MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING respecting the commitment by Canada, Manitoba and Winnipeg to negotiate a renewed urban development agreement for Winnipeg, dated

BETWEEN:

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- and -

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

- and -

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

January 26, 2003

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING respecting the commitment by Canada, Manitoba and Winnipeg to negotiate a renewed urban development agreement for Winnipeg, dated

BETWEEN:

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

("Canada"),

- and -

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

("Manitoba"),

- and -

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

("Winnipeg")

WHEREAS:

A. Canada, Manitoba and Winnipeg wish to build on their unique tradition of tri-partite cooperation, such as the two Core Area Initiatives and the Winnipeg Development Agreement, recognizing that those partnerships have made a real difference in the lives of Winnipeggers and to the vitality of Winnipeg's communities.

B. Winnipeg enters the new Millennium with many strengths to build on, as well as challenges that require focused responses within the community and by the three levels of government.

C. The parties recognize that collective and collaborative action is essential to encourage continuing revitalization and economic development in Winnipeg, particularly within the downtown area and at-risk neighbourhoods.

D. The parties have each endorsed a community-based approach that supports the development of long term plans to establish priorities and guide decision-making. These plans will build on the momentum supported by Manitoba's Neighbourhoods Alive! Initiative, Canada's National Homelessness Strategy, and the Winnipeg Housing Policy.

E. The three levels of government recognize the need to develop a coordinated approach to addressing Aboriginal issues; promoting sustainable community development in at-risk neighbourhoods; encouraging entrepreneurship and technological and industrial innovation; and downtown renewal.

THEREFORE, Canada, Manitoba and Winnipeg express their common understanding as follows:

Section 1 – A Strategic Approach

1.01 Canada, Manitoba and Winnipeg recognize that renewing the urban social, economic and physical infrastructure requires the collective efforts of all three partners as well as community organizations and the private sector where appropriate.

1.02 Canada, Manitoba and Winnipeg agree that a new urban development agreement should build on existing policy and programs and reflect the following basic principles:

- Equal partnership and equal funding contributions;
- Joint planning and program development;
- Accountability to citizens for public funds and transparency of expenditures;
- Enhanced collaboration and co-operation;
- An adequate term to facilitate planning and program implementation.

Section 2 – Agreement Focus

2.01 Overall, a new initiative would focus on increasing prosperity through sustainable economic development, continuing the renewal of the downtown and older neighbourhoods and providing opportunities for those living in at-risk neighbourhoods, with a particular emphasis on:

- the challenges facing Aboriginal people in Winnipeg and the tremendous opportunities to promote and enhance Aboriginal participation in the economy within a tripartite initiative.
- the principles of sustainable community economic development as a tool to engage those living in at-risk neighbourhoods in the development process;
- the continued physical renewal of downtown Winnipeg;
- the need for Winnipeg to compete internationally as a centre for technology and innovation, and to provide challenging career options for young people and skilled immigrants;

Section 3 – Programs

3.01 The Agreement will have two main program thrusts:

- A community-based stream, which will allow for the development of comprehensive community initiatives that respond to locally defined priorities;
- Strategic Initiatives.

Section 4 – Administrative Model

4.01 The parties agree to develop a model that will facilitate interdepartmental and intergovernmental collaboration, coordinated planning and design, and joint liaison with the local community.

4.02 Each party will dedicate staff to facilitate program integration and clarify jurisdictional issues.

4.03 Overall strategic direction will be the responsibility of a Steering Committee consisting of the Senior Federal Minister for Manitoba, the Manitoba Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and the Mayor of Winnipeg.

Section 5 - TimeFrame

5.01 The parties agree to immediately establish an intergovernmental committee of senior officials to develop a tripartite initiative aimed at addressing sustainable community development, technological and industrial innovation, Aboriginal development, and downtown renewal.

Section 6 - Resources

6.01 As part of the negotiation, each of the parties agrees to assess the resources needed to implement a tripartite initiative and to explore opportunites for new resources;

6.02 To ensure momentum is not lost during negotiations, the parties agree, upon signing this memorandum, to identify joint initiatives that build on existing programs, within available existing resources

Section 7 – Public Information

7.01 The parties agree that any and all public information and communication activities related to the development of a tripartite initiative will be jointly undertaken.

Section 8 - Status of this Memorandum

8.01 This Memorandum is not intended to create a binding agreement between the parties but is intended to reflect the mutual understanding of Canada and Manitoba and Winnipeg.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF this Memorandum of Understanding has been executed on behalf of Canada by the Honourable Rey Pagtakhan, on behalf of Manitoba by the Honourable Jean Friesen and on behalf of the City of Winnipeg by His Worship Mayor Glen Murray.

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

WITNESS

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Honourable Rey Pagtakhan

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

WITNESS

GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

Jean Friesen

Honourable Jean Friesen

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

WITNESS

CITY OF WINNIPEG

His Worship Mayor Glen Murray