

## 2026/27 FROM THE GROUND UP - SAFE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FOR ALL PROGRAM PROGRAM GUIDELINES

### 1. Program Purpose and Objectives

The From the Ground Up - Safe Healthy Communities for ALL program supports the province's commitment to build safe, healthy communities where individuals, children, youth and families can thrive.

The program provides application-based project funding to support a broad range of community renewal efforts, community capital projects and children and youth initiatives. It focuses on community led response and revitalization efforts including capacity building, wellness and safety, community economic development, social inclusion, housing coordination and children and youth initiatives. The program leverages investments in community development by local governments, non-profit organizations, and others.

### 2. Who Can Apply

#### Eligible applicants

- Non-profit organizations, municipalities (including local authorities such as planning and recreation districts) and Northern Affairs Community Councils are eligible.

**Note:** A non-profit organization is defined as one whose activities are carried on with no financial gain to any of its members. A non-profit organization must be able to provide evidence, on request, that the organization is active and in good standing.

#### Ineligible applicants

- For-profit organizations
- Individuals
- Public schools, health facilities/hospitals, post secondary institutions
- City of Winnipeg

### 3. What We Fund

The program supports the following funding streams:

#### 1. Community Renewal Initiatives Stream

Supports community development projects including:

- Community and organizational capacity building and planning;
- Community economic development initiatives;
- Well-being and recreation activities to promote neighbourhood safety and cohesion;
- Anti-racism, bridge building and inclusion initiatives; and
- Housing and safety coordination supports.

#### 2. Community Spaces Stream

Supports capital projects that extend, improve or enhance interior and exterior public use community facilities and spaces.

#### 3. Healthy, Safe, Connected Children and Youth Stream

Supports targeted children and youth projects including outreach, wellness, recreation, youth internships, training and leadership development.

### **Eligible projects and activities may include:**

- planning, feasibility and needs assessment projects
- capital projects that add to, extend, improve or enhance community facilities and spaces
- activities and training that support the development of leadership and organizational capacity
- new or enhanced community initiatives (e.g., new programs, organizational start-up, pilot projects, etc.)
- hosting of a community event (e.g., symposiums and workshops)
- equipment (e.g., furniture, sports equipment and technology)

### **Ineligible projects and activities include:**

- projects or programs that do not provide a broad community benefit and have restricted or limited public access
- capital projects and related leasehold improvements in privately-owned buildings, where the lease does not extend more than five years past project completion
- core or essential municipal, provincial, federal projects or programs and services that are the responsibility of the municipal, provincial or federal body
- projects or programs that receive regular, budgeted provincial or federal support (e.g., hospitals, medical facilities, long-term care facilities, schools and day cares)
- post-secondary institution projects for academic purposes, or facilities that provide provincially regulated programs, services or training for accredited programs
- projects, programs or services outside of Manitoba

### **Eligible project costs:**

- all project costs incurred on or after **April 1, 2026**, excluding those identified under ineligible costs
- for non-profit organizations and Northern Affairs Community Councils only - up to 10 per cent for administrative costs (including insurance coverage) relating directly to the project.

**Note:** In-kind contributions (volunteer labour, donated materials, loaned equipment) are eligible project costs/revenues that can only be used toward the applicant's contribution.

### **Ineligible project costs:**

- costs incurred prior to **April 1, 2026**.
- land acquisition, real estate fees and related costs
- ongoing salaries and other employment benefits outside of project specific wages
- financing charges, loan costs, debt reduction, legal fees and loan interest payments
- out-of-province travel, hospitality/ travel expenditures and honorariums beyond Manitoba government guidelines
- gifts associated with the hosting of events
- costs associated with operating expenses for equipment and regularly scheduled maintenance work
- costs for purchasing equipment and furnishings that do not remain with the applicant at project end
- costs related to religious activities

Projects can span a maximum of two fiscal years (April 1-March 31). Project completion dates will be established in the project contribution agreement.

## 4. How Much We Fund

**Community Renewal Initiatives Stream** will fund grants of up to \$100,000:

- Non-profit organizations and Northern Affairs Community Councils: up to 80 per cent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$100,000;
- Municipal governments: up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$100,000.

**Community Spaces Stream** will fund grants of up to \$100,000:

- Non-profit organizations and Northern Affairs Community Councils: up to 80 per cent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$100,000;
- Municipal governments: up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$100,000.

**Healthy, Safe, Connected Children and Youth Stream** will fund grants up to \$50,000:

- Non-profit organizations and Northern Affairs Community Councils: up to 80 per cent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$50,000;
- Municipal governments: up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$50,000.

## 5. How to Apply

- Submit a completed application form to [FGP@gov.mb.ca](mailto:FGP@gov.mb.ca) by **January 26, 2026, by 11:59 p.m.**
- Required supporting documents for Community Spaces Stream include:
  - For capital projects in a leased facility, the approval of the owner is required in advance of the application and proof of a five (5) year lease.
  - For capital projects with eligible project costs of over \$100,000, two contractors' quotes/estimates will be required.
- Additional information may be requested.

## 6. How Decisions are Made

Applications will be reviewed and assessed by department officials, in consultation with other government departments. An interdepartmental team will be involved in reviewing and providing feedback on project applications. Officials responsible for the Program have the authority to assess each application on its own merits and will exercise their discretion in project approvals. The following criteria will be used to assess applications:

**Project benefits for the province, municipality and community/neighbourhood.** This includes projects that fulfill responsibilities under provincial legislation or strategies to address government plans and priorities. This also includes projects that address key provincial, municipal, Northern Affairs Community Council and community/neighbourhood priorities that support broad community impact.

**Project benefits to community/neighbourhood renewal.** This includes projects that support well-being by enhancing community safety and crime prevention; strengthening supports and opportunities for children and youth to reduce at risk behaviour (e.g. recreation programs); contributing to better wellness/health practices; increasing equity and social inclusion and improving community co-operation.

**Project viability, planning and financial feasibility.** The application demonstrates sufficient planning and financial resources available to complete the project.

**Partnerships and collaboration.** This includes projects that demonstrate a commitment to working in collaboration with key partners and community organizations such as Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations, to maximize project benefits/impact and strengthen neighbourhood coordination. This also includes projects that aim to build on best practices to address community issues and is responsive to community needs.

**Targeted Investment.** This includes projects that assist community/neighbourhood organizations in addressing a broad range of locally planned initiatives that support capacity building; community economic development; health and wellbeing; social inclusion, housing coordination and stability (revitalization and beautification) in designated neighbourhoods/communities.

## 7. Terms and Conditions

- Following project approval, a project contribution agreement will be signed between the applicant and the Manitoba government, outlining the terms and conditions.
- Project contribution agreements will outline the terms, the acceptable use of funds, project end date, payment process and reporting requirements.

## 8. Payment Process

- Seventy per cent of the approved funding will be provided upon signing the project contribution agreement.
- The remaining balance of up to 30 per cent will be available following project completion, and submission and acceptance of a final report and signed financial claim form (found in the agreement).
- All payments are subject to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Manitoba duly appropriating the funds payable by the Manitoba government in each year they are to be paid.
- Project funds may only be used for the purposes identified in the agreement. All surplus, ineligible, or unexpended grant funds are to be returned to the Manitoba government.
- Final program payment will be paid upon receipt and acceptance of the final report and supporting documents by Municipal and Northern Relations.
- All projects are subject to audit by the Manitoba government.

## 9. Reporting on Outcomes and Results

- A final report is required within 60 days of project completion or by the final deadline identified in the project contribution agreement, whichever is sooner. As part of the final report, the signed financial claim form and the report form (both found in the agreement) must be completed in full.
- Final payment will not be issued until both reporting forms have been approved by the Manitoba government.

## 10. Contact Us - for more information and assistance

<b>Municipal and Northern Relations Community Development Branch Offices</b>	
<b>Central Region</b> Box 50075, A - 536 Stephen Street Morden MB R6M 1T7 Ph: 204-822-2933 Fax: 204-822-2847 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Cindy.Kowalski@gov.mb.ca">Cindy.Kowalski@gov.mb.ca</a>	<b>Interlake Region</b> Room 103, 235 Eaton Avenue Selkirk MB R1A 0W7 Ph: 204-642-6014 Fax: 204-785-5155 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Ian.Goodall-George@gov.mb.ca">Ian.Goodall-George@gov.mb.ca</a>
<b>Eastern Region</b> Room 103, 235 Eaton Avenue Selkirk MB R1A 0W7 Ph: 204-642-6014 Fax: 204-785-5155 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Ian.Goodall-George@gov.mb.ca">Ian.Goodall-George@gov.mb.ca</a>	<b>Parkland Region</b> Rm. 335, 340 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Brandon MB R7A 6C2 Ph: 204-726-6068 Fax: 204-726-6583 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Charlene.Dysart@gov.mb.ca">Charlene.Dysart@gov.mb.ca</a>
<b>Northern Region</b> Rm. 335, 340 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Brandon MB R7A 6C2 Ph: 204-726-6068 Fax: 204-726-6583 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Charlene.Dysart@gov.mb.ca">Charlene.Dysart@gov.mb.ca</a>	<b>Midwestern Region</b> Rm. 335, 340 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Brandon MB R7A 6C2 Ph: 204-726-6068 Fax: 204-726-6583 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Charlene.Dysart@gov.mb.ca">Charlene.Dysart@gov.mb.ca</a>
<b>Winnipeg</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> floor – 800 Portage Avenue Winnipeg MB R3G 0N4 Ph: 204-470-2364 Fax: 204-948-4042 E-mail: <a href="mailto:FGP-Winnipeg@gov.mb.ca">FGP-Winnipeg@gov.mb.ca</a>	<b>Western Region</b> Rm. 335, 340 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Brandon MB R7A 6C2 Ph: 204-726-6069 Fax: 204-726-6583 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Kris.Doull@gov.mb.ca">Kris.Doull@gov.mb.ca</a>
<b>General Support : From the Ground Up - Safe Healthy Communities for ALL</b> <b>Phone: 204-945-3379 Fax: 204-948-4042</b> <b>Toll-Free Calling: 1-855-644-0401</b> <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:FGP@gov.mb.ca">FGP@gov.mb.ca</a></b>	