

2019 - 2 Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations

Mover: North End Community Renewal Corporation

Whereas: Currently in Manitoba there are twelve neighbourhood renewal corporations (NRCs) coordinating community development and community economic development in urban and rural communities characterised by high levels of poverty and a number of other factors associated with older neighbourhoods and municipalities in need of revitalization. These include Thompson, Brandon, Flin Flon, The Pas, Selkirk, Dauphin, Portage la Prairie; and in Winnipeg, neighbourhoods including Daniel McIntyre/St. Matthews, North End, Spence/Central, West Broadway, and Chalmers.

Whereas: NRCs coordinate, plan, and often implement strategies/programming impacting local affordable housing development, community safety, food security, green space development, recreation, healthy living, formal and community- based training, and more. The priorities of NRCs are set by the communities they serve; they are often anchor institutions within their respective communities, and operate as a key source of community social/ economic development, and community safety initiatives throughout Manitoba.

Whereas: A 2017 report on the collective impact of these organizations showed impressive outcomes since the program started in 2000. For instance, NRCs have collectively engaged nearly 560,000 community members - nearly half of the population of Manitoba. They have helped create 1226 jobs through direct employment, pre-employment volunteer opportunities, and training, social enterprise development and local procurement practice. Through NRC coordination, nearly \$9,000,000 has been invested in housing and nearly \$31,000,000 leveraged in affordable housing investment. Nearly \$900,000 has been strategically and effectively invested in community safety.

Whereas: NRCs receive core funding through the Neighbourhoods Alive! Neighbourhood Development Assistance (NDA) fund within the Province of Manitoba Ministry of Municipal Relations. In 2010, the evaluation of the NA! Program found that the NDA funding contributed greatly to improved coordination of community revitalization efforts. However, issues related to safety, economic hardship, and lack of affordable housing continue to affect these and other Manitoba communities. Funding aimed at solving these challenges should be adequate to meet the needs of existing NRCs and any new funding allocated should be consistent with existing NRCs.

Whereas: NRCs leverage their stable, core funding from NDA to access additional public, philanthropic, and private funding, they work across sectors, engaging small and medium-sized enterprises, and they streamline some administrative services to reduce overhead costs while focusing their fundraising efforts on program delivery.

Whereas: The funding available through the NDA has not changed significantly since inception of this program, despite rising costs. Moreover, many activities now also considered core and ongoing by NRCs are funded instead through NA!'s Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and many of these are now included in the NRCs Non-Profit Organization (NPO) Strategy multi-year agreements. This use of the NRF in particular leaves less funding available for new and emerging projects by NRCs and other eligible community organizations.

Whereas: The Premier of Manitoba mandated the Minister of Municipal Relations, through the October 2018 mandate letters, to focus on "renewing the delivery of our community development

programs to promote community capacity and sustainability, focus on outcomes, and enhanced community partnerships that best serve the needs of neighbourhoods, communities and vulnerable Manitobans.”

Be It Resolved: that the Province of Manitoba renew its community development programs; both honouring long-term, core funding commitments to Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations and considering potential administrative increases to NDA funding as well as integration of long-term, effective NRF funded NRC programs into NDA agreements.

Be It Further Resolved: that the Province of Manitoba maintain the NRF, enabling more organizational stability and sustainability, continued ability to leverage additional community development funds, and the building of community capacity by NRCs and other eligible community organizations in designated communities.

Be It Further Resolved: that the Province of Manitoba recognize the role that NRCs play as anchor institutions within Manitoban communities by reducing red-tape within Provincial funding streams, renewing reporting and outcome measuring mechanisms in collaboration with NRCs, and making application processes less burdensome.
