



2026-4: Place-Based Neighbourhood Community Development in Manitoba

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Resolution: The Province of Manitoba should support the design and delivery of a coordinated, place-based community development initiative that leverages the capacity of neighbourhood and resident groups to strengthen social cohesion, and community-led solutions to economic, social, and environmental challenges

Because: Currently, Manitoba lacks a comprehensive, coordinated program to support place-based community development at the neighbourhood level. While many grassroots groups and resident-led initiatives exist, they are often under-resourced, fragmented, and not systematically supported, limiting their ability to achieve sustained, collective impact across communities. As a result, significant opportunities are being missed to harness the leadership, knowledge, and capacity of residents to address local challenges.

Because: Place-based community development is increasingly recognized and leveraged across Canada as an effective approach to engaging residents in addressing complex challenges such as climate change adaptation and mitigation, poverty and inequity, community safety, and social isolation. Strengthening neighbourhood-level connections fosters belonging, improves health and well-being, and builds safer, more inclusive communities.

Because: Manitoba must shift toward a more coordinated and sustained investment in neighbourhood-level capacity as part of a broader just transition. Many practical solutions—such as community-led transportation initiatives, urban greening and tree protection, energy efficiency efforts, community gardens, and mutual aid networks, are most effectively developed and implemented at the grassroots level. Enabling these efforts requires dedicated resources, training, and infrastructure to support resident leadership and collaboration

Because: Governments are increasingly concerned with supporting seniors to age in place, enhancing community safety, and addressing inflation and the rising cost of living. Place-based community development provides a practical, cost-effective way to achieve these goals by enabling local, preventative, and community-led solutions. Neighbourhood networks for instance can reduce social isolation among seniors, strengthen informal safety systems, support mutual aid during economic hardship, and advance local climate actions such as urban greening and energy efficiency. By investing in neighbourhood-level capacity, governments can advance multiple policy priorities

simultaneously while improving long-term outcomes and reducing pressure on public systems.

Because: Place-based community development is a core pillar of Community Economic Development, strengthening local economies through resident engagement, local ownership, and inclusive decision-making. CCEDNet Manitoba is uniquely positioned to lead this work, drawing on its mandate and experience, as well as national models such as Tamarack Institute and Good Neighbour Builder Society, to build capacity and scale impact across Manitoba communities.

Because: This resolution directly advances the CCEDNet Manitoba Public Policy Road Map priorities of *Ending Poverty, Local & Fair Economies, Tackling Climate Change, and Sustainable Community-Led Development*, by investing in grassroots capacity, strengthening local economies, and enabling community-driven responses to social, economic, and environmental challenges.

How this Resolution will be Advanced: CCEDNet Manitoba will provide leadership by convening partners, designing the initiative with members, and advocating for public investment and policy support. This work will be carried out in collaboration with community centres, neighbourhood renewal corporations, existing neighbourhood-based organizations, including networks such as United Neighbourhoods of Winnipeg, which represents over 140 grassroots resident groups. Members can support this resolution by engaging with local neighbourhood organizations, participating in capacity-building activities, sharing knowledge and best practices, and advocating for sustained funding and policy alignment across all levels of government