2026-12: Redirecting Tax Measures Toward a Just Transition and Community Economic Investment

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Resolution: The Province of Manitoba should prioritize strategic public investment through a 50–50 funding agreement with the City of Winnipeg, and other municipalities where applicable, to support community economic development and just transition initiatives, rather than implementing broad-based tax cuts such as reductions to the provincial gas tax, in order to more effectively address inflation and the rising cost of living.

Because: The cost of living is rising rapidly, driven by factors including supply chain disruptions, climate-related impacts, and increasing concentration of corporate profits in key sectors such as energy and food. These pressures disproportionately affect low- and moderate-income households, while exposing the vulnerability of economies that are heavily dependent on global markets and fossil fuel systems

Because: Broad-based tax measures such as gas tax cuts or targeted consumption tax reductions provide limited and uneven relief, while significantly reducing public revenues needed for long-term solutions. The cost-of-living crisis is systemic in nature and cannot be effectively addressed through short-term fiscal measures alone; instead, it requires sustained public investment in structural solutions that reduce costs, build resilience, and strengthen local economies

Because: Governments must shift from reactive, short-term affordability measures toward a coordinated, sector-by-sector just transition strategy that supports the transformation of key areas of the economy, including energy, housing, transportation, and food systems, toward low-carbon, equitable, and locally rooted models. This includes reorienting public spending to prioritize investments that reduce long-term costs for households and communities.

Because: This resolution aligns with the Manitoba government's efforts to address affordability, reduce poverty and homelessness, support economic growth and achieve net zero. Strategic investments in housing, infrastructure, and local economies directly contribute to these goals and are reflected in frameworks such as the Manitoba Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Manitoba Pathway to Net Zero. A coordinated funding approach with municipalities also supports the objectives of OurWinnipeg 2045, which emphasizes sustainable, inclusive, and resilient communities.

Because: This resolution advances Community Economic Development by prioritizing investments in local assets, labour, and enterprises to meet community needs. A CED approach supports the development of affordable housing, building retrofits, local food systems, and renewable energy initiatives, creating local jobs and reducing costs while keeping wealth circulating within communities. These investments strengthen economic resilience and provide practical alternatives to reliance on external markets and volatile global system

Because: This resolution supports the CCEDNet Manitoba Public Policy Road Map priorities of *Ending Poverty, Local & Fair Economies, Tackling Climate Change, and Sustainable Community-Led Development* by advocating for systemic economic change, targeted public investment, and community-led solutions that address both affordability and environmental sustainability

How this Resolution will be Advanced: CCEDNet Manitoba will partner with other climate, economic, and community development organizations to advocate for this policy shift. This will include engaging provincial and municipal governments, build public awareness, and demonstrate the benefits of reinvesting public revenues into community-based solutions. Members can support this effort by participating in advocacy campaigns, sharing local examples of impact, and building cross-sector alliances to advance a just transition in Manitoba.