KEEPING COMMUNITIES SAFE: **MANITOBA ACTIONS ON CRYSTAL METH**

More Police, Tougher Laws

The province has invested resources in various initiatives to create safer streets:

- funding for 155 new police officer positions since 1999;
- development of Canada's most comprehensive drug-impaired driving initiative;
- formalizing and enhancing a unified takedown protocol, a co-ordinated inter-agency response policy to safely take down clandestine drug labs;
- supporting a one-month Crimestoppers initiative in February 2006 that doubled cash rewards for tips on meth-related crimes;
- amending the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act to assist in targeting problem properties where production of crystal meth is believed to be taking place;
- increasing the fines under the Highway Traffic Act to provide additional funding for the City of Winnipeg to create the Street Crimes Unit, a flexible unit mandated to combat street crime;
- jointly creating the Winnipeg Drug Treatment Court with the federal government.

Enhanced Public Awareness

The province has made information on Crystal Meth widely available:

- production of a $280,000 public-awareness campaign including print, radio, outdoor transit and television ads, brochures, a website and community forums;
- 47,500 copies of the brochure *Talking with Your Kids about Crystal Meth and Other Drugs* have been distributed across Manitoba;
- the campaign's website has been viewed 43,848 times and the brochure was downloaded over 4,100 times;
- six community forums held in Winnipeg, Brandon, Carman, Thompson and Lac du Bonnet; and
- participation in a national print and web campaign encouraging parent/youth communication about crystal meth, led by the Council of the Federation.

…2

Training For Front-line Personnel

The province has enabled over 1,040 workers to be trained in crystal meth issues and related skills:

- over 400 mental-health and addictions service providers attended five crystal meth training sessions;
- over 600 front-line workers have been engaged in Internet-based training through the Canadian Police Knowledge Network with an additional 50 spots recently made available for municipalities; and
- 36 front-line mental-health and addictions workers have been trained in motivational interviewing skills.

Investment In Addictions and Mental Health

The province has made significant recent investments to increase service access and capacity in the area of mental health and addictions:

- $6.7 million in December 2005,
- $2 million in Budget 2006, and
- $9 million in September 2006.

These investments include:

- centralized youth addictions intake service to improve access to supports for youth and parents;
- The Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act;
- supports for youth stabilization including the creation of a youth stabilization unit, training and public awareness;
- two new outreach positions at Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM), one located in Winnipeg and one in Thompson;
- enhanced outreach capacity at Resource Assistance for Youth;
- increased funding for Dreamcatchers, an organization that works with women transitioning out of the sex trade;
- five new youth workers across the province through AFM;
- 10 additional treatment beds for youth as well as additional therapist and nursing capacity funded at the Behavioural Health Foundation;
- eight additional treatment beds for adults at AFM;
- increased funding to the Teen Talk program to enhance its educational and preventative work throughout the province;

…3

- two new counselling positions at Laurel Centre;
- funding to provide additional community mental-health workers in the regional health authorities;
- funding for an additional Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) team;
- establishing and maintaining a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week provincial suicide prevention line;
- providing additional training for health-care staff in suicide prevention;
- funding for additional staffing for the Winnipeg Early Intervention in Psychosis program;
- funding for establishment of an Early Intervention in Mental Illness program in Brandon; and
- funding for two new psychology positions.

Restricting Supply, Taking Action With Ottawa

Additional action taken through the Manitoba Meth Strategy:

- establishment of the Manitoba Meth Task Force comprising government, law enforcement and addictions agencies and led by Manitoba Healthy Living and Manitoba Justice;
- restricted sale of 17 single-source pseudoephedrine products, the preferred ingredient in making meth, to make them available for sale only behind the counter in pharmacies, and limiting quantities to 3,600 mg per purchase;
- restricted sale of multi-source pseudoephedrine products to pharmacies;
- requiring theft of anhydrous ammonia to be reported and production of a brochure entitled *Safeguard Your Supply of Anhydrous Ammonia*;
- enhanced Manitoba Liquor Control Commission monitoring of licensed premises;
- ongoing inter-jurisdictional collaboration at the provincial, national and international levels;
- urging the federal government to take a leadership role in the creation of a national public awareness campaign and in creating stronger controls on the precursors to crystal meth;
- funding for the purchase of specialized clothing and equipment necessary to provide protection for police officers investigating chemically-contaminated drug labs; and
- continuing strong partnerships with jurisdictions across Western Canada to develop a phased-in approach to restricting the sale of pseudoephedrine products.