



NORTH END
COMMUNITY
RENEWAL CORP.

June 18, 2024

Mayor Scott Gillingham and Winnipeg City Council
City of Winnipeg
510 Main Street

Dear Mayor Scott Gillingham,

North End Community Renewal Corporation (NECRC), is a dedicated community organization serving the North End of Winnipeg. Our programs and those of many organizations in the north end rely on the community grants provided by the City of Winnipeg, and we are deeply concerned about the recent announcement to potentially reduce these essential funds.

NECRC supports vulnerable populations in the North End, including low-income families, Indigenous peoples, and newcomers. The proposed cuts to community grants threaten to undermine the progress we, other non-profit, and grass roots organizations, have made in several areas. These areas are aligned with the city's own strategic commitments, such as the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord, and other social initiatives.

Reducing the grants will have a negative impact on the North End by the;

1. Increase in Poverty and Inequality

Programs provide essential services that help alleviate poverty. Without sufficient funding, many residents will face heightened levels of poverty and inequality, directly contradicting the goals outlined in the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy.

2. Weakening Community Cohesion and Safety

Initiatives foster a sense of belonging and safety. Reduced funding will weaken community bonds and potentially lead to higher crime rates and social unrest.

3. Economic Impact

Job training and employment services are vital for upward economic mobility. Cutting these programs will increase unemployment rates and lessen economic development in the North End.

The reduction in community grants opposes several commitments made by the City of Winnipeg. These cuts undermine the efforts outlined in the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy to reduce poverty and support vulnerable populations. Additionally, the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord, which emphasizes improving the well-being of Indigenous peoples, will be severely impacted by reduced funding for culturally relevant programs. Services for newcomers and immigrants, essential for their integration and inclusion as highlighted in the Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy, will also be jeopardized. Furthermore, other social commitments such as the Safe Cities Initiative, Homelessness Partnering

Strategy, OurWinnipeg, and Age-Friendly Action Plan all depend on community support that these grants help provide.

We urge you to reconsider the decision to reduce community grants. The long-term social and economic costs of these cuts will outweigh any short-term budgetary savings. By maintaining, or even increasing, funding for community programs, the City of Winnipeg can continue to foster an inclusive, healthy, and prosperous community for all residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rylee Nepinak', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rylee Nepinak
Board Chair
North End Community Renewal Corporation
509 Selkirk Avenue



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June 20, 2024

Mayor Scott Gillingham and Winnipeg City Council
City of Winnipeg
510 Main St
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1B9

Dear Mayor Scott Gillingham,

This letter is to express our support for the concern raised by the North End Community Renewal Corporation regarding the proposed changes to the City of Winnipeg community grants. These grants are utilized by many non-profit and grassroots organizations across the North End. The proposed drastic decreases in community funding will surely halt progress we, and other non-profit organizations have made in several key areas.

Many inner-city community programs rely on City of Winnipeg grants, there are wide-spread concerns about what recent budget announcements entail for essential programming. These programs address key areas such as poverty reduction, inequality, community cohesion, safety, economic renewal, and more. The potential cut of more than half of existing programming poses a large threat to social and economic progress, such a loss where short-term budgetary savings could debase long-term community benefit.

By maintaining, or even increasing, funding for community programs, the City of Winnipeg can continue to foster an inclusive, healthy, and prosperous community for all residents. We urge you to reconsider the budget changes to reduce community grants. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Drebot, Executive Director
North End Women's Centre



Inkster Northend Residents' Association
"Neighbors Helping Neighbors"

June 25, 2024

Mayor Scott Gillingham and Winnipeg City Council
City of Winnipeg
510 Main St
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1B9

Dear Mayor Scott Gillingham,

This letter is to express our support for the concern raised by the North End Community Renewal Corporation regarding the proposed changes to the City of Winnipeg community grants. These grants are utilized by many non-profit and grassroots organizations across the North End. The proposed drastic decreases in community funding will surely halt progress we, and other non-profit organizations have made in several key areas.

Many inner-city community programs rely on City of Winnipeg grants. There are wide-spread concerns about how recent budget announcements will negatively impact essential programming. These programs address key areas such as poverty reduction, inequality, community cohesion, safety, economic renewal, and more. The potential cut of more than half of existing programming poses a huge threat to social and economic progress that has been made over several years. These proposed short-term budgetary savings do not bare out the detrimental impact that will surely follow.

By maintaining, or even increasing, funding for community programs, the City of Winnipeg can continue to foster an inclusive, healthy, and prosperous community for all residents. We urge you to reconsider the budget changes to reduce community grants. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Glen Jones
Chairperson
Inkster North-End Residents' Association Inc.



Community Helpers Unite Inc.
Unit 2 - 585 Jarvis Ave
Winnipeg, MB R2W3B2
www.communityhelpersunite.ca

June 24, 2024

Mayor Scott Gillingham and Winnipeg City Council
City of Winnipeg
510 Main St
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1B9

Dear Mayor Scott Gillingham,

This letter is to express our support for the concern raised by the North End Community Renewal Corporation regarding the proposed changes to the City of Winnipeg community grants. These grants are utilized by many non-profit and grassroots organizations across the North End. The proposed drastic decreases in community funding will surely halt progress we, and other non-profit organizations have made in several key areas.

Many inner-city community programs rely on City of Winnipeg grants. There are wide-spread concerns about how recent budget announcements will negatively impact essential programming. These programs address key areas such as poverty reduction, inequality, community cohesion, safety, economic renewal, and more. The potential cut of more than half of existing programming poses a huge threat to social and economic progress that has been made over several years. These proposed short-term budgetary savings do not bare out the detrimental impact that will surely follow.

By maintaining, or even increasing, funding for community programs, the City of Winnipeg can continue to foster an inclusive, healthy, and prosperous community for all residents. We urge you to reconsider the budget changes to reduce community grants. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Brandy Bobier
CEO / Community Connector
Community Helpers Unite Inc.