



**October 23
2026**

thegatheringmanitoba.ca
gathering@ccednet-rcdec.ca
#MBGath2026



**Canadian
CED Network
Manitoba**

Hosted by Canadian CED Network-Manitoba and planned collectively with our partners.

Gathering Road Map

Speakers & Facilitators

The views expressed by conference speakers and workshop facilitators are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of The Canadian CED Network or any of our partner organizations.

Info Booth & First Aid

Available outside the Main Gym doors all day.

Exhibition Booths & Resource Tables

Check out the exhibitor and resource tables on the Main floor for CED services and information.

Gender Neutral Washroom

There is a single stall Gender Neutral Washroom on the Second floor, beside **Room 229**

Quiet Room

A quiet room is available in Room 306 for those needing a quiet place to reflect

Childcare

Childcare is available for parents who signed up in advance. Please meet in the **Arts Room - Room 110** (see map), and pick up promptly at the end of the day. During lunch, please pick up food for your child and bring it to the **Art Room**.

Reserved Seating

There is reserved seating for folks who need more space or need to be closer to hear clearly, and for folks who are using ASL services.

Location

St. John's High School

401 Church Ave. Winnipeg, Manitoba | Treaty 1 Territory

Bus Routes:

Check Winnipeg transit for routes

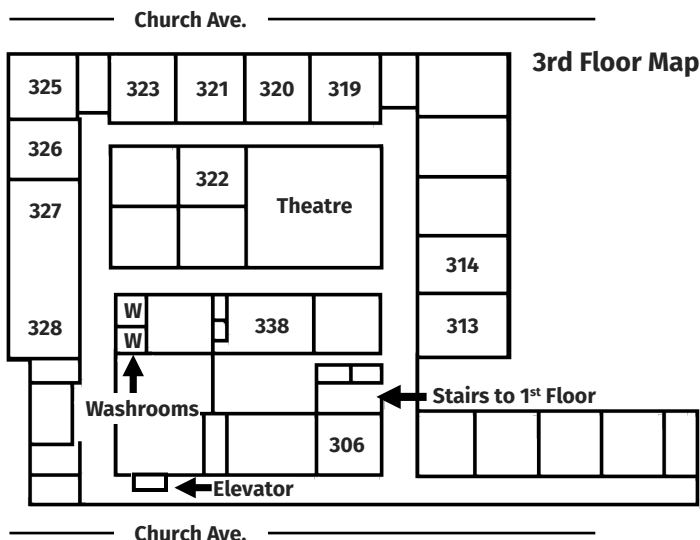
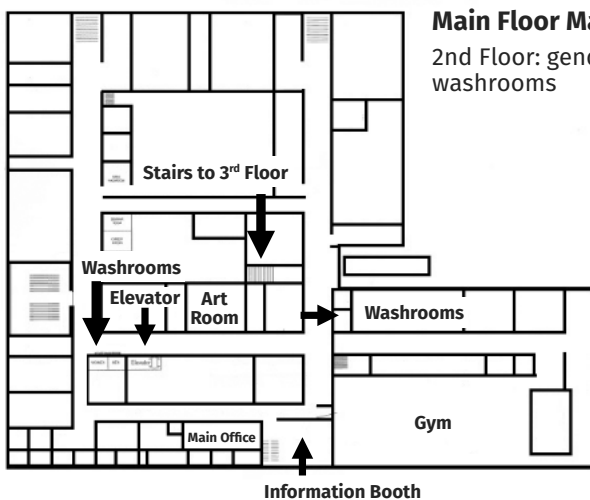
Bike Parking:

Arriving by bike? Bike valet service is available! Look for signage on arrival or ask a volunteer for directions'.

Vehicle Parking:

Restrictions have been lifted for Church Avenue between Charles Street and Powers Street. *(does not include loading/no stopping zones)*

Accessible Parking available





Welcome to the Gathering 2026

The Gathering 2026 — ***Community Safety and Collective Well-Being: What Makes Us Safe?*** — invites us to explore safety as more than the absence of harm. Safety is rooted in strong relationships, secure housing, meaningful livelihoods, accessible supports, collective care, and communities where everyone can thrive.

Yet safety is not experienced equally. Colonialism, racism, and other forms of systemic inequity continue to shape who has access to opportunities, resources, and a sense of belonging. Building safe and healthy communities requires addressing these root causes while advancing reconciliation, racial justice, and community-led solutions.

Through the lens of Community Development, participants will examine how to address root causes of socio-economic issues, strengthen community resilience, advance justice and reconciliation, and build systems that prioritize people, communities, and the environment.

Together, we'll explore how community-led initiatives, justice, decolonization approaches, and systems change can strengthen collective well-being, build resilience, bridge divisions, and create safer, more inclusive communities across Manitoba.

Thank you for joining us today. We are looking forward to having a fulfilling day with you.

Ijeoma Okwor, Lindsey McBain, Genevieve Dack-Tittley, Nathan Paul and Peter Dueck

CCEDNet Manitoba Team



Today, we gather on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininew, Anisininew, Dene, and Dakota people, and the homeland of the Red River Métis nation. Close by are the Forks, where the Assiniboine River runs into the Miskosipi (Red River), where Indigenous Peoples have been gathering for 6,000 years.

This is Treaty 1 territory. The first of the numbered treaties, Treaty 1 was signed in 1871 between Canada and the Anishinabek and Swampy Cree of southern Manitoba. We acknowledge this document was negotiated between parties that did not share equal power nor equal understanding of its implications. Today, too many of these promises remain unfulfilled.

We acknowledge that Winnipeg, and those that have settled here, continues to benefit from the inequitable Indigenous-settler relationships that built this country. The water we drink today comes from Shoal Lake, and after 24 years of a boil water advisory, in September 2021, the people of Shoal Lake 40 First Nation have clean drinking water. The people of Shoal Lake 39 and 40 First Nation experience ongoing challenges with economic development. The hydropower that makes electricity for this event possible, comes as the expense of many displaced and affected Northern Manitoba Indigenous communities.

We acknowledge the (full, complicated) history of this place, and the people who have always cared for it, with the intent and spirit of learning to become better, more respectful, guests here. CCEDNet benefits from the participation and leadership of many local Indigenous leaders, and acknowledges how they have shaped our Network, our approach, and have been dear friends and teachers in our development. We look forward to continued relationship and cultivating joyous work together in the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

WYMAN LAUBERTE, FLICKR



Accessibility

Our vision of a future where there is “**enough, for all, forever**” really does mean for all. Increasing ease of access for people of every identity and ability and aligning our work with our values and vision of the future is at the heart of transforming our economy, systems, and practices.

We acknowledge this is a practice we have to keep working at, so we might not get it all right, but at the Gathering, this is how we worked to support accessibility and align with our values.

- Offering a **pay-what-you-can** fee so financial access is less of a concern.
- There is **reserved seating** at the front of the main gymnasium for those who experience hearing or mobility issues. Please see a staff person or volunteer to direct you.
- The venue is **wheelchair accessible**, with an **elevator** and operators on site for ease of movement.
- Offering both **Gender-neutral and gendered washrooms**.
- There is a **quiet room** in **Room 306**, available for anyone needing a quiet place to rest and reflect.
- We’ve attempted to include **food for a variety of dietary needs**.
- **Childcare** is available in the **Arts Room - Room 110** for those who made the request in advance.
- The Gathering aims to be a **scent-free event**. Please refrain from using scented products, in recognition that some are sensitive to chemicals found in personal hygiene products and perfume.
- In every decision possible, we **purchase and contract with local suppliers**, focusing on social enterprises and cooperatives creating job opportunities for local people.

Health Information

- The event is a **mask friendly space**.
- We are asking all participants, presenters, staff and volunteers to attend the Gathering only if they are feeling **healthy**.
- There will be **capacity limits** for the overall conference and workshops.
- Please visit the **information table** if you have any questions or ask a volunteer!



Conference Agenda

The Gathering 2026

TIME	SESSION	ROOM
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration, Networking, Breakfast	Main Entrance 401 Church Ave.
9:00 am – 10:30 am	Welcome by Ijeoma Okwor, Manitoba Network Manager Indigenous Welcome and Grounding by Elder Mae Louise Campbell Keynote Speaker: Levi A. Foy At The Gathering 2026, we'll look beyond traditional ideas of safety to explore the relationships, resources, opportunities, systems and collective action that help people and communities thrive. We will begin in a good way, with Elder Mae Louise Campbell, grounding us in Indigenous wisdom, teachings, and ceremony as we come together to explore the theme for this year. We will then hear from Levi A. Foy (Manidooogwiwezans), whose work in harm reduction, homelessness, and community-led programming brings vital perspectives on dignity, belonging, and the conditions that enable people and communities to thrive. The Gathering brings together people from all sectors to challenge assumptions, build relationships and explore practical approaches to collective action.	Main Gym
TIME	SESSION	ROOM
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	WORKSHOP 1	
	Together We Rise: Stories of Collective Action and Community Well-Being	313
	"Release Isn't the Finish Line: Conditions, Community, and Belonging".	314
	Wait....Am I a Caregiver? You Are Not Alone: Caregiver Connection and Knowledge Exchange	319
	What Makes Us Safe?	321
	Where is Manitoba At on Climate Action?	337 - Theatre
	Building Canada's Caring Economy	323
	Building Enabling Environment for Social Enterprise	326
	Building Data Capacity for Safer Communities	322
	Making safe spaces in our organizations: What do we mean, and what does it take?	320
	Community Safety: Lessons, Indicators and Tools from the Canadian Centre for Safer Communities	325
	Education not Incarceration: Adult Basic Education as a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Strategy	327
	Weaving a Better Winnipeg: how to strengthen democracy and social change at the municipal level	328
	Community Resiliency & Art	338
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch + Self Care Session and Networking Opportunities	Main Gym

1:20 pm - 2:35 pm WORKSHOP 2		
	Community economic development starts with bringing capacity building home	314
	The power of measurement for collective well-being and economic development	322
	Changing the World One Story at a Time	313
	Building sustainable livelihoods: mental health, economic safety, and collective well-being in entrepreneurship	319
	The Fourth Response: A Remix Reimagining Community Crisis Response in Winnipeg	338
	How We Care for Each Other: Lessons from Disability and Climate Justice	325
	Community Safety Host Stories: A Circle of Creation Stories and Stories Still Unfolding	337- Theatre
	Beyond the Absence of Harm: Black Memory, Community Safety, and Collective Well-Being in Manitoba	327
	Preventing Crisis Before It Happens: Community-Based Supports for Older Adults	326
	Strengthening Community Safety & Wellbeing in a Changing Climate	321
	The Story in Your Hands: Building Trust, Dignity and Community Safety Through Storytelling	320
	Community Development and CED in Polarized Times: Building Belonging, Safety and Collective Well-Being	328
	The Village Co-op Laundromat: A case study of community-led safety and collective well-being	323
2:40 pm - 3:50 pm WORKSHOP 3		
	Come As You Are! A Decolonized Vision of Community Well-Being and Care	313
	City of Winnipeg's Open Data Portal	322
	Power of Stories	314
	Safety in Housing: Lessons from MNPHA Non-Profit Housing Toolkit	319
	From Control to Connection: Rethinking Safety Through Connection & Care	327
	Walls to Bridges Education Exchange: lessons from over a decade of prison education	326
	Beyond the Bottom Line: Employment, Safety, and the Case for Community Infrastructure	338
	We belong: Two Spirit, Transgender, Nonbinary, and Gender Diverse Inclusion Practices for Community	325
	The Intersection of Safety and Accessibility	323
	Building Safe Communities Through Care, Economic Resilience and Systems Change	321
3:50 pm - 4:30 pm Snacks + More Networking		Main Gym



2026 Gathering Workshops

WORKSHOP 1: 10:45am - 12:00pm

Together We Rise: Stories of Collective Action and Community Well-Being

Amna Burki, Founder, *StoriesMatter*

Room: 313

What makes a community safe—the absence of harm or the presence of relationships, resources, and collective care? Drawing on stories from Kalila and Dimna, Amna Burki invites participants to explore trust, solidarity, and interdependence. Through storytelling and dialogue, participants will consider how Community Economic Development can build on community strengths, strengthen connections, and inspire collective solutions.

Release Isn't the Finish Line: Conditions, Community, and Belonging

Jenelle Smith, *Manitou House*
(Native Clan Organization)

Ryan Wengelinski, *Manitou House*
(Native Clan Organization)

Chanelle Lajoie, *University of Manitoba Community Law Centre/Legal Aid Manitoba - Prison Law Clinic*

Room: 314

Explore how a prison law clinic and an urban Section 84 release site work together to support people transitioning from federal sentences into the community. Participants will consider how release conditions affect reintegration and how individuals and communities can create meaningful opportunities for participation, inclusion, and belonging.

Wait....Am I a Caregiver?

You Are Not Alone: Caregiver Connection and Knowledge Exchange

Michael Coutts, *Manitoba Possible +*

Audra Latschislaw, *Executive Director, Community Living Manitoba and founding member of The Family Advocacy Network*

Room: 319

Many people provide care without identifying as caregivers. This interactive workshop invites current and future caregivers and their support networks to share experiences, identify strengths and challenges, and learn about practical resources. Participants will leave with greater awareness of community supports and connections that can reduce isolation and strengthen resilience.

What Makes Us Safe?

Marianne Cerilli, *former MLA, Community Builder*

Room: 320

Using a trauma-informed lens on power and politics, this workshop explores how conflict resolution can strengthen collaboration, healthy organizations, social movements, and democracy. Participants will examine polarization, exclusion, and authoritarianism, and consider ways to move from competition toward collaboration. The session will also provide an update on the Healthy Democracy Initiative of the AFMMLA.

Where is Manitoba At on Climate Action?

James Wilt, *Policy Development Manager*

Bobbie Mang'eli, *Program Operations Coordinator*

Room: 321

With a 2027 provincial election approaching, this session examines Manitoba's climate action and the policy choices shaping the province's future. Participants will review recent federal and provincial developments, consider gaps between climate commitments and ongoing fossil-fuel proposals, and explore how to advocate collectively for stronger climate solutions.

Building Canada's Caring Economy:

Rob Miller, *CED instructor & community leader*

Kyle Mason, *award-winning Indigenous leader, nonprofit entrepreneur, consultant, and speaker*

Room: 323

Explore economic and political tools for strengthening an economy that cares for people and the environment. Topics include full-employment policy, community-led Guaranteed Jobs programs, Modern Monetary Theory, food security and sovereignty in northern First Nations communities, and citizen assemblies. Participants will consider how these approaches can address poverty, unemployment, and climate change.

Building Data Capacity for Safer Communities

Wilfreda Edward, *Executive Director of the Canadian Centre for Nonprofit Digital Resilience (CCNDR)*

Neemarie Alam, *Senior Associate on the Data Strategy and Solutions Team at Blueprint ADE*

Daniel Simeone, *leads the engineering work at Purpose Analytics*

Room: 322

Discover the free, bilingual Nonprofit Data Capacity Navigator, which helps Canadian nonprofits assess their data strengths and gaps, set priorities, and access practical resources and advice. Participants will learn how stronger data practices can improve services, demonstrate impact, identify inequities, and support coordinated responses to housing instability, food insecurity, and social isolation.

Building Enabling Environment for Social Enterprise

Sarah Leeson-Klym, *educator, facilitator, and network builder*

Room: 326

What helps social enterprises thrive and sustain their impact in Manitoba? Through research findings and a practical scenario, participants will explore the roles of finance, market access, organizational capacity, and enabling infrastructure. They will identify gaps, opportunities for collaboration, and practical next steps toward a stronger social enterprise ecosystem.

Weaving a Better Winnipeg: How to Strengthen Democracy and Social Change at the Municipal Level

Molly McCracken, *Executive Director, CCPA*

Room: 328

Using the 2026 Alternative Municipal Budget as a case study, this session explores how public spending reflects history, power, inequality, and democratic choices. Participants will consider housing, transportation, Indigenous rights, living wages, taxation, and public services, and leave with practical ideas for advancing equitable and sustainable policies with municipal government ahead of Winnipeg's October 28 election.

Making Safe Spaces in our Organizations: What do we mean, and what does it take?

Robin Attas, *Division of Extended Education,
University of Manitoba*

Room: 337 (Theatre)

Explore how safety and belonging differ across people and settings. Through peer dialogue, shared experiences, and practical exercises, participants will examine safe, brave, and accountable spaces; identify ways to build and maintain trust; and reflect on how their organizations can create environments where everyone feels included and can flourish.

Community Safety: Lessons, Indicators and Tools from the Canadian Centre for Safer Communities

Jess McKeown, *Senior Policy and Program Analyst,
Manitoba Justice*

Trevor McNeely, *Director of Crime Prevention,
Policing Services and Public Safety, Manitoba Justice*

Room: 325

Learn how Manitoba municipalities are developing community safety and well-being plans tailored to local needs. This session introduces the Community

& Urban Safety Monitor (CUSM) Toolkit and its tools for exploring indicators, finding data sources, and supporting evaluation. Participants will gain practical insights into safety planning, integrating CED, and accessing partnership opportunities.

Community Resiliency & Art

Uyen Pham, *Executive Director, Artbeat Studio*
L(ani) Zastre, *Artbeat alum, artist, writer, and
human rights supporter*

Jenel Shaw

Room: 338

Explore how individual and collective art can help build safer, more inclusive, and resilient communities. Through learning, practice, and discussion, participants will consider how creativity can improve quality of life, strengthen local economic resilience, create skills-development opportunities, and contribute to more liveable communities.

Education not Incarceration: Adult Basic Education as a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Strategy

Jim Silver, *Professor Emeritus at the University of
Winnipeg and a Research Associate with the CCPA MB.*

Elizabeth Comack, *distinguished professor emerita
in the department of sociology and criminology at
the University of Manitoba and member of the
Manitoba Research Alliance and a research
associate with the CCPA MB*

Anna Sigrithur (MA), *Coordinator of Adult Literacy
Program at the John Howard Society of Manitoba.*

Fran Taylor, *retired educator and former director of
the Seven Oaks Adult Learning Centre.*

Room: 327

With many people entering Manitoba's correctional facilities without a high school diploma—and many with less than Grade 8 education—this session examines adult basic education as a community safety strategy. Participants will explore evidence that education can reduce reoffending and consider why investing in education offers a more effective path to prevention than incarceration.

WORKSHOP 2: 1:20pm - 2:35pm

Community Economic Development Starts with Bringing Capacity Building Home

Darryl Wastesicoot, *Pusiko Workforce Program Lead with the Keewatin Economic Development Corporation.*

Dr. Shirley Thompson, *professor in the Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources at the University of Manitoba and principal investigator with the Mino Bimaadiziwin Partnership.*

Room: 314

Explore Wikiwin Polytechnic Institute's community-based model of adult postsecondary education, which combines practical skills, academic learning, and infrastructure development. Grounded in self-determination and mino pimatisiwin—the practice of a good life—the model aims to address poverty, low educational attainment, food scarcity, overcrowding, and inadequate housing in First Nations communities.

The Power of Measurement for Collective Well-being and Economic Development

Dr. Ernesto Cardenas, *Senior Economist and Researcher at Waapihk Research and a Seasonal Lecturer in Economics at the University of Winnipeg*

Room: 322

How can measurement help communities make better development decisions? This session explores how data can inform policymaking, evaluate progress, and strengthen accountability. Participants will consider the roles of leadership and measurement in driving change and supporting collective well-being, including through a practical “data detective” conversation.

Changing the World One Story at a Time

Frances Ravinsky, *Community Works Manitoba*

Room: 313

Explore how stories told through art can reinforce harmful narratives or inspire more inclusive and connected communities. Using images, songs, and videos, participants will consider whose voices are heard and how stories shape understanding. They will also have opportunities to share their own stories and reflect on storytelling's role in cultural resilience and social change.

Building Sustainable Livelihoods: Mental health, economic safety, and collective well-being in entrepreneurship

Jill Zdunich, *Manager, Business & Enterprise Support & Training program at SEED Winnipeg.*

Room: 319

Entrepreneurship can offer purpose and independence, but also financial uncertainty, isolation, and burnout. Through a Community Economic Development lens, participants will explore the links between mental health, economic safety, and sustainable livelihoods, considering practical ways to support entrepreneurs' well-being through community connections, support systems, and stronger economic conditions.



Lunch + Self Care Session and Networking Opportunities:

Lunch featuring catering from local social enterprises and local businesses.

12:00pm - 1:15pm

Introduction to Breathwork:

Peter Dueck, *pdbreathwork*

Room: Theatre, 12:20pm

Grab your lunch and join Peter in the Theatre (Room 337). This session will help you strengthen your self-awareness, develop your ability to stay focused under pressure, and gain practical tools that are easy to learn and apply immediately.

Spaces are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested? Grab your lunch quickly and head to the Theatre to secure your spot!

Or

Networking Stroll

Join us for a 20-minute stroll around the neighbourhood and meet other participants! We will meet at the main entrance and stay on the sidewalks for a walk-a-mile style of networking. Dress for the weather!

We will depart at 12:30pm.

Take a moment to visit our partners' and sponsors' exhibition tables, discover the inspiring work they do, exchange ideas, and explore opportunities to build stronger, safer, and more resilient communities together. Your next meaningful connection or great idea could be waiting at the next table!



The Fourth Response: A Remix Reimagining Community Crisis Response in Winnipeg

Kate Kehler, *Executive Director of the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg (SPCW)*

Teruni Walaliyadde, *Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and community development professional, Program Coordinator Team Lead- SEED Winnipeg*

Lisa Forbes, *SEED Winnipeg*

Room 338

What would crisis response look like if community support came first? Drawing on debate about Winnipeg's proposed Community Crisis Response model, participants will examine consent, harm reduction, Indigenous leadership, lived experience, accountability, and the role of police. The session invites discussion about community-first responses and investments in housing, health, poverty reduction, and social connection that can prevent crises.

How We Care for Each Other: Lessons from Disability and Climate Justice

Olivia Boonstra, *Eviance*

Room: 325

Explore how disability justice and climate justice can work together to build inclusive, resilient communities. Participants will consider how climate emergencies affect people with disabilities, map their own support networks, and identify practical ways to make community initiatives, advocacy, and activism more accessible while strengthening collective care.

Community Safety Host Stories: A Circle of Creation Stories and Stories Still Unfolding

Christine Mayor, *University of Manitoba*

Mary Burton, *Executive Director, Zoongizi Ode*

Julie Chamberlain, *University of Winnipeg*

Daniel Waycik, *Operations Director, Persons Community Solutions*

Julie Chamberlain, *Associate Professor in Urban and Inner-City Studies at the University of Winnipeg*

Michael Redhead Champagne, *Ininew speaker, host, author, on-screen personality, and advocate for children, youth, and families*

Room: 320

Discover Winnipeg's Indigenous-led Community Safety Host Initiative, which centres care, well-being, and meaningful employment for young people facing systemic barriers. Through a storytelling circle, presenters will share the initiative's origins, values rooted in wāhkōhtowin, community impact, and challenges. Participants will consider how community-led approaches can create safer, more inclusive spaces.

Preventing Crisis Before It Happens: Community-Based Supports for Older Adults

Kathy Majowski, *HART Program, WRHA*

Room: 326

Explore how community-based supports can help older adults stay safe, connected, and well before a crisis occurs. Drawing on examples from home care, housing advocacy, elder abuse prevention, and community partnerships, participants will examine how housing, food, transportation, isolation, and ageism affect well-being and identify opportunities for prevention and systems change.

The Story in Your Hands: Building Trust, Dignity and Community Safety Through Storytelling

Joanne Roberts, *Winnipeg-based storyteller and filmmaker*

Room: 337

Stories can strengthen dignity and belonging—or reinforce stereotypes and power imbalances. Through discussion and a practical exercise, participants will explore whose voices are centred, how context shapes narratives, and how assumptions influence interpretation. They will leave with practical questions and tools for making interviews, communications, advocacy, and impact stories more ethical and community-centred.

Community Development and CED in Polarized Times: Building Belonging, Safety and Collective Well-Being

Jesse Hajer, *Associate Professor of Economics and Labour Studies and Associate Dean (Special Projects) in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Manitoba*

Room: 328

Rising costs, housing insecurity, discrimination, strained services, and polarization can weaken trust and belonging. In this participatory workshop, participants will use Community Development and CED principles to design responses that build relationships, community capacity, material security, and shared power. The goal is to strengthen communities' ability to navigate differences and solve problems together.

The Village Co-op Laundromat:

A case study of community-led safety and collective well-being

Virginia Hunter, *member of FrontStep Research Workers' Co-op, former editor for Pemmican Publications*

Gerrie Prymak, *former tutor at the River East Transcona School Division*

Judith Harris, *former Urban and Inner-City Studies at the University of Winnipeg*

Room: 323

Explore the Village Co-operative, a community-driven North End project centred on dignity, economic opportunity, mutual aid, and community ownership. Bringing together laundry services, employment and youth internships, training, a café, clothing repair, and affordable housing, the project illustrates how accessible community spaces can strengthen social connection, economic resilience, and resident decision-making.

Beyond the Absence of Harm: Black Memory, Community Safety, and Collective Well-Being in Manitoba

Phylis Reid-Jarvis, *founder and principal of Ultimate Potentials Corporation*

Maggie Yeboah, *Executive Director of African Communities of Manitoba Inc. (ACOMI)*

Ralph Bryant, *Rainbow Resource Centre*

Room: 327

Explore how community safety includes visibility, belonging, cultural affirmation, and the power to shape systems. Through storytelling and dialogue, participants will learn how the Black Canadian Experience Centre aims to address the erasure of Black histories and anti-Black racism, while supporting prevention, healing, education, systemic change, and opportunities for Black Manitobans to thrive.

Strengthening Community Safety & Wellbeing in a Changing Climate

Asha Nelson, *Project Coordinator at ClimateWest*

Elaine Fox, *Director of Climate Preparedness and Communications in the Climate Action and Energy Innovation Division of Manitoba Environment and Climate Change*

Alexandra Bourne, *Manager of the Climate Preparedness and Communications Branch in the Climate Action and Energy Innovation Division within Manitoba Environment and Climate Change*

Christey Allen, *Managing Director at the Prairie Climate Centre*

Room: 321

Climate change is deepening social vulnerabilities and creating new challenges. In this interactive session, participants will explore how climate impacts affect their organizations and the community they serve, consider future risks, and identify ways community organizations can reduce vulnerability, advance climate adaptation, and build more resilient communities.

WORKSHOP 3: 2:40pm - 3:50pm

Come As You Are! A Decolonized Vision of Community Well-Being and Care

Sunshine House:

Caleb Clay, Peer Worker / MOPS Representative +

Nat Davar, Housing / Kelly's Corner

Muyi Eboigbe, Community Support Worker & 2S/
Trans ID Person

Manager, Kelly's Corner

Caleb Clay, MOPS Administrative Manager

Chelsea Bannatyne, 2SLGBTQIA+ Capacity Building
Liaison & Street Feet Facilitator

Winnie Amo-Mensah (she/her), Director of
Gizhiwenimin Initiatives

Room: 313

Hosted by Sunshine House Winnipeg, this interactive session explores how grassroots services and CED address the root causes of vulnerability. Drawing on drop-in support, cultural programming, health and wellness, overdose prevention, and transitional housing for 2SLGBTQIA+ people, participants will consider how housing security, inclusion, and peer-led care foster dignity, belonging, and collective well-being.

City of Winnipeg's Open Data Portal

Jennifer Bodnarchuk, Senior Data Scientist /
Acting Coordinator, Data & Analytics Innovation
& Technology

Room: 322

Learn how to use the City of Winnipeg's Open Data Portal in a live, beginner-friendly demonstration. Participants will see how to search for datasets, filter information, create charts and maps, and find additional guidance for exploring local data after the session.

Power of Stories

Izzeddin Hawamda, founder of Sadaa Consulting

Room: 314

This interactive storytelling and writing workshop explores how lived experiences can strengthen community safety, belonging, and collective well-being. Through guided writing, storytelling, and dialogue, participants will build empathy across differences, amplify voices that are often unheard, and consider how personal stories can challenge isolation and division and support more inclusive communities.

Safety in Housing: Lessons from MNPHA Non-Profit Housing Toolkit

Judith Hertel, Project Coordinator Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association

Room: 319

How can non-profit housing promote safety while protecting dignity and housing stability? Drawing on MNPHA's Safety in Non-Profit Housing Toolkit, this session shares lessons from housing providers, frontline staff, and community partners. Participants will explore prevention, early intervention, communication, and collaboration, and discover practical resources—including case studies, checklists, templates, and Manitoba-specific guidance.

From Control to Connection: Rethinking Safety through Connection & Care

Victor Mondaca, *Mapuche community leader, educator, speaker, and Co-Founder of Nahuen Consultation:*

Mandy Mondaca, *Co-founder Nahuen Consultation and Program Engagement Coordinator, Family Resource Centres*

Room: 327

Drawing on lived experience and work in security, homelessness, harm reduction, and community safety, this interactive session explores shifting from control and enforcement toward connection, dignity, prevention, and belonging. Through storytelling and reflection, participants will consider how relationships, cultural connection, community infrastructure, and accessible supports can help build safer, more inclusive communities.

Building Safe Communities Through Care, Economic Resilience and Systems Change

Amna Iqbal, *co-founded Healthy Muslim Families*

Khalid Jaleel, *Khalid Jaleel Social Researcher and Policy Analyst at Healthy Muslim Families (HMF)*

Zuher Almusre, *Zuher Almusre - Access to Justice Facilitator with Healthy Muslim Families (HMF)*

Room: 321

Through community stories, Healthy Muslim Families explores how housing pressures, employment uncertainty, racism, and barriers to services affect safety and well-being. Participants will consider how access to justice, skills development, youth leadership, and community supports can strengthen stability and belonging, prevent crises, and address systemic barriers facing newcomers, immigrants, refugees, and other community members.

Walls to Bridges Education Exchange: Lessons from over a decade of prison education

Judith Harris, Tam Le, Marty Donkervoort, Channele Lajoie, *Manitoba's Walls to Bridges prison exchange education program*

Room: 326

Walls to Bridges brings incarcerated learners and university students together as peers, challenging assumptions and exclusion. This session explores how shared education, dialogue, and relationship-building can strengthen trust, dignity, and belonging, while creating opportunities to reflect on justice, reconciliation, and systems change.

The Intersection of Safety and Accessibility

Sue Hemphil, *Executive Director, Manitoba League of Persons with Disability*

Room: 323

Community members will share lived experiences at the intersection of safety and accessibility. Through small-group reflection and discussion, participants will consider how identity and lived experience shape people's sense of safety, and explore how communities and organizations can create more accessible and inclusive environments.

We belong: Two Spirit, Transgender, Nonbinary, and Gender Diverse Inclusion Practices for Community

James Webster (he/him), *genderqueer activist and community organizer based in Winnipeg*

Room: 325

Grounded in the lived experiences of gender-diverse Manitobans, this workshop introduces practical ways to foster Two Spirit, transgender, nonbinary, and gender-diverse inclusion in professional and community spaces. Participants will gain ideas and tools to move from allyship to action and learn about local resources to support ongoing learning.

Beyond the Bottom Line: Employment, Safety, and the Case for Community Infrastructure

Sheri Bailey, *Executive Director, Purpose Construction*

Room: 320

Through an interactive exercise, participants will take on the roles of developers, lenders, employers, and residents to explore why underinvested neighbourhoods struggle to thrive. A guided discussion will connect employment, housing stability, family well-being, and community safety, showing how equitable investment in housing, jobs, and community assets can address root causes of inequity.





Conference Suppliers

The Gathering is pleased to support the following cooperatives and social enterprises.

Spruce Catering

University of Winnipeg
204-786-9070
diversityfoodsolutions.com

Happy Sprouts Childcare

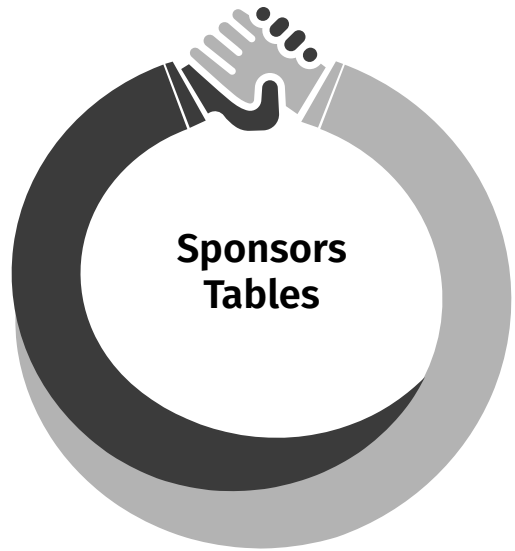
West Central Women's Resource Centre
wcwrc.ca/childminding

Bike Winnipeg

204-894-6540
bikewinnipeg.ca

Compost Winnipeg

204-232-0025
compostwinnipeg.ca



Sponsors Tables

**Climate Preparedness and
Communications, Climate Action and
Energy Innovation Branch, Manitoba
Environment and Climate Change**

**Masters in Development Practice -
Indigenous Development
University of Winnipeg**

**Global College,
University of Winnipeg**

**Canadian Centre for
Policy Alternative/
Manitoba Research Alliance**

Fernwood Publishing

**Red River College Polytech School
of Indigenous Education**



Canadian
CED Network
Manitoba

Membership

The Canadian CED Network—Manitoba includes social enterprises, cooperatives, and non-profit community organizations all working toward economic, social, and environmental change. Our members are challenging the status quo and building alternatives through Community Economic Development.

We connect people and ideas for action to build local economies that strengthen communities and benefit everyone.

Members are the heart and leaders of our Network.

Being part of CCEDNet means you are part of a movement in Manitoba and across Canada supporting your work for healthy, strong communities.

With your membership, you are part of something bigger.

Join today at:

ccednet-rcdec.ca/membership

2026 Gathering Design Team

CCEDNet Manitoba is grateful to the leaders from our network who have devoted their time and expertise in guiding the 2026 Gathering:

Mathew Rempel
Strategy Made Simple

Caryn Birch + Amy Shawcross
Inclusion Wpg

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SEED Winnipeg

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Red River College

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Social Planning Council

Amna Iqbal
Healthy Muslim Family

*And thank you
to all our volunteers!*

Thank you to our Gathering Founding Partner



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