fall of 2015.

Following successful piloting of pedestrian count-down signals over the past two years, a budget was established to install further countdown signals, following strategic prioritization criteria.

Council will be considering the adoption of the Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies in 2015. These strategies were designed to provide detailed direction on policy, infrastructure and programming, and will be used to implement the community's vision for accessibility, use, comfort and safety of walking and cycling over time. In 2014, The City's first parking-protected bike lane was constructed on Sherbrook Street. It separates cyclists from vehicle traffic by putting the bike lane between the sidewalk and a barrier for parked cars.

A functional design study has being initiated to determine improvements necessary between Crescent Drive and Warsaw Avenue to establish a contiguous bike facility along Pembina Highway. This will build on



Sherbrook Street parking protected bike lane. Credit: Anders Swanson

the construction of protected bike lanes along Pembina in 2013 and 2014. In the fall of 2014, the Green Action Centre's Active and Safe Routes to School Program partnered with 68 senior undergraduate students in Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg to create Active School Travel Engineering Plans (ASTEP) at 17 schools around Winnipeg in three School Divisions. Findings documented in these plans will support the City's prioritization of neighbourhood level pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements.

Carsharing continues to provide a practical solution for Winnipeggers who would like occasional access to a vehicle. Local carshare service Peg City Car Co-op now has a fleet of 18 vehicles in seven central neighbourhoods and continues to grow monthly.

Preparations for Stage 2 of the Southwest Transitway continue. In February 2015 it was announced that the federal government will contribute up to $137.6 million, through PPP Canada, towards the project. The P3 procurement process was initiated in 2014 and is currently underway. Construction is expected to begin in early 2016, with completion in late 2019. Stage 2 of the Southwest Transitway is expected to open in April 2020.

Winnipeg Transit's new service and storage garage on Brandon Avenue provides additional storage capacity for up to 153 forty-foot buses. It was design-built to LEED Silver standards.

A multi-year electric bus demonstration began in late 2014 with Winnipeg Transit testing four battery-electric transit buses in daily service. The New Flyer Xcelsior buses will be in daily operation on the 20 Academy-Watt. As this route's length, speeds, and loads are typical of many central business district routes in Canada. The project is a collaboration between New Flyer Industries, the Province of Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Red River College, and Winnipeg Transit.

Tracking Progress

A framework for a transportation performance measurement strategy was developed in 2014. The Public Works, Transportation Division is monitoring key data sources and technologies, such as: the new MPI collision data; bike and pedestrian counting equipment; and, GPS/Bluetooth vehicle travel speed data and represents a starting point to a performance measurement system to support the Division's operational needs and may provide meaningful performance measurement statistics.

65% of all signalized intersections in Winnipeg are now equipped with Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS).

Web Links

Transportation Master Plan
www.transportation.speakupwinnipeg.com/

SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION

Providing an environment where our personal, social and economic goals can be pursued depends on the safety and security of Winnipeg's citizens and its visitors. Crime prevention and reduction, emergency preparedness and safety maintenance are all important factors in maintaining a vibrant and sustainable Winnipeg. The directions identified in *OurWinnipeg* establish the foundation from which we can focus our efforts, ensure that security related problems are addressed, and develop a reputation of being a safe city.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg provides eleven specific directions addressing safety and security related concerns. Each recognizes that reducing crime and enhancing overall safety requires a collaborative approach between various civic departments, other levels of government and the community. This includes addressing the needs of existing communities while also identifying the needs of new communities as they are planned.

Recent City and Community Activities

Winnipeg Police Service: Community initiatives and partnerships that enhance public safety are the cornerstone to creating a culture of safety. Over the past year, the WPS has forged new partnerships with a variety of agencies and neighborhoods emphasizing community engagement to keep Winnipeg safe.

Since the WPS has launched its official Twitter account in 2013. The Service has amassed 15,000 followers to whom timely and important information is shared daily. Twitter provides the Service an opportunity to showcase collaborative efforts with our partners and the work members do throughout community neighborhoods. The WPS also continues to develop a presence on YouTube and has seen the number of views top 1.5 million. Over the past year, the Service has added more than 100 videos showcasing the work done by specialty units and providing direct access to view media conferences so citizens may capture the full context of the story.

As a means of reconnecting lost items with their rightful owners, the Service has launched a Pinterest board: #FoundInWPG. The WPS regularly receives found property such as car keys, cell phones, laptop/tablet computers, jewelry, and tools. The #FoundInWpg board was created to share information about found items to assist in their return. Currently there are 800 subscribers.

Community Engagement: The Winnipeg Police Service Community Relations Unit partnered with the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ and Portage Place Shopping Center to host a Safety Expo in 2014. This event provided public



Winnipeg Police Service participation in Pink Shirt Day Anti-Bullying Campaign. Credit : Winnipeg Police Service

education with a goal of "Creating a Culture of Safety". Twenty three community partners including the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, The Life Saving Society of Manitoba and St. John Ambulance, provided safety information ranging from workplace safety to sport injury prevention and education. This initiative highlighted the important work being done in support of a stronger and safer community.

Community Development & Recreation Services has provided free recreational opportunities to children and families involved with the Province of Manitoba's Turnabout Program. LiveSAFE in Winnipeg programming was also offered at various inner-city recreation centres and a new "pilot" initiative related to the Sports in Inner City Neighbourhoods (SPIN) program was conducted in 2014. The Pilot "SPIN Sport Clubs", staffed by Community Development and Recreation Services, offered sport programs on a reliable weekly schedule from September 2014 to May 2015 and built relationships between staff and the participants and their families. Approximately 2,765 children participated in the SPIN program in 2014 at 24 host sites under 508 program hours.

The Winnipeg Police Service partnered with various city departments to work hand in hand with specific communities in preventing arson related fires. The Arson Suppression Strategy engages community partners on prevention steps. In 2013, there was a 37% decrease in the number of arsons and a reduction of 32% over the last five years.
On February 25, 2015, the Winnipeg Police Service proudly sported pink uniform shirts in support of the Pink Shirt Day, Anti-Bullying Campaign. WPS members are committed to working with schools, students and parents in the effort to end bullying. Members of the Service attended community schools on this important day to participate in activities supporting respect, inclusion and zero tolerance for bullying.

Tracking Progress

Winnipeg has experienced continued population growth and a general decrease in crime. In 2013, the violent crime rate decreased 13% from the previous year, and property crimes also decreased 16%. These figures represent a continuation of the declining trend established over the last decade.

Web Links

Winnipeg Police Service
www.winnipeg.ca/police/

WPS Twitter
www.twittercom/wpgpolice

WPS YouTube
www.youtube.com/user/WpgPoliceService

WPS Pinterest
www.pinterest.com/wpgpolice

FIRE AND MEDICAL RESPONSE, FIRE PREVENTION, AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The ability to provide the citizens of Winnipeg with a safe and healthy environment is vital in supporting *OurWinnipeg*. The focus of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) is to provide emergency response to the community, supported by accident and injury prevention, education, and disaster planning.

Winnipeg is undergoing incredible change. The city is experiencing significant population growth, which is a result of increased economic activity in the business and industrial sectors. These changes are resulting in increased activity in all core service areas. WFPS's mission and values are focused on improving the quality of life and safety of the city.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg provides a number of directions which are critical to the overall health and safety of our citizens. The WFPS is responsible for the provision of fire suppression, rescue and medical response services to victims of fire, medical, and other emergencies in order to prevent or minimize loss of life or property. WFPS also maintains valuable partnerships with organizations such as the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority; administers the Emergency Preparedness Program, delivers fire prevention programs, training and education; and is responsible for the enforcement of the Manitoba Fire Code within the City, which includes making inspections, regulating and enforcing standards, issuing licenses and issuing penalties.

Recent City and Community Activities

WFPS implemented a one year Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) pilot in partnership with the Winnipeg Police Service. Ten Advanced Care Paramedics participated in the TEMS Operator Program and undertook 240 hours of specialized medical and police tactical training. TEMS members are equipped with the same ballistic heavy armour, ballistic helmets, safety glasses and protective breathing equipment as the members of the Tactical Support Team (TST). Since its deployment in July, 2014 the TEMS medics have responded to over 150 incidents with members of the WPS TST. The TEMS unit is in the process of recruiting six more Advanced Care Paramedics to ensure 24/7 coverage in support of the TST. TEMS members are able to respond within seconds to injured civilians, suspects and police officers.

On October 1, 2014 the Community Paramedic program at the Main Street Project became part of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority primary care network electronic patient charting system. This program has allowed for completely integrated patient charts, and permits the transmission of important patient safety information between the Community Paramedics and primary care clinics. This important improvement on the sharing of patient information has allowed for increased safety and enhanced access to care for Winnipeg citizens.

The 2014 Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in West Africa was the largest on record. Although the public health risk of an outbreak in Canada has remained extremely low, WFPS took advance preparations related to possible exposure of WFPS responders to the Ebola Virus Disease. Since the start of EVD screening on October 10, 2014 WFPS received 31,736 medical related 911 calls for service, of which 11,576 were pre-screened. Of the 11,576

calls, nine met consideration for secondary EVD screening precautions, resulting in no confirmed cases of EVD. Winnipeg was one of the first Canadian cities to begin planning for potential Ebola cases.

The Midas Billing System automated the manual billing process that assesses all electronic patient care records and determines billable/non-billable status and integrates into the accounts receivable system. This initiative eliminated tedious manual determination and production of billing for ambulance treatment and transport.

The City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba, the Manitoba Metis Federation, Centre for Aboriginal Human Resources, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and First Peoples Development Inc. have partnered in a new Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service Primary Care Paramedic training program for youth, which aims to increase Aboriginal representation in the field of paramedicine. All students participating in the Aboriginal Youth Strategies initiative have graduated with a certificate in Primary Care Paramedicine from the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service. To date, the City has hired nine of the graduates as frontline Primary Care Paramedics.

In June 2014 the WFPS placed in service the Wildland Fire Emergency Response Unit (WERU) and two all-terrain vehicles, which will assist with deployment of personnel and equipment into expansive areas of open and treed land. The WFPS responded to 112 reported incidents of fire involving grass and brush in 2014. Rural and wildland fires can expand rapidly in size and complexity, making life hazard and property conservation of critical priority, requiring an extensive number of resources to provide efficient and effective fire ground management. WFPS continuously monitors and evaluates department response strategies and resource deployment in regards to the mitigation of wildland incidents.

Web Links

Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service
www.winnipeg.ca/fps

City of Winnipeg EmergWeb
www.winnipeg.ca/emergweb

Tracking Progress

Comparative, hourly operating costs for staffed 'in-service' vehicles, as per the national Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative, show that Winnipeg has the lowest cost per ambulance unit hour and the second lowest cost per fire unit hour.



Paramedics and firefighters tend to an injured pedestrian. Credit: Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Winnipeg is in the midst of an economic resurgence. Our population is growing at a rate that we haven't seen in decades, our economy continues to perform well and housing prices and sales are at record levels. Winnipeggers believe in the city that they live, work and play in. They also invest and learn here and conversations with Winnipeggers through SpeakUpWinnipeg confirmed that they believe a strong economy that creates wealth, jobs, income and investment is paramount in achieving a high quality of life.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg provides a number of specific directions relating to our economy and business environment. Each direction recognizes that fostering a strong economy and favorable business environment requires continued intergovernmental cooperation, as well as collaboration with other levels of government and community partners. These include local businesses, learning institutions, the James A. Richardson International Airport and various economic development agencies.

Recent City and Community Activities

Collaboration between the City and a consortium of partners including the Province of Manitoba, Economic Development Winnipeg (EDW), and Yes!Winnipeg resulted in Price Industries selecting Winnipeg to expand its advanced manufacturing facility by 60,000 square feet over two phases. This expansion is expected to create over 150 new high skilled jobs, expand local training opportunities, and support the retention of a skilled employment base in various fields in the local economy. EDW continued its engagement with over 140 agencies and organizations to set the stage for a healthy city strategy, taking inventory of current healthy city initiatives and creating a framework, 'A Healthy Winnipeg for All'. The City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority are pursuing next steps in the development of the strategy that will include consultation with key stakeholders in 2015.

In February 2014, Winnipeg appeared as a feature in Business Elite Canada, an online magazine aimed at C-suite executives throughout the country. The article, "Winnipeg: City of Opportunity," showcased the City's openness to growth and highlighted downtown development and transportation advantages.

The City continues to support Business Improvement Zones (BIZ) through a City-liaison for coordination and guidance, the Community Image and Neighbourhood Main Street Capital Fund and the annual Mayor's BIZ Awards. Sixteen Zones represent approximately 5,000 businesses throughout the City. In 2014, streetscape improvements were supported on Academy Road in St. Norbert, in Osborne Village and in Old St. Vital.

$4.36 million in BIZ levies were collected and used to lever further investment from other sources, bringing the total amount of available support to these neighbourhood based business communities to just over $8 million.

Winnipeg has engaged in the annual Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative since 2011. This national initiative allows participating cities to provide comparable performance indicator information across various departments. It enables Winnipeg to direct its efforts in becoming a more competitive City. Winnipeg also launched its Open Data Portal in July 2014, which provides a platform for City data that can be used for performance measurements, business planning, software development, and research.



St. Norbert BIZ streetscape improvements. Credit: Planning, Property and Development

Tracking Progress

Statistics Canada reports that Winnipeg's residential and nonresidential building permit values grew 9.5% to $900.6 million during the first six months of 2014 compared to the same period last year. Winnipeg outpaced the national average of 3.6% and experienced the strongest growth among metropolitan areas in Western Canada.

Residential building permits values in the first half of 2014 grew by 6% to $500.4 million, while nonresidential values were up 14.2% over the same period last year. The commercial market posted especially strong growth in building permit values, which were up 52.6%.

Winnipeg's real GDP increased by 2.2% to $35 billion during the first six months of 2014 compared to the same time period last year. This latest GDP estimate ranks Winnipeg eighth among other Canadian metropolitan areas. This growth is attributed to output from specific industries, including the manufacturing sector and the transportation and warehousing sector.

Winnipeg earned a spot on the Intelligent Community Forum's list of Smart21 Communities for four consecutive years, and 2014 marked the first time Winnipeg was shortlisted to the Top 7 Cities in the World in a global competition by the Intelligent Community Forum.

Web Links

Economic Development Winnipeg
www.economicdevelopmentwinnipeg.com/

Neighbourhoods of Winnipeg
www.now.winnipeg.ca/

Economic Development Strategy
www.economicdevelopmentwinnipeg.com/uploads/document_file/economic_development_strategy_2013_2017.pdf

CentrePort Canada
www.centreportcanada.ca

HOUSING

Maintaining a healthy housing stock, one that is safe, well maintained, appropriate and affordable will assist in facilitating quality of life for our citizenry. Affordable and accessible housing is part of the essential mix serving a diverse population and creating complete communities.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg sets a number of clear directions regarding housing, including:

- Supporting diverse housing options in each neighbourhood.
- Collaborating with partners to renew and regenerate Winnipeg's housing stock.
- Establishing partnerships to provide affordable housing.
- Providing leadership in property related housing standards.
- Supporting the integration of specialty housing.
- Encouraging residential development downtown.

Winnipeg's Housing Policy which was adopted in September, 2013 and associated Implementation Plan, adopted in April 2014 build on these policy directions by providing detailed objectives towards accommodating Winnipeg's growing and diverse housing needs in an inclusive, cooperative, and accessible manner.

Recent City and Community Activities

In July, 2014 Council established the Live Downtown – Rental Development Grant program in partnership with the Province of Manitoba, offering incentives to strategically focus development of new rental properties within a defined area of the downtown. This program aims to establish a stable residential population necessary to spur further destination services and amenities. It also seeks to eliminate surface parking lots and seek opportunities for incorporating alternative parking options. This program is designed to establish up to 900 new residential units and is expected to commence in late 2015.

The Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve, established in 2000 continues to provide $1 million annually to fund housing programs and activities that build community capacity and invest in Winnipeg's housing stock. Funding commitments are determined annually in consultation with housing stakeholders in the community. In 2014, it supported programs and activities which include the following:

- Repairs and rehabilitation of 171 existing dwelling units
- The construction of 12 new infill units within Winnipeg's established neighbourhoods, and
- Completion of neighbourhood housing plans the West Broadway and the Spence neighbourhoods, and initiation of a neighbourhood plan the St. John's neighbourhood





Renovation completed with funding from the Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve. Credit: Planning Property and Development

Neighbourhood Housing plans identify strengths and weaknesses of a neighbourhood and provide practical actions that can be used by community organizations to improve neighbourhood housing opportunities and conditions.

The City renewed its participation in the Homelessness Partnering Strategy, a federal program working in partnership with communities, provinces and territories, other federal departments and the private and not-for-profit sectors to address their district's homelessness needs and priorities. The new agreement allocates $28.7 million of resources for 2015 – 2019. A call for proposals to access $10.5 million of funding in 2015 and 2016 has been issued.

Tracking Progress

The Downtown Residential Development Grant (DRDG), a joint City-Province program established in 2012 has resulted in 314 new affordable rental units to date. While the program was fully subscribed by 2014, further growth in affordable units under this program is expected until 2018, when this program comes to a close.

Web Links

Financial Assistance Programs for Housing, City of Winnipeg
www.winnipeg.ca/ppd/programs.stm

Winnipeg Housing Policy: and Implementation Plan:
www.winnipeg.ca/ppd/planning_housing.stm

RECREATION

The City is a leader in delivering recreation services that build healthy communities. The City's role as a recreation and wellness leader and facilitator includes working to address age, gender, ability and cultural barriers to participation. Recreation, aquatics, active living and leisure programs and services strengthen families, build healthy communities, improve quality of life, support the healthy development of children and provide an opportunity to develop leadership skills. Opportunities to participate in recreation and aquatic activities enhance life skills, community leadership development and our overall quality of life, particularly for our youth.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg outlines six policy directions relating to recreation:

- Promote and enable opportunities for people of all age groups to be active as part of their daily lives.
- Work with community partners to provide services that are responsive to the community's recreation and leisure needs.
- Directly provide, or facilitate through partnerships, equitable access to a base level of recreation, culture and leisure services.
- Participate as a leader in planning and delivering recreation and leisure services with community partners.
- Provide or facilitate community development and recreation opportunities for vulnerable youth.
- Plan for sustainable and connected recreation infrastructure.

Recent City and Community Activities

The City continues to invest in major recreation projects, examples of which include upgrades to St. Vital Centennial Outdoor Pool. The Aquatic Services Division offered a total of 150,265 free swim and reduced fee opportunities, with 43,798 people attending five unheated outdoor pools in 2014; an increase of 220%.

The Community Centre Renovation Fund continues to offer up to $965,000 in annual funding for support of repairs, upgrades, retrofits, safety improvements and renovation projects. In 2014, 19 Community Centres were approved for grants up to a maximum of $50,000.

The City of Winnipeg enhanced various initiatives related to inner-city programming for youth, such as the Sports in Inner City Neighbourhoods (SPIN) program, the LiveSafe in Winnipeg Programming, the Youth Mentorship Program, and the Community Art Program.

The Community Art Program has continued offering free creative programs through various community organizations in partnership with Art City and Graffiti Art. Twenty-four Recreation Leaders were hired from the community to deliver the program.



Children enjoying summer at a splash pad. Courtesy of Community Services Department

Web Links

City of Winnipeg Leisure Guide
www.leisureonline.ca

City of Winnipeg Recreation & Leisure
www.winnipeg.ca/cms/recreation

General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres
www.gcwcc.mb.ca/

In 2014, the Community Services Department began aligning the Leisure Guide to reflect the Canadian Sport for Life (CS4L) model. Under the Winnipeg Community Sport Policy (WCSP), the Department successfully planned and implemented two workshops. Community Services has established eight working groups related to different aspects of implementing the WCSP, in partnership with the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres (GCWCC), Manitoba Physical Education Supervisors Association (MPESA), Winnipeg Community Sport Alliance (WCSA), Sport Manitoba and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA).

Working with the McConnell foundation and local partners such as Fit Kids/Healthy Kids, the Community Services Department successfully offered Physical Literacy targeted at "train the trainers" who train program leaders working with children from up to age 6.

Tracking Progress

Recreation Services provides a broad range of programs and services to citizens, which are offered through partnerships with numerous organizations, institutions, and other levels of government. In 2014 these efforts have resulted in:

- 2,765 inner city children participating in the SPIN Program
- 6,203 inner city children and youth participating in the Community Art Program
- An additional 7,602 hours of inner city programming offered at various recreation centres resulting in 36,605 participant visits by children and youth
- 3,105 volunteer program hours completed by youth from St. John's High School, Children of the Earth School, RB Russell Maples High School, Hugh John MacDonald High School, and Daniel McIntyre High School through the Inner City Youth Mentorship Program
- 24,471 youth, ages 9-19 participated in Free Youth Swim at 8 indoor pools
- The Aquatic Services Division offered 7,603 swim classes for which 31,178 patrons registered

LIBRARIES

Libraries enrich the lives of all Winnipeggers by providing high quality, responsive and innovative library services. Library Services offers a wide range of programs, collections, and services. Libraries strive to provide excellent customer service, through qualified, well-trained staff offering timely assistance to the public in their search for information. All of this is achieved in facilities that are safe, convenient and accessible community places.

Policy Direction

Our Winnipeg outlines four policy directions relating to Libraries:

- Implement enhanced programming for Older Adults/ Seniors.
- Utilize annual capital and operating budgets to ensure facilities are safe, accessible, and meet community needs.
- Offer a wide range of programs and services for all ages. Many of the programs are offered in partnership with community organizations.
- Provide mobile library services through the Outreach Services unit in high needs, high risk communities.

Recent City and Community Activities

In April 2014, the Library launched the public consultation process of the Library's Strategic Plan called Inspiring Ideas at the Metropolitan Theatre. The consultation process received input from over 5,000 citizens through surveys and library fairs held in libraries and various festivals and events throughout the city. The final Strategic Plan will be rolled out to the public in 2015 and will provide a five-year direction for Library Services based on community feedback.

Several facility improvements were made to library facilities in 2014. After a nine-month closure, the renovated Fort Garry library includes an enlarged program room, additional study and leisure reading spaces, improved washroom accessibility and the introduction of a single service point. The St. James Library underwent a necessary facelift for the first time in over 20 years, with new carpeting, painting and furniture. Library Services partnered with the University of Manitoba to provide access to a collection of public library materials to students, faculty and visitors attending the Neil John Maclean Library at the Health Sciences Centre campus.

On January 19, 2015, the new Charleswood Library opened to very positive reviews. Over 300 people attended the opening where Mayor Brian Bowman and Councillor Marty Morantz spoke to this welcome addition to the community. Children from Dieppe School, members of the Charleswood Historical Society and local residents helped move the last 300 books from the former Charleswood Library to the new site via a book chain.

In May 2014, the first SmartLocker service in Canada was introduced at the West End Library. This service



Charleswood residents participating in library book chain. Credit: unknown

allows customers to pick up their requested items using an electronic locker system when the library is not open. In 2015, Library Services will be expanding this service to other locations.

The Outreach Services Unit has expanded its mobile service to Blake Garden's Neighbourhood Resource Centre in the Weston area. This fourth site in the Division's service delivery hosts unique library programs twice a month and an opportunity for local residents to check out a large selection of material in their local community.

Library Services launched its sixth annual On the Same Page program with a series of workshops and events in early 2014. With financial support from the Winnipeg Foundation, this popular community program encourages all Winnipeggers and Manitobans to read selected book for each year, encourages literacy and a love of reading, and shares socially relevant stories with its readers.

In early 2014, the Manidoo-Giizis/Kinepisim: Manitoba Indigenous Writer's Festival brought together a celebration of indigenous writing and storytelling from across the country to share indigenous stories and voices for the first time in the library system.

Library Services also began offereing two new online resources in 2014 available through your library card. Zinio, a new emagazine service, offers popular, full-colour magazines, available through the library website and downloadable for free. Over 95,682 magazines were circulated using this new online service in 2014. Hoopla is an online resource that provides library customers with free access to thousands of movies, television shows, music and audiobooks. In 2014 the library circulated over 43,120 items using this new online resource.

In 2014, in partnership with the theatre community in Winnipeg, Library Services began to circulate complimentary theatre passes to the general public to attend performances at various theatres in Winnipeg. Passes were available at selected branches throughout the city, which helped to provide a theatre experience to some members of the public who might not otherwise benefit from Winnipeg's rich theatre heritage.

Tracking Progress

In 2014, libraries circulated over 5.2 million items to its customers. This included over 270,000 e-books downloadable to customers' personal devices.

Over 2.4 million people visited libraries in person and over 1.8 million visited the library virtually. Customer-focused library staff answered approximately 310,000 questions and welcomed 91,000 visitors to over 3,800 programs. Citizen satisfaction with libraries has risen to 91%.

Web Links

City of Winnipeg Library Services Division
www.winnipeg.ca/library

Winnipeg Public Library - @ the Library Newsletter
www.wpl.winnipeg.ca/library/pdfs/@thelibrary15.2.pdf

SUSTAINABILITY

The City of Winnipeg has pledged to make sustainability a regular part of how it conducts business. This will be reflected in policies and programs that respect and value the environment, contribute to a vital society full of opportunity and develop our economy.

Winnipeggers want their municipal government to be a champion for providing options and opportunities for more sustainable living. Through collaboration and continuous improvement, the City contributes to global sustainable development.

Policy Direction

The City of Winnipeg will lead by example, measure and track progress, integrate sustainability into internal decision-making, create and invest in sustainability tools for complete communities, sustainable water and waste infrastructure, a sustainable transportation system, and continue to respect and value our natural and built environment.

Recent City and Community Activities

The City of Winnipeg has advanced new municipal policies designed to ensure more sustainable programs and operations. For example, the City completed the Corporate Waste Reduction Strategy in December 2014. Furthermore, various in-house sustainability pilots have begun, including an office composting program in the Planning, Property & Development (PP&D) Department, and a new Business Travel Administrative Standard, which encourages the choice of low-emission, healthful, and cost-efficient travel during the workday. PP&D also launched a bike share pilot program in 2014, providing an opportunity for staff to make short trips for business travel by bicycle rather than by car.

At the community level, Winnipeg's first "Parking Protected Bike Lane" along Sherbrook Street provides safe travel for bicyclists and contributes to a growing and increasingly connected network of bicycle infrastructure. The City's new Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies, which are expected to receive Council consideration in 2015, will also enable better planning for cycling and pedestrian needs.

Winnipeg's first zero-emission battery-electric propulsion transit bus hit the road in late November, 2014 and is expected to significantly reduce greenhouse gas and smog-causing air contaminant emissions. Winnipeg Transit also has a new 135,000-square-foot service and storage garage on Brandon Avenue that provides additional storage capacity for up to 153 forty-foot buses. The new garage was constructed to LEED Silver standards.

Batteries contain potentially toxic materials and can be recycled into valuable new products. Through public drop-off sites located at City facilities (libraries, fire halls, police stations, civic offices), Winnipeggers sent over 4,628 kilograms of batteries for responsible recycling in 2014. That's the equivalent weight of 27,207 hockey pucks that was kept out of our landfills!

In 2014, the City amended its policies to require that all new retention basin ponds are built as naturalized. Over the past 10 years, 75% of developers have opted to build naturalized stormwater retention basins over traditional basins. Studies show that naturalized stormwater retention basins maximize nutrient capture, have better water quality when compared to traditional stormwater retention basins, and eliminate the need for ongoing maintenance, as no chemical treatment is required.

Tracking Progress

In collaboration with our corporate, non-profit, and government partners, the City of Winnipeg provides funding and in-kind support to the Peg Community Indicators Project. Peg measures the sustainability and well-being of our community by tracking key indicators related to the three pillars of sustainability: the economy, society and environment.

On Earth Day, 2015, Peg reported that Winnipeg's water use has decreased 27% over a 20 years period, waste per person had decreased 30% over 10 years, and that Winnipeg's ground level ozone is below the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Web Links

City of Winnipeg Greenspace
www.winnipeg.ca/greenspace/

Peg
www.mypeg.ca/

Twitter
#wpgenviro



Winnipeg's first zero-emission battery-electric propulsion transit bus. Credit: Winnipeg Transit

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The natural environment is essential to our city. Our local environment is the foundation for our economic and social health. Collectively, we need to take responsibility for it. Our actions should contribute to the protection of the natural environment both regionally and globally, both for our own wellbeing and for future generations.

Policy Direction

The City will continue to respect and value our natural and built environment by:

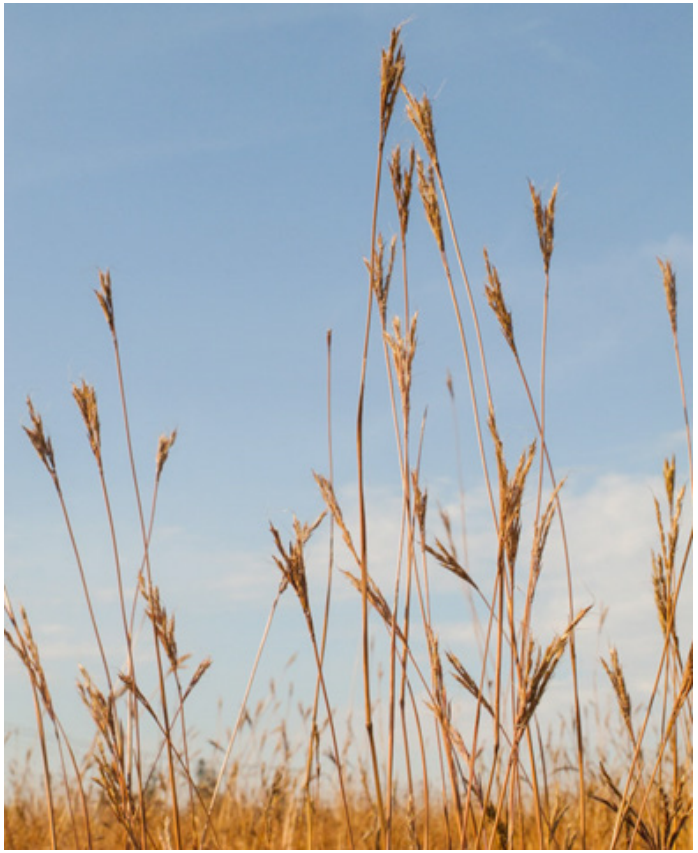
- Reducing the environmental impact of our actions.
- Recognizing and preserving Winnipeg's parks, green spaces and riverbanks as green oases in our urban setting.
- Setting long range goals for solid waste diversion.
- Collaborating to ensure water and air quality.
- Providing safe and effective pest and weed control in City operations.
- Enabling the protection of ecologically significant lands.
- Promoting the use of rivers and riverbanks.
- Supporting waterway management.
- Protecting and enhancing the urban forest.

Recent City and Community Activities

A Biosolids Master Plan, proposing alternative reuse options for biosolids, was submitted to Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship in 2014 and is pending review. The Department of Water and Waste recently completed construction of a biosolid composting facility at Brady Road Resource Management Facility to further waste diversion efforts and emission reduction goals. It is anticipated that 10,000 tonnes of biosolids will be composted for use as a soil amendment in 2015.

Between 2013 and 2014, biological larvicides for mosquito control increased from 60% to 80%.
Urban Forestry continues its strategy to enhance the Dutch Elm Disease (DED) management program. In 2014, Urban Forestry continued collecting data to inventory elm trees on private property and has completed all but five neighbourhoods. Sixty one per cent of the 250,670 elms on private property are American elm, which is the species highly susceptible to DED. The public elm inventory contains approximately 80,000 American elms on boulevards and in parks. The enhanced Elm Bark Beatle (EBB) program entered its second phase in 2014 and resulted in the treatment of 86,134 trees. The program intent is to treat all American elms on a 2-year rotation to reduce the overwintering beetle population and the spread of DED.

Urban Forestry continues its efforts to prevent the introduction of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), a highly destructive pest that has decimated millions of hectares of ash in the north eastern United States and eastern Canada. Twelve signs were installed along right-of-ways along major entry routes into the city to raise



Big Bluestem tall grass in Assiniboine Forest. Credit: Natural Services Branch'

public awareness of pests or diseases that can damage Winnipeg's urban forest, to reduce the spread of currently established diseases such as DED, and to prevent the introduction of new pests such as EAB.

Council approved $1M of additional reforestation funding in 2014, including $500,000 towards removals and replacements of City-owned Schubert chokecherries that had succumbed to black knot disease. Approximately 816 were removed in 2014. In total, 2,245 trees were planted on boulevards and in parks to replace trees lost to DED, black knot disease or otherwise.

Natural areas across the City, such as the Northeast Pioneers Greenway and Little Mountain Park were enhanced through the planting of diverse species of wildflowers and native prairie grasses. Over 95 native species including wildflowers, trees and shrubs were planted in 2014 through habitat restoration efforts, including the restoration of riverbank areas. The City has been actively involved in research related to biological control of weedy species such as the use of Chontrol Peat Paste for control of European buckthorn.

Tracking Progress

The Urban Forestry Branch's new Tree Inventory (TI) program went live in 2014. It took five years to build the system and capture the initial inventory data for the City's boulevard and park trees, and then another two to refine and update the system. The TI program has already proven to be an essential tool in allowing the Branch to plan and execute its mandate in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible.

Web Links

City of Winnipeg Parks and Fields
www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/ParksandFields/

City of Winnipeg Urban Forestry
www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/Forestry/forestry.asp

City of Winnipeg Living Prairie Museum
www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/naturalist/livingprairie/

Invasive Species Council of Manitoba
www.invasivespeciesmanitoba.com/site/

ENERGY AND EMISSIONS

Climate change poses significant social, economic, and environmental implications for Winnipeggers. Southern Manitoba is already feeling the early consequences of these changes, and much greater change is expected in the coming decades. While anticipating and adapting to the inevitable impact on our city, we also need a concerted local effort to meet our global responsibility in reducing emissions and mitigating the long term consequences of a rapidly changing climate.

Policy Direction

A Sustainable Winnipeg incorporates three important strategies related to climate change:

- Maintain a Climate Change Action Plan to reduce the City of Winnipeg's operational greenhouse gas emissions by a further 20 per cent below 1998 levels.
- Create and maintain an action plan to reduce Winnipeg's community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 6 per cent below 1998 levels.
- Establish corporate and community-wide reduction targets for 2020 and 2035.

Recent City and Community Activities

Winnipeg has completed the construction of several buildings that demonstrate leadership in energy efficient design. The Public Works East Yard Complex, which opened in March 2014, was designated a LEED® Gold Certified green building, the City's second building to achieve this rating following Sturgeon Height's Community Centre. The complex was designed to achieve a 51% energy cost savings (approximately $58,000/year) and a greenhouse gas emission avoidance of approximately 385 tonnes CO2e/year (carbon emission equivalents) over conventional construction.

The new 3,600 square foot Mayfair Recreation Centre on River Avenue, which opened in 2014, received the Power Smart Commercial New Buildings Program designation for its energy efficient design. Three additional City buildings opened in late 2013 and early 2014, including Winnipeg Transit's 135,000 square foot bus parking and service centre, which is currently seeking designation as a LEED® Silver (or better) Certified Building.

Upcoming major building projects including the Garden City Community Centre expansion are also expected to meet the intent of the City's Green Building Policy: New City-Owned Buildings and Major Additions.

In a multi-stakeholder collaboration, Winnipeg Transit launched a 4-year test run of four battery-electric buses expected to reduce as much as 160 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually. The buses now operate on the Route 20 service to the Airport, taking a short 10 minute break to charge between each 40km round-trip.

The City of Winnipeg continued its ongoing replacement of existing traffic signals with high-efficiency LED signals in 2014. Now more than 85% complete, this successful project has reduced electricity use in the traffic signals by nearly 40%, accruing approximately 2.4M kWh and $290,000 of electricity savings annually.

The City has continued to expand its active transportation network in 2014, which included the completion of the Sherbrook Street parking protected bike lane between Wolseley Avenue and Broadway Avenue, and the buffered bike lane extending further north to Cumberland Avenue. The 2015 capital budget and forecast was approved with a significant increase in funding for new active transportation infrastructure.

The Winnipeg Arts Council has partnered with the Urban Planning division for an Artist in Residence program. The selected Artist, Erika Lincoln, will be working to expand and enhance public awareness and discussion on the issue of Climate Change as it relates to City Council's commitment to reducing corporate and community wide greenhouse gas emissions.

Tracking Progress

The City is preparing to release a major update to its community-wide and corporate emissions inventories and forecast. This update will support the City's continued efforts to meet climate change mitigation targets, and the immediate goal of developing a strategy for communitywide climate action.

Web Links

City of Winnipeg Greenspace
www.winnipeg.ca/greenspace/

City of Winnipeg Brady Road Methane Gas Collection System
www.winnipeg.ca/waterandwaste/garbage/bradyMethane.stm

City of Winnipeg Active Transportation
www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/MajorProjects/ActiveTransportation/default.asp

City of Winnipeg Electric Bus Demonstration
www.winnipegtransit.com/en/major-projects/electric-bus-demonstration/



Public Works East Yard Complex. Credit: Public Works Department

HERITAGE

Historic places offer social, economic and environmental benefits that enhance the quality of life in our city, and our shared heritage provides the connecting fabric that links us together as Canadians and as Winnipeggers. Winnipeg has an impressive array of such places, including more than 230 heritage buildings and the Exchange District National Historic Site. The City values these heritage assets and is committed to their sustainability, conservation and adaptive reuse.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg outlines six policy directions relating to Heritage:

- Plan for heritage conservation.
- Conserve, protect and celebrate the significant heritage resources that illustrate the broad range of Winnipeg's heritage values.
- Provide leadership in heritage conservation that links to broader civic goals of economic development, sustainability and neighbourhood planning.
- Conserve Downtown's rich legacy of heritage resources that provide significant and sustainable development opportunities.
- Enhance the viability of the Exchange District National Historic Site.
- Plan for the sustainable development of healthy neighbourhoods based on their particular historic identity and character.

Recent City and Community Activities

On May 27, 2014, Council approved the new Historical Resources By-law 55/2014, which came into effect on June 1, 2014 and replaces the former Historical Buildings By-law 1474/77. The new By-law protects and conserves buildings, land, elements of a building or land, or areas of special architectural or historic interest, broadens the scope for heritage recognition, creates new options for listings, allows more input in recognizing heritage resources via a new nomination system, brings more clarity, transparency and fairness to owners, and ensures compatibility with *The City of Winnipeg Charter* and *OurWinnipeg*.

A policy and procedures framework study was undertaken to examine successful models of Heritage Conservation Districts, both nationally and internationally. This study included input received through community consultation sessions to develop a Winnipeg model for heritage districts. The City is exploring the implementation of a Heritage Conservation Districts Study and Plan for the Armstrong's Point Neighbourhood. Policy and procedures will be proposed and submitted for Council review.

The City continues to provide financial assistance to building owners through the Heritage Conservation Tax Credit Program. To date, over 42 buildings have been approved for a tax credit, ranging in value from $10,000 to $1.7 million.

The East Exchange Heritage Implementation Strategy was developed to explore interpretive opportunities for the unique East Exchange area, which is undergoing

significant re-development. The strategy proposes a number of ways to celebrate the area's history, and includes historic information for properties where owners/developers could develop interpretive material.



Elements of the St. Vital Library are designated as heritage by the City of Winnipeg. Credit: Henry Kalen. Photo courtesy of the St. Vital Library.

Tracking Progress

Heritage conservation is a dynamic concept influenced by community support and input, particularly from building owners. The indicators noted in this report present a picture of the overall performance of the city – including viability of our heritage stock, emerging trends (demand to designate) and changing development factors within Winnipeg.

In 2014, the Historical Buildings and Resources Committee evaluated fourteen structures for possible addition to the Buildings Conservation List/List of Historical Resources. Two were designated by City Council, seven were recommended for designation and are pending a decision by the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management and five were recommended to be placed on the Commemorative List. The de-listing of one building was declined by the Committee. Five buildings that were evaluated in 2013 were designated in 2014.

Web Links

Heritage Conservation, City of Winnipeg
www.winnipeg.ca/ppd/historic/historic.stm

Provincial Heritage Sites, Province of Manitoba
www.gov.mb.ca/chc/hrb/prov/index.html

Canada's Historic Places
www.historicplaces.ca

REINVESTMENT AND VITALITY

A number of neighbourhoods within Winnipeg's inner city require comprehensive, integrated revitalization strategies. The City is committed to collaborating with community stakeholders and with other levels of government to create and maintain vital neighbourhoods. Pride and a sense of community ownership is important to creating healthy neighbourhoods where people feel safe. The City is actively supporting the efforts of residents and local neighbourhood associations to develop and maintain safe, orderly viable and sustainable communities and to promote and maintain the health, safety, and wellbeing of residents through initiatives like the new Community By-law Enforcement Services and the Neighbourhood Livability by-law.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg sets a number of priorities for promoting the increased vitality of reinvestment neighborhoods, including:

- Strive to eliminate derelict buildings.
- Deliver a coordinated integrated, and seamless service response to address community needs and priorities that contribute to building healthy communities.
- Work in partnership with communities to identify and address neighbourhood issues.
- Maintain the health and safety of neighbourhoods by enforcing animal control by-laws and promoting responsible pet ownership.
- Support effective Public Health Inspection Services.
- Promote cleanliness and beautification.
- Recognize and support the essential role that volunteers and volunteerism play in building a healthy and vibrant Winnipeg.
- Working through community partnerships, respond to food needs as identified by communities.

Recent City and Community Activities

Community By-law Enforcement Services continued to proactively seek compliance with the Property Standards by-law using education, collaboration, community outreach, and when required - enforcement. The Division expanded its neighbourhood partnerships to provide services to improve cleanliness, safety, increased neighbourhood pride and re-investment, based on community identified needs, priorities, and local vision. In 2014, Community By-law Enforcement Officers engaged in 49 outreach initiatives, reaching nearly 1,000 community leaders and residents, to improve existing inspection and enforcement programs.

In October 2014, the Vacant Buildings Program added boarded building inspections to its operations to improve efficiencies and streamline enforcement activities, and to encourage property owners to repair and reoccupy vacant buildings and discourage boarding.

The City continues to operate Allotment Gardens (garden plot rentals) and collaborate with community groups to run Community Gardens. Both serve to strengthen


City of Winnipeg allotment garden. Credit: Public Works Department

neighbourhood connections, support local food production and community development. Demand for allotment gardens is growing. Occupied plots increased from 87% of the City's 161 plots in 2012 to 98% of the City's 208 plots by 2014.

In January, 2015, the City initiated a Cat Licensing Program to help curb cat overpopulation. Fifty per cent of gross revenues will be directed to expand the local cat spay/neuter program.

Tracking Progress

Compliance with Orders for property standards violations continues to be high. Proactive neighbourhood sweeps and community engagement has resulted in a reduction of 16% of overall service requests to the City's 311 Call Centre in 2014.

- Customer satisfaction with the City's efforts to ensure residential property standards are met, continue to be high at 85% in 2014.
- Total number of service requests related to property standards decreased 10% from 16,460 in 2013 to 14,717 in 2014.
- Number of proactive Community By-law Enforcement Officer-initiated investigations increased by 25% from 2,277 in 2013 to 2,854 in 2014.
- Total number of on-site inspections increased by 3.5% from 2013 to 30,060 in 2014.
- 6,046 Compliance Orders were issued in 2014.
- 455 Common Offence Notices were issued in 2014, primarily to repeat offenders or in cases of gross neglect of tenant-occupied properties.

Between the 2010 enactment of the Vacant Buildings By-law and December 31st, 2014, the number of dilapidated and derelict vacant buildings decreased 38% from 577 to 358. In 2014, 144 new commercial and residential vacant buildings were reported for inspection and monitoring and 176 vacant buildings were removed from the program, representing a net reduction of 17% since January 2012.

Animal Services achieved 60,453 dog licenses in 2014. 646 licensed dogs were reunited with owners via 311 without needing to be brought in to the Animal Services' facility. In 2014, 95% of dogs that entered Animal Services were reunited with their owner, adopted out, or sent to a rescue or animal shelter.

Web Links

City of Winnipeg Property and Neighbourhood Standards
www.winnipeg.ca/cms/BLES/PNS/default.stm

Allottment Gardens / Community Gardens
www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/ParksandFields/CommunityGardens/communitygardens.asp

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The City of Winnipeg is committed to continually building a strong, diverse, capable workforce with a focus on attracting, engaging and developing employees while offering a safe, healthy and well workplace (Our City – Our People Plan – Focus 2012). The City of Winnipeg continues to encourage and foster inclusion and equity.

Policy Direction

To support the goal of building a strong and diverse workforce, diversity-related training is provided to public service employees. This training allows the City to continue its efforts to attract and maintain a more diverse and respectful workplace, as well as ensure the services provided in all the departments are sensitive to the needs of a diverse community.

The City also strives to ensure services are delivered in a respectful and inclusive manner. To support this goal the City of Winnipeg has a Citizen Equity Committee (CEC). The CEC advises the Mayor and Council on equity and diversity issues related to City of Winnipeg policies, procedures and services.

Recent City and Community Activities

The City offered numerous diversity-related workshops for employees. Courses included: Aboriginal Awareness; Disability Awareness; Understanding Islam and Muslims; LGBT and Ally Training (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered); Generations in the Workplace; and Bullying in the Workplace. New courses introduced in 2014 included Mental Health First Aid and Diversity and Inclusion.

The City has an active outreach program promoted by attending career fairs and making employment presentations to agencies that assist Aboriginal people, newcomers, and persons with disabilities to obtain employment. In 2014, the City had five paid internships and six unpaid work experiences in eight different departments for people of Aboriginal descent, newcomers and persons with disabilities.

All City departments participated in the City of Winnipeg's third Career Symposium, which attracted over 4,500 visitors. Presentations on careers in Information Technology and tips on Resumes, Cover Letters, and Interviews were well attended throughout the day.

The City of Winnipeg has participated in the Pride Week kickoff by raising the Pride Flag at City Hall since 2002, and has been a member of Pride at Work Canada since 2012. Several Departments displayed a rainbow Pride Flag in a high traffic area in the workplace to show support for Pride Week and all employees were invited to the kickoff. A national edition of the Global & Mail included an advertisement that recognized the City of Winnipeg organization as a top employer for LGBT workplace inclusion.



Winnipeg's third Career Symposium . Credit: Community Services Department

The Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) is a member of a newcomers working group which builds relationships and develops activities with Winnipeg's diverse communities. The WPS and the Fire Paramedic Service each held an Aboriginal and Newcomer Youth Career Week which encourages and promotes employment as Police Officers, Cadets, Firefighters and Paramedics. On National Aboriginal Day the City hosted a lunch hour event at City Hall Courtyard for all employees to celebrate.

46 employees participated in Winnipeg's the 5th Aboriginal Employee Gathering workshop. Employees received information on Aboriginal initiatives within the City of Winnipeg organization and the larger community and shared in the camaraderie of fellow Aboriginal employees.

The City partnered with the Federal and Provincial governments to celebrate March 21, 2014 – the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The City hired a Human Resource Intern for an initiative called 'Creating Opportunities for People with Cognitive and Learning Disabilities', to recruit and retain people with cognitive and learning disabilities into positions of meaningful employment, and to promote a city culture of inclusion. The intent is to remain representative of the community, and to further promote equality of employment opportunities, and to be a leader in recruitment and retention of people with cognitive and learning disabilities.

Tracking Progress

In 2014, the representation of all four designated groups increased. The benchmark is based on the labour market availability (LMA). The LMA refers to people in the labour market who have the necessary qualifications to occupy a particular position and is derived from the 2011 Census and the 2012 Canadian Survey on Disability.

Workplace diversity by designated group

Performance Measurement	2013	2014	Benchmark
Women	29.8%	30.0%	31.0%
Aboriginal People	8.5%	8.8%	10.2%
Visible Minority Members	9.9%	10.7%	11.6%
Persons with Disabilities	5.1%	5.2%	5.0%

In 2014, 1430 employees attended City of Winnipeg diversity-related training/education.

Web Links

Diversity Commitment
www.winnipeg.ca/isext/diverse_workforce/equity_diversity.stm

Newcomers to Winnipeg
www.winnipeg.ca/interhom/guide/default.stm

Library Services, For Newcomers and EAL
www.wpl.winnipeg.ca/library/libraryservices/newcomers.asp

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY

The City of Winnipeg recognizes the importance of the original people – the First Nations, Métis and Inuit – to the founding of our city. Each contributed culture, values and vision, which will continue to be important to our shared future. Today, the vibrant, diverse people who make up the larger Aboriginal community enrich and enliven the social fabric of Winnipeg and remain vital to Winnipeg's economic and cultural future.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg sets two directions that speak specifically to the Aboriginal community:

- Acknowledge that Aboriginal Winnipeggers bring a diverse richness of cultures, traditions, languages, teachings, values, skills and perspectives to our city.
- Foster opportunities for Aboriginal Winnipeggers, particularly youth, to obtain meaningful employment by building on current civic practices, processes and community partnerships.

Additionally, several directions and strategies in the Recreation, Libraries and Quality of Life sections inform how the City engages and collaborates with the Aboriginal community.

A significant program in this area is the Aboriginal Youth Strategy or Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak ("Young Aboriginal People Leading"). The mission of this strategy is to give Aboriginal youth positive opportunities in the community and civic system by bridging and providing culturally appropriate programs and supports related to employment, literacy and recreation to increase resiliency, self-sustainability, pride and future opportunities.

Recent City and Community Activities

In 2014, the Aboriginal Relations Division responded to over 120 inquiries related to sponsorship requests, career opportunities with the City of Winnipeg, information about the work of the division, invitations to community events, opportunities for youth under Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak, and requests to meet with Aboriginal business to explore ideas and opportunities.

Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak, the City of Winnipeg's Aboriginal Youth Strategy fosters partnerships with community organizations who deliver youth-focused programming related to education, recreation, and employment. This strategy builds on the strengths of our community partners who have the knowledge to develop and deliver programs that are culturally relevant, meet the unique needs of Aboriginal youth, and have positive impacts for individuals, families, and our community.

The Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak (OAN) – Fire Paramedic Service (FPS) Primary Care Paramedic program – completed in June of 2014 with a 100% graduation rate. Sixteen First Nation and Metis youth participated in a nine month training program conducted by WFPS Training Academy. As of October 2014, seven of the sixteen graduates have since been hired by WFPS as Primary Care Paramedics.

Winnipeg Transit and Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak worked in partnership to increase Aboriginal representation of bus operators in Winnipeg. Four bus operators were recruited, hired and successfully completed a comprehensive training program. The City recognizes their positive impact as role models to others interested in a career with Winnipeg Transit.

Aboriginal and Newcomer youth from across the City of Winnipeg together explored careers with the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service and the Winnipeg Police Service. Youth between the ages of 15-18 participated in fun and exciting hands-on activities and found new friendships while getting an inside look at an exciting career as a Police Officer, Firefighter, or Paramedic.



Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak's 5th Annual Celebration. Credit: Aboriginal Relations Division

Tracking Progress

The following progress was achieved with community and civic partners in 2014:

- 12 Aboriginal youth successfully completed internships in various City of Winnipeg departments to obtain new skills and valuable work experience in property assessment and taxation, library shelving, recreation services, communications, website design, and video production.
- 5 Aboriginal youth completed work experience placements with Corporate Finance, Animal Services, Community Services, and the Aboriginal Relations Division.
- 10 Aboriginal youth from grades 7-12 received Aboriginal Scholarship and Service Awards.
- 15 Aboriginal youth received Next Step Awards to improve access to employment and education opportunities.
- 5 Aboriginal youth received post-secondary tuition scholarships.
- 297 Aboriginal youth participated in community-based employment and employment development programs. Of the 188 youth completing and graduating, 171 youth went on to find employment, continue their education, or begin a post-secondary program.
- Over 570 training course certificates and diplomas were obtained by youth, including post-secondary, customer service, coaching, and health & wellness training.
- Over 22,000 drop-in visits provided Aboriginal youth with improved access to cultural and recreation based programming in the community.

Web Links

City of Winnipeg – Aboriginal Relations Division
www.winnipeg.ca/corp/ard/default.stm

City of Winnipeg – Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak
www.winnipeg.ca/Corp/ard/oan/

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Growth in Winnipeg provides opportunity not only to reflect who our population is today, but also to plan for who they will be tomorrow. Inclusion is a term that Winnipeg is known for. Diverse cultures, needs and ages is celebrated and supported through the design and development of existing and new neighbourhoods.

Whether older, more established neighbourhoods are being refurbished or new communities are being developed, Winnipeg ensures all its citizens can access both essential and recreational services and facilities.

Policy Direction

Winnipeg's citizens have asked that Our Winnipeg focus on sustainable, healthy and accessible communities where people of all ages and abilities are welcome to carry out their daily tasks of living. There is an excitement that the growth in population and development Winnipeg is currently experiencing has encouraged people to not only stay in Winnipeg as they retire but to make Winnipeg their new home as they arrive from other places. This increase comes not only with economic benefit but an increased need to be inclusive.

Recent City and Community Activities

Winnipeg is making significant progress towards the planning of an age-friendly city. In May of 2014, City Council approved the Age-Friendly Winnipeg Action Plan, the development of which was spear-headed by the Mayor's Age Friendly and Seniors Advisory Committee. In June 2014, the Province of Manitoba designated the City of Winnipeg as age-friendly under the Age Friendly Manitoba Initiative.

The Mayor's Age Friendly and Seniors Advisory Committee is currently consulting with the community to raise awareness of the Age-friendly Winnipeg Action Plan with the public and key stakeholders, gathering input on priorities and recommendations for progress towards an increasingly Age-Friendly Winnipeg.

In 2014, three parks in the City of Winnipeg were refurbished as age-friendly parks: LaBarriere Crossing School/ Bellemer Park at 245 Le Maire Street, Burton Cummings Community Center at 960 Arlington Street and Shaughnessy Park at 74 Tyndall Avenue.

Winnipeg Transit has been successfully piloting a Travel Training program. This program provides information and practical training to individuals of varying ages and abilities to travel independently using the regular transit system. The program builds on years of effort to standardize accessibility features on buses, at bus stops and how information about the service is provided to its users. Training has been offered to individuals and groups who are unfamiliar with regular transit, have not used regular transit in recent years, or are looking



Winnipeg Transit Travel Training Program . Credit: Winnipeg Transit

for specific information and assistance in the accessible transit service. The program focuses on raising awareness about the accessible features of the easy-access, low-floor buses, where and how to find passenger information, and on bus tips for passengers. It also offers practical training on boarding, maneuvering and exiting the low floor bus with mobility devices, and provides points on travelling safely in the community. In 2014, 1747 people participated in the program, including adults with English as a second language, seniors, students and individuals who use mobility aids.

Pillars of an Age Friendly City include "accessibility" to goods and services, transportation, facilities, information, communication and employment. The City of Winnipeg is represented on the Provincial Accessibility Council as it moves forward with developing regulations in these five areas.

In 2014, several City facilities received community recognition for being exemplary in the area of Universal Design at the Access Advisory Committee's annual Accessibility Awards. Mayfair Community Centre, Kildonan Park Playground, Assiniboine Park Zoo Visitor Centre and Lyric Theatre container washrooms and the new Peguis Pavillion went above and beyond to be inclusive and welcoming of all ages and abilities.

The Public Works Department continues to embrace inclusive design to develop and retrofit transportation infrastructure. By regularly consulting with a broad range of community members of various ages and abilities, Public Works is able to identify and clarify universal design needs and incorporate solutions accordingly. In 2014, this approach has resulted in adjustments to the design of bus stops at new buffered bike lanes along Pembina Highway to encourage safe interactions between pedestrians, cyclists and transit users.

Tracking Progress

Universal Design and Age Friendly communities are integrated concepts that can be difficult to achieve in larger centres like Winnipeg. While there has been some recent progress, moving towards a fully inclusive city will require continued and diligent action.

Web Links

Age Friendly Winnipeg Action Plan 2014
www.winnipeg.ca/interhom/Mayor/pdfs/

Winnipeg Universal Design Policy & Accessible Design Standard
www.winnipeg.ca/ppd/universal_design.stm

CREATIVITY

Progressive cities around the world use arts, culture and creative industries to enhance quality of life, fortify local economies, build city reputation and generate positive social benefits. The City of Winnipeg is committed to being an active steward of this central aspect of our community, with the Winnipeg Arts Council as the primary conduit of programs and resources in support of *OurWinnipeg*'s cultural objectives.

Policy Direction

OurWinnipeg identifies a number of direction for supporting local creativity, including:

- Continue to develop Winnipeg's unique artistic identity and diversity of expression.
- Act as a responsible steward for City-owned museums, archives and collections.
- Support a wide range of arts and cultural facilities.
- Support and enable meaningful community expression.
- Foster life-long arts learning opportunities.
- Promote awareness of the richness of Winnipeg's arts and culture within and outside Winnipeg.
- Grow support for creative industries and entrepreneurs.
- Establish Winnipeg as a city of choice and desired destination for artists and creative professionals.

Recent City and Community Activities

The Winnipeg Arts Council funds, supports, and fosters the development of the arts. Annually, the Council contributes funding to nearly 200 artists and arts organizations to create and present more than 6,300 events with more than 2.6 million admissions which highlight and celebrate the roll of the arts to making Winnipeg a vibrant and healthy city.

In 2014 the Public Art Program completed four projects through the WITH ART and Youth WITH ART community Public Art Programs, including a series of mosaic artworks created with the W.R.E.N.C.H. (Winnipeg Repair Education and Cycling Hub) and artist Dimitry Melman; a series of documentary films by Jim Agapito about Sunshine House; a play called Erica in Technoland, by Hope McIntyre in collaboration with the West Broadway Youth Outreach Girl's World after-school program; Through an Artist's Eyes, a series of videos by students of the Community Education Development Association's Pathways to Education Program, in collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – MB and artist Heidi Phillips.

Two large-scale, site-specific art projects included Écobuage by Plain Projects and Urbanink, and High Five by Jennifer Stillwell. Écobuage, incorporates fire pits, seating and Indigenous plantings into the serene setting of St. Vital Park. With High Five, viewing possibilities change the artwork's meaning, a glimpse of fins in formation as seen from the river, and an abstracted human hand rising up to catch the ball at Winnipeg Goldeyes games.

For creative winter fun and to celebrate the public artworks in Millennium Library Park, the Winnipeg Arts



SnowMAZEing event outside the Millennium Library Park. Credit: Leif Norman. Photo courtesy of Winnipeg Arts Council

Council collaborated with the Library and the Downtown BIZ on an outdoor maze-building event. The highly successful ArtRide, was expanded to nine separate rides to encouraged Winnipeggers to learn about the artwork you pass every day.

The Winnipeg Arts Council collaborated with other organizations, under the banner of Arts for All, to facilitate broad public participation in the arts, through initiatives such as the Barge Festival at the Forks, the Big Dance on Broadway, the International Cello Festival of Canada, the Year of Music and Culture Days.

A new conversation series entitled, Art Matters presents artists, critics, and thinkers in discussion about the importance of the arts in everyday life to present a stimulating look at not only what makes artists tick, but at how the arts make *us* tick.

Managed by the Winnipeg Arts Council, Urban Idea explores the fundamental role the arts play in the city. Under the Urban Idea banner, the Council partnered in the Architecture + Design Film Festival and Table for 1200, and a range of activities under The Year of Urban Ideas.

Tracking Progress

Winnipeg's Public Art Program reached its tenth anniversary in 2014 with the completion of more than 40 projects that define the city and animate the community.

The Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts was attended by more than 500 happy participants; six Winnipeg Arts Council Awards were presented to artists and arts supporters.

Culture Days in September 2014 grew to 210 activities (from 100 in 2013).

In 2014, the Winnipeg Arts Council revisited the 2009 economic impact report (Ticket to the Future) with updated information provided by Prairie Research Associates. Entitled, ENCORE, this report demonstrates the growing influence of the arts and creative industries in Winnipeg's economy and quality of life.

Web Links

Winnipeg Arts Council
www.winnipegarts.ca/

Encore - Report on economic impact of the arts & creative industries
www.winnipegarts.ca/images/uploads/files/Pages/Reports_Plans_and_By-Laws/TTF_Encore_WEB.pdf

OurWinnipeg™

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY, 2015