

2011 Policy Resolutions

Progress Update - December 2012

Ethical Procurement

Manitoba Housing is using a 'Community Forces' clause to mandate the evaluation of contracts that takes into account the added social and economic value of ethical purchasing, which has benefitted local social enterprises. It has also signed onto the Social Purchasing Portal.

Local and Sustainable Food Procurement

The Province has committed to implementing a pilot initiative that will get government institutions to purchase local and sustainable food.

Provincial and Municipal CED Policy Framework and Lens

The Network has emphasized the need to strengthen the implementation of the CED policy framework in its correspondence with the Province and used it as leverage for the creation of new policies. At least one government department has prioritized strengthening its implementation of the CED policy framework.

Vibrant Communities Charter

The Network continues to work with government and non-government partners on a number of initiatives that contribute toward achieving the vision of Vibrant Communities as outlined in the Vibrant Communities Charter.

Poverty Reduction Plan and Legislation

The Province introduced the Poverty Reduction Strategy Act in 2011 and released poverty reduction indicators in 2012 without accompanying targets and timelines.

Co-op Vision Strategy

The Network continues to partner with the Province and others in the co-operative community to implement the Co-operative Vision Strategy. The Province continues to provide the resources to make this possible.

CED Tax Credit

The Province has committed to simplifying the application process, ensuring support from government staff, and promoting the tax credit. Provincial staff have been identified to support community groups applying for the tax credit.

Social Enterprise Capacity Building

The Province hasn't articulated a comprehensive strategy for investing in skill development and capacity building for social enterprises, but continues to support CED organizations that build capacity for social enterprises. It has created the Co-op Development Tax Credit, which provides capacity building resources for co-ops. It has confirmed support for a five-year faculty position on Co-ops at the U of W Business School. It is also supporting the creation of ENP – Manitoba which will build skills and capacity in non-profits looking to create and grow social enterprises.

Social Enterprise Animation

The Province continues to support CED organizations that are developing social enterprises. It is also supporting the creation of ENP – Manitoba which will animate, develop, and support social enterprises.

Housing, Green Jobs

Provincial housing-related policies and contracts have contributed to the growth of local social enterprises and employment development programs targeting unemployed low-income individuals, which has created over 235 jobs and generated over 6.5 million dollars of work through Manitoba Housing.

Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations

There has been no increase to core funding for NRCs in 2012. A 1% increase was announced in 2011.

Winnipeg Food Policy Council

While the Winnipeg Food Policy Working Group is no longer focusing on the creation of a Winnipeg Food Policy Council, the Network continues to recommend its creation in its correspondence with the City of Winnipeg regarding implementation of its latest 25-year development plan, OurWinnipeg. The City has not yet committed to the creation of a Food Policy Council.